



Bayside Council

Serving Our Community

20 February 2018

Our Ref F14/7

Contact Alexandra Vandine 95621835

Greener Places

Government Architect New South Wales

GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

Re Draft Greener Places Policy

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the draft Greener Places Policy. Bayside Council understands this Policy has been developed by Government Architect NSW to guide the planning, design and delivery of Green Infrastructure in urban areas across NSW.

Bayside Council recognises the important value of Green Infrastructure, particularly its role in the Bayside LGA to:

- Improve climate change resilience, through innovative management of heat island effects
- Prioritise public access to Green Infrastructure and delivering connectivity of assets with urban design excellence
- Enhance the useability and aesthetics of walking and cycling routes and public spaces, and
- Improve the area's biodiversity and liveability.

The key principles and design actions outlined in the draft Policy, especially creating multi-function connected open space, will be critical as Bayside Council facilitates the delivery of priority projects outlined in the Draft Eastern Sydney District Plan. This includes improving the ecological and recreational value of Rockdale and Botany Wetlands, Wolli Creek, Bardwell Valley and Cooks River Open Space.

It is welcomed that as part of this Policy the Government Architect NSW has been charged with leading and delivering initiatives and strategies that includes:

- Establishing a range of design standards, design guidance and design manuals documentation
- Embedding the principles of this policy into all relevant policy areas and decision making processes
- Rolling out a pilot urban canopy project and greenspace linkage projects, and
- Addressing a range of funding options to ensure the delivery of Greener Places.

Council does, however, request that the:

- documentation developed includes guidance on how to integrate green infrastructure principles into the local government policies, particularly Council's LEPs and DCPS,
- guidance on how to manage any potential conflicting policy direction between the Greener Places Policy and other government policies,
- implementation of this Policy is identified as a priority at the State Government level and is integrated into other Departments decision making processes,

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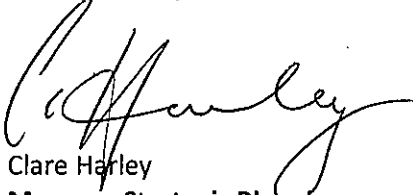
- NSW Government Architect liaises with the Department of Planning to ensure that Councils are able to access section 94 developer contributions to deliver the key principles in this Policy,
- Policy provides direction on a collaborative approach for government agencies on accessing and managing underutilised green spaces for example Southern and Western Suburbs Ocean Outfall Sewer corridor and rail corridors, and
- Grant funding includes opportunities for 100% grant funding to facilitate funding of innovative projects and concept plans.

Overall, however, Bayside Council welcomes this Policy as a key document to guide Council to integrate green infrastructure into the City. In particular the design standards, design guidance and design manuals and funding that will developed as part of this Policy will be critical in helping Councils across NSW achieve the principles outlined in this Policy.

Bayside Council would also be very interested in being consulted as part of the development of pilot urban canopy project and greenspace linkage projects, particularly, as the Bayside LGA has been identified as having low canopy coverage interspersed with heavily used public space, natural areas of high ecological value and State Government identified priority GreenWeb linkages projects.

If you have any queries regarding this submission please do not hesitate to contact Alexandra Vandine, Coordinator Policy and Strategy on 9562 1835.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clare Harley', written over a horizontal line.

Clare Harley
Manager Strategic Planning