



CURLEWIS ST STREETSCAPE UPGRADE

CONSULTATION
ROUND TWO

CONSULTATION
REPORT

JANUARY 2023

Waverley Council acknowledges the Bidjigal, Birrabirragal and Gadigal people, who traditionally occupied the Sydney Coast, and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders both past and present.

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Executive summary

Waverley Council is proposing to upgrade Curlewis Street in Bondi Beach to make it safer for pedestrians and bike riders. The proposed streetscape upgrade includes 700m of separated two-way bike path and beautifying the street to provide a welcoming and vibrant space for the whole community to enjoy.

Earlier this year we shared draft concept designs for the upgrade and asked for community feedback. The design at the western end of Curlewis Street was then updated to address feedback received in relation to connectivity of the bike path and traffic flow. From 21 November – 16 December 2022 we sought community feedback on the updated design and this report summaries feedback received.

A number of engagement methods were implemented to enable community members to submit feedback in a way that was easy and convenient, including:

- Dedicated page on the Have Your Say website
- Online survey
- Letterbox drop to approx. 5,900 properties in the Waverley area, 900 properties in the Woollahra area and 100 nearby businesses
- One Have Your Say day held at Bondi Markets for community members to talk to Council officers about the project
- Social media
- Stakeholder outreach

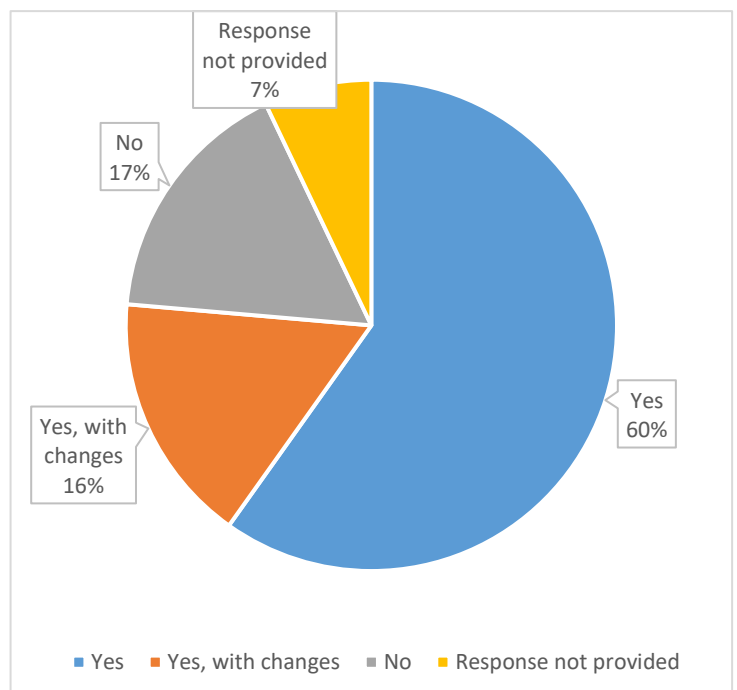
Overview of feedback

A total of 128 submissions were received during the consultation period, with 60% supporting the updated design.

Of respondents who do not support the updated design, the main reasons noted were that a bike lane is not needed on Curlewis Street and that the proposed changes, including removal of the slip lane, won't address traffic congestion (note: this feedback was outside the scope of this consultation, which focused on changes to the bike path and traffic changes at the corner of Simpson St and Blair St).

A few changes to the design were suggested, including increasing connectivity of the bike path across Old South Head Road, improving road safety at this intersection, and constructing a pedestrian crossing further up Blair Street (near Beach Road).

The consultation revealed the left hand turn into Simpson Street isn't heavily used, with the main reasons for use being to access the petrol station and Barracluff Park.



Recommendations:

- Proceed with the updated design at the western end of Curlewis St, noting the existing alternative routes to access to the petrol station and Barracluff Park.
- Provide information to the community to convey how traffic congestion at the Wellington St roundabout has been investigated following feedback received in the first round of consultation.
- Provide information to the community to explain the benefits of slip lane removal.
- Continue to advocate to Transport for NSW to improve safety and congestion at the Old South Head Road intersection.
- Traffic Team to review requests for loading zones and a pedestrian crossing on Blair St (near Beach Rd) separately.

Background

This project proposes to upgrade 850m of Curlewis Street from Campbell Parade to Old South Head Road, including 700m of separated two-way bike path.

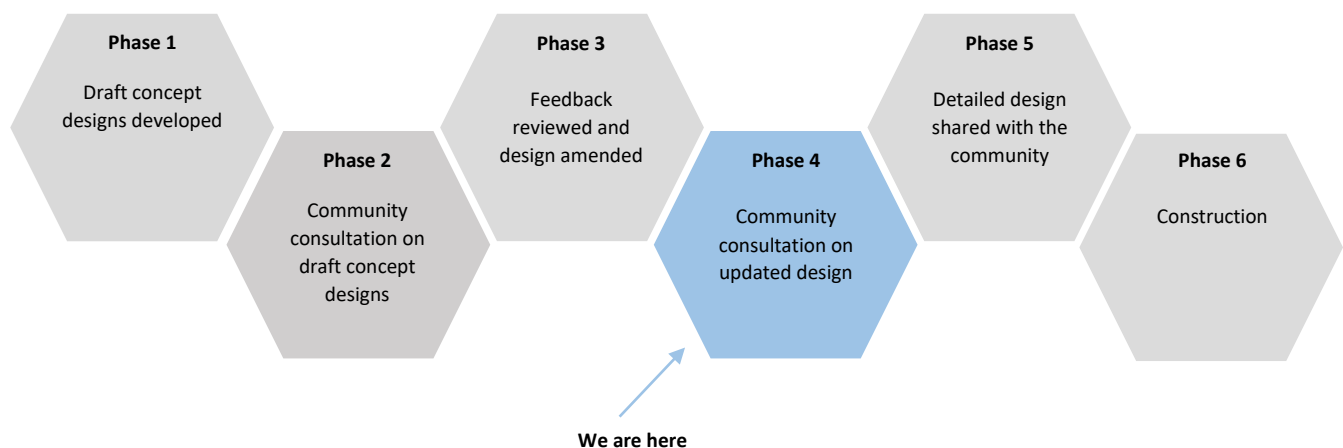
From 18 May – 15 June 2022 we collected feedback on a draft concept design for this upgrade. The design at the western end of Curlewis Street was then updated to address feedback received during the initial consultation with regards to connectivity of the bike path and traffic flow.

The second round of consultation sought feedback specifically on the updated design at the western end of Curlewis St, which:

- Removes the left hand turn into Simpson St (vehicles will still be able to turn left out of Simpson St)
- Improves connectivity of the shared path as bikes and pedestrians will have a more direct route along Curlewis St
- Allows room for two lanes of traffic travelling east from Old South Head Rd (one lane will continue onto Blair St and the other will continue onto Curlewis St)

There will be no net loss of parking on Simpson Street and no other vehicular movements will be impacted.

Community feedback has been used to inform the final design.



Approach

This consultation sought community feedback on an updated concept design at the western end of Curlewis Street, at the intersection with Old South Head Road. To do this, a mix of online and face-to-face engagement methods were employed.

The consultation objectives were:

1. To inform the community about the proposed streetscape upgrade
2. To obtain community feedback on the updated design at the western end of Curlewis Street

Engagement methodology

A range of engagement methods were used to maximise the opportunity for community participation. The methods used align with the IAP2 model for community engagement which has been adopted by Waverley Council.

Method	Overview	Date	Response
Have Your Say website	Updated Have Your Say page. URL: haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/curlewisstreetscape	21 November 2022 – present	1,178 page views 774 unique visitors 34 project followers
Media release	Published on the Waverley Council website .	23 November 2022	N/A
Online survey	Survey hosted on Have Your Say to get feedback on the key elements of the proposed upgrade. See appendix A for survey questions.	21 November – 16 December 2022	98 submissions
Letterbox drop	Letter issued to approx. 5,900 nearby properties to notify of the consultation and encourage feedback. 900 letters were also delivered to adjacent properties in the Woollahra area. See appendix B and C for more information.	Late November 2022	24 QR code scans
Doorknock	Council officers doorknocked 49 residences and businesses on Beach Road, Simpson Street and Old South Head Road who are most likely to be impacted by the proposed removal of the left hand turn. Where there was no answer, a letter was left with more information.	24 November 2022	16 submissions 3 QR code scans
Social media posts	Facebook (two posts) See appendix D.	24 November 8 December 2022	<u>24 November</u> 1,709 reach 308 engagements (comments, shares, reactions) <u>8 December</u> 2,101 reach 322 engagements

			(comments, shares, reactions)
	Instagram (two posts) See appendix D.	28 November 8 December 2022	<u>28 November</u> 2,291 reach 53 engagements (comments, shares, reactions) <u>8 December</u> 1,452 reach 16 engagements (comments, shares, reactions)
Stakeholder outreach	Emailed key stakeholders to advise of the consultation and encourage feedback, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precincts • Councillors • Bicycle NSW • BIKEast • Bondi and Districts Chamber of Commerce • Bondi Mizrahi Synagogue • Participants from the first round of consultation 	Late November 2022	2 formal submissions
Waverley Weekly newsletter	Story in Council's weekly newsletter. See appendix E.	24 November and 8 December 2022	<u>24 November</u> 6,889 recipients 48.5% open rate 88 link clicks <u>8 December</u> 6,902 recipients 48.7% open rate 77 link clicks
HYS engagement newsletter	Story in Council's monthly newsletter. See appendix E.	9 December 2022	9,487 recipients 52.2% open rate
HYS emails	Email sent to participants from the first round of consultation to encourage feedback on the updated design.	22 November 2022	N/A
Have Your Say day pop-up	Council officers held one face-to-face session at Bondi Markets to talk to residents about the proposed streetscape upgrade and collect feedback.	26 November 2022	22 surveys completed

Detailed results – Survey

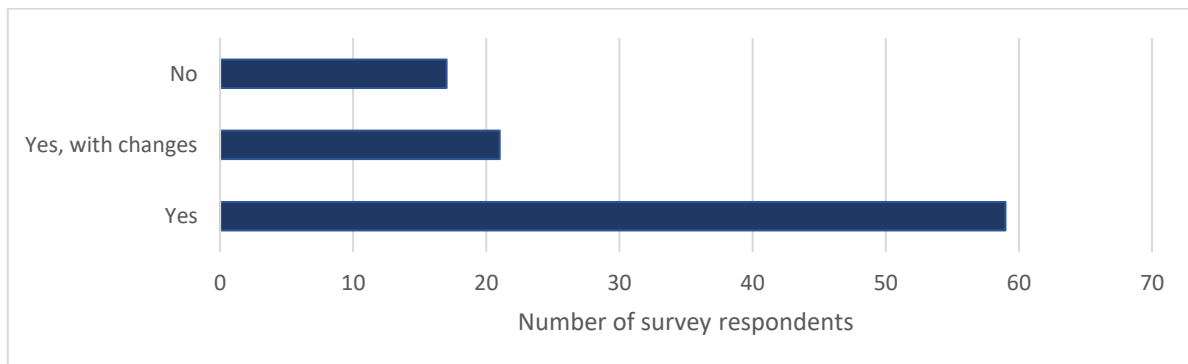
The survey received a total of 98 submissions, including 22 hard copy surveys completed at the Have Your Say day pop-up. Hard copy surveys were input into the online form and a summary of results is below.

