

Background Paper – Logan Hospital Car Park Plan

Overview

This proposal was developed with the assistance of consumer representatives, patients and visitors to the hospital and staff. It was then reviewed by the Hospital Executive team. The objective is to optimise the use of existing space and does not canvass future proposals for a multi-deck car park.

PROPOSED CHANGES

Highlights

- Significantly improved patient access to hospital services by providing more spaces at peak times, parking close to buildings, and additional disabled parking and drop off bays
- Improved flow through the car parks
- 560 parking spaces for patients and visitors (276 spaces more - an increase of 97%)
- Additional disabled parking spaces
- 878 parking spaces for staff (71 spaces more - an increase of 10%).

Building 1 (Main hospital building)

- **Zone 1A (383 spaces)** – It is proposed that this zone will remain a staff car park for authorised staff but with substantial additional capacity added. This additional capacity would be achieved by the movement of the hospital vehicle fleet to the new Zone 3C next to Loganlea Road and creating a small authorised visitor car park in Zone 3B. Access to the Zone 1A car park would remain restricted to the following authorised staff between 6:00 am and 2:15 pm Monday to Friday:
 - Departmental directors and senior doctors visiting from other hospitals
 - volunteers and chaplains
 - staff specialists
 - Staff commencing afternoon shifts from 2:30 pm
 - 32 bays assigned to food and environmental services staff on early shift who will exit the car park in time for the afternoon shift staff to park
 - Queensland Ambulance Service staff based at Logan Hospital
 - Others as required.

There will be no restrictions to parking in this zone after hours and on weekends.

- **Zone 1B (305 spaces)** - To remain restricted to patients and visitors.
- **Zones 1C, 1D** – patient and visitor drop off bays only.

Building 2 (on Armstrong Road adjacent to Zone 1A; day services only)

- **Zone 2 (38 spaces)** – this proposal sees this previously mixed car park converted to patient parking only, with a particular focus on access for our least mobile patients to renal dialysis, endoscopy, private practice clinic, and day therapy and palliative care. Staff previously allocated space in this car park will be provided parking immediately adjacent to this building in Zone 1A.

Building 3 (New building on Loganlea Road, housing the new emergency department, rehabilitation ward and children’s ward)

- **Zone 3A (217 spaces)**– It is proposed that this area be dedicated to providing additional patient and visitor parking during peak demand from 6.00am – 8.00pm, Monday – Friday. Staff may park here at all other times, on the proviso that this does not overlap with these times. The exceptions are our night shift staff finishing by 8:00am, provided they exit as soon as possible after their shift.
- Includes 11 additional disabled car parking spaces, a new Kidsafe Queensland (Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia) baby capsule hire and fitting service and six motorcycle bays.
- **Zone 3B (22 spaces)** - Authorised visitor parking.
- **Zone 3C (61 spaces)** - restricted area for government (Q Fleet) vehicles.

Offsite Staff Parking

- Logan Hospital maintains 446 car spaces off site for staff and student parking in addition to the hospital’s on-site car parks. These are located at Griffith University (407 spaces) and Meadowbrook TAFE (39 spaces) A free shuttle bus service runs between the Griffith University Car Park and the hospital from 5.30am – 7.10pm (Monday – Friday). These spaces are mainly used by staff and students on day shift at the hospital during these times.

Originally these arrangements were created to temporarily alleviate parking restrictions associated with the construction of our new building. It is now proposed that these arrangements be extended until such time as a multi-storey car park can be funded and built on site. This is an important decision because demand for hospital services is expected to continue to increase in line with population growth in Logan City.

Student parking

- Logan Hospital is a major training site for students undertaking university degrees in medicine, nursing, midwifery and the allied health professions. This proposal will result in current restrictions being maintained as follows:
 - Students can only park at the off-site Griffith University car park during the Monday to Friday day shift
 - Special arrangements are in place for students on afternoon shift. They park at the Griffith University car park and are released at 5pm to collect their vehicles and move them to the car park at the hospital.

Why we are consulting

- Our new building (Building Three) will gradually open during October and November 2014, starting with the opening of the new Emergency Department on Tuesday 14 October 2014.
- Opening of the ground floor of Building Three (date still to be advised) will increase the total on-site parking capacity by around 300 additional spaces. The end of construction should also see less competition for early morning street parking for workers from the construction site.
- While this extra parking will be very welcome, our total capacity will still be unable to meet demand, particularly at peak times. This peak demand has a number of causes, including:
 - Logan Hospital provides an average of 535 outpatient appointments a day to our community (139,000 a year) This service is only open during normal business hours
 - A range of other services are only provided during normal business hours, including our elective surgery and endoscopy services
 - Many staff only work during normal business hours Monday to Friday
 - There is a busy change over period between afternoon and morning shifts for shift workers. This is one of the reasons for the current requirement for most of our day shift staff to park off site at Griffith University, as they would not leave in time for afternoon shift staff to park.
 - There are increased visitor numbers after work.
- The new building has a direct entry to the new Emergency Department, off Loganlea Road. This entry is only for ambulances and private drivers dropping relatives or friends who need the emergency department. All private drivers will then need to go down the ramp and park in the main car park or exit the hospital. This requires a re-working of flow through our car parks.
- A lack of general and disabled parking Monday to Friday during normal business is still one of the major reasons for complaints from our patients. We need to use this opportunity to address this as best we can.