Management report to Council

Proposed permanent road closure of Elizabeth Street, Melbourne (southbound carriageway), between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street

Presenter: Geoff Robinson, Manager Engineering Services

Purpose and background

- 1. The purpose of this report is to seek a decision from Council in response to the proposed permanent road closure of the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street (Proposal).
- 2. Under delegation, the Proposal has been publicly advertised, notified to affected owners and occupiers and the five submissions received (refer Attachment 2) were considered by Council's Submissions Committee under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act).

Key issues

- 3. The Proposal is designed to create a new pedestrian area that will relieve pedestrian congestion and improve access to key public transport interchanges at the Flinders Street Station and Elizabeth Street Tram Terminus (as described in Attachment 3).
- 4. A total of five submissions were received to the Proposal, which are summarised and commented on in Attachment 3. Three of the submissions objected to the Proposal and two of the submissions commented on matters relating to the detailed design, construction and function of the new public space.
- 5. Elizabeth Street is under Council's care and management. The Proposal involves placing and maintaining obstructions to block motor vehicles. Under the Act, Council is required to publish a public notice of the Proposal calling for submissions. Council must consider all submissions received in response before making a decision. A public notice outlining the Proposal was advertised in The Age newspaper on Wednesday 31 May 2017 (refer Attachment 4). A letter outlining the Proposal was also forwarded to owners and occupiers of properties considered to be directly affected (refer Attachment 5).
- 6. As required by the Act, Council has received a VicRoads' report on the Proposal (refer Attachment 6), which advised that VicRoads has no objection to the Proposal. The Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board, Ambulance Victoria and Victoria Police have been notified regarding the Proposal. A response from the Victoria Police on the detailed design of the project is outlined in Attachment 3.

Recommendation from management

- 7. That Council:
 - 7.1. Approves the permanent road closure of the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street as recommended by the Submissions Committee at Attachment 3.
 - 7.2. Notifies all submitters in writing of its decision and the reasons for its decision.

Attachments:

Copy of Letter sent to Owners and Occupiers (page 23 of 28) 5.

1

29 August 2017



Supporting Attachment (page 2 of 28)

^{2.}

Copy and Summary of Submissions (page 3 of 28) Detailed Background, Key Issues, Submissions Committee's Resolution and Concept Plans (page 19 of 28) 3.

Public Notice (page 22 of 28) 4.

^{6.} VicRoads' Report (page 27 of 28)

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. The report accurately describes the requirements of the Act in respect to the Proposal.

Finance

2. The overall project cost, which includes the installation of new permanent bollards, has been estimated at \$1.5 million and will be funded from the 2017-18 Capital Works budget.

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Stakeholder consultation

- 4. The consultation process involved the following:
 - 4.1. Public consultation undertaken in August and September 2016 on the *Elizabeth Street South Streetscape Improvement Plan.*
 - 4.2. Advertising of the Proposal in The Age on 31 May 2017 and on Council's website.
 - 4.3. A letter and concept plan was sent to the owners and occupiers of abutting properties and others deemed to be affected advising that Council is undertaking legal procedures under the Act related to the proposal and is seeking submissions.

Relation to Council policy

5. The Proposal is in line with a number of Council guidelines and policies that aim to support walking and public transport use, create well-designed public spaces, increase tree canopy cover and improve water management from Council Plan 2013-2017, Road Safety Plan 2013-2017, Walking Plan 2014-2017 and Transport Strategy 2012.

Environmental sustainability

6. This Proposal aims to improve environmental sustainability by removing motorists from the new public space and providing more space for pedestrians and public transport users. It will result in the planting of eight new street trees (where there are currently none) and reduced flooding through the introduction of a linear trench drain and an increased permeable surfaces (garden beds).

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PROPOSED PERMANENT CLOSURE OF ELIZABETH STREET, MELBOURNE

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

	Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
1.	Malcolm Macdonald	Support for the proposal. In general, I support the proposal noting the following:	
		 a) Make sure there is plenty of natural vegetation planted - how about arbors over the trams or a semi- transparent green wall between the tram tracks and pedestrian areas 	The upgraded public space will include new street trees and planter boxes. We are investigating plant species including native varieties. The tram stop will not be greened as part of this initiative as it is important to keep this area clear for the thousands of tram users accessing this stop every day.
		 b) Make sure the pedestrian area is clearly for pedestrians with cyclists banned 	The new pedestrian area will be clearly defined as a pedestrian only area through a range of design measures and treatments including new bluestone paving, along with bollards, street furniture and planters.
			Cyclists will be required to dismount from their bicycles if they wish to travel through the pedestrianised space.
		 c) Provide an interesting decorative pavement surface in pedestrian areas like Macau does in its old town public plaza. 	The City of Melbourne has a standard suite of high quality street materials that are used consistently throughout the central city area. This includes the signature bluestone paving used on footpaths. The new pedestrian space will include a combination of bluestone paving and asphalt to provide that consistent City of Melbourne language.
		 d) Provide public art that incorporates seating in the pedestrian area 	Public seating will be included as part of the overall design. Public art is not part of the budget, however can be considered at a later date.

