

## Item 15.3

### Notices of Motion

#### Support for Sydney Street Festival – Newtown

By Councillor Ellsmore

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Newtown Festival was a much-loved community fair, organised by local not for profit organisation the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre;
- (ii) earlier this year, the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre announced that it will no longer hold a Newtown Festival. Originally established as a way both to bring the community together and to fundraise to support the important work of the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, the festival had grown very large and began running at a loss;
- (iii) the loss of the Newtown Festival leaves the suburb of Newtown without an annual community festival or major community event to celebrate the neighbourhood of Newtown;
- (iv) the City of Sydney has a Sydney Streets program where major streets, including high streets, are closed once or twice a year to traffic, to celebrate neighbourhoods. Streets included in the annual program are selected following consultation; and
- (v) to date, a Sydney Streets event has not been scheduled for Newtown;

(B) Council further note:

- (i) the suburb of Newtown is partly in the Inner West Council area, and partly in the City of Sydney Council area. King Street is the border between the two Councils; and
- (ii) like the City of Sydney, the Inner West Council has a strong program of community festivals and events to celebrate and promote local neighbourhoods and businesses, some of which include main street closures;

(C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Mayor of the Inner West Council, to discuss the possibility that the two Councils could coordinate to organise a Sydney Streets closure or similar event in Newtown; and

- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to
  - (i) assess options for a Sydney Streets, or similar event, to be held in Newtown in the future; and
  - (ii) provide advice to Council.

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