

## Eora Journey - Harbour Walk Storytelling Report

**File No: S110607**

### Summary

In 2008, Council endorsed Sustainable Sydney 2030 which contained two key cultural projects – the Cultural Ribbon and the Eora Journey.

Over the past decade, the City has produced a number of public art projects as part of the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain program based on extensive community requests in 2030 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and heritage to be more visible in the public domain. The City has also supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as part of its other cultural, social and economic programs.

With the announcement of "bara", the Monument for the Eora, by artist Judy Watson in August 2018, the City marked an important symbolic milestone. This major public artwork, to be located on the Tarpeian Way Lawn, will permanently recognise the clans of the Eora Nation and the Gadigal people, their land, culture and traditions at a prime location on Sydney Harbour.

Building on this significant moment, the Harbour Walk Storytelling Report by Aboriginal curator Emily McDaniel (Attachment A) extends this recognition across Sydney's harbour foreshore within the City of Sydney local government area. Guided by Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor Hetti Perkins and the City of Sydney's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel the Report includes stories, project ideas and recommendations to create a transformative and memorable experience for Sydneysiders and visitors alike.

The Harbour Walk Report builds on the objectives of the City's Cultural Ribbon Strategy – Sydney Harbour's nature and culture walk endorsed by Council in December 2016, following its post Sustainable Sydney 2030 development and renaming. As the culmination of the City's work on the Cultural Ribbon, the nature and culture walk strategy presented a vision for a nine kilometre harbour foreshore walk to celebrate and connect Sydney's significant cultural institutions, landmarks, places and landscapes along the harbour.

The Harbour Walk Report is actively informing the development of Sustainable Sydney 2050 and the recommendations will be translated to Sustainable Sydney 2050 outcomes and appropriate corporate plans.

In 2017, the City entered into an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Property NSW (now managed by Place Management NSW) to realise the nature and culture walk strategy given that the walk traverses land controlled by different government authorities and cultural institutions.

Through a curated series of Aboriginal stories, the attached Harbour Walk Storytelling Report presents an innovative way to realise the nature and culture walk strategy, and inspire the public to experience the harbour foreshore in a way that is not currently available. The Report's proposed realisation of Aboriginal stories through public art and interpretation, undertaken with the proper care and respect required, will drive local and international tourism at the same time as supporting Aboriginal businesses and cultural practitioners.

The Harbour Walk will encourage and help local people and visitors to understand the concept of Country in the way that Aboriginal people have experienced and understood their land for millennia.

## Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council receive and note the Eora Journey Harbour Walk Storytelling Report (the 'Report') by Emily McDaniel, shown at Attachment A to the subject report, and the Harbour Walk Historical Research by Paul Irish, shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (B) Council note the Harbour Walk project forms part of the Eora Journey and will be a key project in the forthcoming Sustainable Sydney 2050 plan to demonstrate the City's ongoing commitment to our First Nations peoples and that a review of funding for the project will be undertaken as part of the Sustainable Sydney 2050 plan implementation;
- (C) Council endorse the recommended projects and strategic initiatives in the Report to progress to implementation as outlined in the report and the Harbour Walk Implementation Plan at Confidential Attachment C to the subject report;
- (D) Council enter into a contract to develop the recommended Harbour Walk projects with the author of the Harbour Walk Report, curator Emily McDaniel, as Harbour Walk Curator for three years with the option to extend for a further year, based on exceptional circumstances, as a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting quotations due to the social and cultural complexities of the project and given the professional insights gained during her engagement in developing the Harbour Walk Storytelling Report, as per Confidential Attachment C to the subject report;
- (E) Council approve an exemption from tender for the extension of Hetti Perkins' contract as Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor for three years, with the option to extend for a further year, based on extenuating circumstances, to oversee Eora Journey public art projects underway and provide guidance on the Eora Journey program, as a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders due to the social and cultural complexities of the project; additionally significant goodwill and knowledge has been built-up by the curator's engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and communities; and professional insights have been gained during her engagement by the City as per Confidential Attachment C to the subject report; and,
- (F) Council approve the engagement of a new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff person as Indigenous Engagement Project Coordinator (Harbour Walk) to coordinate consultation on Harbour Walk projects for up to three years funded by the project budget, as per Confidential Attachment C to the subject report.