Respondent demographics

- 5% live on Beach Rd or Simpson St (north of Blair St)
- 14% live on Curlewis St
- 45% live in the Bondi area
- 13% live in the Waverley Council area

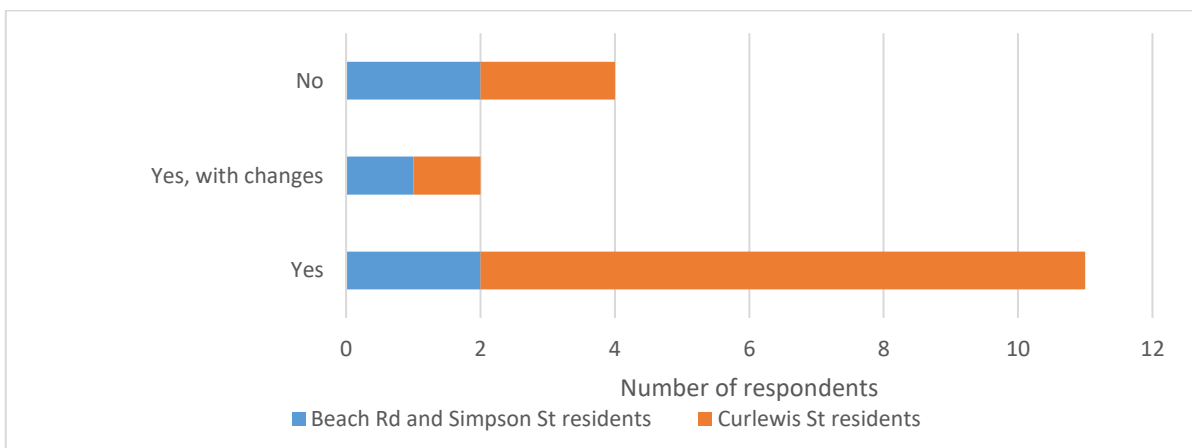
Support for the updated design

- Yes: 61% (59)
- Yes, with changes: 22% (21)
- No: 17% (18)



Support from nearby residents

14% of respondents live on Curlewis St and 5% live on Beach Rd or Simpson St (north of Blair St). Of these respondents, the majority support the updated design.



The main concerns of the four respondents who do not support the updated design are:

- Bike lane is not needed (3)
- Removal of the left hand turn into Simpson St will cause traffic to build up on surrounding streets (1)

Suggested changes to the design

Respondents were asked to provide extra detail about the design changes they would like to see. 21 respondents answered this question, however one response has been excluded as it was not relevant to this consultation.

The most common ideas are listed below, with the number of times each idea was put forward shown in brackets.

- Keep the left hand turn into Simpson St (4)
- Construct a pedestrian crossing on Blair St near Beach Rd (3)
- Add a right hand turn lane from Old South Head Rd into Curlewis St (2)
- Improve connectivity of the bike path across Old South Head Rd (2)
- Separate bikes and pedestrians (2)

Other ideas:

- Remove the three parking spots on the corner
- Keep the slip lane
- Reduce parking loss (*note: this comment was based on the understanding that parking was going to be removed along the entire length of Curlewis St*)
- Make the shared path one way heading west
- More traffic signage to direct vehicles
- Reduce the speed limit to 40km/hr
- Concrete footpath will provide better grip than pavers
- Upgrade the bike path on Blair St to make it safer

Reasons the updated design was not supported

Respondents were asked to provide extra detail to help us understand why they don't support the updated design. 17 respondents answered this question.

Feedback is summarised in the word cloud below, with the size of each phrase representing the number of times the idea was mentioned. Feedback is then listed below, with the number of times each idea was put forward shown in brackets.



Feedback and number of mentions:

- Bike lane not needed (5). One respondent noted it's not a useful bike route.
- Keep the slip lane (4)
- Loss of parking (4) – *note: the updated design will not result in a net loss of parking spaces*
- Won't improve traffic congestion (4). One respondent noted the traffic signals at the Old South Head Road intersection need to be changed to address traffic flow issues.
- Improve bike path connectivity (2)
 - One respondent noted bikes need an easier transition onto the separated bike lane
 - One noted bikes will be funnelled down Blair St
- Keep the left hand turn in to Simpson St (1)

- Businesses on the corner of Old South Head Rd and Blair St need a loading zone (1)

Usage of left hand turn into Simpson Street

56% of respondents (55) answered this question, of which:

- 17% (9) use the left hand turn into Simpson St
- 84% (46) do not

Reasons for using the turn and number of mentions:

- Access the petrol station on Old South Head Rd (4)
- Access Barracluff Park (2)
- Access kids' activities on Old South Head Rd (1)
- Parking (1)
- Visit the mechanic on Simpson St (1)
- Alternate route (1) – context not given

Additional feedback

Respondents were given the option to provide any additional feedback and 46 comments were submitted. 6 comments were unrelated to the project and have not been included in this report.

Feedback is summarised in the word cloud below, with the size of each phrase representing the number of times the idea was mentioned. Feedback is then grouped by theme in the table.



