Banyule Futures Your Voice Our Future

Banyule City Council

# ThinkTank Session 4

Recommendation preparation and presentation

# Mayor’s welcome

**Cr Elizabeth Nealy**

# Acknowledgements

Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as traditional custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region's history.

## Diversity statement

Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders.  We are committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone; principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.

# Who is in the room?



**Community ThinkTank**

A representation of the diversity of the Banyule community



**Council team**

Here to share critical information and provide ongoing content support.



**The Capire Team**

Independent facilitators

# Housekeeping



Please turn your mobile phone on silent



Please no personal photography or filming



We have set times for morning tea and will finish the day with a celebratory lunch together. Please help yourself to tea and coffee at any time.



Take note of emergency exits and toilet location



We have arranged for your carparking so no need to move your car during breaks

# Housekeeping



**Covid-safe & general health practices**

- If you are feeling unwell, please go home
- Use the hand sanitiser provided
- If you are more comfortable wearing a mask, please do so



**What can you share?**

Feel free to talk to family and friends about the process in general but to respect the process we ask that you don’t share any aspect of the Panel’s work on social media, with the media or members of Council.

# Support and resources

- Central Contact – Karol Anfuso and project staff
- Central information point – **Shaping.Banyule.vic.gov.au/ThinkTank-members**
- Regular updates
- Participant Packs, Findings Reports, other key documents
- Support in between sessions and during sessions

# ThinkTank Journey




- Introduction
- Community Vision (review & refine)

- Information on key Council documents
- Exploring ideas

- Consolidation of ideas

- Recommendations
- Preparation
- Presentation

# The promise

*Council will look to you for advice and innovation to come up with solutions to challenges Council and people in Banyule are facing. Your advice will be incorporated into final decisions to the maximum extent possible.*

# ThinkTank remit

The Banyule Community ThinkTank will identify clear priorities and principles for Council over the next four years. Members will be provided with up-to-date information to support their informed conversations with other ThinkTank members, before making recommendations to Councillors based on what members agree should be Council's priorities for inclusion in its Council Plan and Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and other strategic documents.

# Principles to work together

- **Listening -** We will actively listen while others are speaking, ensuring everyone gets an opportunity to share their views.
- **Speaking and communicating -** We will accept all ways people would like to communicate, verbally and in written form, and consider the way we speak to ensure everyone feels safe and comfortable.
- **Respect** - We will respect everyone in the room and acknowledge the way we all play a part in shaping Banyule, particularly our elders who have a wealth of experience to share.
- **Acceptance and inclusion** - We will actively include everyone in the room in acknowledgement that the diversity of our experiences and communities will mean that issues may impact us differently.
- **Curiosity** - We will maintain a curious mindset to enable learning and unlearning to challenge our assumptions, even when this is hard or uncomfortable.
- **Focus** - We will remain focused on our objectives to find the best outcomes for all of Banyule.
- **Decision making -** We will make decisions by voting with a majority.

# Agenda

| Time | Item |
|---|---|
| 9:30am | Welcome |
| | Energiser |
| | Outcomes from Session 3 |
| | Refining and voting on final principles |
| | Refining and voting on final Vision theme descriptions |
| 11:35 | **Morning tea** |
| | Discussion: Tracking Council progress (and preparation of presentation) |
| | Presentation of Think Tank's outputs to Councillors and Executive |
| | Evaluation and reflections |
| | Wrap up and close |
| 1:30pm | **Celebration Lunch** |
| 2:00pm | **Close** |

