



**SYDNEY HARBOUR FEDERATION TRUST  
FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY GROUP  
3 APRIL 2020**

**Time:** 11:00am – 1:00pm  
**Venue:** Zoom Video Conference

**Present**

Susan Moylan-Coombs  
Peter White  
Djon Mundine

**Apologies**

Dennis Foley  
Roy Mundine OAM  
Josephine Cashman

**In Attendance**

Mary Darwell, *Executive Director*  
Kathryn Roberts, *Director, Marketing & Visitor Experience*  
Rebecca Hage, *Media & Stakeholder Engagement Officer*  
Jeremy Kenna, Ranger (partial attendance)

**1. Welcome**

Mary Darwell (MD) opened the meeting. Susan Moylan-Coombs provided an acknowledgement of country. MD noted apologies and provided an overview of the current impacts of COVID-19 on the business. The Harbour Trust is providing assistance to tenants where possible and all staff are working remotely for the foreseeable future.

The Harbour Trust provided a brief overview of visitor numbers across the four principal sites for the last quarter, noting visitation is down due to bushfires and COVID-19. However, visitation has increased over the last month as more visitors utilise the bush tracks and open parklands during NSW Government imposed restrictions. It was also noted, NSW National Parks and Wildlife have implanted single direction walking tracks to adhere social distancing protocols and ensure national parks remain open.

**2. Summary of Actions – 27 August**

The Harbour Trust provided an update on actions from the last meeting held on 27 August 2019.

MD provided an update on the Cockatoo Island consultation project that was completed mid-2019. A key element of feedback in the Cockatoo Island Outcomes report included dual naming of Cockatoo Island (Wareamah). This process will shortly commence.

The EOI process for First Nations tour groups at Harbour Trust sites has been put on hold until late 2020 due to resource limitations.

MD highlighted the success of the Dance Rites Partnership with the Harbour Trust. First Nations groups from all over Sydney utilised Cockatoo Island for accommodation and rehearsal space for Dance Rites. Indigenous Enterprise also performed to a sold out crowd at Cockatoo Island as part of Sunset Sessions a joint initiative between the Sydney Opera House and the Harbour Trust.

**ACTION:** AG to continue to provide advice on First Nations Tour groups who may be interested in using our sites.

**ACTION:** HT to provide an update on dual naming at the next Advisory Group meeting.

### **3. Capital Projects – Sub Base Platypus Stage 2**

MD provided an overview of the Sub Base Platypus Stage 2 design concept and completed works to date. MD provided an overview of funding provided from the Federal Government, noting majority of funding will be spent on remediating the Torpedo Factory. MD requested feedback from the Advisory Group regarding First Nations interpretation across the site and how this could be completed successfully. Noted that there had been consultation on the Management and the directions of Stage 2.

Feedback from Advisory Group:

- Ensure the history of Sub Base Platypus and story of the Cammeraygal people is interpreted correctly.
- Consultation should include a broad cross section of First Nations people; beyond Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council.
- Ensure young First Nations people are involved in the conversation.

More generally, the advisory group commented on opportunities to improve engagement and planning across all sites including noting:

- It would be beneficial to facilitate a forum (youth symposium) outside the Advisory Group to discuss the stories of First Nations people across all Harbour Trust sites to ensure connection between sites.
- Harbour Trust sites should be connected to the First Nations story of Sydney Harbour (Flooded River Beds).
- Greater Sydney Commission working on “place making” ensuring First Nations story is at the core of strategic direction.
- Development of Western Sydney Parklands an example of successful First Nations interpretation.
- Aboriginal cultural planning should be embedded in project management.
- Ensure the living heritage of Aboriginal culture is reflected in interpretation.

### **4. Capital Projects - 10 Terminal**

MD provided a high level overview of the direction of the work for 10 Terminal.

The Harbour Trust received \$10million from the Federal Government to undertake works. Management Plan sets out the direction and currently in project formation stage. It was noted feedback for the 10 Terminal project was similar to Sub Base Platypus Stage 2.

**ACTION:** HT to develop work to develop a First Nations cultural framework/ policy with members of the Advisory Group.

**ACTION:** HT to arrange a joint meeting HT to facilitate joint meeting between Advisory Group and:

1. General CAC to discuss works on 10 Terminal
2. The Platypus CAC on Platypus.

#### **5. 2020-2022 Harbour Trust Innovate RAP 2020-2022**

The Harbour Trust provided an overview of the draft Harbour Trust Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2020-2022. The RAP is currently with Reconciliation Australia for feedback.

The Advisory Group were supportive of the RAP with no further comments, noting the Bondi to Manly walk attracts many interstate travellers. There is opportunity to expand on the stories of First Nations people along this walk. The Harbour Trust is working with Deborah Dearing, Eastern City District Commissioner to ensure stories of First Nations people are connected and showcased along the walk.

#### **6. Harbour Trust Review**

MD provided an overview of the Harbour Trust Review and outlined the Harbour Trust submission into the Review.

The Advisory Group were overall supportive of the Harbour Trust Review and its process and confirmed they had been contacted by the Independent Reviewers. The Advisory Group stressed the importance Harbour Trust sites play in the fabric of Sydney Harbour. The Advisory Group also noted to the Review team the importance of including Aboriginal operational aspects into the framework of the Harbour Trust.

The Advisory Group commended the direction of Harbour Trust, noting there had been substantially improved in engagement with Aboriginal people.

The Harbour Trust highlighted that the Members of the Trust would like to ensure effective and constructive engagement with Advisory Group. At the next Advisory Group meeting, the Harbour Trust will discuss ways to boost engagement between Advisory Group and Members.

**ACTION:** HT to outline and discuss engagement process between Advisory Group and Members of the Trust.

#### **SUMMARY OF OPEN ACTIONS**

	<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>
<b>1</b>	Garth Callendar and Roy Mundine meeting	G.Callender organising meeting for April	April 2020
<b>2</b>	HT to investigate single direction walking track strategy during COVID-19	This was thoroughly investigated and recommended it not be implemented for Harbour Trust sites. Social distancing signage will instead be placed in key spots across sites.	7/4/20
<b>3</b>	AG to continue to provide advice on First Nations Tour groups.	Included on next meeting agenda	September 2020
<b>4</b>	HT to provide an update on dual naming at the next Advisory Group meeting	Process is underway	September 2020
<b>5</b>	HT to discuss framework for First Nations engagement/ Policy cultural planning with members of the Advisory Group.	Frame work to be discussed at next meeting	September 2020

6	<p>HT to hold a joint meeting between Advisory Group and General CAC to discuss 10 Terminal</p> <p>HT to hold a joint Advisory Platypus CAC meeting to discuss Platypus</p>	To be scheduled	TBC
7	HT to outline and discuss engagement process between Advisory Group and Members of the Trust	Process to be presented at next meeting	September 2020