

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

16 JULY 2024

Your attendance is required at a Communities Committee meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chambers, 232 Bolsover Street, Rockhampton on 16 July 2024 commencing at 9:00am for transaction of the enclosed business.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

10 July 2024

Next Meeting Date: 20.08.24

Please note:

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, please be advised that all discussion held during the meeting is recorded for the purpose of verifying the minutes. This will include any discussion involving a Councillor, staff member or a member of the public.

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	COMMITTEE	

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1 OPENING

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

2 PRESENT

Members Present:

The Mayor, Councillor A P Williams (Chairperson)
Deputy Mayor, Councillor M D Wickerson
Councillor S Latcham
Councillor E W Oram
Councillor C R Rutherford
Councillor M A Taylor
Councillor G D Mathers

In Attendance:

Mr E Pardon – Chief Executive Officer

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Communities Committee held 18 June 2024

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

6 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

6.1 BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

File No: 10097

Attachments: 1. July 2024

Authorising Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

Author: Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

SUMMARY

The Business Outstanding Table is used as a tool to monitor outstanding items resolved at previous Council or Committee meetings. The current Business Outstanding Table for Communities Committee is presented for Councillors' information.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Business Outstanding Table for the Communities Committee be received.

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE FOR COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

July 2024

Meeting Date: 16 July 2024

Attachment No: 1

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING TABLE - COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - AS AT 9 JULY 2023

Meeting Date	Subject	Resolution	Officer	Target Date	Notes
15/08/2023	Brothers Australian Football Club Request for Freehold Lease And Transfer Of Asset	THAT: 1. Pursuant to Section 236(1)(c)(iii) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld) Council approves Brothers Australian Football Club's request to extend the existing Freehold Lease area as identified in the report; 2. Council approves the building ownership to be transferred to Brothers Australian Football Club; and 3. Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer (Sports and Recreation Advisor) to negotiate the terms and conditions of the agreements with the organisations listed in the report in preparation for execution by the delegated officer.	Barnett, Jack	31/08/2024	06 Dec 2023 3:55pm Barnett, Jack - Target Date Revision Target date changed by Barnett, Jack from 29 August 2023 to 31 January 2024 - Action sheet provided to Property & Insurance to draft agreements. 16 Apr 2024 1:45pm Barnett, Jack - Target Date Revision Target date changed by Barnett, Jack from 31 January 2024 to 31 August 2024 - Waiting for building transfer documentation to occur. 08 Jul 2024 3:37pm Barnett, Jack - Target Date Revision Target date changed by Barnett, Jack from 31 August 2024 to 31 August 2024 - Building transfer documents sitting with Brothers Australian Football Club for signing.
18/06/2024	Rockhampton Touch Association Inc Lease Extension Request	THAT: 1. Pursuant to Section 236(1)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld) Council approve the request to extend the Freehold Lease area as identified in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2 of the report. 2. Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer (Sports and Active Communities Coordinator) to negotiate the terms and conditions of the agreements in preparation for execution by the delegated officer.	Barnett, Jack	02/07/2024	10 Jul 2024 8:40am Bulwinkel, Justin Lease extension will be subject to relative BA/DA's are complete with building plans finalised.

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7 PUBLIC FORUMS/DEPUTATIONS

Nil

8 PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Nil

9 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

10 COUNCILLOR/DELEGATE REPORTS

10.1 PORTFOLIO UPDATE

File No: 10097 Attachments: Nil

Authorising Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

Author: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Portfolio Councillors for Communities and Heritage, Planning and Regulation and Parks, Sport and Public Spaces will provide an update on matters of interest within their portfolio.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Portfolio Updates for Communities and Heritage, Planning and Regulation and Parks, Sport and Public Spaces be received.

BACKGROUND

As a result of discussions following 2024 local government elections, Councillors have requested an opportunity to speak about their relevant Portfolio during Committee Meetings.

The following Councillors will provide an update on their Portfolio at Communities Committee:

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Drew Wickerson – Communities and Heritage Portfolio

Councillor Grant Mathers - Planning and Regulation Portfolio

Councillor Cherie Rutherford – Parks, Sport and Public Spaces Portfolio

11 OFFICERS' REPORTS

11.1 RELOCATION OF MAYOR'S CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT OUTDOOR CONCERT

File No: 6097 Attachments: Nil

Authorising Officer: John Webb - Manager Communities and Culture

Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

Author: Mark Millett - Coordinator Major Venues

SUMMARY

Proposal to re-locate Mayor's Carols by Candlelight – outdoor event from the Rockhampton Music Bowl.

Declining attendance and an increasing infrastructure cost at the Music Bowl have presented RRC an opportunity to relocate the Carols by Candlelight outdoor concert. The change of location is expected to make the event easier to access for patrons and enable the flexibility to increase stage size to accommodate more community groups and performers such as choirs and dance ensembles.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorse the Mayor's Carols by Candlelight events be held only in the Pilbeam Theatre over two (2) nights.

COMMENTARY

The Mayor's Carols by Candlelight outdoor concert is a free community event to celebrate the festive season. Each year a charity organisation is selected to benefit from funds raised through donations taken at the concert. The event also provides opportunities for our local performers and musicians to come together and showcase their talents, at a large outdoor amphitheater setting at the Rockhampton Music Bowl. The Music Bowl has, over the past ten years, become increasingly more expensive to keep maintaining and has reached a point where major works are now required to bring the amenities and infrastructure up to an acceptable standard. These costs are estimated as follows:

- \$220,000 (est) for the dressing room facilities
- \$115,000 (est) for the public amenities
- \$600,000 (est) for the electrical infrastructure

It is noted that these works would make the facility usable for the next 15 – 20 years.

