Hilton Precinct

Meeting Notes	
Meeting Date	August 8, 2026
Venue	Meerilinga Hilton
Time	2:00 PM

1. **Public Arts**

An update was provided on the proposed public art project funded through the Percent for Art contribution associated with the Coles development.

Project overview

- Approximately $100,000 is available for public artwork in Hilton.
- The City of Fremantle is developing a project brief in consultation with a community working group.
- Diana has been instrumental in advocating for the project and progressing discussions with the City's arts team.
- The artwork is intended to celebrate Hilton's history, identity, cultural heritage, natural environment and community connections.
- Potential locations include suburb entry points, public gathering spaces and other suitable sites.
- The project may involve one major artwork or several installations, including temporary works, provided at least one is permanent.
- Community participation, including schools, young people, local organisations and Aboriginal Elders, will be encouraged.

Artist selection

The City proposes an Expression of Interest process, followed by shortlisting three artists or artist teams to develop concepts. An evaluation panel will assess the concepts and recommend a preferred artist.

Hilton Precinct is expected to have community representation on the evaluation panel.

- Local photographer Brad Rimmer was suggested as an example of an artist whose work reflects Hilton's history.
- Attendees discussed opportunities for photography, contemporary artwork and installations across multiple locations.
- Questions were raised about ongoing maintenance and responsibility for public artworks.
- It was suggested that the Expression of Interest be promoted widely through local arts organisations and galleries.
- The City's broader review of its Percent for Art policy was discussed, including greater control over artwork selection, location and expenditure.

Next steps

The public art working group will meet online on Tuesday 27 October to review the draft project brief and provide feedback.

2. Glen Dougall, CEO City of Fremantle

Percent for Art policy review

Glen Dougall outlined the City's work to review its Percent for Art arrangements.

The proposed direction is to provide the City with greater influence over how public art contributions are spent, rather than allowing individual developers to determine all installations.

Considerations include:

- Greater flexibility in artwork locations.
- Opportunities to combine contributions from different developments to deliver more substantial projects.
- Reviewing contribution levels as project costs increase.
- Improving the quality and community benefit of public art.

Local Planning Scheme review

The City is progressing a major review of its Local Planning Scheme, which is approximately 20 years old.

The review will guide future land use, development and density across Fremantle and respond to changes in State Government planning requirements.

The process is extensive and will require State Government approval before formal public advertising and consultation.

Areas of interest to Hilton residents include:

- Potential increased residential density along sections of South Street.
- Opportunities for mixed-use development around existing South Street commercial areas.
- Potential increased density around Stockdale Road and Jarvis Street in O'Connor.
- Opportunities to support improved public transport along the South Street corridor.

These matters are preliminary and no final planning changes have been approved.

Residents were encouraged to review the relevant Council reports and participate when formal consultation becomes available.

Hilton Park Master Plan

Glen provided an update on implementation of the Hilton Park Master Plan.

Tree removal and site works

- Most of the planned tree removal has been completed.
- One tree remains temporarily due to an active magpie nest.

- Works to remove mounds containing asbestos-affected material are expected to commence in the coming weeks.
- Nearby residents will receive notification before the asbestos-related works.
- The precinct will also share information through its communication channels.
- Mulching and temporary site treatments will follow, with further works expected to resume in February 2027.

Project completion

An indicative completion period of July–September 2027 was discussed, subject to works and seasonal conditions.

Replacement planting

- Replacement tree planting is expected to commence around May 2027.
- Additional planting, including understorey vegetation, is proposed.
- Opportunities to extend planting into the north-eastern area of the park were discussed.
- Residents expressed interest in community planting days and opportunities to support the establishment of new trees.

The City explained that tree stock is generally ordered one to two years ahead of planting, which can affect the availability of particular species.

Tree watering and establishment

The discussion highlighted the importance of establishing newly planted trees, particularly during increasingly hot and dry summers.

The City advised that:

- Two watering trucks are operating.
- Watering has commenced earlier in the season.
- Newly planted trees generally receive establishment watering for up to three years.
- Contractor watering activity is monitored through a digital system.

Glen discussed the possibility of eventually making watering information available to residents through an online platform.

Residents suggested that community members could assist with watering where practical and appropriate.

Griffiths Park

The ongoing work of the Gardens, Verges and Trees group at Griffiths Park was acknowledged.

Residents expressed appreciation for the assistance of City parks staff, particularly Tim and Ross, and their ongoing support for community weeding and maintenance activities.

The City's approach to allocating staff responsibility for parks was discussed, with the aim of improving continuity and ownership of maintenance.

3. Convener Role

At the meeting, Hilton Precinct Convener Emma Livesey advised that she will be taking a break from her role for the next two to three months, possibly longer.

Emma confirmed that she is not resigning as Convener but needs time to reset and reconsider how she approaches the role moving forward.

Emma reflected on the achievements of Hilton Precinct over the past three years, including community events, social connections, local advocacy, gardens, verges and the many activities that have helped build a strong and connected community.

However, the growth of the precinct has also brought a significant increase in workload. Emma explained that she can spend up to 20 hours a week on precinct activities, alongside full-time employment and raising two primary school-aged children, and that the current arrangement is no longer sustainable.

4. General Business

Active transport and cycling

An update was provided on the City's draft cycling plan, which is expected to proceed to public consultation following Council consideration.

A community workshop was mentioned for 10 November 2026, from 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm, at Walyalup Civic Centre.

Workshop details are to be confirmed against the City's published information.

Residents were encouraged to participate in consultation and provide feedback on local cycling connections and infrastructure.

Other community matters

South Fremantle and neighbouring precincts

Representatives from neighbouring precincts attended and shared information about their activities and approaches to community engagement.

The value of collaboration and knowledge-sharing between precinct groups was acknowledged.

Dog exercise areas

Changes affecting a local dog exercise area were raised. Attendees noted that the changes may also affect Hilton residents who regularly use the facility.

Traffic, streetscapes and local infrastructure

Hilton 40 km/h area

The City provided an update on the 40 km/h traffic arrangements in Hilton.

Future improvements are intended to extend beyond speed limit signage and may include streetscape and road treatments that encourage lower vehicle speeds.

Further investigation and community consultation are anticipated.

Water pressure

Several residents raised concerns about low or inconsistent water pressure in parts of Hilton, particularly during peak morning and evening periods.

The discussion noted that water supply and pressure are Water Corporation responsibilities.

Residents were encouraged to report ongoing issues directly to Water Corporation, with coordinated reporting suggested where multiple properties experience similar problems.

Short-term rental accommodation

Attendees discussed the impact of short-term accommodation, including Airbnb properties, on residential communities.

Issues raised included:

- Waste disposal and incorrect use of residential bins.
- Noise and amenity impacts.
- Management contact details and response times.
- Concentrations of short-term accommodation within apartment complexes.
- Impacts on long-term housing availability and neighbourhood connections.

The City discussed changes to State Government requirements and the role of development approvals and management plans.

Council is considering how local planning policies can manage short-term accommodation while balancing tourism, housing availability and residential amenity.

Residents experiencing problems were encouraged to raise concerns through the appropriate City channels and property management contacts.

Community planting update

GVT members reported successfully securing three nut trees through an external initiative, including two macadamias and a pecan, for planting at Griffiths Park.

The group continues to support planting, weeding and maintenance, with positive feedback about the park's improvements.

5. Meeting Closed

Next meeting: To be advised, 2027.