**Local Matters Forum – Stanmore-Damun 26 September 2023**

On Tuesday 26 September, 23 Stanmore-Damun ward residents gathered at Petersham Service Centre to discuss local matters that were of key importance to them. The agenda for the group discussion was driven by residents.

Below is a summary of the discussion:

| Subject/issue | Discussion and response from Council | Further action if required |
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| Deamalgamation | | |
| I was delighted to receive Mayor Byrne's letter which told me our Mayor's highest priority is making sure Inner West Council is serving we local residents and being responsive to our needs. I note IWC Labor councillors (including Clr Byrne) as well as all other councillors are on record as supporting the democratic will of residents. In 2021 residents voted 62.5% across the whole inner west to demerge. Since then, Labor has been elected to State Government. I understand its policy does not oppose the merger or the demerger of councils but insists this must be done with the clear support of local residents as confirmed through a local plebiscite.  My question to this LMF is: will you assure residents that IWC is doing all reasonably within its power to urge NSW Labor to facilitate demerger following the 62.5% plebiscite in favour of demerger? | * Inner West Council completed a business case in 2022 and submitted it to the State Government in early 2023. It has now been referred to the Boundaries Commission for consideration. Once the Boundaries Commission finalise their report, they will refer it back to the Minister for a decision. * Resident asked what Council was doing. * General Manager advised that Council had submitted a 900-page business case, including verbatim feedback, following a survey promoted through the newsletter and Council’s usual communication channels, as the *Local Government Act* requires*.* General Manager reiterated that Council has no decision-making powers with this matter. The NSW Minister and the NSW Government are the decision makers. | No further action required. |
| Development and planning | | |
| Is the council actively considering the possibility of rezoning areas in Stanmore for medium-density housing?  In light of the ongoing housing crisis, the land surrounding Stanmore Station is underutilised, primarily consisting of low-density single-dwelling homes. Implementing a medium-density zoning plan has the potential to alleviate the housing crisis by boosting the housing supply in proximity to established public transportation connections. | * The [Inner West Local Housing Strategy](https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/32608/Our%20Inner%20West%20Housing%20Strategy.pdf.aspx) (adopted March 2020) identifies locations for housing growth throughout the LGA. The area around Stanmore shops is not identified in this document for future housing growth due to a range of constraints such as aircraft noise.   Stanmore station is also largely surrounded by heritage conservation areas and items, which is another factor for consideration when contemplating a change to dwelling density. | No further action required. |
| Can IWC advise exactly what the anticipated dates will be for the Parramatta Road corridor Urban Transformation proposed rezoning for Taverners Hill precinct public community consultation period will be open and expected to conclude? | * A report on this proposal will be consider by the Council at their October meeting. It will provide details about the community engagement. The engagement will open soon for six weeks and will conclude before the end of the year. A further report will be made to Council in early 2024. The engagement plan includes various activities for example, in person sessions, meet the planner and other activities. Town Hall meetings are also proposed for each of the three sites. * The report will be available approximately one week prior to the Council meeting on 10 October 2023. Go to [Current Council Meeting Dates and Business Papers - Inner West Council (nsw.gov.au)](https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/about/the-council/council-meetings/current-council-meetings) to find out more. | No further action required. |
