

6. TRAMWAY LANE

Officer responsible Street City Unit Manager	Author Lorraine Wilmshurst, DDI 941-8662
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The purpose of this report is to seek approval to continue with the design and proposed upgrade of Tramway Lane.

BACKGROUND

Tramway Lane runs between Hereford Street and Worcester Street. The buildings either side of the southern section of the Lane are eateries, while the central section has the Tram Shed on the western side and a garage on the eastern side. At the northern end is the Heritage Apartments on the western side and the Design and Art's College and a language school on the east.

DISCUSSION

The proposal is to resurface part of the lane with clay pavers and plant climbing roses along the Tram Shed and on the eastern side of the Lane. Traffic would be restricted to entry and exit from Worcester Street only.

A plan (as attached) was distributed to the businesses in the area and sent to property owners. The responses were mixed. More investigation was then carried out and there are about 700 vehicles a day that use this lane. Many of these vehicles use the lane as a cut through so they do not have to contend with the traffic signals at Hereford Street/Manchester Street and Worcester Street/Manchester Street. Using lanes and accessways north and south of Tramway Lane it is possible to travel from Cashel Street to Armagh Street without using Manchester Street. There are some commercial operators who regularly use part or all of this route.

The business owners and the tramway staff have informed Council Officers that at night the Tramway Lane is used as a race circuit and bottles and rubbish is quite often thrown from passing vehicles. They would like some restrictions placed on this activity and see the proposal as a positive step.

The number of pedestrians is a high, with 103 counted in a 50 minute period between 8am and 9am. There is foot traffic through this area at all times of the day.

The businesses at the southern end agree to the proposal and are looking forward to it happening. There was a query from the property owner of No. 165 as to whether the paving could be reduced to allow access to the garage at the rear of that property. The owner of No. 6 is not in favour of the proposal because it will prohibit access through the lane. Christchurch Tramway Limited are concerned that people will see the Worcester Street end of the Lane as a parking area and block access to the Tram Shed but are pleased that traffic will not be able to travel through the lane as it does now.

CONCLUSION

Repositioning the bollards between the Bealey Gallery and No. 8 will allow access from Worcester Street to the rear of No. 165 and will satisfy the request from the property owner at No 165 and allow access to the strip of land between No. 6 and No. 8 as requested by the property owner of No. 6. The property manager of No. 165 has agreed to the alterations to the proposal.

The adjustment will also meet the expectations of the businesses at the southern end. They will have an upgraded frontage and be able to lease some of the area for outdoor dining.

The bollards at both ends of the paved area will restrict through access and stop the short cutting that occurs regularly throughout the day. It will also provide safer pedestrian access through this area. The retention of the broken yellow 'no stopping' lines down both sides of the lane and enforcement of the restriction, will solve the issue raised by Tramway staff.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That adjustments be made to the position of the northern set of bollards to provide access to the garage at the rear of No. 165.
 2. That the design and upgrade of Tramway Lane proceed.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.