

WHITEHORSE news



August/September 2026

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WHITEHORSE
CITY COUNCIL

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Cover photo:

Enza from
Spizzico Gourmet Deli & Café
in East Burwood.

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'Councillors Whitehorse'



Customer service centres

Whitehorse Civic Centre,
379–399 Whitehorse Road,
Nunawading
Monday to Friday,
9am to 5pm

Box Hill Town Hall,
1022 Whitehorse Road,
Box Hill
Tuesday to Friday,
9am to 1pm

Acknowledgement of Country

Whitehorse City Council
acknowledges the Wurundjeri
Woi-wurrung people of the
Kulin Nation as the Traditional
Owners of the land. We pay
our respects to their Elders
past, present and emerging.

Information correct at time of printing:
Monday 27 July. This newsletter can
be placed in your recycling bin (yellow
lid). Read the latest news updates,
event information and online content
at whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Mayor's message Cr Kirsten Langford

As Mayor, one of the greatest privileges of my role is celebrating the people, places and achievements that make Whitehorse such a wonderful community.

I had the honour of hosting the 2026 Whitehorse Civic Awards at our annual Community Dinner. It was a privilege to recognise the outstanding individuals, volunteers and community groups who go above and beyond to make Whitehorse a better place. Their dedication, generosity and community spirit are truly inspiring, and I congratulate all of this year's nominees and winners.

I was also delighted to see the results of our 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey, which showed an improvement in Council's overall performance. It is encouraging to know that residents continue to value the services we provide, with customer service and waste management among our highest-rated areas. These results reflect the hard work of staff and reinforce our commitment to delivering reliable, high-quality services for our community.

Another wonderful highlight was celebrating the arrival of the ABC Pop-Up Piano in Mont Albert Village. The launch event brought the Heritage Plaza to life with live music, family-friendly activities and plenty of community spirit. It was fantastic to see people gathering, enjoying spontaneous performances and supporting our local traders. Initiatives like this help create vibrant, welcoming places where people can connect and spend time together.

Thank you for helping make Whitehorse such a welcoming, connected and vibrant community. I look forward to seeing many of you at future events across our city.



Mayor Langford with 2026 Whitehorse Citizen of the Year Dr Bruce Wong and Young Citizen of the Year Fatima Ali.

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It's an easy way to stay up-to-date with what's happening in our local community.

Simply scan the QR code or enter your details on the webpage below, then keep an eye on your letterbox for the next edition!

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Celebrating our 2026 Civic Awards recipients

On Wednesday 22 July, the 2026 Whitehorse Civic Awards were presented at our annual Community Dinner. The awards recognise outstanding individuals and groups who go above and beyond to make Whitehorse a better place. We are proud to announce the following recipients.

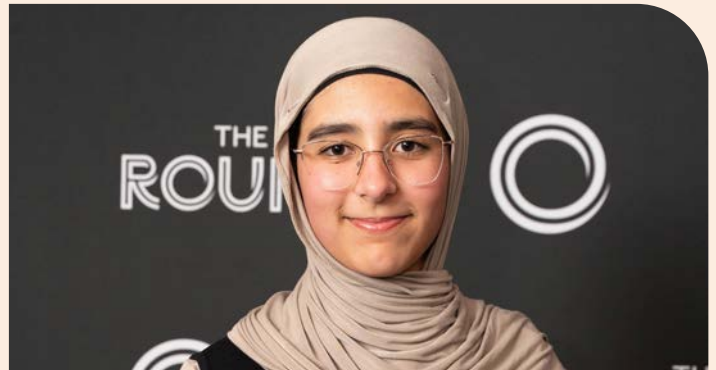


Citizen of the Year 2026

Dr Bruce Wong

A long-time Whitehorse community leader, Dr Bruce Wong is passionate about multicultural inclusion, community connection and supporting those in need.

Arriving in Australia as a refugee, he has dedicated decades to strengthening social cohesion through business, philanthropy and grassroots engagement. Drawing on his own life experiences, he has created opportunities that empower diverse communities, foster belonging and enhance the wellbeing of people across Whitehorse and beyond.



Young Citizen of the Year 2026

Fatima Ali

Fatima Ali is a passionate youth advocate and emerging leader dedicated to empowering young people and amplifying their voices.

Through local, national and international advocacy, she champions education equity, digital safety and youth wellbeing. Her leadership and commitment to meaningful youth participation have inspired others and strengthened opportunities for young people to shape decisions that impact their lives and communities.

Community Achievement Award 2026

This award recognises individuals, community organisations, clubs or groups that have exceeded expectations to improve the Whitehorse community. Congratulations to the following recipients:

- Box Hill Community Bakehouse
- Gabby Knaepple
- Greenlink Box Hill
- Maxwell Chang
- Robert Jones
- Scott Bowden
- Sri Guru Nanak Satsang Sabha (SGNSS) Gurdwara Blackburn
- Zoe Chung



Congratulations to all our 2026 award recipients.

Read more:
whitehorse.vic.gov.au/civic-awards



Suburban Rail Loop East: Box Hill and Burwood precincts

In July, the Victorian Planning Minister has gazetted the new planning controls for Suburban Railway Loop (SRL) East precincts in Box Hill and Burwood. The Minister for Planning now controls the planning permit process for all large development and decisions on master-planning of some sites in Box Hill and Burwood instead of Council. The approved planning controls will have a number of impacts for both areas. Read more: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/SRL

SRL Box Hill

The new planning controls mean that no more than 5 per cent of the 7-hectare Box Hill Brickworks site will be set aside as public open space, with buildings up to ten-storey able to be built on the land.

Council has been advocating alongside community for the majority of land to be transformed into much-needed parkland.

Whitehorse City Council Mayor Kirsten Langford said this decision ignored the clear wishes of the community and the long-term open space needs of the growing community.

SRL Burwood

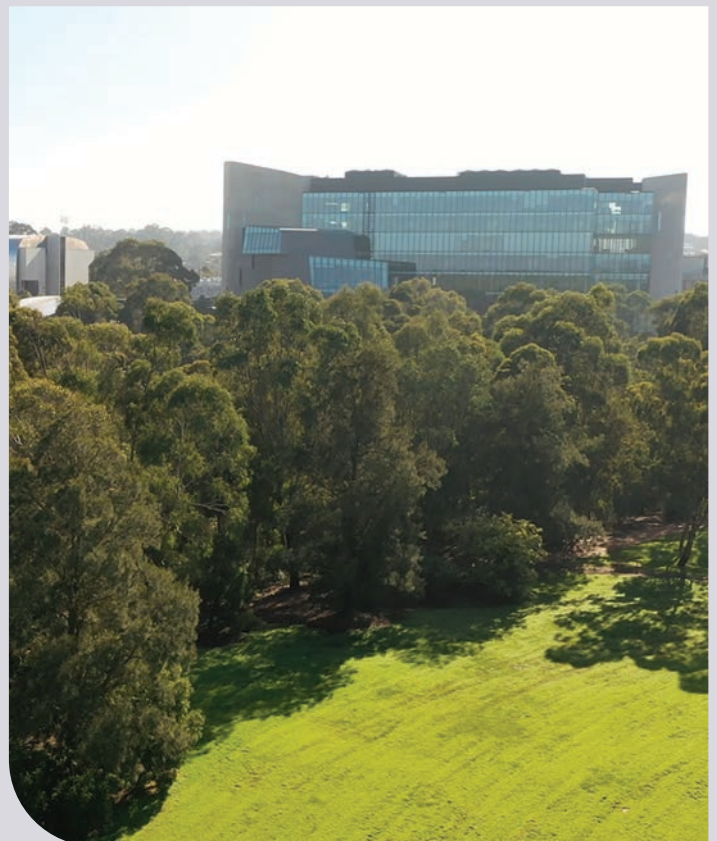
Lower building heights have been put in place around the station precinct adjacent to Gardiner's Creek.

Council is however concerned that increased building heights on sites such as Greenwood Business Park and Mount Scopus is away from the core of the station precinct which in the SRLA's vision is pitched as the focus for activity. Council will welcome the public display of plans for the Mount Scopus site and whether any meaningful open space will be delivered in the masterplan.

"More than 10,000 people have signed petitions calling for the Brickworks to be preserved as public open space, so it's incredibly disappointing that those voices have not been reflected in the final outcome," Mayor Langford said.



Box Hill Brickworks



Burwood Gardiner's Creek and Deakin University

State Government approves final planning controls for Blackburn, Mitcham and Nunawading activity centres

The new zones and overlays direct where future housing growth is intended. The new Housing Choice and Transport Zone is now in place across the residential areas surrounding the 3 activity centres in Whitehorse. A new Built Form Overlay applies mostly to existing Commercial 1 and Mixed Use zoned land in the centres.

Blackburn

Council welcomes the reduction in proposed building heights for the Blackburn Activity Centre, but not all of Council's requests to lower building height were followed.

Council also supports the continued exclusion of land covered by permanent Significant Landscape Overlays (SLO1, SLO2 and SLO4). These changes reflect community feedback and Council's advocacy to protect areas with recognised landscape and environmental values.

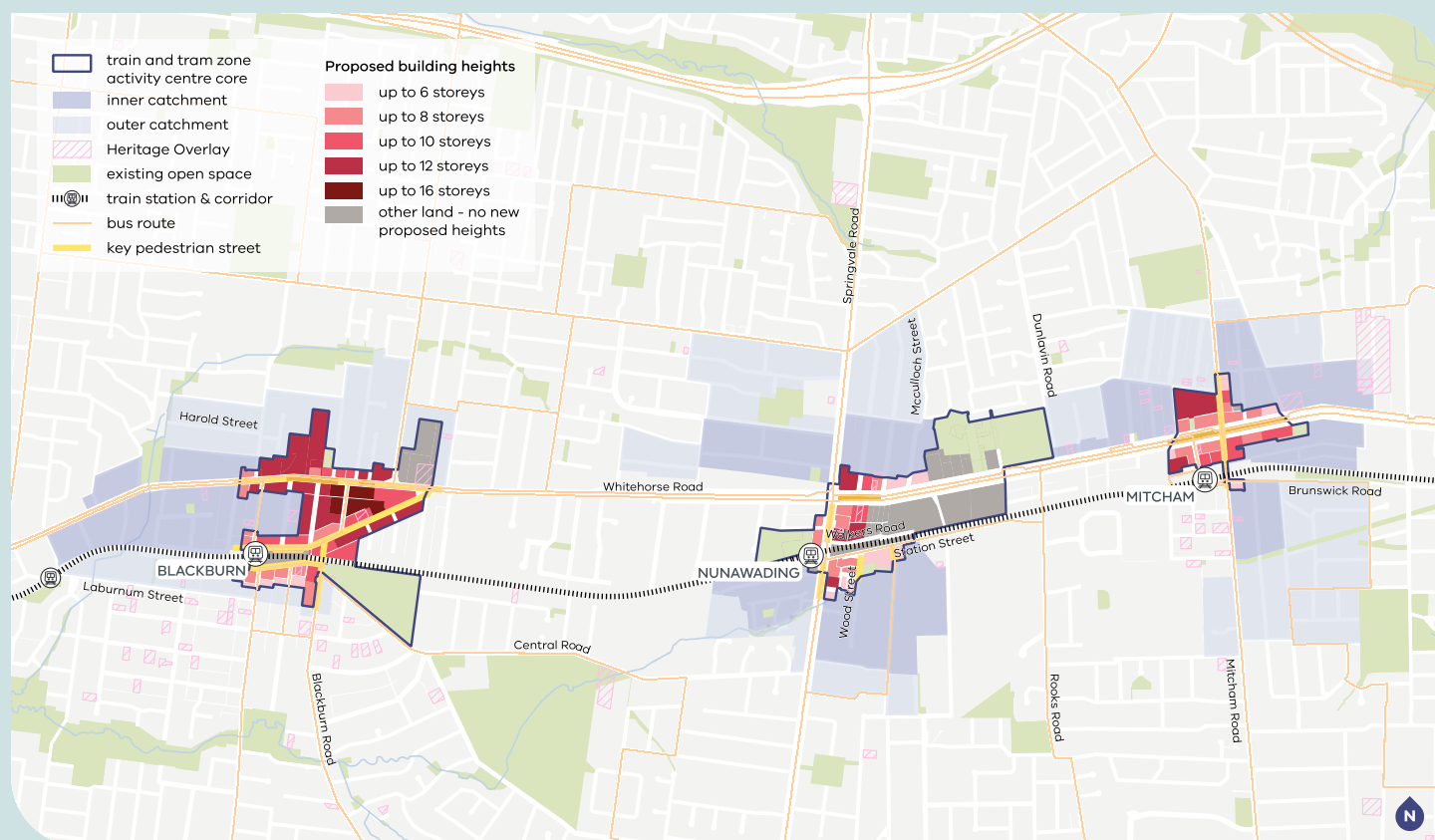
Mitcham

The Government has retained the proposed catchment boundary for the Mitcham Activity Centre. Council remains concerned that the boundary extends too far into areas with valued heritage, established neighbourhood character and significant tree canopy that should be better protected.

Nunawading

Council remains concerned that the final plans for the Nunawading Activity Centre do not provide building height guidance or planning controls for several large, strategically located sites within the activity centre core. We believe these sites present significant opportunities for well-planned redevelopment and that greater planning certainty would better support future housing and economic growth.

See the map showing the proposed height and boundary map for the Blackburn to Mitcham Train and Tram Zone Activity Centres.



Map source: Victorian Government's Blackburn to Mitcham Train and Tram Zone Activity Centres Factsheet (June 2026).



"Dad's Park": Burwood legacy lives on

Council's recent landscaping works at Lundgren Chain Reserve have been warmly welcomed by local resident, Keith, the 94-year-old son-in-law of Oscar "Ossie" Lundgren, former councillor, community leader, and the reserve's namesake.

After seeing the renewal works underway at the reserve, Keith (pictured above with Council's Parks and Natural Environment team) contacted Council to express his appreciation, saying, "Oscar would be very proud."

Oscar served as Mayor of Box Hill in the 1960s and was widely recognised for his commitment to the local community.

