



TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK



Mindeera Advisory Group

Notes – 3 April 2024



WE'RE OPEN
VIC PARK

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1 Opening

Acknowledgement of country

Ngany kaaditj Noongar moort keny kaadak nidja Wadjak Noongar boodja. Ngany kaaditj nidja Noongar birdiya – koora, ye-ye, boorda, baalapiny moorditj Noongar kaaditjin, moort, wer boodja ye-ye.

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and respect Elders past, present and emerging, their continuing cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continues to be important today.

2 Attendance

Mindeera Group Representatives

Kelsi Forrest (Chair)
Stephanie Ludekens

Elected Members

Deputy Mayor Bronwyn Ife
Cr Peter Devereux

Manager Community

Paul Gravett

Meeting secretary

Nichola Tomkins

Presenters

Michal Lowenhoff

Observers

Katie Sabatini
Lara Burford

Apologies

Roni Forrest
Murray Masters (Deputy Chair)
Jordanna Rebbeck
Cr Sky Croeser
Annie Withrow
Ron Bradfield, John Curtin Gallery
Xanthe Shaw
Gerard Siero
Amber Ugle-Hayward

3 Presentations

3.1 Carrolup Artists

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Time | 15 minutes |
| Presenter | Ron Bradfield, Community Engagement Coordinator, John Curtin Gallery |
| Attachments | Nil |

Purpose of the item

An introduction to the Carrolup Child Artists story and the John Curtin Gallery's (JCG) commitment to preserving and safe keeping the works at the gallery.

Outcome

Feedback is sought from the Mindeera Advisory Group on how to utilise this story to inform Town staff with regard to the impact of the Stolen Generations and further inform RAP intentions and help the JCG identify potential descendants in the area.

Strategic outcomes

| Social | |
|---|--|
| Community Priority | Intended public value outcome or impact |
| S3 - Facilitating an inclusive community that celebrates diversity. | Developing cultural awareness through truth telling. |
| S4 - Improving access to arts, history, culture and education. | Communicating the story of the Carrolup artists and facilitating access to view their art works. |

Next steps

Cultural awareness training for staff.

Further information

Nil.

Outcomes

Item deferred to June 2024 meeting.

Actions

Nil.

3.2 John Macmillan Park - Warning / Banning Notices

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Time | 15 Minutes |
| Presenter | Michal Lowenhoff |
| Attachments | Nil |

Purpose of the item

To present an overview of the Towns development of a warning/banning notice process to address anti-social behaviour within the Town's facilities and public spaces.

Outcome

Receive feedback about how to ensure culturally appropriate measures are taken during the delivery of warning/banning notices.

Strategic outcomes

| Social | |
|---|--|
| Community Priority | Intended public value outcome or impact |
| S1 - Helping people feel safe. | Creating a space that is safe for all park users, residents, business owners, customers and staff. |
| S3 - Facilitating an inclusive community that celebrates diversity. | Ensuring that the Town's policies and practices are culturally appropriate. |

Outcomes

- The Town is proposing to develop a warning/banning process which has been triggered by ongoing antisocial and criminal behaviour in and around John Macmillan Park since 2019.
- Several internal departments are involved in addressing the issues at the park and several external organisations including WA Police (WAPOL), i24s (outreach service - formerly delivered by RooForce), Department of Communities, and East Vick Park Hawaiian Shopping Centre.
- A brief summary of approaches and actions undertaken to date was provided.
- A proposed direction was provided which focused on priorities to address the behaviour.
- A process framework has been drafted outlining steps to be taken *before* a banning notice would be considered. This included a warning notice, and an overview was provided of what a warning notice entails.
- Discussions have been held with other local governments that experience similar issues e.g. Port Hedland, Perth, Swan.
- Feedback from the Advisory Group was that there was no culturally appropriate way of saying Aboriginal people can be banned from Town land. Banning people for 12 months and historical connotations are not positive.
- The Town referenced the ongoing antisocial behaviour i.e. public drinking which was leading to additional criminal behaviours i.e. assaults, family domestic violence, damage to the park, littering in park, etc. This behaviour would drift into the adjacent public areas including the playground, library, shopping centre and leisure centre. The Town has received many community concerns about the ongoing issues and generally community members feel unsafe in the park and surrounding community areas. Staff wellbeing had also been impacted as a result of the associated anti-social behaviour within the precinct.
- Queries were raised about the question i.e. the Town is asking for a culturally appropriate way to deliver a solution that has already been decided. The Town explained the events in the park that

meant the banning notices were being considered as part of a wider suite of responses. Current measures to address these issues include:

