



City of Sydney grant recipient Clare's Kitchen

HELPING BUSINESS SURVIVE AND RECOVER

The City has continued to provide financial support for our business community throughout the pandemic, and to ensure rapid recovery post-lockdown.

Since June 2021, we've approved \$4.3 million in cash and value-in-kind for community, business and creative grants and donations. This includes donations to food charity organisations of \$700K and community emergency quick response grants worth \$199K to date.

And we're forgoing \$7.8 million each month to provide rent relief for City-owned properties to waive fees for footway dining, venue hire, banners, parking services, childcare and health and compliance activities.

With the NSW Government we've also extended our outdoor dining program and we're waiving associated fees across the local

government area until 30 June 2022.

The initiative has seen hundreds of parking spaces and footpaths turned into new outdoor dining spaces since last December. We've fast tracked applications and have now approved more than 260 new 'al fresco' dining spots across the city.

These safe spaces will help breathe life back into our city and local businesses recover.

To further support reactivation, we'll be providing up to \$4 million towards a grants program to help businesses and creatives collaborate on initiatives that reignite the city and economy.



Fun in Flora Knight Reserve, Erskineville

COUNCILS UNITE TO SAVE PARKS AND FACILITIES

The State Government has introduced legislation that will allow it to take a significant proportion of the contributions levied by council on developments to provide essential infrastructure.

Councils across Sydney have joined forces to fight the legislation, which threatens the ability of local government to deliver critical facilities. This includes parks and playgrounds, streets and drainage, footpaths, libraries and pools.

The City has estimated lost revenue of at least \$35 million a year, or \$350 million over its 10-year financial plan if the legislation proceeds.

To recover this loss, Councils would have to significantly raise rates, effectively shifting the cost of local amenities to ratepayers. Estimates suggest rate rises to compensate could be up to 13% per year.

Funds currently benefiting local areas, and used where development occurs, will be moved into general State revenue, with no transparency as to how they will be spent or redistributed.

Of added concern is the potential of this legislation to delay the payment of contributions from the commencement of development to completion. This means amenities and services will not be there to support new occupying communities.

And decisions about the type and standard of facilities and infrastructure is to be taken away from elected councillors in consultation with their communities.

The City and other councils are strongly opposed to this legislation and are working on your behalf to have it withdrawn.

Your support is vital if we are to safeguard the future of our communities. You can find more information at saveourcommunities.com

And we encourage you to write to your local member requesting their support in opposing this cash grab. Our state representatives for the City of Sydney are:

Mr Alex Greenwich, Member for Sydney: sydney@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Mr Ron Hoenig, Member for Heffron: heffron@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Ms Jenny Leong, Member for Newtown: newtown@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Mr Jamie Parker, Member for Balmain: balmain@parliament.nsw.gov.au

SECURING FOOD, HOUSING AND HEALTH

Covid-19 has hit our vulnerable communities the hardest, so we've introduced a range of programs to help all of our community members in this challenging time.

We've supported food security services as we did in 2020 so that no one goes hungry. We've provided \$300,000 to both OzHarvest and Foodbank and \$100,000 to SecondBite. **And we've invested another \$50,000 on protective face masks.**

We have increased our support of residents by connecting them with mental health and social support services.

And we're offering new community emergency quick response grants totalling \$250,000 to support small-scale initiatives helping vulnerable communities through the pandemic.

We've opened a number of facilities for vaccination and testing clinics and to support food distribution. And, City staff have worked closely with government and charity partners to secure emergency accommodation for non-residents and asylum seekers experiencing homelessness.



Food relief at OzHarvest Waterloo in 2020

VACCINATING OUR COMMUNITIES

We've opened our facilities to make it easier for our residents, and particularly our vulnerable communities, to access Covid vaccines and help Sydney emerge from the lockdown.

The Green Square Library, Peter Forsyth Auditorium in Glebe, Ultimo Community Centre and 119 Redfern Street are just some of the City's community facilities that have become pop-up vaccination hubs.

