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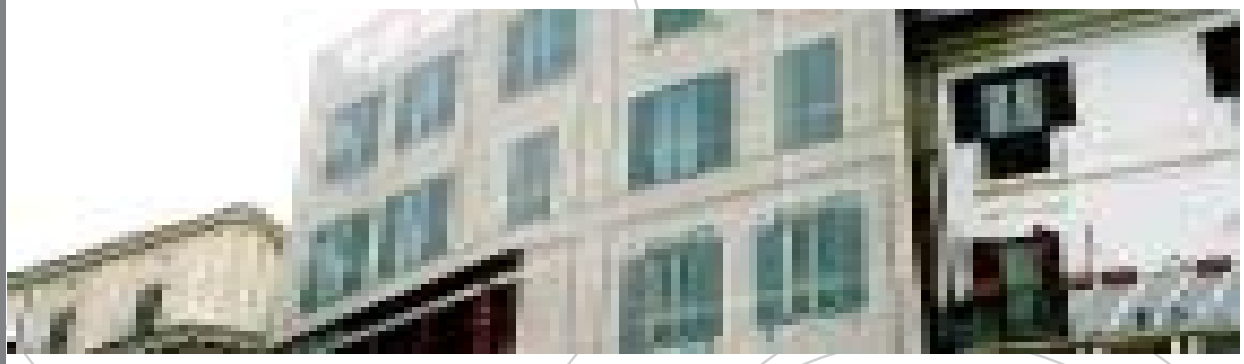

Temporary fencing (hoardings) / barrier systems

For the erection of temporary fencing (hoardings) and barriers systems on land within the road reserve and other public land

blue mountains City Council

Introduction

Temporary fencing / barrier systems are generally used to secure work sites. They also contribute to public safety by providing a physical barrier between people and demolition, excavation, construction and maintenance sites. This policy seeks to elevate awareness and give greater guidance to applicants seeking to install a temporary fencing system within the road reserve or on other public land. There are complex and stringent requirements for temporary fencing / barrier systems set out in a raft of Regulations, Codes and Standards. This policy references key standards, overviews the types of fencing and the approval requirements of Blue Mountains City Council.

It is the responsiblity of the Principal Contractor and / or developer for the works to make themselves aware of ALL the standards that apply.

Where guidance is required it is recommended that you consult WorkCover NSW or a structural engineer.

Updates to any standards referenced at the time of adoption will apply. In the event of an inconsistency, legislative and statutory provisions prevail over this policy.

The Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Act and associated Regulations are key to determining the type of system and its installation standards. Reference is directed to the Act, the Regulations and to WorkCover NSW Code of Practice / policy statements. Reference should also be made to the Austroads - Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice (Traffic Engineering Practice Series) and to any relevant Australian Standards (AS) including but not limited to:

- AS4687 Temporary fencing and hoardings
- AS1720 Timber structures - design methods
- AS1170 Structural design actions
- AS4100 Steel structures
- AS3600 Concrete structures
- AS1725 Chain-link fabric security fencing & gates
- AS1742.3 Manual of uniform traffic control devices - traffic control devices
- AS1657 Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders - design, construction & installation
- AS1576 Scaffolding
- AS4576 Scaffolding - guidelines for scaffolding
- AS1158 Lighting for roads & public spaces
- AS2601 Demolition of structures
- AS1319 Safety signs for the occupational environment

Contents

This document does not override the need to obtain separate approval for any other works associated with temporary fencing structures eg., approvals / consents for advertising signs; tree pruning / removals; temporary vehicular access; etc.

Part 1: Design considerations

The design considerations detailed in this part are aimed at maintaining public safety, minimising impact on the surrounding environment including pedestrian and vehicular spaces, protecting Council's infrastructure and retaining the visual landscape of the area.

