

Standing Item: KYAC Pipeline Discussions

Wednesday, 8 May 2024
Reconciliation Committee

Strategic Alignment - Our Community

Public

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on discussions with the Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) on Council projects in the City of Adelaide.

KYAC and the City of Adelaide (CoA) have a cooperative working relationship based on ongoing engagement about projects and their relationship to Kaurna Native Title. Meetings of the KYAC Directors and CoA Administration are held quarterly, or more frequently, to discuss projects and seek advice.

A highlight for the quarter was a meeting between the newly elected KYAC Board, the Lord Mayor and Executive Members of the City of Adelaide in April 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE

1. Notes the update on the KYAC pipeline discussions to the period ending 17 April 2024.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment –Our Community An inclusive, equitable and welcoming community where people feel a sense of belonging
Policy	The KYAC pipeline discussions align with the 'Relationships' pillar in the City of Adelaide's Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-2024 and Council's enduring commitment that: <i>'Consultations with Kaura community Members are carried out regularly to ensure Council responses meaningfully to the advice and concerns of the Traditional Owners'</i> .
Consultation	KYAC pipeline meetings are a way to engage with KYAC members outside of any formal commitment to take the City of Adelaide discussion items to the KYAC Board for endorsement.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report
Opportunities	The pipeline discussions recognise the significant work of KYAC across Kaurna Native Title lands and provide regular opportunities for the City of Adelaide and KYAC to engage. KYAC Pipeline meetings provide an opportunity to strengthen relationships with Board Members.
23/24 Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide has a 2023/24 budget allocation of \$30,000 for engagement with KYAC.
Proposed 24/25 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The pipeline meetings are being held throughout 2023/24 and will continue in 2024/25.
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

Background

1. KYAC and the City of Adelaide (CoA) have a cooperative working relationship based on ongoing engagement about projects and their relationship to Kurna Native Title.
2. Meetings of the KYAC Directors and CoA Administration are held quarterly, or more frequently, to discuss projects and seek advice. Meetings were held in:
 - 2.1. December 2023
 - 2.2. April 2024.
3. This report outlines projects discussed with KYAC since the November 2023 meeting of the Reconciliation Committee.

Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation Governance Process

4. In December 2023, KYAC held its annual general meeting to elect four Director roles. Following the elections the Board comprises:
 - 4.1. Existing Directors – Mitzi Nam, Tim Agius and Alan Sumner
 - 4.2. New Directors – Dennis Rigney, Emma Gollan, Anne Newchurch, and Mickey O'Brien.
5. The appointment of new Chair and Vice-Chair was completed in mid-March 2024. KYAC has previously advised that the Chair and Vice-Chair will be the KYAC City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee strategic agency representatives. The new appointments were:
 - 5.1. Mitzi Nam – KYAC Chair, and
 - 5.2. Dennis Rigney – KYAC Vice-Chair.

April 2024 KYAC Pipeline meeting

6. The KYAC Board met with the Lord Mayor and senior members of the City of Adelaide Executive in April 2024 to discuss joint priorities and make connections with leaders in each organisation.
7. A pipeline meeting was subsequently held to provide an opportunity for new KYAC Directors to discuss previous items presented to KYAC. The items that were discussed included:
 - 7.1. *Botanic Creek upgrade* – Seeking advice on preferred method of engagement.
 - 7.2. *Adelaide Park Lands Management Plan* – Workshop with KYAC Directors to complete the Caring for Country component.
 - 7.3. *Kurna Voices* – Update on project direction.
 - 7.4. *Red Ochre retaining wall* – New project to restore the retaining wall near the weir at Karrowirra Parri.
 - 7.5. *Dry area extension* – Discussion about the intent of extending the dry area exemption. Suggestion for data to support the extension.
 - 7.6. *Reconciliation Action Plan Action 17* - Kurna visibility.
 - 7.7. *Repatriated Kurna Artefacts* – Discussions about repatriation of Kurna artefacts:
 - 7.7.1. In July 2023, following ongoing discussions with the German Embassy regarding the return of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander materials from Germany, Ambassador Dr Markus Ederer and representatives of the Kurna people (Greater Adelaide region) approached the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) to organise and host a return event which will include AIATSIS and the Honourable Penny Wong Senator and Minister for Foreign Affairs.
 - 7.7.2. The Kurna people and representatives at the Grassi Museum (Leipzig) have been discussing the potential return since 2019.
 - 7.7.3. This was not an AIATSIS negotiated return through its Return of Cultural Heritage program. However, AIATSIS welcomes the return of material from German institutions and acknowledges the shared efforts to support the community-led processes to repatriate artefacts and human remains from German collections to Australia.
 - 7.7.4. Artefacts documented to be gifted from the Pirtawardli site which is located on the North Adelaide Golf Course grounds.

- 7.7.5. Artefacts returned: Spear small, fishing net, women's digging stick and a Batton (wood splitter). Storage is being arranged at the Art Gallery of South Australia after the return ceremony.
- 7.7.6. The artefacts return ceremony was arranged for 11:00am-1:00pm, 3 May 2024 at Possum Park/ Pirltawardli (Park 1).

Matter Arising

8. At the pipeline meeting, further engagement on the Botanic Creek upgrade project was discussed. The City of Adelaide was seeking advice on the preferred engagement method for KYAC.
- 8.1. The project has three elements:
- 8.1.1. Waterways management
 - 8.1.2. Vegetation management
 - 8.1.3. Cultural storytelling.
- 8.2. KYAC has advised that they would like to be engaged at important points in the project with regular updates to KYAC about the progress.
9. A future item for discussion between the City of Adelaide and KYAC is recruitment of Aboriginal employees in the Adelaide Park Lands (Kaurna Rangers).

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMAITON

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -