



**Randwick City
Council**
a sense of community

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
BUSINESS PAPER

TUESDAY 14 JULY 2015

Administrative Centre 30 Frances Street Randwick 2031
Telephone: 1300 722 542
Fax: 02 9319 1510
council@randwick.nsw.gov.au
www.randwick.nsw.gov.au



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Environment Committee Meeting of the Council of the City of Randwick will be held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, 90 Avoca Street, Randwick on Tuesday, 14 July 2015 at 6:00pm

Committee Members: The Mayor (T Seng), Andrews, Belleli, Bowen, D'Souza, Garcia, Matson (Deputy Chairperson), Moore, Nash, Neilson, Roberts, Shurey (Chairperson), Smith, Stavrinou & Stevenson

Quorum: Eight (8) members

NOTE: At the extraordinary meeting held on 22 May 2007, the Council resolved that the Environment Committee be constituted as a committee with full delegation to determine matters on the agenda.

Apologies/Granting of Leave of Absences

Confirmation of the Minutes

Environment Committee Meeting - 9 June 2015

Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests

Address of Committee by Members of the Public

Privacy warning;

In respect to Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act, members of the public are advised that the proceedings of this meeting will be recorded for the purposes of clause 69 of Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Urgent Business

Environment Reports

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Notice of Rescission Motions

Nil

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Ray Brownlee
GENERAL MANAGER

Environment Report No. E7/15



Subject: Event Proposal - UNSW Art Exhibit at Randwick Community Centre and Environment Park

Folder No: F2014/00608

Author: Grace Houw, Senior Strategic Planner

Introduction

Council has been presented with an opportunity to collaborate with the University of NSW (UNSW) in delivering a new cultural event which focuses on environmentally sensitive art.

The Environmental Research Initiative for Art (ERIA) is part of the College of Fine Arts at UNSW. ERIA is focussed on combining renewable energy with media technologies to create public art that is both environmentally sensitive and self-sustaining. Allan Giddy, the Director of ERIA has initiated discussions with Council staff about the possibility of utilising a public space within the Randwick LGA to allow students to create, install and exhibit ecological artworks as part of their tertiary education. The art exhibition would not only benefit ERIA students in gaining practical work experience, but will also provide for an interactive and educational cultural experience for the greater Randwick community.

It has been identified that this environmental art exhibition would have strong synergies with the Eco-living Fair, which is held annually in September and considered to be Council's signature sustainability event. The art exhibition would provide a new element to the event, whilst strengthening Council's position as a leader in sustainability and innovation.

Event Proposal

The event proposal for this art exhibition is listed as follows:

Dates: 10-13 September 2015 (with Eco-living Fair being held on 13 September)

Time: 6pm – 8.30pm

Duration: 4 nights

Location: Randwick Community Centre and Randwick Environment Park

Students will be required to supply, install and dismantle their art installations. There will be approximately 23 artworks installed as part of the environmental exhibition.

It is anticipated that bump-in may take up to 4 days (7-10 September 2015) and bump-out will require one day (14 September 2015). Public access to Randwick Environment Park will be maintained for the community during the bump in/out process and during the event dates.

The length of the exhibition will be 4 nights. The opening night event will include speeches by the Mayor and Vice-Chancellor of UNSW. Students, their friends and family will also attend on the opening night, with the student artists hosting walking tours of the artwork trail to explain the significance of each installation.

Over the four nights the students will be on a roster to welcome the community, distribute programs and discuss their works.

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This event would be marketed to the community by Council through advertising, e-news, website, social media, email databases, flyers, posters and letterbox drop. In conjunction UNSW will also use their marketing tools to promote the event through their databases and promote to students and networks. The UNSW also has a strong social media presence. Allan Giddy has a strong following and his involvement in this project will bring a mix of the art and student community.

Over the four nights it is proposed to have food trucks onsite, as well as some entertainment provided by UNSW music students. The students themselves will bring a crowd, with family and friends attending the event.

Background

During the last 10 years, there has been a movement away from the gallery as a repository for art and a point of exchange for aesthetic based ideas. Within the context of the Sydney metropolitan region, there has been a proliferation of art and cultural events taking place outside of the gallery with the most notable and popular events being Sculptures by the Sea and Vivid Sydney. On a local scale, public art events such as the La Lune Exhibition, organised by Warringah Council (and also in conjunction with ERIA) have also enjoyed similar success. Randwick Council currently does not hold any public art exhibitions or the like.

Given that the art exhibition will have a strong environmental focus, there is a possibility to incorporate this event with Council's Eco-living Fair, which is now in its 10th year. The proposed exhibition will feature sustainable artworks within the grounds of Randwick Environment Park and Randwick Community Centre. As the artworks will incorporate light generated from natural energies, the exhibition will best be viewed in the evening. Essentially, the exhibit will comprise an evening outdoor gallery walk which showcases the work of local university students which will be open to the community for four nights.

