

# COUNCIL Business Paper



**LISMORE**  
*City Council*

**FEBRUARY 22, 2000**



## NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

An **ORDINARY MEETING** of LISMORE CITY COUNCIL will be held at the **BEXHILL PUBLIC HALL** on **TUESDAY February 22, 2000**, at 6.30pm and members of Council are requested to attend.

*Councillors are requested to attend at 6.00pm to meet local residents informally prior to the meeting.*

(Ken Gainger)  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

February 14, 2000



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**CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS - Committee of the Whole:**

NOTICE OF MOTION

I hereby give notice of my intention to move at the next meeting of the Council the following motion:

1. That Council resolve to not include the calf and pig enclosure area at the Lismore Saleyards in the schedule to the proposed Heritage DCP.
2. That Council arrange to photograph and record significant Heritage features of the Lismore Saleyards in consultation with Council's Heritage Adviser.
3. That the General Manager arrange for a report to be presented to Council at the earliest opportunity outlining future options for the utilisation and/or demolition of all or part of the calf and pig enclosure area at the Lismore Saleyards.

COUNCILLOR King

DATE 8/2/00

STAFF COMMENT BY: Acting Group Manager-Planning & Development

The Lismore Saleyards are located on a level site, bounded by Alexandra, Tweed and an unnamed street in North Lismore. They comprise an extensive area of yards with post and rail fences, two octagonal plan selling areas, and a row of six rectangular covered timber sheds. Sheds have several pens and are characterised by gables and corrugated iron roofs, with weatherboard infill in gables facing Tweed Street. A cattle dip is located on northern side with access from Alexandra Parade.

The entire saleyards site was previously proposed to be exhibited for inclusion in Appendix 2 of the LEP as an archaeological item in accordance with the recommendations of the Perumal Murphy Wu Heritage Study completed for Council in 1995. A recent decision of Council (March 1999) however has resulted in a proposal for the site to instead be listed as a Heritage Item in a future Heritage Development Control Plan (DCP). Regardless of LEP or DCP listing the 1995 Heritage Study has identified the site as having considerable archaeological significance and accordingly Council has a responsibility in regard to conservation of the site.

The item is considered significant for its association with pastoral and dairying industries being assessed as a good example of its type. The original saleyards were in Molesworth Street on the present site of the memorial baths. They opened in 1906 and were relocated to this site, which formerly housed an old factory, in 1927. The cattle dip was charged with arsenic in December 1946. The site is still in use as a saleyard.

The Heritage Study indicates that the whole site as described above should be heritage listed on the basis of assessed local social, scientific and historical significance. The Statement of Significance in the Heritage Study is the document that would be referred to in the assessment of any application for demolition or partial demolition of structures on the site (including internal pens). The Statement of Significance for the site indicates that the site should be conserved and/or recorded prior to disturbance.

Listing of the site as an archaeological item has been endorsed by the Heritage Study Steering Committee. Should the site be listed as proposed a Development Application would be required for any significant alterations or additions to the site including the removal of trees.

Listing of the site does not automatically preclude demolition of structures or removal of trees from the site however means more investigation is required regarding best management options for components of the site and the site as a whole in the future. In this regard the completion of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the site is considered necessary.

A Conservation Plan is a document prepared by a qualified Heritage Consultant in consultation with the property owners which assesses the significance of the site and proposes policies for its future management to retain that significance. It can include guidelines for additional development and maintenance of the place and is prepared taking into consideration the needs, constraints and future development plans of the property owners. In the case of the saleyards a consultant with some archaeological background in addition to heritage architectural experience is considered most appropriate.

All the above information was provided to Client Services Section in August 1999 as it was understood that a conservation plan was to be prepared.

The Draft Heritage DCP has not been endorsed by Council for exhibition and is in a very draft form. Legally speaking, Council can resolve to alter the contents of the DCP at any time before final adoption, and after that by resolving to prepare an amending DCP.

However, should Council agree to delete the Saleyards from the DCP then difficulties with the Heritage Office can be anticipated. It has agreed, as a special concession to Lismore Council, that items of local heritage significance identified in the Heritage Study may be included in a DCP rather than an LEP and if some of these locally significant items are deleted then the Heritage Office may create further difficulties. It is assumed that the Heritage Office will want to see the DCP, although it has no statutory role in its production.

(00-1902: P5986,S393)





NOTICE OF MOTION

I hereby give notice of my intention to move at the next meeting of the Council the following motion:

1. That LCC identify through its rate notice and publicity about rates, that it is still collecting 4.86% Special Road Rate Levy to be used specifically for reconstruction of high traffic count roads (as per LCC's original resolution (*copy LCC resolutions with respect to the Special Road Rate of 4.86% attached*)).
2. That LCC will continue to commit the Special Road Rate still being collected and now part of the general rate toward road reconstruction of high traffic roads.

COUNCILLOR Swientek

DATE 9/2/00

STAFF COMMENT BY: Manager - Finance & Administration

Council could accommodate this request in the following form:

- a) *notational*, eg. "a special rate variation of 4.86% raised in 1997/98 for roads continues to be
- b) *calculated*, ie. the actual amount of the road rate applicable to each assessment would be calculated and shown.

As an alternative, the information could be outlined in the Brochure which accompanies the rate notice.

There are difficulties associated with providing this information on the rate notice as it will require changes to rating software (cost involved) and staff resources. At this time, there is a significant and urgent demand on Information Services to provide software amendments to meet GST requirements. This is a major upgrade and it has already been identified that not all software requirements will be completed this year.

As such, the preferred option is to provide the detail in the Brochure which accompanies the rate notice.

It should be noted that the \$625,000 special rate variation now forms part of Council's full notional yield and is not required to be shown separately.

I would like to point out that Council's resolution on this matter does not specifically state that these funds will be used for "reconstruction of high traffic count roads."

(00-1903: S669)

Subject/File No: DRAFT AMENDMENT NO. 3 - LISMORE LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2000 - NEIGHBOURHOOD SHOPPING CENTRE AT CNR BALLINA ROAD/HOLLAND STREET, GOONELLABAH (HM: S746)

Prepared By: Stephen Fletcher and Associates in collaboration with Acting Group Manager-Planning and Development - Helen Manning

Reason: To inform Council of issues raised during public exhibition.

Objective: To obtain Council's determination of the LEP.

Management Plan Activity: Strategic Planning

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### Background:

Council, at its meeting of August 31, 1999, resolved to prepare a draft local environmental plan to rezone land at the south east corner of Ballina Road and Holland Street Goonellabah from Residential 2(a) to Neighbourhood Business 3(b) to enable the development of a neighbourhood shopping centre. The centre is to be called the 'Eastpoint Shopping Village'. Council had previously adopted a 'notwithstanding clause' within the Lismore Local Environmental Plan 2000 so as to allow for the development of the site as a service station in addition to the range of uses normally permitted within the 2(a) zone.

A similar application was presented to Council in 1998 when it resolved to refuse the request for rezoning. Subsequent to this Council engaged Geolink Pty Ltd to undertake a detailed 'Neighbourhood Centre Site Analysis for Goonellabah', this study assessing the demand and site suitability for neighbourhood shopping facilities within the area. The study, which identified the need for such facilities and promoted a hierarchy of higher order (or district centres) and lower order (or neighbourhood centres) was adopted by Council as a Neighbourhood Centre Retail Strategy. The report identified the subject site as suitable for development as a neighbourhood centre. The application now before Council is effectively the re-lodgement of the previous application, in response to the above mentioned retail strategy.

A plan identifying the design proposal for the centre is attached to this report. Also attached are the LEP written instrument and map. The LEP map clearly identifies the subject site.

A comprehensive planning report on the issues raised previously is in the Attachment to the Business Paper.

### **Public Exhibition**

In accordance with Council's resolution of August 31, 1999, the draft plan was placed on public exhibition for five (5) weeks from Thursday, September 23 to Wednesday, October 27, 1999. A total of fourteen (14) submissions were received, nine (9) opposing or raising concern with the rezoning and five (5) in support. The applicant, Capminster Property Services, was afforded an opportunity to comment on the submissions, and a copy of the response is included as Appendix 3 to the report attachments.

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A summary of the submissions received is provided below. Copies of all submissions are in the Attachment.

### **Submissions Opposing the Rezoning Application**

#### Submission 1 (Aspect North)

- Consolidated Properties are in the final stages of preparing BA and civil design drawings for the Goonellabah Town Centre Site, and are in the process of seeking tenants for the specialty shops in Stages 1 and 2. Having two retail centres simultaneously vying for the same tenants will tend to disrupt the commercial establishment of both centres. Accordingly the Eastpoint rezoning at this time is inappropriate given the development stage of the Goonellabah Town Centre.
- Does not object to the rezoning (per se) but requests that Council postpone adopting the rezoning at this stage.

#### Submission 2

- Intersection of Ballina Road and Holland Street is already dangerous; proposal will result in a higher traffic volume at the intersection.
- Increased traffic noise and headlights beaming into my office and lounge room will further erode my quality of life. Council could alleviate some of this by planting trees on the nature strip.
- Already adequate shops in the Gum Tree Centre, this development will put the proprietor out of business.
- The centre will impact upon the Rous Road centre.

#### Submission 3

- Severe impact on Gum Tree Mall businesses and the Rous Road shopping centre, which cope adequately with neighbourhood demand at present. Existing businesses in these centres may close if the centre proceeds. Rous Road has one vacant premises and the Gum Tree centre has two vacancies.
- Impact upon the proposed Goonellabah Town Centre.
- Increase in traffic at intersection and Holland Street. Existing traffic network is insufficient to accommodate the increase in traffic. Additional traffic would pose a danger with respect to ingress and egress from the centre.
- Customers would be disadvantaged if they were forced to cross the busy main road.

#### Submission 4

- Neighbourhood is already well served by Gum Tree Mall. Elderly and retired people disadvantaged if forced to cross the highway to a new retail centre.
  - No net benefit in attracting new retail developments if they serve to displace existing efficient businesses. Need to attract new 'basic employment' which increases the 'retail cake' for existing and new businesses.
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Submission 5

- Does not consider there is a need for a new centre, there is already the Gum Tree Mall and the Rous Road centre, and a proposal for the development of a Coles Supermarket (Goonellabah Town Centre) and a service station next to the Hilltop Hotel.

Submission 6 (Geolink)

- Representing the Lismore Shopping Square. In the event Council supports the rezoning seeks to have the following provisions (paraphrased) included in the LEP;
  - a) Altered objective for the neighbourhood zone to 'provide for low intensity commercial and retail facilities which do not prejudice the commercial viability of the Lismore CBD including Lismore Square and Goonellabah Plaza'. Suggested zone objectives included reinforcing the need to maintain a retail and commercial hierarchy.
  - b) Seeking a prohibition clause in the LEP to prevent approval for centres with a GFA in excess of 1500m<sup>2</sup> outside of the Lismore CBD (which includes the Lismore Square and Goonellabah Plaza.

Submission 7 ( 2LM)

- Comment on the existing congestion and safety issue at the Ballina Road/Holland Street intersection. Issue with the proposed entry/exit opposite that for the Media Centre car park. Centre would double the congestion at this point, resulting in possible accidents.
- Possible solution may be to provide two lanes in each direction, to approx 250 metres along Holland Street, with turning lanes provided.

Submission 8

- Concern that the rezoning will affect the proposed Goonellabah Town Centre and/or the Lismore Square extensions, given slow growth in Lismore.
- Traffic turning into and off the highway would be dangerous, and if a roundabout is proposed, who pays?
- Proposed service station at the Hilltop Hotel will serve the locals adequately. Seeks to have the application deferred for consideration of demand in the future.

Submission 9 (Goonellabah Progress Association Inc.)

- Strongly feel that the Goonellabah area is adequately served with retail outlets in the short term.
  - Most people in area between Kadina Street and 'Bob Barnes corner' would go to the new Coles complex or Rous Road. This only leaves James Road, Holmesleigh Estate and Toongarah Estate. Population base is insufficient to support the proposed centre.
  - Extra traffic turning at Holland Street will create a traffic hazard.
  - Notes that with the proposed future highway upgrade traffic will be able to enter the proposed development via Oliver Avenue and suburban Toongarah streets.
  - Association states the rezoning has merit but seeks Council to defer until the highway is re-aligned and the Goonellabah Town Centre is operating so that the shopping requirements can be assessed.
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### Summary of Issues Raised

- Demand for the centre, considered insufficient population base
- Timing of development conflicts with Goonellabah Town Centre and Lismore Square extensions
- Impact of development upon existing centres
- Impact on amenity from vehicle headlights and traffic volumes
- Traffic safety issues at Ballina Road/ Holland Street intersection and along Holland Street
- Pedestrian safety crossing Ballina Road
- No net benefit resulting from development
- Recommended LEP changes (Geolink)

### Submissions in Support of the Rezoning Application

#### Submission 1

- Current lack of Shopping Facilities on the western side of the Highway within the locality of the proposed centre (especially for the disabled, elderly or people unable to drive).

#### Submission 2 (Sunbuster)

- Frustration for the business with the lack of nearby retail facilities for staff and visitors.
- Centre will “fill one of the remaining deterrents to further development of the Industrial Estate”.

#### Submission 3 (Lismore Challenge Ltd.)

- Centre will provide residents and businesses in the area with much needed access to shops and associated services.

#### Submission 4 ( Hanistock P/L & Smoothmist P/L)

- Developers of the Toongarah Estate who claim to be experiencing market resistance to the allotments due to lack of neighbourhood convenience facilities in locality. Centre will act as a catalyst for further development of the estate.

#### Submission 5 (Blue Hills College)

- Lack of close retail facilities for college staff
- Concern with lack of medical practitioners for emergency needs of students
- Centre would provide other services which would be used by staff; eg banking services.
- Development of a roundabout at Ballina Road/Holland Street intersection is overdue.
- Centre is well planned with good access and adequate parking.

### Summary of Issues

- Current lack of shopping, banking and medical facilities on western side of Ballina Road
  - Impact of lack of facilities on development of the industrial estate and Toongarah residential estate
-

### **Applicant's Response to Submissions**

#### **Gum Tree Mall**

- Council has resolved that it amend the Urban Development Strategy as a result of the findings of the 'Neighbourhood Centre Site Analysis' prepared by Geolink. This report states that "the lack of direct exposure to a main road has restricted the retail vitality of the Gum Tree Mall. The existing services provided fall far short of that expected from a neighbourhood centre. Further, physical expansion constraints and lack of frontage suggest that it is unlikely that this facility will ever achieve a sustainable form....".
- The 'Eastpoint Retail Impact Assessment' dated 28/6/99 prepared by Economic Associates also states the future survival of the Gum Tree Mall is questionable, even without the proposed centre.
- It is the applicants understanding that Council has taken implications for this centre into account in identifying the subject site for rezoning.

#### **Rous Road Shopping Centre**

- The retail impact on this centre by the proposal and the Goonellabah Town Centre has been dealt with adequately in the Geolink Group and Economic Associates reports. It is the applicants understanding that Council has taken implications for this centre into account in identifying the subject site for rezoning.

#### **Lismore Square Shopping Centre**

- The submission from Geolink on behalf of the Lismore Square Shopping Centre acknowledges that the Eastpoint Shopping Village should not impact significantly on either the Lismore Square or Goonellabah Town Centre. 'We consider the suggested amendments to the LEP are unnecessary as the current objectives of the 3(b) zoning provide clear and adequate protection'.

#### **Goonellabah Town Centre**

- The contention that the situation of two centres vying for businesses simultaneously will disrupt the commercial establishment of the centres is erroneous given;
  - a) GTC is zoned 3(a) and will operate at a higher order of retailing
  - b) GTC has an approved development for which it is able to currently obtain tenants
  - c) Centres will not be vying for the same tenants
  - d) Differing objectives for the 3(a) and 3(b) zones will protect the GTC.

#### **General Comment**

- Eastpoint Shopping Village will provide convenience shopping for a currently under serviced locality.
  - Submission for the owners of the Toongarah Estate is significant.
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- Submission from Sunbuster notes the proposed centre should accelerate the demand for industrial property.
- Submission for the Blue Hills College raises the need for a roundabout at the Ballina Road/Holland Street intersection and the need for convenience facilities.

### **Submissions from Statutory Authorities**

#### **Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA)**

The RTA has confirmed that no objection is raised to the rezoning proceeding subject to the prohibition of direct vehicular access to the Bruxner Highway and a structure being provided so as to prevent pedestrian access from the Highway.

#### **Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP)**

DUAP has responded to Council's notification of intent to prepare the draft LEP for the site, advising that there is no need for an environmental study, and that as the plan proposes to prohibit direct access from the highway the plan is likely to comply with clause 53(2) of the REP. (*Note: section 53(2) contains provisions relating to the restriction of direct access onto 'primary arterial roads'*). The Department sought Council to obtain comment from the RTA and noted the Council's intention to issue a Section 65 certificate to exhibit the draft plan under delegated authority.

#### Traffic Advisory Committee Comment

Council's Traffic Advisory Committee considered the rezoning application at its meeting of October 20, 1999 whereat it was recommended that a requirement of any future development on the site be that a roundabout be required (at the Ballina Road/Holland Street intersection), and that all vehicular and pedestrian traffic from Ballina Road be prohibited. Council adopted the recommendation of the committee.