Public safety

A prime responsibility for all contractors is to maintain public safety. Consider these actions:

- **Fencing systems** must cover the full length of the boundary adjoining the road reserve and / or public way.
- **Design** fencing systems so they do not interfere with sight lines of motorists, pedestrians, traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, kerb ramps or vehicles entering or leaving the site.
- **Place** warning signs, works signs, traffic / pedestrian management devices so that they do not interfere or restrict sight lines or are obscured by trees.
- **Retain** a minimum of 1.5 metre footway width between the temporary fencing system and the roadway. Lesser distances will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances.
- **Locate** access point/s to the construction site so as not to cause a hazard or nuisance to existing traffic and / or pedestrians. Note: If the access point is not in an existing location or identified in a development consent, you will need a separate approval from the Council for temporary vehicular access under the Roads Act.
- **Gates / doors** used to access the site should swing inwards only.
- **Implement** signage to identify hazards and paths of travel.
- **Design** alternative pedestrian pathways or detours (where required) to take into account accessibility issues. These routes should provide widths, levels, gradients, tactile indicators and colour schemes to assist people with disabilities in their movement.
- **Maintain access** to under / above ground utility services and hydrants and provide adequate protection to ensure safety of workers accessing these services.
- **Contain** unloading and loading of materials within the property boundaries. The fencing system should allow sufficient space for this to occur.
- **Maintain** footways / public ways free of trip hazards.
- **Ensure** temporary fencing structures / barrier systems are of sound construction at all times.

Why use temporary fencing / barrier systems

Temporary fencing / barrier systems are used to:

- provide a safety barrier during excavation, demolition, construction and maintenance works;
- protect the public where works may impact on a public way or road reserve;
- provide a visual highlight of the presence of works underfoot;
- restrict access and contain materials including debris on excavation, demolition and construction sites.

Part 1: Design continued

Environment

This section focuses on minimising adverse impacts that can affect the environment, the amenity of the area and Council's infrastructure.

- **Public Art** - In Village and high profile tourist areas include public art, graphics or images on temporary fencing structures and / or construction wraps (ie., material used around open fencing and / or on scaffolding systems) that are likely to be in place for a period greater than 3 months.

  Artworks and designs should contribute to public safety and respond to the cultural and environmental heritage of the city. They may also be used to inform people of the future development on the site. Any artworks and / or graphics should not constitute advertising unless separate development consent is obtained. All work must be well maintained.

- **Retain and protect** trees and landscaped areas**.** Temporary fencing / barrier systems are to be designed and / or located outside the drip zone any tree.
- **Locate** temporary fencing systems so they do not impact on environmentally sensitive areas and /or fauna travel paths.
- **Water channels**, stormwater drainage channels and / or easements must not be obstructed and are to be maintained clean and free from debris.
- **Putrescible**, dangerous or hazardous substances and waste must not be placed on, or stored within the road reserve or on public land.
- **Vehicles** are not to cross the footway to gain access to the site unless a temporary planked crossing of adequate size is constructed. Note: The final design must not cause a hazard or danger to the public.
- **Crossings to the site** should not be over manhole covers in the footway unless the covers are adequately protected to the satisfaction of the Authority controlling the cover.
- **Kerb and / or gutters** are not be cut or damaged in any way. Wheeled or track type vehicles shall not cross over these unless provision has been made to properly protect the kerb and / or gutter from damage.
- **Carry out the removal of materials** from demolition or excavation works to ensure the streets over which the materials are being hauled are kept clear and free of debris from every exit.
- **Cover equipment** conveying debris or material to prevent spillage and /or wind borne escape.

Responsibility of the Principal Contractor

It is the responsibility of the Principal Contractor and / or developer to complete a risk assessment and determine the most appropriate control measures including temporary fencing systems to ensure public safety.

NOTE: Principal Contractor is defined under the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations.

Part 2.1: TYPE - Open fencing

Open fencing includes an interlocking fence panel with infill material, such as chain link fencing fabric, a counterweight / support system and a base. These types of systems are often modular and portable.

