

11. NORTHCOTE ROAD – PROPOSED NO STOPPING AREA

General Manager responsible:	General Manager of City Environment
Officer responsible:	Transport & City Streets Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to the installation of no stopping at all times signs (RP-1) on the grass berms on the southern side of Northcote Road from Sawyers Arms Road up to the railway line (refer attached).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Council enforcement of vehicles parked on the grass berms has been difficult even though a number of infringement notices have been issued to vehicles parked there.
3. A site visit was conducted and a number of options were considered including do nothing, installation of no stopping at all times signs, planting and/or fencing.

Options

- a) Do nothing
The do nothing option will not resolve the issue of vehicles continuing to park on the grass berms with Council needing to continuously issue infringement notices. This does not use Council's resources effectively.
 - b) Planting
Planting may be an effective option however, it is costly and will take some time for the planting to be established to prevent vehicles from being able to park on the grass berms. In the meantime, vehicles may continue to park on the grass berms and may cause damage to less established plantings. An estimated cost to landscape the area is \$40,000 based on a unit rate of \$40/m².
 - c) Fencing
Fencing around the grass berms using posts and cables will be an effective option, as it will physically prevent any vehicles from entering and parking on the grass berms. Although the estimated cost of \$16,000 is less than landscaping (based on a unit rate of \$25/m) however, funding for this has not been allowed for.
 - d) Installation of no stopping at all times signs
A similar situation exists along Queen Elizabeth II Drive where the installation of the no stopping at all times signs on the grass berms have assisted the enforcement officers. The cost of installing all the required signs and posts will be less than \$1,000.
4. No consultation with the public was undertaken as no parking on the grass berms is covered in the Christchurch City Traffic and Parking Bylaw 1991. The installation of the no stopping at all times signs on the grass berms will assist the enforcement of this bylaw more effectively. In addition, there is sufficient on-street parking outside of the grassed areas without causing a hazard to other road users.
 5. The installation of no stopping at all times signs on the southern side of Northcote Road on the grass berms which extend from Sawyers Arms Road to the railway line is considered the most cost effective and practical solution to the problem.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. Cost

Cost is minimal and provided for in the operational budget.

7. Legal Considerations

Land Transport Rule Traffic Control Devices 2004 "Part 12.1 Requirement to indicate prohibition on stopping" and "Part 12.2 Means of indicating prohibition on stopping" and Christchurch City Traffic and Parking Bylaw 1991 "Part 1, Clause 7 Vehicles on Grass Berms" provides for this.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve that the no stopping at all times signs be installed to further reinforce the Council's Bylaw prohibiting vehicles from parking on the grass berms on the southern side of Northcote Road, commencing from Sawyers Arms Road and extending in an easterly direction up to the railway line.

CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION

That the officer's recommendation be adopted.