

Item 13.7

Notices of Motion

Oxford Street Development

By Councillor Phelps

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Oxford Street is an iconic part of the City of Sydney as:
 - (a) a historical and cultural hub for the LGBTQI community in Sydney;
 - (b) a centre of night life and night time activity in the City; and
 - (c) home to a unique and diverse range of businesses that have been part of the community, some for over 30 years;
- (ii) long periods of construction will severely impact the already fragile economy of the Oxford Street strip, and put the unique character of Oxford Street at risk of being lost;
- (iii) a managed development that occurs in stages across the strip will allow businesses to continue to operate with less disruption and reduce the risk of businesses being forced to close or move permanently as a result of the construction; and
- (iv) the Darlinghurst Business Partnership (DBP) has reached out to Council on behalf of the small business owners, who are extremely concerned that they will be unable to remain where they are, though have been given no notification of either the City or AsheMorgan's intents for them. The DBP said "the feeling is that everyone will be turfed out and that AsheMorgan will jack the rents to astronomical prices making sure no one can remain. Obviously, we don't know what is going to happen, but that's the point.";

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) consult with long-term local tenants and businesses on what support they need as the area develops so that they can continue to contribute to the future revitalisation of Darlinghurst;
- (ii) investigate options the City can undertake to support the Oxford Street businesses currently under stress from the proposed development, and report suggestions back to Council.

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