

Council

Meeting No 8

Monday 19 August 2024

Notice No 8/1666

Notice Date 15 August 2024

minutes

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Present

The Right Hon The Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore AO (Chair)

Members Deputy Lord Mayor - Councillor Robert Kok, Councillor HY William Chan, Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis, Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Councillor Lyndon Gannon, Councillor Shauna Jarrett, Councillor Linda Scott, Councillor Yvonne Weldon AM and Councillor Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 5.00pm, those present were:

The Lord Mayor, Kok, Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Scott, Councillor Weldon and Worling.

The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, A/Chief Financial Officer, Director City Planning, Development and Transport, Director Legal and Governance, Director City Life, Director Strategic Development and Engagement, A/Director People Performance and Technology and Director City Services were also present.

Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Prayer

The Lord Mayor opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country and opening prayer.

Webcasting Statement

The Chair (the Lord Mayor), advised that in accordance with the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice, Council meetings are audio visually recorded and webcast live on the City of Sydney website. The Chair (the Lord Mayor) asked that courtesy and respect be observed throughout the meeting and advised those in attendance to refrain from making defamatory statements.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council of Monday, 29 July 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the Lord Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath or Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Sydney and the City of Sydney Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act, to the best of their ability and judgement.

Disclosures of Interest

Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that she has known and worked with various people and staff from the Sydney Basketball Association. Councillor Davis considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed the ad hoc grant with the recommended recipient or any individuals from the organisation.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.6 on the agenda, in that, in her capacity as chair for Australia South Sea Islander Port Jackson (ASSIPJ) and as a local community grassroots leader, she's known and worked with individuals from:
 - Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporations
 - Redfern All Blacks Rugby League Football Club Incorporated

Councillor Davis considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed the Grants and Sponsorship – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund with the recommended recipients or the individuals.

Councillor Linda Scott made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.3 on the agenda, in that one of the restrictions proposed is adjacent to her place of residence. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she applies her judgement to the decisions as a Councillor for the City of Sydney.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that her children play and umpire at Alexandria Basketball Stadium, in a competition run by City of Sydney Basketball Association Limited. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she applies her judgement to the decisions as a Councillor for the City of Sydney.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.1 on the agenda, in that she is the President of Australia Local Government Association (ALGA), of which Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is a member, which the City is a member of. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she applies her judgement to the decisions as a Councillor for the City of Sydney.

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 11.2 on the agenda, in that she is the President of ALGA, of which LGNSW is a member, which the City is a member of. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she applies her judgement to the decisions as a councillor for the City of Sydney.

Councillor Adam Worling disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.6 on the agenda, in that he is a member of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd and, in his role as a Councillor, has met with the CEO and team there as part of his civic duties. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because he has not discussed Item 6.6 with anyone from the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd, and it will not impact on his ability to vote on the item.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of Council.

Item 3 Minutes by the Lord Mayor

Item 3.1 Vale Dr Nyen Ling Yoong

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

I wish to inform Council of the passing of Millers Point community GP Dr Nyen Ling Yoong, known to everyone as Dr Ling.

Dr Ling had provided medical services to the Millers Point community since 2013, operating from a community GP surgery conveniently located next to the Harry Jensen Community centre.

Dr Ling's medical practice extended beyond Millers Point. She worked weekly at the Aboriginal Medical Service in Redfern and had worked in remote Indigenous communities over many years.

Dr Ling previously provided medical care in China, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Papua New Guinea. She was a conjoint senior lecturer at the Medical School of the University of Western Sydney, and previously a Medical Director of the International Health and Medical Service, which provides care in challenging environments. This included detainees within Australia's onshore immigration detention centres, providing care to people on Christmas Island, in South-eastern Australia, the Northern Territory, and on Narau and Manus Islands.

Her community engagement ranged beyond her medical practice. Dr Ling established the community street library and community garden, amongst other local projects. She is remembered as "a sustainability warrior" with a passion for growing seasonal produce and producing honey from native bees. As one Miller's Point resident recalls, "she would take over any unloved corner of dirt, if something edible started growing you'd know Ling had a hand in it".

In 2020 she completed sustainability studies at the University of New England, adding to her previous studies in medicine at the University of Malaya and Macquarie University and a Master of Business Administration from Macquarie Business School.

Dr Ling was also a talented photographer, who would travel to exotic destinations to photograph wildlife.

In keeping with an Irish tradition, Dr Ling planted sweet peas in Millers Point community garden at midnight on St Patricks Day, 17 March. They are now flowering in her honour.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of GP Dr Nyen Ling Yoong and her contribution to the Millers Point community, medicine and sustainability and academic research;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Dr Ling's husband, Professor Marshall Silver, her many friends and the Millers Point community; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor convey Council's condolences to Professor Silver.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scott –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Note – All Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Dr Nyen Ling Yoong.

Item 3.2 Vale Barry Stern**Minute by the Lord Mayor**

To Council:

I wish to inform Council of the passing of Barry Stern, philanthropist, mentor and art dealer, on 1 July 2024 at the age of 92.

Born in Sydney on September 27, 1932, to Aleck and Dot Stern, Barry completed his schooling at Sydney Boys High School and as a boarder at Newington College.

After starting his first gallery in 1958, he opened the Museum of Modern Art at 217A George Street, Sydney in April 1959, which moved to Kings Cross later that year. In 1961 he moved the gallery once more to Glenmore Road, Paddington, where it was launched as the Barry Stern Galleries by Vivien Leigh, who was then touring Australia with the Old Vic Theatre Company. Barry moved it again, across the road to 19 Glenmore Road, converting three 1840s houses into nine different exhibition spaces. It continues as the Maunsell Wickes Gallery, owned by Dominic Maunsell and Graham Wickes.

When Barry was planning the move to Glenmore Road, his father warned him that he would have difficulty selling paintings there, based on Paddington's reputation as a working-class suburb. He was to be proved wrong.

Another art dealer, Rudy Koman, had already opened a gallery two years earlier on Jersey Road at the other edge of Paddington. Other galleries soon followed, including those established by Frank Watters and Rex Irwin, who Barry had employed and mentored.

Paddington itself was changing. Young professionals who wanted an alternative to life in the suburbs, began moving in, attracted by its terrace houses and its proximity to the city centre.

This created an environment in which Barry and his fellow gallerists flourished.

As an art dealer, Barry pioneered the secondary market, buying art from private individuals and other galleries, then promoting them through his own gallery. This gave purchasers of artworks the assurance they could eventually sell them, which in turn encouraged more people to buy art, including works by younger and emerging artists.

Dominic Maunsell, who joined Barry Stern Galleries in 1985 after graduating in fine arts has summarised his impact on Sydney's and Australia's cultural life:

“When Barry started, Australian art was not in favour. But Barry encouraged young painters, sculptors and potters. He became their mentor, guide, marketer and banker. He opened the door for up-and-coming painters and gave them a chance to appeal to younger people.”

Barry Stern retired from the gallery in 1992 and moved to Tangier in Morocco, and then to Thailand 10 years later. He is survived by his nephews Peter and David and his niece, Kerre.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Barry Stern and his contribution to Australian art and artists and Sydney's and Australia's cultural life;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Barry Stern's nephews Peter and David and his niece, Kerre, and his many friends in Sydney's arts community; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor convey Council's condolences to Peter, David and Kerre.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Note – All Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Barry Stern.

Item 3.3 City of Sydney Council Achievements 2021-2024

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

Tonight's meeting is the last of our three-year term on Council. During this term we have continued to achieve great outcomes – for those who live in our city now as well as those who will live, work, run their business or visit here in the future.

The following are some key highlights over the past term.

Breathing life back into the city post-Covid

We have come a long way since the pandemic devastated our businesses, particularly hospitality, retail, tourism and entertainment. The City's quick response with a Community Recovery Plan played a key role in mitigating the damage and supporting the economy and community which continued into this term, at a cost to the City of more than \$149 million.

However, we know many of those sectors still continue to struggle including cultural and creative industries. The draft Economic Strategy 2025-2035, endorsed for public exhibition last month, charts a way forward for ongoing recovery, while championing a global economy that unlocks innovation, which is sustainable and inclusive, and provides great local experiences.

Our residents also continue to grapple with the cost-of-living crisis including increasing rents and food insecurity.

That's why we have spent \$2.1 billion over the last term supporting residents and local businesses including through grants, building capital works projects, maintaining community facilities and parks, and working with other levels of government and key stakeholders to help deliver more affordable and diverse housing than any other Council in Australia.

We also ran multiple series of successful Sydney Streets events, produced precinct activations like Neon Playground in Haymarket and Hollywood Quarter in Surry Hills, extended free outdoor dining to the end of 2025 with over 700 businesses trading on footpaths and roadways as part of the alfresco dining program.

Increased diverse and affordable housing

We continue to use every lever available to maximise the amount of affordable and diverse housing in our local area including through planning mechanisms such as developer contributions and planning agreements, selling discounted land to Community Housing Providers, and through grants from our Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund.

As a result, the City has contributed to 3,323 affordable homes in our area either built or anticipated in the future. The City's Affordable Housing levy scheme, which covers all of the Local Government Area since 2021, is projected to deliver a further 1,950 affordable dwellings.

This term we have collected levies, sold land at a discounted rate and approved grants to community housing providers totalling \$73.4 million. That includes \$60 million collected in development levies that we provided to City West Housing and we approved over \$7.4 million in discounted land sales, and cash grants of \$6 million from our Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund to not-for-profit Community Housing Providers. This includes:

- \$3 million to Wesley Mission to redevelop the RJ Williams building in Glebe, providing 56 affordable rental homes for women aged over 55, young people at risk of homelessness and key workers;
- \$3 million to the Salvation Army to redevelop William Booth House in Surry Hills which will provide 51 residential rehabilitation units and space to treat 500 outpatients;
- the discounted sale of seven terrace houses in Darlinghurst to Common Equity NSW to partner with All Nations Housing Co-operative to establish the first dedicated housing project for transgender women, a highly at-risk target-group, with an urgent need for co-located housing close to essential services; and
- the discounted sale of two one-bedroom units to B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated to operate as affordable housing for women with mental illness experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

In addition, we also gave Bridge Housing \$7.8 million in levies enabling them to buy a 20-unit block in Glebe for low-income housing.

We approved a new affordable housing distribution plan to enable City West Housing, Bridge Housing and St George Community Housing to be able to receive the Affordable Housing contributions we collect. This will ensure we continue to maximise the delivery of Affordable Housing in our area, while also strengthening the capacity of the Community Housing Provider sector.

I have continued to advocate for the retention of boarding houses which play an important role in our diverse housing stock. Councils are obliged to accept and assess Development Applications (DAs) that result in the loss of boarding houses under the outdated NSW Affordable Rental Housing State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) Guidelines for Retention of Existing Affordable Rental Housing 2009 referenced by the Housing SEPP.

We have called on the NSW Government to urgently review the Guidelines and implement the long overdue recommendations of the 2020 statutory review of the Boarding Houses Act 2012, which the former and current NSW Governments have failed to do.

I joined other Capital City Lord Mayors in Canberra to meet Federal Government Ministers and crossbench MPs to advocate for increased funding for social and affordable housing.

Our campaign to increase affordable and social housing on the Waterloo Estate redevelopment was successful with an NSW Government commitment to provide 50 per cent Social and Affordable Housing at Waterloo South. This is instead of the former Coalition Government's Communities Plus policy of 70 per cent market housing and 30 per cent social and affordable housing. Council approved \$450,000 in grants to local community services such as Redfern Legal Centre, Counterpoint Community Services and Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation to help residents through relocations as part of the Waterloo South redevelopment over the next three years.

