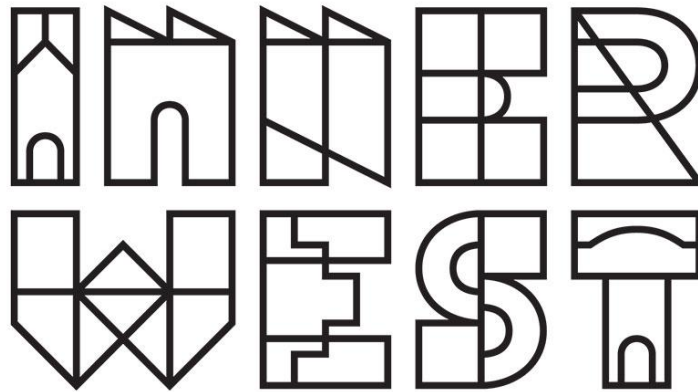


SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA 1

Distributed on 28 September 2021



COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2021

6.30pm

Location: Remote Meeting

MEETING AGENDA – PRECIS SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

The following reports appear as late items information required for the preparation of the reports was not available at the time of distribution of the Business Paper.

1 Mayoral Minutes

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Item No: C0921(3) Item 27
Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE: COUNCIL AND COMMUNITY COVID CRISIS INTERVENTION TASKFORCE
From: The Mayor, Councillor Rochelle Porteous

MOTION:

THAT Council endorses the following actions as identified in the Mayoral Covid Crisis Intervention Roundtable with local Community Sector NGOs on Wednesday 22 September:

1. Council formally acknowledges the vital role and services Inner West NGOs provide to the community;
2. Council forms a Council and Community Sector Covid Crisis Intervention Taskforce, led by the Mayor, with the aim of Council and the local NGO sector working in partnership to address the local impacts of Covid on those most at risk and how together we can get everyone vaccinated and keep everyone fed, safe and well during this Pandemic;
3. Council Officers work with the local NGO sector and the Taskforce to identify areas where the community can assist with the delivery of goods and services such as the need for food delivery drivers, spare laptops / technologies or other goods for our vulnerable communities and this be promoted via social media and other suitable mediums;
4. Information about the local NGOs working with council, the services they are providing to assist people in financial and wellbeing distress and their contact information be added to Council's website;
5. Council investigates how we can loan a vehicle from council's fleet on a temporary basis to assist with food deliveries;
6. Council continues to support Council Officers and the local NGO sector with the Volunteer Inner West Framework currently in development;
7. Council notes the concerns raised from Roundtable attendees about the ongoing funding required to provide support for mental health services, emergency housing and food security once the public health restrictions are lifted;
8. Council officers communicate any relevant grants, EOIs or funding opportunities to local NGOs;
9. Council write to the NSW Minister for Health, Brad Hazzard, the Hon Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care and the Australian Government, Department of Health Therapeutic Goods Administration, requesting that rapid antigen COVID-19 tests be made available free of charge and that the conditions requiring supervision of testing by a qualified health professional be amended to allow NGOs to administer the tests following suitable training, noting that rapid antigen COVID-19 tests are widely available for use in the US, UK and Europe;
10. Officers work with the Exodus Foundation to provide guidance and assistance regarding the proposed road closure for the Christmas Day celebrations including waiving of the road closure fee of \$1701.60, supply of the barricades and meeting the costs (estimated \$1000) for the Traffic Management Plan to be funded from the traffic

and parking management consultants budget;

11. Council signs up to the *Raise the Rate for Good* campaign; and

12. Council investigates options regarding employment opportunities for refugees.

Background

On Wednesday 22 September 2021 I convened a Mayoral Roundtable with key local NGOs working with local communities most at risk from the impacts of Covid. These NGOs are also recipients of Council’s Covid-19 Community Support funding.

All attendees acknowledged and thanked Council for the support and indicated the additional funds are contributing towards providing essential crisis services such as maintaining and increasing food deliveries, complex case management support for Covid-positive people, emergency housing and access to technology and data to address the digital divide.

