

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
9 NOVEMBER 2009**

4	J. L MURPHY RESERVE MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE
LOCATION/ADDRESS:	PORT MELBOURNE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:	JOHN HICKS, GENERAL MANAGER CITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
PREPARED BY:	JOANNE MCNEILL, OPEN SPACE PLANNER, PARKS AND OPEN SPACES
FILE NO.:	TRIM FILE NO. 62/01/169
ATTACHMENTS:	TERMS OF REFERENCE – MURPHY RESERVE COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the terms of reference for the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group for council to adopt.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 2.1 Adopts the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group Terms of Reference.
- 2.2 Seeks expressions of interest from the community to nominate for the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Group.
- 2.3 Notes that advertising for the Reference Group will be undertaken via council web site, mail out to local residents in adjacent and adjoining streets, and on-site signage at J.L Murphy Reserve.
- 2.4 Appoints 2 general community members to the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group and confirm the nominated representatives from each of the user groups listed in the terms of reference on the 14th December, 2009.
- 2.5 Convenes the first meeting of the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group in February 2010.

3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- J. L Murphy Reserve is a key recreation open space in the city. It comprises; Two football/cricket ovals
 - Baseball diamond
 - One full size and one half size soccer field
 - Soccer pavilion
 - Football/cricket baseball pavilion
 - Playground
 - Community garden – Dig In
 - Open grass areas
 - Large trees
 - Passive areas
 - Walking path
 - Depot: storage area for road materials and Barry Bros Recycled Water facility
- A master plan for J. L Murphy Reserve was completed in 1999 and a significant number of proposed actions have been implemented under that master plan, including;
 - Improvements to sport pavilion
 - Additional change rooms soccer pavilion
 - Installation of walking track
 - Lighting upgrades
 - Irrigation improvements
 - Water tank installation
 - New fencing
 - Installation of warm season grass
 - Installation of seats
 - Scoreboards and coaches boxes upgrades
 - Cricket net upgrades
- Since 1999 there has been an increase in sporting use, and an increase in population in the area. The development of a new Master Plan will ensure that that the space continues to be sustainable and meets the needs of the community into the future.
- Key opportunities and challenges include:
 - Active user groups with potentially conflicting ideas and needs.
 - Underutilised space that could provide opportunities for passive as well as active recreation activities within the park.
 - Interface issues between local residents and sporting clubs.
 - Access to Murphy Reserve across Williamstown Road.
 - Options to develop the park to contribute to climate change adaptation objectives and reduce reliance on potable water for irrigation
- The intent of the Master Plan is to develop a program of upgrade works that would be delivered over a four to five year period. Proposals would be submitted through the capital works business process for council to consider as part of the annual budget process. These are likely to impact mainly from the 2011/12 financial year.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1 OPTION

- 4.1.1 Establish a community reference group for the development of the J. L Murphy Reserve Master Plan.

- 4.1.2 This option will provide an opportunity for user groups and members of the general community to provide input into the development of the J. L Murphy Reserve Master Plan.

5.2 ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN

The establishment of a community reference group for the development of the J. L Murphy Reserve Master Plan aligns with the Council Plan.

5.2.1 Engaging and Governing the City

Strategy 1.1.1 - Enhance council's engagement with the community by maximising community feedback to ensure open and inclusive decision making.

5.2.2 Support active communities

Strategy 4.1.3 – Ensure that open spaces support active communities through integrated planning and sustainable management.

5.2.3 Preserve heritage and plan for the future

Strategy 4.1.7 Preserve our heritage, valuing our past and planning for the future.

5.3 POLICY IMPLICATIONS PLAN

- 5.3.1 There are no adverse policy implications for the establishment of a J.L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group.

- 5.3.2 The establishment of the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group will assist Council in the delivery of its strategic directions – as listed above.

5.4 FINANCE / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.4.1 The establishment of the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group will be funded through the 2009/10 operational budget.

5.5 LEGAL & RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.5.1 The predominant risk for Council is not delivering on its Council Plan. The establishment of the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group will reduce this risk by providing topic relevance, broad representation, additional connections into the community and additional skills and expertise.

6. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

6.1 TIMELINE

- 6.1.1 November 9th – Council adopts the Terms of Reference for the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group.
- 6.1.2 November 16th – November 27th – Seek expressions of interest from the community to nominate for the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group.
- 6.1.3 December 14th – Council to appoint members to the J. L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group.
- 6.1.4 February 2010 – First meeting of the J.L Murphy Reserve Community Reference Group.

7. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

- 7.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.