



GREENWICH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

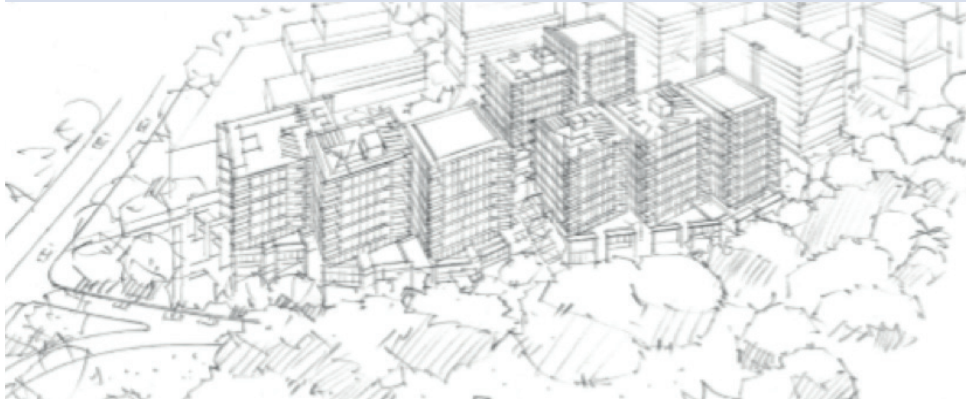
THE NEXT SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 2019 STARTING AT 7.30PM.

The venue is as usual, Greenwich Community Centre, 46 Greenwich Rd. So much has happened during May and this will be an opportunity to be updated with the latest information. Why not raise questions that are important to you. Light refreshments will be available throughout the evening and everyone is welcome.

COUNCIL REJECTS RE-ZONING PROPOSALS FOR SITES IN ST LEONARDS SOUTH

have given us further insights into what is coming on the SLS front.

First of all, below is what the developments could look like.



Top Spring with Newlands Park in foreground

In February this year, Top Spring Australia and Greaton Development, two of the developers who have acquired sites in St Leonards South, decided to lodge their own re-zoning proposals for their sites ahead of Council's decision about the future of its St Leonards South re-zoning plan. At its May meeting, Council voted to refuse to progress these proposals through to the Department of Planning on the basis that they are inconsistent with its own plan for the entire area. Top Spring and Greaton have the right to seek a review of Council's rejection by the Sydney North Planning Panel but, at time of going to print, there is no record of a review request. So, at this point, the only plan for the re-zoning of SLS remains the one that Council endorsed in July 2015 and that awaits Council's final decision on whether to proceed. But the rejected re-zoning proposals

Secondly, the developers have made it clear that they cannot or will not pay the levy proposed by the NSW Department of Planning to deliver the infrastructure needed in this area as a consequence of their developments and the huge apartment developments emerging along the highway. (Lane Cove Council supports their stand despite knowing of this requirement since September 2016)

And thirdly, the developers are giving signals that they cannot or will not pay the full \$\$ amount that Council is relying on to purchase the sites for a park in Park Road East, its much-heralded new (and inadequate) open space for SLS. The economic feasibility of Council's plan is looking shaky.

AT LAST A CHANCE TO TELL THE INDEPENDENT PLANNING COMMISSION WHAT WORRIES US ABOUT SLS

The Department of Planning has clearly recognised that there is a lot of concern around Lane Cove Council's plans for 2,400 apartments in SLS.

This concern has heightened as the first apartment buildings approved by Lane Cove Council on the highway are nearing completion.



Miroac St Leonards Sq – the first sign of things to come on Pacific Highway (Lane Cove LGA)

The 2036 Plan for the St Leonards and Crows Nest area recommended that SLS be reviewed by a panel of the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) for consistency with overall plans for the precinct. The advice from the panel will be delivered to the new Minister for Planning, Rob Stokes MP. The chance for community members to tell the Panel face to face what they think of SLS occurred in a public meeting on 20 May. 35 community

members spoke against the SLS proposal, forcefully and with strong technical arguments, and we are not just talking Greenwich people. There are many adjacent communities (including the staff at RNSH) that will be impacted by SLS and these people have never been involved in Lane Cove Council's community consultation processes – we might add that Council's engagement with its own community has been selective anyhow.

