# Consolidated Motions

Under the MAV Rules 2013, matters submitted by Members for consideration at a meeting of State Council which relate to the same subject may be consolidated into a single matter (Rule 21.1.4).

## Municipal Emergency Resource Program (MERP) funding

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate for the following:

That the Victorian Government commit as a matter of urgency to provide certainty for:

* Funding the Municipal Emergency Resourcing Program (MERP) on a permanent basis from 1 July 2020;
* Review the allocation of funding to ensure that it is made on the basis of objective criteria that reflects needs and risk;
* End the freeze on annual indexation; and
* Increase the level of funding available to reflect changes in costs since 2016.

## Recycling and Waste Management

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the Victorian and federal governments to provide leadership and investment for the waste and resource recovery system by:

* Committing to each of the actions in the MAV’s ‘Rescue Our Recycling’ action plan
* Initiating whole-of-government commitments to work towards a circular economy in partnership with all stakeholders
* Investing accumulated and future Sustainability Fund monies into our resource recovery system, including by urgently providing greater funding for sorting and processing infrastructure, community education and market development
* Providing financial assistance to those councils affected by the recent SKM facility closures (if SKM does not provide compensation)
* Implementing a Victorian Container Deposit Scheme in consultation with local government and industry
* Developing contingencies to address potential environmental, economic, and reputational harm which may result from disruptions to recycling services
* Providing financial assistance to councils and the MAV to develop and deliver local government-led solutions including collaborative procurement, community education and improvements to council-owned waste infrastructure

## Bus Services Network Review and Improvement

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government to undertake a comprehensive review of bus services in all Victoria especially for those areas not adequately serviced by rail, to ensure that the bus network delivers an equitable, efficient (frequency) and integrated system with rail services, that serves the community and promotes a shift away from private vehicle dependency.

## Gambling Reform

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) call on the State Government to implement an evidenced based public health approach to reduce gambling harm associated with electronic gaming machines through

1. introducing a stronger Responsible Gambling Code of Conduct to include:
   * 1. stronger focus on venue and staff responsibility to reduce levels of gambling harm by offering assistance to people displaying signs they are being harmed by gambling, as is the case under laws in New Zealand and Switzerland;
     2. mandatory breaks and maximum daily limits on gambling time;
     3. prohibition on inducements to gamble such as gifts or offering free food and drink (excluding water) and instead encourage gamblers to take a break going to other parts of the venue for food and drink;
     4. requiring venues to assist research projects approved by the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing (OLGR);
     5. no service of food or drinks at the machines.
2. reducing opening hours for pokies venues to include mandatory 2am - 9am shutdown.
3. banning losses disguised as wins as recommended by the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR), noting this feature is already banned in Queensland and Tasmania.
4. Mandating the display of signage on all electronic gaming machines with a product health and safety warning – ‘stating the machine is designed to keep you playing and programmed for you to lose money’, emulating the approach taken with the tobacco industry.

## Affordable Housing

**Motion:**

That the MAV:

1. Advocates to the State and Federal Government to provide significant, consistent and ongoing funding for social and affordable housing, which includes targeted support to address the needs of older women at risk of homelessness as well as other at risk groups such as young people
2. Advocates to the State Government to provide significant, consistent and ongoing funding for homelessness services and access points, to include assertive outreach and brokerage for safe emergency accommodation.
3. Calls on the State Government to provide additional stimulus funding to registered housing services to work in partnership with Councils to support vulnerable residents.
4. Calls on the State Government to reassess their tax relief policy to ensure that incentives are benefiting those with greatest need.

## Tree Protection

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the Victorian Government that appropriate penalties apply to discourage the removal of trees protected by local laws or planning schemes.