#### Other Group Comments

### **Economic Development Unit**

The Manager Economic Development has considered the application and provided the following comments;

*From an economic development viewpoint I wish to support the proposed development.*

*There is sufficient documentation in the application to establish good job creation levels (approx 60) with minimal impact elsewhere because of either existing difficulties in trading (Gum Tree Mall) or different market niche (Goonellabah proposed development).*

*The development will provide needed services for residents and factory/office lessees and works on the southern side of the highway which will add to the attractiveness of the industrial estate.*

*I see the development site very much as a **gateway venue** to Lismore and this leads to two considerations:*

1. *If no development of this nature is allowed the site may end up with a routine service station development as per existing rights. This would not be as enhancing as the current proposal.*



- The developers should be asked to provide some kind of information/interpretive signage for motorists arriving from the east and wanting to know directions etc. This could be included as part of the parking bay screening and be accessed by the visiting public as they pull off the highway.*

**Group Manager-City Works** advises:

*The RTA decision to deny access to and from the Bruxner Highway will make it very difficult to safely develop this site.*

*The construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Bruxner Highway will be required as part of this development.*

*The requirement to have all access from Holland Street will be assisted by the construction of a roundabout, however, sight distance problems will make it very difficult for traffic wishing to get back onto the Bruxner Highway.*

*If the development is to take place, negotiations need to be opened up with the RTA with the aim of gaining limited access to and from the Bruxner Highway.*

**Response to Submissions Opposing Rezoning**

**Demand for Centre**

**This issue features predominantly amongst the submissions received. Of concern to the objectors is the perceived negative impact that the centre may have upon the Gum Tree Mall, Rous Road Shopping Centre and the proposed Goonellabah Town Centre. In response to this the following comment is provided;**

Council is in receipt of two studies dealing with this issue.

The ‘*Neighbourhood Centre Site Analysis – Goonellabah*’ study prepared on behalf of Council by **Geolink**, provided the strategy for future neighbourhood shopping centres within Goonellabah. Council has adopted this strategy.

The study identified the suitability of a hierarchal approach to the provision of retail services, incorporating higher order multi use centres operating at a regional or a district level with lower order community based or neighbourhood centres serving smaller localised demand catchments. The study identified the need for additional retail floor space (including neighbourhood centres) based upon population figures and projections. The subject site was identified as one of a number of candidate sites.

Regarding the Gum Tree Mall the study states “the centre has no direct exposure to Ballina Road and currently four tenants occupy shops in the centre. There are two vacancies. The lack of direct exposure to a main road has restricted the retail vitality of Gum Tree Mall. The existing services provided fall far short of that expected from a neighbourhood centre. Further, physical expansion constraints and lack of frontage suggest that it is unlikely that this facility will ever achieve a sustainable form”.

The above comment has been provided without any qualification concerning the proposed Eastpoint Shopping Village centre, in other words the lack of adequate service provision and the problems resulting from the Gum Tree Mall not benefiting from main road frontage is not directly related to the impact (current or future) from other neighbourhood centres within the Goonellabah locality.

**Economic Associates P/L** in their report prepared for the applicant argues the demand for the services proposed at the Eastpoint Shopping village provide justification for the rezoning to proceed. Regarding the Gum Tree Mall the report states that “its future survival as a retail centre is questionable, even without the proposed centre, as it has not been able to overcome its poor location, access and visibility problems in over ten years of trading in a relatively wealthy and growing area”. This view reinforces the above comment contained within the Geolink report.

Regarding the Rous Road Shopping Centre, the report contains the following comment: “ In terms of total impacts, the Rous Road centre is expected to experience about \$1.8 million in impacts, as the proposed centre will provide an intervening or alternate convenience shopping destination for trade and households choosing to travel along Rous Road”.

The consultants conclude in the report that the level of impacts attributable to the proposed Eastpoint Shopping Village is unlikely to precipitate the failure of existing centres, jeopardise the viability of existing or proposed centres in Goonellabah or cause a net loss of retail services to areas within or near the defined trade area.

*Comment:*

The potential impact of the proposed Eastpoint Shopping Village upon the existing and other proposed centres can be divided into two areas, namely the impact upon neighbourhood or convenience centres and the impact upon higher order centres, such as the proposed Goonellabah Town Centre.

It is accepted that retail centres such as that proposed for the subject site provide a service at the neighbourhood level with the range and size of retail outlets generally reflecting this. Given this it is considered that the Eastpoint Shopping Village will not directly compete with the proposed Goonellabah Town Centre nor existing district or sub-district centres to the extent that their viability will be threatened. The Geolink study and subsequent council adopted strategy acknowledges the demand and suitability of neighbourhood centres (such as that proposed) as well as higher order district centres.

Regarding the existing neighbourhood centres within the vicinity of the site, it is considered that the proposed Eastpoint Shopping Village will utilise a customer catchment which includes part of, but extends outside of those existing for the Rous Road Centre and Gum Tree Mall. It is noted that a number of submissions in support of this application draw upon the lack of existing facilities to service their needs, as opposed to the lack of a range of services or their quality. Whilst not stated this may imply that these individuals or organisations currently do not utilise either the Rous Road Centre or Gum Tree Mall.

The Geolink report identifies the latent demand for additional neighbourhood retail facilities, based upon generally accepted population thresholds and the significance of pedestrian access (distance to facilities) for convenience goods. It is considered that this report satisfactorily establishes the demand for the facility, and

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with continuing residential development within the area (Toongarah Estate) this demand is expected to increase.

One submission claims that there is no net benefit in attracting new retail development to the area. This consideration is not accepted, and it is noted that the five (5) submissions in favour of the rezoning all state a shortfall in available services to meet their current needs.

One submission identifies the current vacancies in both the Gum Tree Mall and the Rous Road Shopping Centre, arguing that this indicates a lack of demand for new retail premises. Given the comments made in both the Geolink and Economic Associates reports this view is not accepted. The existing vacancies, particularly in respect of the Gum Tree Mall are considered to be an indication of the access, visibility and centre suitability impacts as opposed to any lack of demand for retail premises within the locality.

Having regard to the above comments no objection is raised to the rezoning proceeding on the grounds of either retail demand or impact upon existing or proposed retail facilities within the area.

#### Timing

Two of the submissions seek deferment of the rezoning in order to avoid any conflict with the proposed Goonellabah Town Centre. This option is not supported to Council given;

- a) the identified need for such a neighbourhood centre;
- b) the adoption by Council of the neighbourhood centre strategy supporting the hierarchical approach to service provision;
- c) the inability for council to secure as part of the planning process a guarantee that the Goonellabah Town centre will be developed, and the timing and staging for any development.

#### Traffic Issues

These have been satisfactorily addressed in previous Council officer reports on this application.

Of note is the acceptance of the proposal by the RTA subject to the prohibition of access (pedestrian and vehicular) from Ballina Road. This accords with the recommendation of the Traffic Advisory Committee, as adopted by Council. The draft LEP for the site contains a prohibition to satisfy this requirement, no further amendment in this regard is considered necessary.

The issue of the proposed roundabout at the Ballina Road/Holland Street intersection and safety issues associated with vehicle movements have been raised in a number of the submissions received. As part of the rezoning process Council is required to ascertain the suitability of a subject site for the development type/s which would be permitted under the new zoning. **Whilst access, traffic movements and road standards are validly part of this assessment, specific development conditions including engineering standards and section 94 contribution requirements can only be imposed at a subsequent development application stage.** At this later stage Council is required under the EPA Act to consider the merits of a specific development including design, appearance, parking, access, service vehicle requirements, site coverage and density etc.

Of relevance at this stage are the comments from the RTA and Council's Traffic Advisory Committee. Neither the RTA nor the committee raises any objection to the rezoning proceeding (on traffic grounds) subject to the denial of direct access for the development onto Ballina Road.

Accordingly refusal of the rezoning based upon traffic or access issues is considered inappropriate. Having stated this it is acknowledged that design amendments for the development may be required at the development application stage in order to delete the main road access and to comply with Council's engineering standards. It is noted that 2LM considers that turning lanes and road widening may address this issue, and again this is a matter which should be fully considered at the development application stage.

One submission advises of concern with headlights from vehicles disturbing residents. It is considered that appropriate development consent conditions can be imposed upon any future application to satisfactorily mitigate this potential impact.

#### Pedestrian Access

Two of the submissions identify a concern with pedestrians, particularly the elderly having to cross the main road to access facilities. This concern appears to be based on the premise that the Gum Tree Mall will close in the event the Eastpoint Shopping Village proceeds. This assumption cannot be taken as factual and the preceding comments made in respect of the viability of the Gum Tree Mall are relevant. It is also possible that any residents on the southern side of the main road currently choosing to access the Gum Tree Mall are in a similar position of having to negotiate the main road to shop. It is considered that this concern expressed is not sufficient to warrant refusal of the rezoning application.

#### Suggested LEP amendments (Geolink)

It is considered that the draft plan as currently prepared provides adequate protection to ensure the proposed centre will serve as a lower order neighbourhood centre, and as such, will not directly affect the commercial viability of the Lismore CBD, including the Lismore Square and the Goonellabah Town Centre. The wording of the prohibition clause, limiting the potential floor space to 1500m<sup>2</sup> is appropriate. Accordingly, changes to the draft plan as proposed by Geolink are not considered warranted.

#### **Comment on submissions in favour of rezoning**

All five submission in favour of the rezoning comment on the lack of existing retail convenience facilities to service their requirements, with the developers of the Toongarah estate also identifying market resistance resulting from the lack of retail facilities. Further comment on these submissions is not required, Council can note the views of these submitters.

#### **Submission from Applicant**

In addition to comment on the submissions received, the applicant forwarded a request for Council to amend two key clauses of the draft local environmental plan. The clauses and the applicant's rationale for amendment are outlined below:

Clause 61A(2)(a) This clause restricts the development of the subject site to a centre containing no more than 1500 m<sup>2</sup> of retail floor space.

The applicant seeks to have this clause amended so as to allow for highway frontage uses on the site in addition to 1500m<sup>2</sup> of neighbourhood centre floor space. The argument presented to Council is that the Geolink report on neighbourhood centres did not deal with highway uses, and that the subject site is the only one identified in the Geolink report which has highway frontage.

Clause 61A(2)(b) This clause prohibits access to development on the site being obtained directly from Ballina Road.

The applicant seeks to have this provision amended so as to allow for the option to seek the concurrence of the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) for direct highway access, rather than the current outright prohibition. The argument presented to Council is that in 1994 Council approved an application for a service station with direct access and that the option of gaining RTA concurrence allows for this issue to be assessed in detail at the development application stage, without diminishing the significance of the issue.

*Comment*

It is considered inappropriate to accede to the applicant's request for the allowance of additional retail space on the basis that such would constitute 'highway frontage use' rather than neighbourhood centre use. The argument that as the Geolink report focussed on neighbourhood facilities the recommended floor space restrictions should exclude retail space targeting highway traffic is flawed in that;

- a) The additional retail area would still compete with neighbourhood retail space, despite intentions that it serve only highway (through) traffic.
- b) As the development would essentially comprise one complex, consumers would not be expected to differentiate between the neighbourhood and the highway components, resulting in an overall floor space in excess of the maximum recommended in the Geolink report and adopted by Council.
- c) Additional floor space on the site would undermine the neighbourhood centre strategy adopted by Council.

It is further considered that support for the increase in floor space for the site would place the rezoning in potential non compliance with Clause 39 of the North Coast REP as the proposal would contravene Council's adopted neighbourhood retail strategy. (Refer following section)

Regarding the request for a concurrence clause with the RTA for highway access, the RTA in its consideration of the application has formally advised Council that the rezoning should prohibit direct access. In addition, attempts to amend the draft LEP to allow such access are likely to be considered by DUAP as contrary to the provisions of Sections 53 and 54 of the North Coast REP. These clauses require that arterial roads be protected by ensuring that access be restricted to specially constructed intersections.

In light of the above comments it is recommended that Council deny the applicant's request for amendment to the draft LEP.

**Compliance with North Coast Regional Environmental Plan**

Comments received from the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning are outlined within the section of this report dealing with submissions.

The proposal is affected by several clauses of the North Coast REP. These are:

Clause 39 Plan preparation – retail, commercial or business activities. This clause specifies that a LEP shall not provide for the establishment of significant retail, commercial or business development unless the expansion is adjacent to or adjoining the existing centre or unless the expansion is in accordance with a council adopted commercial/retail expansion strategy.

Council has a letter on file dated September 23, 1997 from the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (to Geolink) in relation to the definition or parameters for ‘significant’ development. The Department’s written response advises that the issues as to whether a 1500 – 2000 m2 facility was significant is a matter for Lismore City Council to determine, however “the Department’s view would be that a shopping area of this size would be unlikely to be ‘significant’ in local government area-wide terms”.

It is considered the proposed development the subject of this rezoning is not ‘significant’ in terms of clause 39, and in any event Council has now adopted its neighbourhood centre strategy for Goonellabah. Accordingly the proposal is seen as being consistent with this provision of the North Coast REP.

Clause 47 – Plan preparation and development control principles for commercial and industrial development. This clause requires council to take into consideration the principles of maintaining strong multi-functional town centres to focus the drawing power of individual businesses and so as to maintain the integrity of the main business area.

Council’s adopted strategy for this area provides for the development of a hierarchy of retail services to satisfy neighbourhood and sub district/district catchments. The proposed rezoning is seen as being consistent with this REP provision.

Clauses 53 and 54 – Plan preparation – Primary and secondary arterial roads. These clauses require that arterial roads be protected by ensuring that access be restricted to specially constructed intersections.

The draft LEP which prohibits access for the development being directly from the main road ensures compliance with this requirements, and is in conformity with the requirements of the RTA and the adopted recommendation of the Traffic Advisory Committee.

Clause 56A – Plan preparation – bus services. This clause requires council to consider the need for bus services resulting from any alteration to zoning, which could give rise to the need for bus services.

The site is located within close proximity to an existing bus route, accordingly the proposal is consistent with this REP provision.

### Options

Council has three options with regard to this application for rezoning:

1. resolve to refuse the application and to not proceed with the draft LEP amendment
  2. resolve to proceed with the draft LEP in its current format, or
  3. resolve to amend the draft LEP in light of any matter raised in submissions or in response to matters raised by Council.
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Conclusion

It is considered that the rezoning application to provide for the development of the East Point Shopping Village has merit and accordingly is able to be supported by Council. The subject site has been identified as suitable for development as a neighbourhood shopping centre in the strategy adopted by Council, with demand for local retail services established in both the 'Neighbourhood Centre Site Analysis – Goonellabah' report prepared for Council by Geolink, and the retail demand assessment undertaken for the applicant by Economic Associates. The compliance of the development with the neighbourhood centre strategy should negate any concern regarding potential precedent for additional similar centres in close proximity to the site as future rezoning requests should also be assessed for compliance with the adopted strategy.

Issues raised in the public submissions have been addressed in the preceding comments. It is considered that issues relating to access, traffic and amenity can be appropriately and adequately dealt with at future development application stage. Regarding traffic issues the comments from the RTA requiring restricted access from Ballina Road is noted, and the draft LEP contains a clause prohibiting such access.

The proposal and the draft LEP are in conformity with the plan making directions as contained in the North Coast Regional Environmental Plan.

The subject site is able to be physically developed to accommodate the proposed centre although some design modifications will be required at development application stage particularly in respect of access and parking.

In light of the assessment undertaken, and having regard to the submissions received, it is recommended that Council resolve to proceed with the rezoning in accordance with the draft local environmental plan as exhibited.

**Comment from Acting Group Manager-Planning and Development**

The conclusions and recommendations of this report are supported. However, the concern of the City Works Group about access/egress arrangements are acknowledged. With the denial of access to and from the Highway, topography and sight distance at the top of Holland Street may make it difficult for traffic to turn right from the proposed exit onto Holland Street to rejoin the Highway.

The applicant has already negotiated with the RTA, which is determined to adhere to its policy of preventing access to a Highway where alternatives exist. The RTA has also confirmed that it will not accept a concurrence role as proposed by the applicant. A copy of this confirmation is in the attachment.

Recommendation (PLA1)

- 1 That Council resolve to proceed with an amending local environmental plan for the 'East Point Shopping Village' at Ballina Road being Lot 21 DP 835735 Ballina Road Goonellabah.
- 2 That Council refer the draft local environmental plan as exhibited to the Director General for Planning for a report pursuant to Section 69 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.



Subject/File No:       **STATE OF THE ROADS**  
                                  (GJH/CA:S374)

Prepared By:            Manager - Roads & Infrastructure - Garry Hemsworth

Reason:                 Request from Council.

Objective:              Provide an update on the condition of Council's roads.

Management Plan Activity:       Roads

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Executive Summary:

Recent roughness surveys have shown that about half the road length in the Lismore City area is terminal or failing (and will become terminal within five years).

The rough roads are costing road users an estimated \$4.8M per year in extra wear and tear on their vehicles.

The poor condition of the roads is leading to scarce funding being wasted on band aid or emergency work. It is ineffective and costly to pothole patch terminal sections of road which really require heavy patching or rehabilitation. No funds are left to undertake preventative maintenance such as shoulder grading, resealing or drainage work, which only compounds the problem.

To turn the situation around a huge amount of capital is required. Even spreading expenditure over a ten year period it is estimated \$6.1M per year is required on the local network alone. Council can only fund about \$1.2M each year. Clearly there is a huge shortfall. Options available to Council are limited.

- We can lobby State and Federal Governments for more funds;
- Rationalise the length of road we try to maintain to a satisfactory standard which may require turning some less trafficked bitumen roads back to gravel; or
- Continue on the way we are going.

Introduction:

Council resolved at its meeting held November 2, 1999 that:

*"The General Manager arrange for the City Works Department to urgently conduct a comprehensive review of the Council's road network with the aim of producing a State of the Roads Report.*

*This report should:-*

- 1. Detail all roads and streets within the Council boundaries that fall below the minimum standards recommended by the Fix the Roads Committee and adopted by Council at its meeting of September 28, 1999.*
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State of the Roads

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2. *Detail the estimated cost of bringing each of these roads and streets up to these basic standards.*
3. *Detail the funds available to Council to meet this demand; and*
4. *Detail other factors that will affect the liability of Council to meet its commitments to the roads over the next four years.*

*That this State of the Roads report be presented to Council at the first meeting in the new year following consideration by the Fix the Road Working party."*

Background:

There is much anecdotal evidence that the roads in the Lismore City Council area have been in poor condition for decades. With any large road network, such as the Lismore City Network, it is very difficult to get a single measure or snap shot of the overall condition of the roads. This is mainly due to the enormous size of the asset. The amount of information which needs to be collected, analysed and reported is staggering.

Roads also have very long lives, usually between 20-30 years. Once a road is constructed, it is fairly robust and will endure less than optimal maintenance funding for many years. The life of the road will be reduced but it will still provide service for many years. Even roads in terminal condition still provide some level of service i.e. vehicles can still travel along them.

The average condition of the Lismore City Road Network is very low. We find ourselves in this position due to a number of factors including: a lack of funding over many years; increased traffic loads; thin pavements, and adverse weather conditions.

The condition of the road network is directly related to funding. If an improvement to the overall condition is desired, an increase in funding is required. A large increase in funding will see a rapid improvement. A modest increase will see improvement over an extended period.

The current condition of the network is causing substantial funds to be wasted undertaking emergency or band-aid works rather than programmed or preventative maintenance. This is particularly prevalent where we are pothole patching terminal sections of pavement which really require rehabilitation or heavy patching.

Expenditure on pothole patching for the first six months of the 1999/2000 financial year show an increase of approximately \$190,000 over the same period in the 1998/99 financial year.

The overall Lismore City Road Network can be subdivided into four (4) main categories of roads, *ie, State, Regional, Local Urban and Local Rural*. This report will not consider State Roads as they are the State Government's responsibility. The other categories will be considered separately as they are fundamentally different (*in the case of rural and urban roads*), or are partially funded by the State Government in the case of Regional Roads.

Road pavement roughness has traditionally been regarded as a measure of the ride quality perceived by occupants of passenger cars. It has also been found to provide a good measure of overall pavement condition and to provide a link to vehicle operating costs. Road roughness has become the most commonly used measure of pavement condition at the network level.

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State of the Roads

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Road roughness is measured on counts per kilometre. The roughness surveys undertaken have categorised 100m sections of road into the following:-

<u>Roughness</u>	<u>Condition</u>
>150	Terminal (requires rehabilitation)
150-115	Failing (will become terminal within 5 years)
<115	Satisfactory (no treatment required at this time)

A Roughness Survey was completed in 1999 on the Local Rural and Urban Networks. The Regional Network was surveyed in December 1998. In 1990 surveys of the Local Rural Network and Regional Network were undertaken.

State of the Roads:

**1. Regional Roads**

Our Regional Road Network includes -

- \* Nimbin / Blue Knob Road
- \* Dunoon Road
- \* Coraki Road
- \* Kyogle Road
- \* Rous Road

They are arterial feeder roads between regions in the North Coast area and are the life blood of the Lismore City area.

In 1989 these roads were called Classified Roads and were clearly the responsibility of State Government. However, over the years there has been a shifting of responsibility onto Local Government where now the RTA claims it makes a "*contribution towards*" the maintenance of Regional Roads. It is Council's current practice not to contribute any Council funds to regional road maintenance and only pay a half share for reconstruction projects.

In 1990 47% of roads were in terminal condition. In 1998 this had fallen to 30%. Similarly roads which were due to fail within five years had dropped from 44% to 21%. The 1998 survey was taken before the wet weather experienced in the first half of 1999. Therefore the current condition is probably worse than the above figures indicate.

The relatively small improvement has taken place over such a long period that the perception is there has been no improvement. The expectations of the community have also risen during this period.

Only 49% of our Regional Road Network is in satisfactory condition. Regional roads carry the bulk of the traffic throughout the City area and are therefore most susceptible to rapid deterioration, as illustrated by Blue Knob Road during last year.

Council is now faced with a very difficult decision. Whether to put more of Council's own funds into Regional Roads?

State of the Roads

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Regional Roads are the most important roads in the City Council area but if we fully fund rehabilitation projects, we potentially risk losing half-funding from the RTA.

To illustrate the difficulty we are experiencing with the Regional Road Network, we are currently \$138,000 over-spent on maintenance and sections of road which are terminal, such as Blue Knob Road, are not on the Four Year Forward Works Programme.

**2. Local Rural Roads**

Comparison of roughness survey results in 1990 and 1999 show a slight improvement in condition. However, the standard the community expect has also increased during this period. The community do not differentiate between Regional Roads and Local Rural Roads so the overall perception by the public is the rural roads are in poor condition.

The survey results show that in 1990, 34% of rural roads were terminal condition. The 1999 results show this has reduced to 27%. The recent work undertaken just before Christmas 1999 would further reduce this percentage to as low as 22%.

Roads which will fail within five (5) years has reduced by 2%, down to 22%, and the number of satisfactory roads has increased by 9%, up to 51%.

**3. Local Urban Roads**

Technology which allowed roughness survey of urban streets was not available in 1990. Therefore the 1999 survey results are the first available for the urban network.

Basically, 41% of the urban network is in terminal condition; 22% is due to fail within five (5) years, and only 37% is in satisfactory condition.

Fortunately the lower travel speeds in the urban environment make roughness a less critical factor. However, overall the urban network is in very poor condition.

Cost to Bring Roads Up to a Satisfactory Standard:

The cost to bring Council's roads up to a satisfactory standard (i.e. roughness less than 110 counts/km) is summarised below.

	Regional		Rural		Urban		Total	
	Length	Cost (\$M)	Length	Cost (\$M)	Length	Cost (\$M)	Length	Cost (\$M)
<b>Terminal</b>	35	7.0	111	15.1	73	11.5	219	33.6
<b>Failing</b>	25	5.0	93	13.3	39	6.3	157	24.6
		12.0		28.4		17.8		58.2

For a more detailed summary refer to Appendix 'A'.

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State of the Roads

As can be seen above, a total of \$58.2M is required to bring Council's roads up to a satisfactory standard. \$28.4M and \$17.8M for the local rural and urban networks respectively and \$12.0M for the regional network.

The above amounts are huge and it is unrealistic to consider funding over a short period of time. If a 10 year period is chosen, the following annual amounts are required.

	<b>Regional (\$M)</b>	<b>Rural (\$M)</b>	<b>Urban (\$M)</b>	<b>Total (\$M)</b>
<b>Amount required over 10 years</b>	1.52	3.76	2.35	7.63
<b>Minimum amount to maintain existing condition</b>	0.65	1.85	1.13	3.63
<b>Recurrent Funds available - typical year</b>	0.50	0.8	0.4	1.7
<b>Funds available - current year</b>	0.50	1.97	0.68	3.15
<b>Shortfall - typical year</b>	1.02	2.96	1.95	5.93

It should be noted that the above "Minimum amount to maintain existing condition" is derived from the fact roads only have a limited life. For a 30 year design life, one-thirtieth or 3% of the network will retire each year. Therefore as a bare minimum, 3% of the network should be rehabilitated each year, just to maintain the current condition.

Funds Available:

The funds available to Council for road rehabilitation works fluctuate from year to year, mainly due to external grants and Council priorities. The figures shown as recurrent "Funds available - typical year" in the previous table, however, have a high degree of certainty that they will be available on an ongoing basis.

The combined rural/urban amount of \$1.2M can be divided between rural and urban works as Council chooses. There is an additional \$350,000 per annum which is typically allocated to footpaths, kerb and gutter, drainage and bridge works.

There is also a substantial maintenance allocation each year. However, due to the current poor condition of the network there is very limited funding which can be moved from maintenance works to rehabilitation works.

To illustrate how the funds can fluctuate from year to year, we only have to look at this year's budget. An additional \$1.45M has been found through overhead savings, re-allocation of reseal funding, receiving 3x3 grant and extra allocation from Council.

State of the Roads

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This finding of additional funds has been a common feature over the years (e.g. flood damage, increased rates, special grants or Section 94 funds). It is through this additional money and other opportunistic management that we have been able to keep the network up to its current position because theoretically the condition of the roads should be deteriorating rapidly.

Road User Costs:

The cost of driving vehicles on rough roads is higher than driving vehicles on smooth roads. Operating costs include fuel, service and repair costs. Rougher roads can also lead to reduced resale value and increased deterioration.

An analysis has been undertaken to quantify the cost to the community of the rough roads in the Lismore City area. Only vehicle operating costs have been quantified, other costs such as reduced travel time and accident costs have not been included in the calculation.

Data from the "RTA Economic Analysis Manual 1999" have been used.

The estimated cost to road users of the Lismore City road network due to rough roads is \$4.8M per year which is equivalent to \$470 per household per year.

Options:

To improve our roads even over a 10 year period an additional \$1.02M is required on the regional network and \$4.91M on the local network per year. This is beyond the capacity of Council to pay.

Options available to Council include the following.

**1. Lobby State and Federal Governments**

Council should continue to take every opportunity to lobby State and Federal Governments for additional funds. Particularly a larger share of the fuel excise levy should be allocated to local roads.

In 1981/82 70.6 cents in every dollar collected in fuel excise tax was allocated to road funding. In 1998/99 this had dropped to 7.3 cents in every dollar. A graph at Appendix 'B' shows the decrease in funding over recent years.

**2. Only Rehabilitate Important Roads (Classes 1-3 only)**

If Council only looked at rehabilitating Class 1, 2 and 3 roads, the following cash flows are required over a 10 year period.

	<b>Regional (\$M)</b>	<b>Rural (\$M)</b>	<b>Urban (\$M)</b>	<b>Total (\$M)</b>
<b>Amount required over 10 years (Classes 1-3 only)</b>	1.52	2.76	0.69	4.97
<b>Recurrent Funds available - typical year</b>	0.5	0.8	0.4	1.7
<b>Funds available - current year</b>	0.5	1.97	0.68	3.15

State of the Roads

<b>Shortfall</b> <i>- typical year</i>	1.02	1.86	0.29	3.27
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Although the shortfall is still significant i.e. \$1.02M on the regional network and \$2.25M on the local network, the possibility of raising this amount of money is more likely.

The down side to this strategy is how to handle the Class 4 and 5 roads. If no rehabilitation funds are spent on Class 4 and 5 roads, they will reach terminal condition and become unsafe. At this stage there is no other option in a rural environment other than to revert the road back to gravel. In the urban environment patching would continue but the road would be extremely rough and only to a condition which would allow traffic to slowly drive through.

Under this strategy, once a rural road was reverted to gravel, it would remain as gravel. The maintenance cost would be in the order of \$2,000/km/year to maintain the gravel section which is less than maintaining the terminal bitumen section which would be in the order of \$5,000/km/year.

To give an indication of the length of road which could be effected under this policy, we can examine the sections of road with roughness greater than 200 counts/km.

	<b>Class</b>	<b>Length (km)</b>	<b>% Urban/Rural Network</b>
<b>Rural</b>	4	7.0	1.7
	5	47.3	11.5
<b>Urban</b>	4 & 5	32.1	14.6

**2. Continue the Way We Are**

As mentioned earlier the condition of the road network is directly related to long-term funding levels. The roughness surveys in 1990 and 1999 indicate a slight improvement in condition. However, it must be recognised overall the roads are still in very poor condition and the community is not happy with the current condition of the roads.

If we continue the way we are going, the road network will continue to be in very poor condition. Maintenance funds will continue to be wasted by holding together terminal roads, drawing funds away from preventative maintenance (such as drainage and shoulder maintenance), which will further reduce the effective life of the roads.

We are currently in a poverty trap. If we could improve the overall condition of the roads, less funding would be required for road maintenance.

**3. Find Additional Funds Internally**

Council may review its current expenditure and priority of work in other areas of Council. There are workshops scheduled during February and March 2000 to review the Budget. This will provide an opportunity to examine whether any additional funds are available from other areas of Council's activities.

**4. Increase Design Life of Pavements**



State of the Roads

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A method of saving funds is to increase the design life of a pavement at reconstruction stage. The design life of a pavement is determined by the number of equivalent standard axles it can carry during its life. The thickness of pavement material is a function of the number of standard axles and the strength of the subgrade. To double the design life of a pavement usually only 20-40mm of extra gravel is required. This equates to only an additional \$2-4/m<sup>2</sup> at rehabilitation stage.

**20 Year Design Life**

Rehabilitate one-twentieth (5%) of network per year.

Rehabilitation cost:	\$20/m <sup>2</sup>	
Maintenance:	Reseal every 10 years (10%) of network per year	
	Total pavement area of 4.81Mm <sup>2</sup>	
Rehabilitation:	$4.81 \times 10^6 \times 0.05 \times 20 =$	\$4.81M
Maintenance:	$4.81 \times 10^6 \times 0.1 \times 4 =$	<u>1.92</u>
		\$6.73M

**40 Year Design Life**

Rehabilitate one-fortieth (2.5%) of network per year.

Rehabilitation cost:	\$24/m <sup>2</sup>	
Maintenance:	Reseal every 10 years (10%) of network per year	
Rehabilitation:	$4.81 \times 10^6 \times 0.025 \times 24 =$	\$2.89M
	$4.81 \times 10^6 \times 0.1 \times 4 =$	<u>1.92</u>
		\$4.81M

**Saving \$1.92M or 29%.**

Conversely, slightly thinner pavements than required drastically reduce the design life of a pavement and can result in substantial losses.

The stabilisation process we have been undertaking for many years now effectively increases the life of the pavement as illustrated above.

**Manager - Finance & Administration Comments**

The Manager - Roads and Infrastructure's report provides a detailed overview of the "State of the Roads". Using the information contained in the report based on a 10-year period to bring the roads up to a satisfactory standard, our funding is approximately \$5.93 Million less than that required per annum. To bring this into perspective, the shortfall in funding is approximately 3.5 times the recurrent budget for rehabilitation.

It is obvious that there is no easy solution to this situation. However, a number of options to generate this funding have been identified. They include, lobbying State and Federal Governments; only rehabilitate important roads (Class 1-3), and increase design life of pavements. Maximum success from all three options is required to achieve the best possible outcome.

As mentioned, Council shortly is to review all works and services and service levels provided with the objective of producing savings within the recurrent budget that can be used for roads. It is extremely doubtful that the level of funding required will be achieved by this review but it is supported on the basis that Council may wish to alter its focus from that currently provided.

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State of the Roads

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In summary, the reality of the situation is that we will not be able to generate sufficient recurrent funding to fix the roads to a satisfactory standard. We should actively pursue all the above options and any more that may come to light from time to time.

Public Consultations N/A

Other Group Comments Not Required

Conclusion

About half the total road length of the Lismore City road network is in terminal condition or will become terminal within five years. Working with a road network in such poor condition makes effective expenditure of maintenance funds difficult because considerable emergency and band aid treatment is required.

Rough roads are costing the community an extra \$4.8M per year in increased vehicle operating costs.

There is a huge funding shortfall between what is required to bring the roads up to a satisfactory standard and what Council can afford.

The above report has been considered by the Fix the Roads Working Party and the following recommendations are forwarded for Council's consideration.

Recommendation (WOR3)

1. That the State of the Roads report be received and noted.
2. That Council continue to take every opportunity to lobby State and Federal Governments for additional funds.
3. If it is cost effective, that Council design pavements for a 40-year design life when undertaking rehabilitation works.
4. That a further report be presented showing the roads which require immediate rehabilitation. The assessment is to be based on visual inspection of failed pavement rather than roughness measures.

Subject/File No: **ALCOHOL FREE ZONES**  
(WMacD/CA: S226)

Prepared By: Traffic & Law Enforcement Co-Ordinator - W MacDonald

Reason: Application for an Alcohol Free Zone to be re-introduced within the Central Business District areas of Lismore and Nimbin

Objective: To gain Council approval for the continuation of the Alcohol Free Zones

Management Plan Activity: N/A

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### Background:

Alcohol Free Zones have been in place around the Lismore and Nimbin CBD areas for a number of years. The zones are applied for a specific period (maximum three years) and may only be established to include a public road or a public place that is a carpark (i.e. carparks on public land or crown land). The current term expires on March 11, 2000.

Lismore Police have requested that the zones be re-instated and have advised of statistics which have shown an increase in alcohol related crimes and anti-social behaviour in and around licensed premises within the CBD areas. Police along with hoteliers and secretaries of registered clubs within the CBD have recently introduced a voluntary 1.30am curfew in Lismore in an endeavour to reduce these statistics.

Inter-alia the curfew prohibits the movement of people after 1.30am from leaving one licensed premise and going to another. After 1.30am a person cannot enter any licensed premise. Police have found that the curfew in conjunction with the Alcohol Free Zones appeared to assist in reducing crime in and around the CBD. The curfew allows Police to control and monitor the movement of persons within the CBD and without the Alcohol Free Zones the curfew would lose its effectiveness.

Police feel the Alcohol Free Zones have become a most effective tool enabling them to act in a manner that assists with the deterrent of crime. It also complements other measures put in place such as the security patrols and safety cameras.

Manager - Finance & Administration Comments N/A

### Public Consultations

As pointed out, the Alcohol Free Zones have been in place for a number of years without adverse comment on their installation within that time.

This current proposal has also been advertised with no objections received. Letters have also been written to the Ngulingah Local Land Council, Regional Land Council and Bundjalung Tribal Society advising them of Council intentions and seeking their continued support.

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Conclusion

Police strongly believe that the existence of the Alcohol Free Zones and the enforcement of same do have an effect in reducing crime around the CBD areas. The re-introduction of the Alcohol Free Zones is imperative for Police to be able to deal with some of the problems experienced.

Recommendation (WOR4)

That the Alcohol Free Zones, as illustrated on the maps marked as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 to this report, be re-introduced for a period of three (3) years from the current expiry date of March 11, 2000.



Upgrade of Military Road (Cellulose Valley)

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It is possible that we could “borrow” the necessary funds from the “Arterial Roads Matching Funds” Reserve to undertake the work pending Council's decision to construct Skyline Road as an Arterial Road. This would be a satisfactory solution until such time as we needed the funds to construct the Southern Link.

Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

On the basis that Council is committed to the Cellulose Valley development, then the recommendation to use matching funds reserved for Arterial Roads is supported.

Approximately \$145,000 is available in the 'Arterial Roads Matching Fund' Reserve this year which could be used for this purpose. I might add that these reserves are from previous FAG's funds, specifically held for this purpose. If all the works proposed for 1999/2000 are completed, there will be no funds available to meet Council's contribution to this Section 94 Plan for 2000/2001. This means that Council will have to provide an allocation in the 2000/2001 Management for its contribution towards the Urban Arterial Roads Section 94 Plan if it resolves for any works to proceed.

