

**ITEM 6. HYDE PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT AND MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT – ANZAC MEMORIAL CENTENARY PROJECT – ADOPTION****FILE NO: S042840-01****SUMMARY**

Hyde Park is the City's oldest and most iconic park being dedicated in 1810. The park is owned by the NSW Government (Crown Land), with the City of Sydney appointed as the Reserve Trust Manager for its care, control and management. The City manages Hyde Park in accordance with the Hyde Park Plan of Management and Master Plan (POM), which was adopted by Council in October 2006.

There is a second Crown Reserve in Hyde Park South, which contains the Anzac Memorial and is managed by the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building. In August 2014, the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building announced they had secured funding to build a centenary project comprising a water cascade, which was part of Bruce Dellit's original design for the Anzac Memorial and an underground extension attached to the memorial.

The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project will be a commemorative project to mark the centenary of Anzac and will deliver on the City's objective from the POM to build the original cascade design element running south from the Anzac Memorial to Liverpool Street.

The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project will be designed to have minimal impact on Hyde Park, with the entrance located on Liverpool Street running under the cascade water feature to the new underground building. The cascade and building are estimated to cost \$30M and are planned for completion by Remembrance Day 2018.

A key element of the project plan is the planning approval, which requires the project to be consistent with the POM for the park. The POM is only partially consistent with the project proposal, as only the installation of the cascade water feature was envisaged at the time it was developed and approved in 2006.

The City has prepared an amendment to the POM, which supports the development of the Anzac Memorial Centenary Project connected to the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park South. The POM Amendment was approved for public exhibition by Council on 10 August 2015 and was available for public comment for 28 days. Only three submissions were received with minor changes required to the POM Amendment, which are outlined in this report and highlighted in Attachment A.

It is proposed that the City accept responsibility for the ongoing maintenance and operation of the water cascade, similar to the Pool of Reflection and the Archibald Fountain. The estimated cost is \$50,000 per year commencing from 2018/19.

There are a number of operational issues that will be managed by the City and the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building including cleaning, rubbish removal, lighting, building maintenance, vehicle access and event management. It is proposed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is developed between the Trustees of the Anzac Memorial Building and the City to clarify roles, responsibilities and costs for the ongoing operation of the new building and cascade water feature.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council adopt the Hyde Park Plan of Management and Master Plan Amendment with highlighted changes, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer a Memorandum of Understanding with the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building to clarify roles, responsibilities and costs for the ongoing operations of the new building and cascade water feature.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment A:** Hyde Park Plan of Management and Master Plan Amendment

**BACKGROUND**

1. Hyde Park is the city's oldest and most iconic park being dedicated in 1810. The park is owned by the NSW Government (Crown Land), with the City of Sydney appointed as the Reserve Trust Manager for its care, control and management. The City manages Hyde Park in accordance with the Hyde Park Plan of Management and Master Plan (POM), which was adopted by Council in October 2006.
2. There is a second Crown Reserve in Hyde Park South, which contains the Anzac Memorial. The Anzac Memorial was completed in 1934 and is of historical significance to the State for its embodiment of the collective grief of the people of NSW at the loss of Australian servicemen and women since World War I. It is associated with the landing of Australian troops at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915, and fundraising for the memorial was established on the first anniversary of the landing. It is managed by the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building.
3. In August 2014, the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building announced they had secured funding for a centenary project to build a water cascade, which was part of Bruce Dellit's original design for the Anzac Memorial, and an underground building attached to the memorial.
4. The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project will be a commemorative project marking the centenary of the founding of Anzac. The project will also deliver on the City's objective from the POM to build architect Bruce Dellit's original design element, a cascade water feature running south from the Anzac Memorial to Liverpool Street.
5. The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project will be designed to have minimal impact on Hyde Park, with the entrance located on Liverpool Street running under the cascade water feature to the new underground building.
6. The cascade and building are estimated to cost \$30M and are planned to be complete by Remembrance Day 2018.

**Project Delivery**

7. The project is being delivered by the NSW Government Architect's Office within the Department of Premier & Cabinet. Prominent architect Richard Johnson, of JPW Architecture & Urban Design, has been engaged to design the Anzac Memorial Centenary Project and will work with the Government Architect's Office to deliver the project.
8. City staff are working in collaboration with the architects and project managers to ensure the project is well designed and has minimal impact on the park and park users.

**Plan of Management Amendment**

9. A key element of the project plan are the planning approvals, which require the project to be consistent with the POM for the park.
10. The 2006 POM is only partially consistent with the proposal, as only the installation of the cascade water feature was envisaged at the time it was developed and approved by Council and the Minister for Crown Lands.

11. The POM has been amended to permit the underground building and its uses as a hall of service and for education and exhibitions as an approved use within the park.
12. The draft POM Amendment examines the cultural significance and heritage values of Hyde Park and the Anzac Memorial, the impacts on the landscape of the proposal, the planning controls relating to the proposal, and management strategies to address access, circulation, event management and maintenance of the site.
13. Council approved the draft POM Amendment for public exhibition on 10 August 2015.

