



Yarra City Council is seeking EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOIs) from the local Vietnamese Community to join a Community Project Consultative Group (CPCG) to support and advise on the VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY 50th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE MARKER public artwork.

BACKGROUND

Yarra City Council will commission an artist to create an enduring commemorative marker for the Vietnamese migration anniversary. The public artwork will be a celebration of the 50-year anniversary of the arrival of Vietnamese refugees in Australia. The commemorative marker will be a tribute to those who undertook the journey to start a new life in Victoria, and a celebration of their remarkable contribution to Victoria Street and the suburb of Richmond.

An artist will be commissioned to design, fabricate and install a permanent structure on Victoria Street, Richmond (or nearby), in consultation with our local Vietnamese community, who will lead the project.

The Vietnamese Community 50th Anniversary Commemorative Marker will be developed in 2025 and fabricated and installed in 2026.

PROJECT BUDGET

A budget of \$350,000 was confirmed for the Vietnamese Community 50th Anniversary Commemorative Marker (public artwork) at the Yarra City Council meeting on Tuesday 18 June 2024. This funding will be inclusive of all aspects of the project including consultation, development, artist concept designs, artist fees, fabrication, structural engineer costs, site preparation, transport, installation and a launch event.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Yarra City Council is calling for Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from Vietnamese community members who have a connection to Richmond, to become part of a Community Project Consultative Group (CPCG) to advise Council on key aspects of this public art project.

Council Officers will support the workings of this group.

COMMUNITY PROJECT CONSULTATIVE GROUP (CPCG) MEETINGS

The CPCG will be established in April 2025. An independent Chair will be appointed to facilitate these meetings. The Chair will not have a vote in meetings. Council is seeking to establish a group of 8 -10 community members, in addition to the appointed Chair.

Meetings will commence in late April 2025 and group members will be required to attend 4 or 5 meetings as necessary.

CPCG members will be paid a sitting fee of \$250 for attending each meeting.

The CPCG meetings will be held at The Learning Bank at 124 Victoria Street, Richmond (participants can also join online) on the following dates:

Wednesday 30 April, 4—6pm

Wednesday 7 May, 4—6pm

Wednesday 2 July, 6—8pm

Tuesday 12 August, 4—6pm

The CPCG will include inspired, engaged and passionate community members who are responsible for leading the direction of the project; inputting ideas and criteria into the project brief for the open call for EOIs from artists to work on this project; participating in shortlisting 3 artists to create concept designs for the public artwork; reviewing and assessing the final 3 artists concept designs and making a recommendation to Council on which artist and proposed design should be commissioned to proceed to the next phase of the project fabrication and installation.

The CPCG serves as an advisory group only and does not have decision-making authority. It operates under an understanding with the Council, providing expert advice. The CPCG will work with Council to achieve the intended project outcomes, within the scope and budget and resources of the project.

AIMS OF THE GROUP

The aims of the Group will be to:

- Provide expert guidance and advice.
- Ensure that a diverse sector of the community contribute their ideas for the project.
- Ensure that an outstanding, contemporary, culturally appropriate, permanent commemorative marker (public artwork) is created and installed to pay tribute to this important anniversary in line with the communities' wishes, expectations, and the project objectives.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND TIMELINES

The CPCG is expected to advise and deliver on Stage One of the project: Concept development and design & procurement:

- Project brief details and criteria, call for artist Expressions of Interest
- Artwork site selection
- Review and assessment of artist EOIs and shortlist 3 artists to create concept designs.
- Review and assessment of the 3 artists' concept designs
- Make recommendations to Council for the preferred artist/commission.

CPCG OBJECTIVES

The CPCG will provide input and advise into the development, design and creation of the Vietnamese Community 50th Anniversary Commemorative Marker (VC50ACM) to ensure the artwork will achieve the following project objectives:

- Acknowledge and commemorate the fifty-year anniversary of the arrival of Vietnamese refugees in Richmond.
- Capture the important stories of Victoria Street in Richmond as the first area where Vietnamese refugees' who came to Victoria settled.
- Recognise that the Vietnamese community have been in Richmond for 50 years and shaped this area.
- Recognise the impacts of the Vietnam War, and Australia's role in providing a safe space for people.
- Create a welcoming site of reflection that will acknowledge the Vietnamese history and generate lasting visual interest and engagement for locals and visitors to the area.
- Highlight and celebrate the achievements and contributions of the Vietnamese community who have made a significant contribution to the cultural and economic life of Richmond.

SELECTION CRITERIA

We are looking to represent the ideas of a range of Vietnamese community members across age, gender and a diversity of connections to the community, to ensure a range of perspectives are included within this Community Project Consultative Group.

Applicants must:

- Reside in Victoria
- Identify as Vietnamese Australian

If you would like to apply to join the CPCG for this project, please fill out the Smarty Grants form, and you will also need to upload the following:

- a short biography or CV;
- a paragraph outlining why you would like to join the group and what you can offer to this public art project;
- a paragraph outlining your connection to Richmond and/or Victoria Street.

For further information or to make an appointment for a verbal application please contact:

Karra Rees: karra.rees@yarracity.vic.gov.au or 9205 5404