



Community & Environment Committee

Agenda: *Community & Environment Committee*

Date: *Tuesday 26 April 2005*

Time: *6.00pm*

Outline Of Meeting Protocol & Procedure:

- The Chairperson will call the Meeting to order and ask the Committee/Staff to present apologies or late correspondence.
- The Chairperson will commence the Order of Business as shown in the Index to the Agenda.
- At the beginning of each item the Chairperson will ask whether a member(s) of the public wish to address the Committee.
- If person(s) wish to address the Committee, they are allowed four (4) minutes in which to do so. Please direct comments to the issues at hand.
- If there are persons representing both sides of a matter (eg applicant/objector), the person(s) against the recommendation speak first.
- At the conclusion of the allotted four (4) minutes, the speaker resumes his/her seat and takes no further part in the debate unless specifically called to do so by the Chairperson.
- If there is more than one (1) person wishing to address the Committee from the same side of the debate, the Chairperson will request that where possible a spokesperson be nominated to represent the parties.
- The Chairperson has the discretion whether to continue to accept speakers from the floor.
- After considering any submissions the Committee will debate the matter (if necessary), and arrive at a recommendation (R items which proceed to Full Council) or a resolution (D items for which the Committee has delegated authority).

Delegated Authority (“D” Items):

- Community Services and Programmes.
- Health.
- Liquor Licences.
- Fire Protection Orders.
- Residential Parking Schemes (surveillance and administration).
- Traffic Management (Traffic Committee Recommendations).
- Waverley/Woollahra Process Plant.
- To require such investigations, reports or actions as considered necessary in respect of matters contained within the Business Agendas (and as may be limited by specific Council resolution).
- Confirmation of the Minutes of its Meeting.
- Any other matter falling within the responsibility of the Community and Environment Committee and not restricted by the Local Government Act or required to be a Recommendation to Full Council as listed below.
- Library Services
- Licensing.
- Regulatory.
- Waste Minimisation

Recommendation only to the Full Council (“R” Items):

- Such matters as are specified in Section 377 of the Local Government Act and within the ambit of the Committee considerations.
- Matters which involve broad strategic or policy initiatives within responsibilities of the Committee.
- Matters requiring the expenditure of moneys and in respect of which no Council vote has been made.
- Matters delegated to the Council by the Traffic Authority of NSW.
- Matters not within the specified functions of the Committee, or which are not the subject of a Business Agenda (current or past).
- Matters reserved by individual Councillors, in accordance with any Council policy on "safeguards".
- Parks and Reserve Plans of Management (Strategies, Policies and Objectives)
- Residential Parking Schemes - Provision and Policies

Committee Membership:

7 Councillors

Quorum:

The quorum for a Committee meeting is 4 Councillors.

WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting

21 April 2005

To: The Mayor, Councillor Rundle, ex-officio
Councillors Marcus Ehrlich (Chair)
 Anthony Boskovitz
 Claudia Cullen
 Tanya Excell
 Wilhelmina Gardner
 Andrew Petrie
 John Walker

Dear Councillors

Community & Environment Committee Meeting – 26 April 2005

In accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, I request your attendance at a Meeting of the Council's **Community and Environment Committee** to be held in the **Council Chambers, 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay, on Tuesday 26 April 2005 at 6.00pm.**

Gary James
General Manager

Meeting Agenda

Item	Subject	Pages
1	Leave of Absence and Apologies	
2	Late Correspondence	
3	Declarations of Interest	

Items to be Decided by this Committee using its Delegated Authority

D1	Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 11 April 2005	1
D2	Youth Week 2005 – 967.G 2005	2
D3	Seniors Week 2005 – 966.G 2005	6
D4	Environmental Works Program Principal Activity – Draft 2005-08 Management Plan – 827.G 04-06	14
D5	Parks and Public Space Principal activity – Draft 2005-08 Management Plan – 827.G 04-07	28
D6	Natural Environment Principal Activity – Draft 2005-08 Management Plan	35
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Item No: D1 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 11 April 2005**
Author: Les Windle, Manager - Governance
File No: See Council Minutes
Reason for Report: The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 11 April 2005 were previously circulated. In accordance with the guidelines for Committees' operations it is now necessary that those Minutes be formally taken as read and confirmed.

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Community and Environment Committee Meeting of 11 April 2005 be taken as read and confirmed.

Les Windle
Manager - Governance

Item No: D2 Delegated to Committee
Subject: Youth Week 2005
Author: Pippa Lausen
File No: 967.G 2005
Reason for Report: To advise Councillors of the activities undertaken by Council during Youth Week 2005

Recommendation:

That the report on Youth Week 2005 activities be noted.

