



## CITY OF VINCENT

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*"Enhancing and celebrating our diverse community"*

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# MINUTES

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

**30 JULY 2013**

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*This document is available in the following alternative formats upon request for people with specific needs; large print, Braille, audio cassette and computer disk*

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council of the City of Vincent held at the Administration and Civic Centre, 244 Vincent Street, Leederville, on Tuesday 30 July 2013, commencing at 6.03pm.

**1. (a) DECLARATION OF OPENING**

The Presiding Member, Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan, declared the meeting open at 6.03pm and read the following Acknowledgement of Country Statement:

**(b) ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY STATEMENT**

*"Today we meet on the lands of the Nyoongar people and we honour them as the traditional custodians of this land".*

**2. APOLOGIES/MEMBERS ON APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**(a) Apologies:**

Nil.

**(b) Members on Approved Leave of Absence:**

Cr Matt Buckels on approved leave of absence from 29 June 2013 to 4 August 2013 inclusive for personal commitments.

Cr Joshua Topelberg on approved leave of absence from 27 July 2013 to 4 August 2013 inclusive for personal reasons.

**(c) Present:**

Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan      Presiding Member

Cr Warren McGrath (*Deputy Mayor*)      South Ward

Cr John Carey      South Ward

Cr Roslyn Harley      North Ward

Cr Dudley Maier      North Ward

Cr John Pintabona      South Ward

Cr Julia Wilcox      North Ward

John Giorgi, JP      Chief Executive Officer

Rob Boardman      Director Community Services

Mike Rootsey      Director Corporate Services

Rick Lotznicker      Director Technical Services

Media

Sara Fitzpatrick      Journalist – *"The Guardian Express"*

David Bell      Journalist – *"The Perth Voice"*

**3. (a) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & RECEIVING OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS**

1. Peter Fitzgerald of 58 Redfern Street, North Perth stated the following:

- He advised that this decision has been made by a group of people who do not really understand Vincent as a community and has not taken the time to come out and see who we are and what is important to us.
- He is not opposed to an amalgamation but he did believe that we should amalgamate as a single community, as one, with the City of Perth.
- He advised that a campaign to get signs in as many shop fronts and many homes as possible and to also start a community walk.

2. Alison McHutchin of 45 Chelmsford, Mount Lawley stated the following:
  - She supported the City's stand with regards to the State Government's poorly thought out and impractical plan to amalgamate the majority of Vincent with Stirling.
  - She lives in this area as she choose to live in the inner city rather than the suburbs.
3. Rosie Sarach of 40 Anzac Road, Mount Lawley stated the following:
  - If we had a little lateral thinking we could make Vincent bigger we could take in areas of Mount Lawley, Joondanna and areas that might like to be in this lovely City.
4. Leanne Kerwood of Homewest town house stated the following:
  - She used to live in Stirling and they were ignored as residents. There was never any contact at all from Stirling and only just this last October that she moved into Vincent.
5. Dianne Dempster of 151 Eugenia Street, Mount Hawthorn stated the following:
  - She is a ten (10) year resident of Mount Hawthorn and not having done the homework required to completely understand the decision making process at the higher levels of this change occurring.
  - Perth culture is in its infancy within the comparison of the vibrant international Cities. To make a defining decision on what is considered inner City culture for our isolated City of Perth, I believe it is short sighted and impatient.
  - She personally could only see a positive and exciting futures for the many developments and look forward to moving this greater precinct from infancy to toddler hood to Perth.
  - She asked the question "*Where will the knowledge and impetus come from in the City of Stirling, to ensure that Perth in fifty (50) years down the track, has a quality greater precinct of arts and culture to only really on such a small area on the outskirts of the CBD and then including the historical Fremantle in the bigger picture of Perth culture as being brought forward by the current Government, from an international perspective, is I believe disappointing and limiting to the people of the Perth the City*"?
6. Kirsten Johnson (address not stated) stated the following:
  - She is the President of the North Perth Primary School P&C, and advised that is that the City of Vincent both Staff and Council have always been extremely understanding supportive and knowledgeable about the sort of things that they are about as a school, sustainability, diversity, that a bigger suburban Council would just not understand.
  - As a resident she was less concerned about the tangibles and was more concerned about the Intangibles.
7. James Peard of 6/7 Burgess Street, Leederville stated the following:
  - He highlighted the fact that we are coming up to a Federal Election and the Liberal Party has just taken the State seat of Perth and is angling for the Federal Seat of Perth and hoping that perhaps the Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan with her connections with the Australian Labour Party could perhaps influence a Policy position on future announcement from Mark McGowan on what happen under a Labour Government.
8. Colin Haddock of 37 Galway Street, Leederville stated the following:
  - He had not heard anyone recall History - we used to be the City of Perth and why should become Stirling now?