| Given the current housing crisis including in the local area, is there any legal requirement for social housing to be placed in this area? Or even for one of the proposed town houses/terraces in Albert Street to be “affordable”? | * Social housing or state housing are State managed housing accommodation types. * Inner West Council has an affordable housing policy that was adopted early in 2022. It stipulates floor space to be provided in certain circumstances. The policy sets out Council’s and the community’s expectation on developers about how they will contribute to the affordable housing stock when they benefit by way of additional Floor Space Ratio (FSR) or building height. * This policy introduces the concept of an Affordable Housing Contribution Scheme (AHCS). In the Inner West this would be a new zoning overlay indicating a required contribution toward affordable housing. Inner West does not yet have an Affordable Housing Contribution Scheme. It will be part of our new Local Environmental Plan (LEP). Currently, we rely on another mechanism called a Voluntary Planning Agreement. This sets out Council's expectations of a contribution on behalf of the community when additional development is sought beyond what is zoned. The policy sets it out as a percentage of floor space. * Resident noted that there is more to that. The townhouses on Albert Street are not social and aren’t affordable - we’ve lost lots of canopies, we've lost 100-year-old plant. There’s a huge hole there - we got 4 double story town houses now - it’s not helping the shortage for housing for renters. These are very complicated issues – this type of housing is impacting the streetscape, social housing and character to the area. * Director acknowledged that this issue is a challenge - there is competition between houses and trees - planning for trees is important as is planning for dwellings. Council recently adopted the Tree Development Control Plan (DCP). It includes more robust compliance around landscaping and trees. However, the DA conditions will take some time to be seen in practice. The Tree DCP was adopted three months ago. It’s the beginning of the journey. * Resident informed Council that the apartments that were demolished recently were for affordable renters. * Resident requested Council to work with developers to increase greenery and plantings. | No further action required. |
| How does wholesale removal of much-needed vegetation – particularly trees – accord with IWC’s Tree Policies and Guidelines? If houses with gardens are continually replaced by more houses on the same property, with mostly hard surfaces, there will not be room for trees, only shrubs and hedges. | * Tree removal is assessed on a site-by-site basis and Council seeks replanting on-site or a contribution toward off site replanting when trees are removed. | No further action required. |
| Will there be any legal compulsion for BASIX features such as solar PV, water tanks, no gas connections, light coloured roofs, and planting of appropriate trees and mid-storey to be required in these new dwellings? | * BASIX is a standard set by State Government - and it is lagging in the current context. The Local Government Conference is in early November. At the last Council meeting, Inner West Council unanimously endorsed that a motion be put to that conference about new dwelling electrification and upgrading BASIX requirements. | No further action required. |
| Given that the current planning laws and regulations allow for such demolitions and re-builds, and given we have a new State government, will the Inner West Council lodge a comprehensive submission to the [NSW Upper House Inquiry into the Planning system](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2987#tab-timeline) and the impacts of climate change on the environment and communities? | * Director reviewed the Terms of Reference of that inquiry and noted it is focussed on the impact of natural disasters due to environmental change and the need to review planning controls in these areas - especially flood and bushfire prone land. | No further action required. |
| Graffiti | | |
| The Inner West Council has been extremely supportive of the Stanmore community, and I thank the IWC for their negotiations with Transport for NSW to install a wall mural done by a local artist at Stanmore Station. Unfortunately, TfNSW, who own these walls, are not completely covering these walls at Stanmore Station and we will be left with a wall mural surrounded by ugly graffiti. These walls form part of our Main Street on the Trafalgar Street side of the station.  I would like the Inner West Council to insist on a Level of Service Agreement from Transport NSW to remove graffiti from these walls at the station every six months and I would like all the Councillors to support this. Ideally, completely covering these walls would be a more cost-effective solution for TfNSW.  