

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN



The Contents

Message from the Commissioner	5
Our City	5
About this Plan	6
Why We Are Doing This?	6
How the Plan was Developed	6
Successful Implementation	7
Measuring Our Success	9
Local and Global Trends	9
Our Vision	10
What You Said	10
Natural Environment – Our Place in Nature	11
Our Community – Connecting and Supporting People	14
Built Environment – Living and Moving Around	15
Prosperity – Living, Working and Doing Business in Canning	18
Leadership and Governance – How We Decide	19



Message from the Commissioner



Commissioner Linton Reynolds with Western Australian Aboriginal artists Dennis Kickett and Rod Garlett as part of the Canning World Arts Exchange.

Local government’s role is rapidly expanding to deal with global issues such as changing climate and protection of our valuable biodiversity. At the same time we retain responsibility for day to day maintenance of your paths, streets, neighbourhood parks, rubbish collection and a wide range of services and activities between those extremes.

This Strategic Community Plan is the basic building block which will inform Council decisions in relation to new projects, operational expenditure and service provision for the next 10+ years.

It gives guidance to the relationships that we need to form with our community, with the business sector and with other levels of government.

Having been endorsed by the community as an accurate reflection of their hopes and aspirations, it is now our challenge to bring it to fruition. To do so we will now develop resourcing strategies and detailed plans that will highlight activities, services, infrastructure, facilitate expenditure allocation and scheduling.

As our first plan of this nature, we are embarking together on a journey that will provide a more transparent link between Council and community, and one that will underpin enhanced community engagement in decision making.

I commend those who engaged with Council in developing the plan during the workshops and feedback sessions and I look forward to its successful implementation.

Linton Reynolds AM JP
Commissioner



Our *City*

The City of Canning (City) is located in Perth's south-eastern suburbs, about 10 kilometres from the Perth CBD and covers a total of 65 square kilometres. The City comprises of Bentley, Cannington, East Cannington, Ferndale, Lynwood, Parkwood, Queens Park, Riverton, Rossmoyne, Shelley, Welshpool, Willetton, Wilson and parts of St James, Canning Vale and Leeming suburbs.

The City is currently home to 90, 892 residents and is predicted to increase to 100,502 by 2031. The original inhabitants of the Canning area were the Beeloo Nyungar Aboriginal people. Later, from 1829, European settlement in the area was based around farming, market gardening and timber milling. Now, the City consists of a diverse and multicultural population, with 32.9% born overseas from a non-English speaking background.

The City boasts the beautiful Canning River Regional Park, which was established in 1989 to protect the Canning River (known to the Aboriginal people as 'Dyarlgard') wetlands. It contains some of the best estuarine vegetation in the entire Swan-Canning River system.

About *this Plan*

The Strategic Community Plan (Plan) is one of many tools that will guide the future direction of our City. The Plan is broad, with a long term focus and strong emphasis on our community's visions, goals and strategies to achieve a City we are proud of.

Why We Are Doing This?

Community engagement is fundamental to good local government, where the primary function *"is to use its best endeavours to meet the needs of current and future generations through the integration of environmental protection, social advancement and economic prosperity"* (Local Government Act 1995, S1.3).

In 2010, the Department of Local Government introduced the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework to guide local governments to achieve this purpose. The Plan is one of the primary outcomes of this work. However, the City also recognises the value of community engagement and has sought meaningful conversations with our community in the development of this Plan.

How the Plan was Developed

Being the City's first Plan, we had an inclusive and in-depth engagement with the community.

The City gathered the relevant information on community characteristics using community profile data, a Community Perceptions Survey and a Speaker Series. The community engagement phase comprised of 22 public events including: Stakeholders' workshop, Photovoice and Vox Pops, SpeakOuts, Sector Group workshops, online engagement, an Accountability Group and Canning stories.

The City encouraged participation from the broader community and actively sought input from specific groups for a comprehensive cross section of the community. These groups included environmental, state government infrastructure and planning, social services, health care, disabilities, business community/industry, education, multicultural, religious, young people and Aboriginal sector groups.

The outcomes of the engagement highlighted what our community liked and wanted maintained in the City and areas of improvement in the future. The City encouraged the community and stakeholders to participate, with approximately 4000 responses received and over 1600 people who helped shape this Plan.

For six weeks from October 2012 the draft Plan was advertised for community comment. Feedback was received through written and online submissions and carefully considered and incorporated into the Plan.

Successful Implementation

The purpose of the Plan is to have a clearly stated vision, purpose, values and goals of the community to help the City plan for the future.

It is recognised that there are many stakeholders who are active in different areas connected to the Plan visions and goals. Thus, working effectively with key stakeholders and our community will be a factor in achieving successful outcomes.

