

6.12 SMART CITY OPPORTUNITIES

Submitting Councillor: Crs Pang Tsoi and Fergeus

MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes that the Commonwealth and Victoria Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding as identified in the 17 January 2018 Prime Minister's media release which states that:

"City Deals in Victoria are a step closer following a Memorandum of Understanding being signed between the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments.

The agreement paves the way to establish Victoria's first City Deal in Geelong, which will involve all three levels of government working with the private sector as part of the Commonwealth's Smart Cities Plan to grow jobs and boost investment."

2. Notes that a Smart Cities Plan was launched by the Federal Government in 29 April 2016.

3 Provides in principle agreement to explore opportunities for funding from both Federal and State Governments in seeking and exploring opportunities for bringing Smart City plans and ideas to City of Monash,

4. Supports officers to continue seeking grant opportunities in upcoming Smart City rounds and determine the date for the next round of funding.

INTRODUCTION

City Deals in Victoria are a step closer following a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments. The City of Monash should be exploring opportunities for funding to become a Smart City as part of a City Deal Project.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Memorandum of Understanding recently signed by State, Federal and Local Government paves the way to establish Victoria's first City Deal in Geelong, which will involve all three levels of government working with the private sector as part of the Commonwealth's Smart Cities Plan to grow jobs and boost investment." Refer to Attachment 1 for a copy of the press release from 17 January 2018.

This Memorandum of Understanding is supported by the Smart Cities Plan launched by the Federal Government in 29 April 2016.

The Smart Cities Plan indicates that the Australian Government is committed to working with governments, business and the community to position our cities, regional and metropolitan, to reach their full potential.

It is a plan for supporting productive, accessible, livable cities that attract talent, encourage innovation and create jobs and growth.

The Smart Cities Plan represents a new framework for cities policy at the federal level - and it is a framework that will guide action across various portfolios, to deliver better outcomes for our cities.

It includes three pillars: Smart Investment, Smart Policy and Smart Technology.

To deliver the Smart Cities Plan, the Australian Government has invited state and territory governments to partner on City Deals. City Deals will provide common objectives across levels of government, support for key industry and employment centers, infrastructure investment linked to broader reform and changes to planning and governance arrangements to deliver enduring benefits.

CONCLUSION

Monash City Council is ideally placed to become a **Smart City** via a **City Deal** given the current infrastructure, the Monash National Employment and Innovation Cluster, University and Hospital connections. It is recommended that Council explores these opportunities.

[Attachment 1](#)

MEDIA RELEASE

17 Jan 2018

Prime Minister, Acting Premier of Victoria, Minister for Urban Infrastructure and Cities

City Deals in Victoria are a step closer following a Memorandum of Understanding being signed between the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments.

The agreement paves the way to establish Victoria's first City Deal in Geelong, which will involve all three levels of government working with the private sector as part of the Commonwealth's Smart Cities Plan to grow jobs and boost investment.

A Geelong City Deal will help to deliver new jobs and make the area an ever better place to live and work with world class infrastructure projects and a tourism offer that is second to none for Victoria's second city.

It will also involve governments focusing on the strengths and opportunities in the local economy, and exploring many job creating and innovative projects including:

- Improving road, rail, air and maritime transport links in the region;
- Revitalising the Geelong central business district (CBD);
- Ensuring the Great Ocean Road reaches its full potential;
- Supporting innovation and the growth of knowledge industries; and
- Positioning Geelong as a leading digital economy.

New initiatives developed as part of a Geelong City Deal will complement existing joint investments by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments which include:

- \$110 million for the first stage of the Surf Coast Rail project, including stage 1 of duplication of the Geelong Rail Line from South Geelong to Waurin Ponds
- \$114 million for Warrnambool Line upgrades
- \$10 million for the Hamilton Highway – Geelong to Cressy upgrade
- \$440 million for the Murray Basin Freight Rail Project
- \$600,000 for Midland Highway – Geelong to Bannockburn planning
- \$3.5 million for the Port of Geelong Access Improvement Package
- \$600,000 for Grubb Road Upgrade planning
- \$363 million for the Princes Highway West – Winchelsea to Colac duplication
- Great Ocean Road upgrades including:
 - \$50 million to improve safety and efficiency of the road (announced in October 2017)
 - \$50 million to improve the quality and standard of the road (announced in 2014, with expected completion in 2018).

Geelong is Australia's second fastest growing city behind Melbourne, with its population forecast to grow by 34 per cent from 2011 to 2031.