

ITEM 4 ALCOHOL FREE ZONES

FILE NO: A05/00074/02

SUMMARY

A revised schedule of Alcohol Free Zones for City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and the Redfern Local Area Commands is submitted for Council's endorsement. Requirements for public and stakeholder consultation under the NSW Local Government Act have been met.

This report recommends Council endorsement of the original 32 proposed Alcohol Free Zones and recommends six extensions which were proposed during the public exhibition and consultation period.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that -

- (A) Council endorse the Alcohol Free Zones for City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern Local Area Commands as detailed in paragraphs 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the subject report; and
- (B) Council note and endorse the extension of six Alcohol Free Zones to include:
 - (i) Castlereagh Street between Liverpool Street and Goulburn Street (City Central Command), as detailed in paragraph 15 of the subject report;
 - (ii) Glebe Street between Cowper Street and Bay Street (Leichhardt Command) as detailed in paragraph 16 of the subject report;
 - (iii) Franklyn Street between Cowper Street and Francis Street (Leichhardt Command), as detailed in paragraph 16 of the subject report;
 - (iv) King Street eastern side between Whateley Street and Wilson Street AND Whateley Street between Wilson Street and King Street (Newtown Command), as detailed in paragraph 17 of the subject report;
 - (v) Phillip Street between Elizabeth and Pitt Street (Redfern Command) as detailed in paragraph 18 of the subject report;
 - (vi) Wellington Street between Pitt and Cope Street (Redfern Command) as detailed in paragraph 18 of the subject report;

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Listing of Alcohol Free Zones in City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern adjacent to licensed premises

Attachment B: Alcohol Free Zone Consultation and Establishment Timetable

Attachment C: Listing and Summary of Community Submissions

Attachment D: Alcohol Free Zone Maps City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern

BACKGROUND

1. At its meeting on 15 November 2004, Council requested a revision of the 94 proposed Alcohol Free Zones (AFZ) across 6 Police Local Area Commands (LAC).
2. A report to Council on 27 February 2006 recommended a reduced listing of AFZ for City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern LAC.
3. At its meeting on 27 February 2006 Council endorsed this report to proceed to consultation for the AFZ in these four LAC, as required under Section 644A of the Local Government Act 1993.
4. The required consultation is now complete, and Council may choose to approve the report and enable the establishment of the AFZ in the City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern LAC.

KEY IMPLICATIONS

Service Quality / Levels

5. The establishment of AFZ enables the NSW Police to confiscate alcohol to prevent the escalation of intoxication which may require Police management via the Summary Offences or Crimes Act. The powers granted to Police via AFZ may reduce the need to invoke these more serious offences.

Social / Community

6. According to the "Ministerial Guidelines on Alcohol Free Zones", AFZ should chiefly be located adjacent to licensed venues. In the absence of such a venue, AFZs are only to be established in "exceptional circumstances". The location of each AFZ and its criteria for installation, according to Ministerial Guidelines is at **Attachment A**.
7. AFZ are one of several strategies to reduce the alcohol-related conflict between City residents, commuters, and visitors. The Social Policy & Programs and Community Support & Access Units are developing a strategy to address street drinking. The strategy uses a long-term, multifaceted, integrated approach to this complex issue.

Economic

8. In line with the "Ministerial Guidelines on Alcohol Free Zones", none of the AFZ have been selected with the intention to improve tourism or business interests in the City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern areas. Once established however, AFZ may impact positively for local business, through reducing the conflict between street drinking, local business and residents.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The costs associated with signage for the AFZ program are not expected to exceed \$27,000. This can be funded from savings in the Safe City 2005/06 budget.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION

10. Local Government Amendment (Alcohol Free Zones) Act 1995, Section 644 of the Local Government Act 1993. It is by Council resolution that AFZs are established, as per Section 644B (1) and (2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

CRITICAL DATES / TIME FRAMES

11. According to Section 644B (3) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1993, the AFZ will not operate until 7 days after the publication of notice AND until the designated AFZs are adequately signposted. A timetable of actions required for the establishment of the AFZ, following Council endorsement, is at **Attachment B**.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

