



# Community & Environment Committee

**Agenda:** *Community & Environment Committee*

**Date:** *Monday 22 August 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

18 August 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 – 22 August 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 22 August 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 25 July 2005	1
D2	Woollahra Traffic Committee Minutes – 2 August 2005	2
D3	Oxford Street, Paddington – Application to install plaques in the footpath area – 349.1	8
D4	Tree Removal – Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra – 388 & 262.G	20
D5	Cultural Development Activity Update – 516.G, 20.G & 680.G	129
D6	Woollahra Golf Course Wetland Proposal – 221.G	138

### **Items to be Submitted to the Council for Decision with Recommendations from this Committee**

R1	Community Services Policy – 79.G	143
R2	Community Services Grants – 30.G	151

**Item No:** D1 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 25 July 2005**  
**Author:** Les Windle, Manager - Governance  
**File No:** See Council Minutes  
**Reason for Report:** The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 25 July 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 25 July 2005 be taken as read and confirmed.

Les Windle  
Manager – Governance

**Item No:** D2 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Woollahra Traffic Committee Minutes 2 August 2005**  
**Author:** Warwick Hatton, Director – 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 2 August 2005, Items Y1-Y6 be adopted.

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**Warwick Hatton**  
**Director – Technical Services**

# Woollahra Local Traffic Committee Minutes

The meeting of the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee was held in the Council Committee Room, Double Bay, on Tuesday 5 July 2005 at 10.00am.

## 1. Attendances

### Committee Members:

Present: Mr Warwick Hatton (Chairman) (Woollahra Municipal Council)  
Mr Navin Prasad (Roads and Traffic Authority)  
Ms Robyn Attuell (Clover Moore MP Representative)  
Ms Carol Freeman (Peter Debnam MP Representative)

Staff: Mr Frank Rotta (Woollahra Municipal Council)  
Ms Armodee Reece (Woollahra Municipal Council)

### Also in Attendance:

Cr Keri Huxley (Councillor – Item Y6)  
Mr Adrian Boss (Representative – The Paddington Society  
Item Y6)  
Mr John McDonagh (Harbour View Park Residents' Group)

Apologies: Nil  
Absent: Sen. Constable Bailey (Rose Bay Police)  
Mr Eric Yeung (Sydney Buses)

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## 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of Meeting No.06/05 held in Council Chambers, Double Bay, on Tuesday 5 July 2005 were confirmed by Ms Robyn Attuell.

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## 3. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings

Nil

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## 4. Extraordinary Meetings

Nil

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## 5. Late Item/Correspondence

Memorandum from Alan Opera (Team Leader – Traffic & Transport) – Traffic Committee Item Y6

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## 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: Mona Lane, Darling Point – Amendment to existing parking restrictions**

- A. That the statutory ‘No Stopping’ be signposted on both sides of Mona Lane at its intersection with Mona Road.
- B. That the remainder of the northern side of Mona Lane be signposted as ‘No Parking’.
- C. That the section on the southern side of Mona Lane between the statutory ‘No Stopping’ and the ‘2 Hour Residents Parking’ be signposted as ‘No Parking’.

**Item Y1-2: Stafford Street, Double Bay – Relocation of ‘No Parking’ zone**

- A. That the ‘No Parking’ sign on the western side of the driveway servicing No.18-24 Stafford Street, Double Bay be moved 1.8 metres in an easterly direction, thereby extending the authorised residents permit parking zone at this location by 1.8 metres.

**Item Y1-3: Holdsworth Street, Woollahra – Reduction of ‘No Stopping’ zone**

- A. That the ‘No Stopping’ zone on the eastern side of Holdsworth Street, north of Morrell Street, be reduced to 6 metres measured from the projection of the northern kerblines of Morrell Street.

**Item Y1-4: Sutherland Avenue, Paddington – ‘No Parking’ for garage access**

- A. That a ‘No Parking’ zone 8.7 metres long be installed on the south-western side of Sutherland Avenue, from ELP3258 (in line with the south-eastern boundary of No.35 Sutherland Street) in a north-westerly direction.
- B. That the unauthorised ‘No Standing’ sign and stem on the boundary of Nos.27 & 29 be removed.
- C. That the ‘No Standing’ sign (with no arrows) on ELP SYZ1647 approximately 25 metres north west of ELP3258 be removed.

**Item Y1-5: Greenoaks Avenue, Darling Point – ‘No Parking’ for driveway visibility**

- A. That a ‘No Parking’ zone be signposted from 4 metres north of the northern edge of the vehicular access to No.10 Greenoaks Avenue to 2 metres south of the southern end of the vehicular access in Greenoaks Avenue, Darling Point.



**Item No:** Y2 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.

**Subject:** **Old South Head Road – Relocation of bus zone on western side of Old South Head Road from south of Albemarle Avenue to north side of Albemarle Avenue**

**Author:** Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

**File No:** 261.G

**Reason for Report:** Completion of construction works on private development.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the existing bus zone on the western side of Old South Head Road be replaced by ‘1 Hour Parking 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’ with the remaining 20 metres of kerb side space to Albemarle Avenue on the approach to the traffic light being covered by ‘No Stopping’ restrictions.
- B. That ‘No Stopping’ restrictions be installed on the western side of Old South Head Road from Albemarle Avenue to the northern side of the vehicular access to the service station.
- C. That a 19 metre long ‘Bus Zone’ be installed north of the ‘No Stopping’ restrictions referred to in “B” above.
- D. That the kerb side space between the Bus Zone and the enclosed (Arrow Left) ‘1 Hour Parking, 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’ sign, on Old South Head Road near Wilberforce Avenue, revert to ‘1 Hour Parking, 8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’.

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

**Subject:** **Heeley Street, Paddington**

**Author:** Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

**File No:** T226

**Reason for Report:** Heeley Street one-way signposting checked to determine effectiveness.

**Note:** Councillor Keri Huxley addressed the Committee on this issue.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the ‘One Way’ sign on the western side of Heeley Street (Facing East) on the power pole 2 metres north of the prolongation of the kerb line in Stafford Street be replaced with an ‘All Traffic’ (Arrow right) sign and be relocated to a post 8 metres south of its current location.
- B. That the ‘One Way’ sign (Facing West) on the back of the Give Way sign on the northern side of the wider section of Stafford Lane be relocated and replaced with a new sign onto the back of the corresponding Give Way sign on the southern side of Stafford Lane at this location.
- C. That all five (5) of the remaining ‘One Way’ signs in Heeley Street between Underwood Street and the Five Ways intersection be renewed.

- D. That the 'No Left Turn' sign in Stafford Street at its intersection with Heeley Street be replaced with a new sign.
- E. That Council write to the resident petitioners and the Sydney Day Nursery advising the outcomes of the speed survey and actions taken to improve the 'One Way' signage in Heeley Street and request increased police enforcement.

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**Item No:** Y4 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.

**Subject:** **Victoria Street, Watsons Bay – Temporary Road Closure**

**Author:** Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

**File No:** T524

**Reason for Report:** Application for Permit to Stand

**Recommendation:**

- A. That Council advertise the temporary road closure of Victoria Street, Watsons Bay between Pacific Street and Cove Street in accordance with Sections 114, 115, 116, 117 & 118 of the Roads Act, 1993.
- B. That the applicant be advised they are required to submit a Traffic Management Plan to the RTA for approval.

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**Item No:** Y5 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration.

**Subject:** **7-13 Dover Road, Rose Bay – Works Zone**

**Author:** Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

**File No:** 407.G Pt 5

**Reason for Report:** Request for a 14m Works Zone for 74 weeks.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That approval be granted for a Works Zone to be temporarily installed across the frontage to 7-13 Dover Road, Rose Bay for a period of 74 weeks. The Works Zone is to be 14 metres in length, to be located in the single car parking lane in front of No.7-13 Dover Road, 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 74 weeks commencing September 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 commercial 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 discretion.
  - viii. 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.
  - ix. 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.
- C. That subject to Council approval, approximately 5 metres of 'No Stopping' restrictions be approved in Wilberforce Avenue across the proposed construction access to the site from the public carpark at the rear of the site. The driveway to this access will be constructed (as a temporary access) in January 2006 for a period of 52 weeks and the 'No Stopping' zone shall be removed when the temporary crossing is removed.

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**Item No:** Y6 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for Consideration

**Subject:** **Paddington – 40 Km.P.H. Speed Limit**

**Author:** Alan Opera – Traffic Team Leader

**File No:** 1166.G

**Reason for Report:** To seek approval for traffic calming measures proposed for Hargrave Street at Cascade Street, Paddington

**Note:** Mr Adrian Boss representing The Paddington Society and Cr Keri Huxley addressed the Committee.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the proposed traffic calming measures as detailed in Plans Nos.SK01 - 10 be approved with the following amendments:
- i. That the pedestrian crossing in Cascade Street south of its intersection with Hargrave Street be realigned to be parallel to Hargrave Street and therefore follow the pedestrian desire line at this location and the 'Stop' line and signage be adjusted accordingly if necessary. The separate pedestrian ramp to this crossing is to be retained on Hargrave Street to this pedestrian crossing.
  - ii. That the proposed handrail on the gutter bridge at the proposed pedestrian crossing in Cascade Street north of Gurner Street be deleted, the gutter bridge be widened and an upturned edge provided to stop wheelchairs and prams from falling off the crossing.
  - iii. That the proposed traffic island on the eastern side of Elizabeth Street north of Hargrave Street at the roundabout be deleted.
  - iv. That edgelines not return at intersections, but stop where the statutory restrictions or 'No Stopping' signposting begin, except on the approach to pedestrian crossings.

