

### **AGENDA**

# Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Open Portion

Thursday, 16 June 2022

at 5:15 pm Council Chamber, Town Hall

#### THE MISSION

#### Working together to make Hobart a better place for the community.

#### THE VALUES

The Council is:

**People** We care about people – our community, our customers

and colleagues.

**Teamwork** We collaborate both within the organisation and with

external stakeholders drawing on skills and expertise for

the benefit of our community.

**Focus and Direction** We have clear goals and plans to achieve sustainable

social, environmental and economic outcomes for the

Hobart community.

Creativity and

Innovation

We embrace new approaches and continuously improve to

achieve better outcomes for our community.

**Accountability** We are transparent, work to high ethical and professional

standards and are accountable for delivering outcomes for

our community.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Business listed on the agenda is to be conducted in the order in which it is set out, unless the committee by simple majority determines otherwise.

#### **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

| 1. | VACANCY                                            | 4  |
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Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting (Open Portion) held Thursday, 16 June 2022 at 5:15 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall.

This meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee is held in accordance with a Notice issued by the Premier on 3 April 2020 under section 18 of the COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020.

The title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant s.61 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas).

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Alderman J R Briscoe (Chairman)
Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor H Burnet
Alderman D C Thomas
Councillor J Fox
Councillor Dr Z E Sherlock

#### **Apologies:**

Leave of Absence: Nil.

#### **NON-MEMBERS**

Lord Mayor Councillor A M Reynolds Alderman M Zucco Alderman Dr P T Sexton Councillor W F Harvey Alderman S Behrakis Councillor M S C Dutta Councillor W N S Coats

### 1. CO-OPTION OF A COMMITTEE MEMBER IN THE EVENT OF A VACANCY

#### 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Open Portion of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>19 May 2022</u>, are submitted for confirming as an accurate record.

#### 3. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

Ref: Part 2, Regulation 8(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

#### Recommendation

That the Committee resolve to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the Chief Executive Officer.

#### 4. INDICATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Ref: Part 2, Regulation 8(7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Members of the Committee are requested to indicate where they may have any pecuniary or conflict of interest in respect to any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, which the Committee has resolved to deal with.

#### 5. TRANSFER OF AGENDA ITEMS

Regulation 15 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

A Committee may close a part of a meeting to the public where a matter to be discussed falls within 15(2) of the above regulations.

In the event that the Committee transfer an item to the closed portion, the reasons for doing so should be stated.

Are there any items which should be transferred from this agenda to the closed portion of the agenda, or from the closed to the open portion of the agenda?

### 6. REPORT

6.1 Review of Council Tree Compensation Policy File Ref: F22/2563

Report of the Program Leader Arboriculture & Nursery, Manager Bushland Biodiversity and Waterways and the Director City Life of 6 June 2022 and attachments.

Delegation: Council

REPORT TITLE: REVIEW OF COUNCIL TREE COMPENSATION

**POLICY** 

**REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Program Leader Arboriculture & Nursery

Manager Bushland Biodiversity and Waterways

Director City Life

#### 1. Report Purpose and Community Benefit

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to review the Council Tree Compensation Policy, to ensure that it balances the need to maintain significant tree coverage with the need for additional housing development, and to ensure it remains consistent with community expectation.
  - 1.1.1. This review actions a motion in the Council meeting of 6 December 2021.
  - 1.1.2. The current framework for the charging of a compensation fee was approved by Council on 18 February 2019.

### 2. Report Summary

- 2.1. A review of the 26 developments that have proposed the removal of Council tree/s for the benefit of private development since the implementation of the strategy was undertaken.
- 2.2. The results indicate that the impact of the policy is largely positive and solutions that retain trees rather than remove them, while also progressing the development, are being achieved.
- 2.3. The average amenity value of trees that have been approved for removal is \$2,820.
- 2.4. Trees that have been retained through design changes have a combined value of \$291,356.
- 2.5. The results of the review of the applications to remove tree/s are described below.

| Outcome                                                                                           | Number of applications | Cost                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Removal permitted<br>(no changes to design<br>required)                                           | 10                     | Total of 15 trees across the 10 applications, with an average amenity value of \$2820 per tree                                          |
| Designs changed to<br>allow retention of all<br>trees, or the retention<br>of higher valued trees | 8                      | Total of 9 trees approved for removal to allow for higher valued trees to be retained with an average amenity value of \$2100 per tree. |

|                                               |   | Selective design changes to allow retention of significant trees has allowed for the retention of \$291,356 in tree amenity |
|-----------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Not progressed due to non-tree related issues | 5 | No cost                                                                                                                     |
| Tree removed by Council due to storm damage   | 1 | No cost                                                                                                                     |

