Dear Resident,

Thank you for your strong support at the recent state election. On a two party preferred basis, I received over 75% of the vote, making the Davidson electorate the strongest Liberal Party seat in NSW.

I will continue representing all electors on state matters while performing the additional role of Speaker in the Legislative Assembly.

The Berejiklian Government has identified five key priorities for the next four years:

- Maintaining a strong budget and economy
- Building infrastructure
- Protecting the vulnerable
- Creating better services
- Building safer communities.

I believe we can confidently look forward to a promising future in NSW, including in our electorate of Davidson.

Jonathan O’Dea
Member for Davidson

Speaker ‘dragged’ to his Chair

Your local MP is the 40th Speaker of the Lower House, presiding over the 57th NSW Parliament. Historically in England, if the monarch didn’t agree with a message being communicated, the early death of the Speaker could follow. Hence the tradition of the Speaker being ‘dragged’ to the Chair.

The Speaker’s duties include chairing the Legislative Assembly and representing it on official occasions, such as commemorative services, as well as meeting inter-parliamentary delegations, Heads of State, dignitaries and foreign officials. The Speaker also shares responsibility with the President of the Upper House for the overall direction and running of the Parliament.

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Retirement Village Ambassador Visit

NSW Retirement Village Ambassador, Kathryn Greiner visited Aveo Lindfield Gardens as part of a state wide tour to share information and receive feedback about recent reforms. The NSW Government changes aim to make retirement villages more transparent and accountable and put power into the hands of residents. At Lindfield Gardens, Ms Greiner (L) was met by dozens of residents including Residents’ Forum Chair, Dr Penelope Cousens.

More Savings for Seniors Card Holders

Davidson electorate seniors can now enjoy more savings, with 24 additional local businesses recently signing up to the NSW Seniors Card program, taking the total to 137. The program helps grow local businesses through building a loyal customer base while also supporting seniors on fixed incomes.

Boost for Glen Street Library

Northern Beaches Council is receiving $50,000 from the NSW Government for an outdoor living room and bush tucker garden at the Glen Street Library. The project includes a pergola over the library courtyard and outdoor amphitheatre, allowing for more seating. The NSW Government will allocate an additional $60 million over 4 years for public libraries – the biggest boost to public libraries in NSW history.

Scouting Celebrations

The 1st East Roseville Scout Group recently celebrated its 70th anniversary and the launch of Scouts Australia’s new youth program. Group Advisor, John Oakey, was honoured for his 50 years of local service before distinguished guests including former Group member, Dick Smith. Congratulations to all involved, including Reunion Committee Member, Peter Read (L) and Group Advisor Peter Allen.

More Trains

A new T1 North Shore train timetable includes a train every three minutes from Gordon to the City during the busiest morning peak period. The timetable is aligned to the new North West Metro, which began services to and from Chatswood on 26 May. The project was delivered at more than a billion dollars under budget. Some North Shore stations will benefit from a doubling of services out of the CBD during the PM peak, with a train on average every seven to eight minutes. Full details can be found at: https://transportnsw.info/routes/train

Extra Buses

More than 70 extra weekly bus services were introduced at the end of April on routes 194, 270 and 271, with more on the way.

Route 194 between St Ives and the Sydney CBD has extra services either side of the morning and afternoon peak periods and weekday evenings. An additional 26 weekly services have been added to routes 270 and 271 from Terrey Hills and Belrose respectively to the CBD, and plans are underway for regular buses between Chatswood and Dee Why. The NSW Government plans to deliver another 14,000 extra weekly bus services over the next four years, with the Davidson electorate a major beneficiary.

Roads Update

Motorists are enjoying a smoother and safer journey through Gordon, with work now complete at the intersection of the Pacific Highway with Mona Vale and Ryde Roads. Motorists can now enjoy improved travel times, traffic flow and safety through the busy intersection.

On the Northern Beaches, work is progressing well on new road bridges along Warringah Road. The bridges at Forest Way and Wakehurst Parkway are expected to be completed by the end of this year.
New School Facilities

The NSW Government is investing $6 billion over the next four years to deliver more than 170 new and upgraded schools, including in Davidson.

Lindfield Learning Village Opens

There’s been a very positive response to the new Lindfield Learning Village on the former UTS site, with applications far exceeding available spaces. In 2020 a kindergarten class and a year seven class will be added, with further expansion thereafter, under the innovative learning model. Minister Stokes visited the new facilities with Principal Stephanie McConnell and local Director of Education Leadership Sue Low.

Killara High School Upgrade

Hundreds of local families will soon benefit from a further $15 million major upgrade to Killara High School. The project will deliver 17 classrooms, new staff areas and new toilet facilities. A symbolic ‘turning of the first sod’ event included Minister Stokes, School Principal Jane Dennett and student leaders.

St Ives North Public School Building Program

Construction has started on a $21 million upgrade at St Ives North Public School. The project is scheduled for completion in mid-2020 and will deliver 25 new air conditioned classrooms, a new amenities block, canteen, courtyard and street front landscaping.

