

BaysideBrief

Newsletter of City of Canada Bay

Winner of the Keep Australia Beautiful
National Association
Australian Sustainable Cities Awards

At a glance

Council's Draft 2010-11 Budget is a careful budget developed in a changing economic climate.

Council has decided not to proceed with an application for a special rate variation for the 2010-11 financial year.

While it appears the global financial crisis has passed, lingering challenges remain while new trends have emerged. Interest rates are headed up, as are water and electricity prices. Development has slowed, but demand and use of our infrastructure and community assets has not. Our Draft Budget sets out to enable Council to deliver on a range of priorities and programs and to maintain the level of service our community has come to expect. It is a prudent budget, with a projected balanced outcome. Our Draft 2010-11 Fees and Charges document takes the same conservative approach as our budget, with sensible changes to account for inflation and unavoidable increases.



Council tightens its belt

Council's Draft 2010-2013 Delivery Plan, Draft 2010-11 Budget and Draft 2010-11 Fees and Charges are now on public exhibition.

Following a recent comprehensive consultation process, Council has decided not to proceed with a special rate variation application to fund an identified infrastructure renewal shortfall.

We have consulted with our community and in the next financial year we will be reviewing budget savings, efficiencies and revenue raising opportunities, instead of applying for a special rate variation to meet infrastructure costs.

Stakeholders and interested members will continue to be consulted via the community Consultation Panel to provide ongoing feedback and input into the review.

The reviewed draft plans are now on public exhibition until 7 May. All documents are available to view on Council's website, at Council's Civic Centre in Drummoyne and at Five Dock and Concord Libraries. More information about each of these documents is available in this special edition of *Bayside Brief*.

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Mayor's Message

This special edition of *Bayside Brief* is aimed at providing you with information about the City of Canada Bay's Draft Delivery Plan, Operating Plan, Budget and Fees and Charges.

Following our recent community consultation and after careful consideration, we have decided not to proceed with an application for a special rate variation for the 2010-11 financial year. Instead, we will undertake a thorough review of our budget and look for further efficiency gains and revenue raising opportunities.

I will keep you updated on this review through my weekly mayoral column and Council's website. We also continue to seek feedback from our community through the Community Panel. If you would like more information about the Panel please contact Council or visit our website.

Your feedback is very important so I hope you will take some time to read this information and provide us with your thoughts.

Mayor Angelo Tsirekas
City of Canada Bay Council

Visit my website: follow the link from www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au

How Council plans for the community

The City of Canada Bay is a major provider of services and facilities for our local community. What we do, or don't do affects everyone in the area. With this in mind, it is important that we develop our services and projects in consultation with our residents.