## Coastal Protection

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State and Federal Governments to urgently respond to the risks climate change presents to Victoria’s coastal environment and assets, including through

* Strategic approaches to coastal asset protection and erosion mitigation and adaptation
* Support for local government initiatives to develop and implement coastal adaptation plans

## Climate Emergency

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State and Federal Governments to:

* acknowledge we are in a state of climate emergency
* as a matter of priority, increase funding and support for climate change adaptation and mitigation research and action, including by providing greater funding to the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) and Commonwealth Scientific and Industry Research Organisation (CSIRO) research

# Financial Sustainability

## 50/50 State & Local Government Funding For Universal M&CH Service

**Resolution:**

That the MAV continue to strongly advocate to the State Government for a more equitable funding arrangement for Councils to ensure that Local Government is not required to contribute more than 50% to the delivery of the Universal Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Service.

## Rate Capping

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government on behalf of all Councils that:

* Consideration is given to sector-wide issues that are impacting the costs of all Councils, such as recycling, when the annual rate cap is being set rather than just setting the rate cap at CPI; and
* The funding provided to Councils to deliver services or undertake functions on behalf of the State Government is increased in line with real cost to Council of those services or functions.

## Review of School Crossing Supervisor Program

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government for the review of the School Crossing Supervisor program to:

1. Incorporate an increased focus on the strategic and risk evidence based approach of the program to include associated costs, staffing requirements, road and pedestrian safety factors.
2. Acknowledge the increased level of funding towards the School Crossing Supervisor Program, with the current 50/50 funding model shared between the State Government and Local Councils.
3. Involve the Department of Education and Training so that consideration can be given to a funding model that directly funds schools for the provision of school crossing supervisors.

## Funding Programs to Assist the Local Government Sector

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government to extend their commitment to funding programs that assist local government to respond to the sector’s financial sustainability challenge.

## Federal Assistance Grants - Agreed Schedule of Payments

**Resolution:**

That the Federal Government and Victorian State Governments commit to funding of Councils through the Federal Assistance Grants Programme on set dates each year. This being to avoid smaller Councils, particularly small rural Councils being forced to incorrectly report deficit budgets to their communities.

## Mobile Black Spot Funding

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria:

1. Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2019 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association requesting the Commonwealth Government to secure further Mobile Black Spot funding to increase the safety, well-being and liveability of regional and rural communities.
2. Seek State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.

## Improved Rural Councils' Grant Funding Ratios

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to State and Federal Governments to implement funding ratios in all grant programs that require rural councils to contribute less than 1:1 (or 50%) in matched funding

# Waste & resource recovery

## Australian Packaging Covenant - Litter Management

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council:

* Formally endorses the MAV ‘Rescue our Recycling’ policy, and congratulate the Association on this necessary policy;
* Notes the critical importance of product stewardship and polluter pays principals advocated within the ‘Rescue our Recycling’ policy;
* Advocates for the ‘Australian Packaging Covenant’ to alter its Strategic Plan (2017-2022), insisting on a larger focus on litter and post-consumer waste management, in addition to existing goals, including the allocation of funds to local councils and not for profits organisations who are involved in litter management.

## Dumping of Soil/Fill in Rural Areas

**Resolution:**

That the MAV call on the Victorian Government to develop a statewide approach to the issue of dumping soil/fill through:

* improving definitions and planning permit triggers in the Victorian Planning Provisions for soil dumping, and
* considering a volumetric trigger for rural zones, such as the 100 cubic metre threshold in the Hume Planning Scheme which is considered an enforceable, measurable permit trigger.

# Government relations

## Consumer Protection For New Home Purchases

**Resolution:**

The MAV calls on the State Government to provide greater consumer protection for purchasers of land in new housing areas to ensure that development and infrastructure indicated in masterplans, Precinct Structure Plans and other relevant plans is delivered.

The MAV is concerned that many landowners who have bought land find that development and infrastructure is not occurring as per the marketing materials provided by developers at the time of purchase. Specific concerns include:

* Changes such as the removal of child care facilities or other non-residential uses
* Inclusion of medium density developments, and
* Changes to lot layouts.

