ITEM 4. ITEM FOR COMMITTEE INFORMATION – OTHER AUTHORITIES – TRAFFIC TREATMENT – INSTALLATION OF TEMPORARY PEDESTRIAN REFUGE – HICKSON ROAD AT INTERSECTION OF WATERMANS QUAY, BARANGAROO

TRIM RECORD NO: 2017/634744

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee note the installation of a temporary pedestrian refuge in Hickson Road between Watermans Quay and Napoleon Street, Barangaroo. This proposal is for the installation for the first two stages to respond to the changing construction environment, with later stages including a potential semi-permanent arrangement to follow.

VOTING MEMBERS FOR THIS ITEM

Voting Members	Support	Object
Barangaroo Delivery Authority	~	
Roads and Maritime Services	✓	
NSW Police – Sydney City LAC	✓	
Representative for the Member for Sydney	✓	

DECISION

The Committee carried the recommendation unanimously out-of-session on 19 December 2017.

BACKGROUND

Barangaroo is a major urban renewal precinct on the western harbour edge of the Sydney CBD. The southern part of the precinct is currently the workplace of approximately 25,000 people every day as well as both local and international visitors for food and beverage, events, and retail experiences. The Barangaroo Reserve to the north of the precinct is a major destination for visitors and locals, and is generally accessed by foot and public transport.

While the precinct has an operational function, there are still a number of significant construction activities occurring, including the upgrade of Hickson Road between the Sussex Hotel (opposite Shelley Street) and Watermans Quay, and the Hickson Road remediation works immediately north of Watermans Quay. These construction activities have resulted in a dynamic pedestrian environment where changes to infrastructure on a temporary basis has affected pedestrian desire lines and behaviour.

COMMENTS

Road Safety

The Barangaroo Delivery Authority (BDA) and Lendlease have identified ongoing issues with poor pedestrian crossing behaviour from Watermans Quay in a northeast direction towards the eastern kerb of Hickson Road. These have worsened since all three commercial towers have been substantially occupied in early 2017.

People are generally crossing in this location to travel from Barangaroo South towards the Barangaroo Reserve. People are crossing at this location to circumvent the need to walk back to the signalised pedestrian crossing at Hickson/Napoleon by providing a more direct route.

A number of interventions, both infrastructure and educational, have been implemented by the Barangaroo Delivery Authority in collaboration with Lendlease in an attempt to influence and correct pedestrian behaviour with limited success. BDA and Lendlease jointly employed a company to carry out pedestrian management activities in the short term while a solution was identified.

The placement of these traffic controllers at key decision points has been the only successful intervention to advise people where to cross and installing a physical barrier on the eastern kerbside. However, this is not a sustainable option from a financial or amenity perspective as the traffic controllers need to be in place for 12 hours per day over seven days, and the barrier will not remain on a permanent basis.

Given the level of construction traffic that will be required to head north of this location in the near future, it is important to protect the lane capacity both north and southbound, and therefore a pedestrian crossing cannot be implemented as kerb blisters would need to be installed.

In the interim, it is proposed that a temporary pedestrian refuge be put in place to enable people to safely cross but still allow flexibility in the construction environment of the road.

Lendlease in collaboration with BDA have developed designs for installation of a temporary pedestrian refuge that responds to construction from December 2017 until May 2018. Works after this date will seek separate approvals. These designs can be found at **Attachment A** and **Attachment B**.

A road safety audit on the designs and a lighting study are both in the process of being commissioned and are expected to be completed before 22 December 2017. All relevant approvals will be in place prior to works starting.

The ultimate configuration for the intersection of Watermans Quay and Hickson Road will be a signalised intersection, but this is a number of years from being realised.

CONSULTATION

Barangaroo Delivery Authority (BDA) has initially consulted the City of Sydney and the Sydney Coordination Office on this proposal earlier in 2017.

Through Lendlease, the owners, retailers and tenants of the three commercial towers at Barangaroo South have been consulted and have expressed a strong desire to see a more resolution of this issue.

The BDA as the precinct managers have a strong desire to see a crossing facility implemented to respond to pedestrian desire lines in a safe manner.

FINANCIAL

Funding is available in line in budget.

Item for Committee Information – Other Authorities – Traffic Treatment – Installation of Temporary Pedestrian Refuge – Hickson Road at Intersection of Watermans Quay Barangaroo

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