

Item 12.15

Notices of Motion

Air Quality Monitoring

By Councillor Phelps

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) air pollution is a major human health concern;
 - (a) Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), which is a pollutant that occurs alongside busy roads, is a quick acting respiratory irritant that can cause potentially long term effects on health;
 - (b) the 2018 Australian Child Health and Air Pollution Study (ACHAPS) found that even 8.8ppb of NO₂ causes harm; and
 - (c) the 2018 ACHAPS Study of 2,630 children aged 7-10, at 55 schools across capital cities in Australia, found a strong association between NO₂ exposure and asthma;
- (ii) substantial exposure to NO₂ and other irritants is particularly dangerous in urban areas where 74% of Australians are expected to live by 2061;
- (iii) an air quality monitor was decommissioned in George Street in 2004 after four years of operation. While discussion has started with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage regarding the installation of an air quality monitor in the City LGA, according to the 7 September 2018 CEO Update, no current air quality data exists for the City LGA;
- (iv) monitoring air quality data in the City LGA would have substantial benefits in:
 - (a) better informing planning decisions which is particularly important for schools and childcare centres given the particular sensitivity of children to traffic related air pollution;
 - (b) assisting the City to meet its requirements under Sustainable Development Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable', provides a target to "reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management"; and
 - (c) providing valuable information on the progress of air quality interventions; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) increase efforts to work with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage for the installation of an air quality monitor in the City LGA; and
 - (ii) proceed with the implementation of an air quality monitor in the City LGA should an agreement fail to be reached with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage for the installation of an air quality monitor in the City LGA;

S129263