



To the General Manager

Attach: Nil

SUBJECT: (4.6) Resident Parking Area 19 – Crows Nest– Parking Restrictions – 6 Month Review

AUTHOR: Report of Traffic and Transport Engineer, Iman Mohammadi

DESCRIPTION/SUBJECT MATTER:

The Traffic Committee at its 529 meeting dated 22 November 2019 considered the survey results of a community consultation for Resident Parking Area 19 – Crows Nest. The following recommendations were made to the Traffic Committee which were subsequently resolved to recommend changes to some of the parking restrictions

1. *THAT Council adopt the attached parking restriction recommendations for Crows Nest Parking Area 19 (East).*
2. *THAT Council notify the residents before installing the parking restriction changes.*
3. *THAT the new parking restrictions be reviewed in three (3) months and again in six (6) months after the date of installation in Crows Nest Parking Area 19.*
4. *THAT Council installs the statutory 10m “No Stopping” restrictions adjacent to the new residential parking zone at the intersections that lack this restriction.*

The detailed report to the Traffic Committee with the outcomes and list of changes can be accessed through the following link – [Report to Traffic Committee 22/11/2019](#).

Council delayed implementation of these parking changes while restrictive COVID-19 public health orders were in place. As the public health orders are progressively relaxed and more people return to workplaces, Council recommenced implementation of the adopted parking changes and a notification was distributed to affected properties on 14 October 2020.

Therefore, the new signage is now due for review.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the parking restrictions installed in Resident Parking Area 19 - Crows Nest in October 2020, remain.

Relates to ECM No: ECM # 8128373, 8228443, 8293488, 8293614, 8303176, 8305505, 8316639, 8341110 and 8406311

Standard or Guideline Used: AS2890.5; AS1742.11; NSC Resident Parking Permit Policy

Signs & Lines Priority: N/A

Precinct and Ward: Holtermann and Registry, Tunks

Impact on Bicycles: Nil

Impact on Pedestrians: Nil

Impact on Parking: No additional changes to parking restrictions are proposed.

In the 6 months following implementation of the new parking restrictions in Parking Area 19, Council received 9 submissions. Five (5) submissions raised concerns about the parking restrictions in Holtermann Street (3), Devonshire Street (1) and Jenkins Lane (1). Three (3) submissions requested additional parking restrictions in Holtermann Street (2) and Sophia Street (1). One (1) submission objected to the changes in Crows Nest generally as it reduces opportunities for commuters to park in the area.

DETAILED SUBMISSIONS

Metered parking outside residential properties

- Thank you for your email, we had received the notice in the letterbox last week. It was clear from the paperwork that the even side of Holtermann St would revert to 1 hr parking- especially outside our house, but it wasn't clear what was happening on the odd numbers side of the road and if the all-day parking that exists on that side of the road will be taken back to 1 hr too. I am also concerned about metered parking at the end of the street outside residential housing, for households like ours that don't qualify for parking stickers as we have off St parking- this might impact my ability to get a parking spot on the street should I need it (and I don't think it fair that I should have to pay for parking in my own street- if for some reason I couldn't park in my drive- whilst I know that I have access to the daily parking voucher- I really don't want to use that up if I just need out be on the street for an hour or 2

General Concerns/Objections

- Can you please advise the nature of 'public consultation and consideration by the North Sydney Traffic Committee' as to:
 - 1.the notice requesting the public response.
 - 2.the outcome of the public response, viz the total number of replies, including the numbers of those who accepted the proposals and those who rejected them;
 - 3.why it was thought that parking in the designated areas should be 'tightened'?Where can I ascertain financial data relating to parking fees and parking infringement revenues over, say, the last five years?
- I am a resident of Holtermann Street and would be very grateful to meet with you to discuss some of the planned changes in Holtermann Street. In particular - Metred Parking. I speak only for myself and would just like to explore the possibility of delaying the metre parking change with a view to reducing them or removing them altogether.

- I am appalled by your recent decision to change the parking around our shop to metered or timed 2 hour limits. There has been a business operating out of our premises of 141 Alexander Street Crows Nest 2065 for 115 years. We advised when we were screened about parking that we didn't approve or believe that it would help with the parking congestion and would only hinder our own 10 employee's parking.
You have however made the audacious decision to make it permanently more difficult for us to maintain a work force that primarily drives goods in and out from our shop. We have personally operated here since 1976.
We have employees that travel from the Northern Beaches, Kingsgrove and Western Suburbs who have poor public transport options.
I didn't realise that the North Sydney Government needed to fund themselves so much more. We felt that the constant presence of parking ticket officers meant that there was quite a decent revenue already made.
Then perhaps you will reduce our exorbitant rates in line with the new margins you will make from my staff's parking?
If you actually planned for WHAT COMPANIES ARE ALREADY HERE, you will note our attempts over the years to get a loading zone. A loading zone will help truck and courier drivers deliver to the bottom end of Alexander Street where there isn't currently one nearby.
If you had done the due diligence you would note our shop sells brake discs for large SUVs. These are often on pallets and are dragged across the roads to us on pallet jacks. They can't travel far as they are often 500kgs. This would have been a traffic improvement to HELP the commercial residences on this end of Alexander Street. Trucks and courier drivers wouldn't have to double park. And for you revenue lovers there, you could of fined people who incorrectly parked in the loading zone. See a good outcome for council as well.
Absolutely infuriating.
North Sydney needs a shop in the area that serves as a Car Parts shop. This is why we have survived here for so long and haven't been taken over by your ever expanding developments.
- Thank you for the notice regarding the parking changes proposed to occur in the next 8 weeks. We live at 162 Chandos Street Crows Nest and our property borders Jenkins Lane with access to our garage which is also in Jenkins Lane. We were not aware of the public consultation regarding this proposal. Did you write to each household or was this published elsewhere? We did not receive any written communication of this consultation.
We wish to point out that the area of Jenkins Lane immediately behind our wall which runs between our garage and our neighbour's carport (160 Chandos Street) is only 4100 metres in length from the white line painted on the road beside our garage to the edge of our neighbour's carport. This is less than the 5400mm length defined by Standards Australia for a standard car parking space. As such we dispute that this area is actually a viable space for parking.
Currently, we frequently have issues with large cars parking in this small space between our property and our neighbour's property, which restricts access our properties for both us and our neighbours. If this area is marked by Council as a designated metered parking space, we would anticipate this would further exacerbate issues with parking which would necessitate us to call the council rangers to come and assess cars parked over the white line at the rear of our property.
We request that this area is instead designated as "no parking" as it is not a viable sized space in which a car can park without encroaching our respective properties.

