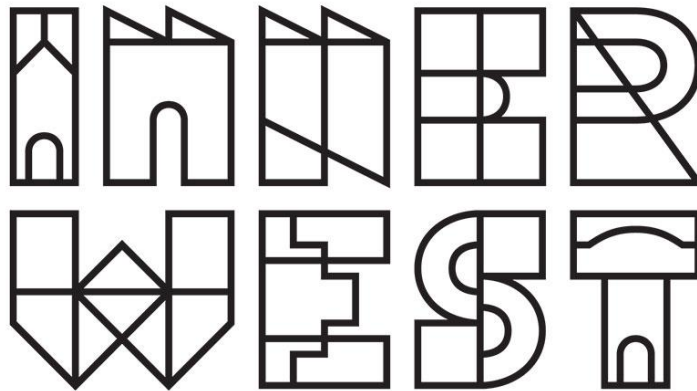


AGENDA



EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 10 MAY 2022

10.30pm

Live Streaming of Council Meeting

In the spirit of open, accessible and transparent government, this meeting of the Inner West Council is being streamed live on Council’s website. By speaking at a Council meeting, members of the public agree to being recorded and must ensure their speech to the Council is respectful and use appropriate language. A person who uses defamatory, discriminatory or offensive language may be exposed to liability for which Council takes no responsibility. Any part of this meeting that is held in closed session will not be recorded

Pre-Registration to Speak at Council Meetings

Members of the public must register by 2pm of the day of the Meeting to speak at Council Meetings. If you wish to register to speak please fill in a [Register to Speak Form](#), available from the Inner West Council website, including:

- your name;
- contact details;
- item on the Agenda you wish to speak to; and
- whether you are for or against the recommendation in the agenda.
- whether you are speaking in person or online

Are there any rules for speaking at a Council Meeting?

The following rules apply when addressing a Council meeting:

- keep your address to the point, the time allowed for each speaker is limited to three minutes. This time limit applies, no matter how many items are addressed by the speaker;
- when addressing the Meeting you must speak to the Chairperson;
- the Chairperson may curtail public participation where the information being presented is considered repetitive or irrelevant; and
- only 3 speakers for and against an Agenda Item are allowed.

What happens after I submit the form?

You will be contacted by Governance Staff to confirm your registration. If you indicated that you will speak online, you will be provided with a link to the online meeting. Your request will then be added to a list that is shown to the Chairperson on the night of the meeting.

Where Items are deferred, Council reserves the right to defer speakers until that Item is heard on the next occasion.

Accessibility

Inner West Council is committed to ensuring people with a disability have equal opportunity to take part in Council and Committee Meetings. At the Ashfield Council Chambers there is a hearing loop service available to assist persons with a hearing impairment. If you have any other access or disability related participation needs and wish to know more, call 9392 5536.

Persons in the public gallery are advised that under the Local Government Act 1993, a person may NOT record a Council meeting without the permission of Council.

Any persons found recording without authority will be expelled from the meeting.

“Record” includes the use of any form of audio, video and still camera equipment or mobile phone capable of recording speech.

An audio recording of this meeting will be taken for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the minutes.

PRECIS

- 1 Acknowledgement of Country
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Notice of Webcasting
- 4 Disclosures of Interest
- 5 Moment of Quiet Contemplation
- 6 Public Forum – Hearing from All Registered Speakers
- 7 Notices of Motion

ITEM

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C0522(2) Item 1 Notice of Motion: Demerger of Inner West Council

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Item No: C0522(2) Item 1
Subject: NOTICE OF MOTION: DEMERGER OF INNER WEST COUNCIL
From: Councillors John Stamolis, Justine Langford and Liz Atkins

MOTION:

That Council:

1. Notes that 62.5 % of the Inner West community voted to demerge Inner West Council to restore the three previous Councils (Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville) and that the result of the poll was a majority vote across ALL five existing wards and ALL three previous Councils;
2. Notes that the Demerger Poll was run by the NSW Electoral Commission in which there were 104,219 formal votes;
3. Notes that the Demerger Poll has the support of the majority of the community and that our community reasonably expects that Council will prepare a strong and effective business case for the demerger of Inner West Council;
4. Notes that the NSW Minister for Local Government, The Hon. Wendy Tuckerman MP has confirmed that NSW Government will pay for the cost of the demerger;
5. Ensures that the community, Councillors and local government experts have close oversight of the development of Council's business case for the demerger;
6. Establishes a Demerger Committee to oversee the development of the demerger business case and invites Councillors, community members and local government experts to be active members of this Committee;
7. Provides any documents such as Terms of Reference for the development of the demerger business case, the Consultant's Brief or other; immediately to Councillors and the Demerger Committee, and to make these documents publicly available;
8. Invites the Demerger Committee to review and amend any documents associated with the development of the demerger business case, including any brief to consultants, to ensure:
 - a) They outline the development of a strong and positive business case which reflects the desire of our community to demerge; and
 - b) They adhere to the NSW Government Guidelines for business cases which includes the provision that there is stakeholder engagement.
9. Reviews the demerger process timeline as outlined by the General Manager at the residents' meeting on April 7, taking on board the NSW Government business case guidelines about consultation with Councillors and community; and utilising professional expertise in the preparation of a strong and effective business case;
10. Convenes public meetings across the three former Councils to consult the community on the demerger process and to summarise details of the business case which will support the outcome of the demerger poll; and
11. Provide fortnightly updates on progress with the demerger case on Council's website.

Background

With a very high response to the Demerger Poll (104,219 voters), 62.5% of Inner West voters want Inner West Council to demerge. It is now time for Council to prepare a strong and positive business case to reflect the wishes of its community.

A well-attended community meeting on April 7 heard, for the first time, the process that Council currently has underway to develop the demerger case that will go to the NSW government.

Residents were rightly concerned that both they and their elected representatives, the Councillors, have not been consulted on the process for developing the demerger business case, nor have they been consulted on the appointment of consultant; nor the consultant's brief; nor the terms of reference for the development of demerger business case.

The General Manager told the community meeting that the same consultants as used by Leichhardt, Marrickville and Ashfield Councils (in 2015) to argue against the amalgamation of their Councils would be used. Furthermore, the consultants would be using the same methodology as they used then; which failed in arguing the case against amalgamation.

There appears to have been no attempt by Council to review these terms of reference and methodology, to seek alternative consultants, consult with the Councillors and the public nor to consult and seek advice from local government experts.

The best chance for a successful business case for demerger is if the process is fully transparent, inclusive and openly consults with the community. It needs to involve Councillors, residents and experts in the development of the case.

Officer's Comments:

No further comments were required for this Notice of Motion.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.