Early Motions for the May 2018 State Council meeting

Motions were received by the MAV on or before Thursday, 12 April 2018.

**Motion 1.** Victoria - The Place to Bee .................................................................

- Submitting Council: Moonee Valley City Council ...........................................
- Supported
- Officer comments: MVCC's own motion.

**Motion 2.** Pharmacotherapy ..............................................................................

- Submitting Council: Monash City Council ......................................................
- Supported
- Officer comments: MVCC currently does not have a position statement on this issue. Mental health and alcohol and other drugs is a key wellbeing priority area within our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-21 and Council is a partner in the Western Region Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Network convened by cohealth's Pharmacotherapy Manager.

**Motion 3.** Middle Years Funding .................................................................

- Submitting Council: Monash City Council ......................................................
- Supported
- Officer comments: Whilst Moonee Valley City Council does not have a policy position on this issue, our Council Plan 2017-21 identifies 'support initiatives which give children a health start to life.'

**Motion 4.** Waste Recycling .................................................................

- Submitting Council: Hindmarsh Shire Council ............................................
- Supported
- Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions on-shore.

**Motion 5.** 15 Hours Kinder ........................................................................

- Submitting Council: Wyndham City Council ..............................................
- Supported
- Officer comments: 15 hours of kindergarten is recognized as essential in the development of children as they prepare for school. Recurrent funding is required to consolidate the Kindergarten program, ensuring a life-long investment for children and families into the future.

**Motion 6.** Graffiti ........................................................................

- Submitting Bayside City Council ......................................................
- Supported
Motion 7. Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria ................................. 11
  Submitting Council: Bayside City Council ................................................................. 11
  Supported
  Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste
  resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions
  on-shore.

Motion 8. Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria ............................................ 12
  Submitting Council: Bayside City Council ................................................................. 12
  Supported
  Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste
  resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions
  on-shore.

Motion 9. Derelict Buildings ......................................................................................... 13
  Submitting Council: Latrobe City Council ................................................................. 13
  Not Supported
  Officer comments: This issue should have a clear outcome, forcing owners
  who may be in a dire financial situation need support & assistance rather
  than a prescriptive enforcement approach which may not deliver the outcome
  being sought.

Motion 10. Relocation of Housing Clients with Complex and Challenging Needs..... 14
  Submitting Council: Latrobe City Council ................................................................. 14
  Supported
  Officer comments: Whilst Moonee Valley City Council does not have a policy position on
  this issue, our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2017-21 identifies
  ‘people have access to the services they need’ through the delivery of universal and
  targeted services. This approach recognises the importance of targeted services to needs
  of specific population groups.

Motion 11. Funding for Sporting Facilities ................................................................. 15
  Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council ......................................................... 15
  Supported
  Officer comments: Moonee Valley City Council is receiving considerable pressure to
  upgrade sporting infrastructure to meet the needs of community organisations that are
  support women and girls playing sport. The majority of Moonee Valley’s pavilions do not
  have gender neutral change rooms or facilities to support women and girls.

Motion 12. Infrastructure Contribution Plan Standard Levies ................................ 16
Motion 13. Investment in Recycling Collection and Processing.......................... 17
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council ......................................................... 17
Supported
Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions on-shore.

Motion 14. State Government Housing Renewal....................................................... 18
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council ......................................................... 18
Supported
Officer comments: the Municipal Association of Victoria calls on the Victorian State Government to expedite the renewal of dilapidated State Government owned housing stock and work with councils to achieve best practice town planning outcomes.

Motion 15. Affordable Housing................................................................................ 19
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council ......................................................... 19
Supported
Officer comments: Council supports the provision of planning mechanisms to proactively contribute to the supply of affordable and social housing

Motion 16. Neighbourhood House Funding.............................................................. 20
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council ......................................................... 20
Supported
Officer comments: Neighbourhood Houses play a vital role in communities to promote health and wellbeing. Increased funding to Neighbourhood Houses in line with population growth and community needs is critical for these services to continue to deliver these well-established socially inclusive programs that promote participation, access and equity in local neighbourhoods.

Motion 17. River Protection....................................................................................... 21
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council ......................................................... 21
Supported
Officer comments: The Maribyrnong River is significant to the traditional custodians of this land - the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and it directly impacts the City boundary as an important waterway for our municipality and for new and expanding developments within its catchment. Subsequently, the river requires support under a Protection Act.
Motion 18. Recycling Industry ................................................................. 22
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council ........................................... 22
Supported
Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions on-shore.

Motion 19. Consultation, community impact assessments and municipal controls regarding the over-the-counter needle and opioid facilities ................................................................. 23
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ......................................... 23
Supported
Officer comments: MVCC currently does not have a position statement on these issues. In line with Council's Diversity, Access & Equity Policy, we recognise that some community members experience disproportionate levels of disadvantage and Council has an important role to address inequities that exist in society to reduce barriers so all community members can live full and healthy lives.

Motion 20. Defined state funding provisions for improved kindergarten literacy outcomes ................................................................. 24
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ........................................... 24
Supported
Officer comments: 22% of Australian children are identified as developmentally vulnerable. It is recognized that children who start school behind stay behind. Increased provision for literacy programe is required to ensure all children start school developmentally on track.

Motion 21. Home Care ........................................................................... 25
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council ........................................... 25
Supported
Officer comments: Supporting council to deliver a sustainable service to our most vulnerable community.

Motion 22. Enhanced relations with other Local Government organisations within Victoria ................................................................. 26
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ........................................... 26
Supported
Officer comments: consistent with the MAV Strategic Plan objective to improve the reputation of local government.

Motion 23. Greater liquor and gambling controls for local government ............... 27
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ........................................... 27
Supported
Motion 24. Homelessness in Australia ................................................................. 28
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ......................................................... 28
Supported
Officer comments: Moonee Valley City Council supports affordable and secure housing for all residents, particularly those who are, or at risk of homelessness. Council is committed to ‘residents having access to secure housing’ and ‘working with homeless people and/or those in housing stress’ as priorities within the recently endorsed Draft MV2040 Strategy.

Motion 25. Overreach of unelected bureaucratic entities ..................................... 29
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ......................................................... 29
Supported
Officer comments: consistent with the MAV Strategic Plan objective to reduce the reporting burden and associated costs.

Motion 26. Packaged Liquor .............................................................................. 31
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ......................................................... 31
Supported
Officer comments: Whilst Moonee Valley City Council does not have a policy position on this issue, our Council Plan 2017-21 identifies ‘we will work with partners to address health and wellbeing priorities including…alcohol and other drugs.’ Mental health and alcohol and other drugs is a key wellbeing priority area within our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-21. Our Council is also an active partner in the Western Region Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Network.

Motion 27. Parks Victoria Maintenance and Consultation .................................... 33
Submitting Council: Parks Frankston City Council ................................................. 33
Supported
Officer comments: recommend that Moonee Valley support this motion that the MAV lobbies for a review of the Bushfire Protection vegetation clearance exemptions in Clause 52.48 of the Planning Scheme to consider the relevance of these exemptions to urban and township areas across the State and identify opportunities for a more targeted approach. Trees play a critical role in the urban and peri urban environment and substantial losses are occurring due to the blanket application of 52.48 in these areas. A review could allow for a more targeted approach and protection of such assets in certain circumstances.

Motion 28. Review of emergency SMS system pertaining to both natural and manmade disasters ................................................................. 34
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Motion 29. Self-Funded Retirees Discount ................................................................. 35
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council ......................................................... 35
Supported
Officer comments: Whilst not a significant issue for MVCC, having a SMS emergency alert system for the community is relevant and appropriate.

Motion 30. State of Local Government Report ...................................................... 36
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council ............................................................. 36
Supported
Officer comments: to provide a consolidated data of Local Government’s workforce and raise profile of Local Government’s employees.

Motion 31. Marketing ................................................................................................. 37
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council ............................................................. 37
Supported
Officer comments: consistent with the MAV Strategic Plan objective to improve the reputation of local government

Motion 32. Refugees .................................................................................................. 38
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council ............................................................. 38
Supported
Officer comments: Moonee Valley City Council’s recently endorsed Draft MV/2040 Strategy outlines our commitment to social inclusion and equity seeks to advance a fair and just society and promote respect for every person by supporting and working with newly arrived people, in particular newly arrived migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, and international students

Motion 33. Inclusion of a Compensation Clause Within the Victorian Residential Tenancies Act 1997 ................................................................. 40
Submitting Council: Knox City Council ................................................................ 40
Moonee Valley doesn’t have any caravan parks, so not relevant.

Motion 34. Continuation of Funding for Building Inclusive Communities Program (Metro Access) .......................................................... 41
Submitting Council: Knox City Council ................................................................. 41
Supported
Officer comments: To provide ongoing initiatives, support and advocacy to our community.
Motion 35. Increase Funding to Support Neighbourhood Houses

Submitting Council: Knox City Council

Motion Supported

Officer comments: Council has an established resolution to support both the Farnham Street and Wingate Avenue Neighborhood Houses. These organisations play a vital role in communities to promote health and wellbeing.

Motion 36. Increased Affordable Housing in Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne

Submitting Council: Knox City Council

No relevance to Moonee Valley (relates to the South East of Melbourne)

Motion 37. Public Housing Renewal Program

Submitting Council: Boroondara City Council

Supported

Officer comments: Moonee Valley City Council supports affordable and secure housing for all residents. Council is committed to ‘residents having access to secure housing’ and working with ‘homeless people and/or those in housing stress’ as priorities within the recently endorsed Draft MV2040 Strategy

Motion 38. Cost shift to Local Government by the State Government Regarding the Resolution of Non-Compliant Combustible Cladding in Buildings

Submitting Council: Boroondara City Council

Supported

Officer comments: The Victorian Government Cladding Taskforce provided a number of recommendations which required the VBA to take the lead Agency role in the inspection regime. The VBA has failed to indemnify Councils & their MBS from costs and liability as a result of undertaking directions and actions in the interest of community & resident safety. This should be a whole of government approach to resolving an industry problem.

Motion 39. Social and Affordable Housing

Submitting Council: Bayside City Council

Supported

Officer comments: Council supports the provision of planning mechanisms to proactively contribute to the supply of affordable and social housing

Motion 40. Appropriate Action from the State Government to Utilise the Land Fill Levy

Submitting Council: Warraambool City Council

Supported
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Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions on-shore.

Motion 41. Street Lighting Upgrades ................................................................. 49

Submitting Council: Hobsons Bay City Council .............................................. 49
Supported.

Officer comments: Moonee Valley support this motion to upgrade of the existing street lights on main roads to LED technology, this will lower greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption costs whilst improving the serviceability and reliability of the light fittings.

