

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: X113032 **DATE:** 14 May 2026

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

THROUGH: Monica Barone PSM, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 7.3 – Project Scope - Belmore Park Renewal

For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

Purpose

To provide further information on the proposed Belmore Park renewal.

Background

At and prior to the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee on 11 May 2026, further information was sought on the following:

Formal engagement (City and Transport for NSW) - improving the Eddy Avenue interface

City staff have met with the Executive Director, Integration at Transport for NSW to discuss Belmore Park renewal, the cycleway and the wider precinct. We will meet again prior to finalising Belmore Park's design to discuss community feedback and our joint response to community concerns.

Eddy Avenue is under the control of Transport for NSW and while we continue to advocate for lane reductions and additional planting, we do not control what happens to it.

There are no changes proposed to Eddy Avenue by Transport for NSW in the scope of works for the Terminal Building Revitalisation project.

There is no proposal to remove the fence in the colonnade, and the light rail alignment is fixed. Transdev and Transport for NSW have expressed driver sightline safety concerns as the reasoning for retention of the fence.

City investigation into longer-term proposals for Eddy Avenue

We continue to liaise with Transport for NSW on the broader precinct improvements. We will ask Transport for NSW if they have a timeline for the implementation of their 2025 Central Precinct Rezoning Proposal, which shows Eddy Avenue reduced in width and planted with trees.

Restoration of visual connections to Central Station

There are several significant trees in Belmore Park that pre-date Central Station and currently obstruct views from the park to the station. These trees are on Council's Register and there is no intention of removing them in the short term.

In the long term, we will investigate locations and species that enable stronger visual links from the park to the station, but this is outside of this project's time horizon.

Pages 59 and 61 in the City South Public Domain Plan 2021 also show additional tree planting on Eddy Avenue, to achieve the objective of expanding the park's edges.

These 2 approaches need to be resolved in the long-term vision for the avenue.

Eddy Avenue southern edge / future plaza

There is significant design development yet to occur at the southern edge of the park and there is room to design a flexible interface that accommodates a joint vision between government agencies. Whatever configuration the City delivers in this project will not preclude a future plaza.

Potential options for Eddy Avenue

The City will commission a traffic study to support advocacy for the calming and beautification of Eddy Avenue.

Lighting recommendations in the park

Detailed assessment of existing and proposed light levels throughout the park will be undertaken to ensure compliance with relevant codes and standards during the design development phase.

The principles of 'Dark Sky' lighting that protect the wellbeing of nocturnal creatures will also be explored in the next phase.

Speaker at the Public Forum

In response to the speaker's comments on the design, the City confirms there is no catenary lighting planned for the park. The method of lighting over the gathering space is indicative only and options for lighting will be assessed during detailed design.

The cultural significance of the site for both First Nations people and the Chinese community will be examined in detail during the design phase. Opportunities for First Nations and Chinese cultural expression through design are part of the project scope going forward.

The City is still assessing the future of the Golden Water Mouth artwork. We are considering next steps based on expert advice and feedback from the community. There are no additional funds available in the City's Long Term Financial Plan for a new artwork in this location should this work need to be removed for safety reasons.

Designated bike parking areas / management of bikes in the area

City Access and Transport will assist the design team in resolving the many cycling pressures on the park and surrounding streets. Consideration will be given to all the issues raised. The City will continue to advocate for a separated cycleway on Elizabeth Street. We will continue to improve the pathways in Belmore Park.

Potential refinement to the location of the bandstand/gathering area away from cyclists

Refinement of the locations and design of these elements will be explored in the design phase to make sure people using the bandstand/gathering area are not put in harm's way from passing cyclists.

Picnic tables

The City will consider the inclusion of picnic tables and related amenities in the detailed design.

Memo from Kim Woodbury, Chief Operating Officer

Prepared by: Michael Harvey, Program Manager, Urban Design

Bridget Smyth, City Architect / Executive Manager City Design and Public Art

Approved

P. M. Barone

MONICA BARONE PSM

Chief Executive Officer