



Community & Environment Committee

Agenda: *Community & Environment Committee*

Date: *Monday 16 May 2011*

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).

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 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,
- Matters reserved by individual Councillors in accordance with any Council policy on "safeguards" and substantive changes.
- Parks and Reserves Plans of Management (Strategies, Policies and Objectives).
- Residential Parking Schemes - Provision and Policies.

Delegated Authority (“D” Items)

- Community Services and Programs.
- Library Services
- Health.
- Licensing.
- Liquor Licences.
- Regulatory.
- Fire Protection Orders.
- Residential Parking Schemes (surveillance and administration).
- Traffic Management (Traffic Committee Recommendations).
- Waste Minimisation.
- 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 Meetings.
- 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 above.
- Statutory reviews of Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

Committee Membership:

7 Councillors

Quorum:

The quorum for a Committee meeting is 4 Councillors.

WOOLLAHRA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting

12 May 2011

To: Her Worship The Mayor, Councillor Isabelle Shapiro ex-officio
Councillors Susan Wynne (Chair)
Sean Carmichael (Deputy)
Anthony Boskovitz
Peter Cavanagh
Susan Jarnason
Greg Medcraft
Andrew Petrie

Dear Councillors

Community & Environment Committee Meeting – 16 May 2011

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 16 May 2011 at 6.00pm.**

Gary James
General Manager

Additional Information Relating to Committee Matters

Site Inspection

Other Matters

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 2 May 2011	1
D2	Woollahra Local Traffic Committee Minutes – 3 May 2011	2
D3	Public Art Advisory Committee Minutes – 1160.G Public Art	13
D4	Proposal for Playground in Royal Hospital for Women Park – 1023.G	20

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

R1	Traffic Signal Box Project – 1160.G	31
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Item No: D1 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting Held on 2 May 2011**
Author: Les Windle, Manager - Governance
File No: See Council Minutes
Reason for Report: The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 2 May 2011 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 2 May 2011

Les Windle
Manager – Governance

Item No: D2 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Woollahra Local Traffic Committee Minutes – 3 May 2011**
Author: Tom O’Hanlon – Director, Technical Services
File No: 595.G 2011
Reason for Report: For the Committee to consider the recommendations of the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee.

Recommendation:

- A. That the Recommendations Y1-Y7 contained in the minutes of the Woollahra Traffic Committee, and as signed by the members of the Committee, held on Tuesday 3 May 2011 be adopted.
 - B. That the Traffic Committee items be funded as outlined in Annexure 1.
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Tom O’Hanlon
Director - Technical Services

<u>Traffic Item</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Funding</u>
Y1-1	Towns Road, Rose Bay – Disabled Parking zone	Cost of signposting to be charged to applicant
Y1-2	Sherbrooke Avenue, Double Bay – Alteration of parking restrictions	Council's Block Grant for Traffic Facilities
Y1-3	Kambala Road, Bellevue Hill – Parking restrictions	Council's Block Grant for Traffic Facilities
Y1-4	Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill – Motor bike parking	Council's Block Grant for Traffic Facilities
Y1-5	Nelson Street, Woollahra – Resident Permit Parking restrictions	Council's Block Grant for Traffic Facilities
Y1-6	Jersey Road, Woollahra – Parking restrictions	Council's Block Grant for Traffic Facilities
Y1-7	Glenview Street, Paddington – Signage to limit vehicle size	Council's Block Grant for Traffic Facilities
Y1-8	New McLean Street, Paddington – Temporary Loading Zone	Cost of signposting to be charged to applicant
Y2	Edgecliff Road / Wellington Street, Woollahra - Traffic calming	Nil
Y3	No.599-601 New South Head Road (Cranbrook Road), Rose Bay – Works Zone	Works Zone is in an area zoned as Residential 2(b). The fee payable shall be in accordance with Council's adopted fees and charges for this zoning.
Y4	No.1A Caledonia Street, Paddington – Works Zone	Nil
Y5	Double Bay Primary School, Double Bay – Pedestrian linkages	Cost of works to be allocated for 2012/2013 budget / Part funding to be sourced from RTA
Y6	No.157-159 Hargrave Street (Taylor Street), Paddington – Works Zone	Works Zone is in an area zoned as Residential 2(a). The fee payable shall be in accordance with Council's adopted fees and charges for this zoning.
Y7	No.140 Sutherland Street, Paddington – Works Zone	Works Zone is in an area zoned as Residential 2(a). The fee payable shall be in accordance with Council's adopted fees and charges for this zoning.

