**Tuesday 22 October 2019**

**Sensor technology to improve parking turnover in shire trading precincts**

Surf Coast Shire Council will install sensors in selected car parks to improve turnover of parking in key commercial areas.

“The aim of the technology is to improve parking availability which has become problematic, especially at peak times,” said Cr Brian McKiterick.

“Traders have expressed their concern to Council about motorists overstaying in time restricted parking spaces and a survey of 51 traders in Torquay, Jan Juc, Anglesea and Lorne identified that 78 per cent supported the introduction of sensor technology.

“The technology will support Local Laws Officers to manage time-limited parking more efficiently and improve turnover of car parks in busy areas,” Cr McKiterick said.

“The technology won’t change current parking controls, including existing time limits. Nor will it result in paid parking or affect how officers issue parking fines.

“In reality drivers will only be impacted if they breach parking restrictions,” he said.

The technology replaces the need for parking officers to ‘chalk’ tyres to determine when vehicles overstay. Officers will have an app on their phones which will highlight the breach and enable them to go to the space and move the driver on, issue a warning or issue an infringement notice.

The system known as Parking Overstay Detection System, or PODS, will be installed in the following trading locations:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Location** | **Number** | **Details** |
| Gilbert Street Precinct | 81 | Asphalt section of Gilbert Street, Cliff Street carpark, Bristol Road between Cliff and Pearl Streets |
| Bell Street | 101 | All timed parking spaces in the commercial area |
| Jan Juc Village | 45 | All timed parking spaces in the shopping village |
| Anglesea Shopping Precinct | 40 | All timed parking spaces adjacent to the footpath, fronting shops |
| Mountjoy Parade | 132 | All parking spaces between Otway and Bay Streets |

Sensor based technology has been used in Australia for more than 10 years and is reliable and readily available. Sensors are installed in the ground below each parking space and magnetically detect a vehicle parked in the space.

**Not for publication:** 

For further information:

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