These graffitists/vandals not only graffiti this wall but also vandalise our local businesses, private homes on Trafalgar Street and Council, Telstra, Ausgrid, Australia Post and TfNSW property. | * Council can play an advocacy role in this respect. Unfortunately, Council is unable to compel the State Government on graffiti removal as these are related to TfNSW’s budget and their state-wide graffiti removal program. * Resident commented that Council have been extremely supportive liaising with TfNSW and acknowledged this was a difficult task. * Resident noted that Council is not doing enough about graffiti in the area. Resident noted that graffiti is an issue from Summer Hill to Newtown and also noted that Ashfield did not have graffiti issues. * General Manager stated that Council is addressing the issue on many fronts. Council removes graffiti from properties, puts artwork on bins and houses through the Perfect Match program. Additionally, Council has increased the budget for Perfect Match to tackle this problem. Council has introduced stickers on the bins to show pride in the main streets. Council will continue to do this and be innovative but it’s important that Council does not spend rate payers’ money to remove graffiti on properties that the State Government owns. * Resident suggested hiring painters to treat graffiti on weekly basis. * General Manager reiterated that Council does not want to spend rates for this. Rates should be spent on services for residents such as mowing lawns etc. * Resident noted that Graffiti happens on houses as well as along the railway fence. * Council encourages everyone to be diligent and sign up to Perfect Match program. | No further action required. |
| Housing and density | | |
| Can council produce some facts and figures on housing?  Can we have this included in the Newsletter? | * This information has been provided within a recent Council report in lieu of a newsletter. The report is in the [agenda for 8 August 2023 Council meeting.](https://innerwest.infocouncil.biz/Open/2023/08/C_08082023_AGN_4011_AT.htm#PDF2_ReportName_63702) | No further action required. |
| My house is going to be sacrificed and I’m going to be out of home. The density is different across the LGA – It’s not fair as in its in certain areas.  We are becoming a sacrifice zone and we should be careful about removing houses – there is more open space in different areas – what else does this government want? Do we write to the State Government? Is there anything we can do can we write? | * [The Local Housing Strategy](https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/32608/Our%20Inner%20West%20Housing%20Strategy.pdf.aspx) sets out how the dwelling targets set by the NSW Department of Planning are to be achieved across the Inner West. * State government representatives and members of Parliament are always open to hearing representations from their residents. | No further action required. |
| Roads and footpaths | | |
| The footpaths along Trafalgar Street in Stanmore are exceptionally narrow. Given the high volume of pedestrian traffic heading towards Stanmore Station, is the council contemplating the possibility of pedestrianising the road? | * It is acknowledged that the footpath along Trafalgar Street is relatively narrow. However, it is a full width concrete footpath which makes it wider than a standard 1.2 m footpath. Unfortunately, the road width along Trafalgar Street is also narrow, which makes it difficult to remove roadway and provide a wider footpath, without losing the on-street parking spaces. The arrangement of two traffic lanes and a parking lane makes the roadway layout extremely tight in relation to parking and travel lane requirements. Further consideration can be provided during Local Area Traffic Management Studies. However, there are currently no plans for such a study for this area. | No further action required. |
| The experience of pedestrians (incl. with mobility limitations) is increasingly important-to decrease private car use, serve our ageing population, and to promote health and social benefits of walking (or rolling) and public transport. On the positive side, it is important to attract people to walking; on the prevention side we need decrease automobile use and protect pedestrians from injury. My suggestion is a dedicated council position for pedestrian advocacy. This person would be a first port of call for pedestrian-related suggestions and would also advocate for pedestrians in council planning and maintenance decisions regarding lighting, roads, footpaths, intersections etc. in all commercial, residential, and industrial areas. The organisation WalkSydney may be a point of reference.  Very specifically: thank you for upgrade to footpath between Reiby and Station Streets, Newtown. BUT the Station Street end is still so dark at night my phone camera couldn't even show it! | * Council's Integrated Transport Strategy places pedestrians at the top of the Transport Hierarchy. Council has recently completed a Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) and committed $8M to deliver the high priority items in this plan. We are currently in year two, of a four year delivery program. * Council also undertakes a rolling program of Local Area Traffic Management (LTAM) studies which have a strong focus on pedestrian safety and identifying high priority upgrades in a local area. * Currently the Draft Petersham North LATM is on Public Exhibition – go to [Petersham North Precinct | Your Say Inner West (nsw.gov.au)](https://yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/petersham-north-latm) find out about what is being proposed and have your say. * Council has