

## COUNCIL SCHEME WOULD 'NIBBLE BACK THE ROADS'

# Plan to turn City streets into parks

Sydney City Council is expected to begin next year a program of closing city streets to form new parks and to extend existing parks into roadways.

Recommendations for this are part of the council's latest planning scheme — "Streetscape and Street Furniture Improvements", which is expected to be adopted by the council next Monday.

The scheme names 24 areas in the city where roads should be closed or existing parks extended into roads to increase the park areas.

The first 10 areas — nine of them in residential sections — were recommended for approval

by the council's city development committee yesterday.

The council has set aside more than \$400,000 in next year's Budget to pay for the park improvements.

Streets or parts of streets closed will be grassed and landscaped.

Streets or parts of streets will be closed in the inner City, Surry Hills, Elizabeth Bay and Pyrmont under the first stage of the program.

Existing parks in King's Cross and Elizabeth Bay will be extended into roadways — all under the scheme's theme of "parks and reserves should be nibbling

back the roads."

The proposed new park areas will be formed by:

Closing the left turn from Hunter Street into Bligh Street at the Richard Johnson Square;

Closing Onslow Avenue in front of Elizabeth Bay House to extend the McElhone Reserve;

Extending the southern footpath at the western end of Roslyn Street, King's Cross, with trees and seating;

Closing Parkham Street between Dowling and Bourke Streets to create a rest area and adventure playground in Surry Hills;

Closing Riley Street between Devonshire and Lansdowne Streets for a landscaped park;

Closing the northern end of Ithaca Road, Elizabeth Bay, to extend Beare Park on the waterfront.

Extending the John Armstrong Reserve, Elizabeth Bay, into Onslow Avenue and provide pedestrian crossings at

Greenknowe and Onslow Avenues;

Expanding Macleay Reserve, Elizabeth Bay, by taking some of Elizabeth Bay Road;

Closing Gipps Street, Pyrmont, between Experiment and Harris Streets, for a park and rest area.

All the park plans are in areas where there is a shortage of park and rest areas for residents.

"This is only the first step. We will bring down plans to expand this next year," the chairman of the city development committee, Alderman Andrew Briger, said yesterday.

Traffic in Parkham and Riley Streets, Surry Hills, will have to be rerouted under the proposal.

The plan will probably go on public exhibition for comment.

The "Streetscape and Street Furniture Improvements" plan — which also recommends new designs and concepts for street furniture — is the fourth "action plan" to be implemented by the council.

## Ex-nurse charged

BRISBANE, Monday. — A former nurse was charged at Southport Court today with having caused grievous bodily harm to a child.

Penelope Kaye Bushby was charged on the complaint of Inspector J. McSporran, of the Bris-

bane CIB, that between August 29 and September 1 at Southport she unlawfully did grievous bodily harm to a male child.

Mr J. C. Latchford, SM, remanded Miss Bushby to appear at Southport Court on January 4 and allowed her bail of \$75.