

## **Attachment B**

**Engagement Report – draft Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy and draft Haymarket Public Domain Plan**

# Engagement report – Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan



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# Overview

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## Background

In September 2022 we engaged with the community and stakeholders to understand what makes Haymarket special, the places that people love and what could be improved.

We heard from more than 1,150 people, including residents, workers, visitors, business associations, cultural groups and organisations.

Feedback helped create a vision for Haymarket and priorities for the future of the area. Our summary report details the key findings of this work. It can be downloaded [HERE](#).

This work informed our draft Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan which show how we can make this community vision a reality.

The plans propose:

- more support for events and cultural celebrations in the area
- creating a precinct of lights
- more trees for a comfortable balance of light and shade
- incentivising investment and renewal to keep with the area's unique character
- upgrading local streets and parks to make the area more vibrant, safer and accessible.

City staff held 23 individual briefings with key stakeholders and community groups in June 2023 to further develop these plans. This was followed by a formal public exhibition process.

From **22 August to 25 September 2023** we sought feedback on the draft Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan. This report outlines the engagement activities that took place and feedback we received.

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## Engagement purpose

To reach the culturally diverse and multilingual communities who work, live, own a business, study and visit the Haymarket area.

To seek feedback from property owners, businesses, residents, community groups and other key stakeholders on the draft Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan and identify priority projects, initiatives and actions.

## Engagement summary

The City formally sought community feedback on the draft plans in August and September 2023.

Community consultation included the following activities:

- > Public exhibition of the proposal between 22 August – 25 September 2023;
- > Community notification distributed to 14,709 property owners, residents, and businesses;
- > E-mailout to 670 registered stakeholders;
- > Haymarket Forum hosted by Lord Mayor Clover Moore AO on 19 September;
- > Door-knocking 28 businesses on Dixon Street;
- > 3 pop-up consultation sessions at Sydney Town Hall, Dixon Street and Campbell Street;
- > Online survey in English, Simplified & Traditional Chinese, Korean, Indonesian and Thai:
- > Online interactive map;
- > Summary document of the Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan in English, Simplified & Traditional Chinese, Korean, Indonesian and Thai;
- > Advertising on community screens throughout the precinct;
- > Sydney Your Say e-news sent to over 7,000 subscribers;
- > Sydney Your Say web page viewed 1867 times; and
- > Media announcement

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## Outcomes of engagement

Over **350 pieces of feedback** were received from the channels listed in the table of responses below. In addition, this consultation engaged **138 people** who attended a Haymarket Forum hosted by Lord Mayor Clover Moore AO, and **28 businesses** during a door knock on Dixon Street.

People who responded were between 18 and 80 years, with 57% identified as female and 34% as male. The top languages spoken by respondents were English (90%), Thai (30%), Mandarin (18%) and Cantonese (15%).

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**Engagement responses table**

<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Description of activity</b>
251	Online surveys completed
76	Comments received at pop-up consultation sessions
31	Comments pinned to the interactive map
26	Written submissions (4 associations/committees, 9 businesses and 13 individuals)
1	Phone submission
<b>385</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

## Key Findings – Summary

We heard that the revitalisation of Haymarket and Chinatown is important to the community. The area is of deep historical and cultural significance to Chinese, Thai and other Asian communities and the area's success is a source of pride.

We heard that currently the precinct feels run down and needs revitalisation. Revitalisation should focus on the aspects that make Haymarket and Chinatown special and unique.

The feedback reinforced the community vision and themes in the draft Strategy and Plan. Many people expressed that they look forward to seeing the vision realised.

We heard that respondents support the actions set out in the draft Strategy and Plan.

### The top ten most important actions are:

- More **pedestrian** space and amenity such as social seating and outdoor dining. (75%)
- More **creative lighting** for safety, colour and atmosphere. (70%)
- More **trees** and greening. (69%)
- Improve the **shopfronts** in the southern part of **Dixon Street** through a grant program. (61%)
- Encourage the renewal of **smaller buildings** as a point of difference from the CBD. (59%)
- More grant funding for community-led **festivals and events** in Haymarket. (59%)
- Advocate for the improvement of **Paddy's markets**, focused on Asian food and produce. (58%)
- Investigate **vacant building spaces**. (57%)
- More spaces and infrastructure for **events, markets and gatherings**. (57%)
- More freedom and cultural expression in building **signage and lighting**. (55%)

### The streets and spaces which are most important to upgrade are:

- Dixon Street (45 respondents)
- Belmore Park (42 respondents)
- Campbell Street / Thai Town (including lanes) (36 respondents)

**Respondents also identified other actions that are important to them, including:**

- Recognise Chinese history and culture (41 respondents)
- Make it easier to get to and from Haymarket (40 respondents)
- Improve the offering and support businesses (35 respondents)
- More community spaces and facilities (26 respondents)
- Boost the cultural offering and make it vibrant at night (25 respondents)
- Address vacancy and upgrade buildings (23 respondents)
- Strengthen the identity of Thai town (19 respondents)
- Improve waste and cleanliness (19 respondents)
- More pedestrian friendly (17 respondents)
- Expand the markets or have more markets (16 respondents)

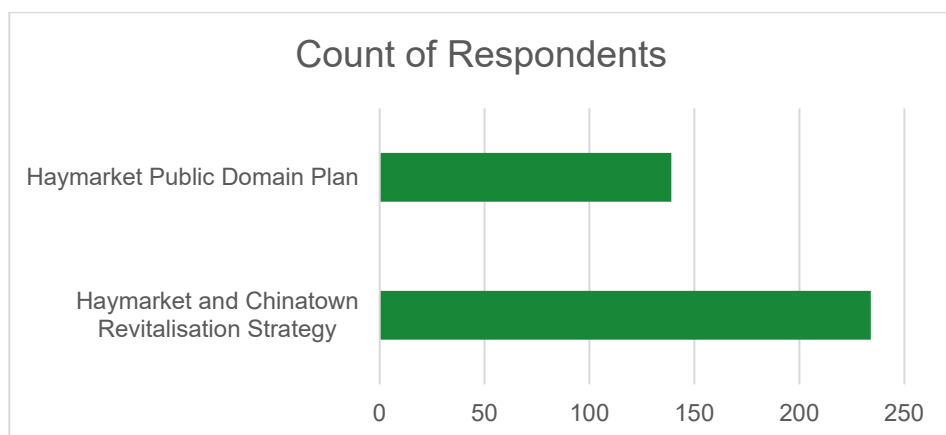


## Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy

93% of people who responded to the survey were interested in providing feedback on the Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and 55% were interested in the Haymarket public domain plan.

### Which document(s) are you interested in providing feedback on?

93% of people were interested in providing feedback on the Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and 55% were interested in the Haymarket public domain plan.



### Which areas are important to you?

There was broad support for a wide range of action areas in the strategy, with 12 of the 23 action areas rated as important by over 50% of respondents, and all areas supported by at least 29% of respondents. 22 respondents also voiced strong overall support for the strategy in survey responses and email submissions.

Below are the strategy actions listed in order of importance for survey respondents.

Strategy actions of importance to you	Respondents (percentage of total)
More pedestrian space and amenity such as social seating and outdoor dining.	187 (75%)
More creative lighting for safety, colour and atmosphere.	175 (70%)
More trees and greening.	172 (69%)
Improve the shopfronts in the southern part of Dixon Street through a grant program.	154 (61%)

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Encourage the renewal of smaller buildings as a point of difference from the CBD.	148 (59%)
More grant funding for community-led festivals and events in Haymarket.	148 (59%)
Advocate for the improvement of Paddy's markets, focused on Asian food and produce.	145 (58%)
Investigate vacant building spaces.	144 (57%)
More spaces and infrastructure for events, markets and gatherings.	144 (57%)
More freedom and cultural expression in building signage and lighting.	137 (55%)
Coordinate with the NSW Government on Market City, Dixon Street north and Quay Street.	133 (53%)
Bring food preparation to the front windows of restaurants to activate the street.	130 (52%)
Improve safety at night through initiatives such as the State's Purple Flag program.	121 (48%)
New public art.	120 (48%)
Recognise more Chinese Australian history in heritage listings.	117 (47%)
Advocate for the former Kwong War Chong building at 82-84 Dixon Street to be brought back into use.	112 (45%)
Share Haymarket's history in the streets, for example walking tour or plaques.	111 (44%)
Continued funding and support for SXSW Sydney to activate Haymarket in future years. SXSW Sydney is a week-long event exploring tech, innovation and culture.	102 (41%)
A new Haymarket Coordinator to support people who want to be involved.	92 (37%)
An informal Haymarket Forum to bring together groups and champions on projects.	91 (36%)
Space for local business deliveries and for drop-offs and pick-ups.	91 (36%)
Add to the City of Sydney's oral history collection.	87 (35%)
Improved cycling connections.	72 (29%)

## Why are these actions important to you?

Key themes to this question are summarised below:

<b>The precinct is run-down and needs revitalisation</b>	<b>58 respondents</b>
<p>People felt the actions in the strategy were important to them because Chinatown is run-down and needs revitalisation to appeal to visitors and residents.</p> <p>They noted vacant buildings need to be occupied, buildings need to be beautified, and revitalisation is necessary to keep up with surrounding areas.</p> <p>Street cleanliness and making the area more attractive were important.</p> <p>The revitalisation of the precinct was seen as important for the whole of Sydney.</p>	

<b>Design that honours culture is important</b>	<b>34 respondents</b>
<p>Respondents supported the strategy because they felt that it was important that the cultural and historic heritage of Chinatown be restored and promoted.</p> <p>The revitalisation of the area needs to be culturally sensitive to preserve its social and cultural relevance. Designs should respond to the history of the area.</p> <p>Revitalisation should bring new energy and renewed connections into Chinatown, including for younger generations.</p> <p>Chinatown and the Haymarket precinct is considered a special place for all Australians but its protection and preservation as a cultural centre for Chinese, Thai and other Asian cultures was specifically mentioned. Revitalisation should focus on the aspects that make Haymarket special and unique.</p> <p>It was felt that Chinatown could better reflect the history and the current contributions and experiences of Chinese Australians.</p>	

