

Vehicle Pressure is Rising in Noosa

What Are Our Options to Manage Congestion?

Why We Need to Manage Demand



During peak season, some areas in Noosa experience congestion, in particular the Hastings Street precinct and Gympie Terrace reach capacity, creating:

- Traffic congestion and cars circling to find parking
- Limited access for locals, workers and emergency vehicles
- Pressure on surrounding neighbourhoods

We need to take staged action to manage this growing demand.

STEP 1

Dynamic Paid Parking

Council has been investigating the introduction of dynamic paid parking in key precincts to:

- Encourage parking turnover
- Support local access
- Ensure parking is fair, balanced, and reflects Noosa's values
- Fund public transport and mobility improvements

This option is still under review. Nothing has been finalised – please also refer to Fact Sheet 4.

INVESTIGATING

STEP 2

What is Congestion Charging?

Congestion charging is used worldwide to discourage traffic in areas where demand is too high. It involves charging vehicles a fee to enter or circulate in designated zones during busy periods.

It aims to:

- Reduce unnecessary car trips
- Encourage alternative transport
- Improve safety, amenity, and local access
- Fund better mobility infrastructure (shuttles, bike lanes, paths)

FUTURE

We want your feedback!

But It's Not That Simple

Both dynamic paid parking and congestion charging come with important considerations:

- They require extensive community consultation and strong social licence to proceed.
- Implementation depends on reliable, cost-effective technology and enforcement.
- A clear exemption framework is needed—especially for residents, workers, and disability permit holders.
- They must be paired with investments in public transport, walking, and cycling—not used in isolation.

That's why Council is taking a staged approach:

- Further to the Destination Management Plan, a Parking Management Plan is also being developed. Community engagement on this plan will be very important and will occur shortly.
- Dynamic paid parking is the first proposed step—currently being considered as part of the Parking Management Plan.
- Congestion charging may be considered in the future, but only if other tools prove insufficient to manage congestion and with full community input.