- v. That the north-western corner of Glenmore Road at its intersection with Hampden Street and Cascade Street be reviewed to ensure the provision of adequate turning paths for all vehicles using this area.
  
  - B. That Council investigate the use of hedge planting in lieu of trees or hard pavement in the islands on Hargrave Street.
  
  - C. That alternative options to the retaining wall to the split-level footpath in Hargrave Street near its intersection with Cascade Street be investigated by Council officers, including a possible step design.
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There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11.50am.

**Warwick Hatton**  
**Chair**

**Item No:** D3 Delegated to Committee

**Subject:** **Oxford Street Paddington - Application to install plaques in the footpath area**

**Author:** Jacqui Hansen, Engineer - Policy and Projects

**File No:** 349.1

**Reason for Report:** Seventeen letters to Council from Paddington business owners objecting to the application by the Paddington Chamber of Commerce to install plaques in the Oxford Street footpath area and a petition from Paddington business owners objecting to flagpoles in Oxford Street.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That Council approve the detailed design submitted by the Paddington Chamber of Commerce for the installation of five plaques in the footpath area, adjacent to Nos 124, 126, 128, 130 and 136 Oxford Street, Paddington as part of a Fashion Walk of Fame, subject to conditions.
- B. That Council be advised that the Paddington Chamber of Commerce has decided not to pursue the issue of installation of decorative flags on Oxford Street any further at this time and do not intend to lodge an application with Council.
- C. That the Paddington Chamber of Commerce be advised that before lodging an application with Council (under the Section 139 of the Roads Act) to install decorative flags from the Energy Australia light poles in Oxford Street they must;
  - i. undertake greater public consultation and,
  - ii. obtain written approval of the RTA and,
  - iii. obtain the written approval of Energy Australia

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**Background:**

An application by the Paddington Chamber of Commerce to install five plaques in the footpath area, adjacent to No 124- 136 Oxford Street was considered by Council's Community and Environment Committee on Tuesday 14 June 2005. The committee resolved as follows;

- A. *That Council approve, under Section 138 of Roads Act, the current application from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce for the installation of five plaques as part of the Oxford Street Paddington Fashion Walk of Fame, in the footpath of Oxford Street, Paddington, one each in front of Nos 124, 126, 128, 130 and 136 Oxford Street, subject to the detailed design and wording of the plaques being submitted for approval prior to installation.*
- B. *That Council require similar detailed applications to be lodged for any future extensions of the Oxford Street Paddington Fashion Walk of Fame.*

Following this meeting Council received 17 letters from shopkeepers in Paddington commercial area expressing objections to the proposed footpath plaques. Copies of the letters were also provided to Councillors Marcus Ehrlich, Keri Huxley and Julian Martin.

Council adopted a Notice of Motion at the Council meeting on Monday 11 July 2005 referring to a petition objecting to the plaques. Following Council's standard procedure, *it was resolved that the petition lie on the table for fourteen (14) days and be referred to the appropriate Council officer for the submission of a report to Council. There was no actual petition – only a series of 17 letters.*

The issues raised in letters from shopkeepers in Paddington, directly related to the footpath plaques were as follows;

Opposition to Council's approval of the footpath plaques:

Fear of disruption during the installation of the plaques

Plaques are not appropriate in a heritage area

Plaques are a tool of advertising and marketing

The footpath area belongs to everyone and should be devoid of commercial interests.

Other matters raised in the shopkeepers' letters included:

The bus lane deters customers: remove it or reduce the hours of operation. Shops are empty when the bus lane operates each afternoon.

Landscaping of the median strip on Oxford Street

More landscaping on the footpath area, such as planter beds and large pots.

Signs needed to deter dog owners from allowing their dogs to soil the footpath

These are matters to which Council can respond but are not related to the plaques.

Further matters raised in the shopkeepers' letters were:

High commercial rents in Paddington leading to a lack of variety in retail shops – too many clothing shops and not enough coffee shops and delis.

A Paddington Festival to celebrate the unique artistic community of Paddington

High rents combined with stiff competition from Westfield Bondi Junction making it very difficult for retailers - this problem will not be solved by installing footpath plaques.

A variety of independent retailers is desirable – not ladies fashion chain stores that can be found at Westfield. Unfortunately only the fashion chain stores can pay the high rents demanded on Oxford Street.

Better displays needed in shop windows

These are matters which Council can either only indirectly influence or which are essentially a matter for the Chamber and the business community.

Council staff met with the President of the Paddington Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday 13 July 2005. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Council's approval for footpath plaques and the issues raised in the 17 letters from shopkeepers in the Paddington commercial area. The President was provided with a copy of the letters. Council asked the Chamber of Commerce to respond to the issues raised in the letters

Copies of the letters will be available at the Community and Environment meeting.

## **Application to install plaques in the footpath area**

Council received 21 July 2005 an application under Section 138 of the Roads Act from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce. The application is to install five plaques in the footpath area in Oxford Street. When the matter was last considered by Council's Community and Environment Committee on Tuesday 14 June 2005, it was recommended that Council approve the Roads Act application, provided the Chamber submitted additional information on the detailed design and wording of the plaques.

We have reviewed the proposed design and wording for the plaques and it is generally satisfactory. An example of the proposed plaque design and wording can be seen in Annexure 1. There is however one aspect of the plaque design and wording that is unsatisfactory. At the bottom of the plaque it is stated "Sponsored by the Paddington Chamber of Commerce, A Harper's BAZAAR initiative". The first part of the sentence, referring to the Chamber of Commerce, is in a small font. The second part of the sentence, referring to a fashion magazine, is in a much larger font, and as a consequence the plaque could be construed as advertising for the magazine.

Under Section 139 of the Roads Act 1993, *consent may be granted on such conditions as the appropriate roads authority thinks fit*. Council will therefore stipulate that as a condition of consent the words "A Harper's BAZAAR initiative" are written in the same size font as the words "Sponsored by the Paddington Chamber of Commerce".

Council is yet to receive technical information on exactly how the plaques will be affixed to the footpath pavement. As a condition of the Roads Act consent the Chamber of Commerce must provide fixing details to Council.

## **Issues raised in the 17 letters relating to the proposed plaques in the footpath area**

Following are the responses from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce to the issues raised in the 17 letters relating to the proposed plaques in the footpath area. The letter from the Chamber responding to the concerns can be read in Annexure 2.

### *1. Opposition to Council's approval for footpath plaques*

The Chamber has responded that the proposed plaques are not dissimilar to a "Walk of Style" on Seventh Ave in New York. It is envisaged by the Chamber that the plaques will create a point of difference and encourage people to visit Oxford Street. The Chamber comments that opposition in itself does not suggest that objectors are in the majority as very few initiatives have 100% support. Given that there are more than 200 retailers in Paddington, 17 letters of opposition does not equate to majority opposition, rather an organised and motivated minority opposition.

### *2. Fear of disruption during the installation of the plaques*

The Chamber states that installation of the plaques will take no longer than a day and will cause minimal impact to pedestrians. This will be covered by a condition of consent.

### *3. Plaques are not appropriate to a heritage area*

The Chamber has provided a two-part response to this statement.

- a) Since the early 70's Oxford Street has been recognised as the foremost fashion strip in Sydney. The plaques show the evolution of Australian fashion and Oxford Street's part in that evolution. This is a significant part of the heritage of Oxford Street.*

- b) *Heritage plaques are already common. There is a plaque on the wall of Ariel Bookstore today.*

4. *Plaques are a tool of advertising and marketing*

It is the view of the Chamber that the plaques will be installed to recognise icons of Australian fashion. The project was initiated by Harpers Bazaar, a highly respected international fashion magazine. It is proposed to recognise the part played by the magazine in the project by referring to them on the plaque.

5. *The footpath area belongs to everyone and should be devoid of commercial interests.*

The Chamber states that only one of the proposed recipients of a plaque has a store on Oxford Street, hence they do not consider the plaques promote the commercial interests of the recipient fashion designers.

**Other issues raised in the letters**

The 17 letters received by Council from shopkeepers in the Paddington commercial area highlighted a number of other concerns. The concerns can be divided into two groups; matter to which Council can respond and matters which Council can either only indirectly influence or which are essentially a matter for the Chamber and the business community. Following is Council's response to the first group of concerns.

1. *The bus lane deters customers: remove it or reduce the hours of operation. Shops are empty when the bus lane operates each afternoon.*

Council is aware that the bus lane on Oxford Street has a detrimental impact on retail activity in the Paddington commercial centre during its hours of operation each weekday. To this end Council engaged Arup Transport Planning on Tuesday 12 July 2005 to investigate reducing the Oxford Street outbound bus lane hours of operation from 3:00-7:00pm to 4:00-7:00pm. Arup performed traffic surveys during the month of July. The results of these surveys are presently being provided to Council and will be analysed and presented in a separate report.

2. *Landscaping of the median strip on Oxford Street*

Whilst it would be desirable to have landscaping in the median strip on Oxford Street, it is simply too narrow to accommodate planting.

