

2007 Local Action Plan INNER EAST

*“Families, kids, couples, wealthy,
poor, arty, academic, professional
and trades, who love the trees,
cafes, community, fashion and
being close to the City but not too
close.”*

- Surry Hills Community Voice

The villages around Centennial
and Moore Parks: East Redfern
Surry Hills, South and West
Paddington, Centennial Park and
the southern fringe of
Darlinghurst

city of villages

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To make comments or to seek further information on how to be involved contact Duncan Mitchell, Manager Local Action Plans at City of Sydney, GPO Box 1591, Sydney 2001, or by email - dmitchell@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

THE VISION

DELIVERING IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

“Close to the City and airport for work and close to the parks and beaches for leisure”

- The Community Voice

In 2005 the City established the Local Action Plan strategy to work with local communities to identify priorities for your area and develop an agreed action plan to implement them.

The Local Action Plan aims to make a difference through community partnerships, creative problem solving, targeted services and adequate funding. We hope that the identified actions will preserve what you love about your neighbourhood and address the problems you identified.

This project grew out of Council’s Strategic Plan, adopted in 2005 as a roadmap for our vision of Sydney as a prosperous, vibrant and liveable city. That plan set City-wide priorities for quality public domain, open space, facilities, urban environment, transport, sustainability, social equity and City leadership.

The Strategic Plan also committed us to work with all our local communities to identify, promote and enhance the distinctive character of our unique City of Villages. To make this ambitious project manageable, we mapped out eight zones across the City. These zones are simply administrative—their boundaries are flexible and we know that there are overlaps.

The City has now prepared the Local Action Plan for the Inner East zone for communities around Centennial and Moore Parks, including Surry Hills, East Redfern, South and West Paddington, Centennial Park and the southern fringe of Darlinghurst. The Local Action Plan has been developed following extensive consultation since January 2005 through community surveys and studies, plus discussion with resident focus groups, Councillors and many other interested people.

Local Action Plans are now complete for all areas of the City. Where work can be done within our current 2006/07 Budget, we will get started immediately.

There is still a lot of work to be done, but we are well on our way. Thank you for your involvement so far and I look forward to a continued partnership to complete and implement the Action Plan.



Clover Moore MP
Lord Mayor of Sydney

LOCAL ACTIONS DELIVERING A CITY-WIDE STRATEGY FOR SYDNEY

The City of Sydney's Strategic Plan 2006-2009 sets out an agreed agenda for the longer term direction of the City and the broad parameters within which Council operates. The plan is structured around seven key focus areas that encompass all of Council's activities and responsibilities. They are:

1. Quality Urban Environment	Improving residential amenity and sustainable growth
2. City Economy	Contributing to prosperity at a local and global level
3. Environmental leadership	Working towards long term sustainability
4. Community and social equity	Supporting diversity, character and vitality
5. Transport and accessibility	Improving public transport, parking and traffic
6. Improved public domain and facilities	Providing quality streetscapes and parks
7. Leadership and governance	Providing open, accountable, inclusive and transparent governance

Copies of the Strategic Plan can be found on the City of Sydney website at the following address:
www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/Council/FormsPoliciesPublication/StrategicPlan.asp

Council is now taking its strategic plans and goals to the neighbourhood level, through the Local Action Plans. The plans have been developed for each of the eight interrelated consultation zones within the City of Sydney Local Government Area, acting as a local framework for the delivery of the City-wide strategy.

Go to the following City of Sydney website address for more details and street map:
www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/laps.

ONGOING CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community suggestions from the Local Action Plans that develop into specific projects will require further consultation on detail on a project by project basis. As projects develop, further community forums in 2007 will outline opportunities for community involvement in Local Action Plan initiatives. The City's grants program will also provide opportunities to assist in a range of areas.

As part of the regular Community Forums, opportunities for community involvement in Local Action Plan initiatives will be outlined and feedback will be sought on progress in every zone.

Have Your Say

The City looks forward to your continued involvement in the Inner East Local Action Plan. Contributions and comments can be sent by post to Duncan Mitchell, Project Manager, GPO Box 1591 Sydney 2001, or email to LAPS@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

HOW YOU SEE YOUR COMMUNITY

“We moved here to be able to reduce cars by one, walk to work rather than bus two hours a day ... we love the leafy streets and quirky community feel”

- Surry Hills Community Voice

The people of the Inner East enjoy the vital open space resource of Centennial and Moore Parks on one side, with the vitality of the CBD on the other. These communities of Surry Hills, East Redfern, South and West Paddington, Centennial Park and the southern fringe of Darlinghurst are diverse and distinctive, including heritage homes and public housing; a significant Chinese population and strong gay community; with many short-term renters and long-time residents.

Surry Hills - once a suburb of workers' terraces, factories and warehouses - has undergone significant transformation over recent decades. Conversion of Crown Street from one-way traffic to the village main street, along with the planned library and community facilities, has provided a community heart for the area. Crown Street now hosts a number of headline restaurant establishments, with great food on offer from many cultures on Cleveland Street.

West Surry Hills is home to a strong Chinese community, with the distinctive 14-storey Northcott public housing estate home to around 1000 people from 50 countries. Ward Park provides a valued oasis in this densely populated area. Restored heritage terraces, converted warehouses and new apartments are popular with professionals, students, families and baby boomers. Residents value the quiet tree-lined streets, and the removal of fast through traffic from Bourke Street has reinforced that area's reputation as the "Paris end of Surry Hills".

West of Riley Street, the traditional rag trade area now has more wholesale and retail outlets than manufacturing. The area is a new hub for offices for media, design and professional services that has emerged in a cluster around News Limited, the Australia Council for the Arts and the Australian Opera. Converted warehouses and terraces provide professional offices with a funky alternative to traditional CBD office tower space.

The Surry Hills community enjoys all their neighbourhood has to offer, especially the bustling monthly Surry Hills markets in Shannon Reserve. With Prince Alfred Park (which is about to be revitalised with a major upgrade to the park pool and sporting facilities), Moore and Centennial Parks, the CBD, Chinatown, Oxford Street and Central Station all in easy walking distance, local residents and workers also celebrate their access to the best of City life. The local community values the existing character and isn't looking for major changes.

East Redfern is a lively residential neighbourhood, similar to neighbouring Surry Hills, while maintaining links to Redfern's Department of Housing and Indigenous communities. Redfern East retains much of its historic architecture while gaining contemporary apartments. The Edmund Resch Reserve and pedestrian crossing to Moore Park provide an important community focus. A short walk away are the shops and restaurants of Crown and Cleveland Streets, and the new Danks Street arts and eating precinct.

South Darlinghurst, which links Oxford Street with Surry Hills and Paddington, is home to apartment blocks, retail shops and an oasis of historic terraces between busy Flinders, Oxford and South Dowling Streets. The community sees itself as a central, tolerant inner urban, gay and lesbian village. The community enjoys all that Oxford Street offers in cinemas, bars, cafes and gay-friendly life. The distinctive character of Oxford Street, along with links to the National Art School in Darlinghurst and the College of Fine Arts in Paddington, add an authentic, creative, Bohemian edge to the Inner East. This is a community with a strong voice.

South and West Paddington, while divided from the rest of the suburb by the Oxford Street council boundary, maintain a strong and distinctive Paddington character, linked by friendly communities, the splendour of the heritage terraces, and leafy tree-lined streets. Historic Victoria Barracks divides the area, helping create strong communities that quickly mobilise to defend their neighbourhood, reflecting the tradition of activism that has preserved Paddington as Australia's most intact Victorian village.

The community values all the area has to offer including the cultural life, cinemas and the bookshops of Oxford Street, as well as the expanse of Moore and Centennial Parks as places to exercise, walk or take the dog. The community seeks a cooperative relationship with the educational institutions, markets, entertainment and sporting venues that offer much for residents and visitors, but can threaten the valued quiet, residential character of the area.

Centennial Park, carved off from the parklands in 1905 to fund the park's development, is a unique garden suburb. Residents cherish the grandeur of the Victorian and Edwardian mansions that overlook Centennial Park, forming a unique streetscape in the City. Although local action in the 1970s protested high-rise flats as out of character for the parklands precinct, residents of Cook Road apartments now form an integral part of the local community and value the parks' close proximity. Residents enjoy the beauty and breathing space provided by the formal Victorian character of Centennial Park and the open space and playing fields of Moore Park. The suburb is predominantly residential, without a retail main street, and residents value the proximity to Centennial Park and Moore Park, Oxford Street, the CBD and Bondi Junction.

INNER EAST IN FOCUS

SNAPSHOT OF SURRY HILLS, EAST REDFERN, PADDINGTON, MOORE PARK, CENTENNIAL PARK and DARLINGHURST

“The ability to be yourself and no one else bothers you. Allows you freedom and independence”

-Darlinghurst Community Voice

Figures are area-based on the 2001 census. 2006 Census figures will be added when available. Figures for City East are an aggregate for Surry Hills, Moore Park, East Redfern, Paddington, Centennial Park and Darlinghurst.

Population 21,433

The traditional custodians of the Inner East area are the Gadigal people. The proportion of Indigenous residents in the Inner East is small but equal to that of most areas of metropolitan Sydney.

The population density is more than six times greater than the average for metropolitan Sydney. In the five years to 2001 there was a 17.7 per cent increase in population. The increase from 2001 to 2006 is estimated to be 9.4 per cent, declining to around 2.9 per cent from 2006 to 2011.

Urban density

The percentage of children in the Inner East area is marginally lower than the average for the City of Sydney. The area has a significant transient population, particularly of young people. The net migration in the 20-24 year age group between 1996 and 2001 was almost 200 per cent. With a large gay community, more men than women live in the Inner East, with a majority of residents born in Australia.

Chinese is second to English in the Inner East

The most spoken language after English is Chinese, followed by Greek. However, English is the dominant language as a comparatively small number of residents in the Inner East speak other languages.

Educated and employed

A well educated population, nearly 30 per cent of residents hold a bachelor degree or higher degree. The area has higher levels of relative advantage than the City of Sydney and metropolitan Sydney as a whole. Nearly 25 per cent of residents work in the property and business services sectors. Between 1996 and 2001, the labour force of the Inner East increased by 1,750, with 20 per cent of residents working in the Inner East area.

Most common households

Nearly 60 per cent of the Inner East residents live in family households (including same sex relationships), 20 per cent live alone and 20 per cent live in group households. More than half the households in the Inner East rent privately, while 38 per cent either own or are purchasing their home.

High use of public transport

More than 20 per cent of City East residents walk to work—more than five times the average for Sydney overall. One third of residents use public transport compared to only 14 per cent for metropolitan Sydney. More than 40 per cent of households do not own a car, with the average number of cars per household being less than one.

