



The community cleans up at North Booval after the flood

## Welcome to the Autumn edition of your council newsletter *Community Matters*.

**Late in February 2022, sustained rain created widespread flooding across Ipswich that required a massive disaster and recovery response.**

Residents from Springfield to Rosewood are still rebuilding after the 2020 Halloween hailstorm and the community as a whole continues to be impacted by the global pandemic. The February-March flood is yet another challenge nature has thrown our way.

Many low-lying areas in suburbs across Ipswich were flood-impacted and Council's immediate concern was with the health and wellbeing of residents in those areas.

I am the Chair of the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) as set out in the *Disaster Management Act 2003*, and liaised with government and frontline agencies to manage resources and information to ensure the disaster operations were coordinated in the most expedient and efficient way between all first

responders to keep our community safe.

The LDMG stood up an evacuation centre while Council directed resources from all departments to support flood impacted areas.

The community was able to stay informed via Council's Disaster Dashboard, where emergency alerts, weather warnings and road closures were reported, and residents were able to self-report damage and request a wash-out of their home.

As the flood waters receded, the LDMG began to coordinate the enormous clean-up which saw about 10,000 tonnes of waste removed from the city as well as Council's refuse centres free to use for more than 8,500 visitors for three weeks.

The Australian Defence Force also put hundreds of boots on the ground in Ipswich along with heavy machinery to assist with the cleanup, removing about 520 truckloads of waste from flood-impacted streets.

Council created a flood recovery page on its website which became a one-stop-shop for information on financial support, waste collection services, volunteering and safety.

Inspections of food premises were undertaken so businesses could reopen their doors as soon as

possible, and an extensive mosquito treatment program was rolled out across Ipswich.

As the recovery continues for flood-impacted suburbs, Council is continuing to identify recovery priorities through community consultation and guide decisions about resource allocation and management of projects with a medium to long-term view on recovery.

I ask that we be kind to each other as we recover from the flood.

Autumn is a great time of year to get out and about and Council is proud to present many events and entertainment for you to enjoy.

We are gearing up for celebration of all things aviation, rail and auto at the Planes, Trains and Autos event on Saturday 30 April.

The Ipswich Art Awards, the foremost visual arts awards for the Ipswich region, will acknowledge emerging and established artists.

The exhibition will be open from 21 to 29 May.

*Mayor Teresa Harding*

## BUSINESSES SUPPORTED

**Ipswich businesses impacted by recent floods can turn to council's dedicated website offering a range of support and information.**

Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding said the Business Ipswich flood resources page provides details on recovery topics including financial and mental health support as well as volunteer information.

"Our businesses are the engine room of the local economy, and many are still reeling from the impact of damage or lost

income due to floodwaters," Mayor Harding said.

"When floodwaters receded, council officers went door-to-door to assess the individual needs of these flood-impacted businesses.

"Council is providing ongoing support our community, and our recovery assistance page contains vital information and services as local businesses of all sizes work hard to get back on their feet."

Visit [Businessipswich.com.au](http://Businessipswich.com.au) or contact council's Office of Economic Development for more information.

## ROAD UPGRADE TAKES SHAPE

**Work on council's largest road upgrade on one of the region's busiest routes connecting one of the highest population growth corridors in South East Queensland is progressing well with early works almost complete (stage 1) and stage 1 and 3 civil works about to start.**

The \$46 million upgrade and duplication of the Springfield Greenbank Arterial and Springfield Parkway will widen the roads from two to four lanes with upgrades also for intersections, stormwater, other utilities, lighting, cycle pathways, landscaping and the duplication of Opossum Creek Bridge.

Stage 1 and 3 civil works will see the Springfield Parkway just north of Hymba Yumba to the Centenary Motorway on ramp and Greenbank Arterial to Sinnathamby Boulevard upgraded from two lanes to four lanes.

The Redbank Plains Road upgrade is also ramping up in coming months.



Mayor Teresa Harding at the Springfield Greenbank Arterial and Springfield Parkway site

Early works to relocate services are currently underway on the duplication of Redbank Plains Road from two to four lanes between Keidges Road and Kruger Parade.

Once these relocation works have been completed, main construction works will follow in the second quarter of 2022.

The Springfield Parkway and Springfield Greenbank Arterial upgrade and Redbank Plains Road upgrade is proudly funded by the Queensland Government through the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS), and Ipswich City Council.

