



## HORNSBY SHIRE LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

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**MEMBER FOR HORNSBY - Mr Matt Kean MP**  
**HORNSBY POLICE - Leading Senior Constable Steven Henri**  
**TRANSPORT FOR NSW - Ms Samantha Morley - Acting Senior Network & Safety Officer**  
**TRANSPORT FOR NSW - Mr David Osborne - Acting Senior Network & Safety Officer**  
**TRANSPORT FOR NSW - Pushendra Kharbanda - Traffic Engineering Officer**  
**COUNCILLOR WARREN WADDELL - Council's representative**  
**THE MAYOR AND ALL COUNCILLORS - For your information**  
**GENERAL MANAGER - For your information**  
**DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & MAJOR PROJECTS -**  
**For your information**  
**NSW FIRE SERVICE - For your information**  
**NSW AMBULANCE SERVICE - For your information**  
**TRANSDEV NSW BUS SERVICE - For your information**  
**CDC HILLSBUS SERVICE - For your information**  
**NSW TAXI COUNCIL - For your information**

Road: Wisemans Ferry Recreation Reserve, 5575 Old Northern Road  
Suburb: Wisemans Ferry  
Location: Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark  
File Ref: F2011/00836  
**LTC No: 10/2023**  
**Electorate: HORNSBY**  
Google Map: <https://goo.gl/maps/mp5yBscQATLjXNc68>  
Subject: Proposed parking signage  
Date of Circulation: Thursday, 30 March 2023

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REFERRAL OF TRAFFIC MATTER FOR COMMENT OR OBJECTION, IF ANY

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**SUMMARY**

This report details the traffic and parking implications of proposed signage in the new Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark, to regulate and enforce proposed parking arrangements.

**SUBJECT**

Council has recently completed the construction of new boat ramp facility and associated car parking area in Wisemans Ferry. Key features of the facility are:

- A three lane boat ramp;
- Twin pontoons to service the abovementioned ramp;
- Dedicated rigging / de-rigging bays;
- An amenities building;
- Parking for 163 car and trailers; and
- Parking for 29 cars only (including four disabled spaces).

The boat ramp and car parking area are accessed via a new access junction with Old Northern Road. Old Northern Road has been widened to facilitate the provision of exclusive left and right turning lanes, servicing the boat ramp facility.

Pedestrian connectivity between the carpark and the south-eastern Old Northern Road footpath is via pathways separate and to the south-west and north-east of the vehicular access roadway. The pathways to provide connectivity to an internal pedestrian pathway circulating around the periphery of the boat ramp parking area.

Vehicular access between the boat ramp facility and Old Northern Road is via a new access road junction with the arterial road adjacent to the western corner of the site. The access road provides a single 4m wide ingress lane separated from two 3.7m wide egress lanes by a 2.5m wide raised median providing a pedestrian refuge facility.

Based on experience from other recreational facilities in the Hornsby Shire and Sydney Region, Council has developed a parking management proposal to address potential inappropriate parking of cars and boat trailers (which are often stored for long periods of time in carparks at other locations). Such a use of the land is contrary to the intended purpose of the new carpark which is to support the use of the boat ramp and day visitation. To address the potential issue, Council has developed a proposal to regulate parking for 'Cars With Attached Trailers' to ensure that the carpark benefits the recreational users of the nearby boat ramp as intended.

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**SUBJECT continued****Pay Parking**

Hornsby Shire Council's adopted Car Parking Management Study recommends a user-pay system for parking in carparks and that the income from parking be used for the ongoing maintenance, management and enhancement of each site. Following detailed investigations and recommendations by *Australian Parking Consultants* and *Sensor Dynamics*, Council has determined to introduce paid parking technology in the new car park that will not require the attendance of enforcement officers or rangers to infringe offending vehicles. The following fees have been adopted in Council's 2022/2023 Fees and Charges for the Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark:

**Paid Parking - Wisemans Ferry (2022/2023)**

Car Parking Only – First 2 hours	Free
Car Parking Only – 2-3 hours	\$3.00
Car Parking Only – 3-24 hours	\$6.00
Car with Trailer – per day	\$8.00

It is proposed that same fees apply for 2023/2024 and will be advertised in the draft 2023/2024 Fees and Charges as follows:

**Paid Parking - Wisemans Ferry (2023/2024)**

Car Parking Only – First 2 hours	Free
Car Parking Only – 2-3 hours	\$3.00
Car Parking Only – 3-24 hours	\$6.00
Car with Trailer – Free for first 30 minutes.	\$8.00

Daily Rate will apply thereafter.

Council will formally adopt the fees and charges for 2023/2024 at the 14 June 2023 Council meeting.