Parks and places for recreation

There are 6.4 square metres of open space per person for recreation, excluding Centennial and Moore Parks which provide for regional usage.

IN CONVERSATION WITH THE COMMUNITIES OF INNER EAST

*“Village atmosphere, community,
shops close by, historic houses
and greenery”*

Paddington Community Voice

During 2006, the City of Sydney Council set out to have a conversation with the Inner East community to identify the hopes, ideals and needs of local residents and business communities of Surry Hills, East Redfern, East and West Paddington, Centennial Park and the southern fringe of Darlinghurst.

Council will deliver in a number of ways:

- Directly through its policy and planning powers
- Directly as a service provider
- Collaboratively through community partnerships
- As an advocate for the community
- Through cooperation with State and Federal Governments, and the private sector.

Through a City-wide household survey, Council gathered information identifying the neighbourhood's unique qualities deserving of protection and enhancement, suggested improvements, recreation and services needs. The significant qualities valued by the Inner East community in the householder survey and consultation are *“diversity of community, neighbourliness, proximity, access to parks, tree lined streets and heritage buildings, and the ability to walk not drive.”*

SHARED COMMUNITY VALUES

“While very close to everything in Sydney, with Centennial Park nearby, it feels like we are in almost a rural environment”

Centennial Park Community Voice

As a result of City’s review of the material gathered in the consultation period, shared community values have been developed as a framework for the long-term revitalisation of the Inner East. Below is a snapshot of what people in the Inner East indicated were their community values and aspirations as well as some of the suggested ideas that reflect them.

Shared Values	Community requests
<p>Diversity of community <i>“An eclectic mix of people, families, kids, couples, wealthy, poor, arty, academic, professional and trades.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved programs for the young and old in the community, such as community gardens and mentoring Events to celebrate the diversity and creativity of local people Bring residents together to strengthen and build friendly neighbourhoods Responsible pet ownership through education programs and facilities in parks
<p>Celebrating heritage and community stories <i>“The terrace houses should be protected and the little streets with an old Sydney feel.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand the City’s program of heritage and interpretative signage, plaques and public art Restore heritage buildings
<p>Green streets and village greens <i>“Nearby parks attract a variety of bird life...and are a welcome sanctuary.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading and care of the area’s parks and gardens Activities at Prince Alfred Park, Shannon Reserve, Ward Park and Edmund Resch Reserve to build community Street planting on verges and in planters More and better community gathering places
<p>Cultural and creative partnerships <i>“It’s a culture that is rather funky, hip and urbane with respect to various ethnic, religious, non religious and sexual orientations.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support GLBTQ enterprises, organisations and initiatives Youth engagement strategy Economic development strategies
<p>People before cars <i>“We moved here to be able to reduce cars by one, walk to work rather than bus two hours a day.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved and increased bus services, with community transport to meet transport gaps Lighting and pavement improvements Safer and better connected cycle routes Better management of traffic, parking, speed limits and noise, around major event destinations Improved pedestrian links to Centennial and Moore Parks, Central Station and the City Provide light rail to the CBD

SUGGESTIONS FROM THE FROM THE COMMUNITY OF INNER EAST

These are some of the local community's suggested projects for community building and revitalising the villages of Surry Hills, East Redfern, South and West Paddington, Centennial Park and the southern fringe of Darlinghurst.

Priority project: creating a lively Oxford Street retail and cultural precinct

Oxford Street presents many opportunities for residents and visitors seeking a cultural experience, with iconic bookstores, design shops, fashion outlets, cafes, restaurants, art house cinemas, galleries, markets and stunning heritage buildings.

Oxford Street's distinctive character and culture will be strengthened through projects extending from Hyde Park to Centennial Park, in conjunction with the local community, local educational and cultural institutions and traders. A central focus will be on developing the street's existing strength as a cultural precinct.

Work will continue with the Darlinghurst Business Partnership and the Paddington Chamber of Commerce and key cultural institutions—including COFA, the National Arts School and Object Gallery—and in co-ordination with the Woollahra Council, to implement strategies to increase the street's vitality.

Building on the City's \$24 million Oxford Street upgrade in Darlinghurst, new public art will celebrate the area's gay and lesbian community, heritage character and vibrant cultural life.

Priorities include Council-owned properties on Oxford Street restored for local shopping needs; Paddington Reservoir and Walter Read Reserve restored in the civic precinct opposite the Paddington Town Hall and the Chauvel Cinema; community cultural events around Taylor Square, with landscaping to improve safety and amenity at Gilligan's Island; and a \$5 million upgrade in Paddington, with improved footpaths, more trees and street furniture.

Linked projects in side streets will strengthen the revitalisation, such as Darlinghurst's Foley Street transformed into an attractive City lane; Surry Hill's Mary Place Memorial to a lesbian woman who suffered assault restored; and community activities in the new St Margaret's precinct. Marshall Street reserve near the Academy Twin Cinema will be upgraded and the Barcom Avenue park redevelopment completed. Council will continue to support the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade and Festival, which annually showcases Oxford Street and its gay and lesbian identity.

This project will take a multi-faceted approach involving community, artists, urban designers, traffic engineers, heritage planners, cultural planners, landscape architects and graphic designers.

Priority project: enhance southern Crown Street, from Cleveland Street to Shannon Reserve and the new library and community facilities.

The active Crown Street precinct in Surry Hills will be improved in consultation with local residents and retailers, through initiatives such as tree planting, lighting, seating, footpath improvements, shared zones and public art, both along Crown Street and on immediately adjacent side streets.

This project will build on strong support for Crown Street as a village main street, with a mix of distinctive stores, cafés, restaurants, entertainment and local shopping. It will improve gathering spaces, such as the upgraded Shannon Reserve, pedestrian and cycling access to the City's new \$14 million Richard Frances Jones designed library, and child care and community facilities on the corner of Crown and Collins Streets.

Council will investigate calming traffic through pedestrian shared zones and footpath widening, particularly at the intersection of Crown and Devonshire Streets. A focal point will be the busy Cleveland, Crown and Baptist Street intersection, in front of the Surry Hills/Redfern shopping centre, an important local shopping and meeting place for the people of Surry Hills and East Redfern. The project will explore opportunities to increase pedestrian access and safety, improving landscape and calming traffic.

Other projects suggested by your community

- **Surry Hills traffic** – a local traffic management study to investigate traffic calming throughout Surry Hills, particularly through restoring two-way traffic on Albion and Foveaux Streets, extending 40 kph speed limits, and more shared zones.
- **Centennial Park traffic** – review traffic calming, speed limits, parking and truck routes around Fox Studios and the sports stadia.
- **Edmund Resch Reserve** – landscaping improvements for this important community park in East Redfern.
- **Harmony/Hollywood precinct** – create a community focal point around the new Harmony Park at Campbell Street through activities to bring people together, an improvement plan for surrounding streets and footpaths, and strengthening the growing design and eatery identity of the adjacent Hollywood precinct.
- **Pedestrian networks** – improve walking paths to Centennial and Moore Parks, Central Station and the CBD through upgraded footpaths, more trees, lighting, public art and heritage interpretation.
- **Adopt a street/lane** – work with neighbourhoods to reclaim laneways by greening, cleaning, lighting and improving safety.
- **Community garden** – investigate activities, particularly near Northcott, to bring young and older residents together to build mutual respect.

Short, Medium and Long-Term Schedule

The tables below provide a snapshot of the priority list of requests received from the community and how and when the City aims to undertake various projects.

The timelines are:

- Short term/underway – now
- Medium term – 2008 – 2009
- Longer term – 2010 and beyond

THE PLAN

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
1.	Creating a lively Oxford Street cultural precinct	<p>Work with local residents, businesses and cultural institutions on a sustainable revitalisation plan.</p> <p>Initiate a vacant shop front project, based on similar initiatives elsewhere, to showcase the work of emerging artists.</p> <p>Develop an incentive strategy to attract young designers and artists to the area.</p> <p>Work with the gay and lesbian community on identity and cultural strategies.</p> <p>Develop new public art and interpretative signage to reinforce local character.</p> <p>Improve Taylor Square's safety and amenity, including landscaping for Gilligan's Island.</p> <p>Restore Paddington's Walter Read Reserve as parkland and the underground reservoir for cultural events.</p> <p>Restore the Mary Place Memorial to assaulted lesbian women, adjacent St Margaret's.</p>	Underway Short to Long term	<p>Oxford Street has key cultural institutions such as the College of Fine Arts (COFA), the National Arts School and Object Gallery, as well as iconic bookstores, design shops, fashion outlets, cafes, restaurants, art house cinemas, galleries, markets and heritage buildings. It has a distinctive gay and lesbian character.</p> <p>The project will link with related strategies in this Local Action Plan and expand on key City initiatives already underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The \$24 million Oxford Street upgrade is extended with colourful banners, hanging flower planters and reduced footpath licensing fees to encourage outdoor dining. - Walter Read Reserve landscaped and linked to the John Thompson Reserve, with the heritage-listed underground reservoir restored for cultural activities. - Council's Oxford Street buildings from Riley to Crown Streets upgraded with a retail mix for local residents' needs, as stage one of a broader redevelopment. - Proposals sought for reuse of the old toilet block at Taylor Square and the fountain returned to full use. - Council supported the Chauvel as a home for Australian films and quality art house cinema following its previous closure, adding to Academy Twin and Verona Cinemas. - New and upgraded parks along the route, including Barcom Avenue, Marshall Street and Harmony Park, with a comprehensive \$37 million plan to guide Hyde Park's long term future. - Seven new CCTV cameras have been installed in the Darlinghurst precinct, and work continues with Police and the Anti Violence Project. <p>Council will continue work with the Darlinghurst Business Partnership and the Paddington Chamber of Commerce, as well as Woollahra Council, state and federal authorities, and the private sector, to build on the revitalisation.</p>

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
2	Support the revitalisation of Crown Street as a local “main street”.	<p>Improve Crown Street from the new library/community facilities to the Surry Hills/Redfern shopping centre through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tree-planting - Lighting - Seating - Improved paving - Improved pedestrian amenity - Public art 	Medium to Long term	<p>Crown Street and Cleveland Street are an established meeting area, restaurant and shopping destination. Council can re-enforce this by making the precinct more pedestrian-friendly and accessible for pavement cafés and street life.</p> <p>Priority areas for investigation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In front of the shopping centre on Cleveland Street, which people find unsafe and ugly. - The corner of Crown and Devonshire Streets, a popular pedestrian crossing point in the middle of the strip. - Between the library/community facilities and Shannon Reserve, an important community gathering area.
3	Harmony Park Surry Hills as a community gathering space	<p>Develop a program of activities to draw people to use and enjoy the new Harmony Park.</p> <p>Develop an improvement plan for surrounding streets and footpaths to improve access and safety.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Medium to Long term</p>	<p>The \$3.6 million, 7000 square metre Harmony Park in Surry Hills, the first new park in the City in several decades, opened in November 2006. The park's benefits can be extended by community activities and improvements to surrounding streets that make access safer and easier.</p> <p>The project will link with proposals for the adjacent emerging Hollywood/Foster Street design and café precinct.</p>
4	Support the new “Hollywood” design and eating precinct	<p>Work with local businesses to develop an identity for the precinct around the Hollywood Hotel, linked with community and cultural uses in the new Harmony Park.</p> <p>Review footpaths, parking and traffic.</p> <p>Identify and support the cultural precincts of the City, as part of the City's strategy to market the villages of Sydney.</p>	Medium to Long term	<p>The area from the new Harmony Park and landmark Hollywood Hotel to the Teachers Federation building on Reservoir Street, Surry Hills, is an evolving design and café precinct. An opportunity exists for local business to promote the food and design focus.</p> <p>The City is completing a Cultural Plan as part of a City-wide focus on building Sydney's profile for arts, culture, design and creativity.</p>
5	Landscape Walter Read Reserve as a public park.	Complete the project to landscape and restore access to the Walter Read Reserve.	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short to Medium term</p>	In 2007, the City will begin construction to landscape the Walter Read Reserve and link it to the adjacent John Thompson Reserve. The heritage-listed underground reservoir space will be restored for cultural activities and integrated into the park through a sunken terraced garden.

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
6	Develop a new arts piazza adjacent the College of Fine Arts (COFA)	Work with COFA, art and cultural institutions, local residents and businesses to prepare a plan for the proposed arts piazza.	Medium term	The College of Fine Arts has proposed a new piazza on Oxford Street adjacent Greens Road and Napier Street as part of a cultural precinct, and as a visual and physical link between Oxford Street and the University.
7	Plant trees on Gilligan’s Island	Review planting, design and use of Taylor Square as part of developing an Oxford Street cultural precinct. In early 2007 the City is implementing a temporary public domain design strategy with Object Gallery as an initial step in establishing the cultural precinct concept.	Short to Medium term	Council is exploring ways to re-establish Taylor Square as an active community space. Ideas include street carts selling flowers, coffee and magazines, exhibition spaces and expanding existing pavement café areas. The design review will consider crime prevention through design. A safety audit of Oxford Street is being undertaken.
8	Improve safety on Oxford Street	Provide additional City Ranger patrols in conjunction with advocacy for increased Police on the beat. Review safety strategies to revitalise the Oxford Street precinct.	Underway Short term	Council has recently installed seven new CCTV cameras in and around Oxford Street, Darlinghurst. Council is working with police and the Anti Violence Project to develop safety improvements for Oxford Street. Safety initiatives are a particular focus for the Council’s Gay and Lesbian project officer.
9	Make the lanes in Paddington, Surry Hills and Darlinghurst safer and more attractive	Develop a community based “adopt your lane” program to involve residents and businesses in creating green streets and improved safety. Support the Surry Hills Licensing Accord with Police, Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing, Australian Hotels Association and licences to improve safety. Alcohol Free Zones were implemented in October 2006.	Underway Short to Long term	Existing models such as McElhone Place in Surry Hills and the “love your lane” program can be adapted. Council advice can be provided to ensure successful planting and maintenance. Community partnerships could include annual street parties and crime watch. The City is doing a major project throughout the Inner East to replant and upgrade traffic islands and footpath verges. Extensive street tree planting is being done by Council, with 1770 additional trees city-wide in 2006, adding to the 25,000 street trees already in City of Sydney. Council is developing a new Development Control Plan that includes a design element focusing on safer by design, and Council planners work regularly with police and undertake safer by design training run by NSW Police.

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
10	Improve safety and amenity on the laneways behind Taylor Square and Campbell Street	<p>Review parking controls and improve enforcement.</p> <p>Advocate increased Police on the beat.</p> <p>Support the Surry Hills Licensing Accord with Police, Office of Liquor Gaming and Racing, Australian Hotels Association and licences to improve safety.</p> <p>New Alcohol Free Zones have been introduced to deal with some alcohol-related problems.</p>	Underway Short to Long term	<p>Council is developing a new consolidated Development Control Plan which includes a focus on designing for safety.</p> <p>Council planners undertake “safer by design” training run by Police. Council has protocols with Police, where planners meet with Police on development applications that may have a crime and safety risk.</p> <p>The potential impact of Oxford Street entertainment venues on adjacent areas will be considered in Oxford Street revitalisation strategies.</p>
11	Reduce noise from late night entertainment venues and associated undesirable behaviour	<p>Undertake joint campaigns with Police, the NSW Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing and other agencies to improve the compliance and behaviour of licensed premises and their patrons.</p> <p>Increase resources in Council's Licensed Premises Unit.</p>	Short to Medium term	The City is also preparing a Night Trading Development Control Plan (DCP) to provide better land use controls and management options for future developments, including the amenity impacts of Place of Public Entertainment (POPE) proposals.