# Energiser

Paper airplane activity

# Paper airplane activity

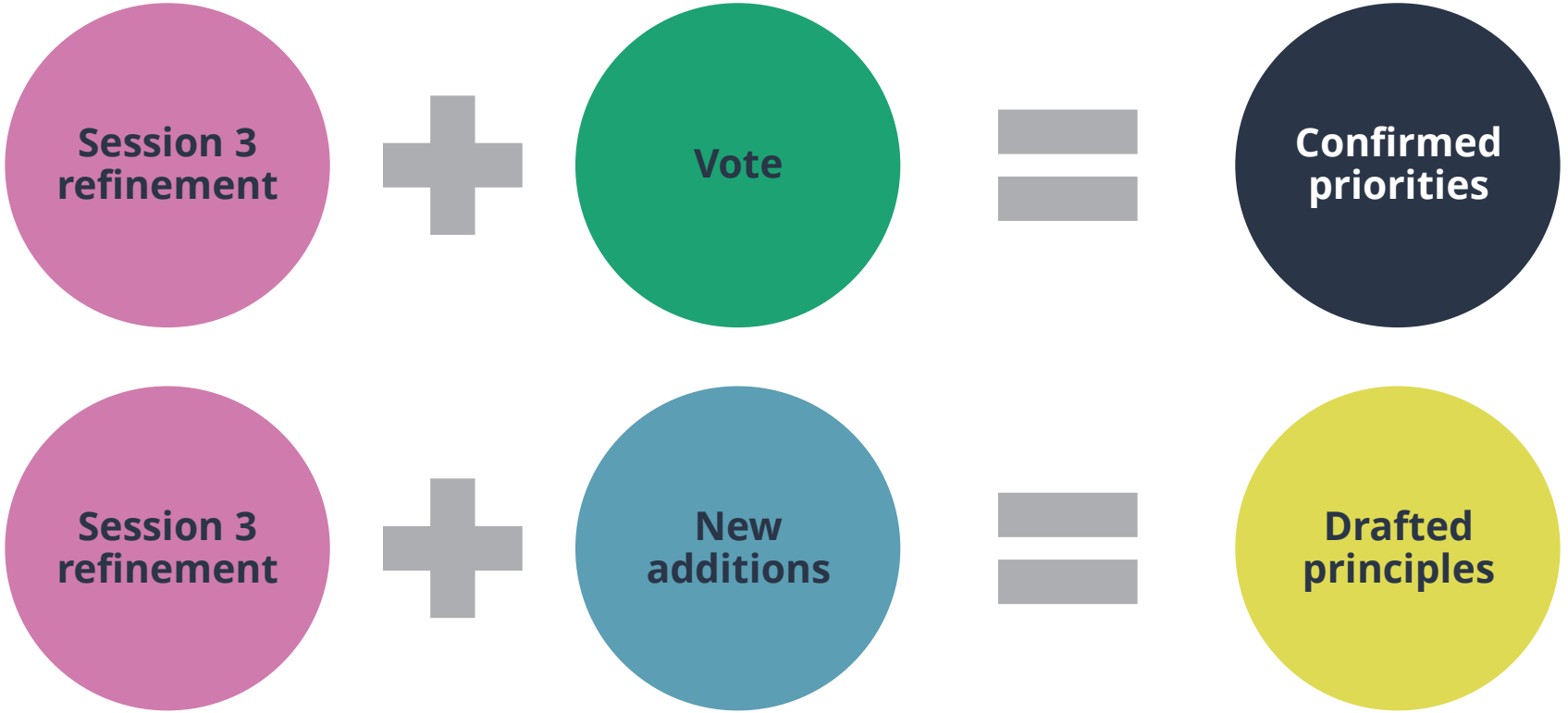
- You each should have a piece of paper in front of you.
- On your piece of paper, write something that you are excited about for the future of Banyule.
- Then, create a paper airplane out of your piece of paper.
- There are instructions on your table if you’re unsure how to do this, or you can use your own design.
- Once your airplane is ready, stand up at your table.

# Paper airplane activity

- 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 throw your airplane!
- Pick up someone else’s airplane and read what they are excited about
- Is it similar or different to what you wrote?

# Priorities and principles – where did we get to?

# What’s happened so far




Any matters raised and recorded in the parking lot during sessions will be provided on Shaping Banyule.

# Final priorities

| Theme 1: Our inclusive and connected Banyule | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Participation** | Develop Council structures and supports to enable new community initiatives to be developed, trialled and evaluated and reflect best practice. |
| | Make community and sporting opportunities culturally and psychologically safe for everyone. |
| | Targeted initiatives to address social isolation across communities and for selected communities. |
| | Position youth hubs in accessible community activity areas to improve reach, establish early pathways to connect to services and programs and broader connections to community. |
| | Improve connections to community and sporting activities via communication, support people to participate and how to get maximum benefit. |
| **Social media** | Respond to the changing social media environment by supporting young people's need to connect, access supports and belong. |
| | Partner to deliver education programs to foster safe use of social media. |

