

# REGULATORY PROCESSES COMMITTEE – EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

8 APRIL 2014



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## REPORT 1

### ROAD CLOSURES TO ACCOMMODATE THE ROYAL VISIT TO CIVIC SQUARE – 16 APRIL 2014

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#### 1. Purpose of report

To seek approval of the Regulatory Processes Committee for the temporary closure of roads in the Wellington City.

#### 2. Executive summary

The Wellington City Council has received an application from the event organisers of the Royal Tour to temporarily close a number of inner city streets. Details of the event and the expected impact on traffic are attached to this report as appendix 1.

#### 3. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Regulatory Processes Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Note that recommendations in this report should not be amended without first carrying out further consultation with affected parties and verification from the Council's Traffic Engineer that the amendment is not likely to cause unreasonable impact on traffic.*
3. *Agree to close the following roads for the above event to vehicles only, subject to the conditions listed in the Proposed Temporary Road Closure Impact Report:*
  - (i) *For the Royal Visit 16 April 2014.*

*Road Closures:*

- *Customhouse Quay (Panama Street to Lambton Quay)*
- *Willis Street (Lambton Quay to Mercer Street)*
- *Mercer Street (Willis Street to Victoria Street)*
- *Victoria Street (Harris Street to Wakefield Street)*

*In Addition Post Office Square will be closed, together with the Kerb side North bound land of Jervois Quay.*

## **4. Background**

The Council receives numerous requests throughout the year for public roads to be closed for events. These requests are processed and a detailed impact report prepared for each as attached. This report to the Committee has been prepared, in accordance with the procedures that were approved by the Committee on 15 December 2010.

## **5. Discussion**

### **5.1 Consultation and Engagement**

Affected stakeholders were notified of the Council's intention to consider the proposed temporary road closures through an advertisement in the Dominion Post. The New Zealand Police and the Ministry of Transport have also been consulted with. Any correspondence received in response to the proposed closures has been included in the attached impact report.

An approved traffic management plan for the event will address, and show how any objections raised are to be managed.

### **5.2 Financial considerations**

The City Events Team has assessed the proposed events with regard to their contribution towards Council's strategies and policies. The proposed events support the Council's strategy of being the "events capital" and will contribute to the economic success of the city.

### **5.3 Traffic Impact Assessment**

A Council Traffic Engineer has assessed the proposed closures with regard to the expected impact on traffic. The Traffic Engineer has provided a professional opinion as to whether the resulting impact on traffic is likely to be reasonable or unreasonable. The proposed closures, if implemented according to an approved traffic management plan and in accordance with specific conditions set by the Traffic Engineer, will enable the safe running of the event and minimise the impact on traffic. If, in the opinion of the Council, the closure may or does impede traffic unreasonably, any approval granted by the Council may be revoked and the event organiser may be required to open the road at the direction of the Council's Traffic Engineer.

## **6. Conclusion**

Approval is required from the Regulatory Processes Committee to allow the temporary closure of roads in the Wellington District for an event supported by the Wellington City Council. This will ensure that the Wellington City Council is complying with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1974 for the temporary closure of roads within its jurisdiction.

Contact Officer: *Maria Taumaa, Street Activities Coordinator*

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

Temporary road closures for events contribute to the council's desire to be the events capital of New Zealand. Specific council strategies that are supported by this include:

- More liveable – through prudent management of the road network.
- More eventful – some events may not be possible without temporary road closures.
- More actively engaged – affected stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide feedback on proposed closures.
- Better connected – through better management of traffic flows. Conversely road closures could sever key transport routes.
- More prosperous – the film industry relies on road closures, and other types of events increase commercial activity.

### 2) LTP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

Administration of the proposed closures is budgeted for under Annual Plan Project C481 Network Activity Coordination. There will be no long term financial impact to the Council resulting from these closures.

### 3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

No significant Treaty implications..

### 4) Decision-making

This is not considered to be a significant decision..

### 5) Consultation

#### a) General consultation

Key event organisers and other stakeholders (such as public transport and emergency services) have been consulted with to determine whether they would be impacted by the proposed closures, and where appropriate any traffic management plans have been modified accordingly.

#### b) Consultation with Maori

No specific consultation with Maori was carried out.

### 6) Legal implications

The process used to consider the proposed closures for approval is in accordance with the advice provided by the council's lawyers.