If Military Road is approved as an “Arterial Road” then we will be eligible to replenish this reserve from developer contributions (S94) up to 50%.

Other Group Comments N/A

Recommendation (WOR6)

That Council give approval for the upgrade of Military Road using funds from the Arterial Road Matching Funds Reserve.





- Reviewing the contents of the Lismore Local Environmental Plan to remove unnecessary prohibitions, anomalies and contradictions, update provisions where required and rephrase legal jargon in plain english;
- Updating the LEP in relation to provisions for flood prone land (following determination of the Floodplain Management Strategy) and protection of agricultural land;
- Ensuring that adopted land use strategies are reflected in the LEP/DCPs so that all planning guidelines are transparently available to all;
- Reviewing development control plans with the aim of updating their requirements to reflect current legislation and community wishes, and possibly reducing their number by deleting any unnecessary ones, amalgamating others and removing duplications.
- Producing all the above in a consistent and clear format possibly in one binder: a 'one stop shop' for Lismore planning information.

It is proposed that the review of Nimbin Development Control Plan should have a high priority in this program, and it appears that sufficient funds may remain in the Strategic Planning budget for commencing this review in the near future.

### **Resources required**

It is estimated that the above program would take two strategic planners two years to complete. If only one strategic planner position is maintained and there are limited consultancy funds then obviously the program would take considerably longer. However it is considered essential that resources are in the future allocated for reviewing and improving planning guidelines to cater for anticipated upturns in the economic and development cycle.

If Council endorses the above approach then in addition to the usual administration costs, it is likely that the Planning Services budget for the next financial year is likely to contain allocations for the public transport, heritage advisor and heritage grant allocations (these two being part funded by the State Government), as well as some funding for consultancies to update village DCPs or process rezonings.

### **Manager - Finance & Administration Comments**

The proposed change in focus away from the preparation of new studies and strategies to reviewing and updating current planning controls and policies to form a clear and up to date 'package' of planning guidelines in an accessible and user friendly form is supported.

I believe we have an obligation to complete the projects already commenced otherwise we would have wasted significant resources unnecessarily. Unfortunately, this will come at an added cost.

It is agreed that the funding for the total proposal should be considered in conjunction with the 2000/2001 Management Plan. This will allow Council to consider the merit of this proposal with all the other proposals during this process.

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Public Consultations

Not required.

Other Group Comments

Not required.

Conclusion

The endorsement of the above program for strategic land use planning will provide Council policy direction for forthcoming budget discussions.

Recommendation (PLA2)

That Council:

- 1 Endorse the above program as the basis for consideration of the Planning Services Section next budget; and
- 2 Initiate a review of Development Control Plan No. 9 - Nimbin by the preparation of an amending DCP.

Subject/File No: REVIEW OF PUBLIC CONTACT FORUMS IN RURAL LOCATIONS  
(GW:LC:S43)

Prepared By: Administrative Services Manager - Graeme Wilson

Reason: To comply with Council resolution.

Objective: To review and improve the operation of Contact forums.

Management Plan Activity: N/A

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## **Introduction**

Council resolved at its meeting of November 23, 1999 to conduct a review into the format/process/cost/alternative consultation mechanisms of Public Contact forums prior to the next Forum.

Council further resolved that Councillors Irwin, King, Roberts and Swientek would conduct this review.

These Councillors have submitted comments for this review, which are attached to this document.

The following document incorporates these comments along with staff comments and supplementary issues raised by the Councillors.

## **Should the Forums Continue?**

This is a fundamental question, which if answered in the negative makes the rest of the paper redundant.

The view from all Councillors is that the forums should continue, although this is heavily qualified by Councillor Swientek.

There is however general agreement that some modification to the format and recording of the meeting is required.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Rural Contact Forums continue.

## **Format of the Forums**

All Councillors raised concerns about and suggested improvements to the Forums. Issues raised included;

- Need for staff to attend to provided specific details on issues, particularly roads
  - Attendance record of Councillors
  - Recording of issues raised at forums
  - Chairing of forums
  - Reporting back to the community and Councillors on issues raised.
-

### **Attendance of Staff**

The concept of the forums when first developed was that it was to be a mechanism where the community could raise and discuss issues with their elected members without the interference of staff. However there has obviously developed a need for staff to attend to answer questions on day to day issues, particularly roads.

Discussions have been held with staff from City Works and they have agreed to attend such forums. It was proposed that the staff representative would give a short presentation at the start of the forum, to be followed by questions. However concern was raised by Councillors that this could lead the debate rather than responding to community concerns. It is hoped that such sessions will not develop into witch-hunts and to this degree the staff will rely upon the chairperson of each meeting to maintain order.

From time to time it may also be appropriate for other staff to attend eg strategic planners where issues particular to the surrounding area arise.

Councillors could also consider the concept of inviting other “experts” or relevant people to such forums. For example, on the issue of roads, Council could consider inviting representative(s) from the Fix the Roads Working Party to attend and address the forum. This concept could extend to other committees and even to people who hold contrary views to those expressed by council.

**RECOMMENDED** that a representative of City Works attend the Rural Forums to answer questions.

### **Attendance Record of Councillors**

The original concept was for six councillors to attend each forum. This number was selected so that the diverse views of the community, as reflected by the Councillors could be adequately represented at each forum. It was also to enable the public to feel that they were addressing a significant proportion of the Council and thus making their attendance worthwhile.

Although records have not been kept it is conceded that it would be rare for all six to attend. Staff have always tried to ensure that at least four attend but again this has not always been possible.

The concept of six councillors attending is still supported, but it is acknowledged that this needs the support of the Councillors. If we reduce the numbers, there is no guarantee that the problem with non-attendance will not continue, and this will make it more difficult for staff to ensure that sufficient numbers are present.

**RECOMMENDED** that six Councillors continue to be rostered to attend the forums.

### **Chairing of Forums**

The practice in the past has been (as far as possible) to have each forum attended by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor. In light of this it would seem appropriate that they chair the meeting. If neither is present then the Councillors present can decide amongst themselves.

**RECOMMENDED** that the Mayor or Deputy Mayor chair the forums (if in attendance), otherwise Councillors present determine who will chair the forum.

### **Recording of Issues raised at Forums**

Obviously this duty needs to be performed. It is not good practice for the chairperson to try and run a meeting and be “scribe” as well, thus it must fall to one of the other Councillors.

Staff can type up any notes taken.

This could be an issue that is agreed upon by the councillors who attend the forum.

**RECOMMENDED** that Councillors attending the Forum determine the “recorder”.

### **Reporting of Issues Raised**

As indicated by the Councillors, this has been a less than satisfactory component of the forums. Often there has been insufficient information available for staff to communicate answers to those who have raised issues.

In the past where notes have been made available, these have been reproduced in the Bulletin along with appropriate staff comments. It is proposed that this practice continues.

For the public, a record of name/address, should be kept to enable replies to be forwarded.

It is not considered appropriate to require the names and addresses of all the people who attend a public meeting, but certainly anyone who wants a copy of the notes, or response is welcome to them. Perhaps the chairperson could make an announcement about supplying names and addresses etc.

**RECOMMENDED** that

- (1) Names and addresses be recorded of attendees requiring a reply or a copy of the notes to allow staff to forward them as soon as possible.
- (2) A record of the Forum along with the staff response be placed in the Bulletin.

### **City Forums**

Councillor Swientek raises the issue of also conducting forums within the built up section of the City.

This concept has merit and has been investigated by staff previously. In fact we got close to having an arrangement with Neighbourhood Watch organisations but this fell through.

For this to proceed, it obviously needs the support of Councillors. Also we will need to determine catchment areas for the forums and appropriate meeting locations.

It has been suggested that any City Forums be held in addition to Rural Forums. Perhaps two per year, in say April and July. A rough break up of the city would be Goonellabah, Lismore Heights, East Lismore and Central Lismore (incorporating North and South Lismore). The boundaries of such catchments would be very loose with considerable overlap.

Venues would most likely be licensed clubs.

**RECOMMENDED** that two City Forums be conducted annually in April and July.

### **Alternate Mechanisms**

Councillor Swientek has raised the possibility of using existing organisations and Council being represented on these organisations.

Whilst having nothing against this in principle, indeed Council is a member of Lismore Unlimited, the reality is that Councillors by their very nature tend to be members of various organisations, be they political/service clubs/progress associations, etc. It is unlikely that a great deal would be achieved by Council itself becoming a member of such organisations.

**RECOMMENDED** that no action be taken on this matter.

### **Councillor Interviews**

The general consensus was that these Interviews should continue. However the cut off time to make appointments should be on the Friday prior to the interview. It should be noted that the issues with respect to Councillor attendance at Rural Contact Forums also apply to Interviews.

**RECOMMENDED** that Councillor Interviews continue with the close off time for appointments being 4pm on the Friday preceding the Interview.

### **Manager - Finance & Administration Comments.**

Not requested.

### **Public Consultations**

Not required.

### **Other Group Comments**

City Works Group has been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

Recommendation (COR06)

1. That the Rural Contact Forums continue and Council establish a City forum to be held twice a year.
2. That a representative of City Works attend the Rural Forums to answer questions.
3. That six Councillors continue to be rostered to attend the forums.
4. That the Mayor or Deputy Mayor chair the forums (if in attendance), otherwise Councillors present determine who will chair the forum.
5. That Councillors attending the Forum determine the “recorder”.
6.
  - (a) Names and addresses be recorded of attendees requiring a reply or a copy of the notes to allow staff to forward them as soon as possible.
  - (b) A record of the Forum along with the staff response be placed in the Bulletin.
7. That Councillor Interviews continue with the close off time for appointments being 4pm on the Friday preceding the Interview.





Should Council adopt this construction method, tenders would need to be invited for the delivery and laying of asphalt and construction of the sub-base area. The asset life for asphaltic concrete is 15-20 years.

### **Concrete or Clay Pavers**

This type of construction has been used extensively within Lismore, generally in areas associated with major developments. It should be noted that various degrees of success have been obtained in their use. The City Works Group experience of the existing pavers is that they can be a high maintenance surface when not laid correctly. The pavers become uneven from differential settlement. Experience has shown that a cement stabilised sub-base is required for the laying surface on pedestrian areas whilst a lean mix concrete is required in driveways. The pavement thickness is increased from 60mm in pedestrian areas to 80mm for driveway areas.

The outer edge of paved footpaths requires "locking" by use of concealed concrete edging or timbers. Estimated costs for this type of construction is \$70/m<sup>2</sup> for pedestrian areas and \$110/m<sup>2</sup> for driveway areas.

### Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

From the information provided, the logical choice of construction material for the majority of our footpaths is concrete.

The reason this is supported is that from a cost perspective, it is relatively similar to asphaltic concrete and much cheaper than pavers to construct. Where the benefit is significantly different is in the "asset life". Simply put, the expectancy of concrete at 60 years is three (3) times that of asphaltic concrete which means that over the asset life, the total cost for asphaltic concrete is approximately \$120/m<sup>2</sup> compared to \$50/m<sup>2</sup> for concrete.

Other Group Comments N/A

Recommendation (WOR5)

That Council continue to use concrete footpaths for general footpath installation.



Subject/File No: NAMING OF A NEW CANIABA SPORTSFIELD -  
"ADAM GILCHRIST PARK"  
(WM: S630: D98-007)

Prepared By: Group Manager - City Works

Reason: Request by Rous County Council

Objective: To gain Council approval for the naming of a new sportsfield

Management Plan Activity: Parks & Reserves

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Background:

Council recently received a letter from Rous County Council (copy attached), developers of the Perradenya Estate at Caniaba, requesting that Council give consideration to naming the new oval, currently under construction in the estate, "Adam Gilchrist Park".

Adam Gilchrist has indicated his support for the proposal, however, Council Policy No. 8.9.1 - Naming of Public Places indicates that the naming of public places should be considered in accordance with certain guidelines. In this case naming the park after a local sporting identity does not fit in to these guidelines.

It is therefore prudent to ask Council, in light of Adam's outstanding sporting achievements in cricket, to over-ride the policy in this instance and give approval for the sportsfield to be named "Adam Gilchrist Park".

Manager - Finance & Administration Comments N/A

Other Group Comments N/A

Recommendation (WOR8)

That Council give approval to Rous County Council to name the new sportsfield in the Perradenya Estate - "Adam Gilchrist Park".

Subject/File No: DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST RETURNS  
(GW:LC:S18)

Prepared By: Administrative Services Manager - Graeme Wilson

Reason: Request by Department of Local Government

Objective: To meet the guideline requirements.

Management Plan Activity: Administrative Services

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Background:

In 1997 the Department of Local Government issued a set of guidelines on the administrative processes associated with the completion of Pecuniary Interest Returns.

The new procedures did not change the intent of the Act but were designed to regulate uniformly throughout NSW how it is applied. The result was a minor increase in associated administration, including the need for completed Pecuniary Interest Returns to be tabled at a council meeting.

In accordance with the procedure, Returns for Councillors from the previous Council and Designated Staff were tabled at the Council meeting of November 2, 1999. Newly elected Councillors had until mid December to complete their Primary Returns. These are now tabled to fulfil Councils statutory obligations.

Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

Not required.

Public Consultations

Not required.

Other Group Comments

Not requested.

Recommendation (COR05)

That the report be received and noted.



# LISMORE CITY COUNCIL - Meeting held February 22, 2000

## December 1999 Quarterly Budget Review Statement

For budgets where salary oncosts are charged there is a direct budget expense as these accounts are predominantly only for salaries and oncosts. The effect on the working funds balance due to the increased salary costs, for general fund is \$30,000.

At an ordinary meeting held on November 23, 1999 Council resolved that -

- “1 To minimise a crisis in road maintenance (bitumen patching) over the 5 weeks outside staff vacation period, that the Council authorise the immediate release of \$300,000 from FAGs funds held in Reserve for expenditure on arterial roads construction.
- 2 That the General Manager be requested to identify \$300,000 in budget savings within the 1999/2000 year to facilitate the replenishment of the Reserve and report the outcome to the Council.”

The budget savings identified are summarised in the table below.

<b>BUDGET ITEM</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
<b>Extra rates revenue</b> - due to supplementary property information being updated and processed	39,500
<b>Increased interest income</b> - from unexpended loans (\$13,000) and operating funds due to increase in interest rates	52,200
<b>Savings from restructure of property services</b> - due to reduced staff costs and responsibilities transferred to other programmes	10,000
<b>Nimbin Transfer Station Tip Disposal Charges</b> - reflection of operational savings on expenditure item	5,000
<b>Property Expense Savings</b> - made against various expenditure items this year due to reduced maintenance requirements and absence, so far of any floods etc.	26,400
<b>Sales of Road Reserves Income</b> - due mainly to sale of road reserve at Little Dawson Street	9,700
<b>Extra revenue from DA Fees</b> - reflecting trends of increased revenues compared to budget	20,000
<b>Strategic Planning expenses reduced</b> - As per the Manager Planning Services, the Heritage Advisory Committee Brochures \$5k will not be carried out and \$4k will not be required for DCP reviews. The remaining \$11k for DCP reviews is deemed sufficient.	9,000
<b>Salary Savings</b> - as a result of various staff vacancies not being filled for the remainder of this financial year	103,800
<b>Balance from Working Funds to reach \$300,000</b>	24,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>

It is pleasing that the \$300,000 required has been achieved with a small budget surplus still intact. However, it must be stressed that the majority of the savings were a result of fortunate circumstances and reductions in service levels rather than sustainable long-term savings.

For example the extra interest income earned may well have been funds we had to find if interest rates had decreased rather than increased. Similarly the additional revenue from DA fees is more or less out of our control, with the increase a bonus. The major contributor to the \$300,000 savings was salary reductions due to positions vacant not being refilled immediately. Obviously this has resulted in some services not being performed or reduced in quality or quantity. This may have long term detrimental consequences if these positions are not filled.

For Council's information, listed below are details of activities with significant variances. These comments should be read in conjunction with Attachment A.

#### Corporate Management

Savings of \$62,000 have been achieved due to the decision to not replace the position of Group Manager Planning & Development for the remainder of this financial year.

#### Human Resources

The majority of the increase in expenditure relates to the reduction in the oncosts collected, which will be received as a result of the decrease in staff costs. The savings in staff costs mentioned earlier that were a part of the \$300,000 for roads were the net costs saved by Council. As there will be less staff to recoup the employee costs such as workers compensation premiums and leave entitlements as per original budgets, the amounts in the oncost credit allocations have been reduced accordingly by \$33,000.

#### Administrative Services

The purchase of a new photocopier was required late last year. This \$15,400 was funded from general purpose reserves.

#### General Purpose Revenues

There has been additional income of \$42,500 generated by rates as a result of all outstanding supplementary valuation information and other rating adjustments being processed. Fortunately there has been higher than expected interest income, of \$52,200 earned due mainly to higher interest rates and also effective cashflow management and investing strategies implemented by staff.

#### Community Services

The Masters Games budgets have been adjusted to reflect the final balance of revenues and expenses following the very successful inaugural event. As recommended by Council, the surplus of \$11,700 from this event has been allocated to seed fund the 2001 Masters Games. There is a nil effect on the working fund balance following these budget changes.

A saving of \$30,000 for this programme relates to the delay in employing a replacement for the Aboriginal Development Officer's position.

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### Planning Services

As mentioned earlier there has been increased revenue for DA fees compared to initial budget forecasts. Revenue budgets have been adjusted upwards by \$20,000.

For operating expenses, there are savings in salaries of \$23,000 relating to the restructuring of the planning section following the resignation of one planner and changes to the management structure. The balance of the operating expense reductions relate to cuts in planning studies expenditure of \$9,000. These also form part of the \$300,000 identified for increased roads expenditure.

### Survey and Design

Savings relate to the decision to not replace a Trainee Survey Draftsperson, \$17,000.

### Emergency Services

The budget changes for Emergency Services relate to two items. The first follows advice received from the Department of Land and Water Conservation concerning a review of the cost of the Lismore Floodplain Management Plan. This has been increased by \$24,000 to \$75,000. As with the original amount, funding for Council's one third share is from flood mitigation reserves.