3. *More landscaping on the footpath area, such as planter beds and large pots.*

The footpath area along Oxford Street, particularly in its busiest section between Underwood Street and Queen Street is already crowded with street furniture; pedestrian seats, "be tidy" bins, post boxes, parking meters, parking signs and traffic signals. To permit unobstructed pedestrian traffic, any additional street furniture, such as planter boxes would need to be located near the kerb. This would then interfere with motorists entering and exiting parked vehicles. Whilst there may be some locations on Oxford Street, without an abundance of street furniture, that may suit a planter bed, a program of landscaping in the footpath area is not considered by Council to appropriate in this busy commercial area.

4. *Signs needed to deter dog owners from allowing their dogs to soil the footpath*

This is not considered to be an appropriate or necessary form of signage.



The other concerns raised by the shopkeepers of Paddington in their letters to Council, such as high rents on Oxford Street, a Paddington Festival, competition from Westfield Bondi Junction, a greater variety of shops and better displays in shop windows are matters for the Chamber of Commerce and the business community to discuss. They are not matters that Council can directly influence but can be addressed through the proposed working party (Notice of Motion 25/7/05).

## **Flagpoles**

Council has not received a formal application for flags or flagpoles in Paddington. Informal discussions with the Chamber Commerce indicate that the Chamber had considered installing horizontal fixings on the Energy Australia light poles and suspending decorative flags from the fixings. It was envisaged by the Chamber that the flags would be flown on a temporary basis only, to promote a particular event, such as a Paddington Festival. Energy Australia has approved similar flags in other municipalities, however, the Chamber is yet to approach Energy Australia regarding the installation of flags in Paddington.

When the topic of flags was raised by the President of the Paddington Chamber of Commerce with Council's Technical Services Division, Council's Manager – Public Infrastructure recommended that the Chamber obtain the approval of Energy Australia then discuss the matter further with Council.

Under the Roads Act 1993, (Section 138) the consent of the roads authority is required *to erect a structure or carry out work in, on or over a public road*. Oxford Street is a *classified road* and consequently the roads authority in this situation is the RTA not Council. If the Paddington Chamber of Commerce wishes to install flags or flagpoles in Oxford Street they will need to obtain the consent of the RTA. Council will manage the approval process for the installation of flags or flagpoles through a Roads Act Application process, however the consent of the RTA will be required for the proposal to proceed.

The President of the Paddington Chamber of Commerce attended a meeting held Monday 4 July 2005 by the Paddington shopkeepers opposed to the plaques. At this meeting he raised the idea of decorative flags as a method of improving the Paddington streetscape. It appears that the idea did not receive a positive response from the meeting.

Following this meeting a petition containing 51 signatures was handed to Councillor Erlich, who presented it at the Council meeting held Monday 11 July. The petition was in terms;

*We do not want flag poles. The Paddington shopping strips wants a village atmosphere with plants. We do not want the Olympic flag look here.*

There appears to have been some misunderstanding here about the proposal amongst the Paddington retail community. At no stage were flagpoles actually proposed. The Chamber of Commerce has raised the idea of decorative flags suspended from the light poles only.

The following resolution was made at the Council meeting;

*That the petition lie on the table for fourteen (14) days and be referred to the appropriate Council officer for submission of a report to Council.*

Since receiving the petition opposing the flagpoles, Council has approached the President of the Chamber of Commerce to communicate the apparent level of opposition to the flags amongst shopkeepers in Paddington. He replied that given the negative response, the Chamber of Commerce will not seek to pursue the matter any further at this time and will not be lodging an application with Council.

Should the Chamber of Commerce decide in the future to proceed with the installation of decorative flags on Oxford Street, they must obtain the written approval of the RTA and Energy Australia and undertake further public consultation with shopkeepers in Paddington.

### **Consideration**

This is the third report to the Council's Community and Environment Committee on the application to install plaques in the footpath area in Oxford Street Paddington, as part of a Fashion Walk of Fame. The applicant, the Paddington Chamber of Commerce, has now provided to Council all the information previously requested. The application is now recommended for approval, subject to conditions, as permitted under Section 139 of the Roads Act.

It is unfortunate that a number of shopkeepers in the Paddington commercial area are opposed to the plaques. It is not apparent, however, that the objectors represent a majority opposition to the plaques, rather that there is fragmentation amongst the Paddington business community. This is not a problem that Council can solve. In the preparation of this report, Council has met with both the Paddington Chamber of Commerce and the group opposed to the plaques, the Paddington Village Association, in an effort to obtain a balanced perspective of the situation.

The "flagpoles" are a non-issue at present. Council has not received an application from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce to install flags or flagpoles in Oxford Street. The Chamber does not intend to lodge such an application in the near future. The furore over flagpoles again demonstrates fragmentation of the Paddington business community. Whilst it is healthy for a business community to have a diverse range of opinions, the business community of Paddington will need to work together if they want to make Paddington a vibrant and thriving retail precinct.

### **Identification of Income & Expenditure:**

All costs associated with the installation of the plaques are to be met by the applicant.

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

### **Annexures:**

1. An example of the proposed plaque design and wording.
2. A letter from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce dated Thursday 21 July 2005 responding to the concerns of shopkeepers of Paddington commercial area.
3. Plan showing the location of proposed footpath plaques

**Annexure 1**

An example of the proposed plaque design and wording



## Annexure 2

A letter from the Paddington Chamber of Commerce dated Thursday 21 July 2005 responding to the concerns of shopkeepers of Paddington commercial area.

21<sup>st</sup> July, 2005

Mr Greg Stewart  
Woollahra Council  
P.O. Box 61  
DOUBLE BAY 2028

Dear Greg,

**Re: Foot path plaques for Oxford Street**

Further to your correspondence of 8<sup>th</sup> July and our meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July we respond to the issues raised as follows:

**1. Opposition to Council Approval for footpath plaques.**

- a. The proposed plaques are not dissimilar to the "walk of style" on seventh Ave in New York which is considered to "boost our economy and provide some spark and creativity which makes New York City so alluring" according to Mayor Giuliani [please see attached press release]. These plaques will do the same for Oxford Street which will create a point of difference and encourage people to visit the street. It is a positive proposal which will have no impact on the integrity of the street.
- b. Opposition in itself does not suggest that objectors are in the majority; very few initiatives have 100% support.

**2. Fear of disruption during the installation of the plaques.**

The plaques will take no longer than a day to install and will cause minimal impact to any pedestrians in the street.

**3. Plaques are not appropriate to a heritage area.**

- a. Since the early 70's Oxford Street has been recognised as the foremost fashion strip in Sydney, these plaques show the evolution of Australian fashion and Oxford Street's part in that evolution. This is a significant part of the heritage of Oxford Street.
- b. Heritage plaques are already common. There is one on the wall of Ariel bookstore today.

**4. Plaques are a tool for advertising and marketing.**

The plaques are there to recognise icons of Australian fashion and it was through the initiative of Harpers Bazaar, a highly respected



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MEMBER  
2005

international fashion magazine, that the plaques were made possible. Recognising this initiative on the plaques is reasonable considering the editorial that Harpers will give to Oxford Street which can only benefit the street with increased traffic flow. If this is deemed to be advertising and marketing then so be it as the end benefit is to bring more people to the street which is obviously a good thing.

Interestingly, only one of the five recipients has a store in Oxford Street Paddington.

**5. The bus lane deters customers.**

Yes the bus lane does deter customers and as per discussions, a traffic engineering firm ARUP have been engaged to undertake a traffic study to present to the State Government. This study is to be jointly funded by Woollahra Municipal Council, City of Sydney Council and the Paddington Chamber of Commerce. The study has commenced and it is anticipated that the initial report will be delivered by early August.

**6. Landscaping on the median strip.**

The median strip would appear to be too narrow to landscape however, if the council believes landscaping can be achieved we would be happy to discuss this.

**7. More landscaping on the footpaths such as planter and large pots.**

Once again if this can be achieved without impediment to the visitors to Oxford Street and over-crowding of the footpaths it has our support.

**8. Signs regarding dog faeces.**

We do not support this initiative.

**9. High commercial rents in Paddington leading to a lack of variety in retail shops – too many clothing shops and not enough coffee shops and delis.**

Due to the large number of owners in Oxford Street, it is impossible to control the level of the rents and the tenancy mix. However, with the changing market in Oxford Street many tenants who previously could not afford to occupy a shop in the street may now be able to do so and as a result there is now an opportunity for these individual traders to come back to the street.

**10. A Paddington Festival to celebrate the unique artistic community of Paddington.**

The Chamber of Commerce strongly supports any festivals to foster the unique artistic community of Paddington.

**11. High rents combined with stiff competition from Westfield Bondi Junction making it very difficult for retailers – this problem will not be solved by installing footpath plaques.**

The stiff competition from Westfield is a very good reason for the plaques to go ahead as it creates a point of difference from Westfield which will give shoppers another reason to visit Oxford Street. It will not solve the problem but will remind the public that since the 70's the centre of fashion in Sydney has been in Oxford Street Paddington.

**12. A variety of independent retailers is desirable – not ladies fashion chain stores that can be found at Westfield.**

Unfortunately only the fashion chain stores can pay the high rents demanded on Oxford Street. Chain stores are much more common place and popular than ever before as they are providing fashion that is up to date with overseas trends at an affordable price. It is no longer shameful to shop at a chain store however in order to maintain the individuality of Oxford Street it is important to try to foster independent retailers wherever possible. The fact that rents have declined in Oxford Street now offers an opportunity for these independent retailers to secure a position in Oxford Street.

**13. Better displays needed in shop windows.**

The management of the individual window displays is entirely up to each individual operator however, we could foster improvement in window displays by running a competition for the best window display. This event could occur two times a year. This is only a preliminary idea, the details of which would still have to be worked out.

