

Wednesday 29 October 2014

Donald Street Nelson Bay car park closure

Port Stephens Council will close the upper two levels of its multi-storey car park at Donald Street, Nelson Bay on Wednesday 5 November, after independent assessment found structural damage to be present.

Levels one and two of the car park will be closed, totaling 114 spaces, with the ground level and area adjacent to the structure remaining open and safe for parking.

Two additional sites have also been identified to provide ground level car parking for the Nelson Bay CBD, totaling 125 spaces.

The car park, which was built in 1991, has undergone regular visual assessments by an independent consultant, with cracks that were identified sealed.

The cracks were regularly monitored, and this year destructive testing was carried out by Council's consultant, who determined that the cracks were due to structural damage. This was confirmed by a second independent consultant.

Council's Civil Assets Manager, John Maretich, says the long-term future of the existing structure and general CBD parking is currently undetermined, but is being actively investigated by Port Stephens Council.

"Investigations are ongoing to determine the most appropriate actions required," Mr. Maretich said.

"We're aware of the potential economic impact the closure could have on the business community and we've been quick to act in relation to securing alternate car parking while the long-term options are being carefully investigated.

"The good news is that once the two alternate sites are opened, there will actually be a net increase in the amount of car spaces in the Nelson Bay CBD."

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Media contact:

Emily Graham, Public Relations & Marketing Coordinator, Port Stephens Council. Phone 4980 0265, 0428 607 343

Ross Smart, Communications Section Manager, Port Stephens Council. Phone 4980 0284, 0437 788 180