

MAYORAL MINUTE

(ITEM MM5/23) PROPOSED CHANGES TO PARKING ARRANGEMENTS AT ELIZABETH STREET CARPARK

File No: 23/35209

MAYORAL MINUTE BY CR JOHN FAKER (MAYOR)

Summary

With the aim of promoting parking turnover during times of high parking demand within the Burwood and Strathfield Town Centres, at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 June 2023, it was resolved (in part):

'That Council approve the extension of ticketed parking restrictions in the Wynne Avenue, George Street, Burwood Library, Elizabeth Street, Meryla Street and Parnell Street car parks from '9am to 6pm Monday to Saturday including public holidays' to '9am to 10pm Monday to Sunday, including public holidays' for a trial period of 12 months.'

Since that time Council has rolled out new signage at each car park location and undertaken additional communications to ensure the new provisions were understood by our community, alongside an initial grace period on enforcement.

Tonight, I have put forward this Mayoral Minute to address representations that I have received from St Nectarios Greek Orthodox Church regarding the impact of the new parking arrangements at the Elizabeth Street Carpark. The church has brought to my attention their significant concerns, both in writing and today in person, and I believe it is important for us to consider reverting some of the changes implemented to better accommodate their congregation and the community at large.

Many of you will be aware that St Nectarios Church has been located within close proximity to the Elizabeth Street Carpark since 1970. St Nectarios is a vital institution in our community - it offers not only spiritual guidance for our local Greek community, but also provides important community support, activities, events and other gatherings.

The church's leadership and community members have expressed that the rollout of ticketed parking at the Elizabeth Street Carpark on Sundays has already started deterring members and visitors from attending Sunday services and important functions. It has also been expressed that free and accessible car parking has long been relied upon by elderly members of the church community who have already begun to diminish in numbers since the new parking changes were introduced.

A review of initial parking data since the changes were implemented shows that periods of highest evening use include Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and there is a lesser demand for Monday to Wednesday evenings.

To continue to meet the needs of local business who initially raised the issue of parking turnover and after careful consideration of St Nectarios Church's representation, I propose that Council revert some of the recent restrictions implemented at the Elizabeth Street Carpark to strike a better balance between these distinct community interests and needs.

Operational Plan Objective

C.4.1 Plan and manage transport infrastructure to meet current and future community needs.

I therefore move that:

1. A report is tabled at the Burwood Local Traffic Committee Meeting scheduled for 7 September 2023 reviewing the trial operational hours within the Elizabeth Street Carpark with a view to revert back to '9am – 6pm Monday to Wednesday,' and no restrictions on Sundays, whilst retaining the new '9am – 10pm Thursday to Saturday' restrictions.
2. Council sub-delegate the authorisation of prescribed traffic control devices covered under Division 1 of Part 4 (Sections 50 to 55) of the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999 to the General Manager for the purpose of the above changes to parking restrictions in the Elizabeth Street Carpark only.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.