



**Questions raised by the community
at the Wollstonecraft Ward Community Forum
held on Tuesday 21 October 2008**

Questions Raised	Council's Reply
1. How much will the Coal Loader Site project cost?	The Coal Loader Site is being developed progressively over time. It is a staged project as Council does not have the full amount currently available. The total project will cost in the order of \$8 million, excluding SES Headquarters works. Stage 1 will cost approximately \$2.25 million. For detailed information about the associated costs of this Stage please refer to the Council report, 4 September 2008, available at: http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/OSSES01_Coal Loader Centre for Sustainability Waverton Staging Plan & Funding.pdf
2. Will the Coal Loader Site parklands include community gardens or allotments?	Yes. The site includes a small area for community allotments, adjacent to the former Caretaker's Cottage. It is hoped that the area available can be expanded onto the platform 'green-roof' once this area is opened up, however an interim fashion community gardens have been established and are being used by the community for various projects, including a partnership project between North Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service, Royal North Shore Hospital, North Sydney Demonstration School, the Sydney Organic Gardens and Council, as well as for activities as part of Council's Sustainable Living Workshop series. For more information visit http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2399-community-involvement.asp
3. Are the Coal Loader Site tunnels (grills) safe and accessible?	The tunnels are currently not in a condition suitable for general public access. Under the first stage of works it is proposed to make the second tunnel from the water safe and accessible as part of the link through to the Balls Head bushland. The other tunnels will be gated for authorised access only. The plans for the site propose the following uses for these tunnels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunnel closest to the water: Interpretation of former industrial operations / infrastructure. • Third tunnel from the water: Storage of water collected from the platform 'green-roof'. • Fourth tunnel from the water: Retention of existing bat roosting habitat.
4. The last thing the Council and the community would want is a repeat of	Noted. A condition of handover of the sites was that an easement for access to the wharf be created. The easement is

<p>Anderson Park regarding access to the Coal Loader Site.</p>	<p>5m wide, with a wider section adjacent to the take off point of the wharf for manoeuvring. NSW Maritime requested a 5m wide kerbed and guttered roadway along this easement with separate footpath for pedestrians. This approach was strongly rejected in the feedback received during the public exhibition period, due to the high impacts it would have on the lower portion of the parkland. Accordingly the adopted design for the park includes a 3m wide shared pathway within the easement (including wider paved 'square' area adjacent to the wharf take-off point) for use by pedestrians and authorised vehicles. The pathway is designed for vehicle loadings, and will have a decorative surface finish so that it blends with the parkland environment.</p> <p>Council is seeking information from the NSW Maritime regarding details of anticipated vehicular traffic to and from the wharf once redeveloped; and an agreement would need to be established regarding type, frequency etc of vehicular access as part of any proposals.</p>
<p>5. Is there provision for car parking on the Coal Loader Site?</p>	<p>There are four spaces on the site. Two of these are for disabled parking, one for the prospective tenant of the café (should this proceed) and one for staff member operating out of the former Caretakers Cottage admin building. Public parking will be made available on adjacent public roads. The number of onsite spaces was determined following extensive community feedback rejecting alienation of the parkland for car-parking. Also the strategy for the site and the peninsula as a whole is to encourage the use of public transport.</p>
<p>6. What is the time frame for the relocation of the SES Headquarters?</p>	<p>It is expected that the project will start February/March 2009, and be completed by September/ October 2009. The lease for the current SES premises ends November 2009.</p>
<p>7. Does Stage 1 of the Coal Loader Site include restoration of the jetty?</p>	<p>No. The jetty currently remains the property of NSW Maritime. However the designs for the Coal Loader site does make allowance for future access to the wharf (refer question 4 above).</p>
<p>8. What's happening with the Cape Don, old light house ship?</p>	<p>The Cape Don will remain moored adjacent to the Coal Loader in the short to medium term.</p>
<p>9. Is there talk of a marina for Cape Don?</p>	<p>Council and the community are supportive of the work done by the volunteers in the MV Cape Don Society in preserving a valuable piece of our maritime heritage. The need to maintain a link with the maritime heritage of the site is seen as an important aspect of the plans for the parkland arising from the community feedback received. As a heritage vessel, the MV Cape Don is seen as an ideal complement to the parkland site. Council has made representations to NSW Maritime seeking that the vessel be allowed to remain at the Coal Loader. However recent indications from NSW Maritime would appear that they see the vessel as being incompatible with their long-term plans for converting the wharf into a super-yacht marina.</p>