## ADVOCATING FOR IPSWICH

**With unprecedented growth comes great opportunity. As our vibrant city expands to over half a million people in the next 20 years, now is the chance to work with all levels of government to invest and get our infrastructure right.**

The upcoming Federal Government election presents an opportunity for council to advocate for support and funding of priority projects.

- Ipswich to Springfield Central Public Transport Corridor (I2S)
- Ipswich Central Second River Crossing (Norman St Bridge)
- Ebenezer Regional Industrial Area (ERIA)
- Waste and Circular Economy Transformation
- Critical and Enabling Infrastructure including Amberley Interchange, Mt Crosby Interchange and Ripley roads.

I2S, a second river crossing and enabling infrastructure will transform how we move around the city.

ERIA will open up new and diverse economic and employment opportunities.

Waste and Circular Economy Transformation will protect our residential amenity.

Collaboration on these priority projects is a driver of success for the Ipswich region and council is committed to working with the Federal and State government as Ipswich grows.

Council recognises the opportunity that the 2032 Olympics and Paralympics brings to attract further Government investment, particularly in the North Ipswich Sport and Entertainment Precinct.

The event may only be a few weeks of sport, but it leaves a generation of legacy for our city.

Spanning an area of 1,090 square kilometres, Ipswich is home to more than 240,000 residents and counting making it the fastest-growing city in Queensland.



## KERBSIDE COLLECTION RESCHEDULED

### Decluttering of homes, garages and sheds has been happening across Ipswich since the large item kerbside collection began in January 2022.

The collection teams have been moving through different Ipswich suburbs for one week, each week, and will continue until 15 July.

Weeks seven through to 10 were postponed due to the flood, with waste collection resources allocated to support Ipswich's worst flood-impacted areas. Those scheduled suburbs will be collected in June and July as per the revised schedule.

Council is pleased to be able to offer this popular service to residents free of charge.

We know our community highly values this suburb-by-suburb service with 2,611 tonnes of household waste collected from 32,974 households during the last kerbside collection in 2019, and we are on track to exceed that this year.

The collection service will run across all the suburbs of Ipswich, passing about 86,603 households.

The community has really gotten behind this service and ensuring they are only putting out items that can be accepted by crews.

In the first few weeks of collections there were only 19 unacceptable items out of about 3,500 collections, so that shows people are doing the right thing.

There are many reasons why this service is so successful but one of the drivers of council implementing it is so we can make sure all residents can remove large waste items from their homes, as some of our residents may not be able to carry large items or have access to an appropriate vehicle to carry these items to a Waste Transfer Station.

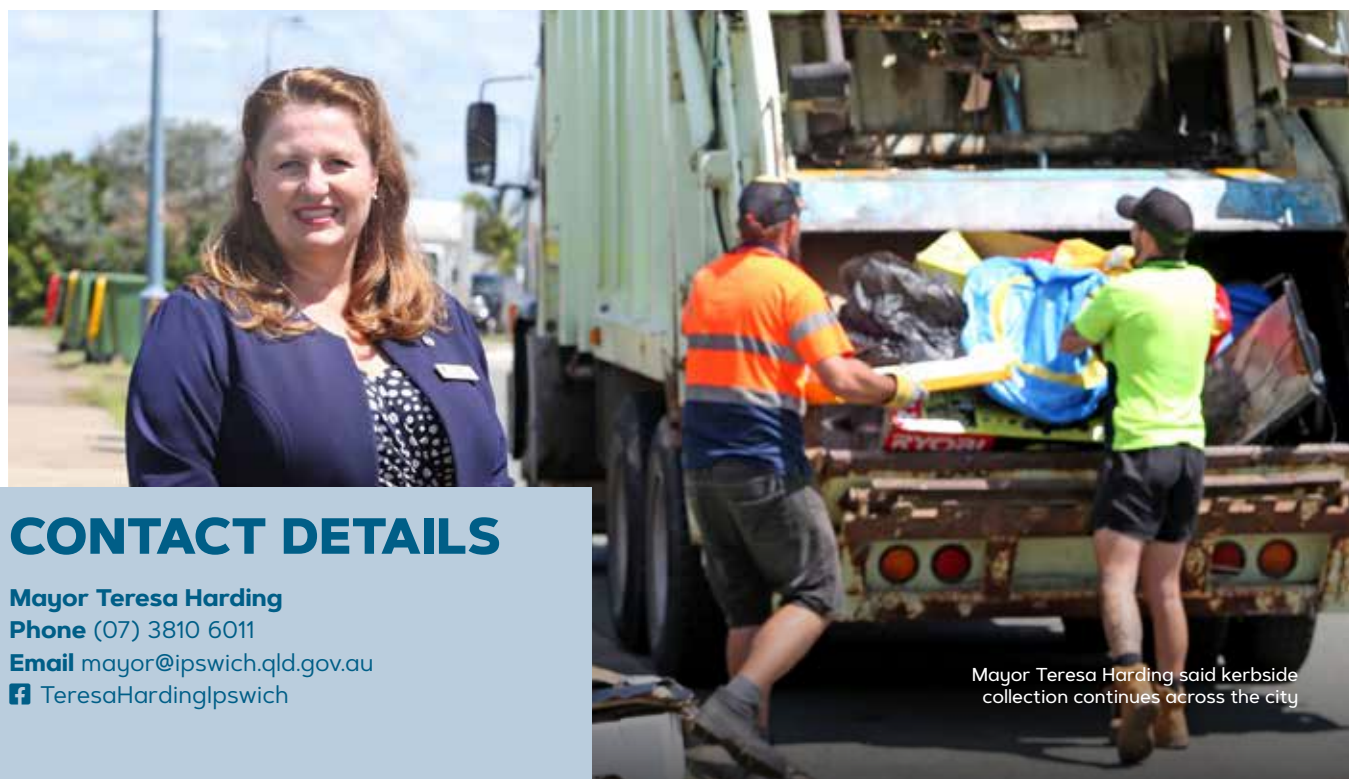
Check council's website to see when collection teams will be in your suburb and to find out what is an acceptable item and an unacceptable item.