The MAV therefore requests that such a review include:

* The level of consumer protection applying in these circumstances
* What audits are being undertaken on the advertising of new estates, and
* Whether strengthening legislation or relevant codes of practice could be beneficial to better protect consumers.

## Stop the Statutory Planning Clock for Planning Applications

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls upon the State Government to amend planning legislation to:

1. Pause the statutory clock for planning permit applications to prevent the lodgement of failure appeals to VCAT during periods of negotiation initiated by a planning permit applicant.
2. Extend the statutory clock for planning permit applications to a minimum of 80 days for those applications requiring both external referral and public notification before an applicant for planning permit can lodge a failure appeal.

## Reform - Telecommunications Legislation

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls upon the Federal Government to reform telecommunications legislation as follows:

* Require telecommunications facilities proposals to include evidence that emissions from the proposed facilities and the cumulative impact of existing telecommunications infrastructure within the surrounding area are safe to the health of surrounding residents;
* Amend the Industry Code to improve the community consultation process and increase the notification of proposed facilities to 50 metres to reflect the area with the highest exposure impact;
* Require co-location of facilities unless demonstrated that this is not practical; and
* Change the Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination to prevent the location of Low Impact Facilities in residential areas without Council permission.

## Fines Management System - Fines Victoria

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria seek a commitment from the State Government to the following:

1. To investigate and implement remedies to resolve the ongoing reporting and collection issues arising from the new fines system implemented by Fines Victoria in January 2018, resulting in significant and unfavourable financial impacts to Councils.
2. Require Fines Victoria to consult and communicate with Councils on the proposed remedies and the timing of their delivery.

## Citizenship Ceremonies - Federal Government Financial Contribution

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocate to the Federal Government requesting that it provide a financial contribution to local government in recognition of its role in the administration of the Australian citizenship program.

## Victorian State Local Government Agreement

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria report to members on the Victorian State Local Government Agreement (VSLGA) signed by the Premier and Minister for Local Government with the MAV on 10 September 2014, on the stipulated monitoring of its implementation and evaluation of its performance, including as regards:

1. annually maintaining and reviewing a register of working committees and plans to support the VSLGA;
2. providing six monthly written feedback on the successes and failures of parties working in accordance with the VSLGA;
3. meeting quarterly with the Minister for Local Government on the successes and failures of parties working in accordance with the VSLGA;
4. the Minister for Local Government writing annually to Cabinet colleagues reminding them of their obligation to adhere to the VSLGA.

# Transport, freight & infrastructure

## Regulatory framework for technology enabled shared transport services

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocate to the Victorian Government to create a regulatory framework that sets and enforces standards for technology enabled shared transport services, such as e-scooters, that protect the safety of pedestrians and road users, and enable the creation of a new marketplace with consistent rules for prospective new shared transport service businesses.

## Taskforce to Combat Copper Thefts

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government to highlight the impact on local government and local communities of the unabated copper thefts from community facilities, including sports pavilions, sportsground lights, street lighting and community centres and requests that the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, The Hon. Lisa Neville MP urgently establishes a State Government Taskforce to combat illegal theft of copper.

## Melbourne Airport Rail Link, Western Rail Plan & Suburban Rail Loop - Significant Infrastructure

**Resolution:**

That State Council:

1. Notes the Federal and State governments’ $10 billion commitment towards the Melbourne Airport Rail Link (MARL) is an unprecedented investment in transport infrastructure connecting Victoria.
2. Acknowledges the MARL, combined with the Western Rail Plan (WRP) and Suburban Rail Loop (SRL), will transform connectivity, economic and social outcomes across Victoria.
3. Advocates that all Local Government Authorities (LGAs) formally be engaged as strategic partners for respective major transport projects taking place across the state, within their municipal boundaries.
4. Requests the MAV President writes to the Prime Minister of Australia and the Premier of Victoria, forwarding a copy of this motion, and outlining MAV’s call for the Australian and Victorian governments to engage formally with all councils in the planning and delivery of transport infrastructure projects across Victoria.