Keith, who married one of Oscar's twin daughters, Betty, has a long personal connection to what he affectionately calls "Dad's Park". He recalls taking part in the reserve's original planting in 1992 and can still point out many of the trees he planted.

Remembering Oscar as a man with both a strong community spirit and sharp business acumen, Keith said, "Above all, he was an amazing father figure to me. I lost my parents at a young age, so he took me under his wing when I married Betty."

Having lived nearby for many years, Keith and Betty regularly walked through the reserve and watched it evolve over time.

As the reserve continues to evolve, Council has partnered with profit-for-purpose registered charity Waverley Social Enterprises (pictured below) to maintain the new open space adjoining Lundgren Chain Reserve. The open space was delivered as part of the first phase of works for the Suburban Railway Loop (SRL).

Council staff and Waverley Social Enterprises will work together over the next 2 years to deliver routine maintenance and support the overall presentation and usability of the popular reserve in Burwood.

The partnership between Council and Waverley Social Enterprises will ensure the area remains a place that honours its history while serving the community for generations to come.





Congratulations to Whitehorse's very own Victorian School Crossing Supervisor of the Year, Chris!

We are incredibly proud to celebrate Chris, who has been named the Victorian School Crossing Supervisor of the Year for 2025–26.

Top: Chris at her St James' Primary School crossing.
Right: Chris accepting her Victorian School Crossing Supervisor of the Year award.

For the past 5 and a half years, Chris has been the friendly face welcoming students and families outside St James' Primary School in Vermont. But as the school's heartfelt nomination says, Chris's role goes far beyond helping children cross the road.

Chris' nomination said "Kids look forward to seeing her and often stop for a quick chat. She makes each child feel seen, valued and important. For many children, Chris is like the Nana they don't have, kind, caring and always looking out for them."

Rain, hail or shine, Chris greets everyone with a smile, celebrates students' achievements, asks about their day, and brings warmth and kindness to every morning and afternoon. She has become a treasured part of the St James' school community, building genuine relationships with students, families and staff alike.

Congratulations also to Frank, who was recognised as a state finalist. Having 2 Whitehorse School Crossing Supervisors acknowledged at this level is a wonderful reflection of the care and dedication shown by our entire team.

Congratulations, Chris, on this well-deserved honour, and thank you to all of our school crossing supervisors who work tirelessly every day to keep our children safe. We are so grateful for everything you do.





East Burwood Reserve Pavilion

Burwood East

Construction of the new Southern Pavilion has officially begun. The redevelopment will deliver a multipurpose, inclusive community space for outdoor recreation, play and social connection.

New features include:

- 4 unisex change rooms
- Social/multi-purpose room
- Office and meeting spaces
- Improved spectator areas/seating
- Kiosk and kitchen
- Multiple storage spaces
- First aid room

This project is due for completion in mid-2027 and is funded by Council in partnership with the Australian Government through the Thriving Suburbs Program.

L-R: Team from MelbCon, Deputy Mayor Cr Kieran Simpson, Mayor Cr Kirsten Langford, Dr Carina Garland MP, Federal Member for Chisholm, Libby Hadjiloukas from East Burwood Football Netball Club, Simon Pickburn from East Burwood Cricket Club, Cr Prue Cutts, Cr Jason Martin and Cr Peter Allan.

Building a better Whitehorse



Drewett Street

Surrey Hills

This project included removal and reconstruction of the existing kerb and channel, new underground drainage, new asphalt and improved bike wayfinding signage.

This project received Roads to Recovery Funding provided by the Federal Government.



Forest Hill Courts

Forest Hill

The netball / basketball courts and the surrounding area have been renewed. Works included upgrading court surfacing and line marking, including pickle ball markings, as well as upgraded spectator seating and sporting equipment.



Your feedback in action

Whitehorse is home to a diverse community, with people bringing a range of experiences, skills and backgrounds.

When you share your ideas and feedback, it helps us make informed decisions and deliver projects that reflect community needs and priorities.

Many of the projects and improvements you see in Whitehorse News and across the municipality today have been shaped by community input. If you'd like to have your say on upcoming projects, visit our Your Say Whitehorse webpage: yoursay.whitehorse.vic.gov.au



A recent engagement pop-up in Blackburn.



Halligan Park and Hurter-Finch Play Space

Box Hill North and Blackburn South

Shaped by community feedback and ideas, these 2 outdated play spaces have been transformed. The existing ageing equipment has been replaced with new, modern and high-quality play elements including swings, slides, climbing structures and much more. The new spaces are sure to provide fun, safe and engaging experiences for children of all ages and abilities and their families.



Somers Trail Fitness Equipment

Mitcham

New outdoor fitness equipment has been installed including pull-up bars, leg press, chest press, elliptical trainer, aerobic cycle, pull downs, step-ups and body twist. Landscape works have been completed around the perimeter including new seating.

Kingsley Ward Cr Kirsten Langford Mayor



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 Kirsten.Langford@whitehorse.vic.gov.au



The ABC Mont Albert Plaza Piano

Recently I received a request from community member – Richard Gerner who talked about getting one of the 10 ABC Pianos which are donated to the community annually. The ABC uses some of these locations to film their show "The Piano". It was his suggestion to apply...and by Council working together with Richard and Mont Albert Village Association we had one allocated to the Mont Albert Plaza. Many people are enjoying the piano and sometimes when you walk down Hamilton Street you hear someone playing and sharing their music with the community.

On Friday 24 July we enjoyed a beautiful Winter Music concert featuring many locals both amateurs and professionals. Thank you to the Economic Development team and Mont Albert Village Association for

their tremendous work on this event.

Hamilton St Streetscape

The Streetscape Project is progressing well with the base concept plan completed. Community Engagement is scheduled for August 2026.

Recent works included the mapping underground services so drainage issue – thank you to local traders for your patience during these works.

New Rostrevor Parade Roundabout

A new roundabout has been installed at the intersection of Rostrevor and Bundooran Pde slowing down the traffic and making it safer for the community.

Meet the Mayor

I will be having community coffee catchups over August/September/October. Check out my social media to find out when.

Cootamundra Ward Cr Kieran Simpson Deputy Mayor



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 Kieran.Simpson@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

The Victorian Government has released further detail on the proposed final plans for the Blackburn Activity Centre, which shows notable changes to building heights that reflect strong community feedback and sustained advocacy from Council.

Among the most significant amendments is the reduction in building heights. South Parade will now see maximum heights lowered from 12 storeys to 8, while adjacent residential properties to the south have been scaled back from 8 storeys to 6. Similarly, the Solwood Lane area has been reduced from 12 storeys to 10, and the prominent site on the south-east

corner of Whitehorse Road and Vine Street will drop from 10 to 8 storeys.

The north side of Laburnum Street has shifted from the Inner Catchment designation to the more restrictive Outer Catchment, reducing allowable heights to 3 storeys, or up to 4 on larger sites. The area south of Harold Street has also been moved into the Outer Catchment, further easing potential development intensity.

The Blackburn Hotel and adjoining land have been reduced from 16 to 12 storeys, aligning with community expectations, while the neighbouring Sikh Temple site remains unchanged at 12 storeys. Some uplift has been applied to parts of the western side of Chapel Street, where heights have increased from 12 to 16 storeys within the existing Commercial 1 Zone.

