

CITY OF  
PORT PHILLIP

Annual Report  
1993/4

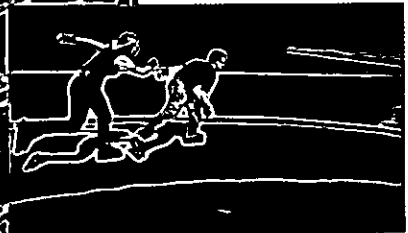





Photo by Peter Bennetts.

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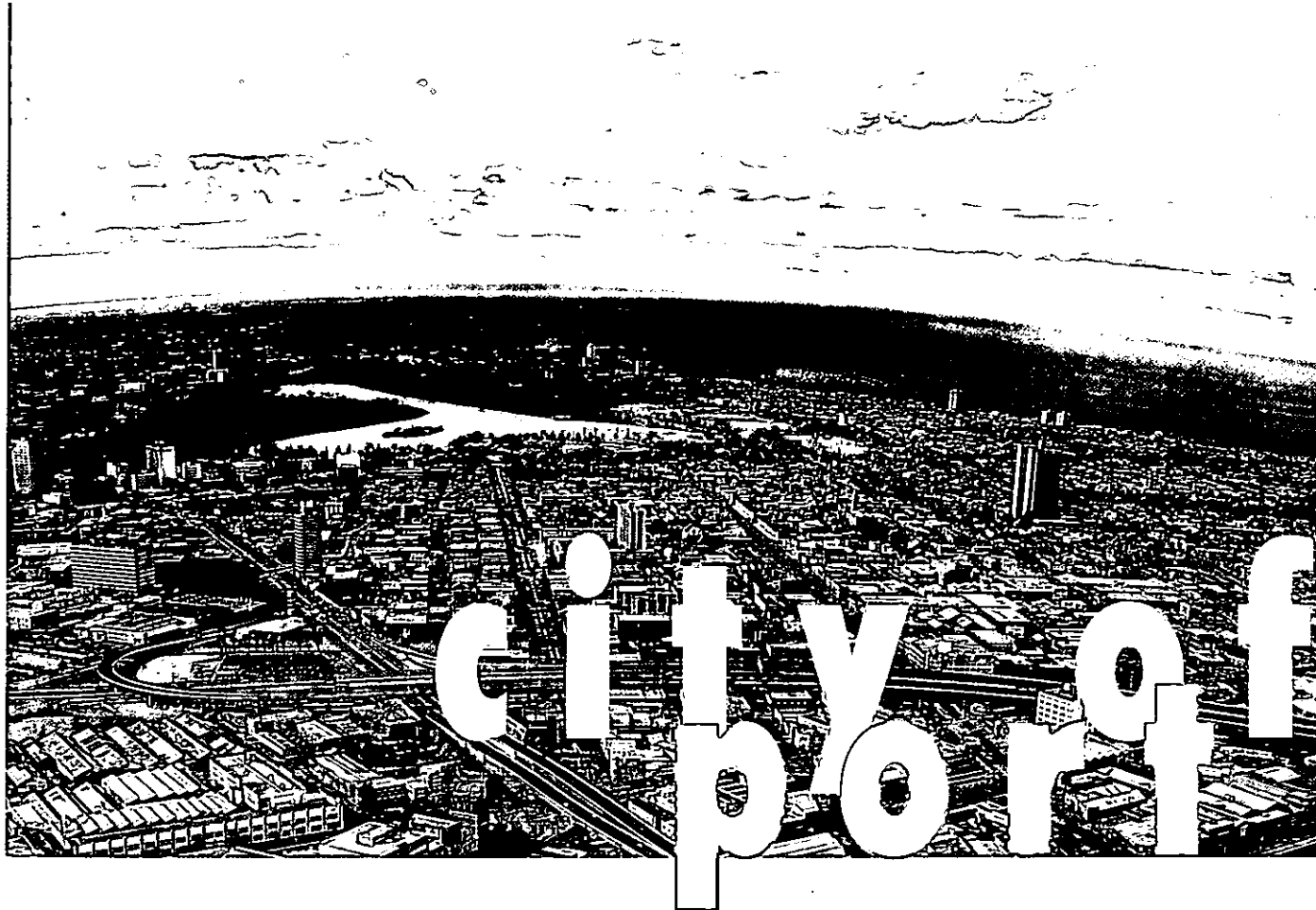


Photo by John Gollings.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The City of Port Phillip was born on the 22 June 1994. It was formed by the amalgamation of the three former councils of St. Kilda, South Melbourne and Port Melbourne.

The City is host to a complex and unique community estimated at 70,000 people. The area of Port Phillip includes residential settlements, beaches, industry, tourist attractions and a wide variety of shopping and entertainment venues.

Residents and visitors have access to swimming and views of Port Phillip Bay, extensive public transport, a wide range of cuisines, festivals, arts facilities such as Gasworks and the Linden Art Centre and beautiful gardens and parks.

The great challenge and excitement for the new City is to work together as a united community while maintaining and recognising our diversity.



## DEMOGRAPHICS

- > 204 SQUARE KILOMETRES
- > 70,000 PEOPLE LIVE IN THE CITY
- > 57 PER CENT ARE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 20 - 49
- > MEDIAN AGE 34
- > 40 PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS EARN AN ANNUAL INCOME OF LESS THAN \$25,000
- > 13 PER CENT EARN OVER \$60,000
- > 26 PER CENT RECEIVE GOVERNMENT BENEFITS
- > 95 PER CENT ARE UNEMPLOYED
- > THE CITY CONTAINS 1,029 RETAIL OUTLETS, EMPLOYING 5,000 PEOPLE WITH A TURNOVER OF \$400 MILLION.
- > 30 PER CENT OF THE COMMUNITY WERE BORN IN NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES (PREDOMINANTLY THE FORMER USSR, EASTERN EUROPE, GREECE, SOUTH AND NORTH EAST ASIA)
- > 40 PER CENT OF HOUSEHOLDS ARE SINGLE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS
- > 50 PER CENT LIVE IN RENTAL ACCOMMODATION INCLUDING 6 PER CENT WHO LIVE IN PUBLIC HOUSING
- > ONLY 33 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION ARE HOME OWNERS

# commissioner's overview

The year under review has been one of steady progress to new structures and systems to serve the residents and ratepayers of Port Phillip. Central to this process is a firm commitment to provide the broadest possible contact and consultation with all the communities that make up the City.

The first budget for Port Phillip has been approved, a draft corporate plan is now open to community feedback and the City has appointed a permanent CEO.

While our focus has been on structuring the City's operations to provide better service, we have also spent considerable time and resources ensuring the heritage which the three former Councils have built up is not lost. The City of Port Phillip must honour its historical roots.

We have been diligent in ensuring that the sources of community strength, be they heritage buildings, or assets such as community groups and institutions, are preserved.

One initiative has been to transform the Port Melbourne Town Hall into the Port Phillip Learning Enterprise Community Centre. The City has entered into an agreement with the Melbourne City Mission to relocate its Enterprise Program and Southport Youth Service, where they will be joined by the organisers of the Port Melbourne Festival. These moves will ensure optimal public use of this important building.



Des Clark

Lynne Wenig

Geoff Vincent

Asset preservation is being complemented by an ongoing Capital Works program. Funding for 1994/95 has been set at \$8 million, with major works including further upgrading of the foreshore and Acland Street along with a substantial contribution to street works, tree planting and bike paths.

The City has also committed substantial sums to the construction of a swimming facility as part of the Albert Park redevelopment and the new State Aquatic Centre.

While we are in transition to an elected Council for Port Phillip, there is a clear need for the community to have its many voices heard on the wide range of issues which are part and parcel of local government.

The Commissioners are acutely aware of this need and to enhance communication a broad-based Community Panel was established to ensure a two-way information flow. This is one of the many ways for the public to give us its input and opinions on the issues which require decisions by Council.

The work which has been done thus far to prepare the City of Port Phillip for its transition to an elected Council could not have proceeded as smoothly as it has if not for the willingness of the community to embrace the concept of Port Phillip and to demonstrate the tolerance that allows a new-born city to get on its feet.

We have been helped greatly in this regard by the excellent work done by City managers and staff to initiate and oversee important structural and operational changes. Their efforts have been fundamental to the success we've had in advancing the cause of better services for the community.

Staff and unions have made an active and constructive contribution on issues such as the Corporate Plan and Compulsory Competitive Tendering. This has allowed us to make steady progress in bringing in more effective ways of structuring services and operations and meeting the challenges that local governments face in a time of reform.

This progress will continue in the coming year. We will continue to look for ways in which we can optimise the benefits arising from the amalgamation, and forge a common purpose to help make the City of Port Phillip a place of commercial strength and residential vitality.

# CEO'S report

**The City of Port Phillip is an exciting and complex new municipality made up of the former cities of St. Kilda, South Melbourne and Port Melbourne.**

Such an amalgamation produces a great number of changes and we have concentrated on establishing an interim management structure to deal with these demands as quickly as possible. Our aim has been to integrate the activities and services of the three former municipalities with a minimum of disruption to the community. This will lead to a Council which is efficient and responsive to the public's needs.

Our focus is to build on the existing strengths of the three former municipalities. The City of Port Phillip offers a vibrant and cosmopolitan environment for residents, workers and visitors. We will be focusing on the diversity of people and cultures within our City. Our wonderful beaches, entertainment venues, restaurants

and gardens provide an enviable lifestyle and we will be working to protect and enhance such vital attractions.

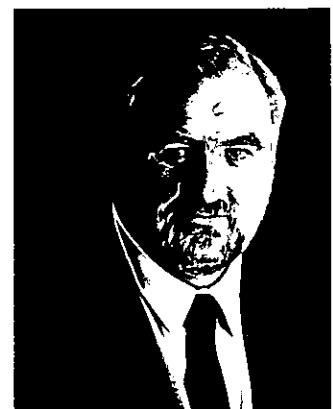
The Council aims to balance the cultural development of the City with necessary infrastructure upgrading and ensure community consultation over issues of planning, building and human services.

The new City initially faced the major challenge of preparing a balanced budget for 1994/95. This involved the always difficult and sensitive task of reducing staffing levels. A number of long-serving employees have left the organisation and we greatly appreciate their efforts and the efforts of all the other staff members who have worked devotedly throughout this time of change.

The first meeting of the council was held at the St. Kilda Townhall on 24 June 1994. Since then we have held weekly meetings and established a community panel to ensure the public are able to express their views and concerns about particular issues and the general management of the City.

We are looking forward to the challenges of 1995 which will include the development of major sites such as the St. Kilda Railway Station housing project, the continuing upgrading of the foreshore, participation in the Bayside project, upgrading of shopping centres, the release of our Corporate Plan and the implementation of Compulsory Competitive Tendering. Our aim is to make the City of Port Phillip an innovative, compassionate and successful model of good local government.

John Hickman  
Chief Executive Officer.





