

**Wanaka Community Board  
16 November 2016**

**Report for Agenda Item: 1**

**Department: Property & Infrastructure**

**Temporary Road Closure - Challenge Wanaka Triathlon Event 2017**

**Purpose**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to consider an application for temporary road closures associated with the 2017 Challenge Wanaka Triathlon event scheduled for Thursday 16 February to Sunday 19 February 2017.

**Executive Summary**

- 2 Challenge Wanaka have applied to Council for a set of temporary road closures for their annual event scheduled to take place in February 2017. 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 The event has been run successfully in the past and no formal complaints or concerns have been raised in association with the 2017 event. The recommendation is for approval of the temporary road closure application subject to conditions as per previous years.

**Recommendation**

That the Wanaka Community Board:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Approve** the temporary road closure application for the Challenge Wanaka 2017 event subject to the following conditions:
  - a. Approval of the final Traffic Management Plan by QLDC Planning and Development prior to the event taking place.
  - b. Radio advertising two days prior and on the morning of the event.
  - c. The event organisers arranging suitable disposal methods for recycling and rubbish/refuse.

- d. The event organisers ensure access is available for emergency services and maintenance contractors if required;
  - e. A reminder notice advising of the duration and dates of the closure being 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.
  - f. 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.
  - g. 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.
  - h. 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.
  - i. The applicant providing APL Property Limited a copy of New Zealand Transport Agency's approval for the one way closure of Red Bridge.
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 16 February 2017 to 1800 Sunday 19 February 2017

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 17 February 2017 to 0300 Sunday 19 February 2017

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

**Period of Closure:** 1200 Friday 17 February 2017 to 0300 Sunday 19 February 2017

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 18 February 2017 to 0300 Sunday 19 February 2017

*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:** 0615 to 1200 Saturday 18 February 2017

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

**Period of Closure:** 0615 to 1730 Saturday 18 February 2017

**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:** 0815 to 1730 Saturday 18 February 2017

*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:** 0815 to 1700 Saturday 18 February 2017

Prepared by:



Sarah Mitchell  
APL Property  
Property Consultant

11/10/2016

Reviewed and Authorised by:



David Wallace  
Manager – Resource Management  
Engineering  
Queenstown Lakes District Council  
7/11/2016

## **Background**

- 5 Challenge Wanaka is an annual triathlon event held in Wanaka. Traffic Management New Zealand on behalf of the Challenge Wanaka Sports Trust have applied to temporarily close a set of roads in and around Wanaka CBD in order to set up associated infrastructure and run the event safely. A schedule of closures

and a map outlining the road closures to accompany it are appended in Attachment A.

- 6 In February 2017 Challenge Wanaka will celebrate its 11th event. Over the last decade it has grown from 200 to 2,000 participants and injected over \$28 million into the local economy and organisers are again expecting another record field for next year's event.
- 7 Challenge Wanaka 2017 will again feature the Lake Wanaka Half with this event taking part on the same day as in previous years. Combined, the two events are expected to attract approximately 2,000 athletes and up to 10,000 spectators at the finish line and along the various sections of the course.
- 8 The Puzzling World Junior Triathlon will again take place in 2017 on Friday 17 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.
- 9 Race day is on Saturday 18 February 2017 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.
- 10 The final leg on 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.
- 11 The Lake Wanaka Half runs concurrently with Challenge Wanaka with athletes starting the course 0810 with one lap of the swim, bike and run course.
- 12 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.
- 13 The Council can close roads to vehicular traffic for events by using provisions of the Local Government Act 1974. The Wanaka Community Board is also delegated to consider applications to temporarily close roads under this legislation.

## **Comment**

- 14 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.

- 15 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.
- 16 In 2015 the event was changed from running in mid-January to being held in 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 in 2015 and 2016 and the event organisers are again holding it in mid-February in 2017.
- 17 The road closures applied for are generally the same as for the 2016 event however the road closures on Saturday 18 February 2017 for the following roads, to allow for the safe passage and transition of athletes, is proposed to begin 15 minutes earlier than in previous years:
- Single Lane closure of Mount Aspiring Road from Meadowstone Drive to Hospital Flat from 0615 to 1200
  - Ardmore Street from McDougall Street to Meadowstone Drive from 0615 to 1730
  - Single lane closure of McDougall Street from Faulks Terrace to Ardmore Street (traffic flow as usual out of town) from 0815 to 1730
  - Kane Road between Camphill Road and St Ninians Way from 0815 to 1700
- 18 The applicant has advised that these earlier road closures 15 minute earlier (and therefore longer) closure is required so the pro athletes and individuals can start the event earlier allowing the individual competitors an extra 15 minutes at the end of the day.
- 19 The road closure for the Red Bridge included on the attached schedule is on a State Highway so requires New Zealand Transport Agency's (NZTA) approval. The applicant will be dealing directly with the NZTA regarding this closure.
- 20 At last year's Wanaka Community Board meeting for the 2016 event comment was made that they would like to see people encouraged not to drive to town for the event. It was considered that an event of this nature provided a great opportunity to promote cycling as an alternative transport option and that additional bicycle parking should be provided for.
- 21 As 80% of the competitors are from out of town they need to drive and cannot cycle in the morning of the event as their bikes are racked in transition and they need to save their energy for the race. Challenge Wanaka want to encourage spectators from out of town to travel to the event as it increases the economic footprint for the town and they don't want to be discouraging this however they have advised that they can set up extra bike racks at the tent for parking of bikes and they will encourage spectators to cycle or walk to the event through their newsletter, web site, social media, radio advertising and athlete communication.
- 22 The applicant further advises that there will be extra trained road management staff to assist at Andersons Road roundabout and extra signage to divert buses

at the Caltex roundabout rather than have them go into the log cabin area and back out.

