

Appendix 8: Beech Street and links to relevant strategy and policies.

Corporate Plan 2018 - 2023

Table 1. Links to the Corporate Plan

Transportation and Public Realm Objectives

As reported in February 2019, the project objectives are summarised below. The current experiment is concentrated on delivery Objective A

Beech Street Project Objectives	Corporate Plan Aim	Corporate Plan Outcome	Corporate Plan High-level activity	How – Option 2 (permanent ZES restriction)
A - To improve air quality by reducing NO2 levels	Shape outstanding environments	11 – We have clean air, land and water and a thriving and sustainable natural environment	A – Provide a clean environment and drive down the negative effects of our own activities.	Reduced number of vehicles to just those needed for access and to restrict all other through traffic to Zero Emission Capable Vehicles only
B – Improve the quality of the public realm to create streets and public spaces for people to securely admire and enjoy	Shape outstanding environments	12 – Our spaces are secure, resilient and well maintained	a. – Maintain our buildings, streets and public spaces to high standards	Increasing footway widths and prioritising pedestrian movement, Improved public realm including greening and seating where appropriate.
C – Improve pedestrian comfort levels	Shape outstanding environments	9 – We are digitally and physically well-connected and responsive	d. – Improve the experience of arriving in and moving through our spaces	Widen footways and improve crossing facilities for people walking through Beech Street

D – Ensure buildings and public spaces are protected	Contribute to a flourishing society	1 – People are safe and feel safe	c. – Protect consumers and users of building, streets and public spaces	Reduce vehicle speeds and volumes to limit possibility of collisions, improve air quality, provide HVM where appropriate for any new public spaces
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Climate Action Strategy 2020 - 2027

City Transportation and Public Realm projects will primarily support the Climate Action Strategy, directly or indirectly, through reducing air pollution. The Climate Action Strategy refers to the action of ‘reducing air pollution through implementing our ambitious air quality and transport strategies’.

The strategy recognises the important role that Transportation projects have in making significant improvements to air quality and wider climate issues by encouraging the reduce in vehicle traffic and providing spaces for greening and other climate improving measures. The actions which related of Planning and Transportation are set out as follows:

- Action 6.1 Pavement widening to comfort level A+
- Action 6.2 Additional 20km of timed street closures
- Action 6.3 Freight Consolidation Centre

Action 6.1 relates to objective B of the Beech Street Transportation and Public realm project which will look to widen and improve footways and crossing in the Beech Street covered walkway.

Other actions that the ‘Beech Street project’ Phase 1 will support are shown in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Links to the Climate Action Strategy

Climate Action Strategy Aims	2020 -2027 Actions	How
Support the achievement of net zero	Embed circular economy principles into our capital projects and reduce carbon intensity by using life cycle carbon and cost assessment techniques and design specifications	For any construction works related to making the ZES permanent we would look to embed the principles of circulate economy and reuse or recycle materials.
Build climate resilience	Make the Square Mile public realm more climate change ready through adding in more green spaces, urban greening, flood resistant road surfaces, adaptable planting regimes and heat resistant materials	Introducing planting and greenery where possible if the scheme is made permanent. Investigating if there is an opportunity for a SUDS in an inground planting bed
	Ensure that we continue to protect the residents, critical assets, infrastructure and heritage of the Square Mile	Improving the public realm in an area with buildings of significant historical and architectural importance.
Champion sustainable growth	Reduce pollution and increase the resilience of the Square Mile	Alignment to Transport Strategy, see Table 3
	Reduce air pollution through implementing our ambitious air quality and transport strategies	Alignment to Air Quality Strategy, see Table 4
	Enhance greening and biodiversity across our public realm and open spaces	More greenery and planting will be investigated as part of making the ZES restriction permanent.

Transport Strategy 2019 – 2044

Beech St is recognised as a local access street in the Transport Strategy, and the Barbican and Golden Lane area is identified as an area for a Zero Emission Area (proposal 29). How the project will support the delivery the Transport Strategy outcomes and proposals is set out in Table 3 below.

Table 3 Links to Transport Strategy

Beech Street – ZES project Objectives	Transport Strategy Outcome	Transport Strategy Proposal	How
A - To improve air quality by reducing NO2 levels	The Square Mile's air and streets are cleaner and quieter	Proposal 29: Support and champion a central London Zero Emission Zone	Partially delivers proposals for a ZEZ covering the Barbican and Golden Lane area. Encourages the uptake and use of zero emission capable vehicles. Lessons learnt will inform development of other zero emission streets and zones within the City.
		Proposal 12: Design and manage the street network in accordance with the City of London Street Hierarchy	Beech St is identified as a local access street only in the Transport Strategy
B Improve the quality of the public realm to create streets and public spaces for people to securely admire and enjoy	The Square Mile's streets are great places to walk and spend time	Proposal 7: Provide more public space and deliver world-class public realm	If the ZES is made permanent in Autumn there will be an opportunity to make public realm improvements in localised areas of Beech Street and connecting junctions. Larger scale improvements would come with the Phase 2 transformational proposals.
		Proposal 8: Incorporate more greenery into the City's streets and spaces	
C – Improve pedestrian comfort levels	The Square Mile's streets are great places to walk and spend time	Proposal 2: Put the needs of people walking first when designing and managing our streets	Reducing the dominance of motor vehicles and associated pollution through the ZES will improve the environment for people walking. If the scheme is made permanent in Autumn 2021 there may also be the

			opportunity to improve the crossing facilities at either end of the covered walkway.
D – Ensure buildings and public spaces are protected	People using our streets and public spaces are safe and feel safe	Proposal 20: Apply the safe system approach and the principles of road danger reduction to deliver Vision Zero	Reduce vehicle speeds and volumes to limit possibility of collisions, improve air quality, provide HVM where appropriate for any new public spaces
		Proposals 22: Ensure on-street security measures are proportionate and enhance the experience of spending time on our streets	

Air Quality Strategy 2019 – 2024

Table 4. Links to Air Quality Strategy

	Action	How
Reducing Emissions from Road Transport	29 - Ensure that Healthy Street Plans have air quality improvement targets and that the air quality impact of major transport and public realm schemes are measured.	The experiment has demonstrated a significant improvement in NO2 levels in the Beech St covered walkways and in the surrounding areas. There have been some locations which have seen an increase in NO2. The continuation of the experiment will enable more comprehensive data to be collected to measure the impact of the restriction on NO2 levels.
	31 - Implement a wide range of action through the City Corporation Transport Strategy to reduce the exposure of pedestrians to transport generated air pollution in the Square Mile	See Table 3 for alignment of Transport Strategy. A significant improvement in NO2 levels will improve the experience for pedestrians using Beech Street and the surrounding road network. I
	35 - Implement a range of actions through the City Corporation Transport Strategy and City Local Plan to support and encourage cycling.	Reducing through traffic in Beech Street to approximately 5% of pre scheme traffic enhances the environment for cyclists. Further

		improvements to junctions could be integrated into designs if the scheme is made permanent.
	<p>38 - Ensure that improving air quality and reducing exposure is an integral part of all major transport and public realm schemes and that all schemes incorporate greening where possible.</p>	<p>Main project objective for Phase 1 is to reduce NO2 levels to below WHO guidelines</p> <p>Incorporating greenery and planting if possible if the scheme is made permanent.</p>