CM13.5. Draft Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design Project - Stakeholder Engagement Plan

DATE	30 April 2024	**FIL REFERENCE**	FIL21/02510
CONFIDENTIAL	No		
FURTHER ENQUIRIES	Ambrose Glass Service Leader Business & Lifestyle	**PHONE**	6023 8273
AUTHOR	Aaron Humphries		

Purpose of Report

To gain endorsement of the draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatic Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design project.

Background

The Lauren Jackson Sports Centre (LJSC) is a multi-use five court indoor sports facility owned and operated by Albury City Council. It is located on North Street Albury, three kilometres from the Albury CBD and four kilometres from the Lavington CBD.

Extensive community engagement has guided the development of current plans for the upgrade of the centre with a two-stage Master Plan development for the facility endorsed by Council in 2018.

The $15.2 million Stage 1 development, which is due to commence in the coming months, provides much needed upgrades to the multisport venue, providing opportunity for increased active participation, enhanced inclusivity for women in sport and improved spectator and player comfort.

Stage 2 of the development commenced with a detailed Feasibility Study prepared by consultants @Leisure Planners. At the Council meeting held Monday 23 October 2023, Council resolved:

That Council:

a) receive and note the LJSC Stage 2 Feasibility and Business Case prepared by @Leisure Planners.

b) share the report with stakeholder organisations.

c) continue discussions with PCYC regarding their involvement (potential contribution and expectations).

d) use the preferred concept plan Option 4 for LJSC Stage 2 as the basis of a masterplan for future development of the LJSC precinct and seek community and stakeholder input.

e) incorporate funding of $1.5 million for preliminary design and costing of Option 4 at LJSC Stage 2 in developing the draft 2024/2028 Four Year Delivery Plan to validate costs and support advocacy efforts.

f) activate planning for Option 4 at LJSC Stage 2 Advocacy Strategy development and funding attraction.

This report relates to item d. and e. of that resolution, noting e. is subject to adoption of the draft 2024-2028 Four Year Delivery Program by Council in June 2024.

Issues

The LJSC Stage 2 Preliminary Design project will seek to have a design of the facility that includes the following features:

- Three additional sport courts – suitable for basketball, netball, volleyball and badminton, with show court and VIP boxes and an option for two further courts;
- An all-year indoor aquatic facility that addresses the needs of people for all ages and abilities: A 50m indoor pool – with a swim wall providing program flexibility and spectator seating – suitable for water polo training and competition, warm water pool, learn to swim pool, leisure water, water play and water slide, and a spa and steam room;
- Allied health facilities for exercise therapy and rehabilitation;
- Health club, gymnastics studio, martial arts rooms;
- Change rooms including separate area for school groups;
- Multipurpose rooms;
- Café and merchandise shop;
- Offices, reception; and
- Approximately 350 car spaces.

Prior to commencing preliminary design, it is important that the community are given a final opportunity to provide feedback on the preferred concept plan by placing it on public exhibition as a masterplan for the precinct.

In accordance with the previous resolution of Council, the preferred concept plan has been further enhanced to support its public exhibition as a masterplan for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre Precinct (refer Attachment 2).

A draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatic Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design project has been developed and is provided at Attachment 1, with consultation to be undertaken in two stages as outlined in the engagement section of this report.

The project aligns with outcomes contained within *Towards Albury 2050* including:

A Growing Sustainable Economy:

1.1 Albury is a liveable city supporting sustainable population growth through the provision of high-quality infrastructure, industry – leading services and high levels of amenity.

A Caring Community:

3.3 Our community values arts, culture, heritage, and place. All residents share and celebrate our multiculturism in a welcoming and open community.

3.5 Albury is a safe, inclusive, and accessible region for our entire community.

3.6 Albury is a vibrant region that values the enrichment offered by arts and cultural activities and provides for diverse lifestyles and experiences.

A Leading Community:
4.2 Albury collaborates as a community to plan for the future and work towards a shared vision.

Risk

- **Business Risk** – There are no business risks with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for this project.
- **Corporate Risk** – Potential negative feedback from sections of the community due to the large capital investment required to progress the project. There is also potential negative feedback from sections of the community who would like to see the additional sport courts activated as a priority and not delayed by the aquatic components of the project.
- **WHS and Public Risk** – These are not considered in the development of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan however will be considered during future phases of the project.
- **Environmental Risk** – The environmental risks for the project will be assessed with the successful consultant as part of the preliminary design process.
- **Delivery Program Risk** – The endorsement of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan will allow the Master Plan to go on public exhibition for community feedback. Completing this process will assist in finalising the scope for the Request for Tender for the preliminary design phase of the project. Funding for the preliminary design phase is included in the draft Four Year Delivery Plan 2024-2028, as previously resolved by Council.

Community Engagement

Extensive community engagement was undertaken in the development of the LJSC Stage 2 Feasibility Study. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Feasibility Study was endorsed by Council on 11 July 2022. The aim of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan was to undertake consultation with the key stakeholders and potential users of the LJSC to assist in the development of Stage 2 plans for the facility inclusive of both sports court and aquatic development.

Workshops, meetings, face to face interviews and telephone calls were conducted with internal stakeholders and a range of individuals representing a range of clubs, user groups and organisations were interviewed.

This next phase of community engagement aims to:
- Align engagement activity with Engaging Albury Principles.
- Provide stakeholders and the community with an opportunity to provide feedback on the preferred concept plan by placing it on public exhibition as a masterplan for the precinct.
- Prepare a report for Council based on the results of the public exhibition (if submissions are received).
- During the preliminary design phase conduct engagement with key stakeholders and identified key user groups to ensure they are informed on the progression of the design and ensure that the design meets their needs.
- Close the loop with stakeholders and the community referencing the decision made by Council and how community feedback influenced the final preliminary design.

The community engagement will take place over the two stages:

- Stage 1 – Public Exhibition of preferred concept plan as a masterplan for the precinct.
- Stage 2 – Engagement with Key Stakeholders during preliminary design.

The attached draft Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan outlines the level of engagement stages and the stakeholders to be included in greater detail. The additional attachment is the floor level masterplans that will be presented to the community as part of the public exhibition.

Options

1. That Council:
    a. Endorse the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design project;
    b. Endorse the draft masterplan for the future development of the LJSC precinct, including regional aquatic facilities; and
    c. Places the draft masterplan on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and, if no submissions are received adopts the masterplan.

    Recommended.

2. That Council seek further amendment to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design project and/or draft masterplan. **Not Recommended**.

Conclusion

The draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design project represents a key step in the continuing development of this significant community facility. Through extensive community engagement, the plan has sought to align with the principles of Engaging Albury, providing stakeholders and the wider community with ample opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility.

By placing the preferred concept plan on public exhibition as a masterplan for the precinct we can consider any final community feedback prior to commencing the next phase of the design process and project advocacy as resolved by Council.

Recommendation

That Council:

a. Endorse the draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatics Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design project;

b. Endorse the draft masterplan for the future development of the Lauren Jackson Sports Centre precinct, including regional aquatic facilities; and

c. Places the draft masterplan on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days and, if no submissions are received, adopt the masterplan.

Attachments

1. Draft Lauren Jackson Sports Centre and Aquatic Facility Stage 2 Preliminary Design Draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (DOC24/69366).
2. LJSC Master Plan (DOC24/91293).