# City of Phillip

**SOUTH MELBOURNE**

**ST KILDA**

**PORT MELBOURNE**

## FORMER COUNCILLORS AND BOUNDARIES

### PORT MELBOURNE

Centre Ward: Liana Thompson Mayor  
Perce White  
Robert Blackmore

Sandridge Ward: Chrs Raaburn  
Brenda Bedford  
Phillip Lang

Boundary Ward: Jim Mitchell  
Lyn Allison  
Kerry McKendrick

### SOUTH MELBOURNE

Queen's Ward: Frank O'Connor Mayor  
Ray Wilson  
Paul Dahan (JP)

Hobson Ward: Stane Dowling  
Bruce Cormick  
Julie Johnson

Fawkner Ward: Roger Bodinnar  
Elizabeth Grleb  
Ludwig Stamer

### Canterbury Ward:

Geoffrey Holdsworth  
K. Patricia Brown  
(OAM, JP)  
David Hunt

### ST. KILDA

Central Ward: Tim Costello Mayor  
John Callanan (JP)  
Julia Murray

South Ward: Lz Johnstone  
Gina Fiske

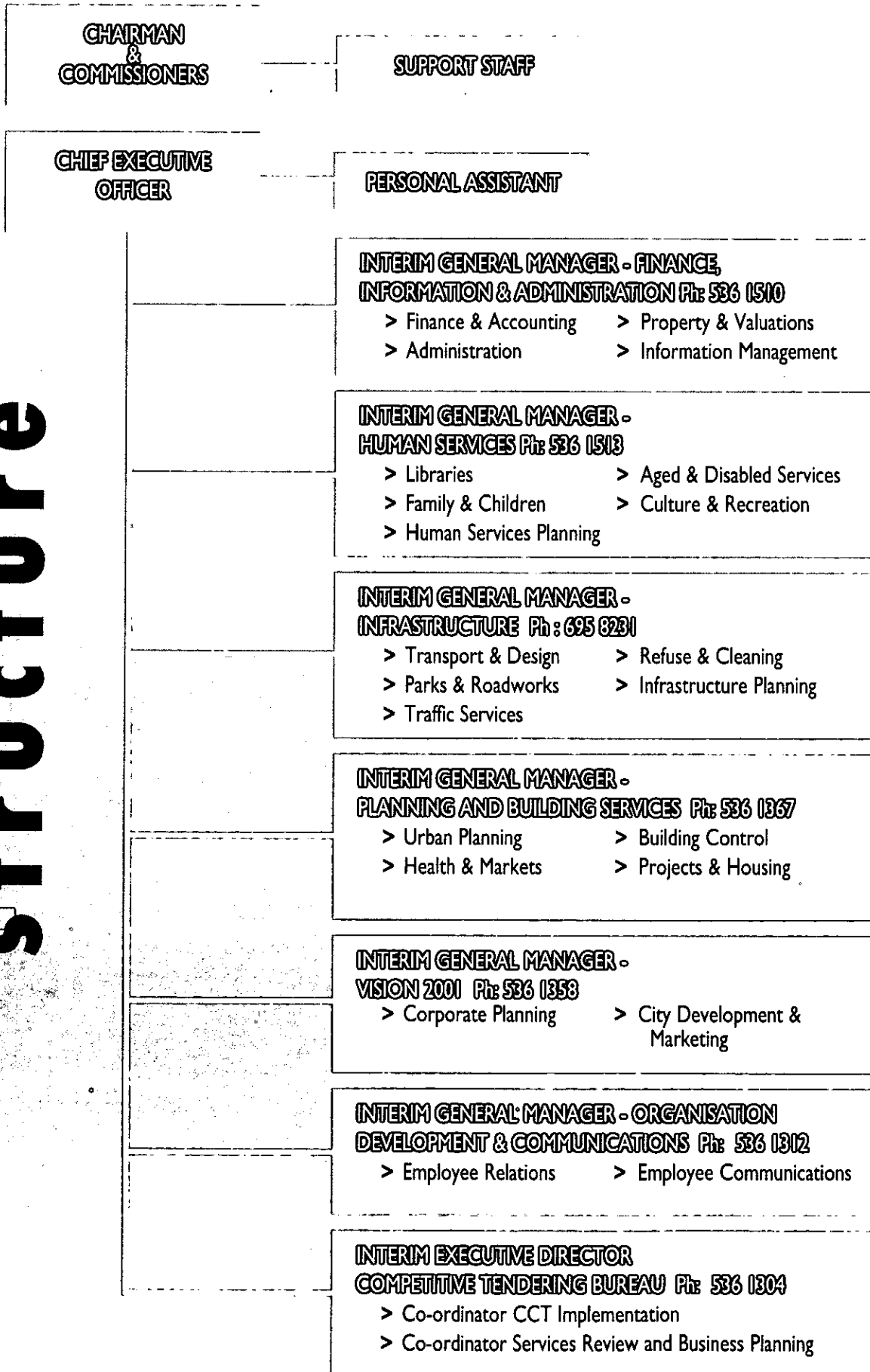
### West Ward:

John Cribbes  
John Splerings  
Dimitry Reed  
Mary Bartlett

### North Ward:

Devin Trussell  
Karen Gregory  
Virginia Browne

# CONTRACTORS



# divisions

## PLANNING AND BUILDING DIVISION

The Planning and Building Services Division is responsible for development approvals, strategic land use planning, projects, local laws, markets, environmental health and involvement in major urban projects. The division's main challenge is to maintain a long term perspective on land use and appropriate development while balancing the needs of residents, visitors, business and investors. We aim to provide timely and professional responses to development issues and proposals.

Our immediate task is to integrate our services in one location with one set of policies, standards and work practices.

### DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

The former St. Kilda Council concentrated its efforts on improving the efficiency of its development approvals. In the last 18 months' applications that were dealt with within statutory deadlines increased in the order of 65 to 95 per cent.

South Melbourne's Planning department focused on developing a business plan approach and maintaining service levels.

Port Melbourne's Planning office focused on new large scale residential development.

The City of Port Phillip is now undertaking a Development Approvals Review Project funded by Council and the Federal Local Approvals Review Program. The project will enable a concentrated review of Council's development approval process undertaken in consultation with customers.

Importantly, the Division is using the experience of other Councils in developing Best Practice in development approvals to ensure quick and efficient responses to customer's enquires and applications.

### MAJOR PROJECTS

The process of renewal is already attracting people back to key tourist areas in the City such as Fitzroy Street and the Station Pier precinct. Subsequently there has been a significant increase in residential development approvals throughout the municipality.

One of the major projects for the former St. Kilda Council in 1993/94 was the refurbishment of the old St. Kilda railway station. What had been an uninspiring part of Fitzroy Street has now come to life. The Melbourne



The redevelopment of the old St Kilda Railway includes the Victory Cafe. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

Fringe Festival moved their offices from Fitzroy to the site and opened a public exhibition and performance space. The Victory cafe has added to the cosmopolitan atmosphere and the construction of public housing units, beginning soon, will contribute to the rejuvenation. The units are funded under the unique local and State government St.Kilda Housing program which provides community managed public housing.

All of this is part of an ongoing effort by the City of Port Phillip to re-invigorate major potential tourist and commercial precincts by actively encouraging appropriate redevelopment.

Substantial progress has been made on the 27 hectare Bayside Project in Port Melbourne. This Project involves 850 dwellings, a major foreshore promenade, a

commercial precinct and boat harbour. The proposal, which was placed on public exhibition in August 1994 is currently before the Minister for Planning.

Other new projects, supported by the Council, include the redevelopment of the Seaview, George and Majestic hotels in St. Kilda. In Port Melbourne the historic former Swallow and Ariell biscuit factory will be converted into 170 dwellings and the former Cable Tram sheds will also be developed.

In South Melbourne approval has been granted for the redevelopment of the former Eastern Road Primary School. This allows for the refurbishment of the old school building as apartments with new townhouses being built on the remainder of the land.

There has been substantial development of a number of office buildings in the St. Kilda/ Albert Road precinct including the

former BP building and 70 Albert Road. Two new residential buildings are also being developed at 15 and 26 Queens Road.

In 1995 we will continue to work with residents and business operators, community groups and other interested parties in examining ways of improving the economic well-being and character of important commercial centres.

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

Building on work undertaken by the three former municipalities, in 1995 we intend to produce:

- > A broad strategic land use plan to reflect the objectives of Vision 2001. As an early part of this work an amendment has been prepared to introduce new development controls along the Port Melbourne foreshore.
- > A review of key urban development policies including our residential development controls.

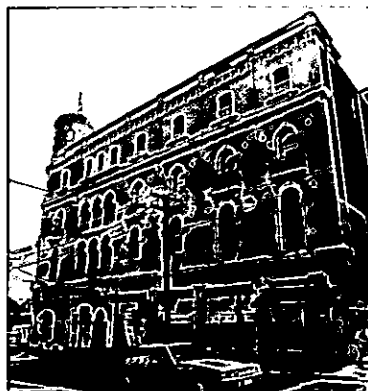
- > A coordinated approach to urban conservation and heritage protection integrating the approaches of the three former cities. Work on urban conservation issues in Marine Parade Elwood and development controls for the Port Melbourne Foreshore will be the highest priorities.
- > We will also continue our work on planning for appropriate levels and types of development on key sites.

Negotiation for future redevelopment at key sites includes the Gas and Fuel site in Port and South Melbourne and the HMAS Lonsdale site in Port Melbourne.

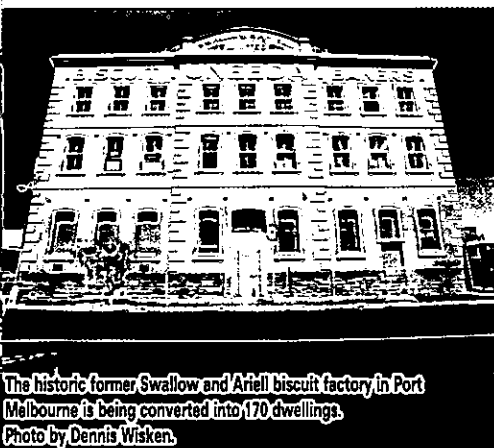
Council will also be assessing expressions of interest received in the use of the Triangle site behind the Palais Theatre and Palace venue. We will also be examining development options for Ripponlea Station in conjunction with the local community, the State Government and the Historic Building Council.

### URBAN DESIGN

Urban design issues have emerged as an early priority for the new City. In 1995, building on the work of the former cities, we will develop an Urban Design strategy for the municipality that provides a creative and pragmatic framework for the implementation of various projects.



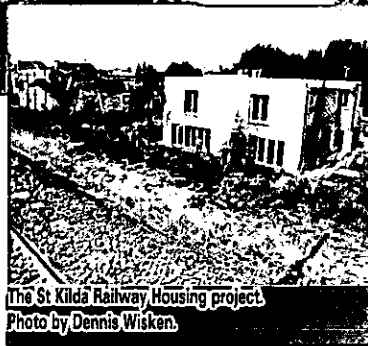
The George Hotel is one of many hotels being renovated in the City of Port Phillip. Photo by Dennis Wisken.



The historic former Swallow and Ariell biscuit factory in Port Melbourne is being converted into 170 dwellings. Photo by Dennis Wisken.



The Grosvenor-Brunning housing project in St Kilda was completed in September 1994.  
Photo by Dennis Wisken.



The St Kilda Railway Housing project.  
Photo by Dennis Wisken.

## HOUSING PROJECTS

### Works to be Completed

The \$2.76 million Grosvenor - Brunning housing project, which came under the former City of St. Kilda's Housing Program, was completed in September 1994. The project provides rental accommodation for low income families and older people. As part of a joint Council and State Government housing program, the former Telecom primary works depot now accommodates 10 two and three bedroom townhouses and 10 one bedroom units.

### Works in Progress

Also under the former City of St. Kilda's Housing program is the St. Kilda Railway Station Housing project. This will consist of low rental income housing comprising 21 older people's units, 23 family townhouses and up to 12 single units. Construction is expected to commence in early 1995.

The former City of St Kilda also successfully negotiated a \$1.35 million grant for the Argyle Street community housing project which will comprise 14 family townhouses and two studio apartments.

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The introduction of the Food Premises Code to replace prescriptive food regulations throughout Victoria provided a major change in focus for the enforcement of the Food Act. Education about food hygiene is being emphasised for food handlers and proprietors. Courses have been conducted within the City of Port Phillip through the

TAFE system and further courses are planned for 1995.

