

MESSAGE FROM  
THE LORD MAYOR

After more than a year discussing and listening to our diverse community, consensus on the way forward for making Sydney a greener, more global and connected City has emerged.

Adopting an exciting new Vision for Sydney’s City Centre and its Villages for the next 20 years has involved the most comprehensive consultation ever undertaken in the City, with thousands of residents, business people, those involved in the arts, cultural and educational institutions and many community organisations.

Overwhelmingly, people told us they want a City that by 2030 is smarter, more open, more hospitable, more inclusive; cleverer in the ways it does business locally and internationally, and less congested.

Ninety-seven per cent said they wanted us to address global warming. So we’ve made sustainability the overarching theme. Indeed, one of the major objectives of the Vision is to help position Sydney as one of the world’s leading green cities in the race to address climate change.

This presents substantial challenges, but equally, exciting opportunities to rethink the way we live and work as the green revolution takes place over the next few years and decades.

If we don’t actively pursue this goal, we are going to be left behind—the reality is as stark as that. Just as the industrial revolution transformed the world in the 19th century, a new green revolution is set to transform the 21st century. As a progressive and forward-looking City, we need to be ready for the transition to a new green economy with new values and priorities.

With sustainability as a central focus, the 2030 Vision addresses global warming through the three big levers of building emissions, transport and energy (generation).

As the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases, cities are also the source of the biggest savings and the key to achieving post-Kyoto emission reduction targets.

But the Vision also embraces social and cultural sustainability, and seeks to promote a vibrant, creative and diverse community.

Cities are much more than a collection of buildings and an economy. The most successful cities are those which value their culture, their history and their people. These positive sentiments and beliefs shone through in the public response and the submissions received.

With the Vision established, the task now is to engage all the major stakeholders in its implementation—its success will depend on effective partnerships, with all tiers of government, with the private sector and with the community.

Importantly, while Sustainable Sydney 2030 reflects the strategic thinking of the current City of Sydney Council, it is vital that the Vision endures through future administrations regardless of who is in power at the City, State and Federal level.

To secure Sydney’s future, its prosperity and liveability, we sought and have achieved a broad alliance of support—now we need to keep moving and undertake practical implementation.

Clover Moore

CLOVER MOORE MP  
LORD MAYOR



MESSAGE FROM  
THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Sustainable Sydney 2030 is the City of Sydney’s Vision for making this City, among other things, more economically sound, more liveable, more accessible, more inclusive—a more vibrant and captivating place to live and work.

It is a necessary scoping for how the City Centre and its surrounding Villages can enhance and reinforce Sydney’s Global City status by taking on bold initiatives to improve and sustain its natural assets and wellbeing—and build across-the-board prosperity.

Its timing is compelling. Sydney, its people and businesses, as with other major capitals around the world, are facing a host of challenges generated by external forces—from economic globalisation to climate change, from petrol price fluctuations to competition for enterprises and creative talent.

This Vision provides “step change” progressions toward a more sustainable future, while protecting and preserving those aspects of the City that are much loved and which underpin its medium to long-term potential.

The Vision—based on a strong foundation of consultation, research and analysis—mirrors a wealth of ideas from people of all walks of life and generations.

Apart from road-mapping changes to infrastructure, the Vision sets new parameters for the way Council delivers and facilitates services, development and public domain improvements. It also gives direction on renewal and transformational projects aimed at driving enterprise, cultural excellence and social cohesion.

While a range of directions and actions apply to core business areas of the City, other larger and more complex projects and programs will be viewed, assessed and implemented on a progressive, long-term basis.

Integral to the Vision is a commitment by the City of Sydney to enter into partnerships with the community, business and government to realise the program through to 2030—while continuing to take advice and soundings on an ongoing basis.

The Vision sets the agenda for the City’s Corporate Strategic Plans and Capital Works in the years to come.

P. M. Barone

MONICA BARONE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

