

# Resident Parking Schemes (RPS)

An Extract from the Roads and Maritime Services 'Permit Parking Guidelines'

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/partners-suppliers/documents/technical-manuals/permitpkgv32.pdf>

Permit parking schemes (PPS) are intended to assist residents who may be disadvantaged by others taking the limited parking space available near their place of residence. Note: Resident Parking Scheme is a Permit Parking Scheme.

## Legislation

RMS guidelines on RPS are in accordance with the:

- *Road Transport (General) Act 2013.*
- *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2013.*
- *Road Rules 2008.*

The *Road Transport (General) Regulation 2013* which is created under the *Road Transport (General) Act 2013* prescribes the legal requirements for the issuing of parking permits, including electronic permits and **mandates** compliance to RMS guidelines.

These guidelines outline aspects of responsibility, planning, eligibility, parking permit design, establishment, operation, enforcement, approval and funding of permit parking schemes.

## Objectives

PPSs are intended to:

- improve amenity for particular classes of road users who do not have sufficient off-street parking facilities or unrestricted on-street parking facilities available.
- provide equitable on-street parking space for road users.
- provide parking schemes to cope with extreme demands for parking that would otherwise be placed on the road system.
- provide an appropriate mix of on-street parking spaces in residential streets and in streets close to commercial centres.
- increase public transport usage by converting unrestricted kerbside parking spaces in residential areas and urban areas into restricted parking spaces such as permissive parking spaces or pay parking spaces where appropriate.

## Planning

It is important that parking authorities conduct parking studies and undertake appropriate planning before a PPS is introduced. Such planning should include formulation of strategic transport planning policies. In particular, policies are required to cover schemes on a street by- street basis or on a network of streets (area-wide) basis.

Parking authorities must consult with appropriate organisations such as adjoining road and parking authorities, Transport for NSW, RMS and State Emergency Services before establishing a RPS (PPS). This consultation is in respect of any parking or traffic issues arising from the introduction of the RPS.

## Resident Parking Permit

### Eligibility Criteria

A parking authority must set a list of eligibility criteria before issuing a permit and these should be incorporated in the permit application form.

The following sections indicate the minimum eligibility criteria applicable to permits. Parking authorities may set criteria additional to those in these guidelines.

The following eligibility criteria must be met:

- resident has no on-site parking or limited on-site parking and also has no unrestricted on-street parking available near their residence.
- place of residence could not be reasonably modified to provide onsite parking space(s).
- vehicle is not a truck, bus, tram, trailer (boats and caravans) or tractor.
- applicant establishes residential status within the RPS to the satisfaction of the council, e.g. entry on the electoral roll.
- vehicle is registered in NSW. For exceptions, see Section 12, (of the RMS guidelines) 'Interstate registered vehicles'.

In addition, the following guidance is offered to the parking authority:

- the vehicle needs not be registered in the name of the applicant but proof is required from the registered owner that the vehicle is normally used by the applicant. This applies to eligible residents who do not own a vehicle but use company, pool or hire cars.
- the number of permits to be issued for an area should not exceed the number of available on-street parking spaces in the area.
- a maximum of one permit per bedroom in a boarding house or two permits per household. However, in exceptional circumstances, the number of permits may be increased. If the number of permits to be issued is more than three, then the approval of the RMS is required.
- when issuing permits to eligible residents who have on-site parking space(s), the number of permits which may be issued to the household is the difference between the maximum number of permits that can be issued to each household within the RPS and the number of on-site parking spaces available to the household.
- PPSs can only be introduced in conjunction with permissive parking schemes or pay parking schemes.
- only parking authorities are authorised by regulation to issue a parking permit.
- every PPS requires display of a permit on or inside the vehicle to obtain exemption from parking restrictions (time and parking fees).
- a permit may be issued for multiple areas at the discretion of the parking authority, e.g. one permit covering residential parking and recreational parking, say at a beach or a park within their area of operations.
- holders of parking permits issued by a parking authority are exempted from the time restrictions or charges when the holders vehicle is parked in a permit parking space

Where the number of requests for permits exceeds the number of available on-street parking spaces, the following criteria must be used.

First the applicant must have no unrestricted on-street parking space(s) in front of their residence or along their kerbside. Second the following priority order would be used to issue permits:

- (1) no on-site parking space.
- (2) one on-site parking space.
- (3) two or more on-site parking spaces.

**Note:** In this section, *household* is a house, home-unit, flat or an apartment where one person resides alone or a group of persons reside together. A hotel is not considered a household.

## Common features

The following are common features of all PPSs:

- *there are* no areas set aside exclusively for the holders of permits.
- the permit does not give exemption from other parking restrictions and laws in the PPS, these include BUS ZONE, LOADING ZONE, NO STOPPING ZONE, NO PARKING Zone, etc.

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For the full document view:

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