



City of Canada Bay Council

Bayside Brief

City of Canada Bay Council Newsletter
APRIL 2005 ISSUE 25



Mayor **Angelo Tsirekas**

Local Transport Needs

The pressure on public infrastructure is at an all time high as a result of the continued growth in the inner west and the Sydney CBD. The population of the City of Canada Bay alone is forecast to increase by 20% over the next 10 years.

All across the inner west and the Sydney CBD public infrastructure is aging and is need of immediate attention, State Government intervention and capital investment.

Significant improvements need to be made to our public transport infrastructure so that we can sustain our economy, increase productivity and maintain quality of life.

A light rail network would significantly relieve congestion in the CBD, Inner Sydney and Inner West. It would dramatically improve our economy and productivity by improving mobility and access and protect our environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles.

Sydney is a global city and Council is urging the State Government as part of its

Metropolitan Strategy to construct a high quality mass transport network, namely a light rail network, for Inner Sydney with the core of the network being located in the Sydney CBD going from Central to Circular Quay.

Council is calling upon the State and Federal Governments to allocate funding for the establishment of a light rail network for Inner Sydney which would significantly improve our economy and our environment.

Investment in a new mass transit system would encourage more people to leave their cars at home, reduce traffic and help the environment by dramatically decreasing the amount of greenhouse emissions.

Children of Kokoda Fundraising Dinner

On Wednesday, 13 April Council will be holding a fundraising dinner at Castel D'Oro in Five Dock to raise money for the children of Kokoda in Papua New Guinea. Money raised from the evening will be used to develop educational links with those children living in villages situated along Kokoda. Funds will also be donated to the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway in Rhodes.

Later in April I will be going to Papua New Guinea with Council's General Manager, Michael McMahon and community members where we will be walking the Kokoda Track. The trip is sure to be memorable and very emotional. A once in a life time experience.

VISY Recycling Tour

Council is organising a recycling tour at VISY recycling for residents who want to explore the environmental benefits of recycling.

You will be able to see where your recycling material is processed and what actually happens to it when it leaves your home.

The tour will be held at VISY Recycling on Thursday, 9 June at 11am. The tour is free and open to the first 20 residents that write to Council to tell us why you want to go on the recycling tour.

Please send all letters to the Mayor's Office, City of Canada Bay Council, Locked Bag 1470, Drummoyne NSW 1470

Rotary Recognition Awards

On Friday, 18 March Rotary Clubs from Concord, Drummoyne, Five Dock and Haberfield celebrated 100 years of Rotary at a special function hosted by Council at the Concord Function Centre.

The evening was a great success and celebrated the dedication and ongoing commitment of each of the clubs to our community.



Ron Yeo, Georgia Write, Mayor Angelo Tsirekas, Santino Cassaniti and Ken Wright

International Women's Day

Over 120 women from the City of Canada Bay came together on Tuesday, 8 March to celebrate International Women's Day at a very special business breakfast held by the City of Canada Bay Council in conjunction with Canada Bay Lions Club and the NSW Premier's Department, Office for Women.

Award winning, network specialist Robyn Henderson was the guest speaker at this special breakfast held at the Concord Golf Club. Robyn spoke about networking in business, with employees and within the community. Every one who attended the breakfast received one of Robyn's well known books -

How to Master Networking or Network or Perish as well as a gift bag courtesy of Concord Beauty Spot.

Businesses along Major Bay Road, Concord also supported International Women's Day by offering customers a chance to win a voucher from each participating store along the shopping strip to the value of \$150. Participating businesses included Moda Hair, Zoya Karmen Fashion Boutique and Dragonfly at Home. Concord Beauty Spot were also offering free gift packs and sample products to all women who visited the salon in the week leading up to March 8.