Ensure you don't put items out more than a week before the date of collection and do not exceed a small-box-trailer-sized pile.

Keep the pile tidy, the roadway clear and items should be able to be safely lifted by two people.

### Remaining weeks:

2 May	Redbank Plains
9 May	Bellbird Park, Spring Mountain
16 May	Augustine Heights, Gailes, Redbank
23 May	Goodna
30 May	Camira, Carole Park
6 June	Brookwater, Springfield, Springfield Central
13 June	Springfield Lakes
20 June	Flinders View, Yamanto
27 June	Basin Pocket, Blackstone, East Ipswich, Eastern Heights, Ipswich CBD, West Ipswich
4 July	Booval, Newtown, North Booval, Silkstone
11 July	Raceview



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Mayor Teresa Harding said kerbside collection continues across the city

## RESURFACING PLANNED

**Repairs followed by resurfacing works will be undertaken on Robertson Road after extensive construction works were completed on South Station Road to smooth and strengthen the road's natural soil base.**

Councillor Jacob Madsen said works will take place between South Station Road and near Kiah Street.

"Once completed, this series of local works will ensure one of our city's busiest routes can cope with the increasing day-to-day journeys of our growing community," Cr Madsen said.

A detour during the upgrade of the roundabout with South Station Road directed traffic along Wildey Street to Cascade Street, increasing traffic on Nolan and Petaine streets.

Councillor Sheila Ireland said the flood impacted the timeline of the works, exacerbating traffic changes for local residents.

"I thank residents and road users for their patience during the works, as council continues to upgrade its existing network to keep pace with Ipswich's booming population," Cr Ireland said.

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

## NEW SKATE PARK ON WAY

**It is an exciting time for local skateboarding enthusiasts with preliminary earthworks underway for the new Redbank Plains Skate Park at Redbank Plains Recreation Reserve.**

The works are part of council's BMX Facilities Strategy, with the upgrade to Redbank Plains Skate Park being identified through this strategy.

The community was also called on last year to help design the new skate park and provide feedback.

Councillor Jacob Madsen said the current skate park had reached its end of life.

"It's an exciting time for our skateboarding community as the works for the new skate park at Redbank Plains are now underway," Cr Madsen said.

"Some of the exciting upgrades include a quarter pipe, flat bank, volcano, waterfall, flat bar, circulation bar, footpath and seating, and I can't wait to see residents enjoying the upgraded facility once complete."



The final Redbank Plains Skate Park design

Councillor Sheila Ireland said most respondents showed a preference for transition-based elements and a park style bowl.

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

"I thank the community for taking the time to provide feedback to help us formulate the final design for this exciting new attraction."

For more information and to see the final design visit [Shapeyouripswich.com.au](http://Shapeyouripswich.com.au)

## HARDINGS HUT READY FOR GROUPS

**Groups are now able to book the new Hardings Paddock Community Hut, located on the doorstep of the sprawling Flinders-Goolman Conservation Estate.**

The Hut was developed with the support of the Queensland Government's Unite and Recover Stimulus Package in association with council's Enviroplan program.

Division 1 Councillor Sheila Ireland said the off-the-grid facility was a fantastic venue for a range of uses, such as school and education groups, meetings and small functions.

"Hardings Paddock is one of the best access points to explore rugged volcanic peaks, and is perfect for bird watching, family-friendly walks along the Bush Tucker Trail, mountain bike and horse riding as well as offering low-cost camping facilities," Cr Ireland said.

Division 1 Councillor Jacob Madsen said the Hut, constructed late last year, is self-sufficient with a wastewater treatment system, solar power, offices and kitchenette.

The Hut will be available for public use from May. Groups can make bookings through [Ipswich.qld.gov.au/parkssearch](http://Ipswich.qld.gov.au/parkssearch)

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

### Grants up for grabs

Council funding and support is available now to your community initiative or partnership, from Minor Funding to Events Sponsorship. Council is committed to supporting community initiatives and partnerships that encourage participation in community life, foster social cohesion, celebrate culture and diversity, and contribute to a vibrant, healthy and sustainable city. For more information visit [lpswich.qld.gov.au/services/funding](http://lpswich.qld.gov.au/services/funding)

### Upgrade for playground

New softfall has been installed at the playground at Sovereign Park at Deebing Heights. A total of 105 cubic metres of organic softfall was removed and replaced, giving the park a fresh look while also providing a safer landing. The bright new softfall is now ready for Ipswich's youngest residents. The upgrade was completed in December 2021.

### FOGO Trial reducing landfill

Council's Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) Trial has been running for five months in Bellbird Park and Raceview, aiming to reduce the volume of organic waste ending up in landfill. To date, 288 tonnes of FOGO material has been collected, of which 78 tonnes was accepted for processing with 65 per cent of residents participating. For more information visit [lpswich.qld.gov.au/live/waste-and-recycling/fogo-trial](http://lpswich.qld.gov.au/live/waste-and-recycling/fogo-trial)

## ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING UNLOCKED

### Council is commencing designs for Ripley Road.

A previous resolution was repealed in January, allowing council to consider funding and delivery of infrastructure within the Ripley Valley Priority Development Area (PDA).

Division 1 Councillor Jacob Madsen said unlocking funding to build transport infrastructure is key to servicing a rapidly growing population.

"By repealing the Ripley Valley Priority Development Area Trunk Infrastructure Provision, council can commence planning and design for the upgrade Ripley Road adjacent to the old township," Cr Madsen said.

"While sections of Ripley Road have been upgraded by the rapid growth in the valley and constructed by the responsible developers, this section has been left in its original state and is in desperate need of being upgraded."

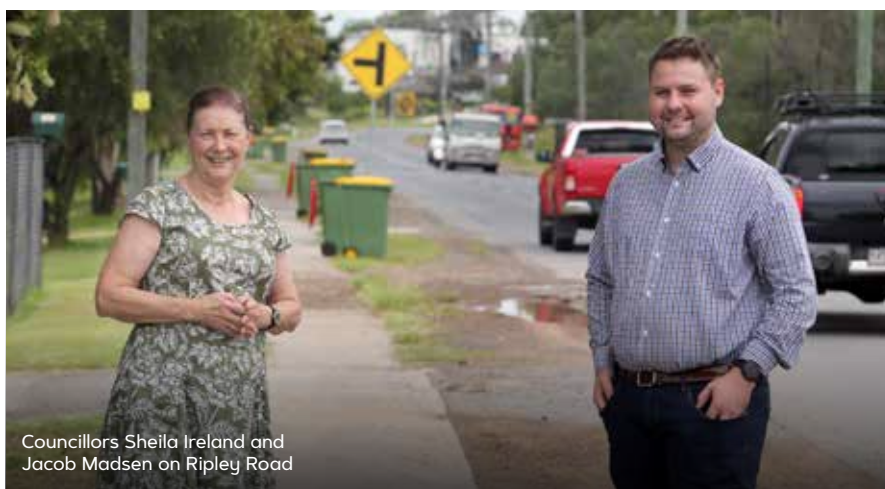
Division 1 Councillor Sheila Ireland said council has taken action after feedback from the community.

"Council wants to find the best way we can to deliver upgrades to Ripley Road between Trigona Drive and Binnies Road along the length of the original Ripley town," Cr Ireland said.

"Residents want to move forward and we want to address any safety concerns, facilitate growth and find a way to get this section of road upgraded as quickly as possible."

