

Dover Heights Precinct Meeting (Via Zoom)

Date: 29th September 2025 7:00 pm

Attendees & Precinct Executives

<u>Name</u>	<u>Role / Affiliation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Role / Affiliation</u>
Costa Phitidis	Convener	Martyn Borthwick	Acting Secretary

Councillors:

Will Nemish	Mayor	Bala	Speaker: Sydney Water
Dov Frazer	Councillor		
Steven Lewis	Councillor	Councils	CCL
General Attendees	28		

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

1.1 Costa opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees at 7:00 PM.

2. Presentation: Sydney Water Surcharge Tunnel Project

2.1 An invited representative from Sydney Water, Bala, addressed the meeting regarding the proposed Surcharge Tunnel Project.

- The project involves an 8 km tunnel from Parsley Bay to Carlile St, Diamond Bay, Vaocluse, and includes a water pump house at Dudley Page Reserve.
- The design is in its fifth year, with final design approval anticipated as early as November 2025.
- Tunnelling is scheduled to commence in July 2026 and is expected to be completed in 2027.

2.2 Discussion Points:

- Peter C expressed frustration that after five years, the design still awaits approval and asked for the planned location of the pumping station.

- Bala explained that a redesign in 2023 involved considering a move of the pump station to Eastern Ave, which necessitated a re-evaluation of Geo-tech reports.
- Peter C questioned if the projected dates (Nov 2025 approval, July 2026 commencement) were firm. He also noted he was not advised of the last consultation in April 2025.
- Cr Frazer confirmed the April 2025 consultation was "widely attended."
- Marcus P asked when the design plans would be made public.
- Bala commented that an architectural artist's impression would be available for public viewing by the end of 2025.
- Marcus P then asked if the Geotech plans would be available simultaneously.
- Bala stated that due to confidentiality clauses for the commercial development, these documents may not be available for public viewing.

3. Dudley Page and Parsley Bay Pump Stations

3.1 Dudley Page Reserve:

- Cr Frazer spoke on the recent and planned painting of the Dudley Page Reserve Water Treatment Building.
- Richard H raised the issue of the spotlights on the Dudley Page Reserve pointing towards residents' homes, instead of focusing on the intended security of the on-site building. Cr Frazer said this was an easy fix via Snap and Solve.
- The number of people now congregating in the reserve to watch the setting sun and take in the views has increased drastically, presenting a problem even on weekdays. Concerns were raised over litter, illegal parking on Military Road, and general loitering.
- Steven mentioned observing people parking in Portland Street and possible illicit activities being conducted. He reported this to Bondi Police, commenting on his dissatisfaction with the level of interest shown by the officer on duty.
- Motion: Costa recommended a motion be tabled for the Council to address the issue of Dudley Page Reserve and the refuse left by visitors, along with the traffic congestion and improper use of parking.

Cr Lewis, supported this motion too.

3.2 Parsley Bay:

- Marcus P raised the issue of graffiti on the lower walls of the Parsley Bay pump station and asked if the new paintwork would be impervious to future graffiti.

4. Blair Street Traffic Calming Measures

4.1 Costa raised concerns about the poor design and construction of the speed humps on Blair Street at the pedestrian crossings and the roundabout at the Mitchell St intersection.

- He noted the excessive height due to subpar ramp design of the approach ramps, which forces vehicles to travel "at a snail's pace."
- Costa has written to the Council but has received no feedback on improving the approach ramps' elevation.

4.2 Action Items:

- Cr Frazer requested a copy of Costa's letter to the Council.
- Action: Costa to provide Dov with a copy of the letter sent to the Council regarding the Blair Street speed humps.

4.3 Discussion:

- Clair (via iPad) mentioned observing a Council worker team "standing around with not much activity" at the site that day.
- Tony stated that the speed humps were designed at two different heights—one for cars only and a lower height for bus traffic. He added that the grade of the approach ramps needs to be evaluated, but without the design from the Council on the approach ramps, not much could be done.

5. Additional Business

5.1 Military Road Visibility:

- Traffic movements at Cadigal Place and Military Road are causing danger for vehicles trying to navigate the speed of approaching vehicles along Military Road.

- A request to Council for an extended “No Stopping Zone” on the south side of Military Road to improve visibility has so far been declined by the traffic management division of the Council.
- Tony said the no-stopping zone could be moved from 7 metres to 10 metres without the loss of parking spaces on that side of the road.