The best way to protect ourselves and others from Covid-19, and return to doing the things we love, is to get vaccinated. If you haven't already, please book in for a vaccine today – for your own health, for your loved ones, and for your community. Find out where to go in our area: cityofsydney/get-vaccinated



A busy opening day at Green Square Library's pop-up vaccination hub



Library reading nook

Green Square Library

Duralya Square playground

How to contact the City Visit: City of Sydney, Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney Post: GPO Box 1591, Sydney NSW 2001 T: 02 9265 9333 Email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au Online: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
Your councillors are Clover Moore (CMIT) / Jess Miller (CMIT) / Robert Kok (CMIT) / Jess Scully (CMIT) / Philip Thalys (CMIT) / Christine Forster (LIB) / Craig Chung (LIB) / Linda Scott (LAB) / Kerryn Phelps (IND) / Angela Vitoulkas (SBP)



If you require this information in an alternative format please contact:

**City of Sydney: 02 9265 9333 council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
Translating & Interpreting Service (TIS): 13 14 50**

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH OPENING UP

In recent months, the City has supported our communities and businesses, hard hit by the pandemic. And now we are beginning to open up safely in line with State Government health orders.

During the lockdown we put in place Covid-safe plans to maintain essential services such as waste collection and provided additional cleaning for playgrounds and fitness stations. And we released urgent response packages including \$750,000 funding for food relief and face masks for vulnerable communities, and \$13 million to help city businesses reorganise towards the easing of lockdowns. This includes expansion of outdoor spaces and waiving of fees until at least June 2022.

Looking to the future, the City continues to advocate for Government support for small businesses, pandemic insurance for the live events sector and for vaccine passports.

And to facilitate city vaccination rates, especially for social housing tenants, we liaised with health authorities and offered our facilities for vaccination hubs, such as our Ultimo Community Centre pictured above.

If dealing with the pandemic was not challenging enough, State Government legislation tacked onto the budget proposed to take a significant percentage of the developer contributions that

Councils rely on to provide community infrastructure and facilities (see page 6). Thankfully it has been momentarily stopped by an Upper House inquiry.

During this period too, Government plans for Blackwattle Bay and the old fish market site were revealed as a wall of towers wedged between the waterfront and expressways connecting the Anzac Bridge. These would narrow and overshadow the proposed waterfront walkway. This is designated a State Significant Development, and the City has lodged objections in consultation with surrounding communities (see page 4).

Venues NSW is planning to lodge an application for almost the same amount of car parking serving the Moore Park sporting venues, despite the site being now served by light rail with a dedicated station. An underground parking station for 1500 cars is proposed for the rebuilt football stadium, and while the Kippax Lake area will be returned for public recreation, other on grass carparking areas will be retained.

There is draft legislation currently on exhibition until 29 October to govern the new Greater Sydney Parklands Trust. We are very concerned that empowering the Minister to grant long-term leases of public land will result in further commercialisation of the city's precious parklands.

Already there is an unsolicited planning proposal for a hotel made to the Government on the former showground site at Moore Park, which flies in the face of my 1992 Centennial & Moore Park Trust (Macquarie Sydney Common) Amendment Act, which legislated for continuing public ownership.

On a lighter note, isn't it nice to see all those "not more than five" picnicking groups enjoying our parks and open spaces

Clover Moore

Lord Mayor of Sydney
@CloverMoore
[facebook.com/clovermooresydney](https://www.facebook.com/clovermooresydney)

CITY HOSTS 9PM AND MIDNIGHT FIREWORKS

Following the Delta outbreak in June, City and State Government staff planned to stage a midnight-only fireworks display this New Year's Eve, similar to the event held in 2020.

Since that time, vaccination levels have increased and the Government now believes the whole event can be delivered safely. In response, the City has agreed to stage both the 9pm and midnight displays. This is conditional on the Government's critical role in organising transport and crowd control. Also, should health orders change, the Government has consented to take over the event and even cancel it.

