

Item 28.

Traffic Treatment - Proposed Southbound One Way Restriction - Surrey Lane, Darlinghurst

TRIM Container No.: 2025/229047

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Forum review the following traffic treatments in Surrey Lane, Darlinghurst:

- (A) Changing the north-south section of Surrey Lane to a one-way southbound road, with an exemption for bicycles; and
- (B) Installation of signposting and pavement marking of Surrey Lane for contra-flow bicycle facilities.

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

In response to residents' concerns about limited sight distance at the Surrey Lane bend near the Surrey Street Playground, it is proposed to make the north-south section of Surrey Lane one way southbound to Surrey Street.

Comments

Surrey Lane is a rear access laneway and is currently two-way between Surrey Street and Craigend Street.

The proposal will reduce conflicts and mitigate the poor sight lines of vehicles travelling in both directions around the bend section of Surrey Lane.

Signposting for contra-flow bicycle riding is also proposed to improve the safety and amenity of cycling infrastructure and make riding a convenient option for short local trips.

Traffic surveys carried out in May 2025 show an average of 7 vehicles per day travelling eastbound in Surrey Lane. It is assumed that all vehicles travelling eastbound on Surrey Lane entered via the north-south section from Surrey Street, and that vehicles travelling eastbound include local traffic, i.e. residents entering and exiting their garages in Surrey Lane.

Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area via letter box drop, and a public notice was published on the City of Sydney's website.

There were 441 letters sent out with one response supporting the proposal and four responses opposing the proposal.

The opposing submissions were concerned that the proposed one-way restriction will inconvenience and reduce accessibility for residents. They were also concerned about traffic obstructions and illegal parking in the laneway, which regularly blocks access and reduces visibility.

In response to concerns regarding potential inconvenience and reduced accessibility for residents, it is noted that the alternative travel route resulting from the one-way restriction is expected to add less than one minute to typical journey times. To address issues relating to traffic obstruction and illegal parking within the laneway, the City will request for increased enforcement by the Rangers to improve access, circulation and visibility.

Financial

Funds are available in the current budget

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