

Community & Environment Committee

Agenda: *Community & Environment Committee*

Date: *Monday 30 May 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

26 May 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 – 30 May 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 Monday 30 May 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 9 May 2005	1
D2	Woollahra Traffic Committee Minutes – 10 May 2005	2
D3	Oxford Street, Paddington – Application to install a plaque in the footpath area – 349.1	12
D4	Road naming proposal – Cooper Park – 178.G/8	22
D5	Cameron Street, Edgecliff, Accessway – 216.G	29
D6	Contribution towards the appointment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator – 256.G	51
D7	Environmental Works Program – 3 rd Quarter Management Plan Review – 827.G 04-07	66
D8	Natural Environment Principal Activity – 3 rd Quarter Management Plan Review – 827.G 04-07	86
D9	Parks & Public Space Principal Activity – 3 rd Quarter Management Plan Review – 827.G 04-07	104
D10	Library Report for the period January to March 2005 – 48.G	112

Items to be Submitted to the Council for Decision with Recommendations from this Committee – Nil Items

Item No: D1 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 9 May 2005**
Author: Les Windle, Manager - Governance
File No: See Council Minutes
Reason for Report: The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 9 May 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 9 May 2005 be taken as read and confirmed.

Les Windle
Manager – Governance

Item No: D2 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Woollahra Traffic Committee Minutes - 10 May 2005**
Author: Greg Stewart, Manager – Public Infrastructure
File No: See Traffic Committee Minutes
Reason for Report: For the Committee to consider the recommendations of the Woollahra Traffic Committee.

Recommendation:

THAT the Recommendations contained in the minutes of the Woollahra Traffic Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10 May 2005, Items Y1-Y9 be adopted.

Greg Stewart
Manager – Public Infrastructure

Woollahra Local Traffic Committee Minutes

The meeting of the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee was held in the Council Committee Room, Double Bay, on Tuesday 10 May 2005 at 11.30am.

1. Attendances

Committee Members:

Present:	Mr Greg Stewart (Chairman)	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Mr Navin Prasad	(Roads and Traffic Authority)
	Mr Eric Yeung	(Sydney Buses)
	Sen. Constable Russell	(Rose Bay Police)
Staff:	Mrs Chantelle Fraser	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Ms Armodee Reece	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Mr Frank Rotta	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Ms Lorna Oliver	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
<u>Also in Attendance:</u>	Mr Robert Caldwell	(Peter Debnam MP Representative)
	Ms Catherine O'Leary	(Resident for Item Y6)
	Mr Adrian Boss	(BIKEast Inc)
	Ms Robyn Attuell	(Clover Moore MP Representative)
	Mr John Benton	(Principal – Glenmore Road Public School for item Y8)
	Ms Julia Dove	(Parent for Item Y8)
Apologies:	Mr John McDonagh	(Harbour-View Park Residents' Group)
	Mr Warwick Hatton	(Woollahra Municipal Council)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of Meeting No.03/05 held in Council Chambers, Double Bay, on Tuesday 5 April 2005 were confirmed by Mr Navin Prasad and Mr Eric Yeung.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings

April Late Item / Correspondence:

- 5.2 Email received by Navin Prasad from George Freund regarding Liverpool Street, Rose Bay - Star Petrol Station.

Recommendation:

That item has been referred to Waverley Council by Navin Prasad.

4. Extraordinary Meetings

Nil

5. Late Item/Correspondence

Nil

6. Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration

Item No: Y1 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration
Subject: **Parking Restrictions Changes**
Author: Greg Stewart – Manager Public Infrastructure
File No: (Refer to Table 1)
Reason for Report: Various parking restriction changes throughout the Woollahra Council area.

Recommendation:

Item Y1-1: New McLean Street, Edgecliff – ‘No Stopping’

- A. That the ‘No Stopping’ zone on the northern side of New McLean Street, Edgecliff just west of the pedestrian entrance way to the Edgecliff Shopping Centre be replaced by ‘15 Minute Parking 8am-6pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’ and that a 10 metre ‘No Stopping’ zone on the approach side to the pedestrian crossing be retained

Item Y1-2: Adelaide Lane, Woollahra – Replacement of Signs

- A. That a ‘No Parking’ sign (Face Right) and stem be installed in Adelaide Lane just south of the vehicular access to No.9 Junction Street.

Item Y1-3: Transvaal Avenue, Double Bay – ‘No Stopping’

- A. That the ‘No Parking’ zone at the northern end (closed end) of Transvaal Avenue, Double Bay, be replaced by a ‘No Stopping’ Zone.

Item Y1-4: Goodhope Street, Paddington – Alterations to Existing Parking

- A. That the current ‘No Standing’ zone in front of the property at 16-20 Goodhope Street, Paddington be replaced with the northernmost 2.5 metres of this zone becoming ‘Authorised Resident Parking 8am-8pm Mon-Fri’ to provide an additional 90 degree angle parking space for residents and the remaining 8 metres becoming ‘Loading Zone’ 10am-4pm Mon-Fri’ and ‘Authorised Resident Parking 8am-10am, 4pm – 8pm Mon-Fri’.
- B. That the 90 degree Angle Parking area at this location be covered by ‘90 Degree Angle Parking, Rear to Kerb’ signposting as required.

Item Y1-5: Newcastle Street, Rose Bay – Parking Restrictions

- A. That the existing ‘1P 7am-9am Thursday Permit Holders Exempt Area 2, Rose Bay’ (Facing Left) and ‘No Stopping’ (Facing Right) sign and stem on the eastern side of Newcastle Street (just north of Faraday Avenue), be relocated immediately north of the vehicular access to No 58 Newcastle Street, Rose Bay.

Item Y1-6: Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill – Period Parking

- A. That a 20 metre long ‘No Stopping’ zone be provided on the southern side of Bellevue Road, immediately east of the pedestrian crossing outside No 20 Bellevue Road.
- B. That the remainder of kerb side parking east of the above ‘No Stopping’ zone be altered to ‘1H 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’ consistent with the current restrictions to the far east of the pedestrian crossing.

Item Y1-7: Balfour Road, Rose Bay – Parking Restrictions (Dealt with as a Late Item)

- A. That the current unrestricted parking along the Balfour Road frontage of No.629 New South Head Road, be replaced with six ‘15 Minute Parking. 7.00am – 10.00am, 3.00pm – 6.30pm Monday – Friday’.

Item No: Y2 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: Sun Herald City to Surf 2005
Author: Greg Stewart – Manager Public Infrastructure
File No: 16.G
Reason for Report: To gain approval to conduct the Sun Herald City to Surf 2005 event

Recommendation:

- A. That approval be granted for The Sun Herald City to Surf 2005 foot race, to be held on Sunday 14 August 2005, through the streets of the Woollahra Municipality, subject to the following conditions:
- i. Approval of a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) by the RTA and Police.
 - ii. Road Closures – Details of the road closures, including the method and authorised persons to control and regulate these closures be submitted to Council by 8 July 2005 for consideration.
 - iii. Signage – full details of all signage proposed to be erected as part of the event, including height, clearance and fixing details, etc, prior to or during the event, be submitted to Council by 8 July 2005 for consideration.
 - iv. Television Camera Stands – Full details of all structures proposed to be erected on the public roadway as part of this event be submitted to Council for approval under the Roads Act by 8 July 2005.
 - v. Event Clean-Up – Assurance that the roadway is not opened to through traffic, until such time as cleaning has been satisfactorily completed is to be provided by the Sun Herald and the Police.

- vi. Advertising Road Closures and Event Details – Local residents be advised of the road closures, opening times etc by the Sun Herald. These advertisements are to be placed in the local paper prior to the event.
- vii. Waste Management Clean Up Costs - Sun Herald to pay for all clean up costs.
- viii. Insurance - Evidence of current Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$15 million for the event is to be submitted to Council by 8 July 2005.
- ix. On-Site Contact – The Police and Sun Herald to remain in contact with Council's nominated on-site contact person.
- x. Road / Street Cleaning – the Drink Supervisors be instructed, as part of their duties, to arrange for any empty drink cups to be swept or raked from the roadway towards the gutter during breaks, in between peak periods of the race event. The empty drink cup boxes are to be emptied into the Clean-Up Bins. Once the boxes are emptied, they are to be unfolded, flattened and then stacked for collection and recycling.
- xi. Drink Stations/ Clean Up Bins – the number and location of drink stations and clean up bins are to be provided to Council. All drink stations on New South Head Road are to be supplied with two bins on each side of the road. The last drink station on Old South Head should be supplied with two bins at the drink station site.
- xii. All bins to be placed on the footpath two (2) metres after the drink station. Council's coordinator be liaised with in relation to Council's requirements for bin locations and collection procedures.

Item No: Y3 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.

Subject: **Albemarle Lane adjacent to number 23 Wilberforce Avenue – Works Zone**

Author: Greg Stewart – Manager Public Infrastructure

File No: 407 G Pt 5

Reason for Report: Request 6m Works Zone for 10 weeks.

Recommendation:

- A. That approval be granted for a Works Zone to be temporarily installed at 23 Wilberforce Avenue, Rose Bay. The length of the proposed Work Zone is to be 6 meters, located on Albemarle Lane, Rose Bay and is subject to the following conditions:
- i. Any directive provided by the NSW Police Department is to be complied with.
 - ii. The Works Zone is to operate between the hours of 7.00am-4.00pm Mon-Fri and 7.00am -1.00pm Sat, for a period of 10 weeks commencing 11 May 2005.
 - iii. Suitable traffic control measures are to be put in place to manage truck movements to and from the excavation site.
 - iv. The applicant is to ensure that the traffic lanes, footpaths and driveways, adjacent to the Works Zone, remain free of obstruction at all times during the construction.
 - v. The applicant is to inform Council's Traffic Engineer when the project is completed and the Works Zone can be removed.
 - vi. This Works Zone is in a residential area. The fee payable shall be in accordance with Council's adopted fees and charges applying to the period for which the approval is given, and must be paid prior to the Works Zone being installed. Should the Works Zone be required for a shorter period, application may be made for a pro-rata refund.
 - vii. Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the cancellation of the Works Zone at Council's determination.
 - viii. The developer should be advised that:

Should the Works Zone be required for a period longer than the approved period, permission from the Director of Technical Services is required to extend the Works Zone.