<b>Supporting business is important</b>	<b>23 respondents</b>
<p>The Strategy's proposed support for business was seen as important with the hope that revitalisation would generate more trade by attracting tourists and people to the area.</p> <p>More flexibility for business through extended trading hours, outdoor dining and late-night trading for bars, restaurants and entertainment was important.</p> <p>Support for small business and the need for fair rent prices was mentioned. Some people noted that they own or would like to start a business in the area.</p>	

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<b>Revitalisation through activations and events</b>	<b>21 respondents</b>
<p>Respondents felt the actions in the strategy were important to them because events and activations are needed to attract the public to the area and give people reasons to stay in the precinct and have fun.</p> <p>People felt the precinct could be revitalised through cultural and creative events and multicultural activities. The precinct needs to be affordable, vibrant and lively in order to survive.</p> <p>People suggested the precinct could supply late-night recreation options that were not only focused on drinking alcohol and that pop-up markets of different themes and ethnicities were important.</p> <p>Activations and events were seen as a way of promoting local cultures in the area, with Chinese and Thai cultures specifically mentioned.</p>	

<b>Revitalisation through improved public spaces</b>	<b>16 respondents</b>
<p>Respondents felt the actions were important to them because they felt there is a need for better liveability and comfort so that the area is inclusive and accessible to people of all ages and abilities.</p> <p>People wanted more green space, better amenities and less advertising display screens (particularly in Dixon Street).</p>	

<b>Improvements for people walking and cycling</b>	<b>15 respondents</b>
<p>There was a sentiment that the strategy's proposal to make the area more pedestrian and people focused would help revitalisation. Safe pedestrianisation and dedicated, safe cycleways were mentioned as important.</p> <p>Better connectivity within the precinct and into other areas such as Town Hall, the Museum of Chinese in Australia (MOCA) and Darling Harbour was also seen as important.</p>	

<b>Community support and involvement</b>	<b>13 respondents</b>
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People supported the actions in the strategy because they felt more opportunities for the local community, including artists, to improve the area and strengthen community collaboration was important.

It was suggested that existing community groups are already active in sharing traditions and culture but would benefit from help and assistance.

The need for more community spaces was mentioned.

There should be easier ways of making direct contact with the City of Sydney to discuss how the local community can contribute to and improve these revitalisation initiatives.

A new Haymarket Coordinator should not have vested commercial interests in the area.

<b>Revitalisation through lighting and public art</b>	<b>12 respondents</b>
<p>Respondents agreed that vibrant public art is an important element of revitalisation as creative and cultural expression can support artists and attract people to the area. Art exhibitions were also seen as a way to activate spaces and engage the public.</p> <p>Innovative creative lighting to make the precinct bright and vibrant at night was seen as important.</p>	

**Are there any other actions that are important to you?**

The following themes were drawn from the survey, email submissions, pop-up events and the comments gathered at the Haymarket Forum.

A large proportion of comments in this section refer to actions already proposed in the strategy, which reinforces the City’s approach and provides more detail on how to achieve revitalisation within the precinct.

<b>Recognise Chinese history and culture</b>	<b>41 Respondents</b>
<p>The cultural heritage and history of the precinct must be strengthened and preserved. In particular, there is a desire for more recognition of Chinese Australian history. Suggestions include a museum, history exhibitions, additional Chinatown gates and placemaking elements such as signage and plaques which tell the history of the area. Tenement Museum in New York mentioned as great example of telling the immigrant and migrant story.</p> <p>Promote the uniqueness and diversity of the area. Keep the heritage architecture shop fronts, roof elements and standing dog statues as point of history and nostalgia. Integrate the memories of old Chinatown (museum / tea house / Chinese characters) so it's a space that celebrates and educates community about heritage</p>	

and history. Recognise tradition and history, including the generations of market gardeners.

There is a recommendation that the Council investigate nominating Haymarket Chinatown as a 'Cultural Heritage Precinct', as is done Vancouver. This would recognise both tangible and intangible forms (for example dialects, culinary heritage, traditions, celebrations, etc) of cultural heritage.

It is important to have local community organisations, historians, academics and heritage specialists informing this heritage work.

### **Make it easier to get to and from Haymarket**

**40 Respondents**

**Public transport:** It was suggested that improved public transport options to get to and from Haymarket during the day and night are required, particularly if limiting car access is desired. Make bus stops more visible (especially on Pitt Street). Information for people on the light rail could be included welcoming them to Haymarket and Belmore Park.

**Cycling:** A suggestion was made to increase dedicated and safe cycleways. It was suggested that cycle lanes should be located around the periphery of Chinatown (so as not to disrupt pedestrian flow). Danger to pedestrians from cyclists / delivery e-bikes on footpaths was mentioned as an issue. Providing safe and secure parking and loading options for bikes was seen as important.

The precinct's connections to other parts of the City (Central Station / Darling Square / ICC) could be strengthened, including through improved signage / wayfinding to Chinatown and Thai Town. It was suggested that signage should fit the cultural heritage of the area and embrace the cultural and language diversity of both residents and visitors.

**Loading and drop off:** Additionally, more drop off, pick up and short-term parking is needed to make the area accessible to all, including for servicing and deliveries to businesses (eg. consider allowing parking in loading zones after 3pm). Loading areas and bus drop-off areas are important to facilitate the movement of visitors.

**Parking:** Car access was mentioned as an issue and a barrier to revitalisation by limiting visitor numbers. Respondents commented that convenient, safe, affordable or free parking is required to support visitors including multi-generational families with elderly relatives. Suggestions included upgrading the Goulburn Street car park (cleaner, better lighting, larger lifts), reducing parking charges for evenings and weekends or building a multi-storey carpark near Chinatown.

**Carshare:** It was suggested that carshare parking spot numbers should be tied to the number of units (rather than parking spaces) to decrease car ownership. The respondent recommended establishing the ratio of one carshare parking spot per 40 apartments without parking spaces.

**35 Respondents**

<b>Improve the offering and support businesses</b>	
<p>There was broad support for the proposed Haymarket co-ordinator role and it was considered a good way to help business.</p> <p>It was noted that implementation of the plans must cause minimal disruption to existing businesses.</p> <p>Integration with Tech Central is important. Encourage more innovation and entrepreneurship such as Landing Pad programs and international business events.</p> <p>Affordability is seen as important in Haymarket, both the rent that is paid and the cost of goods being sold. The need for support for renters (including cheaper rent in food court) – was mentioned including through grants for small business.</p> <p>More flexibility in the delivery of services was considered important to business: easing restrictions on drinking culture, more food and beverage vendors and shops, longer opening hours, more late-night dining. More opportunities for outdoor dining, including in Thai Town.</p> <p>Fostering creativity, diversity and quality in business was seen as important - support for local, small, unique, specialty, older and family run, artisan and innovative businesses. Retaining established original tenants and stores was mentioned and the importance of welcoming back current market stallholders. Upgrading of Market City shopping centre was suggested to remove the clearance outlets and make it more mid-range to premium.</p> <p>Government support to foster new businesses was important. Providing financial support to restaurants to encourage international talents in the food industry to opening venues in Chinatown / Haymarket was suggested.</p> <p>The importance of having Asian Australian professionals involved in revitalisation across arts, events, urban planning was mentioned. It was suggested that customer experience be a consideration in the redesign of the area (UX designer expertise).</p> <p>Burwood Chinatown was suggested as one good local model – popular and busy with a nice energy and atmosphere. It has a modern feel while still holding the essence of Asian culture.</p> <p>Opening information booths and multi-functional kiosks with flexible rental agreements was requested.</p> <p>Ongoing consultation with local businesses was seen as important.</p>	

<b>More community spaces and facilities</b>	<b>26 Respondents</b>
<p>Respondents emphasised that community spaces, facilities and amenities are needed to support Haymarket’s role as a hub for living, working, and gathering both during the day and night.</p>	

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Respondents suggested the creation of a Chinatown Community Centre to share Chinese and Asian-Australian tradition, history, and culture, including language classes, calligraphy, mahjong, crafts and programs to support community members.

People are interested in more recreational amenities for example badminton courts or outdoor gyms, more family friendly spaces and more flexible open spaces for performances that have adequate infrastructure. Belmore Park was identified as a space that could be more effectively utilised for cultural events.

More greening was mentioned as important. Reduced allergy planting, water-efficient planting, inclusion of cherry blossom trees and more flowers were all suggested. More green shady trees to alleviate heat, improved seating, more public water fountains and the need to maintain existing gardens were all mentioned.

<b>Boost the cultural offering and make it vibrant at night</b>	<b>25 Respondents</b>
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There is support for festivals, events, performances, markets and activations as effective ways of bringing people into the area but they need to occur regularly. They are seen as import ways to showcase the history and culture of the area and give people reasons to stay in the precinct and have fun.

People suggested more colour, movement and light is required to make Chinatown more social media friendly. There was a sentiment that the area needed to be vibrant and lively in order to survive.

Having a diversity of event and activation offerings were seen as important including, authentic cultural experiences, (eg: tea ceremonies), markets, live music and busking, talent shows, QR code walking tours (history/culture/events), themed cultural decorations across the precinct, art exhibitions, galleries and theatres.

Having libraries, galleries and museums run ‘open late’ nights was seen as a way to enliven the precinct at night. Events should promote uniqueness and diversity of the area. They should be on regularly and be affordable or free. There was support for grants to enable events and activations. It was suggested that the development application process required when organising events, festivals and activations could be simplified.

