

**Wanaka Community Board
21 October 2015**

Report for Agenda Item: 4

Department: Infrastructure

Temporary Road Closure – Challenge Wanaka Event 2016

Purpose

- 1 The purpose of this report is to consider a temporary road closure for the Challenge Wanaka event scheduled for Thursday 18 February 2016 to Sunday 21 February 2016.

Executive Summary

- 2 Challenge Wanaka have applied to the Council for temporary road closures for their annual event scheduled to take place in February 2016. This will be the 10th anniversary of the event.
- 3 The event has a high number of competitors, spectators and associated infrastructure. The road closure areas are used to facilitate the construction of this infrastructure and to manage the safety of athletes and spectators by restricting access to vehicular traffic.
- 4 Challenge Wanaka undertake a schedule of notifications for affected businesses and residents prior to the road closures taking place and advertise widely. They will be required to obtain a number of other Council approvals prior to the event taking place and an approved Traffic Management Plan must be in place before the event occurs.
- 5 The event has been run successfully in the past and no formal complaints or concerns have been raised in association with the 2015 event.
- 6 The recommendation is for approval of the temporary road closure application subject to conditions as per previous years.

Recommendation

- 7 That the Wanaka Community Board:
 1. **Note** the contents of this report;
 2. **Approve** the temporary road closure application for the Challenge Wanaka 2016 event subject to the following conditions:
 - (i) Approval of the final Traffic Management Plan by QLDC Infrastructure prior to the event taking place.
 - (ii) Local radio advertising two days prior and on the morning of the event.

- (iii) The event organisers arranging suitable disposal methods for recycling and rubbish/refuse.
- (iv) A reminder notice advising of the duration and dates of the closure to be distributed to all residential and business properties located along the closure route at least ten working days prior to the event. A copy of this notice is to be supplied to APL Property Limited.
- (v) Where safe and practical, vehicles delivering to businesses within the closure area, should be permitted by traffic management crew to undertake their deliveries and if applicable, they should be directed to appropriate detour routes.
- (vi) Clear signage is to be placed around the closure areas within the CBD advising the public that businesses in the affected area are still operating.
- (vii) Parks are not to be coned off except where required for traffic management. In those instances, cones are to be removed as soon as practical.

3. **Authorise** the following schedule of temporary road closures:

Infrastructure build up and breakdown

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street from Dungarvon Street to McDougall Street

Period of Closure: 0800 Thursday 18 February 2016 to 1800 Sunday 21 February 2016

Infrastructure Build Up and safe passage of athletes including Junior Challenge

Roads to be Closed: Dungarvon Street from Dunmore Street to Ardmore Street

Period of Closure: 1200 Friday 19 February 2016 to 0300 Sunday 21 February 2016

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Dungarvon Street

Period of Closure: 1200 Friday 19 February 2016 to 0300 Sunday 21 February 2016

Infrastructure Build Up and safe passage of athletes

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Lakeside Road

Period of Closure: 0300 Saturday 20 February 2016 to 0300 Sunday 21 February 2016

For Challenge Wanaka for safe passage for athletes and motorists

Roads to be Closed: Single lane closure of Mount Aspiring Road from Meadowstone Drive to Hospital Flat

Period of Closure: 0645 to 1200 Saturday 20 February 2016

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street from McDougall Street to Meadowstone Drive

Period of Closure: 0645 to 1730 Saturday 20 February 2016

Roads to be Closed: Single lane closure of McDougall Street from Faulks Terrace to Ardmore Street (traffic flow as usual out of town)

Period of Closure: 0830 to 1730 Saturday 20 February 2016

Closure to allow safe transition of Cyclists at Aid Station

Roads to be Closed: Kane Road between Camphill Road and St Ninians Way

Period of Closure: 0830 to 1700 Saturday 20 February 2016

4. **Authorise** this report and resolution to be made available as part of the next Mayor's report to Council.

Prepared by:



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APL Property

18/09/2015

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Peter Hansby
General Manager, Property
and Infrastructure

12/10/2015

Background

- 8 Challenge Wanaka is an annual triathlon event held in Wanaka. The applicant applies on an annual basis to close temporarily a set of roads in and around the CBD in order to set up associated infrastructure and run the event safely.
- 9 Challenge Wanaka has again applied to the Council for temporary road closures for next year's event scheduled to take place in February 2016. A schedule of closures and a map outlining the road closures to accompany it are appended in Attachment A.
- 10 Challenge Wanaka 2016 will again feature the Lake Wanaka Half with this course taking part on the same day as in previous years. Combined, the two events are

expected to attract approximately 1,700 athletes in 2016 and up to 10,000 spectators at the finish line and along the various sections of the course.

- 11 The event involves the erection of infrastructure associated with the race and, with the large number of athletes, volunteers and spectators it attracts, the road closures are used to facilitate the construction of the infrastructure and manage spectator, volunteer and athlete safety.
- 12 The Puzzling World Junior Triathlon will again take place in 2016 on Friday 19 February. This is aimed for local and visiting children to take part in a mini triathlon with the emphasis on fun and participation on a short safe course that finishes with a run through the same gantry that the triathlon will use the following day.
- 13 Race day is on Saturday 20 February 2016 and commences at 0530 when athletes are checked and body numbered. The swim leg takes part in Lake Wanaka followed by a two lap cycle leg from Wanaka – Glendhu Bay – Wanaka – Hawea – Luggate – Wanaka being a fast route with many flat sections and a few hill climbs.
- 14 The final leg of the race, the run, is over two laps from Wanaka – Outlet Track – Albert Town – Wanaka with athletes running along the lakeside and river track to a finish line in Pembroke Park welcoming the athletes into the night.
- 15 The Lake Wanaka Half runs concurrently with Challenge Wanaka with athletes starting the course at 0815 with one lap of the swim, bike and run course.
- 16 In association with the event, Challenge Wanaka undertake a schedule of notifications for adjoining businesses and residents prior to the road closures taking place. They also advertise widely and will be required to obtain a number of other Council approvals.
- 17 There was one complaint arising from the 2015 Challenge Wanaka event from a local business, Orbis Wanaka, a retailer along the waterfront. This was received after the event had been held with an expression of disappointment that the street outside the shop was closed without any notification being received. They noted that whilst they had no objection to the challenge being held in Wanaka and they were a supporter of the event, they objected to not having been notified of the closure. However it appears the event organisers had the incorrect email address which they had sent the notification letter to. They also suggested that the finish line should be moved from the town centre as they felt there was a distinct downturn for all retailers.
- 18 The technical officer at the time sent the event organisers the updated email address and advised the owner of Orbis that this had been done and suggested that they contact Councillor Lyal Cocks regarding their concerns about the finish line being in such a central position.
- 19 There have been no concerns raised from this business or any other public submissions following on from the advertisement placed in the Wanaka Sun which outlined the proposed road closures for the 2016 event.
- 20 The Council can close roads to vehicular traffic for events by using provisions of the Local Government Act 1974. The Wanaka Community Board is delegated to consider applications to close roads temporarily under this legislation.

Comment

- 21 Challenge Wanaka is a successful annual event attracting a large number of competitors and spectators. A large number of volunteers are also required for the event and maintaining the safety of the public, athletes and volunteers is imperative for this event to continue to run successfully. In order to achieve this, temporary road closures are required to restrict vehicular traffic in the race areas.
- 22 There is, as expected for an event of this scale, infrastructure involved in running the event successfully and Council land is used to facilitate the erection of this infrastructure as part of the event. The intent to close the road has been advertised in the Wanaka Sun and no concerns have been received following this notification.
- 23 In 2015 the event was changed from running mid-January to being held mid-February which moved it away from the Christmas/New Year period and out of the peak holiday season. This proved to be a success and the event organisers are again holding it in mid-February. The Challenge Wanaka event has taken place on a Saturday for eight out of the last nine years. In 2015 it was changed to a Sunday as a test however a survey showed that 99% of athletes and volunteers preferred it on the Saturday and therefore organisers have reverted back to Saturday.
- 24 The proposed road closures are generally the same in 2015 with some longer road closure times proposed and one additional road closure.
- 25 The road closure for the infrastructure build up and safe passage of athletes including the Junior Challenge for Dungarvon Street between Dunmore Street and Ardmore Street is proposed to start two hours earlier as the event organisers require more time to set up. The closure of Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Dungarvon Street was approved for 2015 from 0300 Friday 20 February to 0300 Sunday 22 February however the applicant advises that this was not as intended and closure for 2016 is requested from 1200 Friday 19 February 2016 to 0300 Sunday 21 February 2016 for the setting up of the finish chute line along Ardmore Street and to ensure all vehicles are removed in time prior to commencement of the event.
- 26 The single lane closure of McDougall Street from Faulks Terrace to Ardmore Street is proposed to close half an hour earlier than in 2015 as this fits into the traffic management flow better and ensures all closures are well established before the cyclists come through.
- 27 An additional road closure of Kane Road between Camphill Road and St Ninians Way on Saturday 20 February between 0830 and 1700 has been included for the 2016 event. This road closure is to allow the safe transition of cyclists at the aid station at this location.
- 28 In 2015 Helwick Street from Dunmore Street to Ardmore Street had a road closure approved from 0300 Saturday 21 February to 0300 Sunday 22 February for a pedestrianised family zone and for food and shopping. This road closure has not been included in the application for the 2016 event and will not be required.

