



To the General Manager

Attach: 1. Plan

SUBJECT: (4.13) Gerard Lane, Cremorne — No Stopping - Survey Results

AUTHOR: Report of Traffic & Transport Engineer, Nathan Wu

DESCRIPTION/SUBJECT MATTER:

At the 531st North Sydney Local Traffic Committee meeting on 20 March 2020 the issue of parking on the north-western frontage of 81 Gerard Lane was discussed. It is claimed that there is insufficient road width to park a vehicle at this location. Subsequently, Council resolved to survey the community about the installation of No Stopping signs in Gerard Lane.

A survey regarding the installation of No Stopping signs in Gerard lane was sent out on the 29 September 2020 to 133 residents and property owners. The survey was also available online. Residents were given until 27 October 2020 to respond. A total of 26 responses were received. This represents a response rate of 19.5% which is above the average response rate of 10 to 12% for parking surveys.

The answers received from the residents and property owners are summarised in the report. Recommended changes to the parking restrictions are also detailed in the report.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** Council install No Stopping signs on the south-western side of Gerard Lane between the driveway of H/No.81 Gerard Lane and the 90-degree bend.
- 2. THAT** Council notify the affected residents prior to the installation of No Stopping signs in Gerard Lane.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

Consultation has been undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol

Standard or Guideline Used: AS2890.5; AS1742.11; NSC Resident Parking Permit Policy
Signs & Lines Priority: 2

Precinct and Ward: Brightmore, Tunks

Impact on Bicycles: Nil

Impact on Pedestrians: Nil

Impact on Parking: Some changes to parking restrictions are proposed as outlined in the report.

DETAIL

At the 531st North Sydney Local Traffic Committee meeting on 20 March 2020 the issue of parking on the north-western frontage of 81 Gerard Lane was discussed. It is claimed that there is insufficient road width to park a vehicle at this location. Subsequently, Council resolved to survey the community about the installation of No Stopping signs in Gerard Lane.

- 1. THAT Council undertake community consultation with regard to the installation of No Stopping signs on the south-western side of Gerard Lane between the driveway of H/No.81 Gerard Lane and the 90-degree bend.*
- 2. THAT should no objection be received, Council proceeds with installation of No Stopping signs on the south-western side of Gerard Lane between the driveway of H/No.81 Gerard Lane and the 90-degree bend under delegation to the Traffic Engineer*
- 3. THAT the matter be referred back to the next available Traffic Committee meeting following community consultation.*

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Survey Results

The answers received from the survey are summarised in the following table.

Question: I support the installation of No Stopping signs on the south-western side of Gerard Lane between the driveway of H/No.81 Gerard Lane and the 90-degree bend.

Residential Street Address	Yes	%	No	%	Total	%
Benelong Road	1	100%		0%	1	4%
Gerard Lane	9	100%		0	9	35%
Gerard Street	3	75%	1	25%	4	15%
Prince Street	1	100%		0%	1	4%
Prospect Avenue	9	90%	1	10%	10	38%
Reynolds Street	1	100%		0%	1	4%
Total	24	92%	2	8%	26	100%

Comments received from Brightmore Precinct

“Council proposes a 25 metre No Stopping zone on the south-east corner of Gerard Lane. GS noted that this upper part of Gerard Lane has been narrowed so that a retaining wall could be constructed on the northern side following a car going over the edge into a property. GS also commented that cars speed in the lane, and has seen cars going the wrong way in this one-way street.

Other attendees who regularly drive along Gerard Lane said they didn't think speeding was a problem, however all commented that the footpath could be widened on one side to allow safe pedestrian passage – without a huge change in infrastructure/lay out of the lane.

As part of the North Sydney Draft 40 km/h and 10 km/h Shared Zone Masterplan, Gerard Lane was proposed as a 10 km/h Shared Zone. At the Brightmore Precinct meeting of 13 November 2019 with NW, North Sydney Council Traffic & Transport Engineer in attendance, attendees queried the cost / benefit of the estimated \$500,000 for Gerard Lane conversion to 10km/h, especially as it does not have a lot of foot traffic.

It was noted that the footpath on the northern side is virtually non-existent, and on the southern side the westernmost 25 metre section is too narrow and overgrown. It was felt that a better footpath on one side was a more appropriate and cost effective solution. Since the road was resurfaced a month or so ago, the white stopping line at Benelong Road has been removed, and the Precinct requests that it be reinstated. Other comments were that the STOP sign at Benelong Road is set too far back to allow sight of traffic on Benelong Rd.

The Precinct voted to accept Council's plan regarding the new “No Stopping Signs” (on the corner) unanimously.”

Comments received

Respondents were asked to provide general comments/feedback as desired. Comments have been grouped by emerging themes.

