

Policy Status: Approved

Document Type: Policy
Primary Keyword: Information Management
Secondary Keyword: Council Policies
Tertiary Keyword: Policy register update

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Last Updated 06/08/2004

Precis: Filming-Road Closure

Responsible Officer: Policy Coordinator

Document:

TITLE: Road Closures Associated with Filming Proposals
AUTHORITY: Council
DATE OF ADOPTION/AMENDMENT: 23 May 2001
REPORT NO: DS&CS 76/2001
MINUTE NO: 396
POLICY NO: F31.1
POSITION RESPONSIBLE:
RELEVANT LEGISLATION:
PREVIOUS POLICY NO:
DATE LAST REVIEWED:

OBJECTIVE

To provide Council with a series of protocols for the approval of road closures associated with filming proposals within the Cessnock area.

POLICY

Road Closures Proposals

For the ease of consideration of road closures associated with filming proposals it is necessary to delineate separate areas of consideration. The Cessnock LGA can be segregated into five separate areas that have differing land uses and differing impacts due to road closures. The five areas and conditions of approval are:

Area 1 – Rural – Rural nature typified by large lots with agricultural or rural pursuits undertaken within

area. Road closures will have impact on rural properties only. Proposed road closures will have minimal impact on through traffic or businesses.

Conditions

1. Application to be received a minimum of four weeks prior to filming.
2. Applicant to notify adjoining landholders.
3. Road closures not to be extensive in nature unless through access is readily available.
4. The proponent to provide documentation that traffic control to be undertaken by qualified personnel.
5. Detour signage is to be supplied and installed where applicable.
6. Council to advertise the proposed road closure at least one week prior to the proposed closure.
7. Applicant to pay for advertising in local newspaper.
8. Applicant must inform emergency services.

Approval only given after the proponent has satisfied Council that the above conditions will be met.

Area 2 – Residential – Residential areas in towns and villages typified by sealed roads and urban development. Road closures will impact immediate residences and public transport and emergency services.

Conditions

1. Application to be received a minimum of four weeks prior to filming.
2. Applicant to notify residents.
3. Road closures not to be extensive in nature unless through access is readily available.
4. The proponent to provide documentation that traffic control to be undertaken by qualified personnel.
5. Detour signage is to be supplied and installed and manned by qualified personnel.
6. Council to advertise the proposed road closure at least one week prior to the proposed closure.
7. Applicant to pay for advertising in local newspaper.
8. Applicant must inform emergency services.

Approval only given after the proponent has satisfied Council that the above conditions will be met.

Area 3 – Tourist – Areas typified by tourist development with rural roads providing access to developments. Little opportunity to provide detours. Road closures will impact tourist traffic, tourism operators and through traffic.

Conditions

1. Application to be received a minimum of four weeks prior to filming.
2. Applicant to notify and gain concurrence from affected tourism operators.
3. No road closures to be approved if a specific tourist event is planned for that time.
4. Road closures not to be extensive in nature unless through access is readily available.
5. The proponent to provide documentation that traffic control to be undertaken by qualified personnel.

6. Detour signage is to be supplied and installed and manned by qualified personnel.
7. Council to advertise the proposed road closure at least two weeks prior to the proposed closure.
8. Applicant to pay for advertising in local newspaper.
9. Applicant must inform emergency services.

Approval only given after the proponent has satisfied Council that the above conditions will be met. In the instance that concurrence from the affected operators cannot be gained the application is to be reported to Council for consideration.

Area 4 – Commercial/CBD – Areas typified by high levels of commercial activity with time limited on street parking. Road closures and detours will affect trade and the amenity of users of the area.

Conditions

1. Application to be received a minimum of four weeks prior to filming.
2. Applicant to notify and gain concurrence from all immediately affected businesses.
3. Written concurrence from affected businesses to be supplied to Council prior to approval.
4. Road closures not to be approved for Thursday, Friday or Saturday trading hours.
5. No road closures to be approved if a specific retail or tourist event is planned for that time in the affected location.
6. Road closures not to be for more than five-minute intervals unless concurrence from affected businesses is gained.
7. The proponent to provide documentation that traffic control to be undertaken by qualified personnel.
8. Detour signage is to be supplied and installed and manned by qualified personnel.
9. Council to advertise the proposed road closure at least two weeks prior to the proposed closure.
10. Applicant to pay for advertising in local newspaper.
11. Applicant must inform emergency services.

Approval only given after the proponent has satisfied Council that the above conditions will be met. In the instance that concurrence from the affected operators cannot be gained the application is to be reported to Council for consideration.

Area 5 – Major Traffic Routes – Typically State Roads and the National Highway with the addition of Wollombi Road being Cessnock's major east/west link.

Conditions

1. Application to be received a minimum of four weeks prior to filming.
2. Applicant to notify and gain concurrence from the Roads Authority.
3. Applicant to adhere to any conditions imposed by the Roads and Traffic Authority.
4. Applicant to provide copy of conditions imposed by the Roads and Traffic Authority to Council.
5. No road closures to be approved if a specific retail or tourist event is planned for that time in the affected location.
6. Road closures not to be for more than five-minute intervals, unless a suitable detour is installed.

7. Traffic control to be undertaken by qualified personnel.
8. Detour signage is to be supplied and installed and manned by qualified personnel.
9. Council to advertise the proposed road closure at least two weeks prior to the proposed closure.
10. Applicant to pay for advertising in local newspaper.
11. Applicant must inform emergency services.

Approval only given after the proponent has satisfied Council that the above conditions will be met. In the instance that concurrence from the affected operators cannot be gained the application is to be reported to Council for consideration.

These conditions are in addition to the conditions imposed in the Filming Protocol and addressed on the 'Filming Proposal' form and the 'Location Application' form.