# Lempriere Avenue

## Engagement summary report

A targeted community engagement program of residents and local users of Lempriere Avenue, St Kilda East was undertaken to capture feedback on two proposed types of street lighting for future installation. Engagement covered a four-week period from 3 July to 31 July 2024.

Opportunities for formal community feedback included:

- a Have Your Say Glen Eira webpage, including an online submission form at https://www.haveyoursaygleneira.com.au/lempriere
- mailed submissions
- emails sent to Council.

We promoted the engagement through hand delivered letters to each letterbox on the street and posters displaying a QR code to the Have Your Say page were placed along the street.

### Who we heard from

In total, we received **29 submissions** through our Have Your Say platform, emails, and website correspondence. **One petition** has also been received via email, with **22 signatures**, of which **21 are residents** of Lempriere.

There were **17 online surveys** through **Have Your Say**, **eight** of which are **residents** of Lempriere. **12 submissions** have been received via email, all of which have identified as **residents** of Lempriere. Four of the Have Your Say surveys are from individuals that have also provided an email submission.

In total, approximately **20 residents** provided feedback in some way through the engagement. Lempriere Avenue has 18 properties on it.

| | **Emails from residents** | **Have Your Say surveys from residents** | **Have Your Say surveys from non-residents** | **Total submissions** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of submissions | 12 | 8 | 9 | 29 |

### Feedback summary

The engagement results show that the majority of respondents are not satisfied with either of the two proposed street light options (**57 per cent**). This is consistent with feedback in the petition that received 22 signatures. The petition states: "We ask that no action be taken by the council regarding the lighting on Lempriere Ave until an agreeable solution be met."

Out of the two provided street light pole options, the black, cross shaped pole is more popular than the silver pole. The feedback provided throughout the engagement indicates, however, that neither option is the desired outcome of the residents.

Other themes found in the feedback show that respondents think the existing lighting is not effective (**46 per cent**), and the existing lamp poles and heritage value are important (**43 per cent**).

# Submission data

## Feedback themes

The most common themes across all 29 of the respondents' submissions are:

- not satisfied with the two options given (57 per cent)
- existing lighting is not effective (46 per cent)
- like the existing lamp poles (43 per cent)
- heritage overlay and value is important (43 per cent)

| Comment theme | Emails and other written submissions | HYS (residents) | HYS (non-residents) | Total mentions |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Not satisfied with the two options given | 11 | 2 | 3 | **16 (57%)** |
| Existing lighting is not effective | 10 | 1 | 2 | **13 (46%)** |
| Like existing lamp poles | 8 | 2 | 3 | **12 (43%)** |
| Heritage overlay and value is important | 9 | 1 | 2 | **12 (43%)** |
| Uncertainty about why existing lights can't be replaced | 9 | 1 | | **10 (36%)** |
| Council complying with heritage overlay, authorities and policy | 9 | | 1 | **10 (36%)** |
| Lempriere Ave is a beautiful street | 7 | | 3 | **10 (36%)** |
| Concerns about safety | 7 | | 2 | **9 (32%)** |
| Further consultation is requested | 8 | | | **8 (29%)** |
| Not satisfied with having to choose an option in survey | 8 | | | **8 (29%)** |
| Impacts on house value | 5 | | | **5 (18%)** |
| Questions about east side of street | | 3 | | **3 (11%)** |
| Further concerns about Lempriere trees and development | 1 | | | **1 (4%)** |
| Preference for black poles over silver poles | | | 1 | **1 (4%)** |
| Comments about burglaries | 1 | | | **1 (4%)** |

| Comment theme | Emails and other written submissions | HYS (residents) | HYS (non-residents) | Total mentions |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total respondents** | **12** | **8** | **9** | **29 (100%)** |

## Have Your Say feedback provided by Lempriere residents

**Eight residents** of Lempriere Avenue submitted feedback through Have Your Say.

The quantitative preferences for the type of street pole is:

- **one (1) vote** for option one – silver, arch shaped pole
- **seven (7) votes** for option two - black, cross shaped pole

| **Full comments from submissions:** |
|---|
| Are these enough to keep the eastern side of street out of dark? |
| Neither of them very good. Why only one side of street? Why can't the existing ones be fixed? And new ones installed |
| Neither is acceptable<br>This is a heritage street<br>Greater effort is needed to find a better solution. |
| The poles on the west side should match those on the east side. |
| Would be nice to have poles that match the street. The lighting the last 5 years has been terrible |

## Have Your Say feedback provided by people who are not Lempriere residents

**Nine people** who are not residents of Lempriere Avenue submitted feedback through Have Your Say.

The quantitative preferences for the type of street pole is:

- **two (2) votes** for option one – silver, arch shaped pole:
- **seven (7) votes** for option two - black, cross shaped pole:

| **Full comments from submissions:** |
|---|
| Needs bright street lights. I live in a nearby street and don't like to walk down LemprierеÃ at night because it is so dark and doesn't feel safe. Heritage style street lights seem appropriate. |
| As the most beautiful street in the suburb it is important to not ruin it's aesthetics by placing silver poles in the street. |
| I walk down Lampriere to walk my dog to the park most nights and I would love some lighting down the street to improve my feeling safe went I do. |
| The council should investigate another option that resembles the current light poles. It is the most beautiful street in the suburb with most houses being protected by a heritage overlay. It would be a great shame for the council not to follow the same heritage requirements it places on property owners in the street |

| |
|---|
| Why can't you install more of the white lampposts that are already there?<br><br>I live on the other side of the park [redacted] and loved this street. |
| They options  both aweful and you should source something inline with the existing ones.<br>This is a beautiful street what a shame to add big modern ones.<br>I live around the corner. |
| This is an awful tragic choice leave lempriere avenue alone with its lighting |

## Petition feedback

A petition related to the Lempriere Avenue engagement was received on 31 July. The petition was signed by **22 people**, 21 of whom identified as residents of Lempriere.

| **Full text from petition** |
|---|
| TO HIS/HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS OF THE CITY OF GLEN EIRA<br><br>This petition draws to the attention of the Council (insert subject matter – title of matter)<br><br>**New Lighting proposal on Lempriere Ave, St Kilda East**<br><br>We the undersigned are residents of Lempriere Ave. A stunning rare Heritage listed Street in St Kilda East known for its special street lamps and no overhead power cabling/wires. We request that the council take no further action in regard to its proposal for new modern light posts to be added to the Street.<br><br>The council a few weeks ago placed notices on Lempriere Ave, that gave the passerby only two choices for two brand new modern light posts and no further options. We are not satisfied by the proposed options which contradict the Heritage overly. The traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic. They were also fully functional until a few years ago.<br><br>As residents we must all abide by the Heritage overlay Policy (22.01) to encourage retention, retention, preservation and restoration of all significant and contributory heritage places within Glen Eira. Why is the council ignoring its own policy?<br><br>We ask that no action be taken by the council regarding the lighting on Lempriere Ave until an agreeable solution be met. |

## Email feedback

**12 email submissions** were received about the project. All emails identified themselves as residents of Lempriere Avenue, and five submissions identified as a couple of people. This indicates that **17 residents** provided email submissions.

**Full text responses from emails/complaint forms:**

**Email #1 – 23 July –** [redacted]

Dear Councillors,

I am [redacted] an owner and resident of [redacted]
I am writing to respond to the proposal for new lighting in the street.
We just spent alot of money and paid a premium price to create our family home on the most beautiful street in the area. The street lights as they are and the heritage character were a deciding factor in that decision and I would expect that the council would Maintain them as such.
It has not been made clear why the existing lights cannot be repaired.
I understand they were effective for many years.

In the meantime, I have installed new floodlights to the front of my property which offers ample lighting to the street without impacting the streets aesthetic.

The council has placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online questionnaire, but it cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council.
I am not at all satisfied with the current proposal and the options that have been provided.
Lempriere Avenue has heritage overlay, and the traditional lights have always been significant part of the heritage aesthetic.
When I tell people where I live, the most common response is that this iS the street with lovely traditional lamp posts.
Has Heritage authority been given the opportunity to comment, and if SO, what was their response?
I am concerned that the introduction of the proposed modern lights will have a negative effect on the value of my home as it significantly alters the character of Lempriere Avenue and more importantly will affect our enjoyment of the street as we wish to be long term residents here.
The options that have been offered are limited and and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character.
Has the Council's own heritage department approved the proposed options?
Is the outcome bound by Council's own 22.01 Heritage Policy ?
I request that you respond in writing to my concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

I look forward to your positive response regarding my concerns.

