

Stopping in a Loading Zone Traffic Infringement Information Sheet

Road Rule 177

- (1) A driver must not stop in a loading zone unless the driver is driving—
 - (a) a public passenger vehicle or taxi that is dropping off, or picking up, passengers; or
 - (b) a truck that is dropping off, or picking up, goods; or
 - (c) a courier vehicle displaying a courier vehicle sign; or
 - (d) a delivery vehicle displaying a delivery vehicle sign; or
 - (e) a vehicle that is dropping off, or picking up, goods

- (2) A driver who is permitted to stop in a loading zone must not stay continuously in the zone for longer than—
 - (a) 30 minutes; or
 - (b) if information on or with the loading zone signs applying to the loading zone indicates another time—the indicated time.

- (3) A loading zone is a length of a road to which a loading zone sign applies.

What this means to you

You can only park in a Loading Zone if you are driving either: a truck or a G-classified goods van; public bus or taxi; or a courier or delivery vehicle permanently marked with a company name at least 5cm high. Magnetic signs or signs on windscreens or roof racks are not acceptable, **AND** you are actually loading or delivering goods or picking up or setting down people. If there is no time limit on the sign, you can only park there for a maximum of 30 minutes

Internal Review of your Infringement

If you believe you have extenuating circumstances regarding the issuing of an infringement notice, you must write to us within 28 days of the issue date on the ticket to avoid incurring additional costs. Please ensure that when explaining your situation you include any supporting evidence that you may have. It is Council's standard practice to investigate all appeals, including verification of evidence and witness statements. All decisions are Final and will be notified in writing.

Defences listed in the Road Rules

Rule 165 of the Road Rules allows for defences, when a driver stops to avoid a collision; when a driver's vehicle is broken down; where there is a medical or other type of emergency; when a driver stops in the interests of safety; or when a driver stops to comply with another law.

When using any of these defences the types of supporting evidence you should provide would include a full description of the situation including a sworn statement from any witnesses, a sketch or photograph of the scene, receipts from a towing company, mechanic or the RACV showing dates and times; or a doctor certificate, etc.

Defences that will not be considered

Defences that council do not consider as extenuating circumstances include, drivers running late or held up in appointments; drivers not seeing signs displayed; driver running out of fuel; drivers forgetting to display their parking permit; being broken down without supporting information; and the inability to pay, however circumstances may be considered.

The decision making process

1. Appeal - All Internal Reviews of parking infringements are considered by the Appeals committee, Darebin Traffic Services.

2. Magistrates Court - If an appellant is not happy with the decision, they may elect to have their case heard in the Magistrates Court where it will be considered by an independent arbitrator. All appellants have the option to elect for their case to be heard in the Magistrates Court at any time.