

**10.4 RESPONSE TO PETITION - VERGE PARKING ALONG VINCENT STREET**

**Attachments:** 1. **Petition - City of Vincent 22 June 2021 Council Meeting - Ross Ioppolo - Confidential**

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

1. **RECEIVES** the report on the in response to a petition received by the City on 21 June 2021 in relation to verge parking on Vincent Street;
2. **NOTES** the outcome of a safety assessment and the implementation of a 'No Parking on Verge' restriction on the southern side of Vincent Street, between Loftus and Oxford Streets, and
3. **NOTES** that the residents and petitioners will be informed of the outcome of the investigation.

**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To provide Council with a response to a petition received by the City on 21 June 2021 in relation to verge parking on Vincent Street.

**BACKGROUND:**

On 21 June 2021 the City received a 33 signatory petition from residents of the aforementioned section of Vincent Street, Leederville, stating as follows:

*We the undersigned respectfully request that the Council prohibit verge parking at all times on the south side of Vincent Street, Leederville, between Oxford and Loftus. Verge parking on major arterials with high volume traffic obstructs resident's line-of-sight to oncoming traffic and represents a safety risk. This risk is heightened when vehicles park back-to-back and unattached trailers are habitually park on the verge in lieu of residents own driveways. While we believe such verge obstructions are illegal under the City's own regulations, enforcement appears to be ineffective and the Administration has not exercised its discretion to erect no parking signs to put the issue beyond doubt. Please address safety now.*

The petition is provided in Attachment 1.

**DETAILS:**

The genesis of the petition relates to a resident of Vincent Street habitually leaving an unhitched trailer on their verge which, in the opinion of their neighbours, constitutes a safety issue as it obstructs their view of approaching traffic.

Whilst the property in question has off-road parking it is currently being used as storage. A work trailer and 4WD ute is often parked on the grassed verge as a result. When combined with the street trees it obstructs the sight lines of residents egressing their properties further west, culminating in the petition to request to ban verge parking along this section of Vincent Street based on safety grounds.

It has been suggested that the City has the power to issue an infringement for the 'unhitched trailer' on the verge, but this is not the case. Further, the resident / owner of the aforementioned vehicles has been approached by City officers seeking their cooperation in removing the stored material so that they can park within the property. While they indicated that they would cooperate there has been no change seen when officers have revisited.

Vincent Street is classified as a District Distributor A Road under the Metropolitan Functional Road Hierarchy and has a 60 kph speed limit. In recognition of its function it is subject to both an AM and PM Clearway. Outside these hours it is paid ticket parking between 8.00am and 10.00pm (Monday to Sunday).

In light of the Clearway restrictions there is no on-road parking, inclusive of residents, between 7.15 and 9.00am and 4.15 to 6.00pm Monday to Friday, and nor do residents get exempted from the paying for parking.

As a result several residents utilise the verge in front of their property for parking. While the verge is quite narrow along this south side section of Vincent Street, comprising a 1.5m wide footpath and (an average) 2.1m wide landscape strip, which is only just sufficient to accommodate a 4WD ute parallel parked without obstructing the footpath.

The City accepts that the parking on the verge is not ideal and similar cases to that of Vincent Street exist throughout the City along its many distributor and local roads. However, as parking is at a premium, it is not realistic nor is there a call from residents to, remove verge parking generally across the City.

However at this location if you were to apply the '*reasonable person test*' it is acknowledged that it is both difficult to see and react to traffic approaching (at 60 kph), and is therefore potentially hazardous, exiting in either reverse or a forward gear.

Administration is reluctant to create a precedent by banning verge parking along the southern side of Vincent Street (Loftus Street to Oxford Street) but in this instance it is supported. This outcome has been based on the judgement and experience of the City's officers in assessing this location. This will result in the loss of four spaces where a vehicle could potentially be parked on the verge.

#### **CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:**

None.

#### **LEGAL/POLICY:**

The City's Parking and Parking Facilities Local Law states the local government may, by resolution, prohibit or regulate by signs or otherwise, the stopping or parking of any vehicle or any class of vehicles in any part of the parking region, but must do so consistently with the provisions of this local law. The CEO has the delegated authority from Council under this local law to add or change parking restrictions.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Medium: It is low risk for the City to remove verge parking at this location.

#### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

This is in keeping with the City's *Strategic Community Plan 2018-2028*:

##### Accessible City

*We have better integrated all modes of transport and increased services through the City.*

##### Innovative and Accountable

*We are open and accountable to an engaged community.*

#### **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

This does not contribute to any environmental sustainability outcomes.

#### **FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

The approval of 'no parking on verge' will necessitate the installation of several additional signs, undertaken using general parking sign budget.