



MELBOURNE SOUTH YARRA RESIDENTS GROUP INC.

Established by the residents of South Yarra in 1969

Bulletin:

Email letters & information from City of Melbourne

1. **Email received from CoM, 1st April 2020:** Michael Butcher, MSYRG President received an email letter from the City of Melbourne that they ask him to forward to MSYRG members. It outlines the City of Melbourne's response to the COVID -19 Pandemic. Here it is as an attachment

[2020 04 Letter from CoM.docx](#).

2. **Email received from CoM, 31st March 2020:**

- a. RATE & RENT RELIEF UPDATE

CoM [Rates Financial Hardship Policy](#) to assist ratepayers experiencing difficulty paying their outstanding rates, fees and charges in our municipality. Applications are now open for eligible residential and commercial ratepayers.

- b. the Australian Government has released the official government "Coronavirus Australia" app in the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

- 3 **Email received from the CoM, 1st April 2020**

CONSTRUCTION SITE NOISE, HOURS OF WORK, HEALTH & SAFETY CONCERN:

As you may be aware, the City of Melbourne is working hard to protect residential amenity while balancing the economic and social impacts of COVID-19.

We have had a number of discussions with residents, the state government, building companies and unions in recent days concerning construction site noise, hours of work, and health and safety concerns.

Construction has been identified by the Victorian Government and the National Cabinet for COVID-19 as an essential service that will continue for the foreseeable future.

The introduction of necessary health and safety measures, such as social distancing and limiting the number of construction workers allowed on site, is having an impact on project timelines and productivity within the construction industry.

We need to strike a balance between ensuring that construction sites are safe and that work is progressing, while implementing strict conditions to limit impacts on residents.

Recognising that we are all operating in extraordinary circumstances, we are responding by temporarily adjusting the hours available for construction work on a case-by-case basis. This compromise is important and will help avoid delays and further disruption to residents.

The temporary arrangements will be reviewed on a monthly basis to ensure the needs of both the construction industry and local residents are met. Each site will be considered on a case-by-case basis following receipt of an application from a construction company. To ensure you have the correct information, I have included the new arrangements for you to share with your members and other residents.

Below is an outline of the temporary extension of hours that could be granted, subject to approval and monitoring by Council:

Weekdays: [6am to 8pm](#) (and up to [10pm](#) for internal fitout works that do not have a significant impact on residents e.g. plastering, painting)

Saturdays: [7am to 5pm](#) (and up to [10pm](#) for internal fitout works that do not have a significant impact on residents e.g. plastering, painting)

Sundays: [10am to 4pm](#) for limited works not able to occur during regular work hours e.g. crane related work

Heavy or noisy equipment will not be permitted for use during the first and last hour of permitted work.

Council officers will monitor building sites to ensure compliance with the regulations. The construction industry has been asked to ensure it is doing as much as possible to preserve amenity for residents and provide safety for workers. We reserve the right to issue fines or revoke construction permits for sites that don't follow the rules outlined in their construction permit.

You are likely to see these arrangements communicated more broadly in the media in the coming days.

We have done our best to protect the interests of residents. As always, if there are instances where residential amenity is affected please tell your residents to contact our customer service team on [03 9658 9658](tel:0396589658) so we will respond appropriately.

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MSYRG will continue to send out Update Bulletins during this COVID-19 crisis: any information that you think is useful to share please email the details to secretary@msyrg.com.au
Please also share the MSYRG Bulletins with others in our South Yarra Community

MSYRG is volunteer driven and dedicated to protecting the heritage of South Yarra (in the CoM) and our neighbourhood community

MSYRG 12/04/2020