

# Pedestrian Access Way Closures and Gating Guidelines

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## Introduction

Requests to close a pedestrian access ways (PAW) are often made on the grounds of security, safety and amenity. However, these PAWs were created to provide improved pedestrian access to services and facilities within a neighbourhood. In considering closure and gating requests, a balance needs to be found between pedestrian access and concerns regarding residents' amenity and security.

The purpose of PAWs is to provide a direct access option to and from destinations within the pedestrian network, and it is the City's preference is to keep PAWs an open and barrier free access route. When submitting a request for closure or gating of a PAW, the requestor will need to ensure they provide significant justification and reasoning for Council to consider supporting the request.

## PAW Closure Requests

When considering closing a PAW, the City is to take into account how the closure would affect the community who utilises the PAW as access to facilities, amenities and surrounding areas.

1. All requests for the closure of a PAW is to include information provided by the requestor addressing the following matters:
  - (a) The impact of the PAW on the adjoining landowner;
  - (b) The physical state of the PAW;
  - (c) Any access links that the PAW provides to community facilities such as (but not limited to):
    - i. Schools and other education facilities;
    - ii. Shopping;
    - iii. Parks and recreation;
    - iv. Community facilities;
    - v. Employment;
    - vi. Public transport;
    - vii. Facilities for aged persons and people with disability;
  - (d) Quality of alternative routes; and
  - (e) Relationship to the surrounding pedestrian network.
2. Once a request for closure is considered by the City, the proposed closure will be advertised for public comment by way of:
  - (a) Placement of an advertisement in local newspaper(s);
  - (b) Placement of signs at either end of the PAW;
  - (c) Request for comment from affected servicing agencies; and
  - (d) Request for comment from surrounding landowners.
3. In the event the closure is not unanimously supported by adjoining landowners, the PAW will not be closed.

4. In the event there is unanimous support for the closure, the matter will be presented to Council. Should Council resolve not to proceed with the closure of a PAW, further requests to close the PAW will not be considered within 12 months of the resolution date.
5. In the event a request to reconsider a PAW closure is received after the 12 month period, the matter will be referred to Council for consideration prior to undertaking any notification or advertising procedures.

## **Gating of PAW**

For each PAW gating request, the City is to consider how the locked gates may affect not only the limited access to facilities and adjoining areas at night, but also the City's capacity for staff to attend the gates at the designated times to lock and unlock them.

1. All requests for the installation of gates along a PAW is to include information provided by the requestor addressing the following matters:
  - (a) The impact of the PAW on the adjoining landowner;
  - (b) The preferred times the gates are to be locked each night and unlocked each morning;
  - (c) The physical state of the PAW;
  - (d) Access links that the PAW provides to community facilities such as (but not limited to):
    - i. Schools and other education facilities;
    - ii. Shopping;
    - iii. Parks and recreation;
    - iv. Community facilities;
    - v. Employment;
    - vi. Public transport;
    - vii. Facilities for aged persons and people with disability;
  - (e) Quality of alternative routes; and
  - (f) Relationship to the surrounding pedestrian network.
2. Once a request for gating is considered by the City, the proposed gating will be advertised for public comment by way of:
  - (a) Seeking comments from the all relevant services areas within the City to determine the ability to manage the locking and unlocking of the gates; and
  - (b) The proposed gating will be advertised for public comment including:
    - i. Placement of an advertisement in local newspaper(s);
    - ii. Placement of signs at either end of the PAW;
    - iii. Request for comment from affected servicing agencies; and
    - iv. Request for comment from surrounding landowners.
    - v.
3. In the event the gating is not unanimously supported by adjoining landowners, the PAW will not be gated.

4. In the event there is unanimous support for the gating the matter will be presented to Council. Should Council resolve not to proceed with the gating of a PAW, further requests to gate the PAW will not be considered within 12 months of the resolution date.
5. In the event a request to reconsider a PAW gating is received after the 12 month period, the matter will be referred to Council for consideration prior to undertaking any notification or advertising procedures.
6. Should the gating of the PAW not be supported, the City may consider the installation of additional lighting, such as solar lighting, to assist with visibility and security at night along the PAW.