

## Item 4.6 - Traffic - 24/07/20

N O R T H   S Y D N E Y   C O U N C I L

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### To the General Manager

#### Attach:

1. Area 10 Waverton - Notice of Parking Restriction Changes – Parking Area 10 - Sept 2019
  2. Area 10 Waverton - Map of Signage Changes - Sept 2019
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**SUBJECT:** (4.6) Resident Parking Area 10 – Waverton – Parking Restrictions – 6 Month Review

**AUTHOR:** Report of Manager, Parking Meters, Leonie Wishart

### DESCRIPTION/SUBJECT MATTER:

At its meeting on 26 July 2019, the Traffic Committee considered the survey results of a community consultation for Resident Parking Area 10 - Waverton. The Traffic Committee made the following recommendation which was subsequently adopted at the 3722<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Council on 26 August 2019 (EPS02 - Min. 238):

1. **THAT** Council adopt the attached parking restriction recommendations for North Sydney Parking Area 10.
2. **THAT** Council notify the residents before installing the parking restriction changes in North Sydney Parking Area 10.
3. **THAT** the new parking restrictions be reviewed six (6) months after the date of installation in North Sydney Parking Area 10.

The new signage installation in Bay Road, Priory Road, Toongarah Road, McHatton Street and Doohat Lane, North Sydney was completed on 16 October 2019. Therefore, the new signage is now due for the 6-month review.

### RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** the parking restrictions installed in Resident Parking Area 10 - Waverton that were completed on 16 October 2019 remain.

**Relates to ECM No:** ECM # 7885514

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

**Signs & Lines Priority:** N/A

**Precinct and Ward:** Hayberry, Wollstonecraft

**Impact on Bicycles:** Nil

**Impact on Pedestrians:** Nil

**Impact on Parking:** Some additional changes to parking restrictions are proposed as outlined in the report.

## DETAIL

At its meeting on 26 July 2019 the Traffic Committee considered the survey results of a community consultation for Resident Parking Area 10 - Waverton. The Traffic Committee made the following recommendation which was subsequently adopted at the 3722nd Meeting of Council on 26 August 2019 (EPS02 - Min. 238):

1. **THAT** Council adopt the attached parking restriction recommendations for North Sydney Parking Area 10.
2. **THAT** Council notify the residents before installing the parking restriction changes in North Sydney Parking Area 10.
3. **THAT** the new parking restrictions be reviewed six (6) months after the date of installation in North Sydney Parking Area 10.

The new signage installation in Bay Road, Priory Road, Toongarah Road, McHatton Street and Doohat Lane, North Sydney was completed on 16 October 2019. Therefore, the new signage is now due for the 6-month review.

After the installation of the signage, Council has received several submissions from one resident in Priory Road objecting to the parking changes, including representations from the Federal Member for North Sydney, Trent Zimmerman on behalf of this resident.

A numerical summary of submissions received since the parking changes were implemented is produced in Table 1.

Street name	Retain existing	Support Changes/ Compliment	Objections / Concerns	Request for More/Longer restrictions	Commuters/ Outside survey Area	Total
Area 10	0	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

Table 1: Numerical Summary of survey result

## Submissions Received between 16 October 2019 and 29 June 2020

*Both myself and my housemate require a car for our livelihoods but are allocated only one parking spot between us per NSC rules. I am particularly disadvantaged by the recent changes due to the fact that I leave my car at home and commute to work by other means. There are now only 8 unrestricted parking spaces on Toongarah Road but an estimated 18 properties on that road alone. Similarly, you have reduced the parking on Priory Road outside my unit from two hours to one which I can only assume is intended to target residents' visitors or those residents who do not purchase visitor parking permits from the Council. I expect to hear how you plan to either 1) lessen the restrictions around resident eligibility for parking permits or*

2) *revert the changes.*

I am writing to you about the egregious parking restrictions recently imposed in Waverton. I am a long-time resident of the area living in a two-bedroom apartment on Priory Road. Both myself and my housemate require a car for our livelihoods, but are allocated only one parking spot between us, per North Sydney Council rules. He is currently pursuing a PhD in neuroscience, while I work full-time and study law at the University of Sydney part-time. My campus hours run from 6pm to 9 or 10pm, after which time I do not feel safe walking to the nearest station to commute home.

I am particularly disadvantaged by the recent changes, due to the fact that I leave my car at home and commute to work by other means. Surely it is not the policy of the North Sydney Council to punish those who *do not* commute to work by car? It is similarly unfeasible for me to be required to sell my car simply because I have been denied reasonable access to parking. Just last night, I was forced to park a full 25-minute walk from my apartment. As you can imagine, this makes my life incredibly difficult, not to mention poses a significant safety risk to my person if I am arriving home late at night.

I can see no valid reason for the changes except the fees you stand to collect from these amendments. You sent around a survey on 17 May 2019 that implied that your goal was to address the issue of non-residents parking in the neighbourhood [see attached]. Instead, your decision to reduce the amount of unrestricted parking on Toongarah Road has laid the bulk of the inconvenience on residents of the area. There are now only eight unrestricted parking spaces on Toongarah Road, but an estimated 18 properties on Toongarah Road alone. You have similarly reduced the parking on Priory Road outside my unit from two hours to one, which I can only assume is intended to target residents' visitors or those residents who do not purchase Visitor Parking Permits from the Council. This is a shameless money-grab that does nothing to address the very real issue of non-residents taking up valuable parking space in my area. I expect to hear how you plan to either 1) lessen the restrictions around resident eligibility for parking permits, or 2) revert the changes.