#### **Public Exhibition and Comments**

14. The draft POM Amendment was placed on exhibition from 6 October until 3 November 2015.
15. It was advertised in The Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney Central Magazine, and City Hub with hard copies available for comment at the City's One Stop Shop and Neighbourhood Service Centres. Electronic copies were available on the City's website on the Sydney Your Say webpage. Signs were installed in the park to advise park users, and 1,300 letters were delivered to properties adjoining the park advising them of the draft POM Amendment and the opportunity to comment.
16. Three submissions were received and are summarised below:
  - (a) Submission one commented on the high quality of the design, noting that a small amount of green space would be lost but this is compensated for by the high quality of the upgrade works. No change is proposed to the draft POM Amendment.
  - (b) Submission two commented on the loss of the College Street cycleway and asked that cycling through Hyde Park be retained. The City's Cycling Strategy and POM permit cycling through the park. No change is proposed to the draft POM Amendment.
  - (c) Submission three is from the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building asking that consideration be given to moving the mature Hills Fig tree located on the south west side of the memorial by approximately 25 metres to improve vistas to the Memorial, improve buildability, reduce risks to the tree during construction and reduce long term maintenance costs. The tree is approximately 65 years old, unaffected by soil pathogens and has a safe useful life expectancy of at least 40 years. City staff consider that the request to transplant the tree has merit and recommend including the following text into the draft POM Amendment - "The Hills Fig tree positioned to the south west of the memorial will be maintained either in its current location or in another nearby suitable location based on an assessment by an experienced tree transplanter and arborist who considers that transplanting is a viable option".

## KEY IMPLICATIONS

### Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030

17. *Sustainable Sydney 2030* is a vision for the sustainable development of the city to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the city, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This proposal is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
- (a) Direction 5 - A Lively and Engaging City Centre – the Anzac Memorial Centenary Project will provide connections and information to the community on the social impacts of conflict. It will also allow the cascade water feature to be built as a new, engaging and complementary element within Hyde Park.
  - (b) Direction 6 - Vibrant Local Communities and Economies – the new hall of service and cascade water feature will be places of interest to visit in the city, will improve the formal landscape design of the southern end of Hyde Park and complete the vision for the memorial designed by architect Bruce Dellit.
  - (c) Direction 7 - A Cultural and Creative City – design excellence will be an integral part of the project, as well as creating a space where education and cultural learning can occur. Links to the NSW school curriculum will ensure school children, as well as adults, can appreciate the design, symbolism and social connections of the Memorial.
  - (d) Direction 10 - Implementation through Effective Governance and Partnerships – the City is working in collaboration and partnership with the NSW Government, Trustees of the Anzac Memorial Building, NSW RSL and other stakeholders to ensure the centenary project contributes to the heritage values and appeal of Hyde Park and the Anzac Memorial as places for the community to visit and enjoy.

### Organisational Impact

18. The City has project managed the preparation and consultation required for the Hyde Park POM and Master Plan Amendment. Once the approval process for the Anzac Memorial Centenary Project is complete, City staff will have an ongoing role in providing input and assistance to the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building and the Government Architect's Office to deliver the project.
19. The City will have a role in considering and approving the development application and review of environmental factors for the project.
20. At the completion of the project, the City will be responsible for the maintenance of the cascade water feature, similar to the City's role in maintaining the Pool of Reflection, Archibald Fountain and other water features in Hyde Park. There are a number of other operational issues that will be managed by the City and the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building including cleaning, rubbish removal, lighting, building maintenance, vehicle access and event management. It is proposed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is developed between the Trustees for the Anzac Memorial Building and the City to clarify roles, responsibilities and costs for the ongoing operation of the new building and cascade water feature.

**Risks**

21. The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project has been in concept development for approximately seven years, and the funding announcement in 2014 indicated broad support. There has been strong community support for the commemoration of Anzac and the risk of community opposition to the project is considered minimal. There will be ongoing communication about the delivery of the project and the programs that will be offered when it is complete.
22. Project delivery is being managed by the Government Architect's Office, which has a strong project governance framework in place to ensure the project is delivered within budget and on time.

**Social / Cultural / Community**

23. The Anzac Memorial Centenary Project is timely with the centenary of Anzac commemoration events being held between 2014 and 2018. There has been strong community support for the commemoration of Anzac, and the new underground facilities will provide an opportunity to educate the community on the social impacts of conflict.
24. The Anzac Memorial was rededicated in 1984 to be a memorial for those who lost their lives in all conflicts, not just the Great War. This ensures the new work has broad and ongoing appeal and interest to the community.
25. The City recently unveiled the Yininmadyemi memorial to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service men and women in Hyde Park. The new hall of service will have the opportunity to provide information about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander service men and women and their stories.

**Environmental**

26. The POM Amendment examines the environmental impacts of the project and identifies management strategies to address them.

**Economic**

27. The POM Amendment supports the development of an underground building in Hyde Park. The new facilities will generate increased economic activity through exhibitions, education programs and visitation to the centre. Local cafes and tourist related businesses are expected to benefit from activity associated with the project.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

28. The cost of preparing the Hyde Park POM Amendment is \$42,000, which is being funded by the NSW Government as part of the project. The City is contributing value-in-kind support through project management and community consultation services on the project.
29. The City will take ownership and responsibility for the water cascade when it is built, similar to the Pool of Reflection and Archibald Fountain. The water feature is estimated to cost \$50,000 per year to operate and maintain. Budget allocations for this cost will need to be made from 2018/19.

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION**

30. NSW Crown Lands Act 1989 – outlines the requirements for preparing a POM for Crown Land.

**CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES**

31. Time frames critical for the adoption of the POM Amendment are:
  - (a) approval by Council of POM Amendment – December 2015; and
  - (b) approval of POM amendment by the Minister responsible for Crown Lands – December 2015.
32. Construction of the Anzac Memorial Centenary Project is scheduled to commence in May 2016 and be complete by November 2018.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

33. The draft POM Amendment was placed on exhibition from 6 October until 3 November 2015.
34. It was advertised in The Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney Central Magazine, and City Hub, with hard copies available for review at the City's One Stop Shop and Neighbourhood Service Centres.
35. Electronic copies were available on the City's website on the Sydney Your Say webpage. Signs were installed in the park to advise park users, and 1,300 letters were delivered to properties adjoining the park advising them of the draft POM Amendment and the opportunity to comment.

**GARRY HARDING**

Director City Operations

Joel Johnson, Manager City Greening & Leisure