

**Wanaka Community Board
15 November 2018**

Report for Agenda Item: 3

Department: Property & Infrastructure

Temporary Road Closure Application – Wanaka New Year's Eve Celebrations

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider an application for temporary road closures associated with the annual QLDC New Year's Eve celebrations in Wanaka.

Executive Summary

- 1 Summit Events on behalf of the Queenstown Lakes District Council apply on an annual basis to temporarily close a number of roads in Wanaka in association with the New Year's Eve celebrations. The closure is requested to allow the events to take place in a safe and efficient manner.
- 2 The recommendation is for approval with similar conditions that have been applied to the temporary road closures in prior years.

Recommendation

That the Wanaka Community Board

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Approve** the road closure application for the annual New Year's Eve Celebrations in Wanaka subject to the following conditions:
 - a. No issues or concerns arise from the public notification of the road closure published in the 'Wanaka Sun' on 25 October 2018.
 - b. Approval of the final Traffic Management Plan by QLDC Planning and Development prior to the event taking place.
 - c. Radio advertising two days prior to and on the morning of the event.
 - d. The event organisers shall arrange suitable disposal methods for recycling and rubbish/refuse.
 - e. The event organisers shall ensure access is available for emergency services and maintenance contractors if required;
 - f. The applicant shall notify all affected parties including residents and businesses on the closure route of the extent of the temporary road closure; this notification is to be undertaken prior to Christmas

2018. A copy of this notice is to be supplied to APL Property Limited.

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

Saturday 29 December 2018

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street iSite layby

Period of Closure: 2000 Saturday 29 December 2018 to 0300 Sunday 30 December 2018

Sunday 30 December 2018

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street iSite layby

Period of Closure: 2000 Sunday 30 December 2018 to 0300 Monday 31 December 2018

Monday 31 December 2018

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

Period of Closure: 0700 Monday 31 December 2018 to 1100 Tuesday 1 January 2019

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street Log Cabin layby (excluding buses)

Period of Closure: 1430 Monday 31 December 2018 to 0300 Tuesday 1 January 2019

Roads to be Closed: Ardmore Street from Dungarvon Street to Lakeside Road and Ardmore Street iSite layby

Period of Closure: 1700 Monday 31 December 2018 to 0300 Tuesday 1 January 2019

Prepared by:



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31/10/2018

Reviewed and Authorised
by:



David Wallace
Manager – Resource
Management Engineering
QLDC
1/11/2018

Background

- 1 Summit Events on behalf of the Queenstown Lakes District Council have again requested temporary road closures within the Wanaka central business district for the 2018 New Year's Eve celebrations.
- 2 There are changes to the road closures proposed from those that have been approved for this event in previous years with the inclusion of the Ardmore Street iSite layby for three nights and a longer closure of Helwick Street on the 31st December due to a second DJ stage to be located in this area. The closure of Ardmore Street from Dungarvon Street to Lakeside Road on the 31st December starts an hour later than in previous years and there are no changes to the closure of the Ardmore Street Log Cabin layby. Again buses will be allowed through this closure to access the bus stop located in this area.
- 3 The applicant advises that stakeholders to Wanaka have been very open that sadly the township has a youth intoxication problem especially around New Year. There have been multiple meetings with the event organiser, QLDC, NZ Police, the Wanaka Community Board and Red Frogs (a support program for young people from the ages of 15 – 25 who recognise that the culture of young people is dominated by alcohol and that excessive consumption of alcohol and other substances can lead to dangerous and life altering behaviours) to look at curbing this problem.
- 4 It is proposed to base Red Frogs in the iSite layby in Ardmore Street on the evenings of 29, 30 & 31 December to help with the large amount of underage drinking in the township. This will enable them to have more of a presence in a core central spot close to a proposed second DJ stage on New Year's Eve in Helwick Street. Here they will provide support by creating a safe zone for youth and teenagers and provide free water and pancakes. The applicant also advises private medics will be provided as St John cannot cater at this time of the year with such an influx of intoxicated people in the area.
- 5 The trial solution for the 2018 celebrations is the addition of a second DJ stage (as is the case in Queenstown) which has support from all parties. Seven possible locations were looked at for positioning this with Helwick Street chosen as being most suitable.
- 6 The applicant advises they have tried to keep the closure times for the event as tight as possible however they need to build the stage, place production and undertake sound checks before the event and then remove the stage early on New Year's Day, hence the longer closure of Helwick Street than has been approved in previous years. The earlier closure time has been applied for to allow for this set up and support has come from consulted parties in Wanaka to keep the road closed for longer on New Years day to allow for pack-in/out contingency.
- 7 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 temporarily close roads under this legislation.

