LI PARKIET TOOLKI A GUIDELINE TO PARKLET CONSTRUCTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Strathfield Council acknowledges the Wangal people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the Strathfield Local Government Area is located.

We pay respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



ACTIVE STREETS, SOCIAL LIVES

We value our streetscapes in Strathfield, just like the generations before us. As much as they are places for movement and transport, the street has been the epicentre of human social activity, commerce, and trade for as long as they have existed. It's a place where our community can come together to socialise, celebrate and enjoy a variety of events and activities. Our concepts of streets continue to evolve, and there is an increasing awareness of the importance of active streets to encourage social, healthy lives.

With this in mind, I am proud to present The Parklet Toolkit, a guide to the construction of parklets within Strathfield Council. Parklets play a key role in activating streets and facilitating social lives as they transform road space traditionally reserved for cars, into 'fun' space for people. The Parklet Toolkit provides an easy-to-read guide on best practice for all elements required to make your parklet vision a reality. As always, our friendly Council staff are available to assist you.

I look forward to seeing your successful parklets in the Strathfield neighbourhoods.



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

NSW New South Wales

LSPS Local Strategic Planning Statement

LGA Local Government Area

PDDM Public Domain Design Manual

DDA Disability Discrimination Act

FFL Finished Floor Level

LEP Local Environment Plan



RELATED DOCUMENTS







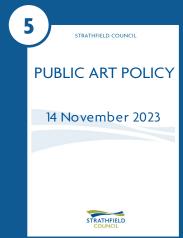
STRATHFIELD

Fees & Charges

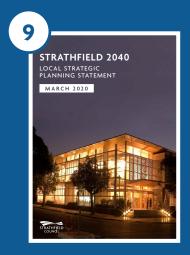
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- Parklet Policy 2025 2. Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2020 -2024 3. Enforcement Policy
- 4. Licences & Leases
- **Policy** 5. Public Art Policy
- 6. Adopted Fees & Charges
- 7. Public Space **Advertising Policy**
- 8. Strathfield 2035 Community Strategic
- 9. Strathfield 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement
- 10. Strathfield Controls and Guidelines for **Outdoor Dining Areas**

















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OVERVIEW

WHAT IS A PARKLET?

A parklet is a term used to describe the re-allocation of a road carriageway to be used for public domain amenity. These public domain amenities typically include tables, seating, planting, and canopy structures to support street dining activities. The term 'parklet' is a diminutive word taken from 'parking', therefore implying a small occupation of parking space for use in the public domain.

Parklets are part of a broader movement in policies within both state and local levels of government in Australia which aim to recognise the importance of activated streetscapes. In appropriate areas, the re-allocation of parking space for use in the public domain provides a viable and cost effective solution for businesses wanting to extend their outdoor dining space. The enlargement of the public domain through parklets provides improvements to the overall streetscape character which in turn has positive benefits to the community.



Figure 1: An example of a parklet system



STATE LEGISLATION

A SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIP

The New South Wales (NSW) government does not have legislation pertaining to the implementation of parklets. Instead, rules and regulations regarding parklets are provisioned for at the local level of government with reference to the following state government acts:

- Section 125 of the Roads Act 1993: Relating to footpaths being used for dining purposes
- 2. Section 126 of the Roads Act 1993: Provides authority for council approval of structures on the road
- 3. Section 68 of the Local Government Act Part E: Pertains to all matters on public roads

Additionally, the NSW Government have historically provided trial programs to local governments to pilot a parklet in their community. The NSW Government provides a supportive relationship with Council through endorsing the creation of parklets at the local level of government.



Figure 2: An example of a parklet system



OUR STRATEGY



STRATHFIELD 2040

Strathfield Council has three key principles which guide the strategic direction of policy-making by Council. These are:

- **1. Heart:** Strathfield is at a cental location in Sydney, a place of connection with a rich cultural tapestry.
- **2. Proud:** Strathfield has unique identifying attributes which revolve around heritage, parks, and gardens.
- **3. Place:** Strathfield is a major space of productivity in the Inner West region, particularly in the business, retail, and education sectors.



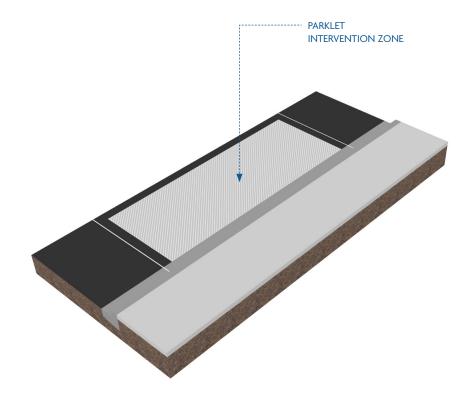
Figure 3: Strathfield Square

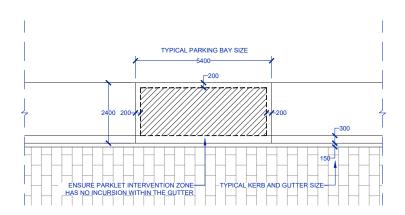


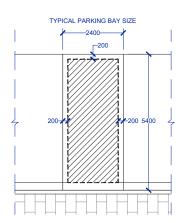
SETOUT

Firstly identify whether your proposed parklet space is situated in a parallel or perpendicular parking arrangement. Ensure the proposed parklet is offset by 200mm from the edge of the parking bay. Most parking bays are roughly 2400mm wide and 5400mm long, although this may vary slightly across Council.