Background:

In 2004, responsibility for Youth Week in New South Wales transferred from the Cabinet Office to the newly created Communities Division in the Department of Community Services.

Following the announcement that Youth Week 2005 would run from April 9th to April 16th, the Youth Services Development Officer at Council began a series of meetings and consultations with young people in the Woollahra Municipal area. As with past years, Woollahra Council worked in partnership with Waverley Council and WAYS (Waverley/Woollahra Action for Youth Services) as the Youth Week Committee. The theme set for Youth Week 2005 was "Get Involved", and posters provided by the NSW Government promoting this theme were distributed to inform young people of forthcoming events.

Consultation:

After Youth Week 2004, a Woollahra/Waverley Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) was formed by young people who had participated in some of the 2004 events and wished to become more involved. With YAC's help, posters were distributed in schools, asking for further participation in the planning of Youth Week 2005. From this, a group of 20-25 young people was formed to formulate ideas and set up sub-committees for the various events and advise the Youth Week Committee.

Proposal:

The Youth Week Committee decided to conduct and support the following events:

- An Inter-Schools Trivia Night
- Youth Forum
- Art Exhibition
- Bondi Blitz Youth Concert
- Three on Three Basketball Competition
- Skateboard Competition

It should be noted that the first two events were held in the two weeks prior to Youth Week. This was due to the timing of school holidays.

Events:

a) Inter-Schools Trivia Night

Despite this taking place on what turned out to be a very wet night, thirty four students from Kambala, Ascham, The Scots College and St Catherine's came to Woollahra Council to contest a Trivia Night.

The event had been organised well in advance by regular meetings of a small sub-committee made up of volunteers from Ascham and St. Catherine's schools, a WAYS Youth worker and Council's Youth Services Development Officer. Young people devised the questions and the physical challenges and on the night itself, acted as the MCs. Young people from the *Safe Summer Survival* team were also present, handing out leaflets on their project.

Questions asked covered a whole range of topics from history, geography, personalities, music and books. Students also were asked, amongst other challenges, to limbo dance and sing a solo of all verses of *Advance Australia Fair*.

A written evaluation was carried out on the night, which resulted in very positive feedback from the participants. All but two wished to attend another such night and many commented that it was a great opportunity to meet people from other schools in a fun and relaxed environment.

b) Youth Forum "Get Involved"

The Youth Forum, held at WAYS, was attended by 89 students from every school (except Cranbrook, which had another main event on that day), in the Woollahra and Waverley municipalities. It aimed to give young people a comfortable space to openly discuss many topics that affect them in their day to day lives such as Sexual Health, Alcohol and Drugs, Mental Health, Stress Management and Fitness and Nutrition.

Mayor of Woollahra, Councillor Geoff Rundle and Deputy Mayor of Waverley, Councillor George Newhouse opened the Forum and congratulated the young people present for following the theme of Youth Week and "getting involved".

Ian Kiernan from *Clean Up Australia* spoke about becoming involved in environmental projects in the community.

During the morning the students participated in workshops on each of the topics and then in the afternoon were divided into teams and given a topic from the workshops. From a bag of resource material supplied, each team had to design a Health Promotion Initiative on the topic they had been given that could be implemented into a school. Each team was required to present their results to the other teams, as a way of re-enforcing the messages they had learnt earlier. The presentations were judged by representatives from the Department of Education, the Red Cross *Save a Mate* project and *Let's Go Surfing*, a Bondi surf school

When completing one of the evaluation forms, a year 11 student from Kambala said that the Forum "was definitely helpful as we learned techniques that can be used in our everyday lives."

c) Art Exhibition – Youth Works Changing Through Time 1999-2005

Urban Arts Base, an organisation dedicated to helping young people recovering from a mental illness and based in Council premises in Studio One, Double Bay, exhibited a retrospective of their work from the past six years. The exhibition, held in Bondi Pavilion, took place from the 6th to the 10th of April, and had an Opening Night on 6th April. This was attended by about fifty local people and officially opened by Craig Reucassel from Triple J and CNNNN.

d) Bondi Blitz Youth Concert

This is the only concert allowed on the beach during the year and, on a very fine and warm day, this event attracted a large crowd, estimated at around one thousand young people. Seven local youth bands played a variety of different kinds of music, headlined by *Unpaid Debt* who were winners of a recent Triple J Unearthed competition.

Lets Go Surfing conducted a free surf clinic and *Safe Summer Survival* and *Save A Mate* held stalls at the beach.

