



... AND MARDI GRAS TURNS 40!

Over 84 per cent of Sydneysiders voted yes to love in the Federal Government's national postal survey and now marriage equality is embedded in Australian law.

This month, Sydney's LGBTIQ community has come together for the 40th anniversary of the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras.

The event began as a protest march in 1978 and at that time few could have contemplated a street party which became a protest march and ended in a riot could evolve into the colourful and iconic annual celebration it is today.

While a lot has changed in that time, the parade's glamour, wit and outrageous sense of fun is as relevant and fantastic as ever.

We should also reflect on the community's significant advances and honour those early activists,

many of them '78ers, participants in the first Mardi Gras, whose courage and commitment led to so much change.

The City actively promoted the 'yes' vote, supporting Australian Marriage Equality, and setting up Prince Alfred Park for the announcement and subsequent celebration.

Over the past 14 years, the City has been proud to support change, and to join with the community to celebrate its gains. We took part in the Mardi Gras for the first time in 2005 and have been in every parade since.

In 2005, Council also unanimously adopted the City's first ever

comprehensive resolution in support of our LGBTIQ community. We established a Relationships Declaration Program and committed to working with the community on its major issues including equality, anti-LGBTIQ violence and harassment and HIV/AIDS.

We also committed to support Mardi Gras through our grants and sponsorships programs recognising its significance as one of Sydney's major festivals.

And while there have been many wins since 1978, there is also so much more to be done to end homophobia and ensure LGBTIQ people can have safe lives in accepting communities.

Biennale of Sydney Legacy Artwork Project

Art plays an enormous part in the life of any great city – and when we consulted the community as part of our long-term plan Sustainable Sydney 2030, you told us you wanted more.

The Biennale Legacy Artwork Project is a commitment by the City of Sydney to commission a major artwork from each Biennale of Sydney to remain in the city as part of our permanent City Art Collection.

Since establishing the collaboration four years ago, Canadian artists Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller's *The City of Forking Paths* and local artist Agatha Gothe-Snape's *Here, an Echo* have been added to our collection – and there'll be another announcement coming up after the 21st Biennale of Sydney closes on 11 June.

We've just signed on to this project until 2024 – which means four new contemporary artworks will enhance our city well into the future.

The City of Forking Paths

Image: Yanni Krenenberg

Here, An Echo

CHANGES TO THE WAY DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS ARE APPROVED

Image: Michael Nicholson

Griffiths Teas Building, Surry Hills

The NSW Government has stripped councils across Sydney and Wollongong of the power to approve or refuse certain development applications (DAs).

Under the changes, some DAs previously referred to Council will now be decided by Local Planning Panels made up of people nominated by the State Government.

The panel will consider applications with more than 25 objections, residential flat buildings, demolition of heritage items, restricted and sex premises, where council has a conflict of interest, and where a voluntary planning agreement is proposed.

Applications above \$50 million will still be decided by the Central Sydney Planning Committee, which includes four State Government representatives and three from Council. Some small developments will still be considered under delegated authority by City officers.

The City of Sydney's community consultation requirements are among the most comprehensive in NSW, and that will not change. All DAs will still be publicly notified and exhibited, letters sent to residents and businesses in the vicinity, and signs placed in front of the development site. Community members will still be able to access DA documents on the City's website and submit comments to be considered as part of the assessment.

Community members will still be able to attend meetings and address members of the Local Planning Panel, as previously at Council's Planning Committee meetings.

The Government-imposed change relates to who makes the final decision on DAs – and that will now be Local Planning Panel members, not your democratically elected councillors.

WORKING WITH AUSGRID TO REDUCE CARBON POLLUTION

From Sydney Town Hall to our council depots, we have rolled out solar power and energy efficiency measures across our own buildings – and we are now encouraging private building owners in our city to follow suit.

By contributing \$750,000 to Ausgrid's innovative demand management grant program, which encourages building owners to invest in renewables and energy efficiency measures, the City aims to further reduce demand for electricity and lower carbon emissions across the city.



Solar panels at Redfern Community Centre

Substantial reductions can be achieved by measures such as LED lighting and smart building control systems, or through increased on-site generation such as solar PV.

This will help us reach our targets for the city-wide area to reduce emissions by 70% and source half of the electricity supply from renewables – in turn reducing the need for Ausgrid to boost electricity network infrastructure.

Over time we hope this will lower the cost of electricity for residents and businesses.