9. Milena Djurasinovic on behalf of State Member for Perth –Eleni Evangel stated the following:
- She advised that she would be speaking on behalf of the State Member for Perth, Eleni Evangel and sent an email earlier today and asked if it could be read out at tonight's meeting as she was unable to attend tonight. It read as follows;
  - *"Dear Alannah, Councillors and residents, unfortunately I am away at the moment and will not be able to attend the Special Council Meeting this afternoon. This is my family's first break in two (2) years. I am receiving a large amount of emails as is my office relating to the proposed Vincent split, I myself am a resident of Leederville and my family and I chose to live in this wonderful place because of the inner city vibe we cherish. Vincent is a unique community and I think one needs to live here to really appreciate the inner city vibrancy of places like Beaufort Street, Angove Street and Mount Hawthorn. I would like to assure you and all effected Vincent constitutes that I will be representing their concerns, opinions and view points in our Parliament and will fight for a united inner city Vincent."*
10. Joel Burch of 6 Martin Federation Street, Mount Hawthorn stated the following:
- He used to live in Stirling and has lived in Mount Hawthorn for a year and opposed the split.

There being no further speakers, Public Question Time closed at approx. 6.20pm.

**4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER (WITHOUT DISCUSSION)**

Nil.

**6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Nil.

**7.1 Metropolitan Local Government Structural Reform/Amalgamations – City of Vincent response to the State Government’s Proposal**

<b>Ward:</b>	-	<b>Date:</b>	30 July 2013
<b>Precinct:</b>	-	<b>File Ref:</b>	ORG0031
<b>Attachments:</b>	<p><a href="#">001</a> – Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel – Executive Summary of Final Report  <a href="#">002</a> – Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel – Preferred Option B - Map  <a href="#">003</a> – Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel – Preferred Option B – Map 1 City of Vincent  <a href="#">004</a> – City of Vincent Submission – to Metropolitan Local Government Review Recommendations  <a href="#">005</a> – Government’s Response to Metropolitan Local Government Review Recommendations  <a href="#">006</a> – Summary – State Government Model for Local Government  <a href="#">007</a> – Maps of Proposed New Local Governments (1-14)  <a href="#">008</a> – Map of Proposed New Local Governments – Metropolitan Area</p>		
<b>Tabled Items:</b>	009 – Minister for Local Government Power point presentation		
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Giorgi, Chief Executive Officer		
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	John Giorgi, Chief Executive Officer		

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Council;

1. **RECEIVES** the report dated 30 July 2013 concerning the Local Government Structural Reform and proposed amalgamations of Metropolitan Local Governments, as detailed in this report and shown in Appendix 7.1 (Attachments 005, 006, 007 & 008);
2. **RECOGNISES** the need for Local Government structural reform in Western Australia;
3. **OPPOSES** the State Government’s proposal to merge a significant proportion of the City of Vincent into the City of Stirling, as shown in Appendix 7.1 (Attachment 007 - Map 1), as it is considered there is very little “*community of interest*” between the population of the two municipalities and that it will be to the detriment of the inner city identity of the precincts that make up the City of Vincent;
4. **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** a full merger of the City of Vincent with the City of Perth, as this is considered the best way to deliver efficient and dynamic Governance for the City’s residents, business’s and five (5) Town Centres;
5. **OPPOSES** the State Governments decision to amend the Local Government Act 1995 to remove any poll or referendum provisions for residents or ratepayers of Metropolitan Local Governments;
6. **APPROVES** the appointment of the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to the proposed Implementation Transition Committee for the City of Vincent;

7. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to the Council no later than 27 August 2013, concerning the following:
    - 7.1 the Council's response to the State Government proposal; and
    - 7.2 the preparation of a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board;
  8. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor to;
    - 8.1 enter into discussions with stakeholders, including the Minister for Local Government, Members of Parliament, City of Perth, City of Stirling and any other relevant persons/organizations; and
    - 8.2 commence discussions with the City of Perth on a merger of the whole of the City of Vincent into the City of Perth;
    - 8.3 consult with the Vincent community concerning the Government's proposal;
  9. **REQUESTS** its representatives in State Government to support the Council's position; and
  10. **ADVISES** the Premier, Minister for Local Government, City's of Perth, City of Stirling and the City's ratepayers and residents of its decision.
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**Moved Cr Carey, Seconded Cr Maier**

That the recommendation, together with the following change(s), be adopted:

- "6. Establishes a community and social media campaign, including petitions, town hall meetings and advertising to oppose the Stirling merger plan to be directed by a committee formed by the Mayor and three Councillors and relevant officers;
7. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer to engage personnel with the skill to oversee the campaign for the next two (2) months."

The Presiding Member Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan informed the Council of the outcome of the Meeting, attended by herself and the Chief Executive Officer, held earlier today at the City of Cockburn whereby the Premier and the Minister for Local Government announced the Government's proposal for structural reform and proposed new amalgamations.

Cr Carey spoke.

The Chief Executive Officer informed the Council that Cr Carey had spoken for five minutes and a procedural motion was required if he was to continue speaking.

The Presiding Member requested that a Procedural Motion be moved.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Moved Cr Harley, Seconded Cr McGrath**

That Cr Carey be permitted to speak for a further five minutes.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)**

(Cr Buckels and Cr Topelberg were on approved leave of absence.)

Cr Carey continued speaking.

All Councillors then spoke in turn as follows:

- Cr Maier
- Cr Harley
- Cr McGrath
- Cr Wilcox
- Cr Pintabona

The Chief Executive Officer responded to questions asked by Cr Pintabona and elaborated on the proposed new Local Government amalgamations.

The Presiding Member requested that Councillors nominate for the campaign committee.

Cr Carey, Cr Harley and Cr Wilcox nominated.

Cr Maier nominated Cr Topelberg (who was on approved leave of absence).

The Presiding Member requested that above nominations be included in an Amendment.

**AMENDMENT**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Harley**

“That the following be included into the Motion:

1. Cr Carey, Cr Wilcox, Harley and Topelberg be appointed to the campaign committee.

(Cr McGrath advised that he would be available, in the event that Cr Topelberg was unavailable).

2. the Council approves of the first public meeting to be held on Saturday 10 August 2013, at a time and venue to be approved by the Mayor.”

**AMENDMENT PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)**

(Cr Buckels and Cr Topelberg were on approved leave of absence.)

**MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (7-0)**

(Cr Buckels and Cr Topelberg were on approved leave of absence.)

**COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 7.1**

That the Council;

1. **RECEIVES** the report dated 30 July 2013 concerning the Local Government Structural Reform and proposed amalgamations of Metropolitan Local Governments, as detailed in this report and shown in Appendix 7.1 (Attachments 005, 006, 007 & 008);
2. **RECOGNISES** the need for Local Government structural reform in Western Australia;
3. **OPPOSES** the State Government's proposal to merge a significant proportion of the City of Vincent into the City of Stirling, as shown in Appendix 7.1 (Attachment 007 - Map 1), as it is considered there is very little "*community of interest*" between the population of the two municipalities and that it will be to the detriment of the inner city identity of the precincts that make up the City of Vincent;
4. **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** a full merger of the City of Vincent with the City of Perth, as this is considered the best way to deliver efficient and dynamic Governance for the City's residents, business's and five (5) Town Centres;
5. **OPPOSES** the State Government's decision to amend the Local Government Act 1995 to remove any poll or referendum provisions for residents or ratepayers of Metropolitan Local Government's;
6. **Establishes a community and social media campaign, including petitions, town hall meetings and advertising to oppose the Stirling merger plan to be directed by a committee formed by the Mayor and four Councillors and relevant officers. The following four Councillors were appointed;**
  1. Cr Carey;
  2. Cr Harley;
  3. Cr Topelberg;
  4. Cr Wilcox; and(Cr McGrath if Cr Topelberg is unavailable);
7. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer to engage personnel with the skill to oversee the campaign for the next two (2) months;
8. **APPROVES** the appointment of the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to the proposed Implementation Transition Committee for the City of Vincent;
9. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer to provide a report to the Council no later than 27 August 2013, concerning the following:
  - 9.1 the progress of the community campaign; and
  - 9.2 the preparation of a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board;
10. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor to;
  - 10.1 enter into discussions with stakeholders, including the Minister for Local Government, Members of Parliament, City of Perth, City of Stirling and any other relevant persons/organizations; and



- 10.2 commence discussions with the City of Perth on a merger of the whole of the City of Vincent into the City of Perth;
- 10.3 consult with the Vincent community concerning the Government's proposal;
11. REQUESTS its representatives in State Government to support the Council's position; and
12. ADVISES the Premier, Minister for Local Government, City's of Perth, City of Stirling and the City's ratepayers and residents of its decision.

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To advise the Council of the Government's announcements relating to Local Government Structural Reforms/Amalgamations and formulate a response.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Previous Reports**

The Council previously considered the matter of Local Government structural reform at the Ordinary Meetings of Council held on 7 September 2005, 20 December 2005, 16 March 2009, 28 April 2009, 7 July 2009 and 25 August 2009, 22 September 2009, 9 March 2010, 7 December 2010, 20 December 2011, 13 March 2012, 8 May 2012, 22 May 2012 6 November 2012 and 26 March 2013.

**DETAILS:**

**Previous Council Decisions:**

At the Council Meeting held on 26 March 2013, the Council considered the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel Recommendations and resolved as follows;

"COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 9.5.1

*That the Council;*

1. RECEIVES the report concerning the Local Government Review Panel Final Report – July 2012 as shown in Appendix 9.5.1 (Attachment 001); and
2. AUTHORIZES the Chief Executive Officer to lodge a submission with the Department of Local Government, as shown in Appendix 9.5.1 (Attachment 004)."

At the Council Meeting held on 6 November 2012, the Council considered the matter and resolved as follows;

"COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 9.5.5

1. RECEIVES the report concerning the Local Government Review Panel Final Report – July 2012 as shown in Appendix 9.5.5 (Attachment 001); and
2. AUTHORIZES the Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor;
  - 2.1 To prepare a submission, based on the Council's previous decision made at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 May 2012, to the Minister for Local Government, for the consideration of the Council; and
  - 2.2 Enter into discussions (if required) with stakeholders concerning the City's submission; and
3. REQUESTS that a report be submitted to the Council no later than February 2013."

At the Council Meeting held on 22 May 2012, the Council considered the matter and resolved as follows;

"COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 9.5.6

*That the Council;*

1. *ENDORSES the City of Vincent's Submission to be the same as the Western Australia Local Government's Submission\* (as adopted at the Forum of Metropolitan of Local Government Mayors and Presidents on 22 May 2012) in response to the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel Draft Findings – April 2012 as shown in Appendix 9.5.6 (Attachment 003) with the following exceptions:*
  - 1.1 *Key Recommendation 23a – the City of Vincent support compulsory voting at Local Government Elections; and*
  - 1.2 *Key Recommendation 23c – the City of Vincent supports the election of Mayors by the community;*
2. *AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to provide a Submission to the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel; and*
3. *NOTES that the City of Vincent Submission\* as specified in clause 1 above, will also be forwarded to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA)."*

**(NOTE: WALGA position is for 15-20 Local Governments in the Metropolitan Area.)**

**Premier's Announcement – City of Perth Boundaries**

On Sunday 28 July 2013, the Premier and Minister for Local Government announced new boundaries for the City of Perth.

The effect of this announcement is that the City of Vincent is to be split between the City of Perth and City of Stirling, with the new boundary as follows:

Mitchell Freeway, Richmond Street, Loftus Street, Beaufort Street, Walcott Street, Lord Street, Guildford Road, Mitchell Street, Stanley Street and to the Swan River, as shown in refer to Appendix 7.1, Attachment 007 - Map 1.

**Premier and Minister's Announcement – Metropolitan Local Governments**

On Tuesday 30 July 2013, the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer attended a meeting of Local Government Mayors and Chief Executive Officers, whereby the Premier and Minister for Local Government announced the Government's proposal for Local Government Structural Reform and proposed amalgamations for Metropolitan Local Governments.

In the short time available since the Premier's announcement, the Chief Executive Officer has prepared this agenda report and advises is as follows:

1. The thirty (30) existing Metropolitan Local Governments will be reduced to 14 – refer to attached summary table outlining the changes.
2. Proposed new boundary changes/amalgamations are to be effective from 1 July 2015.
3. It is anticipated that Commissioners will be in place in early 2015 (or sooner if necessary).
4. All Metropolitan Local Government's are required to make a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board, by the 4 October 2013, on the Government's proposed amalgamations/structural Reform recommendations.

5. If a submission is lodged by 4 October 2013, each Local Government will receive \$200,000 to assist with the Reform process.
6. If a submission is not lodged by 4 October 2013, the Minister will lodge his own submission (based on what has already been announced) and the Local Governments will not receive any funding.
8. The Minister announced that he and/or the Local Government Advisory Board are prepared to consider minor changes ("*tweaking*") of proposed boundaries and significant ("*wholesale changes*") will not be considered.
9. An Implementation Transition Committee (comprising of representatives Department of Local Government and Communities, Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Local Government Managers Association), reporting to the Minister for Local Government will be formed to oversee the Structural Reform process and Local Government Implementation Transition Working Groups for each new Local Government entity (comprising of Council Members and Officers), will report to the Implementation Transition Committee.
10. As prescribed in the Local Government Act 1995, all permanent employees will have a period of 2 years, effective from 1 July 2015, whereby their conditions cannot be "*less favourable*" than present.

**Submissions to the Local Government Advisory Board:**

The following was announced at the meeting held on 30 July 2013.

The Minister for Local Government has REQUESTED each Local Government to lodge a submission with the Local Government Advisory Board on the Government's proposal for proposed new Local Governments in the Metropolitan Area, by the 4 October 2013.

If a Local Government HAS LODGED its submission with the Local Government Advisory Board by 4 October 2013, if it is in accordance with the Government's proposal, it may receive \$200,000 from the State Government, to assist in the Structural Reform process.

If a Local Government HAS NOT LODGED its submission with the Local Government Advisory Board by 4 October 2013, the Minister for Local Government will lodge his own submission concerning the Local Government, based on the Government's proposal, as announced on 30 July 2013.

The Minister for Local Government has announced that he and/or the Local Government Advisory Board are prepared to consider any submissions for minor changes ("*tweaking*") to the Government's proposed boundaries and significant ("*wholesale changes*") will not be considered.

An Implementation Transition Committee (comprising of representatives Department of Local Government and Communities, Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) and Local Government Managers Association), reporting to the Minister for Local Government will be formed to oversee the Structural Reform process and Local Government Implementation Transition Working Groups for each new Local Government entity (comprising of Council Members and Officers), will report to the Implementation Transition Committee.

In the short time available to prepare this report it has not been possible to detail the impact and ramifications on the preparation of a submission. Accordingly, a further report is proposed to be submitted to the Council no later than 27 August 2013.

### **Metropolitan Local Government Structural Review Report (Robson Report)**

The Robson Report preferred option is a structure of twelve (12) Local Governments in Metropolitan Perth. This model provides an opportunity for alignment with the ten (10) strategic activities centres.

The Panel recommended two Options – A and B – the report provided maps of proposed new boundaries, as shown in Appendix 9.5.5 Attachment 002.

