



SECOND EDITION 2011

SYDNEY CITY NEWS

LET'S SHOW BY DOING



In Sydney, we get things done. For all the talk on climate change, there hasn't been much action from our federal or state governments.

At the City, we've committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions 70 per cent by 2030, on 2006 levels, and we're well on our way to achieving it.

The City's draft operational plan sets out our projects and programs for the coming year.

The budget shows our strong financial position with an operating surplus of \$105 million – up \$15 million on last year.

It keeps average City residential rates among the lowest for metro councils, and eligible pensioners will continue to receive full rebates on rates, domestic waste and stormwater charges.

Our \$147.9 million capital works program includes the sustainable new Prince Alfred Park pool and Waterloo Youth Facility, rolling out low energy LED lights, refurbishing Glebe and Paddington Town Halls, the Coronation Centre and converting the Burton Street Tabernacle into a community and cultural centre.

Consultation will soon begin on a separated cycleway along Wentworth Avenue to connect Sydney's fastest growing residential area, Green Square, with the CBD.

We know riding isn't for everyone, but people should have the option of riding to work, school or just to get around the neighbourhood.

Where we've finished new cycleways, the number of bike riders has grown quickly. And the great thing is, the community and local businesses are also getting on board.

Since the Bourke Street cycleway was launched, several new businesses have opened on the street, and stacks of riders are using the path including informal bike buses to Crown Street and Bourke Street public schools.

The bike path's even been given a name – it's now the Waterloo to Woolloomooloo loop, or Woop! Hope to see you there.

Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP
@clovermoore

Prince Alfred Park



city of villages

To keep up-to-date with all Sydney events sign up to our What's On newsletter at whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au



SMALL BARS

More than 40 small bars have opened in Sydney since the new legislation in 2008. That's faster than any other Australian city. This City initiative has attracted national and international media attention, and that kind of coverage will attract ever more tourists as our night time culture develops. These bars are helping us move to a more measured, sensible and sociable night time culture. Somewhere interesting and intimate to catch up with friends.

WHAT NIGHT LIFE DO YOU WANT?

We want a more entertaining, interesting and safe late night Sydney, and we asked for your ideas and opinions to guide our work and help us get there.

Over 6000 people visited our online forum, and residents, venue customers, operators, academics, police and retailers took part in forums throughout the city. Transport, safety, late night dining and more diverse places to go out at night emerged as key issues, and a discussion paper will be released in October. Find out more at: sydneyyoursay.com.au/nighteconomy

OPEN SYD WORTH S

SAFE NIGHTS



We all want a fun night out, but it has to be safe. Our research shows assault rates soar around places selling alcohol. So we're encouraging venues to operate responsibly. We're encouraging a different night time culture with late night gallery and retail openings to give people opportunities to have a safe night out. In March,

we launched the P Ambassadors pilot to help people seek a good night out. The ambassadors know City and the George precinct. They give pe advice about venues, stops, taxis and direct to public toilets between 9.30pm and 2.30pm on Friday and Saturday night

A growing number of cultural and retail destinations across Sydney are staying open late a few nights a week or for special after dark events, including the Australian Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney Opera House, and Myer and David Jones in the CBD.

LATE NIGHT LIBRARY
watch hysterical performances and readings on Thursday nights at Surry Hills Library.

ART AFTER HOURS
exhibitions, music, film and talks on Wednesday nights at the Art Gallery of NSW.

JURASSIC LOUNGE
see dinosaur bones, gemstones, bands and film on Tuesday nights at the Australian Museum in August and September.

Council recently voted to keep the Reg Murphy Centre operating as a theatre when Darlinghurst Theatre Company moves to the city's new Burton Street Tabernacle space. This reverses a 20 year decline in performance spaces for independent theatre companies, and marks the city's inner east as a new hub for theatre.



Late Night Library



Jurassic Lounge

CREATIVE ALTERNATIVES

NEW KEY

STAYING UP FOR!

DID YOU KNOW?

- Sydney's late night economy includes almost 2000 licensed venues
- Nightclubs, pubs, restaurants and bars are key attractions after 11pm
- More than 20,000 people are employed in Sydney's late night sector
- The night time economy runs from early evening (6-9pm) through to the late night (after 2am)
- Three quarters of people out late are aged 15-30, another fifth are 30-45
- Roughly as many men (54 per cent) out at night as women (46 per cent)
- Foot traffic through our night time precincts peaks at almost 6000 an hour in Kings Cross, 4500 in George Street south, 4000 in the Rocks and 3000 on Oxford Street
- Anti-social behaviour peaks at around 20-30 incidents on George Street south, the Rocks and Oxford Street, but it's more than double in Kings Cross with 80 observed incidents an hour.



