

Item 12.5**Notices of Motion****Advancing Our National Anthem Practice**

By Councillor Maxwell

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that “Advance Australia Fair” contains 2 official verses, as recognised in the Australian National Anthem protocols administered by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet;
- (ii) that the second verse is included in Our Common Bond, the official citizenship test resource, and is material that prospective citizens may be examined on, despite it rarely being sung at public events;
- (iii) that the second verse contains inspiring sentiments about unity, shared endeavour and contributing to the common good, welcoming peoples from ‘across the seas’. These themes speak to contemporary Australia and are consistent with the values of the City of Sydney;
- (iv) that the anthem has undergone several revisions throughout its history to reflect Australia’s evolving national identity, most recently updating the wording ‘young and free’, to ‘one and free’;
- (v) greater public familiarity with the second verse can support civic literacy by improving understanding of this evolution, and strengthen a sense of public affinity with its positive sentiments about our national identity; and
- (vi) that City of Sydney citizenship ceremonies include the second verse of the National Anthem; and

- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Prime Minister, requesting that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet update national protocols to encourage the use of the second verse at federal, state and local civic ceremonies, and outline steps to improve public familiarity with both verses.

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