



## **SYDNEY COUNCIL'S TWO CONTROVERSIAL MAKEOVERS HAVE YOUR SAY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE! MAKEOVER 1: "IMPROVEMENTS" FOR MACLEAY ST**

Council's plans: [www.tinyurl.com/v3n5v9g](http://www.tinyurl.com/v3n5v9g)

Sydney Council is "investing in the area" to make our heritage area "like the CBD"

### **PROPOSED IS:**

**Bus stops removed on both sides:** they will be relocated to traffic lanes.

**Black granite paving:** from Orwell to Challis – slippery when wet and hot in summer. We are in a climate emergency and granite installation, compared to brick footpaths, is energy intensive, environmentally warming and creates a patchwork when repaired.

**Narrowing of intersections:** from Orwell to Rockwall. Traffic is already restricted enough especially emergency and garbage services.

**Intersection to be raised and narrowed at Greenknowe and Macleay:** for a future cycleway along Hughes and Greenknowe. This may be of benefit to motorised food delivery corporations but how will buses get through?

**Widened footpaths:** 70 metres between Hughes and Manning, preparing the way for "dual use" footpaths. Charlie Bowers was killed on a Macleay St footpath by a speeding cyclist on Boxing Day. Has sufficient thought been given to those who use motorised chairs, walking frames/sticks, prams and the less nimble?

**No right turn from Macleay to Greenknowe:** is not cancelled. After adverse public comments 19 November meeting it will be "referred to RMS".

**Lighting on "smartpoles":** Council and paid adverts up and down a whole residential street. This is the promised "CBD look" and a definite lessening of the heritage values of the streetscape. It is a change of use from residential into an "open for business" strip.

**Street furniture:** 20 bench seats in "faux heritage" style and 6 seating walls as outside Kings Cross Hotel, 20 bicycle racks and 7 racks likely to be exploited by delivery riders and bicycle rental businesses on public footways.

**New garden beds:** loss of a total area and car parking of 615 square metres. Existing beds are already not maintained.

**15 new London plane trees:** Melbourne Council is gradually replanting with species resistant to climate change and that cause less allergies than plane trees such as Moreton Bay figs, jacarandas and sweet gums.

**Loss of car parking:** we already have 80 care share spaces across Potts Point which equates to 400 visitors lost to the area. Council denies loss of car parking "in the immediate future". Council has a long record for saying one thing and doing another.

**Wasteful expenditure that is out of character with our sense of place and quirky history.**

**It serves to detract from rather than enhance our Art Deco Streetscape:**

**1. Heritage:** Potts Point and Kings Cross are listed by the Art Deco Society, Modernist Architectural Registers and State Heritage as an Area of National Significance. This is real heritage. A "salute to heritage" by furniture and plantings is more harmful than doing nothing. The character and history of the area must be respected and enhanced.

**2. Huge cost and no consultation:** A flier for a meeting to be held on 19 November 2019 was announced with "feedback" due 2 December. This is a 'Decide, Announce, Defend' (DAD) tactic. It was admitted that the contractors Civil & Civic had already been signed up. This will cost millions which could be better used to better maintain footpaths and existing plantings across City East on a daily basis.

**3. Previous "upgrade" of Darlinghurst Road in 2004-05 caused chaos.** 80% of businesses closed. The William Street upgrade was a similar disaster and is still incomplete. (See: "Roadwork chaos", City News, October 2004.)

**Say "NO" to Council's plans for Macleay Street.**

**Comment NOW and email councillors about Macleay Street before 2 December.**

Macleay St Survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/S63WDW8](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S63WDW8)



## **SYDNEY COUNCIL'S TWO CONTROVERSIAL MAKEOVERS HAVE YOUR SAY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE! MAKEOVER 2: "IMPROVEMENTS" FOR LAWRENCE HARGRAVE RESERVE**

Council's plans: [www.tinyurl.com/qqq2oug](http://www.tinyurl.com/qqq2oug)

Council removes native plantings and adds concrete paving, a shed and table tennis.  
We lose a quiet space.

### **PROPOSED IS:**

- \* The nationally listed Sea King Memorial Garden war memorial (now at the front) is to be moved and hidden right at the back.
- \* Removal of established native Casuarina trees that are more than 50 years old and their established ecosystems which includes rare long-legged hover flies to be replaced by unspecified tree species.
- \* New buildings including a "clubhouse". Is this the backdoor entry of a commercial venture into the Reserve?
- \* Permanent sporting fixtures (table tennis tables).
- \* In short, the "improvements" are an unwanted and damaging "activation" of a much-loved and needed oasis of greenery, quiet and contemplation. Leave the native plantings untouched as a native wildlife corridor as proposed by Australian Museum.

### **Conclusion**

Residents want public spaces kept refreshed and revitalised, not demolished and generically rebuilt for developers and Council's "CBD" and "investment" narratives.



Images left to right: Macleay & Orwell, 1939; Long-legged hover fly in LHR; Casuarina trees in LHR

**Say "NO" to Council's plans for Lawrence Hargrave Reserve.**

**Comment NOW and email councillors about Lawrence Hargrave Reserve before 2 December.**

Lawrence Hargrave Reserve Survey [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZQC7GCJ](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZQC7GCJ)

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[www.savefitzroygardens.com](http://www.savefitzroygardens.com)