New Year's Eve is an important event showcasing Sydney to the world, supporting businesses and tourism alike, and there will be many looking forward to this year's fireworks, to put 2021 behind them and look with hope to the future.



OCTOBER 2021

SYDNEY
CITY NEWS

The Lord Mayor with frontline workers at the Ultimo Community Centre Vaccine Centre



Federal Park Skate Park in Annandale

RAMPING UP THE FUN AT OUR NEW FEDERAL PARK SKATE PARK

Sydney's newest skate plaza has opened at Federal Park in Annandale! The plaza caters for skateboard, scooter and BMX riders of all levels, with rails, ledges, walls, banks, kerbs and stairs, as well as a freestanding mini ramp.

And, the nearby playground has been completely refurbished and extended to include play spaces for children of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

The plaza sits on a former car park and industrial land that's been transformed and is now part of expansive parklands running from The Crescent, passing under the restored Glebe railway viaduct and linking to the Glebe Foreshore Walk and the 3.8ha green space at Harold Park.

The parkland and skate project adds to the City's four other skate zones at Waterloo Oval, Redfern Park, Ward Park in Surry Hills, and Sydney Park.



George Street South

AND IMPROVING OUR ACTIVE TRANSPORT OPTIONS

Research has confirmed City residents are walking and riding more than ever, and we've launched three new inner-city cycle links to make it even easier and safer.

They are:

- A cycleway on Saunders and Miller streets in Pyrmont.
- A connection linking Darling Harbour to the existing cycleway on Liverpool Street.
- And a link between Chalmers Street near Central Station and Prince Alfred Park.

They open as new research confirms double the proportion of people are cycling regularly.

For more on the survey go to city.sydney/active-transport-survey



Miller Street cycleway

OUR TRANSPORT RESEARCH SHOWS

- 1 91% of residents are interested in walking more, up 11% since 2017.
- 2 18% own a bike and use it at least once a month, up 157%.
- 3 53% of regular riders began riding in the past two years, up 56%.
- 4 52% started riding after finding good places or routes to ride.
- 5 76% of infrequent and potential riders are interested in riding more and
- 6 89% of infrequent riders and 94% of potential riders were more likely to ride with separated bike paths available.



Artist's impression of *bara* by Judy Watson

YANANURALA: A NEW NAME FOR THE CITY'S HARBOUR WALK

After extensive consultation with First Nations' communities, a name from the Aboriginal language of Sydney has been chosen for a 9 kilometre walk around Sydney harbour.

"Yananurala, meaning 'Walking on Country', was chosen following lengthy discussions with the city's First Nations' communities, the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advisory panel.

The name and walk celebrate Aboriginal history and culture at key city waterfront locations from Woolloomooloo to Pyrmont. Installations and public artworks will be placed at significant points, highlighting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' culture, strength, resilience, survival and continuity.

Artworks will include *bara* by Judy Watson, and site specific works at Pirrama (Pyrmont), The Hungry Mile at Barangaroo, Tar-Ra (Dawes Point), Circular Quay and Woolloomooloo.