The fees for the Health, Food and Dog Acts of the three former municipalities have been standardised to ensure a consistent approach.

The Safe Syringe Project conducted in the St. Kilda area, in conjunction with the Centre for Social Health, resulted in the production of a handbook for Victorian local councils called Safe Syringe Disposal - A Community Response.

Planning has commenced for the 1996 Grand Prix in the significant sanitation and food production role to be undertaken by Council's Environmental Health Officers.

A review of the Immunisation program was conducted in 1994 and resulted in a modified program which is provided appropriate locations throughout the City. The new program will commence in 1995.

## LOCAL LAWS AND MARKET

The local laws section has coordinated the drafting of proposed local laws to create a unified approach throughout the City.

The Environmental, Roads and Streets and Markets local laws will be circulated for public comment in early 1995.

# divisions

## INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION

The Infrastructure division has a primary role in developing and maintaining the community's assets and provides a range of street cleaning, waste management, parks, gardens and streetscape maintenance services. It is also responsible for public open space and the natural environment.

We regard extensive community consultation as essential to our decision making process and for the success of our programs.

### FORESHORE DEVELOPMENT

The upgrading of the foreshore continued with landscaping,

the relocation of the seawall, the reconstruction of the footpaths, and the construction of a bicycle path between the South and Port Melbourne Life Saving clubs.

Community groups assisted in the rehabilitation of the Port Melbourne sand dunes and the Elwood foreshore was enhanced by the reconstruction of the Elwood Angling club launching ramp.

### ENVIRONMENT STRATEGIES

The Port Melbourne environment strategy was completed and released for public consultation while South Melbourne and St. Kilda continued to implement their strategies. Council officers received several awards in recognition of their excellent work. Funding was received for revegetation works in the Perce White Reserve, upgrading of the Cowderoy Street drain outfall and the boardwalk on the breakwater at St. Kilda harbour. All were successfully completed.

### DRAINAGE

In line with recent studies the Division implemented major



Foreshore activities, St Kilda. Photo by Dennis Wisken.



Foreshore works in South and Port Melbourne included the construction of a bicycle track. Photo by Dennis Wisken.



Port Melbourne beach and pier. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

projects to reduce the incidence of flooding. This included;

- > Reconstruction and enlargement of the Kerferd Road outfall drain from Beaconsfield Parade to Page Street.
- > Reconstruction of drainage works in the Elwood area discharging into the Elwood canal.
- > Reconstruction of drainage works in Carlisle and Acland Streets.
- > Upgrading the Lyle Street drain to relieve flooding in Lyle Street.

### TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The recommendations from local traffic management schemes, prepared in consultation with local communities, continued to be implemented across the municipality. The Safe Routes to School in Port Melbourne was a joint project between Vic Roads and

the Council. Street signs were erected to guide school children on a safe route to school and to teach them about road safety.

### ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Major resheeting and road reconstruction works were completed across the municipality. The streets completed were: Alfred Street, Union Street, Church Street, Carter Street, Little Page Street, Alma Road, Lansdowne Road, Princes Street and Graham Street.

Thirty thousand square metres of footpath were resheeted including the residential side of Beaconsfield Parade.

Major reconstruction works were undertaken on the Shelley Street bridge over the Elwood canal and investigations proceeded into the problems of the Barkly Street bridge.



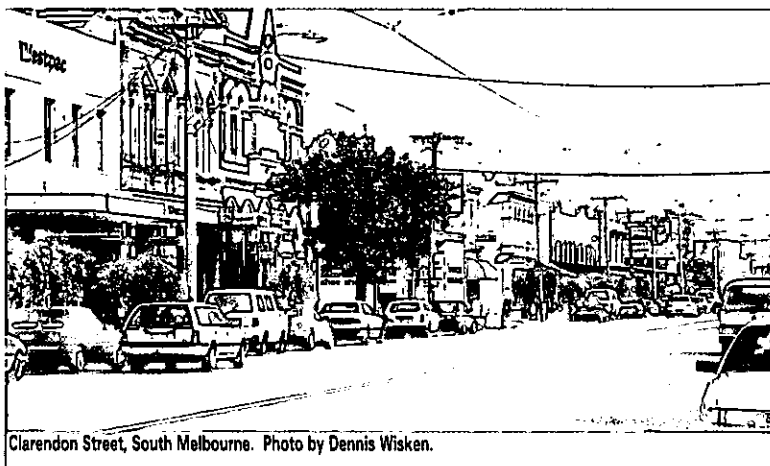
Busy Acland Street has had a face lift over the last year. Photo by Dennis Wisken.



Streetscape improvements in Victoria Avenue, Albert Park, were part of the Infrastructure Division's responsibility. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

### STREETScape WORKS

Major streetscape improvements were undertaken in Acland Street, Fitzroy Street, Ripponlea and Victoria Avenue. After extensive consultation with adjoining traders the work began in Acland Street on relaying the footpath with special pavers, installing new street furniture and landscaping. Work commenced on Stage 1 of the Fitzroy Street upgrading works with the laying of underground power cables. New trees, seats, planter boxes, planting areas and rubbish bins enhanced the street-scape in Victoria Avenue. The second stage of the Ripponlea shopping centre works was completed.



Clarendon Street, South Melbourne. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

## PLAYGROUNDS

The needs of the younger members of the City were met by the significant upgrading of playgrounds. Major works focused on the foreshore opposite Victoria Avenue and the William Street Reserve. Other playgrounds upgraded on a needs basis included the Port Melbourne Child Care Centre and the Mary A'Beckett kindergarten.

## TREE PLANTING

The Council planted more than 1,000 trees throughout the municipality.

In many cases relatively mature trees were planted because of the immediate improvement they provided to the street. They are also less vulnerable to vandalism. Smaller canary island palms were planted along the residential side of Beaconsfield Parade.



Canary island palms were planted along the residential side of Beaconsfield Parade. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

Recurring problems with street tree roots in St. Kilda have consumed much time and may result in phased removal and replacement with a more appropriate species.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

The municipality's waste management program successfully reduced the waste collected. Composting programs diverted in excess of 1000 tonnes of seaweed and garden waste from landfill and created a valuable soil improver for residents and Council.

Between December 1993 and November 1994 2,803 tonnes of glass, aluminium, plastic (and for St. Kilda steel cans and liquid paperboard) were recycled, an increase of 3.9 per cent from the previous year. Paper and cardboard increased 21.3 per cent with 3,117 tonnes being recycled.



Margid Merheb, an assistant gardener for the City, at work in Albert Park's St Vincent's Gardens. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

## LANDSCAPING

The Landscaping section concentrated on upgrading significant parks including the Blessington Gardens, St. Vincent's Gardens, the Turner and Cook Reserves and the Gasworks. Considerable time and effort was spent adding splashes of colour to the City by renewing floral displays and upgrading roundabouts and splitter islands.

The first stage of the Canterbury Road Urban Forest redevelopment, involving the planting of more than 2000 trees, was also completed.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

In 1994 the Division concentrated on combining all of the former Councils' Infrastructure functions into one. Our clear objective for the next year is to complete this transition and establish a Division that will create a strong team spirit and effective workplace.



# divisions

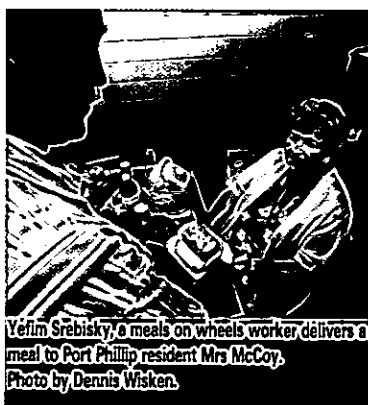
## HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION

The Human Services division deals with the cultural and social side of the City and aims to provide services, programs and structures that serve the community's needs. Before the amalgamation all three former Councils had worked closely together operating various community programs and exchanging information, support and service development.

### AGE & DISABILITY

Home and community care is aimed at supporting elderly residents and people with disabilities and their carers, maintain their independence within a community setting.

In 1953 South Melbourne pioneered Meals on Wheels in Local Government. In 1993/94, across the City of Port Phillip, 425 meals were delivered per day



Yefim Srebisky, a meals on wheels worker delivers a meal to Port Phillip resident Mrs McCoy. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

and a further 150 meals were provided in centres.

The Home Care service allows a dignity and independence for people who would otherwise be dependent. Services include assistance with domestic duties, cooking, banking, letter writing, bathing, showering and grooming, in-home respite care and introductions back into social networks.

Home maintenance officers help with basic tasks that do not require a tradesperson such as repairing doors and windows, installing hand rails and gardening.

Home Care reached over 1,000 people per month with 6,300 hours of service performed.

Throughout the City seven Senior Citizens centres and Adult Day Activity centres are operating.

The three former councils worked together to form the Inner South Respite Care program. The program provides a weekend centre-based respite program that services all residents of Port Phillip. There is also home-based respite care.

### FAMILY & YOUTH

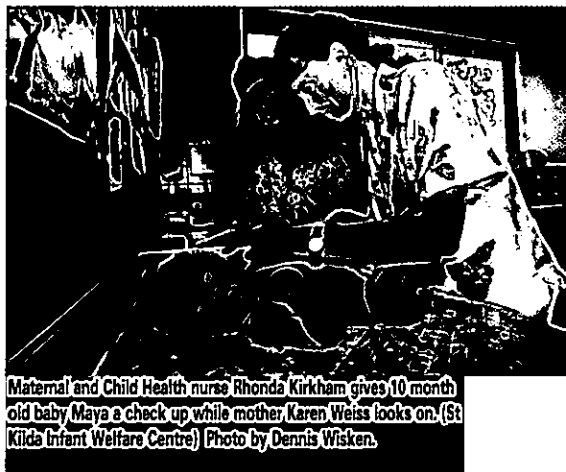
Human Services faces quite different challenges in the area of family and children's services as there is a considerable diversity

of needs within the city of Port Phillip.

Of the 14 child care centres, four are Council managed, seven are parent managed and three are work-based centres. Altogether they provide 554 places for children.

Eleven kindergartens in the city provide 235 places for three and four year olds. Council manages three and eight others are managed by the community.

The eight Maternal and Child Health centres cared for the 867 children born in the City during the 93/94 financial year.



Maternal and Child Health nurse Rhonda Kirkham gives 10 month old baby Maya a check up while mother Karen Weiss looks on. (St Kilda Infant Welfare Centre) Photo by Dennis Wisken.

A family support program that provides intensive personal and practical support to vulnerable families operates in Port and South Melbourne. St. Kilda is serviced by the Copelen Street Child and



Wilma de los Santos, a Port Phillip home-based childcare worker. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

Family service with Council support.

Foster care, auspiced by Council, is managed by Inner South Foster Care. It provides short and long term home-based care and it represents the successful amalgamation of three smaller foster care programs. Cooperative planning, decision-making and financial contributions from the former Councils led to the integration of the service.

The former Councils' roles and activities with young people in the area included the provision of teenage holiday activities and a number of camps, to development of accommodation programs, peer education programs and policy action forums.

Amalgamation has led to the development of the Port Phillip Youth Services Strategic Plan for 1995 which will guide initiatives in the broad range of issues affecting young people such as employment, training, health and information needs.



The Linden Art Centre in St Kilda is host to many and varied cultural activities. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

## CULTURE & LEISURE

The City of Port Phillip is a new cultural identity and we will instigate a broad range of initiatives to reflect this. Focus will be on cultural planning, business skills in the arts, art in public places and design works initiated in collaboration with the Infrastructure division. We will also increase measures to ensure the preservation of the former municipalities' heritage.

