

Hamilton Place - Change of Traffic Conditions

Tuesday, 20 June 2023
Infrastructure and Public Works Committee

Strategic Alignment - Thriving Communities

Program Contact:

Mark Goudge,
Associate Director Infrastructure

Public

Approving Officer:

Tom McCready, Director City Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hamilton Place, Adelaide is a two-way road between Hurman Street and Morphett Street with parking on the northern side which is predominately utilised by residential permit holders.

A number of residents have raised concerns about the speed and number of vehicles that use the street, and they perceive it to be a safety hazard as two vehicles cannot pass each other. There is also a perception that motorists are using Hamilton Place as a shortcut to avoid the traffic signals at the intersection of Morphett and Gilbert Street.

At its meeting on 14 February 2023 Council received a petition to make Hamilton Place, Adelaide one-way from Morphett Street to Hurman Street and introduce more greening to the street. Subsequently, Council also resolved "That the Traffic Strategy Framework include assessment of a one-way traffic zone through Hamilton Place/Hurman Street."

In considering this request, surveys and site observations were undertaken, the results of which have shown that the street is generally not utilised as a shortcut to avoid traffic signals, and that the street is primarily utilised by local traffic entering the street from both directions to access their car parks.

In narrow streets such as Hamilton Place, vehicle speeds are kept to a minimum through the retention of on-street parking and retaining two-way traffic conditions due to the need to give way to on-coming traffic.

Retention of two-way traffic conditions provides the maximum level of accessibility for residents. Furthermore, retention of two-way conditions is consistent with Council's Smart Move Transport and Movement Strategy 2012 – 22, specifically, part 7.3.2 Maintain two-way vehicle movement across the City Street grid.

As part of the Greener City Streets Program, we will be planting five new trees and one Water Sensitive Urban Design Greening area at the eastern end of Hamilton Place in late 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 27 June 2023 for consideration

THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL

That Council:

1. Notes the results of the traffic assessment, including public consultation, surveys, turn path analysis and on-site observations for the proposed closure to westbound traffic in Hamilton Place, Adelaide.
 2. Approves retaining the existing two-way traffic conditions in Hamilton Place in line with community feedback.
 3. Notes that as part of the Greener City Streets Program, Administration will be planting five new trees and one Water Sensitive Urban Design Greening area at the eastern end of Hamilton Place in late 2023.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Thriving Communities A safe, affordable, accessible, well-connected city for people of all ages and abilities and transport modes.
Policy	The review of traffic and parking for safety and amenity aligns with the Smart Move Transport and Movement Strategy for Calm Traffic.
Consultation	Consultation has been undertaken with affected stakeholders including emergency services, in accordance with City of Adelaide's (CoA) Public Consultation Policy and s32 of <i>the Road Traffic Act 1961</i> .
Resource	Resources required to deliver greening is unknown at this time.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Council has a responsibility to monitor and improve road safety by taking measures to protect its area from hazards, and to mitigate the effects of such hazards within the city. Implementing a one-way proposal along Hamilton Place would have the opposite outcome and may see Council partially liable in the event of an incident.
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
22/23 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 23/24 Budget Allocation	\$30,000 in the Draft 2023/24 Business Plan & Budget for Hamilton Place Improvements (Concept & Detailed Design).
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Life expectancy of the asset will not change as a result of this report.
22/23 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report

DISCUSSION

1. At its meeting on 14 February 2023 Council received a petition to make Hamilton Place, Adelaide one-way from Morphett Street to Hurman Street and introduce more greening to the street.
2. The petition cited that there were safety issues associated with the current two-way operation which allowed for vehicles to utilise Hamilton Place as a “cut through” to avoid the traffic signals at the intersection of Morphett Street and Gilbert Street. Vehicles travelling at excessive speeds was also cited as a safety issue. The petition identified strong support for greening opportunities if the street were to become one-way.
3. At its meeting on 14 February 2023 Council resolved “That the Traffic Strategy Framework include assessment of a one-way traffic zone through Hamilton Place/Hurman Street.”
4. As a result of the petition and Council resolution, a traffic assessment was undertaken on the feasibility of making Hamilton Place one-way through closing Hamilton Place to westbound vehicles. The traffic assessment undertaken included formal consultation, traffic surveys, turn path analysis and on-site observations.

Summary of consultation approach

5. Public consultation regarding road closures is a legislated requirement under Section 32 of the *Road Traffic Act 1961*.
6. Consultation regarding the proposed closure to westbound traffic was undertaken by Council, in accordance with the requirements of Section 32 of the *Road Traffic Act 1961*. Consultation activities included the following:
 - 6.1. A letter was circulated to 120 property owners/occupiers adjacent the road who would be directly impacted by the proposal, accompanied with a location map and feedback form.
 - 6.2. An email with the proposal was sent to Emergency Services for comment.
 - 6.3. A notice was published in *The Advertiser* on 14 March 2023.
 - 6.4. Consultation packs and feedback forms were made available on the YourSay Adelaide website and through the City of Adelaide’s libraries and community centres.
7. Members were notified via E-News on 17 March 2023 of the public consultation process.

Results of the consultation

8. There was a total of 60 responses to the consultation, including 12 online submissions on the YourSay Adelaide website, 43 hard-copy feedback forms and five emails. Verbatim comments can be viewed at [Link 1](#). Four responses were excluded, two supports and two objections without comment as they did not provide contact details. Leaving a total of 56 responses.
9. The feedback received during the consultation resulted in 31 of the 56 respondents (objecting to the proposal to close Hamilton Place to westbound vehicles).
10. Issues raised by objectors included:
 - 10.1. Reduced access to properties.
 - 10.2. Removal of on-street parking spaces.
 - 10.3. Vehicles having to undertake a multi-point turn at the southern end of Hurman Street and the potential to impact on pedestrian safety and cause property damage.

Traffic survey summary

11. Traffic volumes along Hamilton Place and Hurman Street are very low. Hamilton Place carries on average 166 vehicles per day (VPD) consisting of 70 eastbound (from Morphett end) and 96 westbound. Hurman Street carries on average 206 VPD, 91 northbound (towards Gilbert) and 115 southbound.
12. Both streets carried the same number of vehicles during the AM peak with 19 and Hurman Street carried four more (20) than Hamilton Place (16) during the PM peak.
13. Average speeds along both streets were well below the posted speed limit of 50km/h. Hamilton Place average was 26.7km/h, with the highest speed recorded being 37km/h. Average speeds along Hurman Street were 23km/h with the highest being 43.5km/h.

On-site observations

14. On-site observations were undertaken on different days and times, and can be viewed at [Link 2](#), to ascertain if motorists were using Hamilton Place as a cut through to avoid the traffic lights.
15. Three motorists and a cyclist were observed turning right from Morphett Street and then right onto Gilbert Street and may have done so to avoid the traffic signals or may have been looking for a parking space.
16. Majority of motorists appeared to be local traffic eg, residents, employees and were familiar with the traffic conditions and drove accordingly.
17. Majority of movements were to park/unpark from the car park at the rear of 89-92, with Hurman Street being predominately used and not Hamilton Place.

Turn path analysis

18. An analysis on turning movements that would be required if the one-way proposal was adopted were undertaken and can be viewed at [Link 3](#). The analysis showed the multiple point turns required with and without on-street parking at the southern end of Hurman Street.
19. The turn paths for a passenger vehicle (5.2m) and a medium rigid vehicle (8.8m). All manoeuvres showed that motorists would still be required to enter what would become the one-way section of Hamilton Place and potentially utilise private property to be able to exit out onto Gilbert Street.
20. Motorists undertaking these types of manoeuvres increase the risk of causing an accident that may involve our most vulnerable road users eg, pedestrians and cyclists.

Next Steps

21. Based on community feedback and in line with Council's Smart Move Transport and Movement Strategy 2012 – 22, it is not recommended that Hamilton Place become a one-way road.
22. As part of Council's commitment to making Adelaide a greener and more sustainable capital city, we will be planting five new trees and one Water Sensitive Urban Design Greening area at the eastern end of Hamilton Place as part of the Greener City Streets Program.
 - 22.1. We are currently seeking feedback on the Greener City Streets Program locations, including Hamilton Place ([Link 4](#)).
 - 22.2. A map of the proposed plantings is available at [Link 5](#).
 - 22.3. The final location of the trees will be subject to the location of existing underground services.
 - 22.4. Procurement is expected to commence in June with construction anticipated to commence in August 2023. Completion is expected in October 2023, however this may change depending on the engaged Contractors program.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 – Hamilton Place verbatim comments

Link 2 – Hamilton Place on-site observations

Link 3 – Hamilton Place turn path analysis

Link 4 – Your Say Adelaide page, Greener City Streets Program

Link 5 – Hamilton Place design Greener City Streets Program

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- END OF REPORT