

MANLY COMMUNITY FORUM

A community-led monthly newsletter for Manly residents

April 2023

Call for Police Action

Council unanimously passed a Notice of Motion last month to request the Police take action.

NOTICE OF MOTION NO 7/2023 - URGENT REQUEST FOR A SAFETY AUDIT OF ELECTRIC BIKE, ELECTRIC SCOOTER AND OTHER BIKE USAGE ON NORTHERN BEACHES SHARED PATHS, BIKE PATHS AND FOOTPATHS 068/23 RESOLVED

That:

1. The Northern Beaches Council Local Traffic Committee, in partnership with the Northern Beaches Police Area Command, conduct an urgent safety audit of electric bike, electric scooter, electric rollerblades, electric skateboards and other bike usage, on Northern Beaches shared paths, bike paths, and footpaths. The safety audit should include consideration of, but not be limited to:

- Speeding
- Shared path design models and factors
- Path separation versus segregation
- Advisory speed signage
- Education and communication campaign on electric bike, scooter and other bike legislative responsibilities
- Regulatory factors, including Council Ranger and Police operations to target noncompliance with road rules applicable to electric bikes, scooters and other bikes
- Review whether Council has appropriate regulatory powers to deal with unauthorised use of public space by cyclists/e-bikes (such as cycling on pedestrian footpaths).

2. The outcomes of the safety audit and the results of the Council's in NSW and ACT trials be reported back to Council as a matter of urgency, with recommendations to mitigate the increasing risks associated with these safety issues.

VOTING FOR: Unanimous



AGENDA

- Council updates
- Discussion on e-bikes
- Traffic and parking updates
- Marine Parade
- Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve

Manly Community Forum meeting
Monday 17 April 2023
7pm Manly Yacht Club

Chairperson: Cathy Griffin
contact via secretary@manlycommunityforum.com

Northern Beaches Bike Plan

Northern Beaches Council adopted a Bike Plan in 2020 which stated that 40% of residents had hopped on a bicycle in the last year, which is much higher than the 25% figure for greater Sydney. In 2023, on the Beaches, particularly in the Manly area, we see the community has embraced personal ownership of e-bikes and e-scooters, purchasing them in their hundreds, with young and old e-bike riders heading to the beach, school, the ferry and work each day.



OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON MONDAY 17 APR AT 7PM AT MANLY YACHT CLUB

join www.betterstreets.info - a local initiative to improve our community streets

E-bike, e-scooter and even e-rollerblades usage is increasing, along with escalating hysteria. As the bus route and timetable debacle continues, sales of e-bikes and e-scooters has exploded. Northern Beaches councillors have been interviewed and callers to talk back radio are demanding action on recalcitrant youth riding their new e-bikes to school, sporting venues and the beach, ignoring pedestrians and cars and their own safety along the way.

Local Manly Facebook pages are filled with stories of sightings of near misses with young people double dinking their friends with no helmets up and down the hilly roads of Manly and beyond. Complaints about poor parking behaviour around schools have now been replaced by complaints about e-bike riders rushing out of the school gates, endangering the community.

Everyone is getting on their e-bikes. Young parents have reduced the numbers of cars on the roads and the hassle of securing a parking spot at daycare centres and primary schools by adopting e-cargo bikes and e-bikes for their young passengers. These young passengers will learn to ride to school before long, contributing to increasing the number of bikes on the paths and roads. Even the bold and beautiful swimmers are now saving time and parking hassles by e-biking along the Manly ocean beach shared pathway to North Steyne.

No need for share bikes or other schemes

While in other local Council areas they are trialling various e-bike programmes, the Northern Beaches has thus far avoided the controversial e-bike and scooter sharing schemes that have seen lurid coloured e-bikes and e-scooters strewn all over the streets Transport for New South Wales, the City of Sydney and four e-bike providers, offered a free trial of e-bikes in Green Square, which allowed participants to take the e-bikes home throughout the trial period.

The aim was to encourage more residents to consider alternative transport options such as cycling.

No need for that in Manly. At least the private ownership of e-bikes means securing them at their destination and then taking them home rather than leaving them littering the streets with more abandoned clutter.



Here are some additional actions the Community Forum suggests be added to the Council Notice of Motion.

Council should:

1. Engage with its own Youth Advisory Group to develop an education and safe youth e-bike riding program and determine infrastructure needs.
2. Work with State Government departments, other than the Police, to ensure e-bike use continues to increase.
3. Engage with general local bike riding community to achieve a better outcome for the community.
4. Work with all high schools to ensure that appropriate infrastructure to facilitate better e-bike user experience and education is adequate. This should include safe e-bike parking areas, charging points, separate entry and exit points to the school grounds for e-bikes only. Driver safety is encouraged at high schools, why not safe e-bike riding?
5. Encourage all riders to consider obtaining insurance cover, both for accident as well as loss or damage to the bikes or other property.
6. Riders should be educated on safe e-bike battery maintenance and riding.
7. Map e-bike journeys and prioritise upgrading shared paths and roads to better accommodate all non-car driving users.
8. Continue reducing traffic speeds in residential areas to make the streets safer for all users.



