



AGENDA

COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE

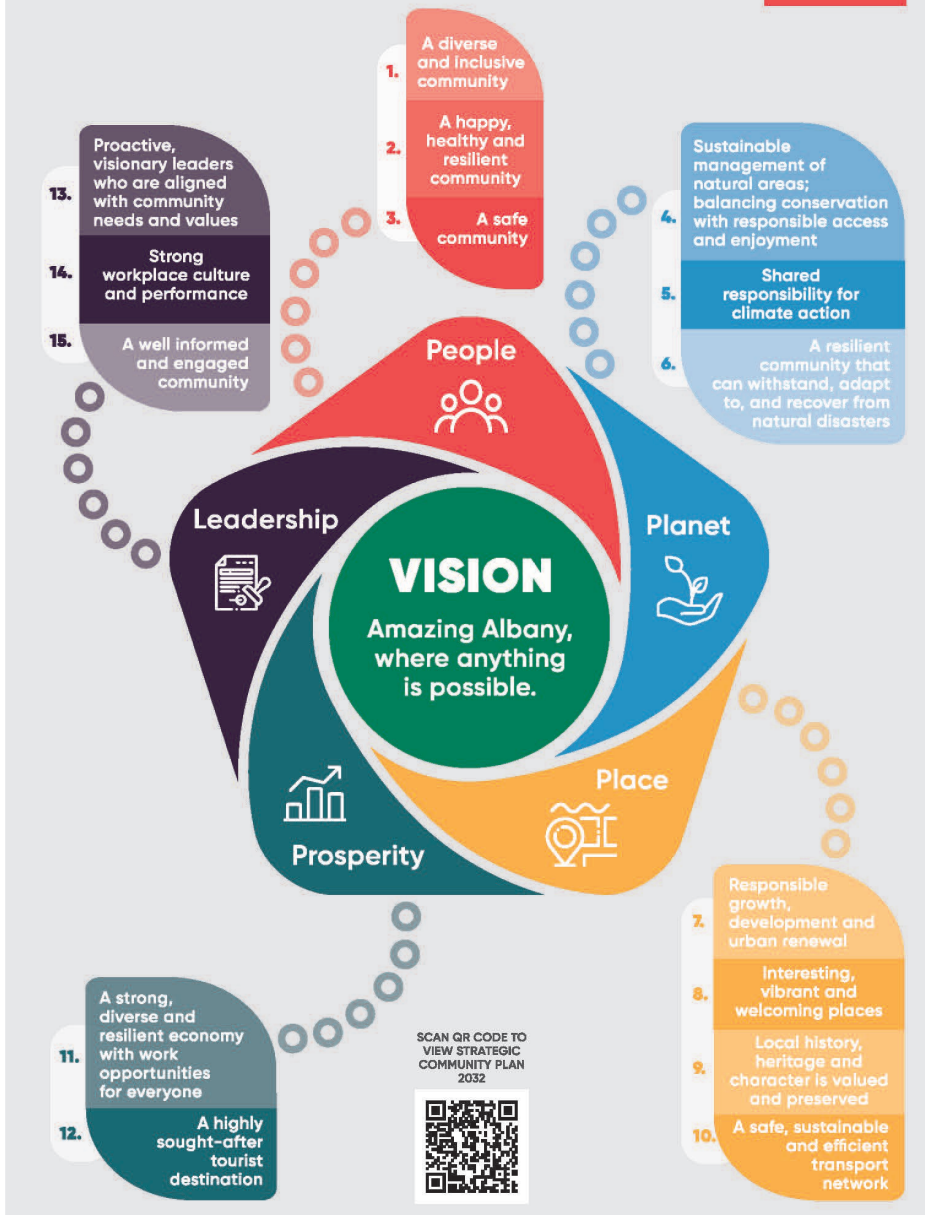
Tuesday 13 September 2022

6.00pm

Council Chambers



STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2032



Community & Corporate Services Committee
Terms of Reference

Functions: The Committee is responsible for the following functions:

The Community and Corporate Services Committee is responsible for the following functions:

- **Community Services** – delivery of the outcomes defined in the Strategic Community Plan 2032 under the **People Pillar** and the **Leadership Pillar**:
 - Diverse and inclusive community;
 - Happy, healthy and resilient community; and
 - A well-informed and engaged community.
- **Corporate Services** – delivery of the outcomes defined in the Strategic Community Plan 2032 under the **Leadership Pillar** and **Prosperity Pillar**:
 - A safe community;
 - A resilient community that can withstand, adapt to and recover from natural disasters;
 - A strong diverse and resilient economy with work opportunities for everyone;
 - A highly sought after tourist destination;
 - Proactive, visionary leaders who are aligned with community needs and values; and
 - Strong workplace culture and performance.
- Monitoring and commenting on the financial health and strategies of the City.
- Service Complaint Internal Review.

It will achieve this by:

- Developing policies and strategies;
- Establishing ways to measure progress;
- Receiving progress reports;
- Considering officer advice;
- Debating topical issues;
- Providing advice on effective ways to engage and report progress to the Community; and
- Making recommendations to Council.

Membership:	Open to all elected members
Meeting Schedule:	Monthly
Meeting Location:	Council Chambers
Directorates:	Corporate & Community Services
Executive Officer(s):	Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services, Executive Director Community Services
Delegated Authority:	None

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1. **DECLARATION OF OPENING**

2. **PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL LAND OWNERS**

“Heavenly Father, we thank you for the peace and beauty of this area. Direct and prosper the deliberations of this Council for the advancement of the City and the welfare of its people. Amen.”

“We would like to acknowledge the Noongar people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. We would also like to pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging”.

3. **RECORD OF APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Mayor	D Wellington
Councillors:	
Member	P Terry (Chair)
Member	A Cruse
Member	G Stocks
Member	M Traill
Member	T Brough
Member	M Benson-Lidholm JP
Member	J Shanhun
Member	D Baesjou
Member	S Smith (Deputy Chair)
Member	C Thomson
Member	R Sutton
Staff:	
Chief Executive Officer	A Sharpe
Executive Director Community Services	N Watson
A/Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services	L Harding
Manager Finance	S Van Nierop
Manager Governance & Risk	S Jamieson
Meeting Secretary	H Bell

Apologies:

4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Name	Committee/Report Item Number	Nature of Interest

5. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE Nil

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with *City of Albany Standing Orders Local Law 2014* (as amended) the following points apply to Public Question Time:

- Clause 5) The Presiding Member may decide that a public question shall not be responded to where—*
- (a) the same or similar question was asked at a previous Meeting, a response was provided and the member of the public is directed to the minutes of the Meeting at which the response was provided;*
 - (b) the member of the public asks a question or makes a statement that is offensive, unlawful or defamatory in nature, provided that the Presiding Member has taken reasonable steps to assist the member of the public to rephrase the question or statement in a manner that is not offensive, unlawful or defamatory.*

7. PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

8. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

DRAFT MOTION

THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Community and Corporate Services Committee meeting held on 9 August 2022, as previously distributed, be CONFIRMED as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

9. PRESENTATIONS

10. UNRESOLVED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

CCS466: FINANCIAL ACTIVITY STATEMENT – JULY 2022

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: Financial Activity Statement - July 2022
Report Prepared By	: Manager Finance (S Van Nierop)
Authorising Officer:	: Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** Leadership.
 - **Outcome:** Strong workplace culture and performance

IN BRIEF

- Under the Local Government Financial Management Regulations, a local government is to prepare on a monthly basis a statement of financial activity that is presented to Council.
- The City of Albany's Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending 31 July 2022 has been prepared and is attached.
- In addition, the City provides Council with a monthly investment summary to ensure the investment portfolio complies with the City's Investment of Surplus Funds Policy.
- The financial information included within the financial activity statement for the period ended 31 July 2022 is preliminary and has not yet been audited.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS466: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Financial Activity Statement for the period ending 31 July 2022 be RECEIVED.

DISCUSSION

2. The requirement for local governments to produce a Statement of Financial Activity was gazetted in March 2005 to provide elected members with a greater insight in relation to the ongoing financial performance of the local government.
3. In order to fulfil statutory reporting obligations, the Financial Activity Statement prepared provides a snapshot of the City's year to date financial performance. The report provides:
 - (a) Statement of Financial Activity by Nature or Type;
 - (b) Explanation of material variances to year to date budget;
 - (c) Net Current Funding Position;
 - (d) Investment Portfolio Snapshot;
 - (e) Receivables; and
 - (f) Capital Acquisitions.
4. Additionally, each year a local government is to adopt a percentage or value to be used in the Statement of Financial Activity for reporting material variances. Under Council item CCS367, Council approved that a variance between actual and budget-to-date of greater than \$100,000 is considered to be a material variance for reporting purposes in the Statement of Financial Activity for 2022/2023.
5. The Statement of Financial Activity may be subject to year-end adjustments and has not been audited by the appointed auditor.

6. It is noted that rounding errors may occur when whole numbers are used, as they are in the reports that follow. The 'errors' may be \$1 or \$2 when adding sets of numbers. This does not mean that the underlying figures are incorrect."

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

7. Section 34 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides:

34(1) A local government is to prepare each month a statement of financial activity reporting on the revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget under regulation 22 (1)(d), for that month in the following detail:

- (a) annual budget estimates, taking into account any expenditure incurred for an additional purpose under section 6.8(1)(b) or (c); and
- (b) budget estimates to the end of the month to which the statement relates; and
- (c) actual amounts of expenditure, revenue and income to the end of the month to which the statement relates; and
- (d) material variances between the comparable amounts referred to in paragraphs (b) and (c); and
- (e) the net current assets at the end of the month to which the statement relates.

34(2) Each statement of financial activity is to be accompanied by documents containing-

- (a) an explanation of the composition of the net current assets of the month to which the statement relates, less committed assets and restricted assets; and
- (b) an explanation of each of the material variances referred to in sub regulation (1)(d); and
- (c) such other supporting information as is considered relevant by the local government.

34(3) The information in a statement of financial activity may be shown –

- (a) according to nature and type classification; or
- (b) by program; or
- (c) by business unit.

34(4) A statement of financial activity, and the accompanying documents referred to in sub regulation (2), are to be —

- (a) presented at an ordinary meeting of the council within 2 months after the end of the month to which the statement relates; and
- (b) recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which it is presented.

34(5) Each financial year, a local government is to adopt a percentage or value, calculated in accordance with the AAS, to be used in statements of financial activity for reporting material variances

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8. The City's 2022/23 Annual Budget provides a set of parameters that guides the City's financial practices.
9. The Investment of Surplus Funds Policy stipulates that the status and performance of the investment portfolio is to be reported monthly to Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Expenditure for the period ending 31 July 2022 has been incurred in accordance with the 2021/22 proposed budget parameters.
11. Details of any budget variation in excess of \$100,000 (year to date) is outlined in the Statement of Financial Activity. There are no other known events, which may result in a material non-recoverable financial loss or financial loss arising from an uninsured event.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

12. Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

13. Nil

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

14. Nil

CONCLUSION

15. The Authorising Officer's recommendation be adopted
16. It is requested that any questions on specific payments are submitted to the Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services by 4pm of the day prior to the scheduled meeting time. All answers to submitted questions will be provided at the Committee meeting. This allows a detailed response to be given to the Committee in a timely manner.

Consulted References	:	<i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	FM.FIR.7 - All Wards

CCS467: LIST OF ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – AUGUST 2022

Business Entity Name : City of Albany
Attachments : List of Accounts for Payment
Report Prepared By : Manager Finance (S Van Nierop)
Authorising Officer: : Acting Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

- This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - Pillar:** Leadership.
 - Outcome:** Strong workplace culture and performance.

IN BRIEF

- Council has delegated to the Chief Executive Officer the exercise of its power to make payments from the City's municipal and trust funds. In accordance with Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, a list of accounts paid by the Chief Executive Officer is to be provided to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS467: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the list of accounts authorised for payment under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer for the period ending 15 August 2022 totalling \$5,536,160.80 be RECEIVED.

DISCUSSION

- The table below summarises the payments drawn from the municipal fund for the period ending 15 August 2022. Please refer to the Attachment to this report.

Municipal Fund	
Trust	\$0.00
Credit Cards	\$13,136.35
Payroll	\$1,690,120.43
Cheques	\$1,077.00
Electronic Funds Transfer	\$3,831,827.02
TOTAL	<u>\$5,536,160.80</u>

- The table below summaries the total outstanding creditors as at 15 August 2022.

Current	\$276,661.08
30 Days	\$14,628.33
60 Days	\$1,765.07
90 Days	-\$3,171.30
TOTAL	<u>\$289,883.18</u>
Cancelled Cheques	Nil

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5. Regulation 12(1)(a) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, provides that payment may only be made from the municipal fund or a trust fund if the Local Government has delegated this function to the Chief Executive Officer or alternatively authorises payment in advance.
6. The Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority to make payments from the municipal and trust fund.
7. Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* provides that if the function of authorising payments is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, then a list of payments must be presented to Council and recorded in the minutes.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

8. Expenditure for the period to 15 August 2022 has been incurred in accordance with the 2022/2023 budget parameters.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. Expenditure for the period to 15 August 2022 has been incurred in accordance with the 2022/2023 budget parameters.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Nil

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

11. Nil

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

12. Nil

CONCLUSION

13. That the list of accounts have been authorised for payment under delegated authority.
14. It is requested that any questions on specific payments are submitted to the Executive Director Corporate Services by 4pm of the day prior to the scheduled meeting time. All answers to submitted questions will be provided at the Committee meeting. This allows a detailed response to be given to the Committee in a timely manner.

