

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: X078788 **DATE:** 19 February 2021

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

THROUGH: Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 6.9 – Ad Hoc Grant - Western Harbour Precinct
- Business Improvement District Trial

Purpose

That the Lord Mayor and Councillors note the information contained in this memo.

Background

At the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 15 February 2021, further information was sought on the Western Harbour Precinct Business Improvement District Trial.

Membership Balance (small versus big business)

The Western Harbour Precinct Business Improvement District Company (BIDCo) is a new company, and during its (current) “establishment phase” much of the specific detail of future membership and board composition is set to be designed and determined.

The BIDCo Constitution provides for “Business Membership” and “non-Business Membership”. Non-Business refers to public sector and community representative organisations. Business Membership contemplates both larger/landlord businesses and smaller/tenant businesses.

There are no specific limitations currently prescribed for small/tenant business membership. That is, small/tenant businesses are expected to be free to enter into a membership agreement with the BID, on terms that will be fair and relevant to the size and nature of their businesses.

Benefits to the City

Advice from BIDCo is that benefits to the City will include:

- Active participation in an innovative whole-of-Precinct co-ordination vehicle for the Western Harbour, with the precise nature of that participation to be designed with the community which includes residents, business and the public sector.
- The opportunity to bring the City of Sydney plans and policies to the BID Steering Committee table, to inform and influence the agreed programs of work
- To share in the visibility of a consolidated set of capital and operational programs across public and private sector participants
- To identify and realise opportunities for collaboration and co-ordination, that will amplify the City's business as usual budgets, by leveraging complementary projects.

Structure of the Board

Under the BIDCo constitution, the "Foundation Board" is comprised of Directors representing the following organisations: Sydney Fish Market, Sydney Business Chamber, ICC Sydney, Markhams, Mirvac, The Star and UTS.

The permanent board (to be elected after the establishment phase) will be elected from and by the members of the BID at that time.

The BIDCo is a new company, and during its "establishment phase" much of the specific detail of future membership and board composition is set to be designed and determined. Active consideration is being given to, and expert advice being received concerning, optimal future Board configuration for the success of the venture – including the mix of representation between larger/landlord businesses and smaller/tenant businesses, as well as geographical representation across the Precinct.

Community Consultation

The BIDCo is committed to effective and appropriate community consultation, engagement and participation, as it recognises that the community's support is a critical factor for the success of the venture

The specific approach and programs for this consultation, engagement and participation are being designed, as a priority activity in the (current) establishment phase of the organisation/project

The BIDCo intends to design and implement its community engagement program in collaboration with its public sector, community organisation and private sector members and participants, to:

- Take full advantage of previous relevant consultation and engagement.
- Ensure the community is consulted efficiently (i.e. not engaged by multiple parties about the same issue).
- Ensure that the resources applied to consultation across the participants are maximized.

Consultation with the Pymont Chamber of Commerce has commenced and is ongoing. The City will work closely with the BIDCo to ensure all members of the community are engaged with throughout the consultation process.

Memo from Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

Prepared by: Jennie Harris, Economic Strategy Advisor

Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P.M. Barone", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MONICA BARONE

Chief Executive Officer