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DRAFT YOUTH VOICE ACTION PLAN

The draft Youth Voice Plan presented to Council this month reflects work undertaken over the last 12 months to understand what it is like to be a young person on the Northern Beaches and supports young people to be more active contributors in community life.

The draft Plan outlines five years of action for youth development that will support and engage young people.

Key safety issues raised by young people during consultations included:

- Safety on public transport and in public spaces
- The importance of events and community connections
- Housing
- Online safety and how that links to mental health
- Alcohol and other drugs – the importance of role modelling by adults and the desire for opportunities to socialise in places that are alcohol-free.

The draft Youth Voice Action Plan was placed on public exhibition and community comment was invited from 1 December 2022 to 28 February 2023. Following the exhibition period and collation of responses,

Council will now consider the responses and refine the draft Action Plan in early 2023.



State Election 2023 results from NSW Electoral Commission Website

Congratulations to James Griffin on his re-election as the Member for Manly. Well done to the all candidates who stood. Despite the change in Government the results here were a resounding result for Mr Griffin.

We look forward to Mr Griffin representing and advocating for continuation of the significant projects in Manly including the former Manly Hospital site and the Manly Cove West former Aquarium site.

Preference count

Party / Candidate	Vote %	Votes
LIB GRIFFIN James	54.7%	22,760
IND HACKMAN Joeline	45.3%	18,842



Swing is based on the percentage change in voter support for the two preferred candidates between now and the previous election.

First preference

Party / Candidate	Vote %	Votes
LIB GRIFFIN James	45.0%	23,208
IND HACKMAN Joeline	27.3%	14,097
ALP THATCHER Jasper	12.8%	6,634
GRN LE ROUX Terry	8.9%	4,599
IND ALTMAN Phillip	2.6%	1,367
AJP MASON Bailey	2.0%	1,028
SAP PALETTO Emanuele	1.4%	697



303/45 West Esplanade, Manly - \$5,500,000



6/22 Malvern Avenue, Manly - \$785,000

Just sold - two fabulous apartments

Jake and his team have been having great success in selling properties not just in Manly but across the lower half of the Northern Beaches. We sell properties in all price ranges from entry level apartments to prestige homes.

If you are thinking of selling or would like an appraisal of your property, please give Jake a call on 0414 612 546.



Jake Rowe
jakerowe@theagency.com.au
0414 612 546

Experience sells



Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021

Brickbats & Bouquets

The Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 and accompanying Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Regulation 2022 came into force from 1 November 2022, helping to protect valuable public spaces across the State from abandoned and unattended items and animals. A grace period till 30 April 2023 applied and ends soon.

The new Act repeals the Impounding Act 1993 following the first comprehensive review since it was introduced more than a quarter of a century ago.

The new laws provide councils, other public land managers and police with stronger powers and penalties to rid our footpaths, streets, parks, bushland and waterways of abandoned and unattended property.

This includes shopping trolleys, bikes, kayaks, dinghies, and all registered vehicles (cars, trailers, caravans, boat trailers) being removed from public spaces after being left unattended in the same place for 28 days. The onus is on the owner to ensure items/vehicles are not left unattended. The grace period has now expired, and enforcement will commence from March 2023. Council is currently developing website information and notifications. The Office of Local Government developed a broader education program during the transition period.

The intention is that the community remove belongings from public spaces and store them on private property or commercial storage, not relocate to another public space

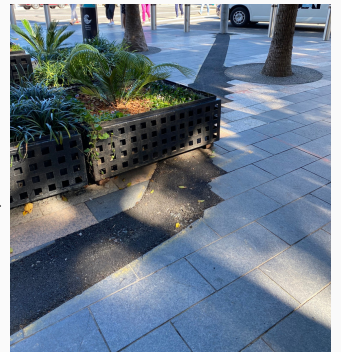


- **Bouquet** to all the election volunteers who conducted themselves in a very civil manner throughout the election campaign.

- **Brickbat** to Councillors who voted to reduce the annual recurrent funding to nil within three years for Community Northern Beaches (formerly Manly Community Centre). Harmonisation strikes again as it is proposed to redistribute the money in small \$5,000 amounts to untested new and emerging charity groups across the entire Northern Beaches. Lets hope there are some emerging charities that will provide services to the most vulnerable in the southern end of the Beaches. The impacted Charities are asking the community to write to the Council condemning the decision.

- **Brickbat** to Council and contractors who continue to mess up the Corso. The damaged paving should not be asphalted, but tiled and the entire Corso cleaned properly.

- **Bouquet** to the Council for installing the beautiful new flagpoles on the beachfront at the end of the Corso.



Save the Date 17 July 2023 Community Northern Beaches Christmas in July Fundraiser @ the MCF meeting

The Manly Community Forum will be hosting a **Christmas In July** function at the **17 July 2023 meeting**. All funds raised will be donated to the Community Northern Beaches.

You can also make a tax deductible donation to the Community Northern Beaches via their website <https://www.cnb.org.au/donate/>

Advertise here and support the local community
4000 monthly print run
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distributed on the Eastern Hill, Manly
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