

Item 22.**Parking - No Stopping Police Vehicles Excepted - Baroda Street, Elizabeth Bay**

TRIM Container No.: 2024/288418

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee endorse the reallocation of parking on the northern side of Baroda Street, Elizabeth Bay between the points 0 metre and 5.5 metre (one car space) west of Elizabeth Bay Road as "No Stopping Police Vehicles Excepted".

Voting Members for this Item

Voting Members	Support	Object
City of Sydney	[Insert]	[Insert]
Transport for NSW	[Insert]	[Insert]
NSW Police – Kings Cross PAC	[Insert]	[Insert]
Representative for the Member for Sydney	[Insert]	[Insert]

Advice

Advice will be updated after the meeting.

Background

Kings Cross Police has requested consideration for additional dedicated police vehicle parking spaces within close vicinity of the police station.

Comments

The kerb space on the northern side of Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay, where the changes are proposed, is currently signposted as "No Stopping".

In response to NSW Police's request for dedicated police vehicle parking, it is proposed to reallocate one space along the "No Stopping" zone to "No Parking Police Vehicles Excepted".

Site assessment have shown that the proposed parking space do not impact on vehicles sightlines when exiting nearby driveways.

Consultation

The City consulted local residents and businesses on a original proposal which includes:

- "Give-Way" signs and line markings in Baroda Street at its intersection with Elizabeth Bay Road; and
- Reallocation of parking on the northern side of Baroda Street, west of Elizabeth Bay Road as "No Stopping Police Vehicles Excepted".

There were 618 letters sent out with no response supporting the proposal. The City received opposing submissions from the owners and residents of 2 and 2A Elizabeth Bay Road, Elizabeth Bay (The Gazebo Apartments).

The opposing submissions from The Gazebo Apartments comprises of:

- 12 individual submissions from residents;
- A petition from the building manager containing signatures from 44 properties; and
- A submission from the strata manager on behalf of the Owners Corporation.

Owners and residents from The Gazebo Apartments raise the following concerns about the traffic treatment and parking proposal:

Concern	Response
<p>Blockage of Resident Access</p> <p>The proposed line markings on the intersection of Baroda Street and Elizabeth Bay Road would limit entrance to the Gazebo apartments. The building entrance (close to Baroda Street) was designed as the main entrance with a wider opening to allow larger vans to enter the building from Elizabeth Bay Road. The bulk of traffic; commercial, owner and ride share use this entrance. The proposed changes will prevent access to this driveway</p>	<p>The proposed Give-Way signage and line marking do not change traffic access arrangements at the intersection.</p> <p>The existing "No Entry" and "No Left Turn" signs do not permit vehicles to turn into Baroda Street from Elizabeth Bay Road.</p> <p>Given the feedback received, the City will defer the "Give-Way" proposal to conduct further investigations.</p>

Concern	Response
<p>Congestion</p> <p>The lower entrance is much narrower and designed more easily for exiting the building. Forcing traffic to drive around the block to Baroda Street and back around to the building will add more traffic to Baroda Street which is already congested and will soon have 30 new apartments using a car park on that street.</p>	<p>As per above response</p> <p>Given the feedback received, the City will defer the "Give-Way" proposal to conduct further investigations.</p>
<p>Reduced Visibility and Pedestrian Safety</p> <p>Forcing more traffic down to the lower entrance to the Gazebo building is also problematic as the height of the wall means visual lines are limited to see cars and pedestrians. This will be true for cars trying to exit Gazebo and see around the wall and police vehicle, as well as those trying to pull into the driveway, moving around the police vehicle, identifying pedestrians, and the stopping of cars behind the vehicle on a busy corner. This will cause an increase in incidents given the narrow entrance at this point.</p>	<p>The lower driveway is approximately 12 metres east of the proposed police parking space.</p> <p>Site assessment have shown that the proposed parking space do not have an impact on sightlines for vehicles exiting the driveways.</p> <p>City staff will continue to monitor traffic and pedestrian safety at this location and make changes if required.</p>
<p>Reduced Resident Access to Elizabeth Bay Rd.</p> <p>The addition of a 'NO RIGHT TURN' sign at the exit from Baroda Street is unnecessary. There has never been an accident at this junction and it provides resident access to Elizabeth Bay Road southbound.</p>	<p>The "No Right Turn" sign was an error in the consultation plan.</p> <p>There are no changes to vehicular access arrangements at the intersection.</p>
<p>Traffic Hazard and Congestion</p> <p>The location of one additional space is problematic to the traffic flow on Elizabeth Bay Road. The space would be located at a point in the road where cars exit Baroda Street and the Gazebo apartments, turn a relatively sharp corner around Elizabeth Bay Road, and two busy entrance and exits for the Gazebo apartments. We also have no confidence that this one space would not turn into two cars in the space further impacting traffic flow. It is important to remember this is a busy pedestrian path</p>	<p>The width of Baroda Street on approach to Elizabeth Bay Street varies between 10-12 metres. It provides ample road space for vehicles to exit the driveway safely.</p> <p>City staff will continue to monitor traffic and pedestrian safety at this location and make changes if required.</p>

Concern	Response
down to Elizabeth Bay which also adds complications to this section of road.	
<p>Overuse of Public Streets</p> <p>Already the area has sufficient car spaces for the NSW Police. There are at least ten spaces on Baroda Street occupying the bulk of parking positions on that street. The area outside the police station in Fitzroy Gardens, a public green space, usually has two or three police vehicles parked on the walkway. Ward Avenue and Barncleuth Lane are also used. In addition, the police station has underground parking, where planned parking for police vehicles has apparently been usurped for personal cars.</p>	<p>The parking changes are proposed in response to Kings Cross Police requests.</p> <p>Dedicated on-street parking spaces for police vehicles allow officers to respond efficiently to emergencies and incidents.</p>
<p>Police staff personal cars could be moved to the public underground car park, opposite the police station. The council owns this facility, and perhaps a favourable arrangement could be reached for this access.</p>	<p>Off-street car parks can increase response times during emergencies. Officers will be required to cross Elizabeth Bay Road, navigate through the car park to reach the exits, delaying their response to incidents.</p>

Financial

Funds are available in the current budget.

CLEMENT LIM, TRAFFIC MANAGER - NORTH