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Creating our future:**
Sustainable City of Canada Bay Levy proposal page 2
- **Thriving centres without the drive!** page 2
- **Strong economic foundation for the future** page 2
- **Canada Bay cultural champion for Sydney** page 3
- **Wellbeing safeguard for the community** page 3



Mayor Angelo Tsirekas, Pam Sheehan, Robyn Henderson, Alex Ebit and Lisa Musolino

Creating our future:

Sustainable City of

Canada Bay Levy proposal



Mayor Angelo Tsirekas and daughter Heleena Tsirekas, cleaning up Rodd Point on Clean Up Australia Day.

The City of Canada Bay Council has embarked on a journey to create a more sustainable future for the City. The effects of cleaner streets, less pollution, social inclusion and economic prosperity are some of the immediate benefits of this major initiative. Its purpose is to invest in creating greater community wellbeing that meets today's needs without detrimentally affecting tomorrow's communities.

Since its creation, the Council has been committed to protecting our environment and has had a rate levy on properties to pay for special projects like the restoration of the seawalls and bush care programs. It now intends to extend this program to wider sustainability initiatives.

'Council has recognised that addressing social, economic and environmental issues affecting residents is vital. It is no longer enough to offer our residents a basic service if we want to live up to our vision to create an environmentally and economically sustainable City in which our community can live, learn, work, play and visit', said Mayor Angelo Tsirekas.

'Council has adopted a new sustainability commitment to deliver economic, social, cultural and environmental systems that operate in harmony for the benefit and wellbeing of the community. Our objective is to enable residents to enjoy a good quality of life in an active and vibrant community now and in the future', explained the Mayor.

'Council proposes to fund this initiative by a small rate levy. This levy will cost the average resident rate payer around \$4.00 and the average commercial property owner only \$34.00 per quarter. There will be extensive programs to create sustainable neighbourhood centres across the City of Canada Bay, others to develop local people's skills, grow markets to ensure that local businesses survive and increase local employment opportunities. The whole community will benefit from investment in cultural development, which will enhance our quality of life and offer activities that integrate our neighbourhoods into a more inclusive community'.

'I hope that everyone will get behind this initiative and support the development of programs that will deliver this commitment. We need to develop new social, cultural, and economic development programs that are underpinned by sustainability principles', said the Mayor. 'We welcome your views on this program; please address them to the General Manager, Locked Bag 1470, Drummoyne NSW 1470'.

Thriving centres without the drive!



In recent years the City of Canada Bay Council has been developing a program to create sustainable local neighbourhood centres in Five Dock, Majors Bay Road and Concord West through streetscape improvements. But Council recognises that a vibrant local centre needs more than attractive footpaths and street furniture. It needs a friendly and interesting ambience that encourages the community to spend time there and develop strong local relationships that keep people coming back time and time again. Council sees a sustainability levy as a means of delivering this program across the City to

enhance and maintain local neighbourhood centres that are attractive and accessible to the whole community.

Council will achieve this program by developing Main Street programs in each area. This involves Council working with business and the community to promote and support the local area. By knowing the strengths and weaknesses of centres the partnership can work together to ensure that the area survives and meets local needs. Local cultural and community activities ensure that there is something for the whole community to enjoy.

Benefits to the community

- Long term future for neighbourhood centres
- Vibrant neighbourhood centres close to home
- Local providers of a range of services such as health, leisure and financial support
- Car trips reduced as people walk to local shops rather than depending on a car to go to larger centres far away
- More opportunities for local employment

Strong economic foundation for the future

Council aims to sustain local business opportunities in the City in ways that protect the local environment and quality of life.

The benefits to the community of having an active business sector are many; from sustaining local employment opportunities, creating vibrant shopping strips or enjoying a varied range of services offered locally.

Council initiatives under this program

- Customised training to key business groups
- Enabling local businesses to better compete in the world.
- Developing marketing opportunities for local businesses
- Programs to retain local businesses in the area
- Supporting clusters of key businesses in the area

Canada Bay cultural champion for Sydney

Clever property investors recognise that areas with a reputation for creativity and innovation are the best investments for growth in property value. Whether that creativity is in the form of art galleries and music venues or cuisine and interesting experiences; the culture of a community has a significant inherent value.