Should the Works Zone be required for additional hours of operation, any amendment will require the approval of the Woollahra Traffic Committee.

- B. That the applicant notifies all adjacent residents by a letterbox drop of the conditions of the Works Zone.

Item No: Y4 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: **34-38 Wolseley Road, Point Piper – Works Zone**
Author: Greg Stewart – Manager Public Infrastructure
File No: 407 G Pt 5
Reason for Report: Request 23m Works Zone for 52 weeks.

Recommendation:

- A. That approval be granted for a Works Zone to be temporarily installed at 34-38 Wolseley Road, Point Piper. Rose Bay. The length of the proposed Works Zone is to be 15.5 meters, and is to be located on Wolseley Road, Point Piper and is subject to the following conditions:
- ix. Any directive provided by the NSW Police Department is to be complied with.
 - x. The Works Zone is to operate between the hours of 7.00am-4.00pm Mon-Fri and 7.00am -1.00pm Sat, for a period of 52 weeks commencing 24 May 2005
 - xi. Suitable traffic control measures are to be put in place to manage truck movements to and from the excavation site.
 - xii. The applicant is to ensure that the traffic lanes, footpaths and driveways, adjacent to the Works Zone, remain free of obstruction at all times during the construction.
 - xiii. The applicant is to inform Council's Traffic Engineer when the project is completed and the Works Zone can be removed.
 - xiv. This Works Zone is in a residential area. The fee payable shall be in accordance with Council's adopted fees and charges applying to the period for which the approval is given, and must be paid prior to the Works Zone being installed. Should the Works Zone be required for a shorter period, application may be made for a pro-rata refund.
 - xv. Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the cancellation of the Works Zone at Council's determination.
 - xvi. The developer should be advised that:

Should the Works Zone be required for a period longer than the approved period, permission from the Director of Technical Services is required to extend the Works Zone.

Should the Works Zone be required for additional hours of operation on any particular day, any amendment will require the approval of the Woollahra Traffic Committee.

- B. That the applicant notifies all adjacent residents and business owners by a letterbox drop of the conditions of the Works Zone.

Item No: Y5 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: **126-140 Oxford Street Paddington – Changes to metered parking arrangements**
Author: Jacqui Hansen, Engineer – Policy and Projects
File No: DA 730/2003
Reason for Report: As a result of the redevelopment of the service station site two driveways are to be removed and replaced with metered parking spaces, with times and fees to match adjacent spaces on Oxford Street

Recommendation:

- A. That 6 new metered parking spaces be created adjacent to No 126 to No 144 Oxford Street Paddington. Linemarking, signposting and parking meter programming to be adjusted accordingly by Council, in accordance with Council Plan No 14854/2 dated 7 March 2005, with the developer of No 126-140 to reimburse Council for the cost of the works.

Proposed signage to read;

- i. 3.00PM-7.00PM MONDAY-FRIDAY BUS LANE
- ii. 2P 8.00AM-3.00PM 2P 7.00PM-9.00PM MONDAY- FRIDAY
- iii. 2P 8.00PM –9.00PM SATURDAY-SUNDAY

Item No: Y6 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: **Dillon Street – Resident Parking**
Author: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer
File No: 50.G
Reason for Report: Petition received

Recommendation:

- A. That the matter be referred to Council’s regulatory staff for enforcement on a regular basis.
- B. That the petitioners be advised that an alteration of the resident parking restrictions for 2 Hour to 1 Hour cannot be supported at this stage since investigations reveal that the problem is caused by the signposting being ignored.
- C. That parking in the street be monitored in conjunction with the improved regular enforcement.

Item No: Y7 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: **Illawarra railway line temporary closure of Bondi Junction Station**
Author: Armodee Reece – Traffic and Transport Administration Officer
File No: 261.G
Reason for Report: To report the proposed temporary alterations to traffic facilities during the rail shutdown in July 2005

Recommendation:

- A. That the following temporary amendments be made to Council's traffic facilities for the period of the rail shutdown between Bondi Junction and Edgecliff Station from Monday 4 July to Sunday 17 July 2005:
- i. Remove 20m of '½ P 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri; 8.30am-12.30pm Sat' zone (3 carspaces) and replace with 'No Stopping' zone on the western side of Ocean Street, north of Forth Street, Woollahra.
 - ii. Remove 6m of '½ P 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri; 8.30am-12.30pm Sat' zone (1 carspace) and replace with 'No Stopping' zone on the northern side of Queen Street, east of Ocean Street, Woollahra.
 - iii. Extend 'No Stopping' zone on the southern side of Forth Street 16.5m (2 carspaces) west of Edgecliff Road.
 - iv. Remove 16.9m of '½ P 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri; 8.30am-12.30pm Sat' zone (2 carspaces) and extend 'No Stopping' zone on the eastern side of Grosvenor Street, south of Edgecliff Road, Woollahra.
 - v. Remove 11.3m of '½ P 9.30am-3.30pm Mon-Fri; 8.30am-12.30pm Sat' zone (2 carspaces) and extend 'No Stopping' zone on the northern side of Edgecliff Road, west of Grosvenor Street, Woollahra.
 - vi. Remove horseshoe on west approach splitter island of roundabout in Edgecliff Road at Newland Street, Woollahra.
- B. That the RTA be requested to increase the green time for the right turn from Ocean Street (southbound) into Queen Street (westbound) to facilitate the left turn movement for southbound buses turning from lane 2 in Ocean Street into Queen Street (eastbound).
- C. That RailCorp:
- Must advise all affected residents and businesses adjoining the sites of the temporary parking restriction changes prior to the placement of the signs and meet the cost of implementing the above temporary traffic facility changes.

Item No: Y8 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: **Gurner Street between Duxford Street and Cambridge Street, Paddington**
Author: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer
File No:
Reason for Report: Request for better visibility of pedestrian crossings

Recommendation:

- A. That concept design plans for raised Wombat Crossings be prepared by Council officers and the RTA be requested to provide funding assistance for the provision of the crossings as part of the Local Amenity Program.

Item No: Y9 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.
Subject: **Woollahra Bike Plan – Implementation Program**
Author: Greg Stewart – Manager Public Infrastructure
File No: 256.G Part 7
Reason for Report: To progress the implementation of the Woollahra Bike Plan

Recommendation:

- A. That the Woollahra Traffic Committee support the following:
- i. The proposal to amend Route 1 (City-Bondi Junction) from Wallis Street to Victoria Avenue via John Street.
 - ii. The proposal to delete the contra-flow bicycle lane in Wallis Street between Woods Avenue and Ocean Street and relocate the lane to a shared path use on the northern footpath of Wallis Street.
 - iii. The proposal to delete the contra-flow bicycle lane in Victoria Avenue between Oxford Street and John Street.
- B. That the concept design plans, Plan Nos 809502 Sheets 200-211, dated 21 April 2005, prepared by Cardno (NSW) Pty Ltd for the for the completion of Bicycle Route 1 between Bondi Junction and Paddington, and the Implementation of Route 4 along Birriga Road / Victoria Road between O'Sullivan Road and Old South Head Road, be approved for installation.
- C. That the need to provide a dedicated cycle climbing lane for cyclists in Brown Street (southbound) between MacDonal Street and Glenmore Road, Paddington, be reviewed in consultation with BIKEast.
- D. That the direction of signage for the bike route be discussed with BIKEast and referred to the Paddington Traffic Working Party for consideration.
- E. That the speed restriction across the Cutler Viaduct be reviewed.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 12.30pm.

Greg Stewart
Chair

Item No: D3 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Oxford Street Paddington - Application to install a plaque in the footpath area**
Author: Jacqui Hansen, Engineer - Policy and Projects
File No: 349.1
Reason for Report: Council is in receipt of an application to install a plaque in the footpath paving adjacent to No 126-140 Oxford Street, Paddington.

Recommendation:

- A. That Council not approve the installation of a plaque as proposed in the footpath area adjacent to No 126-140 Oxford Street, Paddington.
- B. That the Chamber of Commerce be advised of Council's reasons for not supporting this proposal.
- C. That should the Chamber wish to pursue the *Fashion Walk of Fame* then it should submit a proposal setting out details for the full display. The proposal should include elements that relate the *Fashion Walk of Fame* theme to the Oxford Street location.

Background:

Council recently received an application from the owner of No 126-140 Oxford Street, Paddington to install a single brass plaque recognising five fashion designers who have made a significant contribution to the Australian fashion industry. It was proposed that the brass plaque be located in the Council footpath area, adjacent to the applicant's property.

It was stated in the application that the plaque would be the first in a series of plaques forming *Harper's BAZAAR Walk of Fashion*. Additional plaques would be installed at a later date and would be the subject of future applications to Council.

Harper's BAZAAR Magazine have offered their strong support of the project. They have informed Council;

These plaques are being laid in recognition of the significant contribution that these five designers have made to the Australian fashion industry.....Oxford Street Paddington has long been recognised as one of the best shopping locations in Australia and a place where the fashion savvy go to stay in touch with the burgeoning Australian fashion industry.

This report only deals with the application to install a plaque/or plaques adjacent to No 126-140 Oxford Street, Paddington.

Details of the initial application received

The applicant first approached Council with the proposal for a brass plaque in the footpath area adjacent to his property in April 2005. A letter discussing the proposal was faxed to Council on Friday 8 April. It is attached as annexure 1. A plan was provided by the applicant's architect. The plan showed the proposed location of the plaque. A design for the plaque was also provided. The design consisted of five hexagonal shapes joined together in an array. No information was provided on the wording of the plaque.

