

REPORT BY W.W. PETTINGELL AND H.E. SCOTFORD  
ON DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIVITIES PURSUED  
SINCE MARCH 11, 1960.

Before he left for overseas, Bill Northam asked us to carry on with the work begun by the previous meeting. We have individually and together talked with men representing various groups and authorities. These talks arose, not only because of our own decision to try to form a Development Association, but also because these other groups had already been moving along similar lines and were trying to establish Associations on their own initiative.

We were approached by the Australian Planning Institute and by the Civic Reform Association of Sydney, both of which had resolved to work for the launching of a Development Association. On top of that, we were informed that both the Lord Mayor of Sydney and the major developers were keen to see such an organisation in being.

We found absolute unanimity of opinion that all available community resources of power, ability and money should be harnessed into a unified civic effort under the direction of independent leaders of private commercial and industrial enterprises - men who were independent of any previous direct connection with the realms of politics, real estate or building construction.

We therefore decided to press ahead to see that what is to be done will not only truly be in the best interests of the metropolitan public, but will also be seen and appreciated as such. We found it understood on all sides that the announcement of the launching of the Association is to be made by the independent group itself.

The next step was an informal conference with the Lord Mayor.

At this meeting, agreement was quickly reached on the following points:-

1. That the whole subject is to be treated as non-partisan and non-political. This point has subsequently been agreed to by Alderman R.S. Luke.
2. That it is absolutely necessary for the organisation to maintain its complete independence.
3. That the organisation should be metropolitan in character and aims, and willing to deal with all and any Local Government bodies within the County of Cumberland. While the Lord Mayor's interests lie within the bounds of the City of Sydney, it was agreed that the organisation could not succeed unless it was metropolitan in appeal and activity.
4. That the civic planning and development envisaged as necessary within the City of Sydney is of such magnitude and demands such special skills, that there is no existing organisation capable of handling it. Whatever resources do exist are scattered, and there is urgent need for a focal organisation or a central clearing house for policies, plans and negotiations.
5. That the Lord Mayor looks forward to close collaboration with the foreshadowed Sydney City and Metropolitan Development Association.
6. That the City Council is prepared to contribute substantially to the operating costs of the Association.
7. That the public announcement of the formation of the Sydney City and Metropolitan Development Association would be made by the provisional committee itself and that the Lord Mayor will not publicly speak of the matter until that announcement is made.

In view of the encouraging spirit of cooperation which we encountered in our various discussions, we are now submitting to this meeting the following motions:-

- (a) That we resolve to form and establish an organisation under the name "Sydney City and Metropolitan Development Association".
- (b) That those present today constitute the provisional committee of the proposed Association.
- (c) That the Association be incorporated as a non-profit company under the Companies Act.
- (d) That the primary objects of the Association be as follows:-
  - (i) To promote the economic, social, cultural and aesthetic interests and welfare of the City and the Metropolis of Sydney by general means, but particularly by investigating, preparing, initiating, supporting, publicising, fostering and guiding proposals and projects for neighborhood, city and metropolitan planning, urban design, and urban development and redevelopment.
  - (ii) To enter into any arrangements with any governments or authorities supreme municipal local or otherwise that may appear conducive to the objects of the Association or any of them and to obtain from any such government or authority any rights privileges and concessions and to carry out exercise and comply with any such arrangements privileges and concessions.
- (e) That a sub-committee be appointed to attend to the legal and administrative requirements of formation.
- (f) That a sub-committee be appointed to draft the press announcement forthwith.

**DRAFT:**

**May 26, 1960**

**REPORT OF MEETING HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM OF  
THE AUSTRALIAN GAS LIGHT COMPANY ON  
MAY 17, 1960**

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**Those present were -**

W. W. Pettingell in the Chair.  
H. Arthy  
Dr. Bell  
R. Crichton-Brown  
W.G. Clarke  
F. Deer  
F. Munroe  
Norman B. Rydge  
H.E. Scotford  
H. Woolf

Apologies were received from Messrs. B. Freeman, J.M. Kirby,  
L. Plasto and Sir Kenneth Coles.

Messrs. Pettingell and Scotford commented further on the written report  
previously circulated regarding their activities since the first meeting  
early in March. This report was received by the meeting.

**The meeting agreed:-**

1. To proceed to form the Sydney City and Metropolitan  
Development Association.
2. That those present at the meeting constitute the provisional  
committee which is to proceed with the formation of the  
Association.
3. That in due course the Association would constitute itself  
as a non-profit company under the Companies Act.
4. That the principal object of the Association be stated at this  
stage as "to promote the economic, social, cultural and  
aesthetic interests and welfare of the City and Metropolitan  
Area of Sydney by general means....."
5. That no public announcement whatsoever be made at this  
time and that immediate steps be taken to gain wider support,  
namely,

- (i) Messrs. Pettingell and Scotford to interview members of the State Cabinet to advise them of the decisions already taken to form an Association and to obtain Cabinet support and cooperation in implementing the Association's objectives.
  - (ii) As soon as Government support assured, to make arrangements for a further meeting to be attended by a wider representation of financial and commercial interests.
6. That the next meeting be held within a fortnight from May 17, to further consider the Objectives of the Association.

Those present at the meeting are requested:-

1. To confirm the decisions as set out above, and
2. To nominate others whom they consider should be invited to attend the next meeting.

The confirmation and nominations should be sent to -

W. W. Pettingell,  
Australian Gas Light Company,  
477-487 Pitt Street,  
SYDNEY.