# Final priorities

| Theme 1: Inclusive and connected community | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Volunteering** | Supporting volunteer organisations to attract and sustain volunteers by providing practical supports (training, accessibility, resources to reduce paperwork). |
| **Parents with children** | To address a gap, support children (6-12 years) to participate, connect, learn and belong in their local community. |
| **Accessibility** | Unlock use of Council and community spaces (public and privately owned) for a diverse range of people, programs and multiple uses, prioritising affordability. |

# Final priorities

| Theme 2 – Our sustainable environment | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Community engagement, environment and activation/ enabling** | Strengthen and increase community environment engagement through community outreach programs and inclusive communication channels. |
| **Climate events response** | Develop and implement strategies to assist the community to adapt and respond to extreme weather events (heat waves, flooding, high winds). |
| **Pollution, waste and environment** | Reducing pollution in all aspects with education and implementation (waste, water, air). |
| **Biodiversity, education and empowerment** | Protecting and strengthening biodiversity and urban forest through education within Council and the community. |

# Final priorities

| Theme 3 – Our well-built city | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Infrastructure** | Urban planning considers infrastructure and services required to meet the needs of current and future populations. |
| **Transport** | Advocate and plan for sustainable, accessible and equitable public and active transport connections. |
| **Housing** | Ensure a range of housing that meets community expectations and needs of a growing and more diverse population. |
| **Council spaces** | Ensure Council-owned open and community spaces prioritise liveability, sustainability, connections and expression. |

# Final priorities

| Theme 4 – Our valued community assets and facilities | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Asset utilisation** | Present population: Prioritise investment in existing assets and facilities to make sure they are safe, accessible to everyone and can be fully utilised. |
| **Universal design** | Future population: Ensure the needs of Banyule's changing and increasing population are considered in planning for infrastructure. |
| **Asset distribution** | Ensure equitable distribution and upgrade of assets and facilities when planning. |
| **Prioritising existing versus new assets** | Prioritise maintaining existing assets and facilities to make sure they are adaptable and fit for purpose for multiple community needs. |

# Final priorities

| Theme 5 – Our thriving local economy | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Growth** | Support and mentor businesses, philanthropy and not for profits, especially new initiatives to become sustainable and scalable. |
| **Aging population** | Support the older population to maintain, upskill and re-enter the workforce. |
| **Youth employment** | Develop and invest in youth employment opportunities to upskill and connect young people to employers. |
| **Arts and culture** | Find innovative ways to use vacant or underutilised spaces for arts and cultural endeavours. |
| **Promotion** | Increase the promotion of businesses, employment and volunteering opportunities through different forms of communication such as social media and promotion in the Banyule banner. |
| **Connect** | Provide opportunities to network with other Banyule businesses, share knowledge and collaborate. |
| **Connection** | Make better use of existing assets and shops in business and retail precincts to activate spaces, connect people, encourage street activity and strengthen the local economy. |

# Final priorities

| Theme 6 – Our trusted and responsive leadership | |
|---|---|
| **Category** | **Priority** |
| **Community Planning** | Support and empower community to participate in simple planning and set priorities to inform decision making for their local area. |
| **Communicate** | Step 1: Develop new and varied communication methods to increase engagement and reach the Banyule community.<br><br>Step 2: Share with the community Council's work and how Council is progressing in simple and meaningful ways that everyone can access and understand. |
| **Financial principles** | Council to seek transparent alternative revenue sources to minimise the financial burden of rates on residents including appropriate public/private investment. |
| **Education** | Inform and educate the community on the role of Local Government and other tiers of Government. |
| **Emergency funds** | Maintain a sustainable buffer of emergency funds to mitigate the impact of emergency events. (Need to define level of funding-community wide/individuals) |

# Refined draft principles

1. Services, places and spaces accessible for everyone.

2. Places and activities that support community to connect, celebrate, create, learn, grow and belong.

3. Sustainable growth that strengthens, preserves and makes best use of valued community assets.

4. Accepted principles are used to prioritise an asset's renewal or replacement, including its location and level of use.

5. Council's communication and ways of working are inclusive and respectful of everyone.

6. Accessible and engaging forms of communication to share Council's work, consultation and performance to increase transparency.

