

3 December 2013

**Notice of Motion, Cr Foster: Queen Street Mega Taxi Rank –
Trial of additional night**

Motion

That the Future Melbourne Committee approves, as a trial, the Queen Street 'mega' taxi rank to operate for an additional night per week for a period of four months commencing in mid December 2013 and that the Future Melbourne Committee also approves expenditure of \$50,000 for the associated operating costs.

Background

The Queen Street 'mega' taxi rank was installed in 2011-12 and has been operating on Friday and Saturday nights between midnight and 5am since that time. The rank has proved successful in providing an opportunity for late night city users to leave the city in the period when trains and trams have ceased operations. The rank generally sees around 600 people catching taxis on Friday evenings and around 800 on Saturday evenings. The demand continues to grow.

To extend the operation to Thursday evenings could be achieved however funding provision to do so has not been made in Council's current operating budget. It is estimated that to operate for an additional night would incur the following estimated costs:

Traffic management:	\$2400 per night
Security personnel:	\$700 per night
Total cost per night:	\$3100 per night

In order to assess the community benefits of increasing the operation of the taxi rank it is suggested that a trial of an additional night be undertaken for a period of around 16 weeks from mid December 2013 till the Moomba weekend in 2014. Such a trial would incur an estimated cost of \$49,600 (16 x \$3100).

Moved: Cr Foster