

Dear Neighbours,

This is the monthly wrap-up from our MPC RAG meeting from Tuesday night.

Heritage Council Review of the Millers Point and Dawes Point Village Precinct

The community consultation session facilitated by Heritage NSW is on next Tuesday evening. It is a “sold out” event, admittedly for only 30 people. I will provide a report of proceedings via our website (www.millerspoint.org.au) shortly after. Apparently due to the nature of the facilitation process, the session cannot be Zoom’ed.

To assist the MPC RAG in compiling any submission we may make after the community consultation session, we are conducting a survey of residents’ experiences in undertaking the restoration and renovation process in their heritage homes. This will particularly focus on the consent process and your interactions with various bodies including Heritage Council. Please go to our website (www.millerspoint.org.au) and click on the link to take you to the survey page. This survey should take about 20 minutes. Only one survey response per household is sought.

We believe that a review of our precinct should also include the built infrastructure and general amenity of the neighbourhood. There is a second survey on the website (follow the same link). This is open to all residents in our neighbourhood – Walsh Bay, The Rocks, Dawes Point and Millers Point – whether apartment or terrace dweller, owner-occupier or renter.

Finally I will be asking the heritage and design professionals for their feedback – how would they improve the consent process for their clients. If you would like your architect or heritage consultant to be involved, please send me their details and I will extend an invitation to them to participate.

As with any survey, the more the merrier. So please contribute.

Fort Street Public School – Mod 1

We have been made aware that the proposed “Mod 1” (design modifications to the school) by NSW Education will have significant impacts to neighbouring properties – increase in size and bulk of new buildings, adverse impact on the heritage Met Building as the dominant building on the site, the CMP being sidelined in this design process, etc. Mod 1 does not provide any greater or improved accommodation or experiences for students and teachers – it appears to be a money saving exercise. The MPC RAG will be writing an objection to the Mod 1 proposal for these reasons. If you wish for more information please contact me and I will direct you to those far more knowledgeable on the subject.

Celebration at the Captain Cook Hotel this Saturday afternoon

We have invited the Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, and the Member for Sydney, Alex Greenwich to join us for celebratory drinks at the Cook on Saturday afternoon from 2.00pm to thank them for their immense contribution in keeping Kent St and Argyle St “intact”. Please join us for a beverage and a chat in “High Lane Alfresco”. It’s not every day you get to chat to the Lord Mayor and local Member over a beer or chardy and discuss things important to you and the neighbourhood. See you there!

30kmh Village

We heard from Yasmina and David Wilson on 30kmh speed limits as an option in our neighbourhood, based on good overseas experiences. We will speak to the relevant authorities to push the idea. This sounds like a very good option for our neighbourhood.

General Updates

- **Central Barangaroo** – Aqualand (the developer) are still finalising their designs to share with us. Hopefully we will see some detail by June.
- **NSW Police** – the local Police have enacted a plan to reduce anti-social behaviour, hooning, speeding, etc. Feedback on their success or otherwise is welcome.
- **George St Partial Closure** – we think it is time that George St in The Rocks be returned to two-way traffic – they have had a good run. I think we are a little bit over the diverted (and unnecessary) traffic in our neighbourhood, not to mention the creative manoeuvres being deployed when drivers discover we are not “The Rocks”. Correspondence from MPC RAG and Walsh Bay will be sent to Place Management and other interested parties to get this “Covid measure” reversed.
- **Harry Jensen Centre** – no word yet on the “outsourcing” process. We continue to be in contact with the Venues team at City of Sydney.

Off-lead Dog Parks

A little self-serving but we discussed some off-lead dog park options on Tuesday night. I will be writing to the City of Sydney on behalf of MPC RAG to ask that they commence a review of the options, specifically:

- Pottinger St Park be made off-lead (it is a good park for dogs to run being in a cul-de-sac and well fenced).
- Munn St Reserve – currently off-lead but with the openness to the busy Dalgety St, we will ask Council that some form of hedge/greenery be planted to provide a barrier between the road and the park to avoid mishaps. This park also needs a bit of interest.
- Barangaroo Reserve – we will have another crack at getting the top lawn terrace (Star Gazers) off lead for at least some parts of the day.

Thank you for reading this far. Any feedback, comments, suggestions as always welcome.

Have a great weekend.

Regards,

Bernard