



MANLY COMMUNITY FORUM

A community-led monthly newsletter for Manly residents

September 2022

Manly Business Chamber update

The Chief Executive of the Manly Business Chamber will be attending the September meeting. We look forward to a discussion on a number of topics that are of interest to both the community and the local businesses.

Discussions will include;

- The controversial Manly CBD Special Levy - the Chamber has been collaborating closely with Council to ensure that this Levy is spent investing in the infrastructure for Manly.
- Vacant business and retail premises in the CBD.
- Outdoor dining fees - in 2019 Outdoor Dining Fees contributed \$520k in revenue to Council from 42 businesses trading in a strong economy. These fees were waived over the past two years and now the Chamber is concerned that the \$1275 per sqm in the Manly CBD and Corso, which is significantly higher than what is paid in the CBD of Sydney, will be a huge challenge for Manly businesses as they get back on their feet and recover. Outdoor dining adds to the atmosphere of the Manly village but it is a challenge for a business to pay \$44k pa to make use of the space in front of their premises, particularly during winter and now a wet spring.
- Garbage storage, placement and collection in Market Lane.
- Council and non Council events - the Chamber is working closely with Council and other stakeholders to ensure events in Manly attract both locals and visitors into the local businesses.
- The future of Manly Town Hall.
- Maintenance of the Corso and other public spaces.

And we all want to know about the sink hole in the Corso which seems to get larger and larger by the day! But there are no updates!



AGENDA

- Traffic study on Eastern Hill
- Council Updates
- Manly Business Chamber
- Royal Far West Development Update
- Street Trees

Want something fixed?

Council encourages residents to report any issues they see in their area via the 'Customer Service' tab on the Northern Beaches Council website. Follow these steps and get some attention.

Take a photo on a phone, open the Northern Beaches website and upload it onto the Customer Service topic that the issue relates to. A Council officer will send an email confirming receipt and indicating the action they will take to resolve the matter.

Report anything, from potholes, parks where the grass hasn't been mowed, overflowing public bins, broken signs.

Anything that needs attention, take a photo and send it to Council.

Manly Jazz Festival

Don't miss it!

Fri 23 - Sun 25 September 2022

Australia's longest running jazz festival is returning to Manly this Spring!
3 days, 4 stages and over 70 artists.
Enjoy great music, local venues and food & drink.
Blues, Gospel & Swing.
Traditional New Orleans.
Funk, Latin & Fusion.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON MONDAY 19 SEPT AT 7PM AT MANLY YACHT CLUB

Eastern Hill Traffic Study update

Council recently adopted the Northern Beaches Road Safety Plan which follows the NSW Government's Safe System model and incorporates safe roads, safe speeds, safe vehicles, and safe people into a local Plan.

Manly's Eastern Hill will now be subject to close scrutiny under this process. Council staff from the Transport Network team will be commencing a study of the traffic on the Eastern Hill and develop a Plan for consideration by the Traffic Committee..

The primary role of the Road Safety Plan is to address behavioural issues relating to road safety. A safe, integrated, practical and efficient road network can be built but it needs to be understood by those who use it. Information, training and education are needed to ensure that all road users recognise their personal responsibilities when using the road and footpath network and how to model low-risk behaviour. A clear theme is to emphasise the shared responsibility by all road users.

At the August Forum meeting senior Council staff discussed with residents the proposal for a Road Safety Plan for the Eastern Hill

Under consideration is declaring the entire Eastern Hill area a 40kph zone, noting the CBD is already a 30kph zone. There appears to be considerable community support to see the speed limit reduced on several local Eastern Hill roads including Darley and Addison Roads as well as several feeder streets.

To support this action Council will complete the studies over the busy summer period on Darley Road and elsewhere on the Eastern Hill to determine vehicle types, including trucks, buses, cars and bicycles, speeds, and direction, as well as pedestrian movements including where they cross on the various roads.

Apart from signage, various other road safety treatments, such as raised pedestrian crossings, pedestrian safety refuges and assorted road markings will likely follow to encourage and then ensure compliance. All recommendations will be put to the community for comment and then the Traffic Committee for determination before installation.

The community provided an overview of the situation as it is now and raised a variety of issues for the Council to consider.

