

**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES & SERVICES COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD 11 FEBRUARY, 2002, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET
CAMDEN**

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11 FEBRUARY, 2002**

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Present: Cr S Winn (Deputy Mayor/Chairperson), Cr G Corrigan, Cr C Patterson, Cr B Batros, Cr S Fekete, Cr N McFadden, Cr E Campbell, Cr F Anderson, Cr S Senise.

Staff: General Manager, Director Governance & Outcomes, Director Works & Services, Director Development & Environment, Manager Outcomes, Manager Development, Administration Officer.

1. Investment Monies: Period ended, 30th November, 2001

(Director Governance & Outcomes)

In accordance with clause 19 (3a & 3b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, a list of investments held by Council as at 30th November, 2001, is provided as **Tabled Document "RS 1"**.

It is further certified that all investments have been made in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the relevant regulations and Council's investments policy.

Current investments of the General Fund both term and call are returning an average daily yield of 4.54% and during the month of November, 2001, the average return on all investments both call and term was 4.51%.

Recommended: That

- i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.
- ii) The list of investments as at 30th November, 2001 be noted.
- iii) The interest rate return of 4.51% for the month of November, 2001, be noted.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr McFadden, seconded Cr Anderson that

- i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.

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- ii) *The list of investments as at 30th November, 2001 be noted.*
- iii) *The interest rate return of 4.51% for the month of November, 2001, be noted.*

RS001/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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2. Investment Monies: Period ended, 31st December, 2001

(Director Governance & Outcomes)

In accordance with clause 19 (3a & 3b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, a list of investments held by Council as at 31st December, 2001, is provided as **Tabled Document "RS 2"**.

It is further certified that all investments have been made in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the relevant regulations and Council's investments policy.

Current investments of the General Fund both term and call are returning an average daily yield of 4.43% and during the month of December, 2001, the average return on all investments both call and term was 4.41%.

Recommended: That

- i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.
- ii) The list of investments as at 31st December, 2001 be noted.
- iii) The interest rate return of 4.41% for the month of December, 2001, be noted.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr McFadden that

- i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.
- ii) The list of investments as at 31st December, 2001 be noted.
- iii) The interest rate return of 4.41% for the month of December, 2001, be noted.

RS002/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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3. Budget Review as at 31st December 2001

((Director – Governance & Outcomes))

Purpose of Report

To inform Council of the necessary adjustments to the 2001/02 Budget since the adoption of the September Budget Review. These adjustments include those that

- Council has already authorised in a previous meeting, and
- Senior management have proposed and require Council's determination for budget inclusion

Summary of Budget Review

The December Review of the 2001/02 Budget has identified a further gain to Council's Working Funds of \$46,704.

The revised forecast of Accumulated Working Funds at the end of the financial year (30/06/2002) now stands at \$846,704. This represents a \$46,704 surplus above Council's minimum Working Funds level of \$800,000.

Chief Financial Officer's Comments

Council continues to be progressing well within budget. Whilst the available surplus from the December Budget Review of \$46,704 may seem insignificant Council has actually bolstered its financial position and capacity to fund future works by transferring previous budget surpluses to specific reserves and reducing its dependence on external loan borrowings. Specific examples include:

- A \$450,000 transfer to the Computer Reserve. This was funded from the surplus that transpired from last year's financial result
- A \$300,000 reduction in Loan Borrowings. This was funded from the surplus that transpired from last year's financial result.
- A \$545,930 transfer to the Working Funds Reserve. This was primarily funded from savings in Superannuation and additional Rates income identified in the September Budget Review.

It is envisaged that this positive trend will continue throughout the remainder of the financial year. The March Budget Review will place particular emphasis on the early identification of expenditure revotes to further refine the quantum of funds required in the 2001/02 Budget and to ensure an accurate and realistic 2002/03 Draft Budget is framed.

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The following table is a summary of budget adjustments up to 31st December 2001.

NOTE: All figures reflected in this report are expressed in terms of their impact on Council's budget. In other words,

1. INCOME: Increases are expressed as positive figures. Reductions are expressed as (negative figures).
2. EXPENDITURE: Increases are expressed as (negative figures). Reductions are expressed as positive figures.

