

THE CARLTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

December 2019



VCAT Drummond Street and MacArthur Place— Heritage streetscapes valued

Read more on Page 2



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Strategic Planning Report – Overview of key CRA Activities in 2019 Page 3

HOW WELL ARE YOU SLEEPING ? Does loud traffic noise get too much? Find out what to do on Page 5

Speed limited changes planned for Carlton. Page 6

Explore Melbourne: Find gardens with a difference Page 7 Treat yourself to Christmas in the City Page 8



Supported by the Community Services Grants Program The Carlton Residents Association Inc. PO Box 1140 Carlton, 3053 carltonresidents@gmail.com www.carltonresidents.org.au A0034345G ABN 87 716 923 898

versus



December 2019

VCAT Important and favourable decisions by VCAT

16-20 & 22 Drummond Street, Carlton -TP-2018-892

A big step towards the preservation of Drummond Street heritage

The proposed development was for a six storey (approx 20.5m) building, which significantly exceeds the two prevailing height controls of 10m and 13.5 m.

CRA believed this development to be inappropriate within the heritage streetscape and its proximity to the Royal Exhibition Building, and that this would create a precedent for the low scale eastern corner of Carlton.



After a serious letterbox drop by CRA and neighbours, CRA was joined by 45 other residents/neighbours in lodging objections with the CoM.

The Applicant initiated a VCAT appeal in the absence of a determination by the CoM within the prescribed 60 days.

The hearing was held 12 August to 16 August 2019.

The VCAT determination was handed down on 30 September 2019, and the result; no permit was granted!

Access the VCAT determination on the planning page

6-10 MacArthur Place North - TP-2018- 59

The proposed development was for partial demolition of the existing three dwellings and construction of three storey additions at the rear plus a roof top terrace and a two level basement car-park.

In March 2018 CRA letter boxed notice and advice of this application to residents in the general vicinity and lodged an objection.

When the Applicant appealed the CoM refusal to grant a permit, the CRA planning group lodged a written Statement of Grounds with VCAT, but nominated not to appear to present.

The affected residents responded positively and had two town planners and an individual resident presenting at the hearing, each of the three representing multiple objectors. CRA was represented at the hearing by one of the presenters.

The VCAT decision on 11 September 2019 supported the council decision to not grant a permit. The decision stated , "having considered



Google photo

the relevant planning considerations and the submissions and evidence presented, this proposal is not an acceptable design response to its interfaces, the neighbourhood character or the significance of the heritage place."

Access the VCAT determination on the planning page

Thank you to all who contributed to these two cases.

Working groups

Planning

Strategic Planning Report – Overview of key 2019 Activities

Corkman Hotel

Planning Scheme Amendment C346 (approved by the Minister on the 18 October in 2018) applied an Incorporated Plan Overlay Schedule 6 over the Corkman Hotel site, which will require the current owner to prepare an Incorporated Plan. Unfortunately this new Schedule 6 will not require the current owners to reinstate the valued heritage fabric of the illegally demolished pub, nor require any new development on the site to 'fall within' a modified building envelope. According to a press report in 2019 (Clay Lucas,*The Age*, 29 May 2019)

The developers who unlawfully demolished Carlton's Corkman Irish Pub in 2016 have reached a deal with the Andrews government to clear the site and temporarily turn it into a park by the end of November. But the pair stand to profit from knocking down the 158-year-old pub without permission, because under the settlement reached with Planning Minister Richard Wynne and Melbourne City Council, they now have three years to re-develop the site – with a tower up to 12 levels high.

The agreement means that Shaqiri and Kutlesovski have agreed to clear the site and, by 30 November, build an "informal outdoor recreation" area on it. The pair then have until 2022 to redevelop the site in a form approved by the planning minister.



The Corkman was here – 16 October 2016 (E. Ogilvy)

Heritage Review Amendment C258 Melbourne Planning Scheme. The Panel Hearings in relation to this citywide Planning Scheme Amendment commenced in August 2018 (and continued in 2019). The major issue canvassed by CRA during the Panel Hearing (and in earlier submissions) concerned the efficacy of the translation of the old letter grades to signify the level of significance of a heritage place) to the new grading system of Significant, Contributory and Non-Contributory.

