



Community Consultation Report: La Perouse Anzac Monument

23 March to 20 June 2018

Prepared by: Amanda Mather, Community Consultation Officer

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1.0 Overview

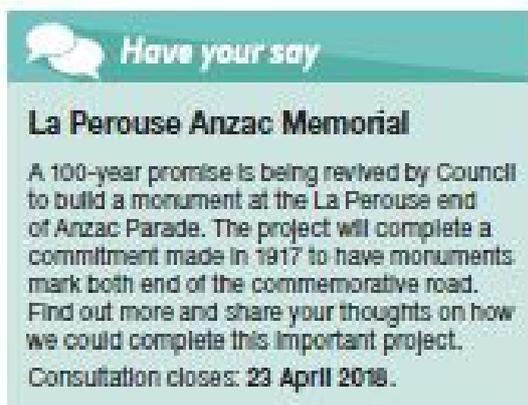
A community consultation program was undertaken to gather stories and ideas from the community to help with the development of the La Perouse Anzac Monument. The monument is proposed to be constructed between Anzac Parade and Goorawahl Ave, La Perouse. The consultation was open from 23 March to 20 June 2018.

2.0 Consultation activities

Your Say Randwick project page	https://www.yoursayrandwick.com.au/LaPerouseANZAC The site included a discussion forum and story book for the community to share their thoughts on how the monument should represent the Anzacs and to share family stories.
Southern Courier notification	3 April 2018
Southern Courier article	17 April 2018; article on the consultation
Randwick eNews	28 March 2018; 246 clicks
Your Say email	Email to 2400 Your Say Randwick subscribers 23 March 2018
Randwick Council website	Notification on the front page of Council's website and on the 'Current Consultations' page
Precinct committees	Notification to all Resident Precinct Committees

3.0 Examples of communications

Southern Courier – 3 April 2018:



Have your say

La Perouse Anzac Memorial

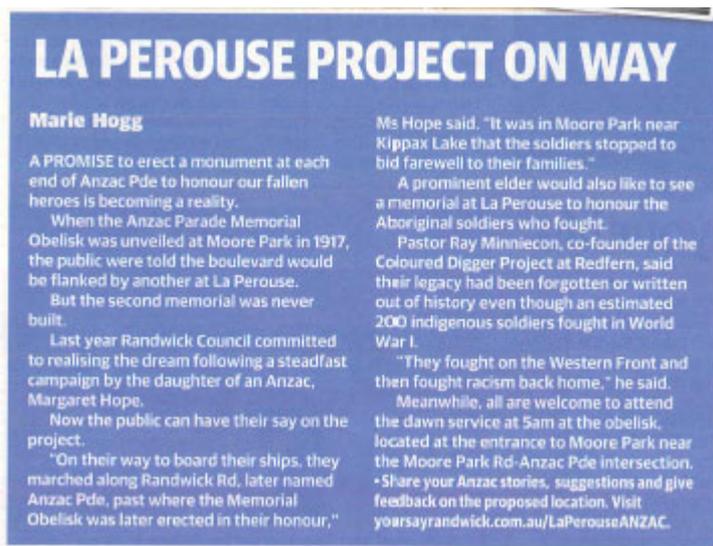
A 100-year promise is being revived by Council to build a monument at the La Perouse end of Anzac Parade. The project will complete a commitment made in 1917 to have monuments mark both end of the commemorative road. Find out more and share your thoughts on how we could complete this important project. Consultation closes: 23 April 2018.

eNews – 28 March 2018:



100-year promise to build a second Anzac monument

A 100-year promise is being revived by Council and a Randwick resident to build a monument at the La Perouse end of Anzac Parade. Share your thoughts on how we mark this important part of history. [\[More\]](#)



4.0 Your Say summary and results

Days open	90 days; 23 March to 20 June 2018
Number of visits to Your Say Randwick	503 unique visitors
Number of survey submissions	35 comments on the discussion forum. No stories shared.