Theme	No. of mentions
Positive feedback about project	20
Traffic congestion	
Address congestion at the Wellington St roundabout	3
Bike path	
Bike path is not needed/won't be used	5
Improve connectivity	2
Improve Blair St bike path	1
Paint all bike paths green to improve safety	1
Pedestrian safety	
Construct a speed hump to slow down cars turning into Blair St/Curlewis St	2
Construct a pedestrian crossing across Blair St (near Beach Rd)	1
Minimise shared paths as they are not best practice	1
Paint a centre line on the shared path to distinguish direction of travel	1
Vehicular safety	
Address safety concerns at the Old South Head Rd intersection	5

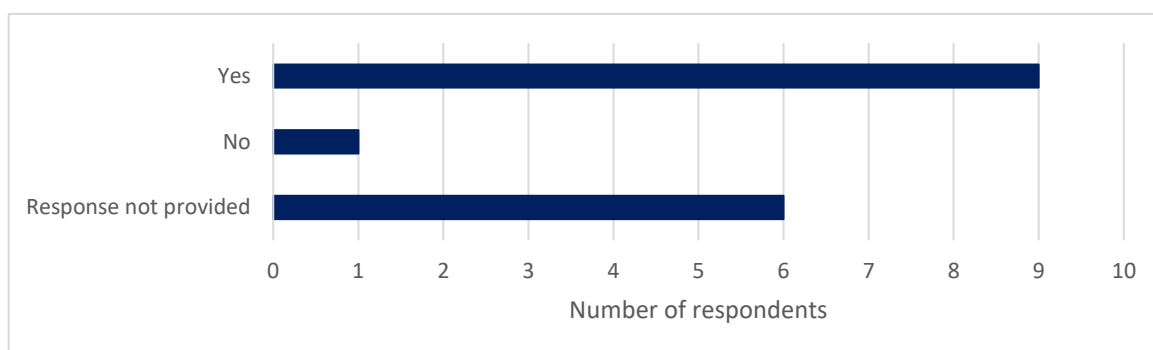
Remove the three parking spaces at the corner of Old South Head Rd and Blair St	1
Other feedback	
More greenery	2
More traffic signage	1
Add bike racks	1
Make Beach Rd one way	1

Detailed results – Doorknock

Council officers doorknocked 49 residences and businesses on Beach Road, Simpson Street and Old South Head Road most likely to be impacted by the proposed removal of the left hand turn. 16 submissions were recorded and are summarised below.

Support for updated design

- Yes: 56% (9)
- No: 6% (1)
- Response not provided: 38% (6)



Reasons the updated design was supported

The number of times each piece of feedback was mentioned is shown in brackets.

- Proposed changes will improve pedestrian safety (3). Three respondents noted that intersection is dangerous as cars currently turn right into Simpson Street.
- Support for increased greenery (2)
- Bike path will be great (2)
- Proposed changes will improve traffic flow (1)

Reasons the updated design was not supported

One resident noted they use the left hand turn into Simpson Street regularly to access their property.

Additional comments

The number of times each piece of feedback was mentioned is shown in brackets.

- Three (3) businesses noted the proposed removal of the left hand turn into Simpson Street wouldn't impact them. One (1) business was not sure.
- Maintenance of garden beds needs to be improved (2)
- Google maps will need to be updated if the removal of the left hand turn goes ahead (1)
- Preference for native plants (1)

- Traffic gets congested at Wellington Street roundabout (1)
- A pedestrian crossing is needed across Blair Street, near Beach Road (1)
- If slip lane is removed, a loading zone is needed for businesses on the corner of Old South Head Road and Blair Street (1) *Note: this respondent submitted the same feedback through the online survey.*

Detailed results – Have Your Say day

One Have Your Say day was held during the consultation period at which community members were given the opportunity to talk through the plans with Council officers prior to submitting feedback. 22 survey submissions were recorded on the day, which were all input into the online form and analysed in the ‘detailed results – survey’ section of this report on pages 7-10.

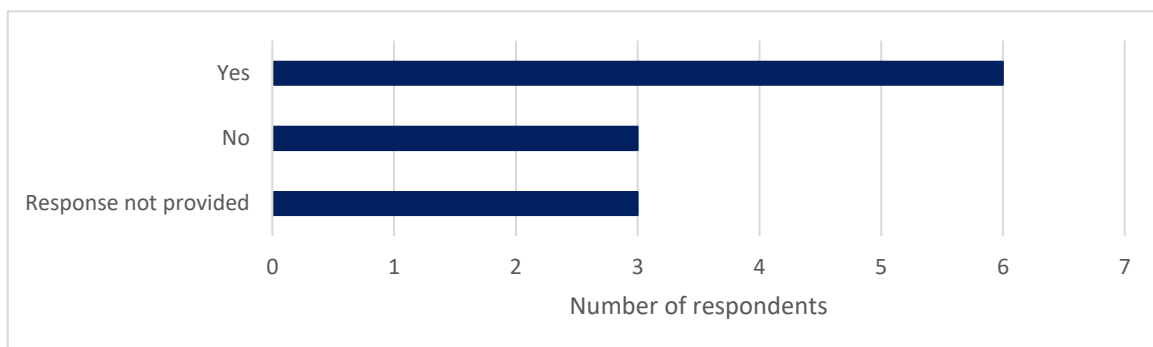
Of the 22 surveys completed at these face-to-face sessions, 18 support the updated design, two do not support the updated design, two support the updated design with some changes.

Detailed results – Email

12 pieces of feedback were received via email and are summarised below.

Support for updated design

- Yes: 50% (6)
- No: 25% (3)
- Response not provided: 25% (3)



Concerns raised

- Parking loss (1)
- Need to enforce usage of dedicated bike lanes (1)
- Three parking spaces at the corner of Old South Head Rd and Blair St will cause traffic congestion (1)
- Proposed bike path doesn't provide a safe connection for cyclists on Birriga Rd (1)

Suggested changes

- Experienced cyclists won't use the shared path (1). Suggestion to add a kerb ramp further along the shared path for cyclists to join on Curlew St. See appendix F figure 1.
- Construct a speed hump to slow down cars turning into Blair St/Curlew St (1)
- Install traffic lights at intersection of Curlew St and Gould St (1)
- Improve route for cyclists to transition from shared path to Blair St and construct a dedicated bike lane crossing across Old South Head Road with half height buttons (1). See appendix F figure 2.