Description	Income	Expenditure	Impact on Council's Working Funds
2001/02 Adopted Original Budget	41,646,260	(41,428,402)	217,858
Variations up to the September Review (as adopted by Council)	4,030,597	(7,142,663)	(3,112,066)
2001/02 December Review adjustments:			
NOTE 1: Authorised Variations	37,000	(44,000)	(7,000)
NOTE 2: Proposed Variations	(52,851)	106,555	53,704
NOTE 3: Contra Adjustments	(2,350,998)	2,350,998	0
Total of December Review adjustments	(2,366,849)	2,413,553	46,704
Revised 2001/02 Budget as per December Review	43,310,008	(46,157,512)	(2,847,504)
ADD: Balance brought forward from 30/06/01			3,694,208
EQUALS: Estimated Working Funds as at 30/06/02			846,704
LESS: Minimum Desired Level of Working Funds			800,000
EQUALS: Surplus funds available for allocation			46,704

NOTE 1 – AUTHORISED VARIATIONS

This section deals with the budget variations that Council has authorised since the September Budget Review was adopted.

Council has authorised two budget variations since the September Budget Review, the details of which follow:

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Description	Income	Expenditure	Impact on Council's Working Funds
Computer Network Security Upgrade (Funded from the Computer Reserve)	25,000	(25,000)	0
RTA – Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plans Program	12,000	(19,000)	(7,000)
TOTAL AUTHORISED VARIATIONS	37,000	(44,000)	(7,000)

NOTE 2 – PROPOSED VARIATIONS

This section deals with proposed budget variations submitted by senior management for Council to consider.

These proposed adjustments are primarily based on actual income and expenditure trends to date or forecast variations to the budget based on information at hand.

The following table highlights significant proposed budget variations submitted by senior management and/or recommended for inclusion by the Finance Department.

Description	Income	Expenditure	Impact on Council's Working Funds
Organisational Salaries		(65,288)	(65,288)
Section 603 Certificates	30,000		30,000
Loans – Principal & Interest		53,848	53,848
Interest on Investments	(37,000)		(37,000)
Computer Leases & Licences		(34,450)	(34,450)
Workers Compensation		26,636	26,636
Roads Construction Program		25,805	25,805
Skateboard Facility		25,600	25,600
Macarthur Park Toilet		33,192	33,192
Miscellaneous Minor Proposed Variations	(45,851)	41,212	(4,639)
TOTAL PROPOSED VARIATIONS	(52,851)	106,555	53,704

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NOTE 3 – CONTRA ADJUSTMENTS

This section deals with all offsetting adjustments between income and expenditure or a transfer of funds between allocations. These adjustments have NO impact on Council's Working Funds as both movements of income and expenditure are of equal value.

The total value of contra adjustments amounts to \$2,350,998 (decrease to both income and expenditure), the breakdown of which follows: (major items only)

1. Harrington Park Lake (funded by Section 94)
\$1,350,000 Decrease
2. Narellan Release Area Facilities (funded by Section 94)
\$ 330,000 Decrease
3. Spring Roads Depot (funded by Section 94)
\$ 95,058 Decrease
4. Wetland Adjacent Tributary No 1 (funded by Section 94)
\$ 100,000 Decrease
5. Domestic Waste Service (funded by Domestic Waste Reserve)
\$ 446,425 Decrease
6. Harrington Park Lake Water Quality System (funded by Reserve)
\$ 239,982 Decrease

Generally speaking, projects 1,2,3 & 4 have either been completed, redefined or alternative arrangements have been entered into rendering the need to utilise section 94 funds as redundant.

In the case of the Domestic Waste Service (item 5), the Manager – Environment has identified a number of expenditure savings in operations. These savings have been transferred to the Domestic Waste Reserve in accordance with Local Government legislation.

In the case of the Harrington Park Lake Water Quality works (item 6) the funds of \$239,982 were required for detailed design and management plan expenses. These works have been completed and costings incurred. This project was funded from two sources; section 94 and a specific Council Reserve. The balance of funds (\$239,982) has been transferred back to these sources.

Application of Surplus Funds

It is proposed to transfer the surplus funds of \$46,704 to the 'Capital Works Reserve' for future allocation to a specific project. It would appear an opportune time to do so given the

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2002/03 Budget will be the subject of intense consideration over the coming months and will require these surplus monies to fund priority projects of the future.

Recommended: That

- (i) the report headed 'Budget Review as at 31st December 2001' be received and noted.
- (ii) Council approves the necessary budget adjustments as identified in the categories of 'Proposed Variations' and 'Contra Adjustments' of this report as per **Tabled Document "RS 3"**.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Fekete that

- (i) the report headed 'Budget Review as at 31st December 2001' be received and noted.
- (ii) Council approves the necessary budget adjustments as identified in the categories of 'Proposed Variations' and 'Contra Adjustments' of this report as per **Tabled Document "RS 3"** with exception to the variation of \$25,600 relating to the Skateboard Facility pending the outcome of the Community Safety Forum Meeting to be held next week.