Attendance at the Music Bowl has been in decline, particularly since Covid. Attendance in 2020 was 3622pax (first event after covid) then in 2021 only 1800pax - a decline of over 50%. The significant change to the site during this period was the building of a Rehabilitation centre adjacent to the Music bowl on land previously used for event parking. Event operators on the night observed large numbers of vehicles unable to locate safe parking, eventually leaving the site.

In 2022 and 2023 additional parking was provided across the highway at the university, however, attendance figures continued to decline with attendances being counted as 1584pax in 2022 and 1500pax in 2023.

The declining attendance, along with increased costs to hire generators, lighting towers and toilets, to keep the music bowl operational, have led to a desire to relocate the Carols event to the Victoria Park Precinct. The Victoria Park precinct is felt to be more central and

contains more options for parking nearby, without the need to manage pedestrians and traffic across a highway.

The Rockhampton Showgrounds, has been widely contemplated with many areas of the grounds being considered, Robert Schwarten pavilion (indoor and outdoor), Cremorne Lawn, Centre Ring and Fairgrounds. In each variation of the showground, compromises need to be made in order for the venue to work, as no single space is quite large enough to match the feel of the Music Bowl.

The Alf Kele Memorial Rotary Park contains enough space for the carols event to grow its patronage to numbers previously experienced pre Covid (4000+). And creates an opportunity to refresh the event with the ability to increase the stage size to accommodate more community groups such as choirs and dance ensembles.

It should also be noted that across the country, 2023/2024 outdoor concert attendance has had a decline, with major events such as 'Splendour in the Grass' & 'Groovin the Moo' cancelling their events in 2024 due to rising costs and declining attendances. Other factors such as extreme weather events or poor weather make outdoor concerts higher risk in terms of finances – a postponed event can double costs, whereas a cancelled event results in the same expenditure with no outcome.

BACKGROUND

The Rockhampton Mayor's Carols by Candlelight outdoor Concert has been held at the Rockhampton Music Bowl for the past 2 decades. At its peak the Carols outdoor event attracted over 6000 patrons to the Rockhampton Music Bowl. Over the past 12 years, the Carols by Candlelight outdoor concert has occurred in locations other than the Music Bowl.

In 2012, following a decision to place the Music Bowl for sale through tender, the event moved away from the Rockhampton Music Bowl, and relocated to the Heritage Village on the Green. The event received a lukewarm reception, largely due to a greatly reduced stage size, difficulty viewing the stage, and tighter parking restrictions.

The following year, 2013, the Carols outdoor event was held on the cricket oval at Victoria Park and introduced projection screens and a larger stage. In 2014 the event repeated its Victoria Park cricket oval location.

In 2015, following an unsuccessful tender process the event returned Music Bowl. In 2015 Carols by Candlelight was planned to be duplicated indoors at the Pilbeam Theatre as well as externally. With the outdoor concert postponed due to weather, the indoor event occurred as planned. The indoor event was well received and as such was continued each year after and is appreciated by those whom attend. The indoor event also helped to increase fundraising and gave the receiving charity organisations a surety in knowing that funds would be generated no matter the weather.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

5th February 2019 – Council Resolved to dispose of part of the Music Bowl parcel to Queensland Health for the purpose of building a Rehabilitation centre.

28th August 2019 – Council resolved to part demolish the Music bowl (the Sound Shell)

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Event Costs

<u>Option one</u>: Estimated Cost to host Carols by Candlelight outdoors at Music Bowl + Pilbeam Theatre = \$111,850 (event only) - This option requires below noted Music Bowl Costs

Option Two: Estimate costs to host Carols by Candlelight outdoors at Victoria Park + Pilbeam Theatre = \$119,850 (event only)

<u>Option three</u>: Estimated cost to host Carols by Candlelight at Pilbeam Theatre only over 3 nights = \$32,888 (includes Venue costs)

Music Bowl Costs as follows:

Estimated costs to re-instigate Music Bowl Amenities and Power: \$935,000.00 - one off expenditure.

Annual Music Bowl Operating costs -

CAF = \$45,726 (22/23)

Parks = \$25,334 (22/23)

TOTAL Annual costs =\$71,060 per annum

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

Nil

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK ASSESSMENT

N/A

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

Our community:

- 2.1.1 We ensure community assets are utilized and appropriate for the needs of the community.
- 2.1.2 We encourage diversity of community events and innovative use of our places and spaces.
- 2.2.2 We provide opportunities for people to contribute to their community.
- 2.2.3 We Support our people and community groups through our programs and resources.
- 2.3.1 Our services, activities and community assets provide opportunities to celebrate our culture and creative arts and preserve the regions heritage.

CONCLUSION

The Rockhampton Mayor's Carols by Candlelight event has evolved over the past decades to include an indoor event, and the outdoor event has occurred in multiple locations. The outdoor event is suffering a decline in attendance which is partly attributed to the inconvenience of the Music Bowl's location and parking. Rising costs to maintain the Music Bowl have brought about the need to either move the outdoor event or put it to rest.

Three options are presented for Council consideration.

Option one: Stay at Music Bowl (Least preferred)

This option maintains the status quo, but sees the event employing more temporary infrastructure such as generators, portable toilets and dressing rooms in addition to existing costs. Parking will remain an issue, and continuation of traffic management across the Bruce highway.

Option two: Move outdoor event to Alf Kele Memorial Park (2nd preference)

This option does not reduce event costs, but does improve parking options, and removes the highway as an obstacle. The event is still susceptible to poor weather. The Music Bowl can be prepared for decommission and/or sale.

Option three: Cease the outdoor event and increase indoor events.

This option is the most cost effective and is not weather dependent. A move to indoors at the Pilbeam reduces costs which could be saved or reinvested into the event to spend on guest artists for example. It would be proposed to schedule two events initially and depending on demand, a third event could be added.