The development of a master plan for events was suggested as a way to co-ordinated and promote activities.

<b>Address vacancy and upgrade buildings</b>	<b>23 Respondents</b>
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Support was expressed for Dixon Street renewal and the proposed co-funding incentive. It was suggested that funding be flexible and extended to other streets in Haymarket on a case-by-case basis: eg: Thomas Street / Hay Street / Quay Street. It was suggested that funding also cover simple things like graffiti removal and repainting across the precinct.

Dixon Street is described as dark with lighting and tree management considered important. It was noted that the Lions and Chinatown gates need painting.

People felt buildings need to be beautified and that vacant buildings need to be occupied – including on Dixon Street and George Street. This could include short term art activations within vacant shops but support from Council to work with landlords would be helpful. It was also suggested that empty commercial spaces should be taxed to drive their use.

Support was expressed for a public-private partnership to bring the Tea House on Dixon Street back into use. The Goodgod Club space was identified as a fantastic venue and the revitalisation of Pleasures Playhouse was mentioned a good model for what can be done with interesting buildings on the area.

**Strengthening the identity of Thai Town**

**19 Respondents**

The upgrade of Campbell Street is seen as a great opportunity for the Thai community to strengthen the identity of Thai Town.

Signage and an entry gate to Thai Town at the corner of Campbell and George Streets was suggested. This could change according to festivals and events and it could also have live updates about upcoming events.

Thai themed public art on George Street, Cunningham Street, Parker Street and Parker Lane were suggested. There was also a suggestion to beautify buildings and provide an information kiosk.

The need for a Thai Town market was mentioned, which could extend to take place in Belmore Park.

It was suggested that the Dixon Street ‘Theatre of food’ idea should be extended into Campbell Street.

It was suggested that more promotion to local people that Sydney has a Thai Town was required e.g. food / entertainment / products. Making connections with Thai Town tourism authority was seen as a way to support this.

**Improve waste and cleanliness**

**19 Respondents**

People identified the need for more regular street cleaning, improvements in garbage collection/disposal, remove obstacles from footpaths, and increase the number of bins.

There was also a suggestion that reducing the smoke and smells from restaurants was needed.

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<b>More pedestrian friendly</b>	<b>17 Respondents</b>
<p>There was support for making the precinct more pedestrian and people focused, including outdoor dining.</p> <p>Respondents said that improvements to footpaths in the Haymarket precinct are required to make them even and easy to walk on.</p> <p>Improving pedestrian connectivity in the area was seen as important: pedestrian crossing from Dixon Street to Market City, connections between Campbell Street and Belmore Park, and improved wayfinding signage.</p> <p>Support was expressed for converting Campbell Street / Thai Town into a shared zone with event infrastructure and a high-quality pedestrian environment, as long as it works from a traffic and servicing perspective.</p> <p>Bikes riding on footpaths were seen as a safety issue for pedestrians. Better signage about where riding is not allowed was suggested.</p>	

<b>Expand the markets or have more markets</b>	<b>16 Respondents</b>
<p>There was support for expanding the night markets into more locations (particularly Thai Town) and having them occur more regularly.</p> <p>Markets could also explore offering expanded street food options – including a wide variety of foods from a wide range of nationalities.</p> <p>Suggestions for Paddy's markets included that it should retain its reasonably priced stalls, that it should become a permanent night noodle market and that it should focus on improving its existing offering rather than be offered to an external food operation.</p>	

<b>Improve safety</b>	<b>14 Respondents</b>
<p>People expressed that there was a need to make the precinct safer for everyone, including families, women and LGBTQ+ people.</p> <p>Suggestions included improving lighting, more CCTV, more night patrols (particularly Campbell Street/Belmore Park) and making it safer to drive and park at night.</p> <p>People also suggested helping homeless people find alternative accommodation to decrease related issues (safety / noise / littering).</p>	

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More community engagement and involvement	14 Respondents
<p>Support was expressed for the new Haymarket Co-ordinator role. It was suggested that it was important that the person appointed to the role was able to speak Cantonese and Mandarin. It was suggested that council should make efforts to involve the boarder community in initiatives like the Haymarket Forum.</p> <p>People requested that Council continues to work closely with the broad Haymarket community, including younger members of the Chinese community, older people and Cantonese speakers. Ongoing community engagement was seen as important, including with local residents, workers and businesses. Ongoing transparency about the strategy's actions, deadlines and milestones was requested.</p> <p>It was suggested that more council-led events across the precinct were needed that involve the community, keep them connected. and provide opportunities for them to improve the area.</p> <p>It was noted that coordination with Placemaking NSW and consultation with the community is required regarding Dixon Street north.</p>	

More creative lighting and public art	14 Respondents
<p>More public art and creative lighting installations were welcomed, including wall art, sculptures, and artworks with movement. Government support for public art was welcomed.</p> <p>The need to consult with community to ensure artworks were culturally appropriate was emphasised. Distinctive Chinatown-specific fixtures and lighting were seen as important as well as understanding the cultural significance of colours. It was suggested that the artwork 'Between Two Worlds' could benefit from a colour adjustment (or removal).</p> <p>Support was expressed for the lighting ideas in the strategy.</p> <p>It was suggested that an easy night-time attractor could be putting fairy lights around the existing substantial trees in the area possibly linking Chinatown, Thai Town, and Korea Town.</p> <p>It was mentioned that future public art on Campbell Street should also acknowledge Chinese contribution and history. There was one suggestion that the new public art and landscaping at the corner of Ultimo Road and Thomas Street has not been effective.</p>	

Heritage and planning	11 Respondents
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Respondents suggested that the relationship between heritage, development and public domain is important. Heritage listings must be carefully considered and not stifle progress.

It was suggested that a review of planning controls is needed to allow development to attract residents, workers, businesses, and investors. On the other hand, it was also suggested there should be less large-scale developments in the area.

It was seen as important to keep and restore the special historic area. Any new buildings should be sympathetic to the area, not just anonymous glass, steel and concrete buildings.

A tenancy masterplan which could be used as a guidance tool for landlords is recommended.

There was objection to the proposal to heritage list properties in Dixon Street.

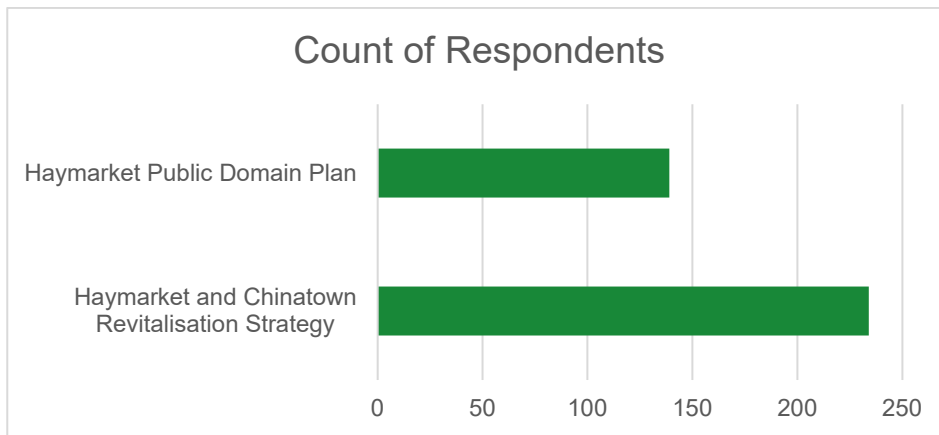
Revitalisation should follow the principles of sustainable development and be environmentally friendly.

## Haymarket Public Domain Plan

The draft Haymarket Public Domain Plan sets out the City’s proposal to improve local streets and public spaces.

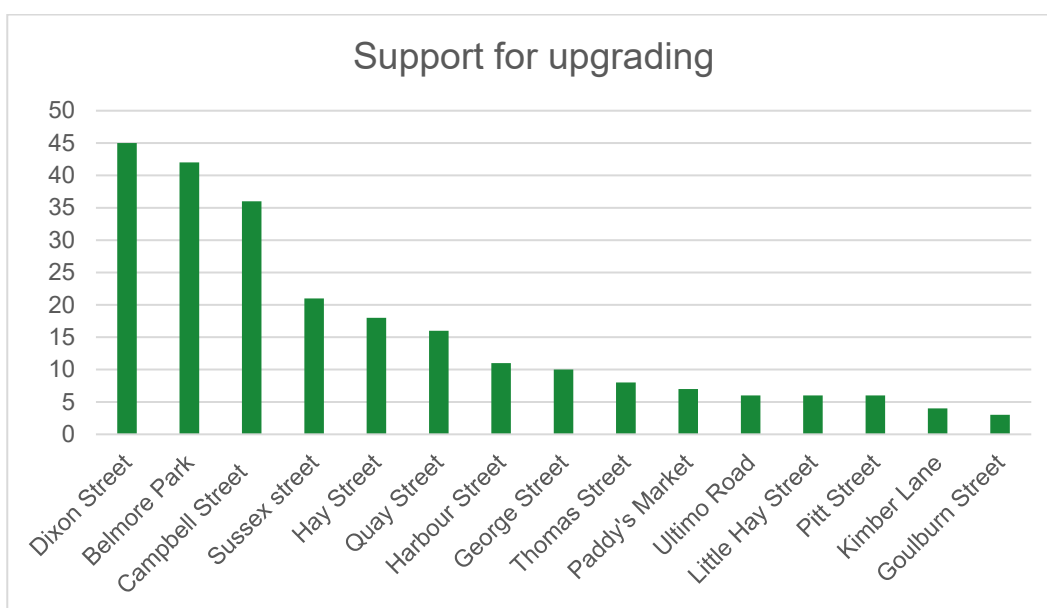
55% of people who responded to the survey were interested in providing feedback on the Haymarket public domain plan.

