

**ITEM 36. TRAFFIC TREATMENT – PROPOSED STREET UPGRADE – KINGS
CROSS ROAD POTTS POINT**

TRIM RECORD NO: 2014/264990

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the installation of the following traffic treatments in Kings Cross Road subject to the Roads and Maritime Services approving the updated TCS plan for the proposed changes to the signalised intersection of Kings Cross Road and Darlinghurst Road, Potts Point;

- (A) Widening the footpath on the southern side of Kings Cross Road between Darlinghurst Road and the point 41 metres east of Darlinghurst Road;
- (B) Increased size of the traffic island on the northern side of Kings Cross Road between the points 54 metres and 68 meters east of Darlinghurst Road; and
- (C) A Continuous Footpath Treatment over Pennys Lane.

DECISION

BACKGROUND

In 2012 the Élan Owners Corporation presented a proposal to the City outlining conceptual ideas to provide rain gardens, green walls, formalised indented parking bay to improve passenger vehicle drop-offs and other landscaping ideas to improve the appearance of the building forecourt and in Darlinghurst Road.

COMMENTS

On 29 October 2012 representatives from City met with residents of the Élan Building to discuss their proposals and the various streetscape improvements for Kings Cross Road, Ward Avenue, Craigend Street and Darlinghurst Road.

Residents raised concerns about pedestrian safety and access in Pennys Lane, speeding in Kings Cross Road and Craigend Street as well as the pavement condition of Kings Cross Road.

Traffic surveys showed the 85th percentile speed of vehicles in Kings Cross Road was 41km/h, well below the signposted speed limit of 50km/h. The proposed streetscape works would provide some additional traffic calming for vehicles using the street.

The City is proposing to provide a Continuous Footpath Treatment on Kings Cross Road over Pennys Lane. Traffic surveys in April 2013 showed that the typical number of vehicles using Pennys Lane is less than 39 vehicles per hour. Therefore Pennys Lane meets the criteria in the RMS Technical Direction 2013/05 Continuous Footpath Treatments.

The widening of the footpath in Kings Cross Road at Darlinghurst Road would require modification to the traffic control signals at this intersection. The amended TCS plan was submitted to the RMS in February 2014 and final approval of the plan is expected shortly.

CONSULTATION

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. There were 953 letters sent out. The City received 17 responses supporting the proposal and 86 responses opposing the proposal.

The City received 65 duplicate letters from a Strata Management company replying on behalf of individual unit owners. These objections were submitted on the incorrect proposition that Pennys Lane would be closed to traffic at Kings Cross Road. The City is proposing a Continuous Footpath Treatment at this location, not a road closure. City staff have contacted the Strata Management Company and explained the proposal and they have advised that they no longer object to the proposal.

The remaining objections came from individual residents. Their objections related to the need for more tree planting and the proposal only covering the western end of the street.

Submissions of support for the proposal were based on the project improving the residential amenity of the street and being a positive step towards improving pedestrian safety while reducing speed and traffic noise on Kings Cross Road.

FINANCIAL

Funds are available in the current budget for these works.

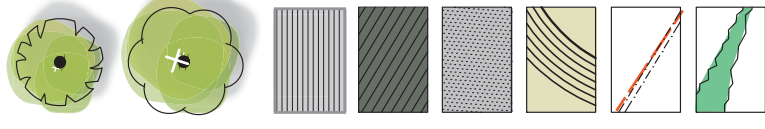
ATTACHMENTS

Traffic Treatment – Proposed Street Upgrade - Kings Cross Road

Rodney King, Senior Traffic Engineer



LEGEND



1. Proposed footpath continuation with granite paving
2. New bike parking area
3. New drinking fountain
4. Re-alignment and narrowing of the road (loss of 2 car park spaces)
5. 2 car park spaces added
6. Simplify drop-off lane & increase the traffic island size
7. New drop-off zone
8. Relocate pedestrian crossing traffic signals
9. Existing phone box to remain
10. Wider footpath with new street trees
11. The road is narrowed to slow traffic

PLAN VIEW
NOT TO SCALE

NOTE : This is a design concept only and subject to change.

KINGS CROSS ROAD, DARLINGHURST

Landscape Upgrade & Road Re-alignment: Design Concept

