


Council Policy

School Parking and Associated Facilities



COUNCIL POLICY

 <p>Adelaide Hills COUNCIL</p>	<p>SCHOOL PARKING AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES</p>
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Policy Number:	COM-21
Responsible Department(s):	Strategic Assets
Relevant Delegations:	As per the delegations schedule and as included in this Policy
Other Relevant Policies:	NIL
Relevant Procedure(s):	As adopted by the Chief Executive Officer
Relevant Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1999</i> <i>Road Traffic Act, 1961</i>
Policies and Procedures Superseded by this policy on its Adoption:	School Parking and Associated Facilities Policy SPDPC, Item 12.4, 27 June 2017
Adoption Authority:	Council
Date of Adoption:	25 August 2020
Effective From:	8 September 2020
Minute Reference for Adoption:	Item 12.13, 178/20, 25 August 2020
Next Review:	No later than September 2023, or as required by legislation or changed circumstances

Version Control

Version No.	Date of Effect	Description of Change(s)	Approval
1.0	27 June 2017	Adopted	SPDPC
2.0	25 August 2020	Reviewed and Adopted	Council

SCHOOL PARKING AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

This policy provides the Council and staff with principles and guidelines for addressing requests for additional car parking, drop-off/pick-up facilities, or similar, near schools.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this policy are:

1. To clearly define the Council's position in respect to the provision of car parking, drop-off/pick-up facilities, or similar, near schools.
2. To demonstrate a responsible and balanced approach to addressing the demand for these facilities.
3. To encourage school communities to be part of identifying the problem and addressing demand, including the encouragement of sustainable modes of travel to and from school.

3. DEFINITIONS

"Schools" include any educational facilities, whether they are public, religious or independent. No distinction is made between primary or secondary schools, however, early learning centres (i.e. childcare/kindy) will be encouraged to provide short term parking on their site where reasonably practicable as it can be expected when planning these facilities that parents and carers would need to physically take their child into the facility.

"The Department for Education" is referred to within this policy. In the case of religious and independent schools, the term DECD is interchangeable with the body responsible for managing the site.

"Car parking, drop-off/pick-up and similar facilities" includes infrastructure on the public road network designed to accommodate commuting to and from schools, such as pull-in bays, 'kiss and drop' lanes, parking bays, hard stand areas, etc. It also includes bus facilities.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

Principles

The following principles will be applied to the provision of and alterations to car parking, drop-off/pick-up and similar facilities around schools:

- The Council (i.e. the broader community) should not bear the burden of resolving matters that occur primarily due to increased demand for parking at schools or The Department for Education decisions to remove parking from school land.
- School administrations, school governing bodies and The Department for Education should participate in investigating and addressing the issue leading to the demand.
- Efforts should be made to identify and resolve the root cause(s) of the issue before infrastructure works are considered.

- Low-cost options should be considered first, as long as safety is not jeopardised
- The Council cannot reasonably address every request for additional parking through infrastructure provision.
- Sustainable modes of travel, which may reduce the demand for car parking, as well as having positive environmental outcomes, are encouraged; however, travel by car will sometimes be the only practical mode of transport available for some people in the community.

Position Statement

The following reflects the Council's position in respect to applying the above principles:

- 4.1** The Council recognises its responsibility as the manager of local roads throughout the district, for providing appropriate community infrastructure. The Council also recognises the State Government's position on not allowing drop-off/pick-up and short term parking facilities on school land.
- 4.2** The Council (i.e. the community) cannot, however, afford to provide extensive facilities on the public road network and in some cases, doing so would not be practically feasible.
- 4.3** In the case of an apparent demand for increased facilities, the Council will not consider constructing new infrastructure, unless and until, the following have been satisfied:
 - That the school has consulted with the broader school community about the matter, with a view to identifying the cause of the increased parking demand and encouraging the school community to 'self-manage' the problem (e.g. by changing behaviour, arriving earlier/later, stopping for shorter periods, etc).
 - That the school has adopted and implemented a formal approach to encouraging sustainable travel modes to/from school (which may include, for example, participation in the Way2Go Program).
 - That the school has accommodated parking for its staff on school land.
 - That non-infrastructure methods of managing the demand or addressing the cause of demand, have been considered first and all reasonable efforts by the school and/or The Department for Education have been made to implement suitable solutions.
- 4.4** Where alternative solutions to address the cause and manage demand cannot be found or have proven unsuccessful, the Council will consider what can be done to address the issue. Measures may include options which make other modes of travel (e.g. walking and riding) more attractive.
- 4.5** The Council will need to address each case on its merits and consider infrastructure improvements against competing district wide priorities. Decisions about providing additional facilities will include consideration of public safety and environmental outcomes as well as cost.
- 4.6** Where a potential action falls under the responsibility of another body or State Government Department the Council will work with the school community to advocate for that party to act.

5. DELEGATION

5.1 The Chief Executive Officer has the delegation to:

- Approve, amend and review any procedures that shall be consistent with this Policy; and
- Make any formatting, nomenclature or other minor changes to the Policy during the period of its currency.

6. AVAILABILITY OF THE POLICY

6.1 This Policy will be available for inspection at the Council's Offices during ordinary business hours and via the Council's website www.ahc.sa.gov.au. Copies will also be provided to the public upon request, and upon payment of a fee in accordance with the Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges.