

Summary of Actions Arising (SOA) - Parks Precinct 2023

This document is North Sydney Council's response to actions arising from Precinct Committee Minutes. On receipt of the minutes, actions are numbered and allocated to relevant Council Officers for response.

To effectively manage and provide clarity, all actions are allocated a status when reporting to Precinct Committees in response to their minutes. There are three categories:

- **Awaiting Response** - action allotted to Council Officer - response awaited.
- **Open/Ongoing** - action allocated to Council Officer, initial response provided. Matter is ongoing and further response/update is to be provided at a later date.
- **Closed for Council** - Council either completed related works/tasks or has taken all reasonable steps within its power to resolve the issue (for example when matter is beyond its jurisdiction). If the Precinct Committee feels Council can take further steps, they can request Council reopen action.

Questions or concerns re content of this document should be directed to precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au

Month	Item	Actions	Council's Reply	Status
October	5	DA 258/23 Coles - Parks Precinct Meeting attendees confirmed their support for the Coles Grosvenor St DA and the provision of a Community Plaza.	Comments noted by Council's Executive Assessment Planner comments would be added to the report.	Closed for Closed
	6.2	Car Parking question to Council - Does Council intend to increase the size of car parking places currently under investigation by Standards Australia?	Allocated to Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations	Awaiting Response
September		<p>Council to implement the conditions of approval for the shared zone further discussion:</p> <p>a) Precinct requests Council to ban Right Hand Turn from Grosvenor Lane to Young St. Moved GD, Seconded ES, Votes 10 yes, 1 No.</p> <p>b) NSC publicise availability of parking underneath Woolworths. Moved GD, seconded IMc Passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that:</p> <p>a) ban right turn vehicle movements from Grosvenor Lane into Young Street - additional investigations are being undertaken to consider whether any supplementary actions are required to further improve safety in Grosvenor Lane. Councils do not</p>	Open/Ongoing

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		c) Council consider provision of short-term parking for ride share delivery drivers near Grosvenor St.	<p>have the authority to implement changes to traffic flow such as turn bans and must seek approval for any change from TfNSW. Generally, Council only implements turn bans to resolve road safety issues and would need to demonstrate that any proposal would resolve the safety issue, does not create traffic or safety issues elsewhere and would be self-enforcing. i.e. not result in a requirement of extensive and ongoing enforcement by NSW Police.</p> <p>b) Council to publicise availability of parking underneath Woolworths - Council cannot support such a proposal.</p> <p>c) Council consider provision of short-term parking for ride share delivery drivers near Grosvenor St - response pending.</p>	
August	3	Suggested presenters and areas of interest - Council Department Heads are available to attend Precinct Meetings.	Council's Manager Corporate Planning & Engagement notes the Precinct Committee's request and in consultation with Precinct members, CT, has invited Council's Manager Environmental Services for February 2024. This date will be diarised and confirmation and topics for the meeting will be communicated accordingly.	Closed for Council
	4i	Grosvenor Lane Update/Action Plan - Parks Precinct requests Council to implement of Conditions of Approval of shared zone in Grosvenor Lane.	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations advises that the implementation of a shared zone on Grosvenor Lane includes a 10km/h speed limit and the requirement for drivers to give way to pedestrians in the designated section of roadway. While Grosvenor Lane is a shared zone it is a road and access is still permitted for drivers.	Closed for Council

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			<p>While it is not possible to control the dangerous behaviour of individual drivers, Council Officers have raised the issue with NSW Police requesting consideration of enforcement of driver behaviour in Grosvenor Lane. Where illegal and unsafe driving behaviour is repeatedly observed, residents are recommended to contact North Sydney Police on 02 9956 3199.</p> <p>In summary, the conditions of approval of the Grosvenor Lane shared zone are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Calming: as part of the approved design of the shared zone, traffic calming including garden beds, concrete barriers, road narrowing, and road delineation was implemented to reduce driver speeds. Traffic calming in the form of speed humps where pedestrians are expected to walk, can create trip hazards and impede access for people with mobility impairments and as such, are avoided within shared zones. • Painting or stamping of the road surface: brick pavers have been provided the length of the lane as an acceptable form of road surface treatment for a shared zone. • Road Safety Audits: post-construction and post-installation Road Safety Audits have also been carried out with all recommendations within the audit addressed. Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) are the consent authority for all speed limits throughout New South Wales. Prior to the 	

