

# CITY IMAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**REPORT** 

MONDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 3.40PM COUNCIL CHAMBERS

# Advisory Committee Members >>

The Mayor, Councillor Jenny Hill
Committee Chair
Townsville City Council

Eber Butron Director Planning and Community Engagement, Townsville City

Council

Lucy Downes Gecko Interiors

Zammi Rohan Counterpoint Architecture Michael Baker Marketing Garage

Steve Price MMM

Kevin Booth Townsville Chamber of Commerce

Wal Smith Place Design Group

Filitsa Kounias Townsville Loves Your Business

Non-member City Image support role:

Jeffrey Kerr Meeting Facilitator, Senior Urban Design Officer, Townsville City

Council

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Townsville City Council would like to acknowledge the Bindal and Gurambilbarra Wulgurukaba peoples as Traditional Owners of the land on which our Council operates. We pay respect to Elders past, present and future and value the traditions, culture and aspirations of the first Australians of this land. We acknowledge and hold in great significance the valuable contribution that Traditional Owners have made and continue to make within the Townsville Community.

#### Goal 1 - A Prosperous City

Deliver a strong and innovative economy for Townsville with sustainable growth and support for local jobs and businesses.

#### Objectives that identify our strategic intent:

- 1.1 Support local businesses, major industries, local innovation and employment growth.
- 1.2 Promote our economic and geographic strengths and market Townsville as a vibrant destination for commerce, education, research, tourism, entertainment and lifestyle.
- 1.3 Plan, support, provide and advocate for infrastructure and investment that supports innovation, residential and economic growth.
- 1.4 Maximize opportunities for economic growth by building and maintaining effective partnerships.

#### Goal 2 - A City for People

Enhance people's experience of Townsville as a liveable and vibrant city by providing services that support the growth of an inclusive, knowledgeable, active, safe and healthy community.

#### Objectives that identify our strategic intent:

- 2.1 Provide services and local infrastructure that meet community expectations, support growth and provide for the needs of our community.
- 2.2 Improve the liveability of Townsville and encourage active and healthy lifestyles by providing accessible public facilities and community infrastructure.
- 2.3 Improve the vibrancy of Townsville by supporting the community's access to, and participation in, a range of artistic, cultural and entertainment activities.
- 2.4 Enhance community knowledge of and access to council services to improve community wellbeing, health and safety.

#### Goal 3 - A Clean and Green City

Create a sustainable future for Townsville through the protection, maintenance and enhancement of our unique, natural and built environment.

#### Objectives that identify our strategic intent:

- 3.1 Plan, design and deliver sustainable development and support this by actively managing the natural environment and increasing green infrastructure, at both a city, suburb and place level.
- 3.2 Develop and implement long term solutions for the management of water and waste that are socially, financially and environmentally sound.

# Goal 4 - A Simpler, Faster, Better Council

Transform the Townsville City Council into a simpler, faster and better council that is easy to work with, and for, and gains community trust by being transparent and managing its resources.

# Objectives that identify out strategic intent:

- 4.1 Provide customer-focused services that meet the expectations of our community in a dynamic and adaptive manner.
- 4.2 Ensure that council's plans, services, decisions and priorities reflect the needs and expectations of the community.
- 4.3 Be a valued and committed employer who provides a productive, inclusive and respectful environment for staff and the community.
- 4.4 Improve financial sustainability and provide value and accountability to the community for the expenditure of public funds.
- 4.5 Ensure that public funds are expended efficiently and that council expenditure represents value for money whilst supporting the local economy.

#### **City Image Advisory Committee**

#### Purpose of the City Image Advisory Committee

The City Image Advisory Committee will consider and advise council in relation to strategy and policy for the City Image. The objectives of the Committee are to:

- provide strategic input and guidance to council on matters relating to the image of the City of Townsville:
- assist with identifying opportunities to enhance the image of the City of Townsville;
- assist council in the identification of impediments to realizing the desired image for the City of Townsville; and
- act as a gauge of the community's views.

# Terms of Reference

The terms of reference describes the purpose and structure of the committee. It defines the scope of the committee detailing the committee's authority, composition and objectives, providing the framework for the committee's operations. The terms of reference also identifies the duties and responsibilities of members and the chair, the terms of membership, roles and responsibilities, conflict of interest, meeting information and conduct requirements.

# City Image Advisory Committee Member interaction with media:

Media (TV or newspaper agencies) may be in attendance at meetings and may wish to speak with committee members. It is important to be aware that as a member of the City Image Committee you are representing and speaking on behalf of your organisation. We would advise that you seek confirmation as to your organisation's media policies, and inform the Coordinator Heritage and Urban Planning Unit if you have any issues / concerns.