- Improve the bicycle onramp on O'Sullivan Road and remove signage restricting bike access. Move the crossing further south to improve visibility for pedestrians and OF pedestrians (to cars). See appendix F figure 2.
- Add a loading zone for businesses on Curlewis St, between Glenayr Ave and Gould St (1)
- Address footpath damage on Curlewis St due to flooding (1)

Detailed results – Stakeholder submissions

Identified stakeholder groups were contacted via email and encouraged to provide feedback on the project. Two submissions were received, from BIKEast and Bicycle NSW.

Both submissions express support for the updated design as it improves connectivity for bike riders and request Council work with Woollahra Council and Transport for NSW to implement safer crossings for riders to connect Curlewis St to Birriga Rd and O'Sullivan Rd.

Additional comments

- Construct a raised pedestrian and bike crossing where the shared path crosses Blair St. If this is not feasible, narrow the travel lane as much as possible to reduce speed of cars.
- Negotiate with Transport for NSW to upgrade the intersection of Old South Head Rd, O'Sullivan Rd, Curlewis St and Blair St to make it safer for all road users, including a separated bike path to connect riders from Curlewis St to Birriga Rd and O'Sullivan Rd

Conclusion

The community is largely supportive of the updated design at the western end of Curlewis Street, although some respondents believe a separated bike path is not needed along Curlewis Street. The left hand turn into Simpson Street isn't heavily used, however it is used by some respondents to access the petrol station and Barracluff Park.

Safety and traffic congestion are the main priorities for the community; there were requests for the Old South Head Road intersection to be improved for the benefit of all road users and for bike path connections across this intersection to be enhanced.

Some respondents noted congestion is an issue at the Wellington Street roundabout and others asked for a pedestrian crossing to be constructed further up Blair Street (near Beach Road).

Recommendations:

- Proceed with the updated design at the western end of Curlewis St, noting the existing alternative routes to access to the petrol station and Barracluff Park.
- Provide information to the community to convey how traffic congestion at the Wellington St roundabout has been investigated following feedback received in the first round of consultation.
- Provide information to the community to explain the benefits of slip lane removal.
- Continue to advocate to Transport for NSW to improve safety and congestion at the Old South Head Road intersection.
- Traffic Team to review requests for loading zones and a pedestrian crossing on Blair St (near Beach Rd) separately.

Appendix A – Survey questions

1. Do you support the updated design at the intersection of Curlewis St and Simpson St?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Yes, with some changes
- ☐ No

If “yes, with some changes” – please let us know what changes you would like to see made.

If “no” - please let us know why you don’t support the updated design.

2. Do you currently use the left hand turn into Simpson St?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If “yes”, please let us know why you use the left hand turn into Simpson St.

3. Any additional comments/feedback?

4. What is your relationship to Curlewis St? Select the response that best applies.

- ☐ I live on Beach Rd and Simpson St, north of Blair St
- ☐ I live on Curlewis St
- ☐ I live in Bondi
- ☐ I live in the Waverley Council area
- ☐ I don't live in the area
- ☐ I own a business on Curlewis St
- ☐ Other: _____

5. How did you hear about this project? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Letter in my mailbox
- ☐ Council officers knocked on my door
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Council website
- ☐ Social media
- ☐ Spoke to Council officers at Bondi Markets
- ☐ Other: _____

Appendix B – Notification letter



Waverley Council
PO Box 9, Bondi Junction NSW 1555
DX 12006, Bondi Junction
Customer Service Centre
55 Spring Street, Bondi Junction NSW 2022
ABN: 12 502 583 608

Our ref: A21/0381

16 December 2022

[Title Firstname Surname]
[Position]
[Address]
[SUBURB] NSW [Post Code]

Re: Curlewis St Streetscape Upgrade – Have your say on the updated design by 16 December

Dear Resident/Business Owner

Earlier this year we asked for your feedback on a draft concept design for the proposed upgrade of Curlewis Street, Bondi Beach. This project aims to make the area safer for pedestrians and bike riders and create a more inviting and vibrant space for the community to enjoy.

Feedback has been reviewed and the concept design has been updated at the western end of Curlewis Street, at the intersection with Old South Head Road. The design has been updated to address key points raised during the initial consultation in relation to connectivity of the bike path and traffic flow.

A map of the updated design can be found overleaf. The updated design:

- Removes the left hand turn into Simpson Street (vehicles will still be able to turn left out of Simpson Street)
- Improves connectivity of the shared path as bikes and pedestrians will have a more direct route along Curlewis Street
- Allows room for two lanes of traffic travelling from Old South Head Road, one continuing onto Blair Street and the other continuing onto Curlewis Street

Other features of the streetscape upgrade were consulted on earlier this year. For more information, scan the QR code or visit haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/curlewisstreetscape

We are now seeking feedback on the updated design at the western end of Curlewis Street. Please share your feedback via the methods outlined below by Friday 16 December 2022.



