

TRAFFIC RESOLUTIONS

1. Purpose of report

This report outlines the recommended amendments to the Wellington City Council Traffic Restrictions with regards the implementation of Taxi Restricted Parking Areas on the following streets:

- The Terrace
- Mercer Street
- Featherston Street
- Waring Taylor Street.

These recommendations support the achievement of the Council's Transport Strategy Outcomes of safety, accessibility, efficiency and sustainability.

2. Executive summary

Changes to Part 7 of the Wellington City Consolidated Bylaw 2008 (the Bylaw) agreed at the December 19, 2012 meeting, allow Council to impose restrictions on the use of Pay and Display parking spaces by taxis.

This report recommends the implementation of Taxi Restricted Parking Areas on four streets in the central city. This is to enable the Council to better manage 'taxis' use patterns in these areas and in light of public concern over the perceived monopolising of public metered parking spaces.

The four taxi stands and adjacent Pay and Display spaces proposed to be regulated in this report are as follows:

- The Terrace (located outside # 70)
- Mercer Street (located along the northern kerbline)
- Featherston Street (located between Johnston and Grey Streets)
- Lambton Quay (located adjacent to Midland Park)

The proposed resolutions were advertised on March 26, 2013, giving the public 18 days to give feedback.

The feedback received during the consultation period has been included in Section four (4) of this report and where appropriate officer's responses have been included.

3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Recommend to Council that it approves the following amendments to the Traffic Restrictions, pursuant to the provisions of the Wellington City Council Consolidated Bylaw 2008.*
 - (a) *Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zones.*

Add to Schedule B (Restricted Parking) of the Traffic Restrictions Schedule

Column One	Column Two	Column Three
The Terrace	<i>Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zone, Monday to Sunday 8:00am – 6:00pm.</i>	<i>From its intersection with Shell Lane to its intersection with Masons Lane. (both directions)</i>
Lambton Quay	<i>Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zone, Monday to Sunday 8:00am – 6:00pm.</i>	<i>From its intersection with Stout Street to its intersection with Johnston Street.</i>
Waring Taylor Street	<i>Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zone, Monday to Sunday 8:00am – 6:00pm.</i>	<i>From its intersection with Featherston Street to its intersection with Lambton Quay.</i>
Featherston Street	<i>Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zone, Monday to Sunday 8:00am – 6:00pm.</i>	<i>From its intersection with Johnston Street to its intersection with Grey Street.</i>
Mercer Street	<i>Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zone, Monday to Sunday 8:00am – 6:00pm.</i>	<i>From its intersection with Willis Street to its intersection with Victoria Street.</i>

3. *Note that the proposed Lambton Quay restriction includes a restriction on Waring Taylor Street.*
4. *Note that the restrictions are proposed to take effect from midnight on Monday June 3, 2013.*

4. Background

The following information relates to the amendments before the Committee for approval.

Council is frequently faced with issues of how to balance the competing demands for parking space between different road users. This report specifically addresses the use of Pay and Display (metered) parking spaces by taxis in the central city that are a cause of concern for both the public and parking wardens.

A paper presented to the Committee on August 16, 2012, proposed amendments to Part 7 of the Bylaw, to introduce the ability for Council to place restrictions on taxis' use of metered parking spaces where this was causing problems. It was agreed that the proposed changes would undergo public consultation in accordance with section 22AD of the Land Transport Act 1998.

On August 29, 2012, the Council agreed to adopt a Statement of Proposal, and to initiate the special consultative procedure under Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

A subsequent paper was presented to Committee on December 13, 2012, outlining the submissions received and recommending that Committee;

- *Agree to the amendments to Part 7 of the Bylaw, introducing restrictions on taxis' use of metered parking spaces.*
- *Recommend to Council that it adopt the amendments to Part 7 of the Bylaw.*
- *Note that following agreement to the changes in Part 7 of the Bylaw, officers will be able to prepare traffic resolutions for Council to consider that will set specific areas that have restrictions on taxi parking.*

The above recommendations were approved by the Committee.

