



OFFICE OF THE  
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Brisbane

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6 July 2021

Mr Paul French  
Co-convenor  
Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group  
GPO Box 2104  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr French *Paul*

Thank you for your email of 6 June 2021 about the management of footpath closures and impact to cyclists and pedestrians. The Lord Mayor is currently away from the office and has asked that I reply on this occasion.

Assessing temporary footway and roadway closures is taken very seriously by Council as we need to balance the needs of residents, builders, and footpath users with all permit applications.

I note your comments about the fees for footway closures. In the 2021/22 Budget, which was recently handed down, Council will be increasing the footway closure fees to help offset the loss of amenity experienced by the community because of these temporary closures. We will be encouraging the installation of hoardings and gantries instead.

The Development Services' Construction Management Guidelines (the Guidelines) clearly sets out the restrictions on footway closures within the Central Business District (CBD) and City Frame Area. The City Frame Area incorporates the CBD and surrounding adjoining suburbs including South Brisbane, Woolloongabba and Kangaroo Point. The Guidelines stipulate that, generally, full footpath closures are not permitted. However, where there is no alternative mode of access such as the installation of appropriate hoarding and gantry, partial or full footpath closures will be considered.

Each application is thoroughly assessed with a number of considerations given to balancing the impact of the proposed activity on the local environment, and ensuring efficient and safe development takes place. It is standard practice for the assessing officers to look very closely at closure areas and proposed durations, with a view to maintaining pedestrian access and movement through the area, including staging and minimising the duration of any closure for verge streetscape and civil works. During the assessment of permit applications, Council officers will also review the impacts on the community and any compliance history. In addition to this, we have reviewed internal policy which supports closures on a week-by-week basis, as opposed to closures on a month-by-month basis.

If you have any further questions about this matter, please contact Mr Matthew Olding, Principal Business Improvement Officer, Development Services, on 3178 8188.

Thank you again for contacting Council.

Yours sincerely

Krista Adams  
**ACTING LORD MAYOR**

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