WHERE REQUIRED

Open fencing systems are required:

- Where there is no requirement under the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations and / or any Australian Standard for the use of a solid fencing system and / or as otherwise specifically referred to by Part 2.2 of this document.
- As security fencing around construction sites, (except for single dwelling, duplex or civil engineering projects or for maintenance work), unless a risk assessment identifies that the hazards at the site cannot be controlled by any means other than perimeter fencing.

KEY STANDARDS

Temporary fencing systems must comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations and the provisions of any relevant Australian Standard. In particular:

— The design, materials, products, components, installation, maintenance and removal must be in accordance with AS4687: Temporary fencing and hoardings. Testing in accordance with AS4687 is to be undertaken to ensure the fence structure is stable under loads likely to be imposed on it. In terms of the wind force test, the structure is to be designed and tested against Region A wind speed and site exposure multipliers as outlined in AS1170.2: Structural design actions - Wind actions.

— Demolition work must be carried out in accordance with AS2601: The demolition of structures.

Reference to an Australian Standard, Code or policy should include any subsequent update.

INSTALLATION

- Open fencing systems must be installed in accordance with the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and Australian Standards.
- Open fencing must be a minimum height of 1.8 metres but no more than 2 metres. Barbed wire and barbed wire extensions are not permitted.
- Construction wraps (ie., shadecloth or a similar material) must be fitted to the open fence to contain dust during demolition and / or excavation works. (Note: additional bracing will be required to maintain the integrity of the fence, refer to AS4687).
- Gates and dog bars (railing at the bottom of the fence system) are required. Access gates should swing inwards only.

Open fencing - continued

MAINTENANCE

- Open fencing must be maintained in good condition, free of protrusions, which may snag clothing or cause physical harm.
- Any graffiti or advertising posters placed on an open fence shall be removed by the owner within 48 hours.

SIGNAGE

- Signage must be erected in accordance with AS1319: Safety signs for the occupational environment.
- Details of the Architect, Builder and / or Certifier are to be displayed on a board not exceeding 2.5 metres x 2 metres for emergency contact.

Part 2.2: TYPE - Solid fencing (hoarding)

This type of temporary system is made up of solid self supporting panels (often referred to as a hoarding) used on its own or provided in association with an overhead protective structure and / or scaffolding.

WHERE REQUIRED

Fences of solid construction are required:

- In town centres or high pedestrian traffic areas where a portion of the road reserve or public way is to be enclosed.
- On land adjoining a public way where that land is excavated below the level of the public way.
- On demolition sites that adjoin a public way, unless the least horizontal distance between the common boundary and the nearest parts of the structure is greater than twice the height of the structure.
- Where determined as a risk control measure under Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and / or any Australian Standard.

KEY STANDARDS

Temporary fencing systems must comply with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations and the provisions of any relevant Australian Standard. In particular:

— The design, materials, products, components, installation, maintenance and removal must be in accordance with AS4687: Temporary fencing and hoardings. Testing in accordance with AS4687, is to be undertaken to ensure the fence structure is stable under loads likely to be imposed on it. In terms of the wind force test, the structure is to be designed and tested against 'Region A' wind speed and site exposure multipliers as outlined in AS1170.2: Structural design actions - Wind actions.

— Demolition work must be carried out in accordance with AS2601: The demolition of structures.

Reference to an Australian Standard, Code or policy should include any subsequent update.

INSTALLATION

- Solid fencing systems must be installed in accordance with the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and Australian Standards.
- Temporary fencing (without an overhead protective structure) must be a minimum height of 1.8 metres but no more than 2 metres. Barbed wire extensions are not permitted.
- The fencing system must be securely fixed with no protruding bolts, screws, nails or the like.
- Panelling is to be fixed flush and even to form a continuous barrier complete with end returns. There are to be no protrusions beyond the uprights.

