

DHP meeting August 31 2023 Minutes

Meeting held at Diamond Bay Bowlo

Started 7:10 PM

Dov Frazer - Convenor

Robert Harvey - Secretary

Welcome to Hunter Ward Councillors Will Nemesh & Steven Lewis - Apologies from Cllr - Sally Betts

1 - AGM - Presided by Will Nemesh

Dov Frazer - Elected as Convenor

Robert Harvey - Elected as Secretary

Jodie Gottlieb - Elected as DA Rep

Marcus Philips - Elected as Traffic Committee Rep

Will Nemesh handed the meeting back to Dov Frazer - Convenor

2 - Minutes from Previous Meeting

Moved - Peter Cappe

Second - Robert Harvey

Accepted

3 - Bala from Sydney Water joined us on Zoom

NOTE - Pump House at Dudley Page is scaffolded and hopefully being painted as well as having the roof repaired.

Bala told residents on Zoom that:

a - Eastern Reserve Pumping Station has progressed in design and should be completed by November

b - Resident feedback will be taken into account but issues still with EPA and on-site storage of waste water - trying to get the smallest possible on site storage via license modification from EPA to delete emergency storage from 4 hours to 1 hour only.

d - pumping station hopefully to be moved as close to the street as possible and away from the reserve

e - Parsley Bay - still tenders and quotes are above budget. Will need to get additional funding due to market conditions.

f - contracts and management plans for Parsley Bay are such that construction might start in early 2024

g - next community newsletter to be send out by Sydney Water ASAP

h - DHP thanks Bala for his willingness to keep us informed and attend our meetings

Motion 1 - DHP requests that all the Eastern Reserve Pumping Station assets be placed west of the white wood fence if feasible.

Moved - Marc Philips

Second - David Caldwell

Accepted

4 - Cliff Walks DA

Dov proposed a motion at the Combined Precincts which was accepted.

MOTION 2: The Combined Precincts request that council use FRP or Reinforced Plastic Decking on the footpaths and stairs on the yet to be constructed Cliff Walk Project between Lancaster Road and Bulga Road in Dover Heights

Here is the reply from Sharon Cassidy:

Council has received experienced a higher level of maintenance on the decking at the southern Coastal Walk (Cemetery) due to flexing of material constantly fracturing the fixing systems. This is exacerbated by the volume of foot traffic the boardwalk receives and the popularity of the route for jogging. Hardwood was considered a more suitable alternative as it natural flexes and will manage these loads well over its lifespan.

Substructure design also comes into play on how the decking system behaves with steel being rigid and hardwood flexing. A hardwood substructure for joist and bearers has been used on the clifftop walk due to its longevity, low maintenance requirements, ability to manage loads, ease of construction and cost. This is supported on stainless steel posts to ensure the structure does not touch the ground.

A steel substructure was beyond the available budget with steel prices escalating 40% in one year. A steel substructure was considered during the feasibility stage but ruled out based on both upfront cost and ongoing maintenance costs. A composite substructure was similarly ruled out as these structures typically require more piers to support the substructure from flexing increasing costs for pier works and introducing more piers into the natural environment.

Where we have use FRP is on stair treads where it will be placed on stainless steel stringers to control flex. Change in materiality used to highlight stairs. FRP used at lookouts where people tend to dwell to highlight these resting points and expose view of cliff below. Also, FRP is used where there is a change in direction of the boardwalk to remove taper cut decking boards which creates a fail point and increased maintenance requirement for Council.

Council considers the design to be the best balance of both cost, maintenance, longevity, aesthetics, visual mitigation, user comfort and constructability.

Note - We are assured that they will use 600 grit polish 316 for the Cliff Walk which is a win.

All discussed the pros and cons of using wood as the footpath and the residents were mixed. Some were in favor, some were against.

Note - All motions from May DHP meeting regarding the Cliff Walk came back with Council will make no further changes.

Note - Time will tell whether the wood footpath is a disaster or not. Dov mentioned that the warrantee on FRP would be superior to any warrantee on natural wood.

MOTION 2 - DHP request that council contractors remove all the trash, old concrete, bricks and dumped rubbish and litter found on the cliff side of the fence and all along the path of the new Cliff Walk being constructed in Diamond Bay between Kimberley Street and Craig Ave

Moved - Robert Harvey

Second - Jodie Gottlieb

Accepted

Note - It appears that construction of the Cliff Walk at Eastern Reserve is progressing at the same time as Diamond Bay. Clr Will Nemesh said all to be completed by June / July 2024

5 - Buddleja in Weonga / Rodney Reserves

Buddleja was finally removed by council contractors. Huge win as we can finally see the ocean again.

Emily has assured Dov that the wire fence will be put in the same place and NOT moved further into the reserve.

Motion 3 - DHP requests that all remaining traces of the Buddleja in Weonga / Rodney Reserves above ground level be removed.