12. An extensive consultation process was undertaken, as required under Section 644A, of the Local Government Act 1993. The AFZ were on public exhibition from 21 March to 14 April 2006, in Council offices, online and advertised in local media. Licensed premises, police, liquor industry, Aboriginal, ethnic and homeless services and many other key agencies and individuals were directly invited to comment on the proposed AFZ.
13. The consultation timetable is at **Attachment B**. This timetable documents key milestones, lists stakeholders consulted and additional actions undertaken.
14. The consultation process identified community support for AFZ. A total of 25 submissions were received during the exhibition period. All submissions (bar two) indicate support for the installation of AFZ. Some submissions indicated the need for extensions to existing AFZ. As a result, 6 AFZs are recommended for extension in the City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern LAC. Other AFZ locations recommended by residents and services require further investigation to establish their appropriateness for consideration as an AFZ. Council will examine these proposals as part of a future review of AFZ locations. A listing and summary of submissions from community members is at **Attachment C**.
15. **City Central Command:**
 - (a) Number of AFZ recommended 15 November 2004: 15
 - (b) Number of AFZ recommended 27 February 2006: 9
 - (c) Number of AFZ recommended post-consultation: 9
 - (d) Number of AFZ extensions: 1

As a result of the consultation process, one submission recommended the inclusion of Castlereagh Street between Goulburn Street and Liverpool Street (noted at point 7 in the table below). According to the "Ministerial Guidelines on Alcohol Free Zones", Council may elect to extend an AFZ location, after a considered review of community submissions. The Castlereagh Street AFZ is an extension of the Goulburn Street AFZ.

The Castlereagh Street AFZ meets criteria in “Reasons for Supporting an Alcohol-Free Zone” as stated in the "Ministerial Guidelines on Alcohol Free Zones", as it demonstrates that there is “irresponsible behaviour arising from the consumption of alcohol”, including instances of “obstruction, littering, the actual commission of, or police intervention to avoid the commission of more serious offences under the Summary Offences Act or the Crimes Act”. Furthermore, the Castlereagh Street AFZ is adjacent to several late trading premises supplying alcohol.

AREA 1	City CBD South
1.	George Street from Campbell Street to Druitt Street
2.	Liverpool Street from Douglas Street to Wentworth Avenue
3.	Central Street from George Street to Pitt Street
4.	Wilmot Street from George Street to Pitt Street
5.	Bathurst Street from Kent Street to Castlereagh Street
6.	Pitt Street between Park Street and Cunningham Street
7.	Goulburn Street between Sussex Street and Castlereagh Street, and Castlereagh Street between Goulburn Street and Liverpool Street
8.	Park Street between George Street and Castlereagh Street
AREA 2	Central
9.	Eddy Avenue between Pitt Street and Elizabeth Street

16. **Leichhardt Local Area Command:**

- (a) Number of AFZ recommended 15 November 2004: 6
- (b) Number of AFZ recommended 27 February 2006: 5
- (c) Number of AFZ recommended post-consultation: 5
- (d) Number of AFZ extensions: 2

As a result of the consultation process, one submission recommended the inclusion of Franklyn Street between Cowper Street and Francis Street (noted at point 2 in the table below) AND one submission recommended Glebe Street between Cowper Street and Bay Street (noted at point 5 in the table below). The Franklyn Street AFZ is an extension of the Cowper Street AFZ. The Glebe Street AFZ is an extension of the Bay Street AFZ.

The Glebe Street and Franklyn Street AFZ meet criteria in “Reasons for Supporting an Alcohol-Free Zone”. Furthermore, the Glebe Street and Franklyn Street AFZ are adjacent to licensed premises supplying alcohol.

