

RECENT CITY RENEWALS



Image: Adam Mork

AMP QUAY QUARTER TOWER NAMED BEST IN THE WORLD!

Sydney's newest landmark, designed by 3XN, competed against 800 entries to win World Building of the Year at the World Architecture Festival in Lisbon, Portugal.

From 2013 City planners, led by Graham Jahn, worked closely with AMP Capital to realise a transfer of development floor space from the Loftus precinct over to Young Street. This was the first time floor space was transferred between discontinuous sites over a public street in NSW, which increased floor space for the tower, while preserving Quay Quarter Laneways. A City condition also ensured increased height and bulk did not overshadow Macquarie Place.

Sustainability for the building saw 65% of the former tower's beams, columns, and slabs retained – and over 95% of its existing core – a saving of 12,000 metric tons of carbon emissions!



NOTORIOUS POLICE STATION TO SYDNEY'S LGBTIQA+ MUSEUM

The former Darlinghurst Police Station on Oxford Street will be reimagined as Qtopia, a museum that celebrates the history and culture of the LGBTIQA+ community.

Police in this building once contributed to the many injustices suffered by LGBTIQA+ people, who were bashed and jailed based on their sexuality and/or gender identity. Transforming this space into a museum will help support healing, acceptance and celebrate the community's resilience. Qtopia will also be a place to reflect on hard-fought gains and the HIV/AIDS response.

The City of Sydney has provided \$283,500 to Qtopia, which is currently housed in the bandstand in Green Park.



Image: Katherine Griffiths

MUSEUM STATION CAFÉ REBUILT

When our former kiosk in Hyde Park was demolished to make way for significant Museum Station accessibility upgrades, we took the chance to build this great new café, which features a paved courtyard, terraced gardens, new paths, and entry to the park. It was an incredibly challenging build, not least because it is built on top of a century-old station tunnel roof, which is part of a heritage-listed building with significant load limits and constraints of access. Our staff and contractors were also working in an area that's heavily pedestrianised with an operational train station, but it was well worth the effort and has already been recognised with a NSW Architecture Award.

WORLDPRIDE 2023



WorldPride Villages launch



The City of Sydney float

Pride Flag raising at Town Hall



Clover and Alex on parade



Robyn Kennedy receives the Key to the City

Image: Damian Shaw

KEY TO CITY FOR FOUNDING ACTIVISTS!

To commence Sydney WorldPride, Lord Mayor Clover Moore raised the Progress Pride Flag above Town Hall and presented LGBTIQA+ heroes and advocates with the Key to the City.

These worthy recipients include the early pioneers of CAMP who led the way for gay liberation in Sydney in the 1970s; the 78ers who walked out of the bars and onto the streets; the activists who fought for the decriminalisation of homosexuality; the trailblazers who led the for the charge for marriage equality. All have made an indelible mark on our city and on our society, and made Sydney WorldPride possible.

Qtopia Sydney has agreed to be the custodian of the key and to display it in their newly opened interim museum in Green Park and ultimately at its permanent home, the former Darlinghurst Police Station.

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Your councillors are Clover MOORE (CMIT) / Jess SCULLY (CMIT) / Robert KOK (CMIT) / HY William CHAN (CMIT) / Emelda DAVIS (CMIT) / Sylvie ELLSMORE (GRN) / Linda SCOTT (LAB) / Lyndon GANNON (LIB) / Shauna JARRETT (LIB) / Yvonne WELDON (IND)

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WHAT A WORLDPRIDE!



APRIL 2023

SYDNEY CITY NEWS

...AND MARDI GRAS RETURNS TO OXFORD STREET!

As the glitter settles on WorldPride 2023, we have a chance to reflect on what an incredible occasion this was for the LGBTIQA+ community, and indeed for the whole of Sydney.

It was a festival with so many highlights including wonderful concerts, exhibitions, live theatre, themed parties, sporting events and pop-up Pride Villages. The annual Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Fair Day was huge and the Parade even larger and more colourful than usual!

