

Item 27.**Traffic Treatment - One-Way Traffic Direction Reversal - Adelaide Place, Surry Hills****TRIM Container No.:** X125413.012**Recommendations**

- (A) It is recommended that the Forum review the change of One-Way Traffic Direction in Adelaide Place, Surry Hills, between Devonshire Street and Adelaide Street from one-way northbound to one-way southbound.
- (B) It is recommended that the Forum note that the proposal to reopen Holt Street at Devonshire Street to traffic will not proceed, as feedback received during community consultation indicated that objections to the proposal significantly outweighed support.

Forum Members for this Item

City of Sydney
Transport for NSW
NSW Police – Surry Hills PAC
Representative for the Member for Sydney

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

The CBD and South East Light Rail project implemented by Transport for NSW included the closure of Holt Street and Waterloo Street at their intersections with Devonshire Street.

Following the introduction of these closures in 2019, residents reported an increase in car and truck movements on the narrow Steel Street and Adelaide Place, as well as broader concerns about traffic in the area.

During consultation on the Surry Hills to Central Quietway project (the Quietway), residents expressed concerns that the proposed conversion of Cooper Street to one-way operation could further increase traffic impacts on surrounding local streets.

In response to the community concerns, Council endorsed, subject to community consultation, proposals to:

- (a) re-open Holt Street at Devonshire Street to northbound vehicle traffic as a shared zone; and
- (b) change Adelaide Place between Devonshire Street and Adelaide Street from one-way northbound to one-way southbound.

Comments

Traffic counts

Traffic volume surveys were conducted over seven days, for 24 hours, from Saturday 13 September to Friday 19 September 2025 (inclusive). Vehicle volume data was obtained for Adelaide Place, Adelaide Street and Steel Street. Peak vehicle volumes, travelling northbound through Adelaide Place during the survey, are displayed in the table below.

Day	AM Peak		PM Peak	
Vehicle type	Light	Heavy	Light	Heavy
Saturday (13 September 2025)	23	0	18	0
Sunday (14 September 2025)	15	0	11	0
Monday (15 September 2025)	18	1	17	0
Tuesday (16 September 2025)	24	0	20	1
Wednesday (17 September 2025)	33	0	22	0
Thursday (18 September 2025)	28	0	16	0
Friday (19 September 2025)	20	0	15	0

The peak observed vehicle volumes occurred on a Wednesday (17 September 2025) between 8:30-9:30am, consisting of 33 light vehicles.

Adelaide Place is a narrow local one-way northbound road with no traffic calming measures. The frontage of homes and driveways are located directly on the road which results in the risk of unintended conflict between residents and vehicles while residents leave their homes. The likelihood of a conflict between residents and vehicles is likely to be lowered due to a reduction in vehicle traffic with the change of direction of the one-way.

Consultation

The City consulted residents and businesses in the area from 21 May to 19 June 2026. Consultation activities included:

- Sydney Your Say webpage: This page included an electronic copy of the concept design, a survey, and other key information about the consultation.
- Online feedback: Feedback was collected online, with 208 survey responses received via Survey Monkey and email.

- Community pop-up feedback sessions: One session were held on Friday 19 June 2026 at the corner of Holt and Devonshire Street. Approximately 35 people attended.
- Signage: 10 notice boards were installed inviting people to give feedback on the proposal.
- Consultation letter: A letter was posted to residents, inviting them to give feedback on the proposal. 4306 letters were distributed.
- Sydney Your Say e-news: The consultation was included in the Sydney Your Say June 2026 e-newsletters (3617 subscribers).

Below is a break-down of the engagement outcomes during the consultation period:

- There were 867 visits to the 'Sydney Your Say' page during the consultation period.
- 208 Total submissions received
- 57 people responded to the online survey
- 151 email submissions were received
- 168 people downloaded the concept design plans
- 35 People attended community workshops
- 1 Community information sessions held

Key findings

Feedback on the proposed changes to Adelaide Place was generally supportive. Sixteen submissions (48%) supported the change, while eight submissions (24%) opposed it. Nine submissions (28%) were neutral and provided alternative design suggestions.

Most submissions opposed the reopening of Holt Street, with 185 submissions (89%) expressing opposition. A further 18 submissions (9%) supported the reopening of Holt Street. Five submissions (2%) were neutral and provided alternative design suggestions.

It is recommended that the Holt Street proposal does not proceed, as community consultation feedback indicated that objections substantially outweighed support for the proposal.

The full engagement report outlining the consultation activities is included as Attachment B.

Financial

There is sufficient funding for the proposal with the project budget.

DAVID BAKER, DESIGN MANAGER