CENTRAL GEELONG IS ON THE MOVE AND WE’VE TRANSFORMED MALOP STREET WITH THE $8 MILLION STAGE ONE OF THE GREEN SPINE, NOW COMPLETE.

The extensive redevelopment includes a spectacular eight-metre wide botanic walk on the south side of the street, complemented by more trees and plantings on the north side, separated bike lanes on each side and a complete rebuilding of the roadway.

A series of alfresco, seating and gathering spaces make the Malop Street Green Spine a great place to relax, meet friends, shop, eat, walk or watch the world go by. The project is restoring one of central Geelong’s oldest roads to meet the demands of a modern city.

Not only can you take a meandering stroll among the trees, but you can ride your bike safely along the separated bike lane, making it easier to commute into and through the CBD.

The Green Spine will eventually create a linear botanic park, connecting Johnstone Park to Eastern Park.

Co-funded by the Victorian Government and the City, the Green Spine is part of the 10-year Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan being implemented by the Revitalising Central Geelong partnership.

The Green Spine is one of a number of current and completed projects transforming central Geelong, including the Laneways Project, the Johnstone Park Raingarden and the Little Malop Street Bridge.

To celebrate the completion of this exciting project, Revitalising Central Geelong is hosting the ‘Gee-Longest Kick on the Green Spine’.

The free event will be held on Sunday 12 August from 11.30am–1.30pm. Come to Malop Street and watch your local footy club players compete for the title of men’s and women’s ‘Gee-Longest Kick’.

You might even spot your favourite Geelong Cats player while you enjoy a range of entertainment, including roaming street performers, live music and free bike maintenance workshops.

Leonora Turner (left) and Nellie Madden enjoying new spaces created as part of the Malop Street Green Spine.

Delivering on Council Plan 2018–22 is our focus as we move into the second half of 2018.

Council is moving forward with the civic accommodation project, determining the project scope and working towards a final site selection. Consolidating all administrative functions into one building within the Greater Geelong region will mean significant long-term savings for the City, improved organisational culture and efficiency and a single point of contact for customers. An advisory committee formed in April has been meeting regularly to assess the best way forward. This is a priority project for council and will be a positive step for the organisation and the community.

August is also small business festival month and a great opportunity for the thousands of small businesses that contribute so much to the Geelong economy. Supporting and promoting local businesses, markets and products is one way we’re working to create a thriving and sustainable economy and this event certainly does this. For more information visit www.gsbf.com.au

We’re continuing to support the growth of localised and regional sporting facilities with the final stage of the Leopold Football and Netball Club pavilion opening later this month following City funding of $1.15 million.

We’re also making our council meetings more accessible to the community with live streaming of all ordinary council meetings at City Hall now underway. Follow monthly council meetings at www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings

YOUR COUNCILLORS
Here are the City of Greater Geelong’s 11 councillors and their portfolios. Councillors can assist you with any queries in these areas.

PORTFOLIOS – Chair (C) Deputy Chair (DC)

CR ANTHONY AITKEN
Wendimora Ward
0434 307 044
aaitken@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Social and Infrastructure Planning (C) Disability, Access, Inclusion and Volunteering (C)

CR STEPHANIE ASHER
Bellarine Ward
0413 369 719
sasher@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Strategy and Communications (C) Sustainable Development (DC)

CR KYLIE GRZYTEK
Wendimora Ward
0434 307 043
kgryzek@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Community Health and Safety (C) An Inclusive and Diverse Community (DC)

CR PAT MURNANE
Kardinia Ward
0434 307 033
pmurnane@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Finance (C) Arts, Culture and Heritage (DC)

CR KYLIE GRZYTEK
Wendimora Ward
0434 307 043
kgryzek@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Community Health and Safety (C) An Inclusive and Diverse Community (DC)

CR JIM MASON AM
Bellarine Ward
0434 307 048
jmason@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Sustainable Development (C) Arts, Culture and Heritage (C)

CR PAT MURNANE
Kardinia Ward
0434 307 033
pmurnane@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Finance (C) Arts, Culture and Heritage (DC)