You must ensure your parklet intervention zone does not have an incursion within the kerb to ensure stormwater flow is uninterupted when it rains. Blocking the kerb will disturb the flow of water and damage your parklet and Council's infrastructure. You may occupy a maximum of 2 parking spaces per parklet in both parallel and perpendicular conditions. Be mindful of the needs of neighbouring businesses and always consult with them about your ideas before engaging in the application process.







01 TYPICAL SETOUT IN PARALLEL ARRANGEMENT
04 1:150 A4

O2 TYPICAL SETOUT IN PERPENDICULAR ARRANGEMENT

O4 1:150 A4

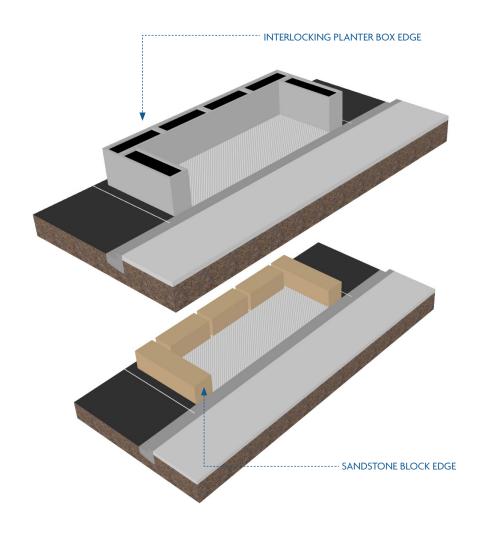


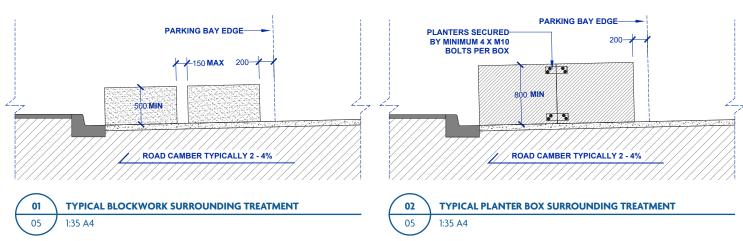
PERIMETER TREATMENTS

All parklets must have a perimeter treatment which is structurally suitable for traffic hazard mitigation purposes. All types of perimeter treatment must be between 500mm and 900mm in height

Two perimeter treatments may be used. Sandstone blocks may be placed around the perimeter to form a barrier condition. The blocks must be a minimum of 500mm in height, 450mm deep, and placed tightly together, ensuring gaps of no more than 150mm.

As another option, planter boxes may also be used. Ensure the planter boxes are a minimum 800mm in height, a minimum 450mm in width, and secured together to form an edge condition with no gaps. Planter boxes should be secured at a minimum with 4 M10 bolts per planter box and weigh at a minimum 300kg per linear metre. A custom, continuous planted edge condition which meets these standards is also permissible.





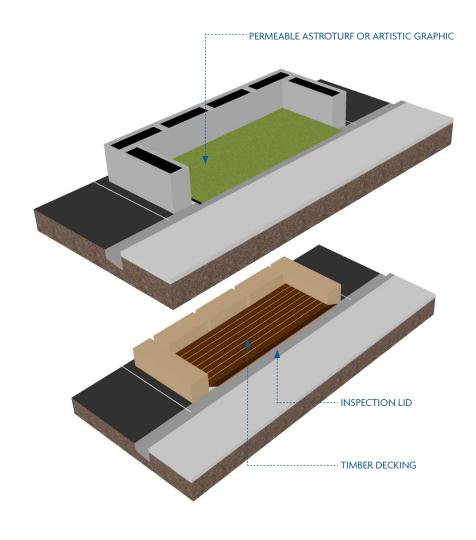


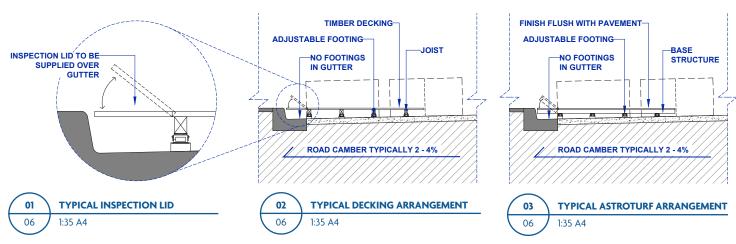
FLOORING

Three flooring treatments can be used in your parklet design. Adjustable feet must be used to ensure that the parking bay can be returned to it's original condition if needed. No drilling into the asphalt is permitted.

Timber decking can be used as a flooring treatment. The decking must be fixed to joists and then secured by adjustable feet. Sustainably sourced hardwood or timber substitute may be used as a decking surface. Hardwood timber must be treated at a minimum once per year to prevent splintering.

