

4. MAYORAL MINUTE

4.1 Second Sydney Airport

The establishment of a Second Sydney Airport within the Sydney Basin has been a controversial issue for many years. The issue became quite detailed in the mid-1980s with the publication of a report by the then Federal Government which recommended the location to be Badgerys Creek. This proposal proceeded to the situation where land acquisition was undertaken and a large site for a Second Sydney Airport was consolidated.

Campbelltown City Council has had a consistent record in opposing a Second Sydney Airport in the Sydney Basin and was very active in the campaign opposing the Badgerys Creek proposal.

Also, in the mid-late 1990s the Federal Government also considered Holsworthy as a potential second Airport site. Again, after much opposition this site was rejected.

Recently the Federal Government has released a report on a Second Sydney Airport and the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, The Hon Anthony Albanese has publicly promoted a site to be established at Wilton.

At the time of the initial announcement, I convened an urgent meeting with the Mayors of Camden and Wollondilly and together we issued a joint press release strongly opposing a proposal for a Second Airport to be located at Wilton and also opposing the establishment of a Second Airport in the Sydney Basin.

As Mayor, I forwarded a letter to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport on 16 February 2012 expressing Council's extreme concern regarding the position of the Federal Government and requesting an immediate announcement that Western Sydney would not be considered as a site for such a facility.

Subsequently, on 20 April 2012 as Mayor, I forwarded further correspondence to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport requesting that as a matter of urgency, the Minister meet with myself and my Mayoral colleagues of Camden and Wollondilly to discuss the Wilton proposal. Such a meeting would enable the three Mayors to raise the deep concern and apprehension held by our three Councils and our communities at Wilton being considered as a potential site.

As Mayor, I have consistently put Council's position of total opposition to any proposal for a Second Sydney Airport in Western Sydney or the Sydney Basin. This is a position which has also been strongly promoted by the Premier of NSW, the Hon Mr Barry O'Farrell and I have been heartened by the Premier's strong position that the Federal Government should not proceed any further with the proposal at Wilton or the Sydney Basin.

As Mayor, I will continue to promote the position of Campbelltown City Council that it is inappropriate for a Second Sydney Airport to be contemplated in Western Sydney when consideration is correctly given to noise pollution, environmental pollution and the sterilisation of huge areas of potential residential lands identified to cater for the rapidly expanding Sydney Metropolitan Area.

On Saturday 28 April 2012 I attended a meeting in Wilton with the Mayors of Wollondilly and Camden, staff representatives from these Councils and a large number of community members to indicate the opposition of the wider community to this proposal. At this meeting I reiterated Council's strong opposition to a second airport in the Sydney basin.

I present this Mayoral Minute to provide Councillors with the most up to date information on my representations to Government on this important issue. I will continue to promote our opposition to these proposals on behalf of the residents of Campbelltown and the wider Macarthur Area. Further, I will continue to carefully monitor any developments on this issue and keep Councillors closely informed of any developments.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

Council Meeting 8 May 2012 (Rule/Borg)

That the information be noted.

Addendum: (Hawker/Rule)

2. That Council resolve to oppose a second airport in the Sydney Basin.

Council Resolution Minute Number 72

That the Recommendation incorporating the addendum be adopted.

4.2 Mayor's Charity Race Night

Each year, the Mayor of Campbelltown City hosts an event to raise money for a worthy local organisation. This year, I chose Beautiful Minds to be the recipient of funds raised at the charity event.

Beautiful Minds is run by a committee of volunteers - ordinary people committed to extraordinary change in the lives of people living with a mental illness. This small band of volunteers, led by Sandra McDonald, have made a real difference to the lives of others - not just those who live with mental illness on a daily basis, but also their families and friends.

The night was an overwhelming success, with a total of \$22,169 raised. The funds raised will be used to establish a contemplative garden in the grounds of Waratah House Adult Mental Health Unit at Campbelltown Hospital. The garden will be a natural sanctuary and a place to reflect, providing an opportunity to connect with nature, enjoy the simple pleasures of life, or simply to relax. It will also help to enhance the lives of people living with a mental illness and assist them on a quicker and better recovery.

On Saturday 24 March, more than 260 people came together at Tabcorp Park, Menangle for a common cause and a common purpose - to help people in our community continue their recovery from mental illness.

There should be no shame or stigma towards anyone living with mental illness. In our community, mental illness should be treated the same way as any other illness. That treatment should always contain two vital ingredients - care and compassion. With one in five Australians expected to experience mental illness in their life at some stage, it really helped put the important issue of mental health in the spotlight.

I would like to thank each and every person who helped make this incredible feat possible, especially those who attended on the night, and those who donated prizes for the raffle. A special thank you must go to our sponsors - Marsdens Law Group, Australian Pacing Gold, Michael Brown Planning, Clintons Toyota, Tanyia Harris, Mir Bros, Paul Wakeling Motor Group, MTC Training Solutions and the Macarthur Chronicle. Without their generosity, the event would not have been possible.

I've seen what mental illness can do, and I was honoured to be able to do something to show that Council and the community cares and supports all those trying to improve the lives of people with mental illness.

A garden is like a friend you can visit anytime, and I trust that the garden at Waratah House will be a friend to those living with a mental illness when they need it most.

Recommendation

That the information be noted.

Council Meeting 8 May 2012 (Rule/Oates)

That the information be noted.

Council Resolution Minute Number 73

That the information be noted.