## Melbourne Metro 2 - supporting a jobs rich corridor

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria advocate to the State Government to commit to a business case for the Melbourne Metro 2 with the project to follow on from the completion of the Metro Tunnel. This will ensure that the metropolitan train system has the capacity needed to provide a world-class mass transit system that is able to support continued population and employment growth and reduce vehicle dependency.

## To advocate for a dedicated Rail Minister in both Federal and State Governments.

**Resolution:**

To endorse MAV State Council to advocate for a dedicated Rail Minister in both Federal and State Governments.

# Societal & social policy changes

## Annual Valuation Process

**Resolution:**

That the annual valuation process include more appropriate timelines that enable Councils to review the rating data and consider further community consultation prior to the adoption of the Budget.

## Indigenous Recognition

**Resolution:**

1. That MAV State Council support the sentiments contained in The Uluru Statement from the Heart
2. That MAV State Council support Aboriginal recognition and reform of the Constitution
3. That MAV State Council support a referendum campaign and process to enshrine a First Nations Voice to federal parliament

## Financial and Material Aid

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government and Federal Government seeking a greater commitment in regard to addressing the increased demand of community members seeking financial and material aid.

## School Focussed Youth Service

**Resolution:**

That MAV call on the State Government to commit to funding the SFYS program for a further three years, from 1 January 2019.

## Rehabilitation Services

**Resolution:**

That Council recommend to the Municipal Association of Victoria to include the adoption of the National Quality Framework for private sector providers of alcohol and other drug treatment services as an advocacy issue to the Federal Government.

## Aged Care Services

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. Coordinates a campaign and advocates to maintain block funding for the delivery of the Commonwealth Home Support Program beyond June 2020,
2. Advocates for the Victorian State Government to grant an exemption to local government providing home care services from the National Competition Policy.

## Nursing and Medication Management Subsidy for Home Care Packages

**Resolution:**

That the MAV calls on the Federal Government to introduce two new Home Care subsidies to medication management, and nursing services. This will allow Home Care Packages recipients to receive these two crucial services and maintain care in the community.

## Compulsory Inclusionary Zoning in Planning Schemes for Public, Social and Affordable Housing

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. Advocate for a coordinated, national response to housing issues, incorporating all levels of government.
2. Advocate for mandatory controls in planning schemes, in the form of inclusionary zoning, to require affordable housing contributions as part of private development.
3. The MAV seeks State Government funding for a housing officer to support councils to implement State Government housing policy.

## Awareness Campaign

**Resolution:**

That the MAV develops and implements a strategic communications campaign to raise the level of awareness and understanding of the work Councils do in regional and metropolitan Victoria and rebuilds the trust in local government as an institution.

## Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) Advocacy

**Resolution:**

Given the rising number of people seeking asylum that have already been removed by the Federal Government, funding for humanitarian relief is immediately required. MAV calls on the State to:

1. advocate to restore SRSS support for people seeking asylum in the community; and
2. increase Victorian Government funding for emergency relief support for people seeking asylum while awaiting the full reinstatement of SRSS policy by Federal Government.

## Metro Access Program

**Resolution:**

The Victorian State Government commit to fund the Building Inclusive Communities program (Metro Access) for a further 3 years directly through the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) or through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Information Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grant program.

## Local Government Act – Local Law - Review of Penalties – Dilapidated Buildings

**Resolution:**

That the Association endorse as a key part of its advocacy program to:

Seek amendments to the Local Government Act for better controls that will empower Councils to deal with derelict residential and all commercial properties (as applicable) and non-responsive owners as follows:

1. That councils be able to issue a warning to the owners of these properties to address the issues of abandonment and dereliction;
2. Should owners fail to do so, councils should be able to do the following:
   1. issue penalties commensurate with the community risk these properties pose
   2. temporarily confiscate the properties and undertake the remedial work passing the full costs of these works including officer time onto the owners
   3. should reoffending occurs the same process in part 2 would apply except that the penalties would continue to double on every occasion, on the same property;

and that the Minister be assured that every municipality in Victoria would like to maintain its neighbourhoods, safe and beautiful for the enjoyment of all Victorians, and unless the legislation is strengthened to facilitate this, then this horrendous problem of derelict properties and uncaring owners will never be addressed.

