

RESIDENTIAL PARKING POLICY

Approval Level:	Council
Policy Type:	Organisation
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Responsible Officer:	Manager Safe and Healthy Environments
Owner:	Safe and Healthy Environments
Responsible Director:	Health and Wellbeing
Relevant Legislation/Authority:	Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government Act 2020
DOCSETID:	3727731

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and direction on decision making for issuing Residential Parking Permits to occupiers of residential properties without off street parking.

2. BACKGROUND

The current approach to Residential Parking Permits was implemented following the development of the '*CBD Parking Strategy 2008*'. Since that time, the policy has remained largely unchanged.

Council adopted the '*Bendigo City Centre Parking Futures Action Plan 2020*' (Plan). The Plan sets the direction for future parking requirements and will guide parking related decisions into the future. The principles and approaches included in this Plan are supported when reviewing and implementing parking management policies, including the Residential Parking Policy.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to:

- City employees who assess applications for Residential Parking Permits.
- City employees delegated the authority to issue Residential Parking Permits.
- Residents of the City of Greater Bendigo.

4. DEFINITIONS

N/A

5. PRINCIPLES

Implement a fair and equitable car parking system that balances the requirements of all stakeholders, to ensure transparent and accountable administration of the City of Greater Bendigo's public parking resources.

6. POLICY

Inner city, higher-density housing options, by their nature, discourage a reliance on private vehicle ownership. The transport focus for residents of high-density, inner city developments is preferably environmentally sustainable public transport. Properties that are ineligible for a Residential Parking Permit are largely concentrated in Greater Bendigo's commercial zoned areas. These areas have a high level of regular public transport options, with links within Greater Bendigo, other cities and regional centres.

The Residential Parking Permits eligibility supports the principle of car free high-density inner city living.

6.1 Eligibility

Occupiers of residential properties without off street parking, and no reasonable opportunity to modify the property to provide parking, are eligible for a Residential Parking Permit (Permit) subject to the following:

- Occupiers of residential properties in commercial zones are not eligible for a Permit.
- Occupiers of residential properties in commercial zones who do not have a current, valid Permit approved prior to 2008, are not eligible.
- Any Permits issued to occupiers of residential properties in commercial zones prior to 2008, that have expired without renewal, been cancelled, or discontinued, will not be renewed and a new Permit will not be issued.
- Permits are for residential use only and Permits are not available for commercial businesses.
- Permits will only be issued when there is a time restriction in the street that the property is located, i.e. usually the street the property fronts onto between the nearest intersecting streets.
- Permits will not be issued to occupiers of a hotel, apartment, boarding house, rooming house, hostel, or other accommodation, which is high density or short-term lodging or vacation stay.
- Occupiers of properties with alterations or subdivisions approved after 2008, that resulted in no parking or reduced parking availability on the property, are not eligible for a Permit.
- Permits may only be issued where:
 - The nominated vehicle is registered to the address on the application form, and the registered vehicle owner is an occupier of the nominated address.
 - The nominated vehicle is not over 4.5 tonnes gross weight or 7.5 meters or more in length.
 - The nominated vehicle is not a boat, trailer or caravan.
 - The applicant hasn't been deemed ineligible due to previous misuse.

6.2 General Conditions for Permits

The below conditions appear on the Permit issued:

- Tampering with Permits will render the Permit invalid.
- Misuse of Permits may result in the Permit being cancelled and the applicant may be marked as ineligible for future Permits.

- Permits do not permit illegal parking, for example on nature strips, in no stopping areas, loading zones, over or on driveways.
- Vehicles not displaying a valid Permit may be issued with an infringement notice.
- Permits do not guarantee the availability of a parking space.
- Permits exempt permit holders from time restrictions in the street the permit applies to.
- Permits are issued to an individual and are not transferable.

6.3 Operation of permit system

- Permit applications generally take up to 2 weeks to process.
- Permits must be renewed by the Permit holder annually.
- Permits have a common expiry of 30 September.
- A Permit for a second vehicle may be issued in special circumstances, at the discretion of the Unit Manager.
- Permit fees are listed in the City's fees and charges schedule which is reviewed and adopted by Council annually.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Council has delegated the responsibility for 'Powers concerning parking' - refer to Local Government Act 1989, Schedule 11, cl.1, to Director Health and Wellbeing, Manager Safe and Healthy Environments and Coordinator Parking Strategy.

Local Laws - Parking Officers are responsible for conducting assessment of applications and making a recommendation to the Coordinator Parking Strategy based on the criteria in this Policy.

The Coordinator Parking Strategy has delegated authority for approving Residential Parking Permits.

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Readers are encouraged to access relevant documents and/or resources which are available as per the below.

These include:

- Parking Restrictions Policy
- Bendigo City Centre Plan 2020
- Bendigo City Centre Parking Futures Action Plan 2020
- Greater Bendigo Residential Strategy 2014
- Connecting Greater Bendigo: Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy (ITLUS)
- Transforming the City Centre Action Plan 2018-2023
- Application for Residential Parking Permit form

Further information or advice on this policy should be directed to Safe and Healthy Environments

9. HUMAN RIGHTS COMPATIBILITY

The implications of this policy have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

It is recognised that, from time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a City unit, a change to the name of a Federal or State Government department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be made through consultation with the staff Consultative Committee and with the approval of EMT or where required, resolution of Council.

11. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date Approved	Responsible Officer	Unit	Change Type	Version	Next Review Date
<i>June, 2009</i>	<i>NZ</i>	<i>Parking and Animal Services</i>	<i>Develop</i>	<i>Version 1</i>	<i>2015</i>
<i>October, 2015</i>	<i>JH</i>	<i>Parking and Animal Services</i>	<i>Review (administrative)</i>	<i>Version 2</i>	<i>2019</i>
<i>May, 2022</i>	<i>JS</i>	<i>Safe and Healthy Environments</i>	<i>Review (administrative)</i>	<i>Version 3</i>	<i>2024</i>