

CBR-464

[REDACTED]

Subject: Cuts to arts funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I'm writing in response to reported cuts proposals for triennial funding for key arts organisations in the forthcoming City of Port Phillip budget.

I've just completed eight shows at Theatre Works performing the Gospel According to Jesus Queen of Heaven. The shows were sold out and received outstanding reviews across the Age, SMH and Australian Arts Review and provided an essential foundation of support for transgender and queer members of the public, many of whom spoke to me after each show in tears as they had experienced a moment of love and acceptance and resonance with a live performance - this as you will know with your experience as an actor, is what live theatre can do. It's a vital part of our culture and as Victoria announces a significant investment and response to the Mental Health Royal Commission, it is vital that these arts organisations can continue to flourish and provide this sort of cultural support for our community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please consider the impact of these reported cuts and take another moment to consider other ways to meet the budget demands.

Very best

[REDACTED]

Sent from iPhone

CBR-465

[Redacted]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

20th May 2021

[Redacted],

I am writing to express my concern and, quite frankly, disgust, regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

As an artist who has suffered through the worst time in our industry's recent history, which took such a beating during lockdown and the pandemic, these further cuts are pouring salt into our already raw wounds.

I can't imagine life without these organisations - especially Theatre Works and Red Stitch - two of the key bodies that allow Victoria theatre makers to create work that is not interfered with by the mainstages. They create raw and passionate work that is vital to the community, and hold a lens up to our society so we can learn and grow as humans. They allow artists to create a body of work so that we can cross the emerging threshold into establish, and build careers and longevity in the industry.

Please reconsider your position. You are damaging the very fabric of our culture by making cuts to an industry that is already hemorrhaging.

Yours Sincerely,

[Redacted]

CBR-466

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

This is not a copy and paste template so I would appreciate you taking the time to read my letter. I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab.

As a punter I have been to numerous productions by these companies and can speak firsthand to the value they provide not only to the local area but also to the arts scene in Melbourne and Australia.

As a businessperson my connection to Red Stitch and Theatre Works has led me onto success in the business world via design and marketing. I now work in a senior marketing role at Polaroid in Europe and would not be in my current job without the experience I gained working with these organisations.

I believe it's so important that we foster creative organisations as they contribute far beyond measurable economic output. They do it in ways which might not even seem obvious at first but have long lasting ripple effects for a diverse range of community members.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CBR-467

[Redacted]

Subject: Triennial Funding to Port Phillip's Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

20th May 2021

[Redacted],

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

I am writing to express my dismay that Port Phillip Council is proposing to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations which is contrary to the City's vision.

I am particularly concerned about the future of Red Stitch which I have subscribed to and supported for many years. Red Stitch is renowned for quality and often edgy theatre which is already produced on a shoe string, but with great flair. Red Stitch through its INK program, which I understand Port Phillip has directed its past funding towards, champions young theatre talent. You in particular should appreciate how instrumental support for new and emerging theatre talent is.

Port Phillip Council's funding to Red Stitch in the past, as I understand it, has been relatively small but the discontinuation of this funding is yet another body blow to Red Stitch and the other arts organisation which has seen reduced funding support from government and of course has been severely impacted by COVID-19. These organisations are struggling to get back on their feet.

I can't express how excited I was to go my first live performance at Red Stitch earlier this year and would be saddened if it was no longer there to enrich my life.

I strongly urge you to reinstate ongoing financial support for Red Stitch and the other cultural institutions within the municipality. They play such a vital part in our community as well as maintaining Port Phillip reputation as a cultural hub.

Yours Sincerely,

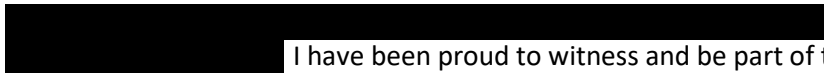
[Redacted]

CBR-468



Subject: Triennial funding for key arts organisations, draft Council Plan 2021-31

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



I have been proud to witness and be part of the outstanding contribution Theatre Works has made to the cultural and community life of the City of Port Phillip in the 35 years since 1986, when the company first made its home in the Parish Hall in Acland St.

Since its inception, Theatre Works has had connection with community in its DNA, as evidenced by a roll call of now hundreds of productions and other events by, with and for local artists, community groups and diverse other community participants including First Nations, LGBTQI+, youth, women and the aged, in partnership with other local businesses and organisations. It has provided a platform and helped amplify the voices of people living with disability, homelessness and other social, economic and cultural disadvantage. Its focus on the professional presentation of original works has attracted theatre makers and audiences from the City of Port Phillip and more broadly across metropolitan Melbourne, regional Victoria, interstate and internationally. It has fostered other local groups such as Rawcus and, along with other key arts organisations in the municipality continues to play a significant role in building and maintaining St Kilda's reputation as a vibrant cultural hub and business, dining and entertainment precinct.

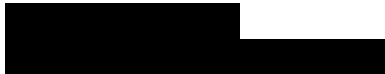
Since 2018, Theatre Works and its fellow key arts and cultural organisations Red Stitch, The Australian Tapestry Workshop, the Torch, Rawcus and Philip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have partnered with the City of Port Phillip in receiving triennial funding, which has supported them to maintain staffing, plan strategically, build audiences and support quality programming. Triennial funding for key local arts and cultural organisations was initiated after thorough research and discussion; a sign of Council's maturity as a local government organisation and testament to its strategic vision for Port Phillip 'as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate' and where 'support

for local arts organisations' is recognised as an important planning goal (COPP draft Council Plan 2021-31).

I was therefore horrified to learn that there is no provision to continue this program of support in the new draft Plan or the draft Budget for 2021-22. To discontinue triennial funding en bloc in the absence of either evaluation or consultation is not only brutal treatment of the organisations concerned but, if you will forgive me, uninformed policy making. It threatens the capacity of the municipality's key arts organisations at a time when one might have expected greater, not lessened, support. To force these organisations back into competition for an already inadequate pool of project funding is a thoroughly retrograde step that will almost certainly impact negatively on the cultural life of the City itself.

I beg you to reconsider, to make good this omission and at the very least in future, to commission a thorough evaluation of key funding programs and their impacts, before making decisions with such far reaching implications.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

CBR-469

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

21 May, 2021

[REDACTED]

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip. The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

[REDACTED]

CBR-470

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Triennial funding appeal for the arts

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

21 May 2021

Dear Cr Crawford,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

What you probably don't realise is the impact these organisations have outside this council region as well. As a multi- purpose arts facility in the ACT, we have collaborated with Rawcus Theatre directly through our own programming, and we have exchanged artists and ideas with Theatre Works – an important pathway for our local ACT artists in developing their professional arts practice and returning with new skills and networks.

As a university trained theatre maker myself, one of my first professional opportunities post graduation from the VCA was a directing gig with Red Stitch Actors Theatre. These companies are part of a larger national performance ecology

for practitioners across the country, and create so much value beyond the boundaries of your council.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

When there is so much evidence and serious research about the vital and enormous impact of the arts on our economy and general well-being, how is it possible that you would actively make a decision that will impact other non-arts businesses and your rate payers who will feel the negative impacts of this poorly thought through decision? I have provided some links for your further reading you might find of use below.

<https://nationalindustryinsights.aisc.net.au/industries/arts-culture-entertainment-and-design>

<https://www.australiacouncil.gov.au/workspace/uploads/files/arts-nation-final-27-feb-54f5f492882da.pdf>

<https://australiainstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Background-Brief-Economic-importance-of-arts-and-entertainment-WEB.pdf>

The Arts Ripple Effect: Valuing the Arts in Communities https://creative.vic.gov.au/assets/word_doc

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

A+G Ainslie + Gorman
Arts Centres

ph [REDACTED] ext 1004

mob [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

www.agac.com.au

I work Monday to Friday.



You can read our full COVID-19 Action Plan [here](#). If you have any relevant information to share or if you have any queries about our **COVID19 Response Plan** please email [REDACTED]

I acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land where I work, the Ngunnawal people as well as the Ngambri, Ngarigu and others who traded on, travelled through and connected with this land, and continue to do so. I recognise all Custodians of Country throughout all lands, waters and territories. I pay my respects to the Elders past, present and emerging. Sovereignty was never ceded.

Ainslie and Gorman Arts Centres are ACT Government Arts Facilities managed by Arts Capital Limited ([REDACTED])

CBR-471

[REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 21 May 2021 1:21 PM

Subject: City of Port Phillip Triennial Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Over my ten years of award-winning, professional practice, I have seen - first-hand - the benefits that consistent funding provide to arts organisations.

Funding that goes across multiple years allows administrators and artists to plan for the future, make meaningful, long-term connections to their communities and explore, create and engage their audiences with certainty. It allows them to imagine, create, reflect and re-build with growth and impact in mind.

I have worked with many organisations who only receive annual funding, and know the difference this makes to their operating ethos, and to the staff and the artists who work alongside them. Being forced to re-articulate your relevance every year in this way may be useful for emerging organisations, but for those with such a long and rich history as Red Stitch, Theatre Works and others, it is an unnecessary bureaucratic burden.

Further, it takes artists and organisations *further away from what they do best, and what they do best is critically important to the lifeblood of your communities*. It is frustratingly short-sighted.

I strongly encourage you to reconsider your plans to remove triennial funding for arts organisations for these reasons. In the aftermath of COVID, organisations - artists, administrators - need the support more than ever to be bold and imagine exciting futures.

[REDACTED]

Hoping for your careful consideration of this issue.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

CBR-472

[REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 21 May 2021 1:37 PM

[REDACTED]
Subject: TEMPERANCE HALL/BALLETLAB.

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

TEMPERANCE HALL/BALLETLAB.

[REDACTED]

I am written to you and your colleagues in leadership to urge you to reconsider the decision to discontinue triennial funding of TEMPERANCE HALL/BALLETLAB.

[REDACTED] BalletLab and as a passionate arts lover who committed to seeing Melbourne prosper as we slowly emerge from the COVID-19 crisis.

BALLETLAB is unequivocally a cultural asset of international significance. In my view it is the single most innovatively transformative dance organisation in Australia and quite literally the trailblazer for the future. When I was Chair we were so proud to be find a home at Temperance Hall which has developed into so much more than a performance centre.

While supporting leading edge arts organisation may, particularly in times of financial stringency, seem a risk economic modelling unequivocally demonstrates, and as we see so clearly in Melbourne's most vibrant regions, investing in the arts is the way to develop a prosperous future.

So may I encourage you to embrace a counter-cyclic leadership strategy for growth and invest in the organisations that will bring you and the Port Phillip community, success, prosperity and vibrancy.

Your sincerely and with thanks for your reflection and consideration of this entreaty

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-473

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

21 May, 2021

[REDACTED],

I have been advised that the City of Port Phillip is proposing to discontinue triennial funding for its six Key Arts Organisations. This measure will deprive this already hard-hit sector of critical resources it needs to recover, and impacting the network of jobs and opportunities it supports.

Port Phillip is the proud home of numerous world-class arts organisations. Port Phillip's draft Community Vision for 2021 - 2031, states "*We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.*" A commitment to ongoing funding would demonstrate that Council values the arts organisations that have contributed to this legacy, and that will help to facilitate their vision.

Triennial funding is vital to the sustainability of these organisations; to their ability to produce incredible productions, to nurture emerging talents and continue to provide enrichment to the lives of residents of both CoPP and the broader Melbourne area.

I am asking for Council to reconsider their proposed cancellation of triennial funding. I am a long time Elwood resident and an ardent supporter in particular of Red Stitch Theatre, which manages to provide us with world class theatre whilst running on a minuscule budget. It is a cultural organisation that we all should be proud of, and support. I cannot see how Council can pump money into the St Kilda Festival – a one off annual event that provides little, if any, value or enrichment to the residents; rather brings in non rate payers who leave us with a massive clean up bill afterwards. In contrast, the six Key Arts Organisations provide ongoing cultural diversity and are embedded into the community. They have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during their existence.

Their contribution to life in CoPP is immeasurable, and I should have thought it was deemed vital to keep them within our community.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-474

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

[REDACTED] An even better rank than Sergeant [REDACTED]. So great to see you're doing so much excellent community and political work these days. I was a script ed and writer on City Homicide back in the day.

I'm writing to the various councillors to ask them to reconsider the drop in triennial funding to the arts. I enjoy going to and supporting Red Stitch, but see the value in all of the local arts scenes for developing new talent, fostering a vibrant arts community and supporting great works.

I hope you and the council will consider reinstating some level of funding to these organisations.

With respect and thanks for your time,

[REDACTED]

CBR-475



Subject: Cessation of Triennial Arts Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

20/5/2021



I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue Triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

You will have received a number of correspondences citing the inconsistency between Council's vision of supporting organisations that constitute our creative hub and its implementation. That is a fact.

The six organisations under question are highly regarded arts organisations some of which like Ballet Lab and Rawcus have significant international reputations and have drawn a proportional level of cultural capital to City of Port Philip on a national and international scale. Theatreworks and Red Stitch are distinctive, original companies that resonate locally and nationally. The profiles of The Torch and the Australian Tapestry Workshop speak for themselves. As an artist and curator with a sustained international practice, I can attest that the curiosity for the work of these City of Port Phillip arts companies have been and continue to be 'in conversation' in the broader cultural scene.

Cease Triennial funding for these organisations after only one cycle in which they have performed over and above expectations during a global pandemic, and you will incur upon the Council significant reputational damage.

City of Port Philip prides itself on its connection to culture and has leveraged significant investment and tourism on the back of it. This will be compromised by the deletion of \$30K per organisation. It is a poor investment decision which will have repercussions. These organisations are core to the lifeblood of cultural production in the City and the rescinding of this core funding opportunity will have resonance far more deleterious than a \$180K gap in the budget. It will negatively affect the identity of the City of Port Phillip as a cultural hub and it will reduce the capacity of Council and the sector to mount the more visible cultural offerings the Council has on its cultural calendar.

As a long-time resident and taxpayer, and for these reasons, I urge you to reinstate the line item for Triennial funding in the budget.

Yours Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

I acknowledge the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants of the nation and the traditional custodians of the lands where I live, learn and work.

CBR-476



Subject: Urgent: Lend your Voice to the Arts in Port Phillip

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



While I'm not in your Ward (I have emailed support to Councillors in my area), thought I'd double-up on your capacity [redacted].

Needless to say, you already know how I feel about supporting all arts in our locality.

Trust life is fab....We WILL catch up.

Cheers, [redacted]

From: [redacted]

Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 8:07 PM

To: [redacted]

Subject: Urgent: Lend your Voice to the Arts in Port Phillip



[Click here to view this email in your browser](#)

Friends of Theatre Works: our dearest audience, artists, patrons and partners,

We have been steadfast in our commitment to not get bogged down in the negative, 2020 was obviously a hard year and we having been working hard to put it behind us and focus on the future. We have been getting back on our feet this year and smashing goals with Fringe Replanted, The Glasshouse, our new cafe Blackbox and all the stellar work we have already staged. Theatre Works has been a thriving hub of activity as St Kilda and the City of Port Phillip slowly return to the vibrant hustle and bustle they were known for pre-Covid.

We don't want to go back on our commitment to the positive but on Tuesday we received news that gave us pause and in short..

we need your help.

We were advised that the City of Port Phillip is proposing to discontinue triennial funding for its six Key Arts Organisations: Phillip Adams Ballet Lab, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, The Torch, Rawcus, and Theatre Works.

If passed, this measure will take effect from mid-2021, hitting the local arts sector just as it begins to get back on solid ground. The impact of these cuts will mean loss of jobs, decreased opportunities for artists and simply less on offer for audience and participants.

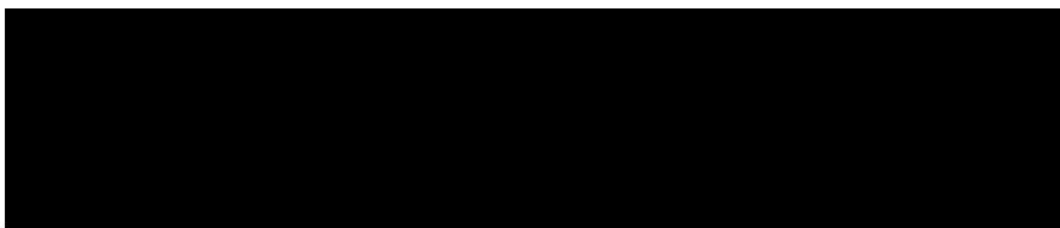
The City of Port Phillip's draft Community Vision for 2021 - 2031, states "*We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.*", and yet it is the very organisations they threaten to defund that can help deliver this vision. A commitment to ongoing funding would demonstrate that this Council truly believe in and values both the arts and the organisations that help make up the diverse and renowned hub they speak of.

How can you help?

We are asking for your support in petitioning Council to reconsider their proposed cancellation of triennial funding. We are asking this not only for us, but for the dynamic ecosystem of arts organisations and individuals which add cultural vibrancy to the City, and the creative tapestry of Melbourne and Australia.

