# Insuring Community Assets

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government for the onus of insuring non-council assets located on State Government land to be shifted from local government to State Government.

# Southern and other Metropolitan Partnerships

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV, call upon the Minister for Suburban Development the Hon Lily D’Ambrosio, to formally recognise the important role councillors play in local government decision making and the need for more opportunity for councillor involvement in Metropolitan Partnerships and the Southern and other Metropolitan Partnerships by expanding the current representation on the partnerships to include councillors from each municipality in addition to their CEOs.

Further, that the MAV call upon the State Government to co-design the implementation of Plan Melbourne with local councils as a priority, and in doing so clarify the roles of Metropolitan partnerships in contrast with Plan Melbourne sub-regional bodies.

# Systematic Decimation of Local Government Decision Making and Autonomy

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV express its dissatisfaction with the apparent ongoing diminishment of the autonomy of local government by successive Ministers over a broad range of portfolios and initiate discussions with the Victorian Premier and Minister for Local Government with a view to improving and enshrining the powers of councils to make and implement decisions for the betterment of their local communities without State intervention and or control.

# Lack of Compensation Provided to Councils on State Government Fees and Levies

**Resolution:**

​That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council, calls upon the State Government to provide appropriate compensation to local government on imposed fees and levies.

# Induction program for Councillors

**Resolution:**

That the MAV call on the State Government to:

1. Fund a mandated induction program for councillors;
2. Require all councillors to participate in the induction program; and
3. Appoint an independent delegated representative to conduct the program.

# Local Laws Penalty Provisions

**Resolution:**

​That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls on the State Government to:

1. Review the penalty provisions set out in the Local Government Act 1989 for local laws.
2. Increase the maximum penalties set out in the Act for contravention of local laws.

# Affordable Housing

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV call on the State Government to secure project funding as part of the comprehensive suite of mechanisms to address the shortfall in affordable housing, specifically the low to moderate income/key worker housing deficit.

# Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy Funds and Kerbside Waste Recycling

**Resolution:**

​That the Municipal Association of Victoria and member councils support Bass Coast Shire Council's request to the State Government regarding how the Municipal and Industial Landfill Levy funds collected will be invested back into the waste industry to find new technologies and undertake research, development and delivery to address the failures of the waste market to properly process, recycle and reuse materials collected through kerbside waste management programs.

# Graffiti removal

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV negotiate with all public asset owners to improve graffiti removal service levels (either directly or by contracting individual councils to do on their behalf) to a level consistent with community expectations, and report back to a future MAV State Council on the result.

# Advocating for improved land use planning guidance to facilitate renewable energy investment

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV work with Councils and the Victorian Government to develop guidance that will support land use planning decisions that facilitate implementation of appropriate renewable energy technology strategy and investment to support a transition to more energy efficient, reliable and low carbon communities.

# Integrated Transport Strategy for Victoria

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV State Council call on the Victorian Government to deliver an integrated transport strategy, including a freight plan, for Victoria as required under the Transport Integration Act 2010.

# Public housing in smaller communities

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV lobby the Victorian State Government for a greater share of public housing for small rural communities so that support for our society's most vulnerable is more equitably shared across the State.

# Trial for a Medically Supervised Injecting Facility in Richmond

**Resolution:**

That the MAV:

1. Notes:
2. That there were 172 lives lost from heroin overdoses in Victoria in 2016;
3. The two Victorian Coroner's reports recommending a trial of a Medically Supervised Injecting Facility (MSIF) in Richmond;
4. The strong community campaign, including a recent 600 strong rally, conducted by residents and traders advocating for a MSIF in Richmond;
5. That the Medically Supervised Injecting Facility in Kings Cross in Sydney has operated for 15 years, has managed over 6,000 overdoses without a single fatality, has reduced needles and syringes on the street, has reduced the number of ambulance callouts to overdoses and reduced incidents of members of the community being exposed to scenes of overdose and drug use;
6. The pressure placed on emergency services in managing otherwise avoidable overdoses, preventing them from attending to other emergencies;
7. The overwhelming support from public health professionals for a MSIF including research conducted by the Burnet Institute;
8. That drug addiction is a health problem and that the function of an MSIF is to minimise harm and refer users to health experts to manage the causes of their addiction;
9. Writes to the Victorian State Government urging them to support the trial of a Medically Supervised Injecting Facility in Richmond.