- 2.6. The review confirmed earlier investigations that identified a small number of methodologies being used nationally and internationally to determine an amenity value for existing trees.
- 2.7. The review of current policies adopted in Australian Councils demonstrates that the current City of Hobart tree compensation policy is commonplace in jurisdictions of a similar scale and with similar tree stock values.
- 2.8. Assigning a real value to trees in an urban setting ensures that best design practices are applied in initial development considerations so that the need to remove existing trees is avoided at the earliest consideration.
- 2.9. The policy and the tree valuation methodology provides a consistent and transparent methodology to calculate the intrinsic value of trees, with a primary aim of preventing tree removal by encouraging alternative design solutions.
- 2.10. In most cases an alternative design can be found, and the removal of the tree is no longer required.
- 2.11. Where there are no option and removal is justified, the amenity value provides a mechanism for the Council to be fairly compensated for the loss. This fee is then directed into the Councils tree planting budget.
- 2.12. The methodology used by Hobart City Council to calculate the amenity fee (City of Melbourne method) is the most commonly and widely used across Australia, and is consistent with methodologies used internationally.
- 2.13. The review of current best practice indicates that it is now best practice to apply an 'ecosystem service' fee to be payable on top of an amenity fee this fee is generally calculated using an application using the model *iTree-eco*.

*i-Tree eco* is a model that uses tree measurements and other data to estimate the economic value of the ecosystem services provided by a tree such as pollution reduction, carbon, public health impacts, rainfall capture to reduce storm runoff and solar energy impacts and maintaining thermal balancing in an urban setting.

#### 3. Recommendation

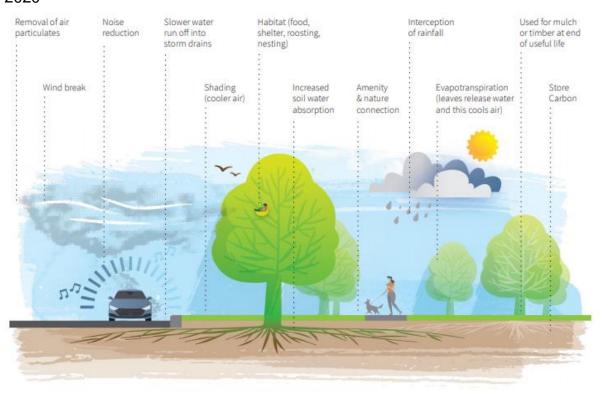
#### That:

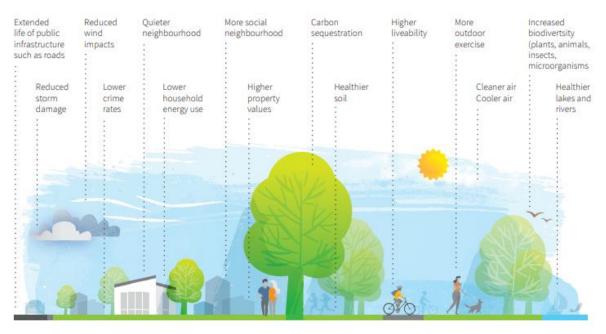
- 1. The City of Hobart Tree Compensation Policy be retained as best practice tool for the incorporation of the value of trees to the City and to the environment.
- 2. The City convene regular forums for professional associations such as architects, designers, engineers and urban designers to explain the policy to ensure it is considered early in the design process.
- 3. An i-Tree Eco fee be calculated, that defines the value of the ecosystem services that a tree provides for any tree that is approved for removal.

#### 4. Background

- 4.1. Street and park trees are essential public assets that require public funds to install and maintain. Unlike most other public assets, the value of an established tree is greater than the cost to purchase and install a replacement tree. A large tree provides significantly more amenity and value to the community than the tree that would be planted to replace it as it may have been growing in the landscape for decades.
- 4.2. Existing trees in public spaces, particularly large canopy trees will play an increasingly important role with further infill development and intensification of urban and suburban areas as this type of development significantly reduces the space on private land for trees.
- 4.3. An analysis of the use of tree amenity valuation in other Australian Councils shows that at least 22 other Councils apply a Tree Amenity Value fee, with the majority (13) using the City of Melbourne methodology (**Attachment 1**).
- 4.4. Trees provide many social, economic and ecological service benefitsthey play a significant role in providing shade, reducing stormwater runoff, reducing energy use, ameliorating the urban heat island effect, reducing wind speed, carbon capture and storage and habitat provision.
- 4.5. The objective of greening the City of Hobart relies upon a strong policy of tree canopy retention as well as investment in tree planting.

Figure 1: Environmental, social and economic benefits of healthy urban trees (extract from: ACT Government, Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate, 'Social, economic and environmental values of street trees in the urban environment', April 2020





4.6. Trees provide amenity that enhances the image of the city and the experience of the community. They provide a sense of place, and can be key landmarks that are valued over generations.

