



LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWS
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CASH DEFICIT RESOLVED; RATE CONSULTATION COMING

Lismore City Council has forecast a cash surplus this year of \$957,400 – turning around the \$6.1 million cash deficit that was discovered in early 2019.

The deficit was revealed during a due diligence study by external independent consultants engaged by the new General Manager. During this year's budget process, Council made cuts across almost all areas of Council to improve the cash deficit problem.

However, this does not provide a solution for the long-term delivery of services. Council is still financially vulnerable.

Like almost every other NSW council, Lismore City Council is struggling to balance community expectations for services with current levels of funding.

The on-ground cost to deliver services continues to rise by CPI or higher annually and the state government continues to ask more of local government every year. However, Council's revenue only rises by the legislated rate peg of 2.5%.

The reality Council now faces is that it cannot continue to provide its current services without more revenue. Council needs to address the roadworks backlog, otherwise these community assets will deteriorate in the future. Council also needs to invest in economic development activities that attract business, increase jobs, promote tourism, and grow Lismore as a regional city.

As part of the 2019/20 budget, Council approved a community consultation to discuss a proposed Special Rate Variation (SRV) to increase Council revenue. This will begin on 1 August.

Your
Say
Lismore



It is up to you as a community to tell us what services you want now and into the future.

All residents will have the opportunity to have their say. There will be an independent telephone survey of residents, a community-wide survey, workshops, and information kiosks where you can talk to staff face-to-face.

We will have full details of the community consultation in the next edition of *Local Matters*. You can also register now on our online engagement hub Your Say Lismore and you will be ready once the consultation begins on 1 August.

www.yoursay.lismore.gov.au

LISMORE, ARE YOU DISASTER READY?

In the wake of the Cyclone Debbie flood in March 2017, it was evident that we, as individuals and as a community, could have been better prepared for disasters.

Since then, Lismore City Council has developed a range of resources to help raise awareness in the community regarding floods and other disasters.

We recently distributed free fridge magnets to residents in flood-affected areas to remind them that it's important to be prepared for disasters and how to go about this.

We also pulled together important information and resources on the new Lismore Disaster Dashboard at www.disaster.lismore.nsw.gov.au so you can find everything you need via one easy portal.

In addition to these resources, you will notice various flood markers that we have installed around Lismore city.

These markers help to raise awareness among new residents and tourists of the fact that Lismore is a flood-prone area, and also provide a reminder to longer term residents that we all need to be prepared for future flood events.

We have two things to ask our community.

Residents: We are keen to hear from you about the resources we developed and if you think they are useful. Please visit www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au and let us know what you think!

Businesses: We have some free flood markers available should you wish to place one in your shop. These are blue and white metal signs that look like the 1974 flood markers on telegraph poles. We have 35 to give away. It's a first-in, best-dressed system – call us on 1300 87 83 87 if you would like one.



Help yourself. Help your neighbour. Help your community.

Preparing your home for any emergency or disaster only takes five simple steps.

1

Know your risk

Think about the area you live in and the types of disasters that could affect you.

2

Plan now for what you will do

Sit down and talk with your family and plan for what you will do if a disaster affects your area.

3

Get your home ready

Prepare your home by doing general home maintenance and checking your insurance.

4

Be aware

Find out how to prepare and what to do if there is a disaster in your area. Connect with NSW emergency services to stay informed.

5

Look out for each other

Share information with family, friends, neighbours and those who need assistance.

GET READY
Lismore

To plan for an emergency, visit disaster.lismore.nsw.gov.au

Supported by the



MORTIMER FIELD UPGRADE COMPLETE AND MORE ON THE WAY

A modern and flood-ready new amenities block at Mortimer Field was opened recently and is one of several sports facility upgrades being completed around the city.

The Mortimer Field amenities block, made from four 12-metre shipping containers, has been designed to be easily cleaned following any large flood event. It features a new canteen, two large changerooms, a wheelchair-accessible toilet, and three storage units.

The project also included a large shade structure and concrete patio, landscaping of the surrounds, and construction of a pathway running from Brewster Street to the carpark along Uralba Street.

Mortimer is the home ground of the Lismore Swans Junior AFL Club and several local cricket clubs but the new facilities are available to hire for anyone in the community.

The \$488,000 upgrade was funded by the NSW Government and is one of many upgrades to sporting facilities currently taking place.

Other projects in 2019 include:

Kadina Park – installation of new playground equipment and new fitness stations. This will be officially opened in August, but you can go and play on it now.

Wade Park – new equipment replacing the vandalised playground has been installed and will open very soon.

Hepburn Park – the old sports lighting is being replaced to football code Australian standards. Due to be finished by September.

Lismore Netball Court – this is a facility upgrade that includes two new asphalt courts, grass court improvements, sports lighting and a new shade structure. This will be completed by the end of the year.

Hepburn Park – we are installing six new grandstands at the hockey fields. Each will seat 60 spectators. This will be completed by September.

Heritage Park – we are replacing playground equipment and some structures, as well as constructing a small water play area. This is due to be completed by Christmas.

The Wade Park equipment is being replaced following a successful insurance claim after the equipment was vandalised by fire late last year. The rest of these projects are either part or fully funded by the NSW Government.

The new amenities block at Mortimer Field is one of several sports facility upgrades currently taking place.



IDEAS WANTED! HELP GROW LISMORE AS A REGIONAL CITY

Lismore City Council is developing a new Economic Development Strategy and we need input from the business community.

Our Economic Development Strategy will identify ways to support the sustainable growth of our existing industries and services, and encourage the development of new ones over the coming decades.

We want to hear from you, our community, about how we can best promote and grow our regional city. Please join one of the sessions below on a topic that interests you.

Economic Development Initiatives

Wednesday, 17 July

Venue: Dunoon Hall
Time: 6pm – 8.30pm

Economic Development Initiatives

Thursday, 18 July

Venue: Clunes Old School Association
Time: 6pm – 8.30pm

Innovative and Connected City

Wednesday, 24 July

Venue: Lismore Workers Club
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Exploring Economic Development Initiatives in Nimbin

Thursday, 25 July

Venue: Birth & Beyond Hall, 54 Cullen Street, Nimbin
Time: 6pm – 8.30pm

River City Lifestyle

Wednesday, 31 July

Venue: Lismore Workers Club
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Growing Professional Services

Thursday, 1 August

Venue: Lismore Workers Club
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Enabling the Agri-Economy

Wednesday, 7 August

Venue: Lismore Workers Club
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm

Cultural and Sporting Powerhouse

Thursday, 8 August

Venue: Lismore Workers Club
Time: 6pm – 7.30pm



If you can't make a workshop, you can still participate in the development of our Economic Development Strategy by completing an online survey.

To complete the survey or register for a workshop visit www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au or phone 1300 87 83 87.

Registration for community workshops is essential and light refreshments will be served.

DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUED

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

DA No.

14/327-2 79 Esmonde Street, Girards Hill: Section 4.55(1) modification of consent to delete condition 24 and amend condition 18 pertaining to Section 94 and Section 64 contributions.

15/33 950 Terania Creek Road, Terania Creek: Change of use from non-habitable dwelling to a habitable dwelling.

15/164-4 224 Invercauld Road, Goonellabah: Section 4.55(1A) modification to include earthworks and terraced retaining walls within Lots 117 to Lot 123.

18/71-2 278 Richmond Hill Road, Boat Harbour: Section 4.55(1A) modification to layout of master bedroom, walk-in robe and ensuite including altered window and door locations and sizes.

18/126 95 Dunoon Road, North Lismore: Relocated dwelling, associated garage, excavation and filling with retaining walls.

18/427 100 Bishops Creek Road, Coffee Camp: Dwelling.

19/50 104 and 140 McInnes Road, McKees Hill: Staged subdivision of two lots to create three lots being: Stage 1 – Boundary adjustment; and Stage 2 – Subdivision (two lots being one primary production lot).

19/108 49 Hillcrest Avenue, Goonellabah: Two-storey dwelling with a building line variation to 5.89m to Hillcrest Avenue and removal of two trees.

19/112 23 Woodland Avenue, Lismore Heights: Strata Subdivision (to create two lots).

19/119 31 Ewing Street, Lismore: Alterations and additions to existing shed to create family room above and workshop under.

19/142 14/126 Molesworth Street, Lismore: Change of use to a beauty salon.

19/148 137 Leeson Road, Whian Whian: Farm shed.

19/153 23 Emily Street, Wyrallah: Garage attached to existing dwelling.

19/158 37 Just Street, Goonellabah: Dwelling.

19/162 36 Zadoc Street, Lismore: To use an existing building as a combined garage and carport.

19/166 211 High Street, Lismore Heights: Inground swimming pool.

19/170 5 Snow Street, South Lismore: Proposed alterations and additions to an existing vehicle sales premises, including demolition, building works, alterations to the existing vehicle access arrangements and signage.

19/171 140 Wyrallah Road, East Lismore: Carport with a building line variation to 1.2m to Wyrallah Road.

19/173 9 Janice Court, Bexhill: Dwelling.

19/180 492 Rous Road, Tregear: Alterations and additions to an existing dwelling (new detached garage and deck extension).

19/190 556 Caniaba Road, Caniaba: Dwelling.

19/199 552 Caniaba Road, Caniaba: Dwelling.

88/330-3 110 Chelmsford Road, Rock Valley: Section 4.55(1A) modification to amend the wording of Condition 4B (impact of internal road upon existing watercourse) and Condition 13 (defer the timing of the submission of the management plan).

Details of applications and consents, together with conditions attached, may be inspected at our Corporate Centre during business hours or via DA Tracking at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

As the consent authority, Council has received the following development applications for consideration.

DA NUMBER: 19/228

LOCATION AND DP LOT: 2, 24 and 24A Dunoon Road and 190 and 109A Alexandra Parade, North Lismore (Lot 1 DP 936240, Lot 1 DP 189297, Lot 1 DP 318745, Lot 1 DP 930931 and Lot 2 DP 936240).

APPLICANT: The Tropical Fruits Inc.

DESCRIPTION: Temporary Event – Tropical Fruits Festival (New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Dance Party) five-year consent.

CLOSING DATE: 31 July 2019.

If you wish, you may make a submission to the Council in relation to the development application.

The above development applications and Statement of Environmental Effects may be inspected at our Corporate Centre, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, during ordinary office hours or via DA Tracking at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.

Further information relating to written submissions is available on Council's website. There are laws regarding the mandatory disclosure of political donations in relation to planning matters. Political donations disclosure reporting forms are available from the Department of Planning at www.planning.nsw.gov.au.

Bindi spraying in public parks – pesticide notification

Council will be spraying Kamba M for Bindi and other broadleaf weeds found in turf from 16 July to 30 August. We will undertake temporary park closures to do this work. This will take place in Lismore's main urban parks with playgrounds. Signage will be erected during closure periods.

NATIONAL TREE DAY EVENTS IN LISMORE

The Wilsons Rivers Landcare Group and Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens are both holding National Tree Day events in Lismore on Sunday, 28 July.

Wilson's River Landcare is hosting a community tree planting at Simes Bridge in Winterton Parade, North Lismore, to plant 1000 native trees.

Lismore City Council has supported the event with a small grant that has contributed to site preparation while Rous County Council has donated 420 trees. The event runs from 11am to 2pm and children are very welcome, but should be accompanied by an adult.

If you can't be there on the day, you can still help plant a tree! One donation of \$5 is all it takes to plant a tree on the riverbank – someone else will do the dirty work if you donate online. Go to <https://chuffed.org/project/trees-for-the-wilsons-river-in-lismore>.

Meanwhile, Friends of the Lismore Rainforest Botanic Gardens will hold a guided walk of its Sensory Garden on National Tree Day from 10-11am.

Although they won't be planting trees on the day, they invite visitors to join their Sunday working group of dedicated Friends to plant some smaller plants between 9am and 10am.

You can also explore the gardens, walk through the hoop pine forest and the labyrinth, or visit the Useful Plants Garden to learn about the many uses of native dry rainforest plants.

Everyone is welcome to attend these community events to help celebrate and plant trees!



