

## **CUMBERLAND COUNCIL ACCESS COMMITTEE**

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on Thursday, 22 August 2019 at 6.00pm in Committee Rooms, Council Administration Building, Merrylands.

### **1. Open of Meeting**

Councillor Lisa Lake welcomed all attendees to the Access Committee of Cumberland Council.

### **2. Record of Attendance, Introductions and Apologies**

#### **Attendance List:**

Clr Lisa Lake	Councillor and Committee Member (Chairperson)
Mark Kunach	Committee Member
Pam Colman	Committee Member
Peter Simpson	Committee Member
Richard Silberer	Committee Member
Sue Huxtable Jones	Committee Member
Zhila Hasanloo	Committee Member

#### **Council Staff in Attendance:**

Kylie Marsden	Manager Aged and Disability Services
Nadine El-Hassan	Access and Inclusion Officer (Minutes)
Richard Loudon	Landscape Architect
Siva Sivakumar	Manager Engineering and Traffic

#### **Apologies:**

Clr George Campbell	Councillor and Committee Member
Clr Steve Christou	Councillor and Committee Member
Amit Golwala	Committee Member
Phillip Sorbello	Manager Facilities
Ron Gibson	Committee Member
Sandra McDermott	Committee Member

### **3. Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 May 2019, were passed and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. Moved by Pam Colman.

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**ITEMS DISCUSSED BY COMMITTEE:**

**5. *Inclusive Playgrounds Updates***

Central Gardens – All abilities Playground

An update was provided on the all abilities playground. The playground is currently on track for a December 2019 opening. Committee Members suggested to align the opening with International Day of People with Disability (3 December 2019) or as close to the date as possible.

Site plans were shown along with images of the types of proposed equipment. Some of the proposed equipment includes raised sand pits, accessible carousel, and water play feature, accessible ramp with play activities along either side and in ground trampolines. It was noted that the shading over the playground will be renewed.

**Feedback from Committee**

- Concern regarding the footpath along the Paton Street entry to Central Gardens was raised. It commences after the first entry to the gardens and ends at the pedestrian crossing a few metres up. The rest of Paton Street is mulch and dirt.
- Concerns regarding lack of shade for seating areas around the playground was also raised. A suggestion of having amenities available for children to clean up (since there will be water play, sand play and mulch play) was made. Committee Members suggested sprinklers or 'splash pad' type of play could be used as an activity as well as a way to rinse off.

It was noted that NSW Health have new requirements for sprinklers/splash pad play. The inclusion of these types of play in parks would be the same as opening a swimming pool in terms of water treatment etc. so it may not be viable.

Duck River Playground Update:

An update was provided on the Duck River all abilities playground. The path that goes around the playground is now a continuous path.

Soil testing has occurred, and results will be received shortly.

**Feedback from Committee**

- Concerns about rubber soft fall absorbing heat and increasing the temperature were raised, especially during summer time. Council staff noted that there will be plenty of natural shade from the tree canopy over the main playground area.

**6. *Updates: Access Requests/Works***

No works to follow up on.

## **7. Access Requests**

No new access requests.

### Commonwealth Bank Pendle Hill

Councillor Lisa Lake mentioned the closure of the Commonwealth Bank Pendle Hill Branch and the impact on residents and accessibility to services. A suggestion was made for the Committee to write a letter to the Commonwealth Bank regarding the closure of the Pendle Hill branch and the significant impact on accessibility for people in the area as they now have to travel to the next suburb to access a bank.

### Tactile Ground Surface Indicators (TGSI's)

Committee Members discussed issues and inconsistencies with Tactile Ground Surface Indicators in train stations. For example:

- No directional TGSI's at some platforms at exit points.
- No warning TGSI's at some platforms.
- TGSI's on some platforms are not in a contrasting colour.
- No TGSI's of any form installed at some platforms.

### Bus Stops

Issues regarding the accessibility of bus stops was raised, including:

- Footpaths have been upgraded but bus stops have not.
- Bus stops located on the grass/dirt.

The Committee was informed that approximately a dozen were upgraded in Westmead a few months ago. Pam Colman suggested there might be some information in former Holroyd City Council records as they had started work on this issue prior to amalgamation.

### **Recommendations and Actions Arising:**

- 7.1 Council to write a letter to the Commonwealth Bank regarding the closure of the Pendle Hill branch and how it will significantly impact residents.
- 7.2 Council write to the Minister for Transport and Local State Members in relation to the inconsistent application of Tactile Ground Surface Indicators across train platforms in Cumberland.
- 7.3 Peter Simpson to nominate 10 priority locations for bus stop upgrades.

## **8. Access Audits**

No current updates.

### **Recommendations and Actions Arising:**

- 8.1 That Council provide an update on works identified via previous access audits in Wentworthville, Toongabbie and Pendle Hill at the next meeting.

### **9. Access and Inclusion Panel Restructure**

Council staff provided an update on the Access Panel restructure. Projects have been identified, EOI's have been received and meetings/project work will commence in Year 3, in alignment with the DIAP Action Plan.

### **10. Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) Year 1 and 2 Progress Report**

Committee Members were provided with an overview of the DIAP Year 1 and 2 Progress Report. Committee Members discussed the action regarding encouraging inclusive practices by local businesses. Committee Members suggested that Council obtain a resource called *Zero Barriers* produced by Multicultural Network, Bankstown and Liverpool Council, which provides a guide and information for businesses in becoming more inclusive.

### **11. Designing and Delivering Accessible and Inclusive Programs Toolkit**

Committee Members were provided with an overview of the *Draft Designing and Delivering Accessible and Inclusive Programs Toolkit*. Committee Members were able to provide feedback and were pleased with the development of this toolkit. Councillor Lisa Lake suggested attaching this to the Minutes of this Committee Meeting for the next Council Meeting.

### **12. General Business**

Committee Members suggested having accessible drop off points at Community Centres, permanently, and then temporarily at events. It was also mentioned that they would be required to be policed. Committee Members suggested that this could be useful at events like the Ramadan Street Food Festival.

Committee Members were informed that this is already happening at the Sydney Cherry Blossom Festival along with the option to book in accessible parking spots close to the entry in advance.

### **13. Close of Meeting**

Meeting closed at 7:37pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, 28 November 2019 at 6pm at the Merrylands Administration Building.