



4 April 2006

WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANDWICK WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, 90 AVOCA STREET, RANDWICK, ON TUESDAY, 11TH APRIL 2006 AT 6:00 PM

Committee Members: His Worship the Mayor, Cr T. Seng, Crs Andrews (Deputy Chairperson), Belleli, Hughes, Matson, (Chairperson) Notley-Smith, Tracey & White.

Quorum: Five (5) members.

NOTE: AT THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2004, THE COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT THE WORKS COMMITTEE BE CONSTITUTED AS A COMMITTEE WITH FULL DELEGATION TO DETERMINE MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.

1 Apologies

2 Minutes

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 14TH MARCH, 2006.

3 Declaration of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests

4 Addresses to Committee by the Public

5 Works

5.1 DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES' REPORT 22/2006 - PARTICIPATION IN SSROC TRIAL OF ORGANIC WASTE PROCESSING. 2

5.2 DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES' REPORT 23/2006 - PROPOSED PLANTING AND BEAUTIFICATION STRATEGY FOR COUNCIL. 5

6 General Business

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GENERAL MANAGER

Director, City Services' Report 22/2006

SUBJECT:	PARTICIPATION IN SSROC TRIAL OF ORGANIC WASTE PROCESSING.
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DATE:	3 April, 2006	FILE NO:	F2004/08410
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REPORT BY: DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

Council at its meeting held on 28 March 2006 resolved on the Motion of Councillor Matson:

“that a report be prepared for the next Works Committee Meeting on Council's potential participation in SSROC's Organic Waste Collection and Processing Trial.”

ISSUES:

The NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy established targets for diversion of waste from landfill. At present the target is set at 66% waste diverted from landfill by the year 2014. Randwick Council currently diverts through kerbside recycling and kerbside garden organics collection around 40%. From waste audits conducted in Randwick it is estimated that the single largest component of divertible product remaining in residential garbage bins is food waste.

In the near future it is likely that programs which divert the remaining fractions including food organics will become standard practice across Sydney metropolitan councils to help achieve the directives of the State waste strategy. However there are a number of issues that make the proposed food organics collection trial difficult at this time.

- Collection service will need to be run on a weekly basis to prevent health and odor issues associated with food collections. This would require a completely new contract as current Randwick City Council vehicles are fully utilised. This would require substantial preliminary work, drawing up of tender documentation, processing tender applications, legal review and then entering into contract negotiations. This would add substantial cost to the existing Waste Management levy, as would the added cost of a new gate fee. There would be some cost saving in the diversion of material from landfill, but it is unlikely that this would cover the cost of collection.

- The service will require an additional bin for Single Unit Dwellings and multiple bins for Multi Unit Dwellings. There is also a potential for an internal kitchen bin to assist in source separation. These additional bins would need to be purchased for the trial, depending on size of trial (all of Council) or discreet collection areas.
- It would not be feasible to use our existing garden organics collection program. This material currently goes to our new recycling centre for processing. Our site is unable to accept food waste both in terms of our license and our lease. The diversion of garden organics from our recycling centre would jeopardies the viability of the site.
- The distance required to take the material to the only operational site is considerably further than any of our current disposal points. Randwick Council's putrescable material is currently taken to Rockdale Transfer Station. The only operational plant for this trial is over twice the distance and located in the Parramatta LGA.
- There may be a considerable problem with the physical area needed for both the storage and collection of an additional service. In Single Unit Dwellings in the higher density suburbs their will be significant problems with storing another bin, the problem will be considerably worse in older style Multi Unit Dwellings (MUD's). The problem of collection from MUD premises is also significant, the increased amount of bins needed to be serviced along pedestrian easements creating health and safety risks for both the public and council workers.
- The technology is untested in large scale operations. One of the products created from the system is an organic fertilizer, at present the compost market is completely flooded with material, markets will need to be created to take this product, if none can be found or created the operator will be left with a mounting pile of material.
- No studies have been conducted to ascertain if this is the best disposal option for Randwick and SSROC in general. If this trial was conducted and proved successful, council may be preventing a fair and open tendering process for other technologies which we are obliged to do under the Local Government Act 1993. There are a number of other Alternative Waste Technologies currently on the market or on the horizon. These other systems may not require a change in collection programs and they may provide a complete diversion system, including increased retrieval of current recyclables and high amounts of diversion of waste to landfill.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no direct financial impact for this matter.

