

Special points of interest:

- C112 Amendment—IDM.
- AGM to be held on the 4 September 2015.
- Office Bearers and Board members appointed.
- Board representation was determined by election and resulted in representation from across all parts of the state.

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C112 Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme Amendment IDM

The Greater Shepparton City Council has been undertaking a stand alone planning scheme amendment C112 to augment the existing references to the IDM in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

During the panel hearing for the amendment John Keaney representing the Council (and the LGIDA) stated **“Whilst the amendment is proposed for the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme, it also has implications for most other regional Councils in Victoria.”**

The outcomes of Amendment C112 will be used by other planning authorities throughout the state as a guide to help them to implement the IDM into their own planning schemes.

There was a high level of support for Amendment C112 in submissions, although a num-

ber of detailed were raised about the proposed Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) content and some elements of the current IDM.

Following its consideration of submissions, Council revised the Amendment and, in conjunction with the LGIDA, undertook to review and modify various elements of the IDM.

The following are some extracts from the panel report dated the 17 June 2015. A copy of this report has been circulated to all members.

“The panel is satisfied that the IDM is a useful resource that warrants recognition in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme and potentially in other rural and regional planning schemes.

It also agrees with Council, the LGIDA and other submitters that the IDM should be a “guideline” document and

that compliance with its standards should be discretionary and not mandatory.”

As a result of the panel hearing extensive work has been done by Dr John Webster to remove as much of the mandatory language from the IDM as possible without compromising the IDM.

This work has been completed and incorporated into v4.4 of the IDM which has just been released.

In addition to preparing Amendment C112, Greater Shepparton City Council had requested the Minister for Planning to appoint an Advisory Committee to investigate various issues associated with the broader implementation of the IDM within Victoria. The Minister agreed to this request and appointed an Advisory Committee in June 2015.

AGM of LGIDA 4 September 2015

The Annual General Meeting of the LGIDA will be held at 1.00pm on the 4th September 2015 at Whitehaven Receptions Whittlesea. There will also be a Technical Committee meeting on the same day.

The business to be conducted at the meeting is as follows:

- Confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting; and
- Receive and consider the annual report for the preceding financial year; and
- Receive and consider the financial statements of the Association; and
- Determine the annual subscriptions to be applied; and
- Determine the joining fees to be applied; and
- Elect the officers and ordinary members of the Board for any positions that are not filled prior to the holding of the AGM.
- Appointment of a Returning Officer.

If the primary contact for your Council cannot be at the meeting remember to complete a proxy form so that your Council can participate in the voting.



New Board Members

The LGIDA at the last AGM resolved to increase the membership of the Board from 9 to 12 members.

Consequently there were 3 members from the existing Board retiring and three new positions created.

Nominations for the Board were invited and closed on the 6 August 2015.

At the close of nominations there were 7 nominations for the 6 vacancies as follows.

Justin Hinch (Warrnambool) Treasurer

Evan Nisbet (Baw Baw) and Naga Sundarajah (Buloke) ordinary members (former Board members)

Ollie McNulty (Campaspe), Peter Brasier (Bendigo), David Moir (East Gippsland)

and Graham Henderson (Moir).

An election was held and the following members elected to the Board

These new members will complement the existing Board members being:

Justin Hinch Treasurer (3 yr term)

Naga Sundarajah, Peter Brasier and Evan Nisbet (3yr terms).

Ollie McNulty (2 yr term) and David Moir (1 yr term).

The different terms will allow for rolling three year terms for Board members.

Congratulations to the new Board members and thanks to those who voted in the elections.

The new Board members will join the following existing Board members:

Jon Griffin (Shepparton) President, Dr John Webster (Wangaratta) Secretary, Leigh Goulet (Mildura), John Bryce (Geelong), John Inglis (Wellington), Paula Gardiner (Colac Otway).

Just as well for minute taking that there were no new John's for the Board!!!

The appointment of the new members of the Board will take effect from the AGM.

The new members will not have any time to get used to their new positions as the next Board meeting is scheduled for the 18 September 2015.

Survey of Members

During the last few months two surveys of the membership of the LGIDA have been conducted.

The first survey conducted was carried out to determine practices in relation to the maintenance and defect liability periods for assets to be handed over to Council.

The second survey conducted was to determine practices in relation to the use of precast pits.

17 Councils completed the survey for maintenance and defect liability periods.

For maintenance periods for roads and drainage 10 Councils adopted a 12 month maintenance period whereas 4 Councils adopted the 3 month maintenance period.

For landscaping works 9 Councils adopted a 24 month

maintenance period whereas 7 Councils adopted a 12 month maintenance period.

For defect liability periods there was more consistency between Councils with 15 Councils adopting a 12 month defect period for road and drainage.

For landscaping works there was more variety with 8 Councils having a 12 month defect liability period and 9 Councils having a 24 month period.

Only 4 Councils had formal agreements with developers governing maintenance and defect liability periods.

18 Councils responded to the survey on the use of precast pits.

16 Councils permitted the use of precast pits by developers whereas 11 Councils used precast pits for their own

works.

12 Councils stated that there were satisfied with the reinforcing in the precast pits whereas 2 Councils were not satisfied.

Interestingly 9 Councils reported that they had experienced some issues with precast pits.

Issues related to being damaged during transportation and installation. One Council reported that pits were damaged under vehicular loading.

A number reported issues concerning workmanship and getting levels to match the top of kerb. This was a result of the modules coming in 150mm or 300mm modules.

