# Attachment C

## Written and Verbal Submissions

**Written Submission 1**

**David Bishop**

11 May 2025

Yes there are people travelling into the CBD on bikes but compared to vehicles they are very few.

Therefore wasting huge amounts of ratepayers money reducing the capacity of the Streets for parking & traffic by trying to lure more cyclists is just throwing good money after bad.

With Green buses hybrid vehicles & EVs becoming popular & city living booming why waste money on things of the past & look for a new modetn future instead. We are not Copenhagen & never will.be.

**Written Submission 2**

**Anand Lakshmanan**

12 May 2025


**Anand Lakshmanan**

[redacted]

Medindie SA 5081


12 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the **Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

It is my understanding that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

I am concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As an active member within our community, I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Anand Lakshmanan

**Written Submission 3**

**Helena Kyriazopoulos OAM**

CEO, Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia

12 May 2025

MCCSA

12th May 2025

City of Adelaide
BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au

Dear City of Adelaide,

We write on behalf of the Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia (MCCSA) to express our strong support for the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremony and Aus Lights on the River program, including the intercultural parade and official ceremony.

As the peak multicultural organisation in South Australia, MCCSA represents and advocates for the interests of diverse culturally and linguistically diverse communities. We recognise the ADCSA's programs as powerful vehicles for reconciliation, inclusion, and community harmony. These events provide accessible, respectful, and meaningful opportunities for all South Australians to reflect, connect, and celebrate our shared journey.

We understand that ADCSA has maintained a valued and enduring strategic partnership with the City of Adelaide and is entirely reliant on Council funding to deliver these impactful, city-wide events. It is therefore deeply concerning to see a proposed funding reduction in the draft 2025/26 City of Adelaide budget—from $182,000 in FY 2024/25 to $100,000 in FY 2025/26. This significant cut places at risk one of the few free, inclusive, and culturally respectful events that bring together First Nations peoples, multicultural communities, and the wider public in a spirit of unity.

MCCSA is a proud and active Corporate Member of ADCSA, and we have long admired and supported the Council's commitment to building a more inclusive South Australia. We respectfully urge the City of Adelaide to reconsider the proposed reduction and instead enhance its funding allocation to ADCSA, ensuring the continued delivery and growth of these essential programs that strengthen social cohesion and cultural understanding in our state.

We thank the City of Adelaide for its continued leadership in fostering community connection and inclusivity, and we stand ready to support in any way that advances these shared values.

Yours sincerely,

H. Kyriazopoulos

**Helena Kyriazopoulos OAM**
CEO

**Multicultural Communities Council of South Australia**
113 Gilbert Street, Adelaide SA 5000
**PHONE** (08) 8345 5266
**E** mccsa@mccsa.org.au
**www.mccsa.org.au**

**Written Submission 4**

**Michelle Cox**

Chairperson, Australia Day Council of SA Inc

12 May 2025

Ms M Cox
Chairperson
Australia Day Council of SA Inc
Office 18
240 Currie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

12 May 2025

Mayor Lomax-Smith and Councillors
City of Adelaide
GPO Box 2252
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mayor Lomax-Smith and Councillors

As Chairperson of the Australia Day Council of SA Inc. (ADCSA) I write to offer my strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the City of Adelaide and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide's funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

As an ADCSA Board Member who supports the shaping and delivery of a free community program that is reflective, unifying and highlights our Country's rich cultural diversity, I am deeply concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a Board Member and active community member I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our State.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Cox
Chairperson

**Written Submission 5**

**Michael Elias**

CEO, Community Business Bureau

12 May 2025

Good for you – Good for your community.

12 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

We write to offer our strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

We understand that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

We are concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a deeply valued Partner of ADCSA, we strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Michael Elias
Chief Executive Officer
CBB Inc

12/5/25

Head Office: 211 Glen Osmond Road, Frewville, SA, 5063 1300 763 505
www.cbb.com.au customercare@cbb.com.au

**Written Submission 6**

**CAV. Antonietta Cocchiaro OAM**

Deputy Chair, Australia Day Council of South Australia

12 May 2025

**CAV. Antonietta Cocchiaro OAM**

[redacted] Fulham Gardens

South Australia

May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

As an ADCSA Board member that supports the shaping and delivery of a free community program that is reflective, unifying and highlights our country's rich cultural diversity, I am deeply concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a Board Member and active community member I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

A Cocchiaro

CAV. Antonietta Cocchiaro OAM

**Written Submission 7**

**Freddie Brincat (OAM)**

Executive Director, Community Bridging Services (CBS) Inc.

13 May 2025

Community Bridging Services (CBS) Inc.

13 May 2025

City of Adelaide
25 Pirie Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Business Plan
customer@cityofadelaide.com.au

**Concern regarding cut in funding for ADCSA's Mourning in the Morning event**

Dear Sir/Madam

Community Bridging Services (CBS) Inc. is a fiercely independent South Australian support service to people with a disability across our state. CBS is a proud social, business and financial partner of Australia Day Council of South Australia (ADCSA).

We write to offer our strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony. This event has fast become a standout in bringing diverse communities together from different cultural and social backgrounds in a celebration under the blue sky of Australia in our home city of Adelaide.

Diversity and inclusion is key to what makes Adelaide one of the best and most livable cities in the world. We need to work hard at this time to maintain our Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) focus and the inclusive identity of Adelaide. To put this event at risk by this funding reduction is a step in the wrong direction for the City of Adelaide.

We understand that ADCSA has an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and is totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

We are concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $183,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26. This is a priority mis-decision.
As a deeply valued Partner of ADCSA, we strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours Sincerely,

**Freddie Brincat (OAM)**
Executive Director

[redacted]@cbsinc.org.au

## Written Submission 8

**Anonymous**

13 May 2025

I do not support the introduction of a minimum rate.

I own a carpark space in 16 Marian Place North Adelaide that is individually titled but attached to an office that I purchased in 110 Ward Street. While I pay over $600 in rates on the office, I also (currently) pay $185 in rates on the car park. Based on this proposal, the cost of rates for my car park will more than triple, which is not inline with any CPI increase. The carpark enjoys little to no basic services or infrastructure maintenance and renewal from the council to justify such an increase.

Please reconsider the decision to enforce a minimum $600 rate in this context.

## Written Submission 9

**Rajendra Pandey JP**

President, Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc. (SA)
Member, South Australian Multicultural Commission
Board Member, Australia Day Council of South Australia
Multicultural Ambassador, Cricket Australia
Board Member, Council of the Ageing SA
Chairman, Hindu Economic Forum of Australia Ltd

14 May 2025

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social

cohesion across our country.

As an ADCSA Board member that supports the shaping and delivery of a free community program that is reflective, unifying and highlights our country's rich cultural diversity, I am deeply concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a

significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a Board Member and active community member I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

**Written Submission 10**

**Trent Lines**

CEO, Access 2 Place Housing

14 May 2025

ACCESS 2 PLACE HOUSING

14 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

We write to offer our strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

We understand that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

We are concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a deeply valued Corporate Member of ADCSA, we strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Trent Lines

Trent Lines
Chief Executive Officer
Access 2 Place Housing

Level 1, 128 Greenhill Road, Unley, South Australia 5061
08 8274 6300 | info@access2place.com.au | www.access2place.com.au
**ABN:** 85 236 978 396

**Written Submission 11**

**Sarah Russo**

President, Adelaide Park Lands Association

14 May 2025

**Adelaide Park Lands Association**

c/o Affinity Business Advisers
458 Morphett Street
Adelaide
SA 5000
secretary@adelaide-parklands.asn.au

ABN 19 706 384 386

Community Consultation
Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget
Town Hall
Adelaide SA 5001

BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au

## Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the City of Adelaide's Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.

The Adelaide Park Lands Association (APA) is pleased to note the inclusion of the following strategic priority:

> *"The status, attributes and character of our green spaces and the Park Lands are protected and strengthened."*

Our members and supporters, many of whom are rate payers in the City of Adelaide, deeply value the Council's continued investment in managing the world's only Park with a city at its centre.

However, we are concerned that, unlike previous years, the draft budget does not clearly identify a specific allocation for the ongoing maintenance of the Adelaide Park Lands. While $7.7 million is listed under "Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability" within the City Shaping portfolio, this appears significantly lower than the $22.89 million allocated in the previous financial year.

If these figures are directly comparable, this would represent an alarming two-thirds reduction in funding for Park Lands maintenance - a prospect that would be deeply disappointing.

### Sporting Facility Upgrades

The proposed investment of $10 million—including 1.5% of rates revenue—toward new and upgraded sporting facilities in Mary Lee Park (Park 27B) and Golden Wattle Park / Mirnu Wirra (Park 21W) is a significant commitment. While we recognise the need to improve infrastructure to support growing participation, particularly among women and girls, there remains uncertainty around the scale and features of these developments.

There is a delicate balance between:

- Providing upgraded facilities that may include corporate-style amenities (meeting rooms, bars, private spaces), and
- Ensuring public interest in *"free and unrestricted access to and use of the Park Lands"* - a core objective of the APA Constitution.

The draft budget lacks clarity on the nature of the proposed developments. We urge the Council to ensure that any upgrades do not compromise public access or over-commercialise public green space.

**Helen Mayo Park Master Plan**

It is disappointing to see that, despite funding being allocated in last year's budget, no progress has been made on the $250,000 State-funded Master Plan for Helen Mayo Park. The lack of advancement on improving connectivity between the riverbank and upper levels of the park is a missed opportunity to enhance public use of this space.

**Ambiguity Around Re-Greening Commitments**

On page 17, the draft budget outlines a commitment to:

*"Work with partners to create innovative ways to create or convert underutilised areas to green space."*

This aligns with the draft Park Lands Management Strategy *Towards 2036*, which identified eight bitumen-covered sites as high-priority locations for return to open green public space within 1–5 years.

While $2.232 million has been earmarked under the "Public Realm Greening Program" (page 60), it is unclear whether any of this is intended for the Park Lands sites identified in *Towards 2036*.

Since 2020, APA has made repeated attempts to partner with the City of Adelaide to progress a re-greening project on the Park Lands—most recently detailed here. We sincerely hope this year's budget enables at least one project to proceed on these underutilised sites.

We would welcome the opportunity to co-develop and coordinate a re-greening initiative in collaboration with Council and other partners.

**Adelaide Recreation Circuit**

For several years, APA has advocated for a feasibility study into the Adelaide Recreation Circuit—a proposed unbroken, illuminated walking, running, and cycling trail around the Park Lands. This concept has the potential to be a landmark tourism and lifestyle asset and has received strong support from the business and sporting communities.

In 2022, then-Opposition Leader Peter Malinauskas committed to investigating the idea. Despite raising the concept directly with the Premier (September 2023) and the Planning Minister (April 2024), no funding has yet been committed.

We urge the Council to allocate funds toward a feasibility study and pursue this initiative in partnership with the State Government.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to this important consultation. We remain committed to working constructively with the City of Adelaide to ensure the Park Lands remain an accessible, vibrant, and sustainable space for all.

Yours sincerely
**Sarah Russo**
President
Adelaide Park Lands Association
president@adelaide-parklands.asn.au

13 May 2025

**Written Submission 12**

**Gillian Lewis**

14 May 2025

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

The ASCSA has had a long-term and enduring strategic partnership with the City of Adelaide, with major funding for the development and delivery of the critical and highly popular Mourning in the Morning and Aus Lights on the River program and ceremony on 26 January.

The ADCSA are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

As a passionate advocate and ADCSA Board member who supports the shaping and delivery of a free community program that is reflective, unifying and highlights our country's rich cultural diversity, I am deeply concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a Board Member and active community member I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

**Written Submission 13**


**Natasha Malani**

CEO, South Australian Leaders


14 May 2025

As the CEO of South Australian Leaders, a city-based business and property owner, and former Deputy Lord Mayor and Councillor, I write to strongly advocate for increased funding for economic development in the 2025/26 Council Budget including, but not limited to, the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA).

I understand both the strategic priorities of Council and the practical realities of running a business in the City. The business community looks to Council not just for services, but for leadership that drives growth, attracts investment, and builds long-term prosperity. That leadership must be backed by resources.

Council's Economic Development Strategy is ambitious, necessary, and well-timed. But in both business and government, strategy without funding leads to underperformance and missed opportunities.

As the capital city, Adelaide must continue to evolve as a place to live, work, and play. Economic development is intrinsically linked to residential vibrancy — more business activity means more jobs, services, activation and safety, which in turn supports a stronger residential population. This interrelationship was a core pillar of my own "live, work, and play" campaign in 2014, and it remains just as relevant today.

Economic development initiatives — including AEDA's work — are central to this. They support innovation precincts, business growth, green economy initiatives, and attract the people and investment needed to energise the city.

I've long advocated for the business sector, and I speak with confidence on their behalf: businesses are doing it tougher than ever. Costs are rising, technology is advancing rapidly, decision-making cycles are shortening, and customer expectations are shifting fast. Now more than ever, Council must invest meaningfully in economic development — to give businesses the confidence and conditions to invest in their own growth.

In addition, I encourage Council to continue prioritising core infrastructure—roads, footpaths, and precinct upgrades. A functioning and attractive city environment is critical to enabling business confidence and ensuring Adelaide remains a desirable place to live, work, and visit.

I urge Council to rebalance the budget and increase investment in economic development — specifically by lifting the allocation to AEDA, the agency tasked with delivering much of this strategy. AEDA plays a critical role in enabling growth, attracting business, and activating our city. Without adequate funding, these outcomes cannot be achieved. The future strength of the City's economy depends on it.

**Written Submission 14**

**Craig Scott OAM**

15 May 2025

**City of Adelaide**
**25 Pirie Street,**
**Adelaide SA 5000**
customer@cityofadelaide.com.au

15th May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the **Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

It is my understanding that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

I am concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As an active member within our community, I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Craig Scott

Craig Scott OAM
[redacted]
West Beach SA 5024
[redacted]

**Written Submission 15**

**Suzanne Malbut**

15 May 2025

15 May 2025

Suzanne Malbut
[redacted]
Brompton SA 5007

Dear City of Adelaide

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the **Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

It is my understanding that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

I am concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As an active member within our community, I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Malbut

## Written Submission 16


**Lauren Hillman**

General Manager, Channel 44


15 May 2025

ADELAIDE COMMUNITY TELEVISION

15 May 2025

**Dear City of Adelaide,**

I am writing to express my deep disappointment at the proposed reduction in funding for the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) *Mourning in the Morning* Smoking Ceremony and *Aus Lights on the River* program, which includes the intercultural parade and official ceremony.

As General Manager of Channel 44 Adelaide, I have seen the significant impact of these events on our community. Channel 44 has proudly partnered with ADCSA to produce and broadcast high-quality video content that allows these important stories to reach audiences across the state. Through our work, we help ensure that those who cannot attend in person are still able to reflect, learn and participate in these culturally significant moments.

The proposed reduction in funding from $182,000 in the 2024–25 financial year to $100,000 in 2025–26 is extremely concerning. It undermines the value of a program that promotes inclusion, reconciliation and community engagement at a time when strengthening social cohesion should be a priority.

ADCSA's work provides a vital platform for truth-telling, cultural celebration and respectful dialogue. These events bring people together and foster understanding, both in person and through broadcast. Cutting support jeopardises not only the delivery of these events but also their broader impact through media coverage and community storytelling.

I strongly urge the City of Adelaide to reconsider this proposed funding cut and instead support ADCSA in delivering a program that reflects the values of our city and our state.

Sincerely,


**Lauren Hillman**
General Manager
Channel 44
[redacted]



Channel 44 Community Television
c/o ABC, Level 3, 85 North East Rd, Collinswood, SA 5081

**Written Submission 17**

**Julie Kerr**

15 May 2025

Dr Lomax-Smith

Lord Mayor

City of Adelaide

May 15 2025

Dear Lord Mayor

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the **Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

It is my understanding that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and is totally dependent on the City of Adelaide's funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

While I can understand that Council's finances are tight, I am concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As an active member within our community, I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

JK

Julie Kerr

## Written Submission 18

**Dr Melanie Harris**

16 May 2025

As a city resident, ratepayer and business user I have problems with parts of your business plan proposal.

I do not support your plan in relation to the parklands and have exactly the same points to make as the submission of the Adelaide Parklands Association.

I want to see dedicated traffic lanes shared by all bikes, scooters etc and removal of theses means of fast transport from all footpaths.

The parklands and safe pedestrianism and transport are vital to life and business in the city and to tourism and our unique identity.

## Written Submission 19

**Royce M Wilson**

16 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

It's hard to believe that after being named the best city in Australia, The World, Adelaide City Council would make the decision to NOT ensure that our Parklands, what makes Adelaide the city that it is, not fund adequately money to ensure it remains the gem that it is.

## Written Submission 20

**Jean John**

16 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

## Written Submission 21

**Fi Pahor**

16 May 2025

I endorse the comments of the Adelaide Parklands Association.

