



Sunday Organic Food Market at Pittwater RSL – Assessment of Traffic and Parking Operation

Pittwater RSL Sunday Market Traffic &
Parking Review

P1894

Prepared for
Organic Food Markets

7 October 2020

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Document Information

Prepared for	Organic Food Markets
Project Name	Pittwater RSL Sunday Market Traffic & Parking Review
File Reference	P1894.002R-Pittwater RSL Sunday Market - Traffic & Parking Arrangment Review.docx
Job Reference	P1894
Date	7 th October 2020
Version Number	001
Effective Date	October 2020
Date Approved:	October 2020

Document History

Version	Date	Description of Revision	Prepared	Reviewed
001	06/10/20	Draft for comments	AG	SC
002	07/10/20	Final	AG	

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1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

Greys Consulting has been engaged by Organic Food Markets to review Traffic and Parking operation of the existing Sunday Fresh Food Market which is being held at Pittwater RSL Club every Sunday. Greys Consulting has prepared the initial traffic and parking impact assessment at DA stage and has been commissioned by the client review the validity of the initial traffic and parking assumption, verify complaints received by Northern Beaches Council pertaining market operation and propose appropriate measures to address concerns raised by surrounding residents and council where applicable.

The subject site is shown in Figure 1.1.

Figure 1-1 Subject Site Area



Source: Google Maps

1.2 Scope of Work

The following works have been undertaken as part of this study:

- Undertake a site visit during bump-in & bump-out and working hours of Sunday market to collect parking, traffic and intersection performance evidence
- Prepare a Report to Northern Beaches Council to provide an independent traffic expert advice about the impacts of market operation on the surrounding road network
- Prepare a report to summarise observed traffic and parking issues and recommend mitigation measure.

2 Existing Operation & Proposed Alterations

2.1 Background

Greys Consulting was commissioned Organic Food Markets to prepare a traffic and parking impact assessment report in 2019 to support a DA application for a proposed Sunday Organic Food Market at Pittwater RSL Club premises. Greys Consulting was reengaged by the client to review the submissions received by the surrounding residents and business pertaining Sunday market operation and to proposed mitigation measure to alleviate potential impacts on the surrounding road network and amenities.

2.2 Existing Site and Conditions

The existing Sunday Fresh Food Market Operates between 8:30am to 1:30pm and is located within Pittwater RSL club. Stall holders bump-in starts at 7:30 and predominantly all stall holders access the RSL Club via Jubilee Avenue entrance.

2.3 Bump-In Traffic Observations

Three traffic controllers supervise the entrance process which lasts 5 minutes with queues extending to the intersection of Ponderosa Avenue and Jubilee Avenue (Approximately 270m) for a very short period of time. Stall holders leave the Site by 2:00pm.

The stall holders on the western aisle keep their vehicles parked parallel to the aisle at all times which contributes to parking supply significantly. The western aisle stall holders move their vehicles to the parking area after setting up their gazebos and gears.

The market layout is depicted in Figure 2-1.

Figure 2-1 Existing and Proposed Ordering Point Layout



The bump-in traffic queueing is depicted in Figure 2-2.

Figure 2-2 Bump-in Queue along Jubilee Avenue



2.4 Traffic and Parking Observations During Operation Hour

Parking behaviour of market patrons were observed in 30 minute intervals during the site visit on Sunday 16 August 2020 during market operation hours.

Some patrons opt to legally park on the verge after 9.00am while plenty of parking spaces are available within the RSL Club off-street parking.

The only way to control drivers' behaviour would be installation of temporary signs on the fence on Sundays or installation of parking restriction signs of Northern Beaches Council after approval by Local Traffic Committee. This seems to be unnecessary given the normal behaviour of parking on-street with no disruption to surrounding road network performance. On-street parking condition on Jubilee Avenue near the market entrance is depicted in **Error! Reference source not found.** and Figure 2-4.

Figure 2-3 On-street parking conditions on Jubilee Avenue Looking West



Figure 2-4 On-street parking conditions on Jubilee Avenue Looking East

2.5 Bump-out Traffic Observations

The bump-out coincides with Sunday peak of the road network. Some queueing was observed on Foley Street. The queue extended to Jubilee Avenue with approximately five minute delay to cross Mona Vale Road intersection. Most of this traffic is irrelevant to market traffic. However, the alternative access to Mona Vale Road via Jubilee Avenue and then Ponderosa Parade northbound is a fast track access to Mona Vale Road eastbound and westbound with almost no delay.

