

Darling Point Society Inc.

Protecting heritage, amenity and green space

The Darling Point Society is publicly seeking your official answers to the following questions which are selected from a number of issues of concern to residents of Darling Point:

Questions for candidates up for election to Woollahra Council, 2021

Development	Yes	No
1. Are you for or against the Edgecliff Commercial Centre Zoning Proposals.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are you for or against the Edgecliff corridor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Are you for or against development applications over 30M by-passing WMC?		
<i>Comment:</i>	<p>I am against 1 and 2. At the Council meeting of 25 October 2021, the Residents First Councillors put up a Notice of Motion requesting that the Local Housing Strategy be revised in order to reflect that Woollahra's 800 net new dwellings target for 2016 to 2026 has already been achieved and that we don't need an uplift in density in Edgecliff to meet state government imposed housing targets. The vote to support the NoM was lost 7 to 8, with Liberal Mayor and all the Liberal Councillors voting against it.</p> <p>I also don't support DAs over \$30 million going directly to the Sydney Eastern City Planning Panel but, unfortunately, it's a state government mandate. If elected, I will continue to advocate that the Council complains to the state government about the operation of the district and local plannings. They have taken too many decision-making powers away from local councils. Developers, for example, should not be able to request a review of a council's decision to reject a developer initiated rezoning planning proposal. It's the equivalent of spot rezoning, which the Liberal state government promised to ban when they were first elected in 2011.</p> <p>I helped to prepare a critique of the planning panel system on behalf of the Double Bay Residents Association, which was sent to the Mayor and to the state government member for Vacluse, Gabrielle Upton. At the Council meeting of 27 July 2021, Resident First put up a Notice of Motion requesting that the Council writes to the Planning Minister, the Hon Rob Stokes, outlining concerns about the recent changes to the operation of the Local Planning Panels, which have well and truly tipped the pendulum too far in favour of developers. This NoM was successfully carried.</p>	

		Yes	No
Skatebowl in Rushcutters Bay Park			
1. Are you for or against the planned skateboard facility planned for Rushcutters Bay?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Did you know that all 15 Woollahra Councillors voted YES to go ahead with building the facility:		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Did you know that funds of \$1.4m have been allocated already for this project?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Are you for or against a rescission motion being passed to cancel the planned facility in a State Heritage listed park?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comment:</i>	<p>I have always been against the skateboard facility in Rushcutters Bay. Most of the parks in Sydney and Melbourne are on flood plains and were set aside to ameliorate flood risk. Hard surfacing a parkland for a skate park makes no sense. Also, given that most people in the surrounding area live in apartments, ensuring access to passive green space for recreational purposes should be both a state government and Woollahra Council priority. I am thrilled about the Darling Point Society's success in gaining a state heritage listing for Rushcutters Bay Park.</p> <p>All of the current Residents First Councillors are for reassessing the location of the skate park in light of the state heritage listing. As you know, I am very alarmed that the draft Edgecliff Commercial Centre Planning and Urban Design Strategy proposes rezoning the Crystal Carwash from RE2 private recreation to B4 Mixed Use. If this proposed zoning change goes ahead, the value of the site will skyrocket and Woollahra Council will not be able to afford to buy it back, possibly as an alternative location for a skate park? Another important reason why the draft Edgecliff Planning Strategy should not be approved.</p>		
Parking in Woollahra			
1. Are you for or against a review of parking regulations in Woollahra?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Are you for or against new studio or 1 bedroom apartments not being allocated a parking space inside the building?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Comment:</i>	At the Council meeting of 20 August 2018, Residents First put up a Notice of Motion requesting that Council		

	<p>investigates setting a minimum onsite parking requirement instead of a maximum rate for residential development. Unfortunately, this NoM was lost, with only Liberal Councillor voting for it.</p> <p>I'm for changing controls to set aside at least one parking space for all apartments in new residential buildings. I think the Council has unrealistic aspirations about people giving up their cars just because they live near a so-called "transport hub." Having said that, I think the Council could do a lot more in terms of promoting shared car services. A friend of mine who lives in a terrace in Ultimo has three shared car places on his street. He finds it really easy to pick up a car when he needs one.</p>		
<p>Signs</p>	<p>Are you for or against RACISM signs going up all over Woollahra?</p> <p>I am definitely for promoting social justice and inclusiveness. I was shocked to learn that the Rose Bay Police Station is one of the busiest in NSW in terms of reports of domestic violence. I think a lot of us aren't aware of the unseemly issues that bubble under the surface in our area. Ex Kambala student, Chantal Contos, for example, did young women and men, parents and schools a huge favour when she launched her Teach Us Consent petition, which calls for holistic consent and sexuality education to be provided in schools. To date, she has garnered 44,688 signatories and 6,723 testimonies from both women and men. As they say, sunlight is often the best disinfectant, so if the anti-racism signs get people thinking and talking about whether racism is an issue in our area, then surely that's a good thing.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>

The Darling Point Society Inc
PO Box 1331
Edgecliff NSW 2027
darlingpointsoc@hotmail.com
www.darlingpointsociety.com.au

Please insert your answers and any comments you feel are relevant to the above and email to darlingpointsoc@hotmail.com . Thank you for

replying before 28 November 2021. Your answers will be published on our website.