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L.N. 62 of 2013

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDINANCE (CAP. 65)

General and Local Council Elections Polling (Restriction of Access) Regulations, 2013

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 54 of the Traffic Regulation Ordinance, the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Communications, after consultation with the Authority for Transport in Malta, has made the following regulations:-

Citation and commencement.

1. (1) The title of these regulations is the General and Local Council Elections, Polling (Restriction of Access) Regulations, 2013.

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the 2nd March, 2013.

Interpretation.

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Chief Electoral Commissioner" includes any officer of the Electoral Commissioner's Office duly authorised by the Chief Electoral Commissioner to act on his behalf;

"Commissioner of Police" includes any officer of the Malta Police Force duly authorised by the Commissioner of Police to act on his behalf;

"poll" means the poll to be held in March 2013, for the election of members of the House of Representatives and Local Councils;

"polling place" means a place where the poll is to be held and which is listed in the Schedule published by the Chief Electoral Commissioner in the Government Gazette on the 10th January 2013, as amended by notice published in the Government Gazette of the 18th January 2013;

"vehicle" means any vehicle, whether propelled by mechanical power or otherwise and any animal-drawn vehicle.

Vehicles prohibited access to Counting Hall and polling places.

3. Unless authorised by the Commissioner of Police or by the Chief Electoral Commissioner, no vehicle shall have access to any street leading to the Counting Hall, Naxxar, or to any polling place and no vehicle shall go beyond a prohibitory sign with the words "TGĦADDIX - NO ENTRY" or bypass any barrier or road block

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wherever put up by the Police at any spot in the vicinity of the said Counting Hall or polling places, as follows:

(a) from 6.00am to 10.00pm on Saturday, 2nd March, 2013, in the case of the Counting Hall, Naxxar

(b) from 6.00am to midnight on Friday, 8th March, 2013, in the case of the following polling places:

(i) Counting Hall;

(ii) St Vincent de Paule residence;

(iii) Mater Dei Hospital;

(iv) Karen Grech Hospital;

(v) Mount Carmel Hospital; and

(vi) Gozo General Hospital;

(c) from 5.00am on Saturday, 9th March, 2013 to 2.00am on Sunday 10th March 2013, in the case of any other polling place;

(d) from 5.00am on Saturday, 9th March, 2013, until the publication of the final result for the General Elections, and from 5.00am on Saturday, 16th March, 2013, until the publication of the final result for the Local Council Elections, in the case of the Counting Hall, Naxxar.

Temporary prohibition of transit.

4. The transit of vehicles along Triq il-Markiż Scicluna, Triq Torri Gauci and Triq Torri tal-Kaptan, Naxxar, will be suspended on the 9th March, 2013 from 9.00 p.m. until required. Vehicles carrying ballot boxes duly authorised by the Electoral Commission, as well as other vehicles carrying Assistant Electoral Commissioners and other officials of the Electoral Commission, as well as persons duly authorised by the Chief Electoral Commissioner or by the Commissioner of Police, will be permitted to pass.

Restriction on pedestrians.

5. No pedestrian shall, unless in possession of a permit issued to him by the Chief Electoral Commissioner or unless otherwise authorised by the said Commissioner or by the Commissioner of Police, bypass or proceed beyond a prohibitory sign with the words "TGĦADDIX - NO ENTRY", a barrier or a road block wherever put up by the Police at any spot in the vicinity of the Counting Hall, Naxxar, or of any polling place as follows:

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(a) from 6.00am to 10.00pm on Saturday, 2nd March, 2013, in the case of the Counting Hall, Naxxar;

(b) from 6.00am to midnight on Friday, 8th March, 2013, in the case of the following polling places:

(i) Counting Hall;

(ii) St Vincent de Paule residence;

(iii) Mater Dei Hospital;

(iv) Karen Grech Hospital;

(v) Mount Carmel Hospital; and

(vi) Gozo General Hospital;

(c) from 5.00am on Saturday, 9th March, 2013 to 2.00am on Sunday 10th March 2013, in the case of any other polling place;

(d) from 5.00am on Saturday, 9th March, 2013, until the publication of the final result for the General Elections, and from 5.00am on Saturday, 16th March, 2013, until the publication of the final result for the Local Council Elections, in the case of the Counting Hall, Naxxar;

so however that the restriction indicated in paragraphs (a) (b) and (c) shall not apply to persons in possession of the voting document entitling them to vote at that particular polling place and while such persons are on their way to that polling place to cast their vote or are returning wherefrom after having cast their vote.

Prohibition of parking of vehicles.

6. No vehicle shall be parked in the vicinity of the approaches to the Counting Hall, Naxxar, or of any polling place where parking is prohibited or beyond any barrier or road block wherever put up by the Police at any spot in the vicinity of the places as indicated in regulations 3, 4 and 5 of these Regulations, which in terms of Legal Notice 94 of 1997, as subsequently amended, are to be classified as 'Tow Zones' during the days and times as indicated. Vehicles found in contravention of this regulation are subject to be towed.

Prohibition of loitering. Cap. 354.

7. Saving the provisions of subarticle (2) of article 64 of the General Elections Act, the Commissioner of Police may prohibit any person from loitering in the vicinity of the approaches to the Counting Hall, Naxxar, or of any polling place at any point beyond a prohibitory sign with the words "TGĦADDIX - NO ENTRY", a

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barrier or road block wherever put up by the Police at any spot in the vicinity of the places as indicated in regulations 3, 4 and 5 of these Regulations.

Duration and saving.

8. These regulations shall expire on the publication of the final results of the polls, but such expiration shall not affect anything done or omitted to be done, or any proceedings taken or to be taken thereunder.

Ippubblikat mid-Dipartiment tal-Informazzjoni (doi.gov.mt) — Valletta — ***Published by the Department of Information (doi.gov.mt) — Valletta***
Mitbugħ fl-Istamperija tal-Gvern fuq karta riċiklata — ***Printed at the Government Printing Press on recycled paper***

Prezz/*Price*
€0.36