



2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2007

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RANDWICK WILL BE HELD IN THE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL, 90 AVOCA STREET, RANDWICK ON TUESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2007 AT **5:30 PM**

Committee Members: The Mayor, Cr B. Notley-Smith, Crs Hughes, Matson (Chairperson), Nash (Deputy Chairperson), Tracey, White & Woodsmith.

Quorum: Five (5)

**NOTE:** AT THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY, 2007 THE COUNCIL RESOLVED THAT THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE BE CONSTITUTED AS A COMMITTEE WITH FULL DELEGATION TO DETERMINE MATTERS ON THE AGENDA.

- 1 Apologies/Granting of leave of absences**
- 2 Declaration of Pecuniary & Non-Pecuniary Interests**
- 3 Addressing of Committee by Members of the Public**
- 4 Urgent Business**
- 5 Environment**
  - 5.1 DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING REPORT 80/2007 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMISSIONS TRADING UPDATE. 2
  - 5.2 DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING REPORT 81/2007 - CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION MILESTONE 4 ACHIEVEMENT 5
  - 5.3 DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING REPORT 82/2007 - ENERGY CONSERVATION UPDATE – HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER. 8
  - 5.4 DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING REPORT 83/2007 - PROGRESSING RANDWICK'S SUSTAINING OUR CITY INITIATIVE 11
  - 5.5 DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING REPORT 84/2007 - COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION TO GO CARBON NEUTRAL. 14
- 6 Confidential Items (Closed Session)**
- 7 Notices of Rescission Motions**

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GENERAL MANAGER

## **Director, City Planning Report 80/2007**



<b>SUBJECT:</b>	LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMISSIONS TRADING UPDATE
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<b>DATE:</b>	26 September, 2007	<b>FILE NO:</b>	F2004/08350
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**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

### **INTRODUCTION:**

To provide an update on Randwick's proposed Local Government Emissions Trading Scheme for NSW Councils.

### **ISSUES:**

There has been much media attention and expert commentary on the need for governments at all levels to consider a carbon trading scheme as one of the important future actions in responding to excess greenhouse gas emissions responsible for global warming.

For some time there has been serious tensions between the Commonwealth and State and Territory Governments agreeing on a way forward on emissions trading. States and Territories have been conducting a process over the past 2 years to develop a State and Territory emissions trading scheme known as NETS. Since late last year, the Commonwealth has undertaken a process for a Commonwealth emissions trading scheme. The States and Territories scheme is due to commence around 2010 while the Commonwealth scheme is tentatively expected to begin around 2011.

Neither of these schemes will impact on the emissions of Local Councils due to the smaller amounts of greenhouse gases emitted from local government.

Late in 2006, following a proposal submitted to Council's Sustaining our City initiative, Randwick's Mayor at the time, wrote to all Councils in NSW proposing the development of a Local Government Emissions Trading Scheme for NSW Councils. Staff undertook the design of a draft framework with assistance from environmental consultants and specialists from UNSW which was subsequently presented to 42 staff from 24 Councils responding directly to Randwick's invitation.

This workshop was followed up in June 2007 to a smaller group of interested Councils and further adjustments were made to the draft emissions trading framework.

Three Councils have confirmed their participation in Randwick's Local Government Emissions Trading Scheme (Lane Cove, Auburn, Kiama). A further 5 are progressing supporting resolutions for their Council's participation (Manly, Mosman, Nth Sydney, Sutherland, Willoughby).

It is proposed to promote this first wave of participating Councils around mid November as a way of encouraging a second wave of interested Councils agreeing to participate up to the planned starting date of March 1, 2008.

The Local Government Emissions Trading Scheme, or LGETS as it has become known, will provide Councils the opportunity to use their existing and planned energy conservation actions for the purposes of emissions trading.

LGETS is intentionally planned to operate as a 5-year trial and be kept low-cost, low in complexity and small scale. The concept is for local Councils to learn from and contribute to emissions trading ahead of any imposed emissions trading regime.

#### **RELATIONSHIP TO CITY PLAN:**

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A Healthy Environment.

Direction: 10(a) Council is a leader in fostering environmentally sustainable practices.