Importantly, the significant landscape overlays SLO1

and SLO2 will continue to be excluded from the activity centre boundaries, preserving valued environmental protections.

I understand there are diverse views in the community and not everyone will agree with every aspect of the plans. That's completely understandable. These are complex decisions that affect the future of our area. My door is always open to any resident who wants to discuss their concerns or ideas.

Recent community satisfaction survey results show continued improvement in Whitehorse, with scores again above the state average. Council has seen improved scores in customer service, communication and opportunities for feedback. Listening to the community is something I campaigned on, and these results tell me we as a Council are heading in the right direction. But there is always more work to do.

Eley Ward
Cr Daniel Griffiths



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**Ballyshannassy Park,
Burwood East**

Council has acquired a 535m² lot at 467 Highbury Road to strategically expand public open space and improve access at the constrained park entrance.

**Warrawong Annex,
Blackburn South**

We are excited to welcome the Vermont Men's Shed to this underutilised site (32 Richmond Street), where they will share the facility with the Forest Hill Woodturners while we scope long-awaited potential upgrades.

I acknowledge this change necessitates a venue transition for our regular short-hire bookings. This includes the

Victorian Game and Deerstalking Association as well as the Eley Park Artists group, which have anchored a vibrant social and art community here since 1995 – thank you!

**Mirrabooka
(Orchard Grove) Reserve**

The main structure of the new Sport and Community Pavilion is rapidly taking shape, revealing the impressive scale of the build.

**Listening to residents
on heritage**

Council recently considered the Draft 2024 Heritage Study. We heard from numerous passionate speakers both for and against. After hearing from residents concerned about the potential financial and personal consequences of their home being included in the process, Council resolved to remove some potential heritage homes from the planning process that would have considered applying a heritage overlay.

Keeping our parks clean

While dedicated volunteer groups such as the Friends of Wurundjeri Walk do incredible work and SnapSendSolve helps us target dumped rubbish, Council is also driving innovative ways to keep maintenance costs down. Following Council's decision to expand our partnership with Corrections Victoria, supervised teams are now more regularly collecting litter and removing graffiti.

Next time you are caught in traffic on Middleborough Road near the RSPCA's sheep paddock, look out at the chain fenceline – that's one of the newer sites added to the cleaning schedule.

**Join me for 'Coffee with
your councillor' at Burwood
Brickworks (Woolworths),
Saturday 19 September
at 10am.**

Elgar Ward
Cr Blair Barker



 crblairbarker

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**The North East Link or the
Eastern Freeway widening has
presented major challenges,
with noise, construction dust
and regular freeway closures.**

**I am comforted knowing one
day it will be complete and we'll
have access to an improved
road and the shared path and
open spaces will return, albeit
in some instances smaller.**

I deeply appreciate the patience you have all shown, especially those households closest to the freeway.

I am also deeply appreciative of the Council staff that behind the scenes have been diligently auditing the NE Link plans for our open spaces and bringing significant improvements to

the design and supporting our residents in their dealings with the project.

With winter fully upon us, and some of the cold grey days, I am incredibly proud of the local sporting groups and the volunteers that power them. They enable all ages to be active and social in the winter months; these folk add much to the civic life.

The new sensor lights on the Elgar Park South West Oval are now active, enabling locals to exercise themselves and their dogs in the darker months both in the morning from 630am and at night until 9pm. It's a great system simply walk onto the ovals in the dark hours the lights come on. Getting more use out of our open spaces is important.

If you have an idea involving modest investment for more use out of our assets please reach out to me.



Lake Ward Cr Hayley Weller

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Strengthening good governance is one of the core strategic directions in our Council Plan 2025–29.

We have committed to being an open, transparent, accountable and responsible Council – one that is well governed, efficient and financially sustainable. These principles guide every decision we make, and they sit at the heart of the reforms progressing through the Victorian Parliament.

The Local Government Legislation Amendment (Stronger Communities) Bill 2026 is expected to pass both houses in the coming months. The Bill introduces amendments to the Local Government Act 2020 designed to reinforce governance, integrity and Councillor conduct across the sector.

These reforms respond to issues identified through independent inquiries, and they reflect a clear expectation that councils operate with consistency, fairness and strong ethical foundations.

A key element of the Bill is the introduction of Model Governance Rules. Councils will be required to adopt these rules or incorporate them into their existing frameworks, creating greater alignment and clarity across Victoria. The Bill also proposes new requirements for how certain meetings are chaired, particularly when matters relate to the conduct of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or another Councillor.

This aims to ensure that matters are handled with independence and transparency.

Conflict of interest provisions will be strengthened to make clear that obligations extend beyond the formal Council meeting environment. Under the proposed changes, a Councillor with

a conflict will be restricted from directing, influencing or discussing the matter with anyone involved in the decision-making process. This reinforces the importance of impartiality at every stage of decision making. The Bill also updates internal dispute and Councillor conduct processes. Importantly, it allows the Minister for Local Government to request that a council attempt to resolve an internal issue before external intervention is considered. Additional provisions relate to CEO employment governance and compliance with the proposed Local Government Fair Jobs Code.

If passed, these reforms will require councils to revisit their governance settings and ensure that Councillors, CEOs and governance staff fully understand the new obligations. This is an opportunity to strengthen trust, reinforce integrity and support the high standards our community expects.

Mahoneys Ward Cr Jason Martin

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There is plenty happening across Whitehorse, and it's exciting to see so many projects progressing that will benefit our community now and into the future. Council recently adopted the 2026–27 Budget, which continues our investment in the facilities, services and public spaces that make Whitehorse such a great place to live.

This budget includes a new water fountain at Brentford Square, the return of Mitcham Twilight Markets, and an upgrade to the Tainton Road Reserve Playground. These are just a few examples of how we're investing in the places where people live, meet and connect. I'm also looking forward to the release of the final Mahoneys Reserve Masterplan.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to share your ideas during consultation. Whether you attended a community session or lodged a submission, your feedback has helped shape the long-term vision for this important community space.

Community safety continues to be a priority for Council. While there's no single solution, we know the best outcomes come when Council, Victoria Police and our community work together. Whether it's improving public spaces, supporting local safety initiatives or simply reporting issues when they arise, we all have a role to play in keeping Whitehorse a safe and welcoming place.

Many residents have also contacted me about the State Government's Activity Centre planning for Blackburn, Nunawading and Mitcham. I know these proposals have raised questions about how

our suburbs may change. While these planning decisions are led by the State Government, Council will continue advocating for the infrastructure, open space, transport and facilities our growing community needs. Another exciting opportunity is the future of the Box Hill Brickworks site, a once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver significant public open space for our community.

Thank you for taking an interest in what's happening across our city. I always appreciate hearing from residents, and I look forward to continuing to work with you to keep Whitehorse a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.

Sparks Ward
Cr Peter Allan



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Peter.Allan@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

As your local Sparks Ward representative, I am excited to share our recent community milestones, including the newly adopted \$284 million Council Budget 2026/27 and the successful push for so-called "balanced" planning controls at our local Activity Centres.

The proposed residential towers of some 16 storeys and high density housing is of deep concern to me and many residents.

