



DEVONPORT CITY COUNCIL

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COUNCIL UPDATE

COVID-19 RESPONSE - DEVELOPMENT STIMULUS PROGRAM

Devonport City Council has voted unanimously to endorse the proposed COVID-19 Development Stimulus Program.

Four potential development sites will be included in the expression of interest process, and there will be a nominated selection criteria against which submission will be considered.

The significant new initiative is designed to stimulate economic activity and development within the Devonport CBD in response to the impacts of COVID-19.

Councillor Milbourne moved the motion at the September 28 Council meeting, and said that the initiative was a great way to stimulate the economy in Devonport, and that it was a great opportunity to see what members of the community may like to see in those sites.

Councillor Perry acknowledged that Council will always have the opportunity to approve or deny any future development on the sites and that the initiative will help to make a better city for all in the community. "I think it's just a continuation of the LIVING CITY project, where we are building the City into something really special," said Cr Perry.

Whilst the report generated some discussion around the potential impact of loss of parking spaces to the community, the General Manger confirmed that any expressions of interest will come back to Council for consideration and that community consultation may form part of this process.

The sites to be included in the expression of interest program are:

- 16-20 Edward Street
- Part of 29 Fenton Way
- 6-10 Steele Street
- 5 Payne Avenue

In selecting the sites to be included in the program, consideration has been given to a range of factors, including the inclusion of sites that can be progressed to development in a timely manner, and sites that will cover a range of development types and scales that will maximise the opportunity for local developers and investors.

The expression of interest process is expected to commence in late October.

DISPOSAL OF LAND: 116-122 STONY RISE ROAD

Council has agreed, by absolute majority, to offer an intention to sell an undeveloped parcel of land at 116-122 Stony Rise Road to Best Street Investments Pty Ltd.

It will be a condition of the sale that a suitable public pathway be constructed on the land, and the sale proceeds will be invested to improve public open space linkages and infrastructure within the 'Tiers' vicinity.

The General Manager will now commence the process for the disposal of the land in accordance with S178 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

NEW AND REVISED POLICIES ENDORSED

Council has adopted several new or updated governance related policies, as a result of a recent review to increase openness and transparency beyond statutory requirements.

The Governance Policy outlines the eight major characteristics of good governance referenced in the Tasmanian Government's 'Good Governance Guide'. The policy confirms Council's commitment to complying with the guidelines outlined within.

The Commercial Lease Policy seeks to achieve a consistent approach to Council's commercial lease development and renewals process. Council's previous lease policy applied to three categories of Council leases, namely community, childcare and commercial properties. The new policy establishes a standalone document specifically relating to Council owned properties leased on a purely commercial basis.

The Public Question Time Policy has also been updated to increase the number of questions without notice a member of the public may ask from two to three. Where possible questions without notice are provided to Council by 12noon on the day of the meeting. This will provide a more efficient response, allowing questions to be researched and then answered when asked, rather than taken on notice.

DID YOU KNOW THE MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE NOW LIVE STREAMED?

Due to social distancing restrictions currently enforced by COVID-19 legislation, Council has commenced live streaming Council meetings to the public via YouTube. A link to the recording is then posted on Council's website the following day. This enables members of the public to view the entire meeting at a time convenient to them.



Next month's Council Meeting will be held on Monday 26 October 2020, commencing at 5:30pm

Currently 10 members of the public are able to attend meetings, however this may change in line with public health advice.

Registrations are essential, and open on the day the meeting agenda is available to the public.