



NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that of a meeting of the **Community Environment Committee** will be held:

DATE: Wednesday 11 March 2009

TIME: From 6pm-- maximum 2 hours

PLACE: Councillors' Room, Manly Town Hall, 1 Belgrave Street, Manly

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Councillors

Cllr Jean Hay AM, Mayor (ex officio)
Cllr Cathy Griffin
Cllr Mark Norek

Manly Council
Manly Council
Manly Council

Other Representatives

Eva Battaglia
Louise Bochner
Susan Buchan
Diana Deeley
Richard Hewitt
Keelah Lam
Terry Metherell
Cheryl Rose
Peter White
Angelika Treichler

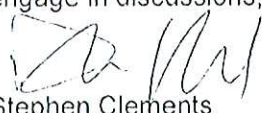
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Community Representative
Little Penguin Warden

Council Staff

Judy Reizes
Anthony Hewton

Manager, Manly Environment Centre
Divisional Manager Corporate Planning and Strategy

All other Councillors are free to attend as observers and are invited to do so and to engage in discussions, but not in voting, on any matter before the Committee.


Stephen Clements
Deputy General Manager

pp
53.09



AGENDA

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH, 2009 AT 6PM

THE COUNCILLORS' ROOM, MANLY TOWN HALL, 1 BELGRAVE STREET MANLY

- | | |
|--------|--|
| ITEM 1 | Election of Chairperson |
| ITEM 2 | Apologies and leave of absence |
| ITEM 3 | Declarations of Interest – Pecuniary
Non- Pecuniary |
| ITEM 4 | Welcome and Introductions |
| ITEM 5 | Report: Strategic Framework for the Community Environment Committee including Terms of Reference and Development of Priorities |
| ITEM 6 | Report – MEC Annual Program and Current Local Environmental Issues |
| ITEM 7 | General Business brought to the Attention of the Chair Prior to the Meeting and Approved for Consideration |
| ITEM 8 | Date for Next Meeting |



Report from: Anthony Hewton, Divisional Manager of Corporate Planning and Strategy

To: Community Environment Committee

Date: Wednesday 11th March 2009

Subject: Strategic Framework for the Community Environment Committee, Priorities 2009-12, and the First Meeting of the Committee

Introduction

This is the first meeting of the Community Environment Committee in the 2009-12 term of Council.

Information

All Special Purpose Committees need to consider what their goals are and how to achieve them over 2009-12.

Each of the Council's Special Purpose Committees and Working Groups will be taking the opportunity of its first meeting to:

- Receive and discuss a presentation by the Staff Officer on the strategic framework for the work of that Committee for 2009-12.
- The Staff Officer's presentation will facilitate the Committee to consider its objectives, (in the Committee's Terms of Reference), at its first meeting and, if necessary, recommend to the General Manager and Council that changes should be made.
- Develop priorities for the three years 2009-12 to achieve the objectives. The priorities will assist the Staff Officer to set the agendas for future Committee meetings.
- The Staff Officer's presentation will also facilitate the Committee to consider its

Membership, and whether to recommend to the General Manager and Council that other organisations should be invited to be members to assist the Committee to achieve its objectives. It is important that the work of each Committee is credible and not seen to be partial in favour of some interest groups to the exclusion of others.

- The Committee should also consider its proposed meeting schedule and recommend any changes to the General Manager for consideration.

The current proposed meeting schedule is Wednesday 1800 hours (6pm).

Wednesday Evening 6pm:

11th March, 8th April, 13th May, 11th June, 9th July, 13th August, 10th September, 8th October, 12th November, 9th December

Recommendations

The Community Environment Committee recommends for Council and the General Manager's consideration that:

- I. they consider the Committee's approved strategic framework and priorities 2009-12 (attached),
- II. And recommends the following changes (if any) to the Committee's
 - a) objectives;
 - b) membership;
 - c) schedule of meetings

be considered by the General Manager and Council.

Anthony Hewton

5 March 2009

Attachments

- 1 Community Environment Committee Terms of Reference
- 2 Strategic Framework for the Community Environment Committee



Manly Council Community Environment Committee

***This Special Purpose Committee has been established
under the Local Government Act, 1993***

The Status of the Committee is purely advisory

Terms of Reference

1. Title

The Committee shall be known as the Community Environment Committee (hereinafter called the Committee).

2. Role and Objectives

- 2.1 This is a Special Purpose Committee, convened by General Manager, to provide a forum for discussion and recommendation to Manly Council to:

Advise Council regarding Manly's special natural landscapes, biodiversity and aquatic environments to conserve a sustainable, healthy and safe environment for future generations of the Manly community. Key functions of the Committee will be to:

- Promote environmental best practice
- Advise the General Manager on priority projects to be considered for funding from the Environmental Levy each year
- Review the effectiveness of projects funded on an annual basis following advice provided by Council staff.

- Receive information and provide advice on key environmental and natural resource programs, services and facilities planned to be, or, currently being, provided by Council.
 - Advise on environmentally related matters pertinent to the environment and or issues of climate change.
 - The Committee may also provide assistance and support to other Committees of Council concerning environmental issues.
- 2.2 The role of this Committee is purely advisory and may not commit Council resources. The Committee is to work within the framework of the Community Strategic Plan and does not deal with day to day operational matters. It should be noted that employees of the Council are not subject to the direction of the Advisory Committee or any of its members.

3. Management

A. *Membership of Committee*

The Committee shall consist of:

Councillor representatives (and the Mayor ex officio):

- Councillor Cathy Griffin
- Councillor Mark Norek

1 Little Penguin Warden

11 Community representatives.

The Community members shall serve on the Committee in a voluntary capacity.

Membership of the Committee shall be reviewed in September 2010.

The quorum for the Committee is 8 members.

This Committee meets monthly.

B. *Absence from Meetings*

A Committee member absent from three (3) consecutive Committee meetings without approval of the Committee shall forfeit his/her place on the Committee.

C. *Resignation from the Committee*

Any member of the Committee may, by notice in writing addressed to the Committee, resign his/her office as a member.

D. Notification of Vacancies

The Committee shall notify the General Manager promptly of any vacancy occurring in its membership, whether it is through death, absence or resignation from the Committee. The Committee shall submit to the General Manager within 28 days the name of a person considered by the Committee to be suitable for appointment. The General Manager will decide whether to accept that appointment, or to call for public Expressions of Interest. All newly appointed members must participate in a committee induction process as soon as possible following their appointment to the Committee so that they can comply with the proper conduct of meetings.