We contacted the applicant seeking further information on the proposal. It was not clear at this time whether one or a series of plaques was proposed. No information was provided on the location or design of future plaques, yet reference to a *Fashion Walk of Fame* implied more than one plaque to form the "walk". It was unclear as to who exactly was the applicant, Harper's BAZAAR or the owner of 126-140 Oxford Street. Most concerning of all, there did not appear to be a link between the plaque to recognise famous Australian fashion designers and the proposed location, which has no known historical association with the fashion industry.

The Paddington Chamber of Commerce wrote to Council confirming its strong support for the Walk of Fashion project on Thursday 21 April 2005. A copy of this letter has been included as Annexure 2.

Meeting with Council to discuss details of the plaque

A meeting was held on Tuesday 3 May 2005 to discuss the design of the plaques. The meeting was attended by the applicant (the owner of No 126-140 Oxford Street), a representative of the architect of No 126-140 Oxford Street, a representative of Harper's BAZAAR Magazine and Council's Manager, Public Infrastructure.

At the meeting a sample drawing of the plaques was presented. It was proposed that the plaques consist of a number of hexagonal shapes joined together, with a total length of approximately 1.4m and total width of approximately 0.9m. This sample drawing of the plaque will be available at the Committee meeting.

Council staff expressed concern at the size of the proposed plaques and exactly how they would relate to the existing paving in Oxford Street. There was concern also that the wording of the plaque could be interpreted to be essentially advertising for various fashion houses and Harper's BAZAAR. Council staff also asked the applicant to demonstrate a nexus between the proposed locations of the plaques and areas of significance to the fashion industry.

The issue of the costs of supply, installation, repair and maintenance of the plaques was discussed. The applicant stated that he would meet the cost of installation, supply, repair and maintenance of the plaques. However once installed in the public footpath the repair and maintenance of the plaques would become Council's responsibility by default and public liability issues could arise. .

Following the meeting, the applicant provided additional information to Council about the plaque and modified the application further.

Subsequently, the applicant submitted a new design for the plaque.

Alternative design for the plaque

The alternative design consisted of a rectangle shaped plaque 600mm x 300mm. This was emailed to Council on Tuesday 10 May 2005. Although details provided to Council were not clear this application appeared to be for one rectangular plaque, recognising one fashion designer, with the possibility of future applications to Council for similar plaques at other locations on Oxford Street, to form the Fashion Walk of Fame.

Council's Manager Public Infrastructure contacted Harper's BAZAAR on the Tuesday 17 May 2005 seeking more information, such as the exact size of the plaque, the wording proposed and which designer would be recognised on the first plaque. It was suggested to Harper's BAZAAR that the plaque would fit in better with the existing paving pattern on Oxford Street, if it was the size of a single paving tile. Council also suggested that an explanation needed to be added to the plaque providing details as to why the particular person was selected to be named on the plaque. It was considered by Council that without this information, the significance of the plaque would be unclear.

At this time, it was explained to the applicant that it was proposed to submit a report on this matter to the next meeting of the Community and Environment Committee on Monday 30 May 2005.

A reminder email, again requesting this information and stressing the urgent need for a response was sent to Harper's BAZAAR on Friday 20 May 2005.

Latest Details of the plaque

The most current details of the plaques were received by Council on the Monday 23 May 2005. They consist of five rectangles, each the size of two paving tiles (600mmx300mm) joined together in an array, with an overall size of approximately 1.4m x 0.9m. Each rectangle will contain the name of a fashion designer.

The applicant has not reduced the size of the plaque despite concerns being voiced by Council staff. The only change from the first design is the replacement of the hexagonals by rectangles.

Harper's BAZAAR have informed Council that the wording on the plaque will read:

Harper's BAZAAR Walk of Fashion celebrating Collette Dinnigan for her contribution to Australian Fashion

This statement will be repeated on each of the five rectangles in the array, with a different designer referred to each time.

A plan of the most current plaque design will be available at the Committee meeting. It is also attached at a reduced scale as annexure 3.

Consideration

The revised design does match in better with the existing paving in the footpath area of Oxford Street, and will not require as many pavers being cut, however, the fact remains that it is essentially advertising for various fashion houses and Harpers BAZAAR. It has been Council's practice not to permit advertising on its property and it is not considered there is adequate justification to depart from this practice in this case.

It is also considered that the nexus between Oxford Street, (and in particular the proposed location of the plaque), and the *Fashion Walk of Fame* is tenuous.

For these reasons it is not recommended that Council approve the application for the installation of a plaque in the footpath area adjacent to No 126-140 Oxford Street.

Should the Chamber of Commerce wish to pursue the *Fashion Walk of Fame* then it should submit a proposal setting out details for the full display. The proposal should include elements that relate the *Fashion Walk of Fame* theme to the Oxford Street location.

Jacqui Hansen, Engineer – Policy and Projects Warwick Hatton, Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. Letter from the applicant in support of the application.
2. Letter from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce in support of the project.
3. Plan showing the most current plaque design.

Annexure 1 Letter from the applicant in support of the application.

E-MAIL

Theodore G. Onisforou

**Angus Terrace
130 Crown Street
EAST SYDNEY NSW 2010**

Tel: 61 2 8353 1111 Fax: 61 2 8353 1144 Email: onisforou@bigpond.com

8 April 2005

Greg Stewart
Manager Technical Services
Woollahra Municipal Council
PO Box 61
Double Bay 1360
By Facsimile: (02) 9391 7044

Dear Greg,

**RE: Brass Plaque
Pavement in front of 124 Oxford Street Paddington**

I hereby confirm this Application is made with the strong support of the Paddington Chamber of Commerce.

I refer to our discussion concerning the "proposed single plaque" to be located in the footpath paving in front of 124 Oxford Street Paddington.

I write this letter to supplement the Application to install a brass plaque in the paving.

The basis of the Application is as follows:

1. Since at least 1973, Oxford Street Paddington has been recognised for its association with International and Australian fashion designer clothing.
2. A large number of Australian fashion designers have had successful retail fashion outlets in Oxford Street Paddington.

08-Apr-05 10:21A

3. Oxford Street Paddington is described by 'Tourism Sydney' as "The Style Mile" in recognition of being the showcase venue for both Australian and International fashion in Sydney Australia.
4. A number of well known fashion designers commenced their careers in the Paddington Market in Oxford Street Paddington. These include Lisa Ho, Alana Hill, the Zimmerman sisters and many others.
5. The Harpers Bazaar Magazine of Australia and the Paddington Chamber of Commerce wish to recognise the contribution to Australian fashion of some of these designers. What is proposed is that Harpers Bazaar sponsor the cost of the Fashion Walk of Fame whereby famous Australians who have contributed to Australian Fashion are recognised with a plaque including their name inserted into the pavement of Oxford Street Paddington.
6. I have been instrumental in acquiring properties 2-16 Glenmore Road Paddington and 122 – 140 Oxford Street Paddington. This area has been designated by the media as 'The Intersection Fashion Precinct'. It is my intention and desire for this plaque (and possibly others in the future) to be located in front of these buildings only. What is hoped is that these plaques be placed in the footpath on an annualized basis over the next five years.
7. The permission that is being sought now is for the one only plaque to be placed in front of 124 Oxford Street Paddington.
8. I am hopeful that Woollahra Municipal Council will be supportive of this proposal. The reasons Woollahra Municipal Council should be supportive of the proposal include:
 - i. It helps reinforce Paddington as being an arts and crafts centre of Australia.
 - ii. It reinforces the existing factual circumstances that Oxford Street Paddington is the Fashion Style Mile most recognised in Australia.
 - iii. Paddington is the sixth most visited tourist destination in Australia. A big part of the reason for the visitation by tourists is the collection of Australian and International fashion retailers in this location.
 - iv. Oxford Street Paddington is under considerable threat consequent upon a targeted desire by Westfield Holdings to take away the traders and their customers that are in

- Oxford Street Paddington and relocate them into one of their malls.
- v. As many others have seen, a commercial market combat with Westfield Holdings is an unfair competition, in that Westfield Holdings are likely to succeed in every case.
 - vi. Recognising the competition threat from Westfield Holdings, and with a bid to counter that threat and to avoid a massive collection of vacant shops with large 'For Lease' signs all over them in Oxford Street Paddington, the Paddington Chamber of Commerce have been thinking of schemes which will assist Paddington. However, recognizing almost zero funding is available to the Chamber of Commerce. The Paddington Chamber of Commerce is looking for marketing ideas that will not cost a large sum of money – not an easy thing to do.
 - vii. This idea is to be paid for by Harpers Bazaar Magazine.
 - viii. There are not many things that can be done to combat or defend a shopping precinct from the competition threat of a Westfield Holdings. This application is one of the very few things that Woollahra Municipal Council can do to assist the preservation of Oxford Street Paddington as a tourist and iconic location.

Councils support is consequently sought for the proposal.

The Plaques

The plaques themselves are to be manufactured by Central Foundry Pty Ltd (1010 Botany Rd Mascot T: 9667 2502). This foundry has manufactured almost every plaque located in the City of Sydney.

The materials are to be identical and the manner of manufacture is to be identical. The plaques are manufactured by the foundry in a non-slip form. A plaque of similar size to the one herein contemplated is located in front of the Tattersals building in Elizabeth Street, Sydney. A sample has been provided to council, the height of the raised letters will be identical in every respect to this sample.

If the Council is desirous the plaque can be manufactured with an additional further non slip treatment on the raised letters. City of Sydney Council has decided that the additional non-slip feature is not necessary but that is available to Council should it choose to have that feature.

Basically, the raised letters will have a rough rather than smooth finish. Having installed the plaques, the opportunity arises to advertise the Walk of Fame – branding for Oxford Street Paddington amongst domestic and

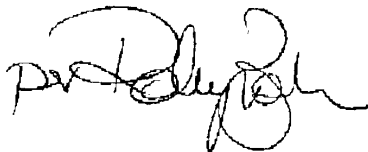
International tourists. This will provide an additional opportunity for business for the Oxford Precinct. It is generally recognised and accepted that tourists do not drive their own cars but use other forms of transport; this we submit can only be beneficial to the street.