A future vision of Greenhouse at Circular Quay

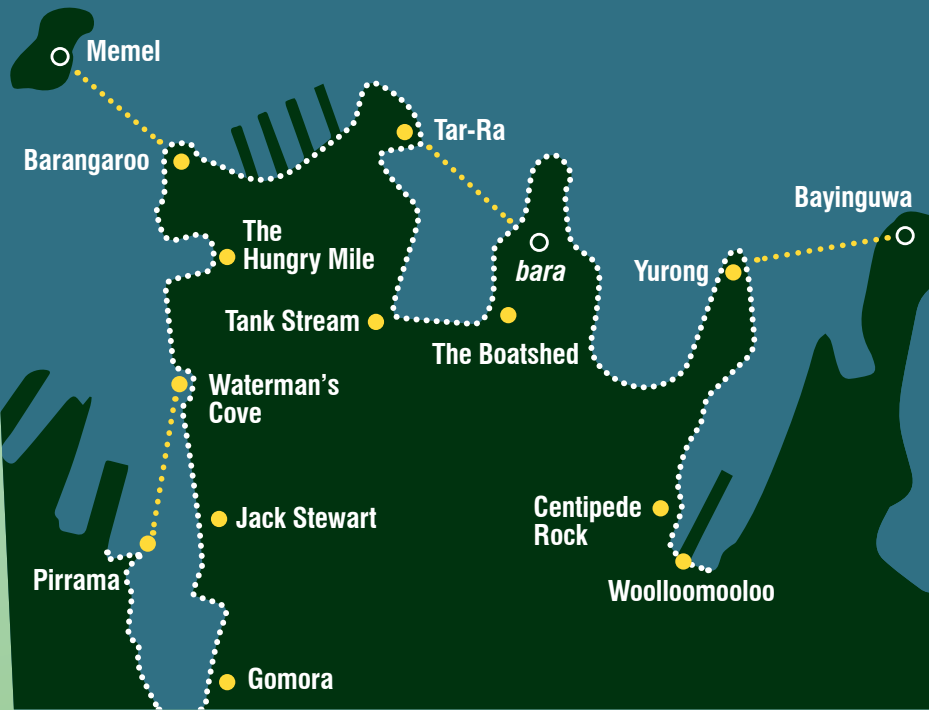


Yananurala curator Emily McDaniel

'Yanala ngarala gadinurada. Yururala, yana yuramirung.'

Walk, think, listen, hear on Gadi Country. Feel it strongly, walk with us.

YANANURALA



NEW CITY HOME FOR OUR CLIMATE STARTUPS

Tech start-ups have told us one of their major challenges is securing affordable, visible rental space in the heart of the city. So we've negotiated three storeys of Lendlease's new development at 180 George Street for an innovation and technology hub, to be known as Greenhouse at Circular Quay.

And we've awarded an accommodation grant to leading seed investment company Investible to sub-lease and operate the space, focusing on climate tech start-ups and scale-ups.

Greenhouse will occupy the building's first three floors and is expected to attract 100-plus companies in its first 10 years of operations, creating more than 1500 jobs and reaffirming Sydney as a centre for smart, inclusive and green innovation.

As part of the project, the City has also secured a range of additional public benefits on site, including a public plaza, public art, bicycle hub and retail laneways.

Image courtesy of Lendlease



Existing skyline under threat



Artist impression of proposed development

BLACKWATTLE BAY UNDER THREAT

Blackwattle Bay is the largest remaining undeveloped area of harbourside land in the our local government area and it's vital that any urban renewal proposal is sensitive to its unique harbour frontage.

While the City is not the approval authority, it is calling on the State Government to reconsider its proposals for the site and to exhibit the infrastructure and sub-precinct master plans of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy before proceeding.

The government has nominated the site as 'state significant' and, developers will be allowed to build 1500 apartments in 12 towers of up to 45 storeys high, wedged onto the old fish market site between the harbour and Western Distributor ramp.

Currently the proposal will result in a wall of inappropriately scaled towers overshadowing the harbour, the future promenade and public domain and even the new Fish Market.

Council is undertaking an urgent design review of the proposal to identify needed improvements and ensure public benefits are prioritised over developer profit. A revised design must be resubmitted for public consultation, along with a plan for supporting infrastructure like public streets, parks, and a world-class promenade.

Key concerns being addressed in our review include:

- Apartments too close to the Western Distributor, exposing people to the damaging health effects of constant noise and air pollution.
- Buildings of excessive bulk and scale too close to the water, reducing the promenade to 10m in spots, not the 30m wide world-class foreshore seen in other leading global cities.
- Tall buildings that create uncomfortable and in some places unsafe wind conditions for people walking and sitting and that overshadow public open spaces and areas of the Bay.
- And, poor provision of needed affordable housing.



Existing view from Blackwattle Bay towards the site