4. Duties of Officers

A. Chairperson

The duties of the Chairperson are to:

- Direct meetings according to the Committee Terms of Reference, and Council's Code of Conduct.
- Facilitate the discussion of items on the agenda in a timely manner, and the consideration and approval of recommendations to Council.
- Ensure all committee members have the opportunity to participate in the meetings.
- Not attempt to direct Council staff, including not directing staff as to the content of any advice or recommendation.

B. Secretariat and Staff Officer

The duties of the Secretariat and Staff Officer are to:

- Call all meetings of the Committee.
- Develop and send out the agenda and reports for the meetings.
- Advise the Committee without fear or favour.
- Comply with Council's Guide to Ethical Behaviour: Staff.
- Prepare all minutes and distribute them as described below.
- Keep a record of attendance for every member of the committee.
- Attend to such housekeeping matters as booking meeting rooms and arranging refreshments in accordance with standard protocols.
- The Council Staff will not be members of the Committee, nor have voting rights, nor preside at meetings, apart from when it is necessary to organise the election of a chairperson to preside at the meeting.

C. Members

The duties of the members are to:

- Attend and participate in meetings (as well as induction, planning sessions and relevant training).
- Work co-operatively with other members in achieving the objectives of the Committee.
- Contribute advice, ideas and suggestions relating to items on the agenda.
- Show respect for their peers, councillors, staff and others during Committee meetings.
- Understand that employees of the Council are not subject to the direction of Councillors, Committees or their members.

5. Meetings

- A **QUORUM** shall comprise a majority of members on the Committee. A scheduled meeting must be adjourned if a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time designated for the holding of the meeting, or at any time during the meeting. In either case, the meeting must be adjourned to a time, date and place fixed by the Chairperson, or, in his or her absence, by the majority of the members present.
- This is an Advisory Committee, and it is unlikely that there will be a need for voting, however, should that eventuality arise, each member of the Committee shall have one vote and decisions of the Committee shall be by simple majority. In the event of the votes and the members being equal the Chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her deliberative vote.
- Council Secretariat and staff will attend meetings but have no voting rights, and provide administrative support and professional advice, as determined by the General Manager.
- Items may only be raised under General Business if the permission of the Chairperson is obtained before the meeting starts, and each such item is to have a recommendation;
- The first item on the agenda for all committee meetings (after apologies and requests for leave of absence) shall be the declaring by members present of **pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests** and these shall be recorded in the minutes.
- Any committee member who has a pecuniary interest in any matter on the agenda for a committee meeting, or that arises during a meeting at which they are present, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable, and must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed, or at any time during which the committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.
- Conflicts of interest may also arise due to a strong relationship or affiliation the member may have with a matter being discussed by the committee. These are referred to as non-pecuniary interests. A non-pecuniary interest would be considered significant where the relationship or affiliation is such as it would prevent the member from impartially and objectively considering all the relevant information as a result of this conflict of interest.
- A Councillor committee member who has a non-pecuniary interest in any matter on the agenda for a meeting, or that arises during a meeting at which they are present, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable, and, in the case of a "significant" non-pecuniary interest must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable, and must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed, or at any time during which the committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

- A community representative member of a committee who is also a member or representative of a community group that could be affected by any matter on the agenda, or that arises during a meeting at which they are present, (irrespective of whether or not the person has a pecuniary or a non-pecuniary interest), must state the name of the community group of which the person is a member or representative, and the matter shall be recorded in the minutes.

6. Working Groups

- The Committee may appoint any number of Working Groups at any time to investigate any matter or thing to which the Committee may require information or to organise and manage, subject to the control of the Committee, any activity which may be considered by the Committee to be essential to the objectives of the Committee.
- Each Working Group appointed shall have Terms of Reference and a fixed term.
- The Working Group must ensure that full and accurate minutes of the proceedings of its meetings are kept and completed within 2 weeks of the meeting and then reported to the next available Committee meeting.

7. Minutes, Communications and Reporting

- The agendas and minutes of the Committee shall be stored as a permanent record of Council, as determined by the General Manager.
- The minutes of each meeting shall be circulated to all members as soon as practicable. Any questions by members regarding the minutes are to be referred immediately to the Staff Officer and if any error in the minutes is confirmed, the Staff Officer shall arrange to make the appropriate changes.
- Minutes will be completed within 2 weeks of the Committee meeting and then reported to the next available Council Meeting.
- All agendas shall be published on Council's website prior to the meeting.
- All minutes shall be published on Council's website within 5 days of adoption by Council.
- Members of the Committee are not permitted to speak to the media as representatives of the Committee unless approved by Council.

8. Insurance

- Council shall effect personal accident insurance on Committee members together with legal liability cover, Voluntary Workers, cash in transit and personal property insurance cover.

Note: Legal liability cover will only be provided to members of the Committee and voluntary workers whilst they are acting within the scope of their duties for and on behalf of Council.

9. Statutory Requirements

- The Committee shall ensure that the *Local Government Act 1993* and related Regulations, all other statutory provisions and all Council's Codes and Policies relating to its activities are at all time strictly observed.

10. Dissolution

All committees are automatically dissolved from the date of the quadrennial election.

..... General Manager

..... Chairperson

Addendum:

Staff Officer:

Dalene Amm

Councillor Representatives:

Councillor Cathy Griffin
Councillor Mark Norek
And the Mayor ex-officio

Community Representatives:

Eva Battaglia
Louise Bochner
Susan Buchan
Diana Deeley
Richard Hewitt
Keelah Lam
Terry Metherell
Cheryl Rose
Peter White

Little Penguin Warden

Angelika Treichler



Community Environment Committee

3 Year Plan
2009-12

Strategic Framework for Council

- A new Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework is being introduced
- Councils plans and activities generally will need to show:
 - Clear links with Federal and State and regional plans
 - Planning must be integrated (no silo planning any more)
 - Committees input will be sought

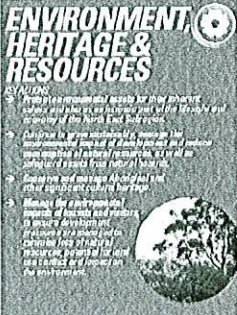
Strategic Framework for Committee:

- External factors affecting Committee work (e.g State & federal govt influences)
- State Plan
- State Agency Plans
- North East Subregional Strategy
- SHOROC
- Manly Strategic & Management Plan objectives
- Community Partnerships