## DISCUSSION

Since the introduction of the new parking restrictions Council has received complaints from one resident from Priory Road about not being able to park close to their property. There were representations from the Federal Member for North Sydney, Trent Zimmerman on behalf of this resident.

There has been no further feedback, either against or in support of the restrictions, in the past 6 months.

The results of the initial survey revealed that 67% of Priory Road respondents and 61.5% Toongarah Road respondents supported changes to the existing parking restrictions.

In Priory Road, the restriction changes included reducing two sections of 2 Hour Parking 8:30am-6pm M-F parking to 1 Hour Parking 8:30am-6pm M-F. The remaining 2 Hour Parking and Unrestricted Parking was retained. The changes implemented were designed to support the residents by having more availability to parking near their properties particularly during weekdays by managing the timed parking.

In Toongarah Road, the restriction changes included extending 2 Hour Parking into some Unrestricted Parking. The remaining 2 Hour Parking and Unrestricted Parking was retained. The changes implemented were designed to support the residents by having more availability to parking near their properties particularly during weekdays by managing the timed parking.

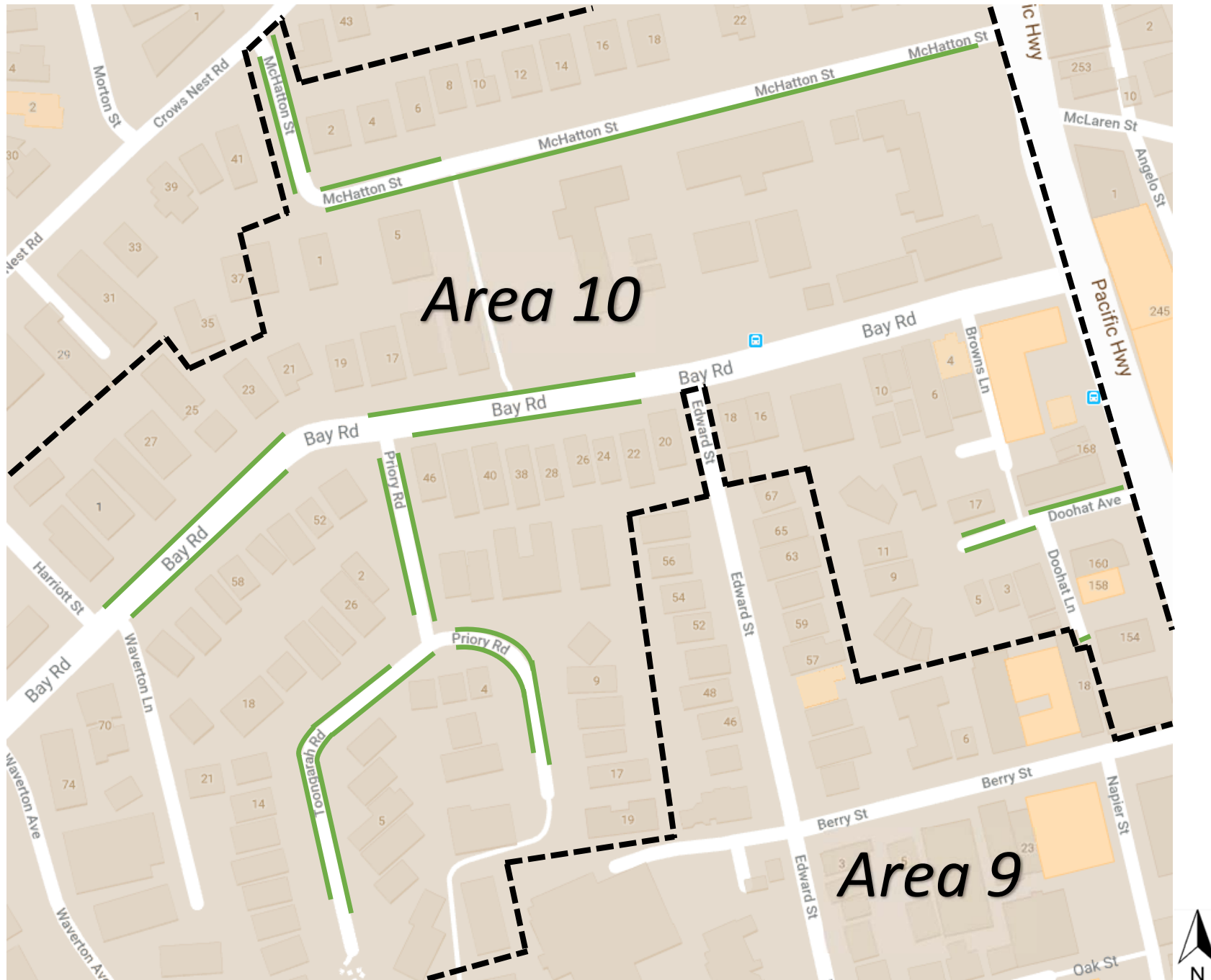
The occupancy in Priory Road prior to the restriction changes was 95% and it is now 58% (reduced by 38%) resulting in more parking availability. Note that the occupancy rates were checked in June-July after the COVID-19 restrictions were eased by the NSW State Government. The parking occupancy is expected to increase from the university students and nearby workers with further the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

The occupancy in Toongarah Road prior to the restriction changes was 96% and it is now 75% (reduced by 21%) resulting in more parking availability. Note that the occupancy rates were checked in June-July after the COVID-19 restrictions were eased by the NSW State Government. The parking occupancy is expected to increase from the university students and nearby workers with further the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

The parking restrictions in Area 10 generally reflect the feedback from the resident parking survey, and occupancy rates are below Council's maximum target of 85%. Therefore, it is recommended that the new parking restrictions remain.







Map: green- parking restrictions under review