Support the proposal

- "I would like to take this opportunity to address the parking issue on the back lane. Not only agree with the proposed 25m non-stopping area but also I strongly suggest the Council to consider extending the parking restrictions area (i.e to the corner of Benelong street and Gerard Lane.) to protect public interests.
As you can see from the attached photos, almost every day, one or two cars constantly parked for all-day between the driveway of 81 Gerard lane and 79 Gerard lane. It has become an issue for the residents of 81 Gerard lane, as these cars are partially blocking the way out. Even if there is some space to drive through there is no doubt that those who live in the apartment are troubled by the cars all the time when they get out from the driveway. Moreover, surprisingly, these cars have parked even on the garbage collection days, which is an offence against the public service. Please take serious consideration on this. Kind regards, "
- Totally support this as it is so narrow and impossible to park.
- It is exceedingly difficult to pass by car if there is a car parked in the region that is proposed to become a no stopping zone. This often leads to problems with people

honking their horn in futility to try to get the owner of the car to come and move their car. The proposed no stopping zone is dearly welcomed.

- I live at 85 Reynolds Street Cremorne. The rear entrance to my home is onto this part of Gerard Lane. I have already had an accident due to cars parked opposite my driveway and have witnessed and sent photos of many near accidents to North Sydney Council. The installation of No Stopping signs is imperative to prevent further accidents.
- There should be no roadside parking the whole length of Gerard Lane, it is too narrow. The issue raised with respect to the section between the driveway of 81 and the bend applies equally to the sections west of the driveway of 81. Cars parked next to the driveway of 81 make exiting the car park unnecessarily difficult and block the rubbish collectors. Cars parked further along Gerard Lane between the driveway to 81 and the exit to Benelong Road can be difficult to pass.
- this road is too busy to have parking space and very dangerous for pedestrian too. I agree to install no stopping sign.
- "We would request that a No Stopping sign be installed between the driveway of No 81 Gerard Lane and No 79 Gerard Lane in addition.
It is difficult to drive out of the garage/driveway of 81 Gerard Lane if there is a car parked between 81 Gerard Lane and 79 Gerard Lane
Please see attached file
No_stopping_sign_comments_G_St_Quintin_Apt5_81_Gerard_Lane.pdf"
- Given the narrowness of the lane and the fact that the section of Gerard Lane from number 79 to 81 is used frequently as a short cut between MacPherson Street and Benelong Road, I support the installation of No Stopping signs on the south-western side of Gerard Lane between H/No. 79 and the 90-degree bend.
- With the No Stopping Sign hopefully it will assist in vehicles not stopping and illegally dumping their rubbish at the back of 6-12 Prospect Avenue, Cremorne.
- "1) Request a no stopping sign be installed between the driveway of 81 Gerard Lane and 79 Gerard Lane as the parked cars there cause difficulty in exiting our driveway, from 81, which is steep and curved.
2) Parked cars in the lane way block access to services such as garbage collection, deliveries to our apartment block (81 Gerard Lane) and fire brigade services.
3) If a large vehicle enters the lane way and comes around the corner only to find they can't proceed due to cars parked it has difficulty reversing back out of the lane way."
- "I have no objection to having that area designated as NO PARKING but there is a bigger issue on the lane and that is the speed limit. Cars fly down this lane to avoid traffic on Gerard St and having parked cars on the lane slows the cars and makes it safer for residents and pedestrians.
The speed limit must be reduced on this lane for everyone's safety.
- Cars park where the black car is pictured further down from the proposed signs. Can this be looked at as it may make it difficult for larger cars to pass
- Further to the proposed stopping signs I would like to see this zoning extended westward to include the small section of kerb between the driveway entrances of 81 Gerard Lane and 78 Gerard Lane. At present vehicles regularly park in this space and it makes it extremely difficult for residents leaving the driveway of number 81 Gerard Lane to turn into the lane as well as creating difficulties for larger vehicles to safely pass.
- This street is very narrow & should be no parking at all times
- Extremely narrow street. Should be no stopping at all times
- As a resident of Prospect Ave, I travel this road every day. It is extremely difficult to drive past cars parked in this street.

- We strongly support the proposal mainly on safety grounds. We suggest however that the proposed 25m No Stopping section should be extended to include the approx 3m section west of the proposed No Stopping section (alongside the exit/entrance to garages of no 79/81).

Oppose the proposal

- There is currently no issue with the parking on Gerard Lane
- I believe it's not necessary - there are only a couple of spots where one could park anyway. I have no idea why this is suddenly an issue. Who lives in this lane? Because lately you have had your water run off fixed; the road completely retarred and surfaced. By comparison - I have issues of concern which have been ignored at your meetings time and time again eg the pedestrian crossing at the corner of Gerard Street and McPherson Street. This is four lanes of traffic and as a pedestrian it is extremely dangerous. I am not asking for traffic lights but potentiall a flashing light indicating to traffic both ways that a pedestrian crossing is ahead. I have nearly been hit by vehicles who have not seen that I am actually ON the crossing and I am able bodied. Then there is the disgusting condition of Prospect Avenue. This road was ripped up over a year ago but was never repaired properly. Please send one of your ranges to drive down the road it is bad. And thirdly the lighting in Prospect Avenue is dreadful - from the bend in the road going down the footpath as a pedestrian - I am terrified of falling. Please address proper areas of concern. Thank you.

Discussion

Based on the survey responses, majority of the respondents (92%) and 93% of respondents with properties abutting Gerard Lane support the proposed parking arrangement. Therefore, it is recommended that Council installs the proposed No Stopping signs on the south-western side of Gerard Lane between the driveway of H/No.81 Gerard Lane and the 90-degree bend.

PROPOSED PARKING ARRANGEMENT