Submissions:

The best solution would be a monumental arch over the roadway at that point, ie North of the roundabout which commences the 'LaPa road loop'. It does not need to replicate the huge 'Menenpoort' WW1 memorial arch in Ypres, Belgium. And this 'style' of memorial is not really used in Australia. But consider most Sydneysiders' awe when they first drove under the Luna Park arch in their youth. Having a monument 'span' a roadway is a very good way to draw attention to something. The arch could be just 2-3m 'thick', not the 20m+ of Menenpoort. For effect, the surface stone and simple architectural style could be matched to the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park, to book-end the length of Anzac Parade. The inscriptions should all be about the campaigns/countries in which Australian (& NZ) troops fought, and not be about immortalising the names of the RCC counsellors pro temp at the time of its opening. And yes, any span of the roadway would need to be after the widening of the roadway for bus terminus usage, but the roadway does already narrow for the purpose of the roundabout, so the arch could be 'closer' than one would 'otherwise' like to see from the roundabout.

While some might think that an arch over a roadway is not a good place to hold ceremonies (eg at opening, or at Anzac Day each year), for any major Anzac-related event, the roadway can simply be closed at that point for the ceremony. Access to the loop is not critical, and any emergency services etc can access via 'the back way' that comes off Anzac Parade 300m farther to the North.

The monument should tell the history of why it's there and why it is significant so that anyone visiting now or in 100 years knows the story. Definitely do not want to see all the names of Randwick Councillors plastered all over the monument. That would totally miss the point of why a memorial/monument was there, and indeed would be disrespectful to those who served.

A simple but strong design for the monument. Possibly a modern interpretation of the Memorial Obelisk at Moore Park.

I don't like the idea of an arch, which would be totally out of proportion to the original moment, and I definitely don't want to see any current councillors adorning whatever is built.

There should be a monument which reflects the style of the one at the other end of Anzac Parade, though it should be a bit more modern, to show that it took 100 years to complete the picture.

The most critical thing, in my opinion, is to MOVE THE ORIGINAL ONE INTO THE CENTRE OF ANZAC PARADE. It's disgraceful that it is stuck over to the side in the park where it can't be seen!

Then the new one at La Perouse should also be at the other end of the parade, in the park around which the loop road goes, also not sidelined to some other little park a few hundred metres short of the end.

Near it there should be a separate monument celebrating the contribution which Aboriginal people made to the 2 world wars. La Perouse is the iconic Aboriginal place in Sydney, and should be recognised as such.

Comment by another resident:

Agree that it is disgraceful where it is and until it's done - I don't feel it is a valid idea.

Moving the monument from its original position right at the start of the Parade and destroying this area by getting rid of the trees has spoilt this idea. It was to be at the start and finish of Anzac Parade. The monument is lost where it is and putting one at La Perouse is not really completing the original idea. Better spend the money making La Perouse a more historical place where the true history is told even the unpleasant bits and use it to celebrate the founding of that area.

Great idea, and the monument should be modern in design and made in local sandstone and acknowledge the First Peoples involvement. "estimates are that about 1,000 Indigenous Australians – out of an estimated population of 93,000 in 1901 – fought in the First World War (though the real number is probably higher)."

<https://www.awm.gov.au/about/our-work/projects/indigenous-service>

The ANZAC tradition is one of the few truly unique identifiers of Australian culture. I commute every day along Anzac Parade and the obelisk always provides a short moment of reflection and respect amongst the shuffle of an overcrowded bus. I was sorely disappointed to see it all of a sudden swept aside and hidden in a dark corner. I think there can be no valid reason for it. I readily welcome the idea of a complimentary monument at the other end of the parade. I agree it should use local stone and pay full, respectful honours to the indigenous service men and women. The local indigenous community leaders should be involved in its placement and design. I love the idea of walking the distance between them every Anzac Day. A wonderful way to commemorate our culture - to walk in the shoes of our heroes. I wish your cause all the best of luck.

No wonder our rates are skyrocketing! Design artists, cultural advisers, yuppie contractors extravaganza.

Monument is to the men who set off to fight in WW1, and given what I read about them they were NOT into glorious monstrous archways etc.

It may be politically incorrect but why should Randwick rate payers pick up the tab for the monument? It should be a Federal project - in fact a joint Australia & NZ government monument.

If at La Perouse then the French Govt may buy as well - after all most of the fighting and dying by the ANZACs was done on French soil liberating their country.

Waste of time and money. How about a rail link to La Perouse

This looks like where the bus stop is....not a good spot. Overall, don't we have enough monuments?

I think a more appropriate location for the monument would be in Cann Park where it would be more conspicuous as visitors park there and many others would pass there to go to Congwong Beach.

