

21 December 2020

In reply please quote reference:

Ref: A5796004



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Darebin City Council  
ABN 75 815 980 522

Dear Resident,

## Community Parking and Access Proposal for Gillies Street, Fairfield

We recently wrote to you and other residents in your street, asking for feedback on a proposal to help manage on-street parking and access in Gillies Street, between the railway line and Heidelberg Road.

### Update to approach

We are working to ensure information is clear, and that we hear from as many people as possible to ensure all views are heard. To achieve this the following updates to the process are now included:

- The consultation period is extended until 31 January 2021.
- You can now also provide your feedback via a short survey.
- We are visiting the street on two days in January to hear from people in person. Only a couple of people will be able to 'walk and talk' with us at a time to ensure we are being COVID-safe. Check the Gillies Street parking page for dates and times at the web address below.
- Frequently asked questions with answers are provided with this letter.

### What's happened so far?

After receiving a community request, Council started an investigation into what the best on-street parking arrangements are for Gillies St. In July 2020, we asked residents about your carparking challenges, needs and ideas. Thank you to everyone who got in touch or sent in surveys.

We heard that there is high parking pressure for residents and visitors in Gillies Street. In response to this, changes are being proposed to parking. These are detailed overleaf.

### Let us know what you think

Your feedback on this proposed parking change is very important to Council. We would also appreciate you discussing this letter with your neighbours when you see them and encouraging them to provide us with feedback.

Please provide your feedback to us by 31 January 2020.

- You can email us at [allan.middlemast@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:allan.middlemast@darebin.vic.gov.au).
- You can call us on **03 8470 8436**. We are happy to arrange someone to speak to you in your language if you would prefer.
- You can complete the survey at: <http://surveys.darebin.vic.gov.au/s3/gilliesstreetparking>
- You can read more on our website: <http://darebin.vic.gov.au/gilliesstreetparking>

Let us know if you would prefer to discuss in person using the above details and we will arrange a time to meet with you.

When the consultation period is finished we will consider all feedback and decide whether to proceed with the proposed change, or whether to adjust it. We'll let you know the final decision and advise when any changes will be made.

Your sincerely

**Allan Middlemast**  
Coordinator Transport Engineering

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## Gillies Street Fairfield (Railway line to Heidelberg Road) - proposed parking plan

In off peak times all areas would remain unrestricted (between 6pm and 8am).

During peak times there would be a mix of unrestricted and restricted areas on Gillies Street.

- The main change would be on the East side of Gillies Street - the currently unrestricted area would change to 2P during the day.
- Other areas that are currently restricted would stay as they currently are.

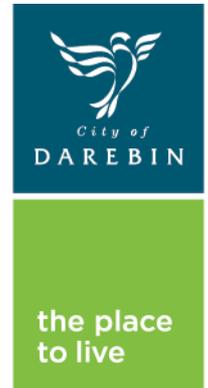
This change would improve access for residents and their visitors because fewer long stay commuters would use the street. This proposal would also make it easier for carers to attend – a disabled parking permit can be used to park for double the amount of time shown on a parking sign.

A map showing the proposal follows:



## Attachment:

# Frequently Asked Questions – Gillies Street Parking and Access



### What is the process for requesting a parking change investigation?

Any resident can make a formal submission to Council requesting a parking change. The form is available online on the parking page of our website under Requesting Changes. The request must be supported by at least one other supporting property (resident or local business).

When a request is received, Council undertakes the following 6-step investigation process to ensure that an evidence-based and community supported solution can be found:

Step 1: Engage local residents and businesses by inviting them to fill in a survey to tell us their challenges and ideas about parking in their local area.

Step 2: Council reviews all survey feedback and looks at how often on-street parking in their area is being used. If there is a need for change, a draft parking plan will be prepared.

Step 3: If a change is needed, we will send residents and businesses a letter with a draft parking plan that explains the proposed changes and invites feedback.

Step 4: Council will review all feedback on the draft parking plan and will modify the plan as required.

Step 5: Council will send residents and businesses a copy of the final parking plan and the date when the changes will be made.

Step 6: The changes will be made in your street.

### What's happened so far?

In June and July 2020, Council started Step 1 of the parking change investigation process by mailing a survey to all properties in Gillies Street asking for residents' feedback on car parking.

Council then completed Step 2 by:

- reviewing all the feedback it received and;
- developing proposed parking changes for Gillies Street to address residents' concerns.

Council is now undertaking Step 3. We are seeking your final feedback on the proposed changes outlined above.

A survey is available to complete online at [surveys.darebin.vic.gov.au/s3/gilliesstreetparking](https://surveys.darebin.vic.gov.au/s3/gilliesstreetparking) or feedback can be received via email or phone until the 31st January 2021.



## Why are you proposing these changes?

In 2018 Council received a request (with 29 supporting signatures) that we investigate ways to better manage on-street car parking in Gillies Street.

Council is currently responding to this request by undertaking Council's 6-step parking change investigation process.

Survey feedback from residents and Council investigations shows that there is a need to improve parking access in Gillies Street.

Council is proposing parking changes to improve access for residents and their visitors as long stay commuters would be deterred from occupying the street all day. Improved on-street parking in Gillies Street will also enhance access for carers, where a disabled parking permit can be used to park for double the amount of time shown on a parking sign.

## What information was used to develop this parking change proposal?

In July 2020, Council undertook its first round of engagement on parking issues in Gillies Street, collecting information from the community about their parking challenges and access requirements. Over one in five (20%) households responded, and many people included comments about parking, which were very helpful.

It's clear that there is parking pressure in the street. Feedback from residents shows this and Council's data also demonstrates this – on average on weekdays around one in ten parking spaces is free (12%). Around one in five (20%) were free on Saturdays.

There was strong agreement that parking is a challenge, but feedback showed a mix of views on the solution, including a preference for more on street parking restrictions and other feedback requesting that no changes should be made. A full summary of feedback can be viewed in the Step 3 Letter - Community Parking and Access Proposal Gillies Street. You can view this letter and more about the Gillies Street parking proposal at [darebin.vic.gov.au/gilliesstreetparking](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/gilliesstreetparking)

## How will the proposed changes affect disabled parking?

This change will improve access for carers where a disabled parking permit can be used to park for double the amount of time shown on a parking sign. There are no proposed changes to introduce or modify any disabled parking spaces as part of the proposal.

## How will Council use my feedback?

The findings from this stage of engagement will assist in determining if the proposed changes should proceed, and whether any modifications to the proposal needs to be made.

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