I would like to continue to meander through the public parklands without having to find a way around fences surrounding private facilities.

Private facilities (toilets) should also be made publicly available to the public using the parklands.

## Written Submission 22

**Lyn Hillier**

16 May 2025

With the continual lack of commitment in the support and maintenance of the Adelaide Parklands I am astounded that the Adelaide City Council who have a responsibility to oversee their protection and upkeep your proposal to cut back funding substantially  I therefore support the Adelaide Parklands Association's submission regarding this potential reduction of funds for their maintenance etc. in your Draft 2025/2026 Budget and Annual Business Plan.

## Written Submission 23

**Paul Turley**

16 May 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Business Plan and Budget.

I am a city ratepayer. I support the major objectives.

My main concern is the lack of funds specifically allocated to the maintenance and development of the Park Lands.

I quote the Adelaide Park Lands Association submission:

While $7.7 million is listed under "Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability" within the City Shaping portfolio, this appears significantly lower than the $22.89 million allocated in the previous financial year.

Is there a reduction in funding for the 25-26 budget?

## Written Submission 24

**Anonymous**

16 May 2025

I advise that I add my support to the submission already placed by the Adelaide Parklands Association, with particular concern about the distressing plan to slash funding for Park Lands maintenance - see the attachment.

I do hope that such a destructive plan will be defeated.

## Written Submission 25

**Marjon Martin**

16 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

## Written Submission 26

**Lynton Viant**

16 May 2025

I totally support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association. Here is an opportunity for the Council to show leadership and courage to support the Association and its objective and not listen to the minority few.

Ps, you should also look at other venues for the Wormald Weekend, the Botanical Park is for public space and family gatherings, not to be closed up, it creates traffic congestion etc etc.

## Written Submission 27

**Sean Nolen.**

16 May 2025

I have attempted to submit my comments using your below link: outAdelaide.sa.gov.au without success.

The NEXT button, after the comments field on page 2 I think, simply returns to a blank page. Or maybe it sent my comments. Who knows. Kinda what I would expect from an enterprise that attempts to increase rates by 50% in a single year.

Here are my comments - I won't need a florist to deliver these:

Your proposed changes to the Rating Policy and the introduction of a minimum rate of $600 is outrageous. Here's why:

At present, we pay about $400 per annum on an entirely unlettable basement space - mostly storage and WC's - your proposal is a 50% increase over the current and in a time when (a) every commercial enterprise is stretched financially, (b) there appears zero tenants on the horizon to rent vacant CBD commercial spaces (who pay for the rates on such spaces) and (c) the CPI is rising at about 3%.

FIFTY. PER. CENT. What planet are you guys on?

Your timing is terrible.

You install a ratings measure based on rental income because, presumably, that's going to get you more income than a more typical based-on-value measure.

And then, you hunt around for little holes in your measuring system and try to push up your gross income with measures like minimum rates.

It's unfair to the rate payers and unfair to the tenants who will eventually have to wear it.

If you must look at a minimum rate - and why do you have to anyway? Why not do it in leasing good times, not leasing doldrums as it is at present? Have you people no commercial vision at all?

## Written Submission 28

**Christine Hunter**

16 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association. Their and also my concerns are

1The huge apparent cut in funds for our parklands

2.private businesses on our public parklands

3.Lack of action on Helen Mayo park

4.the areas of bitumen left in parklands!

5.We are still waiting for 3 years for assessment for the Adelaide Recreation Circuit for us and visitors

## Written Submission 29

**Houssam Abiad, Rafic Baroudi and Adham Kabbara**

on behalf of KSBA Holdings

16 May 2025

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the proposed changes to the City of Adelaide Rating Policy, specifically the introduction of a minimum rate of $600 per annum.

We wish to formally lodge our opposition to this policy in its current form. As the owners of 185 Grote Street, we already contribute over $17,000 annually in rates to the City of Adelaide. The way the rate notices for the various subdivided offices at this property have been structured is both flawed and inequitable. By imposing a minimum rate on each individual strata office, regardless of their actual usage, size, or value contribution, the policy effectively penalizes owners of subdivided commercial properties, leading to an unfair cumulative impact.

We request that this policy be revised to reflect the holistic contribution of the entire property, rather than applying a blanket minimum rate on each portion. This approach fails to consider the broader context of existing rate contributions and the unintended financial burden it creates for property owners like ourselves.

Please treat this letter as a formal objection to the proposed rating policy as it applies to 185 Grote Street.

We look forward to your prompt review and a response confirming that this concern has been recorded as part of the consultation process.

## Written Submission 30

**Anonymous**

17 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association in regards to the Draft 2025-2026 Budget and Annual Business Plan.

Specifically:

• I question what appears to be a significant reduction in funds allocated for maintenance of the Park Lands, apparently down from $22.89 million to $7.7 million;

• I am concerned by the prospect that the proposed $10 million spent on two sports buildings upgrades may result in the development of disproportionately large facilities featuring out-of-scale entertainment areas (especially if the venue is commercially hired for parties, events, conferences etc., whether such hiring is permitted by the Council or otherwise). The Park Lands are not a plot of land freely available for development by favoured third parties, and any upgrade of existing sport buildings used by any sports association benefiting from privileged access to public land must remain strictly proportionate to sporting use.

• I'm disappointment that the long-awaited public access improvements to Helen Mayo Park will be set back by at least a further 12 months, pending creation of a delayed “Master Plan”; and

• I query whether any of the $2.32 million allocated for a “Public Realm Greening Program” will be spent removing bitumen at any of the eight Park Lands sites that the Council has already identified for that purpose.

**Barbara Lupton**

President, RSCDS Adelaide and District branch

17 May 2025

17th May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the **Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

It is my understanding that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

I am concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As an active member within our community, I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Barbara Lupton

President

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Adelaide and District Branch

## Written Submission 32

**Cathy Woortman**

17 May 2025

Hello,

I would like to advise the City Council that I fully support the submission of 13 May from the Adelaide Park Lands Association in response to the Council's Draft 2025-26 Budget and Annual Business Plan

I have attached a copy.

## Written Submission 33

**Yvonne Grant**

18 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

I was born in Adelaide and spent the first 18 years of my life here. The Adelaide Park lands were a large part of my life growing up.

On returning 2 years ago, I am horrified at the devastation Council has allowed to our Park Lands.

What happened to all your pre-election promises?? Shame on you!

## Written Submission 34

**Robyn Nelson**

18 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

## Written Submission 35

**Robin Donaldson**

18 May 2025

As a longtime member of the Adelaide Parklands Association (APA), I wish this comment to be noted.

I strongly endorse the submission by the president of APA re the Adelaide Council proposed substantial cut in funding for the maintenance of the Adelaide Park Lands.

The Park Lands are a gem and should be treasured, nurtured and improved to maintain them as green, open and free for all to enjoy.

**Written Submission 36**

**Jason Di Iulio**

Business

18 May 2025

I have reviewed your comments below and I cannot support the idea that a Business Owner who operates their business from their own premises would need to pay an additional Council Rate or Fee to have their name on the property.

I suspect it is acceptable if a Landlord was charging a commercial rental to their tenant for the privilege of the signage or providing it to a tenant as part of an overall leasing arrangement but to charge an owner occupier outrageous.

The principle of a minimum charge is one thing, and I am not objecting to that but the idea or a charge at all to an owner occupier is simply not appropriate.

**Written Submission 37**

**Anna Cheung**

on behalf of the Tong De Association committee

18 May 2025

Tong De Association of SA Inc.
同德會

One in heart and mind . To Adelaide we bind.
同心同德 同在阿德

TONG DE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

ABN: 70140118464

Address: 612, 147 Pirie Street, Adelaide 5000

Email: admin@tongde.org.au Website: tonged.org.au

18 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

We write to offer our strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program** that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

We understand that ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

We are concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a deeply valued Corporate Member of ADCSA, we strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

Yours sincerely

Anna

On behalf of the Executive Committee
Tong De Association of SA Inc.

## Written Submission 38

**Anna Cheung (as an individual)**

18 May 2025

I write to offer my strong endorsement of the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremonial Event and Aus Lights on the River Program that also encompasses an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

ADCSA has had an enduring strategic partnership with the Council and are totally dependent on the City of Adelaide funding to deliver this important, free, city-wide community program during a time where there is strong evidence of disruption to social cohesion across our country.

As an ADCSA Board member that supports the shaping and delivery of a free community program that is reflective, unifying and highlights our country's rich cultural diversity, I am deeply concerned that the current City of Adelaide draft budget shows a significant drop of $182,000 FY 24/25 to $100,000 FY 25/26.

As a Board Member and active community member I strongly support enhancing ADCSA's funding to deliver this important cultural and inclusive program for our state.

## Written Submission 39

**Mirella Romano**

19 May 2025

I'll am writing to Council to show my full support for increased AEDA funding for 2025/26.

As someone who once ran a successful retail business in the CBD and still works closely with city-based retailers through my styling work, I see and hear the struggles firsthand. The current economic climate is already tough, and further restrictions to car parking will only make it harder for people to come into the city to shop or access services.

Click-and-collect and quick in-store visits are now a big part of how people shop, and if they can't park easily, they simply go elsewhere—especially when suburban centres like Burnside Village are expanding, adding many of the same retailers, and offering free, accessible parking. We need to make the city just as easy and appealing to visit.

AEDA has been doing an incredible job helping to bring people into the city through events, marketing, and business support. But if we want that momentum to grow and attract more investment, they need proper funding to continue.

**Written Submission 40**

**Bruce Djite**

SA Executive Director, Property Council of Australia

19 May 2025 and 27 May 2025

**Property Council of Australia** ABN 13 00847 4422
A Level 4, 91 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000
E sa@propertycouncil.com.au
W propertycouncil.com.au
@propertycouncil

16 May 2025

Community Consultation
Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget
GPO Box 2252
Adelaide SA 5001

By email: BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au

Dear Lord Mayor,

**Re: Support for Increased Budget Funding for AEDA**

On behalf of the Property Council of Australia's South Australian Division, I write to express our strong support for an increased budget funding allocation for the Adelaide Economic Development Agency ("AEDA").

AEDA's work in supporting local startups and fostering innovation hubs is vital to building a robust talent pipeline in Adelaide. These initiatives not only empower emerging businesses but also contribute to the long-term economic resilience of our state. However, to fully realise Adelaide's potential as a globally competitive innovation city, we must go further.

There is a pressing need to create an environment that attracts skilled professionals from interstate and overseas. This requires a two-pronged approach: first, by expanding the opportunities available in Adelaide through strategic investment in innovation and industry partnerships; and second, by actively promoting these opportunities to external markets. Achieving this vision demands serious and sustained budget support.

The South Australian Government has rightly identified innovation as a key driver of future growth, particularly in sectors such as renewable energy, defence, and advanced manufacturing. AEDA's initiatives—such as its support for innovation hubs and collaborations with local universities—are directly aligned with this strategic direction. With increased funding, AEDA can scale its efforts to connect startups with industry, enhance our innovation ecosystem, and position Adelaide as a destination of choice for talent and investment.

Attracting talent to South Australia is a shared interest of the Property Council. This is a strategic focus of our Cities and Precincts Committee recognized as a key ingredient in raising the productivity and economic capacity of the State.

We urge the City of Adelaide to prioritise and indeed increase funding for AEDA in the upcoming budget. Doing so will not only strengthen our innovation economy but also reinforce South Australia's reputation as a forward-thinking, globally connected state.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

**Bruce Djite**
Executive Director | South Australia

**Property Council of Australia** ABN 13 00847 4422
A Level 4, 91 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000
T +61 8 8236 0900
E info@propertycouncil.com.au
W propertycouncil.com.au
@propertycouncil

27 May 2025

ATT: Michael Terizakis
Coordinator, Corporate Planning
Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget
GPO Box 2252
Adelaide, SA 5001
BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au

**Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget**

Dear Lord Mayor, Councillors, and the Council Administration,

The Property Council welcomes the opportunity to provide a response to the City of Adelaide's *Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget* on behalf of its South Australian members. As an industry body, we recognise the importance of setting key targets to improve and grow our Central Business District by attracting more capital, residents, and businesses.

The Property Council of Australia is the leading advocate for Australia's largest industry – property. Property Council member organisations are investors, owners, developers, builders, and managers of real estate across all major asset classes including commercial, office, residential, industrial, retirement communities, hotels, purpose-built student accommodation and more.

We understand the City of Adelaide is seeking feedback on its proposed Budget, with economic recovery, infrastructure investment, and sustainable growth among its top priorities outlined in the Plan. These priorities reflect a commitment to a thriving, future focused Adelaide.

The Property Council also notes the City's targets include a **general rates revenue increase of 5.6% in fees and charges** from Adelaide's commercial and residential ratepaying base. However, in the face of rapid global change and increasing competition between cities for talent, investment and innovation, we encourage the Council to take bolder action in several key areas. Specifically, we urge Council to:

1. **Accelerate approvals and prioritise development activity**
2. **Explore and incentivise further options to support housing delivery**
3. **Re-evaluate the sustainability of its revenue model**
4. **Increase investment in economic development through the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA).**

**Accelerate approvals and prioritise development activity**

The Council's capacity to drive economic growth depends on the speed, certainty, and clarity of its planning and approvals system. A faster, more predictable approvals pathway is essential to unlocking private investment, creating jobs, stimulating the economy and achieving population growth targets.

We urge the Council to adopt an expanded, fast-tracked approvals process, particularly for multi-storey, shovel-ready developments that align with the Council's strategic objectives. Prioritising projects ready to proceed will help activate underutilised land, generate employment, bolster investor confidence and broaden the rate base.

To strengthen collaboration between the Council and the property sector, we recommend establishing a dedicated body to assess and prioritise development activity. This body should be led by the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA), with appropriate budget support from the Council to ensure its effective implementation.

**Explore and incentivise further options to support housing delivery**

While the City's ARCHI program is a positive step, its current scale and take-up is insufficient to meet the Council's target of 50,000 residents in the CBD by 2036. A target of 50 dwellings per year is far too low and much more needs to be done to deliver the required supply, choice and diversity of housing the city requires.

We encourage the Council to:

- Identify and prioritise unlocking underutilised Council assets, such as car parks, vacant lots and ageing assets at the end of their useful life for housing.
- Partner with the private sector to accelerate the delivery of social, affordable, and market housing.
- Formally Partner with the Property Council to explore further planning incentives and funding mechanisms to support residential development in the CBD and inner precincts.

**Re-evaluate the sustainability of its revenue model**

The proposed 5.6% rate increase – well above CPI and following several years of cumulative rises well above CPI – is undermining Adelaide's competitiveness as an investment destination. The current over-reliance on commercial ratepayers is unsustainable.

Indeed, earlier this year, the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) forecasted the City of Adelaide's future financial status as 'potentially unsustainable', outlining the status quo untenable revenue model.

We recommend the City:

- Diversify revenue streams to reduce pressure on businesses.
- Undertake an independent review of Council expenditure, with the aim of identifying efficiencies and delivering cost savings.
- Curb growth in non-essential operating costs, particularly given the 15% rise in Employee Costs over the past two years.[1]
- Focus on population growth to broaden the ratepayer base and improve revenue sustainability.

**Prioritising Investment in Economic Development through AEDA**

AEDA is central to driving innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry collaboration. Its support for startups, innovation precincts, and knowledge sector partnerships strengthens Adelaide's position in future industries such as defence, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing.

It is imperative that the Council adopt a step change from the current status quo. Since the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the proportion of council rates revenue allocated to AEDA has declined—even as the business community continues to shoulder the overwhelming majority of the financial burden. In fact, approximately 80% of the City's rates revenue is contributed by non-residential ratepayers.

<u>Given this substantial investment, the Property Council strongly recommends that 10% of total rates revenue be allocated to AEDA to ensure it can continue delivering strategic outcomes for the business community and driving Adelaide's broader economic prosperity.</u>

We support increased budget allocation for AEDA to:

- Scale up innovation precincts and startup support.
- Strengthen industry/university collaborations.
- Drive skilled migration through targeted national and international promotion.
- Lead the proposed public-private coordination committee to identify barriers to development and streamline engagement.

Investment in AEDA is an investment in a globally connected, high-tech, welcoming and thriving, social, cultural and economically strong Adelaide.

**Leveraging Infrastructure to Enable Private Sector Investment**

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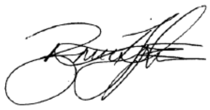
[1] City of Adelaide Business Plan and Budget 2024/25

The proposed $107 million infrastructure investment is a welcome commitment to city revitalisation. We commend the focus on key precincts—Gouger, Hindley, Hutt, and Melbourne Streets—but stress the importance of close alignment with private development pipelines to maximise return on investment.

It is also worth noting here that the Property Council strongly welcomes the announcement of LIV Golf's move to the North Adelaide Golf Course. Property Council supports the activation of underutilised land and parklands. Strategic investment in these areas enhances Adelaide's appeal locally, nationally and globally. Showcasing Adelaide as an events and experience destination will support broader tourism and hospitality outcomes across Adelaide and the State more broadly.

The Property Council urges the City to adopt an open-minded, progressive, partnership-driven approach to planning, investment and economic development. By working together with industry, focusing on enabling infrastructure, and empowering AEDA to lead collaboration, the City of Adelaide can deliver lasting population growth, business confidence, vibrancy and economic prosperity for all.

We thank you for your consideration and remain ready to support further dialogue, collaboration and outcomes.



**Bruce Djite**
SA Executive Director
Property Council of Australia

**Jan Chorley**

CEO, Australia Day Council of South Australia

19 May 2025

Australia Day
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.
South Australia
18/240 Currie Street, Adelaide SA 500
adcsa@adcsa.com.au
08 8212 3999
australiadaysa.com.au

19 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide

We write in response to the **City of Adelaide Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget** that shows a strategic partnership grant to our organisation to the sum of $100,000 FY25/26.

This is a significant reduction from $182,000 in previous years for the delivery of the vital and deeply valued activities on 26 January at Elder Park, City of Adelaide.

We note the budget papers do not record a previous funding figure, nor that ADCSA has a long-term strategic partnership to deliver on behalf of the City, the ceremony and activities on Australia Day.

**We respectfully request the full figure of $182,000 be reinstated in the final 2025/26 Budget, to remain aligned with the enduring and trusted strategic partnership between the City of Adelaide and the Australia Day Council of SA (ADCSA).**

The loss of this significant funding will have a range of highly impactful ramifications on the City of Adelaide, the South Australian community and ADCSA as a small for-purpose organisation, as detailed below along with vital background context:

- The free 2025 community program comprising of a Smoking Ceremony in the morning, Intercultural Parade and Official Ceremony including a much loved cultural concert and fireworks in Elder Park **attracted over 30,000 attendees**.
- Historically ADCSA took on the responsibility for delivering the 26 January program and event on behalf of the City, with the commitment ADCSA would receive funding through a multi-year strategic partnership agreement that enabled stable support and longer-term planning for this vital ceremony.
- **Major capital cities across Australia deliver their own commemorative and iconic events on 26 January, as do South Australian local governments.**
- City of Adelaide Strategic Funding Partnership funding has NOT been increased by cpi; and in 2020 was reduced from a multi-year agreement to only a one-year agreement, removing the stability and capacity for longer range planning. This remains a particular risk in light of the high cost to delivering quality events.
    - 2019/2020 $175,000
    - 2020/2021 $179,000 (increase of $2000)
    - 2021/2022 $179,000
    - 2022/2023 $182,000 (increase of $3000)
    - 2023/2024 $182,000
    - 2024/2025 $182,000
- Since the inception of the strategic partnership ADCSA has successfully leveraged funding from the federal government through the National Australia Day Council (NADC) Capital City grant funding. **This funding is dependent (and will be decreased) in direct alignment commensurate with the value of the funding received from the City of Adelaide.**
- **Funding through NADC also specifically requires financial and partnership commitment from the City of Adelaide, as part of the criteria.**
- Supplementing revenue for Aus Lights on the River through sponsorship etc has reached its limit due to the cultural and political sensitivities, making the grant funding through the City of Adelaide crucial.

This significant reduction in City of Adelaide funding will have the following dire implications with a range of considerations:

- **Funding from other grant sources will be significantly reduced, in direct alignment to the value of funding received from the City of Adelaide, creating further reduction to the overall program.**
- Should the proposed $82,000 reduction in funding occur:
    - **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremony** – may be cancelled. It is a stand-alone program that if cancelled will have little or no impact on the rest of the program.
    - **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremony** is curated by a First Nations lead and engages all First Nations performers and speakers. The ceremony is curated in consultation with the *Open Circle Group of Kaurna elders* with months of development prior to the ceremony on 26 January. This ceremonial program is authentically First Nations led, and offers greater awareness of First Nations culture to the wider community and constituents.
- Without the full support from the City of Adelaide with funding to the value of $182,000 this program cannot meet the City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Action Plan's objectives.

The **City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Action Plan 2024-2027** embodies the principles of respect, relationship-building, and opportunity creation that strives to progress First Nations employment, and an intensified focus on Kaurna engagement and support through innovation, collaboration and transparency.

**"The City of Adelaide's vision is for a community where the rich heritage of the Kaurna People and the diverse cultures of all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Peoples are honoured, embraced, and fully integrated into a shared future for the city: One that is steeped in Kaurna tradition and belonging to the Yarta, with a strong, harmonious and reconciled community".**

Cutting ADCSA's funding by $82,000 for the program on 26 January, and the subsequent ramifications, challenge the City of Adelaide's unwavering dedication to reconciliation as leaders within Local Government for more than 20 years.

**We respectfully request the current City of Adelaide 2025/2026 funding to ADCSA remain at $182,000 to enable our deeply valued strategic partnership to continue serving all constituents, telling the story of all of who we are as Australians.**

In summary, ADCSA's vision is for a connected community of inspired leaders who contribute to Australia's future while upholding Australian values. By amplifying diverse national stories, including those of First Nations peoples and migrants, we strive to foster a thriving, unified nation. Our efforts are centred on reconciliation, celebrating unity, and addressing contemporary issues by bringing communities together.

Your support towards this vision, and that of City of Adelaide's through an enduring multi-year strategic partnership agreement for $182,000 per annum would continue to deliver highly impactful and high-profile outcomes for the City.

For your reference, please enjoy these two short 3-minute reels highlighting the programs in January 2024 and 2025
2024 Aus Lights on the River - Highlights and 2025 Aus Lights on the River - Highlights

Please do let me know where we might further assist with this matter. I can be contacted directly on 0410 030 768 or jan.chorley@adcsa.com.au.

Yours sincerely

Jan Chorley
Chief Executive Officer

## Written Submission 42

**Rod Ellis**

19 May 2025

The City Council's draft budget for 2025-26 appears to slash funding for maintenance of your Adelaide Park Lands, by almost two-thirds.

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

The Adelaide Parklands are the lungs of the City. If the Parklands are not looked after the health of the City of Adelaide and all the citizens who live, work or visit will suffer.

Please protect our Parklands and do not reduce the maintenance funding in the 2025-26 budget.

## Written Submission 43

**Andrew Kay**

CEO, SA Business Chamber

19 May 2025

Today in InDaily 19/5/25, I contributed to a piece about SA businesses using interstate agencies for creative work. This approach is putting the development and longevity of our creative sector at risk.

We need to support our nourish our creative industries as a matter of priority, a fact that has been acknowledged by our state government.

The South Australian Government has prioritized the development of the creative industries as a key economic driver, recognizing their potential to diversify the economy and attract talent. AEDA has been instrumental in supporting the city's cultural and creative infrastructure, but without adequate funding, the full potential of the sector cannot be unlocked. This will be a missed opportunity that will leave a lasting legacy for all the wrong reasons.

By increasing AEDA's funding, the City of Adelaide can better align with state priorities to develop world-class creative industries that attract both talent and investment. AEDA can play a pivotal role by connecting small businesses to larger industry players, local suppliers, and potential customers. This will only be possible by Increased funding to allow AEDA to expand its activity in this space.

I hope that City of Adelaide will back our creative industries by providing AEDA with the increased funding required to initiate activity that will be for the long-term benefit and diversity of our state's economy.

**Written Submission 44**

**Anonymous**

20 May 2025

Ridiculous high residential council rates.

- proposed increases are ridiculous.

- The council is doing little for older owner occupiers to stay in the city.

- the current annual rate rating system based on rents is flawed when the need for discretionary discounts is applied. Proof the system is flawed .

- what is need is 50% discounted residential rates for owner occupiers on any concession card. And/or over 60 years of age not working .

- new residential council rates policy needs to be written for viewer occupiers not based on rents . A flat rate system based off n demographics and fixed income levels.

- if we lived in an ordinary old house in Croydon Park now worth $900,000 our council rates would be approx $1,500pa compared to what we paying now with no community plan fees .

There is an opportunity to start looking outside the square to help older people live and or move into the ACC area especially the CBD from outer suburbia. A form of downsizing into apartments , units, townhouses etc .

The problem is this, two fold.

Council rates need to be lower , much lower that the levels they are now also consideration needs to be given that most residential living in the CBD has the double whammy $$'s of high strata and community plan fees on top of high council rates.

An example of realistic council rates is our property we live in is now over $2,200pa plus $1,400pa community fees plus $1,100pa basic house insurance.

Council rates should be today about $1,500pa flat rate total to bring it down to a level normal house owners are paying say in the Port Adelaide Enfield Council area. For a Torrens titled post WW2 house.

Over $700pa lower.

What is going to happen soon if nothing changes is older fixed income owner occupiers are going to be pushed out of their homes in the CBD.

## Written Submission 45

**Scott Williams**

Chief Financial Officer, Master Builders Association of SA Inc

20 May 2025

The proposed minimum rate is flawed as we are billed according to tenancies that are not updated.

I don't understand why we don't get one bill for the entire property at 47 South Terrace Adelaide, rather than a dozen or so for outdated and incorrect calculations for tenants that may not still be here.

We should be billed for the entire property only.

I have called to discuss this previously.

The current system seems wrong to me and overcomplicates something that shouldn't be that complicated.

## Written Submission 46

**Robyn Wood**

21 May 2025

The City Council's draft budget for 2025-26 appears to slash funding for maintenance of your Adelaide Park Lands, by almost two-thirds.

I do not support this. Please restore the funding. I support the Adelaide Parklands Association Submission.

## Written Submission 47

**Anne Wharton**

21 May 2025

I totally support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association on 13th May and urge you to commit decent funding for our treasured Adelaide Park Lands.

**Written Submission 48**

**Hamish Roland**

21 May 2025

Hamish MacLachlan
200 Pirie Street
Adelaide, 5000
[redacted]

21.05.2025

City of Adelaide Council
25 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

**Subject: Strong Objection to the Proposed $600 Minimum Council Rate**

Dear City of Adelaide City Council,

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the proposed $600 minimum council rate for any parcel of land, including individual car park bays. I urge the council to terminate consideration of this proposal as it represents an unfair and economically damaging levy on property owners.

This increase would disproportionately affect strata-titled car park owners, many of whom own small individual lots. The additional $600 per annum translates to a $27.20 monthly increase per bay, adding substantial costs without any enhancement in services or infrastructure.

Car park bays already shoulder significant holding costs, including:

- Emergency Services Levy
- SA Water Rates
- Council Rates (on a per-bay basis)

Introducing this minimum rate would equate to an over 100% increase in council rates for assets that neither utilise most council services nor have the capacity for value-add growth to absorb these additional costs. In practical terms, this would force car park owners to increase parking fees—passing the burden onto consumers, discouraging city visits, and harming local business foot traffic.

We have seen the consequences of similar congestion levies in cities like Melbourne, where parking has become prohibitively expensive, deterring visitors and strangling local commerce. Adelaide deserves better.

I respectfully request that this proposed rate increase be withdrawn from consideration entirely. The negative economic impacts on property owners, local businesses, and the broader community far outweigh any potential short-term revenue gains.

I look forward to your acknowledgement of this letter and a confirmation that this proposal will not proceed.

Yours sincerely,

Hamish MacLachlan
Adelaide City Commercial Property Owner

**Written Submission 49**

**Anonymous**

22 May 2025

I hope this email finds you well. We are writing to express concern about the proposed parking restrictions in the CBD and to show our support for increased AEDA funding 25/26. Accessible parking is essential for attracting local clients. Without it, the area becomes far less convenient.

Please kindly consider the broader impact this change would have on local businesses and the overall appeal of the CBD.

**Written Submission 50**

**Ian Horne**

Chair, Business Events Adelaide

22 May 2025

Business Events Adelaide

Level 2, 74 Pirie Street
Adelaide, South Australia 5000
Phone 1300 277 774
businesseventsadelaide.com.au

22 May 2025

Community Consultation
Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget
GPO Box 2252
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Terizakas, Ms Batten

*Business Events Adelaide* appreciates the opportunity to comment on City of Adelaide's Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget (the Plan) on behalf of its members. As a Strategic Partner of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA), and a major contributor to the City through the attraction of domestic and global business events, it is well placed to comment on the challenges and opportunities outlined in the Plan.

*Business Events Adelaide* works over the horizon to fill City venues and hotels in future years. Our members also include restaurants, bars and retailers, many of whom are City traders and ratepayers. In the last full financial year (FY24) *Business Events Adelaide* secured 174 business events which delivered $336 million in economic benefit to the City. In its midyear report to AEDA (dated 20 January 2025) *Business Events Adelaide* advised that a further 70 business events, worth $540 million, had been secured. The return on investment to AEDA and the City from its $300,000 investment at that point was an incredible $1800:1, and more wins have since been confirmed.

Success has been built on positioning Adelaide as a vibrant, safe and modern City, with cutting edge facilities and expertise in a range of economically complex sectors. We appreciate the trade-offs that Council has to consider when balancing its budget, however economic growth and investment attraction are fundamental elements that will allow the City to prosper. Of the Plan's ten priorities, two are pertinent to this aim:

- Reinforcing the position of Adelaide as the State's central business district and amplifying Adelaide's reputation as a place to learn, work and start a business.
- Providing services and information that contribute towards a high productivity economy.

Council endorsed its Economic Development Strategy during the past year, and that Strategy contains a number of ambitious aspirations. AEDA was allocated a good portion of the responsibilities to deliver on the Strategy, however this not reflected in the budget. As a result, we are concerned initiatives to grow businesses and further build off the City's innovation hubs will not be achieved.

It is our opinion that the level of funding allocated to AEDA to take a lead role in progressing these important priorities is insufficient. This will consequently have a significant impact on the City and its businesses.

Of further relevance to *Business Events Adelaide* is the opportunity to progress a coherent green agenda. Adelaide is positioned at the forefront of environmentally progressive measures and attracts a significant number of business events related to clean energy generation. The prospect of hosting COP 31 in November 2026 represents a unique opportunity to further showcase Adelaide's credentials and has the potential to transform our City's profile on the global stage. We feel that the Plan as it currently stands risks squandering the potential benefits of COP – both in regard to COP itself but more importantly the increased exposure that will result from it.

We urge the Council to consider increasing its funding for AEDA so these important parts of the Economic Development Strategy can be delivered effectively.

Yours sincerely

Ian Horne
Chair, *Business Events Adelaide*

**Written Submission 51**

**Miriam Spizzo**

22 May 2025

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the proposed $600 minimum council rate for any parcel of land, including individual car park bays. I urge the council to terminate consideration of this proposal as it represents an unfair and economically damaging levy on property owners.

This increase would disproportionately affect strata-titled car park owners, many of whom own small individual lots. The $600 per annum translates to a $27.20 monthly increase per bay, adding substantial costs without any enhancement in services or infrastructure.

Car park bays already shoulder significant holding costs, including:

- Emergency Services Levy
- SA Water Rates
- Council Rates (on a per-bay basis)

Introducing this minimum rate would equate to an over 100% increase in council rates for assets that neither utilise most council services nor have the capacity for value-add growth to absorb these additional costs. In practical terms, this would force car park owners to increase parking fees—passing the burden onto consumers, discouraging city visits, and harming local business foot traffic.

We have seen the consequences of similar congestion levies in cities like Melbourne, where parking has become prohibitively expensive, deterring visitors and strangling local commerce. Adelaide deserves better.

I respectfully request that this proposed rate increase be withdrawn from consideration entirely. The negative economic impacts on property owners, local businesses, and the broader community far outweigh any potential short-term revenue gains.

I look forward to your acknowledgement of this letter and a confirmation that this proposal will not proceed.

**Written Submission 52**

**Dino Porcaro**

on behalf of Mirabuka Holdings P/L

22 May 2025

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the proposed $600 minimum council rate for any parcel of land, including individual car park bays. I urge the council to terminate consideration of this proposal as it represents an unfair and economically damaging levy on property owners.

This increase would disproportionately affect strata-titled car park owners, many of whom own small individual lots. The $600 per annum translates to a $27.20 monthly increase per bay, adding substantial costs without any enhancement in services or infrastructure.

Car park bays already shoulder significant holding costs, including:

- Emergency Services Levy
- SA Water Rates
- Council Rates (on a per-bay basis)

Introducing this minimum rate would equate to an over 100% increase in council rates for assets that neither utilise most council services nor have the capacity for value-add growth to absorb these additional costs. In practical terms, this would force car park owners to increase parking fees—passing the burden onto consumers, discouraging city visits, and harming local business foot traffic.

We have seen the consequences of similar congestion levies in cities like Melbourne, where parking has become prohibitively expensive, deterring visitors and strangling local commerce. Adelaide deserves better.