10(g) Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

Participating Councils are agreeing to provide an annual administration fee of \$1,200 to Randwick Council to offset administration costs. These Councils are also agreeing to pay for third party provision of the data required to verify their own greenhouse gas emissions.

It is expected that each Council will continue with their own energy conservation actions through their own budgets as with Randwick's Sustaining our City initiative and the actions funded through Council's Environmental Levy program.

A number of external grants will also be applied to enhance the energy savings actions available to the participating Councils.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

LGETS provides all participating Councils and Randwick Council the opportunity to take a very strong lead in conducting a small scale, low complex and low cost emissions trading scheme ahead of possible schemes being discussed at other government levels.

While business rules for trading are to be finalised between the Councils agreeing to participate in LGETS, this is not expected to occur before September 2008 when the first reports are prepared.

This is a very positive opportunity for Councils to benefit and learn about emissions trading from their own activities ahead of any possible imposed trading framework.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- a) the report be received and noted;
- b) A progress report be provided on the proposed LGETS scheme in November 2007 and February 2008 ahead of the March 1 commencement date.

**ATTACHMENT/S:**

Nil

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SIMA TRUUVERT  
DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

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PETER MAGANOV  
MANAGER, SUSTAINABILITY

## **Director, City Planning Report 81/2007**



<b>SUBJECT:</b>	CITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION MILESTONE 4 ACHIEVEMENT
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<b>DATE:</b>	26 September, 2007	<b>FILE NO:</b>	F2005/00324
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**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Randwick City Council has made great progress in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by recently achieving Milestone 4 (M4) of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Program.

Since joining the program in 2003 Council has successfully completed the first three stages of the Cities for Climate Protection Program; Milestone 1 the completion of an extensive inventory of Council and Community greenhouse gas emissions, Milestone 2 the adoption of the 20% emission reduction target and Milestone 3 the development of a Local Action Plan (LAP) which was endorsed by Council in April this year.

To qualify for Milestone 4 Council was required to abate greenhouse gases equivalent to 5% of the total corporate OR community 20% reduction goal. Council well surpassed the M4 requirements by achieving 25% of the reduction target for Council AND more than 13% for the community.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The CCP Program is a global initiative designed to assist local governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their own operations and that of their community. The program is administered in Australia by the Local Governments for Sustainability, in collaboration with the Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO).

Milestone 4 draws together information on the actions (referred to as 'measures') that Council has implemented to date to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions generated in Council and the City.

Milestone 4 is achieved after the LAP has been adopted by Council and when the measures undertaken meet the criteria i.e. abatement of 5% of the reduction goal.

On 6 December 2005 Council adopted a 20% reduction goal for Council and community emissions by 2012. The inventory carried out as part of Milestone 1 estimated that Council generated 9,720 tonnes and the Randwick Local

Government Area generated 1,037,939 tonnes of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in their respective baseline years.

**RELATIONSHIP TO CITY PLAN:**

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A healthy environment.  
Direction 10G: Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

**ACTIONS COMPLETED TO DATE:**

Each year ICLEI Oceania invites all CCP councils that have completed Milestone 3 to report their progress in implementing measures by completing an annual Measures Report. The Measures Process provides a valuable opportunity for Council to obtain a verified report of the benefits of Council's greenhouse actions and also provided Council with the opportunity to demonstrate that the City has met the requirements for Milestone 4.

Randwick City Council agreed to participate in this six-week reporting period which commenced on 2 July, during which ICLEI Oceania assisted Council to quantify its greenhouse actions. This Measures report was submitted to ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability Oceania for evaluation in August this year.

To meet M4 requirements, the measures implemented by Council must abate CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions equivalent 5% of the reduction target i.e. 97.2 tonnes for Council and 10,379.93 tonnes for community in a single year. The measures report found that Council achieved 497.1 tonnes over 2005/2006 for Council and 28,585.44 tonnes for community emissions over 2006/2007. The CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent abatement achieved by Council is more than five times the M4 target for Council and two and a half times the target for the community.

**FUTURE ACTIONS:**

The next stage for Council in the Cities for Climate Protection Program is Milestone 5 which involves a more in-depth assessment of progress towards Councils 20% reduction goal and reassesses the strategic direction of its Milestone 3 local action plan.

