

Kensington and North Melbourne road safety and pedestrian improvements project – Community Reference Groups

Terms of Reference

1. Background

The City of Melbourne has commenced a strategy where Pedestrian Safety Improvement projects will be developed and implemented over a three year process.

In year one, a study will be prepared which identifies a range of pedestrian improvement projects in Kensington and North Melbourne. Conceptual plans and high level cost estimates illustrating the proposed projects will be prepared. Going forward, this will generally be undertaken for two precincts per year.

Council's Pedestrian Improvement Budget is expected to be approximately \$1 million each year. As such, approximately \$500,000 of projects will be able to be constructed in each precinct.

A rough cost estimate for the recommended projects will be prepared and the aim will be to recommend approximately \$1 million worth of projects in each precinct. The projects will then be ranked to determine which projects should be delivered initially and which projects should be categorised as secondary projects which could be delivered when funding becomes available, or in approximately five years' time as the next rounds of projects for each precinct.

2. Purpose of the community reference group

The purpose of these reference groups is to bring a diverse range of community members together to provide insights into their experiences of pedestrian and road safety in the neighbourhoods of Kensington and North Melbourne. The Community Reference Group will act as an important point of contact between Council Officers, and other neighbourhood stakeholder and community groups.

The group will help synthesise priority pedestrian and road safety issues and priority locations. Using this information, the group will then make recommendations on priority road safety and pedestrian improvement projects for the Kensington and North Melbourne precincts.

3. Objectives of the group

- Gather local insights from key community stakeholders to identify pedestrian safety concerns unique to specific areas in the precinct and check for consistency with available data.
- Confirm with selected community members what the key origin and destination attractions are in the neighbourhood and how people get there.
- Consult with key community stakeholders to confirm what the most commonly shared concerns are and what is most important to them.
- Raise awareness about City of Melbourne's existing projects that are already proposed in this precinct, including Blackspot projects, pedestrian improvement projects, bike lane projects, speed limit changes, open space projects or items related to major projects.
- Educate community members about the different types of road safety and pedestrian improvement interventions that could be used in their neighbourhood such as zebra and wombat crossings, speed humps, road closures, turn bans, speed limits and changes to parking.
- Educate community members about the estimated cost of different types of treatments to generate discussion around prioritisation and value for money for the precinct.

4. Membership

There will be one reference group for each of the two precincts. The Community Reference Groups will include 10 representatives of residents or representatives that live, trade or work in Kensington or North Melbourne.

5. The roles and responsibilities of group members are to:

- Provide independent, honest and constructive feedback to the project.
- Work collaboratively in a positive way.
- Bring local knowledge and experiences re: pedestrian and road safety
- Provide advice and guidance to determine project priorities
- Be mindful of and reflect the views and experiences of community members who may not be represented in the Community Reference Group.

6. Appointment

Reference group members will be appointed through an Expression of Interest process. Successful applicants will be determined by a panel of council officers from the City Infrastructure and Community Development branches.

The reference group will be in place for the duration of the project, expected to be approximately 6 months.

7. Meetings of the Reference Group

The Community Reference Groups will meet three times during the project, between May – October 2022. See approximate meeting schedule below (please note these dates are subject to change based on factors such project timelines, venue availability etc.).

- Meeting 1: Week commencing Monday 16nd May
- Meeting 2: Week commencing Monday 4th July
- Meeting 3: Week commencing Monday 8th August

Where possible, meetings will be held in person at a venue within either Kensington or North Melbourne. Exact locations to be confirmed.

8. Review

These terms of reference may be reviewed at any time within the duration of the project by the responsible City of Melbourne Project Officers. Any suggested changes will be communicated with reference group members who will have an opportunity to provide feedback.