

**ITEM 47.           TRAFFIC TREATMENT - PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE –  
PATTERSON LANE SURRY HILLS**

**TRIM RECORD NO:   2015/111062**

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the:

- (A) Permanent road closure of Patterson Lane, Surry Hills between Finders and Bourke Streets; and
- (B) Relocation of the existing two car parking spaces from Patterson Lane with one of these spaces reallocated as “Loading Zone 8am-6pm Mon- Fri” and “1P 6pm-10pm Mon – Fri, 8am- 10pm Sat, Sun and Public Holidays, Permit Holders Excepted, Area 18” to a new kerbside position along Bourke Street adjacent to the closure.

**DECISION**

**BACKGROUND**

On 23 December 2009, Council endorsed purchase of the building at 1-5 Flinders Street, Darlinghurst, for the purpose of creating a first class cycle facility, with ancillary uses integrating with Taylor Square South and the Bourke Street cycleway.

On 17 March 2014, the Council endorsed the project scope for the refurbishment of 1-5 Flinders Street as a Bike and Community Hub, to preserve and activate this heritage building. The work will provide equitable access, with a clear main on-grade entry from Taylor Square South, and low-key flexible spaces to accommodate a bike and community hub and to complete public domain improvements on Taylor Square South, surrounding roads, being Flinders Street, Bourke Street and Patterson Lane.

On 17 March 2014, Council granted consent to commence the process to close Patterson Lane, under Section 34 of the Roads Act 1993, to provide increased pedestrian circulation and to activate the laneway.

**COMMENTS**

The process for the closure of Patterson Lane under Section 34 of the Roads Act 1993, is expected to take over 2 years to complete. Therefore a closure for Patterson Lane under Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993 is required to permit the commencement of project construction works as soon as possible.

Patterson Lane has very low traffic volumes and the transfer of the traffic from Patterson Lane closure to alternative routes in the existing street network would be insignificant and have a negligible impact.

The laneway is approximately 4m wide. The closure of Patterson Lane will create a potential area for laneway activation including safe access of pedestrians and cyclists, bicycle parking and outdoor seating. The lane closure would improve connectivity within the Taylor Square South and Bourke Street Precinct.

There are no existing Loading Zones or service vehicle loading bays located on Patterson Lane. The current width of the lane is too narrow for any service vehicles to access this lane. Therefore the closure will not impact on service vehicle access.

Two parking spaces from Patterson Lane will be relocated to a new kerbside position along Bourke Street adjacent to the closure, resulting in zero net parking loss.

It is also proposed that one of the two relocated parking spaces (along Bourke Street adjacent to the closure) would be allocated as a Loading Zone from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday (to service the new Bike and Community Hub and adjacent properties) with a one-hour permit parking provision after 6pm.

Property access will not be affected by this proposal.

A Traffic Management Plan to permanently close Patterson Lane was approved by the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) on 28 August 2014.

Consultation under Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993 has also been carried out.

## **CONSULTATION**

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. There were 450 letters sent out to surrounding residents and businesses and notices were placed in the SMH, Central and City News. There was one response supporting the proposal and one response opposing the proposal.

The response in support of the proposal encouraged any measures that improved pedestrian and bicycle amenity in the area.

The response opposing the proposal raised concerns that the Patterson Lane closure would further restrict vehicle access and result in the loss of parking.

However, the City believes that the permanent closure of Patterson Lane will improve pedestrian and bicycle access and connectivity within the Taylor Square South and Bourke Street Precinct without impacting on traffic or parking.

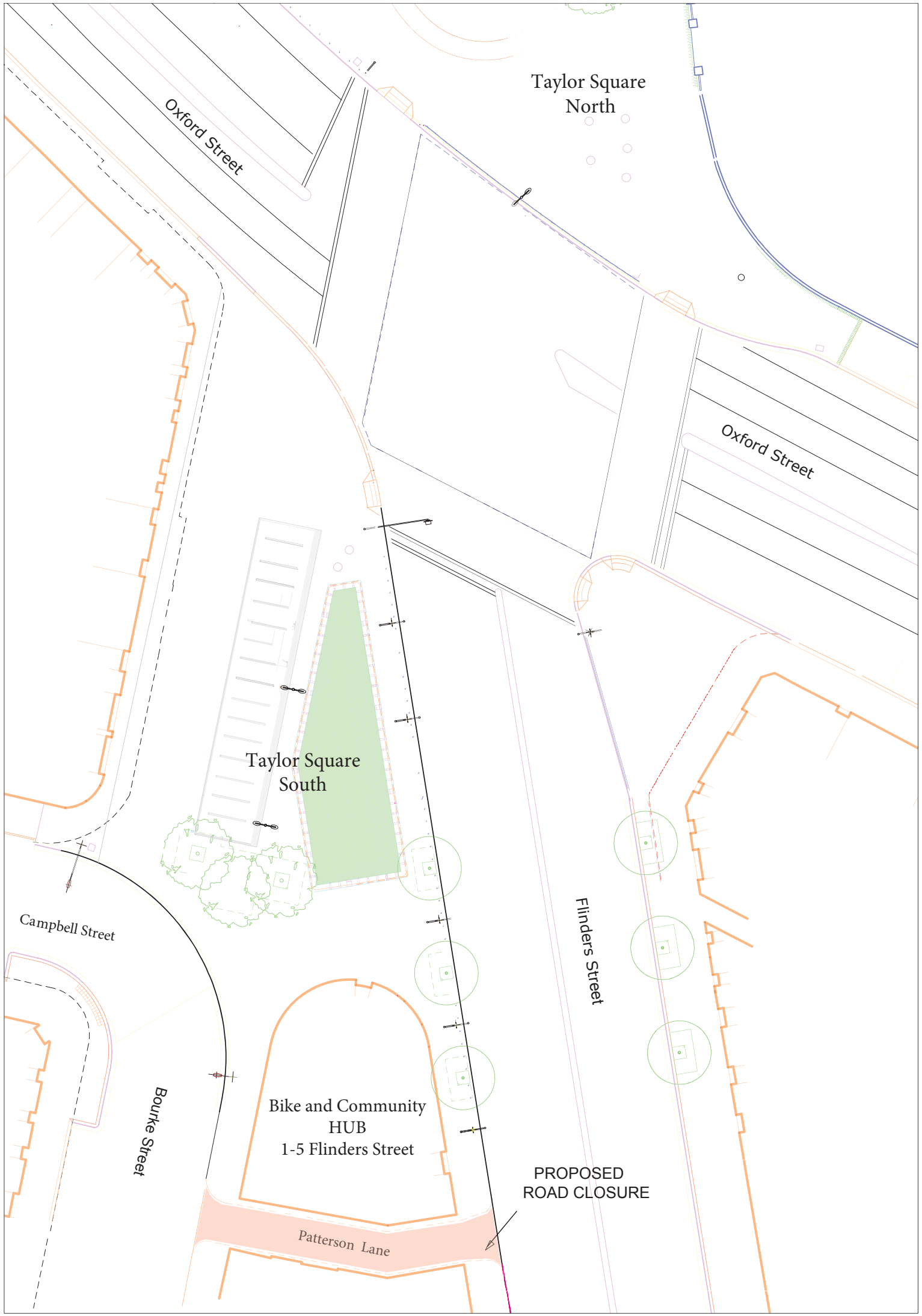
## **FINANCIAL**

Funds were available in the current budget as part of the redevelopment of Bike and Community Hub.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Traffic Treatment – Permanent Road Closure – Patterson Lane Surry Hills

Jasmine Reay, Project Manager



Taylor Square  
North

Oxford Street

Oxford Street

Taylor Square  
South

Campbell Street

Flinders Street

Bourke Street

Bike and Community  
HUB  
1-5 Flinders Street

PROPOSED  
ROAD CLOSURE

Patterson Lane

# PUBLIC DOMAIN AND LANDSCAPE STAGE 1

## 1.4 Public Domain and Landscape Stage 1

Patterson Lane

## DESIGN AIMS

## 1. Refocus the square

- Realign Flinders Street to improve the shape and size of Taylor Square.
- Provide a dynamic edge to Flinders Street that refocuses attention to the square.

## 2. Prioritise pedestrians

- Reduce traffic speeds to improve pedestrian experience.

### 3. Open & articulate

- Establish a relationship between Taylor Square South and Taylor Square North by de-cluttering and opening up views.
- Articulate edge the edge of Flinders Street and square to define the square.

