



## Parramatta City Centre Lanes Policy

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#### 1. Scope

This policy applies to Parramatta City Centre shown in Figure 1.

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#### 2. Purpose

The objective of the policy is to ensure that Parramatta City Centre Lanes are retained and enhanced throughout the next 20 years to create a well-coordinated fine grain network for pedestrians and vehicles that is safe, well activated, good looking and pleasant to use.

#### Strategy

The City of Parramatta values the benefits provided to pedestrians, business, service vehicles and the vitality of the city at street level provided by the lanes. The city centre lanes network is to be retained and enhanced for future city residents and workers. The long term strategy for the lanes is outlined in the Parramatta City Centre Lanes Strategy and all private and public development projects are to have regard to the Strategy.

The long term vision is for Parramatta City Centre Lanes to be:

- Functional
- Safe
- Comprehensive
- Clear and Direct
- Pedestrian Friendly
- Lively and Vibrant
- Appropriate to Parramatta's Needs; and
- Sustainable

City Centre Lanes		
Owner Team Leader Urban Design	Area: City Strategy	POL No: 319
Date of Commencement: 2011	Approval Authority: Council	Date Approved: 10 July 2017
Amendment 1	Date of Next Review: 2022	Review period: every 5 years



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Figure 1- Existing & Proposed Lanes, Arcades, & Through-site links in Parramatta City Centre

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## Lanes Principles

The following principles apply generally and should be incorporated when development occurs alongside lanes or on sites that have been identified for new lanes.

- Retaining and extending the existing utilitarian functions of the network including servicing and accessing to support the city and long term business vitality.
- Creating a safe 24/7 lanes network that will promote pedestrian use.
- Promoting pedestrian activity to improve the safety and liveliness of lanes.
- Designing lanes as destinations to increase street level retail and support city visitation.
- Incorporating standard Public Domain Guidelines to promote consistent appearance and design and a good image for the city.
- Designing lanes that express their special history, location and role in the network and that improve Parramatta's character and identity
- Providing lane upgrades that combine improvements in activation as well as improvements in appearance, design and construction to ensure they are safe, well used and they maximise the city's potential and expenditure.
- Incorporating lanes as venues for cultural events, art and interpretation programs to animate the city and improve street level activity.

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### 3. Policy

- The City of Parramatta acknowledges the benefits of lanes to Parramatta City Centre especially lanes that are open to the sky, that are accessible day and night, and that provide for servicing and vehicle access, fine grain pedestrian access and pedestrian navigation of the city centre.
- The City of Parramatta acknowledges the importance of the servicing and access function of lanes and seeks to ensure these functions are retained and expanded as development occurs.
- The City of Parramatta recognises the potential of reinvigorating the lanes network to increase street level activation in Parramatta City Centre.
- The City of Parramatta recognises the potential of designing and building lanes and the buildings addressing them as lively and interesting parts of the pedestrian and street network.

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- The City of Parramatta broadly supports the Parramatta City Centre Lanes Strategy which includes the Lanes Framework Plan and six accompanying actions that provide coordinated direction for improving and expanding the lanes network.
- The City of Parramatta recognises that many officers in council will assist in implementing the Lanes Strategy and they will be coordinated by the Urban Design Unit.

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#### 4. Procedure

The Parramatta Lanes Strategy includes the Parramatta Lanes Framework Plan (refer p30 of the Lanes Framework Plan) which is the long term plan for lanes in Parramatta City Centre. The Plan is accompanied by six actions listed below.

##### Action 1 - Implement the Framework Plan

###### *Rationale*

A coordinated plan that further develops pedestrian connections outlined in the Parramatta City Centre DCP 2007 has been developed and following this plan will ensure that important servicing and access ways in the main city blocks are retained and improved as the city grows. Also those gaps in the network are filled when the opportunity arises and city sites are developed.

##### Action 2 - Ensure Lanes Are Well Lit and Clean

###### *Rationale*

To encourage a higher level of use laneways in the city need to be well maintained and well lit.

##### Action 3 - Activate Lanes

###### *Rationale*

Activating lanes can involve ensuring there are entrances and windows in the buildings facing the lanes as well as locating shops, cafes, bars and entrances at street level. Additionally, activation can occur through programs of art and events designed to occur in the lanes. Activating the lanes is necessary to ensure they are popular and well used and to increase safety and surveillance. Activating lanes will also increase the amount of active street frontage in the city and support business activity and visitation rates to Parramatta City Centre.

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## Action 4 - Name and Sign All Lanes

### *Rationale*

As of January 2010, over half the lanes in Parramatta were not named. This discourages premises using them for business address and makes them hard to identify. Naming and signing the lanes will ensure lanes are seen as destinations in their own right and assist activation and way finding in the city.

## Action 5 - Include Technical Details for Lanes in the Parramatta Public Domain Guidelines

### *Rationale*

The activation of lanes will make them more accessible and it is important they have a high quality appearance to encourage people to walk in the lanes and businesses to address them. Lanes form part of the city centre public domain and the palette and guidelines for treatments are integrated with the public domain treatments for streets and public spaces.

## Action 6 - Initiate Pilot Projects for the Lanes

### *Rationale*

Council can show leadership by undertaking exemplar projects to help demonstrate the standards required for lane improvements.

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## **5. Definitions**

Not Applicable

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## **6. Associated documents**

### The Local Government Act

This Lanes Policy will assist the City of Parramatta to fulfil the following aspects of its charter under the Local Government Act, engage in long term strategic planning for the community, and to exercise community leadership.

### Related Strategies, Plans or Policies:

This Lanes Policy supports and progresses the requirements for Pedestrian Amenity and Access Parking and Servicing in the Parramatta DCP 2007 as well as the links shown in

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Fig 3.1: Existing and Desired Links. In addition, the Lanes Policy acknowledges and supports the following strategies, plans and policies;

- The Parramatta City Centre Civic Improvement Plan 2007 (D00820727)
- The Parramatta City Centre Lanes Strategy and future updated versions (D01590266)
- The Parramatta City Centre Lanes Inventory 2009 (D01566704)
- Parramatta Public Domain Guidelines (D05080451)
- The Parramatta City Centre Integrated Transport Plan (D05078969)
- The Street Naming Policy (D04755820)
- The Street Activity Policy 2017 (D05070421)

### Related Procedures

Procedures for Naming Lanes in the City Centre - D02027061

### Relationship to Future Strategies, Plans or Policies (2017)

This policy also recognises any additional existing and/or proposed lanes or links anticipated in the Parramatta Development Control Plan 2011 and the proposed Civic Link project.

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## 7. History

This Policy was adopted by Council at its meeting of 28/2/2011, Minute Number 12136.

### Review

This policy is scheduled for review every 5 years.

Version	Amendments	Date Adopted	Date Superseded
Version 2		For Adoption 28/2/2013	28/2/2011
Version 3	References throughout updated to acknowledge the new City of Parramatta entity.	TBC	TBC

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	Acknowledgement of the proposed Civic Link Project included.		
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## Owner

The Senior Project Officer Urban Design is responsible for this policy.

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