

Advice of Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee

16 February 2023

Item 36

Traffic Treatment - Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets - LGA wide

X022515

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the installation of signposting for contra-flow bicycle access in 158 one-way streets across the City of Sydney Local Government Area, as shown in the attached map and list.

Voting Members for this Item

| Voting Members | Support | Object |
|--|---------|--------|
| City of Sydney | ✓ | |
| Transport for NSW | ✓ | |
| NSW Police – Sydney City PAC, South Sydney PAC, Kings Cross PAC, Surry Hills PAC, Leichhardt PAC, Inner West PAC | ✓ | |
| Representative for the Member for Sydney, Newtown, Heffron, Balmain | ✓ | |

Advice

The Committee unanimously supported the recommendation and noted the request from Transport to delay the implementation of the contra-flow bicycle access on Reiby Place due to the construction activities in the area. City staff will monitor the usage of the contra-flow bicycle arrangement at Jarocin Avenue, Glebe as well as streets that intersect with State Roads or at signalised intersections.

Background

The City is committed to encouraging people to ride bicycles more often and safely. We are improving the safety and amenity of cycling infrastructure by making bicycle riding a real and convenient option for short local trips.

The Transport for NSW Technical Direction on Signposting for contra-flow bicycle facilities (TTD 2014/002) describes these facilities as “a cost-effective treatment that enhances the cycling experience by improving the permeability of neighbourhoods and by reducing bicycle trip lengths”. Such facilities can often improve the safety of people riding by enabling them to avoid busy roads or dangerous intersections.

The Technical Direction followed a 2013 RMS study into the safety of contra-flow bicycle facilities.

The Technical Direction recommends, “councils may want to assess their existing one-way streets for suitability for contra-flow bicycle facilities”.

The Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 8 (7.5.3) suggests one-way streets can increase opportunities for dedicated facilities for bicycle riders and may improve bicycle safety. It recommends the use of contra-flow bicycle lanes, which permit two-way bicycle movements on roads that are one-way for other vehicles.

Action 1.4 of the City’s Cycling Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030 is “Improve safety and access throughout our area, including new contra-flow provisions”.

Transport for NSW were consulted in May 2021 and supported the proposed treatment and streets listed, subject to community consultation and reporting to the LPCTCC.

The full list of 158 one-way streets is attached to this report, in list and map format. This project will improve safety and access between homes and the bike network.