This initiative involves no money being expended by Woollahra Municipal Council but will allow Woollahra Municipal Council to show that it is supportive of its Oxford Street retailers against the harm that Westfield Bondi Junction has placed upon Oxford Street Paddington.

Council is invited to inspect the street and see the large number of vacant shops and 'For Lease' signs in the street and hopefully realise that things need to be done to help preserve the street to avoid a series of vacant shops.

For Councils information, It is reminded similar plaques are also located at Watsons Bay in front of the Doyles Restaurant.

Yours sincerely,



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cc Warwick Hatton
Cr Geoff Rundle
Cr Keri Huxley
George Fotis
Graham Humphrey – Humphrey & Edwards Architects
Bernard McGrath – Chairman, Paddington Chamber of Commerce

Annexure 2 Letter from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce in support of the project.



21 April 2005

Woollahra Municipal Council
Attention: Greg Stewart
PO Box 61
DOUBLE BAY NSW 1360

**The Paddington
Chamber of Commerce Inc**

Inc #TNC988 1905

13 Gurner Street
PADDINGTON NSW 2021

Telephone (02) 9361 4277
Facsimile (02) 9360 3966
Email
mcfarlane@paddington
laingsimmons.com.au

Dear Greg,

RE: FASHION WALK OF FAME

We write to advise that we strongly support the Fashion Walk of Fame project for Oxford Street, Paddington.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,
Paddington Chamber of Commerce

BERNARD MCGRATH
Chairman

Item No: D4 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Road Naming Proposal - Cooper Park**
Author: Scot Hedge – Parks and Recreation Coordinator
File No: 178.G 8
Reason for Report: To adopt name options for the un-named roadway within Cooper Park, located between Suttie Road, Bellevue Hill, and the Cooper Park Tennis Centre and seek public comment for the preferred name.

Recommendation:

- A. That the names *Bunna Place*, *Hayes Street*, *William Cooper Place* and *Swamp Mahogany Grove* be publicly advertised seeking public comment on a preferred option for the roadway that links Suttie Road with Lower Cooper Park and the Cooper Park Tennis Centre.
- B. That a further report be presented to Council following the public exhibition period.

Background:

Earlier this year, Councillor Shoebridge brought to our attention that a section of roadway leading from Suttie Road, Bellevue Hill, to Lower Cooper Park and the Cooper Park Tennis Centre is un-named (Annexure 1). Therefore, in the interest of promoting access to the Park and speed of access for emergency vehicles, it is considered appropriate that a name be applied.

The Geographical Names Board (GNB) provides guidelines (Annexure 2) for the naming of roads which involve consideration of uniqueness, sources, propriety, communication, spelling, form and road type. According to the guidelines the preferred sources for names include the following:

- Aboriginal names,
- Local history,
- Early explorers, pioneers, settlers and other eminent persons,
- War/casualty lists, and
- Thematic names such as flora, fauna or ships.

Research has identified a number of possibilities for appropriate names for the roadway in accordance with these guidelines.

Aboriginal Name

There are several references to Aboriginal occupation in the Cooper Park Creek area (Cooper Park Plan of Management, 2001). In preparation of this report, consultation has been undertaken with the La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council (LPLALC). Suggestions for street names provided by their representative, Mr David Ingrey, include:

Name/Word	Relevance	Locations of existing use in Sydney
Bunna	Meaning “Rain”. Suggested by (LPLALC) due to wet, rainforest vegetation types and creek in area	No listings in UBD
Bunna Bunna	Meaning “Heavy Rain”	No listings in UBD
Birra Birragal	People of the area	No listings in UBD
Bungaree	From Broken Bay tribe and known as King of Sydney. Buried behind Rose Bay Police Station	Mosman, Miller, Pendle Hill, Toongabbie, Yellow Rock
Gurrah	Aboriginal custodian of the fishing rights at Seven Shillings Beach	No listings in UBD

These Aboriginal words are from the language spoken between Botany Bay and Port Jackson. “Bunna” is the preferred Aboriginal option as it has direct relevance to Cooper Park with its natural creek system and meets the GNB guidelines.

Local History

A report ,compiled by the Australian Heritage Commission (1992) regarding Cooper Park, commented that:

“Cooper Park is an uncommon example of an early twentieth century municipal park, which demonstrates a bushland pleasure ground style. The style is expressed by the predominance of bush vegetation, a creek and meandering network of paths which link a series of architectural features.

The park is important for an array of cultural features which includes synthetic stone features, a moon bridge, a brick and concrete bridge, sandstone paths, a tennis pavilion and tennis courts, and a grass amphitheatre with retaining wall and plaque.”

The Cooper Park Plan of Management (2001), states that the major period of recreation infrastructure development occurred during the 1930s. Moon Bridge at the Park’s centre is a fine example of the stone masonry undertaken by Ernst Miles and a team of fifty stone workers. Construction of the park’s distinctive synthetic stone grottoes was performed by Mr H Arnold during 1936.

Commercial use and resource extraction within the area comprised Chinese market gardens over the period 1850s-1920s and dairy production in the western area of the park, timber extraction in the early part of the nineteenth century, sandstone quarrying in the northern and southeastern parts of the park and the operation of an incinerator site at the bottom of Cooper Park Road.

Considering this information, the names in Table 2 could be considered.

Table 2 Possible Local European History Options

Name	Locations of existing use in Sydney
Ernst	Edensor Park
Miles	Bankstown Airport, Brookvale, Chester Hill, Mascot, Surry Hills
Garden	23 listings
Quarry	18 listings including Woollahra

“Garden” and “Quarry” are not unique and are, therefore, not recommended. Naming the road “Ernst” or “Miles” would not recognise the contribution of all stone masons involved in construction of Moon Bridge.

Early explorers, pioneers, settlers and other eminent persons

Following European settlement in 1788, the area now occupied by Cooper Park became part of a series of land grants made to the emancipist Hayes between 1793 and 1812. As one of the first European land owners of the area “Hayes” is an appropriate option for the roadway name.

By the early part of the nineteenth century this land had become part of the estate of Daniel Cooper, one of the Colony’s early industrial barons. William Cooper, nephew of Daniel, gained title to the land of Cooper Park from his uncle in 1882 and undertook in 1913 ‘to give the whole of the gully, from Victoria Road to Manning Road, to the Council as a park’. The park was officially named in 1917.

To recognise the contribution of William Cooper in providing the land for the park it is recommended his name be used as an option for naming the roadway. The GNB guidelines suggest names composed of two or more words should be avoided, however a given name should be included with a family name where it is essential to identify an individual. Given the significance of William Cooper’s contribution, and to identify him from his uncle, it is recommended the given name and family name be used.

War/Casualty Lists

A review of articles contained within “*As I Remember: Recollections of World War II*” by members of the Woollahra History and Heritage Society and the Eastern Suburbs Division of the Legacy Club of Sydney” (1995), does not provide names of any particular war casualties. Therefore, there are no recommendations for road names related to War / Casualty Lists.

Thematic Names

Much of Cooper Park retains remnant bushland and contains pockets of vegetation that contain an endangered plant species, being *Acacia terminalis ssp terminalis* (Sunshine Wattle). There are also significant stands of remnant Swamp Mahogany trees within the park, forming an important floral component of the park. Suggestions for thematic names are in the table below.

Name	Locations of Existing Use in Sydney
Acacia	28 listings
Terminalis	No listings (“Terminal” has 2 listings)
Sunshine	Penrith, Peakhurst, Manly Vale
Wattle	38 listings
Swamp Mahogany	No listings (Mahogany has 5 listings)

“Acacia” and “Wattle” are not unique and “Terminalis” may be considered difficult to pronounce. “Sunshine” does not reflect the shady environment in Cooper Park. It is recommended that “Swamp Mahogany” be considered as an option.

Proposal:

The following options are recommended for the naming of the roadway between Suttie Road, Bellevue Hill, and the Cooper Park Tennis Centre:

- Bunna Place
- Hayes Place
- William Cooper Place
- Swamp Mahogany Grove

Consultation:

The GNB requires notification of all road naming proposals. The La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council has provided suggestions for possible road names and will be contacted directly during public exhibition of the recommendations.

Given the high community interest in this park area, it is considered reasonable to seek public opinion on the choice of the name. Therefore, the four recommended names are proposed to be publicly advertised for 28 days with notices placed in the local newspaper, Council's Web-page and signs placed at the entrance of Lower Cooper Park. The community will be asked to nominate their preferred name option.

Conclusion:

It is recommended that the road name options be placed on public exhibition seeking community feedback on a preferred option and a report on the outcomes of the exhibition be provided to Council.

Scot Hedge
Parks and Recreation Coordinator

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. Location Plan
2. Guidelines for the Naming of Roads (Geographical Names Board)

Item No: D5 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Cameron Street, Edgecliff, Accessway**
Author: David Sheils - Manager Public Open Space
File No: 216.G
Reason for Report: To resolve the management of the accessway

Recommendation:

- A. That the gates be retained but the locking mechanisms removed.
- B. That a sign be installed on the gates to indicate that it is a public accessway.
- C. That residents be informed of Council's decision.

Background:

Origin of Accessway

In 1977, Council approved the subdivision of No's 84-98 Cameron Street. As one of the conditions of approval, a 1.2 metre wide right-of-way, located between No 98 and No 100, was dedicated to Council as Lot 13. As a consequence, Council began to receive rate notices from the Water Board for the land. Council then sought ways to avoid the on-going cost of water rates.

At that time, the land could not be dedicated as a public pathway so, in order to retain pedestrian access and avoid the water rates, Council resolved that the land be incorporated into Trumper Park. A formal application was made to the Department of Lands. In 1978, the land was declared Crown Land by the NSW Lands Board and appeared in the Government Gazette.

Also, at that time of subdivision, a one metre wide right-of-footway was created along the rear of the lots. The purpose of this footway was to enable residents to take their garbage along the rear of the other lots to gain access to Cameron Street via the right-of-way.

