



To the General Manager

Attach: 1. List of recommendations
2. Application from Goget

SUBJECT: (4.7) New Car Share Applications – Consultation Outcomes, April 2021

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DESCRIPTION/SUBJECT MATTER:

Car Share operator ‘Goget’ applied for three (3) new dedicated car share spaces, one in each of Earle Street, Grasmere Road and Gilles Street. This report provides detail of the consultation outcomes on the applications.

The spaces proposed do not conflict with any key technical standards or guidelines, however submissions indicated mixed views within the community and a low total number of supporting submissions. Given that car share service already operates within these areas, the consultation outcomes did not provide a definitive indication of additional need in these areas.

This report recommends that one of the spaces be refused and the other two be deferred pending evidence from the operator that surplus demand exists at the sites proposed.

Communications from Goget during the application process also indicated that a vehicle is already located near the proposed locations in unrestricted parking areas. As community members have not been able to comment on this vehicle placements via the formal consultation process this report recommends that Council write to Goget seeking that these vehicles, and any similar other, be removed pending a formal application and approvals process.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** a Car Share space is not installed in Gilles Street given that consultation did not confirm demand within the community.
- 2. THAT** the consideration of the new car share spaces in Earle Street and Grasmere Road be deferred pending further evidence (as set out in Attachment 1 of this report) that there is sufficient demand in the locations.
- 3. THAT** Council write to Goget seeking removal of any vehicles that are on Council land which have not been endorsed by Council.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Community consultation has been undertaken as outlined in this report.

DETAIL

Standard or Guideline Used: North Sydney Car Share Policy, RMS TTD 2018/001

Signs & Lines Priority: 2

Precinct and Ward: Various

Impact on Bicycles: Nil.

Impact on Pedestrians: Nil.

Impact on Parking: The recommendations do not require any changes to parking at this point.

DISCUSSION

The *North Sydney Community Strategic Plan 2018 – 2028* ('CSP') sets a vision that “*car ownership will decrease as more people take up car share options*” and targets an increase in the level of car share membership in the LGA. The expanded provision of on-road car share spaces in appropriate locations is required to achieve the commitments set out in the CSP.

Car Share schemes provide potential benefits to the whole community, not just scheme members as they can:

- Reduce the level of private vehicle ownership
- Reduce pressure on parking, as one car/space can cater for many residents
- Reduce traffic congestion caused by drivers ‘cruising’ to find parking
- Provide a transport option for residents and community members who don't or can't own their own car.

Application and Consultation Process

Operators seeking to install a new vehicle spaces are first required to submit an application to Council that contains information relevant to the criteria set out in the North Sydney Car Share Policy Operators and a justification for the installation of the space. Applications are subject to a fee.

Applications are assessed by Council’s Traffic & Transport Operation staff, and if they do not conflict with the North Sydney Car Share Policy, TfNSW car share guidelines, or any other of Council’s Policies, a sign is installed seeking community feedback on the proposal, prior to consideration by the North Sydney Traffic Committee. Consultation signs are installed at each location for a minimum of 2 weeks. An example of the sign is provided below. This process for consultation was adopted by Council at its meeting held on 5 August 2013.



Consultation for current applications

Car Share operator ‘Goget’ applied for three (3) new dedicated car share spaces, one in each of Earle Street, Grasmere Road and Gilles Street. This report provides detail of the consultation outcomes on the applications.

A summary of consultation outcomes and recommendations relating to the three (3) proposed car share spaces is provided in Attachment 1.

Discussion

The spaces proposed do not conflict with any key technical standards or guidelines, however submissions indicated mixed views within the community and a low total number of supporting submissions. Given that car share service already operates within these areas, the consultation outcomes did not provide a definitive indication of additional need in these areas.

The application process has also highlighted that some carshare vehicles are currently placed in unrestricted parking areas throughout North Sydney LGA (rather than in dedicated bays).

Goget has previously indicated that this is “due to increase demand/growth, or to test an area before we apply for a bay to find the best location”. As community members have been unable to provide feedback about these vehicles and location, this report recommends that Council write to Goget seeking the removal of any vehicles that have not been subject to a public consultation process.

At the time of writing, Goget was advertising vehicles in non-dedicated spaces adjoined to the locations proposed in these applications. This practice of placing cars without community notification potentially undermines Council’s capacity to deliver a car share network consistent with community expectations, and to damage Council’s reputation in terms of capacity to manage car share effectively.

Attachment 1. Details of consultation outcomes relating to new Car Share Spaces

Proposed Car Share Space (Operator)	Approx. existing Members within 250 m*	Number of existing spaces within 400m (as shown on Goget website)	Submissions	Comments	Recommendation
Earle Street (north side of street, between Young Street and View Street) (Goget)	22	2	Two supporting submissions (one of these confirmed living in the immediate area)	<i>“Please, please, please approve this space. I am a regular GoGet user/member and this location would greatly improve vehicle accessibility. It is a good location as the street parking is NOT heavily used by residents, most of which have carports with their house (vs. Grasmere Road which has many apartments). Thank you for considering!”</i>	<p>1. THAT the consideration of the space be deferred pending further evidence that there is sufficient demand in the location. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that in accordance with 2.1 b)/2.2 of the Car Share Policy, at least 10 resident members will nominate the vehicle as their preferred vehicle, and that the placement of this vehicle will not prevent any other Goget vehicle from meeting this criteria • that the vehicle will meet all other eligibility criteria in the Car Share Policy • evidence that existing provision of Goget vehicles is not sufficient for current demand (i.e. that existing vehicles are over capacity)
Grasmere Street (north side of street immediately east of the intersection with Benelong Road)	26	3	Six supporting submissions (3 of these respondents confirmed living in the immediate area) One objection	The bulk of supporting submissions provided general/broad support for car share as a concept for e.g.: <i>“Grateful for more GoGet pods in our local area Cremorne/Neutral Bay. We use GoGet vehicles often as our second car!!”</i>	<p>1. THAT the consideration of the space be deferred pending further evidence that there is sufficient demand in the location. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that in accordance with 2.1 b)/2.2 of the Car Share Policy, at least 10 resident members will nominate the vehicle as their preferred vehicle, and that the placement of this vehicle will not prevent any other Goget vehicle from meeting this criteria

Proposed Car Share Space (Operator)	Approx. existing Members within 250 m*	Number of existing spaces within 400m (as shown on Goget website)	Submissions	Comments	Recommendation
				Three of the submissions provided specific comments regarding <i>“Grasmere Road for e.g. I support the creation of a dedicated pod in Grasmere Road. I am a user of the service and would greatly benefit from a pod nearby (as I live in Grasmere Road). Thanks.”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that the vehicle will meet all other eligibility criteria in the Car Share Policy evidence that existing provision of Goget vehicles is not sufficient for current demand (i.e. that existing vehicles are over capacity).
Gilles Street	76	4	One objection No supporting submissions	There are other car share vehicles with 400m of the site	1. THAT a Car Share space is not installed in Gilles Street

Note: Members within the 250m catchment may also be within the catchment of another car share space. Overall, the number of members, within the 250m catchment area, meets the requirements set out in the North Sydney Car Share Policy.