

ORDINARY MEETING

Late Items

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Council of Burwood will be held in the Council Chamber, 2 Conder Street, Burwood on Tuesday 29 April 2025 at 6:00 PM

Tommaso Briscese
General Manager

Agenda

For an Ordinary Meeting of Burwood Council to be held in the Conference Room, Level 1, 2 Conder Street, Burwood on Tuesday 29 April 2025 immediately after the Public Forum commencing at 6.00pm.

1. Mayoral Minutes

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Mayoral Minutes

(Item MM5/25) "City of Burwood" - Pursuing City Status for the Burwood LGA

File No: 25/20090

Mayoral Minute by Cr John Faker (Mayor)

Background

Situated on the traditional lands of the Wangal people, the Burwood Local Government Area has experienced substantial transformation since its establishment over 150 years ago. From its origins as a modest township, it has grown into a vibrant and diverse centre, strategically positioned between the Sydney CBD and Parramatta.

Burwood harmoniously integrates a rich heritage with forward-thinking development and city activation initiatives. Its people, identity, and potential are what make it truly exceptional. Council continues to balance innovation with tradition, embracing global trends while safeguarding its cultural legacy.

Burwood is no longer a town centre fulfilling a purely local role — it is a regional powerhouse; and I believe it is time our identity reflects the reality of who we are and the direction in which we are heading by pursuing the status of City.

Attaining city status is not merely a change in name; it is about unlocking new opportunities, recognising our transformation, and setting a trajectory for even greater impact.

It is also a recognition of what Burwood already represents: designated as a Major Centre in the NSW Government's Metropolitan Strategy, Burwood is driven by a strong local economy and key transport interchanges that generate consistent foot traffic and urban activity. It is also an established hub for education.

Burwood's youthful and ambitious population — with over one-third aged between 18 and 34 — reflects its vibrant and dynamic character. With 57% of residents born overseas and 63% speaking a language other than English, Burwood ranks among the top five most culturally diverse local government areas in Australia. This diversity is one of Burwood's greatest strengths, contributing to its rich community fabric and global outlook.

The area is home to over 5,300 businesses spanning more than 20 industries, supporting a \$2.83 billion economy and approximately 17,976 local jobs. Economic growth has been further bolstered by \$1.4 billion in building approvals over the past five years, establishing Burwood as a rising hub for commercial investment and innovation. With a strategic location and growing infrastructure, Burwood is well-positioned to support sustained economic and social development.

Guided by the Burwood2036 Community Strategic Plan — underpinned by the values of inclusion, sustainability, accessibility, and leadership — Council is delivering outcomes aligned with a city-scale vision. The population is expected to double over the next decade, reaching approximately 85,000, driven by initiatives such as the Burwood North Masterplan, the Croydon alternative Transit-Oriented Development, the implementation of the Low and Mid Rise Housing Framework, and planning for the revitalisation of the Parramatta Road Corridor. The upcoming Burwood North Metro Station, combined with existing train lines and proximity to both Sydney and Western Sydney Airports, ensures outstanding connectivity — currently positioning Burwood just 15 minutes from both the Sydney and Parramatta CBDs.

Formal recognition as a city will raise Burwood's profile and strengthen its voice across State and Federal spheres. It will promote business confidence, attract global investment, enhance access to infrastructure and economic grants, and provide more opportunities for youth and local

employment. It will also instil pride in our residents and communities, cementing Burwood as a central, thriving and global urban destination.

Operational Plan Objective

Establishing the City of Burwood would further the vision of Burwood2036 by enabling the delivery of key community outcome priorities, including:

- **1.1** - A welcoming community that cares and looks after each other
- **2.1** - An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place
- **4.1:** - A prosperous city and strategically located business and employment hub within Sydney.

I therefore move that:

1. That Council endorses the commencement of a process to pursue city status for the Burwood Local Government Area.
2. That the General Manager prepare a report to Council outlining the available options for implementing a change of status to formally recognise Burwood as a city.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

(Item MM6/25) Burwood Town Centre Traffic Conditions

File No: 25/20389

Mayoral Minute by Cr John Faker (Mayor)

Background

The Burwood Town Centre has evolved into a vibrant and active urban environment. Recognised as a Major Centre in the New South Wales Government's Metropolitan Strategy, it is underpinned by a robust local economy and key transport interchanges that generate consistent foot traffic and urban activity.

As with any growing city, challenges inevitably arise, with traffic being a notable concern. While efforts are underway to promote greater use of public transport and encourage increased pedestrianisation within the Town Centre, it remains essential to ensure that vehicular traffic can continue to operate efficiently.

One of the "hotspots" is the area around Westfield Shopping Centre, bounded by Wilga Street, Burwood Road, Shaftesbury Road and Victoria Road. The area features multiple intersections, traffic signals, it accommodates a taxi rank, a bus layover, access to the Westfield carpark and active construction work zones.

Last week drivers experienced heavy congestion on Victoria Street, caused by larger than usual traffic volumes from Westfield Shopping Centre in the lead up to a long weekend, and further exacerbated by the delivery of a large crane to a construction site nearby, as well as inadequate signal phasing onto Shaftesbury Road.

Unfortunately, Council's powers appear limited in relation to reactive traffic and signals management in case of emergency congestions such as the one last week, instead relying on Police or RMS intervention, which typically would take longer than a localised Council solution.

However I believe Council is best positioned to coordinate a strategic traffic management plan between local businesses and major shopping centres, Police, RMS and drivers.

While we already develop and operate long term strategies, Council should also be enabled to intervene when situations arise that require immediate solutions, such as closing access to particular streets, or diversion of traffic to facilitate vehicular movement.

As such, as our city continues to grow, I would like to see further research that addresses both the broader strategic approach for the Burwood Town Centre, but also the periods of heightened congestion around popular destinations and during public holidays.

Operational Plan Objective

- **C.4.1** - Plan and manage transport infrastructure to meet current and future community needs
- **A.40** - Investigate traffic hot spots and implement solutions such as pedestrian refuges, roundabouts or traffic calming devices.

I therefore move that:

That the General Manager conduct additional traffic studies and jurisdiction/legal research and prepare a report for Council outlining the available options to improve traffic conditions within the Burwood Town Centre, and to identify measures to support the community during periods of heightened congestion.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.