- 4.7. Private development that wishes to remove trees are a trade-off between private benefit and community assets. An amenity value allows for the proper recognition of trees in the design and decision making process.
- 4.8. The City of Hobart Street Tree Strategy 2017 outlines that the City should require remuneration for the removal of a public tree of a monetary value that includes both the estimated amenity value of the tree and the cost of the replacement planting (Section 7.4.3).
- 4.9. The City of Hobart tree compensation framework was adopted unanimously in a Council meeting on 18 February 2019
- 4.10. This policy recognises that the value to the community of a tree cannot be adequately compensated for by the purchase and installation costs of the replacement tree alone.
- 4.11. There have been previous attempts to establish a single methodology for tree amenity valuations for use throughout Australia. In 2006 Standards Australia issued a draft for industry comment that included the Burnley, Thyer and City of Melbourne methods and sought guidance from the industry on selecting a single standard methodology from amongst these.
- 4.12. Current industry practice is moving towards having a number of established and accepted methods (eg. City of Melbourne, Burnley and Thyer), with local authorities determining which method is most appropriate for their local context. An assessment of the four most commonly used methodologies can be found in **Attachment 2**. This assessment determined that the City of Melbourne Methodology is the preferred methodology for the City of Hobart. This is consistent with the City of Hobart Street Tree Strategy which also specified this methodology. A Minimum Industry Standard on Tree Valuations is currently under development by Arboriculture Australia and is due to be released this year.
- 4.13. A review of the 26 developments that have proposed the removal of Council tree/s for the benefit of private development since the implementation of the strategy is found below

| Outcome                                                                                           | Number of applications | Cost                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Removal permitted<br>(no changes to design<br>required)                                           | 10                     | Total of 15 trees across the 10 applications, with an average amenity value of \$2820 per tree                                          |
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|                                               |   | Selective design changes to allow retention of significant trees has allowed for the retention of \$291,356 in tree amenity |
|-----------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Not progressed due to non-tree related issues | 5 | No cost                                                                                                                     |
| Tree removed by Council due to storm damage   | 1 | No cost                                                                                                                     |

#### 5. Proposal and Implementation

- 5.1. If an applicant wishes to remove a Council tree, they must acquire a By-Laws permit under Section 23 of the Public Spaces By-Law:
  - 5.1.1. The Arboricultural Services Program Area assesses the application and provides advice to the Director City Amenity on whether the tree should be approved for removal.
  - 5.1.2. A tree compensation fee is calculated by a suitably qualified City Officer or an arborist engaged by the City using the City of Hobart Tree Amenity Formula.
  - 5.1.3. If Council is satisfied that there is no other practical or feasible alternative, and the tree is approved for removal this fee is communicated to the applicant, providing the applicant with the opportunity and an incentive to re-design the proposal so that it does not impact on a public tree asset.
  - 5.1.4. The Tree Amenity Fee and a replacement and replanting fee will be included as a condition on the By-Laws Permit.
  - 5.1.5. If an applicant wishes to remove a Council tree as part of a planning application for private development they must acquire General Manager's consent to submit the application for it to be valid (Section 52 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*). Council will undertake the above assessment as part of the General Manager Consent Process.

Should the substantive development application be approved, the applicant will also be required to get a Public Spaces Bylaws permit to remove the tree.

#### 6. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

#### 6.1. Vision:

The community vision describes what people love and value about Hobart and how they want it to evolve. Its vision statement reads:

#### Hobart breathes.

Connections between nature, history, culture, businesses and each other are the heart of our city.

We are brave and caring.

We resist mediocrity and sameness.

As we grow, we remember what makes this place special.

We walk in the fresh air between all the best things in life.

The document includes eight pillars that represent the major parts of Hobart life. The sixth pillar is the Natural Environment:

We are a city whose people see ourselves as part of a beautiful and unique natural environment, from the mountain to the river, which embrace us and shape our identity. We are proud custodians and advocates, ensuring resources are appreciated rather than wasted, supporting biodiverse ecosystems in honour of past, current and future generations.

#### 6.2. Capital City Strategic Plan 2019-2029

Pillar 6.1.5: Enhance urban forests, tree canopy cover and greenery throughout Hobart

#### 6.3. City of Hobart Street Tree Strategy

Section 7.4.3 Protection During Construction

Trees and their root zones may occupy a substantial part of a development site and can, therefore, have a major influence on use and development of a site. Despite the value large trees may bring to a development, they are seen as a nuisance by some developers or their contractors. At worst, this leads to wilful removal or damage or, less maliciously, to a lack of protection of trees from damage during construction.

Developers should be compelled to give sufficient curtilage around existing trees (above and below ground) to eliminate impacts and allow the ongoing health of a tree because trees find it difficult or impossible to recover from damage to tree root zones. Early identification of protection measures to eliminate or mitigate against damage is, therefore, essential and should be required throughout the development process.

In particular, the City should require application of the principles and techniques of AS 4970 Protection of Trees on Development Sites for protection of all trees greater than 5m tall or 150mm DBH in proximity to a development site.

Application of AS 4970 will likely increase the cost to the developer but the benefits that will accrue for the 'greater good' of the community are worth the investment. Acceptance and acknowledgement of the constraints, costs and ensuing benefits is required for successful application of the AS 4970.

To regulate application of the AS 4970, the City should impose, as a condition of approval, a bond for the protection of all public trees that may be impacted by a proposed development. The condition should note that failure to conduct works in accordance with AS 4970 will result in the loss of all or a portion of the bond. The size of the bond should be based on:

- the estimated value of the tree (see Section 7.1.3); and
- the cost of a replacement tree;
- of an advanced size (say a 200L bagged tree or equivalent);
- of a species that will attain the mature height expected from the tree to be removed; and
- installed in line with the City's planting procedures.