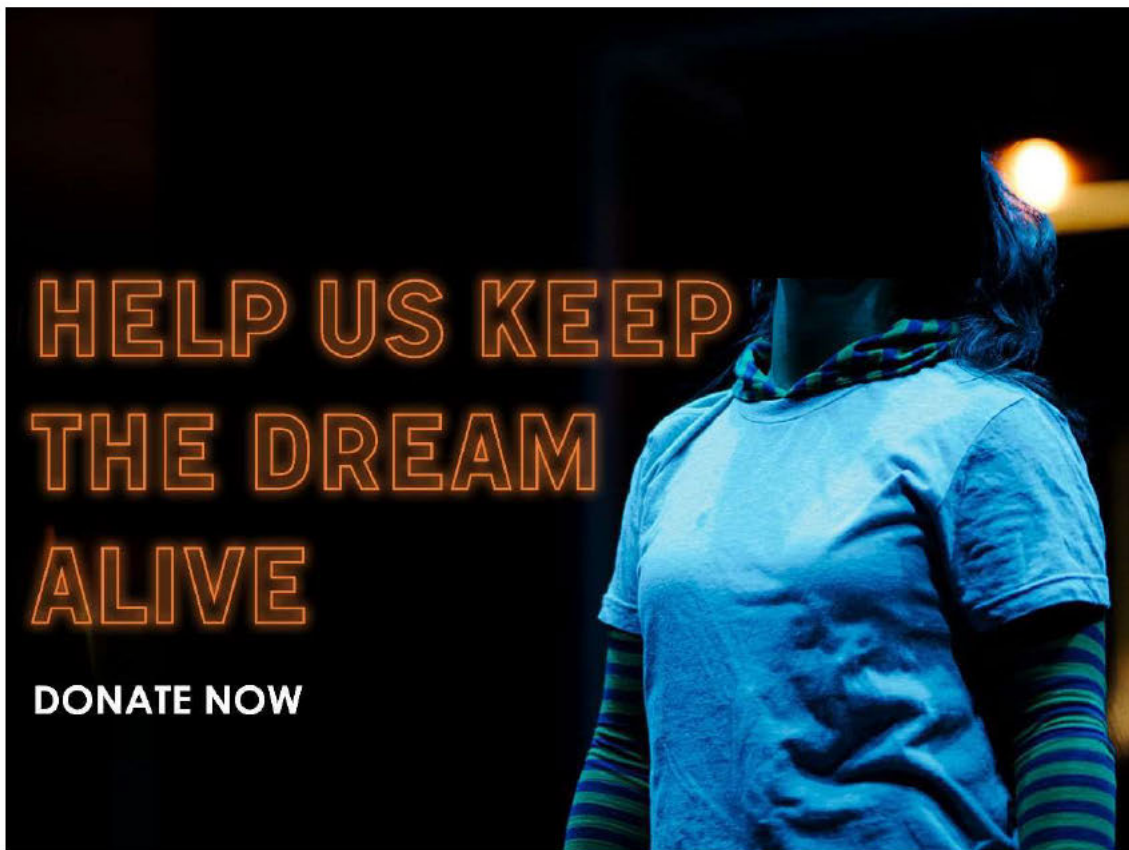
We only have until this Sunday to convince the City of Port Phillip to reconsider its position.

If you care about art and culture in your local community, please take a moment to make sure your voice is heard. Below is a link to a template for download and assist you in sharing your concerns - simply click the name of the local Councillor below which will open in your email then copy the template into the body of the email adding your own voice and ask them to reconsider their position.



[DOWNLOAD THE PETITION TEMPLATE](#)





We can't do what we do without your help. It takes so much more than a great idea to make extraordinary theatre. Your support, no matter how large or small, makes a huge difference to what we do.

[DONATE NOW](#)

Theatre Works acknowledges First People's sovereignty and recognises the continuing connection to lands, waters and story telling by the traditional owners of this country. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Always was, always will be Aboriginal land.



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Major Partner

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VICTORIAN WOMEN'S BENEVOLENT TRUST

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Corporate Partner

hockingstuart

Catering Partner



Digital Marketing Partner

**TWISK | THIS WEEK
IN ST KILDA**

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Cloudwine
Small winery specialist.

Beer Partner



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mailchimp

CBR-477



Subject: Belvoir St Theatre | City of Port Phillip Funding for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



Please find attached correspondence relating to the proposed discontinuation of triennial funding to some of your key arts organisations.

Please don't hesitate to be in touch if you have any questions,



I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

COVID-19 has done something that has never happened before: it has put a world-wide halt to the age-old activity of gathering to hear a story. Theatre stopped. As we emerge from the pandemic and subsequent lockdown, it has become clear that there is still a need for these gatherings and a space for these stories to be told.

The withdrawal of the funding to organisations like Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall would mark the end of arts organisations of national significance, which act as an engine room for the performing arts industry.

The organisations you currently plan to defund have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local, and national, arts and culture during that time.

The decision to remove support from these organisations undermines the importance of the industry, and fails to acknowledge the necessity to the public in terms of both the way in which having these spaces enhances and betters the community in which they operate, and employs artists in a more than usually difficult time.

Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent. Belvoir and Red Stitch share a history and an ethos in the

way we work, and the people who perform on our stages. To lose an avenue of employment for Australia's artists and creatives would be an unmitigated loss.

The small-to-medium sector, especially, within the performing arts is core to the ecosystem as a whole. It functions as a greenhouse for new work, new artists and new ideas, without which the impact is felt right across the sector.

Triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities for artists and arts workers, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part of the community and the dynamic national arts landscape more broadly.

Kind Regards,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature and name of the sender.

CBR-478

[REDACTED]

Subject: I urge you to do what you can to save six Arts and Cultural organisations!

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Friday 21 May, 2021

[REDACTED]

I am writing as I was dismayed to hear that the new Council budget doesn't include triennial funding for six important arts and cultural organisations: Phillip Adams Ballet Lab, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, The Torch, Rawcus, and Theatre Works.

Theatre Network Australia is a national service organisation, working to strengthen and promote the value of the performing arts. We have the great fortune of being based in the City of Port Phillip locality in South Melbourne – for 10 years in Dorcas Street and now a little further down the road in Sturt Street. I am also a resident in Elwood.

The four performing arts organisations in the City of Port Phillip cohort are all members of TNA, joining a national network of over 500 performing arts organisations across Australia. They sit alongside and are as vital as TNA members such as Sydney Opera House, Arts Centre Melbourne, and the Australian Theatre for Young People.

I attach here a document which outlines the Industry and the Engagement data of the federal electorate of Macnamara (in which City of Port Phillip sits). It shows overwhelmingly that not only is the locality one of the highest employers of creative and cultural workers in the country (11% of the population compared to 4.2% on average), but the engagement by residents is a massive 94%. People live here BECAUSE it is one of the most creative electorates in the country.

The arts and cultural activity in Port Phillip is a massive drawcard for not only new residents, but tourists – and it brings in more money than it costs. The economic leverage of every arts and culture dollar spent is huge. For every \$1000 invested, the total impact is 1.5 jobs created and a \$4200 boost to the economy^{[1][1]}.

As a resident I do understand the need to balance the budget and keep rates down, but I also want to live in a place that has a cultural soul. Even in COVID when I wasn't able to attend arts activity, I enjoyed driving or walking past and knowing they would open up again to bring life back to the area.

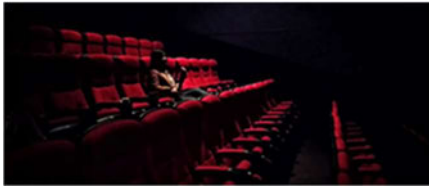
I urge you to reconsider the Council budget and to reinvest in these nationally recognised arts and cultural institutions. I am happy to speak further if required.

Warm regards,

[REDACTED]

[2][1]

Join us and the consortium of [Champion Companies](#) to provide emergency financial relief of \$1000 to 1000 artists in the performing arts. | [Donate today to the 1000 x 1000: Crisis Cash for Artists campaign.](#)



Southbank VIC 3006

Website: www.tna.org.au

We acknowledge Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

CBR-479

[Redacted]

Subject: Supporting COPP cultural institutions

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

I understand that the City of Port Phillip is considering removing support to 6 key cultural institutions. I'm a visitor to the city because of those institutions. Those I especially value are the Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch and Theatreworks. I believe that they should be better supported by federal and state governments, (especially the Tapestry Workshop launched by the Hamer Government) but COPP has a key role in advocating that.

I trust, given the impact of COVID on the arts which are fundamental to your municipality above all others, that you will support them in your final budget decisions.

Regards.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

CBR-480

[REDACTED]

Subject: Funding cuts for arts organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I write to ask the City of Port Phillip to continue triennial funding to the six arts organisations, including Theatreworks and Red Stitch, which it plans to cut this year.

I don't live in the municipality but thanks to Theatreworks and to Red Stitch, I bring business to it. Before covid, and now the lockdown has lifted, I have organised small groups of friends in theatre parties. We go out to dinner locally and we enjoy going to the performances a lot. Ticket prices are a fraction of the MTC and the programs generally more interesting.

Triennial funding means the companies can better plan ahead. It means more reliable programming. It means stronger work and a stronger company. These things matter to our little group and they matter to your community. Over a year, we might go to Red Stitch and Theatreworks six times. If you multiply that by \$80-100 a head for dinner, times four people, you could be taking more than \$2000 out of the municipality's hospitality business at a time when they most need it too.

Please don't proceed with these short sighted cuts. Triennial funding is critical for these arts organisations.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

CBR-481

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: ATTN: letter of concern- COPP Triennial Funding decision

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

Please find attached a letter outlining my concern regarding the decision to discontinue the triennial funding arrangements for arts orgs. in the City of Port Phillip

As a resident, I find the decision extremely disappointing and short sighted. I urge you to demonstrate your commitment to the cultural wellbeing of COPP by reversing this decision.

Yours truly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], I am writing to express my concern and outrage regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip. This decision is completely antithetical to the City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision, which aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate." I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community. The Key Organisations to be affected, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams BalletLab at Temperance Hall, have contributed an enormous amount to the cultural legacy of not only Port Phillip, but also on a state-wide and national scale. They are some of the most community engaged, forward thinking and crucial arts organisations in Melbourne. The funding they currently receive isn't remotely proportional to the impact they have had to the City of Port Phillip, Melbourne, and Australia, and we can expect the discontinuation of this funding to have devastating affects on some if not all of these organisations. Speaking from personal experience as a resident of the City of Port Phillip, I can attest to their positive impact on the mental health and well-being of local residents, the community spirit which they foster, and the creative innovation which they have championed for years. As a dancer and choreographer, I owe a lot of the success that I have enjoyed in my career to Phillip Adams BalletLab. Phillip was one of the first choreographers to hire me as a dancer, and mentored me throughout my development as a choreographer. I was also mentored by Rawcus through my training as an Audio Describer for audiences/artists with vision related disabilities. The generosity that both of these companies displayed in their commitment to fostering young talent and creative ambition is something that has been felt by many artists within and beyond Melbourne. Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund. Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling

them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond. I strongly urge you to reconsider this decision, and please know that this is a crucial issue for me and many of my fellow Port Phillip residence as voters. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-482



Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations - Expression of interest

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal not to renew triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Rawcus, The Torch, and Theatreworks.

On your Council profile, your bio states that you have an eclectic employment history - including as an actor. As someone acquainted with the complex and often precarious nature of the arts sector, you will understand the vital role that local council support for small programmed theatres, artists, handcrafts, and responsive and creative projects plays in shaping the quality, diversity, and voice of the arts in local communities. You will also appreciate that the funding is highly relative and contextual - funding that may appear insignificant to an outsider, may in fact be crucial for securing other grants, artists, or public legitimacy.

I am a resident of Stonnington City, but I have been looking at moving to the City of Port Phillip within the next two months. I am very concerned about moving into a local municipality which is setting down a budget in the context of a 10-year plan which prioritises almost \$300,000 of rent reduction for the Palais Theatre above continued essential long-term and stabilising funding for a variety of diverse arts organisations who produce year-round challenging and innovative work, provide employment, and motivate storytelling and cultural connection.

How is it that funding has been sourced to ensure that international performers, big names, and opera companies can continue to commercially hire the Palais Theatre, but the budget does not have room to provide grassroots performer-led and local organisations with long-term funding?

Some of the recent shows to hire the Palais theatre include:

1. Steve Hackett, English musician
2. Seven Wonders - the music of Fleetwood Mac
3. Live on Stage with Cameron Smith - former Melbourne Storm rugby league player
4. The Ten Tenors
5. World of Musicals - An english tour of a medley of various popular musicals

Aside from the fact that in the large list of shows I looked at, only 1 appeared to be led by women, and none by people of colour, let alone trans, queer or disabled artists, you can see that the productions privileged to book the Palais are not relevant or responsive to the communities living in the City of Port Philip, cater to interests and ideas which are not original, are not innovative, or timely.

If anything, during a time when budgets are the most tight, wouldn't small scale artists, grassroots communities, and marginalised storytellers be the most important to support with the limited funding available to me? I fail to see how rent reduction to the Palais Theatre meets the goals of the 2022-2031 arts plan, but I hope that you will explain it to me.

[REDACTED] a transgender advocate, and a patron and supporter of the arts as a vehicle for storytelling, community building, and strengthening our most disadvantaged and marginalised voices - I am thinking of neurodivergent, disabled, culturally diverse, and LGBTQIA+ individuals - it is extremely disappointing to see a local council not prioritise funding for organisations which have been pioneers in these areas, and employ many people who experience differing levels of marginalisations and explore these in their arts practices.

If you are minded to, I would appreciate a response to the issues I have outlined above and a confirmation of whether there is any intention to review the budget as outlined, in light of objections received during the consideration period.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

CBR-483



Subject: Disgusted and furious

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi,

I am a Melbourne resident, and have worked in the Port Philip area. So I have heard you are planning to gut the three year funding investment to the Australian Tapestry Workshop, Ballet Lab, Red Stitch, the Torch, Theatre Works and Rawcus in the City of Port Phillip's creative capital.

What kind of stupid is this?

You are making the hugest mistake and I know why you are doing this. You are basically not satisfied with the already obscene amount of money paid to you by rate payers to line your own pockets and you just want to steal more. Yeah well stop it! Stop this stupid greed. It will not serve you well in the future. From one point of view, you may not believe this but it will happen to you, karma will get you for stealing from artists. Basically what you are engaging in is THEFT! Stop pandering to your beloved corrupt LNP government and return the funding to the art bodies.

If you take away the funding, not only will the art bodies have to compete with us artists, they likely will NOT win the grant funding (thanks to YOUR LNP government cutting arts funding already!!!), the area that YOU supposedly represent of all of Port Philip will become a BORING, dreary yawnsome and ugly place with no exciting creativity, no art to engage visitors and locals in. Why in the stupidity of all stupids, would you want that sort of rubbish to happen!?

Not only are you being selfish and greedy, you are being stupid of the highest form. Why would you be proud of being stupid?

Be warned, you are embarrassing yourselves, and we will spread far and wide what you are doing, it will go everywhere, all over social media and you will have wrecked your own names as well as the Port Phillip area. What do you want the money for anyway??? To fund the unprofitable and BORING-as-hell coal mining? To line your own pockets so you can buy yet another pointless boat to store and never use? Huh? Or are you going to siphon the

money offshore? Yeah, there is no reason to take the funding from those artistic bodies, you have no right and I hope you end up in jail for this.

Read below what [REDACTED] on Arts Hub (you are already embarrassing yourself, I see)

'Taking this funding away for the next three years and throwing us into competitive rounds to compete with the artists we champion, support, and develop seems unethical and short sighted,' [REDACTED]. I warned you above, if you put them in direct competition with us, everyone will make sure you have hell to pay.

'If you gut the funding from your own arts organisations, not only will the City of Port Phillip cease to be "admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate," you will strip emerging artists of the opportunities to expand their skill sets, get their work in front of audiences, stimulate conversations, and hone their craft. 'The proposal to discontinue funding from Key Arts Organisations is an exercise in myopic self-sabotage. Cutting pre-established support is the perfect way to extinguish the rich and diverse artistic and cultural life within the City of Port Phillip,' [REDACTED] said.

I warned you also, above, you will wreck the area. What for? For your own rich needs? You do not need the money and you have no right using that money for yourselves or your rich donors.

[REDACTED] **said cutting triennial funding for the Key Organisations would damage Port Phillip's thriving arts ecosystem."**

Stop embarrassing yourselves and all of us. We are sick of it and guaranteed you will lose. You will stand to lose more if you steal the funding from the arts.

Reverse this retrograde thinking and restore the three year funding investment to the Australian Tapestry Workshop, Ballet Lab, Red Stitch, the Torch, Theatre Works and Rawcus in the City of Port Phillip's creative capital, or you will have hell to pay from all of us. Mark my words. We will not sit here and let you steal the funding.

[REDACTED]

CBR-484

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

21st May 2021

[REDACTED]

I am hugely disappointed at the draft \budget Plan which\ proposes no ongoing support for the council's important arts organisations including groups like Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, All important to the community in their own ways.

Such ventures are not only important to Port Phillip but to Victoria and ultimately Australia's arts culture, being places where producers, writers, directors, crew and actors get important on-going experience and education.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Arts Organisations have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to sustaining these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

We understand that a number of you think it is a great virtue to cite the need for financial constraint in order to economise but we wonder why you are choosing the arts as the main target? We would appreciate an explanation of your reasoning.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

We strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community as you run the risk of disappointing many people who may otherwise like to support you.

Yours Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

CBR-485

[REDACTED]

Subject: ARTS FUNDING CUTS

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I am writing to you again about yet another City of Port Phillip proposal to cut budgets. [REDACTED]. I hope you take more notice of this submission.

In this case you are proposing to discontinue triennial funding for our six world-class arts organisation: Australian Tapestry Workshop, The Torch, Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works and Rawcus.

There are two significant issues here: one a question of priorities; and secondly the reputation of the City as an arts hub.

All these organisations not only add to the social and cultural fabric of the city but also play critical community roles.

Among them the Australian Tapestry Workshop is of international significance. Since it was established in 1976 it has become renowned for its contemporary tapestries. They are located in Australian Embassies and a wide range of institutions and places such as the Melbourne Recital Centre. It is considered one of the pre-eminent tapestry workshops in the world and is held in the same esteem as the historic Gobelins Manufactory in Paris.

Cutting funding to it will be regarded as cultural vandalism and will damage the city's image and reputation. The arts are already suffering from the Morrison Government's refusal to assist them during the

pandemic and the City of Port Phillip will signal with this decision that it is joining the philistines.

The other issue is priorities. Senior staff in the Council didn't take salary cuts during the pandemic as did many staff in any private and public sector organisations. The Council is notorious for top heavy management, waste and inefficiency. An example in the arts area is the employment some years ago of consultants to prepare an arts policy which resulted in the production of a document which was superficial, unrealistic and frankly embarrassing. Its low point was suggesting that Council had the same capacity to raise sponsorship as the National Gallery of Victoria.

If Council and councillors focus on cutting funding to the areas which make the city vibrant, distinctive and internationally known it will damage their reputation not only in the city but the wider Australian and international community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-486

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I am an emerging playwright. Theatreworks has supported me with a She Writes Residency throughout Covid-19 in 2020, and into 2021. On 29 May through Theatreworks Radical Arts Festival I am actually having my script read by professional actors and inviting feedback from community. This is a life changing opportunity for me and I am very grateful to Theatreworks - and to the City of Port Phillip for your support.

So, I am writing to express my worry and genuine distress about the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

As you know, the draft 2021/22 budget and the draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support for these critical cultural contributors.

The current Key Organisations, including Theatre Works, have contributed enormously to local arts and culture over many decades. These organisations give opportunities to diverse communities, like my own LGBTIQ community. They provide employment and bring visitors to the City. Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding is a really really bad idea.

Ongoing funding provides security for our beloved creative organisations like Theatreworks, enabling them to attract funds from other supporters, and to keep supporting and enhancing the communities in the City of Port Phillip.