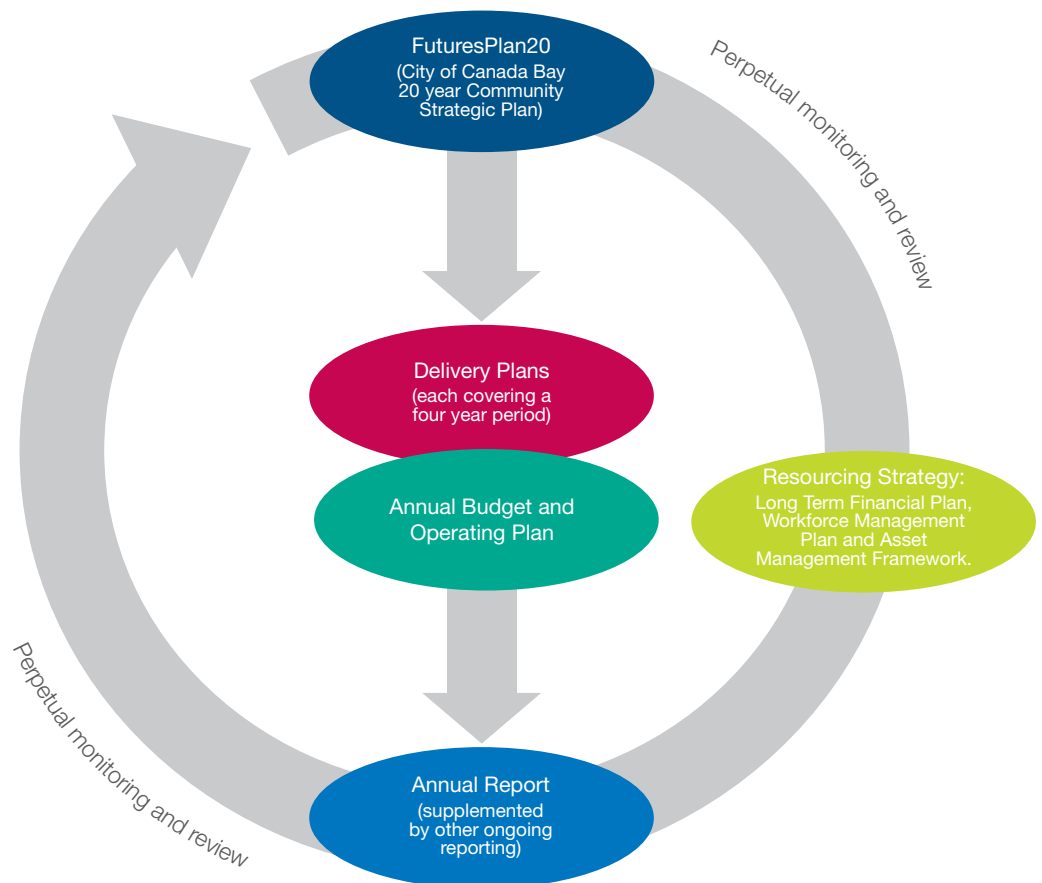
In December 2008 Council adopted FuturesPlan20, a 20 year community vision for the City of Canada Bay. FuturesPlan20 builds a picture for a sustainable future that is engaged, green, healthy, liveable, moving, prosperous and vibrant.

All of Council's projects, programs and services are driven by FuturesPlan20 to ensure that our activities and resources are directed to achieving the outcomes you want. This is shown in the medium term Delivery Plan (3-4 years) and short term Operating Plan and Budget (annual) which sets out how and what Council will

do to achieve FuturesPlan20. Each year these plans are developed and reviewed in consultation with the local community and are placed on public exhibition to ensure all residents have an opportunity to provide comments on the proposals they contain.

Sitting alongside these documents is Council's Resourcing Strategy.

This integrated planning model ensures a high level of accountability to our community and helps make sure that all our actions are in keeping with what you told us your priorities were in FuturesPlan20.



Join the panel

You can still join the panel and be involved in the Council's decision making process about your community.

The more people that are involved, the more say the community has.

Council's FuturesPlan20 Panel is part of City of Canada Bay's ongoing commitment to community engagement.

Through the panel, community members can provide valuable feedback, opinions and ideas on issues that face the City and help determine the best way to tackle them.

To find out how to sign up, and what membership will involve, visit Council's website or contact 9911 6555.



The FuturesPlan20 Panel encourages input from members of the Canada Bay community.

Panel deliberations

To help review FuturesPlan20 and to create our 2010-13 Delivery Plan and 2010-11 Budget and Operating Plan, Council recently established the Canada Bay FuturesPlan20 Panel. The Panel is an important initiative to engage with the local community on a variety of issues.

Over 150 people joined the panel, and during the first month of its operation, panellists provided over 760 detailed comments, opinions and ideas on FP20 and its associated plans to consider before we commenced consultation with the broader community.

An important issue also considered by the panel was options to fund the ongoing maintenance and renewal of the City's

community infrastructure. At a special workshop facilitated by the St James Ethics Centre, panellists had input into a broad range of Council activities and programs and provided a range of views which were taken into consideration.

Reports on the feedback provided by the FP20 Panel are available on Council's website.



Population growth

Canada Bay is experiencing a steady population growth.

Between 1996 and 2006 the population grew by 12,409 people (18%). It is projected that by 2031 our population will rise another 29% with 20,076 additional residents. This increase will have particular impact on our services and facilities including sporting fields and community facilities as the spread of the population growth is predicted equally across all age groups.

