

RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP

Monday, 1 July 2019 at 6.00pm

Venue: Function Room

City of Vincent
Administration and Civic Centre
244 Vincent Street Leederville

Attendees:

City of Vincent Councillors

Cr Dan Loden (Chairperson)

Cr Josh Topelberg

Community Representatives

Gordon Cole (GC)

Maria McAttackney (MM)

City of Vincent Officers

Nathan Stokes – Executive Manager Human Resources (NS)

Karen Balm – Senior Community Partner (KB)

Gayatrii Surendorff – Community Partner (GS)

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

The meeting was opened at 6.05pm with Gordon Cole Welcoming the Group to Country.

2. **Apologies**

Cr Roslyn Harley (Co-Chair)

David MacLennan - Chief Executive Officer

John Corbellini – A/Executive Director Community and Business Services

Sandra Watson – Manager Community Partnerships

Community Representatives

Kathy Kickett

Phil Walley-Stack

Jade Dolman (JD)

Sarah Janali

Marilyn Lyford

3. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes** – 29 April 2019

Cr Topelberg requested the following amendment to the 29 April 2019 Minutes:

- 4.1 'Leederville Masterplan' to 'Leederville Oval Masterplan'

The Minutes from the previous meeting held on 29 April 2019 were confirmed as a true and correct record.

4. **Business**

4.1 Action Items Review

GS discussed the action items listed and the progress the City and RAPWG members have made with particular actions over the past two months.

GC, JD and GS have closely collaborated which has led to the success of the first round of Aboriginal Youth Forums and Workshops. The artwork produced at the Workshops will be exhibited at the Kaya Wandjoo Festival on 6 July 2019. The next Aboriginal Forum will focus on technology.

GC mentioned he had tried to get in touch with Nyoongar Wellbeing and Sport regarding Leederville Oval Masterplan; however, to date there has been no follow up response. GS stated that the City's Community Project Team had not received a response either.

GC discussed the importance of connecting and consulting with local Whadjuk residents when seeking feedback on work carried out within the City. He relayed that the Whadjuk Working Party consult on matters affecting Native Title and registered Aboriginal sites and that the City may have difficulties contacting them for comment on projects such as Leederville Oval Masterplan.

- ACTIONS:**
- (1) RAPWG to provide feedback regarding the Leederville Oval Masterplan to the City's Community Project Team
 - (2) GC and GS to coordinate Aboriginal Youth Tech Forum.
 - (3) GS to continue to work with GC to connect and consult with local Whadjuk residents.

4.2 Specific Projects and Initiatives:

Reconciliation Week

GS discussed the Workshops the City hosted during Reconciliation Week 2019. Marissa Verma, Esther Kickett and Vivienne Hansen each facilitated a session throughout the week in the Vincent Library. Marissa shared her knowledge of the Noongar Six Seasons and catered for the Workshop 'Djeran', while Esther spoke about her connection to Country and shared painting tips and techniques with community members. Vivienne's Workshop was enjoyed by a large group that learnt about local bush medicine and the use of certain plants in Noongar healing traditions. Vivienne and her husband Moort worked with attendees to create bush medicine oil and potpourri they were able to take home with them.

Aboriginal Youth Forum and Workshops

JD, Kevin Bynder and Brendon See were panel guests at the City's first Youth Forum for Aboriginal youth. The panel spoke about their artwork, the adversity they had faced growing up and how they managed to run a small business. Following the Forum, two weekly Art Workshops were facilitated for the attendees by JD. JD worked closely with the attendees to produce a painting on canvas that highlighted Noongar culture, symbols and tradition. The artwork will be featured in an art exhibition on 6 July 2019 at the Kaya Wandjoo Festival.

NAIDOC Week

The City will host the Kaya Wandjoo Festival to celebrate NAIDOC Week. Noongar Storytime and face painting will be facilitated by Karla Hart and is open to young people up to the age of 12. Marissa Verma will talk about her personal story and adversities and her journey connecting with her Noongar culture that has led to a thriving small business and rich cultural knowledge and connection.

