

**ITEM 5.1                    MAYORAL MINUTE - FUNDRAISER FOR THE BIG ISSUE****Attachments:            Nil**Submitted by:            Councillor Angelo Tsirekas (Mayor)

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**MOTION**

That Council host a fundraising event to celebrate the contribution of Marcus Prentice to our local community and to raise awareness and funds for The Big Issue.

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**BACKGROUND**

At Council's February Meeting of this year, I noted the sad passing of local Big Issue vendor Marcus Prentice and informed Council that I had been in contact with the CEO of The Big Issue, Steven Persson, to discuss the possibility of Council supporting his important organisation in honour of Marcus' contribution to our local area.

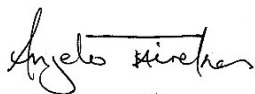
I would like to provide Council with an update on these discussions. Steven acknowledged and thanked the local Concord community for their heartfelt show of support after Marcus' passing and for their contribution to his funeral service through the Go Fund Me campaign.

Steven outlined to me the important work his organisation does in supporting and creating work opportunities for people experiencing homelessness, marginalisation and disadvantage.

The Big Issue runs social enterprises to create work opportunities for people who are unable to access mainstream work. These include The Big Issue magazine, the Women's Workforce and The Big Issue Classroom, as well as the Community Street Soccer Program.

In addition to celebrating Marcus' contribution to our local community with the unveiling of a plaque on Majors Bay Road later this year, I believe Council can make a contribution to this important organisation by hosting a fundraising event in the coming months. Funds required for such an event are available in the Civic Events budget.

Steven welcomed the opportunity for Council to honour Marcus and support The Big Issue through a local fundraising event and thanked our community for the support.

**Angelo Tsirekas**MAYOR

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