

**ITEM 14 HANSARD STREET ZETLAND PROPOSED PARTIAL ROAD CLOSURE
AT BOTANY ROAD**

FILE NO: S044590

SUMMARY

The Zetland Area Traffic Study completed for Council in 2005 recommended that Hansard Street be limited to left-out only at its intersection with Botany Road. Following the report to the Planning Development and Transport Committee on 4 April 2005, and to Council on 11 April 2005, on the Zetland Area Traffic Study, Council resolved in part (B)(i) that:

- (i) *commencement of recommended local area traffic management works in the Zetland area as outlined in this report, with the highest priority item being partial closure (left-out only) from Hansard Street at Botany Road (budget \$75,000);*

This report recommends that Council proceed with the partial closure of Hansard Street at Botany Road, based on the outcome of community consultation and the advice of the Sydney Traffic Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council restrict traffic movements at the intersection of Hansard Street with Botany Road to left-out only;
- (B) The City lodge a Traffic Management Plan with the Roads and Traffic Authority for approval;
- (C) BikeNSW be consulted on the design of the cycle access arrangements from Botany Road to Hansard Street; and
- (D) The detail design plans consider landscape treatments on the kerb islands which form the partial road closure.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Draft design sketch of proposal

Attachment B: Sydney Traffic Committee Minutes 15 February 2006 Item 12.4

Attachment C: Sydney Traffic Committee Minutes 21 September 2005 Item 12.1

BACKGROUND

1. Over the years residents of Hansard Street have raised concerns that Hansard Street is used as a rat-run by motorists to avoid congestion at the intersection of Botany Road and Epsom Roads. This stops the rat-run through Hansard Street via Dunning Avenue to Epsom Road.
2. The Zetland Area Traffic Study completed for Council in 2005 recommended that Hansard Street be limited to left-out only at its intersection with Botany Road.
3. Council resolved at its meeting of 11 April 2005 for the highest priority item to be the partial closure (left-out only) from Hansard Street at Botany Road.
4. Council has delegated authority from the Roads and Traffic Authority to regulate traffic (ie partial road closures).

KEY IMPLICATIONS

5. Residential amenity is improved by the proposed partial road closure.
6. Delivery container trucks to the business at 527 Botany Road have alternative access to the site.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. Funding of \$75,000 was allocated by Council for the proposed partial road closure which will be funded from the Zetland Area Traffic Works (Project C14640).

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

8. The Roads and Traffic Authority has power to regulate traffic on public roads under Division 2 of Part 8 of the Roads Act 1993, eg, partial road closures, full road closures, etc.
9. In October 2001, the Roads and Traffic Authority delegated to Council power to exercise all the functions of the Authority under Division 2 of Part 8 (Regulation of traffic by roads authorities) of the Roads Act 1993.
10. This delegation:
 - (a) Is limited to local and regional roads within the City of Sydney; and
 - (b) Can only be exercised by the Council and not a sub-delegate such as a council officer.
11. Council must not exercise a function except where:
 - (a) The advice of Council's Traffic Committee is unanimous; and
 - (b) The Council proposes to follow the Traffic Committee's advice.

12. Council's Traffic Committee is an advisory committee only and has no decision making powers.
13. Road Transport (Traffic Safety and Management) (Road Rules) Regulation 1999.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

14. The Roads and Traffic Authority's delegation to Council requires Council to consider the advice of its Traffic Committee.
15. The Sydney Traffic Committee Meeting of 21 September 2005 (Item 12.1) agreed in principle to the City advertising the proposed partial road closure, subject to cycle access being maintained through the partial closure.
16. The City advertised the proposal under Section 116 of the Roads Act 1993 in the Daily Telegraph Public Notice section on 17 November 2005.
17. The City also completed information letter-drops to affected residents and businesses, which closed on 3 February 2006. A total of 65 letters were delivered with 27 individual replies, together with a petition with 28 signatories all from Hansard Street.
18. The proposal was opposed by business operators at the south-east corner of Botany Road and Hansard Street, because of loss of parking and delivery trucks turning right from Botany Road into Hansard Street.
19. Trucks have alternate access to the site at 527 Botany Road via Epsom Road, Dunning Avenue and then into Hansard Street.
20. The partial closure is formed by kerb extension at the intersection which limits the loss of parking to about two spaces because parking is already illegal within 10 metres of the intersection.
21. The proposal was supported by 89% of responses received, including most of the residential houses.
22. The Sydney Traffic Committee Meeting of 15 February 2006 (Item 12.4) raised no objection to:
 - (a) The design ensuring truck access is maintained to the business;
 - (b) A Traffic Management Plan being referred to the Roads and Traffic Authority for approval;
 - (c) BikeNSW being consulted on the development of cycle access arrangements from Botany Road into Hansard Street (north-west corner); and
 - (d) The design of the kerb extensions including landscape treatments.

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