**Attachments**

**Attachment A.** Eora Journey – Harbour Walk Storytelling Report

**Attachment B.** Eora Journey – Harbour Walk Historical Research

**Attachment C.** Eora Journey – Harbour Walk Implementation Plan (Confidential)

## Background

1. The Cultural Ribbon and Eora Journey were identified as two of the "Ten Key Project Ideas" in Sustainable Sydney 2030 endorsed by Council in 2008.
2. The Cultural Ribbon was described as "a walking trail linking Sydney's leading cultural landmarks along the harbour's edge," that would "strengthen and support the cultural life of the city...helping boost Sydney as a cultural destination."
3. Recognising art and cultural activities as being fundamental to liveability, tolerance, quality of life and increasingly economic development, the Cultural Ribbon was identified as a project that could reinforce A Cultural and Creative City, key direction 7 of Sustainable Sydney 2030.
4. The Cultural Ribbon was originally envisaged to have a broad historical-interpretive dimension, utilising best practice heritage and cultural interpretation, public art, lighting and wayfinding elements to create a unique and legible experience.
5. Following detailed research and surveys, in 2016, Council endorsed the development of the Cultural Ribbon project into Sydney Harbour's nature and culture walk, focussed on creating a nine kilometre walk from the Australian National Maritime Museum to Woolloomooloo. Council allocated \$1.1m as the City's contribution to develop and implement the project.
6. In May 2017, the City entered into an MOU with Property NSW (now managed by Place Management NSW) to realise the nature and culture walk strategy given that the walk traversed land controlled by different government authorities.
7. In parallel with the development of the Cultural Ribbon idea, the Eora Journey was developed following consultation with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities living in the City of Sydney who strongly expressed a desire to know more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history and culture within the city.
8. Described as a walking trail, the Eora Journey was proposed in Sustainable Sydney 2030 by Aboriginal architect Dillon Kombumerri as a journey of discovery from Sydney Harbour, the site of first contact, to Redfern, the home of Aboriginal activism in Australia.
9. As part of Sustainable Sydney 2030, the Eora Journey was further developed to include four main elements:- the creation of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural centre; the creation of a signature event; the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage in the public domain; and Aboriginal employment and enterprise.
10. In 2011, Council endorsed the International Review of Contemporary Interpretation Practice by Hetti Perkins and Julie Cracknell, which included seven initial project ideas, including an idea for the Harbour Walk based on an audio tour of the foreshore.

11. In 2012, Council endorsed the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain Implementation Plan and allocated \$5.15m to deliver the seven initial project ideas, including funding for the Harbour Walk project. Council also endorsed the City seeking tenders for the engagement of an Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor.
12. Since 2008, all elements of the Eora Journey have been progressed, including support for the NAIDOC in the City event; the adoption by Council of the Eora Journey Economic Development Plan; and the purchase of the former Redfern Post Office as a place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, business and culture.
13. Following the appointment of Hetti Perkins as the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor in 2012, the City launched the Eora Journey in 2013 at the Redfern Community Centre with the completion of Welcome to Redfern by Reko Rennie and local Aboriginal youth.
14. As part of the Eora Journey Place Projections project, in late 2013, Nicole Foreshe's Born into darkness before dawn was projected onto the side of the Australian Museum to coincide with the Corroboree festival, in September 2013, and running for just over four months until the end of the Festival of Sydney in January 2014.
15. For the third project in the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain program, and coincident with the centenary of ANZAC in March 2015 Yininmadyemi, Thou didst let fall by Tony Albert was launched in Hyde Park to recognise Aboriginal servicemen and women. This project had been initiated by the Coloured Digger group in 2006.
16. Since 2015, City staff and the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor Hetti Perkins have been working concurrently on the Monument for the Eora and Stage Two of the Redfern Terrace.
17. After an extensive period of community consultation and subsequent negotiations with the relevant landowner, the announcement of bara, the Monument for the Eora, by Judy Watson in August 2018, marked an important milestone.
18. This major public artwork to be located on the Tarpeian Way Lawn will permanently recognise the clans of the Eora nation and the Gadigal people, their land, culture and traditions at a prime location on Sydney Harbour.
19. Stage Two of the Redfern Terrace is currently in development with an Aboriginal artist/architect team to be appointed to undertake design research for the terrace and surrounding precinct with members of the local Aboriginal community. This work will be coordinated with a broader public domain study for Redfern and Waterloo.
20. In parallel with the development of these two projects, work was also undertaken to identify how the Eora Journey Harbour Walk project idea and the proposed Sydney Harbour nature and culture walk could be developed to complement each other.
21. Following a recommendation by the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor Hetti Perkins it was agreed with Property NSW (and Place Management NSW) that the City would be responsible for the 'storytelling' component of the Harbour Walk and that a separately appointed Aboriginal curator would prepare a research and engagement report.
22. This report proposes that the Harbour Walk project, outlined in the attached Harbour Walk Storytelling Report, form part of the Eora Journey as a key project in the forthcoming Sustainable Sydney 2050 plan.

