

MEDIA STATEMENT

4 August 2020

Oryx Communities seeks WAPC approval for Melvista aged care home

Oryx Communities has announced its decision to lodge a Development Application for its proposed Melvista residential aged care home in Nedlands for assessment by the Western Australian Planning Commission.

The Melvista project has an estimated construction value of \$30 million and will be a boutique facility of up to 90 beds. Oryx remains committed to its long-term objective to provide care options for elderly residents in the established suburb of Nedlands. The project is expected to create more than 600 jobs during construction and another 100 jobs in operation, together with significant opportunities for Western Australian suppliers and service providers.

Oryx's Development Application, lodged on 11 June 2020 with the City of Nedlands, was fully compliant with the City's Local Planning Scheme No. 3 (LPS3). The site had been allocated an 'Additional Use' of 'Residential Aged Care Facility' under Table 4 of LPS3. The Local Planning Policy – Residential Aged Care Facilities, which was carefully prepared, debated and approved by the City of Nedlands in April 2020, guided the proposed design and built form of the Oryx project.

Oryx Communities Director James Turnbull said despite meeting all planning requirements, the project's progress had been effectively blocked by the City of Nedlands Council which has voted to retrospectively amend both the existing LPS3 and the Local Planning Policy – Residential Aged Care Facilities.

"The actions of the Council have been quite extraordinary," Mr Turnbull said.

"There is a clear need for this service in Nedlands and our proposal will deliver contemporary aged care accommodation to serve generations of residents to come.

"We look forward to having our Development Application assessed on its merits by the new State Development Assessment Unit pathway for significant development approvals."

Mr Turnbull said Oryx will engage collaboratively in the review process and was hopeful it would be completed in a timely manner.

The Melvista residential aged care home is proposed to be developed on four existing lots at 73 and 75 Doonan Road and 16 and 18 Betty Street Nedlands. Oryx has delivered high-quality aged care accommodation at The Richardson in West Perth and will soon launch The Queenslea at Claremont on the Park.

Media Contact:

Michael Cairnduff
Cannings Purple
M: 0406 775 241
E: mcairnduff@canningspurple.com.au