In addition, and for the first time, a series of hip-hop workshops took place in the afternoon at Bondi Pavilion. These included break dancing, beat boxing, free styling and hip hop dancing. Perhaps because of the great weather outside, and/or it being the first time Bondi Blitz has offered such workshops, numbers attending were quite small. Classes averaged about ten young people each.

e) Three on Three Basketball Competition

This was held at Church in the Market Place in Bondi Junction. It attracted about 40 young people with sponsorship for prizes from local youth-associated businesses.

f) Skateboard Competition

Unfortunately, due to insurance issues arising between Council, WAYS and the insurers, this event had to be cancelled. This was very unfortunate, as preceding skate clinics held during the past year at Christison Park, Vaucluse, have proved very popular with young and fledgling skateboarders.

Identification of Income & Expenditure:

Council was granted \$1250 from the NSW Department of Community Services and matched this with \$1250 from general revenue. Sponsorship for Bondi Blitz and the printing of the art exhibition catalogues was obtained by WAYS from Vodaphone. In addition, sponsorship for prizes was gained from a number of local youth-associated businesses, including local music shops such as JB Hi-Fi and Platypus Shoes, Tarmac Tours and Randwick Ritz cinema.

Expenditure for Youth Week 2005 has matched the income, with \$900 spent on advertising, \$130 on the Trivia Night and \$1470 to WAYS as Council's contribution to the organisation and running of all the other events as detailed above.

Conclusion:

Overall, Youth Week 2005 was successful, varied and well-attended. New initiatives worked reasonably well and have laid a foundation for next year. The involvement of members of YAC in most of the events helped greatly with the organisation and atmosphere. Altogether, it is estimated that about 1200 local young people participated in the events.

The outcomes of Youth Week for young people included:

- Opportunities for socialisation between young people from different schools, interests and social backgrounds in planning and participating a variety of different events.
- Experience in public performance, including sport, where talents and skills are showcased and encouraged to develop.
- Recognition of the abilities of young people with mental illness and a celebration of their artistic talents.
- Through the Youth Forum, an increased awareness of the role young people can play within their community and the benefits of adopting a healthy lifestyle.

Pippa Lausen
Youth Services Development Officer

Kylie Walshe
Director of Community Services

Item No: D3 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Seniors Week 2005**
Author: Denise Ward, Manager Aged and Disability Services
File No: 966.G 2005
Reason for Report: To inform the Committee about Seniors Week 2005

Recommendation:

A. That the report be received and noted.

Background:

New South Wales' 47th Seniors Week 2005 took place from 13th to 20th March. The Statewide theme was *The Best Time for Ages!* The NSW Government was the major sponsor. Coordination of events and administration of community grants was provided by the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care. In the 2005 Events Program the NSW Premier states, "Seniors Week continues to celebrate that time of life so rich in opportunities for learning, adventure and getting together".

Proposal:

To celebrate Seniors Week 2005 Woollahra Council conducted an intergenerational writing and drawing contest, *My Favourite Older Person!*

Entrants were invited to create images of their favourite older person aged 60 years and over. For example they could choose to write a story or draw a picture of a parent, grandparent, neighbour, friend or local personality.

Recognising the different generations in our community entries were sought from children, young people and seniors using the following categories:

Seniors (60+ years):

- Written entries should not exceed 750 words and can be non-fiction or poetry.

Young people (13 to 24 years):

- Written entries should not exceed 500 words and can be non-fiction or poetry.

Children (9 to 12 years):

- Entries should be on one A4 page, include no more than 100 words, and an optional drawing.

Children (6 to 8 years):

- Drawings should be on one A4 page and include no more than 20 words.

Children (Under 6):

- Drawings should be on one A4 page.

This contest proved to be immensely popular, especially with children. Council received a total of 290 entries. St Francis of Assisi Regional School in Paddington deserves a special mention as every class year submitted entries.

To mark the start of Seniors Week Council hosted a morning tea starring the Maddi Hill Duo at Rose Bay RSL. The Mayor announced the winners of the writing and drawing contest at the morning tea, attended by approximately 100 older residents.

Winning entries in the writing and drawing contest were displayed at the Seniors Week morning tea and then all entries were displayed at Double Bay Children's Library and Paddington Library until Monday April 4.

