

# Temporary Road Closure Approval – Spirit of Matariki 2020

**Meeting:** Kaipara District Council  
**Date of meeting:** 27 May 2020  
**Reporting officer:** Wendy Campbell, Corridor Access Coordinator

## Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To seek approval from the council for the application of a temporary road closure for the purpose of the Spirit of Matariki 2020 – community event.

## Executive summary/Whakarāpopototanga

Approve the application for temporary road closure to allow the Spirit of Matariki 2020 – community event to take place in a safe manner. The proposed closure is to be held on Saturday 27 June 2020 from 12:30pm – 07:00pm between 16 – 36 Victoria Street and the Victoria reserve outside the Band Rotunda and Central Hotel.

## Recommendation/Ngā tūtohunga

That Kaipara District Council:

- a) Approves the application for the temporary road closure of Victoria Street, Dargaville between 16 – 36 Victoria Street, Dargaville and the Victoria reserve outside the Band Rotunda and Central Hotel as shown on the proposed Traffic Management Diagram (Attachment A to this report) on Saturday 27 June 2020 from 12:30pm to 07:00pm. A condition of approval being the event organiser to do a letter drop to all businesses/residents located within the road closure.
- b) Notes that the agreement above will be subject to the Ministry of Health's guidelines on public events, and that this information be included in the letter drop to affected residents/businesses.

## Context/Horopaki

In terms of the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulation 1965, Council is required to advertise any road closures at least 42 days in advance of an event. The decision to close the road is to be approved by Council under the Local Government Act 1974, s319.

The Spirit of Matariki 2020 will be held on Saturday 27 June 2020 and will be the fifth event held in Dargaville. The event will be held around the band rotunda to celebrate with schools, organisations and businesses. It is a non-profit free event for the community which will attract people into the main street with added financial and social benefits to local businesses and communities. If New Zealand has Covid under control and at a level where gatherings of this size could continue, this event could be good for the community and be a step in the right direction for Council to assist our community with restarting the economy.

## Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

The proposed traffic management diagram (Attachment A) necessitates the temporary closure of part of Victoria Street, Dargaville and includes the intersection of Edward Street. The event will be held around the band rotunda and the Central Hotel. The event requires the road to be closed for approximately seven hours on Saturday 27 June 2020 between the hours of 12:30pm to 07:00pm.

This is likely to cause some nuisance to the local businesses located within the closure. The proposed temporary road closure was publicly advertised in the Dargaville Lifestyler on Tuesday 10 March 2020 and closed for objections at 4pm on Monday 23 March 2020. No objections were received during the notification period. The closures will have minimal impact on traffic and pedestrians.

It is a very popular community event bringing visitors to the area and adding a financial, cultural and social benefit for local businesses and the community. This event has previously been held on Onslow Street and is the second year that it will be held around the band rotunda and Central Hotel which is a great opportunity to create and promote tourism in the Kaipara district and attract visitors into the main street.

### **Options**

**Option A:** Approve the application for the temporary road closure.

By choosing Option A, the council can allow for a safer event for the community, event participants and road users. This event will only go ahead if the Prime Minister has announced that gatherings of this size may be held.

**Option B:** Decline application for the temporary road closure.

The event may not take place if the council declines the application. Declining this application would be a step in the opposite direction for creating opportunity to promote tourism in the Kaipara district and be seen as a potential loss in financial, cultural and social opportunity for the local businesses and community.

The recommended option is Option A.

### **Policy and planning implications**

Local Government Act 1974, s319 – General powers of council in respect of roads. Section 319 (1)(h) includes “to stop or close any road or part thereof in the manner and upon the conditions set out in section 342 and Schedule 10”.

### **Financial implications**

The applicant will bear all costs of temporarily closing the road

### **Risks and mitigations**

There are no major risks associated with the decisions or matters outlined in this report

## **Significance and engagement/Hirahira me ngā whakapāpā**

The public were informed of the application.

## **Next steps/E whaiake nei**

Advise the applicant of the council's decision. If approved, give public notice and advise stakeholders of the decision to close part of the road under Clause 11A of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1974. Applicant to undertake letter drop to all residence/businesses located within the closure.

## **Attachments/Ngā tapiritanga**

	Title
A	Traffic Management Plan

Wendy Campbell, 06 March 2020