

NORTH SYDNEY COUNCIL

NEUTRAL BAY SHOPPING AREA STREETScape COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE 153rd MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 5.30 PM IN THE SUPPER ROOM, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Present: Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services in the Chair
Councillor Keen (via Zoom)

(All attended via Zoom)

Rick Doran, Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce

Richard O'Grady, Co- President Neutral Bay Chamber of Commerce

JoEllen Henderson, JoEllen Design Studio

Nicole Robertson, Concept Events

Tom Appleby, Collier International

Anthony Andrews, Ampco Property Group/Ampco Meat Group

Council:

Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services

Diana Mejia, Project Manager - EPS

Peita Rose, Governance Officer (Minutes)

1. **Meeting opened** at 5.30pm, with Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services in the Chair.
2. **Apologies**
Councillor Gibson and Councillor Drummond.
3. **Confirmation of the Minutes**
The Minutes of the 152nd Meeting held on 11 February 2020 were adopted.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes:**
Nil.

5. Projects Update

5.1 Young Street Plaza Temporary Closure

1. Young Street trial closure started Monday 2 November 2020 and has been closed for 2 weeks and has been running smoothly.
2. Council's Contractor, Regal Innovations, commenced construction works for the trial plaza – works will take 8 weeks and are expected to be finalised by 23 December 2020.
3. The works are part of the trial plaza which was adopted by Council at its meeting of 26 August 2019. The trial plaza will be in place until March 2021.
4. Data and traffic counts were carried out before the closure on Young Street and surrounding streets including Waters Road and Ben Boyd Road to see what the impacts are by closing Young Street. Additional counts will be carried out during the closure to compare and assess the traffic impact of the closure in the road network.

5. The trial will help to assess the effects of the closure, and assist decision making for a possible permanent road closure and plaza implementation.
6. Young Street Plaza - the duration of works for the construction of Young Street plaza is an 8-week program (weather permitting). including:
 - Minor civil and drainage works;
 - Signage, traffic and Pedestrians Management;
 - Street furniture, including bollards to protect the pedestrian plaza from vehicular traffic;
 - Artistic pavement road graphics;
 - Timber decking and plywood furniture structures;
 - Ramps, handrails, kerb rails and tactile indicators;
 - Lawn area;
 - Festoon lighting;
 - Softscape items.

Some works will be staged to keep access to 5-7 Young Street driveway.

The proximity to Military Road, the sequence of works and the size of the plaza adds complexity to the site safety and construction management, impacting schedule and duration of works.

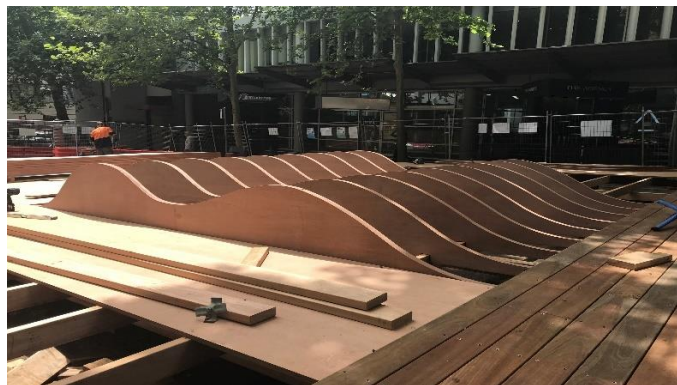
These works are fully funded by TfNSW as part of the B-line works funding. If after the trial Council decided to go with full permanent closure of Young Street, these works will be fully funded as part of the B-Line works grant.

Council had erected a multi purpose container in place, which has had some interest from café and business owners who want to utilise the container. It has other purposes as well; it can also be used for community events if not as a pop-up business. It will be dressed up and made to look nice and vibrant, and it will match the graphics of the plaza once it has been finished.



MAIN PAVILION - HIRED CONTAINER

There is a lawn area which is an interactive children's play area and this will be covered in synthetic turf with a slide for children to slide up and down on.

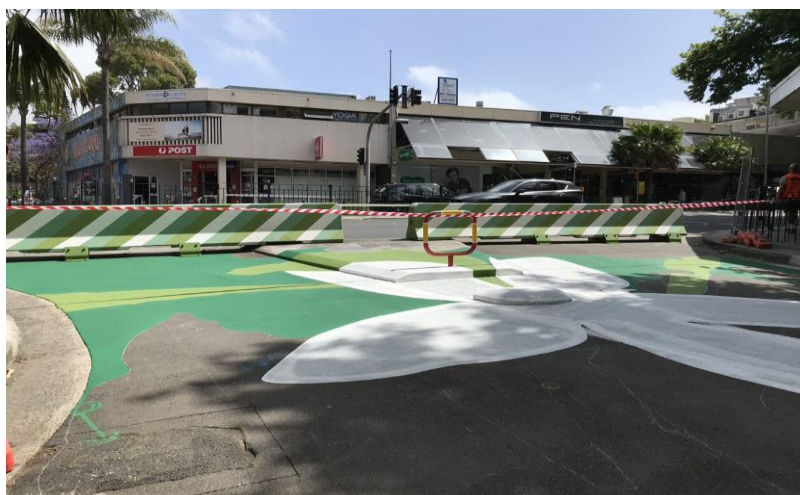


LAWN AREA – INSTALLATION OF DECKING STRUCTURE



MILITARY ROAD – CONCRETE BARRIER AND ROAD GRAPHICS

The graphics are starting to be put in place on the roadway.



