

## MEDIA RELEASE

### City of Moonee Valley set to gain great small business supports

11 October 2019

City of Moonee Valley is set to gain greater small business supports, with the local council on board to become small business friendly on Monday.

The council will sign up to the [Small Business Friendly Council initiative](#), which the Victorian Small Business Commission is rolling out to make it easier for people to start and run their businesses.

Commissioner Judy O'Connell will meet with Moonee Valley City Council Mayor Cr Narelle Sharpe and CEO Bryan Lancaster in Moonee Ponds for the signing of the initiative's Charter.

Signing is the council's commitment to work collaboratively to:

manage disruptions to trade that happen as a result of infrastructure works

pay small businesses promptly

work towards faster permit approvals for people looking to get a small business up and running.

With more than 11,400 registered businesses in the area across industries including construction, retail trade and hospitality, Cr Sharpe is pleased to be signing up.

"Small businesses are the lifeblood of our community. We're really pleased to be a part of such a worthwhile initiative that will have a positive impact on local businesses in Moonee Valley, our community and our local economy," Cr Sharpe said.

Minister for Small Business the Hon Adem Somyurek MP said the Victorian Government is committed to creating a fairer business environment.

"Our Small Business Friendly Charter helps councils support local small businesses and boost economic growth," Minister Somyurek said.

Commissioner Judy O'Connell said local councils are an important support to not only emerging but also established small businesses, and that a collaborative approach is vital.

"It's great to see Moonee Valley City Council's genuine want to work with us and local businesses in creating an inclusive and competitive operating environment for small business," Commissioner O'Connell said.

In signing up, the council will build on other initiatives, including [business supports and workshops](#) and [Acorn](#) – a space for business owners to meet, share and collaborate.

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*The [Victorian Small Business Commission](#) is an independent government agency that advocates on issues affecting small business, educates people in small business about their rights and responsibilities, and helps them to avoid or resolve disputes.*