

S/M/H

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Council plans to save Darlinghurst

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By our Civic Reporter

A plan to preserve much of the residential area of Darlinghurst is being prepared for Sydney City Council.

The plan, which will not be made public until October, places limits on the height and type of development allowed in the area.

Several streets will be closed to allow new public

parks and plazas, and only one small section will be set aside for flats and home unit developments.

Objections by the Builders Labourers Federation and resident organisations to the redevelopment of Darlinghurst are expected to be overcome.

The plan will be placed on public exhibition and residents will be asked to suggest improvements before it is finally adopted by the council.

A "green ban" was imposed by the federation last month on all demolition in Darlinghurst be-

cause residents wanted a voice in its development.

Most of the suburb on the northern side of Oxford Street, extending from Bourke Street to Rushcutters Bay, is included in the council's plan.

William Street has been omitted because of previously announced proposals for it to become a wide-tree-lined boulevard.

Taylor Square has also been omitted from the plan because of confusion over the Department of Main Roads' intentions for the South-Eastern Expressway.

The expressway will cross the square, but it is

not known if it will be on the surface or underground.

The only section of Darlinghurst in which high-rise buildings will be allowed is Craigend Street, near the top of William Street, and in a small part of Darlinghurst Road.

In most other sections, only terrace houses or buildings no taller than three storeys will be permitted.

A similar plan, encouraging the retention of housing in North Newtown, was announced last week by the council.