

9. FITZGERALD AVE PARKING RESTRICTIONS

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Corporate Plan Output: On Street Management	

The purpose of this report is to ask the Board to decide on the appropriate parking requirements in Fitzgerald Avenue.

Councillor Gail Sherriff has been in discussions with the owner of the car yard on the southeast corner of Tuam Street and Fitzgerald Avenue and has asked for a report to go to the Board. At the same time the Board received a request from six property owners (four of them car yards) on the east side of Fitzgerald Avenue between Moorhouse Avenue and Ferry Road.

It is not usual practice to recommend parking restrictions outside car yards as they are required under the City Plan to provide customer parking. The Parking Unit do not support short term restrictions outside car yards as the majority of them are used for business vehicles and enforcement is difficult. As well as this the Board has to be mindful of the flow on effect of the increasing number of parking restrictions in the central city and the effect the displaced all day parking has on the residential environment. As Fitzgerald Avenue is a 'Major Arterial', short term parking can also have an effect on traffic flow.

To consider the appropriate treatment it is important to look at existing restrictions and to decide what is appropriate for the whole area and not just one business on its own. A survey of Fitzgerald Avenue shows a reasonable amount of parking restrictions throughout the business zones except in the area of Moorhouse Avenue to Ferry Road. On inspection the car yards do provide on site parking with at least one yard having a clearly defined sign showing this. As all the property owners have signed their approval there is no reason to decline this request. A parking restriction of 60 minutes would satisfy the demand and could be enforced.

The area around the intersection of Tuam Street and Fitzgerald Avenue already has several parking restrictions with a P5 loading zone on the first two parking spaces in Tuam Street on the same side as the car yard. On inspection other businesses on Fitzgerald Avenue were asked if they would mind a parking restriction. None did, because they all provide off street parking for their customers. It was interesting that the immediate neighbour was surprised that the car yard was the business that asked for a restriction as it was pointed out that the vehicles in the area belonged to the car yard and the installation of a time restriction would result in the car yard receiving infringement notices.

- Recommendations:**
1. That a parking restriction of 60 minutes be installed on the east side of Fitzgerald Avenue commencing at a point 20 metres from its intersection with Ferry Road and extending in a southern direction for a distance of 94 metres.
 2. That the Parking Unit be asked to increase the enforcement of the existing parking restrictions in the area of Fitzgerald Avenue and Tuam Street and the car yard be asked to provide off site customer parking.

Chairman's Recommendation: For discussion.