

# our peninsula

## COVID-19 Towards Recovery

Recovery Actions within the  
2021-22 Council Budget

The COVID-19 pandemic made 2020 an extremely challenging time for many in our community. Since the pandemic was declared in March 2020, we have worked to reshape public spaces and services to accommodate people safely, while also prioritising the most vulnerable in our community.

Urgent priority actions will be funded through the 2021-22 Budget and contribute to the lasting resilience and renewal of the Peninsula with more medium and long-term planning to continue throughout 2021.



MORNINGTON  
PENINSULA  
*Shire*



# Social and economic pressures

While the pandemic has created new issues, it has very much exacerbated pre-existing stressors on the Mornington Peninsula including generational inequality, disadvantage and in particular - in a comparatively older population – loneliness, social isolation and the digital divide.

## Impact assessments for the Peninsula to date have revealed social and economic pressures on our community

- Throughout 2020 more than 1,700 women across the Peninsula were affected by family violence



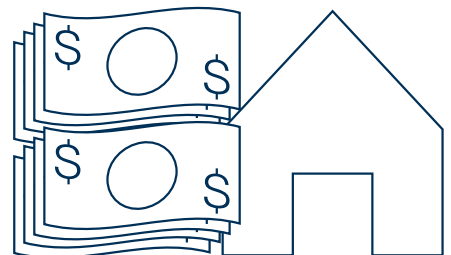
- In 2020, there was a 250 per cent increase in calls to Beyond Blue



- In 2020, Volunteers Victoria reported a 50.2 per cent drop in volunteers from 2019, particularly in the crucial over 70s cohort



- Rental and housing stress. People are choosing to migrate out of the city and into the regions, including Mornington Peninsula



- At the peak of the downturn in August 2020 2,205 jobs were lost

2,205  
jobs were lost

- As at September 2020, 59.2 per cent of businesses were on JobKeeper, the highest rate in Victoria and third highest in the nation (ABS)



- Gross Regional Product (GRP) activity is forecast to drop \$596 million (5.6 per cent), more than twice that for Australia overall



### Impacts have been particularly hard in the following areas which require recovery focus.

- economy instability related to hospitality, accommodation, tourism, creative industries, recreation, and youth unemployment
- mental health
- family violence
- physical health
- social connection, particularly the elderly
- volunteering
- transport
- community sport
- township activation and hospitality
- housing and homelessness
- the digital divide.

Throughout the 2021/22 Financial Year Council will invest more than \$10M directly towards recovery projects, programs, and initiatives such as:

- **Waive or reduce fees and charges** to the value of **\$1 million**. This relief will be provided across the community and business sector and to our most vulnerable



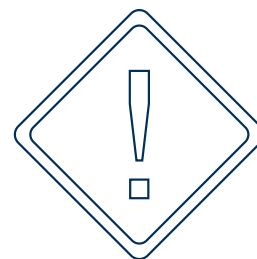
- Use **\$650,000** to re-establish the **Outdoor Dining and Township Activation program** from October 2021 – April 2022, streamlining processes to ensure the repeat success of this initiative for our hospitality industry



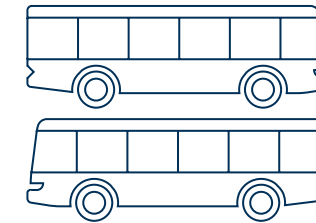
- Ensure a green recovery and rebuild our local economy with a focus on transitioning to a net zero carbon energy sector with **\$500,000 to fast track priority Climate Emergency Actions**. This will facilitate environmental/solar upgrades and retrofits, investigate solar and battery farms, explore a community led Virtual Energy Network and fund other community Climate Change initiatives.



- Build disaster resilience with **\$250,000** to enhance **Emergency Management capability and preparedness** of the Peninsula



- Scope and implement an **'on demand' bus service trial** to the value of **\$110,000**

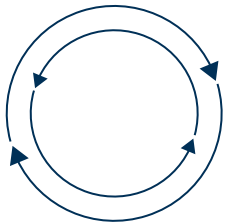


- **Roll out \$2.2 million to empower** those most in need and our community through:

- events grants
- community recovery grants
- business recovery grants
- social service provider community support grants
- youth grants
- climate action grants



- **Plan for long term changes** in our community through funding key **migration and social connection research (\$155,000)**



- Spend **\$250,000** to support **community-built bike tracks** where kids and adults can connect, enjoy themselves and get active

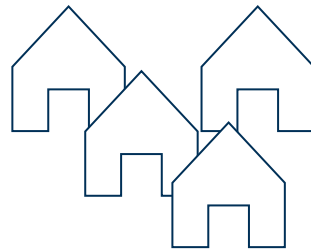


- Use **\$490,000** to progress the **Bay Trail** construction readying necessary concept designs, approvals and advocacy



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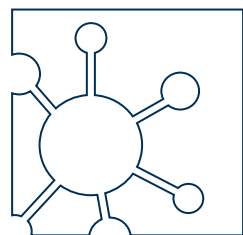
- Fast track and expand our **social housing** planning and advocacy by allocating **\$100,000**



