

Ellerton Drive extension and Old Cooma Road upgrade complete

The 4.6-kilometre extension of Ellerton Drive connects Queanbeyan East with Karabar, Jerrabomberra and Googong and includes a new bridge crossing of the Queanbeyan River. The bridge is designed to provide a safe crossing of the river even in a one-in-100 year flood event.

The extension helps reduce traffic congestion and heavy vehicles travelling through the Queanbeyan CBD, and allow Council to progress the transformation and revitalisation of the city centre. Motorists will save 35 per cent travel time compared to travelling through the main street of Queanbeyan and avoid up to 19 intersections, three sets of traffic signals and the 50 km/h speed limit through Queanbeyan.

700 metres of existing Ellerton Drive was also upgraded, and pedestrians and cyclists can enjoy the 2.5-metre-wide shared path along the whole length of the road. The project also included six fauna pathways and fauna exclusion fencing.

The \$86 million project started construction in November 2017 and was opened to traffic early July 2020. The project was jointly funded by the Australian Government, NSW Government and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council.

The Old Cooma Road project was funded by the NSW Government Monaro Palerang Roads Package, which also included funding for the Nerriga Road construction and Bungendore roundabout. The project has duplicated 4.5km of road, with two lanes in each direction, as well as having provision for cyclists and a 2.5 metre off road shared path. The duplicated road improves the connections and safety for Googong, Burra and surrounding communities.



L to R - Paul Toole MP, Mayor Tim Overall, Auntie Matilda House, John Barilaro MP, Senator Perin Davey and Senator Jim Molan cut the ribbon

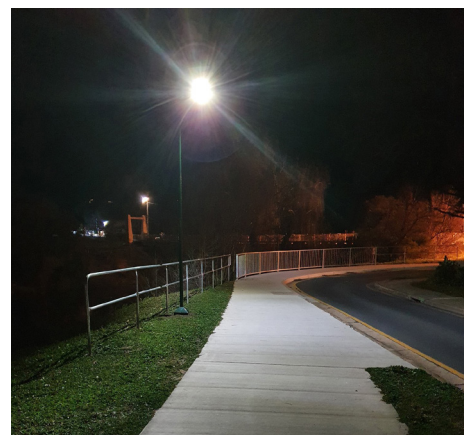


A 2.5m-wide shared path is available the full length of the new Ellerton Drive

IN THIS ISSUE:

- » Rusten House restoration
- » Queanbeyan STP upgrade
- » Cr Peter Bray retires
- » Hope Marland Park upgrade coming soon

Solar light trial



We are trialling a new solar path light on the Queanbeyan river walk. It is located on the corner of Collett and Isabella Streets, and lights a dark section of path between the suspension bridge and the start of the Collett St street lighting.

We will be assessing the performance of the solar powered 10watt LED lamp over the next few months.

Any problems with street lights should be reported to Essential Energy, which can be done on their website at www.essentialenergy.com.au/outages-and-faults/streetlight-faults

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR, TIM OVERALL

It was my great pleasure and pride to be a part of the opening of the Ellerton Drive extension in July. This is a project that has been in the making since the 1970s, supported in some form by eight successive councils and it is great to see the project complete, saving our community travel time and giving flood-safe access over our beautiful Queanbeyan River.

While COVID-19 is having an impact on our lives, Council's major projects have fortunately been able to continue. Work continues on Stage 3 of the Nerriga Road construction at Durran Durra, and we have begun the Burra Road "s bends" and Bungendore roundabout projects.



Follow us on social media



Sign up for our weekly e-News at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au



Have your say at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au

First quarter rates and water notices - August



Following advice from the NSW Office of Local Government, Council will be delaying the distribution of first quarter rates and water notices for the 2020-21 financial year. Rates and water notices will now be sent by mid-August (instead of July) with first quarter payments due on 30 September 2020.

At this stage, future instalment periods will not change.

Council's customer service centres are currently not accepting cash. Residents can pay online or over the phone with a credit card by calling 1300 730 701 (NAB secure credit card line). Cash payments are being accepted at Australia Post.

On our website, you can register to receive your rates and water notices electronically, as well as apply for rate relief if you are experiencing financial difficulty due to COVID-19, drought, bushfires or any other matter. Go to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/rates-and-payments

New adult change table in Braidwood

The Jerrabomberra Rotary Club has been successful in gaining \$60,500 in funding through the NSW Government's Community Building Partnership Program to install an adult change table at the amenities facility in Rylie Park, Braidwood.

The new change table will be installed in the existing disabled toilet and provide a new teenager and adult automated change table and associated hoist.