- the Police attending the park and pouring out alcohol
 - increased outreach services and Ranger patrols
 - Increased contract cleaning of the park to ensure it is safe for public use (cleaning broken glass, needles, bodily fluids)
 - temporary CCTV and lighting
 - changes to allow the waiving fees for John Macmillan Park to encourage events and activations to be held in the space.
- Queries were raised about the involvement of Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations in addressing the issues at the park. The Town confirmed they were engaging with organisations including i24s (previously RooForce), Aboriginal Legal Service, and Waalitj Foundation.
 - The group emphasised the importance of using restorative approaches rather than punitive approaches. The framework sets out restorative approaches to be used prior to implementing a banning notice. Also, the Advisory group were concerned about how the Town would ensure rigour when working through the steps outlined in the framework prior to the implementation of a banning notice.
 - A rubric would be created to safeguard against poor implementation of a banning notice. This rubric would outline a series of steps that would be undertaken before issuing a banning notice, such as whether appropriate supports were offered by the appropriate professions, information from WAPOL regarding criminal behaviour, and a sign off from the CEO.
 - Concerns were raised about how the change of staff and government policy can alter the implementation of a framework which modifies the way it is applied in practice i.e the risk of being implemented poorly and in a damaging way.
 - The group wanted reassurance that actions represented the spirit of Vic Park, with a focus to get more community members using the park (and passive surveillance) to help reduce the antisocial behaviour and criminal behaviour occurring there.

Actions

- A copy of the presentation to be circulated via email.
- More detailed information to be provided by email on the work done by the Town and other stakeholders to address the issues to demonstrate the holistic approach being used.
- Further information to be collected and shared with the group on benchmarks related to banning notices used by other local governments.
- The Advisory Group members were asked to send through any positive examples/practice to support the Town in addressing the issue.
- This topic to be included as an agenda item at the next meeting.

4 Items for discussion

4.1 On the Table

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Reporting officer | Reconciliation Officer |
| Origin of request | Ongoing Agenda Item |
| Attachments | Nil |

Purpose of the item

To provide an opportunity for Advisory group members to share feedback, generate ideas and facilitate discussion on matters of reconciliation and indigenous significance in the Town.

Outcome

To provide space for deliberation and innovation

Discussion points

- Conversation from the Table
- RAP Launch debrief
- Expression of Interest for Mindeera Advisory Group members
- Dual naming follow ups
- Budget priorities overview

Strategic outcomes

| Civic Leadership | |
|--|---|
| Community priority | Intended public value outcome or impact |
| CL2 - Communication and engagement with the community. | To encourage and enable the community to actively take part in and contribute to Town and community led projects. |

| Social | |
|---|--|
| Community priority | Intended public value outcome or impact |
| S3 - Facilitating an inclusive community that celebrates diversity. | To enable the community to be informed and engaged in the Town's reconciliation process. |

Next steps

Nil.

Further information

Nil.

Outcomes

- RAP Launch debrief
 - Attendance around 50-60 people
 - Approximately half those in attendance were from community expression of interest which the Town promoted and circulated to encourage community members to attend.
 - 250 people attended the movie screening after the launch.
 - The Advisory Group were pleased to see many of the people from the Vic Park Voice group at the launch.
- Expression of Interest (EOI) for Mindeera Advisory Group members
 - The Town's Governance area has agreed this process can be started now. Previously Governance wanted all EOI's to be done in October in a non-election year i.e. October 2024 (aligned to Policy 101 Advisory Groups).
 - The Advisory Group are keen to seek representatives from other local organisations working with Aboriginal people.
 - The Advisory Group were keen to share the information to increase the reach and interest from local people to get involved in the group.
- Dual naming follow ups
 - Feedback was sought from the Advisory Group on the approach to progressing this priority.
 - The Advisory Group would like to explore the scope for dual naming – when does this process apply e.g. with a local government/place/site/road/flora and fauna?
 - The Advisory Group would like this added to the next meeting agenda as a presentation with time allocated to discuss it.
 - The next step would be a Concept Forum with members of the Mindeera Advisory Group to present it to Elected Members.
 - Information to include the Landgate process related to dual naming.
 - Examples discussed included a local government in Melbourne changed their name (Merri-bek City Council formerly known as Moreland Council).
- Budget priorities overview
 - Budget overview is draft only and subject to Council endorsement.
 - Actions within the RAP are addressed across the organisation and woven into existing projects to increase the reach and integration of RAP priorities, as well as budget efficiencies.
 - It does not include staff costs.
 - The requested budget is mindful of staff time and capacity i.e part time Reconciliation Officer.
 - Any projects and opportunities that may require budget could be requested through the midyear budget review process.
 - The Advisory Group felt attendance at the RAP launch shows community support for the Reconciliation portfolio.

Actions

- Circulate the budget overview presentation by email.

5 General business

Nil.