The recently endorsed Council Budget 2026/27 directly delivers on our community's priorities. It funds the expansion of our urban forest along the Gardiners Creek Trail, upgrades critical pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, and bolsters local trader networks. It also delivers on maintaining

over 100 services and critical community and sporting infrastructure.

I am also thrilled to note that the 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey results have been released, revealing an uptick in our overall council performance score to 65. This sits significantly above the state average of 58. I want to thank residents for your continued feedback, which drives our focus on continuous improvement.

Furthermore, following the state government's recent announcement on planning controls for the Box Hill SRL Precinct, our council is working hard to ensure future development is in step with community's expectations. We will remain actively engaged with the Suburban Rail Loop Authority (SRLA) to protect our precious public open spaces and ensure community voices are heard.

The council will continue to advocate that the former Box Hill Brickworks site remains open space for all and not 7ha of 10 storey towers!

As we progress through the year, I encourage you to check out upcoming events at The Round in Nunawading, and events at the Box Hill Town Hall, Box Hill Community Arts Centre or get involved with new initiatives on the Your Say Whitehorse engagement portal.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me directly with your local ideas or concerns. Together, we can keep Box Hill and Box Hill South and the wider City of Whitehorse a fantastic place to live, work, and thrive.

Terrara Ward
Cr Jarrod Gunn



 @jarrodgunnforterrara

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This Council has just completed its second budget and we have tried to bring a focus of expenditure and policy back to the basics – the core business of what a community expects from its local authority.

This includes infrastructure spending that adds benefits (such as walking tracks, on-demand lighting and resurfacing and unlocking Bill Sewart Athletics Track for public use) and a reorientation of spending that supports increased utilisation of services to more people (such as our Open Libraries trial and low-cost pool entry for concession card holders).

This budget also includes a focus on the fundamental operations of Council activity such as roads, drainage, footpaths and recreational infrastructure, a bin and waste service that is reliable and a customer service ethos that puts residents and ratepayers at the core of our purpose.

This Council does not perform to higher political interests; it does not engage in identity politics or matters unrelated to our core business.

As your local representative I have made a commitment to continue to work for you, to respond to your concerns and be sure that your interests are front and centre in my decision making.

This is only possible by continually being aware of what is on your mind. I have spent many hours door-knocking this community and I have truly

appreciated your feedback and ideas. Nothing beats a face-to-face conversation. I will continue to have these conversations. However, if you are not home or your idea or concern comes after I have passed through you can always get in touch with me via my contact details. I am here for you.

Until next time.



On demand lighting at Terrara Park – allowing greater utilisation throughout winter.

Walker Ward Cr Ben Stennett

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Thank you to everyone who attended the recent community activation in Britannia Mall (pictured), where Council sought feedback on the proposed weather shelter and community safety priorities. Your feedback will help shape future improvements for our local area.

In late July, I also attended the Whitehorse PSA Police Forum, where Victoria Police, Council and residents discussed local safety issues and opportunities to strengthen community partnerships.

At Council's July meeting, I was pleased to support a resolution to investigate additional locations for fenced dog parks across Whitehorse.

I have been advocating for a fenced dog park in Walker Ward and look forward to ensuring our community is considered as this work progresses.

I remain focused on delivering practical improvements for

Walker Ward, including better community facilities, safer public spaces and quality local infrastructure.

If you have an idea or local issue you'd like to discuss, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Wattle Ward Cr Andrew Davenport

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Budget 2027/2028

As Council continues delivering the 2026/27 Budget, planning is already underway for the 2027/28 financial year. Community feedback plays an important role in shaping future priorities, and I welcome suggestions from residents on areas where Council can improve services, invest in local initiatives, or identify opportunities to reduce waste and improve efficiency. If you have an idea you would like Council to consider, please contact me.

Expanding Access to Our Libraries

I am pleased to share that at the Council meeting on 22 June 2026, Councillors supported a motion to introduce an Open Library trial at Nunawading

Library. Open Library programs allow registered and inducted members to access library facilities beyond standard staffed hours, with proposed access available between 8am and 10pm, 7 days a week.

This initiative aims to provide greater flexibility for residents to study, work, read and access library resources at times that suit them. Planning for the trial is now underway, with further details to be announced in the coming months.

Have Your Say on Bennettswood Reserve

Bennettswood Reserve and Gardiners Creek are valued community spaces that support sport, recreation, social connection and enjoyment of the natural environment. Council is currently seeking community feedback on a proposed master plan for the reserve, including improvements to the Northern Oval precinct and surrounding areas to help meet the needs of our growing community.

Consultation is open until **9 August 2026**. I encourage residents to review the plans and share their views at: yoursay.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/bennettswood-reserve

Thank You for Supporting National Tree Day

Thank you to everyone who participated in **National Tree Day 2026**, including those who attended planting activities across Whitehorse. A special thank you goes to the **Friends of Gardiners Creek Reserve** for hosting the local event at Gardiners Creek.

Community planting efforts make a lasting contribution to our local environment. Over time, these projects help enhance biodiversity, improve green spaces and create healthier habitats for future generations. I look forward to seeing this year's plantings grow and thrive in the years ahead.

Council meetings

All meetings are open to the public and are held in the Council Chamber at the Whitehorse Civic Centre.

Meetings are also live streamed at webcast.whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Next meetings

- Monday 3 August 2026
- Monday 24 August 2026
- Monday 14 September 2026
- Monday 5 October 2026

Search '**Council meetings**' on Council's website for agendas, minutes and more information.

The views expressed are those of individual Councillors and do not necessarily reflect Council policy or the views of Council as a whole. Our Councillors have been elected to serve until October 2028.

To read updates from our Councillors online, scan the QR code.



An uptick in performance

The 2026 Community Satisfaction Survey results reflect strong community confidence in our performance and reinforces our commitment to delivering reliable, high-quality services.

Council continues to perform strongly against key benchmarks and maintains a solid position within the metro council group.

Customer service was a standout area, with residents recognising improvements in their experience when interacting with Council.

Waste management also remains one of our most highly valued core services. Libraries, community events and cultural activities are also recognised as strong areas of performance.

While the results highlight our strengths in delivering important services, residents have also identified opportunities for improvement.

Read more:
[whitehorse.vic.gov.au/
community-satisfaction-survey](http://whitehorse.vic.gov.au/community-satisfaction-survey)





Marketing made simple

In today's information overloaded world, finding the drive to market your business can feel daunting. But what if marketing didn't have to drain your energy or take up all your time?

In this empowering keynote, designed for solopreneurs and small to medium-sized business owners, you'll learn how to streamline your marketing with simple, high-impact strategies that amplify your results without the burnout.

When: Friday 28 August
9.30am to 12pm

Where: The Round, Nunawading

Cost: \$35

Bookings: Required,
businesswhitehorse.com.au



Harnessing the power of AI tools to market your small business

Designed specifically for the cost-conscious small business owner to provide them with practical AI marketing applications for business.

This is a fast-paced workshop that will explore the current tools that genuinely offer help to small business owners.

When: Tuesday 15 September,
6pm to 8pm

Where: Quest, 315 Burwood Hwy,
Burwood East

Cost: \$25

Bookings: Required,
businesswhitehorse.com.au



Unlock funding opportunities

Grants can help you to deliver projects and create benefits for the local community.

