

# AGENDA

## **PUBLIC ART WORKING GROUP**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Public Art Working Group will be held remotely via Teams

**THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Beginning at 6:00PM for the purpose of considering matters included in this agenda.

## **Committee Members**

Cr Penny Philpott	Chairperson
Cr Sue Heins	
Cr Kylie Ferguson	
Simon Barrett	Community member
Marissa Bateman	Community member
Auntie Clair Jackson	Community member
Ashley McDonald	Community member
John Pearson	Community member
Penny Polkinghorne	Community member
Billie Routledge	Community member

## **Council Officer Contacts**

Kylie Walshe	Executive Manager Community, Arts & Culture
Josephine Bennett	Manager Arts & Culture
Christiane Statham	Public Art Coordinator

## **Quorum**

A majority of members plus a Councillor.

**Agenda for a meeting of the Public Art Working Group  
to be held on Thursday 3 September 2020  
via Teams  
Commencing at 6:00PM**

<b>1.0</b>	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>APOLOGIES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
4.1	Minutes of Public Art Working Group meeting held 4 June 2020.....	4
<b>5.0</b>	<b>ACTIONS UPDATE</b>	
	Nil	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEMS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
6.1	Chime Projects Proposal - Update .....	5
6.2	Coast Walk Public Art - Project Updates .....	7
6.3	Bungan Lane Mural Project .....	9
6.4	Other Public Art Project Updates .....	12
6.5	Fundraising Plan - Council Resolution .....	14
<b>7.0</b>	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b>	

**NEXT MEETING**

## 1.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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As a sign of respect, Northern Beaches Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of these lands on which we gather and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

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## 2.0 APOLOGIES

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All members are expected to attend the Public Art Working Group meetings or tender their apologies to the Chair or Committee liaison person. If members are unable to attend they may delegate their position to another member of their organisation, with the approval of the Chair.

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## 3.0 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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Members should disclose any "**pecuniary**" or "**non-pecuniary**" interests in matters included in the agenda. The [Northern Beaches Council Code of Conduct](#) (the Code) provides guidance on managing conflicts of interests.

A **pecuniary interest** is defined in Section 4 of the Code as:

*A pecuniary interest is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to you or a person referred to in clause 4.3.*

A **non-pecuniary conflict of interest** is defined in Section 5 of the Code as:

*A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.*

If you required further information or guidance about disclosing an interest please contact Governance at [councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](mailto:councilmeetings@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au).

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## 4.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

### 4.1 MINUTES OF PUBLIC ART WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD 4 JUNE 2020

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#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Public Art Working Group meeting held 4 June 2020, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

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## 6.0 AGENDA ITEMS

<b>ITEM 6.1</b>	<b>CHIME PROJECTS PROPOSAL - UPDATE</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER</b>	<b>PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR</b>
<b>TRIM FILE REF</b>	<b>2020/496282</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<b>NIL</b>

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### REPORT

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#### BACKGROUND

Chime Projects have proposed to donate an interactive sculpture to Northern Beaches Council. The sculpture would cost an estimated \$450,000, which is proposed to be financed through a crowdfunding program undertaken by Chime Projects. The original proposal from Chime Projects, dated 13 March 2020, states that it "is also envisaged that grant funding from philanthropic and government sources will also be explored".

The artwork is proposed to be a composite of various materials including stainless steel and bronze. It would also consist of accompanying amplifier, foldback monitor and microphone made from bronze. The preferred sites initially proposed were Clontarf Reserve and on Manly West Esplanade, in front of Manly Art Gallery and Museum.

The proposal was evaluated by Council staff against Council's Public Art Policy and Guidelines, and its Cultural Collection Management and Gifts Guidelines. The proposal and evaluation was presented to the Public Art Working Group on 2 April 2020.

The Public Art Working Group felt that the proposed artwork would not be suitable at either of the nominated sites (Manly and Clontarf), as the proposed work would be inappropriate due the current usage of those sites by community. Members felt the work may potentially be better suited to locations on the Northern Beaches that have stronger connections with live music, such as Narrabeen and Collaroy.

Public Art Working Group members suggested that there were more suitable venues, such as the Hordern Pavilion at Fox Studios, the ICC in Darling Harbour or the Qudos Bank Arena at Sydney Olympic Park. They also mentioned that other members of the group had connections to the Northern Beaches, and a tribute to the entire band might be more suitable.

Members also responded that the proposal was problematic in that the artwork would require ongoing and expensive maintenance, incurring major costs for Council in the future. The artwork could also attract vandalism, and its remediation and protection from vandalism could also incur further costs for Council.