<p>10. Balls Head is a magic place; what public transport options are available to encourage more people to access?</p>	<p>Council acknowledges that there is limited parking/public transport access at present. The 265 bus currently provides access to the Coal Loader site. The site is also accessible from Waverton train station. The community has advocated for a ferry stop and Council sometime ago approached NSW Maritime with a concept to convert the dolphin wharf on the BP site so as to be suitable for ferry access. At the time Sydney Ferries expressed some interest in exploring the possibility of a stop at this location. Also should the Coal Loader Wharf be redeveloped a stop could possibly be included as part of the project. It is likely that if ferry stops can be developed that they would initially operate as part of a tourist circuit, along the lines of (or possibly as part of) the ferry route that now operates between the various harbour islands.</p>
<p>11. Where is the Aboriginal Heritage Office located?</p>	<p>The Aboriginal Heritage Office is located at 39/137-145 Sailors Bay Road, Northbridge. For more information visit http://www.aboriginalheritage.org or Ph 9949 9882.</p>
<p>12. What is the exhibition period for the Draft Open Space Provision Strategy and where can copies be accessed?</p>	<p>The draft Open Space Provision Strategy has been available for public viewing and comment from Monday 13 October 2008. The draft document is available on Council's website under the 'On Exhibition' area. Hard copies are available (free of charge) from Council's Customer Service Centre or the document may be viewed in Stanton Library. Submissions will be accepted until Friday 21 November 2008.</p> <p>The draft Strategy uses Council's existing open space supply and demand information as the basis for establishing principles and strategies for open space acquisition. A series of maps identify the suitability of areas (rather than individual sites) within North Sydney for open space and recreation.</p> <p>If you have any queries or comments about the draft Open Space Provision Strategy contact Megan White, Landscape Planner, Ph 9936 8225 (Tues - Wed) or via Email megan.white@northsydney.nsw.gov.au</p>
<p>13. Under the draft Open Space Provision Strategy, does Council plan to sell the existing land available to buy more?</p>	<p>The Strategy does not advocate selling any existing parkland to acquire new open space. Nor does the Strategy advocate compulsory acquisition of land for the purposes of open space and public recreation. Rather, the Strategy aims to recognise and act on opportunities to acquire land for use as open space in areas of proven need, as they are identified.</p> <p>Likely ways in which new land for open space may be provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition of appropriate parcels of land listed for sale in priority locations through day-to-day market transactions (this can lead to the creation of new parks or provision of linkages between existing open space areas)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedication of land for open space (from developers, in areas of need) • Partnerships with organisations (e.g. Rail Corp) to lease land • Dual use of land not dedicated as public open space (e.g. school playing fields) <p>The financial viability of all provision opportunities will be assessed before a decision to acquire new land for public open space is made.</p>
14. With the Wollstonecraft Railway Project is there an opportunity to landscape the area around the station?	Council plans to improve public amenity and enhance local area. It is hoped that RailCorp is close to providing approval for Council to start the project.
15. The area behind Belmont Ave, Wollstonecraft is overgrown with trees and weeds and is rat infested. Surrounding residents received recent a notice from Council advising that this area is bushfire prone. Is Council responsible for maintaining this area?	No, Council is not responsible for maintaining this area. The land in question is RailCorp land and Council will advocate on the community's behalf for RailCorp to address the problem. Residents may also report complaints via http://www.railcorp.info/contact_us , or by calling RailCorp's 24 hour Greenline, Ph 1300 656 999.
16. Council's street sweeping seems to have problems adequately cleaning the surface if Milray Ave, Wollstonecraft. What is Council's residential street cleaning schedule?	The frequency of Council's street sweeping is every 6 weeks. Due to the size of the street sweeping machine, cars parked on road and the size of Milray Ave there are occasions when it's difficult to use the machine effectively to clean the road. The smaller "Green Machine" is only for used for cleaning footpaths. It would not produce the same results as the larger machine if used to clean roads. Milray Ave is cleaned once every six (6) weeks, as per Council maintenance schedule, and in between periods are regularly monitored by Council staff.
17. There are concerns Crows Nest is 'dirty', that the street sweepers don't clean effectively. This is of particular concern given it is a popular restaurant area. What's Council's street cleaning schedule for this area?	<p>Street cleaning is done in by Council in two (2) parts: 1) Daily removal of litter by Council's Open Space and Environmental Services division and 2) four (4) times a year scrubbing of the pavements in undertaken by Council's Engineering and Property Services division.</p> <p>Crows Nest is cleaned five (5) nights a week by a night shift street cleaning crew that commences at 10pm and finishes at 6am. The nights include both Friday and Saturday night. Council acknowledges that there are some higher traffic areas near restaurants that require additional or extra scrubbing as on pavements etc. Crows Nest is also cleaned by a part time street cleaner that patrols the streets during the busy lunch time periods during the week days. On the weekends Council has crews also emptying the street bins and during the week, crews that sweep the surrounding fringe commercial/residential areas.</p>
18. Council's rubbish collection has gone from good to great, but how do I get rid of a used gas cylinder?	No. Council waste collection does not include the removal of gas cylinders. The nearest collection point is Artarmon Waste Transfer Station, 13 Lanceley St, Artarmon, Ph 1300 651 116.
19. Can we have more e-waste collections	Electrical (aka 'e') waste includes broken or unwanted