I trust that this letter addresses the concerns of the objectors. Please do not hesitate to contact the writer should you need further discussion on any of the points raised.

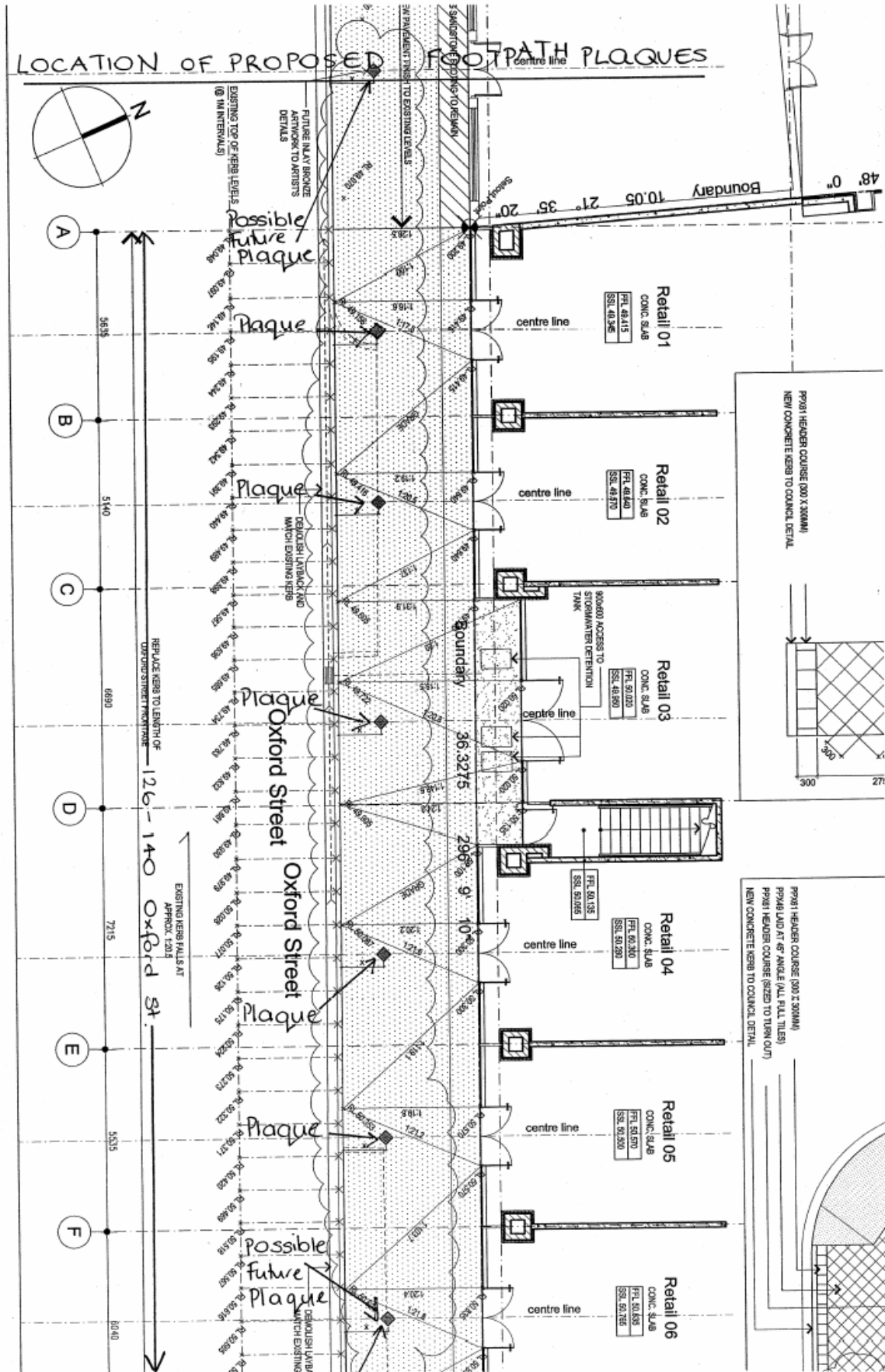
Yours faithfully,



Bernard McGrath  
President Paddington Chamber of Commerce

**Annexure 3**

**Plan showing the location of proposed footpath plaques**



**Item No:** D4 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Tree removal - Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra**  
**Author:** Robert Sutton – Team Leader Tree Management  
**File No:** 388 and 262.G  
**Reason for Report:** To inform Council of the need to remove trees in Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the Arboricultural Assessment on Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, dated 9 February 2005, be noted.
- B. That the residents of Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, be notified of the need to remove and replace the trees recommended in the report.
- C. That the works recommended in the report be undertaken as a matter of urgency following resident notification.

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**Background:**

Issues relating to the health of the street trees within Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, have been the subject of two previous reports to Council committees in 1997 and 1998. These reports were generated from the need to appropriately address issues relating to the management of mature and significant heritage listed trees in Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra and included assessment of trees in Patterson and Anderson Streets, Double Bay. The trees in Patterson and Anderson Streets have been dealt with in previous Council reports.

The first report to the Community and Environment Committee, 23 March 1998, with accompanying Arborcraft Tree Report, was provided 16 October 1997 (Annexure 1). This report identified a number of trees to be removed and replaced, as well as others to be pruned to remove hazards. In consideration of this report, Council subsequently resolved, at its meeting of 6 April 1998, that a further report be obtained from another Arborist assessing the condition of the trees and investigating all options that may be available to preserve the trees.

A second report, dated June 1998, was completed by Tree Wise Men Pty Ltd and presented to the Community and Environment Committee, 13 July 1998. A copy of the report is provided (Annexure 2). This report also identified a number of trees to be removed and replaced to remove hazards. Council, at its meeting of 27 July 1998, subsequently, resolved the following:

- A. *THAT the report from the Manager Parks & Landscapes, regarding trees in Patterson and Anderson Streets, Double Bay and Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, be received and noted.*
- B. *THAT, prior to any work being undertaken, residents living in Rosemont Avenue, Patterson and Anderson Streets be notified in writing of the reports recommendations and they be asked for their comments.*
- C. *THAT the matter of the removal of the trees be referred to a meeting of the Inspection Committee prior to any removals being undertaken and the residents be notified.*



- D. *THAT the Manager Public Domain investigate the cost involved in the removal and also the cost of super advanced replacement trees.*
- E. *THAT any removals and replanting be programmed to have minimal impact on the residents or the streetscape."*

In accordance with the resolution above, Council's Inspection Committee viewed the street on 14 September 1998 and resolved:

- "(a) That six of the trees recommended for removal be retained but be pollarded to allow the replacement plantings to attain an acceptable size. Retention of these trees will be assessed annually.*
- (b) That the tree marked No. 4 on the location map has a suitable prop installed to support it and the parking space under the tree be turned into a garden bed. This prop to remain until the replacement has reached an acceptable size.*
- (c) A public meeting be held on site to discuss the report and the recommendations of the Inspection Committee."*

After viewing the street today and a review of Council files, it is apparent that none of the above actions have been undertaken. Council's tree officers again raise strong concerns regarding the health and likely failure of some trees in Rosemont Avenue.

In response to the Inspection Committee's proposed actions:

- (a) pollarding is not considered to be an acceptable arboricultural practice. This form of pruning on large mature trees ceased over twenty-five years ago due to the damage it causes to a trees structure and high susceptibility to future branch failure. The Australian Standard for *Pruning of Amenity Trees AS4373*, also rejects the practice of pollarding mature trees;
- (b) the installation of a support prop is not considered to be an appropriate arboricultural practice. The tree retains a large amount of root rot, which will not be mitigated by the installation of a prop and the tree will be highly susceptible to failure; and
- (c) Council's files indicate that a public meeting was not conducted.

### **Tree Assessment**

As a result, a new arboricultural assessment of the trees in Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, was undertaken on the 9 February 2005, by an independent Consulting Arborist, Hayden Coulter of The Ents Tree Consultancy. At the time of inspection, the trees were in leaf. The Arboricultural Assessment had regard to the previous consultant arborist's reports. A PICUS Sonic Tomograph diagnostic tool was used to ultrasound six trees identified as having a high failure potential from visual tree assessment at ground level.

The existing condition of each tree and tree management recommendations are outlined in Mr Coulter's Report (Annexure 3). The tree numbering system used in this report has been undertaken in accordance with the previous consultant's reports to maintain consistency and is illustrated in Annexure 4.

## Assessment Results

The trees in Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, form part of an avenue planting of *Platanus x hybrida* London Plane Trees with the exception of Tree 1, an *Ulmus parvifolia* – Chinese Elm Tree and trees 2 and 3, which are *Cinnamomum camphora* – Camphor Laurel trees. Some of these trees are estimated to be over sixty years old and greatly contribute to the landscape quality of the street.

Of the 39 trees assessed by Mr Coulter:

- 33 trees are deemed suitable for retention with an acceptable level of risk; and
- six trees are recommended for removal [Trees labelled 1, 4, 7, 19a, 19b & 30].

The reasons for removal of the nominated trees are as follows:

- **Tree 1** retains a series of large cavities with decay. This decay causes the tree to have high failure potential.
- **Tree 4** has a large volume of root decay. The tree's exaggerated lean over the road, together with the presence of root rot, leads to the tree retaining high failure potential.
- **Tree 30** has a large internal cavity and inadequate trunk wall thickness to maintain structural stability. Therefore, the tree has high failure potential.
- **Trees 7, 19a and 19b** are semi-mature and contain fungal pathogens such as *Anthraco*se. This disease causes trees to be low in vigour, have a sparse crown and are structurally unsound where vascular cankers appear on the trunk or branch. Under these circumstances, it is best to remove the infected trees and replace them with advanced new specimens of the same species.

