

PLATEAU PRECINCT MEETING

Tuesday 29 October 2024, Start 6.30pm

**St George Community Housing Common Room
Amherst Street Cammeray**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: 13 people attended the meeting:
LK, KB, SE, MM, AR, MR, KM, JG, BS, JT, NA

GUEST SPEAKER: Nicole Antonini,
North Sydney Council (NSC) Councillor, St Leonards Ward

VISITORS: SW, Secretary of Anzac Precinct

1 WELCOME TO ATTENDEES

2 PREVIOUS MINUTES – 27 August 2024

MOTION: The minutes of the general meeting held on 27 August 2024
were confirmed as read and correct.

MOVED BY: SW

SECONDED BY: AR

CARRIED: unanimously.

3 WFU & WHT update

SW reported on Combined Precincts Meeting (CPM) held at NSC on 22
October

- TfNSW did not attend as planned.
- Steve Clark from CPB gave an update on work in progress on WFU with slides and commentary.
- Questions prepared by WFU sub committee for the meeting were not answered.
- Issues/questions raised at the meeting included;
 - o Parking signs in local streets are poorly placed
 - o Compliance with parking guidelines in project and EIS not enforced
 - o Height of overpass from Miller Street. A: to handle gravity fed stormwater drainage from Anzac park.
 - o It was noted that the overpass is higher than height shown in EIS with the potential of allowing noise to spread further.
 - o There appear to be a lack of adequate safety barriers on overpass in the event of an accident

MM - Q: *Why haven't noise walls been included on overpass?*

KB – A: *The overpass has not been engineered for noise walls*

General discussion on effect of works

SW: Contractors have been reprimanded by CPB for bad behaviour.
Hole at end of Bells Avenue within WFU site has been dug for drainage.

- KM: In 2023 Cammeray Voices submitted complaints to the Minister for Roads in relation to breaches of the EIS and Ministerial Conditions. To date there has been no reply.
Breaches have been raised with politicians and at Senate estimate hearings.
There have been two enquiries into breaches and oversights by TfNSW.
The consensus is that TfNSW cannot be trusted.
- SW (Anzac): Commended and thanked Kate for her work (through Cammeray Voices) in raising issues and problems with relevant authorities.
- KM: The community needs a spokesperson to advocate and liaise with authorities.
- SW: Further issues –
Parking is only provided for WHT staff not WFU staff so local streets are inundated.
Light spill from works is ongoing despite complaints from local residents.
Installation of Hush (noise stop) glass in local properties is effective but often results in build up of heat inside properties.
Complaints to CPB and TfNSW often do not get a response.
- KB: Perhaps the only recourse is to go the media.
- KM: Feels cynical about approaching the media because of conflict of interest leading to possible loss of revenue from advertisers. Media and backers are all in the same camp. The only solution is to put pressure on politicians.

4 GUEST SPEAKER INTRODUCED:

Nicole Antonini NSC Councillor, St Leonards Ward

- NA: As a first time Councillor she is feeling her way and concedes she has a lot to learn. She has known Mayor Zoë Baker since the tunnels (WHT) project was announced 5-6 years ago. She considers that TfNSW has not been held to account.
She assisted the community group along with a proactive Council to achieve better outcomes (eg maintenance facilities under landscaped area) for the WestConnex project.
She commended the Mayor for her continued tenacious approach especially with TfNSW.

5 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

- BS: Q:** *was there any outcome from NA's meeting with the Mayor in June 2024?*
- BS:** *Noted the Bay Precinct meeting earlier this year where three retired engineers spoke about the tunnels and upgrade projects.*
- NA:** *4% of Council revenue comes from the state government with the remainder from rates.
Noted NSC works hard to service residents. Mowing of street verges is greatly valued by residents.
In light of NSW Housing Reform, NA noted that North Sydney LGA already has 90% of housing in the medium to high rise category.
Council is active in emphasising the high level of density in the LGA.*
- SW: Q:** *Regarding new parking meters, could residents be given 30 minutes free parking in 2 hour zones (like residents in other Councils)?*
- NA: A:** *She is in favour of free time but revenue has fallen since the introduction of new meters and parking revenue in part funds the new pool.*

In regard to restricted parking, many, including herself, resent paying for a parking permit, though it does make parking harder for those outside the area.

JG or BS: *Q: What is the best way to bring issues to Council's attention eg free half hour parking?*

NA: *A: Email all Councillors with issues. Email addresses can be found on the Council website.*

KE: *Q: What are the most common complaints received by Council? Perhaps Council could compile a 'hit list' of complaints.*

NA: *A: NSC website has sections such as 'Have a Say' where issues can be raised.*

AR: *Comment Council should allow for input from locals on various plans.*

KE: *Raised issue with speed hump on Amherst St: did Council consult locals?*

KB: *Q: Has Council decided to introduce 40km/hr speed limit as proposed in 2023?*

NA: *A: Council is in the process of introducing various measures such as speed humps and new crossings to reduce speed.*

JG: *Q: There is a safety issue for cars entering Palmer Street from Norths Leagues Club. Traffic on Palmer Street is going too fast. What something can be done to make it safer for cars and pedestrians? Refuge crossing at the junction of Amherst and Miller Streets is dangerous for pedestrians. What can be done to improve safety?*

KM: *Locals have asked if the sink hole at the corner of Amherst Street and Bells Avenue was caused by drainage problem or a gas installation?*

A: *Engineers from gas authority inspected and confirmed there were no leaks from pipes.*

NA: *A: Council engineers have checked the holes and concluded that work associated with gas installation was to blame*

SW: *Perhaps drainage problems in the area are related to the boggy area near the tunnel portals noted by Steve Clark at CPM. Unlike the majority of work in the freeway corridor, which is in sandstone, this area is located over the former creek and requires extensive drainage work.*

NA: *Place trust Council rather than TfNSW.*

SW(Anzac): *Sydney Water has been unblocking sewerage pipes in Anzac Park.*

SW: *TfNSW will again use retro electric VW kombi in St Leonards Park as an information base for locals.*

NA: *State Member Tim James has not done much to improve the outcomes for the electorate.*

MM: *Q: Have Council engineers checked and reported to see if the (WFU 7 WHT) projects comply (with conditions).*

SW: *A: TfNSW do respond to breach of conditions.... During Metro construction TfNSW relocated a resident in Cherrybrook at great expense when they complained of excessive noise.*

NA: *Air quality is poor and pollution levels are above acceptable levels.*

KM: *The EIS conceded that the project will result in additional deaths (expendable lives).*

6 SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FOR COUNCIL

The precinct requests the following:

- a. That council investigate the reason why noise walls have not been included on the Miller Street overpass as part of the WFU.

- b. That council consider giving residents 30 minutes free parking in 2 hour zones (like residents in other Councils).
- c. That Council provide an outcome on the proposal to introduce 40km/hr speed limit in the Cammeray area.
- d. That Council investigate ways to reduce the speed of traffic on Palmer Street to make it safer for cars and pedestrians exiting North Leagues Club.
- e. That Council investigate ways to improve safety for pedestrians crossing at the junction of Amherst and Miller Streets.
- f. That Council's engineers confirm that the WFU and WHT projects comply with project conditions in the EIS and Ministerial Conditions.

Chair thanked everyone for attending.

7 NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 25 February 2025

Meeting ended at 8pm.