
1.64 Wet Weather Road Closure Policy

Policy Owner	Executive Director Infrastructure, Development & Environment
Responsible Officer	Manager Operations
Date of Approval	21/04/2014
Amended/Revised	25/06/2024

Objective

Ensure safety to all road users and to mitigate damage to road infrastructure, in particular unsealed roads.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- Vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Mass of 4.5 tonne or greater.
- Vehicles that travel over the road under the care and control of the City of Albany.

Local traffic (For example: where a residence is situated on a road which have been closed) shall be exempt from this policy regardless of the weight requirements provided that any vehicle exceeding 4.5 tonnes is unloaded.

The delegated officer may exempt certain vehicles requiring access (for example, school buses).

Affected agencies shall include but are not limited to:

- Heavy Haulage carriers.
- Main Road Western Australia.
- Neighbouring Local Authorities.
- Department of Transport.
- Local Residents.
- Bus companies, Public Transport Authority.

This policy does not apply during floods or emergencies where roads may be closed to all vehicles for public safety or other reasons.

This policy may apply to singular, multiple or all roads.

Policy Statement

If there is a risk of damage to City road infrastructure and/or to public safety due to inclement or persistent wet weather the City shall exercise its right under the Local Government Act to close affected roads.

The Executive Director Infrastructure, Development & Environment is delegated the power to:

- Close Roads; and
- Define and impose conditions for road use.

This policy position complements delegation: LG8.01 (D041) Close Thoroughfares to Vehicles (Temporary Road Closures), noting the condition of using this delegated power being:

- The installation of "Road Closed" signs where possible; and
- Providing an information bulletin to affected agencies, distributed via email, SMS, local radio and by posting on the City of Albany website.

Legislative and Strategic Context

- *Local Government Act 1995*, s3.50. Under s3.50 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the local authority is permitted to close an unsealed road to particular traffic in wet conditions. This is done to prevent unreasonable damage to roads due to excessive vehicle movements.
- *Road Traffic Act 1974*, s84
- *City of Albany Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2011*

Review Position and Date

This policy is to be reviewed annually.