Woollahra Local Traffic Committee Minutes

The meeting of the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee was held in the Thornton Room, Council Chambers, Double Bay, on Tuesday 3 May 2011 at 10.00am.

1. Attendance

Committee Members:

Present:	Mr Alan Opera (Chairperson)	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Mr Navin Prasad	(Roads and Traffic Authority)
	Mr John Giblin	(Gabrielle Upton MP Representative)
Staff:	Mr Tom O'Hanlon	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Mr Frank Rotta	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
	Ms Armodee Reece	(Woollahra Municipal Council)
Observer:	Mr Eric Graham	(Sydney Buses)
Apologies:	Snr Const Kylie Kemp	(Rose Bay Police - Traffic)
	Ms Robyn Attuell	(Clover Moore MP Representative)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of Meeting No.03/11 held in Council Chambers, Double Bay, on Tuesday 5 April 2011 were confirmed by Mr J Giblin and Mr N Prasad.

3. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meetings

Nil

4. Local Traffic Committee recommendations not adopted or amended by Woollahra Council Community & Environment Committee

Nil

5. Extraordinary Meetings

Nil

6. Late Correspondence

Comments from Snr Const K Kemp and Mr R Bishop of Clover Moore's office.

7. 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: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer,
Daniel Pearse – Traffic Engineer

File No: (Refer to Table 1)

Reason for Report: Various parking restriction changes throughout the Woollahra Council area.

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That the recommendations of Item Y1-1 to Y1-8 contained in Annexure 1 be adopted.

Item Y1-1: Towns Road, Rose Bay – Disabled Parking zone

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

1. That a ‘Disabled Zone’ be installed on the southern side of Towns Road outside No.50 Towns Road, Rose Bay, from the eastern side of the western driveway to the above property for a distance of 5 metres in an easterly direction.
2. That the applicant be advised of Council’s procedure and conditions for Disabled Parking zones, including the requirement to renew these zones annually.
3. That the Disabled Zone revert to unrestricted parking when it is no longer required.

Item Y1-2: Sherbrooke Avenue, Double Bay – Alteration of parking restrictions

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

1. That the eleven existing P5 Minute 8.30am-9.30am, 2.30pm-3.45pm School Days Only restrictions on the western side of the center parking area be altered to P5 Minute 8.30am-9.30am, 2.30pm-3.45pm Mon-Fri.
2. That the three existing P5 Minute 8.30am-9.30am, 2.30pm-3.45pm School Days Only parking bays on the eastern side of the center parking area be altered to P5 Minute 8.30am-9.30am, 2.30pm-3.45pm Mon-Fri and No Parking 9.30am-2.30pm Mon-Fri Authorised Council Vehicles Excepted.
3. That the existing Loading Zone 8am-5pm Mon-Fri be altered to Loading Zone 6am-5pm Mon-Fri.

Item Y1-3: Kambala Road, Bellevue Hill – Parking restrictions

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That 10 metres of ‘No Stopping’ restrictions be installed on the eastern side and at each end of the lower level vehicular accessway serving Nos 18-26 Kambala Road, Bellevue Hill.

Item Y1-4: Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill – Motor bike parking

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

1. That 1.2 metres of ‘P Motor Bikes Only’ parking be installed on the southern side of Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill just west of the bus zone which is located west of the slip lane from Victoria Road into Bellevue Road.
2. That 1.2 metres of “P Motor Bikes Only” parking be installed on the northern side of Bellevue Road, Bellevue Hill at the western end of the currently signposted ‘No Parking’ zone just west of the driveway to the units at No.19-21 Bellevue Road.

