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Update on the World Heritage Listing for the Adelaide Park Lands and its Rural Settlement Landscapes

Thursday, 23 May 2024 Board Meeting

Author:

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Purpose
The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Joint World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes.
Recommendation THAT THE KADALTILLA (ADELAIDE BARK LANDS ALITHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL:
THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL:
That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:
 Receives and notes the report contained in Item XX on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 23 May 2024.

Implications

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Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy 2015-2025	Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy 2015-2025 Outcome - The Park Lands are valued as a National Heritage site worthy of World Heritage Listing Action 1 – Secure a commitment to pursue World Heritage listing Action 2 - Develop the case for World Heritage listing.	
2023-2028 Strategic Plan	Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority 2023-2028 Strategic Plan Strategic Plan Alignment – Cultural Value Objective 1.4 Champion the development of World Heritage listing nomination Initiative 1.4 Regularly review World Heritage listing submission progress Measure of Success 1.4 State Government support for World Heritage listing submission by 2026.	
Policy	The World Heritage listing of Adelaide and its rural settlement landscapes seeks to landmark the site and protect the area for future generations to enjoy and appreciate.	
Consultation	Not as a result of this report	
Resource	Not as a result of this report	
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Not as a result of this report	
Opportunities	 Opportunities created through World Heritage listing include: Improved understanding and recognition of the significance of Adelaide and its rural settlement landscapes Global profile and cultural tourism business and international investment attraction Creating a shared narrative about First Nations culture and history that aligns with colonial settlement Greater levels of protection. 	
City of Adelaide Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide has dedicated an existing FTE to project manage the bid which is equivalent to \$74,000 of operating costs in 2023/24. A budget proposal for \$160,000 was submitted to the draft 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget process. The draft 2024/25 Annual Business Plan and Budget was approved by the Council at its meeting on 23 April 2024 for the purposes of public consultation. There is currently no budgetary allowance for the World Heritage Project.	
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report	
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report	
Other Funding Sources	The Mount Lofty Consortium have noted that there is approximately \$60,000 remaining to contribute towards the ongoing development of the World Heritage bid. The City of Adelaide has decided to take responsibility for funding of the World Heritage Project. Until there is clarity in the World Heritage Governance arrangements, this funding is best retained by the Consortium to help facilitate required World Heritage Survey and review works relating to these Council areas.	

Discussion

- 1. At its meeting on 12 March 2024, Council endorsed the recommendation of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee on 5 March 2024 (Link 1) that Council:
 - 1. Notes the continued efforts of City of Adelaide to seek World Heritage status for the Adelaide Park Lands and its Rural Settlement Landscapes in partnership with the Mount Lofty World Heritage Consortium.
 - 2. Endorses Option B City of Adelaide and State Government Partnership, as presented in Item 7.4 on the Agenda for the meeting of the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee held on 5 March 2024.
 - 3. Authorises the Lord Mayor to write to Deputy Premier, Susan Close MP, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water seeking State Government support for alternative partnership approaches.
 - 4. Authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer or delegate to write to the Mount Lofty World Heritage Consortium advising bid partners of Council's decision, pending advice from the State Government.
- 2. Following Council's decision on 12 March 2024 to pursue an alternative arrangement with the State Government for the World Heritage Bid, the Administration has prepared a revised project governance structure to reflect the proposed State Government and the City of Adelaide partnership.
- 3. At the time of the Council's decision, the Mount Lofty Consortium had advised:
 - 3.1. The City of Onkaparinga supported the proposed governance structure and the Chief Executive Officer's participation in the project's Oversight Committee.
 - 3.2. Mount Barker District Council would not continue participation in the World Heritage Bid project in any capacity.
 - 3.3. The Barossa Council response not yet received.
 - 3.4. Adelaide Hills Council response not yet received.
- 4. The Administration has progressed further follow up with Council's that are yet to respond.
- 5. Pending advice from the Deputy Premier, Susan Close MP, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, on an alternative partnership approach, the City of Adelaide website for the UNESCO World Heritage Bid will continue to show the current Mount Lofty Consortium as bid partners.

Related Activity

- 6. The City of Adelaide applied for funding through the First Nations Heritage Grants Program Round 1 (Commonwealth) to update the National Heritage values of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout to incorporate First Nations values.
 - 6.1. Council was notified on 9 May 2024 that its grant application was unsuccessful for Round 1.
 - 6.2. Administration is seeking feedback with the intent of addressing any shortfalls and resubmitting a new application when the next grant round opens.
- 7. The Australian Heritage Council is undertaking a Strategic Heritage Assessment of the Adelaide Park Lands which considers the environmental and heritage impacts on the National Heritage values over time. An explanation of the process is provided in <u>Link 2</u>.
- 8. Administration is seeking to progress the implementation of the National Heritage Management Plan (subject to 2024/25 budget deliberations), including a literature review on the cultural, social, environmental and economic values of the Adelaide Park Lands.

Data and Supporting Information

Link 1 – Agenda, City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee, Tuesday, 5 March 2024

Link 2 - Strategic Heritage Assessment, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Attachments

Nil