

Media Release

Second inner city area of Rebuild Zone cordon removed

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The second and smallest of the four progressive cordon reductions in the central city over June has now been completed, giving more access to areas east of Manchester Street.

A cluster of dangerous buildings in the area between Bedford Row, Madras, Manchester and High Streets will stay behind a safety fence while concern about their stability remains.

Once the owners have dealt with those issues, placement of that safety fence will be able to be reassessed. Owners and their engineers can access the area as required to complete the necessary works, but any reduction of the safety fence will rely on their efforts.

Owners of land and property that has been protected by the CERA cordon over the past two years have had several months' notice of the impending change, and know that they need to address the issues with their buildings.

While the cordon itself is gone and access to the area is no longer managed by the New Zealand Defence Force, parts of some roads will remain closed as repairs continue both over and underground.

The Christchurch City Council Transport and Greenspace Unit Manager John Mackie says while this may be frustrating, it is necessary.

"We haven't started work until now as that would have held up the ability to demolish buildings or work on building repairs, and that would have been impractical. Our role now is to address the roads, footpaths and infrastructure that need work as the last step in this process."

CERA's cordon map which outlines the remaining cordon can be accessed here <http://cera.govt.nz/cbd-rebuild-zone/cordon-map>