



TOWN OF  
VICTORIA PARK



Access and Inclusion  
Advisory Group  
Notes – 7 September 2022



**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.

## 2 Attendance

### **Access and Inclusion Advisory Group Members**

David Vosnacos (Chair)  
Asile Wong  
Deputy Mayor Claire Anderson  
Ingrid Moore  
Cr Luana Lisandro  
Shirley Barnes

**Manager Community  
Coordinator Community Development  
Manager Technical Services  
Manager of People and Culture**

Paul Gravett  
Stacey Hutt  
John Wong  
Graham Olson

### **Meeting secretary**

Lizzie Shepande

### **Presenters**

**Place Leader- Strategic Planning (Acting Transport  
Planer)**

Jack Hobbs

### **Observers**

**Mission Australia Community  
Engagement Facilitator**

Wajma Padshah

### **Apologies**

**Access and Inclusion Advisory Group Members**

Merilyn Adamson  
Kim Elis  
Conor Mahady  
Caitlin McLeod  
Petrina Scott (Deputy Chair)  
Ian Tsolakis  
Pauline Wetternhall  
Sally Willmott  
Mayor Karen Vernon

### 3 Presentations

#### 3.1 Draft METRONET designs - Carlisle and Oat Street Train Stations

<b>Time</b>	15 mins
<b>Presenter</b>	Place Leader- Strategic Planning (Acting Transport Planer)
<b>Attachments</b>	Nil

#### Purpose of the item

- To provide an update on progress of design for METRONET.
- To highlight key Access and Inclusion focus areas that inform the Town’s feedback to METRONET.

#### Outcome

To gather feedback from the group on the draft design to provide to the State Government.

#### Roles of State and Local Government

- METRONET is a project being delivered by the State Government.
- The Town is committed to advocating for the best possible accessible and inclusive design outcomes.
- Stations will primarily be the responsibility of the Public Transport Authority who are committed to the designs being reviewed by a qualified disability and inclusion expert prior to construction.
- Landscapes areas between the stations will be delivered by METRONET and in the future managed by the Town as public spaces.
- State Government and Public Transport Authority through the design process will provide qualified Access and Inclusion specialist consultant to assess the design.

#### Strategic outcomes

Civic Leadership	
Community priority	Intended public value outcome or impact
CL2 - Communication and engagement with the community.	Provide the group with information on Access and Inclusion implementation progress.

#### Outcome

The Town will manage the extensive landscape between Carlisle and Oat Street Train Station over time. Group members provided feedback and requested clarification on the Reference Design to be considered in the Detailed Design. These included:

- Note: Width of Bank Street and Rutland Avenue is approximately 50 meters wide.
- Suggestion to explore polices that were applied when the Town previously provided access requirement comments on the METRONET project.
- Methods of access to platforms should be a combination of stairs and lifts. Ensure lift access fits more than one wheelchair.
- Provision for accessible toilets should be made available at both levels of the train stations in the design.
- Ensure provision for pedestrians to move across platforms without going across Oat Street.

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- Because access of the Carlisle Station is located on East Victoria Park Primary school side, the design needs to consider access for a crossing e.g., crossing lights and pedestrian signaled crossing.
- Consider additional pathways particularly to Bank Street and Rutland Avenue.
- Consider tactile pathways and tactile direction to pathways for people with visual impairments and needs. Project team should consider working closely with Visibility for this aspect.
- The Town will advocate for traffic engineering to reduce speed limits with the design.

### Actions

- Group members to send additional feedback before 15 September 2022, so the Town can share feedback with the State Government.
- Strategic Planner to keep group members informed on the METRONET project and launch of the final design around December 2022.

## 4 Items for discussion

### 4.1 Access and Inclusion Updates

<b>Reporting officer</b>	Inclusion Officer
<b>Origin of request</b>	Council Resolution
<b>Attachments</b>	Nil

#### Purpose of the item

Update on Disability Access and Inclusion Plan implementation and progress.

#### Outcome

Inform the group on DAIP meeting actions and initiatives.

#### Discussion points

Access and Inclusion progress and updates.

- Draft AIP 2022-2027 and next steps
- Priority Area updates
  - Access to Information
  - Physical Spaces
  - Employment
- Access, Inclusion and Diversity updates
- Upcoming days of significance

#### Strategic outcomes

<b>Civic Leadership</b>	
Community priority	Intended public value outcome or impact
CL2 - Communication and engagement with the community.	Provide the group with information on Access and Inclusion implementation progress.

