



Item 9: Healthy Kids and Local Government

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The NSW Premier Kristina Keneally has released the NSW Government's Metropolitan Transport Plan: Connecting the City of Cities.

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The Ministerial Taskforce on Tourism and Local Government is seeking council views in relation to key areas of tourism activity and management throughout NSW. The Taskforce is conducting a survey with the assistance of the Associations and councils are strongly encouraged to take part in the survey.

Local Government Association of NSW and the Shires Association of NSW

tel: 02 9242 4000
fax: 02 9242 4111
email: lgsa@lgsa.org.au
website: www.lgsa.org.au
GPO Box 7003 Sydney 2001
Level 8, 28 Margaret St
Sydney NSW 2000

Email subscription

Subscribe to receive the Local Government Weekly and media releases directly by email on the LGSA website at: www.lgsa.org.au/subscribe

Conferences and Events

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View upcoming conference and events relevant to Local Government

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This year's theme is Building a Brighter Future.

Item 3: Exciting opportunity at the LGSA for a part time Sustainability Project Officer

The Associations, as the lead partners of the Urban Sustainability Support Alliance (USSA) project, are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic sustainability project officer to help deliver the USSA project.

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Item 16: Councillor Professional Development Program

A range of Councillor Professional Development programs have been scheduled for March 2010 in Sydney.

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General Interest

Item 2: 2010 Shires Association of NSW Annual Conference

This year's theme is Building a Brighter Future.

Motions are due by Thursday 1 April and a draft business paper will be available on the Shires Association Conference website for viewing and comment from 12-19 April.

Business papers will be printed on 27 April and distributed to councils that week. Councils will receive four printed copies of the business paper. Papers can also be printed from the Association's website.

All conference details including registration, program, voting and motions will be available late March on the conference website.

R09/0003:MF

Conference dates

Monday 31 May – Wednesday 2 June

Further information

Motions: Peter Coulton, 02 9242 4030

General details: Michelle Muller, events@lgsa.org.au, 02 9242 4031

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General Interest

Item 3: Exciting opportunity at the LGSA for a part time Sustainability Project Officer

The Associations, as the lead partners of the Urban Sustainability Support Alliance (USSA) project, are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic sustainability project officer to help deliver the USSA project.

The position is offered on a 7 month part time (3 days per week) basis to fill a maternity leave vacancy. It will be situated within the USSA project management team at the LGSA. Secondments from councils and other organisations will be considered.

The USSA project is funded by the NSW Environmental Trust through its Urban Sustainability Program (USP). The USSA helps NSW councils to realise the full potential of their sustainability projects and ensure that lessons learnt by councils in the journey towards sustainability are shared by:

- establishing and maintaining communication networks;
- developing and promoting existing tools and resources; and
- delivering training and professional development support.

This position will contribute to the delivery of all of these project outcomes.

Essential Criteria

- Tertiary qualifications in an environmental management related discipline or equivalent professional experience and/or knowledge;
- Demonstrated understanding of environmental / sustainability issues as they apply to local government;
- Local Government experience, or familiarity with operations of local government;
- High-level oral and written communication skills and consultation, presentation, negotiation and stakeholder relationship skills;
- Strong project management, and organizational skills and ability to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- Experience in development of guidance materials (web based and other formats)
- Commitment to EEO, OH&S Policies and the Principles of Cultural Diversity

Desirable Criteria

- Appreciation of internet and communication technology as a tool for engagement
- Skills in training and facilitation
- Research skills and the ability to analyse, distil and clearly communicate often complex issues

The position will be remunerated at the LGSA's Senior Policy Officer salary range \$ 80,945 - \$85,042 (pro rata) depending on experience and qualifications.

Applications should address the selection criteria above and in the position, including details of experience and qualifications. You will be notified by Thursday 11 March if you have been selected to attend an interview. Interviews will take place on Monday 15 March.

Position description

www.sustainabilitysupportalliance.lgsa.org.au

Applications close

9am, Monday 8 March 2010

Further information

Niki Carey, Assistant Strategy Manager - Policy &

Communication: 9242 4159;

niki.carey@lgsa.org.au

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General Interest

Item 4: National Local Government Customer Service Network Seminar

The National Local Government Customer Service Network provides a forum to share the day to day challenges, learn various skills and techniques and information to improve Customer Service in a Local Government environment.