I respectfully request that this proposed rate increase be withdrawn from consideration entirely. The negative economic impacts on property owners, local businesses, and the broader community far outweigh any potential short-term revenue gains.

I look forward to your acknowledgement of this letter and a confirmation that this proposal will not proceed.

**Written Submission 53**

**Nikki Johnston**

22 May 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to oppose the proposed changes to the City of Adelaide (ACC) Rating Policy, which would significantly increase the rates on my property at:

Carpark 41D, 17 Eden Street, Adelaide SA 5000

This is a basement car park within a strata complex, used solely for residential vehicle parking. It was placed on a separate title by the original developer but is functionally part of a residential dwelling. The car park receives no rubbish collection, no council maintenance, and no active council services. The only conceivable service provided is stormwater management in the event of major rain.

For the current financial year, I paid $221.65. Under the proposed policy, this would rise to $600—an increase of approximately 170%. This is vastly disproportionate when compared to the 5.6% average rate increase proposed for most existing ratepayers.

At a time of widespread cost-of-living pressures, such an extreme rise for a property that receives minimal council services is unreasonable and inequitable.

I respectfully request that the introduction of the $600 minimum rate be reconsidered or that a more proportionate approach be adopted. I plan to attend the meeting on Tuesday to raise these concerns in person.

Yours faithfully,

Nikki Johnston
[redacted] Adelaide 5000
[redacted]

**Written Submission 54**

**Heather Nimmo**

on behalf of the South East City Residents Association

22 May 2025

SECRA SOUTH EAST CITY RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Community Consultation
**Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget**
GPO Box 2252, Adelaide SA 5001

21 May 2025

The SECRA committee welcomes the opportunity to respond to the City of Adelaide's **Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget: Building our city's future.**

What actions by Council will encourage people to move to the city, but will also retain those who currently enjoy living here?

1. Greening city streets and spaces. Providing shade trees along walking and cycling paths, in particular, in Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi.
2. Park Lands that are accessible, unfenced, and well-maintained for individual and family activity, and for engaging with nature, as well as for sporting groups and, SECRA suggests, limited commercial use. Large scale commercial events lead to an annual cycle of degradation and then time-consuming repair.
3. Sufficient funding for horticultural and biodiversity teams to increase and then maintain greening in streets and green spaces, in particular, in the Adelaide Park Lands.
4. A transparent and equitable planning system where people can see what could be built next to, or near them in the future. SECRA advocates for the removal of catalyst site provisions which lead to uncertainty and anxiety.
5. Housing is primarily a State government responsibility, but the city needs a variety of housing options, both for purchase and for rental.
6. 
    a. Long-term financial sustainability, given the current economic situation.
    b. Planned and funded renewal of all assets, particularly the large ones such as the Morphett Street Bridge and Torrens Weir
    c. That the Council stop pursuing significant capital projects with a high element of risk that is more suited to the private sector, such as Central Market and 88 O'Connell Street developments, particularly as much of the information about these projects is deemed to be 'commercial in confidence' and not available to ratepayers.
7. Adequate protection for the heritage and character of the city.

8. Streets that allow safe active transport options such as walking, cycling, and e-scootering, with material separating people who cycle or use e-scooters or other small wheel devices from pedestrians and from motor vehicles
9. Traffic speeds reduced to 40kmh, or, on narrow streets where you can't walk on the footpath because of Stobie poles, waste bins, sandwich boards and the press of other pedestrians, to 30kmh.
10. More street benches on walking routes, such as Frome Road, where older walkers can rest.
11. At intersections where lanes and minor roads meet more significant roads, pedestrian crossing points should be raised to the level of the footpath (as suggested by Jan Gehl).
12. Clean, well-maintained, well-lit streets. SECRA thanks Civil Construction, Public Realm staff for their work in identifying potential trip hazards on footpaths and removing them. Gang Four has been doing this in Halifax Street.
13. Thriving businesses that cater for residents (supermarkets big and small, pharmacies) as well as for workers and visitors.
14. Community strengthening services such as the Connector bus (linking communities), with timetables which extend further into the evening, and which are more frequent during weekends (29% of city households do not own a car, compared with 7% in Greater Adelaide). The current timetable favours worker visitors rather than city residents. Bus shelters at Halifax/Hutt Street intersection stops.
15. Support for libraries (in particular, the Hutt Street library), Community Centres (in particular, the Box Factory Community Centre and the Minor Works building), and art and cultural opportunities.
16. First Nations recognition/initiatives

**Hutt Street Revitalisation**

This project seems to illustrate the stop and start nature of much planning in the City. A Hutt Street Concept Plan was developed, based on many months of consultation by Council of businesses and residents through the Lord Mayor's Round Table. As the SECRA committee understands it, (two SECRA committee members were involved in the Lord Mayor's Round Table), there was general agreement on, and enthusiasm for, what was needed to revitalize the street, in particular what was needed by businesses – more outdoor dining opportunities, more greening, slowing of through traffic, separated bike lanes to encourage people to come to cafes and restaurants and linger in the street.

The Concept Plan, presumably based on how revitalization of other 'high streets' have benefited business and residents, was developed by Council staff and presented to

Council in December 2021. Substantial funding was applied for and granted. By December 2024 all was ready.

What happened?

The loss of some parking generated fear and anxiety among some (most?) businesses and some (fewer?) local residents. SECRA doesn't have the data on this. Council staff then supplied four other options (some of which will make little difference to the street) to join the initial design (now known as Option D), and asked residents and local businesses, and others – including people who have no connection with Hutt Street, and the neighbourhood - to vote on all five.

What kind of a process is this? One, SECRA would suggest, that inspires no confidence in the ability of the Council to lead us confidently into the future.

The SECRA committee encourages SECRA members to make their own submissions to this consultation.

Yours sincerely

Heather Nimmo on behalf of the SECRA committee.

Chair SECRA

**Written Submission 55**

**Celina McKenize**

22 May 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to object to the proposed increase to the City of Adelaide (ACC) Rating Policy Changes, which will significantly impact a property I own.

Carpark, Basement 41B/188 Carrington Street Adelaide SA 5000

My property is a carpark located in the basement of a building managed under common property by a strata. The ACC provides no services for it. It does not require rubbish collections, cleaning or maintenance from the ACC. Nor do I access any ACC services related to this property as those I access are connected to owning a residential property within the ACC area. An argument could be mounted that this carpark is not rateable.

In the last completed financial year (2023/2024), I paid $175.40 in rates for this property. I believe that for the 2024/2025 year it will be even less. A jump in rates to $600 constitutes an increase of more than 240%. This is an exorbitant and intolerable rise, well out of proportion to CPI and the Cost-of-Living increases experienced in recent years.

While I understand the need for an increase in rates due to the rising costs of services provided by the ACC, an increase of almost 3 ½ times is unreasonable.

I respectfully request that this proposal be rejected. If this does not occur, I request that the minimum increase be significantly reduced.

I plan to attend the meeting on Tuesday.

Celina McKenize

## Written Submission 56

**Rachel Van Brussel**

on behalf of Van Brussel

22 May 2025

I am writing as a business owner operating in the Adelaide CBD (VAN BRUSSEL - 18 Ebenezer Place, 5000) to express serious concern about the proposed reductions in city parking outlined in the draft 2025/26 Business Plan.

Accessible and convenient parking is critical to the health and vibrancy of the CBD. Many of our customers rely on short-term parking to visit, shop, and attend appointments. The removal of more parking will only make it harder for people to choose the city - especially when suburban shopping destinations and centres offer free, ample, and easy-to-navigate parking options. We're already competing with these destinations, and further parking restrictions will place even more strain on small businesses trying to stay afloat in an already challenging economic climate.

In addition, I strongly support increased funding for AEDA. Their efforts to drive foot traffic, activate the city through events, and support businesses are essential and must be scaled - not reduced. AEDA plays a crucial role in maintaining Adelaide's momentum as a vibrant, attractive destination for both locals and visitors, and further investment will ensure their initiatives continue to deliver positive outcomes for the city's economy.

I urge Council to reconsider the parking reductions and to commit to lifting AEDA's funding for 2025/26.

## Written Submission 57

**Julie Firth**

on behalf of owners of Epworth Buidling, 33 Pirie Street Adelaide

22 May 2025

The following feedback is on behalf of the owners of Epworth Building @ 33 Pirie Street:

The Epworth Building offers a distinctive contribution to the commercial office leasing market by providing micro office spaces—starting from just 16sqm—specifically tailored to meet the needs of start-ups and sole traders. These spaces are offered at highly accessible rates, encouraging individuals to move away from working from home and instead establish a presence in the CBD.

This model not only supports emerging businesses but also contributes to the vibrancy and economic activity of the city. We've consistently seen our tenants thrive and grow, often transitioning into larger offices within the CBD as their businesses expand.

The proposed introduction of a minimum annual rate of $600 per property by Council would significantly affect the viability and affordability of our micro-offices. As a result, we are now seriously considering merging some spaces to avoid being penalised for offering smaller, more flexible options.

We believe the proposed rate structure is at odds with Council's broader goals of attracting and retaining new businesses in the CBD. We urge a reconsideration of the policy to ensure it supports, rather than discourages, innovation and small business growth.

**Written Submission 58**

**Brenton Cox**

Managing Director Adelaide Airport

22 May 2025

22 May 2025

City of Adelaide
Submission on draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget

**Re: Importance of AEDA in Driving Economic Growth and Supporting a Strong CBD**

Adelaide Airport has a privileged role to play in our community as the aviation gateway to our State. Adelaide Airport is the fifth-largest domestic and international airport in Australia processing more than 8 million passengers on an annualised basis. We are also the State's largest single site employment precinct directly employing more than 10,000 people on and off airport and contributing to the generation of a further 12,700 jobs. Attracting airlines draws visitation and economic activity into Adelaide.

We partner with likeminded organisations that work to promote South Australia and Adelaide as a unique destination for tourism, business and international education sectors alike. We highly value the pivotal role the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) plays in driving growth and economic activity in the city. AEDA brings together businesses, government and industry partners with the common purpose of building activity and prosperity in Adelaide. As just one example, AEDA's continued work to activate Rundle Mall in the face of disposable income and online retail challenges for shop front retail businesses is to be commended and is a key part of safeguarding the vibrancy that our CBD is known for.

The importance of their role was highlighted in the recent Economic Development Strategy endorsed by council. As the city's primary economic development arm, AEDA is tasked with implementing strategic initiatives aimed at attracting investment, supporting business growth, enhancing the visitor economy, and promoting residential development.

For AEDA to deliver on their remit and continue to support the growth and success of our City they need to be properly funded and resourced. Investing in AEDA can also assist in unlocking co-funded opportunities from State and Federal Government as well as the private sector. AEDA can leverage their relationships and partnerships to deliver on initiatives that truly benefit our City.

We continue to face global economic competition and, through organisations like AEDA, we find a champion to lead important partnerships that navigates challenges and create opportunities.

The Council's 2025–26 Business Plan outlines 10 priorities, including two focused on economic prosperity. AEDA is critical to delivering on these, and we encourage Council to consider the agency's funding needs within the context of these strategic goals.

Yours sincerely
**ADELAIDE AIRPORT**

Brenton Cox
**Managing Director**



Adelaide Airport Limited
1 James Schofield Drive
Adelaide Airport
South Australia 5950

T +61 8 8308 9211
E airport@aal.com.au
adelaideairport.com.au
ABN 78 075 176 653

**Written Submission 59**

**Stella Monteleone**

22 May 2025

Stella Monteleone
[redacted]
Rostrevor SA 5073

[redacted]

[redacted]

22nd May 2025

City of Adelaide Council
25 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

**Subject: Strong Objection to the Proposed $600 Minimum Council Rate**

Dear City of Adelaide City Council,

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the proposed $600 minimum council rate for any parcel of land, including individual car park bays. I urge the council to terminate consideration of this proposal as it represents an unfair and economically damaging levy on property owners.

This increase would disproportionately affect strata-titled car park owners, many of whom own small individual lots. The additional $600 per annum translates to a $27.20 monthly increase per bay, adding substantial costs without any enhancement in services or infrastructure.

Car park bays already shoulder significant holding costs, including:

- Emergency Services Levy
- SA Water Rates
- Council Rates (on a per-bay basis)

Introducing this minimum rate would equate to an over 100% increase in council rates for assets that neither utilise most council services nor have the capacity for value-add growth to absorb these additional costs. In practical terms, this would force car park owners to increase parking fees—passing the burden onto consumers, discouraging city visits, and harming local business foot traffic.

We have seen the consequences of similar congestion levies in cities like Melbourne, where parking has become prohibitively expensive, deterring visitors and strangling local commerce. Adelaide deserves better.

I respectfully request that this proposed rate increase be withdrawn from consideration entirely. The negative economic impacts on property owners, local businesses, and the broader community far outweigh any potential short-term revenue gains.

I look forward to your acknowledgement of this letter and a confirmation that this proposal will not proceed.

Yours sincerely,

SMonteleone

Stella Monteleone

## Written Submission 60

**Tamara Swaffer**

Adelaide Chiropractic Centre

23 May 2025

I would like to raise an issue regarding the proposed changes to the rates for properties paying less than $600 per annum.

The letter identified SA Remedial Therapy Clinic and Adelaide Naturopath (Kathy Sedun – Stillwaters) as having rateable property at level 3, 28/ 55 Gawler Place, Adelaide.

These 2 companies only rent a room each in these premises, they do not own them, and therefore their share of the rates is paid by the suite owner, Adelaide Chiropractic Centre – Tamara Swaffer/ Daniel Kean.

As these 2 amounts are only part of the whole, and the whole is well over $600 per annum ($3798 to be exact), we strongly recommend that this is taken into consideration before broadly implementing these increases.

## Written Submission 61

**Cass Joubert**

on behalf of Leonard St Adelaide

23 May 2025

As someone who works in the Adelaide CBD at Leonard St (22 Ebenezer Place) and is closely involved with the day-to-day life of Rundle St East, I want to express my concern regarding the proposed parking reductions outlined in the draft 2025/26 Business Plan.

The availability of accessible parking is fundamental to ensuring that Adelaide remains an appealing and viable destination for visitors. Many city-goers whether they're running errands, dining out, or attending appointments rely on convenient short-term parking. Reducing these options risks pushing people away from the CBD altogether, especially when suburban centres provide abundant and free parking alternatives. With small businesses already facing mounting pressures, making access to the city more difficult could have serious consequences for their survival.

I also want to voice strong support for increased investment in AEDA. Their ongoing work to boost visitation, enliven the city through events, and support local businesses is critical. Rather than reducing their budget, now is the time to strengthen their capacity. A thriving CBD benefits everyone, and AEDA plays a central role in driving that momentum.

I respectfully urge the Council to reconsider the planned parking reductions and to commit to increasing funding for AEDA in the upcoming financial year.

## Written Submission 62

**Allan Addams**

23 May 2025

I support the submission lodged by the Adelaide Park Lands Association.

**Written Submission 63**

**Jan and Peter Davis**

24 May 2025

Community Consultation
Draft 2025/26 Business Plan & Budget
Town Hall
Adelaide SA 5001
BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au

Jan and Peter Davis
[redacted]
Adelaide5000
[redacted]

Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the City of Adelaide's Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.

We are most concerned with the apparent reduction in funds for the maintenance of our parklands, $7.7 million is listed under "Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability" within the City Shaping portfolio which is much lower than last financial year's allocation of $22.89 million.

As rate payers in the City of Adelaide we have seen many works in the Parklands completed but then, not maintained, thus degrading the asset and wasting Council resources, that is our rates!

It is our view that maintenance of assets, particularly the Parklands, is crucially important, otherwise our rates are going down the drain!

Volunteer groups should be encouraged and supported in their endeavours to green, improve and maintain parklands green spaces.

