

MINUTES



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Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, 10 August 2023
5.30pm

Level 12, Boardroom
126 Church Street, Parramatta

PRESENT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Deputy Chair, Julia Strykowski (online), Councillors Phil Bradley, Kellie Darley (online), Ange Humphries (Ex-officio) (online), Patricia Prociv (Ex-officio) (online), and Community Members Adriana Genova, Marina Gilmore, Mark Green, Annie Nielsen, Murray Sayle, Alexi Gilchrist and Crystal Fleming.

COUNCIL STAFF

Project Team Lead, City Strategy – Karen Jones (Chair & Convenor), Governance Manager – Gwen Hughes (Secretariate), Group Manager Waste and Cleansing - Andrew Ho, Waste and Cleansing Project Officer - Emma Tang, City Strategy Project Officer - Victoria Molson, Chief Governance & Risk Officer - Roxanne Thornton.

1. OPENING MEETING

The Chair, opened the meeting at 5.30pm.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF LAND

The Chair acknowledged the Burramattagal people of The Dharug Nation as the traditional owners of this land, and paid respect to their ancient culture and to their elders past, present and emerging.

3. WEBCASTING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chair advised that this meeting is being recorded.

4. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO-VISUAL LINK

Councillor Michelle Garrard (Absent), committee member Melissa Brooks, Strategy Manager City Strategy - Luke Wolstencroft, Acting Director City Strategy – Matt Austin were apologies for the meeting.

5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

(Moved Councillor Patricia Prociv and Seconded by Mark Green)

The minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee meeting, held on 8 June 2023, was received and noted, and confirmed as a true record of the proceeding of that meeting.

7. PRESENTATION TO COMMITTEE

7.1 COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRE AND 2024 WASTE CONTRACT & FOGO COLLECTION

Waste & Cleansing Group Manager and Project Officer presented current status of the Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and 2024 Waste contract & Food Organics, Garden Organics (FOGO) collection.

Discussion focused on understanding the detail of both projects and seeking community guidance on:

- additional resource recovery streams (soft plastics, EPS, cardboard, textile/clothing & e-waste) to be available when CRC opens, and
- FOGO champions.

Recycling advice included but was not limited:

- Use data to help decide which recycling stream to establish e.g. those with largest volumes
- Prioritise collection streams for fastest growing streams e.g. e-waste
- Prioritise collection streams to service multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) and dwellings with high turnover (students, contract workers) e.g. bulky cardboard, expanded polystyrene (EPS), furniture
- Provide solutions for items that are hardest to recycle e.g. EPS
- Focus on items with no other community recycling options e.g. EPS, bulky cardboard
- Recycle items that have the greatest environmental impacts e.g. e-waste, EPS
- Behaviour change and education are critical and need to be prioritised e.g. all recycling, especially soft plastics
- Council to consider recycling streams offered by other LGAs offer e.g. mattresses and tyres

Supermarkets are working on soft plastic collection recommencing by the end of 2023.

Next step is to prepare the CRC for opening mid-2024.

FOGO Champions advice included but was not limited:

- Involve CALD community. Need to overcome the cultural and linguistic barriers regarding waste and recycling.
- Consider different household sizes e.g. single person vs intergenerational family of 10.
- Consider different dwelling types e.g. high density, Single-unit dwellings (SUDs), multi-unit dwellings MUDs, townhouse etc
- Align with state or regional wide FOGO roll outs (if there are any)
- Education and behaviour change critical
- Council support is to be more than just online. Not everyone has internet or is computer literate
- Involve strata committees
- Review planning controls e.g. DCP to be clearer around FOGO expectations
- Continue supporting residents who are or want to utilise FOGO at their property e.g. bokashi and compost bins and workshops
- Understand that initial FOGO roll out is for residents but support for local businesses is also needed, especially if waste and emission reduction targets are to be achieved
- Ensure that the compostable bags being supplied are to the correct Australian and EPA standards.

Next step is finalising the waste contract and FOGO details, then developing FOGO behaviour change, education and champions deliverables.

7.2 ESS 2023

Project Team Lead provided update on ESS 2023 since last EAC meeting.

All four strategies (Environment, Innovation, Economic and Social) to be presented to Council 14 August 2023 with the recommendation that all 4 strategies go on public exhibition 21 August – 3 October 2023.

The Committee received and noted the update.

The following questions were taken on notice at the ESS 2023 presentation:

1. Question taken on notice from Adriana Genova

- Can an additional community pop-up information stall be held in North Rocks/ Carlingford area, in addition to PHIVE and Wentworth stalls.

Additionally, community pop-up information stall added, 10am – 3pm Friday 29 September at North Rocks Shopping Centre.

2. Question taken on notice from Julia Strykowski

- a. Are the compostable bags provided Australian Standard 58/10 or 47/36?

- b. Have we looked at what we will do with business FOGO (cafes/high risers)?

Additionally, (a) Australian Standard AS 4736-2006 compostable kitchen caddy liners confirmed, and (b) initial focus is on Council's core responsibility of residential resource collection.

Note: Councillor Humphries left the meeting at 6:30pm and re-joined the meeting at 6.35pm.

8. Standing agenda item: Emerging environmental and sustainability topics

This item was deferred to next meeting.

9. General Business

- City Strategy are preparing 3 environment motions for the LGNSW Conference in November
- Parramatta Aquatic Centre (PAC) tour for EAC 6 September 2023
- **Action** - Annie Nielsen to send ferries changes information members
- Councillor Bradley provided update on the proposed Parramatta DCP amendment to include no gas in new buildings to match growth precinct **DCPs. State Government's Sustainable Buildings SEPP (State Environmental Planning Policy) 2022** comes into effect 1 October 2023. Waverley Council has a gas ban of internal use of gas on health grounds.

Upcoming activities in the LGA:

- 12 August launch of two new electric shuttle buses at Wentworth Point.
- 16 September clean-up along Toongabbie Creek – conjunction with World Clean-Up Day
- 16 September Councillor Darley is running a clean-up on Clean-Up Day with Clean Up Australia CEO and Chairperson attending
- 23 September PHIVE has its first birthday
- 24 September World Rivers Day, with RiverFest Day at Old Government House
- Participate Parramatta promoting Saturday community workshops for each ward.

10. CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS

The meeting closed at 7:09pm.

Next meeting date: Thursday 12 October 2023.

Venue: Church St Offices.