Council tree officers support these findings.

## Discussion

The street trees in Rosemont Avenue, Woollahra, are listed in Council's Significant Tree Register – July 1991 and as heritage items in the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan 1995.

With regard to the management of heritage listed trees, the Woollahra LEP states:

*“a tree that is a heritage item may be removed in part or in whole, without development consent, in circumstances where the tree has been damaged by natural events and causes such as storms, pests and pathogens and, as a result, the tree poses an immediate threat to the safety of people or property.”*

Based upon the findings of the Arboricultural Report, these trees do pose a threat of failure and may be removed without the need for development consent.

## Replacement Trees

We propose to use 200 litre sized replacement trees utilising London Planes to maintain the existing tree avenue. As the street contains 38 London Planes that are mostly mature, it is appropriate to replace diseased and hazardous trees to ensure that, over the long-term, healthy trees are maintained in the street and the visual significance of the Avenue is retained.

## Identification of Income & Expenditure:

The removal of the identified trees and associated pruning works is estimated at \$14,000. Funds are available in the 2005-06 Budget in the Tree Management Program to cover this cost.

**Conclusion:**

We have now received three tree reports, dating from 1997, outlining concerns regarding the stability of trees in Rosemont Avenue. The trees are, generally, mature specimens that exhibit signs of declined vigour and loss of structural integrity associated with age and disease. With this decline, there is an increase in the potential for these trees to be a hazard in terms of loss of limbs or the whole tree.

When considering Council's duty of care to maintain safe public open space areas, tree removal identified in this report must not be further delayed.

Prior to undertaking any tree removal and replacement, residents of Rosemont Avenue will be notified in writing of the report's recommendation. Council's tree officers will be available to answer enquiries regarding the reasons for removing the trees and, if necessary, arrange a street meeting to clarify concerns with residents.

Robert Sutton  
Team Leader Tree Management

Warwick Hatton  
Director Technical Services

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**Annexures:**

1. Extract of Community & Environment Committee Report, 23 March 1998, with accompanying Arborcraft Tree Report, dated 16 October 1997.
2. Extract of Community & Environment Committee Report, 13 July 1998, with accompanying Tree Wise Men Pty Ltd Street Tree Assessment Report, dated June 1998.
3. The Ents Tree Consultancy Arboricultural Assessment Report.
4. The tree numbering system.

**Item No:** D5 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Cultural Development ACTIVITY Update**  
**Author:** Jo Jansyn, Cultural Development Coordinator  
**File No:** 516.G Woollahra Garden Awards  
20.G Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize  
680.G Australia Day  
**Reason for Report:** To provide a progress report on Cultural Development activity and opportunity.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the update on the progress of the 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards, Woollahra Garden Week and the 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize be noted.
- B. That Council endorse participation in the NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program to be presented as part of the 2006 Australia Day project.
- C. That category nominations for the Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program as indicated in the report be adopted.
- D. The processes outlined in the report for implementation of the Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program and the establishment of an assessment panel be adopted.

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**Background**

This report outlines recent activity and progress regarding key cultural activities to be conducted. This includes:

- 1. 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards
- 2. 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize
- 3. 2006 Australia Day

**1. 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards**

The Woollahra Garden Competition began in 1996 and was devised as a way to recognise the hard work and talent behind the magnificent gardens for which the Municipality is known.

**Relationship to Management Plan/Cultural Plan:**

The adopted Management Plan (2005 – 2008) highlights the coordination of the biannual Garden Competition as a core project for the sub-activity of Cultural Development. The Woollahra Council Cultural Plan (November 2003) recognises the delivery of a Garden Competition as an action that will contribute to fostering a sense of local identity and community spirit across the Municipality. Goal 3 of the Cultural Plan identifies the following short term action:

*‘Build upon the existing Woollahra Garden Competition, incorporating seminars and inclusion of Gardening subjects in the Writers and Readers program to recognised and encourage further participation in and appreciation of Woollahra’s public and private gardens.’*

## **Progress Report**

In order to promote responsible messages to the local community, a 'water-wise' theme has been selected for the Garden Competition (re-branded as the 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards) and expanded to incorporate the inaugural 2005 Woollahra Garden Week. The team working on this activity includes representation from Open Space Works, Communications, Community Services and consultation with Environmental Protection. Please see Annexure 1 for the Garden Award entry form and Garden Week timetable. The Garden Award entry form/Garden Week flyer was distributed to every household in the Municipality in the week commencing 8 August along with Council's Bushcare volunteer flyer.

Entries close for the 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards on Friday 2 September and short listing of entrants will occur in early September by Council's Open Space Works team. Short listed entries will be judged by celebrity judges Andrew Pfeiffer, Peter Valder and Jennifer Stackhouse on Tuesday 20 September. The 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards will be presented to the community on Sunday 16 October as part of Garden Week, 10 – 16 October. Celebrity judge Andrew Pfeiffer will also be presenting a talk as part of the Writers and Readers program on Thursday 25 August.

## **Summary**

The biannual Woollahra Garden Awards are a valuable community building exercise that aim to generate community spirit. In accordance with Goal 3 of Council's Cultural Plan (November 2003), the Woollahra Garden Competition has been developed into Woollahra's inaugural Garden Week with links to Woollahra Library's Writers and Readers program.

## **2. Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize 2005**

In 2005, Woollahra Council is presenting its fifth acquisitive sculpture prize and exhibition. The Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize is the first and only national award for an original, freestanding, small sculpture up to 80cm in any dimension and was initiated by Woollahra Council to support, promote and celebrate artistic excellence.

## **Relationship to Management Plan/Cultural Plan**

The adopted Management Plan (2005 – 2008) highlights the coordination of the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize as a core project for the sub-activity of Cultural Development. The Woollahra Council Cultural Plan (November 2003) identifies the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize as a project that provides Council with the opportunity to form strategic cultural alliances with other levels of government and the business sector in order to deliver increased community benefit. Additionally, the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize provides opportunities to foster collaborations with local schools, local artists, local galleries and emerging artists.

## **Progress Report**

Entries for the 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize closed on Friday 5 August with 313 entries processed. Please see Table 1 below for entry statistics.

**Table 1**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Number of entries	200	254	330	285	313
Number of local entries	22	32	26	20	18
<b>State Breakdown</b>					
NSW	124	163	189	171	190
VIC	36	62	98	71	69
SA	3	2	3	6	13
WA	3	1	2	5	5
TAS	7	1	9	2	4
NT	0	0	0	0	4
QLD	15	13	16	18	13
ACT	11	12	5	8	11
NZ	0	0	6	4	2
International	0	0	2	0	2 (Germany)
Entry fee	\$22	\$22	\$33	\$33	\$40
Sponsorship	\$0	\$0	\$5,000 inc gst	In kind (catering)	\$17,000 inc gst

Profiled judges William Wright AM, Sherman Foundation Fellow for Contemporary Art at the University of Sydney and John Stringer, Curator of the Kerry Stokes Collection (Perth) will conduct pre selection judging for up to forty finalists on Wednesday 17 August (had not occurred at time of report writing).

The winner of the 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize will be announced at the launch of the 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize exhibition on Friday 21 October, 6pm. The free public exhibition will continue, 9am – 4pm until Sunday 30 October. A program of community forums and local schools tours that link to the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize are currently being finalised.

### **Summary**

The implementation of the 2005 Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize and associated activities is proceeding according to timelines developed by the Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize Committee. The 2005 Prize has currently attracted \$17,000 including GST in monetary sponsorship and there has been an increase in the number of entries received from the previous year.

### **3. Australia Day 2006**

Woollahra Council has hosted an Australia Day activity on 26 January for the previous two years. In 2004, Council was the recipient of the Australia Day Council's Great Ideas Grant and received funding to contribute to Australia Day activities by coordinating a small exhibition "Woollahra in Yesteryear".

In January 2005, Council hosted Australia Day activities in Woollahra Council Chambers and the grounds of Redleaf. Activity Approximately 500 attendees participated in a free community event that followed on from an Australia Day citizenship ceremony. Local community organisations including the Rotary Club of Rose Bay, Vaucluse Lions Club, Miroma, Girl Guides, Holdsworth Street Community Centre and the Randwick and District Historical Society participated by providing activity. The event also had a fundraising component that saw the Council provide Red Cross with \$2, 879.15 towards the Asian Tsunami Appeal.

## **Relationship to Management Plan/Cultural Plan**

The adopted Management Plan (2005 – 2008) highlights the presentation of annual Woollahra Citizenship Awards as a core project for the sub-activity of Community Services Management whilst the coordination of annual Australia Day activities is a core project for the sub-activity of Cultural Development. Goal 3 of the Woollahra Council Cultural Plan (November 2003) recognises *'that cultural programs within the community provide opportunities for community participation and fostering a sense of belonging, local identity and community well being.'* Recognition by Council of community members contribution to the community also stimulate community spirit.

## **Australia Day Council**

Each year The Australia Day Council of NSW assists Local Government Areas (LGA's) in helping to produce activities in their own region, as well as co-ordinating large-scale events in the city. Some of the ways that the Australia Day Council assists LGA's and local communities include:

The provision of and co-ordination of an Ambassador Program for LGA's. High achieving Australians are sent by the Australia Day Council to participate in LGA activities.