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
12	Revitalise Frog Hollow	Complete approved Stage 2 improvements including: - Lighting - Planting - Pathways - Seating	Underway	Stage one of the Frog Hollow upgrade was completed in 2005 to provide improved access and lighting. Stage two of the \$1.6 million upgrade is now underway to provide new ramped access from Albion Street, interpretative signage for the site's heritage, new native trees, and more level grass surfaces to make the space more useable.
13	Safe access and pedestrian connections to Centennial and Moore Park	Review pedestrian routes to upgrade footpaths, crossings and directional signage. Investigate improved pedestrian access across Anzac Parade.	Short to Long term	Walking routes to Centennial and Moore Parks are used by residents and many visitors attending sporting and entertainment events in the precinct. Well planned walking paths can reduce impacts on residents. New pedestrian crossings require the support of the Roads and Traffic Authority, which has previously refused a signalised pedestrian crossing over Anzac Parade where the walking paths through Moore Park should meet. Council is developing a City-wide Pedestrian Strategy.
14	Improve pedestrian routes through the Inner East	Complete the City-wide Pedestrian Strategy currently being developed, with a focus on routes regularly used by residents and visitors to the Inner East. Develop a pilot project for the Inner East to focus on basic upgrades, including footpath resurfacing, ramps and lighting, as well as creative improvements such as heritage and directional signage or community developed public artwork.	Short to Long term	To make walking routes more attractive and interesting, this project can include signage that provides directions and reflects the area's heritage, culture and character. This pilot project will take a multi-disciplinary approach involving, community, artists, urban designers, traffic engineers, heritage planners, cultural planners, landscape architects and graphic designers. The project will focus on major walking routes to Centennial and Moore Parks, Central Station, the CBD and Oxford Street.

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
15	Improve Prince Alfred Park	<p>Deliver improvements to the park in 2007. Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pool - Seating - Playground improvements - Lighting and pathways - café - skateboard facility 	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short to Long term</p>	<p>Prince Alfred Park is an important open space and recreation resource for Surry Hills and Redfern. The \$11 million redevelopment in 2007 will deliver new tennis and basketball courts, a skate park, fitness and play equipment, barbecues and an upgraded pool.</p> <p>Pool buildings will be relocated to the north with a new toddler's splash deck, pool and skate administration area, toilets, cafe/kiosk, multipurpose room, change rooms, plant and store.</p> <p>The Coronation Centre will be refurbished to include tennis management and a community use, with environmental sustainability measures for drought proofing.</p>
16	Elizabeth and Chalmers Street improvements and safe links to Prince Alfred Park	<p>Prepare an urban design study for Elizabeth and Chalmers Streets, with a focus on safe links and walking connections to Prince Alfred Park, Central Station and Chinatown.</p>	<p>Medium to Long term</p>	<p>Council will work with the community and businesses to identify issues and solutions through urban design, pedestrian and traffic management and business development strategies.</p> <p>A program of CCTV cameras is in place in the City to monitor hot spots. A CCTV camera has been installed at the entrance to Devonshire Street pedestrian tunnel at Central Station.</p>
17	Upgrade parks and playgrounds of Redfern East	<p>Review local small parks and reserves to develop plans to make the playgrounds and recreational places in Redfern East more usable.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short, Medium and Long term</p>	<p>New planting, improved lighting and facilities are underway for Hansom Cab Place, Marriot Street Reserve and James Street Reserve.</p> <p>Council has completed a City-wide Open Space and Recreation Needs Study.</p>
18	Revitalise Edmund Resch Reserve	<p>Develop and implement landscaping improvements in consultation with the local community.</p>	<p>Underway</p>	<p>Edmund Resch Reserve provides an important community focal point for Redfern East and access to the well used pedestrian bridge to Moore Park over South Dowling Street.</p>

No	COMMUNITY REQUEST	ACTION	TIMING	COMMENT
19	Trees and improved lighting for the Cleveland Street	Prepare streetscape study to improve: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lighting - Pedestrian access - Cycle safety - Trees - Work with owners to reinstate awnings 	Medium to Long term	This project will be undertaken in conjunction with the Crown Street revitalisation project, which will include a focus on the Crown, Baptist and Cleveland Streets corner. The City has initiated a Cycle Strategy and a City-wide Pedestrian Plan is being developed.
20	A new neighbourhood centre for the Surry Hills community	Create a community focal point on Crown Street through completion of the new library, child care and community facilities and an upgrade of Shannon Reserve.	Underway Short term	Construction begins this year on the new \$14 million, four level library childcare and community facilities in Crown Street, designed by Richard Francis Jones with leading environmentally sustainability features. Activities and services will meet contemporary community needs and add to the village hub of Crown Street and Shannon Park, with a continuing focus on the needs of residents in adjacent Nortcott.
21	Provide social services for all in the community, particularly the most vulnerable.	Continue to work with local service providers and to identify changing needs as part of Neighbourhood Centre planning. Complete a Community Facilities Plan. Implement recommendations in the City of Sydney Social Plan. Advocate with the Department of Housing and Health on behalf of City residents.	Short to Medium term	The City is undertaking a major facilities review. A short term focus is on the needs of the aged. The Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre will provide services and meeting rooms for community activities and a child care centre and library. The City jointly funds with the Department of Housing the “Inner City Homelessness Outreach and Support Service” (ICHOSS) and provides the most extensive services for homeless persons of any Council in NSW. Council is developing a Community Facilities Plan and is implementing strategies in the City of Sydney Social Plan.

