

Communities Plus Newsletter

Waterloo

NOVEMBER 2016

This newsletter provides you with an update on the Waterloo Redevelopment. Family and Community Services (FACS) has been engaging with residents, the broader community, government agencies and local services in planning for the redevelopment.

Since February, FACS has talked with over 2,000 people about the Waterloo redevelopment to hear their concerns and to help them understand that the redevelopment will be staged over 15 - 20 years; that most residents won't have to move for many years; that residents will be given 6 months notice before relocating; and residents who may have to relocate off the estate can move back to new social housing in Waterloo.

FACS has had conversations with residents at the Waterloo Connect office, during client service visits, information sessions and at other events on the estate.



Key Facts



The redevelopment of Waterloo is a long term project taking 15-20 years.



The master planning process will take approximately 18 months and will help determine the mix of social, affordable and private housing.



Most residents will not have to move for years. FACS will contact each resident 6 months before relocating and FACS will work with residents throughout the relocation process.



There will be no loss of social housing. The NSW Government has stated that all current social housing residents have the right to return to the Waterloo estate.



The intention is for the majority of residents to be able to move from their current homes straight into the new social housing as buildings are completed.

Waterloo



FACS has also held meetings with local service providers and community groups, such as REDWatch, The Factory, InnerSydney Voice, the Neighbourhood Advisory Board (NAB) and the Waterloo Housing Action Group to understand concerns identify the current needs of the community and additional support that may be required during the redevelopment.

These meetings and conversations have helped FACS prepare a community engagement plan that will assist in determining how the community would like to be included in the master planning process.

FACS is also working closely with the Department of Planning and Environment, UrbanGrowth NSW and the City of Sydney to take a whole of government planning approach to Waterloo.

What happens next

The redevelopment of Waterloo will take place in stages over 15 - 20 years. The first part is the master planning process which will take about 18 months. This will look at things like the parks and playgrounds, what new community facilities are needed, how people move around the neighbourhood while ensuring Waterloo is a safe community.

The master planning process will also help determine the mix of social, private and affordable housing and the staging of the redevelopment.

As part of this process a staging plan will be developed which will give a clear indication of which area will be redeveloped first and how the development will be staged throughout the rest of the area. Once FACS knows who needs to move first, they will give residents 6 months notice before needing to relocate to a temporary home in the local area. Early next year, FACS will invite residents and the broader community to get involved in the master planning process to find out your ideas on what Waterloo could look like in the future. Community feedback from earlier consultations and plans will be considered as part of this process.

FACS will issue a calendar of events and activities early next year so residents and the boarder community know when activities will take place so you can get involved. These activities will include a range of different ways you can provide your ideas. In the meantime, you can always contact your NAB representative, visit the Factory or Waterloo Connect for more information.



About relocations

How the redevelopment will be undertaken, including which areas will be redeveloped first, will be looked at as part of the master planning process. This will also help with the planning for the relocations program.

This means that FACS does not know yet which residents will be moving first. Most residents will not have to move for years and everyone who currently lives in Waterloo can return to Waterloo as stages are completed. The intention is that residents can move directly from their old home to a new home at Waterloo.

FACS will work with each social housing resident to ensure each resident's needs, such as social support, pets, health and social services, family connections, and specific housing needs are taken into consideration as part of relocation process. If residents need to relocate, they will be contacted by FACS six months before having to relocate and FACS will continue to work with residents throughout the relocation process.

The redevelopment of Waterloo will be staged over 15-20 years and there is a great deal more consultation and planning required.





How to get involved now

There is a lot of activity happening at the Waterloo estate between now and Christmas. FACS would like to meet with residents so we can talk about the redevelopment and answer any questions.

The Waterloo Connect team, along with the NAB, would like to invite you to an end-of-year BBQ on 8 December, 11.30am - 1.30pm at the Waterloo Neighborhood Centre. There will be free food and refreshments so come along and enjoy the festivities.



Ross Smith

Tuesday 4th October marked the sudden and tragic passing of Ross Smith of Peoples Precinct Waterloo. Ross was well known in Waterloo and the wider social housing community for his tireless advocacy work and will be sadly missed.

Ross was an active member of the Waterloo Neighbourhood Advisory Board as the Peoples Precinct rep, a member of Counterpoint Community Services, King Cross Community Centre and South Sydney Community Aid, Treasurer and long-standing Co-ord member of REDWatch, volunteer of South Sydney Herald and an active Australian Labor Party member.

A public memorial service will be held on Friday 18th November to celebrate the life of Ross.

Venue: Alexandria Town Hall. 73 Garden Street, Alexandria. Nearest cross street is Henderson Road

Date: Friday 18th November

Time: 9.30am - 10.45am

Guests are also invited to gather following the service at Club Redfern (opposite Redfern station) for their own lunch, refreshments and sharing of stories.

For further details, including tribute stories which could be used online or at the service, please contact Counterpoint via **email: info@counterpointcs.org.au** or **phone: 9698 9569**.

VISIT WATERLOO CONNECT,

Shop 2, 95 Wellington Street, Waterloo

Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm

or email waterlooconnect@facs.nsw.gov or call 1800 738 718

If you need help with interpreting or translation because English is not your first language, phone All Graduates on 1300 652 488.

Translated copies in Russian and Chinese are also available at Waterloo Connect.