

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA 1

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INNER WEST COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2017

6.30pm

Location: Ashfield Service Centre, 260 Liverpool Road, Ashfield

**MEETING AGENDA – PRECIS
SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS**

The following report/s appear as late item/s with Mayoral approval as information required for the preparation of the report/s was not available at the time of distribution of the Business Paper.

1 Mayoral Minutes

ITEM

C1017 Item 40 Mayoral Minute: Promoting Consistent Opportunities for King
Street Businesses and Arts Practitioners

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Item No: C1017 Item 40
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: PROMOTING CONSISTENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR KING STREET BUSINESSES AND ARTS PRACTITIONERS
File Ref: 17/4718
From the Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION:

That Council:

1. Provide an in principal commitment to partnering with the City of Sydney to harmonise regulation along King Street as soon as practicably achievable;
2. Meet with the City of Sydney to discuss and gain deeper understanding of their proposed amendments to Late Night Trading on King Street;
3. Investigate amendments to Inner West Council's relevant planning controls in order to allow late night trading on King Street;
4. Seek cooperation from the City of Sydney in investigating amendments to each Council's planning controls in order to allow small scale arts and cultural activities, in restaurants, cafes, retail shop fronts and other main street premises on King Street, without the requirement of development consent;
5. Support the establishment of a King Street Regulation Working Group by the Newtown Precinct Business Association, and commit to engaging with the group in meaningful consultation;
6. Convene, in conjunction with the Newtown Precinct Business Association, the first meeting of the Newtown Regulatory Working Group to outline the scope of the group and its parameters and set an agenda and desired outcomes; and
7. Invite to the scoping meeting the following representatives:
 - Inner West Council;
 - City of Sydney;
 - Jenny Leong, State Member for Newtown;
 - The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Federal Member for Grayndler;
 - The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Federal Member for Sydney;
 - Roads and Maritime Services; and
 - Other relevant State Government agencies.

Background

The King Street / Newtown Precinct is an unparalleled success story in the Inner West Council area and is a thriving local economy. Businesses however are regularly frustrated by the inconsistencies that have arisen over time with different sides of the street controlled by different Local Government entities, namely Inner West Council and City of Sydney.

The City of Sydney's recent move to review the late night retail trading controls and consult with the business community on the eastern side of the street has prompted the Newtown Precinct Business Association to urgently approach us to secure help in ensuring that there is one uniform system of regulation for the whole of King Street.

Today I met with the Association to discuss their concerns. They identified a range of other regulatory inconsistencies along King Street, including:

- Parking meters are provided on the Inner West Council side of King Street only;
- Garbage bins are provided on the Inner West Council side of King Street only;
- Inconsistent approaches to paving and streetscape treatment, including paving on Inner West side and bitumen only on the City of Sydney side;
- Ability for operators to provide footpath dining free of Council charges on the Inner West Council side but with costs on the City of Sydney;
- Grants opportunities which are available to businesses on one side of the street only.

These inconsistencies lead to a high level of confusion and frustration for business owners and visitors alike. Businesses along the street should be entitled to the same sort of opportunities. Council has been approached by the Newtown Precinct Business Association who are eager to ensure that they can deliver their services consistently on both sides of street. Through consultation I have agreed, in principle, with the Association that an independent working group with representation from all of the different authorities and regulatory bodies that govern King Street, is necessary to improve regulation in the precinct.

In addition to consideration of late retail trading, the Association also agreed that new planning controls to encourage small scale arts and live performance in cafes, restaurants, retail shopfronts and other main street premises could help boost the King Street economy. Both Inner West Council and the City of Sydney should investigate amendments to the local planning controls that would allow small scale arts and cultural activities, in Newtown and elsewhere, without the requirement of development consent. King Street is the ideal environment in which to trial this approach, which would allow cafes and restaurants to present grass roots music and theatre activities to small audiences.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.