

Traffic Treatment - Proposed Permanent Partial Road Closure - Spring Street, Sydney

File No: S122295.005

Summary

This report recommends that Council approve the permanent closure of Spring Street for traffic entering from Pitt Street, as part of the Pitt Street North Walking and Cycling Improvements project.

Spring Street is currently operating under the recommended arrangements as a result of the pop-up cycleway in Pitt Street. Spring Street was previously open to traffic under left in and left out arrangements.

To improve cyclist and pedestrian access and safety at the intersection of Pitt and Spring Streets, it is proposed to permanently close access into Spring Street for traffic entering from Pitt Street. Vehicles will however still be able to exit Spring Street on to Pitt Street.

The Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee (LPCTCC) endorsed the proposal in its meeting on 19 August 2021.

In compliance with Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993, the City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. The closure was included in consultation on the broader Pitt Street North cycleway. There were 2,920 letters sent out and advertisement on the Sydney Your Say website and in the Sydney Cycleways newsletter. The Sydney Your Say page was created and visited 501 times during the consultation period. The plan was downloaded 257 times. There were no concerns raised over the Spring Street proposal.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council approve the permanent closure of Spring Street for traffic entering from Pitt Street, as part of the Pitt Street North Walking and Cycling Improvements project.

Attachments

Attachment A. Location Plan and Proposal

Background

1. In May 2021, Council approved the concept design and estimated costs of the Pitt Street North Walking and Cycling Improvements project, which includes the closure of Spring Street to incoming traffic from Pitt Street.
2. The proposal is to improve safety pedestrian, cycling and vehicle safety between Bond Street and Spring Street.
3. The proposal was endorsed by the Local Pedestrian Cycling Traffic Calming Committee (LPCTCC) on 19 August 2021.

Key Implications

Strategic Alignment - Sustainable Sydney 2030

4. Sustainable Sydney 2030 is a vision for the sustainable development of the City to 2030 and beyond. It includes 10 strategic directions to guide the future of the City, as well as 10 targets against which to measure progress. This report is aligned with the following strategic directions and objectives:
 - (a) Direction 4 - A City for Walking and Cycling - the proposal will considerably improve pedestrian safety and accessibility, particularly in an area of high demand, and is consistent with the aspirations of City's Walking Strategy.

Financial Implications

5. All costs associated with the proposal will be funded from budget allocations from the Pitt Street North Cycleway Project.

Relevant Legislation

6. Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) is responsible for the control of traffic on all NSW roads and has delegated to Council certain functions to regulate traffic on local roads.
7. The delegation gives Council authority to approve certain traffic controls, including partial road closure, under Part 8, Division 2 of the Roads Act 1993. This delegation can only be exercised by the elected Council and is subject to a number of conditions and limitations, including the need to obtain the advice of the Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee and receive 'in-principal' approval from Transport for New South Wales.
8. This report seeks to formalise the permanent closure of entry traffic lane of Spring Street at Pitt Street, in accordance with Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993.

Public Consultation

9. In compliance with Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993, the road closure was included in the City's consultation with local residents and businesses on the broader cycleway and pedestrian improvements project.
10. 2,920 letters were sent out and advertisements were placed on the Sydney Your Say website and in the Sydney Cycleways newsletter. The Sydney Your Say page was visited 501 times during the consultation period. The plan was downloaded 257 times.
11. No specific concerns were raised over the proposed closure of Spring Street.

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