

## Summary of Community Comments

Theme	Community Comments and Insights	Council Response in Final Heritage Activation Plan
<b>Indigenous Heritage</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Love the Indigenous inclusion in the heritage plan. The Indigenous history around Manly and surrounding areas is so rich and such a valuable resource for the locals and tourists visiting the area.</li> <li>While the plan is good on acknowledging aboriginal history, this ends in 1790! It should be noted that there are 1300 Aboriginal people living in the council area today.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community supports the highlighting of the indigenous heritage of the area</li> <li>There are important local stories to highlight the interactions between Indigenous people and Europeans</li> <li>More information should be provided about indigenous heritage pre 1780s</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>West Esplanade's high exposure to visitors presents an opportunity to educate them on the indigenous heritage of Manly Cove. This could be via interpretive signage, landscaping treatments and/or artwork.</li> </ul> <p>Council will work with relevant groups to produce the detailed design of elements to highlight indigenous heritage in West Esplanade.</p>
<b>Public Art</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please, please keep public art works to a bare minimum as they are no match for the natural beauty of the area.</li> <li>Please don't include any more public art installations. This area is a beautiful natural area and doesn't need any art installations, especially ones that light up at night.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The community does not want public art to dominate the space and the natural environment</li> </ul>	<p>Public art is just one option that Council will explore as an opportunity to highlight the history of West Esplanade. Any public art placement and design will take into account minimising the impact on the natural environment and aesthetic of the area. Note: That artwork in the context of the Plan includes integrated artwork such as works incorporated into landscaping, footpaths, playground or street furniture.</p>
<b>Boardwalk Reinstatement</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While the majority of recommendations (eg natural flora and fauna, indigenous history, access, architecture) are good, indeed long overdue, I disagree vehemently with the proposal to reinstate the boardwalk. It would be an expensive eyesore, and ratepayers would bear the actual and opportunity costs.</li> <li>The projected cost of the boardwalk, the loss of uninterrupted vista across the harbour and the potential for anti-social behaviour, on the other</li> </ul>	<p>There a number of economic and environmental factors that impact the feasibility of rebuilding the boardwalk. The next step in the process would be to undertake further detailed studies to determine the full feasibility of reinstating the boardwalk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that Council wait for determination from Roads and Maritime Services of</li> </ul>

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	<p>hand, are reasons to abandon wasting any more ratepayer funds on that idea.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am not in favour of rebuilding that pool and boardwalk, because I think it is far better to have the amazing view from the beach, out to the harbour and the heads.</li> <li>• The significant expense required to engineer a structure capable of withstanding extreme storm conditions, coupled with the detrimental impacts to the aquatic environment, visual and heritage constraints, make this proposal completely unjustifiable.</li> <li>• I refer to the proposed boardwalk reinstatement and the environmental factors which would be impacted, specifically the sea grasses and seahorses which would be disturbed, and also the threat to the critically endangered Little Penguins.</li> <li>• I am glad the focus is on fixing up the current areas first as I am against the boardwalk reinstatement as I'm happy with the current pool the way it is.</li> <li>• I am old enough to remember the boardwalk before it was destroyed by storms and think this would be a fantastic investment and benefit locals and tourists alike.</li> <li>• I am happy to see that this plan is being developed and that the boardwalk is being considered for reinstatement. As a child, I remember many fun times before the boardwalk was destroyed and would love for future generations to enjoy similar experiences as I had.</li> <li>• The boardwalk was one of the best features of the original harbour pool and should obviously be recreated if at all possible.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are concerns about the negative impact a boardwalk could have on the area including on the natural environment and the visual amenity.</li> <li>• There are cost, safety, antisocial behaviour and increased usage of the area concerns.</li> <li>• The nostalgia for the former boardwalk remains</li> </ul>	<p>what will happen with the vacant Aquarium site and adjacent jetty before moving forward with the boardwalk concept.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is also recommended that the other improvement measures for West Esplanade suggested in the Heritage Activation Plan be implemented and their impact tested before moving forward with the boardwalk concept.</li> </ul> <p>It is noted that a number of submissions were concerned with the environmental impact of the boardwalk. A detailed environmental assessment of the boardwalk would be undertaken if Council decides to move forward with feasibility studies for reinstating the boardwalk.</p>
<b>Former Aquarium Building</b>	<b>Sample of comments received</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is recommend that the existing Aquarium building</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully support the idea for the old aquarium site to be used for public open space, not commercial space.</li> <li>Making the Aquarium site into a free accessible platform for picnics would be good.</li> <li>The removal of the former aquarium, opening up the view to the heritage buildings behind and creating public space for cultural and recreational purposes is particularly welcome.</li> <li>I also agree with developing the aquarium site for family-oriented experiences.</li> <li>Demolition of the aquarium down to the podium will allow the lovely heritage buildings to shine in their full glory and I love the idea of an open space for community events.</li> <li>I firmly believe that developing the now unused Ocean World into an entertainment centre would be great for the surrounding area.</li> <li>I would love to see more entertainment venues in Manly and think West Esplanade is the way to go.</li> <li>This is a perfect area to have an open space for live music, entertainment, restaurant, and cultural hub to vibrant Manly. Being a Manly resident living 1 Street away from West Esplanade, I welcome the idea of transforming the space into something special the local and wider community can enjoy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is support for the demolition of the building to create public open space</li> <li>There is some support for redeveloping the building into an entertainment venue however such as use of the building would be prohibited under the current zoning of the site.</li> </ul>	<p>be demolished to the podium. Demolition will unblock the view of the State Heritage listed Pavilion building. It will also improve the safety of the area at night by allowing informal surveillance of the area which is currently dark and unwelcoming at night.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that the site become public open space. The urban design for the space should create a place for families and the community to congregate and share. Lighting design should make the area feel safe at night, this could incorporate interactive light artwork. The space should also acknowledge the previous use of the site as an aquarium and highlight the marine life found in Manly Cove.</li> </ul> <p>The space should allow for the holding of events, such as community markets, local performances and film viewings. While allowing for this the space should not be empty at other times, an adaptable design for street furniture and planting should be investigated.</p> <p>It is noted that during the exhibition of the Draft Plan a private proposal was publicised in regards to turning the former Aquarium building into a commercial entertainment venue. Under NSW State Government legislation the current land zoning for the site, W2 – Environmental Protection would prohibit such a use of the building (see State Regional Environmental Plan Sydney Harbour Catchment 2005).</p>

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<b>Shared Pedestrian and Bicycle Path</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share path for bike riders should remain and be sign posted.</li> <li>• Please improve the cycling connection around the art gallery. The path could easily be widened.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The bicycle route along West Esplanade is an important part of the local bicycle path network.</li> <li>• Improvements should be made to the path to improve safety in particular around the Manly Art Gallery and Museum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore options for improving line of sight along shared path behind Gallery, this could be through pruning of existing vegetation or replacement with less dense native vegetation. Also explore changes to path to allow cyclists to not have to dismount</li> <li>• Recommend shifting the Governor Phillip monument out of shared path of traffic flow to improve safety. This would lead to the opportunity for an area to be created around the moved monument to highlight the area's heritage which could include interpretive signage and lighting to highlight the monument at night. Note: The monument is local heritage listed and as such this will need to be taken into account.</li> <li>• An alternative to improve safety on the shared path would be to require cyclists to dismount when going along the promenade on weekends like on Marine Parade.</li> </ul> <p>It is noted that any bicycle path changes would be done in conjunction with other relevant Council Plans e.g. the Northern Beaches Bike Plan.</p>
<b>Bicycle Storage</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional bicycle parking near bus/wharf area should be undercover. There is no undercover bicycle parking at the wharf.</li> <li>• Additional bicycle parking should be included at the aquarium end of West Esplanade.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore option to move bicycle parking behind bus stop where existing bare garden bed is and provide additional parking via a double decker system.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The idea of moving some of the bike parking to behind the bus shelter closest to the wharf may be a good option for that specific area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More bicycle parking is needed.</li> <li>Care should be taken in the choice of location and style, for example, undercover parking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options for placement of bicycle parking near Gallery</li> <li>Work with Council Rangers to more efficiently remove bicycles not parked in designated bike parking areas</li> </ul> <p>It is noted that any bicycle parking changes would be done in conjunction with other relevant Council Plans e.g. the Northern Beaches Bike Plan.</p>
<b>Landscaping and Street Furniture Improvements</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I support the landscaping for the Esplanade in line with those at East Esplanade.</li> <li>Agree with better landscaping and some outdoor furniture.</li> <li>Almost all plantings up to the bus stop area have failed. Subsequently the place has looked pretty awful for the last six years that I have lived on West Esp. Some significant thinking needs to go into the type of plantings that will survive here.</li> <li>There is scope for sensitive planting that would improve the amenity of the gallery site during the strong sun months.</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improving the landscaping and street furniture along West Esplanade is supported.</li> <li>Native plants should be used in the landscaping.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend update or replacement of street furniture. Also review configuration to ensure it is still suitable.</li> <li>Recommend creation of an integrated play area to provide activation and bring attention to the Gallery. It should include artistic and interactive elements that could light up at night to improve night time activation.</li> <li>Explore options for creating seating/picnicking spaces under Norfolk Pines where grass struggles to grow, for example timber deck platforms like on East Esplanade.</li> <li>Explore option to tier steep area to enable more use of the area and prevent erosion.</li> <li>Explore option to install low sandstone wall like on East Esplanade, to prevent erosion and provide additional seating.</li> <li>Add native planting to current bare garden beds.</li> </ul>

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<b>Manly Art Gallery and Museum</b>	<p><b>Sample of comments received</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While the building is pleasant, its heritage value could be over-emphasised. It is important to see this as Manly's key municipal art space, and it is currently rather staid in appearance, notwithstanding the outer gallery space on the path which is a good idea.</li> <li>• MAGAM updated to attract visitors as a 'destination'</li> </ul> <p><b>Insights</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The community supports design elements, such as façade changes, to help highlight the Manly Art Gallery and Museum</li> </ul>	<p>The Plan recommends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manly Art Gallery and Museum in its existing form has the opportunity to reflect its heritage via a sympathetic façade treatment that reflects the building's heritage.</li> <li>• Recommend creation of an integrated play area to provide activation and bring attention to the Gallery. It should include artistic and interactive elements that could light up at night to improve night time activation.</li> </ul>

