CAMDEN COUNCIL Media Release



5 August 2014

Successful Community Forum

The first of three proposed Camden Town Centre Enhancement Strategy Community Forum's – an opportunity for the Camden community to hear firsthand Council's proposed plans for Camden and to express their views, thoughts and ideas on the Strategy - was held on Tuesday evening, with 86 members of Camden's business, commercial and residential communities in attendance, all eager to participate and have their say on the draft proposal put forward by Council.

Mayor of Camden, Councillor Lara Symkowiak, was pleased to host the evening, impressed with the number of community members in attendance, and thrilled with the valuable feedback provided on the proposed Public Domain Improvement Works and Retail and Commercial Study and Vision.

"I thank all who attended Tuesday evening's forum and took the time to share with Council their thoughts, views and preferences for the Camden Town Centre Enhancement Strategy. We have asked the Camden community to provide feedback on the proposed project - which is the purpose of holding these Forums - and that's exactly what we got – positive, constructive and welcome feedback".

"As I walked around the Civic Centre during the Community Forum, I was excited to see so many engaged in the process and willing to contribute to discussion, to hear the valuable feedback and comments being made, and to know that the Camden community and Council are on the same page when it comes to the improvements needed in Camden".

All feedback provided at the Community Forum will be collated by Council's consultants, JBA who facilitated the evening, and will provide valuable input into the project.

"We have extended the exhibition period to an eight week period - rather than the usual four - to allow as much feedback to be sought as possible".

"I am personally passionate about, and committed to, the Camden Town Centre Enhancement Strategy, to ensuring that Camden is a better place when Council moves to Oran Park in 2016 than it is today, and that

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measures are put in place now to see the Camden Central Business District and surrounds continue to flourish both now and into the future".

"I strongly encourage everyone who attended the first Community Forum, as well as any other interested business and community members, to attend our next information session on Wednesday 27 August, 7pm – 9pm at Camden Civic Centre. The second information session will provide an evaluation of the feedback provided to Council at Tuesday evening's Forum, as well as an opportunity to provide additional feedback on the Public Domain Works and Commercial and Retail Study and Vision".

The Camden Town Centre Enhancement Strategy is on exhibition until Wednesday 17 September 2014. Exhibition material and feedback can be provided at Council's Customer Service Centres, Camden and Narellan Libraries and Council's website.

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