The following parking restrictions are proposed:

1. Signs clearly depicting existing 'Vehicles with attached boat trailers only' areas.
2. 4 disabled parking signs and disabled pavement marking logos.
3. 'No Stopping' restrictions on Old Northern Road (Transport for NSW to consider).
4. '10 Minutes Only - Boat Preparation Area' signs in designated areas.
5. 'Restricted Parking Area - Park in Marked Bays Only' signs.
6. Three pedestrian crossings with appropriate regulatory signage and delineation.
7. 'One Way', 'Keep Left' and 'No Entry' signs.
8. 'Car Only Parking' signs.
9. Information, conditions of entry and other guidance signs.

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## **CONSULTATION**

The Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark project has been developed in consultation with the community and relevant stakeholders over a four (4) year period.

A soft opening of the car park occurred on 20 December 2022. A Variable Message Sign (VMS) was installed the day the park opened, with a message advising 'Boat Ramp Open' and 'Free Parking til March' and is still in place. Due to a delay in installation the VMS has been updated to say 'Free Parking til April 2023'. All passing traffic and visitors to the site would have seen the VMS message advising that free parking will cease in April.

During the official opening held on 4 February 2023 Council staff were onsite to discuss the proposed paid parking fees with residents. Feedback on the day included:

- Appreciation for the new facility
- Dissatisfaction with the idea of paid parking
- Concern about the cost of paid parking
- Questions regarding the development of a resident parking permit or free parking for Hornsby residents
- Concern about the use of the site and vandalism

Following the open day, staff were invited to attend the next Upper Hawkesbury User Group meeting held on 6 February 2023 in Pitt Town. The Hawkesbury and Nepean Rivers User Group comprises representatives from:

- Underwater Recovery
- Ski Parks
- Water ski association
- APBA
- Commercial operators
- Wakeboard NSW
- Bridge to Bridge
- Windsor Paddle Sports Club
- Eel Fisherman
- RMS - Maritime
- Upper Hawkesbury Power Boat Committee
- Hawkesbury City Council Councillor

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**CONSULTATION continued**

Summary of Issues raised:

- Fees for cars should be larger than car and trailer - needs to be equity in use
- Commercial use of the site needs to occur as the old boat ramp was used for commercial purposes
- What will be the charge for RVs and caravans that use the site to dump waste and use the toilet?
- Need for an annual pass. Provision of parking exemptions to residents, clubs and off-shore residents
- Can the maintenance program for the site be shown to the community to show where the money will be spent?
- Need to attract people to the site first then start charging - don't want it to be a white elephant. Should be free for a period first
- Pay a small fee to use the facility for a few hours, then a larger fee for long stay use
- People will abuse the system (30 mins free for boat and trailer) and park outside just out of spite of not wanting to pay. Concerns about shifting parking to Hills Shire (due to pay parking)
- There are no spaces for tourist buses - can this be provided
- Request to start charging Parsley Bay in the first instance
- Can the facility be used for events ie car clubs or ski events? Will there be a fee to hire the site?
- Roads in the Hawkesbury and Central Coast need to be closed and repaired following the floods. People will need to cross the river by boat and tie up somewhere - could this occur at this site? Provision of dedicated carparks for river residents

Consultation with our neighbouring Council, The Hills, has also been undertaken.

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed signs and markings in Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark are considered appropriate to ensure legitimate use of the carpark for recreation. To maintain the facility in the future Council is proposing to implement paid parking. The specific items to be funded by paid parking at Wisemans Ferry include the cleaning and maintenance of the amenities block, maintenance of the garden beds, water carting during dry times for the amenities block, waste collection, cleaning of the boat ramp and pontoon.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark - parking signage plan
2. Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark - traffic signage plan

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**RECOMMENDATION THAT**

1. Parking and Traffic Signage for the new Wisemans Ferry Boat Ramp and Carpark at 5575 Old Northern Road, Wisemans Ferry be approved.
2. Council continue to collect feedback from residents and other stakeholders after the implementation of Pay Parking.
3. Issues raised by the community be investigated as part of future review of the carpark operation (recommended 12 months).
4. Matters requiring regulatory changes to parking be referred to the Hornsby Local Traffic Committee for further consideration.

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**Note for voting Local Traffic Committee members.**

Under Transport for NSW 'Delegation of Functions to Regulate Traffic' (operation of local traffic committees) you are required to comment or indicate your acceptance or objection to the recommendation of this report.

Your response must be submitted in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice.

Please send your response via return email for the item, or email

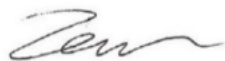
[trafficbranch@hornsby.nsw.gov.au](mailto:trafficbranch@hornsby.nsw.gov.au)

For further information please contact Radek Zarzycki on 9847 6524.

Upon receipt of your comments the matter will be referred to Council for action.

Radek Zarzycki

Chairman



Issued Date: Thursday, 30 March 2023

Comments Close Date: Friday, 14 April 2023, at 5:00pm