



CUMBERLAND
CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting

Wednesday, 5 May 2021 at 6:30pm

Cumberland City Council Chambers

Merrylands Service Centre, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

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LATE REPORTS

Council Meeting – 5 May 2021

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Item No: MM05/21-55

MAYORAL MINUTE - UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S TROLLEY CRUSHING INITIATIVE

Author: Mayor Steve Christou
File Number: SC486

SUMMARY

I have previously been very vocal in this Chamber and in the public sphere about my gripe with shopping trolleys littering the Local Government Area, making Cumberland City look like a ghetto.

As a result, I waged war on these trolley operators when I first became Mayor in 2019, and publicly announced that Council would be holding and crushing trolleys moving forward, and be disposing of them responsibly through recycling.

Since 30 January 2021, Council has collected 1497 trolleys. So far 726 have been crushed. The crushed trolleys are recycled for scrap metal and are repurposed.

Apart from cleaning up our Council area and sending a clear message to trolley operators that abandoned trolleys will no longer be tolerated, this exercise has yielded Council \$15,950 in returning proceeds back to the community. Whilst I would prefer not to resort to these measures, this has resulted in our streets looking much tidier.

This exercise has nothing to do with revenue raising, and everything to do with giving the community what they keep telling myself and my fellow Councillors they want, which is clean and tidy neighbourhoods.

As a result, I would like to put the proceeds of these crushed trolleys to good use. Council is holding a Ramadan Iftar Dinner next Monday evening with key religious leaders in attendance, and I propose that these proceeds go towards the cost of organising the event. Any remaining proceeds, I propose be provided to a charity of Council's choice.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I am recommending the following:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Support the Mayoral Minute; and**
- 2. Allocate the \$15,950 from Trolley Return proceeds towards the Ramadan Iftar Dinner Dinner and any remaining proceeds be allocated to a charity to be determined by Council.**

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Item No: MM05/21-56

MAYORAL MINUTE - COVID-19 SUPPORT FOR INDIA

Author: Mayor Steve Christou
File Number: SC486

SUMMARY

I have been deeply saddened recently to see the rampant death rate in India due to Covid-19. There have been over 370,000 positive cases of Covid-19 per day in India, and over 3,000 deaths reported per day in the past week. This is a dire situation and a growing humanitarian crisis.

The Indian Community is very close to our hearts here at Cumberland City Council. I was pleased to see our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison announce very recently that a Boeing 787 took off to India carrying medical supplies, including over 1000 non-invasive ventilators, oxygen concentrators and other supplies.

Whilst I welcome this action whole heartedly, we want to go further here at Cumberland City Council and ask our Federal Government to further assist the Indian Community.

Many of our community are concerned for their families and friends in India at the moment, given Australia has closed its borders to returning Australian citizens from India. It is not right in my view that Australians from any ethnic background are unable to return to this Country when they are citizens, they belong here.

Whilst I acknowledge the great initiative announced by the Prime Minister, I believe he can do more for our fellow Indian Australians.

Therefore Councillors, tonight I am recommending the following:

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledge the positive work of the Prime Minister of Australia, Scott Morrison in arranging medical supplies to be sent to India.**
- 2. Write to the Prime Minister, seeking that the current ban on returning Australian citizens from India be lifted immediately.**

ATTACHMENTS

Nil