<b>Social</b>	
Community priority	Intended public value outcome or impact
S3 - Facilitating an inclusive community that celebrates diversity.	Empower the community to be engaged and confident in acknowledging and celebrating diversity.

#### Next steps

Continue to bring updates of projects and initiatives in the Town to the group for discussion.

#### Further information

Nil.

## Outcome

### Draft AIP 2022-2027 and next steps

Town officers presented the draft plan to the July Ordinary Council Meeting, where Elected Members requested a Concept Forum for discussion. This Concept Forum was held on 23 August 2022. As a result of this discussion, the draft plan has been refined and will be presented at the October Ordinary Council Meeting for endorsement, prior to a three-week public comment period. Refinements include:

- All outcomes and actions updated to be disability focused
- Simpler action numbering on page 20
- Clearer focus on achieving the 5% employment target for people with disability
- Town officers will explore incorporation of social inclusion for diverse groups into other social plans.

### Priority area updates

#### Access to Information

- The Town is in the process of redeveloping the Town's website to meet WC3TC and W3TC accessibility guidelines, and the Project Manager for this work will be coming to present at our next advisory group meeting.
- The Town is also reviewing our telephone systems to enable improved processes and provide alternative contacting methods like online live chat.

#### Physical spaces

- The Town's Manager Technical Services presented an update to the group.
- The Town is currently refurbishing the Town's Aqua Life changerooms to include increased accessibility. This includes refurbished internal fit outs like wall tiles, floors, plumbing, bench seats and changes to the accessible toilets. The new space features a widened entrance of the accessible toilet, installed sensor operated door, handrails, and changes to the wash basin. This is scheduled to be completed before end of September 2022.
- Discussion held around the Town's process for managing pathway upgrades and accessibility concerns. The group are encouraged to use the Snap Share Solve app to submit any concerns in the Town, or email to [admin@vicpark.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@vicpark.wa.gov.au).

#### Employment

- The Town's Manager People and Culture presented an update to the group.
- In relation to increasing employment at the Town of people with disability, the Town has recently progressed the following traineeship programs:
  - An officer acquired through the Indigenous Public Sector Commission Program who started in February 2022, with possible future employment at the Town.
  - An officer acquired through the Football West Mentoring Program, a trainee with disability working in Building and Planning service area.
  - Recommended the South East Corridor Traineeship Program which is in partnership with the City of Armadale, Gosnell's and Canning, after the program was halted due to COVID-19.
  - Participation with the Inner City Human Resource (HR) Management Group to explore strategies and initiatives with other local governments of how to increase the response to employing people with disability.
  - Continued partnership with Curtin University to progress a disability and Indigenous internship program for students that identify as being Aboriginal and living with disability; the Town has not yet received any candidates through this program but will re-advertise each term.



- Alongside this, the People and Culture team are exploring targeted employment for people with disability and working through disability recruitment service agencies to attain and support staff.
- The Town is also working to rebrand as an employer of choice, to attract community to apply for employment at the Town.

### **Access, Inclusion and Diversity updates**

- DAIP 2017-2022 Council Quarterly Report (July – September 2022) being finalised
- DAIP 2021-2022 Progress Report to the Department of Communities has been sent. Progress will be shared with the group.
- Kaleidoscope Initiative - The purpose of this project is to support newly migrated community members to gain meaningful employment in job professions where they have the relevant skills, qualifications, experience, and training. This includes connecting participants with mentors and providing job readiness training to enhance confidence in Australian work environments. This initiative involves several other metro local governments. The current round has one mentee from the Victoria Park community. The next round is expected to start early 2023.
- South-East Corridor Council Alliance (SECCA) - SECCA is a formalised collaborative initiative between the Town of Victoria Park, City of Canning, City of Gosnells and the City of Armadale. The first project this group is embarking on together is development of an action plan to respond to and leverage the benefits of the increasing cultural diversity in the region. Tim Muirhead has been engaged as a consultant to facilitate the work across the four local governments. We have met with team and other LGA officers and waiting to hear back from him regarding next steps.

### **Upcoming days of significance**

- Inclusion officer is working internally and with local stakeholders to plan and deliver are three major events in the Inclusion and diversity portfolio.
- Pride month (November) - Town officers are in the process of consulting with the LGBTQIA+ community on support the Town can offer to acknowledge and celebrating pride month in November 2022. These will include a flag raising ceremony, participation at the Town's Library and participation at the Summer Street Party.
- Senior's week (6-13 November) - Inclusion officer and senior centers in the Town are in the process of presenting a 70's disco night in celebration of Senior's Week. In addition to this, the Town's Library and Leisure center will initiate participatory activities during the week.
- International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD- 3 December) - Inclusion officer is in the process of consulting local disability service providers on support the Town will offer to acknowledge and celebrate the day. These will include, a flag raising ceremony, sporting event with the West Coast Eagles and activation at the Jirdarup Bushlands (Community Centers, Victoria Park Centre for the Arts and Jirdarup Bushlands staff).

Inclusion officer, advisory group members were invited for a walk to assess the accessibility of the Jirdarup Bushlands path on 24 August 2022. A written report will be presented to the Town's Operations Team for recommendations to consider in the future capital budget.

### **Actions**

- Inclusion Officer will email the group once the Draft Access and Inclusion (AIP) 2022-2027 is published for public comment, and group members to share with their networks and provide their feedback.

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- Manager Technical Services to investigate and inform the group on the lock mechanisms used at the Aqua Life refurbished accessible toilet.
- Manager People and Culture to follow up with Visibility to ensure they are working together and on the distribution list for job vacancies at the Town.

## 5 General business

*(Group members can table feedback, ideas and general discussion topics regarding Access and Inclusion within the Town here).*

### Outcome

General business featured discussion on the following:

- Group members flagged concern about several pathways where accessibility is currently an issue. Town Officers confirm the Town works on continuous improvement of pathways, with a schedule for upgrades and ad-hoc inspections and audits of paths with low branches. The group are encouraged to use the Snap Share Solve app to submit any concerns in the Town, or email to [admin@vicpark.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@vicpark.wa.gov.au). In addition, customer service staff can still receive access issues via phone.
- Group members flagged there were also several construction sites in the Town that obstruct pathways for extended periods. Town Officers confirm that the Town can limit a developer's construction period. If a complaint is issued, the Town inspects sites on case-by-case basis. Developers are also mandated on the type of fence they provide on construction site, which is usually a steel mesh.
- Mission Australia, Good Samaritan Industries is willing to support the Town to encourage local businesses to employ people with disability and are also interested in participating in the Town's event International Day of People Living with Disability.
- The Inclusion Officer tables that the groups term is due to end in December 2022, and Town officers are preparing an item for Elected Members to extend the group's membership and terms of reference to the next Council Elections in October 2023. The Town will keep the group informed on the outcome.
- Group members confirm the current meeting times are currently suitable for future meetings.

### Actions

- Group members to share pathways of concern with the Town (photo, location, and description) via the Snap Share Solve app, email to [admin@vicpark.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@vicpark.wa.gov.au) or phone 9311 8111.
- Town officers to then conduct audits of these pathways.
- Group member to share Shelter WA housing project information to group members.

## 6 Actions from previous meetings

Action	Responsible Officer	AIP Action Link	Status/Comment	Close Date
The group can send any additional feedback (DAIP workshop of community engagement findings) to the Inclusion Officer before close of business Sunday 19 June 2022. All feedback given by the group will be considered by Town staff for integration into the draft plan.	Inclusion Officer	Outcome 6	Complete	June 2022
The Draft AIP 2022-2027 will be sent to Council for endorsement at their Ordinary Council Meeting on 19 July 2022.	Inclusion Officer	Outcome 6	Draft AIP 2022-2027 brought to 23 August 2022 Concept Forum. Expected for endorsement at the October 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting.	October 2022
The endorsed Draft AIP 2022-2027 will then be published for a formal public comment period over three weeks and this advisory group will be kept updated on progress.	Inclusion Officer	Outcome 6	In progress	
Bring back the Town's procurement processes to the next meeting as an agenda item requested by group member.	Inclusion Officer	Outcome 1	In progress - Town officers discussing directly with group member.	
Town officers to explore Disability Employment Providers that can provide training for local businesses in the Town.	Inclusion Officer	Outcome 7	In progress - Waiting to publish Accessible Guide for Business in the Town.	
Explore live stream options for Citizenship Ceremonies for families that cannot physically make it to the event.	Inclusion Officer	Outcome 1	Town officers to explore and bring back to the group.	Bought to December 2022 meeting.

## **7 Close**

The meeting was closed by the Chair at 6.15pm.