### Which document(s) are you interested in providing feedback on?



People were asked which streets or spaces were most important to improve in Haymarket. Responses were collected via survey, interactive map, pop-up events, email submissions and the Haymarket Forum.

The following table lists the streets in order of the number of times they were mentioned as being important to improve across the survey, popups, forum and email submissions (for more details see Appendix D). **Dixon Street, Belmore Park and Campbell Street (Thai Town and lanes)** were identified as in most need of revitalisation.



Count of respondents

## Streets important to upgrade – count of people in support

1. Dixon Street	45 Respondents
<p>People said Dixon Street was currently dark and uninviting and needs more lighting. The trees were noted as an issue with general support for improved tree management. Support for revitalisation through neon signage, creative lighting, public artworks, cultural motifs and seating. People said cleanliness and public amenities needed to be improved.</p> <p>Preservation of Chinese heritage was important with support for restoration and lighting of the Chinatown Ceremonial Gates. Suggestions were made to retain and repair existing awnings, heritage kerbs and guttering. There was support for heritage interpretation embedded in the paving. People felt there should be less advertising signage on Dixon Street.</p> <p>Concern was raised about maintaining vehicular access and difficulties associated with extended periods of construction.</p>	

2. Belmore Park	42 Respondents
<p>Belmore Park was seen as the second most important area to improve. Support was expressed for improving sightlines and entrances to Belmore Park. Safety within the park needs to be improved. Creative lighting and addressing issues associated with homelessness were important.</p> <p>There was support for and retaining and repairing the bandstand. It was felt there was a lot of opportunity for activation in the park: café, bird baths, water feature, book exchange, bike hire, community notice board/digital screens, information hub, kiosk, improved seating (including communal seating), public art and the hosting of community events including – talks, food and beverage, outdoor cinema, cultural events for all communities in the area including Thai Town, Chinatown, Korea Town and Vietnamese Town.</p> <p>It was suggested a bike path through Belmore Park should be formalised with better cycle connections (and signage) into Haymarket and that more cyclists could help to activate the park.</p>	

3. Campbell Street / Thai Town	36 Respondents
<p>Campbell Street and the laneways around Thai Town were other important areas identified to upgrade. People supported more lighting including lights, signage and gates to celebrate Thai Town as a destination. One person felt the proposed lighting on Campbell Street is too enclosing – better to be open to the sky.</p>	

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There was support for more seating, a kiosk and public art in Campbell Street and surrounding laneways including Cunningham Lane. People mentioned Thai Town is not family friendly due to narrow footpaths and so supported pedestrianising the street – and improving pedestrian links between Cunningham Lane and Campbell Street. Support for more events and activations on Campbell Street, including markets, long drum processions and costume parades.

Access, traffic and transport was also important. Upgrading was supported but it needs to work from a traffic perspective. Campbell Street is very important for deliveries and loading to support businesses, including those on George Street. Campbell Street is very important for drop-off and pick-up, especially for mobility access. It's important to make Campbell Street accessible for traffic and reduce conflict between driveways and 3-point turns. Respondents suggested that there is not enough space for a dedicated cycle lane on Campbell Street.

#### 4. Sussex Street

21 Respondents

There were mixed views on whether Sussex Street should be upgraded. Sussex Street is very important for deliveries to support businesses and for drop-off and pick-up to support visitation.

Concerns were expressed around reducing the travel lane and loading and installing a cycleway because of impacts on deliveries. However, more people supported the cycleway than opposed it.

#### 5. Hay Street

18 Respondents

There was mixed support for an upgrade of Hay Street West, with more trees and shade the most important element.

People commented that this is a great open social space for pop-up shows and stalls. People felt more pedestrian crossings were needed and lighting for safety.

#### 6. Quay Street

16 Respondents

There was general support for an upgrade of Quay Street. People commented that Quay Street and the Thomas Street loop requires upgrading (grimy, rubbish, uneven footpaths).

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Haymarket public domain plan

People suggested recent traffic changes are confusing and signage (no entry) could be improved. Maintaining spot for resident drop off /pick up is important in Quay street.

**7. Harbour Street**

**11 Respondents**

There was general support for an upgrade of Harbour Street. People wanted to see this area activated with better connections between Harbour Street into Darling Harbour and the creation of a new gateway or public artwork to welcome people into Chinatown – including for wayfaring.

People wanted improve pedestrian safety for crossing, supported wider footpaths, and more green canopy. People suggested improvements to amenity cleanliness and waste management were required.

There was opposition to relocation of the bus zone if it negatively impacts safe and easy access for hotel guests with luggage, children and people with a disability. One person wanted to see the dedicated left-turn onto Pier Street retained.

**8. George Street**

**10 Respondents**

People commented that the vacant shopfronts on George Street should be filled. Old, discarded bikes should be removed. Request to review rubbish collection (allow access for garbage trucks).

**9. Thomas Street**

**8 Respondents**

It was suggested that pedestrian connection between south and north Chinatown across Hay Street at Thomas could be improved. It was also noted that the pedestrianised space at Thomas Street could support markets and events.

**10. Paddy's Market**

**7 Respondents**

Revitalise Paddy's Market including making it look appealing from the street. It was suggested that removing on-street parking around the Paddy's market carpark may reduce traffic congestion.



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<b>11. Ultimo Road</b>	<b>6 Respondents</b>
<p>People supported more council-led initiatives for Ultimo Road. One person opposed reducing Ultimo Road to one lane because of potential impacts on businesses.</p>	
<b>12. Little Hay Street</b>	<b>6 Respondents</b>
<p>People suggested Little Hay Street would benefit from fine grain renewal, and that pedestrianisation between Sussex and Harbour Streets would allow for more outdoor dining and activation of public open space. There was a suggestion to have new Chinatown gates at either end of Little Hay Street.</p>	
<b>13. Pitt Street</b>	<b>6 Respondents</b>
<p>It was suggested the streets around Central Station need improving: wider footpaths, more cycling options and greenery.</p>	

# Demographic overview

**Demographic data was collected across the 251 survey respondents.**

## Respondent profile

### Age

The majority of respondents (29%) were aged between 30-39 years. 19% were aged between 40-49 years. 18% of respondents were aged between 25-29 and 11% between 18-24 years. Older people accounted for a smaller proportion of respondents: 8% were aged between 60-69, 7% between 50-59 and 5% between 70-79. 2% of respondents were 80 years or older.

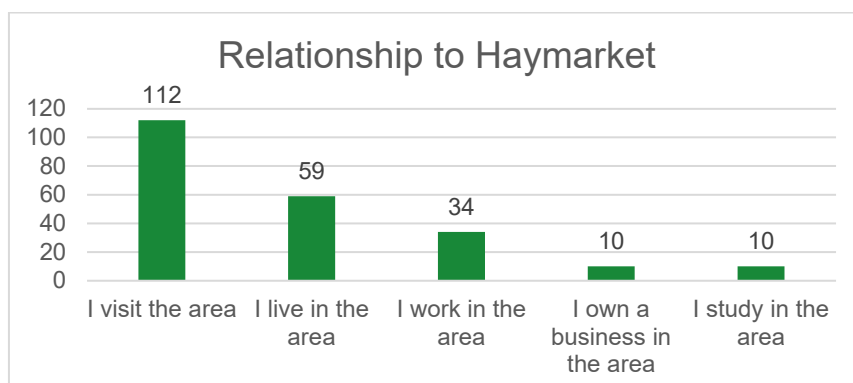
Age	Count of Respondents	Percentage
18-24	27	11%
25-29	46	18%
30-39	74	29%
40-49	48	19%
50-59	17	7%
60-69	21	8%
70-79	12	5%
80 or older	4	2%

### Gender

57% of respondents identified as female, 34% as male. 3% identified as intersex, transgender or non-binary.

### Languages spoken

The Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy survey engaged 251 people from a diverse range of backgrounds indicated by the wide range of languages spoken. The top languages spoken by the survey respondents were English (90%), Thai (30%), Mandarin (18%) and Cantonese (15%).



# Appendices

## Appendix A: Communications overview

The following is a snapshot of outcomes from marketing and communications activities undertaken to support the consultation. Activities reached a range of audience segments existing City of Sydney channels.

Activity	Outcome
<b>Sydney Your Say webpage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1867 views</li><li>• 250 survey link clicks</li></ul>
<b>Haymarket precinct page</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 717 views</li></ul>
<b>CoS News story</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1239 views</li></ul>
<b>Lord Mayor letter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To 14,709 properties (Owners / Businesses / residents) on 23/08/23</li><li>• Hand delivered to 28 businesses in Dixon Street.</li></ul>
<b>Notification email to key stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To 670 unique recipients on 24/08/23</li></ul>
<b>eNewsletters</b> Sydney Your Say September edition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6806 subscribers sent on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September</li></ul>

## Appendix B: Communications activities

### Sydney Your say webpage

### Have your say on plans to revitalise Haymarket

We invite your feedback on our Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan, to help shape future projects and actions.

Haymarket

**Under review**

Contributions to this consultation are closed for evaluation and review. The project team will report back on key outcomes.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD  
22 August 2023 to 25 September 2023

### Why we're doing this

In 2022 we worked with the community to develop a [vision for the future of Haymarket](#). Our draft Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan shows how we can make this community vision a reality.

The plans propose:

- more support for events and cultural celebrations in the area
- creating a precinct of lights
- more trees for a comfortable balance of light and shade
- incentivising investment and renewal to keep with the area's unique character
- upgrading local streets and parks to make the area more vibrant, safer and accessible.