CR RON NELSON
Kardinia Ward
0429 531 875
rnelson@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Tourism and Events (C) Transportation and Connections (DC)

CR TRENT SULLIVAN
Bellarine Ward
0434 307 050
tsmith@geelongcity.vic.gov.au

PORTFOLIOS
Economic Development (C) Veterans’ Affairs (DC)

This publication is part of the City’s ongoing commitment to improve our communication and engagement with residents. We make every effort to ensure the information included is accurate at the time of publishing, but it may be subject to change. If you have any ideas to improve Community Update please email: communityupdate@geelongcity.vic.gov.au
DID YOU KNOW?

Streetface has returned for the 10th time and this year it pays tribute to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women making a strong contribution to our region.

Forty pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are currently on display across 18 buildings in and around Geelong, until 20 August.

The portraits were chosen as part of the City’s celebrations for NAIDOC Week and this year’s theme – Because of Her, We Can!

The City-led initiative has resulted in stronger partnerships with young people from the Koorie Youth Group and Aboriginal mentoring organisation Strong Brother Strong Sister.

The portraits were photographed by emerging young photographer Joshua Maxwell de Hoog.

Streetface portraits are displayed on a number of prominent buildings including City Hall, Geelong Performing Arts Centre and University Hospital Geelong.

For a full list of Streetface locations visit: www.bitly.com/naidocSF

The Streetface project is contributing to a clever and creative future.

AN INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE, HEALTHY AND SOCIALLY CONNECTED COMMUNITY.

DID YOU KNOW?

The City looks after about 300 playgrounds across Greater Geelong.

IT’S PLAY TIME

Have you visited your local park recently? You might have noticed something new!

We’ve just recently finished a major program of playground upgrades, with $550,000 worth of new equipment, furniture, pathways and fencing installed right across our municipality.

Upgrades have been completed in the following spots:

- Frank Mann Reserve, Corio
- Hibiscus Reserve, Newcomb
- Barwon Valley Activity Centre, Belmont
- Bennett Reserve, Highton
- Moorak Park, Newtown
- Goldfinch Grove, Lara
- Ottoman Reserve, St Albans Park
- Kenwith Park, Newtown
- Richard Reserve, Lara
- Rosella Reserve, Norlane
- Drysdale Reserve, Drysdale
- Cuthbertson Reserve, Ocean Grove

Well designed, fun and accessible play spaces for the whole community are part of our overall play strategy. Providing bright and fun spaces that inspire children to play is one of the ways we can help strengthen community connections.

So why not head down to one of the upgraded playgrounds to see what’s new this weekend?

STROLL INTO SPRING

The Geelong Botanic Gardens offer a tranquil escape close to central Geelong.

A 15 minute stroll from central Geelong takes you into the heart of one of our best-kept secrets, the Geelong Botanic Gardens.

The tranquil gardens are a place to unplug from the digital world and recharge away from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Experience the peaceful beauty of the gardens by walking, enjoying a picnic on the lush lawns or meeting friends at the tea house.

The Geelong Botanic Gardens were established in 1851, making them one of the oldest gardens in Victoria. The gardens have an amazing collection of plants from around the world, including a heritage landscape featuring mature trees and a 21st Century garden.

The gardens are a popular choice for weddings and special occasion photography. Flowering plants in every season create the perfect setting for any event.

Children will be enthralled by the variety of trees, plants, flowers, shrubs, bugs and birds in the gardens. During school holidays the gardens have themed trails for children to explore and special programs.

The perfect place to relax and unwind, the gardens are open every day from 8.00am to 5.00pm. During daylight saving the gardens are open until 7.00pm – perfect for a walk after work. Entry is free.

For more information visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au/gbg

FACES IN THE STREET

Streetface: Mietta Scarlett’s portrait on City Hall is one of 40 on display in and around Geelong to celebrate NAIDOC Week.

Streetface has returned for the 10th time and this year it pays tribute to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women making a strong contribution to our region.

Mietta Scarlett, pictured, was nominated by her mentor Corrina Eccles for her dedication to helping other young women in the community.