In determining any discretion to allow removal of an established tree, the City should require replacement, as above, in a suitable location and/or remuneration for the value of the tree. In no case should the City allow removal of trees for the construction of site hoardings.

#### Section 7.1.3. Evidence Base

The City of Melbourne has adopted a method for calculating the value of its trees based on a number of variables. In Hobart, the data has been collected and used to substantiate the monetary value of the trees in the City's streets and parks. Being able to estimate this value gives great weight to the decision making processes around management of the street tree asset.

#### 6.4. Protecting our Wild Heart: An Action Plan for Hobart's Bushlands

Page 19: The City of Hobart is committed to working with the local community to retain, promote and enhance these natural values for the long-term environmental, social and economic benefit of the community.

The number 1 threat identified for the City of Hobart was:

Habitat fragmentation and degradation:

Habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation is viewed as the largest cause of biodiversity loss and the primary factor resulting in species being listed as threatened or endangered. Direct causes of habitat loss include the clearing of native vegetation and the cumulative effects of human activities such as:

- small scale incremental loss of vegetation
- degradation of habitat remnants and loss of connectivity
- nutrient run-off

#### 6.5. Sustainable Hobart Action Plan 2020-2025

RESI-01: Habitat extension and restoration- Helping our bushland teams develop a more resilient landscape.

As bushfires increase in frequency and urban development continues, the loss of vegetation, hollow logs, dead trees and other crucial habitat is increasingly stressing native animals, insects and birds.

Resi-07: Urban cooling vegetation program- Planting more trees in more streets and in waterway corridors.

Urban heat islands are built areas that are significantly warmer than surrounding areas due to human infrastructure and activities.

Buildings and paved areas store more heat, resulting in heat stress-related negative health outcomes for residents. These trends are set to intensify with climate change.

Smart data collection will identify heat islands, helping to prioritise areas for street tree planting. This initiative will include evidence based communications about the benefits of green infrastructure, trees and nature in urban spaces, as well as a review of which species are planted, to ensure they will be tolerant to the future climate. This initiative will support the City's goal of reaching 40% canopy cover by 2046.

#### 6.6. Central Hobart Precincts Plan Discussion Paper

Idea seven: Greening the City

Cities worldwide are recognising trees and green spaces as critical urban infrastructure, as they provide clean air and shade, and cool the atmosphere during periods of heat.

Beyond benefits to human wellbeing, urban greening promotes biodiversity, can reduce pressure on stormwater infrastructure and aids in carbon capture...

...As the climate warms, urban heat will become an increasing stress in the city centre, exacerbated by the high percentage of hard surfaces (roadway and roofs) compared with green space and canopy. This is called the urban heat island effect. Increasing the amount of greenery and tree canopy in the city will have a cooling effect but also provide benefits for economic activity, city amenity and health and wellbeing. Greening is a strategy that cities worldwide are adopting to enhance the resilience of cities to climate change impacts.

#### 6.7. City of Hobart Transport Strategy:

Our streets are part of where we live, not just roads for cars. There is strong desire within the Hobart community to take a more holistic view of our place and manage and develop our streets for people. Ensuring that the city's character, scale and connections to people, places and nature are maintained in unobtrusive, place sensitive ways was a priority that emerged in the Vision engagement.

#### 6.8. Greener Spaces Better Places:

The City of Hobart is a partner organisation to Greener Spaces Better Places. Greener Spaces Better Places is a national initiative that brings together government, universities, businesses and industry to make our urban areas greener. It is funded in part by the Australian Government.

The presence of green spaces can enhance the health and wellbeing of people living and working in cities, they provide oxygen and limit carbon in the atmosphere. They reduce air pollution, provide food and shelter for wildlife, minimise erosion and maintain healthy soil, increase rainfall, and absorb sunlight as energy. Simply put, we can't survive without it: greener spaces make better places.

#### 7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. Funding Source and Impact on Current Year Operating Result
  - 7.1.1. Any revenue generated will continue to be directed to the City's tree planting budget.
- 7.2. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result
  - 7.2.1. Any revenue generated will continue to be directed to the City's tree planting budget.
- 7.3. Asset Related Implications
  - 7.3.1. If City tree assets are approved for removal as part of private development the asset will be retired from City's asset management system. The applicant will be responsible for the removal of the subject tree, all associated costs and for acquiring all required permits.

#### 8. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 8.1. Council's Legal Officer has previously sought external advice and has reviewed the matter and is of the view that the imposition of a condition on a By-Law permit issued for the removal of a tree that requires payment of a sum, the value of which is determined in consideration of one or more industry standard valuation methodologies, is a lawful exercise of the discretion afforded to the General Manager (or their delegate) pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Public Spaces By-Law*.
- 8.2. The Public Spaces By-Law Section 23 states:

A person must not, by any act, wherever performed, cut, prune, pluck, destroy, remove or injure any tree, shrub, flower or other vegetation growing in a public space unless authorised to do so by permit.