Although a 10+ year Plan, the City intends to hold a continuing conversation with the community on their goals and aspirations for the future. The City currently has community engagement and consultation policies. The City will update these policies and develop a community engagement strategy to inform the City's approach to ongoing community engagement in the future.

A review of the Plan will occur informally every two years and formally every four years. The Plan is continually evolving and will be evaluated regularly to assess our progress towards realising our vision.

To assist in the implementation and activation of the Plan, the City will have to consider its current and future resource capacity. The **Corporate Business Plan** will assist in the realisation of our community's vision and aspirations. It details the actions, services, operations and projects the City will deliver within a defined period, the resources available and associated costs. Other critical informing strategies associated with the realisation of the community's aspirations are **Long Term Financial Forecasts, Asset Management, Risk Management and Workforce Plans**.

The Long Term Financial Plan will guide the City's financial management in a responsible manner, keeping rates in line with our community's needs and means and the use of land development strategies to fund forward planned major capital improvements. The City relies on the assets it has built, acquired and accumulated over the years, along with revenue received from its residents, ratepayers and funding bodies to deliver services to our community.

By maintaining adequate financial reserves to meet long term needs and following prudent investment guidelines over cash reserves, this fosters the City's financial sustainability. The City will continue to explore funding innovations as a means to improve services and infrastructure.

Sustainably managing the City's built facilities and infrastructure into the future will be one of the greatest challenges to be addressed. The use of robust asset management planning will help the City achieve maximum benefit while minimising the cost to our community. Understanding and providing the workforce needed to fulfil these visions, goals and strategies will also support the City in successfully implementing the Plan. The development of these strategies and plans and their integration, will be reflected and perfected into the future.

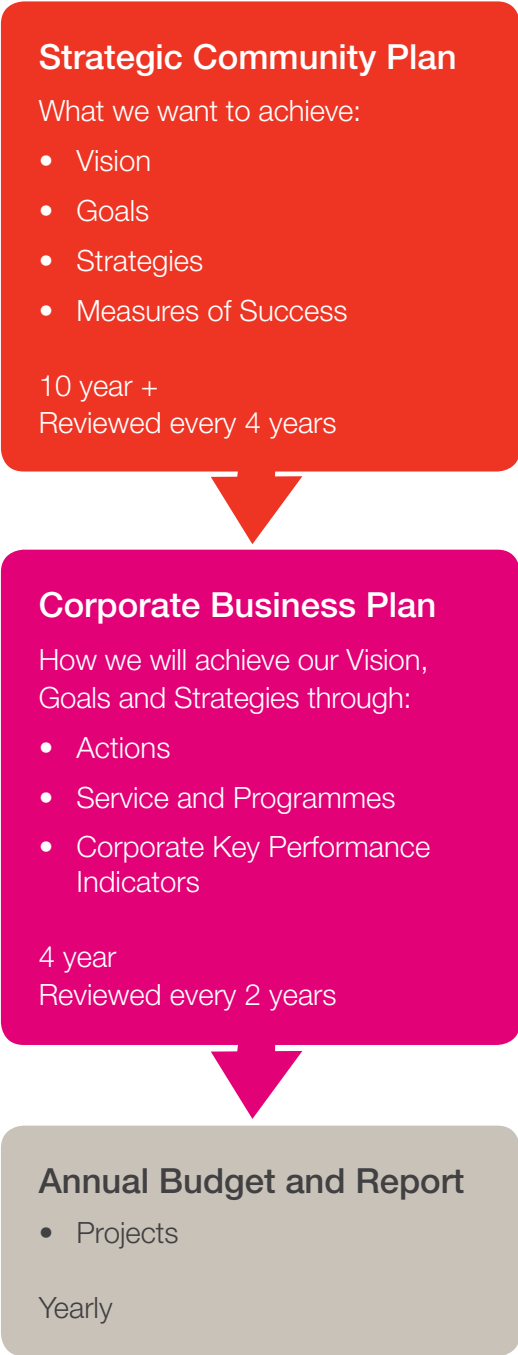


Diagram: Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Measuring *Our Success*

The City is committed to measuring our progress made towards achieving the community's vision and goals in the Plan. The City will report to our community against the objectives and strategies in this Plan as part of each two year review, providing an update on our progress and achievement. This report will also have indicators measuring our progress in our Theme areas. The indicators will be refined with the development of the first two year review report in 2014 and a biennial community perceptions survey will be a key input to the report.

