

8.8. Expressions of Interest - On-Street Parking Management System 2022

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ATTACHMENTS: Nil

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council that an “Expression of Interest” (EOI) will be called for Councils new “On-Street Parking Management System Contract”, followed by a Select Tender process.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council’s current “On-Street Parking Management System for Parking Meter, Parking Sensor & Cash Collection” Contract is due to expire on 31 December 2021.

It is intended to call for “Expressions of Interest” (EOI) for the new "On-Street Parking Management System” in August 2021.

The EOI process will assist Council in determining what is currently the best system in the marketplace that is suited to Council's requirements. The EOI will also provide Council with an opportunity to shortlist the best service providers for a Select Tender process for Council’s new On-Street Parking Management System Contract. A Select Tender will be run in November this year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The financial implications will be reported as part of the Select Tender Process.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the information in relation to Council calling “*Expressions of Interest*” (EOI) for the new “*On-Street Parking Management System Contract*” be received.

LINK TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

The relationship with the Community Strategic Plan is as follows:

- 2. Our Built Infrastructure
 - 2.4 Improved traffic and parking management
- 3. Our Future Planning
 - 3.3 North Sydney is smart and innovative

BACKGROUND

North Sydney Council has used parking meters to manage on street parking in high demand areas for 30 years. Parking meters provide two essential services to Council:

1. A mechanism to encourage higher turnover and compliance to improve access to on street parking for shoppers, residents and visitors in high demand areas including the North Sydney Centre, Village Centers and residential areas.
2. To provide a revenue stream for Council to fund construction and maintenance of essential community infrastructure and other essential services that Council provides.

The process that Council is now embarking upon is similar to the process that Council undertook 2010 when Council called for an “Expression of Interest” for a holistic solution for an “on-street parking management system”. Council shortlisted preferred tenderers from the EOI and awarded a tender in July 2012 to Duncan Solutions. The original contract with Duncan Solutions was for a period of 5 years with an option for the principal, at its sole discretion, to extend the Contract for a further two (2), plus two (2) year periods.

The current contract with Duncan Solutions which includes the maintenance of all Council owned parking meters (originally purchased in the 2003) is due to expire on 31 December 2021.

CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

No Community engagement is required for this Project

DETAIL

Council's current Contract 13/2011B: *"On-Street Parking Management System for Parking Meter, Parking Sensor & Cash Collection"* is due to expire on 31 December 2021 (inclusive of all options, which have been exercised).

It is intended to call for "Expressions of Interest" (EOI) for the new "On-Street Parking Management System Contract" in August 2021. The purpose of the EOI is to shortlist preferred service providers who can deliver to Council a new On-Street Parking Management System that is fully integrated and has built in functionality and flexibility designed to meet Council's requirements for the next 10 years.

Council's Traffic and Parking Operations Area in conjunction with a number of other business units across Council such as Rangers, Customer Service, and the Finance Department have worked together in preparing the EOI.

As part of the internal consultation process undertaken at Council, a number of key objectives have been developed and incorporated into the EOI which are considered critical for the future management of On Street Parking in North Sydney. These objectives are as follows:

1. Provide Council with the best cost benefit solution and arrangement to upgrade all of Councils Parking meters which are over 18 years old. North Sydney Council currently has 443 parking meters that control 2768 spaces across the LGA.
2. Provide a "Parking app" that integrates with "smart device" parking applications.
3. Provide to Council an on-street parking management control system such as "Parking Sensors" and/or an alternative solution to installing parking sensors to monitor parking occupancy / turnover and to assist with compliance and enforcement.
4. Provide an E-permit system for Council's resident parking scheme, visitor parking scheme and contractors who come and work in the North Sydney LGA.
5. Provide to Council an "On Street Parking Management System" that has built in capability to incorporate the following functionality:
 - a. Real- time and historic parking and transaction reporting including dashboard functionality.
 - b. Built in integration with Council's finance systems.
 - c. Built in reporting functionality for auditing, systems status updates, maintenance logs, occupancy and turnover rates.
 - d. Secure portals and integration of the parking management systems operation with Councils enforcement services, smart device apps for Council car parks and meters, and E-Permits.
 - e. Built in functionality to provide free and/or discounted parking rates for all metered parking areas across the North Sydney LGA in real time.
 - f. Built in functionality to integrate with an upgraded "Park & Swim" refund scheme to be available at the newly developed North Sydney Olympic pool.
6. Any future parking management system that Council will invest in, must have real time application programming interface (API) ability to integrate/interact with Councils multiple software and hardware systems.
7. Any future parking management system must have full functionality to move towards being "Cashless".

Cash payments at North Sydney Council parking meters have decreased significantly over the last 5 years. Cash payments at Council's Parking Meters now make up only 8% of all payments and this downward trend on "Cashless Payments" is continuing.

Moving towards a full cashless system will significantly reduce Council's costs and resource load on the auditing of cash income and the security measures that need to be in place when managing cash.

North Sydney Council's car parks have been successfully "cashless" since 1 July 2020.

On-street parking meters come under the Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Act 1999, Pay Parking Schemes. Further details are also outlined with the "RMS Pay Parking Guidelines". (The current version 19.1465 dated 15 November 2019.)

It is important to note that on-street pay parking devices such as parking meters remains a mandatory requirement by the NSW State Government, as outlined in the RMS Pay Parking Guidelines:

"A physical parking meter or ticket machine, regardless of whether it is "Cashless" or not. The implementation of any cashless metered or ticket pay parking scheme must be done on a trial basis only and with TfNSW approval".

Council is currently seeking permission from TfNSW to commence a cashless trial at selected North Sydney parking meter sites.

The future of Councils Parking Meter Network

Underpinning the objectives of the Expression of Interest and any future contract for "On Street Parking Management Systems" in North Sydney is the objectives that have been established in Council's Parking Meter Master Plan that was developed in 2016.

This 10-year Master Plan mapped out and modelled what the likely attractors and demand would be for Parking Meters over a 10-year period across the North Sydney LGA. The Master Plan also identified that changing technology would play a significant role in any future development of the existing Parking Meter network in North Sydney.

Independent Expert Advice and Probity

As part of the Expression of Interest and Select Tender process for the new "On Street Parking Management Systems Contract" Council will be engaging an independent expert consultant that has a thorough understanding of the "On-Street" Parking Industry. The independent consultant will assist with the EOI and Select Tender preparation process as well as the formulation of the new contract.

Council will also be engaging a Probity consultant to prepare a Probity Plan and oversee the EOI and Select Tender process.

Program

1. Expression of Interest called August 2021

2. Expression of Interest assessed and reported to Council October 2021
3. Tender Documentation prepared and tenders called November 2021
4. Tender Award December 2021 – February 2022