During the concluding stages of the Panel Hearings, CRA submitted supplementary material to elaborate upon these 'translation' issues and other matters. The Panel Report in relation to the Amendment (21 May 2019) rejected the use of Heritage Place Gradings in the Exhibited Inventories to signify a level of Significance. In the Panel's view, the threshold for which a place is considered important should be indicated in the Statement of Significance for the Heritage Place. It is expected that the Council's response to the Panel Report will be submitted to an Future Melbourne Committee meeting in early 2020.

Review of the Heritage Places of Carlton. This more comprehensive study of the Heritage Places of Carlton was originally to be confined to that section of Carlton to the east of Swanston Street. Although this Review was expected to be exhibited in 2019, CRA has now been advised that it is unlikely to be exhibited until mid -2020, following the Gazettal of Amendment C258.

Melbourne Innovation District [MID] - City North. On Saturday 23 March 2019 a community workshop was convened by CRA and City of Melbourne to invite feedback from Carlton residents on a draft *Urban Realm Action Plan: Melbourne Innovation Districts* (*MID*) City North, 2018–2023 ('the Plan').

David Week kindly facilitated this workshop, and Lisa Adams assumed the role of Rapporteur.

The City of Melbourne presented the main points of the Plan. This was followed by comments from CRA invitees, who were asked to focus their comments using the following format:

- What is the problem or opportunity?
- What are possible solutions?
- What are the benefits, and for whom?

Lisa Adams was the key author of the CRA submission to Council: *MID City North Carlton Workshop Communique*.

Working groups

Melbourne Business School Development Application

This major development on the North side of Pelham Street (between Leicester and Bouverie Streets) was the subject of a detailed submission to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning in October 2019. This submission raised the following concerns:

- Key heritage objectives and guidelines included within the relevant Local Policy and the Design and Development Overlay (DDO61) have not been satisfied.
- The net community benefit of this development does not justify such a major departure from the built form guidance provided by DDO61.
- Although the development falls within the Victorian Government's Parkville National Employment and Innovation Cluster, we do not believe that this fact justifies departing from key MPS guidance, and that
- Where an applicant wishes to depart from gazetted Planning Controls in a substantial way (as in the current proposal) the applicant should be required to seek approval through a Planning Scheme Amendment.



Mid City North – Proposed Key Intersection: Barry, Queensberry and Leicester Streets, Carlton (E Ogilvy)

Planning Scheme Amendment C278 Sunlight to Public Parks

This Amendment was the subject of a comprehensive submission from CRA in August 2019. This submission addressed the following key issues.

• While many of the height controls in the Carlton area are recommended maximum building heights, which may be exceeded, CRA accepts that for the purpose of determining whether a park falls within a low scale or a growth area, that these recommended maximum heights can, and should, provide the appropriate benchmark. Further, while the limited additional overshadowing test is also based upon discretionary street wall heights/building heights, CRA accepts that these discretionary heights should be regarded as mandatory for the purposes of this test.

- It was not clear what purpose would be served by including DDO8 overlays over those residential areas that currently have a mandatory maximum height (with few exceptions) of eight metres. The proposed Planning Scheme Amendment makes it clear that where the overall building height is nine metres or less, no overshadowing analysis is required. Surely, DDO8 overlays would be redundant in these situations.
- The designation of Argyle Square as a Park Type 2 cannot be accepted. This square is surrounded by a DDO which provides for a maximum building height of four storeys. Although this height may be exceeded, given the preponderance of low scale heritage places located on Argyle Place North, and the strongly worded DDO Design Objectives (which seek to maintain the predominant low scale of the area to support 'high levels of pedestrian amenity related to access to sunlight and sky views ...') this area cannot be considered as a Growth Area.

Ewan Ogilvy (Member of CRA Planning Network)



South East Corner of Lygon and Pelham Streets opposite Argyle Square – this area should not be designated a Growth Area (E Ogilvy)

Melbourne Innovation Districts (MID) Update:

MID is a partnership between the City of Melbourne, the University of Melbourne and RMIT University.

The initiative is set to drive investment in the knowledge economy and help shape our city's future. Jordi McInerney (planner) and Fiona Darling (Community Engagement Partner) attended the November meeting of CRA to present the latest information on this initiative.

