

Contact officer: Giovanna Connolly - 9399 0526  
(F2004/08046)

10 June 2015

Dear Coogee Precinct,

### **Coogee Precinct Meeting – April and May meetings 2015**

Thank you for the minutes of this meeting of the Coogee Precinct. The Council notes the contents of these minutes and I am able to provide you with the following information in response to resolutions of the meeting.

#### **April meeting**

Coogee Pavilion Resolution (12/15) - The Precinct would like to request that in Council's response to our resolutions both the title and the name of the responsible Council Officer be included for contact purposes.

The Precinct's resolution is noted, all future responses will contain the requested information. The Precinct is however, requested to continue directing all correspondence via the Precinct Coordinator so it may be logged and followed-up for a response.

DA 11/2015 293 Alison Road Resolution (13/15) - The Precinct asks Council to obtain the community's views if an agreement with the applicant of DA11/2015 is contemplated ahead of a Land and Environment Court decision.

As the Precinct Committee is not a party that is represented in proceedings in the Land & Environment Court with regard to DA appeals, Council is unable consult with the Precinct, and must keep confidential any discussions with an applicant during the conciliation phase of an appeal.

If the applicant does amend their plans, the Precinct will be advised of the amendments if they have made an objection. The Councillors are provided with regular updates on the status of these matters and instructions are provided to Council's legal representatives on the basis of the evidence that can be sustained in defence of an appeal.

DA 203/2015 9 Glenwood Ave Resolution (14/15) - The Precinct objects to DA 203/2015 – 9 Glenwood Avenue due to its detrimental amenity on the adjacent residences resulting from its non-compliance with the FSR requirements of the LEP, loss of visual and acoustic privacy, loss of light and overshadowing of backyards and living areas, flood concerns especially relating to the proposed extent of excavation in a flood prone area, traffic

issues, lack of parking and the effect on street parking, safety issues with regard to emergency vehicle access, inconsistency with the existing streetscape and built environment especially as this is a beautiful cohesive example of art deco architecture which should be of heritage significance and protected.

The Precinct's objection is noted and has been passed to Council's Manager Development Assessment, Kerry Kyriacou, for consideration in the assessment process.

Ausgrid lopping and collection of our local trees Resolution (15/15) - The Precinct requests Council seek information from Ausgrid as to the qualification of the contractors they employ particularly regarding those who lop the trees, as a number of residents have noted concern with the manner in which lopping occurs and the recent decimation of our local vegetation. Also, Council is requested to question the timeliness with which the lopped vegetation is collected, as the debris left on the ground are potential trip and safety hazards for residents

Following concerns from the public in recent months regarding this issue, Council held a meeting with Ausgrid to discuss the tree lopping.

I can advise of the following outcomes:

Ausgrid gave a commitment that they would attempt to be more sympathetic in relation to the extent of pruning undertaken on Council's street tree assets.

Ausgrid will be more rigorous in their auditing of pruning works and compliance with the relevant standards.

The vegetation clearance works will be put out for tender in the near future and any ongoing monitoring and/or auditing of future works, by Ausgrid, will depend on the outcome and costs associated with the implementation of that Tender.

Both Council and Ausgrid committed to frequent communication between the two organisations in relation to the pruning of Council tree assets.

Council will also advise Ausgrid of any severe or non-compliant tree works as soon as they became aware of any such activities, so that the matter can be thoroughly investigated and rectified as expeditiously as possible.