This seminar is themed 'Building your customer service team' and is a highly informative and interactive workshop for leaders, presented by a well known specialist in training, executive coaching and change management. During the recent Global Financial Crisis, many teams went through a flat period of operations, so get ready to understand how strategies come together, what signs to look out for in your teams as managers and team leaders learn great team building and motivation techniques, share experiences and successful ideas to build your team.

The seminar will also have corporate members Nexa and CFS presenting information on client traffic management and service experience feedback systems.

All Network members, Customer Service & Library Managers and Team Leaders, Ranger and Call-Out Officer Supervisors, Planning Managers, in fact anyone in a leadership role within Council, plus suppliers and consultants to this local government group should consider attending.

Workshop date and location

10 March 2010, Bankstown City Council Town Hall, corner Rickard Rd and Chapel St Bankstown (parking available).

Cost

No cost for Network Members

Further information

NLGCSN Executive: 02 9707 9400,
david.thompson@bankstown.nsw.gov.au,
www.csnetwork.com.au

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Community

Item 5: What's on the Menu at Australian workplaces this March?

A Taste of Harmony is Australia's biggest celebration of cultural diversity in the workplace.

Last year, more than 60,000 Australian workers participated in this free event from more than 1,100 workplaces. This year is shaping up to be even bigger!

The concept is simple. Register your workplace, set a lunch date and ask colleagues to bring a dish reflecting their cultural background. The result is a multicultural feast where workers have the opportunity to learn something new about the different cultural backgrounds that exist in their workplace.

This week-long celebration is an initiative of the Scanlon Foundation and concludes with National Harmony Day on 21 March. It is supported by the Australian Multicultural Foundation and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

Date

15 – 21 March 2010

Register

www.tasteofharmony.org.au

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Community

Item 6: 2010 ACOSS National Conference: A vote for equity

The Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) annual conference is a major event for social services and the community sector. It is a key opportunity to examine Australia's policies and programs that are working; what needs to be changed; and how best to achieve that from the perspective of low income Australians.

Conference participants come from a broad cross section of community and welfare organisations, state and Australian government departments, tertiary institutions, business, unions and individuals with an interest in community issues and social justice.

The conference is a chance to hear about and discuss key areas of social policy, community sector services, and the needs of social service clients and their communities. Plenary and workshop sessions bring together policy-makers, practitioners, consumers, academics and other researchers on key topics of relevance to social services.

In 2010, plenary topics will include:

- Affordable housing.
- Long-term unemployment.
- Population.
- Tax reform.
- The third sector.

Workshop sessions will cover some of these issues in greater detail as well as focusing on a broad range of other areas, including:

- Communication technology for low income Australians.
- Health reform.
- Income management.
- Individualised service and funding arrangements.
- Social enterprise.

File Reference: R92/0205-03

Key dates / Venues

25-26 March 2010 Rydges
Lakeside, Canberra

Online information

for sponsorship and exhibition opportunities, or to register your interest email:

conference@acoss.org.au, 02 9310 6200.

For further information

<http://acoss.org.au/>

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Community

Item 7: 2010 Crime Free Housing Seminar

The Sydney Institute of Criminology (University of Sydney) is hosting a free seminar investigating possible design for neighbourhoods to prevent and reduce crime. This question will be explored with reference to contemporary developments in NSW and other jurisdictions.

Planners, police, Local Government personnel, crime prevention practitioners and architects are encouraged to attend.

There has been a lot of recent debate and commentary regarding crime in housing estates. Reports of problematic estates have regularly received media coverage. This coverage often fails to acknowledge the work that is happening in these areas to reduce and prevent crime. This seminar will bring together an exciting group of academics, policy makers and people planning and managing large housing estates and will explore contemporary practices and policies aimed at achieving crime free housing.

Speakers include:

- Eileen Baldy, Associate Professor, School of Social Sciences and International Studies, UNSW.
- Claudia Stephens, General Manager, Newleaf Communities.
- Shane O'Brien, National Environmental health and Safety Manager, Delfin Lend Lease.

Numbers are limited, so early registration is encouraged.

File Reference: R90/0127-10

Seminar date

29 March 2010, 1.30-4.30pm at

Venue

Sydney Law School, New Law School Building, Eastern Avenue, University of Sydney (Camperdown Campus)

Online information

<http://sydney.edu.au/news/law/457.html?eventcategoryid=35&eventid=5338>

For further information

Events Co-coordinator: 02 9351 0248, law.events@sydney.edu.au

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Community

Item 8: Disability Awareness training

People with Disability Australia (PWD) have released their training calendar for March to June 2010. They are offering a range of courses on disability awareness that may be relevant for councillors and council staff.