FREE TIP VISITS NOW TWO FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES



Residents and businesses are now eligible for two free trips to the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre or the Nimbin Transfer Station each year.

This was previously three for local residents, but was reduced to two from 1 July 2019 as part of the newly adopted 2019/20 Operational Plan (budget).

This reduction in the number of vouchers means that Council did not have to raise the charge for waste above the annual rate peg increase.

Residents and business owners can apply for their annual waste voucher at www.northernriverswaste.com.au.

If you don't have a computer or email address you can apply in person at our Corporate Centre at 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, or phone 1300 87 83 87.

Please note that each house, townhouse or unit on a strata title is entitled to a voucher.

The vouchers entitles holders to dispose of approximately one ute or trailer load of waste each visit. The following maximum volumes will be accepted:

- 200 kilograms of mixed general waste (not sortable)
- 333 kilograms of self-sort waste (50% recoverable)
- 714 kilograms of green waste
- 1,666 kilograms or 1.6 tonne of scrap steel
- One gassed whitegood or two un-gassed whitegoods
- Five car/4x4 tyres or one truck tyre

People who bring more than these amounts will incur standard waste disposal charges.

Vouchers cannot be used for commercial quantities of chemicals or asbestos.

Council also has courtesy trailers available from the Lismore Recycling & Recovery Centre to assist people to bring in their waste for disposal. Trailers can be booked on 1300 87 83 87.

THREE-WEEK LOANS ARE BACK AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Richmond Tweed Regional Library branches have returned to a three-week loan period.

Library branches had been trialling two-week loans and renewals since mid-March and asking for community feedback.

Staff say this resulted in both positive and negative stories, however, the comments and personal stories of how the two-week period negatively affected some of the community were of great concern to library management.

“Although we have seen an increase in loans and more items on the shelves for patrons to choose from, we have received feedback that the two-week loan period doesn’t work for you because it makes you feel rushed to read a book and doesn’t fit in with your lifestyle,” Richmond Tweed Regional Library Manager Jo Carmody said.

“We strive to make your library experience enjoyable and responsive to your needs. The two-week loan period clearly does not achieve this so we have brought back the old loan period of three weeks.”

Patrons will still have the option to renew items twice, as long as no-one else is waiting for the item.

The Richmond Tweed Regional Library would like to thank everyone who provided feedback during the trial, and apologise for any stress or angst caused during this time.

Moving forward, Richmond Tweed Regional Library will ensure that it conducts community consultation before making major changes that impact the library community.



New fee for emailed documents

Council has introduced a new processing fee of \$30 per hour (minimum one hour) for emailing copies of open access documents. This includes things such as development applications, approvals, house site plans etc.

Hard copy files, microfilm and electronic records will still be available to inspect for free at our Corporate Centre at 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah.

The new fee has been introduced to cover the cost of staff time spent researching open access information requests, converting documents to PDF, vetting copyright material, and redacting.

Please remember these records can be inspected for free at our Corporate Centre.

Proposed changes to road levels at Tuncester and McKees Hill

Roadworks are planned at two locations as shown below.

Whilst our design for these works is still underway, we may overlay existing road pavement material as indicated for each site. In accordance with the *Roads Act 1993*, we need to advertise these proposed changes to road levels for public comment for 30 days:

LOCATION OF ROADWORK	SECTION OF ROAD AFFECTED	CHANGE IN ROAD LEVEL
Kyogle Road, Tuncester	1.2km section of Kyogle Road located 0.3km west of its Rosehill Road intersection	+250mm centreline +400mm northern side
Tatham Road, McKees Hill	0.35km section of Tatham Road located 0.05km to 0.4km south of its Bruxner Highway intersection	+100mm centreline +400mm western side

These roadworks are planned for completion in the 2019-20 financial year. Adjoining landowners will be notified and the works advertised in a future edition of *Local Matters*.

The public are entitled to make written submissions, which should state any reasons for objection and the section of road it relates to. Submissions are due by 4pm on 17 August 2019.

For more information phone our Design Engineer Barry Goodwin on 1300 87 83 87.



CONTACT US:
1300 87 83 87

Corporate Centre: 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

Post: PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480

Email: council@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.lismore.nsw.gov.au



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