Motion 42. Installation of Smart Poles .............................................................. 50

Submitting Council: Hobsons Bay City Council .............................................. 50
Supported

Officer comments: Smart Poles can be of benefit to the public and provide technology that enhances a range of community outcomes. A cost sharing arrangement with the State Govt. is relevant and appropriate.

Motion 43. Combustible Cladding ................................................................. 51

Submitting Council: Bayside City Council ..................................................... 51
Supported

Officer comments: The Victorian Government Cladding Taskforce provided a number of recommendations which required the VBA to take the lead Agency role in the inspection regime. The VBA has failed to indemnify Councils & their MBS from costs and liability as a result of undertaking directions and actions in the interest of community & resident safety. This should be a whole of government approach to resolving an industry problem.

Motion 44. Marketing .................................................................................. 53

Submitting Council: Darebin City Council ..................................................... 53
Supported

Officer comments: Whilst Moonee Valley City Council does not have a policy position on this issue, our Council Plan 2017-21 identifies ‘we will work with the Alliance for Gambling Reform to reduce harm from gambling.’ Our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2017-21 also identifies we will implement gambling prevention initiatives in neighbourhoods with higher promotion of at-risk population groups and with highest density of Electronic Gaming Machines.

Motion 45. Cyclist Safety ............................................................................... 55

Submitting Council: Yarra City Council .......................................................... 55
Supported

Officer comments: It directly aligns with and supports Council’s:

- Long-Term Plan MV2040: which looks to improve the liveability of our city and provide a connected city of accessible, active and sustainable transport choices. In
2040 transport in Moonee Valley will be safe and sustainable. People will spend less money on transport, will be healthier and enjoy a more rewarding transport experience. Streets will be more vibrant, welcoming and accessible.

- **Walking and Cycling Strategy**: Which aims to develop a walking and cycling culture, prioritises walking and cycling in planning and decision making processes across Council and promotes walking and cycling as easy, health, inexpensive and enjoyable ways to travel and promote social inclusion.

- **Transport Safety Strategy**: Vision to provide safe travel for the whole community by adopting the Safe System approach. This approach prioritises safe people, safe speed, safe vehicles and safe roads and will assist us to achieve our goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries in Moonee Valley.

Importantly, more than 400 residents had their say as Council developed its strategy and some of the common themes that we discovered were that our community is highly concerned about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists and wants to see a continued investment in infrastructure to support road safety outcomes.

**Motion 46. Container Deposit Scheme**

Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Supported

Officer comments: CDS are now being implemented in most Australian States, and jurisdictions across the US, Canada and Europe and has demonstrated to be cost/benefit positive where implemented.

**Motion 47. Recycling Industries in Victoria**

Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Supported

Officer comments: There is significant scope to apply new technologies to improve waste resource recovery in Vic to achieve all residual waste and recycling processing solutions on-shore.

**Motion 48. Electric Buses**

Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Supported

Officer comments: An increasing population is leading to more pedestrians and cyclists being impacted by the exhaust effects from diesel buses. An option to reduce these polluting affects is the use of well-designed E-Buses. The reduction of carbon emissions by E-Buses compliments Councils MV2040 strategic direction for a low carbon city.

**Motion 49. Infrastructure Funding**

Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Supported – however Motion should specifically reference buses e.g.

Officer comments: 1b) - the need for the Commonwealth to urgently address the rapidly growing infrastructure gap in the States, particularly as regards rail transport in and between capital and regional cities – with significant funding being immediately provided to metropolitan public transport including buses which will free up road space for cars and...
freight;
Motion 1. Victoria - The Place to Bee
Submitting Council: Moonee Valley City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocates for change in local government bee management practices and encourages other Victorian councils to commit to making Victoria a bee-friendly state – Victoria, The Place to Bee by:
- Investigating opportunities for Shared Services or consultancy between councils to embed policies around bee management and advocacy.
- Capitalising on momentum to-date and work with DEDJTR (Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, Government of Victoria) and the Victorian Apiarist’s Association.
- Seeking funding through State Government Grants

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Moonee Valley City Council is the first local government in Victoria to establish and host bee hives on Council buildings.

Council seeks the support of other Victorian Councils to help bring about a change in local government bee management practices in Victoria.

Council has changed its bee management practices through sustainable relocations of European honey bee swarms found on council land wherever possible (as opposed to extermination) into rooftop hives or to through a local apiarist. We are also actively advocating to build our residents’ connectivity with nature through education on Australian native bees and their role in pollination and agriculture.

Australia is the last remaining continent to resist contracting the Varroa mite (main contributing factor of colony collapse disorder) and is reliant on exporting our healthy bees to the rest of the world.

The dramatic decline in global bee populations over the past decade has left Australia in an advantageous position where we are able to export our healthy bees to the rest of the world, and in fact many countries are already reliant on us. Honey bees contribute to the productivity of horticultural and seed crops; between $620 to $1,730M of Australian agricultural production per annum.

The majority of Victorian Council bee management policy is unregulated and unknown, however we believe through collaboration, engagement and education we can make changes to local government practices. By adopting education programs through pre-school and primary school programs, introduction to beekeeping courses, building bee hotels and bee hive workshops and utilising existing community groups and channels, that we can continue to roll out key messaging around the importance of our precious pollinators.

Officers have engaged the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR), the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Apiarist’s Association to work collaboratively towards achieving our goal of making Victoria a ‘Bee Friendly’ State and support sustainable bee management across Victorian Local Government.
Council is seeking State Government funding to establish a project management model to provide a framework for other Victorian councils to manage their bees and work towards sustainable and ethical swarm relocations, and to roll out community programs for greater education in conjunction with the Victorian Apiarist's Association, DEDTJER and MAV.
Motion 2. Pharmacotherapy
Submitting Council: Monash City Council

Motion:
That the MAV support an advocacy campaign calling for better access and affordability of pharmacotherapy across Victoria, including increasing prescribing physicians and participating pharmacies. The campaign will also seek to decrease stigma towards drug dependence treatment and support improved outcomes for community members seeking therapy to overcome pharmaceutical opioid/mixed drug use dependence.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Pharmacotherapy (opioid replacement therapy) is well established in Australia and many parts of the world as an effective treatment for opioid dependence. Many long-term heroin users and those experiencing problematic use of pharmaceutical drugs are not successfully treated with detoxification and abstinence-based programs alone. A supervised, structured pharmacotherapy program coordinated by general practice and community pharmacies has been demonstrated to have long term benefits for both the individual and community by:

- Reducing illness and death from pharmaceutical opioid and illicit drug use
- Reducing injecting
- Reducing illness and death from illicit drug use
- Decreasing criminal activity
- Reducing chaotic drug taking
- Making it possible for heroin users to lead productive lives
- Decreasing high risk factors such as needle sharing

Recently pharmaceutical opioid use has become more prominent option for those seeking treatment for opioid dependence, given the increasing prevalence of problematic use of codeine-containing analgesics (particularly those containing codeine combined with ibuprofen or paracetamol, in high daily doses) and prescription opioids, such as morphine and oxycodone.

Monash ranks 11 out of 34 metropolitan Melbourne municipalities for the highest number of drug overdose deaths per 100,000 population, with an annual rate of 5.5 deaths per year. At a Victorian wide level, Monash Council notes that pharmaceutical drugs were consistently the most prevalent contributors to Victorian overdose deaths between 2009 - 2016, often due to a toxic mix with multiple drugs including illegal drugs and alcohol.
Motion 3. Middle Years Funding
Submitting Council: Monash City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocate to the State Government for additional funding to Victorian councils to support children and young people in the primary school age group, particularly the 5 – 10 year group.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Councils are committed to providing services to young children, young people and their families demonstrated by the provision of a variety of programs such as playgroups, childcare, kindergarten infrastructure, kindergarten central enrolment, maternal and child health, immunisation, parent education among others.

While there is some cross over with Youth Services supporting young people in the 10 to 12 year age group, there is a clear gap for children aged 5-10 years. This gap in services is not only one caused by a lack of funding, but also limited best practice models, research and an appropriately trained workforce.

In 2011, MAV and DET released a report Victorian Local Government Support for Children, Young People and their Families which identified major concerns held by councils including a lack of programs, insufficient funding/resources, lack of strategic service planning and transition to secondary school being problematic for some young people.

As reported in the Australian Child Wellbeing Project "Are the Kids Alright? Young Australians in their Middle Years" (February 2016), a significant number of young people in the primary school age group have poor health and wellbeing and are missing out on opportunities at this crucial time. This is exhibited through:

- High levels of health complaints
- Increased experience of bullying
- Low levels of engagement at school
- Low levels of subjective wellbeing
- Low levels of social support

In 2011, MAV and DET released a report Victorian Local Government Support for Children, Young People and their Families which identified major concerns held by councils including a lack of programs, insufficient funding/resources, lack of strategic service planning and transition to secondary school being problematic for some young people. Little has changed for this age cohort since 2011.
Motion 4. Waste Recycling
Submitting Council: Hindmarsh Shire Council

Motion:
That the MAV lobby the government to allocate financial support for recycling facilities or distribute funding to councils to assist with waste management, particularly recycling out of the sustainability fund of $600 million that has accumulated over the years from the landfill levy.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
With the increased cost now imposed on councils because of non acceptance of recyclables by China, it would seem commonsense to utilise the accumulated 600 million dollars approx. landfill levy that has built up over many years.

Councils will have to increase their rates on garbage collection if an alternative funding source is not provided.

This would contradict the purpose of rate capping.

The 13 million dollars that the state government has allocated is a great assistance, but there will be a long term shortfall.

A major concern that will happen is the loss of many years of education in recycling as rubbish and recycling will be placed together and that landfills will have added pressure placed on them.

We encourage the government to continue in sourcing other markets and utilise of recyclables in to the future.

The MAV is working closely with government and industry and we ask that this continues urgently.
Motion 5.  15 Hours Kinder
Submitting Council: Wyndham City Council

Motion:
1. That State Council notes its long-standing and successful advocacy that contributed to all States and Territories recently committing to call on the Federal Government to provide recurrent funding for 15 hours of kindergarten
2. The release of the landmark Lifting Our Game Report and Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools through Early Childhood Interventions, which found that:
   a. Investing in early childhood education pays off in the long run – with a return of $2 to $4 for every dollar invested, and
   b. While the benefits of investing in the early years are widely accepted internationally, Australia fails to invest early and pays for it later.

The State Council therefore request that the President write to all mayors and CEOs in Victorian Councils, as well as their counterparts in each State and Territory recommending that all councils join the I Love Kinder Facebook, Twitter and internet campaign in the lead-up to the 2018 ALGA National General Assembly to present a strong and united front to the Federal Government.

