

Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue, Croydon Park

Intersection improvements

Community Consultation Report

Roads and Maritime Services | September 2018

Executive summary

This report provides a summary of Roads and Maritime Services consultation with the community and key stakeholders on proposed intersection improvements at Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue, Croydon Park. The NSW Government is funding this proposal as part of its \$300 million Urban Roads Pinch Point Program, which aims to reduce traffic delays, manage congestion and improve travel times on Sydney's major roads.

The proposed intersection improvements advised in the Have Your Say (HYS) included:

- removing the existing concrete median and extending the parking restrictions on Lees Avenue to allow for dedicated left, through and right lanes for motorists travelling north, and one lane for motorists travelling south
- re-assigning the lane usage on Portland Street to allow for dedicated through and left lanes for motorists travelling south
- restricting the right turn from Portland Street into Georges River Road to assist with traffic flow and improve safety at the intersection
- modifying the existing traffic lights on the south west corner of the intersection to include a mast arm
- adjusting the traffic light phasing to improve intersection efficiency.

Roads and Maritime invited feedback on the proposal in June and July 2018. We received feedback from seventeen people with eleven people supporting the proposal, five people against the proposal and two people who did not state a preference. Key matters raised included:

- objections to restricting the right turn from Portland Street into Georges River Road
- the Left Turn on Red (LTOR) movements and resultant safety concerns for pedestrians
- concern with extended parking restrictions.

We thank everyone for considering the proposal and taking time to provide their feedback.

The decision

After considering all responses, along with the proposal's aims and design requirements, we have decided to implement further changes to the proposal including:

- removing the LTOR movements
- providing pedestrian protection including red left arrows for crossing.

We will continue to keep the community and stakeholders informed as the project progresses.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

The NSW Government is funding this proposal as part of its \$300 million Urban Roads Pinch Point Program which aims to reduce traffic delays, manage congestion and improve travel times on Sydney's major roads.

A high number of vehicles currently use the intersection at Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue in Croydon Park, resulting in congestion during the AM and PM peak periods. We have proposed to increase the number of lanes for motorists travelling north on Lees Avenue and restrict the right turn from Portland Street into Georges River Road. The objective of the proposal is to improve the intersection's efficiency, reduce the number of crashes, increase road user safety and reduce congestion.

The proposed intersection improvements will:

- reduce and improve the reliability of travel time, particularly during peak periods
- ease congestion through the intersection
- improve safety for pedestrians and road users.

1.2. The proposal

Roads and Maritime Services are proposing improvements at the intersection of Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue, Croydon Park.

Improvements include:

- removing the existing concrete median and extending the parking restrictions on Lees Avenue to allow for dedicated left, right and through lanes for motorists travelling north, and one lane for motorists travelling south
- re-assigning the lanes on Portland Street to allow for dedicated through and left lanes for motorists travelling south
- restricting the right turn from Portland Street into Georges River Road to assist with traffic flow and improve safety at the intersection
- modifying the existing traffic lights on the south west corner of the intersection to include a mast arm
- adjusting the traffic light phasing to improve intersection efficiency.

We have included a map to explain the proposal.



Figure 1: Proposed intersection improvements at Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue, Croydon Park

2. Consultation approach

2.1. Consultation objectives

We consulted with the community and key stakeholders on the proposal to:

- seek comment, feedback, ideas and suggestions for us to consider when making a decision
- build a database of interested and concerned community members with whom we can continue to engage during the proposal's development and delivery.

2.2. How consultation was done

Consultation on the proposed intersection improvements was carried out from 25 June to 8 July 2018. Community members and stakeholders were encouraged to provide their feedback and make comments to the project team via email, mail or phone.

The following table outlines the communication tools used to inform the community about the proposal:

Table 1: How Consultation was done

Have Your Say community update – June 2018 (Appendix A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• distributed to over 900 local residents, businesses and key stakeholders in the Croydon Park area (Appendix B)• direct emails and letters sent to businesses, utilities, emergency services, schools, hospitals, community groups and relevant stakeholders in the local area• direct email to Burwood Council.
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• details of the proposal uploaded on the Roads and Maritime website• an interactive community consultation online tool was placed on the website and social media.

