

**Item No:** A3.2  
**Subject:** NESS AVENUE, DULWICH HILL (WEST WARD/SUMMER HILL)  
PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING – DESIGN PLANS  
**File Ref:** S3460-02  
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## SUMMARY

Since early 2015, Council has been developing the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill 10-year plan which is recommending a series of integrated projects which have been included in the capital works program.

Design plans have now been finalised for the Ness Avenue -Traffic Calming proposal as part of the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill 10-year plan.

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## OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the design of the: Ness Avenue, Dulwich Hill - 90 degrees angle parking, chevron painting and associated signage and line markings (ATTACHMENT - design plans No 6050) be APPROVED.

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## BACKGROUND

Through the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill (TDH) project, Council is planning in a new way that focuses on people and places rather than planning for single issues, such as traffic, trees, and drainage separately. Since early 2015, Council has been developing the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill 10-year plan. Eighteen Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill goals have been developed that will guide works, services and programs in Dulwich Hill for the next 10 years.

The Tennyson Street and Ness Avenue project was chosen as an early TDH action to implement. It aims to slow traffic and at the same time realise the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill goals by working with Tennyson Street and Ness Avenue residents. To develop the draft plan for Tennyson Street and Ness Avenue Council held three collaborative design workshops:

- 20 July, 2015 - Council staff
- 23 July, 2015 - Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill Citizens Working Group
- 27 November, 2015 - Tennyson Street and Ness Avenue residents

The common things expressed at each workshop were:

- Slow the traffic
- Include a cycleway
- Involve residents in the construction and ongoing maintenance
- Manage street trees
- Create a softer, greener landscape
- Plant native gardens
- Design for rain water runoff and reuse
- Create narrower crossing points
- Investigate slower traffic speeds
- Maintain parking
- Improve the look of the streets

The new design was prepared taking these points into consideration. This design was sent to all residents in Ness Avenue and Tennyson Street and made available on Council's Your Say Marrickville web site inviting feedback by 14 March, 2016. The residents had the opportunity to further discuss the designs at the community meeting on 10 March 2016.

## DISCUSSION

### Traffic Volume and Speed Counts

Street Name	Traffic Volume ( vpd)	Traffic Speed (85th percentile speed kph)	Street width (m)	Other features
<b>Ness Avenue</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>51.8</b>	<b>12.8</b>	Existing on road cycle route

(It should be noted that in road trees on average are set 4.4m from the kerbs leaving only 8.3m of clear pavement). The survey indicated that street parking and speeding were reported as major issues in Ness Avenue.

### Design Plans

The initial design proposal endorsed by Pedestrian, Cyclist & Traffic Calming Advisory Committee and approved by Council at its meeting in July 2010 proposed the installation of a one lane parallel slow point, comprising the construction of 2 new kerbside blister islands adjacent to property No. 14 Ness Avenue.

The above proposal for Ness Avenue coincided with the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill (TDH) project – an integrated planning process to bring all of Council's services together and deliver better outcomes for the community. Ness Avenue presented an opportunity to realise some of the TDH goals while slowing traffic. The project team held four collaborative workshops with residents, the Tomorrow's Dulwich Hill Working Group and Council staff to develop a solution for this street. As result of the collaborative workshop and community request the initial proposal has been changed.

The new design was prepared taking these points into consideration and presented for the consideration.

The proposed work includes:

- Introducing 90 degree angle parking to narrow the road and slow traffic, creating approximately 11 new parking spaces;
- Installing a STOP sign and painting chevron line markings at the intersection of Ness Avenue and Tennyson Street to deter motorists from cutting the corner; and
- Painting cycleway symbols on the road, and replacing two ailing street trees and improving conditions for three existing street trees.

Parking Impact

The proposed installation of 90 degree angle parking will result in approximately 11 new kerbside parking spaces along Ness Avenue.

All vehicle access to adjoining properties will be retained.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Consultation was undertaken with affected properties regarding each of the above design plans. A letter outlining the proposals with copies of the plans was sent to residents, property owners and stakeholders and summary of community consultation is provided below as follow:

The consultation period closed on 6 April 2016

A summary of the comments received and responses is provided below:

130 letters sent out to the resident and occupier. Council receive a total of 5 submissions with 1 supporting, and 4 opposing the proposal.

Issue raised by respondent	Council’s Officer comments
<p>1. The proposed stop sign and chevron line markings at the intersection of Ness Avenue and Tennyson Street will have little or no impact on the 'hoons' who regularly lose control on this corner (turning from Tennyson Street into Ness Avenue) and smash into cars parked on the northern side of Ness Avenue. Both my own car and that of my neighbour have been severely damaged in this manner. The best solution would be to install a pedestrian refuge (or other form of physical barrier) at this intersection.</p> <p>2. 90 degree angle parking would restrict visibility for residents reversing out of adjacent driveways, increasing the risk of accidents. I would recommend retaining the existing parallel parking spots.</p>	<p>Concerns noted. Initial solution is to tighten the intersection through use of line marking and stop controls. It is envisaged that this will better delineate the intersection and improve driver behaviour.</p> <p>It should be noted that the crash history available to Council has revealed that over a five-year period from 2010-2014 revealed no accident occurred at this intersection.</p> <p>Council proposing 90 degrees rear end parking to narrowing road which could be considered as traffic calming treatment as speeding was part of the initial site issues.</p>
<p>1. I live at 17 Ness Ave. You propose angle parking</p>	<p>The design team have checked the swept path analysis and access from all bay s is</p>

<p>outside of my home, however, I will to be able to exit my carport with any clear visibility. Already it is a daily risk exiting my carport as cars come too fast around the corner and visibility is poor with nearby parallel parkers.</p> <p>2. Cycle symbols are great but there won't be much road space with 90 degree parking and the reduced visibility for people like me exiting their carports and garages will be a great risk to cyclists.</p>	<p>facilitated. Council's tree officer will assess the route and organise under pruning of trees if require.</p> <p>2. The cycle facilities are on road mixed traffic on Ness Avenue. Therefore there is no cycleway to be accommodated on the road. Motorists and cyclists will be required to interact in the same way as other on road mixed traffic situations.</p>
<p>Ness Avenue is not wide enough to implements the proposed plan. When cars are parked on the south side of the street there would not be enough room for cars parking on the north side to manoeuvre into their new perpendicular parking positions. When cars are parked on both sides on the street, trucks like you garbage removal service will both completely block cars driving in Ness Avenue and possibly hit the well-developed on the south side of the street. When cars are parked on both sides on the street I don't think there will be enough road width to both allow the safe progress of two way traffic as well as providing an additional cycle way. I can't see how your new plan will stop cars parking on the west side of number 31 Ness Avenue driveway, so a parked car will continue to block access to Ness Avenue from our car port. Furthermore in my opinion the trees that you are going to cut down look ok to me and should be left in place.</p>	<p>The design's team have checked the swept path analysis and access from all bays are facilitated.</p> <p>There is sufficient width between the end of the angle parking bay and the parallel parking bay opposite which would allow for large vehicles to pass if they slowed / stopped to pull into that widened space. The narrowing could be considered traffic calming as speeding was part of the initial site issues.</p> <p>Removed tree would be replaced with new ones with appropriate soil treatment.</p>

**CONCLUSION**

That design of the: Ness Avenue, Dulwich Hill - 90 degrees angle parking, chevron painting and associated signage and line markings (ATTACHMENT - design plans No 6050) be APPROVED.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funding of approximately \$15,000 is available for the proposed works as part of Council's 2015/16 Capital Works budget.