The role and contribution of recreation is critical to the economic, social and cultural life of the City. This belief underpinned the development in culture and leisure activities of the three former Councils.

Recreation and Arts officers have particularly focused on out of school programs for children, programs for young people and those with needs or disabilities, older adults, Koories, people



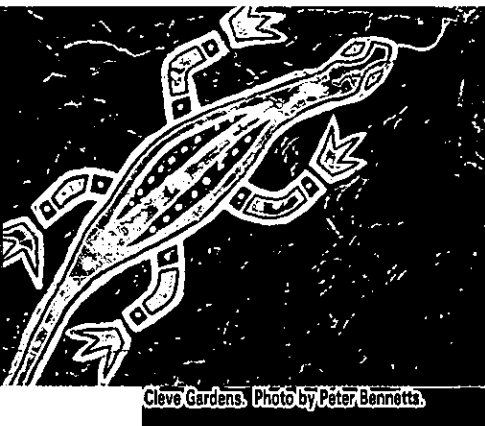
Gasworks, Port Melbourne is one of the City's sites for cultural, theatrical and leisure activities. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

from non-English speaking backgrounds and socially isolated adults.

The customary events and festivals of the three former Councils will continue. These include: the St. Kilda Festival, Port Melbourne Festival, Community Day in South Melbourne, Music in the Parks, St. Kilda Film Festival, Garden and Multi Cultural Festival and Spring into Summer at Gasworks.

## KOORIE COMMUNITY

The City of Port Phillip is the auspice for the Koorie Cultural Project Steering Committee, which convened in November 1993. The committee has played a significant role in establishing the foundations for the project as a vehicle for Aboriginal organisations to network



Cleve Gardens. Photo by Peter Bennetta.

across services and to liaise with non-Aboriginal organisations.

The 1993/94 Koorie Cultural Program focused on the positive aspects of Aboriginal culture in the City which was achieved through various events and programs including:

- > A Flag raising and reception.
- > An exhibition featuring the work of professional Koorie artists and the Cleve Gardens painting class.
- > Four contemporary Koorie writers and poets gave readings at Writer's Night where they explored important issues for Koorie people.

Future initiatives, as part of the project, will include the Cleve Gardens Landscape Design Advisory Group, the Multicultural Garden Festival, the Aboriginal Arts Festival, the Indigenous Music Festival and a Koorie component of the St. Kilda Writer's Festival.

A Special Needs Report on the Koorie Community was commissioned in May 1994 and finalised and adopted by Council in November. The implementation of its recommendations will see the development of co-operative working relationships between Government, Koorie organisations and Council to address a range of issues.

### MIGRANT SERVICES

Forty per cent of residents of Port Phillip were born in countries other than Australia.

A variety of services, programs and responses to the non-English speaking groups in the community had developed across the three former municipalities.

Ethnic or Multicultural policies have guided the development and support of advisory committees over the last few years.

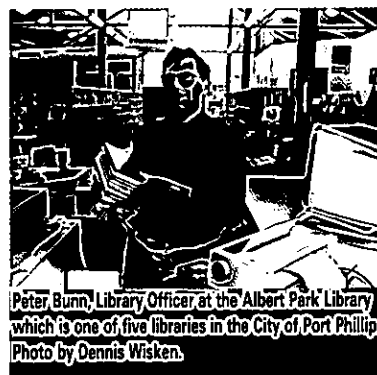
Amalgamation is bringing together the committees. A Port Phillip Multicultural Reference Group is developing and will work with Council and the community on an integrated Multicultural policy for the City.

### LIBRARIES

In the last year, across the three former Councils, there were 750,000 visits to the libraries, 56,000 registered library members, 33,000 new items acquired for the collection and 990,000 loans.

There are currently five

libraries in the City of Port Phillip; St. Kilda, Middle Park, South Melbourne, Albert Park and Port Melbourne.



Peter Bunn, Library Officer, at the Albert Park Library which is one of five libraries in the City of Port Phillip. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

A substantial staffing restructuring of the library will achieve a more efficient and upgraded service across Port Phillip. The integration of the computer system will allow the library to become one service and will raise the standard of information and service for residents.

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES PLANNING

The amalgamation means that Officers of the City are now dealing with a much larger and more diverse community. The State Government has set population growth targets for the area which should see the City home to 100,800 people by the year 2,010. This will have significant implications for social planning, community development and human service provision.

Bringing together the Community Grants schemes of the three former Councils has been an

# divisions

## ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

essential and challenging task to ensure continuity of community services and projects. The scheme will be evaluated and refined early in 1995.

For groups and organisations who have substantial support from Council, a process of reviewing services and developing service agreements will occur.

A staff relocation plan has begun which will establish a Human Services headquarters at the St. Kilda office where management and administration will be concentrated. Branches will continue to operate at South and Port Melbourne including Aged Services teams and information, referral, emergency relief and duty service.

**The major focus of the division is to develop a long term communications strategy for the City. The focus is to provide the community with information and this will include a regular City of Port Phillip newsletter, community directory and resident and student kits.**

The division is responsible for setting up the Community Panel to enable residents/ ratepayers and traders input into Council activities and service provisions.

Other communications activities include events management, media liaison and publicity.

The division also plans to negotiate an Enterprise agreement

for the City of Port Phillip that will establish the best practice standards and bring about work practice changes.

In the Organisation Development area the main focus of activities will be the integration and development of human resources systems and policies.

The Human Resources Plan will link into the Corporate Plan for the City. The plan will identify strategies for future skills development of the workforce, set the framework for succession planning and identify a range of other strategies that will ensure the employees of the City are highly skilled and flexible.

## FINANCE, INFORMATION AND ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

**The Finance, Information and Administration Division initially focused on assembling and integrating the financial and decision support systems of the three former Cities. This work is ongoing.**

With the establishment of an integrated computer network, budget and other financial sys-

tems from October 1, 1994, focus is now moving to longer term planning. In particular, a financial plan will develop from the corporate plan. This will include plans for capital spending and rates and charges standardisation.

In 1993/94 the combined cities delivered services from an \$84 million budget. This was reduced to \$76 million for 1994/95. The City



South Melbourne Market. Photo by Dennis Wisken.

# bayside project

finished the 1994 financial year within surplus and capacity changes in 1995 will ensure budget targets are met.

Property revaluation has commenced with the new valuations operating from July 1, 1996.

Assets are being catalogued and uses reviewed against current needs with a view to some further asset realisation.

Review and integration of policies for hire of various facilities across Port Phillip will occur in the first half of 1994/95. These reviews will simplify access and standardise operational matters.

Information needs are also under formal review to meet the needs identified in the Corporate Plan and the emerging structure of Port Phillip.

**The Yarra Bayside Project is an exciting initiative for the whole of Melbourne. It promotes tourism connections between Williamstown, the lower Yarra and the foreshore areas of Port Melbourne, South Melbourne, St. Kilda and Elwood.**

The project is part of the general shift in the way people view Melbourne. In the last few years with the development of Southbank and the restaurants, bicycle paths and cleaner beaches along the foreshore, locals and visitors have been attracted back to the water.

As a joint initiative of the cities of Port Phillip, Hobsons Bay and Melbourne the Bayside Project aims to cut the red tape by simplifying approvals, match financial backers and develop a mutual marketing and tourism strategy.

The Project hopes to enhance the waterfront and adjoining recreational centres while boosting the local economies and providing jobs.

Research has shown people come to the water's edge to view the bay, swim, eat in the restaurants and generally enjoy Bayside living.

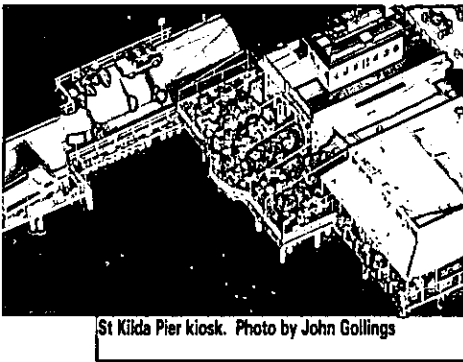
The Final Study Report has

resulted in 43 recommendations and has been on public exhibition for two months. The project is funded under the Federal Government's Strengthening local Economic Capacity (SLEC) program.

The Final Report makes a strong case for the need to adopt a vision that can be shared by the participants in the project to develop tourism initiatives in the region.

A Tourism strategy for the City of Port Phillip will be developed in early 1995 using the work of the Yarra Bayside Project as its foundation. It will provide the City with a specific tourism focus and will act as a promotional tool.

Based on the momentum underlying the project a formal mechanism for coordinating tourism projects between the relevant Councils will need to be developed.



St Kilda Pier kiosk. Photo by John Gollings

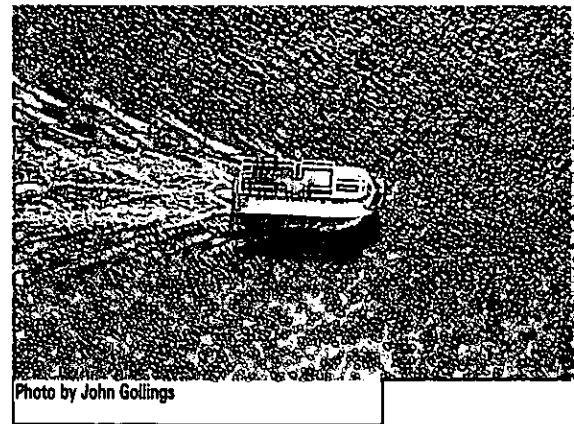


Photo by John Gollings

# innovative

**The City of Port Phillip has devised a number of exciting initiatives which will see the municipality through to the next century.**

The draft Corporate Plan, entitled Vision 2001, will be produced early in 1995.

It depicts the City's strategies and plans for the future including economic development, urban design, marketing, promotion and sister city relations.

Port Phillip, as a new City, has a great many opportunities. Our strategies will focus on building on our existing strengths, diversity, culture, physical attractions, environment and services.

## **CORPORATE PLAN**

All municipalities are required by the Minister for Local Government to prepare a Corporate Plan within a defined period.

The Vision 2001 Division was established by the City of Port Phillip in September 1994 and its primary function is to drive the development of a corporate plan which looks ahead to the year 2001.

The Draft Corporate Plan was developed with input from staff, the community and the Commissioners. Reference was

made to the corporate plans developed by the three former municipalities during this preparation. The Plan will be placed on public exhibition for two months commencing in December 1994.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN & TOURISM STRATEGY**

Tourism has been identified as a key strength of the municipality, with initial emphasis placed on the public release of the Yarra Bayside Tourism Linkages Study Final Report. This is intended to form an umbrella tourism strategy for the Yarra Bayside region which links Port Phillip with parts of the cities of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay. A municipal tourism strategy, based on the Yarra Bayside Project work, will be developed in March 1995.

A broad Economic Development Plan will be developed in 1995 to implement the objectives of the Draft Corporate Plan.

## **ACTIVITY CENTRE DEVELOPMENT**

The Bay Street Port Melbourne shopping centre has been the focus of early attention by the City of Port Phillip due to the emphasis on the area's tourism potential and the

burgeoning residential developments in its vicinity. A strategy will be developed to examine the development and promotion needs of the full range of activity centres within the Municipality. The former City of St. Kilda had already begun work on a strategy and this will be extended to cover centres in Port and South Melbourne.

## **SPECIAL SITES DEVELOPMENT**

Two important development sites are presently the focus of attention within the St. Kilda tourist area. The 'Triangle site' adjacent to the Palais and Palace venues near the foreshore was put out to tender in late 1994.