AREA 1	Glebe
1.	Glebe Point Road from Parramatta Road to Bridge Road
2.	Cowper Street between Glebe Point Road and Wentworth Park Road, and Franklyn Street between Cowper Street and Francis Street
3.	Mitchell Street, between Catherine Street and Wentworth Park Road
4.	St Johns Road between Ross Street and Wentworth Park Road
AREA 2	Broadway Shopping Centre
5.	Bay Street between Broadway and Wentworth Park Road and Glebe Street between Bay Street and Cowper Street

17. Newtown Local Area Command:

- (a) Number of AFZ recommended 15 November 2004: 8
- (b) Number of AFZ recommended 27 February 2006: 8
- (c) Number of AFZ recommended post-consultation: 8
- (d) Number of AFZ extensions: 1

As a result of the consultation process, one submission recommended the inclusion of King Street (eastern side) between Wilson Street and Whateley Street AND Whateley Street between King Street and Wilson Street (noted at point 1 in the table below). The King Street AFZ (between Wilson Street and Whateley Street AND Whateley Street) is an extension of the King Street AFZ between (Goddard and Wilson Streets).

The King Street AFZ meets criteria in “Reasons for Supporting an Alcohol-Free Zone”. Furthermore, the King Street AFZ is adjacent to late and 24 hour licensed premises supplying alcohol.

AREA 1	Newtown Train Station
1.	King Street (eastern side) between Whateley Street and Goddard Street AND Whateley Street between King Street and Wilson Street
2.	Thomas Street
3.	Railway Lane between Thomas Street and Angel Street
4.	Newman Street between King Street and Thomas Street
5.	Whitehorse Street
6.	Norfolk Street
AREA 2	Newtown North
7.	Hordern Street between King Street and Victoria Street
8.	Mechanic Street between Church Street and Egan Street

18. Redfern Local Area Command:

- (a) Number of AFZ recommended 15 November 2004: 9
- (b) Number of AFZ recommended 27 February 2006: 10
- (c) Number of AFZ recommended post-consultation: 10
- (d) Number of AFZ extensions recommended: 2

As a result of the consultation process, one submission recommended the inclusion of Phillip Street between Elizabeth and Pitt Street (noted at point 3) in the table below) AND three submissions recommended the inclusion of Wellington Street between Pitt and Cope Street (noted at point 5). The Phillip Street AFZ (between Elizabeth Street and Pitt Street) is an extension of the Phillip Street AFZ (between Elizabeth Street and Walker Street). The Wellington Street AFZ (between Pitt Street and Cope Street) is an extension of the Wellington Street AFZ (between Pitt Street and Walker Street).

The Phillip Street and Wellington Street AFZ meet criteria in “Reasons for Supporting an Alcohol-Free Zone”. Furthermore, the Wellington Street AFZ is adjacent to licensed premises supplying alcohol.

AREA 1	Redfern Street
1.	Redfern Street between Gibbons Street and Elizabeth Street and including Lawson Square (Gibbons Street to Lawson Street, Lawson Street to Regent Street, Regent Street to Redfern Street)
2.	George Street between Redfern Street and Turner Street
AREA 2	Elizabeth Street
3.	Phillip Street between Walker Street and Pitt Street
4.	Elizabeth Street between Redfern Street and McEvoy Street
5.	Wellington Street between Walker Street and Cope Street
6.	Walker Street between Wellington Street and Phillip Street
AREA 3	Regent & Cope Streets
7.	Regent Street/Botany Road to Regent Street, Regent Street/Botany Road from Redfern Street to Raglan Street, Raglan Street from Botany Road to Cope Street, Cope Street from Raglan Street to Regent Street)
AREA 4	Rosebery
8.*	Gardeners Road (northern side) Rosebery, between Dalmeny Avenue and Primrose Avenue
AREA 5	Waterloo
9.	George Street (between Raglan and John Streets)
AREA 6	Redfern East
10.	James Street (between Young and Marriott Streets)

19. AFZ maps for City Central, Leichhardt, Newtown and Redfern LAC are at **Attachment D**.

ANN HOBAN

Acting Director Community Living

Suzie Matthews, Manager Social Policy and Programs