This provides the head of power to require applicants to obtain a By-Laws permit with conditions governing the removal of the tree.

- 8.3. Part 7 of the By-Law governs the process of applying for, and the granting of, permits under the By-Law and includes the following:
  - (a) cl.86 which sets out the matters to which the General Manager is to have regard when considering applications for permits; and
  - (b) cl.87 which provides that a permit "may be granted under such terms and conditions as the General Manager consider appropriate".

The framework in Part 7 of the By-Law is both lawful and commonplace in Tasmania; the Local Government Act 1993 authorises any council to make by-laws prescribing the purposes for which, and the conditions on which, permits may be granted for a wide range of matters.

- 8.4. It is proposed that the applicant will be responsible for all works and costs associated with the removal of the City tree. This presents a public liability risk to the Council.
  - 8.4.1. It is accordingly required that the applicant obtain a Permit To Open Up and Temporarily Occupy a Highway and a Traffic Management Permit if required. These permits require Public Liability insurance of \$10,000,000.
  - 8.4.2. The provision of a Public Spaces By-Laws permits can also require the works be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced persons. This ensures the potential risks to the local community and the City are mitigated and controlled.

#### 9. Environmental Considerations

- 9.1. Trees provide a range of essential environmental benefits:
  - Biodiversity protection, providing important habitat and corridors for birds and animals
  - Heat mitigation through transpiration, shade and passive cooling
  - Energy efficiency by reducing the need for air conditioning in offices and homes
  - Improved air quality Water absorption capturing stormwater and reducing peak flows and improved water quality
  - Noise reduction
- 9.2. The tree compensation fee framework provides a monetary incentive for developers to design their proposal around established trees.

#### 10. Social and Customer Considerations

- 10.1. Providing a framework for valuing street trees incentivises the retention of public trees or provides adequate compensation for the loss of public trees that can be used for increased tree planting.
- 10.2. A healthy and abundant tree population has many proven benefits to the wider community including improved health and well-being, environmental services benefits, increased connection to nature and increased physical activity.

#### 11. Marketing and Media

11.1. The City of Hobart website can be updated to include further information on the tree compensation fee, when and why it is required and how it is calculated. This promotes a transparent system that demonstrates that the fee is consistently applied to a set standard.

#### 12. Community and Stakeholder Engagement

- 12.1. Community engagement was undertaken as part of the development of the current City of Hobart Street Tree Strategy.
- 12.2. It is proposed that the City convene regular forums for professional associations such as architects, designers, engineers and urban designers to explain the policy to ensure it is considered early in the design process.
- 12.3. An information booklet that details the value of the City's trees can be produced and distributed to relevant stakeholders and put on the Councils website.

#### 13. Delegation

13.1. The matter is delegated to the Council.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.

Ruby Wilson

PRÓGRAM LEADER ARBORICULTURE & NURSERY John Fisher

MANAGER BUSHLAND BIODIVERSITY AND WATERWAYS

**Neil Noye** 

**DIRECTOR CITY LIFE** 

Date: 6 June 2022 File Reference: F22/2563

Attachment A: List of Australian councils that change an amenity fee \$\Pi\$

Attachment B: Comparison of valuation methodologies \$\Bar{\mathbb{I}}\$

#### Australian Councils that apply a Tree Amenity Value fee

| Council                   | Methodology                                                             |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| City of Melbourne         | City of Melbourne methodology + iTree-eco                               |
| City of Brimbank          | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Knox              | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Bendigo           | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Mitchell          | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Darebin           | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Moreland          | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Dubbo             | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Alexandrina       | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Manningham        | City of Melbourne methodology + iTree-eco                               |
| City of Port Phillip      | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Whitehorse        | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Boroondara        | City of Melbourne methodology                                           |
| City of Stiring           | Helliwell or other City approved valuation system                       |
| City of South Perth       | City of South Perth Amenity Valuation<br>Method (origin not identified) |
| Campbelltown City Council | Burnley method                                                          |
| City of Fremantle         | DR99307 Amenity trees- guide to valuation                               |
| City of Bayswater         | Helliwell System                                                        |
| City of Bunbury           | City of Bunbury Tree Valuation formula (origin not identified)          |
| Town of Bassendean        | Burnley Method                                                          |
| Town of Victoria Park     | Helliwell or other appropriate system                                   |
| Georges River Council     | Thyer Method                                                            |

#### Comparison of four common tree amenity value methods

| City of Melbourne                | Burnley                         | Thyer                          | Helliwell                        |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Methodology                      |                                 |                                |                                  |
| Most commonly used method        | Establishing initial base vale  | Encompasses both social and    | This is a method that was        |
| for assessing tree valuations in | time-consuming and difficult in | ecological values              | developed and is widely used     |
| Australian Councils              | the Tasmanian context           |                                | in the UK. It is considered that |
|                                  |                                 | More time consuming and        | it is not appropriate for use    |
| Simple and transparent           | Location/suitability modifier   | complex methodology and not    | due to "species limitations,     |
| methodology                      | considered more subjective      | as widely specified for use    | historical components or         |
|                                  | than CoM method and is          | throughout Australian Councils | inappropriate growth rate data   |
| Species, aesthetics, locality    | limited in scope compared to    |                                | for the Australian               |
| and condition factors are        | the CoM method                  |                                | environment" (G M Moore,         |
| prescriptive allowing greater    |                                 |                                | Amenity tree evaluation: a       |
| consensus                        |                                 |                                | revised method)                  |
|                                  |                                 |                                |                                  |
| Method has been peer             |                                 |                                |                                  |
| reviewed and benchmarked         |                                 |                                |                                  |
| against other approaches for     |                                 |                                |                                  |
| tree valuation used around the   |                                 |                                |                                  |
| world.                           |                                 |                                |                                  |
| Preferred methodology            |                                 |                                |                                  |

