

Thursday 14 October 2021

Have your say on Council's proposed Smoke-Free Zones Local Law

Council is commencing consultation on the proposed Smoke-Free Zones Local Law and invites the community to provide input and feedback.

The proposed Local Law will allow Council to prescribe and declare areas within the municipality to be smoke-free.

Smoke-free zones aim to protect the community from the known health impacts of second-hand smoke; raise community awareness of the health benefits of being smoke-free; improve public amenity; encourage a reduction in smoking and reduce tobacco-related litter.

In determining whether an area is to be smoke-free, Council must consider matters such as the size of the proposed smoke-free zone; its proximity to a public place, part or all of which is not in the zone; the opinions of owners and occupiers of properties within or adjoining the zone; the extent and outcome of any community consultation and any evidence of benefits or detriments to the community arising from prescribing the zone.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Margaret Esakoff encouraged the community to have their say on this important consultation.

"Making a local law is a really important part of the work that Council does for the benefit of our community and visitors to Glen Eira," she said.

"Council wants to ensure that our busy Activity Centres provide an environment that is family-friendly and attractive to a broad cross-section of the community. In the wake of COVID, ensuring our Activity Centres are vibrant and a destination for a great shopping experience has never been more important for our traders and our community."

Cr Esakoff said people should be able to shop, walk, browse and socialise in smoke-free public areas.

"While train stations, bus stops and outdoor dining areas where food is served are already smoke-free under Victorian legislation, our smoke-free zones will extend non-smoking requirements to public open spaces, such as footpaths and plazas," she said.

"The smoke-free zones won't include private homes or other areas allowed by State Government legislation.

"I encourage the local community to come forward with their views on how the proposed Local Law can be improved and achieve the overall outcome of improving our Activity Centres."

Community consultation is now open until 3 November 2021. To view the proposed Local Law, visit www.haveyoursaygleneira.com.au/proposed-smoke-free-local-law

For further information, contact Council's Service Centre on 9524 3333.

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