

# NORTH CANBERRA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE MEETING

7.30pm 19 August 2009

ACT Sports House, Hackett

### Minutes

Present for Committee meeting: Jochen Zeil, Richard Larson, Waltraud Pix, Laura Turnbull, James Walker, Bruce Smith [a larger number of people attended the initial presentation by Tony Gill]

Apologies: Mike Hettinger

### PRESENTATION BY TONY GILL

The meeting began with a presentation by Tony Gill, Director of Roads ACT, about major traffic developments which will impact on North Canberra. Key issues included:

**Extension of Sandford Road:** Plans are being developed to extend Sandford Road in Mitchell through to the Antill Street/ Federal Highway roundabout. This will provide access to the Federal Highway from the new suburb of Kenny (to be developed shortly) and also from Mitchell.

Mr Gill acknowledged that this is likely to lead to increased traffic pressure on Antill Street and therefore on roads through North Canberra suburbs generally. He said he did not expect that this would result in widening Antill Street. He also stated that the increased traffic volume would need to be addressed through local traffic arrangements. In the case of Hackett he thought that the installation of traffic lights at the Majura Ave/ Phillip Ave intersection would help to remove the incentive for drivers to take a shortcut through Hackett. The traffic lights did not, however, receive any funding in the most recent ACT Budget and a proposal is being developed for the next budget round – there is however no certainty that there will be funding allocated.

**Majura Parkway:** the redevelopment of Majura Parkway (currently Majura Road) will link the Federal and Monaro highways; provide increased access to and from Gungahlin and access to Canberra airport. The need for the upgrade has been primarily generated by the expansion of Gungahlin. Prior to the construction of Horse Park Drive, there were 5,000 vehicles per day along Majura Road. This has now increased to 18,000 a day. The Parkway will have capacity for 40,000 a day.

The redevelopment has been controversial because it involves a realignment of the existing road that will impact on Majura Pines (and therefore on bike riders), and on the girl guides facility. The realignment also builds in a route for a possible future High Speed Train, which assumes that the train will connect to the airport rather than the city. In its submission on the Parkway, the North Canberra Community Council argued that any future train should connect cities to cities, not airports to airports.

Roads ACT is currently revising the Environment Impact Statement about the Parkway in light of the comments it has received and intends to resubmit it by the end of September.

**Cycle paths:** Mr Gill also said that Roads ACT (which has responsibility for cycle paths) has commissioned a consultant to work on future development of cycle paths.

They are keen to hear from residents and from local associations about their priorities for cycle paths in North Canberra.

## **COMMITTEE MEETING**

Minutes: Agreed.

### Eco Fair

It was agreed to provide up to \$2940 to sponsor the Inner North Eco Fair to be held on Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>, with payment to be based on costs incurred.

### FoMM Website

It was agreed to fund Friends of Mt Majura website \$120 per annum for their website

### Web Administration

It was agreed to pay \$250 for web administration.

### Rent of premises for NCCC and other community groups

There was discussion about the possibility of renting a room in Sports House as on-going accommodation for NCCC which could also be used for other groups in North Canberra. It was agreed, however, that NCCC could not afford to pay the full cost of rent, and that we should see if there was any possibility of the Government paying some proportion of the cost (given other Councils have halls etc, which they were granted and which they can use for revenue generation).

### AGM

It was agreed to have the AGM in November rather than October.

Meeting closed 9.00pm