

NEPEAN AVENUE PATHWAY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT NEPEAN AVENUE?

Council plans to build a new pedestrian pathway along Nepean Avenue, between Tench Reserve and Memorial Avenue, to improve pedestrian safety for pedestrians and deliver the long-awaited missing link on the Bridge-to-Bridge loop of the Great River Walk.

The new path will be built at road level within the existing road verge and features a stamped concrete buffer and lighting bollards, between the pathway and the road, to separate pedestrians from passing traffic.

The project will also see Nepean Avenue become a two-way quietway with a reduced speed limit to encourage active transport and calm traffic. The road will be resurfaced, and traffic calming bands will be added to create tactile and visual cues for drivers.

A limited number of new trees will be planted along the street to create a green corridor that keeps people cool while walking, running or cycling and creates an inviting environment for residents and visitors.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO BUILD THE PATH?

Various factors such as the weather, availability of workers and construction materials can affect how long it takes to build the path, but Council aims to complete it in the shortest time possible. Construction will occur in stages to minimise disruptions for residents and the community.

HOW WILL STREET PARKING BE IMPACTED DURING CONSTRUCTION?

There will be some temporary impacts to on-street parking during construction. Council appreciates patience in relation to this and will work hard to minimise the effects. Construction of the path along Nepean Avenue will occur in stages to minimise disruptions.

Council has appointed Axial Construction as the construction contractor for this project. They will have a dedicated community liaison officer who will work closely with residents regarding street parking to keep them informed and help resolve any concerns.

WHAT ARE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GREAT RIVER WALK WHILE THE PATH IS BEING BUILT?

A temporary diversion for pedestrians may be in place as required during certain stages of construction. If this occurs, there will be appropriate signage to direct pedestrians.

HOW WILL ACCESS TO OFF-STREET PARKING BE IMPACTED DURING CONSTRUCTION?

Construction of the path along Nepean Avenue will occur in stages to minimise disruptions for residents. When the path construction is directly outside a resident's home, there may be some temporary impacts to their off-street parking access, but this should be only for a short period.

Council has appointed Axial Construction to deliver this project and they will ensure that impacts to residents are minimised. A dedicated community liaison officer will work closely with residents regarding their parking arrangements and access as the work progresses.

HOW WILL TRAFFIC ON NEPEAN AVENUE BE MANAGED DURING CONSTRUCTION?

Council has appointed Axial Construction as the construction contractor and it will be their responsibility to prepare a traffic management plan to ensure that Nepean Avenue residents can still get to where they need to. A dedicated community liaison officer will

also work closely with residents regarding traffic arrangements on the Avenue as the work progresses.

PROJECT OVERVIEW FAQs

WHO WILL BE ABLE TO USE THE NEW PATHWAY?

The new pathway will be for pedestrians. According to Transport for NSW guidelines, pedestrians include people who are:

- walking or running
- pushing a bicycle
- in a wheelchair
- using a mobility scooter or motorised wheelchair
- using a skateboard, foot scooter or rollerblades.

Children under 16 and supervising adults can also ride bicycles on the pathway. Riders must keep left and give way to pedestrians when riding on a pathway.

As it is not a shared pathway, all other cyclists will be required to ride on the road, however as the project will see Nepean Avenue become a two-way quietway, cyclists will have a safe and comfortable experience on the road.

A key design philosophy of a quietway is the safe integration of cyclists on the road and is designed to 30km/hr use to encourage more active transport and calm traffic.

People walking pets should remember to keep their animal on a short lead and under control, especially if walking during busy peak times.

HOW WIDE IS THE NEW PATHWAY?

The width of the Nepean Avenue pedestrian pathway is on average 2.6 metres. This width has been determined after carefully considering the constrained street environment, Transport for NSW Walking Space Guide, Austroads Guide to Road Design.

The width aligns with the recommendations in an independent road safety audit commission by Council and conducted by The Transport Planning Partnership in February 2023. The width is also consistent with

other sections of the Great River Walk Bridge-to-Bridge loop, which traverse constrained street environments.

WHAT ARE TRAFFIC CALMING BANDS?

Traffic calming bands are different to speed humps. These are stamped concrete bands that break up the visual expanse of asphalt on the road and provide a visual and tactile cue to road users of the changed driving environment. The traffic-calming bands on Nepean Avenue will assist drivers in keeping to the speed limit.

WHAT IS A QUIETWAY?