The Milestone 5 process involves three key elements:

- i. Re-inventory of council's corporate and community GHG emissions.
- ii. Quantification of GHG emission reduction measures implemented by Council since Milestone 4.
- iii. Milestone 5 report, which brings together and analyses the results from re-inventory and measures quantification, and makes recommendations for future greenhouse action.

The re-inventory requirements of Milestone 5 involves Council collecting information on their fuel use, energy use and waste production for a chosen re-inventory year, then entering this data into the online CCP™ Greenhouse Gas Application. Council will also update its community analysis using default data provided by ICLEI-A/NZ. This process is very similar to Milestone 1 and is estimated that it will take approximately 12 to 16 weeks to complete.

To assist Council in achieving Milestone 5 it is recommended that Council engage Omega Environmental, environmental consultants who completed the original inventory as part of Milestone 1 to provide assistance in the inventory required for Milestone 5. The proposal received from Omega for provision of the Milestone 5 assistance is \$6900 plus GST. It is proposed that the sustainability levy would fund the cost of engaging Omega Environmental.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

The cost for undertaking the inventory for Milestone 5 is \$6900. This will be funded from the 2007/08 Environmental levy budget.

**CONCLUSION:**

Council is well on its way to completing the 'Cities for Climate Protection' programme which is a key action identified in the City Plan and ahead of the Management Plan schedule which anticipated completion of Milestone 4 over 2007/08. We are now also anticipating completion of Milestone 5 over 2007/08.

Randwick City Council 2007 measures report is currently being processed for inclusion in the 2007 Measures Evaluation Report, which will be launched at the ALGA Annual Conference, 26–29 November 2007.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That

- a) it be noted that the 2007 Measures Report fulfils the requirement of Milestone 4 of the Cities for Climate Protection Program; and
- b) the engagement of Omega Environmental, to assist Council in the re-inventory requirements of Milestone 5, be endorsed.

**ATTACHMENT/S:**

Nil.

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SIMA TRUUVERT  
DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

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BRONWYN ENGLARO  
SENIOR SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER

## **Director, City Planning Report 82/2007**



<b>SUBJECT:</b>	ENERGY CONSERVATION UPDATE – HOME ENERGY MAKEOVER
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<b>DATE:</b>	26 September, 2007	<b>FILE NO:</b>	F2004/08350
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**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

### **INTRODUCTION:**

To provide an update on Randwick's Home Energy Makeover program.

### **ISSUES:**

A key activity area of Council's Sustaining our City Initiative is to Conserve Resources, with a particular emphasis on reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the 20 percent reduction target set by Council late in 2005.

A number of major programs and activities are underway focussing on achieving this reduction target, including Randwick's Home Energy Makeover, underway through an externally funded grant.

The Home Energy Makeover is one of the largest residential energy conservation programs underway through a local Council in Australia and this initiative has contributed to a number of significant awards received by Council including the 2007 Banksia Environmental Award for Local Government and the National Local Government Award (Local Climate Action category).

The Home Energy Makeover gives residents 4 key steps to reducing their own energy footprint. These are:

1. Taking the Home Energy Pledge where residents agree to take 3 out of 5 energy saving actions over the past 12 months;
2. Once householders have taken the pledge, they become eligible for a free Home Energy Audit where trained auditors carry out an audit of the home or unit. Following the audit, the householders receive an Energy Action Plan outlining further steps the householder can take to save energy;
3. Following the free Audit, householders can take up an offer to obtain a financial Home Energy Rebate providing them with up to 40 percent off the cost of installing particular energy saving measures including: solar hotwater, thermal insulation or upgrading to 4 or 5 star energy rated appliances or similar measures.

4. The fourth step is for householders to "Switch on to Green Power". Randwick residents can receive 10 percent accredited Green Power through energy retailer, Jackgreen Energy.

The Home Energy Makeover commenced in September 2006 with support from local resident and sporting celebrity, Brad Fittler, and Planet Ark founder, Jon Dee.

