

NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL

NEUTRAL BAY SHOPPING AREA STREETScape COMMITTEE

**MINUTES OF THE 151st MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2019 AT 5.30 PM IN THE
ROS CRICHTON PAVILION, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present: Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services (Chair)
Councillor Jilly Gibson
Councillor Kathy Brodie

Rick Doran, Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce
Richard O'Grady, Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce
Kalia Bell, Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce/Concept Events
Georgia Beerens, Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce/Concept Events
Simone Caralis-McColl, Arkadia
JoEllen-Henderson, Designer/Resident
Tom Appleby, Resident
Christina De Podolinsky, Resident
Bob Bourne, Business Owner

Council:

Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services
Diana Mejia, Project Manager
Peita Rose, Governance Officer (Minutes)

- 1. Meeting opened** at 5.35pm, with Council's Director Engineering and Property Services in the Chair.
- 2. Apologies**
Councillor Jessica Keen
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes**
The Minutes of the 150th Meeting held on 4 June 2019 were adopted.
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes:**
Nil.

5. Projects Update

5.1 Grosvenor Lane Shared Zone/Grosvenor Lane Upgrade

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services updated the Committee on the Grosvenor Lane Shared Zone/Grosvenor Lane Upgrade stating that the tender for the upgrade has been awarded, and the upgrade is scheduled to start on 4 November 2019.

This project is about turning Grosvenor Lane which runs parallel to Grosvenor Street and runs into Young Lane and Young Street into a shared zone. Council did an extensive consultation last year, presenting concept plans, artists impressions and the plan itself to the community about the shared zone proposal. Council has also had approval from the RMS to turn Grosvenor Lane into a shared zone.

Council will be conducting extensive public domain upgrading in Grosvenor Lane which involves a complete change of paving materials in that laneway, these will be similar to what you see at the moment being rolled out throughout Neutral Bay. This will involve planting trees as well as low landscape planters, it will also involve furniture, seats as well as bins and lighting. There will be extensive public lighting in the laneway as well as an element of decorative lighting which will be (LED) lighting in the laneway for night time. There will be a complete refreshing of the laneway down to Woolworths which will be made into a much more pedestrian friendly area. It was requested by a lot of the business that back onto that lane and also from the Mayor that this be done as soon as possible, it will be a 6-month project.

Detailed plans regarding this can be found on Council's website showing lighting, furniture, planters, paving materials as well as other information.

The Chamber of Commerce stated that there was a proposal raised for some murals in Grosvenor Lane. Mr Henderson applied for a federal government grant which wasn't successful. It was asked by the Chamber of Commerce if this could be included in Council's budget at some point.

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services will put this past Council's Art Coordinator, it would also need to go to Council.

5.2 Young Street Closure

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services updated the Committee on the Young Street closure stating that Council did extensive consultation on the closure and majority of feedback received was for the closure to go ahead.

Council has come half way on this and decided to do a pilot closure, which is a temporary closure, this will commence in March 2020. Council wants to see how the closure will work from a traffic perspective and the flow on effects, it will be a 6-month project, if it goes as planned, it will be made a permanent closure. Council is wanting the road closure to look more like a public plaza/public space.

Council's Engineering and Property Services Manager stated that Council is putting a raised pedestrian crossing in at Waters Road about 10 metres south from the existing pedestrian crossing, just up from Bougainvillea.

It was stated by Councillor Gibson that there be bollards, a second crossing and traffic calming on Waters Road.

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that he will take on board the pedestrian safety on Waters Road before the closure.

It was asked if Council could consider more 10 minute parking around the area to make it easier for people to stop for a short period of time to access the shops. Councillor Gibson stated that the same or more than currently exists (10 minute parking) in Young Street be relocated nearby.

6. B-Line Streetscape Works Upgrade Update

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that the B-Line have finished their works at Neutral Bay. Council is now moving through Neutral Bay from Young Street heading in a Cremorne direction, both sides of the Military Road corridor rolling out the new paving, furniture and streetscape upgrade, this will continue in Neutral Bay for another couple of months.

Council will go to tender at the end of 2019 to do the western section of the Military Road corridor which is from Young Lane heading towards the Oaks on both sides up to the Watson Street bus stop, as well as the streets going back to Yeo and the Streets going back to Grosvenor and the side streets that come onto Military Road.

Council is putting back (46), 100 Litre London Plane trees between Cremorne and Neutral Bay, Council wants to get this work done before summer.

7. Neutral Bay and Cremorne Urban Branding

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that at the June Streetscape Committee meeting concept plans, ideas and drafts were shown from Consultants for the branding package that was to be done in the area. Council has requested that this be put on hold and that a broader branding of the LGA be carried out, not just looking at the villages specifically, but looking at the broader villages.

8. Neutral Bay Pavement Beautification – Investigation of Hedges and Planter Boxes

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that Mr Bourne requested Council put some hedges as well as decorative planting and pots in the area.

Council is looking into what elements can be put in to complement the little shrubby plantings that are adjacent to the planters and the street trees. The Director Engineering and Property Services will need to consult with the Director Open Space to Environmental Services to see if something robust, easy to maintain and beautiful at the same time can be put in, if so, this will need to go to Council.

It was requested by Ms De Podolinsky, that Council have a line drawn on the ground at the bus stop at Wycombe and Rangers Roads, Neutral Bay so that commuters catching buses stand behind the line and make it easier for pedestrians to get past them.

9. Town Planning

9.1 Military Road Corridor Study

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that the Planning Corridor Study has been on exhibition for the last 2 months, it's now come off exhibition and council has received 260 submissions. A report is being presented at the 28 October council meeting. There were mixed responses from the community on building heights, Council will look at the feedback in detail before any decision is made. Council would like the village atmosphere to be protected and enhanced. There will be a draft future directions paper on the building heights for public comment in early 2020.

10. Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce stated that they are the endorser of the 'The Bay' Magazine which gets dropped off at businesses and households in Neutral Bay and Cremorne. This year there have been two issues, with Neutral Bay being featured in the back of the magazine. Since the release of the magazine the chamber has had a few membership enquiries.

The Chamber have been putting the banners up in the area throughout the year. A new one was installed recently, and the Christmas banner will be put up next month. The Chamber of Commerce are now back on facebook.

Council's Project Manager stated that links to the Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce has been added to the North Sydney Council website.

10.1 Police Matters

Nil.

11. General Business

Rangers

Mr Bourne stated that he had a very rude Ranger approach him in Neutral Bay, he would have appreciated if the Ranger had have been more pleasant to him.

12. Next meeting: TBC

13. Close meeting: 6.35pm.