Installation of Gates

Earlier this year, the owner of 98 Cameron Street, Mr Sorin Dascalu, arranged for the installation of gates at either end of the right-of-way and the gates were locked. The reason for Mr Dascalu installing the gates was to reduce/prevent robberies from occurring at his property and his neighbour at 100 Cameron Avenue (Annexure 1). Mr Dascalu claims his property has been subject to four robberies in the past five years, whilst his neighbour at 100 Cameron Street has experienced approximately twenty robberies. The cost of the gates was shared between the owners of 98 and 100 Cameron Street and Council staff was not consulted regarding the installation.

The installation of the gates was brought to our attention in February and we, subsequently, issued instructions for the owner of 100 Cameron Avenue, Miss Dusseldorp, to:

- provide keys to Council, together with nearby residents; and
- ensure the gates were opened each morning and closed again at night.

Access points to Trumper Park

Anecdotal evidence indicates that, prior to the gates being installed, the right-of-way was infrequently used for access to the rear of the Cameron Street properties. The section of Trumper Park, where the access corridor enters, is steep and heavily vegetated, which makes access difficult. The accessway is not lit at night.

Two nearby accessways in Cameron Street also provide links to Trumper Park (See Annexure 2 for site plan). The most commonly used pathway enters the Park at Bowes Avenue. This pathway, together with pedestrian lighting, was substantially upgraded last year as part of the Capital Works Improvement Program. Another pathway is located between properties 72 and 74 Cameron Street. This access is approximately 120 metres from the subject right-of-way and enters the park with a gently sloping gradient.

It is, therefore, unlikely that the subject right-of-way provided reasonable access to the Park, when considering the difficult topography and the availability of more even graded and illuminated pathways nearby.

Consultation:

In recognition of local interest in the gates, the Mayor chaired a public meeting in the street at 5pm on 19 May 2005. An invitation regarding the meeting was sent to 28 immediate property owners and Councillors. Twelve residents attended from nine properties (Attendance list – Annexure 3).

The purpose of the meeting was to allow residents to provide feedback regarding options available for management of the right-of-way. Generally, residents were divided as to whether or not the gates should be retained. Some residents were satisfied that, if the gates were to be retained and locked at all times, keys be made available to affected residents.

Correspondence received from residents regarding the gates is provided in Annexure 4.

Options Available

1. Remove the gates

Some residents supported the removal of the gates. The adjoining owners expressed concern about security and possible break-ins at the rear of their properties.

2. Retain the gates and remove the locking devices. A sign would be installed indicating that the right-of-way was managed by Council as an accessway.

The gates maintain a measure of security for the adjoining residents but access is available to the public at all times.

3. Retain the gates and open/lock the gates each morning/evening. Residents would be offered a key for 24-hour access.

This option was suggested at the meeting but was overwhelmingly discounted as Council would be required to utilise its contract security company to open and close the gates each day. This service would cost Council \$200 per month.

One resident, who has been issued a key, indicated that she needed 24-hour access for emergency services. In response to this concern, emergency services carry keys for our public gates and accessways.

4. **Keep the gates locked at all times and provide affected residents with a key for 24-hour access. A sign would be installed indicating that the right-of-way was managed by Council.**

This option provides security to adjoining properties. Like the option above, emergency services carry keys for our public gates and accessways.

Conclusion:

As a result of the public meeting, there was no consensus of opinion for the gates to be retained or removed.

We recommend that the gates be retained but the locks removed. This option would maintain some level of security to residents and avoid the need to maintain locks and manage key distribution.

David Sheils
Manager Public Open Space

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. Correspondence from Mr Dascalu of 98 Cameron Street, Edgecliff
2. Site Plan
3. Public meeting attendance
4. Correspondence received

Item No: D6 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Contribution towards the appointment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator**
Author: Lorna Oliver, Traffic and Transport Planner
File No: 256.G
Reason for Report: Request from BIKEast through SSROC for Council to contribute towards the cost of the employment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator

Recommendation:

- A. That Council advise SSROC and BIKEast that a decision on whether to contribute \$12,000 per annum for three years towards the cost of appointing a Regional Bicycle Coordinator to service the Councils of Botany Bay, Sydney City, Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra is deferred pending further information as follows:

Advice from SSROC and BIKEast that similar commitments have been obtained from the neighbouring Councils of Botany Bay, Sydney City and Waverley, and relevant State government bodies such as the RTA and NSW Health.
A detailed breakdown of the projected expenditure.
A draft Position Statement with clearly defined outputs.

- B. That, upon receipt of such information, a further report be submitted with recommendations.

Background:

BIKEast is seeking the appointment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator on a temporary basis for a period of three years to service the Councils of Botany Bay, Randwick, Sydney City, Waverley and Woollahra. It is proposed that the position be funded by way of equal contributions from the respective Councils and state agencies including the Roads and Traffic Authority, NSW Health and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources.

A letter seeking Council approval for the appointment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator (Annexure 1) and a submission from BIKEast providing support information (Annexure 2) are attached.

Role of Position

The tasks of the position will be to strategically coordinate the provision of bicycle facilities, ensuring bicycle network priorities are consistent across administrations (local and state) and that cyclists' safety and facilities issues are resolved and constraints identified in relation to the completion of the bicycle network by 2010.

They envisage three phases to the work:

Strategic planning: setting and gaining agreements on priorities
Coordination: facilitating key bicycle initiatives through traffic committees, including obtaining any necessary State level support and approvals
Promotion: preparing a cycling promotional program

The important strategic functions of the position would be to improve bike planning processes in councils and conduct training for council planners and traffic engineers in the implementation of appropriate guidelines and standards.

They envisage this function leading to the redundancy of the role within the projected three year period.

Within the coordination area, the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) sees the Regional Bicycle Coordinator playing the role of an in-house consultant, leaving more funding for on-ground works, as well as achieving economies of scale through the coordination of timing and cross-boundary route planning. Advice on issues at the design stage through Regional and Local Traffic Committees would also be within the role of this position, as would liaising with State agencies and larger landowners. The position could also help councils apply for more funding where requested.

Consideration by SSROC and Councils

The following resolution was passed at the SSROC Committee 2 meeting on 17 February 2005:
“To endorse in principle, the creation of the role of Bicycle Coordinator, providing the funding is forthcoming from City of Sydney, Botany Bay, Randwick, Waverley and Woollahra councils and state agencies.”

At the subsequent SSROC meeting of 17 March 2005, it was resolved to: *“endorse, in principle, the creation of the role of Bicycle Coordinator providing the funding is forthcoming from the participating councils and the state agencies.”*

A copy of the relevant section from SSROC’s Business Paper from the meeting of 17 March 2005 is attached as Annexure 3.

Randwick City Council gave its qualified commitment to the creation of the position of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator for Sydney’s east by agreeing, in principle, to a funding contribution of \$12,000 per annum at its Health, Building and Planning Committee Meeting on 8 February 2005. Randwick City Council’s contribution is subject to the following conditions:

SSROC and BIKEast obtaining similar commitments from neighbouring Councils and State government bodies.

The provision of a detailed breakdown of the proposed expenditure of the budget each year.

Randwick City Council’s in principle funding contribution is also subject to BIKEast providing Council with a detailed budget on the projected expenditure of the \$120,000.00 budget per annum, prior to the grant being finalised.

Waverley has allocated funds in its budget.

Sydney City has agreed to consider the matter.

Botany Bay has not announced its position at this stage.

NSW Health indicated it will contribute \$50,000 to the promotion stage.

Logistics

It is proposed that the position be project-managed by SSROC, who will also provide day to day management. It would be located in the SSROC offices at Hurstville, however, the Regional Bicycle Coordinator would need to be mobile as the position involves, meeting with council staff on-site, cycling along proposed routes, and attending Traffic Committee meetings in the region for design input and assisting with community liaison. A steering group consisting of persons at Transport Manager/Director level in each participating council and representatives from BIKEast and state agencies, coordinated by SSROC, would manage the position's operational direction.

Similar management arrangements have been in place for other SSROC positions, examples being *Cities for Climate Protection*, which aimed to reduce greenhouse emissions and ends in June; and *Green Web*, which sought to safeguard wildlife corridors through Sydney and ends in November.

Funding

It has been estimated that the cost of the Regional Bicycle Coordinator's position would be \$120,000 per annum, including on costs and seminars/promotions.

The position is planned to run for three years with the option of a one-year extension.

BIKEast proposes that the position be funded by the five Councils, who would be contributing half the costs, with state agencies contributing the remaining half.

This means Woollahra Council would be required to contribute 10% of this (\$12,000 per annum) and the rest would be raised via commitments from Botany Bay, Randwick, Sydney City and Waverley Councils and state agencies including the Roads and Traffic Authority, NSW Health and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources. This arrangement would be in place for a period of three years.

To date, Randwick Council has agreed to support this initiative in principle and conditionally. The other Councils have not announced their decisions at present, although Waverley Council has provided funds in their 2005/6 Budget.

Benefits

SSROC's Greenhouse Plan goal is: "To reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% across the region by 2010" with one vital action being to "Link up local bike plans to form a regional bike plan".

Without a basic network in place, various elements of the Bike Plan's community education and outreach programs cannot commence. For example, the promotion of bicycles as an alternative for many car-based trips, such as to schools, work or for recreation, relies on a quality bicycle network providing a safe riding environment. Without this, there is no incentive to change existing travel behaviour.

This proposal has merit in that it would facilitate the coordination and consistency of design of the bicycle network across the whole of the region and provide the respective Councils with specialised bicycle knowledge and experience. The position would provide Councils with the opportunity to address bicycle related planning and infrastructure issues in a regional context in their planning and design.

Constraints

While the objective of coordinating bicycle initiatives has merit, there are several items of concern.

