

6.5.3 Community Engagement update

Responsible GM: Debbie Tyson
Author: Georgia Davies-Jackson (Team Leader Engagement)

Recommendation(s)

That Council notes the community engagement activities being undertaken this month.

Attachments

Nil

Executive Summary

Monthly update on community engagement opportunities commencing or continuing.

Background

Community engagement is a process whereby Council uses a variety of methods to proactively seek out information and feedback from the community, including their values, concerns, ideas and aspirations. Where possible and when required by legislation, Council will include the community in the development and delivery of identified initiatives and projects. This practice establishes an ongoing partnership, ensuring that community members continue to shape Council's decision making and implementation process.

Council's Community Engagement Policy (Policy) sets out Council's accountability for community engagement practices. The Policy meets the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's commitment to undertaking best practice, high quality community engagement activities to receive input, feedback and ideas from the community on Council projects, services, plans, policies, strategies and other Council decisions.

Council uses the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation (see below) as the model for its community engagement activities depending on the nature of the project, legislative requirements affecting the project and level of influence the community can have on the project, the risk and level of complexity of the project and available resources.

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problems, alternatives and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decision.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public issues and concerns are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision-making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and issues are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advise and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
EXAMPLE TOOLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheets • Websites • Open houses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public comment • Focus groups • Surveys • Public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Deliberate polling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen Advisory committees • Consensus building • Participatory • Decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen juries • Ballots • Delegated • Decisions

Policy Implications

Community engagement is undertaken in line with Council’s *Community Engagement Policy*.

Relevance to Council Plan

5.1 We practise responsible leadership

5.1.1 Build trust through meaningful community engagement and transparent decision-making.

Climate Emergency Consideration

N.A

Consultation/Communication

This month, the following Engagement Plans are being implemented:

Community engagement activity August/September 2023			
Project	Project description	Proposed consultation date/s and details	Responsible Business Unit
Phase 1 Lang Lang Public Art Project	Community has the opportunity to influence the proposed public art work at Dick Jones Reserve. The initial consultation with community and key stakeholders is to understand if community is still supportive of the proposed project.	<p>Creating Cardinia Survey – go live date 7th August – 4th September 2023</p> <p>Community Pop up at Dick Jones Reserve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dates TBC <p>Emails to key stakeholders.</p> <p>QR code posters directing people to the survey on Creating Cardinia displayed in key locations.</p> <p>*More details will be confirmed on Creating Cardinia as the project continues.</p>	Arts, Advocacy and Economy
Business Landscape Survey	Council is engaging with local businesses owners within the shire, to better understand the challenges they are facing in this current economic climate and post-pandemic. This engagement aims to help inform Council's initiatives and programs that offer support to businesses.	<p>Creating Cardinia survey – go live date 8th August – 5th September 2023</p> <p>QR code posters directing people to the survey on Creating Cardinia displayed in key locations.</p>	Arts, Advocacy and Economy
Stage 1 Puffing Billy Play Space Renewal	Community has the opportunity to influence what equipment and infrastructure is included in the renewal of the Puffing Billy Park play space area (with construction next financial year).	<p>Creating Cardinia survey – go live date 21st August – 18th September</p> <p>QR code posters directing people to the survey on Creating Cardinia displayed in key locations.</p> <p>Mailout to residents within a 400m radius of play space.</p> <p>Email to key stakeholders.</p>	Active and Connected Communities

<p>Stage 1 William Bruce (WB) Ronald Reserve Renewal</p>	<p>Community has the opportunity to influence what equipment and infrastructure is included in the renewal of play spaces within the William Bruce (WB) Ronald Reserve (with construction next financial year).</p>	<p>Creating Cardinia survey – go live date 21st August – 18th September. QR code posters directing people to the survey on Creating Cardinia displayed in key locations. Mailout to residents within a 400m radius of play space. Email to key stakeholders. Community Pop up at William Bruce (WB) Ronald Reserve: Dates TBC. *More details will be confirmed on Creating Cardinia as the project continues.</p>	<p>Active and Connected Communities</p>
<p>Phase 1 Toun-nun Public Art Project</p>	<p>Community is able to influence the design elements of a proposed public art mural on the exterior wall of the Toun-nun Childcare Centre. This can include colours and the overall design of the artwork.</p>	<p>Creating Cardinia survey – go live date 28th August – 25th September 2023 – TBC. Community pop up on site – date TBC. *More details will be confirmed on Creating Cardinia as the project continues. QR code posters directing people to the survey on Creating Cardinia displayed in key locations. Email to key stakeholders.</p>	<p>Arts, Advocacy and Economy</p>

Some projects will involve more than one stage of engagement. The relevant Engagement Plans for each project will document the stages and purpose of engagement.

Financial and Resource Implications

N.A

Conclusion

The table above outlines projects for engagement that can be promoted to the community this month to support its awareness and involvement and will assist Council in the delivery of the Council Plan action.

The relevant Business Unit can be contacted for additional information and for further details on specific engagement activities planned (including dates).