Item Y1-5: Nelson Street, Woollahra – Resident Permit Parking restrictions

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That ‘2P 8am-6pm, Mon-Fri, Permit Holders Excepted, Area Wool 2’ be installed on the eastern side of Nelson Street, Woollahra from the southern side of the driveway to No.37 Nelson Street, for a distance of 29.6 metres in a southerly direction.

Item Y1-6: Jersey Road, Woollahra – Parking restrictions

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That ‘1P 8.30am-6pm, Mon-Fri’ be installed on the southern side of Jersey Road, Woollahra from the western side of the kerb blister in front of No.55 Jersey Road for a distance of 11 metres in an easterly direction.

Item Y1-7: Glenview Street, Paddington – Signage to limit vehicle size

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That no action be taken to provide restricted signage in Glenview Street, Paddington.

Item Y1-8: New McLean Street, Edgecliff – Temporary Loading Zone

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

1. That the ‘No Stopping’ zone on the eastern side of New McLean Street, Edgecliff just south of its intersection with New South Head Road be shortened at its southern end by 4 metres to the southern side of the driveway to the carpark serving the Edgecliff Centre.
2. That a 12 metre temporary Loading Zone ‘8.30am-6.00pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’ be installed on the eastern side of New McLean Street, just south of the driveway to the Edgecliff Centre carpark and that this area revert to ‘1P 8.30am-6pm Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.30pm Sat’ parking once the Loading Dock lift at the Edgecliff Centre becomes operational.

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

Subject: **Edgecliff Road in Vicinity of Wellington Street, Woollahra – Request for Traffic Calming**

Author: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

File No: T148

Reason for Report: To respond to a Question without Notice (QWON) raised at a Council Meeting

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That as the traffic speeds in Edgecliff Road on the bend between Wellington Street and Forth Street are satisfactory no further action be taken to investigate the introduction of traffic calming devices in this part of Edgecliff Road.

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

Subject: **No. 599-601 New South Head Road (in Cranbrook Road), Rose Bay – Works Zone**

Author: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

File No: 407.G Pt14

Reason for Report: Request for a Works Zone

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That the existing 31.5 metre Works Zone on the western side of Cranbrook Road servicing the property at No.599-601 New South Head Road, Rose Bay be adjusted to extend from the northern side of the existing Works Zone in an southerly direction for 17 metres.

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

Subject: **No. 1A Caledonia Street, Paddington – Works Zone**

Author: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

File No: 407.G Pt14

Reason for Report: Request for a Works Zone

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

That the application for a Works Zone to serve the development at No.1A Caledonia Street, Paddington not be approved.

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

Subject: **Double Bay Primary School, Double Bay – Review of Pedestrian Linkages**

Author: Frank Rotta – Traffic Engineer

File No: T121 / T336 / T497 / T25

Reason for Report: To respond to a request to review pedestrian linkages to Double Bay Primary School

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

- A. That all parking spaces on the Cross Street frontage of the Double Bay Primary School be changed to 'P 5min, 8.30am-9.30am, 2.30pm-4pm, School Days' with unrestricted parking to be retained at other times.
- B. That the two existing 'No Parking, 8.30am-9.30am, 2.30pm-4pm, School Days' spaces on the southern side of Cross Street, immediately west of the pedestrian crossing and outside No. 68 Cross Street, be changed to '2P, 8am-6pm, Mon-Fri PHE'.
- C. That no action be taken to restrict the parking spaces on the Ocean Avenue frontage of the Double Bay Primary School.
- D. That the existing pedestrian refuge in Ocean Avenue just north of Cross Street be converted to a raised pedestrian crossing and that an application for partial funding be made to the RTA for inclusion in next year's Works Program.
- E. That the existing pedestrian crossing in Cross Street outside Double Bay Primary School be converted to a raised pedestrian crossing and that an application for partial funding be made to the RTA for inclusion in next year's Works Program.
- F. That the installation of a raised pedestrian crossing across William Street east of Bay Street be approved and an application for partial funding be made to the RTA for inclusion in next year's Works Program.

