

# Memorials in Public Reserves Policy

## City Policy

### Responsible Directorate: Infrastructure Services

**Objective:** To provide guidance on the installation of memorials in public reserves within the City of Joondalup

#### 1. Statement:

The City acknowledges the use of memorials as a means of assisting people to grieve for loved ones and to honour the past contributions of deceased persons within their local communities.

Notwithstanding the above, it is also recognised that the installation of memorials within public open spaces must be managed in a way so as to maintain local amenity, ensure the safety of residents and minimise maintenance requirements.

It is the City's position that persons be encouraged to install memorials within designated memorial facilities (e.g.: cemeteries). However, applications for the installation of memorials in public reserves within the City may be considered in accordance with the conditions of this Policy.

#### 2. Details:

##### 2.1. General Conditions:

Memorials in public reserves within the City of Joondalup are limited to temporary memorials for people who have died in tragic circumstances or permanent memorials for ~~significant persons~~ persons who have contributed significantly to the local Joondalup community, as approved by Council.

##### 2.2. Conditions for Temporary Memorials:

###### 2.2.1. Applicants:

- a. Only applications from family members of the deceased person, who are residents of the City of Joondalup, are eligible for consideration.
- b. Only one memorial per deceased person may be applied for.

### **2.2.2. Locations:**

- a. Memorials may only be placed in Crown Land that is vested in the management of the City and is reserved for the purposes of recreation, public open space or road reserves.
- b. Memorials must be contained within an existing garden bed area or integrated with an existing tree.
- c. Memorials can only be placed where there is minimal impact.

### **2.2.3. Design and Specifications:**

- a. Temporary memorials permit items such as flowers, crosses, toys and notes to be placed on a site for a period of up to six 12 months after the date of notification to the deceased's family from the City's Chief Executive Officer.
- ~~b. Temporary memorials must be constructed from robust and durable materials and must not present a risk to the public.~~
- ~~c. If wording for the memorial is considered by the City to be potentially offensive or inappropriate, it will not be approved. General wording and graphic artwork will be considered on a case-by-case basis.~~
- d. Approval for the design and location of the memorial must be obtained from the City's Chief Executive Officer.

### **2.2.4. Maintenance:**

- a. Applicants are responsible for the ongoing maintenance of their memorial, including, but not limited to, graffiti and weed removal.

### **2.2.5. Memorial Removal:**

- ~~a. Should, for any reason, an installed memorial become disturbed through works, either by the City or by external contractors working for another Government Department or Agency, the memorial shall be removed at the expense of the party undertaking the works and returned to the family of the deceased. Subject to Chief Executive Officer's approval, the memorial may be reinstalled, if appropriate, in the same location or installed in another location nearby.~~
- b. Should the ongoing maintenance of a temporary memorial become neglected, the City reserves the right to remove the memorial and return if practicable it to the family of the deceased.
- c. The City will contact the deceased's family prior to the completion of the agreed period of installation to arrange for the memorial's removal or transferral.

## 2.3. Conditions for 'Significant Person' Permanent Memorials:

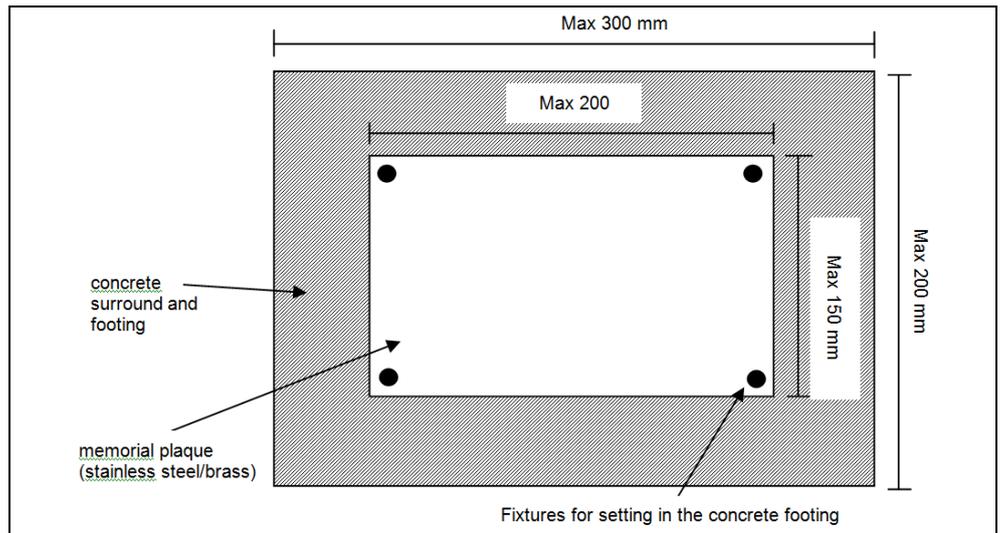
### 2.3.1. Applicants:

- a. Community members and groups may seek the installation of a permanent memorial for persons who ~~has~~ have contributed significantly to the local Joondalup community. However, applications for such memorials must be supported by family members of the deceased.
- b. Only one memorial per deceased person may be applied for.
- c. Applications for a permanent memorial may only be applied for where the individual has been deceased for at least one year, to allow for appropriate development of historical perspective. Temporary memorials may be supported in the interim period.
- d. All eligible applications must be considered and approved by Council.
- e. Applications will be considered on a variety of factors. Factors may include, but are not limited to the following:
  - i. Length of time contributed to a cause/s or service/s within the local community
  - ii. Level of impact of the contributions to the local community and any sustained outcomes achieved
  - iii. Capacity in which contributions were made (volunteer or paid positions)
  - iv. Connection or association to a particular location in which the memorial is being requested for installation
  - v. Demonstrated support for the application from the family, external organisations and other relevant parties

Note: These are not deemed as criteria that must be met, but rather a range of information that will assist Council in the application process.

### 2.3.2. Locations:

- b. Memorials may only be installed in Crown Land that is vested in the management of the City and is reserved for the purposes of recreation, public open space or road reserves.
- c. Memorials can only be installed where there is minimal impact on the local amenity and surrounding residents.
- d. Memorials may take the following forms:
  - i. In-ground memorial plaque contained within an existing garden bed area or integrated with an existing tree (see Figure 1).



**Figure 1. In-ground memorial plaque**

- ii. Bench, that conforms to the City's street furniture standard, with integrated plaque located within a City managed reserve.

### **2.3.3. Design and Specifications:**

- a. The design and specifications of ~~memorials for significant people~~ permanent memorials will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- b. All memorials must be purchased and supplied by the applicants or by individuals/groups who have agreed to fund the cost of purchasing the memorial on behalf of the deceased's family.

### **2.3.4. Maintenance:**

- a. Applicants are responsible for the ongoing maintenance of their memorial, including, but not limited to, graffiti and weed removal.

### **2.3.5. Memorial Removal:**

- a. Should, for any reason, an installed memorial become disturbed through works, either by the City or by external contractors working for another Government Department or Agency, the memorial shall be removed at the expense of the party undertaking the works and returned to the family of the deceased. Subject to Chief Executive Officer's approval, the memorial may be reinstalled, if appropriate, in the same location or installed in another location nearby.
- b. Should the ongoing maintenance of an installed memorial become neglected, the City reserves the right to remove the memorial and return it to the family of the deceased. Reinstalling the memorial will require a recommencement of the application process.
- c. Should, for any reason, the family of the deceased seek the removal of an installed memorial, an application from the family must be submitted to the City for Officers to remove the memorial and return it to the family.

#### 2.4. Temporary Memorials:

Members of the deceased's family who originally applied for the installation of a temporary memorial may also apply for a Significant Person Permanent Memorial. The determination of the approval still remains with Council.

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**Creation Date:** December 2009

**Amendments:** CJ093-05/12

**Related Documentation:** N/A

# Memorials in Public Reserves – Example Cases

## Introduction:

Since the adoption of the Memorials in Public Reserves Policy in 2009, the City of Joondalup has received over 30 applications for permanent memorial installations. This document presents four examples that were selected as meeting the conditions of the Policy and were approved by Council for installation.

## Ms Ethel Margaret Goble-Garratt

At its meeting held on 25 May 2010 (CJ082-05/10 refers), Council approved the installation of a memorial bench with a plaque in memory of the late Ms Ethel Margaret Goble-Garratt.

Ms Ethel Margaret (Dinky) Goble-Garratt was born on 20 April 1952 in Pretoria, South Africa. She relocated to Australia in the 1970s and completed her Masters of Science at the University of Western Australia as a botanist. Ms Goble-Garratt died on 3 January 2008, in Perth, Western Australia.

Ms Goble-Garratt worked as a consultant for Main Roads from 1987 and during that time provided advice and assistance with the environmental aspects of major projects such as Roe Highway, Graham Farmer Freeway and more recently the Mitchell Freeway Extension. She was a Life Member and Founding Member of the Environmental Consultant's Association and a member of the Royal Society of Western Australia.

Ms Goble-Garratt was passionate about her work and the environment and was instrumental in raising awareness at Main Roads WA of environmental issues and the need for community engagement in environmental issues.

