



East Esplanade Reserve Community Safety Management Plan

July 2018



Background

Since 2013 East Esplanade reserve has become an increasingly popular place for people to gather. Peak visitation is on a sunny Saturday and Sunday afternoon/early evening during daylight savings. In recent times the demographic has shifted from predominantly family groups to include young people, students and backpackers. It is known on social media and colloquially as 'The Office'. People travel into Manly specifically to come to the park to enjoy the space and to watch the sunset. Social media has had a dramatic impact on the public space resulting in a more festive area attracting hundreds people at peak times over the summer. A large part of this includes the consumption of alcohol. This shifting use of public space is also symptomatic of the highly regulated environment in licensed venues as well as the readily accessible and extremely cheap takeaway alcohol located in nearby stores including ALDI. It is common to see groups arriving with cartons of pre-mixed spirits and beer and is a location used for pre-fuelling. Most people disperse from the area once the sun goes down.

This location has been subject of many resident complaints to Council, Police and the local State MP. The complaints mainly relate to urinating in public space and in front yards of adjacent residences, the noise and the rubbish. It is generally agreed that it is appropriate to encourage people to leave after dark as it is usually only the noisy, intoxicated people who remain after this point.

Police advise that reported crime in this location is low. It is important to note that most users of the reserve are well behaved and respectful. Like many situations it is the minority that cause the problems. Manly remains a major tourist destination with a high density of licensed venues and a late night entertainment precinct. It has a long history of alcohol related problems that have been actively and effectively managed in the public space. The consistent enforcement of both the Alcohol Free Zone (AFZ) and the Alcohol Prohibited Area (APA) is one of many strategies used in a holistic approach to reduce impacts on local residents. The current Alcohol Prohibited Area time is 8pm to 6am.

This plan addresses resolution E. from the Northern Beaches Council Meeting on 27 March 2018. It is a cross council action plan and aims to have several key short term actions in place by the Summer 2018/2019 and others more longer term.

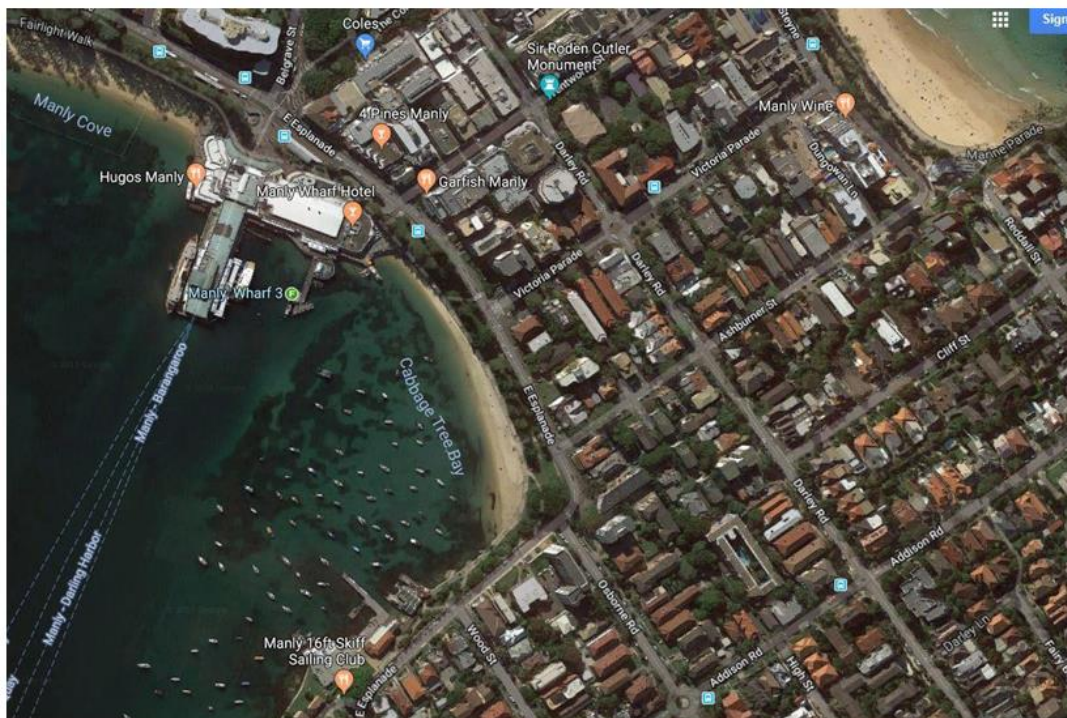
Council Resolution

The Council Meeting on 27 March 2018 resolved that;

- A.** Council endorse the Alcohol Prohibited Area (APA) at East Esplanade to an Alcohol Prohibited Area from 8.00pm to 8.00am to assist Council and Police to enforce the zoning.
- B.** Council undertake the deployment of night rangers or alternative measures to deal with noise issues and enforcement of Alcohol Prohibited Areas. If user pays police are used in East Esplanade that should be reported to Council on a quarterly basis including costs and dates.
- C.** Council develop other strategies to clear the area of illegal drinkers.
- D.** Council refer the matter to the Northern Beaches Safety Advisory Committee for ongoing monitoring.
- E.** Council prepare a Community Safety Management Plan for East Esplanade within the next three months.

Plan Location:

East Esplanade Reserve from Wood Street to Manly Wharf



Rationale

The actions contained in the plan have been determined through an assessment of the site with consideration of Safety by Design principles using both situational and social crime prevention strategies. This plan takes into account aspects of territorial reinforcement, surveillance, access control and space and activity management. We conducted numerous site inspections, a community safety audit and consultation with various stakeholders. The actions in this Community Safety Management Plan aim to minimise opportunities for anti-social behaviour, alcohol related violence, and misconduct against property. The plan will achieve this through targeted infrastructure improvements, developing partnerships, advocacy on related issues, providing feedback to planners and managers and restoring community strength and co-operation. It is intended to implement the plan by Daylight Saving, which commences on 7 October 2018.

Objective

To manage the high public use in the summer period of East Esplanade Reserve Park to ensure that safety, amenity and environment are maintained with consideration to residents and visitors.

Key Issues

1. Public toilets
2. Signage / Access points
3. Lighting
4. Waste and Cleansing
5. Alcohol Prohibited Area management
6. Late night noise / Anti-social behaviour
7. CCTV
8. Landscape Masterplan
9. Community Engagement, Communications and Place Management

Stakeholders

- Council (Community Safety, Place Co-ordination, Parks & Recreation, Waste & Cleansing, Properties, Facilities, Environmental Compliance)
- Police
- Residents, Manly Community Forum
- Skiff Club
- Manly Wharf (Hotel, Aldi, Manly Wharf Management)
- James Griffin MP
- Tourists / Visitors

Evaluation

- Site inspections / Observational studies
- Community Safety Audit – November 2018/April 2019
- Ranger statistics (baseline)
- Police statistics (baseline)
- Resident complaints (baseline)
- Other feedback (eg. letters to Manly Daily)
- Pedestrian counts

Review Dates

The East Esplanade Reserve Community Safety Management Plan is to be reviewed at the end of November 2018 and the end of April 2019 to determine ongoing actions.

Community Safety Management Plan

Issue 1: Public Toilets

To ensure public toilets are visible, kept clean and accessible to reduce public urination

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
1.1 Monitor sunset to sunrise opening	Facilities	October 2018	Confirmed
1.2 Arrange additional cleansing as required	Facilities	October 2018	Confirmed
1.3 Toilet Upgrade to provide greater capacity	Properties / Community Arts and Culture	Completed December 2019	Budget has been allocated for 2019/20 as part of the Landscape Masterplan. Community Arts & Culture to liaise internally to expedite timeline.
1.4 Prepare proposal re trial of porta-loos / urinals	Community Arts and Culture	October 2018	Underway
1.5 Urine repellent paint at agreed locations	Facilities / Community Arts and Culture	November 2018	To be arranged
1.6 Advocate to Manly Wharf Management for safer and more accessible toilets	Community Arts and Culture	August 2018	Follow up letters to be sent to Manly Wharf management TMG Development and local MP.

Issue 2: Signage / Access points

To ensure that regulatory and wayfinding signage is always clear and visible

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
2.1 Weekly site check through summer	Place and Economic Development / Community Arts and Culture / Parks and Recreation	October 2018	Confirmed
2.2 Steps (glow paint)	Parks and Recreation	TBC	Possible step closure. Action will be completed if closure of steps is after October 2018.
2.3 Toilet wayfinding signage	Parks and Recreation	October 2018	Design request submitted
2.4 Clear signs on toilets visible from park	Community Arts and Culture	October 2018	Design request submitted

Issue 3: Lighting

To ensure all lights working

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
3.1 Quarterly community safety night audit and follow up	Community Arts and Culture	November 2018	Subsequent audits to be undertaken in February, May and August 2019
3.2 Consider sensor light at Ashburner St wall	Community Arts and Culture	October 2018	Liaise with resident and police regarding positioning to install by October 2018

Issue 4: Waste and Cleansing
To ensure no overflowing bins, less rubbish left on reserve and utilise community waste education opportunities

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
4.1 Additional bins and bottle bins on weekends	Waste and Cleansing	October 2018	Final numbers and locations to be determined by September 2018. There can be no later pickups than 4pm due to the tip closing at 5pm. The Protection of the Environment Operations Act (POEO) restricts storing waste in trucks overnight.
4.2 Litter guards / Waste education	Waste and Cleansing	September 2018	Consider viability of volunteer involvement

Issue 5: Alcohol Prohibited Area management
To educate the public and ensure consistent enforcement of the 8pm to 6am Alcohol Prohibited Area (APA) and the 24 hour Alcohol Free Zone (AFZ)

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
5.1 All rangers to be authorised persons under Local Government Act for alcohol regulation	Environmental Compliance	October 2018	To be arranged
5.2 Police provide support and training to rangers	Environmental Compliance	October 2018	To be arranged
5.3 Negotiated joint enforcement	Environmental Compliance	October 2018	To be arranged
5.4 Ensure targeted patrols	Environmental Compliance	October 2018	Confirmed
5.6 Stencil APA message on pavement	Parks and Recreation	October 2018	Studio design request to be submitted by September 2018

Issue 6: Late night noise / Anti-social behaviour
To encourage move on of groups gathered in the park after 10pm

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
6.1 Trial sprinklers for a four week period	Parks and Recreation	November 2018	Confirmed
6.2 Advisory signage in place	Parks and Recreation	November 2018	Confirmed
6.3 Review trial and refer results / recommendations to Community Safety Committee for consideration	Community Arts and Culture	6 December 2018	Confirmed

Issue 7: CCTV

To improve ability to respond and follow up incidents

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
7.1 Confirm locations, logistics and timings	Systems and Information	Commence August 2018	Will progress once specialist technical staff return from leave
7.2 Install CCTV as agreed on site	Systems and Information	Operational by October 2018	To be arranged

Issue 8: Landscape Masterplan

To ensure the ten year Landscape Masterplan is implemented with reference to the objectives of this plan

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
8.1 Improve drainage/edging walls	Parks and Recreation	July 2018	Underway
8.2 Street furniture upgrade	Parks and Recreation	TBA	Consideration of this plan when design of new infrastructure is being planned
8.3 Public Toilets increase capacity	Properties	Design July 2018, Completed December 2019	Liaise internally re final design aspects

Issue 9: Community Engagement, Communications and Place Management

To ensure a broad range of views are collated, considered at the outset and ongoing
To ensure prompt response to all feedback
To ensure accurate portrayal of situation
To promote community education and awareness

Action	Business Unit	Timeline	Status as of July 2018
9.1 All issues/complaints to be collated. To provide real time and post weekend feedback to assist with continual improvement	Place and Economic Development / Community Arts and Culture	October onward	Logistical arrangements underway
9.2 Communications team briefed and prepared for pro-active and re-active messaging	Community Arts and Culture / Communications	Ongoing	Community Safety to continue to liaise with Communications Manager