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	Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
2	John Thurstans	Objection to bicycles being banned in closed road.	Cyclists will be able to continue to use Elizabeth Street on the road in the northbound direction, and the remainder of Elizabeth Street, however the eastern side of the road will be transformed into a pedestrian space, similar to Bourke Street Mall.
		I understand you are planning to close part of Elizabeth Street to cars AND bicycles.	In order to provide a safe space for the high volumes of pedestrians moving to and from our key transport nodes at Flinders Street Station and the Elizabeth Street Tram Terminus, cyclists will be required to dismount and walk through the upgraded space.
		Why ban bicycles? They are the future of transport in the city. You must encourage them. Not force them onto other dangerous streets.	Pedestrians and tram users make up 96% of the people using this part of Elizabeth Street in both the weekday morning and afternoon peak hours. During the morning peak (8 to 9am), there are on average 9,300 pedestrians using footpaths on both sides of this section of Elizabeth Street, which is more than on the corresponding block of Swanston Street. This number will increase once Melbourne Metro works are underway.
		Please reconsider.	In contrast, the number of motor vehicles using Elizabeth Street in the morning and afternoon peak times is very low (73 and 122 motor vehicles per hour respectively). The number of bicycles travelling southbound in this section of road is also low with 157 in the AM peak and 61 in the PM peak.
			The City of Melbourne's Bicycle Plan prioritises two priority north-south bicycle commuter routes nearby on Swanston Street and William Street. In order to provide a safe space for the high volumes of pedestrians moving to and from our key transport nodes at Flinders Street Station and the Elizabeth Street Tram Terminus, cyclists will be required to dismount and walk through the upgraded space.
			We will continue to provide bicycle parking to ensure that cyclists can start and finish their journey in this location.

	Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
3	Owen Bentley	In support of the proposal I support the closure to motor vehicles but request Council allow bicycles unimpeded access in Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane. Furthermore, bicycles should be given appropriate space in any plans for this area.	Refer to comments regarding bicycle access in response to issue raised by John Thurstans above.
4	Mark Burney	Objection to proposal The Double Tree Melbourne Hotel at 270 Flinders Street objects to the proposed closure of Elizabeth Street as the only direct vehicular access to the hotel for taxis and guests is from the: a) West along Flinders Street; and b) North and east via the section of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street.	The Double Tree Melbourne Hotel at 270 Flinders Street is located on the north side of Flinders Street, approximately 40 metres east of Elizabeth Street. The proposed closure of the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street would require vehicles travelling to the hotel from the north and the east to use an alternative route. It should be noted that an alternative route via Flinders lane/ Queen Street and then Flinders Street to get to the hotel involves a detour of approximately 600 metres. A number of travel time surveys undertaken along this possible detour route during the morning, lunchtime and evening peak indicated that the time taken for this journey would be in the order of 4 minutes.

	Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
5	Murray Brassington on behalf of Fivex Pty. Ltd.	Fivex Pty Ltd received notification pursuant to the Local Government Act that the City of Melbourne proposes to undertake works along the section of Elizabeth Street between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street which will result in closing the road to vehicular traffic.	Noted.
		Fivex Pty Ltd has been a key participant in this area of the city for the past 16 years and has provided a consistent and positive contribution to the urban environment, including:	
		 Improvements to ground level shops to create a vibrant food retail hub 	
		 A new glazed canopy which dramatically improves the quality of the street 	
		 Rationalisation of tenancy and building signage to significantly de-clutter the streetscape 	
		 A new building entry and upper floor retail, fitness and childcare tenancies which improve the variety and quality of services provided to the public 	
		The precinct has evolved into a mini "Eat Street" of successful street food vendors	

1	Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
		in a location where many other retailers have struggled for commercial viability. It is crucial that these retailers be given every opportunity to thrive through appropriate provision of services and support.	
		Fivex Pty Ltd requests that as part of the road closure that Council commit to the following:	
		 That as part of the targeted stakeholder engagement Council consulted with Fivex Pty Ltd, the retailers and other owners directly affected by the proposed changes. 	The City of Melbourne held a stakeholder information session on the 10 July 2017 and invited adjoining retailers and owners directly affected by the proposal. The information session included a short presentation on the proposed design, the key objectives and the process and timeline for construction. These key stakeholders will be engaged with prior to construction.
		2. That Council consider the desirability of activating the public domain by providing licenced areas for retailers to have outdoor seating in the public domain and opportunities to provide outdoor weather protection.	At this stage Council's preference for this area is to maximise the amount of space for pedestrian movement. Over 9000 pedestrians use the footpaths in this southern section of Elizabeth Street in the morning peak alone as they move from Flinders Street Station and the Tram Terminus. Currently the street is characterised by highly constrained pedestrian space. At this stage, the City of Melbourne will not be issuing or renewing outdoor café permits in this section of Elizabeth Street. An unobstructed civic space will become necessary to ensure the safety and efficiency of the thousands of pedestrians passing through the redeveloped street.

	Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
			The City of Melbourne will reassess the opportunity to provide outdoor dining once the space is complete and there is a chance to assess how the space is functioning.
	3. The issue of vagrancy could be partially addressed through appropriate urban design. Fivex Pty Ltd submits that the provision of public street furniture and benches that are not closely managed by retailers will likely provide an environment that attracts vagrants to the area.	partially addressed through	The issue of homelessness and begging is part of a bigger problem within the city. The City of Melbourne has allocated \$2 million towards projects and services in Homelessness Investment and the Victorian Government has contributed significant funding in the area.
		The provision of public street furniture is not likely to increase the number of homeless people in this location as it is not under cover.	
		The design of the new public space incorporates CPTED principles (crime prevention through environmental design). Key measures targeted at reducing crime and antisocial behaviour and improving the amenity of the area include increased lighting levels, new street furniture and materials and more bins.	
		Furthermore, the City of Melbourne is working with key partners including Victoria Police, Yarra Trams and Metro trains to discuss how to increase safety in this area including potentially opening the Flinders Street Station access on Elizabeth Street. This would increase the flow of pedestrians through the space.	
		4. That any proposed landscaping and street furniture maintains visual permeability towards the retail shops and ground cover or only trees with a high canopy are selected.	Trees with a high canopy have been selected. Planter beds and trees will be spaced apart allowing for visibility and access through to the shops, at a similar interval to Swanston Street.

Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
	5. That Council develop an implementation strategy so that public domain works are staged in such a way as to reasonably minimise impact on retailers' ability to trade during construction.	The City of Melbourne will prepare a construction program in consultation with businesses to ensure that trading can continue during construction and that disruption to traders is minimised through such measures as night works.
	6. That Council pursue a place making approach to design in conjunction with the community and commercial operators. That a program of activities and events commences as soon as public domain works are complete so as to further activate Elizabeth Street South;	The programming of the space with activities and events will occur after construction is complete and there is a chance to assess how the space is functioning.
	7. That Council commit to ensuring Council has a specific Council Officer who is the Place Manager for Elizabeth Street South to be a single point of contact for the community, to assist retailers and other effected parties during the construction phase, to assist with ongoing issues in relation to anti-social behaviour in the area and to ensure a place making program such as a regular event schedule is developed and	The Community Engagement team within the Placemaking and Engagement Branch at the City of Melbourne is aligned to place, and works to improve connections between community and government to provide engagement and insight. During the construction phase of Elizabeth Street South, the Community Engagement Partner for CBD and Southbank would be the single point of contact for community, retailers and other affected parties. The Community Engagement Partner would work with Victoria Police and other relevant authorities in relation to anti-social behaviour in the area. On completion of the construction, the Community Engagement Partner and project team will work with the community and commercial operators to investigate the need for place activation.

Name/address	Nature of Submission	Comments
	implemented when the works are complete.	
	8. As a consequence of the closure of Elizabeth Street to vehicles it is not necessary to provide for left-turns from Flinders Lane to Elizabeth Street. Council should consider removing the existing loading bays and widening the Flinders Lane footpath to relieve pedestrian congestion along the north side of Carlow House in accordance with the attached sketch.	The City of Melbourne is currently assessing the feasibility of extending out the kerb on Flinders Lane at its intersection with Elizabeth Street only, given that left turns from Flinders Lane into Elizabeth Street will no longer be permitted. This option will be assessed in terms of its impact on flooding, services and traffic. The City of Melbourne has no immediate plans to remove parking on the south side of Flinders Lane between Elizabeth Street and Rothsay Lane to facilitate the widening of the footpath in this location. The kerbside area in this location is currently signed as a Loading Zone operative during business hours Monday to Friday to allow for servicing of businesses in both Flinders Lane and Elizabeth Street (and 1 hour parking on Saturdays and Sundays). It is expected that the demand for loading facilities in this area will increase if the legal procedures for the proposed closure of Elizabeth Street between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street are successful, and the existing parking on the east side of this section Elizabeth Street, which includes a four space loading zone, is removed to make way for the proposed new pedestrian area.

From: Sent: To: Subject:	CoM Meetings Sunday, 18 June 2017 2:30 PM *Gov & Leg - Council Business (Team) FW: Council and Committee meeting submission form [#1070]	
From: Wufoo Sent: Sunday, 18 June 20 To: CoM Meetings Subject: Council and Com		+10:00) Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney nission form [#1070]
Name: *		Malcolm Macdonald
Email address: *		
Please indicate which meet to make a submission to by appropriate button: *		Submissions (Section 223) Committee
Date of meeting: *		Thursday 20 July 2017
Agenda item title: *		Elizabeth Street South Closure
Please write your submission provided below and submit	-	In general, I support the proposal noting the following:
<u>10am on the day of the sch</u> encourage you to make you early as possible.	_	(a) Make sure there is plenty of natural vegetation planted – how about arbors over the trams or a semi-transparent green wall between the tram tracks and pedestrian areas
		(b) Make sure the pedestrian area is clearly for pedestrians with cyclists banned
		(c) Provide an interesting decorative pavement surface in pedestrian areas like Macau does in its old town public plaza.
		(d) Provide public art that incorporates seating in the pedestrian area
Please indicate whether you address the Future Melbour support of your submission	rne Committee in	No

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be heard at Council meetings.) *		
Privacy acknowledgement: *	I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.	

From: Sent: To: Subject:

John Thurstans <johnthurstans@gmail.com> Thursday, 15 June 2017 7:56 PM CoM Meetings Elizabeth street

Hi

I understand you are planning to close part of Elizabeth Street to cars AND bicycles.

Why ban bicycles? They are the future of transport in the city. You must encourage them. Not force them onto other dangerous streets.

Please reconsider.

