

3.4 Blacksmith Lane One Way

TO	Mercury Bay Community Board
FROM	Andrew Scobie - Project Manager, Mercury Bay
DATE	13 September 2018
SUBJECT	Blacksmith Lane One Way

1 Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is for the Mercury Bay Community Board to consider the proposed Blacksmith One way project.

2 Background

The 2018/19 Annual Plan includes a budget of \$60,663 to implement a one way road system on Blacksmith Lane. In anticipation of this a report was prepared by Opus and some initial consultation was undertaken as part of the Whitianga Town centre upgrade.

The Opus report (**Appendix A**) considered that a one way system on Blacksmith Lane was possible but was not required to improve traffic flow and would restrict flow through and away from Albert Street and through the town environment. The report included an initial concept design (**Appendix B**).

The Opus report identified that the work would extend along the Esplanade to Monk Street plus a number of traffic islands, kerb push outs and a roundabout at the Monk Street / Esplanade intersection. These would be required to exclude traffic entering into the one way system incorrectly. If the full extent of this work proposed were to be implemented the budget allocation will not be sufficient.

3 Issue

To consider the future traffic management for Blacksmith Lane and whether to proceed with the proposal to make it one way only.

4 Discussion

Based on the Opus report staff considers that a one way system in Blacksmith Lane is not necessary and would restrict traffic flow.

Initial consultation with business owners found most opposed the one way of Blacksmith Lane as this would restrict traffic and customer access to their place of businesses resulting in less business.

Previous discussions have suggested that one of the main points of concern is the angle parking on the southern side of Blacksmith Lane on the length fronting Soldiers Memorial Park. These are difficult to enter and exit because they are at right angles to the carriageway. The Opus report doesn't deal with this level of detail and it is suggested that further work be done to identify options for traffic and parking management on Blacksmith Lane and that this form the basis of further consultation with the business and property owners.

A further option would be to continue with the one way proposal. The next step in this would be to enter into more detailed consultation with business and property owners affected.

5 Suggested Resolution(s)

That the Mercury Bay Community Board:

1. Receives the 'Blacksmith Lane One Way' report dated 13 September 2018.
2. Defer a decision on creating a one way system on Blacksmiths Lane and request a further report on traffic and parking management options other than the one way proposal and that this form the basis of further consultation with business and property owners and be reported back to the Community Board.

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A *Whitianga Town Centre One Way Operation – Traffic Assessment Report*

Attachment B *Blacksmith Lane one way layout*