

Friends of Geraldton Gardens Inc. (FroGGs)  
19/06/2016

Unit 7

172 Fitzgerald Street,  
Beachlands, 6530, WA

Mr. Ross McKim

City of Greater Geraldton

Box 101

Geraldton, 6531, WA

**Ref D-16-34025**

### **FRIENDS OF GERALDTON MAITLAND PARK GARDEN PROPOSAL**

Dear Mr. McKim.

Thank you for your letter dated 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2016 which requested a response and outlined seven points for FroGGs to consider.

Our understanding is that the Concept Report provides an initial position for City of Greater Geraldton (COGG) to provide in-principle support for the progress of design at the Maitland Park site – in this regard there are many details to be resolved in terms of technicalities and structure of project/roles/relationship between CoGG & FROGGs.

At this stage we can only answer these questions in the most general terms because funding to develop the full concept would only be available when we have confirmed access to the land.

FroGGs are aware of the heavy vehicular traffic around Maitland Park for short periods of time, but we felt that as the proposed first stage is quite small, impact would not be substantial. We consider the impact of the full proposal will be around the middle of the day and the weekends.

In relation to the heavy pedestrian traffic, this has been considered in the concept plan. The plan includes key cross site links (red axis in the concept plan.) Additionally, it is not proposed to fence the park, so secondary paths will also provide cross site access

Stage one is intended as a 'minimal spend' start up project and therefore does not feature heavy capital works like car parking facilities.

Under the current proposal (Stage 1), the use of the former kiosk located in the present toilet block will be all that is required for storage. FroGGs volunteers can make this usable. The question of loading and unloading will be addressed as part of a more comprehensive design. At this point costing in the concept plan is

preliminary. The detailed infrastructure such as drainage, CCTV and other public park infrastructure would be addressed in a detailed design. Once permission is granted to enter the park, we would do a cost analysis which would embrace these items. The cost of this analysis and design would be sought from grants.

The intention, where possible, is to use or modify the existing irrigation system.

Crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) will be addressed in the design plan and we are aware that sight lines and clear way finding are important in seeing movement through the gardens, especially at night. We would anticipate CCTV security working under the COGG program and apply for funds for this if required.

In regard to ongoing maintenance, renewal and depreciation costs, it is our intention that FroGGs will manage structures and ongoing maintenance working together with what the City provides already in the park. It is difficult to find a fit for maintenance figures from similar projects as this is a small start-up project. However, as the project develops, comparisons and costs of similar sized Botanical gardens will be obtained.

FroGGs intention is to seek grants or funding to pay a project manager to oversee volunteers and works in the initial stage 1. We have a current application before the Mid-West Development Commission and will continue to apply for grants once we have in-principal support from COGG for the Botanical Gardens in Maitland Park.

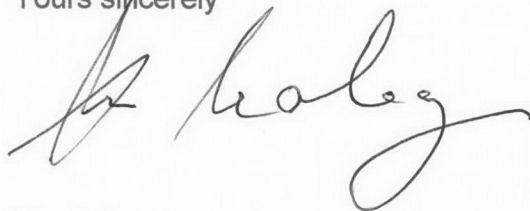
The reason we are seeking in-principal support for FroGGs to enter Maitland Park is so we can then proceed to apply for grants and formulate more detailed design for both the costing and the garden.

The community of the City of Greater Geraldton, the children in the schools on the boundary of the park and all visitors to our City will engage in this display and it will become a feather in the cap of our region.

The Botanical Garden will be built in gradual stages, beginning with stage one, giving clarity and vision to the people of COGG and surrounds and will complement the City of Geraldton, Councillors and staff.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stan Maley', written in a cursive style.

Stan Maley

Secretary Friends of Geraldton Gardens Inc.