The Bylaw defines a taxi as follows;

Taxi means a motor vehicle that is:

- (a) *a small passenger service vehicle; and*
- (b) *fitted with a sign on its roof displaying the word 'taxi' and any other signs required by law.*

By definition, a vehicle displaying those items referred to in (b) may not occupy (park or stand) a metered parking space (whether paid for or not) unless those items referred to in (b) are covered, thereby for all intended purposes the vehicle is no longer a 'taxi'.

The December 13, 2012 report referenced five specific taxi stands which were identified as causing particular problems due to the overspill of taxis into nearby metered parking spaces, thus denying the public the ability to use these car parks. These were:

- The Terrace,
- Bond Street,
- Featherston Street,
- Pipitea Street
- Waring Taylor Street. (stand located on Lambton Quay)

Subsequent to the December 2012 decisions, officers have reviewed the above streets and noted the following:

1. The relocation of the taxi stand from Bond Street to Mercer Street has resulted in the issues previously experienced in Bond Street moving to Mercer Street. Parking Services report that since mid January they have been receiving complaints daily from members of the public and local businesses concerned with the lack of parking spaces available in Mercer Street due to taxis occupying the metered parking spaces waiting for stand space. Concerns have included taxis reversing (the wrong way) up Mercer Street to access the back of the Taxi Stand.

Due to these concerns, Mercer Street has been included in the proposed restrictions (replacing Bond Street)

2. There has been no formal (resolved) taxi stand on Pipitea Street since September 2003. The justification for its removal at that time was that the Council received a number of complaints from businesses, residents and embassies about waiting taxis often double parked, blocking driveways and monopolising metered parking in the area. As a result the taxi stand was relocated to Hill Street as it provides a suitable area in close proximity of Parliament, National Library and other generators of taxi use in the area. The location also provides taxi access to all premises on and off Molesworth Street without the need to circulate around adjacent blocks because of Molesworth Street being one-way. However in spite of the relocation of the former Pipitea Street stand into Hill Street, taxis still use the metered parking spaces on the southern side of Pipitea Street. The fact that taxis continue to park extensively along Pipitea Street in spite of the former stand being relocated into Hill Street, highlights that there remains a significant public demand for taxis in Pipitea and Molesworth Streets due to the proximity of numerous government offices and other generators of passenger demand.

As a result, officers propose to investigate the prospect of locating a new taxi stand in the vicinity of Pipitea Street together with an associated taxi restricted parking area. Any proposals along these lines will be brought back to the Committee for consideration.

The lengths of each proposed restriction have been developed so that their beginning and end are easily definable. Signage will be installed on the affected streets to delineate the zones, and adjacent side streets to provide advanced notification where applicable.

The proposed changes were advertised in the 'Our Wellington' page of the Dominion Post on March 26, 2013 inviting feedback from the public for an 18 day period to April 12, 2013.

The following feedback was received;

(a) Taxi Restricted Parking Area Zones.

Name	Suburb	Agree Y/N?
Ian Douglas	CBD	Y
Comments		
<p><i>I am writing to express my support for the proposed bylaw changes that will affect various streets within the Wellington CBD prohibiting taxis from using metered parking spaces.</i></p> <p><i>As can be seen from my previous emails to councillor Andy Foster, I had been very apprehensive about the change of the taxi rank from Bond to Mercer St, and my worst fears have been surpassed. The metered spaces in Mercer St have now regularly been overtaken by taxis, flouting the ParkWise wardens by buying a minimum time token. Today we counted 7 taxis in metered parks there, the situation has gone far beyond a joke.</i></p> <p><i>The situation is simply untenable and is swiftly driving another nail in to the coffin of vibrant retailing in the central city. How are customers going to connect with retailers in the precinct, for when they try to do so, they find the available metered spaces filled by taxis!?</i></p> <p><i>Our success as a boutique Wellington business of over 32 years is dependent on our being able to be accessed by our customers. These taxis are rapidly building a barrier to that access and it simply has to stop, or you endanger the very business's that make this city the vibrant capital it is.</i></p> <p><i>Please ensure the bylaw is passed.</i></p>		
Officers response		
This submitter supports the proposed traffic changes		

Name	Suburb	Agree Y/N?
Rajiv Ramachandran	Tawa	Y
Comments		
No comment supplied		
Officers response		
This submitter supports the proposed traffic changes		