Examples of population growth in Canada Bay include:

- The Inner Western Suburbs Netball Association who play at Cintra Park Netball Courts has grown from 1936 members in 2000 to 2339 in 2009 (an increase of over 400 players);
- Concord RSL Junior Cricket Club has grown from 44 junior members in 2005/2006 to 180 junior members with 70 Milo cricket participants and 40 senior players in 2010; and
- Visits to both libraries have increased 6.84% during the period July 2009-December 2009 totalling 274,559 people compared to 256,987 during the same period the year before.



Long term planning

To ensure Council maintains its services and assets to an acceptable standing, long term planning is of the utmost importance.

This is particularly relevant in light of the fact that the City of Canada Bay was recently named the fastest growing city in greater Sydney, with a prediction that this growth is set to continue.

This population explosion will put further pressure on community assets, programs and services as we seek to maintain the amenity and lifestyle that makes our area an attractive place to live, work and play.

In determining the future direction of Canada Bay, population growth and the overall metropolitan planning for Sydney by the NSW Government are some of the most influential factors in our planning.

We therefore need to work closely within the confines of decisions made by the NSW State Government as they do have a major impact on our city.



Metropolitan Transport Strategy

The State Government's recently released Metropolitan Transport Strategy puts added pressure on the transport and infrastructure in our City because it does not address the increasing population growth.

The NSW Government's recent decision to scrap transport infrastructure programs in Canada Bay, will place added pressure on our road system.

The key projects affected are the Sydney's Metro network and the M4 East which are identified as being beyond the Plan's funding.

The Metropolitan Transport Strategy does not deliver an integrated transport solution for our community. The Plan only incorporates transport solutions for Rhodes. Growth expectations in Rhodes have been met with the Western Express CityRail Service, a western rail line which will create increased service capacity.

Metropolitan Planning Strategy

The NSW Department of Planning has set a growth target for the City of Canada Bay of 10,000 new dwellings and the creation of 6,000 new jobs in the next 20 years.

On the basis of the failure of the Metropolitan Transport Strategy to provide integrated transport solutions we have made a strategic decision to defer any further proposals for new dwellings (outside the Rhodes precinct) until an independent transport strategy review is undertaken.

The provision of 6,000 new jobs will also put increased pressure on our services and roads as traffic and transport linkages to provide accessibility to and from the workplace is essential.



What we maintain

The City of Canada Bay's infrastructure is widespread and diverse. Below and continued on the column opposite, is a list of what Council is required to maintain and upgrade.

Drainage

- 131 km stormwater pipes
- 4,257 drainage pits
- 19 gross pollutant traps

Seawalls

- 20.5 kilometres

Roads

- 206 kilometres

Footpaths

- 400 kilometres

Kerbs and gutters

- 418 kilometres

Buildings

- 1 Civic Centre
- 1 Council works depot
- 2 library buildings
- 43 parks buildings
- 16 public toilet buildings
- 14 community buildings
- 5 tennis courts and buildings
- 4 golf course buildings
- 2 swimming pools and associated buildings
- 12 leased properties
- 5 kindergarten and child care facilities
- 1 leisure centre
- 4 other buildings

Civil and landscaping structures

- 61,500m² car parks
- 71,000m² paths in parks
- 20,400m fencing in parks
- 500m walls and retaining walls
- 15 playing field irrigation systems
- 1 large skate bowl

Making our infrastructure our priority

Our City has \$520 million worth of buildings, roads, footpaths, drains, sea walls, public amenities and recreation facilities.

These important community infrastructure all require ongoing annual maintenance requirements. There is a significant gap between the rate at which our assets are depreciating and the rate at which they are being replaced. We are just one of many councils in this position. Our Asset Management Plan and Annual Financial Reports show this shortfall in funding to be \$43 million over the next 20 years.

In the past, councils avoided running into debt by deferring or reducing expenditure on infrastructure maintenance and renewal.

