

Darby Street, Cooks Hill

Traffic calming infrastructure upgrades to the northern and southern 30km/h zone entries

Overview

During the **Darby Street – Streets as Shared Spaces Trial** we heard some concerns from the community about the designs of the northern and southern entries to the 30km/h zone.

We recently sought feedback on revised concept designs for the northern and southern entries, which aim to improve safety and address noise concerns.



Community members were able to have their say by completing the survey on our Have Your Say page from **5 May to 2 June 2023**.

46 people responded to the survey, with two-thirds of responses being from local residents of Cooks Hill/The Hill.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback. Your feedback will be used to inform the final concept designs

Northern Entry

The key changes proposed were:

- Relocating the northern entry of the 30km/h zone south of the Queen Street intersection
- Removing existing entries to the 30km/h zone on Darby Street between Laman Street and Queen Street
- Remove existing entries to the 30km/h zone on Queen Street
- Optional loading zone with time restrictions



63%

of respondents **supported the proposal to move the northern entry south** of the traffic lights at the Queen Street intersection
(22% said 'no' and '15% were 'unsure')

4 of 7

businesses that completed the survey **supported the proposal to include a loading zone** outside 61 Darby Street (Winning Appliances)

Base: All respondents (N=46)

Darby Street, Cooks Hill

Traffic calming infrastructure upgrades to the northern and southern 30km/h zone entries

Southern Entry

The key changes proposed were:

- Upgrading the southern entry to the 30km/h zone including replacement of speed cushions with a raised threshold
- Reducing the existing concrete entry islands at the Bull Street 30km/h zone entry to fit in more parking



Support for proposed changes

All proposed changes to the southern entry were supported by the majority of respondents. Upgrading the existing southern entry near 192 Darby Street to slow vehicles prior to the first set of speed humps received the highest level of support.



Upgrade existing southern entry near 192 Darby Street to slow vehicles prior to first set of speed humps



Relocate Bull Street entry islands adjacent to 175 and 171 Darby Street



Replace speed cushions outside 185 Darby Street with a raised threshold platform



0% 25% 50% 75% 100%

Yes Unsure No

Base: All respondents (N=46)

Darby Street, Cooks Hill

Traffic calming infrastructure upgrades to the northern and southern 30km/h zone entries

Key themes – Northern Entry

Theme	Mentions
General positive comments	7
Relocation of entry	7
Concerns about loss of parking	3

Other responses with 2 mentions included: support for loading zone, further pedestrian improvements needed, concerns about vehicle speeds/traffic calming, size/location of islands and separation of cycle paths/lanes from the road.

Example comments:

"Thanks for this change. I believe it will improve cyclist safety and provide a safer entry into the 30km/h zone"

"Removing Queen Street islands will improve the flow of traffic for cyclists and cars. Enabling them to turn left whilst the cars are waiting to turn right"

"...The zone should be extended to the intersection at King Street, making Darby St even safer for those wishing to cross from the eastern side of the street over to Civic Park"

Key themes – Southern Entry

Theme	Mentions
General positive comments	9
Speed limit requires policing/enforcement	4
Concerns about effectively slowing vehicles down	4
Concerns about loss of parking	3
Concerns about noise/vehicle fumes	3
Concerns about raised threshold e.g. height/gradient	3

Other responses with 2 mentions included: concerns about cyclists, preference for landscaped islands instead of concrete islands, concerns about tactile pavement treatment, suggestions to extend 30km/h zone further south and further pedestrian improvements e.g. kerb ramps, wider footpaths/refuges.

"The 30km zone in this area has made it much safer for vehicle traffic to use the Darby St and Bull St intersection and for pedestrians crossing Darby Street near Bull St."

"The speed limits require policing. But the majority of traders are in favour of the 30km/hr limit."

"This alternative for the southern entry – a gradually sloped raised threshold will both reduce traffic speeds and while also reducing the traffic noise when they approach the calming measures too quickly. If possible my only feedback would be have the gradient as long as possible to prolong the speeding action and reduce traffic noise..."

"Whilst slowing traffic is welcome, any islands need to take cyclists into account so they aren't forced into the middle of the traffic."