Community seminars on how to produce activities.

Information and resources on how to stage a Citizen of the Year ceremony locally, including certificates and frames.

Provision of Australia Day merchandise including flags, posters and bunting.

Central coordination of all the Australia Day activities to appear in the Daily Telegraph Official Program, released in January.

A monthly Community Programs mail out.

Resources and information on a local government secure section of the Australia Day Council website.

The Australia Day Council has announced a new initiative for Australia Day 2006. The NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards will be presented in conjunction with Australia Post. Australia Post has been a strong supporter of Australia Day for a number of years now and will be extending their involvement to assist communities across the state through an awards program. Australia Post will produce a Local Citizen of the Year personalised stamp sheet of 50 cent value (10 stamps per sheet) for any LGA interested in participating. One stamp sheet is to be produced per LGA in the Local Citizen of the Year category only.

## **Proposal**

Due to the significance of Australia Day to most Australians, outlined in the National Australia Day Council findings (Annexure 2), it is recommended that Woollahra Council consider repeating activities that occurred on Australia Day 2005, namely:

A mid-morning Citizenship Ceremony held at Redleaf, commencing with a flag raising ceremony;

A low-key event held for the community (again incorporating activities such as community bbq and childrens' activities);

2005 Australia Day Ambassador to attend flag raising and Citizenship.

In addition to this, it is recommended that Woollahra Council expand the Australia Day program to incorporate the NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program 2006. As this activity is important in providing recognition to community members of Woollahra that have demonstrated excellent citizenship and contribution to the people of Woollahra, it is recommended that an Assessment and Judging Panel be established, including Councillors and key staff with links with the community. This panel will consist of 3-4 Councillors as nominated by the Mayor and up to 3 Community Services staff as nominated by the Director, Community Services. The proposed timetable for this is as follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
June 2005	Interest has been registered with the Australia Day Council to participate in NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program. There was no obligation to the program at this stage.
September 2005	Establish Citizen of the Year assessment and judging panel for LGA. Assessment and judging panel to finalise judging criteria, categories and call for nominations through local media.
October 2005	Nominations close end of October. Certificates and frames (free of charge) distributed by Australia Day Council.
November 2005	Judging Panel to assess nominations and determine award recipients. Information to Australia Day Council for production of stamp.
26 January 2006	Woollahra Council's Citizen of the Year Award winners announced at Australia Day activity.

It is up to each LGA to determine its local Citizen of the Year Award categories (and numbers of categories) however only one Australia Post stamp sheet will be produced for the overall Citizen of the Year recipient for the LGA. It is recommended Woollahra Council's Local Citizen of the Year Awards be presented across the following categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Community Group of the Year
- Category(ies) to be determined by assessment panel.

## **Summary**

Participation in Australia Day Council's NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program will provide Council with a cost effective opportunity to link core projects listed in sub-activity areas of the adopted Management Plan (2005 – 2008). It is therefore recommended that Woollahra Council participate in the NSW Local Citizen of the Year Awards Program as part of 2006 Australia Day activities.

## **Conclusion**

This report has detailed three major activities to be undertaken in the next six months. These activities are presented to Council for notation and endorsement.



Jo Jansyn  
Cultural Development Coordinator

Kylie Walshe  
Director - Community Services

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**Annexures:**

1. 2005 Woollahra Garden Awards and Woollahra Garden Week flyer.
2. National Australia Day findings.

**Item No:** D6 Delegated to Committee  
**Subject:** **Woollahra Golf Course Wetland Proposal**  
**Author:** Jamie Howieson - Project Manager Environmental Works  
**File No:** 221.G  
**Reason for Report:** To update Council on Sydney Water's Stormwater Environment Improvement Program.

**Recommendation:**

That the information be noted.

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**Background:**

Sydney Water Corporation (Sydney Water) is undertaking a comprehensive five-year Stormwater Environment Improvement Program (SEIP). CH2M HILL Australia Limited and Barclay Mowlem Construction Limited, as a joint venture called CHBM Water, have been contracted by Sydney Water to design and construct stormwater pollution control devices at selected sites within existing Sydney Water owned stormwater channels around Sydney. The aim of this work is to improve the quality of water entering receiving waters. Previously, Sydney Water contributed to the development and implementation of catchment based stormwater management plans, as did local councils, government agencies and local communities. The actions identified in those plans as Sydney Water's responsibility have been included in the SEIP.

Two projects identified within the Woollahra local government area are the potential installation of sediment trap and wetland in Woollahra Golf Course and a below ground Gross Pollution Trap at the Lough Playing Fields in Double Bay.

This report provides an update since the last report to the Committee meeting in April 2005. Regular updates on the SEIP are also presented to the Environmental Levy Community Reference Group, which is also reported back to the Committee.

**1. Woollahra Golf Course Proposal**

A community meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April identified a range of issues that needed to be addressed in the design. These issues included;

- Scale and location of the wetland
- Litter in the wetland
- Safety in the wetland
- Ongoing communication with the community

A copy to the workshop report recorded by Sydney Water is attached as Annexure 1.

**Re-Design process**

A meeting was held on site on 3 May 2005 with staff from Woollahra Council, Woollahra Golf Club and CHBM Water to discuss design options. A subsequent meeting including staff from Sydney Water was held at Council on 17 May 2005 to seek agreement in principle, to elements for the design.

Resulting from these meetings the design has been modified to;

- reduce the impact on golf play, particularly on fairways seven and eight;
- reuse on-site excavated material from the wetland; and
- maximise the environmental benefit by making the wetland as large as possible within the budget.

Sydney Water and CHBM Water met with Council staff on 24 June 2005 to review eight design options. Council staff provided constructive comments and as a result of these, it was agreed that CHBM Water would do the following:

- re-examine the option of locating the sediment trap within Royal Sydney Golf Course;
- seek input from a golf course architect to examine the issues and constraints;
- incorporate a depot storage area for Council;
- expand the wetland and incorporate an island; and
- prepare a landscaping plan.

CHBM Water met with Council staff on 3 August 2005 to present an amended design incorporating all feedback received to date. This design, while keeping within the available budget, incorporates input from the golf course architect, has expanded the wetland, and includes an island. It was also explained at this meeting, that the option of locating the sediment trap in Royal Sydney Golf Course was not practical.

CHBM Water and Council then met with Woollahra Golf Club on 8 August 2005 to present and discuss the preferred design. The lines of the wetland were marked out on the golf course and minor changes were made to better allow for the range of standards of golfers.

### **Community consultation**

To keep the community and those interested parties that attended the first Sydney Water is proposing to hold a second workshop on Wednesday 6 July at Woollahra Golf Clubhouse at 5.30pm. Invitations will be sent to all Councillors.

### **Time table**

This design is to be presented to a second community workshop on 24 August 2005 at the Woollahra Golf Clubhouse at 5.30pm. Invitations have been provided to all Councillors, those who attended the first meeting and others who have expressed interest.

CHBM Water is currently finalising the detailed design. The designs and hydraulic modelling will need to be approved by Sydney Water prior to tendering for a contractor. It is expected that tenders will then be invited in early September 2005 and construction could begin in October 2005.

## **2. Lough Playing Fields**

An initial concept to install a below ground gross pollutant trap at Lough Playing Fields was discussed with Council in March 2005. Site constraints including the proximity of the cricket pitch and a nearby Energy Australia easement, made the site impractical.

A second site within Lough Playing Fields, near the sandstone garage was investigated. Consideration of the options report and further Geotechnical studies indicated that this site was also not feasible as part of this program.

CHBM Water has requested Woollahra Council to assist in identifying another site within the Double Bay stormwater catchment. Council staff identified Cooper Park as a potential site. Initial investigation has indicated that this site could be suitable for the installation of a pollution control device.

Detailed planning will proceed at Cooper Park to investigate the feasibility of installing a sediment trap and trash rack at the junction of the open stormwater channel and pipe owned by Woollahra Council. CHBM Water has completed a Geotechnical assessment of the site. Should Geotechnical findings be favourable an Options Report will then be provided to Sydney Water for approval to proceed.

Further updates for this site will be provided to the Committee in due course.

**Identification of Income & Expenditure:**

Sydney Water will take responsibility for all construction and maintenance costs for each project, funded by their SEIP. There is no cost implication for Council's budget.

**Conclusion:**

It is recommended that all interested Councillors attend the workshop on 24 August 2005 for the update on the proposed sediment trap and Wetland in Woollahra Golf Course.

Jamie Howieson  
Project Manager – Environmental Works

Warwick Hatton  
Director Technical Services

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**Annexures:**

1. Sydney Water Workshop Report, 13 April 2005

**Item No:** R1 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **Community Services Policy**  
**Author:** Kylie Walshe  
**File No:** 79.G  
**Reason for Report:** To provide a policy framework for the provision, facilitation and planning of community services.

**Recommendation:**

That Council adopt the draft Community Services Policy as the adopted policy in this area, as detailed in Annexure 1 of this report.

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**Background:**

The draft Community Services Policy was presented to the Community & Environment Committee meeting of 31 January 2005, which resolved:

That the draft Community Services Policy be further considered following consideration of the Social Needs Study.

As the Social Needs Study and associated strategies were adopted by Council on 8 August 2005; the policy is presented for consideration.