Although the Home Energy Rebates have only recently commenced, the take up rate to date is approximately:

Home Energy Pledge taken	600
Home Energy Audits completed	330
Green Power take-up	300
Home Energy Rebates applied for	20

Funding for Randwick's Home Energy Makeover is due to close by December 31, 2007 due to the conditions of the grant provided to Randwick. While interest in the Pledge and Audits are running a little thin, it is likely that the interest in the rebate will pick up. A final advertising campaign is being prepared to give residents a final chance to take advantage of the rebates prior to the closing date in December.

Council's Environmental Levy program contains a budget stream for Climate Protection and it is proposed that an amount of up to \$80,000 be allocated to continue parts of the Home Energy Makeover for the 2008 calendar year. This will avoid a backlash from the community when the external grant funding for the Home Energy Makeover ends in December 2007. If approved, a progress report on residents involvement in the Home Energy Makeover will be provided at the end of each quarter in 2008.

#### **RELATIONSHIP TO CITY PLAN:**

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A Healthy Environment.

Direction: 10(a) Council is a leader in fostering environmentally sustainable practices.  
10(g) Greenhouse gas emissions are reduced.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

The continuation of the Home Energy Makeover of up to \$80,000 will be funded through the Climate Protection budget of Council's Environmental Levy program.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Randwick Council has gained widespread recognition for its achievements through the Environmental Levy Program and Sustaining our City initiative. The Home Energy Makeover in particular has featured significantly in this recognition.

To date, the Home Energy Makeover has contributed to savings of approximately \$400,000 to householders through the actions taken in the Home Energy Pledge and contributed to a reduction of approximately 2,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

It is important that Council does not lose the traction it has gained in this important initiative.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- a) the success of Randwick's Home Energy Makeover be noted; and
- b) A report be provided to Council seeking approval to continue the Home Energy Makeover in a limited capacity past December 2007 by providing up to \$80,000 for Home Energy Rebates for the 2008 calendar year.

**ATTACHMENT/S:**

Nil

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SIMA TRUUVERT  
DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

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PETER MAGANOV  
MANAGER, SUSTAINABILITY

## Director, City Planning Report 83/2007



<b>SUBJECT:</b>	PROGRESSING RANDWICK'S SUSTAINING OUR CITY INITIATIVE
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<b>DATE:</b>	26 September, 2007	<b>FILE NO:</b>	F2004/08350
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**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

### INTRODUCTION:

Council's Sustaining our City Initiative commenced late in 2004 through a dedicated environmental levy providing approximately \$2.4 million each year for spending on specific environmental improvements and sustainability initiatives. The initiative is in its fourth year of a five year program approved by the Minister for Local Government.

### ISSUES:

Implementation of Council's Sustaining our City Initiative is underway across 5 key activity areas intended to actively support the achievement of key actions, directions and outcomes of Council's 20-year City Plan.

The key activities areas of Sustaining our City comprise:

- Coastal Protection,
- Conserving Resources,
- Tackling Greenhouse,
- Protecting Biodiversity,
- Community Participation.

A breakdown of current projects within these key streams follows:

<b>Coastal Protection</b>	<b>Status</b>
Upgrading & replacing Coastal Walkway	Bunya Pde section South Coogee (planned) Undine/Wilson St Maroubra (completed) Alexandria Pde Sth Coogee (completed) Trenerry Reserve Coogee (completed) Coogee foreshore (completed)
Installation of Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs)	Clovelly beach (completed) Neptune St Coogee (completed) Malabar Rd Lurline Bay (completed) Fishermen's Road Malabar (completed)

<b>Conserving Resources</b>	
Energy Conservation	Solar panels at Depot (continuing) Solar hotwater systems (5 locations completed) Building Management System (Admin Bldg) (in test phase)
Water Conservation	Aquatic Centre (Stage 2 underway) Community Nursery (completed) Recycling Centre (completed) Works Depot (completed)
Public Place recycling	Coogee beach (completed) Clovelly beach (completed) Maroubra beach (completed)

<b>Tackling Greenhouse</b>	
Sustainable Transportation	Carshare arrangement with GoGet Carshare Hybrid and carshare parking (completed) Bicycle Plan Update (for exhibition) Corporate bicycles (completed)

<b>Protecting Biodiversity</b>	
Biodiversity Strategy	Draft (completed)
Native Havens	With local schools (underway)

<b>Community Participation</b>	
"Sticky Beak" Open Days	Nursery (Sept 8) (completed) Depot (Oct 20) Recycling Centre (Nov 10) Aquatic Centre (Dec 9)
Sustainable Living Workshops	Four workshops per term (ongoing)
Summer Activities Program	January 2008 (being planned)
EcoLiving Fair	April 20, 2008 (Earth Day) (planned)

#### **RELATIONSHIP TO CITY PLAN:**

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A Healthy Environment.

