

13.1.3 TWO YEAR MINOR REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

Author:	Sinead Bullock
Author's Declaration of Interest:	Nil
Previous Ref:	OCM 27 July 2023 (Resolution 172) OCM 22 June 2021 (Resolution 137) OCM 27 November 2018 (Resolution 399)
Appendix:	1. 2025 Progress Report [13.1.3.1 - 4 pages] 2. Strategic Community Plan (2023 - 2033) [13.1.3.2 - 24 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

For Council to note the two-year minor review of the City's Strategic Community Plan (2023 – 2033) (the Plan) and to endorse the attached Strategic Community Plan - 2025 Progress Report.

BACKGROUND

A strategic community plan is a 10-year plan for the future of a district and sets out the vision, aspirations and objectives for a local government and its community, as required under the *Local Government Act 1995*. A strategic community plan is a key component of a local government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

The City's current strategic community plan was adopted by Council at its meeting on 27 July 2023 (Resolution 172) following a four-year major review, as required by the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*.

The next major review of the Plan will be required in 2027.

The City's four-year Corporate Business Plan is updated annually and contains the specific actions required to meet the goals of the Strategic Community Plan (2023 – 2033).

DISCUSSION

Following best practice, the City has reviewed the Plan two years into its operation and it is still considered relevant. As such, no changes are recommended. The Plan is attached for reference (Appendix 2 of this report).

The attached 2025 Progress Report has been developed as part of the review and highlights some of the key achievements made against the City's strategic priorities in the two years since the adoption of the Plan in 2023 (Appendix 1 of this report).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Strategic Community Plan (2023 – 2033) two-year minor review and endorses the attached Strategic Community Plan - 2025 Progress Report.

Strategic Community Plan 2025 Progress Report

Strategic community plans form part of a local government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework and outline the long-term vision, aspiration and objectives of a local government and the community. The City's current Plan was developed following a major review in 2023.

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Making the City of Gosnell's a great place

We will celebrate our vibrant and diverse community, embrace our natural surroundings and drive the development of opportunities, to support a safe and sustainable City for future generations.

A two-year minor review has been undertaken and this progress report highlights some of the key achievements made against the City's strategic priorities in the two years since the adoption of the Strategic Community Plan (2023 – 2033).

► ENVIRONMENT – The environment is protected and enhanced

The City is looking to a greener future, after Council adopted its first Emissions Reduction Strategy (ERS) in 2024. The ERS takes a deep dive into the City's emissions profile and provides 14 opportunities to reduce emissions. These opportunities include heating the pool at Leisure World using solar power instead of gas and transitioning the City's heavy fleet away from fossil fuels.

The City has renewed its commitment to the WA Local Government Association's Sustainable Energy Supply project, reinforcing efforts to reduce its carbon footprint. Under a new three-year contract, 25 of the City's highest energy consuming sites will be powered by renewable energy. This includes major facilities such as the Civic Centre and Mills Park Centre, both of which also offer electric vehicle fast-charging stations for public and fleet use. The City now has eight electric vehicles in its light fleet and has increased its total solar inventory from 280kW across eight sites to over 400kW across fourteen sites. The City has also completed several projects to improve the energy efficiency of its facilities.

In 2024 and 2025 the City again earned Gold Waterwise accreditation from the Water Corporation, recognising its strong commitment to sustainable water management. Key initiatives contributing to the City's recognition include planting 1,100 trees and 3,000 understorey plants through an urban greening project in Canning Vale; promoting waterwise gardening through community programs like the Plants for Locals giveaway; establishing the demonstration garden at Amherst Village Community Centre; and upgrading Mary Carroll Park to enhance community connection to water.

The Community Forest at John Okey Davis Park continues to grow, ensuring more trees are planted in the City, while offering residents a positive way to acknowledge significant life events. This reflects the City's commitment to increasing tree canopy on public land, providing shade, enhancing air quality, creating valuable habitat for wildlife and improving the amenity of the City.

► **SAFETY – The community is protected from crime and anti-social behaviour and risks to public health and safety are reduced**

Council has adopted the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan 2025-2030, demonstrating the City's commitment to helping make the community a safe and inclusive place for everyone. The Plan was developed to address key community safety concerns, which were identified through community consultation, stakeholder engagement and crime statistics from the WA Police Force. The Plan identifies actions for the City and key partners to improve community safety over the next three years.

