

Item 43.**Traffic Treatment - Permanent Road Closure - Morehead Street at James Street, Redfern****TRIM Container No.: 2020/093562****Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the permanent road closure of Morehead Street, Redfern at James Street.

Voting Members for this Item

Voting Members	Support	Object
City of Sydney	[Insert]	[Insert]
Transport for NSW	[Insert]	[Insert]
NSW Police – South Sydney PAC	[Insert]	[Insert]
Representative for the Member for Newtown	[Insert]	[Insert]

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

In August 2019, residents of Morehead Street, Redfern submitted a petition asking the City to consider greening and traffic-calming in Morehead Street between Cooper and James Street.

Comments

The petition was tabled at Council's meeting on 19 August 2019.

Council resolved that the Chief Executive Officer request City staff to investigate suggested traffic measures and where possible, trial a Liveable Slow Street proposal through a range of temporary design measures and signs to prevent through traffic from Morehead Street onto James Street.

In November 2019, City began discussions with Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) for a Liveable Slow Streets trial. TfNSW did not support a trial but supported a permanent road closure in Morehead Street at James Street.

A road closure in Morehead Street will improve safety by reducing the use of the street by non-local traffic; reduce traffic speeds, allowing additional landscaping, and extra space for pedestrian activity. The closure will also include the provision of kerbside traffic islands to provide an area to facilitate vehicles turning at the new closure.

The proposal will result in the loss of four car parking spaces in Morehead Street.

Consultation

The City has advertised the proposed road closure in Morehead Street at James Street, Redfern, in accordance with Section 116 of the Roads Act, 1993 for a minimum 28 days' notice (Wednesday 8 April 2020 to Friday 8 May 2020).

A Public Notice was placed in the Sydney Morning Herald, letterbox drop was undertaken in the area surrounding Morehead Street and information placed on the City's Website.

There were 236 letters sent out and the City received a total of 28 responses; 21 responses were in support of the proposal, five responses were opposed to the proposal and two responses did not relate specifically to the proposed road closure Morehead Street.

Responses supporting the proposal noted that the proposal will improve pedestrian safety and improve the residential amenity in the street. Submissions opposing the proposal were concerned that there will be loss of on-street parking spaces, the routes available to access garages will be limited and people will be loitering in the landscape area.

As the closure will occupy only the existing statutory "No Stopping" area near the corner of James Street, no legal parking spaces are effected. However, approximately four car spaces will be lost to facilitate vehicles turning around at the closure. In regards to access to garages, there are alternative routes available via Walker and Young Streets to access garages in Little Young Street for the residents of Morehead Street.

Given the community support, minimised loss of parking and that the alternate prohibit vehicle access is available, it is recommended to proceed with the proposal.

Financial

Appropriate funding for the proposal will be secured once greater certainty on the construction timeline is reached.

HASSAN CHOUDHRY, A/SENIOR TRAFFIC ENGINEER