

5am 11 July 2008

First World Youth Day Road Change This Morning

The biggest traffic operation since the 2000 Sydney Olympics starts at 7am this morning when a special event clearway comes into force on College Street outside St Marys Cathedral.

This small initial change in College Street is the first of a series of road closures and special event clearways that will expand progressively over the weekend and into next week.

A spokesman for the World Youth Day Coordination Authority said the small change marked the start of a traffic operation second only to the Olympics in its scale and complexity.

"There will ultimately be more than 300 road closures and 500 special event clearways used to help manage crowds and traffic during World Youth Day.

"The changed traffic conditions will help motorists navigate their way around event locations and crowds while also providing safe environments for those crowds to move around the city in.

"The message for Sydneysiders next week is simple - leave your car at home and use public transport.

"People who must drive into, through and around the city should look out for RTA electronic message signs for information about alternative routes," said the spokesman.

Vehicles parked in Special Event Clearways will be towed away. Fees in excess of \$156 and penalty notices of \$185 apply.

Full details of all road closures including alternate routes to avoid the CBD and Randwick areas are available on the RTA's website.

For interviews please contact Adam Berry on 0412 614 398.

