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BUSHRANGER

Newsletter of the
Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

Meeting 14 February 7.30pm

Lane Cove Tennis Club, Blaxlands Corner,
Kenneth St & River Rd.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
More fun times ahead .

**Our next Plant Stall will be sooner
than you think!**

March 25, 9 til 12 in the Lane Cove Plaza.

Contact Ruth if you can help, 0409 609 940.

What we have done

Medium Density Design Guide and Medium Density Housing Code

The government wants to introduce a Medium Density Design Guide and Medium Density Housing Code to allow higher density everywhere.

Our submission concluded that:

The proposal to allow medium density in low density residential area will open up a situation of reducing the amenity and character of a precinct. Medium density should be planned for before it is allowed to be open to all development.

No medium density development should be complying development but should require a Development Application to the local council to confirm that it is in accordance with the zoning and other controls of a DCP as well as giving a central body the ability to appraise the cumulative effects of multiple developments in a given area.

February 2017

The Lane Cove Bushland and Conservation Society oppose the introduction of medium density housing in R1, R2 and RU5 zoned land. It should only be allowed in R3 zoned areas.

We also oppose the provision for complying development in any area and require all such proposals to be via a DA system to the local council.

We suggest that independent assessors/certifiers be appointed by a third party and not be the proponent. **The full submission is on our website.**

Coastal SEPP (State Environmental Planning Policy) submission

This submission was prepared jointly by representatives of the Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society and the community members of Lane Cove Council's Bushland Management Advisory Committee.

We welcomed the NSW DPE's initiative to prepare this coastal SEPP with the aim of promoting a more consistent approach to coastal land use planning throughout the State. We note that it will consolidate a number of current plans and will result in the repeal of three existing policies, i.e.:

- SEPP 14—Coastal Wetlands;
- SEPP 26—Littoral Rainforests; and,
- SEPP 71—Coastal Protection

It will also trigger amendments to other instruments as identified in Schedule 3.

Lane Cove Bushland & Conservation Society Inc

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However we do not fully understand how it will relate to other plans/policies that will remain in force, including the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005. Nor do we understand whether other catchments in greater Sydney (eg the Cooks River) and NSW generally, will have similar REPs (Regional Environment Plans) to ensure a consistent approach throughout the state.

A number of recommendations were made of which the following was the first:

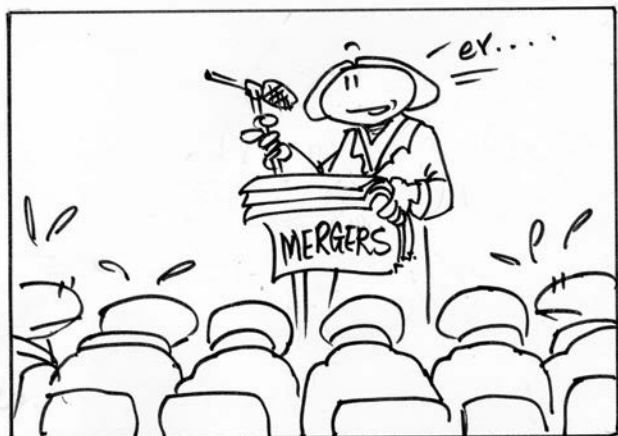
"We request a further period of public consultation before the finalisation of the SEPP in order to understand the full implications of this SEPP and its relationship with other relevant planning instruments, such as the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan (Sydney Harbour Catchment) 2005. A graphic representation of interrelationships would also assist".

The full submission is on our website.

In other News Amalgamation!

Lane Cove Council is it still engaged in holding off its amalgamation with Hunters Hill and Ryde Councils by various legal means. However, there is some hope on the horizon with the elevation of Gladys Berejiklian to the Premiership.

It would have been very difficult for Mike Baird to extricate himself from his commitment to amalgamation as it would have resulted in a greater loss of face than changing his mind on banning greyhound racing.



Our Glad and her nervous Cabinet

What's more, we note in the press that the National Party leader and Deputy Premier vowed to; "put an end to local government mergers in the bush". The arguments supporting this would apply equally to metropolitan councils.

So, keep your fingers crossed and your voice loud. The Society wrote to the Premier on the day she was elected urging her to reverse this deeply unpopular policy with its spurious claims of efficiency.

The letter is on the Society's website. You might like to use it as a model for your letter to the Premier, with a copy to Anthony Roberts.

Bushkids



The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) expires June 2017 and funding needs to be secured if it is to be ongoing with Council. We decided to support continuation of the Bushkids program in accordance with an extension of the MOU.

Greater Sydney Commission

In the December Newsletter we reported on the Greater Sydney Commission's Draft North District Plan.

It is available on the GCS's website. We again urge you to read it and **comment by 31 March 2017**.

The goal of the Plans is to have well-coordinated, integrated and effective planning for land use, transport and infrastructure.

The draft District Plans set out the opportunities, priorities and actions and provide the means by which the Greater Sydney Region Plan, A Plan for Growing Sydney can be put into action at a local level.

We also urge you to read the *Environment Panel Advisory Paper* prepared by the TEC for The Greater Sydney Commission in November 2016.

It is on the TEC website: www.tec.org.au. Look under "latest news" for: *New Environmental Vision for Sydney*.