



HORNSBY SHIRE LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

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CDC HILLSBUS SERVICE - For your information
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Road:	The Promenade and The Crescent	Suburb:	Cheltenham
Location:	Near Cheltenham Girls High School		
File Ref:	F2010/00039 / F2011/00012	LTC No:	35/2021
Electorate:	EPPING		
Google Map:	https://goo.gl/maps/CcZtqUzVcBnGTM3e8		
Subject:	Proposed Installation of Raised Pedestrian Crossing (Wombat Crossing) and two Pedestrian Refuges		
Date of Circulation:	Monday, 13 December 2021		

REFERRAL OF TRAFFIC MATTER FOR COMMENT OR OBJECTION, IF ANY

SUMMARY

This report details the traffic implications, design and outcome of public consultation for the Proposed Installation of a of Raised Pedestrian Crossing (Wombat Crossing) in The Promenade and two Pedestrian Refuges in The Crescent, Cheltenham.

SUBJECT

Council has reviewed the existing pedestrian facilities and traffic conditions in The Promenade and The Crescent in association with the upcoming construction of the Beecroft to Cheltenham shared path and the Federal Government Stimulus Commitment - Road Safety Program (School Zone Infrastructure).

Council is proposing to install a Raised Threshold at an existing pedestrian crossing in The Promenade to improve safety at the crossing and also to install two pedestrian refuges in The Crescent to provide connectivity with the approved shared path along The Crescent.

The original proposal (public consultation October 2021) included a refuge island in The Crescent *east* of The Promenade. The location of this refuge island has been moved to the *west* of the intersection to address issues raised by residents and the school during consultation. (see Consultation section of this report for details)

Key features of the proposal are:

1. Construction of a raised threshold with a marked pedestrian crossing in The Promenade at the intersection with The Crescent.
2. Construction of a pedestrian refuge in The Crescent *west* of The Promenade.
3. Construction of a pedestrian refuge in The Crescent *west* of Cheltenham Road.
4. Installation of "No Stopping" restrictions and associated traffic signs in The Promenade and The Crescent.

Plans of the proposed pedestrian facilities are attached.

CONSULTATION

In October 2021, Council invited comments on the proposal from residents and occupiers.

Nine (9) letters were sent to nearby residents and Cheltenham Girls High School by mail or email, as well as emails to regulatory authorities and transport providers.

The proposal was also placed on exhibition on Council's website for 14 days.

Five (5) written responses were received. Three (3) providing general support and comments, one (1) providing alternative suggestions for the works, and a comment from Ausgrid.

A summary of the comments received and Council responses are provided below. Similar issues raised have been compiled into a single comment. Copies of submissions are available upon request:

Submission from resident - Support the pedestrian improvements in general. Concerned with loss of parking along The Crescent, suggest the refuge be moved to the west of The Promenade.

Response - The design has been reviewed resulting in the refuge islands being moved to the west of The Promenade as suggested by the resident. This has also allowed for retention of more parking along The Crescent near the resident's property.

Submission from resident - Support the pedestrian improvements in general. Council is to be commended on the proposed works. 'Stop' sign should be installed in The Promenade at The Crescent. Pothole in The Crescent should be repaired.

Response - The design has been reviewed confirming that sight lines at the intersection are appropriate and 'Stop' sign is not warranted. This T-intersection is currently operating as a 'Give Way' facility. 'Give Way' sign and delineation have been added to the scope of works to formalise the existing traffic priority. The pothole has been repaired by Council.

Submission from resident - A raised threshold is not required in The Promenade as this crossing is near an intersection. The money should be spent on the crossing in Cheltenham Road near The Crescent. A traffic island should be installed in The Promenade near The Crescent to prevent U-turns at the intersection. The path width and the crossing width don't match in The Promenade, the path ramp should be reconstructed to match the crossing. Concerned with illegal parking occurring in the area. Requests to be notified of construction in advance to retrieve irrigation system installed on nature strip.