Name	Suburb	Agree Y/N?
Corporate Cabs		-
Comments		
<p><i>Eighty per cent of Corporate's business model is based on pre booked work and as such we would very rarely if in deed use "Pay and Display" parking areas . Your wardens are normally pretty understanding of our plight when the client is running late for his allotted pick up time and a little communication to this effect is all that's normally required.</i></p> <p><i>Our drivers endeavour to call the PA's or the client direct on those odd occasions advising them their cab is waiting outside etc.</i></p> <p><i>Our concern as I am sure yours would be..... Those companies which do frequent these stands would be squeezed into other areas which in effect just moves the problem to another area within the CBD.</i></p>		

Officers response
Officers are aware that there could be some migration of taxis to other nearby metered car parks, however these alternative car parks are likely to be less convenient and further from the established taxi stands. The effect of the proposed restrictions will be monitored and will provide useful guidance as to whether this approach should be recommended for other locations.

Name	Suburb	Agree Y/N?
Wellington Combined Taxis		Y

Comments
<i>In principle I have no problem with the idea. Does the taxi "ban" apply even if the taxi driver pays for the parking fee?</i>

Officers response
The amendment to the Bylaw and subsequent resolutions intend to restrict all taxis from utilising metered parking spaces within the defined areas. The Bylaw defines a taxi as follows; Taxi means a motor vehicle that is: <i>(a) a small passenger service vehicle; and</i> <i>(b) fitted with a sign on its roof displaying the word 'taxi' and any other signs required by law.</i> By definition, a vehicle displaying those items referred to in (b) may not occupy (park or stand) a metered parking space (whether paid for or not) unless those items referred to in (b) are covered, thereby for all intended purposes the vehicle is no longer a 'taxi'.

Name	Suburb	Agree Y/N?
Lido Retail Ltd		Y

Comments
<i>This feedback is on behalf of the owner of 75-87 Willis Street. Our retail tenants and their customers have become increasingly frustrated by taxis using the pay and display parking in Mercer Street and even double parking behind the metered spaces. We therefore fully support the resolution to restrict taxis parking in metered parking spaces in Mercer Street.</i>

Officers response
This submitter supports the proposed traffic changes

5. Conclusion

Council Officers propose that the Committee recommend to Council to proceed with the proposed traffic resolutions, and that the submitters are thanked and informed of the Council's decision.

Contact Officer: *Charles Agate, Traffic Engineer, Colleen Thessman, Manager Parking Services and Steve Spence, Chief Transport Planner*

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

The recommendations support Council's desire to provide a coherent and efficient transport system that aids economic development (see Council's Long Term Outcomes 2.2 More Prosperous).

The change supports Council's role as a regulator of street spaces to ensure that as many people as possible can access parking spaces within the city and without road obstruction.

2) LTP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

The work required is contained in a range of Operating Project budgets and is required to cover signage and public notification

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no Treaty of Waitangi implications.

4) Decision-making

This is not a significant decision. The recommendations reflect the views and preferences of those with an interest in this matter and how Council applies the controls it has been given.

5) Consultation

a) General consultation

The proposed changes were advertised in the 'Our Wellington' page of the Dominion Post on March 26, 2013 inviting feedback from the public for an 18 day period to April 12, 2013.

