

COUNCIL REFERENCE: 1776E (D12/128902)
CONTACT PERSON: Martin Uptis

4 June 2012

Basin Villages Forum
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Dear Christine

Update - Meeting with Russ Pigg – 23 March 2012

The purpose of this letter is to provide the Forum with an update on the requests made at the meeting attended by Council's General Manager, Russ Pigg, on 23 March 2012. Below are the issues that the Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Group were requested to follow up on, with an update on what has been done to address those issues:

1. Footpaths

- (a) St Georges Basin School – representatives of the P&C Association were also in attendance to discuss this matter. It was noted that there is heavy traffic congestion in the vicinity of the school and that there is also a child care centre in this street. Requested extension of the footpath from the boundary of the school grounds on Tallyan Point Road to the intersection with Mathie Street. (Photo attached)

ACTION:

- (i) The Forum was requested to discuss this matter with the P&C Association members to determine any assistance which could be provided to construct the requested footpath and advise Council.
- (ii) SP&I Group to add to works list.

ACTION TAKEN:

The extension of the path to Mathie St is about 400m long with an estimated construction cost of \$70,000. This proposed project has now been included in the 'works list'. Council's contact for the new paths strategy is Kathy Wiseham (tel 4429 3484). (The term 'new paths strategy' is being used instead of the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) as the latter covers more than just new footpaths.)

- (b) Footpath in Walmer Street (sic) is not the community's highest priority, as there is a footpath in Kerry Street to Anson Street and there are several opportunities to access the foreshore. Footpaths near schools are higher priority.

ACTION: SP&I Group to reassess priorities and advise Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

A letter from the Forum in 2009 stated that the Kingsford-Smith Cres section was the highest priority so this will remain so until further advised by the Forum. This section is still ranked higher than Walmer Ave in the new paths strategy and would be the highest priority section for 'footpaths near schools'. The strategy already includes sections of Kingsford-Smith Cres and Warrego Dr, south of Idlewild Ave, as connections to the school.

- (c) Kerry Street footpath should extend east to the end of the street. Then to Clifton Street, Idlewild Street and to the back of the Sanctuary Point School, which would provide a circuit.
- (d) One of the most useful footpaths in the Sanctuary Point area would be to extend into Kingsford Smith Crescent north to Paradise Beach Road.
- (e) Once the extension of Anson Street is completed, the provision of a footpath on Anson Street will be an issue and should be part of the total project.

ACTION: [Items (b) to (e)] – SP&IG to note Forum's priorities for footpaths and respond.

ACTION TAKEN:

The Idlewild Ave, Kerry St and Kingsford-Smith Cres sections have already been included in the new paths strategy. A proposed path along Clifton St has now been included to complete the circuit.

1. Formation and sealing of a "kiss and drop" zone, including an indented drop off area, at the end of Reserve Road at the rear of the St Georges Basin Public School site, noting that the school is currently expanding at the rate of approximately 30 students per annum and that any expansion of the school will be to the north. (Photo attached)

ACTION: SP&IG to investigate and respond to the Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

The road at the end of Reserve Rd is only 20m wide and the adjacent properties are privately owned. This narrowness precludes the construction of an indented drop off area as there would be insufficient width for a footpath or verge next to the drop off area. The existing power poles also limit opportunities for widening the existing pavement.

However, the school may allow the construction of a drop off area within the school grounds as its property extends 60m north from the end of Reserve Rd.

2. Basin View entry sign – the Forum indicated that they were very keen to have an entry sign provided to encourage tourists to visit the area. The General Manager advised that this was a funding issue and that the programme may not be funded in next year's budget.

ACTION: SP&I Group to provide a response to the Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

Some savings have been identified in current budgets to commence work on the entry sign. Council' contact for this project is Kay Murray (tel 44293299)

3. Provision of Memorial Seat – Forum advised that Judy Edwards had requested the provision of a seat to be located in the park adjacent to the pathway on Collingwood Street, Basin View, which is between the retirement village and the shops, in memory of her son. Council had apparently advised that the cost would be \$3,000.