11.2 ROCKHAMPTON PANTHERS AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB INC. - SECOND FIELD PROPOSAL - ROCKHAMPTON CRICKET GROUNDS

File No:

Attachments: 1. Field 2 Proposal Survey

2. Field 2 Proposal Impacted Trees

Authorising Officer: Aaron Pont - Manager Parks

Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

Author: Jack Barnett - Sports and Active Communities Advisor

Justin Bulwinkel - Sports and Active Communities

Coordinator

SUMMARY

Rockhampton Panthers Australian Football Club Inc. seeks Council resolution to approve a second AFL field at Rockhampton Cricket Grounds, The Common.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT

- 1. Council approve the request to extend Trustee Permit area for Rockhampton Panthers Australian Football Club Inc. as identified in *Attachment 1* in the report to support a second competitive field.
- 2. Council approve the removal of six (6) trees on-site to support the second field development as identified in *Attachment 2* in the report.

COMMENTARY

The Rockhampton Panthers Australian Football Club Inc. (Panthers) respectfully seeks Council support to expand programs at the Rockhampton Cricket Grounds, The Common (RCG), by constructing a second standard full-size AFL field. Please refer to **Attachment 1.**

The primary goal of this expansion is to facilitate the 2025 AFL Capricornia Gather Round, an inaugural event designed to celebrate Australian football and actively engage the local community. This event aims to elevate the profile of AFL within the community and the broader region, providing high-quality entertainment for attendees. The three-day event is anticipated to attract approximately 1,050 players and coaches, along with an additional 4,200 spectators and volunteers. The 2025 AFL Capricornia Gather Round will bring together all six clubs of AFL Capricornia at a single venue and is modeled after a similar event in South Australia.

The addition of a second field at the facility will bring numerous benefits. With two fields, Panthers will be able to host multiple games simultaneously. Currently, when teams from Boyne Island or Gladstone travel to play, their volunteers spend substantial hours traveling back and forth. By having two fields, Panthers can schedule junior and senior games concurrently, significantly reducing travel fatigue for these teams.

However, for the proposed second field to be constructed compliant with relative playing standards set by AFL Queensland, six (6) identified trees must be removed to support this growth initiative. Arboriculture Officers have inspected the respective trees and provided feedback on their current health and status. Please refer to **Attachment 2** for images.

Tree Report Recap

The two Eucalyptus trees on the northern side of the field are structurally sound and healthy, representing the species well. The north-eastern tree has minor deadwood, which is common for the species and easily rectifiable through basic pruning. The north-western tree has no deadwood. *Note, refers to trees located on the Lakes creek Rd end of the field.*

In the southern section, there is a cluster of three mature Eucalyptus raveretiana and one mature Eucalyptus tereticornis. One Eucalyptus raveretiana, located west of the light pole, has undergone significant pruning over the past five years due to shading issues, resulting in poor form and weak canopy structure. The remaining three trees are in good condition and structurally sound.

Under standard operating removal requirements, Arboriculture Officers would not assess the any of the trees with a recommendation for removal due to their high ecological and aesthetic value, except for one Eucalyptus beside the southern light pole.

To offset the removal of these trees, Panthers are committed if approved to partner with Council in a planting program to reinvest ecologically back into the facility.

Conclusion

The removal of the six identified trees is a necessary step to facilitate the construction of a second AFL field. The primary reasons for this action are centered around the growth of AFL within our community and significant economic stimulus within the Rockhampton region.

Hosting the 2025 AFL Capricornia Gather Round will bring a substantial influx of visitors to Rockhampton. The anticipated attendee figures will provide a major boost to local businesses, including hotels, restaurants, and retail stores. This economic injection will not only benefit businesses directly involved with the event but also have a ripple effect throughout the local economy. Increased visitor numbers will lead to higher spending in various sectors, promoting economic growth and job creation in the region.

The construction of a second full-size AFL field will significantly enhance the sporting infrastructure in Rockhampton. Furthermore, the additional field will enable the club to host school competitions and other representative carnivals, attracting more sporting events to the region. This increased activity will foster a vibrant sports culture, encouraging more youth participation and community engagement in Australian football. By providing young players with the opportunity to develop their skills on regulation fields, we ensure the growth and sustainability of the sport in the region.

If endorsed, all usable timber will be considered as a resource for community partners, such as men's sheds and women's sheds. This initiative intends to extend project benefits beyond sport by supporting other community projects and activities. By repurposing this material, we not only support other community programs but promote sustainability and resourcefulness within the community.

Officers will consult with the Traditional Owners to verify there is no known cultural significance associated with the trees targeted for removal.

In conclusion, Officers believe that while the ecological and aesthetic value of the trees would be considered a genuine loss, the broader economic and importantly 'community value' this project offers is compelling. The construction of a second AFL field is an investment in the future of Rockhampton, driving our goal to increase facility utilisation by growing an active community.

BACKGROUND

In recent years, Panthers and Rockhampton Cricket Inc. (RCI) have demonstrated remarkable dedication and collaboration to elevate RCG. Their partnership has led to significant improvements in the facilities, ensuring continuous upgrades for all users of the site. A standout project, the changerooms and amenities building upgrade, totaled over \$400,000 and was a joint effort led by both clubs with the support of grant funding. Additionally, the Panthers recently installed a new modern scoreboard alongside the main field, enhancing the experience for all visitors.

Panthers and RCI have been exceptionally generous in sharing and supporting RCG with external user groups seeking a venue for events and carnivals, including:

- ✓ NAIDOC Week
- ✓ Stan Alberts Shield

✓ Romp in the Park

Moreover, they have collaborated with the Council to support larger events such as:

- ✓ Rare Spares Rockynats
- ✓ Junior State Cup Touch Carnival

Their ongoing efforts have made RCG a premier location for community and sporting events, showcasing their commitment to excellence and community engagement.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

No previous decisions relating to this matter.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications imposed on Council. The Trustee Permit is not subject to any annual fees set by Councils adopted Fees & Charges schedule.

