Tuesday 28 April 2015

**Banksia and Arncliffe residents have their say**

The NSW Department of Planning and Environment today released findings from a local survey showing funding priorities for $10 million in government investment.

The online survey was conducted between 23 December 2014 and 23 February 2015, to ask residents around the Banksia and Arncliffe priority precincts, what they liked about their suburbs and how they could be improved in coming years.

A spokesperson for the Department said the survey proved popular, with a large range of views gathered for investment in the two station precincts.

“It’s great to see more than 340 people take part in the survey and make their voice heard, while the government considers how to invest in these parts of Rockdale and provide more shops, parks and restaurants for future generations,” the spokesperson said.

“We'll use these results to inform the work we do with Rockdale Council to find the best way to invest in local services and infrastructure.”

Of more than 340 responses, the survey highlights include:

- More than 30 per cent of respondents live near Banksia, with approximately 40 per cent near Arncliffe.
- More than 45 per cent work in the Sydney CBD.
- When asked to nominate all the things that were great about their suburb
  - Almost 70 per cent chose public transport,
  - Almost 40 selected a sense of community; and
  - More than 30 per cent picked parks and open space
- When asked to choose the things they want more of in their part of Sydney
  - Almost 60 per cent picked more cafes and restaurants
  - 30 per cent want more parks and open space; and
  - More than 25 per cent want more walking and cycling links.
- More than 60 per cent of residents live in a detached house, and own their home with a mortgage.
- More than 50 per cent would prefer to stay in their suburb if they had to move homes in coming years.

The spokesperson said he was encouraged by the community response to the projects and that the community should stay engaged with more news to come.

“This is a great opportunity to get involved in a community based project to get more from your local suburb, whether it’s making the areas more active, opening it up to more green space, or having a more diverse range of shops and restaurants,” the spokesperson said.
“We’re working hard to make sure we balance the needs of residents with new community infrastructure, and we’ll make sure we keep you updated and ask you for more feedback once more detail has been developed.”

For more information, visit

Media contact: (02) 9228 6174