- 29 The Roothing Corridor Engineer has been consulted who noted that the Red Bridge Closure is on a State Highway and therefore requires NZTA approval. This road closure was included on the schedule of road closures provided by the applicant being a one-way closure of Red Bridge closed to north bound traffic from 0830 to 1700 Saturday 20 February 2016. We have been advised by the applicant, with confirmation from Opus, that Challenge Wanaka will be dealing directly with the NZTA through Opus regarding this closure.
- 30 The Roothing Corridor Engineer also commented that he will be looking at the Traffic Management Plan when it comes through and, as with any road closure, a condition will be approval of same. The plan is to detail the overall management of the event which includes the management of detours, warning signage, speed limits and marshal placements on intersections.
- 31 The Traffic Management Plan has previously required letterbox drops, warning signs about DOC walking tracks and camping sites, public notices in newspapers and radio advertising in the lead up to the event.
- 32 Road closures can have effects on residents and businesses within the area and create inconvenience for travellers and the general public. As part of the Traffic Management Plan, proposed closures are to have detours in place. This plan will be considered by the Roothing Corridor Engineer in conjunction with the New Zealand Transport Agency given that portions of the course takes place on state highways outside the road closure areas. The plan also considers how all Council car parks are to be managed during the closure times.
- 33 The Contract Manager for Infrastructure has also been consulted and he advises there are no issues arising from the proposed road closures for this event.
- 34 The recommendation is for approval of the application, subject to the same conditions which have been applied in previous years.
- 35 A standard requirement of all temporary road closure approvals is that a traffic management plan is approved before the roads are closed. This will ensure that all traffic and pedestrian flows are managed with appropriate signage, barriers and wardens.

Options

- 36 This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002:
- 37 **Option 1** That the Wanaka Community Board approve the application for temporary road closure for Challenge Wanaka 2016 as detailed above.

Advantages

- 38 Would be consistent with previous years' road closures for the event and the event will be able to be run as proposed.
- 39 The road closure will enable safe set up of the event, safety for athletes and spectators during the event and safety during the dismantling of the event.

- 40 Alternative routes are still available allowing traffic to move freely around the surrounding area.

Disadvantages

- 41 Road closures affect the normal flow of traffic which can affect businesses and can inconvenience the public.

Option 2 That the Wanaka Community Board decline the application for temporary road closure for Challenge Wanaka 2016 as detailed above.

Advantages

- 42 There would be less inconvenience for the public that use the road with it remaining open to normal vehicular traffic.

Disadvantages

- 43 Would be inconsistent with previous road closures allowed for the event.
- 44 May mean the event will not be able to be run as planned or not at all.
- 45 It could create an unsafe environment for the set up and dismantling of the event and for the athletes, spectators and general public during the event.
- 46 **Option 3** That the Wanaka Community Board approve the application for temporary road closure for Challenge Wanaka 2016 as detailed above with additional conditions to those recommended in the application.
- 47 There are no specific advantages or disadvantages to this option but the Wanaka Community Board may recommend additional conditions to the closure should it wish.

- 48 This report recommends Option 1 for addressing the matter.

Significance and Engagement

- 49 This matter is of medium significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it relates to closing a strategic asset (part of the roading network) for a short period of time.
26. The proposal for closure temporarily and on conditions to minimise the impact on traffic and pedestrian flows is in line with the Policy's recommendations.