### How to provide feedback

- [Join our community forum](#) (2)
- [Take our survey](#) (2)
- [View our interactive map](#) (2)
- [Visit our pop-up stands](#) (2)

**Kristina Kalnins**  
MANAGER CITY ENGAGEMENT  
02 9265 9333  
[sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney...](mailto:sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney...)  
COPY EMAIL ADDRESS

背景简介	▼
背景简介	▼
ทำไมเราจึงกำลังทำสิ่งนี้	▼
이 일을 하는 이유	▼
Mengapa kami melakukan Ini	▼

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Notification via eNews

Inclusion in Sydney Your Say eNewsletter on 6th of September

Sydney Your Say



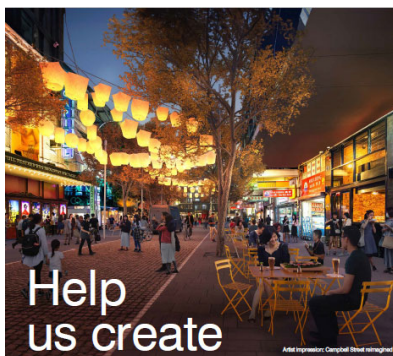
Your say on plans to revitalise Haymarket

We invite your feedback on our Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan, to help shape future projects and actions.

Register for the community forum, attend a pop-up event, submit your feedback online or by email.

Have your say by Monday 25 September.

[Read more](#)



Help us create  
**Haymarket's future**

帮助我们规划  
禧市的未来

Have your say  
[city.sydney/haymarket-vision](http://city.sydney/haymarket-vision)



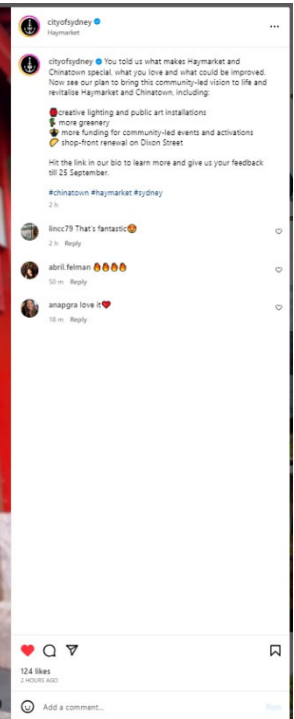
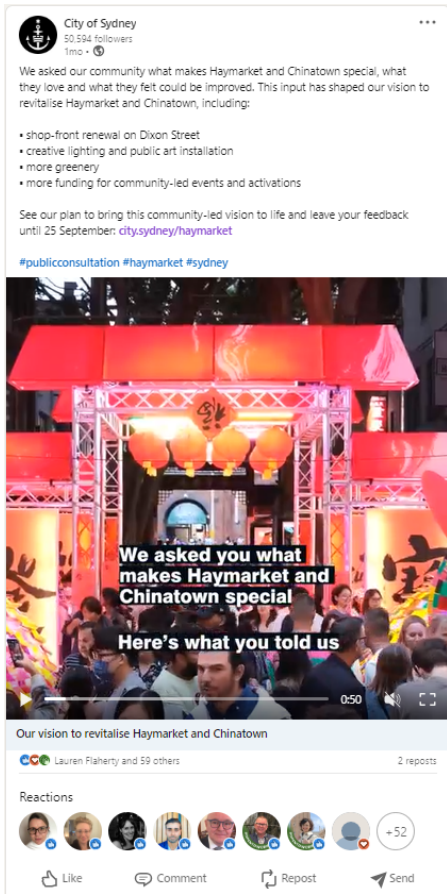
A vibrant, revitalised  
precinct is taking shape.  
一个充满活力、繁荣昌盛的街区即将呈现。



QMS  
advertising  
panels

# Engagement report – Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan

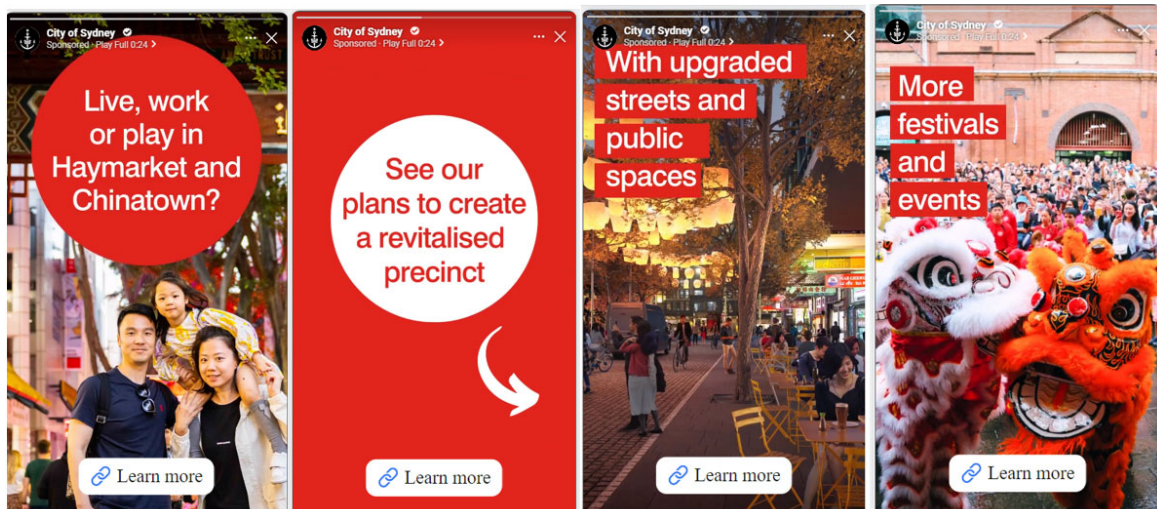
## Social media posts



## LinkedIn Video

## Instagram Reel

## Social media - paid



## Appendix C: Consultation materials

Summary document of the Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and Haymarket public domain plan produced in English, Chinese Simplified, Chinese Traditional, Korean, Indonesian and Thai.



**10 ideas for public spaces**

Our plans for a long-term upgrade include more trees, seats, lighting and integrated public art that will breathe life into the area. These improvements will be built over time.

**1 Balmore Park**  
Creating a safer, more welcoming green oasis

**2 Creative lighting master plan**  
Illuminating the precinct

**3 Dixon Street**  
Revitalising the heart of Chinatown

**4 Carrabell Street**  
Reinforcing the identity of Thai Town

**5 Harbour Street**  
Connecting old and new precincts

**6 Goulburn Street**  
Upgrading paving and lighting poles

**7 Sussex Street**  
Creating a green, connected street

**8 Ultimo Road**  
Revitalising the character of this street

**9**

**10 Quay Street**  
Improving pathways from Central to Darling Harbour

**Our vision for Haymarket**

"A vibrant, bustling place that celebrates diverse Asian cultures, that preserves its history and character while embracing contemporary forms of cultural expression."



**Projects in progress or completed**

- Preparing designs for Dixon Street's upgrade
- Restoring and heritage listing the Chinatown ceremonial gates
- Transforming George Street south
- Improving Thomas, Hay and Barlow streets and Ultimo Road
- Supporting local businesses and community groups with our grants
- Waiving outdoor dining fees until 2025
- Revitalising the area with major events like Sydney Lunar New Year and Sydney Streets
- Heritage listing the Kiowng War Chong building at 82-84 Dixon Street in 2020
- Supporting the precinct's branding, funded by the NSW Government's Upstream Accelerator Grant
- Supporting the new Museum of Chinese in Australia (MOCA), due to open in 2023/2024
- Sponsoring SXSW Sydney a week-long tech, innovation and culture event in Darling Harbour and Haymarket in October 2023.

**Have your say**

We want to hear your views on the draft Haymarket and Chinatown revitalisation strategy and the draft Haymarket public domain plan. Share your thoughts by 5pm, Monday 29 September:

- Complete our survey
- View our interactive map
- Email your feedback to [sydneyourway@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sydneyourway@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au) or post to: Municipal City Engagement, City of Sydney, Town Hall House, GPO Box 1591, Sydney NSW 2001



cityofsydney/haymarket




**CITY OF SYDNEY**

**Revitalising Chinatown and Haymarket**

**A future Haymarket is taking shape**


In 2022 we worked with the local community to develop a vision for the future of Haymarket. Our draft Haymarket and Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy and draft Haymarket Public Domain Plan shows how we can deliver on this community vision. These 2 draft documents are on consultation now.




Cover image: Neon Playground 2022, a festival funded through the City of Sydney's grants program. Photo: Katherine DeSilva

**Revitalisation strategy 5 ways we're bringing your vision for Haymarket to life**


- 1 Renewal of the heart**
  - Improve shopfronts in Dixon Street south through grants
  - Bring Dixon Street food preparation to restaurant front windows, enlivening the street
- 2 Planning and heritage**
  - More freedom and cultural expression in building signs and lighting
  - Encourage the renewal of smaller buildings as a point of difference from the city centre
  - Advocate for the improvement of Paddy's Markets, focused on Asian food and produce
  - Recognise more Chinese-Australian history in heritage listings
  - Advocate for the conservation of former Kiowng War Chong building at 82-84 Dixon Street
- 3 Public domain and art**
  - Increase space for walking, seating and outdoor dining
  - More creative lighting for safety, colour and atmosphere
  - Plant more trees and greening
  - Allocate more space and infrastructure for events, markets and gatherings
  - New public art
  - Improved cycling connections
  - Space for local business deliveries and for drop-offs and pick-ups
- 4 Culture and events**
  - More grant funding for community-led festivals and events
  - Expand the City of Sydney's oral history collection
  - Share Haymarket's history in the streets, for example walking tours or plaques
  - Continued funding and support for SXSW Sydney to boost Haymarket in the future
  - Investigate potential use of vacant building spaces
- 5 Collaboration and partnerships**
  - A new Haymarket coordinator to support people who want to be involved
  - Haymarket forum to bring together groups and champions on projects
  - Coordinate with the NSW Government for Market City, Dixon Street north and Quay Street north
  - Improve safety at night through projects such as the NSW Government's Purple Flag program