The triangle site behind the Palais Theatre and Palace venue which will be redeveloped.  
Photo by Dennis Wisken.

These tenders are currently being assessed. A low-intensity development plan for the St. Kilda Harbour will be prepared in consultation with the State Government and key interest groups.

### **PRECINCT PLANNING**

The St. Kilda Road business precinct has been identified in the Draft Corporate Plan as one of a number of important areas within the municipality that would benefit from coordinated planning and promotion. Council is developing proposals for the area's enhancement in cooperation with the St. Kilda Road Group (an association of St. Kilda Road businesses). Other precincts identified for special attention include the Port Melbourne and St. Kilda Tourism nodes and the foreshore and Fisherman's Bend industrial area.

### **CITY INFORMATION - DEMOGRAPHIC AND FACILITIES DATA**

Comprehensive demographic and local facilities data is being developed for the entire City of Port Phillip on a neighbourhood basis. The former City of St. Kilda had already done considerable work on the data and this is being extended to localities within the South Melbourne and Port Melbourne areas. The data will be

made available to Council staff, community organisations and individuals by March 1995.

### **MARKETING AND PROMOTION**

The City of Port Phillip will continue to be involved with major events such as the visit of the Endeavour replica and the Melbourne Osaka Cup Yacht Race activities in March 1995. The City is developing a strategy for corporate promotions appropriate promotional material.

### **SISTER CITY RELATIONS**

The City of Port Phillip has inherited a number of sister city relations from the former Councils. A local Sister City Association is

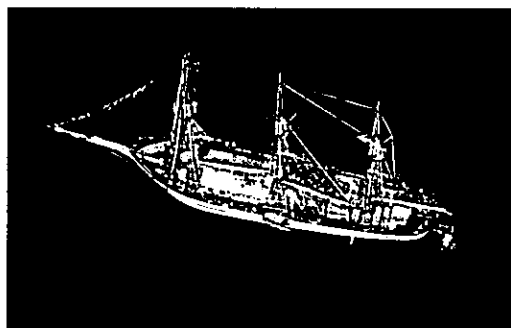


Photo by John Gollings

being established to bring together local residents and organisations with the City of Port Phillip's sister cities in Japan, Greece and Denmark. It is intended that the sister city relationships will also provide business connections and new opportunities for Port Phillip business.

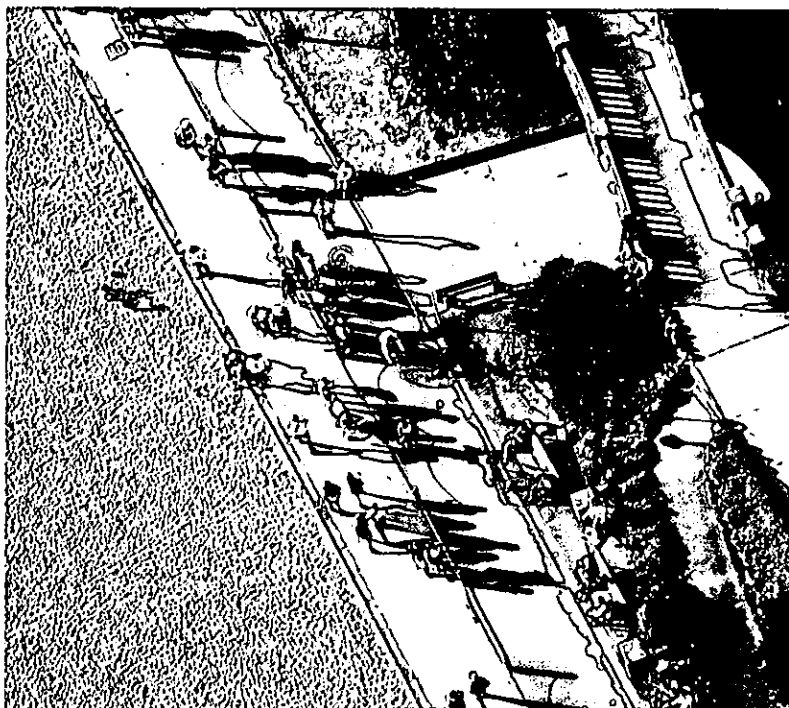


Photo by John Gollings

# service telephone

<b>Council Service or Activity</b>	<b>Telephone</b>		
<b>A</b> Accommodation Premises	695 8292	<b>E</b> Electricity (Port Melbourne only)	647 9570
Adventure Playgrounds		Emergency Social Relief	
South Melbourne Skinners	695 8352	Port Melbourne	647 9554
St. Kilda	536 1348	South Melbourne/St. Kilda	695 9360
Aged & Disability Services		Environment & Conservation	695 8227
Port Melbourne	647 9534	Worm Farms/ Compost Bins	536 1476
South Melbourne	695 8360	Ethnic Services	536 1438
St. Kilda	536 1335		
Aged Services - Housing	695 8360	<b>F</b> Family & Children's services	536 1309
Art & Heritage Collection	536 1327	Food Premises	695 8292
Arts Facilities		Footpaths & potholes	695 8314
Gasworks, South Melbourne	695 8372		
Gasworks Theatre	696 2452	<b>G</b> Garbage Collection	536 1478
St. Kilda Arts Centre, Linden	534 2396	Garden Refuse	536 1476
Linden Gallery	525 5570		
Asset Register	695 8239	<b>H</b> Health (Environmental Issues)	695 8292
		Holiday Children's programs	536 1427
<b>B</b> Bins for Rubbish	695 8314	Home Maintenance	
Building Control	695 8252	Port Melbourne	647 9554
Bus Hire (Culture & Leisure)	536 1397	South Melbourne	695 8360
Bus Services		St. Kilda	536 1392
St. Kilda/ Elwood Comm. Bus	536 1439	Housing development Enquiries	695 8360
South Melbourne Market/St. Kilda	536 1439	Housing - Aged Services Enquiries	695 8360
		Human Services - Enquiries	536 1335
<b>C</b> Community/Recreation Centres			
Elwood Community Centre	534 2396	<b>I</b> Immunisation Programs	695 8292
Liardet, Port Melbourne	647 9551	Infrastructure Enquiries	695 8242
Sol Green Recreation Centre	695 8350		
CCT Bureau	536 1304	<b>L</b> Library Services - Headquarters	536 1521
Children & Families Enquiries	536 1309	Albert Park	695 8338
Civil Design	536 1379	Emerald Hill	695 8339
Communications	536 1514	Middle Park	695 8341
Compost Bins	695 8238	Port Melbourne	647 9533
Council Meetings	536 1300	St. Kilda	536 1413
Culture & Leisure Enquiries	536 1397	Littering	695 8232
		Local Laws	695 8294
<b>D</b> Disabled Services - see Aged & Disability			
Disabled Parking Enquiries	695 8301	<b>M</b> Markets - Enquiries	695 8294
Dogs	695 8291	Meals (Delivered)	
Drains and Drainage	695 8314	Port Melbourne office	647 9554
Drain Reconstruction	536 1375	South Melbourne office	695 8360



	<b>Council Service or Activity</b>	<b>Telephone</b>		
<b>M</b>	St. Kilda	536 1392	<b>V</b>	Valuations - Property
	Meetings of Council	536 1438		Venue Hire
				Council Rooms
<b>N</b>	Needle / Syringe Disposal Advice	695 8292		Foreshore
	Noise Pollution	695 8292		Halls/ Workshop spaces
				Open Spaces
<b>P</b>	Permits			Town Halls
	Cranes	536 1373		Vision 2001 Unit
	Residential Parking	695 8301	<b>W</b>	Waste Services
	Road opening Permits	536 1373		Garbage Collection
	Skip Bins	536 1373		Hard/Liquid/Trade Waste
	Sports Clubs	536 1394	<b>Y</b>	Youth Services
	Parking Enquiries	695 8301		Port Melbourne
	Parking Enforcement	695 8301		St. Kilda
	Parks & Gardens	695 8392		
	Pest Control Advice	695 8292		
	Playground Maintenance	695 8392		
	Planning Projects	536 1448		
	Property Management Section	536 1418		
	Publications/Communications	536 1514		
<b>R</b>	Rate Enquiries	536 1366		
	Recycling collection	536 1476		
	Roads & Streets - Enquiries	695 8314		
	Road Closing Permits	536 1445		
<b>S</b>	School Crossing Supervisors	695 8301		
	Signage	536 1439		
	Social Work/Emergency support			
	Port Melbourne	647 9554		
	South Melbourne/St. Kilda	695 8360		
	Street Cleaning	536 1486		
	Street Lighting			
	Maintenance	131 797		
	New	536 1373		
	Street Reconstruction	695 8314		
	Street Trees	695 8392		
	Subdivisions	695 8242		
<b>U</b>	Urban Planning			
	South Melbourne	695 8248		
	St. Kilda	536 1428		

#### RELOCATION OF COUNCIL OFFICES:

- > Engineering & Infrastructure divisions to 208 Bank Street, alongside the South Melbourne Townhall.
- > The Planning Division: relocation of 5 Martin Street, St. Kilda has been postponed until March, 1995.
- > Aged & Disability Services are centralising their operations to the St. Kilda Townhall during February and March, 1995.

## **FORMER MAYOR'S REPORTS**

In recognition of the positive contributions of the three former Mayors, Tim Costello (St. Kilda), Frank O'Connor (South Melbourne) and Liana Thompson (Port Melbourne), the City of Port Phillip asked them to report on the last year of their Councils.

### **The Mayor of City of St. Kilda to 22 June 1994, Tim Costello**

Without fear of contradiction, I can assert that the last year has been the most momentous within the life of the City of St. Kilda. One hundred and thirty-nine years of civic life organised under the local seat of Government known as the City of St. Kilda came to an end on 22 June 1994.

These years have been written about at least for most part in the official history of St. Kilda. Those who reflect on the final years will find evidence of extraordinary passion and community spirit. We witnessed in the past year some remarkably large public meetings, as local residents gave full expression to their love for St. Kilda and hope that its unique style of community could be preserved. Despite losing the amalgamation fight, the bonds of community and neighbourliness were certainly intensified, as people realised how

unique and important this city was to each of them. Many came to see that St. Kilda was more than just a place: it was an idea. It was an idea of tolerance, acceptance and diversity; all too rare in modern urban existence.

The City of St. Kilda has long been a catchment area for many very needy minority groups. We have received the bulk of de-institutionalised people, many still living courageously with psychiatric illnesses. This has necessitated a particularly high level of funding for community services, even though health strictly is a State Government responsibility. In addition, the peculiar challenges that 46,000 residents in eight square kilometres (one of the highest population densities of any place in Australia) have required targeted services and community support programs that other cities never have to address. This has demanded a sophisticated balancing of residential needs, and traffic and parking problems. The influx of a high number of tourists every weekend compounds the complexity of guaranteeing quality of life for our own residents.

Nonetheless, St. Kilda enjoys its unique role as a recreational playground for greater Melbourne, and a home to many marginalised groups who feel safe and comfortable in this community.

More specifically, the last year saw the final year of our five year housing project with the State Government that provided a home for poor St Kilda families with long-term ties to the St. Kilda community. We implemented a strategic multicultural policy and undertook major works in Acland Street and Fitzroy Street to heighten our tourist precinct. In addition, we remained vigilant in maintaining aesthetic diversity in matters of planning, and sensitivity toward appropriate size and scale of development projects. The freezing of the rates (the first time in 50 years there was no rise) was a significant achievement.

In all, we worked harmoniously and consensually as a Council that represented different political perspectives. As a Council, we took great pride in our City, known throughout Melbourne and even more widely in some parts of the world, as a vibrant and welcoming place for the arts, street festivals and minority sub-cultures.