For further information go to Participate Melbourne

Jordi can be contacted by email: jordi.mcinerney@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Read the <u>Melbourne Innovation Districts City North</u> <u>Opportunities Plan</u>

Traffic, Transport, Parking and Noise Abatement

HOW WELL ARE YOU SLEEPING ?

DIY vehicular noise abatement

An update to a previous notice

If you are bothered by noise of:

- exhaust-modified motorbikes
- souped-up sports/sedan cars and utes that seem to be:
- either doing a circuit in your vicinity, or
- parked adjacent to each other in large numbers as a possible preliminary to this,

then please phone Victoria Police.

The number is **03-8379-0800 menu item 2** for Highway Patrol.

<u>Do not</u> phone the police in reaction to noisy once-off drive-by or ride-by activity. Victoria Police's Highway Patrol is under-manned and often preoccupied by accidents and traffic events requiring immediate intervention.

Also, <u>do not</u> phone 000 which would only refer your alert to the main office of Victoria Police, then to the Melbourne North Police Station, and finally the despatch of Highway Patrol vehicles.

Note, though, that the Highway Patrol is not a 24-hour service: it can close down late at night and its telephone reception may ask you to phone 000 which will put out a request to nearest Victoria Police duty officers, but you cannot expect to achieve priority over accidents and criminal activity they may be attending to.

It is the responsibility of everyone to report issues. Several calls by different people will count much more than a tired call always from the same person.

When it comes to noise, your CRA Committee and working group members work hard to pursue these matters:

- Attending regular Police-Community Consultative Committee meetings
- Agitating on noise abatement with the City of Melbourne, the Environment Protection Authority, Vicroads and members of the State Parliament
- Preparing and presenting to the City of Melbourne a Vehicular Noise Abatement Proposal (contact us on the e-mail address below for a copy)

So please do your bit – Don't be shy !!

Joining the working group would also be a great way to share the burden.

Contact: <u>carltonresidents@gmail.com</u> making sure to give us your name and telephone number for bona fides validation purposes

Remember: if your gripe is waste collection vehicle noise outside curfew hours or the noise of construction material delivery and debris clearance after dark, please contact us on <u>carltonresidents@gmail.com</u>, making sure to give us your name and telephone number for bona fides validation purposes as well as discussing the particular problem.

IT'S TIME TO JOIN CRA

Join online via the following link - <u>https://trybooking.com/BHFOL</u>

OR, for an EFT payment— CRA Direct Credit Details: Bendigo Bank, BSB: 633 000 Account No.: 146960570.

Please ensure all details are included for EFT membership payments.

Find a membership form <u>here</u>

Topical Issues

Community News

Transport Strategy 2030 (TS30)

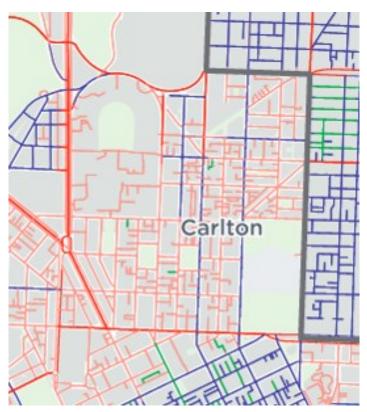
The Transport Strategy 2030 was endorsed by the Future Melbourne Committee on 15 October 2019. The document can be accessed at: <u>Transport Strategy</u> <u>2030</u>

This Strategy outlines the City of Melbourne's transport vision and policy directions for the next 10 years. It aligns with the Council Plan Goals for 'A Connected City', 'A Prosperous City' and 'A Deliberative City', and supports other numerous City of Melbourne strategies.

There was some confusing information published regarding speed limits to be introduced. It is hoped that the following will make this information clearer.

Current conditions

The map below shows the current inconsistency across Carlton with 50km/hr limits on very small local roads, and existing 40km/hr on larger streets like Lygon, Elgin and Swanston St north. (blue line indicates 40km/hr limits)



The action in the strategy document relating to 40km/hr limits is to:

Action 8 - Work with the Victorian Government to apply a maximum speed limit of 40km/hr on local roads across inner Melbourne. (page 42)

The plan is for consistent speed limits to improve the safety of our streets for everyone and make conditions

for drivers more intuitive. This change will bring City of Melbourne (CoM) into line with City of Yarra and much of Port Philip.