A summary of the discussion and requests is outlined below:

- The NGOs agreed meeting together in the Roundtable was a valuable exercise with regards to developing relationships, sharing knowledge, and gaining a deeper understanding of the roles and services being provided. The group were supportive of roundtable discussions continuing as a Taskforce to address community issues.
- NGOs are reporting anecdotal information that there is a higher number of people facing poverty and requiring Centrelink benefits. It was requested that Council advocate for an increase to the JobSeeker Allowance and Student Allowance to \$600 per week by signing up to the Raise the Rate campaign. (Noting that following a Mayoral Minute, Council resolved to write to the Prime Minister regarding this on 20 July 2021 C0721(2) Item 11) (Mayoral Minute) regarding this action.
- NGOs would like Council’s social media to assist with calls to action regarding a range of initiatives such as the need for volunteer drivers or technology devices such as mobile phones, ipads or laptops that can be donated and refurbished. It was also asked if council could deploy second hand council mobiles and laptops to assist the needs of the NGOs. One NGO also flagged the urgent need for a vehicle which they have no funds for as their own vehicle is constantly breaking down.
- Continue to support the Volunteer Inner West Framework.
- Advocate for legislative change regarding rapid antigen testing to allow for services to administer the tests without the requirement of a health professional and the tests be provided free of charge to NGOs providing food and shelter. This is vital to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers, and clients and prevent the spread of COVID-19; and
- Employment is key for people facing poverty, especially for refugees, any employment opportunities within Council would be extremely impactful.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: C0921(3) Item 28
 Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE:WESTERN HARBOUR TUNNEL – COMMUNITY UPDATE PUBLIC MEETING
 From: The Mayor, Councillor Rochelle Porteous

MOTION:

THAT:

1. Council opposes the Western Harbour Tunnel;
2. The Western Harbour Tunnel is a project that brings no benefits and significant negative impacts to the Inner West. Consultation with the local community and Council has been poor. Process has been poor;
3. The Western Harbour Tunnel plans to dredge contaminated sediment from the harbour floor. We are told that shallow floating silt curtains will capture the toxic plume but it is likely some will escape into the harbour. This toxic plume will impact on recreational users of the Balmain peninsula –the dog walkers, the fishers and the swimmers - including users of the Dawn Fraser Baths. It will also threaten Sydney Harbour’s marine life;
4. There are three exhaust stacks linked to WestConnex and the Western Harbour Tunnel and none will be filtered. Best practice worldwide is to filter stacks. One stack is located almost next door to Rozelle Primary School. Parents are extremely concerned. They are living through the unacceptable air quality impacts of WestConnex and they know worse may be on its way;
5. The Inner West is a unique, historic part of inner-Sydney that for future generations deserves to be protected from multiple major infrastructure projects. The Balmain peninsula is a particularly unique and precious part of the Inner West that deserves the highest degree of protection. The Western Harbour Tunnel will impact highly valued heritage conservation areas. We saw the damage from WestConnex tunnelling on many local homes. It is expected, despite assurances, that we will see many more local homes and buildings damaged particularly from shallow tunnelling;
6. Yurulbin Point in Birchgrove is a much loved local park. The impact on the park will be devastating. It will be closed to the community for about 4 and a half years;
7. A comprehensive health study on the documented impacts of WestConnex and the predicted impacts of the Western Harbour Tunnel, including consideration of the cumulative impact of other major construction projects is urgently required;
8. There has not been sufficient consideration of cumulative impacts from the multiple infrastructure projects planned and underway the Inner West – particularly in the Rozelle, Lilyfield & Balmain areas and in White Bay and Glebe Island. Had a comprehensive cumulative impact assessment been undertaken *before* this project was approved, it would likely have recommended cancellation of the Western Harbour Tunnel on the basis of unacceptable impacts;
9. Council note that the Mayor and Council staff recently gave evidence on behalf of Council to the Parliamentary Inquiry on the Impact of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link;

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10. Council convene a Public Meeting to explain Council's submission to the EIS and the Parliamentary Inquiry and provide a community update. The Public Meeting will be held in November and will be held virtually. The format of the meeting will be in accordance with Council's Event invitation, Speaking and Public meeting policy which includes inviting Ward Councillors to speak at the event; and
 11. The Public Meeting be promoted through all of Council's communication channels and in the upcoming newsletter.
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Background

Council made a detailed submission opposing the Western Harbour Tunnel project to the NSW Government public exhibition of the Environmental Impact Statement. A further submission was made to the recent Parliamentary Inquiry on the impact of the western Harbour Tunnel and beaches Link.

Together with council staff I recently gave evidence at the Parliamentary Inquiry on the Western Harbour Tunnel and the impact it would have on Inner West residents.

Council needs to hold a virtual public meeting to explain our submission and address the concerns and questions of our residents, who have gone through hell and back with WestConnex.

More information is available at [Western Harbour Tunnel - Inner West Council \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/western-harbour-tunnel)

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.