How to have your say

- Complete a short survey at haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/curlewisstreetscape/survey
- Come and talk to us at a Have Your Say day:
 - Bondi Farmers Market (Bondi Beach Public School),
Saturday 26 November from 9am–12pm
- Email majorprojects@waverley.nsw.gov.au

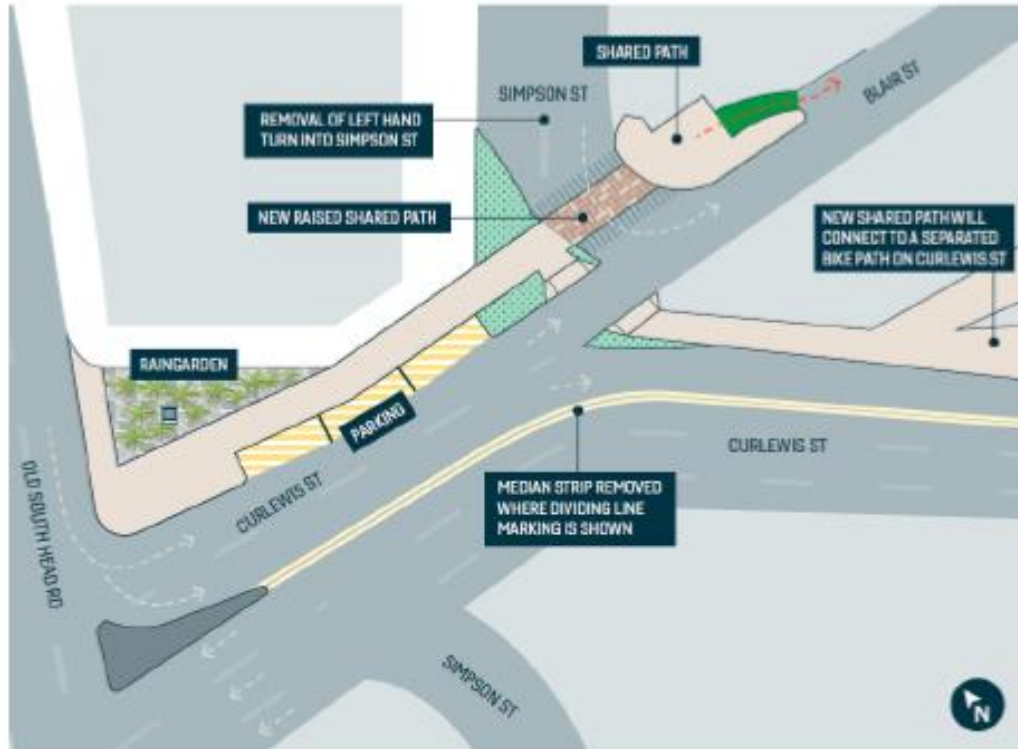
Kind regards

Rodhan Haughton
Senior Project Manager, Waverley Council

Contact us
9083 8000
info@waverley.nsw.gov.au
waverley.nsw.gov.au

Connect with us
f [whatsonwaverley](https://www.facebook.com/whatsonwaverley)
@ [waverleycouncil](https://twitter.com/waverleycouncil)

Map of updated design





LEGEND

-  Raingarden
-  New turfed area
-  Bike path
-  New shared path
-  New raised shared path
-  Parking area
-  Traffic island
-  Existing footpath
-  Connection of new shared path to existing bike lane
-  Direction of vehicles