5.2 Antisemitic Behaviour:

- Costa discussed further antisemitic behaviour over the past months and what the Council could be doing to protect residents in the area.
- Council’s CCL received an update from Police- there have only been two reported incidents, and the Council sees no need to continue with further investigations.

5.3 Waverley Tree Removal Policy:

- Costa mentioned the Policy of Management (POM) for Waverley regarding the removal of trees that block views. There is a delicate Council determination not to remove trees on private properties, causing view restriction. However, a decision to allow the removal of Council-planted trees that have grown to impact a previously enjoyed view has been considered.
- Cr Frazer replied that residents recently had a win in Myuna St, where Council-planted trees were approved for removal following an application by Councillor Lewis.

5.4 Coastal Walk Extension Materials:

- A question was asked why the Council chose to use lower-grade stainless steel, which is not impervious to tea staining due to weathering, for the new coastal walk extension.
- Cr Frazer said 600Gm stainless steel was specified, as the extra cost for higher-grade steel was not accepted. A cleaning compound will be used annually to keep the stainless posts free from these stains.
- Steven L suggested the Council budget would not cover the cost of higher-grade materials.

5.5 Rodney Reserve Viewing Platform (Radio Transmitter Heritage Spot):

- Plans for a viewing platform to be constructed at the Radio Transmitter Heritage spot on Rodney Reserve were discussed.
- An opportunity for residents to give input through a “Have Your Say” on-site Council website will be available throughout October.

- Cr Frazer said he has spent many years asking for this to be built and that two submissions have been looked at. He hopes the better design of the two will be approved and stated that everyone needs to look at this on the “Have Your Say” Council site.

5.6 CCTV Installation:

- Costa raised the use of CCTV installation in certain parts of Waverley, like Dudley Page Reserve.
- Cr Frazer said Council is slowly moving to install some CCTV in certain high-volume pedestrian spots, like the Oxford Street mall, to monitor behaviour. He added that the Council does not wish to become an over-monitored community, and this needs careful consideration.

5.7 Weonga Rd Playground and Rodney Reserve Master Plan:

- Weonga Rd Playground Removal: The Council will conduct a “Have Your Say” survey on the on-site Council website.
- There is also an opportunity to voice concerns on all Cliff walks through the Rodney Reserve area.
- Michael G, Vimal, and Cr Lewis discussed the Rodney Reserve master plan draft. Many points were raised, and frustration was voiced over the lack of clarity and timeliness of the process, where previous discussions seem to have been sidelined, and more Council funds have been used to rehash old ideas.
- Kofsky asked why this was being revisited when the position was already discussed.
- Cr Frazer said this is step 2 of a 10-point plan to improve all the Reserve areas in Waverley. Council was asked to go through the old plans and request new ideas as some were now outdated. He stated that “Have Your Say” was the option for people to present their ideas.
- Cr Lewis stated that every Council is required by the NSW Government to prepare a management plan for the use of all reserves under Crown land, and it is a legal obligation and therefore a time-consuming process.
- Ferna asked why people who don’t live in the area have a say on what is a local issue to those in that neighbourhood.
- Vimal asked when the actual facts would be available.
- Cr Frazer replied, “Have Your Say” gave the opportunity to present ideas, and a report on those findings would be made available.

- The questions "spun back and forth," and Costa requested that the matter be contained as the discussion was going in circles.

5.8 Shuk Corner Intersection (Mitchell St, Murriverie Road, and Hardy Street):

- Tony addressed the meeting, stating that the Council is looking at significant traffic calming devices to control the flow of traffic and pedestrians alike. He mentioned that single-lane bus stops effectively halt traffic while a bus is stopped, and the turning arcs of larger vehicles may hinder traffic flow.
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- Options were presented on the "Have Your Say" website, which was open from August 15th to September 11th, and is now closed. The options included the removal of two traffic islands (one on Hardy St and one on Murriverie Road), significant curb extensions on all four corners, and in-line bus stops on Murriverie Rd. on both sides. The in-line bus stops would mean traffic could not pass a stopped bus. With the curb extensions, the turning sweep into Mitchell St for buses would be significant, taking the bus into the path of oncoming traffic.
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- There seems to have been little information from the "Have Your Say" website, and this matter will be referred to a traffic committee.
- Cr Frazer said that a traffic control meeting, where a lot of feedback was given, will report back in October.

6. Meeting Close

With no further General Business, the meeting was concluded at 8:30 PM.