

# COUNCIL CATCH-UP

## Council welcomes funding boost to the local economy



Griffith City Council will receive just over \$1 million under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program to support jobs and businesses by delivering priority projects that will provide a boost to the local economy.

Funding of \$1.03M will see four projects get underway, including the extension of festive lighting in Banna Avenue, the construction of a new car park in Railway Street, upgrade of City entrances and advancing items within Griffith's Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) as the preferred local projects.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi welcomed the Federal funding announcement designed to stimulate regional communities impacted by the COVID-19

outbreak.

"These funds will allow us to accelerate important local projects and provide economic stimulus as well as lasting community benefit through new infrastructure," Councillor Dal Broi said.

"Council nominated these projects for this funding as they have been recognised as a priority for our City. Part of the funding arrangement was that each nominated project be shovel ready and able to be completed by June 2021."

Local MP Sussan Ley said the funding allocated for Griffith was part of a \$1.8 billion boost for local government across Australia including all 14 council areas in Farrer.

"Right now, and when it is most needed, this package of support

helps the city support jobs and businesses by continuing to deliver the priority projects it wants in the community."

Projects which are being funded under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program:

- \$340k allocated to the festive lighting in Banna Avenue, which include the installation of additional fairy lights and uplights in the London Plane trees lining the street.
- \$500k the construction of a 53 space off-road carpark, to be located on the western side of Railway Street, adjacent to the Quest Apartments and opposite the Griffith Court House, creating much needed parking in the CBD.
- \$90k to construct a 14m long and

2.5m wide pedestrian bridge over the Main Canal, at the intersection of Noorla Street. This will provide a safe link between West End Stadium and Jubilee Oval as part of the Regional Sports Precinct, but also provide safe passage to the CBD for residents in West Griffith.

- \$100K, with additional funds of up to \$100K by Griffith City Council, will be allocated to the main City entrances. The funds will be used to install 3 new City entrance signs, creating a welcoming gateway which will complement the landscape and branding of Griffith. Work is expected to commence in the coming months and are required to be fully completed by 30 June 2021.

Yarruwala

WIRADJURI

CULTURAL FESTIVAL

26 SEP - 10 OCT 2020

PERFORMANCES, EXHIBITIONS, WORKSHOPS,  
CULTURAL EXPERIENCES AND MORE!



## Rates relief for home owners



The Department of Local Government have issued new guidelines for Councils regarding the issuing and payment of rates for the 2020/21 single and first quarter rates instalments.

Changes made under section 747B of the Local Government Act 1993 gave Councils the option to delay issuing rates notices to ratepayers until 1 September 2020, with the collection of the first quarter rates instalment (whether a single or quarterly instalment) due by 30 September 2020.

Director Business, Cultural and Financial Services, Mr Max Turner said these changes mean that rate payers will be given until 30 September 2020 to pay their single or quarterly rates instalment.

“We understand these are trying times for our community, and welcome the changes to the Act which allows ratepayers additional time to pay their rates,” said Mr Turner.

“Council will also not be charging interest on unpaid rates between July and December 2020. As interest charges will resume as of 1 April 2021, it is important that anyone experiencing financial difficulty and with concerns about their ability to pay their rates on time, should contact us as soon as possible to arrange a payment plan and avoid additional interest charges.

“The NSW Valuer General’s Office has advised Council of new land values and annual rates notices have been issued reflecting these new values,” Mr Turner added.

Land values are used by all NSW councils to calculate and distribute rates. As land values are determined by the Valuer General, independent of local Councils, any objection to the determined land value should be addressed directly with the Valuer General’s Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Council on 6962 8100.

## Local Government Week - that’s a wrap!

Locals discovered that Council is more than just rates, roads and rubbish last week when Griffith City Council showcased a whole range of services online.

Council celebrated Local Government Week 2020 from 3 August to 9 August, embracing the theme Councils Do.

Griffith Mayor Councillor John Dal Broi said Local Government Week is always a highlight on the Council calendar and despite the challenging COVID-19 restrictions, this year was no different.

“The week provided us with an opportunity to highlight some of the many things we do and give back to our residents,” he said.

“While many people are aware that we manage rates, roads and rubbish, the extent and diversity of our work across many other areas is something we are always excited to highlight.

“On behalf of Councillors and staff I want to thank residents who took

the time to view our videos and staff profiles online or attended Council Café in Griffith Central on Friday to help us celebrate the week.”

Locals who stopped by Council Café enjoyed giveaways including seedlings, coffee vouchers and balloons.

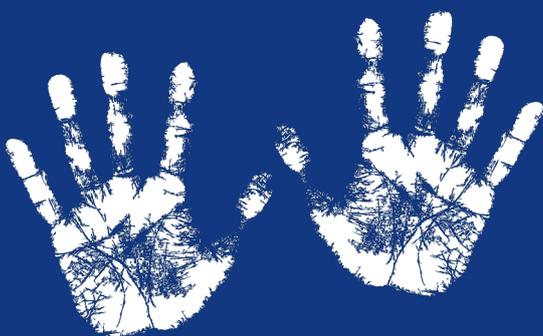
Instead of the annual Mini Action Day for Year 4 students, which is usually held at Pioneer Park Museum, Griffith City Council delivered resource packs to local primary schools throughout the week. Each school received information on Council services, activity sheets and library books.

This year, the Week was dedicated to much-loved Council Governance Officer Marisa Martinello, who passed away recently.

*Below: General Manager, Mr Brett Stonestreet and the Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi with the Martinello Family*



# Have you washed your hands?



**Out and about?  
WASH YOUR HANDS**

## August is Rural Road Safety month



August is Rural Road Safety Month and Griffith City Council is reminding drivers that conditions on rural roads can change without warning so extra care must be taken at all times.

Council's Road Safety Officer, Greg Balind said in the 5 years to September 2019, the Griffith Local Government Area recorded 45 crashes on roads outside of the urban area which resulted in 5 people being killed and 46 sustaining serious injuries.

"When travelling on rural roads, drive to the prevailing conditions and in a manner that allows you to maintain control of your vehicle should the road environment suddenly change," said Mr Balind. "Scan the road ahead, be alert for wild life and straying stock, and, take regular breaks."

Chairperson of the Local Traffic Committee, Councillor Doug Curran said Rural Road Safety Month is a great opportunity to refresh your knowledge on

the road rules to get a better understanding of how you can be a safer driver.

"Every 6 seconds someone is killed or seriously injured on the world's roads, and every year, around 1,200 people are killed on Australian roads," said Councillor Curran.

"While country residents make up one-third of the New South Wales population, two thirds of all fatalities occur on country roads. These statistics highlight the need for all motorists to make smarter choices in order to make our roads safer."

"Taking the pledge is an opportunity for drivers to take ownership for and make a commitment to their role in reducing the rural road toll. Take the pledge today by visiting [www.arsf.com.au/take-the-pledge-for-rs](http://www.arsf.com.au/take-the-pledge-for-rs)," he added.

Visit: [arsf.com.au/rsw](http://arsf.com.au/rsw) or [roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au](http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au) for more information

## Message from the Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi

Last week saw Council celebrate Local Government Week - albeit in a very different way to how we normally do.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in one way or another, whether it was taking in one of the great videos about Council, learning about our staff members, or dropping in to the Council Cafe held at Griffith Central.

We received great feedback at the Council Cafe and look forward to the next one in September.

I am pleased to advise that Council is the recipient of over \$1M in Federal Funding under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

These funds will allow us to deliver projects which we have had 'on the books' for some time, including a shared bridge in Merrigal Street, updating the City entrances, construction of a carpark in Railway Street and additions to the festive lighting in Banna Avenue.

All works are to commence as soon as possible and be finalised by the end of June 2021.

At Council's Ordinary Meeting held this week, Council considered applications under the COVID-19 Grant Relief Program. Council will be supporting local community groups who were adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with almost \$30,000.

\$70,000 in funding remains available for suitably community groups, not for profits and sporting organisations under this program, and I would encourage you to make an application. Visit the Council website at [griffith.nsw.gov.au](http://griffith.nsw.gov.au)

In addition to this funding, Council will also be opening the next round of the Community Grants Program on 24 August 2020.

Applications are welcome for projects and activities which can demonstrate they will deliver new initiatives which align with Council's Strategic Plan – Guiding Griffith 2040.

This is a great opportunity for community groups, not-for-profit and charitable organisations or individuals to deliver programs or activities which help our community.



Council will be hosting a series of

workshops to assist in preparing your application, please keep an eye out in future editions of the Catch Up for details.

Also considered at the last Ordinary Meeting of Council was the colour schemes for the new pool and amenities at Griffith Regional Aquatic Leisure Centre. It is exciting to see how quickly this project has progressed and we are on track for completion late January 2021.

Work is also continuing on the overall Regional Sports Precinct encompassing West End Oval and Jubilee Oval. We are fortunate to be the recipient of funding from State and Federal Governments to deliver these three major projects, which will enhance the lifestyle for locals, and attract many sporting activities and competitions to our City.

Council adopted the Griffith Residential Development Control Plan including Sub-division and parking Controls at the Council Meeting.

I would like to congratulate staff for their work on this important framework which replaces the existing DCP No 21 – Residential Development which is over 20 years old.

The changes are good news for residential developers and homeowners as it cuts the 'red tape', making it easier for homes to be constructed, in turn encouraging future development for our growing City.

Housing is a priority for Council, as we look to find ways to make it easier to construct new homes to ease the housing shortage. One such project is 'Griffin Green', which will see affordable housing made available. This project, in association with Argyle Housing, was funded by a \$6 million grant from its Building Better Regions Fund, and contributions from Council and Argyle, will transform what is now unused green space to affordable housing lots - great news for those looking to enter the market.

Until next time,

**Cr John Dal Broi, Mayor**

WORLD PREMIERE

# SUNSHINE SUPER GIRL

BY ANDREA JAMES

griffith  
regionaltheatre

PERFORMING  
LINES

SEASON 7 - 10 OCTOBER

[WWW.GRIFFITHREGIONALTHEATRE.COM.AU](http://WWW.GRIFFITHREGIONALTHEATRE.COM.AU)



## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Notice of Temporary Road Closures

Notice is hereby given under the Roads Act 1993, Section 122, for the temporary closing of:

**Chequers Road between Kidman Way and Boyle Road will be closed on 27 August 2020 from 7am until 5pm** for the replacement of multiple power poles by Essential Energy. Detours around the worksite and access for residents will be provided.

**Gillmartin Drive and Rifle Range Road, Madden Drive between Gillmartin Drive and Tucker Street and Gillmartin Drive between Hardiman Way and Citrus Road will remain closed until 23 September 2020** as M.N.C Pipelines will be undertaking roundabout and road construction. Access for residents and detours around the worksite will be provided.

**Little Road between Foreshaw Avenue and Thorne Road will be closed from 27 July until 30 September 2020** for the installation of a pipeline across a roadway by Watertek. Detours around the worksite and access for residents will be provided.

**Yambil Street between Kooyoo Street and Ulong Street will remain closed to West bound traffic until 9 September 2020** as part of the Yambil Street Stage 2 upgrade by Griffith City Council. Detours around the worksite and access for pedestrians will be provided. A 40km/h speed limit will also be in place.

### Grant Opportunity

#### COVID-19 Community Grants Relief Fund Open

Griffith City Council welcomes applications for the \$100,000 COVID-19 Community Grants Relief Fund.

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available to community groups, not-for-profit organisations and sporting bodies for eligible projects aimed at assisting those organisations affected by the COVID-19 lockdown.

To find out more or to apply, please visit [www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/grants](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/grants)

### Development Applications Received and Determined

Please visit [www.griffith.nsw.gov.au](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au) to view Development Applications Determined for the month of June 2020, and to view current Development Applications on exhibition.

We are committed to keeping our community up to date. Council has a number of e-Newsletters you can now subscribe to including:

#### Council Catch Up

[www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/catchup](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/catchup)

#### Economic Development

[www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/evolve](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/evolve)

#### Griffith Now Hiring

[www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/gnh](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/gnh)

#### Visit Griffith

[www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/tourismtalk](http://www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/tourismtalk)



GRIFFITH  
*Spring*  
FEST 2020

[GRIFFITHSPRINGFEST.COM.AU](http://GRIFFITHSPRINGFEST.COM.AU)

Although we won't be delivering the same events as usual in 2020, we are in the process of creating a great virtual festival for you all to enjoy.

Watch this space for the release of what will be on offer from 11-25 October 2020.

## Bus service improvements for Griffith

from 20 July

Extended operating hours

Better connections with new train services to Goulburn and Sydney

More services on weekdays and Saturdays

Remember to maintain physical distance from others when travelling. Sit or stand where you see a green dot.



Plan your better trip at [transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)

Follow us on instagram! @griffithcitycouncil

