

Elected Member - Portal Briefing Public Lighting Plan

This information is in response to Council's resolution of 21 March 2023, requesting detailed information be brought back to Council in May 2023. The enclosed plan also ensures the progression of actions identified in the Town's Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan to 'Prepare a Public Lighting Plan for areas identified as having poor lighting'.

Administration presented (Item 13.6 Lighting Activation Projects) to the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 March 2023 in response to a Notice on Motion (NOM) tabled by Mayor Vernon on 13 December 2022. The (NOM) requested the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to investigate the feasibility and implementation (including costs) for various lighting projects.

- These included a Street Tree decorative lighting project for:
- Albany Highway; and
- Key local activity centres such as Etwell St, Archer St, Oats St, Gallipoli St, Burswood Rd;
- a Tree Canopy uplighting project for the gum trees in GO Edward Park;
- a Park tree decorative lighting plan for key locations;
- Installation projection lighting for the Town buildings and/or public open spaces

Council resolved at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 21 March 2022:

That Council:

1. Receive the information contained in this report.
Acknowledge more detailed information to come back to Council in May 2023.

Administration recommends incorporating the actions from the Strategic Community Plan & Corporate Business Plan, along with historical Council resolutions relating to lighting within the proposal to develop an overarching 'Public Lighting Plan' for the Town of Victoria Park. Development of a Public Lighting Plan will be managed using a two-staged process, phase-one information gathering and data validation, phase-two providing feedback to Council regarding the outcomes of the investigations and seeking further input on the plan focus and scope elements.

Phase One – Investigation & Validation:

- Review of historical asset data from ToVP, MRWA and Western Power;
- Conduct a comprehensive Gap Analysis to identify any potential non-compliance issues with the streetlights installed within Road Reserves under the care, control, and management of the Town.
- Undertake a risk assessment of asset data from ToVP, MRWA and Western Power
- Prepare preliminary cost estimates required to address identified non-compliance issues.
- Project hold-point and report to back to Council regarding the outcomes and implications of the phase one investigations.

Phase Two - Implementation:

- Seek further direction from Council on the proposed 'Public Lighting Plan' focus areas; content; detailed scope (inclusions / exclusions); potential funding sources; resource commitment, and overall desired outcomes.
- Consult with Western Power, MRWA, WALGA and other key stakeholders requiring input or involvement in the development of a 'Public Lighting Plan' for the Town.
- Investigate potential alternative funding sources to contribute or fund the development of a 'Public Lighting Plan'.
- Preparation of specialised technical resource procurement contracts and confirm their schedule availability.
- Agree key milestones and reporting parameters with internal and external stakeholders or funding agencies.
- Develop phase-two Project Plan that will be used to guide Administration's activities and reporting to Council.

How a Public Lighting Plan links to Strategic & Corporate Business Plan

The Town of Victoria Park Strategic Community Plan 2022-2032 contains several core Community Priorities.

- **Social (S1) is 'Helping people feel safe', and**
- **Environment (EC2) - Connecting Businesses and people to our local activity centres through place planning and activation.**

The priorities cascade from the Strategic Community Plan to the Corporate Business Plan with actions to *deliver the pedestrian infrastructure sub-program and 'Prepare a Public Lighting Plan for Areas Identified as Having Poor Lighting' by 2023.*

An extract from the Mayor’s Message within Strategic Community Plan reinforces this priority.

‘Helping people feel safe sits firmly alongside a desire to strengthen our identity as an inclusive community and to enhancing and enabling our liveability through access to quality facilities, vibrant open spaces and well-planned urban development.’

Alignment with Corporate Business Plan Actions:

S1 Helping people feel safe									
Town objective	Action	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	Responsible area	Strategy/plan	Estimated budget
Streamlined, modern governance	Prepare a public lighting plan for areas identified as having poor lighting						Street Improvement & Community Development	Place Plan Volume 1	
	Review the Safer Neighbourhoods Plan						Community Development		
	Evaluate Policy 212 – Graffiti Removal Management						Street Operations	Policy framework	
Productive and agile operations	Deliver the Safer Neighbourhoods Plan						Community Development	Safer Neighbourhoods Plan	
	Deliver the Public Lighting Plan						Street Improvement	Public Lighting Plan	

Background:

Preparation of the Public Lighting Plan for the Town requires the coordination of multiple activities, including validation of historical asset data, consultation with key stakeholders and engaging specialised resources to undertake the electrical compliance activities. Administration proposes to coordinate the activities using a two-stage process to guide the actions and to enable regular reporting to Council.

