

**Item 20.****Traffic Treatment and Parking - Proposed Parking Space Reallocation for Outdoor Dining - Ross Street, Forest Lodge****TRIM Container No.:** 2026/553060**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Forum review the installation of outdoor dining treatments and the reallocation of parking on the western side of Ross Street, Forest Lodge between the points 10 metres and 21.8 metres (2 car spaces) north of Alfred Road.

**Forum Members for this Item**

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| City of Sydney                            |
| Transport for NSW                         |
| NSW Police – Leichhardt PAC               |
| Representative for the Member for Balmain |

**Advice**

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

**Background**

In October 2020, the City and NSW Government entered a partnership to revitalise the city centre, establishing a \$20 million CBD Revitalisation Fund to boost the local economy and invite the public safely back to the city. One of the initiatives in this partnership is the rapid roll-out of temporary outdoor dining areas by reallocating kerb spaces to increase dining capacities for businesses.

## Comments

| Business   | Location                                  | Existing Parking Restrictions      | Proposed Parking Restrictions |
|------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The Harold | Western side of Ross Street, Forest Lodge | Unrestricted Parking (11.8 metres) | No Stopping                   |

## Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses in the area. There were 323 letters sent out with 1 response supporting the proposal and 10 responses opposing the proposal.

The main concerns raised are related to potential impacts on residential amenity. Residents expressed concerns that the outdoor dining area would generate additional noise and particularly negatively impact the amenity of apartments overlooking the site. Concerns were also raised about patrons smoking in the outdoor dining area, increased anti-social behaviour and littering which will affect the cleanliness of the streetscape. These matters are considered compliance issues and can be managed through the venue's approval conditions.

Concerns were also raised regarding the loss of on-street parking and the use of public domain space, particularly those with low mobility. Residents considered that the proposal would reduce available pedestrian space and narrow the roadway, potentially increasing conflicts between vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians near the intersection. However, the proposal occupies the same footprint as the current parking arrangement and will not encroach on the existing footpath width. This also meets the minimum requirements of the City's Outdoor Dining Guidelines.

Several residents raised concerns regarding different measurements provided in the plan and public notification. The approximately 30 square metre figure represents the total occupied area, including concrete barriers and safety clearances, while the 9 square metre figure refers to the area approved for seating.

A further concern was that the consultation period coincided with the school holidays which may have limited community participation. While the City seeks to avoid scheduling consultation during such periods, this is not always possible. Residents are encouraged to share the information with neighbouring residents and businesses who may have missed the notification.

## Financial

All costs associated with the proposal will be under Alfresco Outdoor Dining.

**ALEX MOZAFFAR, PROJECT COORDINATOR - TRAFFIC ENGINEER**