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			<p>installation of speed limit signs in a shared zone, TfNSW require all pre-installation conditions to be satisfied and approved, including a post-construction road safety audit by an independent auditor. Upon satisfaction of the required conditions, TfNSW then arrange for the installation of the shared zone/speed limit signage. TfNSW have advised that Council has complied with all conditions of approval for the shared zone and installed the 10km/h speed limit consistent with the shared zone.</p> <p>From Council's investigations, the implementation of the shared zone has reduced driver speeds on Grosvenor Lane and improved safety. Due to the concerns raised by residents of the street, additional investigations are being undertaken including an additional Road Safety Audit with associated traffic and pedestrian counts and conflict analysis. The investigations will consider whether any supplementary actions are required to further improve safety in Grosvenor Lane. As with any proposed change to regulatory traffic conditions, the Council will consult with the community prior to making any decision on any change. It is expected that any recommended actions will be proposed prior to the end of 2023/24.</p>	

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	4ii	Grosvenor Lane Update/Action Plan - Parks Precinct requests Council to expedite reopening of Young Street.	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that investigations are currently underway with respect to the Young Street closure and plaza and the Neutral Bay Town Centre Planning Study. Further updates will be provided to the Precinct Committee in due course.	Open/Ongoing
July	4	Modification of Parks Precinct Boundary - GD moved a motion "That Parks Precinct gives in principle endorsement to the transfer of Military Rd (South) from May Gibbs Place to Watson St from Parks Precinct to Neutral Precinct. The motion was seconded by CT and carried unanimously.	Council's Manager Corporate Planning & Engagement notes the Precinct Committee's decision to adjust its boundary adjacent to Neutral Precinct. Council will adjust the Precinct area maps accordingly and inform the affected properties. UPDATE (18 September 2023) Council has sent letters to both the owners and occupiers within the portion of Parks Precinct which has been transferred to Neutral Precinct. Precinct area maps have been updated.	Closed for Council
	5	Election of Office Bearers - All positions were declared vacant by the Returning Officer (a member of NSC staff) and the positions were filled as follows: i) Convenor: GD ii) Secretary: Vacant iii) Office Bearer: RF iv) CPC Delegate: SM	Council's Manager Corporate Planning & Engagement notes the appointed officer bearers and the contact details on file will be updated accordingly. Interim officer bearers can be appointed during the year to fill any vacancies.	Closed for Council
	6 - GB	Young Street and Grosvenor Street Intersection: Cycling and Walking Upgrades - The issue of the extension of cycleway extension southbound on Young St through Grosvenor St towards Military Rd was discussed and a motion was proposed by CT that "North Sydney Council	Council's Sustainable Transport Project Coordinator notes the Precinct Committee's comments regarding the Walking and Cycling Upgrades and will consider it as a submission.	Closed for Council

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		delays any action on the cycleway extension until the Young St reopening is reconfigured and traffic impacts have been assessed and incorporates traffic modelling from the upcoming Grosvenor Lane carpark Development Proposal expected from Coles". The motion was seconded by MAS and carried unanimously.		
June	<i>No actions arising</i>			
May	3	Questions asked by residents: re-finance Olympic Pool - State Govt requirement of land for affordable housing. Which capital works will be deferred following need to re-finance Olympic Pool.	Council's Manager Financial Services has advised that no affordable housing works have been delayed to fund the NSOP redevelopment. Affordable housing projects are delivered as developer contributions or from income sourced from Council's existing community housing portfolio. In many cases, new stock is delivered in kind by developers and is therefore yields no funds to allocate to other projects. Where funds are yielded, such as when the portfolio of community housing produces a surplus or developers do contribute funds they are restricted for use on affordable housing projects. They are not available to fund other projects such as the pool.	Closed for Council
	3	Offset traffic problems related to WHT and WFU - Request made to Council to coordinate liaison between Combined Precincts, Council and Transport for NSW to offset traffic problems related to WHT and WFU.	Council's Public Projects Interface Manager has noted the Precinct Comments and will provide further comments in due course.	Open/Ongoing
	4	DA 218/22, 50 Grasmere Lane - Parks Precinct expresses concern at the possible alienation of part of the laneway as a construction site with accompanying disruption to residents, service and emergency vehicles.	Council's Team Leader Assessments has noted the Precinct Committee's comments regarding 50 Grasmere Lane and will include it as a submission.	Closed for Council