The other women celebrated include mothers, grandmothers, daughters and sisters who are strong leaders and community achievers with a commitment to helping others and a connection to their Aboriginal culture.

The City-led initiative has resulted in stronger partnerships with young people from the Koorie Youth Group and Aboriginal mentoring organisation Strong Brother Strong Sister.

The portraits were photographed by emerging young photographer Joshua Maxwell de Hoog.

Streetface portraits are displayed on a number of prominent buildings including City Hall, Geelong Performing Arts Centre and University Hospital Geelong.

For a full list of Streetface locations visit: www.bitly.com/naidocSF

The Streetface project is contributing to a clever and creative future.
**AN APP-EALING SOLUTION**

**DID YOU KNOW THE CITY MANAGES 2205 KILOMETRES OF ROADS AND 1400 KILOMETRES OF FOOTPATHS? THAT'S A LOT OF GROUND TO COVER EVERY WEEK!**

You can easily help us to maintain safe and tidy public spaces by reporting anything that you think needs fixing via the Geelong City app.

The simple app allows you to report more than 100 different issues, including potholes, barking dogs, missing bins or damaged play equipment.

The free app is available for iPhones from the Apple App store and for Android phones from the Google Play store; just search for Geelong City.

The app is quick and simple to use; just upload a photo and the location of the issue and let us know if you want to hear the result.

Easy app: Download the Geelong City app to easily report issues like potholes, missing bins or damaged trees.

**NEW HOME FOR RAMS AND BUCCANEERS**

The new $3.68 million Flinders Peak Pavilion at Hendy Street Reserve has been purpose-built for the Geelong Rams Rugby Union and Geelong Buccaneers American Football clubs.

The project includes two new fields with flood lights, as well as a cricket pitch.

**NEW NORTHERN HUB**

Construction has started on the $3.76 million Rosewall Community Hub in North Corio.

The hub will replace the existing Rosewall Neighbourhood Centre as a meeting point for community groups, adult education classes and social gatherings.

The new hub will boast state-of-the-art facilities and multi-purpose spaces, including activity rooms, a pottery room and kiln, a hospitality training kitchen, outdoor decking areas and a large ‘break-out’ space for informal and formal gatherings.

It will be located directly behind the existing neighbourhood centre, where community activities will continue until the new hub is opened in early 2019.

The new facilities will provide a boost to the wonderful services already offered by the current Rosewall Neighbourhood Centre, bringing more people together to connect, learn and contribute to their local community.

This project is fully funded by the City.

**HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE DESIGN OF HIGH STREET**

**BUILDING BETTER BIKE CONNECTIONS**

Community members are invited to have their say on the design of High Street, as part of the Building Better Bike Connections project.

We want to work with the whole community to develop the best possible design for High Street that caters for traders, residents, shoppers, drivers and cyclists.

A consultant has designed four potential options for High Street, between Mount Pleasant Road and Roslyn Road, which the community can provide feedback on.

The consultant was briefed to take into account the feedback received during the initial engagement, including traders’ concerns about parking.

**Take the survey:**

View the four potential design options and complete the community survey at www.geelongaustralia.com.au/BetterBikeConnections or pick up a copy from one of our customer service centres. The survey closes on Friday 7 September 2018.

**Talk to us on High Street:**

We’ll have a booth set up out the front of the Belmont Library where you can ask questions about the project on:

- Thursday 9 August, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Saturday 18 August, 9.00am–2.00pm
- Tuesday 21 August, 9.00am–12.30pm
- Wednesday 22 August, 12.30pm–5.00pm

Feedback on the four potential design options will be used to inform the preferred design for High Street, which will be presented to council to make a decision on later in the year.

The City received a $4.7 million grant from the TAC’s Safer Pedestrian and Cyclist Fund to create the two cycling connections linking central Geelong and our southern and western suburbs to make it safer and easier for everyone to ride to work, shops, services and other places.
DID YOU KNOW?

Last year, over 5 million visitors travelled to Geelong and the Bellarine, injecting nearly $900 million into our economy.