The second budget change reflects the resolution of Council following the Mayoral Minute on November 2, 1999. The costs of \$60,000 for the relocation of Browns Creek Drainage originally planned for 1999/00 has been deferred to free up funds for the potential flood mitigation monies Council may receive from the Flood Mitigation Authority of NSW.

### **Urban Roads**

Major budget changes for the urban roads programme include the following.

The relocation of the Trinity bus interchange project, \$330,000 from the Urban Roads programme to the RTA programme. This was necessary to better reflect the appropriate funding sources for the project. There has not been a change to the cost of the project, merely a change to the programme it relates to.

The RTA has advised Council of its funding allocations for cycleways. Unfortunately their allocations were \$17,000 less than our original best forecast of what they would provide. The relevant income and expenditure accounts have been accordingly reduced to reflect the changes.

There has been \$70,000 budgeted for urgent repairs to Diadem Street between McKenzie and Magellan Streets. From direction received by the Group Manager City Works, the funding source for these works is to be Section 94 levies that are not yet collected but are anticipated to be, following the proposed Lismore Square extensions. If this development does not proceed then the urban roads programme will refund this amount.

### **Rural Roads**

For rural roads the main items include the following items.

Upgrade of Ridgeland Close, Richmond Hill funded by a direct contribution from the developer \$65,300.

There have been a number of projects initiated on rural roads, which have been funded via Section 94 levies. These total \$181,700. In some cases only a small amount of collected levies were available. It is deemed more appropriate to add these amounts to current budgeted works rather than wait until enough Section 94 levies have been collected to fully fund an upgrade project from Section 94 monies alone.

A transfer from reserves of \$241,500 to fund Councils portion of works on Nimbin Road as part of the Regional Roads Repair Programme from 1998/99.

The final major item for the rural roads programme is the \$300,000 recommended by Council to be directed towards roads.

### **Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA)**

Items relating to further changes from the RTA of the approved works schedule for 1999/00 include an increase in the Regional Roads Repair Programme of \$12,000 and a further \$212,000 for State Roads Maintenance. In both these cases income and expenses have been adjusted accordingly, with no impact on the budget balance.

The reason for the deficit of \$569,000 shown for this programme relates largely to two items. The first is the \$330,000 transferred for the Trinity Bus Interchange from Urban Roads. The second is for expenditure from the 1998/99 Regional Roads Repair Programme on Nimbin Road. As detailed above this is funded from reserves under the rural road programme. These two items are funded elsewhere in the budget and do not impact on the overall budget balance.

### **Aerodrome**

The Aerodrome's budget has been reviewed following less than expected passenger usage figures. Consequently revenue has been adjusted downward by \$35,300. To counter this, expenditure has been reduced by the same amount.

### **Quarry**

Sales of asphalt product have exceeded expectations this year. Consequently revenue budgets have been increased by \$420,000. At this stage expenditure budgets have also been increased by \$420,000 to cover the increased material and associated costs. One could assume that given the increased sales figures there would be an increased profit. Although this may be the case the reason for the expense budgets being increased, at this stage, in line with revenue figures is because the asphalt operation is building up a stockpile to cover the increased demand for product.

# LISMORE CITY COUNCIL - Meeting held February 22, 2000

## December 1999 Quarterly Budget Review Statement

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### Water & Sewerage Funds

In the Water Fund, the majority of the budget changes in dollar terms relates to reinstating works at Caniaba planned for last year that were delayed primarily because of the weather. A combination of unexpended loan funds and Section 64 levies totalling \$600,700 are funding these works and there is no impact on the working fund balance.

For the Sewerage Fund, the planned subsidised works totalling \$450,000 for Clunes Village have been deferred at the advice of the Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC). These works were to be loan funded and there is no impact on the working fund balance. The subsidised upgrading of East Lismore Treatment Works has also been deferred due to increased cost projections and advice from the DLWC. The project cost was \$400,000. Council's 50% share of this project has been reallocated to sewerage operations and capital works, which were in need of extra funding and \$25,000 was transferred to reserves.

There has also been \$24,000 in extra rating revenue identified due to supplementary property information being updated and processed. This has been allocated to operating expenses which were over budget. The major cause of this increase in operating expenses has been increased chemical costs at the treatment works due to stricter controls being enforced by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).

### Other Group Comments

Not requested.

### Manager - Finance and Administration

Incorporated in the body of the report.

### Conclusion

### Change in Net Assets

The 1999/00 Management Plan showed a deficit in the "Net Change in Assets" of \$4,707,000. The combination of the September and December reviews reduces this amount by \$592,000 to \$4,115,000.

It should be noted that this amount reflects the estimated increase in net assets held under the Council's control for this year. It does not reflect in any way the Council's cash or liquidity position.

### Recommendation (COR 08)

- 1 Council adopt the December 1999 Budget Review Statement for General, Water and Sewerage Funds.
- 2 This information be submitted to Council's auditor.

Subject/File No:           **MANAGEMENT PLAN 1999/2000 REVIEW - QUARTER ENDED  
DECEMBER 1999** (PP:S4)

Prepared By:               Corporate Development Officer - Paul Parry

Reason:                     Requirement of the Act

Objective:                  Information and Annotation of Councillors

Management Plan Activity:    N/a

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Background:

Council is required under Clause 407 (1) of the Local Government Act, 1993 to periodically report on the performance set by the Management Plan.

The following information relates to the performance of programmes and activities highlighted in the Plan for completion during the quarter ended December 1999.

Recommendation (GM01)

That the report be received and content noted and further staff be commended on their performance during the period ending December 1999.

Programme Name:

Strategic Plan Link: 1.5

Programme Owner: **Ken Gainger**

Group: **General Manager's Office**

Purpose: To manage the organisation effectively and efficiently

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
To meet performance plan targets developed by the Council for the General Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare, review and monitor performance agreements for Group Managers and staff within the General Manager's Office</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly performance discussions continued with the Group Managers</li> <li>Staff Performance Appraisals for this Group were undertaken during this quarter</li> </ul>
To ensure compliance with Council's Strategic Plan / Management Plan objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor performance against the plans and report outcomes to Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly Reports presented in accordance with LGA</li> </ul>
International Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a strategic plan for the further development of Sister City/International Friendship agreements including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reciprocal visits</li> <li>Student/staff exchanges</li> <li>Business/trade links</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy on 'Staff Exchange Programme' approved.</li> <li>Draft strategic plan currently being prepared.</li> </ul>
Customer Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review, in collaboration with the Communication and Marketing Officer, all customer service information sheets/brochures to ensure consistency of presentation, plain English format, and are user-friendly. Complete review by 31/12/99 and update publications by 31/3/2000.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information sheets and brochures were reviewed and appropriate action taken where applicable.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **General Manager's Office / Communications and Marketing**

Purpose: To ensure Council 's services are responsive to community needs and expectations

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Promotion/marketing of Council's Business Units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop, in consultation with the Business Development Manager, branding and promotion of Council's Business Units in accordance with agreed priorities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation and discussions held with Business and Enterprise Group in the development of branding and promotion material. Design agency appointed to prepare draft material for consideration by project Group.</li> </ul>
Media relations training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare and conduct Media training sessions for the Mayor/General Manager/Councillors / staff in accordance with an agreed timetable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media training sessions for the Mayor and Councillors organised for March 2000</li> <li>Staff media training also scheduled for March 2000</li> </ul>
Community reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare and distribute six (6) editions of 'Community</li> <li>Prepare media releases and monitor media reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June/July, September/October and December/January editions prepared and distributed. The community favourably received all publications.</li> <li>98% of media releases either published and or aired.</li> </ul>

Promotion of major Council sponsored events

- Masters Games and Olympic Torch Relay
- Planning for the Olympic Touch Relay progressing according to agreed plan.

Programme Name: **Human Resources Management** Strategic Plan Link: 1.2 Programme Owner: **Chris Davis** Group: **General Manager's Office**

Purpose: To provide a range of human resource systems and services

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Develop systems that recognise, reward, and retain staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement skills-based progressions for field based staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target reviewed in conjunction with GM to June 2000</li> </ul>
Provide a working environment that encourages and supports the training and development of employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a replacement for the Wyatt Evaluation System</li> <li>Develop an integrated Training Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft developed - further work on hold pending (State) Award negotiations</li> <li>Training Plan developed December 1999</li> </ul>
Ensure LCC Workforce has the capacity to remain competitive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an outplacement programme to support exiting employees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Program implemented from Sept 1999</li> </ul>
Measure staff morale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct an annual survey</li> <li>Collect regular feedback from staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey Conducted December 1999</li> <li>Undertaken in accordance with targets</li> </ul>
Develop an integrated Human Resource Information System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and integrate the Magellan worker's comp reporting sys HR Inform packages (CD rom)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning for development and integration work has been undertaken in conjunction with IT staff.</li> <li>Implementation will occur in line with IT strategies for 2000</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Administrative Services** Strategic Plan Link: 1.4, 1.5 Programme Owner: **Graeme Wilson** Group: **Corporate & Community Services**

Purpose: To provide organisational service by managing resources, records, printing requirements and legal services for the Council

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Quarterly Targets
Provide accurate and timely preparation and distribution of business papers; enact Council decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribute resolved items the day following each meeting with amended items on or before the Friday following the meeting</li> <li>Resolution follow up after 14 days from distribution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Targets have been met</li> <li>Memos are being sent to Group Managers with regular reports to MGM</li> </ul>
Provide an effective and efficient central records system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of electronic recording for archiving material</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tender has been accepted and process is underway</li> </ul>

Provide an effective and efficient customer service • Increase the level of customer service through staff training • On going internal training has been undertaken

Programme Name: **Financial Services** Strategic Plan Link: 1.5 Programme Owner: **Rino Santin** Group: **Corporate and Community Services**

Purpose: To provide sound financial management

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Manage the effective and efficient utilisation of financial resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete statutory reports within legislative guidelines</li> <li>Review Council's purchasing activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September Quarterly Budget Review completed in accordance with the LGA.</li> <li>1999 Financial Reports completed, audited and adopted in accordance with the LGA.</li> </ul>
Improve the quality and range of financial information available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and enhance pricing structures</li> <li>Review and enhance management reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing - reviews conducted on regular basis</li> <li>Ongoing enhancements undertaken to meet Budget Managers requirements and graphs designed to reflect specific information more conveniently.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Information Services** Strategic Plan Link: 1.4 Programme Owner: **Keith Fowler** Group: **Corporate and Community Services**

Purpose: To provide corporate computing services direction and operational support covering data management and retrieval, consultation and training

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Information Services strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement activities of the Information Services Strategic Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategic Plan reviewed and realigned with new objectives by the MGM.</li> </ul>
Implement solutions in response to Council requests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cater for legislative changes</li> <li>Respond to external agency requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GST, Licensing of Septic Tanks &amp; Group Certificates in hand.</li> <li>Council accredited Y2K compliant.</li> <li>Business-as-usual support provided.</li> </ul>
Improve administrative efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cater for new Council directives</li> <li>Maintain PC network</li> <li>Maintain up-to-date user documentation</li> <li>Provide training</li> <li>Upgrade communications capability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five additional remote sites added to network, ten PC's added to network.</li> <li>Business-as-usual support provided.</li> <li>Business-as-usual support provided.</li> <li>Wireless network reconfigured.</li> </ul>



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- Cater for new user requirements
- BPAY, Cemetery & Backflow enhancements implemented.

Programme Name: **Information Services / GIS**

Purpose: To provide effective and efficient customer focused geographic information services (GIS)

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Identify and implement geographic information services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue implementation of data sets identified in GIS Management Report</li> <li>• Evaluate and acquire appropriate GIS technologies</li> <li>• Evaluate and acquire appropriate GIS data sets</li> <li>• Undertake GIS research and development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Churches layer added.</li> <li>• Fire Brigade area layers added.</li> <li>• Investigate Dr Sid raster engine for aerial photos.</li> </ul>
Maintain e-mail service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going development of e-mail applications (ie Group Ware)</li> <li>• Maintain hardware / software</li> <li>• Maintain external coms (ie Internet)</li> <li>• Investigate remote access services</li> <li>• Training / support</li> <li>• Investigate Workflow / Information management systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business-as-usual support provided.</li> <li>• Investigation continuing.</li> </ul>
Maintain geographic information services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain existing primary GIS map layers</li> <li>• Develop customer focused GIS access interfaces</li> <li>• Provide effective geographic information and support service</li> <li>• Provide effective management of GIS section</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currency maintained.</li> <li>• Business-as-usual support provided.</li> </ul>
Investigate and implement internet/intranet solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of Web site (establish Y2K site)</li> <li>• Continue development of Web site</li> <li>• Implement intranet solution</li> <li>• Training / support</li> <li>• Server / Software maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued development of online art gallery.</li> <li>• Continued development of complaints form.</li> <li>• Business-as-usual support provided.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Community Services** Strategic Plan Link: 5, 8 Programme Owner: **Anne Meagher** Group: **Corporate and Community Services**

Purpose: To facilitate the provision of community services that support the social and recreational needs of the community

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Ensure services are accessible and culturally appropriate to the diverse needs of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link Indigenous community via the Indigenous Advisory Committee</li> <li>Undertake review of policies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meetings and Planning Day for the Indigenous Advisory Committee. NB. Aboriginal Community Development Officer Position vacant</li> <li>Distribution of Access Video "Getting Around."</li> <li>Update of the Community Services Directory completed.</li> </ul>
Develop and implement a plan for the existing and future sporting and recreational needs of Lismore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service LDSA Committee</li> <li>Provide input and follow up into recreation studies, Plans of Management and Section 94 Plans</li> <li>Promotional activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LDSA monthly meetings</li> <li>Final report on the Inaugural Masters Games endorsed by Council.</li> <li>Commence planning for second Masters Games.</li> <li>Organisation of the Hurfords International Baseball Series.</li> <li>Draft Plan of Management for Kadina Park prepared for exhibition.</li> <li>Consultation with stakeholders in preparation for Plan of Management for Lismore Lake.</li> </ul>
Promote Lismore as the sporting centre of excellence within the region		
Development of the Goonellabah Indoor Recreation Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate feasibility of project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design work for Stage 1 of the facility in progress</li> </ul>
Ensure community needs are incorporated into the planning process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input into housing, recreation and Sec 94 strategies and plans</li> <li>Convene Community Safety Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly meetings of Community Safety Committee</li> <li>Safety Audit completed at Rous Road Shopping Centre</li> <li>Extension of terms of reference of Safety Committee to include Goonellabah.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Public Libraries** Strategic Plan Link: 5.1 Programme Owner: **Lucy Kinsley** Group: **Corporate and Community Services**

Purpose: To provide and promote access to library material

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Establish a plan for location of Library with or without Art Gallery and a Council presence in central Lismore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide input into the investigations on the location of Library with or without Art Gallery presence in central Lismore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council referred the proposal of old Lismore High School site to NSW State Government with request for funding</li> </ul>
Improve access to technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide increased technology to allow patrons to access on-line data base</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lismore area branches now have four (4) internet access PC's, plus computers that word processing capacity and CD ROM access for reference work. A total of seven (7) are for public use.</li> </ul>
Explore fund-raising activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide assistance to Friends of the Library</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing assistance is given to the Lismore Friends of the Library.</li> </ul>

- Provide donation displays in libraries

- A notice seeking donations is on display at Lismore and Goonellabah branches

Programme Name: **Art Gallery**

Strategic Plan Link: 8 Programme Owner: **Irena Hatfield** Group: **Corporate and Community Services**

Purpose: Organise regular exhibitions of art and craft from the permanent collection, local artists and travelling exhibitions

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Administer the operation of a Public Art Gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify staff training and professional development needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gallery's Procedures are currently under review and are being updated with Gallery Staff, Section Manager and HR Manager</li> <li>• Through this process professional development needs have been identified and will be implemented.</li> </ul>
Finalise 1999/2000 Exhibition Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiate artist and Gallery agreements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Agreements for the 2000 Exhibition Program are in place</li> </ul>
To collect and preserve visual arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compile sources of possible acquisitions</li> <li>• Maintain conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As the Gallery's Permanent Collection Storage space is limited and virtually exhausted the Gallery's acquisitions will need to be reduced.</li> <li>• Sets of Bookplates have been restored and are currently being framed using archival sound materials.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Development Assessment** Strategic Plan Link: 4.1 Programme Owner: **Warren Rackham** Group: **Planning and Development**

Purpose: To provide landuse planning principles, and enforcement of environmental planning instruments

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Maintain timely processing of development applications and Section 96 applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process assessment, monitoring and measurement of qualitative factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Median time maintained during this period. Processing times were hampered for a short period due to loss of staff, and restructure of department</li> </ul>
Provide timely response to associated correspondence and public enquiries Provide professional planning advisory services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Development Assessment Panel (DAP) as an appropriate forum for development discussion</li> <li>• Encourage pre-development liaison</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DAP functions with regular weekly meetings</li> <li>• Effective pre-lodgement liaison continues to be an asset to DA lodgement</li> </ul>
Land and Environment Court Appeals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional assistance to Council's legal advisers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No appeals this quarter</li> </ul>
Strategic Planning Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comment on proposed LEP, DCP changes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is an on-going activity - regular listings maintained</li> </ul>
Mediation action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote, provide and participate in mediation process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No actions necessitated mediation during period</li> </ul>

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Customer Surveys / Education

- Co-ordinate / host developer / consultant forums
- Pro-actively pursued, where appropriate

Programme Name: **Building and Regulation**

Strategic Plan Link: 4.1

Programme Owner: **Peter Craig**

Group: **Planning and Development**

Purpose: To provide building development, fire safety and other approvals that comply with relevant legislation and meet reasonable community expectations

