

**Report to General Manager**

Attachments:

1. Minutes 11 November 2019

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**SUBJECT:** Sustainable Transport Reference Group – Minutes 11 November 2019**AUTHOR:** Peita Rose, Governance Officer**ENDORSED BY:** Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report presents the recommendations of the last meeting of the Sustainable Transport Reference Group held on 11 November 2019. The Minutes are attached for consideration should Council wish to adopt any of the recommendations made at the meeting.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Nil.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**1. THAT** the Minutes of the Sustainable Transport Reference Group meeting of 11 November 2019 be noted and no further action taken.

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## **LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

Direction: 5. Our Civic Leadership

Outcome: 5.3 Community is informed and consulted

## **BACKGROUND**

In accordance with Council’s Code of Meeting Practice:

*20.24 The minutes of meetings of each Committee of the Council must be confirmed at a subsequent meeting of the committee.*

The Charter of the Sustainable Transport Reference Group states:

*10.4 A report on the proceedings of Reference Group meetings are to be submitted to the next available meeting of Council for endorsement, including all recommendations. Any Councillor, irrespective of whether that Councillor is a member that Reference Group, may be the mover or seconder of a motion to confirm the proceedings of a Reference Group meeting.*

## **CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS**

Community engagement is not required.

## **SUSTAINABILITY STATEMENT**

The sustainability implications are of a minor nature and as such did not warrant a detailed assessment.

## **DETAIL**

Section 7.2 of the Reference Group Charter states that:

*“The Reference Group does not have the power to bind the Council.”*

Therefore the recommendations of the meeting are included in the attached Minutes for formal adoption by Council, either in part or full, should it wish to do so.

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**NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL****REPORT OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT REFERENCE GROUP**

**SUBJECT: PROCEEDINGS OF REFERENCE GROUP AT MEETING HELD IN ROS CRICHTON PAVILION, NORTH SYDNEY, ON MONDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2019 AT 6.00PM.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor Baker in the Chair, Councillor Brodie and Councillor Keen.

**Staff:** Lindsay Menday, Sustainable Transport Project  
Co-ordinator  
Peita Rose, Governance Officer (Minutes)

**Members:** Andrew Fraser  
John Meadows  
Russ Webber  
Carolyn New  
Jillian Christie  
Jon Cook  
Rick Miller  
Louis Thevenin

**Visitors:** Ian Curdie

**Apologies** were received from Councillors Beregi and Mutton, Bill Northcott, Shirley Bevan, Marilyn Hanson and Veronique Marchandau.

**4. Minutes**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 May 2019, copies of which had been previously circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

Moved by Ms Christie and seconded by Mr Meadows.

Voting was unanimous.

**5. ST01: Update on Sustainable Transport Projects**

Report of Lindsay Menday, Sustainable Transport Project Coordinator

This report contains an update on current Traffic and Transport Operations projects related to sustainable transport.

Funding for these projects is included in the adopted 2019/20 budgets.

**Recommending:**

**1. THAT** the Update on Sustainable Transport Projects be received.

Council's Sustainable Transport Project Co-ordinator presented a short clip produced by Council to the Reference Group to provide the community with an update on the progress of building a cycle network in North Sydney.

The Motion was moved by Mr Meadows and seconded by Councillor Keen.

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

**1. THAT** the information on Current Sustainable Transport Projects be received.

**6. General Business****6.1 Phasing of Traffic Lights (Louis Thevenin)**

Mr Thevenin would like to discuss the following:

The proliferation of button activated traffic lights that frustrate pedestrians and cyclists by unnecessarily skipping phases where traffic is stopped anyway. Can RMS be approached to survey and remedy the situation by removing the buttons where they are unnecessary and returning to programmed phasing?

A Motion was moved by Mr Thevenin and seconded by Ms Christie,

**1. THAT** Council write to the RMS asking them to review button activated traffic lights in the LGA.

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

**1. THAT** Council write to the RMS asking them to review button activated traffic lights in the LGA.

**6.2 Cyclist Access to Warringah Expressway (Louis Thevenin)**

Mr Thevenin would like to discuss the following:

Do cyclists currently have access to the Warringah Expressway south of the Cammeray turnoff at Amherst into West Street? The signage is confusing.

A Motion was moved by Mr Thevenin and seconded by Mr Webber,

**1. THAT** Council write to the RMS to request a review and update of signage alongside the Warringah Freeway southbound between the Brook Street entry ramp and Alfred Street North.

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

**1. THAT** Council write to the RMS to request a review and update of signage alongside the Warringah Freeway southbound between the Brook Street entry ramp and Alfred Street North.