As part of the event proposal, third year ERIA students will create site specific interventions, performances, installations, sound and light works for this exhibition. The artworks will be required to integrate ecological practices in ways that regenerate physical environments, while also producing new and meaningful exchanges with a community of users.

Artworks will react aesthetically to the site and deal with the myriad of technical and compliance issues that accompany the creation and installation of publically sited work. A preliminary site visit has been undertaken with Council's Biodiversity Field Officer to understand the environmental constraints associated with the park. In this meeting, a number of sites have been identified as being appropriate for the installation of temporary artworks.

Additionally, a site brief and access instructions will be prepared for students to ensure that the site is not damaged in any way by the introduction of art, or during the installation/dismantling phases.

The exhibition will highlight and showcase the rich biodiversity of the Randwick Environment Park and also provide education on renewable energy sources. Part of the signage will include information about the biodiversity that exists in the park.

The artwork installations will be made from recyclable materials and public liability insurance will be sourced by UNSW.

Outline of costs

While the installation, supply and dismantling of artworks will be free of charge, there are a number of costs to Council involved in staging this event. The estimated cost breakdown structure can be viewed in the table below:

ITEM	COST
IN-KIND COSTS	
Waive hire fee for use of Community Centre	\$576.00
CASH CONTRIBUTION	
Staff	\$1500.00
Opening night reception	\$4000.00
Event infrastructure (e.g. Flooring, fencing)	\$1500.00
Promotion & advertising	\$6000.00
Security	\$2600.00
TOTAL IN-KIND COSTS	\$576.00
TOTAL CASH CONTRIBUTION	\$15,600.00

This event is a cultural arts and sustainability initiative and meets the objectives of the Environmental Levy as follows:

- community education
- showcasing renewable energy installations on a Council and community site
- reducing impact on our natural environment, including energy and water conservation and reducing waste.
- Thorough enhancing Randwick City's environment.

This project is also consistent with the uses identified in the Plan of Management for the Randwick Community Centre, activating the space for:

- Recreational and leisure purposes
- Performing and visual arts
- Public art installations/sculptures
- Art exhibitions, launches and talks

This project is not part of a planned program so no funds have been allocated. This project provides an opportunity for Council to partner on a unique environmental program.

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

- Outcome 2: A vibrant and diverse community
 Direction 2d: Deliver and/or sponsor a range of cultural programs to promote a sense of community
- Outcome 5: Excellence in recreation and lifestyle opportunities
 Direction 5a: Maximise opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy both active and passive open space uses.
- Outcome 10: A healthy environment.
 Direction 10(g): Energy conservation and efficiency programs are implemented.

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Financial impact statement

The estimated cost for the delivery of this event is \$15,600.00 cash and \$576.00 waiving of fees in-kind support.

This event encompasses both a sustainability and cultural art component, so these funds will be allocated equally from the Environment Levy and from the Council's Events budget.

Conclusion

Supporting this event will result in a number of positive benefits. Creating a cultural event for the community to attend will build on our sense of community. This cultural arts event will offer a unique way to experience artworks and learn more about the local environment.

The event will also bring a range of other community benefits. An exhibition of this nature will stimulate arts and culture in Randwick City and is in line with Council's Cultural Plan as it provides residents with an opportunity to experience and engage in free public art. Furthermore, this event will promote Randwick Community Centre, Randwick Environmental Park and the newly opened Sustainable Classroom.

A number of educational benefits are also associated with this event. The exhibition will provide an interesting platform in engaging the community on the unique biodiversity values of the Randwick Environment Park. It will allow visitors to interact with the vegetation and wetland in an appealing setting.

This project will also allow Council to build on its relationship with UNSW, an important local stakeholder. The event will not only foster the learning of students in a practical real life setting, but will provide a platform for local emerging artists.

Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Approve \$15,600.00 cash spend and \$576.00 in in-kind support for the production of the Art Exhibit at Randwick Environmental Park for 10-13 September 2015
- b) Approve the allocation of 50% of funds to be sourced through the Environment Levy
- c) Approve the allocation of 50% of funds to be sourced from the Council's Events budget

Attachment/s:

1. Letter from Allan Giddy - request to partner on Eco Art Initiative



Dear Katie,

I have seen our program co-ordinator and we are good to go re the year three student exhibition to accompany your Eco Fair.

If you are keen to have us please send me dates etc and we can arrange another meeting to discuss themes and sites.