JT

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From: Sent: To: Subject:	Wufoo <no-reply@wufoo.com> Thursday, 15 June 2017 8:23 PM CoM Meetings Council and Committee meeting submission form [#1068]</no-reply@wufoo.com>	
Name: *		Owen Bentley
Email address: *		
Please indicate which meet to make a submission to b appropriate button: *		Council meeting
Date of meeting: *		Thursday 20 July 2017
Agenda item title: *		Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane - Closure to Vehicular Traffic
Please write your submission provided below and submit <u>10am on the day of the sch</u> encourage you to make you early as possible.	t <u>by no later than</u> neduled meeting. We	I support the closure to motor vehicles but request Council allow bicycles unimpeded access in Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane. Furthermore, bicycles should be given appropriate space in any plans for this area.
Privacy acknowledgement:	*	I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and disclose my personal information.

From:	Kate Brocker on behalf of CoM Meetings
То:	Victoria Evans
Cc:	Hannah Eisen
Subject:	FW: Council and Committee meeting submission form [#1078]
Date:	Monday, 26 June 2017 9:47:14 AM

From: Wufoo [mailto:no-reply@wufoo.com] Sent: Monday, 26 June 2017 9:45 AM To: CoM Meetings Subject: Council and Committee meeting submission form [#1078]

Name: *	Mark Burney
Email address: *	
Contact phone number (optional):	
Please indicate which meeting you would like to make a submission to by selecting the appropriate button: *	Submissions (Section 223) Committee
Date of meeting: *	Thursday 20 July 2017
Agenda item title: *	Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane – Closure to Vehicular Traffic
Please write your submission in the space provided below and submit by no later than 10am on the day of the scheduled meeting. We encourage you to make your submission as early as possible.	 The DoubleTree Melbourne, 270 Flinders Street wishes to object to the permanent road closure of Elizabeth Street, Melbourne between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane to vehicular Traffic There is currently no road access to DoubleTree Melbourne for vehicles approaching from the East. Vehicles only access way to the DoubleTree Melbourne is via Elizabeth Street & Flinders Street from the West. This section of Elizabeth street is a direct access way for Taxis and Guests delivering & picking up guests at the DoubleTree Melbourne.
Please indicate whether you would like to address the Future Melbourne Committee in support of	No

your submission:

(No opportunity is provided for

submitters to be heard at Council meetings.) *

Privacy acknowledgement: *	•	I have read and acknowledge how Council will use and
		disclose my personal information.

Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane – Closure to Vehicular Traffic

Submission on behalf of Fivex Pty Ltd, owner 2-26 Elizabeth Street and 289 Flinders Lane

Fivex Pty Ltd received notification pursuant to the Local Government Act that the City of Melbourne proposes to undertake works along the section of Elizabeth Street between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street which will result in closing the road to vehicular traffic.

Fivex has been a key participant in this area of the city for the past 16 years and has provided a consistent and positive contribution to the urban environment, including:

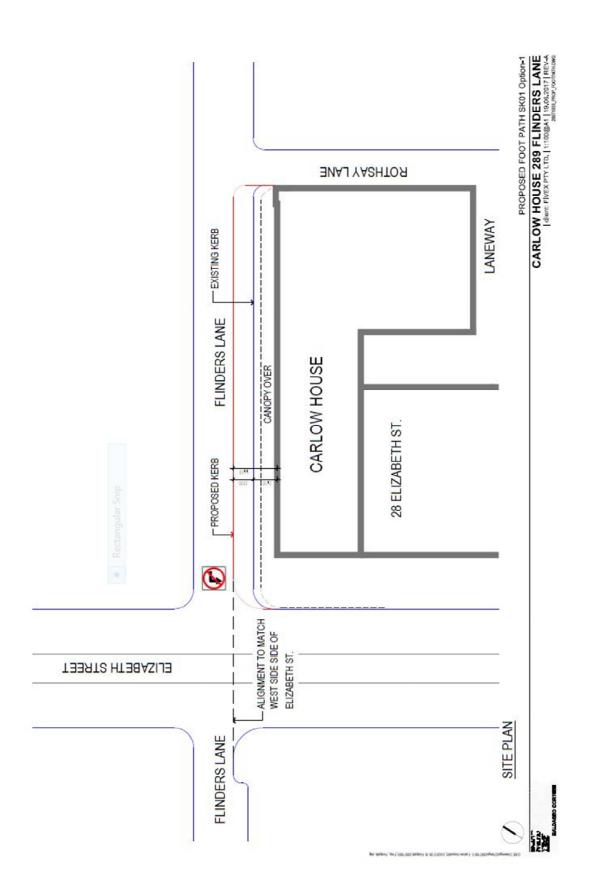
- Improvements to ground level shops to create a vibrant food retail hub
- A new glazed canopy which dramatically improves the quality of the street
- Rationalisation of tenancy and building signage to significantly de-clutter the streetscape
- A new building entry and upper floor retail, fitness and childcare tenancies which improve the variety and quality of services provided to the public

The precinct has evolved into a mini "Eat Street" of successful street food vendors in a location where many other retailers have struggled for commercial viability. It is crucial that these retailers be given every opportunity to thrive through appropriate provision of services and support.