Consulted References	:	<i>Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996</i>
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	FM.FIR.2 – All Wards

CCS468: DELEGATED AUTHORITY REPORTS – 16 JULY 2022 to 15 AUGUST 2022

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: Executed Document and Common Seal Report
Report Prepared By	: PA to the ED Corporate & Commercial Services (H Bell)
Authorising Officer:	: Chief Executive Officer (A Sharpe)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** Leadership.
 - **Outcome:** A well informed and engaged community.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS468: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Delegated Authority Reports 16 July 2022 to 15 August 2022 be RECEIVED.

BACKGROUND

2. In compliance with Section 9.49A of the *Local Government Act 1995* the attached report applies to the use of the Common Seal and the signing of documents under Council's Delegated Authority:
 - **Delegation: 006** – Sign Documents on Behalf of the City of Albany (Authority to Executive Dees & Agreements and apply the Common Seal)
 - **Delegation: 009** – Provide Donations, Sponsorship, Subsidies & Authority to Apply for Grant Funding (Including the provision of sponsorship through the waiver of fees & charges)
 - **Delegation: 018** – Award Contracts (Supply of Equipment, Goods, Materials & Services)

CCS469: REVIEW OF COUNCIL POLICY POSITION

Business Entity Name : City of Albany
Attachments : Revised: Buy Local Policy
Report Prepared By : Manager Finance (S van Nierop)
Authorising Officer: : Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillars:** Leadership, Prosperity
 - **Outcomes:** Strong workplace culture and performance; and Shared responsibility for climate action

In Brief:

- Council is requested to consider the proposed minor amendments to the Buy Local Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS469: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the reviewed Buy Local Policy position be ADOPTED.

BACKGROUND

2. The attached Buy Local Policy was reviewed by the Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services and the Executive Management Team.
3. Two minor amendments aligned with the underlying intention and principles within the policy have been proposed.

DISCUSSION

4. The intent of the Buy Local Policy and how it relates to legislation, current Council policy positions and the Community Strategic Plan 2032 remains relevant.
5. Attached to this report is a copy of the policy with the proposed amendments to the approved policy position highlighted.
6. In summary, the proposed amendments are as follows:

Policy Title:	Officer Comment:
Buy Local Policy	(a) Addition of wording: <i>Although the buy local policy applies for purchases of \$30,000 or greater, the principles of this policy can apply to all purchases across the City of Albany and should be applied wherever possible.</i> (b) The policy review period changed from annually to every two years.

7. The purpose of the proposed amendment (a) shown above is to reinforce the importance of adherence to 'Buy Local' principles for purchases made by City of Albany employees.
8. Amendment (b) is proposed given the likelihood of a change in policy position is considered to be low and the two year review period aligns with other City policies of a similar nature.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

9. No government or public consultation was required in preparing this report.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

10. Part 4A of the Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996 outlines the requirements for Local Governments in relation to Regional Price Preference. The proposed amendments will not impact the City's compliance with this legislation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

11. As per the content of the proposed policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

12. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Legal & Compliance. <i>Policy positions are inconsistent with legislation.</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Policy positions are reviewed against applicable legislation.</i>

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

13. Limited to nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

14. Nil.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

15. Nil.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

16. Council may support the review and re-adoption of this policy or not.

17. If more than minor changes are proposed, consultation is considered mandatory with all identified stakeholders.

CONCLUSION

18. It is recommended that the Authorising Officer's Recommendation is adopted.

Consulted References	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Act 1995 Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM.STD.7 (All Wards)
Previous Reference	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCM 23/05/2017 Resolution CCCS028.

**CCS470: ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD
ENDING 31 JULY 2022**

Proponent	:	City of Albany
Attachments	:	Budget Review for the period ending 31 July 2022
Report Prepared by	:	Business Analyst/Management Accountant (D Harrison)
Authorising Officer	:	Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar:** Leadership.
 - **Outcome:** Strong workplace culture and performance.

In Brief:

- The Department recommends a review of the budget early in the financial year to amend carry forward projects from forecast to actual.
- This review is for the period ending 31 July 2022, and is outside the requirements of regulation 33A of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A further budget review is required to satisfy this regulatory obligation.
- This budget review achieves a balanced budget inclusive of the proposed Budget Review allocations.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS470: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Budget Review for the period ending 31 July 2022 be ADOPTED.

BACKGROUND

2. The Department recommends a review of the budget early in the financial year to amend carry forward projects from forecast to actual.
3. Local Governments are required to conduct a budget review between 1 January and 31 March each financial year in accordance with regulation 33A of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*. A further budget review will be required to satisfy this regulatory obligation.

DISCUSSION

4. Council adopted the 2022/2023 Budget on 26 July 2022. The total adopted budget of \$134.5M comprised of:
 - a. \$56.2M capital works;
 - b. \$ 1.8M debt reduction; and
 - c. \$76.5M in operating expenditure.
5. This Budget Review identifies a net reduction of \$1,265,948 for carry forward works funding required to complete existing 2021/22 projects adopted within the 2022/23 Budget.

7. This Budget Review also identifies additional expenditure of \$553,259 for general works, variations and new projects.
8. The funding of \$553,259 (inclusive of reduction in expenditures, adjustment of grant funding, additional revenue and reserve funding) has been identified in this review to maintain a balanced position for the 2022/2023 financial year.
9. A copy of the Budget Review for the period ending 31 July 2022 is attached.
10. City of Albany Executives, Managers and Officers will continue to monitor their expenditure in line with budgets and bring to Council any material items that require amendment.
11. Budget adjustments thereafter of an urgent nature will be brought to a Council Meeting as an item to be discussed when required and actioned outside of this review.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

12. Department of Local Government guidelines were followed in the preparation of this report.
13. City of Albany Executives, managers and officers with budget responsibility were consulted in the preparation of the Budget Review.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

14. Under the *Local Government Act 1995*, section 6.8, a local government is not to incur expenditure from its municipal fund for an additional purpose except where the expenditure:
 - a. is incurred in a financial year before the adoption of the annual budget by the local government
 - b. is authorised in advance by a resolution (absolute majority required) or;
 - c. is authorised in advance by the mayor in an emergency.
15. If a local government wishes to impose any fees or charges under this Subdivision after the annual budget has been adopted it must, before introducing the fees or charges, give local public notice of 7 days and (a) its intention to do so; and (b) the date from which it is proposed the fees or charges will be imposed.
16. The voting requirement of Council is **Absolute Majority**.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

17. There are no policy implications related to this report.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

18. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk & Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputation & Organisation's Operations. <i>Non approval of the budget review may result in significant delays to achieving deliverables.</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>In the short term the existing Annual Budget would apply and proposed amendments would not apply. Adopt the Budget Review with amendments (as specified by Council).</i>
Opportunity: <i>Provides Council with an additional opportunity to review the City's current budget position.</i>				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

19. Please refer to the attachment: Budget Review for the period ending 31 July 2022.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

20. Nil.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

21. Nil.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

22. For the period ending 31 July 2022, Council may consider to:

- a. Adopt the Budget Review as recommended; or
- b. Adopt the Budget Review with amendments (as specified by Council)

SUMMARY CONCLUSION

23. It is recommended that the Authorising Officer's Recommendation is adopted.

Consulted References		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adopted Budget 2022/2023• <i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	FM.BUG.12
Previous Reference	:	Adopted Budget 2022/2023 – OCM 26/7/2022 Resolution CCS457

**CCS471: COMMUNITY SPORTING AND RECREATION FACILITIES FUND
2023/2024 ANNUAL AND FORWARD PLANNING GRANT ROUND
APPLICATIONS**

- Proponent / Owner** : City of Albany
Attachments :
 - Albany Community Tennis Centre (City of Albany, Lower Great Southern Tennis Association, Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs) Correspondence and Project Assessment Sheet
 - Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy**Report Prepared By** : Manager Recreation Services (M Green)
Authorising Officers: : Executive Director Community Services (N Watson)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
- **Pillar/Priority:** People
 - **Outcome:** A happy, healthy and resilient community.

In Brief:

- To seek Council endorsement of the priority ranking for the submitted Community Sport and Recreation Facility Fund (CSRFF) Annual and Forward Planning Grant funding round.
- To note Council's previously approved funding assistance to the Albany Community Tennis Centre (City of Albany, Lower Great Southern Tennis Association, Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs) upon return of successful CSRFF Annual grant application.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS471: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 1

THAT Council RANK the one CSRFF application in the following order for the CSRFF Annual and Forward Planning grant application 2023/24 Funding Round:

1. **City of Albany, Lower Great Southern Tennis Association, Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs – Albany Community Tennis Centre (Ranked 1 of 1)**

CCS471: COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION 2

That Council NOTE a total of \$642,000.00 (Ex GST) is allocated within the 2022/23 Budget as Council's previously approved financial commitment towards the CSRFF Annual and Forward Planning grant applications as follows:

1. **City of Albany, Lower Great Southern Tennis Association, Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs**
- **\$542,000.00 Cash contribution**
 - **\$100,000.00 In-kind contribution**

BACKGROUND

2. The Community Sport and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) administered by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSCI) has three rounds of available funds including:
 - a. Small Grant Funding Round (Summer).
 - b. Annual and Forward Planning Funding Round.
 - c. Small Grant Funding Round (Winter).
3. The CSRFF program is a State-wide \$12 million program. All three rounds are often oversubscribed and clubs may need to reapply on a number of occasions to be successful.
4. The CSRFF Annual and Forward Planning Grants Round targets community sport projects where the financial value of the total project is over \$300,000 and can be claimed up to three financial years following the date of approval. Under CSRFF guidelines it is not a requirement for the applicant to have secured funding at time of approval. The applicant has 3 years to secure funding and complete the project.
5. Applicants must be either a local government authority or a not-for-profit sport or community organisation incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1987* (WA).
6. Clubs and local government authorities applying for funds must demonstrate equitable access to the public on a short term and casual basis.
7. The land on which the facility is to be developed must be one of the following:
 - a. Crown reserve.
 - b. Land owned by a public authority.
 - c. Municipal property.
 - d. Land held for public purposes by trustees under a valid lease, title or trust deed that adequately protects the interests of the public.
8. Whilst there is no obligation for Local Government to contribute to the community sporting projects, local government is viewed as a key funding partner in supporting improved community sporting amenities.
9. The City of Albany has a Community Sports & Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy to guide how it will allocate funding through its annual Capital Seed Fund towards community sporting projects applying for CSRFF funding.
10. In the instance of the application received for consideration in this report, the scale of the project and contribution requested from Council is beyond the capacity of the Capital Seed Fund and Council has previously approved funding allocations towards these projects from within its annual Budget.
11. The DLGSCI – Sport and Recreation application form requires applications to be initially submitted to the Local Government within which the project proposal is located.
12. The CSRFF funding application process requires Local Government to assess all relevant applications and to rank the applications in priority order for the municipality. The applications are then submitted to DLGSCI on behalf of the applicants prior to September 30, 2022.
13. Once the assessment process from Local Government Authorities is complete, all applications received from Western Australian organisations are assessed by the relevant State Sporting Association and the DLGSCI – Sport and Recreation CSRFF Committee against a number of criteria, with the final decision on funding being at the discretion of the Minister for Sport and Recreation.

DISCUSSION

14. The DLGSCI grant guidelines require Council to provide a ranking for the projects.
15. The DLGSCI – Sport and Recreation provides guidelines for Local Government Authorities to assess each submission. This assessment uses the following criteria and a project rating of satisfactory/unsatisfactory or not relevant:
 - Project justification.
 - Planned approach.
 - Community input.
 - Management planning.
 - Access and opportunity.
 - Design.
 - Financial viability.
 - Coordination.
 - Potential to increase physical activity.
 - Sustainability.
16. With overall project rating, being:
 - Well planned and needed by municipality.
 - Well planned and needed by applicant.
 - Needed by municipality, more planning required.
 - Needed by applicant, more planning required.
 - Idea has merit, more planning work needed.
 - Not recommended.
17. The type of projects which will be considered for funding through the CSRFF program include:
 - New playing surfaces - ovals, courts, synthetic surfaces etc.
 - Floodlighting projects (must be to Australian Standards).
 - Change rooms and ablutions.
 - Sports storage.
18. Projects are ranked on the strength of the application, participation numbers, and ability to increase physical activity and potential impact as well as consultation with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation and the applicant.
19. Projects that are directly related to the delivery of the sport (surface or grounds) or will increase participation (lighting) are usually ranked higher over those that support the sporting environment.
20. The City of Albany has received one (1) Annual and Forward Planning grant applications this round. As there has only been one grant application received this round an independent peer review has not been required to assess the ranking process and subsequent ranking of projects.
21. The following additional information is provided about the project and funding application:
Project: Albany Community Tennis Centre – City of Albany with Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs, and the Lower Great Southern Tennis Association (LGSTA).
22. The funding application is a Forward Planning grant application to construct the Albany Community Tennis Centre at the Centennial Park Sporting Precinct – Eastern Precinct (CPSP-EP). Crown Reserve managed by the City of Albany.
23. The facility proposal includes the development of 6 Plexi-Pave courts including utilising the Book a Court online court booking and payment platform.