Solid fencing - continued

- Upright supports must not be fixed into the road or footpath pavement but should instead be inserted in sole plates (ie., on the surface).
- Solid fencing is to be neatly finished top and bottom. Where panel edges are stepped (due to the slope of the site), then the stepped edges are to be covered by facing / skirting boards.
- Structural stability is to be achieved with the least possible impact on the width and openness of the footpath or public way.
- Where a gate is installed in the panels, the gate shall be constructed to swing inwards only.
- Vision panels are to be located at a rate of no less than one every 20 metres (minimum of 1 panel). Each vision panel is to be 600mm high x 600mm wide located between 1.2 metres to 1.8 metres above the footpath level, covered with perspex and wire mesh and maintained in a condition that promotes site visibility and safety.
- The temporary fence must be located so as not to obstruct sight lines for pedestrian and traffic movement and / or CCTV cameras. Note: A traffic and pedestrian plan of management may be required.

MAINTENANCE

- Temporary fencing systems must be finished and maintained free of protrusions, which may snag clothing or cause physical harm to pedestrians.
- Temporary fences are to be kept clean and well painted throughout the construction. Light neutral colours are to be used to promote high visibility of the structure and safety at night.
- Any graffiti or advertising posters placed on the solid fence (hoarding) should be removed by the owner within 48 hours.

SIGNAGE

- Signage must be erected in accordance with AS1319: Safety signs for the occupational environment.
- Details of the Architect, Builder and / or Certifier are to be displayed on a board not exceeding 2.5 metres x 2 metres for emergency contact.

Part 2.3: TYPE - Overhead protective structure

An overhead protective structure incorporates a horizontal platform of solid construction attached to the vertical supports of a solid fencing (hoarding) to provide protection to the public from falling debris. The platform can include a site shed.

WHERE REQUIRED

Overhead protective structures are required:

- For demolition, construction and / or facade retention works adjoining a public place unless:
  - The vertical height above footpath level of the structure is less than 4 metres, or
  - The least horizontal distance between the footpath and the nearest part of the structure is greater than half the height of the structure.
- Where material is to be hoisted over or across a public thoroughfare or public way.
- Where a site shed is required to be located on a platform, but only where no other alternative exists.

KEY STANDARDS

Overhead protective structures must comply with the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and the provisions of any relevant Australian Standard. In particular:

- Part 8.4: Control of risks arising during construction work - Occupational Health & Safety Regulations 2001.
- AS2601: Demolition of structures.
- WorkCover Code of Practice (Overhead protective structures). The Code specifies standards for the design, supply and installation of overhead protective structures.
- Any other relevant standards, codes or policies that relate to public safety and / or the structural safety and integrity of overhead protective structures.

Reference to an Australian Standard, Code or policy should include any subsequent update.

INSTALLATION

- Overhead protective structures must be installed in accordance with the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and Australian Standards.
- Overhead protective structures and its associated components must be certified by a Structural Engineer.
- Overhead protective structures must provide a minimum head height clearance of 2.2 metres measured from the footpath.
- Where the height of the building or position of the site is such that danger is likely to occur from falling objects, an additional safety hoarding shall be provided.

Overhead protective structure - continued

- A minimum of 12 gauge 50mm chain mesh wire shall be placed in a vertical position for the entire length of the solid fencing to enclose the gap (if one exists) beneath the top of the fencing and the underside of the decking of the overhead protective structure.
- The sole plate of the overhead protective structure shall be setback 75mm from the edge of the kerb and no portion of the structure shall be permitted to extend beyond the edge of the kerb.
- Where a guard rail is used and that guard rail is temporarily removed, then the portion of the sole plate thereunder must also be removed.

- The underside of the deck must be lined so that it is impenetrable to water. Provide a suitable drainage system discharging rainwater to Council's drainage system or other approved discharge point.
- Pipe scaffolding is not permitted at footpath level.
- Where the width of the footway is less than 2.5 metres and / or where the erection of a standard overhead protective structure is not feasible, Council will require the applicant to submit plans of a suitable cantilever hoarding for the site.
- Where a site shed is situated on the overhead protective structure, at least one stair exit must be provided to the ground to meet fire safety requirements. No point on the site shed shall be more than 20 metres from a stair or a point from which travel in two directions is available, in which case, the maximum distance to one of those stairs must not exceed 40 metres.