Local and *Global Trends*

The future of Canning is the focus of this Plan. In exploring more of who we are now, and what we want to be, it is important to remember that the City exists within a larger state, national and global context. In planning for the future, we need to be aware of the local and global demographic trends and issues which are affecting us now, and will in the future. Some of the identified future challenges include: climate change; limited water and energy resources including 'peak oil'; an increasing population and its diversity; an ageing population and declining affordability, especially housing.

The City has to consider important strategic state directions like the Public Transport Plan for Perth 2031 and Directions 2031 and Beyond. Under Directions 2031 the City is expected to accommodate 9000 new dwellings and is home to a Strategic Metropolitan Centre in Cannington. The potential for local government amalgamations also presents new strategic directions for the City to plan for. While all of these are challenges, they also offer us opportunities to change and evolve.

The City will consider these trends and plans in:

- the development and review of land use planning policy and strategy including detailed planning for the City Centre, in providing for: diverse housing needs, affordability and transport integration in addressing limited energy, water resources and climate change;
- the retrofitting of existing and construction of new facilities (with an example being Cannington Leisureplex's grey water recycling and geothermal bore in addressing limited water and energy resources);
- further development of social, economic and environmental sustainability education and initiatives in building the City's resilience in the face of climate change and peak oil; and
- the prioritisation of services in meeting varying needs.

It is important that these trends and issues are both discussed and taken into consideration in plans such as this.

Our *Vision*

In the City we are proud to protect and enjoy our unique natural environment and work together to enhance the health, wellbeing and sustainability of our community.

Our civic leaders are innovative and receptive to our visions for our future. As a connected and inclusive community, we enjoy quality lifestyles and opportunities to live, work, play and do business locally.

What *You Said*

The following section outlines what people said throughout the engagement process. There were five recurring theme areas:

Natural Environment – Our place in nature

Our Community – Connecting and supporting people







Built Environment – Living and moving around

Prosperity – Working and doing business in Canning

Leadership and Governance – How we decide

Each theme contains a Sub-vision, Community Goals and Strategies to achieve these goals, Potential Stakeholders needed to help achieve each goal and Measures of Success to evaluate our progress in realising our vision.

Summary of terms used:

-  **Themes:** Recurring topics from the various community engagement activities.
-  **Sub visions:** Describe the desired future state within each Theme.
-  **Community Goals:** Statements that describe what we want to achieve.
-  **Strategies:** Statements that describes how we will achieve our Community Goals.
-  **Potential stakeholders:** These are ideas of some of the agencies, organisations and groups who we need to work with to achieve our vision.
-  **Measures of Success:** Identify key indicators to evaluate how we are achieving our vision.

Natural Environment

Our Place in Nature

We enjoy and aim to protect our natural environment, taking responsibility by working together to be an environmentally aware community.

Community Goal

Protect, preserve and promote our natural places, flora and fauna

Strategies

- Encourage the further development of natural area management within the City
- Support and encourage environmental community groups who are active in achieving this goal

Community Goal

Sustainable management of resources

Strategies

- Explore and implement sustainable waste management
- Practice and promote water conservation and the awareness of the river and waterways
- Practice and promote energy efficiency
- Encourage and demonstrate sustainability within the City

Community Goal

A sustainable and environmentally aware community

Strategies

- Support and collaborate with organisations working to provide sustainability education within the community

Measures of Success

- Quality of natural areas
- Sustainable management of waste and resources
- Community education in sustainability and environment

Potential Stakeholders

Department of Environment and Conservation, Swan River Trust, Department of Water, Water Corporation, Department of Indigenous Affairs, Western Australian Planning Commission, Department of Planning, environmental and educational groups, community.





“Feeling safe and secure is important to me”

“Exhibitions and festivals to celebrate diversity”

Our Community

Connecting and Supporting People

We are a connected and inclusive community and work collaboratively towards ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of all.



Community Goal

Optimise community services and facilities to meet changing demographics



Strategies

- Provide a diverse range of community services and facilities
- Strive towards excellence in customer service



Community Goal

Promote and support community groups



Strategies

- Encourage and support the wider community to be involved
- Encourage and educate community groups to become self-reliant
- Work in partnerships with agencies and community groups to encourage community connections



Community Goal

A high level of community safety, health and well-being



Strategies

- Promote a healthy, clean and safe living environment
- Facilitate a range of accessible recreational opportunities and sporting activities for our community



Community Goal

The City is a welcoming, inclusive and caring place



Strategies

- Work towards meeting the expectations of the community without discrimination
- Recognise and celebrate the cultural diversity, beliefs and values of the Canning community
- Respect and recognise the Aboriginal culture and history in Canning



Measures of Success

- Resident satisfaction with the City of Canning as a place to live
- Number of community groups
- Crime rates
- Number of sport and recreation groups active in the City
- Number of different cultural groups participating at events



Potential Stakeholders

WA Police, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Department of Health, Department of Culture and Arts, other local governments, not for profit organisations, community and community groups.