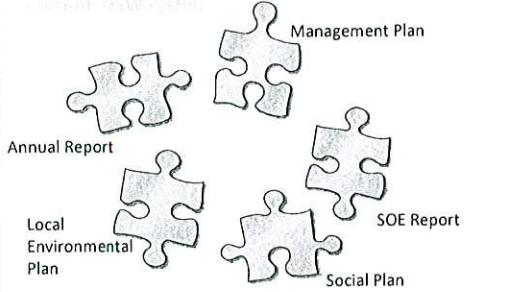
NSW 2006 State Plan

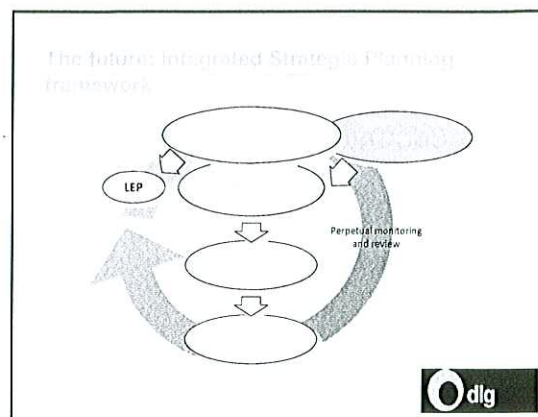
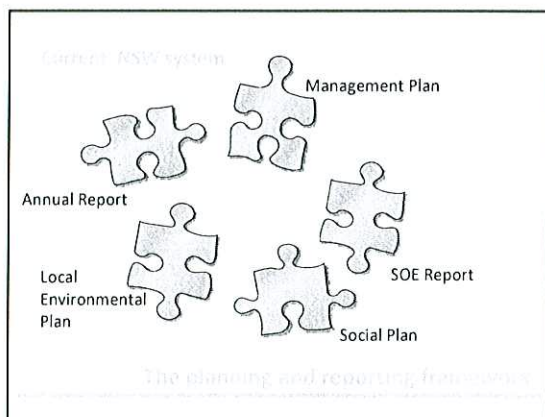
- Rights, Respect and Responsibility:
 - Keeping People Safe
 - Building Harmonious Communities
- Delivering Better Services:
 - Healthy Communities
 - High quality Transport system
 - Customer friendly services
- Fairness and Opportunity
 - Strengthening aboriginal communities
 - Opportunity and support for most vulnerable
 - Tackling disadvantage
- Growing prosperity in NSW:
 - NSW Open for Business
 - Increase business investment
 - Maximize and invest in infrastructure
 - Cut red tape
 - More people in education and training for life
 - Attracting more talent
- Environment for Living
 - Securing our supply of water and energy
 - Practical environmental solutions
 - Improved urban environments

North East Subregional Strategy (2007)



The planning and reporting framework





The Community Strategic Plan

- reflect the social justice principles of access, equity, participation and rights
- be adequately informed by relevant information and research
- give due regard to relevant State, regional and catchment plans and strategies
- be developed in consultation with the community



Community Environment Committee's Role

- The role of this Committee is purely advisory and may not commit Council resources.
- The Committee is to work within the framework of the Community Strategic Plan and does not deal with day to day operational matters.
- It should be noted that employees of the Council are not subject to the direction of the Advisory Committee or any of its members.

Community Environment Committee's Objectives

- Advise Council regarding Manly's special natural landscapes, biodiversity and aquatic environments to conserve a sustainable, healthy and safe environment for future generations of the Manly community. Key functions of the Committee will be to:
- Promote environmental best practice
- Advise the General Manager on priority projects to be considered for funding from the Environmental Levy each year
- Review the effectiveness of projects funded on an annual basis following advice provided by Council staff.

Community Environment Committee's Objectives (Continued)

- Receive information and provide advice on key environmental and natural resource programs, services and facilities planned to be, or, currently being, provided by Council.
- Advise on environmentally related matters pertinent to the environment and or issues of climate change.
- The Committee may also provide assistance and support to other Committees of Council concerning environmental issues.

Objectives of Committee

- Are these aims & objectives adequate?
- Should changes be made?
- Recommendations to the General Manager and Council?
- Changes to membership
- Agree meetings schedule

Committee's Membership

- Councillor representatives (and the Mayor ex officio):
- Councillor Cathy Griffin
- Councillor Mark Norek
- 1 Little Penguin Warden
- 11 Community representatives (2 Vacancies)

Q: Is this adequate should additional local stakeholders be invited to join to ensure Committee can meet its objectives?

Council Management Plan Objective related to Environmental Issues

Objective(s)

- To provide a range of integrated programs and actions that act to protect and enhance our local environment, provide opportunities for reestablishment of natural processes and manage potentially damaging activity.

Council Management Plan Principles related to Environmental Issues

Principles

- A shared long-term vision for Manly based on: sustainability, intergenerational, social, economic and political equity; and our individuality.
- Recognise the intrinsic value of Manly's geodiversity, biodiversity and natural ecosystems, and protect and restore them.
- Enable Manly's community to minimise our ecological footprint.
- Promote sustainable production and consumption, through appropriate use of environmentally sound technologies and effective demand management.
- Build on the characteristics of ecosystems in the development and nurturing of a healthy and sustainable Manly.
- Recognise and build on the distinctive characteristics of Manly, including its human and cultural values, history and natural systems.
- Empower people and foster participation.
- Expand and enable cooperative networks to work towards a common, sustainable future.
- Enable continual improvement, based on accountability, transparency and good governance.

Committee Priorities

- What do we want to achieve by 2012?
- What are our priorities?
- What can be achieved in next 6-12 months
- What should we tackle first?
- Revenue impacts/neutrality?



From: Judy Reizes, Manager MEC & Anthony Hewton, Div Mgr, CPS
To: Community Environment Committee
Date: Wednesday, 11th March, 2009
Subject: MEC Report on Current Activities & Local Environmental Issues

1. Report on Current Activities:

The MEC's Annual Report endorsed by Council on 2nd March 2009 on Objectives, Events and Programs for 2009 is attached.

Most recent event from the above:

The MEC Eco Award will be presented at a free event for about 100 people at Oceanworld on Thursday, 5th March. 9 nominations have been received and artist, Marty Cullen will provide an artwork for the winner on the night. The winners of the Cabbage Tree Bay colouring-in competition which the MEC held with DECC for Ocean Care Day. The International College of Management is providing finger food for the event and Oceanworld are providing free entry.

Recommendation:

The Community Environment Committee receives and notes the report.

2. Report on Current Local Environmental Issues which have come to the attention of the MEC

(i) Extension of North (Sydney) Harbour Aquatic Reserve and Marine Park

In December this year the National Parks Association of NSW plans to publicly launch a campaign calling on the NSW Government to improve marine protection. The key focus of this campaign will be the creation of a Sydney Marine Park, offering the Manly area the opportunity for increased marine sanctuaries.

A copy of the notice of motion supported by Council at its meeting of the 8th December is attached together with correspondence to relevant ministers and National Parks Association.

- (ii) *Extension of Little Penguin Critical Habitat to include Manly Wharf and Federation Point.*

The present Critical Habitat for Manly's Little Penguins is due for a statutory review. Last year a meeting was held to discuss security issues related to the Manly Wharf and Federation Point colonies. At this meeting there was general support from Maritime, NPWS and other stakeholders to take the opportunity of the review process to include these new parts of the colony in Critical Habitat. Angelika Treichler, this committee's Penguin representative will update the committee on progress.

- (iii) *A.I.P.M. Redevelopment Preferred Project.*

Last month, Council resolved to write to A.I.P.M. to request a public meeting. A.I.P.M. did not accede to this request but instead held an Open Day on Saturday, 28th February from 9am to 12noon. Plans are available at Manly Library.

- (iv) *Long Nosed Bandicoots.*

The community have reported a number of deaths in the vicinity of Wood Street and the committee is invited to discuss.

- (v) *North Head Sewage Treatment Plant – reporting odours from trucking of biosolids.*

A member of the North Head STP Community Liaison Group has received a reply from the Department of Environment and Climate Change that sets out the conditions under which they will take action. The letter will be tabled for committee discussion and input.

Recommendations:

That the Community Environment Committee receive and note the report.

Anthony Hewton

Divisional Manager

Corporate Planning and Strategy

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Report to Council on 8th December 2008 on Support for Creation of Sydney Marine Park.
2. Letter to Minister proposing extension to the North Harbour Aquatic Reserve, including letters of support from various NGOs, community groups, research institutions and government bodies.
3. Letter of Support to Minister re NPA Marine Park Proposal.
4. Report to Council on 2nd March 2009 on Manly Environment Centre Objectives, Events and Programs for 2009.

CPS4099

TO: Ordinary Meeting - 8 December 2008
REPORT: Notice of Motion Report No. 23
SUBJECT: Support for creation of Sydney Marine Park
FILE NO:

Councillor Lauren Elder will move:

That Manly Council publicly support the creation of a Sydney Marine Park with increased sanctuary areas for Manly's marine waters.

Background

In December this year the National Parks Association of NSW plans to publicly launch a campaign calling on the NSW Government to improve marine protection. The key focus of this campaign will be the creation of a Sydney Marine Park, offering the Manly area the opportunity for increased marine sanctuaries.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Notice of Motion be received.

ATTACHMENTS

AT- 1 NPA Marines 4 Pages

OM081208NM_2.doc

***** End of Notice of Motion Report No. 23 *****



**Notice of Motion Report No. 23 - Support
for creation of Sydney Marine Park
NPA Marines**

Protecting Sydney's Oceans

Please note the details of the proposal mentioned in this report are confidential until after NPA's public launch.

Summary

In December 2008 NPA will call for NSW Government action following the release of their unique, landmark report *The Torn Blue Fringe*. This sets out the steps needed to achieve a world-class sanctuaries network for NSW - the first step of which is the creation of a Sydney Marine Park.

The proposed Sydney Marine Park will be the 1st marine park in the world based around a major city. It will enable our marine life to surge back to life and protect, for future generations, Sydney's marine life which has been all but ignored by the NSW Government to date.

The issue

- NSW is way below international recommended levels of marine sanctuary protection and our government has turned a blind eye to protecting huge areas of ocean such as those around Sydney.
- Fish numbers are decreasing, some species like the grey nurse shark are on the brink of extinction and 50% of our seagrass beds - which would have been the nursery grounds for next generation of fish - have been lost.
- The balance of species in unprotected waters has already been thrown out with some species growing above natural levels, changing the entire structure of oceanic areas.
- It is predicted that climate change will hit NSW harder than any other Australian waters so it's essential to increase the health of our marine populations now so they will better cope with the effects of climate change.

What are marine sanctuaries?

Marine sanctuaries are fully protected areas where people can enjoy swimming, boating, snorkelling and diving.

Fully protected marine sanctuaries can come in 3 forms:

- zones within multiple use marine parks
- aquatic reserves afforded full protection
- fully protected marine extensions of national parks

Much like we need networks of national parks to protect biodiversity on land, we need fully protected marine sanctuaries to conserve our marine biodiversity.

Global scientific consensus is for a minimum 20% of all marine habitats to be fully protected as sanctuary. Currently just 6.7% of NSW oceans have this protection. There is a long way to go.

A Bioregion Ignored

- The Hawkesbury Shelf Bioregion – the area between Newcastle and Wollongong - has been all but ignored by the NSW Government in the NSW sanctuary network.
 - There are just 4 small sanctuary areas in this bioregion totalling just 0.4% of its waters.

Benefits of Marine Sanctuaries

- On average, creating a no-take marine sanctuary:
 - doubles the density of fish and invertebrates,
 - triples the biomass,
 - increases the mean size of fish by 20-30%,
 - boosts the number of species by an average of 23%,
 - increases catch-per unit effort four-fold in nearby waters and
 - makes marine ecosystems 21% less susceptible to environmental and human caused fluctuations.
- At the fully protected Boudii National Park Marine Extension on the NSW Central Coast, a study conducted after it was protected as sanctuary for 28 years found that reserve fish species richness was 63% greater and total fish density was 70% greater than before protection.
- In addition to conservation benefits, sanctuaries can improve tourism, education and research opportunities and can improve fishing in surrounding waters.

Case Study: Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve, Manly

Visit Shelly Beach on the weekend and you'll notice locals and tourists face down in the water in dive or snorkel gear enjoying the privilege of playing amongst the abundant fish life. Since the creation of Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve in 2002 locals have been reporting a vast improvement in marine life in this area.

The community has embraced the reserve, it's become a focus for marine awareness and there have been many calls from government and non-government stakeholders for similar fully protected marine areas to complement this hugely successful, yet still tiny, area of marine sanctuary.

Calls from the Community

- Sydney's community has a great affinity with the ocean. The ocean and its marine life are an integral part of the community's everyday lives, whether walking along the beach, going for a surf, ocean swimming, snorkelling, diving or boating.
- Climate change and other environmental issues are of increasing concern to the public. In particular, the younger generation wants to know that proper conservation measures are being put in place to look after their local areas for future generations.
- There have long been proposals for proper protection of Sydney's marine waters. Various community groups and individuals have been involved in discussions for increased marine protected areas.

Moving Forward

Action

The release of NPA's landmark report, *The Torn Blue Fringe* in December 2008 symbolises a new stage in the campaign for sanctuary protection for NSW oceans. This detailed report sets out the steps that must be taken to achieve a world-class sanctuaries network for NSW.

The NSW Government will be called on to act on the findings and recommendations contained in this report. The first step of which will be the creation of a Sydney Marine Park.

Building the Network

- A large Sydney Marine Park is proposed, incorporating Sydney Harbour and stretching north and south along Sydney coastal waters to the 3 nautical mile limit of the NSW marine jurisdiction. There is already great interest by local communities and government stakeholders for a marine park around Sydney.
- All activities, aside from mining, continue in these multiple use marine parks. Different zonings determine which areas are fully protected as marine sanctuaries that are set aside for public enjoyment and conservation and which areas are for fishing activities.
- A Sydney Marine Park could harness council and community enthusiasm for marine conservation in various regions across this landmark area in one process rather than a number of small resource intensive and independent marine protected area processes.
- The multiple-use nature of marine parks would enable councils and communities to recommend protective zonings for their preferred areas within this marine park. This would allow fishing activities to continue in the majority of the park, balanced by fully protected sanctuary zonings in other areas of key conservation significance.
- As the marine environment in this area is under ongoing intense pressure, the establishment of a Sydney Marine Park would recognise the urgent need for greater conservation of the significant biodiversity the area harbours. The marine park can link with Sydney's national parks, ensuring vital connectivity of protected areas between land and marine environments.
- A marine park within close proximity of such a large number of tertiary and marine research institutions additionally has the potential for enormous scientific and educational benefits.
- A Sydney Marine Park represents an opportunity to bring great benefits to all who live and play in Sydney's internationally recognised marine waters. Recent user surveys in the Jervis Bay Marine Park and Solitary Islands Marine Park showed 84% and 87% support for conservation of the marine parks and 82% and 80% support for the parks' fully protected sanctuary zones respectively. Support for a Sydney Marine Park is likely to be at a similar level.

Conclusion

The Sydney Marine Park present a great opportunity to harness the passions of the Sydney community to protect their much used and loved waters. It is an exciting chance to provide multiple areas for public enjoyment bustling with marine life for us to enjoy for generations to come.

Notice of Motion Report No. 23

Support for creation of Sydney Marine Park
Councillor Lauren Elder moved:

That Manly Council publicly support the creation of a Sydney Marine Park with increased sanctuary areas for Manly's marine waters.

PUBLIC ADDRESSES

The following person addressed the meeting in relation to this item:

In Support of the Recommendation: Lori Scinto

187/08 RESOLVED: (Elder / Aird)

That Manly Council:

1. Publicly supports the creation of a Sydney Marine Park with increased sanctuary areas for Manly's marine waters
2. Calls on the NSW State Government (Ministers for Environment and Fisheries) to act on the findings and recommendations contained in the NPA report "The Torn Blue Fringe" for creation of a Sydney Marine Park.
3. Copies the above-mentioned correspondence to the Sydney Coastal Council Group.

For the Resolution: Councillors Elder, Heasman, LeSurf, Griffin, Aird, Burns and Macdonald

Against the Resolution: Councillors Whitting, Murphy and Norek



Reference: 26112008:TMKF:CPS3996
Enquiries: Tim Macdonald

Council Offices
1 Belgrave Street
Manly NSW 2095

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General Manager
PO Box 82
Manly NSW 1655

DX 9205 Manly

Telephone 02 9976 1500
Facsimile 02 9976 1400

www.manly.nsw.gov.au
records@manly.nsw.gov.au

ABN 43 662 868 065

The Hon. Carmel Tebbutt MP
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Climate Change and the Environment
Level 30, Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Deputy Premier,

**Re: Proposed expansion & improved management of
North Harbour Aquatic Reserve**

Council is writing to seek the expansion of the North (Sydney) Harbour Aquatic Reserve (NHAR) and the improved integrated management for this important resource.

Feedback received from the former Minister (The Hon. Verity Firth) indicated that approval for the extension of the Reserve would depend on evidence of thorough planning processes and community support (see attached Manly Daily articles). The expansion of the Reserve is identified in Council's adopted Little Manly Coastline Management Plan (2004), Forty Baskets Management Plan (2004) and is further identified within the Draft Manly Cove and North Harbour Coastline Management Studies. Please refer to Figure 1 (attached) which identifies the aforementioned proposed extension area.

Council staff have subsequently sought support for the proposal from a range of community and user groups, research institutions and non-government organisations. Feedback has been extremely supportive (see attached letters of support), including support confirmed by Council's five Precinct Community Forums who are adjacent the proposed expansion area, being Clontarf, Fairlight, Fairy Bower, Little Manly, and North Harbour Precinct Community Forums. These Precinct Community Forums, together, effectively represent a total of 8,027 households.

The justification for the proposed amendment to the boundaries is as follows:

- To ensure consistent management and enforcement over North Harbour. The boundaries proposed would more clearly delineate the extent of the Reserve and the area within which conservation is a priority;
- To facilitate improved research and integrated management of user group activities;
- The inclusion of North Harbour, Little Manly Cove and Manly Cove would enable improved management of areas identified as known habitat for the endangered population of Little Penguins;

- The inclusion of North Harbour, Little Manly Cove and Manly Cove would enable improved management of areas identified as known habitat for protected syngnathid species, including the identified populations of Pot-bellied and White's seahorse;
- Council has developed Coastline Management Plans for Little Manly and Forty Baskets areas and is in the process of developing similar Plans for North Harbour and Manly Cove. Community input to date clearly indicates an expectation of improved conservation management of these areas; and
- In general, environmental management is moving away from artificial boundaries to ecologically defined boundaries as demonstrated in total catchment management. This principle should also be applied to the management of the aquatic environment and therefore include the entirety of the North Harbour area.

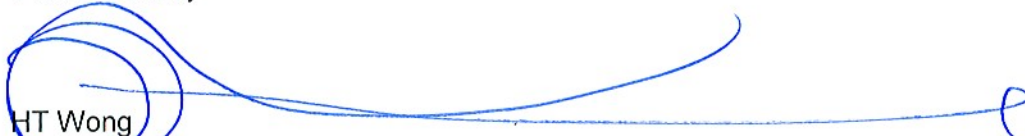
As the type of protection required varies for each reserve, the management response for an expanded NHAR can only be determined through extensive community and user group consultation.

An Operational Agreement has been developed between DECC and Council to support planning processes and could readily be extended to the development of an appropriate zoning-based Conservation Management Plan for an expanded NHAR – thus enhancing the opportunities to conserve important seagrass beds, fish breeding areas and other important marine values of the areas currently excluded from the northern boundary of the existing Reserve.

Council looks forward to building upon the positive foundations established between government, community and user groups in the management of Aquatic Reserves adjacent to the Manly LGA and again congratulates the Department of Environment and Climate Change on progress made on the improved and integrated management of Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve.

If you have any further queries relating to the issues and recommendations presented within this letter please contact Mr Tim Macdonald, Council's Coastal Management Team Leader, on 9976 1608 or via email at tim.macdonald@manly.nsw.gov.au.

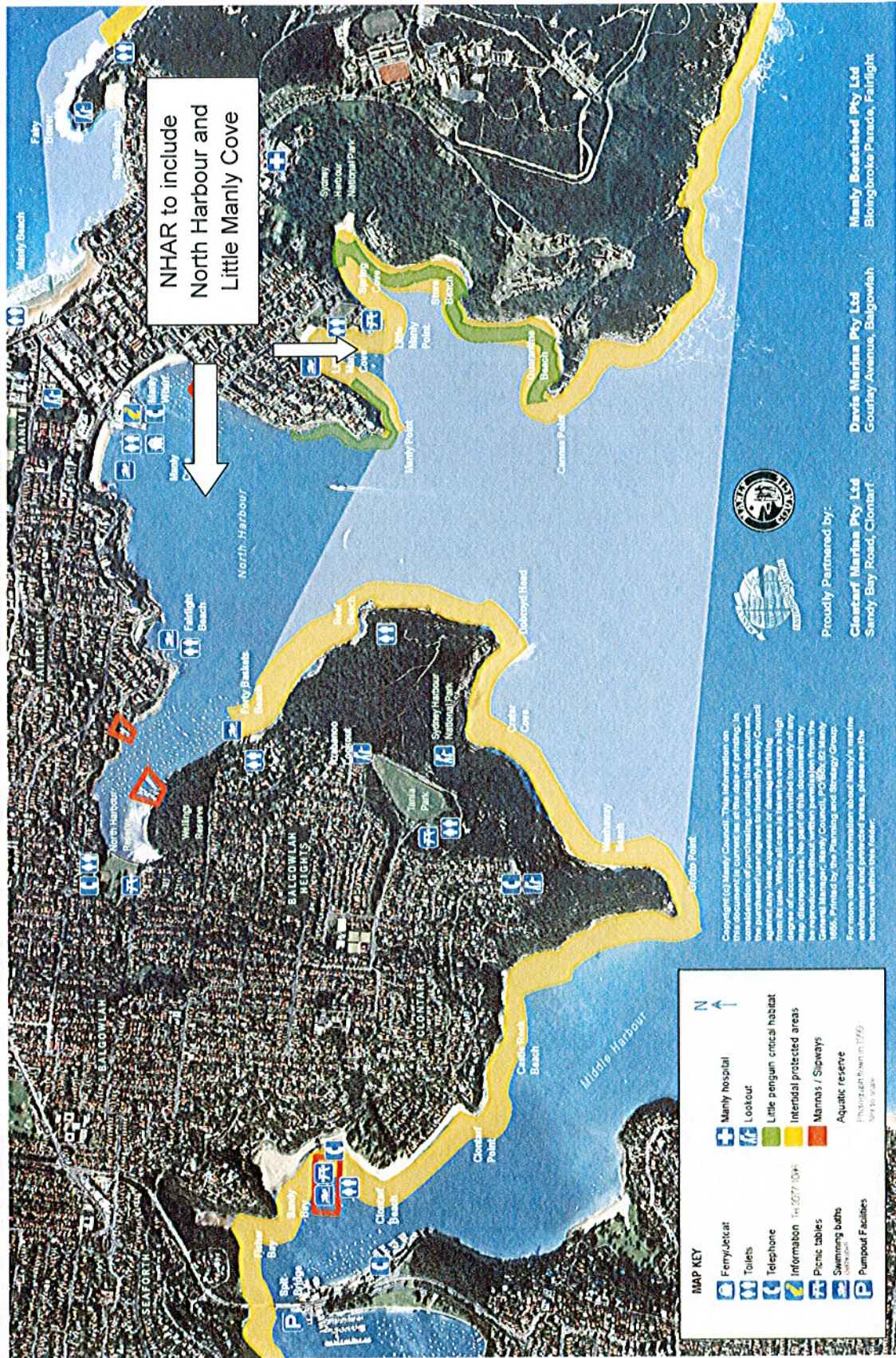
Yours faithfully


HT Wong
General Manager

Date: 2 December 2008

Encl: Map of Proposed Extension Area; Manly Daily articles; Letters of support

MANLY'S MARINE AREAS





Divers retrieve discarded batteries in the cove **Boaties, clean up your act**

Chelsea White

IT was a search for buried treasure of a very different kind for divers at Manly Cove on Monday.

Eco Divers' Dave Thomas spent several hours retrieving old batteries dumped by thoughtless boaties.

If left on the seafloor, the batteries eventually corrode and release poisonous chemicals that threaten the delicate underwater environment in the area.

The area's sea life is so important that **Manly Council** recently applied to have the unprotected Manly Cove become part of the North Harbour Aquatic Reserve.

Mr Thomas - who, along with his team, does fish surveys in Manly Cove - said he had seen everything from seahorses,

tropical fish and rays, as well as wobbegong and baby port jackson sharks.

It is this presence of marine life that should make the boaties think twice about dumping batteries or other rubbish in the cove, he said.

"Under water, the acid and the metal leaks into the ecosystem so it is like a mini environmental disaster," Mr Thomas said.

Local store Battery World Brookvale donated its time to help with the collection and disposal of the batteries.

To make it even easier for boaties to do the right thing, Battery World has set up recycle bins for old batteries at the store. Staff will also come to you and collect your old battery.

For more information on battery recycling call Battery World on 9939 2439.



Eco-diver Dave Thomas with discarded batteries collected in Manly Cove.

Picture: MARTIN LANGE



Manly Daily
Wednesday 27/2/2008
Page: 9
Section: General News
Region: Sydney Circulation: 89,864
Type: Suburban
Size: 297.95 sq.cms.
Published: -TWTFS-

Index: 1.2
Brief: MANLY COUN
Page 2 of 2



Marine animals such as sea horses (above) and pleurobranch and sting rays (right) could benefit from extending North Head Aquatic Reserve.

Pictures: DAVE THOMAS



Manly Daily
Tuesday 26/2/2008
Page: 1
Section: General News
Region: Sydney Circulation: 89,864
Type: Suburban
Size: 650.90 sq.cms.
Published: -TWTF-

Index: 1.1
Brief: MANLY COUN
Page 2 of 2

Marine sanctuary may be expanded

● From Page 1

The area where Skiffy was netted would be protected under the Manly proposal. Besides turtles, the area is home to fairy penguins, sharks, a variety of fish species, seahorses and sea dragons.