Risk

- 50 This matter relates to the strategic risk SR3 Management practice – working within legislation. The risk is classed as moderate. The matter relates to this risk because the options highlighted require the Council to follow a regulatory process in order to notify the temporary closure of parts of the roading network. A variety of operational risks (such as meeting levels of service, regulatory compliance and the health and safety risks associated with parties using roads) are triggered when the Council considers whether or not to grant the temporary road closure. This report therefore recommends that risk SR3 is treated (measures are put in

place to directly impact the risk) by notifying the temporary road closure, and that the operational risks associated with granting the application are considered at the time a traffic management plan is agreed with the event organiser.

Financial Implications

51 There are no cost implications resulting from the approval of this temporary road closure application. The applicants will cover the administration costs associated with the processing of the road closure applications and pay for any advertising that is required as part of the process.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions

52 The recommended option:

- Will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses by ensuring that the Challenge Wanaka 2016 event can continue in the preferred format.
- Can be implemented through current funding under the 10-Year Plan; and
- Is consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
- Would not alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Consultation: Community Views and Preferences

53 The temporary road closure has been advertised in the Wanaka Sun and will be advertised again before the closure takes place. This is statutory requirement under the Local Government Act 1974. No objections to the road closures have been received.

54 We have publicly notified the intent to close the road, advised Emergency Services, NZ Police, Connectabus, Intercity, Council contractors and Council staff who would have an interest in the road closures and followed the statutory administrative requirements of the Local Government Act 1974.

55 Intercity have advised that their services Great Sights, Intercity and Newmans will not be affected by the closures.

56 The Contract Manager for Infrastructure and Roading Corridor Engineer have been consulted in the preparation of this report and they concur with the recommendations and conditions proposed in this report.

57 The NZTA are an interested party in this closure as the event affects State Highways and they will need to be notified of the details of the application. The applicant is consulting with the NZTA through Opus on this and will include any diversion routes in their traffic management plan.

58 We have consulted with the QLDC Events Office who have advised that Challenge Wanaka have obtained 'cash only' events funding for their event in 2016. They will be required to pay for all consents, permits etc and can claim them back through the funding process.

- 59 A standard condition of any temporary road closure application is that the applicant provided an affected party notification to any businesses and residences within the road closure area prior to closing the roads. The applicant will notify businesses within the closure route with the full road closure details and supply them their contact details if required.
- 60 A letter drop will be completed prior to the event taking place and there will be extensive publicity associated with the event.

Criteria for Closing Significant Roads

- 61 The Council's Policy Guideline relating to the 'Criteria for Closing Significant Roads' has been considered in the preparation of this report. Routes in and out of Wanaka are not disrupted by the road closures with alternative detours available.

Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities

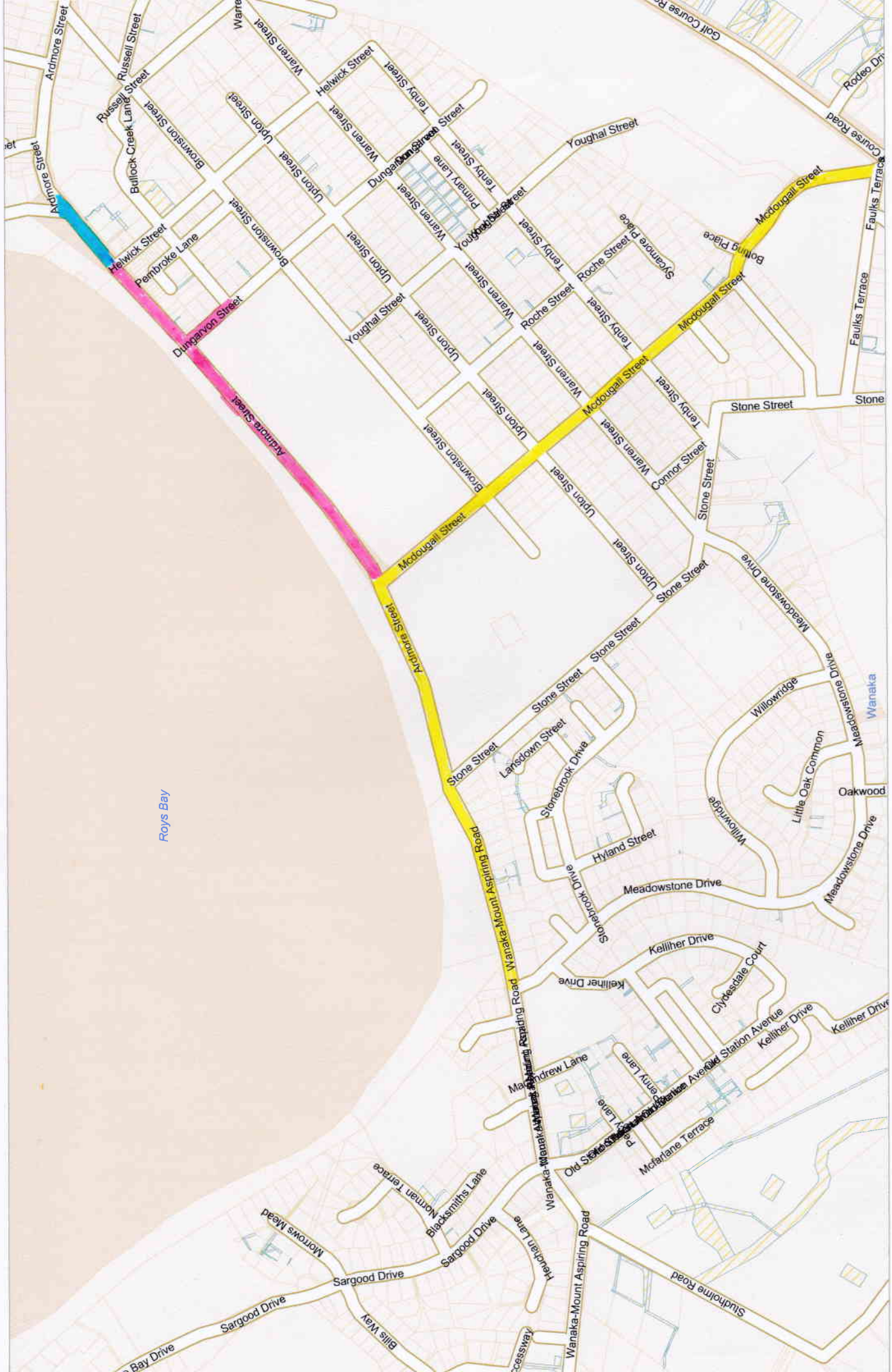
- 62 Temporary road closures are controlled by Section 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. As authority for approval of road closures is delegated to the Wanaka Community Board and considering Section 10 (2) of the Local Government Act 2002 the advice recommends a decision that is efficient, effective and appropriate to present and anticipated future circumstances.

