

# Hahei Parking

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**TO** Mercury Bay Community Board  
**FROM** Allan Tiplady - Area Manager North  
**DATE** 24 October 2017  
**SUBJECT** Hahei Parking

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## 1 Purpose of report

To establish a plan for the management of parking in Hahei.

## 2 Background

Over a long period of time there has been a significant parking issue in Hahei, particularly over the peak summer period. Various attempts have been made to resolve the problems. These led to the development of a draft Mercury Bay Parking Strategy in August 2016. This document has been reviewed and discussed with the community via the Ratepayers and Residents Association. That has led to the development of a plan to deal with the issues in the short term, pending completion of a wider long term strategy.

## 3 Issue

To complete an action plan to assist in alleviating the Hahei parking problem.

## 4 Discussion

Extensive discussions have been held with the Hahei community to identify ways and means of addressing the parking issues at Hahei, particularly over the peak summer period.

The main issues are:

- 1) Insufficient parking for Cathedral Cove visitors at the Grange Road car park. This creates significant overloading of the parking area, major congestion and indiscriminate parking, which obstructs other traffic, particularly buses.

The park is owned and controlled by the Department of Conservation (DoC). In previous years Thames-Coromandel District Council (TCDC) has paid for the provision of parking ambassadors over the peak period to guide drivers to park in designated areas only. DoC have indicated verbally that they will enter into a management and control agreement to enable TCDC to manage the car park with appropriate bylaw provisions to control driver and car parking behaviour. Overnight camping is also an issue in this parking area with many camper vans parking there overnight with no ability to control them. The area does have 3 designated freedom camping spaces, however, these are to be removed as part of the proposed management and control agreement.

- 2) Insufficient parking at the beach front car park. This becomes severely overloaded and congested and again freedom camping is a problem with both overnight parking and parking during the day for long periods. Most of the area where the car parking is located is owned and managed by DoC.
- 3) Parking on the streets of Hahei. With insufficient parking areas, visitors are forced to find alternative parking on the residential streets of Hahei. These become congested and overcrowded also with illegal parking, blocking of driveways and

other inconsiderate practices, causing annoyance and inconvenience to local residents and property owners.

- 4) The lack of formal controlled and managed parking areas. TCDC has completed the development of the 200 space Hahei visitors' car park at the entrance to the village, which will be fully open for the 2017/18 summer period. There is also space for overflow parking during the peak period. Associated with this a shuttle bus service will be provided for a minimum period from 27 December 2017 to 6 February 2018. This will run for a longer period if the net income generated from the service is sufficient to cover the cost.
- 5) Council currently provides a permit for residents in the area surrounding Hot Water Beach to use the car parks at Hot Water Beach free of charge. It is proposed that this arrangement be extended to cover the Hahei car parks also for the residents of the Hahei and Hot Water Beach areas. For ease of administration this needs to be a clearly defined area. This is proposed to be the area bounded by Boat Harbour Road, State Highway 25, Hot Water Beach Road, Purangi Road, Hahei Road and the Purangi Estuary.

### **Action Plan**

Following extensive discussions with the community via the Ratepayers and Residents Association the following actions are proposed to address the issues. These have been prepared so that they are introduced sequentially as one will lead to the enabling of the following action:

- 1) **Control and Management Agreement**  
Secure a control and management agreement with DoC for TCDC to assume management and control of the Grange Road and Beach Front car parks.
- 2) **Grange Road**
  - a) If there is sufficient time following the transfer of control and management to TCDC implement a bylaw change to make it a drop off area only with no parking (other than 2 disabled parks) from 8 January 2018.
  - b) Note that once under TCDC control and management the area would be subject to the existing TCDC bylaw which prohibits freedom camping in Hahei.
  - c) From 1 October to 30 April each year parking be prohibited with drop off only plus a one hour time limit for the 2 disabled parks.
  - d) From 1 May to 30 September each year parking be permitted with a flat charge of \$15.00 per vehicle with a four hour time limit.
  - e) That the car park be closed outside of daylight hours all year round.
- 3) **Beach front car park**  
Following the transfer of control and management from DoC to TCDC introduce a year round flat charge of \$15.00 per vehicle with a four hour time limit and for the period from 1 May to 30 September each year a charge of \$4.00 per hour.
- 4) **On street parking**  
Following completion of each of the above actions, introduce year round resident permit only parking on the streets of Hahei listed below between the hours of 7:00am to 7:00pm, with two permits per residential property.
  - Hahei Beach Road from Grange Road to the beach
  - Harsant Avenue
  - Dawn Avenue
  - John Spear Avenue
  - Robyn Crescent

- Michelle Lane
- Cathedral Court
- Grierson Close
- Margot Place (opposite Grierson Close)
- Emmerdale Drive
- Emma Place
- Jackson Place
- Pa Road from Hahei Beach Road to Orchard Drive

The effect of this will be to require all non-residents to park in the designated parking areas only. It should be noted that this will require a significant change to the bylaw and full public notification and consultation.

5) **Hahei visitor car park**

Following completion of each of the above actions, introduce a flat charge of \$8.00 per vehicle for the period the car park is open, which is 7:00am to 7:00pm each day.

6) **Commercial and Community Centre area**

In association with the business and property owners and the Ratepayers and Residents Association, undertake a review of parking provisions in the Commercial and Community Centre area to develop and implement restrictions that will encourage parking for the users of the services and facilities in that area only and provide for bus pick up and drop off.

7) **Resident parking**

That one permit per property be provided to permanent residents and ratepayers of the area bounded by Boat Harbour Road, State Highway 25, Hot Water Beach Road, Purangi Road, Hahei Road and the Purangi Estuary to permit free use of all Council car parks in Hahei and Hot Water Beach.

8) **Review**

That the success of the action plan be monitored and reviewed, in association with the Hahei Ratepayers and Residents Association, on an ongoing basis and modified to meet changes in demand and circumstances, with appropriate Community Board and Council approval.

9) **Park and Ride bus**

Provide a park and ride shuttle bus service to operate from a minimum of 9:30am to 6:00pm daily from the Hahei visitor car park to the Grange Road drop off area from 27 December to 6 February each year and on the Saturday to Monday of all public holiday weekends; with the service also to be provided on other days from 1 October to 30 April each year where it is able to be funded from the net operational income received from the service each year. The fares for the service to be: Adult \$5.00 return, child \$3.00 return, family \$10.00 return.

## 5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Mercury Bay Community Board:

1. Receives the 'Hahei Parking' report dated 24 October 2017.
2. Approves the proposed car parking and traffic management arrangements for Hahei Village as set out in the Action Plan below including the recommendation of the relevant parts to Council for approval:

## Action Plan

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3. Authorises the Chief Executive to take all actions necessary to implement the Action Plan.