



RAISE YOUR VOICE ON CBD PROPOSALS

Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association has worked very hard during 2009 to bring about improvements to facilities and residential amenity. A regular dialogue has been established with senior Council officers where community issues are raised. At its Annual General Meeting on Monday 23 November the Chairman, Bob Young, will briefly review TRRA's achievements and raise some of the big issues facing the Association in the next twelve months.

Of major importance among these will be the revised Nelson Bay 2030 (CBD) Plan which is due to go on public exhibition shortly. A preview of the Consultant's Design Code and Draft DCP was recently released at a business breakfast and in the Examiner of 29 October. While there are creative and positive aspects to some proposals, others have caused considerable consternation in the community, among residents and businesses alike. These include the loss of part of Apex Park and Victoria Parade South Reserve and the proposal for five storey building heights across the D'Albora Marina and its car parks, in part of Apex Park and across much of the Victoria Parade South Reserve. Although TRRA supports a bypass of the town to help relieve traffic congestion, the proposal to use the eastern part of Magnus Street as part of this bypass has historically been viewed as an unsuitable choice, due to its steep hill crest and dangerous intersection with Shoal Bay Road.

During the past year TRRA has addressed a number of other issues of paramount importance to local residents, representing the community in discussions with Port Stephens Council, State Government departments and other local groups. TRRA has contributed ideas to the Nelson Bay 2030 (CBD) Plan, Port Stephens Futures Strategy, the Cultural Plan and the Foreshore and Waterfront Management Plans. In support of community concerns it has made a number of submissions including those on the Fly Point New Year's Eve Music Event, development plans in Gan Gan Road and Salamander Bay and the Nelson Bay Foreshore improvements.

Other topics relevant to the community have been addressed at monthly meetings including Newcastle Airport Developments, Tourism on the Peninsula, Graffiti Management, Policing and Crime, National Parks, Heritage Facilities and Needs, and Holiday Park Management Plans.

At the forthcoming AGM all Committee positions will be vacated. TRRA members keen to nominate themselves for the Committee can request a nomination form by phoning 4981 3916 or emailing to deputychair@trra.com.au. Nominations must be received by Monday 16 November.

All ratepayers and residents are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting to learn about issues which directly affect our environment and the community and particularly to voice their opinions on the Nelson Bay 2030 Plan proposals.

The AGM will be held on Monday 23 November at 7.30 pm in Nelson Bay Bowling Club.