Join waste war

MAYOR BERNADENE VOSS

As Mayor, I never fail to be amazed at the great work our community can achieve when we work together. Now more than ever, our city needs your help. We are becoming inundated with litter. It’s polluting our streets and ending up in our beautiful bay.

On a recent Saturday, I went out with over 150 volunteers to clean up Port Melbourne and South Melbourne. In three hours we collected 119 bags of rubbish, including 46 used syringes. In one street alone, I gathered 96 bottles and cans alongside bags of litter. Much of this was single-use plastics or things that could have been easily recycled — instead they were destined for the bay to become a threat to our vulnerable ecosystem.

I am calling on everyone in our community to pitch in. The council has developed a new waste strategy — “Don’t Waste It!” — which will see us reducing household waste and redirecting food waste from landfill, but litter is everyone’s problem.

I want you to join me in pledging to clean up our city.

I’d like to hear from readers: what’s your pledge? Pick up the rubbish outside your house, in your street, in your park. Organise a clean-up event and invite your ward councillors. We’ll be measuring the amount of rubbish gathered — make sure to tell us how much you’ve collected. Your pledge will make a big difference. Together we can #LoveOurBay