

PARRAMATTA ROAD LIVE MUSIC AND CULTURAL PRECINCT

Proposal from Leichhardt Mayor Darcy Byrne to be voted on by Council

BACKGROUND

The iconic Annandale Hotel going into receivership is latest indicator that current planning controls are not conducive to the growth of Sydney's live music industry. Recently Council held a forum with licensees and entrepreneurs from local live music venues during which the need for a more supportive and proactive regulatory regime was raised.

Its proximity to the CBD and status as a public transport artery with limited existing residential frontages make Parramatta Road the ideal location for Sydney's first live music cultural precinct.

Parramatta road from Sydney University through Leichhardt already has a number of longstanding live music venues, a theatre and comedy club as well as ancillary businesses such as musical instrument retailers, repair shops, teaching and recording studios.

Making Parramatta Road a live music hub has the potential to revitalise the industry and rejuvenate an urban wasteland through the introduction of a vibrant late night economy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Investigate what policies and programs it can implement to support the development of Parramatta as a live music and cultural precinct, to nurture live music, comedy and theatre, small bars, and ancillary music industry businesses.
2. Investigate the establishment of a live music development control plan for Parramatta Road which would provide planning incentives and protections for live music venues including:
 - A requirement for appropriate sound insulation of new residential and commercial developments
 - Increased allowances for noise from live music venues
 - Extended trading hours for licensed premises
 - An expedited approval process for the applications to establish new music venues
3. Write to the Minister for Planning, the Lord Mayor of Sydney and the Mayor of Marrickville and the Chair of the City of Sydney live music taskforce seeking their collaboration in developing this policy
4. Liaise with Brisbane City Council to incorporate successful elements of the development control plan governing the Fortitude Valley precinct