Attachments

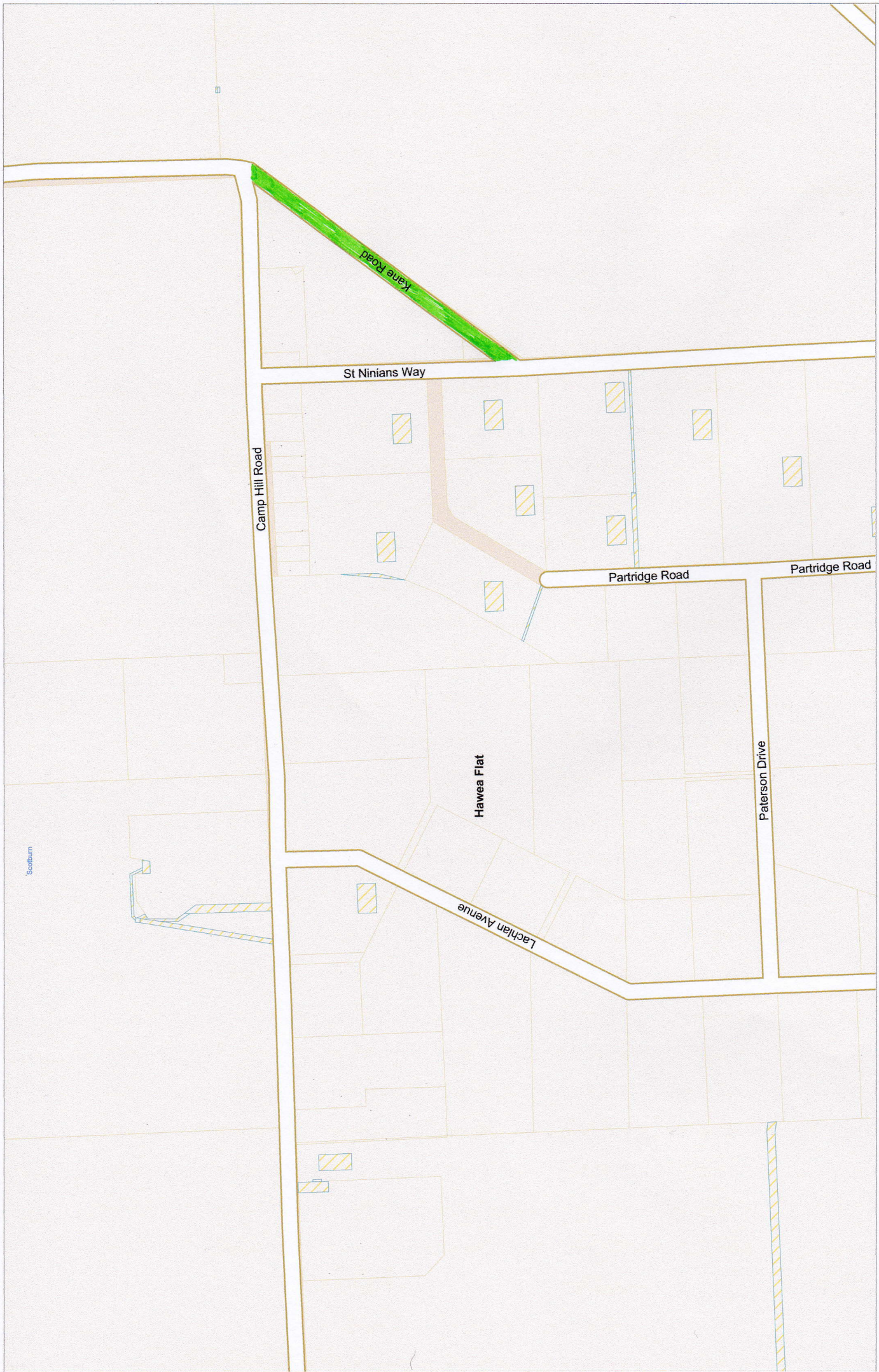
- A Map and schedule of road closures

CHALLENGE WANAKA 2016 ROAD CLOSURES

ROAD CLOSURE	DATE AND TIME	PURPOSE	ALTERNATIVE ROUTE
Ardmore Street from Dungarvon to MacDougall Streets	Thursday 18 February from 0800 to Sunday 21 February at 1800	Infrastructure build up and breakdown	Via Brownston Street
Dungarvon Street from Dunmore Street to Ardmore Street	Friday 19 February from 1200 to Sunday 21 February at 0300	Infrastructure build up, Junior Challenge	Via Helwick Street or Brownston Street
Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Dungarvon Street	Friday 19 February from 1200 to Sunday 21 February at 0300	Infrastructure build up and safe passage of athletes including Junior Challenge	Via Brownston Street
Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Lakeside Road	Saturday 20 February from 0300 to Sunday 21 February at 0300	Infrastructure build up and safe passage of athletes	Via Brownston Street
Single lane closure of Mt Aspiring Road from Meadowstone Drive to Hospital Flat	Saturday 20 February from 0645 to 1200	Challenge Wanaka to allow safe passage for both athletes and motorists	Via Meadowstone Drive to return to town until road reopens. Access to residents and tourism operators will be permitted.
Closure of Ardmore Street from MacDougall Street to Meadowstone Drive	Saturday 20 February from 0645 to 1730	To allow safe passage of athletes	Via Faulks Terrace and Meadowstone. Access to residents permitted
One way closure of MacDougall Street from Faulks Terrace to Ardmore Street. Traffic to flow as usual out of town.	Saturday 20 February from 0830 to 1730	To allow safe passage of athletes travelling at high speed down the hill	Via Faulks Terrace and Meadowstone or Golf Course Road. Access to the Motor Camp will be provided through a traffic control point on the Brownston / Macdougall Streets junction
One way closure of Red Bridge Closed to North Bound Traffic	Saturday 20 February from 0830 to 1700	Challenge Wanaka to prevent long traffic delays to northbound traffic (a detour will be quicker)	Via Camphill Road, Hawea Flat and Kane Road
Kane Road between Camphill Road and St Ninians Way	Saturday 20 February from 0830 to 1700	To allow safe transition of Cyclists at Aid Station B3	Via Camphill Road, and St Ninians Way



Any person wishing to rely on the information shown on this map must independently verify the information



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Scale 1:6500 Topographical and Cadastral map derived from LINZ data. Printed: 14/09/2015 12:28.