24. The 6-court development provides the capacity to accommodate mobile hot-shot courts: essential for junior participation and growth in tennis as a sport in the region.
25. Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs have confirmed in principle with the LGSTA to support the relocation and amalgamation of their clubs with a signed MOU already in place.
26. Clubs affiliated with LGSTA have a combined membership of 470 (53% male and 47% female). There are 185 club members between Lawley Park and Merrifield, and 297 members in Albany with a member to court ratio of 14:1. Junior coaching is provided to 250 children in Albany.
27. The Lawley Park Tennis Club is located on crown reserve and the club hold a lease agreement with the City of Albany. The facility on this land is heritage listed. The Merrifield Tennis Club is on private property that is owned by the Uniting Church. Both facilities are in poor condition and are at the end of their life.
28. The project is well planned (Business Case and Feasibility Study) and needed by the region.
29. A Regional Tennis Centre Feasibility Study was completed in 2019 by Dave Lanfear Consulting and when presented to Council in March 2020, City officers were requested to support the tennis community to re-work the project scope, review the sites and explore possible co-location partners.
30. The reworked project scope was presented to Council in September 2020. The re-worked scope was endorsed in line with the guidelines for a Large Community Tennis Centre with provision of up to 16 courts.
31. At the September 2020 meeting, Council also endorsed the Centennial Park Sporting Precinct – Eastern Precinct (CPEP) as the site for the Albany Community Tennis Centre. A co-located amalgamation was supported as the most viable option.
32. The overarching purpose of the project is to develop a 16-court tennis centre in the Eastern Precinct of the Centennial Park Sporting Complex, Albany, as a two-stage project (Albany Community Tennis Centre).
33. In order to address priority court surface concerns, a refined project consisting of 10 courts as a like-for-like replacement of existing end-of-life and degraded infrastructure at current Merrifield Park Tennis Club and Lawley Park Tennis Club sites was supported by council to extend the capacity of tennis and increase participation in the region.
34. The Tennis project has submitted two (2) unsuccessful CSRFF applications to date. Both of these applications have been well planned and have been identified as priority projects for the region. However, feedback from the Department suggests the significant funding gap has been the barrier to the application being successful with more than a one third funding remaining unsecured.
35. The 10-court model was re-scoped to provide only the essential elements. This included removing the Gel Coat surface in favour of the less expensive Plexi-Pave option and reducing the lighting component to floodlight only 5 of the 10 courts. Unfortunately, even with the reduced scope, the project's value increased to \$3.3 million in the current market.
36. Given the rising project costs, the current funding landscape, the feedback from the Department and the rapidly deteriorating condition of courts at both Merrifield and Lawley Park, the Tennis Working Group have consulted their membership and further refined the scope of the project.
37. The proposed project will see the development of a 6-court community tennis centre in the Centennial Park Sporting Precinct – Eastern Precinct. The 'Book a Court' infrastructure will be included in the project in order to extend the capacity of tennis and increase participation in the region.
38. The 6-court development in stage 1 will also have the capacity to incorporate mobile hot shot courts, to further support junior participation and development.

39. The reduced 6-court project cost is \$1.466 million.
40. As part of the City's commitment to funding the tennis centre, both Merrifield and Lawley Park agreed to merge their clubs, forming the Albany Tennis Club. As part of this merger, and in order to build the tennis centre at the Centennial Precinct site, the clubs agreed to relinquish their leases at both locations.
41. To support their current scheduling and competitions, the Albany tennis community requires a minimum of 10 courts. With the scope of the CPEP project reduced to only 6 courts, the Albany Tennis Club proposes to continue operations from both CPEP and Lawley Park until a further 4 courts are built (making 10 courts total at CPEP).
42. A further report will be prepared for Council's consideration to renew Lawley Park Tennis Club's lease at their current site, with consideration to a number of conditions being placed on the lease approval to ensure the amalgamation of both clubs and to confirm CPEP as the venue for future development.
43. The proposed project will address the immediate needs of tennis through the centralisation of tennis activities at the CPEP. It is expected however that a future second stage would include the construction of additional courts, floodlighting and an extension to existing shared clubroom facilities at the site.
44. The project is noted in the Great Southern Regional Sport and Recreation Plan as a Key Facility Investment for the City of Albany and the region under the Facility Development Priorities 6.1.
45. Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation Great Southern Regional Manager has indicated that the project meets the criteria and would be supported at a regional level as a high priority.

RANK	ORGANISATION	PROJECT DETAIL	OVERALL PROJECT RATING
1.	City of Albany (with the LGSTA, Merrifield and Lawley Park Tennis Clubs)	Albany Community Tennis Centre	<p>Well planned and needed by region.</p> <p>This project meets the criteria for the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Policy and CSRFF Guidelines. The project was ranked as the highest priority as the current provision is lacking and need has been well established through the feasibility study.</p> <p>The project is identified as a strategic priority for the region in the GS Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan. The facility will include new playing Plexi-Pave surfaces at a new central location.</p>

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

46. The City of Albany consulted with the DLGSCI - Sport and Recreation, Regional Manager for the Great Southern in July 2022. The DLGSCI was a member of the project working group that worked on the concept.
47. The City of Albany has consulted with the tennis clubs that will benefit from this Community Sporting project (July 2022).

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

48. Council Officers assess each project and make a recommendation for the ranking of projects based on the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries criteria and strategic overview.
49. The Council Officers' ranking recommendations have not been independently peer reviewed as there was only one (1) application received.
50. Council has the opportunity to provide a recommendation that ranks applications in priority order for the City of Albany.
51. It should be noted that the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation will make the final decision on funding allocation.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

52. Whilst this is the annual and forward grant round, the Community Sports and Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy principles have been applied in the assessment and recommendations.
53. The Great Southern Regional Sport and Recreation Plan (2018) has been applied in the ranking and assessment of these projects. The Regional Tennis Centre is identified in the plan as the priority project for Albany and key project for the region.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

54. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputation & Community Property <i>Failure to secure required funding may result in Clubs using amenities that are unsafe or unsuitable</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Council may choose to support the funding application, or work with City officers and the Clubs to source alternate funding streams.</i>
People Health & Safety <i>Failure to secure required funding may result in the Clubs using amenities that are unsafe or unsuitable</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Council may choose to support the funding application, or work with City officers and the Clubs to source other funding streams.</i>
Reputation & Financial <i>The projects cannot proceed because the CSRFF funding applications are not successful.</i>	<i>Possible</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Council's approved funding contributions towards the projects can continue to be leveraged until June 2023 to allow additional funding opportunities to be sourced.</i>

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

55. The total projected costs estimate for the proposed project is \$1,466,000.00.
56. The requested total from the 2022/23 Budget is \$542,000 (plus \$100,000 in-kind).
57. In addition to the financial contribution, the City of Albany will act as the lead agency for the project development and provide project management support as its In-kind Contribution.

59. The following table provides the project budget detail and requests for financial support from the applications received:

Project	Total project cost (ex GST)	Applicant contribution (ex GST)	CSRFF Grant (ex GST)	Tennis Australia Grant (ex GST)	Election Commitment (ex GST)	City of Albany (Cash + In-kind)
City of Albany – Merrifield, Lawley Park Tennis Club and Lower Great Southern Tennis Assoc.	\$1,466,000.00	\$62,333.00	\$488,667.00	\$73,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$ 642,000.00 (\$542,000 cash) (\$100,000 in-kind)
TOTAL	\$1,466,000.00	\$ 62,333.00	\$488,667.00	\$73,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$642,000.00

60. If the application is unsuccessful, the applicants can reapply in the next round.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

61. There are no direct legal implications related to this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

62. There are no environmental impacts associated with the project.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

63. Council may choose to provide more or less funding assistance to the submitted projects.
64. Council may choose to change the project ranking based on its strategic priorities.

CONCLUSION

65. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation requires local government to assess received applications and to rank applications in priority order for the municipality.
66. Both projects meet the criteria provided by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation. Council is required to endorse the officers ranking.
67. Council may consider capping its financial contribution or sourcing alternate means to meet budget allocations.
68. The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Sport and Recreation requires a response from the City of Albany on the priority ranking order and financial contributions by 30th September 2022.

Consulted References	:	Community Sports & Recreation Facilities Small Grant Funding Policy
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	All Wards
Previous Reference	:	OCM 29 March 2022 – Resolution CCS423

CCS472: REGIONAL EVENTS SPONSORSHIP ROUND 2 – 2022/2023

Proponent / Owner : City of Albany
Report Prepared By : Manager Community Relations (L Paterson)
Authorising Officer: : Executive Director Community Services (N Watson)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:

- **Pillar:** People
- **Outcomes:** A happy, healthy and resilient community

In Brief:

- Review and endorse the proposed Regional Event Sponsorship Assessment Panel recommendations.

COVID-19 IMPACT

- COVID-19 impact detailed in the discussion section of the report.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS472: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Regional Event Sponsorship Assessment Panel recommendations as outlined in Paragraph 23 – Table 1 of this report be ENDORSED.

BACKGROUND

2. The City of Albany's Regional Events Sponsorship (RES) program is designed to attract and support the staging of events that are regional economic drivers for Albany as a destination.
3. A Regional Event is defined as possessing the capability to attract significant numbers of visitors from outside the region and is more than just a local festival; it must possess substantial drawing power.
4. Council allocated \$80,000 in its 2022-2023 budget for RES. This was equivalent to the amount allocated in 2021-2022 and reflects Council's continued commitment to have budget capacity to support community and regional events in a recovering economy.
5. COVID-19 is still having an impact on the events industry with low confidence in the industry.
6. This is reflected in the low number of applications received in the past three rounds of RES.

DISCUSSION

Program Overview

7. Applications for RES funded activity for events being held between 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2023 opened for applications on 17 June 2022 and closed on 18 July 2022.
8. The City received four applications for events in the January to June 2023 round.
9. The RES program 2022 objectives include:
 - a. Generate additional tourism income by increasing visitor expenditure in the Albany region (economic impact);
 - b. Involve and inspire the local community (social benefits);

- c. Attract media coverage that will help to raise the profile of Albany as a visitor destination (media impact);
 - d. Demonstrate continuity and potential to engage the community in the future (sustainability).
10. The program is a competitive funding application process. The sponsorship criteria and application processes follow a similar format to the State Government's Regional Events Scheme Program administered by Tourism Western Australia. Applicants are encouraged to also apply for Tourism Western Australia RES funding.
 11. Events that are funded by Council are required to enter into a Contractual Agreement with the City inclusive of post-event acquittals, project reports and milestone payments where relevant.

COVID-19 Impact

12. The pandemic has had a profound impact on the events sector as the Western Australian and Australian governments introduced measures to limit public gatherings, causing events locally and elsewhere to be cancelled.
13. This has been seen throughout Western Australia and particularly in the Great Southern with many events cancelled over the Christmas/New Year period and the March 2022 long weekend.
14. The uncertainty caused by COVID-19 and the ongoing impact on event organiser's ability to secure staff for planned events has influenced the low number of RES applications received by the City in recent rounds.

Assessment

15. Applicants were encouraged to shape their proposed activities to the funding and event sponsorship criteria, and officers gave guidance to applicants who did not meet the eligibility criteria.
16. An assessment panel comprising Mayor Dennis Wellington, Councillor Paul Terry, Councillor John Shanhun and Councillor Amanda Cruse received an overview of applications and guidance from City officers.
17. The application assessment process included a pitch from the applicants. All applicants presented their events to the assessment panel on August 16, and applications were evaluated by City officers using an event assessment tool developed to measure the economic value, visitor numbers and financial sustainability of each application.
18. One applicant withdrew their application during the presentation process, citing the uncertain availability of their proposed event site.
19. Following a discussion with the Committee, Targa West has agreed to postpone the 2023 Albany Targa Event due to the construction of the Middleton Beach Hotel Development, and the associated difficulties in safely staging the event alongside a major active construction site.
20. The Assessment Panel supported the remaining three applications and made its funding recommendations based on the funding criteria, information supplied and applicant presentations.
21. The three applications were deemed eligible for RES funding with sponsorship requests totalling \$50,000 with \$67,500 available for allocation.
22. The panel recommended supporting all three (3) of the applications.

