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DINKUM FAIR

# A "PEOPLE" PLAN TO RESHAPE CITY

"Put the people first". This is the clear message in Sydney City Council's 1974-1977 Strategic Plan, released this week.

The plan, co-ordinated by Ald. Andrew Briger, chairman of the city development committee, has four main objectives.

The first, management, will reduce and simplify the city's management.

It includes strengthening the Town Hall role as the venue for citizen's advisory and co-ordinating committee and Government representatives working in local government.

Efforts will be made to increase public awareness of, and response to, council's work by promoting public and group meetings, discussions, surveys and exhibitions. Regular news and technical publications will be distributed.

Sydney will seek a greater share of direct taxation to local government by increasing the present rating system and will try to persuade governments to pay council rates on their properties in the city and in municipalities.

It is hoped to get major Government financial grants for social and environmental projects, and achieve local government representation on the Loan Council.

The second objective, accessibility, will create a balanced movement system called the Central Spine.

It will be served by public transport and walkways and fringed by parking stations and main roads.

The N.S.W. Public Transport Commission will be urged to modernise all city railway stations and create new ferry services and terminals in Darling Harbour.

After the opening of the Eastern Suburbs Railway and stage one of the North West Freeway, the number of buses on city streets will be reduced. There will be bus-only lanes in Flinders and Oxford Streets, Darlinghurst, and a shuttle service between Pyrmont and Kings Cross.

More bus-stops will be placed mid-block, the number of passenger shelters will be increased and there will be fewer, but larger, taxi ranks.

The plan calls for a reduction in daytime kerbside parking in commercial streets, and an increase in legal kerbside parking for shoppers and theatregoers

after 6.30 p.m. Residents are to receive priority parking in their areas.

The three Martin Place plazas between George and Elizabeth Streets will be completed, and will include a pavilion restaurant, waterfall, amphitheatre and open-air market, with access to the new railway station.

The N.S.W. Government will be asked to approve plans for the final transformation of Martin Place between Elizabeth and Macquarie Streets.

Work will begin on converting Darlinghurst Road between Bayswater Road and Fitzroy Gardens at Kings Cross into a pedestrian mall.

Pedestrian and street-scape improvements will be done at Richard Johnson Square; Wynyard and Kings Street; Macquarie and Farrer Places; Railway Square; the new Town Hall Square, City; Roslyn Street, Kings Cross, Greenknowe and Onslow Avenues, Ithaca Road, Beare Park and Macleay Reserve, Elizabeth Bay; Hardie Street, Darlinghurst; Gipps Street, Pyrmont, Parkham and Riley Streets and Eddie Ward Park, Surry Hills; Victoria and Stephen Streets, Newtown; and Newcombe, Elizabeth, Ulster, Regent and Stewart Streets, Paddington.

Under the third objective, diversity, the city's community activities and services will be conserved and increased by enlarging floor space ratios for private residential building, particularly within and adjacent to the Central Spine.

Government housing authorities will be asked to allocate funds to buy existing housing and residential accommodation, and to subsidise rents for less fortunate groups within the city.

The council will work with Government authorities to finance and develop low-rent housing and hostels for low-income, aged and other needy groups, and will seek priority for such projects in Woolloomooloo, Surry Hills and Pyrmont.

Lower-rent spaces such as Paddy's Market, which

provide facilities for selling low-price goods and services to city workers, residents, and visitors, should be discouraged from moving out of the city.

Vital community services will be concentrated in the most needy city areas; Darlinghurst, Surry Hills, Chippendale and Camperdown-Newtown.

Action to redevelop the Sydney Showground, Army Engineers Department, and the cricket and sports grounds should be supported, with particular emphasis on car-parking inside the grounds instead of Moore Park.

Environment, the fourth objective, is defined as conserving, enhancing and im-

(Continued on page 4)

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## LIGHT FIGHT TO GO TO MINISTER

Waverley and Woollahra Councils are continuing their campaign for traffic lights at the intersection of Penkivil Street and Banksia and Old South Head Roads, Bondi, on the common border of the municipalities.

At its meeting on July 23, Waverley Council agreed to a suggestion by Woollahra Council that its Mayor and Deputy Mayor join their counterparts from Woollahra in a deputation to the Minister for Transport, Mr. Milton Morris.

### NEW JUDGE

Mr. Justice Thomas William Waddell, 51, of Vaucluse, was sworn in as Supreme Court judge last Thursday.

The Chief Justice Mr. Justice Street, administered the oaths of office and allegiance in a brief ceremony in the Banco Court.

Waverley has been trying for years to get lights at the intersection, which it considers is one of the worst in the eastern suburbs.

It recently gained support from Woollahra Council.

Both councils are unhappy with a reply they have received from the Minister through Mr. L. J. F. Barraclough, MLA (Bligh).

This indicated that:

● Installation of traffic signals at this location will be considerably more expensive than for many other intersections, and it is possible that it will be some time before they are provided.

● Shortage of money, manpower and material have necessitated the creation of a priority list on a State-wide basis of sites where it is recognised that signals would be beneficial.

● Because of the changing needs of various locations throughout the State, it is not always possible for a particular intersection to remain at the same level on the priority list.

In the past, Waverley has claimed that political bias has prejudiced its applications for the installation of lights at the intersection.

It hopes, therefore, that the joint approach with Woollahra will be more successful.

## PEOPLE'S PLAN FOR SYDNEY

(Continued from page 3)

proving the city's physical environment.

The Plan says a great deal of thought has been given to preservation, urban design, the need to emphasise Sydney's topography and character, preservation and enhancement of harbour views, more open spaces for the public and stricter control of noise and other kinds of pollution.

The council is to ask the State Government for legislation giving it control of building demolition.

The Preservation Advisory Committee will help council complete a Register of Places of Environmental Significance.

The Australian Navy is to be asked to return Garden Island to the city so it can be converted to a public recreation area.

Council will adopt a Noise Control Code, and ask the State Government to pass the necessary legislation.

The State Pollution Control Commission, the Public Transport Committee and Department of Motor Transport will be urged to enforce noise and pollution reductions from all motor vehicles.

As well as trying to enforce on-the-spot fines for people littering public streets, council intends to improve the city's garbage collection and get rid of messy street garbage areas by ensuring only approved garbage containers are used.

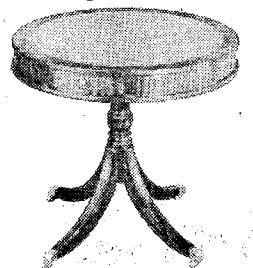
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