

1. AFTER MIDNIGHT EXPRESS – NEW BUS STOPS – MANCHESTER STREET AND OXFORD TERRACE



General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment, DDI 941-8656
Officer responsible:	Transport and Greenspace Unit Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to install two new bus stops for the "After Midnight Express" bus service as recommended by the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The After Midnight Express provides a valuable service to people leaving the central city after midnight. The service runs on the hour between midnight and 5am and utilises five buses covering five routes. There is an increasing demand for the service which is no longer focused at the location of the existing bus stop on Oxford Terrace (The Strip). The source of the demand has now spread to include areas in and around Manchester Street. New bus stops are required in strategic locations to meet this demand.
3. It is proposed to install a bus stop on the east side of Manchester Street between Bedford Row and Cashel Street. This will be of sufficient length to accommodate two buses and will meet the demand generated by the numerous bars and restaurants in this vicinity.
4. It is also proposed to increase the length of the existing stop on the west side of Oxford Terrace between Hereford Street and Worcester Street. This stop will accommodate two buses also (**see Attachment 1**).
5. The new stops need only apply for the duration that the service operates plus an allowance either side for possible extension to the service and to ensure other vehicles have vacated the space. It is, therefore, possible to retain existing parking restrictions already in place that are currently meeting the existing demands for parking during business hours. This will ensure the most efficient use of the kerbside space and minimal impact on business proprietors operating during the day.
6. The proposed stop on Manchester Street is located in an area currently accommodating a P5 "At Any Time" parking restriction outside "Dick Smith Electronics", "The Concrete Club" and "The Loaded Hog". Consultation with the proprietors of these businesses has not revealed any objections to the bus stop.
7. The proposed stop on Oxford Terrace is located in an area currently accommodating a P5 Loading Zone which services a number of different land uses on the eastern side including bars, restaurants and offices. This space is soon to be restricted to "Goods Vehicles Only" in association with the recently approved changes to loading zones within the Central City. Consultation with the proprietors of these businesses has not revealed any objections to the bus stop.
8. This matter was considered by the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board at its meeting on 8 November 2006 and the staff recommendations were supported by the Board. As this area is outside the Board's delegation for roading the proposal is therefore referred to the Council for final decision.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

Cost

9. Installation of signs and posts is within existing budgets.

Legal

10. The Land Transport Rules provide for the installation of parking restrictions including bus stops.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council adopt the following recommendations:

1. That the P5 "At Any Time" parking restriction located on the east side of Manchester Street from a point 15.9 metres south of the Cashel Street intersection and extending 24.6 metres in a southerly direction be revoked.
2. That the P5 Loading Zone "Goods Vehicles Only" on the west side of Oxford Terrace from a point 27.3 metres north of the Hereford Street intersection and extending 18.4 metres in a northerly direction be revoked.
3. That the parking of vehicles be limited to buses only from 11pm to 6am in the following locations:
 - (a) The west side of Oxford Terrace from a point 27.3 metres north of the Hereford Street intersection and extending 18.4 metres in a northerly direction.
 - (b) The east side of Manchester Street from a point 15.9 metres south of the Cashel Street intersection and extending 24.6 metres in a southerly direction.
4. That the parking of vehicles be limited to five minutes maximum from 6am to 11pm on the east side of Manchester Street from a point 15.9 metres south of the Cashel Street intersection and extending 24.6 metres in a southerly direction.
5. That a Loading Zone "Goods Vehicles Only", five minutes maximum from 6am to 11pm be installed on the west side of Oxford Terrace from a point 27.3 metres north of the Hereford Street intersection and extending 18.4 metres in a northerly direction.

BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION

That the staff recommendation be adopted.