23. The 2050 Plan will feature a number of project ideas in the same way that Sustainable Sydney 2030 did. It will update the Eora Journey project idea to reflect the progress made by the City on the program's four key pillars and reflect recent responses from the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the broader community through the 2050 community engagement process.
24. The project demonstrates the City's ongoing commitment to our First Nations peoples.

### Research and Engagement - Storytelling Report

25. In July 2018, the City engaged Aboriginal curator Emily McDaniel to prepare a Research and Engagement (Storytelling) Report to provide the foundational 'storytelling' framework and recommendations to guide the implementation of the Harbour Walk.
26. The resulting Report does not aspire to encompass all stories relating to Sydney's Aboriginal community, culture and history, but to "weave a story about strength, resilience, survival and continuity."
27. The Report envisages the walk as a "curated series of stories connected alongside the Sydney Harbour foreshore" from the Australian National Maritime Museum in Tumbalong (Darling Harbour) to Woolloomooloo Bay.
28. The Report outlines a curatorial approach that shows how the Aboriginal concept of 'Acknowledging Country' can occur in a range of different forms and scales:- from the performance of cultural practices; to temporary projects that may represent significant ceremonies or seasonal events; to major stories and events that lend themselves to expression on a monumental scale.
29. The Report outlines the conceptual approach undertaken for the research involving:
  - (a) walks and conversations, where the shared experience of the walk with City staff and key stakeholders allowed stories and ideas to emerge;
  - (b) mapping Aboriginal placenames, which presents the opportunity to add other Aboriginal names not yet recognised by the Geographic Names Board to the City's and other authorities' wayfinding systems;
  - (c) mapping Aboriginal stories along the foreshore, that revealed a number of key themes to guide the curation, further research and the development of content for exhibitions, events, public art and interpretation projects; and
  - (d) the concept of sitelines, that provides a way to understand the Aboriginal concept of Country by encouraging a deeper relationship between the site a person is at or on and the framing of a view to another site to form a connected story of this place. As outlined in the Report,

"The concept of sitelines provides a methodology for Country-centred mapping. It allows us an intimate insight into the harbour's cultural landscape by recognising the constellations of stories that exist and acknowledging the relationships between these stories and the memories embedded within them."

30. To support the development of the Report, historian Paul Irish was engaged to undertake detailed historical research. See Attachment B: Eora Journey – Harbour Walk Historical Research.
31. Based on the curatorial and conceptual approaches outlined, the Report recommends nine projects to be developed by the City and Harbour Walk project partners:

1. Harbour Walk Naming and Icon

Creation of a name that embodies the Aboriginal significance of the harbour and its foreshore, including the engagement of a First Nations artist/designer to create a visual identity for the walk and the City's and other authorities wayfinding systems.

2. Sitelines

Eight visual devices that frame and articulate the 'siteline' relationships along the Harbour Walk.