Whatever the final design, it should include recognition of indigenous soldier involvement. Cann park may be a higher visual position?

Stop wasting rate payers money and raising our rates this should be funded by the federal government it's not for the rate payers to be funding this.

There are a lot more important things for council to be spending our money on to benefit the local community, not more tourists attractions or building another building to have a plack with your name on it.

How about improving transport & health needs for the local community instead.

Comment by another resident:

Transport and health are not local government responsibilities - they look after parks, pools, garbage, etc

Comment by another resident:

Even though you are correct, there are still a lot of streets in randwick that don't have foot paths and many councils support communities services for the aged and disabled to get them to hospitals and medical treatment. They also support access for transport with disabled parking. Wasting money on statues helps no one.

We already acknowledge Anzac Day enough. Let the Daughters of Anzac fund this if they want to not the Council. Providing better services and a properly planned and sustainable Randwick council area should be your focus.

I only agree with 4. Restoration of Memorial Grove of Trees.

I don't think the other monuments are the best way to commemorate the memory, and I'd rather the funds be used on active community programs focussing on people. If you do decide to build it, the indigenous community must be included in the discussion to guide the decision making process.

Similar Obelisk to one at Moore Park could be erected at La Perouse

I am sure the money could be better spent on something other than yet another anzac memorial. Maybe just plant some trees!

I have to agree with some of these comments. Please, no more memorials. If anything, plant some significant trees. They are cheaper, more beautiful and useful than just another memorial. And they will go some way to compensating for the trees lost to the Eastern Suburbs Light Rail.

complete waste of rate payers money, money better spent on updating playgrounds and park facilities

I would like to see a cluster of significant native trees planted with a small stone or plaque to explain the dedication to commemorate our fallen soldiers

Comment by another resident:

There are well over 100,000 native trees across the road in the National park. The charm of the La Perouse main space is its open ambience which sets it apart from all the dozens of treed parks in the LGA. The memorial should not only have a plaque but also a stark reminder of what war is and what the soldiers endured -such as a cannon. There used to be a WW1 Howitzer at the corner of Anzac Pde and Beauchamp Road which was an appropriate reminder to all the motorist and daily commuters . Perhaps it can be found and placed at La Perouse.

I can understand why this initiative is important to people. However, It is time for the Council to prioritise the issues with which it wants to invest and create a stronger and more connected community. When I think about the future, I think about the importance of reconciling our indigenous history. I believe an Anzac memorial before we have reconciled and appropriately marked Randwick's indigenous heritage would be extremely disrespectful. Connecting 60,000 years of Aboriginal stewardship, with the institutions resulting from 200 years of colonial rule and our recent multi-cultural immigrant history creates a vibrant, strong and connected foundation from which our community can prosper. We have enough Anzac memorials and enough opportunities to recognise and value the WWI soldiers. We don't need any more.

Nice idea but whatever happens in the end, you should ensure it is not 'moved' to accommodate a future light rail or tram or heavy rail when NSW government finally decides to get more and better transport to La Perouse and area. We saw the obelisk removed and moved for the light rail defeating its original purpose.

I would like to see a duplicate (obelisk) of what is at Moore Park, but to honor our indigenous servicemen their names could be engraved on it's surface. By having 2 the same it would signify the start and end of Anzac Parade.

Hi, Although I think it is important to honour and remember the ANZACs, I think the money would be better spent solving the current issues of the residents of Randwick. Maintenance of roads and footpaths, support for the elderly, disadvantaged and disabled, rangers to enforce parking and trees obstructing footpaths, etc. The company building the light rail should be paying for replacement trees on ANZAC Parade.

'In principal it's a good idea. But three points -

- I am disappointed the obelisk was moved from centre of Anzac pde at Mooree Park. I was passing that memorial for 50 + years. It reminded me of my dad who served in PNG in WWII. Then it disappeared. You can't see it over in park when travelling on roadway. Part of its original design, along with the removed trees, was to be an Avenue headed by the obelisk. Now ruined. Restore this avenue to its original design before building the other.

- again we are surveyed with a possible outcome sort by council. That is to build the new memorial. In its self it's a great idea. But without costing, without alternative spends presented, without a cost benefit. It seems like another biased approach. Like the minimum lot size survey and the worst of all the special rate increase survey. So biased. So weighted.

