Absolutely Positively **Wellington** City Council

Me Heke Ki Pōneke

File ref: IRC-4737

09 May 2023

Via FYI website

Kia ora Satish,

Parklets in CBD

Thank you for your request made under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act), received on 18 April. Wellington City Council has granted your request for information, please see the below response to your queries:

- 1. Number of parking that has been sacrificed as part of making Wellington a Vibrant City in the entire Wellington Central and CBD region.
- 22 parks in the CBD parks have become parklets. If you require different information, please advise.

| Location | Number of parks |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Stuff Ltd (Brandon St) | 2 |
| Dixon St Deli/Mexico (Dixon St) | 1 |
| Mexico (Dixon St) | 1 |
| Old Quarter (Dixon St) | 2 |
| Ernestos (Grey Street) | 2 |
| Angry Ramen (The Terrace) | 2 |
| La Cloche (The Terrace) | 1 |
| Aye Empanada (Oriental Parade) | 1 |
| The Champagneria (Courtney Place) | 4 |
| Nolita (Cuba Street) | 2 |
| Eva Beva/El Barrio (Dixon St) | 2 |
| Shady Lady/Vinyl (Courtney Place) | 2 |

2. Average revenue that WCC used to make in a year from these parking spots in the city before Covid times/lockdown.

The parking revenue loss from Parklets programme is minimal if not zero, as when one parklet is installed on a street, and not having full occupancy on most streets in Wellington, the rest of car parks will absorb the loss of one or two car parks.

3. Regarding the parklets which are given to businesses in and around the city, is WCC charging them for the same spots? if yes, provide the revenue generated till date.

Spaces approved for parklets are free until 1 September 2023. After that, fees may apply. Businesses that apply to retain their already installed parklets will also have to pay this fee from 1 September 2023 onwards.

If businesses decide to renew the parklet after 12 months, the Council may commercially value the car parks and charge annually.

The business needs to pay for construction, installation, and maintenance of the parklet.

4. If the parklets are given free to businesses for use, please provide an explanation as to why and who has approved the usage of free space by businesses, as people used to pay for the same spots in the city.

This was approved as part of Pandemic Response Plan:

News and information - How businesses can get support from the Pandemic Response Plan -Wellington City Council

The parking revenue loss from Parklets programme is minimal if not zero, as when one parklet is installed the rest of car parks will absorb the loss of one or two car parks.

5. Do you have any plans to charge businesses for the spots (going forward, if the answer is no question #3)?

This is addressed in question 3.

6. Provide proof of public vote and consultation from the public that this was required and people were happy about it and wanted a change.

There has been a public vote by Council:

News and information - How businesses can get support from the Pandemic Response Plan -Wellington City Council

7. Cost of converting all the parklets to business spaces in Wellington CBD and Central region.

The business which has applied for a parklet pays for construction, installation, and maintenance of the parklet.

Right of review

If you are not satisfied with the Council's response, you may request the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate the Council's decision. Further information is available on the Ombudsman website, www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note, we may proactively release our response to your request with your personal information removed.

Thank you again for your request, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kind regards

Claudia Holgate Senior Advisor, Official Information