

**Item 36.****Traffic Treatment - Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets - LGA wide**

TRIM Container No.: X022515

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the installation of signposting for contra-flow bicycle access in 158 one-way streets across the City of Sydney Local Government Area, as shown in the attached map and list.

**Voting Members for this Item**

<b>Voting Members</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Object</b>
City of Sydney	[Insert]	[Insert]
Transport for NSW	[Insert]	[Insert]
NSW Police – Sydney City PAC, South Sydney PAC, Kings Cross PAC, Surry Hills PAC, Leichhardt PAC, Inner West PAC	[Insert]	[Insert]
Representative for the Member for Sydney, Newtown, Heffron, Balmain	[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. We are improving the safety and amenity of cycling infrastructure by making bicycle riding a real and convenient option for short local trips.

The Transport for NSW Technical Direction on Signposting for contra-flow bicycle facilities (TTD 2014/002) describes these facilities as “a cost-effective treatment that enhances the cycling experience by improving the permeability of neighbourhoods and by reducing bicycle trip lengths”. Such facilities can often improve the safety of people riding by enabling them to avoid busy roads or dangerous intersections.

The Technical Direction followed a 2013 RMS study into the safety of contra-flow bicycle facilities.

The Technical Direction recommends, “councils may want to assess their existing one-way streets for suitability for contra-flow bicycle facilities”.

The Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 8 (7.5.3) suggests one-way streets can increase opportunities for dedicated facilities for bicycle riders and may improve bicycle safety. It recommends the use of contra-flow bicycle lanes, which permit two-way bicycle movements on roads that are one-way for other vehicles.

Action 1.4 of the City’s Cycling Strategy and Action Plan 2018-2030 is “Improve safety and access throughout our area, including new contra-flow provisions”.

Transport for NSW were consulted in May 2021 and supported the proposed treatment and streets listed, subject to community consultation and reporting to the LPCTCC.

The full list of 158 one-way streets is attached to this report, in list and map format. This project will improve safety and access between homes and the bike network.

## Comments

The RMS Technical Direction for Contra-Flow Bicycle Facilities (TTD 2014/002) allows for the delineation of contra-flow bicycle lanes in one-way streets by signage only if the following conditions apply:

- sight distance is free of obstructions;
- traffic volumes and vehicles speeds are low; and
- road geometry does not present an unacceptable risk.

As recommended in TTD 2014/002, City staff investigated the suitability for contra-flow bicycle lanes in 320 one-way streets across the City of Sydney Local Government Area.

After further review, 159 streets were considered as safe and suitable due to their existing low volumes and low speeds. The streets are shown in the attachments.

The proposed treatments for each street consist of signage and line marking, in accordance with TTD 2014/002, as shown in the concept plans. Where required, a contra-flow lane will be marked. Street specific details are shown on the street list.

Given that:

- each street was investigated by City staff in the City Access and Transport Unit and in Traffic Operations, and reviewed by staff at Transport for NSW
- width, traffic volumes, parking and sight lines were taken into consideration and City and Transport staff met onsite to review the streets which where there were any remaining concerns

The proposal is compliant with the RMS Technical Direction.

## Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area surrounding each of the streets. There were 22,653 letters sent requesting feedback on the proposal. The details of the proposal were available on the Sydney Your Say website with feedback able to be provided between 24 August 2022 and 29 September 2022 via an online form and survey. The website was visited 1564 times.

A total of 759 formal submissions were received from 337 individuals and 4 community and bike user groups with 579 responses supporting the proposal, 18 providing neutral feedback and 172 opposing. The submissions are provided in detail in the attached engagement report.

People had their say by completing an online survey where they could choose to comment on all the streets or a particular street in a suburb. People were welcome to include multiple streets in their submissions. People also made submissions by email.

277 people completed the online survey and 64 people emailed their submissions.

Submissions by individuals have been deidentified and grouped. Individual stakeholders won't necessarily see their feedback verbatim. City staff have responded to each issue raised, in the attached engagement report.

Submissions by Community Groups and Bike User Groups have been reported verbatim.

As a result of the feedback from the consultation, one street (East Street, Redfern) has been withdrawn from the list and implementation on one street (Beaconsfield Lane) has been shortened.

## Financial

Funds for the project are available in the Cycling Safety Program

## Attachments

Attachment 1 - Map - Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets

Attachment 2 - List - Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets

Attachment 3 - Concept Plan - Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets

Attachment 4 - Engagement Report - Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets

Traffic Treatment - Contra-Flow Bicycle Facility – Contra-flow Bicycle Access in One-Way Streets - LGA wide

**FIONA CAMPBELL, MANAGER CYCLING STRATEGY**