



NOTES

June Council Agenda Briefing
Held in the Collier Park Community Centre
Tuesday 20 June 2006
Commencing at 5.30pm

Present:

Mayor, J Collins, JP (Chairman)

Councillors:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| G W Gleeson | Civic Ward (from 5.35pm) |
| B W Hearne | Como Beach Ward |
| L M Macpherson | Como Beach Ward (from 6.20pm) |
| L J Jamieson | Manning Ward |
| L P Ozsdolay | Manning Ward |
| C A Cala | McDougall Ward |
| R Wells, JP | McDougall Ward |
| R B Maddaford | Mill Point Ward |
| D S Smith | Mill Point Ward |
| S Doherty | Moresby Ward |
| K R Trent, RFD | Moresby Ward (from 5.43pm) |

Officers:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Mr C Frewing | Chief Executive Officer |
| Mr R Burrows | Director Corporate and Community Services |
| Mr S Cope | Director Strategic and Regulatory Services |
| Mr G Flood | Director Infrastructure Services |
| Mr M Kent | Director Financial and Information Services |
| Mr R Bercov | Manager Development Services |
| Mr S Camillo | Manager Environment Health & Regulatory Services (until 6.28pm) |
| Mr L Croxford | Manager Engineering Infrastructure |
| Ms D Gray | Manager Financial Services |
| Mr M Taylor | Manager City Environment |
| Mr S McLaughlin | Legal and Governance Officer |
| Mrs K Russell | Minute Secretary |

Gallery

Three members of the public were present and one member of the press

OPENING

The Mayor opened the Agenda Briefing at 5.30pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. He then advised the public present that they were not permitted to ask questions or interject in the proceedings and he reminded Members that Agenda Briefings were not part of the decision-making process but an opportunity for them to raise questions on the Agenda Items presented.

ITEMS THE SUBJECT OF THE AGENDA BRIEFING

The Chief Executive Officer commenced the presentation and gave a brief summary of each of the following reports on the June 2006 Council Agenda. Questions and points of clarification were raised by Members and responded to by the officers.

Note: Cr Gleeson arrived at 5.35pm

9.0.1 Submissions on Proposed Naming of Right-of-Way Nos. 75 and 76

This report considers submissions on the naming of Right-of-Way Nos. 75 and 76 and to make a recommendation to the Geographic Name Committee.

9.0.2 Proposed Closure of Right-of-way No. 88

In February Council resolved to close ROW88, except for a short portion at the eastern end. The City has now received a submission on this remaining portion of the ROW agreeing to the further closure and to paying for purchase of the full width of that portion.

9.0.3 Ward Boundary and Representation Review

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1995* the City has conducted a review of its Ward Boundaries. It is now appropriate for Council to formally resolve on the proposed changes and to adopt the report so as to enable its submission to the Local Government Advisory Board by 30 June 2006 to complete the review process.

9.2.1 South Perth Tram Restoration Project - Mends Street

This report outlines a proposal by the South Perth Historical Society to locate a restored 1922 tram as a tourist attraction in Mends Street.

Note: Cr Trent arrived at 5.43pm

9.2.2 Red Bull Air Race 2006

This report considers an application for the use of Sir James Mitchell Park to hold a Red Bull Air Race over the Swan River in November 2006, and to approve the road closures for the event.

9.3.1 Proposed Modification to Roof Design of Approved Multiple Dwellings. Canning Highway cnr Banksia Terrace, South Perth

This report considers a proposal to modify the roof design for Multiple Dwellings previously approved at the December 2004 Council Meeting. The development site formerly housed the Hurlingham Hotel. The former Hotel was demolished some months ago and the site has stood vacant since that time. Owing to the significant change from the roof design previously approved by Council, it is appropriate to refer the matter to a Council meeting for determination.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST : MAYOR COLLINS : ITEM 9.3.2

Mayor Collins declared an interest, as follows:

I wish to declare a conflict of interest in Agenda Item 9.3.2 on the Council Agenda for the meeting to be held 27 June 2006. Due to my close association with Members of the Board of the South Perth Hospital in Fortune Street, South Perth I will leave the Council Chamber and not seek to discuss or vote on this matter.

Note: Mayor Collins left the Chamber at 5.56pm. Deputy Mayor Maddaford took the position of Chair.

9.3.2 Proposed Single Storey Additions and Alterations to South Perth Hospital

This report deals with an application for planning approval for single storey additions and alterations to the South Perth Hospital. Council's discretion is sought in regard to setback variations and landscaped area requirement. The Council also needs to determine issues relating to car parking.

Note: Mayor Collins returned to the Chamber at 6.05pm and resumed his position as Chairman.

9.3.3 Submission on Review of Residential Design Codes

This report presents a comprehensive submission on the review of (WAPC) Residential Design Codes (R-Codes) and will also be the subject of a Concept Briefing scheduled for 21 June.

9.3.4 Additions and Alterations incorporating Replacement Roofing for a Grouped Dwelling 10 Isabella Crescent, Manning

The applicant wishes to change the roof cover of the existing front dwelling from tiles to colorbond metal sheeting. This application conflicts with the City's "General Design Guidelines Policy" and is referred to Council for determination.

9.3.5 Proposed Temporary Use of Land for Motor Vehicle and Marine Sales Premises. No. 250 Canning Highway, Como.

This application seeks planning approval for the Temporary Use of Lot 81 Canning Highway, Como as Motor Vehicle and Marine Sales Premises for a period of 3.5 years.

9.3.6 Proposed 4 x Storey Single House. No. 4 Mill Point Close, South Perth

This application for planning approval relates to a four storey Single House and is referred to Council as it involves a building higher than 9.0 metres. The proposed building height is 12.8 metres.

9.3.7 Proposed Mixed Development Cnr George Street and Baron Hay Court, Kensington

This report deals with an application for planning approval for a proposed Mixed Development comprising 16 Aged or Dependent Persons' Dwellings and 19 Grouped Dwellings and a Communal Centre as part of the Ngala Family Resource Centre. Council's discretion is sought in regard to the Mixed Development being a "D" (discretionary) use under the City's Town Planning Scheme No. 6 (TPS6) which means it is a use not permitted unless the Council has exercised its discretion by granting planning approval.

Note: Cr Macpherson arrived at 6.20pm

9.4.1 National and State Road Safety Black Spot Program 2007/08 Submission

This report lists a schedule of projects prepared for funding consideration in the National and State Black Spot Programs 2007-08.

9.5.1 Amalgamation of Local Emergency Management Committees (Canning and South Perth)

This report considers the amalgamation of the Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMC) of the Cities of Canning and South Perth, forming an over-arching LEMC to represent the interests of both local governments and to nominate a Council Member to sit on the LEMC.

9.5.2 Extraordinary Election

Following the resignation of Cr McDougall, the office of councillor for Civic ward became vacant. The *Local Government Act 1995* (the Act) requires that an extraordinary election be held to fill the vacancy. Council needs to decide upon a date for the election and upon the appointment of the Western Australian Electoral Commissioner to conduct the election.

Note: Manager Environmental Health and Regulatory Services retired from the meeting at 6.28pm

9.6.1 Monthly Financial Management Accounts - May 2006

This report details monthly management account summaries compiled according to the major functional (departmental) classifications presented to Council to permit comparison of actual performance against budget expectations.

9.6.2 Monthly Statement of Funds, Investments and Debtors at 31 May 2006

This report presents to Council a statement summarising the effectiveness of treasury management for the month.

9.6.3 Warrant of Payments Listing

This report lists accounts paid by the CEO under delegated authority between 1 May 2006 and 31 May 2006.

9.7.1 Standing Orders Local Law

The current Standing Orders Local Law 2002 has been extensively reviewed over the past 12 months resulting in a new draft local law. It is proposed to replace the current Standing Orders with the new draft and for this purpose the local law making procedures of the *Local Government Act 1995* need to be initiated.

9.7.2 Review of Council Delegations

This report deals with the review of Council's Delegations previously presented to the Audit and Governance Committee. The Committee's recommendation is now presented to Council for decision.

9.7.3 Review of Code of Conduct

Every local government is to review its code of conduct within 12 months after each ordinary elections day and make such changes as it considers appropriate.

The *Local Government (Official Conduct) Amendment Bill 2005* is presently before State Parliament and is expected to be passed into law within the next three months. The Bill once enacted will replace many of the provisions contained in the City's Code of Conduct and will require local governments to significantly revise their existing codes.

Because the present review has been conducted with the imminent prospect of this legislative reform in mind, only minor changes are recommended for the Code.

Items 11.1 to 11.3 inclusive

The CEO referred to items 11.1 to 11.3 as follows, being Motions proposed from Members. Questions were raised and responded to.

11.1 Removal of Condition of Planning Approval issued for Single House Lot 650 (No. 5) Carey Street, Kensington : Cr K Trent 9 June 2006

This Motion proposed to revoke a condition of planning approval approved at a previous Council meeting.

11.2 Clause 3.6 of the City of South Perth Standing Orders Local Law : Cr D Smith : 14.6.2006

The Motion proposes to remove a Clause of the City's Standing Orders Local Law.

11.3 Policy of Open Accountable and Clearly Transparent Tender Processes : Cr D Smith : 14.6.2006

The Motion refers to the Tender Processes.

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

The Agenda Briefing was closed to the public at 6.40pm while *Confidential* item 13.1.1 was discussed.

Note: The three members of the public gallery and the member of the press together with the following officers left the Chamber at 6.40pm.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Mr R Burrows | Director Corporate and Community Services |
| Mr S Cope | Director Strategic and Regulatory Services |
| Mr G Flood | Director Infrastructure Services |
| Mr M Kent | Director Financial and Information Services |
| Mr R Bercov | Manager Development Services |
| Mr L Croxford | Manager Engineering Infrastructure |
| Ms D Gray | Manager Financial Services |
| Mr M Taylor | Manager City Environment |

13.1.1 Supreme Court Legal Action *CONFIDENTIAL REPORT*

Report Item 13.1.1 was discussed. Questions were raised by Members and responded to by the Officers.

Discussion on *Confidential* Item 13.1.1 concluded at 6.55pm.

DRAFT BUDGET

The Director Financial and Information Services returned to the meeting at 6.56pm and distributed copies of the “Council Member Information Pack” in relation to the 2006/2007 proposed Budget to the Council Members.

Note: The June Council Agenda Briefing concluded at 6.58m.

CONFIDENTIAL MEMBER WORKSHOP: COUNCILLORS/STAFF RELATIONSHIPS

Following a meal break, all Council Members that were present at the commencement of the Agenda Briefing, together with the Minute Secretary, returned to the Chamber at 7.45pm.

A *Confidential* Workshop with Members took place and was facilitated by Mayor Collins.

Closure

The Mayor closed the Workshop at 9.35pm



NOTES
CONCEPT FORUM
RESIDENTIAL DESIGN CODES REVIEW SUBMISSION
Held in the Collier Park Village Community Centre
Wednesday 21 June 2006 commencing at 5.30pm

Present:

Mayor J Collins, JP (Chairman) from 5.40pm

Councillors:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------|
| B W Hearne | Como Beach Ward |
| L M Macpherson | Como Beach Ward from 5.50pm |
| L P Ozsdolay | Manning Ward |
| C A Cala | McDougall Ward |
| R B Maddaford | Mill Point Ward |
| D S Smith | Mill Point Ward |
| S Doherty | Moresby Ward |
| K R Trent, RFD | Moresby Ward |

Officers:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Mr Steve Cope | Director Strategic & Regulatory Services |
| Mr R Bercov | Manager Planning Services |

Apologies

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Mr C Frewing | Chief Executive Officer |
| Cr L J Jamieson | Manning Ward |
| Cr R Wells, JP | McDougall Ward |
| Cr G W Gleeson | Civic Ward |

OPENING

The Deputy Mayor opened the Concept Forum at 5.30pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Residential Design Codes Review Submission

The Director Strategic and Regulatory Services introduced the topic explaining that as noted in Item 9.3.3 of the draft report for the June 2006 Council meeting the WAPC has granted Council an extension of time until 30/6/2006 to make a submission on the review of the R-Codes. In preparing a report and submission, officers had highlighted 5 key matters within the R-Codes which had been the focus of recent reports before Council, including exercise of discretion, density bonus applicable to Aged or Dependent Persons' Dwellings and Single Bedroom Dwellings, calculation of plot ratio, definition of balcony and requirement for vehicular access to be confined to a secondary street or ROW where available.

The Manager Development Services outlined the City's draft submission on the Review of the R-Codes contained in Attachment 9.3.3 to the agenda for the June 2006 Council meeting. Questions were received and responded to on the following:

- definition of plot ratio.
- calculation of site area with respect to access leg to battleaxe lot
- Clause 6.1.3 A3i density bonus which may be applicable to aged or dependent persons' dwellings or single bedroom dwellings
- street walls and fences for properties on the north side versus the south side of the street.
- proposed inclusion of an additional performance criterion relating to courtyard provision
- car parking requirements for special purpose, multiple dwellings and grouped dwellings
- vehicular access from secondary streets and rights of way
- no minimum number of aged or dependent persons' dwellings
- the definition of balcony

As a result of discussion at the Concept Forum, the Manager, Development Services advised that he would amend the comments on three of the matters dealt with in the draft submission.

2. Closure

The Mayor closed the Concept Forum at 7.25pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.



NOTES

CONCEPT FORUM

- SEMRC Resource Receiving Facility Feasibility Study Update
- 2006 Waste Conference/Technical Tour
**Held in the Collier Park Village Community Centre
Monday 26 June 2006 commencing at 5.30pm**

Present:

Mayor J Collins, JP (Chairman)

Councillors:

L P Ozsdolay

Manning Ward

R B Maddaford

Mill Point Ward

K R Trent, RFD

Moresby Ward

Officers:

Mr C Frewing

Chief Executive Officer

Mr S Cope

Director, Strategic & Regulatory Services

Mr S Camillo

Manager, Environmental Health & Regulatory Services

Presenters/Guests

Ms J Grimoldby

Chief Executive Officer, SEMRC

Mr B Boelen

Consultant - Clifton Coney Group

Apologies

Cr L M Macpherson

Como Beach Ward

Cr C A Cala

McDougall Ward

Cr S Doherty

Moresby Ward

Cr R Wells, JP

McDougall Ward

Cr D S Smith

Mill Point Ward

OPENING

The Mayor opened the Concept Forum at 5.30pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. SEMRC RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE

The Chief Executive Officer, introduced the South East Metropolitan Regional Council (SEMRC) , Chief Executive Officer, Ms Jan Grimoldby and the SEMRC Consultant from Clifton Coney Group, Mr Bart Boelen to the meeting. He then advised that the purpose of the presentation was to give the Council an update on where the consultant had progressed to date with the Feasibility Study being conducted on behalf of the SEMRC. The Study is focusing on the development of a Resource Recovery Facility for the treatment of domestic waste and recyclables for the SEMRC's member Councils and to manage the establishment process if considered feasible.

Ms Jan Grimoldby and Mr Bart Boelen gave a verbal presentation covering the following topics:

The feasibility study process involves:

- Identify land options for a future resource recovery facility;
- Identify preferred technologies for each land option identified;
- Identify preferred option for contractual arrangements for a resource recovery facility;
- Identify financial implications and viability for a future resource recovery facility;
- Identify alternatives to a facility for the region;
- Engage the community in debate on waste reduction and resource recovery in order to have community support for preferred option's
- Investigate alternative partnership options.

There are 22 tasks associated with the feasibility study and the current progress at this stage is as follows:

Task 1 - Project Management Plan (PMP) and Schedule: Task complete (original scope).

Task 2 - Land & Technology Options Guiding Principles: Task complete (original scope).

Task 3 – Preliminary Technical and Financial Assessment: Task complete (original scope).

Tasks 4 and 6 Consultation with SEMRC and Others:

- Regular team meetings with TAC are ongoing.
- First round of Council Briefing Sessions held with all participating Councils.
- Tender for appointment of a Community Consultation Specialist closes 5 July 2006, and a Recommendation is expected to be tabled to SEMRC.

Task 5 and 7 –Assessment of Sites and Technologies

A matrix of multi-criteria assessment of example sites is complete and will be presented to TAC for discussion at the July 2006 TAC meeting, with a view to refining a short list of sites.

Task 9 – Financial Model and Contract Options

As part of the general financial modelling process, a workshop was conducted in early March 2006 with the study participants to address the crucial issue of finance and contractual arrangements between participating councils, and a draft report to be prepared.

2. WASTE 2006 CONFERENCE AND TECHNICAL TOUR

Councillor Kevin Trent and the Director Strategic and Regulatory Services, Mr Steve Cope presented a paper on their recent attendance at the Waste 2006 Conference and Technical Tour in New South Wales and Coff Harbour. The Technical Tour attended several locations, detailed as follows, and looked at different technologies for the treatment of municipal solid waste.

UR 3R FACILITY, EASTERN CREEK

- \$70m capital cost \$200m whole of life cost over 25 yr lifespan
- Processes 175,000 tpa MSW and commercial waste
- Recovers recyclables and produces renewable energy, high quality composts and soil conditioners

EARTHCARE RECYCLING PLANT, SOMERSBY

- Services Gosford Shire (85tpd) and shires of Lake Macquarie, Maitland and Cessnock and North Sydney Council.
- Operates 24 hours per day 260 days per year
- Process includes glass optical sorting and glass crushing, cleaning and screening
- Optical sorting machine \$1m capital cost

REMONDIS ORGANICS RRF, PORT MACQUARIE

- Remondis, (formerly Rethmann) 60 plants in Europe
- Opened 2001 for Port Macquarie - Hastings Shire to reduce waste to landfill
- \$1m capital cost
- Process involves:
 - pre sorting of green waste to remove contaminants
 - sludge added to shredded material in mechanical mixer
 - 30 days in composting tunnels at 55°C with added moisture & aeration
 - maturation in open air
 - final screening

COFFS COAST RRF COFFS HARBOUR

- Site ultimately to consist of Materials Recovery Facility (opened December 2005)
- New 3 bin service recently introduced for the 3 participating Councils
- RRF technology involves
 - processing source separated organics within agitated bay
 - pasteurisation within autoclave at 40°C for 14 days (3 days @ 50°C)
 - biofilter to remove living organisms, scrub ammonia
 - testing to confirm pathogen reduction

Copies of the presentation were provided to Council Members. The summary paper included notes on the Key Issues covered at the Waste 2006 conference. A full report to be made available to Councillors.

Questions were asked and responses provided by the officers.

3. CLOSURE

The Mayor closed the Concept Forum at 7.15 pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.



NOTES CONCEPT FORUM

- Planning Department Structure
 - Planning Legislation
- Held in the Collier Park Village Community Centre
Tuesday 4 July 2006 commencing at 5.30pm**

Present:

Mayor J Collins, JP (Chairman)

Councillors:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| G W Gleeson | Civic Ward |
| B W Hearne | Como Beach Ward |
| L M Macpherson | Como Beach Ward |
| L J Jamieson | Manning Ward |
| L P Ozsdolay | Manning Ward |
| C A Cala | McDougall Ward |
| R B Maddaford | Mill Point Ward |
| K R Trent, RFD | Moresby Ward |

Officers:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Mr C Frewing | Chief Executive Officer |
| Mr S Cope | Director Strategic & Regulatory Services |
| Mr R Bercov | Manager Development Services (from 6.15pm) |

Presenters

| | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| Mr D McLeod | McLeods Lawyers (from 6.15pm) |
|-------------|-------------------------------|

Apologies

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Cr S Doherty | Moresby Ward - Leave of Absence |
| Cr D S Smith | Mill Point Ward |
| Cr R Wells, JP | McDougall Ward |

OPENING

The Mayor opened the Concept Forum at 5.30pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Planning Department Structure

The Chief Executive Officer introduced the item. The Director Strategic and Regulatory Services explained that the structure of the Planning Department was under review in view of an upward trend in development applications over the last 5 years, relatively high staff turnover, new Planning and Development Act, the need to progress strategic town planning targets and the increasingly complex and detailed reporting required as a result of interpretation issues and SAT decisions.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that a report on this item would be submitted to the July Council meeting.

Note: Mr Denis McLeod of McLeods Lawyers arrived at 6.15pm

2. Planning Legislation / Amenity Considerations in Town Planning

The City's lawyer, Mr Denis McLeod, attended the meeting to address the Council Members on the new Planning and Development Act and also to discuss the manner in which Council should consider "amenity" when dealing with development applications. To supplement his presentation at the meeting, Mr McLeod provided copies of the following documents for circulation:

- Discussion Paper on the Planning and Development Act 2005
- Notes relating to "amenity" with reference to appeals in the former Town Planning Appeal Tribunal
- McLeods July 2005 Client Bulletin titled "Compliance with Residential Design Codes does not Mandate Development Approval"

(a) Discussion Paper on the Planning and Development Act 2005

In outlining the content of the new Act, Mr McLeod made the point that his discussion paper only identifies the differences between the old Town Planning and Development Act and the new Act. He commenced with historical background leading to the final proclamation of the new Act on 9 April 2006. This was followed by a description of various sections of the Act dealing with Region Planning Schemes, subdivision and development control, compensation and acquisition of land, local planning schemes, State Planning Policies and retrospective planning approvals.

Mr McLeod then responded to questions raised by Council Members.

(b) Amenity

In discussing the manner in which "amenity" issues should be dealt with, Mr McLeod referred to the circulated notes on this subject. He made specific reference to the approach of the former Town Planning Appeal Tribunal (TPAT) which tended to downgrade the neighbour submissions to local councils on amenity impact.

Mr McLeod further advised that the consideration of amenity is fundamental to local councils' administration of "Planning" powers. He referred to comments in his notes concerning the identification of the affected locality when dealing with the question of amenity impact. He cited the *Tempora* case in this context and referred to the difference between subjective and objective consideration of evidence in this regard.

He made the point that the SAT decisions in recent times have taken more account of amenity than in the past. He cited the 2005 case of *Nicol v. Western Australian Planning Commission* in this regard.

(c) Compliance with Residential Design Codes does not Mandate Development Approval

The McLeods Client Bulletin dealing with this subject cites a number of relevant SAT decisions; however Mr McLeod did not expand upon these decisions. Rather it was left to the Council Members to review the information in the Client Bulletin.

3. Closure

The Mayor closed the Concept Forum at 7.40pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.



NOTES
CONCEPT FORUM
Assessment of Planning Approvals
Held in the Collier Park Village Community Centre
Monday 10 July 2006 commencing at 5.30pm

Present:

Mayor J Collins, JP (Chairman)

Councillors:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| G W Gleeson | Civic Ward (from 5.45pm) |
| B W Hearne | Como Beach Ward |
| L J Jamieson | Manning Ward (from 5.52pm) |
| L P Ozsdolay | Manning Ward |
| C A Cala | McDougall Ward (from 5.45pm) |
| R Wells, JP | McDougall Ward |
| R B Maddaford | Mill Point Ward |
| D S Smith | Mill Point Ward |
| K R Trent, RFD | Moresby Ward (from 5.35pm) |

Officers:

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Mr C Frewing | Chief Executive Officer |
| Mr S Cope | Director Strategic and Regulatory Services |
| Mr R Bercov | Manager Planning Services |
| Mr C Buttle | Team Leader Planning Services |
| Mr S McLaughlin | Legal and Governance Officer |

Apologies

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cr S Doherty | Moresby Ward - Leave of Absence |
| Cr L M Macpherson | Como Beach Ward |

OPENING

The Mayor opened the Concept Forum at 5.30pm and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Assessment of Planning Approvals

The Chief Executive Officer introduced the item explaining that the City had been investigating a complaint lodged by the Kensington Community Association regarding the plot ratio legal compliance of selected multi units developments in the City of South Perth.

The Director Strategic and Regulatory Services explained the process followed to investigate the complaint covering:

- criteria applied in selection of City of Belmont to undertake external audit
- high staff turnover within planning teams contributing to time taken
- interpretation issues arising in the use of external auditor
- City of South Perth response to audit.

The Director Strategic and Regulatory Services advised that the review of City of South Perth Planning Officers' assessments of plans submitted for planning approval, and cross checking of working drawings submitted for building approval, did not identify any of the significant calculation errors claimed by the Kensington Community Association. The Director Strategic and Regulatory Services advised that the City of South Perth's interpretation of the plot ratio definition contained in the Residential Design Codes, altered with the introduction of the 2002 R-Codes and changed again in response to the determination of two appeal matters by the State Administrative Tribunal in September - October 2005.

The Director Strategic and Regulatory Services advised that the audit report also contained a series of recommendations for changes to development assessment practices and that these recommendations were being progressively implemented.

It was generally agreed that the City would review the 'as built' construction to compare with the approved building plans.

It was also noted that the developer of one particular multi-unit development may be promoting the sale of units at a greater size than that approved. The administration agreed to review the documentation.

The Team Leader Planning Services gave a verbal summary addressing the alleged non-compliance, the audit findings and the response to the audit in respect to each property identified.

Questions raised and responded to by officers.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Deputy Mayor extended congratulations to Team Leader Planning Services, Christian Buttle on his presentation and the Mayor, on behalf of the Councillors present endorsed the comments by congratulating the Planning Team on a thorough assessment and presentation.

2. Closure

The Mayor closed the Concept Forum at 7.25pm and thanked everyone for their attendance.