Astro turf or an artistic graphic surface can also be used. A base structure supported by adjustable feet must be provided. It is recommended that the base structure and top treatment (either astroturf or artistic graphic) are permeable. If not, a slope must be provided toward the gutter. An inspection lid must be provided in all instances, and the gutter checked monthly.







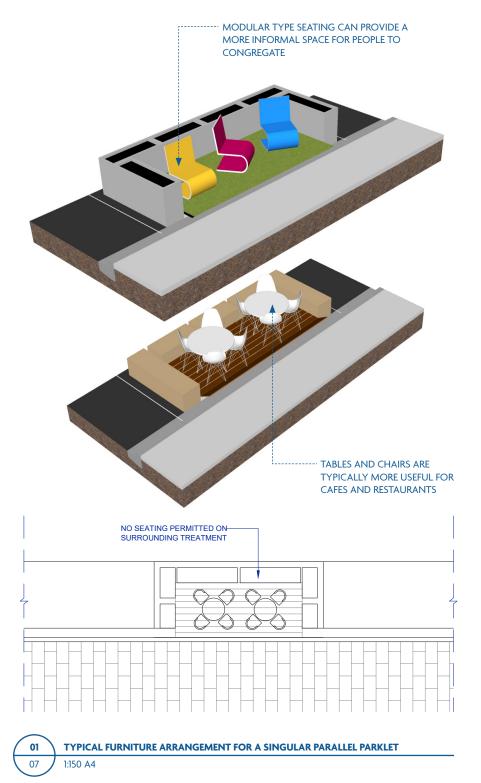
FURNITURE

You may choose which type of furniture you wish to include in your parklet design. The design, colour, and layout of the furniture is your choice, however the following paramaters must be abided by:

- 1. Ensure DDA compliance through providing furniture which can be used by people with a variety of disabilities.
- 2. Do not place furniture in a way which encourages users to sit along the edge condition. For example, in blockwork surrounding treatments do not allow patrons to use the blockwork as a seat.
- 3. Furniture must not be heavy enough to compromise the structural integrity of the flooring ensure due diligence through consulting a qualified professional.



Figure 4: Example of typical parklet furniture



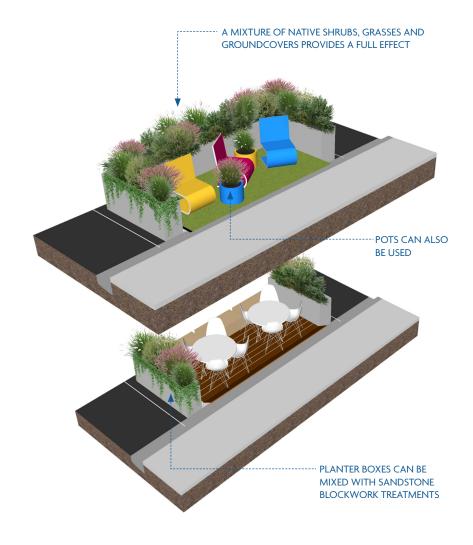


PLANTING

Planting requirements will differ depending on your chosen surrounding treatment.

For blockwork surrounding treatments, planting can be provided through using planter boxes. Follow the guidelines for planter boxes under 'Surrounding Treatments' on Page 5. You can also choose to include additional pot plants to improve the aesthetic quality of the parklet.

Planting must only include groundcovers, grasses, and/or low shrubs. No trees are to be placed in the parklets. Planting selection should prioritise firstly locally indigenous species, secondly Australiawide native species, and lastly exotic species. It is encouraged to use planter boxes which have a wicking bed system in order to improve plant health and lower the amount of watering required. Plants must appear healthy; dead or dying plants are not acceptable and must be removed and replaced.



A selection of locally indigenous species



scandens



Hardenbergia violacea



Correa alba



Hibbertia scandens



Dianella caerulea



Kunzea ambigua



Dichelachne crinita



Lomandra longifolia



Dichondra repens



Pandorea pandorana



Dilwynia retorta



Persicaria decipens



Ficinia nodosa



Scaevola albida



Grevillea buxifolia



Solanum aviculare



Hakea sericea



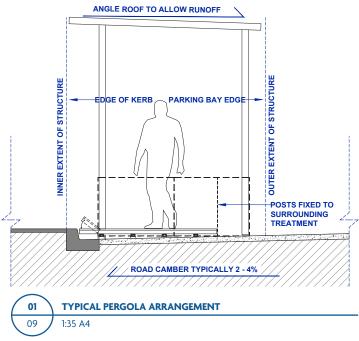
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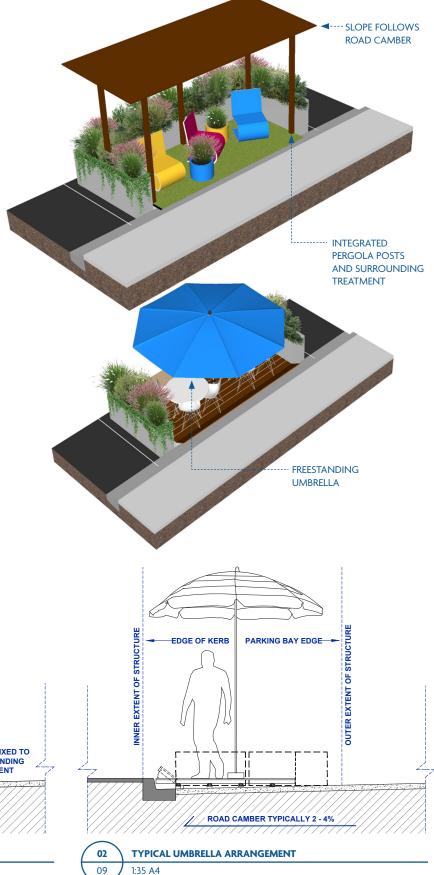