b) Consultation with Maori

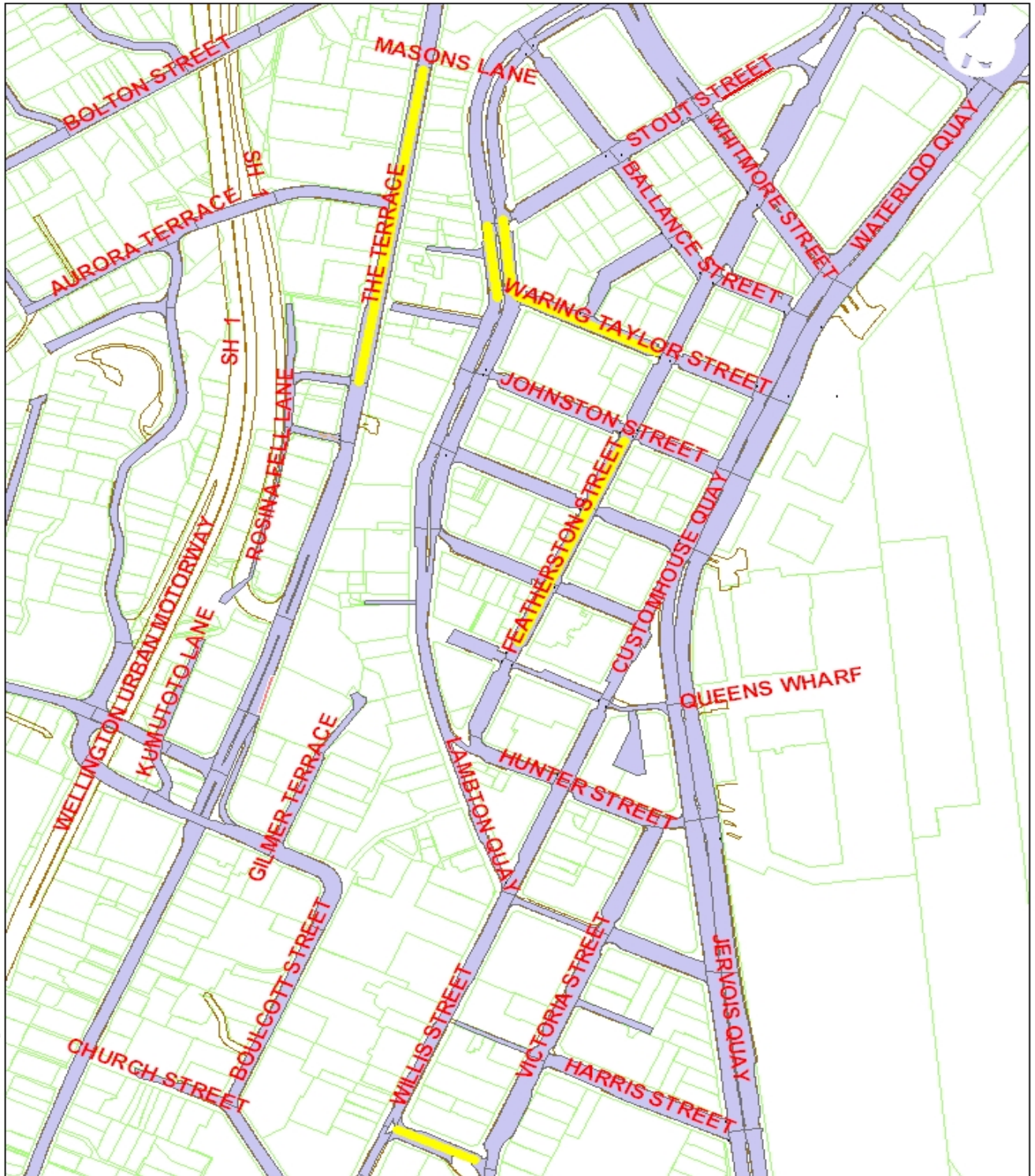
The proposed changes were advertised in the 'Our Wellington' page of the Dominion Post on March 26, 2013 inviting feedback from the public for an 18 day period to April 12, 2013.

6) Legal implications

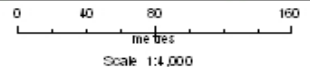
The recommendations comply with the legal requirements for amendments to traffic restrictions laid down in the Bylaws

7) Consistency with existing policy

This report is consistent with existing WCC policy.



**Proposed Taxi Restricted Parking Areas
2013 - Appendix 1**



Property boundaries, 20m Contours, road names, rail line, address & 100 points sourced from Land Information NZ. Crown Copyright reserved. Property boundaries accuracy: +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas. Contour data sourced from Statistics NZ. Postcodes sourced from NZ Post. Assets, contours, water and drainage information shown is approximate and must not be used for detailed engineering design. Other data has been compiled from a variety of sources and its accuracy may vary, but is generally +/- 1m.

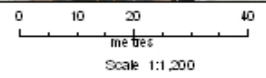
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Wellington City Council
101 Wakefield Street
WELLINGTON, NZ

ORIGINAL MAP SIZE: A4
AUTHOR: agate2c
DATE: 24.04.2013
REFERENCE:





Proposed Tax Restricted Parking Areas
The Terrace - Appendix 1a



Property boundaries, 20m Contours, road names, rail line, address & 10m points sourced from Land Information NZ. Crown Copyright reserved. Property boundaries accuracy +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas. Census data sourced from Statistics NZ. Postcodes sourced from NZ Post. Assets, contours, water and drainage information shown is approximate and must not be used for detailed engineering design. Other data has been compiled from a variety of sources and its accuracy may vary, but is generally +/- 1m.