WHAT’S YOUR VERDICT?

Courtroom dramas are fascinating – think Janet King, Suits, Rake and Newton’s Law. Many people are curious about the law and the process of prosecuting a case in a courtroom environment.

Now’s your chance to sit in the hot-seat as a juror or court participant to consider the verdict in a mock court case.

This activity will be facilitated in the Geelong Courts by lawyers and will be based on a common workplace scenario to highlight mistakes that can be made regarding workplace safety and the very serious consequences that can follow.

This is part of the City’s commitment to leading and promoting safety and will appeal to students, employers and employees, and anyone who wants a behind-the-scenes glimpse into courtroom workings.

You don’t need any special knowledge to participate; just bring a curiosity about the courtroom process.

The activity is free but bookings are essential.

Date: Wednesday 10 October.

For more information, session times and to register visit www.bit.ly/whatsyourverdict

EUREKA! WE’RE LEADING THE WAY

Geelong’s been leading the way in communications technology since the 1800s, when the Geelong Telegraph Station became the centre of communications for our district.

Located at 83a Ryrie Street, the Telegraph Station was built in 1857–58. This followed the first telegraph message between Melbourne and Geelong in 1854, giving news of the Eureka uprising in Ballarat.

The early telegraph network was the forerunner to the internet, and like the internet, had a major impact on society at the time.

Fast forward more than 150 years and we are still proud to be implementing modern communications technology to benefit our community.

From cutting edge (in the 1850s at least!) telegraph stations to free wifi in more public spaces across the city, we’re focused on delivering modern, smart infrastructure and attracting technology-focused investment to our region.

OUR CITY OF DESIGN

Geelong is Australia’s first and only City of Design. We’re also the only non-capital city in Australia to have UNESCO Creative Cities Network designation. Other Australian members of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network are Melbourne (Literature), Sydney (Film) and Adelaide (Music).

Here are some of the ways we can make our City of Design designation work for Geelong:

REALISE THE COMMUNITY’S CLEVER AND CREATIVE VISION

We want Geelong to be recognised internationally as a clever and creative city. To do this we need to engage internationally. Geelong’s UNESCO designation gives us unique access to more than 180 countries in the United Nations Creative Cities Network and 31 countries that are Cities of Design, like Geelong. We can learn from these cities and collaborate with them.

GROW AND SUPPORT OUR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES SECTOR

By using our branding and designation well, we can attract new talent and businesses to Greater Geelong. Having access to the 31 other Cities of Design around the world will provide Geelong designers with the unique opportunity to showcase their designs, collaborate on projects, attend international design weeks and broaden their networks.

FURTHER STRENGTHEN GEELONG’S IDENTITY

In cities like Katowice, Poland and Dundee, Scotland when you see their City of Design logo, it immediately gives you a sense of their identity. These are places people are intrigued by – they want to visit and want to find out what the logo means. We can use our City of Design logo extensively to promote Geelong as a clever and creative City of Design.

Geelong’s aim to fully embrace its City of Design designation is a long-term proposition. It won’t happen in a matter of weeks and it won’t just be a new logo or a new building. It will be all of this and much more under the umbrella of design. It will be all of us continually asking the question: ‘How are we designing Greater Geelong to make it more liveable for our community?’

Find out more at www.geelongcityofdesign.com.au

DID YOU KNOW?

By J.T. Collins Collection, La Trobe Picture Collection, State Library of Victoria.
Council Plan 2018–22 is the key document that will guide the City’s activities over the next four years as we work towards our community’s vision to become a clever and creative region.

The plan is built around council’s commitment to put the community first and the community’s priorities have been fed into the plan, across 11 strategic areas:
- Improved health and safety of our community
- Informed social infrastructure and planning
- A more inclusive and diverse community
- Planned sustainable development
- Effective environmental development
- Vibrant arts and culture
- Integrated transport connections
- A thriving and sustainable economy
- Growing our tourism and events
- Innovative finances and technology
- Organisational leadership, strategy and governance.

The measures of success included in the plan will be regularly monitored to track our progress on delivery of the Council Plan 2018–22.