The IPC got the message loud and clear that Lane Cove should have more regard for residents in other LGAs as they, just like Greenwich residents, are going to be caught up in River Road and Pacific Highway bottlenecks, RNSH emergency queues, fights for a place to kick a ball and **fight for a patch of sunshine!**

Many community members may have seen the long article in the SMH the day following the meeting. We will post the article on our website along with several links to presentations and transcripts. A memorable line from the article – "They (the developers) speculated. They own the risk". The developers have bought into SLS without any guarantees that a re-zoning will occur. This investment risk should not be a factor in Council's final decision on SLS.

AND WHAT DID OUR COUNCIL TELL THE IPC?

Council officers had their chance to make their presentation to the IPC on 23 May. The transcript of this presentation is on the IPC website and it is revealing on many fronts.

Council seems to gloss over the fact that it has approved over 1900 apartments along the highway.

Most of these apartments are yet to be completed so we can only imagine their impacts, traffic and solar access over parklands to name just a few.

The impact of the SLS proposal of 2400 apartments cannot be seen in isolation – it must be considered along with the 1900 already in the pipeline.

And Council has said that SLS is its "housing target" solution, a way to dump in a totally unsuitable area, all the housing it thinks it may need to provide for the whole LGA in the next ten years. It calls this easy fix a "housing strategy" but it has done none of the consultation

required to develop this strategy and no housing targets post 2021 will be set until this strategy is finalised.

AND THE COMMUNITY RESPONDED WITH HUNDREDS OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE IPC

Unlike the approach of our Council, the IPC has had a very transparent approach in its review. All submissions have been uploaded and the GCA is in the process of analysing the main issues raised.

We are still waiting on Council's report on the hundreds of submissions made 18 months ago and details of how Council has addressed the community feedback in the SLS Plan.

DRAFT CODE OF COUNCIL MEETING PROCEDURE

At the Council meeting on 20 May 2019, the following was voted on:-

Anyone wishing to speak at the public forum, addressing the council, will now need to :-

Register by 5pm on the day of the meeting.

Identify the matter they wish to speak on. Leave their name, address and contact information i.e email and phone number.

More details are available on Council's website.

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR THE FEDERAL ELECTION

On 9 May, Don Murchison on behalf of the Greenwich Community Association, was able to persuade nearly all candidates standing for the seat of North Sydney, to attend a community meeting, which was attended by well over a 100 people.

All candidates were given plenty of time to address the meeting and the community was able to ask a very diverse range of questions.

The result of the Federal election may have come as a surprise to many. Congratulations to Trent Zimmerman being re-elected for North Sydney.

GREENWICH BATHS IN WINTER

Although the Baths are now officially closed for the winter season, as we have previously organised with Bluefit, for those hardy swimmers in the community that still want a chilly swim, they will need to contact Bluefit email Andrew.h@bluefit.com.au to organise access.

CYCLING ENTHUSIASTS

Much is happening for those that like 2 wheel transport. At the May Lane Cove Council meeting, Council came out with a draft 2019 Bicycle Plan for all Lane Cove and will undertake community consultation re the plan. For the Greenwich community, Route 6 is all about Greenwich Road. This coincides with Willoughby Council also proposing a shared bicycle/pedestrian path from Mowbray Road to St Leonards Station.

COCKATOO ISLAND CONSULT

It would appear there was a selected letter box drop from the Harbour Trust to some houses in Greenwich, as they look for community input about the future of Cockatoo Island. We are just too late for the "walk-shop" on 15 June but you can have a say on www.yoursaycockatooisland.com

FOXES BEWARE

It has been brought to our notice that a fox is on the prowl round Greenwich Point so make sure your small pets and chickens are locked up before dusk and not let out before sun up.

STAY IN TOUCH

If the future of Greenwich is important to you, we encourage all residents to regularly visit our website and sign up to be kept up to date with what is happening.

This is especially important now as there will be urgent updates, new information and often calls for immediate action

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