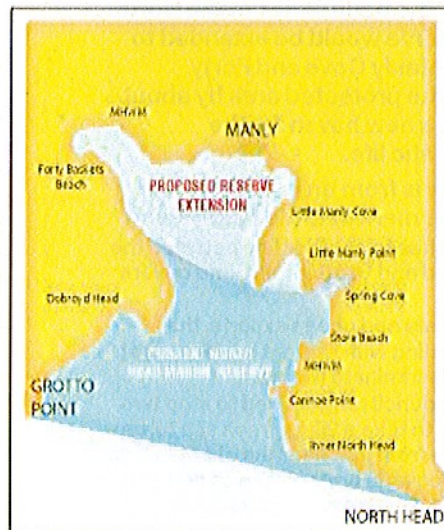
Dave Thomas of Eco-Divers, who conducts fish surveys in the area, said the sanctuary was critical to ensuring the continuing survival and repopulation of many rare and threatened marine species.

Mr Thomas said he and his fellow divers have seen everything from seahorses, tropical fish including coral and damsel fish, rays, wobbegongs and baby port jackson sharks.

"We are now starting to see things that you wouldn't have seen a few years ago, with rare fish which were largely fished out getting a chance," he said.

"The diversity of fish life in the harbour is increasing because it is being given a chance and the harbour is a critical nursery area," Mr Thomas said.

He said the foreshore areas



provided a safe home for juvenile animals, especially since seagrass has just started to come back.

Any extension of the reserve does not necessarily mean the complete ban of fishing – unlike surf-side Cabbage Tree Bay, which is a no-take zone. Recreational line fishing is likely to be permitted.

Mr Thomas said he agreed with allowing recreational fishing as long as people did it responsibly.

Manly unsuccessfully applied in 2001 for an extension to NSW Fisheries.



Reference: 28012009:TMKF: CPS4062
Enquiries: Tim Macdonald

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ABN 43 662 868 065

The Hon Carmel Tebbutt
Deputy Premier and Minister for Environment & Climate Change
Governor Macquarie Tower
Level 30, 1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Deputy Premier,

Re: Proposed Sydney Marine Park – Letter of Support

Council has noted the recent move by the NSW National Parks Association which proposes the establishment of a large scale marine sanctuary system for NSW. The aim of this campaign is to gain marine sanctuary status for 20% of NSW coastal waters, reaching from Tweed Heads in the north to Cape Howe in the south, including the proposed Sydney Marine Park.

These sanctuaries would be established to provide NSW waters with improved protection from the impacts of fishing and would assist in the protection of critically endangered species. These sanctuaries will also lead to healthier marine populations that will be more resilient to threats like climate change, while providing valuable tourism and economic benefits.

Research has shown that "No-take" marine sanctuaries can double fish and invertebrate densities, triple biomass, increase mean fish sizes by 20 to 30 per cent, boost the number of species by 23 per cent, quadruple catch-per unit efforts in nearby waters, and make marine ecosystems 21 per cent less vulnerable to environmental changes.

Sydney Harbour has some of the richest biodiversity of any urbanized harbour in the world with the Australian Museum having recorded nearly-600 species of fish. The future of such populations relies greatly upon the proper management of Sydney's marine resources through terrestrial and marine planning, research, education, conservation efforts and appropriate regulation. A new marine park off Sydney is important in balancing human utilisation and the increasing pressure of a growing urban population.

Over many years, Council has worked with various state government agencies, key user groups, research institutions, NGO's and the community to apply integrated planning and management of coastal and estuarine areas. Residents and the broader community, along with the millions of visitors to Manly annually have benefitted from the outcomes of coastal and estuarine management planning, with formal Plans established for the entirety of the Manly coastal and harbour foreshore areas.

A ..1/2

Strong community feeling for the protection of Cabbage Tree Bay resulted in a request to Manly Council to protect the bay from exploitation and essentially being "loved to death". This request highlighted an opportunity to bring together the various government agencies involved and through a whole of government approach identify strategies and actions for the future management of the area. The Cabbage Tree Bay Management Plan was subsequently developed and adopted by Council in 2000.

One of the major outcomes from the Management planning process was the (then) NSW Fisheries designation of Cabbage Tree Bay as a 'No Take' Aquatic Reserve in March 2002. Prior to the declaration of the Aquatic Reserve, the area was considered to be under pressure from a number of user groups and activities namely commercial and recreational fishing (including spearfishing), boating, the removal of aquatic life by divers and collectors and from beach combing.

Council elected to monitor the Bay's recovery over time due to the little information available on the effectiveness of Aquatic Reserves in protecting aquatic ecosystems, habitats and species. Results from the surveying are highly encouraging and suggest that Cabbage Tree Bay has a diversity of habitat, contains relatively high numbers of fish that would otherwise be subjected to harvesting, and has a good larval supply of fishes. These are all important attributes for the selection and maintenance of an Aquatic Reserve.

In November 2008, Council wrote to you proposing an extension and improved management of the North Harbour Aquatic Reserve for similar reasons as those raised for Cabbage Tree Bay. While a response is yet to be received by Council these initiatives are all in line with the proposed Sydney Marine Park.

Council supports the effort to establish NPA's proposed Marine Sanctuary Plan. At its Ordinary Meeting of 8th December 2008 Council resolved to publicly support the creation of Sydney Marine Park with increased sanctuary areas for Manly's marine waters. Further, Council calls on the NSW State Government to act on the findings and recommendations contained in the NPA report "*The Tom Blue Fringe*" for creation of a Sydney Marine Park.

Should you have any enquiries on this matter, please contact Tim Macdonald, Team Leader Coastal Management on ph: 9976 1608.

Yours faithfully



HT Wong
General Manager

Date: 18/2/09

CC: National Park Association - Marine
CC: Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc.

Manly Council



Reference: 28012009:TMKF:CPS4063
Enquiries: Tim Macdonald

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ABN 43 662 868 065

Clr Wendy McMurdo
Chairperson
Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc.
GPO Box 1591
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Clr McMurdo,

Re: Proposed Sydney Marine Park – Letter of Support

Attached please find a copy of our letter to The Hon Carmel Tebbutt, Deputy Premier and Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, indicating Council's support for the proposed establishment of a Marine Sanctuary Plan.

Should you have any enquiries on this matter, please contact Tim Macdonald, Team Leader Coastal Management on ph: 9976 1608.