3. Conversations

Text and/or audio based installations that respond to the intimate, hidden histories of the Harbour at 12 initial locations along the foreshore.

4. Badu (water)

An environmental project led by an artist in partnership with universities and marine institutes building on research to acknowledge Country as land, water and sky.

5. Site – Pirrama

A public artwork adjacent to the Australian National Maritime Museum to recognise the connection between Aboriginal people and the harbour.

6. Site – The Hungry Mile

A public art project recognising Aboriginal people in Sydney's maritime history.

7. Site – Ta-ra (Dawes Point)

A public art project that highlights the site where Patyegarang gifted the Sydney language to William Dawes, recording it for future generations in his notebooks.

8. Site – The Boatshed

A public art project at Circular Quay linking the Aboriginal history associated with the Government Boatshed to the resilience of Aboriginal people and communities.

9. Site – Woolloomooloo

A community based public art project that recognises the history and enduring presence of Aboriginal people in Woolloomooloo.

32. The Report also recommends five Strategic initiatives:
  - (a) Align existing or future planned event and exhibition programming or facilities celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures with the Harbour Walk.
  - (b) Engagement of an Aboriginal curator and specialist Aboriginal staff to provide curatorial direction and resources to manage projects.
  - (c) Develop a Cultural Protocols Plan for the program that clearly identifies the economic and other benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
  - (d) Establish a framework requiring development adjacent to the harbour's edge to support the objectives of the Harbour Walk.
  - (e) Community Partnership, Enterprise and Activation – Develop water-based experiences that engage with the Harbour Walk from the harbour.
33. The Report notes the following opportunities provided by the City of Sydney to communicate and extend the reach or influence of the Harbour Walk stories.
  - (a) The City of Sydney's Sydney Culture Walk App provides a platform to create a digital version of the Harbour Walk content.
  - (b) The Barani website and future versions of the booklet and web pages for Barani Barabagu also provide digital platforms for conveying Harbour Walk stories.
  - (c) The City's Banner program provides opportunities to present historic images or commission new artworks to complement the Harbour Walk.
  - (d) Yabun and NAIDOC in the City events may be enriched by holding concurrent events at sites identified by the Harbour Walk.
  - (e) Customs House also presents a prime opportunity to showcase Aboriginal stories and sites along the Harbour Walk and to become an active place for exhibitions, cultural practice workshops, engagement with Elders and for storytelling and the development of other projects and programs to complement the Harbour Walk.

### **Project Development**

34. While some land along the Harbour Walk is outside the City of Sydney's jurisdiction, the City has a vital role in coordination, facilitation and leadership to achieve the optimal public domain outcome along the foreshore to benefit all users of the city.
35. Under the existing MOU, the City is working with Place Management NSW to assist with the role of coordinating NSW Government project partners and cultural institutions.
36. A Harbour Walk Project Control Group (PCG) involving project partners has overseen the development of the Report at key stages and has provided in-principle support to its further development.

37. A Steering Committee including Chief Executive Officers, Directors and other senior representatives of Government Authorities and cultural institutions along the harbour has also been established and briefed on the Report and its development.
38. Following the same processes as above, the City will seek to implement projects on land not controlled by the City in collaboration with project partners under the existing MOU subject to available funding.
39. Project delivery will be determined as needed and funded through project budgets.
40. To develop and implement Harbour Walk projects, as outlined above, it is recommended that a Harbour Walk Curator be appointed to support artists, the artist selection process and facilitate communication about the project with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel, Public Art Advisory Panel and the Harbour Walk PCG. This role supports the City's aim to enable diverse curatorial voices and amplify Indigenous voices to Council.
41. This role is in addition to the role of the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor who is currently overseeing the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain program and coordinating the remaining projects.
42. The key tasks of the Harbour Walk Curator will be to prepare artist briefs and support artists and artist teams throughout the tender process, design development, construction and installation of projects in collaboration with City Design staff.
43. The allocation of additional resources for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff person to manage community consultation and coordination and planning of Harbour Walk projects is required given the demands on the City's Indigenous Leadership and Engagement team.
44. The development of Cultural Protocols Plans referred to in the Report is being trialled by various project teams at the City to ensure Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property is being protected and knowledge holders are being adequately remunerated.