Finally, State Council notes:
1. That its long-standing view that more State and Federal Government funding should be provided to assist Councils to upgrade ageing infrastructure from which 15 hours kindergarten is delivered is still outstanding, and
2. Requests the MAV Board further consider what future steps might be taken to highlight this ongoing concern.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. 1

Submitting Council Rationale:
The MAV and Victorian Councils have advocated since 2010 to the Federal Government to provide recurrent funding for 15 hours of kindergarten. This advocacy has led to several short-term announcements of continued funding, with the latest announcement confirming funding until the end of 2019.

In more recent developments, all State and Territory Governments joined this advocacy for a permanent Federal Government funding commitment, backed by the landmark report Lifting Our Game Report and Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools through Early Childhood Interventions.

With a Federal Election imminent, it is timely for the MAV to use its great influence to write to Mayors and CEOs in Victorian Councils, as well as their counterparts in each State and Territory to join a united online advocacy campaign in the lead-up to the 2018 ALGA National General Assembly in June.

Finally, it is also timely to use the collective voices of Victorian and other Councils around Australia to advocate for councils to be adequately funded for the different ways we support kindergartens - such as planning, facility provision and central enrolment.
Motion 6. Graffiti
Submitting Bayside City Council

Motion:
That the MAV:
1. advocates to the State Government to increase the available police resources, penalties and programs to improve the enforcement of graffiti offences; and
2. advocates to the State Government to implement relevant changes to ensure organisations such as public utilities implement timely and effective graffiti clean-up as a matter of priority.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Graffiti is a significant, ongoing concern for many within the community, since graffiti is seen to impact local aesthetics as well as resulting in a sense of low community safety. However, effectively addressing Graffiti is often challenging due to the number of stakeholders involved and the range of elements needed for a successful program.

Graffiti management programs typically involved elements of:
- Understanding the graffiti sub-cultures in different areas, which can range from youth ‘tagging’ through to graphical art involving more mature offenders;
- Eradication through rapid clean-up of Graffiti and/or painting murals in hotspots;
- Enforcement activities, including initiatives to identify and prosecute offenders;
- Education to divert offenders or potential offenders;
- Broad programs to address potential drivers for people to enter into graffiti offending.

In terms of stakeholders, Councils have an important role, but so do Victoria Police and the Department of Justice and Regulation for enforcement, private property owners and public utilities who need to clean up graffiti on their properties and assets. Public utilities can be particularly challenging to engage and to ensure timely clean-up of their assets.
Motion 7. Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria
Submitting Council: Bayside City Council

Motion:
That the MAV, call upon the State Government to:
- Work with other States and the Federal government to create a sustainable system for recyclables in Australia to minimise the impacts of changes in global markets.
- Build upon existing initiatives including industry product stewardship schemes, and directives on recyclable packaging, to ensure packaging and products are designed for minimal packaging, re-use, recycling and repair, with the disposal costs included in the purchase or disposal price;
- Ensure the goals and objectives set out in the Australian Packaging Covenant Strategic Plan 2017-2022 are prioritised and achieved as a matter of urgency.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Previous motions
Has a like or similar motion has been submitted to the previous three State Councils:
Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria

Title(s): Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria
Name of submitting council(s): Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria
State Council meeting(s): Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria
Outcome(s): Creating a Sustainable Recycling System in Victoria

Submitting Council Rationale:
Recent changes in key export markets for recycled materials, primarily China, have had significant impacts on recycling in Victoria. The Victorian Government needs to partner with other States and the Federal government to implement and build upon existing national schemes and strategies to reduce the amount of material to recycle. This will minimise the reliance on global markets and develop a sustainable system for recycling in Victoria.
Motion 8. Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria
Submitting Council: Bayside City Council

Motion:
That the MAV, call upon the State Government to financially support regional waste management solutions for advanced alternative waste treatment and processing solutions that:

- Minimise waste to landfill
- Minimise transport distances for municipal residual wastes, particularly in the south eastern metropolitan region of greater Melbourne where transport distances to landfills are excessive.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. P3

Previous motions
Has a like or similar motion has been submitted to the previous three State Councils:
Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria
Title(s): Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria
Name of submitting council(s): Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria
State Council meeting(s): Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria
Outcome(s): Providing Alternatives to Landfill in Victoria

Submitting Council Rationale:
Transporting waste to landfill from the south eastern region of metropolitan Melbourne is increasingly expensive as landfill sites become further away. Disposal of waste to landfill is the least preferable method of treating waste, as the least amount of resources are recovered. Regional advanced alternative waste treatment and processing solutions need to be financially supported by the Victorian Government to minimise the costs of transporting and processing waste, which are paid for by ratepayers.
Motion 9. Derelict Buildings
Submitting Council: Latrobe City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocate to the Victorian Government for appropriate legislation to provide councils with adequate powers to resolve the issue of derelict buildings by:
1. Amending the Building Act 1993 to modify the onerous requirements to achieve more timely and cost effective resolutions of dilapidated buildings; or
2. Enacting any other specific legislation or regulatory instrument that will enable councils to successfully resolve these matters.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No.

Submitting Council Rationale:
Latrobe City Council requests MAV advocates to the Victorian Government to address the complexities of competing Acts and Regulations associated with derelict and dilapidated buildings. In particular, the Planning & Environment Act, the Building Act and associated Regulations in regards to managing community safety risks and public amenity issues.

Latrobe City Council asks the Victorian Government to define a clear framework and objectives that give powers to councils to make timely decisions on derelict and dilapidated buildings.

Issues identified in the current regime include:
1. Differences in recouping costs between the Planning & Environment Act and the Building Act
2. Under a Local Law:
   a. Action can only result in a small financial disincentive for building owners, with no ability to force owners to remonstrate the issue
   b. Multiple fines cannot be issued for the same offence
3. Current conditions that are required to be met under the Building Act are:
   a. Onerous – imminent risk to community health or safety
   b. Do not consider “community amenity” in the assessment
   c. Time consuming for the amount of time it takes a building to be considered in a state of disrepair – this can take years

Perusing owners for action is costly, both in legal fees and officer time
Motion 10. Relocation of Housing Clients with Complex and Challenging Needs
Submitting Council: Latrobe City Council

Motion:
Latrobe City Council requests that the MAV calls upon the State Government, in particular the Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing, Hon. Martin Foley MP requesting that he:
1. Instructs the Department of Health and Human Services to cease relocating housing clients with complex and challenging needs (drug and alcohol addiction) from urban and metropolitan communities to rural and regional areas, in particular Latrobe City.
2. Or immediately increases funding to rural and regional support sectors in the areas of family violence, mental health and drug and alcohol addiction services in recognition of the impact of ice on these communities.
3. Coordinate a targeted community based approach to minimise the harmful effects of ice on rural and regional communities.
4. Establish new initiatives to support and strengthen local communities at risk.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
The issue of drug and alcohol addiction is one which impacts almost every Australian community.

Unfortunately these issues are often exacerbated and intensified by poor housing policy – particularly in Victoria where large densities of public housing create high density pockets of need and social disadvantage.

Latrobe City Council is calling upon the State Housing authority, in particular the Victorian Minister – to cease the practice of creating high density public housing communities which coalesce individuals with challenging and complex needs in all communities. In particular rural and regional communities which lack the support, funding, capacity and infrastructure to support these individual and to minimise their impact upon the broader community.
- Latrobe City Council is seeking a reduction in the density of public housing clients in rural and regional communities.
- To cease any practice which relocates clients with complex and challenging needs from urban and metropolitan environments to rural and regional areas.
- Seek to enhance funding to rural and regional support sectors.
- Give greater attention to supporting all communities to mitigate the impact of drug and alcohol addiction on communities.

Latrobe City Council has the second highest incidence of drug related deaths in Victoria
Motion 11. Funding for Sporting Facilities
Submitting Council: Maribynong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to the Minister of Sport, the Hon. John Eren MP, for more funding to be allocated to the improvement and development of sporting facilities aimed at increasing the participation of women and young people in sport.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Many sporting facilities across the State are currently at capacity and unable to service the existing population. Further, the majority of facilities do not cater for women's participation. With a growing population this situation will only get worse. Similarly, existing facilities are over subscribed with little opportunity to accommodate growing numbers of young people.
Motion 12. Infrastructure Contribution Plan Standard Levies
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls for the implementation of the Infrastructure Contribution Plan standard levies across established areas of Melbourne as well as in outer suburban growth areas.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. P1

Submitting Council Rationale:
Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 predicts Melbourne’s west will become the city’s fastest growing region in to the middle of this century. Current planning guidelines suggest high density living will occur in many locations across the City of Maribyrnong. Planning for this population increase, changed demographic and increased density will be crucial to maintaining our City’s liveability.

At least five major housing development sites are imminent; the smallest expecting approximately 1500 dwellings and the largest up to 6000. The expected increase in population and density places enormous pressure on social and community infrastructure such as library services, children’s and health services, cultural and sporting infrastructure. Traffic management solutions become a priority and access to usable open space an absolute necessity.
Motion 13. Investment in Recycling Collection and Processing
Submitting Council: Maribynong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls upon the Victorian State Government to actively facilitate and support investment in recycling collection and processing systems in Victoria in order to develop tangible options to enhance recycling processing systems as well as maintain the environmental sustainability and financial viability of current recycling collection and sorting processes.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Due to a change in policy in China, where a large proportion of recycling was exported, which required a ban on mixed plastics and mixed paper, local Councils are now facing large increases in recycling costs. In the meantime the landfill levy which is charged on every tonne of waste was designed for the very purpose of promoting resource recovery but largely sits unused, with over $400 million unallocated in the Sustainability Fund. Around half of the landfill levy collected each year is not spent. The State Government has the means to act to assist in the crisis and is urged to do so.
Motion 14.  State Government Housing Renewal
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls on the Victorian State Government to expedite the renewal of dilapidated State Government owned housing stock and work with councils to achieve best practice town planning outcomes.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. P4

Submitting Council Rationale:
Many municipalities have ageing social housing stock that is poorly built, in extremely poor condition and in urgent need of renewal. A number of single dwelling properties were on large broad acre blocks that, if redeveloped into two or three dwelling properties, could potentially accommodate additional dwellings without the need to purchase land. We seek to increase public housing stock owned by State Government but also to allow for other forms of development which may be retained or sold by a developer for the sake of commercial viability.
Motion 15. Affordable Housing
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls on the Victorian State Government to implement planning regulations requiring a minimum of affordable housing to be included in major new housing developments.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. P4

Submitting Council Rationale:
Housing affordability is in decline across Australia. In Victoria, the State Government has gradually moved away from being the main provider of affordable housing with funding in decline. However, good and orderly planning principles dictates that a mix of housing options is essential. Rising house prices continue to push lower and medium income earners to outer suburbs creating a socio-economic divide. Implementing a minimum amount of affordable housing into new major developments ensures that demographic need of a municipality is met in part by allowing lower incomes earners to stay within the suburb they live. Affordable housing provides a net community benefit through creating a more conducive social mix.
Motion 16. Neighbourhood House Funding  
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocates to the Minister for Families, Children and Youth Affairs, the Hon. Jenny Mikakos, to lift the Neighbourhood House coordination funding freeze and direct increased funding to those Neighbourhood Houses identified as under-funded to ensure they can continue to support the life-long learning and social connectedness of our communities.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
We request the State Government to lift the Neighbourhood House coordination funding freeze and direct increased funding to those Neighbourhood Houses identified as under-funded.

Neighbourhood Houses play a significant role in supporting the health and wellbeing of the community, including some of our most vulnerable residents. Encouraging empowerment, access and equity, inclusion, social justice and community participation, Neighbourhood Houses are able to provide a range of services and programs with minimal resources.

With increasing population, an increase in demand for Neighbourhood House services will also occur. Over the past decade, Government funding has not kept up with constantly increasing demand and as such, will be unable to keep up with future growth.

Neighbourhood Houses have provided engaged and productive learning and community support activities for some of our most vulnerable community members and Councils are proud to provide funding to assist them with supporting the life-long learning and social connectedness of our community.

We will continue to support their efforts by advocating to the State Government to lift the Neighbourhood House coordination funding freeze, and bring the funding of the facilities in line with the benchmark of 40 hours of funding. Given the value the Neighbourhood Houses provide to the community, this funding is well justified and long overdue.
Motion 17. River Protection
Submitting Council: Maribyrnong City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls upon the Victorian State Government to provide protection for the Maribyrnong River, Werribee River and other river systems using a similar model used in protecting the Yarra River under the Yarra Protection Act.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
In 2017, the Victorian Parliament passed the Yarra Protection Act which legislated a new model of river governance and management for the Yarra River. A key feature of this legislation is establishment of a single, integrated scheme for most of the river corridor. Unlike the Yarra River, there has been little review or assessment of river management in the rest of Victoria with planning, guidance or direction lacking. It is considered appropriate the Yarra Act model be adapted to the Maribyrnong and Werribee Rivers, Melbourne's two other major river systems, with consideration given to the geographic distinctiveness of Melbourne's West. These rivers systems, though important to the communities in the West, especially to traditional owners, have largely not received the protective measures received by the Yarra River. Further, there are many other important river systems throughout Victoria that would benefit from similar protections.
Motion 18. Recycling Industry
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council

Motion:
That the MAV:
(1) Writes to Victorian Premier, Daniel Andrews, requesting:
   a. The Victorian Government recognises the lack of capacity in the local recycling industry and adopts policies and actions to encourage a sophisticated, independent, self-sustaining industry.
   b. The Victorian Government allocates $100 million from the $2,077 million received from the sale of the State’s shareholding in Snowy Hydro to a fund focused on:
      • developing and enhancing the sustainability of domestic processing of recyclable waste within the state of Victoria
      • addressing the immediate local government funding shortfalls arising from the China Sword policy.
   c. The Victorian Government works with local government to develop a self-sustaining, responsible recycling process addressing all elements from producer through consumer to recycler.

(2) Obtains advice on:
   a. The legality of the Victorian Government continuing to collect the Landfill Levy and withholding the collected funds, without disbursement for the purposes for which the levy was collected.
   b. The ability of Councils to withhold payment of the Landfill Levy until such time as a plan is developed for its disbursement.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 4
Priority No. 12

Submitting Council Rationale:
The Victorian recycling industry is heavily dependent on exporting to overseas processors with minimal processing on-shore. This renders the local industry immature and incapable of responding to shocks and changes to its operating environment. What is needed is the development of the industry to enable resilience and capacity to manage such changes. Local government is heavily dependent on the local recycling industry and residents, in turn, are heavily dependent on local government’s ability to maintain recycling services.

What is required is an innovative and well-resourced approach to developing the local industry. The motion proposes an ambition for a sophisticated, independent, self-sustaining industry whilst at the same time providing a means to resource its development through a fund. The development of the industry needs to address all aspects of the recycling cycle from producer through consumer to recycler.

The motion also addresses the fate of funding that has been extracted from consumers via the landfill levy and proposes that action be taken to prevent this ongoing extraction of funds without disbursement for the purposes for which the funds were levied or, failing this, cessation of this levy.
Motion 19. Consultation, community impact assessments and municipal controls regarding the over-the-counter needle and opioid facilities

Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV is to lobby the Victorian Parliament to initiate and integrate Victorian policies and policy outcomes with regard to the Victorian Planning Scheme and Health and Wellbeing Plan to enable local government to make better place based decisions with regard to density of rooming houses, opioid maintenance prescribing and dispensing outlets and packaged liquor outlets.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Currently, the Victorian Planning Scheme operates independantly to the Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan and as such has the ability to not only undermine health and wellbeing outcomes but increase the costs to tax payers for such things as increased police and ambulance interventions, hospital admissions, magistrates court hearings and custodial sentences together with increased medicare costs for those of the broader community who may also be impacted. Using rooming houses as an example Councils are unable to ensure rooming houses are spread across and integrated into the community. Instead multiple rooming houses can exist in one street. With an indiscriminate mix of clients with complex needs and behaviours the overall health impact on neighbours has a major demonstrable impact which could be minimised or avoided if Council’s had the town planning power to better consider density of such accommodation and services.
Motion 20. Defined state funding provisions for improved kindergarten literacy outcomes
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That MAV advocate to State Government for increased program funding for improved literacy outcomes for children 0 - 6.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Early language development impacts on children’s literacy development and their life long learning. Improving the capacity of parents and early childhood professionals to support language and literacy development has never been more important.

A significant number of children are not fairing well locally with regards to literacy in comparison to the state average. Research shows that children who are exposed to fewer words in the first four years of life have a smaller and slower-growing vocabulary which impacts on later achievement.

It is known that children’s language development is encouraged by warm, responsive and stimulating interactions with caring adults. However many parents in our municipality don’t know how to make a difference in their child’s early language development or how important their daily interactions are in supporting a strong language foundation.

It has also been identified that early childhood educators would benefit from further professional development to increase their confidence and capacity to better support children’s language development.

Despite there being a concerted effort by many professionals who are delivering a variety of early literacy programs, a more collaborative, targeted and sustained approach is required to achieve the maximum long term impact to support the child’s educational trajectory.
Motion 21. Home Care
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council

Motion:
That the MAV:
1. Writes to the Prime Minister, leader of the opposition, leaders of minor parties and independent members of parliament requesting that bulk funding from the Commonwealth for aged care services be maintained for local councils that want to continue delivering quality aged and home care services to their vulnerable and ageing communities.
2. Advocates for an analysis of impact on the gender pay gap of the introduction of My Aged Care, and the shift in service delivery away from local government

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
In line with the MAV Workplan Objective 1, 'Help councils achieve financial sustainability', the City of Darebin is seeking to have the MAV request the Prime Minister that bulk funding be maintained for local councils that want to continue delivering quality aged and home care services. It also wishes to advocate to ameliorate the impact on the gender pay gap that would occur if these services shift away from local government. Such a move would enable the ongoing provision of high quality services to our residents.
Motion 22. Enhanced relations with other Local Government organisations within Victoria

Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV is to approach the Victorian Local Government Association, and other regional local government groups throughout Victoria, with a view to strengthening and creating a more synergetic environment.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 4

Submitting Council Rationale:
For Local Councils to have an effective voice in an increasingly news saturated environment we must make a concerted effort to ensure that any messaging from the sector is on song, loud and clear. Otherwise we will be consigned to being drowned out and not heard at all.

Whilst peak bodies such as the MAV and VLGA and staff bodies such as LGPRO each largely do their own thing from an often singular point of view we are missing an important opportunity to talk with one voice on keys issues that effect Councils and by extension staff.

There is currently a missed opportunity to combine the efforts of all parties and the opportunity to work together collectively should be explored.
Motion 23. Greater liquor and gambling controls for local government

Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV proposes to the Victorian Parliament for greater powers and instruments to enable local government, as opposed to unelected bureaucrats and bodies, to make local decisions on local liquor and gambling licences. This is to also include the ability for local governments to propose moratoriums on liquor and gambling permits in ‘high risk’ areas where there is demonstrated economic and social disadvantage.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 4A
Priority No. 4A

Submitting Council Rationale:
Under their planning schemes, Local Governments are able to consider social, economic and environmental impacts when assessing proposals for liquor and/or gaming premises. However, Council planning officers find they have little statutory weight to rely on when making decisions on cumulative impact and transferred harm resulting from excessive alcohol consumption or from the concentration of gaming facilities in areas of low-socioeconomic disadvantage.

The ‘overlapping approvals’ system as it operates in Victoria for liquor licensing and gaming means that the legitimate and integrated town planning assessment is often compromised by the separate assessment undertaken by the licensing authorities. It is a logical fiction to insist that a planning assessment of social, environmental and economic impacts of a land use at a specific location can be functionally separated from an assessment of whether a liquor licence and/or gaming licence can be issued.

In undertaking their planning roles for these types of proposals, Councils find that very relevant issues about community impact are ‘out of bounds’ for Council consideration and instead are the province of the licensing authorities. What should be a technical assessment of whether the applicant is a ‘fit person’ to hold a licence has intruded into the assessment of whether a new land use should be allowed.

Frankston is a member of a Group of Councils in Melbourne that is currently sponsoring a planning amendment to allow for better control of the proliferation of packaged liquor outlets. The proposed GC planning scheme amendment seeks to include a new Local Planning Policy within the group of Council’s respective planning schemes. The Licensed Premises (Packaged Liquor Outlets) Policy will apply to all applications for a new packaged liquor premises, the expansion of the licensed area for a packaged liquor premises, or the extension of trading hours of an existing packaged liquor premises.

This is an example of how Councils are working together to strengthen the role of local government in making effective decisions on liquor and gaming approvals for their communities.
Motion 24. Homelessness in Australia
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That MAV advocate to State and Federal Government for increased housing infrastructure for crisis and transitional housing and program funding for front line agencies to better support the growing number of people to transition out of homelessness including rough sleeping and roofed homelessness (rooming houses and couch surfing) and into secure tenured accommodation.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
In 2014-15 in this country 255,657 people received support and almost 7 million nights of accommodation were provided by specialist homelessness services.