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Provide timely and qualitative processing of development and other applications;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate and review processing procedures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The average times for determinations continued at a satisfactory rate and random perusal of applications and community/industry feedback have confirmed qualitative assessment.</li> </ul>
Maintain required level of enforcement of the various Acts, Statutes, Codes and local approvals policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review policies and procedures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ongoing implementation of changes to the E.P. and A. Act has necessitated constant review of policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
Customer Surveys / Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-ordinate / host builder / consultant forums</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant response from community/industry provides feedback on the Section's performance and identifies issues.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Strategic Planning**

Strategic Plan Link: 4

Programme Owner: **Helen Manning**

Group: **Planning and Development**

Purpose: To provide a comprehensive and up-to-date planning framework to satisfy State Government requirements Council and community needs

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Maintain planning controls in accordance with State Government directives and Council policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural Settlement Strategy</li> <li>Acid Sulphate Soils LEP and DCP</li> <li>LEP for exempt and complying development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exhibited, over 60 submissions received</li> <li>Exhibited &amp; adopted by Council</li> <li>Awaiting PC clearance</li> </ul>
Implement studies and strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise Heritage LEP</li> <li>Prepare heritage / urban design DCP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting Heritage Office agreement</li> <li>Currently preparing draft DCP</li> </ul>
Review strategies and planning controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review DCP's 17, 22, 31, 32, 33</li> <li>Update LEP (General amendments)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting Koala Management Plan finalisation</li> <li>Report to Council on strategic planning priorities</li> </ul>
Customer Surveys / Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and conduct customer survey</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under review.</li> </ul>



Programme Name: **Environmental Health**

Strategic Plan Link: 6

Programme Owner: **Matthew Kelly**

Group: **Planning and Development**

Purpose: To provide environmental health and intervention services that benefit the natural and built environments

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Provide environmental health management through the development and implementation of strategies and programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake environmental audits</li> <li>Implement adopted sun protection strategy</li> <li>Fulfil State of the Environment reporting commitments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audits undertaken on an on-going basis</li> <li>Designs being finalised for Lismore Park - netball courts.</li> <li>Draft comprehensive document being finalised for initial consultation phase.</li> </ul>
Implement environmental health statutes, policies and guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess and determine applications / complaints</li> <li>Monitor compliance standards</li> <li>Implement On-site Sewerage Regulations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing resourced activity.</li> <li>Ongoing resourced activity.</li> <li>Strategy document completed and implemented</li> </ul>
		Audit programme commenced Approvals to Operate being issued

Programme Name: **Survey, Design & Subdivision Control**

Strategic Plan Link: 3.1, 3.2

Programme Owner: **Gary Rees**

Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To design council assets to nationally acceptable standards

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Survey/Design classified roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake in accordance with RTA's schedule of works                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake survey</li> <li>Design</li> <li>Produce plans and documentation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bruxner Highway/ Oliver Avenue Roundabout</li> <li>Bruxner Highway/ Oliver Avenue Staggered 'T' intersection</li> <li>Nimbin Road from Shipway Road 2km south</li> </ul>
Survey/Design Council-owned roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake in accordance with Council's Road Works and Construction Schedule - Undertake survey                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design</li> <li>Produce plans and documentation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trinity Catholic College Bus Interchange</li> <li>Dunoon Road from Borton Road 2km Nth</li> <li>Wyrallah Road Monaltrie Lane to Riverbank Rd</li> </ul>
Survey/Design miscellaneous Council assets (Drainage, Parks, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Professional prepare plans for required works</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Lismore Drainage Elizabeth St to Wyrallah Road Public School.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Workshop & Fleet Operations**

Strategic Plan Link: 3

Programme Owner: **Col Starr**

Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To supply and operate Council's fleet as an efficient and effective operation

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Supply plant items suitable to required task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake plant purchase in accordance with Plant Replacement Schedule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant replacement included one (1) grader, Two (2) utilities, seven (7) cars &amp; station wagons.</li> </ul>
Operate and maintain Council's fleet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replace and maintain Council's vehicle fleet in accordance with Replacement Schedule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Council "Heavy Vehicles" prepared for RTA inspections in late January 2000.</li> <li>Ongoing maintenance of all fleet items</li> </ul>
Maintain mobile communication system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain system and devices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional Council frequency radios fitted to all graders for safety requirements.</li> <li>Radio transmission mast for Felicity Drive delivered to workshop, installation to take place in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.</li> <li>After field testing Council's Analogue mobile phone system replaced with CDMA system (Telstra)</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Bushfire Services**

Strategic Plan Link: 5.1

Programme Owner: **Ray Collyer**

Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To provide an efficient rural fire service

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Training and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consolidate the training and conduct revision courses to maintain competencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training courses completed 105 members to various levels. 180 members completed revision courses</li> </ul>
Occupational Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct property inspections in regards to bushfire protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property and DA Inspections carried out as requested. Advise and assistance where needed</li> </ul>
Provision of fire fighting stores and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain control room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control Centre fully operational .24 hr contact provided.</li> </ul>



Programme Name: **Traffic, Enforcement and Lighting** Strategic Plan Link: 3.1, 3.2 Programme Owner: **Bill MacDonald** Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To: enforce State legislation relating to parking and dog control, to maintain and upgrade street lighting and to manage traffic/transportation needs

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Control dogs and other stray animals and maintain Council's pound facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforce Dog Act and Companion Animal Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>800 dogs registered. 88 dogs &amp; cats impounded</li> <li>pound maintained in excellent condition.</li> </ul>
Control and regulate parking under Council jurisdiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake street, car park and CBD parking patrols</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Car park patrols carried out regularly. 88 infringements notices issued.</li> </ul>
Dispose of abandoned, roadside vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate and dispose of abandoned roadside vehicles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 vehicles were removed from roadside.</li> </ul>
Provide Lismore street lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install and maintain street lighting in accordance with priority and schedule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> stage of Oliver Avenue lighting was completed.</li> </ul>
Improve road safety throughout the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a road safety strategic plan aligned with related Council strategies, plans and programmes</li> <li>Provide education and other information awareness campaigns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Road safety plan developed as working document.</li> <li>Conducted very successful 'Drinks without Dramas' campaign.</li> </ul>
Traffic/Transportation management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build bus shelters in response to public transport user needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 additional bus shelters were erected.</li> </ul>
City Safe Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administer safety patrol contract</li> <li>Install and administer Safety Camera Project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety Patrols and monitoring carried out in accordance with contract.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Bridges** Strategic Plan Link: 3.2 Programme Owner: **Charles Mitchell** Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To construct and maintain bridges to a safe, trafficable standard

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Maintain bridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop / review inspection schedule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly bridge inspections completed/ongoing</li> <li>Bridges repaired, Ruthvan, Knights, Bishop Ck, W.J.Green, Kerrong, Ridgewood</li> </ul>
Bridge Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plans and construction specifications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-Christmas inspection/repair complete</li> <li>Dawson St Underpass construction continuing</li> <li>Davis Br &amp; Boatharbour Rd Br plans completed</li> </ul>

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Causeway

Update priority schedule for causeway raising to culvert

- Causeway schedule review ongoing

Programme Name: **Parks and Recreation**

Strategic Plan Link: 7

Programme Owner: **Neil Moreton**

Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To provide, maintain and preserve passive and recreational parks and facilities, streetscapes and public conveniences

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Present playing surfaces in a high standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine activity specification and set agreed service levels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass cutting services levels increased'</li> </ul>
Develop and improve sportsgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a system of regular field renovations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caniaba St reserve drainage works stg 1 undertaken.</li> </ul>
Provide and maintain recreational facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement system of playground upgrades</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrades carried out at Heritage Park and Bexhill.</li> <li>Works undertaken according to schedule.</li> </ul>
Maintain Streetscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade pipelines and backwash facilities for "Lake" Pool</li> <li>Finalise rehabilitation funding arrangements for lake</li> <li>Let contract for maintenance of 'Lake Pool'</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project on hold Council resolution.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide appropriate maintenance for trees - pruning, planting removal</li> <li>Maintain City entrances and street gardens built by Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree pruning works ahead of budget.</li> <li>Experiencing funding problems with new schedules.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erect Christmas decorations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Roads / Urban**

Strategic Plan Link: 3.2

Programme Owner: **Garry Hemsworth**

Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To construct and maintain roads to a safe, trafficable standard and drainage structures, footpaths, street lighting and kerb and gutter within the urban area

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Maintain urban roads to standard where the full design life is obtained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define maintenance activities</li> <li>Determine activity specifications</li> <li>Determine yearly output for each activity</li> <li>Define 'Desirable Level of Service' compared to 'Agreed Level of Service' and determine 'Defer Maintenance'.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actions completed with help of CMS Consultant</li> </ul>
Bitumen Reseal 10% of Urban Network each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a systematic reseal programme which allows each road to be resealed every 10 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reseal program deferred, funds transferred to urgent rehabilitation works</li> </ul>
Reconstruct Road Network as per works schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconstruction of 1.2 - 1.6 km of road per year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional rehabilitation works have been included in program, 1.4 km completed to date</li> </ul>
Maintain concrete, bitumen and grassed footpaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake scheduled repairs to concrete and bitumen footpaths</li> <li>Undertake scheduled slashing of grass footpaths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress satisfactorily</li> </ul>



- Actions completed with help of CMS Consultant

Bitumen Reseal 10% of Urban Network each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a systematic reseal programme which allows each road to be resealed every 10 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reseal program deferred, funds transferred to urgent rehabilitation works</li> </ul>
Reconstruct Road Network as per works schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconstruction of 4.8 - 5.2 km of road per year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Rehabilitation works have been included in program, approx 18km completed to date</li> </ul>
Maintain rural gravel roads in accordance with Policy 1.8.17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake grading in accordance with schedule</li> <li>• Review and update Policy 1.8.17</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New grading schedule being implemented</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **RTA Works**                      Strategic Plan Link: **3.2**                      Programme Owner: **Garry Hemsworth**                      Group: **City Works**

Purpose: To maintain and improve State & Regional (classified) roads

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions Planned	Progress this quarter
Maintain State roads and bridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain State roads and bridges covering approx. 48 kms total length (Bruxner Highway SH16 and Bangalow Road MR65) to standard specified and funding levels allocated by RTA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintained to RTA standards</li> </ul>
Maintain Regional roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reconstruct sections in accordance with RTA program</li> <li>• Maintain Regional roads and bridges covering approx 100 kms total length (MR142 - Nimbin Road, MR148 - Coraki Road, MR306 – Dunoon Road, MR544 - Kyogle Road, MR555 - Rous Road) to standard specified and allocated funding levels</li> <li>• Reconstruct road sections in accordance with RTA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional roads currently in poor condition. Currently approx. \$138,000 overspent - mainly pothole patching. Over expenditure will be reined in over remainder of year.</li> </ul>

program

Programme Name: **Economic Development Enterprise**

Strategic Plan Link: 2.2, 2.3

Programme Owner: **Peter O,Connor**

Group: **Business and Enterprise**

Purpose: To source investment and employment opportunities for Lismore

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Source investment and employment opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare new and revise existing strategies in response to commercial/employment opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared source documents/studies for EDU Board to prepare new strategic plan for 200/2001 with a 2005 and 2010 growth projections</li> <li>Reviewed regional labour market study for application to Lismore</li> <li>Secured \$94,000 of State and Federal grant money for projects directly involving Lismore</li> <li>Completed Riverbank Strategy and Out Door Dining Policy</li> <li>Employed Events Co-ordinator</li> </ul>
Develop Council's business opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify internal commercial opportunities</li> <li>Develop opportunities in conjunction with programme managers and the Economic Development Advisory Board members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arranged for call centre proposal to go to Virgin Airlines and finalised call centre attraction website</li> <li>Supported Lismore as the site for weekly organics market</li> <li>Handled and reviewed half yearly investment enquiries totalling a potential \$55M and 300 jobs</li> </ul>
Develop supporting databases/information containing an economic profile of Lismore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic profile data for Lismore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Published latest edition of Lismore Business Bulletin and purchased new eco dev database and program called MyPlace</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Quarry Operations**

Strategic Plan Link: 2.3, 3.1

Programme Owner: **Craig Kelly**

Group: **Business and Enterprise**

**Gary Hemsworth**

**City Works**

Purpose: To provide cost effective quarry operations to Council and the construction industry

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Business Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and update to reflect changes in strategies and operations</li> <li>Maintain awareness of technological advances in quarry industry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quotations on Pacific Highway upgrades</li> <li>Commenced dust reduction programme</li> <li>Complete EPA and Dept of Mineral Resources visits</li> <li>Develop asphalt products business</li> </ul>
Operate Blakebrook quarry and rural quarries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure licence and consent conditions are met</li> <li>Ensure efficient and adequate production of product</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve quality assurance procedures</li> </ul>





Programme Name: **Aerodrome Operations** Strategic Plan Link: 2.2, 3.1 Programme Owner: **Craig Kelly** Group: **Business & Enterprise**

Purpose: To operate Lismore Aerodrome efficiently and effectively

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Operate Lismore Aerodrome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain pavements, structures and surrounds</li> <li>Operate within licence and other statutory requirements</li> <li>Ensure obligations of licence are met</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed CASA review</li> </ul>
Business and Operational Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and update Plan to reflect changes</li> <li>Maintain awareness of aviation technologies, policies and practices relevant to Lismore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sale of hanger site</li> <li>DA for General Aviation expansion approved</li> <li>Access road to eastern hanger commenced</li> </ul>
Construct new passenger terminal building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete building design</li> <li>Submit relevant development and design applications</li> <li>Report to Council on tenders for adoption</li> <li>Commence construction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commenced construction</li> <li>Continued discussions with Airline operators</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Tourism** Strategic Plan Link: 2.1 Programme Owner: **Andrea Roberts** Group: **Business and Enterprise**

Purpose: To service the requirements of tourists to the benefit of the Lismore local government and Northern Rivers area

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Manage the customer service operation of the Lismore Visitor and Heritage Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve eco interpretation displays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repairs to the animated platypus which was donated by Rous County Council, continue negotiations with NPWS re display changes for next financial year</li> </ul>
Promote the Lismore region in key tourism markets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise promotional opportunities created by regional state and other initiatives</li> <li>Produce information and motivational material</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working on development &amp; promotion of tropical NSW brand - achieved funding from TNSW for phase 2 of plan &amp; conducted a CD photo shoot.</li> <li>Evaluation of Rainforest Week. Family tour with Ballina Information Centre for Tourism Week</li> <li>80.000 guides produced &amp; distributed</li> </ul>
Develop tourism product and infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involvement in broader Lismore City economic development and civic design issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff involved with Wilsons River Strategy, International Baseball Series, Masters Games, and Olympic Torch.</li> </ul>
Promote the economic, socio-cultural and environmental benefits of sustainable tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local PR through media</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted local "Wonder-us" campaign for visiting friends &amp; family.</li> <li>Generated 6 media stories</li> <li>Family tours conducted for volunteers at Byron Info Centre</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Swimming Pools** Strategic Plan Link: 5.1 Programme Owner: **Wayne Franklin** Group: **General Manager's Office**

Purpose: To manage the operation of the Memorial Baths and Nimbin Pool

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Manage the on-going operation of Council's swimming pools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open pools for swimming season</li> <li>Maintain plant, equipment and surrounds in serviceable condition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All pools were open as scheduled; Memorial Baths, Lismore Lake Pool and Nimbin Pool</li> <li>Ongoing annual and regular maintenance completed as planned and prescribed.</li> </ul>

Programme Name: **Water Supply Services** Strategic Plan Link: 6.5, 6.4, 2.2 Programme Owner: **Anu Atukorala** Group: **Business and Enterprise**

Purpose: To provide water supply services that meet the current and future needs of the community

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Progress this quarter
Provide improved levels of service delivery through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outsourcing</li> <li>Benchmarking, and</li> <li>Introduction of National Competition Policy guidelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outsource selected works</li> <li>Ensure compliance with NCP guidelines</li> <li>Manage water upgrade contract</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Out sourced ground maintenance</li> </ul>
Provide improved levels of customer service through a focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement new level of customer service</li> <li>Accurate headworks assessment</li> <li>Demand management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operate performance monitoring system</li> <li>Participate in Rous Regional Demand Management strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DPWS has reviewed the S64 plan.</li> </ul>
Provide improved asset management by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introducing programmed maintenance of Council's water assets</li> <li>Developing an asset renewal and augmentation strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set up best practice maintenance systems</li> <li>Develop asset renewal and augmentation plan</li> <li>Ensure financial plan reflects liability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset replacement - Contracts to the value of \$ 482,000 let out. This included upgrade of the Ross St pump station.</li> </ul>
Implement Business Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain financial plan for 20 years showing capital and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of financial plan in progress</li> </ul>

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recurrent expenditure with published performance  
indicators

Programme Name: **Sewerage Services** Strategic Plan Link: 6.5, 6.4, 2.2 Programme Owner: **Anu Atukorala** Group: **Business and Enterprise**

Purpose: To provide sewerage services that meet the current and future needs of the community

Goals/Objectives to be achieved	Actions planned	Quarterly Targets
Provide improved levels of service delivery through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outsourcing</li> <li>• Benchmarking, and</li> <li>• Introduction of National Competition Policy guidelines</li> <li>• Complete stage 2 of sewerage augmentation upgrade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outsource selected works</li> <li>• Implement outcomes at sewerage treatment works</li> <li>• Ensure compliance with NCP guidelines</li> <li>• Manage sewerage upgrade contract</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out sourced ground maintenance</li> </ul>
Provide improved levels of customer service through a focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement new levels of service</li> <li>• Accurate headworks assessment and contributions</li> <li>• Participation in the development of new village scheme strategies</li> <li>• Development of effluent reuse strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operate performance monitoring system</li> <li>• Investigate sewerage schemes for new and existing villages - Clunes</li> <li>• Implement scheme for Caniaba and tea tree farm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DPWS has reviewed the S64 plan.</li> <li>• First public meeting held in Clunes.</li> </ul>
Provide improved asset management by: Introducing programmed maintenance of Council's sewerage assets Reducing wet weather overflows, and Developing an asset renewal and augmentation strategy Business Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operate best practice maintenance systems</li> <li>• Investigate overflow problem through gauging, modelling and reporting</li> <li>• Ensure financial plan reflects liabilities</li> <li>• Develop financial plan for 20 years showing capital and recurrent expenditure with published performance indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asset replacements - Contracts to the value of \$ 50,000 let out.</li> <li>• Dry weather model calibrations complete.</li> <li>• Review of financial plan in progress</li> </ul>

Subject/File No: **COUNCILLORS HOME COMPUTER FACILITIES**  
(KF:S44)  
Prepared By: Manager Information & Technology - Keith Fowler  
Reason: To examine the cost of providing home computer facilities for Councillors.  
Objective: To determine whether Council wishes to proceed with the purchase and implementation of home computer facilities.  
Management Plan Activity: Information & Technology

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Background:

Council's 'Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities' Policy, allows for Councillors to be provided with a lap-top or a personal computer, a printer and a modem for the purposes of business paper distribution and review, research, word processing and other Council related uses.

