

LOCAL ABORIGINAL KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL CENTRE OPEN



We have opened a centre for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to gather and share knowledge and culture in the heart of Redfern. The two-storey former post office at 119 Redfern Street is central to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander activism and community life. The centre was officially opened in May, following extensive consultation about the preferred use of the space. The knowledge and cultural centre is a key commitment in the City of Sydney's Eora Journey, a program of work promoting cultural, economic and social sustainability for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

FROM SWEETS FACTORY TO PARKLAND

Butterscotch Park and playground are located on the site of the former Sweetacres Factory, which made Fantales, Jaffas and Minties. This former industrial area is now densely populated and home to many young families. Connected to Butterscotch Park is Honeykiss Way, another peaceful area to sit and relax in a beautiful native landscape.

WONDERFUL WIMBO

Our multi-million dollar upgrade of Wimbo Park has transformed a once small space into 4,600 square metres of grassed areas with 70 new trees, seating and play areas.



REMEDIAL WORKS TO SYDNEY PARK AFTER WESTCONNEX

The WestConnex vandalism affecting Sydney Park with avenues of trees removed, parkland appropriated for road space and access restricted, has now been remediated with new tree and shrub plantings, restored parkland and new entries off Euston and Campbell roads. BBQs in picnic settings and a new amenities block have also been included.



AND A NEW SPORTSFIELD FOR GLEBE/ANNANDALE

Federal Park on The Crescent has been transformed over the past few years, with a playground, skate park and now a new synthetic turf sports field. This fenced area is perfect for hockey, futsal, or just kicking a ball around with friends.

AND ACTING ON HOUSING FOR ALL



USING LEVIES TO HELP FINANCE HOMES



We have collected over \$390 million in levies from market housing developers, which we have allocated to community housing providers to deliver 876 homes in various locations, including Eveleigh, Forest Lodge, Glebe, Pyrmont/Ultham, Waterloo and Zetland. In 2021, following our extensive lobbying, the State approved an expansion of the levy to cover the entire City, which is expected to deliver an additional 1,950 affordable homes.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND

In 2015, we created the Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund to leverage private finance to enable non-government organisations to provide a range of housing needs. Notable investments include rooms for at-risk youth and key workers, student housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, a housing cooperative for transgender women, and affordable rental accommodation for women over 55 at risk of homelessness.



HammondCare, Darlinghurst

The City of Sydney uses a number of strategies to increase diverse and affordable housing, including levying private developers, amending planning controls, selling land at discounted rates, and providing grants to not-for-profit organisations. This ensures the housing remains affordable in perpetuity and protected from sell-offs by future Councils. More than 2,029 affordable and social housing dwellings have been provided or are being constructed in the City of Sydney.

SUBSIDISING LAND AND ADJUSTING BETTER PLANNING CONTROLS



St George Community Housing (SGCH) Gibbons Street, Redfern

To support affordable housing projects, the City also sells land at discounted rates, including significant subsidies for dwellings in Forest Lodge, Zetland and Redfern. These subsidies make it possible to develop affordable housing in inner-city locations, close to work and amenities. We have also introduced planning controls that allow affordable rental housing on land where other residential developments are not permitted, keeping land values low for community housing providers. This initiative will help with the development of nearly 400 new affordable homes.

AND BETTER SOLUTIONS FOR WATERLOO SOCIAL HOUSING RENEWAL

Since the NSW Government first released plans for the renewal of Waterloo Estate in 2017, the City has advocated for better outcomes on the site. We were successful in getting a significantly larger main park outside the Metro Station and in Waterloo South. We successfully advocated for 50% social and affordable housing, up from 30%, and better outcomes including fewer and lower buildings. And recently we approved \$450,000 in grants to local legal services to help residents through relocations over the next three years.



Waterloo South Image: Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure



SYDNEY CITY NEWS

July 2024

Clover officially opens Butterscotch Park Image: Katherine Griffiths

SOUND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT OF OUR CITY... Since 2004 we have delivered budget surpluses every year.

These surpluses fund the City's \$2 billion 10-year capital works program, and our strong financial position allows us to provide quality services while keeping rates among the lowest in metropolitan Sydney – including free rates for pensioners. Council has unanimously endorsed the City's 2024/25 budget.

We will spend \$597 million in operational expenditure over the next year, providing for all our essential services including local business support, community programs, maintenance of parks and streets, and efficient waste collection.

We have also allocated over \$235 million for capital works projects ranging from community facilities,

major streetscape renewals and bike lane connections, to new and improved playgrounds and parks. And we will continue to provide the infrastructure needed for our growing communities such as recreational spaces, pools and libraries, connected by safe transport options and walkable streets.

