

# agenda

## Ordinary Meeting of Council Addendum

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOONDALUP WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP

**ON** **TUESDAY 26 MARCH 2024**

**COMMENCING AT** **6.30pm**

**NICO CLAASSEN**

Director Infrastructure Services

20 March 2024

**Acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians**

The City of Joondalup acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, and recognises the culture of the Noongar people and the unique contribution they make to the Joondalup region and Australia. The City of Joondalup pays its respects to their Elders past and present and extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

*This document is available in alternate formats upon request*

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

16	MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN.....	3
16.1	NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 1 – CR RUSS FISHWICK, JP – AUDIT FEES .....	3
16.2	NOTICE OF MOTION NO.2 – CR LEWIS HUTTON – SPEED LIMIT ALONG MARMION AVENUE.....	4
16.3	NOTICE OF MOTION NO.3 – CR JOHN RAFTIS – CITY OF JOONDALUP WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE.....	7

## 16 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

### 16.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 1 – CR RUSS FISHWICK, JP – AUDIT FEES

In accordance with Clause 4.6 of the *City of Joondalup Meeting Procedures Local Law 2013*, Cr Russ Fishwick has given notice of his intention to move the following Motion at the Council meeting to be held on 26 March 2024:

***That Council REQUESTS the Western Australian Local Government Association to lobby the State Government to review the Local Government (Audit Regulations) 1996 to:***

- 1 Limit the Audit Fee a local government can be charged to 0.15% of rates revenue for the year being audited;***
- 2 To require the Office of the Auditor General to establish a local government audit section to ensure adequate resources are allocated to local government audits;***
- 3 Require the Office of the Auditor General to complete audits within eight weeks of the relevant financial reports being supplied to the Office of the Auditor General.***

#### REASON FOR MOTION

The costs of audits for local governments have increased significantly in recent years – far more than others cost increases. Furthermore, the length of time being taken to complete audits has also significantly increased.

Current indications are that again, local government audits will occur after the completion of State audits, meaning that audit reports are unlikely to be available prior to early to mid-December. This will result in the Annual Elector's Meeting being in February or March 2025.

The Office of the Auditor General (OAG) should be sufficiently resourced to ensure that all audits are completed in a timely fashion. For many years the sector was able to access commercial auditors that were able to complete the audits within the stated timeframes.

In addition, the cost of audits conducted by the OAG being regulated to being 0.15% of the rate revenue of the local government they are auditing which is considered to be a fair and reasonable charge will ensure that the OAG is operating efficiently and held to a fixed cost as were the commercial auditors that in the past tendered for the work.

#### OFFICER'S COMMENT

The City's 2022-23 audit fee from the OAG represented just under 0.13% of rates revenue in 2022-23. Due to the variations in rates revenue levels across the industry, 0.15% of rates revenue is likely a reasonable overall limit to use.

Timeliness of audits remains a concern and is understood to arise from insufficient capacity within the OAG. Should this remain an ongoing situation, it would be appropriate for the OAG to outsource the City's audit to mitigate this. The OAG has audited the City since 2018-19 and it may be helpful for the OAG to regularly rotate the local governments that are directly audited in order to maintain a broader, fuller understanding of the sector.

## 16.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO.2 – CR LEWIS HUTTON – SPEED LIMIT ALONG MARMION AVENUE

In accordance with Clause 4.6 of the *City of Joondalup Meeting Procedures Local Law 2013*, Cr Lewis Hutton has given notice of his intention to move the following Motion at the Council meeting to be held on 26 March 2024:

***That Council REQUESTS the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to formally write to both Main Roads and the relevant Minister and members of State Parliament to request the default speed limit along Marmion Avenue be returned to 80km/h and that any further changes only take place after proper community consultation.***

### REASON FOR MOTION

In February 2023, under the cover of darkness, contractors from Main Roads descended upon Marmion Avenue to decrease the speed limit from 80km/h to 70km/h.

This change, which took place without proper community consultation, was met with widespread disbelief in our community.