REPORT TO COUNCIL - PROGRESS AGAINST PERFORMANCE INDICATORS JULY 2006

Goal 1 - Customer Focus

To be a customer focused organisation that promotes effective communication and encourages community participation

Strategy 1.1 Create a customer focused culture through the implementation and monitoring of the Customer Service Delivery Model

Actions:

Customer Service telephone greeting/welcome message revised based on call patterns and more efficient/effective. In addition, the following initiatives and improvements to the Call Centre have occurred:

- o Responses to correspondence measured in accordance with guidelines contained in Customer Service Charter.
- o Call Centre has been operational for 18 months. Continuous improvement review was conducted in October 2005. Enhancements based on feedback were introduced in December 2005. Performance is now being regularly monitored and reported.
- o New after hours process was introduced on 26 June 2006 after extensive testing.
- o Internal Service Information Database of over 200 topics is in use by customer focus team to ensure delivery of accurate, consistent information.
- o A comprehensive indexing referencing system has been developed for the information sheets. They are now scheduled to go live via website in July 2006.
- o The new service model using a dedicated Cashier position has been operating very successfully for 18 months.
- o Procedures and Practices have been regularly reviewed to ensure alignment with Customer Service Charter guidelines. Receipting accuracy and timeliness has greatly improved - cashiers are now providing additional support to Building and Planning areas
- o Council kept fully informed of progress and initiatives through regular updates in Bulletin.

Strategy 1.2 Implement the Customer Action Request System and measure the responsiveness against the commitments of the Customer Service Charter.

Actions:

- o Customer request categories and workflows have been developed. Testing on the new software is currently occurring.

The nature of the process will require a number of processes to be critically reviewed and modified where necessary. A detailed timeline for the remaining implementation will be developed by September 2006.

Attachment 9.1.1

Strategy 1.3 Undertake research in order to assess performance and gauge opinions and priorities for future service delivery.

Actions:

| | |
|---|---|
| Council Performance Monitor | Completed June 2006. Covering a broad range of council programs and services, results to be compared with the same survey conducted in 2004. Results to be presented to a Council Briefing in the near future. |
| Section 18 Aboriginal Consultation | Significant consultation with a number of Aboriginal groups with recommendations to be used for foreshore development and management. Ministerial approval obtained to proceed with development as a result. |
| Families with Young Children and Seniors and Older Citizens needs studies | Targeted consultation with findings and recommendations to be used in the development of strategies for these two cohorts in 2006/07 - (findings were presented at a Council briefing on 3/5/06). |
| Sporting Facilities Needs Study | Consultation involving sporting and recreation clubs using council facilities. Findings and recommendations will be used to guide the City's building and maintenance strategies for these facilities and to assist in supporting COSP Sporting and Recreational Clubs (findings were presented at a council briefing on 3/5/06). |
| Neighbourhood Watch Review | An action in the City's Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan, this review included consultation with NHW members and will be used to develop a relevant local action plan for the program in 2006/07. |
| Disability Access and Inclusion Plan | Under new legislation LGAs are now required to develop these plans. Consultation involved community surveys and stakeholder interviews with key agencies and community groups. Plan due for completion in July 2006. |
| Precinct Studies | Canning and South Perth Train Stations, and the 'Waterford Triangle'. Conducted as part of 'Network City' these studies include extensive community consultation to identify opportunities resulting from these developments. |
| Survey of Food Premises in the City | Survey of local businesses conducted in July 2005 to gauge the standard of service delivery by the City's Environmental Health area |
| Additional consultations | Sustainability Strategy Draft - September 2005 David Vincent Park 'Hit Up Wall' - August 2005 Community Safety Resource Centre Review - February 2006 Cape Lilac Tree surveys - 4 in 05/06 |

Strategy 1.4 Implement the Communication and Consultation Policy to ensure consistent and high quality communication processes with our residents, ratepayers and other stakeholders.

Actions:

- o Communication and Consultation Policy reviewed in March 2005 and features different levels of communication and consultation for informing, consulting, involving and collaborating.
 - The City allocates significant resources to 'Informing' through the website, *The Peninsula*, City Update, Press Releases and weekly Bulletin.
 - Major effort is also directed to 'Consulting' in relation to a wide range of City activities, ie significant Town Planning developments, Infrastructure works and governance matters, ie review of Local Laws etc.
 - Involving the Community is an important part of City operations and this occurs on a regular basis in many ways, ie development of major policies such as the Neighbourhood Consultation Policy which was adopted in July 2005, the Residential Design Guidelines which will shortly be ready for community input. Community workshops have been held in relation to Strategic Planning for TravelSmart/Roadwise, the National Crime Prevention Funding Submission and a seminar on Greenhouses.
 - Collaboration relates to involvement with Community Advisory Groups. The City regularly interacts with a number of these groups in the development of strategies, plans and development proposals.

Strategy 1.5 Develop and implement internal and external customer satisfaction surveys to improve the effectiveness of organisational processes.

Actions:

- o Numerous surveys conducted since the commencement of the current Strategic Plan. Next survey involves residents at Collier Park Village which is scheduled to be conducted in July 2006.

Strategy 1.6 Continue to explore new and innovative ways of service delivery to make it easier for customers to access information and conduct business with the City.

Actions:

- o Next release of City's website commissioned. Website is continually enhanced with inclusion of Tenders on-line and access to Intramaps for residents via the web. Topical items such as Skyshow and Fiesta are added when in season. All information is regularly validated and updated.
- o Intermaps (GIS) commissioned on the City's Internet site and available to members of the public.
- o Benchmarking of customer service delivery has commenced for the 2005/06 year and performance is being reported to Managers quarterly. Information is successfully being used to determine staffing requirements and rosters in the Customer focus Team..
- o Database of community directory has been created and hard copy produced. GIS Officer is developing the GIS layer and web interface.
- o Facility to conduct Web based surveys has been completed and is available for use.

- o Continuing to uptake technology driven payment methods including BPay, Aust Post Billpay and internet via City website. Direct debit and online payment is proving popular with Collier Park Village and Hostel residents - relieving families of responsibility for remembering monthly accounts.

Strategy 1.7 Establish consultative community mechanisms in order to involve the community in the planning and development of local area precincts.

Actions:

- Neighbourhood Consultation Policy adopted in July 2005
Following a lengthy preparation and review process involving extensive community input in response to advertising, Council Policy P104 "Neighbour and Community Consultation in Town Planning Processes" was adopted at the July 2005 Council meeting. This policy documents and consolidates the consultation processes which have been in place for many years. Having now been in operation for 12 months, the policy is proving to be extremely effective in ensuring that neighbour consultation is conducted in a consistent manner and that developers and neighbouring property owners understand the required procedures.

- Residential Design Guidelines currently being reviewed for release to the public for comment
The Council has a considerable number of policies relating to residential development. These are intended to be consolidated into the Residential Design Policy Manual. While this document has been extensively considered by the Council and has also had the benefit of community input following advertising of the draft document, final adoption of the new Policy Manual has been delayed due to the need for further review. This has come about due to recognition of practical difficulties in the implementation of many of the policy provisions. A number of the public submissions on the draft document reflected concerns of this nature.

Recently the State Government's Residential Design Codes have been reviewed and a draft of the revised document has been opened for public comment. At the June 2006 Council meeting, a comprehensive submission on this document prepared by the Manager, Development Services was endorsed. That submission has now been forwarded to the Western Australian Planning Commission. The final adoption of the Council's Residential Design Policy Manual needs to await the final outcome of the State Government's review of the Residential Design Codes to ensure that the Council's policy is properly aligned with the revised R-Codes.

Goal 2 - Community Enrichment

To foster a strong sense of community and prosperous business environment

Strategy 2.1 Develop and implement a 'Connected Community Plan' to: Address the specific needs of aged families, youth, unemployed; and Encourage opportunities for community development and vitality.

Actions:

Progress has been made on a significant number of actions contained in the Connected Community Plan as follows:

| ITEM | COMMENT |
|--|---|
| CCP 1.3 - Plan and implement an annual range of Community Arts and Events based on new and successful initiatives... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Art installed in Windsor Park • Community Events held in Windsor Park and David Vincent Park • COSP Art Award held in Heritage House • 3 concerts for seniors held in the Cygnet Cinema • Fiesta 2006 held between March 18 and April 2 • Pioneer Lunch, Australia Day Breakfast, ANZAC Day Ceremony and Remembrance Day Ceremony all presented in 05/06 • Participation in 'Banners in the Terrace' - Local Government Week |
| CCP 1.5 Continue to manage the City's Funding Program..... | 39 community organisations and 27 individuals supported in 2005/06 |
| CCP 1.6 Plan and incorporate a 'Neighbourhood Celebration' fund.... | 'Connected Communities BBQs' program implemented as part of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan. 4 held in 2005/06 |
| CCP 1.11 Explore opportunities to assist the City's educational institutions to be more connected to the wider community.... | Participation on the Campus and Community Life at Curtin steering committee assisting in the development of a community event scheduled on October 29 2006. |
| CCP 1.13 Implement the Safer City Action Plan and commence the development of a Community Safety Plan in line with OCP funding... | Plan completed and endorsed by council. Relevant funding received from the Office of Crime Prevention and implementation underway. |
| CCP 2.1 Develop a Families Strategy to ascertain needs, future demands, and identify opportunities to engage with existing agencies to priorities the allocation of resources | Extensive consultation undertaken into the needs of Families. (Needs study findings presented at a Council briefing on 3/5/06) Information to be used to develop a strategy in 06/07 |

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| <p>CCP 2.2 Investigate centralising infant health clinics to be located at the two community focal points</p> | <p>Investigation of current infant health centres undertaken as a collaboration with the University of Western Australia through a student placement program. Information gathered to be used as part of the feasibility process for phase 3 of the Civic Centre redevelopment.</p> |
| <p>CCP 2.4 Coordinate specific Family Focused events</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Little Kids Capers</i> held as a community event in David Vincent Park 15/1/06 • <i>Little Kids Adventures</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 in McDougall Park • <i>Rotary Family Carnival</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>Clontarf Family Concert</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>Free Family Concert & Fireworks Display</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 |
| <p>CCP 3.2 Coordinate specific Youth Focussed events and support activities such as the Student Scholarship program</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>YACJAM</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>A Stitch in Time</i> Hip Hop intergenerational project held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>Smarter than Smoking Unwind</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>Rotary Twilight Showcase</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>Millennium Kids Roadshow</i> held as part of Fiesta 2006 • <i>8 Student Scholarships</i> taken up by COSP residents • Financial and logistical assistance given for the <i>United Nations Youth Dialogue</i> |
| <p>CCP 3.3 Assist and resource the YAC to plan and implement a range of activities</p> | <p>The City's Community Project Officer supports the YAC in this role. YAC involved in planning YACJAM; a Youth Leadership Day, Millennium Kids Roadshow and United Nations Youth Dialogue</p> |
| <p>CCP 4.1 Develop a Seniors Strategy to ascertain needs, future demands and work with existing agencies to address the allocation of resources</p> | <p>Extensive consultation undertaken into the needs of Seniors and Older Citizens. (Needs study findings presented at a Council briefing on 3/5/06) Information to be used to develop a strategy in 06/07</p> |
| <p>CCP 4.2 Coordinate specific Seniors focussed events</p> | <p><i>3 free concerts</i> held at the Cygnet Cinema with support from Manning and South Perth Senior Citizens Centres <i>Pioneer Lunch</i> held in June 06 to recognise the contribution of seniors to the City's development <i>A Stitch in Time</i> intergenerational Hip Hop project held as part of Fiesta 2006</p> |

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| <p>CCP 5.2 Continue to implement and develop the Volunteers Acknowledgement Program</p> | <p>Thank a Volunteer event held in November 2005</p> |
| <p>CCP 6.1 Continue to implement ... Community Information Directory, Village Voice, Club Development Seminars, Community Network Forums, Funding Program, Community Awards...</p> | <p>All implemented and developed in 2005/06</p> |
| <p>CCP 6.2 Regularly research the sustainability of community groups to ascertain changes in support needs and celebrate best practice</p> | <p>Extensive consultation carried out with 22 local sporting and recreation clubs to ascertain sustainability, current and future needs. (findings presented at a council briefing on 3/5/06) Findings to be used to direct the City's building and maintenance program relating to City owned sporting and recreation facilities.</p> |
| <p>CCP 6.3 ...promote and implement the Community Funding Program.....</p> | <p>39 community organisations and 27 individuals supported in 2005/06</p> |
| <p>CCP 7.1 Identify and develop partnerships with local businesses through the Community Partnerships program and sponsorship opportunities to maximise resources and achieve shared outcomes</p> | <p>Sponsors for Fiesta 2006 include: Satterley Property Group, Supa Va,u Como, Kareelya Property Group, Westrac, Platform Interactive, Cleanaway, Community Newspapers, Cygnet Cinema</p> <p>Community Partnership continued with Perth Zoo, South Perth Church of Christ and Southcare Incorporated. Partnership with</p> |

Strategy 2.2 Develop community partnerships that will be mutually beneficial with stakeholder groups including educational institutions, service clubs, the business community and other organisations.

