

**NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES**  
**Tuesday 13 May 2025, commenced at 7:00 pm**

1. Apologies – GC, TM
2. No additional items were added to the Agenda.
3. Business from minutes of meeting held April 2025:
  - I. April minutes were confirmed as accurate, proposed by BH and seconded by SL.
  - II. There were no new Council responses to Precinct motions
4. Updates:
  - I. Warringah Freeway Upgrade  
Work continues to greatly impact on residents. GC is in regular contact with the contractors to try and ameliorate the impact of various parts of the upgrade.
  - II. DA258/2023 – 41-53 Grosvenor Street, Neutral Bay – Coles.  
CP advised that the North Sydney Planning Panel is holding a public forum tomorrow morning to hear from community members and stakeholders. CP has registered to attend.
5. Council Plans. <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au>

**North Sydney Bike Action Plan 2025.**

CB provided the background to development of the Plan and the precinct'

- In July 2021 the Precinct discussed proposals to build cycleways in the LGA.
- There was widespread community concern about some routes identified in the proposal.
- Council decided to put on hold the proposal and to consider other route options and then to put these options to the wider community
- This consultation has now taken place through group workshops, and 'The North Sydney Bike Action Plan 2025' has been released for community consultation.

Neutral Precinct response in July 2021

- *The Precinct was encouraged to see the Council wanting to build cycleways but the initial selection of routes was not good because the identified roads are narrow.*
- *It makes sense for the Council to encourage people to cycle to and from work and local shops etc. but the geography provides challenges.*
- *The Precinct soundly rejected a proposed cycleway way from Milsons Point along Broughton Street Kirribilli, Clarke and Kurraba Roads to Wycombe Road at Harriette Street Neutral Bay, noting that current cycleways along the ridgeline are well used and it should be possible to incorporate a cycleway within the upgrade to the Warringah Freeway for Cyclists moving through the LGA rather than through the narrow residential streets i.e. Broughton Street, Kurraba and Clark roads.*
- *It was agreed that Neutral Bay lacks the open space to retrofit cycleways.*

### North Sydney Bike Action Plan 2025

- The proposed route from the Harbour Bridge to Neutral Bay (Route 3) is little changed from the original 2021 proposal. Broughton Street, Kurraba and Clark Roads, Clark & Kurraba Roads, then instead of turning into Bannerman St it will continue up Wycombe Road to Military Rd.

#### *Discussion Points*

- Agreed with the outcomes of the survey undertaken by the “Institute of Sensible Transport” that identified the difficult typography, steep & narrow roads and highlights the ‘pinch points’ at High Street/Clark Rd and Clark Rd/ Kurraba Rd intersections and the high traffic volumes and speed of vehicles in Kurraba /Wycombe Rds. It makes this route dangerous for all users of these roads.
- Again expressed disappointment that the opportunity to include a cycleway, for cyclists travelling through North Sydney LGA, was not incorporated into the Warringah Freeway Upgrade.
- CB advised that submissions close on Monday 26 May 2025 and encouraged residents to make a submission to <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au>

#### **MOTION:**

**Neutral Precinct reiterates its response to Council’s Cycleway plan in July 2021 that Broughton St, Clarke & Kurraba Roads are not suitable for the proposed Route 3 Sydney Harbour Bridge to Neutral Bay, in the North Sydney Bike Action Plan 2025, due to the steep & narrow roads, high traffic volumes & speed of vehicles. An alternate route needs to be identified.**

#### **VOTE: Unanimous (6)**

### **Draft Delivery Program 2025-29 and Operational Plan 2025-26**

- A copy of the Neutral Bay/Kurraba Point Fact Sheet from the Plan was handed out and discussed.
- Concern was expressed that plans may not proceed if the full extent of Council’s proposed special rate increase is not approved.
- The community needs to be consulted again when the special rates decision is known
- The Precinct asked Council in February to consider installing lighting in the Ilbery Reserve. A response is awaited.

CB advised that submissions close on Thursday 29 May 2025 and encouraged residents to make a submission to <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au>

### **Draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2025-26**

- CB advised that the *Draft Fees & Charges Schedule 2025/26* features a general increase of 2.9% compared to last year’s schedule. The increase is based on the change in the All Groups CPI Sydney index from September 2023 to September 2024, along with market rates.
- The meeting supported an increase in fees.
- CB advised that submissions close on Thursday 1 June 2025 and encouraged residents to make a submission to <https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au>

6. 2025 Australian Liveability Census

CB advised that this is a nationwide research project and the Council receives the results which helps them to understand liveability from resident's perspective. The results allow Council to see how North Sydney LGA compares to the rest of the country.

Residents were encouraged to complete the survey to the link below by Monday 30 June 2025. <https://www.placescore.org/2025-australian-liveability-census/>

7. The upcoming meetings were noted

- i. Neutral Precinct – 10 June [www.neutralprecinct.com](http://www.neutralprecinct.com)
- ii. Council – 26 May; 23 June [www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au)

The meeting ended at 7:35pm