

NEUTRAL PRECINCT MINUTES
Tuesday 12 August 2025, meeting commenced at 7:00 pm

1. Apologies: ML

2. Additional items added to the Agenda

- Council consultation: Talking about Services, Assets and Infrastructure
- State Significant Development (SSD-82875708) Woolworths 1-7 Rangers Road & 50 Yeo Street
- Neutral Precinct meeting flyer for bus stops
- 88 Wycombe Road - sewer leak

3. Business from July minutes:

- i. July 2025 minutes. There was one amendment to Item No: 4(IV) to correct that North Sydney Council does not subscribe to the "Snap, Send, Solve App. Amended minutes endorsed by TM & seconded by CB.
- ii. Council responses to Precinct motions

Motion: Lime Bikes

The Precinct requests the Council to contact the Lime Bikes Company to negotiate an improved response time when Lime Bikes are reported as left in positions hazardous to pedestrians and moving vehicle.

Council response:

Bike Share operators, such as Lime Bike, can legally operate across any Local Government Area in New South Wales without permission from Council according to the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021. This is NSW State Government legislation and Council cannot contravene the rights specified in the Act. Under the Act, certain conditions are applied and must be met for standing or storing ride share bikes on the footpath. These conditions are stated within the legislation. In short, these bikes should not be left in a public place, in the same location, for a period of more than 7 consecutive days or in a position that obstructs pedestrians. Noting that bike share operators do not need permissions to operate within the LGA, Council has emphasised the importance of increased response times from Lime Bike.

In response Lime Bike has asked that Council refer complainants to the address below as the submission would go directly to the response team and facilitates their quick action. help-sydney@li.me. Lime Bike do fine the user of the bicycle for actions such as poor or illegal parking. By going directly to the Bike Share Operator it prevents delays in action as you are dealing directly with the responsible party. Lime Bike have noted that they have the quickest response times when directly notified of poor user activity through the address help-sydney@li.me. For any bike blocking the public way in North Sydney they will remove the bike within 4 hours of notification. Lime can infringe users in accordance with their terms of service where a user does not use or park their bike correct. If you find a bike that is parked unsafely or has fallen over and is blocking the footpath, please contact Lime Bike via:

- the QR code on the bike, which will connect you directly to the local team
- email at help-sydney@li.me or support-au@li.me
- Lime's 24/7 hotline: 1800 861 305
- If your request is then not actioned within 4 hours, please report the obstruction or safety risk to Council via: email at council@northsyd

Motion: Revised Draft Delivery Program 2025–2029

Neutral Precinct cannot support the Revised Draft Delivery Program 2025–2029 because the costs and funding sources for identified projects is not known. The Precinct urges Council to remove these proposed projects from the Revised Draft Delivery Program and revert to the previously approved Delivery Program. This will allow time for proper collation of alternative funding and the proposed community consultation, through to 2026 to then establish priorities.

Council Response:

Position noted. The Revised Draft Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-26 was voted on and adopted by Council at the Extraordinary Council Meeting on 30 June. For a summary of the meeting outcomes visit:

<https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/news/article/315/council-meeting-summary-30-june-2025>

Motion: Ilbery Reserve

Neutral Precinct requests the Council to undertake maintenance work in Ilbery Reserve to improve pedestrian safety.

Council Response:

Manager of Parks and Gardens have added request to maintenance schedule

Motion: Ilbery Reserve

Neutral Precinct requests the Council specifically include Ilbery Reserve in the proposed report on actions that can be taken to increase the utilisation and capacity and safety of sports fields, parks, and other public domain/open space areas for safe, passive recreation through increased hours of lighting.

Council response:

Director of Open Space intends to put a report to the Council Meeting in August, responding to the Matter of Urgency from 26 May 2025. At this stage, we are advising the Council of the costs to undertake a lighting trial for exercise equipment at one park, and providing information on existing lighting in Parks.

