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Trails planning starts with community consultation

Community consultation on the development of a Trails Concept Plan for Albany Heritage Park has started with lead consultant and experienced trail planner Dave Willcox from Common Ground visiting Albany last week.

The City of Albany Trails Hub Strategy was adopted by Albany City Council last year and prioritised the consolidation and rationalisation of current trails while also developing new ones to transform the area into a world-class trails experience.

During his three-day visit, Mr Willcox met with representatives of Albany's Noongar community and a number of other key stakeholder groups on site.

"Learning some of the stories about Noongar connections to Mt Clarence and Mt Adelaide has given us an understanding of the rich and diverse history surrounding the area," Mr Willcox said.

"We have an opportunity to ensure access to the site by all community members enables a shared appreciation for the area's recreational, environmental and cultural values."



Trail planner Dave Willcox from Common Ground meets with representatives of Albany's Noongar community on Mt Clarence.

As part of the community consultation an online survey will be launched this week to allow all community members to have input and provide information to help guide the trails concept planning.

Links to the survey will be available via the City of Albany website and social media. A community forum will also be held in mid-February to provide more information on the project to the community and give them further opportunity to have input.

Mayor Dennis Wellington said the development of the concept plan is a key stepping stone to future trails development within Albany Heritage Park.



“Once completed and endorsed by Council, it will allow the project to move to the next stages of detailed trail design and construction,” Mayor Wellington said. “It is hoped that the first on-ground works to consolidate and construct new trails will start in Spring.”

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Media Liaison

medialiaison@albany.wa.gov.au

9841 9344 or 9844 2213