P&C Association Life Memberships

Before and after school care and the extensive capital works program were among topics discussed at this year’s Northern Sydney District Council of P&C Associations’ AGM. At the meeting David Hope and Stephanie Croft (pictured with St Ives High School Principal, Mark Watson) were awarded Life Membership for their outstanding contribution to local school communities through the P&C Association.
School Maintenance Backlog Cut

The NSW Government has invested record funds to eliminate the school maintenance backlog and help ensure every public school provides world-class facilities. A further $449 million has been allocated to clear the backlog by July 2020, including for the 18 public schools in the Davidson electorate.

New Playground for St Ives Park Public School

St Ives Park Public School students are now enjoying a new playground, part funded by a $30,000 Community Building Partnership grant to the P&C Association. A large uneven dirt expanse was transformed into a new play space with synthetic grass, sandpits and a fixed play structure of bridges and turrets, climbing poles, ropes, monkey bars and a double slide.

Gordon East Public School Playground Upgrade

Gordon East Public School now benefits from new playground equipment and a sunshade. Over $85,000 was presented to the P & C Association following a successful application through the Community Building Partnership Program.

Before and After School Care More Affordable

All parents with children at public primary schools should be able to access before and after school care services by 2021 thanks to a $120 million NSW Government investment. Care costs will reduce by up to $225 per child each year through a capped rental subsidy of up to $15,000 for providers who use school grounds.

Author wins Prestigious Award

Congratulations to Roseville’s Shankari Nadanachandran on being named NSW Writers Fellow for 2018/19 – one of five recipients awarded with a Create NSW Artform Fellowship. Ms Nadanachandran receives $30,000 to support her personal, creative and career advancement.
Sports Facilities Boost

The NSW Government and other local institutions are working hard to ensure Davidson residents have access to state-of-the-art sport and recreation facilities.

Barra Brui Oval Upgrade

A Barra Brui Hockey Centre should soon be a reality due to a $2.25 million NSW Government grant to the Northern Sydney and Beaches Hockey Association. Subject to Council’s community consultation and approval, improvements to Barra Brui Oval will include a synthetic wet-based hockey pitch, fencing, portable netting and goals, sheltered dug-outs, adjustable LED lighting, LED scoreboard and video recording equipment. A new water harvesting system will potentially reduce fresh water use by 80%. Players and fans of other sports including cricket, futsal and football should also benefit from the new infrastructure.

New Community/School Indoor Sports Centre

A proposed new indoor sports centre at St Ives High School has attracted a $3.5 million NSW Government grant to Ku-ring-gai Council. The centre will potentially feature four basketball courts and supporting facilities. Two of the courts are already funded by NSW Education, which is also renovating the school’s technical and applied science facilities.

The new sports centre should be available for use year-round by the school and the community. Sports including basketball, netball, badminton, floor hockey, volleyball and wheelchair sports should benefit from the new facilities. Other activities could include Active Seniors, school holiday programs, art shows and hosting competitions and awards ceremonies to an international level.

Enhancing Eryldene

Landmark historic house and garden, ‘Eryldene’, in McIntosh Street, Gordon has received a $20,000 NSW Heritage Grant. The grant is to undertake conservation plans for the house and garden. Eryldene is internationally known for the many camellias nurtured in the grounds.

Belrose Sports Facilities Update

Contracts have been finalised between TAFE NSW and Northern Beaches Council for parcels of land in Wyatt Avenue, Belrose designated for new sporting facilities (most likely futsal courts) and a new passive recreation area. Sight investigations and design works will be undertaken prior to community consultations early next year. The project is expected to be completed in 2020-21.

New Bike Park

An agreement has also been finalised between the NSW Government and Northern Beaches Council, paving the way for a new mountain bike park on the former Belrose landfill site. Over the past year much of the bulk earthworks and trail alignments have been undertaken in anticipation of the formal agreement. A community stakeholder information session occurred in June, with the bike park expected to open later this year.
Outstanding Local Women Honoured

Kirsten Quinn of Belrose (L) is the Davidson electorate’s 2019 Local Woman of the Year, primarily in recognition of her volunteering with Raise, a charity focused on mentoring junior high school students, and her extensive work for people with a disability.

Laura O’Reilly of Forestville was also honoured for her contribution to the disability sector through her selection as a finalist in the 2019 NSW Premier’s Woman of the Year Award. Inspired by her late brother Shane, who had cerebral palsy, Laura co-founded Fighting Chance, a not-for-profit organisation that supports more than 450 young adults with a disability.

Northern Beaches Councillor Roslyn Harrison was a winner in the 2019 Awards for Women in Local Government. She was honoured in the Elected Representative from a Metropolitan Council category. Minister, Shelley Hancock, presented the award to Councillor Harrison at an official ceremony at NSW Parliament House.

Roseville Station Upgrade

It is fantastic to see progress on upgrading Roseville Station. The new works will include a new footbridge, ramp, two lifts and stairways, accessible pathways, an accessible toilet and an interchange zone. Improvements to CCTV and lighting will increase safety and security. A community information stall was held at the station recently and, pending planning approval, construction will commence next year.

Parliamentary Representation

Since first being elected in 2007, I have addressed the NSW Parliament on your behalf over 815 times. I will continue to strongly represent our local electorate while fulfilling the important parliamentary role of Speaker. To learn more about how I’m representing you, visit: www.jonathanodea.com.au