

## CELEBRATING 60 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

**Mayor Steve Krieg and a delegation from Lismore commemorated the 60th anniversary of our city's sister city relationship with Yamato Takada, Japan, in the first week of April 2024.**

Mayor Krieg expressed gratitude for the warm welcome, highlighting the enduring bond between the two countries.

"Since being elected as Mayor of Lismore, the city has faced many challenges, so it is an honour to be here to celebrate the longest sister city relationship between our two countries," he said.

Yamato Takada Mayor Taizo Horiuchi reciprocated the sentiment, extending a hearty welcome to the delegation and expressing hope for deepening friendship and exchange of ideas.

"I hope that your time in Yamato Takada City will be meaningful for you," he said.

The nine-member delegation, including Mayor Krieg, Councillors Bing and Ekins, and six community members, embarked on a four-day journey exploring the vibrant cultural landscape of the Sister City. They eagerly embraced the opportunity for cultural immersion, funding their own associated costs.

Lismore's Miyagi Kan Goju Ryu Karate Dojo trainer Emily Yee, part of the delegation, expressed her delight at the warmth and passion she encountered, reinforcing her love of representing Lismore.

"I previously represented my school and Lismore through the student exchange program in 2015 and after this experience, I can't wait to tell my little legends in the dojo about Japan," she said.

Mayor Krieg emphasised the significance of visiting during the Cherry Blossom season, a time of cultural and social importance in Yamato Takada. The delegates engaged in cherry blossom viewing, meetings with Mayor Horiuchi, tours of landmarks like Kashiwara Shrine and learned about the region's disaster recovery efforts.

This journey symbolised a shared commitment to fostering cultural, economic and educational exchanges, laying the foundation for a brighter, more interconnected future.



## OPENING THE DOOR TO HOME OWNERSHIP

**Since launching in July 2023, Lismore City Council's Housing Grant program has received applications to build 28 new units and dwellings, all qualifying under the Affordable Housing guidelines.**

With a dedicated pool of \$1.2 million available on a 'first-come first-serve' basis, the program aims to stimulate the development of new affordable housing options within the community.

**The Housing Grant program provides \$15,000 for each new dwelling to eligible projects falling under six distinct categories, including:**

- Secondary dwellings
- First home buyers (new construction)
- Relocation of flood-affected dwellings within Lismore LGA
- Construction of new dwellings within Lismore LGA by recipients of a buyback from the NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Any housing built by a Community Housing Provider (CHP) or Indigenous Community Housing Organisation (ICHO)
- Any developer of multi-dwelling housing projects who enters into an agreement to have housing managed by a CHP as affordable rental for a minimum of 15 years

Council's Chief Community Officer, Eber Butron, said seeing people accessing the grants to support new housing was encouraging.

"Addressing the housing crisis requires all levels of government to step in, as this is one of the things that our Council identified we could do locally," he said.

**"We have access to funds through a Federal Government program that must be spent on affordable housing. We want to make sure that anyone eligible knows about this fund so they can tap into it to build or relocate within Lismore."**

Mr Butron added that Council has various initiatives to stimulate new affordable and diverse housing, including discounts and deferrals of developer contributions and a partnership with Landcom to deliver more than 50 dwellings on Council-owned land.

"Council's Affordable and Diverse Housing Strategy, adopted in 2023, identified all of the levers Council can pull and sets out a range of actions for Council to take," he said.

"We will continue to do this, often in partnership with other agencies, to increase the housing stock available to target groups not served by the current housing market."

The Federal Government's Building Better Regional Cities program funds the housing grants.

A total of 80 grants will be offered on a 'first-come first-serve' basis until such time as the available funds are fully committed.

**Scan the QR code for more information and to apply.**



## LOTS ON OFFER DURING YOUTH WEEK

**Lismore City Council is taking part in the 2024 Youth Week by initiating a diverse range of workshops designed to empower and inspire self-expression and empowerment among our young residents.**

This year's Youth Week promises an enriching lineup of workshops and activities for 12 to 24-year-olds from Tuesday, 16 April to Saturday, 20 April.

