

Item 9

Questions on Notice

Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy

1. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Please provide the membership and terms of reference for the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy Steering Committee.
2. Please provide the minutes for these meetings.
3. Please detail the policies of the City that guide this work.
4. Please detail the City's policies on the appropriate consent authority for the Pyrmont Peninsula, with respect to place strategies, zoning and other planning approvals that guide this work.

S129275

Federal Funding for a Permanent Moore Park Road Cycleway

2. By Councillor Phelps

Question

There has been significant community opposition to the City of Sydney and Transport for NSW proposal for a temporary cycleway along Moore Park Road and Fitzroy Street between Lang Road, Paddington and Bourke Street, Surry Hills due to the adverse impact the pop-up cycleway will have on the local community, including a mass loss of parking spaces and a lack of consultation before construction began on the temporary cycleway.

In June 2017, Council unanimously resolved to endorse the concept design and scope of works for the Bondi Junction to City Walking and Cycling Improvements project that included a separated cycleway along Moore Park Road. This proposal, which involved no loss of parking, was widely supported by local residents, and its construction is dependent on funding by the NSW Government.

Councillors have subsequently been informed that the cycleway is unlikely to proceed.

Residents were recently informed by the Lord Mayor's office that "The City has applied to the Federal Government to fund the permanent cycleway that would restore parking along the length of Moore Park Road, which we have consulted on and which the community supported."

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. When was the application for federal funding for the proposed permanent Moore Park Road cycleway submitted? Please provide Councillors with a copy of that application.
2. Under what funding plan was this application submitted?
3. What consultation has been undertaken with Transport for NSW about this funding application and proposal?
4. What is the expected time frame for processing the federal funding application?
5. If the application is approved, what is the expected timeframe to receive the funding?
6. What is the City's plan if the funding is not approved?
7. An affirmation of the City's commitment that the agreed cycleway project from 2017 is the one that would be built.
8. What is the expected delivery timeline for the cycleway?
9. If the legislative period requiring removal of the pop-up cycleway expires prior to funding being received for the proposed permanent cycleway, will the City be reinstating the cycleway and parking on Moore Park Road or any part of it?

S129272

Rats in the City of Sydney

3. By Councillor Phelps

Question

Public health relies on the provision of safe and clean public spaces by Council and is one of the City's core responsibilities.

The presence of rats and other vermin pose a threat to public health by acting as reservoir hosts for *Leptospira* bacteria, passing to other organisms in their urine.

It is known that Leptospirosis, a bacterial infection which causes a systemic inflammatory response and organ failure that was never before seen in the Sydney area prior to 2019, can prove lethal to dogs and humans and is transmitted via rat urine.

As of 10 August 2020, a Newtown dog has become the first confirmed case of Leptospirosis this year near our Local Government Area.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please:

1. Provide an update on Sydney's rat and other vermin control efforts.
2. Advise the frequency and process by which vermin bait traps are checked, cleaned and maintained.

3. Advise how often Council-owned on-street rubbish bins are emptied, and how often litter surrounding the bins is cleaned up, as these often contribute to attracting rats and other vermin.
4. What is the protocol for cleansing footpaths at Council-owned outdoor dining sites?

S129272

Capital Works

4. By Councillor Scott

Question

The City's capital works for 2019/20 were budgeted to be \$294.5M, but only \$156.3M was expended.

Please list the City's capital works projects, due for capital works funding in 2019/20, where the total funding allocated in 2019/20 is not reallocated to the 2020/21 Budget, where the sum of the budget allocation is over \$50,000. Please also detail the reasons for the delay.

S129275

Aboriginal Native Title Claims

5. By Councillor Scott

Question

The 1983 NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act provides the mechanism for compensating the Aboriginal People of NSW for the loss of their land. This historic piece of legislation took the first step for NSW and for Australia towards redressing the injustice and neglect of Aboriginal needs since colonisation.

Unfortunately, since 1983, obtaining the right to crown lands in NSW for Aboriginal claimants has been a lengthy and often delayed process.

Crown lands cover approximately 42 per cent of NSW.

In late 2019 the Minister for Water, Property and Housing, Melinda Pavey MP, commissioned Ms Chris Ronalds SC to review the operation of the Land Negotiation Program which was in turn established in response to the recommendations arising from the Crown Land Management Act Review in 2012. This program has seen seven Local Aboriginal Land Councils and the NSW Aboriginal Land Council pilot Aboriginal Land Agreement negotiations with the NSW Government and relevant local governments.