Actions

- o Sponsors for Fiesta 2006 include: Satterley Property Group, Supa Valu Como, Kareelya Property Group, Westrac, Platform Interactive, Cleanaway, Community Newspapers, Cygnet Cinema
- o Community Partnership continued with Perth Zoo, South Perth Church of Christ and Southcare Incorporated.
- o Rotary Clubs of South Perth being sought.

Strategy 2.3 Enhance the Safer City Program to support, develop and deliver residential and business initiatives that reduce crime and promote safety.

Actions

- o The City's Community Safety & Crime Prevention Plan endorsed by council in November 2005, ratified by State Government in December 2005 with relevant funding received by the City in February 2006
- o Agreement with WA Police relating to collocation of a Community Policing Unit with COSP Rangers and Safer City Officer in the Community Safety Resource Centre was reviewed in April 2006 and extended to December 2006. Programs and joint initiatives developed and implemented from the collocation of these services includes;
- o Email Crime Alerts: Instant information from the Police Operations Centre is a valuable asset and integral to the mutual relationship that exists at the Community Policing Resource Centre. (Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Award Winner 2002)
- o Safer Car Project: A collaborative pilot project initiated in December 2005 between the Western Australian Police (Kensington District), City of South Perth Rangers and the City of South Perth Safer City program targeting the reduction of theft from cars through community awareness and education. Following the success of this pilot, it is now being investigated for State-Wide rollout and continuation in
- o Safer Roads Project: A collaboration between the Rangers, Police, Safer City Officer and TravelSmart Officer to improve road safety around schools. This project is serving as the pilot project for a State-wide initiative.
- o Week long traffic and parking safety program (starting 15 May 2006) around schools to educate drivers about school zone speed limits, alternative transport options, parking and stopping issues, plus an electronic speed indicator to advise drivers of their current speed.
- o Armed Hold-Up Lectures delivered by Community Policing officers and the City's Safer City Officer: A week long series held in 2005 that included more than 350 staff from 45 businesses as part of this education program.
- o Curtin University Student Safety Program: Held as part of Curtin University's orientation day, the Community Policing Officers and the Safer City Officer conduct an induction for international students to educate them on personal and home security.
- o Bike Engraving Days: Three days held with over 1000 people having contact with the displays at Sir James Mitchell and McCallum Park's.
- o Community Safety Month (October 2005): 9.00 am to 12 noon with approximately 400 people participating. Collaborative event held at the Coode Street section of Sir James Mitchell Park. Involved Fire Brigade, Police, Safer City Officer, Rangers, TravelSmart Officer, Bicycle User Group and bike mechanics. Wesley College provided access to power for event. A special bike engraving event similar to above was held as part of Bike Week (March 2006).
- o Eyes on the Street: Has been a highly successful program whereby Council vehicles and staff act as direct conduits of information to the Police.

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- Kindergarten and Pre-Primary School Tours of the Centre: Providing information to school children about: Safety and security (Police and Safer City Officer) History of Old Police Station (Police and Safer City Officer) Responsible pet ownership (Rangers)
- Seniors Safety Presentations: Held at the seniors centres, with seniors groups and at retirement villages. Presentations by Community Policing Officers and the City's Safer City Officer inform seniors about projects including Neighbourhood Watch, personal safety, home security, banking and other scams.
- Gopher Awareness Education Program: Programmed to start in May 2006. Educating seniors and people requiring gophers for mobility about the road/use rules associated with these vehicles.
- Shopping Centre Displays: Four held throughout 2005 and 2006. Police and Council information and presence.
- Connected Communities BBQs - 4 held in 2005/06
- Multi-Agency Approach to Local Crime and Safety Issues: Anti-social issues are addressed more easily and with greater immediacy with the Community Police and Rangers based from the same location. When situations arise, Community Police, Rangers and the Safer City Officer can work more efficiently with State agencies such as Homeswest and private businesses.
- Review into the local Neighbourhood watch program commenced in April 2006, due for completion in July 2006. The review will align the local program with the new state-wide strategy
- Twenty seven Constable Care Puppet shows presented at City of South Perth Primary Schools and at the Rotary Family Carnival held as part of Fiesta 2006

Strategy 2.4 Review the current use and suitability of our community buildings and develop a strategy to ensure that the buildings meet current and future requirements, are environmentally sound and their use is maximised.

Actions

- Sporting Facilities needs study completed in April 2006 with findings presented to council at a briefing on 3/5/06. Findings and recommendations will form the basis of a report to council in August 2006 with a view to utilising findings and recommendations in the City's building strategy and Recreational Development planning.

Strategy 2.5 Develop and implement the masterplan for the Civic Centre Precinct to ensure these major facilities meet future community needs and the operational requirements of the City.

Actions

- Study into the optimum usage for phase 3 of the Civic Centre redevelopment commenced in June 2006. The study will involve extensive consultation to determine how community needs will be best served as a result of the redevelopment and will impact the final design of the works taking into consideration set parameters.

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Strategy 2.6 Implement the outcomes of the Triple Bottom Line study of the Civic Triangle, which will provide options for the future of the site to address the key social, environmental and economic factors.

Actions:

- o Council resolved in February 2005 to defer progress on the Civic Triangle Study pending the outcome of the South Perth Railway Station and Peninsula Area Strategy funded under the Network City Communities Program.
- o Council briefings scheduled to commence September/October 2006.

Strategy 2.7 Develop strategic directions for events, arts including public art, leisure, recreation and heritage that encourages a vibrant and participative community. This includes initiatives relating the George Burnett Leisure Centre, libraries, parks, river, Fiesta and other community programs.

Actions

Public Art Policy P201 was reviewed in March 2005. Subsequent to recent appointments of 2 managers in the areas of Library & Heritage Services and Community Culture & Recreation the Policy and Management Practice will be reviewed again in 2006/07.

Major projects within the Public Art program were initiated during 2005/06 and included:

- o Public Art installed in Windsor Park, ie Magic Tree and May Gibbs statue;
- o Steel Rings currently being installed at George Burnett Park;
- o 'Sea Shell' public art negotiated with Broadwater developer at Preston Street, Como.

Strategy 2.8 Explore financial incentives or funding options for the maintenance and restoration of heritage places to capitalise on the City's history and heritage.

Actions

- o Grant application for \$80,000 submitted for tuck pointing of Heritage House - result pending
- o Grant application for \$15,000 submitted to digitalise May and Herbert Gibbs Art Collection - result pending
- o Commenced development of a policy to encourage residents to apply for heritage grants - due for completion in August 2006

Goal 3 - Environmental Management

To sustainably manage, enhance and maintain the City's unique, natural and built environment.

Strategy 3.1 Implement the Cities for Climate Protection program which encourages communities to measure, monitor and reduce greenhouse emissions, which will contribute positively to a sustainable community.

Actions:

- The draft Residential Design Policy Manual now incorporates energy efficient building design and site planning guidelines
- The City has joined CCP Plus of the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign
- Milestone Two of the Water Campaign has been achieved

Strategy 3.2 Develop and implement a Sustainability Strategy and Management System to coordinate initiatives contained in associated Management Plans and to ensure City's environment is managed in a sustainable way.

Actions:

- The Sustainability Strategy was adopted by Council in December 2005
- New position of City Sustainability Coordinator has been created and filled
- Internal and external sustainability advisory groups formed

Strategy 3.3 Ensure future development and current maintenance of the river foreshore, wetlands, lakes, bushlands and parks is properly planned and sustainable and that interaction with the built environment is harmonious and of benefit to the community.

Actions:

- The City's foreshore heritage plan has been approved (Section 18 Clearance) by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs. This will facilitate future development and maintenance works on the City's foreshore
- The Sir James Mitchell Park Esplanade Landscape and Foreshore Renovation plans, as adopted by Council, have been approved by the Minister for the Environment. Now awaiting detailed design and specification ready for tendering.
- Continuation of works identified in the McDougall Park Landscape Master Plan, including reticulation upgrade and creation of an internal path network
- The Como Beach foreshore landscape plan has been approved by the Minister for the Environment. Detailed design and specification ready for tendering under way
- Completion of landscape works in George Burnett Park

Attachment 9.1.1

Strategy 3.4 Develop and implement an Integrated Transport Plan taking into account the planned Southern Suburbs Railway and the review of Canning Highway. The plan will also incorporate the TravelSmart Local Action Plan and include an examination of a community bus service.

Actions:

- o Integrated Transport Plan prepared incorporating the TravelSmart Local Action Plan; all activities for quarter achieved. Integrated Transport Plan was adopted by Council in March 2006.

Strategy 3.5 Ensure the Town Planning Scheme and supporting Policies facilitate the orderly development of the City and provides lifestyle options for residents, opportunities for business and an attractive environment for all.

Actions:

- o Policy P104 Neighbour and Community Consultation in Town Planning Processes adopted by Council
- o The draft Residential Design Policy Manual is currently being revised following advertising for presentation to Council
- o Amendment 6 to Town Planning Scheme 6 dealing with building height provisions was gazetted during 2005
- o Draft Scheme Amendments are in preparation to introduce new provisions for Mixed Development and building height limits
- o Following consultation with affected landowners, the draft revised Municipal Heritage Inventory is to be presented to Council.

Strategy 3.6 Develop Precinct Planning Strategies for the Mill Point and Canning Bridge areas to guide future development taking into account the Southern Suburbs Railway and the stations planned for these locations.

Actions:

- o Consultants were appointed in December 2005 to undertake first stage of the Mill Point and Canning Bridge railway station precinct studies and are expected to complete these studies in the 3rd quarter of 2006.

Strategy 3.7 Continue to actively support and encourage waste reduction, recycling and reuse. Seek opportunities to implement sustainable secondary waste treatment processes to significantly reduce the amount of waste going to land fill sites.

Actions:

The City of South Perth has been at the forefront of participating in a review of options in respect of long term waste disposal initiatives involving the most appropriate location and resource recovery facility technology.. In June 2005 the SEMRC resolved to appoint Clifton Coney Group to conduct the review and is progressing together with additional study partners.

Council Briefings have been held in June 2005 and March 2006 during which progress of the review has been monitored. A further briefing was held on 26 June 2006.

Strategy 3.8 Develop and implement an Integrated Stormwater Drainage Catchment Management Plan to improve the quality of stormwater reaching the rivers, lakes and wetlands by analysing all of the stormwater catchments and prescribing appropriate treatments.

Actions:

- o Council adopted the Integrated Catchment Management Plan in April 2005 with an ongoing 5 year implementation plan
- o Implementation has commenced with a water quality assessment of the City's priority catchments as identified in the plan.
- o Asset data collection of the priority storm water systems has commenced.

Goal 4 – Infrastructure

To sustainably manage, enhance and maintain the City's infrastructure assets.

Strategy 4.1 Develop plans, strategies and management systems to ensure Public Infrastructure Assets (roads, drains, footpaths, river wall, community buildings etc) are maintained to a responsible level.

Actions:

- o The newly named City Environment Team (Formerly Parks & Environment) has completely revamped its Mowing Programs to provide a more effective service and enabling more efficient use of available plant. Other maintenance programs will be progressively updated.
- o The collection of asset data still remains the priority for the Asset Planning Coordinator, with particular emphasis on street drainage and Parks infrastructure. The linking of the drainage asset information to GIS includes full GPS survey of selected catchments, the inclusion of all as constructed data from the subdivisions of Waterford and Mt Henry as well as a consolidation of known systems. Each entry will be coded to identify confidence in the data from 100% for all surveyed input to probably 50% from existing asset records.
- o Progress on Capital Works did not recover fully from the earlier supply set backs and contractor non-availability experienced in the latter weeks of the first half of the year. Carried Forward projects for Engineering Infrastructure totals about \$300,000 or about 6% of the total program. All of the Engineering works will be completed by mid-August with the exception of funding carried forward for the Underground Power Program.
- o The inability to replace the Operations Engineer continued to impact on progress with Engineering Infrastructure. The interim arrangement of elevating existing staff to absorb so much of the duties as they were capable of achieving ensured the steady progress of the Operations and Capital works programs. However a number of actions identified in the Business Plan have been deferred to 2006/07 for completion.
- o The Integrated Transport Plan and Bike Plan were adopted by Council and together will form the actions and strategies that will determine the expenditure in these areas into the future. Compilation of the TravelSmart Local Action Plan for the period 2005 to 2008 has again been delayed with staff changes and departures within the Advisory Group.
- o The City Environment Team has initiated a 'Waterwise Strategy' (Goal 3 of the Water Campaign) to ensure efficiency of the City's water use. This is to be further progressed in the second half of the year.
- o The proposed plans for Sir James Mitchell Park are now getting closer to being implemented following the approval of the works by the Swan River Trust and the Minister for the Environment at the end of January 2006. The City has also completed an extensive Indigenous Heritage consultative process to ensure that proposed management of the City's entire foreshore areas, including SJMP, are in keeping with the various Aboriginal Groups heritage considerations.

