

Councillor Question Time

Question from Cr Pearl

Question in relation to the Medium strip/grass areas on Beaconsfield Parade. Grass is overgrowing by up to a foot high at the moment towards the St Kilda end of the medium strip which is creating a fire hazard.

Can officers provide an update on what Councils maintenance obligations of the medium strips are, do VIC Roads maintain these or Council? And provide an update as to when this situation can be remedied?'

Response

City of Port Phillip had a maintenance agreement with Department of Transport, where our council provided services that helped maintain DoT assets such as Beaconsfield Parade. This included street sweeping, drainage clearing, tree maintenance, weed spraying and mowing.

A review of costs and funding of services, noted a significant imbalance, with council providing services beyond what was being funded.

Earlier this year council officers notified DoT that we were unable to continue to subsidise services above existing funding levels.

After discussions with DoT it was agreed that Council would continue to perform tree maintenance, and that DoT would provide non-essential services such as mowing, weed control and street sweeping on DoT owned median strips.

It appears the current level and frequency of DoT service to median strips is insufficient and does not meet community expectation. This issue is not isolated to our Council and we are currently working with the Cities of Stonnington and Yarra to jointly raise this issue with DoT.

**Please note: answers to any questions in Public Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*