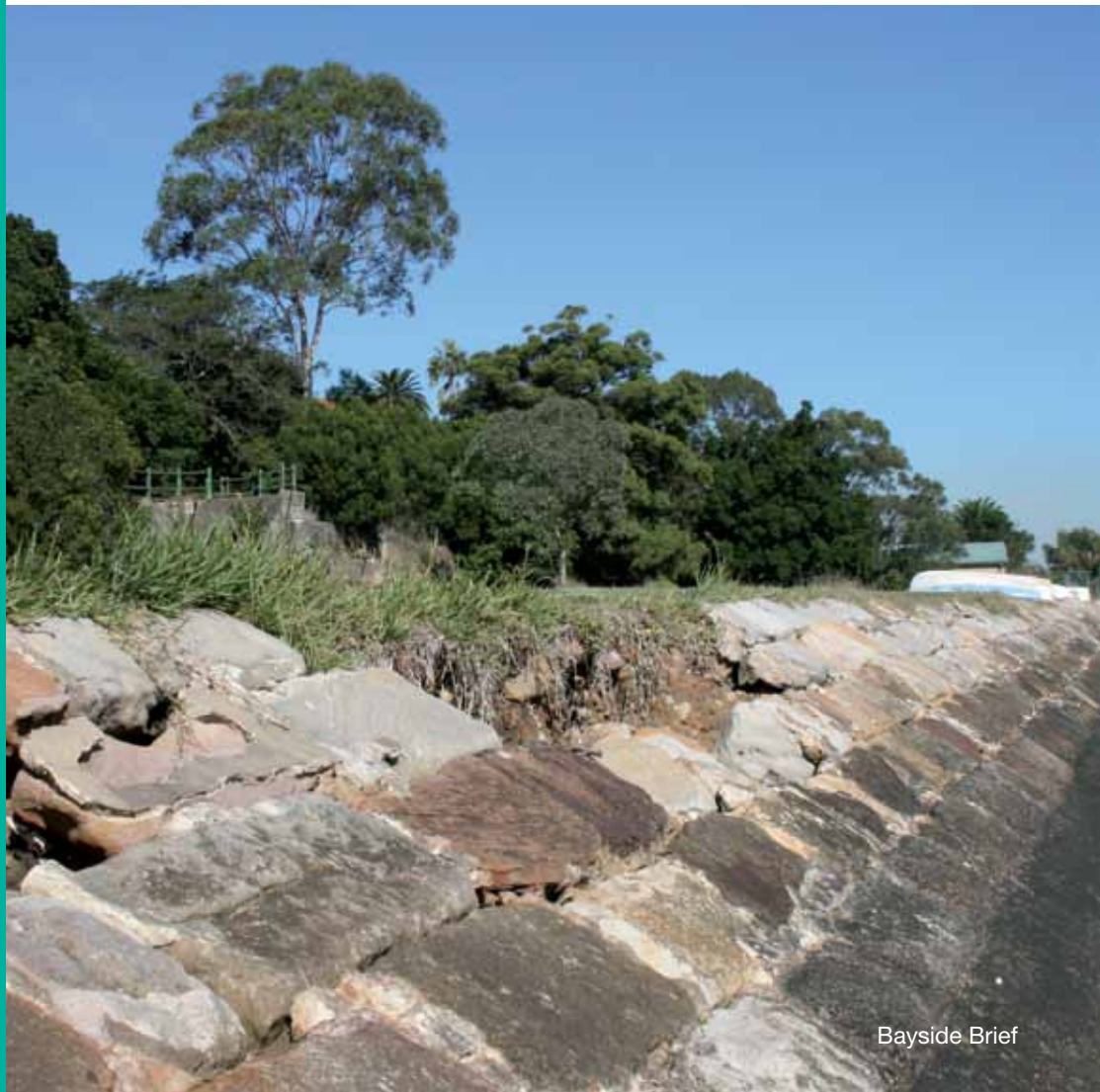
Although we face such challenges we are determined to ensure that priorities

are met, even in the face of this financial squeeze. Our 2010-11 budget has been carefully planned to address some of the issues surrounding increased community demands.

