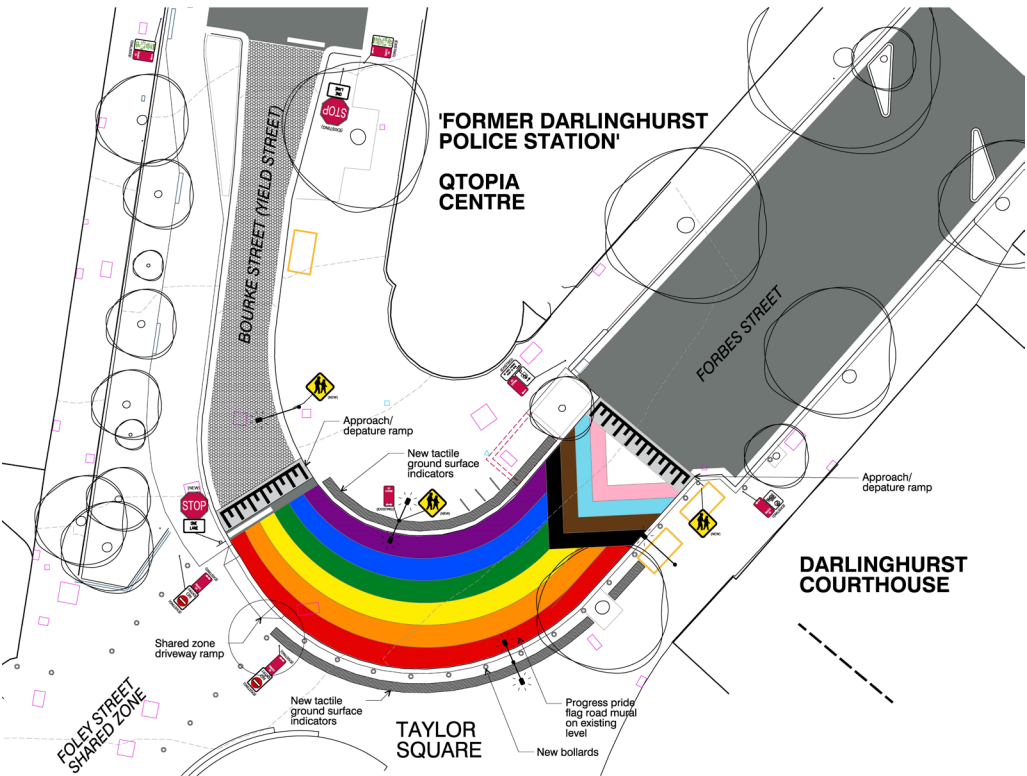


# Engagement report – Raised intersection with progress pride flag artwork



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# Overview

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## Project background

The City of Sydney is proposing to install a raised intersection at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes streets in Darlinghurst. This includes a Progress Pride flag design to reflect the changed environment and represents local businesses and LGBTQA+ communities in the public domain.

Our proposal will make crossing the road between Qtopia Sydney and Taylor Square easier and more accessible for people.

Qtopia Sydney's opening and future development will transform the former Darlinghurst police station into a cultural and tourist destination. It will attract more visitors across Bourke and Forbes streets, and Taylor Square from Oxford Street and beyond.

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## Purpose of engagement

In October 2023 Council resolved to investigate more locations and opportunities for new pride crossings in the City of Sydney area using the Progress Pride flag design. See Council decision: <https://meetings.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=4702>

The purpose of this consultation was to gather community feedback regarding the new raised intersection at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes streets in Darlinghurst, which includes a Progress Pride flag design.

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## Engagement summary

This report outlines the engagement activities that took place in April and May 2024 to gather feedback on the proposal. It also summarises the key findings from this consultation.

569 surveys were completed during the consultation period, between 24 April 2024 to 8 May 2024.

We received 7 written submissions from community members.

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## Engagement findings

### Overall sentiment

The proposal received strong overall support, with 73% of the 576 total respondents supporting the new raised intersection.