Implemented from Kinross all the way down to Karrinyup, and from Clarkson all the way up to Alkimos, the speed limit reduction has done nothing but add to the frustration felt by drivers on a daily basis.

The view of our community on this issue could not be clearer. The way we make our roads safer is by designing them well and properly investing in them; not by having a continuous race to the bottom on speed limits.

With the State Government and Main Roads appearing to be continuing down this path across WA, now is the time to take a stand before our entire road network is brought to a halt.

### OFFICER'S COMMENT

Main Roads WA (MRWA) is the responsible authority for the approval, installation and maintenance of all speed limits throughout the state of WA.

The modification of speed limits on MRWA's owned and controlled roads such as Marmion Avenue are undertaken by MRWA at their discretion. Marmion Avenue was under the care and control of MRWA from Karrinyup Road to Ocean Reef Road.

Marmion Avenue north of Ocean Reef Road to the boundary with the City of Wanneroo, was reclassified as a State Road and handed over to MRWA following a decision of Council in June 2021 (CJ089-06/21 refers).

In 2022, MRWA commenced a project to reduce the speed limit to a maximum of 70 km/h on approaches to all signalised intersections across the State. The speed reductions were required following a review of *Main Roads Speed Zoning: Policy and Application Guidelines* and align MRWA with the latest Australian Standards, best practices, and improved Safe System principles. MRWA advised that research has shown that reducing the speed limit on approaches to intersections reduces both crash probability and severity at a low cost and the changes were anticipated to provide a 15% reduction in Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) crashes.

Due to the number of sites requiring change, a phased roll out approach over several years was developed by MRWA with priority given to reducing speeds through those intersections with the highest crash history first. A total of 33 sites across both Metropolitan and South-West Regions were identified for change as part of that first package of works which were rolled out in August last year and included the reduction from 80km/h to 70km/h on Marmion Avenue within the City of Joondalup, at the following four intersections:

- Marmion Avenue/Whitfords Avenue.
- Marmion Avenue/Ocean Reef Road.
- Marmion Avenue/Hodges Drive.
- Marmion Avenue/Banks Avenue.

A second package of works (involving another 33 sites) was rolled out between Monday 13 and Friday 17 February 2023 which prioritised the implementation of a series of broader speed zone changes, including all required speed signage and signal timing changes, along the full length of Marmion Avenue which included:

- Section 1 (70 km/h) Karrinyup Road to Toowoan Way, Burns Beach (18.3 km)
- Section 2 (80 km/h) Toowoan Way to Aviator Boulevard, Clarkson (2.5 km)
- Section 3 (70 km/h) Aviator Boulevard to Brindabella Parkway, Alkimos (10.2 km)
- Section 4 (80 km/h) Brindabella Parkway to Blackwood Meander, Yanchep (8.1 km)
- Section 5 (60 km/h) Blackwood Meander to Yanchep Beach Rd, Yanchep (1 km).

The City, nor the wider community, was consulted prior to the change in these speed limits being implemented. MRWA did notified the City via an email on 9 February 2023 of their intention to change the speed limit within its boundary and advertised the new limits via their website.

In response to Elected Member and community queries and concerns immediately following the speed limit change, the City contacted MRWA who provided the following explanation in late February 2023:

*“The motivation behind the State Governments road safety initiative that introduced the various speed limit changes on Marmion Avenue starts with the introduction of the new maximum of 70 km/h through signals.*

*Travelling along a road at 80 km/h, reaction distance is 56m with braking distance of 41m. Compared to 70 km/h reaction distance of 39m and braking distance of 32m. Lower speed limits reduce the potential impact of a crash.*

*It is these figures that have driven the Main Roads to introducing a maximum speed limit of 70 km/h at signalised intersections across WA. The changes are being applied over several years and are being delivered in 3 packages of work. Marmion Avenue formed part of Work package 1 and was delivered in August 2022 which resulted in numerous speed zone changes.*

*In addition to changes at some traffic signals, the new policy also provided an opportunity to undertake full speed zone reviews along Marmion Avenue to ensure appropriate whole-of-route speed limits are in place.*