Cost associated with the removal of six (6) trees will be funded by Panthers.

Panthers will be responsible for all field expansion costs, including ongoing maintenance.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that Council will enter a Trustee Permit with the Tenant which satisfies the requirements of the Land Act 1994(Qld).

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

Existing resources within the Parks and Property & Insurance can adequately manage the required legal documentation.

RISK ASSESSMENT

No risk assessment was completed nor necessary in relation to this matter.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

- 2.1 Our places and spaces enhance the livability and diversity of our communities
- 2.2 We support our communities through our activities and programs.
- 5.1 Our Region has Infrastructure that meets current and future needs

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council approve the second field proposal and the removal of six (6) trees, and that the Chief Executive Officer (Sports and Active Communities Coordinator) negotiate the terms and conditions of the agreements in preparation for execution by the delegated officer.

ROCKHAMPTON PANTHERS AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB INC. SECOND FIELD PROPOSAL ROCKHAMPTON CRICKET GROUNDS

Field 2 Proposal Survey

Meeting Date: 16 July 2024

Attachment No: 1

ROCKHAMPTON PANTHERS AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL CLUB INC. SECOND FIELD PROPOSAL ROCKHAMPTON CRICKET GROUNDS

Field 2 Proposal Impacted Trees

Meeting Date: 16 July 2024

Attachment No: 2





North End - x2 Eucalyptus







Southern End - Cluster of 3 x mature *Eucalyptus raveretiana* and 1 x mature *Eucalyptus tereticornis*



11.3 URBAN GREENING POLICY PROGRESS REPORT

File No: 805

Attachments: 1. Photo Attachments.

2. Urban Greening Policy Action Plan

Authorising Officer: Aaron Pont - Manager Parks

Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

Author: Cassandra Sloss - Coordinator Arboriculture and

Streetscapes

SUMMARY

Manager Parks providing annual update of the Urban Greening Policy Action Plan.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the annual update in relation to the Urban Greening Policy Action Plan be received.

COMMENTARY

The Urban Greening Policy was adopted in April 2023, and is RRC's commitment to urban greening to ensure the Region's urban forest is suitably recognised, managed, protected, enhanced, and monitored. It is the first step to strengthen Council's capacity in cultivating an abundant green infrastructure network from the ground up and working towards creating a cooler, greener and more prosperous region.

The Urban Greening Policy Action Plan aims to enhance the green infrastructure of Rockhampton through a series of strategic actions. This report outlines the progress made during 2023/2024.

The Urban Greening Policy core principles are:

- Recognise: Recognise and promote the community, environmental and economic benefits of green infrastructure as an integral element and asset of the urban environment.
- **Manage**: Manage and maintain our green infrastructure assets to contribute to the liveability of our Region and continuously improve our asset management practices.
- **Protect:** Protect the Region's existing urban forest through legislative, regulatory methods and corporate documentation.
- **Enhance:** Enhance the Region's urban forest through comprehensive planning, integration of greening within projects in the public realm, while also promoting a shared responsibility in delivering green infrastructure in the private realm.
- **Monitor:** Monitor and assess the Region's urban forest, applying findings to adaptive management strategies.

2023-24 Action Plan Major Achievements

Significant positive momentum has been generated and sustained across 2024-25 with a range of actions delivered to a high standard. A number of actions have been achieved and embedded into operations as business as usual.

Recognise:

1.1 Embed urban greening materials within Council's Second Nature staff engagement program:

- Staff Tree Planting Session was held on 1st August 2023, involving various departments to raise awareness and increased participation in urban greening efforts. Due to the initial success, further planting sessions will be held annually after National Tree Day, with the next event scheduled for 30 July 2024.
- Inter-departmental staff engagement and education of RRC staff on the Urban Greening Policy. Parks, Civil and FRW sessions have been completed with a focus on trying to better understand the on-ground, day-to-day roles and responsibilities for tree management and prioritisation requirements set by the Urban Greening Policy.

1.2 Develop and implement an annual Parks Communications Plan.

- Annual comms plan for peak growing season to inform the public of peak seasonal demands and Parks/ efforts to maintain levels of service for the community.
- Improving the Parks section of the website to show relevant information and up to date content. Significant improvements made to update to a user-friendly format with up-to-date content and information.

1.3 Embed and link to Council's urban greening materials via the Bringing Nature Back program.

 Major update of the RRC Website, with additional content relating to urban greening and street trees, and linkages between Bringing Nature Back and Parks & Open Spaces.

Manage:

2.1 Facilitate Council's operational Natural Resource Management (NRM) program in conjunction with Parks and community delivery partners.

- Council delivered project-based works in natural areas in conjunction with Capricornia Catchments, Multicultural Australia, CQUniversity and the Yadaba Nunthi program (through Glenmore High School).
- Over 3,000 native plants planted along Yeppen Lagoon along with weed identification and removal.
- Over 500 native tube-stock planted in Eichelberger Park.

2.2 Review and/or formalise Council's existing tree management processes and work instructions.

- Development of the Tree Management Procedure which supports and aligns with the Tree Management Policy. The Procedure will provide a framework for operational staff outlining maintenance specifications and guidelines relating to the planting, maintenance, and removal of trees on Council land.
- Developed Tree Planting Work Instruction for consistency of tree and shrub planting across Council projects.
- Finalised Street Tree planting pilot program. Program ran from 17th of April 2024 to the 17th of May 2024.

Protect:

3.1 Develop a Preservation Program targeted at protecting and/or replacing aged and perishing green infrastructure.

- Commenced process to identify key plantings and develop a staged removal and replacement program, focusing on high profile boulevards and end-of-life plantings.
- Murray Street Peltophorums have been identified as a key project over the next 3-5 years. Collaborative approach from Civil Design and Parks to coordinate efforts to align stages of tree protection and replacement with bitumen replacement program along Murray Street.
- George Street tree protection project and 4RO carpark tree protection project completed.