However, finding the right grant opportunity and navigating the application process can be challenging.

Whitehorse's pilot Grant Accelerator Program supports local community organisations, businesses and individuals to access funding opportunities and strengthen your grant application.

Through the free program, we can:

- identify suitable or eligible grants for your organisation.
- provide guidance and advice on your application/s
- host free grant writing workshops
- issue a Letter of Support, where appropriate and applicable
- help you connect with your local MPs

Through Whitehorse Grant Finder, you can:

- search for suitable grants in one place
- register for alerts about new funding opportunities
- access resources and guidance to strengthen your application
- attend free workshops to build your grant writing skills
- connect with your local MPs

Get started

Grant Accelerator Program

For one-on-one support and to arrange a face-to-face appointment, please email: advocacy@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Whitehorse Grant Finder

To explore funding opportunities and sign up for grant alerts, visit grantguru.com/au/whitehorse





A taste of Italy, close to home

Shopfront Stories: Spizzico Gourmet Deli & Café

Growing up in a family of business owners, Enza developed a love of good food and hospitality from an early age. Her journey later took her to Italy, where she lived for more than 4 years and even owned a cheese shop in Milan. It was there that she deepened her connection to her Italian heritage and discovered new inspiration.

When it came time to open her own café in Australia, Enza wanted a name that reflected those memories. The name Spizzico was chosen, borrowed from a favourite local business in Milan.

After 18 years in Burwood Heights, Spizzico has become much more than a café and deli. For Enza, the greatest reward has been watching the local community grow alongside her business.

"It's the people," she says. "I love getting to know them and seeing families grow."

Whether she's preparing handmade lasagna, freshly made panini or other traditional Italian favourites, Enza's passion remains the same as it was when she first opened her doors in 2008, to create delicious food and make people feel welcome.

Blending a new beginning

Elderberry Blends Australia

When Tatjana decided it was time to relocate Elderberry Blends Australia, she knew there would be plenty to consider. As the founder and driving force behind the business's unique, certified organic range, including her signature syrups, honey, tea, tinctures and more, Tatjana was looking for a location where her business could continue to grow.

As the relocation required input from several regulatory teams, our Business Support Advisor coordinated the necessary information and guided Tatjana through each step of the process, making the move as smooth as possible.

Elderberry Blends Australia is now proudly operating in its new Whitehorse home, and we're delighted to welcome Tatjana to our business community. We encourage everyone to support this unique and wonderful business.

Thinking about starting, relocating or expanding your own business?

We're here to help. Complete our short enquiry form by scanning the QR code or visit the website to get started: business.whitehorse.com.au/your-business-whitehorse



Italian | Italiano

Celebriamo i vincitori dei Premi civici 2026

I Premi civici di Whitehorse 2026 sono stati consegnati a luglio durante la cena comunitaria. I premi sono un riconoscimento per le persone e i gruppi che fanno più del dovuto per rendere Whitehorse un posto migliore.

Congratulazioni al dott. Bruce Wong, Cittadino dell'anno, e a Fatima Ali, Giovane cittadina dell'anno, e congratulazioni agli 8 vincitori del Premio per i risultati raggiunti nella comunità.

Scopri di più sui vincitori: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/civic-awards

Il Consiglio comunale approva un bilancio di 284 mila dollari

Approvato dal Consiglio comunale lunedì 22 giugno 2026, il Bilancio 2026–27 illustra come il Consiglio finanzia servizi e progetti di alta qualità per il prossimo anno finanziario.

Il bilancio si concentra su servizi essenziali di qualità, investimenti in infrastrutture e spazi aperti, sostegno alle imprese locali e all'attività economica, e sulla creazione di una città sicura, collegata e vivibile, in linea con le priorità della comunità.

Maggiori informazioni sul Bilancio 2026-27: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/budget

Ricevi le Notizie di Whitehorse direttamente a casa tua

Lo sapevi? Se vivi a Whitehorse, puoi ricevere le Notizie di Whitehorse direttamente a casa, gratuitamente!

Basta inserire i tuoi dati nella pagina qui sotto, poi dovrai solo controllare la cassetta della posta per la prossima edizione!

Consegna delle Notizie di Whitehorse: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/news/whitehorse-news/whn-postal-subscription



Servizio di interpretariato gratuito

Chiama il numero 131 450, indica la lingua che parli e chiedi che ti mettano in contatto con il Consiglio Comunale di Whitehorse.

Greek | Ελληνικά

Εορτάζοντας τους νικητές των Δημοτικών Βραβείων 2026

Τα Δημοτικά Βραβεία του Whitehorse 2026 απονεμήθηκαν στο ετήσιο Κοινοτικό Δείπνο τον Ιούλιο. Τα βραβεία αναγνωρίζουν εξαιρετικά άτομα και ομάδες που ξεπερνούν κάθε προσδοκία για να κάνουν το Whitehorse καλύτερο μέρος.

Συγχαρητήρια στην Πολίτη της Χρονιάς, Δρ. Bruce Wong, και στη Νεαρή Πολίτη της Χρονιάς, Fatima Ali, καθώς και στους 8 νικητές του Βραβείου Κοινοτικής Επίτευξης.

Μάθετε περισσότερα για τους νικητές: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/civic-awards

Ο Δήμος εγκρίνει προϋπολογισμό 284 εκατομμυρίων δολαρίων

Εγκεκριμένος από το Δήμο τη Δευτέρα 22 Ιουνίου 2026, ο Προϋπολογισμός 2026–27 καθορίζει τον τρόπο με τον οποίο ο Δήμος θα χρηματοδοτήσει την παροχή υπηρεσιών και έργων υψηλής ποιότητας για το επόμενο οικονομικό έτος.

Επικεντρώνεται στην παροχή ισχυρών βασικών υπηρεσιών, στην επένδυση σε υποδομές και ανοιχτούς χώρους, στη στήριξη των τοπικών επιχειρήσεων και της οικονομικής δραστηριότητας, και στη δημιουργία μιας ασφαλούς, συνδεδεμένης και ζωντανής πόλης, σύμφωνα με τις προτεραιότητες της κοινότητας.

Διαβάστε περισσότερα για τον Προϋπολογισμό 2026–27: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/budget

Λάβετε τα Νέα του Whitehorse στην πόρτα σας

Γνωρίζετε ότι, ως κάτοικος του Whitehorse, μπορείτε να λαμβάνετε τα Νέα του Whitehorse απευθείας στην πόρτα σας, δωρεάν;

Απλώς καταχωρίστε τα στοιχεία σας στην παρακάτω ιστοσελίδα και παρακολουθήστε το γραμματοκιβώτιό σας για το επόμενο τεύχος!

Παράδοση των Νέων του Whitehorse: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/news/whitehorse-news/whn-postal-subscription



Δωρεάν υπηρεσία διερμηνείας

Καλέστε το 131 450, αναφέρετε τη γλώσσα που μιλάτε και ζητήστε να συνδεθείτε με το Δήμο Whitehorse.