7. Balance doing Council core business with meeting community expectations to do more.

8. Make space and opportunity for people who need it the most.

9. Advocate to State and Federal Government for services and improvements under their responsibility.

10. Sustainability is considered in all Council planning, services and assets.

11. Prioritise smart investment into clean energy and quality building materials to reduce impact on budget over time.

12. Foster community pride for everyone to care for their part of Banyule.

13. Take a place-based and equitable approach to investment and urban planning which considers the diverse needs of people, places and services.

# Final refinement: Draft principles

# Refined draft principles [placeholder]

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13. Take a place-based and equitable approach to investment and urban planning which considers the diverse needs of people, places and services.

# Instructions

- Individually reflect on the draft principles for 2-3 minutes.
- Then, as a table group, **review** and **reflect** using the following prompt questions.

**Prompt questions:**

- Have we got these right?
- Is there anything missing?

# Final principles [placeholder to be voted on]

# Vote: Draft principles

# Principles– online vote

1. Scan the QR code
   **or**
   Go to www.menti.com and put in code **2142 6583**

**2. Rate each principle as either:**

- **Loathe it**
- **Live with it**
- **Love it**

# Final refinement: Vision theme descriptions

# Instructions

- Individually reflect on the shortened vision descriptions for 5 minutes.
- Then, each table will be allocated a Community Vision theme.
- Go to the table with the theme you are most interested in.
- Note your feedback on butcher's paper.
- Nominate a representative to share feedback to the wider group.

**Prompt questions:**

- Does the shortened vision description capture the essence and intent of the original longer vision?
- Is there anything missing? Does anything need to change?

# Vote: Vision theme descriptions

# Theme 1 – Our inclusive and connected community

**Nutshell statement:** 'A vibrant, connected, active and safe community where diversity and inclusion are valued and encouraged.'

By 2041, Banyule remains a diverse, inclusive, and vibrant community, where everyone feels at home.

- We honour and learn from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and support self-determination.
- Community spaces and services are welcoming and accessible to all, with no barriers to inclusion or participation.
- Banyule is safe and people enjoy nutritious food, lead active lifestyles and experience their best health and wellbeing.
- Our festivals and events are inclusive and reflect our diversity.
- We protect and celebrate our arts and cultural history, offering opportunities for people to connect, participate and be represented.
- Volunteering, education and work encourage and build community connection.
- Valuing people's differences underpins our sense of belonging.
- People of all ages and backgrounds actively participate in decision-making and civic life.

# Theme 2 – Our sustainable environment

**Nutshell statement:** 'A progressive and innovative leader in protecting, enhancing and increasing the health and diversity of our natural environment, where we all commit to playing an active role in achieving environmental sustainability and reducing waste and carbon emissions.'

By 2041, Banyule is a leader in environmental sustainability and recognised as one of the most sustainable communities.

- Aboriginal culture and Caring for Country principles guide our sustainability efforts.
- Council partners with the community, education and private sectors, investing in innovative solutions to tackle climate change.
- Population growth aligns with sustainability goals, ensuring equal access to natural spaces.
- We are empowered, adaptive and resilient to climate change.
- Council promotes sustainable transport options and is on the way to being carbon negative, with a circular economy achieving zero waste.
- We are well-informed on waste, food security and climate actions, and Council leads environmental education.
- We protect biodiversity, reduce species extinction and enhance wildlife corridors and urban vegetation.
- Urban farming and home-grown food practices are common.
- Trees, green spaces and the urban forest are abundant and maintained to enhance liveability and neighbourhood character.
- Environmentally sustainable design is central to planning and development, and the use of renewable energy in our homes, businesses and facilities is normal.

# Theme 3 – Our well-built city

**Nutshell statement:** ‘A well-planned, sustainable and liveable place that caters for current and emerging communities; where our local character and environment is protected and enhanced.’

By 2041, Banyule is a well-planned, designed and built environmentally sustainable city that meets the community's needs.

- Local neighbourhood character, heritage, history and First Nations culture are protected and embedded into planning, thinking and design.
- We are a green city with abundant open space, trees and wildlife.
- Spaces are well designed for universal access, and planning decisions consider health and wellbeing.
- The city offers affordable, accessible and sustainable housing options for people’s diverse needs.
- Banyule is a network of accessible neighbourhoods, connected by sustainable transport options.
- We encourage and invest in active transport like walking, cycling and public transport, and our walking and bike paths are safe and well-connected to the broader community.
- Good design is seen across our city in housing and other buildings.
- Development is sustainable and balanced, preserving grasslands, forests, wetlands, waterways and wildlife.

# Theme 4 – Our valued community assets and facilities

**Nutshell statement:** 'Our community assets, facilities and services, are affordable, sustainable, evenly distributed, safe, accessible for everyone and designed to provide meaningful experiences and connections.'

In 2041, our facilities, parks, playgrounds and sports grounds are well maintained and accessible to all.

- Community assets are equitably distributed, culturally safe, inclusive and environmentally sustainable, reflecting local character and ensuring physical safety.
- Built assets are adaptable, well-maintained and meet the needs of our diverse community.
- Multipurpose facilities and libraries offer spaces for connection, learning, work and friendship.
- We take pride in our well-built community hubs, aquatic and leisure facilities and sports centres, which are essential to health and wellbeing.
- We have easy access to non-Council community facilities.
- Our safe network of bike lanes, paths, roads and public transport connects us locally and beyond.

# Theme 5 – Our thriving local economy

**Nutshell statement:** 'A thriving, resilient, socially responsible, local economy that encourages, supports and advocates for a diverse range of businesses and entrepreneurship, providing local investment and employment opportunities.'

By 2041, Banyule is home to a diverse range of local businesses and everyone has access to quality education and employment.

- We promote and have strong relationships with First Nations businesses, organisations and gathering spaces.
- Economic growth is supported through business partnerships and regional collaborations and Banyule is a business-friendly destination.
- Start-ups and new business ideas continue to grow and thrive.
- There is investment in local traders and shopping precincts are safe, attractive and a destination for shopping and socialising.
- Local employment opportunities are diverse, inclusive and flexible, supporting work-life balance.
- Innovation and technological advancements are embraced and social enterprises are well-established.
- There are diverse education and job training opportunities for people of all abilities and life stages.
- Volunteering is promoted as a valuable contributor to the community and local economy.

# Theme 6 – Our trusted and responsive leadership

**Nutshell statement:** ‘An engaged and driven community led by a responsive and innovative Council that has the trust of the community through demonstrated best practice governance, financial sustainability and advocacy on community priorities and aspirations.’

By 2041, Council works in partnership with the community in a trusted, transparent, and accountable way.

- We work alongside the First Nations community and recognise Aboriginal self-determination.
- Council is responsive, innovative, customer-focused and delivers excellent services.
- Barriers between Council and the community are reduced through timely and effective communication, making interactions with Council easier.
- Council advocates for community priorities and actively engages the community in decision-making.
- Community leaders are nurtured to drive positive change for the communities they represent.
- Regular and transparent reporting keeps the community well-informed of Council’s progress.
- Council is trusted as a socially, environmentally and financially sustainable organisation, working to achieve Banyule's Community Vision 2041.
- People of all ages and backgrounds actively participate in decision-making and civic life.

# Vision theme descriptions – online vote

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# Morning tea 

15-minute break

# Presentation preparation

## Thanks to our volunteer Presenters:

- Regina – Theme 1: Inclusive and connected community
- Evander – Theme 2: Our sustainable environment
- Josephine – Theme 3: Our well-built city
- Deborah – Theme 4: Our Valued community assets and facilities
- Mikaela – Theme 5: Our thriving local economy
- Marcello – Theme 6: Our trusted and responsive leadership
- Logan – Principles

## Please go with Bec into the next room to prepare

# Tracking Council’s progress and communication

Group Discussion

# Group Discussion

- Council will report on the completion of Council Plan activities (4-year cycle). What else could Council do to track progress towards the Vision (2041)?
- How can Council best communicate this with the wider community?

# Presentation of recommendations

# Next steps

# Next steps

1. Council will now be developing the Council Plan and strategic documents that will respond to the work of the Thinktank
2. Draft documents out for public consultation (March to early April)
3. Hearing of feedback on 15 April 2025
4. Formal adoption 23 June 2025.

# Reflections

# Reflections on the process and the outcomes

- “I like…”
- “I wish…”
- “I wonder…”

# Evaluation

# Evaluation survey

Please take 5 minutes to complete this evaluation survey.

**Banyule Community ThinkTank Evaluation Survey**

# Thank YOU!

- Thank you for being a part of the Banyule Community Think Tank