

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: S118107 **DATE:** 7 December 2018

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Amit Chanan, Director City Projects and Property

THROUGH: Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 6.3 – Contract Variation - Lawson Street and Lawson Square - Head Consultant

For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

Purpose

The objective of this memorandum is provide a copy of the petition opposing Lawson Street footpath works, submitted 11 November 2015, and provide further clarification on the tree removal scope for the project.

Background

Public exhibition of the design plans for the Lawson Street improvements was conducted over two weeks between 26 October and 11 November 2015.

Consultation included letters sent to 580 local residents and businesses informing them of the project and submission details. The project was viewed by 545 individual users on sydneyyoursay.com.au and the plans were downloaded 399 times. The concept design was also displayed at the One Stop Shop in Town Hall House and Redfern Neighbourhood Service Centre.

The project had two distinct parts - footpath improvement works and a separated cycleway. Overall 69 submissions were received.

A large number of submissions were generally supportive of both the footpath and cycleway works with several suggestions being made to improve the designs.

A petition was also received, signed by residents from surrounding streets, opposing the Lawson Street footpath works. The primary objection was the impact it had on street parking.

The City's response to this issue was, whilst there was a loss of three residential parking spaces on the southern side of the street (23 retained), on balance, the proposal for Lawson Street caters for the huge amount of pedestrians on this narrow footpath, whilst also maintaining a good tree canopy cover and the majority of parking.

This was noted in the scoping report and endorsed by Council in December 2015.

It should also be noted that the name and address of a resident included in the petition was used without their knowledge and incorrectly included in the petition. They requested not to be further consulted on the project.

A Tree Management Plan, noted in the scoping report and endorsed by Council in December 2015, called for the removal of all trees along the southern footpath of Lawson Street between Ivy Lane and Little Eveleigh Street. This will improve the amenity and safety of the footpath, providing more width with new trees located in the parking lane.

Fourteen trees, deemed of low value by the arborist, will be removed as part of the upcoming works and seven new native street trees will be planted in the southern parking lane. The species will be Spotted Gums (*Corymbia maculata*) in accordance with the City's Street Tree Masterplan.

As further described in the scoping report, five trees of higher value will be retained in the footpath during the first year to ensure street tree canopy cover and screening between residential properties, whilst the new street trees mature.

Memo from Amit Chanan, Director City Projects and Property

Prepared by: Damon La'Rance, Delivery Manager

Attachments

Attachment A. Petition Opposing Lawson Street Footpath Works Submitted 11 November 2015 (Confidential)

Approved



MONICA BARONE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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