ITEM 38. TRAFFIC TREATMENT - STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS - COWPER WHARF ROADWAY WOOLLOOMOOLOO

TRIM RECORD NO: 2016/540165

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the following streetscape improvements in Cowper Wharf Roadway, Woolloomooloo;

- (A) In-road tree planting in the central median island between the points 0 metres and 17 metres north of McElhone Street, and between the points 190 metres and 275 metres north of Broughman Street;
- (B) Footpath widening to create an in-lane Bus Stop on the eastern side of Cowper Wharf Roadway, between the points 0 metres and 47 metres, north of Broughman Street;
- (C) Reallocation of parking on the eastern side of Cowper Wharf Roadway between the points 20 metres and 38 metres, north of Broughman Street as "Bus Zone"; and

It is recommended that the Committee note:

(D) The installation of a signalised pedestrian crossing on Cowper Wharf Roadway, six metres north of Brougham Street.

VOTING MEMBERS FOR THIS ITEM

Voting Members	Support	Object
City of Sydney		
Roads and Maritime Services		
NSW Police – Kings Cross LAC		
Representative for the Member for Sydney		

DECISION

BACKGROUND

In 2008, Council adopted the City East Pedestrian Cycling and Traffic Calming (PCTC) Plan which aims to improve access and safety for pedestrians and cyclists. The Plan includes a proposal for cycle provisions along Cowper Wharf Roadway and improved pedestrian accessibility across Cowper Wharf Roadway at Broughman Street.

In 2011, Council adopted the Street Tree Planting Master Plan which aims to increase canopy cover by 50% across the Local Government Area (LGA) as part of the City's Sustainable Sydney 2030 Strategy. The Master Plan includes a proposal to plant trees in Cowper Wharf Roadway.

COMMENTS

Cowper Wharf Roadway is a 50km/h, two-way, Regional Road with two traffic lanes in each direction.

At the 16 December 2015 meeting of the Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee (LPCTCC), a proposal was considered on Cowper Wharf Roadway to widen the existing central median for in-road tree planting and introduce on-road bicycle lanes and a marked pedestrian crossing south of Broughman Street.

To meet Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) warrants for a marked pedestrian crossing, pedestrian and vehicle counts were carried out at this location on 6 November 2015. The results are as follows:

Time	Vehicles (V ≥ 500)	Pedestrians (P ≥ 30)	P x V ≥ 60,000	Complies
AM Peak Hour	951	377	358,527	Yes
Inter-peak	1,069	137	146,453	Yes
PM Peak Hour	1,146	213	244,098	Yes

In order to comply with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) guidelines for a marked pedestrian crossing and provide the on-road bicycle lanes, the proposal would reduce a section of Cowper Wharf Roadway to one lane in each direction.

Although traffic surveys show that there would be no major impact to traffic should this section of Cowper Wharf Roadway be reduced to one lane in each direction, the Committee agreed unanimously to defer the proposal and following a meeting with stakeholders and a trial closure of the kerbside lanes, the proposal was not supported.

Following further stakeholder engagement, the proposal has been amended with in-road tree planting within the current central median, removal of the proposed on-road bicycle lanes and changing the marked pedestrian crossing to a signalised pedestrian crossing north of Broughman Street. Furthermore, the amended proposal will also widen the footpath to create an in-lane Bus Stop on the eastern side of Cowper Wharf Roadway, north of Broughman Street. The amended proposal will maintain two traffic lanes in each direction.

A stakeholder meeting on 12 December 2016 with NSW Police, RMS, Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and Sydney Buses raised no objection to the amended proposal.

CONSULTATION

The original proposal was consulted with local residents and businesses in the area. There were 4,650 letters sent out with six responses supporting the proposal and three responses opposing the proposal.

The responses opposing the proposal raised concerns about tree planting affect views of the harbour and reduced capacity on Cowper Wharf Road.

The responses in support of the proposal supported the improved pedestrian safety measures and visual and environmental improvements.

A stakeholder meeting on 12 December 2016 with NSW Police, RMS, Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and Sydney Buses raised no objection to the amended proposal.

FINANCIAL

Appropriate funding for the proposal will be secured once greater certainty on the construction timeline is reached.

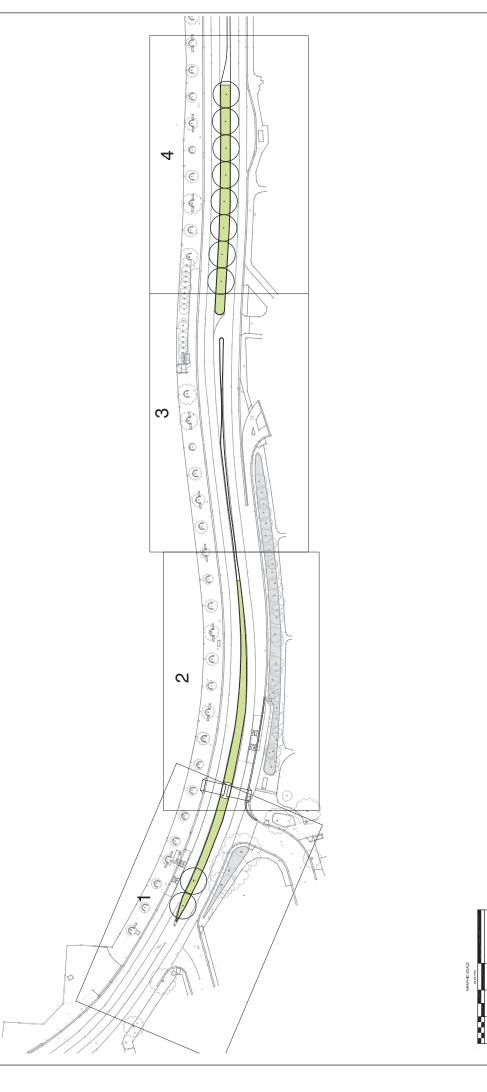
ATTACHMENTS

Traffic Treatment – Streetscape Improvements – Cowper Wharf Roadway Woolloomooloo James Lawton, Project Manager Tree Planting



COWPER WHARF ROAD, WOOLLOOMOOLOO

GREEN STREETS - IN-ROAD TREE PLANTING OPTION C - SIGNALISED CROSSING, PLANTING IN EXISTING MEDIAN





SCALE 1:1000 @ A3

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