Continuing our Long-Term Vision

Our ongoing achievements are the direct result of having a long-term plan for the future as well as strong financial management and governance. We have consistently delivered debt-free budgets that have received unqualified audits, which have allowed us to deliver on priorities while keeping rates among the lowest in the metropolitan area, with free rates for pensioners.

Emerging from the pandemic, in 2022 we adopted an update to our long-term strategic plan: Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Continuing the Vision. The new plan builds on Sustainable Sydney 2030, which underpinned the City's work to create a greener, more connected, affordable and equitable city for over a decade.

The new plan has ten strategic directions that set a framework for action, ten targets to measure progress and future transformative projects we're already realising like increasing the supply of affordable housing and unlocking more green space at Moore Park Golf Course. The plan reinforces the community's priorities, extends targets and pushes us harder to ensure Sydney's liveability, sustainability and diversity now and into the future.

Climate action

In an Australian-first, Council endorsed our Net Zero planning controls that require applications for new office buildings, hotels and shopping centres and major redevelopments to comply with minimum energy ratings and to achieve net zero by 2026 – ensuring buildings help the City reach our target of net zero emissions by 2035.

Already six development applications have been lodged that comply with the standards saving \$1.3 billion in private running costs and \$316 million in public savings as well as reducing building emissions. This work achieved a Planning Institute award in 2021 and paved the way for a similar statewide policy.

New draft planning controls aim to ban gas appliances in new residential developments, and we made it easier to install solar panels by making it exempt development. We also advocated for the statewide banning of gas connections in new developments, regulations to protect apartment owners from embedded networks, and the introduction of minimum energy performance standards for existing rental properties, which is also an issue of equity.

In 2023, we installed 200 heat sensors across the City which will provide valuable data to plan better heat mitigation and adaptation strategies, including where to plant more trees. We provided funding for a pop-up cooling tent fitted with a water misting system and other facilities to provide respite and care for people sleeping rough during heat waves.

Food scraps make up one-third of the waste in general rubbish bins, and decomposing food waste makes up eight per cent of global emissions. I'm pleased that following my 2023 Lord Mayoral Minute, Council agreed to establish a food scraps recycling trial. We are feeding our food scraps to maggots, whose manure can become protein-rich animal feed and fertiliser. This trial - a truly circular solution - will be up and running by the end of 2024.

We are lowering barriers to EV use with a trial of nine on-street charging points across the city with space to charge 17 cars with another eight charging points with space for 16 cars on the way. These locations will result in a total of 33 on-street charging bays in our area. They complement the 222 publicly accessible charging bays in our area including 26 'super-fast' charge points.

To support strata communities with EV charging, our development controls now mandate that all new apartment buildings are EV ready and we are investigating ways to overcome the technical, governance and management challenges facing strata communities who want to retrofit their buildings with EV chargers.

Over the past year we have doubled the number of electric vehicles in our fleet. We now have 39 electric cars, making up 60 per cent of our passenger vehicle fleet. The remaining 40 per cent are hybrid vehicles and will be replaced with electric over the next three years.

As more electric trucks and equipment become available, we are adding them to our fleet. We now have five electric vehicles in our cleansing and resource recovery fleet - including one truck, three buggies and one footway sweeper and we will be adding more over the next few years.

We secured the lease of three floors in 180 George Street for 20 years for Greenhouse, the biggest climate technology hub in Australasia. Opened earlier this year, the hub is where about 400 innovators, ecopreneurs, investors, governments, climate action groups, academics, researchers and committed corporations come to collaborate on solutions to the world's most serious climate problems.

Our partnerships that focus on reducing emissions, water use and waste in building continued to deliver impressive results. The Better Buildings Partnership which involves 99 commercial office buildings capturing 55 per cent of office space in the city have achieved a 95 per cent reduction in emissions and 63 per cent reduction in water use from a 2006 baseline.

In the tourism sector, the Sustainable Destination Partnership which covers over half the hotel rooms in Sydney plus many major attractions, have reduced emissions and water use by 24 per cent from a 2018 baseline. Two thirds of members are also diverting 50 per cent of their waste from landfill.

CitySwitch supports 19 per cent of office-based businesses in Australia (1,171 tenancies and 142 of those in Sydney alone). In Sydney, 80 percent of tenancies have switched to renewable electricity and the average NABERS energy rating is 5 stars. CitySwitch is so successful that other councils are joining to support businesses in their areas to move toward net zero emissions and the Federal Government will also be partnering with the CitySwitch program so its reach will continue across Australia.

By working with 279 apartment buildings home to 32,000 residents, our Smart Green Apartments program has delivered more than \$11 million in savings to Owners Corporations and prevented over 61,000 tonnes in emissions through investments in efficiency improvements and renewables in apartment buildings. The City's Environmental Grants are also driving apartment building upgrades and innovative sustainability solutions across our city.

Street lighting is the largest source of electricity use for councils. In 2023, we completed more than a decade of work to upgrade all street lights in our area to energy efficient LEDs. We began by converting 6,500 lights owned and managed by the City and in 2018 paid Ausgrid to accelerate the upgrade of their remaining lights. In total, 17,000 street lights have now been upgraded to LED. This is our biggest carbon reduction project and saves the City and Ausgrid almost \$2 million a year.

Following our lead, 29 other councils in Greater Sydney have converted their old streetlights to energy efficient LED lights, through the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) Streetlight Improvement Program. Collectively they have converted 75 per cent – or more than 210,000 – street lights across Greater Sydney which will result in 69 per cent of energy savings by 2026 compared with the peak of 2008, and recurrent cost savings of at least \$94 million a year.

In March, the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia awarded the Engineering Excellence Award to the Street Lighting Improvement Program, noting the extraordinary level of collaboration in this project.

And we are not stopping there. We will add smart controls to our street lighting allowing them to be dimmed in off peak periods, reducing energy use by a further 30 per cent, saving money and freeing up capacity in the network for other uses.

Trees and greenery

In 2021, we approved our new Urban Forest Strategy and Street Tree Master Plan to guide our work to create an even more cool, calm, and climate change-resilient city. Our ambitious Street Tree Master Plan received a prestigious award at the 2023 NSW Landscape Architecture Awards.

This term we've planted 1,949 street trees, installed over 26,455 square metres of public domain landscaping and installed six new raingardens, and added over 185,000 new plants in our open spaces.

Because of our extensive planting, we are the only city in the country to increase our canopy cover over the past decade. Now we're readying to go even further – to plant more trees, plants and shrubbery, and make sure they are species that are hardy and resilient to our changing climate.

Street upgrades, parks and facilities

In the last 20 years, we've invested \$474 million creating 36 new parks and open spaces, adding over 30.8 hectares of new open space and upgraded 143 neighbourhood parks. In the last term, these included:

- The Drying Green in Green Square
- Butterscotch Park and Honeykiss Way in Rosebery
- Wimbo Park in Surry Hills
- Lawrence Hargrave Reserve in Potts Point, and
- Peace Park in Chippendale

We created four new sports fields at Gunyama Park in Zetland, Getiela Park and Perry Park in Alexandria, and at the Crescent in Annandale, using synthetic turf. These fields provide an extra 11,000 playing hours per year, achieving about 70 per cent of our target for sports and recreation needs by 2030.

In 2023, we celebrated a comprehensive restoration of the 90-year old, heritage-listed Archibald Fountain in Hyde Park including structural, hydraulic, and electrical improvements.

After years of campaigning, the NSW Premier committed to converting up to 20 hectares of the Moore Park Golf Course to publicly accessible parkland for the growing communities of Green Square, Waterloo, Zetland and Redfern, with funding allocated to progress planning. We called for the expanded parkland to be used for informal recreation with improved connectivity and no more parking.

In 2022, we developed a masterplan for a united Wentworth Park for when the Greyhound racing lease expires in 2027 so the park can be returned to the public. However, earlier this year we had to reinvigorate our campaign when the NSW Government indicated it was considering reversing the decision to end Greyhound racing there when the lease expires. The NSW Government must honour commitments made to the communities of Pyrmont, Ultimo and Glebe so this precious parkland can support increased density in the area as part of redevelopment under the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy.

We increased the budget for our community centres by 20 per cent, which added nine additional staff across our community facilities. We have also added more than 70 new programs and activities at our community centres over and above existing programs and the St Helens Community centre in Glebe is now open five days per week.

In 2022, we introduced fee waivers for eligible community groups using our venues which will continue until 2029. Over the past two years, 244 requests for fee waivers have been granted for over 14,000 hours of use, valued at almost \$420,000.

We are nearing completion of the \$11 million upgrade to Pyrmont Community Centre with an increased scope of works at the community's request. Later this year we will also reopen a refreshed Darlington Activity Centre.

We also approved \$7.9 million plans to upgrade the Redfern/Darlington Community Centre Open Space, Yellomundee Park and Hugo Street Reserve, including to keep the basketball court in its place.

Council approved a \$44 million plan to rejuvenate Chinatown, which includes major public domain upgrades, support for businesses and more community events as well as grant funding and changes to planning controls. Heritage restoration of the Gates has begun.

We successfully completed major upgrades of Macleay Street, Potts Point, Macdonald Street, Erskineville, and George Street south – creating beautiful streetscapes and more space for people with improved accessibility.

The \$34 million upgrade of Crown Street is moving ahead and we're creating even more space for outdoor dining, landscaping, new smart poles, bubblers and seating.

In 2023, our new street furniture designed by Grimshaw Architects and the City of Sydney received an urban design commendation at the Australian Institute of Architecture awards.

Earlier this year, as a result of a shocking failure of a State-based regulatory process that governs the safety of recycled mulch, we were advised by the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) that 43 of our parks and 135 street garden bed sites were potentially affected by contaminated mulch through supply chains. We immediately mobilised substantial resources and began testing, remediating and disposing of contaminated mulch as quickly as possible. All affected areas have now been fully remediated and are open to the public.

Building a connected city

Transport for NSW estimates that in Sydney, road congestion costs the economy more than \$7 billion a year, and this impact is predicted to grow significantly. Our transport system is consistently identified in global surveys as one of the major factors affecting our competitiveness and liveability.

Light rail has transformed George Street in central Sydney. What was once a grimy street clogged with noisy, polluting buses has been transformed into a tree-lined boulevard where people want to live, work, shop and socialise and attracted over \$8 billion in private investment in the CBD.

By the time the George Street transformation is complete, we'll have spent about \$300 million reclaiming over 26,000 square meters of former roadway for people, including adjacent streets, with new footpaths, trees, street furniture, spaces for outdoor dining and simpler intersections to reduce travel times for everyone.

Work was completed on George Street south and Devonshire Street in Surry Hills in August 2023. We are now pedestrianising George Street north from Hunter Street to Essex Street, which will be extended to Alfred Street later on when the NSW Government's Circular Quay Redevelopment project is completed.

Earlier this year, we were awarded the 2024 Australian Urban Design Awards: Winner of Built Projects – City and Regional Scale for our transformation of George Street. The Jury commented on the significant impacts that the project has had on reinvigorating our city through reclaiming places for people and public transport instead of vehicles. They also said that the project's impact is testament to the power that the collaboration of multiple levels of government can bring to cities.

We approved a major public domain upgrade for the Town Hall precinct, including the redevelopment of Sydney Square – the next obvious step in the transformation of George Street. We're also providing greener and calmer public spaces under the City North Public Domain Plan as the new metro stations and large development proposals bring more workers, residents and visitors.

