



W A V E R L E Y
COUNCIL

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

7.30 PM, TUESDAY 7 APRIL 2020

Waverley Council
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ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

5. Notices of Motions

CM/5.1/20.04E2 Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Council's Response3

NOTICE OF MOTION
CM/5.1/20.04E2**Subject:** Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Council's Response**TRIM No:** A20/0245**Submitted by:** Councillor Nemesh
Councillor Betts
Councillor Goltsman

This matter was last considered by Council at its extraordinary meeting on 3 April 2020. Debate on the item was adjourned to this meeting. Below is a minute extract from the meeting.

At the time of the procedural motion being moved, the substantive motion had not been moved.

CM/4.1/20.04E Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Council's Response

AT THIS STAGE IN THE PROCEEDINGS, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURAL MOTION WAS MOVED BY CR LEWIS AND SECONDED BY CR KEENAN:

That debate on item CM/4.1/20.04E be adjourned to the Extraordinary Council Meeting scheduled to be held by video conference on Tuesday, 7 April 2020, at 7.30 pm, and that this notice of motion be heard as the third agenda item coming after the two items submitted by the General Manager.

THE PROCEDURAL MOTION WAS PUT AND DECLARED CARRIED ON A SHOW OF HANDS 7/5.

MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes that the Federal Government is considering locking down suburbs to control the spread of coronavirus.
2. Adopts an abundance of caution approach to its future decisions and actions in relation to keeping our community safe from the coronavirus outbreak.
3. Immediately closes all beaches and beach parks within the municipality, including Bondi Beach, Bronte Beach and Tamarama Beach, until measures can be put in place that allow limited access while physical distancing is observed, and this involves consultation with the NSW Police and NSW Health authorities.
4. Immediately instigates an information campaign on the coronavirus outbreak and what measures Council is undertaking including:
 - (a) Social media campaign.
 - (b) Signage across the local government area.
 - (c) Letterbox-drop the entire municipality.

- (d) Alerts and updates to residents via applicable phone apps.
5. Requests the State and Federal Governments and their agencies to provide any assistance to Council to control the spread of coronavirus in the municipality.

General Manager's comment

Council has been working for a number of weeks in response to the threat to the community from Novel Coronavirus COVID-19. Generally, decision-making has been based on advice from governmental and health authorities, both publicly announced and provided via direct contact and/or on risk assessment exercises conducted by officers.

Council has closed all beaches within Waverley. This has had the effect of withdrawing much of the attractant to our beachside parks and localities. Council has not yet closed beachside parks. At the current time, beachside parks, along with other parks and reserves, are being monitored for numbers and compliance with social distancing. With beaches being closed, the large numbers seen in usual visitation patterns are not coming to the beachside parks.

The coastal walk is also being monitored. There are sometimes large numbers on this facility, but they are moving past each other and are not in 'close contact' with others. Health advice is that it is very difficult for coronavirus to be transmitted when two people walk past each other. Signage is being deployed to encourage people to maintain social distancing and to 'keep left'. There is some concern over contact created between walkers and joggers on the walkway. Methods for addressing this are being explored including encouraging joggers to use streets and other parks rather than the coastal walk. Closure of access points remains an option if risks cannot be managed.

NSW Government Ministers have called on Councils to keep parks open for people to exercise unless there are overriding public health risks associated with particular locations that mean closure is preferable.

Council is using a number of communication channels to communicate with the community on combatting the threat of Coronavirus. With the rapidly changing nature of the situation and governmental responses to it, broadcast and digital media is being preferred over print avenues of communication. Where print communications are used, people are being directed to websites where up-to-date communication material can be provided.

Council staff are working closely with NSW Government agencies such as NSW Police and Public Health Unit to address coronavirus issues, including both seeking and offering assistance to those agencies. There are strong working relationships in place. There has also been contact with the local Federal MP to seek assistance.

Ross McLeod
General Manager