# Citizenship Ceremonies

**Resolution:**

1. The MAV writes to the Prime Minister to strongly remind the federal government that the Local Government Act 1989 mandates the right and responsibility of democratically elected local councils to make decisions in the interests of their communities. This should occur without interference from other levels of government.
2. The MAV's letter points out that the federal government's reaction to the decisions of Yarra and Darebin councils has been disproportionate to the issue on the basis that nowhere in legislation is it enshrined that local government must conduct a Citizenship Ceremony on 26 January and calls upon the Federal Government to reverse its decision.

# Program for Younger People

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council calls upon the State Government to commit to funding the current program for Younger People after June 2019.

# HACC PYP Funding

**Resolution:**

That the MAV request the State Governments provide further consideration of the financial implications to local government due to the transition of the Home and Community Care (HACC) program, including changes to the funding of HACC Program for Younger Persons

# Sugar Sweetened Drinks

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council reiterates to the state government the importance of work being undertaken by local and State Government to reduce the consumption of sugar sweetened drinks as a population level intervention to reduce obesity and associated burdens of disease.

# Building Act and Regulations

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council meeting calls upon the State Government to ensure that the recent amendments to both the Building Act and Building Regulations do not create a financial impost upon the local government sector in terms of cost shifting resulting in the role of monitoring and compliance of building works being transferred from the Victorian Building Authority to councils.

# Changes to property valuation process and timing

**Resolution:**

That the MAV continues to advocate to the State Government to reconsider the change to the property valuation cycle from a 2 year cycle to an annual process and the centralisation of valuations from councils to the Victorian Valuer General.

# EPA and Environmental Audit Systems

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government that it:

1. Progresses the actions arising from the review of the Environmental Protection Agency, and particularly those which address the recognised deficiencies in the Environmental Audit system as a priority.
2. Further undertakes a review of all Government land with known or potential legacy contamination and adequately plan for and resource the future remediation of such sites.

# Differential Rates for Premises Operating Electronic Gaming Machines

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government to consider changing the Ministerial Guidelines for Differential Rating 2013 to allow a differential rate for venues with electronic gaming machines under Section 161 of the Local Government Act 1989.

# Tobacco Legislation

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government to conduct a comprehensive review of the outdoor smoking regulations that came into effect on 1 August 2017, to determine if they have met the original objectives as outlined in the legislation and the impact of their implementation.

That any review of the legislation provides the opportunity for councils to provide feedback in relation to the implementation and effectiveness of the regulations.

# Public Housing Renewal

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria calls on the State Government to:

1. Replace its current funding model for the provision of public housing with a model that does not rely on the sale of public housing estates to private developers to fund minimal public housing increases.
2. Oppose the replacement of public housing with social housing.
3. Significantly increase funds for additional social housing in addition to the public housing renewal program.
4. Make a commitment that all public housing constructed as part of a private/public model remains as public housing in perpetuity for as long as the building exists.
5. Retain local government planning controls and processes over the redevelopment of public housing estates

# Poker machine policy reform

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the State Government to legislate for a long-term evidenced based public health approach to poker machine policy reform by:

1. Pursuing policies which actively manage annual losses to below $2 billion a year from the current level of $2.6 billion.
2. Requiring gaming machine redesign to reduce the harmful, misleading, deceptiveand addictive nature of the machines, including:
   1. $1 maximum bets per spin with maximum $120 losses per hour as recommended by the Productivity Commission.
   2. Stopping losses being disguised as wins and fake ‘near misses’ and
   3. reduced spin rates.
3. A reduction in operating hours from the current level of 20 hours a day which sees dozens of pokies venues as the only social opportunity in some parts of Victoria which are open in the middle of the night, consistent with the Productivity Commission recommendation.
4. Developing specific provisions regarding gambling venues in greenfield areas and in the preparation of Precinct Structure Plans, to ensure the first and /or only recreational / entertainment venue in a newly developed estate / area is not a gaming venue.
5. Reviewing gaming machine distribution criteria to minimise harm from gambling in growth areas in alignment with the intention of ‘caps’ namely, ‘to protect communities that are most vulnerable to the harmful effects of gambling .
6. Amending the Gambling Regulation Act 2003 (Vic) to:
   1. Remove ‘fostering competition’ as an excuse for more machines and require the VCGLR to judge that an area already has enough EGMs (Section 3.1.1)
   2. Allow the Commission enough time to make the right decision (Section 3.3.8)
   3. Allow councils enough time to develop comprehensive submissions (Section 3.3.6)
   4. Include a stronger requirement for the Commission to take council submissions into account (Section 3.3.7(3))
   5. Make the applicant meet social and economic impact tests (Section 3.3.7(1))
   6. Only grant applications that benefit the community (Section 3.3.7(1)(c))

# Level Crossing Removals

**Resolution:**

That the MAV calls upon the State Government to seek a collaborative response from the respective authorities (VicRoads, Transport For Victoria, Public Transport Victoria, Level Crossing Removal Authority and the local councils) to achieve a holistic precinct planning approach to level crossing removal projects.