## Key Implications

### Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030

45. 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.

46. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
- (a) Direction 1 - A Globally Competitive and Innovative City - Sydney is Australia's premier destination for national and international tourists, with tourism a key driver of the local economy. Surveys prepared for the nature and culture walk in 2016 and more recent surveys completed for the Harbour Walk confirm that one of the main priorities of the majority of tourists is to experience Aboriginal culture. The Harbour Walk project will share the stories of the Aboriginal people of Sydney which, in turn, will stimulate local economic activity and benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, cultural practitioners and communities.
  - (b) Direction 2 provides a road map for the City to become A Leading Environmental Performer - The storytelling aspect of the Harbour Walk report and the recommended projects will encourage walking and thereby contribute to the City's targets to drive down our environmental footprint.
  - (c) Direction 4 - A City for Walking and Cycling - The route of the Harbour Walk along the harbour foreshore is Sydney Harbour's cultural and natural "scenic route." It passes through sheltered bays and around harbour peninsulas, links the city's most visited museums and galleries, and passes through both our oldest and newest parks. The Harbour Walk will mark the foreshore route, but also spread out from the foreshore to ensure that walkers and cyclists can navigate to other attractions and precincts along the route.
  - (d) Direction 5 - A Lively and Engaging City Centre - The Harbour Walk project will help achieve better and richer connections to the harbour foreshore, by enhancing the experience with stories and meanings that Aboriginal people have given to these places for millennia. Creative precincts along the foreshore, such as Circular Quay, Walsh Bay, and Woolloomooloo will be strengthened, with major arts institutions anchoring cultural and supporting activities, that will be further enriched with the Aboriginal history of the place better reflected in the public domain adjacent to them.
  - (e) Direction 6 - Vibrant Local Communities and Economies - A number of creative, commercial and tourist areas of civic importance lie along the harbour foreshore route. The activation and promotion of the Harbour Walk will increase visitation to these precincts, stimulating local economies, and providing opportunities for new and existing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and cultural practitioners.
  - (f) Direction 7 - A Cultural and Creative City - The Harbour Walk project is fundamentally premised on the basis that art and cultural activity are critical to liveability, diversity and quality of life in our cities, as well as their contribution to economic development. The Harbour Walk will further demonstrate the City's objectives to: encourage the appreciation and development of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage and its contemporary expression; support cultural activity, participation, and interaction; and provide cultural leadership and strengthen cultural partnerships.

- (g) Direction 9 - Sustainable Development, Renewal and Design - The Harbour Walk report responds to sustainability and environmental imperatives facing our cities. Recommended projects and strategic initiatives recognise the need for better design of streets, parks and squares to stimulate public life, facilitate community cohesion and resilience by enhancing their role for and enriching the experience of pedestrians, whether they are locals or visitors.
- (h) Direction 10 - Implementation through Effective Governance and Partnerships - The preparation of the Harbour Walk report and the development of the recommended projects has been and will continue to be mindful of the important role the City of Sydney as caretaker of Australia's global city and of its historical significance for the nation. By the nature of its location, the Harbour Walk will require close collaboration with a number of NSW Government agencies, including cultural and other institutions. The City will continue to work with Place Management NSW to deliver projects with project partners.

### **Organisational Impact**

- 47. The implementation of Eora Journey Harbour Walk Storytelling Report project recommendations will require additional resources of a Harbour Walk Curator and Indigenous Engagement Project Coordinator to be funded from project budgets as outlined in this report.
- 48. Project development and delivery of Harbour Walk projects will be supported by staff in the City Design and the Indigenous Leadership and Engagement Units.
- 49. City staff working on Harbour Walk projects will work with the Economic Development Unit to support further work being undertaken on Tourism and Aboriginal Employment and Enterprise to provide job opportunities for Aboriginal people and extend the potential economic impacts of the project.

