

Resolution of Council

17 March 2025

Item 13.7

Restroom Ready - 24/7 Public Toilet Expansion near Special Entertainment Precincts

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Maxwell, seconded by Councillor Arkins –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney aims to foster a vibrant 24/7 city and strengthen its nighttime economy, requiring appropriate infrastructure to support this vision;
- (ii) expanding public toilet infrastructure is essential to ensuring that nighttime visitors have adequate amenities and are not solely reliant on private venues;
- (iii) a lack of sufficient public restroom facilities in entertainment precincts may contribute to public hygiene issues, increased public disturbances, and inconvenience for local residents;
- (iv) the Council's 2014 Public Toilet Strategy identified limited availability of nighttime public toilets, leaving many high-traffic areas without accessible facilities;
- (v) currently, there are no public toilets available within a 5-minute walk along King Street, Newtown, at night, leaving visitors reliant on private venues or informal alternatives; and
- (vi) the City of Sydney has a responsibility to ensure that residents, visitors, and local businesses are supported by appropriate public amenities; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) provide an updated report on the current locations of 24/7 public toilets across the Local Government Area;
- (ii) identify Council-owned land within a 5-minute walk of the proposed Special Entertainment Precincts that may be suitable for additional public toilet facilities;
- (iii) assess potential sites for new 24/7 public toilets in areas of high demand, considering factors such as feasibility, community needs, and accessibility. This should include the route between the Entertainment Quarter and Central Station;
- (iv) investigate opportunities to enhance access to existing public toilets, including extending operating hours where appropriate;
- (v) provide an update on the status of the 9 new public toilets in key village centres as outlined in the 2014 Public Toilet Strategy;
- (vi) review and recommend potential updates to the Public Toilet Strategy to prioritise expanded 24/7 access, particularly in key locations such as Oxford Street, Darlinghurst, King Street, Newtown, Darling Harbour, and near late-night public transport hubs; and
- (vii) report back to Council on findings and proposed next steps via the CEO Update.

Carried unanimously.

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