Noise restrictions in the public domain would also be an issue for this project in its proposed form. Public Art Working Group members suggested that there may be a way to pay tribute to the artist through the support of live music venues, interactive musical playgrounds or other forms of embedded public art in the public domain that give back to the community and blend with the landscape.

The proposed sculpture is as a memorial, despite being described as a tribute. A tribute is an act, a statement or gift acknowledging gratitude, respect or admiration - whilst a memorial is a built structure, such as a monument, intended to celebrate the memory of a person or event. A figurative, life-sized bronze sculpture of a deceased person will be read by the public as a memorial.

The Public Art Working Group came to a consensus that:

*The proposal needs further development in order to align with Council policies and guidelines, including the Public Art Policy and Guidelines, and the Cultural Collection Management and Gifts Policy and Guidelines.*

## **DISCUSSION**

Chime Projects responded to the feedback of the Public Art Working Group via the Mayor, and requested the opportunity to present directly to the Public Art Working Group. The group will present to the Public Art Working Meeting at its 3 September 2020 meeting.

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## **RECOMMENDATION OF PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR**

That the information be received and noted.

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<b>ITEM 6.2</b>	<b>COAST WALK PUBLIC ART - PROJECT UPDATES</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER</b>	<b>PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR</b>
<b>TRIM FILE REF</b>	<b>2020/496292</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<b>NIL</b>

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**REPORT**

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**PURPOSE**

To update the Public Art Working Group on the development of Coast Walk Public Art projects.

**BACKGROUND**

On 28 May 2019, Council resolved to adopt the amended Northern Beaches Coast Walk Public Art Strategic Plan and supporting documents for implementation.

The Public Art Working Group has been progressing the implementation of the plan since its inception in October 2019.

At Council's meeting of 26 May 2020, in relation to the Working Group's Minutes of 5 March 2020, it was resolved

*That Council:*

- 1. Notes the minutes of the Public Art Working Group meeting held on 5 March 2020.*
- 2. Amend the Coast Walk Public Art Strategic Plan vision statement to: The Coast Walk is a unique experience that unlocks the extraordinary environment through art, creativity and cultural heritage.*
- 3. Endorse the following three projects and budgets for the initial commissions of public art on the Coast Walk:*
  - A. Aboriginal artwork and interpretation project (integrated along the Coast Walk and at sites to be selected with key local Aboriginal stakeholders) with a budget of \$400,000, part funded by a \$200,000 grant from Clubs NSW.*
  - B. Open Commission at McKillop Park, Freshwater, with a budget of \$400,000-\$500,000.*
  - C. Public Art Artist Panel Commission at Robert Dunn Reserve, Mona Vale Headland, with a budget of \$200,000.*

**Aboriginal Artwork and Storytelling**

This project aims to acknowledge, respect and share the stories of the Northern Beaches Aboriginal people through a series of inter-related public artworks and markers along the Coast Walk, using a range of media and techniques. The budget includes a \$200,000 Club Grant that is to be expended by October 2021.

Community engagement is currently underway for this project. A group meeting will be held online on 2 September 2020, and community stakeholders who are unable to attend will be contacted directly by the Executive Manager, Community, Arts & Culture, to receive their feedback on the project.

The Public Art Coordinator and Manager, Arts & Culture will also meet individually with the key stakeholder groups, including the AECG and AHO, and receive feedback on the project.

The Manager, Arts & Culture has received an offer from the Australian Museum that the artist group appointed for this project may access the collections at the Australian Museum in undertaking research for this project as relevant.

### **McKillop Park, Freshwater**

This project is an opportunity for a major Open Commission (open to Australian and international artists). This will be a landmark artwork, which will respond to the site's natural landscape, environmental conditions and local history.

Council has received correspondence from the Co-Founder and a Trustee of the Manly Freshwater World Surfing Reserve, registering a request to be consulted as part of community engagement as this project moves forward.

### **South Mona Vale Headland (Robert Dunn Reserve)**

This project presents an opportunity for an integrated artwork, responding to the particulars of this site and landscape, and open to members of the Public Art Artist Panel.

As the Aboriginal Art and Storytelling project has been prioritised, there are no updates on this project for this report.

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## **RECOMMENDATION OF PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR**

That the information be received and noted.

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<b>ITEM 6.3</b>	<b>BUNGAN LANE MURAL PROJECT</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER</b>	<b>PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR</b>
<b>TRIM FILE REF</b>	<b>2020/496317</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<b>NIL</b>

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## REPORT

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### PURPOSE

To update the Public Art Working Group on the Bungan Lane Mural Project in Mona Vale.

### BACKGROUND

This project was funded by \$15,000 of grant funding from the Crime Prevention Division of the Department of Communities and Justice, and aims to reduce the levels of anti-social behaviour and damage in public spaces around the Mona Vale and Newport area.

