

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA 3

Distributed on 30 October 2018



INNER WEST COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 30 OCTOBER 2018

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.

Mayoral Minutes

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Item No: C1018(2) Item 36
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: BRING BACK THE SYDNEY ROCK OYSTER
From: The Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION:

THAT Council:

1. Give in principle support to a partnership with its the Living Seawalls: Bring Back the Sydney Rock Oyster Project to identify locations in the local government area where seawall tiles can be trialled;
2. Receive a report, drawing on the recently approved Seawall tiles trial in North Sydney, on how a similar program can be implemented in the Inner West, including:
 - A. Assessment of appropriate public seawalls for installation;
 - B. Clarifying the process for assessment approval at any identified locations;
 - C. Processes for approval of the installation of tiles on private property, including whether this can be achieved without fees or the need of a development application.
3. Seek the collaboration of the NSW Government in identifying an approval process for the installation of sea wall tiles, on public and private property in the Sydney Harbour catchment; and
4. Write to the Parramatta River Catchment Group to inform them of our commitment to the Living Seawalls project.

Background

Council has been approached by the Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS) and the Harding Miller Foundation regarding taking part in the *Living Seawalls: Bring Back the Sydney Rock Oyster* Project.

When European settlers came to this country, the harbour was full of oyster reefs so large that their ships had to navigate around them. Colonists used oyster shells to help make the mortar that held together early buildings such as Vaucluse House and Hyde Park Barracks. By the 1860s most of the oyster reefs in New South Wales were decimated and today are considered functionally extinct with less than 1% of the original population remaining.

Oysters are natural filter feeders – they feed by pumping water through their gills, trapping particles of food as well as nutrients, sediments and chemical contaminants. One oyster can filter around 190 litres of water in a single day. A one minute time lapse video showing oysters completely cleaning and filtering a tank of water in just 1.5 hours can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=saAy7GfLq4w>.

Concrete and sandstone artificial seawalls, which encompass approximately 50% of Sydney Harbour's shoreline, do not provide the rocky crevasses on which oysters depend for survival.

The Living Seawalls Project has developed tiles that can be attached to seawalls to create space and habitat for oysters and other plants and animals (see attached pictures). Research thus far has proven that the tiles significantly increase the survival of oysters and native biodiversity. The tiles are installed to sit 10cm off the wall, allowing preservation of existing marine life on the seawalls and colonisation of both sides of the tiles.

Council Officers have confirmed that Council is the consent authority for installation of the sea wall tiles, meaning that Development Applications are required.

The project group has identified sections of seawall within the Inner West Local Government Area on which they would like to pilot the system, including along a section of the Illoura Reserve Seawall and on the frontage of the privately owned 17 Lookes Avenue in Balmain.

Council Officers have proposed an alternative location for the trial, on the seawalls at Yurulbin Reserve, as Council is the consent authority for works on these seawalls. The relevant areas of both Illoura and Yurulbin reserves are owned by NSW State Government.

The process for obtaining the consent from State Government and the necessary approvals is complex. Approvals and land owners' consent are required from multiple state agencies, including Roads and Maritime Services, the Office of Environment and Heritage, the Department of Planning and NSW Fisheries, depending on where the tiles are proposed.

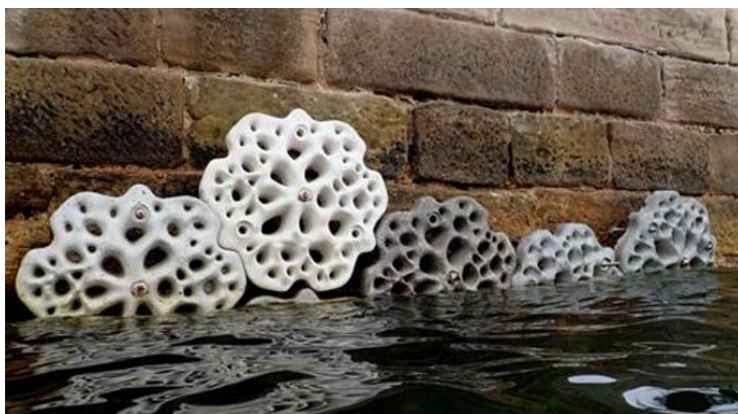
Both sites are classified as being of heritage significance and installation of the tiles would require careful management by Council and the SIMS team.