3. Consultation summary

3.1. Overview

Roads and Maritime invited feedback on the proposal in June and July 2018. We received feedback from 18 people with 11 people supporting the proposal, five people against the proposal and two people who did not state a preference. Key matters raised include:

- objections to restricting the right turn from Portland Street into Georges River Road
- the Left Turn on Red movements and safety concerns for pedestrians
- concerns over extended parking restrictions.

We thank everyone for considering the proposal and taking time to provide their feedback.

3.2. Feedback and Roads and Maritime's responses

Roads and Maritime has provided responses to all feedback received on the proposal in this report, which is available to the public.

All comments were considered to help Roads and Maritime make decisions on this proposal.

Table 2: Feedback summary and Roads and Maritime's responses

Category	Key Matters Raised	Response
Restricting the right turn from Portland Street into Georges River Road (nine comments)	Concern about the right turn restriction from Portland Street into Georges River Road	Roads and Maritime thank you for your feedback. The proposed improvements at the intersection of Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue will rework the existing road design to include new turning and through lanes to improve traffic flow and ease congestion currently experienced at the intersection. The proposed lane configuration would require motorists turning right from Portland Street into Georges River Road to cross three lanes of traffic. Removing this right turn as part of the overall improvements will increase safety at the intersection. The proposed alternative access to Georges River Road is via The Boulevard and Coronation Parade for motorists travelling west on Georges River Road and Punchbowl Road. For motorists wanting to access Walsh Avenue and Fountain Avenue from Georges River Road, the preferred option is to use the controlled intersection at Burwood Road. Both of these alternative routes encourage motorists to use main roads maintained by Roads and Maritime over local council maintained roads. The current peak volume of cars making the right turn movement from Portland Street into Georges River Road is 17 per hour during the AM peak period and 28 per hour during the PM peak period. These peak volumes will not create impacts at nearby intersections, however will significantly improve the flow of traffic when removed from the Georges River Road, Portland Street and lees Avenue intersection. The proposal will maintain the right turn restriction.
	Disappointed with the proposal, I would suggest this would cause more accidents. Cars will need to turn right into Georges River Road and the options will then be Tavistock or Lennartz Street where there are no lights.	
	I have two young children and am hesitant about trying to cross traffic at an intersection with no lights. I have seen many accidents along this stretch of road.	

	<p>As it is not possible to fit an additional lane into Portland Street to allow for right turn traffic, your proposal to put a No Right Turn here is probably the only viable option. To overcome this properties in Portland Street would need to be acquired at great expense to enable an extra lane to be fitted in.</p>	<p>Given the disruption to the local community and significant associated costs, property acquisition was not included as part of this project..</p>
<p>Vehicle movement safety (two comments)</p>	<p>Vehicles travelling from Lees Avenue into Portland Street are overtaking in left hand lane to avoid waiting behind right turn traffic entering Georges River Road. This is a dedicated left hand turn lane and creates confusion and delay for vehicles on Portland Street.</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments on the proposed improvements at the intersection of Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue, Croydon Park.</p> <p>The proposed work will help to rectify this situation as the right turning vehicles from Lees Avenue will now have a dedicated lane and not block the through movement into Portland Street.</p>

<p>The Left Turn on Red (LTOR) movement and resultant safety concerns for pedestrians (four comments)</p>	<p>I have 'nearly' been run over <u>several times</u> by cars turning left from Lees Avenue onto Georges River Road</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments on the proposal. Feedback from the consultation process indicated there are safety concerns with the existing Left Turn on Red (LTOR) movement at the intersection. We have taken this on board and amended the design to include pedestrian protection, and part of this protection is to remove the LTOR movement.</p>
	<p>Would also greatly appreciate the Left Turn on Red being removed as an option on Lees Avenue</p>	
	<p>Could the Left Turn on Red movement from Lees Avenue be removed? I have a son who uses the crossing on Lees Avenue and he has to be very cautious as he almost gets hit even if he has the right of way as people turn here without paying attention to the pedestrian crossing.</p>	