In addition, more and more councils are being expected to take on expenses originally covered by State Governments and this is putting pressure on council purses around NSW.

Council is committed to finding solutions to ensure we are able to maintain and renew important community infrastructure now and in the future. We will work closely with our community to achieve this.

Seawall renewal and repair is a priority in our extensive foreshore area





Concord Library and Wellbank Children's Centre

Fix it now, save money later

Early and ongoing maintenance is vital when you have nearly \$520 million worth of infrastructure.

Leaving things to be fixed when they are completely broken is more expensive than fixing them when they are only scratched.

Let's look at roads for example. They are one of our most valuable assets, and while we all drive on them everyday, many don't realise that a road is made up of two unique and equally important layers: a pavement layer, providing fundamental road stability, and a waterproof surface, wearing level (usually asphalt) which protects the layer underneath it.

We have long taken the approach that it's more effective to treat roads with new asphalt before the old material deteriorates and allows water to seep underneath to damage the pavement below.

It costs five times more to reconstruct a pavement that has been damaged than it costs to undertake a straightforward resurfacing of a road with a new waterproof asphalt layer.

This approach is applicable to all community assets. If we don't find additional funds now to fix what needs fixing, it will cost much more in years to come when assets are broken down or dilapidated, all because funds weren't available to do the job today.



What we maintain

Furniture, monuments and sculptures

- 830 benches
- 136 table/seat sets
- 470 signs
- 78 bin stands
- 196 bins and bin surrounds
- 100 pergolas/shelters
- 30 barbeques
- 56 water bubblers
- 11 monuments
- 10 sculptures
- 31 flagpoles
- 1600 bollards
- 325 bollard lights

Playing fields and facilities

- 31 playing fields
- 87 floodlights
- 19 cricket wickets (synthetic mat/concrete and turf)
- 2 golf courses
- 1 hockey facility

Playgrounds

- 43 playgrounds
- 182 items of play equipment (large and small)
- 6500m² soft fall (pine bark and rubber)
- 1300 edge strip
- 9 shade structures
- 460m playground fencing

Play courts

- 3 basketball practice courts
- 34 netball courts (asphalt and grass)
- 26 tennis courts
- 56 floodlights



Looking after our community

Maintaining the services and programs that meet the current and future expectations of our community is a priority and a challenge for us.

Many and varied programs and services are provided for the community, and ensuring that these are what our community needs, is an ongoing challenge.

As the age and mix of our diverse population changes, Council must ensure that these services are reviewed and prioritised to meet the funding available.

Some of our current programs and ongoing services include:

- Waste, recycling and garden organics collection;
- Street and footpath cleaning;
- Maintenance of parks and recreational facilities;
- Library services;
- Major event program (including Ferragosto and Concord Carnival);
- Wellbank Children's Centre and Family Day Care;
- Community bus trips;
- Meals on Wheels;
- School holiday program;
- Management of leisure and sporting facilities (swimming pools, sports fields and golf courses);
- Customer service and call centre;
- Graffiti removal service;
- Local law enforcement;
- Investigation and resolution of neighbourhood complaints;
- Local heritage advisory service; and
- Bayside Business Development program.



Budget snapshot

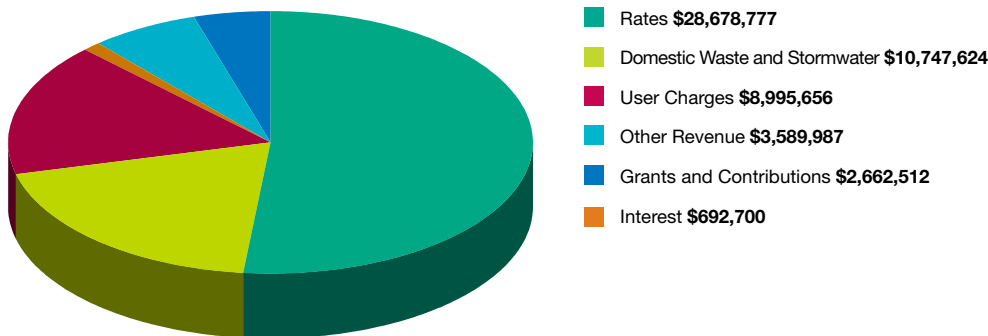
Council's Draft 2010-11 Budget is a balanced Budget which includes operating expenditure of approximately \$52 million and capital expenditure of \$9.2 million.