Best,

[redacted]

**Email #2 – 23 July –** [redacted]

We do not want the Heritage street lights on our Heritage listed Street to be replaced and or new ones added - Nor have we have we been consulted regarding this decision ! The light posts on our beautiful street need be restored and should not be replaced with 4 brand new modern lighting options as per recent signage on our street. WE DO NOT SUPPORT THIS DECISION !

Dear [redacted]
Tried calling but was told you were unavailable
My call was in regards to the above subject and below link
Lempriere Avenue street lighting | Have Your Say Glen Eira
We live in the street and would like to object to Councils' intentions to install modern light poles into our street
Your QR code does not give us the option to object – is this an oversight? Regardless this is unacceptable
Council have cited the heritage light poles are no longer able to be repaired – this is unacceptable
With all due respects, there is an existing heritage overlay over the street that we as residents are required to strictly comply with.
So why is it ok for Council to unilaterally decide that adding new light poles not in keeping with the existing streetscape is acceptable with zero consultation?
You have also rightly noted that the existing heritage street lamps provide an "aesthetic charm" to the street so we are puzzled as to how the introduction of these new light posts add to this charm.
We object to this upgrade and request Council withdraw this initiative
Please respond to my email as soon as you're able
Thank you
Best regards
[redacted]

**Email #3 – 23 July –** [redacted]

We are residents of Lempriere Avenue. We reside at [redacted].
We are writing to respond to the proposal for new lighting in the street.

It has not been made clear why the existing lights cannot be repaired.
They were effective for many years.
The solar option that was recently trialled was ineffective and dangerous for residents, many of whom are older citizens and some with restricted vision.

The council has placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online questionnaire, but it cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council.
We are not at all satisfied with the current proposal and the options that have been provided.

Lempriere Avenue has a heritage overlay, and the traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic.
When we tell people where we live, the most common response is that this is the street with the lovely traditional lamp posts.
Has Heritage authority been given the opportunity to comment, and if so, what was their response?

We are concerned that the introduction of the proposed modern lights will have a negative effect on the value of our home as it significantly alters the character of Lempriere Avenue.
The options that have been offered are limited and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character.
Surely there must be additional options.

Has the Council's own heritage department approved the proposed options?
Is the outcome bound by Council's own 22.01 Heritage Policy ?

We request that you respond in writing to our concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

[redacted]

**Email #4 – 23 July –** [redacted]

We are residents of Lempriere Avenue. I reside at [redacted] and are writing to respond to the proposal for new lighting in the street.

It has not been made clear why the existing lights cannot be repaired, and similar new ones installed.

They were effective for many years, although always insufficient in number. The current solar option is ineffective and dangerous for residents and other pedestrians, especially those with restricted vision.

The council placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online a questionnaire. The first notices gave an incorrect URL and QR code. No other notice was given to residents The questionnaire cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council. We are not at all satisfied with the current proposal and the options that have been provided.

Lempriere Avenue has a heritage overlay, and the traditional lights have always been a a significant part of the heritage aesthetic. When we tell people where we live, the most common response is that this is the street with the lovely traditional lamp posts. Has the Heritage Authority been given the opportunity to comment, and if so, what was their response?

The introduction of the proposed modern lights will significantly alter the character of Lempriere Avenue. The options that have been offered are limited and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character. Furthermore, the proposal does not take into account the liquid amber trees. The proposed lights will be above the level of the bottom of the trees' canopies, and so their light will be obstructed when the dense foliage is present from spring through late autumn.

Has the Council's own heritage department approved the proposed options? Is the outcome bound by Council's own 22.01 Heritage Policy?

We draw your attention to section 22.01-3 clause 149:

"Public Infrastructure:
It is policy to:

Encourage the retention and conservation of early public streetscape elements, such as landscaping features, roadside furniture, fire hydrants, post boxes and the broad range of infrastructure materials which contribute to the character of the heritage place.

Ensure new street furniture respects the character of the area. [our bold]"

The proposed lights do not respect the character of the street.