Street lighting is not within the scope of this report. Ausgrid manages the compliance of street lighting and it's very unlikely that current lighting would be non-compliant; however, Council have asked for this to be checked. Street lighting is also generally controlled by daylight sensors, which trigger lights to turn on/off at sunset/sunrise. Street lighting faults should be reported to [Ausgrid](https://www.ausgrid.com.au/In-your-community/Our-services/Report-streetlights#!/map) by the public directly (at <https://www.ausgrid.com.au/In-your-community/Our-services/Report-streetlights#!/map>).

MOTION:

The Precinct Committee write and ask Ausgrid to review current street lighting arrangements around Ilbery Reserve. Request Ausgrid to consider installing flood lights focussed on the park from street lighting poles.

VOTE: Unanimous (8)

iii. Correspondence.

Noted that to date no response from Felicity Wilson MP regarding a third postponement of consultation with impacted residents on re-instating parking in North Alfred St.

4. Updates:

Warringah Freeway Upgrade

- GC reported that the pedestrian/cycle bridge from Merlin St North to Falcon St is now open. The new bridge is wider providing increased distance between pedestrians and cyclists.
- The Ernest Street on-ramp will be closed from 10:00pm Friday thru to 4:30am Monday to allow the remaining sections of the old pedestrian bridge to be removed.
- The Miller Street South bound on-ramp will be closed 10:00pm Friday to 8:00am Saturday; & 00pm Saturday to 9:am Sunday; and 8:00pm Sunday to 4:30am Monday
- The Falcon St southbound on-ramp will be closed from 10:00pm Friday to 4:30am Monday
- CB reported that the new North Sydney south bound off-ramp has reopened. The exit lane is further south than the old exit. Lack of signage has caused confusion with some motorists inadvertently turning into work sites or missing the correct exit and driving across the bridge.
- GC reported that the Combined Precincts Committee (CPC) Sub Committee on Warringah Freeway Upgrade issues is advocating strongly to have the agreed new trees planted within 3-400 metres of the Freeway. The Freeway contractors say a lack of space means the trees will need to be located at Berrys Bay.
- CB participated in an *Online Information Session - Tunnel Ventilation and Air Quality*. The advice provided by experts engaged to inform the Tunnel construction is that the pollution from the tunnel will disperse as it emerges from the tunnel. The moderator of the session did not allow CB's question on the impact of tunnel pollution on motor cyclists. [Use this link to view the information session.](#)

5. Barry Lane & Yeo Street corner – traffic blister

TM advised that 3 years ago he had raised with Council driver safety issues when entering and exiting Barry Lane from/to Yeo Street when vehicles are stopped/parked in the no-stopping zone on the corner of Yeo St and Barry Lane. Currently there are no markings on the road surface indicating a no-stopping area. Council advised the issue would be referred to the Traffic Committee. No action has been taken to date. The meeting supported the recommendation to install a Traffic Blister.

TM has raised the issue with Councillor Keen recommending that a 'Traffic Blister' be installed in the no-stopping zone. To support the recommendation a petition has been established. Residents were encouraged to sign the [petition](#).

6. Development Applications:

- DA217/2025/1 **12 Premier Street Neutral Bay 2089**. New carport structure & driveway. New crossing & layback. [Submissions](#) close **15/08/2025**. DA noted. No affected resident attended the meeting.
- State Significant Development (SSD-82875708) **Woolworths 1-7 Rangers Road & 50 Yeo Street**. Submissions

CP advised Woolworths has lodged another application for a larger development from 8 storeys to 12 storeys at 1-7 Rangers Road and from 6 storeys to 8 storeys at 50 Yeo Street. The new proposal is made to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) under the new State Government process that allows for a new pathway for approvals.

Discussion:

- Agreed, because of the additional height request, the new proposal will present the same issues raised by the Precinct to the original planning proposal. Impact

being: traffic flow in Yeo St; ingress/egress to parking from Yeo St; and the impact of sunlight on dwellings opposite in Yeo St.