IMAGE OF PROPOSED DESIGN CHANGES

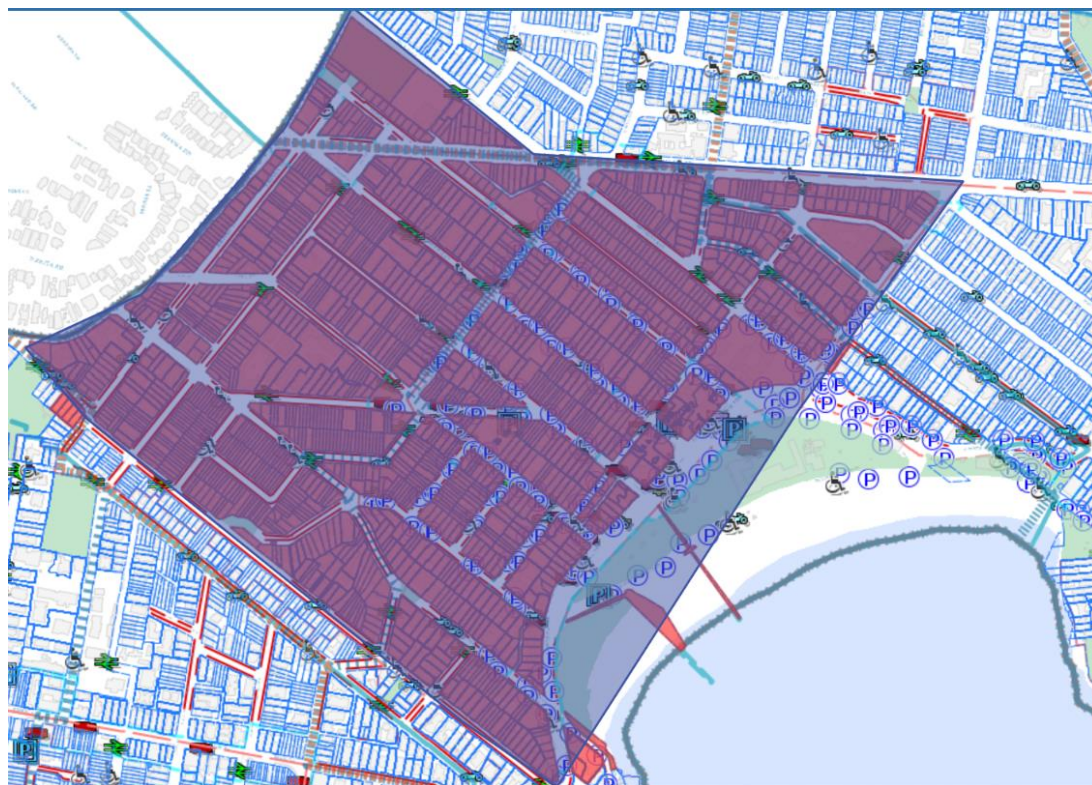


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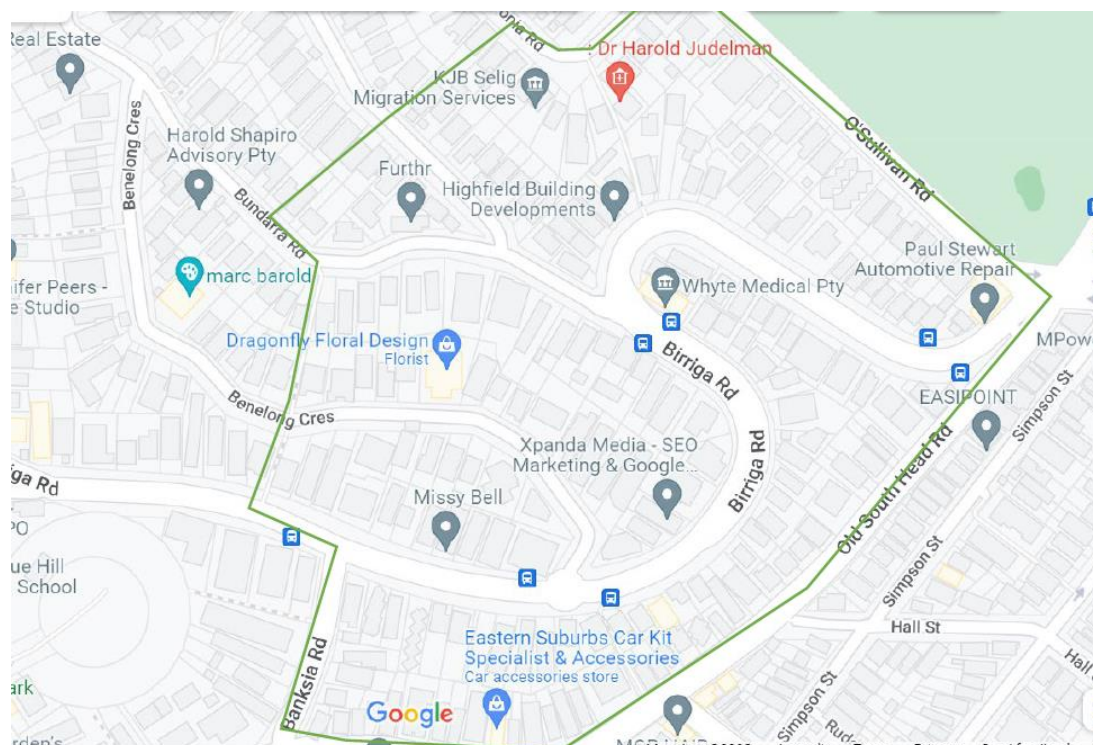
Connect with us
 [whatsonwaverley](https://www.facebook.com/whatsonwaverley)
 [waverleycouncil](https://twitter.com/waverleycouncil)

Appendix C – Letter distribution maps

Waverley area – approx. 5,900 residences



Woollahra area – approx. 900 residences



Appendix D – Social media posts

Facebook

24 November 2022



Waverley Council

Published by Sprout Social • November 24 at 6:37 PM •

Earlier this year we asked for your feedback on a draft concept design for the upgrade of Curlewis Street, Bondi Beach. The design at the western end of the street (near Old South Head Road) has been updated we want to hear from you again.

Share your feedback and help us make Curlewis Street a safer and more welcoming space!

Feedback closes Friday 16 December. Learn more:

<https://haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/curlewisstreetscape>



8 December 2022

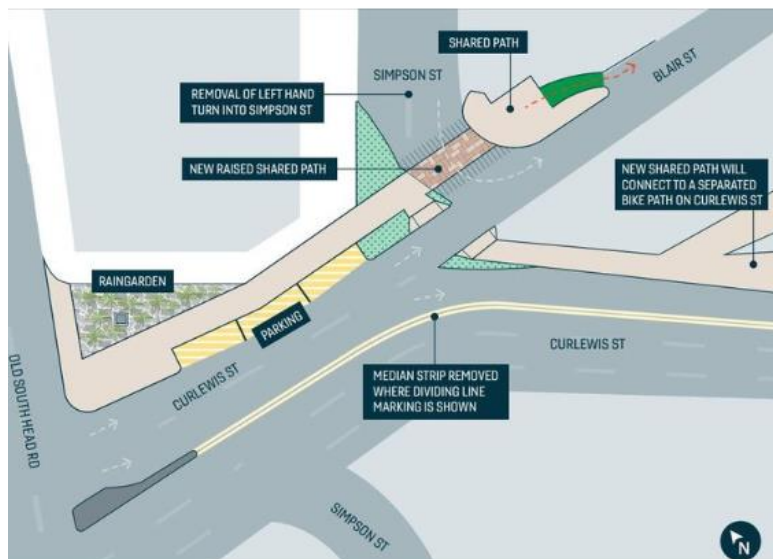


Waverley Council

Published by Sprout Social • December 8 at 2:10 PM •

Do you travel along Curlewis Street, Bondi Beach? We want your feedback on a proposed design to upgrade the street and make it safer for people walking and riding bikes. Learn more and share your thoughts at <https://haveyoursay.waverley.nsw.gov.au/curlewisstreetscape>

Feedback closes Friday 16 December.