undertaken an important research study, which will be presented to the elected representatives at an upcoming Council meeting on 10 October. ‘Inner West at 40’ is proposing to introduce 40km speed limits on our local streets across the entire Local Government Area. * The community will have the opportunity to provide feedback when the proposal is open for community comment. Once we complete community engagement and subject to Council endorsement, we will present the report to Transport for NSW for consideration and approval. * Resident asked whether lighting was part of this program. * General manager noted that generally suitable lighting is provided in residential street, and Council manages requests for additional lighting or changes in lighting on a case-by-case basis. Resident was encouraged to get a few neighbours to agree to additional lighting and submit the request to Council. Council will then investigate and consider the change. * Resident expressed their concerns about lack of footpath lighting, which was necessary for safety. Resident also noted that they made a complaint about lights not casting light on footpath. The issue was tree branches were blocking the light and it was resolved promptly. * Council noted that additional lighting is provided during the installation of pedestrian facilities such as pedestrian crossings. | Resident to provide details to staff and someone will contact them to talk to them lighting. |
| 29 Rawson Street, Newtown - The footpath in the street where I live has just been reconstructed. It has not been a very good job. There are sections where the old path has been left. Why is that? Also guttering was untouched. Told would not be fixed. They are sandstone too expensive to replace. Also, the trees are still there roots very exposed so problem with paths has not been solved. | * Repairs to sections of the footpath were previously carried out by restoration team. * Before the end of the week (29/9/23), a final inspection has been scheduled with the contractor. The contractor will be responsible for replacing any substandard work at their cost. | No further action required. |
| Soft plastics | | |
| Is there an update on soft plastics? | **Soft Plastics National Recycling Scheme**  We are awaiting announcements from [National Plastics Recycling Scheme - Australian Food and Grocery Council (afgc.org.au)](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.afgc.org.au%2Findustry-resources%2Fnational-plastics-recycling-scheme&data=05%7C01%7CRenata.Krchnakova%40innerwest.nsw.gov.au%7Ca731b2e9580e4b18382908dbbfc874a3%7C90217c2436c74569a52e3273d8a0b460%7C0%7C0%7C638314639903859743%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DRMWQ8qpTOjhSy0N%2FlvL864nK6EaSg7yyQUR%2B%2FrYytE%3D&reserved=0)  Federal government is working with the food and grocery manufacturing industry and there are a number of pilots happening across Australia to determine what the next phase of this scheme will look like.  **RecycleSmart – Plastic Recycling**  Residents can book collections via RecycleSmart (there’s a limited number of free collections under the council funded cap and then households can book extra collections on a user pays system. [Soft plastics recycling process — RecycleSmart](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.recyclesmart.com%2Fsoft-plastics-recycling-process&data=05%7C01%7CRenata.Krchnakova%40innerwest.nsw.gov.au%7Ca731b2e9580e4b18382908dbbfc874a3%7C90217c2436c74569a52e3273d8a0b460%7C0%7C0%7C638314639903859743%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=XkHB%2F7niwpguQORQ4vFBGkqfrrZEdc5eX8rfDNgIvXM%3D&reserved=0)  Extra pick-ups are user pays: [Pricing — RecycleSmart](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.recyclesmart.com%2Fpricing&data=05%7C01%7CRenata.Krchnakova%40innerwest.nsw.gov.au%7Ca731b2e9580e4b18382908dbbfc874a3%7C90217c2436c74569a52e3273d8a0b460%7C0%7C0%7C638314639903859743%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6eLqHaqopWDKYRQSeya48W1%2BqOgx8yLX%2B8jTQ9Ee%2BOo%3D&reserved=0)  We are also investigating other opportunities, and these will be publicised if and when available for our community. | No further action required. |
| Trees | | |
| On the question of trimming trees away from homes and rooftops, we are steadfastly met with the strict guidelines around how much can be trimmed. Why can't we have more of a discussion around this, i.e. replacing large, messy trees (e.g. Jacaranda, beautiful but terribly messy in between seasons) with an appropriate sized tree on council strips.  