

Council Members' Accommodation Review

Tuesday, 16 April 2024
Infrastructure and Public Works Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Places

Program Contact:
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Public

Approving Officer:
Tom McCready, Director City Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on 11 May 2021, Council requested the investigation into options for the alternate uses for Council Members' rooms and offices (accommodation) within the Civic Areas of Eagle Chambers and the Adelaide Town Hall.

In mid 2023, two concept options were designed; the first concept considered both the Archive Gallery Space and Members' Accommodation whilst the second concept option considered only the Members' Accommodation.

At its meeting on 19 September 2023, the Civic Recognition Working Group were presented for consideration the two concept designs options relating to the existing Members' Lounge Area and Archival Space.

The Civic Recognition Working Group recommended not to proceed with either concept option associated with Council Member accommodation due to the estimated construction costs and delivery outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 23 April 2024 for consideration.

THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT COUNCIL

1. Resolves not to proceed to detailed design or construction with either concept option associated with Council Members' Accommodation as contained in Attachment A to Item 7.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee held on 16 April 2024, due to the estimated construction costs and delivery outcomes.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Places The actions outlined in this report give the opportunity to increase community access to the Adelaide Town Hall.
Policy	Standing Orders Community Land Management Plan – Town Hall
Consultation	Civic Recognition Working Group
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
23/24 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 24/25 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
23/24 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. In 2017, the Administration provided Council Members with concepts plans for the Archival Space and Members' Accommodation.
 2. At the Council Meeting on 11 May 2021, Council resolved:
"That Council:
 1. *Notes that former Councillor Natasha Malani requested an investigation on the use of the Councillors' offices on the 19 July 2016 and for the space to be opened to the public.*
 2. *Requests Administration provides a report on the investigation to Council by end of June 2021.*
 3. *Requests the Administration conducts a workshop no later than July 2021 to discuss options of alternate uses for Council Members' rooms and offices. This may include having the offices/members' area open to the public, to develop as a gallery or other publicly accessible paces and may require moving the councillors' offices, creating hot desk spaces or other Members' facilities in another area within the Town Hall."*
 3. A workshop was presented to the Committee on 27 July 2021, seeking feedback on key questions. The feedback was to consider further options for the space, consider reviewing the existing members lounge for an archival space, and consider the space within the Council Members areas.
 4. The 2022/23 Business Plan and Budget included \$10,000 to provide concepts designs for these selected spaces.
 5. Two concept options were prepared, the first concept considered both the Archival Gallery Space and Members' Accommodation whilst the second concept option considered only the Members' Accommodation.
 6. Feedback from the Councillors was received, and concept plans have since been drafted to consider options for the existing Members' Lounge Area and Archival Space within the Civic Areas of Eagle Chambers and the Adelaide Town Hall.
 - 6.1. Option 1: Archive Gallery Space and Members' Accommodation:
 - 6.1.1 Estimated total project cost \$450,000 (\$300,000 + \$150,000) includes the Member Accommodation in Option 2 and incorporates repurposing the existing redundant Members' lounge in Adelaide Town Hall to consider an Archival space which celebrates the Council's history through selected interactive displays when engaged through guided tours.
 - 6.2. Option 2: Members' Accommodation Only:
 - 6.2.1 Estimated total project cost \$300,000 to re-purpose the existing underutilised office administration space in Eagle Chambers to consider a more functional space for the Councillors with a lounge area, meeting room and cloak room.
 - 6.2.2 The existing Members Administration and proposed meeting area is now occupied by the Coordinator, Security & Emergency Management.
 - 6.2.3 Both Options require an estimated \$80,000 for detailed design.
 7. The two options were presented to the Civic Recognition Working Group on 19 September 2023, seeking endorsement to engage with Council Members on the options presented. Please refer to Attachment A - Council Members' accommodation report – Civic Recognition Working Group.
 8. The outcome of the discussion was as follows:
"The Civic Recognition Working Group did not endorse the advancement of either option.
This was based on the cost of the project, Return on Investment (ROI) and given cost for the ongoing maintenance and curation of the museum component of the space.
It was suggested to explore the use of the Artist Pods in the Colonel Light Centre (breezeway) as a better space to showcase our museum pieces in archival storage. This would enable more exposure to the public to view the artifacts."
 9. Due to the estimated construction costs the Civic Recognition Working Group recommended not to proceed with the project.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Council Members' accommodation report – Civic Recognition Working Group

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