Councillors, the City and the community all want to make Greater Geelong the best it can be over the next four years and our Council Plan 2018–22 and Budget 2018–19 are relevant, achievable and financially-sound documents to guide our planning and projects.

You can view the Council Plan 2018–22 at www.geelongaustralia.com.au

Rates
Average rate rise (all properties): 2.25% (in line with State Government rate cap).
Average residential capital improved value of housing: $481,846 (up from $403,091 in 2017–18).
Average household rates: $1,570 (an average increase of $68).

This includes the annual municipal charge of $102 and a waste collection service charge of $316.90 (an increase of 14% due to the introduction of a hard-rubbish collection service and the costs associated with the severe worldwide disruption to recycling markets).

Here’s a breakdown showing how every $100 will be spent in the 2018–19 budget.

How we spend your rates

How we spend your rates

Find out more

If you would like to view the Budget 2018–19 visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au/budget request a copy by contacting the City on 5272 5272 or view a copy at any of our customer service centres.

Our challenges

In delivering the adopted council plan and budget, we face a number of challenges. The worldwide recycling crisis has driven up the costs of waste services, rate capping imposes an income constraint of 2.25% on rates charges, the population is growing exponentially, and we have costs associated with building new infrastructure and upgrading ageing infrastructure.

Photo courtesy of Geelong Regional Libraries.
Budget 2018–19:

community infrastructure, and plan for a

deliver accessible

active lifestyles, support the growth

central Geelong.

safety on the Geelong Waterfront and

including the improvement of public

Budget 2018–19:

address family violence, homelessness,

We will support organisations that

including the improvement of public

on the Geelong Waterfront and

central Geelong.

INFORMED SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

We will provide more spaces to support

active lifestyles, support the growth

of sporting facilities, deliver accessible

community infrastructure, and plan for a

range of affordable housing options.

Budget 2018–19: $47.8m for initiatives

• the completion of planning to upgrade

existing children’s centres and provide

new ones

• Community halls upgrades and

playground development program

• Highton Enhanced Children’s Centre

• Hendy Street Child and Family Centre

• Rosewall Community Hub

• Drysdale Integrated Children’s Centre

• Cloverdale Community Centre

• Purnell Road Child and Family Centre

• Northern ARC Health and Wellbeing

Hub design phase

A MORE INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY

We want to recognise all members of

the community and ensure that nobody

is left behind.

Budget 2018–19: $2.7m with initiatives

including a grants scheme to fund

community groups and:

• Implementation of the City’s Disability

Action Plan

• Disability access upgrade program

• South Barwon Football and Netball

Club toilet upgrade

• New unisex change facility for

Bell Park Sports Club.

PLANNED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable principles will guide
development of growth areas

and protect our townships. The

introduction of a Rural and Peri-Urban

Advisory Committee will help to build

relationships and foster best practice.

Budget 2018–19: $14.6m for initiatives

including development of Sparrovale

Wetlands to enhance the area and its

biodiversity and:

• Continue the planning process for

the Northern and Western Geelong

Growth Areas

• Geelong Saleyards Precinct Plan

• Settlement Strategy

• Pakington Street urban design

framework

• Avalon Corridor Strategy.

GROWING OUR TOURISM AND EVENTS

We aim to grow and nourish our

existing, strong tourism and events

by working with government to
deliver tourism infrastructure

projects, including the Convention

and Exhibition Centre, continuing to

attract cruise ships, supporting the

Geelong Waterfront Safe Harbour

Precinct project and completing

preliminary work for establishing a

mineral springs spa.

Budget 2018–19: $1.9m for initiatives,

including the completion of

preliminary works for the

establishment of a Mineral Springs

Spa and Wellness Centre in central

Geelong and the final drawings for an

Underwater Sculpture Park.

ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP, STRATEGY

We will deliver confident governance

and strategic planning, pro-actively

managing our assets, consolidating

the City’s offices, and making our

processes more effective and efficient.