### **The Mayor of the City of South Melbourne to 22 June 1994, Frank O'Connor**

After 139 years, South Melbourne met its demise on 22 June 1994 with all of the community spirit

and fight that had characterised the City for so long still in evidence. Because a strong community, even if under the threat of being obliterated, continues to perform and function in the interests of its residents and ratepayers.

The 1993/94 South Melbourne budget continued the practice of focusing on quality infrastructure and continuation of the great range of programs which contributed to people's sense of belonging to a cohesive community.

But the blows to the municipality came thick and fast. Firstly came the loss of Southbank and part of St. Kilda Road, parts of South Melbourne since its formation in 1855. Council was given a clear message by its residents and ratepayers to fight that decision but the case was eventually lost in the Supreme Court.

Concurrently with that battle came the Local Government Board's review of boundaries which resulted in the amalgamation of Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St. Kilda into the new City of Port Phillip. Again the level of community spirit and fight was shown to be extremely high with 46 per cent of eligible voters in South Melbourne turning out to a voluntary Poll on the issue and 94 per cent saying 'No!'. However, the amalgamation proceeded without heed being taken of the community's views.

A third major impact on the local community came with the announcement of the Grand Prix in Albert Park. Local opposition to the proposal resulted in the establishment of one of the most dedicated action groups ever, the Save Albert Park organisation. The spirit and sense of fighting for right that pervades that organisation again shows the extent of bonding and belonging that can exist in close knit communities under threat.

But it certainly was not all gloom and fight throughout the year as the usual brilliant celebrations of Mayor's Community Day, Senior Citizens Week and the Melbourne International Festival were celebrated throughout South Melbourne. This year also saw the inaugural Mayoral Charity Golf Day, conducted in conjunction with the Melbourne South Rotary, raise substantial funds for local charities and other organisations. And the Municipality continued to focus on an extensive program of services and events for as broad a cross section of the population as possible.

So the final year of existence of the City of South Melbourne, formerly Emerald Hill, reflected much of the fighting spirit that saw the original municipality break away from the City of Melbourne. We can be sure that the suburbs of South Melbourne, Albert Park and Middle Park will continue to

show their own spirit of community, something that legislative changes cannot take away.

However, the struggle lies ahead to ensure that South Melbourne, along with our neighbours Port Melbourne and St. Kilda are not simply homogenised into a bland City of Port Phillip, unidentifiable from any of the other new municipalities being formed through amalgamation throughout Melbourne and Victoria, but rather that we fight on for our rights in a manner that will do our forebears proud.

### **The Mayor of City of Port Melbourne to 22 June 1994, Liana Thompson**

With some 4000 ratepayers living in an area of 1062 ha Port Melbourne was the smallest local government area in greater Melbourne. Rich in maritime and industrial history, Port was, and is, a close-knit community with a strong sense of identity and a high level of participation in local issues.

Port was managed by a council of nine and a staff of some 200. It was one of 11 councils which had an Electricity Supply Department, responsible for power distribution to the council area.

The council prided itself on being close to its local community and highly responsive to the people's requirements. We always felt that being a small municipality brought the advantages of closeness and responsiveness which could never be achieved in a larger municipality.

Yet, there is ample evidence to show that small councils were capable of being cost efficient and well managed. The fact that we finished with a surplus of \$2 million when several larger municipalities in Victoria ended their 'lives' in deficit is testimony to this view.

For Port Melbourne, the final 18 months as an independent municipality was a period of dramatic change. Managing the change consumed council's time and energy well before the Local Government Board commenced its review of municipal boundaries.

We had entered negotiations for Enterprise Bargaining with our unions and achieved two of the first three local government agreements registered in the state. These agreements, one covering council operations, and one for the Electricity Supply Department, were the basis of a major workplace reform program which achieved significant productivity gains.

We also formulated a corporate plan which was designed and developed with significant input

from the community. The purpose of the plan was to identify community priorities and to tailor our services to meet those needs. This was a classic example of the council being responsive to its community.

When the City of Melbourne Act was declared, Port lost around 40 per cent of its rate base. The Act changed the boundaries of the City of Melbourne, thereby encroaching on Port's industrial base. This, together with the eventual compulsory sale of our Electricity Supply Department, destroyed any chance of Port remaining viable as an independent council.

From the commencement of the State Government's reform program, Port fought against the concept of bigger councils. We did so only after extensive research and consultation amongst our constituents. They told us they wanted to remain independent and the council supported their views with a vigorous campaign.

## **COMPULSORY COMPETITIVE TENDERING**

Compulsory Competitive Tendering (CCT) aims to enhance cost efficiency and accountability by requiring Council services to compete within the market.

One of the philosophies behind the Competitive Tendering Legislation is the desirability of fair and open competition. The central notion of competition is that all parties interested in supplying a good or service are given the opportunity to compete for that supply.

The legislation acknowledges this by insisting that certain requirements for goods and services are advertised at some point in the tender process. It also requires that all tenders are received and given due consideration.

Council's policy on competitive tendering is based on an explicit commitment to delivering quality, cost effective services to its customers.

The divisions of Council are preparing for this process by reviewing their services and applying industry benchmarks to make them more cost effective.

The challenge is to ensure all house bids are successful while ensuring the community's expectations of services is met.

The Local Government (Competitive Tendering) Act 1994 requires all Victorian councils to progressively submit a specific percentage of their expenditure to competitive tendering by 1996/97.

### **The City of Port Phillip has been specifically preparing for the implementation of CCT by:**

- > The establishment of organisational structures specifically the Competitive Tendering Bureau. The Bureau provides overall coordination of the CCT process and the CCT Advisory Committee that consists of management and union representatives.
- > Development of a Procedures Policy on CCT.
- > Implementation of service reviews and future plans for all Council services.
- > Development of a Training Program for Council staff.
- > Development of a process for community input to the implementation of CCT and the development of service plans.

**The successful introduction of CCT has been identified by Council as a major priority for the coming year.**

**CITY OF PORT PHILLIP  
TOTAL NUMBER OF STAFF AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1994  
BY AWARD CLASSIFICATION & BAND**

<b>CLASSIFICATION AWARD BANDS</b>	<b>FEMALE</b>	<b>MALE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
1	77	82	159
2	96	99	195
3	89	128	217
4	74	51	125
5	78	46	124
6	25	31	56
7	2	16	18
8	4	5	9
SEO	1	3	4
CONTRACT MGRS	8	18	26
CONTRACT GEN MGR	5	2	7
CEO	-	1	1
CHILD CARE	209	11	220
MATERNAL NURSES	27	-	27
APPRENTICES/TRAINEES	2	5	7
MISCELLANEOUS	6	7	13
<b>TOTALS: STAFF</b>	<b>FEMALE 703</b>	<b>MALE 505</b>	<b>TOTAL 1208</b>
<b>EQUIVALENT FULL TIME</b>			<b>750</b>

**STAFF NUMBERS IN DESIGNATED GROUPS**

NON ENGLISH SPEAKING BACKGROUND	Not Available
ABORIGINES/TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS	2
DISABLED	Not Available
WOMEN	703

## INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

The following information is available for public inspection at the St. Kilda Town Hall and upon payment of the relevant fees:

- > an **operating** statement
- > a statement of **financial** position
- > notes to the financial statements
- > details of **current allowances** fixed for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor (if any) and councillors under section 74 of the Act;
- > details of senior officers' current gross **salaries**, allowances and other benefits for the current financial year and two previous financial years;
- > details of overseas or interstate **travel**, with the exception of interstate travel to a neighbouring municipality, undertaken in an official capacity by councillors or any member of council staff in the previous 12 months;
- > names of council officers who were required to submit a **return of interest** during the financial year and the dates the returns were submitted;
- > names of councillors who submitted returns of interest during the financial year and the dates the returns were submitted;
- > agendas for and minutes of ordinary and special **meetings** kept under section 93 of the Act except where such minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public under section 89 of the Act;
- > a list of all major **committees** established by council and the purpose for which each committee was established;
- > a list of all major committees established by the council which were abolished or ceased to function during the financial year
- > minutes of meetings of **special committees** established under section 86 of the Act except where such minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public under section 89 of the Act;
- > applications for enrolment on the **voter's roll** under sections 12 and 13 of the Act for the immediate past roll and the next roll being prepared
- > register of **delegations** kept under section 87 of the Act;
- > register of **delegations** kept under section 88 of the Act;
- > **submissions** received under section 223 of the Act during the previous 12 months
- > agreements to establish **regional corporations** under section 196 of the Act
- > **guarantees** given by a council under section 197 of the Act;
- > register of **leases** entered into by the council;
- > register of **authorised officers** appointed under section 224 of the Act.

**As per Part 10 of the Local Government (Reporting and Accounting) Regulations 1992 and Section 222 of the Local Government Act 1989.**

## LOCAL LAWS

The following are the local laws which operated in the former councils. The Planning and Building Division of the City of Port Phillip is currently working on the amalgamation of the local laws of the three former municipalities.

### The City Of St. Kilda's Local Laws:

1. Open Air Burning and Incinerator
2. Control of Domestic Animals
3. Outdoor Signs and goods on Footpath  
(repealed by No. 8)
4. Control of Buildings in Dilapidated Condition
5. Fire Hazards
6. Control of Vehicles
7. Common Seal; Election of Chairpersons and Meeting Procedures  
(Amended by Nos. 19 and 20, revoked by Order 22 June 1994)
8. Streets and Roads (General Regulation)
11. Street Traders and Collectors
13. Municipal Amenity
15. Library and Community Information Local Law
16. Streets and Roads (Traffic)
17. Streets and Roads (Parking)  
Repealed by No. 18
18. Streets and Roads (Parking)
19. Common Seal, Election of Chairpersons and Meeting Procedures  
(Amendment) revoked by Order 22 June 1994
20. Common Seal, Election of Chairpersons and Meeting Procedures  
(Amendment) revoked 22 June 1994

### The former City of South Melbourne's Local Laws:

1. Common Seal (revoked)
2. Election of Mayor (revoked)
3. Meeting Procedure (revoked)
4. Amend Local Law 3 (revoked)
5. Dilapidated Buildings
6. Open Air Burning and Incinerator
7. Noise
8. Permits and Fees
9. Environmental Health - Refuse
10. Dog Litter
11. Fire Hazards
12. Street Traders and Collectors
13. Environmental Health (Animals and Birds)
14. Streets and Roads (Traffic)
15. Municipal Reserves
16. Library and community Information
17. Parking
18. Municipal Building Local Law
19. Markets
20. Environmental Amenity

### The former City of Port Melbourne's Local Laws:

1. Control of pavement, advertising signs, display of goods for sale and outdoor eating facilities
2. Meeting Procedures
3. Environment
4. Streets and Roads



## **BUDGET INTRODUCTION**

The first budget for the City of Port Phillip was prepared in September 1994. Given that it was a time of rapid internal change and external economic restraint the Budget does not have the underpinning of a formal Corporate Plan but a plan is being developed.

The process of developing the Corporate Plan involves community input to ensure it is a vision which provides outlines and directions for the whole of the City of Port Phillip.

The budget included a rate freeze for the 1994/95 year which was determined by the State Government.

General increases in fees were not proposed although some standardisation of fees across the three former municipalities was necessary.

Expenditure savings from the amalgamation are expected to generate savings of around \$20 million. It is expected that these savings will flow over two years.

Over a five year period the value of the Capital works program will be maintained and hopefully increased.

Seven interim Divisions were created to ensure effective programs and services: Infrastructure, Human services, Planning and Development, Finance Information and Administration, Organisational Development and Communication, Vision 2001 and the CCT Bureau.

