

Item 21.**Parking - Permit Parking, No Stopping and No Parking - Wilshire Street, Surry Hills**

TRIM Container No.: 2020/375256

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the reallocation of parking on Wilshire Street, Surry Hills as follows:

- (A) Western side between the points 24.3 metres and 48.2 metres (4 car spaces) south of Devonshire Street, as "No Stopping";
- (B) Western side between the points 48.3 metres and 62 metres (2 car spaces) south of Devonshire Street, as "No Parking";
- (C) Western side between the points 62 metres and 115.6 metres (9 car spaces) south of Devonshire Street, as "No Stopping"; and
- (D) Eastern side between the points 63.5 metres and 81.2 metres (3 car spaces) south of Devonshire Street, as "2P Permit Holders Excepted Area 18".

Voting Members for this Item

Voting Members	Support	Object
City of Sydney	[Insert]	[Insert]
Transport for NSW	[Insert]	[Insert]
NSW Police – Surry Hills PAC	[Insert]	[Insert]
Representative for the Member for Newtown	[Insert]	[Insert]

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

The City has received requests to improve vehicular access to new and existing driveways on the eastern side of Wilshire Street, Surry Hills, south of Devonshire Street.

Comments

The City has undertaken inspections on Wilshire Street from Devonshire Street to Nickson Street to determine if there are any obstruction to vehicles ingress or egress for existing and new driveways along both sides of the street.

There are 6 car parking spaces on the western side of Wilshire Street just south of Devonshire Street with 2 of these spaces parked across driveways currently not in use.

The remaining kerb space along both sides of Wilshire Street have no kerb side parking because of large sections of driveways.

A statutory No Parking restriction applies to all driveways ~~i.e.~~ it allows a vehicle to park for up to 2 minutes but the driver cannot move any further than 3 metres away from vehicle. Signs are not required for this restriction to be enforced.

Additionally, the NSW Road Rules 2014 prohibit drivers from parking across a driveway, or in any other way, *which blocks access to a driveway*. In narrow streets like Wilshire Street, cars parking opposite driveways obstruct or prevent vehicles from entering or exiting these driveways. Section 6 of the Roads Act 1993 gives adjoining landowners a right of vehicles access to the public road.

City staff have reviewed vehicle turning movements at each driveway located near the existing 6 car parking spaces in the street, and have identified that 5 of these spaces obstruct two driveways on the eastern side of Wilshire Street.

Therefore, it is proposed to remove all parking on the western side of Wilshire Street and provide 3 car parking spaces on the eastern side to minimise the obstruction of driveways while maintaining as much parking space as possible.

Consultation

The City consulted residents and businesses in the area. There were 112 letters sent out with a total of 5 submissions received; 1 in support and 4 against the proposed parking changes in Wilshire Street.

The comments received during the Public Consultation were examined and reviewed to determine how the proposal progresses or is modified to address community comments.

In this case, given the need to ensure access is maintained to all property driveways in accordance with the NSW Road Rules, the City intends to proceed with parking changes.

There were several comments raised during the community consultation and the City's responses are shown as follows:

Comment: Concerns with pedestrian safety in Wilshire Street with moving parking from the western to eastern side.

- **Answer:** Wilshire Street is a Shared Zone with a 10km/h speed limit. The relocation of the parking will still retain the same road space and improve vehicle access to new and existing driveways.

Comment: Concerns with decline in the value of residential and commercial properties.

- **Answer:** There is a loss of 3 parking spaces. However, this proposal will ensure access is not obstructed for driveways and will prevent illegal parking. Such measures will improve access and therefore should not affect property values.

Comment: Parking in front of terraces is necessary for renovation work to maintain these buildings, enable tradesperson to move tools and material and for deliveries.

- **Answer:** Note it is not legal to park across a driveway beyond 2 minutes or to cause an obstruction to someone else's access. Off-street loading areas should be made clear and available for deliveries and tradesmen should not be parking across driveways.

The relocation of parking from the western to eastern side of Wilshire Street moves vehicles approximately 3 metres from their current parking location.

The proposed No Parking restriction will still allow for quick deliveries.

The existing 2P parking in Wilshire Street only permits non-resident vehicles (Tradesman, visitors) to park for a maximum 2 hour.

For major building works, builders can apply to Council for a Works Zone to be installed.

Comment: I need parking in front of my home to retain a safe buffer zone from passing traffic.

- **Answer:** Vehicles may be travelling closer to the buildings but given the low speed (10km/h) and low traffic volumes in Wilshire Street, it is considered very low risk.

Comment: There used to be 9 parking spaces in Wilshire Street and 3 were removed to provide access for these new developments. The problem was solved a year ago and does not need to be revisited.

- **Answer:** Previously, there were 8 legal car parking spaces in Wilshire Street and 2 parking spaces were removed as part of the light rail works.

Currently, 2 parking spaces on the western side of Wilshire Street are vehicles parked across driveways, which is illegal.

There are only 4 legal parking spaces on the western side of Wilshire Street.

The City continues to receive complaints from residents about their access being blocked.

Comment: The removal of parking on the western side of Wilshire Street would cause traffic to speed up and would be a danger to pedestrians.

- **Answer:** Parking will be on the eastern side of Wilshire Street and the same approximate 3 metre width through vehicle corridor will remain for vehicles in the Shared Zone with a 10km/h speed limit.

Comment: No Stopping will prohibit delivery van, trucks and customers loading/unloading to loading dock roller door.

- **Answer:** The City will install No Parking across driveways on the western side of Wilshire Street, which allows vehicles to stop for 2 minutes, and drivers cannot move any further than 3 metres away from the vehicle.

Off-street loading areas should be made clear and available for deliveries.

Comment: Moving parking to the other side of the street increases the danger of being hit by moving traffic, which will be close to our front gate.

- **Answer:** Wilshire Street is a low speed environment (10km/h) with low risk of vehicle being out of control.

Comment: Vehicles rarely comply with speed limit in Wilshire Street.

- **Answer:** City has passed this information onto the Surry Hills Police to monitor.

Comment: Tenants have commercial garbage collection from Wilshire Street and No Stopping would deny access to collection.

- **Answer:** There is already large sections of No Stopping restriction on both sides of Wilshire Street where garbage is collected.

Signage has been modified to provide a section of No Parking in Wilshire Street to allow short term stopping to deliver and pick-up goods, which include waste collection.

The City has received complaints from residents that garbage cannot be collected because cars and trucks are blocking access in Wilshire Street - this proposal will give better access for garbage collection.

Financial

Funds are available in the current budget.

COL WARNE TRAFFIC PROJECT MANAGER