

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 24 February 2020 11:14 AM
To: studley.yarra.parking@gmail.com; Councillors - Crs and Support Unit
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Parking Restriction proposal for Studley Street

TWIC

As a long term resident of [REDACTED] Studley Street Abbotsford, I would like to take this opportunity to express my views on the proposed changes to street parking in my street in the hope that I might in some way influence the final decision and ensure this proposal is withdrawn.

I moved to my current address in June 1991 and in the last 28 years, the single most talked about issue discussed by residents has been the on street parking (or lack of) in Studley street. When I first moved in, the restriction on parking during 8AM-4PM on the North side of the street was already in place for weekdays but the South side of the on street had no restrictions whatsoever! No time limit or permit requirement which made it a hot spot for casual parking by non residents taking advantage of free all day parking and easy access to cheap zone 1 public transport to the city. For twenty plus years myself and other residents had the daily challenge of trying to secure one of the available parking spots before they were snapped up by "outsiders"!

In recent years, sanity finally prevailed in the council ranks and the south side of the street was restricted to 2 hour parking with exemptions to residents with parking permits. While this was a step in the right direction, restrictions alone are not the solutions. Restrictions need to be policed. The old saying of once burnt, twice shy only applies after one is burnt so while 2 hour parking restrictions were in place, illegal all day parking by non residents continued because it was not being routinely and regularly policed. I personally made an endless number of calls to the council requesting a parking officer to attend and issue infringement notices to non-resident vehicles, triggered by the frustration of not being able to find a parking in my own street!

The issue of policing I make here is fundamental to my objection to the proposed new parking restriction of a permanent no standing zone on the North side of the street. As I have already stated, parking one's car in Studley street is already a challenge for Studley street residents and here the council is proposing to reduce this number of available parking spots in the street by a full 50%? Where are residents supposed to park their cars overnight?

There is no point in simply objecting to a proposal without offering an alternative solution that is both friendly to resident parking availability and the touted main reason for the change, the perceived access limitation to fire trucks (and other large emergency vehicles) that the current parking arrangement imposes. Firstly let me make some observation from my 28 years as a Studley street Resident. There have been at least three house fires in the street that I personally can recall during my time in the street and all were attended by MFB trucks without any access issues and these were all after hours when parking on both sides of the street was in use. The waste collection vehicles routinely access the street every Tuesday to collect the bins and they too rarely have any access issues and the dimensions of these vehicles I believe to be identical to those used by the MFB. The only time that there has been

an issue is when inconsiderate or incompetent (or both) drivers park their vehicles too far from the kerb.

So how do we avoid this? **We police parking strictly and routinely.** All vehicles not parked within the generic legal guidelines should be issued with parking infringements to encourage correct and proper parking practice by all drivers parking in the street. Further more, allowing for on kerb parking would allow even more space for emergency vehicle access. Correct parking could also be facilitated by the painting of parking lines that drivers can use as a guide to judge if they are properly parked.

By addressing parking behaviour we can achieve all the targets this proposal is aiming for with impacting Yarra City's biggest assets, its residents!!

I hope the information in this email is received with open minds and adequate thought and resources are put towards this very important decision to ensure the impact on the residents is front and centre of this decision.

Regards,

