

St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel Introductory 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 long-term lease arrangement is secured. Council is committed to working with the Victorian Government, community, users of the marina and other key stakeholders to re-imagine the St Kilda Marina site.

The St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel is a key part of Council's commitment to working with the community. The Community Panel will work collaboratively with Council and specialist consultants to identify the best long-term option for the site that delivers an effective balance of social, cultural, environmental, economic and financial benefits.

The Community Panel was formed in July 2018. The first session was held on 2 August 2018 at St Kilda Town Hall. This document provides a summary of the session.

To learn more about the St Kilda Marina Project please visit <https://haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/stkildamarina>.

Overview of St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel

The St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel will be able to provide input into the development of options for the site that meet the Site Vision and Objectives, developed in consultation with the community in May this year.

Council officers and technical experts will support the panel process through various technical assessments (urban design work, environmental considerations, market sounding and feasibility analysis) and refinement of options as they are developed with the panel.

The Community Panel will meet over five sessions between August and November 2018, after which a final recommended option will be presented to Council.

Introducing the Panel

The Community Panel members bring a focussed community voice and perspective to developing options for the future of the marina site. There are 24 panel members, with an even split of men and women across a range of ages, postcodes and socioeconomic indicators who represent as best as possible the Port Phillip community and the relationships people have with the marina, including:

- nearby residents
- visitors to the marina
- private boat owners
- recreational users.

The Community Panel was selected via a public expression of interest process. From the received nominations a computer-generated random selection process was undertaken to match nominees to the selection criteria. Recruitment of the panel members was undertaken by independent consultants.

What is a Community Panel?

A Community Panel (also often referred to as a 'People's Panel') is a group of representatives coming together to learn and deliberate over a series of sessions. This approach provides a way for 'everyday citizens' to work through complex matters, including trade-offs that are involved in government decision making processes.

A core component of a Community Panel is creating a sample of the community relevant to the subject matter or project to ensure the diversity of experiences and voices is represented. The sample should also be randomly selected according to established selection criteria to ensure the sample is reflective of the project's community.

Overview of the Introductory Session

The St Kilda Marina Project Community Panel Introductory Session took place on Thursday 2 August 2018. The session officially welcomed members to the project and was an opportunity to meet each other, Council's project team, and the specialist consultants. Panel members were provided an overview of the project and the panel process, with lots of opportunities to ask questions as well as share their aspirations for the process and what they are looking forward to learning about.

There was a genuine excitement felt in the room by the community members, Council and the consultant teams, with everyone keen to learn and explore the site's possibilities.

Meet the rest of the team

The St Kilda Marina Project team includes Council and a series of technical expert teams contracted by Council to support the delivery of the Community Panel and development of options. An overview of the teams is provided below:

This project is a collaboration across **Council** departments including Asset Management and Property, City Design and Communications and Engagement. Councillors and the Executive Leadership team are also closely involved in the design of the project approach.

Capire and Renton & Co are community engagement specialists. In partnership, their role is to lead the design and delivery of the Community Panel process. This includes independent facilitation of the panel sessions and panel member support.

Tract Consultants are urban designers, planners and landscape architects. This team's role is to lead the urban design elements of the option development and assessment process for the marina site.

AECOM is a global design, engineering, construction and management company. The team's focus for this project is environmental sustainability and resilience, and coastal engineering. Their role is to provide assessment of the environment, sustainability and resilience constraints and opportunities for the site and input these into the design and assessment of options.

Urbis is a multi-disciplinary agency that works across planning, design, policy, heritage, valuations, economics and research. The team's focus for this project is finance and economics. Their role is to provide market research, economic feasibility and procurement advice to inform the development and assessment of options.

Insights from the Community Panel

"I am most excited about having the opportunity to participate in the future of my local neighbourhood."

"I am most excited about meeting other panel members and seeing the final outcome of ideas, to be part of the process to redesign the marina site with environmental and cultural issues incorporated."

"I am most excited about a new community space for Melbourne and visitors. A welcoming space."

"I am most keen to learn from the experts retained by Council what their recommendations are for a future state of the art marina precinct."

"I am most keen to learn about how community panels work together with councils to deliver the best possible outcome for the community."

"I am most keen to learn about unexpected initiatives and ideas for the site."

What's next?

Over the coming weeks Council and the technical consultants will be undertaking further assessment of the site and how the vision and objectives could be met. At the next Community Panel, they will present high level option scenarios and opportunities to the Community Panel, who will then deliberate over the scenarios and opportunities to assist the technical consultants in preparing a series of preliminary options for the site.

To learn more about how you can follow the Community Panel process be sure to visit the project page <https://haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au/stkildamarina>.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about the St Kilda Marina Project please contact the project team via ASSIST on 03 9209 6777 or by emailing skmproject@portphillip.vic.gov.au.