

Request for Costing an Election Commitment

Name of proposal:	Improve parking ease and availability – Free after-hours parking
Person requesting costing:	Alistair Coe MLA
Date of request:	30 September 2020
Summary of proposal:	The Canberra Liberals will make parking free after 5:30pm.
Issue the proposal will address:	Proposal will provide a boost to night time economy and local businesses by allowing Canberrans to park for free.

What are the key assumptions that have been made in the proposal?

Note: The costing will be developed on the basis of information and assumptions provided in the costing request. The professional judgment of the Under Treasurer will determine whether these assumptions are adopted in the costing of the proposal.

Parking will be free after 5:30pm across ACT Government parking lots for twelve months as a COVID stimulus measure to boost the ACT's night time economy. This will encourage more Canberrans to visit entertainment precincts at night to support local business and help revive our economy.

The twelve-month waiver will begin on 1 December 2020 to encourage Canberrans to support local businesses over the holiday period. This period is critical for many small and local businesses who have been severely impacted by both the bushfires and COVID-19.

Parking fee revenue is assumed to be \$1.4 million in 2019-20. The ACT Government froze parking fees as part of COVID-19 stimulus measures, it is assumed that parking fee revenue for 2020-21 will be similar to revenue from 2019-20.

What are the estimated revenue and operating costs each year (if available) and what are the capital requirements for this proposal and estimated costs each year (if available)?

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue^(a)	-817.0	-583.0	0.0	0.0	-1,400.0
Expenses^(a)					

Capital					
Depreciation					
(a) A negative number indicates a decrease in revenue or an increase in expenses. The expenses row does not include depreciation costs.					
Has any specific information or data been utilised in generating the proposal?					
The costing is based on LIB055 - Better Parking costing from 2016 election where Treasury estimated foregone revenue would be \$1.4m for 2019-20.					
Where relevant, is funding for the proposal to be demand driven or a capped amount?					
The proposal is demand driven, however it is difficult to determine final costs given habit changes due to COVID-19 and further impacts of active cases on venue restrictions.					
Will third parties, for instance the Commonwealth or other State/Territories, have a role in funding or delivering the proposal? Does the proposal provide additional funding to, or redirect, any existing Commonwealth/State or Territory funding arrangements?					
N/A					
Will funding/the cost require indexation?					
No.					
Who will administer the proposal?					
The proposal will be administered by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate through Access Canberra.					
How will the proposal be administered?					
The Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate will advertise trial as well as adjust parking metres and signs to reflect the changes. The regulatory and enforcement arm of Access Canberra will refocus attention on other types of illegal parking activity in the evenings. A review will be undertaken to assess the trial and its impact.					
Is the proposal part of a broader package?					
This proposal forms part of the Canberra Liberals Policy on Transport.					
Has an allowance been made for expenses necessary to support the implementation of this proposal?					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – If no, will the government agency be expected to absorb expenses associated with this proposal? – If yes, please specify the key assumptions. 					

The Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate will absorb administrative costs associated with this proposal.
Will the proposal generate savings or offsets?
No.
Has the proposal been previously costed by an external (third) party? Will a copy of this material, including any assumptions, be made available to Treasury?
N/A
What are the community impacts associated with the proposal? Who and how many people will be affected?
Free parking is expected to support the night time economy by removing cost and time limit barriers. This will encourage Canberrans to go out and more time at patronising local businesses.
Are there any transitional considerations associated with implementation of the proposal? If so, how will they be managed?
No.
What is the intended implementation date of the proposal?
1 December 2020.
When is the proposal expected to be fully operational? Please provide details such as the start and end dates, the level of commitment during each period etc.
The trial will commence on 1 December 2020 and will cease on 30 November 2021. Review of trial will be completed within three months of the end of the trial period.
Will the proposal cease, and if so, when?
Free parking trial will cease on 30 November 2021.
Is there any additional information relevant to this proposal?
N/A