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- A number of studies have been undertaken to formulate how the City can repair and maintain the existing river wall infrastructure and these have resulted in repairs being implemented to the sections along SJMP and also to the West of the Narrows Bridge. The SJMP Foreshore Redevelopment Plan also incorporates works on improving and removing sections of the river wall. With regard to river walls on the Western Foreshore, there are more investigative works to be undertaken in this area in the second half of the year if funding proposed in the Infrastructure Capital Works budget is approved.
- The City Environment team also completed, and had adopted by Council, the City's first Integrated Catchment Management Strategy which establishes priorities for the improvement of the City's stormwater Drainage systems and outfalls to the Swan & Canning Rivers, City Lakes and Stormwater Drainage Basins.

Strategy 4.2 Review and prioritise Forward Capital Works Program taking into account the outcomes of the Community Needs Survey to ensure works are aligned with community needs.

Actions:

- The Five Year Forward Works Program continues to be updated as request for works are identified and assessed for inclusion. The projects are identified through Customer Feedback surveys, various actions identified within Traffic Management Plans, the Bike Plan and in the future through the Integrated Transport Plan and the Integrated Catchment Management Plan.
- At the Collier Park Golf Course the maintenance plan has been used to maintain and improve on the already high standard of that facility. The maintenance plan includes regular monthly audits of the facilities.
- The Community Development team in conjunction with the City Environment Team have undertaken a Community Facility Needs Study for the development of a City Building Strategy and City Projects Management Practice.

Strategy 4.3 Continue to support the staged implementation of the Underground Power and Fibre Optic Cabling throughout the City undertaken by the Office of Energy and Western Power.

Actions:

- Round Three Como East Underground Power project is currently 5 months behind scheduled commencement date with November 2006 being the most likely start date. Como East is the last project to start in Round Three and is likely to run consecutively with at least one Round Four project. The City was unsuccessful in Round Four due largely to the financial restraints of the budget as the Manning/Salter Point area had been short listed as a project of need.

Strategy 4.4 Integrate Local Area Traffic Management plans with broader precinct plans to ensure that all infrastructure needs are considered at the same time as planning traffic management works.

Actions:

- Over the past six months a Traffic Warrant Model was developed and adopted to ensure that the appropriate priority is given to Traffic Management projects and requests.
- There have been no additional Local Area Traffic Management studies conducted in the last half of this year although the principles embodied into the strategy are adhered to whenever an audit is undertaken of the street system prior to works commencing i.e. replace kerbing with resurfacing of roads, upgrade of drainage structures etc.

Strategy 4.5 Develop and implement Urban Design Standards to link with the Street Tree Management Plan and to encourage consistency of streetscape treatments within defined precincts.

Actions:

- The Infrastructure Directorate's, City Environment Team made some early progress on these standards but with the loss of the incumbent in the Horticulture Project Officer role, progress has been delayed. A replacement officer has recently been employed in the role and the matter will be progressed in the second half of the year.

Strategy 4.6 Implement the approved Sir James Mitchell Park Foreshore Renovation and Landscape Masterplan.

Actions:

- The Master Plan has been recently approved by the Swan River Trust and signed off by the Minister for the Environment in January 2006.
- Detailed Landscaping Design for early stages of works to be undertaken in 2006.
- Indigenous Heritage Consultation completed. Ministerial approval was obtained in 7 June 2006.
- The Engineering Infrastructure team have developed designs for proposed changes to the car parks and shared paths in the area of the park immediately east of the Narrows Bridge.
- The Engineering Infrastructure Team also project managed the removal of the old Freeway Access Road adjacent to The Old Mill.
- Construction of early stages to be commenced towards the end of the year, after tenders called for work.

Strategy 4.7 Implement the approved George Burnett Park Masterplan and develop detailed proposals for the expansion of the community facilities at the park.

Actions:

- Master plan park works as programmed have been predominantly completed. Outstanding works to be completed in the second half of the year includes, playground shade shelters, gazebo, BBQ's and landscaping to the Manning Road entry. Public Art currently being installed.

Strategy 4.8 Develop and implement a Commercial Centres Infrastructure Plan to ensure the public infrastructure in the village centre precincts is managed and maintained.

Actions:

- A funding allocation was made for the replacement of street litter bins with more aesthetically pleasing bin surrounds to enhance streetscape amenity of these important commercial precincts. These new bin surrounds are progressively being installed in these precincts.
- The Engineering Infrastructure Team also implemented some streetscape enhancement works at the Barker Ave and Birdwood Ave Local Commercial Centres.
- The development of the Commercial Centres Infrastructure Plan is programmed to commence in the second half of the year.

Goal 5 - Organisational Effectiveness
To be a professional, effective and efficient organisation.

Strategy 5.1 Continue to implement the Business Excellence Framework as the means of improving the quality of services, products and processes.

Actions:

- The City is currently actioning some of the issues identified in the Organisational Self Assessment (OSA). A report on the findings of the OSA was presented to Council via the Audit & Governance Committee in October 2005.
- Primary emphasis during the year has been on the Business Excellence categories of Customer and People (staff) - with the significant allocation of resources to the Customer Focus and EBA projects.
- Greater emphasis is being placed on the category of Data, Information & Knowledge for the remainder of 2005/2006 through changes to the Quarterly Departmental Reporting Process to increase accountability and encourage use of more 'hard statistical data' to support management decision making. This includes increased use of Key Performance Indicators and benchmarking.
- The Records Co-ordinator is undertaking the progressive centralising of all Corporate Records in accordance with the Record Keeping Plan. All staff are being trained in their record keeping responsibilities. Modifications to the lower level of the administration building as part of the refurbishment project are playing an important role in supporting this initiative. The City has recently received positive endorsement for its most recent update on the Record Keeping Plan to the State Records Office.
- Ongoing reviews of management practices and documenting of internal processes including financial processes, human resources processes, development services processes and rangers processes are consistent with this objective.

Strategy 5.2 Develop and implement the Triple Bottom Line method as an approach to organisational decision making and reporting. This approach takes account of Social, Environmental and Economic factors.

Actions:

- There were no specific actions for the 2005/2006 year applying to this objective other than the overall guiding principle that environmental, social and financial factors should all be considered in decision making.
- Civic Triangle feasibility study was the last major external project to be evaluated using this framework. The refurbishment of the Civic Centre building has also involved the evaluation of Triple Bottom Line considerations in its planning phase.
- Sustainability Officer has now been appointed to promote Triple Bottom Line considerations in decision making.

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Strategy 5.3 Develop partnerships with organisations which provide mutually beneficial opportunities for resource sharing and the exchange of ideas.

Actions:

- Resource sharing initiatives are in place with the Town of Victoria Park for street sweeping, City Nursery and bushland maintenance.
- The City makes use of a shared Environmental Officer position through the East Metropolitan Regional Council.
- Collective approach to waste management through the South East Metropolitan Regional Council is yielding cost savings on rubbish collection. City also involved in Regional study to ascertain most appropriate method of future waste disposal systems/technology.
- Effective partnership arrangements are in place with Perth Zoo to maximise mutual event promotion and tourism opportunities.
- Partnerships established with both local and external business and semi government entities are providing sponsorship for City events (Fiesta, Art Awards etc) and prizes for initiatives such as the Rates Early Payment Incentive Scheme.
- Partnership with WA Police is proving effective with the Safety & Crime Partnership and through the operation of the Community Policing Resource Centre.
- City officers are building quality relationships with suppliers and with other technical officers in local government disciplines such as health, human resources, engineering and finance - which is facilitating sharing of information and ideas.

Strategy 5.4 Develop and implement strategic Human Resource projects including the second Enterprise Bargaining Agreement to ensure advantage is taken of contemporary Human Resources practices and the mutual responsibilities of the City and staff are recognised.

Actions:

- Following final negotiations and endorsement by Council in December 2005 the EBA's were finalised and certified with the Industrial Relations Commissions in January and February this year. The effective dates for the two agreements were 3 February 2006 (Inside Workers EBA) 23 February 2006 (Outside Workers EBA). Pay increases have been applied in accordance with the EBA, along with the various clauses, such as movement of the outside workforce to a 9 day fortnight.
- Human Resource Services has established an industrial relations consultancy Framework, which integrates the use of external expert providers where this is beneficial and mitigates risk to the organisation. HRS has involvement in risk issues, and is adding value to the management of these issues. HRS continues to utilise the Operational Management Team forums for IR related discussion and problem solving, and is developing a series of workshops for staff responsible for managing employees and IR matters. This is scheduled for roll out in the 2006/2007 financial year.

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- The new Organisational wide Training Plan 2005/2006 (its first year) was devoted to corporate and essential training aimed at addressing identified existing skills gaps. A supporting training data base was also developed to ensure that the City can report outcomes related to training expenditure. The allocated training budget for the 2005/2006 financial year has been utilised, and a plan for the 2006/2007 is in development which will increase the training available for staff.
- The Performance review and Development Planning Process (PRDP) has been implemented for the last 2 years. This process is due for review prior to the next round of reviews in October 2006. A supporting data base has been developed to ensure that the City can track progress, and link to training plan initiatives and training delivered.
- Development of new management practices and review of those in existence is an ongoing process. All new and changed documents practices are rolled out across the organisation with training sessions for staff with supervisory responsibilities and briefing sessions for all employees.
- The Human Resource Information System (HRIS) has been further developed with many parts of the HR module now being utilised. Definition and development of relevant and useful performance indicators has been finalised, and data has been retrospectively inputted to so that trending can be completed. Benchmarking with other LGA's is problematic, as data specifications vary significantly, however, opportunities will be explored in the 2006/2007 financial year.

Strategy 5.5 Implement an organisational development program to strengthen the culture of the organisation to align with the Corporate Values.

Actions:

- Background analysis for Workforce Planning initiatives has commenced, along with promoting them with senior staff. Some of the initiatives being developed are scheduled for commencement immediately in the new financial year. These early initiatives such as making available some new apprenticeships and traineeships, are targeting the skills/labour shortage where recruitment has been problematic
- No further development / expansion of the Growth Development Leaders (GDL) Program has occurred due to staff movements and competing priorities.

Strategy 5.6 Develop and implement initiatives to improve knowledge management, internal communication, information sharing and customer service between departments.

Actions:

- The appointment of the Customer Focus Co-ordinator has played an important coordinating role in raising the profile of customer service and in encouraging timely information sharing between technical departments and customer support staff.
- An on-line Service Information Database of over 200 local government topics has been created and is in use to ensure consistent and timely responses to our customers.
- The Call Management Software in use in the City's call centre is providing valuable data on the call volume, call nature and response times of all customer contacts by telephone. This information (in conjunction with our family friendly part time rostering arrangements) is being used to better manage available resources to provide effective customer coverage.
- Increased availability of information via the internet, intranet and records system is supporting more effective information sharing across the organisation.
- Linking of relevant corporate information to the Geographic Information System is providing an alternative and more user friendly forum for accessing information.
- A new more customer focussed After Hours Call system was activated on 26 June after extensive testing.

Strategy 5.7 Continue to strive towards excellence in Occupational Safety & Health practices to ensure a safe and healthy work environment for all staff. This can be demonstrated by striving to upgrade the City's current Worksafe "Silver Award" status to a "Gold Award" standing.

Actions:

- o Regular safety meetings are held and action taken on identified safety issues.
- o Local Govt Insurance Services Gold Award was presented to City in 2005 – the first local government to achieve this milestone. Aiming for Work Safe Gold Award in 2006.
- o Statistics provided by the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council for the 3rd quarter shows the City is equal 2nd (lowest) out of 18 Councils in Lost time Injury frequency rate. An improvement of 11 positions from previous quarter (Oct – Dec 2005).
- o Introduction of Fitness for Work management practice in late 2005.
- o Safety enjoys an appropriate focus in the induction program for all new staff.

Strategy 5.8 Develop and implement a marketing strategy which promotes the attractive features, strengths and opportunities of lifestyle and business in the City. The strategy will also provide a clear 'brand' for the City and identify opportunities for the communication of Council initiatives.

Actions:

- o During the period under review the first ever Communications Business Plan was completed. Following on from the GDL project, the strategic communications plan 2005 - 2008 was completed along with a comprehensive communications toolkit for officers. The plan and the toolkit have been printed in brochure form and made available to staff. The brochure will serve as valuable communications guide for the organisation in the future.
- o Effective use is being made by all departments of the City website and the Peninsula newsletter (including the Village Voice) to share information and promote City events and activities.
- o Regular, proactive communication through press releases enables the City to put a predominantly positive slant on its communications and media profile.

Strategy 5.9 Develop and implement an information technology strategy which identifies and exploits technology opportunities to improve the City's business, data, communication and security systems.