This is the heritage overlay citation for the street:

HO74 Lempriere Avenue, Greenmeadows Gardens and environs
Statement of Significance:

The Lempriere Avenue estate of Dickson and Yorston Pty Ltd and "Greenmeadows Gardens" represents an early high point in the development of the garden suburb environment in the metropolitan area during the 1920's, demonstrated today by the attention to the design of a landscaped street environment in Lempriere Avenue [our bold] and by the planned relationship with now mature public gardens which survive in a substantially intact state to the immediate south. The survival of the majority of houses forming part of the development enhances this significance.

The proposed lights do not demonstrate attention to the current design of the landscaped street environment in Lempriere Avenue.

We request that you respond in writing to my concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

[redacted]

**Email #5 – 24 July** [redacted]

Hello,

Today I have completed the questionnaire regarding lighting on Lempriere Avenue.

Firstly, the survey is not accurate. By making the first question, about which light pole design is preferred; a mandatory question, you are already effectively not listening to feedback.

As a resident of Lempriere who's renovation has been completed inline with Glen Eira City Council Heritage requirements, I believe the same requirements must also be applied to the council. Inline with your own guidelines, the lighting poles on the west side of Lempriere avenue must be inline with the existing design on the west side. Neither the stainless steel or back options are acceptable.

This is a highly hypocritical approach to street design and I am sure would open the risk, from a legal perspective, that heritage overlays are no longer relevant on the street.

In addition this is a very disappointing approach from council.

I would appreciate your feedback on this topic.

Regards,

[redacted]

**Email #6 – 26 July** [redacted]

I reside at [redacted] and I am writing in response to the proposal for new lighting in the street.

The existing lighting functioned effectively for many years and was a feature of our beautiful street. The information recently provided by the council does not explain why the existing lights cannot be repaired.

The solar option that was recently trialled was ineffective and dangerous for residents, many of whom are senior citizens with restricted vision, because it faded after approximately 9.00-10.00 p.m. From a personal perspective, my wife had to shine a light and guide me physically when walking after nightfall or simply getting in or out of a vehicle.

The council has placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online questionnaire, but it cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council. Hence the necessity of writing to express my concern, as neither option is satisfactory.

Lempriere Avenue has a heritage overlay, and the traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic.

When I tell people where I live, the most common response is that this is the street with the lovely traditional lamp posts.

Has Heritage authority been given the opportunity to comment, and if so, what was their response?

I am concerned that the introduction of the proposed modern lights will have a negative effect on the value of my home as it significantly alters the character of Lempriere Avenue.

The options that have been offered are limited and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character.

Has the Council's own heritage department approved the proposed options?
Is the outcome bound by Council's own 22.01 Heritage Policy ?

I request that you respond in writing to my concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

Sincerely

[redacted]

**Email #7 – 27 July** [redacted]

Re: Proposed lighting for Lempriere Avenue

I am a resident of Lempriere Avenue and have been [redacted]. I am writing in response to the proposal for new lighting in the Avenue and related matters:

1. Lempriere Avenue has a heritage overlay arising out of the original 1996 work and consultations with residents, by the Council's architectural historian at the time Andrew Ward, and subsequently updated and extended, now forming the City Of Glen Eira Heritage Management Plan. Lempriere Avenue has also featured in heritage publications on interwar housing and streetscapes, e.g. The National Trust (1991): "Our Inter War Houses", where the chapter on Streetscape Guidelines was headed by a full-page photograph of the lamp post outside number 9 Lempriere Avenue. The introduction to that chapter is still relevant today to Lempriere Avenue:
   *"…Attempts to beautify the street or distinguish it from others sometimes resulted in special lamposts (sic), distinctive street signs, street names laid in the footpath or a widening of the street at regular intervals to allow for distinctive rockery. The survival of these and other elements of a similar nature is vital to the maintenance of such streets, and should be a high priority for the councils of municipalities in which they are found."*
2. It has not been made clear to me directly as to why the existing lights cannot be repaired. They were effective for many years, and I understand that investigations were commissioned by Council, however, we have no information on what the findings were (although one resident did get an update from Cr Sam Parasol back in 2021 when the situation was being assessed). It appears to me at least, that some of the parties involved just don't want to make repairs – it would have been far less trouble if they had simply got on with finding a way to implement what they were engaged to do, instead of putting things in the "too hard" basket - and now ending up in this position where the previous lights and fittings have been removed and replaced by a solution which is far less than satisfactory for all concerned.
3. The traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic (although they had gone through two previous styles over the years). When I tell people where I live, the most common response is that this is the street with the lovely traditional lamp posts. Have the National Trust, Heritage Victoria and other authorities been given the opportunity to comment on the new proposal (or the current trial), and if so, what are their responses?
4. Has the Council's own heritage department approved of the proposed options, and Is the outcome bound by the Council's own 22.01 Heritage policy? I have read heritage requirements for other councils such as Port Phillip and note that they have far more strict requirements relating to heritage components such as lighting, "street furniture" and the like. These requirements apply equally to the Council and their service providers as well as to the residents.

