

## Relevant Information for Council

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**FILE:** X021637.001 **DATE:** 6 March 2020

**TO:** Lord Mayor and Councillors

**FROM:** Amit Chanan, Director City Projects and Property

**THROUGH:** Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** Information Relevant To Item 7.4 – Project Scope - Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Upgrade, Elizabeth Bay

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### For Noting

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

### Purpose

To provide further information to questions raised by Councillors at the 2 March 2020, Environment Committee on Item 7.4 - Project Scope - Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Upgrade, Elizabeth Bay.

### Background

At the meeting of the Environment Committee on 2 February 2020, further information was sought in relation to the proposed improvements on Lawrence Hargrave Reserve, Elizabeth Bay.

### Proposed Signage recognising Lawrence Hargrave.

The City will explore options to acknowledge Lawrence Hargrave and his life achievements within the park. Lawrence Hargrave was best renowned for his attachment to a train of tandem box kites and became the first Australian to fly. His discoveries in aerodynamics and mechanical engineering forever changed the course of aviation.

## **Water Harvesting and Composting**

The City will investigate water-harvesting and composting options in the detail design phase. The carpark roof slab covers a large surface area, offering opportunities to capture and re-use roof water and urban stormwater for irrigation and garden watering. The City will also investigate the feasibility to harness roof water runoff from other closely located buildings.

## **Trees**

The Arborists Report identified that many of the existing casuarinas are in poor health, suppressed and are preventing the growth of other plant species. This in turn is reducing habitat value within the park.

Casuarinas inhibit the growth and development of other plant species by excreting a chemical called allelopathy. By suppressing potential plant competitors, Casuarinas gain access to all of the water and nutrients in their root zone.

The Project Team will work closely with the City's Ecologist and Tree Team to carefully select replacement trees that are supportive of the sites native habitat, provides adequate shade and improves sight-lines through the park.

## **Ping-Pong Tables**

Ping-pong tables will not be installed as part of these upgrade works. The City will investigate other options for encouraging positive social behaviours within the park, in order to address safety and useability concerns.

## **Memorials.**

All memorial plaques will be retained and protected, and remain in their current locations. The upgrade aims to improve the opportunity for the memorials to be seen and acknowledged by the community.

## **Remembrance Day Memorial Garden**

The memorial garden and Hoop Pine is an existing garden located at the rear south-western corner of the park, which commemorates local residents who have died as a result of AIDS. This memorial will be retained and protected. A new levelled terrace area with additional seating and paving is proposed adjacent the garden, to increase amenity for the annual memorial event held within the park.

## **Sea King and Kings Cross Bikers Memorial**

A small memorial rosemary garden and memorial plaque at the front north-western corner of the park, is dedicated to the nine Australian Defence Force personnel who were killed in the Sea King Helicopter Crash of 2005. Each year at 11am on the 11th November, residents and the Kings Cross Bikers conduct a service in front of the memorial. As part of the upgrade works, the rosemary garden will be reinstated so that the community can better recognise the memorial.

**Memo from Amit Chanan, Director City Projects and Property**

Prepared by: Sophie McNamara, Design Manager - City Projects and Property

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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