One Council noted "Perfect design/construction is rare."

Full results will be provided at the next Technical Committee meeting.



New Version of the IDM and updated Standard Drawings has been released

As a result of the C112 Planning Scheme Amendment and the minor changes that the Technical Committee and the Board has approved since the release of Version 4.3 of the IDM, the Board has approved the release of version 4.4 of the IDM and a release of the updated Standard Drawings.

The major changes are as follows:

- The removal of the majority of mandatory language e.g. musts and shall.
- Change compaction standards to match VicRoads.
- Update “Treatments to minimize excavations”
- Approval for the use of Ribbed HDPE/ Polypropylene pipes
- Changes resulting from MAV, CFA, PTV, MPA, Alliance and other submissions to C112
- Table 2 changes to allow on-road bicycle lanes in lieu of shared path.

- Pre-start checklist for Civil Works extensively updated after consultation with ALDE, UDIA, Alliance and CCF.
- New minimum pavement depth clauses for roads and intersections
- Various minor changes to Standard Drawings.

The new version 4.4 has been released and is available on the website.

New Version of IDM and Standard Drawings has been adopted and released



LGIDA Budget for 2015/16

The Board has adopted a budget for 2015/16.

\$2,000

Highlights of the budget are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income from fees \$84,000 2. Joining fees and maintenance fees remain the same (subject to AGM approval) 3. Planning Scheme amendment costs \$5,000 4. Training and Education of members \$19,000 5. Standard Drawings | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. \$5,900 bookkeeping fees. 7. \$69,000 for executive and administrative support 8. \$3,000 Website maintenance 9. \$6,000 Meeting venues and catering 10. \$5,000 Legal Fees 11. \$1,900 Miscellaneous |
|---|---|

Invoices for the 2015/16 financial year will be sent out on the 1 December 2015.

Due to the fact that at the time of preparing the budget the LGIDA had only been operating its own bank account for 9 months the Board has agreed that the Budget will be reviewed after 6months to determine whether the budget allocations are appropriate.



Code of Practice – Management of Infrastructure in Road Reserves

The review of the Streetworks Code of Practice has been underway for nearly two years.

The Streetworks Code of Practice will be replaced by the update of VicRoads’ Code of Practice—Management of Infrastructure in Road Reserves.

A consultation draft of the proposed changes was put out for public comment and nu-

merous submissions were received. A sub-committee was appointed to consider the submissions and make recommendations to the committee appointed to conduct the review.

The sub-committee has completed its review and at a meeting on the 17 August 2015 the Committee adopted it’s recommendations. The

next move is that the draft will be forwarded to the Infrastructure Reference Panel to approve and make a recommendation to the Minister to adopt the amendments to the Code of Practice.

When adopted the Code will provide guidance to developers and Councils on the preferred locations of services within the road reserve.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN ASSOCIATION

President Jonathan Griffin
Phone: 03 58329739
E-mail:
jonathan.griffin@shepparton.vic.gov.au

Secretary John Webster
Phone: 57220573
E-mail: j.webster@wanganatta.vic.gov.au

Treasurer: Justin Hinch
Phone: 55594832
E-mail: jhinch@warmambool.vic.gov.au

For technical queries contact:
Ralph Kop
Phone 0400 665197
email: ralph.kop@inet.net.au



The Local Government Infrastructure Design Association is a group of 43 Councils who have adopted a single infrastructure design manual (IDM) that applies to their municipality. They have agreed to work together to maintain and promote the IDM. The group have identified the following benefits of the IDM:

- sharing financial and human resources to produce an IDM that will satisfy the requirements of the councils involved in the project;
- developing more consistency amongst design requirements for council officers, consultants and developers working in the municipalities;
- providing a stronger basis for the IDM at the Victorian Civil Appeals Tribunal as the design requirements have been developed and adopted by a number of municipalities rather than one;
- sharing of ideas and practices helps councils to adopt the best practice of each; and
- providing greater certainty for developers and reducing assessment timeframes which ultimately leads to reduced costs for developers.

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Bits and Pieces

Remote access to meetings

The Association has been considering the use of technology to allow members to remotely access future meetings of the Technical Committee and the Board.

GoToMeeting software will be trialed at a future Technical Committee meeting. If you are interested in participating please contact Justin Hinch by email on jhinch@warmambool.vic.gov.au.

Apps for your Mobile Phone or Tablet.

Enquiries have been received about the possibility of having electronic checklists which can be signed in the field by both the Council and Developer/Consultant/Contractor in the field.

Fillable pdf forms are al-

ready available and can be downloaded from the website (member's section).

There are a number of apps that can be downloaded which will give you the flexibility to fill and sign these pdf's in the field.

Once they are filled out and signed they can be emailed to all parties so that they have a record of the inspection sheets.

The apps are free.

Three apps that have been trialed are as follows:

Android: Adobe Fill and Sign DC. (Note if you want to insert a sketch into your checklist use the signature box to do this.

Android: Adobe Acrobat works well for fillable forms but signature box not work-

ing. Complete in Adobe Acrobat and then open in Adobe fill and sign to add signature.

iOS: tinypdf (Free for a limited time).

If you have any other apps that you are using that would help others let me know so that we can share this information with others.

Website Forum.

It is good to see the forum being used to discuss issues and swap ideas.

Thanks to those who contributed to the discussions on driveways. It was very helpful.

If you don't have a login send a request to info@designmanual.com.au

