

6. CATHEDRAL SQUARE – PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION SITE LOADING ZONE

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

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Council to install a “Construction Zone”, for authorised construction related vehicles only, in Cathedral Square outside a building being demolished in the north-west quadrant adjacent to Chancery Lane (refer attached map).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Demolition has commenced on a building in the north-west quadrant of Cathedral Square near Chancery Lane. The current “on street” car parking restrictions in this section of Cathedral Square provide for taxis between the hours of 9pm to 6am and 10 minute maximum parking for any vehicle between the hours of 6am to 9pm. There are approximately eight car parking spaces covered by these restrictions, of which just over a single space will be affected by the proposal. The proposed construction zone will provide access to the site at all times.
3. It is not unusual for the Council to set aside “on street” parking space for construction related vehicles for the duration of the demolition and construction period, before being converted back to the original restriction, if any. Construction zones can be advantages to both the construction company and the Council. Providing space for construction vehicles will assist in the levels of safety and efficiency of the frontage road, otherwise caused by illegal and or inconsiderate parking and loading etc during the construction period, namely “double parking”.
4. The space set aside for a construction zone is rented from the Council at a rate based on the nature of the existing restriction.
5. It is proposed to set aside a space measuring approximately 9m in length immediately outside the construction site for authorised construction vehicles only. The space will be required for this purpose for approximately six months.
6. Requests for these types of facilities are generally received with little notice prior to construction commencing, or the planned construction start date. Council staff are often required to act immediately and advise construction companies that a construction zone is the recommended option, and in some cases, the only practicable option the Council will support. Achieving a resolution from the Council, or appropriate Community Board, may be costly to the construction company should this process extend beyond the planned construction start date and should the Council insist that the construction zone be implemented prior to any work starting. Given the somewhat reactive manner in which staff must act and the fact that construction zones are considered temporary parking restrictions, it is considered that the Council should delegate the decision to install temporary construction zones to an officer level.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. Signage is within existing budgets.
8. The Land Transport Rules provide for the installation of parking restrictions.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council agree:

- (a) That the parking of vehicles be limited to authorised construction vehicles only on the north side of Cathedral Square from a point, following the kerb line, 34 metres north of the Worcester Street intersection (west side of Cathedral Square) and extending 9 metres, following the kerb line, in an easterly direction.
- (b) That the area in (a) above revert back to taxis between the hours of 9pm to 6am and 10 minute maximum parking for any vehicle between the hours of 6am to 9pm, once all works are completed.
- (c) That the Council delegate the authority to install temporary construction zones to the Transport and City Streets Manager.