The key features of the budget were:

- > Operating costs forecast to fall by \$12.8 million, or 21 per cent over three years.
- > Non-operating expenditures, apart from the St. Kilda Townhall, will remain at around the same level over the period.
- > A conservative assets sale program in 1994/95, with new works expenditure significantly exceeding asset sales over the next two years.
- > A reduction in non statutory reserves during 1994/95 of \$6 million to fund redundancy payments and the capital works program.
- > The capacity for a reduction in rate revenue of \$5.7 million in 1995/96.

**THE ACCOMPANYING NOTES FORM PART OF THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
OPERATING STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR  
ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1994**

	Note	1994 \$000
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Rates	1(h)	43,369
Grants	1(h)	8,461
Interest		1,120
Grants Commission		251
Charges, Fees, Fines		17,230
Other		5,932
Profit on Sale of Assets		245
		<u>76,608</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Employee Costs		33,078
Plant Hire		1,291
Materials and Contracts		20,375
Utility Payments		953
Repairs & Maintenance		213
Contract Payments		1,990
Depreciation	1(e),3	4,796
Consultants		420
Debt Servicing Costs		1,672
Contributions & Donations		1,740
Other		8,084
		<u>72,622</u>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	<b>3</b>	<u><u>3,986</u></u>

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1994**

	Note	1994 \$000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	4	4,228
Receivables	5	4,192
Investments	1(g),6	24,490
Inventories	1(j)	148
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>33,058</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Bank overdraft		4,360
Creditors	7	9,971
Provisions	1(f),8	6,614
Borrowings	9	5,173
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>26,118</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>6,940</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Receivables	5	38
Investments	1(g),6	799
Property, Plant and equipment	1(d),1(e),11	194,018
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>194,855</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Provisions	1(f),8	704
Borrowings	9	7,681
Other	10	209
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>8,594</u>
<b>NET NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>186,261</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>193,201</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated surplus		108,960
Reserves		84,241
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>193,201</u>

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1994**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Accumulated Surplus</b>	<b>Asset Revaluation Reserve</b>	<b>General Reserves</b>
	<b>1994 \$000</b>	<b>1994 \$000</b>	<b>1994 \$000</b>	<b>1994 \$000</b>
Balance at Beginning of Period	189,157	104,049	72,393	12,715
Operating surplus/(Deficit)	3,986	3,986	-	-
Transfers to reserves	60	(170)	-	230
Transfers from reserves	-	1,095	-	1,095
<b>Balance at end of the year</b>	<b><u>193,201</u></b>	<b><u>108,960</u></b>	<b><u>72,393</u></b>	<b><u>11,848</u></b>

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1994**

	Note	1994 \$000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Receipts from ratepayers		43,439
Grants and reimbursements received		2,893
Interest received		1,244
User charges		18,106
Contributions and donations		(1,740)
Payments to suppliers and employees		(57,579)
Interest paid		(1,693)
Other receipts		10,823
Other payments		(7,035)
Net cash provided by operating activities (Note 1)	13(a)	<u>8,458</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Redemption of Investments		5,106
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(14,434)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		3,104
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(6,224)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Repayment of borrowings		(3,103)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(3,103)</u>
Net decrease in cash held		(869)
Cash at the beginning of the year		17,194
Cash at the end of the year (Note 2)	13(b)	<u><u>16,325</u></u>

## NOTE I SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**(a) Accounts Preparation/Consolidation of Former Cities.**

The Accounts of the City of Port Phillip represent a compilation of the Accounts of the former cities of Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and St. Kilda as at 30 September 1994. Initially each set of accounts was prepared independently of the others. (Port Melbourne's Electricity Supply undertaking has been excluded as part of this compilation, but is an appendix to the former City of Port Melbourne's Accounts for the 1994 financial year). In order that a materially accurate compilation could be undertaken Accounting Policies of the three former cities were reviewed and consistently applied prior to the compilation where material.

Although the City of Port Phillip officially proceeded to operate from the 22 June 1994 by an order in Council under part 10C of the Local Government Act 1989, the compilation has been conducted on the whole financial year being 1st October 1993 to 30 September 1994.

**(b) The Local Government reporting entity.**

All funds through which the Council controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

In the process of reporting on the municipality as a single unit, all transactions and balances between those funds (for example, loans and transfers between funds) have been eliminated.

**(c) Basis of Accounting.**

This financial report has been prepared to comply with applicable Australian Accounting Standards. It has been prepared on the accrual basis under the convention of historical cost accounting. However certain non-current assets are included at independent valuation or were revalued to their current cost less accumulated depreciation as at 30 September 1994, and are subsequently revalued on that basis at least every 3 years.

**(d) Recognition of Assets.**

The following classes of assets which have been acquired up to 30 September 1992 have not been recognised in the statement of financial position except to the extent referred to in Note 11:

Class of Asset:	Limit at which recognised:
Roads, Streets and Bridges	> \$50,000

These assets will be recognised at the conclusion of the identification and valuation procedures which will be undertaken over the next two years.

All other items of property, plant and equipment with a value greater than \$1,000 are recognised as assets.

Assets acquired are initially recorded at cost. Cost includes all costs incidental to the acquisition and incurred in getting the asset ready for use. Where assets are constructed by the Council, cost includes an appropriate share of variable and fixed overheads including interest on borrowed funds.

**(e) Depreciation of non-current assets.**

Non-current assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation is recognised on a diminishing value basis, using rates which are reviewed each year. Major depreciation periods are:

Bridges- timber	30	to	40 years
- steel and concrete	80	to	100 years
Buildings	20	to	100 years
Main drains	75	to	85 years
Plant and equipment	2	to	20 years
Sealed roads and streets:			
construction	20	to	100 years
original surfacing and major			
resurfacing- bituminous seals	7	to	10 years
- asphalt surfaces	15	to	20 years
Unsealed roads	5	to	10 years
Improvements to parks and gardens	15	to	20 years
Trees	10	to	25 years
Motor vehicles	2	to	10 years
Library books	10	to	20 years

The three former Cities forming part of these accounts had slightly differing depreciation rates. There will be one consistent rate of depreciation applied to each asset class from 1 October 1994.

**(f) Employee Entitlements.**

Long Service Leave is accrued on the following basis:

For full-time and part-time employees with more than 10 years service, entitlements are provided for in full.

For full-time and part-time employees with more than five years and less than ten years service, 70% of entitlements are provided for.

For full-time and part-time employees with less than five years service, 25% of entitlements are provided for.

Annual leave entitlements are accrued on a pro rata basis in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Such accruals are assessed as at each reporting date, having regard to current rates of pay and other factors including experience of employee departures and their periods of service.

The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of the statutory contribution the municipality makes to the superannuation plan which provides benefits to its employees. Details of those arrangements are set out in Note 12.

**(g) Investments.**

Investments are valued at cost. Interest revenues are recognised as they accrue.

**(h) Rates, grants, donations and other contributions.**

Rates, grants, donations and contributions other than reciprocal contributions received from owners are recognised as revenues when the municipality obtains control over the assets comprising the contributions. Control over assets acquired from rates is obtained at the commencement of the rating period or, where earlier, upon receipt of the rates. Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt or upon prior notification that a grant has been secured.

**(i) City of Melbourne Act.**

On the 18 November 1993 the City of Melbourne Bill was given Royal Assent. This Act has annexed a portion of the former Cities of South Melbourne and Port Melbourne to the City of Melbourne. This in effect will constitute a loss of revenue of \$8 million per annum to the City of Port Phillip, commencing 1st October 1994.

**(j) Inventories.**

Costs have been assigned to particular inventory items by the methods of specific identification or weighted average cost. Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

**(k) Significant Subsequent Event - Staff Retrenchments.**

As a result of the Council amalgamations, the City of Port Phillip anticipates to pay approximately \$2.6 million in severance payments to employees on termination which has not been brought to account within the provisions for long service, annual and sick leave.

The further amount of \$2.6 million is calculated per employee for a one off payment of \$5,000, two weeks pay for each year of service to a specified maximum and four weeks pay in lieu of notice.



**NOTE 2(A) COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL RESULTS FOR RATE DETERMINATION AND OPERATING STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1994.**

	Rate Determination		Operating Statement	
	Estimates 1994 \$000	Actual 1994 \$000	Budget 1994 \$000	Actual 1994 \$000
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>				
Rate Income	43,029	43,326	43,069	43,369
Civic	17	27	17	27
Administration & Finance	11,716	14,660	11,042	10,630
Regulatory Services	4,767	4,310	4,767	4,310
Community Services	11,353	9,921	11,049	11,176
Technical Services	1,112	1,690	608	1,408
Engineering Services	4,999	5,034	5,314	5,511
Specific Project Works	450	36	-	-
Other	6,871	4,910	-	177
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>84,314</b>	<b>83,914</b>	<b>75,866</b>	<b>76,608</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Civic	219	261	219	265
CEO	363	429	369	435
Administration & Finance	18,686	21,504	16,211	19,926
Regulatory Services	3,384	3,306	3,488	3,355
Community Services	30,607	29,703	28,293	28,907
Technical Services	2,808	3,303	2,766	3,319
Parks & Gardens	5,100	4,231	4,514	3,839
Engineering Services	15,260	14,756	12,783	12,576
Specific Project Works	4,445	3,915	-	-
Other	4,958	3,691	-	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>85,830</b>	<b>85,099</b>	<b>68,643</b>	<b>72,622</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ON OPERATIONS</b>	<b>(1,516)</b>	<b>(1,185)</b>	<b>7,223</b>	<b>3,986</b>

**NOTE 2(B) RECONCILIATION BETWEEN RATE SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)  
AND OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 SEPTEMBER 1994.**

	<b>1994</b>
	<b>\$000</b>
Consolidated Surplus on Operations	3,986
plus Rate Deficit	1,185
<b>Difference Requiring Reconciliation</b>	<b><u>5,171</u></b>

Items included in the Calculation of the General Rate  
which are not included in the Operating Statement:

**Purchase of Assets:**

Furniture/Equipment	805
Land and Buildings	7,597
Drainage Works	796
Road Construction/Reconstruction	1,167
Special Projects Capital Works in Progress	388
Land Improvements & Other Infrastructure	2,577
Plant	1,104
Less Plant trade In Value	(3,091)
	<u>11,343</u>
Loan Repayments (Principal)	2,532
Reserve Transfers	(4,153)
	<u>9,722</u>

Included in the Consolidated Operating Statement which are  
not included in the Calculation of the General Rate.

Depreciation	(4,796)
Profit on Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	245
	<u>5,171</u>

**NOTE 3 THE OPERATING SURPLUS HAS BEEN DETERMINED AFTER CREDITING AS REVENUE AND CHARGING AS EXPENSE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

	1994 \$000
<b>i) Operating Revenues and Expenses</b>	
Total operating revenues and expenses for the reporting year were as follows:	
Proceeds from disposal of plant and equipment	3,104
Other revenues	73,504
Less	
Carrying amount of plant and equipment sold	(2,858)
Other Expenses	(69,764)
<b>Change in net assets from the reporting period's operations</b>	<u><u>3,986</u></u>
<b>ii) Depreciation Expenses</b>	
Depreciation expenses for the year were charged in respect of:	
Buildings	1,939
Plant and Equipment	2,486
Road, Streets and Bridges	66
Drainage Works	253
Land Improvement	52
	<u><u>4,796</u></u>

**NOTE 4 CASH**

Cash on hand	16
Cash at Bank - unrestricted	4,212
	<u><u>4,228</u></u>

**NOTE 5 RECEIVABLES**

**CURRENT**

Rates debtors	1,882
Other debtors and Prepayments	2,310
	<u><u>4,192</u></u>

**NON-CURRENT**

Other debtors	<u><u>38</u></u>
---------------	------------------

**NOTE 6 INVESTMENTS**

	1994 \$000
Bank Bills and Government Securities at Cost:	
Current	24,490
Non Current	799
<b>Total Investments</b>	<u><u>25,289</u></u>

**NOTE 7 CREDITORS**

Creditors, Trust Funds, Accruals & Deposits	<u><u>9,971</u></u>
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**NOTE 8 PROVISIONS**

CURRENT	
Retirement Gratuity	701
Electricity Supply Employee Redundancies	100
Sick Leave	1,073
Annual leave	2,491
Long Service Leave	2,110
Rostered Days Off	139
	<u><u>6,614</u></u>
NON-CURRENT	
Long Service Leave	<u><u>704</u></u>

**NOTE 9 BORROWINGS**

CURRENT	
Loans - secured	5,173
NON-CURRENT	
Loans - secured	7,681
	<u><u>12,854</u></u>

The bank overdraft and loans are secured over the general rates of the Council.