Waste calendars online

Waste calendars for the 2020-21 financial year are available on our website for download and printing. Type in your address and you can see your next collection day and download the calendar. Go to www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/find-my-waste-collection-day

Limited supplies are available at our customer service centres.

Queanbeyan STP upgrade

We are upgrading the Queanbeyan Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) located on Mountain Road, Jerrabomberra ACT. The current Queanbeyan STP treats sewage from Queanbeyan before it is discharged in the Molonglo River. The project will replace the existing facility which is approaching the end of its life with a modern treatment facility that will improve treatment reliability. The upgrade will provide additional capacity for growth and development in Queanbeyan and will enable us to continue to meet our regulatory requirements.



A draft concept plan has been developed and we are using the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA) process, aiming to achieve an 'Excellent' rating for the design of the new STP. The draft concept has been submitted and reviewed internally by staff as well as technical assessors from NSW Dept Planning, Industry and Environment and representatives from the ACT Environment Protection Agency. We will be seeking public comments on the design once the concept plan has been finalised.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being developed in conjunction with the design for public exhibition in November. Ongoing feedback on design will form part of development of the draft EIS.

More information on the project can be found on our website at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Queanbeyan-STP-upgrade

Bungendore flood risk management works underway

The first stage of a project to address flood risks in Bungendore is underway. The contractor began work in mid-July and we expect the work to be complete by the end of 2020. The work is at the junction of Halfway and Turallo Creeks and involves vegetation clearing (weeds and non-native species), excavation works to reshape the creek embankments and re-vegetation by planting native trees and shrubs.



In 2014, Council adopted a Floodplain Risk Management Plan for Bungendore which recommended a variety of flood mitigation measures be implemented. This led to designs for three physical flood mitigation measures. Grant funding has been obtained for the first stage, with other flood mitigation measures to be implemented in future years.

The project is funded through the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment under the 2019/20 Natural Disaster Resilience Program's Floodplain Grants Scheme, with Council providing a third of the funding. More information about the project is at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Bungendore-Flood-Risk-Management-Plan

Hope Marland Park upgrade

A new inclusive playground upgrade is coming to Hope Marland Park, Queanbeyan West. The playground is funded by a \$145,000 contribution from the NSW Government under the "Everyone Can Play" grant. Council is matching the funding, with the remainder of the cost sourced from the Queanbeyan City Care special rates variation.



We expect construction to begin around mid September.

Proposed Memorial Park

The Lanyon Drive cemetery in Queanbeyan is nearing capacity and we need to find a new location. We have completed a number of studies for a property at 1187-1241 Old Cooma Road (at the intersection with Burra Road). Throughout late 2017 and 2018 we completed studies for flora and fauna, traffic, visual and noise assessment, heritage (both Aboriginal and European), geotechnical and hydrological as well as a social impact assessment survey. In October 2018, the NSW Government regulator advised us to undertake further groundwater studies and to monitor groundwater levels and quality for a minimum of 12 months. After a dry 2019, this period was extended in order to ensure the wet weather at the beginning of 2020 was also included in the study.



With all these studies completed, we will be seeking community feedback on the proposal for a memorial park. At time of writing, the studies were being prepared for public exhibition. These will be available at yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au where you will be able to view the studies and make any comments.

After this period of consultation, the proposal and all necessary studies as well as a report on community engagement will be sent to the Department for Ministerial approval. If approved, concept designs will be developed which will also be placed on public exhibition.

Local roads and infrastructure

We were allocated \$1,527,709 in the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

We have put together a works program to seal sections of Butmaroo and Majara Streets in Bungendore, seal 600m of Williamsdale Road, extend the Queanbeyan River Path from Dane Street towards Barracks Flat, extend the stormwater pipe at the Braidwood Recreation Ground and additional funding to complete the Lascelles Street upgrade in Braidwood.



Concrete culverts used to pipe creek at the Braidwood Recreation Ground

Rusten House restoration

Throughout the COVID-19 restrictions, the restoration of the historic Rusten House in Queanbeyan has continued.

The project will see Queanbeyan's first hospital repurposed as an arts hub. Rusten House has recently received a new roof, is currently having joists and floorboards replaced in some of the rooms, new plumbing is underway and the beautiful pressed metal ceilings have been saved in the main exhibition space.



Our Culture, Arts and Museum team is collaborating on plans for the opening exhibitions at Rusten House. A historical exhibition featuring photos, objects and documents that tell the story of Rusten House, its establishment, its people and use, will be drawn from a variety of collections. This will be coupled with an art exhibition featuring a QPRC regional artists' work, exhibiting the old world and new in harmony.