We have delivered 25 kilometres of separated cycleways, over 66 kilometres of shared paths and 45 kilometres of other cycling infrastructure, more than doubling the number of bike trips in the city area since 2010 when counts began.

This term we completed cycling infrastructure on:

- Portman Street, Zetland Avenue and the first section of Ngamuru Avenue (between Botany Road and O’Riordan Street) in Green Square;
- Swanson, Macdonald, Ashmore, and Harley Streets and Henderson Road, Railway Parade and Bridge Street in Erskineville;
- Huntley Street and Mitchell Road in Alexandria;
- Gadigal Avenue and Potter and Crystal Streets in Waterloo;
- Pitt Street North, King Street (between Pitt and Phillip streets) and College Street in central Sydney; and
- Booth Street in Glebe.

With four more cycling infrastructure projects currently under construction including Oxford and Liverpool Streets cycleways, Castlereagh Street walking and cycling improvements, Ngamuru Avenue (between O’Riordan and Bourke Streets) and Glebe to Ultimo cycleway, five in detailed design and three in early planning stages - we remain committed to connecting the bike network.

We have also been working closely with the NSW Government to progress the delivery of key missing cycleway links under their control including the Oxford Street East cycleway between Paddington Gates and Taylor Square. There are up to 3,000 bike trips on Oxford Street every day, and the most reported bike accidents of any street in our area. Adding a separated cycleway will lead to substantial safety improvements for cyclists, it will be great for pedestrians by taking cyclists off footpaths and be great for the fabulous strip.

As well as providing this essential infrastructure, we continue to offer free one-on-one cycling courses and pop-up bike maintenance sessions.

To mitigate traffic impacts from WestConnex and the opening of the St. Peters interchange, the City worked with the community to develop the Alexandria and Erskineville Traffic and Transport Study focusing on Park Street, Henderson Road, Mitchell Road, Maddox and Harley Streets where residents raised particular concerns about road safety in the area. Council has committed \$6.5 million to implement 17 traffic management and road space reallocation treatments over next term to improve safety, access and amenity for people walking and cycling in the area, subject to further investigations, design and consultation.

In collaboration with Transport for NSW, the Millers Point Community Resident Action Group and other stakeholders, we’re also developing a traffic and transport plan for State heritage-listed Millers Point in response to local concerns about safety and increased traffic from tourists off cruise ships and large events like New Year’s Eve and Vivid.

Currently, 75 per cent of all local and regional roads in the City are 40km/h or less. We’re working with Transport for NSW so that by August this year, all remaining local and regional roads in our LGA will have a speed limit of 40km/h or less, up from less than five per cent in 2004. We are also advocating for 30km/h speed limits in the city centre and other areas of highest pedestrian activity, in line with other global cities.

This term Council approved three key strategies and actions plans that underpin what the City will continue to do to create a city for walking, cycling and public transport including Electrification of Transport in the City - Strategy and Action Plan, the City Access Strategy and Action Plan and A City for Walking Strategy and Action Plan.

Securing Oxford Street's future

We began aligning the stars for Oxford Street's long-term success, with new planning controls that encourage investment and create more creative and cultural space, and the major redevelopment of City-owned properties, while protecting heritage. Since the new planning controls came into effect in 2022, we have received four applications. If all four are approved, they will contribute almost 6,000 square metres of new cultural and creative space.

The new planning controls are complemented by the Oxford Street LGBTIQ+ Social and Cultural Place Strategy, a first in Australia for an LGBTIQ+ precinct. The Strategy aims to recognise, preserve, and promote Oxford Street's significant connection to the LGBTIQ+ community.

As part of the strategy, in June 2023 we launched the Oxford Street Pride Business Charter. The Charter supports businesses to adopt practices that are inclusive of diverse LGBTIQ+ communities and to work together to celebrate the LGBTIQ+ history and character of the precinct. As of July this year, 66 businesses had signed up. The City has also supported the "PrideVis" initiative, launched in June this year, which provides vests featuring pride flags to be worn by security staff at bars and pubs on Oxford Street.

The Strategy also acknowledges Council's long standing support of the LGBTIQ+ community's aspiration for a permanent queer museum. This aspiration was realised on 23 February this year with the official opening of Qtopia Sydney, the Centre for Queer History and Culture in the former Darlinghurst Police Station in part thanks to \$283,500 in seed funding by the City. We also provided the Bandstand in Green Park as a temporary museum during WorldPride and have leased the former nearby substation and toilet block to Qtopia as additional spaces. Earlier this year we gave Qtopia a \$100,000 cash grant to enable it to provide free entry on Sundays.

Celebrating and supporting our First Nations peoples

In 2022, at a headland ceremony reminiscent of traditional Gadigal gatherings, First Nations dancers unveiled one of the city's most significant public artworks: *bara*, our Monument to the Eora, the first peoples of Sydney. Created by artist Judy Watson, *bara* represents the fish hooks crafted and used by Gadigal women for thousands of generations, the work has a gleaming finish reminiscent of local seashells.

We also began installing signage for Yananurala, a nine-kilometre walk that will highlight Aboriginal history and culture at places along the Harbour foreshore.

In June 2023, the City launched the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce strategy, a key part of our Stretch reconciliation action plan. The Strategy demonstrates our commitment to our shared responsibility in the Closing the Gap agreement. It recognises that our work to increase employment outcomes must be Aboriginal led and informed if it is to be successful. A dedicated Workforce Advisor – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Inclusion has been employed to implement the Strategy.

In 2023 the City was proud to support amending Australia's Constitution to provide for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament. Although the referendum to achieve recognition of our First Peoples was unsuccessful, around 70 per cent of people within the Federal Electorate of Sydney (which largely overlaps the City of Sydney Local Government Area) voted "yes".

In April 2022, Council unanimously agreed to increase understanding and awareness of the history, culture and ongoing experience of Australian South Sea Islanders within our community. We flew the Australian South Sea Islander flag at Sydney Town Hall on 25 August for South Sea Islander Recognition Day, which has now become an annual event, alongside other events and programs.

We opened the doors to our new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and cultural centre at 119 Redfern Street. Guided by the City's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel, the City's Indigenous Leadership and Engagement and Social City teams, the colonial building has been reclaimed and turned into a beautiful place for people to share knowledge and culture.

Supporting a creative city

In June 2022, we increased our stock of affordable creative space with the opening of our five-storey City of Sydney Creative Studios in Bathurst Street, leased from the developer Greenland for a peppercorn rent for 99 years. This state-of-the-art facility provides affordable spaces to suit all kinds of artists, musicians, podcasters, performers and other creatives.

We have also begun to work to restore the historic Sydney Park brick kilns for cultural and community use and events.

In June this year we unanimously signed off on the closure of the Creative City Cultural Policy and Action Plan 2014- 2024, with 97 per cent of the 208 actions commenced, underway or completed. The remaining three per cent are the sole responsibility of the Commonwealth Government.

We simultaneously endorsed the draft Cultural Strategy 2025-2035 for public exhibition which proposes new solutions to the challenges facing our cultural and creative sector, backed by new investment of \$20 million in new funding initiatives to support the arts, culture, and creative industries.

One exciting proposal is our joint commitment with the NSW Government to deliver a Creative Land Trust. This will be an independent charitable trust that can raise money from governments and philanthropy to secure affordable rehearsal and studio space in perpetuity and address the critical shortage of creative space.

Championing inclusion

This year, we created a new \$4.5 million food relief grant program to help organisations distribute food to struggling households as the cost-of-living soars. The first round of grants funded 21 community organisations who in turn support over 200 agencies providing the equivalent of 350,000 meals for food insecure people in our City. Through our Food Operations Working Group and a dedicated staff member, we help source over one tonne of fresh produce weekly so members also share resources, and connect to the broader food system to develop circular solutions.

In 2023, as part of our Emerging Civic Leaders Program, a series of videos were developed with young people with disabilities to increase awareness of invisible disabilities and break down stereotypes. These terrific videos reached about 76,000 online views. We also hosted a Good Access is Good for Business event as part of the City's International Day for People with Disability program to help reduce barriers faced by people with disabilities.

We transitioned to flying the Progress Pride flag over Town Hall and throughout city streets during this year's Mardi Gras. The design represents greater inclusion, embracing the breadth of identity within the LGBTIQ+ community.

We have updated the rainbow flag crossing on the Bourke and Campbell Street intersection and a new Progress Pride crossing will be installed at Taylor Square outside Qtopia before the end of the year. The rainbow pathway in Prince Alfred Park has also been updated with the Progress Pride flag design.

The City allocated more than \$1.7 million in funding to support the marquee international pride event, WorldPride in February and March 2023. WorldPride was a major event, not just for Sydney or Australia, but the whole Asia-Pacific. Despite significant strides, LGBTIQ+ people in Australia and across the region are still fighting for equal rights.

Replacing 60 street name signs in the Oxford Street precinct with street name blades featuring a progress pride flag motif is a permanent legacy of WorldPride. The 22 Progress Pride Street banners installed on the north side of Taylor Square for WorldPride are also now permanent.

In 2022, we began running free Trans and Gender Diverse Swim Events at Cook and Phillip Park Pool, providing up to 500 people with a safe and inclusive opportunity for swimming, sport, food, and fun and music".

We also host Rainbow family events in our libraries and extensive program of activities during Pride Month.

In the face of increased violence at queer events and places, we hosted an LGBTIQ+ Safety Summit in conjunction with ACON, bringing together key stakeholders to create a path for a safe and inclusive city.

Following the Summit the City hosted a workshop, *Keeping Safer Online for LGBTQ+ Communities*, with the eSafety Commissioner. We also awarded a grant which enabled ACON to host three similar workshops for council workers in NSW and two workshops for community leaders and workers.

In 2022, I resumed hosting an annual welcome for international students, after this event paused due to the Covid pandemic. These events recognise the important contribution international students make to our city. Council also resolved to call on the NSW Government to provide international and part-time university students access to public transport concessions.

Delivering design excellence and planning for our future

The City has achieved greener, more humane, innovative and beautifully designed buildings and public domain areas through mechanisms such as our Design Excellence Policy and the competitive design process. More than 160 competitive processes have been completed since its inception over 24 years ago, with many developments acknowledged by local and international design and development industry awards.

This term we also continued to deliver the Green Square Urban Renewal area along with our \$1.8 billion infrastructure plan and 40 parks, places and facilities planned. This is an example of density done well.

We have been implementing changes to our planning controls in line with the targets and actions in our Local Strategic Planning Statement, including changes on Oxford Street, Botany Road and in our Southern Enterprise Area.

Last year we approved a suite of updates to our Local Environmental Plans and Development Controls Plans, following the first extensive review since 2012. These changes introduce incentives for diverse housing in Central Sydney, protections against a significant loss of housing, flexibility in application processes to increase efficiency and decrease costs. We also approved increased greening requirements and tightened car parking rates. Most of these changes are awaiting Gateway Determination from the NSW Government to allow us to consult on the changes.

We have met 71 per cent of our previous NSW Government set housing target within just seven years of our 20-year goal, with over 21,000 dwellings built and over 19,000 in the pipeline. This term alone, the City has determined about 5,300 development applications and modification worth \$8.5 billion.

In May, the NSW Government gave us a new housing target of around 18,900 new private homes to be completed by July 2029, which the City will, as it has always done, endeavour to meet. We are committed to working with the NSW Government on a Local Housing Accord to ensure more opportunities for housing that deliver well-designed, sustainable homes and attractive neighbourhoods, as market conditions allow.

