



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE

14 March 2024

Dear Resident

Return Wentworth Park to the community

I write to let you know about serious concerns that Wentworth Park may not be returned to the community as promised by the former NSW Government as part of the Pyrmont Peninsula Place Strategy.

Last month, the Minister for Lands and Property, the Hon. Steve Kamper MP, and the Minister for Gaming and Racing, the Hon. David Harris MP, stated in Parliament that they are considering supporting the Greyhound Breeders, Owners and Trainers Association's proposal to extend its lease at Wentworth Park, which is due to expire in 2027.

The City of Sydney has already conducted early consultation and begun a new masterplan for the parkland following the former government's commitment. During this consultation, the community overwhelmingly supported removing the greyhound racing track to create more public parkland.

It would be bitterly disappointing if the NSW Government now reneged. It would show the greyhound industry is more important than the communities of Pyrmont, Ultimo and Glebe.

The urgent need for more parkland

It is critical that this parkland is returned to support the additional residential and commercial uses planned in your area. With plans to increase housing, particularly around Blackwattle Bay, Pyrmont and Ultimo, we cannot expect people to thrive in higher densities without improved public amenity, including access to adequate parkland and recreational space.

The NSW Government must commit to removing greyhound racing from Wentworth Park when the lease expires in 2027, so the park can be returned to the existing and future residents, workers and visitors in this area.

Wentworth Park is currently dominated by a greyhound racing track. This parkland should be for the benefit of the community, not an industry that has admitted to killing up to 17,000 healthy dogs each year, has been shown to live-bait, and causes real suffering for people with a gambling problem. Since 2020, 17 dogs have been killed and 1,262 injured at Wentworth Park. This year alone, two dogs have been killed and 83 dogs injured at Wentworth Park.

Take action now

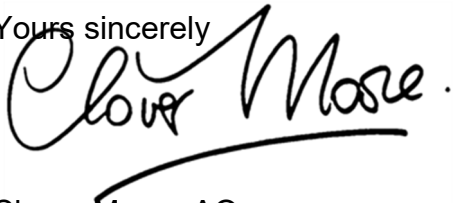
At our Council meeting on Monday 11 March, I tabled a Lord Mayoral Minute that noted these concerns, reaffirmed the City's opposition to greyhound racing, and urged the NSW Government to return the parkland to the community. You can read my minute at [city.sydney/mzc](https://cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/mzc).

I have already written to Minister Kamper, Minister Harris, and the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, the Hon. Paul Scully MP, to express my serious concern that the NSW Government may overturn the commitment of the previous government. I have sought an urgent meeting with the Ministers to discuss the future of Wentworth Park.

I urge you to also write to Minister Kamper to express your concerns, and ask him to formally commit to returning the parkland to the community when the Greyhound Breeders, Owners and Trainers Association's lease expires in 2027. You can write to the Minister on his website at [city.sydney/pyf](https://cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/pyf).

If you would like to speak with a Council officer about Wentworth Park, you can contact Pamela Aleixo, Senior Policy Officer, on 02 9265 9333 or at paleixo@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clover Moore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

Clover Moore AO
Lord Mayor of Sydney