

Avalon Community Reference Group Workshop No.2

15 November 2018

Workshop Activity 1	
Carefactor Value 1 – Natural Environment and Sustainability	
Questions to CRG	
Have we missed anything?	Reduce speed for the whole village 20/ 30kph
	Council activity to attract private activity
	Council invest in community
	Shop frontage that has a particular look/ feel? Some uniformity
How else can we maintain, improve and increase green spaces and stormwater channels?	More flower verge beds in village – work with Avalon community garden RE. maintenance
	Angophora (edu) Bushwalks integration of Aboriginal knowledge of land
How else can we ensure environmental sustainability?	Consider stronger penalties' for residents who poison trees, supported by tree mapping
	Recycling stations throughout town (including phones/ batteries)
	Council activity – sustainable policies for Avalon Village – solar panel etc.
Challenge is the need for housing diversity and to address population stagnation to ensure village atmosphere is retained and local businesses sustained. Given this challenge what are your solutions to achieving	What population stagnation???
	Low rise = 8.4m
	Unconventional/ small home more affordable housing diversity

<p>housing diversity/ affordability in low rise developments? What in your review defines low rise development?</p>	
<p>Carefactor Value 2 – Transport and connectivity</p>	
<p>Questions to CRG</p>	
<p>The main options for the intersection is :</p> <p>Leave as is</p> <p>Pedestrian precinct Old Barrenjoey Road north from intersection</p> <p>Traffic calming measures</p>	<p>Agree to all three intersection options NO OTHERS</p> <p>Look at the impact of moving the pedestrian crossings</p> <p>Need statistics for accidents at the intersection</p> <p>No roundabout - useless</p> <p>Roundabout or traffic lights</p> <p>Block off Old Barrenjoey Road north of Avalon Parade</p> <p>Tile a certain section leading in to the intersection to calm/slow down (Visual cues)</p> <p>Lower speed limit leading into intersection</p>
<p>Public transport improvements – do you think Council should advocate for public transport improvements within the Avalon Place Plan?</p>	<p>Buses – locally connecting smaller places</p> <p>Move buses out of Avalon – layby north of Petrol Station</p> <p>Roundabout across from Fire Station to allow buses back south</p> <p>Free hop on/ hop off bus with funky design</p> <p>Eco/ electric</p> <p>Better management of pedestrian traffic from buses</p>
<p>Time restricted access to northern end of Old Barrenjoey Road</p>	<p>No comments made/collected</p>
<p>What are your thoughts on car accessibility and parking</p>	<p>Any increase in car parking will immediately be filled</p>

<p>which has been identified as a contested issue within the community?</p>	
<p>What have we missed?</p>	<p>Better all ability access</p> <p>Put bike racks on buses (Canberra bus network)– works with Manly/ Palm Beach path</p> <p>Bike paths and storage</p>
<p>Carefactor Value 3 – Community connection and culture</p>	
<p>Questions to CRG</p>	
<p>What have we missed?</p>	<p>Run photo comp for the preparation of local calendar</p> <p>Use creative arts space as gathering point for home based creative businesses</p> <p>Facilities for supporting home based business – networking and community</p> <p>Use creative arts space to engage young people VR game building</p> <p>Technology learning centre for youths – VR/AR game building/ computer building</p> <p>Youth projects run by youth</p> <p>Allow for collaboration with youth on all creative arts projects Work with Barrenjoey High School to foster youth participation</p> <p>“No car day” in Avalon like markets but special day to increase Pedestrian interaction once a month – use this event to capture trading data from local shops over a 6 month period</p> <p>What Population Stagnation???</p>
<p>Carefactor Value 4 – Economic Vibrancy</p>	

Questions to CRG	
What other events could assist in activating Avalon during the winter and evenings?	More market days (winter) including opportunities for food vans and entertainment with a local emphasis.
	Deliver economic programs targeted at young people and start-up businesses.
	Deliver entertainment programs in partnership with Business/ council
	Dunbar Park is dull – needs to be activated so it can support pop up events, festivals movies nights
	Pop up events such as outdoor theatre, performances and music
	WHY do music venues have to shut at 10pm
	Empty shops – can we drive rents down by encouraging shops to be tenanted or apply penalty if they are not?
	Reduce rents for businesses
	Eating Alleys?
	Winter solstice event
	Price point is an issue – there are NO entry level food retailers everything is too expensive (this is an issue for youth)
	Council needs to work with Chamber of Commerce to help businesses.
	To what extent can council ‘intervene’ on retail space pricing?
	Opportunities - restaurants at night/ night time activities these need to be safe low activity = unsafe
Survey business owner/operators to identify any STICKING POINTS in the planning controls blocking innovation in economic development	