### **Risks**

- 50. The Harbour Walk project will depend on the ongoing collaboration with Place Management NSW and project partners including: Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust; Transport for NSW (including Roads & Maritime Services); Sydney Opera House; Museum of Contemporary Art; Art Gallery NSW; Create NSW; and Ports Authority NSW.
- 51. In the absence of this Harbour Walk Storytelling Report the City of Sydney and project partners would miss the opportunity to give appropriate recognition to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that has for so long been missing from the harbour foreshore and major tourism destinations in our city.

### **Social / Cultural / Community**

- 52. The Harbour Walk will contribute to the liveability, diversity and quality of life in our city. It will encourage the appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and support cultural practices, participation, and interaction.
- 53. At the same time, the delivery of the recommended Harbour Walk projects to be undertaken with proper care and respect for cultural protocols and people, will contribute to a sense of wellbeing and belonging for both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the broader Sydney community.

**Environmental**

54. The Harbour Walk will encourage walking and thereby contribute to the City's environmental targets.
55. The project also has the potential to tell the story of the natural environment through an Aboriginal lens, and to demonstrate and support the idea of caring for Country, and the evolving idea of Designing with Country being developed by the Government Architects Office.

**Economic**

56. The promotion of the Harbour Walk will increase visitation to the creative, commercial and tourist areas along the harbour foreshore route.

**Budget Implications**

57. The City's Long Term Financial Plan has an existing budget allocation for capital works (for the Cultural Ribbon) to implement the initial stages of the Harbour Walk i.e. the Harbour Walk Naming and Icon wayfinding elements; the Sitelines audio framing devices; and the Conversations text based installations.
58. Wayfinding components for the Harbour Walk can be funded through a separate capital works budget for the City's wayfinding system.
59. Project funding for two of the proposed major public art projects has been identified through Voluntary Planning Agreements and the public art commitments of development and project partners on the Harbour Walk.
60. Funding for the services provided under contract by the Harbour Walk Curator is proposed to be allocated from existing and future Harbour Walk capital works project budgets.
61. Funding for the proposed new role of Indigenous Engagement Project Coordinator for a period of three years is proposed to be funded from existing Harbour Walk capital works project budgets.
62. Funding for the services provided under contract by the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor is currently allocated within the City Design Operational budget.
63. Further funding for future projects will be sought from the City of Sydney, property owners and government agencies as outlined in the Eora Journey - Harbour Walk Implementation Plan at Confidential Attachment C.
64. As noted above, existing City of Sydney programs with aligned objectives can support the development of the Harbour Walk project through existing and future budgets.
65. The strategic initiative to "align existing or future planned event and exhibition programming" is aimed at encouraging cultural institutions and other organisations to direct funding to support the Harbour Walk.

### Relevant Legislation

66. The proposed route of the Harbour Walk cuts across numerous jurisdictions, and the relevant legislation and approval of relevant authorities will apply accordingly.
67. Requirements for tenders are governed by the Local Government Act 1993, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and the City's Contracts Policy.
68. Requests for Quotations for smaller projects and consultancies are governed by the City's Contracts Policy.
69. Attachment C to the subject report contains confidential information which, if disclosed would confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.
70. Discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it would compromise Council's ability to negotiate fairly and commercially to achieve the best outcome for its ratepayers.

### Critical Dates / Time Frames

71. Detailed consultation with project partners on recommended projects will commence immediately following Council endorsement.
72. The first recommended project, the Harbour Walk Naming and Icon, which proposes to select a Gadigal word for the walk, has been discussed with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel and Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council. A process involving small group of Elders to select a name has been established and with the Panel's support a name will be recommended to a subsequent Council meeting.
73. Linked to the above project, and following Council endorsement, the City will begin development of the Sitelines and Conversations projects to develop a suite of work that will provide the connecting thread along the Harbour Walk using the City of Sydney's previously allocated budget for the Cultural Ribbon. The necessary wayfinding elements to direct people to the Harbour Walk will also be undertaken alongside this work.
74. The development of public art projects at Circular Quay and The Hungry Mile have in principle support from the NSW Government and private sector partners and funding has already been identified for these projects from non-City of Sydney budgets. Proposed projects at Pirrama (Maritime Museum), Ta-Ra (Dawes Point) and Woolloomooloo will be subject to funding arrangements and further discussion between NSW Government partners and the City.
75. The development of major public artworks can take up to 10 years due to the unique construction, installation and governance issues for individual projects. It is assumed that the City would need to maintain artworks it commissions on the Harbour Walk unless agreed otherwise.

