

At any one time the Belmont Council is working on a range of projects designed to improve the health & well-being of its residents. Part of this process involves community consultation. It needs an informed and responsive citizenry to do this effectively. Part of our role is to monitor this process and provide feedback.

Have a say in your future.

The City of Belmont is reviewing its **Local Planning Strategy and Local Planning Scheme**. “The Local Planning Strategy sets out the long term planning directions, whilst the Local Planning Scheme controls land use and development, in accordance with the Local Planning Strategy.”

Residents and landowners are invited to participate in community workshops which will provide guidance and help shape the outcome of the review process. Of particular interest will be the **Local Planning Scheme which controls land use and development**.

It is a chance to raise your concerns about inappropriate development especially regarding insufficient parking; overshadowing; scale/ bulk of design; and sustainability.

This will be an opportunity to advocate for the inclusion of a policy that requires the protection of significant trees on private property; the provision of planting zones in development applications; and mandatory street tree planting.

Currently the City of Belmont’s Urban Forest Policy & Strategy do not provide for any of these measures!

As was mentioned in our last newsletter the State Government’s **Design WA** initiative was due to release its **Stage 1** Planning Policy for **Apartments** (multiple dwellings) at the end of this month.

Stages 2 & 3 are future stages and are being formulated now.

These future stages relate to **Precinct planning, Stage 2** (consisting of a Neighbourhood Design policy) which is due to be released in a couple of months; and **Medium density development** (the so called missing middle), **Stage 3**, (i.e. small scale developments, villa units, battleaxe subdivisions, small blocks of flats, etc.) due to be released toward the end of the year. **Both too late for the council’s upcoming workshops, unfortunately.** <https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/state-planning-framework/design-wa/future-stages-of-design-wa>

Register your interest now.

The five precinct specific workshops will be held on the dates and times listed below. To register complete form on link below. <https://connect.belmont.wa.gov.au/local-planning-scheme-review>

Suburb	Date	Time	RSVP by
Ascot	20 June ‘19	6-8pm	7 June ‘19
Kewdale	26 June ‘19	6-8pm	13 June ‘19
Rivervale	27 June ‘19	6-8pm	13 June ‘19
Cloverdale	3 July ‘19	6-8pm	20 June ‘19
Belmont/Redcliffe	4 July ‘19	6-8pm	20 June ‘19

For further information please contact Acting Senior Planning Officer Chantelle Gilbert on 9477 7446 or by email schemereview@belmont.wa.gov.au(External link).

Transparency

As part of our democratic process councils provide the public with the opportunity to ask questions (in person or by email) at ordinary council & annual elector meetings; and make depositions & submissions at agenda briefing forums.

The minutes of various meetings are available for viewing on the council’s website within a week. These provide a valuable insight into how your council and your elected councillors are representing your voices on the current issues, development proposals and future strategies.

BRRAG’s chairperson attends these meetings and asks relevant questions on behalf of residents. Responses to these questions are contained in council minutes. Letters are also sent to council seeking advice and explanation of decisions. These can be viewed on the BRRAG website <http://www.brrag.org.au/ourletters.html>

Recommended reading:

URBAN DESIGN THINKING, K. Dovey, 2016. Bloomsbury Academic

Your feedback. If you would like to submit an article that is relevant to the residents of Belmont, or you would like to join our group, refer contact details below.