**Rationale for Policy:**

Whilst undertaking the Social Needs Study it became apparent that the role of Council in addressing priority needs in community services is a varied one and not clear to the community. Council has been involved in community services for over 50 years and at different times during this period has resolved to be involved in the role of planner, funder, facilitator, partner and leader.

Legislation determines Council's role in certain areas, such as planning, and whilst Council is not required to become involved in all areas of community services it needs to determine its level of commitment and role. This policy will assist Council by providing a framework that outlines its role and commitment.

**Relevant legislation**

Legislation that determines or outlines Council's role in community services is outlined below:

- 1) *The Local Government (General) Regulation 1999 (Clause 30(2))* requires all councils to develop a social/community plan to meet the needs of the residents in their area. This plan must be prepared in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department. It is clear from these guidelines that Council has a key role in the identification of key issues facing the local community and recommending strategies that Council and/or other agencies could implement to address identified needs. Council adopted the Woollahra Social Plan in 2002.
- 2) Under the *Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 3, Section 8*, Local Government's charter includes:

- to provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government, after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively
  - to exercise community leadership
  - to exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and actively promotes the principles of multiculturalism
  - to promote and to provide and plan for the needs of children
  - to bear in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible
  - to facilitate the involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of local government
  - to keep the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities
- 3) Under the *Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 6* confers the service or non-regulatory functions on councils. Examples of these functions include the provision, management or operation of:
- community services and facilities
  - public health services and facilities
  - cultural, educational and information services and facilities
  - sporting, recreational and entertainment services and facilities

From this legislation it is clear that Council has a definite planning role regarding community services but does not have a legal responsibility to directly provide community services and facilities. However, the charter shows that local government is a sphere of government that could have a role in providing a variety of community services.

The adoption of the draft Community Services Policy will provide Council with a clear policy on the role that Council will take in community services in the future.

### **Proposal:**

The draft Community Services Policy has been drafted in recognition of the current role that Council takes in community services, resources available and the opportunities available to Council as the level of government closest to the community.

In summary, the Policy Statement details the varied roles that Council will take in community services. It recognises that Council acts primarily as a facilitator for community services rather than a provider of direct services, with many activities carried out in collaboration with other service providers, such as community groups, government agencies and adjoining Councils. It recognises the advocacy role of Council and the ability of Council to support and provide seed funding to other organisations to provide direct services to Woollahra residents. It also outlines the circumstances where Council could consider becoming a direct service provider.

See Annexure 1 for the draft Community Services Policy.

**Consultation:**

The draft Community Services Policy has been written in consultation with relevant Council staff and Directors. It is in accordance with the consultation and results of the Social Needs Study, where consultation was undertaken with residents, service providers, other government agencies and adjoining Councils. It also reflects the discussion regarding priorities expressed by Councillors at the Councillor Workshop held on 18 January 2005.

**Identification of Income & Expenditure:**

The adoption of this Policy will have no direct impact on the resources allocated to the Community Services Division by Council.

**Conclusion:**

The adoption of the draft Community Services Policy will assist Council in decision making in relation to community services activities. It demonstrates Council's ongoing commitment to community service planning, facilitation and service provision. This policy is in accordance with the findings and recommendations of the Social Needs Study, the Ageing and Disability Strategy and Children's Services Strategy, adopted on 8 August 2005.

Kylie Walshe

**Director Community Services**

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**Annexures:**

Annexure 1 – draft Community Services Policy

## ANNEXURE 1

### Draft Community Services Policy

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

As part of its vision to *support and promote active community participation to achieve a healthy social environment, appropriate cultural services and an efficient infrastructure*,<sup>1</sup> Council is involved in planning, facilitating and providing community services.

Council recognises that it has a responsibility to contribute and enhance the quality of life for all people in the area, in conjunction with State and Federal Governments. This responsibility includes planning for the provision of community services and facilities, coordination and information sharing with local services and the development of services to encourage a cohesive, harmonious community.

Council acts primarily as a facilitator for community services rather than a provider of direct services, with many activities carried out in collaboration with service providers, such as community groups, charitable organisations, government agencies and adjoining Councils.

Council will encourage and assist other organisations to provide required community services to Woollahra residents. Where there is a high level of community need and no other organisation with the capacity to provide a required service, Council will consider providing the service directly.

Through the implementation of the Community Services Policy, Council will maximise access to services that are appropriate to community needs.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The State and Federal Governments largely fund community services in Australia. As the level of government closest to the community, Local Government has a pivotal role in facilitating and providing facilities and services which meet the social and physical well being of local communities.

Council has a long involvement in the planning and implementation of community services for Woollahra residents. Council does not have the financial or human resources or the responsibility to directly provide all services for its community, but is involved as a planner, funder, direct service provider, advocate, and facilitator of services and facilities. The commitment of Council to community services is outlined in this policy, which will provide the framework for council activities in this area.

#### **PURPOSE**

**This policy provides a high level community services policy framework to enable holistic and informed decision making by Council. This policy details Council's commitment to community service planning, facilitation and service provision to contribute to the quality of life and well being of Woollahra residents.**

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<sup>1</sup> Management Plan 2005-2008, Woollahra Municipal Council



- LEGISLATION**
- 1) *The Local Government (General) Regulation 1999 (Clause 30(2))* requires all councils to develop a social/community plan to meet the needs of the residents in their area. This plan must be prepared in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department. It is clear from these guidelines that Council has a key role in the identification of key issues facing the local community and recommending strategies that Council and/or other agencies could implement to address identified needs. Council adopted the Woollahra Social Plan in 2002.
  - 2) Under the *Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 3, Section 8* Local Government's charter includes:
    - to provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government, after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively
    - to exercise community leadership
    - to exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and actively promotes the principles of multiculturalism
    - to promote and to provide and plan for the needs of children
    - to bear in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible
    - to facilitate the involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of local government
    - to keep the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities
  - 3) Under the *Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 6* confers the service or non-regulatory functions on councils. Examples of these functions include the provision, management or operation of:
    - community services and facilities
    - public health services and facilities
    - cultural, educational and information services and facilities
    - sporting, recreational and entertainment services and facilities

The Community Services Policy provides a clear policy on the role that Council will take in community services in the future.

**SCOPE**

This policy covers all activities undertaken in the area of community services, with the exception of library services, as this service is governed by the Library Act 1939.

**POLICY  
PRINCIPLES**

Community Service activities will be conducted in accordance with the following principles:

**Access and Equity.** All residents are entitled to use and access public facilities and services regardless of their social and economic circumstances. Council will promote and prioritise access to services by disadvantaged residents.

**Diversity.** Council is committed to embracing the diversity of the Woollahra community and will promote an inclusive harmonious community.

**Participation.** Council will encourage community participation in the planning, development and delivery of community services. It will provide opportunities to participate in activities that assist the development of relationships and build a strong and cohesive community.

**ROLE OF  
COUNCIL**

Council has a number of roles in Community Services. Council is committed to the following roles and activities.

**1. Social Planning**

Social planning provides a strategic planning framework for community services and facilities in the Woollahra area. Council will:

Investigate and document local needs, in consultation with service providers and local residents.

Develop and/or facilitate programs and policies to meet these needs.

Contribute to State & Federal planning processes.

Prepare and implement a Social Plan, as required by the Local Government (General) Regulation 1999 and in accordance with Social & Community Planning Guidelines.

**2. Leadership & Advocacy**

Council plays a significant leadership role in building positive community relations and in securing improved outcomes for the local community.

Council acknowledges that it is in a position to influence decision-making in other levels of government and the wider community, in ways that can enhance the quality of life of the Woollahra community. As a result Council will play an advocacy role to other agencies and contribute to regional interagencies and forums.

**3. Community Interaction**

Council considers interaction and socialising between all members of its community to be a vital aspect of its community life. Many of Council's direct and funded programs aim to encourage community interaction and harmony. For example, Council supports and provides funding for recreation and cultural activities, such as local events, as an important means of encouraging community interaction.

#### **4. Providing Information and Fostering Participation**

Council aims to ensure that the community is kept well informed about community services through the provision of a broad range of information, provided in a variety of mediums and languages. Easy access to information is offered through our libraries, community centres and customer service centre, website, newsletters, brochures and by word of mouth through Council staff.

Council will facilitate the sharing of information within the community and between service providers and agencies to promote community understanding and knowledge.

Council supports all community members to participate in decisions in relation to community services when appropriate, through the effective planning, facilitation and implementation of appropriate consultation and participation mechanisms.

#### **5. Supporting Community Organisations**

Council builds strong and positive relationships with local community organisations to assist them to be sustainable and responsive to local community needs, and to fulfil their service delivery goals.

Council supports community organisations through service and skills development, its annual Community Grants Program and subsidised accommodation. Supported community organisations contribute to a well-serviced community and assists the capacity of the community to determine and achieve its own outcomes.

As part of this role, Council also makes available important planning information to assist other agencies, particularly community-based organisations, to effectively plan their services and programs.

#### **6. Provision of Community Services**

Council aims to provide appropriate community services that are responsive to the needs of the local community. Council will become or continue to be a direct service provider in the area of community services if an external organisation or other government agency is unable to provide an accessible and equitable service to Woollahra residents. This will include an assessment of:

The importance of the service to the Woollahra community in terms of contribution to social well being and quality of life.

The ability of an external organisation to provide an effective and efficient service.

The ability of an organisation to demonstrate quality outcomes for the Woollahra community, with particular reference to disadvantaged residents.

