

Dragon Boats NSW
DRAFT Meeting notes

Thursday, 24 August 2017
6.30pm – 8.00pm

Dragon Boats NSW
8 Parkview Drive
Sydney Olympic Drive

Attendees:

- Stephanie Ballango, UrbanGrowth NSW
- Humfrey Whitaker, UrbanGrowth NSW
- Anh Dang, UrbanGrowth NSW
- Evonne McCabe, Roads and Maritime Services
- Oliver Klein (consultant)

Agenda item

Notes

Welcome

Glenn Tasker, CEO
Dragon Boats NSW

- Glenn thanked everyone for attending, introduced UrbanGrowth NSW and Roads and Maritime Services representatives in attendance and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

Update from UrbanGrowth NSW

Humfrey Whitaker,
UGNSW

- Humfrey outlined the focus for the meeting:
 - to confirm the specific concerns of Dragon Boats NSW regarding the 5 Bank Street proposal and how UrbanGrowth NSW can address those concerns,
 - and how Dragon Boats NSW and recreational water users see themselves being accommodated in the masterplan for the Bays Market District.
- Overview of the meeting agenda provided
- Outline of 5 Bank Street proposal provided:
 - Uses existing Sydney Heritage Fleet approval from 2014
 - Sydney Heritage Fleet unable to use the approval and agreed to transfer it to Roads and Maritime Services
 - Diagram shown of Sydney Heritage Plan and current proposal – showing the same land and wharf area
 - Key change is the user, hours of operation and boat movement.
- Understood that the key issues for Dragon Boats NSW are:
 - On water navigation and safety
 - Wash from boats
 - Visibility

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parking ○ Water quality ● UrbanGrowth NSW preparing responses to public submissions.
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Q: how many berths are proposed? How big are the boats? A: Planning for 22 boats, ranging in size from 15 metres to 50 metres.</p> <p>Q: Is this relocating the boats currently moored at the end of Blackwattle Bay? A: yes</p> <p>Q: Comments regarding a lack of engagement with passive boating community and little mention in the application of rowing use in the water. Requirement for rules to ensure safety. Mention that the 2006 Masterplan had passive water space. A: UrbanGrowth NSW intends to undertake more work, including navigational safety modelling in order to respond to submissions. Clarification that the relocation is not of the super yachts.</p> <p>Q: Comments that from the current location of commercial boat operators, boats can be seen. Many expressed concern that big boats backing out will be hazardous and too close to rowers that may be hard for big boats to see. At low tide, there can be less than two metres of water. A: UrbanGrowth NSW will address the issues raised in the public submissions, bring on the consultants to carry out navigational plans and engage further with recreational water uses if required. Dragon Boats NSW to provide UrbanGrowth NSW with names of potential representatives of key recreational water users to engage with.</p> <p>Q: Should a traffic management plan have been done before lodging? A: We will be addressing that at the next stage.</p> <p>Q: What are the alternative solutions? A: In the short term, there are no other options. The Bays Precinct is a busy working harbour. In the longer term, there will be options.</p> <p>Q: So we will just have to deal with it? A: The proposal has not been approved. UrbanGrowth NSW first needs to respond to submissions and issues raised submissions, then the Department of Planning will assess responses and ultimately the independent Planning Assessment Committee will make the determination.</p> <p>Q: Comments made that the water quality in the Bay is very poor, with stormwater run-offs and oil from the boats.</p> <p>Q: Could the commercial operator split its operations into two locations? A: This would make operations difficult and doesn't present any more viable alternate locations.</p>

	<p>Q: Comment that the previous plan allowed for boats to be co-located and had shared facilities.</p> <p>A: The current plan is intended to house a commercial operator. UrbanGrowth NSW keen to hear what Dragon Boats NSW requirements are and how they could be accommodated in the area in the future.</p>
<p>Masterplanning the Bays Market District</p> <p>Stephanie Ballango, UGNSW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephanie outlined the masterplanning area including Blackwattle Bay, which is part of The Bays Precinct. • An overview of the masterplanning process was provided. • Mention that UrbanGrowth NSW is about to complete the first phase of consultation. Feedback received will info masterplan options. Expect to go out for further consultation in November 2017 and lodge rezoning application in June 2018. • Overview of study requirements was provided. • Brief explanation of the draft masterplan principles.
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>Q: Comment made that Dragon Boats NSW would prefer to stay at Bank Street and would be happy to share community facilities. Dragon Boats NSW to share with UrbanGrowth NSW designs for its headquarters.</p> <p>Q: Comments made that current facilities are inadequate, with just two portable toilets and no change rooms. The boats at Bank Street are for training, with competition boats stored at the International Regatta Centre. Dragon Boats believe that its design could accommodate future growth of the sport.</p> <p>Q: Comments made that dragon boating is a community sport with links to local Chinese community in Chinatown. It is a major sport and Australia is ranked top in the world. Dragon boating also services corporations in the CBD, is great for locals and all the community.</p> <p>Q: Comments made that Dragon Boats NSW has looked at other sites but Blackwattle Bay is protected from the winds, is close to Darling Harbour where it has competitions. It needs security for launching on the water, easy access to corporations in the CBD and rowers working in the city and flat water for sprinting. Also ideal to be located close to restaurants for socialising after boating.</p> <p>Q: UrbanGrowth NSW asked if there was any concern regarding the promenade, which the community want.</p> <p>A: Meeting attendees said the promenade is a positive for engagement with the community and encouraging new members</p> <p>Q: UrbanGrowth NSW asked about Dragon Boats NSW requirements for parking.</p> <p>A: Attendees advised that it currently has 160 spaces for cars. There were some comments that parking was needed close by for moving boats but there were other views that parking was less important if there was on-site</p>

storage for boats and change facilities, and rowers could use public transport.

Q: Comments made that rowers activate the site. They use the area early in the mornings and evenings when there are no other users.

Q: UrbanGrowth NSW commented that the masterplan must address transport, traffic and connectivity. Ferry service is being considered, how would this impact Dragon Boats? Mentioned that transport studies are underway.

A: Attendees said it could be a problem for rowers but would depend on the frequency of services, size of vessels and speed of travel. Attendees would like recreational boating to be prioritised but accept other uses and are used to navigating around commercial boats. Suggestion that ferries could be accommodated at Johnsons Bay or Glebe Island.

Q: Comment that the area for watercraft is shrinking as density increases.

Q: UrbanGrowth NSW said it would continue to consult Dragon Boats NSW.

Closing

Glenn Tasker

- Thanked all attendees.
- Mentioned that Martin Hirst would be stepping down from representing Dragon Boats NSW on The Bays Precinct Reference Group.