Dixon Street comes alive for a Sydney Streets event in 2022. Photo: Katherine DeSilva



Kintaro Lane and the public art installation in Belmore Two Worlds by Jason Wing. Photo: Katherine DeSilva



**Campbell Street reimagined - part of the public domain plan**

Artial impression

## Appendix D: Photos from the consultation popups

### Popup at Dixon street



### Haymarket Forum





## Appendix E: Haymarket Public Domain – Streets most important to improve – Breakdown of support.

Haymarket Public Domain – streets most important to improve				
Streets	Survey & pop-ups	Interactive map	Written submissions	Total in support of upgrading
Dixon Street	38 supported upgrading	2 supported upgrading	6 supported 1 opposed	<b>45</b>
Belmore Park	11 supported upgrading	30 supported upgrading	1 supported	<b>42</b>
Campbell Street / Thai Town (including Lanes)	19 support upgrading	15 supported upgrading 1 opposed (14 net positive)	4 supported 1 opposed (3 net positive)	<b>36</b>
Sussex St	12 supported upgrading	22 supported upgrading 9 opposed (13 net positive)	1 supported 5 opposed (4 net negative)	<b>21</b>
Hay St	11 supported upgrading	8 supported upgrading	1 opposed	<b>18</b>
Quay St	14 supported upgrading	No comments	2 supported	<b>16</b>
Harbour St	10 supported upgrading	1 opposed. Additional comment (bus zone) to refine upgrade. Noted in submissions table.	2 supported	<b>11</b>
George St	10 supported upgrading	No comments	0 supported	<b>10</b>
Thomas St	7 supported upgrading	No Comments	1 supported	<b>8</b>
Paddy's Market	3 supported upgrading	3 supported upgrading	1 supported	<b>7</b>
Ultimo Rd	7 supported upgrading	1 opposed upgrading	0 supported	<b>6</b>
Little Hay St	3 supported upgrading	No Comments	3 supported	<b>6</b>
Pitt St	6 supported upgrading	Comment out of project scope	0 supported	<b>6</b>
Kimber Lane	4 supported upgrading	No Comments	0 supported	<b>4</b>
Goulburn St	3 supported upgrading	No Comments	0 supported	<b>3</b>

## Appendix F: Summary of interactive map feedback

<b>Dixon Street – interactive map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Retain and repair existing awnings on Dixon Street buildings	1	1	0
<b>Harbour Street - interactive map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Opposes the proposed bus zone at 81 Harbour Street due to reduced amenity for residents. Suggests the bus zone stays in the current location	2	3	0
Opposes the proposed shared traffic turning lane on Harbour Street at Goulburn Street as it will increase the existing impact on traffic travelling north	1	0	1
<b>Sussex Street – interactive map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Supports a cycleway on Sussex Street	4	13	4
Opposes a cycling connection on Sussex Street because of impacts on businesses	2	3	5
<b>Campbell Street – interactive map</b>	<b>Number of times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Support for the proposal - particularly pedestrianisation	2	13	1
<b>Belmore Park – interactive map</b>	<b>Number of times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Belmore Park needs work done to make it safer and a more enjoyable space to be (including addressing issues associated with homelessness).	4	11	0
Formalise a bike path through Belmore Park to reduce risk of an incident between people walking and riding	1	3	0
Create space for events like talks, food and beverage and outdoor cinema in Belmore Park	1	1	0
Supports improving sightlines and entrances to Belmore Park	1	1	0
Retain and repair the Pergola in Belmore Park	1	0	0
Install bird baths in Belmore Park	1	0	0
Install nice lighting in Belmore Park - not too bright. Suggest fairy lights in trees in Belmore Park	1	0	0

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Create a small café in Belmore Park	1	0	0
Create more opportunities for play, places to relax, places to eat and ways for people to move around (eg.: kids/adults play facilities / water feature / communal seating).	1	2	0
<b>Ultimo Road – interactive map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Opposes reducing the Ultimo Road to one lane because of impacts on businesses	1	0	0
<b>Paddy’s Market – Interactive Map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Revitalise paddy’s market. We could have a wonderful market like Queen Victoria or Adelaide markets. Paddy’s is currently so uninspiring and not seen from the street. You only know it’s there if you happen to look through the doors.	1	2	0
<b>Pitt Street – Interactive Map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Provide a cycleway on Pitt Street between Hay and Campbell streets	1	2	2
<b>Hay Street – Interactive Map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Please provide more seating between trees/shade areas - a great open social spaces for pop-up shows and stalls	1	4	0
Please use shade trees in this area, as it's a huge expanse of paving and gets quite hot in summer.	1	2	0
<b>Precinct-wide comments – interactive map</b>	<b>No. times mentioned</b>	<b>Up votes</b>	<b>Down votes</b>
Share bikes need to be better managed to address existing clutter and pedestrian safety issues (designated parking areas for bike.) More e-chargers should be made for cars.	1	5	2
Provide bike parking for cargo bikes and bike valet parking	1	3	2
Provide bike connections as part of the revitalisation	1	4	1
Preserve the heritage of the area but it does need an upgrade and tidy up	1	6	0

## Appendix G: The key points made in the written submissions

There were 26 submissions received via email: 4 associations/committees, 9 businesses and 13 individuals submitted. One individual submitted via phone. The key points made in the submissions are here organised by submitter.

### **Soul of Chinatown**

- Support for the City's work to revitalise Chinatown including the draft Strategy, Plan and the proposed heritage listing of the Gates.
- The Council's plans should include the establishment of a Chinatown Community Centre to share Chinese and Asian-Australian tradition, history, and culture. This could include classes and workshops on Chinese language, calligraphy, mahjong, arts, crafts and creative, as well as fostering community (support for elderly, new migrants, students, etc).

### Draft Revitalisation Strategy

- The strategy and the plan should incorporate more elements of history through placemaking. For example, plaques which tell significance of history of sites and buildings.
- Chinatown should be the focus of the Strategy.
- The 'Market District' is also part of Chinatown.

### Draft Public Domain Plan

- Previous pedestrianisations at Darling Square and George Street have cut off Chinatown, now need to correct former mistakes.
- Need to strengthen the connection between south and north Chinatown across Hay Street at Thomas / Sussex and Dixon (from Market City).
- There is a need for a more visible crossing from Paddy's Market/Market City to Dixon Street, to warn pedestrians of the oncoming light rail and vehicles on Hay St.
- The pedestrianised space at Thomas Street could support markets and events.
- Introduce Chinatown-specific fixtures and lighting plan to support distinctive character.
- Hay Street West – this should have been upgraded and paid for by the Darling Square development. Prioritise Chinatown.
- Chinatown Markets must stay in Chinatown.
- Dixon Street north – coordination with Placemaking and consultation with the community.
- Public art on Campbell Street should also acknowledge Chinese contribution and history.
- Support Harbour Street upgrade. Suggest new gates at either end of Little Hay Street.
- Acknowledge relationship between heritage / development and public domain.
- Sussex Street – drop off locations must be maintained. Do not support cycleways which are often empty; prefer wider footpaths.

### **Thai Town Business and the Thai Community Association**

- Want to retain the loading zone area on Campbell Street from 6am-6pm on weekdays and before midday on Saturdays.
- Install the meter parking spots near to Thai town so restaurateurs can buy food from the grocers.
- Upgrade the Goulburn Street car park – cleaner, better lighting, larger lifts. Reduce charges for evening and weekend.
- A cycle lane on Campbell Street is not supported due to narrow width and number of vehicles making three-point turns. There is insufficient space already.
- Curve the end of Campbell Street to make turning safer.
- Recognise Thai town and celebrate Thai culture, through:
  - signage
  - gates like in Chinatown.
  - a Thai-style public artwork on George Street
  - Cunningham Street, Parker Street and Parker Lane transformed into art laneways
  - a Thai town night market on Campbell Street after 6 p.m. with
  - outdoor dining and seating facility, pop-up food stalls and vendors
  - Campbell Street closure after 6 P.M and on Sunday evenings to convert it into a walking Street, a late-night market and outdoor eating for restaurants
  - Thai street performances like the Long Drum Procession and traditional costume parade
  - an information kiosk on Campbell Street
- Improve Belmore Park as a space for cultural events for all communities in the area - such as Thai Town, Chinatown, Korea Town and Vietnamese Town.
- More police patrol at night to keep the area safe. Support converting Campbell Street into a shared zone with event infrastructure and a high-quality pedestrian environment.

### **Haymarket Chamber of Commerce**

- The Chamber strongly supports the City’s revitalisation strategy, the proposed domain improvements, and the proposal for the heritage listing of the gates. Proposals ought to be commenced as soon as possible.
- The Chamber notes and acknowledges the substantial amount of work that has been put into the various reports and plans by Council staff, and we express our gratitude to all Councillors and Council staff for their significant contribution to what has been achieved to date. We would ask that Council continues to work closely with the Haymarket community to finalise and implement the Proposals. Local knowledge, feedback and participation are essential.
- Following from the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated difficulties, this is now a timely opportunity for all stakeholders (including from the public and private sectors and our culturally diverse communities) led by the City of Sydney to

further shape our most unique Haymarket (that has Chinatown, Thai Town and Korea Town located just next to each other) into a sought-after food and entertainment precinct, with cultural heritage and diversity as its strength. A place that is enjoyable to live and work, with world-class amenities. Already an education hub and soon part of a larger Tech Central precinct. It also has potential to be a significant theatre and arts precinct.

- Implementation must cause minimal disruption to existing businesses, who have already suffered in recent years.
- The cultural heritage of our precinct must continue to be strengthened and preserved.
- Support for a dedicated Haymarket coordinator.
- Dixon Street trees are causing the ‘yin’ effect. There is a lack of energy due to insufficient sunlight coming through. An immediate solution needs to be found
- Support for Dixon Street co-funding proposal. Consider extending to the rest of the precinct on a case-by-case basis.
- More drop off and pick up is needed to make accessible to the disabled, elderly and those with young families.
- Heritage listings must be carefully considered and not stifle progress.
- Activations and events are effective at bringing people back but need to be held on a regular basis.

