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16 October 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

Letter of support for Yayoi Kusama - Ascension of Polka Dots on the Trees to be installed on St Kilda Road by National Gallery of Victoria (NGV)

I write to convey City of Melbourne's wholehearted support for the public realm installation titled *Ascension of Polka Dots on the Trees* (2002–present), in which approximately 65 trees will have their trunks temporarily wrapped with pink material featuring international artist Yayoi Kusama's signature polka dot pattern overlaid in white.

City of Melbourne business divisions Creative City, Parks and City Greening, Infrastructure & Amenity and City Strategy have each provided advice on topics covering traffic management, arboriculture, and heritage approach, and at every stage we find we have a good working relationship with the incredibly capable and responsive staff at the NGV.

Council remains committed to facilitating public space activations such as this which enliven and celebrate Melbourne's arts precinct and highlight our high-profile boulevards such as St Kilda Road. *Ascension of Polka Dots on the Trees* (2002–present) will announce the NGV's headline summer exhibition, add to the city centre's dynamism and help build city foot traffic as visitors pour into NGV's iconic building.

The City of Melbourne confidently commends this proposal to Heritage Victoria and assures you of our engagement at NGV's invitation with early-stage project management advice and subsequent full endorsement.

Thank you for your consideration of this worthy project.

Yours sincerely

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Acting Director Creative City

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