**NOTE 10      OTHER LIABILITIES**

**1994  
\$000**

**NON-CURRENT**

Trust funds

209

**NOTE 11      PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AT  
COUNCIL'S VALUATION OF CURRENT COST  
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1994**

Land	38,045
Buildings	126,796
Plant and Machinery	5,548
Roads, Streets and Bridges	3,549
Land Improvement, Reserves and Infrastructure	3,655
Drainage Works	10,359
Capital Works in progress at cost	388
Furniture and Equipment	<u>5,678</u>
<b>Total property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	<b><u>194,018</u></b>

## NOTE 12 SUPERANNUATION

The City of Port Phillip contributes in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Board's defined benefit superannuation Scheme established in respect of Local Authorities, as defined, in Victoria. In accordance with statutory requirements, the former cities contribute amounts as determined by the Scheme's actuary. As such, assets accumulate in the scheme to meet members' benefits as they accrue.

The audited Financial Statements of the Local Authorities Superannuation Board for the year ended 30 June 1994, which were not subject to any audit qualification, indicates that the assets of the Scheme were insufficient to meet the accrued benefits liability of the Scheme. The Notes to the Financial Statements disclose that the most recent full actuarial assessment of the Scheme was undertaken as at 30 June 1992 and that the liability for accrued benefits were determined by reference to expected future salary levels and by application of a market-based, risk-adjusted discount rate and relevant actuarial assumptions. The funding policy adopted in respect of the Scheme is directed at ensuring that the benefits accruing to members and beneficiaries are fully funded in the long term. Accordingly the City of Port Phillip's 30 June 1994 share of the Scheme's 30 June 1992 unfunded liability is \$7,871,457. The unfunded liability is at 30 June 1992, the date of the last actuarial review by the Scheme's actuary, C.J. Haberecht FIA, FIAA, of Towers Perrin, recommended that Authorities continue to contribute to the Scheme at the rate of 13.25% of salaries.

## NOTE 13 NOTES TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT (A) RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO OPERATING SURPLUS.

	1994
	\$000
Operating surplus	3,986
Increase in Projects and Trust Funds	579
Depreciation	4,796
Increase in rate debtors	(105)
Increase in receivables	(7)
Increase in prepayments and accrued income	727
Decrease in inventories	53
Decrease in creditors	(1,316)
Increase in accrued employee entitlements	322
Decrease in other accrued expenses	(332)
(Profit)/loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	(245)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>8,458</u>

**NOTE 13      NOTES TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT (CONT'D)**  
**(B)              RECONCILIATION OF CASH**

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. The former City of St Kilda's investment (\$7,954,000) have not been treated as cash for cash flow purposes and the trust funds (\$79,000) of the former City of Port Melbourne are disclosed within creditors but treated as bank overdraft for the Cash Flow Statement. Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

	<b>1994</b>
	<b>\$000</b>
Cash	4,228
Investments	16,536
Bank overdraft	<u>(4,439)</u>
	<b><u>16,325</u></b>

**NOTE 14      PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

**(i)      Debt servicing ratio**

Purpose: To identify the capacity of a council to service its outstanding debt.

<u>Debt servicing costs</u>	
Total revenue	2.18%

(This means that 2.18% of total revenue received goes to servicing Council debt)

**(ii)      Debt commitment ratio**

Purpose: To identify a council's debt redemption strategy.

<u>Total debt commitment (Debt Services &amp; Debt Redemption)</u>	
Rate revenue	11.01%

(This means that 11.01% of rate revenue is used to pay the interest and amortisation of the council's debts.)

**(iii)      Rate revenue to total revenue**

Purpose: To identify council's dependence upon rates.

<u>Rate revenue</u>	
Total revenue	56.61%

(This means that 56.61% of total revenue is earned from rates.)

**(iv) Total indebtedness to total assets**

Purpose: To identify council's exposure to debt.

Total indebtedness

Total assets

1:6.56

(This means that for every dollar of debt, the council controls \$6.56dollars of total assets.)

**(v) Working capital ratio**

Purpose: To assess a council's ability to meet current commitments.

Current assets

Current liabilities

1.26:1

(This means that for every dollar of current liabilities, council has \$1.26 of current assets.)

**DEFINITIONS**

> **Debt Services:**

Includes interest and charges on loans, overdrafts, financial leases and interest on payments for capital items purchased on vendor terms, and contributions to sinking funds.

> **Debt Redemption:**

Includes the principal component of loan repayments and financial leases and capital items purchased on vendor terms.

> **Rate Revenue:**

Includes revenue from general rates, municipal charges, special rates, special charges, service rates and service charges.

> **Total Revenue:**

Total Revenue as shown in the Operating Statement.

> **Total Indebtedness:**

Total Liabilities, both Current and Non-Current, as shown in the Statement of Financial Position.

> **Total Realisable Assets:**

Total Current Assets and net realisable Non-Current Assets.

> **Current Assets:**

Total Current Assets as shown in the Statement of Financial Position.

> **Current Liabilities:**

Total Current Liabilities as shown in the Statement of Financial Position.



**STATEMENT BY COMMISSIONERS  
AND PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER**

I, David Graham, Principal Accounting Officer, certify that in my opinion the financial statements are properly drawn up so as to present fairly the results of the operations of the City of Port Phillip for the financial year ended 30 September 1994 and the financial position of the City of Port Phillip at the end of the financial year in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 and in accordance with statements of accounting concepts and applicable Australian accounting standards.

**DAVID GRAHAM - PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER,**  
**Interim General Manager Finance, Information and Administration**

Date: 12 January 1995

We, Desmond Clark, Chairman of Commissioners  
and Geoffrey Vincent, Commissioner

having made all reasonable inquiries, certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, the financial statements present fairly the financial affairs of the City of Port Phillip for the financial year ended 30 September 1994.

**DESMOND CLARK**  
**Chairman of Commissioners**

**GEOFFREY VINCENT**  
**Commissioner**

Date: 12 January 1995

## **INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT**

### **TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE CITY OF PORT PHILLIP**

#### **SCOPE**

We have audited the financial statements being Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Notes to the Financial Statements and Statements by Commissioners and Principal Accounting Officer of the City of Port Phillip for the year ended 30 September 1994. The Commissioners and Council Officers are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the ratepayers of the Municipality.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respect, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian accounting standards and statutory requirements so as to present a view of the Municipality which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows.

**The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.**

#### **QUALIFICATIONS**

I. **Compilation.**

The Accounts of the City of Port Phillip constitute a compilation of three former cities of Port Melbourne (excluding its Electricity Supply), South Melbourne and St. Kilda. We have acted as auditors of that compilation and of the former City of St. Kilda.

The former cities of Port Melbourne and South Melbourne were not audited by us but rather by Mr. Kevin Bartlett, Chartered Accountant and Mr. Graeme Stevens of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, Chartered Accounts respectively. We therefore give no assurance as to the reliability of those two components of the compilation but note that the audit reports attached to those two components were unqualified audit reports.

2. Portion of Former City of Prahran.  
A portion of the former city of Prahran was taken into the newly formed City of Port Phillip. No assets, liabilities, income or expenditure have been brought to account for that portion.
  
3. Council Amalgamation.  
By an order in Council under part 10C of the Local Government Act 1989 the City of Port Phillip was formed on 22 June 1994. The Accounts of the three former cities have been consolidated and compiled for the whole of the financial year and it is impractical to apportion amounts between the old and new municipalities.

### **AUDIT OPINION**

In our opinion, subject to the effect of the above qualifications, if any, the accounts of the City of Port Phillip are properly drawn up:

- (a) so as to give a true and fair view of
  - i) the Council's state of affairs as at 30 September 1994 and of its operations and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
  - (ii) the other matters required by the Local Government Regulations to be dealt with in the financial statements;
  
- (b) in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1989; and
  
- (c) in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.

G.F. YATES & SON  
John P. Yates  
Partner

Melbourne: 12 January 1995

## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Port Phillip is fully committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and aims to ensure the fair and effective use of its human resources by basing employment practices on clear merit criteria.

Accordingly, the three former Councils' policies and the City of Port Phillip policy is:

- a) That no person shall be discriminated against on the grounds of sex, age, marital status, national or ethnic origin, physical disability, socio-economic status, sexual preference, political or religious beliefs.
- b) That all employees are entitled to work in an environment free from sexual harassment. Sexual harassment in the workplace is totally unacceptable and Council is committed to eradicating it from the work environment thereby promoting an environment where human relationships are established in an atmosphere of equality and respect.
- c) That employment opportunities for all groups should be as wide as possible and cover all areas of Council activity.
- d) In keeping with the intent of this policy, employment and promotion will be assessed only on the grounds of merit, suitability and qualifications.

In addition to the EEO policy the following policies and practices have been used by the three former Councils and now by Port Phillip Council.

Sexual Harassment policy implemented to include the appointment of two Complaints

Officers, one of either gender, who have been trained in this role.

Sexual Harassment seminars conducted for staff at all levels.

Recruitment policy implemented incorporating selection based on the merit principle and Recruitment and Selection training programs conducted for staff involved in the process.

Human Resource practice to ensure a gender balance on all interview panels where practicable. Human Resource practice to ensure that a Human Resources representative is present on interview panels or a staff member conversant with EEO principles.

Multicultural policy incorporates the practice of advertising positions in community language newspapers where practicable to attract people from Non English Speaking Backgrounds (NESB). Equal Opportunity Committee to be formed and to meet quarterly.

Positions of higher duties status advertised internally to encourage staff at lower band I levels to broaden skills in other areas in order to improve access to promotional appointments. Study Leave policy committed to Council's staff development program and equal employment opportunity policy.

The development of the City of Port Phillip's EEO Program will also include the following objectives and performance indicators:

- 1) Increase the opportunities and access to promotions for all internal staff.  
Performance Indicator: the total number of internal appointments made in 1994/95.

- 2) Provide training to staff about the value of equal employment opportunity and the role it has in the workplace. Performance Indicator: staff attendance at training courses and number of training courses provided.
- 3) To provide a workplace free from discrimination and sexual harassment. Performance Indicator: total number of discrimination and sexual harassment complaints lodged.
- 4) Promote the City of Port Phillip as an equal employment opportunity employer and attract and employ people from diverse backgrounds. Performance Indicator: a) total number of women appointed to positions, b) number of people appointed from other designated groups such as NESB's, Aborigines and people with disabilities.



**CREDITS**

**EDITOR:** Genevieve Costigan

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**2/1995**



**CITY OF PORT PHILLIP**  
**Cnr. Brighton Road and Carlisle Street**  
**Private Mail Bag 3 St. Kilda 3182**  
**Ph: (03) 209 6209**