

5.4. Broughton St, Kirribilli - Raised Threshold Review

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ENDORSED BY: Duncan Mitchell, Director Engineering and Property Services

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

Flattening the existing raised threshold in front of HNo. 87 Broughton Street due to residents' concerns about increased noise since installation of the threshold in September 2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council, at its meeting on 28 October 2019, endorsed the acceptance of the funding offer from Transport for NSW (TfNSW), for the Kirribilli and Milsons Point 40km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area. By accepting the offer Council committed to undertake design, construction, project management and community engagement for the project. Following the community consultation on the proposed traffic and parking changes under introduction of 40km/h High Pedestrian Activity Areas and associated treatments in Kirribilli and Milsons Point, the majority of submissions received by Council support the proposal.

The raised threshold in front of HNo.87 Broughton Street was implemented in September 2020. The resident raised concerns over the excessive noise of vehicles traveling over the raised threshold, especially during night times and requested the threshold to be removed.

This report outlines the issue and proposed treatment to alleviate the noise issues generated by traveling vehicles over the raised threshold.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of proposed works is estimated to be \$10,000 and will be funded from Traffic Facilities budget 2022-23

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council proceed with flushing the existing raised threshold in front of HNo. 87 Broughton Street. Texture and colour of the road to be changed using contrasting pavement material, similar to a flush threshold that is used at the entry to the High Pedestrian Activity Areas to create a visual cue to motorists that there is a change in traffic conditions and the road environment.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

- 2. Our Built Infrastructure
- 2.2 Vibrant public domains and villages
- 2.3 Prioritise sustainable and active transport

BACKGROUND

As part of the RMS Safe Speeds in High Pedestrian Activity and Local Areas Program for funding in 2019/20, North Sydney Council was granted 100% funding for the implementation Kirribilli and Milsons Point 40km/h High Pedestrian Activity (HPA) Area, including design, construction, project management and community engagement for the project.

Concept designs were developed, and Community consultation was undertaken, including a Councillor briefing held on Monday 10 February 2020. The detailed design was referred to the North Sydney Council Traffic Committee in 2020, under delegated authority for approval prior to construction commencing.

The raised threshold in front of HNo.87 Broughton Street was implemented in September 2020. The resident raised concerns over the excessive noise of vehicles traveling over the raised threshold, especially during night times and requested the threshold be removed.

The matter was presented at the Traffic Committee meeting on 3 September 2021 where it was resolved to recommend:

1. **THAT** Council acknowledges resident concerns about increased noise since the installation of the midpoint traffic calming facility on Broughton Street.
1. **THAT** TfNSW and Council Staff investigate alternative methods of ameliorating noise impacts on the traffic calming facility.
2. **THAT** Council acknowledges that the 40km/hr signage will be installed in 4-6 weeks.
3. **THAT** following installation of the signage that speed counts be taken at an appropriate

The recommendations were adopted at the 3750th Council meeting on 27 Sept 2021.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community engagement is not required.

Relates to ECM No: 8872059

Standard or Guideline Used: AS 1742.13-2009

Signs & Lines Priority: 2

Precinct and Ward: Milson/Bradfield, Victoria

Impact on Bicycles: N/A
Impact on Pedestrians: N/A
Impact on Parking: N/A

DETAIL

This report outlines the issue and proposed treatment to alleviate the noise issues generated by traveling vehicles over the raised threshold.

Pre and Post Raised Threshold speed data

Traffic tube counts were installed in front of HNo.59 Broughton Street to capture the 85th Percentile Speed before and after installation of the raised threshold in June 2018 and June 2022 respectively. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85% of all vehicles are observed to travel under free-flowing conditions past a nominated point.

The tube count result is produced in the table below:

	Weekly 85 th Percentile Speed (Km/h)		
	Southbound	Northbound	Bidirectional
June 2018 (Pre-Threshold Installation)	40	44	42
June 2022 (Post Threshold Installation)	39	40	40

It is evident that installation of the raised threshold in front of HNo.87 Broughton Street has reduced the vehicle speed at or below the signposted 40km/h speed limit.

Given the noise issues generated by traveling vehicles over the raised threshold in front of HNo. 87 Broughton Street, it is recommended that Council proceed with flushing the existing raised threshold. Texture and colour of the road to be changed using contrasting pavement material, similar to a flush threshold that is used at the entry to the High Pedestrian Activity Areas to create a visual cue to motorists that there is a change in traffic conditions and the road environment.