- 23 Council Engineers have been consulted and they comment that there are no issues with these road closures with an approved Traffic Management Plan in place.
- 24 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. The plan also considers how all Council car parks are to be managed during the closure times.
- 25 In association with the event, Challenge Wanaka undertake a schedule of notification 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.
- 26 The intent to close the road has been advertised in the Wanaka Sun and no concerns have been received following this notification.
- 27 The recommendation is for approval of the application, subject to the same conditions which have been applied in previous years.

## **Options**

- 28 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:
- 29 Option 1 The Wanaka Community Board approves the application for temporary road closures associated with the event.

### *Advantages:*

- 30 Would be consistent with previous years road closures for the event and the event will be able to be run as proposed.
- 31 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.
- 32 Alternative routes are available allowing traffic to still move freely around the surrounding area.

### *Disadvantages:*

- 33 Road closures affect the normal flow of traffic which can affect businesses and can inconvenience the public.
- 34 Option 2 The Wanaka Community Board declines the application for temporary road closures associated with the event.

### *Advantages:*

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

### *Disadvantages:*

- 36 Would be inconsistent with previous road closures allowed for the event.
  - 37 May mean the event will not be able to be run as planned or not at all.
  - 38 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.
- 39 Option 3 The Wanaka Community Board approves the temporary road closure with additional conditions to those recommended in this report.
- 40 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.
- 41 This report recommends Option 1 for addressing the matter it enables the Challenge Wanaka Triathlon Event 2017 to proceed as planned in a safe managed environment.

### ***Significance and Engagement***

- 42 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.
- 43 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***

- 44 This matter relates to the strategic risk SR3 Management practise – working within legislation, as documented in the Council's risk register. The risk is classed as moderate. This 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.
- 45 The recommended option considered above mitigates the risk by Treating the risk - putting measures in place which directly impact the risk. The road closure is notified and 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**

46 There are no cost implications resulting from the approval of this temporary road closure application. The applicants will pay for any advertising that is required as part of the process.

## **Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws**

47 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:

- Criteria for Closing Significant Road Policy - Ardmore and McDougall Streets are listed in this policy as significant roads however routes in and out of Wanaka are not disrupted by the road closures with alternative detours available.

## **Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions**

48 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 2017 Triathlon event can continue in the preferred format;
- 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**

49 The temporary road closures have been advertised in The Wanaka Sun inviting comment and will be advertised again before the closures take place. This is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act 1974. No issues or concerns have arisen from this notification.

50 Council Engineers have been consulted in the preparation of this report and they concur with the recommendations and conditions proposed.

51 A standard condition of any temporary road closure application is that the applicant provide an affected party notification to any businesses and residences within the road closure area prior to closing the road. The applicant has provided a letter to affected homeowners and businesses that will provide notification of the closure for the event to all affected parties.

52 We have publicly notified the intent to close the road, advised Emergency Services, NZ Police, Ritchies 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.



## **Legal Considerations and Statutory Responsibilities**

53 Temporary road closures are controlled by Section 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974. As authority for approval of these 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**