Fivex requests that as part of the road closure that Council commit to the following:

- 1. That as part of the targeted stakeholder engagement Council consult with Fivex, the retailers and other owners directly affected by the proposed changes.
- 2. That Council consider the desirability of activating the public domain by providing licenced areas for retailers to have outdoor seating in the public domain and opportunities to provide outdoor weather protection.
- **3.** The issue of vagrancy could be partially addressed through appropriate urban design. Fivex submits that the provision of public street furniture and benches that are not closely managed by retailers will likely provide an environment that attracts vagrants to the area.
- 4. That any proposed landscaping and street furniture maintains visual permeability towards the retail shops and ground cover or only trees with a high canopy are selected.
- 5. That Council develop an implementation strategy so that public domain works are staged in such a way as to reasonably minimise impact on retailers' ability to trade during construction.
- 6. That Council pursue a place making approach to design in conjunction with the community and commercial operators. That a program of activities and events commences as soon as public domain works are complete so as to further activate Elizabeth Street South;
- 7. That Council commit to ensuring Council has a specific Council Officer who is the Place Manager for Elizabeth Street South to be a single point of contact for the community, to assist retailers and other effected parties during the construction phase, to assist with ongoing issues in relation to anti-social behaviour in the area and to ensure a place making program such as a regular event schedule is developed and implemented when the works are complete.
- 8. As a consequence of the closure of Elizabeth Street to vehicles it is not necessary to provide for left-turns from Flinders Lane to Elizabeth Street. Council should consider removing the existing loading bays and widening the Flinders Lane footpath to relieve pedestrian congestion along the north side of Carlow House in accordance with the attached sketch.

Fivex also submits a "Request to be Heard" before the committee meeting scheduled for Thursday 20th July 2017, to be represented by Murray Brassington of Baldasso Cortese architects.



Detailed Background, key issues and Submissions Committee' Resolution

Detailed background

- 1. The City of Melbourne has developed a concept plan for the southern end of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street. The concept plan involves closing the eastern side of the road to traffic and creating a new pedestrian area while retaining traffic northbound traffic flow on the western side and the tram terminus, as shown on concept drawing in this attachment. New bluestone paving, street furniture, lighting, street trees and drainage works will be undertaken as part of the upgrade.
- 2. There is funding of \$1.5 million to carry out these works in the 2017-18 budget. It is expected that construction would begin in the fourth quarter of 2017 following (and subject to) the successful completion of legal procedures.
- 3. Work to upgrade the western footpath of Elizabeth Street (south-end) began in June 2017 and is expected to be completed in August 2017.
- 4. While the closure of the eastern carriageway will prevent southbound traffic into Flinders Street, the northbound carriageway of this section of Elizabeth Street will remain open to traffic.
- 5. The proposed closure of the eastern carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street, was advertised in The Age newspaper on 31 May 2017.

Detailed Key Issues

- 1. The proposed closure of the eastern side of Elizabeth Street between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street will remove a vehicular access point into Flinders Street. A traffic impact assessment of the proposed closure of the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street was undertaken in July 2016. The report found that no adverse traffic consequences are expected as part of the closure proposal, given the low volume of displaced southbound traffic, as well as the generous permeability and alternate travel route choices that will remain available for motorists. The altered traffic patterns can be readily managed within existing road operational arrangements.
- 2. The proposed closure will result in the loss of approximately four loading zone spaces, one car share space ('GoGet') and seven short-term meter parking spaces (12 in total). The loss of the loading zone and car share space can be readily compensated through the conversion of existing parking, including short-term metered parking spaces, on Elizabeth Street, north of Flinders Lane and Flinders Lane, west of Elizabeth Street.
- 3. Elizabeth Street is a local road under the care and management of the Melbourne City Council. Under the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act), the Council is required to publish a public notice and receive any written submissions on the closure proposal within twenty eight (28) days of the date of the public notice. A notice pertaining to the proposal was also sent to the owners and occupiers of properties deemed to be affected by the closure proposal.
- 4. In total, five submissions were received in response to the proposed road closure. These submissions are summarised and commented on in Attachment 2. The submissions included one objection to the road closure from the Double Tree Hotel at 270 Flinders Street stating it will remove the most direct access to the hotel from the east for taxis dropping off and picking up of hotel guests. Two submissions objected on the grounds that the proposed closure will prevent southbound cyclists access to the Flinders Street intersection and the remaining two submissions made comments relating to the detailed design of the new public space, engagement with traders during construction and the programming of the space once completed.
- 5. As required by the Act, Council has received a VicRoads report on the proposal (Attachment 6), which advised that VicRoads had no objection to the proposal. The Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board, Ambulance Victoria and Victoria Police have also been notified about the proposed closure of the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street.

