

Attachment A

**Public Exhibition - Revised Operational
Plan 2019/20**

Submissions and Responses

ISSUE 1

SUBMISSION RELATING TO NOISE IN PARKS

Issue

Noise associated with parks maintenance.

Background

A submission was received during the exhibition period from a member of the public regarding noise arising from the use of mechanical devices by the City undertaking maintenance at Bicentennial and Jubilee Parks.

The submitter made several requests: introducing a directive for City truck and plant operators to turn engines off when not in use; introducing a term of contract to City contractors, Skyline, to turn engines off when not in use; and to transition to electrical powered blowers and whipper snippers.

Response

The City's parks contractor, Skyline, use a combination of electric and petrol equipment.

One third of Skyline's maintenance teams use battery powered equipment. Petrol powered equipment is still required as they are more powerful and efficient than battery powered equipment.

Unless operating the garbage compactor, Skyline staff are not permitted to have a vehicle idling, which is monitored using a fleet tracking system. City staff will work closely with Skyline to ensure vehicles are not idling.

Recommendation

That the submission is noted with no change to the document as exhibited.

ISSUE 2

SUBMISSION RELATING TO PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ACCESS

Issue

Pedestrian areas and bike access in the city.

Background

A submission was received during the exhibition period from a member of the public regarding pedestrian areas and bike access in the city. The submitter requested the City increase pedestrian areas and bike access in the city.

Response

The City of Sydney is committed to making bicycle transport easier and safer, so it's an attractive option for more people.

The City is building a safe bike network connecting people and destinations. Our network features separated cycleways, shared paths, bike lanes and light traffic streets.

We have constructed separated cycleways along high priority regional routes this financial year along Epsom Road, Wilson Street, and Burren Street.

The NSW Government funded projects under construction this year are Saunders and Miller Streets, Liverpool Street western link, Chalmers Street link and Lawson Street. We have improved bicycle safety, access and amenity through small scale infrastructure changes and improved on-street facilities throughout the local government area. This includes two raised priority crossings for people walking and riding in Alexandria and Forest Lodge. Construction of another two capital works projects will commence this financial year. These projects will provide significant safety and access improvements to riders on key cycle routes.

In terms of walking across the city, we continue to work with the NSW Government to decrease waiting time and journey time for people on priority routes in the city centre, and Liveable Green Network routes throughout the Local Government Area.

The City continues to work with Transport for NSW and the Sydney Coordination office on pedestrian priority in the city centre including the installation of new countdown timers. The City has made a submission to Infrastructure Australia requesting the economic impact of pedestrian delay be acknowledged as a national economic priority for investment.

Recommendation

That the submission is noted with no change to the document as exhibited.

ISSUE 3

SUBMISSION RELATING TO BUDGET

Issue

The 2019/20 budget assumptions and results.

Background

A submission was received during the exhibition period from a member of the public regarding the underlying assumptions in the revised 2019/20 budget and the future year estimates.

Response

A Lord Mayoral Minute was presented to Council with the intent of outlining a series of measures Council would undertake to help address the Coronavirus Pandemic's impact on the Local Government Area. The anticipated financial effect of the pandemic was forecast as a reduction in the Operating Result of \$35 million for 2019/20, reflecting anticipated revenue losses and additional expenditure initiatives.

The situation is rapidly evolving and there is difficulty in estimating the specific reduction to individual council activities and revenue sources. An increase of \$35 million to the CEO's Operational Contingency was recommended in order that the funding could subsequently be allocated to operating units as the impact is quantified. This mechanism provides a quick response to a fast-changing, unprecedented set of circumstances. The Revised Operational Plan captures these immediate changes in light of a dynamic situation.

The draft Revised Operational Plan for 2019/20 is an addendum to the previously adopted 2019/20 Operational Plan.

Each year a new Operational Plan is developed at a detailed level after careful consideration.

The Draft Operational Plan for 2020/21 will consider the impact of the pandemic based upon the best information available at the time of writing. It will however, also note that there is a high probability that further adjustments to the budget and spending priorities are likely to be required as events unfold.

The draft 2020/21 Operational Plan will be submitted to Council for endorsement for public exhibition in May 2020.

Recommendation

That the submission is noted with no change to the document as exhibited.