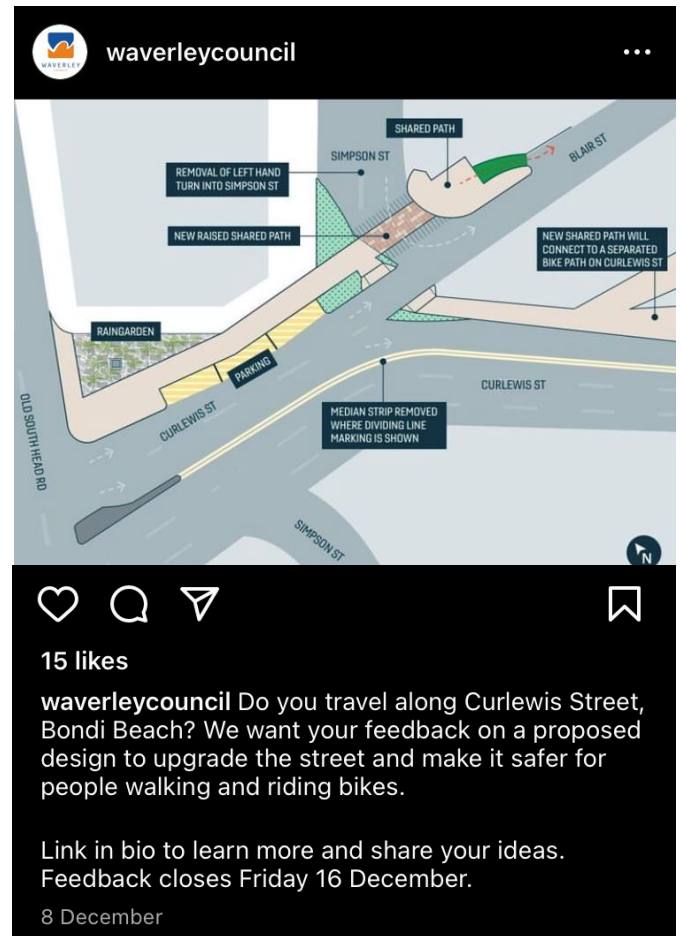


Instagram

28 November 2022



8 December 2022



Appendix E – Enewsletters

Waverley Weekly – 24 November 2022



Have your say on the Curlewis Street upgrade

The design for the proposed upgrade of Curlewis Street has been updated to address feedback received earlier this year. Have your say on the updated design before 16 December.

[MORE](#)

Waverley Weekly – 8 December 2022



Curlewis St Streetscape Upgrade

We're proposing to upgrade Curlewis Street in Bondi Beach. Have your say on the updated design before feedback closes on Friday 16 December.

[MORE](#)

Provide feedback on the Curlewis St Streetscape Upgrade, Bondi Local Traffic Study, Flickerfest 2023 and more



Projects open for community input

- Last chance to have your say on an updated design for the [Curlewis St Streetscape Upgrade](#). Feedback closes Friday 16 December.

Appendix F – Email submissions

Figure 1

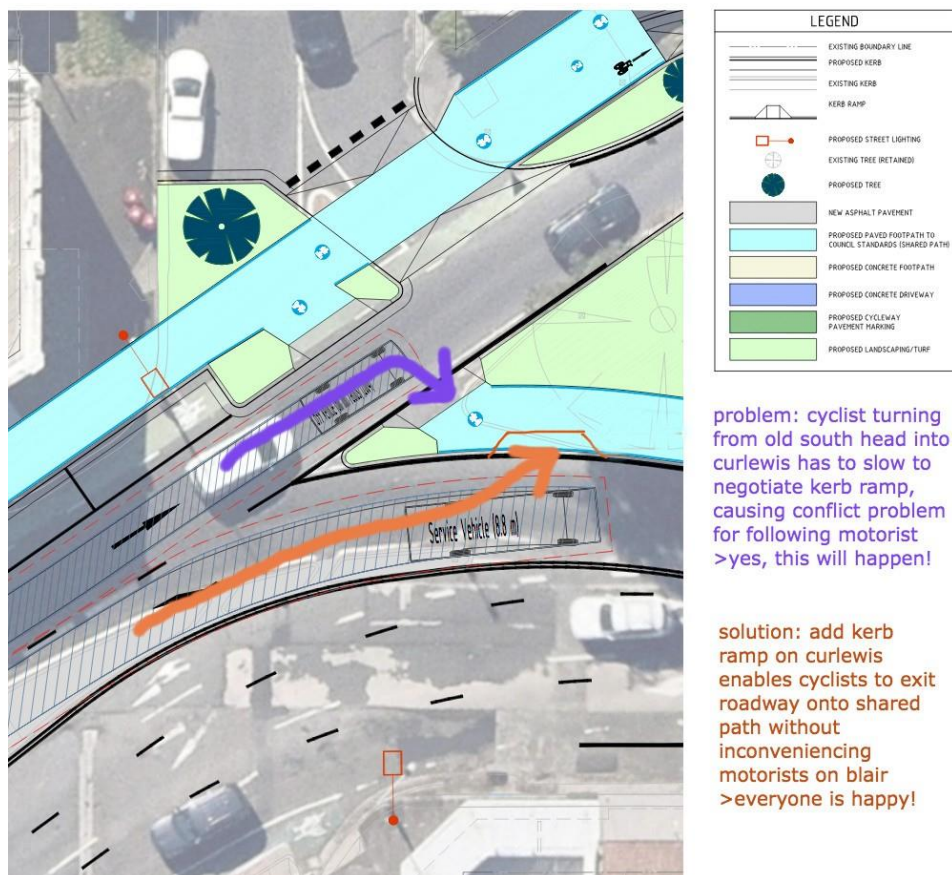


Figure 2