At Council's Ordinary Meeting held June 29, 1999 it was resolved (Resolution 13) that:

'\$80,000 from the Information Services Reserves be used to fund the capital component of the Councillors Computer allocation on the basis that prior to the provision of these facilities, a report be presented to the incoming Council on whether or not to provide computer services and the implications on the Reserve.'

The \$80,000 was included as an item in the 99/00 budget (subject to a report) plus an additional \$15,000 was allocated, funded from Revenue, for ongoing operating costs.

This report details the costs to provide the PC's and proposes other options for Council's consideration.

**Costs:**

Description: COUNCILLOR HOME COMPUTER FACILITIES –

Details:

PC's, Printers, Modems & Internet Access for Councillors

**Capital**

1 PC's	37,200	12 * \$3100
2 Modems	4,800	12 * \$400
3 Printing Facilities	8,400	12 * \$700 (HP LJ 1120C)
4 MS Office Licences	4,704	12 * \$392
5 Anti-Virus Licences	1,080	12 * \$90
6 Training	10,000	\$1000/day - 10 days (2 groups of 6 for 5 days)
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>66,184</b>	
7 Additional Phone Line (modem access)	5,600	10 * \$250 + 2 * \$1500
8 Surge Suppression	3,240	12 * \$270
9 Contingency for special requirements	2,000	Country area accessibility etc

**Total Capital** **76,924**

**Recurrent**

1 Internet connection fees	10,000	approx: 4hrs/week*52 wks*\$4
2 Maintenance	1,000	laptops, printers, modems
3 Consumables	3,000	Laser cartridges, diskettes, paper etc
4 Support - 1/4 person per week	13,000	

**Total Recurrent** **27,000**

**TOTAL** **103,924**

**Amount Requested** **104,000**

If Council decide to purchase Laptops instead of PC's the total amount requested would increase to \$120,000.

**Funding:**

As stated, to fund the purchase, capital costs will be drawn from Council's IT Reserves, recurrent costs from Revenue.

The forecast balance for IT Reserves at the end of this FY is \$340,000.

From this amount, Information and Technology will be requesting expenditure of:

- \$100,000 to upgrade Council's hardware and data base platforms, and to implement the Technology Disaster Recovery Plan. The upgrade is required to support increased business processing demands accumulated over the past four (4) years since the last upgrade of equipment.
- \$150,000 to continue the upgrade and expansion of Council's PC Network; and
- \$40,000 to upgrade and enhance the Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

In addition, Council may also consider replacing CIVIL, the core business application, within the next two years. This situation could arise if Council and Council's executive management decide that their strategic requirements will not be met by the CIVIL platform.

If CIVIL does get replaced, the expected cost will be in the vicinity of \$500,000 - \$1,000,000.

Maintenance of the IT Reserve is essential to ensure that these funds are available as required and capital expenditure on non-critical IT equipment discouraged.

Principal Accountants Comments

Council needs to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of providing Councillors with home computer facilities. Consideration should be given to the potential usage levels by all Councillors, increased efficiency of obtaining information, cost of supply, cost of ongoing operation and competing budget priorities.

As mentioned, the IT Reserve is already fully committed to planned hardware/software requirements for the future. This additional cost would need to be recouped from future annual budgets, which would obviously restrict the scope of other projects. In addition, almost \$27,000 would be required on an ongoing basis for consumables and support.

Public Consultations

Nil.

Other Group Comments

Nil

### Other Options

If Council decides that the capital and recurrent expenditure for each Councillor to have their own laptop or PC is not cost justified, the following two options could be considered:

1. Council pays for the Internet Service Provider (ISP) connection fees and consumables for those Councillors with their own PC's.

- Recurrent cost \$14,000 (this is a new item to be sourced from Revenue).

Please note this amount does not include support and Internet access would be limited to 4 hrs per week.

2. One desktop PC and a printer are installed in the Councillors lounge for use during and after working hours.

- Capital cost, including training for all Councillors, \$9,500 (funded from IT Reserves).

- Recurrent cost \$4,000 (this is a new item to be sourced from Revenue).

- 

### Conclusion

Expenditure of \$80,000 from IT Reserves will have a deleterious effect on the future delivery of IT services to Council. However, it is important that Councillors have access to PC, Internet and E-mail facilities to conduct their day-to-day activities and, although it is not the best or most convenient solution, a combination of the above options will provide Councillors with:

- Access to a dedicated PC.
- Access to the Internet and e-mail via Council's own web server.
- Support from Council's IT network and applications support staff – during business hours.
- A secure site.
- Access to the Internet for Councillors with their own PC's.

Should Councillors wish to pursue the option of purchasing home computer facilities it is essential that all 12 Councillors agree to the installation and use of one system. The experience from other Councils where a majority but not all Councillors have a system installed, is that inevitably information is not delivered to all Councillors.

Also, from an ongoing support viewpoint it is critical that all Councillors are using one system.

Recommendation (COR07)

1. That Council:
  - a) Purchase one PC, a printer and the software licences for MS-Office and MS-Outlook (E-mail).
  - b) Install the equipment and the software in the Councillors lounge and provide Internet access via Council's web server.
  - c) Identify Councillors training requirements and initiate training.
2. For those Councillors with their own PC's provide Internet access to the value of \$1000 per annum each.



Subject/File No:       TRADE WASTE POLICY  
                                  (JMc:S518/1)

Prepared By:            Manager Water and Wastewater Services – Anu Atukorala

Reason:                 To adopt Local Approvals Policy No. 4

Objective:              To conform with Local Government Water Services, Orders and Approvals Regulations 1999.

Management Plan Activity:    N/A

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Background:

At its meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1999 Council resolved to advertise the Revised Trade Waste Policy as Draft Local Approvals Policy No.4. This policy was displayed for 28 days from 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1999 to 20<sup>th</sup> January 2000, and no submissions from the public were received during the 42 day submission period to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2000.

Manager – Finance

Not required.

Conclusion

As there were no submissions, the policy can be adopted without amendment.

Recommendation (Ent07)

That Council adopt Draft Local Approvals Policy No. 4 – “Trade Waste Policy for the Discharge of Non-Residential Liquid Waste to Sewers” in accordance with S161 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Subject/File No: LISMORE SEWERAGE AUGMENTATION  
S290

Prepared By: Manager Water & Wastewater Services - Anu Atukorala

Reason: To respond to previous resolutions of Council

Objective: To gain Council approval to seek financial assistance

Management Plan Activity: To provide improved levels of service

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Background: (Resolution 97/31)

At its meeting held on 28 January 1997, Council resolved that a report be presented to Council prior to requesting financial assistance from the Department of Land and Water Conservation, for the following items:

1. Improved Disinfection at the East Lismore Treatment Works
2. An inflow and infiltration Study of the Lismore sewerage system, and
3. An environmental risk analysis of the Lismore sewerage system.

Item (2) was dealt with in a report dated 7 October 1997. This report deals with items (1) and (3).

Report:

Item 1 - Improved Disinfection at the East Lismore Treatment Works

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in its licence issued in January 1999, for the East Lismore Plant required that Council install a disinfection facility by December 1999. In response to this requirement, Council commissioned The Department of Public Works and Services (DPWS) to investigate possible options. The report concluded that the most cost-effective option is Ultraviolet disinfection and the estimated cost is \$2,145,000. A copy of the executive summary is attached (Attachment 1).

Staff initially estimated the cost of this facility to be in the vicinity of \$800,000 and allocated \$400,000 in the 99/2000 budget, with the intention of funding the rest in the next financial year. Given the higher than anticipated cost and the limited time available for completion of the project, Council approached the EPA with a view of requesting a time extension. The EPA acceded to this request and set a new deadline of December 2002.

It is likely that the Department of Land and Water Conservation (DLWC) will provide 50% of the funds given that this project forms part of the Lismore Sewerage Augmentation Strategy. However a fresh application needs to be made to the DLWC.

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Item 3 - Environmental Risk Analysis of the Lismore Sewerage System.

It is prudent not to commission the above study at the moment, as not all the required information is available. For example, one of the key components of any environmental risk analysis study is the identification of the quantity and frequency of overflows. At this stage Consultants (AWT) are in the process of developing and calibrating the hydraulic model to provide this information as part of the infiltration/ inflow study. This report is due in mid March and a report will be presented to Council in due course.

Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

Based on my understanding of this situation, Council has no option but to provide for an "Improved Disinfection at the East Lismore Treatment Works".

The draft Financial Plan prepared for Sewerage Fund suggests that there is capacity within the Fund to finance these works. At this stage, that is likely to be a combination of revenue/reserves, grants and loan funds. It is not likely that an increase in Sewer Charges will be required to fund these works, however, until the Financial Plan is complete, this is subject to change.

The critical element of the funding proposal is the 50% (\$1,077,500) subsidy from the Department of Land and Water Conservation. Every effort must be made to secure this funding as if it is not, there will be insufficient available funds for this project and other alternatives will need to be considered.

Public Consultations

Not required.

Conclusion

The EPA requires that Council install a disinfection facility at the East Lismore STP by December 2002. It is unlikely that they will grant further time extensions. Given that the cost of the works is in the vicinity of \$ 2 million, it is prudent that Council seek financial assistance from the DLWC.

Recommendations (ENT08)

That:

1. The information provided be noted,
2. Council installs a disinfection facility at the East Lismore Treatment Works by December 2002.
3. An application be made to the DLWC seeking financial assistance for the above facility.

4. A report be brought before Council identifying the key findings of the stormwater infiltration/ inflow study.

Subject/File No: POLICE MEMORIAL PROJECT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF SUMMERLAND SUNRISE (CD:AL:S417:P6769 (to be created))

Prepared By: Andrew Lovett - Manager Business Development

Reason: To consult Council on Plans to erect a Memorial for the Police Service to Commemorate Officers that have Fallen in the Line of Duty

Objective: To gain Council's in-principle Support for the Project as Owners of Commemorative Park.

Management Plan Activity: Section 356 Donations, Property

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Background:

Late in 1999, Council was approached by the Rotary Club of Summerland Sunrise to participate in a committee, which has been formed with the objective of erecting a Memorial for the Police Service to commemorate Officers that have fallen in the line of duty. Other members of the committee include representatives of the Lismore RSL, the Vietnam Veterans Association and the Local Area Command of the Police Service. All are in support of this project.

Each year, on September 29, the Police Service holds ceremonies to remember their officers. There are a number of Memorials erected at various places in the State, including the Police Academy at Goulburn and also the Domain in Sydney. This particular project is an initiative of the Rotary organisation and the local Police Division are delighted that the project is being driven by a community-based organisation.

Commissioner Peter Ryan has been approached and given his support to the project, as have local Members of Parliament.

The committee seeks Council's in-principle support for the project, as owners of Commemorative Park. A budget has been set for the project to raise funds of \$15,000 to \$20,000. Applications for State, Federal and Council Section 356 funding will follow.

The committee has nominated as a proposed location: Commemorative Park, which is on the southern side of the intersection of Market Street and Molesworth Street, opposite the Memorial Gardens. This site was acquired by Council under the Voluntary Flood Prone Acquisition Scheme some years ago and has been designated as an area for memorials to be erected. It complements the Memorial Gardens area, which is allocated specifically for those that have fallen during wartime. The proposed project does not interfere with the redevelopment of the Memorial Baths.

The cadastral description of the property is Lot 1 of DP 784184 and it is located at the address 181 Molesworth Street.

The committee has developed a comprehensive project plan, with completion planned for November 2000. At this stage the main activity will be fund raising, which will commence in earnest following the decision of Council.

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Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

Not required.

Public Consultations

The committee proposes to run competitions for the design of the Memorial throughout the community and schools.

Other Group Comments

Not required.

Conclusion

This initiative of the Rotary Club of Summerland Sunrise will recognise the contribution that the Police Service makes to the community of Lismore. It has wide support.

Recommendation (ENT06)

That Council gives in-principle support for the construction in Commemorative Park of a Memorial to Police Officers that have fallen in the line of duty.

Subject/File No: DEDICATION OF A FOOTPATH CONNECTING HAYES STREET AND OLIVER AVENUE, GOONELLABAH, WITH COMPENSATION TO MANICAL PTY LIMITED (AL:CD:D93/0767:P25016)

Prepared By: Andrew Lovett - MANAGER BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Reason: Section 377 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that Council may not delegate "... purchase, sale, exchange or surrender of land ..."

Objective: To seek Council Resolution to Dedicate the Footpath and to pay Compensation to Manical Pty Limited.

Management Plan Activity: Urban Roads

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### Background:

In March 1994, Council provided development consent for Manical Pty Limited to provide a medical clinic at 30 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah (Lot 1 DP 845803). As a condition to this, Council required that pedestrian access be provided across a drainage easement two metres wide along the western boundary of the property. The purpose of this condition was to allow pedestrians to move easily from Hayes Street through to Oliver Avenue. The entire allotment, including the accessible area, remained in the ownership of Manical Pty Limited.

The walkway has received considerable public use and, initially, remained a grass surface. Council received a number of complaints from ratepayers regarding the slippery condition of the surface. There was some concern that a public liability problem may have arisen if someone was to fall over.

When the footpath development work was being carried out on Oliver Avenue, Council's engineering staff organised the construction of a concrete pathway over the pedestrian access in question.

After the construction of the footpath, another problem became apparent. That is, bicycle riders were riding down the paved area directly out onto Oliver Avenue. There is a reasonable slope to the footpath.

Solicitors acting for Manical Pty Limited wrote to Council requiring that the pavement be pulled up across the access area, as they were not consulted before the construction of the footpath and they considered that it increased the risk of public injury. Consequently, the City Works Group commenced negotiations with Manical Pty Limited to acquire the footpath so that the pavement could be retained. This would allow Council to construct a barrier arrangement to slow the bike riders down.

Valuations have been sought and received and a compensation amount of \$2,250 has been agreed, with Council also paying reasonable legal and professional costs. These steps are fundamental to the formation of a contract.

### Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

It is likely that the total cost of compensation and professional fees to be in the vicinity of \$4,000. As this is considered to be minor in nature compared to other construction works, it is suggested that the footpath allocation be used to fund these costs.

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Public Consultations

Not applicable

Other Group Comments

**Manager - Roads and Infrastructure:**

The dedication of this land will tidy up the awkward situation of having a public footpath on private property.

Conclusion

The dedication of this footpath and the payment of the compensation to Manical Pty Limited will bring this matter to a conclusion after approximately 18 months of negotiation. By dedicating the land, the legal costs associated with the acquisition are minimised. The dedication of the land resolves a situation where a public footpath was located on private land.

Recommendations (ENT09)

That:

1. Land two metres wide along the western boundary of Lot 1 DP 845803 be dedicated as a footpath.
2. Compensation be paid to Manical Pty Limited for the agreed sum of \$2,250 and that all reasonable legal and professional costs be borne by Council.



Subject/File No: INVESTMENTS HELD BY COUNCIL AS AT JANUARY 31, 2000  
(GB:LC:S170)  
Prepared By: Financial Accountant, Graeme Blanch  
Reason: To comply with Section 625 of the Local Government Act.  
Objective: To invest Council's surplus funds to best advantage to comply with Council's investment policies.

Management Plan Activity: General Purposes Revenues

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Information:

The attached list of investments held by Council with various financial institutions has been made in accordance with Section 625 of the Act and in accordance with Council's investment policies.

Council's total investment for January amounted to \$21,544,878 with an average interest return of 6.08%. Interest rates at the same time last year were 5.04%. Interest rates continue to rise slowly due to the low unemployment rate and modest inflation outlook.

Manager - Finance & Administration Comments

Included in the body of the report.

Public Consultations

Not required.

Other Group Comments

Not requested.

Recommendation (COR09)

That the report be received and noted.

DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING

The following documents have been prepared in accordance with previous resolutions of the Council and/or the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1993 and other relevant statutes.

It is now proposed that the Council authorise the signing and sealing of these documents.

Recommendation:

The following documents be executed under the Common Seal of Council:-

**Subdivision Plan - 8 Windosr Court, Goonellabah**

Subdivision for Cook - Part Lot 24 DP 730476 and Lot 269 DDP730476 - DA99/151

**Lease Agreement:**

Council to Allport, Hanger Lease Letter 00-1384, P9733

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LISMORE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GOONELLABAH ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2000 AT 6.00PM.**

Present: His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Gates; Councillors Baxter, Chant, Crowther, Gallen, Hampton, Irwin, King, Roberts, Suffolk, Swientek and Tomlinson, together with the General Manager; Group Managers- Corporate & Community Services, City Works, Business & Enterprise; Acting Group Manager Planning & Development Helen Manning, Contracts Engineer Janaka Weeraratne, Manager - Business Development Andrew Lovett, Manager Water & Waste Water Services - Anu Atukorala, Manager - Finance & Administration - Rino Santin and Administrative Services Manager.

Apologies/  
Leave of  
Absence: Nil.