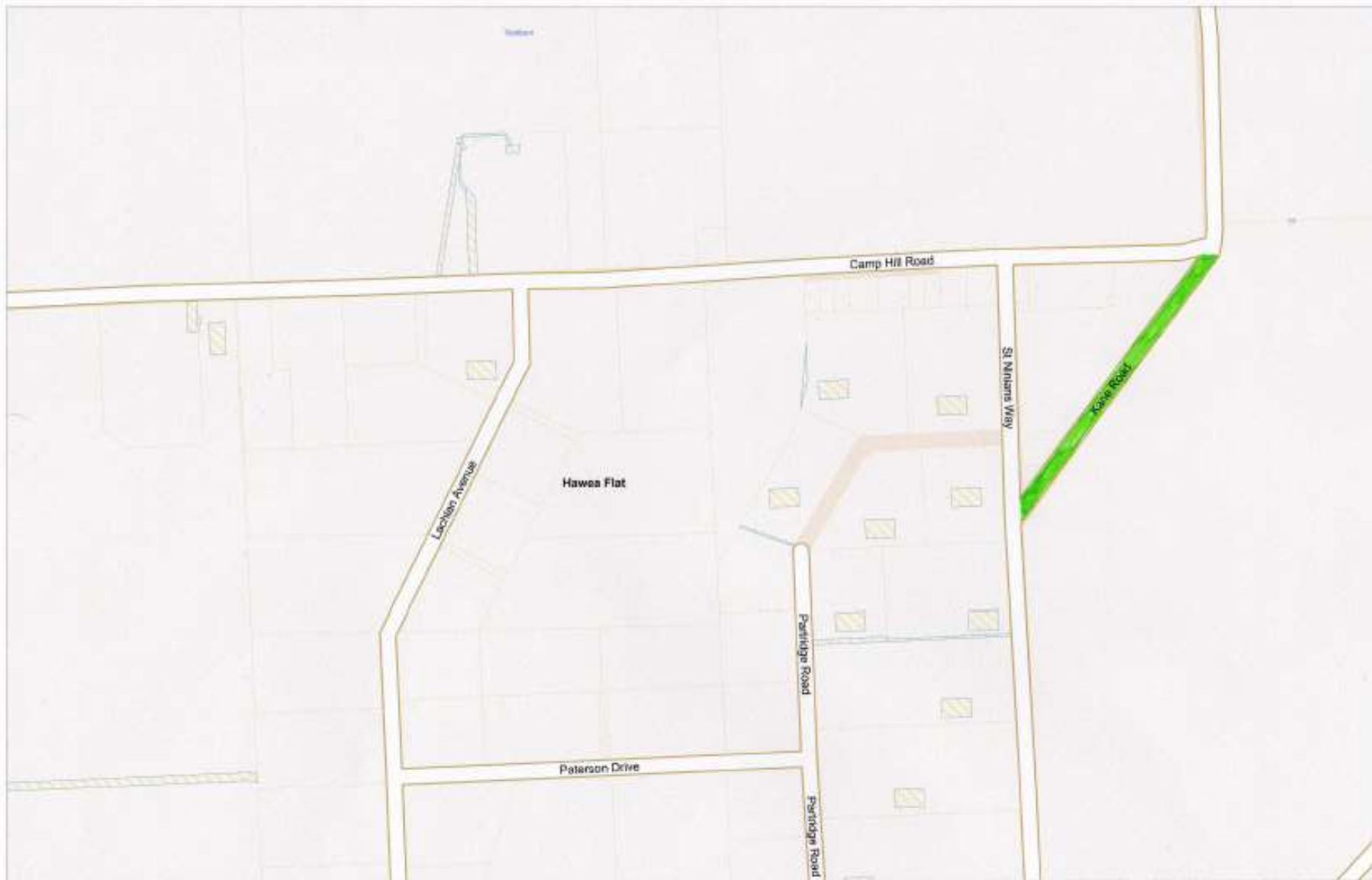
A Schedule and map of road closures

## Challenge Wanaka 2017 Road Closure

Road Closure	Date and Time	Purpose	Alternative Route
Ardmore Street from Dungarvon Street to MacDougall Street	Thursday 16 February 2017 from 0800hrs to Sunday 19 February 2017 at 1800hrs	Infrastructure Build up and breakdown	Via Brownston Street
Dungarvon Street from Dunmore Street to Ardmore Street	Friday 17 February 2017 from 1200hrs to Sunday 19 February 2017 at 0300hrs	Infrastructure Build up and Junior Challenge	Via Helwick Street or Brownston Street
Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Dungarvon Street	Friday 17 February 2017 from 1200hrs to Sunday 19 February 2017 at 0300hrs	Infrastructure build up and safe passage of athletes including Junior Challenge	Via Brownston Street
Ardmore Street from Helwick Street to Lakeside Road	Saturday 18 February 2017 from 0300hrs to Sunday 19 February 2017 at 0300hrs	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 18 February 2017 from 0615hrs to 1200hrs	Challenge Wanaka to allow safe passage for both athletes and motorists	Via Meadowstone Drive to return to Town until road opens. Access to residents and tourism operators will be permitted
Ardmore Street from MacDougall Street to Meadowstone Drive	Saturday 18 February 2017 from 0615hrs to 1730hrs	To allow safe passage of athletes	Via Faulks Terrace and Meadowstone Drive. Access to residents permitted

Single Lane closure of MacDougall Street from Faulks Terrace to Ardmore Street. Traffic to flow as usual out of town	Saturday 18 February 2017 from 0815hrs to 1730hrs	To allow safe passage of athletes travelling at high speed down the hill	Via Faulks Terrace and Meadowstone Drive or Golf Course Road. Access to Motor Camp will be provided through a traffic control point on Brownston / MacDougall Streets junction
Kane Road between Camphill Road and St Ninians Way	Saturday 18 February 2017 from 0815hrs to 1700hrs	To allow safe transition of cyclists at Aid Station B3	Via Camphill road and St Ninians Way
One way closure of Red Bridge, Closed to North Bound Traffic	Saturday 18 February 2017 from 0815hrs to 1700hrs	Challenge Wanaka Event, to prevent long traffic delays to northbound traffic (a detour will be quicker)	Via Shortcut Road, Wanaka Luggate Highway (SH6), Lake Hawera Albert Town Road (SH6), Camphill Road, St Ninians Way and Kane Road





**QuickMap**  
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Any person wishing to rely on the information shown on this map must independently verify the information  
Scale 1:6500 Topographical and Cadastral map derived from LINZ data. Printed: 14/09/2015 12:28