The Budget incorporates a wide range of projects and programs, from expenditure on one off initiatives to ongoing programs, and outlines our projected income from rates, grants, levies and other sources.

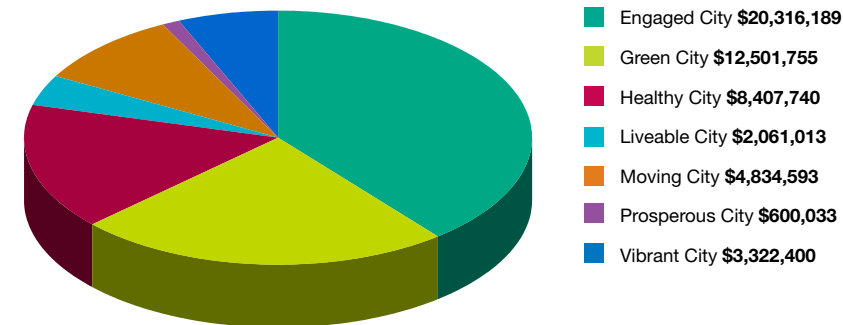
Our capital works program includes important works such as a series

of recreation facility upgrades, expansions and renewals, the continued implementation of the Let's Play playground strategy, construction of additional bike paths, and a coordinated program of town and neighbourhood centre upgrades.

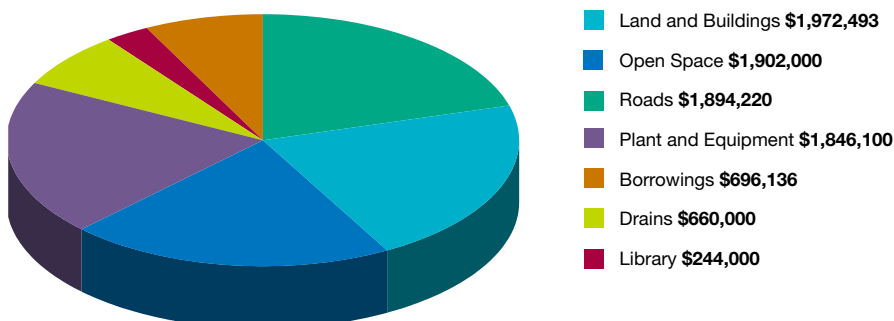
2010-11 Income



2010-11 Operating Expenditure



2010-11 Capital Expenditure Program



Fees and charges

Council's Draft 2010-11 Fees and Charges document details all rates and charges that would apply in 2010-11.

The fees and charges have been modified only where warranted. Increases to the Draft Fees and Charges have been made only where costs to Council have increased. A number of additional fees and charges have also been introduced.

The Draft Fees and Charges document contains Council's proposed rating structure for 2010-11. In this area, Council has applied the standard 2.6% increase announced by the Minister for Local Government.

What happens next?

Once the public exhibition is complete, Council will consider all the community feedback received and decide whether to adopt the Draft Delivery Plan, Budget and Fees and Charges as currently proposed or to make any appropriate amendments.

Once adopted the various plans and documents will be in force from 1 July onwards. Rates instalments will be due in August, November, February and May.

Did you know?

Council is now taking registrations of interest from residents interested in receiving their rates notifications by email. If you would like to receive your rate notice by email, please register by subscribing online at Council's website.

How to find out more

There are several ways you can find out more about Council's Draft Delivery Plan, Budget and Fees and Charges.