### Reasons for support

355 people chose to explain the reason for their support. The primary reasons mentioned were that:

- The project would support the LGBTQ Community and Qtopia (85%)

- It would make crossing the road safer (8%)

### **Reasons for opposition**

143 people chose to explain the reason for not supporting the proposal. The primary reasons mentioned were as follows:

- There are more important things to spend public money on (30%)
- Original rainbow flag is more representative of gay community (17%)
- Cites transgender related concerns around the Progress Pride Flag (17%)
- The Rainbow Flag represents only a small part of the overall population (15%)
- Traffic hazard concerns (10%)

# Outcomes of engagement

The following is a snapshot of the outcomes from the engagement.

## Submissions received during April and May 2024 consultation

We received a total of 576 submissions and the Sydney Your Say page was visited 1930 times during the public exhibition period.

Quantity	Description of activity
576	Total submissions received
569	Survey submissions
7	Written submissions received via emailed
1930	Sydney Your Say webpage visits

## Demographic Data

### Age

Of those respondents that answered this question age ranged from 16 to over 80. The majority of responses were by people between the age of 30-39 (26%), 40-49 (24%) and 50-59 (22%).

### Gender

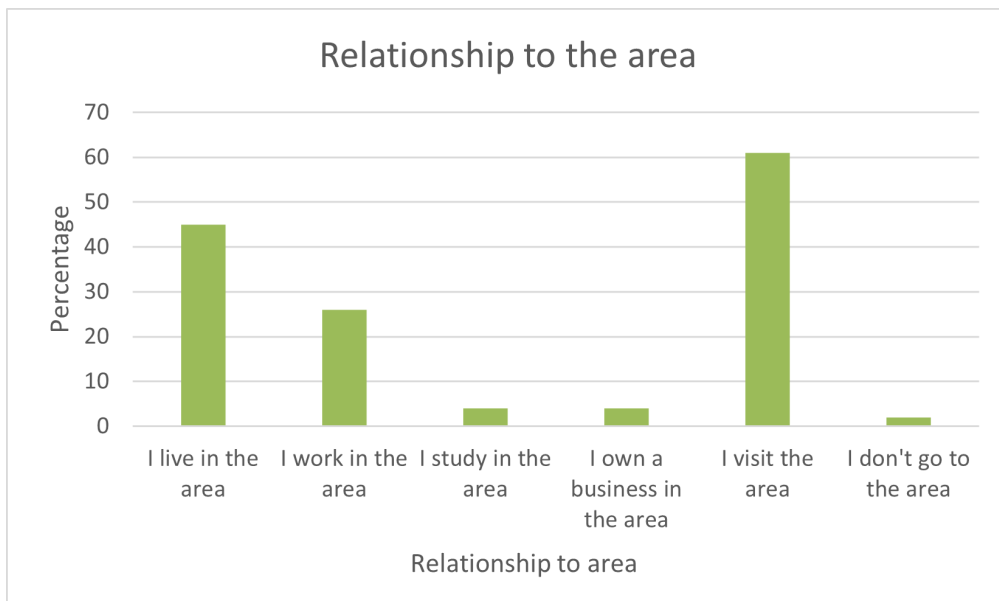
Of those respondents that answered this question 26% identified as female, 62% as male, and 5% as intersex, trans or gender non-binary.

### Cultural Background

Respondents identified as being from a wide range of cultural backgrounds including Australian, Aboriginal, European, German, Greek, Dutch, Chinese, Sir Lankan, Iraqi, Indian, New Zealand and Māori.

### Relationship to the area

406 people answered this question and stated their relationship to the area as follows (people could select more than one answer):



