

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 6.8

City Cleanliness

15 June 2021

Presenter: Evan Counsel, General Manager Strategy, Planning and Climate Change

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Future Melbourne Committee with a summary of the current and future actions regarding cleanliness of the city.
2. The City of Melbourne spent \$15 million on cleaning and graffiti removal to date in this financial year.
3. From April 2020 to March 2021, the City of Melbourne, removed 60,105 m² of graffiti from private property, and City of Melbourne buildings, parks and artwork; swept 282 km of roads, streets, laneways and footpaths; collected 3223 tonnes of street sweeping material and 1085 tonnes of dumped rubbish and processed 2554 tonnes of waste collected from public litter bins.
4. City cleanliness plays an important role in the return of visitors and workers to the city to assist recovery from the impacts of COVID-19. As such, additional cleaning activities were undertaken in 2020 and throughout 2021. These include:
 - 4.1. Deployment of pedestrian street cleaning and business support team as part of the Working for Victoria partnership with Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, which created over 750 jobs for COVID-19 displaced workers and increased confidence for city users with respect to highly common community touch-points.
 - 4.2. The highly visible \$3 million 'grime-busting' street-cleaning campaign as part of the *COVID-19 Reactivation and Recovery Plan* which included an increase in street cleaning frequency for high traffic areas, widening graffiti surveillance zones, a blitz on graffiti at heights and a rapid response team to remove dumped rubbish and abandoned materials on the street

Key issues

5. As the city continues to focus on recovery, additional activities are planned for 2021–22 which are in addition to the standard city cleaning regime. These are outlined in Attachment 2.
6. Planned actions are centred on swift graffiti removal and surveillance, management of dumped items, reducing public litter bin blockages and increasing street cleaning particularly in high traffic areas.
7. As many assets within the City of Melbourne are not within the jurisdiction of the Council, there will need to be discussions with State Government and commercial asset owners to work together to ensure the city is maintained.

Recommendation from management

8. That the Future Melbourne Committee endorses the additional activities to support city recovery as part of the 2021–22 Council cleaning program (refer Attachment 2 of the report from management).

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 3)
2. City Cleanliness - additional activities (Page 3 of 3)

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. No direct legal issues arise from the recommendation from management

Finance

2. Provision of \$16.3 million has been made within the draft 2021-22 Budget for activity associated with street cleaning and graffiti removal which includes additional activities

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a material or general conflict of interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Health and Safety

4. In developing this proposal, no Occupational Health and Safety issues or opportunities have been identified.

Stakeholder consultation

5. Community feedback regarding City Cleanliness has been received through the City of Melbourne customer service channels and incorporated into the prioritised cleaning activities outlined in this report

Relation to Council policy

6. The provision of Street cleaning and Graffiti removal directly support the achievement of the Council's strategic planning objectives as detailed in 2017–2021 Council Plan as follows:
 - 6.1 Goal: 'A city that cares for its environment' in particular that Melbourne uses its resources efficiently.
7. City Cleaning activities directly support the achievement of Council's strategic objectives as detailed in the draft 2021–2025 Council Plan as follows:
 - 7.1 Melbourne's Unique Identity and Place
We will celebrate and protect the places, people and cultures that make Melbourne a unique, vibrant and creative city with world-leading liveability
 - 7.2 Safety and Wellbeing
We will plan and design for the safety and wellbeing of those who live, visit, work and do business in Melbourne, regardless of their background

Environmental sustainability

8. Requirements for environmental and social sustainability are built into the delivery of the service. These include:
 - 8.1 Provision of a carbon neutral street cleaning service through the purchase of Carbon Offsets, to assist the Council to reach its goal of being carbon
 - 8.2 Street sweepers and similar fleet assets fuelled by locally-produced 'Bio-diesel' and avoidance of petroleum-based diesel fuel.
 - 8.3 Recycling of Street Sweepings and diversion of dumped rubbish from landfill wherever possible.
 - 8.4 Water efficient jets on sweepers and deodorising machinery to reduce water consumption.

- Debris in the city streets and private alcoves
- Dumped items
- Graffiti tagging
- Public litter bins
- Works management

City of Melbourne Activities

Increase frequency of footpath deep pressure washes
 Maintain the existing uplift of weekend syringe management service
 Increase CBD footpath and laneway high pressure washing frequency
 Support businesses by sweeping and litter picking in outdoor dining areas

Continued on-street surveillance
 Designated blitz cleaning crew to remove dumped items and 'spot wash'
 Increase Hard-rubbish collection services

Removal of graffiti from heights
 Additional graffiti surveillance in hot spot areas
 Additional application of anti-graffiti coating
 Removal of graffiti from bridges including Princes Bridge, Evan Walker Bridge, Sandridge Rail Bridge and Queen Bridge.
 Daily public toilet graffiti removal and high pressure wash and deodorise

Increase monitoring of solar smart litter and recycling bins to reduce occurrences of blockages and full bins
 Designate crews to monitor blockages and full-bin alerts between 8am and 10pm, 7 days per week.
 High pressure clean of public litter bins and bin detailing
 Investigate anti-littering signage and communication campaign

Ensure Council managed works maintain a tidy work site

Partnership Opportunities

Work with businesses to further support cleanliness around private properties
 Work with others to support city economy to reduce vacancy rates

Build greater awareness in community for reporting dumped items
 Work with community to improve hard waste management within the CBD
 Continue to work with Victoria Police where appropriate

Build greater awareness in community for reporting graffiti
 Work with owners of non-City of Melbourne owned city assets such as utilities and public transport operators on ways to ensure graffiti is removed promptly and consistently
 Investigate options for graffiti removal from vacant buildings and roller doors located within the CBD

Work with businesses to ensure they are able to dispose of waste on their premises and/or have access to waste collection services

Maintaining communications with utilities, public transport operators and other operators such as metro tunnel contractors to ensure works sites are maintained
 Investigate options for graffiti removal from building site hoarding and scaffolding within the CBD