RS003/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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4. Management Plan Review – 31st December, 2001

(3668/2)(Director Governance & Outcomes)

Council prepares the Management Plan annually together with the Annual Budget, which sets strategies and actions for the next 3 years.

The Local Government Act requires quarterly reports be submitted to Council showing progress to date on strategies and actions within the Management Plan, falling due within each quarter.

The table below shows those strategies falling due together with appropriate comments on the progress to date:

	STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE TARGETS	COMMENT
MANAGING URBAN GROWTH	Provide comprehensive planning for the Elderslie / Spring Farm release areas	By December, 2001	Elderslie Masterplan/ DCP/LES/LEP completed and underway. Plan on exhibition until 15/2/02. Spring Farm work progressing.
ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS	Complete and implement the Vegetation Management Plan and update Register.	By December, 2001	Draft vegetation management plan completed and will be finalised in the short term.
	Produce a Register of all information required by Council and Developers to comply with the requirements of the Threatened Species legislation.	By December, 2001	A Natural Assets Policy containing native vegetation management requirements & species information that complies with threatened species legislation is addressed in

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	STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS	PERFORMANCE TARGETS	COMMENT
			the above Vegetation Management Plan.
	Increase Council external profile through management of events, publication, media and marketing through additional resource of Community Relations Officer.	By December, 2001	Completed. Community Relations Officer commenced duties November, 2001.
GOVERNANCE	Provide additional resources to increase level of service to staff and community in delivery of Information Technology	By December, 2001	Completed. Additional I.T. Staff employed as provided in 2001/02 Budget.

Recommended: That the information be noted.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr Batros that the information be noted.

RS004/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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5. Bus Shelters

(630/7) (Director Governance & Outcomes)

Councillors may be aware that Council has 5 remaining agreements with Ken Tagg Family Restaurants Pty Ltd (trading as McDonalds Macarthur) involving a total of 14 bus shelters. The agreements allow for the company to provide free bus shelters to Council, and to Council's specification, in return for the right to advertise on those shelters for a defined period. The agreements are for shelters in varying locations and have varying expiry dates, as set out in the table below:

<u>Agreement No.</u>	<u>Expiry</u>	<u>Description</u>
G199A	27.02.2003	4 shelters on Narellan Road in the vicinity of the roundabouts
G199B	01.01.2003	2 shelters on Narellan Road at the pedestrian overbridge
G199C	01.08.2002	1 shelter at Welling Drive
G210	14.02.2003	5 shelters in diverse locations
G211	01.04.2004	2 shelters at Elderslie

As Mr Ken Tagg has now sold the business operated by his company, he has asked that the agreements be assigned to the new owner, McDonalds Australia Ltd, for the balance of their terms with the exception of agreement G199A which he will retain.

No objection is raised to this request for assignment, despite the fact that the legal agreements make no specific provision for assignment. Any transfer of the advertising rights will be conditional upon the agreement of McDonalds Australia Ltd to adhere by all existing conditions and provisions.

In each of the agreements, with the exception of G199A, the shelters revert to Council's ownership at the expiration of the agreement. In the case of the 4 shelters covered by G199A, they remain the property of Ken Tagg Family Restaurants Pty Ltd. These shelters are of different materials and finishes to Council's adopted standard and the agreement requires the removal of the shelters at the agreement's conclusion.

In the event that Council approves the assignment of these agreements, it will be made clear to McDonalds Australia Ltd that it is unlikely that any further advertising rights will be offered following their expiry. This is consistent with Council's recent practice of having either no advertising or community awareness advertising in shelters.

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Recommended:

- (i) That Council agree to the assignment of the rights and responsibilities of Ken Tagg Family Restaurants Pty Ltd; in respect of bus shelter advertising agreements G199B, G199C, G210 and G211; to McDonalds Australia Ltd for the terms remaining on those agreements.
- (ii) That authority be granted to execute any necessary documents under the seal of Council.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Senise, seconded Cr McFadden

- (i) That Council agree to the assignment of the rights and responsibilities of Ken Tagg Family Restaurants Pty Ltd; in respect of bus shelter advertising agreements G199B, G199C, G210 and G211; to McDonalds Australia Ltd for the terms remaining on those agreements.
- (ii) That authority be granted to execute any necessary documents under the seal of Council.

