

Item No: C0918(1) Item 4

Subject: DRAFT MARRICKVILLE ROAD (EAST) PUBLIC DOMAIN MASTER PLAN:
FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC EXHIBITION

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SUMMARY

The Draft Marrickville Road (East) Public Domain Master Plan was on public exhibition from 15 May 2018 to 26 June 2018. The plans received more than 94% approval from the community. Minor changes were requested during the exhibition period and these have been included in the revised plan to better meet community needs. This report provides an overview of the revised plan, the design process and the feedback received from the community. This report is seeking Council's endorsement of the master plan so the plans can inform future streetscape improvements along Marrickville Road (East).

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. The report be received and noted;
2. Council adopts the draft Marrickville Road (East) Public Domain Master Plan (ATTACHMENT 1);
3. All residents and stakeholders who made submissions during the public exhibition period be notified of Council's determination; and
4. The master plan be used to inform future capital streetscape upgrades along Marrickville Road (East).

BACKGROUND

The Public Domain Planning team has engaged across Council, with the community, businesses and State Government Agencies to develop an integrated public domain master plan for Marrickville Road (East).

The draft plan was endorsed for public exhibition at the 8 May 2018 Council meeting. The minutes from the meeting note that:

1. *The draft public domain master plan for Marrickville Road East (ATTACHMENT 1) be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and submissions be received for a further 14 days; and*
2. *The results of the public exhibition and community engagement process are presented to Council recommending further action.*

The plan was on exhibition for six weeks; comprised of 28 days and a further 14 days for submissions to be received. During the exhibition period much support was received (94%) from the community, and comments received have informed a revision of the plan to ensure it better reflects the community's vision for the street.

Project Scope

The scope of the project includes the public domain elements along Marrickville Road from Meeks Road to the intersection with Railway Parade. The project extends along Railway Parade from Marrickville Road to Gleeson Avenue at the Sydenham Railway Station. The project scope reviews the road intersections with Lower Railway Parade, Buckley Street, Barclay Street, Sydney Street, Gerald Street, and access into Fraser Park. The public domain elements contained in the master plan include:

- Pedestrian pavements
- Pedestrian furniture including seating, rubbish bins, and bollards
- Bicycle infrastructure including cycle lanes
- Street cross sections including travel lanes, kerb alignment and parking
- Kerb blisters
- Rain-gardens and other planting locations
- Street tree locations
- Pedestrian and feature lighting
- Public art strategies

Adjacent Public Domain Projects

The scope from Marrickville Road heading west from Meeks Road is included within the Marrickville Town Centre Public Domain Master Plan. This project is still in the development phases and requires further staff collaboration and input from stakeholders before it is reported to Council by the end of the 2018.

Master Plan Process

Public Domain Planning team developed the public domain master plan by working collaboratively with Council stakeholders, businesses, the community and State Government agencies to produce an integrated public domain plan. Detailed site analysis reviewed site history, existing and proposed zoning, stormwater and drainage design, active transport options, pavement design and quality, street trees, overhead electrical infrastructure, road ownership, (large) vehicle turning requirements, urban heat island, bicycle infrastructure options, pedestrian connections and road crossings, pedestrian furniture and public art opportunities. The combination of site analysis and stakeholder input produced opportunities and constraints that were used to establish the master plan design strategies. The strategies were costed to understand financial implications of proposed upgrades and the integrated into Council forward capital budget.

Master Plan Proposals

The draft master plan aims to deliver a pedestrian and cyclist environment that is safe, pleasant and enjoyable to use. The plans promote active transport and a better link between the Marrickville Town Centre and the Sydenham Railway Station. Specific strategies to deliver this aim includes:

- Install new furniture elements including pedestrian seats, drink fountains, rubbish bins and bicycle racks;
- Provide pedestrian priority threshold treatments to pedestrian crossings at road intersections;
- Provide an additional north-south pedestrian crossing point along Marrickville Road (East);
- Provide kerb blister enlargements at street intersections with rain-gardens in the planting areas. The kerb alignment has been designed to facilitate turning circles for 19m rigid vehicles and any new planting to be low to maintain required sightlines at intersections;

- New pedestrian pavements of concrete with two different textures (broom finished and shot-blast, sandblast or saw cut finishes);
- Provide a separated bicycle lane along Marrickville Road, connecting with the regional routes to the west (Meeks Road), north (along Sydney Street and Railway Avenue);
- Retain key existing tree specimens;
- Replace low quality trees with new advanced trees appropriate for their location (i.e. lower spreading tree canopies below overhead electrical infrastructure; and tall and large canopies where space allows);
- All tree plantings to have expanded tree pits or structural soil zones to maximise growing medium for trees;
- New pedestrian lighting along the street;
- Retain existing bus stop locations;
- Retain existing car parking configuration and business driveway accesses;
- Retain the existing heritage walls along Marrickville Road and Railway Parade; and
- Use the existing wall along Marrickville Road for future public art.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The master plan costs have been estimated to total \$4,091,118, excluding GST. The master plan has been developed to be implemented in six stages. The cost breakdown associated with the stages includes:

Stage	Amount
Stage 1A	\$1,162,017
Stage 1B	\$1,931,188
Stage 2	\$ 269,096
Stage 3	\$ 346,134
Stage 4	\$ 324,505
Stage 5	\$ 58,178
Total (Excluding GST)	\$4,091,118

The master plan has been integrated into the forward capital works budget. The forward capital works program currently forecasts a budget allocation for the project of **\$1,795,000** over the following financial years:

Year	Amount
2018 / 2019	\$ 195,000
2019 / 2020	\$ 0
2020 / 2021	\$ 500,000
2021 / 2022	\$ 1,100,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,795,000

Current budget allocation allows for the implementation of stage 1A and an additional stage to the cost of approximately \$450,000. Additional budget would be sought from external funding sources such as grant applications for the additional stages of the master plan.

