

Item 29.

Traffic Treatment - Removal of Central Median - Elizabeth Street, Redfern

TRIM Container No.: 2025/656494

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Forum review the removal of the central median in Elizabeth Street, Redfern between Phillip and Redfern Streets.

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

Elizabeth Street, Redfern between Phillip and Redfern Streets has experienced increasing pavement deterioration due to poor subgrade conditions and inadequate surface drainage. Compounding this issue is the roots of mature trees that have protruded onto the kerb and gutter alignment. This has resulted in damage to the kerb and gutter creating uneven surfaces along carriageway and adjacent footpaths. The damage has affected drainage in the area leading to frequent ponding during rainfall events.

The standing water poses safety risks to both motorists and pedestrians, increasing the likelihood of loss of control incidents. To address the damage to the kerb and gutter and improve surface drainage along Elizabeth Street between Redfern and Phillip Streets, it is proposed to remove the existing central median. The proposal would improve surface runoff and reduce flooding and enhance road safety for all users by minimising water ponding and improving pavement conditions.

Comments

The removal of the central median would improve drainage through Elizabeth Street and allow for kerb and gutter realignment to improve the condition of the road. The proposed works will include upgrades to stormwater drainage to minimise surface water retention.

The removal of the existing central median allows for realignment of the kerb and gutter approximately 800mm from the existing kerb alignment on the eastern side and 600mm on the southern side without any loss of parking or adjustments to number of lanes while improving general safety and amenity in the area.

There are no changes proposed to the post or lantern configurations at the TCS at the midblock crossing at Kettle Street and at the intersection of Redfern and Elizabeth Streets.

Given that the existing lane widths on Elizabeth Street were approximately 2.8 metres wide, the removal of the central median allows for an increase in lane widths to 3.0 metres and 3.2 metres on the northbound and southbound approaches. These revised widths are sufficient to accommodate buses safely. The parking lanes will be maintained at 2.1 metres wide.

A 3.2 metre and 2.7 metre wide indented bus zone is proposed on the eastern and western sides of Elizabeth Street to ensure buses can stop safely without impeding on traffic movements.

A road safety review was undertaken to assess the potential road safety impacts of the proposed changes. The recommendations outlined in the review report were carefully considered and integrated into the design to ensure improved safety outcomes for all road users.

The proposal results in no loss of on-street parking spaces and has no impact on bus zones.

Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. There were 593 letters sent out with no responses supporting or opposing the proposal.

Financial

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

TERRY XU, SENIOR TRAFFIC ENGINEER