1. The estimated cost of \$120,000 per year is high and needs substantiation.
2. The proposed equal contribution from each Council, regardless of municipal area or extent of bicycle routes (existing or planned), needs to be justified. By comparison, for an expenditure of \$12,000 per year, Woollahra could commit 20% of the Traffic Planner's time (or one day per week) exclusively to bicycle issues including coordination with Waverley and Sydney City on joint routes and facilities.
3. The management committee structure proposed is unwieldy, requiring the input of many high level officers from time to time but leaving the day to day management to the control of SSROC, which means that focus on local bicycle issues, when required, cannot be guaranteed.
4. There appears to be a difference of opinion between SSROC and BIKEast as to the nature of the role. This needs to be clarified.

Identification of Income & Expenditure:

Woollahra Council's contribution to the Regional Bicycle Coordinator position would be \$12,000 per annum for three years, with an option for a fourth year.

This is a total of either \$36,000 or \$48,000.

There has been no allowance made for this expenditure in the 2005-2006 Budget.

If Council were to proceed, funds could be allocated for the position of Regional Bicycle Coordinator from the Capital funding allocation in the draft Budget.

It must be noted that, in supporting this initiative, Council would be making a three-year commitment with the option of a fourth year.

Conclusion:

The matter should be deferred and further information sought.

Lorna Oliver
Traffic and Transport Planner

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. Letter from BIKEast seeking Council approval for the appointment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator.
2. Submission from BIKEast supporting the appointment of a Regional Bicycle Coordinator.
3. SSROC Business Paper 17 March 2005.

Item No: D7 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Environmental Works Program - 3rd Quarter Management Plan Review**
Author: Warwick Hatton - Director Technical Services
File No: 827.G 04-07
Reason for Report: To review the status of works, services, and projects for the Management Plan principal activity of Environmental Works for the three months ending 31 March 2005.

Recommendation:

- A. That the status of projects for the Environmental Works Program principal activity be noted.
- B. That the variations to projects be agreed subject to adoption of the relevant budget variations included in the separately reported quarterly financial review.

Background:

Section 407(1) of the Local Government Act requires that Council review the progress of the adopted Management Plan on a quarterly basis. Included with this report is the third quarterly review of Principal Activity No 8 of the Management Plan, which 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
- 8.6 Local flooding, critical pits and overland flow program

The Annexure includes all the details for this principal activity, whereas, set out in the following part of this report is a commentary on variations, changes, exception, completed work, achievements, etc. The purpose being to provide Councillors with a snapshot on the key influences or issues arising from this quarterly review.

Comments on budget variations where they are material or have an impact on the program of works or projects may be included in this report. However, the budget review and confirmation of any changed forecast will be considered in a separate budget report, which reviews the overall financial position of the Council at the end of the quarter. It should be noted that this program is funded from a special rate levy and needs to meet the special rate requirements when it comes to variations and changes

Following is the commentary on each sub activity:

8.1 Administration and Auditing

Around 15 projects were actively managed over the quarter. Program expenditure amounted to around \$560,000 at the end of the quarter (25% of the program budget) with another \$750,000 (58% of the program budget) in tenders awaiting approval to award contracts at the first Council meeting in the New Year.

It is proposed to apply 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.

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.

Achievements over the quarter:

Another 13 tonnes of rubbish were removed at the Norwich Road Gross Pollutant Trap. Training of Council's operational staff on good environmental work practices and auditing of their own work activities was carried out.

A database to store maintenance records of Council's water quality treatment devices is underway. This will assist with better managing the maintenance operations and provide information on where to develop future environmental education campaigns. As part of the water quality monitoring carried out by Biotrack, all sampling results will be stored on their database.

The brief to review Council's Street Sweeping & Pit Cleaning activities was finalised and sent to consultants for pricing.

Pet flip guide was completed, educating dog owners on the responsibility for appropriate disposal of dog faeces. Park signage regarding dogs is under review. Prices were obtained for scoopers and biodegradable plastic bags to be used at special event days and in an information package sent to newly registered dog owners.

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.

Achievements over the quarter:

Field sampling was carried out by Biotrack Australia Pty Ltd in the main creek tributaries of Cooper Park and Parsley Bay Reserve.

Stormwater management options were developed for Harbour View Park and a copy is to be issued to the Harbour View Residents' Group for comment. The recommendations will assist with developing a program of works for the park.

Work commenced mid-December on the extension of the stormwater outlet at St Mervyns Ave Drainage Reserve on Seven Shillings Beach and a new Gross Pollutant Trap was installed prior to Christmas. A contribution of \$50,000 was received from adjoining residents as a contribution for these works.

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.

Achievements over the quarter:

The Trumper Park Pond rehabilitation works were completed in the quarter. As part of the rehabilitation works, bush regeneration around the Pond and planting of native species were carried out.

The Gap Park bush regeneration works were completed over the quarter.

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.

Achievements over the quarter:

Tenders were received in December 2004 for the Double Bay and Darling Point seawall restoration. A report will be submitted to Council in February 2005 recommending a preferred contractor and funding options.

8.5 Local flooding, critical pits and overland flow program

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

Achievements over the quarter:

Tenders were received for the Hampden and Cecil Streets' Drainage Augmentation Project. A report will be submitted to Council in February 2005 recommending a preferred contractor and funding options.

In November 2004, Council adopted the recommendation for a preferred design option to reduce local flooding at Cliff Street, Watsons Bay. A consultant was engaged to carry out the detailed design. Ongoing discussions with NSW National Parks and the Navy, regarding a funding contribution towards this project, were pursued.

A number of stormwater upgrade options have been put forward to address local flooding in The Crescent, Vaucluse. Cost estimates range from \$490,000 to \$850,000. A funding strategy to implement these options, staged over a period of time, will be developed. These works would be placed on a forward program, which would be considered as part of the application to extend the environmental levy. A report to Council is planned for next quarter.

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. March 2005 Quarterly Review of Principal Activity: Environmental Works Program

Item No: D8 Delegated to Committee

Subject: **Natural Environment Principal Activity - 3rd Quarter Management Plan Review**

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

File No: 827.G 04-07

Reason for Report: To review the status of works, services and Notices of Motions for the Management Plan principal activity of Natural Environment for the three months ending 31 March 2005.

Recommendation

- A. That the status of projects for the Natural Environment principal activity be noted.
- B. That the variations to projects be agreed subject to adoption of the relevant budget variations included in the separately reported quarterly financial review.

Background:

Section 407(1) of the Local Government Act requires that Council review the progress of the adopted management plan on a quarterly basis. Included with this report is the third quarterly review of Principal Activity No 2 of the Management Plan, which 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:

1. The Natural Environment Principal Activity of the Management Plan with detailed comments on the status of items in each sub activity.
2. Any uncompleted adopted "Notices of Motion" related to the Natural Environment principal activity.

The Annexure includes all the details, whereas, set out in the following part of this report is a commentary on variations, changes, exception, completed work, achievements, etc. The purpose being to provide Councillors with a snapshot on the key influences or issues arising from this quarterly review.

"Notices of Motion", which have a major impact on approved Management Plan core activities and projects, have been included in the management plan as variations so as to facilitate the changing of priorities in an orderly and transparent manner.

Comments on budget variations, where they are material or have an impact on the program of works or projects, may be included in this report. However, the budget review and confirmation of any changed forecast will be considered in a separate budget report, which reviews the overall financial position of the Council at the end of the quarter.

Following is the commentary on each sub-activity

2.1 Environmental Protection

The comprehensive State of the Environment Report was completed and submitted to the Community and Environment Committee on 29 November 2004. Council has endorsed the Report and it has been sent to the Department of Local Government. Printing of the Report for distribution to schools, libraries and other sources is now in progress. The report will also be placed on the Council's web-site for general access.

We prepared internal procedures for the assessment of acid sulphate soil issues. These procedures will be used with development applications and when preparing draft local environmental plans. This forms an important part of our environmental considerations and responsibilities.

Work on the Environmental Management Plan (Local Agenda 21 Plan) was disrupted due to commitments with projects in the Built Environment Program. We expect to recommence work during the third quarter of 2004-2005.

We have appointed a temporary assistant with funding from the Cities for Climate Protection Program to work with us on the Milestone 5 stage of CCP project. Milestone 5 involves reviewing and monitoring works undertaken by Council as part of a program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A key outcome will be establishing whether the reduction goals have been achieved.

2.2 Stormwater Systems

Priority ranking of stream remediation and drainage improvement projects will be developed as part of the infrastructure asset management strategy adopted by Council.

The Draft Development Control Plans for Stormwater Management and Flood Management have been exhibited for public comment. The plans are on hold pending a decision regarding the relevant clause in Council's LEP. Legal advice has been sought.

Gross pollutants trapped in stormwater pit devices are being recorded and monitored by our works teams as part of the Environmental Works program. A new Gross Pollutant Trap has been installed at St Mervyns Avenue, Point Piper.

2.3 Tree Management

In this quarter, we processed 169 applications for pruning or removal of trees protected by the Tree Preservation Order, received 197 applications for pruning or removal of street trees and assessed 69 development applications related to tree management issues.

To date this year, we have carried out 100 new and 50 replacement street tree plantings.

We have developed policies for replacement street tree planting, which will be incorporated into our Vegetation Management Strategy (VMS). The next meeting of the VMS reference group will be held in May.

2.4 Waste Services

A new Enterprise Agreement has been completed with Waste Services staff and the Union, and is now in operation. This includes provisions to improve productivity and reduce overall costs.

The Liveable Lanes Project using grant funding was reported on in November and Council adopted a recommendation for an extension of the program to other locations.

2.5 Street Cleaning

A new Enterprise Agreement has been completed with Street Cleaning staff and the Union, which includes structural changes to improve our clean-up and street-sweeping services.

2.6 Bush Regeneration

The review of bush regeneration service levels for Cooper, Trumper and Gap Parks is nearing completion.

The Bushcare Program, with volunteers, which has been successfully carried out in Harbour View Park for some years, has now been extended to Gap Park and Cooper Park.