Response - The program funding is directed at upgrades of pedestrian facilities within school zones. While the crossing near Cheltenham Station is outside the scope of this project, Council will consider the upgrade as part of future works. The installation of a traffic island in The Promenade has been investigated, however due to site constraints and the need to maintain bus access it cannot be accommodated at this location. The design has been reviewed resulting in wider kerb ramps to match the crossing. Further widening of the kerb ramps is not possible due to presence of a heritage tree. Council's Traffic Rangers regularly patrol the area. Increased enforcement will be considered when school resumes in 2022. The resident will be informed of commencement of works in advance as requested.

CONSULTATION continued

Submission from Cheltenham Girls High School - Support the upgrade of the crossing in The Promenade. Concerned with the abrupt termination of the path near Cheltenham Road and the proposed refuge near the intersection. Concerned that the shared path will encourage students to walk on the northern side of The Crescent. Would also prefer that three marked pedestrian crossings be installed instead of refuges. Significant traffic congestion is experienced in The Promenade during rain. No general objections about proposed 'No Stopping' signs but this may put more pressure on parking in The Promenade. Significant illegal parking occurs near the school. Council should also consider installing a raised pedestrian crossing in the southern end of The Promenade and make The Promenade a 'One Way Street'.

Response - The shared path proposed along The Crescent is a separate project delivered by Council as part of NSW State Government's Active Transport Program. The design of the path has been reviewed by Council in consultation with the community to provide optimum utilisation of the shared path. The path will terminate at the intersection with Cheltenham Road and a pedestrian refuge (this LTC proposal) will provide a crossing opportunity and connection to future bicycle network. A pedestrian fence will be installed at the end of the path to ensure that pedestrians do not cross at an unsafe location.

The location of the pedestrian refuge in The Crescent near The Promenade has been amended to the west of The Promenade. This will encourage students to continue to use the southern side of The Crescent when walking to and from the train station. Marked pedestrian crossings cannot be installed in these locations as the sites do not meet Transport for NSW (TfNSW) crossing warrants. The design has also been revised to retain parking along the northern side of The Crescent.

The congestion issues at this time of day are due not only to students traveling to school, but also due to people travelling to and from work as well as train commuters looking for parking.

One-way arrangement cannot be supported if there are no suitable alternative routes for all reassigned traffic movements. Council has explored this possibility and cannot support the one-way arrangement on The Promenade for the above reason. Furthermore, one-way traffic in School Zones is undesirable as passenger doors, commonly used by school children, will face traffic flow when the car is parked on the right side of the road. To address some of the issues, a 'No Right Turn' restriction was implemented at the intersection of The Promenade and Beecroft Road in 2019.

Submission from Ausgrid - Ausgrid has no objection to the proposals.

Response - Comments noted.

CONCLUSION

These changes are aimed at improving safety of pedestrians by providing staged crossing facilities and reducing the speed of vehicles at an existing marked crossing. The responses show general support for the improvements from the school and the residents. Issues raised in the submissions have been addressed in the report, resulting in minor amendments to the original proposal.

RECOMMENDATION THAT

1. Construction of a raised threshold with a marked pedestrian crossing in The Promenade at the intersection with The Crescent be approved as per plan No 1154.2, project No 100858.
 2. Construction of a pedestrian refuge in The Crescent *west* of The Promenade be approved as per plan No LTC 35/2021.
 3. Construction of a pedestrian refuge in The Crescent *west* of Cheltenham Road be approved as per plan No LTC 35/2021.
 4. Installation of “No Stopping” restrictions and associated traffic signs in The Promenade and The Crescent be approved as per plan No LTC 35/2021 and plan No 1154.2, project No 100858.
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Note for voting Local Traffic Committee members.

Under Transport for NSW ‘Delegation of Functions to Regulate Traffic’ (operation of local traffic committees) you are required to comment or indicate your acceptance or objection to the recommendation of this report. Your response must be submitted in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice. Please send your response via return email for the item, or email trafficbranch@hornsby.nsw.gov.au. For further information please contact Radek Zarzycki on 9847 6524. Upon receipt of your comments the matter will be referred to Council for action.

Radek Zarzycki
Chairman



Issued Date: Monday, 13 December 2021

Comments Close Date: Tuesday, 4 January 2022, at 5:00pm