# Traffic impacts

## Submissions table – issues raised related to traffic

Community feedback	Number of times mentioned	City of Sydney response
Multi-coloured crossings, instead of black and white, can negatively effect neurodivergent pedestrians, blind people, people with dementia, service animals and horses.	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The raised intersection with Progress Pride Flag artwork is not classified as a pedestrian crossing (zebra crossing).</li> <li>• The aim of a raised intersection is firstly to act as a traffic calming measure. The raised intersection coupled with approach/ departure ramps will act as traffic calming measure to encourage slower approach speeds.</li> <li>• Secondly, at a raised intersection the footpaths are at the same level as the road surface. As such, it facilitates a seamless travel for pedestrians and cyclists and improves universal access for the visually impaired and people in wheelchairs and prams.</li> <li>• Pedestrians do not have priority at the intersection and should cross the road only when there is a safe gap in traffic.</li> <li>• The artwork alerts drivers that there is a change in the road environment, encouraging them to drive at a slower speed.</li> </ul>
Multi-coloured crossings are confusing for pedestrians and motorists	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Progress Pride Flag artwork at the intersection is not designated as a pedestrian crossing.</li> <li>• Pedestrians do not have priority at the intersection and should cross the road only</li> </ul>

		<p>when there is a safe gap in traffic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The artwork alerts drivers that there is a change in the road environment, encouraging them to drive at a slower speed.</li> </ul>
Multi-coloured raised crossings create congestion	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The City's current rainbow artwork installed along the signalised pedestrian crossing at Bourke and Campbell Streets, Surry Hills has not created congestion.</li> <li>• The proposed raised intersection with Progress Pride Flag artwork is planned in an area with low traffic volume. As such congestion is not expected.</li> <li>• Given that this particular proposal will be the first of its kind in the city, the City will monitor traffic volumes in the area and if there is congestion, appropriate solutions to mitigate the issue will be considered.</li> </ul>
<p>The City of Sydney risks breaching the UN Convention on Road Signs and Signals by implementing this proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Article 29.2: This article mandates that "road markings... shall be yellow or white." A rainbow crossing would violate this standardisation.</li> <li>• Article 27.4: This article directs that pedestrian crossings should be marked with "broad stripes, parallel to the axis of the carriageway." The inclusion of the chevron in the Progress Pride Flag on a crossing further jeopardises compliance.</li> </ul> <p>I urge the City to familiarise itself with UN General Assembly Resolution 60/5, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritises Road Safety: The resolution highlights road accidents as a critical public health issue, urging UN members to act.</li> <li>• Advocates for Standardisation: The resolution emphasises adherence to international conventions such as the UN Convention on Road Signs and Signals, designed to enhance safety</li> </ul>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The raised intersection with the Progress Pride Flag artwork is not designated as a pedestrian crossing.</li> <li>• The artwork does not indicate to pedestrians that it is a pedestrian crossing.</li> <li>• Pedestrians do not have priority at the intersection and should cross the road only when there is a safe gap in traffic.</li> <li>• The City will commission a Road Safety Audit as part of the design process.</li> </ul>

through consistent road markings. Non-compliance with the Convention and the resolution's principles will compromise the safety of our roads. Please don't play with our safety!		



# 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>• 1930 views</li></ul>
<b>CEO letter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To 480 local owners / businesses / residents on 25 April.</li></ul>
<b>Notification email to stakeholders</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To 220 unique recipients on 24 April.</li></ul>

## Appendix B: Communications activities

### Sydney Your Say webpage

# Your say on a new raised crossing with the Progress Pride flag design

Darlinghurst

## Under review

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

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD  
24 April 2024 to 8 May 2024

## What we're doing

We're proposing a new rainbow crossing at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes streets in Darlinghurst, which includes a Progress Pride flag design. It will recognise the area has changed with the recent opening of Qtopia Sydney.

The City of Sydney is committed to the ongoing visibility, diversity and inclusion of our LGBTQA+ communities. We understand that visibility and inclusion are key to a vibrant and safe city.

We invite your feedback on this proposal.

Gareth Jenkins

SENIOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
COORDINATOR - CITY ENGAGEMENT

02 9265 9333

[sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney...](mailto:sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney...)

COPY EMAIL ADDRESS

## Taylor Square north, Darlinghurst

We're proposing to install a raised intersection at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes streets in Darlinghurst. This includes a Progress Pride flag design to reflect the changed environment and represents local businesses and LGBTQA+ communities in the public domain.

There is currently no dedicated pedestrian crossing across Bourke and Forbes streets. Our proposal will make crossing the road between Qtopia Sydney and Taylor Square easier and more accessible for people.