First Nations communities were widely represented at WorldPride. From the iconic branding designed by Warramungu Wombaya artist Jessica Johnson and the gorgeous Rainbow Serpent that led the Mardi Gras and Pride March, to major events like the Blak & Deadly: The First Nations Gala Concert, Miss First Nation: Supreme Queen, and Marri Madung Butbut: First Nations Gathering Space, it was a tremendous celebration.

We provided more than \$3 million for Sydney WorldPride, beginning with the original bid. The festival attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors including many from outside greater Sydney and from across the world! WorldPride ended with a spectacular

50,000-people-strong Pride March across Sydney Harbour Bridge.

I have long been a strong supporter of the LGBTIQA+ community, both in State and Local Governments, and am well aware this celebration of inclusion, diversity and acceptance was the result of many years of hard-fought battles by brave activists against homophobia, stigmatisation, and police brutality.

WorldPride was not just glitter and glamour. A three-day Human Rights Conference addressed the many serious challenges facing LGBTIQA+ people around the world. Australia has made significant strides but there is still work to do. We need to end cruel conversion therapy and discrimination against students and teachers in religious schools. I fully support Alex Greenwich's campaign for an Equality Bill in NSW, which aims to address these issues.

However, ours are smaller challenges compared to those faced by many people in other parts of the world, where being gay, lesbian, trans, or non-binary risks ostracism, imprisonment and even execution.

At the City of Sydney, we promote diversity and acceptance, and we celebrate different sexualities, genders, races, backgrounds, and socioeconomic statuses. WorldPride was also a shot in the arm our city needed after the pandemic and has shown the world that Sydney is well and truly open for business.

Congratulations to everyone involved in staging and participating in this important and significant world event and showcasing Sydney proudly as a city for all!

Clover Moore

Lord Mayor of Sydney
@CloverMoore
@clovermooresydney

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AND PROGRESSING EQUALITY AT THE CITY

International Women's Day was a chance to reflect on our efforts at the City of Sydney under my leadership – and that of CEO Monica Barone – to make our workplace fairer for women.

We were the first local government organisation to monitor and publicly report on gender pay equity. Our recent survey results show a pay gap in favour of women of 5.3% compared with 14.1% in favour of men across Australia.

The City has more women leaders than men including 70% of councillors, 55% of our Executive team, 53% of our senior managers, and 50% of our section managers. Proudly, we have increased the number of women employed from 29% in 2005 to 42.7% in 2022.

This has been helped by giving staff access to 52 weeks of parental leave and providing non-primary carers with four weeks paid partner leave, and also providing 10 days of paid domestic and family violence leave.

There is still more to do, and I have asked the CEO how we can increase paid parental leave to 26 weeks, aware that the first six months of a newborn's life are crucial to their future well-being.



CEO Monica Barone and Lord Mayor Clover Moore

CARING FOR OUR CITY



RESTORATION OF THE ARCHIBALD FOUNTAIN COMPLETE

Recently we celebrated a comprehensive restoration of the wonderful Archibald Fountain in Hyde Park, and honoured the large project team responsible. The state heritage-listed fountain is a war memorial that commemorates the alliance forged by Australia and France during World War One. Families, friends and visitors meet at the Archibald Fountain under the shade of the tree canopy in Hyde Park, as a quiet respite from the city. Upgrades to the 90-year-old fountain included structural, hydraulic, electrical and mechanical work. We also introduced water-saving measures to minimise water loss and prevent damage to underground pipes and pumps.



Clover reopened the cycleway with some enthusiastic cyclists

THE ERASED COLLEGE STREET CYCLEWAY REBUILT!

People are again enjoying a safer way to bike commute beside Hyde Park with the newly rebuilt College Street Cycleway.

Before it was summarily removed eight years ago by the then State Government, College Street was one of the city's most popular bike routes, with more than 2,000 cyclists riding it each day. The \$4 million cost of rebuilding the important link to and from the east was rightly and fully funded by the State Government.