- Traffic, bicycle and pedestrian use has increased on Darley Road in the past 10 years. The Wastewater Treatment plant has increased its capacity and thus truck movements, and visitation to North Head has increased, St Paul's College has doubled its student population and consequently its bus and vehicle traffic. The ICMS student population will increase, the Roast Office has become a very popular cafe servicing the local community, and whilst the Manly Hospital may have closed, the traffic to the new Hospice and future construction site will be constant and likely increase.
- Bicycle use and rider compliance with the cycling laws such as dismounting when going across pedestrian crossings and helmet wearing are largely ignored. The community expressed concerns regarding the increased number of electric bikes speeding on roads and footpaths with impunity and little apparent regard for pedestrians. E-scooters and e-skateboards were singled out for particular criticism. It is noted that e-scooters and e-skateboards are illegal by virtue of the fact they are considered vehicles but do not comply with vehicle licence requirements for use of footpaths or roads in NSW.
- The speed and number of large trucks and buses traveling down Darley Road and other adjacent residential streets.
- Regular failure of traffic to slow and then stop at the pedestrian crossing on Darley Road at Ashburner St. This pedestrian crossing needs repainting and more timely maintenance.
- Too much signage, resulting in visual pollution, both on the road and signposts between Ashburner and Victoria Streets and elsewhere
- Specific concern was expressed regarding the intersection of Scenic Drive, Bluefish Drive and Darley Road, with vehicles, large and small, conflicting with cyclists and pedestrians.
- Staff assured the community that there would be no parking spaces sacrificed as part of this program. Narrowing roads at various points to encourage reducing speeds, speed humps would be a last resort to slow down the traffic.
- Staff agreed to immediately discuss speeding and other road safety issues, for which data has already been collected, with some identified groups of regular users of the Eastern Hill roads. This includes speaking directly to the garbage collection contractors, bus operators and the North Head Wastewater Treatment plant sludge truck drivers to improve the amenity and safety on our local roads.



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Too many signs on Darley Rd

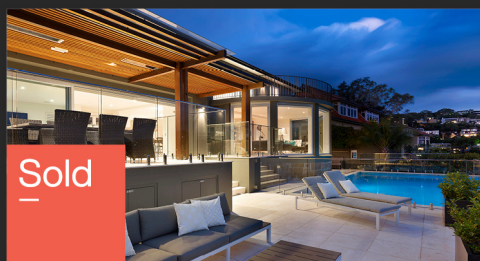


AUSGRID hut at Little Manly



The works continue apace at Little Manly Beach with a month to go before the steps are completed.

Work on the concrete path in front of the cafe will commence shortly and the demolition of number 40 Stuart St in Feb 2023. But what about the redundant AUSGRID redbrick building at the entrance to the beach? Similar AUSGRID buildings have been removed in a number of areas around Manly with the electrical systems enclosed in large green boxes and the area returned to public space. So why not at Little Manly? This building needs the rusty gutters replaced, graffiti removed, the sand and soil built up at the rear dug up. We have requested AUSGRID consider the future of this building.



4 Linkmead Avenue **Clontarf** - \$8,950,000



25/4-16 Kingsway **Dee Why** - \$940,000

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

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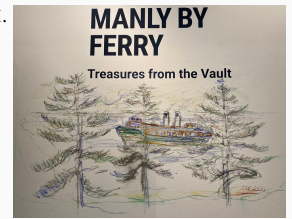
Black is the new cream



- **Bouquet** to Council for the removal and replacement of the old wooden but ubiquitous cream post and rail fencing on West Esplanade with recycled plastic 'mod wood'. We look forward to the painting of the new fence. The cream post and rail fencing in various locations far and wide around the Manly Ward marks the boundaries of our public areas, parks, public stairways and footpaths and we hope it remains a valued and well maintained asset.

Brickbats & Bouquets

- **Bouquet** to NSW Government for updating the bunting around the former Manly Hospital now announcing the Manly Health and Wellbeing Precinct. We await the details on the proposed Site masterplan.
- **Brickbat** to Sydney Water and the Property Section of the Catholic Church for refusing to work with the Council and the Community on the dreadful state of affairs that is the Marine Parade stormwater problem causing flooding of properties and the local footpaths to deteriorate.
- **Bouquets** to the Steyne Hotel for Friday their charity raffles. Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket in Community Northern Beaches raffle. If you missed this one at the Steyne Hotel on Friday night you can still donate via EFT to Community Northern Beaches Inc. BSB 032 096 AC 709335. Check the website cnb.org.au to see all their good work in the area. Thanks in advance.
- **Bouquet** to NP&Ws for completing the works and opening up North Head. Please remember it is a National Park and dogs are not permitted in our NSW National Parks. Bushcare volunteers welcome second Sunday of the month. BYO gardening gloves.
- **Bouquet** to Manly Art Gallery and Museum, a cultural facility of the Northern Beaches Council, for another fabulous exhibition Manly by Ferry Treasures from the Vault.



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