A link to the RMS Cycleway finder webpage referred to during the meeting is as follows: [https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maps/cycleway\\_finder](https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maps/cycleway_finder)

**6.3 Cycleway in St Leonards Park Masterplan (Louis Thevenin)**

Mr Thevenin would like to discuss the following:

Does the St Leonards Park Plan to build a peripheral cycleway involve removing the rights of cyclists to cross St Leonards Park? If so, this would greatly inconvenience many cyclists currently sharing the pathways with pedestrians.

Council's Sustainable Transport Project Co-ordinator responded that the St Leonards Park Masterplan proposes a new cycle link around the perimeter of the park, but that slow speed cycling would still be possible on the central path network.

**6.4 Frequency and Length of Sustainable Transport Reference Group Meetings (Louis Thevenin)**

Mr Thevenin would like to discuss the following:

The inadequate frequency and duration of Sustainable Transport Reference Meetings.

A Motion was moved by Mr Meadows and seconded by Mr Thevenin,

**1. THAT** Council specify there be four Sustainable Transport Reference Group meetings to be held a year.

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

**1. THAT** Council specify there be four Sustainable Transport Reference Group meetings to be held a year.

**6.5 Northern End of Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway – Combined Precincts Committee Motion (Jon Cook/Jillian Christie)**

Mr Cook would like to discuss the following:

On 21 October 2019 the Combined Precincts Committee (CPC) considered a motion stating: That CPC requests Council ask the RMS to engage with stakeholders (residents, cyclists, pedestrians, CPC, local Precinct Committees) before coming up with another plan for design, approval and construction of the cycle runoff at the northern end of the bridge cycleway. North Sydney Council to push for implementation as soon as possible.

In my view the two main options are:

- (i) to construct a runoff by commencing further south than the start of the current steps ending at the same point, necessitating a temporary descent to be built prior to construction, or

- (ii) constructing the runoff adjacent to and matching the bridge wall to run above the entrance to Milsons Point station, descending north of Cliff Street, though this would disadvantage those seeking to go to Kirribilli. The latter problem could maybe be solved by also keeping the existing steps. Ways to link the cycleway to the Middlemiss Street cycleway should also be assessed.

A program by North Sydney Council to connect the bridge runoff to cycle routes to the north is also needed.

Council's Sustainable Transport Project Coordinator gave a brief overview of the recent project history and Council's submission on the design exhibited by the RMS in 2017, noting concerns about impact on open space and heritage.

A Motion was moved by Mr Cook and seconded by Ms Christie,

- 1. THAT** Council write to the RMS requesting that a new assessment of the potential options relating to the northern runoff from the harbour bridge cycleway is undertaken as soon as possible, involving consultations with all stakeholders.
- 2. THAT** a stakeholder workshop is held under the Sustainable Transport Reference Group to further develop the concept and support the Council's proposal to the State Government.

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

- 1. THAT** Council write to the RMS requesting that a new assessment of the potential options relating to the northern runoff from the harbour bridge cycleway is undertaken as soon as possible, involving consultations with all stakeholders.
- 2. THAT** a stakeholder workshop is held under the Sustainable Transport Reference Group to further develop the concept and support the Council's proposal to the State Government.

### **6.6 Climate Strike**

Mr Fraser moved a Motion that because North Sydney Council has declared a climate emergency, they write to the State Government asking that they put on extra buses for further climate change events so that people can get to those events or alternatively they close the bridge so that people are able to walk across the bridge to get to Balmain.

No seconder therefore the motion was lost.

### **6.7 Walker Lane**

Mr Miller stated that two car spaces be removed from Walker Lane, North Sydney as it's a narrow lane and that there are only 20 metres between cars parking either side of the lane, and there needs to be sufficient room for ambulances or fire engines to have access to the lane.

Mr Miller stated that discussion on the matter had taken place with Traffic and Transport Operations and with Council's Senior Strategic Transport Planner. It was stated that this matter be referred to Traffic and Transport Operations for consideration.

**6.8 Jacarandas in McDougall Street**

Ms Christie stated that with the Jacarandas in bloom in McDougall Street there is a big issue with a lot of pedestrians in the street. Council has put signs on the ground saying be careful, watch out for cars, but a lot of the tourists that visit the street don't speak English.

It was stated by Councillor Baker that Council is looking at converting the signs that are in McDougall Street into Chinese, Korean and Japanese.

A Motion was moved by Ms Christie and seconded by Mr Thevenin,

**1. THAT** that Council develop a Traffic Management Plan for the next Jacaranda festival period making McDougall Street one way during this time.

Voting was unanimous.

**Resolved to recommend:**

**1. THAT** Council develop a Traffic Management Plan for the next Jacaranda festival period making McDougall Street one way during this time.

The Meeting closed at 7.07pm.

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**CHAIRPERSON**

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**GENERAL MANAGER**