



SUBMISSION TO IPART

I am a resident and rate payer of Leichhardt Council. I have read the methodology paper. Strategic capacity could be where Leichhardt Council fits if “Fit for the Future” is truly the mantra that IPART is applying.

I support Leichhardt Council being merged with the City of Sydney **not** as proposed with Marrickville, Ashfield, Canada Bay, Burwood and Strathfield.

Whilst your aim for weaker councils to merge with strong councils sounds “community” the above merger does not “Fit for the Future”. Sydney is a global city and tourism is an important component. Leichhardt certainly has a border with Camperdown but more importantly most of Leichhardt Council area is water locked and so close to the City of Sydney and CBD.

Therefore a merge with the City of Sydney is the only way forward. Presently Leichhardt Council is not moving forward and are under achieving and failing to see its potential.eg the waterfront has been left to languish for decades when it should have been working to enhance our wonderful harbour. The following examples of waterfront potential that should promoted and combined with the global city of Sydney are

- Millions spent on Bell Store at East Balmain – sits vacant for 5 years.
- Callan Park – provides a running track, Writers Centre and some playing fields and sits vacant
- White Bay Powerstation and surrounding area – sits vacant for 100 yrs
- Transport Infrastructure – ferries only serve city workers and buses get stuck in Mullens Street.
- The Forum and Norton Street lays vacant.

The above waterfront areas need to connect to Barangaroo, Darling Harbour, King Street Wharf, Jones Bay Wharf, Sydney Theatre and Wharf and will only be achieved if they work together with the City of Sydney. The passengers from the Cruise ship terminal should have a direct ferry over to King Street, Bangaroo or Circular Quay.

In relation to Leichhardt – one side of Norton Street needs to have low rise apartments so that life is breathed into Leichhardt Shopping area.

Conclusion

Whilst Leichhardt Council could remain solo if it was entrepreneurial and forward thinking and used its waterfront to compliment the City of Sydney and promote the Global Picture for Sydney however this is not the case.

Yours sincerely