- G. That the installation of a raised pedestrian crossing across Bay Street, just south of William Street be approved and an application for partial funding be made to the RTA for inclusion in next year's Works Program.
- H. That the pedestrian crossing referred to in G. above be designed to ensure that any loss of parking at this location is minimized.
- I. That the installation of a raised pedestrian crossing across Bay Street, just south of Cross Street be approved and an application for partial funding be made to the RTA for inclusion in next year's Works Program.
- J. That the existing pedestrian refuge in Cross Street east of Bay Street be converted to a raised pedestrian crossing and that an application for partial funding be made to the RTA for inclusion in next year's Works Program.
- K. That the applicants be advised that the raising of the pedestrian crossing across William Street outside Double Bay Primary School has been approved and funded and will be constructed in the near future.
- L. That detailed designs be referred back to the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee for consideration and that all designs including the blisters, islands and No Stopping distances for all the pedestrian crossings must comply with AustRoads and the relevant Australian Standards.

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

Subject: **No. 157-159 Hargrave Street (Taylor Street), Paddington – Works Zone**

Author: Daniel Pearse – Traffic and Development Engineer

File No: 407.G Pt16

Reason for Report: Request for a Works Zone

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

- A. That approval be granted for a Works Zone to be temporarily installed for No.157-159 Hargrave Street, Paddington. The proposed Works Zone is to be located on the western side of Taylor Street, commencing from the statutory 10 metres of 'No Stopping' restriction back from the Hargrave Street intersection for a distance of 10 metres in a southerly direction 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 6 weeks from May, 2011 (to be calculated from sign installation date).
 - iii. Suitable traffic control measures are to be put in place to manage truck movements to and from the construction site, and if necessary to and from the adjacent street system, in accordance with the RTA's Traffic Control at Works Sites manual.
 - iv. A Permit to Stand Plant will be required for all concrete pours, deliveries and/or truck presences in relation to the construction works.

- v. Unrestricted parking shall be maintained outside of the Works Zone hours of operation.
 - vi. The applicant must ensure that the traffic lanes, footpaths and driveways, adjacent to the Works Zone, remain free of obstruction at all times during the construction.
 - vii. The applicant must inform Council's Traffic Engineer when the project is completed and the Works Zone can be removed and current parking restrictions reinstated.
 - viii. This Works Zone is in an area zoned as Residential 2(a). 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.
 - ix. Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the cancellation of the Works Zone at Council's discretion.
 - x. 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.
 - xi. Any alteration to the hours of operation of the Work Zone will require the approval of the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee.
- B. That temporary No Stopping restrictions be installed on the eastern side of Taylor Street between Hargrave Street and Windsor Lane intersections. Current parking conditions are to be reinstated when the Work Zone expires.
- C. That the applicant regulate the size of vehicles standing in this Works Zone to ensure that traffic flows in Taylor Street are not affected at any time.
- D. That the applicant notifies all residents and businesses whose property frontage is within 50 metres of the Works Zone. The notification must include information regarding the changed parking conditions in Taylor Street
- E. That the applicant note that any concrete pours or crane usage may require a Permit to Stand Plant and/or a Section 68 Approval to swing or hoist goods over a public road.

Item No: Y7 Traffic Matters on Local Roads – Recommendation to C&E for consideration.

Subject: **No. 140 Sutherland Street, Paddington – Works Zone**

Author: Daniel Pearse – Traffic and Development Engineer

File No: 407.G Pt16

Reason for Report: Request for a Works Zone

Committee Vote: Unanimous Support

Recommendation:

- A. That approval be granted for a Works Zone to be temporarily installed for No.140 Sutherland Street, Paddington. The proposed Works Zone is to be located on the northern side of Sutherland Street, commencing from the alignment of the boundary between No. 142 and No. 140 for a distance of 4 metres in a westerly direction 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 30 weeks from late May, 2011 (to be calculated from sign installation date).
 - iii. Suitable traffic control measures are to be put in place to manage truck movements to and from the construction site, and if necessary to and from the adjacent street system, in accordance with the RTA's Traffic Control at Works Sites manual.
 - iv. A Permit to Stand Plant will be required for all concrete pours, deliveries and/or truck presences in relation to the construction works.
 - v. Unrestricted 90 degree angle parking (rear to kerb) vehicles under 6m only shall be maintained outside of the Works Zone hours of operation.
 - vi. The applicant must ensure that the traffic lanes, footpaths and driveways, adjacent to the Works Zone, remain free of obstruction at all times during the construction.
 - vii. The applicant must inform Council's Traffic Engineer when the project is completed and the Works Zone can be removed and current parking restrictions reinstated.
 - viii. This Works Zone is in an area zoned as Residential 2(a). 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.
 - ix. Failure to comply with any of these conditions may result in the cancellation of the Works Zone at Council's discretion.
 - x. 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.
 - xi. Any alteration to the hours of operation of the Work Zone will require the approval of the Woollahra Local Traffic Committee.
- B. That the applicant notifies all residents and businesses whose property frontage is within 50 metres of the Works Zone.

8. Late Items

Nil

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11.30am.

Alan Opera
Chair

Item No: D3 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Public Art Advisory Committee Minutes**
Author: Maria Lacey, Cultural Development Officer
File No: 1160.G Public Art
Reason for Report: To table the minutes of the Public Art Advisory Committee meeting held on 6 April 2011.

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the Public Art Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 6 April 2011 be noted and endorsed.

Background:

This report outlines the meeting held by the Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) on 6 April 2011.

Public Art Project 2011 Priorities:

The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) continues to develop the public art ideas and opportunities short listed at the PAAC meeting on 9 February 2011. A summary of PAAC generated public art priority projects and their respective directions are as follows:

1. **Signal/Utility Box Project:** The project has the support from the Roads and Traffic Authority in regards to cleaning and painting boxes in the Municipality. A report will also be submitted to the Community and Environment Committee meeting on 16 May to gain approval for the commencement of the project.
2. **Royal Hospital for Women Park - Constructing Memory:** A report from Technical Services will be submitted to the Community and Environment Committee meeting on 16 May following the request for a playground in this location. PAAC is continuing discussions on the advancement of the project.
3. **Temporary Art Installation Program:** annual temporary public art program for outdoor areas in the Municipality. PAAC is discussing the logistic and practical challenges of this project in relation to how to proceed.
4. **Women in Woollahra Public Art Project:** This project was previously adopted by Council as Stage 3 of the Women in Woollahra Oral History Project with a site to be identified in Blackburn Gardens. Council funding was not identified at the time of project adoption. Previous grant submissions will be re-visited at the next PAAC meeting on 8 June.

Watsons Bay Baths Public Art Project update:

The final design of the artwork has been presented to PAAC. The commissioning agreement between Council and the recommended artist, Clary Akon, has been signed and the materials have been ordered. The target completion date for this project is by the end of the 2010/11 financial year.

Public Art Trust:

A report on the establishment of a Public Art Trust was approved by Council on 28 March. Legal advice will now be sought to advance the project and the establishment of the Trust.

Conclusion:

The four project ideas identified as 'high priority' by PAAC at the meeting on 9 February have all been discussed and addressed in relation to budget and priority. PAAC was in full support of the Signal Box Project as a priority project to be commenced before the end of the financial year 2010/11.

Maria Lacey
Cultural Development Officer

Vicki Munro
Acting Director – Community Services

Annexures:

1. Minutes of the Public Art Advisory Committee Meeting, Wednesday 6 April 2011.

Item No: D4 Delegated to Committee
Subject: **Proposal for Playground in Royal Hospital for Women Park**
Author: Paul Fraser - Team Leader, Open Space & Recreation Planning
File No: 1023.G
Reason for Report: Responding to a Notice of Motion for a proposed playground in the NW corner of Royal Hospital for Women Park with a theme of using infrastructure as art.