- lastly I think a dedication to the indigenous community particularly that of LaPerouse is very commendable. Aboriginal society is the oldest and arguably the greatest on the planet. We can't do enough. But who am I to say what is good or wanted by the aboriginal community of Randwick City and wider. When it comes to indigenous issues you should be asking them. It's their say not mine (non indigenous) say.

Absolute waste of ratepayers hard earned money.

What a joke, and Randwick council is asking rate payers for a rate increase.

Perhaps if they had not wasted so much money on the likes of amalgamation against the wishes of the majority etc.

And now the Mayor wants us to stomp up for an obelisk, anti-terrorism, under ground cabling etc. GIVE ME A BREAK

Small monument = OK, no polie names, memorial trees to encircle it, names of Aboriginal ANZACS, and move the one at Moore Park back to where it should be.

The memorial should be free from specific racial distinctions, otherwise to be unbiased the memorial would have to mention all the other background nationalities that composed the Anzacs

The claim that a second monument was planned / promised for La Perouse in 1917 is uncertain at best, and I believe it is based on a misinterpretation of historical sources. There are historical records which indicate that a municipal memorial was proposed for the small park at the intersection of Anzac Parade and Alison Road, called Toll Bar Reserve, not at La Perouse. Before committing to any memorial at La Perouse, Council needs to ensure the historical veracity of the claims made by the Daughters of Anzac in relation to this proposed monument.

I visited Broome last May and found they had a memorial to Indigenous Diggers. I suggest Randwick Council contact Broome Council for advice re this. The memorial was in a beautiful park on the edge of Roebuck Bay.

I think that it would be a good idea to try to incorporate three ideas, if possible. The first idea, to my mind, would be to acknowledge that ANZAC Parade is a road that is thousands of years old. It was noticed by James Cook and Joseph Banks when they came. The second idea tries to take account of the point that many have made here, that the funds should be directed to matters of more immediate interest to our community. To that end, could the monument be telling us of the place of La Perouse in Australia's history, as can be seen in Council's nearby museum? Is there some way that this monument could be linked to the museum, and indeed the La Perouse monument, in some way? The third idea is that we owe a lot to those who gave their lives for the sake of our community, but a community that has expanded to include people from all over the world, including Australia's former enemies?

5.0 Other Submissions

A further 4 submissions were sent to Council via email and/or letter.

Being an "unfinished project" I think it would be appropriate to finish the job with an exact replica of the original at the beginning of Anzac Parade (as intended). It would seem appropriate to make it out of local sandstone...there is lots of that around!

The date of erection could be discretely noted on it.

Just because it is located at La Perouse I do not think it necessary to particularly "single out" the local aboriginal residents and have an ABORIGINAL THEME.

EVERYBODY who considered themselves to be loyal AUSTRALIANS (Despite having varied original ethnic backgrounds). Enlisted to defend THEIR country and the rights of mankind. Is it actually recorded if any La Perouse residents of aboriginal ancestry enlisted in the first world war...and if so, did any of them lose their lives? Is there a local war memorial at La Perouse?

If not the names ALL LOCALS. Could be recorded on an accompanying separate memorial. Please consider!

Don't agree on the monument at all. You just begged us to raise rates and to borrow in order to do a bunch of worthwhile but not critical things. This monument would be irresponsible use of council funds. Plant more trees, fix our park that's weeds and dirt.

Dear council,

Seriously, is that the most pressing issue?

Aren't there other things the council could spend money on?

How about some bike lanes, more green along footpaths, rain gardens like the city of Sydney introduces them. With all due respect, surely working towards a more sustainable and livable Randwick should have priority over another Anzac memorial.

I think some inspiration could be taken from the Anzac War Memorial in Hyde Park. It engenders calm respect, partly through its wonderful sculptures. A bas-relief sculpture similar to the one pictured below would be appropriate, as it could include Aboriginal and Chinese-Australian soldiers, a nurse, gunner, sapper, sailor and airman to show the range of people who served.

I also think the monument should be made of rough-hewn sandstone, to reflect its surroundings. Perhaps two large stone blocks, one on top of the other, with a few words on the lower one and a relief sculpture on the upper one.

The words I favour are 'At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, We will remember them.' They are simple, widely recognised and full of meaning, and this is an appropriate location to contemplate them.

A rising sun badge and the word ANZAC could be incised on another face of the monument.