

Adelaide Economic Development Agency Appointment of Board Member/ Chairperson

Strategic Alignment - Our Economy

Confidential - s 90(3) (a) unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs

Tuesday, 9 June 2026
Council

Program Contact:
Carole Johns, Executive
Manager, Office of the CEO

Approving Officer:
Michael Sedgman, Chief
Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Pursuant to Clauses 4.4.1.3 and 4.4.1.3(a) of the Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) Charter, the Board will include up to seven Board Members appointed by Council following an expression of interest process, including one Board Member with board leadership experience to be a Board Member and Chairperson.

The term of office for the current Board Member / Chairperson will expire on 30 June 2026.

In accordance with the AEDA Charter, an Expression of Interest process was undertaken and the Board Member Selection Panel was convened.

The Board Member Selection Panel recommends that Steve Maras be appointed as a Board Member and Chairperson.

Consideration in confidence is sought because public discussion and disclosure of information in this report prior to a resolution being determined by Council may potentially implicate the reputation of all Board nominees in the business community.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Approves the appointment of Steve Maras to the Adelaide Economic Development Agency as the Board Member / Chairperson commencing 1 July 2026 and expiring on 30 June 2028.
2. In accordance with Section 91(7) and (9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA) and because 24.1 [Adelaide Economic Development Agency Appointment of Board Member and Chairperson] listed on the Agenda for the meeting of Council held on 9 June 2026 was received, discussed and considered in confidence pursuant to Section 90(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA), this meeting of Council do order that:
 - 2.1. The resolution, report, discussion and any other associated information submitted to this meeting in relation to the matter remain confidential and not available for public inspection until the successful candidate has accepted the position and the unsuccessful applicants have been advised of the recruitment process outcome.
 - 2.2. The Chief Executive Officer be delegated the authority to review and revoke all or part of the order herein and directed to present a report containing the Item for which the confidentiality order has been revoked.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Economy
Policy	The AEDA Charter shown at Link 1 outlines the role and term of the AEDA Board and has informed the selection process.
Consultation	An Expression of Interest process was undertaken from 20 April to 3 May 2026 to fill a casual vacancy. The Selection Panel met on 12 May 2026 to discuss the expressions of interest received and interviewed two shortlisted candidates.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	In accordance with Clause 4.4.1.3(a) of the AEDA Charter, Council appoints <i>‘one Board Member with board leadership experience will be nominated by a Board Member selection panel, comprising the Council’s CEO, the Council’s senior manager in charge of human resources, and two Council Members appointed by resolution of Council, to be a Board Member and Chairperson;’</i> .
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
25/26 Budget Allocation	No additional budget impact. The Board Member and Chairperson remuneration is funded through the approved AEDA operating budget.
Proposed 26/27 Budget Allocation	Subject to the adoption of the draft 2026.27 City of Adelaide Business Plan and Budget and 26/27 AEDA Business Plan and Budget, Board Member remuneration will be funded through the approved AEDA budget.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Term of office until 30 June 2028.
25/26 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Board Member and Chairperson remuneration and reimbursement of expenses for the appointed term.
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

GROUND AND BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION IN CONFIDENCE

Grounds

Section 90(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999* (SA) [unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs].

Basis

This Item is confidential as it contains information that must be considered in confidence in order to protect the personal affairs of the nominees.

The disclosure of information in this report prior to a resolution being determined by Council could reasonably implicate the nominee's reputation in the business community.

DISCUSSION

1. The term of office of current Adelaide Economic Development Agency (AEDA) Board Member / Chairperson, Steve Maras, will expire on 30 June 2026. Clause 4.4.3 of the AEDA Charter states that Board Members are eligible to apply for reappointment for a maximum of three consecutive terms.
2. In accord with clause 4.4.1.3(c) of the AEDA Charter, nominations for Board Member / Chairperson appointments *will be recommended to the Council by the Board Member selection panel, for Council endorsement.*
3. Pursuant to clause 4.4.1.3(a) of the AEDA Charter, the Board Member selection panel (the Panel) shall comprise the Council's CEO, the Council's senior manager in charge of human resources and two Council Members.
4. Council at its meeting on 26 April 2023 resolved that Councillors Couros and Giles be appointed to the Panel.
5. Councillor Giles was granted leave of absence from Council for the period 13 May to 16 June 2026. Subsequently, Council at its meeting on 28 April 2026 resolved that Councillor Siebentritt be appointed to the Panel for this period.
6. In accordance with clause 4.4.1.3(a) of the AEDA Charter, an Expression of Interest process was undertaken from 20 April to 3 May 2026 inclusive.
7. The Panel undertook interviews of two shortlisted applicants and at the conclusion of the interview process the Panel agreed that Steve Maras was the preferred candidate and would be nominated to Council for appointment to the AEDA Board.
8. The Panel in its deliberations noted the key skills and experience that Mr Maras would bring to the Board as follows:
 - 8.1. Steve Maras has a multi-disciplined background which includes accountancy, insolvency management, corporate recovery and reconstruction, commerce and finance, valuation and advisory, commercial and retail leasing and investment sales, project management, investment management and development.
9. The Panel also noted that Mr Maras is an inaugural AEDA Board Member having commenced his first term in 2021 and served as Deputy Chairperson for four years and Chairperson for 1.5 years.
10. Clause 4.4.2 of the AEDA Charter requires that no more than half the Board Member' terms of office expire in the same year. The appointment of Mr Maras from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028 meets this requirement.
11. Consideration of this report in confidence is to protect the personal affairs of the individual whilst Council considers the appointment of this Board position and subsequent contact is made with all applicants, particularly those who were interviewed. Once these discussions have been completed, it is proposed that the CEO uses his delegation to release Council's recommendation and resolution, report, discussion and any other associated information submitted to this meeting in relation to the matter from confidence and announcement of the appointment provided to all key stakeholders.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – [Adelaide Economic Development Agency \(AEDA\) Charter](#)

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT -

Carried