Actions:

- o The City's Information Technology Plan is a comprehensive strategy with a five year rolling timetable that will guide the City's technology direction. It addresses the following key strategy areas:
 - Network Architecture
 - Voice and Communication Technology
 - Website Management
 - Geographic Information system
 - Record Management
 - Security Systems
 - Desktop Management
 - Remote computing/E-Commerce
 - Disaster Recovery
 - Council Members' Technology

The information Services Team has completed eight of the ten major strategy areas - and are working on the remaining two (Disaster Recovery and Record Management).

The Strategies are accompanied by a Resource Schedule that identifies the Strategy, Responsible Officer, Planned timeframe and Indicative Resources Required. The overall strategy is also to be complemented by an Information Technology Charter to be jointly developed by the Information Technology Team and the Operational Managers.

It is proposed that the remaining two strategy areas will be completed during July. The finished Information Technology Strategic Plan is expected to be presented in August 2006.

- o The Community Policing Resource Centre and the Recreation Centre are now connected to the Civic Centre PABX resulting in increased network reliability and cost savings.
- o Fibre-optic cable has been installed to link Community Policing Resource Centre , CPV, Operations Centre and Civic Centre together. Final configuration of the back-end systems to support the fibre links was completed in Quarter 3 of the 2005/2006 year.
- o Design work to support security systems in the building refurbishment has been undertaken. A costing has been obtained to centralise the City's security systems. A Security Strategy has been incorporated in the IT Strategy and will be progressively rolled out across City facilities. It will ultimately include programmable 'key card' access to all City buildings
- o Centralisation of the City's voice communication network (phone system) has been completed.
- o Technology opportunities to enable effective communication are continuously being identified - and implemented when investigation shows that they will result in operational efficiencies. The introduction of the new high speed integrated networked photocopier/printer/fax machine is evidence of the type of new initiatives being explored.

Strategy 5.10 Plan for, monitor and report the City's statutory, financial and governance obligations in a manner which effectively and transparently discharges our accountability to the community.

Actions:

- Annual Budget is on track to be adopted on 11 July 2006.
- Annual Financial Statements are scheduled to be completed by mid August in preparation for Annual Audit.
- Year End Audit signed off by mid September as per KPI is confidently anticipated.
- All financial reports, variance reports and capital expenditure reports are presented to Council in a timely and professional manner which exceeds our statutory obligations.
- Compliance with the requirement to have an Audit Committee in place.
- Review of the Standing Orders is complete (referred back to the Audit and governance Committee for further consideration).
- Timetable in place for quarterly reporting to Audit & Governance Committee of progress in reviewing all City policies and delegations annually. Progressive targets have been met to date.
- Interim review of the City's Code of Conduct is complete. Comprehensive review to be conducted in the near future when Official conduct Bill becomes law incorporating model Code of conduct determined by State Government.

Goal 6 - Financial Viability

To provide responsible and sustainable management of the City's financial resources.

Strategy 6.1 Ensure appropriate sources of funding can be accessed when required to fund identified priorities included in the Strategic Financial Plan and Annual Budget.

Actions:

- Strategic Financial Plan provides a fully funded and sustainable plan incorporating an appropriate blend of funding options to finance all proposed projects and services for 2005/2006-2009/2010. Updated as an internal working document only for 2006/2007 - 2010/2011.
- Effective relationships are maintained with relevant funding bodies for grants or borrowing purposes.

Strategy 6.2 Maximise community benefit and value for money from City expenditures and use of our assets.

Actions:

- Expenditures are continuously monitored and adjusted where appropriate through quarterly budget reviews that provide dynamic and effective cash-flow management.
- Timely and accurate financial information is provided within two working days of month end to assist informed decision making and responsible resource use by management.
- Effective budget process critically evaluates competing priorities in the light of limited financial resources.
- Identifying and seeking grant funding opportunities wherever possible to supplement City funds.
- Use of benchmarking against other local governments where practical – limited by availability of comparable data in many areas. City Environment has joined an Australia-wide benchmarking program to measure parks maintenance operations.

Strategy 6.3 Identify opportunities to introduce a 'user pays' fee charging model and develop strategies to implement this philosophy where appropriate, whilst continuing to recognise community service obligations.

Actions:

- Fees and Charges schedule is reviewed annually with input from Council.
- New fees for service in the Rangers and Health areas have generated additional revenue.
- Ongoing monitoring of costs of service provision against revenues generated, for example Waste Management and use of City facilities.
- A scaled fee charging model is being implemented to ensure increased revenue for the use of exclusive facilities maintained by the City for the South Perth Cricket and Como Croquet Clubs.

Strategy 6.4 Continue to monitor our level of 'rate competitiveness' relative to our local government peers and examine options to expand the City's financial base and maximise the funding of initiatives from external sources.

Actions:

- Monitoring of relevant financial ratios measuring our dependence on rates as a source of funding – and the trends in this ratio over the last 5 years, ensures that funding autonomy is effectively managed.
- Annual benchmarking of 'Rate in the \$' and percentage rates increases against all metropolitan local governments. (Most recently June 2006)
- Effective accumulation and responsible use of City reserves to ensure sustainable funding options in future years.
- Effective treasury management ensures that surplus funds are generating interest revenue to supplement other funding sources until required for projects or services.
- Identifying and seeking grant funding opportunities wherever possible to supplement City funds.
- Effective modeling of rates using GRV and known revenue growth opportunities enhances accuracy in predicting revenue and cash-flows.

Strategy 6.5 Develop sustainable financial policies and strategic financial plans to ensure the City's long term financial viability including consideration of external funding sources, investment opportunities, borrowings, partnerships and resource sharing.

Actions:

- Fully funded 5 year Strategic Financial Plan is continuously monitored and updated to accommodate approved City projects and new opportunities.
- Responsible accumulation of cash backed reserves for future projects.
- Effective cash management yielding interest revenue in excess of budget targets
- Rates collections set the benchmark for all WA local governments.
- Ongoing positive rates arrears collections.
- Payment to suppliers is made in accordance with approved credit terms.
- Timely and accountable reporting of treasury performance.

Strategy 6.6 Continue to actively monitor and report on business risks through the application of the City's Risk Management Strategy.

Actions:

- Cross organisational team contributes specialist knowledge to the accumulation of data to support an effective risk management strategy.
- Risk Management Plan is conducted in accordance with the Australian Standard on risk management.
- Regular [half yearly] reviews are made of the risk treatments. (Most recent review was June 2006).
- An updated report on the strategy and the progress of priority risk treatments will be provided in October 2006.
- Responsible ongoing safety and training strategies support the Risk Management Strategies.
- Effective and relevant insurance cover is maintained at all times.
- Regular and timely monitoring and reporting of actual or potential insurance incidents occurs throughout the year.
- KPI and trends on insurance reports allow timely identification of potential risks and the introduction of appropriate treatments (including training).
- Reduction in both workers compensation and general insurance premiums in a number of areas in last two years budgets as a consequence of insurers recognising the quality of the City's Risk Management Strategy.
- Promotion of the City's Record Keeping Plan and training of staff in relation to record keeping responsibilities is ongoing.
- The City was commended for its most recent Record Keeping Plan by the State Records Office. A further update has been prepared and will be submitted in July 2006.
- Identification of aged records and disposal of old corporate records is conducted in strict accordance with relevant Retention and Disposal Schedules - that are fully compliant with State Record Office guidelines.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ORGANISATION | Kensington Primary School P&C Asn |
| Location | 73 Banksia Terrace, Kensington |
| Purpose of Organisation | The P&C Asn is a forum for parents to discuss the education of their children at the school and to support the school by providing additional resources. |
| Request from Council | \$2,012.25 |

PROJECT

Kensington Primary School 80th Anniversary Fete: 28 October 2006

Objectives and Benefits

- To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the school and its history and showcase the school
- The event is a major fundraising activity for the Asn to enable it to provide resource support to the school
- The fete will be an opportunity for the promotion of local businesses and community organisations
- To have fun in a safe venue that children, parents, teachers, friends, family and residents can enjoy

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Target Group | Present and past students and teachers and their families and the surrounding community. |
| Project Budget | \$102,991.25 (includes a substantial in kind contribution of \$65,000) |

COMMENT

- Very well developed application
- Assistance for funds is for a first aid post, assistance to cover the cost of free craft activities and free stickers and balloons

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$2,012.25 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the Kensington Primary School 80th Anniversary Fete

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ORGANISATION | Lions Club of South Perth Inc |
| Location | 34 Kilkenny Circle, Waterford |
| Purpose of Organisation | Community service organisation operating for 41 years. |
| Request from Council | \$1,400 |

PROJECT

Lions Youth Music Tuition

Objectives and Benefits

- To provide music tuition for disadvantaged students that do not have access to private lessons to learn to play a musical instrument.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Target Group | Financially disadvantaged young students |
| Project Budget | \$2,300 |

COMMENT

- Project has been running for three years with COSP support from its inception mainly being for hall hire costs
- Some great outcomes demonstrated for local COSP young people including one student winning a scholarship to Santa Maria College, 3 have passed 1st Grade AMEB examinations and 17 students have formed a band with their first gig at the Manning Memorial Bowling Club in August
- Recommend full amount of funding to assist financially disadvantaged students to learn music.

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$1,400 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the Lions Youth Music Tuition program.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ORGANISATION | South Perth Society of Art and Crafts Inc |
| Location | Hazel McDougal House, Clydesdale St, Como |
| Purpose of Organisation | The purpose of the society is to provide an organisation, property and facilities through which persons may associate to promote and |

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

encourage the arts for culture, educational and recreational services

Request from Council

\$1,000

PROJECT

McDougall Spring Fair: 14 October 2006

Objectives and Benefits

- The Spring Fair provides artists with an opportunity to create and sell their work. Craft people to display what they have created throughout the year.
- Entertainment for the public will be provided including farm animals, face painting, puppeteer and other children's activities
- Stalls with goods for sale will be set up

Target Group

Residents living in the COSP and surrounding areas.

Project Budget

\$1,870

COMMENT

- Volunteer based society that has been running the Fair over 30 years
- The Fair provides the opportunity to promote awareness of South Perth Arts and Crafts Society, McDougall House and grounds to the general public
- Recommend funding full amount to assist with annual event

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$1,000 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the 2006 McDougall Spring Fair

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ORGANISATION | YouthCARE WA- Como District Council |
| Location | Cnr Murray St and McNabb Loop |
| Purpose of Organisation | Provision and support of chaplaincy services at Como Secondary College. The District Council has provided this service since 1986 with the first chaplain appointed in 1987. |
| Request from Council | \$10,000 |

PROJECT

Como Secondary College Chaplaincy Program

Objectives and Benefits

- The chaplain provides a supportive role within the school, particularly in relation to staff and students experiencing difficult circumstances.
- The service is non denominational and has a significant impact upon the welfare of students and staff and upon the wider community through programs that support families

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Target Group | All Como Secondary College students and staff, in excess of 900 people |
| Project Budget | \$40,000 |

COMMENT

- The service meets with an average of 5 students per day dealing with issues from minor personal concerns to suicide prevention counselling, plus staff and family meetings
- The majority of students are residents of COSP

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$10,000 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the Como Secondary College Chaplaincy Program.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ORGANISATION | Communicare Inc: VIP Plus |
| Location | 10 Kent St, East Victoria Park |
| Purpose of Organisation | Support services to the community |
| Request from Council | \$10,300 |

PROJECT

Intensive education program for seriously at risk young people

Objectives and Benefits

- Implementation of programs that address literacy and numeracy and at the same time provide holistic education programs assisting young people with all their needs including accommodation, family planning, STIs and other health issues, substance abuse issues, anger management and self harming.
- Graduates leave the program with Certificate II in the CGEA which is seen as similar to a year 10 pass. This facilitates entry into TAFE, apprenticeships and employment
- Young people are off the streets for 18 hours per week and are achieving education outcomes at the same time addressing their ethical code and work ethic issues.
- Between 6 to 12 young people residing within the City of South have been supported each year since 1997

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Target Group | Seriously at risk and disconnected young people |
| Project Budget | \$290,300 |

COMMENT

- VIP Plus Project, sponsored by Communicare, is an innovative approach dealing with seriously at risk and disconnected young people
- Request for funding is a contribution towards dealing with youth residing within the COSP
- Similar funding request to previous year but includes an increase adjustment for cpi

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$10,300 in funds to contribute to the costs associated with running the VIP Plus Project.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ORGANISATION | South Perth Learning Centre Inc |
| Location | 12 Labouchere Rd, South Perth |
| Purpose of Organisation | Social and educational services to the community |
| Request from Council | \$20,000 |

PROJECT

On going sustainability of the South Perth Learning Centre by subsidized payment of an Administrator / Coordinator, subsidized honorariums for tutors and lecturers and forging links with the South Perth and Manning Senior Citizens' Centres

Objectives and Benefits

- The Centre operates by voluntary support to administer and coordinate its program of learning activities. A paid Administrator / Coordinator would provide a resource to decrease the reliance upon volunteers and enable new activities and opportunities to be developed and implemented.
- User fees are charged for courses to cover cost of courses including payment of honorariums to tutors and lecturers to be paid. Fees are kept to a minimum due to many of the members being on concession cards. A subsidy would help keep course costs down.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Target Group | Centre is open to all living within the COSP and surrounding areas. Currently have 320 members. |
| Project Budget | \$25,000 |

COMMENT

- The Centre has not taken advantage of other funding opportunities from other sources even though it is eligible to do so.
- Whilst the group is very worthy of support the panel considered that other ways in addition to cash funding can assist the group to become more sustainable. Assistance with other funding opportunities and connecting with other groups to forge stronger links, such as the senior centres, would make the Centre more sustainable

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$5,000 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the South Perth Learning Centre.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

ORGANISATION

Churches Commission on Education on behalf of the Kent St District Council

Location

Kent Street Senior High School, Victoria Park

Purpose of Organisation

To ensure a chaplain is available to the students, staff and their families attending the Kent Street Senior High School

Request from Council

\$4,900

PROJECT

Chaplaincy program at the Kent St High School

Objectives and Benefits

- To provide a caring Christian presence in the School and provide a supporting role to the school community to ensure all students maximise their learning opportunities through counselling, support and activities

Target Group

770 students and 80 staff and their families.
Approximately 55 students reside in the COSP

Project Budget

\$47,000

COMMENT

- Youth caring full time chaplaincy service at Kent St has been operating since 1996
- Funding for the service comes from a variety of areas with the COSP funds contributing towards the cost of servicing students living within the City.
- Although recommended amount is less than the request it is an increase on last year's funding of \$2,900 and is based upon a proportionate contribution of students who are COSP residents (currently around 55).