*The latest changes are a direct response to feedback Main Roads has been receiving from road users following this initial works package 1 that implemented 70 km/h at signals, as a result we have rationalised the sections affected resulting in the a more consistent speed limit along most of Marmion Avenue (Karrinyup to Yanchep) that better reflect the road environment.*

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*In summary, the large sections of 70 was as a result of customer feedback received regarding the frequent speed limit changes between 80km/h and 70km/h due to the changes introduced with the rollout of 70 at signals.”*

Scientific research into the association between crash forces and speed has been undertaken globally by various road safety research organisations, with the findings correlated with actual crash injury data. The speed travelled at affects reaction time and stopping distance if there is a need to brake or manoeuvre suddenly. In a crash, speed determines the force of impact experienced during a collision.

In 2020, 43% of fatalities on Western Australian roads were speed related crashes. The need to reduce speed to save lives is based on the physical properties of kinetic energy. The energy stored in motion is equal to the mass of the object moving, multiplied by the velocity squared divided by 2 ( $Ke=MV^2/2$ ). Therefore, speed in the equation has four times the influence on the crash energy. As such, if the speed of a collision is reduced it will yield a reduction in fatalities and serious injuries.

The changes implemented by MRWA now provide road users with more consistent speed limits resulting in only four speed limit changes along the entire route. Journey times are not considered to be severely impacted with less than three minutes added to a pre-change journey along the entire 40km length of Marmion Avenue from Yanchep Beach Road to Karrinyup Road.

On the basis that MRWA are the authority that governs speed limits and manages Marmion Avenue; safety has been their main driver behind the speed limit change which aligns with the state government's *'Road Safety Strategy 2020-2030 Driving Change'*.

Based on the proven safety benefits and only a minor impact on journey times, the City does not support increasing the default speed limit along Marmion Avenue from 70km/h to 80km/h and as such, the Notice of Motion, is not supported.

## **16.3 NOTICE OF MOTION NO.3 – CR JOHN RAFTIS – CITY OF JOONDALUP WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE**

In accordance with Clause 4.6 of the *City of Joondalup Meeting Procedures Local Law 2013*, Cr John Raftis has given notice of his intention to move the following Motion at the Council meeting to be held on 26 March 2024:

***That Council REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report on the workers compensation insurance for the City of Joondalup, including:***

- 1 The nature of the insurance policy with LGIS for example the premium paid to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties and the potential for claims at a later date, analysis of the terms of the contract and associated costs;***
- 2 The costs of workers compensation insurance for the past 10 years, with a full reconciliation of claims paid out in subsequent periods for each year of cover;***
- 3 A break down of the staff covered under this policy and the applicable “industry” code such as numbers of staff and applicable remuneration (totals not individual) for each industry code;***
- 4 A report of the claims encountered by the City for staff under this policy for the past 10 years – nature of claims, applicable department, total claims paid out;***
- 5 A requirement for all insurance policies to be subject to presentation at the Audit and Risk Committee in 2024 for review and understanding of the risk impacts for the City;***
- 6 A review of the City’s insurance policies, with a view to making a recommendation to Council on whether a tender process be undertaken for the 2025/2026 insurance requirements.***

### **REASON FOR MOTION**

The reason for the request is to both educate and inform the Council around the insurance policies in place for the City and also to ensure the policies are delivering the best value for money for the City.

Insurance is a key component of the City’s risk management processes, and the Council should be educated and informed around the risks applicable, and the benefits delivered from these policies.

Insurance policies have a significant cost and it is important the City is achieving the best value for money for these policies, with an acknowledgement that the cheapest policy does not necessarily deliver the best outcome. With regard to the Workers Compensation insurance, the City currently budgets 2.5% of payroll for such insurance, which seems comparatively high given the City has a large component of “indoor” personnel. My experience has shown that an organisation with primarily office-based personnel and a good claims record can achieve much lower premiums. As such the initial focus of the Notice of Motion is on a full review and understanding of the Workers Compensation Policy and the City’s experience with claims.

### **OFFICER’S COMMENT**

A report can be prepared.