

Item 13.9

Notices of Motion

Building New Harbour Swimming Spots

By Councillor Thompson

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that a swimmable Sydney is one of the Transformative Project Ideas in the Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050 Plan;
- (ii) the longstanding commitment the City has shown to the restoration of our waterways to provide more locations for communities to swim and cool off as global temperatures rise;
- (iii) the success of restoring Barangaroo's Marrinawi Cove in providing a safe and sustainable location for communities to swim, gather and relax;
- (iv) that due to climate change, the average surface air temperature in Australia has increased by 1.4°C since 1910, and the temperature of Sydney's metropolitan area is projected to increase by 1.8°C in 2050;
- (v) a growing number of global cities, like Copenhagen, Boston and Paris, have started the process of restoring polluted waterways to provide suitable locations for communities to swim and cool down;
- (vi) that working with Sydney Water to rehabilitate the harbour to provide suitable locations for swimming is one of the key pillars of the City's 2050 plan;
- (vii) that restoring Sydney's waterways through Aboriginal-led designs, drawing on the expertise of the Traditional Custodians of the land, is a priority aspiration of the First Peoples Dialogue Forum 2019; and
- (viii) that restoring Sydney's waterways so they are swimmable will require collaboration across all levels of government and significant investment by Sydney Water and the NSW Government;

(B) Council further note that a number of potential additional harbour swimming sites within the City of Sydney Local Government Area have previously been identified, including, but not limited to:

- (i) Blackwattle Bay, Glebe;
- (ii) Pirrama Park, Pyrmont;
- (iii) Nawi Cove, Barangaroo; and
- (iv) Beare Park, Elizabeth Bay;

- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Minister for Water, Rose Jackson, and the CEO of Sydney Water, Roch Cheroux, to:
- (i) reaffirm the City's commitment to rehabilitate Sydney's waterways in accordance with the City's 2050 plan;
 - (ii) outline the work the City has already undertaken in support of this goal;
 - (iii) request that the NSW Government commit resources and funding for the construction of a new public harbour swimming spot at Nawi Cove;
 - (iv) request that the NSW Government commit funding to upgrade stormwater infrastructure, including sewage pipe outflows, to improve water quality in Sydney Harbour; and
 - (v) request that the NSW Government and Sydney Water develop a comprehensive plan, in collaboration with local communities and local Councils, to restore Sydney's waterways, such as Blackwattle Bay, Rozelle Bay, White Bay, Johnstons Bay, Walsh Bay and Kettle Bay, so they are swimmable; and
- (D) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to prepare a report for Council on what further steps the City can take to achieve our goal of a swimmable Sydney by 2050, including, but not limited to:
- (i) building new facilities to enable swimming at Beare Park, Blackwattle Bay, Nawi Cove and Pirrama Park, including investigating whether floating swimming pools are more viable in the short to medium term;
 - (ii) identifying other potential harbour locations that could be suitable for swimming or floating swimming pools within the Local Government Area; and
 - (iii) the further naturalisation of Johnstons Creek, the Alexandria Canal, and other waterways in improving harbour water quality.

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