



## 2011 Residents' Association Inc.

ABN 78 862 101 665

PO Box 1513  
Potts Point NSW 1335

17th October 2013

### Press Release Addressing Alcohol Fuelled Violence & Crowd Control Kings Cross

A meeting of the 2011 Residents' Association has unanimously rejected City of Sydney's proposed trial street closures of Bayswater Rd and Darlinghurst Rd in Kings Cross. A Council sub-committee proposed the trial as one method of reducing alcohol-related violence and other anti-social behaviour. The research Council has drawn on to support the proposal has little or no relationship to the unique problems of Kings Cross and the neighbouring suburbs.

The 2011 Residents' Association believes the street closures are a retrograde step, and that the proposal is inherently flawed in that it will:

- Cause traffic bottlenecks in surrounding residential streets as cars are diverted away from Kings Cross;
- Take public space away from residents and give it to potentially drunk and violent bar and club patrons;
- Serve to attract even more drinkers into the precinct which contravenes the current Liquor Freeze;
- Turn local residential streets into moving beer gardens. Council refuses to acknowledge that 2011 is a residential area and one of the most densely populated areas in Sydney.

The Association is concerned about the lack of community consultation leading up to this rushed and ill-thought proposal, and the over-representation of the alcohol lobby on the sub-committee. It is time for real and meaningful consultation and transparency.

The Association believes a realistic and achievable aim is a trial of early lockout and closing hours, which has been demonstrated successfully in Newcastle to reduce the rate of alcohol-related violence. We urge, and will continue to lobby, both local and State Government officials to adopt this proven strategy.

Regards

Helen Crossing  
Convenor 2011 Residents' Association Potts Point