



18 December 2018

# COUNCIL UPDATE

## DEVONPORT CITY COUNCIL

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## COUNCIL APPROVES WATERFRONT HOTEL PLAN



**A visual depiction of the development looking from Best Street**

Local developer Faibrother has received approval from the Devonport City Council to construct a hotel and apartment complex on a waterfront site in Best Street.

Faibrother will demolish the old Harris Scarfe building and construct a five-storey hotel and apartment complex on the site. It will be the tallest building within the Devonport CBD.

The ground floor is proposed to incorporate the hotel reception, restaurant and car parking, which will be split over two levels.

Levels 1,2 and 3 will consist of a 137-room hotel and levels 4 and 5 will comprise 12 residential apartments.

The development will have a total height of 25.6m and vehicle access points are proposed from Best Street and Formby Road.

Council was told the site was zoned Central Business and the purpose of the zone was to

provide for business, civic and cultural, community, food, hotel, professional, retail and tourist functions within a major centre serving the region or subregion.

An in-depth traffic investigation has been undertaken to ensure convenient arrangements for pedestrian and vehicular access and circulation for the development and the greater area.

A waterfront parkland is proposed to be developed north and west of the hotel. That application will be considered by Council next year.

Six representations were received within the prescribed 14-day public scrutiny period required by the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

## PENSIONER PARKING PERMITS APPROVED



The Devonport City Council will introduce a parking permit system rather than a voucher booklet for local pensioners.

Unlike the current system, the permit will not be restricted to eight hours of parking per month, but rather afford an unlimited number of hours.

The Council was told many pensioners found completing the voucher booklet to be a tedious, complex and time-consuming process.

It is often not completed correctly leading to parking infringements being issued which are later overturned.

The administrative overhead to manage the voucher system is estimated to equate to 750+ staff hours or equivalent to more than \$23,000 per annum in labour cost.

It is estimated that Council's administration overhead and associated costs will be reduced by up to 75%.

It is also estimated that the cost to print and post the permits will be up to 60% less than the cost of printing and posting the voucher booklet.

Providing pensioners with a parking permit will substantially reduce complexity and eliminate the time allocated to completing a voucher when parking.

There are currently 2,679 pensioners who have completed an application and receive the parking voucher booklet.

A majority use the voucher booklet for an average of six hours each month.

Most of those park in the Fourways area of Devonport.

## COUNCIL ADOPTS GENDER NEUTRAL TITLE

Council's elected representatives will now be known as Councillors, rather than Aldermen.

Councillors last night voted to adopt the gender neutral term rather than the traditional term, as several other city councils have done, both in Tasmania and on the mainland, in recent years.

## TENDER GRANTED FOR ROAD RENEWAL PROJECT

Council has approved a tender for the Bishops Road renewal project, at Spreyton.

It has been awarded to Civilscape Contracting for \$237,811.

Although the road has low traffic volumes, an investigation showed there was a very thin pavement layer over the ground that was unable to withstand traffic loading when wet.

The original design was reviewed and simplified to avoid impacting the habitat of the endangered central north burrowing crayfish.

## PUBLIC COMMENT SOUGHT ON SMOKEFREE PLAN

The Devonport City Council is seeking public comment on its plan to ban smoking in the new Market Square area, between Providore Place and the parade centre.

It is seeking to have the artificial grass, the complete paved area of the Square and the lawn area south of Providore Place and adjacent to the Multi-level Car Park declared smoke-free, similar to the Rooke Street Mall.

Since the area was opened to the public, Council had received complaints regarding smoking in the area and there has been some general confusion regarding where people can and cannot smoke.

Both the Rooke Street entrance and the Oldaker Street entrance will allow for smoking on the footpath and the entrance near the Multi-level Car Park will allow for smoking on the asphalt area.

The public can access information about the plan by visiting the Speak Up Devonport page on Council's website, where they can also leave their feedback. Feedback will be accepted until 4 pm Friday 11 January 2019.