On Display at Double Bay Library

SENIORS (60+ YEARS):

- 1st Ms Helen McMaugh – *The Duchess*
2nd Mrs Ida Menash - *The Strange Man Next Door*
3rd Antoinette Hirst - *My Favourite Older Person*
3rd Helene Gonski - *Living Life to the Full*

Young people (13 to 24 years):

- 1st Danielle Marinato - *Our Wonderful Childhood*

Children (9 to 12 years):

- 1st Francis Young - *Caring, Sharing and Giving*

Children (6 to 8 years) – Drawings and Writing:

- 1st Caitlin Bubb - *Beryl in the Garden*
2nd Erin Soller - *My Adorable Granny BA*

Children (6 to 8 years) – Drawings Only:

- 3rd Isabella Marden - Ascham- Hillingdon School - *Granny at a Restaurant*
Highly commended - Sascha Thane - Ascham-Hillingdon School – *Grandma Watering the Garden*

Children (Under 6) – Drawings Only:

- 3rd Dalya Jankelowitz - Bellevue Hill Public School - *Garden Granny*
Highly commended – Bianca Picariello – Woollahra Kindergarten – *Grandma and Grandpa*
Highly commended – Celine Choi – Woollahra Kindergarten – *This is Grandpa*

On Display at Paddington Library

Young people (13 to 24 years):

- 1st Anthony Alafaci - - St. Francis of Assisi School - *My Favourite Older Person Grandma*

Children (9 to 12 years):

- 1st Francis Young - *Caring, Sharing and Giving*
2nd Monty Ferris - St. Francis of Assisi School - *My Grandma*
3rd Jennifer Vanek - St. Francis of Assisi School - *Sister Annie*

Children (6 to 8 years) – Drawings and Writing:

- 3rd Michael Abboud - St Francis of Assisi School - *My Grandfather*
Highly Commended - Emma Rickert - St Francis of Assisi – *This my Grandma*

Children (6 to 8 years) – Drawings Only:

- 1st Anastazija Luksic - St. Francis of Assisi School - *Favourite Grandfather*
2nd Cato - Bondi Beach Public School – *Grandmother*

Children (Under 6) – Drawings Only:

- 1st Ariana D'Alessio - St. Francis of Assisi School - *Sister Annie*
2nd Grace Sanders - St. Francis of Assisi School - *My Grandma*

Certificates and book tokens have been sent to all of the writing and drawing contest winners. Council provided representatives for school assembly presentations at Bellevue Hill Public School (Councillor Tanya Excell and Naomi Polivis, Aged Care Assessment & Support Worker) and St Francis of Assisi Regional School (Councillor Tanya Excell and Kylie Walshe, Director Community Services).

Consultation:

Woollahra Council's Seniors Advisory Committee were consulted about the intergenerational aspect of the writing and drawing contest as seniors only writing and drawing contests held in 2002 and 2003 only had a small number of entrants. This proved to be a successful strategy as children comprised the majority of entrants in this year's contest.

The morning tea and light entertainment provided an informal opportunity for older residents to get together and a vehicle to announce the writing and drawing contest winners.

Options:

The intergenerational aspect of this year's Seniors Week writing and drawing contest proved to be very successful. It would be good to build on this theme in future years by holding an event that brings together children, young people and seniors.

Identification of Income & Expenditure:

As of March 31 expenditure for Seniors Week 2005 was \$1,888. A number of additional minor expenses are still to be processed. It is anticipated that total expenditure will be around \$2,000.

This year we were fortunate to receive external support for our activities. The NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care provided a small community grant of \$500 as a contribution towards the writing and drawing and contest. Mr Robin Brampton, Snowden Lane Real Estate and Lesley McKay's Bookshop supplied book tokens for the senior category of prize winners. Rose Bay RSL supplied the venue free of charge for the Seniors Week morning tea and Mr Cec Monkhouse negotiated a reduced fee for the entertainment.

Conclusion:

The writing and drawing contest proved popular with children and lays a foundation for future intergenerational activities in Seniors Weeks to come.

Denise Ward
Manager Aged and Disability Services

Kylie Walshe
Director Community Services

ANNEXURES:

Seniors Week media clippings:

- *Wentworth Courier* – Woollahra News – 19/1/05, 16/2/05
- *Wentworth Courier* – Mayoral Column – 16/2/05, 9/3/05, 16/3/05
- *Eastern Suburbs Spectator* – 11/2/05, 25/3/05
- *Village Voice* – April 2005

Item No: D4 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS PROGRAM Principal Activity - Draft 2005-08 Management Plan**
Author: Warwick Hatton - Director Technical Services
File No: 827.G 04-07
Reason for Report: [To review the principal activity of Environmental Works Program prior to inclusion in the draft management plan.](#)

Recommendation:

- A. That the programs and projects for the Environment Works Program principal activity be included in the draft Management Plan for subsequent review by the Strategic and Corporate Committee.