Panel Recommendations

23. A summary of applications recommended for funding is outlined in Table 1.

Table 1 - Regional Events Sponsorship – Assessment Panel Recommendations

	Applicant / Event	Event Type	Panel Comments	Amount Requested	Panel Recommendation
1.	Albany Speedway Club: <i>National Titles for Modified Sedans, Late Model Easter Grand Prix, and Super Sedans</i>	Sporting Event Motorsport	Showcases Albany as a premier motorsport destination nationally. National Titles attract participation and attention from across Australia. Peak period event at Easter 2023.	\$20,000	\$20,000
2.	Targa West: <i>Targa Albany Sprints Weekend</i>	Sporting Event Motorsport	Application withdrawn at interview following discussion of site access and safety complications due to construction of Middleton Beach Hotel.	\$20,000	Nil
3.	Taste Great Southern: <i>Food and Wine Festival</i>	Tourism Event Proposed series of food and wine events across the Great Southern region.	The event has struggled to attract participating businesses and attendees to events. While the event has great potential, organisers have not demonstrated a commitment to respond to market demands or evolve the program to attract wider participation and attendance.	\$20,000	\$10,000
4.	Breaksea Incorporated: <i>2023 Regional Youth and Families Program & Event Showcase: The Magical Weedy Sea Dragon</i>	Cultural Event Youth mentorship and skill development theatre program that culminates in series of performances as part of Maritime Festival 2023	A three-month program staged across Albany and the wider Great Southern that will have 1350 participants. Program will culminate in flagship arts event to be staged during Maritime Festival 2023.	\$20,000	\$20,000
Totals				\$80,000	\$50,000

24. The table of panel recommendations is for cash support only.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

25. Not applicable.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

26. Nil.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

27. The Regional Events Sponsorship program aligns with the City of Albany Sponsorship Policy & Guidelines.

28. Approval of RES funding recommendations is required by Council.

29. Funded applications are required to enter into a Funding Contract with the City.

30. Funded applicants are required to submit an Event Approval Application to the City no later than 3 months prior to their event, where applicable.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

31. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputation: Funding recommendations not endorsed may result in negative feedback from the community and/or applicants.	Unlikely	Minor	Low	A rigorous application and assessment process has been applied to ensure Council has confidence in assessment panel funding recommendations.
Reputation: Negative feedback from applicants declined for funding.	Possible	Minor	Medium	Communicate the justification and reasoning to unsuccessful applicants.
Financial: Further COVID restrictions could lead to events not occurring once funds have been distributed to successful applicants.	Possible	Major	High	Funding Agreements include a Force Majeure and appropriate COVID clauses, and milestone payment schedule that provide security to the City's interests.
Community: Community safety is put at risk by not following appropriate health directions.	Possible	Major	High	Adherence to State or Federally mandated pandemic advice is part of the Event Approval Application to be submitted to the City. Officers will communicate with event organisers about mandated COVID-19 risk mitigation and strategies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

32. Management and oversight of funding and event sponsorship is undertaken using existing staff resources within the Community Relations business unit, within existing allocated budgets.
33. Council has allocated \$80,000.00 for RES in 2022-2023, with \$67,500 being the balance available for the current round, inclusive of Taste Great Southern Budget Allocation and a balance of \$7,500 from the 2021-2022 RES allocation.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

34. Nil.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

35. Nil.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

36. Council could make alternative recommendations for funding including substitute dollar amounts for recommended applicants. This is not recommended given the rigorous assessment process undertaken which has carefully considered each application on its merits.

CONCLUSION

37. The process for RES Application Assessment is considered transparent and equitable.
38. It is recommended that the Responsible Officer's recommendation be endorsed.

Consulted References	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Act 1995 City of Albany Sponsorship Policy & Guidelines City of Albany Regional Events Sponsorship Guidelines
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	CR.SPO.44 (All Wards)
Previous Reference	:	Regional Event Sponsorship Assessment Panel Recommendations – CCS430 (OCM: 26/04/2022)

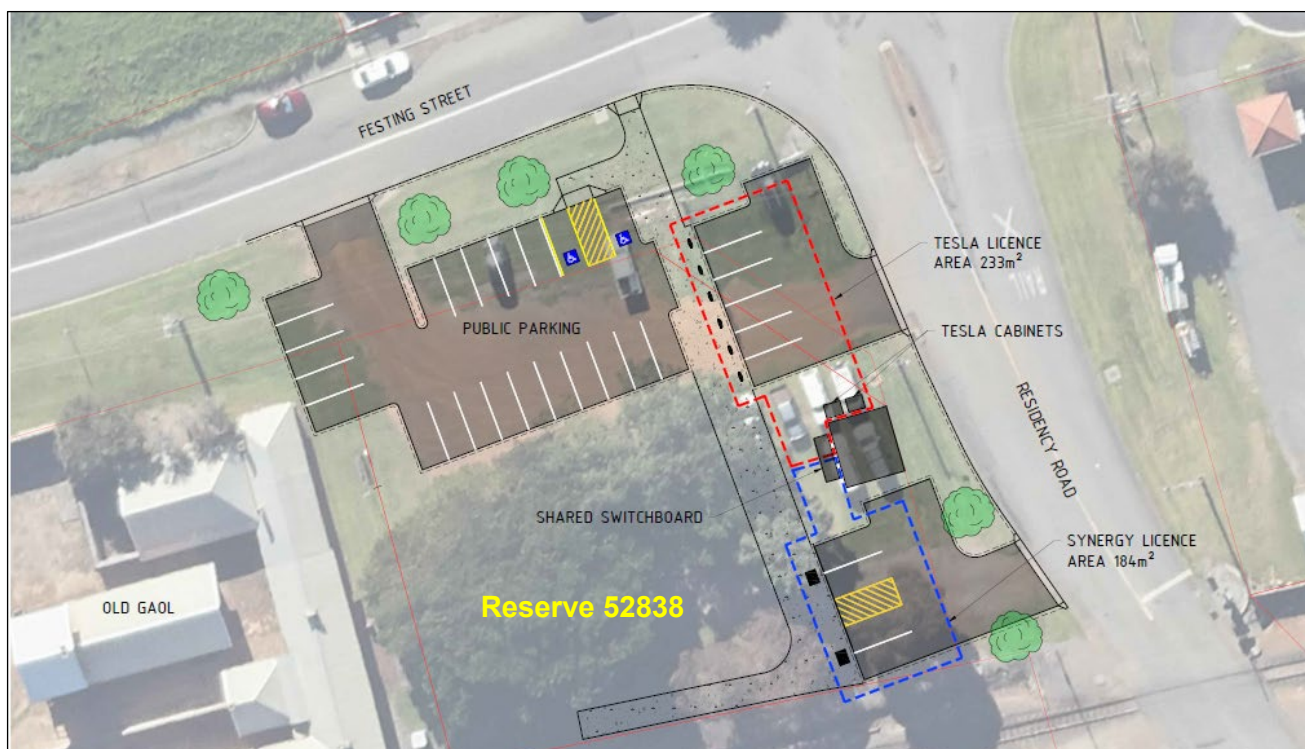
CCS473: PROPOSED NEW LICENCE – ELECTRICITY GENERATION AND RETAIL CORPORATION (SYNERGY) – ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS – OLD GAOL CAR PARK – RESERVE 52838

Land Description	: Crown Reserve 52838 – Lot 875 on Deposited Plan 157632 the subject of Certificate of Title LR3121 Folio 611
Proponent	: Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation (trading as Synergy) (ABN 58 673 830 106)
Owner	: Crown (City of Albany under Management Order)
Report Prepared By	: Team Leader Property & Leasing (T Catherall)
Authorising Officer	: Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan 2032:
 - **Pillar:** Planet.
 - **Outcome:** Shared responsibility for climate action.

Maps and Diagrams:



In Brief:

- Council is requested to consider a new licence with Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation (Synergy) to establish a public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging facility on a portion of Crown Reserve 52838 Residency Road, Albany.

- Synergy is proposing to supply and install two public EV fast charging stations in Albany as part of the State Governments EV Strategy to provide an 'EV Highway Network' of fast chargers across the state.
- The area adjacent the Old Gaol is the preferred location. The City has designated the site for car parking with construction works approved in the 2022/23 budget.
- The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) has recently finalised land actions to facilitate the establishment of the EV charging stations on the reserve.
- The licence will allow Synergy to supply and install two fast charging stations (which it will be responsible for operating and maintaining) within the parking area once the City has completed car park works.
- The licence does not prevent Tesla or some other third party entering into similar EV charging arrangements with the City on land adjacent to Synergy's licensed area.
- The introduction of EV fast charging facilities ensures the City is ready for the future of transport and supports the City's Community Strategic Plan 2032 objectives.
- It is recommended that the new licence be approved.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS473: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council **APPROVE** a new licence to Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation (Synergy) on a portion of Crown Reserve 52838, subject to:

- a) Licence purpose being 'Installation and use for electric vehicle charging station'.
- b) Licence area being five parking bays and EV charging infrastructure, an area of approximately 184m² subject to survey.
- c) Licence term being 5 years with three 5-year option terms (20 years).
- d) Licence rent being \$5 per annum payable on demand.
- e) Licence being conditional on Minister for Lands consent pursuant to Section 18 of the *Lands Administration Act 1997*.
- f) All costs associated with the installation, maintenance and ongoing operations of the electric vehicle charging stations being payable by Synergy.
- g) Licence being consistent with City Policy – Property Management (Leases and Licences).

BACKGROUND

Land tenure

2. DPLH have recently finalised land actions to create Crown Reserve 52838.
3. The 'C' class reserve, an area of approximately 1743m², is located on the corner of Festing Street and Residency Road, Albany.
4. The reserve is under Management Order issued to the City for the purpose of 'Parking and Drainage' with power to lease and licence for a term not exceeding 21 years subject to the prior approval of the Minister for Lands.
5. The above land actions have allowed the City to progress public parking facilities and the licence with Synergy for public EV fast charging stations.

State Government EV Strategy

6. The WA State Government has developed an Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy to prepare for the transition to low and zero-emission electric vehicles and maximise the benefits to WA.
7. In August 2021, the State Government announced the creation of Australia's longest EV fast charging network by installing charging stations at 49 locations across the state.
8. The 'EV Highway Network' public infrastructure initiative is funded by the WA State Government and delivered jointly by Synergy and Horizon Power.
9. Installation of the EV charging infrastructure will be progressively rolled out commencing in 2022 with the network operational by 2024.
10. Energy providers Synergy and Horizon Power have identified the intended location of the stations.
11. In September 2021, Synergy approached the City with a proposal to supply and install two public EV fast charging stations in a location in Albany. Each station will have the ability to charge two cars at once. Both units will be a DC fast charger of 150kW.
12. The City indicated the preferred location being the Old Gaol car park, on a portion of Reserve 52838 on the corner of Festing Street and Residency Road. The site is currently used for informal parking.
13. The reserve has been designated by the City for car parking under the current Long Term Financial Plan, with construction works budgeted in the current financial year.
14. The City will design and construct the car park prior to the proposed installation of the EV charging stations by Synergy. All costs associated with the maintenance and operation of the car park will be the responsibility of the City.
15. Synergy will be responsible for upgrading the existing transformer at their own cost.

DISCUSSION

16. There are currently 11 EV charging points throughout the City. Currently accommodation providers operate most of the charging points for their guests. The charging points at McDonalds Orana, The Sandalwood Factory and the Tesla destination charger in the City's Library car park are available to the public.
17. The City acknowledges the importance of the future of EV charging infrastructure and will be developing an Albany EV network plan to guide future installations.

Synergy Licence

18. City officers have been in discussion with Synergy to agree licence terms (which will be subject to prior approval being obtained from the Council and Minister for Lands). It is noted the licence agreement is a Synergy document with standard terms. As it is a Western Australia State Government initiative, Synergy had to stay consistent with the licence agreement template to fit the twenty two (22) Local Governments concerned and as such was limited to negotiating the terms other than some bespoke land tenure provisions.

19. The proposed licence will allow Synergy to supply and install, and operate and maintain (excluding concrete pad and line marking) the EV charging infrastructure, including all utility charges, at no cost to the City. Synergy are offering Universal charging infrastructure which means all EVs in the Australian market could use them.
20. As such, and because it is a WA State Government initiative, Synergy proposes the licence fee be \$5.00 for all Local Governments payable on demand, in recognition of the capital contribution and infrastructure maintenance commitments during the term of the licence. It is Synergy's position that the licence between the parties should be entered into on a no rental fee basis. Synergy on behalf of the State Government considers that the installation of EV Charging Stations in Albany will of itself provide substantial benefits to the City, including increased exposure and tourism within the area, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and increased economic opportunities for local communities.
21. Synergy are seeking an initial term of 5 years with three 5-year option terms (20 years), to enable the State Government through Synergy, to achieve the EV Highway Network objectives including the stimulation of EV uptake and provide better safety outcomes to EV drivers. As with any option arrangement, it is on the same terms as the existing agreement. As a consequence the licence fee will be the same for the entire agreement.
22. Synergy has requested a minimum of four parking bays be dedicated to EV charging with one universal bay that can be used for EV overflow (total 5 bays).
23. The licence does not prevent Tesla or some other third party entering into similar EV charging arrangements with the City on land adjacent to Synergy's licenced area.
24. Synergy also requires that the City is to provide members of the public wishing to use the EV charging station easy and unhindered access (Access Obligation).
25. The City is required to have appropriate arrangements in place for the control and management of the safe use of the EV Charging Station, including controls against improper or unsafe use of the EV charging station (Safety Obligation). It is understood that informational branding will be displayed on only the EV charging stations themselves, which will provide suitable guidance on the proper and safe use of the EV charging station.
26. Consultation has taken place with the Rangers team to consider the potential impact of the Access Obligation and the Safety Obligation. The Rangers Team confirm with appropriate signage and line marking they anticipate minimal compliance issues and will include this location on routine patrols.
27. Changes to the City's Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law to allow future parking enforcement are being proposed in a separate report to Council.