76. This report recommends approval be given to enter into a contract with the proposed Harbour Walk Curator at the earliest possible time, following this Council report, to expedite the development of projects outlined in the Harbour Walk Storytelling Report. The appointment of a Harbour Walk Curator will further demonstrate the City's commitment to the Harbour Walk and the Eora Journey program.
77. Extending the existing contract of the Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor for three years is recommended to finalise the implementation of the Monument for the Eora and the Redfern Terrace and to provide ongoing knowledge and relationships to assist in the delivery of the Eora Journey: Recognition in the Public Domain program.

### Options

78. The option not to proceed with the public art and interpretation projects outlined in the Harbour Walk report is not recommended. Council's endorsement of the Report will demonstrate the City of Sydney's ongoing commitment to the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their cultures in Sydney.
79. The proposed projects will also contribute to the city economically through the creation of jobs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and support existing and new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses, groups and organisations.
80. The option not to proceed with the resolutions in relation to the appointment of curators is not recommended as seeking new appointments will create significant time delays for the project, additionally a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting quotations or tenders due to the social and cultural complexities of the project and there would be a loss of professional insights gained during their engagements. Delays to implementing projects would also result in the loss of goodwill built-up by the curators' engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists and communities.

### Public Consultation

81. Preparation of the Harbour Walk Storytelling Report builds on consultation conducted between 2008 and 2019 for Sustainable Sydney 2030, the City Art Strategy, Legible Sydney, Creative City Cultural Policy and Action Plan, the Cultural Ribbon Strategy - Sydney Harbour's nature and culture walk and the First Nations Dialogue Forum for Sustainable Sydney 2050.
82. In October 2018 Curator Emily McDaniel and Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor Hetti Perkins presented the emerging themes for the Harbour Walk to the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Public Art Advisory Panels and received important feedback on the development of the project including in relation to the engagement of key stakeholders.
83. Subsequently the City invited Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel members to a forum of curators and historians of the city's cultural institutions, departments and organisations at the State Library of NSW which generated significant discussion on the idea of a Harbour Walk, the concept of Designing for Country and key words, phrases and stories associated with the Harbour.

84. In line with the existing MOU City staff and Curator Emily McDaniel have reported the development of the Harbour Walk Storytelling Report to government project partners and cultural institutions through the Harbour Walk Project Control Group (PCG) who have provided in-principle support to the Report's development at key stages.
85. In April 2019 Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor, Hetti Perkins and CEO, Monica Barone presented an overview of the Report and its recommendations to the Sydney Harbour Collaboration Steering Committee and received endorsement to continue development of the project.
86. In addition to formal meetings the Curator Emily McDaniel and Eora Journey Curatorial Advisor Hetti Perkins have conducted several one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders to develop project ideas, including members of the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel, key institutions and community leaders.
87. Following the refinement of project ideas, in September 2019 Emily McDaniel, Hetti Perkins and Edie Coe, the City of Sydney's Indigenous Leadership and Engagement Manager met with Nathan Moran, CEO of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council who provided his feedback and offered to provide his organisations support to develop and implement key aspects of the project, including the naming process.
88. In September 2019 Emily McDaniel presented the draft Report to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel. Following the meeting Panel members were invited to contact the Curator directly to provide any further feedback.
89. As the Report notes, the consultation, research and engagement undertaken to date is only the beginning of ongoing consultation required for each of the recommended projects. Further community and stakeholder consultation will be undertaken as projects are developed at specific sites as per the normal City of Sydney processes.

**KIM WOODBURY**

Chief Operating Officer

Bridget Smyth, Design Director and City Architect

Glenn Wallace, Special Projects Program Manager (Public Art)