MILITARY ROAD – CONCRETE BARRIER AND ROAD GRAPHICS

5.2 Military Road - B-Line Streetscape Works Upgrade Update

Council has been carrying on the public domain upgrades of Neutral Bay and numerous tenders have been awarded in the past several months. Council is about to start another Contract for more streetscape upgrades along Military Road and Neutral Bay.

Works for the last section of Military Road in Neutral Bay will be finalised by February 2021.

In addition to the footpath upgrades and as part of the B-Line Streetscape, Council is proposing intersection improvements to five sites in the Military Road corridor. Consultation was undertaken with great support from the community. These improvements will make the intersections more pedestrian friendly; construction works will be undertaken in 2021. The proposed five intersection are:

Rangers Road and Military Road Raised Pedestrian Crossing. Council is taking it from its current arrangement with what is affectively a pedestrian refuge to now a fully-fledged raised pedestrian crossing with landscaping and ramps either side of the crossing, the crossing being raised will stop the cars from speeding.

- **Holt Avenue and Military Road – Continuous Footpath Treatment** The existing scenario is for pram ramps to come off the paving and go down onto the road. It will be much clearer, and it's now a much more pedestrian friendly crossing. Pedestrians have much more priority in terms of crossing this intersection.

Spencer Road and Military Road Intersection Another busy intersection and again just your standard pram ranks are the existing situation and continuous footpath treatment which again shows the pedestrianisation of the roadway.

Cabramatta Road and Military Road Continuous Footpath Treatment

Macpherson Street and Military Road Pedestrian Crossing improvements proposed improvements to the existing pedestrian crossings.

The intersection improvements are fully funded by TfNSW as part of the B-line works funding.

Consultation outcomes will go to the traffic committee for approval and Council will be looking at going to tender on these treatments in the New Year. They will compliment all the upgrading works that have been done in Neutral Bay and Cremorne.

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that Council will look and investigate putting a continuous footpath or raised pedestrian crossing at Waters Road.

5.3 Neutral Bay Beautification – Planter Boxes

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that the planter boxes have been well received by the community, Council has a contractor to improve the size, number and variety of plants. They are fully maintained by the contractor and due to budget, there is a limit of the number of planter boxes. Council will investigate buying more in the future when more funds become available. These compliment the permanent landscaping treatments which is what you have seen all through Neutral Bay.

6. Town Planning

6.1 Military Road Corridor Study

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that he had an update from the Planning department in terms of the planning study. The study has been to Council and has attracted a lot of interest from a lot of people.

- Currently there is not a specific time frame for the Woolworths Site development.

- Work continues on the overall Military Road Planning Study project. Council staff are currently working through a high number of submissions received. Strategic planning division is working to report the outcomes of the consultation before the end of 2020, for the final report all consultation submissions will be documented. This may include a summary of all contributions collected as well as recommendations for future action.

**Additional information please contact North Sydney Council Strategic Planning
Marcelo Occhiuzzi and/or Tomas van der Meer
Email: council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au
telephone: (02) 9936 8100**

7. Chamber of Commerce

7.1 Chamber of Commerce Coordinator

Nicole Robertson from Concept Events stated that since the last meeting they have been working with Council on the introduction of a couple of new banners for Grosvenor Lane.

Newspapers and newsletter as well as emails have gone out with updates of what is going on in the area, including Council development information, covid support and Facebook posts.

The Bay Magazine has been put on hold due to covid but will be up and running soon and once it does, there will be a lot more advertising.

7.2 Neutral Bay Lanes Murals

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated there was discussion that Ms Henderson was going to submit a proposal for the mural. Ms Henderson stated that she decided to put it on hold due to a busy year and hopes to submit it next year. She also said that she would like to have discussions with Council's Director Engineering and Property Services and Council's Project Manager, Engineering Infrastructure before she submits it.

8. General Business

8.1 Rebranding

Nicole Robertson from Concept Events enquired about the status of the rebranding

Council's Director Engineering and Property Services stated that when Council put the idea up for there to be branding in both Cremorne and Neutral Bay, the history was with the B-line funding grant. Council engaged consultants who produced a draft document that looked at those two suburbs. Council then decided they wanted to look at it along the whole LGA and therefore hasn't progressed any further. Council wants the whole of the public domain which is a big project and should involve suburbs of Council, to capture it in a branding way. This project is now something for the next Council to consider.

It was noted that an extra meeting be held in the middle of 2021.

12. Next meeting: Tuesday, 9 February 2020

13. Close meeting: 6.21pm