

PARKING PLAN



Council has ordered officers to look at ways to restrict the introduction of paid parking at Logan's shopping centres.

BIG YEAR FOR OUR CITY

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PAGE 5: Bus shuttle saved from the scrap heap.



PAGE 7: Theft from vehicles sees major increase.

Council: no paid parking in Logan

SPACE WARS: COMMUTERS TAKE PARKING SPOTS

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COUNCIL is moving to outlaw paid parking at Logan's shopping centres, amid fears the city's major centres will start charging to free up spaces.

Major retailer Westfield introduced paid parking at its Chermside centre in October in an effort to stop commuters using centre parks, but so far no Logan retailer has indicated it will follow suit.

Logan City councillors last week ordered senior bureaucrats to investigate a temporary local law to stop shopping centre owners from charging for parking.

They also voted to inform Translink that adequate parking at bus interchanges was required.

Councillor Darren Power (Div. 10) said he was not sure if council would be able to stop paid parking, but if there were more facilities for commuters then it would not be an issue.

"(If paid parking happened) it could transfer all parking from the Hyperdome on to local neighbourhoods, which

would be a huge issue for residents," he said.

Cr Ray Hackwood (Div. 12) voted against the paid parking investigation. He said his division was unique with plenty of commuter parking that was not being used.

He said he did not want to see paid parking introduced that would affect local residents and shoppers, but would simply stop commuters taking the parks.

Logan Hyperdome Centre Manager Rob Mansfield said the centre had more than 4000 parks and there were "currently no plans to introduce charges for parking".

A Transport Department spokesman said the department encouraged people to catch public transport directly from their homes where possible.

"We already have more than 2200 parking spaces at 13 locations in the area," he said.

"Introducing paid parking at shopping centres has nothing to do commuters. It is a commercial decision."

Do you support council's move to stop paid parking at shopping centres? Email letters@albertlogannews.com.au



SUCCESS STORY: Motorcycle racer Jake Dolan of Jacobs Well is now based in Los Angeles.

Brilliant jump start to Dolan's bike career

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WHEN Jake Dolan sold everything he owned to move to America this year, he had no bike, no supporters and no team.

But equipped with just his youth, self-belief and a dream to become the world's best superbike rider, Dolan has beaten all the odds and secured an American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) Road Racing contract.

Though admitting it was a gamble to make the move five months ago in search of a "big break", the risk has paid off and the Jacobs Well product could now potentially earn seven figures over his career.

The 21-year-old has signed with Full Tuck Racing Corporation, a team worth just under \$A1 million, to compete in the AMA Road Racing Championships next year on a Suzuki GSXR-1000.

"The first race next year in early March at Daytona, Florida will be the start of my professional road racing career," Dolan said.

"I think it is a great place to start and I have a planned path to the top.

"It will not be easy and doesn't have a lot of room for error but I know with the right team and help from my manager Dale (Schmidtchen), I will be world champion."

The team signed Dolan after witnessing his rise to fame in the Open Superstock Championship where he finished third despite appearing in just four of the 11 rounds.

The now Los Angeles-based rider has had 14 starts in local events and recorded eight podium finishes, including two first places.

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