Please provide a summary of the project review and evaluation findings, with specific reference to the following:

* 1. The effectiveness of achieving the project outcomes.

*as specified in the grant agreement or project application for grants less than $10,000*

The project achieved its aims by creating an enjoyable, fun atmosphere where people engage with others by dancing, meeting new people and learning something new. The dance lessons were well attended even for those who were competent dancers it was a fun way to warm up and share a smile across the room.

Dancing and movement provided a conduit for physical exercise which enable the participants to increase balance and flexibility. For many it was a healthy way to dance way a Friday afternoon. Some just came to listen and the music reminder them of their younger days.

The band members were all older people and thoroughly enjoyed themselves as they had an audience who appreciated their music.

The project has been a fine example by building the city community capacity. The partnership with Fremantle Worker Club members is now stronger and we are discussing future events.

* 1. The capacity building within the local government area to deliver age-friendly community programs, services, facilities, and outcomes.

The City of Fremantle is always striving to build on its age friendly initiatives and work on community capacity building. This project has fulfilled these aims and links directly into the City’s current Age Friendly City Plan 2019-2024. The project provided the opportunity:

* to older people to try a new form of physical activity
* to promote inclusion and social participation
* have an enjoyable afternoon at no cost
* for older people to share their music skills in paid capacity

As the seeds of the project emerged from an annual event held during senior’s week the project is another indicator of the City’s commitment to being age friendly.

* 1. The feasibility and sustainability of the project for the future.

Feedback and comments received from the survey and evaluation has identified that the community are ‘super’ keen for the dances to continue. The city will assist with future action to support ongoing opportunities to engage with the 55+ community. The Fremantle Workers Club is currently part of a cohort of community groups who are ½ through a community facility build. It is anticipated that early in 2020 the club will continue the Friday afternoon dances. If no sponsorship is obtained there could be a small entry cost.

1. Detail any challenges that were experienced during the implementation of this project.

Attracting a wider, diverse and multicultural audience is always a hurdle. It would have been so good if older seniors, from age care facilities, had attended. There was only a small response from distributing flyers and inviting them to attend. It may have been due to balancing staff time and the event time.

Band choices were limited as there are not a lot of bands who are available during the working week.

Another challenge was keeping in line with the proposed budget in grant application. For example, as a result of the South Fremantle Football Club not being available another option was investigated. This change of venue was approved by the Department and the Italian Club provided a very attractive venue hire. We therefore allowed more income for catering especially for the seniors’ week event. The in-kind support, by all the organisations involved, was far higher than anticipated. This was a good challenge to have.

1. What was the most significant change experienced within the community as a result of this project?

The biggest change was the friendships formed. The Fremantle Workers Club reported an increase in their club membership which indicates people want to be more social and active.

Survey comments indicated that people want more weekday dances, even if there’s a small charge.

An older lady who attended the dances is now teaching line dancing at the Italian Club twice a week.

People have requested the FWC run dances when their new facility is completed in 2020.

1. Please list (and attach where possible) any acknowledgements of the Department of Communities with regard to this project.

Acknowledgement was delivered in the following ways:

* City of Fremantle’s Curious brochures, including a full page ad, and What’s On website
* Flyer distribution
* Announcements at each event
* Presentation on the cities age friendly initiatives including staff, community forums, and networking meeting
* Facebook: City of Fremantle, Library and Town of East Fremantle websites
* The Meeting Place monthly newsletter – aimed at over 55s and distributed through database list and networks
* Fremantle workers club members, Facebook and newsletter, flyer distribution
* Invitation to local age care service providers

1. Provide any feedback about the Age-friendly Communities Innovation and Implementation Grants Program.

The funding received was very much appreciated. This project would not have manifested if funding had not been available. Meeting the criteria is a vehicle for building partnerships and a practical way to initiate innovative projects that are linked to community need. The City is keen to continue and build on our partnership with the Department, to collaborate and to continue to address and nurture positive ageing in our over 55 community.

Fremantle Workers Club has the evidence that organising weekday dances is a priority for the community. They are keen to investigate sponsorship from local business to support the events in the New Year.