OVERHEAD STRUCTURES

Two types of overhead structure can be selected for use in your parklet design. A pergola structure must not be fixed to the asphalt. The pergola and surrounding treatment must be integrated and support each other structurally. The elements of the pergola (such as the posts, beams, rafters, and roof) must be prefabricated and assembled on site. No construction from individual building elements on site is allowed. Due to this complexity, all pergola designs must be submitted to Council for approval and designed or purchased outright by a qualified professional.

A shade umbrella can be used as an alternative to a pergola. You must not have umbrellas open during windy conditions, and it is not permitted to attach a shade sail from your parklet to a building awning.







SIGNAGE

It is permitted to advertise your business with signage as part of your parklet design. You must ensure that your signage does not block pedestrian movement, clutter the space of the parklet, or detract from the overall aesthetic quality of the streetscape.

The following types of signage are permitted for use:

- 1. A-Frame
- 2. Portable

The following types of signage are not to be used:

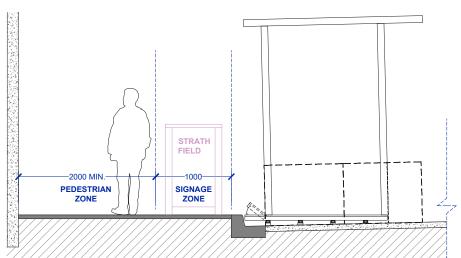
- 3. Stickers
- 4. Banners
- 5. Flags
- 6. Billboards

Avoid the use of overly bright and tacky colours, and try to integrate your signage style within the overal design of your parklet.



Figure 5: Example of stylish a-frame signage









ARTWORK

You may want to customise your parklet to represent your business' identity and contribution to the Strathfield community.

Artwork is permitted to be created within your parklet space. Examples of artistic expression can include, and not limited to, painting of planter boxes or a pergola, customising furniture, and patterned flooring finishes. Ensure your artwork is only within the confines of the parklet zone and does not protrude onto the roadway or pedestrian area.

It is not permitted to create artwork which can reasonably be perceived by a reasonable minority of people to be of an offensive or controversial nature. Artwork should also not appear to be traffic control line marking, symbols, or patterns. You may create your artistic proposal and provide Council with detailed drawings for approval.









Figure 7: Example showing a decorated pergola and graphic flooring



LIGHTING

Whilst the streetscape is illuminated by lighting, you may wish to provide your parklet space with a softer and cosier lighting style to help create a comfortable atmosphere. Cantina lighting is a common typology used in parklets due to it's easy installation and effective soft lighting character. Other options you could explore include LED strip lighting, up-lighting, modular lighting, and fairy lighting

Flashing lighting is not permitted. Opt for warm-yellow lighting and ensure cables are stored neatly in a compartment away from the general public. Do not run cables along the ground of your parklet or across the footpath as this presents a trip hazard. The best way to supply power is by using solar panels attached to a pergola roof. Council can assist in identifying appropriate power supply options for your parklet.





Figure 8: Example of modular lighting

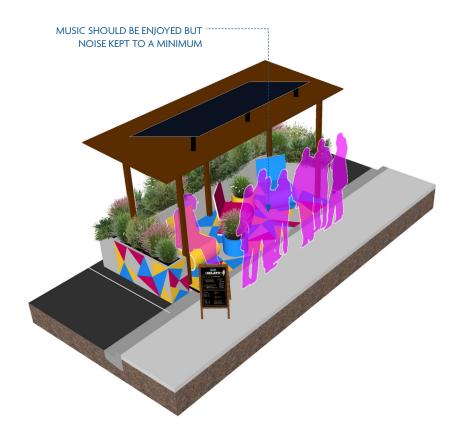


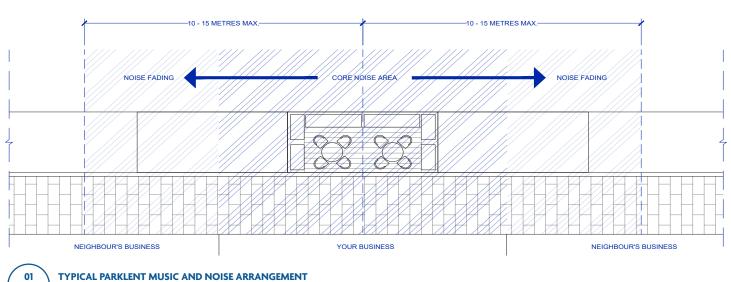
Figure 9: Example of low level lighting providing a pleasant parklet atmosphere



MUSIC AND NOISE

You are permitted to play music within your parklet to an acceptable noise level during the operational hours of your business. Music must not contain profanity or offensive language, and must not be played in the parklet between the times of 22:00 and 8:00. An acceptable noise level for cafe or restaurant outdoor music is between 65 and 75 decibels. To test this, your music should not be heard more than 10 - 15 metres away in calm environmental conditions (i.e. minimal traffic noise or other background noises). Another measure is to test whether your music is loud enough to be dominating the atmosphere of the adjacent businesses to your parklet. Noise perception will vary from person to person. Music is an important factor in creating a likeable outdoor dining atmosphere, and Council will balance the needs of businesses with that of the community.







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TEMPERATURE CONTROL

You may opt to include cooling or heating devices within your parklet to improve the comfort of the space.

Permitted cooling devices include ceiling fans and misting technology. These devices may be attached to a pergola structure. Pedestal fans and portable air conditioners are not permitted. Permitted heating devices include stand-up movable gas heaters and strip heating panels which can be attached to a pergola structure. Space heaters, fire pits, or any other type of devices emitting open flames are not permitted.

You should ensure that your temperature control devices are either firmly secured to your parklet to avoid vandalism, or can be moved inside your property at closing time. Windbreaks can be used only in windy weather and must be retractable, i.e. shutters and pull up/down blinds.





Figure 10: Example of a stand-up movable heater



Figure 11: Example showing ceiling fans attached to a pergola with an integrated misting device

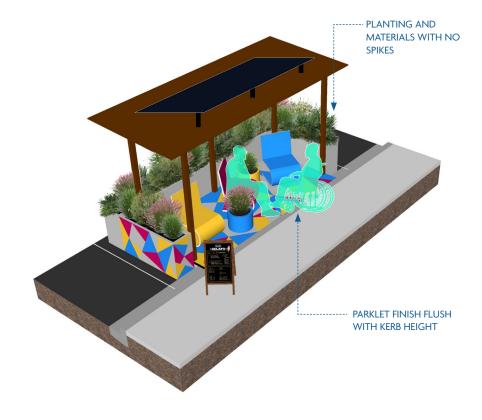


DDA COMPLIANCE

You must ensure that your parklet is accessible to people with a disability. A person must be able enter your parklet with as little fuss as possible.

Wheelchair access must be provided. Your parklet's finished floor level (FFL) must be at the same level as the kerb. Parklets with steps are not acceptable. Only in challenging or constrained site conditions may a parklet be higher or lower than the kerb height. In these instances, a ramp must be provided and Council will assist in ensuring DDA compliance is met. There must be no sharp edges within your parklet, and materials must have a low level of reflectivity.

Furniture in your parklet must be movable to allow access for people using a wheelchair. Table height should be between 830mm and 870mm to enable universal access. The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 is available online, click here.



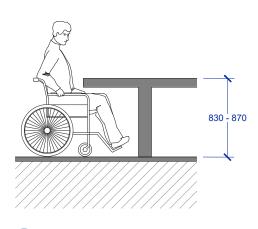






Figure 12: Example showing a parklet sitting flush with the adjacent footpath





DO'S

SETOUT

- Mark-out within the dedicated parking bay
- Adhere to the 200mm offset from the parking bay edge on all sides except the kerb

SURROUNDING TREATMENTS

- Stick within the offset zone
- Ensure minimum heights and widths are adhered to and that gaps are no more than 150mm
- Use blockwork or planter boxes

FLOORING

- Use adjustable footings to support the flooring structure
- Use decking, astro turf, or an artistic graphic
- Ensure permeability, and if not, ensure a slope is provided to the gutter

FURNITURE

- Ensure people do not sit on the surrounding treatment
- Ensure furniture is DDA compliant
- Check weight of furniture to ensure the flooring does not become compromised

PLANTING

- Select locally indigenous plants
- Use plants which have no thorns or spikes
- Keep plants healthy and watered

OVERHEAD STRUCTURES

- Ensure pergolas or umbrellas are not attached to the asphalt
- Ensure your overhead structure is secured tightly
- Keep your overhead structure within the parklet zone

SIGNAGE

- Use an a-frame or portable signage typology
- Place your signage within the 1000mm zone

ARTWORK

- Be creative and express your business' identity
- Stick within the confines of your parklet zone

LIGHTING

- Use warm lighting to provide a cosy atmosphere for your parklet
- Bundle cords neatly and out of sight

MUSIC AND NOISE

- Choose music which contributes to the atmosphere of your parklet
- Be considerate of your neighbours and ensure noise levels are not too loud

TEMPERATURE CONTROL

- Secure heating or cooling devices to your parklet, or roll movable items indoors at closing time
- Only place devices within your parklet zone

DDA COMPLIANCE

- Ensure your parklet's FFL meets the level of the kerb
- Ensure furniture is accessible
- Minimise clutter to facilitate better access and circulation