At present there is a backlog of 38,000 Aboriginal land claims in NSW. Of the 1,500 claims determined in the past year, most were rejected. Aboriginal Land Councils claim that the Land Negotiation Program is highly problematic with claims published recently in the Sydney Morning Herald of Crown Lands staff demanding land councils forgo future claims over land in some regions, including in metropolitan Sydney in return for parcels identified through unacceptable negotiations. NSW Aboriginal Land Council, the peak body believes institutional racism is to blame for a program that has been designed to prevent Aboriginal people from achieving land rights parity and access to Crown lands estates.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise the following:

1. What is the total number of Aboriginal land claims that have been lodged for Crown lands that fall within Council's Local Government Area?
2. What is the total number of Aboriginal land claims that have been resolved for Crown lands that fall within Council's Local Government Area?
3. What is the total number of these that were resolved with a positive outcome for the Aboriginal claimants?
4. What is the total number of these that were resolved with a negative outcome for the Aboriginal claimants?
5. How many Aboriginal land claims that have been lodged for Crown lands that fall within Council's Local Government Area remain outstanding?
6. What is the range of time these outstanding claims have been lodged, from most amount of time to least amount of time?
7. What is the longest time period for the oldest outstanding Aboriginal land claim for Crown lands that fall within Council's Local Government Area?
8. How many existing land claims are Council opposing?
9. How many existing land claims are Council supportive of?
10. How many resolved or withdrawn land claim was Council opposed to?
11. How many resolved or withdrawn land claims was Council supportive of?
12. Can a map of existing Aboriginal land claims in the Sydney Local Government Area be provided to Councillors?
13. Can a map of previous resolved or withdrawn Aboriginal land claims in the Sydney Local Government Area be provided to Councillors?

S129275

New Year's Eve Celebrations

6. By Councillor Forster

Question

1. What discussions have City staff had with the NSW Government regarding the 2020 New Year's Eve celebrations in light of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic?
2. What was the outcome of any discussions that have taken place?
3. When will the City of Sydney make a final call as to whether celebrations, including any firework displays, will go ahead on New Year's Eve?

S129269

King Street Gateway Project

7. By Councillor Forster

Question

According to a CEO Update dated 22 June 2020, the City of Sydney has been working proactively and in collaboration with Roads and Maritime Services, now Transport for NSW (TfNSW), and Inner West Council (IWC) to develop and agree on an acceptable design for the King Street Gateway Project, which is aimed at the reallocation of road space from vehicles, to people walking and cycling on Sydney Park Road and King Street south, in preparation for the opening of the new M8 motorway.

Can the Chief Executive Officer please provide the most up to date detailed plans for the King Street Gateway Project?

S129269

Building Enforcement Action

8. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Please advise the City's action taken to enforce heritage protection, broken down by:
 - (a) Year – 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020.
 - (b) Suburb.
2. What is the total number of resolved enforcement claims?
3. What is the total number of current enforcement claims being investigated?
4. How many resident complaints about a lack of enforcement resulted in Fair Trading being involved in resolving the situation?

5. Please provide the City's action regarding single storey streetscape regulation as stipulated by the Rosebery covenant. Please advise how many developments have been authorised as exempt from the Rosebery Estate covenant building restrictions.

S129275

40km/h Zones in the Sydney Local Government Area

9. By Councillor Phelps

Question

At a recent meeting of Councillors, the Lord Mayor made reference to 40km/h zones in the City of Sydney and discussions with Transport for NSW.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. What discussions has the Lord Mayor had on 40km/h speed zones in the City of Sydney and with whom?
2. What streets are being considered for 40km/h zone speed limits?
3. When will this matter come to Council for consideration?
4. Provide Councillors with any meeting notes regarding this issue.

S129272

Beirut Blast Tribute

10. By Councillor Phelps

Question

On 4 August 2020, there was a devastating blast in the city of Beirut.

On 11 August 2020, the Sydney Town Hall was lit in the colours of the Lebanese flag.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise why some Councillors were informed of this tribute while other Councillors had to find out about it on social media?

S129272