Concern with extended parking restrictions (five comments)	Allow parking the cars Sunday morning between 9.00am and 1.00pm for people to attend the Sunday Holy Mass	Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments on the proposal With the proposed design, there will be insufficient width in the southbound lane on Lees Avenue to allow for parked cars as well as through traffic. The design was developed to minimise parking impacts, with parking along the church property boundary maintained up to the driveway. There is one parking space being removed outside 1 Lees Avenue and three parking spaces being removed from outside the townhouses at 424-432 Georges River Road. The townhouses at 424-432 Georges River Road have off street parking to accommodate resident's vehicles.
	The parking restriction proposed on the eastern side of Lees Avenue will create further issues for residents who live in the townhouses on the corner	Parking requirements for apartment building developments is considered a council matter to be addressed during the Development Application process. Please contact the appropriate council for further consideration of parking impacts.
	Could there be transparency on the actual parking spaces that will have these restrictions enforced, so there will be no hidden surprises when these changes take place?	
	We are already affected by the residents of multiple apartments already constructed parking on the street, with further apartments currently in the process of being constructed this will worsen.	

<p>Out of scope (six comments)</p>	<p>Blocking the left-right movement from Cobden Street to Hume Highway for Wentworth Road to access Parramatta Road and the M4 Motorway</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments.</p> <p>The purpose of this consultation was to seek feedback on the proposed intersection improvements on Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue in Croydon Park.</p> <p>Restricting the left turn from Cobden way to the Hume Highway is not part of the proposal and considered out of scope for this project.</p>
	<p>Could you install ' no U-turn' signage on Lees Avenue to stop U-turn movements, extend the double unbroken lines or introduce a keep clear zone at the intersection of Lees Avenue and Linthorn Avenue</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments.</p> <p>Lees Avenue is maintained by Burwood Council. For matters relating to road signage or markings, we encourage you to contact Council on 9911 9911 or at council@burwood.nsw.gov.au for further consideration.</p> <p>In this instance, Roads and Maritime will discuss your comments with Burwood Council as part of our ongoing consultation with Council.</p>
	<p>Was there scope to install a red light camera facing east along Georges River Road and Portland Street?</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments.</p> <p>The purpose of this consultation was to seek feedback on the proposed intersection improvements on Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue. Reviewing the placement of safety cameras on the intersection is not part of the proposal and considered out of scope for this project.</p> <p>Your comments have been passed on to the Roads and Maritime Network Safety team for their consideration.</p> <p>You can also nominate a location for installation of a safety camera, with this link: http://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/nominate-speed-camera-location</p>

	<p>There should be conspicuous signage in the Portland Street approach to Georges River Road</p> <p>The centre lane road surface should be marked with straight arrows</p> <p>There should be conspicuous signage in the Lees Avenue approach.</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments on the proposal</p> <p>Portland Street and Lees Avenue are maintained by Burwood Council. For matters relating to road signage or markings, we encourage you to contact Council on 9911 9911 or at council@burwood.nsw.gov.au for further consideration.</p> <p>In this instance, Roads and Maritime will discuss your comments with Burwood Council as part of our ongoing consultation with Council.</p>
	<p>I would also add the mix for accidents and near misses is cars turning right off Georges River Road onto Tavistock Street. As this backs up the traffic especially in the afternoons significantly and there is no signage for cars on the other side not to block the Tavistock turn.</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime thank you for your comments on the proposal</p> <p>The purpose of this consultation was to seek feedback on the proposed intersection improvements on Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue in Croydon Park. The intersection of Tavistock Street and Georges River Road is not part of the proposal and considered out of scope for this project.</p>

4. Decision

Roads and Maritime would like to thank everyone who took the time to consider our proposal and provide feedback.