	Supporting people working from home. Hot desks for Entrepreneurs to leverage off each other
	More night food markets (like Mona Vale every month)
	Distinct signage to laneways
	LEP changes are pivotal to economic development of Avalon DO NOT want to be Mona Vale
	Different style of development Out of the Box thinking
	Shop Vacancies – analysis of retail and commercial activity = Data to talk to land lords and negotiate. Provide leadership with the landlords
	Festival based night time activations (interesting events to capitalise on)
	Create a policy that empty shops must allow for or have dressing while finding new tenants
	Use empty shops to support tech/ consultancies working from home. Connect consultants to IT, Architects etc to do business with each other
Carefactor Value 5 – Cleanliness and Maintenance	
Questions to CRG	
Have we missed anything?	Avalon is fairly clean
	All ability access – ensure it is maintained
	Agree but do not want to ‘sanitise’ urban form by being too uniform
Carefactor Value 6 – Street Design, safety and walkability	
Questions to CRG	Some deciduous trees summer shade winter sun
Trees – all native or a mix?	Mix of species providing shade (but some deciduous in key locations to allow winter solar access) and foraging fauna and insects

	Native trees would be better to service the local fauna
	Fruit trees? And edible garden beds
What should the revamped streetscape look like?	Don't want to create a sanitised urban form by being too uniform

Workshop Activity 2

Streetscape	
Image Play outcomes	Likes
LANDSCAPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity – mix of native and deciduous trees Increase current plantings Robust Not twee Natural forms Natural materials Incorporate edible planting/ gardens Old Barrenjoey Road – planting appropriate to width of street Consider solar access Nature attracting plants Creating cool spaces/ hip Quiet sanctuaries/ meeting places Abstract and natural features – material for aesthetic approval/ sandstone features Organic shapes

Grouped seating benches
Shaded places
Tree canopy/ natural environment
Park benches – casual places to sit
Some seats near bus stops and hubs – casual
Accessible for older people and people with disabilities
Vertical garden opportunities
Opportunities to soften surf club and area down to pool
Potential bbqs/ space restriction?

Dislikes

Don't like boring
No succulents
Consistent with local identity
Low scale planting beds
Not too formal
Not too sanitised
Not too urban
Not too many hard surfaces
No formal edging

Industrial/ concrete look
Clean and contemporary
Styles that date too quickly
'Contrived things' – unnatural colours

Questions

	<p>Where can we these ideas/ site tour investigation?</p> <p>How can we incentivise businesses to make the area beautiful in terms of landscaping?</p>
<p>Image Play outcomes</p> <p>STREETSCAPE ELEMENTS</p>	<p>Not too formal</p> <p>Bike racks</p> <p>Seating</p> <p>Big flat benches – like North Avalon</p> <p>Activate along the channel with attractive stormwater/ landscaping treatment</p> <p>Informal seating</p> <p>Picnic tables – less structured, simple design</p> <p>New paving – sandstone look but not sandstone</p> <p>Allow for innovation and variety</p> <p>Built form that encourages activity and movement - permeable</p>
<p>Image Play Outcomes</p> <p>BUILT FORM</p>	<p>Like</p> <p>Outdoor/ indoor – don't want dated</p> <p>Alfresco dining</p> <p>Material appropriate to site – robust</p> <p>changing regulation – changing to ensure activation</p> <p>Diverse/ variety/ eclectic</p> <p>Widen/ increase pedestrian area</p> <p>Ensure character in the form – looking at colours</p> <p>Solar shade in appropriate sites</p> <hr/> <p>Dislike</p>

	<p>reflective glass</p> <p>polished surfaces and materials</p> <p>not too uniform</p> <p>bright lighting – prefer low glare</p> <p>no stainless steel</p>
<p>Economic Vibrancy</p>	
<p>Image Play Outcomes</p>	
<p>Village spirit</p>	<p>need to focus on renewing - we give too much weight to cars in the main centre and there is a low utilization of public spaces</p>
<p>Empty shops</p>	<p>are a concern (although conversation later indicated surprise at the 6-10% data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Desire for Council to take the lead in this space and negotiate with landlords of empty shops ○ Create a dis-incentive for businesses to leave shops empty
<p>Non-town-centre home based business</p>	<p>activity provides an opportunity for improving economic vibrancy and achieving stronger community connections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Co-working space – provide a meeting/networking space to support home based businesses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Networking – benefits for strengthening the local economy – (e.g. Sue Broaden highlighted she recently hired a website

	<p>designer from the Southern Highlands, she is sure there are probably people locally who could have helped, but she didn't have the network)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Somewhere for tradies to do their book work ○ Mentoring opportunities for youth – highly successful creative and professionals in the community could be helping young people to develop skills & access high-skilled work opportunities that might help them to stay living locally in the long term <p>This taps into building community and vibrancy</p>
Maker Space	<p>- https://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-11-14/brisbane-tool-library-opens/10481412</p> <p>Use this as a way to engage the local high school, build skills & assist creative start-ups with access to equipment, promote sustainability (i.e. mending/fixing things)</p>
Activity/Vibrancy in the town centre	<p>ebbs and flows during the day, 9am mums, lull in middle of the day, picks up late afternoon but dead after 6pm</p>
Evening Economy Focus	<p>low level of activity, doesn't feel safe, hard to get home late at night. RSL thrives by attracting families (play area, cheap food), but dead after 8pm</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evening Economy Activations – target a small area for evening activation rather than the whole village, focus on hospitality offerings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ most shop owners don't want to be working additional hours (extra cost to hire staff which is unlikely to bring additional shoppers or new sales – not the population to support this)
Use screens	(like in Chatswood) to feature local film makers – can show same content on repeat so long term impact, not just one night and gives a sense of life in the street
Graffiti wall	on the drain structures
Instagram able' photo opportunities	fun and quirky – great way to attract day trippers to Avalon if this is done well!
Music	Talk to bowling club as they know all the local musicians – have live music on Wednesday night's and Sunday afternoons. Not many complaints from bowling club's music from residents
Shadow puppet stage	in a laneway – would keep kids entertained while parents enjoy bars & restaurant (low cost & lasts longer than an event)