Greys Consulting recommend, traffic controllers encourage patrons and stall holders to turn left at exit points and access Mona Vale Road via Ponderosa Parade to avoid extra traffic congestion at Foley Street signals. Delay at Foley Street signals is deemed quite normal given single lane approach at a signalised intersection which is not considered as standard by TfNSW anymore. Access to Mona Vale Road via Foley Street and Ponderosa Parade are depicted in Figure 2-5 and Figure 2-6.

Figure 2-5 Queue at Access to Mona Vale Road via Foley Street during Bump-out

Figure 2-6 No Delay Access to Mona Vale Road via Ponderosa Avenue during Bump-out



2.6 Safety Issues

No safety hazards to vulnerable road users were observed during the site visit.

2.7 Parking Issues

Free parking spots were always available within the RSL club during market operation hours. Greys Consulting traffic engineer interviewed a few patrons who parked in the RSL Club parking randomly to determine if they have found it hard to find the parking space within the off-street parking. All patrons admitted that they parked their vehicles with minimum effort to find a free spot.

No parking issues were detected during the site inspection and parking on the verge is a personal choice by some patrons which is not an easy behaviour to control in the absence of regulatory signs.

2.8 Traffic Issues

The following traffic issues were observed during the site visit:

- Bump-in traffic extends along Jubilee Avenue to Ponderosa Parade. The queue disappears in about five minutes in the morning. No action would be required as Stall Holders are required to enter the market in an orderly manner to avoid safety hazards.
- Bump-out traffic queue coincides with road network peak hour traffic on Foley Street. It is recommended that traffic controllers at exit points encourage patrons and stall holders to turn left onto Jubilee Avenue and access Mona Vale Road via Ponderosa Parade which has ample capacity to accommodate this traffic volume with minimum delay time.

3 Residents' Complaints

3.1 Submitted Traffic & Parking Related Complaints & Greys Response

The applicant (Organic Food Market) has received five submission through Northern Beaches Council pertaining surrounding residents and business concerns about the several matters. The only traffic related submission is included in table below:

Residents' Submissions	Greys' Response
<p>Mr Jan Bilton 8/6 Foley Street Mona Vale:</p> <p>Firstly, I would like to point out that our apartment is directly opposite the Foley St entrance to the carpark and it is the buildup of cars waiting to enter that causes through traffic to become impatient and then the horn blowing starts. Before Covid19 the market traffic on Sunday morning was constantly heavy.</p>	<p>The only traffic observed at 7 O'clock was predominantly the market traffic and no noise or honking were observed by Greys Consulting Traffic Engineer during bump-in period. The whole bump-in period takes only 5 minutes. All vehicles entered in an orderly manner and no panic or unnecessarily driving behaviour were observed. A snip of the bump-in period is depicted below showing most of the vehicles in the queue were intending to access the market.</p> <p>Recorded bump-in videos are available for submission to Council and Planning Panel upon request.</p>

Figure 3-1 Bump-in Entrance Queue lasts 5 minutes with no unreasonable driver behaviour



4 Summary and Conclusions

Greys Consulting has been engaged by Organic Food Markets to review Traffic and Parking operation of the existing Sunday Fresh Food Market which is being held at Pittwater RSL Club every Sunday

A site visit was undertaken by Greys Consulting Traffic Engineer on Sunday 16th August 2020 to observe traffic and parking behaviour during market operation hours. It was concluded that:

- Bump-in traffic extends along Jubilee Avenue to Ponderosa Parade. The queue disappears in about five minutes in the morning. No action would be required as Stall Holders are required to enter the market in an orderly manner to avoid safety hazards.
- Bump-out traffic queue coincides with road network peak hour traffic on Foley Street. It is recommended that traffic controllers at exit points encourage patrons and stall holders to turn left onto Jubilee Avenue and access Mona Vale Road via Ponderosa Parade which has ample capacity to accommodate this traffic volume with minimum delay time.
- No safety hazards to vulnerable road users were observed during the site visit.
- Ample parking spaces are always available within RSL Club premises and on-street parking usage by some patrons is a personal choice which can only be rectified/enforced via application of regulatory or temporary signs on market days.