

UNION PRECINCT



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Newsletter April 2020

As you know precinct meetings have been suspended for the foreseeable future, and this is the first of a number (we hope) of updates we will be sending out to those on the Union Precinct email list.

DAs (as of 9 April 2020)

- DA 57/2019 – 6 John St McMahons Point. Floating Dry Dock, Berrys Bay. Amended application. Comments close 13 April. See below for details on the Precinct's submission.
- DA 24/2020 – 22 Princes Street McMahons Point, Alterations and additions to semi-detached dwelling. Closed 3 April 2020.
- DA 57/2020 69 Bank St North Sydney. Alterations and additions. Closes 17 April.
- DA 377/17 – 32 Lord St, North Sydney. Modifications. Approved by Council.
- DA 378/2019 – 31 Euroka St, Waverton. Alterations and additions to dwelling. Approved by Council.
- DA16/20. 177 Pacific Hwy. North Sydney. Illumination of roof top sign. Refused by Council.
- DA 255/19. Residential flat building. 147-153 Kurraba Rd. Kurraba Point. Approved by SNPP.

Precinct System Review Stage 1 – Public exhibition 12 March to 9 July 2020. Information is available on Council's web site. Stage 1 requires feedback on a discussion paper and an amended code of conduct for office bearers and members. Issues raised in the discussion paper include name changes and boundary changes to precinct areas (with a view to reducing the number of precincts), the role and function of the Combined Precinct Committee, and the level of resource allocation by Council to precincts. As it is unlikely we will have any formal meetings before 9 July, we are still deciding how best to involve the precinct members in a response to Council by then. We are liaising with other precincts and we will send out draft responses on the papers to you for any comments. Stage 2 of the review will involve more detailed consultation with the precincts, but the timing as yet is unclear.

Precinct submission on West Harbour Tunnel EIS was delivered before 30 March 2020. There were very minor changes to the draft sent out to members a few weeks ago. Council's general response and submission to the proposal was outlined at 3 April Council meeting. Council will also begin a public campaign seeking community support for changes to the proposal to ameliorate impacts on North Sydney LGA. Council is also seeking a meeting with the Premier to discuss particular impacts from the proposal.

Floating Dry Dock. As noted above the precinct submission on extra information supplied on DA 57/2019 - Proposed Floating Dry Dock was required before 13 April. It was delivered to Council on 11 April, and addressed mainly issues associated with noise and air pollution from the proposed development. The final submission had very minor changes to the draft sent out a few weeks ago and included useful comments from residents. It was very disappointing that a series of 19 questions on notice posed to the Noakes representative at the 4 March 2020 Precinct Meeting had not been addressed by Noakes before submissions closed. We hope that these questions will be properly addressed by North Sydney Council.

When Council has considered this new information and has prepared an assessment report and recommendation, it will be forwarded to the Sydney North Planning Panel for its determination.

Union Street Speed Controls. Council decided not to install speed cushions at the western end of Union Street. This decision was based on advice from a Road Safety Audit undertaken. The audit report indicated it was doubtful that road cushions were the best solution to address the traffic issues in Union Street. Concerns were expressed over the appropriateness of the size and location of the speed cushions, the slope in the road, the orientation to Woolcott Street and the speed at which the cushions would be approached. Council's traffic planner was to discuss other possible options for traffic speed controls in Union Street at the April meeting, but this has been postponed to a later date.

Connecting with Council – 2020 Communication Survey. Feedback closes 9 June.

Other news:

- Council elections have been postponed until September 2021 due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The current Council and Councillors will continue until the 2021 election;
- Although all precinct meetings are suspended until further notice due to restrictions on indoor meetings, the next Combined Precincts Meeting will still occur on 28 April. It will be a teleconference only;
- Council meetings will continue every month, although they will be

undertaken via live webcast that the public can view. The public forum before each meeting has been suspended and the public gallery will be closed during the meeting. People who register to speak at the forum can submit a written paper prior, which will be given to Councillors. The next meeting is scheduled for 27 April. Agenda and reports will be available on the website by the Thursday before.

Finally, given the continuation of local transmission of COVID-19 from unknown sources, it is important that we continue to be rigorous in acceptance of restrictions on gathering and movement, as well as the usual social distancing and hand washing, and heed the NSW Health Department advice. Council has begun a regular COVID-19 e-newsletter, providing information on services, resources and relevant updates for older people in the North Sydney LGA. You can be added to this list by emailing communityinformation@northsydney.nsw.gov.au You can also get more information by visiting the COVID-19 site on Council's website.

Union Precinct Committee
13 April 2020