Moved - Richard Morris

Second - Julie Stark

Accepted

Motion 4 - DHP requests that council remove the wrongly planted acacia subspecies that was meant to be low growing shrubs but ended up being high growing trees in Weonga and Raleigh Reserves. Residents and visitors come to the cliff walks to see whales and the ocean. The wrongly planted acacia was already removed in the Dover Road Safety Slope. Please complete the job by removing the wrongly planted acacia in Weonga and Raleigh Reserves on the cliff side of the fence so that ocean views may be restored.

Moved - Richard Morris

Second - Jean Morris

Accepted

6 - Tuckeroo Trees On Myuna – See images below.

Tree Policy states that a pre existing tree that blocks a pre existing view cannot be trimmed unless it already has a history of being trimmed

Clr Steven Lewis moved a special motion at council to trim the Tuckeroo Trees on the south side on Myuna which was done.

The harbour views were NOT restored as the views were blocked by the height and not the width of the tree. Trimming that was done was only done on the sides of the trees but not the top of the trees.

Motion 5 - DHP thanks Council for its special motion to trim the wrongly planted Tuckeroo Trees on the south side of Myuna Street from the Butterfly House to the east. While these trees were in fact trimmed on the sides, they were not trimmed at all on the top which is where the views are being blocked. However now that council has trimmed these trees in an attempt to restore the preexisting views, the tree policy condition has been fulfilled. The policy states that only trees that have a history of having been trimmed are allowed to be further trimmed to restore preexisting views. So now that the tuckeroo trees have a history of being trimmed to restore preexisting views, we request that they are now properly trimmed at the top to restore the preexisting harbour views of the residents who live on the South side of Myuna Road.

Moved - Julie Barel

Second - Marc Philips

Accepted



Image 1: Pre - Existing Views of Sydney Harbour from Residents on South Side of Myuna Road

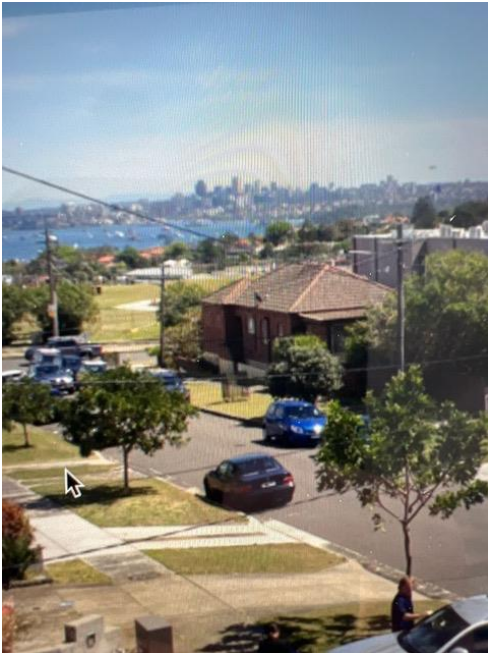


Image 2: Fully Grown Tuckerroo Trees on South Side of Myuna Road Blocking Pre Existing Harbour views



Image 3: Newly Trimmed Tuckerroo Trees on South Side of Myuna Road STILL blocking Pre Existing Harbour views



Image 4: Newly Trimmed Tuckeroo Trees on South Side of Myuna Road STILL Blocking Pre Existing Harbour Views

Motion 6 - DHP requests that the wrongly planted Tuckeroo Trees on the south side of Myuna Road be removed and replace by suitable native trees which will not grow to block residents preexisting views which existed prior to the planting of the Tuckeroo Trees.

Moved - Julie Barel
Second - Marc Philips
Accepted

Note - Discussed the 80% canopy cover initiative. Cllr Lewis said this target was only being considered in Woollahra Council.

7 - Military Road and Hunter Pedestrian Crossing:

Reviewed the Traffic Committee Report.

That Council:

1. Installs kerb buildouts, including kerb ramps, on both sides of Military Road, Dover Heights, south of Hunter Street, as shown in Figure 4 of the report.
2. Delegates authority to the Executive Manager, Infrastructure Services, to modify the designs should on-site circumstances warrant changes.

1. Executive Summary

At its meeting on 17 May 2022, Council resolved to investigate installing raised pedestrian crossings in Blake Street, Dover Heights, at the Military Road intersection and across Military Road opposite Dudley Page Reserve (see resolution CM/8.3/22.05). This report contains the results of the investigation of Military Road opposite Dudley Page Reserve.

It is recommended that Council installs a crossing facility in Military Road, south of Hunter Street. The site location is shown in Figure 1.

A raised pedestrian crossing is not warranted at this location due to low pedestrian volumes. Two alternative options were considered: one was installing a pedestrian refuge (Figure 2) and another was installing kerb buildouts (Figure 3).

Installing kerb buildouts is proposed as it minimises loss of on-street parking. Council will need to exercise its delegated functions to implement the proposal.