28. The table below summarises the key terms of the proposed licence:

Item	Details
Tenant	Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation (Synergy)
Land Description	Crown Reserve 52838 – Lot 875 on Deposited Plan 157632 – Certificate of Title LR3121 Folio 611
Licence Area	Approx. 184m ²
Land Ownership	Crown (City of Albany under Management Order)
Fee	\$5 payable on demand
Permitted Use	Installation and use for EV charging station
Term	5 years with three 5-year option terms (20 years)
Utilities	Licensee responsible for all utilities
Maintenance	Synergy will be responsible for maintaining the EV Charging infrastructure
Special Condition	Indemnification clause will be included in the licence to ensure the City and Minister for Lands are not liable for any loss or damage by the licensee by any reason arising from occupation of the site

29. DPLH have confirmed in principle agreement to the above licence terms, subject to final Minister for Lands consent.
30. In April 2022, Development Application approval P2220130 was granted for car park works and installation of EV charging stations on the reserve adjacent the Old Gaol.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

31. Section 18 of the *Land Administration Act 1997* provides that a person shall not assign, sell, transfer or otherwise deal with interests on Crown land without the prior approval in writing of the Minister for Lands.
32. DPLH has been consulted and provided in principle consent. The Department will be further consulted and provided the final licence documentation to obtain Minister for Lands approval.
33. Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (Act) prescribes the processes by which the City can dispose of property. A lease and licence of a property is considered to be a disposal.
34. Clause 30(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996* defines those dispositions which are exempt from section 3.58 of the Act. This includes disposal to the State or the Commonwealth including a department, agency or instrumentality of the State of the Commonwealth.
35. On the above basis, the proposed licence is considered exempt from public notice requirements.
36. No general public consultation on the licence has occurred, as the discussions between the City and Synergy were specific to this State Government public infrastructure initiative.
37. The City's Engineering team advise they will inform the neighbours who may be affected by the car park works. It is noted that the immediate neighbours are non-residential.

38. Community Engagement

Community Engagement	
Inform	Inform neighbours of car park works by letter drop.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

39. Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* defines the requirements for the disposal of property, including leased/licensed land and buildings.
40. Section 18 of the *Land Administration Act 1997* provides that a person shall not assign, sell, transfer or otherwise deal with interests on Crown land, create, or grant an interest in Crown land without the prior approval in writing of the Minister for Lands.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

41. The Property Management (Leases and Licences) Policy aims to support equitable access and the consistent and effective management of City owned and managed properties in line with statutory procedures.
42. The Policy provides that rent will be at a peppercorn rent of \$10 plus GST per annum. The proposed variation to the Policy to allow a rental of \$5 payable on demand is both reflective of the nature of the tenancy and the commitment to provide public EV charging station facilities.
43. The remainder of the licence terms are consistent with the Policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

44. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputation: licence not approved.	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Seek to negotiate terms to Council satisfaction.
Reputation: licence not approved – Electric Vehicle frustration from residents and tourists due to lack of charging facilities.	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Seek to negotiate terms to Council satisfaction.
Opportunity: To increase EV tourism in Albany, reduce range anxiety and support regional travel by providing additional fast charging capability in the Albany town centre.				
Opportunity: This licence supports the City's Strategic Community Plan 2032 objective to work towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.				
Opportunity: To provide support to the State Government in preparing for the transition to low and zero emission electric vehicles.				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

45. All costs associated with the supply and installation of the electric vehicle charging stations including utility costs will be the responsibility of Synergy.
46. All cost associated with the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the car park will be the responsibility of the City.

Regulatory Cost Implications

47. The Ranger team confirm the following costs will apply to ensure compliance with parking local laws for the public EV charging stations at the Old Gaol car park.
48. Noting the Rangers Team advise they anticipate minimal compliance issues with appropriate signage and line marking to educate the public users of the car park.

Education, Investigation, Enforcement, Transaction, Follow Up	
Element	Cost
Rangers time to patrol car park	\$42 per hour
Ranger Administration staff time for infringement processing	\$38 per hour

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

49. The licence agreement has enforceable terms and conditions to protect all parties.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

50. The land for the proposed licence area is already cleared and currently used for informal parking.
51. The car parking design will be undertaken to ensure that there is no adverse impact to the existing mature trees and the heritage listed Old Gaol premises adjacent to the proposed construction works.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

52. Council may:
 - Approve the licence agreement with Synergy; or
 - Support some elements of the licence although not in its entirety; or
 - Decline the licence request.
53. Should Council decline the request, Synergy will need to promptly consider and obtain approval for alternate suitable locations to provide fast charging EV charging stations to meet the State Government's Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy initiatives and its impending overall Project delivery deadlines.
54. It is understood that an alternate location would likely not be feasible at this late stage. However, should an alternate location be considered it may not be in Albany. Noting the City will commit to continue to work with Synergy to find a suitable alternative location.

CONCLUSION

55. Synergy has approached the City seeking access to a suitable location to establish public EV fast charging stations to achieve the EV Highway Network objectives under the WA State Government's Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy.

56. The preferred location adjacent the Old Gaol has been agreed in principle by Synergy and DPLH subject to Council and final Minister for Lands approval.
57. The proposed licence aligns with the City’s Strategic Community Plan 2032 objective to work towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.
58. It is recommended the licence agreement with Synergy for the supply and installation (operation and maintenance) of public EV fast charging stations be supported.

Consulted References	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i> • <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> • Council Policy – Property Management (Leases and Licences)
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	PRO468, A96861 (Frederickstown Ward)
Previous Reference	:	Nil

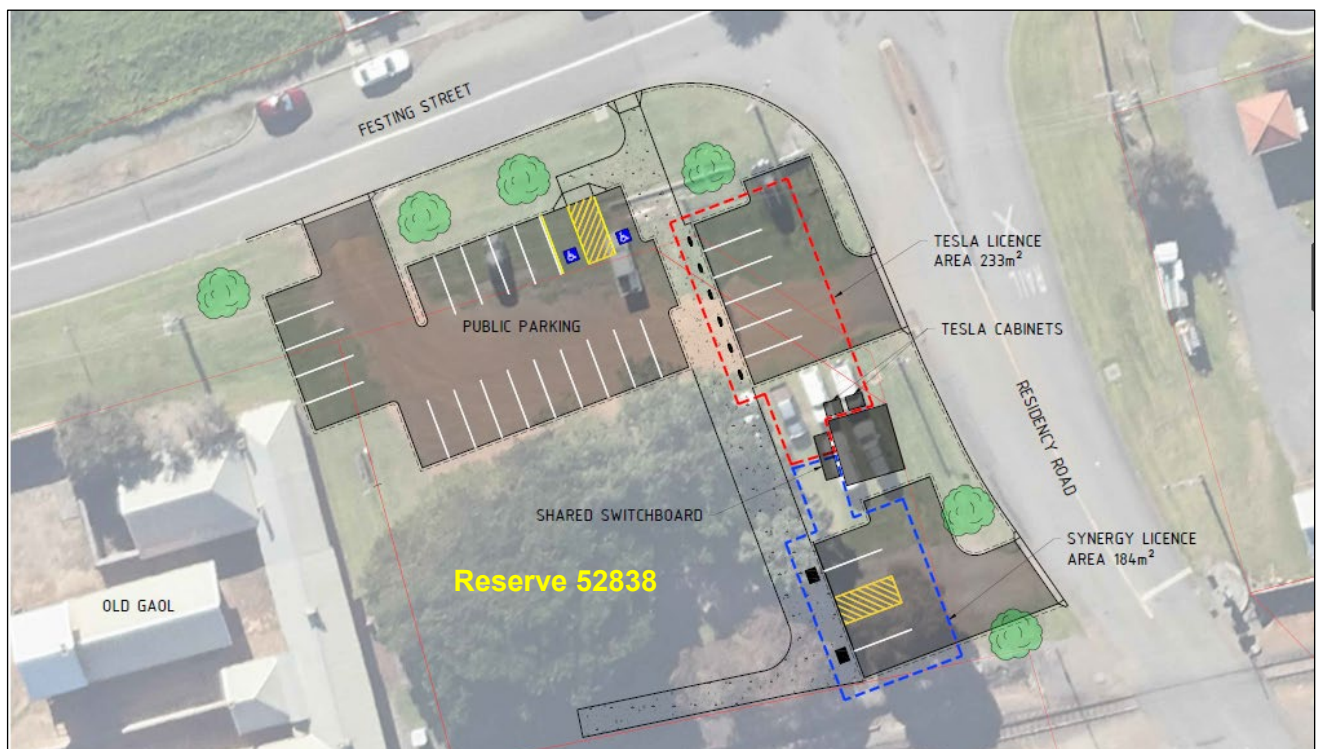
CCS474: PROPOSED NEW LICENCE – TESLA MOTORS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD – ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS – OLD GAOL CAR PARK – RESERVE 52838

Land Description	: Crown Reserve 52838 – Lot 875 on Deposited Plan 157632 the subject of Certificate of Title LR3121 Folio 611
Proponent	: Tesla Motors Australia Pty Ltd (ACN 142 889 816) Directors being Li Li, Thomas Drew, David Feinstein and Josef Tadich
Owner	: Crown (City of Albany under Management Order)
Report Prepared By	: Team Leader Property & Leasing (T Catherall)
Authorising Officer	: Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan 2032:
 - **Pillar:** Planet.
 - **Outcome:** Shared responsibility for climate action.

Maps and Diagrams:



In Brief:

- Council is requested to consider a new licence with Tesla Motors Australia Pty Ltd to establish Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations on a portion of Crown Reserve 52838 Residency Road, Albany.
- Council received a briefing on 13 July 2022 on the Tesla proposal.
- Tesla is proposing to supply, install and maintain six EV super charging stations in the Old Gaol car park, at its own cost.

- The City has planned construction works to formalise the car park approved in the 2022/23 budget.
- The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) has recently finalised land actions to facilitate the establishment of the EV charging stations on the reserve.
- The licence will allow Tesla to supply and install super charging station infrastructure to service six parking bays (which it will be responsible for operating and maintaining) within the parking area once the City has completed car park works.
- Council, in a separate report, is considering a licence with Synergy to establish two public EV fast charging stations (servicing four bays) on that part of the Old Gaol car park outlined in blue in the map.
- The introduction of EV super charging facilities ensures the City is ready for the future of transport and supports the City's Community Strategic Plan 2032 objectives.
- It is recommended that the new licence be approved.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS474: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council APPROVE a new licence to Tesla Motors Australia Pty Ltd on a portion of Crown Reserve 52838, subject to:

- a) Licence purpose being 'Installation and use for electric vehicle charging station'.**
- b) Licence area being six parking bays and EV charging infrastructure, an area of approximately 233m² subject to survey.**
- c) Licence term being 5 years with two 5-year option terms (15 years).**
- d) Licence rent being \$5,000 (inc GST) per annum, commencing first renewal term (year 6).**
- e) Licence being conditional on Minister for Lands consent pursuant to Section 18 of the Lands Administration Act 1997.**
- f) All costs associated with the installation, maintenance and ongoing operations of the electric vehicle charging stations being payable by Tesla.**
- g) Licence being consistent with City Policy – Property Management (Leases and Licences).**

BACKGROUND

Land tenure

2. DPLH have recently finalised land actions to create Crown Reserve 52838.
3. The 'C' class reserve, an area of approximately 1743m², is located on the corner of Festing Street and Residency Road, Albany.
4. The reserve is under Management Order issued to the City for the purpose of 'Parking and Drainage' with power to lease and licence for a term not exceeding 21 years subject to the prior approval of the Minister for Lands.
5. The above land actions have allowed the City to progress public parking facilities and the licence with Tesla for EV super charging stations.

Current Tesla Agreement – Library car park

6. The City and Tesla first entered into an agreement in 2019 which resulted in a brand new 11kW charging station being installed in the car park behind the Library, as part of the Tesla Destination Charging network.
7. The destination charger is available free of charge to Tesla EV owners and has seen an increase in demand especially in peak tourist season. The average charge time is 35 minutes.
8. Residents and visitors to the region have requested that the City install a super charging station in addition to the existing destination charger.
9. In June 2021, Tesla approached the City with an offer of three 250kW super charging stations to be installed within the CBD, with the Library car park the preferred location.
10. However following a feasibility assessment of the Library car park site it was determined this location would require extensive substation and rewiring upgrades including lighting modifications, which make this location not viable.
11. Due to the extra costs associated with above works Tesla requested six super charging stations to make the proposal viable.
12. Tesla presented to Councillors on 13 July this year proposing six super charging stations at the Library car park. However, the Old Gaol car park on Reserve 52838 was considered a suitable alternate location, as this was being developed as a public car park and preferred by City officers and Councillors.
13. The reserve has been designated by the City for car parking under the current Long Term Financial Plan, with construction works budgeted in the current financial year.
14. The City will design and construct the car park prior to the proposed installation of the EV charging stations by Tesla. All costs associated with the maintenance and operation of the car park will be the responsibility of the City.
15. All costs associated with the supply, installation (including upgrades to the existing transformer) and maintenance of the six super EV charging stations will be met by Tesla.

