

RIP Showground Rd free and safe off-site parking

Dear Member,

Tomorrow, Friday 12th April, will be a sad day for health workers at Gosford Hospital, as Central Coast Local Health District are shutting down the much-used free off-site parking and shuttle bus service at Showground Rd.

From Saturday 13th April members and other health workers will have no other option but to park on the streets surrounding the hospital precinct to avoid paying for parking. This may create safety issues with lack of lighting and uneven footpaths. Or of course, you could take a pay cut and use the multistorey carpark.

While our campaign for fairer parking has won some positive results so far, including more staff access to the allocated parking spaces than originally planned, and the casual staff parking fee being reduced from \$7 per day to \$4.50 per day, we must continue our fight.

The new car park has been open for 5 weeks now and we are still none the wiser as to when or how staff will be able to access the new staff casual parking fee of \$4.50. Until this is known, we believe any staff who enter the new car park and take a ticket will be forced to pay the full visitor fee of \$19.90, as this is what members are telling is currently occurring.

At yesterday's Union meeting, the attached motion was endorsed to hold a Breakfast BBQ on Monday 15th April outside the Executive Office at 6 Racecourse Rd from 5:30am.

We will also be continuing with our community petition, aiming for 10,000 signatures by 7th May in order to present to NSW Parliament and have this matter debated. Please download and print the petition here: <http://bit.ly/Parking-Petition>. You can return completed petitions to your local organiser in person or via email brendan.roberts@hsu.asn.au.

Now more than ever is the time to stay strong and united as we continue to fight for all health workers and the Central Coast community.

Spread the word - let's make Monday 15th April a huge show of our collective strength.

If you haven't already liked it, you can keep up to date on our [Facebook page](#).

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD



Gosford Hospital General Sub Branch

Resolution:

This meeting of the HSU General Sub Branch of Gosford Hospital held, Wednesday 10th April 2019 at Gosford Hospital notes and resolves the following:

1. This sub branch notes Central Coast Local Health District extended the original proposed date to cease offering the free and safe off-site parking and shuttle bus service by 2 weeks from 29th March to 12th April.
2. This Sub Branch notes Central Coast Local Health District have advised HSU they are unable to extend the lease with Central Coast Council and provide this service beyond 12th April.
3. Further, on at least 3 separate occasions Central Coast Local Health District have advised HSU they are only following NSW Health policy regarding introducing staff and visitor parking fees
4. This Sub Branch notes that Central Coast Local Health planned to introduce a \$7 per day staff casual parking fees however this have now been reduced to \$4.50.
5. This Sub Branch are of the view, given Central Coast Local Health are ceasing the free and safe Showground Rd parking and shuttle bus service staff are now being forced by their employer to choose between potentially parking in unsafe situations or pay either the staff parking fee of \$13.92 per work or the casual fee of \$4.50 for the privilege of working for Central Coast Local Health District.
6. This Sub Branch firstly acknowledges Central Coast Local Health District have reduced the casual fees from \$7 to \$4.50 however believe this does not go far enough as the current fee is only \$2.30, this still represents almost a doubling of the current fee.
7. This Sub Branch condemns Central Local Health District still not having the casual fee and system in place 4 week after the new car park commenced operating, with no details about how staff will access this fee or when it will commence.
8. Whilst this Sub Branch acknowledges Central Coast Local Health District has granted staff on the waiting as of 1st January 2019 access to the \$13.92 per week staff parking fee we remain totally opposed to the scheduled 67% increase to this fee in June 2019.

As a result of the above this Sub Branch endorses the following:

1. To hold a Breakfast BBQ on 15th April between 5.30am – 8.30am at 6 Racecourse Rd

2. To encourage any staff member who either currently uses the Showground Rd service to park at 6 Racecourse Rd in the Staff only parking area.
3. To encourage all other staff members to participate and attend this event in support of all Central Coast Local Health District staff and the broader community, even if they don't drive or not rostered on shift.
4. To wait at 6 Racecourse Rd until either a shuttle bus or courtesy bus arrives to transport staff safely to Gosford Hospital
5. To promote this action through social media and issue a media release through HSU media team.
6. To continue promoting the Community petition with the aim of getting 10,000 signatures prior to the first sitting day of NSW Parliament, 7th May where we will be presenting it to Central Coast MP's asking them to have the matter debated in the Lower House of NSW Parliament.

Moved: Gary Whetton

Second: Karen Boers

Passed: Unanimously