Background:

Principal Activity No 8 of the Management Plan is the "Environmental Works Program" (EWP). This Principal Activity has the following sub-activities:

- 8.1 Administration and Auditing
- 8.2 Water Quality "at source" treatment program
- 8.3 Water quality "end of line" treatment program
- 8.4 Watercourse and bushland treatment program
- 8.5 Seawall restoration treatment program: This program has been discontinued (see below)
- 8.6 Local flooding, critical pits and overland flow program

Included as an Annexure to this report is the proposed Environment Works Program Principal Activity 8.0 of the Management Plan with projects outlined in each sub activity.

Following is a summary on each sub-activity along with commentary on the main changes incorporated with each sub activity.

8.1 Administration and Auditing

An application is being made to the Department of Local Government to extend the Environmental Levy to complete the program as originally conceived. Preliminary discussions have been held with the Department and a draft application prepared for community consultation. The ELCRG has been consulted about the proposal to extend the levy.

A new project has been introduced to carry out a Strategic Review of the Port Jackson South Stormwater Management Plan (PJSSMP) and the EWP in 2006-7. The EWP mainly relies on the PJSSMP as its source reference document for projects. These plans need to be updated to ensure projects are meeting industry standards and to identify further possible environmental projects.

8.2 Water Quality "At Source" treatment program

The objectives of this program are to prevent pollutants, litter, vegetation matter and sediment entering the Harbour. Education programs and installation of water quality devices, such as stormwater inlet pit baskets, are the types of projects that meet this objective.

Introduced into this sub activity at the request of the Environmental Levy Community Reference Group is a new project titled Environmental Education. The original program was seen to be lacking non-construction initiatives to address stormwater water pollution. Individual targeted education programs will be implemented to better inform the community on stormwater pollution and environmental sustainability.

8.3 Water Quality "End of Line" treatment program

The objectives of this program are to prevent pollutants, litter, vegetation matter and sediment entering the Harbour. This may be achieved by projects such as installation of larger water quality devices, such as GPT's and Stormwater Booms, constructed low in the catchment at the end of the stormwater network prior to discharging into the Harbour.

Water Quality Monitoring is proposed to be extended over the next 2 years to develop the database at two sites in Cooper Park, one site in Parsley Bay and one site in the wetland to be constructed by Sydney Water in Woollahra Golf course. The results will be used to assess the effectiveness of management intervention in the catchments on environmental health of these natural watercourses.

Beach raking review listed for year 5 has been brought forward to year 4 (2005-6) and re-scoped to review the whole harbour foreshore. This was brought to the attention of the ELCRG in February 2005 through local residents' concerns with the state of rubbish being washed up onto the shores of Rose Bay.

8.4 Watercourse and bushland treatment program

The objective of this program is to prevent uncontrolled run-off, erosion, nutrient transport and weed intrusion into remnant bushland.

To complement completed works at Rakes Gully and Queens Ave foreshore at Hermitage Reserve, Vacluse, and to provide protection from stormwater pollution and sedimentation, it is proposed to install pollution control devices upstream of these works.

Based on the success of the bush regeneration and the support by the Environmental Levy Community Reference Group, bush regeneration for the major parks has been included in the revised program for year 5.

8.4 Seawall restoration treatment program

The objective of this program is to repair and restore seawalls located on public land to prevent erosion material from behind the seawalls entering the harbour.

Following a review by the ELCRG, it was considered that seawall projects generally, unless they have an overriding environmental outcome, should be removed from the Environmental Works Program and included in the Infrastructure Renewal Strategy, which is addressed in Roads, Traffic and Transport Principal Activity.

8.5 Local flooding, critical pits and overland flow program

The objective of this program is to prevent local flooding of flood-affected properties.

There are two projects currently underway as part of the original program which will be continuing into next financial year.

The project to address the local flooding issue at Camp Street, Watsons Bay, is proposed to be implemented, subject to further reports to Council. We will continue to pursue contributions from the Defence Department, and Minister for Defence, and from the National Park and Wildlife Services and Minister for Environment, for this project.

Community consultation regarding stormwater upgrade options to address local flooding in The Crescent is being carried out and, following this, strategy options will be reported to Council..

Projects listed in years 4 and 5 of the original program have been retained in the application to extend the levy.