DISCUSSION

16. There are currently 11 EV charging points throughout the City. Currently accommodation providers operate most of the charging points for their guests. The charging points at McDonalds Orana, The Sandalwood Factory and the Tesla destination charger in the City's Library car park are available to the public.
17. The City acknowledges the importance of the future of EV charging infrastructure and will be developing an Albany EV network plan to guide future installations.
18. Local Governments are playing a key role in bringing EV charging infrastructure to communities. Being a sustainable city is a key focus of the City and initiatives like the Tesla EV charging stations are assisting in reducing our carbon footprint.

19. The strategic positioning of the EV charging station site within close proximity to the CBD will support small local business, while reduction in emissions increases air quality.

Tesla Licence

20. The City has already signed a licence agreement with Tesla for stations at the Library car park so the expectation is that any new agreement in an alternate location will be on similar terms. While it is a Tesla document, the City’s lawyers have reviewed the Library Licence agreement and advise its terms are reasonable and do not present any material risk to the City.
21. The proposed licence will allow Tesla to supply and install, and operate and maintain (excluding concrete pad and line marking) the EV charging infrastructure, including all utility charges, at no cost to the City.
22. Tesla proposes the licence fee be \$5,000 (inc GST) per annum payable from the first renewal term (year 6) onward to the end of the licence term. This fee proposal allows Tesla to slightly offset the capital expense to install the infrastructure while still allowing Council to support a growing industry.
23. Tesla are seeking an initial term of 5 years with two 5-year option terms (15 years).
24. Tesla has requested six parking bays be dedicated to EV charging. The proposed licence area of 233m² comprises six charging stations and associated infrastructure.
25. Changes to the City’s Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law to allow future parking enforcement are being proposed in a separate report to Council.
26. The table below summarises the key terms of the proposed licence:

Item	Details
Tenant	Tesla Motors Australia Pty Ltd
Land Description	Crown Reserve 52838 – Lot 875 on Deposited Plan 157632 – Certificate of Title LR3121 Folio 611
Licence Area	Approx. 233m ²
Land Ownership	Crown (City of Albany under Management Order)
Fee	\$5,000 (inc GST) payable first renewal term (year 6)
Permitted Use	Installation and use for EV charging station
Term	5 years with two 5-year option terms (15 years)
Utilities	Licensee responsible for all utilities
Maintenance	Tesla will be responsible for maintaining the EV Charging infrastructure
Special Condition	Indemnification clause will be included in the licence to ensure the City and Minister for Lands are not liable for any loss or damage by the licensee by any reason arising from occupation of the site

27. DPLH have confirmed in principle agreement to the above licence terms as it aligns with the State Government’s EV Strategy, subject to final Minister for Lands consent.
28. In April 2022, Development Application approval P2220130 was granted for car park works and installation of EV charging stations on the reserve adjacent the Old Gaol.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

29. Section 18 of the *Land Administration Act 1997* provides that a person shall not assign, sell, transfer or otherwise deal with interests on Crown land without the prior approval in writing of the Minister for Lands.
30. DPLH has been consulted and provided in principle consent. The Department will be further consulted and provided the final licence documentation to obtain Minister for Lands approval.
31. Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* (Act) prescribes the processes by which the City can dispose of property. A lease and licence of a property is considered to be a disposal. The Act requires the following:
- A local government must give local public notice of the proposed lease/licence inviting submissions from the public, for a period of two weeks.
 - Any submissions are to be considered by Council and their decision with regard to those submissions, to be recorded in the minutes.
 - A local government can then proceed with the lease/licence.
32. The new licence will be advertised to comply with the requirements of Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
33. Community Engagement

Type of Engagement	Method of Engagement	Engagement Dates	Participation (Number)	Statutory Consultation
Consult	Advertise proposed licence in local newspaper and City's website inviting submissions from the public	A two week period following Council endorsement of agenda item	Open	Section 3.58 of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i>
Inform	Letter drop	Prior to car park works commencing	Neighbours	N/A

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

34. Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* defines the requirements for the disposal of property, including leased/licensed land and buildings.
35. Section 18 of the *Land Administration Act 1997* provides that a person shall not assign, sell, transfer or otherwise deal with interests on Crown land, create, or grant an interest in Crown land without the prior approval in writing of the Minister for Lands.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

36. The Property Management (Leases and Licences) Policy aims to support equitable access and the consistent and effective management of City owned and managed properties in line with statutory procedures.
37. The Policy provides that rent will be determined by market valuation. The proposed variation to the Policy to allow a rental of \$5,000 (inc GST) per annum payable in the first renewal term (year 6) is both reflective of the nature of the tenancy and the commitment to provide EV charging station facilities in the region.
38. The remainder of the licence terms are consistent with the Policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

39. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City’s Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputation: licence not approved.	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Seek to negotiate terms to Council satisfaction.
Reputation: licence not approved – Electric Vehicle frustration from residents and tourists due to lack of charging facilities.	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Seek to negotiate terms to Council satisfaction.
Opportunity: To increase EV tourism in Albany, reduce range anxiety and support regional travel by providing additional fast charging capability in the Albany town centre.				
Opportunity: This licence supports the City’s Strategic Community Plan 2032 objective to work towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.				
Opportunity: This licence aligns with the State Government’s Electric Vehicle Strategy to transition to low and zero emission electric vehicles.				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

40. All costs associated with the supply and installation of the EV charging stations including utility costs will be the responsibility of Tesla.
41. All costs associated with the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the car park will be the responsibility of the City.
42. The licence fee will be of \$5,000 (inc GST) per annum will be directed to Income – Misc. Commercial.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

43. The licence agreement has enforceable terms and conditions to protect all parties.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

44. The land for the proposed licence area is already cleared.
45. The car parking design will be undertaken to ensure that there is no adverse impact to the existing mature trees and the heritage listed Old Gaol premises adjacent to the proposed construction works.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

46. Council may:
- Approve the licence agreement with Tesla; or
 - Support some elements of the licence although not in its entirety; or
 - Decline the licence request.
47. Should Council decline the request, Tesla are likely to seek alternate suitable locations to provide super charging stations, although they may not be in Albany.

CONCLUSION

48. Tesla has approached the City seeking access to a suitable location close to the CBD to establish six EV super charging stations in Albany.
49. The Tesla charging stations are designed to encourage EV tourism to the region and will come at no cost to the City.
50. The preferred location adjacent the Old Gaol on Crown Reserve 52838 has been agreed in principle by Tesla and DPLH subject to Council and final Minister for Lands approval.
51. The proposed licence aligns with the State Government’s EV Strategy and the City’s Strategic Community Plan 2032 objective to work towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.
52. It is recommended the licence agreement with Tesla for the supply and installation (operation and maintenance) of EV super charging stations be supported.

Consulted References	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Land Administration Act 1997</i> • <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> • Council Policy – Property Management (Leases and Licences)
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	PRO469, A96861 (Frederickstown Ward)
Previous Reference	:	Nil

CCS475: PARKING AND PARKING FACILITIES LOCAL LAW – DETERMINATION

Land Description	:	City of Albany
Attachments	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed Electric Vehicle (EV) charging locations.
Supplementary Information & Councillor Workstation	:	City's website: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Parking & Parking Facilities Local Law 2012Delegations & Authorisations Register
Report Prepared By	:	Manager Governance & Risk (S Jamieson)
Authorising Officer:	:	Acting Executive Director Corporate & Commercial Services (L Harding)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

- This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - Pillars:** Leadership & Planet.
 - Outcomes:**
 - A well-informed and engaged community.
 - Work towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions.

Maps and Diagrams: Refer to Parking Schedules detailed within the report.

In Brief:

- Consideration be given to the establishment of designated parking spaces for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging; and the establishment of new parking stations under the City's *Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law 2012*.

Purpose & Effect:

- Purpose:** The establishment of designated time limited parking spaces reserved for charging Electric Vehicles (EVs) only.
- Effect:** Only vehicles of the determine class will be permitted to stop or park in designated EV charging spaces and they must be plugged in to the designated approved power source.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS475: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 1

THAT Council:

- APPROVE** the following determination, **NOTING** enforcement of the deemed parking stations can only occur post prescribed public notice and the installation of signage and line markings:

City of Albany

Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law 2012 (as amended)

Determination: Designate Parking Spaces for Electric Vehicle Charging Use Only

For the purpose of this local law:

Definition: "*Electric Vehicle (EV)* means a vehicle that uses one or more electric motors or traction motors for propulsion and which is charged via 'plug in' connection to an external power source and includes a car, truck, scooter, moped and motorbike but does not include a bicycle.

Determination:

- (1) A person is prohibited from stopping or parking a motor vehicle not classified as an Electric Vehicle (EV) in a designated Electrical Vehicle (EV) charging space.
- (2) A person who stops or parks in a designated EV charging space, must also comply with the following rules:
 - Use of the Designated EV charging spaces is limited to a maximum of 1 hour duration; and
 - The parked/stopped EV must be plugged in and have a live connection to the City approved recharging facility.
- (3) This determination will come into effect 14 days after that date of public notice and publication on the City’s website: www.albany.wa.gov.au

2. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer to authorise persons to administer the Designated Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Spaces and immediate surrounds under the Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law 2012.

CCS475: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 2

THAT Council:

1. **APPROVE** the establishment of Designated Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Spaces, at the location detailed in the layout plan, titled: “*Old Gaol Car Park - Concept EV Charging Station Layout*”, attached to this report.
2. **NOTE** that Authorised Persons will approve future Designated Electric Vehicle Charging Spaces, under Delegation 044 – Public Traffic Management Treatments.
3. **NOTE** that the Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law will be appended with the following condition:

Schedule 1

Designated Electric Vehicle (EV) Plug In Charging Spaces

- (1) Designated EV Plug In Charging Spaces will be designated by signage that states, as a minimum:
 - Electric Vehicle Parking
 - Only while charging
 - 1P (1 Hour Limit)
 - Example: Electric-powered vehicle signage:



BACKGROUND

2. In August 2021, the Western Australian Government announced the establishment of the longest electric highway in Australia.
3. To enable this, an infrastructure network of fast charging stations was proposed to connect Perth and regional Western Australia.
4. Locations for the EV Charging Stations have been determined by energy providers in consultation with the City and are addressed in a separate report.
5. The purpose of this report is to consider the establishment of parking spaces reserved for Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Use Only.
6. It is also proposed that penalties will apply to persons who park internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, including hybrid EVs that are not required to be plugged in and charged, in the designated parking bays (spaces).

DISCUSSION

7. The City's Parking & Parking Facilities Local Law, allows for Council to determine the specific classes of vehicle that are permitted to park in designated parking stations.

Power to prohibit and regulate

8. The Council may prohibit or regulate, by signs or otherwise, the stopping and parking of any vehicle or any class of person or vehicle, or both, but is to do so consistently with the City's Parking & Parking Facilities Local Law.

Designate Parking Spaces for Electric Vehicle Charging Use Only

9. There are two elements that must be completed to allow for the proposed electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to be administered under the City's local law:
 - a. Firstly Council must determine the associated class of vehicle. Therefore, it is proposed that the class of vehicle will be described as follows for the purpose of determination under the local law:

"Electric Vehicle means a vehicle that uses one or more electric motors or traction motors for propulsion and which is charged via 'plug in' connection to an external power source and includes a car, truck, scooter, moped and motorbike but does not include a bicycle.
 - b. The above vehicle type classification is modelled off an existing classification that has been reviewed and accepted by the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in 2022.
 - c. Secondly Council must approve the "Deemed Parking Stations" as described in the proposed Schedule, noting enforcement of the deemed parking stations can only occur post the installation of signage / line marking and prescribed public notification.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

10. As at the time of writing this report, August 2022, it is only an offence under state law in the states of Victoria and Queensland for a driver to stop or park in a designated EV charging space unless they are driving an EV and it's plugged into a power source.
11. However, the *Local Government Act 1995* enables Western Australian local governments to make local laws considered necessary for the good government of their districts.
12. Recently the Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation approved Parking Local Laws that categorised (defined) Electric Vehicles (EVs) for the purpose of reserving parking spaces for Electric Vehicles (EVs) charging.

13. Community consultation, specifically with the Museum for the proposed charging station sites was conducted as part of project feasibility process prior to presentation.

