

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Steve Elkington, Road Asset Engineer

REFERENCE: B952

DATE: 23 February 2009

SUBJECT: **TRAFFIC CONTROL BYLAW 2005 – PARKING RESTRICTION CHANGES**

1 PURPOSE

To put forward for adoption into Councils Traffic Control Bylaw 2005, the attached schedules of parking restriction changes.

2 BACKGROUND

From time to time Council undertakes changes to parking on roads and occasionally public car parks. These changes are prompted by demand or for road safety.

Due to numerous changes happening frequently, a register of these are kept and then a single amendment proposed to the bylaw rather than *ad hoc* amendments being made on a regular basis.

Generally, where parking changes are being made then consultation is undertaken with those locally affected, therefore consultation has in most cases been previously undertaken.

The changes scheduled below were reported to Council's Engineering Services Committee in November 2008, for approval to publicly advertise. The changes were advertised in December 2008 with submissions closing on Monday 9 February 2009. Additional time was given for submissions to allow for the Christmas break.

3 COMMENT

Eight submissions were received with four of these concerning the skateboard ban.

3.1 Parking Submissions

Name of Submitter	Address/Business	Support/Oppose	Summary of submitter's comment
1. Richards Woodhouse (Chartered Accountants)	On behalf of Stables Restaurant	Supported the proposed parking changes to Sundial Square	Responded to earlier consultation undertaken in September 08
2. B Knox & J Jeffrey	D A Lewis Furniture 15 Croucher St	Supported maximum 2 Hour (120minutes) parking in Sundial Square	
3. Max Lam	Star & Garter Tavern	Opposed 120minute parking in Sundial Square in front of the Stables Restaurant and instead supported these parks being 60minutes	They felt the Petrie Carpark provided sufficient longer term parking
4. Christine Coles	First Impressions Beauty Salon 13 McGlashen Ave	Opposed 10minute parking restriction in front of No's 11 and 13 McGlashen Street	Felt all day parking needed to end on McGlashen St and a more uniform time restriction applied to the street.

3.2 Skateboard Ban Submissions

5. Laura Jourdain	On behalf of Kevin Jourdain	Oppose ban if it means Kevin is unable to use his special needs scooter	Willing to speak to the Council
6. Donald T Fraser	7A Shearer Terrace	Supports the ban on Skate boards, Scooters and Inline Skates	Mr Fraser recounted an experience prior to last Christmas and mentioned that on more than one occasion he and his Wife had to take evasive action.

7. C Riordan	84 William St	Suggest the use of Skateboards should be allowed but limit the hours in the case of Sundial Square.	C Riordan supports Skateboarders and other young people with similar devices being able to use the footpaths freely however in the case of Sundial Square they suggest limiting there hours of use.
8. J B & M Anderson	(E-mail submission)	Supports the ban on Skate boards, Scooters, in-line Skates and Rollerblades	The Anderson's are concerned about the amount of damage done to street furniture and note that a Skateboard Park is provided at Jubilee Park.

3.3 Sundial Square Carpark – Limited Time Parking Changes

Max Lam who acts on behalf of the operator of the Star & Garter Tavern opposed the changes believing that sufficient parking of varying times is provided in the Petrie Carpark. In their opinion these parks in front of The Stables Tavern & Restaurant should be limited to 60minutes.

Blair Knox and Julie Jeffrey (DA Lewis Furniture) - Their submission was recommending a maximum of two hour parking in Sundial Square Carpark. I spoke with Julie Jeffery on Friday 20 February 2009 and she confirmed that they were happy with the twenty minute parking in front of DA Lewis and the longer stay parks but were concerned about the number of Mall employees who park long term in this carpark.

Staff Response

In establishing a mix of limited time parking in the Sundial Square carpark both 20, 60 and 120minute parking has been allowed in approximately equal numbers and to suit parking bays. The 20minute parks are recommended directly in front of the shops and which suits some of these businesses such as the video and food businesses. Whilst the longer stay parks are those facing the Mall and those in front of The Stables Tavern. It was felt these time limits would provide a good mix and are in line with those provided on Queen Street.

3.4 Petrie Carpark

The changes made to the parking times in this carpark reflected comments received and from a petition received some time ago from Craig Anderson & Co Accountants requesting more all day parking and shifting some of the displaced short term parking closer to the Library Service Lane. The proposed changes to Petrie carpark were consulted on by way of a flyer to adjacent local businesses prior to undertaking the formal notification process.

3.5 Skateboarding Ban – Richmond CBD

The skateboard ban is proposed for Queen Street between Gladstone Road and Salisbury Road as well as Sundial Square between Queen Street and McGlashen Street.

The ban was mooted after a number of incidents where skateboarders were observed using the footpath area during busy lunch hour times causing pedestrians to take avoidance measures.

The submissions received on this matter all supported the ban with the exception of where a special needs scooter is used and outlined in Laura Jourdain's submission.

C Riordan in their submission suggested limiting the hours when Skateboards and similar devices can be used.

Staff Response

There is merit in allowing youth to utilise the area for skateboarding after the standard trading hours. The other issue is whether Council is willing to have the ban enforced at all times which is unlikely. The downside to allowing skateboards to be used in Sundial Square is the potential damage to street furniture. Whilst anti-skateboarding extrusions are included on the new seats the potential for degradation to street furniture still exists.

In Motueka a skateboard ban was included in the revised traffic control bylaw back in 2005. The ban in Motueka extends along High Street between Whakarewa and Poole Street as well as Pah Street as far as Talbot Street. There is signage installed in Motueka on various limited time parking signs. The signs state that Skateboards, Rollerblades and Cycles are banned at all times from using the path. There were also symbols marked on the pavement similar to those in Nelson but unfortunately these have virtually disappeared due to high pressure cleaning of the paths.

3.6 Conclusion

That the ban on skateboards and similar devices be implemented to apply at all times. It is hoped that if a person requires a special scooter for medical reasons that Council or its contractor would not issue a ticket. To specify a particular device for exclusion from the bylaw is probably not the best way of handling this situation as there may be others now and in the future in a similar situation. Common sense by not issuing a ticket to someone who can genuinely show the device is used for medical reason is the best way of handling this situation. The real issue is those people that use skateboards and other recreational devices for play in the area other than for a *bona fide* means of getting to a destination.

3.7 McGlashen Avenue Richmond

Christine Coles of First Impressions Beauty Salon felt that the solution to short term parking in front of 11-13 McGlashen Street should not proceed and that the needs of the whole street should be reviewed. The ten minute street parking was in response to several adjacent businesses requesting that all day parks be removed. The current parking in McGlashen Avenue is all day parking and most likely used mainly by employees of nearby businesses including the Mall.

Staff Response

It is recognised that the whole of McGlashen Avenue needs to be reviewed in terms of parking and street beautification. Also the question needs to be explored as to the level of parking on this road bearing in mind most of the local businesses provide off street parking as well as the Petrie and Harkness Carparks between McGlashen Avenue and Queen Street provide for all day parking.

3.8 Recommendation

It is recommended that the proposed 10minute parking restriction in front of 11A and 13 McGlashen Street proceed and that Council undertake to review all parking in McGlashen Avenue in consultation with local businesses.

4 RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopt the following schedules of parking changes to its Consolidated Bylaw Chapter 7 - Traffic Control Bylaw 2005.

Steve Elkington
Road Asset Engineer