Qtopia Sydney's opening and future development will transform the former Darlinghurst police station into a cultural and tourist destination. It will attract more visitors across Bourke and Forbes streets, and Taylor Square from Oxford Street and beyond.



© Bourke and Forbes Street raised intersection before and after upgrade

On-site signage:



# Letter from the Lord Mayor: sent to 480 property owners, businesses and residents on 25 April



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY  
CLOVER MOORE

24 April 2024

## A new raised crossing with the Progress Pride flag

I write to invite your feedback on the City of Sydney's proposal to install a new Progress Pride flag raised crossing next to Qtopia Sydney, at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes Streets in Darlinghurst. This proposal will make crossing the road between Qtopia Sydney and Taylor Square accessible for more people.

In October 2023, Council resolved to investigate additional locations and opportunities for new pride crossings in the City using the Progress Pride flag design. The flag serves to promote that Sydney is a City for All and is a proud celebration of the city's LGBTQA+ communities.

### Next steps

Your feedback on the raised crossing at Bourke and Forbes Streets will be reported to the Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee. The proposed works are planned for this year.

You can view the proposed upgrades and provide feedback at [sydneyyoursay.com.au](https://sydneyyoursay.com.au) until **5pm on 8 May 2024**.

You can also email submissions to Gareth Jenkins, Senior Community Engagement Coordinator, on 02 9265 9333 or at [sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Clover Moore AO  
Lord Mayor of Sydney

## Appendix C: Consultation materials

### Have your say on the new Rainbow crossing with the Progress Pride flag

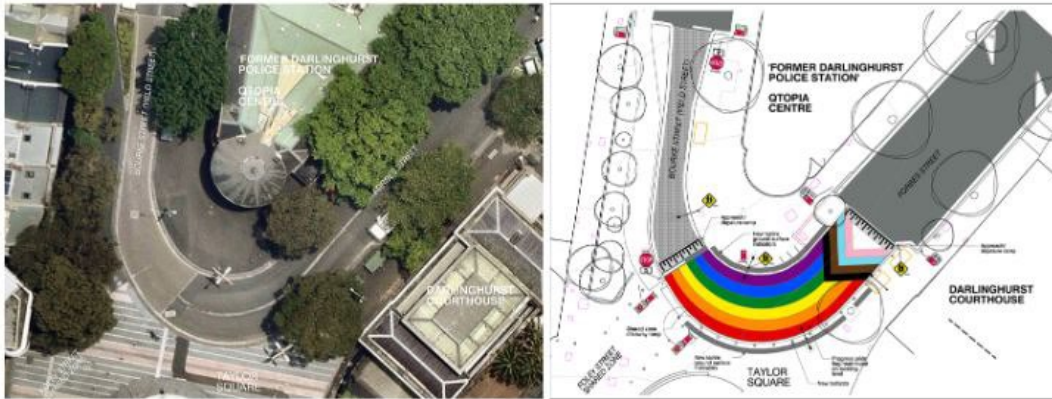
We invite your feedback on the City of Sydney's proposal to install a new Progress Pride flag raised crossing next to Qtopia Sydney, at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes Streets in Darlinghurst. This proposal will make crossing the road between Qtopia Sydney and Taylor Square accessible for more people.

In October 2023, Council resolved to investigate additional locations and opportunities for new pride crossings in the City using the Progress Pride flag design. The flag serves to promote that Sydney is a City for All and is a proud celebration of the city's LGBTQA+ communities.

Next

### Have your say on the new Rainbow crossing with the Progress Pride flag

Bourke and Forbes Street - Before and after



\* 1. Do you support our proposed raised intersection at the intersection of Bourke and Forbes streets in Darlinghurst which includes a progress pride flag design?

- Yes
- No

Prev Next

## Have your say on the new Rainbow crossing with the Progress Pride flag

2. Please explain the reason you selected Yes.

Prev

Next

## Have your say on the new Rainbow crossing with the Progress Pride flag

2. Please explain the reason you selected No.

Prev

Next