

NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES

Tuesday 10 March 2020, commenced at 7:00pm

1. Apologies: DM, CD
2. Attendees were reminded to sign the attendance sheets
3. **Business arising from minutes of last meeting 11 February, 2020**
Following review, moved and seconded as read and correct.
Moved by: GC
Seconded by: CP
4. **Guest speaker – IG - North Sydney Council Sustainability Projects Officer, Energy and Emissions Reductions (including apartments and heritage houses)**

GC introduced IG who made a slide presentation and took questions covering:

- How renewable electricity is providing 30% of Council's electricity usage including 303kw of solar energy on its buildings.
- How efficiency upgrades at North Sydney Olympic Pool are providing an energy cost reduction of \$70,000 per year.
- Opportunities for apartment buildings and houses to reduce energy and emissions. There can be benefits to residents and owners by replacing existing lighting with LED lighting, installing smart controls for lights, installing electric vehicle charging, water pressure pumps, solar panels, space heating and replacing combined gas hot water systems for electric ones, using induction cooking instead of gas. The
- Council's Future Proofing Apartments Program conducted 46 free assessments in Round 1 and has received 66 applications in Round 2. Ian said his own apartment building of 44 apartments has, with a capital outlay of \$55,000, delivered \$26,500 energy bill savings each year for the first 2 years.
- There is a display of lighting upgrades at the Coal Loader site.
- A reminder was given that used florescent tubes should be recycled to the Artarmon Recycling Centre.
- Solar panels may be positioned on the roof of a heritage house but may not be seen from the street frontage.

GC thanked Ian for the presentation.

5. **Correspondence sent and received**
 - a. Precinct Review documents – Public consultation opening mid March - July.
Was noted
 - b. Annual Office Bearer Induction – Tuesday 24 March, 6pm-8pm at Ros Crichton Pavilion.
Cathy Peters to attend
 - c. Community Ward Forums – Victoria Ward 21 May.
Was noted
6. **Western Harbour Tunnel and upgrades to Warringah Freeway**
 - a. GC spoke to the proposals. The following issues were raised and discussed:

- The increased level of pollution in the area caused by unfiltered emissions stacks. It was suggested we obtain public emissions data from the Lane Cove Tunnel to better inform this issue.
- Loss of green space. 1/3 of the Cammeray Golf Club will be given over permanently to industrial buildings associated with the Tunnel and other small pockets of green space such as pieces of Anzac Park, green patches on North Alfred Street, etc will be lost. The meeting supported placing buildings underground, as has recently been done in Rozelle, and covered by grass to prevent the loss of green space
- Traffic congestion. There will be significant issues for traffic on Military Road, Falcon Street and surrounding residential streets during the 5-7 year project works and permanently. It was suggested by an attendee that the proposed Falcon Street interchange and other nearby intersections will become “failed intersections” as it will take unacceptable time for traffic to progress through these intersections. The Interchange will provide limited access to the Cahill Expressway on the Bridge. This will move traffic off Military Road down through residential streets to Kurraba Road, Clarke Road and High Street to access the Cahill.
- Loss of cycle ways in various parts of the upgrade site. The meeting agreed this is unacceptable. For example the combined cycle/pedestrian underpass from beyond Merlin Street south to the cycle/pedestrian overpass at Merlin Street north will be lost. The Miller Street Cammeray to Ernest St Cycleway along the freeway will be permanently lost.
- Loss of parking spots in adjacent residential streets. The street maps in the proposal show significant loss in Merlin Street, Wyagdon Street and Alfred Street North. The meeting agreed that there are several apartment blocks without off-street parking that will be impacted.

The meeting unanimously supported the following motion proposed by GC and seconded by CP to be sent to Felicity Wilson MP for North Shore and the Mayor North Sydney Council:

“Neutral Precinct objects to the proposed upgrade of the Warringah Freeway in the current form for the following reasons: installation of unfiltered emission stacks impacting the health of local residents and workers in Neutral Bay, Cremorne, Cammeray and North Sydney; loss of green space e.g. Cammeray Golf Club and Anzac Park; reduced access from Military Road to the Warringah Freeway, traffic congestion, traffic separation moving traffic off Military Road into local Neutral Bay and North Sydney residential streets to access the Cahill Expressway, increased traffic past local schools, and anticipated decreased property values.”

- b. The drop in information session by Roads and Maritime Services on Thursday 26 March at Fred Hutley Hall, 4-6 pm was noted.
- c. Submissions to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment by 30 March was noted.

7. Development Applications

- a. 54, 56, 58 & 58A Wycombe Road Neutral Bay (DA306/2019)
Status: Amended plans have been lodged.

Summary of discussion: The meeting noted that the proposed vehicular access to the site from Aubin Street, which was a significant concern raised by residents adjacent to the site at the February Precinct meeting, remains in the amended plan.

- b. 14-20 Premier Street Neutral Bay (DA54/18 Section 4.56 Application No. 54/18/4)
Status: Council has resolved to grant approval for the to modify Court consent to demolish 4 existing residential flat buildings and construct a residential flat building with basement parking, subject to conditions.
- c. 182 Kurraba Road, Kurraba Point (DA 333/2019)
Status: Amended plans have been lodged
Summary of discussion: No residents immediately impacted by the proposal were at the meeting.

8. Upcoming events

- a. Neutral Precinct next meeting 14 April
- b. Next Council meeting 23 March
- c. Traffic Committee meeting 20 March
- d. North Sydney Local Planning Panel 1 April

9. General business

Nil

- 10. **Next meeting** Tuesday 14 April 2020, 7:00pm at the Neutral Bay Club.

Meeting closed at 8:55pm