After over five years sitting with the NSW Government, the Central Sydney Planning Strategy finally came into effect in 2021. It supports opportunities for additional building height and density in the right locations, so long as the new development contributes to environmental sustainability, design excellence and infrastructure.

The approval was subject to a staged transition from one per cent to three per cent contribution rate for local infrastructure, which came into full effect in 2022. It is estimated the new contributions plan will contribute over \$250 million towards infrastructure projects in Central Sydney. Last year, we approved controls to incentivise diverse housing in Central Sydney, including build-to-rent and co-living housing.

In the meantime in Central Sydney, we worked with developers to deliver not just impressive, sustainable office towers but also a network of retail lanes, public art and community facilities at the Quay Quarter Precinct, which includes Quay Quarter Tower, the world's largest upcycled tower building and 180 George Street which includes a 20-metre high canopy artwork by Aboriginal artist Daniel Boyd above the first new public plaza to be dedicated to the City in decades.

We refurbished significant City-owned buildings like the Corporation Building in Haymarket and 343 George Street in the city centre.

Standing up to the NSW Government

We negotiated improved planning outcomes on state significant sites at Blackwattle Bay, Central Barangaroo, Waterloo and the Paint Shop Precinct in North Eveleigh. This work will continue as we advocate for more local considerations as the government implements its widespread planning changes including those to encourage more low and mid-rise housing.

The NSW Government proposed taking local councils' infrastructure contributions – money levied from developers to pay for community infrastructure associated with development, like parks and playgrounds. I led a campaign with other Sydney Metropolitan Mayors who successfully defeated the bill, but we remain vigilant to prevent similar proposals that will disadvantage our residents and businesses.

We asked the NSW Government to take urgent action to strengthen renters' rights. Recent government announcements to end no grounds evictions is welcome, but renters also desperately need a limit on rent increases, energy efficiency standards in rental homes and changes to make it easier for renters to have pets.

Following a comprehensive review of the impacts of short-term rental accommodation on rental affordability in our area, we advocated for a 90-day cap on non-hosted short term rental accommodation alongside a levy proposed by the NSW Government. We also argued that short term rental caps must be enforced, the register improved to better capture all listings and prevent listing ineligible properties and be properly enforced.

We supported a community-led petition calling for Transport for NSW to allow companion animals on public transport. The petition garnered over 10,000 online signatures and the NSW Government has committed to investigate the opportunity for change.

In June, following my Lord Mayor Minute, Council resolved to call on the NSW Government for urgent regulation of share bikes including capping the number of share bikes and operators in our area.

We have started advocating and campaigning for the extension of the light rail line from Parramatta Road and Broadway to Green Square via Central Station – just as we did for George Street and the rest of the CBD and South East Light Rail. The new light rail line will transport thousands of workers and students to jobs and education, boost businesses, support the 24-hour economy, and contribute to Sydney's net-zero future by taking cars off the roads. We've given in-principle approval to contribute \$100 million towards enhancing the public domain alongside light rail, if the NSW Government commits to this project.

Following a comprehensive review of outdoor alcohol restrictions in our area, we are reducing the number of restrictions from 433 to 218, retaining those only where there are higher than average incidents of alcohol related violence, and areas strongly supported by the community to be kept.

Working in Partnerships

I would like to thank the many members of our advisory panels and reference groups who have worked with Councillors and City staff to achieve these remarkable outcomes.

This includes the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel, Audit Risk and Compliance Committee, Better Building Partnership, Business, Economic Development and Covid Recovery Advisory Panel, Central Sydney Planning Committee, City Switch National Steering Group, Curatorial Advisory Panel, Cycling Advisory Committee, Cultural and Creative Sector Advisory Panel, Design Advisory Panel, Design Advisory Panel Residential Sub-committee, Food Operations Working Group; Housing for All Working Group, Inclusion (Disability) Advisory Panel, Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee, Multicultural Advisory Panel, Local Planning Panel, Night Time City Transport Working Group, Public Art Advisory Panel, and the Residential Apartment Sustainability Reference Group.

I would also like to thank the tens of thousands of people – residents, workers, business owners, representatives of the not for profit and business sectors and government representatives – who have shared their knowledge and advice and who have been active and engaged contributors to our city. The important feedback from across our community shapes our policy and informs the detail of how projects are designed and implemented.

I would also like to acknowledge the importance of the City's participation in international collaborations such as the C40 Climate Leadership Group and the 100 Resilient Cities Program.

Sydney was announced as a member of the 100 Resilient Cities network in late 2014. This initiative pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation helps cities around the world become more resilient to the physical, social and economic challenges of the 21st century. We continue to work collaboratively with Councils from across metropolitan Sydney, as well as the NSW government, to develop the Resilient Sydney strategy.

I want to thank Councillors for your contributions and especially those Councillors not seeking re-election – Councillor Shauna Jarrett, and Councillor Linda Scott who has served for three terms.

Importantly, I want to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of City staff over this term. We have benefitted from having dedicated and expert staff, led by our effective and inspiring Chief Executive Officer Monica Barone PSM and our committed and talented group of Directors.

Thank you to the Chief Executive Officer, Directors and all staff for all your hard work and expert advice and commitment to our common goals of Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050: Continuing the Vision.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council acknowledge the contributions of City Councillors, City of Sydney staff, partners, community members, and all who have worked constructively with us, for our city and city communities.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE AO

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

S051491

Item 4 Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer

There were no Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer for this meeting of Council.

Item 5 Matters for Tabling

5.1 Disclosures of Interest

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that the Disclosures of Interest returns be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6 Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee**PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO

(Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Robert Kok

(Deputy Chair)

Councillors HY William Chan, (Waskam) Emelda Davis, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Shauna Jarrett, Linda Scott, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 2pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott and Worling.

Councillor Weldon arrived at the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee at 2.02pm during discussion and before the vote on Item 6.3.

The meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee concluded at 3.02pm.

Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of its meeting of 12 August 2024 be received, with Items 6.1 and 6.2 being noted and the recommendations set out below for Items 6.3 to 6.6 inclusive being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.1**Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Kok, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of Monday 22 July 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Adam Worling disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.6 on the agenda in that he is a member of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd and in his role as a Councillor, has met with the CEO and team as part of his civic duties. Councillor Worling considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because he has not discussed Item 6.6 with anyone from the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd, and it will not impact on his ability to vote on the recommendation before him.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matters on the agenda for this meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee.

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommended the following:

Item 6.3

2023-24 Quarter 4 Review – Delivery Program 2022-2026

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the interim financial performance of Council for the 2023/24 financial year ending 30 June 2024, including the Net Surplus of \$156.9M as outlined within the report and summarised at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the full year Capital Works expenditure of \$182.5M for 2023/24, approve the proposed revote of \$20.3M and adjustments to future years forward estimates, to increase the adopted 2024/25 budget to \$247.1M including \$8.0M of contingency to progress the planned capital works, as detailed in the Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) note the Technology and Digital Services (TDS) capital expenditure of \$16.3M for 2023/24 and approve the proposed revote of \$2.0M and other adjustments totalling (\$0.6M), to increase the adopted 2024/25 TDS capital budget to \$25.4M as shown in Attachment B in the subject report;
- (D) note the full year Plant and Equipment expenditure of \$9.0M for 2023/24 (net of disposals) and approve the proposed revote of \$7.3M, to increase the adopted 2024/25 net budget to \$25.9M as show in Attachment B in the subject report;
- (E) note the full year net Property Acquisitions of \$1.6M;
- (F) note the operational performance indicators and quarter and full year achievements against the Delivery Program 2022-2026 objectives, as detailed in Attachment C to the subject report;
- (G) note the supplementary report which details fee-waived and discounted community facilities hire, the quick response, street banner and venue hire support grants and sponsorship programs, major legal issues, international travel, property and land use matters approved under delegation and contracts over \$50,000 in Quarter 4, as detailed in Attachment D to the subject report; and
- (H) approve amendment of the date for working with business and approval of outdoor dining on the road area in Appendix 1 of the Outdoor Dining Guidelines to 30 June 2025.

Carried unanimously.

X094861

Item 6.4**Investments Held as at 31 July 2024**

It is resolved that Investment Report as at 31 July 2024 be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

X020701

Item 6.5**Post Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Ngamuru Avenue**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the name "Ngamuru Avenue" for the road identified in Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (B) an application be made to the Geographical Names Board for the naming of the place as approved in (A), in accordance with the Geographical Names Act 1996.

Carried unanimously.

X100685.003

Item 6.6**Licence Approval - Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a 100 per cent subsidy to Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd to licence Suite 9.02, Level 9, 309 Pitt Street, Sydney for two years commencing on 1 September 2024 in accordance with section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 on the terms (incorporating all outgoings and utilities):

Licence Term	Market Rental Value per year	Subsidy (Rounded)	Subsidy Amount for 2 years	Rent to be paid
1 September 2024 - 31 August 2026	\$128,865	100%	\$257,730	\$0

- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a licence agreement with Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd on the terms of these resolutions;
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution; and
- (D) Council note that in relation to the recovery package for Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Ltd approved by Council on 13 May 2024, payment of the initial portion of the 2024/25 grant occurred upon receiving the acquittal report from the 2024 Festival, with the balance to be paid upon receipt of the full independent financial and operational audit for ongoing operations.

Carried unanimously.

S095194.009

Item 7 Report of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee**PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis
(Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Robert Kok, Councillors HY William Chan, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Shauna Jarrett, Linda Scott, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 3.03pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott, Weldon and Worling.

Adjournment

At 3.52pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

At the resumption of the meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee at 4.08pm, all Councillors were present.

The meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee concluded at 4.31pm.

Report of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee

Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee of its meeting of 12 August 2024 be received, with Items 7.1 and 7.2 being noted, the recommendations set out below for Items 7.5 and 7.6 inclusive being adopted in globo, and Items 7.3 and 7.4 being dealt with as shown immediately following those Items.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee of Monday 22 July 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that she has known and worked with various people and staff from the Sydney Basketball Association. Councillor Davis considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed the ad hoc grant with the recommended recipient or any individuals from the organisation.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.6 on the agenda, in that in her capacity as chair of Australian South Sea Islanders – Port Jackson (ASSIPJ) and as a local community grassroots leader, she has known and worked with individuals from
 - Kinchela Boys Home Aboriginal Corporation
 - Redfern All Blacks Rugby League Football Club Incorporated

Councillor Davis considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she has not discussed the Grants and Sponsorship – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund with the recommended recipients of the individuals.

Councillor Linda Scott made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.3 on the agenda, in that one of the restrictions proposed is adjacent to my place of residence. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she applies her judgement to the decisions as a Councillor for the City of Sydney.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that her children play and umpire at Alexandria Basketball Stadium, in a competition run by City of Sydney Basketball Association Limited. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she applies her judgement to the decisions as a Councillor for the City of Sydney.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee.

Item 7.3

Post Exhibition – Outdoor Alcohol Restrictions

Note - the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 19 August 2024.