Help shape the future of Sydney.
Have your say at
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Online: [cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au) **Your councillors** are Clover Moore (IND) / Jess Miller (IND) / Robert Kok (IND) / Jess Scully (IND) / Phillip Thalys (IND) / Christine Forster (LIB) / Craig Chung (LIB) / Linda Scott (LAB) / Kerry Phelps (IND) / Angela Vitoulkas (IND) **To subscribe to Sydney City News online:** [cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/subscribe)



Moore Park

April 2018

SYDNEY CITY NEWS

Moore Park again under siege!

In our area, there are plans to demolish and rebuild Allianz Stadium at a cost of \$1 billion, expand car parks, close Driver Avenue, redevelop the Entertainment Quarter, and potentially privatise the Hordern Pavilion and Royal Hall of Industries.

As well, the NSW Government's proposed \$1 billion *Alexandria to Moore Park (A2MP)* connector highway will further reduce parkland and destroy even more trees, and dump thousands of cars at Moore Park from WestConnex.

A \$500 million 'continuous flow' intersection will turn Moore Park into a regional link for traffic between western Sydney and the eastern suburbs. Motorists will save just 20 seconds, but this massive 14 lane intersection will further eat into parkland and be virtually impossible for pedestrians to cross.

Despite an online petition signed by more than 180,000 people, no explanation has been given or business case released for destroying and rebuilding Allianz Stadium.

Infrastructure NSW, the body set up by the Government to provide independent advice, has said there will be no economic benefit and it has been reported the benefit cost ratio is well under one.

The SCG Trust seems to be calling the shots. The Centennial Park and Moore Park Trustees have so far been ineffectual in speaking out and protecting our public heritage.

Shockingly, special laws supported by Labor and Liberals that apply only to SCG Trust land allow the Sports Minister to 'self-approve' development, bypassing normal NSW planning requirements for an independent, transparent and comprehensive assessment.

We ask the Premier to:

- Refurbish, not rebuild Allianz Stadium.
- Abandon the Alexandria to Moore Park clearway and continuous flow intersection.
- Protect the Hordern Pavilion and Royal Hall of Industries as public facilities for live performance, exhibition or community sport uses, and focus the Entertainment Quarter's revitalisation on community sport and recreation, with secondary cultural and creative uses.
- And completely overhaul funding and governance of major stadia and ensure the protection of Moore Park and other regional parklands for future generations.

Our concern as a city government is the impact of these proposals on surrounding residential areas, traffic congestion costs to business and loss of inner city parklands and tree cover, vitally needed now and for the future.

Clover Moore

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BETTER BUILDINGS BREAKTHROUGH

Central Park

Our Better Buildings Partnership with Sydney's big commercial property owners and managers has achieved major sustainability milestones – and cut more than half their emissions.

Seven years ago, the City brought the major commercial landlords together, to present the scale of the climate challenge, and our ambitious targets for action – a 70 per cent reduction in emissions by 2030.

Those leading commercial property owners and managers signed up to our targets and became the Better Buildings Partnership, pioneering and implementing new industry standards for leasing, waste, water use and solar installations.

The latest results show members of the Better Buildings Partnership have reduced their emissions by a massive 52 per cent and achieved a 36 per cent reduction on total potable water use across their portfolios – saving millions of dollars along the way.

Now we are building on the success of the Better Buildings Partnership to develop similar programs with the entertainment and accommodation sector.

To keep up to date with all Sydney events, sign up to our What's On newsletter at [whatson.sydnet.nsw.gov.au](https://www.whatson.sydnet.nsw.gov.au)

Year of the DOG



Our City's Chinese New Year Festival is the biggest Lunar New Year festival outside China, and Sydney's third largest free annual event.

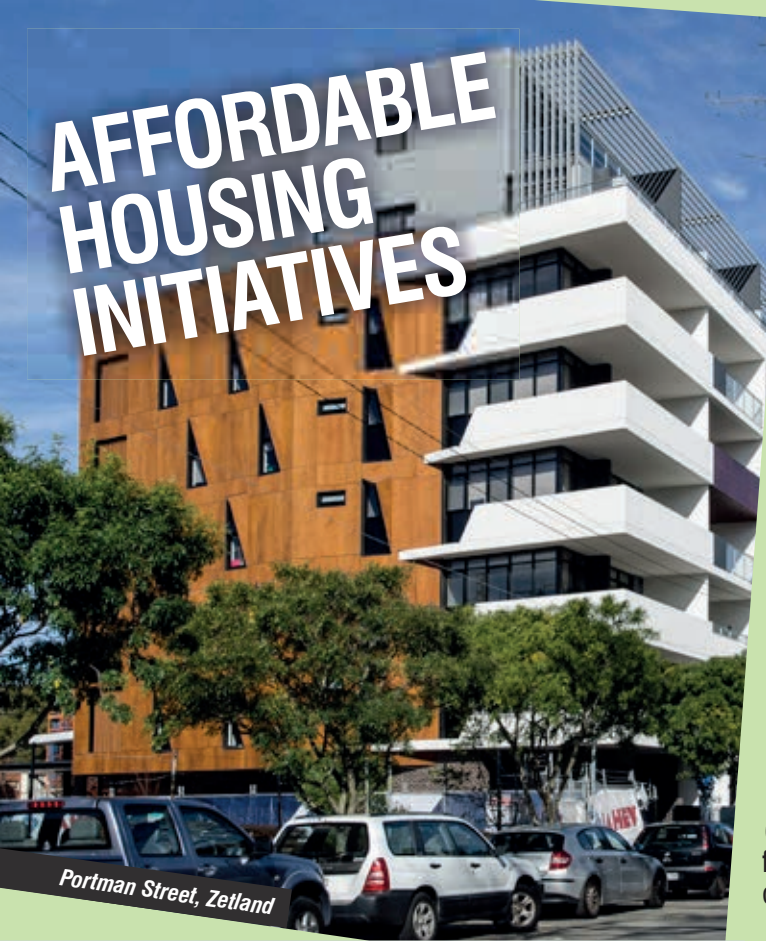
In this, the Year of the Dog, our Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Thai and Vietnamese communities celebrated across Sydney over 17 days.

Highlights included aerial theatre, a stunning Lunar Lanterns exhibition along the foreshore, community performances and the popular Dragon Boat Races, while traditional cultural performances included Shaolin monks and singers performing Chinese opera, dance and martial arts.

Watch a video recapping this year's celebrations at [whatson.sydnet.nsw.gov.au](https://www.whatson.sydnet.nsw.gov.au)



CNY18



AFFORDABLE HOUSING INITIATIVES

The City is on track to deliver a significant increase in affordable housing in Green Square.

Council will sell a parcel of land at 338 Botany Road, Alexandria, to St George Community Housing, at a subsidised rate, delivering up to 80 affordable homes.

This is the second agreement negotiated by the City in Green Square, following the subsidised sale of an adjacent site on the northern section of 338 Botany Road to City West Housing for 200 affordable housing units.

New research from the University of Sydney shows housing prices and rents are pushing **essential workers like teachers, nurses and emergency services officers well beyond the city's fringes** where they face long daily commutes.

The City is using every mechanism available to reach our target, 7.5 per cent of all housing in our local government area will be social housing provided by government and community providers, and 7.5 per cent will be affordable housing delivered by not-for-profit or other providers by 2030.

Discount land sales to community housing providers and developer levies, where permitted by the State Government, in addition to grants, have resulted in more than 1,800 places to date.

If the State Government would allow the City to expand its proven model of levying developers to finance affordable housing, we could deliver so much more.

The sale of a former council depot in Ultimo will help fund the City's \$1.7 billion 10-year capital works program, and also deliver a new childcare centre, affordable housing, and a multi-use indoor recreational centre for the local community.

The City's Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Study, adopted in late 2016, recommended more indoor multi-purpose courts for inner-city areas, including Pyrmont and Ultimo. The area also faces a shortfall in early learning facilities.

Subject to development consent, the purchaser of the 12,000sq m property at 14–26 Wattle Street would build an 80-place childcare centre and a multi-use two-court indoor recreational centre on the site.

These new facilities will help meet growing demand generated by high-density residential developments and the expanding Ultimo Public School.

The developer will transfer ownership of the public facilities back to the City, allowing additional services to be delivered for the local community.



Ultimo depot sale

HORDERN PAVILION TENDER

The public future of the Hordern Pavilion and Royal Hall of Industries is in doubt after the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust called for new operators for the whole 1.9 hectare former Showground site in late 2017. While the process is not clear, the new tenants will gain a near 30-year lease to 2046.

This is public land, but the Trust has refused to disclose the guidelines for private bidders including any obligation for continued public access and public uses. Bids reported in the media involve extensive private use for elite sports.

The Hordern Pavilion is a vital mid-size live music venue for groups too popular for the Enmore Theatre, but not big enough for an arena. Sydney can't afford to lose another late-night gig venue.

Clover Moore's 1992 legislation transferred the Showground site to the Park Trust to preserve public ownership and access, with multipurpose recreation facilities proposed to meet community need. There are rumours this legislation could be watered down to accommodate lessees' intentions for broader privatised usage.