We are also developing 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:

March 2005 Quarterly Review of Principal Activity – Natural Environment

March 2005 Quarterly Review of Outstanding Notices of Motion – Natural Environment

Item No: D9 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Parks & Public Space Principal Activity - 3rd Quarter Management Plan Review**
Author: Warwick Hatton - Director Technical Services
File No: 827.G 04-07
Reason for Report: To review the status of works, services and projects and Notices of Motion for the Management Plan principal activity of Parks and Public Space for the three months ending 31 March 2005. .

Recommendation:

- A. That the status of projects for the Parks and Public Space principal activity be noted.
- B. That the variations to projects be agreed subject to adoption of the relevant budget variations included in the separately reported quarterly financial review.

Background:

Section 407(1) of the Local Government Act requires that Council review the progress of the adopted management plan on a quarterly basis. Included with this report is the third quarterly review of Principal Activity No 4 of the Management Plan, which 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:

3. The Parks & Public Space Principal activity of the Management Plan with detailed comments on the status of items in each sub activity.
4. Any uncompleted adopted "Notices of Motion" related to the Parks and Public Space principal activity.

The Annexure includes all the details, whereas, set out in the following part of this report is a commentary on variations, changes, exception, completed work, achievements, etc. The purpose being to provide Councillors with a snapshot on the key influences or issues arising from this quarterly review.

"Notices of Motion", which have a major impact on approved Management Plan core activities and projects, have been included in the management plan as variations so as to facilitate the changing of priorities in an orderly and transparent manner.

Comments on budget variations, where they are material or have an impact on the program of works or projects, may be included in this report. However, the budget review and confirmation of any changed forecast will be considered in a separate budget report, which reviews the overall financial position of the Council at the end of the quarter.

Following is the commentary on each sub activity:

4.1 Open Space Management

In this quarter we have processed 505 park hire approvals and 23 filming approvals. We have commenced preparation of promotional material on our parks for the web site. This is due for completion by the end of the year.

4.2 Open Space Asset Management

The Plan of Management for the Royal Hospital for Women Park has been adopted by Council. The revised draft Plan of Management for Woollahra Park will be reported to Council in the near future.

We were successful in obtaining a grant of \$100,000 from the Metropolitan Greenspace Program of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources towards the Masterplan works for Robertson Park. These upgrading works are currently under construction.

Construction has been completed at the Royal Hospital for Women Park.

Grant funding has been sought for various playground installations. New playgrounds were installed at North Cooper Park and Cooper Park and community consultation completed for new playgrounds at Harbour View Park and Trumper Park, and has commenced for three pocket park playground sites in Paddington.

Replacement of the Coastal Walk fence is commencing.

4.3 Open Space Maintenance & Construction

See notes on capital works projects above.

All cyclic open space maintenance schedules were completed to standard this quarter. In addition, garden bed renovations and new plant-outs were carried out at Blackburn Gardens, McKell Park, Gap Park, Lighthouse Reserve, Trumper Park Pond, and a number of rockeries and traffic islands.

Turf repair of the sportsgrounds was undertaken and fertilising programs recommenced following the completion of winter sports and the start of the growing season.

4.4 Park Facilities

Investigations have commenced regarding the dual naming of public reserves with indigenous names and for a policy on public sculptures in line with the adopted Notices of Motion. Parks signage specification has been prepared for public tender and rollout continues of new park seating and bins.

Warwick Hatton
Director Technical Services

Annexures:

1. March 2005 Quarterly Review of Principal Activity: Parks and Public Space
2. March 2005 Quarterly Review of Outstanding Notices of Motion – Parks and Public Space

Item No: D10 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Library report for the period January to March 2005**
Author: Faye Lawrence - Manager - Library Services
File No: 48.G
Reason for Report: To review the library operations for the quarter January to March 2005, highlighting activities for the period.

Recommendation:

1. That the report for the library service for the quarter January to March 2005 be noted.

This report reviews activities and projects for the three months January to March 2005 with attached statistics accumulated and compared for the three quarters of the year to date with the previous year. Also included in this report is some trend line information following the recommendation at the presentation of the last library report to the Community and Environment Committee on 31 January 2005.

1. Library Usage according to Lending Statistics

A. The overall circulation and trend line information

There was an overall decrease for the whole system in circulation of 6% for the three quarters, July 2004 to March 2005 compared with the same period in the previous financial year, 2003/04. (296,227 compared with 315,038).

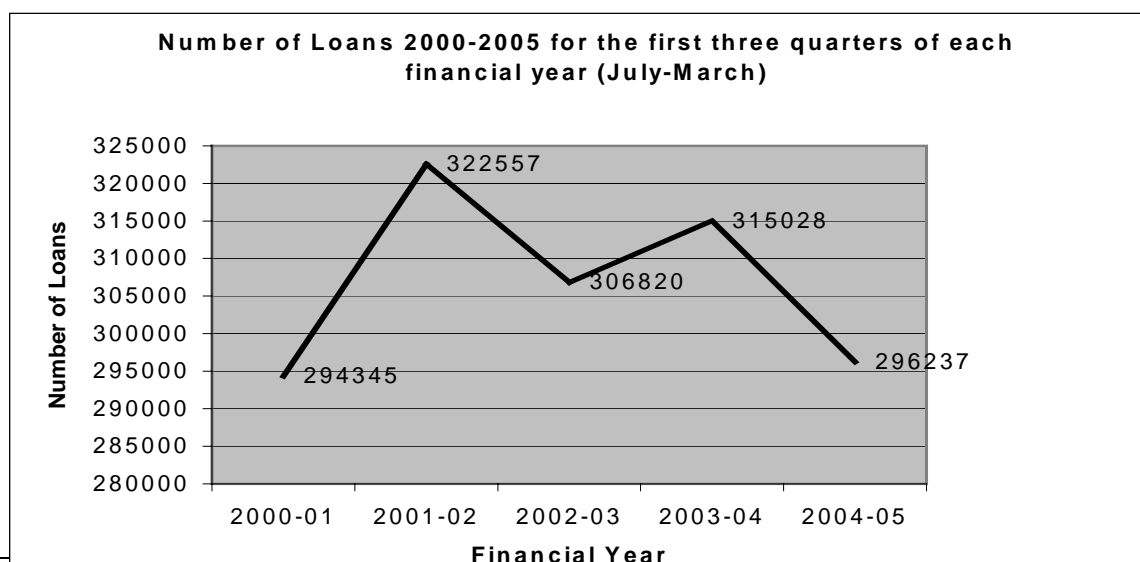
When looking at each Branch location the following breakdown applied:

Double Bay Central Library decreased by 4.25% (217,726 compared with 227,410 in 2003/04)

Watsons Bay Branch decreased by 13.7% (11,042 compared with 12,797 in 2003/04)

Paddington decreased by 8.4% (67,034 compared with 73,175 in 2003/04)

This data (three quarter period July to Mar) was then put into a graph as a trend line for a five year comparison.



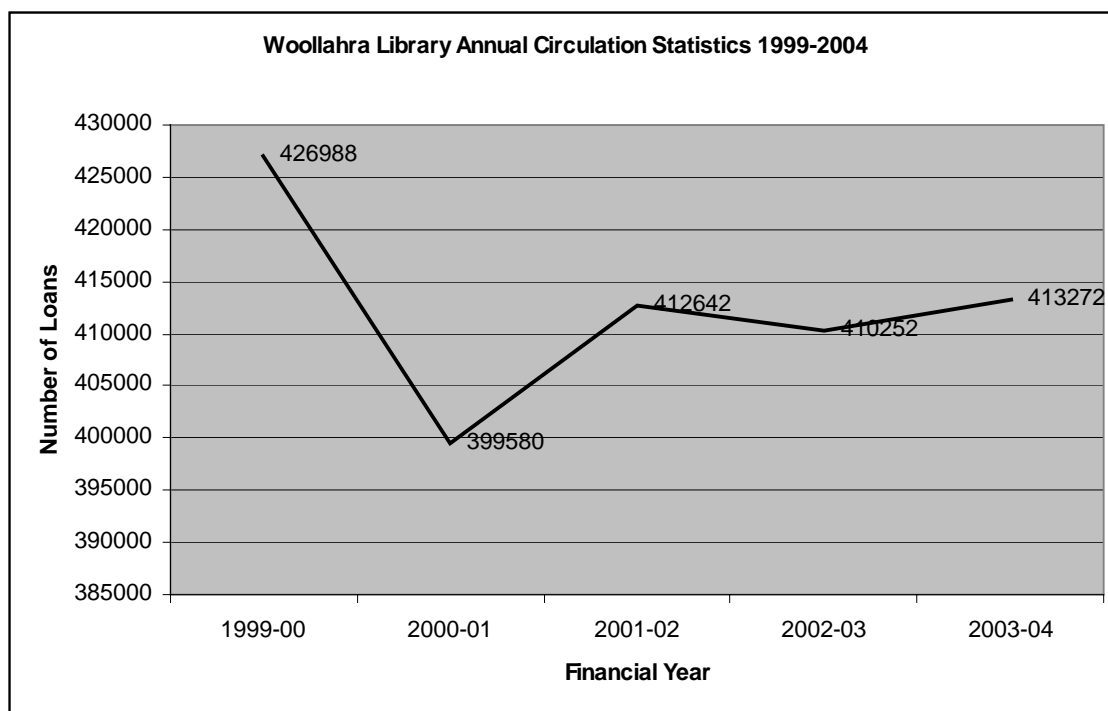
A summary of the information from this graph is:

1. In the five years, July to March 2000/01 to 2004/05, the difference between the highest circulation and the lowest was 28,212 or 8.7%.
2. The lowest circulation was in 2000/01 and the highest in 2001/02
3. There was a smaller gap between 2002/03 and 2003/04 and then a decrease again in 2004/05
4. The trend line moved up and down within the five years ie, did not move in one direction only.