CRIME MINIMISATION

- Lighting equal to the levels and distribution pattern of the existing street lighting is required under the entire length of the structure. Lighting must be connected to a mains power supply and kept lit from sunset to sunrise.
- Where pedestrian hazards are present, significantly higher lighting levels will be required. All lighting associated with the structure must not impact on surrounding traffic.
- Adequate safety lights are required. Where alternative pedestrian access is necessary, it shall be provided in accordance with AS1742.3: Manual of uniform traffic control devices - Traffic control devices.

SIGNAGE

- Signage indicating that materials are being hoisted over a public way, is to be attached or printed on the front of the temporary fencing system at the decking level with the lettering "LIFTING OPERATIONS ABOVE". The lettering shall not be less than 100mm in height.

Part 2.4: TYPE - Scaffolding

Scaffold and its supporting structure is a modular system of metal pipes which provides a stable and securely fenced platform to prevent falls and provide protection from objects falling from heights.

WHERE REQUIRED

- Scaffolding must be installed where required by the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations or any Australian Standard and / or where a risk assessment has determined it to be an appropriate control method.

KEY STANDARDS

Scaffolding systems must comply with the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and the provisions of any relevant Australian Standard. In particular:

— Division 6: Working from heights; Part 8.4: Control of risks arising during construction work - Occupational Health & Safety Regulations 2001.

— AS2601: Demolition of structures; AS1576: Scaffolding; AS4576: Guidelines for scaffolding and the WorkCover NSW, policy requirements for scaffolding in NSW.

Reference to an Australian Standard, Code or policy should include any subsequent update.

INSTALLATION

- Scaffolding must be installed and maintained in accordance with the Occupational Health & Safety Regulations and Australian Standards (including certification and regular inspections where required).
- Scaffolding adjoining temporary fencing systems should be setback and lined with shadecloth or a similar material to control dust and prevent falling objects.
- Scaffolding must not be accessible by the public at ground level.
- Platforms on scaffolding must not be used to store materials.

SIGNAGE

- Signage must be erected in accordance with AS1319: Safety signs for the occupational environment.

Part 2.5: TYPE - Barrier systems

Barrier systems are generally used to redirect pedestrian traffic but can also be used to highlight the presence of ground disturbance and / or trip hazards.

WHERE REQUIRED

Barriers are required:

- Around trenches and in the construction of pathways, kerbs and gutters, driveways, pipe laying, etc.
- To separate pedestrians from vehicular traffic. Note: only water filled barriers or barriers of solid construction can be used in this instance.

INSTALLATION

- Must be of solid construction (or water filled) where used to separate pedestrians from vehicular traffic.
- Must be well constructed.
- A minimum of 1 metre high.
- The site must be well lit and sign posted with warning and directional signs as necessary.
- Works must be programmed to expedite completion and removal of the barrier system.

SIGNAGE

- Signage must be erected in accordance with AS1319: Safety signs for the occupational environment.
- Advertising on barrier systems is not permitted.

Barrier fencing on busy roads or roads with limited site distances will require a Traffic Control and / or Pedestrian Management Plan.

Part 3.1: APPLICATION - within the road reserve

Temporary fencing / barrier systems located within the road reserve will require an approval under the Roads Act. This involves a formal application to Council and payment of a fee. Fees also apply for the ongoing use of the road reserve until the works are completed and the temporary fencing / barrier system is removed.

Conditions may be imposed depending on circumstance and following assessment of the application. The following should be noted:

- **Pedestrian** pathways must be safe and freely accessible at all times.
- **Temporary fencing / barrier systems** are to be retained until works are complete and any potential hazards are made safe.
- **Areas affected** are to be reinstated within 7 days of the fencing system being deconstructed.
- **Restoration** of the site to its pre-existing condition will be the responsibility of the applicant. (Note: A dilapidation report is required.)

Safety measures are the responsibility of the principal contractor and / or developer. The type of system selected and the control measures in place must protect movements of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

An approval for a temporary fencing structure does not include an approval to use the roadway for the parking of trucks and equipment. A separate work zone permit must be obtained from Council.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The following details must accompany the Roads Act application.

