

# Lord Mayor of Sydney

CLOVER MOORE MP

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Dennis Wilcox  
By email [dennis@xshack.com](mailto:dennis@xshack.com)

08 FEB 2008

Dear Dennis

## City of Sydney Busking Policy

I refer to your emails about the City of Sydney Busking Policy and the introduction of time restrictions.

The City of Sydney supports busking and values the contribution buskers make to the culture and vibrancy of our streets.

Jennifer Trinca, the City's Cultural Development Coordinator, tells me that she has been in contact with you to discuss your concerns about the Policy and street beggars.

On 10 December 2007, Council endorsed some changes to its long-standing Busking Policy to better support buskers trying to make a living from their work and to limit intrusive late night noise in residential areas. The Policy aims to promote busking, which provides entertainment and helps performers hone their skills and earn income, while managing potential negative impacts.

The Policy was modified to incorporate community feedback, with new provisions including permit conditions requiring buskers to ensure adequate space on the footpath for disabled access around their act and disallowing discriminatory material. In response to a large number of comments from residents, the new Policy limits busking to 10pm weeknights and midnight on Friday and Saturdays.

The City recognises that buskers are not the sole cause of late night noise. Residents also complain about noise from nightclubs and drunken behaviour, and these complaints are managed under other laws and policies.

We agree that busking can help create the feeling of safety and we have opened special busking sites in and around Oxford Street to encourage more busking in this area. To ensure minimal disruption to residents, the new time restriction will continue to apply.

If you would like to speak with a Council officer about busking, you can contact Jenny on 9265 9333 or at [jtrinca@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jtrinca@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Clover Moore MP  
Lord Mayor of Sydney

*city of villages*

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