Enhance:

4.1 Continue to deliver the Native Plant Program.

An existing annual program facilitated by Council which forms a key component
of the wider Bringing Nature Back program. A project team with representatives
from Environmental Sustainability, Parks, Media & Communications and
Customer Service deliver the program to the wider community on a yearly basis.

4.3 Embed an urban greening line item within project scopes and budgets of infrastructure projects and developments, where practicable.

- Commitment from Civil Design and Project Delivery to incorporate landscaping components within Project Scopes where applicable.
- Staff engagement sessions have been used as a forum for operational leaders to discuss greening opportunities within upcoming projects in collaboration with Parks Officers.

4.4 Continue the annual planting program and establishment projects in parks, open spaces and urban areas.

- Annual Open Space tree planting program continues the objective of increasing planting numbers, focussing on the right tree for the right location. 346 new trees have been planted across the region, with a majority focus on Gracemere.
- Street Tree planting pilot program was received well by the community, with a total of 207 nominations. 165 new street trees are set to be planted, which has exceeded our initial target of 150 trees.

4.5 Continue to lobby for capital funding to undertake significant urban greening projects.

- Urban Greening related projects secured in 2024-2025 Capital Budget include:
 - Parkhurst roundabout landscaping
 - Local Park installation in Cascade Gardens
 - CBD trees and landscaping
 - Botanic Gardens collection and irrigation
 - o Botanic Gardens and Zoo Redevelopment
 - Sports field irrigation renewal

4.6 Continue to facilitate National Tree Day tree planting events for the community.

 Ongoing delivery of successful event that Council has facilitated for several years with collaboration between Parks, Environmental Sustainability and Media & Communications.

4.7 Develop a collection plan for the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens.

 Thematic review has been completed and implementation plan is currently under development. Action is on target for completion.

Other significant achievements:

In addition to the urban greening action plan, other related initiatives and projects have been successfully delivered across the region

- Multiple landscape projects undertaken by operational staff, such as:
 - Final stage of Col Browne Park
 - o East and Stanley St roundabout
 - o Glenmore Road medians
 - Riverside Drive, Queens Park
 - Norman road/Juds Park frontage
 - Thozet Rd side of Duthie Park
 - Riverside Drive roundabout
 - o Frenchville Rd and Dean St roundabout
- 546 trees (minimum 45L bags) planted in total across the region for 2023-2024.
- Jeffries Park Landscaping Project in final stages of completion. 461m2 of garden bed has been built and planted in this space, featuring 625 understorey plants and 5 more trees. 2 existing trees were retained through the design phase with no tree removals.
- Significant Tree Tour has seen 39 visits and 521 views since publication in August 2023.
- 14 x tree pits installed as part of the Campbell Street upgrade. Collaborative effort from Civil Design and Parks.
- TMR funded landscaping project between Farm and Carlton Street, Parkhurst.
 This is to offset trees lost as part of the road network upgrade.
- TMR funded landscaping project along Johnson Road in Gracemere, resulting in the planting of 23 additional trees. This is to offset trees lost due to the Lawrie Street network upgrade.
- 15 x tree protection kerbed pits created as part of the George Street tree protection project.
- 9 x tree protection kerbed pits created as part of the 4RO Carpark tree protection project.
- Ongoing Arboriculture Certificate 3 training for Parks staff to ensure we have a skilled and qualified team
- Arboriculture Technical Officer represented RRC at the annual Melbourne Arboricultural conference.

BACKGROUND

The Urban Greening Policy was adopted in April 2023. This is the first annual report delivered to Council.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

No previous decisions relating to this.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Action plan development and implementation all within existing budget. No additional funds required at the current point.

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

No foreseen legislative context.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

No foreseen legal implications.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

No foreseen staffing implications. Majority of works are conducted through existing resourcing as a part of regular operations.

RISK ASSESSMENT

No foreseeable risks.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

No reference to Corporate or Operational Plan.

CONCLUSION

Significant progress has been achieved on the Urban Greening Action Plan during 2023/24, and we aim to build on this momentum in the coming years to ensure continued success.

Work on the 2024/2025 Action Plan has begun, incorporating several carry-over actions from the previous year and introducing new initiatives. This year's plan aims to combine ongoing efforts with new strategies to address current challenges and opportunities. Report on the delivery of the 24/25 Action Plan will be presented to Council at the end of financial year.

URBAN GREENING POLICY PROGRESS REPORT

Photo Attachments

Meeting Date: 16 July 2024

Attachment No: 1



Campbell Street Tree Pits



Campbell Street Tree Pits



TMR works between Farm and Carlton Street



George Street tree protection



4RO Carpark tree protection



Development of Murray Street replacement strategy



NRM project along Yeppen Lagoon saw over 5000 plants planted.



Significant Trees of Rockhampton

Q 17 Stops ☐ Driving ⑤ 50m ○ 12.4 mi

Welcome to Significant Trees of Rockhampton. Join us as we take a journey around the city of Rockhampton to discover the significant trees and the stories behind them. This tour includes 17 locations of significant trees across the city.

What is a Tree of Significance?

A tree of significance can be described by any of the following criteria:

- Any tree which is of horticultural or genetic value and could be an important source of propagating stock, including specimens that are particularly resistant to disease or exposure. This could include Australian native, locally indigenous or exotic tree species.
- The tree or trees that occur in a unique location or context, providing a unique contribution to the landscape.
- Any tree of a species, or variety, that is rare or is of very localised distribution. This could
 include a threatened indigenous or endemic species within its locality, end of natural range, disjunct community or a rare exotic specimen.
- Any tree that is particularly old or venerable.
 The outstanding size of a tree that will relate specifically to the tree species and may
- vary depending on height, canopy spread or diameter at breast height.