5.8.6 Audio or video recording of a meeting - as per Townsville City Council, Code of Meeting Practice

Only authorised persons may make an audio or video recording of a meeting in accordance with Section 35 of Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011.

A person is authorised to make an audio or video recording of the meeting if the Chairperson consents to the recording being made. A record of the Chairperson's consent made in the minutes of the meeting (or the report of a committee meeting) is "written consent" for the purposes of Section 35 of Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011.

REPORT CITY IMAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE Monday 24 September 2018

ITEMS 1 to 5

**PRESENT** 

The Mayor, Councillor Jenny Hill Committee Chair, Townsville City Council

Lucy Downes Gecko Interiors
Michael Baker Marketing Garage

Steve Price MMM

Wal Smith Place Design Group

Filitsa Kounias Townsville Loves Your Business

Jeffrey Kerr Senior Urban Design Officer, Townsville City Council Meg Frisby Head of Office to the Mayor, Townsville City Council Lesley Cameron General Manager Planning, Townsville City Council

**GUESTS** 

Brett Brogan Head of Future Cities, Townsville City Council

Wayde Chiesa Economic Activation Future Cities, Townsville City Council

Paul Johnston Team Manager Planning, Townsville City Council

Bronwyn Bignoux Coordinator Land Use and Urban Design, Townsville City

Council

Malcolm Middleton Queensland Government Architect
Brett McDonald Department of Housing and Public Works

Councillor Les Walker Townsville City Council (Heritage Advisory Committee)
Dr Dorothy Gibson-Wilde OAM Individual Member (Heritage Advisory Committee)
Dr Shelley Greer James Cook University Australia (Heritage Advisory

Committee)

Leigh Preston Queensland Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait

Islander Partnerships (Heritage Advisory Committee) Local History Librarian, Townsville City Council,

Katie PittockLocal History Librarian, Townsville City Council,Ben SmithEconomic Activation Officer, Townsville City CouncilEllen CoxEconomic Activation Officer, Townsville City Council

**APOLOGIES** 

Geoff Hansen

Ray Holyoak

Councillor Ann-Maree Greaney Townsville City Council

Eber Butron Director Planning and Community Engagement, Townsville

City Council

Ted Brandi Heritage Officer and Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting

Facilitator, Townsville City Council

Adele Young Chief Executive Officer, Townsville City Council

Zammi Rohan Counterpoint Architecture

Kevin Booth Townsville Chamber of Commerce

Councillor Kurt Rehbein Townsville City Council (Heritage Advisory Committee)

Carly Greig Queensland Department of Environment and

Heritage Protection (Heritage Advisory Committee)
Individual Member (Heritage Advisory Committee)
National Trust of Queensland (Heritage Advisory

Committee)

Roger MacCallum Australian Institute of Architects (Heritage Advisory

Committee)

Sandi Robb Individual Member (Heritage Advisory Committee)
Sharyn Denyer Individual Member (Heritage Advisory Committee)

Annette Burns Coordinator, Library and Information Services, Townsville

City Council (Heritage Advisory Committee)

# Opening of meeting

The Chair, the Mayor, Councillor J Hill opened the meeting at 3.40pm.

# **Acknowledgment to Country**

The Mayor, Councillor J Hill provided the Acknowledgment to Country.

# Introduction

The Mayor, Councillor J Hill introduced Malcolm Middleton, Queensland Government Architect.

#### Welcome to new Committee members

The Mayor, Councillor J Hill welcomed Wal Smith and Filitsa Kounias as new members of the City Image Advisory Committee.

# **Ken Tippett**

The Mayor, Councillor J Hill thanked Ken Tippett for the work he has performed.

#### **Steve Price OAM**

The Mayor, Councillor J Hill acknowledged Steve Price for being honoured with an OAM (Order of Australia Medal).

# Agenda items

# Item 1. Action from last meeting - Letter sent to Minister for Housing and Public Works, regarding poor design of social housing in Townsville

The Chair, the Mayor, Councillor J Hill advised that correspondence has been sent to the Minister (for Housing and Public Works) regarding the poor design of public housing over the last few years (in Townsville).

Also, Councillor Hill highlighted that Townsville has probably one of the largest numbers of buildings that are of significant heritage that Council wishes to be preserved and maintained in some way. Councillor Hill indicated that there seems to be a disconnect between the heritage officers (from the Department of Environment and Science) and the preservation of the heritage in our City.