We used to be able to get away with one gutter clean a year, now it needs to be done twice a year at our own cost. Jacaranda leaves now and every other year for years have gathered into the external crevices of our cars as we rely on street parking. Cardigan Street, Stanmore is a good example of how terribly messy the Jacarandas are now and again shortly when the purple flowers sprout and fall. In short could we replace these trees with other appropriate ones or can we keep the size of these existing trees at a controllable level. I have heard the contact person in council being described as the 'tree xxx' which is quite discouraging and disappointing to hear. Furthermore, Ausgrid's trimming of trees around the wiring is nothing short of butchering. No consideration is given to aesthetics or shape of the tree, forcing it to spread out towards homes and rooflines.  Surely, we could offer a better solution than this. It's not about removing the trees but managing them better for the homeowners. | * Council will prune our public tree assets to maintain a reasonable and safe clearance between the tree and private property. This is assessed on a case-by-case basis considering: the tree’s risk, its biological health and structural form, growth habit, stability, surrounding environment and whether the pruning will adversely impact the tree. Although trees can sometimes cause minor inconveniences, having a well-established tree landscape provides many environmental, social, psychological and economic advantages to the broader community. * In addition to the above, ordinary urban tree dropping of leaves, flowers, fruit, seeds or small elements of deadwood will not provide the basis for ordering the removal of, or pruning, of a tree. Furthermore, it is appropriate to expect that some degree of house exterior and grounds maintenance will be required to appreciate and retain the aesthetic and environmental benefits of having trees. * Regarding Ausgrid's trimming of trees for line clearance in the past, Council works with Ausgrid to advocate to their contractors to minimise the damage to the trees when pruning. | No further action required. |
| Waste and recycling | | |
| I live in a block of units and we have two red waste bins for the property. Now they are full to the bin each week. How will we manage our garbage if you are only going to pick up general waste every fortnight? | * There will be no change for the multi-unit dwellings. Waste will be collected weekly. The fortnightly service changes are only for houses. * Resident asked whether they get a reduction on their rates. * General Manger noted that all the studies say that the new service is the best way to get the maximum recovery. The General Manager acknowledged that it will be a difficult change. He noted that all Councils will be required to implement this process by 2030. He added that Council has an opportunity to do this now. It’s about reducing waste to landfill - its great thing to do for the community. It’s a hard change. It’s important to change behaviour. * Resident asked whether units are still being collected weekly and whether houses are separate? * Council responded that units are not impacted and they have different waste collection runs. * Resident asked why they should pay their rates if Council is not collecting their bins? * General Manager noted that Council is providing a service, if residents struggle, they can book in extra collections - if they have nappies or large families or health reasons – they can get a bigger bin. Council will examine requests on a case-by-case basis. Council has audited bins multiple times finding 37% is food waste, 10% is recycling. If these are removed, it halves the bin waste. The General Manager acknowledged residents views and encouraged residents to try as we are reducing waste to landfill. * Resident asked about what research has been done? * EPA conducted research with 26 Councils on the FOGO service. * General Manager stressed that this is about a behaviour change. Council will work with individuals, waste education officers will be available to support residents in this change. * Resident expressed her concerns over issues with red bins collected fortnightly. * Resident expressed concerns about the FOGO collection and outlined their process for waste food disposal. * Council reassured resident that they can continue this practice. Please visit the Fogo information page:   [Food recycling for houses – FOGO - Inner West Council (nsw.gov.au)](https://www.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/live/waste-and-recycling/household-bins/food-recycling/food-recycling-for-houses) | No further action |