The Safe City Community CCTV Program, which offered \$500 rebates to residential and commercial property owners who installed an effective CCTV system, was a resounding success with high demand for the program. The program required residents who received rebates to have street facing cameras and provide police access to the content as required.

Incidents of illegal dumping have been prosecuted with thanks to the City's covert cameras. The message is clear, illegal dumping will not be tolerated in the City. So far nine offenders have been prosecuted after being caught in the act of illegal dumping on City-managed land, and more are under investigation. A Community Waste Drop-Off Day was introduced in 2024 to allow residents to dispose of items that cannot be collected through regular waste services, in a controlled and environmentally sensitive manner. Over 800 vehicles were recorded attending the drop-off day in 2025.

The City is also taking action to reduce the number of speed-related crashes on local suburban streets, thanks to a road safety partnership with Main Roads WA. Design and construction has commenced on the Urban Road Safety Program, which includes simple and low-cost road safety treatments at various intersections in Gosnells identified as crash hot spots. The safety treatments include raised platforms, mini-roundabouts and speed humps.

► **COMMUNITY – The community is proud and harmonious**

A record crowd of around 40,000 people gathered at Mills Park across two nights to celebrate diversity in the community at the Fusion Food and Culture Festival in 2024. Additionally, the festival took top honours in the Arts and Culture category at the 2025 National Awards for Local Government. The festival showcases the diversity and vibrancy of the City's multicultural community.



In 2024 Council adopted the City of Gosnells Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028. The City has made further progress to improve access and inclusion for people with disability, including well-structured pathways, ramps and clear directional signage at City events, and the provision of AUSLAN interpreters. In addition, a fully accessible library was developed within the Mills Park Centre and significant refurbishments at Leisure World have made the spa more accessible.

Construction is underway for the City's first indoor multisport facility, the Langford Indoor Sports Centre. The facility will deliver four state-of-the-art indoor courts, including a show court with grandstand for netball, and three multisport courts for netball, basketball, badminton and volleyball.

The extension of Gosnells Bowling Club is also underway, making more room for the club's growing membership. The project includes a new function room, kitchen and toilet facilities. The new venue will be available to hire for community groups and private events, bringing new members and families to the club.

A significant milestone has been reached in delivering Council's commitment make the City more inclusive, with the construction of eleven all abilities playgrounds now complete. Four of the playgrounds were opened in the last two years, including Mary Carroll Park, Sutherlands Park, Gosnells Oval and Boyle Park.



► PLACES – Places within the City are attractive and vibrant

The City's Youth Entertainment Space (YES) officially opened in 2025, at Sutherlands Park in Huntingdale. The new state-of-the-art facility boasts a split-level skating plaza with rails and banks, a shallow skate bowl for all skill levels and a sealed pump track for BMX, mountain bikes or scooters. YES also features an undercover urban play area with a hangout zone, social swings and platform seating, a rebound wall and a multipurpose area for games such as basketball, netball and futsal.

The City's recent Public Open Space achievements include the acquisition of land on Lacey Street in Beckenham and Brushbox Way in Huntingdale, which is being converted to increase the size, quality and accessibility of the existing parks.

Additionally, the City began the process of renaming conservation category wetlands using Noongar names, to honour the history, culture and language of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to ensure City parks and places are appropriately registered with Landgate.

► ECONOMY – Businesses are supported and the economy is growing

The City is finalising construction of Southern River Business Park, which marks the culmination of two decades of land remediation and planning. The new commercial estate is set to boost the local economy and, in addition to providing much-needed land for business in a prime location, proceeds from the sale of lots will provide an important source of income that will help fund City activities and a revenue source outside of rates.

Two new peak-period bus lanes on Ranford Road in Canning Vale are now complete, following a two-year construction period to deliver the significant upgrade. The project was delivered to decrease congestion, improve road safety and encourage commuters to use the bus network to access Metronet stations on the new Thornlie-Cockburn Link. Active transport opportunities, like cycling and walking, have also been improved through the delivery of a further section of the principal shared path along the Armadale railway line, forming part of the Long-Term Cycle Network.

The City's Smart Drainage program won the Disaster Readiness and Recovery category at the National Awards for Local Government in 2024. The program involves proactive work to prevent floods and improve the way the City identifies and responds to flooding events. The technologies implemented as part of the program include tractor-mounted CCTV to investigate inside pipes. Other features include ground penetrating radar to identify and accurately size voids in the soil surrounding damaged pipes, expanding foam technology to fill those voids and flow meters linked to texting software so the City's drainage crews are called to site when water flows are high, before flooding occurs.