In 2016 there were 105,237 people recorded as homeless in Australia, alarmingly 17,845 were children under 10. Of these 22,773 Victorians are homeless with 7,600 Victorians sleeping out in 2016.

Homelessness in Victoria costs the State and Federal Governments $25,615 per person per year (in health, crime and other costs). Accommodation security would preclude some of these costs.
Motion 25. Overreach of unelected bureaucratic entities

Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV is to register concern to all tiers of government about the continued encroachment from unelected bureaucratic bodies on local government in Victoria.

The continued interference from both state government and state government bureaucratic bodies is eroding the democratic impetus and independence of local government decision-making.

Moreover, the MAV is to also express concern about the existing power imbalance between the Victorian Parliament and the bureaucratic branch of the Executive insofar the increasing 'executive creep' into democratic decision-making and funding allotments.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1 and 2
Priority No. 1 and 3

Submitting Council Rationale:
Council's are impeded in achieving integrated outcomes for their communities by the actions of State Government agencies that appear to be set up to duplicate or constrain the decision-making of local government in core areas of service delivery. These unelected bodies, such as the Essential Services Commission (ESC) and Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) act to frustrate the effective operation of local government.

- Essential Services Commission (ESC) (which determines rate-capping)

The ESC and the introduction of rate capping has significantly reduced local government autonomy in that it has essentially provided State Government control over the vast amount of revenue that Council raises and limit Councils role to only being a body that determines how scarce resources are then allocated. The ESC and State Government now determine over 80 per cent of the revenue raised (combination of rates, grants and statutory set fees and charges) by Frankston City Council. Council's ability to raise additional revenue from fees and charges are quite minimal. It would be the preference of Frankston City Council for the ESC's assessments of rate capping to be advisory in nature and not determinative.

In this manner, Council could remain accountable to its local community for its rating decisions and retain its autonomy.

- the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (which often overturns local government decisions on planning matters).

The overbearing intrusion of VCAT into the Council responsibility of determination of planning applications under local government planning schemes needs to be overhauled to return the VCAT role to one of a technical review of administrative decisions, and not a 'de novo' assessment of planning applications. Instead of considering the material placed before Council by applicants, and reviewing the Council's resulting decision, VCAT goes significantly further and often invites and entertains entirely new development proposals for the subject site with material supplied by the applicant that was never seen by Council. This over-reach has lead to applicants and other sectoral interests 'gaming the planning system' and reserving information so that it can be decided by VCAT rather than dealt with at the
local government level. This has the unfortunate effect of unnecessarily extending the time required to come to a final decision on a planning application while undermining trust in the transparency of the planning process.
Motion 26. Packaged Liquor
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocate to the Minister for Planning under Section 9 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to prepare a Group of Councils amendment to introduce a Local Planning Policy into the Planning Schemes for Frankston, Casey, Cardinia, Mornington Peninsula, Bass Coast, Kingston, Knox, Maroondah and Greater Dandenong.

The South-East Melbourne Council Group (SEMCG) have recently completed a research project which aims to better understand the relationships between packaged liquor outlet density and increases in alcohol related harms taking place, particularly focusing on family violence.

The research has aided the group in developing a suite of responses to address the increasing impacts which range from advocacy strategies and office reference toolkits to amendments to the planning scheme through the implementation of planning policies.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
The South-East Melbourne (SEM) region of Melbourne has a population of 750,000 adults and represents some of the city’s most socially and environmentally diverse, economically significant, and rapidly growing areas. While these are positive attributes, the region’s municipalities also experience significant levels of alcohol-related harm.

The SEMCG consists of the seven Chief Executive Officers and Mayors from the Shires of Bass Coast, Cardinia and Mornington Peninsula, and the Cities of Casey, Greater Dandenong, Kingston and Frankston.

Victoria Police data has highlighted that these municipalities experience some of the highest levels of alcohol-related harm in Victoria, particularly in respects of family violence with statistics increasing rapidly.

The SEMCG have noted that off-premises outlets (packaged liquor outlets) now significantly out-number on-premises venues (bars/hotels). It is believed that packaged liquor outlet density is contributing to higher levels of alcohol consumption, particularly in the home and other private settings.

In 2013/14 an SEMGC project team was established to investigate links between licensed venue outlet density, particularly packaged liquor outlets and alcohol-related harms, with the aim of reducing violence in the home (family violence), in and around licensed venues, and associated public places.

The Project Team is comprised of representatives from each Council and included officers from Strategic, Statutory and Social Planning, Community Development, Community Safety, and Health Promotion across these Councils. Each Council made an equal financial contribution and agreed to provide Council Officer time to work on the project.
The project involved the appointment of a number of expert consultants from a range of fields including land use and social planning, economic analysis, and spatial mapping and demography and a number of reports were produced.

Key stakeholders from Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Research and the Department of Justice also partnered in support of the work. The SEMCG were granted access to unique and highly sensitive crime data sets through an MOU with Victoria Police. This agreement has provided Councils with unprecedented access to data that reveals crime hot spots at a highly localised level.

Upon completion of phase one it was identified that there would be benefits in including an additional two Councils to ensure the proof of concept in applying a planning policy had broader application. As a result, the Cities of Knox and Maroondah partnered with the South-East Melbourne Council Group and have made a financial contribution to the project, which includes updating relevant data sets and having them spatially mapped alongside a range of harm indicators.

The project is the first of its type in Australia where detailed consideration has been given towards better understanding at a localised level the correlations between packaged alcohol and increase in alcohol related crime and violence. Councils have partnered with agencies and academia to explore the relationships and find appropriate responses.
Motion 27. Parks Victoria Maintenance and Consultation
Submitting Council: Parks Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV lobbies the Minister for Planning to undertake a review of the Bushfire Protection vegetation clearance exemptions in Clause 52.48 of the Planning Scheme to consider the relevance of these exemptions to urban and township areas across the State and identify opportunities for a more targeted approach.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Many rural-urban fringe or regional Councils, including Frankston City Council are experiencing losses of urban or township trees due to the indiscriminate application of the 52.48 bushfire protection exemptions for reasons other than bushfire protection. The exemptions permit the removal of trees without any permit requirements when located within 10 metres of their house (if constructed or approved prior to September 2009).

It is difficult for peri-urban Councils such as Frankston to comprehend the rationale behind this exemption as it applies to urban areas, where bushfire threat is low. While many inner urban Councils are developing ‘Urban Forest Strategies’ (supported by State Government) recognising the critical role trees and other vegetation play in the creation of resilient, sustainable cities, Councils such as Frankston, Geelong, Ballarat and Whittlesea find that much of their ‘urban forest’ is unprotected and could be removed without consultation or assessment.

The logical approach for municipalities such as Frankston, City of Greater Geelong and other like Councils should be similar to that taken for the City of Knox, where a Bushfire Management Overlay applies to the heavily vegetated and areas of the municipality adjoining forested and rural landscapes, but the 10/30/30 rule does not automatically apply to areas outside the BMO.
Motion 28. Review of emergency SMS system pertaining to both natural and manmade disasters

Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV is to request that the Victorian Minister for Emergency Services (and also forwarded to the relevant Shadow Minister) undertakes an in-depth review to ensure that all Victorians – with mobile phone technology – are adequately advised of imminent natural disasters in their vicinity.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Name of submitting council(s): Review of emergency SMS system pertaining to both natural and manmade disasters
State Council meeting(s): Review of emergency SMS system pertaining to both natural and manmade disasters
Outcome(s): Review of emergency SMS system pertaining to both natural and manmade disasters

Submitting Council Rationale:
It was identified through a community meeting in January 2018 that there may be an issue with SMS emergency alerts after the Carrum downs bushfires.

We recognize that this is an issue for Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) and we see local governments role as communicating the communities concerns back to State Government and relevant agencies.

Local Government is also an avenue to be able to promote State Agency information and tools to members of the community.
Motion 29. Self-Funded Retirees Discount
Submitting Council: Frankston City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocates that self-funded retirees (within a certain means tested bracket to be determined by the State Government e.g. those who qualify for a health care benefits card) be entitled to the 'concession' rebate on annual Council rates.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Self-funded retirees should be rewarded for cultivating savings for their retirement. Many hardworking and contributing residents of our city are self-funded retirees. To create parity for our senior citizens, and acknowledging the hardships that even self-funded retirees experience in retirement, the existing 'concession' discount for social security users should be applied to all retirees.

In allowing self-funded retirees a discount on their annual council rates, any scheme must be limited to those in true need and in implementing such a scheme a cap should be placed on those with more than usual wealth. One mechanism may be to limit it to those who receive a health care/benefit card from the Commonwealth Government. Linking any support to those receiving a Health Care / Benefit Card may be an appropriate way to place a cap on those receiving the discount given that this is income tested.
Motion 30. State of Local Government Report
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council

Motion:
That the MAV seek funding from state government to produce a report on the profile of local government similar to the existing “State of Public Service” report

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
Darebin City Council wishes to advocate for the production of a report on the profile of Local Government similar to the existing "State of Public Service" report. This would address Objective 2 in the MAV work plan, i.e. improve the reputation of Local Government by raising the profile and influence of Local Government.
Motion 31. Marketing
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council

Motion:
That the MAV develops and implements a strategic marketing and advertising campaign to positively promote the activities and work of local councils across Victoria.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 4

Submitting Council Rationale:
The MAV’s workplan includes the objective of “Improve the reputation of Local Government”, and further, also includes ‘raising the profile and influence of local government’ to enable ‘Community understanding of the breadth and value of council services’. The adoption of this motion would see the development and implementation of a strategic advertising and marketing campaign to positively promote the activities and work of local councils across Victoria.
Motion 32. Refugees

Submitting Council: Darebin City Council

Motion:
That the MAV writes to the Prime Minister requesting that:

a. Australia abandons the current harsh and unjust policies of offshore detention which have resulted in 9 deaths and untold misery and despair with many people developing serious mental illnesses;

b. Asylum seekers, including the 160 children held on Nauru, are returned to Australia;

c. Asylum seeker men currently abandoned on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea are returned to Australia;

d. Australia accepts the offer by New Zealand to provide protection for 150 people per year;

e. The over 30,000 refugees living on bridging visas in our community with their futures in limbo should have a right to seek permanent protection;

f. Asylum seekers seeking protection in Australia are not pressured to return to their home countries or unsafe places where they could be subject to persecution.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19

Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
The MAV Workplan includes the objective of improving the reputation of local government. We believe the implementation of this motion will assist this.

Australia currently deals with refugees in a manner that is both inhumane and punitive. Indefinite detention contravenes numerous international agreements and is an inhumane practice analogous to torture. Most refugees held in offshore detention have been assessed as genuine and deserving of support under the international conventions ratified by the Australian Government. The treatment of these refugees degrades Australia both at home, by signaling to the community this action is acceptable, and also internationally, where our reputation for humanity and generosity has been destroyed.

The hypocrisy of the Turnbull Government's policies on refugees can be most clearly seen in the comments of the Home Affairs Minister, Peter Dutton, whereby he has expressed support for fast tracking visas for un-assessed white farmers from South Africa whilst at the same time preventing proper and due care being provided to tens of thousands of coloured refugees already assessed as genuine and under the care of the Australian Government.

Sending a request to the Prime Minister that:

a. Australia abandons the current harsh and unjust policies of offshore detention which have resulted in 9 deaths and untold misery and despair with many people developing serious mental illnesses;

b. Asylum seekers, including the 160 children held on Nauru, are returned to Australia;

c. Asylum seeker men currently abandoned on Manus Island in Papua New Guinea are returned to Australia;

d. Australia accepts the offer by New Zealand to provide protection for 150 people per year;

e. The over 30,000 refugees living on bridging visas in our community with their futures in limbo should have a right to seek permanent protection;

f. Asylum seekers seeking protection in Australia are not pressured to return to their home countries or unsafe places where they could be subject to persecution.
will increase the focus on this indefensible situation
Motion 33. Inclusion of a Compensation Clause Within the Victorian Residential Tenancies Act 1997

Submitting Council: Knox City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocate to State Government for inclusion of a Compensation clause within the Victorian Residential Tenancies Act 1997 (currently under review), to ensure residents within caravan parks where closure is proposed, are supported.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No.
Priority No. 5

Submitting Council Rationale:
In November 2016, owners advised residents of the Wantima Caravan Park that the site would be closing effective 31 March 2018. Residents were directed to vacate the site by early January 2018.

189 residents were situated at Wantima Caravan Park living in different accommodation options including park houses, park cabins and caravans. A survey of residents identified 85% aged 61 and over; 83% live alone; and 84% receiving a pension, 92% indicated that they would need help to find housing.

To proactively assist the residents of the Wantima Caravan Park in advance of its closure, a range of community service organisations and State Government departments representatives worked collaboratively to enable the most suitable and available housing outcomes for those affected. This collaborative work identified extreme vulnerabilities amongst residents and limited capacity for residents to support their relocation to alternative housing. In January 2017 community agencies completed the transition of residents into alternative and appropriate housing across Victoria. No residents were paid any compensation to support the loss or relocation costs.

The Victorian Residential Tenancies Act 1997 currently does not incorporate a compensation clause to support compensation for termination of agreements or relocation of dwellings to new residential sites. The NSW Residential Parks Act 1998 No 142 however does provide a clause termination of a residential site agreement for residential parks.
Motion 34. Continuation of Funding for Building Inclusive Communities Program (Metro Access)

Submitting Council: Knox City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocate to the State Government Minister for Disability to commit to ongoing funding for the Building Inclusive Communities (MetroAccess) program.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. 1

Submitting Council Rationale:
The Building Inclusive Communities Programs (MetroAccess) funded through the Department of Health and Human Services is designed to build the capacity of local communities across Victoria so they are more accessible, welcoming and inclusive of people with disabilities. Using a place-based community development approach, the program works to bring together the strengths, resources and creativity of individuals, communities and government to increase citizenship and participation opportunities for people living with a disability.

The program has been operating for many years in Victoria and has built great community partnerships and enabled significant local initiatives in Victorian municipalities.

The BIC program is a vital additional component to the operation of the NDIS however the sustainability of the program is uncertain. State Government has given no formal commitment for the continued funding of this program following the implementation of NDIS beyond June 2018. Local government is very well placed to continue hosting such a program due to the close connection to communities and the breadth and reach of services. The community development work of capacity building, community awareness, information, linkages and referrals is an essential component for ensuring the success of the NDIS.

The Federal Government has indicated the Information, Linkages and Capacity-building (ILC) program component of the NDIS will replace the BIC program. However, the ILC program objectives do not replicate the scope, effectiveness and continuity of BIC.

Information to date indicates the ILC program will support one year program grants only and could see service providers change annually due to the complex bidding process. Fixed and short term grants are not an effective way to achieve community development and the ILC funding is not available to Victoria until 1/7/19.

The Building Inclusive Communities program would complement, not duplicate the NDIS work.

Effectively, without BIC, progress towards improving access and inclusion for people with disability and carers is likely to be substantially reduced and compromised.
Motion 35. Increase Funding to Support Neighbourhood Houses
Submitting Council: Knox City Council

Motion:
That the MAV State Council advocate to the State Government to increase funding to Neighbourhood Houses.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No
Objective No. 1
Priority No. 1

Submitting Council Rationale:
Neighbourhood Houses (NHs) have an important role as community gathering places, adult educators and community leaders and connectors. They deliver programs and activities that respond to issues such as digital literacy and inclusion, supporting disengaged youth, unemployment, childcare, emergency management, food security, community resilience, family violence, mental health and wellbeing, training and education, social enterprise development and community connectedness.

Councils across Victoria contribute to their local NHs’ operational costs through one-off community funding grants. Some also provide support through access to facilities and other in-kind support in recognition of the important contribution NHs make to strengthening communities.

Currently, funding from State Government is received by approximately 75% of NHs providing for up to 25 hours (although sometimes less) a week for coordination of these important community resources. There has not been an increase in base funding to NHs since 2014 and the current level of funding has not kept pace with rising operational costs and the demands of Victoria’s increasing population.

The ALP gave a commitment to invest in NHs in their 2014 election platform yet there has not been any increase in Coordination Program or Network support funding. An increase in funding for the NH Coordination Program, NH Networks and for the number of funded NHs in Victoria is sought from the State Government.
Motion 36. Increased Affordable Housing in Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne
Submitting Council: Knox City Council

Motion:
That the MAV advocate to the State Government and seek a commitment for a minimum of 634 new social housing dwellings in the EMR per year until 2036, to meet the minimum supply required.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No

Submitting Council Rationale:
The Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) advocates for increased affordable housing in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne to meet the needs of our communities for safe, secure, affordable housing now and in the future.

In 2015 the six member Councils making up the Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) – Knox, Maroondah, Manningham, Monash, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges – endorsed an advocacy position to the State Government calling for the State to commit to a minimum of 634 new social housing dwellings in the EMR per year until 2036, to meet the minimum supply required.

This number is based on the Minimum supply of social housing, Eastern Metropolitan Region (2018-2036), which quantifies need for social housing in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne. With a social housing rate significantly below the metropolitan average an additional 11,420 social housing dwellings are required by 2036 in the region to meet demand. This equates to ‘634 dwellings per year every year over the next 18 years (2018-2036).’

This motion supports the primary aim of the EAHA: to increase the supply of social and affordable housing in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne.
Motion 37. Public Housing Renewal Program
Submitting Council: Boroondara City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) seek a commitment from the State
government that:
1. the increase in public housing units, as part of the Victorian Government's Public
   Housing Renewal Program result in at least double the current number of public
   housing on the sites (not just a 10 per cent increase).
2. State government not make a profit out of public land set aside for that purpose and
   instead any surplus proceeds are used to generate more public housing.
3. the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) should allocate the budget to
   properly maintain public housing infrastructure.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 1

Submitting Council Rationale:
Council recognises that safe and secure housing is essential for good health, employment,
education and community wellbeing, and we believe that everyone has the right to safe and
appropriate housing.

Council is deeply concerned about the Victorian Government's plans and approach for the
renewal of the nine public housing estates, and, in particular, the estate at Bills Street, 
Hawthorn. Council is also concerned about the redevelopment of the estate at Markham
Avenue, Ashburton where a similar model of housing is being proposed.

The Public Housing Renewal Program's (PHRP) proposed 10 per cent increase in public
housing (or 1,100 public units) on the identified sites is vastly inadequate, especially given
the size of the social* housing waiting list. In Victoria, there is a significant shortage of
social housing with only 3.47 per cent of all dwellings being social housing, which is much
lower than the current national average of 4.5 per cent. Social housing is a vital housing
option for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including people escaping
family violence.

Due to the low provision of social housing stock, there are extensive waiting lists. The DHHS
June 2017 waiting list for Victoria shows 35,392 social housing applicants on the Victorian
Housing Register and an additional 6,770 waiting to transfer to more suitable social housing.
Figures provided for the Box Hill Regional Office (covering the cities of Boroondara,
Whitehorse and Manningham) show 1,724 applicants waiting for social housing, and an
additional 297 applicants waiting to transfer to more suitable housing within the social
housing system. The DHHS does not break this list down to show demand in individual
Local Government Areas (LGAs), and there is also no publicly available data on the
demographic breakdown.

The proposal by DHHS to redevelop the sites with significant numbers of private apartments
is a lost opportunity to make meaningful inroads into the waiting list. The Victorian
Government should provide substantially more public housing on the sites by decreasing the
proposed number of private units and making less or no profit out of the redevelopment. If
any profit is derived from the redevelopment, it should be used to replace and grow the amount of public housing in the municipality.

Finally, the social housing to be provided as part of the redevelopments must be public housing and not community housing to ensure that the housing remains in the control of the Victorian Government in perpetuity. If the term social housing is used there is a risk that developers may lease the housing to a community housing provider for a period of time (e.g. 10 to 15 years), and once this has expired the developer may then sell the properties as they are no longer in the control of the Victorian Government.

The Victorian Government defines social housing as public and community housing and uses
Motion 38. Cost shift to Local Government by the State Government
Regarding the Resolution of Non-Compliant Combustible
Cladding in Buildings

Submitting Council: Boroondara City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) advocate to the Minister of Planning to give
the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) the powers of a Municipal Building Surveyor (MBS) to
enforce the non-compliant cladding issue to address and rectify the highly dangerous
combustible cladding which has been used in construction of high rise residential and public
buildings in order to avoid a potential loss of life and property

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. 3

Submitting Council Rationale:
Cladding materials which consist of aluminium composite panels or expanded polystyrene
has been used globally and recent incidents resulting in loss of life and property have
highlighted the need for all levels of Government to find a resolution.

The cladding issue has arisen from regulatory and operational failures at the heart of the
building industry, largely through apparent negligence of building material importers and
suppliers, accreditors and regulators, developers and certifiers.