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		Proposed LP. Seconded BB Passed unanimously.		
	GB1	Primrose Park Proposed reconfiguration - Parks Precinct opposes this proposal. It is an inappropriate location in which to intensify the use of playing fields. It will encroach on scarce open space. It will restrict access to the perimeter of the park and access to the walking track to Folly Point. Insufficient parking will restrict access for existing park users. It was noted that Parks Precinct did not receive official notice of the proposal.	<p>Council's Community Engagement Specialist notes the Precinct Committee's feedback which will be treated as a submission.</p> <p>UPDATE (28 June 2023) Council at its meeting of 26 June 2023, resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT the Primrose Park reconfiguration project be discontinued. 2. THAT the Primrose Park reconfiguration budget be reallocated to capital works reserve pending a full costing being undertaken for upgrades to the turf playing surfaces and drainage improvements at Primrose Park. 3. THAT Council reassess the usage of other sports grounds including North Sydney Oval and the Bon Andrews Oval to see what other capacity for organised sport may be available. 4. THAT Council write to the NSW Planning Minister to note that developer contributions are not funding proportionate new sporting and recreational facilities to match increased density targets, and asks what the government will do to fix this. 	Closed for Council
April		Grosvenor Lane Pedestrian/Traffic shared laneway - Council met on 28 Nov 2022 to review this project - the outcome of the proposed actions is not clear. Following the February 2023 meeting the following motion was put by CT: <i>"Parks Precinct re-iterate that Grosvenor Lane is a dangerous mix of cars and pedestrians and request urgent action to improve safety and asked that that the matter</i>	Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that Council is currently undertaking an education campaign on this laneway. This includes providing 'Slow Down' street banners and a Variable Message Sign (VMS) board with speed radar. Council has also commissioned pedestrian and traffic counts as part of the investigation and an independent Road Safety Audit as part of the	Closed for Council

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		<p><i>be referred to the NSC Traffic Committee”.</i></p> <p>Motion was seconded by ES and passed unanimously.</p> <p>On 13 April 2023 Parks Precinct requested attendance at the next Traffic Committee meeting where the issues with Grosvenor Lane could be discussed.</p> <p>A reply was received on 17 April 2023 from NSC Precincts (on behalf of the Manager Traffic & Transport Operations) advising that <i>‘only items that proposed a change to traffic conditions’</i> could be put on the Agenda for discussion.’</p> <p>This point was raised with Cr Santer who advised that NSC were reviewing Grosvenor Lane with the new government and that NSC is considering re-opening Young Street. Cr Santer advised he would raise this matter with the new Manager Traffic & Transport Operations, for discussion and resolution. A Motion was put to the meeting by ES <i>“that Grosvenor Lane should become a dedicated pedestrian zone with restricted traffic access, which would link with the current Grosvenor carpark which is understood to become a future greenspace/pedestrian zone”.</i></p> <p>The motion was seconded by DD. The motion was carried with one abstention (MAS). A further motion was proposed by MAS <i>that the Council expedite the re-opening of Young Street Plaza to allow vehicle access’</i> The motion was seconded by PZ</p> <p>There were three abstentions (ES, SM, DP) and one vote against (LP). The remainder of the vote were in favour.</p>	<p>review and will consider all recommendations of the audit.</p> <p>If any regulatory changes to the traffic conditions are required as a result of the audit, Council will make a submission to the Traffic Committee requesting endorsement of the change. As with any proposed change to traffic conditions, Council will consult with the community prior to making any decision on the change. Transport for NSW have directed Local Councils to only take item to Traffic Committee where there is a proposed vote on a change the regulation of traffic.</p> <p>As such, it is not appropriate to raise items for investigation at Traffic Committee. While North Sydney Council has previously added items to the Traffic Committee for discussion only, this was a departure from TfNSW directed processes. Raising items for discussion does not facilitate an effective investigation of traffic safety issues and can also have the potential to delay the delivery of required improvements. While the review of the conditions of Grosvenor Lane are underway, Council can act more effectively on any safety concerns where they are raised through our formal channels. We encourage community members to raise any safety concerns by making a submission to council@northsydney.nsw.gov.au, or by making a submission through the submitted resolutions of the Parks Precinct Meetings.</p>	