After considering all responses, along with the proposal's aims and design requirements, we have decided to implement further changes to the proposal including:

- removing the Left Turn On Red (LTOR) movements
- providing pedestrian protection including red left arrows for crossing.

5. Next steps

We have considered all submissions received and will ensure the issues and concerns raised by the community are appropriately addressed throughout the next phase of this project.

We will continue to keep the community and stakeholders informed of the project's progress.

6. Appendices

6.1. Appendix A – ‘Have your say’ letter June 2018



June 2018

Have your say – Intersection improvements at Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue, Croydon Park

The NSW Government is funding this proposal as part of its \$300 million Urban Roads Pinch Point Program, which aims to reduce congestion and improve travel times on Sydney’s busiest corridors

Roads and Maritime Services is seeking your feedback on proposed intersection improvements at Georges River Road, Portland Street and Lees Avenue in Croydon Park.

A high number of vehicles currently use the intersection, resulting in congestion during the AM and PM peak periods. We are proposing to increase the number of lanes for motorists travelling north on Lees Avenue and restricting the right turn from Portland Street onto Georges River Road. These changes will decrease queuing and ease congestion by allowing more vehicles to travel through the intersection during each traffic light phase.

We have included a map to better explain the proposal.

The proposed improvements will include:

- removing the existing concrete median and extending the parking restrictions on Lees Avenue to allow for dedicated left, through and right lanes for motorists travelling north, and one lane for motorists travelling south
- re-assigning the lane usage on Portland Street to allow for dedicated through and left lanes for motorists travelling south
- restricting the right turn from Portland Street onto Georges River Road to assist with traffic flow and improve safety at the intersection
- modifying the existing traffic lights on the south west corner of the intersection to include a mast arm
- adjusting the traffic light phasing to improve intersection efficiency.

How can you give feedback?

Roads and Maritime welcomes your comments on the proposed improvements by **Sunday, 8 July at midnight**. You can provide your comments by:

- **Calling** our Project Manager, Henry Mi, on 1800 572 004|during business hours

rms.nsw.gov.au

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- Emailing pinchpoint@rms.nsw.gov.au
- Writing to Pinch Points Program Project Team, Roads and Maritime Services, PO Box 973, Parramatta, NSW, 2124.

Next Steps

We will carefully consider all feedback received before deciding to proceed with this proposal. A community consultation report will be prepared, summarising the matters raised and our responses. This will be made available on our website. We will keep you updated as the proposal progresses.

For more information on our projects, visit rms.nsw.gov.au



Translating and Interpreting Service

If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on **131 450** and ask them to telephone Roads and Maritime Services on 1800 572 004

Arabic
إذا كنت بحاجة إلى مفسر، يرجى الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الخطية والخلفية (TIS National) على الرقم **131 450** والطلب منهم الاتصال بخدمات الطرق والبحرية على الرقم **1800 572 004**

Cantonese
如您需要口譯員，請致電 **131 450** 聯絡翻譯和口譯服務 (TIS National)，並請他們致電 **1800 572 004** 聯絡道路及海事服務。

Mandarin
如果您需要口譯員，請致電 **131 450** 聯絡翻譯和口譯服務 (TIS National)，並請他們致電 **1800 572 004** 聯絡道路及海事服務。

Greek

Αν χρειάζεστε διαφώνη, να επικοινωνήσετε με τη λειτουργία στην Ήλεκτρονική και Διαφώνηση (Online/Telephone TIS) στο **131 450** και ζητήστε να τηλεφωνήσουν Roads and Maritime Services στο **1800 572 004**

Italian

Se desiderate l'assistenza di un interprete, prego telefonare al Servizio Interpreti e Traduttori (TIS National) al **131 450** chiedendo di contattare Roads and Maritime Services al **1800 572 004**