### 7) Consistency with existing policy

The plans for the proposed closures and this report have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for Temporary Traffic Management and the process approved by the Regulatory Processes Committee.

## APPENDIX I

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# PROPOSED TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE – IMPACT REPORT

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## ROYAL VISIT WELLINGTON

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### 1. Description of Event

The public will be given opportunities to see their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge in each of the main centres on their 7-16 April visit of New Zealand.

On Wednesday 16 April 2014 the Wellington schedule will be as follows:

**10am:** Opportunity to see the Royal Couple as they arrive at the Royal New Zealand Police College in Porirua, They leave there at 11am

**11.15am (best opportunities):** Royal Couple drive along Customhouse Quay & Willis Street.

**11.25am (best opportunities):** Royal Couple walk through Civic Square.

**12pm:** The public's last chance to see the Duke and Duchess in New Zealand will be as they drive around the bays to Wellington Airport.

In order to maximise the potential viewing opportunity presented by the drive along Customhouse Quay and Willis Street and also in the interests of public safety road closures will be put in place from 10am until 12.30pm affecting the following Streets.

- Customhouse Quay (Panama Street to Lambton Quay)
- Willis Street (Lambton Quay to Mercer Street)
- Mercer Street (Willis Street to Victoria Street)
- Victoria Street (Harris Street to Wakefield Street).

In addition Post Office Square will be closed, together with the kerb side North bound lane of Jervois Quay.

Pedestrian and emergency access will be maintained although there may be some brief periods when pedestrians may be asked to wait while the motorcade passes by. Traffic will be managed by a professional traffic management company. Traffic will be actively managed depending on the situation at the time and taking into account local access, parking issues and pedestrian control.

### 2. Events Directorate Support

The Events Directorate supports this event.

### 3. Proposal Notice and Consultation

The public notice advertising that the Council is proposing to consider this closure was published in the :

Dominion Post Thursday 3 April 2014

The New Zealand Police and the Ministry of Transport have also been consulted with.

### 4. Objections

There have been NO objections to this closure request.

### 5. Traffic Impact Assessment

#### Prior Closures

None of the proposed closures for this event will result in a road being closed for an aggregate of more than 31 days in any year.

#### Traffic Impact

In the opinion of Stephen Harte Programme Manager Transport Network Development, acting as the Council's Traffic Engineer, the proposed closure, if implemented according to an approved traffic management plan, can be managed effectively subject to the conditions listed below. However, the Council reserves the right to modify this opinion at any time. If, in the opinion of the Council, the closure may or does impede traffic unreasonably, any approval granted by the Regulatory Processes Committee may be revoked and the event organiser may be required to open the road at the direction of a suitably qualified Council officer in charge of traffic.

#### Conditions:

- The road closure will start at 10.am to 12.30pm
- The event organiser is to obtain Council approval for the details of a traffic management plan two weeks prior to the event.
- The event organiser is to notify the residents and business owners in the area's concerned.
- The event organiser is responsible for safety (pedestrian and traffic) within the closed area.
- The event organiser is to provide marshals at all road closures ends to ensure that public safety (interaction of traffic and spectators) is not compromised.
- The event organiser is to consult and accommodate the requirements of emergency services for the road closure.
- The event organiser is to provide adequate detour routes to provide access for affected residents and businesses during the event.

Signed .....  .....


Stephen Harte  
Programme Manager Transport Network Development

6. Attachments

- Map of proposed closure
- Copy of proposal notice from the newspaper

Prepared By: .....  .....

Maria Taumaa  
Street Activities Coordinator

Endorsed By: .....  .....

Warrick Dent  
Manager City Events



# Public drive and walk in Wellington

Wednesday 16 April 2014 (finishing at approx. 12pm)