We would also like to ensure that there is no signpost or parking meter erected anywhere at the rear of our property in Jenkins Lane, as this would be in direct line of sight from our back windows. Please confirm this will not occur.

Lastly, if part of the engineering plan includes further white lines being painted by Council on the road to designate parking spaces, we request a refund of the costs incurred by us in arranging for Council to paint white lines either side of our garage.

As we were not aware of the consultation, we would like an opportunity to further discuss these plans before work commences in Jenkins Lane.

Request for Additional restrictions

- Sophia Street Crows Nest currently has unlimited parking and has done for a number of years. The problem this causes is people use the street for long term parking and the parking of trailers. The residents at 13 Sophia street have had their trailer parked at the front of their property for the past 10 Years. They have a garage which they can park the trailer. It is difficult finding parking spaces around the area and when a trailer takes up valuable parking it doesn't make sense. Additionally, people use the street for long term parking, cars park there for weeks on end. Can this situation be rectified with 2 hour parking?
- I am a resident of Crows Nest, living on Holtermann St and I wish to bring to your attention an issue of misuse and abuse of the limited off street parking on Holtermann St. You undertook a survey to seek resident feedback on the preferred parking arrangements within the North Sydney Area - which means you understand that there are issues that need to be addressed. We have been residents on Holtermann St for 3 years and within this time the parking situation has gotten increasingly worse, however the reason for this email is to bring to your attention what I consider the misuse of non-restrictive parking on Holtermann St. The Cammeray Smash Repair (located at No.72 Holtermann st) is using all the non-restricted parking spots on Holtermann St to park their vehicle (trucks, cars etc) as long term parking. In the last 9 months we have had vehicles parked outside the front of our Property for months at a time. This morning I observed an employee from the Smash Repair removing one vehicle and swapping it over for another vehicle. This abuse of the non-restricted parking is incredibly frustrating as there is already issues with off street parking which are now compounded by the fact that this business is utilising all the non-restricted areas for themselves. Notwithstanding the above I would like to understand what Council's plan is with regards to implementing the required changes to off street parking, particularly in the Crows Nest Precinct. This area needs some urgent patrolling to police and fine those people who are non-abiding by the parking restrictions, in addition the extent non-restrictive parking should be reviewed as it's being entirely misused for the benefits of a Smash Repair business located on Holtermann St.
- I have previously emailed seeking an update on the outcome of the survey undertaken in relation to parking within the area. Specifically, I am emailing to understand what Council's plan is with regards to implementing the required changes to off street parking, particularly in the Crows Nest Precinct – Holtermann St. This area needs some urgent ongoing patrolling. Having spent the last few months working from home it's quite obvious that many people are using Holtermann St to park their cars all day without being fined, hence aren't being deterred and aren't utilising the many structured car-parks available within the Crows Nest precinct. However the more pressing issues, that need to be addressed are:

(1) Restrictive Parking Hours should be increased to 8pm (as a minimum) and should be accordingly patrolled. The current parking restrictions are limited to 8:30-6pm, which are not appropriate for those streets which directly link into the Crows Nest Restaurant precinct. North Sydney Council should refer to Woollahra Council who have parking restrictions to 8pm, 10pm or even 12am, within areas that are subject to high traffic due to restaurant patrons etc. Crows Nest is fortunate as it has ample structured car parks and people visiting the area should be encouraged to use these carparks rather than the street parking, which should be either restricted to permit parking or short stays (1hr – 2hr only) and hence the restricted hours should be extended.

(2) Review and REDUCE the extent of non-restrictive parking on the street. Holtermann St has an extensive amount of non-restrictive parking/ patrolled parking, which should be reviewed and reduced. The allocation of non-restrictive parking should be reduced and reallocated to ‘restricted (permit only)’ parking. This would then provide additional parking available to residents and can be patrolled accordingly. Happy to discuss the above with Council, should any further details be required.

Submissions received from Outside LGA

- I am writing to voice my dismay at how many all day parking spaces have been removed recently in Crows Nest, namely at the end of Atchison Street and Chandos Street. I have been working in Crows Nest for the last 15 years (for Community Connect Transport who is affiliated with the council) and it is now almost impossible to find all day parking. I live a fair distance from there too so public transport is not an option as it would take so long to get there. Please for those of us that have to drive and park in Crows Nest do not remove anymore all day parking. I fail to see it as anything else but blatant revenue raising from parking fines.
Would really appreciate a response to this as I am just one of many local workers who are struggling with the parking issues around Crows Nest.

Discussion

In the six months since the parking restrictions were installed there have been a small number of objections to the changes and a small number of requests for additional parking restrictions. Given that the parking changes generally reflected the feedback from the initial consultation, it is recommended that the parking restrictions be retained.