

Item 26.**Traffic Treatment - Shared Path - Rothschild Avenue, Rosebery**

TRIM Container No.: 2021/235762

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the installation of a Shared Path on the eastern side of Rothschild Avenue, Rosebery between Epsom Road and Crewe Place.

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 Heffron	[Insert]	[Insert]

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

The City is committed to encouraging people to ride bicycles more often and safely. The City is improving the safety and amenity of cycling infrastructure by making bicycle riding a real and convenient option for short local trips.

A Shared Path is proposed on Rothschild Avenue to improve rider safety by providing an off-road alternative to Rothschild Avenue for 370 metres to Crewe Place.

From that point onwards, Crewe Place and Primrose Avenue offer a quiet street alternative to Rothchild Avenue to continue south to the bicycle crossing at Gardeners Road to reach the Bayside Council bike network.

Comments

Bicycle riding is supported as a low cost, environmentally friendly mode of transport that can help to improve the liveability of our towns and cities. A Shared Path is proposed to improve safety by providing an off-road alternative for people riding along Rothschild Avenue which serves as a bus route.

According to Transport for NSW Centre for Road Safety, the recommended minimum shared path width is 2.5 metres, which is based on Austroads guidelines. The path of Rothschild Avenue between Epsom Road and Stedman Street is 3.2 metres wide, while between Stedman Street and Crewe Place the path is 4.4 metres wide.

According to Transport for NSW Centre for Road Safety research findings published in August 2015, Shared Paths represent a relatively low safety risk.

Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area with 1,437 letters sent out requesting feedback on the proposal. The design and details of the proposal were available on the Sydney Your Say website with feedback able to be provided between 31 May 2021 and 15 June 2021 via an online form and survey.

A total of 37 formal submissions were received with 11 responses supporting the proposal, eight responses with partial support and 18 opposing. The 18 submissions opposing the proposal cited concerns about the interaction of people walking and riding on the path.

Of the submissions received, 14 expressed a preference for separate paths for people walking and riding along Rothschild Avenue, while six submissions acknowledged that people riding currently use the paths.

As detailed in the table below, the City ensures that locations for proposed shared paths are safe and appropriate and supports good behaviour through monitoring, education and behaviour change programs.

Response	Frequency	City of Sydney response
Support	11	Noted.

Child safety/ Pedestrian safety	17	Shared paths are implemented to provide a safe, reduced speed connection for people walking and riding. People who do not feel confident riding on the road can choose to use a shared path but must give way to people walking and are advised to not exceed 10km/h. The City only installs shared path where the space is wide enough, such as this section of Rothschild Avenue. If endorsed the shared path will be installed with appropriate line marking and signage. In addition to this City staff will run on-site education sessions and monitoring. The City has installed a number of shared paths near schools and early childhood education providers including: - Bourke Street Public School, Surry Hills - Little Zak's Academy - Wattle Street, Ultimo - Alexandria Park Community School – Buckland Street, Alexandria.
Build a separated cycleway instead	7	The City's preference is to build separated cycleways where possible however there is currently insufficient space for a dedicated cycleway while maintaining space for people walking and road space to maintain current vehicle and bus access. In this location at this time, a shared path is a good option to provide options for more modes of transport.
Don't remove parking	2	This project does not propose to change any parking.
Shared Paths need proper signage and line marking	1	If approved the shared path will be installed with the required regulatory signage and supplementary pavement markings.
Create a crossing on Epsom Road at Dunning Avenue	1	The City's Traffic Operations team are developing a new crossing of Epsom Road at Dunning Avenue
The path is currently too busy for extra forms of transport	1	The City only installs shared path where there is sufficient space, such as this section of Rothschild Avenue. The wider footpath allows for more safe options even on busier paths.

This table including the City's response and commitment to a safe connection has been shared with respondents prior to LPCTCC.

Pavement markings will be installed along the shared path to encourage riders to travel slowly and to reinforce pedestrian priority.

Financial

Funds for the project are available in the Cycling Safety Program.

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