ACTION: The Forum to write to Council requesting the provision of a seat adjacent to the pathway, as it runs between the retirement village and the shops and is used by aged persons. Mrs Edwards to make application for a memorial plaque to be attached to the seat in the future.

4. Bay to Basin Cycleway –

- (a) Signposting is inconsistent around the Bay and Basin area. Requested that the signposting of the Bay to Basin Cycleway be standardised.

ACTION: Forum to raise this as an agenda item for the next Central CCB's meeting or provide details of their requirements earlier.

- (b) Use of electric bikes on the cycleway – apparently these have been able to be hired from an operator at Collingwood Beach and on occasions are hired by young children. They are often driven at high speed and create dangerous situation.

ACTION: Council's Road Safety Officer to consider options to control and the Forum to raise this matter with Roads & Maritime Services, as a safety issue.

ACTION TAKEN:

Electric bikes with motors having an output of less than 200 watts are exempt from registration in NSW. These 'vehicles' are considered to be normal bikes and riders must obey the rules of the road applying to them, including safety on shared paths or cycleways or other road-related areas. Consequently, specific speed restrictions cannot be imposed on electric bikes and there would be 'road rule' restriction in hiring an electric bike to a child.

Normal push bikes are capable of travelling at 50kph so could be ridden as dangerously as electric bikes. There does not seem to be any practical controls for the use of electric bikes. Council's Roads Safety Officer is Kathy Wiseham (tel 4429 3484).

- (c) Horse manure on bike paths – indicated that owners do not clean up after their horses – suggested an education program.

ACTION: Ranger Services Manager to consider whether Council can do anything to assist.

5. St Georges Basin Soccer Field –

- (a) Drainage inadequate – field very wet (photo attached). The General Manager advised he had been informed by project staff that the grade is as per the design. Would like to see additional top dressing, to raise the level. Rebecca indicated that at the time of the original decision to go with this option, she had objected to the location as she believed it would be too wet. She also indicated that John Wells, in his report, had indicated that he had negotiated an arrangement with the St Georges Basin School for use of their sporting fields by the public; ie, soccer club, for a contribution of \$50,000 and permission to build amenities.

- (b) Irrigation system not yet handed over to the community.

- (c) Layback kerb should have been provided, to allow for additional parking, as this has now been restricted by the car park design. (Photo attached)

- (d) Fencing is loose in the ground. (Photo attached)

- (e) Concern at a lack of sediment control measures on side of field. (Photo attached)

- (f) Electricity meter box exposed. (Photo attached)

- (g) Landscaping/garden beds not maintained. (Photo attached)

ACTION: SP&I Group and CS&O Group to liaise and action/respond to Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

- ***The soccer field has been aerated; under-sown with rye grass; and top-dressed with sand to improve drainage.***
- ***The construction of a layback is not favoured because the area under the trees is meant to be revegetated as compensation for the tree loss resulting from the construction of the new field. In this case, access for vehicles should not be encouraged.***
- ***Additional concrete has been placed around fence posts.***
- ***Additional 'siltstop' fabric has been placed for sediment control.***

- ***Landscaped areas have now been handed over by the contractor for Council to maintain.***

6. Future development of Clifton Park – Forum is suggesting that a “learn to ride” circuit for children should be provided in this park, incorporating intersections, stop signs, give way signs, pedestrian crossings, etc, as this site is close to the school, the waterfront and Paradise Beach park. Other suggestions for this Park include a community garden, Frisbee golf (which is relatively cheap and low maintenance and is now an international sport). It is believed that the site should be developed as a tourist attraction, noting that it is close to the shops and there is adequate car parking.

ACTION: SP&IG to note and respond to Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

An internal Project Brief has been issued for the detailed survey of Clifton Park to allow the design of the physical layout of the various options for the Park’s development. Council’s contact is James Harris (tel 4429 3570)

7. Sanctuary Point Shopping Centre car park – the Forum pointed out the poor condition of this car park and the lack of wheel stops in front of the shops, which is a safety issue. The General Manager advised that Council does not own this car park, but noted that action is being taken to encourage landowners to install the wheel stops. The Forum suggested that in relation to the attitude of some residents to youth in the area requires an educational ‘tolerance’ programme.

ACTION: Community Development Manager to consider the suggestion regarding an education campaign to promote tolerance towards youth in the community and discuss with the Forum. **(DCS&O)**

8. Skate Park – Rebecca indicated that rather than locate a skate park in the south western corner of the football field at the rear of the Sanctuary Point shops, she believed it would be preferable for a facility to be provided at the crossroads site.

ACTION: SP&IG to note.

ACTION TAKEN:

James Harris (tel 4429 3570) is co-ordinating the development of the Sanctuary Point commercial precinct plan and has investigated a few options for the location of a skate park. This matter has not yet been finalised.

9. IGA Supermarket construction site, Island Point Road, St Georges Basin –

- (a) Concern was raised at the amount of silt runoff into St Georges Basin. They noted that the developer should have been required to provide the sedimentation holding tank under the car park as part of the DA which would have controlled the level of flow. There is significant build up of silt in Home Bay. The Forum is keen for Council to learn from the experiences with this project and to ensure that better management practices are adopted in the future. Also noted that there were issues at Erowal Bay and Paul Bland Reserve. (Photo attached)

ACTION: DD&ES to note and discuss at Team Briefs.

- (b) Broken footpath and concrete garden edging opposite the IGA supermarket construction site in Island Point Road – this appeared to be the result of works undertaken by Council, which did not appear to have been completed as yet. (Photos attached)

ACTION: DSW to check and advise the Forum.

- (c) A toilet block and village green area will be required in front of the IGA supermarket, when complete (over the area which is currently mulched) as a high priority. There are no public toilets in the area.

ACTION: SP&IG to note and advise Forum of priorities.

ACTION TAKEN:

The new IGA supermarket has toilets available to the public during its normal operating hours. The provision of another public toilet can be deferred until further development occurs in the village. The design for the village green has commenced and the Forum will be invited to review the initial concepts when sufficiently developed.

10. Noticeboards – trialling the Sanctuary Point solution to see if it is successful and can be used in other locations.

11. Road pavement – Areas of most concern were Island Point Road and bottom end of Park Drive. Drainage issue at Mountain Street, Sanctuary Point.

ACTION: DCS&O to investigate and respond to Forum.

12. “Beware of Wildlife” signs – requested that these be provided in any area throughout the Bay and Basin area which has a speed limit of 60km/hr or higher.

ACTION: SP&I Group to consider request and advise Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

The animal warning signs are usually installed where there is regular evidence of ‘road-kills’ or frequent advice is received from

the public of animal sightings. These signs would normally be location specific, for example, 'Kangaroos' – 'Next 2km'. This approach maximises the effectiveness of the signs. Conversely, if animal warning signs are placed on every road, which has a speed limit greater than 60kph, the message is too general to be informative to drivers. This principle applies to all types of signposting ie the warning needs to be relevant to the immediate location and the situation.

Consequently, general 'beware of wildlife' signs are not favoured but if the Forum can advise specific problem areas, appropriate signposting can be investigated. Council's contact for warning signs is Wayne Schnoor (tel 4429 3315)

13. Bike Signs to be stencilled along road edges, where there is sufficient area.

ACTION: SP&IG to investigate and respond to Forum.

ACTION TAKEN:

The use of painted bike symbols is governed by the provisions of Australian Standard AS 1742.9-2000 Manual of uniform traffic control devices – Bicycle facilities. In this case, symbols cannot be applied in every instance where there is a wide road.

The symbols are normally used only for shared paths, cycleways or exclusive bicycle lanes. However, non-Standard application of the symbol could be considered where there are locations of high on-road cycle use which do not currently have appropriate warning signs or pavement markings. Is the Forum aware of any locations where there is a lot of on-road use by cyclists that can be investigated by Council? Council's contact for bike signs is Kathy Wiseham (tel 4429 3484).

If there are items for which you need further information or clarification, please contact me on (02) 4429 3219. Please quote Council's reference 15979E.

Yours faithfully

**Martin Upitis
Infrastructure Planning Manager**