

ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES

Thursday 13 June 2024
6.00 pm – 7.30 pm
Zoom Online meeting



Present	
<p>Community Members Ben Alexander, Riley Dunn, Danny Hui, Petra Pattinson, Ben Whitehorn</p>	<p>Guests Mandy, Captioner Jeremy Tagle, Associate, Morris Goding Access Consulting Joycey Aoukar, Associate, Morris Goding Access Consulting</p>
<p>Council Officers Sharon Cassidy, Director, Assets and Operations Annette Trubenbach, Executive Manager, Community Programs Chris Bath, Manager, Older People and Disability Services Annabelle Hayter, Community Development Officer, Access and Inclusion – Minutes Carl Nugent, Manager Parks Planning and Recreation Belinda Rollason, Senior Landscape Architect Fiona Chui, Landscape and Recreation Planner Simon Mueller, Manager, Integrated Transport Manager Hao Wu, Senior Transport Planner</p>	<p>Councillors Clr Elaine Keenan - Chair Clr Ludovico Fabiano Clr Tony Kay</p>
Apologies	
Rachel Lazarov	

Item	Summary	Action officer
1. Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country	Clr Elaine Keenan welcomed everyone and gave Acknowledgment of Country.	
2. Introductions and Apologies	Listed on page 1.	
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest	No conflicts of interest were declared.	
4. Minutes of last meeting	Minutes of 24 March meeting were confirmed by Ben Whitehorn and seconded by Danny Hui.	

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Business arising action log register	Business arising action log was noted.	
<p>5. Universal Access Study Coastal Reserves Plan of Management project</p> <p>Carl Nugent Belinda Rollason Jeremy Tagle</p>	<p>Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is developing a Coastal Reserves Plan of Management (PoM) covering 14 coastal sites. • The POM provides direction and identifies important actions and capital works projects to manage the land over the next 10 years. • Inclusion is one of the key strategic planning deliverables. • A universal access study informs the plan. • There are five stages in the development of the plan. We are in stage one: information gathering. • Community feedback on the use of open spaces indicate people want: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ more signage and wayfinding; ○ more bins, resting stops, places to sit, barbecues, picnics; ○ improved walking tracks and walking paths; ○ toilet amenities in northern part of the LGA. <p>Access Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes site audit of 14 parks and reserves to identify inclusive design opportunities for improved universal access. • All reserves are generally topographically challenging featuring heritage sandstone and uneven surfaces. • Example: Rodney Reserve is a popular reserve used by many people including dog walkers. Issues noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ currently no accessible parking but space for a parking space or an accessible pick up / drop off; ○ no accessible path of travel from the reserve boundary and no kerb ramps along the pedestrian footpath; ○ people tell us they love the views and the coastal walk and want access to the Reserve. 	

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	<p>Question: Could consideration be given to an east-west pathway, from Blake Street and a viewing platform up against the fence to improve the coastal experience?</p> <p>Response: We can investigate these ideas and look at removing some steps to improve access for people with mobility aids.</p> <p>Question: Can you create paths that are accessible for everybody, and places protected from the weather?</p> <p>Response: We are aiming to achieve equity of experience along the coast. Marks Park is a good example of where we created a circulation path around the park and to the lookout point. The coastal walk has lots of stairs. We can improve access by installing improved handrails, stair nosing and tactiles. Unfortunately, due to the topography, not every park can be made accessible.</p> <p>Comment: The data indicates access to these spaces are in high demand with daily visits between 30 minutes - two hours. This may also indicate how much people with mobility limitation are impacted by these access constraints.</p> <p>Question Is risk and liability a consideration, for example, if there is no safe footpath and someone is injured? Can incremental improvements be prioritised, particularly where there are only a few steps which are easier to replace with ramps or rails?</p> <p>Response: The audit outcomes and recommendations will inform strategic priorities and where to make</p>	

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	<p>incremental improvements and address safety issues. The PoM covers short, medium, and long-term actions.</p> <p>Question: How would you identify areas for upgrade and how do you ensure it improves equitable access? Can a summary outlining key priorities relevant to people with disability be provided?</p> <p>Response: We will produce a list of ideas that we will consult on later in the year. We welcome everybody's feedback.</p> <p>Action: Parks, Planning and Recreation to come back to the panel for a discussion on proposed draft actions and targets for disability inclusion.</p> <p>Question: Are the audits going to be made public?</p> <p>Response: Yes, and in the second round of consultation your feedback from a lived experience point of view is welcomed.</p> <p>Question: Can interested Advisory Panel members carry out site visits with the team?</p> <p>Action: Community Programs to liaise with Parks Planning and Recreation to organise site visits.</p> <p>Thanks to Parks, Planning and Recreation team and consultants for attending the meeting.</p>	<p>Carl Nugent/ Belinda Rollason</p> <p>Annabelle Hayter</p>
<p>6. Walking and Mobility Working Group Update</p> <p>Simon Mueller and Hao Wu</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vision for Waverley is to make sure walking is both safe, convenient and pleasant for people of all ages and abilities. • Walking refers to anyone that uses the footpath network, including people who use mobility aids or prams. • The walking strategy aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ develop a longer-term vision and strategy; ○ prioritise future grant applications and capital work opportunities; 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ inform and guide the implementation of access and inclusion and street space allocation. ● Across the entire LGA, only 20% of street space is allocated to footpaths. ● Of the 20%, not all footpaths are walkable due to obstructions eg: posts, signs, trees and other obstructions. ● Dover Heights has the lowest allocation to footpaths at 12% and Bondi Junction the highest at 34%. ● The aim is to have 40% in line with central Sydney. <p>Key components of the strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identifying strategic walking corridors. ● Street space allocation eg: bus stops, trees, utility boxes. ● Footpath improvement strategies, including accessibility. <p>Access and inclusion</p> <p>How can we improve the walking experience for people with mobility limitations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Measure and evaluate current footpath conditions. ● Digitise and map continuous footpaths to inform and help with route planning. <p>Identify high pedestrian activities areas/routes for future improvements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure continuous footpath and universal access. ● Opportunities for shorter routes. <p>Next steps</p> <p>We are in phase one of a four-phase project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community engagement begins 24 June 2024. - Collating information and developing the draft strategy based on feedback and data: December. - Second phase community engagement: post December 	

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	<p>Question:</p> <p>A route / mobility map indicating a safe pathway for a wheelchair user is a great idea.</p> <p>The major challenge is crossing the road. Navigating the incline of kerb ramps to get on to the roads is difficult using an electric wheelchair. It is safer to use aligned driveways to cross the road than to use steep / inaccessible ramps. Are kerb ramps being mapped as well?</p> <p>Response: Unfortunately, we are not able to map kerb ramps using the AI technology. The asset team has data on locations of kerb ramps and will integrate the different data sets as part of mapping key routes.</p> <p>Current upgrades in commercial centres aim to create flush thresholds and crossings when possible. The walking strategy will identify priority works.</p> <p>Action: To resend updated priorities identified by people during DIAP consultation to the Integrated Transport Team.</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>A planter box and pots on Cnr of Ebley and Denison St, Bondi Junction, block wheelchair access on to the kerb ramp, and the succulents spike your hands if you use a manual wheelchair.</p> <p>A verge garden halfway down Macpherson Street is also blocking the pavement.</p> <p>Response:</p> <p>Council has strict verge garden guidelines and a process that needs to be followed to get approved. The verge garden on Ebley St, would pre-date any of the current processes.</p>	<p>Annabelle Hayter</p>

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	Action: Inform Panel members of details for rescheduled meeting.	Annabelle Hayter
10. Meeting Closed	7.30 pm	