5.2. Holt Avenue at Spofforth Street, Cremorne – Raised Threshold and Kerb Build Outs

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ATTACHMENTS:

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PURPOSE:

In 2019, North Sydney Council approved the Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Action Plan for Area 6. The plan includes a proposal to install a raised threshold in Holt Avenue at Spofforth Street with associated kerb build outs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2019, North Sydney Council approved the Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Action Plan for Area 6. The plan includes an action to redesign the intersection to improve pedestrian safety and intersection operation in Holt Avenue at Spofforth Street with associated kerb build outs. The intersection improvements have also been fully funded supported by the Black Spot Program

There is no loss of parking proposed as part of the proposal.

The proposed works will increase visibility of approaching drivers, reduce vehicle speeds and reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians. The proposed concept plan is enclosed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost for this project is estimated to be \$93,000, which is fully funded by the Black Spot Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

- **1.THAT** the Committee endorse the following proposals to:
 - A) Construct a raised threshold on Holt Avenue with associated kerb build out across Holt Avenue (northern and southern side) and Spofforth Street (western side, north and south of Holt Avenue).

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

- 2. Our Built Infrastructure
- 2.1 Infrastructure and assets meet diverse community needs
- 2.4 Efficient traffic mobility and parking
- 4. Our Social Vitality
- 4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe
- 5. Our Civic Leadership
- 5.3 Community is engaged in what Council does

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement has occurred in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Protocol*. The detail of this report provides the outcomes from the engagement for Council to consider prior to adoption.

DETAIL

As part of the 2022/23 implementation of Local Area Traffic Management (LATM) Action Plans, it is proposed to construct a raised threshold on Holt Avenue with associated kerb build out across Holt Avenue (northern and southern side, west of Spofforth Street) and Spofforth Street (western side, north and south of Holt Avenue). The works will resolve the action within the LATM plan to improve pedestrian safety and intersection operation. The proposal will comply with relevant Australian Standards (AS1742.10) and result in no loss of parking.

The proposed works will increase visibility of approaching drivers, reduce vehicle speeds and reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians. The proposed concept plan is enclosed.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Community consultation on the proposal took place between 12 April 2023 and 12 May 2023. Approximately 266 letters were sent to 27 properties in the surrounding area and the survey was available online through Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage. A total of 22 responses were received, including 5 responses from the outside survey area.

The results indicate a community preference for the construction of pedestrian refuge island, kerb build outs and raised threshold (77.3% support). The results of the survey are shown in tabular format below:

I support the proposed Raised Threshold	Response				
and Kerb Build Outs in Holt Avenue and Kerb Build Outs in Spofforth Street.	No		Yes		Total
·	Qty	%	Qty	%	
Within Survey area:					
Holt Avenue	4	23.5	13	76.5	17
 Spofforth Street 					
Outside Survey area:					
Guthrie Street					
 Rangers Road 	1	20	4	80	5
 Cranbrook Avenue 					
Murdoch Street					
Grand Total	5	22.7	17	77.3	22

COMMENTS RECEIVED

Respondents were asked to provide general comments/feedback as desired. Council consolidates the comments into major themes related to the project as opposed to including every individual comments.

Theme	Community Comments	Office Comments	
Pedestrian safety	Proposed plan will improve the pedestrian safety when crossing Holt Avenue and reduce the flow of traffic and vehicle speed.	Noted.	
Pedestrian crossing	The only way that accidents will decrease and pedestrians will be safer is to have a built up crossing across Spofforth Street.	There is a raised pedestrian crossing approximately120m south of Holt Avenue for pedestrians to cross Spofforth Street safely. An additional crossing would require works outside of North Sydney LGA which North Sydney has no authority to implement at this time. Any consideration of a crossing would be undertaken as a separate project.	
Cycleway	The proposed measures introduce a bicycle lane, this will make the situation worse.	The bicycle lane has been removed from the design at this stage and can be considered as part of a future cycleway project.	

Roundabout	A roundabout would be ideal for this intersection to operate effectively.	Spofforth Street has split jurisdiction with North Sydney Council and Mosman Council. North Sydney Council has liaised with Mosman Council for a roundabout at this intersection. However, Mosman Council does not support a roundabout at this stage.
Line of sight	The proposal would not increase the visibility for the driver turning onto Spofforth Street from Holt Avenue.	The kerb build outs will increase the line of sight for the motorists when turning out of Holt Avenue by allowing the motorist to encroach onto Spofforth Street in a safe manner to check for oncoming vehicles prior to turning onto Spofforth Street.
	Reduced visibility when the plants grow in the garden bed, which will make the corner even worse.	The plants to be in this garden bed will be low level that will not impact the visibility for the driver.
Speeding	I would like traffic calming devices to be installed further up Holt Avenue. Vehicles accelerate quickly up Holt Avenue after they have crossed from Spofforth Street.	Traffic calming in Holt Avenue has been listed in Council's Local Area Traffic Management plan to be investigated in future.
	Traffic is travelling too fast up and down Spofforth Street, and it is not safe for vehicles to cross.	Traffic calming in Spofforth Street has been listed in Council's Local Area Traffic Management plan to be investigated in future.
Infrastructure	I am not sure why there is a dogleg in proposed barrier in the middle of the road in Holt Avenue.	There is no barrier nor dogleg in the proposal. There could be a misunderstanding for the center line marking from the raised threshold.
Congestion	Currently, cars can wait 2 abreast at the end of Holt Avenue to turn left or right. Raising the curb and kerb build outs in Holt Ave will	While it is important to address congestion and traffic flow, safety for motorists and pedestrians takes priority. There are

result in a backup of cars up	recorded T-bone crashes at
Holt Avenue as cars turning	this intersection. The kerb
Left or Right into Spofforth	build outs improve the
Street will be in one queue.	visibility of oncoming drivers
	reducing the potential for
	crashes.

Conclusion

Given the support for the proposal and the proposed works will increase visibility of approaching drivers, reduce vehicle speeds and reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians, it is recommended that Committee endorse the proposal for the raised threshold with associated kerb build-outs on Holt Avenue Street and Spofforth Street.

Attachment 5.2.1