Please reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these wonderful, hardworking, inclusive, creative cultural organisations.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

CBR-487

[Redacted]

Subject: Arts funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

Please help St Kilda stay the vibrant place it is and continue to support the arts.

Our community has already lost so much during 2020 and we need spaces to reconnect and explore.

Please don't contribute to the greying of our suburb and fund the arts for the colour and community they foster.

[Redacted]

CBR-488

[REDACTED]

Importance: High

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED],

RE: TRIENNIAL FUNDING FOR KEY ORGANISATIONS

I am writing to urge you to continue the triennial funding of Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus Theatre Company, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, The Torch, Phillip Adams BalletLab, and Theatre Works.

In my capacity as Artistic Director & Co-CEO of Griffin Theatre Company, I will first speak to the importance of Red Stitch Actors Theatre and Theatre Works within the complex, interconnected creative channels of Australia's theatre industry.

Based in the historic SBW Stables Theatre in King's Cross, Griffin Theatre Company is Australia's only theatre company solely dedicated to new Australian playwriting. Every year we produce a program of world premiere professional productions, by writers from all over Australia.

When we produce the work of writers from Melbourne, invariably their biographies reveal multiple productions at both Theatre Works and Red Stitch. And there is a reason for this. For decades, there were no institutions offering formal training in writing for theatre. Most Australian playwrights learn their craft on the job. They self-produce their early plays at high-quality, accessible theatres like Theatre Works, and have their later ones produced by small-but-mighty, boutique theatre companies like Red Stitch.

In recent years Griffin have produced the work of many artists who have previously been supported by these two companies. These include [REDACTED] and many, many, many more. These are some of Australia's leading playwrights. And they all found their way to national and international success via their relationships with these companies. The loss of Theatre Works and Red Stitch because of funding cuts would be devastating to the theatre industry across the whole of Australia.

I also write to you as an audience member who has sat in wonder and amazement at the work of Rawcus and Philip Adams BalletLab. These two tiny organisations produce some of the most brilliant, boundary-pushing, exploratory creative work in Australia. They punch far above their weight. And deserve to be properly recognized and funded for their high-quality work.

Like most arts organisations in Australia, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus Theatre Company, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, The Torch, Phillip Adams BalletLab, and Theatre Works are already dangerously underfunded, and are still reeling from the effects of COVID-19. The removal of this funding will plunge them all into deeper financial uncertainty. At worst, it will see them close down. This would be disastrous for artists and arts-lovers of Melbourne. But it would also be disastrous for the bars, cafes and restaurants in the neighborhoods these companies service.

Convenience technologies like Netflix and UberEats are chipping away at community life, with people spending more and more time on their couch. But seeing a performance, or going to an exhibition, is still an Event. It means meeting friends, dining out, going for drinks. It is a social occasion that buoys local small businesses and contributes to the civic life of the City of Port Phillip. The City would be vastly poorer without the tireless work of these great organisations, who have provided a combined 150 years of innovation, creative thinking, community spirit, and positive mental health and well-being across their districts.

I hope you will see fit to revise the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021-2031 Plan to continue support to these critical cultural contributors.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

--

[Redacted name]

Griffin Theatre Company

[Redacted address]

[Redacted address]

griffintheatre.com.au



We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Gadigal of the Eora nation, the traditional custodians of the land on which we work.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

CBR-489

[REDACTED]

Subject: Funding cuts

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I'm lobbying for the retention of arts funding whose cuts have just been announced
Thes cuts are a travesty and hypocritical of a council wishing to foster creative and cultural activities
Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam clan of the Boonwurrung – as the Traditional Owners of Port Phillip, the land on which I work
I pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging

CBR-490

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Arts Funding in Port Phillip

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
May 22nd 2021

[REDACTED],
I am writing with regard to the reported proposal to discontinue triennial funding for six important Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip. *[The Age, May 21st]* Performing Arts companies rely on secure long term funding agreements to develop innovative programs and secure the services of their performers. The reported proposal is likely to result in the demise of some or all of the six affected companies. The contribution of these companies to the cultural life in your city is well-documented. Arts and cultural activity also brings added economic benefits including regular visits from those of us living in neighbouring suburbs. The Arts and Entertainment sector has been perhaps the hardest hit of any during the course of the pandemic. The value of live artistic experience became more evident than ever – when it was missing in our lives. This would be a very poor decision on the part of Council, completely lacking in vision and devastating for these highly regarded local companies.

Yours Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

CBR-491

[Redacted] >

Sent: Sunday, 23 May 2021 11:08 AM

[Redacted]

Subject: Please reconsider cuts to Key Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

OK I am biased. I am a big supporter of the arts and community participation. I've been reporting on it for 15 years or more. Over that time its become apparent to me that one of our genuine local strengths is theatre and the arts. Over the past years I've seen many amazing, creative and moving productions at Red Stitch and Theatreworks. All produced on the smell of an oily rag. Both these venues are hubs for experimentation, talent and connection.

The modest three year funding supports these venues to do what they do best. Its not a luxury, its more like an encouragement to keep on going. Its genuinely great value.

[Redacted]

CBR-492

[REDACTED]

Subject: CoPP Arts Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Begin forwarded message:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]:

I was devastated at the thought the Council could even contemplate cutting funding to six Arts groups, after the huge loss we have suffered by the closure of so many Arts venues due to Covid last year.

Now is the time we need your support the most. Just as we are struggling to get back on our feet. Not only The Australian Tapestry Workshop, but the five other great Arts organisations you have supported.

The Arts – in all it's aspects – is integral to our being. I understand costs must be made by the Council, but not at the cost to the ARTS area, where so many get so much joy. Many people could lose their employment, not to mention the sadness of us, the appreciators. I have grown up surrounded by the Arts, I have worked in the Arts and I am fourth generation of the Arts! I cannot imagine how desolate my life would be without the cocoon of the Arts, that gives so much joy whilst educating all of us, particularly our young.

The Ancient Art of Tapestry, is making a huge comeback around the world and we are ONE of only about four or five Contemporary Workshops in the world today. Our Tapestries can be found in Federal Parliament, our Embassies, the Opera House, many hospitals (including the wonderful [REDACTED] at The Peter Mac Hospital), galleries and private homes.

Please, Please do not do this to us. Re think to what your actions could lead, closure, unemployment and the loss to our city's culture if any of these venues are forced to close. We continue to need your support and you at Council will reap the benefits in the future.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CBR-493

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial funding and Key Arts Organizations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

I am writing to urge you to reconsider the cancellation of triennial funding for Key Arts Organizations in the City of Port Phillip.

I regularly attend performances at Red Stitch and Theatre Works. They are both vital to the cultural life of Melbourne. They offer innovative work that is not available at the more high profile theatre institutions. They make theatre affordable because their prices are reasonable.

People who work in the Arts are used to receiving very little financial return for the massive effort they put into our cultural life, but to remove ongoing support from the organizations that enable directors, actors and the people back stage to make these productions available to the public is a desperately sad development.

Port Phillip has a great history of supporting the Arts. Post Covid is not the time to be withdrawing support for these vital cultural institutions.

Once again, I urge you to reconsider the removal of support for triennial funding.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

CBR-494

[REDACTED]

Subject: Threat to Triennial funding of Key Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I write with deep concern about the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for our highly successful and critically important arts programmes in the City of Port Phillip.

As a long-term resident of the City of Port Phillip, I have availed myself of the opportunity to indulge in and support the innovative local arts programmes (particularly the theatre) to replenish my spirit while working in oncology and palliative care. It has been a core feature of my attraction to and loyalty for St Kilda

As with many of the patrons of the arts, I have felt starved of this stimulation during the necessary restrictions of COVID-19 and have hankered for the return of our amazing artists. As a health-care professional, I have not suffered loss of income, but my friends in the arts have suffered greatly, not only from income loss, but from the loss of ability to perform and create. It seemed that, gradually and cautiously, the arts were beginning to bounce back, and being able to attend performances again has lifted community spirits.

I find it short-sighted that a city council that prides itself as a 'creative hub' and a vibrant community could plan to omit triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations. What will happen to the soul of St Kilda? What will happen to the cultural buzz of the community? These organisations, already teetering, will likely succumb and fold. We cannot let this happen.

I implore you to reconsider and revise the draft budget.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-495

Good Morning,

23-May-2021 16:24:02 - Assist - GENERAL
Questionnaire

1 - Type of request
Feedback

2 - Request details

I want to comment on the proposed funding cuts to the 6 arts organisations and I am unable to because the online page is not functioning.

I want to object at the lack of vision and commitment to an essential part of creating community.

[REDACTED]

3 - Title

4 - Family name

[REDACTED]

5 - Given name

[REDACTED]

6 - Address

[REDACTED]

7 - Suburb

[REDACTED]

8 - Home Telephone Number

9 - Daytime Telephone Number

10 - Mobile Telephone Number

[REDACTED]

11 - Would you like feedback about this request?

Yes

12 - Preferred phone contact

Mobile telephone

13 - Special contact instructions (if applicable)

CBR-496

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Feedback re: Proposed New Budget

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

I am sure you have received many emails in relation to this issue, from the many supporters of these longstanding and high profile arts organisations.

Whilst they all do great work, I would implore you to think a little further about the equity in the current arrangement, and indeed if what they are proposing - should continue.

All arts organisations are struggling - Covid shut down our ability to stage performances, exhibitions and workshops, and the only groups that have been able to comfortably survive, have been those with organisational, ongoing funding.

As you may be aware, there are quite a number of arts organisations that are located in Port Phillip, which is why Council's Vision to be "renowned as a cultural hub that continues to evolve and innovate" - is possible, and does reflect our community.

What I am asking you to consider is to not only leave this arts operational funding in the budget, but prioritise it being allocated to local arts groups that don't receive operational funding from State and/or Federal Government - as all your current beneficiaries do.

The current organisations, receiving non-project funding from Council, State and/or Federal Government, are able to employ professional arts workers to write project funding applications, seek local sponsorship and generate extensive marketing plans, which ensure they receive the best possible amount of earned and funding income.

Meanwhile there are quite a few, equally innovative, experienced and important Not-for-profit arts organisations, that do not receive any operational funding from any source, and are desperate for support, with the very real possibility of not surviving the year.

I want our rates to support the people that most need help, and if you open a competitive funding round for operational arts funding - this gives everyone the chance to seek this support from Council, and allows you to determine what the needs are, outside the current 6 organisations. I personally have enjoyed the work of at least 2 other arts organisations, based in Port Phillip, who deserve this opportunity to receive operational support, so that they have the chance to flourish, and hopefully source and secure the kind of State, Federal, Sponsorship and Media support, that the current 6 arts organisations receiving triennial funding have had.

The arts give a voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Supporting new, developing and previously unsupported arts organisations in this work, should be a priority, to provide the most diverse and unique creative opportunities for local artists and our community.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support and instead open it up for all NFP arts organisations to apply for, prioritising those without similar support from other levels of government, ensuring these other cultural groups, can continue to survive the difficulties that Covid has created, and play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

CBR-497



Subject: Pending woeful decision by the City of Port Phillip

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



I write with grave concern regarding the very short sighted proposal to cut funding to a number of important arts organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

Your City has long held a reputation as a municipality that supports and nurtures culture across a variety of art forms. Hearing the contents of your proposed budget however, that will clearly no longer be the case...

I live 'north-side' and the only time I ever venture into Port Phillip is to enjoy the work produced by the arts orgs that are now under threat. Whilst I am over there, I often also visit local restaurants and cafes and buy items from the small businesses in the 'hood. You will not only be robbing your local community of the talent housed in the arts companies but will possible deter 'cultural tourists' who help to keep a diversity of commercial enterprises in the area afloat.

The companies you are proposing to de-fund are not only valuable to your City, its ratepayers and visitors, they are also important and respected members of the Victorian and Australian arts eco-system. Whilst \$30k per annum may not sound like a lot of funding (and it's not!) it is a vital element of each org's annual operating budget and its loss will have a detrimental impact on the viability of each company.

Surely, as community leaders you are aware of the incredibly difficult environment that COVID has created for artistic and creative practitioners across the globe. Instead of further supporting this important economic and cultural cohort, you are planning to further decrease their capacity to survive.

I chaired the City of Yarra's cultural funding panel for a decade and I am the founding CEO of the Abbotsford Convent, so I know how difficult it is to make granting decisions at the best of times! Surely however, post-COVID, when specialist cultural hubs are trying to stay alive, you as Councillors can recognise the importance of assisting their ongoing operations.

I urge you to direct your CEO and senior management to go back to the drawing board regarding this aspect of the budget. Apart from everything else, I suspect that a small increase of financial support to each company over the next few years, will be far more of a future vote buyer than your current plan of action is.....

[REDACTED]

CBR-498

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial arts funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I was shocked and dismayed to learn of your proposal to discontinue support for some of Port Phillip's key arts organisations.

A rich and vibrant community is more than just clean streets and emptied bins and some nice parks. Creative arts of all sorts - visual, music, dance, writing - are essential in a satisfying and rewarding neighbourhood. I have lived in St Kilda, later Port Phillip, for over 40 years and I and my children and now their children have all been enriched by the local arts scene.

I have seen dozens of Red Stitch and Theatre Works productions. Many have been brilliant, with a bite and an edge seldom found in Melbourne's mainstream theatres where playing safe and avoiding risk is paramount. Yes there have been a few fizzers too - that's what taking risks does. We would all be the poorer without these exciting, innovative companies.

Last Thursday I was at the Astor for the opening of the St Kilda Film Festival. Many of you were there too. [REDACTED] spoke powerfully of CoPP's embrace of and support for the creative spirits in our community. So what's happening? Talk on its own isn't enough, there's got to be action too, else the words are just hollow.

[REDACTED] which gives very modest grants every year to about 25 local community organisations. Some of you have come to our Grants Day presentations. One of the things I've learnt there is how important quite small support can be to an organisation; sometimes it's the difference between keeping going and going under.

Red Stitch and Theatre Works and the others are vital ingredients of life in Port Phillip. Please let us continue to support them. Else you will be deemed to know the price of everything but the value of nothing.

[REDACTED]

CBR-499

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, 23 May 2021 7:42 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Arts budget changes - please reconsider.

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I have submitted this letter as a formal submission via the website but also wanted to write directly to you both, in the hope you may read this and reconsider the proposed arts cuts.

To whom it may concern -

I am writing this submission to request Council reconsider the proposed changes to the Arts Program budget, particularly the decision to not renew partnerships with, or pursue greater support for, local arts organisations and institutions.

Key arts organisations Theatre Works, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Rawcus Theatre Company and Phillip Adams BalletLab are essential and magnificent contributors to the Australian performing arts ecosystem. These cultural hubs are nationally and internationally acclaimed not just for the high quality of work they present, but also for the capacity building work they achieve in nurturing emerging artists and arts workers who go on to contribute groundbreaking art to Australia and the world.

These organisations are vital voices - and Port Phillip can and should claim and support them as your own.

I write from my space of arts and culture expertise, including but not limited to as the current Artist Development program coordinator for Midsumma Festival, as the 2021 recipient of the Australia Council for the Arts Kirk Robson Award for Community Arts and Cultural Development, as a member of the VicHealth Arts Advisory Expert Group, and a 2019 Creative Victoria Creator's Fund fellowship recipient.

Particularly, the cuts to these local arts institutions are alarming given the central role creativity plays in the Community Vision articulated by council:

... We are renowned as a cultural hub, from live music to our creative industries. This creativity drives music, exhibitions and events which delight residents and encourage visitors to keep returning...

... We are proud that our participation in civic life means Port Phillip has retained its unique character and heritage while being admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate. We know our voice is heard and helps deliver meaningful outcomes...

Excerpts from "Our draft Community Vision: Proudly Port Phillip: A liveable and vibrant City that enhances the wellbeing of our community."

How can a vision which articulates a cultural and creative hub be achieved when nationally and internationally recognised arts organisations are being greeted with funding changes that will create

instability and uncertainty during an already volatile time for the arts sector?

Rawcus Theatre Company is an organisation that champions diversity and disability representation in groundbreaking and profound ways whilst fostering and maintaining a high degree of artist excellence - work that is “world class theatre - sumptuously imagined, visually stunning and profoundly moving” (The Age). Further writing on their work - revealing its insightful, socially relevant and immensely valuable nature - are available here, and I urge you to consider continuing support for this vital work. <https://rawcus.org.au/about-us/reviews-articles/>

In addition to presenting challenging, rigorous and high quality independent theatre, Theatre Works is particularly important as a capacity building institution that nurtures and builds artists and arts workers, who go on to become heavyweight contributors to the Australian theatre scene. Former Theatre Works artistic director [REDACTED] has gone on to program at Arts Centre Melbourne and is now Artistic Director for Sydney World Pride 2023, representing Australian performing arts on a global level; recent Theatre Works playwright [REDACTED] who premiered “The Great Australian Play” at Theatre Works has this year been commissioned to write a new Australian work for the globally recognised Malthouse Theatre; and stories such as this are abundant from the engine room of creativity that is Theatre Works - a local treasure of Port Phillip.

Red Stitch Actors Theatre is “one of Melbourne’s best-known and respected theatre companies” (Sydney Morning Herald) and “has always been a theatre company that punches above its weight” (The Australian), and is an ensemble and company which ensures new and contemporary Australian theatre works can develop, thrive and find audiences. In a national arts environment which frequently sees international and remount plays prioritised, Red Stitch plays a vital role in ensuring Australian culture remains vibrant and viable.

Phillip Adams BalletLab is recognised internationally as a visionary and leading company in contemporary dance - and its founding director, [REDACTED], was awarded the 2018 Australia Council Award for Dance in recognition of the 17 year history of BalletLab developing extensive local, national and international avenues of collaboration, choreography, development and presentation of new Australian dance work on global stages.

And these magnificent arts organisations not only contribute to the national performing arts ecosystem - punching above and beyond their weight - but also enrich local cultural life, contribute to visitation of arts workers, artists and patrons across the city, and contribute economically through employment and through cultural visitors who attend performances and workshops and spend at hospitality venues in the area. By not committing to continue or renew partnerships with these key organisations, Council will be impoverishing the cultural and creative hub reputation of Port Phillip, and impoverishing the future of arts in this nation.

I urge Council to reconsider the proposed cuts to the Arts budget.

With regards - and with emphasis on the importance of the arts to creating meaningful cultural life for individuals and societies -

[REDACTED]

CBR-500

[REDACTED]

Subject: Arts funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

I am appalled to read that this city is considering funding cuts to 6 key arts organisations: Phillip Adams Ballet, lab, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, the torch, Rawcus and Theatre Works, at a time when funding to keep these organisations is sorely needed in the wake of the Covid 19 Epidemic.