Yours faithfully


HT Wong
General Manager

Date: 18/11/09

ATTACHMENT: Manly Council letter to the Deputy Premier of NSW re the proposed Sydney Marine Park – Letter of Support. 2 pages

CLEANER HEALTHIER HAPPIER

Manly Council Supports Smoke Free Zones

www.smokefreecouncils.com.au

Manly Council



Reference: 28012009:TMKF:CPS4063
Enquiries: Tim Macdonald

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ABN 43 662 868 065

Mr John Macris
President
National Parks Association (Marine)
PO Box 337
NEWTOWN NSW 2042

Dear Mr Macris,

Re: Proposed Sydney Marine Park – Letter of Support

Attached please find a copy of our letter to The Hon Carmel Tebbutt, Deputy Premier and Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, indicating Council's support for the proposed establishment of a Marine Sanctuary Plan.

Should you have any enquiries on this matter, please contact Tim Macdonald, Team Leader Coastal Management on ph: 9976 1608.

Yours faithfully


HT Wong
General Manager

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ABN 43 662 868 065

The Hon. Ian Macdonald
Minister for Primary Industries
Governor Macquarie Tower
Level 33, 1 Farrer Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister,

Re: Proposed Sydney Marine Park – Letter of Support

Attached please find a copy of our letter to The Hon Carmel Tebbutt, Deputy Premier and Minister for the Environment and Climate Change, indicating Council's support for the proposed establishment of a Marine Sanctuary Plan.

Should you have any enquiries on this matter, please contact Tim Macdonald, Team Leader Coastal Management on ph: 9976 1608.

Yours faithfully


HT Wong
General Manager

Date: 18/2/09

ATTACHMENT: Manly Council letter to the Deputy Premier of NSW re the proposed Sydney Marine Park – Letter of Support. 2 pages

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TO: Planning and Strategy Committee - 2 March 2009
REPORT: Planning And Strategy Division Report No. 9
SUBJECT: Manly Environment Centre - Update on functions, events, projects scheduled for 2009
FILE NO:

SUMMARY

This report will provide Council with an update on the objectives, events and key projects planned for the Manly Environment Centre (MEC) in 2009. Further it will provide Council with a brief summary of last year's projects and achievements.

REPORT

Background

The Manly Environment Centre shopfront is managed for the purpose of information exchange, advocacy and research. It is a local agency giving people an opportunity to raise issues of concern about the local and global environment as well as an opportunity to learn more, volunteer time, effort and skills towards addressing the same issues.

Last Year's Program

Over the past 12 months the Manly Environment Centre (MEC) has had a focus on conducting accessible environmental education programs and events all of which were attended to capacity. This included the "Nature of Manly" Exhibition at Manly Art Gallery and Museum which incorporated an education program of 12 talks (refer to Attachment 1), workshops and events and a substantial Teacher Education Package.

Typical of the style of event conducted in 2008 was the 'Wild About Manly' Nature Photography Competition which saw over 250 entries, with a similar turn out at the presentation evening. This competition drew together a range of stakeholders including Our Manly, International College of Management Sydney, Oceanworld, Nomad Photography, Aroma Ki, Mac&Me, and Manly Art Gallery and Museum.

Program next 12 Months

This year's program of events and activities (outlined in Attachment 2) will see an extension of the successful Nature of Manly Exhibition and the introduction of a new event to showcase important environmental issues associated with Manly Lagoon. Also, it is planned to continue the range of existing successful annual events such as Ocean Care Day, the Manly Eco Awards, and an event to celebrate National Biodiversity Month. In addition the MEC will also continue to participate in other key council events such as Plant Giveaways, and the Guringai Festival etc.

Other key initiatives underway or to commence in the near future include:

- Engaging a wider youth audience. This will be achieved through tailoring programs and events, providing the necessary channels for involvement, networking with schools, offering work experience opportunities, creating MEC pages and fan clubs on social networking sites, liaising with Manly Youth Centre, OzGreen, Blueearth, Manly Hospital Health Promotion and Surf Clubs.
- Initiating a Sister Environment Centre Network. Other centres exist at Newtown, Sutherland, Camden and Narrabeen with other planned. There is much information to exchange to further the reach of environmental education.

Planning And Strategy Division Report No. 9 (Cont'd)

- Volunteer Development / Student Involvement - The supervision of general volunteers, undergraduate and postgraduate students, internships from international and national universities, community service order volunteers, all working on projects and research relating to the important environmental issues in the Manly LGA.
- Managing and improving the MEC's diverse range of resources from brochures, reports, thesis, press cuttings, journals, and other publications housed at the MEC shopfront.
- Hosting overseas government delegations once or twice over the year (A Japanese Parliamentary delegation is planning to visit the MEC in the first half of 2009).
- Meetings have already been held to discuss the utilisation of the Teacher Discovery Package in secondary schools as well as the MEC's other resources.
- Securing a new venue over the next twelve months as the owner is planning to redevelop the building later this year.

Promotion and Marketing

Having an interesting program and resources is one thing but being able to effectively market these to everyone in the local community is really important. Given this, the MEC will, over the next twelve months, be undertaking a number of marketing and promotion initiatives. Where possible these activities will be supported by key partners and volunteers and school and university placements to minimise costs and to market the Centre by involving people as volunteers. Some of the initiatives will include:

- Working with Macquarie and Monash Universities by providing project positions for those undertaking a program called 'Green Steps'. Projects undertaken under this program include school engagement, and sustainable living programs aimed at ESL students in partnership with Brookvale TAFE and marketing.
- Working with University of Technology Sydney (UTS) "Shopfront" (made up of a multidisciplinary team of lecturers and students) in assisting the MEC to produce a marketing and promotion plan.
- New website in development. This will attract a greater audience, provide clear concise information to the public, showcase our diverse and fragile environment, and provide information on the Centre and how to get involved.
- Creation of a new full colour four page brochure (circulated to Councillors under separate cover). This will not only enhance the MEC's image, it will convey our role to the community and the many opportunities and resources available. The MEC intends to officially launch this new brochure at the Eco Awards in March at Ocean World.
- The Manly Daily has continued to provide the MEC's contact details for green tips on page 2 of the Manly Daily every weekday and we are hopeful this arrangement will continue into the future.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Report be received and noted.

ATTACHMENTS

- AT- 1 MEC Program of Events 2008 2 Pages
- AT- 2 MEC Program of Events 2009 1 Page

Planning And Strategy Division Report No. 9 (Cont'd)

AT- 3 MEC Brochure

2 Pages Circulated Separately

PS020309PSD_4.doc

***** End of Planning And Strategy Division Report No. 9 *****