### **May meeting**

Resolution (16/15) - The Precinct requests a referendum be held with the simple question – do you support Randwick Council amalgamating with any other Councils (or Council) or not

Resolution (17/15) - The Coogee Precinct opposes Randwick Council amalgamating with any other Council or Councils



Council notes the Precinct's resolutions. Council has now resolved to submit a merger proposal with Botany and Waverley Councils. In regards to a referendum, Council resolved at its meeting on 26 May 2015

*1) Randwick City Council acknowledges that due to:*

- The timing of the receipt of the proposed assessment methodology from Minutes of ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 26 MAY 2015 This is page 5 of the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 May 2015 IPART; and*
- NSW Electoral Commission's refusal to provide Council with copies of the electoral roll;*

*Council is no longer able to conduct a plebiscite of its residents as previously intended. As such, in accordance with the views of individual Councillors, Council requests the government permit a binding referendum on this issue prior to any merger being implemented and to request the NSW Electoral Commission to release the electoral rolls to Randwick City, Botany Bay, Waverley, Woollahra and City of Sydney Councils to enable this to occur.*

I have enclosed a copy of the Randwick eNews Special Edition sent on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May which outlines the decision; further details can also be found on Council's website at the following location

<http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au/about-council/news/news-items/2015/may/message-from-the-mayor-about-the-future-of-the-city-of-randwick>

Resolution (18/15) - The Precinct requests that Council investigate public health and safety issues associated with 8 Ormond Gardens including the state of the scaffolding, rats infestation and accumulating rubbish

The Precinct's resolution has been passed to Council's Manager Health, Building & Regulatory Services, Roman Wereszczynski, for consideration; I will forward a response as soon as I receive it.

#### 9.2 RCC Budget and Operational Plan for 2015/16

Resolution (19/15) - The Precinct suggests

Glass to be installed in the openings in the Arden St/Coogee Bay Rd beachside bus stop to protect people from the wind and at times blowing rain

Cleaning and restoration of heritage sandstone wall along the upper promenade

Pedestrian crossing over Arden St just south of the roundabout with Dolphin St

RCC to purchase former Randwick Rugby Club for use as branch of Bowen library and community Art Centre

The above suggestions have been forwarded to Council's Coordinator Integrated Planning and Reporting, Karen Hawkett, for inclusion in the submissions to Council's 2015/16 Operational Plan and Budget.

1a Mermaid Avenue - Resolution (20/15) - The Precinct requests that Council consider requiring notification and public consultation for building certification for 1a Mermaid

An application has been submitted to Council for a Building Certificate for specified parts of the dwelling under construction. At this stage, Council does not have sufficient information to assess the application and as a result has requested the applicant provide additional information to address and clarify the scope of the application.

The Environmental Planning & Assessment Act does not contain any provisions relating to public notification or consultation; or the imposition of conditions or modifications to a development that is the subject of a Building Certificate.

The alterations and additions to the dwelling are the subject of a Complying Development Certificate issued by an Accredited Certifier. Council has been advised that a new or modified application has been submitted to the Certifier and is under consideration. However, at this point, Council is not aware of the scope or determination of the application.

Council has received a number of concerns about this development and will continue to liaise with nearby property owners; in addition, residents are welcome to contact Council officers to discuss the status and progress of this development. Contact can be made by calling (02) 9399 0999.

Resolution (21/15) -DA284/2015 – 102-104 Brook St The Coogee Precinct opposes this DA for yet another liquor outlet in Coogee when there is already the largest outlet in the Southern Hemisphere and two bottle shops between Brook St and Arden St and will be submitting an objection. (15 for /2 against)

The Precinct's objection is noted and has been passed to Council's Manager Development Assessment, Kerry Kyriacou, for consideration in the assessment process.

Yours faithfully,



Giovanna Connolly  
Precinct Coordinator

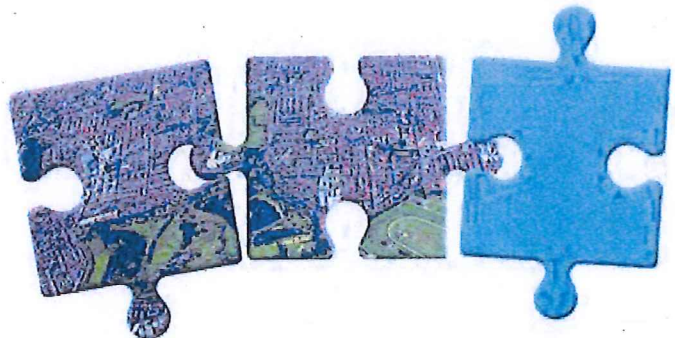


**From:** Randwick City Council <council@randwick.nsw.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Saturday, 30 May 2015 1:11 PM  
**To:** Giovanna Connolly  
**Subject:** Randwick eNews - 30 May 2015 - Special edition - Randwick Council to merge

Important message from the Mayor about the future of the City of Randwick  
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RANDWICK CITY'S  
**future**



**30 MAY 2015**

## **Important message from the Mayor about the future of the City of Randwick**

Dear Randwick City resident,

This week, Randwick Council made an historic decision to merge with our neighbouring councils Waverley and Botany Bay.

This was a very difficult decision for us, but one which a majority of my fellow Councillors agree is the best option for our council, residents and ratepayers.

Clearly, if it was up to us, all 15 Councillors would vote to stand alone. Randwick is one of the state's leading councils - our finances and asset management are strong, our community is extremely satisfied with our services and our managerial and political leadership is very effective.

However, as you're probably aware, the State Government is pushing ahead with its Fit for the Future reform program and wants to see bigger councils across Sydney. Their default position is a mega global city council of more than 500,000

residents comprising Randwick, Sydney, Waverley, Botany and Woollahra.

If we do nothing, or propose to stand alone – the Government will proceed with its plan. We'll become a "suburban outpost" of a global city council based at Town Hall. One that would no doubt see high-rise engulf our city and our sense of community completely lost.

We don't want this to happen. We don't want to lose our eastern beaches identity and our voice. We want to keep local representation and I know this is what most residents want too.

By proposing a credible alternative to the global city we are controlling our destiny and protecting our unique eastern beaches identity.

### **What you told us**

I would like to thank the 8,000 residents who took part in the most comprehensive community engagement program in the council's history. I posted two letters and information packs and a reply-paid survey to 65,000 households covering all residents and ratepayers. Lots of people had their say through the reply-paid survey, online surveys, telephone surveys, focus groups and information stalls.

You told us:

- most people don't want change, but if mergers must happen, 90% would prefer an eastern suburbs council;
- 49% of people would prefer Randwick to stand alone and 51% want a merger;
- a Randwick / Waverley merger is one of the most preferred merger options as it keeps an eastern suburbs identity with beaches, parks and families.

### **How will it affect you?**

Council has conducted detailed financial modelling to look at all options. A Randwick/Waverley/Botany merger will:

- deliver cost savings of \$143M over 10 years which can be spent on new and improved services;
- not increase total rates collected;
- maintain all existing services;
- protect jobs;
- continue all existing planned programs; and
- eliminate the backlog of work required on roads, footpaths, parks, drains and buildings.

There's still a lot that's unknown such as how many Councillors there'll be, the name of the council and the office locations, but from a resident perspective I'm

confident that there'll be minimal impact as we work through these issues and transition to a new organisation.

All usual council services will keep operating - your bin will be picked up, the parks and sports fields will be maintained, we'll assess DAs and run festivals, libraries and community activities.

### **What happens now?**

We now need to seek support from our merger partners to lodge a joint submission with the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal by 30 June 2015.

I have had constructive discussions with Waverley Council and they will be considering their position in the coming weeks.

IPART will publicly exhibit all council submissions in July 2015 for comment before making merger recommendations to the Government in October 2015.

It's likely the new council will then come into effect at the Local Government elections in September 2016.

### **My commitment to you**

There's still a lot of work to do and we need to wait for the NSW Government to announce their final decision later this year.

I'll make sure that you continue to be kept informed about this important issue during the coming months.

### **More information**

You may like to:

- [read the 26 May 2015 Council resolution](#)
- [read our media statement](#)
- [view the Council's Options Analysis](#)
- [view the results of Council's community consultation](#)
- [visit the IPART website](#)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted Seng', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Ted Seng**



Mayor of Randwick

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