I expect this city to support the arts and to ensure that it remains the home of such institutions, all of which I am proud to be able to say exist in the city in which I live with my family.

I appeal to you all to stand by and support the arts community of this city and not to desert them. If anything, funding should be increased.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

CBR-501

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

23rd May 2021

[REDACTED],
I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal for funding cuts for acquisitions made for the Port Phillip City Collection.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The Port Phillip City Collection website it states, "The Port Phillip City Collection (PPCC), dating from 1855, celebrates the social, cultural, political and artistic development of the City of Port Phillip and its former municipalities of Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St Kilda., and "Comprising contemporary and historic art, heritage furniture, photographs, memorials and monuments, public art and civic material, the PPCC tells stories of the history of the municipality, its cultural identity, its artistic legacy and contemporary practice. It recognises the people and places which provide its tangible and intangible heritage and unique character."

Ongoing acquisitions for the PPCC not only continue to add new and contemporary works to the historical timeline of the collection, but will also help to support local artists in the City of Port Phillip who have all been severely impacted by the COVID-19.

By cutting funding to the PPCC in the post-Covid period Council will potentially have no works that were made in or represent the one-in-a-hundred-year event that struck us all in 2020. This time is historically important to collect and to preserve for future generations.

Funding for the PPCC is equally as important to the social, cultural and historical fabric of the City of Port Phillip as many other areas supported financially by Council.

As a local artist with works in the PPCC I implore you to consider continuing funding for this culturally and historically significant collection. The PPCC is the collective history of our stories and social heritage!

[REDACTED],

[REDACTED]

CBR-502

[REDACTED]

Subject: Please Don't Discontinue the Triennial Funding!

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I hope that this email finds you well.

It is with complete regret that I have to write this email to you, but I found out about the absolute disappointing news of your consideration to discontinue the triennial funding of six Key Arts Organisations, which will severely impact an already beaten arts ecology.

I have been associated with Temperance Hall / BalletLab for the past 5 years since graduating from the VCA Dance course in 2016. I can speak from first hand experience of the amazing opportunities that Temperance Hall creates, alongside nurturing and fostering such incredible talent. I have performed, created, participated, ushered and even lived at this Hall, and it has been the hub that has significantly impacted my establishment as an artist, amongst numerous others.

I am a queer identifying artist, and without this type of space available, I wouldn't know where else to go. There is not anything else like it. The team there have a world of knowledge to offer, and have supported me endlessly, which I am so grateful for.

Please Don't Discontinue the Triennial Funding as it would be another, if not a final blow.

With Regards,

[REDACTED]

--

[REDACTED]

CBR-503

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

20th May 2021

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

I'm a professional actor, and a member of the Red Stitch Actors Ensemble. Every year, Red Stitch provides professional level, paid, opportunities for many many actors, technicians, designers, directors and writers, as well as front of house staff and people working in publicity and marketing. This year, to date, we have already provided paid professional work to no less than 100 people. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The multi-year funding grants which the City of Port Phillip have provided, and which we have been grateful recipients of, have allowed our very small organisation a small amount of breathing space. A year or two in which we don't have to set aside extra weeks in which to vision, plan, write and polish yet another grant application. Instead, this time is used to work with writers, to have play readings, to workshop plays, to rehearse plays, to nurture new professional networks, to develop targeted marketing strategies for each new work in the season.

I urge you to reconsider this decision. As it is we operate on a shoestring, our wages only just adequate, and we all work countless unpaid hours. This decision will add to the stress of 2020, and will unequivocally, in real, practical terms, make our lives more difficult.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

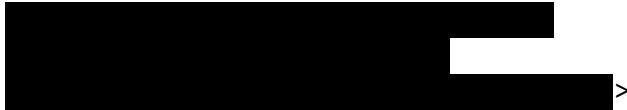
Ongoing funding provides security for Red Stitch and all of these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

CBR-504



Subject: Save the vibrancy of the arts in port Phillip

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Hi

Is it true that you are considering a proposal to discontinue triennial funding for our six Key Arts Organisations: Phillip Adams Ballet Lab, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, The Torch, Rawcus, and Theatre Works?

There are 2 major issues with this proposal. One is the amazing place Port Phillip is through its local arts- our "cultural hub". We live in a special vibrant place which we should support. I love our community all the more because of these amazing venues and the people that work there. It makes my engagement with the place I have lived in for over 20 years all the more connected & meaningful. I would hate to see them disappear. But I doubt if these organisations would survive without continued council support.

The other issue is that the arts community has been hammered by Covid. It's been so hard on this sector. The fact we have anyone left in the arts sector is a miracle in itself. This measure if passed will hit the local arts sector just as it begins to get back on solid ground. The impact of these cuts will mean loss of jobs, decreased opportunities for artists and simply less on offer for me as the audience and visitors to Port Phillip.

What I really want is a commitment to ongoing funding to demonstrate that this Council truly believes in and values both the arts and the organisations that help make up the diverse and renowned hub you speak of in the Strategy Plan. It's really the essence of the hood I live in.

Many thanks



CBR-505

[Redacted]

Subject: Reconsider the discontinuation of Triennial Funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

20th May 2021

[Redacted]

As a long time City of Port Phillip resident, I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 plan proposes no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-506

[Redacted]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

20th May 2021

[Redacted]

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[Redacted]

CBR-507

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

24th May 2021

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my **outrage** regarding the Council's decision to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent. Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

AND YOU HAVE NOT EXPLAINED WHY THIS DECISION WAS MADE

Unless funding is restored you are losing the vote of myself, my family and friends.

[REDACTED]

CBR-508



Subject: CoPP withdrawal of funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip (CoPP). As a Lake ward resident, rate payer, Australian Tapestry Workshop (ATW) board member and arts lover, I was dismayed to learn that CoPP proposes to remove funding to ATW, Red Stitch Theatre, The Torch, Rawcus Theatre Company, Theatre Works and Ballet Lab. Each of these arts organisations relies heavily on the CoPP's contribution of \$30,000 per annum, particularly now to help us get back on our feet post Covid and continue our valuable contribution to our city.

CoPP's arts hub must be so much more than the Espie, the Palais, Linden Gallery and Gasworks Art Park. The 6 arts organisations set to lose funding are critical contributors to CoPP's rich cultural heritage and should not be abandoned, particularly having regard to CoPP's vision and stated aims.

CoPP is renowned by residents and visitors alike for its significant arts and cultural programs. For a relatively modest investment by CoPP, these six organisations have assisted to build CoPP's vision of being renowned and admired as a cultural hub that continues to evolve and innovate (see *CoPP draft Community Vision for 2021 -2031*) by supporting artistic practices and employment across the visual arts, theatre, music and dance, providing wide-ranging public performances, classes, workshops, events and exhibitions to diverse audiences. Even during Covid, these 6 arts organisations were able to continue to offer programs to residents and visitors digitally.

In particular, I draw your attention to CoPP's stated aims of:

-Delivery of programs, services and spaces that promote community participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage

-Investment for our key arts and culture venues and organisations, including gasworks art Park and Linden Gallery to ensure we foster access, participation, local arts development and Port Phillip as a cultural destination.

By withdrawing funding from the Australian Tapestry Workshop, You are ignoring ATW's significance, not only as a critical part of the culture of CoPP for well over 50 years but its international position as one of only four or five contemporary tapestry workshops in the world today. ATW's tapestries can be found in overseas embassies, the State Library of Victoria, many of

our great public hospitals, the Opera House, Melbourne Town Hall and the The Australian War Memorial. It is staggering that CoPP does not seek to continue to support the ATW in bringing this beautiful and ancient art form to not only our CoPP residents but the world.

More broadly, in withdrawing funding from these six organisations, you are putting at risk 500+ independent arts and 150+ artist workers annually, in addition to providing space and resources to keep our world-class arts and culture sector thriving in CoPP. Of course, the audiences of the six organisations have an economic flow on to cafes, restaurants and retail shops across the city.

The funding you propose to cut is modest to CoPP but critical to the sustainability of the organisations. Your actions could lead to closure and loss of jobs. The ATW and the other organisations need your support more than ever and we in return will continue to build and promote CoPP as a rich, vital and outstanding cultural hub in Melbourne.

I urge you to rethink your decision.

Regards

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

CBR-509

[REDACTED]

Subject: Arts Organisation Port Philip Triennial Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

I am writing regarding the deeply disappointing proposal to cut funding to some of the cultural jewels in the City of Port Melbourne.

[REDACTED]

Whilst I understand that this might be an uncomfortable text for Councillors to read, it is a necessary point of view.

I am an artist, curator, arts advocate and academic researcher who has and continues to advise government on a range of critical arts and community matters through board membership, community consultation/ facilitation, strategic planning and arts governance. I have been trying to put myself in your shoes and imagine how best to write to you with sounding like I am telling you how to do your job. The reality is that I just don't know how you will read my email. I ask you to consider that I have nothing to gain from communicating to you, other than expressing my expertise in the arts, arts funding and community development at local council, state and federal level for 35 years.

Deeply grounded in your community, the arts organisations that are slated to lose funding have been tirelessly contributing to the vibrancy of the City of Port Philip in adverse circumstances. They play a major role in why people want to live in your community. By virtue of their presence and the national and international acclaim for their work, housing values in your community are at a premium and parents want to send their children to your schools. People want to live in your community because of the presence of the arts. Sadly, there is no recognition or understanding of this continual contribution of arts organisations in your proposal. There is considerable national and international research that demonstrates that people want to live in communities where the arts are thriving, and creativity is valued. There is NO research to support discontinuing triennial funding for arts organisation as a methodology for maintaining a vibrant community.

Your proposal to cancel triennial funding reflects a profound misunderstanding of the contribution of these organisations to the City of Port Melbourne and the broader community. The proposal seems particularly problematic at a time when the nourishment that only creativity brings is more critical than ever. This is a time to show real leadership and expand funding to these organisations... allow them to do what they do best...generate ideas, shine light on creativity and imagination, contribute to the richness of your community and in many cases, the world.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss any of these ideas. Please let me know if there is anything further that I can provide.

I look forward to your thoughts.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | **Margaret Lawrence Gallery**
Faculty of Fine Arts and Music | University of Melbourne

[REDACTED] | Southbank VIC 3006 Australia | Telephone: +61 [REDACTED]

<https://finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/about-us/margaret-lawrence-gallery>

The Faculty of Fine Arts and Music respectfully acknowledges the Boonwurung and Wurundjeri

people of the Eastern Kulin nation  Wilin ALIE

CBR-510

Subject: Funding to ATW

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]. My concern for the ongoing viability of arts organisations in this unprecedented time of Covid 19 has made me to write to you regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip (CoPP). The proposal to remove funding to ATW, Red Stitch Theatre, The Torch, Rawcus Theatre Company, Theatre Works and Ballet Lab. is callous, demonstrating disregard for the current circumstances. Each of these arts organisations relies heavily on the CoPP's contribution of \$30,000 per annum, particularly now as we adjust and try to manage our way back on our feet as we continue to deal with Covid 19 restrictions. Our aim at the Australian Tapestry Workshop is to continue our valuable contribution to the community, city, national and international field of the arts.

CoPP's arts hub must be so much more than the Espie, the Palais, Linden Gallery and Gasworks Art Park. The 6 arts organisations set to lose funding are critical contributors to CoPP's rich cultural heritage and should not be abandoned, particularly having regard to CoPP's vision and stated aims.

CoPP is renowned by residents and visitors alike for its significant arts and cultural programs. For a relatively modest investment by CoPP, these six organisations have assisted to build CoPP's vision of being renowned and admired as a cultural hub that continues to evolve and innovate (see *CoPP draft Community Vision for 2021 -2031*) by supporting artistic practices and employment across the visual arts, theatre, music and dance, providing wide-ranging public performances, classes, workshops, events and exhibitions to diverse audiences. Even during Covid, these 6 arts organisations were able to continue to offer programs to residents and visitors digitally.

In particular, I draw your attention to CoPP's stated aims of:

-Delivery of programs, services and spaces that promote community participation and engagement in arts, culture and heritage

-Investment for our key arts and culture venues and organisations, including gasworks art Park and Linden Gallery to ensure we foster access, participation, local arts development and Port Phillip as a cultural destination.

By withdrawing funding from the Australian Tapestry Workshop, You are ignoring ATW's significance, not only as a critical part of the culture of CoPP for well over 50 years but its international position as one of only four or five contemporary tapestry workshops in the world today. ATW's tapestries can be found in overseas embassies, the State Library of Victoria, many of our great public hospitals, the Opera House, Melbourne Town Hall and the The Australian War Memorial. It is staggering that CoPP does not seek to continue to support the ATW in bringing this beautiful and ancient art form to not only our CoPP residents but the world.

More broadly, in withdrawing funding from these six organisations, you are putting at risk 500+ independent arts and 150+ artist workers annually, in addition to providing space and resources to keep our world-class arts and culture sector thriving in CoPP. Of course, the audiences of the six organisations have an economic flow on to cafes, restaurants and retail shops across the city.

The funding you propose to cut is modest to CoPP but critical to the sustainability of the organisations. Your actions could lead to closure and loss of jobs. The ATW and the other organisations need your support more than ever and we in return will continue to build and promote CoPP as a rich, vital and outstanding cultural hub in Melbourne.

I urge you to rethink your decision.

Regards

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

CBR-511

[Redacted]

Subject: Arts Funding Cuts

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

I write to you in my role as [Redacted] of the Australian Tapestry Workshop in South Melbourne to express my dismay at the news that the funding of the ATW and five other remarkable arts organisations has been cut. This is most distressing news, particularly after the year that the arts in general and these organisations in particular have endured.

These actions go counter to the support given by other councils such as Melbourne City Council, the State Government and even the Commonwealth.

Not only are the arts a clear and proven community benefit, particularly in Port Phillip, there are also major employment implications of this funding being withdrawn, so it doesn't even make economic sense. The arts are a driver of so many business opportunities and the knock on effect will impact on many individuals and small businesses.


On behalf of the Australian Tapestry Workshop and the other organisations I beseech you to reconsider your decision, and to restore this funding for the health of both the community and the economy of the City of Port Phillip.

We would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this and to assist you in understanding how these negative impacts will manifest, and why they should not be allowed to happen.

Sincerely

[Redacted]

[Redacted]



The University of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Boonwurung and Wurundjieri people of the Eastern Kulin nation.

CBR-512



Subject: Restore Triennial Funding for Local Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

24 May 2021



I urge you to reconsider the City of Port Phillip's (COPP) proposal to discontinue triennial funding for significant arts organisations in your community. As a councillor, you hold a significant leadership position and with that, a responsibility to ensure the Council acts responsibly and wisely, guided by its vision to create a "legacy for generations to come".

I urge you to stop the Council's proposal to cancel ongoing financial support for significant local cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community. The proposal is short sighted, contrary to the public interest and at odds with the Council's vision and residents' expectations.

The current Key Organisations, including the Australian Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Support from COPP has enabled the Australian Tapestry Workshop to guild a substantial community engagement program with enriches the cultural life of our community.

Many of the arts organisations, most particularly the Australian Tapestry Workshop, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally.

The COPP draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support be provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will threaten their sustainability and greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations. The proposal is short sighted,

mean spirited and reflects a cultural and leadership vacuum from Council. It reflects poorly on the City of Port Phillip.

Ongoing funding provides security for these cultural icons, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

Yours Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

CBR-513



>
Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



I am writing in support of renewal of Triennial funding for the Key Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

My experience has been as a musician, composer and director with Theatreworks and Rawcus and both of those companies were crucial to my professional development.

Through my then company, The Present Tense Ensemble, we were able to develop new works **Margaret Fulton - The Musical** and **Ricercar** with Theatreworks Selected Works program. The Margaret Fulton Musical is currently on a national tour. A show I composed the music for **Robot Song** with Arena Theatre Company, which had an extensive season at Theatreworks before winning a Helpmann Award and embarking on a national and international tour (in the UK and North America - which is set to resume after covid).

Without the opportunities these companies provide, none of the shows would have had the success they have had. These companies impact audiences and industry and your support at the grass roots levels has enormous ripples throughout Australia and the world.

I now lead a youth arts company, Marian St Theatre for Young People. in Sydney. MSTYP is supported through our LGA, Ku-ring-gai Council and often when I cite examples of visionary governments supporting the arts, I use the City of Port Phillip as a primary example of what is possible, what is industry leading and what is best practice.

I strongly urge you to support their renewal of funding and please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to.

Yours sincerely,



www.mstyp.org.au



TESTAMENT is now live on Spotify and iTunes. [Listen to a track from the album](#)

CBR-514

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

Key existing cultural organisations including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021–2031 vision aspires to create a 'legacy for generations to come,' stating: 'We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.'

This seems to be a clear recognition of the importance of these organisations. Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021–2031 Plan propose no ongoing support for them.

Requiring these organisations — which have been hard-hit by COVID-19 — to now compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will imperil their sustainability.

Meanwhile, the City of Port Phillip appears to be intent on rebuilding the EcoCentre in the St Kilda Botanical Gardens — essentially entailing construction of a new two-storey office building at a time when there is a likely oversupply of office space post-COVID, as many people continue to work from home for the foreseeable future. This is an extravagant option to accommodate the EcoCentre, which clearly reveals it as a vanity project more concerned with building a monument to councillors than on supporting environmental programs. Indeed, building over precious public parkland itself conflicts with the EcoCentre's environmental aims.

Furthermore, the EcoCentre undertakes worthy activities but in many ways it is similar to organisations such as Environment Victoria. In contrast, organisations such as the Australian Tapestry Workshop are utterly unique. I find withdrawal of support for such extraordinary arts organisations while funds are lavished on the EcoCentre to be unfathomable in light of the Council's stated vision.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-515

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >
Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Your Name
Your Address
Your Email (optional)

20th May 2021

[REDACTED],
I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

CBR-516

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

24th May 2021

[REDACTED]

As a long term resident of Canal Zone, and a person who supported each of you in the last election. I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries. Port Phillip is admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including The Torch, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. They make us proud to be residents in the area and certainly contribute to the tapestry of the community.

Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to residents' mental health and well-being, foster community spirit, and promote innovation and creative thinking. For example, The Torch regularly draws audiences from other local councils to the City, who contribute to the local economy through spending on hospitality and retail. Many of these organisations, including The Torch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet, the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to annually compete for a significantly reduced pool of project-based funding will significantly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters to benefit the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reinstate the full triennial funding for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

CBR-517

[Redacted]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

20th May 2021

[Redacted]

I just want to preface this with stating that I am a performer and this decision directly affects me and I know you are too, so I hope you will strongly consider the following and what it means for our Arts Community.