DONT'S

SETOUT	SURROUNDING TREATMENTS	FLOORING	
 Exceed the dedicated parking bay area Ignore the 200mm offset requirement 	 Go beyond the offset zone and obstruct traffic Install at a height lower than specified in this document Use jersey kerbs or other industrial-looking solutions 	Structurally attach the flooring supports to the asphalt	
FURNITURE	PLANTING	OVERHEAD STRUCTURES	
 Place too close to the edges of the parklet Clutter the parklet 	 Select plants with thorns, spikes, or sharp edges Select trees 	 Install too low or too high Install unsecured to the parklet, allowing wind, rain or other forces to shift and damage the structure 	
SIGNAGE	ARTWORK	LIGHTING	
 Use stickers, banners, flags, or billboards Place your sign outside of the dedicated zone and block pedestrian movement 	 Go beyond your parklet zone and into the surrounding public domain Be offensive or create highly controversial content 	 Use sterile white lighting or multi-coloured flashing lighting Clutter the floorspace with cords, creating tripping hazards 	
MUSIC AND NOISE	TEMPERATURE CONTROL	DDA COMPLIANCE	
 Choose music which contains profanities or other offensive content Deliberately play music loudly Be discourteous to your neighbour if they ask to reduce 	 Use pedestal fans or space heaters which can be knocked over and moved around easily Use open flames such as a fire pit to provide heating 	 Build your parklet higher or lower than the kerb height (in rare occasions a ramp may be permissible and approved) Select tables which are not at an appropriate height for a 	



your noise

wheelchair

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

PROFESSIONAL SUPPLIERS

You may also opt to seek a professional parklet manufacturer who can install the parklet for you. Professional suppliers are aware of the rules and regulations surrounding parklet design and therefore can streamline the application process significantly. Most often, parklets are manufactured off-site and can be delivered in-tact and installed at your dedicated parklet zone.

Council can not recommend professional suppliers due to obligations in not giving preferential treatment within the private sector, and in maintaining free and fair competition within the market. You may seek a parklet supplier who satisfies the needs of your business, as well as upholding the general design standards outlined in this document.

Always submit design details to Council for review and approval prior to starting any parklet works.



Figure 13: Example showing a professionally manufactured parklet, prefabricated and installed on site with no construction work needed.



SAFETY



Figure 14: Parklets often have more protective measures in place than standard outdoor dining

EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE

Everyone is responsible for safety within parklets - yourself, your colleagues, and your customers.

Parklets should be treated as an extension of standard outdoor dining space on the footpath. In fact, parklets provide even more protection because there are standards in place for protective surrounding treatments which often aren't required along the footpath in ordinary outdoor dining arrangements. Therefore the same common sense rules within ordinary outdoor dining arrangements also apply to parklets:

- 1. Avoid leaning over into the roadway or sticking out limbs and other body parts into oncoming traffic
- 2. Secure pets with a leash to a sturdy device to avoid escapism
- 3. Keep an eye on young children and be aware of their movements within the parklet and adjacent roadway
- 4. Do not throw objects into the roadway
- 5. Do not enter or exit the parklet in any other way besides the dedicated entrance point along the footpath
- 6. Do not allow the parklet to become overcrowded which can increase the risk of people spilling onto the roadway
- 7. If you are a licenced venue, ensure your customers do not become intoxicated within the parklet which can increase the risk of reckless behaviour
- 8. Do not attach objects to the parket which protrude into the roadway and distract or obstruct drivers



APPLICATION PROCESS

SUBMITTING TO COUNCIL

Once you have created a design for your parklet, or once you have recieved design details from a professional supplier, you may submit an application to Council.

Click on the Parklet Application Form to get started:

Parklet Application Form

Your application must clearly state your name, business address, and contact details. Ensure you read the Parklet Application Form thoroughly and include all supporting documentation to limit delays. The following supporting documentation is required at a minimum:

- Site plan showing the proposed parklet in context with the streetscape
- 2. Minimum of 2 cross-sections showing the proposed condition
- 3. Detail drawings showing the elements of the design
- 4. Proof of valid Public Liability Insurance to a value of \$20 million
- 5. Completed Traffic Guidance Scheme inclusive of a plan and short report

More information may be requested from Council depending on your location. Some streetscapes are more suited to parklets than others, and this may have an impact on the amount of detail required to assess your application.

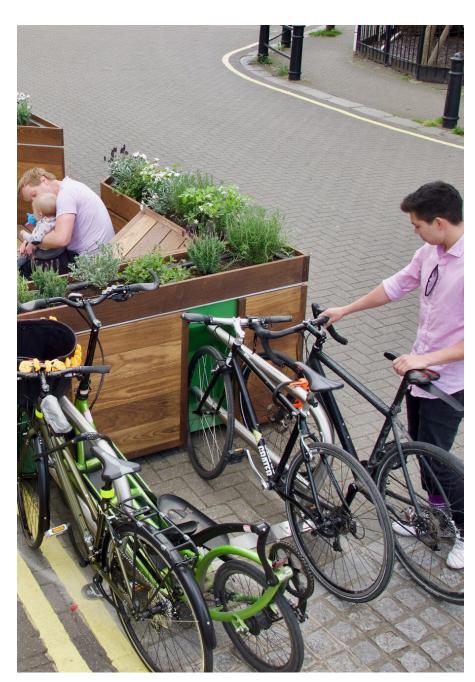


Figure 15: An example of a parklet with integrated bicycle parking



EVALUATION

MEETING THE CRITERIA

Your application will be evaluated by Council based on three sets of criteria:

- 1. Applicant eligibility
- 2. Site conditions
- 3. Design considerations

You should first ensure that you are an eligible applicant prior to starting a parklet design. Ensure due diligence in checking your applicant status prior to engaging design professionals or other industry experts who will charge a fee for their services. If you are not eligible in the first place, do not start the process of design.

