



CITY OF VINCENT

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP (RAPWG)

26 March 2018 at 6.00pm

Venue: Committee Room
City of Vincent Administration and Civic Centre

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Attendees:

City of Vincent Councillors

Cr Ros Harley (Co-Chair)
Cr Dan Loden (Co-Chair)
Cr Joshua Topelberg

City of Vincent Officers

Rosslind Ellis – Manager Communications and Marketing (MMC)
Gayatrii Surendorff – Community Partner (CP)

Community Representatives

Maria McAtackney (MM)
Marilyn Lyford (ML)
Sarah Janali (SJ)

1. **Welcome / Declaration of Opening** – Acknowledgement to Country

Councillor Loden opened the meeting at 6.10pm and delivered Acknowledgement of Country on behalf of the Working Group.

2. **Apologies**

Phillip Walley-Stack – Community Representative
Kathy Kickett – Community Representative
Michael Quirk – Director Community Engagement
Sandra Watson – Manager Community Partnerships
Karen Balm – Senior Community Partner

3. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes**

Minutes from last meeting held on 12 February 2018 approved as a true and correct record.

4. **Business**

4.1 Action Items Review

- The Group reviewed the City's current list of Noongar people available for Welcome to Country Ceremony.

It was agreed that the list the City compiled would not be labelled as 'Noongar Elders available for Welcome to Country' but as 'Noongar people available for Welcome to Country'.

- The Group discussed the proposed Acknowledgement of Country for City staff email signatures. The statement agreed on being 'I acknowledge that the City is within the traditional lands of the Whadjuk Noongar people. I pay my respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging and I recognise their strength and resilience.'
- The Group reviewed the draft version of the internal 'Vincent Aboriginal Business Directory'. During review of the document, Cr Harley declared she was related to one of the business owners in the Directory, Marissa Verma from Bindi Bindi Dreaming. Cr Loden suggested that all City staff be made aware of the document and refer to it when requesting quotes from businesses. Notes should also be made with the Vincent Aboriginal Directory alerting City staff of businesses that are also registered on the Aboriginal Business Directory WA.

ACTION:

- 1) Include Acknowledgement of Country statement within City staff email signatures subject to CEO approval.
- 2) Identify businesses that are registered on the Aboriginal Business Directory WA within the Vincent Aboriginal Business Directory.
- 3) Distribute Aboriginal Business Directory WA to all City of Vincent staff.

4.2 Specific Projects and Initiatives:

- *Acknowledgment of Country and Welcome to Country Policy Review*
The Group reviewed the current Welcome to Country Policy and commented on the use of language within the document, notably that 'Indigenous' should be replaced throughout the document with 'Aboriginal.'

ACTION:

- 1) RAPWG to be provided with Policy for review and further feedback of the City's Welcome to Country Policy by 4 May 2018.

- *Flying and Displaying of Flags and Banners Policy Review*
MMC advised that it is currently reviewing this Policy. Reconciliation Banners will be flown during Reconciliation Week 2018.
- *Close the Gap Day*
CP updated the Group on the City's internal morning and afternoon tea held for Close the Gap Day at the City Administration and Depot Buildings. Jade Dolman's artwork, 'Boodjar Nakolak Yanginy' was displayed at the events and Jade spoke about the significance of her artwork and Close the Gap Day.

Sharyn Egan joined staff, Councillors and the Mayor at Keith Frame Reserve to discuss the 'Seven Sisters' artwork she had produced with community members and students from Aranmore Catholic College.

The Close the Gap Family Festival hosted by the Aboriginal Health Council of WA and sponsored by the City on 24 March 2018 was also discussed. Cr Harley suggested that promotion begin earlier next year to encourage more community members to attend for next year's events.

- *Strategic Community Plan Acknowledgment and Artwork*
MMC advised that Jade Dolman's artwork 'Boodjar Nakolak Yanginy' will be featured in the City's Strategic Community Plan along with an Acknowledgment of Country.

Cr Topelberg left the meeting at 7.05pm

- *Weld Square Renaming*
Cr Loden updated the Group on an outstanding Council Resolution from 24 July 2012 relating to the proposed renaming of Weld Square. This proposal was considered by Council and the

Geographic Names Committee, and was referred to the previous Aboriginal Liaison and Reconciliation Advisory Group. Members of the Group agreed that the Whadjuk Working Party should be contacted and consulted with regarding any potential name change to Weld Square.

ACTION:

1) CP to contact SWSALC to schedule a time to present to the Whadjuk Working Party regarding a potential renaming of Weld Square.

• *Whadjuk Trail Network*

CP advised the Group that Sally Wallace from Absolute Trails had contacted the City regarding establishing Whadjuk Trails within the Vincent Council that would link with the Town of Cambridge's existing trail network. Sally works closely with Neville Collard to establish the Trails and stories shared via QR Codes, signage, brochures and online resources. Concerns were raised by the Group regarding the cost of establishing the trails, the fact that the business was a private, for profit company and that the trails would only highlight one Aboriginal person's perspective and not engage with the wider Aboriginal community. It was agreed that the City would look to carry out their own research into establishing a trail network in the future.

ACTION:

1) CP to email Sally Wallace regarding the group's decision not to establish a Whadjuk Trail Network within the City at this time.

4.3 'Reflect' RAP – Progress Upgrade

• CP provided the Group with an update of the 'Reflect' RAP progress. Discussion included new and existing relationship the City was building with Aboriginal businesses, groups and individuals, the RFQ that would invite organisations to provide the City with Aboriginal cultural awareness training, Aranmore Catholic College and the current cohort of Aboriginal students at the school as well as the City's incorporation of Aboriginal businesses into the City's Purchasing Policy.

• 'Innovate' RAP Transition

Cr Loden discussed the need to budget for future reconciliation related initiatives, and requested a timeline outlining the City's plan to launch the 'Innovate' RAP. It was discussed amongst the Group that there was a need to review the short, medium and long term goals set in the RAP Workshop held in 2016 with Danny Ford and Tim Muirhead.

ACTION:

1) CP to retrieve notes from RAP workshop with Danny Ford and Tim Muirhead.
2) City to plan and budget for Innovate RAP.

4.5 Other Business

No other business

5. Close / Next Meeting

Cr Loden closed the meeting at 7.50pm. Next meeting to be held on Monday, 7 May 2018.

Signed _____
Councillor Dan Loden (Co-Chair)

Date this _____ day of _____ 2018

Summary of Actions	Date
CP to email Sally Wallace regarding the group's decision not to establish a Whadjuk Trail Network within the City at this time.	6 April 2018
CP to contact SWSALC to schedule a time to present to the Whadjuk Working Party regarding a potential renaming of Weld Square.	6 April 2018
Include Acknowledgement of Country statement within City staff email signatures subject to CEO approval.	May 2018
CP to retrieve notes from RAP workshop with Danny Ford and Tim Muirhead.	6 April 2018
RAPWG to provide feedback via tracked changes to the City's Welcome to Country Policy.	4 May 2018
Note businesses that are registered on the Aboriginal Business Directory WA with in the Vincent Aboriginal Business Directory.	May 2018
City to include Innovate RAP with raised Corporate Business Plan and 2018/19 budget.	July 2018