



Left to right: Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic, Cr Jacob Madsen, Cr Paul Tully, Cr Sheila Ireland, Mayor Teresa Harding, Cr Kate Kunzelmann, Cr Marnie Doyle, Cr Andrew Fechner and Cr Russell Milligan

Welcome to the summer edition of your Community Matters newsletter.

Summer in Ipswich is a wonderful time of the year, perfect for getting out and about and coming together with family and friends.

I encourage you, your family and friends to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Connection is important, which is why being safe and connected in our community is so important. To achieve this vision, council has implemented a range of strategies such as the Community Development Strategy 2021 which sets out our commitment and priorities for community development.

Council isn't limited to planning and constructing new roads, parks and footpaths – it's also about how we can help build community capacity and resilience.

We acknowledge the ongoing challenges faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through our Indigenous Accord 2020-2025. Through partnerships, education and advocacy, council is working to improve the wellbeing of all people living and working in Ipswich.

Our 2021 Local Disaster Management Plan includes new features to improve access to risk reduction measures for residents with a disability in the event of storms, fires and floods.

Storm season in Ipswich can be unforgiving, which is why we're focused on continuous improvement in disaster planning and are committed to placing the community at the centre of everything we do.

An effective natural disaster response starts well before the event and we all have a role to play in building our city's resilience to disasters by ensuring our households and businesses are prepared. If a natural disaster does occur during this summer you will find up to date information at Disaster.ipswich.qld.gov.au

As the year winds down, there is much to reflect on. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought many challenges, but we are starting to see the signs of recovery.

Tourism is beginning to bounce back with our city one of only three regions across the state to see positive growth in visitor numbers.

Our city's vibrant arts and culture scene continues to shine, with the inaugural SPARK Ipswich festival earlier this year celebrating our city's diversity with 91 events across 11 days.

Although this year has had its challenges, I'm looking forward to 2022 with renewed hope and excitement for the future.

Whether you celebrate Christmas or enjoy other end of year traditions, on behalf of Ipswich City Council and my fellow councillors, we wish you well and look forward to continuing to work for the betterment of our community in 2022.

Mayor Teresa Harding

IT'S CHRISTMAS IN IPSWICH

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas right across Ipswich.

This year's Christmas in Ipswich program has something for everyone with festive favourites returning alongside a brand new larger-than-life light display in our city's newest community and event space, the Nicholas Street Precinct.

Mayor Teresa Harding said there was plenty of Christmas joy to share in this December.

"Our city's Christmas tree has been lit, Christmas lights adorn houses and businesses across the region and carols are being

sung out across the community," Mayor Harding said.

"The wraps come off the remainder of our Christmas in Ipswich events this month including Santa touring the suburbs, Christmas Lights Tours, a Letters to Santa livestream event and a must-see light display in the Nicholas Street Precinct.

"It all culminates with fireworks displays to celebrate the arrival of the new year."

For a complete Christmas in Ipswich program, including event details, visit Christmasinipswich.com.au

A YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT

This has been a landmark year for Queensland's fastest growing city, as council took further steps on our transparency and integrity journey, supported our community through the COVID-19 pandemic, and pushed forward with a reinvigorated capital works program.

Council released its 2021-22 Budget, one that plans for the city's bright future while managing the needs of today.

The \$530 million budget finds a balance between limiting the financial impact on ratepayers and residents, while ensuring council is preparing the city for future growth.

From maintaining rural roads to an expanded kerb and channel program, council is also working on its largest ever road project with the \$46 million upgrade and duplication of the Springfield Greenbank Arterial and Springfield Parkway.

We look back on the year as Queensland's first Small Business Friendly Council cutting red tape for local food truck operators, providing financial support through the COVID-19 pandemic and upskilling local traders.



Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding with the Ipswich City Council Annual Budget 21-22

Buy Ipswich continues to deliver significant support to Ipswich businesses, with \$54 million spent with local suppliers and access to an 18-month Forward Procurement Schedule to provide suppliers with advance notice of procurement opportunities.

Ipswich Central is thriving with the opening of the \$250 million Nicholas Street Precinct, new Ipswich City Council administration building and Australia's first dedicated children's library and Tulum Place, a place for the community to gather.

The Ipswich community welcomed another 6,070 residents this year to June with people continuing to recognise the easy access to jobs, education and affordable lifestyle opportunities our city has to offer.

SCALING UP

Ipswich City Council will look at a second Operation Scale-Up program after a successful pilot enabled 24 businesses to bolster their ability to supply the defence industry.

The program, a first of its kind in Australia, offered 24 regional businesses the opportunity to become defence industry ready by developing an action plan and working with leading defence industry partners over a three-month period.

Successful businesses on the Operation Scale-Up program received mentoring from defence industry partners including Rheinmetall Defence Australia, Boeing Defence Australia, Raytheon Australia, Northrup Grumman Australia, Airbus Australia and RUAG Australia.

Businesses were given an insight into business building, marketing strategies and acquiring customers during the pilot in three one-on-one workshops.

Operation Scale-Up was developed to ensure local businesses were ready to capitalise on growth in local defence and advanced manufacturing sectors as council continues to invest in initiatives to support a robust and resilient defence industry.

Ipswich is the home of Australia's largest Air Force base at Amberley, which provides more than 5,000 jobs, and our broader defence sector generates \$1.4 billion in annual export value.

The council-backed initiative was supported by CIDIDAC, the Department of Defence, and Australian Industry and Defence Network QLD (AIDN QLD).

Council is now reviewing pilot outcomes and will discuss policy insights and the potential for future iterations with the state and federal governments.

Spanning an area of 1,090 square kilometres, Ipswich is home to more than 236,000 residents and counting making it the fastest-growing city in Queensland.



CREATING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Ipswich City Council's Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Directive is working towards balancing the needs of development with the environmental impact on the region.

Our current population in Ipswich of 236,000 people is set to more than double to 550,000 by 2041.

Council is planning for this growth in a range of ways including our New Ipswich Planning Scheme and Local Government Infrastructure Plan, bringing together various policies adhering to principles of iFuture.

Ipswich City Council's Waste and Circular Economy Transformation Directive is seeking to give specific attention to waste, resource recovery and the impacts on our community and seeks to balance growth with community needs and our impacts on the environment.

Our Resource Recover Strategy and Implementation Plan considers what we need to do to plan for the waste management and resource recovery needs of the city for the next decade.

Council is taking innovative steps to decrease waste generation with the Food Organics and Garden Organics trial, known as FOGO (for more information see Division 1) and is reforming our waste collection services and facilities to evolve into a better holistic package of facilities and services for our growing community.

Importantly, as we work towards a circular economy, resources need to be diverted from landfill and redistributed for as long as possible.

As a welcome example, Ipswich residents told us they wanted to be able to put glass back in their yellow-lid bin and we have returned that service this year.

Ipswich City Council's waste recycling program accepts five types of waste in yellow-lid recycling bins: glass, metal, plastic, cardboard and paper.

This has already reduced the amount of waste going to landfill and we have also embraced opportunities to utilise recycled product, for example in road and pavement construction.

Government and Industry need to work together to deliver a better future and council is working actively in this space.

Ipswich City Council embraces this challenge and we invite our community to be open to change as we continue to evolve our practices and seek a better, more sustainable future for our residents and future residents.



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Glass can now go back into the recycling bin in Ipswich

SKATE PARK UPGRADE COMING

A skate park upgrade is on the way for Redbank Plains Recreation Reserve as part of council's Skateboard and BMX Facilities Strategy, with construction works due to start in early 2022.

Division 1 Councillor Jacob Madsen said the upgrade to the regional-level skate and youth facility was identified through the strategy.

"The current skate park had reached its end of life and needed to be replaced," Cr Madsen said.

"The community was encouraged to provide their feedback and let

council know what facilities would be most suitable.

"Some of the exciting upgrades include a quarter pipe, flat bank, volcano, waterfall, flat bar, circulation bar, footpath and seating."

Division 1 Councillor Sheila Ireland said the long overdue upgrade will provide many benefits to the community.

"Council is committed to providing spaces that promote social inclusion, health and well-being benefits for our community," Cr Ireland said.

"With the skateboarding success at the Tokyo Olympics, this upgrade is a great opportunity for council to showcase our amazing sporting facilities on the world stage as we prepare for the 2032 Olympic Games."

WASTE FUNDS BENEFIT KOALAS

Annual payments to council generated from Willowbank's Ti Tree Bioenergy waste management facility have funded three vital projects supporting koala and local wildlife movement.

Established in 2002, the facility pays a contribution to council for community and environmental improvement projects suggested by the public as part of its operating permit.

Division 1 Councillor Sheila Ireland said over the past 12 months the contributions have delivered fencing, weed management and revegetation works for recreational areas and possible projects including safe animal crossings and new wildlife signs on roadways.

"More than \$83,000 of the funds contributed by the facility has allowed council to replace fences, remove weeds and conduct fire mitigation works around Mack Family Park and George Hatchman Reserve," Cr Ireland said.

Division 1 Councillor Jacob Madsen said the wildlife fencing and revegetation planting will enhance the natural areas and create new koala habitats.

"The facility's annual contributions mean we can undertake monitoring of koalas and provide safer movement between habitats for all local wildlife around Willowbank, Amberley and Ebenezer," Cr Madsen said.

For more information about the Ti Tree Bioenergy facility visit [Shapeyouripswich.com.au/ti-tree-bioenergy-funding-submissions](https://shapeyouripswich.com.au/ti-tree-bioenergy-funding-submissions)

FOGO TRIAL TRACKING WELL

In September this year Ipswich City Council started a Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) Trial in the suburbs of Bellbird Park and Raceview, with the aim to reduce the volume of organic waste ending up in landfill.

Since then, 34 tonnes of organic materials have successfully been diverted from landfill with a 40 per cent reduction in general waste volumes within the trial area.

Division 1 Councillor Sheila Ireland said the FOGO trial was tracking well.

"We have over 1,000 households across the two suburbs participating in the FOGO trial with local participation rates of about 50 per cent with each weekly collection," Cr Ireland said.

"88 per cent of residents in the trial have told us they understand the positive environmental impacts of the FOGO service."

Division 1 Councillor Jacob Madsen said residents have been keen to implement the FOGO way.



Cr Jacob Madsen and Cr Sheila Ireland get some help with FOGO from Cr Ireland's grandchildren

"Forty per cent of what currently goes into the general waste bin is food or garden waste and is also the material that causes the bad smell in our bins," Cr Madsen said.

"The FOGO trial diverts a significant amount of smelly waste which can be turned into something useful, like compost.

"We have also seen low FOGO bin contamination at 7.09 per cent on average across the trial, meaning the majority of residents understand what can and can't go in FOGO bins."

For more information about the FOGO trial visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/live/waste-and-recycling/fogo-trial

Division 1 stretches from Mt Mort in the west to White Rock in the east and includes Blackstone, Calvert, Deebing Heights, Ebenezer, Flinders View, Goolman, Grandchester, Jeebropilly, Lower Mount Walker, Mount Forbes, Mount Walker West, Mutdapilly, Peak Crossing, Purga, Raceview, Redbank Plains, Ripley, South Ripley, Swanbank and Willowbank.



IN BRIEF

Mowing is a priority

We know regular mowing of local parks and reserves is an important issue for residents. That's why council has boosted its spend on mowing this grass growing season, including using a 'flying squad' to target high growth areas. Want to know when your local park is next due for a mow? Visit the interactive mowing map at

[Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/mowing](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/mowing)

Traffic lights on the way

Plans are progressing for an upgrade of the intersection of Mary and William streets at Blackstone. The project, which is in council's three-year capital works program, is currently in the detailed design phase. The upgrade will include the installation of new traffic lights with construction expected to start in late 2022. The project was identified in iGO – The City of Ipswich Transport Plan.

Good luck to graduates

As school graduations and awards nights draw to a close for another year, the festive season is now upon us. It's been a busy but inspiring time attending school functions across the Division. Congratulations to the city's year 12 students who have made it to the end of their schooling journey and now stand ready to begin the next exciting phase of their life.

WORKS TO SMOOTH AND STEADY MOVING RACEVIEW ROAD

Further roadworks are taking place to strengthen South Station Road, following a \$2 million upgrade earlier this year to the road's surface between Rodney and Auld streets.

Division 1 Councillor Jacob Madsen said the upgrades will provide a smoother ride and a longer road surface life of about 20 years.

"A poor natural soil base for the road, which over time weakens under traffic and exposure to water, has caused movements in the road and the surface to crack as well as rise and fall in areas," Cr Madsen said.

"Funding of \$856,000 has been allocated to rehabilitate a portion of South Station Road by excavating and replacing about 500mm depth of road pavement. This pavement is designed to meet the increased needs of commuters and residents."

Councillor Madsen said smaller equipment is being used to ensure the safety of workers, road users and nearby residents as the works are near large gas mains.

"Once completed, these works will help ensure one of our city's busiest routes can cope and improve the day-to-day journeys for our community," Cr Madsen said.

"Unfortunately, recent wet weather has impacted the timeline of these works. I thank local residents and road users for their patience as council continues to build new local roads, and upgrade its existing network, to keep pace with Ipswich's booming population."

The project is expected to be completed in early 2022, with resurfacing works then planned to start mid-year on Robertson Road.

To view council works across the city visit [Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects)



Crs Jacob Madsen and Sheila Ireland at South Station Road

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STADIUM PROJECT KICKS ON

Construction of the Brisbane Lions' new home at Springfield Central is progressing well ahead of its opening in mid-2022.

Brighton Homes Arena will be the new training and support centre for the Lions and will host up to 10,000 spectators for AFL Women's and AFL men's matches from next summer.

Division 2 Councillor and Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic said the Lions have the highest membership and ratings of any Queensland sports team and the project will offer incredible exposure for the city.

"When construction finishes, Brighton Homes Arena will be Queensland's best sports training complex and the first purpose-built arena in Australia for the AFL Women's league," Cr Jonic said.

"Locals can expect to see the arena roof completed soon and light towers will be erected early in 2022."

The \$80 million precinct includes a new community centre, gym and function facilities and is expected to employ over 200 full-time staff once open.

READY TO ROLL FOR ROAD UPGRADE

One of the city's most important road upgrades is about to shift up a gear.

In early 2022, work will begin on the duplication of Redbank Plains Road from two to four lanes between Keidges Road and Kruger Parade.

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully said pre-construction works in recent months had paved the way for the main construction to start.

"Earlier this year, changes were made to the existing service road between Barry Drive and Shannon Street to make room for the extra lanes," Cr Tully said.

"This work, together with the relocation of Energex services, means we're now ready to go early next year with the main duplication work."

Deputy Mayor and Division 2 Councillor Nicole Jonic said motorists should expect slight delays during the works, but significant benefits into the future.

"More motorists are using this corridor each year. This upgrade will not only improve safety for road users but also support the local economy by keeping our city moving," Cr Jonic said.

To keep up to date with the works, visit [Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects)

INTERSECTION WORKS DONE

Works have now been completed at the intersection of Old Logan Road and Addison Road, Camira, with the \$545,000 intersection upgrade already improving traffic flow and pedestrian, motorist, and cyclist safety.

The project, which included a \$50,000 contribution from council, was completed in early September.

The completed works include a new signalised left-hand turn from Addison Road, replacing the existing free left-hand turn, relocated traffic signals, new concrete kerb, pram ramps, and footpaths.

Deputy Mayor and Division 2 Councillor Nicole Jonic said council is committed to improving road and pedestrian safety.

"Ipswich City Council is committed to responding to the city's current and future transport needs through its iGo City of Ipswich Transport Plan," Cr Jonic said.

"This upgrade ensures our motorists, cyclists and pedestrians can move safely through the intersection, which had previously been known as a black spot."

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully said it's important our local road



Division 2 Councillor and Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic and Division 2 Cr Paul Tully

infrastructure keeps pace with our fast-growing city.

"Ipswich is growing rapidly and that means there is extra demand on our roads and footpaths," Cr Tully said.

"This upgrade will not only ensure our road infrastructure keeps pace, but also improves road safety for our community."

The upgrade of the Old Logan Road and Addison Road intersection is funded through the Australian Government's Black Spot Program.

Division 2 stretches from Gailles in the north to Spring Mountain in the south, and includes Augustine Heights, Bellbird Park, Carole Park, Brookwater, Camira, Goodna, part of Redbank, Springfield, Springfield Central and Springfield Lakes.



IN BRIEF

Planned park upgrades

Council is working with community sports clubs on upgrades to Evan Marginson Park including better irrigation for the fields that are home to the Goodna Rugby Union Club, an amenities block near the Glenis Nugent Netball Courts and storage shed for local clubs. These projects are in early planning stages and are scheduled to be designed in the next two years.

Catch-ups continue in 2022

Community Matters catch-ups are a great way to speak directly with your councillors and learn more about what is happening in your community. The Community Matters program provides residents with an opportunity to engage with councillors and discuss important issues in your area. There will be a short break in catch-ups for the Christmas period. For more information about where to catch-up with your councillor in 2022, visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/communitymatters

FOGO trial going well

Council's Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) Trial, which kicked off in September, is tracking well. More than 1,000 households in two suburbs are a part of the trial, which has already seen 34 tonnes of organic materials diverted from landfill. To read more about how the trial is tracking, read the article on page 4 of this newsletter.

WORKS WELL UNDERWAY ON CITY'S LARGEST ROAD UPGRADE

Construction is taking shape on the council's largest road upgrade, the Springfield Parkway and Springfield Greenbank Arterial Duplication and Upgrade Project.

A shared pathway between Topaz Road to Ashby Close has been completed and early works from Hymba Yumba Indigenous Community Hub to the Centenary Highway and Eden Station Drive are progressing well.

Stage 1 and 3 Civil Works Package, which includes the section of Springfield Greenbank Arterial from Eden Station Drive to Sinnathamby Boulevard, will follow the project's early works in 2022.

Division 2 Councillor and Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic said the Springfield region is experiencing rapid growth as a key urban centre within Ipswich.

"The \$46 million project is the council's most significant road infrastructure upgrade for one of the region's busiest routes connecting one of the highest population growth corridors in South East Queensland," Cr Jonic said.

"This important road upgrade ensures we're providing increased capacity, safety and accessibility as we begin to welcome another 330,000 residents into our community by 2041."

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully thanked residents for their patience as the construction works see some traffic restrictions to ensure the safety of workers and motorists.

"Stage 1 Early Works are programmed for completion in early 2022 and included bulk earthworks, retaining wall installation, stormwater and underground conduit installation and the duplication of the Opossum Creek Bridge," Cr Tully said.

"Sections of the Springfield Parkway and Springfield Greenbank Arterial are already carrying more than 20,000 vehicles per day, so these upgrades are infrastructure that the community needs for the future."

For more information about the project visit Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects



Division 2 Councillor and Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic and Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully at the Springfield Greenbank Arterial Duplication and Upgrade Project site

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ST NICHOLAS EXPERIENCE

A spectacular light display and larger-than-life festive installations will transform the Nicholas Street Precinct into the 'St Nicholas Precinct' as the centrepiece of Christmas in Ipswich celebrations.

The free multi-night event in the city's revitalised centre will include a dazzling array of lights, colour and magical moments.

Division 3 Councillor Andrew Fechner said the precinct will be a magical Christmas experience.

"The St Nicholas Precinct will be a place to share Christmas joy and

goodwill with family, friends and the community," Cr Fechner said.

Division 3 Councillor Marnie Doyle said the breathtaking light installations are part of a full program that will bring the best of the North Pole to Ipswich.

"There will be live entertainment, movies on the Tulmur Place big screen and yummy festive food," Cr Doyle said.

The St Nicholas Precinct will be open from 6.30 pm to 9.30 pm nightly. For more information visit Christmasinipswich.com.au

DISABILITY PERMIT PARKING

Did you know disability parking permit holders can park for free in all council designated parking locations?

Division 3 Councillor Andrew Fechner said Disability Parking Permit holders were not restricted to parking in spaces designated for people with disability.

"Permit holders can also park for free at on-street parking in council metered and regulated parking areas for up to 30 minutes if the signed limit is less than this, and for an unlimited period when the signed time is 30 minutes or more," Cr Fechner said.

"While permit holders can't park in restricted zones such as clearways, no stopping, loading and bus zones, they can briefly stop in passenger loading zones to pick up or set down a passenger."

Division 3 Councillor Marnie Doyle said free on-street parking for disability parking permit holders was particularly helpful around CBD medical precincts.

"There's great demand on parking spaces for people with disability near hospitals and medical specialists," Cr Doyle said.

"So, it's good to know that permit holders can park for free in any designated parking space close to their doctor."

Disability Parking Permits are issued by the State Government. For more information visit Qld.gov.au/disability/out-and-about/travel-transport/driving/parking-permits

To view council's Safe Parking Guide visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/live/parking/parking-guide

WEEKLY MARATHON WALKS KEEPING LOCAL STREETS CLEAN

For more than 10 years, Collingwood Park resident Andy Brodersen has made an almost daily mission of collecting rubbish discarded along Collingwood Park, Redbank and Goodna streets.

Mr Brodersen, a proud member of the Lions International Service Club of Ipswich, dreams of a clean Ipswich and for everyone to take greater responsibility for their rubbish.

Division 3 Councillors Marnie Doyle and Andrew Fechner recently joined Mr Brodersen on his morning rubbish collecting walk and presented him with a new pair of 'litter grabbers' to assist his incredible efforts.

Councillor Andrew Fechner said Mr Brodersen, who collects up to 3,000 items of litter each week, is an invaluable community member.

"We cannot thank Andy enough for his tireless efforts, which sees him walk almost a marathon distance each week with his collection bags," Cr Fechner said.

Councillor Marnie Doyle said the 85-year-old, who is often accompanied on his litter collecting



Andy Brodersen and Cr Andrew Fechner

walks by wife Aase, has set a clear example for the community.

"I encourage everyone to follow Andy's lead and make sure we put our rubbish in the right place," Cr Doyle said.

Councillors Doyle and Fechner also provided new litter grabbers to dedicated Riverview Neighbour Watch volunteers who collect rubbish around Riverview.

Division 3 stretches from One Mile and Leichhardt in the west to parts of Redbank in the east, and includes Booval, Bundamba, Collingwood Park, Dinmore, Eastern Heights, Ebbw Vale, Newtown, North Booval, Riverview, Sadliers Crossing, Silkstone, Woodend and more.



IN BRIEF

Division 3 road maintenance

Keep an eye out for scheduled road works across Division 3 in the next months including Heather Street in Silkstone, Mary Street in Bundamba, Caroline and Ipswich streets in Riverview, Stafford Street in Booval, Whitlam Street in Collingwood Park and Fallon Court in Goodna. Local residents will be advised by council before the works commence.

Catching up with the councillors

In 2021, the Division 3 Councillors visited Springs Lifestyle Village in Silkstone and Redbank Palms in Redbank. Cr Andrew Fechner and Cr Marnie Doyle said these visits were great opportunities for senior residents to speak with their local government representatives and hear more about council works, projects and activities. Please contact your Division 3 councillors to arrange a visit in 2022.

Free heritage advice

Did you know council offers a free Heritage Advisor service to assist owners of historic Ipswich buildings? The Heritage Advisor is an experienced conservation architect. For convenience, they are available to meet on site with owners of historic properties. The service has been offered for almost three decades. For more information phone (07) 3810 7313.

THOUSANDS OF WEEDS REMOVED FROM BREMER BANKS

Landscapers have removed overgrown weeds and tidied the riverbank underneath the Bradfield Bridge that connects Tulumur Place to Riverlink Shopping Centre.

The work, which began in March, required concentrated removal of weeds along a 100 metre stretch of the Bremer River, including sections only accessible by rappelling in harnesses attached to fixed points higher on the bank for safety.

Division 3 Councillor Marnie Doyle said the revegetation works were part of council's ongoing Habitat Connections Program.

"A number of important waterways across Ipswich have been identified as priority areas for rehabilitation to enhance water quality as well as reduce erosion and flood damage," Cr Doyle said.

"Castor Oil, Leucaena and Glycine were among the weed species replaced with more than

4,000 native plants such as the endangered Swamp Tea Tree, Plunkett Mallee, Blue Gums, Lomandras, Bottlebrushes and Silky Oaks."

Division 3 Councillor Andrew Fechner said more than \$100,000 will be invested annually to improve riparian vegetation across Ipswich.

"The Habitat Connections program has undertaken dozens of strategic works across the city to beautify and restore our urban waterways and provide community tree planting opportunities within waterway corridors," Cr Fechner said.

"We must continue to manage and protect our waterway banks as a critical natural buffer against flooding and to help protect against new downstream weed infestations."

Long term, council plans to rehabilitate the entire town reach of the Bremer River by steadily working on sections of the riverbank over time.



Thousands of weeds have been removed from the banks of the Bremer River

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PARK OLLIE'S INTO FUTURE

Construction has begun on the Sutton Park Skate Facility.

Division 4 Councillor Russell Milligan said the skate park was identified under council's *Skate and BMX Strategy* for an upgrade.

"Council secured funding under the Unite and Recover Community Stimulus Package to be able to construct a new skate bowl along with associated facilities including a new amenities block, seating, shelters, pathways and safe city cameras," Cr Milligan said.

Division 4 Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said after

community consultation the final design incorporated feedback from skate park users.

"The final design was worked up by a specialist skate consultant featuring 20 elements and is available to see on Shape Your Ipswich," Cr Kunzelmann said.

"Demolition of the existing skate facility has started with construction of the new facility, amenities block and other works to commence in the new year."

This project was developed with the support of the Queensland Government in association with Ipswich City Council.

RURAL ROADS UPGRADED

Council has delivered \$1.63 million in road upgrades to Thagoona, Rosewood, Marburg and Walloon following advocacy by Division 4 Councillors for local residents and the community.

Rehabilitation and resurfacing works have been carried out on Banyula Road, Carara Avenue, Kanandah Court, Kipara Road and Haigslea Road in Thagoona; Yarrow Road in Rosewood; Edmond, Kennedy and Lawrence streets in Marburg; and Brushbox Place and Sharp Lane in Walloon.

An additional \$3.63 million in longer-term upgrades are set to follow for culvert replacement and road pavement reconstruction on Adelong Avenue in Thagoona.

Division 4 Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said independent assessments found this would deliver the best value for money.

"Council is standing by its commitment that established suburbs won't be left behind as Ipswich continues to grow," Cr Kunzelmann said.

Division 4 Councillor Russell Milligan said council was delivering the biggest boost to roads that locals have seen in years.

"Community feedback was a key driver for this significant investment. We've combined local input and expert assessments to ensure the best outcome," Cr Milligan said.

Council's \$26 million road maintenance and rehabilitation budget for 2020-2021 includes allocations to fill over 5,000 potholes, repair and resurface a network of over 1,500km of sealed roads, maintain about 260km of gravel roads, and ensure more than 26,000 streetlights are shining bright across the region.

FUNDING BOOST TO BLUE GUM RESERVE CHANGEROOMS

The Karalee Tornadoes Junior Rugby League Club can look forward to a \$620,000 upgrade to Blue Gum Reserve which will include new changerooms for home and away teams, and amenities for female players.

Division 4 Councillor Russell Milligan said the three-year project was in the concept design phase due to be completed by mid-2022, and construction was likely to start in late 2023.

"Additionally, a further \$100,000 has been allocated to council's works program to improve facilities at Karalee's Blue Gum Reserve," Cr Milligan said.

"These works for the reserve will improve the park's amenities, so games are a better experience for players, families and fans."

Division 4 Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said the modern amenities have been identified as a priority for council under the local parks and sport capital delivery program.

"The changerooms will be a welcome addition to the men's and women's



Crs Russell Milligan and Kate Kunzelmann with Karalee Tornadoes president Amy Huckel

teams that will play at the reserve and provide a pathway for juniors to play for Karalee Tornadoes' senior teams," Cr Kunzelmann said.

Council will deliver more than \$8.6 million from the 2021-22 Budget on new and existing parks and sports grounds across the city, plus upgrades, extensions and rehabilitation to other facilities.

Division 4 stretches from Woolshed in the west to Barellan Point in the east, and includes Rosewood, Brassall, Amberley, Pine Mountain, Yamanto, Karalee, Marburg and more.



IN BRIEF

Rosewood works start

An important upgrade is on the way for the Rosewood Showgrounds. The \$663,000 upgrade will include a new barbecue shelter and new amenities. Design for the works has been finalised, with construction expected to start in early 2022. Sections of the park will be unavailable during construction. Works are expected to be completed in time for next year's Rosewood Show on 24 and 25 June 2022.

Boost for clubs

Three community groups in Division 4 have received a boost after securing minor grant funding from council. The recipients were Agility Dog Club of Queensland to support classes - \$2,000, Anglican Parish of Rosewood for its community carols event - \$312.80, and STAR Community Services Ltd for its Break Down Barriers program - \$720. For more information about council grants, visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/grants

Island makes road safer

A pedestrian island and works at the intersection of Lawrence and Pine streets are set to improve pedestrian safety, as council rolls out its \$26 million road maintenance and rehabilitation program for 2021-22. Division 4 Councillors said council had listened to the community and provided important road safety measures including the refuge island, new traffic signs and landscaping around the intersection.

HISTORIC SULKY HEADS HOME

Ipswich City Council is donating a restored 130-year-old horse drawn sulky to the community of Marburg.

Division 4 Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said the sulky held historical significance to the local community.

"We are delighted to be able to donate this wonderful historical item back to Marburg, with the Marburg and District Residents Association taking the reins," Cr Kunzelmann said.

"There is a builder's plaque on the back seat showing it had been made in Marburg by the town's blacksmith, Julius Otto Ernst, who had migrated from Germany and was a skilled coachbuilder.

"The sulky has been restored and is ready to go straight on display."

Division 4 Councillor Russell Milligan said the Marburg Sulky will help to bring visitors to Marburg and in turn deliver economic benefits for the wider community.

"Marburg residents have done a great job of turning their town into an ideal day trip destination. This addition to their heritage precinct will allow people to see a snapshot of what life was like a century ago," Cr Milligan said.

"The sulky was originally owned by the Lane family of Lanefield. The story goes that it was built for Elizabeth Lane to get around and it stayed in the family for generations until 2000, when it was sold to a collector.

"This important artifact, with great historical significance, will now be returned to the people of Marburg."



Cr Milligan and Cr Kunzelmann with the Marburg Sulky

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Community Matters

Catch up with your Councillors



Easily catch up with your Councillors in your local area.

- Invite your divisional Councillors to your next community, sport or club meeting.
- Book an appointment to meet at your local library branch – Springfield Central, Redbank Plains and Rosewood.
- Attend a local community catch up in your area.

To organise a meeting email council@ipswich.qld.gov.au or call (07) 3810 6666.

For the full list of locations, dates and times visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/communitymatters or call (07) 3810 6666.



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