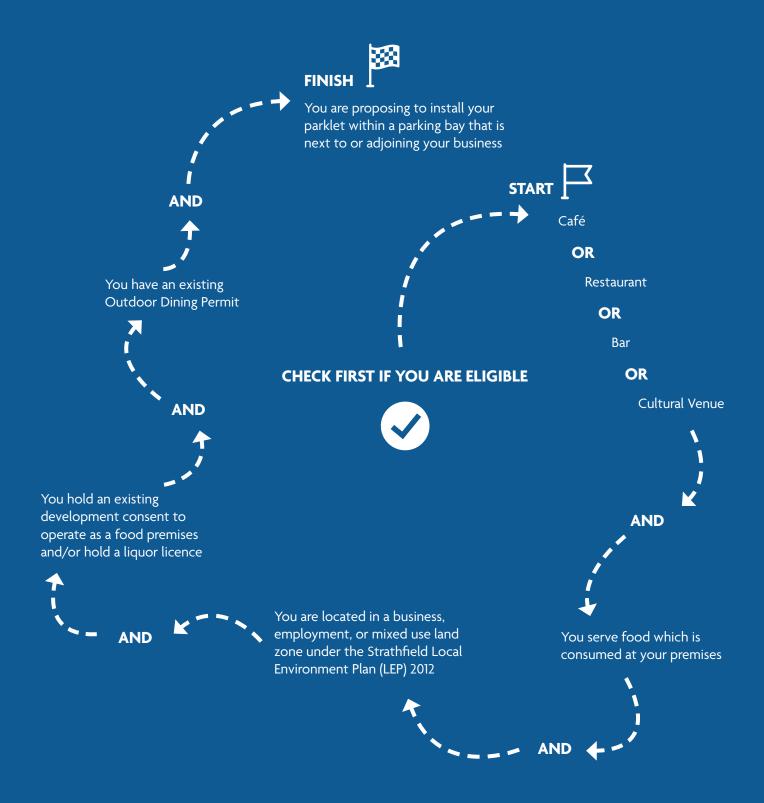
The site conditions of your parklet will be evaluated next. Some streetscapes are more suited to parklets than others. Factors such as impacts of parking space reduction, traffic and pedestrian safety, and physical road conditions will be considered as part of the evaluation.

Lastly, the design of your parklet proposal will be assessed against the criteria listed in the pages prior of this policy document. Your parklet design should conform to the standards listed in this policy. Noncompliance with the design standards of this policy will delay your application, with re-submissions required until the correct design standard is achieved.



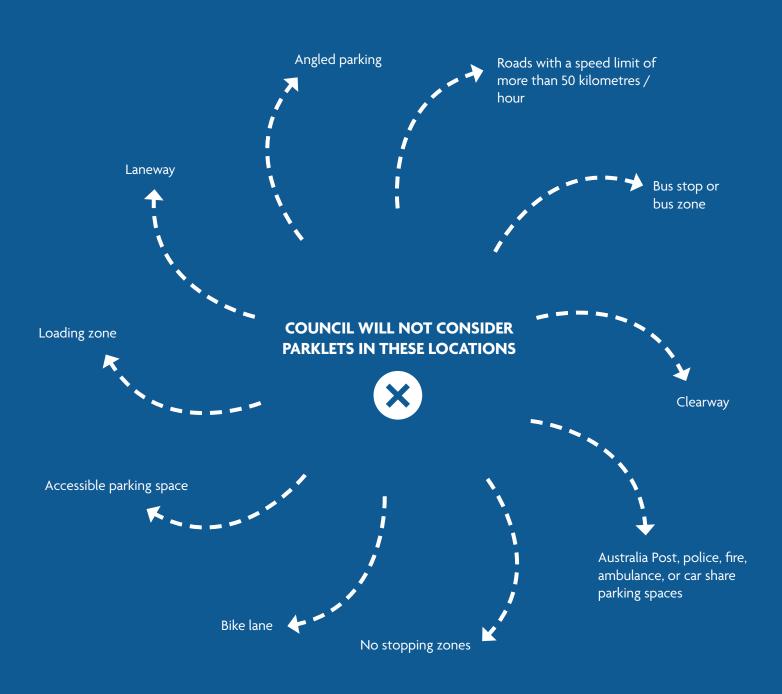


EVALUATION





EVALUATION





FEES AND CHARGES

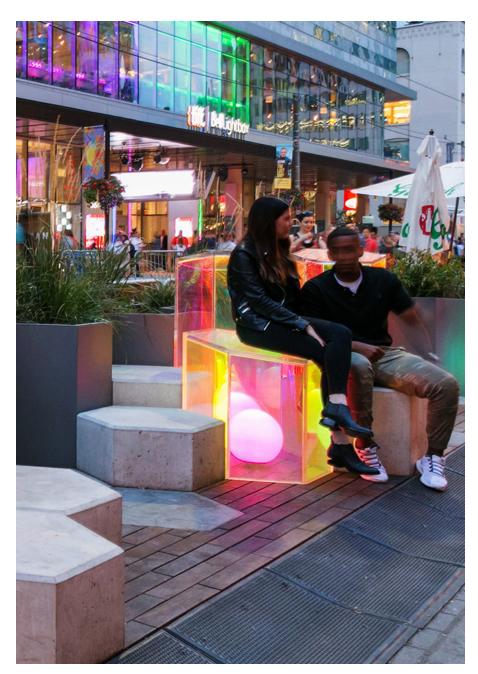


Figure 16: Parklets come in all shapes and sizes and have a positive impact on the night-time economy

