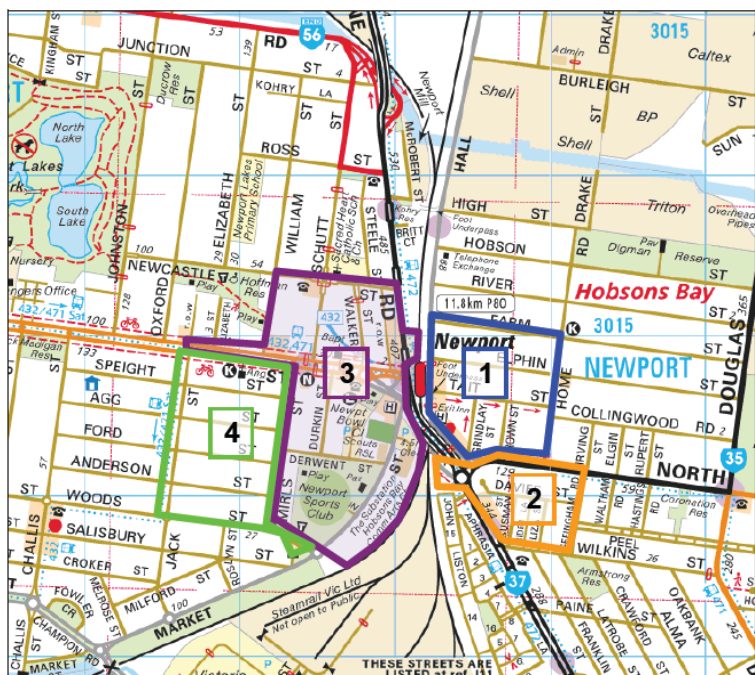


NEWPORT PARKING STRATEGY AND KEY INITIATIVES REPORT 2012



Hobsons Bay
CITY COUNCIL



Map: Newport Parking Strategy Area

Overview: In anticipation of the Minister for Planning finalising the Car Parking Review in 2007 and 2011, Hobsons Bay City Council commissioned activity centre based parking strategies for Altona, Newport and Williamstown. The recommendations outlined in these strategies have been updated and some implemented since the adoption. The key recommendations include:

- To increase and improve parking in centre where possible;
- Review the existing parking related policy; and
- Prepare Parking Overlay for the centre.

The project: The Strategy aims to make the most efficient use of existing and future parking within and adjacent to the commercial precinct, in line with the State Government's new Car Parking Provisions. Adequate and accessible parking will improve the functionality and viability of Newport.

The Minister for Planning approved changes to Clause 52.06 and introduced a Parking Overlay (PO) by the means of Amendments VC90 and VC94 in 2012. The Strategy has been updated to reflect the policy.

Consultation: The Strategy was placed on public exhibition for six weeks and then extended for additional two weeks due to a number of late submissions. Twenty six submissions were received as a result of this process. The key matters raised by the submitters were:

- The need for additional long term commuter and trader parking;
- Introduction of resident parking permits in streets where parking demand is high;
- The need for improvements to the public realm through additional landscaping and street furniture; and improved access for pedestrians and cyclists;
- A number of sites have been identified as opportunities for future trader parking permit areas.

In response to some submissions changes have been made to the Strategy. These include requirements for further investigation of trader parking schemes prior to any introduction, strategies to encourage improving the appearance of the on-street parking facilities, landscaping, and encouraging safe and connected environment for walking and cyclists. The Newport Traders Association (NTA) were consulted.

Key actions: The Strategy identified several actions to better manage the car parking and increase the parking capacities. The key actions are:



- Prepare a Parking Overlay for the Newport Activity Centre to apply the reduced “Column B” rates in the new Clause 52.06 and to introduce a cash-in-lieu scheme to fund shared parking resources for the centre as an alternative to parking on individual sites.
- Maintain consistent hours of operation of existing parking restrictions to apply during standard business hours on weekdays.
- Increase the enforcement of parking restrictions and monitor the demand for trader permits.
- Undertake a review of the trader parking associated issues and make recommendation on whether the trader parking permit scheme is an appropriate measure to resolve the identified issues.
- Provide increased disabled parking spaces within the Newport Activity Centre particularly to the east of the railway line.
- Undertake an access audit of the areas within Newport Activity Centre precinct and implement the recommendations identified in the audit.
- The Council to advocate for further expansions of commuter parking within the Activity Centre including:
 - The VicTrack Land located on the west side of the railway, adjacent to Market Street to the south of the Newport Railway Station. The expansion of Market Street car parking has been constructed; and
 - The land on the east side of the railway to the west of the Melbourne Road/North Road roundabout.

Where is it at? The Hobsons Bay City Council approved the final Newport Parking Strategy and Key Initiatives Report (August 2012) on 14th August 2012.

Following the approval of the Strategy an implementation plan was prepared based on the recommendations outlined in the Strategy.

Where to from here? Further investigation will need to be undertaken to establish if the Parking Overlays should be implemented as recommended in the Strategy. Other actions in the Strategy will continue to be implemented by the Council.

For information about this site please contact Strategic Planning Department on 9932 1109.

For information in your language, call TIS on 131 450 and ask to be put through to 9932 1000.