A high number of graffiti-related incidents occur in this area. Through engaging and upskilling local young people to help paint murals, the project aims to instill a sense of ownership and belonging to place.

This project is the first public art project under Council's new Street Art Program. This is planned to be a program incorporating all two-dimensional painted works in the public domain. The objective of the program is to have a renowned, curated collection of significant street art pieces across the Northern Beaches.

The Public Art Working Group recommended that this project be supported at their meeting on 4 June 2020.

### PROCESS

The Bungan Lane Mural Project has been completed. This project was managed through an open Expressions of Interest process, with 32 submissions received from around Australia. These were of a very high standard.

The Selection Panel included two building owners from 20 Bungan Street, a member of the Mona Vale Business Chamber, and Arts & Culture staff. The Panel unanimously selected artist David Cragg using a scoring system relating to the Evaluation Criteria listed in the Expression of Interest document.

David Cragg is a multidisciplinary artist of Irish, Scottish, Bundjalung and Biripai ancestry, working in Dharawal Country (Illawarra Region of NSW, Australia) He is a muralist, fine artist, designer, writer, sculptor, photographer and youth/disability community worker. He has exhibited work in galleries, painted large scale murals, curated public art installations, performed live art, and delivered art-making workshops and mentorship across Australia. Trained officially as a Social Worker, Graphic Designer and Photographer and self-taught as a Sculptor, Illustrator and Painter, he has had 8 solo exhibitions over 8 years.

Local young people were engaged by Council to assist the artist in the installation of the mural, which took place over one week from 17 to 24 August 2020. One young person was the artist's main mentee, and high school students from Pittwater and Beaches High Schools attended to assist at various times.

The building owners primed the wall in advance of the installation in a base colour selected by the artist, and also gave permission for the mural to be extended around the building and up to the rooftop carpark. These areas experience a high number of tagging incidents.

Retail tenants from 11 Waratah Street whose car parking spaces were impacted by the installation were provided with alternate parking spaces at 20 Bungan Street.

Council's Public Art Coordinator, Christiane Statham, and Youth Development Officer, Cam Wall, were on site throughout the installation period. Council's Marketing & Communications Department visited the site to undertake filming and interviews on 21 August.

Numerous members of the community stopped by to talk to various members of the team during installation and gave positive feedback. Building owners and property managers also visited the site and gave positive feedback.

**Artwork Title:**

*Midnight Dream, 2020*

**Artist Statement:**

*A celebration of local endangered flora and fauna, Midnight Dream champions the diverse and dazzling natural world that exists across the Northern Beaches.*

*An endangered Regent Honeyeater and a bold Superb Fairy Wren take centre stage, framed by the rare and locally significant grevillea caleyi. Other endemic bushtucker species are woven through the composition, such as acacia wattle, blue-flax lily, lomandra longifolia, native geranium, banksias and illawarra plums. Key bushtucker species like these benefit pollinators like birds and bees, while nectar distributors like the Regent Honeyeaters are crucial to healthy forests and ecosystems. Rainbow trees reference my First Nations heritage as well as First Nations peoples continued connection to the Land and Dreaming.*

*A continuation of these species wraps around the corner into the driveway, alluding to the need for growth and protection of these important native species.*



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#### RECOMMENDATION OF PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR

That the information be received and noted.

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<b>ITEM 6.4</b>	<b>OTHER PUBLIC ART PROJECT UPDATES</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER</b>	<b>PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR</b>
<b>TRIM FILE REF</b>	<b>2020/496328</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<b>NIL</b>

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**REPORT**

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**PURPOSE**

To update the Public Art Working Group on other public art projects in development across the Northern Beaches.

**UPDATE****St David Avenue Park, Dee Why**

This is an opportunity for an artist from the Public Art Artist Panel to be commissioned to undertake a sculptural work for this park in Dee Why. The project that has been in development since the 2015 *Placemaking + Public Art – Dee Why Town Centre* which identified the St David Ave Park as a potential site for a significant public artwork, a distinctive piece to be active both day and night. It is envisaged the artwork will be situated in a prominent location at the elevated north-eastern corner.

The Public Art Working Group supported this proposal at their meeting held online and via telephone (due to Covid-19) between 2 and 9 April 2020.

This project has been undergoing development in regard to the community engagement process. The finalised Community Engagement for this project will include:

- Appointed artist will undertake informal conversations with surrounding neighbours, local businesses, park users, relevant local associations, in collaboration with Council's Arts & Culture staff.
- Council will host an online 'Meet the Artist' talk, at which the selected artist will present their ideas and take questions from the community. This event will be promoted via Council's social media pages and website.

This targeted consultation on themes and stories of place will provide the selected artist with site-responsive material to finalise their concept design.