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22	A children's garden as part of an expanded community garden program	<p>Review of distribution and provision of community gardens will occur in 2007.</p> <p>Explore sites for establishing a community garden for the Inner East, particularly in the vicinity of Northcott.</p> <p>Promote participation in the existing community garden scheme.</p>	Underway Short to Medium term	<p>Funding can be provided for a community project through the City's existing environmental grants.</p> <p>A children's garden can provide a safe place for families and children to grow flowers, herbs and vegetables, learning about the cycle of plant life. Council will work with the community to identify a suitable site.</p>
23	Manage the impacts of drugs and alcohol on local neighbourhoods	<p>Continue to work closely with drug and alcohol service providers in the area.</p> <p>Assist in improving communications between drug and alcohol services and the community.</p> <p>Implement the street drinking strategy and review the effectiveness of Alcohol Free Zones.</p>	Underway	<p>Particular problems exist in areas of Surry Hills with services providing support to people with drug and alcohol problems. Council provides ongoing monitoring and liaison with the service providers to deal with local neighbourhood impacts.</p> <p>Council has also developed a draft strategy to control and minimise impacts of street drinking. New Alcohol Free Zones have been implemented in know problem areas.</p> <p>Council will continue to work with the Police and is a member of PACT (Police Accountability Community Team), which meets quarterly, to monitor and develop strategies to address issues.</p>
24	Address traffic problems in Surry Hills	<p>Prepare a new Local Area Traffic Management Plan, including:</p> <p>Expanded 40 kph zones to complement work done following the Eastern Distributor's opening</p> <p>Investigate more shared zones to calm traffic</p> <p>Threshold treatments for Marshall Street and shared zones in laneways adjoining</p> <p>Investigate the return of Albion Street and Foveaux Street to two-way traffic as part of the Surry Hills LATM</p>	Short to Long term	<p>A range of traffic, pedestrian, parking and transport issues were raised by residents in Surry Hills. A Local Area Traffic Management Scheme will investigate these issues in an integrated way to develop solutions that don't just transfer problems to surrounding streets.</p>

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25	Traffic management around major events facilities	<p>Work with the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust, Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust and other State Authorities on precinct-wide strategies.</p> <p>Review the resident parking scheme, parking controls and enforcement in the Centennial Park precinct and adjacent affected areas.</p> <p>Review traffic calming, traffic speeds, truck routes, cycle links, pedestrian links and public transport for Centennial Park.</p> <p>Increase Council Ranger patrols during peak times.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short to Long term</p>	<p>Council is developing a City-wide Integrated Transport Strategy to develop long-term strategies to address problems.</p> <p>State Government support will be required for effective solutions, such as improved public transport such as light rail and public transport integrated with event ticketing.</p>
26	Enforce speed limits	<p>Advocate to local Police for improved enforcement of speed limits.</p> <p>Develop Local Area Traffic Management Plans with traffic calming devices and shared zones to help control speeding.</p> <p>Review laneway speeds.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short term</p>	<p>Enforcement of speed limits is the responsibility of NSW Police.</p> <p>As part of Local Area Traffic Management Plan, physical traffic management can be used to calm traffic. Speed limits can also be reviewed.</p>
27	Introduce a light rail system to the City	<p>Advocate for light rail City-wide.</p>	<p>Short to Long term</p>	<p>Council has undertaken extensive research in support of light rail, committed funding to assist with its implementation, and will continue to advocate to the State Government for improved public transport services.</p> <p>Two new independent studies, commissioned by the City of Sydney, identify Castlereagh Street as the preferred route for CBD. In conjunction with integrated ticketing and State government subsidies, this route linking Central Station and Circular Quay could service 10 million passengers and generate up to \$9 Million in annual revenue. This route could half bus travel times in peak periods. At an estimated cost of \$92 million plus contingencies this service could be in place within two years with joint Government funding</p>

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28	Reduce residential parking problems	<p>Support and promote car share schemes.</p> <p>Develop and implement alternate transport methods.</p> <p>Review on street parking in areas where opportunities are identified to safely and practically increase available parking space.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short to Long term</p>	<p>Despite high demand, there is a limited on-street parking space in the Inner East. Council aims to reduce problems by promoting alternative transport options, effective parking enforcement, maximising on-street parking and discouraging commuter parking.</p> <p>Council's resident parking schemes and availability of on-street parking space are governed by RTA requirements.</p> <p>Council has committed to supporting car sharing and is working on a community bus service and alternative transport strategies to meet local needs.</p>
29	Establish bicycle paths to reduce pollution and traffic congestion, as well as improve the health of residents	<p>Establish a network of bicycle routes to connect the Inner East to the CBD and local parks.</p> <p>Manage City streets to become safer for cycling.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short to Medium term</p>	<p>The City has completed a City-wide Cycle Strategy. Pedestrian and Access Plans will be completed. Both will be implemented as part of the Council's capital works improvement program.</p> <p>Improve security and the experience of walking safely through the city through a range of planning and design strategies.</p> <p>Council will continue to review the need for bike and motor cycle parking.</p> <p>Council will develop strategy and implementation plan for a sustainable walking city for Sydney as part of the Vision 2030 process.</p>
30	Ensure buses have the capacity to pick up people at all stops	<p>Advocate to the State for improved and expanded bus services for the Inner East area.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short to Medium term</p>	<p>Bus services are regulated by the State Government. Council is discussing improved frequency and capacity with the State Transit Authority (STA).</p> <p>Residents of East Redfern and Surry Hills raised particular concerns about full services and Council will explore with the STA introducing additional services that start where buses are typically full.</p>

