Subject:	Macquarie Park Forum	Page 1 of 5
File No:	UPS2008/1/005	
Document Ref:	D16/153479	
Venue:	Macquarie University	
Date:	3 rd November 2016	
Time:	Started at: 4:00pm Closed at: 6.00pm	
Chair:	Councillor Perram	
Meeting Support (MS):	Linda Smith – EA to the Mayor and Councillors	
Staff Convenor:	John Brown, Senior Coordinator - City Activation	
Circulation:		

Committee Role:

To assist Council in the refinement and implementation of the Macquarie Park Master Plan vision and objectives to achieve sustainable growth in Macquarie Park.

Present	Apology	Name	Position Title	Organisation	
	x	Clr Artin Etmekdjian	Council representative	City of Ryde (Chair)	
		Clr Jerome Laxale	Council representative	City of Ryde	
х		Clr Terry Perram	Council representative	City of Ryde	
	х	Clr Roy Maggio	Council representative	City of Ryde	
х		Tony Abboud	Community representative	Ryde/Macquarie Chamber	
х		Vanessa Hindmarsh	Community representative	Sonic Healthcare	
х		Morrell Boyce	Community representative	Ryde Business Forum	
х		Penny Dillon	Community representative	Optus	
		Andrew Wheatley	Community representative	Johnson and Johnson	
х		Mark Broomfield	Community representative	Macquarie University	
х		Kim Saxon	Community representative	Macquarie University	
х		Ritchie Howitt	Community representative	Macquarie University	
		Felicity Wilson	Community representative	Property Council of Australia	
	x	Nathan Moulds	Community representative	Salvation Army – Ivanhoe Place	
		Jeff Peers	Community representative	AMP Macquarie Centre	
		Denys Bizinger	Community representative	Jones Laing LaSalle	
х		Gordon Hunt	Community representative	Transport for NSW	
		Stefan Sjoka	Community representative	Cyrus Media	
х		Malcolm McDonald	Community representative	Department of Planning (DoP)	
		Kate McDonald	Community representative	Ryde Business Forum	
х		Zara Whitwell	Community representative	Connect Macquarie Park + North Ryde	
		Sue-Lyn Ung	Community representative	Goodman	
х		Ian Sutcliffe	Community representative	Stockland	
х		Dyalan Govender	Acting Manager – Strategic City	City of Ryde	
х		John Brown	Senior Coordinator – City Activation	City of Ryde	
х		Jan Bouhali	Economic Development Coordinator	City of Ryde	

Committee Members as per the Terms of Reference

Additional Attendees

Name	Position Title	Organisation	
Daniel Cavallo		Transport for NSW	
Jane Richardson		Sydney Metro	
Chris Grima		Sydney Metro	
John Shi-Nash		Macquarie Park Innovation District	

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Details		Action	Responsibility and Date
	Welcome, Attendance and Apologies		
	Attendance and apologies were recorded as above.	Noted.	
	John Brown thanked Macquarie University for hosting the meeting and introduced Councillor Perram.		
	Councillor Perram also thanked the University for hosting the group and by way of person background, advised that he has been a West Ward Councillor at COR for thirty years.		
	Confirmation of Minutes		
	The Committee confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting of 4 th August 2016.	Endorsed.	
2.	Macquarie Park Innovation District		
	Mr John Shi-Nash provided an overview of the above program.	Noted.	
	He advised that 14 months ago, several large companies and the University met to discuss the future of Macquarie Park. Comparisons were drawn with other innovative districts such as Silicon Valley, St Louis etc. It was noted that many of these areas had grown through networking and attracting start-up operations.		
	Mr Shi-Nash highlighted that the MPID was based on the thinking of the Brookings model in New York which has three key components.		
	 Economic assets Networking assets Physical assets 		
	The goal is to deliver this "best practice" model in Macquarie Park. It is not intended to compete with other areas in Australia but will benefit this area and achieve global recognition.		
	Networking meetings will be hosted at existing food and beverage outlets with the aim to build a vibrant innovation community.		
	The University is constructing an incubator which will be opened to the community for use to hold events or to carry out planning sessions.		
	A hackathon will be held on 17 th February and is being supported by NAB at the University; an international Innovation District Seminar will also be held on 17 th February.		
	Pro bono meetings are being held between companies which are collaborating to solve problems that affect a range of companies and groups.		
	Mr Shi-Nash stated we need to make the imminent rail closure an opportunity for positive change.		
	.All present were encouraged to join Linkedin at the MPID community group page. www.mpid.com.au		

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3.	North West Rail Line - Sydney Metro Update		
	Address by Daniel Cavallo	Noted.	
	 Mr Cavallo provided information on bus services in the Macquarie Park area. This included: Current arrangements for bus services in the Macquarie Park 1,400 extra services per week have been provided in the area since 2011 to support customer demand and travel patterns The 2016/17 Growth Services Program includes improvements to Routes M41 (Hurstville), 197 (Mona Vale), 292 (Marsfield), 506 (East Ryde), 518 (Top Ryde), 611 (Blacktown), 619 & 621 (Castle Hill) and 740 (Stanhope Gardens) Planning is underway for further bus service and infrastructure improvements in the area. 		
	Address by Jane Richardson		
	Ms Richardson provided an update on the North West Rail line.		
	Stage 1 is due to be completed in 2019 with trains expected to arrive and depart each four minutes. The new metro system will be part of a larger transport system being developed.		
	This increase in capacity and frequency will improve capacity on all lines.		
	Employment, education and housing opportunities will all increase with the commencement of the rail line.		
	It was noted that to improve transport links, there is a need to understand the "door to door" needs of commuters. It needs to be fast, accessible, safe and efficient.		
	With regard to work on the metro line, Ms Richardson reported that the foundations for the sky train have been completed. The tunnelling is now complete and the 2019 line opening is on schedule.		
	It will be necessary to carry out testing of the line, tracks, and trains and to reconfigure the communication system etc. between Epping and Chatswood.		
	To undertake this testing, the line must be closed. During this time, buses will replace trains. Extra bus services will replace the trains in peak periods as part of the Temporary Transport Plan.		
	Ms Richardson advised that the information provided through OPAL cards is very helpful in providing data as to why people travel and their destinations.		
	It was noted that improvements to the current transport system are required and to this end the following actions are being taken:		
	 A review of existing bus routes Travel demand/choices program – lessons can be learned from the CBD experience during road closures Talks with RMS re road priorities A temporary plan to coordinate with regular services This realignment will continue in 2017 and then in 2018 will allow customers to be informed regarding what to expect. 		