#### **7. Community Facilities**

Council will manage and maintain community facilities that are appropriate to community needs. To facilitate the provision of community services Council will provide facilities to community organisations and for community purposes at a subsidised rate, when available. The level of subsidy will be determined through an assessment of the user group, their needs and level of priority.

Council has a clear role as public trustee and guardian of public and community assets and will provide access for all members of the community, now and in the future.

#### **8. Partnerships**

Council seeks to fund, develop and encourage program delivery through creative partnerships with other levels of government, other councils, and community-based organisations and groups.

#### **RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER POLICY/ PLANNING DOCUMENTS**

Council's Management Plan and strategic documents are in accordance and consideration of this policy.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Council will undertake an annual audit of its contribution to community services, which is documented in its Annual Report. Actions to implement this policy are included in the Woollahra Social Plan 2002-2007, the Ageing & Disability Services Strategy, Aug 2005 and Children's Services Strategy, Aug 2005.

#### **REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed in conjunction with the Woollahra Social Plan, which is required at least every 5(five) years.

**Item No:** R2 Recommendation to Council  
**Subject:** **Community Services Grants**  
**Author:** Kylie Walshe  
**File No:** 30.G  
**Reason for Report:** To give consideration to applications for Section 356 Community Grants from local community groups /services.

**Recommendation:**

- A. That the recommendation be adopted in relation to the allocation of Small Community Grants for 2005/06 under Section 356 of the Local Government Act, and in accordance with Council's adopted policy objectives and selection criteria.
- B. That a function be organised to present and celebrate the awarding of the Community Grants to successful organisations.

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**Background:**

Council has a long history of providing grants and support to local community organisations. It is through assisting these organisations that the Woollahra community will be enhanced and strengthened.

In line with the Social Plan 2002-2005, a review of Council's Community Grants was undertaken in April 2003 and Council subsequently adopted a revised policy on 19 May 2003. A copy of the Policy is attached in Annexure 1.

Council currently has an allocation of \$50,000 for small community grants in addition to the \$610,000 provided to Holdsworth Street Community Centre and \$65,000 to Woollahra Senior Citizens Centre. Of this \$50,000 allocation, \$700 is annually allocated for recognition awards at primary schools within the Woollahra Municipality, of which there are 14.

**Process:**

The Community Grants Program for 2005/6 was advertised throughout May and June and closed on 30 June 2005. A total of 28 applications totaling \$130,384.30 excluding GST were received. These applications, comments by relevant staff and officer recommendations are provided in Annexure 2.

Each application has been assessed in reference to the objectives and selection criteria adopted by Council and this process has been enhanced by individual officer's experience in and knowledge of the sector in which applicants operate. The grants have also been assessed in accordance with the needs and priorities in the Social Plan 2002, the Cultural Plan 2003 and the Social Needs Study, which includes the Ageing and Disability Services Strategy and the Children's Services Strategy, adopted on 8 August 2005.

The applications recommended for funding are all projects that provide substantial benefit to high priority groups in Woollahra. The funds have been allocated in similar proportions to organisations providing services to the target groups of:

Children & Families (\$11,605)  
Young people (\$16,073)  
Older people & people with a disability (\$11,543)  
Cultural Development Activities for the broader community (\$8,500)

A large proportion of funds is recommended to fund youth projects as youth services and facilities has been identified as an area of high importance and high need in a number of community research projects, such as the Community Attitudes Survey 2000, and the Social Plan 2002-2005. Council also provides limited services to youth with one Council officer working in this area. Another large proportion of funds is recommended to fund projects that address high priority needs identified in the Social Needs Study, the Ageing and Disability Services Strategy and the Children's Services Strategy. There are a number of organisations that have not been recommended for funding, such as the Kindergarten Union and BikEast. These are generally organisations with other means of raising funds and attracting grants from other government agencies to fund their operations.

### **Proposal:**

It is proposed that the recommendations in relation to applications for Community Grants be adopted. The overarching aim of Community Grants is "to encourage the development of local community based services which meet identified needs of people living and working in the Woollahra local government area".

Recommended allocations are summarised below:

Bondi Beach Cottage	\$4,905
Bondi Community Street Project	\$2,160
Bondi Junction Group of Australian Breastfeeding Assoc	\$2,000
Eastern Suburbs Organisation for Reconciling Australia	\$ 500
Miroma	\$4,235
Paddington Church of Christ Kindergarten	\$2,500
Paddington Eddie Dixon Centre	\$2,350
Point Zero Youth Services	\$5,000
Radio Eastern Sydney Coop	\$1,000
Sir Roden Cutler Charities	\$2,000
Royal Blind Society	\$1,000
St Stephens Children's Centre	\$1,500
Technical Aid to the Disabled	\$1,968
Urban Arts Base	\$3,913
Waverley Woollahra Arts Centre	\$3,000
Waverley Action for Youth Services(WAYS)	\$5,000
Woollahra Philharmonic Orchestra	\$4,000
14 schools within Woollahra LGA	<u>\$ 700</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$47,031</b>

The detail regarding each project and comments are included in Annexure 2.

Through the provision of these Community Grants Council is playing a pivotal role in the development of the Woollahra community whilst demonstrating Councils commitment to community and cultural services. As the worthy recipients of these grants are key organisations in the Woollahra community it is recommended that a presentation ceremony be scheduled to present the grant cheques to these groups. This will also provide the groups with a networking opportunity and a celebration of the wonderful work that they undertake in the community. It is also an opportunity for past recipients to showcase the work achieved with Community Grants from Council.

**Consultation:**

The Director and individual staff with specific knowledge and expertise in the sectors in which applicants operate have provided comment in relation to each application against policy objectives and criteria. In some cases, further information was sought from applicants.

**Identification of Income & Expenditure:**

The total allocation available for Community Grants is \$50,000. 17 organisations and 14 local primary schools are recommended for funding totaling \$47,031.00.

It is proposed that the remaining allocation of \$2,269.00 be made available for individual, innovative requests for support during the coming financial year.

**Conclusion:**

The Community Service Grants policy of Council aims to “*encourage the development of local community based services which meet identified needs of people living and working in the Woollahra Local Government Area*”. The application of Council policy objectives and selection criteria has resulted in a recommendation for the funding of organisations to a total of \$47,031.00.

Kylie Walshe

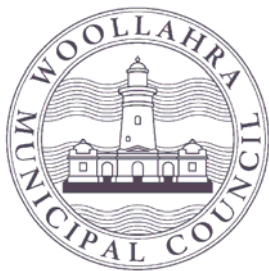
**Director, Community Services**

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**ANNEXURES:**

1. Council Policy adopted 16 May 2003
2. Summary of applications, comments and recommendations

Annexure 1: Council Policy adopted 16 May 2003



# Community Grants Policy

**Version No:** 1  
**Approved By:** Manex  
**Approval date:** May 2003  
**Responsible Officer:** Manager, Family and Community Development

## *Our policy*

*Woollahra Council seeks to encourage the development of local community based services which meet identified needs of people living and working in the Woollahra Local Government area through the annual provision of Community Service Grants and in kind assistance. This support is provided under Section 356 of the Local Government Act (1993).*

## Background

This is a **non-recurrent small grants program** made available to non-profit community based organisations which provide a service which is of benefit to the residents of the Woollahra municipality - or to particular target groups - and which strengthen community networks and self supporting community relationships.

Donations are not intended to lead to a dependency on Council for ongoing funding.

Evidence must be provided that the organisation or group is community based and is not conducted for private gain.

Requests for funding will not automatically be approved, and if approved, Council makes no commitment towards continued funding.

## *Objectives*

The objectives of the Community Grants Program are:

1. To encourage programs and activities which foster independence and social participation and which strengthen the social fabric of the Woollahra community.
2. To support innovative responses to community needs, particularly for disadvantaged groups and individuals.
3. To provide establishment grants where no alternative funding sources exist
4. To encourage community partnerships between community organisations.
5. To encourage high quality service delivery.
6. To develop the skills of the local community.

## *How this policy relates to our Management Plan*

*The Policy relates to Council's Principal Activity 5, Community Services and assists with achieving the following key objective:*



*To plan, facilitate and provide a range of community services and activities responsive to needs of people who live and work in our area.*

#### Selection Criteria

Applications for a Grant must be made on the Community Grants Application form provided and will be assessed against the following criteria:

- the benefit that will accrue to the community as a whole and that which will be gained by residents facing particular needs within the LGA
- eligibility for funding from other sources
- the organisation's ability to effectively manage and deliver community or cultural services.
- capacity of the service or program to become self sustaining/ independent of ongoing financial assistance from Council
- the degree to which the proposed activity/program complements existing services and activities
- the degree to which cooperative relationships with other local organisations have been established in relation to the proposed activity/program
- priority of the project in relation to other applications.
- the degree to which proposed activity/program provides opportunities for community participation and skills development.

#### **ORGANISATIONS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING**

- profit making groups and organisations
- government departments or agencies
- organisations which hold a liquor license
- political parties and resident associations/chambers of commerce (the latter may be eligible for Council funding under Section 356 grants for civic purposes)
- groups which have not fulfilled previous Woollahra Council Grant conditions and specifications
- organisations with substantial funds other than for asset replacement and staff entitlements

Grants are not available for:

- projects which are already completed
- purchase of buildings or land
- staff positions that require recurrent funding
- major capital works
- upgrade of Council owned properties
- payment of Public Liability Insurance
- sporting activities
- contributions to individuals
- single events

*Gary James*  
**General Manager**