## Increase to Newstart Allowance

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the Federal Government stressing its support for an increase to the Newstart Allowance to a level of income that will lift people dependent on the allowance out of poverty.

## Tertiary Education Investment

**Resolution:**

That the MAV Advoate to the State Government invest in a Regional Study Hubs Funding Program similar to the program initiated by the Federal Government to support tertiary education opportunities in regional and remote areas.

# Sustainable land use

## Heritage Properties - Demolition by Neglect

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) advocate to the State Government strengthen all Planning Schemes to bring properties under a heritage overlay into a more protected system to ensure local heritage sites do not become dilapidated and derelict through the process of demolition by neglect and therefore receive a similar level of current protection afforded by the Heritage Act (1995) for sites of State significance.

# Business/digital transformation

## Connectivity and Telecommunications

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the Australian Government commits to ongoing investment in eliminating mobile blackspots across the State to reduce social disadvantage and support business and tourism growth. Through its continued support through the Mobile Blackspot Program (currently round four) and accurate data available to assist Council in determining areas of greatest need.

# Climate change & environment

## Underground Transmission Lines for Renewable Energy Projects

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the Minister for Planning that all energy project transmission lines that connect power to the state wide electricity grid must be underground.

## Strategic Siting of Renewable Energy Projects

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the Minister for Planning that a strategic approach be taken by the state government to the siting of renewable energy developments across Victoria having particular regard to the cumulative social, economic and environmental impacts these developments have on local communities.

## Development of Renewable Energy Facilities

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria:

* 1. Endorses a Notice of Motion from the Nillumbik Shire Council to the 2019National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association requesting the Commonwealth Government to provide direct funding to assist local government to address the risks of climate change through the development of renewable energy facilities and support related community actions.
  2. Seek State Government support and advocacy for this Motion.

# Population Change

## Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund

**Resolutions:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria lobby the Victorian State Government for the continuation of the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund for a further eight years, and that this fund be resourced to levels similar to the previous eight years, whereby $1 billion flowed to investment projects in Rural and Regional Victoria.

## State Government developing policy and prioritising investment in regional infrastructure.

**Resolution:**

Seeking support for the State Government to develop a long term plan for investment in regional cities as a key to maintaining the liveability of the regions they support, attract business investment and to provide high quality health, education, recreation and cultural facilities.

# Planning and building

## OVGA review of urban clutter

**Resolution:**

That MAV advocates for the Office of the Victorian Government Architect (OVGA) to conduct a review of the cumulative effect of “low impact” facilities (covered under the Telecommunications Act 1997) and other State/Federal facilities, such as PTV/Yarra Trams substations, on public space / road-reserve, and present a series of recommendations for improving amenity and the (co-location /underground) placement of facilities to the Victorian Government.

# Other Motions

## Reducing repetitive and return motions to MAV State Council Meetings

**Resolution:**

That State Council reviews its Rules to incorporate clauses that will minimise the number of repetitive motions that are included in State Council Meeting Business Papers and ensure subject matter is relevant to the sector as a whole. Clauses could include:

* a limit on the amount of times identical or substantively equivalent motions can come before State Council meetings;
* the incorporation of clear principles and guidance to assist the Chief Executive Officer and ultimately the Board to ensure that only matters of "state-wide significance to local government" be included in the business papers;
* the incorporation of clear principles and guidance to the Board to ensure that, at its discretion, motions that can be consolidated are consolidated; or
* other clauses that may better achieve the desired benefit.

## Changes to legislation to protect Authorised Officers

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government to provide greater protection and improved safety for Council officers by amending definitions in the Sentencing Act 1991 to include Authorised Council Officers eg: Rangers, Planning Compliance Officers.