The City of Canada Bay is home to a rich heritage and range of artists hidden around the water-

front. Council is seeking an opportunity to work with local artists, enhance the cultural heritage of the area and develop the local experiences throughout the City.

Ultimately, the City will be known for its inclusive community, and waterfront culture. Our reputation enhanced and strengthened as an important enlightening heart-beat in the Sydney basin.



Wellbeing - a key objective for our community



Community wellbeing is a key goal of this program. The long term wellbeing of the community will be protected by the Council's leadership in sustainable development. The short-term wellbeing will be promoted by targeted campaigns to encourage and enable everyone to participate in City life.

The latest figures from *Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources* identified that the City of Canada Bay will experience the largest influx of population in the inner west of Sydney. Predictions suggest a population rise from 62,330 to 86,690 by 2031. Many of these new residents will be in the new self-contained developments of Rhodes and Breakfast Point.

Communities in large resort style development can be isolated from the wider commu-

nity as they use only the onsite services. The focused development of programs to integrate new and traditional communities is viewed as an important objective for the Council. The desire for sustainability is a common value for the City to strive for. Our aim for the City of Canada Bay Council area is to develop communities with a strong sense of identity within a socially cohesive City.

Key programs that will encourage communities to enjoy time together will include:

- Wellbeing programs that leverage our great recreation assets - the water, the parks and playing fields. Get active programs, walking & cycling amenities, accessible counselling services, parenting and early childhood education programs could all be included.
- An expanded cultural events program

- Addressing the needs of the whole community by tackling challenges such as the grey boomer revolution, growing demands for childcare, and promoting effective use of leisure time

- Community safety programs which address education, and the needs of key groups such as young people and the elderly

- Investing in the civil society to expand the community grants programs in support of the work of various voluntary groups and agencies in the community.

Our future could be characterised by a socially and cohesive community with large numbers of people involved in events and activities in the City, where the community feels safe and secure, where crime rates are low and residents enjoy high degree of wellbeing.

HAVE your say...

1. Is a sustainable future important to you?
2. Do you think that pursuing sustainability is an important role for the City of Canada Bay Council?
3. Do you agree with Councils' sustainability commitment outlined by the Mayor?
4. Are the costs (on average \$4.00 per residential property and \$34.00 per commercial property per quarter) too high to invest in this program?
5. What are your sustainability priorities for this levy to be spent upon:
 - Sustainable Neighbourhoods
 - Sustainable Economic development
 - Sustainable Culture
 - Sustainable Communities
6. What sustainability initiatives would you like to see Council invest in?
7. Other comments relevant to this proposal

City of Canada Bay Family Day Care

Quality Childcare in a Home Environment- Family Day Care is an accredited service which provides quality child care for young children in a home environment. Carers are assessed, monitored and supported by the Family Day Care Coordination Unit to ensure state regulations and quality assurance requirements are met through regular home visits, training, meetings, toy library and weekly play sessions.

Experienced Carers- The majority of our carers have extensive experience and training in the early childhood field, many with tertiary qualifications in childcare. We are able to offer a preschool program and work with older preschool children in developing essential school readiness skills.

Low Child-Carer Ratios- No more than 5 pre-school aged children are cared for in any carer's home, these low child adult ratios mean that carers are better able to meet the needs of the children they care for. Personalised care enables children to build a relationship with the Carer and often results in the Carer and their family becoming part of the child's extended family.

An Affordable Childcare Option- Family Day Care offers low fees and Child Care Benefit is available to parents linked to our service.

Places available now- Family Day Care currently has vacancies for children 18 months plus.

For further information please contact the Family Day Care office on 9911 6586

Parenting Programs

The Triple P Parenting Program will help you gain confidence and competence as a parent of children aged between 2 and 12 years.