Simplified Chinese | 简体中文

庆祝2026年市民奖获奖者

2026年 Whitehorse 市民奖于7月年度社区晚宴颁发,表彰为建设更好 Whitehorse 作出突出贡献的个人与团体。

热烈祝贺以下获奖者: 年度市民奖: Dr Bruce Wong; 年度青年市民奖: Fatima Ali; 以及社区成就奖: 8位获奖者

了解更多获奖者信息: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/civic-awards

市议会通过2.84亿澳元预算

2026年6月22日星期一,市议会通过了2026–27年度预算案,明确了市议会将在下一个财政年度如何为高质量的服务和项目提供资金支持。

重点在于提供强有力的公共服务,投资基础设施和公共空间,支持本地企业和经济活动,打造一个安全、便捷且宜居的城市,以契合社区优先事项。

了解更多关于2026–27年度预算的信息: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/budget

将 Whitehorse 通讯送到您家门口

您知道吗? Whitehorse 居民可免费订阅 Whitehorse 通讯,每期邮寄到家。

只需在下方网页上填写您的资料,然后留意您信箱中的下一期刊物即可!

请立即订阅 Whitehorse 通讯: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/news/whitehorse-news/whn-postal-subscription



免费口译服务

请致电 131 450,告知您的语言需求,并要求接通 Whitehorse 市议会。

Vietnamese | Tiếng Việt

Hãy chúc mừng những người nhận Giải thưởng Công dân năm 2026

Lễ trao Giải thưởng Công dân Whitehorse năm 2026 đã diễn ra tại Bữa tối Cộng đồng thường niên của chúng tôi vào tháng Bảy. Giải thưởng này nhằm vinh danh những cá nhân và tập thể xuất sắc, những người đã nỗ lực hết mình để làm cho Whitehorse trở thành một nơi tốt đẹp hơn.

Chúc mừng Tiến sĩ Bruce Wong, người được vinh danh là Công dân của năm, và Fatima Ali, người được vinh danh là Công dân trẻ của năm, cũng như 8 người nhận Giải thưởng Thành tựu Cộng đồng.

Tìm hiểu thêm về những người chiến thắng tại: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/civic-awards

Hội đồng thông qua ngân sách 284 triệu đô la

Được Hội đồng thông qua vào thứ Hai ngày 22 tháng 6 năm 2026, Ngân sách năm 2026–27 nêu rõ cách thức Hội đồng sẽ tài trợ cho việc cung cấp các dịch vụ và dự án chất lượng cao trong năm tài chính sắp tới.

Ngân sách tập trung vào việc cung cấp các dịch vụ thiết yếu vững mạnh, đầu tư vào cơ sở hạ tầng và không gian công cộng, hỗ trợ các doanh nghiệp địa phương và hoạt động kinh tế, đồng thời tạo ra một thành phố an toàn, kết nối và đáng sống phù hợp với các ưu tiên của cộng đồng.

Tìm hiểu thêm về Ngân sách năm 2026–27 tại: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/budget

Nhận bản tin Whitehorse tại nhà

Quý vị có biết, là cư dân của Whitehorse, quý vị có thể nhận được báo Whitehorse News giao tận nhà miễn phí không?

Chỉ cần điền thông tin của quý vị vào trang mạng bên dưới, sau đó chú ý đến hộp thư của quý vị để nhận ấn bản tiếp theo!

Nhận bản tin Whitehorse: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/news/whitehorse-news/whn-postal-subscription



Dịch vụ thông dịch miễn phí

Gọi số 131 450, cho biết ngôn ngữ quý vị nói và yêu cầu được kết nối với Hội đồng Thành phố Whitehorse.



Building an inclusive community together

Council's Disability Action Plan 2026–2030 was adopted on Monday 22 June and sets out a clear commitment to inclusion over the next 4 years. Around 18% of Australians report living with a disability, which equates to approximately 33,000 people in Whitehorse, highlighting why this work is important for our community.

The Whitehorse Disability Action Plan helps Council create a fair, welcoming and inclusive community for everyone, recognising that this work is essential to how we support our residents to participate fully in community life.

Council's actions are organised around 5 priority areas and 31 actions focused on reducing discrimination and addressing barriers across the social, built, economic and natural environments.

This important work has been shaped by our community. Engagement undertaken in September and October 2025 reached more than 300 people, whose insights and lived experience have directly informed the priorities and actions in the plan.

View the plan: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/whitehorse-disability-action-plan

Flexible payment options for your rates

Your 2026/27 Valuation and Rate Notice will be sent during August 2026. Council offers a range of payment options to suit different needs, including BPAY, direct debit and online payments. For a simple and flexible way to manage your rates, we encourage you to sign up to Payble.

Payble gives you greater control and flexibility in how you manage your rates.

- Set up weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or one-off payments
- Pay using a bank account, credit card or debit card
- Receive SMS reminders before payments are due
- Choose to receive email receipts
- Log in to update account information at any time.

To find out more about Payble or to set up your payments, visit the Your Rates section on Council's website or scan the QR code on your 2026/27 Valuation and Rate Notice.



Youth Connexions marks moments that matter

Youth Connexions Youth Issues Network (YIN) will continue to recognise, celebrate and support young people in our community in August and September, with outreach activities for:

- **International Youth Day (12 August)**
- **Wear it Purple Day (28 August)**
- **RU OK? Day (10 September)**
- **World Suicide Prevention Day (10 September)**

Keep updated:

 facebook.com/YouthConneXions/
 [@youthconnexions](https://www.instagram.com/youthconnexions)



Dementia Action Week 21–27 September

Being physically active is one of the most powerful things we can do to help delay the onset and progression of dementia.

As part of Dementia Action Week, Whitehorse will be hosting dementia awareness activities, highlighting the benefits of regular movement and social connection.

For more information and to register, scan the QR code or contact positive.ageing@whitehorse.vic.gov.au



WHITEHORSE Spring School Holiday Program



Visit our website to view the full program and to book:
whitehorse.vic.gov.au/school-holidays

Book in some dates



Whitehorse Seniors Festival – October

Get ready to connect, create and celebrate – come and be inspired at the Whitehorse Seniors Festival this October.

With more than 200 free and low-cost activities, workshops, performances, social gatherings and special events, the festival is a wonderful opportunity to try something new, revisit an

old passion, make new friends and celebrate the many opportunities that come with ageing well.

Pick up your free festival program guide from 1 September from any Council facility, Whitehorse Library or view the full program online whitehorse.vic.gov.au/whitehorse-seniors-festival



Whitehorse Artspace becomes Whitehorse Art Gallery

July 2026 marks a new era in the life of Whitehorse City Council's leading public art gallery. Since its establishment in 1998 in the Box Hill Town Hall, the gallery has operated under the name *Whitehorse Artspace*.

Over its 28-year history Artspace has hosted a dazzling array of exhibitions, engaging community members and cultural tourists alike with exciting contemporary and historic art by talented local artists and national icons. We look forward to continuing this legacy of excellence with a new name for the gallery that clarifies its position as Council's premier visual arts destination –the **Whitehorse Art Gallery**.

Our current Curator, **Marguerite Brown**, is highly qualified and well regarded within the Australian visual arts sector. She holds a Master of Arts (Arts Curatorship) from the University of Melbourne and, following graduation, was awarded a competitive 10-month professional residency at the British Museum in London, one of the world's leading museum institutions.

