



Marino Residents Association

Incorporating Kingston Park

Helping to build a better Community

Kingston Park – Masterplan Deputation

2018-03-13

Good evening. My name is Alison Cormack and I am Vice President of the Marino Resident's Association incorporating Kingston Park. Thank you for this opportunity to make this presentation

Last year a survey of our residents identified the Kingston Park foreshore reserve as a major issue of concern.

For many years residents have been actively engaged with the present and future of the unique and much-loved Kingston Park foreshore, including our association as a stakeholder in the 2014-15 Master Plan review process. In general, we are supportive of having a plan but believe that as time has elapsed and a lack of council agreement on priorities necessitates Council re-assessing the plan.

We acknowledge the implementation of the first stage- **the Coastal Path**. We also thank Council for appointing Rajiv Mouveri as our Community Liaison person and for his support with many issues raised by us. **Examples are;** relocating showers etc from an underused beach access to one closer to the busy park .

As a result of continuous queries from our community, we scheduled an open public forum early this year to provide Council with the opportunity to update local residents on the proposed next steps in the KP Master Plan. We were subsequently advised by Council that it was reluctant to do so, as it was not yet clear about the directions it was proposing to take.

The Council report 73/18 before you later tonight will hopefully expedite decision making, prioritizing improvements to the KP Reserve. We trust that this forum can still go ahead later in the year

The Council report has identified a new critical process that needs to be undertaken in terms of a **Cultural Heritage Agreement**. We understand this is a new requirement on top of the extensive

engagement to date. We applaud the recent efforts by Council to establish closer working partnerships with the local Kurna elders to ensure their relationship with the significant Tjilbruke Spring site is well represented. This initiative will hopefully include strategies for the restoration of the site and its immediate environment. An issue that is important to the whole community.

Given the likely time frame for the plan is to be extended and that the parameters of the masterplan could change; we would ask that the following be considered as a priority in the development of any future plans.

- **That Council commission an urgent comprehensive traffic and access management plan**, a serious omission in the master plan, a pre-requisite to further implementation. Every new regional attraction brings more people not less. With the advent of the coastal path approximately 30 car parks have been lost. It can't cope now. Imagine if it became more popular! Let's work from the traffic and access plan to determine what this area can actually support, rather than the other way round.
- **Council should divert their currently budgeted playground design funding (\$90K)** into the overall planning for the new interpretive cafe given the fact that the playground project is conditional on state funding, which has been refused twice. The cafe issue is considered by the community to be much more important than a larger playground, especially as we've not had a permanent cafe for 4 years, we have a genuine nature playground in existence, a fairly new modest playground in place and parking space is at a premium!!

- **Given that the above will take some time** to resolve including funding, we ask that Council:
 - Develop an immediate remediation/maintenance plan for the area, to reinstate the conditions prior to the path or better.
 - Develop an immediate plan to address the parking provisions to including reinstating the casual overflow parking.
 - Develop a short term plan to enhance the level of amenity for the current and supplementary pop up cafes.
- **That Council develop a public communications strategy** in reviewing and revising the master plan, including time lines and funding strategies, an update of its short and longer term plans to share with the public, so that expectations are realistic and managed.

Kingston Park, due to its uniqueness and complexity deserves concerted consideration as it has been neglected too long. It has always had the potential to enhance its distinct character, natural assets and cultural heritage as a clear point of difference from other tourist nodes eg Glenelg. Kingston Park features unique Indigenous and European cultural heritage, walking trails through conservation areas and natural gullies, Tjilbruke Spring, John Dowie monument and lookout, the Council's upgraded tourist park, an idyllic foreshore reserve and now the coastal path.....For all of this there is still no permanent modern café, adequate parking or transport options for current visitors.

We need a plan that doesn't just sit on the shelf, but one that can be delivered sustainably and sooner rather than later. We are keen to help in this process. Thankyou.