This proposal integrates the Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan action to ‘Prepare a Public Lighting Plan for areas identified as having poor lighting.’ While making provision to incorporate a prioritised 10-Year Lighting Program for Right of Ways as presented on 14 December 2021 and evaluation of the (NOM) presented on 21 March 2023 relating to Lighting Activation Projects. The proposed Public Lighting Plan consolidates these actions in ‘one place, one plan’ using a two-

stage process that will be used to guide Administration's activities and reporting of key objectives.

Council meeting of 14 December 2021

Council resolved:

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the 10 year works program associated with the upgrade of unsealed Rights of Way and the inclusion of a separate lighting program;*
- 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to list Rouse Lane, in terms of lighting projects, for consideration in the 2022/23 annual budget*

and,

Ordinary Council meeting of 21 March 2023

Council resolved:

That Council:

- 1. Receive the information contained in this report.*
- Acknowledge more detailed information to come back to Council in May 2023.*

Council should be aware that Western Power owns, manages, and maintains the majority of streetlights within the Town. The Town pays Western Power a tariff to manage these assets effectively. However, this does not guarantee that all lights within the Town's Road Reserves comply with Australian Standards AS/NZS 1158.

The Town is also investigating complaints regarding the quality or availability of streetlights on Clydesdale Street, Patricia Street and Rouse Lane. The Town's (Safer Neighbourhood Officer) liaised directly with WA Police to secure historical crime data for incidents that occurred between January 2018 to December 2022. The data provided by the Police includes crimes involving (People, Property and Vehicles) spread across all suburbs of the Town. This data will require further analysis to identify emerging trends or areas of the Town that require on-ground investigation to determine any influencing factors, such as substandard of lighting or their operational effectiveness. The crime data provides a valuable starting point for Administration to focus its efforts in identifying quick wins to improve the residents' concerns.

Public Lighting Plan Context:

There are several good examples of 'Public Lighting Plans / Lighting Strategies' readily available on the internet. Review of the strategies revealed many of the documents are informed by a particular organisational focus or professional preference. For example, lighting strategies that use lighting to activate/enhance the urban environment or built form characteristics. Conversely, other documents focus predominantly on compliance with relevant Australian Standards AS/NZS 1158 or relationship to industry standards or code of practice. The content or focus of the

documents is not in question, given that multiple elements need to be considered in preparing a contextually appropriate Public Lighting Plan for the Town of Vic Park. One of the objectives of this information is that Council is made aware of the potential trade-off or unintended consequences that need to be considered when preparing a Public Lighting Plan. These issues will become more evident as the plan progresses to its implementation phase, i.e., conflicts between (Power Lines, Street Lights, and Tree Pruning). However, these impacts can be ameliorated through constructive discussion with stakeholders and the provision of clear direction regarding management of the interface between the Town's existing strategies and the future Public Lighting Plan. Administration will prepare operational guidelines and decision support tools to help guide the interface management approach.

Public Lighting Plan Objectives:

The primary objective of the Public Lighting Plan is to enhance people's experience of the Town at night while improving safety, amenity, and the night-time economy. The Town's Public Lighting Plan will be used to deter crime, and if successful, places that are attractive by day will remain safe, comfortable, and engaging at night. The plan also recognises that brighter is not always better for lighting within the public realm. Poor design of buildings or public space lighting can contribute to light pollution, where light is reflected upwards to the night sky, producing what is described by the Perth Astronomical Observatory as 'sky glow.'

Efficient and effective lighting design will be a significant consideration of the plan. If done correctly, the plan will deliver tangible benefits to the Town in terms of energy and cost savings while reducing greenhouse emissions and potential light pollution.

Key Stakeholders List:

- Elected Members Town of Vic Park
- TOVP Community Members & Neighbouring Municipalities
- Western Power
- Synergy
- WALGA
- State Government Agencies
 - MRWA
 - Department of Crime Prevention
- Place Planning (Team Leader)
- Community Services (Coordinator of Community Development)
- Technical Services (Land and Properties Project Officer)

Lighting Plan Scope & Analysis:

Phase one of the Public Lighting Plan involves a comprehensive Gap Analysis to identify any potential non-compliance issues with the streetlights installed within the Road Reserves under the care, control, and management of the Town. A gap analysis of this nature helps identify the Town's future priorities and given the potential unknowns, it's recommended to introduce a hold-point after the initial investigation phase to ensure Council has a clear understanding of the potential gaps, financial risks, and associated impacts.

Notwithstanding, that Western Power own and maintain the majority of Streetlights within the Town, this does not guarantee that all lights within the Town's Road Reserves comply with Australian Standards AS/NZS 1158. Furthermore, Phase 2,3,4 of the State Underground Power Program (SUPP) replaced the streetlights using a 'like for like' approach. Whereas Phases 5 & 6 of the (SUPP) and Network Renewal Underground Program Pilot (NRUPP) were installed in accordance with AS/NZS 1158. The Town has also funded many localised lighting upgrades as part of its municipal capital works program and co-funding of road improvement or Blackspot projects. All recent projects have been constructed to Australian Standard AS/NZS 1158 with approximately 30 percent of the lighting within the Town now being transitioned to more efficient LED technologies.

