



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Signature Christmas Tree to illuminate Hobart's waterfront**

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A new 14-metre illuminated signature Christmas tree for Mawson Place is at the centre of an extensive Christmas decorations program planned for the City of Hobart in 2017.

Lord Mayor of Hobart, Alderman Sue Hickey said the Council approved the purchase of the large tree that has 7,500 led lights and seven neon shooting stars, each around two metres long, for the waterfront, together with a purpose built display of five live conifer trees for Elizabeth Mall measuring around two metres.

Alderman Marti Zucco who, in June 2016, brought a notice of motion to Council for the consideration of the installation of a traditional Christmas tree said: "In addition, we are also going to purchase a range of trees to be grown at the City's nursery for future placement around the City, including the investigation of Christmas-themed topiary frames."

"Should they be able to be sourced in time, the current traditional tree in Wellington Walk will be replaced with a smaller cluster of three live conifers trees, otherwise the traditional tree will be installed for the final time in that location in 2017," said Alderman Zucco.

The Lord Mayor said: "The broader Christmas decorations program will again include the bespoke character illustrations with an Australian theme. These will be applied to city centre planter boxes, tree and pole surrounds in Elizabeth Mall, with the windbreaks in Elizabeth Mall and brand new, large scale illustrations for the Hobart Council Centre windows depicting a Christmas narrative."

The Salamanca tree located in Salamanca Square will also form part of the broader Christmas decorations program.

"While the waterfront Christmas tree fully-decorated comes at an initial outlay of \$141,000, like any significant capital investment, it is important to remember that it has an expected life of up to 10 years. This means it comes in at an annual cost over a 10-year period of \$14,000," said the Lord Mayor.

"The Council is pleased that it has approved a Christmas decorations program designed to appeal to all ages, and contribute to the festive atmosphere that resonates with the community at this time of year," the Lord Mayor concluded.

**ENDS****For interview:**

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