North Sydney Council recently unanimously approved the installation of tiles at Sawmiller's Reserve and Bradfield Park. The tiles have been installed over the past two weeks following thorough heritage and engineering assessment by Council officers and a recommendation for approval.

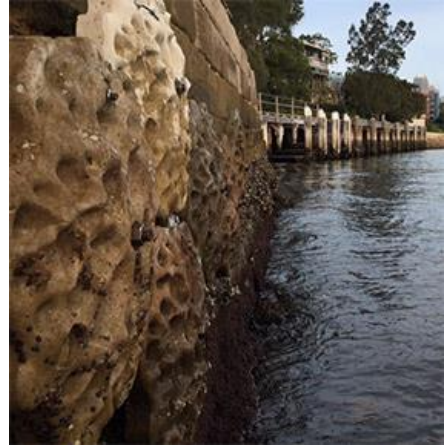
Whilst the tiles are concrete, initial trials have demonstrated that they quickly weather and are colonized by marine creatures and blend well with the sandstone walls to which they are attached.

The Project also aims to facilitate the installation of tiles by private property owners in the Inner West and across Sydney Harbour.

If the process involved in getting approval for tile installation in the frontages of privately owned properties proves onerous and unnecessarily complicated, this will prevent to expansion of the project throughout the Harbour.



The Sawmiller's Reserve tile array shortly after installation.



The Sawmiller's Reserve tile array after six months in situ.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C1018(2) Item 37
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: BALMAIN LEAGUES CLUB
From: The Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION:**THAT:**

1. Council write to the shareholders of Wests Tigers, including Wests Ashfield, seeking discussions about how a Tigers Leagues Club could be delivered and operated within any approved development of the former Balmain Leagues Club site, as is required under Council's planning controls and the most recent NSW Land and Environment Court determination;
 2. Write to the Administrator of the Balmain Leagues Club seeking clarification about the state of the Club's assets, the likelihood of the Board being reformed and the potential for Wests Tigers' shareholders to take up the ownership or management of a Tigers Leagues Club within any approved development;
 3. Note the previous resolution of Leichhardt Council to offer assistance in the establishment of a charitable trust to fund the Balmain Tigers Rugby League Football Club;
 4. Write to Wests Tigers, the Australian Rugby League Commission and the New South Wales Rugby League stating our preference for arrangements to be made for the ongoing funding of the Balmain Tigers Rugby League Football Club through a charitable foundation, or other means, to ensure the Football Club's ongoing existence;
 5. Write to the NSW Government restating our opposition to the compulsory acquisition of the former Leagues Club site for use as a dive site for the proposed Western Harbour Tunnel, noting the enormous environmental, health and amenity impacts the project would have on the local community and Rozelle Public School; and
 6. Seek confirmation from Council Officers about when the Development Control Plan for the site will be reported to Council.
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Background

Balmain Tigers and the Balmain Leagues Club have been an essential part of the Inner West community and Australian sport throughout our history.

Sadly, the Board of Balmain Leagues Club notified Council that the Club was going into voluntary administration on Friday 26 October 2018.

Council fought a long battle against a previous owner of the Leagues Club site in Rozelle in the NSW Land and Environment Court to uphold the requirement of a Leagues Club within any redevelopment.

That Court ruling means that there is an absolute requirement for a Tigers Club to be located in the new development of the site, if it is to be approved. The entire premise of the rezoning of the site was based on the inclusion of the Tigers Leagues Club at the site.

The new owner of the site, Heworth Group, lodged a Development Application on 1 May 2018. An amended Development Control Plan for the site was lodged on 4 July.

Council's Development Assessment and Strategic Planning Groups are currently working together on the assessment of the DA and the associated proposed draft DCP amendment for the site.

A report on the draft DCP amendment is due back to Council as soon as it has been finalised.