At the meeting of Council, the Officer's Recommendation was moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by Councillor Kok -

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received from the community on the list of proposed alcohol-free zones and alcohol prohibited areas as summarised in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council approve the establishment of alcohol-free zones and alcohol prohibited areas for a four year period as outlined in Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council note that the Chief Executive Officer will continue to undertake advocacy to the NSW Government in relation to necessary reforms in this area and work with relevant entities to develop appropriate strategies for managing alcohol consumption in the public domain, in accordance with the resolution of Council of 24 June 2024; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the locations of the alcohol-free zones and alcohol prohibited areas will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Scott, and by consent, the motion was varied, such that it read as follows:

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received from the community on the list of proposed alcohol-free zones and alcohol prohibited areas as summarised in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council approve the establishment of alcohol-free zones and alcohol prohibited areas for a four year period as outlined in Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to initiate the process of community consultation for an alcohol-free zone on Jones Bay Road, Pyrmont, in response to community requests;
- (D) Council note that the Chief Executive Officer will continue to undertake advocacy to the NSW Government in relation to necessary reforms in this area and work with relevant entities to develop appropriate strategies for managing alcohol consumption in the public domain, in accordance with the resolution of Council of 24 June 2024; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor errors to the matters set out in this report, noting that the locations of the alcohol-free zones and alcohol prohibited areas will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

The motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

X109840.001

Speakers

Bryan Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Boag, Diane Larter, Zena Vaassen and Judy Cashmore addressed the meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee on Item 7.3.

Item 7.4

Grants and Sponsorship – Ad Hoc Grant – City of Sydney Basketball Association Limited – Capital Works Funding Request

Note - the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 19 August 2024.

At the meeting of Council, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok -

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve a cash grant of \$250,000 (excluding GST) to be sourced from the 2024/25 General Contingency Fund to City of Sydney Basketball Association Limited towards replacement of the stadium roof of the Alexandria Basketball Stadium at 53-57 Maddox Street, Alexandria NSW;
- (B) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer the grant agreement with Sydney Basketball Association Limited.

Carried unanimously.

X092336

Speaker

Ben Madgen (CEO, City of Sydney Basketball Association) addressed the meeting of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee on Item 7.4.

The Resilient Communities and Economy Committee recommended the following:

Item 7.5

Grants and Sponsorship – Accommodation Grant Program – Support for Asian Australian Artists Association Incorporated (4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art) and Australian Design Centre

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approves a new subsidy and grant level for Accommodation Grant Program tenant Asian Australian Artists Association Incorporated for Level 1 and Shop 3 The Corporation Building, 181-187 Hay Street, Haymarket for the remaining years of the current lease on the following rental subsidy:

	Market Rental Value	Rental Subsidy	Rental Subsidy Value	Rent Payable
Pro rata Year 4 01/09/2024 – 30/6/2025 (303 days)	\$249,456	100% (current subsidy amount 97%)	\$249,456	\$0
Year 5 2025-26	\$309,515	100% (current subsidy amount 97%)	\$309,515	\$0

- (B) Council approves a new subsidy and grant level for Accommodation Grant Program tenant Asian Australian Artists Association Incorporated for Shop 2, Ground Floor, The Corporation Building, 181-187 Hay Street, Haymarket for the remaining years of the current lease on the following rental subsidy:

	Market Rental Value	Rental Subsidy	Rental Subsidy Value	Rent Payable
Year 2 2024-25	\$66,538	100% (current subsidy amount 97%)	\$66,538	\$0
Year 3 2025-26	\$68,534	100% (current subsidy amount 97%)	\$68,534	\$0
Year 4	\$70,590	100% (current subsidy	\$70,590	\$0

	Market Rental Value	Rental Subsidy	Rental Subsidy Value	Rent Payable
2026-27		amount 97%)		
Year 5 2027-28	\$72,708	100% (current subsidy amount 97%)	\$72,708	\$0

- (C) Council approve an increase in rental subsidy to Accommodation Grant Program tenant Australian Design Centre for 101-111 and 113-115 William Street, Darlinghurst for the remaining years of the current lease on the following rental subsidy:

	Market Rental Value	Rental Subsidy	Rental Subsidy Value	Rent Payable
Pro rata Year 4 01/09/2024 - 22/3/2025 (203 days)	\$175,271	100% (current subsidy amount 93%)	\$175,271	\$0
Year 5 2025-26	\$324,597	100% (current subsidy amount 90%)	\$324,597	\$0

Carried unanimously.

S046367

Item 7.6**Grants and Sponsorship – Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund**

Note – the recommendation of the Resilient Communities and Economy Committee was not adopted. The following alternative recommendation was adopted as part of an in globo motion (as contained in the Information Relevant To Memorandum dated 15 August 2024 from the Director City Life, circulated prior to the meeting).

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve the cash recommendations for the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund program as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council approve value in kind of up to \$4,000 per year for three years for both the Redfern All Blacks and Waterloo Storm for training ground hire;
- (C) Council note that all grant amounts are exclusive of GST;
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer agreements with any organisation approved for a grant or sponsorship under terms consistent with this resolution and the Grants and Sponsorship Policy; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to correct minor changes to the matters set out in this report, noting that the identity of the recipient will not change, and a CEO Update will be provided to Council advising of any changes made in accordance with this resolution.

Carried unanimously.

S117676

Item 8 Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore AO
(Chair)

Councillor HY William Chan
(Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Robert Kok, Councillors (Waskam) Emelda Davis, Sylvie Ellsmore, Lyndon Gannon, Shauna Jarrett, Linda Scott, Yvonne Weldon AM and Adam Worling.

At the commencement of business at 4.32pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott, Weldon and Worling.

The meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee concluded at 4.36pm.

Report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee

Moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of its meeting of 12 August 2024 be received, with Items 8.1 and 8.2 being noted, and the recommendation set out below for Item 8.3 being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee of Monday 22 July 2024, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 8.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

No Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of the Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee.

The Transport, Heritage and Planning Committee recommended the following:

Item 8.3**Fire Safety Reports**

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the contents of the Fire Safety Report Summary Sheet as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the contents of Attachment B and exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 356-358 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills;
- (C) note the contents of Attachment C and exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 535-571 Riley Street, Surry Hills;
- (D) note the contents of Attachment D and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 18, 18A and 20 O'Dea Avenue and 19 and 21 Dunkerley Place, Waterloo at this time; and
- (E) note the contents of Attachment E and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 5 Sam Sing Street, Waterloo at this time.

Carried unanimously.

S105001.002

Item 9 Questions on Notice

1. Maintenance and Repair of Escalators and Lifts at Railway Square

By Councillor Weldon

Question

1. For how long have the escalators at Railway Square (on the Western side of George Street) been out of operation?
2. Why have these escalators not yet been repaired?
3. Which other escalators and lifts at Railway Square are currently out of operation, or have been out of operation for extended periods this year?
4. How many enquiries and complaints have been received about escalators and lifts at Railway Square?
5. In January 2024, it was reported that the City was appointing a new contractor to replace all lifts and escalators at Railway Square. Has a contractor been appointed?
6. How are members of the community, particularly those who have made enquiries and complaints, being kept updated?
7. Across our Local Government Area, how many City owned, managed or maintained escalators and lifts are currently out of operation, or have been out of operation for extended periods this year?
8. What processes and targets do we have to ensure the maintenance and repair of vital accessibility infrastructure?

X086670

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The escalators have been out of operation since late 2023 due to being at end of life and constant vandalism.
2. Due to their age, it is not economical to repair them. This is why the City conducted an open market tender to replace the escalators and lifts.
3. All escalators and lifts at Railway Square were included in the open market tender and are scheduled to be replaced.
4. The City received ad hoc community enquiries (less than 5) in 2024.
5. A report was presented to Council in April 2024 regarding this matter and a recommendation to reject and negotiate was endorsed. Negotiations have been completed and the contract was signed at the end of July 2024.
6. Feedback has been provided to explain assets are scheduled for replacement through an open market tender process. Signage will be provided advising of the replacement project and timeframes.

7. The City owns and manages nearly 100 escalators and lifts across its Local Government Area. While some of these assets do experience breakdowns due to their condition, the City ensures essential repairs are carried out as needed.
8. We ensure the maintenance and repair of lifts and escalators through regular preventive maintenance, active monitoring, and prompt repair protocols. We also prioritise user feedback to continuously improve the reliability and safety of our accessibility infrastructure.

2. Dormant Public Bike Parking and End-of-Trip Facility

By Councillor Scott

Question

We understand the City of Sydney owns a public bike parking and end-of-trip facility at 180 George Street, Sydney.

Construction was completed in November 2022; however, it is currently dormant.

In light of this, could you please advise:

1. When did construction for the bike parking facility begin?
2. What is the exact date the construction was completed?
3. How long has the parking facility been empty/closed for?
4. In light of public reports, why has the parking facility been dormant/empty since the construction was completed in November 2022?
5. Why has there been significant delays in the opening of the bike parking facility?
6. Has the City received any feedback from community members requesting the opening of the bike parking facility?
7. How many bikes will this facility hold?
8. What is the current opening date for public use of the parking facility?
9. What are the current delays that restrict the bike parking facility from opening right now?
10. How much money has it cost the City to keep the bike parking facility vacant?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The 180 George Street construction project started in 2019.
2. Construction was completed and handover in early 2024.
3. The facility has not been activated since we took over ownership in early 2024
4. We have not been able to secure an operator despite going to an Expression of Interest (EOI) which closed in early 2023 where limited responses were received that struggled to show financial viability. We have since undertaken negotiations with a couple of potential vendors.
5. The facility was offered to the market via EOI. There was a lack of market interest.
6. There have been sporadic enquiries.

7. 210.
8. Our aim is to resolve and advise Council of the preferred operating model as soon as possible. We are exploring various operating models (including trials and interim solutions) so that the facility can be opened as soon as possible.
9. Refer response to Part 4 above.
10. The City has contributed to shared building outgoings, which includes essential fire maintenance activities (proportionate to our share of the building) since handover in early 2024. Cleaning and operating services have not been undertaken as the facility has not been occupied.

3. August Update - Asbestos in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Scott

Question

We understand the City's parks and open space maintenance contractor is currently meeting remediation costs in accordance with the contract. We also understand the City is continuing to work with its contractor to ensure parks are cleaned and reopened as quickly as possible. We thank the staff who have cleared up the asbestos.

In light of this, could you please advise:

1. According to the City of Sydney's website (13 August 2024), Cook + Phillip Park is the only area in the city with clean-up still underway. What is the proposed timeframe for the completion of the asbestos clean-up in this park?
2. Has clean-up been completed for all garden beds in the City?
3. If not, what is the proposed timeframe for completion?
4. What is the exact timeframe that the City has taken to clear all asbestos in garden beds and parks across the City?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Clean up is completed at Cook and Phillip Park and the fencing to the final stage was removed on 13 August 2024.
2. Yes.
3. Not applicable.
4. Clean up was undertaken in stages across the impacted parks and garden beds, with each park re-opened once the contaminated mulch was cleared. In total, on-site clean up across all sites took 25 weeks.

4. Use of Agency Staff

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

In Item 3 of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee 12 August 2024 – 2023/24 Quarter 4 Review – Delivery Program 2022-2026 - it was reported the Actual Expenditure for Agency Contract Staff in 2023-2024 was \$25.3 million, a 134% increase on the budget of \$10.8 million.

