

**ITEM 24 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR DOM FIGLIOMENI - PALM TREE**

Councillor Dom Figliomeni has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that –

- 1 Subject to no legal impediment, Council remove the palm tree from the light pole and the associated art pieces in the mall at the earliest opportunity.
- 2 If appropriate, the palm tree and art be relocated to a suitable location such as the Botanic Garden, or if no suitable location is available, the palm trees be planted in-ground not as an art piece.
- 3 Council first notify the artist of the intention to relocate the art in its entirety to a suitable location.”

**Background provided by Councillor Dom Figliomeni:**

The contract with the artist provides that the artwork is owned by Council but that Council “*must ensure that the artwork is maintained as an integrated whole ‘so that no part of the artwork can be exhibited, sold or otherwise dealt with separately from the remainder’*” (cl 3. 3(d)).

There have been many negative comments by residents and visitors alike regarding the palm tree on the light pole. A visitor recently commented if the palm tree on the ground at the mall had fallen over but he was not aware of the one on the light pole and not aware of the integrated artwork.

The Member for Wollongong also has recently expressed the view that it was time for the palm tree to be relocated.

While I appreciate that beauty and art are in the eyes of the beholder, this piece of art has stretched the degree of beauty and art in the human mind.

This piece of art has fulfilled its purpose of generating discussion and it is now time to put it to rest in a suitable place so that it can achieve its future potential as palm trees.