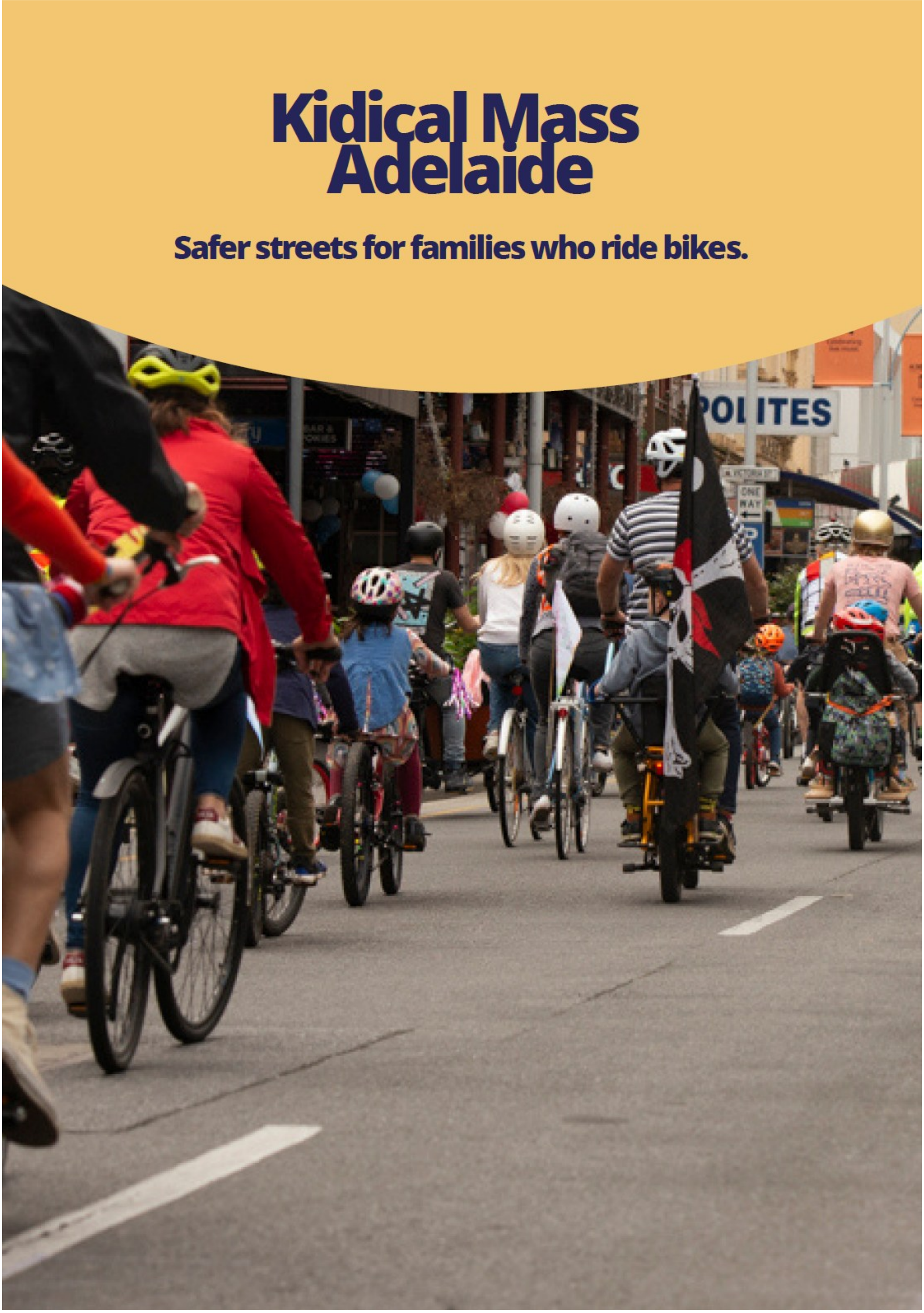
Yours sincerely,

Jan and Peter Davis

**Written Submission 64**

Kidical Mass Adelaide

25 May 2025



# Our asks

(1) Enable and activate bike riding joy.

(2) Create comfortable, convenient and connected bike riding routes.

(3) Support children's wellbeing and health, through bike riding (and walking/wheeling) to school.

# Our top three priorities

#30Please
A safer speed on our streets is 30 km/h.

#SaferStreetstoSchool
Prioritise active transport.

#EBikeSubsidies
Make it cheaper to choose electric bikes.

**Feedback for the draft Integrated Transport Strategy and draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget.**

Re: Sturt Street/West Terrace Safety Measures

Kidical Mass Adelaide was established in 2022 as a grassroots movement advocating for safer streets for families who ride bikes. Our volunteer organisers are passionate parents, grandparents, and avid bike riders who want to see active transport become safer and more accessible to children and families in Adelaide. Our asks and priorities reflect our demand for action from decision makers to realise our vision.

Kidical Mass Adelaide has been working with the Sturt Street Community School and local stakeholders to highlight the safety issues at the West Terrace/Sturt Street intersection.

At its meeting on 14 May 2024, Council received our 'Petition – Upgrades to the Intersection of West Terrace and Sturt Street' signed by 233 signatories. The Council subsequently requested that the Administration prepare a report to investigate upgrading the intersection. At the 17 September 2024, the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee heard the Administration's response, which included a commitment to presenting options to Council for further consideration and endorsement through the 2025/2026 Business Plan and Budget process, to enable further design development, detailed traffic modelling, detailed cost estimation and further consultation with DIT and other key stakeholders.

We have reviewed the recently released City of Adelaide Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget and note that no commitments have been made to address the issues identified in our petition.

Over 400 people attended our 2024 Demonstration Ride, which included Sturt Street and West Terrace to highlight support for actions to address safety. We have held annual demonstration rides for four years to call on decision makers to commit to creating better streets.

We note that many strategies commit our decision makers to outcomes such as increasing the number of people commuting by bike, reducing carbon emissions, and creating places for people.

However, the action required to achieve these outcomes is hamstrung by inadequate budget commitments and an indulgence of harmful and inaccurate narratives, including the idea that a commitment to safe infrastructure and slower speeds will harm economic outcomes.

*Evidence clearly demonstrates that pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users spend 40% more than motorists in local shops, and that investing in better walking and cycling infrastructure on a street decreases rental vacancies by up to 17%. (Source: Transport for London 2022).*

*There is less than a 10 percent risk that somebody walking will be killed at an impact speed of 30km/h but a 90 percent risk at 50km/h. (Source: 30 Please Campaign).*

We urge our decision makers to commit to evidence-based decision making.

**Written Submission 65**

**Oliver Frank**

25 May 2025

I am concerned to read that the ACC is planning to greatly reduce its budget for maintenance of the Adelaide Park Lands, which are one of Adelaide's best and most important features.

I support the submission made by the Adelaide Park Lands Association for a number improvements to the Park Lands to keep them open, free and green for everybody

**Abdullah Memon**

Pakistani Australian Association of South Australia (PAASA)

25 May 2025

PAKISTANI AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
**ABN # 47103 564 373 Registration # A22068**
24 Karratta Street, Gilles Plains SA 5086
paasa.org.au Email: ec@paasa.org.au

May 24 2025.

Dear City of Adelaide

We are writing to express our strong support for the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) **Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremony and the Aus Lights on the River program**, which includes the official ceremony.

We recognise the long-standing strategic partnership between ADCSA and the City of Adelaide, and understand that the successful delivery of this vital, free, city-wide community event is heavily reliant on the Council's funding. These programs are particularly significant at a time when our nation is experiencing growing challenges to social cohesion.

We are concerned to see that the City of Adelaide's current draft budget indicates a substantial funding reduction — from $182,000 in FY 2024–25 to just $100,000 in FY 2025–26.

As a multicultural community organisation that proudly participates in the **Respecting Country Parade as part of Aus Lights on the River**, we strongly advocate for the continuation—and ideally, enhancement—of funding to ADCSA. These inclusive, culturally significant programs contribute greatly to unity, mutual respect, and understanding across South Australia.

Yours sincerely

**Abdullah Memon**
**Chairperson**
**Pakistani Australian Association of South Australia (PAASA)**
Facebook: @PAASASouthAustralia
Twitter: @PAASA11164865 Instagram: @PAASA8900

**Written Submission 67**

**Rate payer**

25 May 2025

As someone who has worked, owned a number of businesses and lived in the city, for 25 years, I consider myself well versed on the effects of Council's decisions on retailers, small business owners and making the city an enjoyable place to visit.
Today, people come to the city primarily for work or study.
Twentyfive years ago, the city was the ultimate place to go shopping and U-Park was $2.00 per hour. Why would anyone come into the city to shop when car parking is so expensive. This can be seen very clearly in the proposed re-purposing of the David Jones building and Myer Department Store's exit.

While the current Lord Mayor is the driving force behind "the renewal" of the city, she should not dictate and override "the Elected Members". That is not her role.

The 'elected members' held a vote on increasing rates. The decision reached was '8% over the next three years', I believe. However, this decision is not being followed by the Rates Department under the watchful eye of the CEO. My experience is that some rates in my property have spiked up to 30% in one financial year alone.

The notion that Council froze rates over Covid is completely untrue for commercial property (unless my holdings are being treated in a different manner). The rates continued to increase every year.

I feel strongly that rates should not be increased at all. The notion of setting a minimum rate on property I would have thought is not permitted 'under the Act', however as I am not a lawyer, my opinion is that the Council should stop being so greedy....and that is 100% what it is. Stop driving businesses out of the city by further increasing rates. No one cares about another 900 trees planted or James place being upgraded or many other meaningless activities.

The upgrade of Gawler Place for $30mil plus, did absolutely nothing to the economy of the city. Having planter boxes with flowers like in Sydney would have been better and cheaper.

Council are literally driving small retailers out of the city, as landlords generally pass rates along.

Your report also states of vacancy rates being extremely low. This is untrue. They are low in A and A+ buildings, but the majority of property is B and C grade. There is a huge vacancy in offices and especially in retail, and it is getting worse.

This great big renewal project is totally unnecessary and can be slowly accomplished when Council earns millions of dollars from their market project.

The notion of spending many millions of dollars upgrading various parklands, is not necessary. The parklands are barely used and dry up to a crisp in the summer months. Nor will this spend see an increase in economic activity in the city. Why not have electronic counters to check how much they are used (though not the counters used to justify the mall's foot traffic which is simply people crossing a main street. If the Mall was so viable as a 'place to shop', then the turn over of retailers would not be so high.

In conclusion, I consider it wrong to impose the minimum rate of $600.00 on rateable areas. Council have not been clear as to whether the imposed Rundle Mall Levy and Landscape Levy are in addition to the $600 or inclusive.

It is mandatory that Council employees respect the views of the elected members, whether they like them or not.

Council should be handing out incentives to small businesses rather than penalising them with more and more fees (rates) if they choose to stay.

Ron Green

25 May 2025

Lord Mayor and Councillors

FUNDING AUSTRALIA DAY CELEBRATIONS

Dear Members

I note the proposed reduced funding by your organization for the 2026 Australia Day celebrations and write to advocate against the extent of the reductions.

While recognizing the critical importance for achieving financial sustainability in Council operations, it is also critical as the flagship of Local government to adequately reflect and represent the needs of our community. In so doing, the Australia Day events are not only an appropriate function for local government but crucially important in recognizing and promoting Australian citizenship.

Many years ago, the then Lord Mayor, Michael Harbison approached the Australia Day Council with the desire to make the day not only more memorable for the wider community but also more inclusive of all sections of our community and reflective of the myriads of cultures in our capital city. It was considered a partnership involving funding of relevant programs by Council and delivered by the Australia Day Council as an appropriate model. Resultingly, through the assistance of the Multi-Cultural Affairs organization, most communities joined with the Council and the Australia Day Committee in celebrating the relevance of Australia Day.

A notable absentee culture in the early days was the First Nations culture.

However, over time and certainly in recent years, the Australia Day Council has worked assiduously with your organization, and others, to ensure First Nations' involvement. While more work probably needs to be pursued, the gap in involving First Nations has been reduced by their involvement in the well supported 'Mourning in the Morning 'event .

Regrettably the conduct of such celebrations comes at an increasing cost and this, combined with reduced funding, would result in a winding back of, arguably, one of the most important community celebratory events in the City of Adelaide.

Critically, I believe it important in moving forward, for Council to continue to acknowledge its leadership role in the need to recognize and respect the contribution of all cultures in our community. Basically, this is what Australia Day celebrations are about, leadership in citizenship.

In the early days, Australia Day was basically about fireworks, a BBQ and some entertainment. As a society, thankfully we have moved forward to a more inclusive, mature and relevant approach in the acknowledgement of the contribution of all cultures to Australian society in a meaningful way, by recognition and promotion of citizenship in our Australia Day celebrations.

Long may this continue!

Adelaide City Council, along with all Local Government entities, has a pivotal role to play in these annual celebrations as recognized by Lord Mayor Harbison and previous administrations more than twenty years ago.

Accordingly, I urge your Council, as the flagship for Local Government in our wonderful State, to recognize this leadership role and continue with an appropriate and meaningful contribution to the celebration of Australia Day in our City.

R.J. Green

Life Member and Former Chair

Australia Day Council of S.A.

**Written Submission 69**

**Chris Townsend**

Director, Cushi PTY LTD

25 May 2025

**CUSHI PTY LTD**

PO BOX 251
Highgate
SA 5063

25 May 2025

City of Adelaide
25 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Attention: Manager Business Plan

Dear Madam/Sir

**Re: Proposed Rating Policy Changes**

**Introduction**
We refer to the City of Adelaide Letter of 16 May 2015 inviting feedback on a proposed change to its Rating Policy to introduce a minimum rate of $600 on every property in the City of Adelaide (copy enclosed).

That proposal, certainly in relation to our property referred to later, is grossly unfair and unreasonable, and is entirely opposed.

**Our Property**
Our property is a carpark, a copy of our current rates notice so acknowledges (copy enclosed). It is 2.13 metres wide and 6.15 metres long.

It was purchased in 2015 for $20,000.00.

We have not had time since the receipt of your letter of 16 May 2025 to be advised of its current value. However, the annual general rate currently charged is $189.70, where your proposal is to charge in excess of three times that general rate. It is grossly unfair and unreasonable.

**Local Government Act 1999**
We have not had time since receipt of your letter to fully consider the applicable Act parameters for the City of Adelaide proposal, and intend to seek legal advice if necessary.

However we make the following, hopefully correct, observations and requests.

1. The rates are to be based on the value of the land.

2. The rates notice is indecipherable. What is the current Valuer General's valuation? Please provide us with that information.

3. Before a rate change the City of Adelaide must prepare a Report. Please provide a copy as soon as possible.

4. Please provide a copy of the City of Adelaide newspaper publication of a notice of the intended change, inviting on at least 21 days notice of a public meeting and to make written submissions in relation to the proposed change of rates.

5. Please provide a copy of the City of Adelaide's annual business plan for the financial year in which the proposed rates change is to occur.

These observations may be incomplete.

**Conclusion**
In relation to our position, the proposal is grossly unfair and unreasonable, and is entirely opposed.

Please refer to our requests quickly.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Townsend
Director

**Written Submission 70**

**Kristin Roe**

25 May 2025

25.5.25

To City of Adelaide

re: Rating Policy Changes/Draft 2025/26

Dear Sir/Madam,

I do not support changes to a minimum 600 $ rates for 2025/26.

I have a car park - this would constitute doubling of my current rates.

I assume that most "properties" under 600$ will actually be car parks - hence this appears to be a money grab by the City of Adelaide.

Consideration should be made to specify an inhabitable dwelling as part of the minimum council rates.

Regards,

Roe

Kristin Roe
owner car park Level 1
117/128 Hindley St Adelaide 5000
Please note I use this for private use - not rented!!

**Written Submission 71**

**Anonymous**

26 May 2025

I am writing in my capacity as a small business owner headquartered in Pirie Street in the CBD.

Adelaide City Council has endorsed an ambitious Economic Development Strategy, yet the budget doesn't reflect the scale of what AEDA has been asked to deliver. Unless funding aligns with responsibility, core initiatives like growing green industry, supporting innovation hubs, and attracting investment simply won't happen.

Two of Council's top ten priorities in the draft business plan are to reinforce Adelaide's position as the CBD and to support a high-productivity economy. These require significant investment and without stronger funding, these priorities will remain high-level ambitions rather than delivered outcomes.

Adelaide as a City State is the engine room of the South Australian economy and the ACC needs to fund AEDA's activities to deliver the growth that Adelaide and SA needs.

**Written Submission 72**

**Gaye McMahon**

on behalf of Commercial SA

26 May 2025

Awards for Excellence

Commercial & Industrial AGENCY OF THE YEAR 6 TIME WINNER

Property Management AGENCY OF THE YEAR 10 TIME WINNER

REISA AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE HALL OF FAME INDUCTED 2018 — COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL AGENCY COMMERCIAL SA

REISA AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE HALL OF FAME INDUCTED 2012, 2018, 2019 — PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AGENCY COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL SA

Commercial SA

*Finding better*

26 May 2025

**Feedback to : City of Adelaide Business Plan – rate increases:**

**185 Victoria Square Adelaide**

> *As part of the proposed changes to our Rating Policy is the introduction of a minimum rate of $600, which would set the lowest amount which will be charged for rates per year on every property in the City of Adelaide.*
>
> *For example, if a property currently (2024/25) paid $450 per annum in rates, the proposed new rate from 2025/26 would be a minimum of $600.*
>
> *The minimum rate may affect your rateable property (as listed below) as you are currently paying less than the proposed threshold of $600:*
>
> *Ms J Abbey Level 6 Office 5 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Mr A Allen Level 6 Office 3 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Mr A J Culshaw Level 6 Office 4 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Level 6 Office 7 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Mr C J Allen Level 6 Office 6 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Mr E B M Jolly Level 6 Office 2 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Mr P W F Morrison Level 6 Office 1 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Level 6 Office 8 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Level 6 Office 9 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*
> *Level 6 Office 9A 185 Victoria Square ADELAIDE SA 5000*

As Managing Agents, we are writing on behalf of the Landlord to express our strong opposition to the proposed minimum rates charge of $600 per site, an increase from the current average of $450. This significant jump does not align with the current commercial market realities and will place undue financial pressure on landlords.