The PDA is managed by the State Government department, Economic Development Queensland (EDQ).

In 2017, council adopted the Ripley Priority Development Area Trunk Infrastructure Provision that meant all trunk infrastructure be delivered and funded from the Ripley PDA Municipal charges or a catalyst funding allocation by EDQ.



Councillors Sheila Ireland and Jacob Madsen on Ripley Road

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## RECOVERY HUB ONLINE

**The Goodna Flood Recovery Hub supported residents who needed urgent assistance with housing, Centrelink and both financial and emotional support during the immediate days and weeks after the flood event.**

Deputy Mayor and Division 2 Councillor Nicole Jonic said council was still working hard to provide ongoing support to the community as the city's flood recovery continues.

"In March we were thankful for visits by Queensland Governor Dr Jeannette Young and State Recovery Coordinator Major General Ellwood, alongside invaluable help from the Australian Defence Force cleaning properties alongside residents, volunteers and council crews," said Cr Jonic.

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully said he appreciated the recovery was far from over for the flood-impacted community and that help is just a mouse click away.

"Cr Jonic and I were both personally impacted by the 2011 floods, so we understand what people are going through and encourage residents, community groups and not-for-profit organisations to access help at [Ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery](http://Ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery) and businesses to check the available resources on [BusinessIpswich.com.au](http://BusinessIpswich.com.au)," Cr Tully said.

Residents may also call the council call centre on (07) 3810 6666 for flood recovery assistance.

## HELP DESIGN NEW PLAYGROUND

**Have your say in the second round of the community consultation process for Richardson Park playground upgrade via Shape Your Ipswich, when the design is released for community feedback this month.**

Earlier this year, council asked residents to suggest ideas to help shape the design of the new playground which overlooks the Brisbane River and is adjacent to Brisbane Terrace, Goodna.

Deputy Mayor and Division 2 Councillor Nicole Jonic said round two is an exciting opportunity for the community to see how their ideas for Richardson Park have been incorporated into the design and to provide feedback.

"I encourage residents to take part in round two and tell us what you think about the new playground design," Cr Jonic said.

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully said community feedback will help council ensure that the upgrade



Richardson Park at Goodna

of Richardson Park reflects our residents' vision for the park.

"As we grow to a population of half a million, it's more important than ever that we have two-way conversations on important projects like Richardson Park," Cr Tully said.

Keep updated at [ShapeyourIpswich.com.au/projects](http://ShapeyourIpswich.com.au/projects)

## FREE TREES BEAUTIFY BELLBIRD PARK

**More than two-dozen Pale Pink Trumpet Trees have been planted along Jones Road and Radcliffe Court in Bellbird Park as part of council's Street Tree Program.**

Deputy Mayor and Division 2 Councillor Nicole Jonic said council regularly undertakes street planting to shape a more sustainable city.

"These 25 trees are part of council's Urban Forest Policy, which offsets trees that have been removed as part of construction works or maintenance of parks and recreation areas," Cr Jonic said.

"The program plants trees within streetscape design guidelines and considers things like the location of powerlines overhead, underground services and site distances."

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully said council is proud to have a program that allows residents to request free trees to plant on their property.

"I encourage residents to request a free tree as they not only add to the visual appeal of our neighbourhood but also provide cleaner air as well as cooler, greener and more comfortable pathways for walking and cycling," Cr Tully said.

Check the Beautiful Ipswich Projects website to request a tree or to see if your street is part of the program.

Division 2 stretches from Gables 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

### Camira bus stop on the move

A bus stop upgrade is on the way for Old Logan Road Camira to improve visibility for motorists at the intersection of Hallett Avenue. The works include the construction of a larger bus shelter 40m south of the current location, concrete hardstand, connecting footpath, Disability Discrimination Act compliant seating, new signage, and turfing. The works, funded by the State Government under the PTAIP Program, started earlier this month.

### Free plants on offer

As an Ipswich resident you are entitled to six free plants every financial year under council's Free Plant Program. You may collect your free plants every Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday from Queens Park Nursery by bringing along your current rates notice or driver's licence. For more information visit [ipswich.qld.gov.au](http://ipswich.qld.gov.au) and search Free Plant Program.

### Springfield upgrade on track

The \$46 million upgrade and duplication of the Springfield Greenbank Arterial and Springfield Parkway has hit the midway mark. Stage 2 is now progressing and will see the Springfield Parkway from Topaz Road to just north of Hymba Yumba Indigenous Community Hub upgraded from two lanes to four. The upgrade is funded by the Queensland Government through the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS), and Ipswich City Council.