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Wellington City Council
101 Wakefield Street
WELLINGTON, NZ

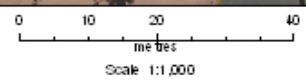
ORIGINAL MAP SIZE: A4
AUTHOR: agate20
DATE: 24.04.2013
REFERENCE:



APPENDIX 1



Proposed Tax Restricted Parking Areas
 Featherston Street - Appendix 1c



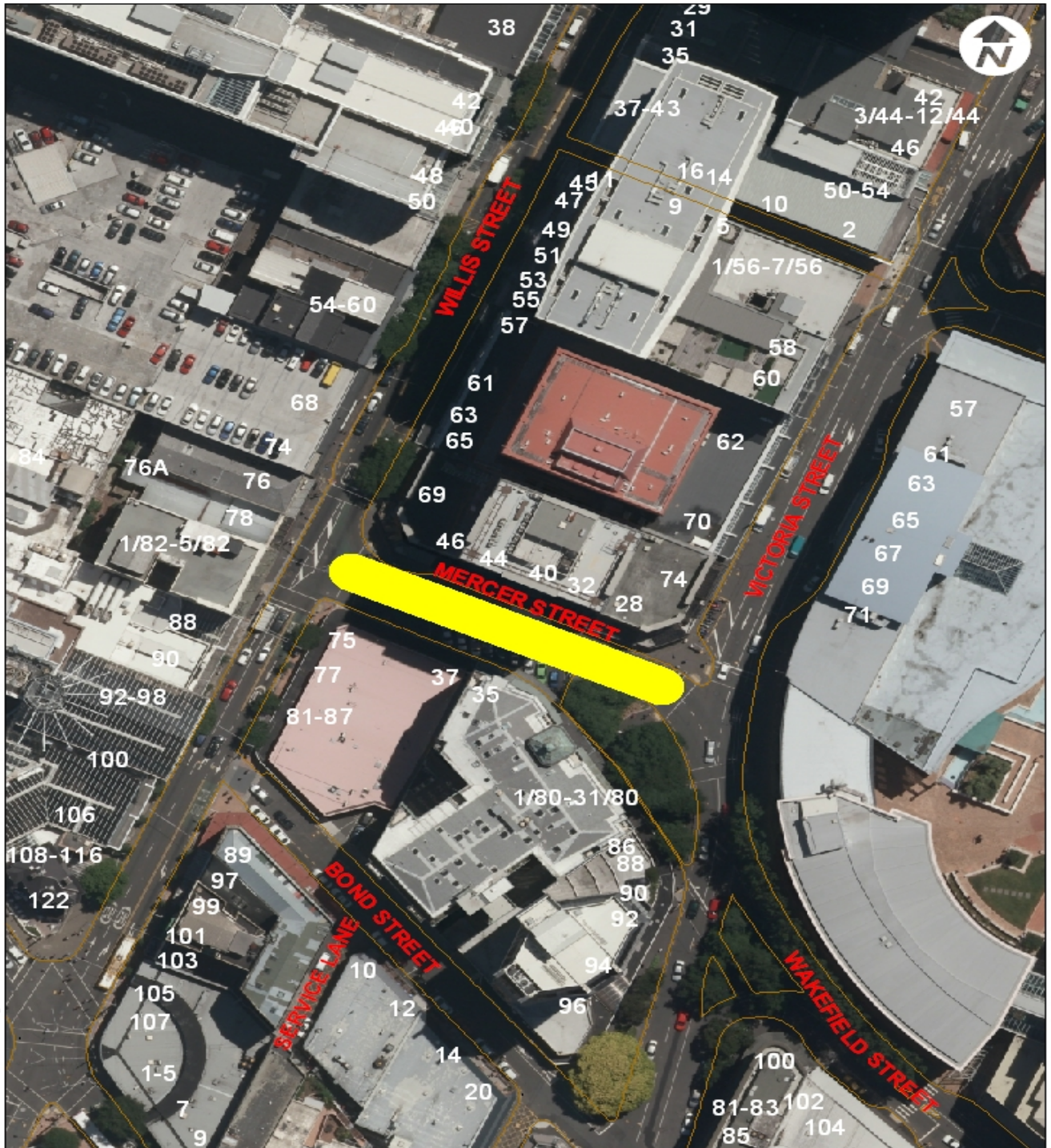
Property boundaries, 20m Contours, road names, rail line, address & 10m points sourced from Land Information NZ. Crown Copyright reserved. Property boundaries accuracy: +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas. Contour data sourced from Statistics NZ. Postcodes sourced from NZ Post. Assets, contours, water and drainage information shown is approximate and must not be used for detailed engineering design. Other data has been compiled from a variety of sources and its accuracy may vary, but is generally +/- 1m.