PWD's vision is of a socially just, accessible and inclusive community, in which the human rights, citizenship, contribution, potential and diversity of all people with disability are recognised, respected and celebrated.

Courses

Introduction to Disability Awareness (1 ½ hours)

This short course is designed for anyone who knows the word disability, but wants or needs to understand what it means beyond wheelchairs and white canes. Who are people with disability in Australia? What are some of the myths and facts about disability? If I meet someone with disability, what do I do?

Cost: \$50 (ex GST)

Disability Awareness (1 day)

This one day course is for anyone who may need to regularly communicate or work with people with a range of disabilities respectfully and professionally, but isn't sure how. Through experiential exercise and discussion we'll explore what disability is, what barriers and opportunities exist and what all of this means for you and the people you work with.

Cost: \$195 (ex GST)

Responding to Abuse and Neglect (1 day)

Understanding the frequency and severity with which people with disability experience abuse and neglect is the first vital step in the challenge to prevent this crime. This important training is designed for anyone working in the disability sector. It will guide participants through their obligations and help them discover some simple tools to use in their workplace to build the capacity of people with disability and protect themselves from abuse and neglect.

Learning Objectives:

- Raise awareness about the experience of abuse and neglect
- Understand the reasons for increased vulnerability and tools to minimise risk

Cost: \$195 (ex GST)

Responding to Sexual Assault (2 days)

This course is essential for anyone working with people with intellectual disability. We explore the myths and facts surrounding sexual assault and examine the reasons why men and women with intellectual disability experience much higher rates of sexual assault than people without disability. This practical 2 day course equips participants with a toolkit of strategies they can use as individuals, as part of an organisation and as a member of society to make a difference.

Learning Objectives:

- Raise awareness about sexual assault and understand how people with disability experience it

Introduction to Disability Awareness (1/2 day)

21 April 2–3.30pm

17 May 2–3.30pm

29 June 10–11.30am

Disability Awareness (1 day)

23 March 9am–4.30pm

12 May 9am–4.30pm

8 June 9am–4.30pm

Responding to Abuse and Neglect (1 day)

25 March 9am–4.30pm

13 April 9am–4.30pm

2 June 9am–4.30pm

Responding to Sexual Assault (2 days)

6–7 April 9am–4.30pm

Online information

Website www.pwd.org.au

For further information

Training Manager: 02 9370

3100, training@pwd.org.au

- Understand the reasons for increased vulnerability and tools to minimise risk

Cost: \$390 (ex GST)

All courses will be offered in Sydney, however PWD training is also available as in-house training sessions. All training outside the Sydney metropolitan area will be subject to travel and accommodation costs.

File Reference: R90/0058

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Community

Item 9: Healthy Kids and Local Government

Healthy Kids is looking to collaborate with Local Government to share these resources to improve the health of children and families in your area.

Healthy Kids, staffed with dietitians, nutritionists, community health workers and other professionals, has been operating for many years and now has a large pool of knowledge and resources available regarding healthy eating and healthy lifestyles.

Healthy Kids Association is a not-for-profit, non-government, health promotion organisation based in Sydney. The Association works according to the principles and values articulated in the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion and the guiding principles for Health Promoting Schools. The aim of the organisation is to promote and influence healthy food choices for children.

As well as providing general nutrition advice and fact sheets, Healthy Kids has the capacity to run workshops, cooking classes, healthy recipes, seminars and shopping tours. Our accredited Triple P facilitator is also available to run positive parenting programs.

Healthy Kids Association believes that partnering and sharing resources in order to build capacity is the key to having the greatest impact and effect on long-term health outcomes for our local communities. Please contact them to find out more

File Reference: R09/0010

Online information

www.healthy-kids.com.au

For further information

Toll free 1300 724 850,
info@healthy-kids.com.au

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Community

Item 10: Draft Public Health Bill

NSW Health released the draft Public Health Bill on 22 February 2010. LGSA are working with NSW Health to try to ensure an appropriate consultation with Local Government.

The draft bill can be found on the NSW Health website. Submissions to NSW Health are requested before 19 April 2010. Consultative workshops will also be held across the state. Dates will be published here as soon as they are available.

If you have any issues regarding the Bill or a consultation process and would like to be involved please contact us.

File Reference: R91/0217-02:HJ

For further information

Helen Johnson: 02 9939 8929,
helen.johnson@lgsa.org.au

Online information

http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/resources/aboutus/legal/phb2010_draft_pdf.asp

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Community

Item 11: Youthipedia: The A – Z of Youth Development Conference

This conference provides a forum for youth development workers in particular to explore best practice engagement strategies; discuss new trends and issues; develop skills and capacities; and build professional networks and relationships.

Organised by The Local Government Association of Queensland, the Conference will bring together Local Government people who work with young people – Youth Development Officers, Library Staff, Cultural Workers or Sport and Recreation Officers; Elected Members; Professionals providing youth development alongside or in partnership with their Councils; and Queensland and Australian Government employees.

Over 3 days the Conference will cover a range of exciting topics and content through panels, workshops and key note addresses.

Councils in northern of NSW might be interested in attending

File Reference: R90/0129

Conference Date

27–29 July 2010

Location

The Vibe Hotel, Surfers Paradise, Gold Coast, Queensland

Registration

Program brochure, costs and registration information will be available by end of April.

For further information

Katie Edmiston, Youth Policy Project Officer, Local Government Association of Queensland

katie_edmiston@lgaq.asn.au

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Environment

Item 12: Local Government Planning for a Sustainable Future

Among Local Governments and communities around the world there is a growing sense of urgency to address accelerating climate change. A key challenge for Local Government is how to engage with their communities to mitigate its effect.

- Only when there is psychological ownership of a course of action is there high motivation to pursue it.
- The best strategies are those devised by the people who have to live with the outcomes.

Conference date
19 March 2010, Sydney

Details and registration
www.pics.com.au

This course is designed to not only deal with climate change divisiveness; but to also come to grips with its complexity, vested interests and long timeframes.

It is a thorough curriculum in sustainability and climate change issues. It will enable communities and organizations to make cultural changes, producing the profound benefits of a resilient and genuinely sustainable future.

Local Government attendees at this training workshop will:

- Be able to run their own 'Sustainable Future Planning' program.
- Be provided with a detailed 'Sustainable Future Planning' handbook.
- Have access to social trends affecting climate change beliefs and actions.
- Become part of a 'Sustainable Future Network' to share and learn from other climate change initiatives.

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Finance

Item 13: Reforms in Revenue, Rating and Valuation Conference

The International Property Tax Institute (IPTI), in co-operation with the South Australian Institute of Rate Administrators Inc. (SAIRA), invite you to attend the 13th International Conference

The theme of this year's conference is 'Reforms in Revenue, Rating, Valuation and Taxation- Australasian and International Experience.'

This conference will explore current and emerging practices in property tax with a focus on reforms in revenue raising and valuation practices and improvements in rating and taxation.

Our international line-up of experts will also cover pertinent issues evolving across the globe and update conference participants on what's happening in their respective countries.

In conjunction with and preceding the Conference, there will be two half day workshops during the afternoon of Monday, April 26, 2010.

Workshop I - Managing Technology in the Mass Appraisal Environment - April 26, 2010.

Workshop II - Municipal Tax Policy and Rate Modelling - April 26, 2010.

R91/0112.smcb

Key dates/Venues

April 27-28 2010, Stamford
Grand Adelaide Hotel

2 Jetty Road Glenelg, Adelaide.
SA.

Program/Registration

[http://www.saira.com.au/images/stories/adelaide%20conference%20brochure%20final%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.saira.com.au/images/stories/adelaide%20conference%20brochure%20final%20(2).pdf)

For further information

Skilmar Systems Pty, Ltd. P.O.
Box 266, Fullarton, South
Australia 5063
Attention: David Hope,
0417876499,
david@skilmar.com.au

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In the News

Item 14: Media from the LGSA

View the latest media releases distributed by the LGSA.

Firm commitment to transport plan crucial, councils say

Monday 22 February

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3207-22-february-2010-firm-commitment-to-transport-plan-crucial-councils-say.asp?intSiteID=1>

NSW councils have welcomed the State Government's Metropolitan Transport Plan for Sydney and say the next step is for the government to make a firm financial commitment and get projects underway.

Water - Allocations & Buyback Scheme discussions

Thursday 25 February

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/3208-25-february-2010-water---allocations--buyback-scheme-discussions.asp?intSiteID=1>

President of the Local Government and Shires Association Cr Bruce Miller yesterday convened the annual general meeting of the Western Riverina/Murray F Division councils held at Jerilderie Civic Hall where he again called on the Federal Government to increase its commitment and the pace of the roll out of improving irrigation in the State's water-starved west.

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Industrial Relations

Item 15: Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association (WCRA) Breakfast Briefing

WCRA is holding a breakfast briefing on the Code of Practice for the Collection of Domestic Waste.

A light Buffet will commence at 7.15am with the presentations for the morning beginning at 7.45am.

Councils may be interested in attending the Breakfast Briefing, as one of the topics to be discussed includes how the Code of Practice for the Collection of Domestic Waste applies in relation to waste collection times determined by councils.

Presenters include Martin Dunne of Hunt and Hunt, Joe Nosti of WorkCover NSW and Tony Khoury of WCRA.

I03/0001-02: NS

Date

Tuesday 9 March 2010.

Location

The Breakfast Briefing will be held at Sarlemyn Theatre, Club Manager's Association of Australia, 67-73 St Hilliers Road, Auburn.

Register

WCRA: 02 9604 7206 or download a form from the WCRA website:

<http://www.wcra.com.au/index.htm>

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Learning

Item 16: Councillor Professional Development Program

A range of Councillor Professional Development programs have been scheduled for March 2010 in Sydney.

- Initiating Change for Councillors, Thursday 4 March
- Media Fundamentals, Monday 8 March
- The Effective Chair in Local Government, Monday 15 March*
- Financial Skills for Councillors, Friday 19 March
- Connecting with the Community, Friday 26 March

*Evening module

File Reference: R95/0084:RN

Cost

Most modules are \$495 inclusive of GST per course. Media Fundamentals is \$594 inclusive of GST. Evening modules are \$330 inclusive of GST. The Councillor Weekend is \$880 inclusive of GST.

Registration

Please fax a registration form to 02 9242 4188 or email learning@learning.org.au

Further information

Ruth Niemczyk, Learning Solutions
ruth.niemczyk@lgsa.org.au

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Learning

Item 17: Planning for Effective Public Participation

The first module in the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Certificate for Public Participation will be delivered in Sydney.

This introductory module of the IAP2 Certificate Program provides the fundamentals for effective public participation. Using IAP2's Spectrum for Public Participation, participants will learn how to establish clear and achievable objectives for public participation and how to define a promise to the public.

Participants will learn how to prepare their organisation or project teams for conducting public participation and how to plan for the timing, techniques, and resources needed to make public participation a success.

This course is well recognised amongst the community of public participation professionals in Australia and New Zealand and many other countries including USA, Canada and the UK.

Facilitator: Margaret Harvie, Plan Com Consulting P/L, Margaret is an accredited International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) trainer. Margaret has extensive local, national and overseas experience including experience in community development with Indigenous communities in Queensland.

File Reference: R98/0012:RN

Dates and Location

9-10 March 2010

Local Government Learning Centre,
28 Margaret St Sydney

Cost

\$880 inclusive of GST for the two day public program

Registration

learning@learning.org.au

Further information

Learning Solutions, Jennifer
Fanning on 02 9242 4181 or
learning@lgsa.org.au

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Learning

Item 18: Personal and Executive Assistants' Network Meeting

The Personal and Executive Assistants' Network has been designed to provide personal and executive assistants in NSW councils with the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge, identify training needs, network and address career path issues and goals.

Topics for this meeting include The Year of the Women in Local Government presented by Cr Karen McKeown, NSW President ALGWA and Juggling Work and Home Life facilitated by Carole Webb, Consultant.

The mission of the network is to provide a forum to enhance members' skills and knowledge, thereby providing a professional and quality support service to the council and community.

The network meeting on 6 March is free and open to all personal/executive assistants and other support officers in NSW councils. We strongly encourage general managers and managers of PA/EAs to support this excellent event.

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

Dates and Location

Friday 19 March 2010

Local Government Learning Centre,
28 Margaret St Sydney

Time

9.30am-3.30pm

Cost

Free

Registrations

learning@learning.org.au

Further information

Learning Solutions, Chrissie
Gordon-Wells on 02 9242 4081 or
learning@lgsa.org.au

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Learning

Item 19: Recent Land and Environment Court Decisions and the Implications for Local Government

This free LGSA/Maddocks seminar will be held in Sydney for councillors and senior staff.