### **GoGet**

- The Revitalisation of Haymarket and Chinatown is an opportunity to make these areas more pedestrian-friendly, green and accessible; implementing carshare is a tool to help achieve this.
- Propose the new regulation for developments where carshare numbers are tied to the number of units (rather than parking spaces).
- Support development with low/no parking, but this would require more carshare in council streets to meet demand these new buildings will generate.
- Recommend establishing the ratio of one carshare parking spot per 40 apartments without parking spaces.
- More car share spaces means fewer cars parked on the streets, freeing up space for other community needs.

### **Individual**

- Overall, pleased with the Strategy.
- Older community members and Cantonese-speakers often do not understand or feel they have a voice.
- There is a challenge with people understanding the pros and cons of heritage listing, hence the opposition.
- There needs to be a balance between cultural sensitivity and modernity. Need to recognise Chinatown’s Cantonese history.
- It is important to understand the significance of colours to the Chinese.
- Campbell Street – before it was Thai Town, Cambell Street was once the heart of Chinatown. This history should not be forgotten. Would suggest signs and plaques as a reminder.

### Individual

- Chinatown is no longer accessible for people who are less able to walk. For example, there are no longer restaurants where you can drop off / pick up / park to dine with elderly relatives.
- Does not support Dixon Street public domain proposal – extensive periods of construction are horrible and traumatic for people living there (as experienced on George Street). Don't dig up the street. New seating and tree removal not supported.
- Supports the idea to repaint and revive shopfronts on Dixon Street – recommend this is done by bringing in one large work crew to do all the buildings and clean the street in one weekend.
- Sussex Street – does not support road narrowing or cycle lane. Need more drop off and pick up.
- More space for servicing, deliveries, and drop off/pick up is needed to support the vibrancy of the City and attract visitors.
- Campbell Street – does not support any reduction in vehicular access on Campbell Street. The street is very narrow and in high demand already, with all cars making a three-point turn. Need a turning circle at the end of the street. Improve delivery and pick up / drop off. Does not need outdoor dining.
- There needs to be a 3-6am window when garbage trucks can come up George Street. Not acceptable to have to take bins up to Sussex Street.

### Individual

- Noting the challenges Chinatown has faced in recent years (pandemic, disruption by construction, competition from Darling Square, decline in maintenance and neglect by private property owners), support for the Draft Strategy and Plan
- In response to the Strategy's action: Advocate for the conservation of Kwong War Chong Building at 82-84 Dixon Street
  - The building is falling into a state of disrepair
  - CAHS has urged the Heritage Council and the City to take action
  - The voluntary planning agreement has not been delivered on
  - The need to ensure the immediate preservation of this building and its extant domestic collection is urgent
  - The City should take steps to find a solution to the building's preservation and future use as a museum
  - The Tenement Museum in New York is a good example of what it could be like
- In response to the Strategy's action: To strengthen cultural heritage
  - Support the Council's proposal to update the locality statement
  - Recommend that the Council investigate nominating Haymarket Chinatown as a 'Cultural Heritage Precinct', as is done Vancouver, as a way to recognise both tangible and intangible forms (for example diaspora dialects, culinary heritage, traditions, celebrations, etc) of cultural heritage.
  - It is important that any research or work be commissioned in conjunction with local community organisations and historians and academics who have extensive knowledge in the history of Chinese in Sydney (a list is provided).

### **Individual**

- The City should consider why Sydney's East Asian communities are turning away from Chinatown
- Accessibility – Sydney is a car dependent city. Chinatown needs better access by car and convenient car parking within a short distance, for example to support multi-generational families dining out on special occasions.
- Five Asian bakeries, three fresh seafood shops, and three grocers have closed in Chinatown in the past 10 years. As businesses close, there is less reason to come to Chinatown.

### Draft Revitalisation Strategy

- Response to proposed action to encourage fine grain renewal - Little Hay Street has been sterilised by blank frontages and large driveways due to two new developments along the north side of the street. These should not be allowed. Little Hay is lifeless with no active shopfronts.
- Would like further detail about community support for smaller shopfronts and fine grain.
- None of the community engagement as summarised in page 12 -13 of the Draft Revitalisation Strategy express the desire of creating more greenery and tree canopies around the precinct with the exception of George Street.

### Draft Public Domain Plan

- Why is Little Hay Street not a project?
- Sussex Street - providing greenery on public domain is not seen as most important feature of East Asian cultures, nor are cycle lanes. Trees should be strategically placed to provide shade and reduce urban heat island, but not for cultural or aesthetic reasons.
- Do not support tree-lined boulevard, cycle lanes, or outdoor dining on Sussex Street. It should embrace its own former character rather than being like every other street in the city.
- New public art and landscaping at the corner of Ultimo Road and Thomas Street has not attracted activity and catches rubbish.
- Need more regard for cultural needs and local context, rather than can-be-anywhere design solutions.

### **Individual**

- Support for upgrade to seating and tree management
- Dixon Street doesn't get much sunlight and looks very uninviting.
- Hope to see community spaces which promote Chinese history and culture (eg. Chinese opera or Chinese instruments)
- Would love to see a Museum of Chinese in Australia
- Would love to see exhibitions / replicas telling the story of Chinese people who lived on Dixon Street in shared houses, with tea rooms and gaming rooms.
- More history tours

### **Strata Committee, Prince Centre Building, 8 Quay Street**

- Australian Chinese who settled here 40 years ago – saw the 'hayday' of the 1980s/90s and decline since the early 2000s.



- Support the City's efforts to revitalise the area.
- Important to understand the history of Chinatown.
- Initially developed as a 'gathering place' of Chinese migrants so that they could support each other. A place to access goods and services in your own language and visit restaurants and grocers.
- It later became a tourist attractions, especially for Chinese speaking tourists.
- Despite the increase in Chinese people in Sydney, the population is more dispersed. Lack of affordable parking and infrastructure means people do not come to Haymarket from the suburbs.
- Benefits of light rail are starting to outweigh the costs. However, some young families and elderly and disabled people still prefer cars.
- Chinatown has become more like the rest of the CBD. The nature of the streets and buildings are basically the same as the other parts of the City apart from the fact that you can see some Chinese characters on them.
- Strict development controls have resulted in it becoming run down and less attractive.
- Commercial and retail vacancies are high as a result.
- Support the Council's proposals but also recommend:
  - Affordable or free parking, conveniently located.
  - Relax planning controls to encourage new mixed use developments to take place.
  - Change the mix with larger residential component, helping to resolve the housing crisis and stimulate the economy.

### **Posei Pty Limited**

- We support the community vision and themes set out in the Haymarket & Chinatown Revitalisation Strategy. The actions proposed in the City's five-point plan, the Public Domain Plan and the Planning Proposal Heritage Item Chinatown Ceremonial Gates are encouraging but not enough to achieve the enunciated community vision and themes or strengthen the capacity of Chinatown/Haymarket to develop progressively while retaining its unique Chinese and Asian character.
- Long-term prosperity lies in retaining its authenticity as a hub for living, working, and gathering, day and night.
- Efforts should be targeted at increasing the number of businesses that provide Chinese and Asian goods and services, organisations that provide cultural activities and the area's permanent resident and worker populations. Visitations will increase if these are in place.
- A wholesale review of planning controls is needed to allow development to attract residents, workers, businesses, and investors.
- To assist fulfilment of the objectives of the Revitalisation Strategy and help the community follow the progress of the actions, it is suggested that a table be included in the Strategy setting out the six themes, actions proposed to realise each theme, roles of parties in charge and partners, deadlines and milestones, resources and evaluation measures.

### **Draft Revitalisation Strategy**

- Response to proposed action Co-funding incentive – support proposal but recommend Council extend the scheme to the whole of Chinatown/Haymarket as upgrading one street is not enough to lift the whole area.

- Co-funding incentive design guide should not be overly prescriptive. Moving food preparation may not suit the operational model of some businesses.
- Support raising the street wall height.
- The Council should also review maximum building height and Floor Space Ratio (FSR) to test the effect on pedestrian amenity. York Street Special Character Area has similar warehouse buildings but enjoys a higher FSR and height.
- The economic study highlights that Chinatown has the lowest worker density, which demonstrates that the planning controls are not working.
- Residential vs commercial should be left to market forces.
- Encourage cultural expression in building signage and lighting.
- Signs that express the character of Chinese and other Asian cultures are welcome. Signs should also include English, the common language in Australia.
- Consultation with Chinese history organisations as well as long owners is important for Council to make better decisions about the heritage value of any item.
- Heritage protection should not curb development, which would be contrary to revitalisation.
- Council must ensure the development potential of the buildings in the vicinity of the gates is not adversely affected by the heritage listing of the gates.
- Support festivals, events and activations and opportunities to showcase the Chinese Australian community's history. More permanent establishments (like the Museum of Chinese in Australia) and regular events are required to attract repeat visitors.
- Historically there were travelling performers in Haymarket. More performance would draw people and help to showcase culture. Council's support is sought for a regular talent show to be held in Chinatown.
- Establish a Chinese Cultural Centre where people from all over Sydney can come and learn traditional arts and crafts, such as embroidery, painting, calligraphy, cooking and music.
- Establish at least one more art gallery to showcase traditional and contemporary artists of Chinese and Asian backgrounds.
- Support the appointment of a Haymarket coordinator.
- Council should try to involve the broader community and invite them to join the Haymarket Forum.