RS005/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

6. “Accessible Camden” - The Integrated Landuse and Transport Strategy -

(File TC 4363) (Director Governance and Outcomes)

Purpose

This report seeks to inform Council regarding the exhibition of “Accessible Camden” the Integrated Landuse and Transport Strategy for Camden and public submissions that have been received. This report recommends to Council that the strategy be adopted.

Background

Council considered a report detailing the draft Strategy on the 23 July 2001 and subsequently resolved that:

- (i) Council resolve to exhibit the Strategy for public comment.*
- (ii) Council forward copies of the Strategy to State Government Transport agencies and other relevant parties for their information.*
- (iii) Council write to the RTA, DOT and the Minister for Roads and Transport requesting the inclusion within the next round of RTA pedestrian bridge construction, a pedestrian bridge connecting Narellan and Narellan Vale across the Camden Bypass; Council stress the safety concerns as the primary focus of that request and then those pertaining to connectivity and access.*

Exhibition

In accordance with Council’s resolution the Strategy was exhibited for public comment. Copies of the Strategy were sent to relevant State Transport agencies and over 400 copies were distributed from Council’s libraries and offices in Camden and Narellan. A copy of the strategy has also been placed on Council’s web site.

Council has received a reasonable response to the exhibition of the Strategy receiving submissions from a number of local community groups and State Transport Agencies. In addition to these written submissions, Council officers have received numerous verbal comments the majority of which support Council’s approach to transport provision detailed in the Strategy.

Submissions

A total of 12 submissions were received (refer **Tabled Document “RS 4”**), copies of which have been **forwarded to**

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Councillors under separate cover. Of the submissions received, the following recurring issues were noted:

- Council to demand that the State Government provide a better transport system for Camden.
- Health issues associated with car dependence should be emphasised in the draft Strategy.
- Provide better facilities for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Widen Narellan Road, The Northern Road and Camden Valley Way.
- Provide a heavy rail connection into Spring Farm.
- Improved local bus and Taxi services.
- Consider more fully the access needs of aged persons in Camden.

Response to Submissions

Firstly, it is important to note that “Accessible Camden” is a Strategy that seeks to summarise, in plain English, Camden’s transport position and the way forward to a better transport System. The Strategy is a platform from which Council can address transport issues through its annual management plan and budget process.

The Strategy supports the objectives contained in the broader Camden Strategic Plan – 2025 and Camden Structure Plan.

The Strategy contains desired transport “Outcomes” which are generally supported by the community, such as widening Camden Valley Way and upgrading intersections on Narellan Road. The community, as reflected in their submissions, generally support these outcomes.

It is also clear from submissions that the community is generally unhappy with the private and public transport system in Camden. Those in the community who have made submissions or taken the time to speak with Council officers regarding the Strategy have generally expressed support for Council’s strategy. Council’s objective to secure, from the State Government, a better transport system in Camden is applauded.

Detailed responses to the submissions are discussed in the Tabled Document, however there is no need to amend the strategy as a result.

Consistency with other Transport Strategies

In the later half of 2001 a number of transport strategies were produced for the Macarthur Region and the Sydney Metropolitan area in general, as follows:

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- The MACROC Transport Strategy;
- The Camden Integrated Transport Strategy (Inter-governmental Taskforce); and
- State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) No.66 – Integration of Land use and Transport.

Extensive consultation has occurred between Council and those preparing the above strategies to ensure “Accessible Camden” is consistent with these strategies both in content and direction.

Conclusion

It is the intention of the Strategy “Accessible Camden” to inform Council regarding the transport needs in our community and potential responses that can be pursued by Council in partnership with the local community and the State Government.

The strategy presents a range of options for addressing transport issues in Camden. Through its implementation Council will continue to make improvements in transport accessibility throughout Camden.

Recommended: That

- (i) Council adopt the Integrated Landuse and Transport Strategy “Accessible Camden” as exhibited.
- (ii) Council forward copies of the adopted Strategy to State Government Transport agencies and other relevant parties for their information.
- (iii) Council respond in writing to those individuals and groups who have made written submissions regarding Council’s decision in this matter.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Senise, seconded Cr Campbell that

- (i) Council adopt the Integrated Landuse and Transport Strategy “Accessible Camden” as exhibited.
- (ii) Council forward copies of the adopted Strategy to State Government Transport agencies and other relevant parties for their information.

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- (iii) *Council respond in writing to those individuals and groups who have made written submissions regarding Council's decision in this matter.*

RS006/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

The Meeting closed at 6.40pm