

GLEN EIRA NEWS



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

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Give your old bike a new life

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Council received \$2 million of State Government funding for the future redevelopment of Murrumbeena Park pavilion.

Council receives funding for advocacy efforts

The City of Glen Eira is undergoing an exciting time of change and our community is growing.

You’ve told us that you want a community that is vibrant, well designed, safe and easy to move around.

We alone cannot deliver on all the changes required to achieve this and strong advocacy with other levels of government is required.

The *Glen Eira Advocacy Strategy 2018–2020* sets Council’s advocacy agenda to ensure Glen Eira is a place where people want to live now and in the future. It also summarises a range of key projects that are critical to secure the community’s vision for the City.

During 2018 Council’s advocacy efforts have resulted in an increase in State Government grant funding of just under \$5.5 million to improve the City and respond to community issues and concerns.

This is a great outcome as it puts less pressure on rates to deliver some wonderful community projects including: female-friendly sporting facilities; lighting at sportsgrounds; graffiti removal; improved community safety; and greater access to social housing.

We were delighted that in 2018 the State Government committed \$4,509,135 to improve local sporting facilities, including female-friendly facilities, pavilion upgrades and new lighting.

- \$394,500 to improve community safety, including new laneway lighting and graffiti removal projects.
- \$375,000 to improve early years’ programs, including a significant upgrade of Bentleigh East Kindergarten.
- \$200,000 to review current social housing to develop a strategy to meet future community needs.

A number of the projects will be the subject of extensive community consultation to finalise scope and design. This will occur on a project by project basis in line with Council’s usual project methodology and community engagement approach.

Of course advocacy is an ongoing process. We are now turning our mind to the forthcoming Federal Election to ensure that Glen Eira community priorities are front of mind for both sitting members and candidates.

Give your old bike a new life

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If you have an old bicycle gathering dust in the corner of your garage or are looking at upgrading your current wheels, Bicycles for Humanity Melbourne would love to hear from you.

Since 2008, the volunteer-run charity has been collecting bicycles from across Melbourne.

Teams of volunteers — after ensuring the bicycles are in fixable condition — arrange for them to be collected and transported to a storage and packing facility in Dingley. The bicycles are then shipped to some of the poorest communities in the world.

Bicycles for Humanity Melbourne Co-founder and President and Glen Eira resident Andy Gild told *Glen Eira News* that a single bicycle allows someone to travel twice as far, twice as fast and carry four times the load.

“It also allows people greater access to healthcare, food, fresh water, school and work.”

Ms Gild said on average two containers of bicycles are shipped each year.

“On 25 December, a container of bicycles, which included our 10,000th bicycle, will have made the three week journey to Namibia,” she said.

“Once it reaches Namibia, the shipping container becomes a bicycle workshop, where the local owner repairs and sells the bicycles.”

Bayside Collection Team

Michael, Monika and John are volunteers for Bicycles for Humanity Melbourne Bayside Collection Team. The team not only field calls from the public wanting to donate bicycles, but they take time out of their day to go and look at the bicycles and arrange for these to be collected.

Michael said if he is out and about in his local area and sees an abandoned bicycle, he will wheel it back to his place.

“I can then assess it and see if it can be used for spare parts,” he said.

Monika uses her van to pick up the donated bicycles.

“I usually pick up bicycles once or twice a month and take these to Dingley,” she said.

How you can help

If you have a bicycle that you no longer need and it’s in good condition, you can drop this off at Bicycle Superstore, 1030 Dandenong Road, Carnegie. Mountain bicycles are preferred, but some road bicycles may be accepted.

Bicycles must be 20 inches or bigger. If you are unable to drop off your bicycle, email [info@bicyclesforhumanity](mailto:info@bicyclesforhumanity.com) to arrange pick-up.

Bicycles for Humanity Melbourne is always looking for volunteers to collect bicycles and prepare them for shipping. To find out more, visit <https://bicyclesforhumanity.com/>



Michael, Andy, Monika and John from Bicycles for Humanity Melbourne. Photo: Frank Amato.