- The Precinct will make a submission again highlighting these impacts on residents.

The proposal is on exhibition from 12 August to 8 September. Submissions can be made to www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects

Access to the website was not available on the day of the Precinct meeting to obtain full proposal for discussion.

Post the meeting the following information is provided: *The proposal is seeking shop top housing for 97 residential units, 10 of which are 'affordable' housing units; a medical centre; ground floor commercial premises; five level basement comprising a supermarket and 358 car parking spaces. It also includes a public plaza and pedestrian through-site link between Yeo St & Rangers Rd included in the original proposal.*

7. Have Your Say:

- **New Development Application sign Trial**

The meeting noted that Council has begun a 12-month trial of a new style of notification signage for development applications (DAs). The new signs are printed on A3 white waterproof paper, replacing the previous yellow corflute boards. The new signage is more cost effective and sustainable with a more modern layout

Council says the new signage is more cost effective (each sign costs \$2, compared to \$11 for the corflutes) and sustainable. The new format is more modern, including a QR code linking directly to Council's DA tracker, and aligns with signage approaches used by other councils.

The new signs also clearly outline: property, proposal, application number, advertising period, precinct area, applicant & have a plan on a page. Resident feedback can be made through the ['Have Your Say' web link](#)

The Precinct congratulates the Council on this initiative.

- **Draft Pesticide Notification Plan**

The meeting noted that Council has developed a Pesticide Use Notification Plan (PUNP) to ensure residents are aware of when and where pesticides may be applied. This includes areas such as: Parks and gardens, Playgrounds and sporting fields, Road verges and footpaths & Swimming pool grounds and cemeteries.

- The weblink for feedback is [Draft Pesticide Notification Plan](#) Feedback closes on 25 August.

- **Talking about Services, Assets and Infrastructure**

GC advised that Council is seeking feedback from residents on what residents' value, by way of services, including what residents think should be reduced, maintained or improved.

Discussion:

- We know Council's current financial position is dire. Council has advised that they need to make some tough choices regarding maintaining services and, assets and infrastructure.
- The meeting reviewed the list of services contained in the 'Council Services Booklet'. It was agreed it was difficult to make a reasonable assessment without information on what is essential and not, particularly without financial figures.
- Some suggestions included suspending non-essential services until they are affordable again such as The Better Business Partnership which talks to businesses about sustainability issues; Public Activation and Events, support for volunteering programs and grants & subsidies.
- It was noted that some residents have received a phone call from Metro/Mex asking questions about services delivery .
- An online survey can be accessed at:
<https://yoursay.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/lets-talk> Consultation closes 29 August.

MOTION

Neutral Precinct recommends the Council pare back to deliver essential services only and reduce or put on hold non-essential services until finance is available. If the Council can provide costs against individual services then the Precinct will review and provide further feedback.

VOTE: Unanimous (8)

8. North Sydney Garden competition. Noted that entries close 24 August 2025.

9. Neutral Precinct meeting flyer for bus stops

CB reported that the Precinct Flyer inviting residents to attend Neutral's meetings was now displayed on the Watson Street Bus Stop notice boards.

10. 88 Wycombe Road - sewer leak

BH advised that two weeks ago he reported to Sydney Water a significant sewer leak from garages fronting 88 Wycombe Rd. Sydney Water referred him to Council but has not responded to date. GC said he would speak to the Council Customer Services Wednesday morning.

Post Script: The Council's Environmental Officer responded promptly on Wednesday. An inspection was carried out and the property was required to engage a plumber to rectify the defective sewerage system servicing the property. Works have been carried out to address the matter and the affected footpath cleaned.

11. Upcoming meetings noted:

- i. [Neutral Precinct](#) – 9 September
- ii. [Council](#) – 25 August, 8 September

The meeting ended at 8:30pm.