

### Thank you to everyone who has provided their views on the future of Waterloo



#### Let's Talk Waterloo - Overview of the visioning community engagement program

The level of engagement has been strong, highlighting what people value and how much they care about their local community. This newsletter provides a broad overview of the feedback, with the report on the visioning process, currently being prepared.

#### The community engagement program

Land and Housing Corporation, part of the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS), is working with UrbanGrowth NSW Development Corporation (UGDC) to prepare the master plan for the Waterloo Redevelopment Precinct. The master planning process will be guided by input from the community, starting with the development of a vision for Waterloo.



The visioning engagement program, conducted over October, November and December 2017, was about understanding the views and aspirations of people living in the area, and what they would like to see for Waterloo over the next 15–20 years.

This also included engaging with the local Aboriginal community to understand the specific views and needs for Aboriginal people.

The next stage of the community engagement program is testing options of plans with the community in the first half of 2018. From this, FACS will have a better indication of the staging of the redevelopment.

The community engagement program is designed to provide residents and the community with a range of ways of getting involved, making sure as many people as possible are able to have their say.



## A quick snapshot

As part of the visioning phase, we engaged with:



over 50% of participants were social housing residents living on the Waterloo social housing estate



The ways that people engaged were:



## Ways people could have their say

The visioning engagement program was structured around the five themes, as outlined on the next page.

Over 40 events and activities were held across the Waterloo area ranging from:

### Workshops



- conversations about the future of Waterloo and what is working in the community now.

### Community day



- a day for the family to have their say and get involved.

### Pop-up stalls



- a quick chat about the redevelopment and to have a say on the future of Waterloo.

### Community conversations



- focused conversations with specific community groups of interest.

### Survey and postcard



- a series of questions that captured peoples views about Waterloo.

## Community Day on Waterloo Green

Waterloo's community spirit was on display at the Community Day held on 28 October which was a lively, vibrant and positive gathering. Approximately 400 people joined together - with children participating in different activities, others enjoying the food and entertainment on offer and many taking the opportunity to find out more, express their views and discuss the future of Waterloo.

# What did people say?



## Culture and community life

Waterloo's diversity, inclusiveness and community spirit make it unique and people want to retain and strengthen these elements for the future. The feedback from the consultations has emphasised the importance of culture and community life in Waterloo, particularly recognising the Aboriginal culture and heritage across the built and natural environments.



## Housing and neighbourhood design

There is support for a mix of social, affordable and private housing, and high quality urban design providing a range of housing for people at different life stages. The community also want accessible and safe green spaces and a place that people of all ages and abilities can move around safely and easily.



## Environment and open spaces

Safe green open spaces, trees and sunlight are essential to community wellbeing. Feedback included recognising Waterloo's green spaces and trees as well as designing open spaces to accommodate active and passive activities, such as community gardens, playgrounds, resting areas and off-leash dog areas.



## Community services, facilities, and shops

Participants value the support they get from existing community services. Some things that were highlighted for the future redevelopment was improved access to government services, financial, health and retail facilities located around the new metro station. The need for wrap around services and better support for people with complex needs was a consistent theme.



## Transport, streets and connections

The central location and public transport options, including the new metro station are key elements that make Waterloo a great place to live. Improvements suggested including community transport options connecting to services and amenities; safer walking paths; separate cycleways and overpasses and improved parking, especially for community support and emergency services.

**This is just a quick snapshot of some of the things people said.**



## Key facts

The master planning process, to be completed by late 2018, will lay the groundwork for the staged creation of a community of private, affordable and social homes over the next 15-20 years. Community consultation will continue through every phase of the project.

Throughout the engagement program, FACS has emphasised the following key facts to social housing residents:



The redevelopment of Waterloo will be staged over 15-20 years.



The master planning process will take approximately 12 months and will help determine the mix of social, affordable and private housing.



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.



FACS will contact each resident 6 months before relocating and FACS will work with residents throughout the relocation process. There will be no relocations in 2018.



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.



A human services plan will be developed in parallel with the master planning process to support residents' health, safety and wellbeing.

## Next steps

- The report on the visioning process is currently being prepared. From this will come the principles to guide the development of the master plan.
- This will then lead us to testing of plans which will be discussed with the community in the first half of 2018.
- Following this, a preferred master plan will be prepared and there will be further community engagement, highlighting how feedback on the options has been considered.
- The preferred master plan will then be finalised in late 2018 and will be submitted to Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) who, along with the City of Sydney, will review the plan.
- DPE will put the plan on public exhibition, inviting comments from everyone and then assessing the plan with the City of Sydney before making a recommendation to the Minister for Planning.

A human services plan to support residents' health, safety and wellbeing is also being developed in collaboration with residents, non-government organisations and with whole of government involvement.

Staff at Waterloo Connect are also available to provide information and support – see contact details below.



To get the right information please go to [www.communitiesplus.com.au/waterloo](http://www.communitiesplus.com.au/waterloo) or contact **Waterloo Connect**, Shop 2, 95 Wellington Street, Waterloo

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