5.5. Temporary Road Closures - New Year's Eve 2024

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ATTACHMENTS	1. New Year's Eve 2024 North Sydney: Road Closures & Special
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	1.4 Well utilised open space and recreational facilities
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	2.4 Efficient traffic mobility and parking
	3. Our Innovative City
	3.1 Our commercial centres are prosperous and vibrant
	4. Our Social Vitality
	4.1 North Sydney is connected, inclusive, healthy and safe

PURPOSE:

To purpose of this report is to seek Committee endorsement for the proposed temporary road closures and traffic management arrangements for New Year's Eve Tuesday 31 December 2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- Road closures and Special Event Clearways are proposed to be implemented across North Sydney, Blues Point, Lavender Bay, Kirribilli, and Cremorne Point from Monday 30 December 2024, to early Wednesday 1 January 2025, to facilitate New Year's Eve celebrations.
- New Year's Eve is an annual event hosted by North Sydney Council with an anticipated crowd of up to 30,000 patrons gathering at key vantage points Blues Point Reserve, Lavender Bay Parklands, and Bradfield Park; these measures are essential to ensure safe and efficient movement in and around these areas.
- CATO Traffic Management Company has prepared Traffic Guidance Scheme (TGS) and proposed road closures for the event.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the Committee endorse the temporary road closures in North Sydney to support the New Year's Eve 2024 Event, between 7pm 30 December 2024 and 3am 1 January 2025.

Background

The New Year's Eve festivities in Sydney are a high-profile event, attracting large crowds to view the harbour fireworks from popular vantage points. In preparation, specific traffic management measures, including road closures and Special Event Clearways, are enacted to control vehicle flow and maintain public safety. Given the anticipated attendance and increased demand for access and parking near North Sydney's vantage points, specific measures are necessary to manage the area's accessibility and safety.

CATO Traffic Management Company has prepared the Traffic Guideline Scheme (TGS) for the event, detailing the proposed temporary road closures and traffic management measures necessary for event safety and operation. Event organisers will adhere to North Sydney Council's standard road closure conditions and must obtain all necessary approvals.

Report

To facilitate New Years Eve 2024, road closures and special event clearways will be place in various suburbs of North Sydney Local Government Area including North Sydney, Milsons Point, McMahons Point, Lavender Bay, Kirribilli, Waverton, Crows Nest, Cremorne, and Neutral Bay.

Traffic Management Plan:

Road closures in North Sydney and surrounding suburbs will commence at 7 pm Monday, 30 December 2024 until 3 am Wednesday, 1 January 2025. Police may restrict vehicle access along closed roads, including for residents and businesses.

Special Event Clearways:

Special Event Clearways implemented by TfNSW will be in effect from 6 pm Monday, 30 December 2024 until 3 am Wednesday, 1 January 2025. These clearways supersede resident parking schemes, and all vehicles - including those with resident parking or disability permits - must observe clearway signs to avoid towing and fines.

Public Notifications:

To help motorists and residents plan, notifications of road closures and clearways will be communicated in advance via signage, websites, and direct notifications.

Enforcement and Safety Considerations:

Law enforcement and traffic personnel will be on-site to monitor road access, ensure safety compliance, and tow vehicles parked in Special Event Clearways. Police will make case-by-case assessments for residents and businesses needing access along restricted roads.

Public Transport Adjustments:

Buses:

Due to road closures, bus services in North Sydney will follow alternative routes:

From 3pm Tuesday 31 December 2024, some services to and from the Northern Beaches
will terminate and depart in Berry Street North Sydney, while some northwest routes will
operate via Miller Street near McLaren Street North Sydney.

- Between 11pm Tuesday 31 December and 1:30am Wednesday 1 January, services will not operate across the Sydney Harbour Bridge and will terminate and depart from alternative stations on the Sydney Trains and Metro networks.
- Specific route diversions and timings information is detailed on www.transportnsw.info. Ferries:

In accordance with event guidelines, specific wharf closures and restrictions will apply:

- Beaulah Street is closed for maintenance.
- Cremorne Point closes 5:15pm 31 December.
- Jeffrey Street closes 8pm 30 December.
- McMahons Point closes 10am 31 December.
- Milsons Point closes 3pm 31 December (TBC)

All wharves remain closed until 1am 1 January.

Cycleway and Footpath Closures:

The Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway and Footpath will be closed from 6pm 31 December 2024 to 2am 1 January 2025.

Consultation requirements

Community engagement will be undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Protocol.

Financial/Resource Implications

All costs related to the proposed closures at North Sydney vantage points will be covered by North Sydney Council.

Legislation

The temporary road closures are proposed under Section 115 of the NSW Roads Act 1993.