Kaya Wandjoo Festival

The City has partnered with Noongar Radio to host the Kaya Wandjoo Festival on 6 July 2019. The festival will celebrate Noongar Radio's 10th Birthday, NAIDOC Week and the launch of the City's Innovate RAP. The festival will feature numerous Noongar artists, dancers, musicians, poets, storytellers and local organisations will have the opportunity to promote their services to the community. Entry and catering is free to community members.

4.3 'Innovate' RAP – Progress Update

The City's 'Innovate' RAP was formally endorsed by Reconciliation Australia on 26 June 2019. The RAP will be launched on 6 July 2019 at the Kaya Wandjoo Festival.

4.4 Other Business

Cultural Awareness Training

NS discussed the future of Aboriginal cultural awareness training at the City of Vincent, with the City investigating the potential of having online training available to staff in the future. CATonline had approached the City regarding their 12 module online Cultural Awareness Training program. He discussed that the Elders featured in the training program were not Whadjuk people but from other areas of Western Australia. GC and Cr Topelberg contributed to the discussion surrounding online training and GC mentioned that online training may not give staff an opportunity to fully engage with Noongar culture and ask questions regarding training material if a Noongar consultant was not present. GC also discussed the importance of having Whadjuk Noongar people share cultural information with staff.

Cr Topelberg suggested that Administration look to start a 12 month project that would see budget and time allocated to working with local Whadjuk people and Elders to develop City of Vincent specific cultural awareness training. He said that training should be specific to each internal Department or team. GS advised that the City had already started implementing training for Parks and Urban Green staff members specific to their roles with Noongar consultant, Jason Barrow.

The Group discussed other materials available for a broader cultural awareness session for staff focused on Australia's history such as the Red, Yellow and Black book, the Centre for Cultural Competence Australia (CCCA) and the First Australians TV series.

General consensus was that the online demonstrations should be viewed however the Group preferred if training was led by Whadjuk Noongar people and that face to face and on Country training should be a priority over online training.

ACTION: GS to investigate a potential cultural awareness project with local Whadjuk Noongar Elders and community members.

Seasons Festival 26 January 2020

External event organisers have contacted the City regarding a festival called 'Seasons' that they would like to host at Leederville Oval on 26 January 2020. GS requested feedback from the Group regarding the request to hold an event within the City on Australia Day. It was unanimously agreed that the festival should be held on an alternative day at Leederville Oval to ensure the City's commitment to reconciliation is upheld.

Draft Safer Vincent Plan – Community Consultation

GS informed the Group that the Draft Safer Vincent Plan is currently open for community consultation. Members are encouraged to complete the survey before it closes on 16 July at 5pm.

ACTION: RAPWG to provide feedback on the Draft Safer Vincent Plan

4.5 Other Business

Nil.

5. **Close / Next Meeting**

Cr Loden closed the meeting at 7.32pm. The next meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, 9 September 2019.

Signed _____
Councillor Dan Loden (Co-Chair)

Date this _____ day of _____ 2019

Attachment to RAPWG Minutes – 1 July 2019

Summary of Actions	Date	Status
RAPWG to provide feedback regarding the Leederville Oval Masterplan to the City's Community Project team	Ongoing	Ongoing
GS to work with the Community Partner - Youth and Children to facilitate banner making sessions for local students for Reconciliation Week 2020.	January to June 2020	Not started
GS to organise an event hosted by the Mayor for local Aboriginal residents.	October 2019	Not started
GC and GS to coordinate Aboriginal Youth Tech Forum	30 August	Ongoing
GS to continue to work with GC to connect and consult with local Whadjuk residents	Ongoing	Ongoing
GS to investigate a potential cultural awareness project with local Whadjuk Noongar Elders and community members	30 September 2019	Not started
NS to review the CATonline free demo	24 August 2019	Ongoing
RAPWG to provide feedback on the Draft Safer Vincent Plan	16 July 2019	Ongoing