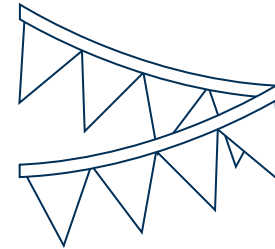
- Use **\$125,000** to expedite the rezoning required to establish a **Mornington Peninsula Technology Park**



- Continue the **'Communities That Care'** implementation using **\$35,000**



- Allocate **\$52,000** to host a new **Mornington Peninsula Festival** and help our community celebrate and reconnect



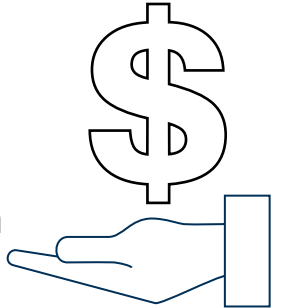
- Invest **\$142,000** to prioritise the **'First 1000 Days Program'** which provides a coordinated and comprehensive approach to strengthen resilience, leadership, and innovation in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, giving their babies the best start to life



- Fast track **\$2.2 million** in capital projects that will support **vital infrastructure and community connections** including design of **Southern Peninsula Youth Hub** and **The Briars Master Plan** and delivery of priority small **missing link footpaths**



- Be best placed to receive **stimulus grants from state and federal governments** by reserving **\$1.815 million** 'matched funds' for Civic Reserve athletics/ soccer pavilion, Emil Madsen Reserve main soccer field, Sorrento Tennis Court lighting, Fruit Growers Reserve scoreboard and a major recovery event in Balnarring.



# Our continuing services, programs and initiatives

## Established and continuing services, programs and initiatives

In addition to those projects requiring new funding, many projects addressing the impacts of COVID-19 are already established or do not require an additional investment. As the level of government closest to community, The Shire will continue to connect and work towards a recovered Peninsula by:

- **advocating for social housing** and referring at risk clients
- facilitating the **family violence** Collective Impact Awareness **initiative**
- **delivering more devices** to the elderly and socially isolated under our lumin outreach project
- **delivering more mental health first aid training** with our partners
- supporting more chasing change **suicide prevention advocacy and events**
- **checking in at home** with those most at risk
- delivering more industry-specific **free online business training and mentoring**
- facilitating more **job readiness training**.

- shining a spotlight on **business needs in our industrial estates and smaller townships**
- encouraging the community to **shop local** through our local business directory and do so ourselves where possible
- advocating for **Mornington Centrelink**
- launching **Working for Victoria funded roles** for social inclusion officers and others
- boosting advocacy for **improved transport** options for our vulnerable
- seeking funding for **antidomestic violence campaigns**
- **funding GOswim lessons** for disadvantaged children and partnering with SLV for ocean water safety
- partnering with the local learning and employment network to **improve education and employment outcomes** for young people in our region
- partnering with business for **smart parking and smart towns**
- launching **workshops and networking** to promote **collaborative business partnerships**.

### **These actions and initiatives will:**

1. ensure the health and wellbeing of our people
2. reactivate the peninsula
3. build disaster resilience
4. connect our community
5. support business recovery and build economic resilience
6. revitalise cultural, creative and recreation industries
7. ensure a green and sustainable recovery.

**We will continue to work with local businesses, the community, service providers and other levels of governments to plan for the Peninsula's lasting resilience and renewal.**

**Experience, feedback and learnings will also help inform the development this year of our Community Vision, Council Plan 2022–26 and Health and Wellbeing Plan 2022–26.**



# Our Councillors

*Cr Steve Holland*  
0410 905 085

*Cr Anthony Marsh*  
0435 610 745

*Cr Despi O'Connor*  
0435 569 710

*Cr Antonella Celi*  
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*Cr Debra Mar*  
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*Cr Kerri McCafferty*  
0435 457 769

*Cr Susan Bissinger*  
5950 1428

*Cr Sarah Race*  
0466 237 655

*Cr Paul Mercurio*  
0435 457 773

*Cr Lisa Dixon*  
0435 630 007

*Cr David Gill*  
0437 129 016

# Service Centres

- ROSEBUD  
90 Besgrove Street, 3939

MORNINGTON  
2 Queen Street, 3931

HASTINGS  
21 Marine Parade, 3915

SOMERVILLE  
1085 Frankston-Flinders Road, within Somerville Library, 3912

# Contact

- 1300 850 600 (24 hours) or 5950 1000

TIS: 133 677 then ask for 1300 850 600

NRS: connect to NRS on [www.relayservice.com.au](http://www.relayservice.com.au) then ask for 1300 850 600

[customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:customerservice@mornpen.vic.gov.au)

Private Bag 1000, Rosebud 3939 DX 30059

- [facebook.com/mornpenshire](https://facebook.com/mornpenshire)

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Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respect to the Bunurong/ Boon Wurrung people, the traditional custodians of these lands and waters.

[mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://mornpen.vic.gov.au)