

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting 6 November 2013

EXORD4 - AD330105 - Notice of Motion – Funding Strategy – Infrastructure Asset Renewal 138-179-2

MOTION (Holmes/Siljeg)

1. That having regard for the substantial growth over the past 30 years in the Blacktown Local Government Area, and the projected future growth for the next 20 years, Council needs to increase the annual funding for asset renewal.
2. In this regard Council increase this funding by way of increasing rates in combination as follows:
 - a. Savings to be identified in the future from sustainable operational efficiencies of \$1 million annually, and this amount to be allocated annually to infrastructure asset renewal works.
 - b. A reallocation of funding from Council's Infrastructure Sinking Fund, of \$2 million annually, to infrastructure asset renewal projects.
 - c. That a Special Rate Variation application be prepared under section 508A of the Local Government Act to increase rates in 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 as follows:
 - i. In 2014/2015 rates for the Rating Categories Residential and Farmland are to be increased by 3% above the rate pegging limit and the rates for the Business Category are to be increased by 10% above the rate pegging limit.
 - ii. In 2015/2016 rates for the Business Category are to be increased by a further 10% above the rate pegging limit.
 - iii. That Council Officers investigate and report to Council as a matter of priority, options to limit the proposed rate increase of 10% for 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 to only the larger businesses in the Local Government Area.
3. A Special Rate Variation application be prepared under section 508A of the Local Government Act to increase rates.
4. That Council notify the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) by 13 December 2013 of its intention to submit a Special Rate Variation application to increase rates above the rate pegging limit under section 508A of the Local Government Act.
5. That Council continues to seek the views of the community on the funding of infrastructure asset renewal, including through the Community Satisfaction Survey noted in paragraph 37 of Report FC330210 and that a Community Engagement Plan be developed and implemented in accordance with the Division of Local Government's Special Rate Variation guidelines and Council's Community Engagement Strategy to consult with the community about the proposed funding strategy outlined in part 2 of this resolution, with the results to be reported back for Council's consideration prior to the submission of a Special Rate Variation

application.

6. That the necessary amendments be made to Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting documents and these documents be placed on public exhibition in accordance with the Division of Local Government guidelines.

7. A Workshop be held with Councillors to further consider the information presented in Reports CA330074 and FC330210 along with additional information provided subsequently to Councillors.

AN AMENDMENT (Pendleton/Atalla)

The increase needed to fund the asset renewal be taken out of the Infrastructure Sinking Fund.

THE AMENDMENT was, on being put to the meeting, declared **LOST**.

A Division having been called for was recorded as follows:

Supported: Crs Lowles, Bleasdale, Atalla, Bali, Benjamin, Kelly & Pendleton.

Opposed: Crs Dickens, White, Donaldson, Siljeg, Holmes, Smith, Diaz & Robinson.

THE MOTION was, on being put to the meeting, declared **CARRIED**. 10141

A Division having being called for was recorded as follows:

Supported: Crs Dickens, White, Donaldson, Siljeg, Holmes, Smith, Diaz & Robinson.

Opposed: Crs Lowles, Bleasdale, Atalla, Bali, Benjamin, Kelly & Pendleton.