

**6.3 FOOTPATH ENHANCEMENTS FOR OUTDOOR DINING IN OAKLEIGH****OFFICER'S REPORT**

Submitting Councillors: Stuart James, Josh Fergeus & Theo Zographos

**MOTION**

*That Council:*

1. *Notes that the enhancements to outdoor dining opportunities afforded to traders in response to the pandemic, and the restrictions associated with it, have been embraced by traders and their patrons.*
2. *Notes that the temporary outdoor dining opportunities occurring on roadways had never before been contemplated but have now caused a rethink on how such spaces may be utilised for outdoor dining.*
3. *Notes that there is potential for some areas of road currently being used to temporarily accommodate outdoor dining, to be made permanent outdoor dining areas by extending footpaths.*
4. *Notes that a separate motion will be put to Council to consider either timed or permanent closure of Chester Street around Eaton Mall which needs to be fully investigated prior to looking at outdoor dining extensions in that street.*
5. *Notes that in its draft 2021/2022 budget, Council has allocated funds for traffic studies around the Oakleigh Station Precinct as a follow-up to its 2018 Oakleigh Activity Centre Transport Interchange Design and that it is appropriate to carry out this work prior to looking at outdoor dining extensions in Portman Street to the west of Eaton Mall.*
6. *Directs officers to undertake preliminary design works that maximise the width of the footpath to facilitate outdoor dining in the areas identified in the plan attached to this report.*
7. *Directs officers to provide the costs required to deliver the widened footpaths identified and referred to in point 6 above.*
8. *Directs officers to provide a report to Council prior to 31 October 2021 so that the proposed works can be referred to the 2022/23 budget process should Council decide to do so.*

9. *Allocates \$60k required for the implementation of points 7 & 8 of this recommendation.*

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

As identified in the motion, a budget allocation of \$60k from the 2021/2022 budget is required to enable the identified work to be undertaken.

### **IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES**

If passed, there will be an impact on internal resources managing external resources and the work undertaken, however this component can be managed within existing resources.

### **COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

The motion relates to the following Council Plans and Strategies:

#### **1. Community Action Plan – Oakleigh**

- a. Theme 3: The Built and Natural Environment
  - Advocate for improved pedestrian linkages between key locations within the Oakleigh Activity Centre
- b. Theme 4: Community Safety
  - Improve options related to car parking in the local area
- c. Theme 5: Recreation and Leisure
  - Create convivial ‘community encounter zones’ as well as creating opportunities for celebrating street life
  - Increase footpath widths and slow traffic. Put pedestrians first with less emphasis on cars

#### **2. Age Friendly Monash**

- a. An identified group of actions (Domain 1) in this plan relates to the creation of more safe and accessible outdoor environments and public spaces, which are important for the mobility, independence and quality of life of seniors

#### **3. Environmental Sustainability Strategy**

- a. Ensure public and private spaces deliver connectivity, liveability and sustainability outcomes at the catchment scale
- b. Urban environments are designed and planned to promote and encourage integrated and active transport

#### **4. A Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan**

- a. Promote active transport
- b. Promote opportunities for public art.
- c. Create safe, inclusive and accessible spaces.

#### **5. Monash Integrated Transport Strategy**

- Implement lower, time-based speed limits on appropriate local streets such as around schools, Activity Centres and areas of high pedestrian activity

- Review conditions (such as lighting, sightlines, activation, public surveillance, vegetation) affecting perceived safety around public transport hubs and make improvements where required
- Implement mechanisms to increase the number and quality of public space connections and capacity for priority walking and cycling routes within and to Activity Centres.

#### **8. Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan**

- a. Plan for attractive and vibrant employment precincts and work in collaboration with other parts of Council to promote employment precincts and activity centres as places to work, recreate and learn.
- b. Support the Urban Design and Planning departments to drive improved amenity and employment opportunities within Monash precincts
- c. Promote and advocate for infrastructure to position Monash as a smart and connected city driving economic, social and environmental outcomes

#### ***RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES***

The recommendations are associated with future works around the Oakleigh Station Precinct as a follow-up to its 2018 Oakleigh Activity Centre Transport Interchange Design. However, these works have not yet commenced.

#### ***CONCLUSION***

The recommendations in the motion can be delivered subject to the allocation of budget to do so.