

Changes to Aquatic Recreation Centre disability parking

2 April 2024

Gympie Regional Council has recently made changes to the parking arrangements for people with disabilities at the Gympie Aquatic Recreation Centre in order to address issues with very high usage of these parking facilities.

Two (2) additional marked accessible parking bays have been added to the main carpark, making a total of four (4) bays available for customers holding current Australian Disability Parking permits. These parking bays have no time limit.

The zig-zag pathway up to the front entry has now been signed more clearly as an access pathway for people using mobility aids or who have difficulty using the main walkway. This pathway is much less steep than the main walkway, is constructed to a 5% grade, is compliant with AS1428.1, and suitable for wheelchair users. Extra concrete infills were installed to make the journey easier and this pathway is now cleaned more regularly to improve its usability.

The two (2) designated parallel on-street accessible parking bays on Tozer Park Road, now have 15-minute time-limited signage to encourage customer drop off and pick up close to the front entry. You can use your Australian Disability Parking permits permit to park for up to 30-minutes in these bays. This is because Australian Disability Parking permits allow you to park for free at any on-street parking in local government regulated parking areas for up to 30-minutes when the time limit shown on a sign is less than this. This should enable more people to benefit from these parking facilities.

There are exceptions for customers who require the use of one of these on-street parking bays for longer than 30-minutes. Please refer to the examples below:

Example 1: As the permit holder you are also the driver of the vehicle and cannot park elsewhere for the duration of your visit. Please advise the friendly staff at the Gympie Aquatic Recreation Centre of your vehicle registration, make and model, and your need for longer use of these bays. You will not be penalised if this criterion is met.

Example 2: As the permit holder you cannot be left alone while the driver moves the vehicle after dropping you off. Please advise the friendly staff at the Gympie Aquatic Recreation Centre of the vehicle registration, make and model, and your need for longer use of these bays. You will not be penalised if this criterion is met.

To avoid a \$619 fine your current Australian Disability Parking permit must be clearly displayed when in use. Please do not attempt to squeeze a third vehicle into one of the two parallel on-street parking bays if two vehicles are already occupying the bays. This can prevent rear loading vehicles from accessing rear hoists and impedes access to vehicles for permit holders and maxi taxis.

For further information please contact Gympie Regional Council or the Access Advisory Committee – Gympie Region at info@aacgympie.org.au