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$3,500 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the Chaplaincy program at the Kent St High School.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| ORGANISATION | Continece Advisory Service of WA Inc |
| Location | C/- Hollywood Private Hospital, Monash Avenue, Nedlands |
| Purpose of Organisation | Operating since 1994 the primary purpose of the organisation is to provide education, information and advice to people with bladder and / or bowel control problems, their families, carers, health care professionals and special needs groups. |
| Request from Council | \$1,700 |

PROJECT

“Simply Busting”: Continece Awareness for COSP residents

Objectives and Benefits

- Education session conducted locally to increase knowledge and skills to assist attendees to prevent, manage and treat bladder and bowel health issues independently
- Participants will gain knowledge of health care professional supports within the community, how to identify risks and how to use physical activity to promote independence.

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Target Group | All residents living within the COSP. |
| Project Budget | \$3,694.80 |

COMMENT

- It would be the first time this education session would be held within the COSP. The funds to be provided would cover the cost of holding the session which would otherwise not happen.
- 1 in 5 Australians experience bladder and / or bowel problems. This equates to approximately 7,500 living within the COSP that may have a problem with continence issues.
- Full request supported due to high incidence of continence issues within the population and the potential benefits to be gained by holding the session locally

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$1,700 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the program “Simply Busting”: Continece Awareness for COSP residents

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ORGANISATION | South Perth Senior Citizens Inc |
| Location | 53 Coode St, South Perth |
| Purpose of Organisation | Operating for over 45 years serving the elderly community in many aspects in pleasant and congenial surroundings. |
| Request from Council | \$800 |

PROJECT

South Perth Senior Citizens Inc Christmas Luncheon

Objectives and Benefits

- Annual Christmas function is a special time for members of the seniors association. The function provides an opportunity to bring all members together and show appreciation for their contribution to the community over the years.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Target Group | 130 seniors plus 20 invited special guests who have supported the centre. |
|---------------------|---|

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Project Budget | \$4,200 |
|-----------------------|---------|

COMMENT

- An important time for celebration and to say thank you to the volunteers and supporters of the centre
- Panel recommends to keep funding at the same level as in 2005

RECOMMENDATION

To provide \$650 in funds to contribute towards the costs associated with running the South Perth Senior Citizens Inc Christmas Luncheon.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS
ROUND 1 2006/2007**

Summary of Applications

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| ORGANISATION | Native Arc Inc |
| Location | 60 Hope Road, Bibra Lake |
| Purpose of Organisation | To provide a centre to treat, rear or care for sick, injured wildlife for eventual rehabilitation and release into their natural environment. Caring for wildlife has been ongoing since 18 years with Native Arc becoming incorporated in 1998 |
| Request from Council | \$5,000 |

PROJECT

Renovation and refurbishment to new Native Arc premises

Objectives and Benefits

- To renovate and refurbish new native arc premises so as to set up a sanctuary of care for distressed wildlife

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Target Group | Wildlife, particularly birds, found sick, injured or orphaned that need rehabilitation. |
|---------------------|---|

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Project Budget | \$40,000 |
|-----------------------|----------|

COMMENT

- Poorly developed application with limited detail provided
- Request is mainly for capital items which can be supported by Lotteries West
- Located within the City of Cockburn the direct links to benefit the COSP not fully apparent

RECOMMENDATION

Not to support the funding application from Native Arc Inc



**CITY OF SOUTH PERTH
SUBMISSION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ADVISORY BOARD**

**ENSURING THE FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY OF
COMMUNITIES**

JULY 2006

INTRODUCTION

In October 2005 the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development asked the Local Government Advisory Board (LGAB) to conduct an inquiry into *Local Government Structural and Electoral Reform in Western Australia – Ensuring the Future Sustainability of Communities*.

The LGAB provided its report to the Minister for Local Government and Regional Development on 17 March 2006, with the Minister subsequently releasing the report for public comment.

The City of South Perth appreciates the opportunity to participate in the on-going consultative process this review has generated and hopes that its submission will assist in the LGAB's task of investigating and developing options for structural and electoral reform.

This submission builds upon the comments made in the City's response to the LGAB's discussion paper released in late 2005.

STRUCTURAL REFORM

WESTERN SUBURBS OF PERTH

Recommendation 1.1

That the Minister legislate for the amalgamation of the local governments of Cambridge (part), Claremont, Cottesloe, Mosman Park, Nedlands, Peppermint Grove and Subiaco, to form a new western suburbs local government (in conjunction with the transfer of a part of Cambridge to Stirling and part of Stirling to the new western suburbs local government) as soon as possible.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

As in its previous submission to the LGAB, the City considers it inappropriate, to comment specifically on what Councils, if any, should be amalgamated.

It does, however, recognise that some form of structural reform of Local Government in Western Australia is required and as such is long overdue. An acceptance of the need for structural reform, however, does not extend to the use of a "forced amalgamation" policy. The City of South Perth does not believe the State Government should undermine the autonomy of Local Government through the use of legislation to amalgamate selected local governments.

The City supports the Minister's public view that amalgamations should only occur with the consent of participating Councils ratepayers and residents and following a community consultation program.

SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN

Recommendation 1.2

That the Minister legislate for the amalgamation of the City of Fremantle and Town of East Fremantle as soon as possible.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.2.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

BUNBURY REGION

Recommendation 1.3

That the Minister submit two proposals to the Local Government Advisory Board for boundary change in the Bunbury region (to be considered concurrently):

One proposal to be the amalgamation of the City of Bunbury with the Shires of Capel and Dardanup and including a southern part of the Shire of Harvey (Australind and Leschenault existing and proposed urban areas, Binningup, Kemerton Industrial Park and Brunswick Junction). The balance of the Shire of Harvey to be included with the Shire of Waroona.

The second proposal to be the amalgamation of the City of Bunbury with the Shires of Capel and Dardanup and including a southern part of the Shire of Harvey (Australind and Leschenault existing and proposed urban areas and Brunswick Junction). The balance of the Shire of Harvey to be included with the Shire of Waroona.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.3.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

MANDURAH REGION

Recommendation 1.4

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board for the amalgamation of the City of Mandurah with the Shire of Murray.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.4.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

NORTHAM REGION

Recommendation 1.5

That the Minister legislate the amalgamation of the Town and Shire of Northam as soon as possible.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.5.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

NARROGIN REGION

Recommendation 1.6

That the Minister legislate the amalgamation of the Town of Narrogin with the Shire of Narrogin and Shire of Cuballing as soon as possible.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.6.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

Recommendation 1.7

That the Minister ask the Local Government Advisory Board to carry out a further examination of the boundaries of the new local government in relation to adjacent local governments, to be undertaken in three (3) years time.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.7.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

GERALDTON REGION

Recommendation 1.8

That the Minister legislate to form a new City of Geraldton-Greenough by amalgamating the City of Geraldton with the Shire of Greenough as soon as possible.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.8.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

Recommendation 1.9

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board in three years time for the development areas immediately north of the new local government (including residential areas and the Oakajee Industrial Estate) to be included within the new local government.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.9.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

WHEATBELT REGION

Recommendation 1.10

That local governments be given the opportunity and funding assistance to implement amalgamation and other structural reform options as a means of achieving future economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Response

The City of South Perth supports the principles behind Recommendation 1.10, believing that local governments, whether they be in the Wheatbelt or other parts of the State, should be able to access provide financial assistance to allow them to have independent research carried out to identify both the advantages and disadvantages to their communities of structural reform. As indicated within Recommendation 1.10, this financial assistance should also provide for the study of alternatives to amalgamation, including resource sharing and other models of structural reform.

The City notes that funding for such research has been provided by the State in its 2006/2007 budget. Further comment on this funding package is made with respect to Recommendation 1.23.

Recommendation 1.11

That regional arrangements be further extended and formalised and that all local governments become part of a regional body.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.11.

Recommendation 1.12

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board in 2009 for an assessment of progress on structural reform in the Wheatbelt Region, and for a detailed study of the Region with recommendations on further amalgamations and other reforms if appropriate.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.12.

OTHER AREAS

Recommendation 1.13

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board for the amalgamation of the Town of Bassendean and City of Bayswater, in conjunction with a review of the boundaries of adjacent local governments, particularly areas of the Cities of Swan and Stirling.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.13.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

Recommendation 1.14

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board for the division of the Town of Kwinana between the Cities of Cockburn and Rockingham and minor amendments to boundaries in the south west metropolitan area.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.14.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

Recommendation 1.15

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board for the division of the Town of Victoria Park between the Cities of South Perth and Belmont.

Response

Whilst it recognises that there is no immediacy in the LGAB's recommendation to review the boundaries that currently exist between the Town of Victoria Park and the Cities of Belmont and South Perth, **the City of South Perth does not support Recommendation 1.15.**

As detailed within its earlier submission, the City argues that it is sustainable, both now and for the future. In considering that it is sustainable, the City believes its definition of sustainable matches that of the State's notion of sustainability, which is "meeting the needs of current and future generations through integration of environmental, social and economic prosperity".

It must also be said that the City does not believe that its residents would perceive amalgamation with parts of the Town of Victoria Park as providing any substantial benefits, now or into the future.

The City does not consider the LGAB's Report provides an overwhelming amount of evidence to suggest that amalgamation would provide any significant improvement in the level of service or amenity for the residents and commercial enterprises within each of the three local governments affected by the recommendation. Indeed, the recommendation seems to be based largely on a single submission that made a number of suggestions concerning boundary reform within the inner Perth metropolitan area. In Council's view this is hardly sufficient to recommend such a significant change.

It must also be understood that the City has strong and positive working relationships with both the Town of Victoria Park and the City of Belmont. These could be severely tested were the City to attempt to become larger through amalgamation with both local governments. This would especially be the case with the Town of Victoria Park, which would disappear entirely if this proposal were acted upon.

The issue of resource sharing and the need for Local Government in Western Australia to embrace this philosophy more fully is a dominant theme for discussion within the LGAB's Report. Resource sharing and the benefits it brings is one that is well understood within the City of South Perth. For example, the Town of Victoria Park undertakes street sweeping services for Council. The City for its part provides the Town with access to its dog pound, plant nursery and its bush care crew assists the Town in maintaining areas of remnant native vegetation. Such initiatives could be threatened if the Town of Victoria Park thought its identity was threatened through amalgamation proposals such as those made within Recommendation 1.15.

Council will continue to seek opportunities for resource sharing, both with its immediate neighbours and other organisations where such arrangements will benefit the ratepayers and residents of the City of South Perth.

Recommendation 1.16

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board for the amalgamation of the Shire of Katanning with the Shires of Broomehill and Woodanilling.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.16.

Refer also to the comments made with respect to Recommendation 1.1.

Recommendation 1.17

That the Minister submit a proposal to the Local Government Advisory Board in 2009 for an assessment of progress on structural reform in the Mid West and Great Southern Regions, and for a detailed study of each region, with recommendations on amalgamations and other reforms if appropriate.

