MINUTE OF THE MAYOR

Dated: 26 August, 2019

RE: Carradah Park Upper Terrace - Tree Replacement

Council, at its meeting on 27 May 2019, considered a report on Carradah Park Upper Terrace - Tree Replacement. At that meeting Council resolved:

1. THAT 17 replacement Sydney Red Gums be planted within Carradah Park as per the original 2002 Landscape Masterplan with the addition of protective fencing installed around each tree;
2. THAT Council communicate with residents and the Waverton Precinct Committee with regards to plan for reinstatement of the trees as per the original 2002 Landscape Masterplan; and
3. THAT on completion of the replacement tree planting the tree vandalism sign onsite be removed

Since that meeting, I have had representations from residents in Larkin Street, regarding the reinstatement of trees and the need for more community consultation before this occurs.

This matter was discussed at the Waverton Precinct Meeting held on 2 July. The Precinct Committee resolved:

“THAT Precinct requests that the decision by Council on tree planting on the upper terrace of Carradah Park be not implemented immediately but be reconsidered following a consultative process with residents and other affected stakeholders, and that reconsideration take account of the following points:

• That there has historically been a clear, wide vista from the street unobstructed by trees.
• That no case has been made to plant trees in this regionally significant viewscape, nor was such a case made before the 2002 plan was adopted.
• That trees planted beneath powerlines (as occurred previously) is always a flawed strategy resulting in maintenance costs, disfigured trees and expansion of view loss due to trees spreading at the level of cropping. If underplanting is to be considered, aerial bundling of cables or placement of cables underground should occur first.
• That the street is visited on a continuous basis by local and international tourists to enjoy the vistas from the street and lookouts, whilst at NYE the street itself is filled with pedestrians enjoying the “big sky” experience.
• That a preferred outcome would be a revised landscape plan with an associated plan of management which addresses the above as well as management of self-sown trees and other plants on the upper areas of the park (referred to as Areas 1 to 4).”
Given the strong community interest in this matter, I would like to call for an onsite meeting with residents from Larkin Street, a representative from the Waverton Precinct Committee, available councillors, Council’s General Manager & Council’s Director of Open Space and Environmental Services, to discuss the issues raised in the Precinct Committee’s resolution.

I therefore recommend:
1. **THAT** the General Manager convene an onsite meeting on Saturday 31 August at 10.00am with the following attendees being invited: residents of Larkin Street, Waverton; representative of Waverton Precinct Committee; available councillors; Council’s General Manager; and Council’s Director Open Space and Environmental Services, to discuss the concerns regarding tree planting on the upper terrace of Carradah Park.

COUNCILLOR JILLY GIBSON
MAYOR