

 <p>Mackay REGIONAL COUNCIL</p>	COUNCIL POLICY	
	Closure or Reopening of Road to Through Traffic	
	POLICY NO	021
	DEPARTMENT	ENGINEERING & COMMERCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE
PROGRAM PLANNING	TRANSPORT & DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE	
ENDORSED BY COUNCIL	12 August 2020	Resolution: ORD-2020-205

1.0 Scope

This Policy applies to requests for the physical closure of a road as a means of management of vehicular traffic, received by Mackay Regional Council (MRC) via a letter/petition, or a recommendation in a report as part of a MRC Capital Works project.

2.0 Purpose

MRC receives various requests for physical closures or reopening of a road to through traffic and this policy is to assist with a procedure to apply to requests or recommendations to MRC for the physical closing or opening of a road to vehicle or pedestrian movements as a means of managing traffic.

The Policy does not apply to:

- Works associated with precinct traffic management undertaken via a Local Area Traffic Management Plan (already provided for in approved procedure involving community input); or
- Permanent closure, or opening, of a road reserve requiring application to the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

3.0 Reference

- Chapter 3, Part 3, Division 1, Section 69 *Local Government Act 2009*.

4.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

Council shall mean the Mayor and Councillors of Mackay Regional Council.

Human Rights Complaint shall mean a complaint about an alleged contravention of section 58-1 by a public entity in relation to an act or decision of the public entity.

MRC shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

Stakeholders could include:-

- Residents/property Owners in street(s) affected;

- Emergency Services (Ambulance, Fire Service, Police);
- Service agencies (Telstra/Ergon/Australia Post);
- Public Transport operators & Translink;
- MRC Programs
- Business Operators;
- Local Schools;
- Government Departments (Department of Transport & Main Roads, DTMR; Department of Natural Resources Mines & Energy DNMRE.

5.0 Background

MRC receives various requests for either physical closure of a road as a means of management of vehicular traffic or reopening of a previously closed road via a letter/petition, or a recommendation in a report as part of a MRC Capital Works project. This policy will assist MRC in the process for deciding to either open or close a road within the MRC region.

6.0 Policy Statement

6.1 Council Resolution

A brief report is presented to Council outlining the proposal, seeking authorisation to investigate the request and invite community consultation.

6.1.1 Undertake Community Consultation

Identify the Stakeholders and invite consultation through: -

- Contact by letter;
- Public media – press release to press, radio, television;
- Advertising;
- Street Meeting;
- Personal contact, as appropriate.

6.1.2 Deputations to MRC

Major Stakeholders may be invited to present their case on their position directly to MRC, prior to consideration of the Traffic Advisory Committee recommendation.

6.2 Report to Traffic Advisory Committee

A report is put to the Traffic Advisory Committee for their consideration. The report is to include:

- Clarification of the proposal with originator
- Consider the merits of the proposal;
- Input / comment from Stakeholders;
- The impact on the Strategic Plan, Road Hierarchy, Bicycle Plan, Drainage System, Street Naming/Numbering and Capital Works Program.

6.3 Council Resolution

Recommendations from the Traffic Advisory Committee shall be placed on the next Ordinary Meeting Agenda for consideration and resolution. All submission writers and residents/owners directly affected will be advised of the Council decision.

Advertising of closure or opening of the road will be undertaken via local print media and on MRC's website.

6.4 Complaints

Any complaints in relation to this service will be assessed and managed in accordance with MRC's Administrative Action Complaints Policy, a copy of which can be found on MRC's website.

Complaints may be made as following:

In writing to

Chief Executive Officer
Mackay Regional Council
PO Box 41
MACKAY QLD 4740

Via Email - complaints@mackay.qld.gov.au

In person – 73 Gordon Street, Mackay.

6.5 Human Right Complaints (Please delete if not relevant)

When an individual feels that they are the subject of MRC's failure to act compatibly with human rights, they can make a complaint directly to MRC. These complaints will be assessed against the Human Rights Act 2019.

7.0 Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
2	Modify Template	Minor reference change	Council	23.08.17
3	Policy Review period	Minor updating of Council Program names	Council	12.08.20