It would be good to work with your arborist on this as many of the students will want to make installations that relate directly to sites with vegetation and water. Part of this course is devoted to learning how to work with professionals to ensure the site being highlighted is not damaged in any way by the introduction of art. I would imagine we are all on the same side here.

Below is my preliminary text outline for the UNSW course project.

During the last 40 years and in particularly the last 10 there has been a movement away from the gallery as a repository for art and a point of exchange for aesthetic based ideas.

With this in mind, students will be required to commit to an exhibition in a "remote" public urban site in Randwick. Using skills developed during the sculpture camp (semester 1) they will create site specific interventions, performances, installations, sound and lightworks. They will be asked to react aesthetically to site and deal with the myriad of technical and compliance issues that accompany the creation and installation of publically sited work. They will also be encouraged to work in public to progress the exhibition and this will in itself become a performative act or at very least an act of public communication.

The exhibition will be formally opened in September by a Randwick dignitary and viewed by thousands of attendees of the Eco Fair.

What we are asking for:

Access to site

A formal opening with a speech by The Mayor or a councillor (whom ever is interested).

Possible extras from Randwick:

Maybe banners or some printing

Maybe a prize or two

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Possible extras from the Class

Possibility of coupling with the sleep over as an event.

Possibility of talking to visiting classes

Possibility of working in public as a lead-up display to highlight the Eco Fair

Media via A&D marketing

In addition

I met with Rob Largent today and he indicated his students may bring in the solar racing car. This would be a great addition to the event.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if any further information is required.

Yours Allan Giddy.

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The Environmental Research Initiative for Art College of Fine Arts University of New South Wales
PO Box 259 Paddington NSW 2021 Australia

Environment Report No. E8/15



Subject: Randwick's 2015 Eco-living Fair
Folder No: F2015/00605
Author: Katie Anderson, Manager, Cultural Events and Venues

Introduction

Council's annual Eco-living Fair now in its tenth year, is a major fixture in Randwick's calendar of environmental events. It continues to be one of the largest and amongst the most successful environmental festivals held across the Sydney metropolitan area attracting up to 6,000 residents and visitors each year.

The Eco-living Fair is held at Randwick's sustainability education 'hub' at the Randwick Community Centre in Munda Street from 10.00am to 3.00pm on Sunday, 13 September 2015.

Issues

This year's Eco-living Fair will be celebrating its tenth year, and will continue to provide a range of new and popular activities for local residents and their families. As well as outdoor stalls promoting and showcasing environmental friendly products from across the Eastern suburbs and wider Sydney region, there will be a range of family and children's entertainment, native wildlife on show for youngsters to learn about the importance of biodiversity, and sessions on how to reduce allergies, grow plants in limited spaces and reduce exposure to chemicals.

The Eco-living Fair will also include an expert panel discussion "Conversations for the Future" and a kids talk presented by local schools with an environmental topic. There will be craft sessions for all age groups and composting workshops encouraging residents to sign up to Council initiatives including the Compost Revolution.

Other popular events on the day include Council's Garden Awards, cycling activities and free bicycle maintenance workshops, tours of the Randwick Environment Park and "ask the experts" sessions on keeping bees and chickens and sustainable composting and sustainable food production.

The sustainable food focus during our Eco-living Fair reflects the growing importance of this issue for residents and the wider community. Council has responded to this increasing level of concern particularly through our community garden and school food garden policies and specific funding support for these initiatives. This financial support is delivered as part of Randwick's community engagement budget of the environmental levy program. Food preparation and using leftovers demonstrations and workshops as well as buying and storing foodstuffs and fresh produce have also featured regularly at the Eco Living Fair and other Council events to maximize our community's understanding and response to sustainable food practices.

Relationship to City Plan

The relationship with the City Plan is as follows:

- Outcome 2: A vibrant and diverse community.
- Direction 2(b): Enrich our range of community services that meets our community needs.
- Outcome 3: An informed and engaged community.

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Direction 3(c): A community involved in shaping and enhancing our City.

Outcome 10: A healthy environment.

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

Financial impact statement

An amount of \$60,000.00 has been allocated for the annual Eco Living Fair, funded through the community education budget of the environmental levy program.

Conclusion

Randwick's Eco-living Fair, now in its tenth year, is a firm fixture on the environmental calendar for residents across Randwick and the Eastern suburbs. The event continues to showcase opportunities for local residents and their families to find out about and take action on how to protect and improve their local environment as well as achieving financial savings from using less water and energy and reducing waste around the home, school and workplace. Randwick's Eco-living Fair continues to aim for a maximum level of enjoyment and learning for the whole family.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the broad program and approach for Randwick Council's tenth Eco-living Fair at Randwick Community Centre on Sunday, 13 September 2015.

Attachment/s:

Nil

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