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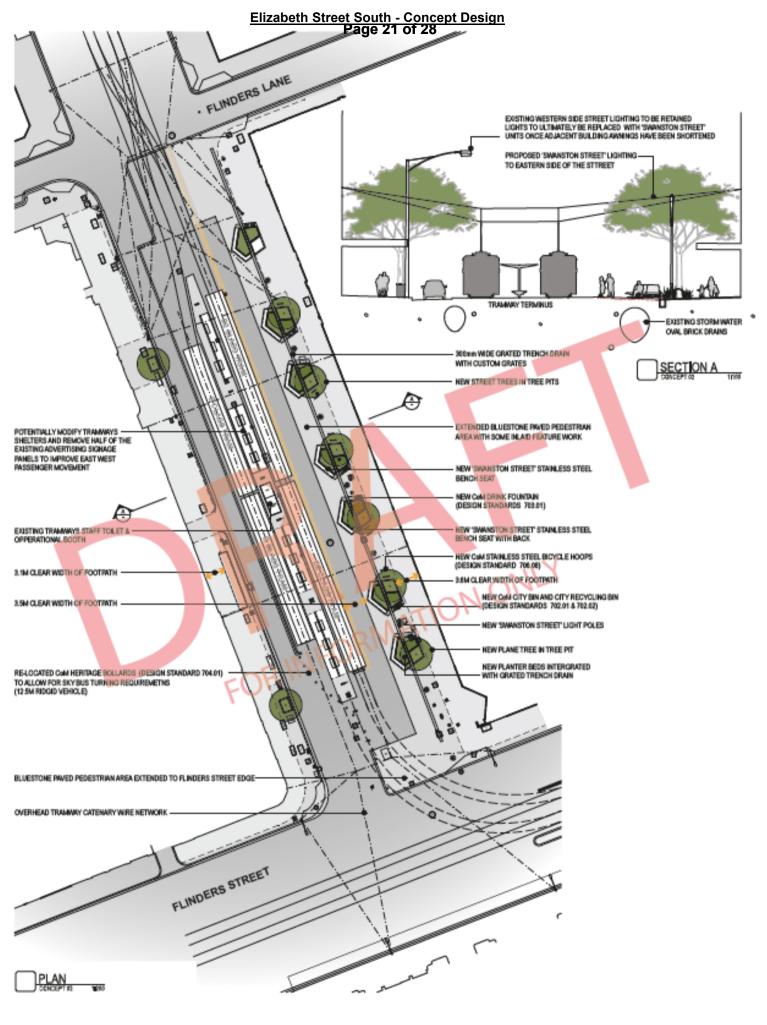
6. The Victoria Police responded with comments relating to the detailed design of the space and recommendations to improve safety of pedestrians on the western side of the street where the northbound carriage will remain open to traffic. Appropriate changes will be made to the design to reflect city safety and security measures.

Submissions Committee resolution and recommendation

- 1. Having considered the written submission in relation to the proposal and persons wishing to be heard in support of their submissions having been given an opportunity to be heard, place and maintain permanent barriers or obstructions to block or restrict the passage or access of vehicles to the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane on a permanent basis as shown on the plan on the public notice published in The Age of 31 May 2017 (Proposal), for the reasons that:
 - 1.1. the Proposal will enable the creation of a new pedestrian area and improve access to key public transport interchanges at Flinders Street Station and the Elizabeth Street tram terminus
 - 1.2. the impact on bicycle riders is minimal and is outweighed by the benefits to pedestrians by the creation of a significant pedestrian area
 - 1.3. issues raised by submitters in respect to public seating, outdoor cafes and other design related matters will be addressed as part of the broader project to upgrade Elizabeth Street South.
- 2. Notify in writing every person who has lodged a separate submission of the decision and reasons for the decision.

Elizabeth Street South - Artist's Impression





FLINDERS STREET TO FLINDERS LANE: CONCEPT PLAN 02a

CLENT PROJECT CITY OF MELBOURNE

APPROVED DRAWN HAB

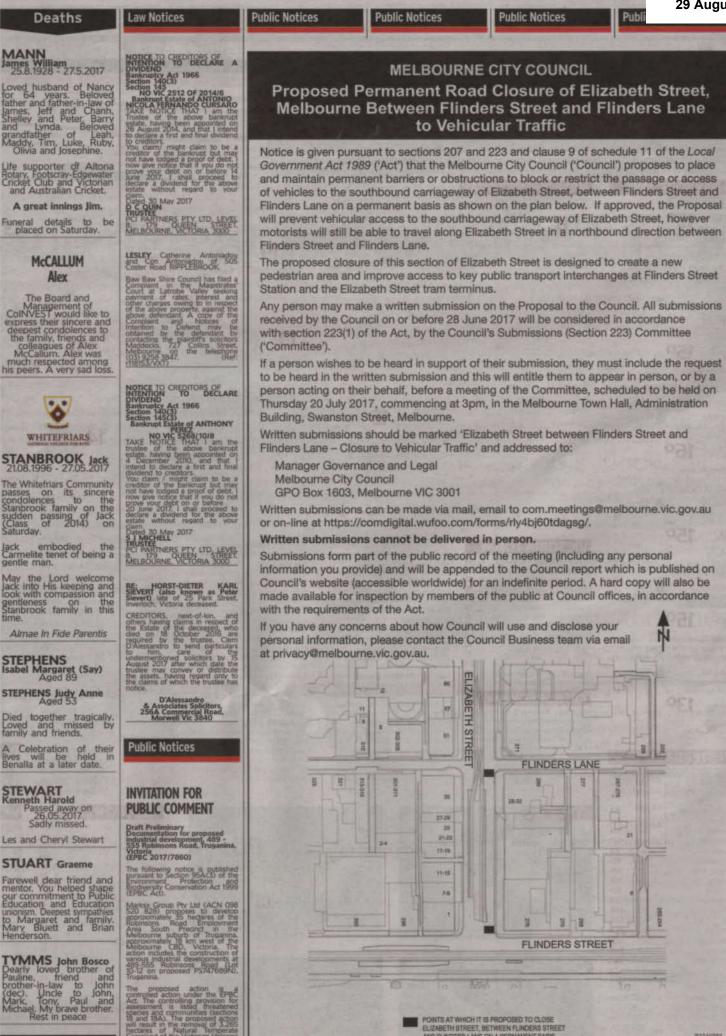
SCALF. DATE 05JUN17 AS SHOWN 903659

PROJECT NUMBER

DRAWING NUMBER SD-01

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Attachment 4 Agenda item 6.4 Council 29 August 2017