You can visit Council's website where detailed information on each of the plans is outlined. You can use this information to see what Council is proposing and to see how you will be affected. This information

is also available in hard copy at Council's Customer Service Centre (1a Marlborough Street, Drummoyne), Five Dock Library (4-12 Garfield Street, Five Dock) or Concord Library (60 Flavelle St, Concord).



How to stay up to date

To stay up to date with important information, you can subscribe to a series of e-newsletters designed to provide you with up to date information about Council decisions and events. Information is provided for local residents and for local businesses. Visit our website at www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au to subscribe.

Your feedback

Community input is an important part of the public exhibition of Council's Draft Delivery Plan, Budget and Fees and Charges.

Please take a few moments to complete this form and submit it to Council by Friday, 7 May 2010.
Alternatively your written comments can be sent to Locked Bag 1470, Drummoyne 1470.
You can also email comments to yoursay@canadabay.nsw.gov.au. Please contact Council on 9911 6555 for more information.

Draft 2010-2014 Delivery Plan and 2010-11 Operational Plan
Please provide your comments:

Draft 2010-11 Budget
Please provide your comments:

Draft 2010-11 Fees and Charges
Please provide your comments:

إن واجهت صعوبة في فهم المعلومات الموجودة في هذا العدد من Bayside Brief فالرجاء الحضور إلى المجلس أو الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الهاتفية على الرقم 13 14 50 واطلب منهم الاتصال بالمجلس على الرقم 9911 6555.

如果你不明白本期Bayside Brief中刊登的资讯，请前来市议会查询或首先联络电话传译服务(电话13 14 50)，要求他们为你接通市议会，电话9911 6555。

Αν δεν καταλαβαίνετε τις πληροφορίες σε αυτή την έκδοση του Bayside Brief, παρακαλείστε να έρθετε στο Δημαρχείο ή να επικοινωνήσετε με την Τηλεφωνική Υπηρεσία Διερμηνέων στο 13 14 50 και να τους ζητήσετε να σας συνδέσουν με τη Δημαρχία στο 9911 6555.

Se non capite le informazioni contenute in questo numero di Bayside Brief, venite agli uffici del Comune oppure chiamate il servizio telefonico interpreti al numero 13 14 50 chiedendo che vi metta in contatto con il Comune al numero 9911 6555.

Si usted no comprende la información en este número de Bayside Brief, visite la Municipalidad o llame al Servicio Telefónico de Intérpretes al 13 14 50 y pídale que le comuniquen con la Municipalidad al 9911 6555.

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Please recycle this newsletter.

Council Meetings

City of Canada Bay Council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Development matters are usually dealt with at the meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Meetings start at 6pm and are held at the Canada Bay Civic Centre. Council meeting agendas are available to the public in our libraries or on our website the Saturday before a meeting, and are also available from the Canada Bay Civic Centre on the Monday before a meeting.



Contacting us

City of Canada Bay's Customer Service Team is your first point of contact for enquiries about our services. To speak to a member of the Team visit the Canada Bay Civic Centre, or phone or email us. A customer service centre also operates from Concord Library on Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 4pm. All services are offered at the Library during these hours with the exception of the lodgement of development and building applications. These applications must be lodged with Customer Services at the Civic Centre in Drummoyne. The Civic Centre offers photocopying and fax facilities available at a cost and free internet access. Hearing Loop and translation services are also available. Payments can be made at the Centre in cash, EFTPOS or with most major credit cards.

Canada Bay Civic Centre

1a Marlborough Street, Drummoyne

Open Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm

Ph 9911 6555 **Fax** 9911 6550

Email council@canadabay.nsw.gov.au
www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au

Helpful contact details

Waste Hotline: 1300 551 659

Available 8am-5pm, Mon-Fri
Information about collections, missed services, damaged, stolen, additional bins and commercial services.

Wet Weather Hotline: 9911 6375

Information about the impact of wet weather on Council's parks and sporting fields.

Five Dock Library: 9911 6310

Level 1, 4-12 Garfield St, Five Dock

Concord Library: 9911 6200

Cnr Wellbank and Flavelle Sts, Concord

Opening hours vary. Contact your local library for more information.

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