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 Wellington City Council
 101 Wakefield Street
 WELLINGTON, NZ

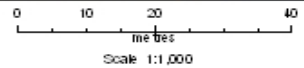
ORIGINAL MAP SIZE: A4
 AUTHOR: agate2c
 DATE: 24.04.2013
 REFERENCE:



APPENDIX 1



Proposed Tax Restricted Parking Areas
Mercer Street - Appendix 1d



Property boundaries, 20m Contours, road names, rail line, address & title points sourced from Land Information NZ. Crown Copyright reserved. Property boundaries accuracy +/-1m in urban areas, +/-30m in rural areas. Census data sourced from Statistics NZ. Postcodes sourced from NZ Post. Assets, contours, water and drainage information shown is approximate and must not be used for detailed engineering design. Other data has been compiled from a variety of sources and its accuracy may vary, but is generally +/- 1m.

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101 Wakefield Street
WELLINGTON, NZ

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AUTHOR: agate2c
DATE: 24.04.2013
REFERENCE:



APPENDIX 1

Public Notice

Tuesday 26 March 2013

Our Wellington
Your weekly Council guide to your city
Wellington.govt.nz

JOIN OUR CAPITAL VOICE
A simple online way to have your say.

Culture Kicks football - see Events



One more week at Thorndon Pool until Sunday 7 April - lifeguards Anj Barton (left) and Nicole Chapman go all out.

Easter opening hours

With Easter coming up, there are some changes to our services for the public holidays. We will not collect rubbish or recycling on Good Friday (29 March). Instead, we'll collect it on Saturday 30 March. If you live in Breaker Bay, Hataitai, Houghton Bay, Karaka Bay, Kibitima, Lyall Bay, Meupua, Melrose, Miramar, Moe Point, Rongotai, Seaton, Seaton Heights, Strathmore or Tawa - put your rubbish and recycling out for collection after 5pm on Friday, Easter Monday's collection will be carried out as normal.

Council offices will be closed on Friday and Monday, but our contact centre will remain open all weekend. You can phone us on 499 4444 if you need any help.

Wellington City Libraries will close on Good Friday, Easter Sunday (31 March) and Easter

8.30am-8.30pm on Friday and Monday, and 7.30am-7pm on Saturday and Sunday. Some of our pools will operate with reduced hours on Good Friday and Easter Monday: Karori Pool from 10am-6pm and Kaiti Spyn Pool from 10am-6pm.

Tawa Pool will also be open 10am-6pm on Friday and Monday, with normal hours on Saturday and Easter Sunday.

Tawa Recreation Centre will be closed on Good Friday and Easter Monday, and open normal hours on the Saturday and Sunday.

Newlands, Island Bay, Wadestown and Tawa community centres will be closed Friday through to Monday. They will reopen as normal on Tuesday (2 April).

Toi Tōneko Arts Centre and Gallery will also be closed Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Trip of a lifetime up for grabs

Wellington City residents have the chance to go on the first citizens', or 'grass roots', delegation to our sister city, Xiamen, in November this year.

The trip is a chance to experience a part of China people might not normally get to know, and establish long-lasting relationships with people from Xiamen.

This follows last month's highly successful visit of 14 Xiamen residents to Wellington. They were hosted by members of Wellington Xiamen Association.

