St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel Final Session Summary



The 50-year lease of the St Kilda Marina is ending on 30 April 2019. This presents an exciting opportunity to plan for the Marina's future before a new long-term lease arrangement is secured. Council is committed to working with the Victorian Government, community, Marina users and other key stakeholders to re-imagine the St Kilda Marina site.

Formed in July 2018, the St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel was a key part of Council's commitment to working with the community. Alongside Council and specialist consultants, the panel members engaged in an iterative design process over six sessions. The sessions helped to build knowledge of the project, inspire creative thinking about the site's potential and finally, to develop parameters (design criteria) to inform the Site Brief. The Site Brief will be a key document informing the market and guiding interested parties to provide suitable proposals for a long-term lease arrangement. All proposals will be assessed against the design criteria, which set measurable parameters for delivering the site vision and objectives.

This document provides a summary of the Community Panel's final session held on 10 December 2018 at the St Kilda Town Hall.

To view earlier session summaries and to learn more about the St Kilda Marina Project please visit <u>haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/</u> <u>stkildamarina</u>

The Final Session: Presenting the Panel Outcomes

The final session was an opportunity for the Panel to present its outcomes to Councillors and Executive staff. In return, Council acknowledged the important contribution of Panel members. Mayor, Cr Dick Gross and Chris Carroll, General Manager, Customer and Corporate Services (then Acting Chief Executive Officer) both formally thanked the Panel.

The Panel outcomes were delivered through the determination of a detailed set of design criteria. These criteria will be critical in informing future respondents to the tender for a new lease arrangement, assisting them to meet the vision for the site while enabling some flexibility to respond, as marine and development industry experts, with innovative and progressive solutions.

The site components explored by the Panel and tested with the broader community during Stage Three were grouped into five categories. The design criteria were also developed in these same categories:

- views and movement
- Marina function
- complementary uses
- open space, public realm and carparking
- environmental design and coastal resilience.

Four panel members gave presentations, sharing insights on their experiences, challenges and learnings through the Panel process. They explained which 'big decisions' received early support and how the Panel worked towards agreement on more contentious issues (see overleaf). Finally, a Q&A session encouraged feedback between all panel members, Councillors and the project team.

Stage Three

Community Engagement Report For further detail of the Community Panel outcomes and the broader community engagement undertaken during Stage Three of the project, the Stage Three Community Engagement Report is available on our project page:

haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/stkildamarina



Determining the Design Criteria

The Panel's presentation to Council was informed by the Community Panel process outcomes document, which outlines the process for determining the design criteria and the Panel's response to the draft criteria. The Stage Three Community Engagement Report provides full analysis of this feedback.

In summary, areas with strong support from the Panel included the protection of views and the views criteria; the Bay Trail and pedestrian and bike criteria; the environmental design criteria, including the seawall and coastal criteria; and a staged approach to managing the dry storage capacity.

The panel was divided in their views regarding the extent of built form, carparking and complementary uses at the site, and the idea of a pedestrian/cycle bridge linking the Marina Reserve and the peninsula.

Insights from the Community Panel

"I have been impressed by the experts redesigning the marina area after discussions and workshops. They have done a lot of work to interpret and represent the outcomes of the discussions." Cathy

"Looking after the environment was probably the quickest part everyone agreed to. Fixing up the pedestrian, cycling and vehicle movement was also a tick. We wanted to make sure it is a practical and operational marina. We also wanted more accessible open space."

"One of the big disagreements was the [dry storage] boat sheds. Of all the issues, we delved into that the deepest, we understood it from every angle. Although there is still some disagreement, this panel understood the reason for it being there, its size and shape, and we moved it to where we felt was probably the best. It will be interesting to see what the market says but I suspect they will come to a similar answer."

"Although everyone was here for different reasons and we all had different things we wanted to achieve, all of our opinions were valid and it is important that [our] voices were heard."

"There were so many trade-offs there because we want to have those environmental outcomes but we also want to have people walk along [the peninsula]. We want to have the boat sheds and the better car park but we also want to keep that open space."

Thanking the Panel

"It's been a fantastic process with high calibre people. Future generations will look at us and be grateful to the unknown people who contributed. They will know, I hope, that they have a fantastic facility on the foreshore that caters for everyone: boaties, walkers, dog owners, shoppers, and general people who want to have a look at the foreshore through a marina eye."

Next Steps

Following the conclusion of the Community Panel, Council has used the feedback from the community to further refine the design criteria for inclusion in the Site Brief. Completion of the Site Brief, Procurement Plan and Probity Plan is the final step in Stage Three of the project, with the intention to seek Council endorsement mid-2019.

Stage Four will include the development of all tender documentation and the determination of planning and legislative pathways to support the procurement process. Stage Five will focus on the competitive tender process, followed by the delivery of, and transition to, the new lease arrangement in Stage Six.

To learn more about the project visit: <u>haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/stkildamarina</u>

If you have any questions, please contact the project team via ASSIST on 03 9209 6777 or by emailing: skmproject@portphillip.vic.gov.au