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			<p>Specifically with respect to Grosvenor Lane and the ongoing investigation, Council staff are available to meet with a representative of the Parks Precinct on Grosvenor Lane to discuss the concerns and potential solutions as part of the investigation. Council's Manager of Traffic and Transport Operations has provided his contact details to the Parks Precinct Co-convenor B should a meeting be required.</p>	
March	2	<p>Grosvenor Lane Pedestrian/Traffic shared laneway - The Council met on 28 Nov 2022 to review this project - the outcome of this meeting is unknown. A motion was put forward by CT during the Parks February meeting that "Parks Precinct re-iterate that Grosvenor Lane is a dangerous mix of cars and pedestrians and request urgent action to improve safety and asked that that the matter be referred to the NSC Traffic Committee" The motion was seconded by ES and passed unanimously. Parks Precinct to request attendance at any Traffic Committee meeting where Grosvenor Lane is under consideration. Parks Precinct will wait until 23 March for the NSC to review the Minutes of our February meeting in relation to Grosvenor Lane. If no response Parks will approach NSC to enquire what the process is for adding Grosvenor Lane on to the Traffic Committee agenda. Once this matter is on the Agenda a Parks spokesman can address this issue in person with the Traffic Committee Meeting to obtain some solutions/resolutions to the pedestrian/traffic issue in the laneway.</p>	<p>Council's Manager Traffic & Transport Operations has advised that representatives of the Parks Precinct Committee are welcome to register to attend Traffic Committee and speak to any issue on the Agenda. Agendas are circulated and provided on Council's Website before the meeting at the following location: https://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/traffic-committee Traffic Committee does not consider proposals to maintain the status quo, however, any change to the regulation of traffic will require community consultation before being considered at traffic committee. Community consultation will include details of the proposed traffic committee date as well as details on how to attend to speak on a proposal.</p> <p>Refer to Council's response to Item 5c, February 2023 for a response regarding the status of Grosvenor Lane per the recent Council resolution.</p>	Closed for Council

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February	4	<p>DAs Under Consideration: 2 Byrnes Ave, Neutral Bay - Of the above DAs the only one of concern was the DA for the rear of the house at 2 Byrnes Ave, Neutral Bay as there are just a few remaining 'workers cottages' left in this street and it was thought that perhaps this renovation would change the heritage value of the street. The cottages in Byrnes Ave were built for the workers on the Military Road tramway. There was some concern and discussion regarding this DA between RF (who lives in Byrnes Ave) and CT. This matter will be discussed further at the Parks Ave Weekly Zoom meeting.</p>	<p>Council's Assessment Officer has advised that the Precinct Committee's comments as a submission will be considered as part of the assessment currently underway on this application.</p>	Closed for Council
	5b	<p>Unauthorised Demolition of Bus Shelters - GD raised the issue of the NSC unauthorised demolition of 5 x NSC heritage bus shelters. The bus shelters were designed in the 1980s to reflect the traditional tram shelters built during the 1880s and they are part of the unique character of North Sydney. There are 44 shelters listed as heritage items in the NSLEP. No DA was presented for acceptance of this work and there was no community consultation. Mayor Zoe Baker has commenced an investigation as to how this action could have happened without the Council's prior knowledge, or how the Council managed to bypass its own procedures. NSC has apparently proposed the spending of \$300K to rebuild these shelters exactly as they were. GD raised the point as to how can NSC be relied on to support the retention of heritage listed properties when they can't follow their own processes prior to making a decision to demolish? GD plans to raise this matter at the next CPC meeting.</p>	<p>Council at its meeting of 13 February 2023 considered Item 10.04 Heritage Bus Shelters, and resolved:</p> <p><i>1. THAT Council notes no further heritage-listed bus shelters will be removed or modified until the outcome of the DDA compliance audit is completed, and that those shelters identified as having structural issues are stabilised with temporary structural engineering infrastructure and made safe.</i></p> <p><i>2. THAT Council notes the structural assessment report on the heritage-listed bus shelters attached to this report (Attachment 2).</i></p> <p><i>3. THAT Council undertakes a full DDA compliance audit on all of Council's heritage-listed bus shelters as soon as possible, and that a report is brought back to Council re the outcome of the audit.</i></p> <p><i>4. THAT this audit details all modifications required to fully comply with DDA requirements where possible, and includes a detailed cost estimate for the modifications.</i></p>	Closed for Council