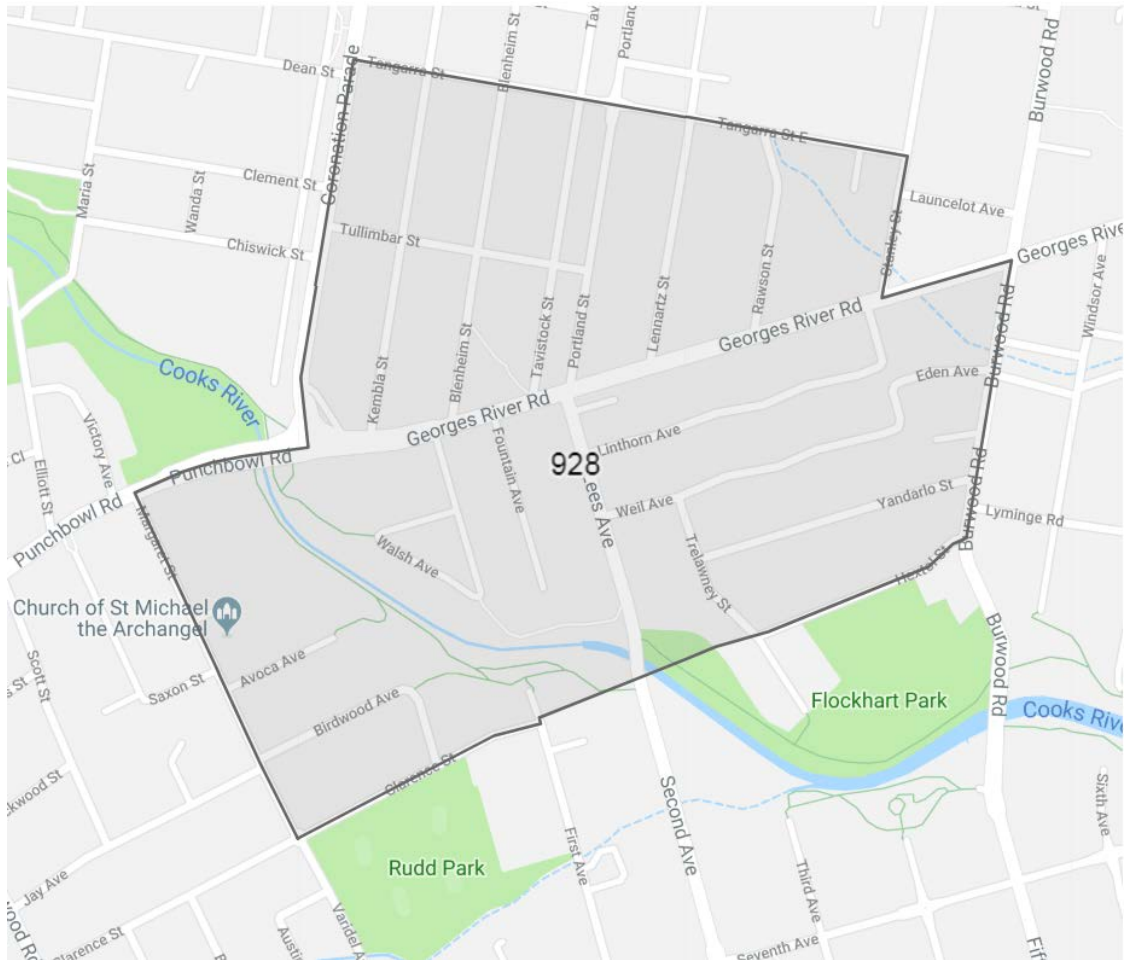
Korean

통역사나 통역서비스가 필요하시면 (TIS National)에 **131 450** 으로 연락하여 이용에 대해 문의하십시오. **1800 572 004** Roads and Maritime Services 에 문의하십시오.

Vietnamese

Nếu cần thông ngôn viên, xin gọi cho Dịch Vụ Thông Phiên Dịch (TIS Toàn Quốc) qua số **131 450** và nhờ họ gọi cho Roads and Maritime Services qua số **1800 572 004**

6.2. Appendix B – Distribution map





rms.nsw.gov.au/pinchpoints



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