

Albany Street Connection Project - Parking Restrictions (17 July – 7 August)

Submission: 4 August 2025

Kia ora

In making this submission, my most pressing concern is the proposed removal of the existing four mobility parks in Albany Street between Ethel Benjamin Place and Hyde Street - 3 on the northern side (1 opposite Grange Street, and a space accommodating up to 2 outside the University Property Services Building) and 1 outside OUSA on the southern side.

As regular customers of a business in Albany Street (4 days a week for a couple of hours) and frequent users of the University Library, my partner and I rely on these parks.

The importance of these designated spaces for people with mobility permits cannot be underestimated. The relatively recent escalation of the financial penalty for using such spaces incorrectly to \$750 emphasises this point loudly and clearly.

I would like to think that the existing parks were created based on science, careful consideration and planning. I have my doubts that the same can be said for the current proposal that sees them removed (albeit with new mobility parks in Ethel Benjamin Place and Leith Street).

This brings me to my second point. From what I can tell, the 9 new car parks on the northern side of Albany St that have recently been included to provide more parking near businesses are all 5 minute parks. What is the rationale for them being 5 minute parks? Has the Design Team ever had the benefit of data from a survey of the current patterns of use of existing car parks in Albany Street? Now that would be helpful!

I have followed the recent stories in the Otago Daily Times about the consultation or lack thereof with business owners and other stakeholders in Albany Street. I hope that this can be righted now.

And finally, to me it is not a small matter to fell a mature tree, much less three.

Please, think again.

Ngā mihi
Nā Christine