

Item 30.**Traffic Treatment - Landscaped Median Strip - Morley Avenue, Rosebery**

TRIM Container No.: 2023/598674

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the installation of two 2 metre wide landscaped median strips in Morley Avenue, Rosebery between the points 16.4 metres and 24.4 metres and between the points 61.1 metres and 83.6 metres east of Rothschild Avenue.

Voting Members for this Item

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

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

The 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 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, and the maximised shading of large areas of hardstand.

As part of this strategy, the proposal to install two raised medians strips in Morley Avenue, Rosebery will provide space for planting of trees and general landscaping.

Comments

Morley Avenue, Rosebery between Rothschild Avenue and Primrose Avenue, is a 12.8-metre-wide road with one traffic lane and one parking lane in each direction. The street provides local access to properties in Rosebery.

The proposal to install two raised median strips will provide opportunity for increased tree planting and landscaping and will also provide an additional traffic calming measure in the street.

The proposed raised medians strips will be 2 metres wide maintaining a 3.2 metre wide travel lane. The western strip will be 8 metres long and the eastern strip will be 22.5 metres long respectively. Traffic flow and kerb side parking will not be impacted. Access to the driveways will be maintained.

The proposed treatment will provide space to plant five trees which will increase shade and cool the street, improve the amenity in the street and contribute to the overall canopy cover of the area to meet the City's adopted greening targets.

Consultation

The City consulted local resident and businesses for a period of 30 days (4 September to 3 October 2023). This included a letter box drop to 214 properties and an online webpage Sydney Your Say (SYS) requesting feedback on the proposal.

A total of 19 submissions were received; ten submissions supported the proposal, one submission partially supported the proposal, and eight submissions did not support the proposal. One site meeting with a resident was conducted.

Ten of the 16 survey respondents noted 'Yes' when asked "Do you support increasing the tree canopy in Morley Avenue?"

The responses opposing the proposal noted that the proposal may have an impact on access to existing driveways, limit access for emergency services and for bike delivery drivers, and that there were already enough trees on the street. They were also concerned about the potential impact to parking, impact to sightlines and the ongoing maintenance of the landscaped areas. Positive comments included request for the scope to be extended further and a request for a 30km/hr speed to be enforced.

To respond to the feedback received during the consultation a second notification letter has been issued to residents, and those who submitted feedback. This letter has provided responses to the concerns raised related to the installation of the median strips on the street.

Median strips are part of a suite of traffic treatments used within the LGA on local roads to provide greening and traffic calming. The minimum travel lane width of 3.2m is a requirement for these types of traffic treatment projects to ensure that there is no impact to access for vehicles including emergency vehicles, and access into and out of all driveways has been modelled using swept path analysis and will be maintained. There will be some impact to parking during construction, with no impact to parking once the works have been completed.

Minor modification was made to the proposal to accommodate the turning movements into some driveways based on the feedback received.

Financial

Funds are available in the current capital works budget.

HELEN ROGERS, PROJECT MANAGER - TREE MANAGEMENT