COMMUTER CAR PARKING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mr Tim Crakanthorp MP
Position: Member for Newcastle
Date Received: 4 August 2017
4 August 2017

Legislative Assembly Committee on Transport and Infrastructure
Inquiry into Commuter Car Parking in New South Wales
Via email - transportinfrastructure@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Chair

The lack of parking in the Newcastle CBD and surrounding suburbs is one of the most frequent issues raised with me by residents in the Newcastle electorate, particularly the insufficient parking at the Stockton Ferry Wharf.

‘Park and ride’ facilities are an important part of the integrated transport network I want to see delivered for the people of Newcastle. The lack of available parking at the Ferry Wharf makes ‘park and ride’ difficult and discourages residents from using public transport especially the elderly, young families and people with mobility issues.

I have received the enclosed correspondence regarding commuter parking in NSW.

I ask that they be considered as submissions to the Inquiry into Commuter Car Parking in New South Wales.

Yours sincerely

Tim Crakanthorp MP
MEMBER FOR NEWCASTLE
SHADOW PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
Submission re Stockton Ferry Commuter Car Parking.

The problem with car parking at the Stockton Ferry Wharf has been exacerbated over the past few years by the influx of people from housing developments north of Stockton. That is, Palm Lakes, the Cove, Bay Way and the Fern Bay Seaside subdivision, not to mention people from Medowie and further north, using the ferry. These people choose to use the Stockton Ferry rather than face the problems associated with the parking in Newcastle.

There are two obvious solutions to overcome this problem and are as follows:

1. Provide an extension of the ferry service to a wharf located on North Stockton to accommodate people from the northern areas, thus alleviating some of the congestion to vehicle parking at the existing Ferry Wharf, and
2. Extend the existing car parking area at the current Ferry Wharf to provide additional parking to allow for future growth.

Please accept this proposal as a positive solution to a growing problem.

BL & VI Fensom
From: Deirdre Hough
Sent: Sunday, 30 July 2017 9:00 AM
To: ElectorateOffice Newcastle
Subject: Lack of Parking Stockton ferry wharf and Newcastle city

I would like to add my voice to the growing concern about lack of parking at Stockton ferry wharf and in the city centre of Newcastle. At times it is simply impossible to park anywhere suitable in both locations. With the government encouraging people to park and catch public transport, parking needs to be provided - for Stockton residents travelling after 7:30 am the car park is already full. This simply encourages those working in the city centre to then drive around to Newcastle in an attempt to find a park.

This matter is urgent and even more so now as the new University campus creates additional parking issues for those students who do not have bikes (the vast majority) and those who do not have adequate public transport options (many students).

When will the government begin listening to those who elected them?

Cheers Deirdre
Hi Tim. Just a short note on parking at Newcastle and Suburbs. Anyone who thinks that there is no shortage of parking must have been looking at 4 am on Sunday morning. At Stockton on weekday mornings, one might have to walk up to half a km from parking to ferry. With the big increase in population north of Stockton the car park should be doubled in size. Very lucky there is plenty of land to enable this to be done.

Regards Garth E O Martin
Hi Tim,

I have written down a thought or two regarding parking in Newcastle.

1. Parking for northern residents, a extension to Stockton Ferry wharf parking required. At least a further 300 parking slots required. Griffith Park eastern side could be developed.

   In view of proposed western side playground. Additional parking will be required for patrons of this area.

2. Old Royal hotel site could also be developed as car parking currently. Parking in on streets surrounding Griffith Park and WC parking area.

3. Extension of ferry services as was promised after rail services was terminated 2½ years ago.

   This ferry extension of service was to include Pilot station, Queens wharf, Honeypuckle, Wickham, Carrington and possibly North Stockton and Stockton.

   In the interim a bus service would need to operate, with set down to Wickham interchange.

   Hope some of this can be taken for your consideration.

D. McCormick
Tim,

Some ideas for Western commutes:

Parking could be made at McDonald Jones stadium, Newcastle Trotting Track

A shuttle bus service from above into Wickham interchange.

To later to pick up light rail into the city

In the interim period shuttle buses could run up Hunters St. with set down points, Courthouse, university, council chambers, town hall, medical services, solicitors, and many other houses of business. This service could terminate at Newcastle Railway Station.

A return service to the parking venues. As per design outcomes.

This would limit parking required in the city, allowing parking for city residents, and limited parking for others.

D. McCracken.
Tim,

Southern side residents,

A parking could be set up at Empire Park, with shuttle service to Wickham interchange in the interim. A shuttle service could run to Newcastle station with pick-up points from Wickham to Newcastle railway station.

So another venue which lends itself to major parks is Newcastle Raceway. Again, shuttle service to Wickham interchange. In the interim, a shuttle service with pick-up at all the major stop locations.

This service could be modified to suit patron of the service.

There are other alternative which need investigation.

This parking arrangement could also work for major city events including Supercars.

I hope some of these ideas can be considered, investigated and modified to get the best outcome.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Mr. Smith.
Mr. Grankandorp,

Thank you for your letter regarding car parks. My concern is Stockton Ferry Wharf.

As I love to go to Newcastle via the Ferry to support our local shops - I have a coffee or lunch.

Due to parking I don't do it as often because it takes so long to find a park (if at all). It's sad to see everything going to Sydney instead of Newcastle.

After all car are a luxury.

Yours Sincerely,

[Signature]

I do hope some progress is made.
Commuter Car Parking – Newcastle

Ferry Terminal Stockton

Increasing the size of the Stockton Ferry car park is one, not the best, answer to car parking problems at the Stockton ferry terminal because it removes valuable and useful public land.

Until recently the Stockton Ferry car park provided sufficient car parking, it is only because of development North of Stockton that its capacity has been exceeded.

Development between Stockton and Nelson Bay there has caused an increase in commuter traffic, this increase will continue and with this increase a growing demand for parking at the ferry terminal. Other changes in the area and their effects should be considered.

The new Newcastle railway terminal at Wickham is nearing completion; the Stockton Ferry will be extended to Wickham.

The passenger capacity of Newcastle airport is to be increased with an international terminal.

Stockton offers the opportunity to provide a location from which the city and the railway can be easily accessed but a major car park near the ferry terminal is not the answer.

All the increased traffic is coming from North of Stockton and the provision of a parking area North of Stockton, on the Nelson Bay road a very frequent public transport from this car park to the ferry. Frequent transport service would be necessary and could be provided by using something like UBER.

Existing public transport to and from the airport is inadequate to serve the increasing number of passengers. Regular transport from the airport to the ferry would provide good access to the city centre and to Wickham Railway Station.

There is little doubt that development between Nelson Bay and Newcastle will continue and this will demand a good public transport system. Although the time is not yet, a light rail from Nelson Bay via the airport will be a solution. The cost of light rail infrastructure is high can obtained from the increase in the value of land created by change of use. Plans for the future need to be made now.

Robert Wilce,
To whom it may concern

The parking at Stockton Ferry Wharf is inadequate for the growing community.

Any Newcastle councillor who claims otherwise is out of touch with the ratepayers of the northside community and certainly doesn’t use the ferry service.

Newcastle Council has spent a lot of money on the marina parking at north Stockton for the benefit of fishermen who for the most part are not local residents but can spend money accommodating commuters who wish to use the public transport services.

As a disability parking permit holder I wrote to the Newcastle Council regarding this matter last year and was sent a reply saying there is plenty of parking in the adjacent streets!

I am sure the residents of those streets are thrilled with that solution.

Mr Crakanthorp I hope you have success in getting the relevant committee to agree to a hearing which hopefully would bring about some much needed changes.

Yours Sincerely

Elizabeth Mason