

Mid Mountains Sustainability Reference Group

Thank you for your attendance and contribution at the first meeting of the Mid Mountains Sustainability Reference Group (MMSRG).

- Action Minutes and information from meetings of the MMSRG will be:
 - E-mailed to all on the MMSRG email list
 - Uploaded to the Council www at <http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/citydevelopment/lawsonprojects/>
- The *Lawson Town Centre Redevelopment Newsletter* will be e-mailed to all on the MMSRG e-mail list, *and*
- *Focus on the Mid Mountains* project update in the Blue Mountains Gazette will be re-commenced.

As the proposed *Communication Plan* for the Mid-Mountains is developed and financial and human resource costs determined, other information outlets will become available.

Action Minutes MMSRG Meeting of 27 August 2008

Information Request

Respondent

Stormwater

Information is sought on Council design standards for stormwater infrastructure in the Lawson Town Centre Redevelopment and the Mid Mountains, and environmental sustainability during high velocity stormwater events.

LT to obtain information from relevant areas of the Council and report back.

Swamps

Need for Council to recognise both Hanging and other swamp types, including Headwater Swamps.

Any possibility of a 'workshop' on the Christmas Swamp to assist development of 'creative solutions' to management of swamps?

The preservation of all Blue Mountains swamps is a high priority for BMCC. In August 2008 BMCC started the 3 year 'Save our Swamps' program that specifically addresses preserving and raising awareness of Blue Mountains Swamps in the BM LGA which will build on the existing Upland Swamp Rehabilitation project and Swampcare program (see Swampcare .com for more information).

The Blue Mountains Swamp classification covers all swamps on a sandstone substrate whether they are "hanging swamps", headwater swamps or valley swamps.

The Biodiversity Conservation Officer will invite a Bushcare representative, and the proposer (ES) to make a site visit to Christmas Swamp as a basis for considering possibilities for this site.

An officer from Environment Branch has been invited to attend the next meeting of the MMSRG for a general discussion on swamps, and also on the site visit to Christmas Swamp.

MUSIC Modeling

Can a Plain English introduction to the MUSIC Model be provided?

MUSIC is an acronym for “*Model for Urban Stormwater Improvement Conceptualisation*” which is software developed by the Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Catchment Hydrology’s Urban Stormwater Quality Program. The software models the pollutant loads generated by various types of land uses and allows estimations to be made of pollutant retention from these land uses using various stormwater pollution control practices.

Also see DOWNLOAD at right.

Timeline – Lawson Town Centre Redevelopment

Can a time-line for construction works be provided?

Yes, when the construction program is agreed upon with the successful contractor.

Where possible further project information will be e-mailed and placed on the Council web site.

Availability of Lawson Town Centre Redevelopment – Newsletter

The newsletter for the Lawson Town Centre Redevelopment will be sent to all who provide contact details at the MMSRG.

A number of ways of distributing the newsletter and other information were discussed, taking into account ability to access information among various community members.

Communication

How will we receive information?

Council Officers will prepare an advanced *Draft Mid Mountains Communication Plan* for discussion at the next meeting of the MMSRG. This will also address ideas raised at the MMSRG and the 2007 Mid Mountains workshops.

Some consultation as the draft progresses, and implementation of some elements will occur prior to the next meeting.

MMSRG Agendas

Questions on-notice are the ‘*way to go*’

How will the Mid Mountains communities get items on the Agenda?

for smaller matters.

The Terms of Reference for the MMSRG provide for the community to put forward Agenda Items for meetings. This is best done at the prior meeting to gain agreement to the agenda item.

For the next meeting of the MMSRG suggestions for Agenda Items by Friday October 10th, to lterry@bmcc.nsw.gov.au

What has happened with the outcomes of the *Mid Mountains Workshops 2007*?

The Consultant's Report is a DOWNLOAD on the Council webpage as noted above.

A short version of the summary outcomes is attached to this email. (refer to the Consultant's Report for the complete summary outcomes)

The meeting was advised that various *Map for Action* workshop outcomes have been progressed by Project Managers. This includes establishment of the MMSRG and commitment to prepare a Communication Plan. *Map for Action* proposals need to be reviewed and selected for progress with the community and various Project Managers.

Instituting this process will form part of the Draft Communication Plan.

Environmental Sustainability- for new Lawson buildings

LT to discuss with Environment Branch and review City Planning Branch opportunities to progress.

Opportunities for Rainwater tanks and Photovoltaics (Solar)

Local Environmental Plan

AT At a future meeting (Wed 25th February) of the MMSRG, City Planning will make a presentation on Local Environmental Planning, proposed NSW Government changes and possible implications.

Heatherbrae

The meeting was advised that:

Council is in the process of purchasing the property.

A study will be undertaken as to the best future use of Heatherbrae house. As this study advances, the Mid Mountains Community will be advised of:

- any options for community use and links to the Neighbourhood Centre
- possibilities for interim use.

What is the status of the Mechanic's Institute

The meeting was advised that the Development Application for demolition has been approved and that the studies identified within the DA consent are currently being undertaken prior to demolition.

The Staples Stores

Question was asked in relation to restoring these buildings to its original look.

Council will investigate the feasibility of removing the cladding from the façade and restoring the buildings to its original appearance.

If successful than consideration should be given to integrated heritage and design outcome from the Douglass Square Working Party and work around the Staples Stores.

If feasible Council will investigate applying for heritage grants to fund these works.

What about Villages other than Lawson

Agenda items and questions on-notice about all mid mountains villages are welcome and sought.

Bullaburra Progress Association Hall will be considered as a venue for the next meeting.