

Item 40.**Traffic Treatment – Pedestrian Improvements and One-Way Restriction – Nithsdale Lane, Sydney**

TRIM Container No.: 2024/260066

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the following traffic treatments in Nithsdale Lane, Sydney:

- (A) Installation of a continuous footpath treatment in Nithsdale Lane, east of Elizabeth Street;
- (B) Footpath widening on the southern side of Nithsdale Lane, along the Crown Hotel's frontage; and
- (C) Conversion of Nithsdale Lane, between Nithsdale Street and Elizabeth Street to a one-way westbound road.

Voting Members for this Item

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

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

The City is proposing traffic treatments in Nithsdale Lane to improve general safety for people walking, provide for potential outdoor dining opportunities and better manage traffic flow.

Comments

Nithsdale Lane, between Nithsdale Street and Elizabeth Street is approximately 5 metres wide with narrow footpaths. To improve pedestrian accessibility and safety, it is proposed to install a continuous footpath treatment, widen the footpaths and make Nithsdale Lane one-way westbound.

The TfNSW Technical Direction for Continuous Footpath Treatments (TDT 2013/05) states that continuous footpath treatments are applicable for intersections carrying no more than 45 vehicles per hour and the driveway layback is no wider than 7 metres.

Traffic counts commissioned for seven days between 1-7 March 2024 recorded a maximum peak-hour volume of 48 vehicles per hour in Nithsdale Lane. As this maximum peak slightly exceed the TfNSW warrant for continuous footpath treatments, the proposal is considered acceptable from a traffic volume perspective. In addition, the crossing width of 4.6 metres proposed for the continuous footpath treatment is within the TfNSW warrant and as such compliant with the Technical Direction

Under the road rules, a footpath is a road related area. When entering, or crossing, a road related area from a road, drivers must give way to people or other road users on the road related area. The introduction of a continuous footpath treatment reinforces the road rules.

Footpath widening is also proposed on the southern side of Nithsdale Lane along the Crown Hotel's frontage to improve pedestrian accessibility in the laneway. To accommodate the footpath widening, it is proposed to convert Nithsdale Lane to a one-way westbound road to better manage traffic flow, deter drivers from using the laneway as a shortcut and improve overall pedestrian safety in the lane.

Traffic data have shown that there are no vehicles travelling eastbound and the proposed one-way westbound restriction will have negligible impacts on the surrounding road network. The proposal does not lead to a net loss of parking spaces.

Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. There were 366 letters sent out with one response supporting the proposal and no responses opposing the proposal.

Financial

Appropriate funding for the proposal will be secured once greater certainty on the construction timeline is reached.

TANZ ALAM, ENGINEERING TRAFFIC OFFICER