This budget also has significant investment in the social, economic and environmental life of our City, including funding for climate action, greater support for our city's creatives, and provision of food relief and affordable housing.

While housing and homelessness are primarily State and Federal responsibilities, we are using every

lever available to deliver more than 5,213 new affordable rental homes in perpetuity in our local area by 2036. Already we have 3,263 affordable homes either built or in the pipeline. We were the first council in Australia with a homelessness unit which connects rough sleepers with essential services, and we invest \$2.2 million every year to reduce homelessness and its social impacts.

Clover Moore
Clover Moore AO
Lord Mayor of Sydney

AND BOOSTING SYDNEY'S CULTURAL LIFE

Sydney as a powerhouse for culture is at risk and our creative workforce increasingly can't afford to live or work here.

Several hundred people joined cultural leaders and policy experts from Australia and London at our recent Town Hall discussion on how to best support and expand our creative sector.

I outlined key details of the City's new Cultural Strategy, which will direct \$20 million of new initiatives to retain the local creative workforce, generate more production space and broaden participation in the arts.

The NSW Arts Minister John Graham and I announced plans to fund and deliver a Creative Land Trust, a not-for-profit landholder established to acquire, create and secure property for creative and cultural purposes in perpetuity. In June, Council agreed to commit \$250,000 in seed funding for a feasibility study to get the Trust started. You can watch a video of the event online bit.ly/CityTalksCulture



Rehearsal at City of Sydney Creative Studios Image: Christina Mishell

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GOOD ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT PROVIDING FOR OUR GROWING CITY

The City of Sydney's new budget provides \$597 million in operational expenditure, grants and services over the next financial year, with \$235 million for capital works projects. Here are some of the highlights!



Huntley Street community and recreation centre
Artist impression: Collins and Turner

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

\$15.9 million to improve community centres, including \$7.5 million on Green Square Public School shared community spaces and \$4.8 million on the development of the Huntley Street Recreation Centre.



Chinatown
Artist impression: ASPECT Studios

STREETSCAPES AND SPECIAL PRECINCTS

Public domain improvements include Crown Street upgrade, George Street north and Dixon Street precinct enhancements. Victoria Street and Erskineville Road are next in line as well as Sydney Square between Town Hall and St Andrew's Cathedral. We will also continue to waive outdoor dining fees on application.



Oxford Street cycleway sod turning

SAFE BIKE NETWORK

\$24.9 million on the bicycle network includes Castlereagh Street north, Oxford Street west and Liverpool Street cycleways, as well as important links in Glebe, Ultimo and Waterloo.



Sydney Park brick kilns
Credit: Architect - Tonkin Zulaikha Greer
Photomontage - Mogamma

CITY HERITAGE ADAPTATION & REUSE

\$2.8 million for cultural space in the Sydney Park brick kilns, and three blocks of Council-owned Federation buildings on Oxford Street are being restored and repurposed to help revitalise this important strip.



Gunyama Park, stage 2
Artist impression: Place Design Group

PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

\$34.6 million on open space and parks, with significant works at Gunyama Park and the Perry Park sports field. We have earmarked funds to create or upgrade 60 more parks and recreation spaces across the City over the next 10 years, including major upgrades to Ward Park in Surry Hills, Green Park in Darlinghurst and Belmore Park in Haymarket.



New plantings on Gadigal Avenue, Green Square

CITY GREENING

\$24 million is allocated for parks and tree maintenance and \$5 million on planting new trees to meet our ambitious target of 40% green cover across the city by 2050. We've already planted more than 17,000 trees, including over 1,000 in the last year alone! Proudly, we're the only capital city in Australia to consistently increase tree canopy in the past decade.



Local artist Stephen Page rehearsed at the City of Sydney Creative Studios for the world premiere of his work Baleen Moondjan at the Adelaide Festival
Image: Roy VanDerVegt

PROMOTING CULTURE & CREATIVITY

Culture is an essential part of our city. This year we're spending \$2.7 million on public art projects, including the Yananurula Harbour Walk, with a tribute to Patyegeerang at Dawes Point. We're also discounting fees for artists to hire our spaces and putting \$250,000 towards a feasibility study for a Creative Land Trust.



CANVA net zero building by Cox Architecture

Artist impression



Clover with Goterra CEO, Olympia Yarger, and maggots at work

ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Our target of net zero emissions by 2035 includes mandating net zero building standards, completing the electrification of our operations and the heating of our pools, expanding the EV charging network, and trialling the use of maggots to break down food waste into animal feed and fertiliser.



Image: First Nations Response

AND SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

More than \$28.7 million will be allocated to the grants and sponsorship budget, including a grant of \$1.5m to provide food for people in need.

First Nations Response delivers fresh food across Sydney, with help from a City grant