Budget 2018–19: $1.5m for initiatives

including the convening of a Junior

Council for input into decision-making,

consolidating the City’s offices and

delivering an integrated workforce

management system with improved

efficiencies.

INNOVATIVE FINANCES AND TECHNOLOGY

We will advance our future through

clever and sustainable financial

management, matched with
digital growth and the delivery of

smart cities infrastructure.

Budget 2018–19: $9.0m for initiatives

including the improvement of digital

access for the community.

DID YOU KNOW?

Last year more than 85,000 tonnes of waste was diverted from landfill through the City’s waste and resource recovery centres.
WIN TICKETS TO PARIS UNDERGROUND

15 September at the Potato Shed, Drysdale

Journey through the dark delights of the city of light as Paris Underground sashays into town for one night only at Drysdale’s Potato Shed.

Paris Underground will be a spectacular show, bringing together a diverse range of performers, including magicians, dancers, singers, circus and burlesque artists for one show only in our region.

You have the chance to win a VIP experience for two to see the show. This fabulous prize includes the best seats in the house at a table for two, a bottle of local wine and nibbles to enjoy while watching the show. The show features Australia’s most unique magicians Madotti and Vegas. The beauty and grace of aerialist, dancer and circus artist Hannah Trot, the rare skill of tap-dancer king Monsieur Eden Read, and the dangerously charming and risqué repartee of chanteuse Aurora Kurth. This is a night not to be missed!

Paris Underground is at the Potato Shed on Saturday 15 September at 8pm.

TICKET GIVEAWAY

For your chance to win, visit www.geelongaustralia.com.au/comp

Entries close at midnight Monday 3 September, winners announced and competition drawn same day. Terms and conditions apply.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

1–31 Geelong Small Business Festival, various locations
5 Geelong Waterfront Makers and Growers Market, Steampacket Gardens
6 Circus Quirkus, the Geelong Arena
12 Vietnam Veteran March and Memorial Service, Osborne Park, North Geelong

SEPTEMBER

15 Madame Butterfly, the Potato Shed, Drysdale
17 Madame Butterfly, the Potato Shed, Drysdale
17 Winter Harvest – from the Garden, Jack Rabbit Winery
18 Geelong Cats v Fremantle Dockers, GMHBA Stadium
24 Geelong Cats v Gold Coast Suns, GMHBA Stadium

OCTOBER

5 Food Truck Friday, Little Malop Street Central, Geelong
18–21 Royal Geelong Show, Geelong Showgrounds
20 Arh Barker – We Need To Talk, GPAC
27 The Very Hungry Caterpillar, GPAC
27–28 Friends Spring Plant Sale, Geelong Botanic Gardens

FAMILY FUN DAY AT THE SHED

21 October at the Potato Shed, Drysdale

The Potato Shed’s FREE Family Fun Day is celebrating 10 years. It will be an extra special family event with kids of all ages entertained indoors and outside. Activities and entertainment include live music with The Mix Maks, a pantomime, storytelling, face painting, a skate park, jumping castles, workshops and more.

13 October in Central Geelong

The first White Night Geelong is set to transform the city into a thriving hub of culture and creativity. Expect an awe-inspiring, family-friendly evening with dozens of free events and hours of light installations and projections, exhibitions, music, dance and performance. White Night will re-imagine Geelong like never before, under the ephemeral cloak of darkness.

NEW EVENTS RECENTLY ANNOUNCED

Some great new events have recently been announced for Geelong

The Australian Supercross Championships will be held at GMHBA Stadium on 13 October; a Day on the Green concert will feature Florence and the Machine playing on 19 January at Mt Duneed Estate, and Sydney Nolan’s Ned Kelly series will be exhibited at the Geelong Gallery from 2 March 2019.

HELP US HELP YOU! DO YOU HELP ORGANISE A PUBLIC EVENT?

If you do, don’t forget to list it on the Events Geelong calendar. Visit www.eventsgeelong.com.au

Also, don’t forget to create a MyGeelong account so you can update and manage what people see and read about your event.

BE THE PERSON WHO KNOWS IT FIRST!

Sign up to receive our newsletter today at www.eventsgeelong.com.au