

Canning Access & Inclusion Advisory Group Minutes

Meeting Number: 01

Date: 17 August 2026 (5.30pm)

Location: Hillview Intercultural Community Centre – 1-3 Hill View Place, Bentley, WA. 6102

Attendees:

Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
██████████ (AA) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y	Sam Davis (SD) - Manager Community Development & Libraries	Y
██████████ (AD) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y	Ben Armstrong (BA) - Coordinator Community Capacity (Co-chair)	A
██████████ (CB) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y	Antonietta Franco (AF) - Principal Architect	A
██████████ (CB) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	A	Nicole Beard (NB) – Community Engagement Specialist	Y
██████████ (CB) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y	Jessika van der Mark (JV) – CDO Age Friendly (Co-chair)	Y
██████████ (JP) - Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y	Leesa Miller (LM) – CDO Disability Access & Social Inclusion - <i>Minutes Taker</i>	Y
██████████ (KL) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		
██████████ (MH) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		
██████████ (PH) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		
██████████ (PW) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		
██████████ (SB) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		
██████████ (TS) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		
██████████ (ZM) – Canning A&I Advisory Group Member	Y		

Minutes

1.	<i>We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation and pay our respects to Elders, past and present.</i>		
	Agenda items:	Time	
2.	Welcome & Housekeeping	5.30pm	Chairperson, Jess (JV) opened meeting at 5.30pm and facilitated introduction around the table.
3.	Governance	5.55pm	Jess (JV) spoke to the CAIAG: • Terms of Reference (ToR) • City of Canning Employee and Volunteer Code of Conduct • Media Consent Form (expiry 30 July 2028) The documents had been previously circulated to members via email. Members were invited to raise any questions or seek clarification regarding document content. Members were then invited to sign the authorisation form, which was circulated around the table.
4.	CAIAG Overview	6.10pm	Sam (SD) provided an overview of the types of projects and topics discussed by the CAIAG, noting that the agenda may vary from meeting to meeting depending on current priorities and projects for consideration. Members were encouraged to bring forward any ideas, concerns or issues they may wish to raise with the group. As the CAIAG meets only four times per year, members are welcome to contact staff between meetings, if they identify any barriers or matters requiring attention. These discussions can then be progressed as appropriate and then brought back to the group for further discussion at the next meeting. Feedback and matters raised at each meeting are collated and referred to the relevant business units for consideration and follow-up. Members were advised that officers from relevant business units may attend future CAIAG meetings to hear directly from members, better understand accessibility issues/barriers, and provide information, update or feedback.

			Sam (SD) noted that the City recognises the value of community-led initiatives and where appropriate will consider opportunities to support initiatives that respond to the needs and priorities of the community.
5.	General discussion	6.15pm	Members were invited to share what motivated them to nominate for the Canning Access and Inclusion Advisory Group (CAIAG), what they would like to achieve during their term and any ideas, issues or opportunities they would like to raise with the City of Canning in relation to access and inclusion. The following is an overview of the discussions: • It is important to get everyone's input – not just on the bigger projects, but also on everyday services and initiatives • The need to ensure all City services are accessible – example, dog licences currently need to be completed in person, which may present a barrier for people with mobility issues. • Support for students and young people with disability to participate fully in their local community, including opportunities for work experience, volunteering and community activities • Identifying inclusive programs and opportunities that involve both young people and their families, outside of school hours • Exploring opportunities for students and young people to contribute to community projects, such as playground design and having a greater voice in shaping their local community • It's important for diverse communities to feel represented, be visible, included and valued across City programs, communications and initiatives • Members discussed the importance of considering inclusion beyond specific events, with a focus on ongoing visibility throughout the year, rather than inclusion being viewed as a "tick-box" exercise. This included ensuring diverse representation in newsletters and other City communications • The importance of people being able to see themselves reflected in their local community supports a sense of belonging, connection and safety.