### 7. COMMITTEE ACTION STATUS REPORT

#### 7.1 Committee Actions - Status Report

A report indicating the status of current decisions is attached for the information of Elected Members.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be received and noted.

Delegation: Committee

Attachment A: PRC Status Report OPEN May 2022

### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE - STATUS REPORT

**OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING** 

November 2014 to May 2022

| Ref. | Detail                                                                                               | Report / Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Action<br>Officer     | Comments                                                                                                                              |
|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1    | KUNANYI/MOUNT WELLINGTON - ORGAN PIPES Open Council 19/12/2018, Item 12 Open Council 19/3/2019, Item | The below report was deferred at the Council meeting on 19 March 2019 to allow an opportunity to discuss with the State Government its level of support for the proposed listing of the eastern face of kunanyi / Mount Wellington onto the National Heritage Register.  That a report be prepared to consider the merits or otherwise;  (i) Of seeking national heritage listing for the Organ Pipes of kunanyi/Mount Wellington and/or  (ii) An extension of the South West World Heritage area to include the Wellington Park; and  (iii) The report to also investigate and ascertain who is the correct party to formally make the nomination to seek a national heritage listing or inclusion in the South West World Heritage area. | Director<br>City Life | The Council decision is being actioned with advice sought from the Minister to confirm the State government position on a nomination. |

| 2 | BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE OVER BROOKER AVENUE - PROPOSED NAME 'ROSE GARDEN BRIDGE'  Open Council 18/3/2019, Item 18  Open Council 19/8/2019, Item 16 | That 'Rose Garden Bridge' be submitted as the Council's recommended name for the new bicycle and pedestrian bridge across Brooker Avenue, located between Bathurst Street and the University Rose Gardens on the Queens Domain, to the Nomenclature Board of Tasmania, pursuant to the Survey Coordination Act 1944 (Tasmania).  The City explore ways to commemorate persons and groups of significance with strong connections to the development of the University Rose Gardens, including Kitty Henry and TT Flynn. | Director<br>City Life | The Nomenclature Board has accepted the name for the Bridge.  The City is in discussions with UTas to integrate the University Gardens with the Rose Gardens and explore the significant people connected with the gardens in order to prepare a naming protocol for the rose beds.  This is the subject of the plans for the movement of UTAS to the City and the architects are preparing a draft plan for the required works. |
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|   | REGATTA GROUNDS BUILDINGS - REQUEST FOR LEASE Open Council 17/12/2020, | 1  | A lease to the Royal Hobart Regatta Association over two buildings located on the Domain Regatta Ground foreshore (as indicated in paragraph 4.3 of the report marked as item 6.2 of the Open Parks and Recreation Committee agenda of                                                                                             | ,                     | Preparation of the lease is progressing but is now subject to review with the announcement by the State Government of a new |
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|   | Item 21                                                                |    | 10 December 2020) for a period of ten (10) years, be approved, subject to no objections being received during the statutory community engagement process required under Sections 178 and 179 of the Local Government Act 1993.                                                                                                     |                       |                                                                                                                             |
|   |                                                                        |    | (i) Should any objections be received during the community engagement period, a further report will be provided to the Council.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                       |                                                                                                                             |
| 3 |                                                                        | 2. | The leased area be provided at a nominal annual rent (\$50 per annum)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Director<br>City Life |                                                                                                                             |
|   |                                                                        | 3. | The General Manager be authorised to finalise the terms and conditions of the lease.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                       | covered stadium for the site to be built by 2027.                                                                           |
|   |                                                                        | 4. | In accordance with the Council Policy 'Grants and Benefits Disclosure' the benefit recognised to the Royal Hobart Regatta Association by way of reduced rental as part of the new lease be disclosed in the City's Annual Report.                                                                                                  |                       | ·                                                                                                                           |
|   |                                                                        | 5. | The lease include a clause that allows the City to renegotiate the terms and conditions of the lease between the City and the Royal Hobart Regatta Association in relation to the two buildings located on the Domain Regatta Ground foreshore in the event that any development should proceed in that vicinity of the foreshore. |                       |                                                                                                                             |