- A site plan.
- Details of the type of system, (ie., open, solid fencing, overhead protective structure, and / or scaffolding or barrier fencing).
- Details of the approximate duration, any staged movement and / or likely changes to the type of the temporary fencing / barrier system.
- A copy of the certificate of currency showing $10 million public liability and NSW workers compensation insurances held by the Principal Contractor. The public liability policy shall specify Blue Mountains City Council as an interested party on the Insurance. Note: It is the responsibility of the Principal Contractor to maintain evidence that all contractors working in the road reserve are covered for worker's compensation insurance.
- A traffic control / pedestrian management plan where temporary fencing / barrier systems and access to the site modifies or interferes with the movement of vehicular, pedestrian traffic or sight lines.

Road reserve - continued

- A dilapidation report on the condition of the road reserve prior to the commencement of works. The final condition of the road reserve will be assessed against the dilapidation report. Note: Costs associated with works undertaken by the Council to make safe or restore the site to its pre-existing condition will be the responsibility of the applicant.

Where solid fencing (hoarding), an overhead protective structure and / or scaffolding are required the following information must also be supplied:

— Structural engineers certification (where required) stating compliance with the relevant legislation, codes and standards.

- A site plan detailing cross-sections, the precise location, and dimensions including footpath widths, utility services, trees, traffic lights, etc.
- The Applicant will be required to indemnify the Council against all claims, expenses and costs arising from, made or recovered against the Council by any person:
  - — Arising out of any work done, or purported to be done, by the Applicant.
  - — Against all loss, damage, cost and expenses incurred by the Council arising out of the failure of the Applicant to comply with the provisions of any Act, Regulation or any order or direction given thereunder by any person relating to any work done, or purported to be done, by the Applicant.

ADVISORY NOTES

— Roads Act approvals on classified roads may be referred to the RTA.

— Application and use fees apply.

— Use fees are charged to the Applicant until notification is received in writing that the temporary fencing system has been removed.

— Council reserves the right to give notice to change the setback of temporary fencing systems within the road reserve.

Application forms for a Roads Act approval are available on Council's website, www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au

Where a temporary fencing structure is proposed to be installed on a classified road Council is required to refer the application to the RTA. Applicants should allow sufficient time in the construction programme for this to occur.

Part 3.2: APPLICATION - other public land

Temporary fencing / barrier systems located on a public thoroughfare (including carparks, alley ways and other operational land) will require the authorisation of Council as the manager of the land.

Fees apply for the ongoing use of the public land until the construction is completed and the temporary fencing / barrier system is removed.

The following details must accompany the request:

- Details of the fencing system, the dimensions, the proposed location and the approximate duration.
- Details of any staged movement and / or changes to the type or location of the temporary fencing system.
- A copy of the certificate of currency showing $10 million public liability and NSW workers compensation insurances held by the Principal Contractor. The public liability policy shall specify Blue Mountains City Council as an interested party on the Insurance. Note: It is the responsibility of the Principal Contractor to maintain evidence that all contractors working in the road reserve are covered for worker's compensation insurance.
- A traffic control / pedestrian management plan where temporary fencing / barrier systems and access to the site modifies or interferes with the movement of vehicular, pedestrian traffic or sight lines.
- A dilapidation report on the condition of the public land prior to the commencement of works. The final condition will be assessed against the dilapidation report. Note: Costs associated with works undertaken by the Council to make safe or restore the site to its pre-existing condition will be the responsibility of the applicant.
- Structural engineers certification (where required) stating compliance with the relevant legislation, codes and standards.

ADVISORY NOTES

— Council as a land owner will charge a use fee for temporary fencing of public land. Use fees are charged to the Applicant until notification is received in writing that works are complete, and any potential hazards are made safe and that the temporary fencing system has been removed.

Council may impose a bond where there is potential for damage to infrastructure and/or to the environment.