**The 2024 Youth Week program features the following:**

### **Quad Offsite: On Country Forest and Forage**

Namabunda Farm, 112 Whites Avenue, Alstonville  
Tuesday, 16 April, 10am – 3pm  
Discover the wonders of our local ecosystem as you forage for native foods and fibres, and participate in the restoration of Youngman Creek's Big Scrub rainforest.

### **Collage Club**

Goonellabah Library, 27 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah  
Tuesday, 16 April, 2.30pm - 4.30pm  
The Collage Club is an ongoing community engagement and creative recovery program. It is a free, accessible program that enables the community to get together and enjoy the process of making collages in a supportive environment.

### **Quad Offsite: Jarjums on Paper**

Amarina Aboriginal Artist Run Initiative,  
Shop 1/126 Molesworth Street, Lismore  
Wednesday, 17 April, 10am – 1pm  
Explore the rich world of digital art, storytelling and natural crafts with renowned artists in a series of drop-in workshops.

### **Screenwriting and Film Workshop**

Lismore Library Meeting Room, 44 Carrington Street, Lismore  
Wednesday, 17 April, 10am – 11am  
Dive into the basics of film writing and production, guided by an acclaimed filmmaker and writer.

### **Zine Making Workshop (2-day workshop)**

Elevator ARI, 3 Rural Street, Lismore  
Thursday, 18 April and Saturday, 20 April, 1pm - 5pm  
Create and explore zines from around the globe with artist Chris Lego in this immersive two-day workshop.

### **Acting Workshop with Madeleine West**

Goonellabah Library, 27 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah  
Thursday, 18 April, 10am-11am  
Learn the art of acting with insights from Neighbours star, Madeleine West.

**Scan the QR Code for more details**



## ANZAC DAY 2024 LOCAL COMMEMORATIONS

**The community is invited to attend ANZAC Day commemorations on Thursday, 25 April, to remember those who defended our nation in times of need and those who did not return.**

The service and events will be held at the following times:

### **Lismore**

**4.50am:** March from the Old Post Office corner.

**5am:** Dawn Service commences.

Following the Dawn Service, a breakfast will be held at the Lismore City Bowling Club.

**8.30am:** Begin forming up for the main march along Molesworth Street departing Browns Creek Carpark.

**9am:** March begins.

ANZAC Day commemorative service at the Lismore Cenotaph following the march.

### **North Lismore**

**7.45am:** Service at the North Lismore War Memorial, Alexandra Parade.

### **Nimbin**

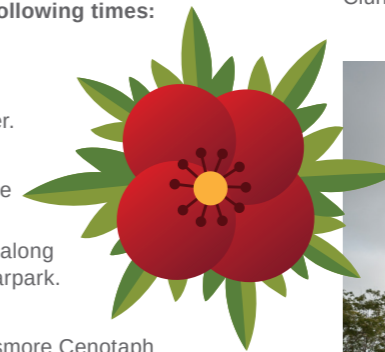
**5.30am:** Dawn Service commences.

**6am:** Breakfast available from the Nimbin Bowling Club.

**10.40am:** Assemble for the march at the hospital car park.

**10.50am:** March commences.

Late-morning service will commence at the Nimbin District Memorial immediately after the march.



### **Clunes**

**9am:** Commemoration service at the Village Park.  
Clunes RFS brigade will provide free tea and ANZAC biscuits.



## LEST WE FORGET





# DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUED

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4.59 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

### APPLICATION DETAILS

**DA22/109-2 14 Alternative Way Nimbin:** Section 4.55(1A) modification to Condition 1 relating to approved plans as part of the parameters of the Development Consent to include minor alterations and additions to the Re-Sited Dwelling.

**DA23/162 65 Acacia Avenue, Goonellabah:** To undertake the erection of a multi-dwelling housing development comprising four (4) single-storey units, driveway and parking area, and ancillary stormwater works and landscaping works.

**DA23/204 32 Fairview Road, Rosebank:** Dwelling additions and alterations (enclose existing patio to create an office).

