**Meeting Notes**

**2019 Yarra Heritage Strategy – Stakeholder / Industry Forum**

Time: 6-8pm

Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2019

Location: Richmond Town Hall

Facilitator – Chris Robinson, Capire Consulting Group

Heritage Consultant – Ian Travers, Extent Heritage Consultants

Senior Heritage Advisor – Richa Swarup, City of Yarra

Senior Advisor Community Engagement - Natalie Thomas, City of Yarra.

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The following notes are direct transcriptions (*shown in italics*) of handwritten comments supplied on a feedback form completed at the event. To the best of our ability, they have been transcribed faithfully, however errors may naturally occur through this process.

**Key messages**

**Proposed Priority Area 1 – “Improved statements of significance and precinct citations”**

1. Improve communication and awareness of all statements and citations
2. Update and refresh all citations
3. Invest resources and budget to improve the citation and statement quality
4. Diversify the content and scope of heritage citations.
5. Make statements of significance available to decision makers as that may influence decision making

**Proposed Priority Area 2 – “Natural heritage”**

1. Natural heritage is important and needs more than just protection
2. Clarify the scope and definition of natural heritage
3. Interdepartmental collaboration within the council and engagement with external agencies and partners will be essential
4. Use community experts to assist in local natural heritage research
5. *Provide protection to trees of heritage significance*

**Proposed Priority Area 3 – “Strengthening existing provisions”**

1. Invest in heritage training and education programs for Council staff
2. Consider developing a new Heritage department at Council
3. Encourage positioning ‘heritage’ as a cross department responsibility across council
4. Develop more rigor in setting a clear heritage policy for the municipality and clear heritage controls

 **Proposed Priority Area 4 – “Managing council’s own heritage assets”**

1. Council needs to develop a framework for managingits own assets
2. Council needs to consider ESD within heritage.
3. Council needs to promote building industry skills and education

**Proposed Priority Area 5 – “Heritage advice”**

1. Council to deliver a high-quality heritage advice service
2. Council to consider how to pay or charge for heritage advice
3. Council to have a heritage department ( a dedicated heritage unit)

**Proposed Priority Area 6 – “World Heritage”**

1. Council to protect World Heritage from adjacent development
2. Council should do more to promote and celebrate World Heritage values

**Proposed Priority Area 7 – “Indigenous heritage”**

1. Council should invest in-house indigenous heritage skills and engagement resources
2. Council should increase protection and recognition of indigenous heritage
3. Council should increase promotion and awareness of indigenous heritage

**Proposed Priority Area 8 – “Community access to information”**

1. Council should increase the availability of useful heritage online information Council should do more to generally promote heritage across the city
2. Council should consider more ways to celebrate heritage