



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 6 FEBRUARY 2019

12.1 CATANI CLOCK TOWER CHIMES

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: TONY KEENAN, INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To report back to Council about the feasibility of the Catani Clock Tower Chimes project and to seek approval for recommended action.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report is being presented to Council with an update in response to Councillor Brand's Notice of Motion of 1 August 2018 regarding the investigation of the feasibility of installing chimes in the Catani Clock Tower, and to seek further instruction from Council.
- 2.2 This report provides information in response to the Notice about the technical requirements and timing issues involved; strategies for an effective community consultation; the policy alignments of such a project with the current Council Plan; the costs involved and the possible sources of funding for the project as requested in the Notice of Motion.

3. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 3.1 Requests officers to proceed with the community consultation and installation of a bell chime in the Catani Clock Tower and approves the allocation of \$24,500 in the 2018-2019 financial year to allow the project to be completed as part of Catani Centenary events.
- 3.2 Delegates to the General Manager, Community and Economic Development, the ability to approve recommendations from the Cultural Heritage Reference Committee in relation to this project.

4. KEY POINTS/ISSUES

- 4.1 At the Council meeting of 1 August 2018 Councillor Brand moved a Notice of Motion requesting that officers investigate the feasibility of installing a bell chime in the Catani Memorial Clock Tower.
- 4.2 Technical requirements
Officers have met on site with Ingrams Time Systems, the same company which provided specifications for the Clock Tower mechanism in 1929 and who continue to maintain the clocks in the City of Port Phillip. Their recommendation is for the



installation of a digital chime system with amplifier and directional speakers. This would allow the greatest control of the audio and quality of sound. It is also the most cost-effective approach. Installation of a bell would not be possible due to technical requirements and structural issues with the Clock Tower.

4.3 Timing

The timeline required would be approximately eight weeks for the procurement, installation and adjustment of the audio for the chime mechanism. It could be delivered in the current financial year if funding is approved.

4.4 Strategies for an effective community consultation

Community consultation strategies would include: targeted mailing to local residents and traders on the Esplanade and surrounds; to Acland Street and Fitzroy Street traders and Esplanade Market stallholders through their newsletters; direct engagement with St Kilda Historical Society, St Kilda RSL and Council's Cultural Heritage Reference Committee; and through Council's Have Your Say page. Consultation would identify the level of support for installation of chimes and why; what the start and finish times of the chimes should be; and what the frequency of the chimes should be.

4.5 Policy alignment

The installation of chimes aligns with Council Plan Strategic *Direction 4: We are growing and keeping our character*. This project protects and enhances the City's valued heritage places and provides opportunities to reflect and interpret the City's history. It also adds an element to the City soundscape that will evoke both solemnity and celebration and provide an audible focal point in St Kilda.

The project will be undertaken in alignment with the Port Phillip City Collection Policy and according to industry best practice for development and conservation of heritage.

4.6 Costs and funding

Costing for the project is \$24,500 which includes the procurement and installation of the digital chimes; upgrading the power supply to the Clock Tower; printing and distribution of material for community consultation; and a contingency of 30% to allow for latent conditions within the Clock Tower. Ongoing maintenance of the chimes will be through business as usual maintenance budgets for the Clock Tower.

Officers explored possible grants however there are no external sources of funding available. It is proposed that the project be funded through possible Enterprise Portfolio savings in the 2018/19 year.

4.7 The investigation of the feasibility indicates that the project aligns with Council policies and strategies, may be able to be funded this financial year, has initial community support which can be tested further on a local level, and can proceed without impacting the structural and cultural integrity of the Memorial Clock Tower.



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5. CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 5.1 The original Notice of Motion was prompted by advice from Mr Isaac Hermann regarding the historical work and significant impact of Carlo Catani, especially in light of the commemoration of 100 years since his death.
- 5.2 This project has been flagged with Council's Cultural Heritage Reference Committee in line with their Terms of Reference. The Committee expressed support of the installation of chimes and the intention of honouring Carlo Catani by completing the vision for the Clock Tower.
- 5.3 Community consultation would take place with local residents; Acland Street, Fitzroy Street and Esplanade and Market traders; St Kilda Historical Society and St Kilda RSL.
- 5.4 Council's Cultural Heritage Reference Committee will review the feedback through Have Your Say and will provide recommendations to Council (through delegation) for the frequency and timing of the chimes.
- 5.5 A final briefing will be presented to Council with the outcomes of the community consultation and the schedule for installation and activation of the chime mechanism.

6. LEGAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There will be no impact on the cultural and built heritage integrity of the Clock Tower
- 6.2 The project aligns with The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013.

7. FINANCIAL IMPACT

- 7.1 The costs involved to install chimes to the Clock Tower are estimated at \$24,500.
- 7.2 There may be savings identified through the midyear review in the Community and Economic Development project portfolio or elsewhere across Council to allow the work to be completed within the 2018-19 financial year.
- 7.3 If there are no savings identified then funding can be applied for through the 2019-2020 budget process.
- 7.4 Ongoing maintenance will be managed through business as usual.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 8.1 There is no identified environmental impact for the installation of chimes in the Clock Tower.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 9.1 The chimes will have direct impact on the local Fitzroy Street, Esplanade and Acland Street (and surrounds) residents and traders however directional speakers pointing away from residential areas can mitigate this impact.



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- 9.2 Consultation will provide feedback on preferred start and end times and the frequency of the chimes, and there will be opportunity to adjust volume of chimes after installation to further mitigate this impact.
- 9.3 There has been interest from the local and Victorian community in the Catani Centenary and associated events and this project will provide an enduring tribute to Carlo Catani.
- 9.4 This project aligns with the Art and Soul: Creative and Prosperous City Strategy as it demonstrates the protection and enhancement of our cultural heritage.
- 9.5 The chimes complete the design for the Clock Tower and enhance this significant cultural monument on the St Kilda foreshore.
- 9.6 The chimes may provide an audible place-making anchor for visitors and residents through its chimes.

10. ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICY

- 10.1 The installation of chimes aligns with Council Plan Strategic Direction 4: We are growing and keeping our character. This project protects and enhances the City's valued heritage places and provides opportunities to reflect and interpret the City's history.

11. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

11.1 TIMELINE

- 11.1.1 If Council supports the installation of chimes in the Clock Tower, the following implementation schedule will be undertaken:
- 11.1.2 Funding for the project will be identified in the 2018-2019 or 2019-2020 financial years
- 11.1.3 Community consultation will take place over a four-week period
- 11.1.4 Recommendation for chimes timings will be made by the Cultural Heritage Reference Committee and approved by the General Manager Community and Economic Development under delegation
- 11.1.5 Council will be briefed on the outcome and advised of the timing for procurement and installation
- 11.1.6 The chiming mechanism will be procured; power to the site will be upgraded; installation will take place. The clock mechanism will also be serviced
- 11.1.7 The chimes will be tested and adjusted as needed



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11.2 COMMUNICATION

- 11.2.1 The community consultation and the final decisions regarding the Clock Tower will be disseminated to the community through social media, the art and heritage mailing list, the heritage website, and residents and traders newsletters.

12. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

- 12.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.

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ATTACHMENTS 1. Councillor David Brand Notice of Motion 1 August 2018 Catani Memorial Clock Tower chimes feasibility