5. The solar option that is currently trialled is ineffective and dangerous for many residents, a number of whom are senior citizens with restricted vision. In particular, the lights have a low light output, and their batteries run down within a few hours, particularly in winter time. We are unable to see in the darkness and shadows unless there is lighting from the houses (many of whom now have external lights), and we just have to hope that we don't tread on any obstruction or get upset by some unevenness. This episode is just one example of the Council making decisions without any consultation with residents and other stakeholders. When can we be properly and fully engaged in decision-making processes regarding our properties?
6. I am also concerned that the introduction of the proposed modern lights will have a further negative impact on the value of my home as it will significantly alter the character of Lempriere Avenue (owners already have an impost from the Heritage Overlay, estimated by the market at a significant reduction of around 10% in property values – modern lighting would just compound this downside, with no material benefit to the aesthetic).

   The options that have been offered are limited and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character. I understand that the original lights and poles no longer comply with the current Australian Standards, however, I believe that their historical significance should take precedence over subsequent regulations.

Glen Eira Council has placed notices on the nature strips which guide residents to an online questionnaire, but it cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the Council.
I request that you respond in writing to my concerns and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue and also copy other stakeholders such as the National Trust and Heritage Victoria, and that no action be taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

Further, with regard to related matters, I note that Lempriere Avenue has generally been neglected by Glen Eira Council (other than the programmed resurfacing 4 years ago):

A. Some years back I requested that the original Street Sign be renovated as it was deteriorating. The sign was removed and sat in the Council workshop for 6 months and my request was closed. It was not until I followed up that the sign was finally reinstated but with only minor paint on the collar. The sign has continued to deteriorate badly, so I complained again at the start of this year. Again it has been removed, to who knows where. PLEASE just do the job properly, renovate the sign and return it to its rightful place on the original light pole at the start of the street!
B. Similarly, Lempriere Avenue is noted for its trees – while the current Liquid Ambers are not the original planting (they replaced rather ugly and scratchy palms around the time that the power to the street was reconfigured). They have since become a "modern classic". The residents of the time specified that the Liquid Ambers be planted "asymmetrically" so as to allow light to easily penetrate and provide a beautiful urban canopy in the warmer months a lovely structure in the winter months, and a glorious

display in the Autumn that attracts artists and others who make a point of coming to Lempriere Avenue each year to admire and photograph the beautiful colours. However, the streetscape continues to face ongoing threats over trees' life and is no longer what it used to be:

a. When Glen Eira Council implemented its policy for street planting, Liquid Ambers were listed as being too much of a problem and favoured Norway Maples instead, although we can't see much difference between the two, with regard to root problems, etc. Then some years back, and again recently, Council implemented "in-fill" tree planting programs and filled in the gaps that were key to the original asymmetric planting, thus removing the informed purpose and resulting lightness of original design. Plus, one "rogue" Norway Maple was also planted a year or two back, and despite residents pointing this out, it is still growing, even though it is the "odd tree out".
b. One key mature tree was removed because the Council said it had to go because of a gas leak (however, the gas company said its removal was not extreme and not required). Two further diseased and dead trees have recently been taken down (and replaced by two new plantings).
c. Most of the trees continue to be decimated by possums. The council arborist says that it would be too much effort to add guards and isolate the trees and it is up to the residents to take any steps (two have done so). However, at the request of some residents, the tree contractors continue to lop branches that overhang properties, just leaving a narrow swathe along the Avenue. Why does Council pander to some residents without managing the overall precinct to achieve the best outcomes?