Recommendation:

- A. That any further investigation into a playground for Royal Hospital for Women Park be postponed pending the outcomes of investigation into public art for RHWP in 2011/2012.
- B. That the potential for play elements be recommended to any artist or artists chosen to develop the RHWP public art project.
- C. That if it is determined that a public art project will not include play elements, that community consultation be undertaken to assess the level of demand for a play facility.

Notice of Motion:

On the 11 October 2010 an adopted Notice of Motion (NOM) stated:

‘That a report be made within 3 months to the appropriate committee on location of a playground (aimed at elder children 6-12 years) in the NW corner of the Royal Hospital for Women Park, with a theme of using infrastructure as art (also taking into account heritage and the environment), similarly to what Council did in Rushcutters Bay Park. The report should also explore whether a contribution to funding would be available from private (eg the Benevolent Society) and Public sources (state government). Target for construction should be the 2011/12 Council year.’

Background:

In 2002, Council resolved not to install a children’s playground in the (then proposed) Royal Hospital for Women Park (RHWP) for reasons including; the close proximity of seven playgrounds within 1km of RHWP and that the development of the Park would provide other elements of children’s play that would not require installation of structured play equipment.

In 2005, Council adopted a Plan of Management (PoM) for RHWP which stated that a playground facility may be appropriate in the future provided community demand is demonstrated and its design is appropriate.

During the consultation of the PoM one of the principles established was to minimise structures in the Park. It was made clear that the open space is a valued community asset within the dense inner city suburb of Paddington.

A long term action in the PoM was to review the need and demand for a children's playground. It continued to state that further development would depend on the community views and changes in demographics over the next few years. The scale of any such playground would need to be in keeping with the character, size and open grassed nature of the park. It was recommended that before any decision on playground installation was made, that Council review the need and demand for such a facility.

Associated Dog Issues:

Since the development of the Park the local community has been much divided over access to the Park for dog exercise. The main issues relate to conflicts between dogs and children and the relatively small size of the Park. Council's initial position was that RHWP would be a dog free area primarily for parents and children, however after much lobbying from the local community, Council has allowed conditional dog access to the park.

Currently, there are dog restrictions within the Park that are consistent with off leash areas across the LGA, which provide for on and off-leash dog exercise as per the Council Resolution on 11 February 2008:

- Type C area - dogs permitted on leash at all times, and unleashed between 4.30pm and 8.30am (Monday – Saturday)
- Type A area – dogs prohibited between the hours of 10am and 8pm (Sundays only)
- Dogs to be leashed at all other times.

The Companion Animals Act 1998 states that dogs are prohibited in Children Play Areas (meaning any public place, or part of a public place, that is within 10 metres of any playing apparatus provided in that public place or part for the use of children).

Any future installation of play equipment would have to take the issues raised in the PoM and the restrictions of the Companion Animals Act into consideration.

Potential Playground Position Possibilities:

It should be noted that the overall size of the RHWP is only 0.5 hectares. Any installation of new infrastructure needs to take into consideration the size of the park and the current groups utilising the park.

The proposed location stated in the NOM of 11 October 2010 is for the northwest corner of the park. This corner is one of two main entrances off Glenmore Road, therefore any playground infrastructure would need to be situated in such a way that the access to the park is not restricted.

Some issues that need to be considered within this NW area of the park include:

- The area is highly utilised for informal active recreation where ball games and the like are played.
- It is a popular area for dog owners to congregate.
- The canopy of Cinamomum Camphora (Camphor Laruel) trees are very old with deadwood building up regularly.
- Access for Council maintenance vehicles to the park is via an accessway in close proximity to this area.

The southwest corner of the park has been discussed previously for a playground; however this section of the park has a high likelihood of eventually housing a public art installation and/or a water feature as stated in the adopted PoM.

The eastern corner of the park has been discussed previously for a playground; this area has good access from Flinton Street, however it is quite hot and sunny compared to other sections of the park.

