

Report to the Future Melbourne Committee

Agenda item 6.5

Design Excellence Program (Major Initiative 22) - Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) and Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) members

5 October 2021

Presenters: Jocelyn Chiew, Director City Design

Purpose and background

1. The purpose of this report is to update Councillors on the call for applications process and to note the appointment of members to the Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) and Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP).
2. The Design Excellence Program (Major Initiative 22) includes implementing the DEAC and MDRP.
3. The Design Excellence Program was endorsed at Future Melbourne Committee on 19 November 2019.
4. The Terms of Reference (TOR) for 'DEAC 2021-2025' and 'MDRP 2021-22 Pilot Program' were endorsed by Councillors on 6 July 2021.
5. As stated in Section 03 of the DEAC TOR and Section 04 of the MDRP TOR, "The appointment of panel members will be made by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, based on recommendations by the City Architect and Director City Design. Councillors will be notified of these recommendations and provided the opportunity to request referral to Council prior to formal appointment".

Key issues

6. A four-week call for applications process was launched on 28 July 2021 via Participate Melbourne. 89 applications were received from 84 unique applicants. The following membership was sought:
 - 6.1. four DEAC community members
 - 6.2. eight MDRP expert members
 - 6.3. a selection of MDRP technical experts.
7. The selection panel comprised of the Deputy CEO, City Architect, Director City Design (Chair), Head of Statutory Planning and (Acting) Team Leader Urban Design and Design Review.
8. Prior to meeting on 7 September, panel members independently assessed and scored each application against prescribed selection criteria as established in the TOR. The panel's deliberations were in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, Diversity Policy and DEAC and MDRP TOR. No conflicts of interest were declared by panel members.
9. Through a separate process, DEAC Technical Experts have been nominated for direct appointment. A list of Technical Advisers, for invitation to select meetings as needed, has been initiated.
10. It is acknowledged that from time to time, both DEAC and MDRP members will have a conflict of interest with regard to particular projects. These conflicts will be managed appropriately as they arise.

Recommendation from management

11. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 11.1. Notes the updates to the 'Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) Terms of Reference 2021-2025' and 'Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) Terms of Reference 2021-22 Pilot Program' (refer Attachment 2 of the report from management).
 - 11.2. Notes the appointment of members to MDRP and DEAC (refer Attachment 3 of the report from management).

Attachments:

1. Supporting Attachment (Page 2 of 5)
2. Melbourne Design Review Panel ToR 2021-22 and Design Excellence Advisory Committee ToR 2021-25 (Page 3 of 5)
3. Proposed membership Melbourne Design Review Panel and Design Excellence Advisory Committee (Page 4 of 5)

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. There are no direct legal implications for Council in the recommendation of this report.

Finance

2. Establishment costs for the MDRP Pilot and DEAC are provided for in the 2021-22 draft budget.

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. No external stakeholder engagement was required.

Relation to Council policy

6. The following Council plans and policies are relevant:

Council Plan 2021-25

- Major Initiative - 'Champion high quality development and public realm design through delivering the Design Excellence Program, including implementing the City of Melbourne Design Review Panel and a Design Excellence Committee for strategic planning work.'

Melbourne Planning Scheme Municipal Strategic Statement, Clause 21.06-1 Urban Design

- Objective 1: To reinforce the City's overall urban structure.
- Objective 5: To increase the vitality, amenity, comfort, safety and distinctive City experience of the public realm.
- Objective 6: To improve public realm permeability, legibility and flexibility.
- Objective 7: To create a safe and comfortable public realm.

7. Appointments to Advisory Committees, Bodies and Boards of Subsidiary Companies aim to ensure that opportunities for new or replacement appointments are made in accordance with the Diversity Policy and represent a broad cross-section of the community. For the purposes of the Policy, diversity includes gender, age, ethnicity and cultural background.

Environmental sustainability

8. The program will have positive environmental effects by encouraging high quality design that can individually and cumulatively contribute to a quality public realm for Melbourne. The Program has an emphasis on the use of high quality building materials to ensure longevity of built form with minimal deterioration over time and reduced building waste through replacement.

Updates to Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) and Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) Terms of Reference

Updates to the Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) Terms of Reference

1. Section 03 Membership: to increase community members from 4 to 5.
 - 1.1. This reflects the number of high quality applications across a wide cross-section of the community.
2. Section 03 Membership to include the following as full members:
 - 2.1. Deputy CEO
 - 2.2. GM Strategy, Planning and Climate Change
 - 2.3. City Architect
 - 2.4. Director City Design
3. Section 03 Membership to include Technical Advisers
 - 3.1. Select technical advisers may be invited to participate in specific discussions at the discretion of the Committee.