| 4 | 410 ELIZABETH STREET,<br>NORTH HOBART – NAMING<br>OF SWAN STREET PARK<br>Open CPC 15/3/2021,<br>Item 7.2.6                    | That in consultation with the property owner, consideration be given to naming the park (currently known as Swan Street Park).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Director<br>City Life | The City is in discussions with the adjoining Church that owns the land but no decision has been made. Future ownership options for the site is being reconsidered. |
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| 5 | PETITION - STREET TREE PLANTINGS RUPERT AVENUE, MOUNT STUART  Open Council 10/5/2021, Item 6  Open Council 21/6/2021, Item 19 | <ol> <li>That:</li> <li>The City undertake detailed investigations and design work for the potential installation of new street trees within Rupert Avenue, Mount Stuart, involving the following:         <ol> <li>Local area consultation and engagement;</li> <li>Determination of potential locations and number of tree plantings, including suitable species selection;</li> <li>Traffic safety audit and traffic impact assessments;</li> <li>Impact of on-street parking availability;</li> <li>Cost assessment for the installation of the trees within the road reservation to ensure appropriate tree root treatment and backfilling with structural soil to ensure surface surrounds remain trafficable; and</li> <li>Prioritisation of any installation to consider:</li></ol></li></ol> | Director<br>City Life | The Council decision is<br>being actioned with draft<br>plans prepared and<br>undergoing assessment.                                                                |

| SANDY BAY ROWING CLUB,<br>MARIEVILLE ESPLANADE -<br>REQUEST FOR EXTENSION<br>OF LEASE FOOTPRINT<br>Open Council 23/8/2021, | 1. /                                                                                                                                    | An extension of the lease footprint to the Sandy Bay Rowing Club over a section of land outside of its premises at Marieville Esplanade, Battery Point (marked as Attachment A to item 6.1 of the Open Parks and Recreation Committee                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| Open Council 22/11/2021,<br>Item 15                                                                                        | 2.                                                                                                                                      | A letter be sent to the objector of the lease during the community engagement period to advise of Council's decision and to provide advice on appeal rights.                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                            | 3.                                                                                                                                      | The extended lease footprint area be added to the existing lease which, if all lease options are pursued, expires in 2030 under the same terms and conditions as the current lease.                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                            | 4.                                                                                                                                      | The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to finalise the terms and conditions of the lease, including a clause relating to the possible implications due to climate change and ensuring the area isn't used as a car park for the Club outside of its operating times. | Director<br>City Life                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | The draft lease has been prepared                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                            | 5.                                                                                                                                      | In accordance with the Council Policy 'Grants and Benefits Disclosure' the benefit recognised to the Sandy Bay Rowing Club by way of reduced rental as part of the amended lease be disclosed in the City's Annual Report.                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                            | 6.                                                                                                                                      | The Club submit a landscaping plan, including furniture design, to the satisfaction of the Director City Amenity, prior to any on-ground improvements being undertaken by the Club.                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                                            | MARIEVILLE ESPLANADE -<br>REQUEST FOR EXTENSION<br>OF LEASE FOOTPRINT<br>Open Council 23/8/2021,<br>Item 17<br>Open Council 22/11/2021, | MARIEVILLE ESPLANADE - REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LEASE FOOTPRINT Open Council 23/8/2021, Item 17 Open Council 22/11/2021, Item 15  3.                                                                                                                                    | MARIEVILLE ESPLANADE - REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LEASE FOOTPRINT  Open Council 23/8/2021, Item 17  Open Council 22/11/2021, Item 15  1. An extension of the lease footprint to the Sandy Bay Rowing Club over a section of land outside of its premises at Marieville Esplanade, Battery Point (marked as Attachment A to item 6.1 of the Open Parks and Recreation Committee agenda of 12 August 2021), be approved.  2. A letter be sent to the objector of the lease during the community engagement period to advise of Council's decision and to provide advice on appeal rights.  3. The extended lease footprint area be added to the existing lease which, if all lease options are pursued, expires in 2030 under the same terms and conditions as the current lease.  4. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to finalise the terms and conditions of the lease, including a clause relating to the possible implications due to climate change and ensuring the area isn't used as a car park for the Club outside of its operating times.  5. In accordance with the Council Policy 'Grants and Benefits Disclosure' the benefit recognised to the Sandy Bay Rowing Club by way of reduced rental as part of the amended lease be disclosed in the City's Annual Report.  6. The Club submit a landscaping plan, including furniture design, to the satisfaction of the Director City Amenity, prior to any on-ground improvements being undertaken by the | MARIEVILLE ESPLANADE - REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF LEASE FOOTPRINT Open Council 23/8/2021, Item 17 Open Council 22/11/2021, Item 15  2. A letter be sent to the Open Parks and Recreation Committee agenda of 12 August 2021), be approved.  2. A letter be sent to the objector of the lease during the community engagement period to advise of Council's decision and to provide advice on appeal rights.  3. The extended lease footprint area be added to the existing lease which, if all lease options are pursued, expires in 2030 under the same terms and conditions of the lease, including a clause relating to the possible implications due to climate change and ensuring the area isn't used as a car park for the Club outside of its operating times.  5. In accordance with the Council Policy 'Grants and Benefits Disclosure' the benefit recognised to the Sandy Bay Rowing Club by way of reduced rental as part of the amended lease be disclosed in the City's Annual Report.  6. The Club submit a landscaping plan, including furniture design, to the satisfaction of the Director City Amenity, prior to any on-ground improvements being undertaken by the |