Community Engagement:

Type of Engagement	Engagement Dates	Participation (Number)	Statutory Consultation
Inform	From the date of the published Committee agenda to the designated closing date for the prescribed public notice.	Not applicable.	Proposed public consultation subject to separate report. Public notice, as prescribed.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

14. The determination process is prescribed in the local law. Clause 6.1 of the City’s Local Government Parking & Parking Facilities Local Law 2012 (as amended) stipulates inter alia:

“6.1 Determination of metered zones

- (1) *The local government may by resolution constitute, determine and vary and also indicate by signs, metered spaces and metered zones.*
- (2) *In respect of metered spaces and metered zones the local government may by resolution determine, and may indicate by signs—*
 - (a) *permitted times and conditions of parking depending on and varying with the locality;*
 - (b) *classes of vehicles which are permitted to park;*
 - (c) *the amount payable for parking; and*
 - (d) *the manner of parking.”*

15. Local Government Act 1995, section 5.42 states, in part:

“5.42. Delegation of some powers and duties to CEO (1) A local government may delegate to the CEO the exercise of any of its powers or the discharge of any of its duties under —*
(a) this Act other than those referred to in section 5.43; or (b) the Planning and Development Act 2005 section 214(2), (3) or (5).”

16. Voting Requirement: **Absolute Majority.**

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

17. A new classification of vehicle will be established in accordance with the City’s Parking & Parking Facilities Local Law 2012 (as amended).

Purpose & Effect:

- **Purpose:** The establishment of designated time limited parking space, reserved for charging Electric Vehicles (EVs).
- **Effect:** Only vehicles of the determine class will be permitted to stop or park in designated EV charging spaces and they must be plugged in to the designated approved power source.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

18. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Business Operation: <i>Indiscriminate parking at EV charging points.</i>	<i>Likely</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Proceed with recommended determination under the City's Local Law, to allow Council Officers to provide enforcement if necessary.</i>
Opportunity: <i>Encourage EV driving tourism to Albany and promote the establishment of EV charging stations.</i>				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

19. There are no direct financial implications related to this report.
20. An appropriate modified penalty exists under the current local law, being:
- Offence: Parking in a parking station space set aside for a different class of vehicle or driver.
 - Modified Penalty: \$45.00.
21. In addition if the modified penalty is not paid and the infringement is referred to the Fines, Enforcement Registry (FER), the following additional costs will also be borne by the infringed person:
- Final Demand Notice Fee: \$25.00
 - Enforcement Certificate Fee: \$21.50
 - FER Registration Fee: \$81.00
- Regulatory Cost Implications:**
22. Complaints that are straightforward can often be resolved on first contact. If this is not the case and enforcement action is required, the following details estimated costs per transaction.
23. In general the cost for Rangers to undertake routine patrols and responding to complaints are \$42/hour (which includes overheads of 20% for Superannuation, Workers Compensation, Annual Leave, etc.).
24. The cost of Ranger Administration staff time for processing infringements and refereeing to Fines Enforcements Registry (FER) are \$38/hour (which includes overheads of 20% for Superannuation, Workers Compensation, Annual Leave, etc.).
25. It is difficult to forecast additional costs specific to this situation, however it would be reasonable to assume that with appropriate signage and line marking, there should be minimal compliance issues.
26. The proposed parking station, will be included as part of routine patrols, totally approximately 1 to 2 hours per week.

Education, Investigation, Enforcement, Follow Up Transaction	
Element	Cost \$
Modified penalty for breach of local law	\$45.00
Administration Costs (i.e. Referral to Fines, Enforcement Registry etc.).	Approximately \$38 per transaction.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

27. Future enforcement action will be administered under the Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law and the proposed determination.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

28. There are no direct environmental considerations related to this report. However, the promotion of EV vehicles and the facilitation of charging stations, supports the City’s adopted Community Strategic Plan 2032 and the State Government Electric Vehicle (EV) initiatives.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

29. Council may resolve to:
- a. Not support the determination; or
 - b. Support the determination with modification.

CONCLUSION

30. It is recommended that the proposed determinations are adopted to facilitate compliance action.

Consulted References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government Act 1995 • Parking & Parking Facilities Local Law 2012 • Delegations & Authorisations Register • Joint Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation Findings sourced from: www.parliament.wa.gov.au • AS/NZS Regulations and Standards for EV Charging • https://nationalsafetysigns.com.au/
File Number (Name of Ward)	: Frederickstown Ward
Previous Reference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OCM 13/12/2016 Resolution ED044 (Parking Determination) • OCM 24/09/2019 Resolution DIS175 (Parking Determination) • Elected Member Briefing, held post DIS Committee held on 13 July 2022 • CCS Committee 13/09/2022 Report CCS473.

CCS476: COMMUNICATIONS & ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY – Q4

Proponent / Owner	: City of Albany
Attachments	: City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy 2021-2022 Quarter 4 Progress Report
Report Prepared By	: Manager Community Relations (L Paterson)
Authorising Officer:	: Executive Director Community Services (N Watson)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:
 - **Pillar/Priority:** Leadership
 - **Outcome:** A well informed and engaged community.

In Brief:

- Note the City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy Q4 progress report.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS476: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the City of Albany Communications & Engagement Strategy progress report ending August 2022 (Q4) and its endorsement by the Communications & Engagement Advisory Group be NOTED.

BACKGROUND

2. Council adopted the Communications & Engagement Strategy at the May 2019 OCM. The Strategy sets a clear direction for communication and engagement activities by the City. The Strategy is underpinned by an Action Plan.
3. The Strategy implementation and annual action plan is overseen by a Communications and Engagement Advisory Group comprising community representatives, Elected Members and City officers. The Advisory Group is scheduled to meet quarterly to review and endorse the progress report.

DISCUSSION

4. The Advisory Group previously met and endorsed the 2021-2022 Q3 progress report on 25 May 2022, and this was tabled and noted at the OCM of 22 June 2022.
5. The Advisory Group endorsed the 2021-2022 Q4 progress report at its meeting on 24 August 2022.
6. The Advisory Group noted new updates to the progress report and City engagement projects, including:
 - a. Local Planning Scheme 2 progress update.
 - b. Completed one year of FOGO.
 - c. Return of cruise ships to the Port.
 - d. Rates notices distributed and Rates Flyer included.
 - e. Inclusivity Logo engagement summary.
 - f. E-Scooter trial proposal going to Council in September.
7. Manager Recreation Services provided an update regarding the Stidwell Bridle Trail Working Group.

8. Bicentenary Coordinator provided an updated regarding the 2026 Bicentenary Engagement and Strategic Planning.
9. Community Development Coordinator provided an update on Council Meet and Greet formats and the future of the events.
10. Manager City Reserves provided an update regarding City of Albany Nature Based Camp Grounds and Camp Ground Waste Services.
11. This report includes 65 actions, 44 which have been completed, 17 remain ongoing or underway, and 4 are on hold.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

12. Extensive community consultation was undertaken during the development of the Communications & Engagement Strategy and at the time achieved the highest reach of any engagement project undertaken by the City.
13. The progress report has been reviewed and supported by the Advisory Group, which includes members representing community.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

14. Nil

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

15. This item aligns with the Council's adopted policy position: Community Engagement Policy.

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

16. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Reputational: If community engagement expectations are not met due to budget, viability, funding agreements, safety or legislative constraints.	Likely	Moderate	High	Clearly define and communicate to community instances where project engagement is constrained by non-negotiable factors.
Reputational: If communications or engagement activity is ad-hoc, untimely, inaccurate or untargeted.	Unlikely	Major	Low	Follow best practice engagement framework and provide timely, informative, and accurate communications to the community through effective channels as outlined in the Communications & Engagement Strategy.
Operational: Some aspirations of the Strategy may not be fully realised due to budget funding, or resource constraints.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Prioritise budget allocation where necessary and explore all options to achieve objectives.
Operational: A severe second wave of Covid-19 that results in re-tightening of community restrictions and impacts City operational priorities.	Possible	Major	High	Follow Federal and State public health directions as informed and re-prioritise actions as necessary to align with City's operational priorities and capacity.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

17. Nil.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

18. Nil.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

19. Nil.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

20. Nil.

CONCLUSION

21. The Communications & Engagement Strategy is overseen by an Advisory Group comprising community, Elected Member and City staff representatives.
22. Community representation on the Advisory Group ensures community needs and priorities remain central to the implementation of the Communications and Engagement Strategy.
23. A quarterly progress report of achievements against the Strategy is endorsed by the Advisory Group and submitted to Council for information. The progress report against the Strategy's Action Plan for Q3 of 2021-2022 is submitted to Council for noting.

Consulted References	:	City of Albany Communication and Engagement Strategy 2019 Council Policy – Community Engagement
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	All Wards
Previous Reference	:	OCM June 2022, Resolution CCS446

CCS477: DESIGNATED AREA MIGRATION AGREEMENT

Proponent / Owner	: WALGA Great Southern Country Zone
Report Prepared By	: Acting Executive Director Corporate and Commercial Services (L Harding)
Authorising Officer:	: Chief Executive Officer (A Sharpe)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. This item relates to the following elements of the City of Albany Strategic Community Plan or Corporate Business Plan informing plans or strategies:

- **Pillar:** Prosperity.
- **Outcomes:** A strong, diverse and resilient economy with work opportunities for everyone.

In Brief:

- A Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) is a labour agreement that provides an increase to the list of standard occupations and concessions (reductions) in the eligibility requirements for skilled and semi-skilled migration visas.
- DAMAs allow businesses/employers to sponsor skilled and semi-skilled overseas workers to fill labour shortages in specific areas that cannot be filled with Australian workers.
- This report seeks a commitment from Council to participate in developing a DAMA that covers all 11 Local Governments in the Great Southern region.
- Establishing a Great Southern DAMA has in-principle support and proposed financial commitment from Regional Development Australia and the Great Southern Development Commission.

RECOMMENDATION

CCS477: AUTHORISING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. **SUPPORT** the development of a Great Southern Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA); and
2. **REQUEST** the Chief Executive Officer to advise the DAMA Working Group, established at the West Australian Local Government Great Southern Country Zone Meeting on 26 August 2022, of the City of Albany's intent to participate, subject to:
 - a. **Regional Development Australia Great Southern undertaking the role of the Designated Area Representative,**
 - b. **A contribution of \$25,000 is confirmed as the City of Albany's contribution; and**
 - c. **Subject to (b) above, should a funding gap arise following final project costings, the City would be prepared to consider an additional contribution which would be the subject of a further report to Council.**

BACKGROUND

2. A regional DAMA is a formal agreement between the Australian Government and a regional, state or territory authority.
3. Operating under an agreement-based framework, a DAMA provides access to more overseas workers than standard skilled migration programs (subclass 482 Temporary Skills Shortage (TSS), subclass 494 Skilled Employer Sponsored Regional (Provisional) and subclass 186 Employer Nominated Scheme (ENS) visas) by providing an increase to the list of standard occupations and concessions (reductions) in the eligibility requirements.
4. The visa concessions provided under a DAMA are a significant benefit and may be applied to all or specific occupations listed under the DAMA. Examples of negotiated concessions include an extension of the age criteria, relaxation of English skills requirements or modification to the skills and experiences required. The result is flexibility for regions to respond to their unique economic and labour market conditions.
5. Establishing a DAMA in the region requires the support of various stakeholder groups as well as an in-depth analysis of relevant employment markets with verified evidence to support the application. Once established, a DAMA is reviewed annually and may be varied yearly.
6. At the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on 24 June, the Shire of Kojonup presented a proposal for the development of a Great Southern Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA).
7. A funding model was included as part of this proposal as detailed under the Financial Implications section of this report.
8. The WALGA Great Southern Country Zone has asked all eleven Local Government members to seek formal endorsement and a commitment to a financial contribution to the development of a business case for a Great Southern DAMA from their respective Elected Members.
9. At the subsequent WALGA Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on 26 August 2022, a DAMA Working Group was established to drive development of the business case. The three local governments that volunteered to form the working group were the Shires of Kojonup, Katanning and Plantagenet.
10. The City of Albany now seeks a commitment from Council following clarification of the City's contribution under the funding model.

DISCUSSION

11. A DAMA is a two-tier framework covering a defined regional area. The framework is:
 - a. First tier – an overarching five-year head agreement with the region's representative (e.g. Regional Development Australia Great Southern). A region representative is called the Designated Area Representative (DAR).
 - b. Second tier – DAMA labour agreements with businesses/employers under the head agreement for the region.
12. Under the framework the DAR forms the first tier and negotiates a DAMA on behalf of businesses/employers within its region.
13. The framework's second tier formalises the individual DAMA labour agreement. A business/employer applies for a DAMA Labour Agreement to the DAR. The business/employer must first demonstrate via Labour Market Testing (LMT) that it cannot employ suitable Australian employees. A LMT is a business case presented to a DAR and the Department of Immigration that provides solid evidence and includes advertising on the Australian Government's Jobactive website and other search methods.

14. If an application satisfies the DAMA's terms and conditions, and is supported, the DAR provides endorsement of the application through an approval letter.
15. Once endorsed, applications are then subject to assessment by the Department of Home Affairs and Minister of Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.
16. If an occupation is unavailable under the standard visa programme, or the DAMA program, a business may negotiate its own Labour Agreement with the Minister, separate from a regional DAMA.
17. Negotiations are based on a labour market survey that demonstrates the reason why a previously unlisted occupation has been applied for.
18. It is noted most regional businesses do not have the capacity to individually negotiate a Labour Agreement due to lack of capacity, expense and time constraints. A regional DAMA would provide a more attractive option to support business owners in the Great Southern.