As part of this process, the State Government is also called upon to improve consultation and engagement with councils, affected residents, landholders, traders in the planning and implementation of level crossing removal projects.

# Plastic Bag Ban

**Resolution:**

That the MAV write to the State Government to acknowledge and thank them for banning single use plastic bags and that the letter;

1. Calls on the State Government to design a process that delivers an effective and lasting ban on single use plastic bags
2. Requests tht the implementation of the ban of single use plastic bags occurs as soon as possible from March 2018 after community consultation has concluded

# Public Transport Victoria Maintenance Contract

**Resolution:**

That MAV writes to the Premier and Minister for Public Transport to ensure removal of litter and graffiti in the rail corridor be included in the Public Transport Victoria maintenance contract and adequate funding be made available for this to occur. The contract is currently under review and should this be extended it will commence in December 2017.

Should the contract not include removal of litter and graffiti MAV continue advocacy to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

# Recognition of Local Government

**Resolution:**

That the MAV renew its campaign and combine its efforts with the Australian Local Government Association to formally recognize the role of local government in the Australian Constitution including the ability of the Federal government to directly fund local councils and for residents to directly elect their representatives.

# Removing the Requirement to Value Land Under Roads

**Resolution:**

That the MAV, on behalf of Victorian Councils, advocate to the State Government to remove the recommendation for councils to recognise Land Under Roads acquired before 30 June 2008 as assets.

# Proposed Ban on Electronic Waste From Landfill

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) call upon the State Government to ensure it actively engages with local government and the MAV on the proposed ban of electronic waste from landfill. In addition, State Government provide clarity of the effect of the proposed ban on local government and equitable funding to mitigate these impacts on councils and communities.

# Support for the Development of Rural Rescode

**Resolution:**

​That the Municipal Association of Victoria support the development of Rural ResCode and advocate to the relevant State Government Ministers and Departments for its preparation and adoption for non-metropolitan planning schemes. Consultation with all councils and community must occur as part of this process.

# Fire Prevention for Government Agencies

**Resolution:**

That the MAV call on the State Government to remind Government Agencies/Authorities of their obligations and responsibilities under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (still very much current) Section 43.

1. In the country area of Victoria, it is the duty of every municipal council and public authority to take all practicable steps (including burning) to prevent the occurrence of fires on, and minimise the danger of the spread of fires on and from
   1. any land vested in it or under its control or management; and
   2. any road under its care or management.
2. That a common standard be applied to all fire hazard inspection and removal, within urban areas or town fringes. It should make no difference who retains ownership or responsibility for any land concerned in relation to potential fire hazards. The State Government should adopt a zero-tolerance approach to potential fire hazards within urban communities or the fringes of such communities.

# Safer Local Roads 40 km/h Speed Limit

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV advocate to the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, the Hon. Luke Donnellan to change the current default speed limit in built up areas in Victoria from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

# Metropolitan Strategy for Mode Sharing

**Resolution:**

That the MAV to advocate to:

1. the Minister for Roads and Road Safety, the Hon. Luke Donnellan, to provide funding to councils for the separation of transport modes for pedestrians, bikes and cars.
2. VicRoads to develop, adopt and implement a metropolitan strategy and standards for the separation of pedestrian, bicycle and car transport modes to allow for improved safety and connectivity.

# Proposed Citizenship Legislation Amendment

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocates to the Commonwealth Government for the withdrawal of the Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment (Strengthening the Requirements for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures) Bill 2017 due to the inadequacies of the proposed changes to residency requirements and the English language test.

# Electoral Rolls

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV lobby the Victorian Electoral Commission and the Australian Electoral Commission to once again enter into an agreement to share data so that the electoral rolls of both organisations are as accurate as possible.