Susan Superville, Community Relations Manager, has hosted many delegations during her time at Te Papa, and is also a member of the Wellington Xiamen Association. She says this opportunity is the "trip of a lifetime".

"The experience will stay with people forever. These interactions provide a cultural exchange and understanding far beyond any other experience," she says.

Susan hasn't yet been to Xiamen, but says she hears they are great hosts.

"Xiamen is not unlike Wellington - it's coastal, green and surrounded by hills. Many Xiamen residents are well aware of Wellington's existence - some have already been here and consider us friends. This would be a comfortable, yet stimulating experience for any Wellingtonian."

Anyone interested in taking part in the delegation should email jaenne.mcknight@wcc.govt.nz by Tuesday 30 April. While the trip is not free, it will be subsidised and supported by Xiamen Municipal Government, Wellington City Council and the Wellington Xiamen Association.

In the lead-up to the trip, the successful group will be given lots of information on travelling to China, as well as enough information to get by about Chinese culture and language.

This is the 26th year of our sister-city relationship with Xiamen, which is located on the south-east coast of China.



Public notices

PLAN TO 'STOP' AND SELL UNFORMED ROAD - CUNLIFFE STREET

Wellington City Council, under section 342(1) of the Local Government Act 1974, proposes to 'stop' a 422sq m portion of land in Cunliffe Street, Johnsonville.

We no longer require this land for road purposes. The land, described in the schedule below, is situated directly adjoining 3 Cunliffe Street (Lot 6 DP 22043). Once the road land is stopped,

423 sq m of it would be sold to the adjoining owner of 3 Cunliffe Street, Johnsonville, and the land titles amalgamated. One square metre would continue to remain in Council ownership.

The uses to which the land can be used are governed by the District Plan.

You can get a copy of the report about this proposal, and the survey office plan (SO 456088) defining the road to be stopped from:

- the Central Library, Level 2 65 Victoria Street
- our Service Centre at 101 Wakefield Street
- on our website - go to 'have your say, Public Input: Open public notices'

Objections to this proposal must be lodged in writing with Paul Davidson, Property Services, Wellington City Council, PO Box 2199, or you can drop it off to the Council reception at 101 Wakefield Street.

All objections must be received before 5pm, Monday 6 May 2013.

Schedule:
Two parcels of land containing a total area of 422sq m being sections 1 and 2, SO 456088 lodged with Land Information New Zealand.

Garry Poole
Chief Executive Officer

ROADWORKS IN WILTON

Wilton Road
Tuesday 2-Wednesday 3 April

We will resurface Wilton Road between Shropshire Avenue and Worcester Street.

Hours of work will be 9am-3pm.
For more information, phone Simon Clear at Downer on 562 6431.

HAVE YOUR SAY WITH OUR CAPITAL VOICE

Join the 100 Wellingtonians who've already signed up to Our Capital Voice - the new online way for you to have your say on Council decisions - and help us form our future.

We rely on participation and feedback from residents, and by joining Our Capital Voice, you can voice your opinions through polls, surveys and online discussions.

This doesn't affect your ability to make submissions on our consultations.

For more information and to join, go to our website. Alternatively, email capitalvoice@wcc.govt.nz

Give it a go - you can unsubscribe at any time.

TRAFFIC CHANGES PROPOSED

We're suggesting restrictions on taxis using pay-and-display parking in the vicinity of specific bus ranks. You have 18 days to provide feedback.

At its 9 May 2013 meeting, the Strategy and Policy Committee proposes to change regulations applying to sections of the roads listed below:

- **The Terrace** - from Shell Lane to Messons Lane (both directions)
- **Mercer Street** - from Willis Street to Victoria Street
- **Featherston Street** - from Johnston Street to Grey Street
- **Pipitea Street** - from Murphy/Mulgrave streets to Malesworth Street (both directions)
- **Waring Taylor Street** - from Featherston Street to Lambton Quay

The changes are being made in accordance with the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008. You can view the full report and accompanying plans on our website in the 'Have Your Say' section, or pick up a copy from our Service Centre on Wakefield Street.

Feedback on the proposed changes must be made online or in writing, and sent to Charles Agate, City Networks, Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street, PO Box 2199, Wellington 6140. Feedback must be received by 5pm, Friday 12 April.