Response

The City of South Perth does not wish to make any comment with respect to Recommendation 1.17.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**Recommendation 1.18**

That local governments give consideration to making further use of community consultation mechanisms and that the Minister for Local Government consider measures to formalise the methods local governments are to use to engage the community in their decision making processes.

Response

The City of South Perth believes that Local Government as an industry already uses extensive community consultation mechanisms.

The City for its part values the community's feedback on the many projects, facilities and services it undertakes, as this ensures that its decision making reflects the needs of the community. This engagement with the community is vital, given that consultation leads to increased social capital within a community. This philosophy is encompassed in the City's strategic goal of Customer Focus:

“To be a customer focussed organisation that promotes effective communication and encourages community participation.”

Whilst supporting the need for effective community consultation, the City considers that individual local governments should be allowed to pursue whatever consultative mechanisms are most appropriate to the project under discussion. It does not believe it is necessary to formalise the method or manner in which a local government engages with its community, as this would vary upon the particular circumstances experienced by each local government. The City believes that any form of statutory requirement would not enable local circumstances to be taken into account and as such should not be considered.

IMPEDIMENTS TO STRUCTURAL REFORM

LEGISLATION

Recommendation 1.19

That Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995 be amended to remove the poll provisions.

Response

The City of South Perth believes the Act should be amended to make boundary changes easier, particularly when a majority of affected electors support a proposal. The City, however, believes that any legislative amendment should provide flexibility, providing safeguards to ensure community consultation during any boundary reform that might result.

Recommendation 1.20

That the Government undertake a comprehensive public communication program prior to the legislation and boundary changes occurring.

Response

The City supports this proposal.

As in the models of structural reform that could be employed across Western Australia, the City of South Perth does not believe that a generic and unvarying communications program will suit all the boundary changes that might come before the LGAB for consideration and possible implementation. Whilst each proposal that is presented for consideration will have areas of commonality, any public communications program developed must highlight the specific characteristics of the boundary reform proposed.

Recommendation 1.21

That Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995 be changed to eliminate the need for the Local Government Advisory Board to re-advertise a changed proposal and making it optional for the Local Government Advisory Board to re-advertise.

Response

The City of South Perth gives qualified support to this proposal as it would appear to give clarity of process when dealing with a changed boundary proposal. Its support, however, is measured as Council is concerned at the potential loss of democratic process in providing for this change and that the recommendation does not specify whether the proposed changes relate only minor boundary changes. It is considered that further discussion on this matter should be provided for before effecting any changes to Schedule 2.1 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Recommendation 1.22

That Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995 be changed to allow the Local Government Advisory Board limited discretionary powers to make a consequential proposal related to adjacent parts of local governments that are affected by a proposal for boundary change.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal because as with Recommendation 1.21 it gives clarity to the boundary reform process. But as with the previous recommendation, the City's support is measured because it could be viewed that the LGAB is implementing its own agenda rather than responding to the proposals it receives. As with Recommendation 1.21, it is considered that further discussion on proposed change should be provided for before effecting any changes to Schedule 2.1 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**Recommendation 1.23**

The Local Government Advisory Board strongly endorses the State Budget submission made by the Department of Local Government and Regional Development in relation to the provision of financial and non-financial support for local governments undertaking structural reform initiatives and that it be supported by the Government.

Response

The City of South Perth strongly endorses this proposal, noting that the LGAB's finding that many of the local governments where structural reform was most urgently needed did not have the capacity to initiate the process for reform. Financial assistance is therefore essential if effective and lasting reform is to be achieved.

Council acknowledges that since the LGAB's Report was released the State Government has made provision for a total of three million dollars to be made available during 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. Whilst this financial support is to be commended, the City would suggest that the quantum of funds to be made available is insufficient for the task at hand. The City considers that the funds to be allocated by the Queensland State Government (\$25M over five (5) years) provides a more realistic approach to achieving structural reform, particularly when the process is to be a collaborative one between the Queensland State Government and Local Government in that State.

THE PERCEIVED LOSS OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

Recommendation 1.24

That the Local Government Advisory Board recognises the impact that structural reform can have on regional communities and supports structural reform models where these impacts will be minimised, including arrangements where the delivery of specific services is undertaken from each of the administrative centres of the local governments that existed prior to an amalgamation, and the use of specified area rating to maintain service levels in local governments where there are multiple towns.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal but considers that the use of specified area rating to maintain service levels in local governments where there are multiple towns may give rise to heated debate in affected local governments.

REGIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Recommendation 1.25

That there be no change to the method by which members of a regional council are appointed.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

Recommendation 1.26

That no amendments be made at present to the Local Government Act 1995 provisions regarding regional local governments.

Response

The City of South Perth does not support this recommendation, believing the Act hinders the establishment of regional councils and other structured resource sharing initiatives. Currently local governments wanting to establish a regional council must follow a very detailed process to gain approval for the establishment of a regional council or other resource sharing body must adhere to a lengthy and detailed process.

For example S3.64 (f) of the Local Government Act requires details of the purpose for which a regional council is established. To amend this requires not only the participants' agreement but also Ministerial intervention, which can take some time to achieve. It would seem if the functions that the regional council wishes to undertake could be expanded more simply than at present this may facilitate the opportunity for greater use of regional council process.

Council believes that the Act should have flexibility when providing for the establishment of bodies such as regional councils, thus providing Local Government with a more readily accessible means to achieving structured ways to resource share.

Recommendation 1.27

That regional arrangements be further extended and formalised and that all local governments become part of a regional body.

Response

The City of South Perth provides qualified support for this proposal. Whilst Council acknowledges there are many advantages gained in belonging to a regional council, the extension and formalising of such structures should only proceed once the issue has been thoroughly researched, documented and with proper community consultation undertaken into the matter.

CONDUCT OF EARLY ELECTIONS**Recommendation 1.28**

That the Local Government Act 1995 be amended to provide local governments with the option of conducting elections early in an amalgamation process in order to facilitate long-term planning, include the community, and avoid negative feedback.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal, providing the amalgamating local governments retain the right to choose which path they follow with respect to the conduct of elections following amalgamation.

RETENTION OF STAFF FOR TWO YEARS FOLLOWING AN AMALGAMATION**Recommendation 1.29**

That no amendments be made at present to the Local Government Act 1995 provisions regarding the retention of staff for two years following an amalgamation.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**Recommendation 1.30**

That local governments individually assess and address their asset renewal requirements, giving consideration to the means of funding this requirement including increases in rates and own source revenues, reductions in services to release funds to apply to asset renewal, and increased use of debt.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

Recommendation 1.31

That the Local Government Financial Management Regulations be amended to make it mandatory for each local government to:

1. *Develop and annually update a 10-year financial management plan, linked to the local government's plan for the future.*
2. *Develop appropriate asset management plans that are to be reflected in the 10 year financial management plan.*
3. *Apply depreciation rates based on a standardised schedule, which takes into account the different circumstances in different parts of the State, with local governments to provide justification for variations from the schedule.*

Response

Although acknowledging that Recommendation 1.31 builds upon Recommendation 1.30, the City of South Perth is unable to give unqualified support to this proposal. Whilst the benefit of forward financial planning is agreed to in principle, the contents of such plan would necessarily be heavily qualified and as a consequence its usefulness would be doubtful. The City believes that it would be extremely difficult for Local Government to develop a realistic financial plan over the timeframe suggested given that it has control over only one part of its revenue stream, its rate base. It has no control over the funding provided by government agencies, at either State or Commonwealth level. Given that a high percentage of Local Government income is derived from Government grants and that much of this revenue stream is individual project based its future receipt is not known.

This is particularly important if it is acknowledged that in respect of provision of the larger community facilities and other infrastructure works such as roads etc, it would normally be expected that government grants would be a significant portion of the funding package.

In addition, the Act was only recently amended to remove the need for Local Governments to produce "Principal Activity Plans" which in fact were 4 year financial plans. These plans were replaced with a new requirement to produce a "Plan for the Future" but this plan is not based on financial activity. Given that the Act has only recently been amended to remove a requirement to produce a financial plan it is difficult to understand why it is now proposed that Local Governments should be required by law to produce such a plan. It is noted that if there is no change to the existing legislation, the City will continue to produce a five (5) year financial plan because it reflects prudent financial management practices.

Furthermore, it would appear to Council that such a request would be a further impost on Local Government, particularly as the other levels of government do not appear to prepare such long-term financial management plans.

With respect to Part 3 of recommendation 1.31, the City considers the current Accounting Standards provide for this to occur.

Recommendation 1.32

That the cultural context of indigenous communities continue to be recognised by the Local Government Advisory Board in future ward reviews in relevant local governments.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

Recommendations 1.33

That a review of local government structure and boundaries occur at least every 15 years, or more frequently under circumstances of major demographic, social or economic change.

Response

The City of South Perth supports the philosophy of the proposal but believes that an eight (8) to 10 year timeframe would be more appropriate. Such a timeframe would be in keeping with the requirement for local governments to undertake ward reviews very eight (8) years. It should also be noted that the Electoral Commission (where reviews are held very eight (8) years) and Census (with a Census conducted every five (5) years) schedules share similar review timeframes.

Recommendation 1.34

That review of local government structure and boundaries be undertaken on a regional basis.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal believing it to be a logical way for the review of local government structure to be undertaken.

Recommendation 1.35

That the Western Australian Salaries and Allowances Tribunal be given the responsibility for establishing the range of fees and allowances for elected members, with each local government having the ability to set a fee within this range. The Tribunal also be required to update the fees and allowances on an annual basis.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal as it provides for a more regular, systematic independent review of fees and allowances.

Recommendation 1.36

That the Local Government Act 1995 be amended to:

1. *Reduce the minimum number of elected members required by a council within a regional local government to four.*
2. *Decrease the maximum number of elected members in any local government council from 15 to 13.*

Response

Before providing support for Part 1 of Recommendation 1.36, the City of South Perth believes that the benefits of reducing the minimum number of elected members required by a council within a regional local government would have to be clearly established. To date, Council is unaware that such research has been undertaken.

The City fully supports Part 2 of Recommendation 1.36.

Recommendation 1.37

That compulsory training, along the lines of that recently introduced in NSW, be required for all newly elected members in WA local government.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal, believing the training for all newly elected is essential.

The City also considers that consideration should also be given to compulsory refresher training for those elected for a third consecutive term.

ELECTORAL REFORM

NON RESIDENTS RIGHT TO VOTE

Recommendation 2.1

That the current eligibility criteria for local government elections, including the provision for eligible voters to be on the owners and occupiers roll, be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

NUMBER OF VOTES THAT AN ELECTOR CAN CAST IN A LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

Recommendation 2.2

That the Local Government Act 1995 be amended so that an elector is not able to vote in more than one ward election in the same local government.

Response

The City of South Perth does not support this proposal, believing that that if an owner of property has multiple properties in different wards of a local government then they should be able to vote in each of the elections if they so choose.

REQUIREMENT TO VOTE

Recommendation 2.3

That the current provisions for voluntary voting at local government elections be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

TYPE OF ELECTION

Recommendation 2.4

That the current provisions for the option of postal or in-person elections be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

VOTING SYSTEM

Recommendation 2.5

That the current provisions for the 'first past the post' system of voting be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

ELECTION OF MAYOR OR PRESIDENT

Recommendation 2.6

That the current provisions for the methods of election of Mayors and Presidents be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

Recommendation 2.7

That further investigation be undertaken by the Local Government Advisory Board in relation to issues raised concerning both directly elected and council elected Mayors and Presidents.

Response

Having regard for the City's support for recommendation 2.6, the City of South Perth is uncertain of this recommendation's intent. As a consequence, it feels unable to support such a proposal without further information being provided by the LGAB.

LENGTH OF TERM

Recommendation 2.8

That the current provisions for four year terms for elected members be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

STAGGERED TERMS

Recommendation 2.9

That the current provisions for a system of staggered terms for the elected members of a council be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.

WHO CAN CONDUCT ELECTIONS

Recommendation 2.10

That the current provisions in relation to who is able to conduct elections be retained.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal. Further comment on who is able to conduct local government elections is also contained within Council's response to Recommendation 2.11.

Recommendation 2.11

That the Local Government Advisory Board be given the power to investigate other statutory authorities to establish their capacity to undertake postal elections.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal, believing that any suitably qualified agency should be able to tender for the conduct of postal elections. For example, the City believes that other organisations, such as the Australian Electoral Commission, should be considered to undertake postal elections. The Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC) should not have the monopoly on the conduct of Local Government postal elections in Western Australia. Should the State Government wish the WAEC to conduct all postal elections it should do so by funding the cost of postal elections.

In supporting this proposal, it should be emphasised, however, that the decision to conduct postal elections should be left to the discretion of individual local governments.

REVIEW OF ACT

Recommendation 2.12

That the Department of Local Government and Regional Development undertake a review of the electoral offence provisions in the Local Government Act 1995.

Response

The City of South Perth supports this proposal.