Direction 10a: Council is a leader in fostering environmentally sustainable practices.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

The Sustaining our City Initiative is funded through Council's Environmental Levy program.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Work program priorities for Sustaining our City are currently being reviewed to assist in the planning for the remaining years of the Environmental Levy program and to contribute toward the submission to the Minister for Local Government requesting continuation of Randwick's environmental levy for another 5 years.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the report be received and noted.

**ATTACHMENT/S:**

Nil

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SIMA TRUUVERT  
DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

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PETER MAGANOV  
MANAGER, SUSTAINABILITY

## **Director, City Planning Report 84/2007**



<b>SUBJECT:</b>	COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION TO GO CARBON NEUTRAL
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<b>DATE:</b>	26 September, 2007	<b>FILE NO:</b>	F2004/08350
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**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Council's Environment Committee has been asked to consider the implications and issues related to Randwick Council taking on a zero emissions or carbon neutral policy.

### **ISSUES:**

In order to better assess the implications and issues of Randwick City Council proceeding down a path of "carbon neutrality" or "zero emissions," Sustaining our City staff have engaged the services of Jeremy Maslin from Sustainability Initiatives Network (SIN).

SIN has undertaken a range of similar examinations to identify cost and policy implications for organisations considering or committing to going carbon neutral.

Based on Council's previous greenhouse gas emissions inventory completed for Milestone 1 of the Cities for Climate Protection Program (CCP), Randwick Council produces approximately 10,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas each year.

The current target of 20 percent would mean that Council should be considering opportunities to achieve greenhouse gas reductions of approximately 2,000 tonnes each year.

Preliminary calculations presented by SIN indicates that Randwick Council's current investment in energy saving actions are reducing greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 5 percent with a further 95 percent necessary to achieve carbon neutrality.

There are more than a dozen local Councils around Australia, and most capital city Councils announcing commitments to achieve carbon neutrality ahead of a full inventory of their greenhouse gas emissions.

The implications for these Councils is that they making commitments to zero emission targets that have not been costed or presented for consideration by Councillors or their community.

As well as the report from SIN providing advice on this issue for Randwick, a separate emissions inventory is to be undertaken for Council as part of the Milestone 5 requirement of the CCP Program.

It is expected to report on the results of these separate tasks to the Environment Committee in order to assist their recommendation to Council on how Randwick may consider achieving a zero emissions or carbon neutral commitment.

It is expected that the results of the SIN report will be presented to the November committee meeting and the Milestone 5 CCP emissions data inventory will be presented to the December meeting.

**RELATIONSHIP TO CITY PLAN:**

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

Outcome 10: A Healthy Environment.

Direction: 10(a) Council is a leader in fostering environmentally sustainable practices.

10(g) Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

The assessment by Sustainability Initiatives Network and the Milestone 5 greenhouse gas emissions inventory is funded through Council's Sustaining our City initiative and Environmental Levy program.

**CONCLUSION:**

It will be important for Council to have sound and current data on our greenhouse gas emissions in order to determine the difficulties, costs or other implications of proceeding along a path of going carbon neutral.

The commitment is a strong gesture to make and provides a positive signal to other Councils and the community but it will be important to establish the annual investment required to achieve zero emissions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- a) the report be received and noted;
- b) A summary of the consultant's report with issues and implications for Council consideration on going carbon neutral be presented to the Environment Committee in November.

**ATTACHMENT/S:**

Nil

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SIMA TRUUVERT  
DIRECTOR, CITY PLANNING

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PETER MAGANOV  
MANAGER, SUSTAINABILITY