Ms Goble-Garratt's involvement with the Mitchell Freeway Extension project resulted in a reduction of the impact on natural vegetation. Whilst Ms Goble-Garratt represented Main Roads, she also worked very closely with the City of Joondalup and its community, through the Mitchell Freeway Extension Community Consultation Process to improve and protect Carnaby Reserve, Connolly.

Ms Goble-Garratt also worked with the students from Connolly Primary School, educating them on the natural environment, flora and fauna and how to nurture native plants from seed collection to re-vegetation. She provided locally collected native plant seeds to the students who then grew the seedlings in the schools green house. The students then planted the seedlings in Carnaby Reserve.

**A memorial bench with a plaque was installed within Carnaby Reserve, Connolly.**

## Mr Christopher McBride

At its meeting held on 15 February 2011 (CJ025-02/11 refers) Council approved the installation of a memorial plaque in memory of the late Mr Christopher McBride:

Chris McBride had been a resident of Hillarys since 1993 and held the position of General Manager for Automotive Holdings Group (AHG) located in West Perth. With the help of his employer, Chris initiated the Defensive Driving Course for drivers under the age of 25. Every car that was purchased from an AHG dealership by a person under the age of 25 also came with two free defensive driving lessons. This enabled younger drivers to gain a better understanding of their new car and the dangers of the road.

Chris McBride donated his own old car to the Motor Industry Training Association (MITA) which helped every apprentice enrolled gain a wide range of skills in the automotive industry.

On an annual basis Mr McBride spoke at numerous High Schools across Perth, where he addressed Years 11 and 12 students on the aftermath of losing a child in a road accident, his talks would hopefully encourage teenagers to be more careful on the roads.

Chris McBride liaised with State Government Ministers and officers for a number of years before he passed away including Dr Geoff Gallop, Rob Johnson, Michelle Roberts and Grant Dorrington in his campaign to reduce the number of young deaths on our roads.

Subsequent to the death of their son Andrew, Chris was an active volunteer with The Compassionate Friends of WA in West Perth, where he worked with bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents. He was also a member of the fund raising committee for the Compassionate Friends group.

**A memorial plaque was installed on one of the existing bench seats located inside the shelter adjacent to Ozone Road, Marmion, within the City's Coastal Foreshore Reserve, 45 West Coast Drive, Marmion.**

## Ms Rhona Johnson

At its meeting held on 16 July 2013 (CJ139-07/13 refers), Council approved the installation of a memorial plaque in memory of the late Ms Rhona Johnson:

Ms Rhona Johnson was the first Coordinator of the "Friends of Harman Park" in Sorrento from 2002 through to 2011 when due to illness she resigned from the role. Ms Johnson died on 19 February 2013 and will be remembered by City officers for her enthusiasm for the bushland at Harman Park and her ability to encourage other residents to participate in bushland activities.

Ms Johnson coordinated community work at Harman Park in liaison with City officers which greatly assisted the City in the care of the park and contributed towards the upkeep of a pleasant area for local residents to enjoy.

The application for a memorial for the late Ms Johnson is supported by the Friends of Harman Park and Ms Johnson's family in the United Kingdom.

**A memorial plaque was placed on a bench seat within Harman Park, Sorrento.**

## **Mrs Norma Rundle**

At its meeting held on 27 May 2013 (CJ083-05/13 refers), Council approved the placement on a memorial plaque on a plinth in honour of the late Mrs Norma Rundle:

Mr Karl Rundle and his late wife lived in Padbury for many years and Mrs Rundle served as a City of Wanneroo Councillor between 1990 and 1994. Mrs Rundle is remembered for her work in conserving Hepburn Heights Bushland Reserve, both personally and as a Ward Councillor.

Hepburn Heights Bushland Reserve is a bush forever site in Padbury which is adjacent to the Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park. Mrs Rundle was a member of the Hepburn Woodland Preservation Group (HPWG) which was formed in 1988 to advocate for the preservation of the bushland from urban development and at one stage during the campaign she was the Chairperson of the HPWG. The sustained dedication of Mrs Rundle and other members of the community resulted in the preservation of a significant area of the bushland.

Following the campaign to preserve the bushland the HPWG was succeeded by the Friends of Hepburn and Pinnaroo Bushland of which Mrs Rundle was an active member.

The campaign to preserve the bushland was well documented and in 2009 a book by Alan Lloyd and Bill Marwick "Saving Hepburn Heights Bushland", which was sponsored by the City was published. Mrs Rundle's "fine leadership and hard work in the early stages of the campaign" were acknowledged by the authors and she also contributed to the book describing Hepburn Heights as "a place that people can enjoy, respect and protect".

**A memorial plaque on a plinth was installed at the entrance to the Hepburn Heights Conservation Area, Parkhurst Rise, Padbury.**