

Item 35.**Traffic Treatment - Landscaped Median Strip - Smail Street, Ultimo**

TRIM Container No.: X096615.004

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the installation of two 2-metre wide median strips in Smail Street, Ultimo between the points 15.6 metres and 21.6 metres and between the points 44.4 metres and 64.4 metres east of Mountain Street.

Voting Members for this Item

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

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

The Greening Sydney Strategy was adopted in July 2021 and sets a vision for a greener Sydney that will help improve our health and wellbeing, reduce urban heat impacts, and bring nature into the city. The strategy is made up of six key directions and 20 key actions.

Streets account for 23 per cent of the total local government area (LGA). The target for streets as a collective land use area is 39 per cent green cover with a minimum of 34 per cent canopy cover. To achieve the overall LGA targets a variety of measures are defined in Action 1 of the Greening Sydney Strategy. The City has committed to develop policies, programs, and projects to increase the number and type of street gardens, increase the

number and type of inroad plantings, plant more street trees and ensure the largest tree species appropriate for the space is planted.

The planting of trees within the road pavement area is an opportunity to increase tree canopy within the street network above that provided by typical planting within the verge.

Planting in the roadway provides a range of benefits including traffic calming by narrowing roadway down and reducing speed, opportunity to install trees clear of overhead services, opportunity for passive irrigation and integrated stormwater management and the maximised shading of large areas of hardstand.

Comments

Smail Street, between Mountain Street and Blackwattle Lane is a 12.8m wide road with one traffic lane and one parking lane in each direction. The street provides local access to properties in Ultimo.

The proposal to install two raised medians strips will provide some additional traffic calming measures in the street and opportunity for tree planting.

The proposed raised medians strips will be 2 metres wide maintaining a 3.3 metre wide travel lane and 2.1 metre wide parking lane on both sides of the median. The medians will be 20 metres and 6 metres in length.

The proposed traffic treatment will provide space to plant four trees to provide improved the amenity in the street and contribute to the overall canopy cover of the area to meet the City's adopted greening targets.

Consultation

Public consultation was held from 8 March to 5 April 2023. This included a letter box drop to 550 properties and a Sydney Your Say (SYS) page. Residents were invited to either fill in an online survey or email/post a submission. There were 14 SYS submissions received, and 71 unique page views of the webpage.

Seven submissions supported the proposal.

Five submissions did not support the proposal. Four of these submissions were concerned about the potential to further limit solar access to adjacent properties. Two submissions were concerned about the impact on rubbish collection on the street. One submission was concerned that this would add to congestion on the street. Four submissions were concerned about existing and future maintenance requirements.

No changes to the median strips are proposed following consultation feedback.

The original proposal consists of verge gardens adjacent to the parking lanes. After taking into consideration of the submissions, the proposed verge gardens were removed to ensure that rubbish collection can be maintained.

Financial

Funds are available in the current capital works budget.

HELEN ROGERS - PROJECT MANAGER - TREE MANAGEMENT