



Millers Point Community Resident Action Group Inc

The Right Honourable, The Lord Mayor Clover Moore
483 Kent Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
cmoore@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Dear Clover,

Well, what a year it has been so far. It has tested us all. But like most Sydney-siders, we in Millers Point are looking forward to coming out the other side and reflecting on the experience to make our lives, and our community, better.

You may recall that in February this year, the Millers Point community¹ held a Planning Day facilitated by the Millers Point Community Resident Action Group (MPCRAG) – to which you asked Philip Thalys to represent you on the day². From this very valuable day of talking and listening with each other, we discussed a host of issues confronting our community, as well as a host of opportunities.

The bigger picture themes of our Planning Day included sustainability, addressing the climate emergency and delivering on our collective responsibilities. More specific local themes included traffic and safety, tourism, historic interpretation, a swimming hole at Baranagroo, and future plans for Observatory Hill.

The enthusiasm generated by our Planning Day exceeded expectations, and led to the development of our new CRAG Mission Statement as follows:

The primary mission of the Millers Point Resident Community Action Group (MPCRAG) is to protect and promote Millers Point as a precinct of State and National Heritage Significance and to enhance the safety, amenity and character of the Millers Point neighbourhood. MPCRAG achieves its mission by advocating on behalf of the residents of Millers Point to those who have an impact on our community, whether Government (local or State), Business or Cultural groups. MPCRAG promotes and fosters community building and engagement.

Following the Planning Day, our community has been developing a range of proposals, through sub-committees, for discussion with our key stakeholders, of which the City of Sydney is a crucial player.

¹ Representing Millers Point, Dawes Point, Walsh Bay and The Rocks

² Unfortunately, Philip was not able to attend at the last minute.

While appreciating that the heritage significance of our area is at the core of our identity as a precinct and neighbourhood, we are seeking ways to appropriately conserve our heritage while shaping our precinct to meet the current needs of the area and its residents. Rather than developing these ideas in isolation, we would prefer to move in tandem with the City of Sydney to develop outcomes that are both feasible and deliverable. With this in mind, we would like to propose that:

1. The City appoint a 'Precinct Manager' to work with the Millers Point Community on behalf of the Council. We envisage this person to be a senior manager within Council, who has a strong grasp of the key issues including Heritage, Traffic and Infrastructure. By having a single point of reference with Council, we believe this will ensure future discussions are more focused and efficient for all concerned.
2. This process of consultation between the Millers Point Community and the City be formalised as a timely review of the excellent 2012 Harbour Village North Public Domain Study, which set down ideas for...

... improving the public areas of the City which can be used as guidelines for future development. We use the phrase Public Domain to refer to areas including footpaths, roads, open space, parks and laneways that are owned or controlled by the City of Sydney and are accessible to the public.

By working through this review with the Precinct Manager, and with a similar level of community consultation as occurred in 2011/12, a way forward for the community can be developed that will meet our shared objectives of improving the heritage, safety and amenity of our neighbourhood. Engaging with other key stakeholders such as the NSW Government and its various agencies would also be integral to this process.

Given the relative complexity of the requests in this letter, I wonder if we could meet with you in person to discuss?

I look forward to your reply. For any questions or clarification, I can be contacted on 0418 619 639.

With kind regards,



Anne Warr, FRAIA, PhD
President
Millers Point Community Resident Action Group Inc.