



22 MARCH 2013

## **LATE ITEMS**

**Ordinary Meeting of Council Meeting No. 5/13  
TUESDAY, 26 MARCH 2013**

**Council Chambers, Level 6, Civic Centre,  
1 Devlin Street, Ryde - 7.30pm**

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday 26 March 2013  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Level 6, Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde  
**Time:** 7.30pm

## NOTICE OF BUSINESS

**Item** **Page**

### LATE ITEMS

### PRECIS OF CORRESPONDENCE

4	CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT .....	1
5	TRAFFIC SPEED - PITTWATER ROAD.....	4
6	BUFFALO AND KITTY'S CREEKS FLOODPLAIN RISK STUDY AND PLAN.....	6

## **LATE ITEMS**

### **4 CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

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**Report prepared by:** Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
**File No.:** MYR/07/10/7 - BP13/457

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#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Submitting correspondence received via email from the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore, dated 20 March 2013, regarding Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) That the correspondence be received and noted.
- (b) That the correspondence be considered by Council.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1** Letter from Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore dated 20 March 2013 regarding Constitutional Recognition of Local Government

**Precis of Correspondence 4 (continued)**

**ATTACHMENT 1**

Page 1 of 2

**Linda Smith**

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**From:** Clover Moore [cmoore@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 20 March 2013 9:55 AM  
**To:** The Mayor  
**Subject:** Letter from the Lord Mayor of Sydney - Constitutional Recognition of Local Government

Councillor Ivan Petch  
Mayor Ryde City Council  
By email mayor@ryde.nsw.gov.au

Dear Councillor Petch

**Constitutional Recognition of Local Government**

Last week with other Capital City Lord Mayors I met with Federal Government and Opposition members in Canberra. We received mixed messages about their commitment to a referendum on constitutional recognition of local government.

The Prime Minister told us she needed to know within two weeks whether there was support from the states for legislation for the referendum to proceed. Could you or your Council request the Premier to support the referendum? The Lord Mayor of Brisbane was able to give a letter of support from his Premier when we met with her.

***I believe constitutional recognition is critical to secure the role and relevance of local government.***

Councils understand their communities and are best placed to make decisions in the best interests of their communities. Providing funding directly to local communities is a practical solution to delivering programs at a local level which achieve a national objective.

Achieving constitutional change to remove uncertainty around the issue of direct funding will ensure the Federal Government can fund the level of government best able to deliver those programs on the ground, targeting specific objectives and engaging directly with the communities receiving the funding.

A sticking point in the past, which has hampered discussions with the states, has been the actual words of any constitutional change to be proposed by the Federal Government. The Federal Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government has now settled on the following words for an amendment to Section 96 of the Constitution:

***"...the Parliament may grant financial assistance to any State or to any local government body formed by state or territory legislation on such terms and conditions as the Parliament thinks fit."***

It is very important local government in NSW sends a strong message to our Premier and the Federal Government and Opposition.

If you agree, please show your support by writing to the Premier, the Hon Barry O'Farrell MP, asking him to write to the Prime Minister indicating the NSW Government's support for a referendum on constitutional recognition of local government.

Letters can be addressed to:

The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP  
Premier  
GPO Box 5341  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

21/03/2013

**Precis of Correspondence 4 (continued)**

**ATTACHMENT 1**

Page 2 of 2

I thank all Councillors who contacted the Minister for Local Government and/or Local Government NSW about the anti-democratic *Local Government (Intervention) Bill* before the NSW Parliament.

If you would like more information, please call my policy officer, Larry Galbraith on 02 9265 9499 or email him at [lgalbraith@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lgalbraith@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

Yours sincerely

Clover Moore  
**Lord Mayor of Sydney**

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21/03/2013

**5 TRAFFIC SPEED - PITTWATER ROAD**

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**Report prepared by:** Executive Assistant to the Mayor

**File No.:** CRS2008/310 - BP13/456

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**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Submitting correspondence from the Ryde - Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society, dated 17 March 2013, regarding traffic speeds in Pittwater Road.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) That the correspondence be received and noted.
- (b) That Council consider the correspondence from the Ryde Hunter Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Letter from Ryde - Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society dated 17 March 2013 regarding traffic Speed in Pittwater Road

**Precis of Correspondence 5 (continued)**

**ATTACHMENT 1**



**Ryde - Hunter's Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society**

Member of Nature Conservation Council of N.S.W.

