

## **Submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Disability Care and Support**

**There should be two classes of disabled parking spaces, one reserved exclusively for those with wheelchairs.**

Disabled parking spaces provide ease of access to venues which is terrific. It's mandatory for a certain number of spaces to be reserved as disabled in all new car parks, also terrific. But not all disabled spaces are the same size. For someone who needs to access their car from a wheelchair, they need an oversized parking space that will fit the car and the chair beside it.

Continue mandating a minimum number of disabled spaces, but make the third space, fourth space, and half of all subsequent spaces wide enough for wheelchair access.

Revise the disabled parking permit and disabled parking colour scheme. The wheelchair width spaces could be marked in yellow rather than current blue, and drivers with a wheelchair need could be issued with a yellow disabled parking permit. This would entitle them to park in any disabled parking space. Disabled drivers not requiring wheelchair access would continue with the blue permit but wouldn't be allowed to park in yellow disabled parking spaces.

**Bruno Dagostino & Terry O'Hanlon, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2010**