Updates to the Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) Terms of Reference

4. Section 04 Panel Members: Increase panel members from 8 to 11.
5. Section 05 Additional Experts: Rename 'Technical Expert'.
6. Section 08 Panel attendance and management:
 - 6.1. Graduate Officers
 - 6.1.1. The Chair and Deputy Chair will nominate up to 3 graduate staff members from architecture, landscape architecture, urban design and/or planning to attend review sessions as observers.
 - 6.1.2. This recognises and nurtures high performing graduates within Council.

Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) and Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) members

Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) members

1. The Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) Terms of Reference state that four (4) Community Members will be engaged who comprise broad representation of residents and ratepayers of the City of Melbourne.
 - 1.1. A total of 22 applications were received.
 - 1.2. Five (5) applicants were shortlisted having consideration for panel scores, demonstrable commitment to community issues, geographical spread and diversity (gender, culture, age).
 - Ben Milbourne
 - Robyn Pollock
 - Lara Brown
 - Daniel Ong
 - Nivedita Ravindran
 - 1.3. Updates to the Terms of Reference are recommended as identified in Attachment 2.
2. Through a separate process, DEAC Technical Experts have been nominated for direct appointment by the Director City Design in conversation with the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, City Architect and relevant Senior and Executive staff from across the organisation. A list of Technical Advisers, will be invited to select meetings as needed. The committee will have carriage of this list.
 - 2.1. Eight (8) Technical Experts were nominated for appointment to the committee.
 - Jill Garner or Office of the Victorian Government Architect nominee
 - Bill Krotiris or Australian Institute of Architects nominee
 - Matthew York or Australian Institute of Landscape Architects nominee
 - Danni Hunter - Property Council of Australia
 - Romilly Madew - Infrastructure Australia
 - Professor Julie Willis - University of Melbourne
 - Professor Martyn Hook - RMIT University
 - Georgia Birks - Emerging Architect, Architecture Media
 - 2.2. Three (3) Technical Advisers were nominated for appointment. This list is expected to grow to meet the requirements of the committee.
 - Karl Fender OAM
 - Monique Woodward
 - Sarah Lynn Rees

Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) members

3. The Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP) Terms of Reference state that eight (8) expert members will be engaged, including built environment experts from the disciplines of architecture, landscape architecture and urban design

- 3.1. 44 applications were received for MDRP expert members. One (1) ineligible applicant, who is based overseas was parked. The panel agreed to move five (5) applications to the 'Technical Experts' list.
 - 3.2. Ten (10) applicants were shortlisted having consideration for panel scores, suitability, differentiation and mix of skillset and diversity.
 - Professor Shane Murray
 - Adjunct Professor Shelley Penn AM
 - Simon McPherson
 - Amanda Roberts
 - Vanessa Bird
 - Professor Mark Jacques
 - Jane Williams
 - Simone Bliss
 - Dr Louise Wright
 - Associate Professor Rory Hyde
 - 3.3. One (1) additional applicant was identified for inclusion on an invite-only basis noting his significant experience in large practice and on complex projects.
 - Jose Alfano (by invitation to select sessions)
 - 3.4. Updates to the Terms of Reference are recommended as identified in Attachment 2.
4. MDRP Terms of Reference state that Technical Experts will be engaged from fields such as heritage, education, sustainability/environmental design, universal design, development feasibility and transport to be appointed as needed.
 - 4.1. 23 applications were received including five (5) transferred from the MDRP 'expert' list.
 - 4.2. Sixteen (16) applicants were shortlisted having consideration for panel scores, suitability, expertise and diversity.
 - Mary Ann Jackson - Accessibility
 - Ricky Ricardo - Communications
 - Tania Davidge - Community engagement
 - Michael Frazzetto - Contextual design
 - Lucinda Hartley - Data analytics
 - Sarah Slattery - Development feasibilities
 - Anna Peters - Development feasibilities
 - Jim Gard'ner - Heritage
 - Kate Gray - Heritage
 - Anne-Marie Pisani - Indigenous engagement
 - Daniel Soussan - Planning
 - Johanna Trickett - Sustainability
 - Gavin Ashley - Sustainability
 - Will Fooks - Transport planning
 - Kathy Lazanas - Transport planning
 - Soren Luckins - Wayfinding / user experience