A TIERED SYSTEM

Parklets will be charged using a tiered system. The tiered system classifies civic spaces in the Strathfield LGA according to their level of demand, size, and economic activity. Four (4) civic spaces in the Strathfield LGA are considered appropriate for parklet usage.

Fees and charges for parklets can be found in the Strathfield Council Adopted Fees and Charges. This document can be found online via the Council website. Fees and charges are updated annually.

The tier system is as follows:

Tier 1 Civic Space

 Strathfield Town Centre Highest charge

Tier 2 Civic Space

- Homebush Town Centre
- Homebush West Town Centre Intermediate charge

Tier 3 Civic Space

 Cave Road Village Lowest charge

Application Fee

Applies to all civic spaces



LICENSING

BEFORE YOU SERVE, ENSURE YOU'RE COVERED

If you wish to serve liquor to customers visiting your business you must have a liquor licence which extends to the parklet space. The operations of your parklet must comply with your liquor licence and the Liquor Act 2007. You will be required to obtain an extension to the boundaries of your licensed premises via the Liquor and Gaming Authority once your parklet application has been approved. You must not serve alcohol in the parklet until approval has been granted by the Liquor and Gaming Authority. You must present this approval to Council prior to serving alcohol in the parklet. Do not serve alcohol in your parklet without a liquor licence. Doing so will result in termination of your parklet approval and possible investigation by the Liquor and Gaming Authority.



Figure 17: Parklets can provide a different atmosphere for customers who visit a licenced venue, with a much more intimate and human-scaled streetscape experience



MAINTENANCE

KEEP IT CLEAN, KEEP IT GREEN

Your parklet will be a successful asset to your local community and a new place for people to congregate and enjoy time together. It's important to maintain your parklet to avoid it falling into disrepair.

Ensure you clean your parklet as part of your standard daily closing operations of your business. The floor should be swept each evening and rubbish collected and disgarded to avoid attracting pests. If you have a timber deck, this will require yearly treatment to stop the timber from becoming splintered and damaged from the elements. A timber pergola will require the same treatment regime.

During the summer time ensure your plants are watered atleast twice each week. Avoid over-watering as this can also damage plant health. Water your plants to the condition of the day, and monitor soil saturation levels to gain an understanding of when your plants need water. Watering requirements will be less in winter, when you should be watering plants no more than once per week in normal conditions.

Maintanence is your responsibility. The condition of your parklet will be monitored and warnings may be issued if the parklet is found to be in a state of disrepair.

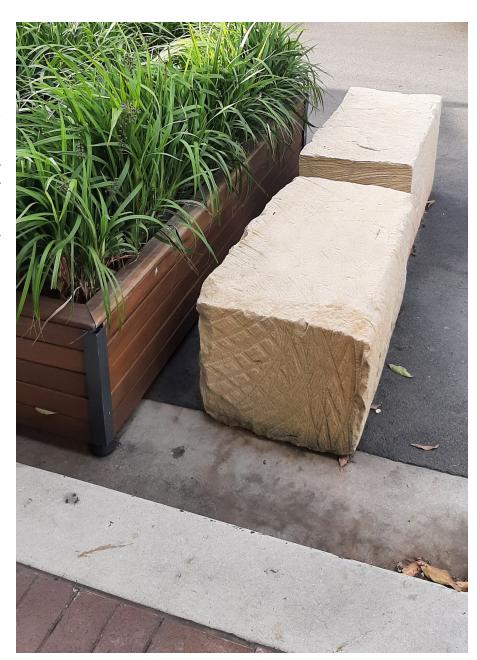


Figure 18: Keeping your parklet clean will improve patronage to your business and the streetscape



REVOKING, SUSPENDING, AND AMENDING



Figure 19: Parklets can be spaces of congregation but also solitude

A LAST RESORT

Revoking or suspending an approval is always a last resort option. Council endeavours to see lively and activated streetscapes and understands that parklets are a major part of acheiving this goal. Your approval may be revoked or suspended with a minimum of 7 days notice in the following circumstances:

- The conditions of the approval are breached
- 2. The conditions of a liquor licence (if applicable) are breached
- 3. The use of the parklet has proven to compromise public safety
- 4. The use of the parklet has proven to negatively disturb the amenity of the streetscape and the neighbourhood
- 5. The parklet is in an area which is scheduled for public works
- 6. The parklet is in an area which is needed for a special event

Failure to comply with an approval will usually result in multiple warnings prior to an approval being revoked or suspended. In some instances, such as a serious breach which endangers public safety, the approval may be revoked without a warning but with a minimum 7 days notice.

You may amend your approval at any time by contacting Council and following the directions of the relevant officer.



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