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	The temporary closures will provide a good opportunity to trial some measures which can be implemented full time later. It is hoped to use some of the successful methods used in the Light Rail project when the Macquarie Park closure occurs. It was noted that following completion of the new line, the Northern Line will revert to its previous route but will have increased carrying capacity. Morrell Boyce asked that the RMS be encouraged to use this forum to engage with users.	The RMS will be invited to address the February 2017 Forum to articulate the changes and improvements it proposes. Road changes and bus details are to be updated at this meeting.	
4.	Macquarie Park Strategic Review		
	Mr Malcolm McDonald from the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) addressed the group. There has been a strategic investigation to change Macquarie Park from a business park to an activated employment centre. Greater containment is sought through place making and there is a need to unlock some of the current constraints.	Further update sought for February 2017	
	Mr McDonald noted that people want a vibrant commercial centre, improved public domain spaces, better connections to the National Park and a greater mix of uses i.e. retail, civic and community.		
	Stakeholder feedback and employee focus groups have been interviewed. DPE is keen to engage with the business community.		
	On 23/11/16 the DPE and RBF will host an innovation breakfast event. Key Speakers will include: Victor Dominello MP, Government Architect Peter Poulet and the Chief Planner Gary White.	John Brown to forward an invitation to members of the Forum	Invitation distributed 4/11/16
	The government is working to identify new open spaces, a school site etc. A land use strategy is to be released with growth scenarios, road connections, transport requirements etc.		
	The Forum requested a further update in February 2017.		
	Clr Perram asked about the methods used to coordinate planning such as for cycleways. He stated the need for planners to have expertise in such matters to achieve a good outcome.		
	The key to unlock parking congestion is to make travel more convenient. It was noted that there is a need to relieve pressure outside the park with through traffic noted as a major issue.		
	Council Perram raised concern about allowing residential development in the Park. He noted the need to retain the area as an employment hub.		
	Clarification was sought on two sites recently subject of apartment sales		John Brown emailed a response to the Forum 11/11/16

5.	Macquarie Park Car Parking Review		
5.	Mr John Brown provided the Committee with a presentation regarding the Macquarie Park Car Parking Review.	Noted.	
	Mr Brown advised that on street parking rates increased in August 2016 following an earlier Council resolution.		
	A trial (approx. 50 spots) of short term parking (2P) in the 12P zone will commence in early 2017. A report will be provided next year re this trial which is proposed for areas such as Giffnock Ave, Byfield Ave etc.		
	It was noted that the changes to the commercial Car parking rates "behind the boomgate" flagged in the Bitzios Report in September 2015 are progressing. The proposed changes have recently been exhibited and the next step is a report to Council and then gazettal by DPE.		
	Mr Brown stressed that the changes only impact new developments, not existing ones. They also reflect maximum not minimum car parking rates.		
6.	Night Time Economy Study		
	Jan Bouhali provided an update on the NTE Study.	Noted.	
	A report by the consultants will be presented to this forum after it has been reported to Council.		
	 A comprehensive survey was undertaken across the City of Ryde. In relation to Macquarie Park: 54% of respondents stated they regularly travel to the Macquarie Shopping Centre of an evening and visit shops, cinemas and restaurants. 67% of people believe there is room for improvement in the NTE in Macquarie Park. 		
	A consistent comment received indicated respondents wanted a greater choice of restaurants, wine bars, cultural events, safe and well lit public areas.		
	Currently a lack of public space and street activity deter people from using the area.		
7.	Connect Macquarie Park + North Ryde Update		
	Ms Zara Whitwell from Connect Macquarie Park + North Ryde provided a presentation to the Committee.	Noted.	
	Latest travel statistics indicate that a significant proportion of Macquarie Park employees come from the Hills District and City of Ryde. - 80% of those surveyed still drive by themselves.		
	With the shutdown to the rail line expected in 2018, there is a desire to change travel practices through CoHop, flexible working hours, use of buses etc.		
	Connect strategy is to support businesses and their staff through a 'TAC' strategy T- Trigger A- Awareness		
	B- Behaviour Change		

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	Connect's target market is 18 – 35 year olds who like to rideshare. A new phone app will be launched on 1 st December 2016.		
8.	General Business		
	Forge Magazine Article Jan Bouhali provided advice regarding the three page article on Macquarie Park and City of Ryde that had appeared in Forge Magazine. The magazine is an international publication which is often seen by overseas investors.	Noted.	
	Innovation Drive Advanced Manufacturing Forum Ms Bouhali provided details regarding the presenters and invitees to the event to be held on 30 th November 2016.	Noted	
	TEDEX Richie Howitt advised that the next TEDEX event will be held in 2017	Noted	
	Lachlan's Line Council staff advised that the public domain works at Lachlan's Line are nearing completion and will be officially opened on 24 November.	Noted	
9.	Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on 16th February 2017 – hosted by City of Ryde at Binary Centre Richardson Place North Ryde.	Noted.	