The proposed increase of $150 per site, or 33%, is substantial and disproportionate. In the current economic climate, many commercial properties are experiencing stagnant or even declining rental yields. An abrupt rise in fixed costs like rates will directly erode profitability, making it challenging for landlords to maintain their properties and, in some cases, even cover their expenses.

**Impact on Commercial Leases**

Commercial leases are often structured with outgoings passed on to tenants. While this might seem to mitigate the immediate impact on landlords, the reality is more complex. A sudden increase in rates will inevitably lead to higher rents for businesses, many of whom are already grappling with increased operational costs and fluctuating consumer spending. This could hinder business growth, lead to closures, and ultimately result in vacant premises, negatively impacting the city's economic vitality. For landlords who are unable to pass on these costs due to existing lease agreements or market conditions, the burden will be even more severe.

Level 1, 185 Victoria Square Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 2138 Adelaide SA 5001
commercialsa.com.au
ABN 32 094 348 795 RLA 165131

**Market Conditions**

We are currently seeing a commercial property market that is sensitive to any significant cost increases. Introducing a higher minimum rates charge at this time could stifle investment in commercial properties and deter new businesses from establishing themselves within the CBD. It signals a lack of understanding of the current commercial landscape and could make our city less competitive compared to neighbouring areas with more favourable operating costs.

**Request for Reconsideration**

We urge the City Council to reconsider this proposal. Instead, we recommend a more phased approach to any rate adjustments, or a thorough review of the current commercial market conditions to determine a rate structure that is both sustainable for the City of Adelaide and fair to property owners. It is crucial to implement policies that support, rather than hinder, the economic health of our community.

Yours Sincerely
Commercial SA

Asset Manager
[redacted]

Level 1, 185 Victoria Square Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 2138 Adelaide SA 5001
commercialsa.com.au
ABN 32 094 348 795 RLA 165131

**Written Submission 73**

**Peter Lockett**

26 May 2025

**INTENSIVE CARE TRUST PTY LTD**
60 Halifax Street
Adelaide SA 5000

26 May 2025

City of Adelaide Council
25 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Dear Council,

**Objection to the Proposed $600 Minimum Council Rate**

I am writing to express my firm opposition to the proposed $600 minimum council rate for any parcel of land, including individual car park bays. I urge the council to reject this proposal as it represents an unfair and economically damaging levy on owners and users of parking facilities.

This increase will disproportionately affect strata-titled car park owners, many of whom own small individual lots. The proposed increase adds over 100% on current rate charges adding substantial costs to small business and residential owners alike without any increase in services or infrastructure.

Car park bays already shoulder significant holding costs, including:

- Emergency Services Levy
- SA Water Rates
- Council Rates
- Insurances

In practical terms, this would force small business owners, that don't owner occupy but provide parking for commuting staff, to absorb increased parking costs. The alternative is passing the burden onto staff harming local business.

Ironically Council's own car parking subsidiary, U park, has been actively contacting owners seeking to take on management of car parking, convert bays out of business hours for public use and of course charge the appropriate management and user fees.

I request that this proposed minimum rate be withdrawn entirely. Council has an established rating assessment department. I would be far more supportive for better management of Assessed Annual Values and accurate council rate bills rather than adjusting the rate in the dollar or imposing minimum amounts. That just smacks of laziness and inefficiency on council's part but that just appears to be managements approach in recent years. The negative economic impacts on property owners, local businesses, and the broader community far outweigh any potential short-term revenue gains.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Lockett

## Written Submission 74

**Shevaun Bruland**

26 May 2025

I would like to record that I am AGAINST the proposed minimum $600 rates per property.

Some "properties" in North Adelaide are a single carpark (6m x 3m) without any power, water, or services provided by the council. These should NOT be subject to an increase in rates.

Please consider the Carpark allotments off 16 Marian St North Adelaide for an exemption.

## Written Submission 75

**Simon Kardachi**

Business Owner

26 May 2025

I'm writing as an owner of several businesses within the CBD. I've had restaurant and bar venues in the city since 2011 and in that time have seen enormous change. I believe we are at the point where we have a great product in terms of our city brand, and need to be investing significantly in its promotion and development.

It's essential that AEDA has sufficient funding to do this effectively. It's the marketing and development representative of Adelaide's CBD and therefore of my businesses. Council needs to ensure more substantial financial support for AEDA for Adelaide to capitalise on the position that I and other private investors have helped to put this city in.

## Written Submission 76

**Wendy and Richard Hodgson**

26 May 2025

We are most concerned about changes on O,Connell Street.

Particularly parking spaces.

When 88 O,Connell is completed adding hundreds of more residents, where will their visitors park ?

Adding a bike path will narrow the space where buses and cars are constant all day.

Can you please tell us how this benefits our community.

**Written Submission 77**

**Di Russell**

on behalf of Pilgrim Uniting Church

26 May 2025

Pilgrim
Uniting Church

12 Flinders Street, Adelaide
GPO Box 116, Adelaide SA 5001
Ph: (08) 8212 3295
Fax: (08) 8212 9637

23/05/2025

City of Adelaide
GPO Box 2252
Adelaide SA 5001

**Re: City of Adelaide Proposed Rating Policy Changes and Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget**

We hereby submit feedback in relation to the proposal to introduce a minimum rate of $600 rates per property.

We currently have three properties identified as paying less than the proposed minimum threshold of $600 per annum.

The three properties that will be affected are –

- Level 1 Office 1 14 Flinders, current per annum $332.45
- Level 1 Office 2 14 Flinders, current per annum $345
- Level 1 Office 3 14 Flinders, current per annum $313.70

The total annual fee being $991.15 per annum.

If the proposed threshold was imposed, at $600 per annum per office, the annual fee would be $1800. This is an increase of $808.85 per annum, or an 81% increase.

It should be noted that the three offices affected are in fact, very small and located next to each other along one small corridor of 10m, with two adjoining offices being rented by the same person. They are also on the fist floor and there is no lift access to the offices.

The impact of this policy would result in these offices being too expensive to lease by the current tenants as they do not offer commercially competitive rental options. It could also be seen to limit rental by new tenants. In both instances this would deprive the church of income of approximately $6000 per annum, and without capacity to relet these spaces.

We strongly urge that the Council review this policy in light of the smaller organisations that will be disadvantaged by this proposal. In the case of Pilgrim Uniting Church, we work to support the most vulnerable in our community, and this will again hinder our ability to provide support every Sunday night of the year to up to 100 people at a sit down 3 course meal.

Yours sincerely,

Di Russell

Di Russell
Treasurer

**Written Submission 78**

**Mehmet Aslan**

26 May 2025

26 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremony and the Aus Lights on the River program, which includes an intercultural parade and official ceremony.

ADCSA has maintained a long-standing and strategic partnership with the City of Adelaide and relies heavily on Council funding to deliver this meaningful, free, city-wide community program—particularly at a time when social cohesion across our nation is facing significant challenges.

As a Board Member of ADCSA, I am proud to contribute to shaping and supporting a program that is reflective, inclusive, and celebrates the rich cultural diversity of our country. I am, however, deeply concerned by the reduction in funding reflected in the City of Adelaide's draft budget—from $182,000 in FY 24/25 to $100,000 in FY 25/26.

In my capacity as both a Board Member and an engaged community leader and advocate, I strongly encourage the Council to reconsider and enhance ADCSA's funding to ensure the continuation of this vital cultural and inclusive program for South Australia.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Mehmet Aslan

Board Member

## Written Submission 79

**Nasir Hussain**

26 May 2025

I write to express my strong support for the Australia Day Council of South Australia's (ADCSA) Mourning in the Morning Smoking Ceremony and Aus Lights on the River program. This is a flagship events that play a vital role in uniting our community through truth-telling, reflection, and cultural celebration.

These programs provide an inclusive platform for First Nations voices, multicultural communities, and Australians of all backgrounds to come together. As a Member and Ambassador for ADCSA, I've seen firsthand their profound social, cultural, and economic impact.

It is therefore deeply concerning that the City of Adelaide's draft 2025/26 budget proposes to reduce ADCSA's funding from $182,000 to $100,000,  a cut of nearly 45%. I respectfully urge Council to reconsider this decision, as it would significantly jeopardise ADCSA's ability to deliver this important program at its current scale, reach, and impact.

This program is one of the few free, city-wide events that attracts hundreds of thousands of people, boosting local businesses, tourism, hospitality, and the CBD economy. Beyond the economic benefits, the event plays a vital educational role, particularly for new skilled migrants and international residents, offering them a meaningful opportunity to learn about Australia's history, First Nations culture, and contemporary Australian identity. It fosters a deeper sense of belonging, inclusion, and civic pride at a time when social cohesion is more important than ever.

Cutting this funding would not only diminish a nationally respected model of inclusive celebration but also risk harming Adelaide's reputation as a welcoming, progressive, and multicultural city. ADCSA relies heavily on Council's support; there is no equivalent alternative funding to deliver this program at its current level.

For your ongoing support, it is making impactful differences. I  strongly urge the City of Adelaide to maintain or enhance its support and continue leading with vision and inclusivity.

Thank you for your continued leadership and for supporting a vision of Adelaide that celebrates all its people.

## Written Submission 80

**Manuel Ortigosa**

26 May 2025

AEDA has provided the City of Adelaide important support by working with and supporting organisations grow in the city. AEDA's work on attracting business to the city is vital , but without greater investment, we risk falling behind other cities that are actively building their economic resilience. Our city is attracting more tourists and our major events are consolidating Adelaide as a destination. Adelaide 's CBD is the beating heart of South Australia's economy , it needs sustained support to ensure it remains competitive , AEDA requires additional funding to continue and succeed the great work that has been initiated.

## Written Submission 81

**Craig Holden**

26 May 2025

As a former board member of AEDA I write to encourage Council to increase the funding for AEDA in 2025/26.

AEDA has proven its ability to undertake important city new initiatives and the current board has the talent experience and passion to further the valuable contribution it makes to our city's progress.

The prospect of hosting the COP31 bid is an exciting opportunity and AEDA can take an important role in this green economy business.

Harnessing the ideas and enthusiasm of the AEDA team is an important opportunity for Council to support with new funding.

As a city resident and business owner it is important that together we take every opportunity to support those willing to put in their time and expertise to progress our great city.

## Written Submission 82

**Anna Moeller**

CEO AHA SA

27 May 2025

The subject Business Plan contains a number of priorities, a significant one of which is reinforcing Adelaide as the state's central business district and amplifying Adelaide's reputation as a place to learn, work and start a business. Sitting along side this is the provision of information and services that contribute towards a high productivity economy.

In order to achieve this it is imperative that AEDA is allocated a sufficient level of funding to take a prominent and lead role in progressing these policies. It is of great concern that the funding as currently proposed is manifestly inadequate for this to happen and we respectfully submit that Council reconsider its position and rebalance the budget to enable these important priorities to be delivered effectively.

In the past year Council endorsed its Economic Development Strategy. It is ambitious and aspirational. Its success is critical. Also critical is that the budget is reflective of the portion of responsibilities allocated to AEDA under this Strategy. Again our concern is that the proposed allowance in the budget is inadequate, meaning that initiatives to grow business, innovate and grow the green economy will simply not be achieved. We urge Council to reconsider its position and increase funding to AEDA to ensure that the endorsed Strategy be delivered in a timely and effective fashion.

## Written Submission 83

**Rebecca McNamara**

27 May 2025

Having reviewed the City of Adelaide/AEDA draft 2025/26 BP&B currently out for consultation, I feel the budget allocation for AEDA is not sufficient for it to execute against it's 5 Year Strategic Plan. Given the Burnside Village reopening, of particular concern is the lack of budget allocation for critical events like Adelaide Fashion Week which drives activity in Rundle Mall.

## Written Submission 84

**Amanda Powers**

27 May 2025

I have recently looked through the City of Adelaide/AEDA draft 2025/26 BP&B which is out for consultation.

I can't help but think that when you consider what AEDA is being expected to deliver in the 5 Year Strat plan, the budget they have been allocated is insufficient.

Most concerning is the lack of budget around critical events. Driving activity in Rundle Mall is crucial to keeping the CBD alive.... when you think that Burnside Village is about to open, and you're considering decimating Hutt Street, people are going to have less and less reason to venture into the city.

Please reconsider the funds needed to drive activity in our fabulous city.

## Written Submission 85

**Belinda Butler**

Business Optimisation Manager, Perks

27 May 2025

I have recently reviewed the City of Adelaide/AEDA draft 2025/26 BP&B currently out for consultation.

I feel the budget allocation for AEDA is not sufficient for it to execute against the 5 Year Strategic Plan. Taking into consideration the Burnside Village reopening, of particular concern is the lack of budget allocation for critical events like Adelaide Fashion Week which drives activity in Rundle Mall.

## Written Submission 86

**Kristy Cutts**

27 May 2025

After reviewing the draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget for the City of Adelaide and AEDA, I'm concerned that the proposed funding for AEDA may not be adequate to support the delivery of its 5-Year Strategic Plan.

With the reopening of Burnside Village on the horizon, it's especially troubling to see no dedicated funding for key events like Adelaide Fashion Week, which play a vital role in driving foot traffic and engagement in Rundle Mall.

## Written Submission 87

**Danièle Forte-Binggeli**

27 May 2025

After reviewing the draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget currently open for consultation, I'd like to share a concern regarding the funding allocated to AEDA. In my view, the proposed budget does not appear sufficient to support the delivery of its 5-Year Strategic Plan.

With the reopening of Burnside Village on the horizon, I'm particularly concerned about the absence of dedicated funding for key events such as Adelaide Fashion Week—an initiative that plays a vital role in driving foot traffic and vibrancy in Rundle Mall.

## Written Submission 88

**Jenny Dunn**

27 May 2025

Having reviewed the City of Adelaide/AEDA draft 2025/26 BP&B currently out for consultation, I feel the budget allocation for AEDA is not sufficient for it to execute against it's 5 Year Strategic Plan. Given the Burnside Village reopening, of particular concern is the lack of budget allocation for critical events like Adelaide Fashion Week which drives activity in Rundle Mall.

## Written Submission 89

**Nicholas Grieve**

27 May 2025

After reviewing the draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget from the City of Adelaide and AEDA, I'm concerned that the proposed funding for AEDA appears inadequate to support delivery of its 5-Year Strategic Plan. It's especially troubling to see no dedicated budget for key events like Adelaide Fashion Week, which are vital for driving foot traffic and engagement in Rundle Mall.

**Written Submission 90**

**Wayne Chao**

President, Chinatown Association of South Australia Inc

27 May 2025

On behalf of Chinatown Adelaide of South Australia Inc. (CASA), I would like to express our sincere appreciation for the ongoing support Adelaide City Council has provided to CASA over the years—particularly through the Community Impact Grant scheme. This support has been vital in helping us deliver one of South Australia’s most iconic cultural celebrations: the Lunar New Year Street Party in Chinatown.

For over two decades, this annual event—held across Gouger Street and Moonta Street—has brought together tens of thousands of South Australians to celebrate cultural diversity, foster community connection, and boost economic activity in the heart of Adelaide. The event has grown to become one of the largest Lunar New Year festivities in the state, with strong participation from multicultural groups, local artists, small businesses, and community volunteers.

The City of Adelaide’s backing has enabled CASA to showcase the vibrancy of Chinatown while offering a safe, inclusive, and high-quality event that is free for the public to attend. In the 2023–24 and 2024–25 periods, CASA was honoured to be a recipient of the Council’s multi-year grants, which provided us with the stability to plan ahead and strengthen our engagement with the community.

As we prepare for the 2025–26 and 2026–27 events, we kindly urge the Council to continue its support of the Lunar New Year Street Party by allocating funding to CASA in the upcoming 2025–26 budget. Given the increasing costs associated with event delivery—such as infrastructure, safety measures, entertainment, and logistics—we will be applying for a higher level of funding through the next round of multi-year grants. This will allow CASA to maintain the scale, safety, and cultural richness that the public has come to expect.

We respectfully ask that Adelaide City Council take this into account as part of the 2025–26 Community Consultation and budget planning process. Continued investment in this event is not just support for CASA—it is a commitment to community celebration, cultural inclusivity, local business activation, and tourism promotion.

Thank you once again for your ongoing collaboration and support.

