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Targeted conversation #1 summary: Neighbourhoods

Moreland City Council: Community Panel

6:30pm - 9pm Saturday 11 May, online via Zoom

Overview of the day

This session was the first of six targeted conversations with the Community Panel, focussed on the topic of '**neighbourhoods'.** To focus the discussion, the Panel was presented with a relevant problem and remit that had been developed by Council. The problem and remit for this session were:

Problem: Moreland must accommodate population growth in a way that balances competing priorities including the climate crisis, competition for public space; changing neighbourhood character and heritage, traffic congestion and access to community facilities.

Remit: What key categories should Council prioritise when making decisions for investing in neighbourhoods to meet current and future needs of our community

The session included:

- An introduction to the session and topic
- Presentations from Sunny Haynes and Dr. Laurel Johnson
- Making sense of the information presented
- Prioritising criteria for funding community infrastructure.

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Introductions

The topic of **Neighbourhoods** was introduced and participants were asked *What comes to mind when you hear the word 'neighbourhood'?*

Presentations

First presentation - Sunny Haynes, Moreland City Council
The first presentation was delivered by Sunny Haynes, Manager Property and Place at Moreland City Council. Sunny introduced the topic of neighbourhoods from a Council perspective. The presentation explained the key ways that Council shapes neighbourhoods, including projects that Council works on directly (such as libraries, local streetscapes) as well as projects that Council works on in partnership to deliver (such as the Brunswick Design District, in partnership with RMIT and Creative Victoria).

Second presentation - Dr Laurel Johnson, Laurel Johnson Planning
The second presentation was delivered by Dr Laurel Johnson, urban planning expert and Principal at Laurel Johnson Planning. This presentation started with a discussion of how Council can prioritise community facilities, and how this topic is both technical and political. Laurel then gave an overview of the framework used to conduct the technical review into Council Community Facilities. The findings were discussed and the criteria used was explained.

Following the two presentations, the Panel had the opportunity to ask questions of the two presenters.

Working session 1 - Sense-making

Panel members were split into four breakout rooms (each consisting of about 8-9 participants) for the first working session, which was used to consolidate the information from the two presentations. Each breakout room responded to the three questions:

1. *What stood out for you from the presentations?*
2. *What do you believe makes planning community facilities challenging for councils?*

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3. *What would give the community (you) confidence in the way council plans community facilities?*

Following this, the groups then came back and reported their findings.

Working session 2 - Prioritising criteria

Following a short break, the Panel was split into new breakout rooms (which were made up of at least two people from each of the previous breakout rooms). In these groups, the Panel members worked together to refine the list of criteria from Council's prioritisation framework. This criteria is included below.

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Overarching question	Categories	Further information
Is it needed?	Need from our community	Is there demand from our current and future population for this service and facility? We look at the numbers and age of population to assess how many facilities are needed.
	Condition of facility and designed for its purpose	Is the facility designed for its intended service? Different services have different facility requirements. Think of the design requirements of MCH service v Library.
		What is the physical condition of the facility? We have standards to what condition level a facility needs to be maintained to
	Capacity of current facility	How often is the facility being used compared to availability? We look at facilities that are used more by the community to be prioritised for investment?
	Location of the facility/project	Is it in the best location for maximum use by our community? We look at public transport access and walkability of the facility
Does it align with Council policy, plans, legal obligations?	Legal obligations	Is the project needed to deliver services and projects necessary for Council to meet its statutory obligations? We are legally required to deliver some of our community services and projects
	Capital Works Program	Is the project in the Capital Works Program (CWP), which has been signed off by Council? Has Council already committed to this project?
	Alignment with policy objectives	Is the project aligned with outcomes we are seeking for delivering community infrastructure? Community infrastructure policy outcomes are *facility integration, accessibility, place focused , future proofed and high quality.*
Is it wanted?	Community support	Is the project supported by the community?
Can it be funded by external sources?	Funding opportunities	Is the project eligible for external funding opportunities? We look at other opportunities to fund community infrastructure than are non- Council such as state government bodies.

Groups ranked the criteria, could add new criteria to the list, and were asked to provide a brief 'why?' statement for each. The groups came back together to report their discussions.

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Outcomes

Menti polling was used again to assess the Panel's support for each criterion, and finally to rank these criteria together.

Finally, Panel members were asked to provide comments on the community infrastructure/facilities in their neighbourhood.

What's coming up next?
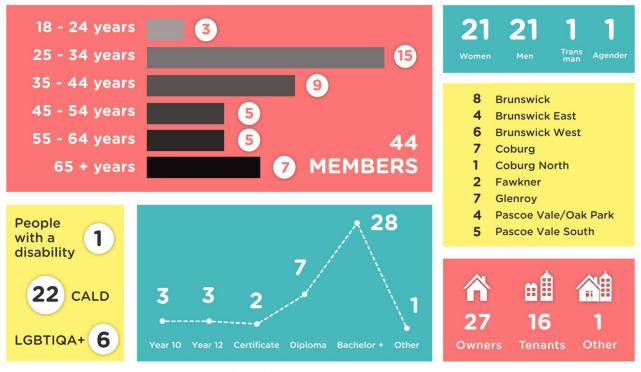The next session will take place at the same time on Tuesday 18th of May. It will focus on the topic of **Health and equity**.

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The community panel

IMAGINE MORELAND
COMMUNITY PANEL

Moreland
City Council

The Imagine Moreland Community Panel was randomly selected to form a representative sample of the community

Age	Count
18 - 24 years	3
25 - 34 years	15
35 - 44 years	9
45 - 54 years	5
55 - 64 years	5
65 + years	7

44 MEMBERS

21 Women	**21** Men	**1** Trans man	**1** Agender

Count	Suburb
8	Brunswick
4	Brunswick East
6	Brunswick West
7	Coburg
1	Coburg North
2	Fawkner
7	Glenroy
4	Pascoe Vale/Oak Park
5	Pascoe Vale South

People with a disability **1**

22 CALD

LGBTIQA+ **6**

Education	Count
Year 10	3
Year 12	3
Certificate	2
Diploma	7
Bachelor +	28
Other	1

27 Owners	**16** Tenants	**1** Other

Recruitment and stratification undertaken by Deliberately Engaging