Both Options recommend 12 Local Governments in the metropolitan area- primarily based on the State Government's *Directions 2031* Strategic Activity Centres of:

- Armadale, Cannington, Fremantle, Joondalup, Midland, Morley, Perth, Rockingham, Stirling and Yanchep (proposed).
- The Panel identified two secondary sectors namely, Claremont and Cockburn.

Option A – in essence amalgamates existing Local Governments, but it is not the Panel's preferred option.

Option B – the Panel's preferred option involves amalgamating and splitting some Local Governments to provide for average populations of 190,000 electors by 2026.

### **City of Vincent**

Under both options of the Robson Report, the City of Vincent was proposed to be amalgamated with the new and enlarged City of Perth, which will include West Leederville (from the Town of Cambridge) most of the City of South Perth and approximately 50% of the Town of Victoria Park – this is not the Government's proposal.

### **City of Vincent Deliberative Democracy Forum – 25 February 2012**

The City of Vincent conducted a Deliberative Democracy Forum on 25 February 2012 to consider the future of the City.

*“ Deliberative democracy rests on the core notion of citizens and their representatives deliberating about public problems and solutions under conditions that are conducive to reasoned reflection and refined public judgment; a mutual willingness to understand the values, perspectives, and interests of others; and the possibility of reframing their interests and perspectives in light of a joint search for common interests and mutually acceptable solutions.*

*It is thus often referred to as an open discovery process, rather than a ratification of fixed positions, and as potentially transforming interests, rather than simply taking them as given.*

*Deliberative democracy introduces a different kind of citizen voice into public affairs than that associated with raw public opinion, simple voting, narrow advocacy, or protest from the outside.*

#### The Facilitator

*The City engaged Professor Janette Harzt Karp from Curtin University to facilitate the Forum. She has considerable experience with use of this model for community engagement.*

*The City's Administration held several meetings with the consultant to verify the format of the Forum and coordinate the organisation of the day, this included a training session in the use of the computer system used at the Forum.*

*Councillors and staff members contributed to the success of the day by participating as facilitators and theme team members.*

The Process

*Invitations were sent to thirteen hundred (1,300) randomly selected members of the community (by the WA Electoral Commission) and on the day ninety (90) community members and business representatives attended the Forum, which was held at the City of Vincent Administration and Civic Centre."*

A report was submitted to the Council on 13 March 2012 concerning this matter whereby the Council resolved as follows:

*"That the Council;*

1. *RECEIVES the report of the City of Vincent Deliberative Democracy Forum held on 25 February 2012 as shown in Appendix 9.5.3A (001); and*
2. *NOTES that the City of Vincent Deliberative Democracy Forum held on 25 February 2012 favoured change over "no change" and, on the basis of the options presented, the strongly preferred option was, "expansion of the borders to include, some or all of the following suburbs:*
  - *Mount Lawley;*
  - *Menora;*
  - *Coolbinia;*
  - *Inglewood;*
  - *Maylands; and/or*
  - *East Perth/Claisebrook;"*
3. *ADVISES the Minister for Local Government and the Independent Review Panel that the Council endorses the view that the preferred option for local government reform is to join with other like suburbs in the immediate vicinity, creating a municipality with a population of up to 50,000 people. This endorsement is based on balancing of the key principles:*
  - *Ensuring long term financial sustainability;*
  - *Ensuring a critical mass for efficient delivery of outstanding community services;*
  - *Protecting and enhancing the sense of community through a shared local character of built form, sensitivity to local heritage and history, and structure of the urban environment;*
  - *Fostering vibrant Town Centres with an urban village atmosphere; and*
  - *Delivering the diversity of housing choice, economic and employment opportunities for a cosmopolitan inner city community;*
4. *SUBMITS a copy of the Deliberative Democracy Forum report to the Minister for Local Government and the Independent Review Panel; and*
5. *AUTHORISES the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to meet with the Minister for Local Government, Independent Review Panel and other persons concerning the City's Deliberative Democracy Report and the Council's resolution."*

**CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:**

There has been considerable media reporting concerning Local Government Structural Reform in Western Australia.