Funeral Notices

POINTS AT WHICH IT IS PROPOSED TO CLOSE ELIZABETH STREET, BETWEEN FLINDERS STREET AND FLINDERS LANE ON A PERMANENT BASIS.

26 May 2017



CITY OF MELBOURNE

GPO Box 1603 Melbourne VIC 3001 Telephone (03) 9658 9658 Facsimile (03) 9654 4854 DX210487

ABN 55 370 219 287

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022 / 000001

The Occupier

MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Sir/Madam

ELIZABETH STREET, MELBOURNE BETWEEN FLINDERS LANE AND FLINDERS STREET- PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE

The City of Melbourne writes to advise that it is commencing legal procedures pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 ('Act') to block the passage or access of vehicles to the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street on a permanent basis. While the proposal will prevent vehicular access to the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, motorists will still be able to travel along Elizabeth Street in a northbound direction between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane.

The Elizabeth Street/Flinders Street intersection is one of the busiest pedestrian intersections in the CBD with 9,000 pedestrians using it per hour during the morning peak. Pedestrian volumes on Elizabeth Street are expected to increase once construction of the Metro Tunnel Project starts. Despite the volume of pedestrians, this section of Elizabeth Street is characterised by poor amenity and highly constrained pedestrian space.

The proposed closure of this section of Elizabeth Street is designed to create a bigger pedestrian area and a better space for people with new bluestone paving, street furniture, lighting and street trees. Drainage improvement works will be undertaken at the same time. An artist's impression is attached.

A copy of the public notice and plan that will be advertised in The Age newspaper on 31 May 2017 is also attached. **The closing date for written submissions is 28 June 2017**.

Council's Submissions Committee will meet at 3 pm on Thursday 20 July 2017, in the Melbourne Town Hall, Administration Building, 90-120 Swanston Street, Melbourne. The Committee will hear those persons wishing to be heard in support of their written submission.

Written submissions should be marked 'Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane – Closure to Vehicular Traffic' and addressed to: Manager Governance and Legal, Melbourne City Council, GPO Box 1603, Melbourne VIC 3001.

If you have any queries, please contact Victoria Evans on 9658 9905. For further information about the proposal, visit our website <u>www.melbourne.vic.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

Haig Poulson Principal Engineer – Traffic Engineering CoM Ref Doc#10828564 SR3651225

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Artist's Impression of the proposed upgrade to the south-end of Elizabeth Street

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MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL

PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE OF ELIZABETH STREET, MELBOURNE BETWEEN FLINDERS STREET AND FLINDERS LANE TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Notice is given pursuant to sections 207 and 223 and clause 9 of schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989* ('Act') that the Melbourne City Council ('Council') proposes to place and maintain permanent barriers or obstructions to block or restrict the passage or access of vehicles to the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane on a permanent basis as shown on the attached plan. If approved, the Proposal will prevent vehicular access to the southbound carriageway of Elizabeth Street, however motorists will still be able to travel along Elizabeth Street in a northbound direction between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane.

The proposed closure of this section of Elizabeth Street is designed to create a new pedestrian area and improve access to key public transport interchanges at Flinders Street Station and the Elizabeth Street tram terminus.

Any person may make a written submission on the Proposal to the Council. All submissions received by the Council on or before 28 June 2017 will be considered in accordance with section 223(1) of the Act, by the Council's Submissions (Section 223) Committee ('Committee').

If a person wishes to be heard in support of their submission, they must include the request to be heard in the written submission and this will entitle them to appear in person, or by a person acting on their behalf, before a meeting of the Committee, scheduled to be held on Thursday 20 July 2017, commencing at 3pm, in the Melbourne Town Hall, Administration Building, Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Written submissions should be marked 'Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane – Closure to Vehicular Traffic' and addressed to:

Manager Governance and Legal Melbourne City Council GPO Box 1603 Melbourne VIC 3001