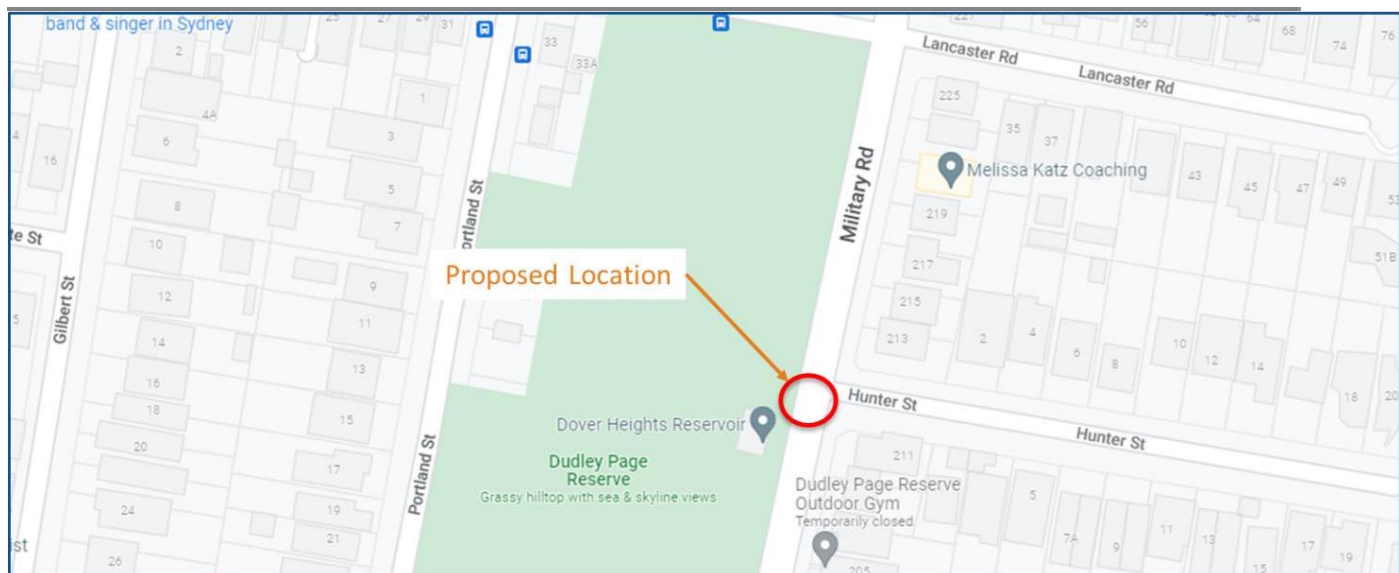


Figure 1. Location of proposed crossing facility.



Figure 2. Option 1 ☐ Pedestrian refuge.



Figure 3. Option 2 ☐ Kerb buildout (preferred option).

2. Introduction/Background

Council officers have reviewed Military Road, south of Hunter Street, as a possible location for a pedestrian crossing facility.

The proposed designs aim to improve pedestrian safety crossing Military Road to access Dudley Page Reserve.

Residents stated that the investigation must have been done on a weekday and not on a weekend.

Clr Lewis said that the traffic committee report still has to come before a full council meeting

Motion 7 - DHP objects to the curb buildout option at Military Road and Hunter Street and strongly prefers a zebra crossing

Moved - Richard Morris

Second - Marc Philips

Accepted

8 - Coastal Reserves Plan of Management - Still progressing with background studies

Motion 8:

DHP would like to remind Council that the large landslip in Rodney Reserve near the playing field was in the opinion of ALL residents who live nearby caused by the regrading of the field by the contractor who installed the new playing field. The most recent small landslip next to the Buddleja Patch was caused by the Council contractor that dug a large hole on the cliff side of the wire fence and then not refilling the hole. DHP requests that Council fully investigate the council contractors who caused the two most recent landslip incidents...

Moved - Richard Morris
Seconded - Jean Morris
Accepted

9 - The Voice Expenditures - Clr Lewis said that expenditures to promote The Voice came from existing funds and that no significant new funds were spent.

General Business:

1 - VPA money for Radio Telescope Viewing Platform still not paid from 657 OSH Road

2 - Clr Lewis said that 6 pinch points on Military Road had been identified by council in 2017 / 2028

Motion 9 - DHP requests that council revisit pinch points identified in 2017 / 2018 and any others on Military Road and consider acting upon them to improve traffic flows

Moved - Richard Morris
Second - Steven Shein
Accepted

3 - Filming Crews on Portland Street - Steven Shein said that filming crews parked huge trailers on Portland Street but residents were only given 1 days notice

Motion 10 - DHP requests that council provide residents with at least one weeks notice for future filming crews street disruptions

Moved - Steven Shein
Second - Richard Morris
Accepted

4 - Dog walkers in Rodney and Raleigh Reserves - Meant to be 4 dogs per walker but seems to be not complied with

Motion 11 - DHP requests that council trim the verge between 247 and 249 Military Road to allow resident to retain their preexisting views of the ocean. It should be noted that this verge has already been trimmed by council so has a history of being trimmed

Moved - David Caldwell
Seconded - Dov Frazer
Accepted

6 - Motion 12 - DHP REQUESTS THAT council replace the old bricks with new pavers between 649 and 667 Old South Head Road. The new pavers should match the red pavers on the Woollahra side of OSH.

Moved - David Caldwell
Seconded - Philip Goldguber
Accepted

Meeting closed at 9:13 PM