## SPRINGFIELD STADIUM PROJECT LIGHTING UP

**Construction has entered an exciting phase on Ipswich's newest major sporting venue at Springfield Central ahead of its opening in late-2022.**

Building structures and roofing are complete on Brighton Homes Arena, that will be the new home of the Brisbane Lions.

Deputy Mayor and Division 2 Councillor Nicole Jonic said preparations are being made for the installation of light towers to support AFL Women's matches for the 2022/23 summer season.

"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 matches," Cr Jonic said.

"Local businesses are set to benefit considerably from the thousands of spectators visiting the stadium as well as the national broadcast

exposure of each game played at the Lions new home fortress."

Division 2 Councillor Paul Tully said the world-class stadium project will aim to shape further development in one of the fastest growing regions in Queensland.

"Brighton Homes Arena in Springfield Central will be Queensland's best sports training complex and the first purpose-built arena in Australia for the flourishing AFL Women's league," Cr Tully said.

"The new den of the Brisbane Lions will inspire a new pride of future AFL stars from Ipswich as local athletes look forward to the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games."

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.



Cr Paul Tully and Cr Nicole Jonic at the stadium construction site

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## ROAD UPGRADE UNDERWAY

**Significant roadworks on a 700-metre section of Stafford Street, Booval between Brisbane and Glebe roads are ongoing after construction began earlier this year.**

Division 3 Councillor Marnie Doyle said the significant \$1.8 million works would deliver needed improvements for residents and road users.

"The project involves road repairs and resurfacing, line marking, constructing kerbing and gutters, lowering water services, and installing stormwater drains," Cr Doyle said.

Division 3 Councillor Andrew Fechner said the works had temporarily impacted access to properties and caused some traffic delays.

"We thank local residents, businesses and other road users for their patience during these works that include road closures, interruption of services, machinery noise and night works," Cr Fechner said.

To view council works happening near you visit [Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects)

## RIVERVIEW REVVING UP FOR CAR SHOW

**Riverview Neighbourhood Watch volunteers are working hard to prepare for Muscle in Maculata 2022 – a celebration of classic and customised motor vehicles, markets, and music in Riverview.**

Division 3 Councillor Andrew Fechner said the annual event began in 2016 after residents expressed concerns about hooning across the suburb.

"Seven years on, this event is a wonderful opportunity for owners to showcase their special vehicles and has become a much-anticipated date for car enthusiasts from near and far," Cr Fechner said.

Division 3 Councillor Marnie Doyle said Riverview Neighbourhood Watch had created an inclusive, family-friendly day which was a deserved Community Event of the Year finalist at council's 2022 Ipswich Australia Day Awards.

"Families from as far as the Gold Coast flock to marvel at four-wheeled treasures residing in our city's garages with this year's event expecting more than 100 display



Event organisers Amanda and Jocelyne with Cr Andrew Fechner and Cr Marnie Doyle

vehicles and 1,000 spectators," Cr Doyle said.

The free event will take place Sunday 15 May at Maculata Family Park, Riverview.

Local community groups and businesses who would like to hold a stall at this year's event can contact Riverview Neighbourhood Watch at [riverviewnhw4303@gmail.com](mailto:riverviewnhw4303@gmail.com)

## HELP ONLINE

**A 'one-stop shop' for Ipswich residents and businesses to access important flood recovery information is available on council's website.**

Division 3 Councillor Marnie Doyle said the online hub has brought together information on accessing financial and other support as well as how to donate to help those still in need.

"Almost half of our division's twenty-two suburbs, including Basin Pocket, Booval, Bundamba, East Ipswich, Ipswich Central, Leichhardt, North Booval, One Mile, and West Ipswich were impacted by floodwaters," Cr Doyle said.

"The devastation caused by the flood was terrible for so many but it was wonderful to see our community respond so quickly and genuinely to lend a hand to those in crisis.

"With initial recovery efforts complete, council is working to provide ongoing support to residents and business owners and operators whose properties and businesses were inundated.

Division 3 Councillor Andrew Fechner said council's website will continue to be updated as Ipswich's flood recovery continues.

"Council has gathered helpful information all in one place to help make recovering from one of our city's worst floods just that little bit easier," Cr Fechner said.

"Residents and businesses across Division 3 – some facing the fourth flood of their lives – have shown incredible resilience during these difficult times."

