



CUMBERLAND CITY COUNCIL

Council Meeting

*Wednesday, 21 February 2024 at 6:30
PM*

Cumberland City Council Chambers

Merrylands Service Centre, 16 Memorial Avenue, Merrylands

Councillor Contact Details

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Greystanes Ward

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Regents Park Ward

Clr Kun Huang	0418 911 774	Kun.Huang@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
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South Granville Ward

Clr Glenn Elmore	0418 459 527	Glenn.Elmore@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
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Wentworthville Ward

Clr Suman Saha	0419 546 950	Suman.Saha@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Lisa Lake (Mayor)	0418 669 681	Lisa.Lake@cumberland.nsw.gov.au
Clr Michael Zaiter	0418 432 797	Michael.Zaiter@cumberland.nsw.gov.au

Statement of Ethical Obligations

Oath or Affirmation of Office

In taking the Oath or Affirmation of Office, each Councillor has made a commitment to undertake the duties of the office of councillor in the best interests of the people of Cumberland and Cumberland City Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.

Conflicts of Interest

A councillor who has a conflict of interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council when the matter is being considered, must disclose the interest and the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable. Both the disclosure and the nature of the interest must be recorded in the minutes of the Council meeting where the conflict of interest arises. Councillors should ensure that they are familiar with Parts 4 and 5 of the Code of Conduct in relation to their obligations to declare and manage conflicts of interests.

For information on Council services and facilities please visit www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au

LATE REPORTS

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Item No: MM02/24-47

MAYORAL MINUTE - INQUIRY INTO THE CURRENT AND FUTURE PUBLIC TRANSPORT NEEDS IN WESTERN SYDNEY

Author: Mayor Lisa Lake

SUMMARY

On 5 February 2024, Council's Director of Environment and Planning, Mr Daniel Cavallo and I gave evidence to the NSW Legislative Council's Portfolio Committee for Transport and the Arts regarding its inquiry into current and future public transport needs in Western Sydney.

Amongst other matters, the purpose of the inquiry is to inquire into and report on the availability and accessibility of public transport services across Western Sydney, the current and anticipated levels of demand for these services, the changing nature of public transport needs and the social, economic, and planning impacts of vehicle dependency and poorly integrated public transport.

The Committee had commenced taking evidence at Parliament House in December but this session was held at Western Sydney University's Rydalmere campus.

As Council is aware, a detailed written submission was endorsed by Council and provided to the Inquiry in September 2023. The purpose of our appearance in person was to give the Committee a further opportunity to consider these recommendations and seek further information from us on the public transport needs of Cumberland, should they wish to.

In our verbal submission we gave the Committee an overview of the geographical context, demographics and economic shape of the Cumberland local government area and stressed the importance of them not bypassing Cumberland to focus solely on the pressing public transport issues further west of our area.

Given our population growth projections, that 40% of our community rent their homes and that 23% have very low to moderate incomes and pay more than 30% of their income in rent, we stressed that good public transport is critical in Cumberland. It makes it cheaper to travel to work, school, shops and visit others and increases the money available for other essentials. And it can mean the difference between a person taking a job or not.

We submitted that the following matters require the focused attention of the State Government:

1. Improvements to our overcrowded train services, including more frequent trains and faster trains,
2. Improvements to our bus services which run on an extensive network but are infrequent outside peak periods,

3. Improvements to our transport infrastructure such as our bus stops and train stations, to progress amenity and security, and provision of grants to Council to deliver some of these improvements in areas like bus stops, footpaths and cycleways,
4. A timely delivery of the Sydney Metro West, including a station between Paramatta and Sydney Olympic Park – Silverwater being our preference,
5. Consideration of extensions to Parramatta Light Rail such as Sydney Olympic Park to Lidcombe and Westmead to Wentworthville,
6. Continuation of the Growth Services Program which funds public transport to support growth and changing travel patterns, and
7. The need for community consultation sessions to identify transport gaps at a micro level.

The Committee was inquisitive and appeared genuinely interested in hearing about our transport needs and hopes for the future. We were thanked for our extensive submissions and advised by the Chair that she was hopeful the Committee could make some recommendations that we would be pleased with.

We now await the outcome.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the update.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil