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MEDIA RELEASE

\$500,000 SMART ENERGY ZONE FUNDING FOR MANNINGHAM

Manningham City Council's vision for an ecologically sustainable Doncaster Hill is a step closer, with the announcement on Monday 6 July by the Minister for Climate Change and Environment Gavin Jennings MLC that Council will receive \$500,000 for its Doncaster Hill Civic Precinct, which includes the new \$28.35 million Community Centre.

Council's Smart Energy Zone project involves the construction of a highly energy efficient Community Centre which will be connected by a micro-grid to the existing Council Offices and will supply heating, cooling and power generated locally by a gas-fired trigeneration facility.

Cr Pick said: "The project will be powered by clean energy. Council is taking local action towards the national goal of energy independence."

"The practical result of this investment is that 90% of the new building and the existing Council office's energy will be generated on site. This will deliver savings of approximately \$250,000 each year."

Manningham's Civic Precinct project is one of six identified Smart Energy Zone projects across metropolitan Melbourne and will demonstrate that by developing local energy opportunities, communities can dramatically and cost-effectively reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

A hub of neighbourhood life, the Doncaster Hill Community Centre will provide family services; child care, maternal and child health; pre-school facilities, welfare services, aged care, a community youth activity space, a library, an art gallery, a café and a community arts facility for the Manningham community.

The Doncaster Hill Community Centre in the Civic Precinct will incorporate best practice in terms of Ecologically Sustainable Design, being led by trigeneration (heating, cooling and energy supply).

"Council has invested in ground-breaking clean energy technology seen nowhere else in Australia," Cr Pick said.

The Doncaster Hill Community Centre in the Civic Precinct will incorporate best practice in terms of Ecologically Sustainable Design.

The project will consider a range of energy efficiency and energy supply measures including:

- The new Community Centre building being designed to both a minimum 5 star Green Star and 5 Star NABERS rating (energy and water), and aspiring to a 6 star Green Star building.
- Innovative energy efficiency measures being incorporated into the Community Centre, such as activated thermal mass, hybrid ventilation/natural ventilation and high efficiency lighting.
- Energy generated locally by two 5kW wind generators, a 10 kW photovoltaic system and a 500kVA cogeneration plant, connected to a centralised 1250 kVA substation.
- Electricity will be shared across the new building and the existing Council Offices via a micro-grid.
- A common Building Automation System will be installed for the new and existing building to ensure buildings are operating at optimum efficiency.
- Continuous reporting of real time electricity usage and greenhouse gas emissions is to be captured by existing building management systems at the Municipal Offices.

This innovative project will showcase Council's continuing commitment to sustainability. Smart meters and controls will be located throughout the Civic Precinct to enable real time sustainability monitoring of all demand and supply aspects of energy generation.

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