The NSW Land and Environment Court (L&E Court) deals with land, planning and environment law matters relevant to local government practice. By providing an alternative vehicle for environmental protection, the L&E Court often produces landmark cases and cases establishing planning principles.

The seminar will address recent L&E Court decisions and the implications for local government, particularly exploring issues including:

- Retail centre decisions.
- Climate change decisions.
- Recent planning principles.
- Section 34 conferences (mediation).

The presenters will be Stan Kondilios, Partner, Maddocks and Prue Burns, Partner, Maddocks.

Registrations are essential since numbers are limited. A confirmation letter will be faxed with details of the venue.

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

Date and Time

Friday 5 March 2010

12 noon to 2.00 pm

Location

Local Government Learning Centre, 28 Margaret Street, Sydney

Registrations

learning@lgsa.org.au

Further Information

Learning Solutions, 02 9242

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Learning

Item 20: Springboard 2010 - Additional workshops

The Springboard program has been specially developed to assist women in non-management positions to develop skills and knowledge to empower them to reach greater career goals in four workshops over four months. Managers may wish to consider this proven program for their staff as one strategy to support the Year of the Women in Local Government.

Registrations are now open for a Second Springboard program which will commence on 30 April for mentors and on 29 April for the participants.

Springboard aims to empower women to set and achieve personal goals; establish what you want from life; focus on your priorities; acquire ideas, skills and confidence needed to reach your potential and goals; position yourself to make positive decisions about work and personal options and to take action.

The course includes sessions on time management, assertiveness, dealing with change, conflict resolution, problem solving, goal setting, stress management, networking, communication and action planning.

Each workshop has a high profile woman as a guest speaker. Local Government Learning Solutions coordinates a mentoring strategy in conjunction with the program and delivers a half-day program for mentors. The participants also network with women from other councils.

Program dates

Participants attend all four workshops over four months and their mentors attend the half-day workshop:

- Friday 30 April, Mentors
- Thursday 29 April, Day One
- Monday 24 May, Day Two
- Thursday 24 June, Day Three
- Thursday 22 July, Day Four

File Reference: I98/0012:RN

Location

Local Government Learning Centre, 28 Margaret St Sydney

Cost

\$990 inclusive of GST for 4 workshops for participants and a half-day workshop for mentors

Registrations

<http://www.lgsa.org.au/www/html/152-courses-for-staff.asp>

Further information

Learning Solutions, Ruth Niemczyk on 02 9242 4180 or learning@lgsa.org.au

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Roads and Transport

Item 21: NSW Government releases Metropolitan Transport Plan

The NSW Premier Kristina Keneally has released the NSW Government's Metropolitan Transport Plan: Connecting the City of Cities.

Main features of the report are outlined below:

- The shelving of the \$5bn CBD Metro proposal (and other associated Metro links).
- A \$4.5 billion Western Express CityRail Service to western Sydney to be built from 2015, and including:
 - Separating a dedicated track from all other traffic;
 - A 'City Relief Line' tunnel – from Redfern to Wynyard to separate western services from other CityRail services;
 - Construction of eight new platforms at Redfern, Central, Town Hall and Wynyard; and
 - New express train services for the Blue Mountains, Richmond, Penrith, Blacktown and Parramatta.
- Start of work on the \$6.7 billion North West rail link from Epping to Rouse Hill in 2017, with six stations at Franklin Road, Castle Hill, Hills Centre, Norwest, Burns Road and Rouse Hill.
- A \$500 million expansion of the current light rail system, comprising:
 - 4.1 km light rail from Circular Quay via Barangaroo to Haymarket; and
 - 5.6 km extension of existing light rail from Lilyfield to Dulwich Hill.
- \$2.9b in bus initiatives, including 1,000 new buses for Strategic Bus Corridors in Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong and the Central Coast, new Bus priority measures and new depots.
- \$3.1 billion for new trains, in addition to the 626 carriages currently on order.
- Creation of the new Sydney Metropolitan Development Authority to drive future transit-oriented development and urban renewal. Authority will be similar to the highly successful Redfern Waterloo Authority and Barangaroo Delivery Authority. It will be responsible for implementing the integrated metropolitan land use strategy and will report to the Minister for Roads and Transport and the Minister for Planning with its own board with a Federal Government representative.);
- \$158 million in cycleways.
- More than \$400 million for commuter car parks.
- \$57 million Commuter Infrastructure Fund for local transport partnerships – such as improved and easy access for people with disabilities and more awnings and shelters at rail stations.
- \$225 million over 10 years for Sydney ferries, including six vessels.
- \$536 million for motorway planning, transit corridor reservations and land acquisition for future projects.

Access the State Government's Metropolitan Transport Plan

<http://www.nsw.gov.au/shapeyourstate/metropolitantransportplan>

Access the Sydney Morning Herald Independent Public Inquiry Report:

<http://www.transportpublicinquiry.com.au>

For further information

NSW Government
Tel: 131500 (the transport infoline), register your inquiry, and a specialist will respond within 24 hours.

LGSA: Richard Connors, Senior Policy Officer, Roads and Transport, Telephone 02 9242 4073 or email: Richard.Connors@lgsa.org.au

- \$483 million from State and Federal Governments for important freight works in Sydney, including a NSW Freight Plan.
- State Government will continue to deliver \$21.9 billion of joint State and Federal funded road projects (existing, not new funding).
- MyZone fare/multi modal system to better integrate transport fares & ticketing across Sydney and to better enable future electronic ticketing options.
- Partnership with the City of Sydney to develop an MOU on public transport; movements on laneways and streets and planning issues such as pedestrian friendly areas and civic spaces in the CBD.
- Overall plan to be partly funded by an increase in vehicle registration weight tax.

The President of the Local Government Association, Cr Genia McCaffery, has welcomed the State plan but has indicated concerns with the delayed commencement of many of the projects.

The Associations will be considering the Metropolitan Transport Plan and would appreciate any feedback from councils to assist us in formulating a whole-of-local government response. These can be made to Richard Connors – details above.

The release of the Plan follows the recent release of the Sydney Morning Herald's Independent Public Inquiry - Long Term Public Transport Plan for Sydney (The "Christie Report"). This Inquiry's report may be viewed and downloaded at: <http://www.transportpublicinquiry.com.au>

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Tourism

Item 22: Ministerial Taskforce on Tourism and Local Government - Survey

The Ministerial Taskforce on Tourism and Local Government is seeking council views in relation to key areas of tourism activity and management throughout NSW. The Taskforce is conducting a survey with the assistance of the Associations and councils are strongly encouraged to take part in the survey.

Tourism is recognised as a major contributor to the State economy and in recognition of this significance, the NSW Tourism Strategy was released in November 2008.

In responding to the Strategy, the Government established four Taskforces to address specific issues. One of those Taskforces' is focused on Tourism and Local Government.

It has been jointly convened by the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Barbara Perry MP and the Minister for Tourism, the Hon Jodi McKay MP. The Ministerial Taskforce is scheduled to report by June 2010. The Taskforce is chaired by Garry Payne, former Director General of the Department of Local Government. The Associations are represented on the Taskforce.

In order to gain current information on the role of Local Government tourism activity, the Taskforce is seeking council views in relation to key areas of tourism management and activity throughout the State.

Local Government in NSW has a significant investment in tourism infrastructure, provides a wide range of essential visitor services and also operates a number of tourism businesses in the State.

With an increasing reliance on tourism, it is important for councils to incorporate tourism development into economic development plans and strategies, and other mechanisms which set the current and future priorities of their council. The new Planning and Reporting Framework provides a context for considering these tourism opportunities for local and regional economies.

A number of questions addressing the major issues now being considered by the Taskforce are included in the electronic survey. The survey is not intended to be a comprehensive review of local government tourism activity, but to provide a broad overview of current activity and issues. This will greatly assist the Taskforce in its deliberations and subsequent recommendations to the Ministers.

The survey has been designed to minimise your time in responding, but to provide enough information to help us make informed recommendations.

It would be appreciated if councils could assist the Taskforce and respond to the questions by Wednesday 24th March 2010.

R91/0109.smcb

Survey link

<https://lgsa.wufoo.com/forms/local-government-tourism-survey/>

Key dates

Survey responses are to be submitted by 24 March 2010

For further information

LGSA contact: Richard Connors,
Senior Policy Officer: 02 9242
4073,
richard.connors@lgsa.org.au

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