Marguerite has almost 20 years' experience in curatorial and management roles across Victorian galleries and arts organisations.



Prior to joining Whitehorse, she was Director of the Print Council of Australia, the national peak body representing print artists. Her professional expertise, industry knowledge and established networks are critical in identifying and assessing acquisition opportunities for the Collection.

We hope you enjoy the exhibition program Marguerite has curated for the remainder of the year, beginning with **Emma x Zhang: AFTER-IMAGE**.



Image: Work: 'Everything comes from the ocean' by Rosalind Price. Image courtesy and © the artist.

Rewilding – Papermakers of Victoria

This exhibition is an invitation to let imagination run free. Rewilding calls on us to pay attention to the living world in all its intricate beauty. For papermakers, it's a prompt to explore wild possibilities in paper arts.

When: Wednesday 26 August - Saturday 12 September, 9am to 5pm

Where: Box Hill Community Arts Centre

Cost: Free, no bookings required
creativewhitehorse.vic.gov.au/whats-on/rewilding-papermakers-victoria



Get creative with our exciting Term 4 Programs!

Whether you're picking up a new hobby or continuing your creative journey, there is something for everyone!

With weekly classes in 3D printing, clay wheel work, Chinese brush painting, ceramics, printmaking and more, there's a session to suit every age and skill level, led by industry-leading tutors who make learning fun, engaging and inspiring. Enrolments open 8 September. Scan the QR code to register to receive the Term 4 Program release:
whitehorse.vic.gov.au/subscribe-creative-whitehorse





Celebrate Wattle Day in nature

Held on the first day of spring, Wattle Day celebrates Australia's national floral emblem, *Acacia pycnantha* (Golden Wattle). Join us for 2 free events at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary Visitor Centre:

Forest Therapy

When: Saturday 29 August, 9am to 11am

Preschool Nature Play

When: Tuesday 1 September, 10am

Cost: Free, registration required



Give old toys a new life

Families with children aged 2-8 years can bring up to 6 quality pre-loved toys, books or games to swap for something 'new' and book an optional appointment with our visiting Toy Doctor to repair well-loved soft toys.

When: Wednesday 30 September, 10am to 12pm

Where: Box Hill Community Arts Centre

Cost: Free, registration required



Wondering about your waste?

With the introduction of our mandatory food organics and garden organics (FOGO) service next year, join a free FOGO facility tour to see how organic waste is turned into valuable compost.

When: Thursday 13 August 9.30am to 12.30pm

Tuesday 22 September 9.30am to 12.30pm

Where: Departing from Nunawading Library

Cost: Free, registration required

For more sustainability workshops, webinars and activities, view the full Sustainable Whitehorse events program and register at whitehorse.vic.gov.au/sustainable-whitehorse



Simple ways to make a difference for Biodiversity Month this September

- Grow indigenous plants in your garden or pots. Visit our local nurseries Greenlink and Bungalook to explore plants indigenous to the Whitehorse area.
- Remove weeds and replace with indigenous plants. Search 'weeds' on the Whitehorse website for tips on identifying, removing and replacing weeds.
- Use iNaturalist to identify local plants and animals, while contributing to biodiversity research.
- Start a compost bin or worm farm to recycle food and garden waste. Whitehorse residents are eligible for discounts of up to 80% off select compost systems. Search 'compost' on the Whitehorse website to find out more.

- Volunteer at a local working bee to help care for our parks and reserves. Email enviro.volunteering@whitehorse.vic.gov.au to get involved.
- Protect local wildlife by picking up after your dog and keeping your cat safely indoors at night.
- Read the full article here: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/biodiversity-month



ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE

Heritage Week 13–20 September

Every street corner has a story waiting to be discovered. During Heritage Week 2026, celebrate Whitehorse's changing landscapes and land use through guided walks, exhibitions, talks and family-friendly events that uncover the rich history behind our streets and neighbourhood!

For all bookings and event information visit:
creativewhitehorse.vic.gov.au/heritage-week

Whitehorse City Council gratefully acknowledges our partners for Heritage Week



CREATIVE WHITEHORSE

creativewhitehorse.vic.gov.au



Schwerkolt Cottage Heritage Family Day

Enjoy a fun filled day exploring heritage trades and crafts, old-fashioned games and races for the kids, live music, giant bubbles, animal farm, sausage sizzle, Devonshire teas, home-made cake stall and coffee cart. Not to be missed is the Working Dogs display.

When: Sunday 13 September,
11am to 4pm

Where: Schwerkolt Cottage and
Museum Complex,
2–10 Deep Creek Road, Mitcham

Cost: Free (No booking required)



WHAT'S ON AT THE ROUND



GRIMM

SATURDAY 15 AUGUST,
1.30PM & 7.30PM



DANE SIMPSON: ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE... FUNNY

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST,
8PM



NATHAN CAVALERI: GROWING PAINS TOUR

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER,
2PM & 6PM



TRASH TEST DUMMIES

WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER,
10AM: SHOW
12.15PM: WORKSHOP

THE
ROUND



[THEROUND.COM.AU](https://theround.com.au)

Scan the
QR code
for details



Council adopts 2026/27 budget to invest in the community

Endorsed by Council on Monday 22 June 2026, the Budget 2026/27 sets out how Council will fund the delivery of high-quality services and projects for the coming financial year.

Whitehorse Mayor Cr Kirsten Langford said Council had worked hard to ensure the Budget delivered for the community while responding to ongoing economic pressures.

"While we continue to respond to current economic pressures, we're making sure every dollar is directed towards projects and services that have a meaningful impact on our community.

Our focus is on investing in the things that make daily life better for residents, because that's where we can create the greatest value for our community."

Mayor Langford thanked community members who contributed to the development of the Budget.

"We'd like to thank everyone who has shared their thoughts, from participating in the Shaping Whitehorse consultation in 2024 to taking part in community engagement activities during April and May 2026. Your feedback has helped shape the development of this Budget and ensure it reflects the priorities of our community."

Budget snapshot



\$195 million

operational budget to deliver services



\$89.3 million

capital works budget



39 actions

to be delivered in Year 2 of the Integrated Council Plan

Our 2026/27 Capital Works Program includes:

- \$14.2m to continue construction of the Box Hill City Oval major redevelopment
- \$13.7m in pavilion upgrades
- \$12.0m provision for land acquisitions for the creation of new open space
- \$3.4m for footpath renewal program
- \$2.9m for Road Resurfacing Program and \$1.5 million for renewal of kerb and channel
- \$1.6m for the renewal and upgrade of playgrounds

Key operational investments:

- \$27.1m for bin collections and public waste services
- \$17.9m for the maintenance of sports fields, parks and gardens
- \$16.2m for leisure and recreation services
- \$13.0m for family services and community health

\$m = million

The Budget supports the long-term aspirations of the Whitehorse 2040 Community Vision and delivers on the commitments outlined in the Integrated Council Plan 2025–2029. It focuses on delivering strong essential services, investing in infrastructure and open space, supporting local businesses and economic activity, and creating a safe, connected and liveable city in line with community priorities.

To read the full approved 2026/27 Budget, visit: whitehorse.vic.gov.au/budget