For Carlton, this means 40km/hr on all **Council** roads. That will **exclude** state arterials such as Princes St, Cemetery Rd East, College Cres, Nicholson Street, Royal Pde which are not controlled by CoM. (map page 113 of TS30)

Future proposed 40kph limit (purple section)



Community News The Festa—Argyle Square 17 November 2019



Little Italy's day of days. Free entertainment, live Italian music and a soccer tournament, plus vintage vehicles galore at the Targa Florio Australia Tribute 2019 grand finale.

Beware:

Recently several people have noticed a man in Carlton, stopping others to sell supposedly expensive clothing at a cheap price. Do not be mislead – do not agree to buy from him – instead get the number of his vehicle and call the police.

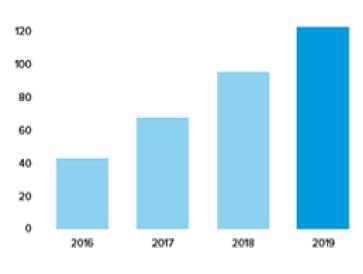
Burglary rates for 3053:

Postcode 3053 CARLTON, CARLTON SOUTH

Burglary rate for: 3053

2018

Postcode 3053	1 in 96 homes
Council average	1 in 107 homes
Victorian average	1 in 76 homes
2019	
Postcode 3053	1 in 123 homes
Council average	1 in 127 homes
Victorian average	1 in 91 homes



RACV figures

Explore Melbourne

Melbourne's secret gardens and green spaces Royal Botanic Gardens' new Wellbeing Gardens The <u>Royal Botanic Gardens</u>' fern gully recently became, even more inviting with the introduction of three special meditative spaces. Visit the Bird's Nest, the sheltered Grotto, and a Japanese-inspired Moss Garden where stone seats are placed around a central 'mother stone' fountain.

Melbourne Museum's Forest Gallery

The Forest Gallery at <u>Melbourne Museum</u>. is a permanent living exhibition featuring eucalyptus trees, lush ferns, native birds, even aquatic critters in the recreated creek. Breathe in the beautiful scents of the bush, listen to the birdsong and feast your eyes on all that life.

Lake Waterfall, Queen Victoria Gardens

Mere minutes from the main road, water cascades some three metres over this serene stone waterfall scene. Find the <u>Lake Waterfall</u> on the south side of the ornamental lake in <u>Queen Victoria Gardens</u>.



Image from City of Melbourne Art and Heritage

Kings Domain's Elizabethan garden

Part of the Domain Parklands, <u>Kings Domain</u> has a secret, sunken garden. Created in 1934, the Pioneer Women's Memorial Garden was inspired by the Elizabethan era's symmetrical garden designs. It's perfect for reading Shakespeare's sonnets, meeting your true love or doing anything else that's best enjoyed in serene seclusion.

Community News

Fitzroy Gardens' stream

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At <u>Fitzroy Gardens</u>' this quiet, green oasis beckons. Don't miss the little stream running through the park's southern section though. It's surrounded by a semi-wilderness featuring ferns and rainforest plantings, and also forms an ornamental pond with a sweet statue of a boy on a turtle.

Queen Victoria Gardens' little pond

In this lovely formal greenspace, a few minutes walk from bustling Flinders Street Statio is <u>Queen Victoria</u> <u>Gardens</u>' most famous feature, the big floral clock, but have you found the smaller of its two ornamental ponds? John Olsen's playful bronze frog statue permanently leaps out of it, while a petite waterfall splish-splashes away. **Find out more <u>here</u>**

Carlton Community History Group:

Read about events of Christmas past <u>http://www.cchg.asn.au/</u> Stormy Weather Christmas Day 1948 and tragic events in Argyle Square December 27 of the same year.

Carlton Christmas Cinema Argyle Square

Christmas in the city 2019 Find out more <u>here</u>

Myer Christmas Windows Christmas Square Carols by Candlelight Christmas Projections Gravy Day Sing-along Gingerbread Village Christmas Decorations

Peace, Harmony for this Festive Season and the coming year from all at Carlton Residents Association!