The State Government has further announced plans to build the missing section of the King Street cycleway between Clarence and Pitt and to extend the planned Oxford Street cycleway all the way to the corner of Moore Park Road in Paddington.

The City will shortly open another two cycleway projects on Ashmore and Harley streets as well as on Henderson Road, Railway Parade and Bridge Street in Erskineville.

Active commuting helps improve health while freeing up space on our roads in favour of public transport, while separated bike lanes makes cycling safer.



Crown Street is becoming a destination in its own right. Artist impression - ASPECT Studios

NEW PLANS FOR CROWN STREET REFURBISHMENT

We're upgrading Crown Street between Devonshire and Oxford streets after making changes based on community feedback. Creating high-quality spaces for people – with accessible pedestrian connections – helps to revitalise our villages, businesses and communities. This upgrade will promote safer, cleaner, wider footpaths, new street furniture, bike racks, bubblebs, and LED streetlights, more pedestrian ramps and increased space for alfresco dining and retail displays. Electrical cables will be put underground and there will be new garden beds and landscaped nature strips. 40 additional trees will be planted to increase canopy cover by over 50% which is vital for keeping our public spaces cool.

Image: Neon Playground



Celebrating Neon Playground in Chinatown with Councillors Robert Kok and HY William Chan

RESTORING DIXON STREET, HAYMARKET

We consulted with more than a thousand residents and businesses on the City's \$5 million plan to help revitalise Chinatown.

We're continuing to work with historians and locals to make sure we get the upgrade right, with plans to restore the iconic gates, as well as the installation of new artworks, seating and creative lighting.

This upgrade aims to ensure Chinatown's future will honour its past while continuing our program of public artworks and popular festivals like Neon Playground and Lunar New Year.

TRANSFORMING GEORGE STREET TO CIRCULAR QUAY!

We're currently finalising our plans to extend the pedestrianisation of George Street from Wynyard to Essex Street, creating an additional 5,900 sqm of new pedestrian space. A trial closure of this area has been in place since early January, and features a Pride-inspired rainbow across the light rail tracks. As part of this transformation, there will be new public places and interconnecting retail laneways. We'll also be widening footpaths, planting new trees, and installing new street furniture. **This proposal will see our vision of a fully pedestrianised George Street from Circular Quay to Central a step closer, with over 20,000m² of former roadway reclaimed for people.**



George Street will soon be fully pedestrianised

AND OUR ENVIRONMENT



Clover plugging in an electric garbage truck

CITY'S TRANSPORT SPARK

Lowering transport emissions, which are currently around 20% of all our emissions, is crucial to reaching net zero. Reducing private vehicle dependence is the best way to cut transport emissions, but not all trips can be completed on a bike or public transport.

Electrification will help complete the journey to net zero for transport. The City's new electric vehicle strategy and action plan is now on public exhibition for your consideration and feedback. **The City's plan is to lower barriers to electric vehicle use, by increasing access to charging capacity in our car parks, trialling low-impact on-street charging and planned retrofitting of existing apartment buildings with chargers. View our plan: city.sydney.gov.au/consultations.**



Our first power-pole mounted electric vehicle charger is in Glebe!



The Drying Green barbeque canopy has innovative solar panels that illuminate *Stream*, the night-time artwork by Kerri Poliness.

NET-ZERO BUILDINGS ARE THE FUTURE

In an Australian-first, the City is working with the Department of Planning to incorporate energy efficiency and renewable energy targets in development applications – ensuring buildings are part of the transition to net-zero emissions.

Our proposed net-zero building controls, four years in the making, would require developers to reduce emissions through increased energy efficiency, on-site renewable energy production and offsite renewable energy procurement.

We anticipate applications for new office buildings, hotels and shopping centres and major redevelopments would comply with minimum energy ratings and achieve net-zero energy use from 2026.

They are ambitious but achievable and provide a clear pathway for developers to improve energy performance and transition to net-zero buildings.