| Why are some residents only just hearing about the council’s proposed changes to bin collection in mid-September when the changes are planned for early October?  If there are problems and residents wish to raise concerns and complaints, who do we contact.  How do we know if this experiment fails?  Why was community consultation so very limited? | * The FOGO service was first mentioned in Council's Zero Waste strategy. Communications begun several months before the start of the service, but close enough from residents to have the change fresh in their minds. * Tailored support is available for households that feel they cannot manage with fortnightly garbage collection. Council has an outreach team, called Waste Busters, who can visit your home to discuss your bin contents, conduct a waste audit and provide individual advice based on the discussions and waste audit. Waste Busters will also be able to answer any other waste related queries you may have. Council understands residents are concerned and will provide reassurance and support. This is based on the experience of other councils who have introduced similar services such as Penrith, Randwick and Lake Macquarie. These Councils have already successfully introduced food recycling and fortnightly red lid garbage bin collections. They have found that odours from nappies, incontinence pads, period products and pet waste are reduced significantly if wrapped or bagged securely before disposal in the red bin. Scientific evidence (NSW EPA case study) indicates that these odours do not increase after Day Four. The fortnightly collections in these Council areas have become business as usual with the community offering very little or no feedback about the smell from the bins being an issue. * Council has done several trials with food recycling over the years with apartments. Our approach is based on EPA guidelines and investigating how 26 other Councils manage this issue. * Resident asked why change something that works? * General manager stated that we need to do our best for the environment. We need to do this for future generations. * Resident asked where is the FOGO waste going? * General Manager explained that it was going to a facility in Forbes where it will be turned into compost. * Resident asked where they can put the bin? * General Manager explained that if the resident already has three bins (red, yellow and green), they will not need an additional bin. If they do not currently have a green bin, one will be allocated to them for the FOGO waste. * Resident expressed their gratitude to Council for the great service they receive every time they contact Council about issues that require attention. Resident stated that their requests are actioned in a timely manner and with great care. | No further action required. |

**Not all submitted questions were able to be addressed on the night due to time constraints. Responses to questions that were submitted but not discussed during the Forum have been prepared:**

| Subject | Response from Council |
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| Deamalgamation | |
| What is happening about DEAMALGAMATION. It will be nearly 2 years on 4th December when this vote took place. There has been very little information put out about this although 63% voted in favour. I heard a whisper that it was never going to happen. Too expensive. | Inner West Council completed a business case in 2022 and submitted it to the State Government early in 2023. The State Government have referred it to the Boundaries Commission for their consideration. When the Boundaries commission finalise their report, they will refer it back to the Minister for his decision. |
| Electric Vehicles | |
| When are you expecting to roll out the EV charging options for houses without onsite parking? and what is the timeline for broader installation of EV infrastructure? | Council is currently undertaking a tender process to secure a partnership with an EV Charger Provider to supply on-street charges. Council anticipates that charging stations will be installed on local streets from 2024 onwards. A sperate tender process will occur for Council car parks later this year. |
| Graffiti | |
| I would like the Inner West Council and the Councillors to also write to the Minister of Transport as well:  - insisting on a Level of Service Agreement to remove graffiti from these walls  - further negotiate with the Minister for Transport for wall murals to completely cover these walls at the station. | Council can play an advocacy role in this respect, unfortunately Council is not in a position to dictate to state government on the graffiti removal as Council does not control TfNSW budget or the graffiti removal program across all of the state. |
| Parking and traffic | |
| Rat-running through Stanmore between Crystal St and Parramatta Rd is still a significant and ongoing issue. Particularly on Westbourne St and Corunna Rd. What is being done to investigate the magnitude of the issue and remediate the safety risk for local residents? | An initial investigation of historical data has revealed that traffic volumes along Corunna Road have remained relatively static at around 2,500 vehicles per day. It is expected that the volume will remain at this approximate level. In the past, Corunna Road has been treated with traffic calming devices such as speed humps, roundabouts, and other slowing treatments in order to address speeding issues and improve safety.  In relation to Westbourne Street, historical data reveals that traffic volumes have also remained steady at around 1,600 vehicles per day. Once again it is expected that these volumes will remain relatively steady. Similar to Corunna Road, Westbourne Street has been treated with traffic calming devices. Council is not currently proposing any further action. However, these streets will be examined as part of a Local Area Traffic Management study for the area in the future. |
