

7.10 Commuter Carparking - Federal Government Update

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to table a letter received dated 3 March 2022 from Hon Josh Frydenberg MP confirming the withdrawal of funding for commuter car parks at Surrey Hills, Canterbury, Camberwell and Glenferrie (**refer Attachment 1**).

Officers' recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the correspondence received from Hon Mr Josh Frydenberg MP confirming the withdrawal of funding for commuter car parks at Surrey Hills, Canterbury, Camberwell and Glenferrie.
2. Authorise the Mayor to provide a written response to acknowledge the letter.

Responsible director: Daniel Freer, Director Places and Spaces

1. Purpose

This report tables correspondence received from the Hon Mr Josh Frydenberg MP to withdraw funding provided by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications for commuter car parks in Boroondara.

2. Policy implications and relevance to community plan and council plan

The Boroondara Community Plan is structured around the following seven priority themes:

- a) Your Community, Services and Facilities
- b) Your Parks and Green Spaces
- c) The Environment
- d) Neighbourhood Character and Heritage
- e) Getting Around Boroondara
- f) Your Local Shops and Businesses
- g) Civic Leadership and Governance >

The feasibility studies and community consultation for Commuter Car Parks (CCP) aligned with the following themes and strategies:

Theme 4: Neighbourhood Character and Heritage Strategy

4.4: New development positively contributes to amenity and liveability through design excellence.

Theme 5: Moving Around

Strategy 5.2: Traffic congestion is better managed through advocacy to State and Federal governments for changes to main roads.

Strategy 5.5: Sustainable transport use is encouraged and supported through delivery of green travel programs and advocacy to State and Federal Governments.

The feasibility studies and community consultation for CCP are consistent with the policy direction and actions within the following Council strategies:

- a) Maling Road Place Plan: - identifies the need for additional car parking and collaboration with other levels of government to explore parking options, with Council's site off Wattle Valley Road being one of the largest sites to offer the best option to increase car parking capacity at Canterbury into the future.
- b) Draft Glenferrie Place Plan: - identifies relocation of parking to off-street facilities and consolidation into multi-level public car parks that offer improved security and weather protection.
- c) Integrated Transport Strategy: - To provide improved travel and access within, to and from Boroondara. In particular to provide improved public transport, walking and cycling provision and manage private car travel more effectively, including through park and ride facilities.

3. Background

At the Council Meeting of 13 December 2021, Council resolved the following:

That Council:

1. *Endorse the draft Commuter Carpark Projects as outlined in this report at*
 - a. *Glenferrie (Attachment 3)*
 - b. *Canterbury (Attachment 4)*
 - c. *Camberwell (Attachment 5) for the purpose of community consultation commencing 14 December 2021 – 10 February 2022.*
2. *Following the consultation phase and giving consideration to the community feedback, receive a further report at a future Council Meeting in 2022 giving consideration to progressing each project.*

Consultation commenced and concluded in accordance with this resolution. A Special Meeting of Council was called for 15 March 2022 to consider this item. This meeting has since been cancelled.

On 3 March 2022 Hon Mr Josh Frydenberg MP wrote to Council confirming the withdrawal of funding for commuter car parks at Surrey Hills, Canterbury, Camberwell and Glenferrie. From this date all work on the project sites ceased with communications provided to the community advising of this substantive change.

It is noted the Surrey Hills site has not been overseen by the City of Boroondara, but by the Victorian State Government as part of the Level Crossing Removal Program.

4. Outline of key issues/options

The withdrawal of funding for these projects has a significant impact on the implementation of the Council adopted Maing Rd Place Plan, and the draft Glenferrie Road Plan which has recently completed a period of community consultation.

Officers are now giving consideration to the projects identified through these place plans for future consideration.

5. Consultation/communication

Consultation on the commuter carpark projects had been undertaken over a range of stages, with the most recent community consultation across three project sites at Canterbury, Camberwell and Glenferrie being conducted from 14 December 2021 to 10 February 2022.

6. Financial and resource implications

There are no financial implications for Council to consider in this report.

7. Governance issues

There are not direct or indirect conflicts of interest in respect of this report.

8. Social and environmental issues

There are no social or environmental issues for Council to consider in this report.

Manager: Christine White, Manager Capital Projects

Report officer: Christine White, Manager Capital Projects

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JOSH FRYDENBERG MP
Treasurer of Australia • Federal Member for Kooyong

3 March 2022

Cr Jane Addis
Mayor
City of Boroondara
8 Inglesby Road
Camberwell 3124

Dear Mayor

COMMUTER CAR PARK PROPOSAL

I am writing to you in relation to four projects under the Commonwealth Government's Urban Congestion Fund proposed in the City of Boroondara.

As you are aware, the Government committed \$65 million for additional commuter carparking at Surrey Hills, Canterbury, Glenferrie and Camberwell railway stations to alleviate pressures on our road network by improving access to public transport.

At the end of 2019 the Victorian Government announced that it was going to merge the Surrey Hills and Mont Albert stations. As a result, the commitment to build the commuter carpark at Surrey Hills cannot go ahead as proposed and the Commonwealth has decided not to proceed.

In regard to the proposed car parks at Canterbury, Glenferrie and Camberwell, I note the significant local feedback from the public consultation process that Council has conducted.

During this period, I have also met with a number of local residents and traders and listened to the issues they have raised.

In response, the Commonwealth Government has decided not to proceed with funding for the proposed car parks at Canterbury, Glenferrie and Camberwell.

The local feedback through the consultation process has been constructive and is appreciated.

Nationally, the Urban Congestion Fund remains an important part of the Government's plans to get more cars off our roads and to make public transport more accessible.

I deeply appreciate the cooperative and constructive relationship with your Council in progressing these initiatives and look forward to continuing to work closely with you to support our local community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Josh Frydenberg".

Josh Frydenberg
Federal Member for Kooyong

Cc: Mr P Storer, CEO, City of Boroondara

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