



**CITY OF VINCENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY GROUP MEETING**

**1 May 2017 AT 6.00PM**

**Venue: City of Vincent – Function Room**

**CONFIRMED MINUTES**

**Attendees:**

City of Vincent Councillors:

Cr Loden (*Chair*), Cr Gontaszewski

Community Representatives:

Chiara Pacifici, Chris Cutress, David White, Isaac Lorca, Kimberley Dupuy, Lisa Edwards, Sally Madden, Stephen Danti

City of Vincent Officers:

Director Technical Services, Acting Director Development Services (A/DDS), Acting Manager Policy And Place (A/MPP), Sustainability Officer (SO), Project Officer Parks and Environment (POPAE)

Guest presenter:

Eugenie Stockman – Green Fabric

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**1. Welcome/Declaration of Opening**

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.05pm.

**2. Apologies**

Halinka Lamparski, Community Representative  
Len Kosova, City of Vincent Chief Executive Officer

**3. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes from meeting on 20 February 2017 were confirmed by all voting members in attendance.

#### 4. **Baugruppen**

The EAG received a briefing from guest presenter Eugenie Stockman of Green Fabric. She introduced the concept of 'Baugruppen' or 'building groups', which create co-operative and collaborative housing projects characterised by affordability and environmentally sustainable design.

Key features of Baugruppen developments include a focus on community and social cohesion, quantity and quality of green open space and the reactivation of culturally and architecturally valuable buildings and sites in urban areas.

Major barriers to Baugruppen are primarily financial and regulatory. Banks presently do not lend to cooperative building groups and land cannot be bought until a legal structure is established by the group.

At the current time Baugruppen projects require significant support to succeed. This includes the provision of land with delayed settlement terms, additional funding for engagement of professional expertise and assistance with group coordination.

##### **Recommendations:**

The EAG did not make any recommendations at this time.

#### 5. **Floating Reed Bed Filtration System**

Project Officer Parks and Environment presented a proposal to install and monitor the performance of a nutrient extracting floating reed bed system in the Hyde Park lakes for a 12 month period.

The purpose of the proposed trial is to provide baseline data around the nutrient extracting capacities of a floating reed bed system using two species of endemic rush.

The proposal came to the City from an Environmental Consultant seeking a test site for such a system. Installation, one year of monitoring, maintenance and removal at the end of the trial would be at no cost to the City.

Due to the recent adoption of floating reed beds for nutrient removal, there is limited performance data available.

By agreeing to the trial, the City would be contributing to a body of knowledge that is relevant to the health of urban water bodies such as Hyde Park lakes.

##### **Recommendations:**

The EAG recommended that the City:

1. Support the trial;
2. Ensure that nesting birds are not disturbed by raft maintenance and removal; and
3. Ensure that the raft system has a natural appearance to minimise the visual impact on the Hyde Park lakes.

## 6. Ban on single-use plastic bags

Cr Loden provided a brief overview of the history and current status of local laws prohibiting single use plastic bags in Western Australia.

The purpose of this presentation was to seek the EAG's support for a local law banning single-use plastic bags in the City of Vincent, and feedback on potential issues with the implementation of such a ban.

### Recommendations:

The EAG expressed its support for the elimination of single-use plastic bags and recommended that the City:

1. Generate estimates of the level of plastic bag waste produced within the City and its environmental impacts to provide an informed basis on which to mount a reduction campaign;
2. Review and evaluate the available options for reducing plastic bag use, including community and retailer education, advocacy, incentives, a local law and partnership with other local governments;
3. Examine the plastic bag bans of other jurisdictions to inform itself of the best model to minimise loopholes and maximise compliance;
4. Investigate enforcement options and their resourcing implications; and
5. Recognise that enforcement is unlikely to succeed without strong community support and therefore place at least as much emphasis on community education and behaviour change.

## 7. Other business

- 7.1 Update on the hydrogeological report from Beatty Park – learnings for the Lawler Street Sump project
- 7.2 Update on the proposed role for the EAG in the Strategic Community Plan / Sustainable Environment Strategy consultation process

## 8. Previous Agenda Items – status update

Item	Status
Public mulch pile (Britannia Reserve)	Completed (August/September 2016)
Built Form Policy (Policy 7.1.1)	Completed. Adopted by Council December 2017 In effect as of January 2017
Canvas Bag trial (bag exchange at a local supermarket)	Currently being considered by Administration for an Environmental Grant – outcome to be advised
Lawler Street Sump makeover to public open space	To be considered by Council as part of the City's draft Budget 2017/18 at the July 2017 OMC
Sustainable Environment Strategy development	In progress – community consultation to occur as part of Strategic Community Plan consultation in mid to late 2017
Waste trial	Ready to start – awaiting final sign-off
Composting Hub (near mulch pile at Britannia Reserve)	To be considered by Council as part of the City's draft Budget 2017/18 at the July 2017 OMC

**9. Next meeting**

Next meeting 12 June 2017

**10. Close**

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.51pm

These Minutes were confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting of the Environmental Advisory Group held on 1 May 2017.

Signed: ..... Chairperson

Dated: This ..... day of ..... 2017