A quietway is a high-quality treatment where cyclists travel in a mixed traffic environment with motorised traffic. The key design philosophy of a quietway is the safe integration of cyclists as equal road users to motor vehicles.

A quietway requires drivers to reduce travelling speeds and discourages them from overtaking through effective design treatments that send visual cues to road users about appropriate speeds and behaviours.

HOW IS THIS PROJECT FUNDED?

This project is proudly funded by the NSW Government in association with Penrith City Council. Council secured a \$1.25 million grant under the Metropolitan Greenspace Program and will match this funding. A further contribution is allocated from the District Open Space Contributions Plan.

NEPEAN AVENUE RESIDENTS FAQs

HOW HAS COUNCIL ENGAGED WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS?

Council has consulted with residents about this project since 2016. There have been various design options considered and investigated. Feedback from residents over many years has informed the current design.

The project incorporates thoughtful design elements and landscaping to enhance the overall aesthetic appeal of the street and create a welcoming environment for residents and visitors.

Consultation with residents has occurred in a number of ways:

- Letters to residents/property owners on Nepean Avenue
- Direct emails to people who made previous submissions
- One-on-one meetings with residents
- Your Say Penrith project webpage
- A comprehensive FAQs document

WILL I BE ABLE TO ENTER/EXIT A DRIVEWAY ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF NEPEAN RIVER?

Yes, vehicles will be able to enter and exit from driveways on the western side of Nepean Avenue ensuring they always give way to pedestrians in line with Transport for NSW road rules.

The bollards will be adequately spaced to ensure sufficient room for vehicles' safe entry and exit around driveways, particularly when towing or backing out trailers or boats.

WILL THERE BE ANY IMPACT TO DRIVEWAYS ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF NEPEAN AVENUE?

No, there will be no changes to existing driveways along Nepean Avenue. This minimises inconvenience for the residents on the western side of Nepean Avenue and importantly, eliminates the need for residents to negotiate with Council about changes to their driveways.

WILL THERE BE ANY CHANGES TO GAS DELIVERIES ON THE STREET?

Council has appointed Axial Construction Pty Ltd to develop the detailed design and construct the project. They will identify any issues or impacts to gas deliveries through the detailed design process and mitigate these where possible. Residents are also encouraged to contact their gas provider to discuss their deliveries.

WILL THERE BE ANY CHANGES TO HOW MY WASTE IS COLLECTED?

If you live on the eastern side of Nepean Avenue, your waste collection will remain the same. If you live on the western side of Nepean Avenue, the location of where your bins will need to be placed for collection will change.

For residents on the western side of Nepean Avenue

Bins will need to be placed in line with the bollards but leaving at least a one-metre gap between the bollard and the bin. This will ensure sufficient space for the side-arm waste collection vehicles to collect the bins easily. There will be no other changes to the waste collection service.

WILL THERE BE ANY CHANGES TO MY BULKY WASTE COLLECTION?

There will be no changes to bulky waste collections. This type of waste collection is a 'collect and return' service which involves a rear loader truck and a crew to collect and load the bulky waste items into the truck. Bulky waste should be placed on the kerbside and not on the pedestrian pathway or between the bollards.

WILL THE ROAD BE WIDE ENOUGH FOR LARGE VEHICLES TO DRIVE DOWN?

Yes. Large vehicles such as buses, waste collection vehicles and street sweepers will have sufficient space to drive safely down Nepean Avenue. While detailed designs are yet to be completed, the proposed width of the road is 6-6.2 metres (3-3.1 metres per traffic lane). These dimensions align with dimensions recommended by an independent road safety audit in February 2023.

WILL THE PATHWAY BE CLEANED TO PREVENT SLIP HAZARDS?

The new pathway will be inspected by Council once a month and cleaned as required. The pathway can also be cleaned on request if there is a build-up of fallen leaves to prevent slip hazards. The pathway has been designed to allow a small sweeper to fit through the bollards and access the path for sweeping and cleaning.

WILL FLOOD EVACUATION BE AFFECTED BY THIS PROJECT?

No. As there is no change to the road elevation, the project should not impact flooding or flood evacuation.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE EXISTING TREES ON NEPEAN AVENUE?

There will be no changes to existing trees on Nepean Avenue. A key consideration in the design was to retain prominent trees and have the lowest possible impact on them during the path's construction. The design minimises the need for new drainage, and as a result, can better protect and preserve existing root zones for these mature trees.

A limited number of new trees will be planted along the street to create a green corridor that keeps people cool while walking, running or cycling and creates an inviting environment for residents and visitors.