Lempriere Avenue is only a few years shy of its one hundredth anniversary, but I have very deep concerns that the lighting, signage, treescape and general ambience will never return to its former glory, but will just be consigned to the "too hard" basket of local history.

All who know of this "hidden gem" cul-de-sac hope and pray that we can continue to delight in all its features for the next one hundred years. As custodians of this precinct, we residents have endeavoured to honour its history and retain and nurture its qualities and character. We can only beg that Glen Eira Council applies due diligence and care to the aspects of this important precinct that it is responsible for.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]

[redacted]

Attach. The National Trust (1991): "Our Inter War Houses", Page 44 (full page photograph): "Lempriere Avenue East St Kilda"


Lempriere Avenue, East St Kilda

**Email #8 – 29 July** [redacted]

Dear Council,
I am a resident of Lempriere Avenue [redacted]
I am writing to respond to the proposal for new lighting in the street.

It has not been made clear why the existing lights cannot be repaired. They were effective for many years. The solar option that was recently trialled was ineffective and dangerous for residents, many of whom are senior citizens with restricted vision. There have also been burglaries recently in numerous houses on the street, which good lighting may have deterred.

The council has placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online questionnaire, but it cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council. I am not at all satisfied with the current proposal and the options that have been provided.

Lempriere Avenue has a heritage overlay, and the traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic. When I tell people where I live, the most common response is that this is the street with the lovely traditional lamp posts.

Has the Heritage authority been given the opportunity to comment, and if so, what was their response?

I am concerned that the introduction of the proposed modern lights will have a negative effect on the value of my home as it significantly alters the character of Lempriere Avenue. The options that have been offered are limited and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character.

Has the Council's own heritage department approved the proposed options?
Is the outcome bound by Council's own 22.01 Heritage Policy ?

I request that you respond in writing to my concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

I thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

[redacted]

**Email #9 – 30 July** [redacted]

To Glen Eira Council,

I am a resident of Lempriere Avenue. [redacted]
I am writing to respond to the proposal for new lighting in the street.

It has not been made clear why the existing lights cannot be repaired given that they were effective for many years. The solar option that was recently trialled was ineffective and dangerous for residents, many of whom are senior citizens with restricted vision.

The council has placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online questionnaire, but it cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council. We are not satisfied with the current proposal and the options that have been provided.

The traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic. Many of our guests, among others, often comment on the lights and the overall feel of the street with the lovely traditional lamp posts.

I am concerned that the introduction of the proposed modern lights will have a negative effect on the value of my home as it significantly alters the character of Lempriere Avenue in a negative manner.
The options that have been offered are limited, don't appear to really attempt to solve the lighting issue while maintaining the character of the street and will detract from Lempriere Avenue's character.

I request that you respond in writing to my concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.

[redacted]

**Email #10 – 30 July** [redacted]

Dear Glen Eira Council Community Engagement team,
[redacted], St Kilda East.
With regard to the proposed new lighting for Lempriere Avenue, as a resident, I am writing to **object to the alternatives proposed** for Lempriere Avenue, as per the council letter dated 3rd July 2024.
I have not completed the online form for the following reason: It did not provide an option to object. The form only allowed you to chose one of the street pole colours and then a space for a comment. But this is making the assumption that all residents want the new street lamps and all that was left to do was choose the colour!
There has been a serious omission in this process. There hasn't been any community engagement regarding the overall lighting issues in the street and what options could be explored. Sounds like the engineering department is taking the easy path and bulldozing everyone!
My reason for objecting is as follows:
Lempriere Avenue is renown for its streetscape and amenity. This is due to the trees, lighting, nature strips and low-line fences. The councils planning department has a heritage overlay on the streetscape which forbids any resident doing a renovation or update to their property which would adversely impact this streetscape.
If this is the situation for residents, then the **council MUST following their own rules.** I would like the Planning and Heritage team to be engaged and listened to in this process along with the residents.
The proposed street poles detract from this amenity and streetscape and will diminish the appeal of the street thereby turning Lempriere Avenue into an "ordinary" street. As several Real Estate agents who have contacted me said, this will impact the street's property valuations. The impact of this means council revenue from rates will not increase as budgeted as property values won't increase as budgeted.
The current lighting "fix" by the council of individual solar lamps is a failure as the fixtures emit a very poor light or fail to illuminate at all. While the visual appeal of the original poles is wonderful, the poor illumination poses a serious danger to people walking at night.
I believe the council needs to evaluate the following and report back on why/why not they cannot be done:

- Rewire the current heritage poles and have adequate 240v lighting as we use to have. This can be run by the utility company or as a private network managed by the council (a common occurrence across Melbourne councils)

If 240v isn't available then:

- Maintain the current heritage poles and have them powered by solar, using stronger globes, but connected to a solar panel/battery storage unit in Greenmeadows Gardens. Panels in Greenmeadows Gardens would allow better energy generation and the battery would ensure the lighting stays on all night (This also aligns perfectly with the council's sustainability goals for which we receive regular communication)
- Maintain current heritage poles and rewire them as a private network run on 12v (connected to the mains power with a transformer) - just like garden lighting. The 12v

globes would be put into the "lantern"/heritage fixtures. (12v Garden lights provide a very strong illumination with modern LEDs - better than the current solar ones!)

I would be pleased to discuss this further with the council in a forum with the other residents in the street. We need to maintain the look and amenity of Lempriere Avenue and have a solution to the lighting in our street.
Regards,
[redacted]

**Email #11 – 30 July –** [redacted]

We reside at [redacted]. We am writing to respond to the proposal for new street lighting in Lempriere Avenue.
The council has placed notices on the nature strip which guide residents to an online questionnaire. Unfortunately the questionnaire cannot be completed without selecting one of the two options offered by the council. We am not at all satisfied with either of the two options proposed and hence have not submitted an online response to the questionnaire.
Firstly, the solar lights currently installed are ineffective and dangerous for residents, and individuals using Lempriere Avenue to access the park, some of whom are senior citizens with restricted vision. The lights turn on for only three to four hours after sunset after which time the street is completely dark. Even when the lights are operational, the street is not illuminated very well to say the least.
Secondly, the council has proposed two options both of which require 240VAC. We therefore assume either the existing wiring and conduit will be used or new wiring and conduit installed. We are therefore not sure why 240VAC heritage style light fixtures can't be mounted on the existing white poles. This style of 240VAC light fixtures was originally installed prior to the installation of the solar fixtures, and was effective. It has not been made clear why this solution hasn't been presented as an option.
Thirdly, Lempriere Avenue has a heritage overlay, and the traditional lights have always been a significant part of the heritage aesthetic. Many people know Lempriere Avenue for the lovely traditional, historical lamp posts and light fixtures. Has the heritage authority been given the opportunity to comment, and if so, what was their response? Has the Council's own heritage department approved the two proposed options? Is the outcome bound by Council's own 22.01 Heritage Policy?
We am concerned that the introduction of either of the two proposed modern lights will have a negative effect on the value of homes in the street as it significantly alters the character of Lempriere Avenue. The options that have been offered are limited and detract from Lempriere Avenue's character.
We request that you respond in writing to our concerns, and those of other residents in Lempriere Avenue, and that no action is taken by the Council regarding the lighting until the residents have been given an opportunity to consider the Council's response to our concerns.
Regards,
[redacted]

**Email #12 – 01 August** [redacted]

We are residents [redacted].
Since the heritage overlay in the 1990s was introduced to protect the streetscape and the single dwelling low fence ambiance and unusual street lights. With reference to the Glen Elra Planning Heritage Policy 22.01 -- 22.01-1 -- 22.012 clearly emphasizes the significance maintaining the restoration of all heritage places in Glen Eira.

The Light Post Fixtures fall into this category - Lempriere Ave is unique in Glen Eira and was amongst the first in Melbourne to have underground power lightning. Since the lighting[redacted]s we have continually in contact with your engineering dept to try to sort out the repair to the light fitting.

We have forwarded Heritage light specialists to engineering dept but response has been mooted. Council proposal to replace street posts with new overhanging conventional poles due to low cost breaches your own heritage guidelines and therefore questions the impact on the heritage overlays on our street residences. There has been no consultation on this matter.

In conclusion the proposal will impact on the character of the street and more discussion/consultation with the residents is required; 1/ alternative options 2/ independant Heritage consultancy advice

Regards
[redacted]