Comment

- 8 This set of road closures has been occurring on an annual basis for a number of years however the proposed closures are different from those approved for the celebrations in 2017 with the relocation of Red Frogs to a more central location and the longer closure of Helwick Street to allow for a second DJ stage as outlined above.
- 9 These closures will allow for health and safety when erecting/rigging the two performance stages and for the public, staff and suppliers during the event. As in previous years the closures will be managed by Summit Events staff and Southern Safety Services.
- 10 Council Engineers have been consulted and they advise that there are no issues arising from the proposed road closures with a competent approved Traffic Management Plan in place and the applicant liaising with businesses within the closure areas. They also advise access will need to be made available for QLDC maintenance contractors if required.
- 11 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.
- 12 Requiring the applicant to provide affected party notification to any businesses and residences within a road closure area prior to closing the roads is a standard condition of any temporary road closure application and the applicant has advised that affected parties within the road closures will receive information handouts regarding all road closure times two weeks prior to the event.
- 13 No objections, concerns or negative feedback have been received from the closures in past years and at the date of preparing this report no concerns had been received following the public notification of the intent to close the roads in the Wanaka Sun.
- 14 We do not consider it likely that the road closures will impede traffic unreasonably. This event is held on an annual basis in Wanaka and needs an approved Traffic Management Plan before it can take place. All businesses within the closure route are advised of the closure extent before it occurs and their deliveries and vehicular activities are co-ordinated with the event organisers. The recommendation is for approval of the application, subject to the same conditions which have been applied in previous years.

Options

- 15 Option 1 To approve the application for a temporary road closure associated with the event.

Advantages:

- 16 Would be consistent with road closures approved for the event in previous years;

- 17 This annual event will be able to be run as proposed;
- 18 The proposed road closures will provide a safe environment for public, staff and contractors during the setup, running of, and dismantling of the event.
- 19 Alternative route are available allowing traffic to still move freely around the surrounding area.

Disadvantages:

- 20 Road closures affect the normal flow of traffic which can affect businesses and can inconvenience the public.
- 21 Option 2 To decline the application for a temporary road closure associated with the event.

Advantages

- 22 There would be less inconvenience for the public that use the roads with them remaining open to normal vehicular traffic.

Disadvantages:

- 23 Would be inconsistent with previous road closures allowed for the events.
- 24 May mean the event will not be able to be run as planned or not at all.
- 25 It could create an unsafe environment for the set up and dismantling of the event and for the general public during the events.
- 26 This report recommends **Option 1** for addressing the matter as the event will be able to proceed as planned in a safe, managed environment.

Significance and Engagement

- 27 This matter is of medium significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it relates to Council's roading network which is identified as a significant asset.
- 28 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

- 29 This matter relates to the strategic risk SR3 Management Practice - working within legislation, as documented in the Council's risk register. The risk is classed as moderate. This matter relates to this risk because 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 whether or not to approve a temporary road closure is considered.
- 30 This matter also relates to strategic risk SR6a – assets critical to service delivery (infrastructure assets) with the risk classified as low. This is because the impact

of the temporary road closure is minimal for the public and does not have a significant permanent impact on Council's infrastructure.

- 31 This matter also relates to operational risk SR27 levels of service, as documented in the Council's risk register. This risk is classed as moderate. This matter relates to this risk as it requires a decision from the Wanaka Community Board for a private activity.
- 32 The recommended option mitigates the risk by treating the risk – putting measures in place which directly impact the risk. Conditions are included in any road closure approval which address the risks.

Financial Implications

- 33 There are no cost implications resulting from the decision. This is a QLDC run event and we have been advised by QLDC events that no application fee is payable. The applicant will pay for any advertising that is required as part of the process.

Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws

- 34 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:
- a. *Significance and Engagement Policy 2014* – providing clarity on Council's decision making processes and assessing the extent to which individuals, organisations, groups and sectors in the community are affected by the Council's decisions.
 - b. *Criteria for Closing Significant Road Policy* – Ardmore Street from Brownston Street to Sargood Drive Street is listed in the Criteria for Closing Significant Roads Policy as a significant road and the proposed road closure comes within this portion of Ardmore Street. However, routes in and out of Wanaka are not disrupted by the closure with alternative detours available via Brownston Street. Ardmore Street has been temporarily closed on other occasions, without complaint or incident. This closure is often associated with key Wanaka events.
- 35 The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the named policies.

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions

- 36 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 events associated with the Wanaka New Year's Eve Celebrations can continue in the preferred format;
 - Can be implemented through current funding under the 10-Year Plan and Annual Plan;
 - 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

- 37 The persons who are affected by or interested in this matter are the general public who may use the road and businesses on the closure routes.
- 38 The temporary road closure has been advertised in the Wanaka Sun inviting comment and will be advertised again before the closure takes place. This is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act 1974. At the date of preparing this report no issues or concerns have arisen from this notification.
- 39 Council Engineers have been consulted in the preparation of this report and they concur with the recommendations and conditions proposed.
- 40 We have publicly notified the intent to close the road, advised Emergency Services, NZ Police, Ritchies Connectabus, InterCity, QLDC Events office, 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.

Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities

- 41 Temporary road closures are controlled by Schedule 10 Section 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. As authority for approval of road closures is delegated to the Chief Executive 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 Schedule and map showing extent of road closures

QLDC New Year's Eve Celebrations Wanaka

ROAD CLOSURES 2018

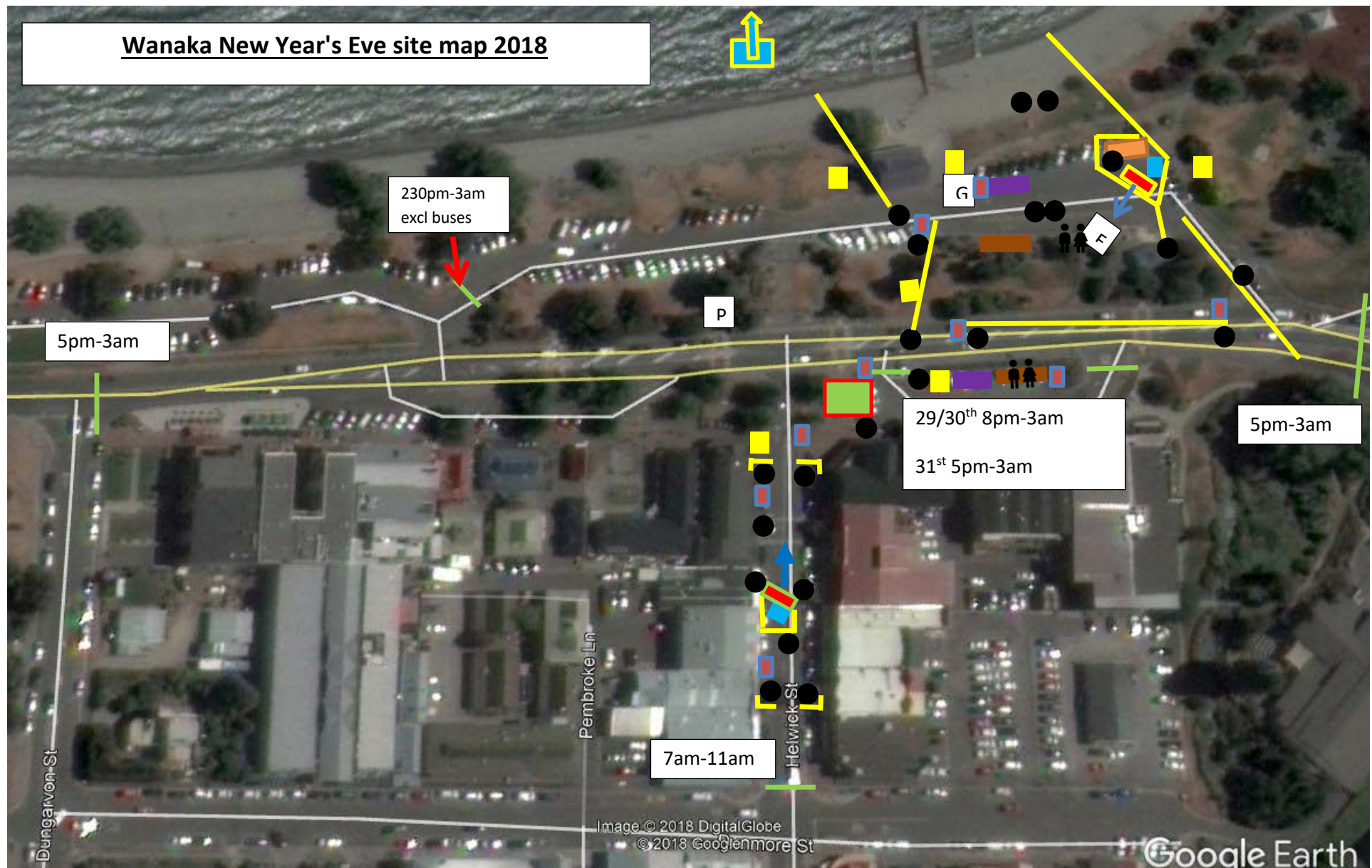
New Year's Eve Celebrations Wanaka	ROAD CLOSURE DETAILS
<p>Saturday 29th December 2018</p> <p>Sunday 30th December 2018</p> <p>Monday 31st December 2018 – 1st January</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2000 - 0300 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ardmore Street iSite layby • 2000 - 0300 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ardmore Street iSite layby • 0700 – 1100 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Helwick St from Ardmore St to Dunmore St. • 1430 – 0300 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ardmore St Log Cabin layby only (excl buses). • 1700 – 0300 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ardmore St from Dungarvon St to Lakeside Rd ○ Ardmore Street iSite layby <p><i>*alternative routes – Brownston St</i></p>

Up to 20 bins throughout key event area. Managed and emptied by Summit Events

Affected parties within road closures will receive info handouts re all road closure times two weeks prior to the closures.



Wanaka New Year's Eve site map 2018



Main stage

Fireworks

Stage Direction

Grenvilles trailers (green room) + Curtain sided trucks

DJ Stage

Road Closures

F FOH/ Lost Kids

G Glow sticks

Toilets (approx. x18)

Waste bins

P Mains power

Red Frogs

Light towers

Generator power

Vendors – Food x1, Espresso2Go x1

1m high fencing

Security approx. x23 (security with bins at each entry point)