



TOWN OF VINCENT

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hyde Park Lakes Masterplan Adopted

The Town of Vincent is pleased to announce that a Masterplan for the Restoration of the Hyde Park Lakes has been adopted securing the long-term viability of one of the State's iconic and historical attractions.

"I am delighted that we have been able to come up with a solution to what is an exceptionally complicated issue surrounding the lakes in Hyde Park. The Masterplan will see the lakes retain their historic ornamental features whilst the long-term sustainability and on-going viability of the lakes is also addressed", said Mayor Nick Catania.

The Masterplan takes a holistic approach to the restoration of the lakes – from visual amenity to environmental implications. The Masterplan will encompass an Ecological Impact Plan, Acid Sulphate Soil Plan, Contaminated Site Management Plan and Environmental Management Plan whilst being cognisant of the historical background of the ornamental lakes and their intrinsic heritage value to the State.

"We had previously looked at plans that would turn the lakes into integrated wetlands and whilst this may address the water and environmental issues, it did not consider the historic relevance of the ornamental lakes and the amenity that the English-style lakes provide. Some may argue that lakes of an ornamental nature do not belong in our climate and conditions, but the reality is that these lakes are a part of our heritage and a great source of delight for many visitors who enjoy the peaceful and refined lake setting – designed to reflect the aspirations for wetlands that were held during the Federation period," continued Mayor Catania.

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Hyde Park, designed in 1898 by Lyall Hall, is State heritage-listed. The original design included two lakes with island bird sanctuaries in the middle. Hyde Park is a relatively rare example of the Arcadian landscape style used in large public parks and elements of its construction, including the promenade pathway system, are associated with social customs no longer practised in their original form.

"Developing a suitable Masterplan for the restoration of the lakes has been a long process with so many factors to consider, but the adoption of the Masterplan will enable a solution to be progressed. And although there are many issues that need to be addressed including water supply and quality, linings and engineering matters, the Masterplan takes the issues into account and will ensure that the lakes in Hyde Park as we know and love them will remain fixtures in our community for many years to come", concluded Mayor Catania.

The restoration of Hyde Park Lakes is estimated to cost in excess of \$4.5 million. The Town is set to receive \$2 million in Federal funding and monies from the private sector to assist in financing the restoration project. The Town will borrow \$2 million to match the Federal funding. Stage 2 works comprising of park furniture, improved lighting, walkways and possibly boardwalks will be progressively carried out over several years at a cost of approximately \$500,000 which will be sourced from State grants, donations, contributions and sponsorships.

The Town will be working with all the stakeholders, including government departments, Heritage Council, indigenous groups, Swan River Trust and community groups, to bring the vision for the lakes to fruition.

Ends

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