

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: X038945 **DATE:** 17 August 2023

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Emma Rigney, Director City Life

THROUGH: Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 9. 6 – Public Exhibition – Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy

For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

Background

At the meeting of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee on 14 August 2023, further information was sought on the financial commitments for festivals and events in the Haymarket/Chinatown area.

Over the last twelve months, the City has provided a total of \$218,000 in cash funding through the Festival and events sponsorship, Creative and Quick response grant programs to a range of projects which will activate the Haymarket/Chinatown area.

This includes \$100,000 in cash funding and \$220,000 in value-in-kind funding to TEG Live Pty Limited for South by Southwest Sydney 2023 approved by Council on 21 November 2022. This is a seven-day gathering of national and international thinkers, creators and innovators, across the tech, innovation, gaming, screen, music and cultural sectors. This event will take place in October this year and will be delivered across the Tech Central Innovation Precinct with a particular focus on Haymarket. City staff will review the outcomes and benefits of the 2023 event to the local area and applications for future funding would be considered as part of a competitive grants process.

In addition, the City has provided support through grants to a range of local organisations including Soul of Chinatown who received \$10,000 for the Chinatown Comedy Club, Passage Gallery who received \$20,000 for a series of art installations by culturally diverse artists and Dong Nam A Brothers & Co Pty Ltd who received \$40,000 for the Chinatown South Legacy Mural project.

Each year local business chambers, community organisations, creatives and event organisers are eligible to apply for funding through a range of grant programs to activate the Haymarket/Chinatown area including the Business sector support, Creative, Festival and events sponsorship and Quick response grant programs.

The City annually presents the Sydney Lunar Festival with the launch of the Festival held in Chinatown and Dixon Street. The 2023 event was the 27th year the City delivered the Festival. The City invested approximately \$1.65 million in the 2023 event. In 2023 the Sydney Streets program included Sydney Lunar Streets held on 21 January 2023 attracting approximately 11,900 people. Approximately 104,400 visited Dixon Street and Chinatown throughout the 2023 Festival.

Memo from Emma Rigney, Director City Life

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Approved

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Chief Executive Officer