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip’s draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,
[Redacted]

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CBR-518

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >
Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
20th May 2021
[REDACTED]

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

CBR-519

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

20th May 2021

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

20th May 2021

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Cutting funding to Wild At Heart Community Arts would fail the Council's Community Vision

[REDACTED]

I am writing to ask you to reconsider the proposed cuts to arts funding in the 2021/22 budget, in particular a cut to the funding provided for Wild At Heart Community Arts' life saving songwriting program for highly disadvantaged people in the City.

Wild At Heart Community Arts has worked in partnership with the City of Port Phillip for over 10 years to provide a safe place of belonging and purpose for some of the City's most marginalised people.

Our work is unique in the City. The songwriting and music program enables people living with serious mental illness, disability, trauma and disadvantage to find their voice and a way to contribute in the local community.

The music created and performed by participants is poignant, powerful and vitally important for all of our society to hear and understand the breadth of our human condition. You can listen to some examples on [Spotify](#).

Wild At Heart's program directly contributes to City of Port Phillip's draft Community Vision for 2021 - 2031 "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

Our work goes beyond arts and contributes to the health of the community, improving people's mental well, building their social and economic networks and reducing the burden of health and social care for the community.

[I would like to invite you to come and see the program in person and meet some of the participants. We meet on Wednesdays 11-4pm at Sol Green Community Centre in South Melbourne. If you are available for an hour or so this week or the next couple of Wednesdays we would welcome you to visit.](#)

I strongly encourage you to continue City of Port Phillip's support for such a profoundly important arts and community well being program.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Arts Funding

[REDACTED]

20th May 2021

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip. I'm a practising playwright and theatre-maker, and supporter of organisations like Theatre Works and Red Stitch - my play SINGLE LADIES premiered at Red Stitch earlier this year.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



Subject: My disapproval of Council's proposal to discontinue triennial funding for key arts organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



I am writing to express my great concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for key arts organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current key organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time.

Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community. If anything, their funding should be increased in the present testing circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

From: Tirese Ballard <tiresetrees@email.com>

[REDACTED]

>
Subject: RE: proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] >
[REDACTED] >

Subject: Triennial 2 Arts Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip. I am extremely distressed to hear of this plan to change funding. The arts support our communities in so many ways, jobs, well being and the encouragement of creative and critical thinking. If the arts continue to be undermined with reduced funding from councils such as Port Phillip, Melbourne's community will fall behind in more ways than one. If we wish to continue shaping our community in progressive and sustainable ways, the arts needs to be supported.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 - 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate." The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams BalletLab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 - 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors. Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike. Requiring these organisations - which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery - to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond. I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Funding

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

24th May 2021

[REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including The Torch, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time.

These organisations are a good reflection of the diversity of the population of Port Phillip and have contributed greatly over many years to the character and appeal of living in Port Phillip.

Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to residents' mental health and well-being, foster community spirit, and promote innovation and creative thinking. The Torch regularly draws audiences from other local councils to the City, who contribute to the local economy through spending on hospitality and retail. Many of these organisations, including The Torch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet, the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to annually compete for a significantly reduced pool of project-based funding will significantly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters to benefit the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

Such organisations are integral to the character & pride of Port Phillip

I strongly urge you to reinstate the full triennial funding for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including The Torch, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time.

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Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to annually compete for a significantly reduced pool of project-based funding will significantly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters to benefit the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reinstate the full triennial funding for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Additionally, with the recent late withdrawal of funds from the Balcony project, I wonder about the change in attitude by COPP towards promoting the Arts in Port Phillip. Something is getting smaller here.

Yours Sincerely,

██████████

CBR-529

Thursday 20 May 2021

[REDACTED]

Re: Bay Street Port Melbourne – Interactive Migration Art Walk Proposal

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you as President of the Port Melbourne Business Association (PMBA), and as a representative of the CoPP's Business Advisory Group, to express my disappointment with the reduced budget for Economic Growth and Activation in the Bay Street Port Melbourne precinct.

Like Acland and Fitzroy Streets in St Kilda, Bay Street Port Melbourne has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, unlike St Kilda, Port Melbourne has been dealt a triple blow.

Further to the devastation of the 2020 lockdown, the lack of international cruise ships docking at Station Pier has hit our businesses hard. With approximately 350,000 visitors alighting their cruise ships annually in Port Melbourne, we estimate \$1.5 to \$2 million in revenue has already been lost on Bay Street due to the cancellation of 120 days of cruise ship visitations to Station Pier. This will continue to affect our precinct through 2022.

Adding to this pain, with the Spirit of Tasmania relocating from Station Pier in 2022, we estimate an additional loss of \$1.5 to \$2 million in revenue.

And finally, Woolworths Fisherman's Bend store with its 200+ carparks, is set to open in June 2021, and will without doubt take even more revenue from the traders of Bay Street Port Melbourne.

All up, our traders will be down around \$4 million each year. So, moving into 2022 we anticipate a massive revenue decline which could send many of our local Bay Street retailers to the wall and for many, this will be the final nail in the coffin.

However, it does not have to be all bad news!

We do have the potential to create something special, ignite public interest and bring people into our precinct.

To counter this loss of foot traffic and offer a way forward for our precinct's recovery, we would like to ask CoPP to financially support the **Port Melbourne Interactive Migration Art Walk**, by allowing provisions for its creation in the budget for Economic Growth and Activation.

As I am sure you are aware, Station Pier's migration history is held dear in the hearts of the many thousands of Australians who landed there. We know there is a unique and untapped opportunity to bring Port Melbourne's migration past to life, and the Interactive Migration Art Walk will be a highly visual and attractive way to do so.

The Port Melbourne Interactive Migration Art Walk will cover 1.4km between Station Pier, and Liardet Street, Port Melbourne. Using 360-degree immersive projection, it will introduce the migration history and stories of arrivals to Station Pier.

This project ticks many boxes:

- There will be an opportunity to work closely with Multicultural Arts Victoria and the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, as well as prominent artists from relevant cultural groups, including the Kulin nation to create the activation.
- Furthermore, workshops and mentorship in projection mapping, lighting effects, and audio-visual media is to be provided to the selected artists in the new Bay Street art campus of Albert Park Secondary College (APSC).
- In exchange for the use of the campus, interested APSC students will be invited to participate in the learning program which will focus on the opportunities for storytelling through projection art.

PMBA seeks to appoint the projection production company that has produced installations for Wyndham City Council, Yarra City Council, and the City of Melbourne, and worked on projects including White Night and the Gertrude Street Projection Festival.

An eight-night Migration Projection Festival to be showcased in April 2022 is proposed as a proof-of-concept idea to highlight the level of interest in the area's migration history.

More information, including costs, can be found in the accompanying attachment below.

It is our aim to build from the success of this festival and approach sponsors to help finance a permanent, world-class display that will attract locals and the future cruise ship passengers in coming years, giving them a reason to stay in Port Phillip and spend a large proportion of the \$60 million dollars they bring to Melbourne in the City of Port Phillip.

Please support this exciting proposal and help the traders of Bay Street Port Melbourne get back on their feet and recover from the enormous impact of the COVID pandemic, the loss of the cruise ships docking at Station Pier, and the loss next year of the Spirit of Tasmania.

Please help us to give people a compelling reason to spend time in our beautiful village by the bay.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]



Port Melbourne Interactive Migration Art Walk

On 12 September 1854, Port Melbourne's Station Pier, formerly known as Railway Pier, opened. Australia's welcoming point for generations of new arrivals, Station Pier has been important in almost every phase of Australia's history. In war and peace, commemoration and celebration, servicemen returning home, migrants arriving from distant lands, and refugees arriving from war zones, Station Pier has a special place in not only the history of Port Phillip, but also the nation.

And whilst Station Pier's migration history is held dear in the hearts of the thousands of anxious and excited new arrivals who landed there, there is a unique and untapped opportunity to bring Port Melbourne's migration past to life.

The Port Melbourne Business Association (PMBA) proposes the development of an Interactive Migration Art Walk that illuminates the hopes, fears, joys and sorrows of all whose first memory of Melbourne was stepping onto the boards of Station Pier.

Exploring the hidden stories of migrants and refugees through a series of permanent art installations, the Migration Art Walk will follow in the footsteps of those who have shaped both the city of Port Phillip, and Australia, through their journeys of courage and hope. Discovering what it means to move across countries, to change nationalities and to settle in a new place, the Migration Art Walk will cover 1.4km between Station Pier, and Liardet Street, Port Melbourne.

Migrants are and will remain a very visible and indispensable part of life in Port Phillip. Their numbers, the critical work they perform, and the risks they have faced deserve a voice.

Commencing with acknowledgement of First Nations People, the Migration Art Walk will explore the region's earliest inhabitants, the Yalukit Wilum, one of the five clans of the Boon Wurrung, known as the coastal tribe, and members of the Kulin nation.

The walk will go on to explore the first wave of migration driven by the Gold Rush in 1851. Introducing an influx of eager immigrants from all over the world, Port Melbourne was the first stop in a journey that would go on to shape the fortunes of many.

Followed by an exploration of post-war migration, the walk will reveal the journeys of migrants from southern and eastern Europe. Often seeking refuge from persecution, war and economic hardship, an average of 61,000 European passengers arrived every year between 1949 and 1966, reaching 110,802 at its peak in 1960. Exploring the cultural contribution of arrivals from the United Kingdom, Greece, Italy and Jewish communities throughout Europe, the Migration Art Walk will go on to celebrate later arrivals from Asian, African and many other countries who have added to the diverse multicultural community that enlivens the City of Port Phillip, and broader regions today.

Ending at Liardet Street, the Migration Art Walk will pay tribute to Port Melbourne's first permanent settler – Wilbraham Frederick Evelyn Liardet. Liardet, who arrived with his wife

Caroline and nine children in 1839, erected a tent on the beach opposite what is now Bay Street. With the extraordinary energy typical of many new immigrants, within a year, Liardet had built a hut, a jetty, a watch tower and a rough road to the city for a daily mail run to Melbourne, dug a well, created a ferry service to Williamstown, and established the Pier Hotel.

Continuing to welcome thousands of passengers to Melbourne, Station Pier remains an important landmark in the journeys of international cruise travellers, and an important ongoing symbol for the immigrants who arrived there.

Drawing on consultation and contribution from the cultural groups who share in Station Pier's history, including Multicultural Arts Victoria and the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, the interactive Migration Art Walk will invite local and international visitors, including 350,000 cruise ship passengers, into Port Phillip to reflect on what it means to migrate through a series of 15 interactive art installations.

A language shared between individuals, nations, and cultures, art has the power to redeclare identities that have been lost or abandoned when people find new homes. But importantly, art gives migrant voices a means of being heard.

An opportunity to transcend national and cultural borders, the Migration Art Walk seeks to influence how we think about migration and belonging. An opportunity to step out of the car and into the past, the 1-hour walk will be designed for locals, families, international tourists and importantly, for visitors with ties to Station Pier's migration history.

Pulling walkers back through a fascinating history of Port Melbourne and its migration past, in the very locations that gave arrivals their first glimpses of a new life in Australia, the Migration Art Walk represents a unique economic opportunity for the region.

Delivering walkers into the heart of Port Melbourne's trading district (and conversely from the trading district to Station Pier), the project has the potential to become a significant tourist attraction, anchoring Port Melbourne's identity to its migration history, and drawing those interested in both history and the arts to the City of Port Phillip.

Migration Projection Festival - Proof of Concept

Using 360-degree immersive projection, the PMBA seeks to engage projection expertise to introduce the migration history and stories of arrivals to Station Pier in an eight-night Migration Projection Festival to be showcased in April 2022.

Commencing at 6:45pm, and designed for an intergenerational audience, the Migration Projection Festival aims to be a drawcard for both local and distant visitors, and an introduction/proof of concept for the community's interest in the permanent installation of the Interactive Migration Walk proposed for Port Melbourne.

With a reputation for edutainment, exploring ideas and bringing locals and visitors together after dark, projection art offers spectacular installations and events that are playful, thoughtful and inspiring.

Working closely with Multicultural Arts Victoria and the Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria, prominent artists from relevant cultural groups, including the Kulin nation, will be



selected to showcase their artistic expressions of migration through Station Pier, Port Melbourne.

Selected artists will have the opportunity to work directly with the projection production company who has produced installations for Wyndham City Council, Yarra City Council, and the City of Melbourne, on projects including White Night and the Gertrude Street Projection Festival.

Workshops and mentorship in projection mapping, lighting effects, and audio-visual media is to be provided to the selected artists in the new Bay Street art campus of Albert Park Secondary College (APSC). In exchange for the use of the campus, interested APSC students will be invited to participate in the learning program which will focus on the opportunities for storytelling through projection art.

Experienced in working with local council and traffic control authorities, and observing noise considerations, the selected Projection company is well placed to deliver a spectacular projection installation that respects our community, stories and the migration history of Port Melbourne.

The cost of the Migration Projection Project/proof of concept is:

Projection company	\$70,000
Artists	\$20,000
Marketing/PR	\$30,000
TOTAL	\$120,000

Plus, countless hours of PMBA & volunteer time to coordinate/facilitate/manage.

CBR-530

[Redacted]

Subject: Council Budget

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[Redacted]

As the website is down I'm writing to you personally and requesting that you forward this email to your fellow Councillors.

I'm concerned that Council Rates which are already very high in my area will be increased yet again. I am a retiree and find that I have increasing costs associated with home maintenance, utilities, insurance, etc. And even though I have a small property with a small frontage I, like many of my neighbours, am paying disproportionate rates to others in the Municipality, eg St Kilda. As residents we all have the same access to beaches, parks, arts venues, and all require rubbish collection and street cleaning, and yet we in Middle Park pay much more in rates.

I ask that rate increases be put on hold for this Pandemic year whilst Council considers the matter and looks to a fairer rating system in the future.

[Redacted]

CBR-531

Subject: Budget review

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear Councillor

Hope you are well,

I am a resident of Port Phillip and writing to you regarding the up coming budget.

It's getting harder and harder for me to meeting daily expenditure needs, I understand other near by suburbs are paying much less rates compared to us.

I hope you can study ways to make our coucil run more smoothly and make some efficiency gain and put rates on freeze.

Thanking you

■

CBR-532

Subject: Port Phillip EcoCentre Friday Garden Group Volunteers

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Thank you for the funding the new Port Phillip EcoCentre building and for the annual partnership.

I am writing to you because many of our Port Phillip EcoCentre garden volunteers have expressed concerns about the defunding of the Friday Garden Group (Port Phillip Urban Fresh Food Network-PPUFFN)

I am the coordinator for the Community Garden and I have a background in mental health nursing, horticulture and landscape design. I am also an ecopsychologist and environmental educator. I have concerns about the wellbeing of our participants and the care of the garden, grounds and the community compost.

I would like to bring to your attention the value of this program in regards to climate change and community health and wellbeing:

o **Climate Change adaptation and mitigation.**

Community gardens have a pro-environmental impact by promoting local sustainable food production, food security (access to free, fresh local healthy food) reducing food miles, reducing water runoff, increasing green spaces, and biodiversity of local plants and animals. We process tons of the community compost and work on healthy soil creation, which reduces the amount of food scraps going to landfill. Through incidental conversations and structured workshops, we educate the group participants and wider public on these topics which relate to mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

o **Health and well-being, decreased social isolation and increased social inclusion.**

Our group blends people from different socio-economic backgrounds, cultures, age-groups and people with varying physical and mental health issues. We have members from disadvantaged situations who are referred by partners and healthcare providers. Social ties are vital to the wellbeing of people in a community with positive health effects from reduced isolation and greater community involvement.

Being in Nature naturally releases endorphins, dopamine and other hormones which produce good feelings that increase happiness and subjective well-being. Nature naturally improves our mental health, promotes relaxation, can lower blood pressure and stress hormone levels, enhance immune system functioning, increase self-esteem, reduce anxiety, and improve mood.

Community gardening takes this a step further as people feel a greater sense of purpose coming together weekly with a shared vision, learning and developing skills, maintaining healthy behaviours and enjoying the increased social and physical activity through gardening and maintenance activities.

Many of our group members and have formed friendships extending out from this group, meeting for walks, coffees and meals, and joining in other local group activities such as revegetation projects and beach litter clean-ups.

Recent stats:

- During **2018-2019** period we achieved **3129 volunteer hours through 582 participations** and had 57 people on our waitlist.
- During **2019-2020** period we met for 34 weeks until COVID health protocols prevented us meeting in person. **We attracted 686 participations with a total of 2104 volunteer hours.** During the 14 weeks of COVID we adapted the program by providing seeds and instructions on growing plants from home, met up weekly online to maintain group cohesion and discuss pandemic concerns and coping skills. The group provided each other with peer-to-peer support and created strong social bonds that sustained us through covid and resulted in a strong sense of community and connectedness.

Our participants when surveyed about the **2019-2020** year reported:

- 100% met new people and friends by participating
- 79% learned a new skill
- 83% learned benefits of gardening, composting practices and healthy eating
- 76% felt a greater sense of happiness
- 100% felt more connected with our local environment
- 59% increased access to fresh, healthy, affordable food

Our group is innovative, resilient and flexible with what we could offer our community and local environment when the EcoCentre is rebuilding. We would continue volunteering in our local community with Salvations Army Youth services partnership, and further cultivate our partnerships with Elsternwick park reserve, CoPP on rejuvenating areas to reduce graffiti, litter or loitering, with Earthcare and City Wide, and other health service providers.

I am asking you to seriously consider reinstating funding for the Port Phillip Urban Fresh Food network. This project has been supporting, educating and developing the skills of our community for many years and is instrumental in building resilience and caring for individuals within our community and for our local environment.

Warm regards,

[REDACTED]

24/05/21

in service reconnecting people with self, community and nature to co-create a regenerative culture.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



"Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life." The Earth Charter

Greensong respectfully acknowledges the First Nations People of the stolen land on which we live, work and play. We recognise that sovereignty was never ceded and pay respect to Elders past, present, and emerging. We stand with purpose in solidarity and strive for climate and ecological justice. We also respectfully acknowledge the non-human beings we share our lives with.

CBR-533

[REDACTED]

Subject: Ripponlea Gardens

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

It would be wonderful if the Glen Eira council would extend the access to the Ripponlea Gardens for Port Philip residents.

