

Item 5

Matters for Tabling

5.1 Disclosures of Interest

Disclosure of Interest returns that have been lodged in accordance with the City of Sydney Code of Conduct will be tabled.

Recommendation

It is resolved that the Disclosures of Interest returns be received and noted.

5.1 Petitions

(a) Plan C – Viable Alternatives to the Oxford Street East Cycleway

Councillor Linda Scott gives notice that, at the meeting of Council on Monday, 29 July 2024, she will table and speak to a petition (with 320 signatures) with the following terms:

In response to the significant concern of businesses and residents in the Three Saints community in regards to the Oxford Street East Cycleway (OSEC) project from Transport for NSW (TfNSW), “PLAN C” was developed by the Three Saints Square Project, as a community-lead, collaborative initiative proposing a viable alternative to TfNSW’s proposal, with

- the separated cycleway located on Moore Park Road instead of Oxford Street East, and
- beautification and activation of Oxford Street East according to a model documented by The Paddington Society in “Oxford Street Paddington – The Village High Street as a Place for People”.

The concept for PLAN C has been tested with one-on-one interviews conducted through a door knocking campaign of businesses and residents which represent a sample distributed throughout Oxford Street East.

The petitioners request Council to:

1. withdraw their support of Transport for New South Wales’s proposed OSEC (Oxford Street East Cycleway) and
2. reassess all of the documents developed and accepted from 2017 onwards that proposed that the dedicated, separated cycleway through Paddington should be located instead on Moore Park Road, as demonstrated for example by the documents attached.

(b) Save our Boarding Houses. Protect our Neighbours from Homelessness

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore gives notice that, at the meeting of Council on Monday, 29 July 2024, she will table and speak to a petition (with 8,927 signatures) with the following terms:

Why this petition matters

The loss of affordable and low cost housing in Sydney is alarming.

It has seen boarding houses converted into luxury residences and the most vulnerable in our community displaced from the homes that they have lived in for decades, in many cases. Our neighbours are not only displaced, they are forced into the streets of a city that has a less than 1% vacancy rate. They have nowhere to go.

My friend and neighbour Ray is nearly 80 years old. He has had multiple strokes, has severe mobility issues and has no family. He has lived in his boarding house home for 45 years. He pays \$150 a week to rent his bedroom and his kitchenette. He shares a shower and toilet with his neighbours.

Ray lives in a room in one of a row of 4 boarding houses with 30 other people. Many of his housemates are just like Ray. Many with chronic physical and mental health issues. Simon has lived there for over 50 years. Steve for 30, Alfie for 30 and so on.

The developer - LFD Homes – bought these terraces knowing who lives there. The developer's plan is to convert these 4 boarding houses, home to 30 people, into 4 luxury apartments that will be home to 8 people. LFD Homes bought these terraces knowing they would make 30 people homeless.

If LFD Homes succeeds, my friend Ray will be on the street.

The Council Planners have so far refused the developer's application to convert the boarding houses, so the developer has taken the Council to the NSW Land and Environment Court. They still think it's OK to make our neighbours homeless.

Help us influence the City of Sydney Mayor and some Councillors to do 3 things that we have been calling for now for many months:

- Put an immediate ban on all rent increases in all boarding houses in the city so that residents cannot be removed due to loss of affordability.
- Immediately enforce tighter controls on adherence to safety, security and amenity standards so that residents cannot be removed due to loss of habitability.
- In the case of the Selwyn Street boarding houses, buy the developer out using the City's Developer Contribution fund of \$50M. Keep 30 vulnerable members of our community in their homes.

Our community must stand in the way and protect our most vulnerable from the greed of developers. It's time this is stopped. Everywhere in the city. Everyone deserves a safe and secure place to call home. Everyone.

Recommendation

It is resolved that the Petitions be received and noted.