



TOWN OF
VICTORIA PARK



COVID-19 Response Working Group Notes – 16 July 2020



WE'RE OPEN
VIC PARK

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1 Opening

Acknowledgement of country

Ngany kaaditj Noongar moort keny kaadak nidja Wadjak Noongar boodja. Ngany kaaditj nidja Noongar birdiya – koora, ye-ye, boorda, baalapiny moorditj Noongar kaaditjin, moort, wer boodja ye-ye.

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and respect past, present and emerging leaders, their continuing cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continues to be important today.

Meeting opened at 12:30pm

2 Attendance

Mayor	Mayor Karen Vernon
Deputy Mayor	Deputy Mayor Bronwyn Ife
Councillor	Cr Claire Anderson
Chief Community Planner/Local Recovery Coordinator	Natalie Martin Goode
A/Chief Executive Officer	Michael Cole
Chief Operations Officer	Ben Killigrew
A/Chief Financial Officer	Luke Ellis
Senior Communications and Engagement Advisor	Rebecca Waghorne
Minute Secretary	Christy Neems
Presenters	
Senior Place Leader (Strategic Planning)	Carly Pidco
Place Leader (Economic Development)	Lisa Tidy
Manager Community	Alison Braun
Apologies	
Chief Executive Officer	Anthony Vuleta

3 Actions from previous meetings

Nil.

4 Social Recovery Taskforce update

CRWG members received an update on the social recovery initiatives rolled out over the past month including the community engagement survey, community engagement with service providers and the Community Development Evaluation Framework Project.

Outcome

The Community Engagement survey closed on 5 July, 2020. Survey results will be used to inform social recovery planning.

- The Social Recovery Taskforce and Economic Recovery Taskforce have been amalgamated to form the COVID Action Taskforce. Combining the two Taskforces will maximise resources and increase efficiencies in the COVID recovery response measures. A social impact dashboard is being developed to track recovery measures.
- The Town of Victoria Park has been accepted into the Community Development Evaluation Framework Project. Participation in this project will provide insight into local government specific frameworks and toolkits for measuring social impact.

5 Economic Recovery Taskforce update

CRWG members received a presentation on economic recovery initiatives rolled out over the past month including business engagement initiatives, parking and pedestrian footfall data and recovery planning.

The following discussion took place:

- The COVID-19 Action Plan has been developed. The document is a live document that will be used to identify, plan and implement economic recovery initiatives across the Town.
- Consultants will be engaged to undertake an economic impact and opportunity assessment across the Town. The results will be used to inform the Town's economic recovery planning and identify gaps and opportunities for economic recovery.
- An expression of interest calling for applications for membership into the Business Advisory Group has been launched online. The group will be presented to Council for endorsement over the coming months.
- Industry Roundtable workshops have been proposed to engage local businesses. The interactive workshops will assist the Town in identifying gaps and opportunities within the local economy to inform economic recovery planning.
- The Town has identified micro-events as a positive stimulus for the local economy.

6 Communications update

CRWG members were provided with a communications update including the community engagement survey, communications planning to support economic and social recovery initiatives, upcoming campaigns and Restart Vic Park events and Arts Grants.

The following discussion took place:

- Elected members would like to capitalise on the promotion of 'feel good' stories on social media for example, the Swan Care design award. Elected members happy to take guidance from the Communications team on engaging in social media to maximise impact and generate positive results.

7 Recovery Action Plan update

CRWG members received a presentation on the proposed COVID Action Plan.

The following discussion took place:

- The COVID Action Plan (CAP) will consist of projects that can be implemented to stimulate economic recovery across the Town. Projects will be identified, scored and work-shopped to determine feasibility and prioritised accordingly. Projects will align with recovery objectives.

Outcome

The newly combined COVID Action Team (CAT) will report into the CRWG every two months commencing from September 2020. The COVID Action Plan will go to August OCM.

Actions

- Remove all numbers including dollar figures, measurements (KPIs) from the proposed COVID Action Plan document.
- Remove 'Asset Renewal Program' from the COVID Action Plan.
- Proposed COVID Action Plan to be distributed to CRWG for feedback and consideration via email prior to August OCM.

8 Presentations

8.1 Advice from State Recovery Coordinator

The Local Recovery Coordinator provided an update the 'Role of Local Government in Western Australia's COVID-19 Recovery Pandemic'.

The following discussion took place:

- The state government is set to release a recovery plan in July.
- The Town has commenced collating information on the eight recovery objectives outlined in the 'Role of Local Government in Western Australia's COVID-19 Recovery Pandemic' letter dated 29 June 2020.
- The Town's recovery objectives will be presented in a report to Council over the coming months. Timeline yet to be determined.

8.2 Economic Impact Assessment

CRWG members were provided with a presentation on a proposal to engage an external consultant to conduct a COVID Impact and Opportunity Assessment.

The following discussion took place:

- The COVID Impact and Opportunity Assessment is aimed at assessing the initial impact of COVID-19 on the community and identifying gaps and recognising opportunities for economic recovery.

Outcome

- CRWG members endorse the COVID Action Team's proposal to engage consultants to conduct an Impact and Opportunity Assessment.

Actions

- Economic Impact Assessment to be included in the COVID Action Plan.

8.3 Community Engagement Results

CRWG members were provided with a presentation on Community Engagement initiatives including Restart Vic Park, Pop-up Performances, social media reach and delivering micro-events across the Town to stimulate community engagement and economic recovery.

9 Items for discussion

9.1 Economic Recovery Taskforce Proposed Project - Covid19 Business Grants

CRWG members were provided with a presentation on the Economic Recovery Taskforce proposed project – COVID 19 Business Grants.

The following discussion took place:

- The newly created COVID Action Team sought CRWG endorsement of the proposed COVID Business Grants to go to Policy Committee for approval.
- Governance have advised that the COVID Business Grants will sit under a policy separate to that of the community grants policy.
- Two types of COVID Business Grants have been proposed, 35x \$750 'resilience' Business Grants and 7x \$8,000 economic development Business Grants. The \$750 resilience grants will be distributed to eligible recipients on a first come, first serve basis and the \$8,000 economic development grants will be distributed following a formal application process.
- A recommendation was made by the CRWG to increase the resiliency grant to 'up to \$1,000' with the grants being exhausted once the budgeted \$35, 000 has been allocated.
- The City of Belmont and City of Bayswater have launched a similar COVID recovery grants scheme.

10 General business

The following discussion took place:

Community Engagement Survey

- The Town's community engagement survey has closed. The feedback will be used to target economic and social recovery initiatives. The Town will look at the state government's iThink survey results to gauge comparative trends.

Actions

CRWG supporting documentation to be made available on Councillor Portal.

11 Close

Meeting closed at 3:24pm.