6 Actions from previous meetings

Due to adoption of the Town's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan in December 2023, duplicate actions below will be removed from future Agendas.

| Action | Responsible Officer | Link to RAP Action(s) | Status | Comment | Close Date |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------|---------------|
| Strategic Projects Manager to send a copy of the Mindeera Spring presentation to Advisory Group members (6 March 2024 meeting) and keep the group updated on progress. | Strategic Projects Manager | Relationships 5.1 | In progress | | April 2024 |
| Arts Officer to send a copy of their presentation to Advisory Group members for feedback on purchase of Aboriginal artwork(s) for the Town's Art Collection (6 March 2024 meeting). | Arts Officer | Respect 2.6 | In progress | | April 2024 |
| Send community invitation for the Innovate RAP Launch to Advisory Group members | Reconciliation Officer | Governance 2.2 | Completed | | March 2024 |
| Research cultural fire burning with internal and external stakeholders as a program option for NAIDOC Week. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 3.1 | In progress | | July 2024 |
| Invite the Place Leader for Urban Forrest Strategy to come to a meeting and incorporate Care for Country into next Strategy. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 4.2 | In progress | | December 2024 |

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| Include consultation with the Mindeera Advisory Group into the development of the Commemorative Naming Policy. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 4.3 | In progress | | December 2024 |
| Consider purchase of Aboriginal themed lanyards or the like to help promote awareness around Reconciliation. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 3.3 | Completed | Included in project considerations for National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week. | March 2024 |
| Provide an overview on the budget priorities for 2024/2025, inviting comment from the group. | Reconciliation Officer | Governance 2.1 | In progress | | April 2024 |
| Circulate the Terms of Reference to the Advisory Group via email for feedback. | Reconciliation Officer | Governance 1.2 | Completed | | March 2024 |
| Invite representatives from the Cities of Melville or Fremantle to an Advisory Group Meeting to discuss their dual naming projects. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 4.3 | In progress | | December 2024 |
| Advisory Group to provide feedback on the workflow example on dual naming via email and collate the feedback for further consideration by the Group. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 4.3 | In progress | | April 2024 |

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|--|--|-------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| Contact the Noongar Language Centre as it is the registered Language Centre and may have frameworks or best practice examples related to dual naming. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 4.3 | In progress | | December 2024 |
| The Town's People and Culture Team to provide clarity about how they will achieve the actions and targets relating to the Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan (linking to the RAP). | Reconciliation Officer | Opportunities 1.1 | In progress | Invite the People and Culture Team to a future Advisory Group meeting. | December 2024 |
| Ask other local governments at the WALGA Aboriginal Forum about how they manage staff retention and track applications from Aboriginal people. | Reconciliation Officer | Opportunities 1.1 | Completed | Reconciliation Officer to continue discussions relating to recruitment process with local governments. | March 2024 |
| Officers to bring back Acknowledgement of Country revised draft to Mindeera members once naming process has been confirmed. | Reconciliation Officer, Coordinator Community Development, Manager Community | Respect 2.1 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | December 2024 |
| Officers to review previous draft process and update process for Noongar naming in the Town to bring back to Mindeera members for consideration. | Reconciliation Officer, Coordinator Community Development, Manager Community | Relationships 4.3 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | December 2024 |

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|---|--|--------------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| Officers to investigate budget allocation and budget options for implementing the interactive signage at Koolbaradi Park in 2022-2023. | Reconciliation Officer and Manager Community Development | Res 5 (Reflect RAP) | In progress | Completed (6 March 2024 meeting) | December 2024 |
| Mindeera Advisory Group member to consult with the DLGSC regarding the Mili Mili Gnarla Boodja project and opportunities to continue this project to include Noongar country situated within the Town of Victoria Park. | Mindeera Chair | Respect 1.4, Relationships 5.2 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | TBC |
| Mindeera members to contact Vic Park Collective in the New Year, regarding next steps in bringing the conversation, (around Jan 26) and additional engagement opportunities, to the community. | Mindeera Members | Relationships 6.1 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | December 2025 |
| Officers to coordinate workshop with Mindeera members and Whadjuk Cultural Advice committee to progress Albany Highway Precinct Redevelopment | Place Planning Officer and Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 5.2 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | 31 March 2032 |

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|---|---|-----------------------------------|-------------|--|---------------|
| Officers to work with the Town's communication s team to increase the media profile of reconciliation processes and outcomes in the Town. | Reconciliation Officer and Communication Service Area | Relationships 6.2, Governance 3.5 | Ongoing | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | N/A |
| Officers to consult with Mindeera group members regarding cultural history and ecological design of Edward Millen House. | Strategic Projects Manager | Relationships 4.2, 5.2 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | N/A |
| Officers to keep Mindeera group updated on cultural research dimension. | Reconciliation Officer | Relationships 5.2 | Ongoing | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | N/A |
| Officers to engage cultural heritage consultant for advice and guidance in the daylighting of the Mindeera Spring and/ or present plans for the spring to the Whadjuk Cultural Advice committee | Strategic Projects Manager | Relationships 5.1 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | N/A |
| Officers to facilitate discussion with Noongar community members through outreach to AEO at local schools, with the view to maximizing Noongar engagement in Town and community led projects | Reconciliation Officer | Respect 1.3 | In progress | Embedded in the Innovate RAP – remove from actions list. | December 2024 |

7 Close

Meeting closed at 6.56pm.