

Local Matters Forum – Marrickville/Midjuburi 24 May 2022

On Tuesday 24 May, forty-seven Marrickville ward residents gathered at Marrickville Pavilion to discuss local matters that were of key importance to them. The agenda for the group discussion was driven by residents.

Below is a summary of the discussion:

Subject/issue	Discussion and response from Council	Further action if required
<p>Development</p> <p>Overdevelopment of Marrickville</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern at volume of DAs being approved for Illawarra and Marrickville Road – object on the grounds of character of the area being destroyed. • How are traffic considerations taken into account in LEP? • Council staff explained that LEP has an appreciation of traffic impacts. 	<p>Community members will soon have the opportunity to comment on the proposals and recommendations for planning controls in the draft LEP.</p>
<p>Restrict build heights to five storeys, more trees and open spaces</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently working on Local Environmental Plan Phase 2B which features a range of strategies and studies have been completed to inform the updates to the Local Environment Plan (LEP) and comprehensive Development Controls Plan (DCP). • LEP Phase 2B is focused on the uplift areas of Dulwich Hill, Marrickville and Ashfield North as well as • harmonisation of controls that were deferred from Phase 1 including car parking and residential zones. 	<p>Community members will soon have the opportunity to comment on the proposals and recommendations for planning controls in the draft LEP.</p>
<p>Proposed expansion of St Maroun's College</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter given to Deputy Mayor outlining community concerns. 	<p>Council to arrange a community meeting to run through the content of the application, hear from</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These include increased traffic, parking, heritage wall and removal of established trees • The Council assessment team is responsible for independent assessment of complex applications. Council can run the community through this 	the community and help members understand the application
Proposed Cyprus Club development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A state-significant development • Concern about the size of the development and its impact on traffic on Newington Road 	Planning team to follow up with resident and provide an update
Henson Park Plan of Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident questioned how community feedback was incorporated • Henson Park DA still not determined – going to Local Planning Panel. • Council moved an amendment to a resolution to have FAQ on Council website to address concerns 	Director of Planning to organise a public meeting soon.
Development Approvals	Over the last 12 months, the Dept of Planning set Inner West Council DA approval goals which Council achieved. Council met KPIs for public space legacy program and DA approval timeframes	Council now doing a deep dive into DA process as recent surge in developments has meant performance has fallen away a little
Heritage and conservation		
Local Environment Plan (LEP) – Heritage Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to preserve heritage buildings – community members would like to establish a conservation area • Concern over development along Illawara Road and the loss of ‘character’ of the area • Can a Heritage Advisory Panel be established comprising member of the community to inform the LEP? • Heritage study is one of three informing studies of the new LEP. Next stage will be community 	Director of Planning to investigate feasibility of establishing a Heritage Advisory Panel for input into LEP

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	engagement - rolling this out in the coming weeks. Council is receiving information from a range of experts in the community. Draft documents will go to Dept of Planning for Gateway approval	
Council involving community groups (eg Save Dully or Save Marrickville) in the DA process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Groups requested a list of developments and SEPP under complying developments • Can council better facilitate transverse subdivisions where existing houses are preserved? 	Council to investigate
Parking		
Parking issues and associated safety risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lynch Avenue, Juliette Street and Schouler street • Gladstone Street • Can Council investigate parking options to improve safety eg: 45 degree angle parking instead of 90 degree? 	Parking officer to meet with resident
Footpaths		
Dangerous footpaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dangerous footpaths along Sydney Street, Marrickville • Heavily industrialised area, consequently the footpath/driveways are being used by heavy plant • Both footpath and the local road are on the CAPEX renewal programme for FY2023/24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council undertaking a design for full reconstruction of the footpath, increased drainage inlets and road resurfacing to be undertaken in 12-18 months. • Design consultation with local businesses will take place by early 2023
Inappropriate planting of trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Jacaranda Trees planted on England Ave, Marrickville 	Council to look into situation
Quality of footpath construction around Sydenham Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resident thought footpath construction was of poor quality, no landscape design and colour of concrete didn't match surroundings 	No further action

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Infrastructure explained Council undertook a further site inspection and footpath was built to Council specifications and verges are included only in some circumstances (part of verge policy) and depends on nature of footpath. • Colour of concrete changes over time and is often brighter when first laid. 	
Cycling		
Prioritising active transport (cycling and pedestrians) around Marrickville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling safety and clear road marking • In March 2022 Council carried out community engagement to inform the draft Inner West Cycling Strategy. • Council has an integrated transport plan which addresses this 	Draft Cycling strategy to be placed on public exhibition in late 2022 or early 2023.
Other		
Street trees & understory planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macro and micro habitat, verge gardens • Council taking a strong environmental focus and doing what it can to 'green' the area including additional tree planting and verge gardening • Council incorporates water sensitive urban design features in streetscapes 	New draft verge gardening policy will be available for comment in Q4 2022
Sound proofing around Lewisham Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainline at Lewisham goes above ground level and noise echoes through neighbourhood. • Resident would like to see sound-proofing similar to other suburbs. 	GM explained Inner West Council did not have jurisdiction in this area but could offer support in advocacy role.
Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there any plans to resolve the issue of people sleeping rough around Marrickville shops • Council operates within Homelessness Protocol which encompasses the rights of homeless 	No further action

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	<p>people to have their belongings with them when sleeping on the streets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council takes an active role with community organisations such as Newtown Neighbourhood Centre to support residents who are sleeping rough. More information can be found on Council's website. 	
<p>Council consultation process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents provide feedback to Council – get an email response but no discussion about why your comment/concern was accepted or rejected. • Council staff explains response depends on context of objection. In some instances, response to objection is explained in assessment report. This is available on Council website. In other instances, Council makes contact with an objector to meet with them to discuss amenity impacts in detail. Council may not be required to contact each individual if there are a number of submissions re: the same issue eg traffic. 	<p>No further action</p>

Not all questions submitted by residents could be answered on the night due to time constraints. Those with specific enquiries had the opportunity for these to be logged as customer requests. Council's Customer Service team will be following up 15 requests following the forum.