



MINUTES

Greening Randwick Committee

Wednesday 27 May 2020

Meeting held at 6:00pm via Microsoft Teams

Attendee Name	Organisation	Initials
Cr Kathy Neilson	Randwick Council	KN
Cr Lindsay Shurey	Randwick Council	LS
Cr Philipa Veitch	Randwick Council	PV
Joe Ingegneri	Randwick Council	Jl
Dennis Flaherty	Randwick Council	DF
Bronwyn Englaro	Randwick Council	BE
Peter Ryan	Community Representative	PR
Graham Turner	Community Representative	GT
Lynda Newnam	Community Representative	LN

Item		Action
1.0	Welcome and Introductions	
1.1	Committee members were welcomed to the meeting.	Note.
2.0	Apologies	
2.1	Cr Brendan Roberts, Heidi Dokulil and Kerry Colquhoun.	Note.
3.0	Tree Planting and Data Collection Update	
3.1	<p>Council's Acting Coordinator Tree Management Services, Dennis Flaherty informed the committee that currently, \$67,300 has been spent on the planting of 225 street trees. A further 60 street trees (\$20,000) are to be planted before the end of the financial year. There will be approximately \$30,000 remaining that will be carried over to FY 20/21, subject to approval of the carry over report.</p> <p>An enquiry was raised regarding the maintenance of trees as part of upgrade projects. Following hot weather, 6 street trees that were planted as part of the Mahon Pool project had died. Committee members were advised that the planting of trees under new projects come out of the Capital Works Budget. A year of defect liability normally includes planting and establishment of trees and vegetation.</p> <p>The funding for street tree planting has been increased to \$135,000 in the draft 2020-21 Capital Works Budget. This compares to the \$40,000 allocated in the original 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>The Open Spaces team has a separate budget for tree planting in parks.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the Sydney Light Rail's Vegetation Offset Program. Approximately 1174 trees are to be planted. The trees planted are 50-100 litre pots which have a height between 1.2m to 1.8m. As part of the program, they will be responsible for the maintenance of the trees for two years.</p>	<p>Note.</p> <p>Jl to enquire with the Projects team if tree maintenance was covered in this project.</p> <p>Note.</p> <p>Note.</p>

	<p>Acciona have engaged a planting contractor. The planting is anticipated to commence in late June / early July. The trees are to be planted along the light rail alignment and the adjacent streets. Awaiting further updates from Acciona.</p>	Note.
3.2	<p>Dennis Flaherty provided the Committee with an update on the collection of street tree data. Three quotes were required as part of RCC purchasing procedures. The quotes received were similar in cost and represent market value. The consultant selected is already set up with the I-tree software system. They will collect tree data at \$15/tree for an estimated 13-15,000 trees. It is anticipated that 100 trees can be assessed per day and the data should be collected within 6 months from commencement.</p> <p>I-tree software system has great reporting facilities. This can be shown at the next committee meeting. The data collected includes approximately 15 attributes per tree that will be entered into the data base. These include, species, height, canopy dimensions and health including presence of disease. The data will need to be updated regularly, approximately every 5 years. The frequency will be determined as part of the data collection program. It should be noted that not much physical change will be seen in mature trees, however, newly planted trees will show greater change, particularly to the canopy.</p> <p>The budget for stage 1 is \$100,000. The stage 2 budget 20/21 is \$100,000. There is an estimated 30-50,000 trees within the Randwick LGA and the budget should cover 90%-100% of the trees.</p>	<p>Note.</p> <p>Images of I-Tree attributes to be distributed to committee members prior to the next meeting.</p>
4.0	Commemorative Trees and Cool Streets Initiatives	
4.1	<p><u>Commemorative Trees</u></p> <p>There was discussion of commemorative trees to offer an alternative to commemorative seats with plaques. Currently, the City of Sydney offer commemorative trees and offer a public tree donation register instead of a plaque. Dependent on tree size and planting location, the cost ranges from \$1,000-\$50,000. The planting is undertaken by the Council. Commemorative trees are also located in Centennial Park that include a plaque.</p> <p>Consideration was made to use Heffron Park as a location for commemorative trees due to its open space. Street tree planting at \$300/tree could offer a lower price point. Dennis Flaherty raised that the location would preferably be located in a park, away from infrastructure to provide a stable environment.</p>	<p>Note.</p> <p>RCC to investigate developing a draft policy on commemorative trees.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Cool Streets Initiatives</u></p> <p>The Cool Streets initiative is a community consultative project on planting trees in streets in the new suburbs. For example, in Blacktown. Residents were given options of small trees, large trees or a mixture of both. The pros and cons for each option were made to the residents including energy savings for private home owners. Following several consultation rounds, the residents elected to choose a mixture of tree species. As part of the program, the residents were involved in the actual tree planting.</p> <p>The initiative would be good for new subdivisions and greenfield sites. Due to the amount of consultation required, it would be an</p>	<p>Note.</p> <p>Note.</p>

	expensive initiative to implement in the Randwick LGA and would be unsuitable for a few trees within an existing street.	
5.0	Tree Species and Habitat	
5.1	<p>The committee discussed tree species and habitat including what is needed for certain bird species. Lynda Newnam noted that hybrid grevilleas encourage noisy minors and are resulting in the decline in the smaller bird species.</p> <p>The species that are planted in Council parks can in many instances be selected by landscape architects as part of an open space design. The list of tree species should be reviewed for habitat value.</p> <p>It was highlighted that many of the species purchased for private plantings came from Bunnings and Flower Power. These major retailers carry generic common species that are popular and may not suit the Randwick LGA. It was suggested that Council could approach the retailers to make them of aware of the habitat requirements for smaller birds and request that they carry more appropriate species for the region and to address this issue.</p>	<p>Investigate plant species that support smaller bird species and habitat value.</p> <p>Consider increasing the percentage of native species from the existing 50% requirement outlined in Section 3.2 of the DCP.</p> <p>That Council explore how to encourage the major suppliers of plants and trees to supply suitable native species that provide habitat for smaller birds.</p>
6.0	Greening Randwick Webpage – Minutes	
6.1	<p>A proposal for a new webpage to include information from the Greening Randwick Committee including the Minutes was discussed. It was agreed that in the short term a new webpage be created on the Randwick Council website.</p> <p>It was also suggested to include a dashboard on tree data on the webpage that can be accessed by the public.</p> <p>It was highlighted that Waverly Council has a designated website called second nature. Creation of a separate website is a longer-term project that could include current environmental programs and initiatives (“Resilient Randwick”, “Living Randwick” and “Liveability”).</p>	<p>That anew webpage be developed to contain the Minutes of the Greening Randwick Committee and associated information.</p> <p>Note.</p>
6.2	<p>Joe Ingegneri advised that the Minutes of the previous Greening Randwick Committee meetings should be made publicly available on the Randwick website. The Minutes will be reported to Council for endorsement and then can made available to the public via the new webpage.</p>	<p>The new process be endorsed and a report with past Minutes be included in a future agenda of the Ordinary Council.</p>
7.0	General Business	
7.1	No items.	
8.0	Next Meeting	
8.1	<p>The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 15 July 2020. Location and format to be confirmed.</p>	Note.
9.0	Close	
9.1	The meeting closed at 7.55pm	Note.