



**CITY OF VINCENT**

# **MINUTES**

**Annual Meeting of Electors**

**11 December 2024**



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**MINUTES OF CITY OF VINCENT  
ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS  
HELD AT THE ADMINISTRATION AND CIVIC CENTRE  
244 VINCENT STREET, LEEDERVILLE  
ON WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 2024 AT 7:00 PM**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<p>Mayor Alison Xamon Cr Alex Castle Cr Suzanne Worner Cr Nicole Woolf Cr Jonathan Hallett Cr Ashley Wallace Cr Sophie Greer Cr Ashlee La Fontaine</p>	<p>Presiding Member North Ward North Ward North Ward South Ward South Ward South Ward South Ward</p>
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	<p>David MacLennan Peter Varris  Rhys Taylor  Jay Naidoo  Lisa Williams  Joslin Colli  Wendy Barnard</p>	<p>Chief Executive Officer Executive Director Infrastructure &amp; Environment Executive Director Community &amp; Business Services A/Executive Director Strategy &amp; Development Executive Manager Communications &amp; Engagement Executive Manager Corporate Strategy &amp; Governance Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Council Support</p>
<b>Public:</b>	Approximately 22 members of the public.	

## **1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon declared the meeting open at 7.00pm and read the following Acknowledgement of Country statement:

“The City of Vincent would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation and pay our respects to Elders past and present, acknowledging that the City of Vincent has a role to place in reconciliation and justice for First Nations people”.

## **2 APOLOGIES / MEMBERS ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Cr Ron Alexander is an apology for this meeting.

### 3 REPORTS

#### 3.1 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT (INCLUDING 2023/24 FINANCIAL REPORT)

Attachments: 1. City of Vincent 2023/24 Annual Report 

**Moved: Nicole Woolf, Seconded: Alex Castle**

Discussion took place around the annual report, as detailed below:

The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon highlighted the key achievements of the Annual Report, her statement can be found [here](#).

The CEO, David MacLennan, gave a short presentation on the Annual Report, his statement can be found [here](#).

The Executive Director Community & Business Services, Rhys Taylor, gave a short presentation on the Financial Report, his statement can be found [here](#).

Cr Nicole Woolf spoke to the Annual Report, commending the team for preparing it to a very high standard. She highlighted the major progress on significant and exciting projects, and acknowledged the substantial work done behind the scenes, which is greatly appreciated, her full statement can be found [here](#).

Cr Alex Castle spoke to the Annual Report, acknowledging the Mayor's leadership and the smooth transition of the new Council, her full statement can be found [here](#).

Marie Slyth of West Perth raised concerns about the danger of vehicle speeds on Carr Street, the increased traffic in the area, and the lack of parking availability. She also highlighted that the footpath on Florence Street is becoming uneven due to tree roots. Marie shared a printout of early Vincent years with the Mayor and spoke about various issues she is experiencing; her full statement can be found [here](#).

Mayor Xamon thanked Marie for her contributions and invited any further questions relating to the Annual Report. As there were no further questions, the meeting proceeded to General Business.

## 4 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 4.1 MARY GRAY OF NORTH PERTH

Mary Gray provided the following statement and questions in writing prior to the meeting. Responses from Administration are provided below.

**Statement:**

*Action on climate change is needed by us residents and all levels of government. As gas is a fossil fuel and alternatives are readily available, there is a need to encourage and incentivise removal of gas appliances from households and small businesses in the City of Vincent.*

*For many households the only use of gas is for gas cooktops. These can be replaced by electric cooktops. Gas hot water systems can easily be changed to solar hot water systems with electric boosters. Gas-fired heaters can be replaced with reverse cycle air conditioners.*

*Importantly, in-house gas appliances also emit pollutants (NO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>) which have human health impacts. This is especially relevant for children and asthmatics.*

*It is suggested that for new houses and renovations or extensions to houses and small business properties and facilities, the City requires that no gas appliances be permitted. Notably this is being done in Victoria. Also the City could provide incentives for householders and businesses to replace gas appliances with electric appliances and thus for gas supply to be disconnected.*

**Questions:**

1. *Will the City consider introducing mandatory requirements for no gas appliances in new houses and in home renovations and extensions?*
2. *Similarly, will the City consider introducing requirements for no gas appliances in renovations and extensions of business premises?*
3. *Will the City consider introducing an incentive program for householders and businesses to remove all gas appliances?*

**Administration Response:**

1. Gas connections for new developments are currently permitted in Western Australia. Any change to this would require the support of the State Government. The City will advocate for this as part of reviewing its sustainability framework in 2025.

The inclusion of mandatory requirements to prevent new gas connections has previously been investigated by the City but is not something that is currently able to be enforced. This is because WA's planning legislation is different to that of other states, and changes would be required to the Planning and Development Act 2005 to implement such requirements.

2. The City's Built Form Policy currently includes standards and objectives that relate to incorporating environmentally sustainable design standards (ESD) in new developments. These standards and objectives are currently awaiting approval from the State Government before they can be mandated. The City in the interim has been encouraging applicants to meet these as part of any new developments. These standards do not currently include a restriction on gas connections and/or appliances.
3. The City has been advocating for higher ESD standards for new homes and renovations, and since February 2024 has been implementing its GreenTrack program. This includes incentives for developments that submit a Lifecycle Assessment. These incentives include reduced development application fees, a prioritised assessment, and free design review advice on how to incorporate ESD measures. Developments that choose to remove existing or not provide for any new gas connections and submit a Lifecycle Assessment would be indirectly captured through these incentives.

The Built Form Policy is scheduled to be reviewed in 2025. This review will include opportunities to expand on the current ESD standards and other opportunities for incentives that could seek to limit gas connections.

The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon, explained the procedure for the receiving, discussion and approval of motions.

#### 4.2 LINDA RAWLINGS OF MT LAWLEY

Linda Rawlings submitted the following motion prior to the meeting. The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon, read the motion below.

##### **Motion 1:**

**The Vincent Council urgently initiates a Scheme Amendment to delete Clause 61(1)(k) in Schedule 1 of the Vincent Local Planning Scheme No. 2 AND at the same time approves the advertising of Local Planning Policy provisions to require development approval for the removal of large trees consistent with the WA Local Government Association Policy template.**

**Moved: Linda Rawlings Seconded: Elizabeth Parker**

Linda Rawlings spoke to the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).  
Elizabeth Parker spoke to the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).

**CARRIED**

#### 4.3 MARY GRAY OF NORTH PERTH

Mary Gray submitted the following motions prior to the meeting. The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon, read each motion below.

##### **Motion 1:**

**In the City's process of assessment and approval of new house developments, extensions and renovations, no gas appliances will be permitted. Existing gas appliances will be required to be removed and replaced with electric appliances or solar appliances such as solar hot water units with electric booster. Gas supply will be required to be disconnected.**

**Moved: Mary Gray Seconded: Dave Parker**

Mary Gray spoke in support of the motion and read the three questions as previously submitted in writing, her statement and questions can be found [here](#).  
Simon Rudstead spoke in support of the motion; his statement can be found [here](#).

**CARRIED**

##### **Motion 2:**

**In the City's process of assessment and approval of new or renovations of business premises, no gas appliances will be permitted. Existing gas appliances will be required to be removed and replaced with electric appliances. Gas supply will be required to be disconnected.**

**Moved: Celia Mary Gray Seconded: Dave Parker**

Mary Gray spoke in support of the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).  
Becky Bryant spoke to the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).  
Simon Rudstead spoke to the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).  
Mary Gray spoke again to the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).

**CARRIED**

**Motion 3:**

The City will develop and introduce a new program to provide incentives for householders to replace gas appliances with electric appliances and thus for gas supply to be cut off.

**Moved: Mary Gray Seconded: Jonathan Hallett**

Mary Gray spoke in support of the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).

Cr Jonathan Hallett spoke to the motion; his statement can be found [here](#).

Simon Rudstead spoke to the motion; his statement can be found [here](#).

Mary Gray spoke again to the motion; her statement can be found [here](#).

**CARRIED**

The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon, called for any further motions, but none were forthcoming.

The Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon called for any further questions.

**4.4 JOHN VISKA OF NORTH PERTH**

Mr Viska spoke about the success of the Hyde Park Reference Group. His full statement can be found [here](#).

Mayor Xamon expressed gratitude to Mr Viska and the members of the Hyde Park Reference Group for volunteering their time and expertise. She noted that the group's contributions have been invaluable in guiding tree replacement and additional plantings aligned with Hyde Park's original vision, emphasising the park's significance to the community. The Mayor highlighted the challenges of ensuring tree species are resilient to climate change and pests such as the polyphagous shot-hole borer while providing habitat and acknowledged the importance of the group's input in addressing these challenges. Her full statement can be found [here](#).



## 5 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Member, Mayor Alison Xamon, declared the meeting closed at 8.02pm with the following persons present:

<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Mayor Alison Xamon</b>	<b>Presiding Member</b>
	<b>Cr Alex Castle</b>	<b>North Ward</b>
	<b>Cr Suzanne Worner</b>	<b>North Ward</b>
	<b>Cr Nicole Woolf</b>	<b>North Ward</b>
	<b>Cr Jonathan Hallett</b>	<b>South Ward</b>
	<b>Cr Ashley Wallace</b>	<b>South Ward</b>
	<b>Cr Sophie Greer</b>	<b>South Ward</b>
	<b>Cr Ashlee La Fontaine</b>	<b>South Ward</b>
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	<b>David MacLennan</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
	<b>Peter Varris</b>	<b>Executive Director Infrastructure &amp; Environment</b>
	<b>Rhys Taylor</b>	<b>Executive Director Community &amp; Business Services</b>
	<b>Jay Naidoo</b>	<b>A/Executive Director Strategy &amp; Development</b>
	<b>Lisa Williams</b>	<b>Executive Manager Communications &amp; Engagement (left at 7.35pm after Item 11.5)</b>
	<b>Joslin Colli</b>	<b>Executive Manager Corporate Strategy &amp; Governance</b>
	<b>Wendy Barnard</b>	<b>Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Council Support</b>
<b>Public:</b>	Approximately 22 members of the public.	

These Minutes were confirmed by the Council as a true record and accurate of the Ordinary Meeting of the Annual Meeting of Electors held on 11 December 2024.

Signed: . Mayor Alison Xamon

Dated