 The tree is a particularly well-formed example of the species that is in a location that makes it striking to the landscape. The loss of a tree in this category would result in a
- substantial change to the local landscape.

 Any tree which exhibits a curious growth form or physical feature such as abnormal outgrowths, natural fusion of branches, severe lightning damage or unusually pruned forms.

Development and go-live of the RRC Significant Tree Tour



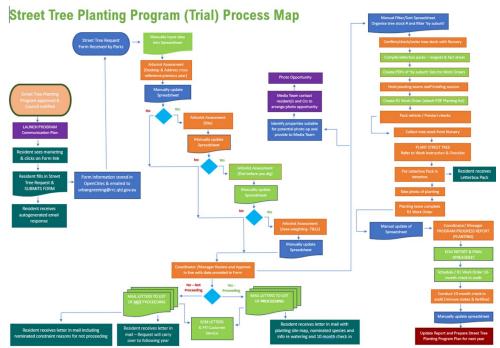
Glenmore Road median renovation



Riverside drive tree planting



Riverside Drive roundabout



Development of the Street Tree Planting Program.



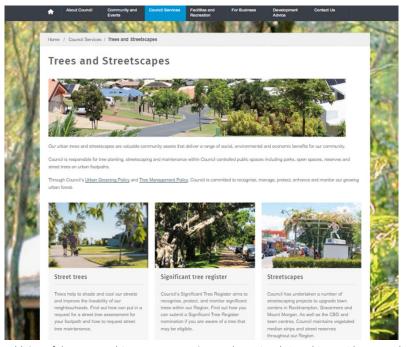
Planning of National Tree Day 2024



National Tree Day 2023 saw over 1000 native plants planted, and 200 participants.



Annual Open Space tree planting program



 $\label{lem:continuous} Addition of the Trees and Streets capes section on the RRC website. This provides up-to-date and educational content.$



Planting trees as part of the final stages to completion in Jeffries Park



Tree planting in Gracemere as part of the Open Space planting program



Street tree planting



Street tree planting

URBAN GREENING POLICY PROGRESS REPORT

Urban Greening Policy Action Plan

Meeting Date: 16 July 2024

Attachment No: 2

Code	Action	Objective	Tracking Status	Comments
1.1	Embed urban greening materials within Council's Second Nature staff engagement program.	Foster an organisational culture which acknowledges the importance of protecting and enhancing green infrastructure and builds internal awareness of Council's commitment to urban greening.		Collaborative approach from Parks and Sustainability. Ongoing action as BAU.
1.2	Develop and implement an annual Parks Communications Plan.	Community is aware of the full range of Council's Parks operations and community services including promoting parks and equipment, parks and open space maintenance programs, urban greening, and success stories.		Positive feedback from the community. Ongoing action as BAU.
1.3	Embed and link to Council's urban greening materials via the Bringing Nature Back program.	Emphasise the importance of urban greening and its ability to improve our Region's liveability.		Ongoing successful program.
2.1	Facilitate Council's operational Natural Resource Management (NRM) program in conjunction with Parks and community delivery partners.	Improved management of natural assets and green corridors.		Ongoing works with noticeable improvement of sites.
2.2	Review and/or formalise Council's existing tree management processes and work instructions.	Continual improvement and assessment of procedures and work instructions related to urban greening.		Tree Management Procedure and Tree Management Work Instruction completed.
2.3	Research and implement new processes and equipment to assist service delivery.	Create efficiencies and overcome operational difficulties by investing in smarter approaches and techniques.		Research into drone applications, sonography equipment and bracing techniques.

Page (39)



Not on track



Watching



On track



Legend:

Not on track

Watching

2.4	Review Council's Tree Management Policy.	Continual improvement and assessment of policies related to urban greening.	Tree Management Policy has been reviewed at officer level.
2.5	Review RRC Planting Palette.	All landscaping designs and projects align with Council's Planting Palette and any overarching strategy documents to ensure suitable species selection, design, planting, and maintenance.	Initial work has started on this action.
2.6	Develop a Landscape Design Guideline for application through the Planning Scheme.	Ensure best practice/desired landscaping requirements are well documented in industry-related documentation, to ensure greening requirements are incorporated.	Initial work has started on this action.
2.7	Review Council's Nursery Operations.	Operate a functional Nursery with the capacity to deliver the landscaping requirements of the organisation.	Ongoing improvements to increase output and turnover.
3.1	Develop a Preservation Program targeted at protecting and/or replacing aged and perishing green infrastructure.	Ensure that existing green infrastructure is being proactively managed to increase lifecycle and improving succession planting projects.	Initial focus on replacement strategy for Murray Street Peltophorums.
3.2	Review and update greening related standards in the next review of the Planning Scheme.	Ensure desired landscaping and design requirements are well documented to ensure new subdivisions and developments are regulated accordingly.	Initial work has started on this action.
4.1	Continue to deliver the Native Plant Program.	Support and encourage the community to value, and participate in, urban greening.	Ongoing successful program.
4.2	Actively seek funding opportunities through state and federal initiatives.	Secure external funding to assist in the delivery of urban greening projects and work programs sooner.	No secured funding for 23/24. Action to be carried forward into 24/25 Action Plan.
4.3	Embed an urban greening line item within project scopes and budgets of infrastructure projects and developments, where practicable.	Ensure landscaping requirements are considered in all Council projects from planning to implementation.	Positive engagement and commitment between multiple council departments.