| Could consideration be made to road marking street parking spots on streets to optimise use of the space? I frequently observe space suitable for more cars being wasted due to ill considered placement of vehicles. | Line marking of parking spaces is not normally undertaken by Council. Spaces need to be provided as per the Australian Standards. Following this standard tends to result in less spaces being available in comparison to unmarked spaces. Council Officers will however consider line marking of spaces in certain circumstances where it can be show that there is a need for the treatment e.g. erratic parking behaviour, a sufficient turnover in parking e.g. mainly commercial areas and that more spaces can be created rather than less spaces. |
| Roads and footpaths | |
| Can council please prioritise improving pedestrian and bicycle access to Marrickville Park from the Miller Lane shared path to the north?  Crossing Frazer St from Miller Ln into Marrickville Park is very difficult especially with a pram or bicycle as parked cars often block Miller Ln, traffic moves very quickly (60 km/h) on Frazer St, there is no refuge island, the accessible ramp is misaligned, and you cannot see cars that are turning left onto Frazer St from Bishop St until you step out onto the I cross here twice a day while pushing my son in a pram and it is frustrating. I see lots of other folks struggling to cross here. It is one of the main entrances to Marrickville Park and also part of Regional Bike Route 2.  Council has concept plans that would address most of these issues here but they are “awaiting funding”: https://yoursay.innerwest.nsw.gov.au/rr2 | This location has been identified for a bicycle upgrade treatment in Council's draft Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) study for the Morton Park LATM area. This is currently being finalised. The draft LATM plan will be placed on public exhibition in early 2024 subject to Traffic Committee and Council approval. The concept design for the Parramatta Road to Marrickville Park bicycle route has already been approved. This includes an upgraded pedestrian refuge to cross Frazer Street to access Marrickville Park. The detailed design of the cycle route is scheduled for 2024. |
| Council removed the tree cage as they said they would, and I can say now that not only me, but the tree also breathed easier too and spread its branches. I recall Council said they would contact telecom company to fix bad road patching they did after installing lines for someone in Illawarra Road near 404 Illawarra Rd. They said it would be done in September, but it still has not been done. | These works have been issued to our Restorations contractor for completion in the next two weeks, weather permitting. |
| Waste and recycling | |
| I want to complain about the reduction of red bin collection. It is unhygienic and unacceptable to expect people to keep nappies, sanitary waste and animal faeces in our red bins for a two-week duration. People should have the option to opt in, to fortnightly collection but this should not be forced on residents. | We completely understand your concern and want to provide some reassurance based on the experience of other Councils such as Penrith, Randwick and Lake Macquarie. These Councils have all successfully introduced food recycling and fortnightly red lid garbage bin collections. They have found that odours from nappies, incontinence pads, period products and pet waste are reduced significantly if wrapped or bagged securely before disposal in the red bin. Scientific evidence (NSW EPA case study) indicates that these odours do not increase after Day Four. The fortnightly collections in these other Council areas have become business as usual with minimal feedback from the community about odours being a problem. |
| Regarding the upcoming waste collection changes, I have 2 green bins, will they both be collected under the existing fee schedule?  Also, with the FOGO bin, can we put the waste in the plastic bag or do the waste go directly into the bin In total, are there any fee changes to waste collection? If so what is the change | The two existing green lid bins will be collected within the existing fee structure. The FOGO bin cannot accept plastic bags, but 40 compostable liners (bags) will be delivered with your kitchen caddy so food scraps can be placed in the bin unbagged, or using a compostable bin liner. There are no changes to the domestic waste service charge for 23-24 FY. |

3 specific issued have been lodged through Council’s Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system for staff to follow up.

Ends.