



Rhonda Hardy
Chief Executive Officer
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15 March 2021

RE: Support Request for Perth Hills Future

Dear Rhonda

Thank you for the opportunity to present Perth Hills Future to the City of Kalamunda Councillors and Executive during your strategic planning workshop on 21 February 2021.

We were very encouraged by the overwhelming census of support from the Councillors on the need for a community peak body such as Perth Hills Future to present a clear Community Voice on future planning, development and investment considerations across the Perth Hills. We consider the City of Kalamunda to be a first mover in partnering with Perth Hills Future and as such, request a formal letter to endorse your support for this initiative.

Perth Hills Future is using the successful Portland Future Focus model, established in the 1980's when the Mayor Bud Clarke called for the first community owned effort to plan for a greater future. The goal was to engage citizens in creating the future vision - born from shared values and expressing the anticipated future needs of Portlanders. It was an ambitious initiative to support community leaders to undertake broad-scale consultation using diverse engagement methods to gather data and formulate cohesive recommendations. The City implemented the prioritised recommendations, with the greatest level of confidence and community support.

Perth Hills Future will undertake widespread and multi-faceted community consultation on key development challenges shared across the Hills. The outcome will be the delivery of strong Mandates that will form the basis of a community-endorsed conversation with government in pursuit of a more integrated planning, development and investment future for the Perth Hills. We also want to explore the economic benefits of promoting tourism and the Lifestyle Economy and lobby for the Perth Hills to be recognised for its environmental value and as a tourism precinct.

We envisage a purposeful, collaborative relationship with the City of Kalamunda and other LGAs, based on clear expectations and open communication. As we engage with the community to collect data and map priorities, we intend to share the outcomes with you as milestones are achieved.

We aim to develop excellent communication and an open working relationship with the City's Executive and relevant department heads to ensure that our planned consultation does not conflict or duplicate the City's pursuits.

Perth Hills Future welcomes in-kind support from the City which may take the form of:

- Complimentary venue hire (insurance provided by PHF);
- Invitations to participate in the City's events, introductions to the City's Advisory groups (e.g. economic development, tourism and arts and cultural);
- Display of the City's logo on the Partners page of the PHF website (next to RDA, Perth);
- Promotion of PHF events and initiatives via online and print media (e.g. Facebook, Kalamunda Connected);
- Opportunity to present key findings of our work to the City's Executive, Councillors, Advisory Groups and key staff members; and
- Sharing of resources including population demographics and key contacts of Kalamunda-based community groups.

Perth Hills Future would also welcome the opportunity to tender for specific community consultation projects or awareness campaigns that the City may wish to undertake.

Regional Development Australia, Perth has provided seed funding to develop the website and will continue to support Perth Hills Future specifically with regards to governance. We have received strong support from our State and Federal elected members and aim to gain support from the four other Perth Hills Local Governments in the near future.

We look forward to building a closer working relationship with the City of Kalamunda and thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely

Paige McNeil
Founding Member

About Perth Hills Future

Perth Hills Future was formed in response to the 2020 Perth Hills Strategic Visioning Report by Regional Development Australia, Perth. The Report acknowledges widespread community frustration at the disconnect between engagement and planning outcomes. It recommends that a grassroots Community Peak Body be formed as the vehicle by which authentic and cohesive community consultation can occur to guide future planning and development in the Perth Hills.

Perth Hills Future will undertake broad-based and multi-faceted consultation, [Community Visioning](#) to address key challenges and create a future where our environmental and cultural integrity remains core to the Perth Hills economy. The outcome will be the delivery of strong [Mandates](#) focussed on [Smart Growth](#) initiatives that will form the basis of community-endorsed conversations with government, in pursuit of a more integrated planning, development and investment future for the Perth Hills.