We hope to open for exhibitions at Rusten House in 2021 and invite interested artists and consignee artisans to email the Culture and Arts Team with an expression of interest to exhibit next year. Email the team at: Cultural.Services@qprc.nsw.gov.au You can also use the same email address to sign up for our monthly Culture and Arts Newsletter.

More information on the Rusten House restoration project is on our website at www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Rusten-House-Arts-Centre



Annual permits

As of 1 July, owners of cats that are not desexed by four months of age are required to pay an \$80 annual permit. The best way to avoid the annual permit is to desex your cat by four months of age.

Owners of dogs of a restricted breed or formally declared to be dangerous are now required to pay a \$195 annual permit in addition to their one-off lifetime pet registration fee.

The NSW Government implemented these changes to ease the burden on pounds and shelters, reduce euthanasia rates, and help to address concerns about feral, stray and roaming cats and their effect on wildlife. The changes also serve as a further disincentive to owning high-risk dogs and encourage owners to better manage the behaviour of their animal.

Cats and dogs in NSW need to be registered by six months of age, paying the once-off lifetime registration fee to council or via the NSW Pet Registry, where annual permits can also be paid. Go to www.petregistry.nsw.gov.au

Sportsground hire fees waived



Local community sport is an important part of our community. Council has agreed to waive the ground and outdoor court hire and sportsfield lighting costs for community sporting clubs for the 2020 season.

These clubs have faced challenging circumstances in the COVID-19 pandemic, with shortened seasons, fewer player registrations, the loss of fundraising opportunities, impact on sponsors and the loss of regular canteen revenue.

Regional Sports Complex



The initial on-ground works will soon be underway for the Regional Sports Complex. We have awarded a contract to begin the site remediation and deal with the removal of all waste materials including contaminated waste as a result of the former uses of the land.

The Regional Sports Complex will be located at the site of the former Fraser Park Speedway in South Jerrabomberra. The sports complex will be constructed in stages. Once complete it will comprise four premier standard soccer pitches with two FIFA-certified synthetic pitches, two first-grade synthetic hockey pitches, three multi-sport fields for major football fixtures, a basketball stadium, player and official change rooms and toilets, spectator viewing areas and LED sports lighting and an aquatic centre.

The Complex will be accessed through Environa Drive which is currently being constructed and will connect to Tompsitt Drive, Jerrabomberra.

Councillor Peter Bray retires

We express our sincere thanks to Councillor Peter Bray for his years of service after his retirement due to ill-health.



Cr Bray was elected to Queanbeyan City Council in September 2008, serving four one-year terms as Deputy Mayor. He was on the Local Representation Committee while Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council was in administration and he was elected to QPRC in 2017.

Cr Bray was a committed and active member of Council, participating in many Council committees and lending a hand at community and charity events. He is a strong advocate for the community, especially on disability and access issues which are close to his heart.

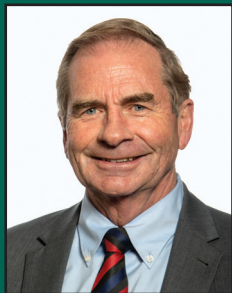
Peter served in the Regular Army for some 40 years, retiring in 1996. In 1995 he was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia.

Following his military career Peter became increasingly involved in the disability sector at community and State levels. He was CEO of Hartley Lifecare (formally The ACT Society for the Physically Handicapped), been integral to the Queanbeyan Children's Special Needs Group Inc., Meals on Wheels Queanbeyan Inc. and the Charity Book Fair.

He has been recognised for his tireless volunteering efforts, winning the Accessible Community Award at the National Disability Services Achievement Award in 2012, receiving a NSW Premier's Award in 2015 and he was the ACT Senior Volunteer of the Year in 2019.

As the next local government election is scheduled for September 2021, there is no requirement for a by-election.

CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS



Mayor
Cr Tim Overall
6285 6223
0410 530 681



Deputy Mayor
Cr Trudy Taylor
0404 009 679



Cr Michele Biscotti
0438 949 599



Cr Brian Brown
0414 721 291



Cr Pete Harrison
6238 3640



Cr Trevor Hicks
0438 685 738



Cr Peter Marshall
0428 597 227



Cr Radmila Noveska
0459 857 757



Cr Mark Schweikert
0418 904 827



Cr Kenrick Winchester
0438 346 013

Email addresses can be found at: www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/councillors



Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council: 144 Wallace St, Braidwood - 10 Majara St, Bungendore - 256 Crawford St, Queanbeyan
P: 1300 735 025 E: council@qprc.nsw.gov.au
W: www.qprc.nsw.gov.au Facebook: www.facebook.com/qbnpalrangRC Twitter: @QbnPalrang