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. Proposed Management Plan Environmental Works Program Principal Activity

Item No: D5 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Parks and Public Space Principal Activity - Draft 2005-08 Management Plan**
Author: Warwick Hatton - Director Technical Services
File No: 827.G 04-07
Reason for Report: To review the principal activity of Parks & Public Space prior to inclusion in the draft management plan. .

Recommendation:

- A. That the programs and projects for the Parks & Public Space principal activity be included in the draft Management Plan for subsequent review by the Strategic and Corporate Committee.

Background:

Principal Activity No 4 of the Management Plan is "Parks & Public Space". This principal activity has the following sub- activities:

- 4.1 Open Space Management
- 4.2 Open Space Asset Management
- 4.3 Open Space Maintenance & Construction
- 4.4 Park Facilities

Included as an Annexure to this report is the proposed Parks & Public Space Principal Activity of the Management Plan with detailed comments on the programs and projects in each sub activity.

The Annexures include all the details whereas set out in the following part of this report is a commentary, the purpose being to provide Councillors with a snapshot of the key influences or issues arising from this proposal

The operating and capital budgets will be considered in a separate budget report which reviews the overall financial position of the Council.

Following is the commentary on each sub activity:

4.1 Open Space Management

The Recreational Needs Assessment will be completed mid 2005. A major program for 2005-6 will be reporting on and implementing recommendations arising from this assessment.

We propose to continue the provision of promotional material on our parks for the web site, and for publication.

4.2 Open Space Asset Management

We propose to prepare Plans of Management for Redleaf Gardens, Trumper Park and Cooper Park. We will be developing Open Space asset management procedures and reporting as part of the overall asset management system of the Council. We will continue to seek grant funding to supplement Council funds for capital works.

4.3 Open Space Maintenance & Construction

In 2005-6 we will be implementing the outcomes of a benchmarking review of service levels and service delivery options carried out in mid 2005. This will involve a restructure of maintenance teams and functions to improve efficiency and customer responsiveness. We will be carrying out a range of landscaping and planting upgrades in parks and gardens throughout the municipality, and continuing to refurbish playing surfaces.

Park Facilities

We will continue roll out of new park furniture, lighting and signage. We propose to install an upgraded playground at Yarranabbe Reserve, provide a new irrigation system to Lough Playing Fields, refurbish Rushcutters Bay Park Oval No.1, and install improved floodlighting at Lyne Park.

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. Proposed Management Plan Parks and Public Space Principal Activity

Item No: D6 Delegated to Committee

Subject: **Natural Environment Principal Activity - Draft 2005-08 Management Plan**

Author: Warwick Hatton - Director Technical Services
Allan Coker - Director Planning and Development

File No: 827.G 04-07

Reason for Report: To review the principal activity of Natural Environment prior to inclusion in the draft management plan.

Recommendation

- A. That the programs and projects for the Natural Environment principal activity be included in the draft Management Plan for subsequent review by the Strategic and Corporate Committee.

Background:

Principal Activity No 2 of the Management Plan is "Natural Environment". This principal activity has the following sub- activities:

- 2.1 Environmental Protection
- 2.2 Stormwater Systems
- 2.3 Tree Management
- 2.4 Waste Services
- 2.5 Street Cleaning
- 2.6 Bush Regeneration
- 2.7 Harbour Facilities

Included as an Annexure to this report is the proposed Natural Environment Principal Activity of the Management Plan with detailed comments on the programs and projects in each sub activity.

The Annexures include all the details whereas set out in the following part of this report is a commentary, the purpose being to provide Councillors with a snapshot of the key influences or issues arising from this proposal

The operating and capital budgets will be considered in a separate budget report which reviews the overall financial position of the Council.

Following is the commentary on each sub-activity

2.1 Environmental Protection

The implementation of the Woollahra Sustainability Plan continues. The project involves the review of Council's existing functions, activities, programs and policies, identification of local issues, community consultation, establish local vision, objectives and identification of actions. The plan aims to build on and promote Council's existing programs, ensuring that the principles of Ecological Sustainable Development (ESD) are applied to all function areas. The Woollahra Sustainability Plan will provide the strategic direction for the sustainable management of Woollahra.

We will be participating in the next stage of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP™) program, CCP™ PLUS. Council joined the CCP™ program in 2001 and is due to complete milestone five of the program in May 2005. The CCP™ PLUS program aims to continue to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from Council and the community.

The preparation of a water conservation plan will enable Council to target the conservation of water in the operation of Council's buildings and functions. The plan will complement and build on the water management actions being undertaken by Council and provide a strategic document that will identify and prioritise the implementation of water conservation initiatives. The State Government's *Metropolitan Water Plan* release in late 2004 requires councils to prepare water conservation plans by March 2006.