Since this is a state issue, the State Government should provide support and fully fund Local
Government if Council's MBSs are instructed to facilitate audits and bring these buildings to
compliance. The State Government must also offer indemnify MBSs and the respective
Council as there is a significant concern about possible litigation and prosecution costs
which may arise as a result of the MBS carrying out enforcement action in relation to the
cladding issue on buildings with PBS issued building permits.

- Nationwide use of combustible cladding presents a risk to the life and safety of
  occupants using these buildings and a financial risk to property owners.
- The cladding issue has arisen due to epic failures of the building regulatory system at
  all levels.
- Victoria's stock of buildings needs to be audited to reduce any imminent risk to life
  and safety of the occupants.
- Councils are responsible for administering and enforcing the Building Act and
  Regulations. Due to the enormity of this task, Councils will experience a lack of
  resources and financial means and should not be bestowed with the burden to
  resolve this issue for which they are not the source of the problem.
- The risk of liability to Councils must be addressed to provide immunity to those who
  are involved in the process of bringing these building to compliance.
- Owners will be left in an unenviable position to provide funding to rectify their
  buildings which will place a burden on those already experiencing financial hardship.
  The State and Federal governments should provide financial assistance for
  rectification work to be carried out without delay and make the buildings safe.

Home owners have a right to be provided with assistance where the building regulatory
system has failed them, placing their lives and property at risk
Motion 39. Social and Affordable Housing
Submiting Council: Bayside City Council

Motion:
That the MAV recognises the potential for planning mechanisms to proactively contribute to the supply of social and affordable housing in Victoria, and asks the State Labor Government and the Liberal and Green Parties to include in their policies that the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning strengthen planning mechanisms to include:

1. inclusionary housing: also known as inclusionary zoning, where the State Government would introduce legislation to enable councils to mandate developer contributions for social and/or affordable housing when Council or a private party undertakes strategic studies that lead to a planning scheme amendments or land rezoning, e.g. changing the land use from industrial/commercial to residential and/or mixed use zones;
2. inclusionary approvals: where council may impose a requirement for social and/or affordable housing on housing developments that include more than 15 units (using Affordable Housing Agreements or Section 173 agreements);
3. density bonuses: where developments will only be considered for approval for higher density or higher scale than the heights recommended in structure plans particularly applicable to Activity centres if the applicant includes a provision for social and/or affordable housing; and councils would consider concessions to conditions
4. fast track planning approvals: planning applications lodged by registered housing agencies would be assessed quickly to fast track delivery of social and affordable housing.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. 1a

Submitting Council Rationale:
Two key state government strategies, Homes for Victorians: Affordability, access and choice and Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 recognise the critical need to increase the supply of affordable housing. Both strategies identified that while the planning system alone could not address all of the issues related to the provision of social and affordable housing it is important for the planning system to play its role.

The Planning and Building Legislation Amendment (Housing Affordability and Other Matters) Bill 2017, passed Parliament and received Royal Assent on September 2017. The amendments to the Planning and Environment Act 1987 come into operation on 1 June 2018. The amendment to the Act reads "The objectives of planning in Victoria are … to facilitate the provision of affordable housing in Victoria".

Whilst the amendments to the Planning and Environment Act 1987 are a starting point to address the housing affordability crisis in Victoria, we believe that more needs to be done to address this issue. It is therefore proposed that the planning mechanisms presented in the motion are considered in future advocacy efforts which will ultimately result in all planning schemes further facilitating the provision of affordable housing.
Motion 40. Appropriate Action from the State Government to Utilise the Land Fill Levy

Submitting Council: Warrnambool City Council

Motion:
1. That the Victorian State Government acknowledges that they have responsibility to coordinate and fund statewide initiatives and responses which support the local government collection system.
2. That the Victorian State Government act to alleviate our dependence on offshore recycle re-processing and immediately utilise the proceeds from the land fill levy to develop local recovery options.
3. That the Victorian State Government should act as soon as possible, to strategically support and leverage sustainable industry investment in new business and technology, with the land fill levies proceeds, so that new industry is created, that will utilise recyclable materials from all councils around the state.
4. That the State should continue to support local councils in reducing the cost impacts on ratepayers in the interim period until these alternate industries are able to be established.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No.
Priority No. 3

Submitting Council Rationale:
The State Government has been collecting the land fill levy for many years now and has done little to change the options for recyclables diversion to land fill or provide alternatives from the key players in the current market that have been known to be undertaking a non-sustainable business model.

Off shoring our waste issues has never been a long term solution and the Government has been very vocal in their role as the chief strategists for waste in the state and have commissioned several strategies championing their role.

The time has come (and past) for the state to put their money where their mouth is, in relation to waste and in particular around recyclables. Strong action and investment is now needed to avoid a social and environmental disaster where the current system has proved both unsustainable and untenable for our communities.
Motion 41. Street Lighting Upgrades
Submitting Council: Hobsons Bay City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) call upon the State Government to fund street lighting upgrades on main roads for all municipalities to make sure new lighting is sustainable, well designed, suitably located and meets the Australian Standards for lighting.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 3 and 4
Priority No. 8 and 10

Submitting Council Rationale:
The Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA) councils which includes Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Wyndham, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Melton, Moorabool and Geelong, like other Victorian councils, have undertaken significant energy efficiency upgrades to public lighting, saving more than 11,000 tonnes CO2-e per annum. They are now considering next stages, including upgrading inefficient major road lights to energy efficient LEDs.

Currently, some 40 per cent of major street lights are cost-shared with VicRoads and they have indicated that they will only share in work to upgrade these lights by refunding, over time, initial up-front capital investments in the upgrades by councils. Given the emphasis on rate capping, councils are unable to take up this offer and without cost sharing arrangements in place there is no realistic outcome for councils to fund lighting upgrades and significant cost efficiencies will be lost.

The Victorian Government has a strong mandate to have regard to climate change in all their subordinate policies, regulations, plans and other measures. As major road lights results in significant Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions annually through inefficient lighting, a best practice approach is required to ensure the most sustainable outcome is achieved over the life cycle of street lighting assets. Lights that last longer, use less energy, require less maintenance and can be recycled at end of life are preferred.
Motion 42. Installation of Smart Poles
Submitting Council: Hobsons Bay City Council

Motion:
That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) call upon the State Government to enter into cost-sharing arrangements with local governments to install Smart Poles in key locations, particularly designated activity centres, to support electric vehicle charge points, to enhance technology and sustainability outcomes in public places.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 3 and 4
Priority No. 8 and 10

Submitting Council Rationale:
The installation of Smart Poles has been undertaken in Newcastle with up to 50 smart poles erected around the inner city. This is also occurring across Sydney and multiple sites internationally. Smart poles provide a range of services to councils whilst supporting other government and non-government agencies to address technology and sustainability outcomes.

Smart Poles are able to offer Wi-Fi connectivity, they can respond to the need for energy efficient outcomes as they have LED lights that can be dimmed by remote control, they have audio speakers for public announcements and cameras for real-time traffic analysis. They also provide the opportunity for electric vehicle charging facilities and offer utility companies a range of telecommunication services.

Smart Poles are a great asset to civic life and provide technology that enhances a range of community outcomes. A cost sharing arrangement with the Victorian Government provides an outcome for councils to add value to public places and enhance the safety of residents as well as providing sustainability outcomes.
Motion 43. Combustible Cladding
Submitting Council: Bayside City Council

Motion:
That MAV advocates to the State Government that the Victorian Building Association (VBA):
- provides financial and legal support and indemnifies councils for their Municipal Building Surveyor (MBS) undertaking enforcement action to address immediate safety risks associated with combustible cladding, extending the current financial support provided for undertaking inspections;
- adjusts the Advisory Reference Panel framework to ensure that council’s MBS can rely on the Panel’s recommended controls without needing to undertake independent assessments of the appropriateness of the controls, with the associated liabilities; and
- establishes the capacity and capability to undertake the role of the MBS to address any buildings identified in the future as being at risk from combustible cladding and address any enforcement related to compliance, noting that in the interim, the MBS will address the current priority list provided by the VBA through undertaking associated enforcement related to immediate building safety.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 1
Priority No. 1B

Submitting Council Rationale:
Combustible cladding is a significant issue for local government. This is due to the community safety concerns relating to the role of combustible cladding in causing the rapid spread of building fires and also due to the significant cost and risk implications of the current initiatives to address these risks. The safety concerns were highlighted by the tragic London Grenfell tower fire and the previous Melbourne Lacrosse Building fire. As a result, the Victorian Cladding Taskforce was established by the Government in mid 2017, co-chaired by the Hon Ted Baillieu and the Hon John Thwaites and including representatives from relevant agencies including: the Victorian Building Authority (VBA); Worksafe; Melbourne Fire Brigade, MAV and the Victorian Municipal Building Surveyor Group.

An interim Taskforce report was released in November 2017, outlining a proposed process for auditing and rectification of buildings with combustible cladding. The process proposed by the Taskforce has since evolved and now requires a significantly stronger involvement of Council Municipal Building Surveyors (MBS). The MBS have been requested to undertake inspections of buildings that are identified as being ‘at risk’, participate in expert risk assessments by a VBA established Advisory Reference Panel and implement the enforcement controls that are recommended by the Panel and relate to immediate building safety. Enforcement controls that relate to compliance (rather than immediate safety) are expected to be addressed by the VBA.

It should be noted that the MBS focus is on private buildings that have final occupancy certificates. Private buildings that are in construction or public buildings are being addressed by VBA and the Department of Environment Land Water and Planning. However, the required MBS involvement is imposing a significant cost and resourcing drain on local government and this impact may continue into the medium term. It also imposes risks on Council, with councils needing to ensure safety concerns are adequately addressed, while...
managing the risks of legal action that opposes enforcement action or seeks compensation for the enforcement action.
Motion 44. Marketing  
Submitting Council: Darebin City Council

Motion:
That MAV State Council:
1. Condemns Woolworths for operating Australia's biggest poker machine business in a reckless and unsustainable fashion, deluging harm and misery on the community by making more than 12,000 predatory and addictive gambling machines available at 300 hotels across Australia, including 80 in Victoria.
2. Authorises the MAV to engage with the Vision Super board to advocate for full divestment of its Woolworths investment by the end of 2018 if the Woolworths board has not publicly announced its intention to divest its poker machine division.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? No
Objective No.
Priority No.

Submitting Council Rationale:
Australians are the world's biggest gamblers in per capita terms with an estimated $25 billion to be lost in 2018. Australia's 200,000 poker machines are expected to contribute more than $13 billion of these losses.

Woolworths are the world's largest operator of poker machines in pubs and club and its Victorian division drained $669 million from gamblers in 2016-17, equating to 25% of the $2.61 billion lost gambling on poker machines across Victoria's 502 pubs and clubs with pokies.