STAFF COMMENTS

The development of the master plan was a collaborative process with input from all disciplines across Council. The feedback occurred at several times through the development of the plans, and staff comments have been integrated into the plans. The collaborative and iterative process has been helpful in developing multifunctional infrastructure that benefits many users. The internal stakeholders across Council have included representatives from:

- Development Assessment and Regulatory Service
- Trees, Parks and Sport fields
- Environment and Sustainability
- Roads and Stormwater
- Major Building Projects and Facilities
- Finance
- Strategic Planning
- Library and History Services
- Recreation and Aquatics
- Community Services and Culture
- Communications, Engagement and Events

There is support for the master plan from across Council. The plan is spatially locating many disciplines strategies including active transport initiatives, urban tree canopy, water sensitive cities as well as giving design guidance for Roads and Stormwater for the design of the streetscape outcomes. Roads and stormwater are ready to proceed with the next design phase for stage 1A with budget allocations for the 2018/2019 for detail design.

PREVIOUS COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

During February and March 2017 Council undertook community engagement with residents and businesses in Marrickville and Sydenham. Information was disseminated to the community via a number of means including Inner West Courier, email, Council website and a letter box mail out. A total of 1440 residents and businesses received the letter box mail out, centred on the nearby streets extending north to Sydenham Road and west to Illawarra Road. All advertising material provided details for the Inner West Council 'Your Say Inner West' website. The site contained information outlining key dates, an overview of the project and a link to an online survey. The Your Say Inner West website received 100 visits to the Marrickville Road (East) survey page; and from the 100 visits, 26 surveys were completed.

The most commonly raised items to improve the streetscape environment from the community were:

- Provide traffic calming measures along the street
- Planting of shade trees and low plantings
- Provide bicycle infrastructure including bike racks and cycle lanes
- Additional pedestrian crossings across Marrickville Road (East)
- Footpath surfaces need to be improved, widened to provide a safe pedestrian environment
- Provision of pedestrian lighting along the streets

Additional engagement occurred with all businesses along Marrickville Road (East) during November 2017. Each business was provided with a verbal presentation of the planning process, questioned about what they need from the streetscape to help their business succeed and was provided with Council contacts for more information.

The community and business engagement information has directly influenced that strategies and plan developed for the public domain master plan. A full summary of the feedback is included in the master plan on page 69 of ATTACHMENT 1.

Engagement has also occurred with external stakeholders and agencies including Sydney Buses, Department of Planning and Roads and Maritime Service.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

During the six week period public exhibition period from 15 May 2018 to 26 June 2018, advertising material was installed at each of Council's Service Centres and 1,500 postcards were distributed to residents and businesses to the area adjacent the master plan scope. Advertising material highlighted the 'Your Say Inner West' website, which contained

information about the project, copies of the report and an online survey that requested respondents to outline whether they supported the proposed plan and if they had any specific feedback.

During the exhibition period the online documents received 596 visits and 57 submissions. From the 57 submission Council received 94% support for the plans. Some respondents provided comments and feedback about the streetscape improvements. The feedback has been used to amend the plans so they better align with community sentiments.

A summary of key themes from the community include:

- Strong support for the bicycle lane along Marrickville Road (East)
- Support for the 'greening' of the street with trees, WSUD elements and planting and street improvements
- Some requests for the expansion of the plan and inclusion of additional cycle lanes and streetscape improvements elsewhere in Marrickville
- Some respondents wanted to ensure the proposals tie into regional bicycle routes
- Statements requested Council ensure the bicycle lane is safe and provides for other users
- Statements requested Council ensure it has considered tree species selection and mitigated the risk of damage to infrastructure
- Statements requested Council ensure it has considered tree species selection allows for adequate traffic and transport sightlines
- Review of drink fountain locations

Most comments were positive and others reiterated processes that had already been completed in the development of the plans. The feedback was used to review and amend the draft master plan design strategies. The full list of submissions with Council's comments and listed requested amendments are included as ATTACHMENT 2.

CONCLUSION

The draft Marrickville Road (East) Public Domain Master Plan has been developed through a collaborative process to establish the values consistent with the views of the local community and stakeholders. This has been demonstrated through the high levels of support during the public exhibition process. The high level of community support and the amendments to the plans post exhibition to address community feedback has established a detailed 10 year plan that is consistent with the community vision and values.

ATTACHMENTS

1. [Download](#) Draft Marrickville Road (East) Public Domain Master Plan
2. [Download](#) Draft Marrickville Road (East) Public Domain Master Plan_ Feedback Schedule