The State of the Environment Report 2004/2005 is due to be completed by 30 November 2005, in line with Council's annual reporting requirements. The 2004/2005 report will be a supplementary report prepared in accordance with *Local Government Act 1993* requirements.

2.2 Stormwater Systems

We will proceed with the Draft Development Control Plans for Stormwater Management and Flood Management subject to Council's decision regarding the relevant clause in Council's LEP. Legal advice has been sought.

We will undertake a hydraulic modelling analysis and a comprehensive condition survey of our drainage system to allow us to identify those works to be included in the 5 year capital renewal program. We will be developing a Stormwater Quality Management DCP together with a Geotechnical and Hydrological Management DCP that will provide detailed control measures for developments that aim to improve stormwater quality and ensure below ground works do not have a detrimental effect on the surrounding environment.

2.3 Tree Management

In consultation with the Vegetation Management Strategy Working Party we will propose policies and plans for public exhibition and Council adoption. We will undertake street tree management and planting in accordance with adopted strategies and plans and in consultation with affected local communities.

2.4 Waste Services

The next stage of the Liveable Lanes Project will proceed in locations to be identified and reported to Council.

2.5 Street Cleaning

We will be implementing the new Enterprise Agreement and monitoring performance of the new structure and service arrangements.

2.6 Bush Regeneration

The volunteer Bushcare Program will continue to be expanded, to achieve greater community involvement and understanding of these assets. Works by in-house staff and contractors will be programmed to augment the volunteer program.

We will continue to develop community education information on noxious weed eradication.

2.7 Harbour Facilities

The report on investigations into options for upgrading the Watsons Bay Baths, proposed to be reported to Council in November, which was delayed due to other priorities, will now be provided in May.

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Allan Coker
Director Planning & Development

Annexures:

1. Proposed Principal Activity: Natural Environment of 2005-2008 Management Plan.

Item No: D 7 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Community Services principal activity - draft 2005-08 Management Plan**
Author: Kylie Walshe - Director Community Services
Tim Tuxford – Manager Compliance
File No: 827.G 04-07
Reason for Report: To review the principle activity of Community Services prior to inclusion in the draft 2005-08 Management Plan.

Recommendation:

- A. That the programs and projects for the Community Services principal activity be included in the draft 2005-08 Management Plan for subsequent review by the Strategic and Corporate Committee.

Background:

Principal Activity No 5 of the Management Plan is "Community Services". This principal activity has the following sub- activities:

- 5.1 Community Services Management
- 5.2 Library Services
- 5.3 Family & Community Development
- 5.4 Aged & Disability Services
- 5.5 Cultural Development
- 5.6 Environment & Public Health
- 5.7 Ranger Services

Included as Annexure 1 to this report is the proposed Community Services Principal Activity of the 2005-08 Management Plan, with detailed comments on the programs and projects in each sub activity.

The Annexure includes all the details whereas set out in the following part of this report is a commentary, the purpose being to provide Councillors with a snapshot of the key influences and directions of each sub-activity within this Principal Activity.

The operating and capital budgets will be considered in a separate budget report that reviews the overall financial position of the Council.

Following is the commentary on each sub-activity:

5.1 Community Services Management

This sub-activity covers the area of strategic planning and activities that impact on all operations of community services.

We have recently completed a Social Needs Study, which has highlighted key issues and priorities to address in all target groups. Based on this research, an Ageing & Disability Services and Children's Services Strategy provides a 10 year framework for the provision and facilitation of services to these priority target groups of the Woollahra community. We will implement these strategies and the 2002 Social Plan, with a full review of the Social Plan to be undertaken in 2006.

Our relationship with the Holdsworth Street Community Centre will be ongoing, with the development of a delegation and service level agreement to articulate the role of Holdsworth Street Community Centre in providing services to Woollahra residents on behalf of Council.

5.2 Library Services

This sub-activity covers all library activities, including projects for library facilities and the library service as a whole.

In 2004/05 a new library management computer system was installed, and the children's section of the Central Library was renovated. Along with this facility development, emphasis was placed on setting up on-line access for users, up-dating the library web pages and enhancing children's services.

In 2005/06 we will further develop and consolidate these initiatives with an increased emphasis on outreach services for young adults and younger children. A library and information services strategy will be developed in 2006/07 aiming to provide a vision and direction for the service. The strategy will involve community consultation, with participation from current library users and the general community, resulting in the development of strategies for improved service delivery and the provision of appropriate facilities to meet the information needs of all residents.