**Written Submission 91**

**Elbert Brooks**

The North Adelaide Society

27 May 2025

**SUBMISSION OF** THE NORTH ADELAIDE SOCIETY Inc.

email: northadelaidesociety@gmail.com

27 May 2025

| | |
|---|---|
| **Hon. Lord Mayor, Adelaide City Council** | By email only: |
| **Chief Executive, City of Adelaide** | BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au |

## DRAFT 2025/26 BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET – CONSULTATION

The North Adelaide Society (**TNAS**) has a diverse membership (>200) and a long history of advocacy and support for heritage, planning, and civic responsible governance that enables substantive community participation and consultation, and issue-focussed discussion by decision-makers.

The City of Adelaide (**CoA**; **Council**) has diverse precincts, neighbourhoods and communities (economic, business, cultural, societal, residential), visitors, and environs. Its budget management should reflect the contemporary and foreseeable needs of that diversity. Importantly, it needs to respect, protect and conserve the heritage, culture, environs and humanity of a walkable humanistic City of Adelaide within iconic, but regrettably shrinking, verdant publicly accessible Park Lands.

1. The framework for **consultation** included on the CoA webpage is noted.[1]

2. There is a lack of clarity and definition in the language of the draft, which omits a lexicon or **glossary of terminology**. That undermines interpretation and commonality of understanding.

   For example, the use of "city" within the context of the CoA is both vague and ambiguous. The *City* of Adelaide as a local government entity embodies a greater diversity of contexts than generally applies to other local government entities which likewise are a City of [name]. The CoA has governance responsibility for the macro functional elements of a capital city of a state, as well as the diverse micro functional elements at a local (precinct/neighbourhood) level. The latter is too often set aside, diminished or consumed by grandeur notions for the former. Similarly, the Central Business District is not the 'City Square Mile' bounded by the Terraces.

   City, CoA, CBD, Square Mile are expressions about which there ought to be clarity of meaning and intent, and consistency of use to ensure certainty and understanding in their application and interpretation.

[1] https://ouradelaide.sa.gov.au/draft-202526-business-plan-and-budget

The "City Plan – Adelaide 2036" seeks to spatially identify what it perceives as the "CBD". Its Glossary (p. 224) includes: "*The Central Business District (CBD) in the context of the City of Adelaide is generally the area between North Terrace and Angas Street/Gouger Street and between East and West Terraces that includes the core commercial, retail, institutional and cultural functions of the city*." [2]

The subject of current public discussion exemplifies a consequence of definitional failure and misapprehension. It is incredulous and a gross planning perversity that a 38 storey office block rising 160m is proposed not in the "CBD", but rather in the "Adelaide Cultural Precinct" (cf. "Our Adelaide Our Future City Plan – Adelaide 2036") to the north of North Terrace, positioned to dominate and loom over National Heritage Places and be at odds with the National Heritage Listed Adelaide City Layout; a disgraceful travesty if it eventuates, and a travesty not contemplated in "Our Adelaide Our Future City Plan – Adelaide 2036".

3. The draft budget should be clear about its intent vis a vis budget and expenditure priorities in relation to contemporary and foreseeable needs related to the CBD (business, retail, commerce), culture/cultural/visitor experience, residential amenity and liveability, and societal/social and environmental contexts, essential hard and saft infrastructure (contemporary and anticipated) as well as internal corporate expenditures and productivity improvements.

4. Notions of 'bold' and 'aspirational' within utterances of public governance can generally be associated with receipt and expenditure of other people's monies, incomplete accountability, and are reminiscent of misplaced **governmental puffery** and descriptors such as 'transformative health' and 'protect the parklands'.

5. The draft budget does **not identify** the 2024-25 budget priorities and outcomes from expenditures and anticipated or unforeseen risks; nor the extent to which the draft 2025-26 budget will continue, alter or desist from prior priorities.

6. Improvements have been made to the **content and presentation** of the draft Budget; that is commendable. Further improvement in the format, content and nature of detail that is included in state or federal budgets would facilitate clarity, albeit that the budget of a capital city local governance body will be less complex. Adoption or increased similarity in format would be instructive of the prior year's expenditure, targets and outcomes; whether the matter or purpose is to be further resourced; the resources to be allocated; and the forward estimated costs.

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[2] That is more expansive than the current precincts in the Planning and Design Code, which is understandable given the intent of the "City Plan – Adelaide 2036". It is noteworthy that in that future vision there is no contemplation by the CoA of a 38 storey (160m) office building being proposed to be ungraciously 'politically plonked' into the "Adeliade Cultural Precinct".

## Annual Priorities

7. The "10 Key Actions" identified as "**Annual Priorities**" are:
   - *Supporting increased residential growth and housing affordability.*
   - *Celebrating and elevating our community culture and multicultural communities by creating welcoming programs and services.*
   - *Making electric vehicle charging available for all users to improve Council and community performance on transport emissions.*
   - *Creating innovative ways to create or convert underutilised areas to green space.*
   - *Reinforcing the position of Adelaide as the State's central business district and amplifying Adelaide's reputation as a place to learn, work and start a business.*
   - *Providing services and information that contribute towards a high productivity economy.*
   - *Increasing active and diverse transport measures to ensure all City users can safely and easily move within the city.*
   - *Encouraging repurposing and adaptive reuse of buildings and facilities.*
   - *Creating, maintaining and integrating plans and policies that reflect and guide decision making to support our city and community to thrive*
   - *Attracting and retaining people with skills and behaviours which align with our organisational objectives and values.*

7.1 These are expressed in the language of **objectives rather than actions**. Many may be capable of support in the abstract or simply state the obvious. However, what *action* will deliver those objectives is not indicated. Nor is there information about the staffing and expenditure resources allocated to their delivery, the expected outcomes, or whether the "action" was previously resourced and what was the outcome.

For example, the 2024-25 plan included:
- *Support increased residential growth and housing affordability through partnerships and advocacy.*
- *Reduce rental pressures by increasing housing supply and unlocking properties for long-term tenants.*
- *Support belonging through an inclusive and welcoming community that recognises diversity and enables people of all abilities living, working and visiting the city.*

There is no detail of funding provided and expended in 2024-25, if any, nor what outcomes resulted. There is nothing indicated; transparency is absent.

## Strategic Projects

8. *"The Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget includes $7.146m of **Strategic Projects**."* They are described at "*pages 25-56 of the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget*." That is, some 26 pages (of 127) are allocated to describing $7.146m expenditure (of $286.754m).

8.1 However, those pages address the organisational structure and expenditure (2024-25 & 2025-26). For some areas, some "strategic projects" and "capital project" expenditure is referred to but without any indicated purpose or detail.

8.2 Absent useful information about the proposed "strategic projects", it is not possible to make any sensible comment, save to note the absence of substantive information.

8.3 City and urban planning is a key strategic capability and function of the CoA and the Council. Together with the Planning and Design Code, they are matters of considerable community importance. The Code affects liveability; epitomises the uncertainty and vagaries of 'performance-based planning and assessment'; and imperils heritage, character, neighbourhoods and localities (incl. main streets). In that regard, it is not clear whether or what funding is allocated to currently contemplated CoA **code amendment processes** and future such matters that will invariably arise concerning planning and assessment within the CoA.

**New & Upgrade Capital Projects**

9. "*The Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget includes $39.179m of **New and Upgrade Capital Projects** … on pages 58 – 60 of the Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget*." They are described as "new and upgrade" $39.179m or "renewal" $67.937m.

9.1 Obviously, infrastructure improvement and maintenance is critically important. What, why, when, how and with what priority are more vexed questions.

9.2 Recent experience of, and unnecessary and excessive expenditure on, Wellington Square absent prior consultation and in a manner inconsistent with Council policy (i.e. reducing black heat sink footpaths) does not instil confidence in administrative audit or assessment of need, comparative priorities, or for the effective allocation and expenditure of resources. The footpaths were in good order and replaced with black heat-sink bitumen without any camber to avoid water pooling. There was no effort to include anything of artistic, heritage, or playfulness interest to walkers or users of the Square. The park lands distinctive lighting in apparent good working order was replaced with light structures used in city streets despite being informed that there would be no change. At least the footpath layout was unaltered. It is difficult to reconcile that infrastructure work being of greater priority than leveling and lighting many footpaths in need of care and attention.

9.3 Recent experience of the Charles Street capital investment is also instructive. It ought to be the subject of a 6 & 12 month 'post-completion debrief/critique' or an 'implementation assessment of what the experience taught us' (what is undermining the capital investment?).

That is self-evident from these photos: lighting is harsh; paver staining from detritus; paver staining from pot watering/drainage; and an ‘unloved’ fire hydrant.

There is a lost opportunity: there is no artistic, creative or informational elements for walking interest (curvature in drain covers adds interest).

9.4 There are extensive amounts allocated to “main street revitalisation”.

a) Leaving aside the pejorative inference in the use of ‘revitalisation’, the extent of expenditure is not supported other than for *necessary* expenditure on the walkability and amenity of footpaths, lighting, street crossing, and creating interest within the context of the character and heritage of the locality. However, such capital investment ought to focus on the intended human experience of the investment outcome and avoid the cost of lost opportunities for effective local contextual enhancement of the public realm.[3]

b) That part of each main street that is used by vehicular traffic is in good order and does not require revision or renewal. The road surfaces do not require “revitalisation”.

c) There are existing safe and convenient opportunities for “active transport” in adjacent streets and paths established throughout the Park Lands.

d) In addition, rather than expend any monies on alterations to the roadway or parking, such funds would be better redirected into the **heritage incentive fund** to make available to main street building owners funding to maintain the character of building frontages or to encourage frontages becoming listed. That would significantly add value to the built form distinctive character of the main streets within the residential localities: O’Connell and Melbourne Steets and Hutt Street.

e) The option of adopting suburban 40kph speed limits presently applicable to other suburban roads would remain available in conjunction with the use of scatter or pedestrian priority crossings, additional greening, enabling reinstatement of awnings and verandas, and extending pedestrian priority footpaths across minor streets that are perpendicular with the main street.

[3] TNAS made a detailed submission about the “O’Connell Street Revitalisation Paver Trial” largely to the effect that the proposed two options provided is not only an example of ‘push-polling’ but would represent a gross (lost) opportunity and an avoidable capital expense if either were to be adopted.

f) Improving comfortable and conducive walkability, local interest footpath experience, built form interest and usage, introduction of artistic/creative/informational elements, and conducive lighting within the context of the character of the locality of the main street will be more productive than altering the existing roadway for vehicular traffic.

g) Improving objective post-implementation assessment would provide a knowledge and experience base for improving conducive capital investment outcomes that are both cost and public realm effective.

9.5 TNAS has previously indicated its views about various main street proposals and the proposed Light Square redesign options. The option for a gross alteration to Light Square roadway contemplates a grossly exorbitant cost for at best marginal (if any) benefit, when there are more effective less expensive immediate options for early improvement.

9.6 If there is to be the extent of tree planting and greening commensurate with the proposed expenditure, that would be supported subject to location and assessment of comparative priorities, ensuring necessary regular watering to improve early years growth, and avoiding the use of contradictory plastic structures (e.g. Halifax/Hutt cnr).

9.7 For a capital city once known for its support of the arts and creativity, it is not clear that the previous approach of a set percentage of the cost of capital works being allocated to **public art and artistic creativity** is included in the draft budget; its absence would be regressive, its inclusion useful.

9.8 Capital project funding for structures for community sports facilities on Park Lands has presumably been the subject of political processes. TNAS urges design and siting to avoid above ground impacts.

9.9 The CoA ought to **address its structures** on Park Lands and ensure minimal (or no) impact.

## Rates

9.10 Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget includes "*a 5.6% **rate revenue** increase*" and "*introduction of a **minimum rate** of $600 per year*".

9.11 The extent of rate revenue required is a function of the proposed expenditure and other revenue sources.

9.12 It is not apparent from the consultation material whether or what applicable multipliers were applied vis a vis construction, employment and materials.

9.13 There appears to be a considerable proposed expenditure on infrastructure works, consultants, and preliminary design and consultation processes in circumstances where the purpose, extent, or outcome of the proposed works is questionable, unwarranted, unsubstantiated, or of doubtful priority.

9.14 The introduction of a minimum rate seems appropriate having regard to its quantum and that the CoA services and facilities are available to the owner of a rateable property irrespective of its size, nature or use.

9.15 It is noted that a financial hardship process is available to a CoA ratepayer.

9.16 The nature and extent of government and education entities have changed considerably since they were specified as non-rateable.

a) The business of government and especially tertiary education has become BIG business; they are BIG users and landowners/leaseholders within the CoA and ought to be within the ratepayer base.

b) State and federal government agencies conducting the business of governance or engaged in fee for service activity within the CoA; educational and tertiary institutions operating their businesses within the CoA; and leaseholders, businesses premises, and fee for entry activities on the Adelaide Park Lands **ought to become rateable or liable to contribute to the cost of city governance (services and infrastructure) based on rateable equivalence** i.e., as if they were rateable.

c) Such equitable reform could be transitioned into effect over a reasonable period.

*Thank you* for the opportunity to comment.[4] Please note that the absence of comment about an aspect of the draft business plan and budget is not to be understood as acceptance or condonation of a matter.

TNAS appreciates opportunities to engage with elected members and staff of the CoA in relation to the many matters of community interest that will be impacted by the draft 2025-26 Business Plan and Budget.

*The North Adelaide Society Inc. (est. 1970)*

per: Elbert Brooks BA LLB GDLP MBA (for the TNAS Committee)

Respecting heritage values and strengthening protection in practice,
creates enduring foundations and capital investment in the future.

[4] Note 1: A matter not addressed by this submission is not to be taken as condoned.
Note 2: The views and information herein are expressed for the purpose of engaging in (a) public, parliamentary, legislative, governance, or public administration consultative processes and political discourse and communication; and (b) public discussion about matter/s of public interest, public and political representative governance, public administration, urban planning and land use, environs and environment, or civic governance, policy and implementation. The content of this submission is not intended to reflect adversely in any manner whatsoever on any person or entity concerned in any way whatsoever with the preparation, design, intent, purpose, content, or presentation of any aspect of the matter/s the subject of this submission.
Note 3: The content of this submission was prepared without the use of 'AI' generated content.

**Written Submission 92**

**Taren Hocking**

President, Adelaide West End Association

27 May 2025
We had hoped to prepare a more detailed feedback submission on behalf of our stakeholders and members of the Adelaide West End Association.

It took as some time to clarify some of our key questions in relation to the draft business plan and 25/26 Budget. We are grateful for the team's support in answering what they could and are updating our submission as follows.

Our submission questions / concerns:

- We belive our "Precinct Funding is listed under AEDA pg 55/56 - Main Street Dev Grants / Precinct Activation

The Committee have raised serious concerns around the lack of communication and transparency in relation to the AEDA CofA Precinct Group Review - we are still waiting feedback after previous cancelled meetings with ADEA and understand the recommendations are still sitting with with new CofA CEO. There is no clarity in the budget around proposed funding and how this will be applied. We believe it's of vital importance that the budget draft is not finalised before clarification around this is given so that all Precinct Groups are also able to prepare accordingly ahead of the new financial year.

- Please assist us to locate where the lines for upgrade works are for Hindley St ? and if there is any factor of funds to progress next steps for Light Square ie all the traffic analysis etc just so we understand.

Again we have been awaiting clarification from CofA regarding this vital upgrade, if the State Government will be providing additional funding to enhance the orginal designs and proposal or not. As per our last meeting with key parties including the Lord Mayor we were assured at minimum the orginal design would proceed and works would commence by the end of this calendar year, we belive it is also vital there is clarity in this budget around the previous allocation of funds for these works. We understand from the team that the small allocation for this year is for construction - it would be extremely helpful to have some more definitive time lines to give all the stakeholders a sense of the plan and ultimately some reassurance that things are moving forward with positive momentum.

We were also given indications that Light Square concept designs would be progressed to next steps we understand that now that the next steps are covered in the 24/25 budget, given there is no allocation for this next budget, we would deeply appreciate an indication of the next steps and how we can best support this incredible opportunity for Adelaide and the West End.

- Finally re the City Activation budget lines (page 28) Why are there such significant differences between the key precincts? What are these differing amounts covering ?

We understand now this is based on historical spends, however It's really important to us in the West End that that city activation is shared fairly across the city, esp given the size of the precinct and our potential for growth from the right investment. We believe there needs to be transparent and equitable allocation of activation budgets based on a clear set of factors from, visitation, economic and community impact.

We would be extremely grateful to receive any feedback from staff or Councillors relating to these concerns and welcome any opportunity to discuss further should that be of assistance.

## Written Submission 93

**Anonymous**

On behalf of a city-based consultancy business

27 May 2025

I am emailing you as the Managing Director of a business based in the City of Adelaide, and a business invested in the success of the city's economy and prosperity.

I note that the Council's 2025-26 Business Plan contains ten priorities, two of which are:

- Reinforcing the position of Adelaide as the State's central business district and amplifying Adelaide's reputation as a place to learn, work and start a business.