1/00 Minutes: The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on December 14, 1999, were confirmed subject to Item 6 of Minute No. 396, being amended to refer to the "Goonellabah Town Centre", and Item 6 of Minute No. 397 being amended by the incorporation of the word "designed" so as to read "The plan must be designed and implemented to minimise construction and maintenance costs to Council".  
(Councillors Swientek/Irwin)

PUBLIC ACCESS SESSION:

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, a Public Access Session was held at which Council was addressed by the following:-

Graeme Askey re Rescission Motion

Mr Askey spoke in support of the rescission motion. He however expressed concern at the possibility of the RTA shifting cost responsibility to Council. He urged Council to seek Federal funding for its preservation.

(99-21263: S314)

Martin Oliver re Notice of Motion - Genetically Engineered Crops

Mr Oliver raised a number of concerns about the safety of genetically engineered food. He supported the proposal to ban such foods from Council's Child Care Centres and the approach suggested. He claimed such a ban was feasible and could be achieved at minimal cost to Council.

(S222)

Ms Elizabeth Brown re Report - Caniaba Village/Perradenya Estate Water Scheme

(See Minute No. 7/00)

Ms Brown requested that Council continue its support to meet 50% of the water services infrastructure to Perradenya. She claimed that the amount of \$645,000 was not resolved by Council but was an estimate only and sought Council's continued support for this development.

(S664)

Bill Oddie re Report - Goonellabah & District Soccer Club - Request to Review Lease Agreement

(See Minute No. 8/00)

Mr Oddie sought a reduction in the lease payments to an amount equivalent to what the Club would pay in ground fees if no lease existed. He advised that the basis on which the original payment level was determined, i.e. expansion of the licensed club, would not proceed, therefore the payment level was anomalous.

(P8505)

Gary Slade re Report - Voluntary Flood Prone Property Acquisition Scheme - 5 Shannon Street and 54 Victoria Street

(See Minute No. 9/00)

Mr Slade raised concern at the impact of who would pay for any GST component of the negotiated price.

(P8915,P9979)

CONDOLENCES:

Family of the Late Wendy Manning

Wendy Manning was an inaugural member of the Lismore City Council's Access Committee which began in 1991 and a member until her death on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2000.

She worked tirelessly to improve access for people with a disability in Lismore and as a result access in Lismore is much improved. She devoted much time to the committee always ready to comment on policy, undertake access audits, write letters and help organise events. But policy was her speciality. This is where change needed to occur if things were to improve. She would pore through tediously long draft documents so as to make constructive comments to effect real change.

In 1998 the Committee made a video on access in Lismore called 'Getting Around'. Without Wendy this video would not have been made. She took on the role of scriptwriter, producer, acting and chief organiser with much enthusiasm. But when it came to the credits Wendy did not want any.

As Secretary of the committee she wrote many a letter advocating for disability issues, doing so with that caustic wit of hers and good humour that people may not always have appreciated.

She was one of the main driving forces that kept access issues on the agenda, not just in Lismore, but in the North Coast region. Most people with a disability are only concerned about issues to do with their own disability but Wendy was concerned about disabilities across

the board. She never carried a chip on her shoulder despite having a severe disability that greatly hindered her mobility.

The community has lost a valuable advocate for improved access and she will be very much missed by the committee.

Family of the Late Ruth Habib

Mrs Habib was the spouse of Habib Habib an alderman on Lismore City Council for over 40 years. Mrs Habib provided strong support for her husband during his terms as alderman.

Family of the Late Harold Edward Power

Mr Power commenced work with Council in April, 1961 and was a Plant Operator when he retired in February, 1980.

Family of the Late Ronald Wardrop

Mr Wardrop commenced work with Council in March 1949 and was a Plant Operator when he retired in July, 1986.

Family of the Late John Patrick Swift

Mr Swift commenced work with Council in June 1973 and was a Painter when he resigned in 1988.

2/00

The Mayor moved that Council's expressions of sympathy be conveyed to the families of the above and the motion was carried with members standing and observing the customary moment's silence.

(S75)

NOTICE OF RESCISSION \_\_\_\_\_ :

Coleman's Bridge

(Copy attached)

Formal notice having been given by Councillors Irwin, Swientek and Tomlinson it was MOVED that Council's decision to advise the RTA that it doesn't object to the removal of

(Councillors Irwin/Swientek)

On submission to the meeting the MOTION was DEFEATED.

**Voting Against:** Councillors King, Chant, Baxter, Hampton, Suffolk, Gates and Crowther.

(99-21263: S314)

NOTICES OF MOTION:

Use of Genetically Engineered Crops

(Copy attached)

Formal notice having been given by Councillor Irwin it was MOVED that in the light of the increasing concern throughout the community towards the use of genetically engineered crops in the production of foodstuff for human consumption, Lismore City Council:

- 1 Write to the suppliers of all foodstuffs currently supplied to Council's Childcare Centres and any other Council facility, requesting assurances that no products contain ingredients derived from these crops.
- 2 Advise Council's Childcare Centres and other facilities that Council intends to prohibit the use of any foodstuffs which contain ingredients derived from genetically engineered crops, and request them to seek feedback from parents and clients about any foodstuffs for which the manufacturer is unable or unwilling to give the necessary assurances.
- 3 Council write to the Federal Government on the issue of labelling of genetically modified food, advising the Federal Government that this Council believes that all genetically modified food should be appropriately labelled so that citizens can have the right to know what food they are eating.
- 4 Council write to the Australian Local Government Association seeking point three to be raised at the next National Assembly.

(Councillors Irwin/Gallen)

On submission to the meeting the MOTION was DEFEATED.

**Voting Against:** Councillors King, Chant, Baxter, Hampton, Suffolk, Gates and Crowther.  
(00-770:S222)

Community Consultation - Closure of Public Roads in Urban Area

(Copy attached)

Formal notice having been given by Councillor Irwin it was MOVED that a policy be developed by Council staff requiring City Works staff to prepare a report to Council and to provide adequate advance information to affected residents and to hold well-publicised public meetings subsequent to residents receiving that information to explain the position when Council intends to undertake major development works.

(Councillors Irwin/Roberts)

On submission to the meeting the MOTION was DEFEATED.

The voting being tied the Mayor declared the motion DEFEATED on his casting vote.

**Voting Against:** Councillors Chant, Baxter, Hampton, Suffolk, Gates and Crowther.  
(S337)

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:

3/00 RESOLVED that standing orders be suspended and Council now deal with the undermentioned matters:-

- port - Caniaba Village/Perradenya Estate Water Scheme Re
- port - Goonellabah & District Soccer Club - Request to Review Lease Agreement Re
- Report - Voluntary Flood Prone Property Acquisition Scheme - 5 Shannon Street and 54 Victoria Street

(Councillors Hampton/Swientek)

Report - Caniaba Village/Perradenya Estate Water Scheme

(Copy attached)

A MOTION WAS MOVED that the report be received and

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- 1 That Council write to Rous County Council and advise that financial support for the supply of water services infrastructure be held at \$645,000.
- 2 That Council also communicate their best wishes for the success of the development.  
(Councillors Swientek/Gallen)

AN AMENDMENT WAS MOVED that the report be received and -

- 1 That Council write to Rous Water and advise that it will maintain its current financial support for the supply of water services infrastructure at \$645,000; and

- 2 That Council acknowledge future developers' responsibility for contributing to the Caniaba Water Supply, and on this basis offers to reimburse Rous Water its capital expenditure in excess of 50% by a proportionate share from future Section 64 water charges collected from other development in the Caniaba Village zone.

(Councillors Hampton/King)

On submission to the meeting the AMENDMENT was APPROVED and became the MOTION.

**Voting Against:** Councillors, Swientek, Gallen and Crowther.

4/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and

- 1 That Council write to Rous Water and advise that it will maintain its current financial support for the supply of water services infrastructure at \$645,000; and
- 2 That Council acknowledge future developers' responsibility for contributing to the Caniaba Water Supply, and on this basis offers to reimburse Rous Water its capital expenditure in excess of 50% by a proportionate share from future Section 64 water charges collected from other development in the Caniaba Village zone.

(Councillors Hampton/King)

**Voting Against:** Councillors Swientek and Gallen.

(S644)

Report - Goonellabah & District Soccer Club - Request to Review Lease Agreement

(Copy attached)

5/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and

- 1 That Council renegotiate the lease, including fee and conditions to better reflect the community service provided by the Club to Lismore and to better reflect the payments made by other clubs to Council.
- 2 That the new lease operate from January 1, 2000.

(Councillors Gallen/Irwin) (P8505)

**Voting Against:** Councillors Baxter.

Report - Voluntary Flood Prone Property Acquisition Scheme - 5 Shannon Street and 54 Victoria Street

(Copy attached)

6/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and

- 1 Council authorise the General Manager or his delegate to negotiate the purchase of the following properties under flood mitigation schemes providing external funding support of at least two-thirds of the cost:
  - a) Lot 5 of DP 12970 for the property price up to \$110,000; and
  - b) Lot 13 of DP 9732 for the property price up to \$75,000.
- 2 The General Manager and the Mayor be authorised to sign and seal the contracts of sale and property transfers.
- 3 Council forward a letter to Mr Slade explaining the impact of the GST.

(Councillors Swientek/Hampton) (P8915, P9979)



RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS:

7/00

RESOLVED that standing orders be resumed.  
(Councillors Irwin/Tomlinson)

Caniaba Village/Perradenya Estate Water Scheme

(See Minute No. 7/00)

Clunes Wastewater Study

(Copy attached)

- 8/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and
- 1 A community based committee be formed to investigate wastewater disposal options in the village of Clunes.
  - 2 All fourteen nominations received be accepted, and
  - 3 At least three Councillors represent the interests of Council on this committee.

(Councillors Swientek/Hampton)

- 9/00 FURTHER RESOLVED that Councillor King, Baxter & Tomlinson be appointed to the Committee.

(Councillors Crowther/Chant) (\$288)

Kerbside Dining Policy

(Copy attached)

- 10/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and
- 1 The draft Kerbside Dining Policy be adopted by Council to replace the existing Policy 5.2.24 Kerbside Dining Policy
  - 2 The revised policy come into effect from February 1, 2000.

(Councillors Swientek/Chant) (\$569)

International Baseball Challenge - Request for Contribution from FNC Baseball Association Inc.

(Copy attached)

- 11/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and that FNC Baseball:-
- 1 be advised that Council will waive our share of gate receipts (\$4,000);
  - 2 be charged the ground rental in accordance with the fees and charges (\$2,850), and
  - 3 be responsible for paying the full cost of the lighting (\$9,120).

(Councillors Irwin/Hampton) (99-19304: P15870)

Goonellabah & District Soccer Club - Request to Review Lease Agreement

(See Minute No. 8/00)

GST Workshop - Local Charities & Community Organisations

(Copy attached)

- 12/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and
- 1 On the basis that another series of GST seminars is planned to be delivered by the ATO in March/April 2000 and the extent of available information, Council not co-ordinate an evening workshop on the GST for local charities and non profit community organisations provided Council is assured the Australian Taxation Office workshop will meet the needs of non profit community organisations as distinct from charities.
  - 2 That Council inquire of NCOSS whether the information seminar they plan to hold in Lismore will be open to non-profit community groups not engaged in the welfare sector e.g. sporting organisations.

3 If neither NCOSS or the Australian Taxation Office are providing GST seminars for non-profit community groups then Council request Thomas Noble & Russell or other providers to hold a seminar in March/April.

4 Council ensure all local city organisations on its data bases are informed of the availability of GST seminars relevant to their needs.

(Councillors Roberts/Irwin) (S210)

Tender for Pavement Stabilisation Works

(Copy attached)

13/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and that Council adopt the following order of priority for the engagement of pavement stabilisation contractors for major and minor works:

- 1 Stabilised Pavements of Australia P/L
- 2 Pavement Salvage Operations P/L
- 3 Queensland Department of Main Roads

(Councillors Crowther/Gallen) (T20003)

Council Representation on NOROC Standing Committees

(Copy attached)

14/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and that the Council nominate representatives to NOROC Standing Committees as proposed in the report.

(Councillors Swientek/Irwin)

15/00 FURTHER RESOLVED That the following nominees be forwarded to NOROC for consideration.

- 1 Planning & Environment (incorporating Coastal Management) - Cr. Hampton and Cr. Suffolk.
- 2 Regional Economic Development (incorporating Regional Roads and Transport) - Cr. Tomlinson and Cr. Gates
- 3 Local Government Operational Issues (incorporating Supply Management Group)  
The General Manager
- 4 Forestry Taskforce - Cr. Crowther and Cr. King.

(Councillors Gallen/Irwin) (S381)

Council Meeting Schedule

(Copy attached)

16/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and that the Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2000 be rescheduled to Tuesday May 2, 2000 and the meeting scheduled for December 19, 2000 be brought forward to December 12, 2000.

(Councillors Swientek/Roberts) (S43)

Application to have 74A Cecil Street, Nimbin; Harold Fredericks Carpark and Unformed Section of Ross Street Classified "Operational" Land When Acquired by Council

(Copy attached)

17/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and

- 1 Classify as operational land, land to be acquired from the New South Wales Department of Public Works and Services and known as the “Nimbin Water Supply” site being the land comprised in Folio Identifiers 520/843447.
- 2 Acquire Lot 11 of DP 859167 as operational land. The land is to be acquired from the Department of School Education and is known as the “Harold Fredericks Carpark” site.

- 3 Acquire as operational land the unformed southern section of Ross Street (30.175 metres wide) separating Lot 13 DP 241095 and Lot 389 DP 755718 and being the road adjoining a property owned by Southern Cross University.  
(Councillors Swientek/Irwin) (P24895,P25791,R7132)

Voluntary Flood Prone Property Acquisition Scheme - 5 Shannon Street and 54 Victoria Street  
(See Minute No. 9/00)

Investments Held by Council as at 30/11/99  
(Copy attached)

- 18/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.  
(Councillors Crowther/Chant) (S170)

Investments Held by Council as at 31/12/99  
(Copy attached)

- 19/00 RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.  
(Councillors Crowther/Hampton) (S170)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Traffic Advisory Committee Minutes 15/12/99  
(Copy attached)

- 20/00 RESOLVED that the minutes be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted, excluding Clause 3, (TAC206,207) & Clause 11 (TAC215)  
(Councillors Swientek/Baxter) (S352)

TAC 206, 207/99 RoadNet Pty Limited (Planners & Engineers)

- 21/00 RESOLVED
- 1 That a revised plan and estimate for a roundabout be prepared and submitted to the RTA for approval and funding.
  - 2 That the funding of the roundabout be the responsibility of the RTA.
  - 3 That the impact of the proposed upgrading of Macadamia Magic be conveyed to the RTA.
- (Councillors Crowther/Baxter)

TAC215/99 J Brown (On Behalf of Goonellabah Residents & Learning Tree Child Care Centre)

- 22/00 RESOLVED
- 1 That Council support the reduction in the speed limit on Ballina Road between the Hilltop Hotel and Holland Street to 60kph.
  - 2 That Council write to the local member and Minister for Roads seeking their support for this reduction.
- (Councillors Swientek/Irwin)

Speed Limit Signs

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23/00 FURTHER RESOLVED that Council take all necessary action to implement its decision to place lower speed limits on local and regional roads where it considers their condition warrants such action.  
(Councillors Roberts/Irwin)

DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING:

24/00 RESOLVED that the following documents be executed under the Common Seal of Council:-

Form of Acceptance -Department of Community Services

Minor Capital Upgrading Program of \$8,580 to Council for the provision of shade and construction of a viewing panel, to address health and safety requirements for the Gingerbread House Occasional Child Care Centre.

(Councillors Irwin/Baxter)

(00-1119:P9918)

MATTER OF URGENCY

Visit by the Prime Minister

25/00 RESOLVED that this matter be admitted to the Business Paper as a Matter of Urgency.

(Councillors Swientek/Tomlinson)

26/00 RESOLVED that Council to make abundantly clear its desperate situation as a regional city unable to maintain its crumbling road infrastructure owing to years of neglect from the Federal Government.

- 1 That Council take the opportunity of calling on the Hon. John Howard, Prime Minister of Australia, to ask the Federal Government to immediately inject \$10 million from the budget surplus into Councils badly deteriorating road infrastructure so as to facilitate the rebuilding of our vital rural road network as a means of creating wealth creating corridors that facilitate the safe and comfortable movement of goods and people to and within our city.
- 2 Further, that the Federal Government establish a policy of utilising all money collected from fuel and road taxes back into developing and maintaining road and public transport infrastructure across Australia in an effort to rehabilitate the out-dated and dangerous road and public transport infrastructure in rural Australia.
- 3 We call on the Prime Minister of Australia to commit the Australian Government to funding the flood levee proposed for the City of Lismore.

(Councillors Swientek/Tomlinson)

**Voting Against:** Councillors Irwin and Roberts.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10.00pm and resumed at 10.15pm.

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

27/00 RESOLVED that Council now exclude the press and public and meet in Committee of the Whole to consider the following matter:-

MAYORAL MINUTE - STAFF ISSUES

(Councillors Irwin/Tomlinson)

RESUMPTION OF OPEN COUNCIL:

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When the Council had resumed its former sitting, the General Manager reported that Council, meeting in Committee of the Whole, had resolved to exclude the press and public during its consideration of the before mentioned matters to preserve the confidentiality of Staff matters.



AND IT NOW RECOMMENDED

Item 1:

That in the course of the proposed review of the Council's organisation structure the General Manager be requested to:

- Examine and report on options which will facilitate the retention of the incumbent senior officers without the need to advertise their positions;
- Consult with all relevant stakeholders including the incumbent senior officers;
- Examine and report on alternative options for the employment of senior officers including alternatives to contract employment, and
- Enter into discussions with all relevant industrial/legal advocates with a view to ensuring Council's compliance with relevant statutes and award requirements.

28/00 RESOLVED that the General Manager's report of Council meeting in Committee of the Whole be received and adopted.  
(Councillors Crowther/Chant)

This concluded the business and the meeting terminated at 11.20 pm.

**CONFIRMED** this 22ND day of FEBRUARY, 2000 at which meeting the signature herein was subscribed.

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**MAYOR**