We were formally residents on the other side and it has been a great venue for our family to enjoy and more so, especially now these days, when we were given access as Port Philip residents.

Thank you for your work.

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Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

CBR-534



Subject: RE: Your feedback on Rippon Lea Estat

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

My wife and I have made regular visits to Rippon Lea under free Rippon Lea garden entry to local residents program – particularly pre COVID. We have been travelling a bit since Christmas but look forward to recommencing our visits and the continuation of the program.



From: National Trust of Australia (Victoria) <

Sent: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 1:19 PM

To: 

Subject: Your feedback on Rippon Lea Estate



[VIEW ONLINE VERSION](#)



Rippon Lea Estate fernery by Claire Takacs

Dear Port Phillip resident,

Thank you for participating in Rippon Lea Estate's residents garden access program. The National Trust has been delighted to work with the City of Port Phillip in offering for Rippon Lea garden entry to local residents and we have been thrilled with the level of engagement the program has generated thus far.

Since reopening to the public post-lockdown, several thousand Port Phillip households have taken the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful and spacious gardens of Rippon Lea free of charge. The gardens are open seven days a week and provide valuable open space for rest, recreation and enjoyment.

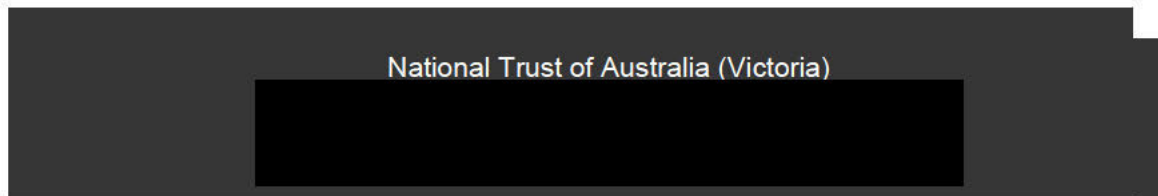
This trial program continues until 30 June 2021 and Council is currently seeking feedback from residents regarding it. If you have enjoyed participating in the program and would like to see it continue into the future, please consider providing your local Council representative with feedback. Councillors can be contacted via the link [here](#) or below and please note the consultation period closes this **Saturday 22 May**.

Provide feedback: www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/about-the-council/who-we-are/your-councillors

Once again, the National Trust sincerely thanks you for participating in the program and we look forward to welcoming you to Rippon Lea Estate in the near future.


Chief Executive Officer
National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

[VIEW IN BROWSER](#) | [FORWARD TO A FRIEND](#) | [UNSUBSCRIBE](#)


National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

CBR-535

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 9:10 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Access to Ripponlea by local residents

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

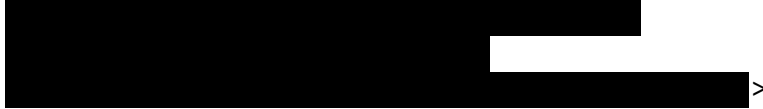
Dear [REDACTED]

I would like to say how wonderful it is to be able to access the Ripponlea Estate grounds as a resident of Port Philip. This access has been important to us as we do not have the luxury of a large garden or open space. To spend time being able to enjoy the expanse of the Estate is really good for our physical and mental well being and I hope that the council will continue to support this initiative in the future.

Warm regards

[REDACTED]

CBR-536



Subject: My feedback on Rippon Lea Estate

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.



My partner and I have very much enjoyed visiting Rippon Lea Estate's gardens using the residents' free access (see below) and would love to see the program continue. This past year really highlighted the importance of having beautiful green spaces in the city.

Thank you for your consideration,



From: National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

Sent: May 19, 2021 1:19 PM

To:  >

Subject: Your feedback on Rippon Lea Estate



**NATIONAL
TRUST**

[VIEW ONLINE VERSION](#)

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Rippon Lea Estate fernery by [REDACTED]

Dear Port Phillip resident,

Thank you for participating in Rippon Lea Estate's residents garden access program. The National Trust has been delighted to work with the City of Port Phillip in offering free Rippon Lea garden entry to local residents and we have been thrilled with the level of engagement the program has generated thus far.

Since reopening to the public post-lockdown, several thousand Port Phillip households have taken the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful and spacious gardens of Rippon Lea free of charge. The gardens are open seven days a week and provide valuable open space for rest, recreation and enjoyment.

This trial program continues until 30 June 2021 and Council is currently seeking feedback from residents regarding it. If you have enjoyed participating in the program and would like to see it continue into the future, please consider providing your local Council representative with feedback. Councillors can be contacted via the link [here](#) or below and please note the consultation period closes this **Saturday 22 May**.

Provide feedback: www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/about-the-council/who-we-are/your-councillors

Once again, the National Trust sincerely thanks you for participating in the program and we look forward to welcoming you to Rippon Lea Estate in the near future.

[REDACTED]
Chief Executive Officer
National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

CBR-537

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, 23 May 2021 2:16 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Feedback on proposed draft council plan

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope you all have had a wonderful week. I am writing to provide my feedback on the proposed draft council plan.

As a resident of Port Phillip and someone who works in community-building, human rights and the arts, I believe right now we need to be reaffirming our commitment to underrepresented groups, demonstrating our support of creative organisations and causes and helping to build a greater sense of community in the aftermath of COVID-19.

I believe the following programs should be maintained for these reasons:

1. **Sport Phillip & Community programs** - by providing these resources and subsidies, the council shows support not only for the physical wellbeing of its community, but also recognises that this community includes diverse peoples from underrepresented backgrounds. It shows that we don't only care about the commercial and wealthy interests, and supports an inclusive and diverse community.
2. **Rippon Lea Estate's residents garden access program** - this provides access to a heritage site that represents our community and our past, as well as providing access to a beautiful green space that improves mental health and active living through local outdoor activities/exploration. This is especially necessary after a year of COVID, where people have become more aware of their local areas and the hidden gems within them.
3. **Community Transport service** - is crucial for those that are low income or elderly (a group that is expected to grow significantly in the coming years according to your own research). A booking system will make it less accessible to its target groups, and reducing the routes and frequency of service will limit their freedoms and ability to participate and contribute in our community.
4. **Changes to arts programs** - I haven't been able to find enough specific information on what initiatives or partnerships are proposed to be cut, but arts programs in Port Phillip are crucial to having and inspiring a creative and vibrant community. These programs help people become more active and invested and gain social connections.
5. **Ride2School Day, Healthy Tracks, Ride2Work, Festival of Everyday Riding programs** - these programs are important to show our commitment to an active and healthy community, both for adults and for children.

The Draft Council Plan states that it is committed to supporting the health of its people, including those who are most at risk. However, I don't see this reflected in some of the measures proposed, which seem to reduce access to programs that support the mental, physical, social and emotional health/wellbeing of our community. They also directly contradict many of the indicators that you self-identify as part of Council's Core Strategies. The programs I've listed above directly contribute to making Port Phillip inclusive, liveable, sustainable and vibrant, as well as a safe and active community that has positive social connections.

All of these programs together have a proposed saving of \$378,000 - less than the proposed increase in pressure cleaning for main streets which I feel is less necessary than these other initiatives. I do think the rent relief and additional summer management infrastructure is necessary (specifically toilets, signage and more bins on the beach in summer), but we can save \$378,000 on street cleaning and preserve many of these community programs that make Port Phillip such a special place to live.

Thank you for your attention and consideration, and I look forward to seeing this council plan develop.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions, and have a great week ahead.

Warm regards,



CBR-538

[Redacted]

Subject: A letter

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Please find attached letter, which I am sending to all of our Port Phillip Counsellors. Note that it does not require a response, but I would appreciate it if it were read, or at least scanned.

Sincerely Yours,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

20th May 2021

[Redacted]

[REDACTED]. Last night I was compelled by my curiosity to attend a council meeting. It was my first experience with our local council, and I must say that it was a very bad one.

I watched at public-engagement time as certain questions received very considered and comprehensive answers, while others received equivocal (if not evasive) responses, or else were not responded to at all. It was clear that many of the questions originated from angry or confused residents. Nonetheless it seemed to me that, broadly speaking:

- concerns regarding rate expenditure were well addressed, while;
- queries which questioned whether choices or actions made by the council might be antithetical to community interests were poorly addressed or evaded entirely

It strikes me that, of the two, this latter theme ought to be the more pressing concern for councillors, however it seemed to be given no credence, nor even assurance that it would be considered.

One of the reasons quoted last night for council wages and rates being, in general, higher than those of neighbouring councils was that our council contributes more generously to programs which enrich our community. This is a principle with which I can agree whole-heartedly, so long as our council continues to support such programs.

Port Phillip is a great place to live, but it is only these programs which qualify this statement.

This afternoon I was saddened to hear that triennial funding is to be discontinued for the Phillip Adams Ballet Lab, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Red Stitch Actors Theatre, The Torch, Rawcus, and Theatre Works. While I have no understanding of background to this decision, it seems to me that this announcement dovetails extremely well with concerns raised by the angry and confused residents at last night's meeting. In view of this, the failure of councillors to adequately address these concerns is the more troubling.

I do not expect a response to this letter and I would prefer that, rather than wasting time trying to address the issues I am flagging, you simply reflect on the fact that I (who has never, hitherto, had any interest in local council) am flagging them.

I encourage you to really think about what is good for our community, what it is that makes Port Phillip such a culturally rich and exciting place to live for you, and what might make it so for others.

Sincerely Yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-539

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
21st May, 2021

[REDACTED]

I am a writer, director and actor who has worked in the arts industry for over fifty years, and am currently a research student at V.C.A., University of Melbourne. I am also a lecturer in business sustainability at Latrobe College Australia. I would ask the City not to end the Arts Partnerships funding.

Sustainability is now considered core to the operations of business and government organisations as a large body of research shows that its interactive pillars of society, environment and economy interact to add value. The proactive implementation of sustainability adds value in overlapping financial, natural, built, social, human and cultural capital. For example, natural resources such as land and water add value through supply chains, or human capital adds value through the accumulation of skills and knowledge. The City of Port Philip's Arts Partnerships program has accumulated cultural capital, which adds value in the narratives by which a society identifies itself and by which it creates wellbeing.

Over the years, organisations such as Theatreworks, the Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, Red Stitch and others have built the social, human and cultural capital of the city. Their ability to remediate precarity and inequality in our community has been clearly demonstrated. Their value-add, ratio of expenditure to employed worker, productivity and impact in local, national and international cultural arenas creates reputational advantage for the City of Port Phillip. The example of UnHowsed, directed by [REDACTED], a play with local performers telling veritae community stories that was created at Theatreworks 2019, whose film was shown in the Cairo International Festival of Experimental Theatre 2020 and will tour to the Drum Theatre Dandenong 2021 shows the reach and variety of ongoing benefit. These arts organisations develop cultural narratives, which offer all within the community a voice that grows collective wellbeing. This social development is at the core of sustainability and adds value across all the forms of capital. Surely the Council's Arts Partnerships are a justifiable item on the draft expenditure sheet. \$56,000 is a very small spend for the ROI.

Yours sincerely
[REDACTED]

Draft Council Plan 2021-31

The Port Phillip Gathering Place Report 2020 "...The emphasis being that "Meeting" represents coming together with purpose around cultural, social and resilience-focused engagement while "Gathering" suggested a more passive attendance...." 9/19

"...The Meeting Place must avoid operating from a deficit model where marginality is the key driver for service planning and engagement. A strength-based asset building model should be championed Drawn from consultation with Parbin-Ata Carolyn Briggs" 13/19

<https://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/media/1ucp5b4r/9-2-att-1-gathering-place.pdf>

Support local First Nations Meeting Place

Great fun often assembling and sharing home made garlic bread(Brewsters, St George Bakery at South Melbourne Market or Coles sourdough) for Fr Bobs and Temple Beth Israel's twice weekly hot picnics in a local park rain or shine and buying solar coloured lights from Bunnings for the Winter sit down shared meals. Volunteered for a dozen years along with many other people with the local Womindjeka bbq and Our Rainbow Place

Draft Council Plan 2021-31 Volume 1

35/67 *A commitment to work towards universal access...public space...*

Nature strip and a few community gardens (Lyell/Iffla Reserve and Foundry Park in South Melbourne and Centenary Reserve in Port Melbourne) are unfenced

Support removing fences from Council's fenced community gardens. Fences a bandaid not a solution to problem/s

36/67 **Don't Support** *We will partner with:*

- *Local community agencies via multi-year funding deeds to enable delivery of programs to persons facing or at risk of social and economic disadvantage that: Promote learning and skills development. Address health inequities. Provide access to nutritious and affordable foods and meals in social settings*

Support bringing these resources wholly into Council with one: Plan, Budget, Audit, Insurance, a one stop shop, one correct door, one accountability. Council resources run Council projects with volunteers rather than Council funding under-resourced volunteer groups

"Provide access to nutritious and affordable foods and meals in social settings"

Support Council's Liardet Community Centre kitchen that is opposite Port Melbourne Coles and around the corner from Council's free community bus to trial affordable meals

For years a woman resident in womens house often in supermarket after 10pm and I have no community place/event to promote/influence! Trialling Middle Park Library being open 24 hours a response

Support All Council Centres return to Council management

Support Council receives the minutes and budgets of funded groups

37/67 *We will facilitate and advocate for:... to achieve the outcomes identified in our In Our Backyard Strategy*

Support Council's "property" p.8/14 [minutes](#). Being transferred for community housing as being close to everything

CBR-540

45/67 Urban forests

Support *greening* - Liardet Street median(West of Nott Street) with native plantings from Bili nursery 525 Williamstown Rd, as less carbon emissions from mowing(electric or diesel) similar to what Council is managing along 109 light rail reserve

Support for sports teams trained in weed identification and then do some of their/the training around our streets and reserves so reducing use of glyphosate 'Round Up'

Support internet available – Photo review of the ten year old [Greening Port Phillip, An Urban Forest Approach 2010](#)

62/67 *Graham Street Overpass Skate Park and Carparking Upgrade*

Support bringing forward Graham Street Overpass Skate Park Upgrade and removing free car parking

JL Murphy Community Pitch Synthetic Field

Don't Support Synthetic field, reduce plastic grass

Edwards Park Public Toilet Upgrade 2022

Support if done involving the kids who painted the mural was able to share garlic bread happily at launch

Draft Council Plan 2021-31 Volume 2

16/171 *Indirect impact of government policies that formally or informally transfer service responsibility, for example we currently allocate resources to support social housing (\$500,000) a public policy area that in many respects should be the responsibility of state and federal governments.*

Responsible people make people homeless. March 2021 - warm bodies sleeping in Acland Street doorways after year/s of IOBY and By Name List. Support Council stepping in where other responsible authorities continue to fail

Support renewing Port Phillip Housing Trust and Council contribution to \$1,000,000 per year

General

Support Installation of a rack to hold copies of the printed version into our free community buses [Petition – Reintroduction of the hard copy newsletter 'Diversity' into community circulation \(PDF 167KB\) - Report 7.1](#)

Support Council funding free resident access to Ripponlea Estate Gardens 10 minute walk from end of 606 bus - Fishermans Bend (weekdays currently!) to Elsternwick Station [PTV Journey Planner](#)

Support Free Community Bus with all timetables being updated and service publicised and extended

Support new protected bike lanes and Festival of Everyday Riding to promote awareness and use of these new protected bike lanes

CBR-540

Support Friends of Suai program at the time a local resident visited there after Independence to volunteer and returned with organic coffee as they are too poor to afford non-organic coffee!

Don't Support pressure cleaning disturbs residents

Support trial bringing the composting worms to local streets and determine why street based community composting unsuccessful in Elwood

Support Centenary Reserve unfenced Community Garden – trial community composting by installing a stainless steel horizontal axis double compost tumbler with easy turn handle. Kids going to Port Melbourne Primary School energetically used the swings at the playground so no child labour but these kids may like to crank the tumbler a few times!

Budget Proposal

re: Port Melbourne Toy Library Funding Agreement

Port Melbourne Toy Library is a community resource that has served the Port Phillip community for more than 30 years. We provide quality toys, puzzles and games for a low membership fee.

We rely on this membership fee to fund the operation of the toy library, with additional annual funding from council. Our funding agreement with council has three parts:

- an operational grant
- a low-income subsidy (providing families on health care cards access to the toy library)
- and a general membership subsidy, calculated on membership numbers

In 2019, we had 109 active members with 39 new members and 70 members renewing their memberships. Our current active membership is only 50, with only 11 new members in the current financial year and 21 renewals, a further 18 members whilst are still active have not yet renewed.

Due to COVID we were closed for 9 months of last year and as a result we extended all memberships by 9 months, so technically we only have 32 confirmed paid members.

Unfortunately, with member numbers so low this will also result in a reduction in council funding in the form of the general membership subsidy for the FY 21/22 financial year.

As a not-for-profit organization we expect to break even or thereabouts each year. Whilst this financial year we will only make a minimal loss, due to not having had to pay toy-coordinator costs for the period of the library closure, we are expecting to make a loss of ~\$7,000 in the FY 21/22 financial year.

Port Phillip Council's commitment to its toy libraries is demonstrated in the Children's Services Policy:

Council will work with partners to ensure that every child, regardless of their abilities or background, will have access to affordable, safe, accessible, quality Early Years' services to support development to their full potential.

The shortfall in funding brought on by the lockdowns of 2020, compounded by our funding agreement with council, is jeopardizing our ability to meet that commitment. We can wear the losses this financial year, but will have to reduce our services if the losses continue.

Therefore, we'd like council to consider:

- Increasing our operational grant from \$1,300 to \$4,000 to cover the shortfall in member numbers.

This modest increase will help secure the future of Port Melbourne Toy Library's much loved service.

Sincerely

Port Melbourne Toy Library Committee of Management.

CBR-542

Reduce Quality Subsidy for Community Managed Child Care from 5 per cent to 4 per cent - expected saving is \$141,000

The Quality Subsidy is a payment received by community managed children's services that operate from Council owned centres. The payment is an amount equal to 5% of the total Educator Salary and Wages expenditure and training costs. It is designed to enhance the quality of the childcare and education the centre provides.

The proposed change to reduce this payment from 5% to 4% is not expected to impact service quality, as this subsidy has achieved its original purpose for all Council and community managed centres to be provided a quality service that is meeting quality as rated by ACECQA (Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority).

On behalf of the community of Ada Mary A'Beckett Children's centre we believe that the proposed reduction in quality subsidy will very much impact the quality of care that our centre is known for. The reduction does not seem significant and if it was a standalone measure perhaps the impact would not be as great, however in the context of the other changes that have already been imposed upon services, this is only part of a huge new burden to our centre.