Type of Playground:

The adopted NOM stated that the playground be aimed towards elder children (6-12 years). Staff have researched play spaces for older children and have found that they tend to feature large scale equipment with lots of open space for running. The play spaces are designed to activate the mind and body through active participation including, climbing, balancing, cross-body coordination and training, and to gather with friends. This is evident at a new play space in the City of Sydney at Ward Park in Surry Hills where the facility takes up approximately 0.2 hectares. We have strong reservations about whether RHWP has the adequate space for this type of facility and feel that the split opinion within the community relating to the dog issue would again reignite a debate that has already been presented to Council on previous occasions.

Any play space installed within RHWP would need to be of a smaller scale, fenced and would need to be in keeping with the character and open grassed nature of the park.

Public Art and or Memorial:

Part of the original design concept for RHWP was for a memorial or piece of art paying tribute to the staff, mothers and babies of the Royal Hospital for Women, and for some years now \$100,000 had been set aside for this project.

Although only a discussion concept at the time of park construction, a setback in a sandstone wall in the southeast corner of the park was constructed as a possible place for a memorial artwork or water feature.

In the 2009/2010 financial year Woollahra Council in conjunction with the University of NSW ran a student art project to consider options for this project, however due to budget constraints further development and installation of this project was postponed in 2010/2011.

The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) have recently prioritised the 2011/2012 projects and will be recommending that the RHWP artwork/memorial project be put back in the budget as their top priority item. In doing so this opens up the idea of using infrastructure as art that not only has a historical/ memorial focus but also implements elements of informal play.

Funding:

Recent conversations with the Benevolent Society have indicated that financial assistance for a public art or memorial project is unlikely.

A bid for \$10,000 for design and \$90,000 for installation has been placed in the Open Space and Trees draft capital works budget for 2011/2012.

Conclusions:

The physical installation of a small scale playground in the northwest corner of the RHWP would be possible however there would need to be further analysis and consideration of issues including:

- Review the need and demand of a playground.
- Interaction between different park users.
- The pedestrian flow from the adjacent entry way.
- The Companion Animals Act requirements.
- The age and condition of the adjacent trees.

It is highly likely that Council will undertake further design development for, and possible installation of, a public art element in RHWP in 2011/2012.

Depending on the artist and type of artwork chosen there may be an opportunity to integrate elements of play into the RHWP public art project. Staff have reservations as to whether the park has the adequate space for both the installation of a play space and artwork infrastructure, keeping in mind the current competing park users.

Paul Fraser
Team Leader – Open Space & Recreation Planning

Tom O’Hanlon
Director of Technical Services

Bruce Rann
Manager Open Space & Trees

Annexures:

1. Public Art Advisory Committee Minutes, 9 February 2011

Item No: R1 Recommendation to Council
Subject: **Traffic Signal Box Project**
Author: Maria Lacey, Cultural Development Officer
File No: 1160.G
Reason for Report: To seek Council endorsement for the commencement of the Traffic Signal Box Project as a Public Art Advisory Committee initiative.

Recommendation:

That Council endorse the commencement of the Traffic Signal Box Project as a Public Art Advisory Committee initiative.

Introduction:

The Public Art Advisory Committee (PAAC) has identified the Traffic Signal Box Project as one of its high priority Public Art projects for 2011. At its meeting of 6 April 2011, the Committee resolved to undertake this project with a proposed commencement date in late June and with a projected completion date at the end of September 2011. It is anticipated that the project would become an ongoing public art project, dependent on funding.

This report aims to update Council on the research undertaken so far and to seek approval for the commencement of the Traffic Signal Box Project in June 2011.

Background:

An increasing number of Councils around Australia are conducting Traffic Signal Box projects to encourage community engagement with the surrounding urban environment, as well as reducing graffiti and vandalism of the Road and Traffic Authority (RTA) traffic signal boxes. RTA is very supportive of Councils who wish to paint traffic signal boxes in their Municipality and claim that unauthorised graffiti on the boxes is reduced heavily in areas where boxes have been painted.