EATING OUT

Sydney is famous for great food and unique spots keep popping up. Night markets in Belmore Park and the Malaysian hawker markets in State Theatre Lane have transformed under-used spots into thriving eateries.



Laneways

Across the city we are finding imaginative, creative ways to open up underused laneways like Angel Place in the CBD, Albion Place in Surry Hills, and Chinatown's Little Hay Street. In Angel Place, we will install 120 floating birdcages as part of an artwork that will fill the laneway with the sound of birds that once flew through Sydney's centre. Outside Grasshopper Bar on Temperance Lane, the neon artwork from last year's laneways program is there for good, while Jason Wing will paint stencil art on laneway walls in Chinatown.



Deckchairs

People loved the pinstriped deckchairs and tables in Sydney Square and Barrack Street in the heart of Sydney's CBD. And while they're packed up for winter, they will be back in spring.



Table Tennis

Have you played outdoor ping pong at Ward Park, Surry Hills, yet? We installed the tables to get friends and neighbours together in the park, and another table will soon be put in at Chinatown near the Entertainment Centre.



Woop!

Bike riding locals and families rode along Bourke Street on May 15, 2011, to celebrate the completion of the brand new separated cycleway.

Sydney's 'I ♥ Bike Lanes & Cycleways,' a Facebook group with more than 4800 members, organised the Waterloo to Woolloomooloo Loop – or Woop! – Rolling Festival.

The number of people riding bikes down Bourke Street has more than doubled in the past year, and that is expected to increase now the separated cycleway is finished.



Prince Alfred Park

Prince Alfred Park has been given a \$9 million facelift, turning it into an urban oasis where hundreds of people come to exercise, mingle and socialise.

Check out the fantastic children's playground, BBQ and picnic areas, custom designed energy efficient lighting, exercise circuit and new professional grade tennis and basketball courts. The pool will be replaced in the project's second stage, and the historic Coronation Centre refurbished as a community facility.

Opening up the city

Mary Poppins



Cultural Sydney: Celebrations, arts and ideas.

We're organising, sponsoring and supporting interesting and thought provoking events in the heart of Sydney.

Art and About



Ross Garnaut



Marc Newson, Creative Director of Sydney New Year's Eve. (Photographer Jan Buus)

PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER

Artwork by Bronwyn Bancroft



'Sydney's Aboriginal journey'

launches in NAIDOC week

Stories of Aboriginal people throughout Sydney's history are told in a new booklet, to be launched at Sydney Town Hall in NAIDOC week in July.

The booklet, Barani / Barrabugu (Yesterday/Tomorrow) - Sydney's Aboriginal Journey, is the result of two years' research by the City of Sydney's History Program and its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel. Find out about places and people from Sydney's Aboriginal history, and go on recommended walks. Stories from 60 sites across the local government area clearly show the unbroken and ongoing connection of Aboriginal people with this city.

How to contact Council:

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Sharing our streets and paths



The number of riders has grown fast as new bike links are built. But having so many new people on bikes poses its own challenges – many are new to riding in traffic or on shared paths. We need to educate and encourage people to ride, walk and drive safely and courteously.

Our staff regularly speak one on one with people walking and riding – offering honker horns, reflectors, free bike maintenance from Bikewise mechanics, and even chocolate, to entice riders to stop for a chat. More than 400 people have learned how to ride safely in Sydney traffic in City-run classes over the past year and most say they now ride more often.



Sharing cars

Residents and small businesses in Sydney overwhelmingly support car sharing.

Our new car share policy was exhibited recently, and of the 274 submissions received, 98 per cent supported plans to triple membership of car share companies. Car sharing cuts traffic congestion and demand for on-street parking, and it's a great option for people who don't want the burden of a car but still need a vehicle on certain occasions.

tawny frogmouth
(Inset photo) golden bell frog



Unusual wildlife

Peregrine falcons soaring between skyscrapers, red-bellied black snakes living by the harbour, tawny frogmouths and golden bell frogs are some of the unusual wildlife found in the centre of Sydney.

Our first ecology survey was done over three months at the end of 2010 by professional ecologists in parks, along foreshores and in other public spaces within the local government area. Local residents also contributed, with more than 200 reports to an online questionnaire.



Sydney Park wetlands

Recycled project takes water to the wetlands

Recycling water in Sydney Park's wetlands is good for birds, frogs and fish, and is helping conserve our precious drinking water supplies too.

Water for the four wetlands used to come from park run-off, which is not enough to replace the water lost through evaporation. A recent \$1.3 million project at Sydney Park is collecting and cleansing 50 million litres of water every year, replacing the evaporated water, and keeping water levels up for healthy plants, birds, frogs and fish.