This 8 week program will start on Tuesday, 3 May 2005 from 10am - 12.30pm.

An evening Triple P program will run in Drummoyne starting on Wednesday, 4 May from 7 to 9.30pm. Bookings are essential. For more information call the Drummoyne Community Centre on 9719 8102.

Surviving teenagers is a series of 3 workshops being run in partnership with Relationships Australia. The workshops will focus on different issues including adolescent development, relationship issues and helping teenagers to become responsible. The workshops are being held on Tuesday 3rd, 10th and 17th May from 7-9.30pm. Bookings are essential. For more information or to book a place call 9719 8102.

Magic In The Library

Come and see acclaimed magician Greg Hudson appearing (and maybe disappearing) in the City of Canada Bay Libraries between 2pm and 3pm during the April School Holidays.

Greg will be appearing at the following times:

Concord West Library

Tuesday, 19 April 2005

Tel: 9736 4728

Concord Branch Library

Wednesday, 20 April 2005

Tel: 9736 4732

Five Dock Library

Thursday, 21 April 2005

Tel: 9911 6310

Bookings are essential and will be taken from Monday, 4 April. Performances are free and suitable for children aged between 5 and 12 years.

Russell Lea Infants School Fete

On Saturday, 7 May from 10am - 4pm, Russell Lea Infants School, Lithgow Street, Russell Lea will be holding their annual fete from 10am - 4pm. There will be over 2 hectares of fun for everyone. Rides galore, Sparkles the Clown, Manpower Jazz Band, Superheroes Show, farmyard nursery, face painting, chocolate wheel, hoopla prizes and MUCH MORE. For that last minute Mother's Day gift browse the many stalls including garden produce, cakes & craft. Find a bargain amongst the pre-loved books, clothes, toys and white elephant. Feast on the BBQ or relax with a cappuccino and slice at the Cafe under the Trees - Great auction items such as a Champagne Flight over Sydney. For more information call the school on 9713 8267.

Concord High School 25th Anniversary

May 13-25 will be a weekend of celebrations for the 25th anniversary of Concord High School. There will be an Anniversary Dinner at Massey Park Golf Club on Saturday, 14 May. Tickets are \$40 per head. A Rotary BBQ is also scheduled between 12pm and 2pm on Sunday, 16 May. For more information call Annette Vincent on 9745 3777 (ext. 111) or fax 9744 2683.

To contact Council phone 9911 6555, email council@canadabay.nsw.gov.au or via mail to The General Manager, City of Canada Bay Council, Locked Bag 1470, Drummoyne 1470.



DEPUTY MAYOR

Neil Kenzler

How did you get started in local government?

I have been interested in government, politics and community issues from an early age. There were some strategic issues which I felt strongly about and was not convinced that the then Council was addressing them so I put my hat in the ring and was privileged to be elected and have the opportunity to get them addressed.

How long have you lived in the City of Canada Bay?

In one sense not long enough. I came to Sydney in 1988 and moved to Drummoyne in 1990, then Russell Lea before settling in Five Dock.

What do you think about living here?

An absolutely great place to live.

What are some of the challenges you've faced in local government?

The early meetings of the newly formed Canada Bay Council were particularly challenging as I wondered what I had got myself into. I have a view that Local Government is not an adversarial system of government. To get the best outcome for our community, Councillors, regardless of political beliefs, need to work together. The challenges we face are many and varied. I think the biggest challenge Local Government faces is doing more with less, while ensuring what we do is done in a sustainable manner.

What are issues are important to you?

Essentially ensuring a sustainable future for the next generation. That everybody has access to decision-making and that our processes are transparent.

What do you think are the aspects of being a good Councillor?

Listening to people and being fair and honest, which sometimes means telling people what they may not wish to hear, as well as solving today's issues with an eye to the future needs.

What's your favourite past time?

Spending time in one of our many parks, especially those near the water, with my family (and take-away from one of our many great seafood or pizza shops).