#### Item 2. Presentation - Townsville 2020: A clear vision for our City

The Head of Future Cities provided a presentation on the proposed projects for Townsville 2020: A clear vision for our City.

#### Item 3. City Deals Update

The Head of Future Cities provided an update on City Deals.

# Item 4. Presentation by Queensland Government Architect - Townsville: How can we help?

The Queensland Government Architect provided a presentation titled 'Townsville: How can we help?'. The presentation included the following key points and the ideas / thoughts of the Queensland Government Architect.

Office of the Queensland Government Architect (OQGA) Our purpose is to inspire, build and support a design culture to shape Queensland's urban legacy.

#### Our role

- Design Leadership -
  - OQGA supports the Queensland Government Architect in promoting the value of good urban design across Queensland.
- 2. Design Advice -
  - OQGA collaborates with numerous design professionals to ensure the advice provided is of the highest standard.
- Design Thinking -
  - Comprehensive design thinking and resolving complex design problems in cities is at the core of OUDA's work.
- 4. Design Excellence -
  - OQGA promotes design excellence through a variety of projects and awards.
- 5. Design Advocacy -
  - OQGA raises awareness of good design across the wider community by supporting and promoting a range of endeavours.
- Provocations -
  - OQGA raises awareness of good design across the wider community by supporting and promoting a range of endeavours.

#### Our service

- Housing
- Transport
- The Arts
- Education
- Planning
- Universities, Local Government, Peak Bodies and Industry Groups
- The vision
- Overview of the proposed QDESIGN publication to be released in the new year
- Provocations for Townsville
  - 1. Cairns is your friend....the region is your asset
  - 2. The city form is not your friend (but there's things you can do)
  - 3. Cool the city down
  - 4. Do smart things with long term dividends e.g APT Story (Townsville), a smart green city corridor, a smart transport corridor, build on the stadium, Asia Pacific Triennial (overview provided of benefits of this Brisbane event)
  - 5. Tell your story with confidence -
    - Value your assets -
    - 1. Affordable housing
    - 2. Work opportunities
    - 3. Good education
    - 4. Culture and heritage
    - 5. Good sporting
    - 6. Good lifestyle and adventure
    - 7. Infrastructure
    - 8. Clean
    - 9. Military History

- Townsville North Rail Yards
- overview of Open House program

The ideas put forward by the Queensland Government Architect and how design could be improved was discussed.

The Mayor, Councillor J Hill spoke on issues affecting Townsville' including improving the design outcomes of State developments in Townsville, that respond to our Dry Tropical Climate, ensuring trees are considered properly in proposals and the overall aesthetics of built form, similar to outcomes that are built in Brisbane. Also how can Townsville get more value out of our heritage building that are largely untenanted and underutilised.

The Queensland Government Architect offered his help to Townsville.

Councillor Hill thanked Malcolm.

# Item 5. Verbal Presentation - Brett McDonald, Department of Housing and Public Works

Brett McDonald, Executive Director Housing Partnerships Office, Housing and Homelessness Services, Department of Housing and Public Works provided an overview of his background and the Department's folio.

The Chair, the Mayor, Councillor J Hill advised that what we are looking for is the design guidelines that you have in Brisbane to at least implement something like that here.

Mr McDonald advised that the design criteria we have in Brisbane is the same for the entire State.

Councillor Hill queried why is it the designs we see in the Valley are far more aesthetically pleasing and difficult to determine that they are public housing compared to the buildings in Townsville. Councillor Hill expressed her concerns with regards to the standard of public housing in Townsville.

Councillor L Walker outlined issues with designs.

Councillor Hill provided some examples of public housing in Townsville that she wishes Mr McDonald to inspect.

Mr McDonald advised that he cannot change the history, all he can do is look at going forward and try and engage more with the Council and the stakeholders that are here and understand the product. Mr McDonald explained that it comes back to the prescriptive construction contracts that we have which we need to work on, and we are working on these.

Councillor Hill provided some examples of public housing in Brisbane that she would like Mr McDonald to look at.

Mr McDonald outlined where we need to go with public housing and advised that the Department does hope to engage better at a local government level.

Councillor Hill advised that she hopes that when the Heritage and City Image Advisory Committees meet again we will take into account some of the comments made to see how we can now move forward in these areas.

# **General Business**

There was no general business.

**Next meeting –** Proposed for Monday 19 November 2018

**Agenda items due -** Monday 5 November 2018

Venue - Council Chambers

The meeting was closed at 5.35pm.

THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR J HILL CHAIR