The administration proposes to work closely with Western Power, Synergy, State Government Agencies, and external consultants to prepare estimates for the works associated with Council's resolutions while concurrently investigating historical complaints regarding sub-standard or inadequate lighting. The more detailed gap analysis will require funding to be allocated in the 2023/24 budget to facilitate procurement of specialist resources to undertake targeted surveys, assist with data analysis, prepare lighting designs, and provide technical guidance as interface issues arise, along with preparing quotation request to Western Power. A preliminary budget estimate for these activities will be \$100,000 in the 2023/24 financial year.

Any subsequent implementation program will be designed to incorporate Council's previous resolutions. Development of the Public Lighting Plan will also be subject to further consultation with the Council regarding funding priorities, resource allocation and future content of the Public Light Plan for the Town.

Preliminary Risks Review:

Risk impact category	Risk event description	Consequence rating	Likelihood rating	Overall risk level score	Council's risk appetite	Risk treatment option and rationale for actions
Financial	No budget allocated in the 2023/24 FY and beyond to fund the preparation and implementation of a Public Lighting Plan	Moderate	Likely	High	Low	TREAT risk by requesting budget to be allocated in the 2023/24 FY and incorporate future budget estimates into the Long-term Financial Plan.
	Incorporate 10-Year prioritised program of ROW lighting in the Long-term Financial Plan	Moderate	Likely	High	Low	TREAT risk by incorporating the budget estimates and ongoing maintenance costs into the Long-term Financial Plan
	Proposed lighting installations for Lighting Activation Projects not appropriately budgeted.	Moderate	Likely	High	Low	TREAT risk by incorporating budget estimates and ongoing maintenance costs into the Long-term Financial Plan
	Potential cost escalation relating to Western Power fees to upgrade or renewal existing infrastructure, including <u>early</u>	Moderate	Likely	High	Low	TREAT risk by securing detailed quotations from Western Power and incorporate the

	asset write-off prior to Western Power's projected lifecycle.					quotations and maintenance costs into the Long-term Financial Plan
Environmental	Lighting in trees pose risk to local flora & fauna.	Moderate	Possible	Medium	Low	TREAT risk by ensuring minimal impact into ecologically.
	Potential conflict with Development related activities Crossovers and Underground Utility Infrastructure	Moderate	Possible	Medium	Low	TREAT risk by managing the interface with development related activities.
	Potential interface issues with existing Town Strategies such as the Urban Forest Strategy (UFS)	Moderate	Possible	Medium	Low	TREAT risk by managing the interface issues between the Towns Strategies
Health and safety	Lighting in trees pose risk to public.	Moderate	Possible	Medium	Low	TREAT risk by ensuring lighting complies with the relevant standard AS 1158 and is installed by qualified electrical contractor.
Infrastructure/ ICT systems/ utilities	Unable to access and control lighting programming.	Low	Possible	Low	Medium	Treat risk by ensuring any system control installed are programmable in house.
Legislative compliance	Compliance with AS/NZ 1158	Moderate	High	Likely	Low	TREAT risk by ensuring lighting installations

	Lighting Standard.					comply with AS1158 and installed by qualified electrical contractor.
Reputation	Potential Community dissatisfaction with the Town's prioritisation of sites, funding constraints and future program roll-out.	Moderate	Likely	High	Low	TREAT risk by presenting the Public Lighting Plan to Council and incorporate the future implementation and maintenance into the Town's Long-term Financial Plan
Service delivery	Lights fall into disrepair.	Moderate	Likely	High	Medium	TREAT risk by having regimented testing regime by authorized contractor.

Potential Positive Impacts:

- When complete, the Public Lighting Plan has the potential to reduce energy consumption, greenhouse emissions and deliver incremental cost savings to the Town as each tranche of new, more efficient lighting is rolled-out and energised.

Feedback required:

- Elected Members endorse the proposed two-stage process used to guide the investigation and subsequent feedback activities.
- Elected Members agree to restrict the initial scope of the investigation phase to identification of non-compliance issues with the streetlights installed within the road reserves under the care, control, and management of the Town.
- Elected Members acknowledge, that funding needs to be allocated in the 2023/24 budget to enable procurement of specialist resources for the investigation activities.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the investigation activities and preparation of a 'Public Lighting Plan' for the Town follow the proposed two stage process as outlined above.

This will ensure the project is appropriately planned, adequately funded, and the resources required align with the Town's Workforce Plan and existing capability & capacity constraints.