ITEM 44. TRAFFIC TREATMENT - FOOTPATH IMPROVEMENTS AND BICYCLE PARKING - CROWN STREET SURRY HILLS

TRIM RECORD NO: 2014/379796

### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee endorse widening the footway and installing bicycle parking on eastern side of Crown Street, Surry Hills just south of the intersection of Fitzroy Place.

### **DECISION**

# **BACKGROUND**

The City has received ongoing requests to improve the pedestrian safety and accessibility on eastern side of Crown Street, Surry Hills just south of the intersection of Fitzroy Place i.e. outside Rapha Cycle Club, Sydney at 406-410 Crown Street.

The Rapha Cycle Club attracts a large number of cyclists. The current ad-hoc bike parking arrangements on the footpath outside Rapha obstructs the footpath and affects pedestrian movement. The City therefore proposes to widen the footway and install bicycle parking on improve access for both pedestrians and cyclists on Crown Street near Fitzroy Place.

### **COMMENTS**

The Rapha Cycle Club, Sydney business combines a Cycle Club, shop and café which fronts Crown Street. Rapha hosts weekly club rides on weekends and special event rides which start and finish at Rapha on Crown Street. These rides regularly attract up to 100 cyclists. In addition to this, other cycling groups frequently use Rapha as a start and/or end point for rides. These cycling groups coupled with commuters and café patrons have resulted in a high demand for bicycle parking at 406-410 Crown Street.

The current bicycle parking arrangements on the footpath outside Rapha obstructs the footpath which generates complaints from residents. The existing trees and footpath width prevents standard City of Sydney bike parking U-rails to be installed as they would obstruct loading activities and pedestrian movement.

A request was received from Rapha to provide a dedicated, permanent, bike parking solution. Investigations were undertaken and a proposal was developed to widen the footpath adjacent to Rapha. The proposal will provide a permanent, high capacity bike parking solution for use by residents and businesses in the area and ensure there is clear and safe access for people to walk on the footpath. The footway widening will also improve visibility and slow down traffic near the intersection.

A loading zone (7:30am-6pm, Monday to Friday) is located on the eastern side Crown Street between Fitzroy Place and Fitzroy Street. Once the footway is widened, the remaining space will be retained with a slightly reduced Loading Zone (4 metres). Site inspection show that this Loading Zone is predominately used by small delivery vehicles and the remaining space can still accommodate such vehicles.

The proposed changes would not have any significant impact on traffic in the adjacent traffic lanes.

## CONSULTATION

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. There were 56 letters sent out with four responses opposing the proposal.

The objections were concerned about the loss to part of the existing Loading Zone. However only 4 metres of space will be lost and remaining space (7 metres) will be retained as a Loading Zone. The current two hour parking restriction in the nearby kerb space provides turnover of parking and therefore also provides parking access for short stay delivery vehicles.

The Rapha Cycle Club, Sydney supports the proposal because it would improve pedestrian and cyclist safety and accessibility.

# **FINANCIAL**

Funds are available in the 2014/15 budget as part of the City's Bicycle Improvements Program.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

Traffic Treatment – Footpath Improvements and Bicycle Parking – Crown Street Surry Hills

Joseph Gomes – Area Traffic Engineer