On track

Completed

4.4	Continue the annual planting program and establishment projects in parks, open spaces and urban areas.	Continue a standard practice of planting projects in parks and open spaces as a core business function.	Ongoing annual program.
4.5	Continue to lobby for capital funding to undertake significant urban greening projects.	Ensure that new greening projects are planned to assist with future budget considerations.	Ongoing action. Several projects secured in capital for 24/25.
4.6	Continue to facilitate National Tree Day tree planting events for the community.	Support and encourage the community to value, and participate in, urban greening.	Ongoing annual event within the community.
4.7	Develop a collection plan for the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens.	Enhance the heritage collections at the Rockhampton Botanic Gardens.	Initial collection plan has been developed.
5.1	Establish a green asset database and management system.	Record and quantify existing trees and vegetation in an asset management system.	Ongoing action.
5.2	Undertake a canopy cover assessment by 2025 and compare against previous canopy cover assessments.	Evaluate the Region's canopy cover to prevent and/or respond to canopy loss.	Ongoing action.





Watching



On track



11.4 COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP

File No: 11979

Attachments: 1. Communities PRG Minutes - 3 July 2024

Authorising Officer: Evan Pardon - Chief Executive Officer

Author: Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

SUMMARY

The first meeting of the Communities Project Reference Group was held on 3 July 2024.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Communities Project Reference Group held on 3 July 2024 be received and the actions contained in the minutes be endorsed.

COMMENTARY

The Capital Project Framework Policy (including Terms of Reference for Project Reference Groups) was adopted at Council meeting on 14 May 2024.

As stated in the Terms of Reference, the purpose of the Communities Project Reference Group is to endorse Project Management Plans, review progress of works and administer change control processes on applicable and nominated projects. This includes where needed to make recommendation on proposed variations in budget, scope, timing, or other risks to Council or delegated Committees.

BACKGROUND

As stated in previous report to Council, the Capital Project Framework Policy (including Terms of Reference attached) will provide better oversight and also provides a more robust governance structure around Council's capital works program and its delivery.

The first meeting of the Communities Project Reference Group was held on 3 July 2024. A copy of the Agenda was distributed to all Councillors on 28 June 2024.

Minutes from the meeting are attached for endorsement of the recommendations of the Group.

PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Council meeting 14 May 2024:

THAT the Capital Project Framework Policy (including Terms of Reference) as attached to this report be adopted and for Council to approve a review timeline of May 2028.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

This process meets legislative requirements.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

Some additional use of existing resources with the additional reporting has been required.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Provides for better governance of Council's Capital Program.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal 1.1 – We are fiscally responsible.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the minutes of the Project Reference Group and the actions contained within be endorsed by Council.

COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP

Communities PRG Minutes 3 July 2024

Meeting Date: 16 July 2024

Attachment No: 1



COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP MEETING

MINUTES

3 JULY 2024

3 JULY 2024

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3 JULY 2024

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP MEETING HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 232 BOLSOVER STREET, ROCKHAMPTON ON WEDNESDAY, 3 JULY 2024 COMMENCING AT 9:05AM

1 OPENING

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

2 PRESENT

Members Present:

Deputy Mayor, Councillor M D Wickerson (Chairperson) Councillor C R Rutherford Councillor G D Mathers

In Attendance:

Mr R Cheesman – Acting Chief Executive Officer
Ms A Cutler – General Manager Community Services (Executive Officer)
Mr P Kofod – General Manager Regional Services
Ms M Taylor – Chief Financial Officer
Mr A Collins – Manager Project Delivery
Mr J Webb – Manager Communities and Culture
Ms E Dwyer – Manager Community Assets and Facilities
Mr D Scott – Manager Planning and Regulatory Services
Mr J Bulwinkel – Acting Manager Parks
Ms L Leeder – Senior Committee Support Officer

3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mayor Williams tendered his apology as he is attending ALGA National General Assembly in Canberra.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

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3 JULY 2024

5 OFFICERS' REPORTS

5.1 PROJECT DELIVERY CAPITAL PROJECT REPORT - JUNE 2024

File No: 7028

Authorising Officer: Peter Kofod - General Manager Regional Services

Author: Andrew Collins - Manager Project Delivery

SUMMARY

Monthly Status Report on Community Departments Capital projects currently managed by the Project Delivery Unit.

RECOMMENDATION

To confirm list of major projects, submitted on the Significant Projects report – and receive the update from Andrew Collins.

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3 JULY 2024

5.2 COMMUNITY ASSETS & FACILITIES 2023/2024 - PROJECT UPDATE

File No: 1464

Authorising Officer: Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

Author: Emma-Jane Dwyer - Manager Community Assets and

Facilities

SUMMARY

Status report on Community Asset & Facilities Capital Projects from 2023 / 2024 financial vear.

RECOMMENDATION

Updates from the 2023/2024 capital program be received.

COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP AGENDA

3 JULY 2024

5.3 24/25 COMMUNITIES CAPITAL BUDGET

File No: 2199

Attachments: 1. Proposed Significant Projects List

2. Proposed Project Name Changes

3. CAF Renewals List

Authorising Officer: Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

Author: Alicia Cutler - General Manager Community Services

SUMMARY

General Manager Community Services reporting on the proposed 24/25 Capital Program and how it will be managed for the upcoming year.

10:35AM The meeting adjourned for a 10 minute recess

10:47AM The meeting resumed

11:54AM Deputy Mayor Councillor Wickerson left the meeting room

12:00PM Deputy Mayor Councillor Wickerson returned to the meeting room

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. Amend the Amenities Renewal for Pilbeam Park, most likely to demolish and not build.
- 2. Draft significant project list was discussed, and is recommended for Committee for future reporting.
- 3. Due to time constraints the renewal list items were not all discussed and will continue next PRG meeting.

COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP AGENDA

3 JULY 2024

Significant Projects

Meeting Date: 3 July 2024

Attachment No: 1

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COMMUNITIES

PROJECT REFERENCE

GROUP

AGENDA

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COMMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP AGENDA

3 JULY 2024

Proposed Name Change

Meeting Date: 3 July 2024

Attachment No: 2

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Project Name Changes Proposed	24/25 Budget
Description in Capital Spreadsheet	Proposed Changed Description
[N] Gracemere Pound Facility Construction	150,000 AMC -Quarantine and young dog isolation demountable building
[N] Stockyards AMC	92,000 AMC - Livestock shade structure and pig impounding shed
Road Spot \$20k, Spray \$40k, Profiling \$20k	80,000 Rockhampton Heritage Village - Internal Road Repairs
[N] Park Bench Seating for Parks and Pathways	140,000 Jardine Park Courts Upgrade Contribution
[N] construct new Park infrastructure	100,000 Communities Contingency
Parks Renewals	\$160,000 Communities Contingency

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3 JULY 2024

2024/2025 - CAF Renewal Program

Meeting Date: 3 July 2024

Attachment No: 3

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3 JULY 2024

Program for Playground Equipment Renewals - \$200,000

Year/s	Renewal F/Y	Site One	Site Two	Site Three	Site Four
				(if budget permits)	(if budget permits)
2	2024/2025	Michael O'Hanlon Park	Duthie Park	Kerr Park	Victoria Park
	Scope of works	Complete renewal of all play equipment on site	Complete renewal of all play equipment on site	Complete renewal of all play equipment on site	Renewal of the cableway currently onsite that has met end of life
	Estimated Costs	\$60,000 - \$80,000	\$80,000 - \$90,000	\$70,000 - \$80,000	\$90,000 - \$100,000

Fencing, bollards, park furniture rolling programs will be used in parks in conjunction with playground renewals.

Remaining budget allocation will be used to complete repairs as per annual AMP / asset defect reports performed by CAF in conjunction with Assets.

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3 JULY 2024

Shade Sails & Structures \$160,000

Year/s	Renewal F/Y	Site One	Site Two (if budget permits)	Site Three	Site Four
2	2024/2025	Bartlem Oval	Michael O'Hanlon		
	Scope of works	Installation of hard shade structure over play equipment – Playground Shade Construction Capital	Installation of hard shade structure over play equipment – Playground Shade Construction Capital		
	Estimated Costs	\$140,000 - \$150,000	\$130,000		

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3 JULY 2024

Amenities renewal \$294,000

Year/s	Renewal F/Y	Site One	Site Two	Site Three (if budget permits)
1	2024/25	Queens Park	Building - Victoria Park - Alf Kele Playground - (Crocodile Design)	Building - Pilbeam Park
	Scope of works	Install 2xroller shutters, Repainting of exterior and interior of building Removal of old mesh and replacement with new mesh Seamless flooring	Repaint of exterior and interior paint Seamless flooring Push taps Disabled toilets bring up to standard	Redesigned to increase facility use. Potentially demolish and new amenity building.
	Estimated Costs	\$170k	\$62,906	\$165,403

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3 JULY 2024

Access Renewals (works delivered by Civil Ops) \$50,000

Parks Footpath Renewal \$75,000

Sites to be confirmed at a future PRG meeting

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3 JULY 2024

Trade Waste Renewals \$70,000

Year/s	Renewal F/Y	Site One	Site Two	Site Three	Site Four
					(if budget permits)
2	2024/2025	Botanic Gardens Tea room	Showgrounds pavilions		
	Scope of works	Upgrade non-compliant trade waste system	Upgrade separators to trade waste		
	Estimated Costs	\$30,000 - \$40,000	\$100,000 (pending Master Plan)		

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3 JULY 2024

Field Lighting Renewals - \$350,000

Year/s	Renewal F/Y	Site One	Site Two	Site Three	Site Four (if budget permits)
2	2024/2025	Woods Park	Showground ring lights	Victoria park rugby league grounds	
	Scope of works	Replace all field lighting with new LED equivalent on existing poles.	Upgrade old ring lighting with new LED equivalent on existing poles.	Replace failing field lighting with new LED equivalent on existing poles.	
	Estimated Costs	\$35.000	\$150,000	\$100,000	

Recommendation for remaining / future year budget allocation →

Spend would consist of four deliverables:

- Deliver one (1) Lighting upgrade which will consider detailed designs and upgrade of existing lighting assets.
- 2. Produce three (3) detailed lighting designs (Shovel ready projects) to shelve ready for:
 - a. Announced grant/funding programs, State or Federal
 - Contingency readiness in the event of unforeseen asset failure or end of life Renewal plannings.
 - c. Club driven lighting projects, Often Clubs will consider upgrades necessary to align with/meet code standards or promote growth. While we support community funded lighting projects and alike, investing in detailed designs affords Council a level of governance over these community led projects and facilities. Investing into designs ensures our desired standards are met as prospective asset owner upon completion.

Proposed sites:

- Cedrick Archer Park/Webber Park (detailed cost estimates may influence capacity to execute upgrades to LED)
- Designs: NOTE: Sites are considered under two criteria (Assets are nearing end of life | Assets hold a 'high community value' through use & future need | Resident club has capacity, formalised an intention to finance & lead)
 - a. Tom Nutley Field
 - b. Rockhampton Cricket Grounds (Field 2)
 - c. Webber Park/Cedrick Archer Park

DATE

CON	IMUNITIES PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP MINUTES	3 JULY 2024
6	CLOSURE OF MEETING	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 12:26pm.	
	SIGNATURE	
	CHAIRPERSON	

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12 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

13 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

14 URGENT BUSINESS/QUESTIONS

Urgent Business is a provision in the Agenda for members to raise questions or matters of a genuinely urgent or emergent nature, that are not a change to Council Policy and can not be delayed until the next scheduled Council or Committee Meeting.

15 CLOSURE OF MEETING