1. What were the main drivers or reasons for the increase in use of Agency Contract Staff in 2023/24?
2. In 2022/23 there was a reported 92% increase in the budget for Agency Contract Staff. What were the main drivers of the increase in use of Agency Contract Staff in 2022/23?
3. In 2021/22 there was a reported 82% increase in the budget for Agency Contract Staff. What were the main drivers of the increase in use of Agency Contract Staff in 2021/22?
4. In 2023/24:
 - (a) What was the breakdown in terms of numbers (FTE) and budget of Agency Contract staff by Council divisions, units or work areas?
 - (b) What was the breakdown in terms of numbers (FTE) and budget of directly employed, ongoing Council staff by Council divisions, units or work areas?
5. What were the number of staff (FTE) directly employed by the Council (not including agency staff, or externally contracted staff) in:
 - (a) 2021/22?
 - (b) 2022/23?
 - (c) 2023/24?
6. In 2024/25:
 - (a) What number of directly employed staff (not agency or externally contracted staff) (FTE) are budgeted to be employed by the Council?
 - (b) What number of Agency Contract Staff (FTE) are budgeted to be employed in 2024/25?
 - (c) What number of staff (FTE) are estimated to be employed through outsourcing or private contracting of services by the Council?
7. In 2024/25:
 - (a) What is the total approved budget for directly employed Council staff, not including agency or externally contracted staff?
 - (b) What is the total budget for Agency Contract Staff?
8. What data does Council collect or track about the wages and conditions of Council staff compared to agency or privately contracted staff? Where can Councillors access this information? Where can the public access this information?

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The City of Sydney does not budget for agency workers to backfill vacant City positions. Instead, we budget for a full complement of approved positions. When there is a need to backfill a position with an agency worker, for example due to a resignation, long term leave or parental leave, the salaries and wages already budgeted for the position are used to fund the agency worker.

1. The main drivers for the variance of agency worker expenditure to budget in 2023/24 were temporary backfilling of vacant permanent positions (pending recruitment), and an increase in agency worker pay rates adjusting for labour market fluctuations, principally in childcare. It should be noted that while actual expenditure for Agency Contract Staff in 2023/24 was 3.7% higher than 2022/23, a lower budget in 2023/24 impacted the variance percentage reported.

In addition, in the latter part of the 2023/24 financial year, successful recruitment activity led to a reduction in vacant positions. A lower vacancy rate is anticipated to reduce utilisation of agency backfill.

2. The main drivers for the variance of agency worker expenditure to budget in 2022/23 were the temporary backfilling of permanent positions and increases in agency worker pay rates adjusting for labour market fluctuations amid candidate shortages in the job market, particularly in childcare and properties. A higher budget for Agency Contract Staff in 2022/23 reflected (planned) utilisation of additional agency staff in delivering significant projects including the WorldPride event, and a Field Surveyor project.
3. The main driver for the variance of agency worker expenditure to budget in 2021/22 was the temporary backfilling of permanent positions. There was an increase in agency spend generally in this financial year as various services returned to full operations as Covid restrictions were lifted.
4. To provide comparable data, the following table is based on headcount rather than FTE, due to the difficulties of reflecting agency worker FTE utilised for less than a full year.

Please note that the below agency worker count does not account for agency workers who are engaged for same day/next day services to backfill unplanned absences where there are mandatory minimums for workers on any shift.

Division	City of Sydney employee count*	Agency staff count**
Chief Executive Office	51	2
Chief Financial Office	65	5
Chief Operations Office	135	51
City Life	612	69
City Planning Development & Transport	240	7
City Services	747	68
Legal & Governance	36	1
People Performance & Technology	207	71
Strategic Development & Engagement	98	4
Total	2191	278

**for the year ended 30 June 2024

Division	2023/24 Agency Budget	2023/24 Employee Budget
	\$M	\$M Inclusive of casuals, oncosts and superannuation
Council	10.8	248.6
Chief Executive Office	0.1	7.4
Legal & Governance	0	6.7
Chief Financial Office	0.1	10
Chief Operations Office	0.7	18.6
City Life	2.5	47.8
City Planning Development & Transport	0.1	36.9
City Services	1.9	85.1
People Performance & Technology	5.1	32.8
Strategic Development & Engagement	0.4	15.7
Corporate Costs	0	-12.4

5. The table provided below outlines the FTE excluding casuals, agency workers and externally contracted staff.

Financial Year	FTE
2021-22	1723
2022-23	1743
2023-24	1852

*as at 30 June for each year shown

6.

- (a) There are 2002 budgeted FTE positions for 2024/25, excluding casuals, agency and externally contracted staff.
- (b) We do not forecast the number of Agency workers (FTE or headcount) to be employed, however we have allocated an expenditure budget of \$12.7 million for Agency Contract Staff in 2024/25.
- (c) Outsourced and privately contracted organisations state their service levels only, rather than the total number of employees assigned to City of Sydney contracts. These include services providers for cleansing and waste, facilities management and aquatics and leisure services.

7.

(a) The total approved budget for directly employed council staff, not including agency or externally contracted staff is \$264.7 million in FY 2024/25.

(b) The total approved budget for agency contract staff is \$12.7 million in FY 2024/25.

8. Pay rates and terms and conditions for agency workers are set in accordance with the relevant state industry awards and federal modern awards such as the Local Government Industry Award, Children Services Award, and the Education Services Award. Some specialist workers are paid above these award rates when there is high competition for talent or skill shortages.

Item 10 Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

There are no Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions on Notice for this meeting of Council.

Item 11 Notices of Motion**Item 11.1 City of Sydney Support and Recognition in Strengthening Cultural Diversity for our Global City**

Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by Councillor Worling -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organisation of African Unity on 25 May 1963. It is celebrated in various countries on the African continent as well as around the world;
- (ii) African slaves came to Australia with the First Fleet as convicts to the Colony of NSW in 1788. These 10 Sub-Saharan African slaves constitute the first multicultural group to settle in colonial Australia. They include the notorious runaway 'Black Caesar', who became our first bushranger, John Randall, John Martin, Janel Gordon, James Williams, John Coffin, John Williams, Thomas Orford, Samuel Chinery, and George Francisco;
- (iii) by 1796, an African American freeman named William "Billie" Blue was convicted of stealing raw sugar in London and sentenced to seven years transportation to Botany Bay. Reaching Sydney on 14 December 1801, Blue had less than two years of his sentence to serve. By July 1804 he was living at The Rocks with Elizabeth Williams, a 30-year-old, English-born convict, who had arrived from Hampshire the previous month. They married on 27 April 1805 at St Philip's Church of England and were to have six children. Billie Blue was the first ferryman on Sydney Harbour, after whom Blues Point is named;
- (iv) the UN General Assembly proclaimed 2015-2024 as the International Decade for People of African Descent (resolution 68/237) citing the need to strengthen national, regional and international cooperation in relation to the full enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights by people of African descent, and their full and equal participation in all aspects of society;
- (v) according of the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021), there are 86,405 people living in NSW who were born in Sub-Saharan Africa, from almost every country in the region. The largest number were born in South Africa (49,740), Zimbabwe (7,383), Mauritius (5,793), Kenya (4,207), Nigeria (4,009), Ghana (2,790), Sierra Leone (1,662), Ethiopia (1,475), Zambia (1,243) and Uganda (958);
- (vi) today 3,848 Africans live in the City of Sydney;
- (vii) the African Australian Advocacy Centre founded in 2019 represents the African Australian Communities in advocacy, research, and policy outcomes in collaboration with different stakeholders including but not limited to non-profit organisations, state and federal government, business, industry, the civil sector, academia and the philanthropic sector; and

- (viii) We Belong Here: Framework for Human Rights and Equity for Australians of African Descent is based on the African Australian Advocacy Centre's Submission to the Australian Government in Response to the United Nations Working Group of Experts of Peoples of African Descent Recommendations in November 2023; and Extending the Decade of People of African Descent: Continuing the Journey Towards Recognition, Justice, and Development in Asia and the Pacific Region;
- (B) Council endorse submission of the following motion for consideration at the upcoming 2024 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference:
- That Local Government NSW work with relevant stakeholders to encourage all NSW councils to officially recognise and support Africa Day on 25 May annually;
and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to consult with the African Australian Advocacy Centre and relevant cultural authorities on ways to support:
- (i) community-led and formal recognition of Africa Day on 25 May annually; and
 - (ii) people of African descent across the City through a program of events that commemorates and celebrates the culture and contribution of people of African descent living in Australia.

Carried unanimously.

X086660

Adjournment

At this stage of the meeting, at 6.30pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the meeting be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

All Councillors were present at the resumption of the meeting of Council at 6.48pm.

Item 11.2 NSW Government, State-Wide Recognition of and Support for Australian South Sea Islanders

Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) -

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that on 11 April 2022, Council unanimously resolved to recognise:
- (i) Australian South Sea Islanders as a "distinct ethnic group in Australia with its own history and culture";
 - (ii) the official term 'Australian South Sea Islanders' relates to the descendants of blackbirding to NSW in 1847; while the historical term, 'South Sea Islanders' refers to both their ancestors, and today, the contemporary community of South Sea Islanders who have migrated to Australia;
 - (iii) the discrimination, injustice, disadvantage and prejudice experienced by South Sea Islanders throughout Australia's history and the significant disadvantage the Australian South Sea Islanders still face today; and
 - (iv) this history must also be uncovered, acknowledged and embedded into the City of Sydney's planning for the future;
- (B) Council acknowledge that the City has subsequently completed the following actions:
- (i) committed to formally acknowledging Australian South Sea Islander Recognition Day on 25 August, from 2022 onwards, with Recognition Day, and a surrounding Recognition Week, providing the City with an opportunity to program and promote initiatives specially designed in collaboration with Australian South Sea Islanders, with the goal of strengthening the community's awareness of, and pride in, this distinct culture; and
 - (ii) committed to achieving a City for All: a sustainable, inclusive, diverse city that is welcoming and embraces people from all walks of life;
- (C) Council endorse submission of the following motion for consideration at the upcoming 2024 Local Government NSW (LGNSW) Annual Conference:
- (i) That Local Government NSW work with relevant stakeholders to coordinate a program to encourage all NSW councils to officially recognise and support Australian South Sea Islander Recognition Day on 25 August annually; and
- (D) the Lord Mayor be requested to advocate to the NSW and Commonwealth Governments to influence more equitable outcomes, including the continued implementation of the recommendations of the 1992 Call for Recognition report, the 1994 Commonwealth Government response to this report and the 1995 Premier's Memorandum relating to Australian South Sea Islanders.

Carried unanimously.

X086660

Item 11.3 Incentives for Sustainability

Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by Councillor Jarrett -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City has measured, reduced and offset its operational greenhouse gas emissions since 2007. We were the first local government administration to achieve carbon neutral certification from the Australian Government. We have maintained this certification and continue to reduce and offset our operational emissions;
- (ii) the City is committed to achieving net zero emissions across our entire local government area by 2035, as outlined in the Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 strategy. The City leads and partners with key business sectors, industry associations and government to drive collective action to meet environmental targets for our local area;
- (iii) the City has made significant progress with initiatives such as the Building Better Partnership, the Sustainable Destination Partnership, our performance standards for net zero energy buildings, CitySwitch and targeted grants for sustainability focussed projects;
- (iv) led by the City, the Better Buildings Partnership aims to address the challenges facing the commercial property sector and drive sustainability. The Partnership comprises 99 buildings and 55 per cent of commercial office space in the city centre. Collective emissions have been reduced by over 60 per cent;
- (v) similarly, the Sustainable Destination Partnership, brings together hotels, entertainment venues and cultural institutions to decrease emissions, increase building ratings, procure renewables and reduce food waste. The partnership covers more than half of hotel rooms in the city centre;
- (vi) the City introduced planning regulations in 2023 that require new office buildings, hotels, and shopping centres, as well as major redevelopments of existing buildings, to comply with minimum energy ratings and achieve net zero energy output by 2026;
- (vii) the City is a national coordinator of CitySwitch which is supporting Australian office-based businesses on a pathway to net zero emissions. Member councils include City of Melbourne, City of Adelaide, North Sydney Council, Port Phillip Council and Yarra Council. More than 10 per cent of Australian office space is captured in the program which has seen a 58 per cent reduction in emissions intensity (since 2022) and 47 per cent total electricity is now renewable;
- (viii) the City has worked with over 280 apartment buildings providing NABERS ratings and tailored energy action plans which include EV charging and electrification feasibility assessments. This information has enabled strata schemes to invest \$4,299,834 in building upgrades, delivering significant savings across their lifespan (reducing running costs by \$11,224,423) and avoiding 61,488 tonnes of carbon emissions;
- (ix) since 2015, the City of Sydney has supported 464 applications through the Green Building Program for a total funding amount paid of \$5,327,270. These grants have supported apartment buildings and hotels to decarbonise (grants cover NABERS ratings, energy action plans or net zero plans, electrification and EV charging feasibility assessments). Since 2016 energy action plans delivered through grants have enabled \$2.3M of community investment which has unlocked \$6.9M in savings from apartment building upgrades;

- (x) since 2016, the City has funded sustainability focused projects through the cross-pillar Innovation and Ideas Grants, with over \$990,000 cash to support 37 environmental initiatives;
 - (xi) the City promotes GreenPower, a government accreditation scheme, through all our partnerships and programs and have developed a master class series and resources on renewables procurement for businesses. The City has a dedicated GreenPower website which is tailored for renters and apartment dwellers;
 - (xii) there are a range of complementary programs at local, state and federal government levels to empower and incentivise the adoption of sustainable practices and stimulate investment in sustainable technologies;
 - (xiii) household and property environmental and energy efficiency upgrades are cost effective and deliver ongoing savings. However, these measures often require an upfront which is a barrier for some; and
 - (xiv) the City of Adelaide's Incentives for Sustainability program provides capped rebates to households, businesses and community group for a range of environmental and energy efficiency upgrades including the installation of solar panels, insulation, electric vehicle charging, and appliance electrification. At latest report, the program has invested over \$1.6 million dollars into over 750 projects and leveraged \$8.37 of community investment for every dollar spent, achieving significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to prepare a report for Council on the establishment of an Incentives for Sustainability program modelled on the City of Adelaide's program (and including additional incentives for switching to a 100 per cent accredited GreenPower electricity plan).

Variation. At the request of Councillor Worling, and by consent, the motion was varied, such that it read as follows:

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the City has measured, reduced and offset its operational greenhouse gas emissions since 2007. We were the first local government administration to achieve carbon neutral certification from the Australian Government. We have maintained this certification and continue to reduce and offset our operational emissions;
 - (ii) the City is committed to achieving net zero emissions across our entire local government area by 2035, as outlined in the Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 strategy. The City leads and partners with key business sectors, industry associations and government to drive collective action to meet environmental targets for our local area;
 - (iii) the City has made significant progress with initiatives such as the Building Better Partnership, the Sustainable Destination Partnership, our performance standards for net zero energy buildings, CitySwitch and targeted grants for sustainability focussed projects;
 - (iv) led by the City, the Better Buildings Partnership aims to address the challenges facing the commercial property sector and drive sustainability. The Partnership comprises 99 buildings and 55 per cent of commercial office space in the city centre. Collective emissions have been reduced by over 60 per cent;

- (v) similarly, the Sustainable Destination Partnership, brings together hotels, entertainment venues and cultural institutions to decrease emissions, increase building ratings, procure renewables and reduce food waste. The partnership covers more than half of hotel rooms in the city centre;
- (vi) the City introduced planning regulations in 2023 that require new office buildings, hotels, and shopping centres, as well as major redevelopments of existing buildings, to comply with minimum energy ratings and achieve net zero energy output by 2026;
- (vii) the City is a national coordinator of CitySwitch which is supporting Australian office-based businesses on a pathway to net zero emissions. Member councils include City of Melbourne, City of Adelaide, North Sydney Council, Port Phillip Council and Yarra Council. More than 10 per cent of Australian office space is captured in the program which has seen a 58 per cent reduction in emissions intensity (since 2022) and 47 per cent total electricity is now renewable;
- (viii) the City has worked with over 280 apartment buildings providing NABERS ratings and tailored energy action plans which include EV charging and electrification feasibility assessments. This information has enabled strata schemes to invest \$4,299,834 in building upgrades, delivering significant savings across their lifespan (reducing running costs by \$11,224,423) and avoiding 61,488 tonnes of carbon emissions;
- (ix) since 2015, the City of Sydney has supported 464 applications through the Green Building Program for a total funding amount paid of \$5,327,270. These grants have supported apartment buildings and hotels to decarbonise (grants cover NABERS ratings, energy action plans or net zero plans, electrification and EV charging feasibility assessments). Since 2016 energy action plans delivered through grants have enabled \$2.3M of community investment which has unlocked \$6.9M in savings from apartment building upgrades;
- (x) since 2016, the City has funded sustainability focused projects through the cross-pillar Innovation and Ideas Grants, with over \$990,000 cash to support 37 environmental initiatives;
- (xi) following a Lord Mayoral Minute in August 2021, the City ran a GreenPower campaign between May and November 2022 encouraging residents and businesses to switch to GreenPower by shopping around to find the best deal. The evaluation of the campaign found that:
 - (a) 33 per cent of people don't have GreenPower because they didn't know about it, and almost 50 per cent believed a carbon neutral plan was a renewable energy plan and compounding this some energy retailers made it difficult to switch to GreenPower; and
 - (b) the administrators of GreenPower were not able to provide data about how many people in the City of Sydney transitioned to GreenPower because they only required energy retailers to provide data at a state level;
- (xii) many owners and renters in many apartment buildings cannot switch to GreenPower, because they are locked into dirty energy contracts because of deals the developers have done with the operators of embedded networks to supply the entire development;
- (xiii) the Lord Mayor wrote to the NSW and Australian Governments in March 2024 and the Australian Energy Regulator, calling for the Australian Energy Regulator to review the regulatory framework for embedded networks to require 100 per cent renewable energy and be more equitable;

- (xiv) the City continues to promote GreenPower, a government accreditation scheme, through all our partnerships and programs and have developed a master class series and resources on renewables procurement for businesses. The City has a dedicated GreenPower website which is tailored for renters and apartment dwellers;
 - (xv) there are a range of complementary programs at local, state and federal government levels to empower and incentivise the adoption of sustainable practices and stimulate investment in sustainable technologies;
 - (xvi) household and property environmental and energy efficiency upgrades are cost effective and deliver ongoing savings. However, these measures often require an upfront which is a barrier for some; and
 - (xvii) the City of Adelaide's Incentives for Sustainability program provides capped rebates to households, businesses and community group for a range of environmental and energy efficiency upgrades including the installation of solar panels, insulation, electric vehicle charging, and appliance electrification. At latest report, the program has invested over \$1.6 million dollars into over 750 projects and leveraged \$8.37 of community investment for every dollar spent, achieving significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions;
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) consider the feasibility, costs and potential social and environmental benefits of establishing an Incentives for Sustainability program referring to the City of Adelaide's program or other programs, including additional incentives for switching to a 100 per cent accredited GreenPower electricity plan as part of the development of the next Environmental Strategy 2025-2029; and
 - (ii) provide advice to Council on the next steps for a second phase of a GreenPower Campaign via the CEO Update; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write again to relevant NSW and Australian Ministers calling on them to request the Australian Energy Regulator to expedite their review of the regulatory framework so that new embedded networks use 100 per cent renewable energy and allow customers of existing embedded networks to switch to GreenPower.

The motion, as varied by consent, was carried unanimously.

X086653

Item 11.4 Council Investing in Rent-Capped, Affordable Public Housing

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Scott –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the City of Sydney has substantial cash investments and commercial property investments;
 - (ii) the City of Sydney's Investment and Cash position at 30 June 2024 was \$766.3M, of which \$438M was not 'restricted' (that is, available to be invested or directed to priorities identified by the Council); and
 - (iii) the City of Sydney has historically built, owned and managed public housing. With the exception of a number of creative live-work studios, the City of Sydney does not currently directly invest in buying, building or owning housing;
- (B) Council commit in principle to Council directly investing Council funds towards delivering rent-capped, affordable, publicly owned homes again, to help address the affordable housing crisis; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) provide advice to the elected Council about changes that would need to be made to Council's investment, housing and other policies to implement this change; and
 - (ii) provide this advice to the newly elected Council as a priority.

Variation. At the request of Councillor Scott, and by consent, the motion was varied by the deletion of the words "rent-capped" in (B).

The motion, as varied by consent, was lost on the following show of hands –

Ayes (3) Councillors Ellsmore, Scott and Weldon

Noes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Gannon, Jarrett* Kok and Worling.

Motion lost.

*Note – Councillor Jarrett abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Jarrett is taken to have voted against the motion.

X086659

Points of Order

During discussion of Item 11.4, Councillor Ellsmore raised a point of order, stating that, pursuant to clause 6.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Chan had made an imputation of improper motives.

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) upheld the point of order, and Councillor Chan withdrew his comment.

Councillor Worling raised a further point of order, stating that, pursuant to clause 14.12, Councillor Weldon's comments constituted an act of disorder.

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) did not uphold the point of order.

Call to Order

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) called Councillor Weldon to order pursuant to clause 14.11 of the Code of Meeting Practice and directed her to restrict her comments to the matter under debate.

Item 11.5 Waterloo South Public Housing – Keeping Public Land and Public Housing in Public Hands

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Weldon –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the public housing estate at Waterloo is one of the largest public housing estates in Australia; and
- (ii) the NSW Government has announced that it has awarded the contract to redevelop Waterloo South including 30 per cent public housing, 20 per cent 'affordable' housing; and 50 per cent private housing; and

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Government:

- (i) reiterating that the land should stay in public hands and not be privatised;
- (ii) advocating for renovation and sustainable in-fill to be prioritised to ensure the delivery of increased housing on the estate; and
- (iii) requesting that the NSW Government release details of the financial arrangements of the project, including the value of the land and housing proposed to be privatised.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the public housing estate at Waterloo is one of the largest public housing estates in Australia;
- (ii) over the past seven years, the City of Sydney has worked with the community to improve the plans including to achieve more Social and Affordable Housing on the Waterloo Estate;
- (iii) in 2019, Council endorsed an alternative approach to the Government's preferred masterplan for the entire Waterloo Estate with lower buildings with more sunlight and ventilation, 50 per cent social and affordable housing, sustainable retention of the Matavai and Turanga buildings and a larger 2.2 hectare park;
- (iv) the final planning controls included improvements as a result of years of planning, urban design analysis and advocacy, including lower buildings with better amenity, more generous streets and a larger park;
- (v) after years of steadfast advocacy, in August 2023, the NSW Premier and Minister for Housing announced their commitment to provide 50 per cent of the housing at Waterloo South as Social and Affordable Housing (with a minimum 15 per cent of this housing dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples) – an increase from the approved 33.5 per cent Social and Affordable Housing by the former NSW Government;

- (vi) that we want to see Social and Affordable Housing maximised on all housing redevelopments on public land and we absolutely opposed the former Coalition NSW Government's Communities Plus model of 70 per cent market and 30 per cent Social and Affordable Housing;
 - (vii) that we welcome the current Labor NSW Government's shift away from the Communities Plus model in redevelopment of public land;
 - (viii) in January 2024, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Minister for Housing asking her to consider upgrade and refurbishment of social housing stock over demolition; and
 - (ix) the NSW Government has announced that it has awarded the contract to redevelop Waterloo South including 30 per cent public housing, 20 per cent 'affordable' housing; and 50 per cent private housing; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Government:
- (i) reiterating again that the public land should stay in public hands and not be privatised;
 - (ii) advocating again for renovation and sustainable in-fill to be prioritised to ensure the delivery of increased housing on the Waterloo Estate and all future redevelopments of NSW Government owned land; and
 - (iii) requesting that the NSW Government release details of the financial arrangements of the Waterloo South project, including the value of the land and housing proposed to be privatised.

