

## **Cancellation of Tender - Crowded Places Protection George and Alfred Street Pedestrian Zones**

**File No:** X014280.002

**Tender No:** 1913

### **Summary**

In late 2018, the City went to the market with a publicly advertised Expression of Interest seeking a design-led consultancy team to provide expert advice on a design-led solution for the management of the pedestrianised areas of the light rail corridor as a 'Crowded Place'. The Expression of Interest was followed by a select tender process. Five teams were invited to take part in a select tender which included the provision of a concept design.

Circumstances and events, including the timing of the operation of the Light Rail project have superseded the requirement for the tender since the City went to market. The City is implementing an in-house design solution for the protection of people and businesses within the George Street and Alfred Street pedestrianised zones.

The imminent operation of the Light Rail and the City's implementation of crowded places protection measures along the pedestrianised areas of the Light Rail corridor to ensure safety mean that the tender is no longer required.

The City's in-house design solution and implementation of crowded places protection will contribute to the transformation of George Street and enhance pedestrian areas as iconic public spaces while ensuring safety and security.

Given the timing of the operation of the Light Rail project, the City's in-house design solution for the protection of people and buildings within the George Street and Alfred Street pedestrianised zones is currently being implemented.

This report recommends that Council decline to accept any of the tenders received as part of the select tender process, cancel the select tender, and note that a review of the in-house design solution currently being implemented in George Street will be undertaken in 12 months.

## **Recommendation**

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) decline to accept any of the tenders received for the select tender for Crowded Places Protection – George and Alfred Streets;
- (B) cancel the select tender for Crowded Places Protection – George and Alfred Streets;  
and
- (C) note that a review of the in-house design solution currently being implemented in George Street will be undertaken in 12 months.

## **Attachments**

Nil.

## Background

1. In 2017, the Australian government prepared a strategy for Protecting Crowded Places from Terrorism. The objective of the strategy is "to protect the lives of people working in, using, and visiting crowded places by making these places more resilient".
2. The City decided to seek a design-led solution for the integration of protective measures into the public domain for the George Street and Alfred Street pedestrianised zones to meet the objectives of the government's strategy noted above.
3. A two-stage process involving an open Expression of Interest followed by a select tender to procure a Head Design Consultant to provide the design-led solution was undertaken.
4. Circumstances and events, including the timing of the operation of the Light Rail project have superseded the requirement for the tender since the City went to market. The City is implementing an in-house design solution for the protection of people and businesses within the George Street and Alfred Street pedestrianised zones.
5. The imminent operation of the Light Rail and the City's implementation of crowded places protection measures along the pedestrianised areas of the Light Rail corridor to ensure safety mean that the select tender is no longer required.
6. The City's design solution and implementation of crowded places protection will contribute to the transformation of George Street and enhance pedestrian areas as iconic public spaces while ensuring safety and security.
7. Given the timing of the operation of the Light Rail project, the City's in-house design solution for the protection of people and buildings within the George Street and Alfred Street pedestrianised zones is currently being implemented.
8. A review of the in-house design solution currently being implemented in George Street will be undertaken in 12 months.

## Invitation to Tender

9. An Expression of Interest was advertised on the City's Tenderlink portal and in The Sydney Morning Herald and Daily Telegraph on 20 November 2018 and closed on 29 January 2019. Advertisements were also placed in the industry newsletters of the Australian Institute of Architects and the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects.
10. Following the Expression of Interest, five teams were invited to participate in a select tender. The select tender was advertised 20 February 2019 and closed on 30 April 2019.

**Tender Submissions**

11. Thirteen submissions were received in response to the Expression of Interest and assessed on their capability and approach. Five teams were shortlisted and invited to partake in a select tender.
12. As part of the select tender process, teams were required to submit a concept design proposal demonstrating their approach with a site specific response.
13. Submissions were received from five organisations.
14. Given that circumstances and events, including the timing of the operation of the Light Rail project have superseded the requirement for the tender since the City went to market, this report recommends that the select tender process be cancelled.

**Financial Implications**

15. There are sufficient funds available within the Crowded Places Protection Project to design and implement measures for George and Alfred Streets.

**Relevant Legislation**

16. The tender has been conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW).

**KIM WOODBURY**

Chief Operating Officer

Marcia Aqui, Senior Project Manager - City Transformation