# Road Funding

**Resolution:**

​That the MAV advocate for improved road funding for VicRoads to carry out the recommendations as outlined in the VAGO report and for additional funding to invest in the ongoing maintenance of State Controlled Roadways.

# Funding of Neighbourhood House Coordination Program

**Resolution:**

​That the Municipal Association of Victoria requests the Department of Health and Human Services to increase funding available through the Neighbourhood House Coordination Program to enable funding to be provided to neighbourhood houses.

# Illegally dumped rubbish

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria, recognising the significant impact on the environment and costs to the community of illegally dumped rubbish, seeks a commitment from the State Government to:

1. Significantly increase the penalty units payable for litter related offences under the Environment Protection Act 1970
2. Exempt councils from paying the landfill levy on the disposal of illegally dumped rubbish collected in the municipality
3. Regulate the skip bin industry, including a licencing system of skip bins, to prevent rogue operators from establishing.

# Annual Financial Report Template

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council meeting calls upon the state government to ensure that the local government annual financial report template, note 17 ‘cash and cash equivalents’ and note 18 ‘other financial assets’ be amended to reflect a more accurate presentation of the notes and overall position.

# Maintenance of State Government Owned and / or Managed Assets

**Resolution:**

That the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council calls upon the State Government to ensure that the maintenance and upkeep of state government owned public infrastructure/assets be adequately funded so that expected community standards are able to be achieved.

# Proposed Legislative Changes to Land Valuations

**Resolution:**

​That in relation to the proposed State Taxation Acts Amendment Bill due to be tabled in parliament later this year, the MAV:

1. Do not oppose the move to annual statutory valuations, subject to mandatory centralised valuations coordinated through the Valuer General not being implemented.
2. Oppose mandatory centralised valuations with councils maintaining the choice to determine their preferred model of conducting valuations through the following three ways:
   1. opt in to a centralised process operated by the Valuer General (currently 18 councils)
   2. contract out valuation services and for councils to manage the contract directly (currently 48 councils)
   3. deliver valuations with an in-house valuation team valuers (currently 13 councils).
3. Call on the government to guarantee that no Council will be financially worse off with the move to annual valuations. Councils that do not opt-in to a centralised model should have the same percentage of costs covered for undertaking valuations during even and odd years as those councils that do opt-in.
4. That this position be communicated to the Victorian Treasurer.

# Access to Landfill Levy Funds for Rehabilitation of Closed Landfills

**Resolution:**

MAV calls on the Victorian Government to implement an ‘as of right’ annual return of a proportion of the landfill levy funds to each Council for spending on programs consistent with priorities in the Sustainability Fund Priority Statement Framework as well as a direct funding contribution for projects related to the rehabilitation of closed landfills.

# Review of Sex Work Act 1994

**Resolution:**

That the State Government review enforcement of the Sex Work Act 1994 in order to establish and appropriately resource an interagency taskforce to successfully prosecute unlawful operations establishing in shopping areas and near schools as ‘massage’ businesses, given the significant Public Health and Wellbeing risks to the Victorian community.

# Victorian Planning Scheme Road Width Standards Review

**Resolution:**

That the MAV note the challenges facing local governments regarding minimal road width standards (especially with regard to new residential estates) and that advocacy be undertaken with State Government to review these standards.

# Community Hall/Facilities on DELWP Land

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government for funding to improve the safety, accessibility and functionality of community halls and facilities on Crown land reserves currently managed by Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Community Committees of Management.

# NDIS & CHSP Implementation impacts on Rural and Regional Victoria

**Resolution:**

That the MAV advocate to the State Government for funding to explore the role of local government post full implementation of the NDIS and the Commonwealth Home Support Program and to ensure all rural and regional communities have access to aged and disability services.

# Planning for Sustainable Animal Industries

**Resolution:**

That the MAV make representation to the State Government requesting the Minister for Agriculture, the Hon. Jaala Pulford and the Minister for Planning, the Hon. Richard Wynne to:

1. extend the deadline for submissions to the proposed reforms to planning controls for Victoria's animal industries to 1 March 2018 to allow for better engagement and more informed submissions; and
2. distribute to the Victorian LGAs the Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) for the impact of these proposed reforms to the planning controls for Victoria's animal industries on local government resources as required by the Victorian State-Local Government Agreement.

# Marriage Equality

**Resolution:**

That the MAV recognises, in its marriage equality policy, that marriage equality is a human rights issue. We support full and equal human rights for all people and extend our support to the LGBTIQ community.