

East Clifton Hill Residents Inc (No A0114110I)  
% David Levin (Secretary)  
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*East Clifton Hill Residents Inc (No A0114110I) (ECHRI) is a not for profit association of East Clifton Hill residents and friends to provide a forum for local residents as members to express their opinions of proposals for developments in the local area. ECHRI's prime focus is to encourage development in the East Clifton Hill precinct which respects the existing heritage and community values of the area.*

### **Submission to the City of Yarra on the Council Plan 2025-9:**

ECHRI thanks the Council for the opportunity to comment on the 2025-9 Council Plan.

ECHRI's submission is confined to planning and heritage matters which are its prime focus. ECHRI acknowledges the significant task in ensuring the Plan is well balanced in seeking to address the diverse needs of the community with limited resources, and commends Council for the overall balance achieved within the Plans.

ECHRI

1. Seeks increased integration of heritage considerations in council deliberations, within the existing planning mechanisms, and welcomes the recent amendment which reduced the threshold for referral to the Planning Development Committee (PDC) to 6 objections. The Council heritage officer should be consulted on all development applications, and mechanisms retained to ensure sound heritage advice is included for all proposals referred to the PDC.
2. Requests that Council defend the values of our local area and urges Council to resist any diminution of its planning functions as is intended by the current State Government. In particular, ECHRI supports the retention of the existing Heritage Overlay in Clifton Hill, and its strengthening to protect heritage generally within the area.
3. Seeks greater transparency of planning and other council matters through allowing questions with and without notice at council meetings, and by recording the answers in the minutes. Currently it is a slow and tedious

process to access this information as they are buried in individual PDF files. ECHRI suggests Council include these questions and answers in a searchable database on the council website so that the public have full readily searchable access to this information.

4. Suggests that improved processes for community consultation with the community be codified and published in the Plan.
5. Requests the release of the Council's recent Planning Review by Julie Reid and that the recommendations and implementation of agreed components of the review be the subject of a specific community consultation process so that the Council can hear an range of external views.

As approved by the ECHRI Committee

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ray Tonkin', with a long, wavy horizontal line extending to the right.

Ray Tonkin  
President

16 December 2024