

6.5 Activity Reports

6.5.1 Community Engagement Update

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Recommendation(s)

That Council notes the community engagement activities being undertaken in November.

Attachments

Nil

Executive Summary

This report provides a monthly update on Council's 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

There are no climate emergency considerations as part of this report.

Consultation/Communication

This month, the following Engagement Plans are being implemented:

Community engagement activity 18 March – 19 April 2024			
Project	Project description	Proposed consultation date/s and details	Responsible Business Unit
Proposed Community Local Law 2024	<p>A proposed new Local Law 2024 to replace the existing Local Law 2017 which reflects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> emerging issues of community concern, amendments to improve the efficacy and effectiveness of the Local Law to achieve its purposes, and miscellaneous amendments to improve clarity, meaning and administration. 	<p>5 March until 31 March. Consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> letters and survey for targeted business cohorts promotion of Creating Cardinia webpage with online survey. 	Regulatory Services
Lang Lang Public Art Project	Phase 1 engagement on artwork themes.	<p>4 March 2024 until 7 April 2024 Phase 1 consultation on the themes for the artwork. Engagement activities to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Creating Cardinia webpage with online survey QR coded posters in community noticeboards, post office, sports pavilions, parks, mobile library etc Pop-ups in Lang Lang including a local Township walk. Dates TBC* <p>*details to follow on Creating Cardinia page.</p>	Arts, Advocacy and Economy.

<p>The PB Ronald Reserve Masterplan – Phase 4.</p>	<p>Engagement to inform the community of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an amendment to the masterplan that includes the Men’s Shed location and reduction of multi-use courts • Seek community feedback for the draft concept design on the location of a sound shell, skatepark upgrade, new parkour features, and exercise station. 	<p>March (dates TBC) - 29 April 2024</p> <p>Phase 4 consultation to include*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • drop-in sessions at the local library, community centres and schools • promotion of online survey on Creating Cardinia website to local families via schools and newsletters • in person meetings with key stakeholders. <p>*details to follow on Creating Cardinia page.</p>	<p>Active and Connected Communities</p>
<p>Draft Community Engagement Policy 2024-2028 and Engagement Guidelines.</p>	<p>Seek community feedback for the draft Policy and Engagement Guidelines to confirm or amend the guidance on engaging with different cohorts in the community.</p>	<p>20 March – 22 April 2024.</p> <p>Consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion of an online survey on Creating Cardinia website • in person meetings with key stakeholders, advisory groups, and staff (dates to be confirmed) • consultation with the community members from the 2021 Peoples Panel for the development of the Council Plan • QR posters at Council facilities to promote the survey on Creating Cardinia. 	<p>Communications and Engagement</p>

<p>Gambling Policy Review - Phase 3.</p>	<p>Seek community feedback for the draft Gambling Policy.</p>	<p>1 April – 21 April. Consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion of an online survey on Creating Cardinia website 	<p>Liveable Communities</p>
<p>Plaques and Memorial Policy.</p>	<p>Consultation on the development of a new policy for plaques and memorials, specifically relating to the criteria for the application process for requesting a plaque or memorial for a family member.</p>	<p>1 April – 21 April. Consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion of an online survey on Creating Cardinia website. 	<p>Active and Connected Communities</p>
<p>Naming of Officer District Park.</p>	<p>Consultation inviting the community to vote for a new name for the park.</p>	<p>Dates TBC – mid April. Consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion of an online survey on Creating Cardinia website • QR code posters on the fence around the current construction of the park 	<p>Active and Connected Communities</p>
<p>Renaming of Pakenham East.</p>	<p>Consultation for the renaming of Pakenham East.</p>	<p>Dates TBC (mid-April). Consultation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotion of an online survey on Creating Cardinia website. • QR code posters in residential developer sales offices, local supermarkets, mobile library and Pakenham library and noticeboards in neighbouring suburbs. 	<p>Governance.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pop ups in various locations (TBC).	
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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

The activities undertaken fall within Councils existing budget and resourcing.

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.