Previously, Leichhardt Council offered assistance in setting up a charitable foundation that would raise money and help fund the Balmain Football Club regardless of the financial viability of the Leagues Club.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C1018(2) Item 38
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: WHITE RIBBON DAY
From: The Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION:

THAT:

- 1. Council proceed with the event focusing on the prevention of violence against women planned to be held on 21 November at the Addison Road Community Centre;**
 - 2. Council's publicity material for the above event should focus on the 16 Days of Activism to prevent violence, as aligns with Council's current practices and initiatives, and encourage our community partners to take a similar stance;**
 - 3. Council writes urgently to the CEO of White Ribbon Day:**
 - a. seeking clarification from White Ribbon about their policy position and intentions with regards to women's reproductive rights;**
 - b. Requiring a response to this enquiry by 2 November to allow Council to further determine in which way Council will be involved with the White Ribbon Day event planned for 21 November 2018 at the Addison Road Community Centre; and**
 - 4. Confirming that we will remove Council association with White Ribbon if the organisation changes its policy position regarding reproductive rights.**
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Background

On Wednesday 17 October the Queensland Parliament voted to support new legislation which decriminalised abortion.

Unfortunately, White Ribbon Foundation Australia responded to this long overdue step forward for women's rights by removing their statement in support of reproductive rights from its website in order to allow them to consult with their stakeholders about their support.

The reproductive freedom position was first posted on the White Ribbon site in February 2017. Its opening line reads that "White Ribbon Australia believes that all women should have complete control over their reproductive and sexual health."

An announcement from White Ribbon's new chief executive Tracy McLeod Howe said that White Ribbon had removed the organisation's support of reproductive rights from its website because "we are agnostic until our stakeholders tell us it is important to most of them".

As someone who has established a strong partnership with White Ribbon, I am shocked by this. Eliminating violence against women depends on expanding women's rights to control their own bodies, not walking away from the cause.

Fortunately, what followed this extraordinary move was an immense public backlash against White Ribbon.

The statement has been reinstated, however Council needs to reconsider its relationship with White Ribbon in light of their astonishing disregard for women's rights and their need to

'consult with stakeholders' about whether an organisation supposedly devoted to protecting women's rights should, in fact, support women's rights.

At the Council meeting of 28 March 2017 Council resolved to provide \$18,000 annually for White Ribbon Day. The 2018 event is set to take place on 21 November at the Addison Road Community Centre.

Council's Community Projects Officer has been working with members of the Leichhardt-Marrickville and Ashfield-Burwood Domestic Violence Liaison Committees on the Council funded program, with a focus on tying the event in with the United Nations 16 days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C1018(2) Item 39
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: LED STREETLIGHT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM
From: The Mayor, Councillor Darcy Byrne

MOTION:

THAT Council write to Ausgrid confirming Council’s support of the “Lighting the Way” project to accelerate the rollout of LED street lighting and seeking:

- a. Urgent finalisation of the contract to allow this mutually beneficial project to go ahead at the earliest possible opportunity;**
 - b. Urgent clarification of expected completion timelines for the contract negotiations; and**
 - c. A commitment to collaborative promotion of the project and its benefits, to the residents of the inner west.**
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Background

Member Councils through the SSROC sponsored Street Light Improvement (SLI) Program have been negotiating with Ausgrid for well over a decade to bring about improvements to streetlighting technologies and services provided by the Ausgrid monopoly and a more cost competitive framework.

The proposed “Lighting the Way” project, to accelerate the roll out of modern and efficient forms of LED streetlighting, is one of the successful outcomes of the SLI Program which will lead to significant long term savings in energy and maintenance costs, green house gas emissions, and improving lighting reliability and performance.

Council has committed approximately \$2.8 million over two financial years (2018/19 & 2019/20) to accelerate the replacement of approximately 2600 residential streetlights with LED luminaires across the Inner West under this program. The estimated payback period for this capital investment through reduced maintenance and energy costs is approximately seven years.

Council has provided conditional agreement to the proposal put forward by Ausgrid subject to clarification of several issues covering technical matters, program delivery and costings. SSROC has been negotiating with Ausgrid concerning these matters on behalf of member Councils and it is understood agreement has been reached. Council is awaiting receipt of such written confirmation from Ausgrid.

Verbal advice from Ausgrid project manager indicates that the program within the Innerwest could begin by December 2018 and will take approximately 12 months to implement.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.