- Providing services and information that contribute towards a high productivity economy

Council endorsed its Economic Development Strategy in the past year. That strategy contains several ambitious aspirations. AEDA was allocated a good portion of the responsibilities to deliver that strategy, but this appears not to be reflected in this budget.

As a result, initiatives to grow businesses, build off the City's innovation hubs and progress the green economy (particularly should Adelaide be successful in the bid to hold COP here) risk not being achieved.

Unfortunately, the level of funding allocated to AEDA to take a lead role in progressing these important priorities appears insufficient. I request Council rebalance its budget so that these priorities can be delivered effectively.

Thank you for consideration of this submission.

**Written Submission 94**

**Foti Likouras and Tom McLean**

Penny University and Jack and Jills

27 May 2025

27 May 2025

The Lord Mayor and Councilors
City of Adelaide
25 Pirie Street
Adelaide SA 5000

Dear Lord Mayor and Councilors,

On behalf of a collective of Adelaide restaurants, bars, cafés, and hospitality venues operating in the City of Adelaide, we respectfully submit our feedback regarding the Draft Business Plan and Budget 2025/26, with a particular focus on the proposed Fees and Charges Schedule concerning Outdoor Dining and Parklet Fees, see attached.

Our submission highlights concern around the current fee structures fairness and its unintended impacts on smaller businesses. We acknowledge the Council's positive step in removing the parking revenue loss component from parklet fees, but we believe more can be done to support a vibrant, equitable, and economically resilient hospitality sector in our city.

The attached document outlines our concerns in greater detail, offers comparative policy examples from other cities such as Sydney, and puts forward a call for further reform to support outdoor dining and activation of the public realm.

We welcome the opportunity to speak further to this submission and would be pleased to participate in any further consultations or meetings as required.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Foti Likouras pennyuniversitysa@gmail.com

Tom McLean tom@jackandjills.com.au

Representing Restaurants, Cafes and Bars – City of Adelaide *(sector petition is currently in development)*

Attachment: Attachment CoA 25_26 Budget Consultation feedback re Outdoor Dining Parklet fees

## City of Adelaide Draft Budget Consultation 2025/26

## Outdoor Dining and Parklet Fees Public Comment

On behalf of numerous Adelaide restaurants, bars, cafes, and hospitality operators who have made significant investments in outdoor dining infrastructure, including parklets, we submit the following comment regarding the Fees and Charges Schedule, specifically those related to Outdoor Dining and Parklet fees.

**1. Fee for Loss of Parking Revenue: A Partial Solution**

Council's decision to remove the loss of car parking revenue charge component from parklet fees (based on the motion moved in late 2024) is acknowledged and appreciated. But not at the expense of other parklet owners.

We believe this reform does not go far enough. The broader structure of outdoor dining fees remains burdensome and inconsistent. Businesses that invest in activating public space with outdoor dining, particularly during a time when consumer habits demand more alfresco experiences, should not be penalised for contributing to city vibrancy. We acknowledge that while the proposed standard fee of $165 per square metre may be suitable for some larger venues, it represents an increased expense for many smaller cafés for example, Penny University Café. This flat-rate structure does not consider the varying capacities and margins of smaller businesses and may unintentionally create a barrier to their participation in outdoor dining initiatives.

**2. Learning from Leading Cities: The Case of the City of Sydney**

In March 2025, the City of Sydney made the progressive decision to permanently waive all outdoor dining fees, a move that was unanimously supported by its Council. The City of Sydney recognised that:

- Outdoor dining enhances street life and encourages foot traffic.
- Hospitality businesses are key partners in post-pandemic economic recovery.
- Simplifying and supporting access to outdoor space invites more people into the city and keeps them there longer.

This decision sends a clear message: that outdoor dining is not a cost to be recouped, but an investment in the vibrancy, safety, greening and economic vitality of urban spaces. Why wouldn't the City of Adelaide adopt this already proven successful structure?

**3. A Call for Reform**

We strongly urge Council to abolish all outdoor dining fees in the 2025/26 financial year and beyond, in alignment with Sydney and other forward-thinking cities. This is not about eliminating revenue, it's about choosing a strategic investment in:

- City activation and post-pandemic economic recovery.
- Public realm transformation into welcoming, community-friendly spaces.
- Increased pedestrian dwell time, spending, and cultural engagement.
- Tourism appeal and competitiveness with suburban venues, beer gardens and interstate destinations.

**Conclusion**

Outdoor dining is not a luxury; it is a proven economic and social development strategy. Fees that punish businesses for contributing to Adelaide's revival, particularly when they voluntarily green and enliven underused public space, are counterproductive.

On behalf of numerous Adelaide restaurants, bars, cafes, and hospitality operators who have made significant investments in outdoor dining infrastructure, including parklets, we submit the above comments regarding the Fees and Charges Schedule, specifically those related to Outdoor Dining and Parklet fees.

**Written Submission 95**

**Michelle Harris**

27 May 2025

I strongly object to the proposed huge rate policy change , increasing from the current  $320 to $600

For my car park.

Making it near unaffordable for me.

**Written Submission 96**

**Karishma Reynolds**

Adelaide Festival Corporation

27 May 2025

ADELAIDE FESTIVAL AF

Community Consultation Team
City of Adelaide
BusinessPlan@cityofadelaide.com.au

27 May 2025

Dear City of Adelaide Consultation Team,

We would like to express our appreciation to the City of Adelaide for its annual support through the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA), and to request consideration of an increase in AEDA's *'Event and Festival Sponsorship'* funding. This support has been instrumental in cementing Adelaide Festival's reputation as Australia's premier arts festival and a major driver of economic and cultural activity for the city.

The Adelaide Festival plays a critical role in the vibrancy and prosperity of Adelaide's economy and cultural identity. In 2024:

- The Festival generated $76.8 million in gross expenditure
- It attracted over 555,000 attendances across free and ticketed events
- More than 1,500 artists were engaged across a diverse program of local and international work; and
- Approximately 30% of attendees came from interstate or overseas, contributing significantly to tourism, hospitality, and accommodation sectors.

These figures reflect the Festival's capacity to deliver not only artistic excellence but also tangible returns for the City of Adelaide and its businesses. Despite the growing impact of events like the Adelaide Festival, AEDA's *'Event and Festival Sponsorship'* funding has remained under $2 million for several years ($1.93 in 24/25 and increasing to $1.99m in 25/26), while:

- Festival delivery costs have increased substantially due to inflation and logistical pressures
- Expectations for accessibility, sustainability, and safety have grown
- Opportunities to strengthen the city's economic resilience through culture are being constrained by static resourcing

An increase in AEDA's budget would enhance its capacity to support not just the Adelaide Festival, but a broader ecosystem of events, precincts, businesses, and tourism. This uplift would strengthen the City of Adelaide's position as a vibrant, year-round cultural destination, driving increased foot traffic, overnight stays, and spending across hospitality, retail, and accommodation sectors. A stronger AEDA would also enable more strategic investment in precinct activation, international promotion, and business growth—benefiting residents, workers, and visitors alike while reinforcing the city's global reputation as a premier place to live, work, invest, and visit.

**Alignment with the City of Adelaide's 2025–2026 Business Plan and Budget**

The City of Adelaide's Draft 2025–2026 Business Plan and Budget outlines strategic goals that align closely with the work of the Adelaide Festival and AEDA, including:

- "Celebrating and elevating our community" by investing in public events and experiences that engage residents and visitors.
- "Creating a vibrant city" through activation, collaboration, and support for the arts and culture sector.
- "Building a responsive economy" by supporting business growth, tourism, and employment.

The Adelaide Festival and AEDA are critical enablers of these goals. Increasing AEDA's funding is a direct investment in the city's identity, economy, and future. Adelaide Festival urges the City of Adelaide to consider increasing AEDA's funding in the 2025–2026 budget cycle. As costs rise and opportunities grow, additional investment will ensure that AEDA can continue to support Adelaide's cultural leadership, economic resilience, and community wellbeing.

We recognise the need for prudent financial management and propose several revenue-neutral or value-adding options the City could consider rather than an increase in its rates.

- Review existing program budgets to identify underspent items that could be reallocated to support AEDA's high-impact work in economic development through the arts.
- Utilise underused Council-owned properties or spaces (e.g. for pop-up venues or co-investment opportunities with festivals and businesses), generating activation and potential income that could be reinvested.
- Advocate for co-funding arrangements where City investment into AEDA can be matched by state or federal economic development grants, particularly through arts, tourism, or major event programs.
- Where direct funding is constrained, Council could offer secondments, staff support, or marketing amplification as a form of indirect investment into AEDA's cultural and tourism-aligned program.

We sincerely appreciate the City and AEDA's past and ongoing support and look forward to continuing our partnership in positioning Adelaide as a truly world-class cultural capital.

Best regards

Reynolds

Karishma Reynolds
Acting Chief Executive
Adelaide Festival

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**Written Submission 97**

**Nicolette Di Lernia**

Australian Institute of Architects

27 May 2025

Australian Institute of Architects

ABN 72 000 023 012
The Royal Australian Institute of Architects
trading as Australian Institute of Architects

SA Chapter
L2/ 15 Leigh Street
Adelaide, SA, 5000

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architecture.com.au

27 May 2025

**Response to the City of Adelaide Draft 2025/26 Business Plan and Budget**

The Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute) represents over 1000 members in South Australia. The architectural profession contributes significantly to the liveability, amenity and identity of the City of Adelaide. In addition, the Institute regularly engages with the City of Adelaide in relation to strategic projects, consultation on built environment issues and policies and through participation in workshops and other activities.

The City of Adelaide Prize is one example of the collaborative working relationship between the Council and the Institute. Established in 2009, the City of Adelaide Prize celebrates projects that add to the quality of the City's built urban environment. Projects can be submitted by architects as well as other creative disciplines, including landscape architects, engineers and artists.

Over the past 16 years, entries have included artworks, urban design and streetscape projects, civic, commercial, hospitality and cultural buildings as well as playgrounds, active recreation facilities and exhibitions. The entries highlight the diversity of projects – public and private - delivered in the City and the wealth of creative talent that exists in Adelaide.

The Prize demonstrates the many and varied facets that make our city one of the most liveable in the world. It showcases projects that promote active lifestyles, support cultural engagement, attract tourists and engage the local community, enhance vibrancy, improve sustainability and make the City a better place to live and work. All of these qualities are supportive of the Council's Strategic Plan.

It is therefore with considerable disappointment that the Institute notes that there is no budget allowed for the City of Adelaide Prize in the 2025/2026 budget. The Institute asks that the following is considered:

1. The City of Adelaide Prize received a very modest $30,000 budget allowance in 2024/2025. Of this, $26,500 was provided to the Institute to manage and administer the Prize. The Institute provides services including hosting entries on the Institute's awards platform, managing the jury process, delivery of the People's Choice Prize, media relating to the Prize, and award of the Prize at the SA Awards Presentation Event. The remainder of the budget is allocated to Council support for promotion, marketing and oversight of the Institute's delivery.
2. The funding provided to the Institute has remained unchanged for the past 10 years. This Institute has maintained the quality of delivery throughout this time and has worked with the Council to review and update the Prize criteria to reflect changing strategic priorities.
3. The Prize provides an opportunity for the City of Adelaide to engage with the design community that delivers significant projects that contribute to the overall amenity of the

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City. A council representative participates as a member of the jury for the Prize. 5 Council representatives also receive complem ntary tickets to the Awards Presentation Event.

4. The Prize provides the City of Adelaide with information and images highlighting the range and quality of projects occurring within the City. This provides the City of Adelaide with an overview of the key projects delivered in the preceding 2 years and the benefits that they have provided to the local community, the broader Adelaide population and visitors.

The Institute sincerely hopes that the decision to defund the City of Adelaide Prize is reversed and that the Prize continues into the future. We are open to reviewing the Prize criteria on a regular basis to ensure that the Prize aligns with key strategic objectives identified by the City of Adelaide and look forward to continuing what we believe is a productive and mutually beneficial program.

Further information about the City of Adelaide Prize and a gallery of the wining projects is available on the Institute's website -https://www.architecture.com.au/sa-chapter/city-of-adelaide-prize.

Sincerely,

Nicolette Di Lernia
Executive Director SA
Australian Institute of Architects

Adelaide City Skate Park – Winner 2023

Adelaide Railway Station Entry – winner 2022

**Written Submission 98**

**Julie Ann Estoria**

28 May 2025 – Late submisssion

I'm not sure if this is the right forum for providing feedback, and I may not be able to attend the upcoming sessions or meetings. That said, I would appreciate it if you could please direct this message to the appropriate team or decision-making body.

I have two key concerns regarding the current draft business plan and proposed budget:

1. Lack of tangible benefits for families residing in the city

While the plan references general park improvements, it lacks specifics—particularly around playground upgrades. As a parent, I find it disappointing that key play areas like the South Terrace Glover Playground and Princess Elizabeth Playspace remain underwhelming, outdated, and frankly, a poor use of valuable space. These areas are in serious need of thoughtful redesign and meaningful investment to meet the needs of young families in the city. The current state of these playgrounds does not reflect a city committed to supporting family life.

For single and professional residents, the inclusion of more outdoor fitness facilities would also be a welcome and forward-thinking improvement, aligning with modern park standards and encouraging healthy, active lifestyles.

2. Addressing affordability and support for city residents

It would be valuable to see how the business plan addresses the broader issue of urban affordability. Clear strategies or initiatives that support residents—whether through housing, cost-of-living measures, or local services—would make the plan feel more balanced and responsive to those who live and work here every day.

I hope this feedback is taken into consideration and reaches the right channels.

**Written Submission 99**

**Steven Pitt**

29 May 2025 – Late submisssion

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Stevie Pitt, and I am a speech pathologist working for the Central Adelaide Local Health Network. I'm also a volunteer with Lifeline Adelaide and a proud city resident on Halifax Street with a deep investment in the social, cultural and environmental wellbeing of our community.

Firstly, thank you for producing such a clear and forward-looking draft of the 2025–26 Business Plan and Budget. Due to recent travel, I unfortunately missed the formal consultation window, but I'm grateful for the opportunity to still share a few reflections as a passionate and community-minded resident.

I commend the City's commitment to revitalising infrastructure, supporting community inclusion, and prioritising climate resilience. In the spirit of that commitment, I'd like to gently offer a few ideas that I hope may contribute to the ongoing development of a city that truly works for everyone, all the time.

1. Greener Cities and More Pakapakanthi-Style Spaces

I want to acknowledge how much I value the Pakapakanthi Wetlands. I often walk there and regularly hear enthusiastic feedback from friends, colleagues and visitors. It's a shining example of accessible, ecologically vibrant design that benefits both mental wellbeing and biodiversity. I wonder if Council might consider opportunities to develop similar tranquil, green spaces in other parts of the city, particularly where people may have fewer opportunities to connect with nature.

2. More Responsive and Inclusive Public Transport

Public transport remains a key pillar of urban equity. During recent festival periods, I heard repeated feedback from interstate visitors about long tram wait times, even during high-demand hours. Many expressed surprise that frequency wasn't adjusted to match peak periods. Could the Council explore stronger partnerships with transit providers to advocate for dynamic, real-time scheduling during events, ensuring public transport truly enables our city's vibrancy and accessibility?

3. Community Gardens and Connection

Community gardens are more than green spaces—they are neighbourhood anchors. Particularly when co-designed with local residents and First Nations input, they support food security, mental health, and shared pride. I'd love to see these projects supported more widely, including in areas with dense residential populations or limited green access.

4. Dignity and Safety for People in Crisis: A Social ED Concept

As someone who works alongside people experiencing homelessness, mental health crises, and life disruption, I deeply support the City's ongoing work through its Homelessness Strategy and Housing initiatives. In addition to housing-focused responses, I'd also like to share a future-focused idea I've heard echoed in community discussions:

What if our city had a Social Emergency Department (Social ED)?

Just as a hospital ED responds to health emergencies, a Social ED could be a dedicated, welcoming space for people in non-medical crises—whether facing domestic violence, housing precarity, family breakdown, or mental distress. Staffed by social workers, peer support and community connectors, it could offer early stabilisation and link people into appropriate services.

I completely acknowledge that this concept may be bold or beyond the immediate scope of Council alone—it would likely require strong collaboration with state and federal partners. That said, I believe initiatives like this can reflect our city's aspiration to be humane, preventative, and inclusive by design, recognising that anyone may face hardship at some point in their lives.

I understand the challenges of balancing ambition with sustainability, and I truly respect the careful, values-driven planning evident in this draft. Thank you again for your work, and for considering these reflections as part of our city's shared future.

## Verbal Submission 1

**Michael Hellwig**

29 May 2025 (verbal submisssion forwarded)

My idea is to build small dwellings on vacant, disused land in the city for people experiencing homelessness to access for $10-$20 per night. These 'huts' would provide access to a toilet, locker and power points. A local church group could help build the dwellings.