CONCLUSION:

There are a number of reasons Council should not participate in this trial (at this time), covering financial, logistic, community acceptance and limited research of other alternatives. Council currently offers a garden organic service to its residents, the inclusion of a food waste program could jeopardise the viability of this service. It would not seem feasible to take up this offer to participate in an organics trial at this time. It would be likely however that Council will undertake a food organics collection at some time in the future once some of the issues have been resolved.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

- a. Council continues to look at all options for reduction of waste to landfill; and
- b. the information be received and noted.

ATTACHMENT/S:

Nil

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JORDE FRANGOPLES
DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES

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BRENDAN GALWAY
CO-ORDINATOR RESOURCE
RECOVERY

Director, City Services' Report 23/2006

SUBJECT:	PROPOSED PLANTING AND BEAUTIFICATION STRATEGY FOR COUNCIL.
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DATE:	30 March, 2006	FILE NO:	F2004/00171 xr F2004/06877
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REPORT BY: DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of the 27th July 2005 the following resolution on the Motion of Councillor Belleli and Councillor Andrews was adopted:

“that a report be prepared for the Works Committee on a Council planting and beautification strategy for Council’s roundabouts, median, traffic calming devices, playgrounds, parks and city gateways in order to reduce weeds and to enhance the City of Randwick.”

BACKGROUND:

Randwick City Council has a number of strategic documents that direct the open space management/operation of the City. The main documents include:

- **Plans of Management –
Specific Plans of Management:**
 1. Maroubra Beach Pom overview 1996
 2. Malabar Beach and Foreshore 1994
 3. Clovelly Beach
 4. Gordon’s Bay 1994
 5. Heffron Park 1997
 6. Pioneers Park
 7. La Perouse Historic Site
 8. Coogee Beach and Foreshore 1997
 9. Coogee Oval 1998
 10. Frenchmans Bay 2002
 11. Glebe Gully 1986

Generic Plans of Management

12. Pocket Parks – Generic Plan of Management
13. Remnant Bushland – Generic Plan of Management
14. Neighbourhood Parks – Generic Plan of Management
15. Beach and Coastal Reserves - Generic Plan of Management
16. District Parks - Generic Plan of Management
17. Roadside Reserves Generic Plan of Management
18. Regional Parks - Generic Plan of Management
19. Civic Parks - Generic Plan of Management

- **City of Randwick - Open Space & Recreation Strategic Plan 1996**
- **Randwick City Council Street Tree Masterplan (2002)**

Further to these guiding documents Council is presently undertaking an **Urban Elements Design Manual** for a coordinated approach for the selection and installation of urban elements (furniture and paving etc). The purpose of this project is to ensure a consistency of urban design elements and amenity across the City. This manual will nominate particular furniture e.g. seats bollards, bins, for use across all open space. This document will therefore provide consistency of approach in the provision and design of street and park elements and some infrastructure elements.

ISSUES:

Planting Strategy

- Planting in areas such as roundabouts need to be investigated in detail for each instance. Generally if space is available a feature tree surrounded by native grasses or similar will often be appropriate. In each instance traffic conditions such as entry and exit speeds and site distance must be considered. The size of the area to be planted also has a major bearing on the type of planting suitable in a particular position. This also needs to be considered on an individual basis.

Infill planting has commenced in prominent sites across the City, these include Avoca Street and Anzac Parade.

CONCLUSION:

The Plans of Management and various other Council documents offer a good basis for the management/upgrading of Randwick's open space. Many of these guiding documents require review and updating from time to time to ensure they are up to date with the needs of the community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Nil at this time.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received and noted.

ATTACHMENT/S:

Nil

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JORDE FRANGOPLES
DIRECTOR, CITY SERVICES

General Business

Notice of Rescission Motions