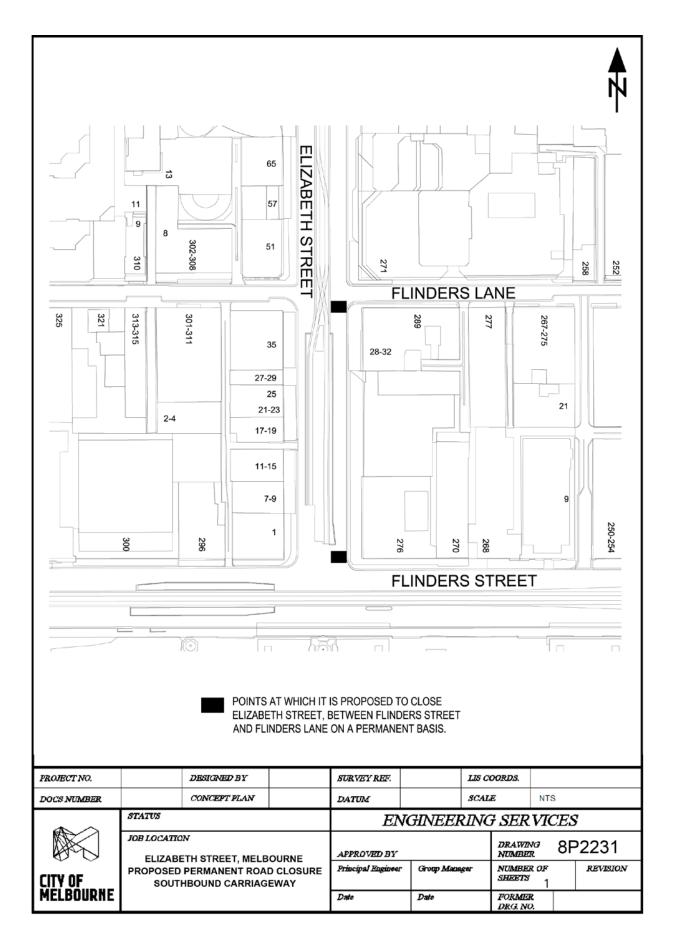
Written submissions can be made via mail, email to com.meetings@melbourne.vic.gov.au or on-line at https://comdigital.wufoo.com/forms/rly4bj60tdagsg/.

Written submissions cannot be delivered in person.

Submissions form part of the public record of the meeting (including any personal information you provide) and will be appended to the Council report which is published on Council's website (accessible worldwide) for an indefinite period. A hard copy will also be made available for inspection by members of the public at Council offices, in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

If you have any concerns about how Council will use and disclose your personal information, please contact the Council Business team via email at privacy@melbourne.vic.gov.au.

Attachment 1



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Attachment 6 Agenda item 6.4 Council 29 August 2017



Metropolitan North West Region 499 Ballarat Road Sunshine Victoria 3020 Telephone (03) 9313 1333

Send Correspondence to: mnw.mail@roads.vic.gov.au or Fax (03) 9313 1175

Parcels and Drawings to: Private Bag 4000 Sunshine Victoria 3020

vicroads.vic.gov.au

Contact: David Niemiecki Telephone: 9313 1154 Our Ref: 10623016

Mr Haig Poulson Principal Engineer Traffic City of Melbourne GPO Box 1603 **MELBOURNE VIC 3001**

Dear Mr Poulson,

PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE ON ELIZABETH STREET (SOUTHBOUND) BETWEEN FLINDERS LANE AND FLINDERS STREET, MELBOURNE

I refer to council's letter dated 25 May 2017 in which it was requested VicRoads provide a report, under Section 205 of the Local Government Act 1989, regarding the proposed permanent road closure of Elizabeth Street, southbound direction only, between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street in Melbourne.

VicRoads has considered the matter, and analysed the traffic impact of the road closure, a report is enclosed to support your request.

VicRoads has no objections to the permanent southbound road closure on the eastern carriageway of Elizabeth Street between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street in Melbourne proposed by Council.

If you have any queries regarding this report please contact Mr David Niemiecki on 9313 1154.

Yours sincerely,

LIEN CHEUNG ACTING TEAM LEADER – TRANSPORT INTEGRATION CENTRAL

05/06/2017



REPORT ON PROPOSAL BY MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL FOR A PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE ON ELIZABETH STREET (SOUTHBOUND) IN MELBOURNE 5 JUNE 2017

1. PROPOSAL:

This report concerns a proposal by Melbourne City Council for the permanent closure of the east carriageway (southbound) on Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane in Melbourne. The purpose of this closure is to create a new pedestrian area and improve access to key public transport interchanges at the Flinders Street and Elizabeth Street tram terminus.

2. EXISTING CONDITIONS AND TRAFFIC PATTERNS:

This section of Elizabeth Street is a two-way, one-lane local road which currently only allows left-in, left-out access via Flinders Street and Flinders Lane. Traffic volumes are relatively low along the southbound section of Elizabeth Street, with a daily total of around 1,500 vehicles and at its worst about 85 vehicles per hour.

3. EFFECT OF CLOSURE:

The road closure southbound along Elizabeth Street is not expected to have any significant impacts to traffic as vehicles will still be able to travel northbound along the western carriageway. Under this proposal, vehicles will no longer be able to head south along Elizabeth Street between Flinders Street and Flinders Lane however there are other readily available alternatives allowing vehicles to access Flinders Street.

It is expected that no major delays or detours will result from this closure and it is expected local traffic will experience minor to negligible inconvenience.

4. IMPACT ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT & EMERGENCY VEHICLES:

Public transport operators and emergency services will not be affected by the proposed permanent road closure.

5. CONCLUSIONS:

VicRoads has no objections to the permanent southbound road closure on the eastern carriageway of Elizabeth Street between Flinders Lane and Flinders Street in Melbourne proposed by Council.

LIEN CHEUNG ACTING TEAM LEADER – TRANSPORT INTEGRATION CENTRAL

05/06/2017