No Consultation is required at this stage.

## **LEGAL/POLICY:**

Any Local Government boundary amendment is subject to the provisions of Schedule 2.1 of the Local Government Act 1995, relating to creating, changing the boundaries of, and abolishing districts.

The Premier and Minister announced that amendments would be made to the Local Government Act poll provisions (that is a Schedule 2.1).

The Local Government Advisory Board is required to consider the following criteria when looking into structural reform changes:

- Community of interest;
- Physical and topographic factors;
- Demographic factors;
- Economic matters;
- History of the area;
- Transport and communication;
- Matters affecting viability of the Local Government(s) involved; and
- Delivery of Local Government services.

Additionally, Schedule 2.1 provides that the employment of staff is not to be terminated or varied as a result of amalgamation unless compensation acceptable to the person is made, or a period of at least two years has elapsed since the order for amalgamation had effect.

### **Security of Employment**

If amalgamations are to occur, the Local Government Act provides that all non-contract employees will be protected for a period of two (2) years – effective from the date of the Governor's Order (at this stage anticipated to be 1 July 2015).

The Chief Executive Officer is now aware that the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel Report has caused uncertainty with some of the City's employees and a number of recent resignations have been directly attributed to the possible amalgamation of the City of Vincent. Unfortunately, this will cause de-stabilisation, until a decision is made by the State Government.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS:**

**High:** There is a strong risk that if the City does not provide a submission to the Local Government Advisory Board, by 4 October 2013, on the Government's proposal, it will miss an opportunity to influence, to some degree, the future of the City of Vincent.

It will also not receive the \$200,000 funding

### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

The City's Strategic Plan 2011-2021 provides various stated objectives of financial sustainability, sustainable community infrastructure and best management practices.

### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

The City is in a strong financial position, with considerable funds in reserve, debts covered by money-back guarantees, considerable future revenue from its share of the Tamala Park land and with potential income from the future redevelopment in Leederville.

**FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no funds in the 2012/2013 Budget for Local Government Structural Reform matters.

If the City lodges its submission with the Local Government Advisory Board by 4 October 2013, it may receive \$200,000 to assist in the Structural Reform process.

**COMMENTS:**

The Government's proposal for Metropolitan Local Governments is very disappointing as it is contrary to the recommendations of the Metropolitan Local Government Review Panel report (Robson Report).

The splitting of the City of Vincent between the City of Perth and City of Stirling is considered a detriment to the City's ratepayers and residents. It is considered that the City of Stirling has very little in common with the City of Vincent population, as the City of Vincent is a vibrant inner city Local Government – more aligned with the City of Perth.

As revealed by the City of Vincent Deliberative Democracy Forum held on 25 February 2012, the strongly preferred option was, "expansion of the borders to include, some or all of the following suburbs:

- Mount Lawley;
- Menora;
- Coolbinia;
- Inglewood;
- Maylands; and/or
- East Perth/Claisebrook.

Notwithstanding the above, it would appear that the Government is proceeding on its announced proposal and it is highly unlikely that the City of Vincent will remain in its current format.

The Chief Executive Officer is of the strong opinion that if the City of Vincent is to be amalgamated, the whole of the City should merge with the City of Perth – as recommended by the "Robson Report".

Approval of the Officer Recommendation is therefore requested.

**7. CLOSURE**

**There being no further business, the Presiding Member, Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan, declared the meeting closed at 7.00pm with the following persons present:**

Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan      Presiding Member

Cr Warren McGrath (*Deputy Mayor*) South Ward

Cr John Carey	South Ward
Cr Roslyn Harley	North Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
Cr John Pintabona	South Ward
Cr Julia Wilcox	North Ward

John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Rob Boardman	Director Community Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services

Member of the Public were present.

Media – Journalists Sara Fitzpatrick and David Bell

These Minutes were confirmed by the Council as a true and accurate record of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 30 July 2013.

Signed: .....Presiding Member  
Mayor Hon. Alannah MacTiernan

Dated this ..... day of ..... 2013