Flood Recovery information can be accessed at [ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery](https://ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery)



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

### Big change for Bottle Alley

Expressions of interests have now closed for artists to submit their concepts for reimagining one of the city's largest canvases, Bottle Alley – a heritage CBD thoroughfare dating back to the 1860s. The alley's unique 60-metre canvas could be utilised through a combination of mediums including mural, sculpture, digital and light. Shortlisted artists will be notified soon, with the installation of new artwork expected later this year.

### Feedback shapes playground

Earlier this year council asked Ipswich residents to share their ideas on the forthcoming upgrade of Cameron Park, Booval. Thanks to strong community response we have a diverse range of options and opinions for the project that will be explored through the design process. The upgrade of the playground, parking and amenities is scheduled to start later this year. Follow the project at [Shapeyouripswich.com.au/cameron-park-upgrade](http://Shapeyouripswich.com.au/cameron-park-upgrade)

### Silkstone traffic island installed

A new traffic island and kerb ramps were recently installed at the junction of Coolibah Street and Blackstone Road, Silkstone to provide a safer intersection for all road users. The busy intersection and footpath is near bus stops, Silkstone State School and the Silkstone Village Shopping Centre, with the upgrade works undertaken through council's \$26 million road maintenance and rehabilitation program for 2021-22.

## BIG YEAR FOR NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT

**The Nicholas Street Precinct continues to grow and establish itself as the city's leading business, leisure, entertainment, and cultural destination.**

Construction works continue to progress and preparations are underway to welcome national brand retailers.

Metro B, located on the corner of Nicholas Street and Union Place, is nearing completion and will host a bespoke digital projector wall which will illuminate the new façade.

This building will form the main restaurant and outdoor dining area of the Nicholas Street Precinct and feature an internal mall of service centred retailers, as well as a walkthrough to Bell Street and the Ipswich Train Station.

Councillor Marnie Doyle said big changes are coming to the precinct in 2022 with That Dumpling Place, Gelatissimo, and Sushi Hyo scheduled to open and Terry White Chemmart relocating from its current location in the precinct

to a larger, more centrally located footprint.

"This is just the beginning, and we look forward to making more exciting announcements about the precinct in the months ahead," Cr Doyle said.

Councillor Andrew Fechner said complementing the incoming new retailers, the Commonwealth Hotel is an important connection to our city's heritage with detailed plans to bring this iconic establishment back to its former glory, which when combined with an operating cinema complex will support continued growth.

"The city's much-loved Murphy's Pub will continue to be revitalised in the \$250 million Nicholas Street Precinct after AusHotels signed on as the new operator of the iconic pub," Cr Fechner said.

"With the community's support, this dining hub will become the go-to destination for a mix of food and beverage venues, and I encourage residents to support these businesses as they continue to open."



Councillors Andrew Fechner and Marnie Doyle in the Nicholas Street Precinct

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## COMMUNITY DESIGNED SKATE PARK NEARS COMPLETION

**Construction of the Sutton Park Skate Facility is well underway, with completion of the project expected early next month.**

In late 2020, council asked for community input on the Sutton Park Skate Facility, with the design for the new facility incorporating feedback received via a Shape Your Ipswich survey.

Not only will the new facility be larger than the existing skate park, but it will include floating ledge seating, drinking fountain, additional Safe City cameras, several shelters, viewing

platforms, jumps, quarter pipe, and landscaping.

The upgraded design also includes 2.5m wide *Disability Discrimination Act* compliant path entries, access stairs with handrail, and 4m x 4m shelter with equitable access picnic setting.

Drainage issues experienced in the old skate bowl will also be rectified during the upgrade.

Sutton Park Skate Facility Upgrade is a joint initiative between Ipswich City Council and the Queensland Government.

## INNOVATIVE PROGRAM UPSKILLING STUDENTS

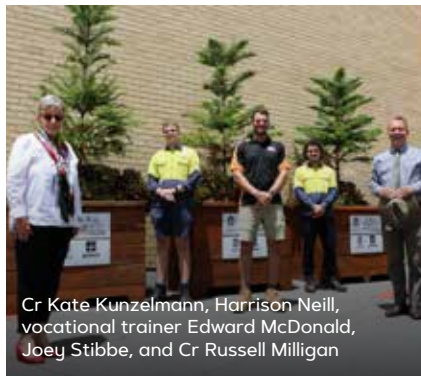
**A first of its kind collaboration between council and Ipswich State High School has seen students gain real-world design and construction experience while visually improving the CBD.**

Woodwork and horticulture students created planter boxes for Ipswich Central last school semester, with the opportunity to expand the initiative to larger projects.

