

Item 20.**Traffic Treatment - Permanent Road Closure - Loveridge Street at Power Avenue Alexandria**

TRIM Container No.: 2021/558465

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the following treatments in Loveridge Street, Alexandria:

- (A) Permanent road closure at Power Avenue (instead of at McEvoy Street).
- (B) Continuous footpath treatment just north of McEvoy Street (in lieu of a closure)

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 road closure of Loveridge Street, Alexandria at McEvoy Street, was identified as an important traffic calming and safety treatment in the Alexandria Local Area Traffic

Management Plan to mitigate the impacts of WestConnex on local roads and prevent short-cut traffic bypassing the signals on McEvoy Street at Wyndham Street.

The LPCTCC endorsed the closure of Loveridge Street at its intersection with McEvoy Street at its meeting on the 21 May 2020. However, the City only approved the closure for a 12-month trial period from 30 November 2020 to 5 December 2021.

The trial has been reviewed and the City now proposes to shift the closure of Loveridge Street from the intersection of McEvoy Street to the intersection of Power Avenue to improve accessibility and safety in the local area.

Comments

The closure of Loveridge Street at McEvoy Street did achieve its goal of preventing short-cut traffic bypassing the signals on McEvoy Street at Wyndham Street.

However, during the 12-month trial closure of Loveridge Street at McEvoy Street, several issues have been noted as follows:

- Loveridge Street closure at McEvoy Street has increased traffic on Power Avenue next to School and the Park especially during school days.
- Access (including school buses) to Power Avenue is difficult with high traffic volumes around Wyndham Street.
- Industrial sites on western side of Loveridge Street have difficulties with deliveries by large trucks.

The trial has now been reviewed and the City has considered the above issues, so it now proposes to shift the closure of Loveridge Street from the intersection of McEvoy Street to the intersection of Power Avenue. This would reduce the traffic volumes on Power Avenue (especially industries traffic) and improve accessibility and safety in the local area.

Direct access for industrial site on the western side of Loveridge Street will be returned to McEvoy Street and still mitigate the impacts of WestConnex on local roads.

Consultation

The City has engaged a consultant to assist with community consultation and review of the trail road closure and a consultation letter with a plan was sent out to gather local community feedback on three possible options:

- Option 1: Retain current engagement - Closure of Loveridge Street at its intersection with McEvoy Street,
- Option 2: Alternative arrangement - Closure of Loveridge Street at its intersection with Power Avenue instead of at McEvoy Street,
- Option 3: Alternative arrangement 2 - Partial closure of access to Loveridge Street from McEvoy Street, and a left turn only access from Loveridge Street to McEvoy Street.

The Consultant distributed around 500 letters and received a total of 21 submissions. Ten submissions were supportive of Option 2 while seven submissions supported option 3. Only 2 submissions wanted to retain the closure at McEvoy Street and two submissions didn't want any option.

Given that the highest number of submissions supported Option 2 ie the closure of Loveridge Street at its intersection with Power Avenue, instead of at McEvoy Street, and this option would provide the best benefits for Power Avenue i.e. reducing the traffic volumes in Power Avenue (specially industrial traffic) and therefore improve safety, the City has decided to support moving the closure of Loveridge Street to Power Avenue.

A continuous footpath treatment is proposed on Loveridge Street just north of McEvoy Street, instead of the road closure, to ensure accessibility and safety for pedestrians walking along McEvoy Street is maintained.

Financial

Funds are available in the budget as part of the City's Capital Works Program

Attachment

Traffic Treatment – Permanent Road Closure - Loveridge Street road closure at Power Avenue, Alexandria.

NAZAR BADSHAH, TRAFFIC ENGINEER