**Dee Why Art Panels**

The Dee Why Art Walk is a collection of painted panels that were installed along Dee Why Strand, leading to the Dee Why ocean swimming pools, by Warringah Council in 2015. Originally, these works were planned to be rotated every 12 to 18 months.

Staff proposed to replace these panels with an aluminium print of Dee Why beach taken in 1923-4, to be printed and installed by Council. This material will be durable and the photographic print, from the collection of the State Library of NSW, will connect passers-by to the history of the place. The Public Art Working Group supported this proposal at their meeting on 5 March 2020.



Informal community engagement is currently underway, which has included the original artists, local businesses and community groups and clubs, along with the Dee Why Historical Society and Friends of Dee Why Lagoon. The community response has been positive to the proposal.

Test prints have also been created and will be taken to site, to ascertain the appropriate size of the heritage photograph in local conditions.

### **Newport Sewer Pumping Station**

The Newport Sewer Pumping Station is a Sydney Water facility behind Bert Payne Park in Newport, which is currently under renovation and refurbishment by Sydney Water.

The refurbishment will result in the demolition of structures that were covered in a mural. Council staff undertook research into the origin and artist of these murals, and were unable to ascertain the identity of the original artist. Council staff also contacted community arts representatives and were unable to find anyone in the community with a strong passion for the murals. Council staff then met with Sydney Water contractors on site in July 2020 to discuss potential future art opportunities.

Sydney Water have indicated that they would be interested in providing matched funding and collaborating with Council on an artwork for this site. Council staff are currently investigating funding options and grant funding opportunities.

### **Freshwater Community Bank Youth Art Prize**

The Directors at Freshwater Community Bank contacted Council in July 2020 and advised that they were interested to engage with the area's youth and that the Board had agreed to support a Youth Art Competition for the area. The project would involve temporary exhibition of artworks completed by local young people on an outdoor wall of the Freshwater Community Bank.

Council staff met with the directors of the Freshwater Community Bank and provided input into the process of selecting artists for this initiative. The Bank have since advertised for high school student artists to submit works digitally. The selected work/s will then be printed on canvas and shown on the wall of the bank for 6 months periods, and prize winners will also receive \$500.

### **Herminie's Landing**

At the Public Art Working Group meeting held online and via telephone between 2 and 9 April, 2020, staff presented a concept for an embedded artwork to commemorate former Palm Beach resident and community advocate, Herminie Swainston, at a recently landscaped area at Observation Point. This potential project developed from a request from the Palm Beach and Whale Beach Association, who will donate \$3,500-\$4,500 towards the project. The Public Art Working Group recommended that this proposal is supported.

On 25 August, Council endorsed the renaming of the pedestrian refuge to go on public exhibition in September 2020, as the first step to the potential delivery of artwork that would feature the local resident's name and design inspired by her artwork.

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### **RECOMMENDATION OF PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR**

That the information be received and noted.

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<b>ITEM 6.5</b>	<b>FUNDRAISING PLAN - COUNCIL RESOLUTION</b>
<b>REPORTING OFFICER</b>	<b>PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR</b>
<b>TRIM FILE REF</b>	<b>2020/496337</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<b>NIL</b>

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## REPORT

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### PURPOSE

To update the Public Art Working Group on the Council Resolution No 30/2020 – Future Funding for Manly to Palm Beach Art Walk.

### BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 23 June 2020, Council adopted the following resolution:

*That:*

- 1. Work commences on the development of a Fund Raising Plan to secure future works for the Manly to Palm Beach Art Walk to ensure the viability of cultural programs and commissions going forward.*
- 2. This will include identifying a diverse range of funding sources to build the public art collection, including government, private, and philanthropic as well as the long-term fiscal management of the project.*
- 3. A report be brought back to Council within three months which includes the following:*
  - A. Create a budget outlining the pathway that complements the existing original resolution of Council 27 June 2017 and future artworks that have yet to be funded.*
  - B. Look at creating a possible trust fund structure or similar creating security for donors.*
- 4. Allow for the Chief Executive Officer to determine the priority for implementing this resolution given the current external environment with appropriate notice provided to update councillors with any changes.*

### DISCUSSION

Research is currently underway to inform the development of a report to Council in late 2020. Activities to date include:

- Meetings with industry colleagues, including Australian Museum and Sydney Theatre Company to learn about successful gifts, donation and philanthropic programs.
- Engaging with Creative Partnerships Australia, an Australian Government agency dedicated to investment in the arts by fostering giving and partnerships between the cultural sector, supporters and investors
- Seeking legal advice regarding relevant structures to support a program of gifts, donation and philanthropy
- Identifying potential government grants and project partners.

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### RECOMMENDATION OF PUBLIC ART COORDINATOR

That the information be received and noted.

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