

## Resolution of Council

**13 March 2023**

### Item 11.3

#### **Safer Streets around Childcare Centres**

Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that

(A) Council note:

- (i) on average, one child a week is killed or seriously injured on the roads in NSW;
- (ii) in August 2019, 40km/h speed zones in the Sydney CBD were expanded to include additional areas around Ultimo, Barangaroo, Dawes Point, Millers Point to improve safety for pedestrians and bicycle riders and has resulted in a steep reduction in the number of crashes in Sydney CBD;
- (iii) in June 2021, the previous Minister for Transport, Andrew Constance, made a commitment to the Lord Mayor that all local and regional roads and the majority of state roads in our Local Government Area would have a maximum speed limit of 40km/h by the end of that year supported by clear road markings;
- (iv) in many locations where there is now a 40km/h speed limit, Transport for NSW (TfNSW) has not yet installed large roundel signage or other road markings to make this more visible to motorists;
- (v) currently 75 per cent of all roads in the City of Sydney Local Government Area have a speed limit of 40km/h or lower, and Transport for NSW provided the City with a program for approval and installation of the remaining 40km/h speed limits by June 2022 which has been delayed by Transport for NSW indefinitely;
- (vi) towards the end of last year, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Minister for Metropolitan Roads calling for Transport for NSW to work with the City to convert the remaining roads in the City to 40km/h without further delay;

- (vii) there are 143 registered childcare centres in the City of Sydney local government area; 117 of which are in a 40km/h speed zone and 26 which are in a 50km/h or higher speed zone;
  - (viii) that the NSW Government has road safety requirements and considerations in place for primary schools across NSW, including 40 km/h school zones established on a section of one or more roads adjacent to a school with a part-time speed limit;
  - (ix) however, there are no similar legislative requirements for traffic calming or speed reduction around childcare centres;
  - (x) where childcare centres are attached to primary schools, school speeding zone rules generally lapse before childcare drop-off and pick-up times;
  - (xi) City staff are in regular contact with childcare centres to advocate for safe pedestrian behaviours, particularly focused on young children around cars, and where possible, have implemented P15 drop-off and pick-up areas as well as *Children may be crossing ahead* signage;
  - (xii) that Mitchell Street, Glebe, which is currently 50km/h, is of particular concern for residents, being a residential area with a childcare centre, Glebe Street Playground and MJ Doherty Reserve;
  - (xiii) in December 2021, a three-year-old boy was tragically killed after being hit by a car on Glebe Street near the intersection at Mitchell Street;
  - (xiv) the installation of two new raised pedestrian crossings at the intersection of Mitchell Street and Glebe Street is programmed in the City's 2024/25 capital works program, which will reduce vehicle speeds and improve safety and connectivity for people walking; and
  - (xv) according to Transport for NSW, in a crash between a car and a pedestrian, there is a 10 per cent risk that a pedestrian will be killed at 30 km/h, 40 per cent risk at 40 km/h, and a 90 per cent risk at 50 km/h;
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the NSW Premier and the Leader of the Opposition:
- (i) restating the urgency and necessity of implementing 40km/h speed limits on all streets in the City of Sydney Local Government Area, with consideration to 30km/h in our villages, to support safety for people walking and cycling; and
  - (ii) requesting the implementation of legislative requirements for traffic calming or speed reduction around childcare centres similar to what currently exists for schools; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
- (i) write to the Secretary of Transport for NSW to get a status update on commitments made by the previous Minister for Transport to reduce the speed limit to 40km/h on all local and most state roads in the City of Sydney Local Government Area to be supported by clear road markings;

- (ii) develop a plan in consultation with the community that identifies priority locations for installing traffic calming treatments with a focus on areas with high levels of walking with children including Mitchell Street in Glebe;
- (iii) noting the investigations already completed for Mitchell Street Glebe, prioritise traffic calming measures for Mitchell Street Glebe that can be implemented in the short term; and
- (iv) investigate whether the proposed raised pedestrian crossings design and implementation work for Mitchell Street Glebe can be completed earlier than the current proposed date of 2024/2025.

The motion was carried unanimously.

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