<p>per year? Can we have them quarterly or 2-3 times per year?</p>	<p>electrical or electronic devices. Council currently only coordinates one (1) collection per year as this service has only recently been trialled. The response from the public has been every encouraging. Council will need to explore costs associated with extra collections and can consider additional collection services in the 2009/10 budget.</p>
<p>20. What happens to the e-waste once it's been collected? Are parts recycled and used?</p>	<p>Council contracts an external supplier to collect the e-waste. It is understood that the contractor doesn't fix, reuse or resell the e-waste, but that the items are stripped of any contaminated parts so they don't end up in landfill, before disposing of them.</p> <p>The practice of e-waste collection is continually progressing;. North Sydney Council supports the Local Government and Shires Association of NSW (LGSA) commitment to further developing standards for 'Extender Producer Responsibility' in which the producer's responsibility for a product (including physical or financial responsibility) is extended to the post-consumer stage of the product's lifecycle. For more information visit http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/258-waste-managementrecycling.asp</p>
<p>21. Concerns regarding lighting along footpath in Smoothey Park, Wollstonecraft have been raised by residents for a number of years. Many people use this footpath, is there anything that can be done to the lighting to improve safety and access?</p>	<p>The solar lighting within the reserve will be checked to ensure it is working to capacity. An assessment for additional lighting will then be completed to Council's consideration.</p>
<p>22. How can residents advise Council of maintenance issues, concerns or repairs?</p>	<p>The easiest way to advise Council of any maintenance issues or concerns (e.g. footpath repairs needed or to request graffiti removal) is to either contact Council's Customer Service Centre on Ph 9936 8100 or to log a 'CRM' via 'On-Line Services' on Council's website under: http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2046-online-services.asp. Logging a CRM is easy, for the majority of users registration is not required. The customer will be prompted to search and select a category that best describes the issue or request. Should you be unable to locate a suitable category please raise a request under the category of 'Miscellaneous Request Feedback'. Then complete all required sections of the supplied form, providing a detailed description of the request, your contact details (including email address) and if known the property address (or nearby property address e.g. pot hole in front of no. 13 East St. Once completed press 'Submit' and you will provide a confirmation email, including reference number, sent to the email address supplied.</p>
<p>23. When will the plans for the Alexander Street Car Park update be made available for public viewing?</p>	<p>Council has yet to resolve to undertake the joint Alexander Car Park/Woolworths proposed re- development. However it is anticipated that if council elects to proceed, then the plans should be on exhibition in approximately May 2009.</p>

<p>24. How can we find out more about Council's volunteer programs and opportunities, including Bushcare?</p>	<p>There are a number of ways the public can become more involved in Council activities and programs. The easiest way to find out about activities and programs is via Council's website http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/5616-community-involvement.asp. Some of the more popular 'hands on' programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushcare - provides an opportunity for the community to become involved in managing and maintaining local urban bushland areas. Participants meet on a regular basis and are provided with direction, technical advice, tools, native plants, mulch, removal of rubbish, signage and training. Council provides training programs for volunteers as well as a variety of interesting and informative weekend workshops also open to the public. • Streets Alive - provides an opportunity for the community to participate in creating and caring for gardens on public land in North Sydney. Streets Alive sites range from small planted areas around the base of street trees through to extensively landscaped areas hundreds of square metres in size. <p>Council also has a number of formal committees that provide recommendations to the elected Council on key issues e.g. access and safety, community services, environmental services, historical and cultural resources, traffic (plus pedestrian and bicycle sub committees) etc. Community representatives are needed. For more information about the role of these committees, how to get involved and the time commitment required re meeting frequency visit http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/4048-committees--charters.asp</p>
<p>25. How do you find out when and where Precinct Committees meet?</p>	<p>For up-to-date information about Precinct Committee meeting times, venues and contact persons visit http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/precincts , or alternatively contact Council's Community Engagement Coordinator on Ph 9936 8463 or 9936 8100; or Email precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au. Meeting details are also advertised weekly in the Mosman Daily.</p>
<p>26. Does Council provide donations or grant funding to local community groups? If so how frequently and how much is distributed annually?</p>	<p>Yes. Council reports on its grant programs and donations each year. Council's major contribution is in the form of six (6) community centre buildings provided to not-for-profit community groups for a peppercorn rent, including \$170,000 pa building and grounds maintenance. Other funding assistance is distributed in a variety of ways, both direct cash and in-kind support; programs include Childcare, Arts, Sports Development Assistance Funding, and partnership ventures etc). Council's total annual expenditure for these programs are: \$500,000 cash and in \$270,000 special subsidies. For more information about community donations, including the</p>

	related policy visit Council's website - http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2085-community-donations.asp
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