#### Draft Public Domain Plan

- Chinatown is not easy to get to or around. Closing Hay Street has improved it for pedestrians but cut Chinatown in two and deters people who drive.
- The loss of the entertainment centre car park has made parking more expensive and less convenient.
- Although public transportation should be encouraged, many people still need to drive (young families / elderly / people with disability)
- Kerbside parking spaces should be increased, or at least retained.
- Provide passenger drop off and pick up spaces and short term stay parking.
- Consider allowing parking in loading zones after 3pm.
- Consider having more rangers or modern technology to monitor parking.
- More pedestrians are welcome but they also bring out conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists. Some cyclists ride on the pavement endangering

pedestrians, especially elderly people. Low speed traffic helps to avoid accidents but better education for cyclists and pedestrians is also necessary.

- More public art and creative lighting installations are welcome. Consult with community to ensure culturally appropriate.
- The trees on Dixon are excessively overgrown, all or some should be removed and replaced with more appropriate trees.
- Increase the regular cleaning of streets.

**Loon Yee Tong Society Incorporated (50-52 Dixon Street) and Goon Yee Tong Limited (54 Dixon Street)**

- In response to the City's proposal to investigate the heritage significance of the building.
- Most of the buildings, if not all, along Dixon Street were constructed over a hundred years ago.
- A proposal to heritage list the property is unjustified and strongly objected to.
- Listing the property would not be in the best interest of the members.
- Recommend the buildings are not listed.

**Individual (submission via phone)**

- Feedback is about Dixon Street.
- Area is too dark and needs lighting.
- Lions and Chinatown gates need painting.
- Need nicer, bright, colourful tables and chairs, with tablecloths to look more attractive.
- Need to make the street more inviting, colourful, and joyful.
- Landowners should be required by Council to refurbish their buildings / shopfronts every 5 years.

**Lendlease / Darling Square**

- Support revitalisation strategy and public domain overlay.
- A key component to creating successful places to visit, work, play and dwell is a cohesive tenancy mix.
- Understanding that multiple landlords with different objectives make up Haymarket precinct and that aligning a tenancy mix may be challenging, I suggest exploring the possibility of engaging a neutral expert to review and advise a tenancy masterplan which could be used as a guidance tool for landlords.

**Banna Group**

- The draft strategy is welcome.
- To compete with surrounding competition, an innovative and daring approach is required.
- Grants – a program to encourage building owners and retailers to upgrade their shopfronts and buildings is a good initiative. The City could be proactive

to identify improvements and direct landowners. Funding could also cover simple things like graffiti removal and repainting.

- Dixon Street upgrade – advocate for the removal of all, if not all, weeping figs which have overgrown the street and make it dark / cold - could be replaced by smaller trees. The lighting of the gates is welcome. Adaptive reuse of the pergola could be good. Overall, lighting in Dixon St needs to be both aesthetic and functional and sufficient lighting is required.
- Precinct co-ordinator – a good idea. Assist with bringing businesses along.
- Support grants for more events.
- Consider closure of Little Hay Street (between Sussex and Harbour Street) to traffic which would improve pedestrianisation and allow for more outdoor dining and activation of public open space.
- Consider more flexible open spaces for performances and ensure infrastructure (eg. Power) is provided.
- Consider improved wayfinding to Chinatown.
- Consider a strong marker at Little Hay Street opposite Darling Square which will enable tourists from ICC to see where the western entry for Chinatown is.
- Integration with Tech Central is important. Encourage more innovative and entrepreneurship such as Landing Pad programs, international business events etc.
- Paddy's Markets should focus on improving its existing offer rather than reduce its retail floorspace and offer it to an external food operation.
- the draft revitalisation strategy, draft Dixon St public domain plans and overall direction from the City is excellent - commence works and actions as soon as possible.

#### **Individual**

- Concerned that Chinatown will become a homogenised 'Asian' precinct and that Cantonese culture will be lost.

#### **Individual**

- Sydney Chinatown is synonymous with Chinese cuisine for most Sydneysiders
- Looking to its history, Chinese came as gold miners for the gold rush
- My maternal Great-grandfather came to Sydney by a tall ship, stopping in Chinatown to get supplies through See Yup Society before going to work in the goldfields. The Society credited for the supplies, collected repayments from labour debtors , represented minors like a union and helped send remittances home.
- Chinatown helped Chinese migrants settling in Sydney and Chinese Australians to connect with their community. Fond memories of weekly shop every Saturday. There was a social network for the Hakka, a Chinese race, to which my maternal Grandmother belonged.
- Without its history, Chinatown has no meaning, other than yum cha and Chinese dishes.
- Recommend that the City of Sydney establishes a museum of Chinatown preserve the history of Chinatown

### **Surfside Hotels (Market City Tavern and Star Hotel)**

- Council are proposing to update Sussex St (reduce to one lane traffic, add bike lane, add trees) to make it look better. We think this is a great idea.
- Campbell St Thai Town upgrade will be great to draw for tourists and the community, and promoting a diverse Asian village.
- In general, we are very excited for the future and look forward to the improved district.

### **Individual (landowner)**

- Attracting people back into this part of the city is essential if it is going to flourish.
- A simple first step could be to get the property owners to remove the graffiti. Graffiti attracts graffiti and the sooner it can be removed the better.
- An easy night-time attractor could be putting fairy lights around the existing substantial trees in the area possibly linking Chinatown, Thai Town, and Korea Town. It is a very effective way of making a statement.
- Loading and unloading is essential when you have mass patrons to cater to which is what you are essentially trying to achieve. Please don't reduce loading areas or bus drop-off areas as part of your plan. Loading from Sussex Street, south of Goulburn Street, and Little Haymarket Street is essential to the local businesses.
- The general lighting ideas presented at the Forum were great as was the support of neon signage.
- Dixon Street needs some form of deep clean, running a street sweeper over this is not enough.
- People are attracted to safe and clean places, presently, some parts of Chinatown don't meet this standard which is to the whole areas detriment.

### **Individual (landowner)**

- Resident of the Peak Tower
- Happy to see the revitalisation of the area
- In support of the comprehensive planning and consultations
- Would like to see flowers, as well as greenery to help enhance the area and add colours and seasonal variety. The square at Town Hall is a good example.
- Remove the 'no standing' zone on Quay Street (or limit to busy times)– this is an important pick up / drop off spot for residents, especially elderly residents.
- The street (Quay Street) has no-through traffic so there is space which could be better used by allocating the space differently. The middle lane could provide right turn on to Ultimo Road. Thus, there is room to have two southbound driving lanes without using the curb lane in addition to the second southbound lane being in excess of single northbound lane.

### **Individual**

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- Provide improved public transport options to get to/from Haymarket. There is no use trying to implement no car access if you can't give good options. This includes for both night and day.
- Good lighting / pretty
- Provide parking spots. People are going to continue to use cars for a number of reasons. Don't exclude them.
- Make streets and footpaths even. They are in terrible condition and a hazard.
- Greening – there is very little in the City. It gets very hot and is not attractive. Try for reduced allergy planting and water-efficient planting. And more flowers - there are many foliage options that are stunning and low maintenance.
- Garbage bins. People will not take their rubbish with them, so supply bins.
- Improved seating. Such as simple bench or stool seating under some trees.
- Pay tribute to the people of the Haymarket. I don't mean just the Indigenous, I also mean the Chinese people who Haymarket is really known for.

**Individual**

- Perhaps more shade trees, not palm trees, for the facades of shops and along the footpaths of Haymarket.
- Gingko trees and cherry blossoms would be perfect - they are quite tolerant of our climate and inner-city conditions...
- Cherry blossoms in particular look beautiful in spring when they flower and would reflect the oriental flavour of the area.

**Individual**

- Would ask for an entry gate to Thai Town at the corner of Campbell and George Streets
- It could be temporary and changing for festivals and events
- It could have live updates to promote upcoming local events
- Examples are provided from Amazing Thailand festival and Lunar New Year

**Individual**

- Sussex Street is already narrow and there is very heavy traffic when the night market is on. A cycle way and more trees will make Sussex a single lane, causing more traffic.

**Capitol Square (regarding Campbell Street)**

- The Capitol Square car park holds 125 spaces. This services the Capitol Hotel, Meriton building and Mantra building as well as the Capitol Theatre.
- Servicing to local buildings occurs early in the morning. Rubbish is collected through the loading dock and linen is delivered to the hotel in early AM.
- George Street deliveries come in through Campbell Street to the many shops and buildings on the pedestrian plaza on George Street.
- There is a tidal flow to the traffic. A lot of people enter between 6-7pm, and 125 cars exit at 10pm on Wed-Sat nights. This also occurs during the Wed, Sat and Sun lunchtime matinees and is quite chaotic.

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- Currently there is a lot of drop-off and pick-ups and general vehicular conflict. The City has recently put no stopping and no-through road signs up but there remains a lot of vehicular conflict.
- There is a lot a 3-point turn activity at the end of the street. Coaches sometimes have to reverse out. Truck 3-point turns often go onto the footpath.
- There is a shortage of loading zones.
- Generally support an upgrade to Campbell Street, but it needs to work from a traffic perspective.
- Concerned that adding cyclists will add extra challenges.
- Concerned that a shared zone would be unsafe.
- Concerned that a shared zone might make the car park entry hard to find.
- Prefer a roll kerb or more definition of the roadway rather than a shared zone or plaza.
- Changes to the signalling of the intersection at Pitt and Campbell Street would help to alleviate congestion.
- Prefer that uber and taxi drop-off remain in the street
- Want to know what is happening with the bollards outside the Capitol Theatre.
- Suggest a sign at intersection of Pitt and Campbell that show how many spaces are available at Capitol Square carpark – to stop people driving down Campbell Street when the car park is full.

**Artcraft**

- Clear wayfinding and signage is a critical part of ensuring visitors have an enjoyable experience and can easily connect to key hubs within the area. This signage also must fit with the cultural heritage of the area and embrace the cultural and language diversity of both residents and visitors.