The council officers recently worked with services over a long period of time to finalise our funding agreements. The 5% subsidy was noted in the agreement and we planned our budget and employed staff and educators, accordingly. These new agreements have only been in place for a short amount of time and already there is a proposal to vary them.

We certainly use our subsidy to be able to support us in employing a quality staff team. The majority of our educators hold diploma and advanced Diploma (31 staff) or Bachelor E/C or Masters qualifications (14 staff) and the whole community benefit from the additional knowledge that such qualifications bring. The value in these qualifications can be noted in our recent assessment and rating visit by DET (May 10 2021) where we have gained an Exceeding Rating in all seven quality areas. (which we have always achieved since our inception in 1998). We have been meeting the council's requirement of using our funding to support our quest to provide high quality care and education and in turn enhance outcomes for the children and families of Port Phillip.

It is important to note that the 5% that we have been receiving is basically now the only element that we are able to claim from council, as the new funding agreement removed all other subsidies. We acknowledge that we have use of a fabulous building and grounds and while a peppercorn rent is paid, we do pay two levies to council to offset the cost of the lease. Ada Mary currently pay just over \$300,000 per year in levies. And while this may not be a commercial rent, it is still a significant amount of money in a not for profit budget.

Previous to 2021 we have been able to claim for: [external contracts](#) including [cleaning](#) (Includes graffiti removal and external contractor services) and [cleaning consumables](#).

CBR-542

We are no longer able to claim these items, they have been removed from the funding agreement. For our service, due to historical agreements, these items are a significant amount of money. We are needing to add over \$15,000 a year to cover this into our new budget. We are also now required to pay for our own cleaning and receive a subsidy from council for cleaning costs. As we are a stand-alone business we are unable to negotiate a rate for cleaning and consumables that a huge organisation like council can, so again we are having to add around \$35,000 to our new budget to meet the extra cleaning costs.

In addition, the new funding agreements include additional rate costs which historically we have not been required to pay, again this adds to our new budget.

We do understand that council are trying to simplify their funding arrangements and we understand that historical agreements, which may not be easily traced in the council system, pose big problems for council in streamlining agreements. What we are asking for is a staggered approach to removing subsidies rather than be hit at one time.

We most certainly appreciate the support and funding we have received and continue to receive from council, it is a very important factor in our ability to provide the level of care and education that we do for the families and children of Port Phillip. We only want to make known that a 1% decrease may seem insignificant however it will cost our centre around \$34,000 annually, a cost which when added to the other new costs we are required to pay, gives us around \$85,000 to recoup.

When added to the increased business costs of an increase to superannuation (\$23,000) the requirement to pay Portable Long Service leave, (\$40,000) and a proposed increase to the Educational Teachers Award, (up to \$90,000) our service is currently facing a deficit of up to \$200,000 and this is after an increase to the daily fee has been applied.

We are simply asking that we are able to maintain the agreed to 5% wages and training subsidy to slightly relieve the burden to families in the 21/22 financial year.

I commend the Council for maintaining and bringing back important community services reduced in last year's budget.

- Restoration of a decent library acquisitions budget (\$950,000)
- Restoration of significant funding for greening the city (\$740,000) to increase tree canopy cover significantly
- Continued funding commitment to flood mitigation at Elsternwick Park
- A \$46m capital investment on parks, open space, bike and foot paths and libraries
- Continued support for the EcoCentre and its redevelopment, subject to partner/State Govt funding
- An initial response to the climate emergency
- Achieving carbon neutrality in Council operations and services
- \$35m in operational & capital funding for the arts and culture over the next four years
- Continued investment in community, family and childrens services
- Keeping the South Melbourne market in Council ownership and management
- Significant rate relief measures for people doing it tough.

Financially conservative

The budget is fiscally conservative, with a 1.5% rate rise providing scope to maintain services and avoid major cuts to community services. This increase is in line with inflation, actions by other local governments to date and equates to an average rise of \$27 a year to \$1818. Residential rates in Port Phillip remain among the lowest in metro Melbourne. Port Phillip is one of the few Councils that doesn't impose a waste/recycling charge on residents.

Port Phillip has a lower residential rate base than its immediate municipal neighbours because average property prices or values in Bayside, Stonnington and Glen Eira are higher in these areas. This means Port Phillip's residential rate base is \$24billion lower than Stonnington, \$15billion lower than Glen Eira and around \$5billion lower than Bayside.

Council is budgeting for a modest surplus to cover an operating loss [\$13.6m] during the pandemic and to build a foundation for capital investment in open space and improved community amenities in the future.

While many other Councils are borrowing to fund new infrastructure, Port Phillip is retiring \$7.5m of debt. We think this is too timid at a time when the City's ageing assets need renewal and improvement, and the cost of borrowing is at historically low levels.

Council has identified a host of projects and facilities that need investment – from libraries to childcare centres to bike paths – that could be addressed more quickly and that would provide local economic stimulus. This could be funded through judicious borrowing or a modest increase in drawdowns from reserves.

Fast rising property values in Port Phillip are a function of a 'hot' property market and the legacy of decades of improved local amenity and liveability undertaken by previous generations. The parks and open spaces, magnificent foreshore, high quality street design and outstanding community services that make this place so attractive are the result of past borrowing and rate investments by previous Councils.

Our task is to invest in a better environment for future generations, in innovation and not exhaust the community assets and amenity we have inherited.

Shifting priorities – for equity and fairness

The draft Budget seeks comment on small but important cuts to some programs including free entry to Ripponlea Gardens for Port Phillip residents, the community childcare subsidy and reception services at South Melbourne Town Hall, and embeds changes to bike education programs including Ride2School Day, Healthy Tracks, Ride2Work, and Festival of Everyday Riding. There is no policy logic behind these cuts and they can be reversed with little cost to Council.

There needs to be a shift around the priorities in operational spending: for example, reductions in the use of contractors [up \$1.3m this year to nearly \$5m] and transitioning the St Kilda Festival over time from an annual one-off event to an authentic community festival of arts, music and culture. Savings could be applied to areas that desperately need investment including childcare, aged care and affordable housing, which collectively total just \$3.61 of every \$100 in rate income spent by Port Phillip Council. With the surplus Council has ([REDACTED]) in the order of \$90M – why are we skimping on some of these small cost yet critical issues for the community!

And a shift to a more equitable investment across the municipality, in particular to address the relative lack of open space, community amenity and greening in Balaclava/East St Kilda. Just \$3m will be invested in these facilities in Balaclava/East St Kilda over the 2021/24 period, while at least double, triple and in some cases many times more, will be spent on similar infrastructure in every other part of the municipality. This inequity must be tackled through re-considering priorities in future budgets of this Council.

A higher level of ambition and a stronger vision

This is a time to build back better from a devastating pandemic. More than ever we need a Council with a vision for all its citizens, not just a few.

Port Phillip Council can and must aim higher to meet the environmental, social and economic challenges ahead. Equity, fairness, creativity and sustainability must be at the heart of our Council and reflected in its ambition and vision for this community.

Climate Change and Environment

A key climate challenge is the very uneven understanding of the challenge of climate change in the community and the capacity of Port Phillip citizens to act on the climate challenge. A consistent focus must be on the challenge of equipping citizens to address the climate and environmental tasks ahead and the legacy we want to leave future generations. Continuing environmental community education and citizen environmental action is crucial

While Council intends to explore working with other councils for increasing awareness and access to renewables, a budget is not identified for this. The plan should include a leading role for council in addressing the main source of local greenhouse emissions – local industry. Council should fund a project to facilitate a power purchase agreement for industry which makes up 80% of community emissions in Port Phillip.

Over the next four years, Council must move from food organics and garden organics (FOGO) bin trials in neighbourhoods to a municipal-wide rollout of the program. Issues of better storm water use must be better integrated with greening and open space strategies.

It is imperative that Council develop a Climate Change Emergency Plan to follow up on its declaration from 2019. This can be achieved by consolidating the number of plans in existence while providing a strong vision with targets and timelines and an indication of finances (high, medium and low) needed to support the actions required.

Bike connections and safety

We have learned through the pandemic that safe, active transport connections through biking and walking is critically important to community well-being.

Council's 2018 integrated transport strategy, *Move, Connect, Live*, proposed to complete eleven cycling corridors by 2027/8. In the proposed Council Plan 2020-25 there are only three major cycling infrastructure projects listed, including the proposed completion date of 2026 for the Inkerman Street bikeway, after the next Council Election.

These capital projects should be brought forward through prudent infrastructure funding as outlined above.

And rather than reducing the spend on footpath maintenance over the forward estimates, pedestrian safety needs urgent improvement.

Housing

While Council acknowledges the deep housing crisis within the city, much more needs to be done to address it.

As Council's Budget says:

Port Phillip has some of the most expensive housing in Victoria, with only a small proportion identified as affordable. The problem of housing affordability has broadened in Port Phillip, from affecting the lowest 50 to 60 per cent of the income range in 1995 to affecting the lower 70 per cent of the income range in 2015. While 44 per cent of Port Phillip residents are renting their homes, less than one per cent of private rental housing is affordable to low-income households.

Despite this situation, implementation of the flagship *In Our Backyard* Strategy is at risk. Council must inject cash or properties or other equity to take advantage of the Victorian Government's \$6 billion Big Housing Build investment to grow affordable housing.

In conclusion

It seems that some of the savings being suggested have a politized ring to them. It may be that Council now has some loud voices which do not have the interest of the larger community at heart but instead have their own personal interest pushing their agenda, particularly when it comes to reducing some public benefits to save money when it is also clear that the Council has a reasonably comfortable financial position.

If the Council is not in a financial position to be more visionary and considerate of community services – then like many other Councils, it is the best possible time to borrow at the lowest interests we have seen in a long time if ever.



St Kilda Primary School



Submission for project consideration in Council Plan 2021-2031

Conversion of Dickens Street Extension from cul-de-sac car parking to communal multi-purpose realm

Content:

1. Introduction
2. Proposal
3. Arguments
4. Reference projects
5. Conclusion

1. Introduction

On behalf of the St Kilda Primary School community, we are writing to seek Council's support for the redesign of Dickens Street to provide a landscaped open space and gathering area for the benefit of the whole community.

For several years and on various occasions, representatives of the St Kilda Primary School community (Councillors, staff and students) have presented to past and present City of Port Phillip Councillors the proposal to convert the Dickens Street Extension into a communal multi-purpose realm. As recently as six weeks ago it was discussed with Councillors present at the site visit of the Bothwell Street Woody Meadows Project (23/03/2021). The proposal has always received interest and positive feedback during informal conversations yet has not been formalised to be further developed for the benefit of the wider community, nor any prospect of future funding given. We believe it is time to share and celebrate an under-utilised piece of land and for this to happen, our community needs the City of Port Phillip (CoPP) to back this project with drive, passion and funding, and for the project to be included in the Council Plan 2021-2031 with a budget consideration similar to the reference projects (see point 4).

The St Kilda Primary School community feels honoured to be part of the important cluster of heritage significant community buildings within the triangle of land bounded by Brighton Road, Carlisle Street and Chapel Street. Between 1874 and 1890 our main building on Brighton Road, the Holy Trinity (former Wesleyan) Church (1877) and the original part of St Kilda Town Hall were all constructed on what was previously the St Kilda Market Reserve. Further facilities, churches and community buildings have been added over the last 140 years, most recently with the completion of

Council's Bubup Nairn Children's Centre, which so many of our students have attended. The link between all of our institutions is strong and enduring.

St Kilda Primary School has grown over recent years. We now have 50% more students than a decade ago. Our school community is highly diverse and welcoming to all. We take particular pride in welcoming students from less advantaged parts of the community, including temporary residents living in nearby public, emergency and transitional housing. Due to the form of the local area, many of our families live in smaller houses or apartments, making the school grounds one of an important network of open spaces for play. We welcome the fact that our school grounds provide one of the largest open spaces available in the suburb of Balaclava and are open to everyone outside of school hours. Our Steve Botond Oval sits alongside Alma Park as the largest open space useable for informal ball sports and pet exercise east of Barkly Street.

In 2018 we received a State Government grant under the Inclusive Schools Fund, to renew our junior playground, making it fully accessible for children of all abilities. Variety also generously funded a wheelchair-friendly carousel which further enabled all children within our school and community to experience movement, to feel the breeze blow across their beautiful faces and most of all, to have fun with other children, regardless of their ability and background. We aim to be a truly inclusive school and this is yet another giant step in the right direction.

We also have a strong commitment to returning the land our school is on to as close to the way it was when the original owners of the land were present. Our 2021 School Landscaping Masterplan has a strong focus on creating a range of spaces within the school to allow our children to connect with nature and develop a deeper connection to our country. By developing the Dickens Street area, we would be changing a barren and desolate space into a thriving natural land which would have a positive impact on the mental health of our community and encourage the local wildlife to return to this area.

2. Proposal

The short length of Dickens Street that sits between our school and the Holy Trinity Church offers so much potential beyond its current form. Its closure to traffic at Brighton Road has made it a quiet and safer space and the established street trees provide a welcome green canopy nestled between the heritage buildings along Brighton Road. The space itself has changed little since it was a street, and in its current form is possibly more welcoming to parked cars than people.

Currently, the Dickens Street Extension is a 70m long, tree lined cul-de-sac street between Brighton Road and Chapel Street. It provides twenty one 1-2 hour car parking spaces, reduced to 15 minutes during school drop-off and pick-up times, and two disabled car parking spaces, as well as access to on-site car parking for the parishioners of the Anglican Parish of Balaclava and Elwood.

The car parking facilities are predominantly used on weekdays, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up times, with illegal double parking occurring on a regular basis, making the use of the street unsafe. On weekends, the car parking is hardly used, and the dense tree canopies of the existing, mature trees invite the community to use the shade for recreational activities.

It is proposed to reduce the numbers of car parks to eleven, whilst retaining the access to the church on-site car parking. The turning circle will be moved east to enable the last 30m of the cul-de-sac to become a car free space for the community to gather, play and enjoy the shade of the tree canopy. Greenery along the fence line of St Kilda Primary School and amongst the existing trees and

the creation of a well-defined boardwalk linking the footpath from Brighton Road to Chapel Street, will emphasise a change of speed from main roads intersecting St Kilda in North-South direction to local activities for residents to enjoy (see page one Landscaping Masterplan sketch).

3. Arguments

We can provide many reasons as to why this proposed project should be given high priority. Arguably, the City of Port Phillip (CoPP) has already identified our vision as being noteworthy, as CoPP sought the school's permission to close *'the existing dead end' at Brighton Road* ([REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The term 'dead' which was aptly used by your office could not ring more true. Like the CoPP, we want it to be 'alive, buzzing and vibrant'. The City of Port Phillip reached out to the Principal of St Kilda Primary on the 2 February 2021 in regard to running a community Play Street on Saturday 13 March 2021 to allow the community to reimagine a street as a public space, encouraging neighbours to connect and play. This is particularly important in areas with limited access to public open spaces (the CoPP's words). Similarly, the CoPP funded St Kilda Primary School to close the very same 'dead' end of a street to host our own Play Streets extravaganza. [REDACTED] stated on 4 March 2021: *'So the good news is that council can cover the costs for closing Dickens Street for your playstreet event, which I am really glad about'*.



The CoPP and St Kilda Primary School have shown a united vision and have both independently created opportunities to reimagine and bring to fruition community events where this pocket of land has been transformed. Both events were hugely successful and embraced by the school and the wider community. This clearly shows that there is significant support for changing this under-utilised space into a green multi-purpose space for all. Rather than a moment in time, let's provide our community with endless time to enjoy the space.

In a nutshell, the benefits for the community are:

- Supporting the physical and mental health of all CoPP residents
- Greening up a grey, under-utilised space
- Creating a community service 'triangle' between Carlisle Street, Chapel Street and Brighton Road
- Developing a shared outdoor space to gather and connect with all members of our community
- Providing a Summer outdoor activities area in the shade of dense tree canopies
- Turning an under-utilised street space and activating it as a multi-purpose space

4. Reference Projects



1. Albert Park Primary School

Moubray Street has been intercepted and the traffic diverted into neighbouring streets to create a green and play space for the school community and the local community to enjoy.

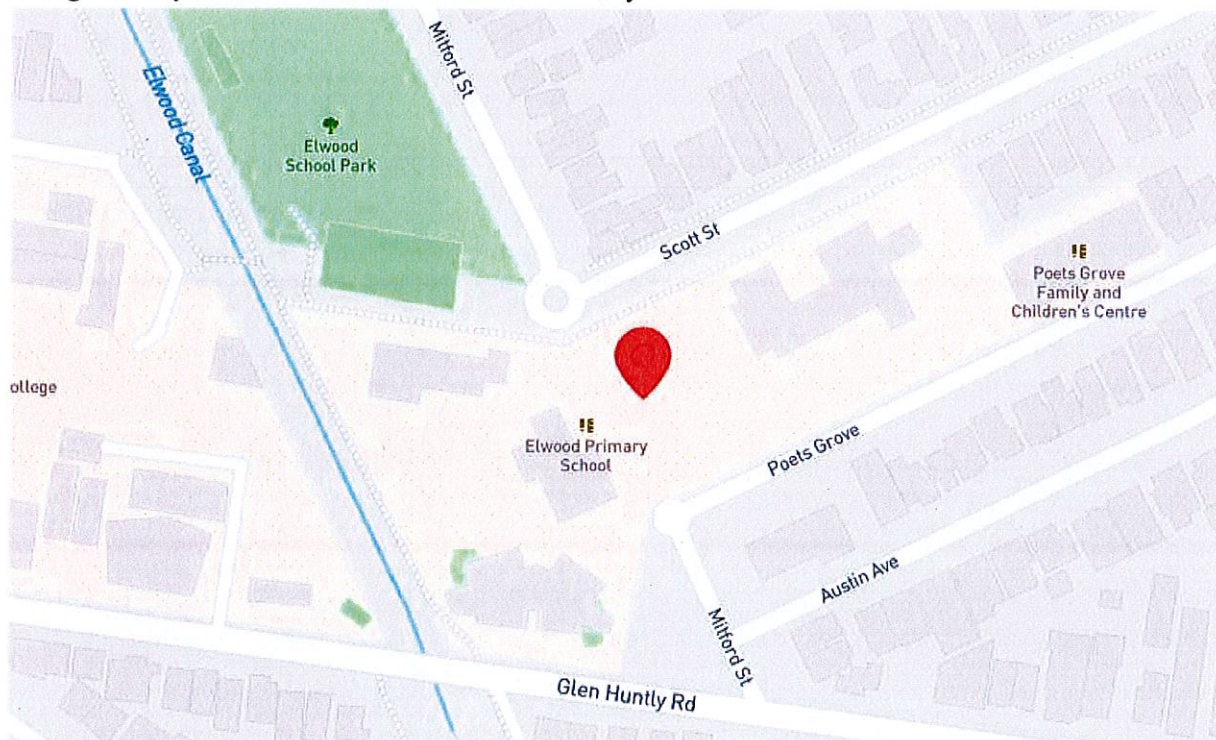


2. Albert Park College

Foote Street has been cut short and converted into a cul-de-sac for a linear, landscaped community park connecting various points in the neighbourhood, facilitating safe travel for pedestrians and cyclists.