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		<p>GD proposed a motion that “The Parks Precinct understands that an investigation is underway into the mechanism whereby the demolition of the heritage listed bus shelters bypassed Council requirements and requests the full disclosure of corrective actions taken by the Council to prevent any re-occurrence of such an event”. The motion was seconded by SB and passed unanimously.</p>		
	5c	<p>Grosvenor Lane Pedestrian/Traffic shared laneway - Council met on 28 Nov 2022 to review this project - the outcome of this meeting is unknown. Parks Precinct also request attendance at any Traffic Committee meeting where Grosvenor Lane is under consideration.</p>	<p>Council at its meeting of 28 November 2022 considered Item 10.11 Grosvenor Lane Pedestrian and Safety Zone, and resolved:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. THAT Council undertakes the Stage 1 Road Safety Education and signage measures outlined in this report, which includes installing ‘10km/h’ pavement stencils on the roadway at all entrances to the Grosvenor Lane Shared Zone and continues the current Education campaign in the laneway with banners for six (6) months, as outlined in this report. 2. THAT during the implementation of Stage 1 Road Safety Education and signage measures, further speed and pedestrian counts will be undertaken to monitor traffic speeds and pedestrian usage. 3. THAT a further report be brought back to Council in 6 months’ time which outlines the speed and pedestrian data that Council has collected, and to also recommends if any further interventions (such as those outlined in Stage 2 Road Safety Measures in this report) are required. 4. THAT Council notes speed data has been collected in Grosvenor Lane in August 2015, October 2020, December 2020 and October 2022. The number of trucks using Grosvenor Lane was also measured in 2022. The result of tube counts reveals that, since the implementation of the Shared Zone in 2020, 	Closed for Council

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			<p><i>there has been a significant reduction on the 85th percentile of vehicles' speed, from 36.5km/h in 2020 to 22.6km/h in 2022. This is still over the posted speed limit of 10km/h, but it should be noted that most cars travelling significantly over the speed limit are doing so late at night and early in the morning. It should also be noted that there are a significant number of trucks still using the laneway.</i></p> <p><i>5. THAT Council notes a review of crash investigation data was conducted over the past 5 years 2018 to 2022 (most current data available). There was one crash in 2019 before the implementation of the "Shared Zone" with a single vehicle, non-injury crash, where a car ran into a parked car. There are no reported crashes with pedestrians or cyclists over a 10-year period in the laneway.</i></p> <p><i>6. THAT Council notes in June 2020 a Post-Construction Road Safety Audit for Grosvenor Lane was conducted by an external accredited auditor, when the entire length of the Lane and Shared Zone was assessed. The site was observed during both daylight hours and after last light under clear weather conditions. As part of the Post-Construction Audit various issues were outlined and then addressed by Council which included extra signage (especially on the speed limit), "give way to pedestrians" and "shared zone" signs, (which is over and above what is required in the TfNSW Technical Guidelines), reflectors, more lighting, and education of the community.</i></p> <p>Refer to Council's response to Item 2, March 2023 for a response regarding addressing the Traffic Committee.</p>	