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31	Quick response for resident inquiries	Continue to review and improve customer service.	Underway Short term	Council has established one contact number and recruited additional customer service staff to improve service levels. Council also conducted a new customer satisfaction survey in 2005 to measure satisfaction levels, identifying areas for improvement and benchmarking for future monitoring.
32	Better communicate what's happening in the local community	Council to install community notice boards and investigate ways to improve community information exchange, particularly through the Paddington and Surry Hills libraries. The Surry Hills Neighbourhood Centre will assist with information exchange. Continue to review and improve City of Sydney communications	Short to Medium term	This project will be developed as part of a City-wide project to support community building and community information exchange. The new \$14 million library and community facilities on Crown Street, due to be complete 2007, will provide a new focus for community information in Surry Hills. To keep the community informed of Council activities, the City provides an extensive website, including email newsletters on events, consultation and development.
33	Encourage police horses on the beat	Liaise with Police to promote policing on horse back.	Short term	The Mounted Police Unit between Bourke and Baptist Streets does street patrols in Redfern, providing an increased sense of safety in adjacent areas.
34	Support for responsible pet ownership	Promote the benefits of responsible pet ownership. Promote harmonious and equitable access for all to parks. Implement Council's Companion Animals Policy. Install signage program for good manners and management of dogs to ensure clean streets and parks.	Short term. Underway	Council has initiated the Companion Animals Policy. This policy promotes responsible pet ownership, particularly in relation to being in control at all times and picking-up of waste, as well as education to the general community about the benefits of pet ownership, including substantial national health savings.
35	Make swimming at the pool more affordable	Promote existing policy for discounted access to Council pools for disadvantaged residents. Expand the community bus service to hydrotherapy pool sessions.	Underway Short to long term	The new Prince Alfred Park pool will remain a community facility accessible for the many nearby Department of Housing tenants. Council will review the access to swimming pools for health and recreation as part of its City-wide facilities plan.

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36	Meet the community needs for recreational facilities including a running track, craft centres, gymnasiums for kids, tennis courts, basket ball and playing fields	<p>Identify gaps in recreation facilities and develop an implementation plan.</p> <p>Explore options such as transport and discounts to improve access to existing recreational facilities.</p>	<p>Short to medium term</p> <p>Underway</p>	<p>A City-wide Youth Strategy is complete and being implemented. Council has also completed a City-wide Open Space and Recreation Needs Study to identify and address gaps.</p> <p>Redfern Community Centre provides cultural, educational, employment and recreational programs for young people five days a week, with a mix of daytime and evening activities.</p> <p>The Redfern Park upgrade is underway and will provide an upgraded playing field.</p> <p>Prince Alfred Park is receiving major improvements to the pool and sports facilities, including basketball courts, fitness equipment, tennis courts and skate facility.</p> <p>The City completed a new Skate Parks at Waterloo Oval this year.</p> <p>The City also plans a major new recreational facility and pool at Green Square.</p> <p>Council has other nearby facilities, including Victoria Park pool and Pine Street Creative Arts Centre. The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust also provide sporting facilities.</p>
37	Clean-up shopfronts and heritage buildings	<p>Promote the existing heritage grants scheme.</p> <p>Develop a program of shopfront incentives.</p>	<p>Underway</p> <p>Short term</p>	<p>The City-wide survey of residents indicates very strong support for celebrating and retaining the heritage buildings of Sydney.</p> <p>Council will work with the street traders to find ways to encourage owners of vacant premises to maintain cleanliness of shopfronts.</p> <p>Council introduced a new heritage grants program in 2006 and will promote this.</p> <p>Council has strict heritage controls in place for heritage precincts</p>

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38	Lighting program for important heritage items	Investigate a City-wide lighting program for important heritage items.	Short to Medium term	A critical issue will be the long-term financial and environmental cost of lighting, which will be investigated in response to the request.
39	Care for “abandoned” heritage properties	Promote the existing heritage incentives scheme. Enforce non-compliant, safety issues associated with dilapidated buildings.	Short term Underway	Council introduced a new Heritage Grants Program in 2006. The program is currently being reviewed following the first grants round and applications will be invited in 2007.
40	Telling our stories using public art, plaques and signs	Council to develop an ongoing interpretive signage and public art program.	Underway Short to Medium	The City has committed to include public art and heritage interpretation in relevant major projects, and will explore opportunities for reflecting community stories in projects flowing out of this Local Action Plan.
41	Cleaner Streets	Promote the City’s new rapid response team for illegally dumped items. Encourage shop and building owners to keep shopfronts and streets clean. Enforce controls and fines for dumping rubbish on streets. Review cleaning to deliver improvements and undertake community education.	Short to Medium term	In a trial program in the Inner East in September, “vacuum suctions” were introduced to sweep rubbish and cigarette butts. The Council’s Waste Management in Public Places Policy encourages reporting of people who illegally dump and litter streets.
42	Reduce noise from garbage trucks	Establish and enforce new controls to regulate collection hours for commercial garbage collection and reduce noise levels where possible.	Underway Short to Medium term	Early in 2006, Council placed a draft policy on exhibition to control the hours of commercial garbage collection. Submissions are currently being considered.