**P.O. Box 2127  
Boronia Park 2111**

Ms Danielle Dickson,  
Acting General Manager,  
The City of Ryde  
Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670.  
[cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au)  
17 March, 2013

**RE: Pittwater Rd speed limit for Ryde Traffic Committee's consideration.**

Dear Ms Dickson,

The Society asks that Council consider a reduction in the enforceable speed limit along Pittwater Rd in the section between High and Rene Streets. It would seem this is currently 60kms per hour with a number of variable recommended speed limit signs. We ask that consideration be given to an enforceable limit of 50 kms per hour in this section.

Council's proposed road works along Pittwater Rd. include drainage improvements and road widening at the steep bend below High St. Whilst we hope the drainage works will address the significant on-road cross flow drainage problem before the roundabout, we are concerned that any benefit achieved in increased visibility from the road widening will be countered by an increase in down hill traffic speeds.

Whilst Pittwater Rd is a significant connector road, it also provides access to much used recreational areas at the Field of Mars and Buffalo Ck. Reserves. The new roundabout has resulted in increased access to and from these reserves but the speed of traffic entering the roundabout remains a problem, especially with large school groups. We are concerned that the longer view line achieved with the wider road at the bend, when travelling north will result in increased downhill speed into the roundabout.

When we have raised the matter of reduced speed limits for this section in the past we have been told that this is not possible because of the particular road categorisation which applies to Pittwater Rd. However, other major connector roads such as River Rd., Lane Cove have 50kms per hour limits. We ask that the Traffic Committee give consideration to reduced enforceable speed limits in this section of road or any suitable traffic calming measures which could be incorporated into the future road works. Thank you.

Yours sincerely  
Cathy Merchant, Secretary.  
CC All Councillors

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**6 BUFFALO AND KITTY'S CREEKS FLOODPLAIN RISK STUDY AND PLAN**

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**Report prepared by:** Executive Assistant to the Mayor

**File No.:** PM2011/24/012 - BP13/454

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**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Submitting correspondence from the Ryde - Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society, dated 17 March 2013, regarding Buffalo and Kittys Creek Flood Study and Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) That the correspondence be received and noted.
- (b) That Council consider the information provided in the letter from the Ryde - Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Letter from Ryde - Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society dated 17 March 2013 regarding Buffalo and Kittys Creek Flood Study and Plan



**Precis of Correspondence 6 (continued)**

**ATTACHMENT 1**



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**Ryde - Hunter's Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society**

Member of Nature Conservation Council of N.S.W.

**P.O. Box 2127  
Boronia Park 2111**

Ms Danielle Dickson,  
Acting General Manager,  
The City of Ryde  
Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670.  
[cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au)  
17 March, 2013

**RE: Buffalo and Kittys Creek Flood Study and Plan**

Dear Ms Dickson,

The Society expresses its concern at the lack of community consultation that has occurred in the initial planning stages of the above study and plan. The Society has long argued the need for research into the Buffalo Ck floodplain and fully supports Council's initiative in this area. However, it is disappointing that no consultation has occurred with the Society or the Environmental Education Centre which is based in the floodplain area of Buffalo Creek.

Water levels can rise quickly in the Field of Mars floodplain and have caused significant problems in the past eg the loss of two bridges across Buffalo Ck and flooding of the Visitors Centre. Whilst Council has installed improved stormwater systems for upstream areas to reduce flash flooding on roads, the downstream impacts have seen faster flows to downstream floodplain areas and increased erosion points. This has the potential to increase sediment loads into the local watercourses and result in greater weed invasion and reduced biodiversity. Increased discharge and intensity of freshwater flows into areas of endangered ecological saltmarsh community will reduce the overall quality, and benefit of saltmarsh to Sydney Harbour's ecosystems.

The pattern in recent rain events appears to have changed somewhat with faster rising creek levels which suggests that water is moving more quickly through the developed up-stream areas. It would appear that less filtration of stormwater is occurring which will also contribute to reduced water quality. Quicker movement of stormwater also increases risks for any members of the public in the flood plain areas. For example the new Field of Mars boardwalk is higher above the creek than the old one, which now facilitates increased access when the creek levels are raised compared to the past.

We urge that Council includes the community in the planning and development of this important document.

Yours sincerely  
Cathy Merchant, Secretary.  
CC All Councillors