

# Newmarket Residential Parking Zone

## Review of Project Benefits



## Contents

<b>Background</b> .....	3
<b>Parking occupancy survey</b> .....	3
<b>Infringement notice analysis (Feb 2021 – Feb 2023)</b> .....	6
<b>Benefit review survey</b> .....	6
<b>Customer requests (Feb 2021 – Feb 2023)</b> .....	6
<b>Recommendations</b> .....	7

## Background

In September 2020, a new resident parking zone was implemented in Newmarket. This zone operates from Monday to Sunday, 8am to 6pm. It limits parking to 120 minutes, however eligible residents in the area can apply for a permit to be exempt from the restriction.

The identified objectives of the interventions were to:

- Improve parking availability for residents.
- Improve parking availability for visitors of residents.
- Improve parking availability for the customers of local businesses and other visitors to the area.

The zone has been in operation for over 30 months and during that time evidence suggests that most of the zone has improved availability, with few complaints received. This report seeks to quantifiably assess the effectiveness of the zone through the following:

1. Parking occupancy survey,
2. Infringement notice analysis,
3. Benefit review survey,
4. Customer requests.

The findings, through the analysis of the above-mentioned attributes, will be used to make recommendations for future changes to the zone.

## Parking occupancy survey

We conducted parking surveys on a typical Saturday and Sunday in late October and a Tuesday and Thursday in early November 2022 to determine the current occupancy and utilisation of publicly available on-street parking in the study area.

Average Peak Occupancy (APO) is the average of the four highest hours of the day. The target peak occupancy is 85%, this means that the parking resource is still well used, but people can still easily find a space, thus reducing customer frustration. In other words, one parking space in every seven should be vacant. When peak parking occupancy is regularly above 85%, we will recommend a change to the parking management approach. This is a recognised international approach to the best practise management of on-street parking.

The APO for the Newmarket zone reduced from 94% in 2019 (Figure 1) to 55% in 2022 (Figure 2). This shows that the interventions have achieved the objective of reducing the average peak occupancy levels significantly, improving parking availability.

The lower section of Maungawhau Road has higher occupancy than other parts of the zone at 76% APO. This area is impacted by high vehicle ownership (some properties have multiple vehicles parked on the road). There are only 26 parking spaces and 22 permits issued in this section.

Parking occupancy is higher in the evening on weekdays when events are taking place on the sports field nearby. We are investigating ways to lower occupancy during the evening, but no simple solution has been found.

**Figure 1: 2019 Heatmap (APO 94%)**



**Figure 2: 2022 Heatmap (APO 55%)**



## Infringement notice analysis

From February 2021 to February 2023 vehicles in the Newmarket RPZ overstaying the two-hour restriction were issued a total of 3212 infringements.

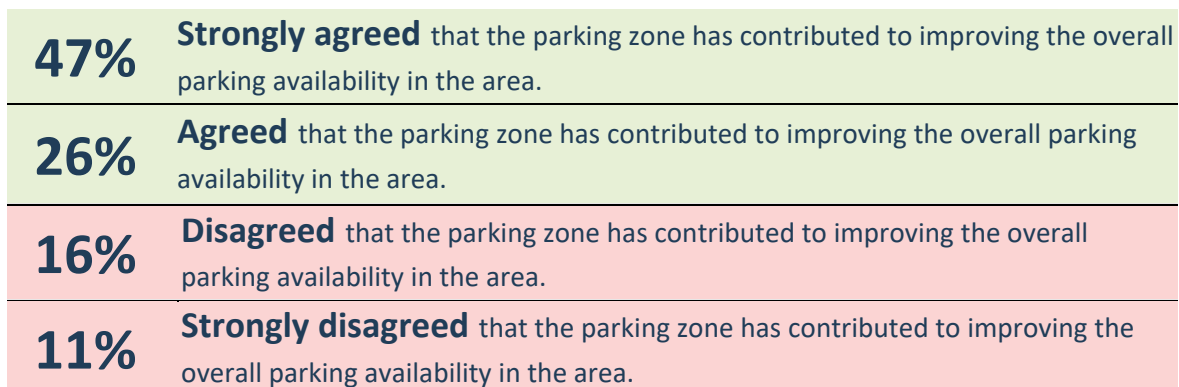
Road	Number of infringements
Seccombes Road	1872
Maungawhau Road	878
Almorah Place	462

Enforcement of the area is managed by Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) vehicles patrolling the area. These are vehicles with cameras mounted on top that capture licence plate details. While this enforcement is not done daily the occupancy figures suggest it is having the desired effect of keeping the occupancy numbers low during the RPZ's hours of operation.

## Benefit review survey

In March 2023, a review survey was sent to residents to review the benefits of the zone implemented in 2020 to understand its impact on the residents, visitors, and customers. We received feedback from 20 submitters.

How strongly do you agree that the parking zone has contributed to improving the overall parking availability?



## Customer requests

All parking related customer concerns are logged by Auckland Transport as Customer Relationship Manager (CRM) requests. We received 7 cases for the Newmarket RPZ between February 2021 and February 2023.

Of the 7 cases, 2 were about Seccombes Road and 5 were about the lower section of Maungawhau Road. The Seccombes Road cases were both regarding permit applications. The majority of the Maungawhau Road cases were themed around occupancy in the evenings. They were:

- A complaint regarding lack of available parking for residents.
- A suggestion for resident only parking.
- A suggestion for 24-hour time restrictions.
- A question of why the benefit review had been delayed.
- A request for a 4th permit.

A further request has also been received since February from a Maungawhau Road resident to resolve the scarcity of available parking when the sports field is in use from 5-8.30pm on weekdays.

## Recommendations

We will not be recommending any immediate changes to the Newmarket Residential Parking Zone as the zone is delivering the original objectives. However, we will continue to investigate solutions for the occupancy issues occurring when the sports field is in use on weekday evenings. We are also currently working on a separate project to install paid parking on some of the streets in the Freemans Bay Residential Parking Zone and will monitor how this goes. If it is effective at managing occupancy, this may be proposed in the Newmarket Residential Parking Zone in future.