5.3 Family & Community Development

This sub-activity covers the programs for children, youth, community safety and community development.

We will continue to improve the services provided through the Woollahra Preschool and investigate and facilitate the provision of childcare places throughout the Municipality.

We will continue the support of youth agencies in 2005/06, and further investigate the needs of young people and develop a youth policy in 2006. We will actively implement the Community Safety Plan and continue to facilitate and encourage community involvement in key projects and activities. We will also undertake detailed research into the use of community facilities and forge partnerships with other agencies to establish a network of adaptable, community based facilities across the Municipality.

5.4 Aged & Disability Services

The recently completed Ageing and Disability Services Strategy proposes a 10 year framework to provide high quality accessible services, facilities and programs to older people and people with a disability living across the municipality. To achieve this Council aims to work co-operatively with community partners to implement these strategies which include a feasibility study for a purpose built centre for older people, healthy and positive ageing activities, improvements to individual and group community transport and priority of access to respite services for older people and people with dementia.

5.5 Cultural Development

This sub-activity includes cultural events and cultural development activities. It has been renamed 'Cultural Development' from 'Leisure & Cultural Development' to avoid the continual confusion between the activities of this section of Council and the recreation activities undertaken by the Public Open Space section in Technical Services.

The Woollahra Cultural Plan was adopted in 2003. This plan details the opportunities to improve the cultural life of Woollahra residents, and assist the community to express pride in their place. The continuation and development of programs including NAIDOC Week and Reconciliation Week activities Poets Picnic, the National Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize, the Readers and Writers series, and the development of policies and strategies will enhance cultural activity occurring in Woollahra.

5.5 Environment & Public Health

The activities and projects listed under this sub-activity aim to protect the health and well being of residents and visitors to our area and specifically relate to the following;

- food safety
- public health
- microbial control
- swimming pool safety
- environmental pollution control
- immunisation

During 2004;

- 387 food premises were registered;
- 173 health premises, including skin penetrations, beauty saloons and hairdressers were registered;
- About 50 notices were issued on food premises;
- Council's Environmental Health Officers investigated over 530 customer requests, about 140 relating to noise and 60 relating to other forms of pollution;
- About 80 notices and directions were issued under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*; and
- About 250 babies were immunised at Council's monthly immunisation clinic.

The draft Management Plan generally focuses on the continued provision of the core environmental and public health activities. Reviews of the food safety, public health, immunisation and pollution control and enforcement programs have been carried forward from the 2004-07 Management Plan. These reviews will help determine the level of service that should be provided in these areas.

It is further proposed that we continue to organise and deliver the popular and successful '*People & Pets*' day, focussing on different pet related issues each year.

A new project, '*Training for food handlers*' has been introduced into the draft Management Plan. It proposes the completion of a needs assessment to determine whether training is required for the food handlers in our area and if so, how this training could best be delivered.

5.6 RANGER SERVICES

Council's Rangers provide a variety of enforcement services to ensure the public safety and convenience of our community in relation to the use of public places.

During 2004;

- Council's Rangers investigated 485 customer requests relating to abandoned vehicles, resulting in about 390 vehicles being removed;
- About 60 dog related fines were issued;
- About 40 stray dogs and 45 stray cats were impounded;

- Council's Animal Control Officer investigated about 75 barking dog and 15 dangerous dog/dog attack matters; and
- Our Rangers again worked with the NSW Police to manage road closures and changed traffic conditions on Boxing Day, and New Years Eve.

The draft Management Plan does not propose any change to our core Ranger services, although a benchmarking project is proposed to commence in the latter part of 2004-05. This project will carry over to the draft Management Plan and is scheduled to be completed by September 2005.

The benchmarking project will cover the Ranger, Animal Control and Parking Enforcement areas. It aims to assess the performance of the current service delivery against industry best practice and identify the changes that can be introduced to ensure an up to date and relevant service is being provided. The timing of this project is critical, as it is now possible to use hand-held electronic equipment to generate infringement notices, which could significantly improve productivity.

The assessment of Council's beach safety signage and the continuing review of public notices erected in public places have been carried forward from the 2004-07 Management Plan.

Conclusion:

In summary, the projects proposed within the Community Services Principal Activity of the draft Management Plan 2005-08 are presented for consideration by the Community & Environment Committee prior to consideration by the Strategic and Corporate Committee.



Tim Tuxford
Manager Compliance

Kylie Walshe
Director Community Services

ANNEXURES:

1. Proposed Community Services Principal Activity of the 2005-08 Management Plan