9.2.2 Local Plant Sales and Associated Projects for 2013

Ward:	Both	Date:	8 January 2013
Precinct:	All	File Ref:	CMS0096
Attachments:	Nil		
Tabled Items:	Nil		
Reporting Officer:	K Godfrey, Technical Officer Parks Services		
Responsible Officer:	R Lotznicker, Director Technical Services		

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council;

- 1. APPROVES two (2) Local Plant Sales to be held in front of the City's Library and Local History Centre on Saturday 20 April 2013 and Saturday 24 August 2013 commencing at 8.00 am; and
- 2. NOTES the "Spring Walk" will be scheduled for Saturday 14 September 2013 and if sufficient interest is pre-registered the walk will commence at 2pm outside the front of City's Main Administration and Civic Centre.

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to conduct two (2) Local Plant Sales in 2013 and the possibility of a "Spring Walk" in 2013.

BACKGROUND:

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 14 of February 2012 a report was presented in relation to Local Plant Sales and Associated Projects, where it was resolved;

"That the Council;

- 1. APPROVES conducting two (2) Local Plant Sales to be held at the front of the City's Library and Local History Centre on Saturday 21 April 2012 and Saturday 25 August 2012 commencing at 8.00am; and
- 2. NOTES that the "Spring Walk: will only be held in the future, if sufficient interest is pre-registered with the City's Administration and the next "Spring Walk" be held in 2013."

DETAILS:

Local Plant Sales

The first plant sale for 2012 was held on Saturday 21 April and attracted 125 residents. The second plant sale held on Saturday 25 August 2012 and was also very well patronised attracting 120 residents. Therefore the decision last year to mo ve the date of the second sale from July back to August was a wise one in terms of resident participation and actual plant sales.

Officers Comments

Given the strong support shown by resident's attending each respective plant sale held in April and August 2012 it is recommended that the City continues holding two (2) local plant sales per year.

Leederville Spring Walk

The last Leederville Spring Walk was held on Saturday 17 September 2011. Following advertising undertaken by the City of Vincent and a feature in the "What's On" section of the weekend edition of the Western Australian the spring walk still only attracted four (4) persons.

Officers Comments

As previously resolved by the Council, the spring walk was to be scheduled for 2013 and then undertaken every two (2) years if sufficient interest was shown. It is therefore recommended that the 2013 Spring Walk be advertised and arranged if sufficient interest is shown from the community.

CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:

These projects once approved by Council will be extensively advertised in local papers, on the City's website, newsletters and on banner displays within parks around the City.

LEGAL/POLICY:

Not applicable.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS:

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

In accordance with the City's Strategic Plan 2011-2016 states:

"Natural and Built Environment

Objective 1.1 Improve and maintain the natural and built environment and infrastructure

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The City has been committed to promoting and encouraging residents to use local native and other water wise plant species as being the most sustainable option when it comes to establishing a new garden, or renovating an old European styled garden.

Native plants are more suited to our hot drying climate and have a better survival rate compared to exotic plant species which require a lot more water to survive. As an incentive to utilise native plants, all stock sold on the day is provided to the City's residents at a subsidised cost.

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Expenditure for this matter will be incurred under the following budgeted item:

Budget Amount: \$7,000.00 Spent to Date: \$6,818.59 Balance \$ 181.41

An amount of \$5,043.70 (revenue) was collected from the April and August 2012 plant sales.

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COMMENTS:

The Local Plant Sales undertaken in 2012 were very well attended and supported by residents within the City. As each year goes by residents within the City appear to be getting the message of how they can create a more water wise and environmentally sustainable garden by utilising native plants.

During the winter of 2012, Western Australia experienced its lowest winter rainfall ever recorded and the state's water storage facilities are well below capacity. Therefore it is vital that the City of Vincent continues to take the lead and encourage residents to incorporate water wise native plants within their gardens in order save our precious water supplies.

It is therefore recommended that Council approves the projects outlined in the report and advertises the dates of the Local Plant Sales and the 2013 "Spring Walk."

9.2.2 Local Plant Sales and Associated Projects for 2013

(To be completed by Chief Executive Officer)

UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY THE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION IS:

APPROVED/NOT APPROVED/APPROVED AS AMENDED