<p>Artwork</p>	<p>to activate laneways – Colour and interest</p>
<p>Hand down a Skill</p> <p>Plastic free</p>	<p>Skill development focused event activities – focus on engaging youth, opportunity to engage with Barrenjoey high pass on a skill (i.e. local film makers doing a workshop in the street, artist teaching a technique or tradies building something, astronomer – stargazing nights</p> <p>Previous experience that people were keen to contribute to the arts mapping project, they could get behind this. This would get people interacting with each other, community building.</p> <p>support local groups</p>
<p>Event focused activation</p>	<p>has been successful to date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Event at the high school was success ○ Market day makes Avalon a destination ○ Discussed opportunity for using a car-free day as a way to attract visitors. Existing cafés and restaurants could spill out into the street with picnic on the street, or a long lunch. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide shuttle busses to bring people in from other areas (Mosman was suggested) ▪ Colourful, lightweight furniture, greening, planting, green art, strong theme of environment & upcycling

<p>Tourism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Quirky - Chess in the street, hopscotch right down the main street
	<p>Appetite for day visitors, rather than overnight as there is a lack of accommodation. A way to get more money into the town centre. (I was surprised by how positive the conversation around this was!)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Opportunity to get Airbnb to feed information to visitors to encourage them into the town centre
<p>Community Connections</p>	
<p>Image Play Outcomes - Public Art</p>	<p>Likes</p> <p>Create a space that can change – allow public art to rotate over specified timeframe</p> <p>Events – vibrancy and music</p> <p>Ephemeral art opportunities</p> <p>Festival art event</p> <p>Totems</p> <p>Sculptural form</p> <p>Functional art – benches/ showers</p> <p>Like murals that already exist</p> <p>Stories – connection to our community</p> <p>Sense of Place – celebrate Avalon</p> <p>Abstract/ quirky – indigenous</p> <p>Humour – subtle designs and colour</p> <p>Combine art with vegetation</p> <p>Photo opportunity art</p> <p>Don't do too much</p> <p>Express the unique sense of the space and culture of Avalon</p> <hr/> <p>Dislikes</p> <p>Cliché' – surfy art thongs etc.</p> <p>Statutes and plaques</p> <p>Landmark sculptures</p> <p>Plonk' art</p>

	<p>Questions</p> <p>Workshop with young people</p> <p>Consider rituals in Avalon before you do anything</p>
<p>Foreshore Areas</p>	<p>The group were in very strong agreement that the beach foreshore needed a landscape review undertaken to improve the public amenity and aesthetics of the place, particularly in relation to connecting the SLSC building and the rockpool and creating a more usable space for leisure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use public art to create inspiring gathering spaces ○ Use artistic plantings to create canopies of shade and artistic design to create resting and 'perching' points ○ Commission artworks that are tactile and encourage interactivity ○ Public art should reflect the high value the community places on the natural environment and prioritise the use of natural organic materials ○ No sharp edges, curves to reflect the coastal environment ○ Perhaps remove the old and tired beachfront playground to change the use of the space and give public art some room to breathe – but make it fun and safe to climb on for children ○ SLSC is a very harsh building – public art can be used to soften it ○ Connection to the pool is ugly and needs rethinking – the path has very high usage by both locals and visitors ○ Add BBQs - as functional art? ○ Make the foreshore an event ready space for cultural programs ○ Soften the surfaces with colour and texture ○ No commemorative art, no big sculptures

- | | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Playful, humorous, quirky art that is well-integrated into the coastal environment but no surfboard art, no dolphin art, no thong or budgie-smuggler art○ Make a space available to replicate the artistic 'community response' of kamikaze corner – where humorous but meaningful pop-ups artworks and installations appeared in response to local, national and international events○ Create art that is a photographic opportunity – Instagram worthy○ Use public art as an opportunity for multi-generational collaborative community art-making events – that people can plan to attend and participate in○ Don't have the vibrant murals that are in the village on the coast – keep the artwork subtle and HIGH QUALITY (this was very important hence the caps!)○ Little Av (South Avalon) headland is a gathering place for surfers and young people especially – Coast Walk Public Art strategic plan has identified it as a potential place for integrated public art. However, the table members not keen on it as it a place of private rituals and should be kept for locals – I would suggest this needs further consultation |
|--|---|