Benefits of a DAMA

19. The visa subclasses available under a DAMA may be used as pathways to permanent residency and therefore could provide a community with economic benefits through population growth and increased output.
20. The key value opportunity is that immigrant workers must remain within the region of their DAMA but can move between businesses within that area. Effectively migrant workers are secured to the region.
21. Another benefit of a DAMA is that the semi-skilled occupations, that are in shortage in the particular region, could be available under a DAMA, while they are not available under the standard visa program. Some examples of such occupations are truck drivers, wait staff, bar attendants, drillers, driller assistants, earthmoving/mobile plant operators and horticultural workers such as process and field workers.

DAMA Concessions

English Language Concession:

22. The English language test scores required under a DAMA can be lower than under the standard visa program making it easier for the applicant's visa to be processed. This is especially the case where a person is generally a good English communicator but perhaps not able to meet the requirements of a stringent English test for a visa.

Temporary Skilled Migration Income Threshold (TSMIT) Concession:

23. The TSMIT value is set by legislation to ensure that migrant workers can financially support themselves in Australia and acknowledges the additional costs temporary residents incur, such as health care and education costs. The current value of the TSMIT is \$53,900, excluding superannuation.
24. When calculating whether the salary paid by an employer meets the TSMIT, annual earnings may consist of the base salary plus guaranteed earnings such as housing, company car, and guaranteed overtime where this is an industry standard. If an employer intends to include these guaranteed earnings to meet TSMIT requirements, they must be valued and written into the agreed employment contract.
25. The use of concessions must not undermine relevant industrial awards, nor market salary rates for an equivalent Australian employee in the same location.

Skills Concession:

26. Every occupation requires an assessment of education, qualifications and employment experience to determine comparability against the assessment standards of a DAMA.

Permanent Residency

27. Upon an approval of the subclass visa, there may be a pathway to permanent residency, subject to satisfying the criteria and availability.

DAMA Requirements

28. Advice from the office of Rick Wilson, Federal Member for O'Connor, states that a request for a DAMA must contain, as a minimum, the following:
 - Letter of endorsement from the relevant stakeholders;
 - Designated Area Representative (DAR), endorsed by stakeholders, who can manage the request to establish an agreement;
 - Business case if any additional concessions are being requested to the minimum requirements outlined for a company specific labour agreement; and
 - Explanation of how the DAR proposes to support employers and facilitate the integration of overseas workers in their local communities (for example - provision of information on workplace rights and sponsorship obligations; basic services in the local area such as health; emergency and educational services; community activities such as sporting groups and religious services; engagement of a multicultural officer);
 - Supporting documentation, which may include:
 - a. profit and loss statements;
 - b. other applicable financial statements; and
 - c. relevant supporting information.
29. An example of a region in Western Australia currently covered by a DAMA, since 21 March 2019, is the Goldfields region. The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder is the DAR and represents other regional and nearby shires.
30. The Goldfields region aimed to secure permanent labour so as to avoid constantly retraining employees, such as backpackers. The Pilbara region had also applied for a DAMA before the Goldfields was secured, however they were unsuccessful in their application due to not being able demonstrate eligibility. The Pilbara has since successfully been granted a DAMA after utilising the services of a consultant to develop their business case.
31. The Goldfields DAMA is an employer-sponsored visa programme providing the framework for employers in its designated area to sponsor skilled and semi-skilled workers under visa subclasses 482, 494, and 186. This is the same model proposed by the Great Southern region.
32. The process of becoming a DAMA took the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder 12 months following the application submission to the Federal Government (Department of Home Affairs). A financial consultancy business was engaged to undertake their business case, which can take between 3 and 6 months to establish.
33. From a human resource perspective, the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder provided a 0.5 FTE (full time equivalent) staff member to liaise with the consultant throughout the formation of the business case.
34. In addition, the following on-going human resource tasks, required as the DAR, include:
 - Dealing with applications from businesses. A charge of \$250 is levied for each nomination for endorsement. This includes Statutory Declarations and ensures businesses are financially viable and stable;
 - Answering queries from prospective businesses, which can be very time consuming;
 - Seeking guidance from a team within the Department of Home Affairs;
 - Undertaking of an Annual Report for the Department and Minister;
 - Negotiation of ongoing Terms and Conditions for the DAMA;
 - Surveys and analysis of the regional labour market; and
 - Monthly meetings with a Department of Home Affairs representative to discuss the DAMA programme. Note: The Department also liaises with businesses directly.

35. Other points of note, gained through research with external organisations, include:
- Subclass 491 visa, for highly skilled and desired occupations, requires nomination by the State Government, or an eligible family member and doesn't require a sponsor. This type of visa cannot be included in a DAMA;
 - The more local government authorities involved, the better the chance of securing a DAMA;
 - Larger organisations, such as a Regional Development Authority is best positioned to take on the role of regional representative (DAR) and offers the application a stronger opportunity for success, indicating collaboration between communities; and
 - The South West DAMA covers 12 local governments from the City of Bunbury to the Shire of Augusta Margaret River. The Shire of Dardanup is the DAR for the South West DAMA which has a cap of 200 endorsements per year.
36. Creating a DAMA is an extensive process, particularly for the lead organisation (DAR) involved in the application and consultancy phase. Furthermore, there are significant resources required to manage ongoing applications which require liaison with the Department of Home Affairs for the five-year term.
37. This type of project requires the support of many stakeholders including regional Local Governments, Chambers of Commerce, Regional Development Australia (RDA), Development Commissions, and members of parliament. All stakeholders must endorse the organisation that is capable and willing to accept the responsibility of being a Designated Area Representative.
38. Regional Development Australia (RDA) Great Southern have offered to act as the Designated Area Representative (DAR) which will meet this requirement.

Alternative Visa Options to DAMA

Pacific Labour Mobility Scheme

39. This Scheme enables citizens of partner countries to take up low-skilled and semi-skilled work opportunities in all sectors in rural and regional Australia for up to 3 years. Partner countries include: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Seasonal worker Program (Agriculture and Accommodation)

40. This Scheme enables citizens of partner countries to take up unskilled and low-skilled work opportunities in the Australian agriculture and accommodation sectors in selected rural and regional locations of Australia for up to 9 months. Partner Countries: Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Industry Labour Agreement

41. Labour agreements enable approved businesses to sponsor skilled overseas workers when there is a demonstrated need that cannot be met in the Australian labour market and where standard temporary or permanent visa programs are not available.
42. Industry labour agreements are for a specific industry with fixed terms and conditions. The industry is required to show ongoing labour shortage and extensive consultation within the industry. Various approved industry labour agreements include dairy, aquaculture, fishing, meat and livestock, advertising, hospitality, labour-hire and religion.

Standard Business Sponsorship – 482 Visa (For Highly Skilled Occupations)

43. This temporary visa lets an employer sponsor a suitably skilled worker to fill a position for which they are unable to find a suitably skilled Australian. Based on the occupation, this visa is generally granted for 2-4 years.

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC CONSULTATION

44. Consultation with industry is a requirement for the development of the DAMA business case.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

45. Statutory Dependency Migration Act 1958.
46. Voting requirement for this item: **Absolute Majority**.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

47. Nil

RISK IDENTIFICATION & MITIGATION

48. The risk identification and categorisation relies on the City's Enterprise Risk and Opportunity Management Framework.

Risk	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Analysis	Mitigation
Business Operation, Reputation & Financial. <i>Risk: There is a risk the cost of participation does not generate a regional DAMA.</i>	<i>Unlikely</i>	<i>Moderate</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>If the proposed policy is not endorsed, staff will review and address areas of concern.</i>
Opportunity: <i>The DAMA may result in increased availability of skilled and semi-skilled labour to assist in addressing labour shortages.</i>				

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

49. At the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on 24 June, the Shire of Kojonup presented a proposal for the development of a Great Southern Designated Area Migration Agreement (DAMA) which included the proposed funding model shown in Table 1 Proposed Funding Model.
50. The proposed funding model utilises population to calculate the contribution of each member local government to the development of the DAMA business case.
51. The City acknowledges population as a common method of calculating contributions however, had the City been consulted prior to finalisation of the proposed funding model, it would have likely suggested additional mechanisms were also considered such as contributions from industry and state government agencies based locally.
52. The proposal presented at the WALGA Great Southern Country Zone meeting for the DAMA business case stated the anticipated cost of up to \$100,000 for the development of a successful business case.
53. This estimate includes the cost of a consultant to conduct a survey of regional employers, research and provide statistics, and to identify any occupations that may fit the criteria for inclusion in a DAMA application. The direct costs of the consultant are estimated to be circa \$60,000 to \$70,000, with the balance required for project contingencies, although details of the contingencies were not provided.
54. At this point, given the uncertainty of up to 40% of the total project costs, the Responsible Officer recommends a contribution of up to \$25,000. This contribution, combined with the contributions of the other 10 local governments, will provide \$65,000 and therefore enable the engagement of a consultant to complete the business case.
55. If supported, the financial contribution will require a budget amendment which will be undertaken as part of the next budget amendment process.
56. It is noted that a designated resource is required to liaise with the consultant. In the case of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, it was estimated that a staff member to the value of 0.5 FTE basis was required for the purpose of establishing their DAMA.

57. The City understands the DAMA Working Group, established at the WALGA Great Southern Country Zone meeting held on the 26 August 2022, and RDA Great Southern will liaise with the consultant. RDA Great Southern are currently recruiting a 0.6FTE Research Officer position whose role includes liaison with the consultant.
58. Following a successful DAMA application a further 0.5 FTE investment with ongoing tasks will likely be required.
59. RDA Great Southern have indicated they are prepared to fund the ongoing 0.5 FTE employee costs relating to the DAR for the proposed five year period. However, this salary has not been qualified to date and will require further analysis by RDA Great Southern.

Table 1. Proposed Funding Model

		Estimated Population	Contribution Based on Population	Adjusted Contribution
	Total Funds		\$111,803	\$100,000
	Organisation			
1	GSDC		\$10,000	\$10,000
2	RDA		\$10,000	\$10,000
			\$20,000	\$20,000
	LGA's	\$1.50 per head of population		
3	City of Albany	38,000	\$57,000	\$40,000
4	Shire of Denmark	6,422	\$9,633	\$8,000
5	Shire of Plantagenet	5,079	\$7,619	\$8,000
6	Shire of Katanning	4,200	\$6,300	\$7,000
7	Shire of Kojonup	1,985	\$2,978	\$5,000
8	Shire of Gnowangerup	1,215	\$1,823	\$2,500
9	Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup	1,144	\$1,716	\$2,500
10	Shire of Jerramungup	1,109	\$1,664	\$2,500
11	Shire of Cranbrook	1,089	\$1,634	\$2,500
12	Shire of Kent	550	\$825	\$1,000
13	Shire of Woodanilling	409	\$614	\$1,000
		61,202	\$91,803	\$80,000

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

60. There are no known significant legal implications relating to the report or officer recommendation.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

61. There are no known significant environmental implications relating to the report or officer recommendation.

ALTERNATE OPTIONS

62. Council may:
 - Support the development of a DAMA business case and commit to the full contribution as requested at the WALGA Great Southern Country Zone meeting on 24 June (\$40,000);
 - Support a DAMA 'in-principle', but do not provide any funds for the development of a business case; or

- Decline to support a DAMA for the Great Southern region.
63. Should Council decline to support a DAMA or only provide ‘in-principle’ support, and a DAMA business case is successful, the City of Albany may be excluded and therefore Albany employers will be unable to access the benefits of skilled and semi-skilled migration visas and the associated concessions available under the DAMA.

CONCLUSION

64. The level of unemployment in Albany has remained relatively low since prior to the COVID pandemic.
65. The low unemployment rate indicates the available pool of employees for Albany businesses is very low and is leading to business disruption. A number employers within the hospitality and tourism sectors have reduced operating hours in order to cope with lower than desired staffing levels.
66. On the basis of the current employment conditions the author believes the development of a Great Southern regional DAMA offers part of a solution for those businesses who are currently experiencing under-employment. While it is unlikely a regional DAMA will be the panacea for all businesses it could provide an avenue to assist larger businesses with the capacity to invest in the program.
67. While a DAMA could produce potential employees it must also be understood that housing considerations must be taken into account. While housing availability is easing, it is still a significant consideration, and is likely to continue for another 12-24 months. Employers will need to address this consideration in the development of their DAMA applications.
68. Whilst it is acknowledged the proposed maximum contribution of \$40,000 is significant, the potential to provide Albany businesses with increased access to new labour markets has the potential to provide equally significant economic benefit to the Albany community.
69. It is therefore recommended the City participate in the development of the DAMA for the Great Southern region.

Consulted References	:	Great Southern Zone DAMA Presentation
File Number (Name of Ward)	:	All Wards
Previous Reference	:	N/A

11. MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

12. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

13. CLOSURE