Division 4 Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said the project came from a conversation about how council could form a partnership that provided outcomes for students and the community.

"Seeing the students being involved in projects to revitalise the city and working together with council is a fantastic achievement," Cr Kunzelmann said.

"The skills experience will be invaluable to students as they move into the workforce, and also engender a sense of belonging to their community."



Cr Kate Kunzelmann, Harrison Neill, vocational trainer Edward McDonald, Joey Stibbe, and Cr Russell Milligan

Division 4 Councillor Russell Milligan said the school-based trade training centre in Brassall is one of the largest in the state and a real asset to Ipswich.

"It is wonderful to be part of such an outstanding initiative with this partnership that has been developed between council and the local high school," Cr Milligan said.

Three planter boxes have been placed in Bell Street and more are expected to be installed in Tulmur Place this year.

## LOCAL DISASTER AND RECOVERY GROUPS EXPLAINED

**When a natural disaster or large-scale emergency impacts Ipswich, council activates two key groups to coordinate life-saving resources and the city's recovery.**

The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) manages operations across the Ipswich region and forms part of Disaster Management Queensland which enables the escalation of assistance up to the federal level.

Local Resilience and Recovery Group (LRRG) Chairperson Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said she leads the vital LDMG sub group that helps the community get back on its feet after a disaster.

"The group coordinates community support and information to get our city through to the other side of disaster events and back to a sense of normality as quickly as possible," Cr Kunzelmann said.

"It is always a big team effort to keep the community safe and informed, especially during the recent floods which inundated almost 600 properties and impacted thousands of residents and business."

LRRG Deputy Chairperson Councillor Russell Milligan said council's Disaster Coordination Centre was a hive of activity during the recent floods.

"The centre brought together representatives from the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Service and various State Government departments to best respond to and recover from one of our city's worst floods," Cr Milligan said.

For more information about council's Disaster Management Governance visit [Ipswich.qld.gov.au/services/emergency\\_management](https://www.ipswich.qld.gov.au/services/emergency_management)

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

### Track local works online

To learn about major construction projects, upcoming projects and roadworks happening near you, check out council's Civic Projects interactive maps. The free online tool includes three base maps - an aerial photography, grayscale and coloured general street maps overlaid with property boundaries - that detail planned, active and recently completed works across the city. To access these maps visit [Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects](https://Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects)

### Local fish stocks boosted

As part of council's plan to improve Ipswich's waterways, about 2,000 Mary River cod were released into the Bremer River catchment to increase native fish populations. The adult cod will improve the river's diversity by preying on pests such as tilapia and carp. Annual releases will continue, and it is hoped there will eventually be a self-sufficient cod population in the catchment.

### Muirlea road improvements

Upgrades including line marking, road widening, installation of new drainage pipes, kerbing and gutters, as well as repairing road shoulders and guard rails are underway on sections of Pine Mountain and Pine Mountain Connection roads. Due to partial lane closures and traffic controls, slight delays are expected until the end of this month when the works are completed, weather permitting.

## NEW FACILITIES FOR HISTORIC SHOWGROUNDS

**The final stages of construction works are underway on a new modern combined amenities block and barbecue shelter at the historic Rosewood Showgrounds.**

Division 4 Councillor Kate Kunzelmann said that the need for modern facilities was identified in conjunction with the Rosewood community.

"Mayor Teresa Harding, Councillor Russell Milligan and I met with the Rosewood Show Society and Rosewood Lions to discuss the location and layout of the facility," Cr Kunzelmann said.

"The old barbecue shelter has been demolished and construction of the new barbecue shelter and combined amenities block are expected to be completed in May, depending on weather."

Division 4 Councillor Russell Milligan said current amenities at the Rosewood Showgrounds had

been identified as part of council's asset rehabilitation program for replacement.

"Once built, the combined amenities block will have male, female and person with disability toilets and showers and a laundry room," Cr Milligan said.

"The new facility also includes a new barbecue shelter with barbecues and picnic tables. A new pathway will be installed joining the barbecue shelter and amenities block to the cultural hall and the car park.

"Council will continue to invest in improving infrastructure throughout Ipswich, with these new facilities supporting both local users and visitors to the Rosewood Showgrounds for years to come."

A fenced construction zone is in place and there may be increased local noise from construction equipment and vehicles during the works.



New facilities are on the way for Rosewood Showgrounds

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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](mailto: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](http://ipswich.qld.gov.au/communitymatters) or call (07) 3810 6666.



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