

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Written Submission – March OMC – Agenda Item E25/64 – Moreau Mews Town Square

The CRG welcomes Council's commitment to the Moreau Mews Town Square. This area has long been identified as a Town Square both in the original CBACP and in the changes to the CBACP proposed by Council in April last year. The CRG sees this as a great opportunity to do something that has the potential to really improve the amenity, liveability and attractiveness of Canning Bridge.

The concepts to be considered at the March OMC are helpful, although perhaps not as creative as this opportunity deserves. While we certainly appreciate the work done by your internal team, the CRG thinks this is a great opportunity to do something unique and leave a legacy and deserves "expert" external involvement as well. We believe there would be benefit in having an experienced landscape architect as a consultant available for the internal team. (We also saw value in the suggestions last year from Cr Barber that a competition for landscape architects be held to maximise the potential ideas for the Town Square.)

The CRG notes with some concern that the inclusion of parking recommended by Council Officers is not consistent with Council's previous decisions or with the current CBACP or the Council endorsed changes to the CBACP. This relatively small area should be completely public open space. Given this, one of the options for further consultation should have no parking to reflect Council decisions and to test the community view.

The CRG believes that Concept 3 is worth further consideration even though it will require creative discussion with adjoining landowners (and may provide a creative solution for parking without detracting from the Town Square). Again, the CRG respectfully suggests that this is an area that would also benefit from some external expertise both in examining creative options and in negotiating mutually agreed outcomes.

In conclusion, the CRG sees the development of the Town Square as an important step in addressing the community concerns about development at Canning Bridge and demonstrating that the Council is listening while providing a valuable community asset for the future.

CRG respectfully recommends:

1. All three concepts be released for public consultation.
2. Concepts 1 and 2 have two versions each – one with parking and one without.
3. An experienced landscape architect be employed as an overseeing consultant for the project.
4. Concept 3 be a live concept supported by appropriate external advice.

Thank you for reading our submission.

Kind regards,

Dayle and Fay Kenny

On behalf of the CBACP Council Reference Group