

MEDIA STATEMENT - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hyde Park - Restoration Masterplan complete

Work on the Hyde Park Lakes Restoration project is now complete and Perth's most treasured inner-city park will soon be restored to its former glory.

Hyde Park is a significant community asset and since 2004, the (Vincent Council-established) Hyde Park Lakes Restoration Working Group has investigated options to improve water quality and ensure the park does not continue to be a casualty of declining water levels which transforms it into a swamp each summer.

A Restoration Masterplan was approved in July 2012, the contract was awarded to West Perth's *Advanteering Civil Engineers* with works swiftly commencing last September.

Mayor Alannah MacTiernan says, "At last, we now have a tangible result for Hyde Park. The Masterplan has been put into action, completed within budget, and we have a lake that retains it ornamental beauty while requiring less water.

"Funds have focused on reducing the lakes' size, improving water quality and helping fauna and vegetation to flourish. The 'treatment train', a natural biofilter, really is a clever solution," said the Mayor.

Chief objectives/solutions:

- » Reduce water use and size of the lakes (create new lake wall)
- » Reduce stagnant water and 'dead' corners (create new beach areas)
- » Use natural systems to improve water quality (construct 'Treatment Train')
- » Remove exotic species that dominate and overrun the area (plant endemic species)
- » Re-establish natural habitat for local fauna (on islands/beaches/within new wall)

(See the bottom of this web page for further details).

"We've completed all the big ticket items, with only the softscape works to come. This includes landscaping and re-vegetation of the two islands, the two beached areas, the lake edges and the Treatment Train. We'll work with the seasons and utilise the winter rains to establish a host of gorgeous local species that will really thrive here in Hyde Park. We've chosen specific plants that will be able to withstand the impending harsh summers and enrich the water quality of the lakes," said Mayor MacTiernan.

The estimated cost of the restoration works was \$3.5million – the actual total cost is \$3,168,000 (ex GST).

The City received \$1.5million in funding from the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative through the National Water Security Plan for Cities and Towns program.

\$110,000 was provided by the Water Corporation with a contribution from the North Perth Community Bank (Bendigo Bank) of \$50,000. The remaining funds for the restoration works will were provided by the City.

Ends

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