



TOWN OF  
VICTORIA PARK



Urban Forest Implementation  
Working Group  
Notes – 17 May 2021



**WE'RE OPEN**  
**VIC PARK**

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## **1 Opening**

Ms Heather Johnstone opened the meeting at 7.30am.

### **1.1 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 past, present and emerging Leaders, their continuing cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continues to be important today.

## 2 Attendance

### UFS Implementation Group Members

Heather Johnstone  
Rowena Skinner  
Emma Monk  
Ngairé Howard  
Nadia D'Hart

### Councillors

Cr Luana Lisandro  
Cr Ronhhda Potter

### ToVP Representatives

Natalie Martin-Goode (Chief Community Planner)  
David Doy (Manager Place Planning)  
Pierre Quesnel (Senior Place Leader, Urban Forest)  
Aleisha Hunter (Community Development Officer,  
Special Projects)  
Gregor Wilson (Manager Infrastructure Operations)  
Penny Fletcher (Parks Technical Officer)  
Paul Williams (Parks Project Officer)

### Meeting secretary

Shelly Woods (Executive Assistant, Chief Community  
Planner)

### Presenters

Nil.

### Observers

Nil.

### Apologies

Ben Whitehouse  
Cr Vicki Potter

### **3 Presentations**

Nil.

## 4 Items for discussion

### 4.1.1 Blechynden Street Tree Planting

<b>Reporting officer</b>	Pierre Quesnel
<b>Attachments</b>	Urban Forest Project Proposal – Blechynden Street Tree Planting

#### Purpose of the item

UFS Implementation project proposals are received from the community and Town staff via online form. The proposals are collated and presented to the UFS Implementation Working Group who will provide advice and recommendations to inform prioritisation and implementation of UFS implementation projects.

#### Outcome

Following open discussion about the proposal amongst the group and Town subject matter experts' recommendations, advice and additional opportunities and recorded in the meeting notes. This will assist Town staff in the prioritisation of projects. It will also assist in understanding the likely community impacts and sentiment which will influence the manner of project delivery

#### Discussion points

- The group suggested bringing the whole of the street into the Leafy Streets Program for the 2021 planting season.
- Pierre and Penny would review the locations and confirm if enough plant stock is left for inclusion in this year's program.

#### Next steps

Review from Town staff and determination if the street can be added to the program.

#### Further information

See attached – Urban Forest Project Proposal – Blechynden Street Tree Planting.

## 4.2 Outline of community planting dates including small scale planting events.

<b>Reporting officer</b>	<i>Pierre Quesnel</i>
<b>Origin of request</b>	<i>Where did the need for this item originate e.g. Council resolution, strategic project.</i>
<b>Attachments</b>	Planting day events calendar

### **Purpose of the item**

*Information about the planting dates*

### **Outcome**

*To ensure that the UFS Working group were made aware of the planting calendar.*

### **Discussion points**

- Do councilors have a role at these events? – Other than the Mayor’s welcome address there is no official role for Elected Members in the events, they are invited to attend and get involved in these events.
- Are Volunteers needed? – RSVP sign up is online and volunteer help will be appreciated but is not expected from group members.
- The localized, small scale planting events will be conducted on a single day at two different locations (one commencing at 12pm and the other at 3pm.
- Gallipoli St Micro Park – Site works is completed by contractors. Discussion continuing about a community event that will include planting
- Will the internal sump be planted at Gallipoli street – This won’t be done this planting season as Engineering need to conduct further analysis and this can be an aim for next years program.

### **Strategic outcomes**

{strategic-outcomes}

### **Next steps**

Planning and delivery of the Urban Forest Community Events.

### **Further information**

*Attached dates for planting events.*

### 4.3 Review of groups Terms of Reference and implication of council changes

<b>Reporting officer</b>	<i>Pierre Quesnel</i>
<b>Origin of request</b>	<i>Where did the need for this item originate e.g. Council resolution, strategic project.</i>
<b>Attachments</b>	Terms of Reference

#### Purpose of the item

Discuss implications of changes to the Terms of Reference

#### Outcome

That the members of the Urban Forest Strategy Working Group discuss the decision from Council regarding the Terms of Reference

#### Discussion points

- Amendments to the group's Terms of Reference by council were detailed and discussed.
- Some concerns with point 5 that it just focuses on one of the strategic actions- 20% increased canopy. The concern is that this could lead to a focus on that single action and a neglect of the remaining 40 actions.
- Some concerns with the removal of point 9 relating to the role of the group as Urban Forest Ambassadors. These concerns relate to about the clarity of what group members can contribute to and when they are in breach of the Terms of Reference.
- Consensus that while some group members had concerns with the changes the core function of the group was maintained and would not be significantly affected.
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#### Strategic outcomes

{strategic-outcomes}

#### Next steps

*Nil*

## 5 General business

### Tree Stories

The idea for a Tree Stories video focused on the retention of trees on private property during development was discussed. It was agreed this is a suitable target for messaging and encouraging land owners to retain trees for the benefit it provides the final development outcome.

### Leavy Streets Program

Officers are currently working on a video on the Leafy Streets Program which explain the program and the essential requirement of street trees in creating a healthy urban environment. The intent is also to clarify the public nature of street trees and of verge land.

A letter and postcard have been sent to residents of star street and O'Dea Street explaining the street tree planting planned for the street.

### Concerns regarding dead trees

Discussion about how dead trees are reported back to Parks. Are they to be replanted and further to how they are picked up? – yes, they are recorded by the watering contractor and are replanted the following year.

- Zone 2x dead trees were mentioned – Park trees are audited every 2 years and these trees are irrigated therefore may not have been recorded yet.

## 6 Actions from previous meetings

Action	Responsible Officer	Status / Comments	Closed Date
Incorporation of ArborCarbon mapping into public intramaps system	PQ	In progress	Open
Next stage of Rutland Avenue presented at UFS IWG meeting	PQ	Open – still in development by ops team	Open
PQ to investigate volunteer grove as recognition of service and volunteering associated with the UFS.	PQ	Proposed delay until after planting season 2021.	Open

## 7 Close

Ms Heather Johnstone closed the meeting at 8.25am.