Built Environment

Living and Moving Around

We live in a place with a variety of quality lifestyle opportunities with a diverse, safe and integrated transport system.

Community Goal

Integrated, accessible, safe and sustainable transport options for the City

Strategies

- Continue to improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and pathways
- Work with other stakeholders to improve linkages, accessibility, frequency and integration of public transport services
- Promote awareness of the benefits of using more sustainable transport options

Community Goal

Safe, well-designed and maintained roads in the City

Strategies

- Promote road safety for all users by providing a safe, efficient and well maintained road network

Community Goal

Protect and enhance the amenity and lifestyle within the City

Strategies

- Promote the integration of transport and housing
- Promote appropriate quality recreation and public open space for housing and urban development
- Recommend and encourage sustainable building and land use

Community Goal

A range of housing for different lifestyles

Strategies

- Support the development of diverse housing types
- Encourage more quality affordable housing alternatives
- Work with other stakeholders to provide for a variety of housing options

Community Goal

Landscaped Urban Spaces

Strategies

- Strive to maintain attractive and diverse green spaces throughout the City to encourage outdoor activity, health and wellbeing
- Recognise climate change as a factor of our landscaping

Measures of Success

- Investment in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure
- Method of travel to work
- Road condition
- Percentage of households with easy access to public transport
- Dwelling type diversity
- Quality of public open space and sports grounds

“More pedestrian and cycle friendly streets”

“Increased densities in strategic locations especially train stations, shopping centres and within the city centre”

“Light rail through Canning”

Potential Stakeholders

Department of Transport, Public Transport Authority, Main Roads, other local governments, community, bike user groups, schools, WA Police, Western Australian Planning Commission, Department of Planning, Department of Housing, land owners, not for profit organisations.



“More tourism and job creation, and cafés and restaurants in the local area”

“More social areas perhaps smaller and more unique”

Prosperity

Living, Working and Doing Business in Canning

We have diverse, vibrant places and opportunities to work, play and invest in our local economy and support our local businesses and industry.



Community Goal

Greater variety of activities, entertainment and shopping



Strategies

- Continue to support business and training initiatives
- Endorse the development of a diverse range of retail, commercial and industrial activities
- Encourage a broad range of hospitality, entertainment and recreation activities



Community Goal

Provide support for increased local employment and small businesses



Strategies

- Support and encourage businesses to prosper and remain in the City of Canning
- Encourage and support local employment



Community Goal

A diverse and vibrant City Centre



Strategies

- Connect Canning's residents, visitors and workers with their city centre
- Create a welcoming place that is safe, accessible, fun and commercially productive
- Revitalise the city centre to create new opportunities for people to live and work locally, in a comfortable and rewarding community



Measures of Success

- Variety of business activity
- Employment self-sufficiency
- Number of small business employees per licence registered
- Number of building approvals in the Canning City Centre area
- Investment in the City Centre




Potential Stakeholders

Canning Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Centre South Perth Metro, Welshpool Business Enterprise Centre, Small Business Development Corporation, Department of Commerce, business owners, Department of Planning.

Leadership and Governance


How We Decide

Our leaders are forward thinking, community minded, approachable people who listen to the community and provide the framework for the future planning of our city.

 **Community Goal**
Effective civic leadership and good governance

 **Strategies**

- Provide and maintain a high level of transparent, accountable, representative and effective governance
- Advocate on behalf of the community
- Provide active and visionary leadership in the form of social, economic and environmental responsibility

 **Community Goal**
Responsive to the broader community's needs in all decision making

 **Strategies**

- Ensure effective communication between the City and the community through a variety of media

- Engage and collaborate with the community
- Encourage the community to become more actively involved in the future of the City
- Ensure that Council is well informed in all deliberation and decision making

 **Community Goal**
An innovative, progressive and resilient local government, continually learns and makes improvements

 **Strategies**

- Investigate and support innovative processes, infrastructure and technology
- Work with relevant agencies in implementing the Strategic Community Plan
- Continue to refine and develop policy to guide the effective management of the City

 **Measures of Success**

- Residents' satisfaction with the organisation
- Number of participants at civic and community engagement events
- Percentage of projects completed on time

 **Potential Stakeholders**

Local, state and federal governments, community groups, community.



For more information and to access the
Strategic Community Plan:

www.canning.wa.gov.au

City of Canning

Locked Bag 80, Welshpool, WA 6986
Corner George Street West and Albany Highway,
Cannington WA