| 7 | CLARE STREET OVAL, NEW<br>TOWN - CHANGE ROOM AND<br>TOILET IMPROVEMENTS<br>Open Council 23/8/2021,<br>Item 18 | <ol> <li>That:</li> <li>The Council endorse the proposal to significantly upgrade and enhance the public toilet and changeroom facilities at Clare Street Oval, New Town, as detailed in the report of 6 August 2021 marked as item 6.2 of the Open Parks and Recreation Committee agenda of 12 August 2021.</li> <li>(i) The Council note the City's current asset replacement budget allocation of \$900,000, together with State Government's 'Levelling the Playing Field' grant funding of \$450,000 for the improvement works.</li> <li>The CEO be delegated authority to secure all statutory permits for the development to proceed.</li> </ol> | Director<br>City Life | A contractor has been appointed for this project, project will commence on 27 June 2022. |
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| 8 | REVIEW OF COUNCIL TREE<br>COMPENSATION POLICY<br>Open Council<br>6 December 2021<br>Notice of Motion          | That Council review its tree removal compensation policy, to ensure that it balances the need to maintain significant tree coverage with the need for additional housing development, and to ensure it remains consistent with community expectation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Director<br>City Life | Officers are progressing this matter and a report is scheduled for July 2022.            |
| 9 | NATURE STRIP POLICY  Open Council 30 May 2022                                                                 | <ol> <li>The Nature Strip Policy, marked as Attachment A to item 6.1 of the Open Parks and Recreation Committee agenda of 19 May 2022, be endorsed by the Council and implemented in January 2023.</li> <li>The Council endorse the development of a set of guidelines for Landscaping Nature strips and Food Gardens on Nature strips.</li> <li>A targeted community engagement strategy and comprehensive communication plan be developed and implemented with an additional \$10,000 to be allocated to the Parks and Reserves operations in the 2022-23</li> </ol>                                                                                  | Director<br>City Life | This matter was approved by Council on 30 May 2022.                                      |

|    | budget for the development of materials and advertising of the new policy.                                                                                                            |  |
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| 4. | An additional \$30,000 be allocated to the Parks and Reserves operation budget for three years from 2022-23, for the upgrading of nature strips to assist residents to maintain them. |  |
| 5. | . An additional \$16,000 be allocated annually to the Hobart Regional Nursery Budget for additional plants to be grown to assist residents establish landscaped nature strips.        |  |

#### 8. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Section 29 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

File Ref: 13-1-10

An Elected Member may ask a question without notice of the Chairman, another Elected Member, the Chief Executive Officer or the Chief Executive Officer's representative, in line with the following procedures:

- The Chairman will refuse to accept a question without notice if it does not relate to the Terms of Reference of the Council committee at which it is asked.
- 2. In putting a question without notice, an Elected Member must not:
  - (i) offer an argument or opinion; or
  - (ii) draw any inferences or make any imputations except so far as may be necessary to explain the question.
- 3. The Chairman must not permit any debate of a question without notice or its answer.
- 4. The Chairman, Elected Members, Chief Executive Officer or Chief Executive Officer's representative who is asked a question may decline to answer the question, if in the opinion of the respondent it is considered inappropriate due to its being unclear, insulting or improper.
- 5. The Chairman may require a question to be put in writing.
- Where a question without notice is asked and answered at a meeting, both the question and the response will be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.
- 7. Where a response is not able to be provided at the meeting, the question will be taken on notice and
  - (i) the minutes of the meeting at which the question is asked will record the question and the fact that it has been taken on notice.
  - (ii) a written response will be provided to all Elected Members, at the appropriate time.
  - (iii) upon the answer to the question being circulated to Elected Members, both the question and the answer will be listed on the agenda for the next available ordinary meeting of the committee at which it was asked, where it will be listed for noting purposes only.

#### 9. CLOSED PORTION OF THE MEETING

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee resolve by majority that the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to regulation 15(1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures)*Regulations 2015 because the items included on the closed agenda contain the following matters:

- Contracts and their terms and conditions
- Proposal for an interest of land belonging to the Council
- Closed Questions Without Notice

The following items are listed for discussion:-

| Item No. 1   | Minutes of the last meeting of the Closed Portion of the   |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
|              | Committee Meeting                                          |
| Item No. 2   | Consideration of supplementary items to the agenda         |
| Item No. 3   | Indications of pecuniary and conflicts of interest         |
| Item No. 4   | Reports                                                    |
| Item No. 4.1 | Proposed Access Licence - 1/10 & 2/10 Olinda Grove through |
|              | Council's Land 12 Olinda Grove                             |
|              | LG(MP)R 15(2)(d) and (f)                                   |
| Item No. 5   | Committee Action Status Report                             |
| Item No. 5.1 | Committee Actions - Status Report                          |
|              | LG(MP)R 15(2)(d)                                           |
| Item No. 6   | Questions Without Notice                                   |