Community recreation and cultural needs are even greater priorities now, in our growing and densely populated inner city.

This is confirmed by the City's 2016 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Study, which found demand for community sporting facilities increasingly exceeds supply. And the Royal Hall of Industries could house a significant number of the 17 to 18 new multi-purpose courts needed by 2031.



Splashing around the City

Sydneysiders love the water and we're proud to provide our community with five outstanding aquatic centres.

While each centre is different, they all have 50-metre pools for lap swimming as well as smaller pools for learners and leisure seekers.



Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool

Located on Woolloomooloo Bay near the Royal Botanic Gardens, Andrew (Boy) Charlton Pool offers breathtaking views of Sydney Harbour.

Soak up the views while doing laps in the 50-metre outdoor saltwater pool, which is open from 1 September to 30 April. Or splash around in the learners' pool, which is perfect for smaller children.

It's a great location to relax for a few hours, with plenty of seats on the shaded terrace, daybeds, a massage centre, and a licensed café with harbour views from the outdoor deck.

Our pools are managed by Belgravia Leisure. For details on membership options, special promotions and more, see cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/pools



Victoria Park Pool

Located near the University of Sydney in Victoria Park, it is an outdoor and more traditional pool, heated and open all year round. It's perfect for lap swimming and lounging about, with a splash pool for toddlers.

The fitness centre has cardio machines, free weights and resistance training equipment. There's also a crèche, a café, a swim shop, group fitness classes, personal training sessions, swim squads and learn to swim for all ages.



Prince Alfred Park Pool

The award-winning Prince Alfred Park Pool in Surry Hills, next to Central station, is the City's first accessible heated outdoor pool with a ramp into the water. The pool is surrounded by bleachers, sun lounges and umbrellas, and is open all year round.

The complex has won many awards for its design. It also has many sustainability features, including a green roof of native grasses that blends the facility into its park setting and helps regulate internal temperature. There are water saving filtration systems, energy efficient lighting and heating, and stormwater harvesting.


Cook+Phillip Park Pool

Located in the city centre in front of St Mary's Cathedral, Cook + Phillip Park Pool is indoors and open all year round.

There's a 50-metre pool ideal for lap swimming, a dedicated leisure pool with a wave machine, and a hydrotherapy pool. All pools are heated.

There is a fitness centre with a full-size gym and group fitness classes on site. Children can enjoy a school holiday program. There is also a café, a multi-purpose outdoor court, swim squad training, aquarobics and swimming classes.





A 360 membership gives you access to the City's world-class pools and fitness centres with one simple card.

360 PRO + Face2Face
Access all five sites and use the facilities including fitness and aquatics, plus a personalised fitness program. \$53.40 a fortnight (a swim-only option also available).

360 ACTIVE
Use the City's three outdoor pools and their range of fitness programs, as well as a personalised fitness and wellness program at Victoria Park Pool. \$38.90 a fortnight (a swim-only option also available).

360 GO
A swim-only multi-visit pass giving you access to all five pools or just the three outdoor locations. \$120 for a 20 visit pass to all five pools, or \$104 for a 20 visit pass to the three outdoor pools.

360 FAMILY
Access to all five sites and use of facilities (some age restrictions apply) and group fitness classes including learn to swim classes. Designed for the whole family to enjoy. From \$87.50 a fortnight (membership covers two adults and two children under 17 years old).

In the works...



Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre

Work on the new and highly anticipated Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre in Zetland will start soon.

The full aquatic centre, a multipurpose sports field and landscaped areas will be completed by early 2020.

At the centre of the new aquatic centre will be a 50-metre heated outdoor pool set within a larger, irregular shaped pool inspired by the ocean pools at some of Sydney's best-loved beaches.

The new complex will cater for the diverse and growing Green Square community and have a 25-metre indoor 'program pool' for swimming lessons, an indoor heated leisure water area and a hydrotherapy pool.

The complex includes a crèche and a health and fitness centre. There will also be new landscaping, lighting and a public artwork by acclaimed Aboriginal artist Jonathan Jones.

The project will target a five-star design and as-built rating from the Green Building Council of Australia. A cogenerated scheme will heat the pools and supply electricity throughout the complex.



Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre

The Harry Seidler designed Ultimo/Pyrmont centre is a standout example of contemporary architecture. It has a 50-metre pool, a leisure pool, and a warm water program pool and is open all year round. All pools are indoors and heated.

The fitness centre features cardio and resistance training machines and offers group fitness classes and personal training sessions. There's also a sauna, a steam room, a café with indoor and outdoor seating, and pilates, yoga, boxing and cycling classes.