The amendment was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (8) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott and Worling

Noes (2) Councillors Ellsmore and Weldon.

Carried.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Chan –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the NSW Labor Government is currently undertaking the largest social housing project in the country, in Redfern and Waterloo, doubling the current social housing, with all social housing owned by Homes NSW;
 - (ii) no land has been privatised or sold to developers as it is still owned by the NSW Government;
 - (iii) over the past seven years, the City of Sydney has worked with the community to improve the plans including to achieve more Social and Affordable Housing on the Waterloo Estate;
 - (iv) in 2019, Council endorsed an alternative approach to the Government's preferred masterplan for the entire Waterloo Estate with lower buildings with more sunlight and ventilation, 50% social and affordable housing, sustainable retention of the Matavai and Turanga buildings and a larger 2.2 hectare park;

- (v) the final planning controls included improvements as a result of years of planning, urban design analysis and advocacy, including lower buildings with better amenity, more generous streets and a larger park;
 - (vi) after years of steadfast advocacy, in August 2023, the NSW Premier and Minister for Housing announced their commitment to provide 50 per cent of the housing at Waterloo South as Social and Affordable Housing (with a minimum 15 per cent of this housing dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples) – an increase from the approved 33.5 per cent Social and Affordable Housing by the former NSW Government;
 - (vii) that we want to see Social and Affordable Housing maximised on all housing redevelopments on public land and we absolutely opposed the former Coalition NSW Government’s Communities Plus model of 70 per cent market and 30 per cent Social and Affordable Housing;
 - (viii) that we welcome the current Labor NSW Government’s shift away from the Communities Plus model in redevelopment of public land;
 - (ix) in January 2024, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Minister for Housing asking her to consider upgrade and refurbishment of social housing stock over demolition;
 - (x) private market homes will be sold to families and people trying to get into the housing market. Like all apartment owners, people will buy in as part of a strata;
 - (xi) the NSW Labor Government are following the internationally best recognised model of mixed tenure, undertaking “sustainable in-fill” and all new builds will be disability accessible as well as sustainable and modern; and
 - (xii) the NSW Government has announced that it has awarded the contract to redevelop Waterloo South including 30 per cent public housing, 20 per cent ‘affordable’ housing; and 50 per cent private housing; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Government:
- (i) reiterating again that the public land should stay in public hands and not be privatised;
 - (ii) advocating again for renovation and sustainable in-fill to be prioritised to ensure the delivery of increased housing on the Waterloo estate and all future redevelopments of NSW government owned land; and
 - (iii) requesting that the NSW Government release details of the financial arrangements of the Waterloo South project, including the value of the land and housing proposed to be privatised.

Variation. At the request of the Chair (the Lord Mayor), and by consent, the amendment was varied by the deletion of (A)(ii), and by the addition of words to (B), such that the amendment read as follows –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the NSW Labor Government is currently undertaking the largest social housing project in the country, in Redfern and Waterloo, doubling the current social housing, with all social housing owned by Homes NSW;

- (ii) over the past seven years, the City of Sydney has worked with the community to improve the plans including to achieve more Social and Affordable Housing on the Waterloo Estate;
 - (iii) in 2019, Council endorsed an alternative approach to the Government's preferred masterplan for the entire Waterloo Estate with lower buildings with more sunlight and ventilation, 50 per cent social and affordable housing, sustainable retention of the Matavai and Turanga buildings and a larger 2.2 hectare park;
 - (iv) the final planning controls included improvements as a result of years of planning, urban design analysis and advocacy, including lower buildings with better amenity, more generous streets and a larger park;
 - (v) after years of steadfast advocacy, in August 2023, the NSW Premier and Minister for Housing announced their commitment to provide 50 per cent of the housing at Waterloo South as Social and Affordable Housing (with a minimum 15 per cent of this housing dedicated to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples) – an increase from the approved 33.5 per cent Social and Affordable Housing by the former NSW Government;
 - (vi) that we want to see Social and Affordable Housing maximised on all housing redevelopments on public land and we absolutely opposed the former Coalition NSW Government's Communities Plus model of 70 per cent market and 30 per cent Social and Affordable Housing;
 - (vii) that we welcome the current Labor NSW Government's shift away from the Communities Plus model in redevelopment of public land;
 - (viii) in January 2024, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Minister for Housing asking her to consider upgrade and refurbishment of social housing stock over demolition;
 - (ix) private market homes will be sold to families and people trying to get into the housing market. Like all apartment owners, people will buy in as part of a strata;
 - (x) the NSW Labor Government are following the internationally best recognised model of mixed tenure, undertaking "sustainable in-fill" and all new builds will be disability accessible as well as sustainable and modern; and
 - (xi) the NSW Government has announced that it has awarded the contract to redevelop Waterloo South including 30 per cent public housing, 20 per cent 'affordable' housing; and 50 per cent private housing; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Government:
- (i) reiterating again that the public land should stay in public hands and not be privatised;
 - (ii) advocating again for renovation and sustainable in-fill to be prioritised to ensure the delivery of increased housing on the Waterloo estate and all future redevelopments of NSW Government owned land;
 - (iii) advocating for higher standards of disability access; and
 - (iv) requesting that the NSW Government release details of the financial arrangements of the Waterloo South project, including the value of the land and housing proposed to be privatised.

The amendment, as varied by consent, was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (8) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Gannon, Kok, Scott, Weldon and Worling

Noes (2) Councillors Ellsmore and Jarrett*.

*Note – Councillor Jarrett abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Jarrett is taken to have voted against the amendment.

The amended motion was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (9) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Scott, Weldon and Worling

Noes (1) Councillor Jarrett*.

*Note – Councillor Jarrett abstained from voting on this matter. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 10.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice, Councillor Jarrett is taken to have voted against the motion.

Amended motion carried.

X086659

Item 11.6 LGBTIQA+ Housing in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that:
- (i) Shelter NSW recently launched a report on the housing needs of the LGBTIQA+ community across the City of Sydney;
 - (ii) the research was supported through a grant from Council;
 - (iii) the report finds that:
 - (a) LGBTIQA+ people are disproportionately impacted by the housing crisis, experiencing higher rates of housing insecurity and homelessness;
 - (b) LGBTIQA+ people experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and disadvantage in the housing market; and
 - (c) many LGBTIQA+ people feel unwelcome or unsafe in mainstream housing services, shelters or aged care facilities;
 - (iv) while acknowledging the significant work that the City of Sydney does to ensure that the inner city is a safe and welcoming space for LGBTIQA+ people, including the recent grant to establish a cooperative for trans women in Darlinghurst, the report notes that the City of Sydney's currently policies and strategies do not include a focus on LGBTIQA+ housing needs; and
 - (v) the report recommends that Council consider:
 - (a) improving data collection to inform the picture of the housing needs of LGBTIQA+ people;
 - (b) developing a toolkit of resources for Council, community housing providers and others on how to advocate for the housing needs of LGBTIQA+ people;
 - (c) developing a LGBTIQA+ focused housing policy, and/ or updating Council's policies to ensure intersectional LGBTIQA+ housing needs are considered;
 - (d) supporting the development of a LGBTIQA+ specific or specialist housing service, potentially through seed funding; and
 - (e) supporting the creation of an LGBTIQA+ 'foyer' housing project in the City of Sydney; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to refer the report to the Housing for All Working Group for consideration and for advice to Council about opportunities to respond to the report's findings.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Ellsmore. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Worling –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note that:

- (i) Shelter NSW recently launched the report Examining the intersectionality housing needs for the LGBTIQIA+ community across the City of Sydney;
- (ii) the research was supported by a City of Sydney Innovation and Ideas grant;
- (iii) the report finds that:
 - (a) LGBTIQIA+ people are disproportionately impacted by the housing crisis, experiencing higher rates of housing insecurity and homelessness;
 - (b) LGBTIQIA+ people experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and disadvantage in the housing market; and
 - (c) many LGBTIQIA+ people feel unwelcome or unsafe in mainstream housing services, shelters or aged care facilities;
- (iv) while acknowledging the significant work that the City of Sydney does to ensure that the inner city is a safe and welcoming space for LGBTIQIA+ people, including the recent grant to establish a cooperative for trans women in Darlinghurst, the report notes that the City of Sydney's currently policies and strategies do not include a focus on LGBTQIA+ housing needs;
- (v) Twenty-ten and the Gender Centre have been working to address homelessness and accommodation issues faced by gender and sexually diverse people, particularly young people, for over 40 years; and
- (vi) the report recommends that Council consider:
 - (a) improving data collection to inform the picture of the housing needs of LGBTQIA+ people;
 - (b) developing a toolkit of resources for Council, community housing providers and others on how to advocate for the housing needs of LGBTIQIA+ people;
 - (c) developing a LGBTQIA+ focused housing policy, and/ or updating Council's policies to ensure intersectional LGBTQIA+ housing needs are considered;
 - (d) supporting the development of a LGBTQIA+ specific or specialist housing service, potentially through seed funding; and
 - (e) supporting the creation of an LGBTQIA+ 'foyer' housing project in the City of Sydney; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) consult with Twenty-Ten, the Gender Centre and other relevant stakeholders on the recommendations in the report; and
- (ii) refer the report to the Housing for All Working Group for consideration and for advice to Council about opportunities to respond to the report's findings.

Carried unanimously.

X086659

Item 11.7 Welcome to Country at Citizenship Ceremonies

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Weldon –

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) agree that Citizenship Ceremonies organised by Council should open with a Welcome to Country; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to update Council protocols, policies and budgets as necessary to immediately implement this change.

Carried unanimously.

X086659

Item 11.8 Thank You to City of Sydney Staff

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) according to the 2022-2026 People Strategy, the City of Sydney employs 1,821 employees (excluding casual and agency staff);
- (ii) City and Council support staff are the very core of the City of Sydney and work closely with Councillors and community members on a daily basis;
- (iii) City and Council support staff are crucial in City operations and community service;
- (iv) Council is appreciative of the endless support, commitment and hard work Erin Cashman and the Secretariat, City and Council support staff demonstrate; and
- (v) appreciation and thanks extend to the hard work done by Ashley Hogan, Pamela Murphy, Kuani Cleveland, Savanna Peake, Alex West, Huw Phillips, Rebecca Huntley, Cec Anthony, Sophie Kerrigan, Jemima Tilly, Zack Solomon, Daryl Tan, Shannen Potter, Nick Daniel, Riccardo Ingle, Roy Poynton, Georgia Kriz, Ruby Leonard and Felix Faber; and

(B) Council be requested to formally recognise the exceptional efforts of all City of Sydney staff for achieving outcomes and goals while serving our community.

Carried unanimously.

X06655

Note – The meeting ended with a round of applause acknowledging the efforts of the City of Sydney staff.

At 7.55 pm the meeting concluded.

Chair of a meeting of the Council of the City of Sydney held on Monday 28 October 2024 at which meeting the signature herein was subscribed.