		• There is a need to recognise the diversity within the community including LGBTQIA+ people, people living with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, older persons and our CaLD community • Displaying the LGBTQIA+ flag and having specific information pamphlets is a visible sign of inclusion and support for the community • Employer inclusion and ally groups play an important role in creating a safe and inclusive workplace by supporting staff, providing advice on reducing bias, and promoting an environment where LGBTQIA+ people feel respected and valued • Good street lighting helps people to feel safe in their community – example, Queens Park requires better lighting • Neurodivergent and LGBTQIA+ young people need to feel seen and safe – good opportunity to support new networks and social groups to support this cohort • Assist families with children who have complex needs/bodies to participate in the community – remove barriers for parents to assist their children to access programs/activities • Continue making our community inclusive with visual prompts and using easy English – this help CaLD community as well as many other cohorts • It should not be unusual to see people living with disability out and about in the community • Greater support for carers, particularly those working within the community • Greater involvement of people with lived experience in sharing stories, providing peer support and advocating for others • Ensure lived experience is valued in shaping and improving services, particularly across mental health and community support systems • Occupational therapist approval does not necessarily mean a space or facility is fully accessible • Event accessibility needs to consider the whole environment, including grassed areas, pathways and access to amenities • Grass surfaces create barriers and exclude people with mobility devices • Accessible pathways and suitable parking are essential to ensure people with disability can safely access and participate in events
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		• Our community speak languages other than English so visual signs and images would be helpful and remove government jargon words • Making complaints and providing feedback from multi-cultural community should be made easier • Look at the different ways the multi-cultural community can contribute to the wider Canning community – where are the opportunities? • We must continue the journey and accessibility for all – looking forward to the next 2 years! • There are significant gaps in the footpaths and pedestrian infrastructure, in Cannington, Queens Park and Bentley – these areas are less walkable, with some footpaths absent or poorly maintained, especially compared to other parts of Canning – what is the process of when and how different suburbs are upgraded? • Perception is lower-income suburbs have fewer services and receive less investment • It could be helpful to clarify which issues are within the City's sphere of influence and which fall under the responsible of other levels of government • Affordable housing requires investigation – community would welcome greater action to support housing affordability - how can the community advocate for housing to become a higher priority for the City? • Concern regarding bin collections, particularly where emptied bins are placed further back on to the footpath, obstructing pedestrian access – issue for people with low vision and mobility limitations – this issue will continue to get worse with higher density housing and increased number of bins • Blocked footpaths force pedestrians onto the roads – creating safety risks • Canning Arts Centre facilities are run down and need of upgrade – this centre is heavily used by all abilities and older persons on regular basis • Concerns raised regarding bridges and pedestrian connectivity, especially in the Riverton area • City announced \$800,000 to be spent on one Community Sporting and Recreation Facility project – this amount is a greater spend than the overall allocation towards upgrading footpaths across the whole city – does this adequately reflect what the community needs? • Out of interest – what are the types and accessibility complaints that are received by the City, this can help to narrow down what the group should be concentrating on
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			Playground & Park design – who designs the parks in the City for toddlers – example Hossack Park has a lot of rocks which are not safe for this age group
6.	Engagement Opportunities		Members asked what opportunities will be available for them to provide feedback on City of Canning projects and initiatives? Nicole (NB) Community Engagement Specialist advised that there will be ongoing opportunities to provide feedback through our City's engagement mechanisms. A recent example was the 'Living in Canning Survey', which helped the City understand what makes an area a great place to live and how these insights can inform future planning. The survey explored the spaces people use, their local environment and their sense of connection to their neighbourhoods. Once completed, the survey results were presented to the CAIAG for discussion and feedback.
7.	Local Government Authority - Roles and Responsibilities	6.50pm	Sam (SD) suggested that a presentation be included at the next CAIAG meeting outlining the roles and responsibilities of Local Government Authorities, including clarification of what Local Government is responsible for in practice, its sphere of influence, and the respective roles of State and Federal Government. Our aim is to listen and maintain a solution focused approach. Members agreed that this would be valuable in supporting their understanding and engagement with the CAIAG moving forward.
8.	Next Meeting Dates: ◆Monday, 16 November 2026 ◆Monday, 15 February 2027 ◆Monday, 17 May 2027 ◆Monday, 16 August 2027 ◆Monday, 15 November 2027 <i>Time: 5.30pm to 7pm, Venue: Hillview Intercultural Community Centre (HICC)</i>		
9.	<i>Closure time of meeting – 7.02pm</i>		