

Advice of Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee

20 August 2026

Item 24

Traffic - Treatment and Parking - Improvements to Victoria Street, Darlinghurst

2026/251971

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Forum review the installation of the following traffic treatments and parking changes in Victoria Street, Darlinghurst, between Craigend Street and Burton Street:

- (A) reduce Victoria Streets' existing 2 traffic lanes to one lane mid-block;
- (B) removal of the left turn slip lane from Craigend Street into Victoria Street, note the dedicated left turn lane on Craigend Street is being retained;
- (C) a new two-way separated cycleway on the eastern side of Victoria Street;
- (D) shared paths on the east side of Victoria Street at the intersections with Craigend Street and with Burton Street;
- (E) footpath widening, kerb upgrades and pedestrian ramp upgrades to improve accessibility;
- (F) raise the intersection of Surrey Street and Victoria Street, upgrading the raised pedestrian crossing and providing a new wombat crossing over Surrey Street;
- (G) relocate the bus stop on Victoria Street near Liverpool Street south and convert it to an 'in-lane' bus stop;
- (H) install a continuous footpath treatment on Victoria Street at Hayden Place; and
- (I) parking changes as shown in the attached plan and summarised below.

Forum Members for this Item

City of Sydney
Transport for NSW
NSW Police – Kings Cross PAC
Representative for the Member for Sydney

Advice

The Forum raised no issues to the proposal for this item and noted the following comments:

The resident who had raised concerns was unable to attend the meeting. City staff presented a slide deck to address the concerns raised and the measures proposed to address them. Key discussion points included:

- Existing congestion already experienced along Victoria Street.
- Available road space is constrained and widening the road is not feasible.
- The project will increase transport options for people travelling on the corridor by providing a dedicated cycling facility and supporting more efficient movement of people along the corridor.
- Emergency vehicles will be able to use the cycleway.
- Extensive consultation has been undertaken.

Kings Cross PAC provided the following feedback:

- Concerns raised regarding connections to William Street and adjacent shared path facilities. Existing complaints received about people riding on footpaths.
- Requested further consideration of project connections.
- Requested congestion concerns be noted, including traffic queues extending between Oxford Street and Bourke Street.
- Noted emergency services travel frequently to St Vincent's Hospital and may utilise the cycleway.

TfNSW noted:

- Queuing on Victoria Street is expected.
- Limited network interventions are available.
- No Stopping changes could potentially assist intersection operations.
- Travel behaviour may change over time as motorists select alternative routes.

Council officers advised:

- Traffic modelling indicates some increase in delays, but intersections would continue to operate within acceptable levels of service.

- Cycleway design accommodates emergency vehicle movements, including potential use of the cycleway by fire and emergency vehicles.
- The project forms part of the City's strategic cycling network and provides safer access to local businesses and destinations.
- Staff acknowledged queueing impacts would be monitored following implementation.

Background

The City of Sydney proposes to convert the two existing traffic lanes on Victoria Street to one lane, which will create safe spaces for people walking and riding, help local businesses, and make the area greener. The community was initially consulted in September 2025 and the project was approved by Council resolution on 23 February 2026. As the design has progressed, additional community consultation was undertaken for feedback on the specific traffic treatments and parking changes included in the project. Note that changes to signalised intersections are subject to approval by Transport for New South Wales.