After discussions with Holroyd and Leichhardt Councils, who have conducted successful Traffic Signal Box Projects for several years, the positive feedback received have further strengthened the view of the suitability of such a project in the Woollahra Municipality.

PAAC sees the Traffic Signal Box Project as an integral part of the Public Art Program Plan in accordance with the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (DPOP) 2009-2013. This project would address the aim of enhancing the presence of visual arts in the Municipality for the benefit of the local residents and visitors. *Below: examples of painted traffic signal boxes in Leichhardt Council*



Proposal:

The key objectives and desired outcomes of the proposed Traffic Signal Box Project are as follows:

- To turn traffic signal boxes into a creative public space;
- To create vibrant artworks mindful of their site specificity to the benefit of the residents;
- To involve and encourage artists in developing artwork designs;
- To deter vandalism on traffic signal boxes;
- To establish an ongoing Traffic Signal Box Project where a number of boxes are painted every year;
- To encourage the development of partnerships between the community, local government and artists to promote visual art in the wider community; and
- To create an awareness of the public environment.

PAAC has identified five sites, which would initially be considered for painting. These sites are as follows:

New South Head Road / O'Sullivan Road	Rose Bay
Oxford Street / Glenmore Road	Paddington
New South Head Road / New Beach Road	Rushcutters Bay
Queen Street / Moncur Street	Woollahra
New South Head Road / Neild Avenue	Rushcutters Bay

The boxes at these sites are placed in highly visible locations. As such, the artworks would be visible to a large audience. The total number of boxes to be painted would be six, as there are two boxes located next to each other on the corner of New South Head Road and New Beach Road.

At its meeting of 6 April 2011, PAAC resolved to adopt a commissioning model with a set fee paid per box to the chosen artist. This fee would cover the art design and implementation/painting costs. All other costs would be the responsibility of the Council, such as paints, brushes, graffiti barrier and miscellaneous costs during the project. PAAC has resolved to send an Expression of Interest (EOI) to local artists and students to attract design submissions. A suggested timeline is as follows:

- End of June: sending out an EOI to artists and students
- End of July: closing of EOI
- 10 August: submissions to be presented at PAAC meeting and designs to be chosen
- Mid September: painting of boxes

The estimated time for painting the boxes is approximately 9 hours per box. The overall timeframe of the project is similar to those of other Councils undertaking similar projects.

Income and Expenditure:

In a report submitted to the Community & Environment Committee of 28 June 2010, it was resolved that:-

“ the \$100,000 Section 94A contribution to public art, currently identified in Council's 2010/2011 draft budget, be allocated as follows: Rose Bay Chalk Walk \$30,000 and Watsons Bay Bath public art project \$70,000.”

At the PAAC meeting on 1 December 2010, following discussion on the Rose Bay Chalk Walk, it was noted that this was not a priority project and could be considered as part of the Temporary Art Installation projects.

Further, at the PAAC meeting on 9 February 2011, the Committee recommended to allocate funding from Section 94A for the Traffic Signal Box Project. Hence the 2010/11 Section 94A budget allocated to the Rose Bay Chalk Walk, has been re-directed to finance the Traffic Signal Box Project.

The year one expenditure anticipated for the Traffic Signal Box Project includes:

\$4,500 Artist fees - \$750 /box x 6
\$ 600 Graffiti barrier - \$100/ box x 6
\$1,500 Materials (paint, brushes, drop sheets and misc expenses)
\$2,000 Staff salary (coordination of artists / painting of boxes)

Conclusion:

Painting traffic signal boxes in the Municipality is in accordance with Woollahra Council's adopted DPOP 2009-2013, by strengthening and supporting cultural partnerships and improving accessibility of visual arts to the broader community.

An ongoing Traffic Signal Box Project would strengthen the visibility of community developed public art and encourage the continually engagement of the residents and their local environment.

The Traffic Signal Box Project would also discourage graffiti and vandalism of the boxes, and as such reducing the presence of unwanted graffiti in many locations.



Maria Lacey
Cultural Development Officer

Vicki Munro
Acting Director – Community Services

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