



Hawkesbury City Council

supplementary
ordinary
meeting
business
paper

date of meeting: 10 November 2009
location: council chambers
time: 6:30 p.m.

ORDINARY MEETING - SUPPLEMENTARY

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SECTION 4 - Reports for Determination

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Item: 251 **IS - Proposed Removal of Street Parking - South-Eastern Side of George Street, between Fitzgerald Street and Catherine Street, Windsor - (95495, 81301, 104540)**

Previous Item: 240, Ordinary (10 November 2009)

REPORT:

As reported within the business paper, a survey was delivered to each business or residential property within George Street, between Fitzgerald and Catherine Streets, including any adjoining arcades which may be directly affected by the removal of parking within George Street. A total of 75 surveys were distributed along George Street, with 40 returned and 25 surveys were returned from The Riverview Shopping Centre.

Of the surveys returned from George Street, generally 12 supported the removal of the parking between Fitzgerald and Catherine Streets, 26 objected to the removal of parking, including 9 who objected to the removal of parking AND supported a proposal to turn George Street into a one way street. A one way street proposal was not canvassed as part of the survey. Of the surveys from The Riverview Shopping Centre, 24 supported the removal of parking in George Street and 1 objected.

Comments from respondents where provided:

Support removal of parking:

- Ideally the mall should go. Every council in Australia has re-opened malls. George Street could be one way with parking on one side giving buses more access, also the town needs a modern update before it dies.
- I have found cars parked on the south side of George Street Windsor to obstruct vision, which has almost resulted in an accident on a few occasions.
- At present we rent out our carpark. We would lose income if we need to reclaim our carpark for our use. Another comment is that as a church we have funerals, weddings etc. that would need to be supported by being able to block off the space needed to be used for that occasion.

Object to removal of parking:

- Would accept the current Macquarie Street run provided a stop is made for people to access the Library and Gallery (in Macquarie Street)
- There is a severe shortage of parking in Windsor. If the existing parking is removed to allow bus access, additional parking must be provided within close proximity of the town centre.
- Retain buses in George Street the commercial centre of Windsor.
- Bus services to George Street are a must as is parking. Many local patients are elderly, frail or unable to walk distance due to injury or illness.
- Customers complain about the lack of parking now. Parking officers are not regular enough to enforce the parking hours. Note: a lot of the time buses using George Street do not have anybody on board.
- Attached letter – use smaller buses, if big ones are used roster them so they don't meet in the middle, we need all the parking spaces available.

- Why not remove half the street parking from both sides of George Street and keep existing bus stop and buses can travel both directions. Therefore can remove street parking from entrance of the shopping centre half opposite each side of the George Street.
- Many elderly, disabled patients require to be dropped off at "front door" of premises. They need to park as close as possible to premises.
- Introduction of the small buses that Westbus used in the past, with interchange at Windsor station; removal of parking on the northern side as most passengers will be using the Riverview Centre – refer the parking cross road; bus stop Macquarie Street, down Kable, left on Terrace, left on Richmond, right on George, terminate at Windsor Station.
- Is it possible for buses to travel only one way down George Street, ie buses coming from the station can turn off George into either Christie or Suffolk Street to Macquarie, then left into Fitzgerald and left down George.
- Attached letter – removal of parking will cause considerable inconvenience to customers; negative affect on businesses; cause more businesses to close as many are struggling to keep trading already leaving more vacant shops; needs more parking not less.
- Keep parking, make George Street one way from Fitzgerald down to Catherine Streets and get buses back.
- Turn George Street into a one way street coming down from Fitzgerald to Suffolk Street, so parking stays on both sides.
- Attached letter - convert to one way street as per Windsor Business Group (WBG) proposal; will ensure residents and visitors have uninterrupted safe and easy access to continue to travel, shop and conduct business in our community.
- Turn the street into one way and keep the parking on both sides.
- Would like to see the parking continue on George St, however, make George St one way.
- Would like to see the buses returned, the parking retained and the street made one way to satisfy both objectives – attached proposal from WBG.
- A 'no-parking' zone would case a huge impact to our business. A one way street down George St with parking available on both sides may be the best result which will bring the buses down George Street.
- Why not leave the existing bus zones in George Street as they are and make it one way. Seems a logical choice. The bus services reinstated and business/houses will not be affected by poor parking facilities, which has been a problem for many years. Strongly object, will have a vast downturn in our business and other surrounding retail outlets.
- George Street becomes a one way street travelling towards the station, buses could then proceed down George Street utilising existing bus stop at Target.
- Reverse the proposal so that the bus came up George Street, there would be less loss of parking spaces, bus stop outside of Riverview. Would make it more safe for people shopping, no need to cross the road.

Westbus Alternate Proposal

An alternate proposal has been suggested today by Westbus in consultation with their drivers. The proposal is to utilise George Street from the Railway Station heading towards the town centre, turn right into Suffolk Street, left into Macquarie Street, left into Fitzgerald Street, right into The Terrace, right into Kable Street, right into Macquarie Street, right into Hawkesbury Valley Way, left into George Street and proceed to the station.

Critical to this proposal is to make Suffolk Street one way from George Street towards Macquarie Street, the installation of a bus zone in George Street on the approach to New Street and the installation of a bus zone in Fitzgerald Street between George Street and the Fire Station. The drivers have indicated that should the bus zones be approved and Council support the one way movement in Suffolk Street in principle, they would commence that route as soon as the bus zone alterations were in place.

Whilst there would be a loss of one parking spot on the approach to New Street, the existing bus zone in George Street at its intersection with Fitzgerald Street could be reinstated as 1 hour parking.

In relation to the bus zones in Macquarie Street, it is proposed to remove the bus zone adjacent to Target and leave those adjacent to The Deerubbin Centre and the Hospital.

Funding

Funding for the adjustment to signs is available within the current Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That:

1. The proposed bus route utilising George Street, Suffolk Street, Fitzgerald Street, The Terrace, Kable Street, Macquarie Street, Hawkesbury Valley Way and George Street be supported.
2. The proposal to alter the traffic flow in Suffolk Street to one way from George Street towards Macquarie Street be supported in principle and appropriate procedures be commenced to achieve the change.
3. That the following changes to bus zones and 1 hour parking zones be implemented:
 - a. The existing bus zone on the western side of Kable Street in the vicinity of George Street and Union Lane (approximately 55 metres in length) be relocated to the eastern side of Kable Street, across the frontage of the Windsor Town Centre (currently 1 hour parking - approximately 50 metres in length), with the existing bus zone being converted to 1 hour parking.
 - b. The existing bus zone on the northern side of George Street between Fitzgerald Street and Johnston Street adjacent to the Windsor Home Store be relocated into Fitzgerald Street, north of George Street (currently 1 hour parking), with the existing bus zone being converted to 1 hour parking.
 - c. The existing bus zones along George Street, not being utilised, be converted to 1 hour parking.
 - d. The temporary bus zones currently within Macquarie Street be formalised with the exception of the zone adjacent to Target and that zone be reinstated to 'Unrestricted Parking'.
 - e. A bus zone be implemented in George Street on the approach to New Street.
 - f. A bus zone be implemented in Suffolk Street on the approach to O'Brien Lane

ATTACHMENTS:

- AT - 1** Parking Plan Layout: "George Street, Windsor – Proposed Removal of Street Parking between Fitzgerald Street and Catherine Street" - *(to be on display at the meeting)*.

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end of
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