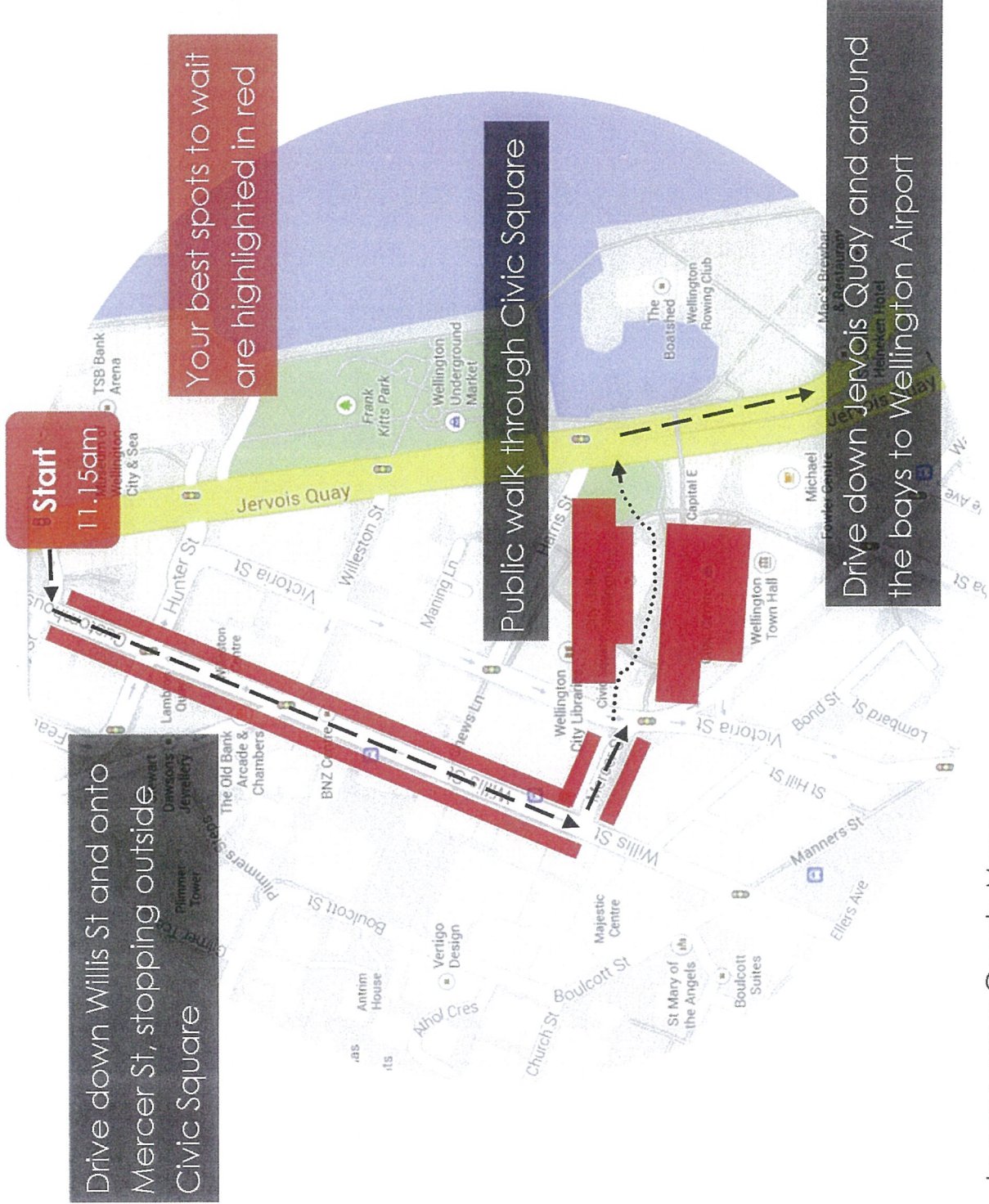


Image source: Google Maps

THE DOMINION POST | THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014



An Extraordinary Meeting of the Regulatory Process Committee will be held on Tuesday 8 April 2014 to consider the following proposed temporary road closures for events:

## **Royal Highnesses Public Drive and Walk in Wellington**

**Wednesday 16 April 2014, 10am–12.30pm**

**Customhouse Quay** between Post Office Square and Willis Street

**Willis street** from the Customhouse Quay intersection to Mercer Street

**Mercer Street** between Willis street and Victoria Street

**Victoria Street** from Harris Street to the intersection at Wakefield Street

Any person objecting to a proposed road closure must contact the City Council in writing before 4.00pm Monday, 7 April 2014. Please send correspondence to Maria Taumaa, at the mailing address below, by fax to 04 801 3009 or by email to [Maria.Taumaa@wcc.govt.nz](mailto:Maria.Taumaa@wcc.govt.nz)

**Wellington City Council, 101 Wakefield Street,  
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