Some points and factors relevant to this result are:

The new Waverley Library was opened in 1999 with a large facility – this resulted in some fluctuations for at least two related reasons. Waverley had been closed for a period in 1998/99 resulting in increases in the usage of neighbouring libraries - Double Bay, Paddington and Randwick. Each library noted an increase at the time with observation at service points supporting this reason for the change. The subsequent decrease in Woollahra circulation in the next year is very likely because people re-joined at Waverley and tried out the new attractive facility. Following this change and decrease Woollahra Library circulation rose back again in 2001/02.

These fluctuations show up quite clearly in the annual circulation for the years 1999/00 to 2003/04 in the graph below.



A summary of the information from this graph for the annual lending statistics for the five years 1999/00 to 2003/04 is:

1. The difference between the highest circulation point in 1999/00 and the lowest in 2000/01 was 27,408 or 6.4%.
2. The circulation rose by 13,062 or 3.26% in 2001/02 and has been maintained at around a consistent level for the three years 2001/02 to 2003/04 with only a very small marginal fluctuation of 0.15%.
3. A circulation range of about 400,000 to 415,000 p.a. on the basis of this five year trend would be the expected norm for Woollahra.

B. Specific collections information from the current attached lending statistics for the three quarters of the year July 2004 to March 2005

There was an increase of 7.48% in the circulation of audio/visual items for the period July 2004 to March 2005 when compared with the period for the year 2003/04 (48,807 compared with 45,410). This collection is small but continues to be very popular. It is rotated to Watsons Bay and Paddington Branches from the central collection. Anime DVDs aimed at youth members were added to this collection recently along with an accompanying selection of Manga books.

Childrens books lending decreased by a small 1.4 % for this period - a total of 973 out of 69,244 lent. The after school care Holdsworth Street Centre library service has now ceased which by itself makes this difference. With the overall popularity of the childrens services and the programmes planned, we are quite confident they will continue to be reflected in a reasonable statistical output over time.

Adult books lending has decreased by 11% in this period or 19,886 and accounts for the largest proportion of the circulation decrease overall. Strategies to address this include: a thorough checking of the way in which the on-line, at home statistics are being accounted for; surveying our current clients directly; undertaking a strong de-selection programme over the next 3 – 4 months to ensure out-of date stock is removed; and checking our information against other libraries experiences.

C. Use of the on-line catalogue and resources and its relationship to circulation

Ever since the Library went live with the new Libero management system in May of 2004 the catalogue has been available over the web with continuing developments undertaken throughout the past year.

The number of hits on the site suggest there has been a good take up of this service and we will be continually monitoring it. There were 262,267 hits on the catalogue site for the three quarters of this year including 85,960 specific searches undertaken.

We know that the member services section of the new catalogue is attracting a large and growing number of logins. This service allows users to reserve and renew items on-line. It has been posited that there may be an anomaly in the way in which these renewal loans are being counted as a item of circulation. It is thought that it may be the case that some circulation transactions are not being counted as circulation but just as hits on the Webopac part of the system whereas under the previous system they had been counted as loans. The system providers are being asked to investigate this matter.

This could mean that the lending statistics - particularly the second and third quarters of this financial year will need to be amended when the matter has been properly investigated and sorted out.

2. Summary comments on a range of activities and projects undertaken during the quarter

A. Reference and Information Services

The up-take of remote access (from home etc) of on-line databases and the catalogue continued to increase in this quarter. There were 580 searches undertaken from home in this quarter.

The Reference staff are maintaining and constantly updating the library's website which includes the on-line database interface.

Local History:

The range of specific enquiries type handled at the Local History Centre in the quarter is as follows:

Inquiry Type	Number
Council Officers / consultants	122
Property Inquiries	194
Commissioned Property Reports	8
Local History	176
Family History	43
Other	32
Total	575

The majority of queries and requests for information at the Local History Centre continue to be property related whether for family history, personal interest or for heritage impact statements as part of the DA process. Council archives, Council reports, research files, maps and photographs are popular items used for this research.

Some documents and photographs added to the local history collection in the quarter included:

A large donation of the Holy Cross College Archives (late of Edgecliff Road). The collection contains many photographs and documents.

The 1st Vacluse Scouts donated a collection of photographs, ephemera, 3 historical booklets on the Vacluse Scouts and 2 handwritten logbooks covering the period 1932-1947.

The Vacluse Progress Association donated (on permanent loan) an original copy of the 1909 *Royal Commission for the Improvement of the City of Sydney and its Suburbs* and lodged further of its records with the Centre.

A descendant of the Lassetter family donated a large body of research on the Lassetter family history.

As part of the marking of the 100 years of the Watsons Bay Baths, Council has called for reminiscences, photos etc of the baths from the community. These have been copied and added to the collection.

Two displays were mounted in April:

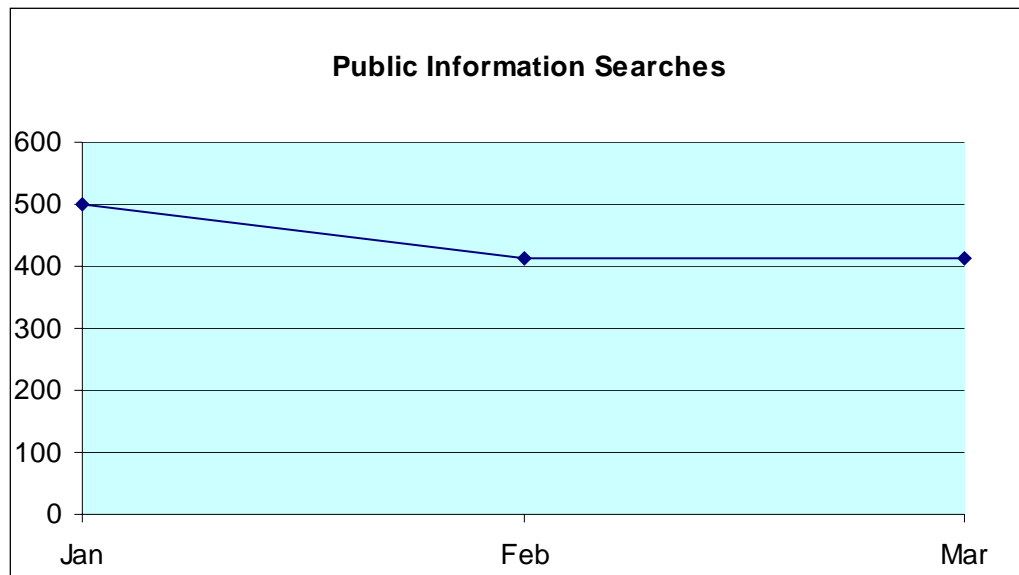
1. A display on the Royal Hospital for Women Park site was prepared and organised by Local History staff to mark the opening of the park in April.
2. The second display was organised to coincide with the National Trust's Heritage Festival Week also held in April. The theme chosen was the Watsons Bay Baths, as the 100 year anniversary of its opening also coincided with the Festival Week.

Oral History Project:

Five volunteers now work on this project with the Local History Librarians and have undertaken five recordings recently. Themes which are identified for future recording projects are:

- The Rose Bay Shopping Centre
- Architects whose work has shaped the area
- War time memories of Woollahra
- Immigration and Woollahra

Community Information Statistics – January-March 2005 on the Council’s On-Line Database:



Total = 1327 searches

Of these searches, Education, Community Facilities, Child Care, Accommodation and Leisure continue to be the most popular searched topics.

B. Cultural and Childrens Services

Poets’ Picnic:

The Poets’ Picnic was held on 22 February with the theme *All creatures great and small*. The fine evening in Blackburn Gardens attracted an audience of around 400 people. Along with major literary personalities, young people from five local high schools read and as usual proved to be very popular with many in the audience.

Two particular written comments from participants, Senior Poet, John Tranter and Tom, Moriah High School Student provided good feedback on the evening.

“I had a great time at the reading, and I must say it’s the best venue I’ve ever seen.And I would urge to choose a date (again) that allows the moon to rise right on cue. That was very clever. Oh, and good weather again, too (!).

John Tranter”

“I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to further my public speaking skills, especially at such a prestigious event. I found the evening to be very well organised and sophisticated. ...I think the present format is excellent, and I can’t think of any changes that should be made. The audience seemed to enjoy itself immensely. ...I would like to thank you for the great experience.

Tom”

Children's Services:

A lively summer reading programme and writers workshops for Primary school aged children were held in January at Double Bay and Paddington Library. Twenty five (25) children attended each of the writing workshops. Twenty seven (27) story time sessions were held at Double Bay and Watsons Bay Libraries in the quarter. A total of 200 children attended these sessions. Four playgroups for young children were held in the quarter at Double Bay in the Blackburn Gardens and the Library, with 122 children and carers attending these playgroups.

3. Conclusion:

Trend line information over five years has been included in this library report for circulation of materials. Also included as an attachment is a set of comparative statistics for categories of circulation and other measurable activities for the current three quarters of the financial year, July 2004 to March 2005, with comparative figures for the same period of the previous year 2003/04.

The five year annual statistical information shows that the circulation has been both higher and lower than it is now. There have been some identifiable factors affecting the swings. The range of change over the five years has been 6.4%.

The two year comparative statistics for July to March show that there is a decline in the adult book lending whilst childrens books lending has been maintained at about the same rate and audio-visual materials have increased in circulation. Surveying of users preferences and opinions, investigation of the calculation of on-line statistics for renewals of items and reservations, and a thorough de-selection programme are planned currently to help us understand more about these issues and to brighten the adult sections of the libraries.

There has been a large take up of on-line services available from the library since the new library management system was installed in May 2004 with more than 80,000 searches being registered for the catalogue. However, the statistical information at this time does not give a detailed enough picture of how these services are being used. Sorting out of these factors and refining this information is being undertaken currently with our vendor.

Sections of the library such as Paddington Library, the childrens library at Double Bay and Local History Centre were recorded as undertaking a varied range of successful services and activities.

Faye Lawrence
Manager – Library Services

Kylie Walshe
Director – Corporate Services

Annexures:

1. Woollahra Library Statistical Information July 2004 – March 2005.