3. Elwood Primary School

A considerable section of Mitford Street, Elwood, was closed to enable the school grounds to encompass additional play space. The area sought and successfully obtained is within the school grounds and is significantly larger than the space we are seeking, which will also have the benefit of being directly accessible to the wider community.



5. Conclusion

We would welcome the opportunity to partner with the City of Port Phillip and Holy Trinity Church to repurpose this space as an extension of the community-oriented open spaces to either side. Whilst it is important to maintain access to the Church driveway and manage parent drop-off and pickup opportunities and there is also ample space to increase the amount of greenery and gathering spaces to serve the growing local area. We can imagine seating areas and grassy areas that help reduce runoff and cool the local environment, and the creation of a safe place for our students to play during the day and all families to enjoy across the week. We have the opportunity to develop a great local place that could be inviting and inclusive for all.

Apart from a few commuting teaching staff members, school communities consist mainly of residents of the local municipality; their concerns as well as their care for the environment of the school and around the school are generally higher than of other community groups. St Kilda Primary School has strong ties with the community, reflected in the ongoing commitment to improve the school grounds for the community to enjoy after hours and on weekends.

This submission for the Conversion of the Dickens Street Extension is the result of many hours of consultation with adjoining community services and Councillors and seeks to improve the public realm for all locals to use and enjoy, humans as well as animals.

We have proven interest for this project. CoPP and St Kilda Primary School have already promoted the worthiness of community play spaces, having brought Dickens Street to 'life' twice thus far this year. As Gough Whitlam, said in 1972, 'It's Time!' We believe it is time to choose between the past and the future and the demands and opportunities ahead.

We have commitment and momentum; the next step is funding through the CoPP. We await positive news that we can assure will be celebrated far and wide across our broader community.

The permanent closure of the 'dead end' of the street will inject life into the hearts and furthermore, belief into the minds of CoPP residents, that the CoPP is moving in the right direction for its people, the young who love to play and the not so young who appreciate a progressive Council.



SUBMISSION – Friday 21st May

Dear Port Phillip Council,

Thank you for your continued support of our Monday Drop In, Women's Activity Group and Get Out Of Town programs at SouthPort Community Centre. It has made a hugely positive impact on the lives of marginalised community members. Ours is 3 of 12 SPCC council funded programs that serve more than 300 participants each week.

These programs and many more are key to facilitating Councils new strategic goals of an inclusive vibrant community. Research indicates an active healthy, resilient, well-informed, connected community will recover more quickly from disruptions like COVID-19 and your support makes that possible.

The following are some of the feedback from our Participants about how our programs improve their lives and how vital their continuation are to their wellbeing and connection to the community.

[Get Out Of Town \(GOOT\) program](#)

[REDACTED]

"I really look forward to this program, as a single mum and a family of 4, I feel blessed with GOOT. Meeting other families makes us not feel alone. This is a good program and very important for families like us who put priority in food and clothing and nothing left after. I look forward to this as a family we become close and kids make friends in similar situation and it's important as it's like having second family. Meeting family in similar situations. They also support me outside of program. We exchange numbers and share information. I don't have family and they help and we are a close knit family" May 2021

[Monday Drop In \(MDI\) program](#)

[REDACTED]

"This program has really helped me come out of my shell. It took several months for me to feel comfortable but it really helps me to get out as it improves my mental health. I feel happier there. Sometimes I feel depressed and then I get to talk about some of my problems in the group and it helps. My confidence has increased and it's getting better" May 2021

[Women's Activity Group](#)

[REDACTED]

“It helps with my social isolation and something to look forward to amongst my medical appointments. It gets me out of my house and meeting other ladies who are going through similar issues. The activities are catered to groups with financial challenges. An important thing for me is I’M NOT ALONE. All my family is overseas in NZ. This group has a nice family feeling to the group. The unique thing that Southport Community Centre has done with people with mobility and mental health issues is that they encourage staff to do checks on their participants. They try to empower you but also give gentle guidance” May 2021



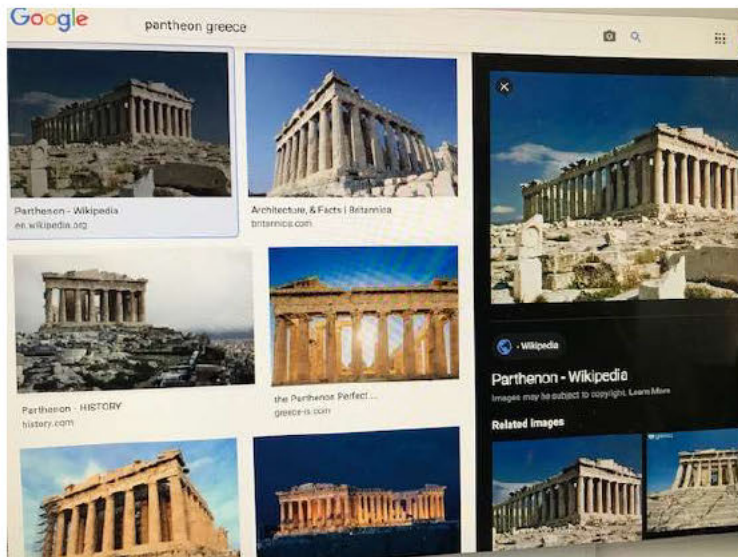
Monday Drop In program

Participants enjoying an outdoor BBQ and basketball shooting while engaging in conversation and connecting with other Participants.



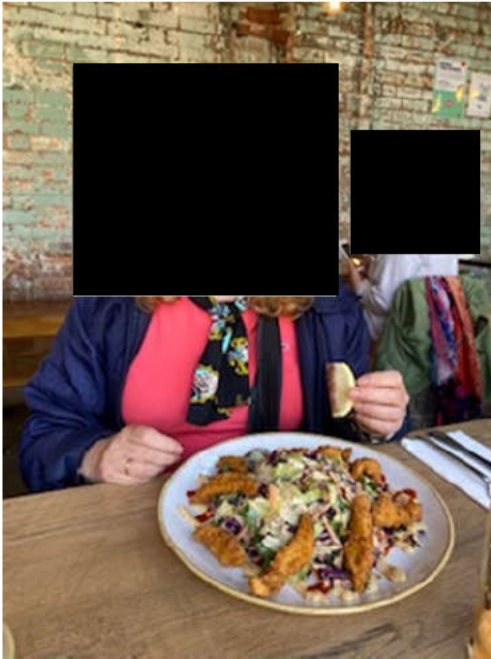


Greek Easter was an exciting time as the Monday Drop In group celebrated with the taste of Greek Easter Bread “Tsoureki” and armchair travels to Greece. Celebrating some of the customs of a few of the participants in the group and sharing stories of where their families came from and some famous sites. This joint activity noticeably improved their mood and connectedness.



Get Out Of Town program

A visit to Arvo at the Docklands brought families together for lots of laughter and interaction!



Women's Activity Group

A long awaited catch up! Getting used to their "new normal" lives after Covid restrictions have eased and they can meet face to face again. Lots of smiles and relief to be able to catch up as it has been quite an isolating experience for many!



Web: www.southportcc.org.au



CBR-553

From: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 26 May 2021 11:44 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

I am a visual artist and although I don't live in the City of Port Phillip I often purchase materials from the Australian Tapestry Workshop and attend their exhibitions. I also attend performances by the Phillip Adams Ballet Lab, Theatre Works, Rawcus and the Red Stitch Actors Theatre, and I have attended exhibitions put on by The Torch and purchased artworks through them. These organisations are vital to the local community but also to the wider community of Melbourne and undoubtedly beyond. As the City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision says "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate." And that it aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come." Respectively these are true and honourable statements but I am concerned that all will be lost with the discontinuation of the triennial funding for these key organisations.

Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to residents' mental health and well-being, foster community spirit, and promote innovation and creative thinking. The Australian Tapestry Workshop in particular regularly draws audiences from other local councils to the City, who contribute to the local economy through spending on hospitality and retail. Many of these organisations, including the Australian Tapestry Workshop, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet, the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to annually compete for a significantly reduced pool of project-based funding will significantly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations,

but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters to benefit the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reinstate the full triennial funding for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Alphington, VIC 3078

CBR-554

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 26 May 2021 1:38 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

20th May 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip. The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a “legacy for generations to come,” stating: “We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.”

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors. Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,



CBR-555

██████████
██████████
Albert Park
VIC 3206
██████████

26st May 2021

Dear ██████████,

We met at the Albert Park Arts Walk so I am writing to you as I know you value and support the Arts. I want to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue City of Port Phillip funding to the Australian Tapestry Workshop.

The Australian Tapestry Workshop, maybe a national organisation but it also a jewel in the Port Phillip Arts crown. As a local artist I have benefited from the opportunity to see a diverse range of artists' work exhibited their gallery spaces, attended artists and tapestry talks and workshops, and am currently lucky enough to be enjoying taking part in their Artist in Residence programme and have for the last six weeks been working alongside the weavers.

I feel that the ATW is a vital and active part of the City of Port Phillip's Arts ecosystem. It fosters local talent with its various courses and workshops, weaving partnerships with artists and architects and, of course, its Artist in Residence programme. I believe the ATW also contributes to residents' mental health and well-being, fosters community spirit, and promotes innovation and creative thinking. The ATW regularly draws audiences from other local councils to the City of Port Phillip, who contribute to the local economy through spending on hospitality and retail.

Yet, the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan proposes no ongoing support for the ATW.

I strongly urge you to reinstate the full funding for this cultural institution which plays such a vital part in our community.

Yours sincerely,

██████████
Founder of the Albert Park Art Walk and local artist

CBR-556

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 26 May 2021 3:03 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Windsor 3182

20th May 2021

Dear [REDACTED],

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for Key Arts Organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021 – 2031 vision aspires to create a "legacy for generations to come," stating: "We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate."

The current Key Organisations, including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall, have a combined history of more than 150 years within the City, and have contributed enormously to local arts and culture during that time. Through their arts practice, these organisations contribute to the mental health and well-being of local residents, foster community spirit and promote innovation and creative thinking. Many of these organisations, including Red Stitch, have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021 – 2031 Plan propose no ongoing support provided for these critical cultural contributors.

Since 2018, triennial core funding has been vital to the sustainability of these organisations, enabling them to give voice to diverse communities, provide employment opportunities, bring visitors to the City, and offer unparalleled cultural opportunities to residents and visitors alike.

Requiring these organisations – which have been so hard-hit by COVID-19 and are still on the road to recovery – to compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will greatly impact on their sustainability. Not only does this greatly increase the administrative burden on small organisations, but it has been proposed that grant rounds for festivals be reduced from four to two, with no increase in opportunities through the Cultural Development Fund.

Ongoing funding provides security for these organisations, enabling them to leverage funds to attract other supporters, and to keep benefiting the community in the City of Port Phillip and beyond.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Senior Fellow
VCA Theatre
Faculty of the Victorian College of the Arts and Melbourne Conservatorium of
Music
University of Melbourne

CBR-557

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 26 May 2021 3:09 PM

To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City of Port Phillip Mayor and Councillors

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for key arts organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

Key existing cultural organisations including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

The City of Port Phillip's draft 2021–2031 vision aspires to create a 'legacy for generations to come,' stating: 'We are renowned as a cultural hub from live music to our creative industries ... Port Phillip... [is] admired as a creative hub that continues to evolve and innovate.'

This seems to be a clear recognition of the importance of these organisations. Yet the draft 2021/22 budget and draft 2021–2031 Plan propose no ongoing support for them.

Requiring these organisations — which have been hard-hit by COVID-19 — to now compete for a reduced pool of project-based funding will imperil their sustainability.

Meanwhile, the City of Port Phillip appears to be intent on rebuilding the EcoCentre in the St Kilda Botanical Gardens — essentially entailing construction of a new two-storey office building at a time when there is a likely oversupply of office space post-COVID, as many people continue to work from home for the

foreseeable future. This is an extravagant option to accommodate the EcoCentre, which clearly reveals it as a vanity project more concerned with building a monument than on supporting environmental programs. Indeed, building over precious public parkland itself conflicts with the EcoCentre's environmental aims.

I find withdrawal of support for such extraordinary arts organisations while funds are lavished on the EcoCentre to be unfathomable in light of the Council's stated vision.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely

--

Kind regards,



CBR-558

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 26 May 2021 2:58 PM

To: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: Triennial Funding Appeal for Arts Organisations

[External Email] Please be cautious before clicking on any links or attachments.

Dear City of Port Phillip Mayor and Councillors

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposal to discontinue triennial funding for key arts organisations in the City of Port Phillip.

Key existing cultural organisations including Red Stitch Actors Theatre, Theatre Works, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Rawcus, The Torch, and Phillip Adams Ballet Lab at Temperance Hall have a history of proudly representing the City by presenting world-class work nationally and internationally, made locally and fostering local talent.

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precious public parkland itself conflicts with the EcoCentre's environmental aims.

I find withdrawal of support for such extraordinary arts organisations while funds are lavished on the EcoCentre to be unfathomable in light of the Council's stated vision.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the cancellation of ongoing financial support for these cultural institutions, which play such a vital part in our community.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], St Kilda VIC 3182

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CBR-559

[REDACTED]
City of Port Phillip

1st June 2021

Re: Proposed Reduction of the Quality Subsidy Rates

On behalf of Elwood Children's Centre, our families and community we were very concerned to receive your email notifying us of the proposal to reduce the amount of Quality Subsidy paid to community-managed childcare centres from 5% to 4% of total educators' salaries, effective from quarter one of the 2021/22 financial year.

Elwood Children's Centre (ECC) is a parent managed, community-based child care centre. Located on Tennyson street close to St Kilda Botanical Gardens, in a converted residential building, ECC has been operating on the current site since 1985. ECC was established in 1984 by a group of enthusiastic and committed group of parents whose values initiated a partnership, with the then City of St Kilda, to provide a community service that allowed for accessible, affordable, quality childcare. ECC has been part of Elwood's community for 36 years and is still going strong.

ECC employees 16 staff, and provides long daycare, including all meals, and a funded 4yo kindergarten to 36 children per day. Presently 45 families / 55 children aged between 7 months and 5yo who call ECC their home away from home. Our centres mission statement is :

A community driven environment with a commitment to play-based learning, where connections and individuals are cherished.

Proudly being one of the most affordable centres in the area and offers accessibility and priority access to children within the community from vulnerable and unique family situations, low income and children with special social, emotional and medical needs.

ECC is financially sound, with all profits and fundraising efforts being 100% re-invested into our staff's professional development and our children's daily lives (including equipment, nutrition, on-site experiences and regular excursions). All of these things have ensured we continue to be rated as **Exceeding the National Quality Standard**, something we're extremely proud of.

ECC and the parent run volunteer COM actively engaged on the CoPP CSR throughout 2019 and appreciates the continued support it receives from CoPP. We urge the council to actively support community managed centres as they provide an integral service to the community at large, starting at the earliest age and at a grass roots level. We consider our society's fabric is strengthened when organizations, community and individuals are supported to achieve its work and goals.

Evidence supports that the quality of early education and care is directly linked, among other things, to:

- Educator: Child ratios
- Qualifications of educators
- Resources provided to educators
- Ongoing professional development opportunities for educators

Furthermore, while all children benefit from high quality early education and care, evidence also shows that children from families who are experiencing hardship and/or vulnerability benefit the most – and those benefits have profound and long lasting impacts on children's future learning and development.

The CoPP Quality Subsidy therefore directly supports families and young children in our municipality, especially those most vulnerable, by enabling community-managed childcare centres to continue to provide high quality education and care while maintaining affordable fees for all families.

When we ask our families what they love about ECC this is what they share with us:

- The beautiful Community
- I love the excellent quality of care and strong interest in children and families and development.
- The amazing carers/educators
- The fact I can trust my child will flourish
- The amazing teachers and sense of community at the ECC
- The way we are all made to feel welcome
- The amazing, gorgeous, kind staff. It feels like a real family here.
- The connection that is encouraged between families and staff.
- The staff and the beautiful way they treat all the children.
- The lovely carers who make the kids and parents feel like a family
- The educators and the way they interact with the kids.

The proposed reduction in Quality Subsidy will have a significant impact on our daily operations. We anticipate that the amount of Quality Subsidy received in 2021/2022, if the proposed reduction is approved, will be reduced by \$10,706 and would, on its own, result in a fee increase to families.

It is perhaps worth noting, also, that the amount paid by ECC to Council in the form of Infrastructure and Maintenance levies far exceeds the Quality Subsidy received. For example, in 2021/2022, we anticipate combined Levies to total \$90,000+ while the Quality Subsidy (if calculated @ 5% of salaries) would total \$53, 526.

While we appreciate that Council has limited resources, and many demands on those resources, we believe that priority should be given in this budget to investing in the



education and care of our youngest citizens and to supporting families to access the best possible childcare services for their children as we, collectively, recover from the impacts of COVID-19. Throughout 2020, community-managed childcare centres in CoPP stayed open for eligible children and for those who were in lockdown at home and actively stayed connected with and supported these families. For many it was a lifeline and in most situations the only connection their families had with their community.

Given this recent outbreak and uncertainly now is not the time to reduce the support provided to these centres (and in turn penalizing local families and children).

We respectfully urge Council to reconsider the proposed reduction to the Quality Subsidy in the 2021/2022 draft budget and, instead, resolve to retain the current rate of 5% of total educators' salaries.

We welcome your continued engagement on this concerning issue and we look forward to representing our position on the 8th June at the next council meeting.

ECC welcomes you and the Councilors to our centre to come visit in person to see first hand the wonderful work and community connections ECC fosters in its Children, Families and Educators.

In good faith

[Redacted]
And ECC Committee of Management



[Redacted]
Elwood 3184

Phone [Redacted]

Email: [Redacted]

