

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 6.4

The Greenline Project Quarterly Report

5 March 2024

Presenter: Rick Kwasek, General Manager Infrastructure and Amenity

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to provide the Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) with a progress update on the Greenline Project program of works for the period ending 31 December 2023.

Key issues

2. As at 31 December 2023, the total Greenline Project program expenditure since 2021 is \$15.8 million and the total expenditure for financial year 2023–24 is \$6.3 million.
3. Delivery of the \$17 million 2023–24 budget is on track, with a significant portion of the Greenline Project Professional Consultancy Services contract, Partnerships and Funding Strategy work, program planning, and Birrarung Marr Precinct Site 1 works underway in the 2023–24 financial year.
4. Key elements of the Greenline Project which are in-progress or complete to December 2023 include:

Q2 2023–24

- 4.1. **Master Plan Approval** – The final Greenline Project Master Plan was approved by FMC on 5 December, 2023. Outlining the design vision for the entire 4km project, the Master Plan was developed throughout 2023 with two rounds of community consultation and ongoing engagement with key stakeholders. The Master Plan is supported by the project's Business Case and Implementation Plan, which were approved by FMC in 2021 and 2022 respectively. The Master Plan, as well as future Precinct Plans, are being delivered through the project's design consultancy, Aspect Studios and TCL.
- 4.2. **The Greenline Project Hub** – Detailed procurement and implementation planning for 'The Greenline Project Hub' has been completed in 2023. The Hub, which will be installed to the south of Federation Square (located on River Terrace), will be a space for community and stakeholders to learn more about the project. Similar to other major projects, the Hub will be where activations and engagement activities occur, as well as the Greenline Project team's office space. A lease agreement with MAP Co has been agreed for the Hub, and it is anticipated the installation and opening of the Hub will occur in late April or early May 2024.
- 4.3. **Birrarung Marr Precinct Site 1** – Investigative works for the very first site of the Greenline Project were completed this quarter. This will inform the ongoing design work being undertaken to deliver 450m of new boardwalks, viewpoints and green spaces from Batman Avenue to the eastern edge of Federation Square. Stakeholder and authority engagement was undertaken in collaboration with Site 1 design and construct contractor, Symal and Wamarra, to ensure timely approvals and construction commencement for April 2024.
- 4.4. **Partnerships and Funding** – Partnerships and collaboration are key to the successful delivery of the Greenline Project. City of Melbourne is continuing to work with the Federal Government on a \$20 million election pledge for the Greenline Project, which we expect to be executed in early 2024. A draft Partnership and Funding Strategy has also progressed through this quarter.
- 4.5. **Precinct Plans** – The development of five Precinct Plans for the Greenline Project commenced in September 2023 and are ongoing. These Precinct Plans allow for a more detailed level of information to be developed for the five Greenline Project Precincts, and enable further engagement with stakeholders and authorities to ensure agreement on, and the feasibility of the Greenline Project proposals.

Recommendation from management

5. That the Future Melbourne Committee accepts the Greenline Project quarterly report which outlines achievements for the quarter, and acknowledges a total program expenditure of \$15.8 million as at 31 December 2023.

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 3 of 3)

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. Whilst no direct legal issues arise from the recommendation from management, legal advice has and will continue to be provided on all aspects of the Greenline Project.

Finance

2. Financial implications applicable to the Greenline Project are contained in the body of this report.

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a material or general conflict of interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Health and Safety

4. In developing this proposal, no occupational health and safety issues or opportunities have been identified.

Stakeholder consultation

5. Ongoing engagement with community, authorities, stakeholders and agencies has been undertaken throughout this period, notably:
 - 5.1. Ongoing stakeholder sessions with responsible authorities.
 - 5.2. All stakeholder and community input received to date has informed Precinct Plan development as they progress.
6. Consultation with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation is ongoing.
7. Internal consultation with relevant branches of Council has been undertaken in the preparation of this report.

Relation to Council policy

8. The recommendation from management aligns with aspirations as identified in the Council Plan 2021–25 to Partner with the Victorian Government and other stakeholders to deliver specific components of the Greenline Project along the north bank of the Yarra River (including the implementation of the Yarra River–Birrarrung Strategy).
9. The Greenline Project aligns with Aboriginal Melbourne aspirations detailed in the Council Plan. Ongoing engagement is being undertaken throughout this project with the Traditional Owners (the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation), which is consistent with Major Initiative 25.

Environmental sustainability

10. Development and delivery of the Greenline Project is guided by the Yarra River–Birrarrung Strategy, along with a number of other Major Initiatives, and includes targets from a number of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.