The Woolworths hotels division recently reported a 17% jump in operating profit to a record $163 million for the December half year — comprising a record 11.5% of the overall Woolworths profit.

Gambling regulators across Australia have been investigating claims by whistleblowers who approached Federal MP Andrew Wilkie alleging that Woolworths retains a central data base of big spending gamblers across its poker machine hotels, in order to maximise profits.

The Woolworths board have promised a full independent investigation which is on-going.

Wesfarmers, owner of Coles, is Australia's second largest operator of poker machines in pubs and is currently investigating a full divestment of the division. The Melbourne Football Club also recently announced it was joining North Melbourne in moving to a pokies free operating model by divesting one venue and not renewing pokies licences at a second.

The Victorian Local Government sector has Vision Super as its default super fund for employees, past and present. As at June 30, 2017, it reported net assets of $8.7 billion in member funds under management.

Vision Super's website discloses Woolworths is the fund's 10th largest investment in an ASX listed company, with the holding worth approximately $150 million or 1.71% of total member funds.
Australian super funds are increasingly engaging with listed companies on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues and it would not be unusual for Vision Super to directly engage with Woolworths over member concerns about the harm caused by Australia's record levels of gambling losses, particularly from poker machines which produce an estimated 80% of referrals to gambling support services.

The Victorian local government sector has been a key advocate for gambling reform in Australia since 2014 and support for this motion would continue that momentum leading into the forthcoming Victorian, NSW and Federal elections.
Motion 45. Cyclist Safety
Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Motion:
That the MAV State Council seeks that the MAV:

a. as regards on-road cycle lanes, pursues with the Minister for Roads, VicRoads, and Transport for Victoria Senior Management the need for substantially enhanced State funding to create segregated on-road cycle lanes commencing with strategic cycling corridors - highest risk corridors, to convert token on-road bike lanes to safe segregated bike lanes; and

b. pursues with the Minister for Roads, VicRoads, Transport for Victoria Senior Management and other relevant transport decision makers, the need to redesign intersections used by cyclists as above to reduce uncertainty over use of road space, to reduce conflict points, between vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists, in line with VicRoads, TAC and Council road safety objectives of a zero harm approach, and accordingly progressively implement these through funding from the State budget.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. P4

Submitting Council Rationale:
The aim of the Victorian Bicycle Strategy 2018-2028 is to encourage more people to cycle for transport to work, school to public transport and around neighbourhoods by investing in safer, lower stress, better connected networks, that journey to work by bicycle in cities exceeds that of journey to work by bus, but the rate of cycling has receded in recent years, but that 40% of Victorians say they would be encouraged to cycle if the cycling network was safer and better connected providing a lower-stress experience, and the lack of protected cycle ways has been a barrier to the uptake of cycling.

Further, the key sources of accident and injury to cyclists are at intersections where on-road cycle lanes in Victoria invariably peter out so that cycle markings are non existent leading to uncertainty and conflict at points of highest risk. There is a critical need to improve intersections through redesign for cyclists, integrating best practice from Dutch and Danish models, with line markings, green paint through intersections, visible protected spaces for cyclists including when turning, head start lighting and other measures to improve cyclist safety by reducing uncertainty, conflict and risk.
Motion 46. Container Deposit Scheme
Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Motion:
That
a. In light of prior MAV resolutions on container deposits including that passed 12 May 2017, and container deposits schemes now in SA (1977), NT (2012), NSW (2017), Qld (2018), and WA (2019) and the financial, social and environmental benefits;
b. MAV further pursue with the State, introduction of a Container Deposit Scheme in Victoria, by writing to the Premier, relevant Minister/s and all Members of Parliament, setting out the benefits and urging them to follow the lead in SA, NT, NSW and Qld, to support the introduction of Container Deposit legislation for Victoria.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 2

Submitting Council Rationale:
In Container Deposit Schemes (CDS), consumers pay a deposit on beverage containers, refunded when containers are returned to a collection deposit site. CDS are now being implemented in 57 Australian States, and jurisdictions across Canada, Europe and the United States. CDS returns in excess of $1.30 for every $1.

A 2009 Report, (Turning Rubbish into Community Money: The benefits of a 10c deposit on drink containers in Victoria) outlined potential benefits throughout Victoria, including:
1. increase recycling rates from 49% to 83%;
2. reduce the volume of litter in our parks, beaches and roadsides by 12-15%;
3. increase recovery of packaging waste (and reduce landfill) by 128,000 tonnes per year;
4. reduce Victoria's greenhouse gas emissions by over 350,000 tonnes of CO2e per year (equivalent to over 50,000 Victorian homes switching to 100% renewable energy);
5. save enough water to permanently supply over 12,500 Victorian homes;
6. deliver the same level of Victorian air quality improvements as taking 44,000 cars off the road;
7. save rate payers $15.2 million per annum; and
8. create 300-400 new jobs.

Victorian ratepayers contribute a disproportionate amount to kerbside recycling costs while the packaging industry's contributions is minimal. CDS addresses this imbalance by capturing away from home beverage consumption, while bolstering the economic viability of kerbside recycling.

A stand-alone Victorian scheme could be fully funded from additional funds generated by unredeemed deposits (as funded in California).
Motion 47. Recycling Industries in Victoria
Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Motion:
That:
   a. restrictions in plastic waste exports together with population increases and projections of major increases in waste going to landfill, have created urgency in domestic recycling and resource recovery;
   b. in light of the above, MAV urge the State Government to adopt an approach to waste which acknowledges the need to move to a circular economy in line with the approach taken by many Councils and contemporary best practice.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 2

Submitting Council Rationale:
1. Victoria and Australia lag in recycling and re-use of waste through application of advanced technologies to convert waste from domestic, commercial and industrial waste streams, into new reusable products.
2. There is considerable scope to apply new technologies to improve waste resource recovery to create new industries, attract investment and grow jobs in Victoria.
3. Restrictions in export of waste to China has created urgency together with opportunities to apply new technologies to enable Victoria to be self sufficient in waste management and resource recovery in lieu of exporting waste or increasing waste going to landfill.
4. With projected population increased by 2051, an estimated extra one million tonnes of waste will go to landfill each year, requiring two large new landfills to be created, unless new solutions are introduced to deal with waste;
5. The Sustainability Fund generated from landfill levies since 2005 should be applied to promote new recycling and resource recovery industries in line with the objectives of the Fund.
6. Joint State and Municipal action on waste resource and recovery action is imperative with MAV being requested to take a stronger lead on behalf of the sector to work with the State to achieve residual waste processing solutions.
Motion 48. Electric Buses
Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Motion:
That the MAV pursue with the State, the progressive conversion of Victoria’s polluting diesel bus fleets to well designed E-buses, with improved services, routing, comfort and features such as Wi-Fi, capable of attracting far higher patronage levels, commencing with routes involving high pedestrian and cycle use.

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 2

Submitting Council Rationale:
Buses powered by diesel fuel, are poor in design, outdated, noisy, and polluting with particular negative impacts for pedestrians, cyclists and homes along busy bus routes in cities. Diesel vehicles are among the worst sources of urban air pollution. Nitrogen oxides (NOx) and fine-particulate air pollution exacerbate health risks, cause respiratory diseases, and premature deaths.

Bus design has not altered for near a century, lagging motor vehicle design technology as regards emissions, aerodynamics, comfort, WiFi, and other features.

Lagging also in Victoria, is rollout of electric buses powered by batteries, rechargeable with renewable energy. E-buses are increasingly cost competitive due to lower maintenance costs, and electric charging being cheaper than diesel refuelling, offering pollution free, quieter, cleaner streets. Manufacturing E-buses also has potential to create a new industry and jobs.

German cities, Paris, Copenhagen, Madrid, Mexico City, Athens and London have announced plans to phase out diesel vehicles from city centres.

Policies and incentives are needed to convert Victoria’s diesel bus fleets to well designed E-buses, with improved services, routing, comfort and features such as Wi-Fi, capable of attracting far higher patronage levels.
Motion 49. Infrastructure Funding
Submitting Council: Yarra City Council

Motion:

1) That the MAV raise with the Commonwealth through all other relevant forums:
   a) the need for re-alignment of federal funding arrangements so that the three
      levels of Government in Australia have a more efficient match between their
      public responsibilities and their finances;
   b) the need for the Commonwealth to urgently address the rapidly growing
      infrastructure gap in the States, particularly as regards rail transport in and
      between capital and regional cities – with significant funding being immediately
      provided to metropolitan public transport which will free up road space for cars
      and freight;
   c) the need for equitable infrastructure funding to States to reduce major
      discrepancies between the Australian States, e.g. Victoria’s infrastructure
      funding has been reduced to 6-9% of federal infrastructure funding
      notwithstanding its population being 25% of the nation which produces 22% of
      the Australian GDP.

2) That the MAV therefore seeks:
   a) A commitment to a "new agreement of principles" funding discussion across all
      three levels of government so it is clear who does what based from which
      taxation stream.
   b) $ for $ Commonwealth infrastructure investment in rail in both metropolitan and
      regional cities; and
   c) Better communication of the Commonwealth’s infrastructure funding distribution
      formula

Relevance to MAV Strategic Work Plan 2017-19
Is the subject matter of this motion/resolution included in the SWP? Yes
Objective No. 2
Priority No. 1

Submitting Council Rationale:
There is critical importance to maintain Federal funding to remedy infrastructure gaps in the
States and territories, especially public transport infrastructure, especially rail (all forms -
freight, passenger, heavy rail, metro and light rail), having regard to its essential contribution
to delivering positive productivity outcomes.

The importance of railway construction was recognised by Australia’s founders in ensuring
that the federal constitution provided for Commonwealth power over "railway construction
and extension in any State with the consent of that State" (Constitution of Australia, Section
51(vxxiv)).

Transportation has a major impact on the national economy and the location, form and
function of employment and activity centres, impacting urban form and liveability of cities.
Cities across Australia are major drivers of economic growth and productivity with research
(University of Western Australia (FACTBase Bulletin 21) identifying a clear link between city
competitiveness and connectivity, and the role that transport, and particularly public
transport, play in cost factors for workers, employers and service provision. The Reserve
Bank (Governor Phillip Lowe and his predecessor, Glenn Stevens) has called on the Federal
government to invest more in transportation infrastructure for a growing population and to boost the economy.

The State of Victoria has received less than half to a one third share of federal funding to which Victoria is entitled on a per capita basis. The federal budget allocated to Victoria 19% of Commonwealth national partnership payments for 2015/16, later falling to 12%, to 9%, to now 7.7% of national infrastructure funding despite Victoria’s population being the fastest growing and comprising 25% of Australians.