**DA23/222 33 Harmony Avenue, East Lismore:** To undertake the construction of a multi-dwelling housing development comprising ten (10) dwellings, driveways and parking areas, associated civil works including stormwater works, landscaping works and removal of trees.

**DA23/276 8/4 Wallaby Road, Stony Chute:** Change of use of an existing shed to a dwelling.

**DA23/320 10 Stewarts Way, Nimbin:** To undertake the re-siting of a dwelling with associated alterations and additions in the following stages. Stage One: Re-sited dwelling, construction of new entry and rear stairs, installation of two rainwater tanks and new driveway works; Stage Two: Addition of covered deck to the north and east of the dwelling, construction of a concrete slab under the house with a new storage/bedroom, toilet and laundry facilities.

**DA24/40 146 Cameron Road, McLeans Ridges:** Inground swimming pool, associated retaining walls and pool fencing.

**DA24/41 3 Avalon Avenue, Clunes:** Dwelling addition (carport).

**DA24/45 26 and 26A Elton Street, Girards Hill:** Inground swimming pool.

**DA24/51 2 Birdwing Place, Modanville:** Inground swimming pool.

Details of applications and consents, together with conditions attached, may be inspected at Council's Corporate Centre during business hours or via DA Tracking at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au).



# COUNCIL DECIDES

Council's Ordinary April meeting was adjourned until Wednesday, 10 April after Councillors ran out of time to complete the business paper.

The following are the decisions made before the meeting was adjourned on Tuesday, 9 April 2024.

- Receive and adopt the recommendations contained within the minutes of the 20 March 2024 Sister City Advisory Group
- Receive and adopt the recommendations contained within the minutes of the 22 March 2024 Local Traffic Committee
- Note the responses to Questions on Notice
- Receive the ARIC chairperson's presentation
- Endorse the Terms of Reference for the Reimagine Lismore Advisory Panel, endorse the Community Engagement Program and that members of the panel have links to Lismore
- Become a signatory to the NSW Public Spaces Charter
- Adopt the 2024/28 Events Strategy
- Receive and note the March 2024 Investments Report
- Note and execute the following:
  - Item 1:** Lease to Lismore City Council for commercial space in the Lismore CBD to facilitate pop-up CONVERGE program in line with funding by NSW Reconstruction Authority
  - Item 2:** Occupation Agreement with City of Lismore RSL Sub-Branch over Suite A, 179 Molesworth Street, Lismore, subject to Conditions 1 and 2 included in the report annexure.
- Revoke the following policies: a. Council Use of Lismore Airport Policy, b. Biodiversity – Flora & Fauna Policy, c. Council Cars – Car Agreement Policy, d. Duties and Responsibilities of Committee Chairpersons Policy, e. Plain English Policy, f. Staff Exchange Program between Lismore City Council and Yamato Takada City Council Policy, and note the following policies have been reviewed and no changes are required: a. Closure of Offices Christmas/New Year Policy, b. Dedication of Bequeathed Land for Community Purposes Policy, c. Lismore Coat of Arms/Corporate Logo Policy and d. Media Releases Policy
- Make the two voting delegates to the 2024 Floodplain Management Australia National Conference are Councillors Ekins, Rob, if constitutional matters arise the voting delegate is Councillor Rob and to approve the submission of the motion for AVL Link Remote Access to the Conference organisers

