



24 August 2017

General Manager, Dominic Johnson  
[council@mosman.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@mosman.nsw.gov.au)

Attention: Ms Diane Lawrence Director Community Development

**Re: Imagine Mosman 2028- Response Mosman Parks and Bushland Association**

Thank you for the opportunity to complete the community group survey as part of the engagement process for Imagine Mosman 2028.

Our response is attached. It is based on the stated and published aims and objectives of Mosman Parks and Bushland Association which are:

- To preserve and protect bushland, parks, open space and natural features in the Municipality of Mosman;
- To restore and regenerate bushland areas in Mosman and to support community members who wish to become actively involved;
- To encourage good principles of town planning in Mosman, especially where they affect parks and bushland and
- To encourage and foster community awareness of the value of the bushland in Mosman and to encourage community involvement.

As our city becomes more densely developed these aims and objectives will become increasingly important.

Mosman is an area that is a destination for people from across Sydney, the State, Nationally and internationally. Its attraction essentially relates to its harbour location and the natural beauty of the surrounding bushland. Mosman Council's Community Strategic Plan 2028 must recognise the central importance of managing these assets for our local community and for the wider community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosemary Addams', is written over the typed name.

Rosemary Addams

Secretary Mosman Parks and Bushland Association

24 August 2017



## **IMAGINE MOSMAN 2028- Response from Mosman Parks and Bushland Association**

### **Top three priorities for Mosman's future**

1. Preservation of Mosman's natural assets - its bushland, parks, trees, biodiversity and natural features
2. Preservation of all public land including the small pockets of public land. Public land should never be alienated. When public land is lost the result is further development, loss of wildlife corridors and the disappearance forever of Mosman's green and leafy character.
3. Balancing the claims of active and passive recreation. Active recreation should not compromise the ecology of parkland. There should be a commitment to maintain the eco system whilst providing the sporting grounds.  
Bushland should never be converted to active recreation.

### **What do you think Mosman Council should be doing to address the priorities listed (3)**

#### **Priority1**

**(i) Upgrade the zoning of bushland:** Because bushland is always in danger, Council should try to achieve the best protection possible. **Any unmade roads that qualify as bushland should be rezoned from RE1 to RE2.** This is urgent given the upcoming changes to the Crown Lands Act. Unmade roads that could qualify with further work, should be brought to the required standard with all possible speed.

**(ii) Continue to support bushcare and bush regeneration programs.** Provide and enhance the budget for paid bush care and bush regeneration and training and support for volunteer bush regeneration groups and individuals.

**(iii) Promote good management and the importance of private land that adjoins bushland.** Council needs programs that provide information and encouragement to those landowners whose land adjoins bushland, to carefully manage their own gardens in a manner that respects and protects the adjoining bushland and does not lead to bushland degradation.



**(iv) Provide controls to ensure private land/development contributes to the greening of the LGA and the maintenance of the area's natural assets.** Building footprints need to be managed across the LGA. New developments must include a reasonable and authentic" area given over for landscaping. Advice re species protection and selection needs to be provided. Developments should avoid any landscaped area component made up of a mish mash of "left over" undeveloped spaces on the site. Landscaped area assessment of any development application must consider usability of landscaped area and not simply rely on a "numerical" test. Controls should reflect and support this approach to assessment.

**(v) Continue to control loss of trees on private land:**

New state legislation may affect the ability of councils to protect trees. Mosman Council should try to maintain its right to have and enforce Tree Preservation Orders.

#### **Priority 2**

**(i) Protect all public land- large areas and small.** Ensure small pockets are protected. These are often vulnerable because of their size but with increased development and dwelling and population density their importance for the health and pleasure of residents and visitors cannot be underestimated. Large areas should not be reduced in size under any circumstances

**(ii) Protect Harbour foreshores and retain existing controls:** The harbour foreshores around Mosman are considered to be of local, state and national significance and must be protected. These same areas are most attractive to developers and homebuyer/owners wishing to maximise harbour or bushland views with windfall gains guaranteed. The provisions currently in Mosman LEP relating to a foreshore building line (clause 6.3) and foreshore scenic protection area (clause 6.4) must be retained for all the reasons that the objectives of these clauses state. We understand that these provisions will expire on 30 November 2018 . Council needs to extend the agreement with the NSW government to retain these provisions and allow its own LEP to control development on the foreshores.

**Priority 3 Active recreation should not be allowed to compromise public land and eco systems**



While we sympathise with the desire for recreational facilities such as changing rooms, we do not think Mosman Council should allow further buildings on public land. Existing facilities should be used.

We need to maintain our bushland importantly to :

- protect wildlife corridors.
- provide shade as climate heats up. Well maintained trees are preferable to the use of shade cloths.
- assist in erosion control which in turn impacts on the quality of the important receiving waters in the area.

Are there any other issues .... More general?

**Mosman should continue to fight to maintain its independence**

- Local Councillors resident in Mosman are more likely to care about Mosman's natural assets

**Climate change**

Encourage residents to make changes that will reduce the reliance on fossil fuels etc

**Waste management**

Encourage recycling, introduce charges for plastic bags, encourage businesses to charge for takeaway cups for coffee, and to stop the use of plastic straws - anything else to cut down on plastic use and damage to the environment

Rosemary Adams

Secretary Mosman Parks and Bushland Association

24 August 2017