- Note the draft minutes of Arts Northern Rivers
- Receives the Mayoral Attendance Report for March 2024
- Write to The Hon Chris Minns MP Premier, The Hon Ryan Parks MP Minister for Health and Janelle Saffin MP Member for Lismore requesting the NSW Government fund Stage 2 of the multilevel carpark adjacent to the Lismore Base Hospital, to provide adequate and safe car parking facilities for our essential workers
- Note the findings and recommendations of the Plan C and UTS Northern Rivers Food Security & Resilience Scoping Study, in particular the urgent need for coordinated food system governance, policies and planning in the region to build resilience to disasters and supply chain disruptions
- Note the "Food Production and Supply in NSW" Inquiry and Report (November 2022), particularly Recommendation 6: that the NSW Government works with local councils to develop and implement strategies to improve local food systems, and provides appropriate funding as required, write to the following NSW Labor Government Ministers requesting the Government's response to the Inquiry, noting that Government has indicated it will respond to the findings by May, and highlighting the importance of Recommendation 6 for communities recovering from disasters such as the Northern Rivers: i) NSW Premier the Hon Chris Minns MP, ii) Minister for Agriculture the Hon Tara Moriarty MP, iii) Minister for Local Government the Hon Ron Hoenig MP, iv) Minister for Regional New South Wales and North Coast the Hon Rose Jackson MP, v) Minister for Health and Regional Health the Hon Ryan Park MP, note the Northern Rivers Joint Organisation passed a similar motion at its February meeting, include questions regarding food and water security in the Reimagine Lismore community engagement process to understand community lived experience in the Lismore LGA, advocate to the NSW Reconstruction Authority for future possible use of buyback properties for urban and small scale agriculture in the Lismore LGA, and provide a briefing to Council by July outlining current constraints and the mechanisms that could be considered to enable small scale urban agriculture in the Lismore LGA
- Approach both the Northern NSW Local Health District and also Transport for NSW (via the Local Traffic Committee) regarding the proposed amendments to the Parking Strategy, approach the NSW Department of Planning regarding authorisation of an amended Parking Strategy pursuant to Condition A5, if all parties respond favourably, engage a suitably qualified consultant to prepare an amended Parking Strategy in accordance with Transport for NSW Guidelines, complete an amended Parking Strategy supported by NSW Local Health District and also Transport for NSW (via the Local Traffic Committee) and endorsed by NSW Department of Planning and Council and implement the revised Parking Strategy

# FUNDING FOR LISMORE'S REBUILD SECURED

Following tireless negotiations and persistent lobbying by Lismore City Council, a historic agreement to fund the rebuild of around 100 of Lismore's roads and bridges, devastated by the 2022 natural disaster, was recently finalised last with the NSW Government.

The agreement not only signifies the Government's confidence in the future of the city but also aims to streamline critical funding for transport infrastructure in the aftermath of natural disasters.

The record investment of \$860 million provides certainty for the city and the community that the many projects, previously stuck in a holding pattern, can now progress to full investigation and design.

Council's Chief Operating Officer Brendan Logan emphasised the magnitude of Council's work in securing this agreement as well as its implications for the city's rebuild efforts.

"This is one of the largest asset restoration funding agreements in Australia's history, and we are grateful it is now in place for our Roads and Bridges component of the Flood Restoration Portfolio," he said.

"While initial costings for many projects have been determined, further assessment is necessary to understand the full scope of works.

"This funding means Council can now progress with this investigation and the design phase with certainty and at a steady pace.

"All going well, some of our most damaged sites, like Blue Knob Road, and Stony Chute Road, are moving much closer to real restorative work commencing."

The tripartite agreement, involving Transport for NSW, the NSW Reconstruction Authority and Lismore City Council, establishes a new, expedited funding pathway for reconstruction efforts.

Previously, Council operated under a reimbursement model, completing work with its own funds and awaiting reimbursement from the government.

This new agreement ensures upfront funding availability, removing risks and barriers for Council.

"What executing this agreement does is lock in a cost estimate, which then provides working capital, which allows us to plan with confidence," Logan said.

"We can lock in designs and start serious program development, and then begin the process of informing the community, our Council, and the market of what we will be delivering and when."

The NSW State government has previously expressed its dedication to assisting flood-affected communities throughout the Northern Rivers region. This agreement solidifies and furthers that commitment. It is a significant leap forward for Lismore, inspiring renewed confidence in the city with solid government backing.

Not only does this historic agreement benefit Lismore's rebuild but also sets a precedent for disaster response funding for all NSW Councils in the future.



(L-R): CEO of the NSW Reconstruction Authority Simon Draper, Minister Paul Scully, Minister Jenny Aitchison, Lismore Mayor Steve Krieg, Member for Lismore Janelle Saffin, Lismore City Council General Manager Jon Gibbons, Minister Jihad Dib and Lismore City Council Chief Operating Officer Brendan Logan.

**LOCAL MATTERS**  
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