



News from your local councillor

Cr Paul Bishop

Division 10: Birkdale/Thorneside

Dear resident,

Thank you for electing me for a third term as Councillor for Division 10.

I remain both grateful and delighted at the way local residents have been working together to face the challenges and changes caused by COVID-19. Seeing our public foreshore, parks and pathway networks perform such a vital function during this time has been impressive.

Unlike other parts of the world, people have been able to maintain physical distance yet stay socially connected while exercising locally.

We live in a great area. I am already working with Councillors and officers to make sure our open spaces are even more accessible and enjoyable for years to come.

Community connections have also been a gift. There are countless examples of neighbours and friends working together to maintain contact, reaching out to support one another during this tricky time. I would love to hear of your memorable moments and examples of local actions by people who have helped make a difference.

Please send me a message with your story or other thoughtful suggestions. You will also find some useful information on the back of this newsletter.



Cr Paul Bishop – Division 10



Connect with me at
CrPaulBishop



REPRESENTATION: Thanks for your support.

Future plans

In addition to supporting community values and encouraging investment in our local economy, there are three big projects that will remain a priority this term.

Thorneside Foreshore Project: This will focus on the vital open space areas between Beth Boyd Park and Aquatic Paradise East. Your feedback will ensure a delicate balance between nature, amenity, recreation and essential infrastructure is designed and delivered as part of our naturally wonderful Redlands Coast.

Willard Farm/Birkdale land: This massive parcel of land is a legacy project for Redland City. Now that Council owns most of this vast area, I am keen to ensure that inherent values are identified and community values are reflected in future planning for this unique site.

Divisional/regional connectivity: The past few weeks have proven how vital it is to have a vibrant village life. Let us build on local linkages between neighbourhoods, centres, schools and public transport. I'm keen to encourage more safe, walkable pathways and active transport options.

I am also looking forward to working with you in support of Local Community Action for a better future. Let me know if you have any issues you wish to raise.



BETH BOYD PARK: The Thorneside Foreshore Project will focus on vital open space.



WILLARD FARM & BIRKDALE LAND: Planning to reflect community values.

Your Council is here to help

Council has measures in place to ensure eligible ratepayers, community groups and clubs directly affected by COVID-19 can access provisions to waive, suspend or defer Council fees. Payment arrangements for rates and utility charges are also available to support you at this time.

Through our business support program, dedicated officers are also assisting local businesses and groups with information about the various government support programs available.

You can keep up to date with the support available and the COVID-19 measures still in place by staying connected with Council via our COVID-19 Business and Community page. The very helpful team at Council's Customer Contact Centre on 3829 8999 can also direct you from 8am-5pm Monday to Friday.

Getting Redlands Coast moving

Council has provided a \$2 million stimulus package so far to help residents, businesses and community and sports groups recover from the effects of COVID-19.

Council also has already put forward for funding 64 projects worth \$82.9 million that we will be ready to deliver under the Local Government Association of Queensland's job-creating Battleplan for Queensland Local Communities.

The city's "buy local" preference has also been strengthened, with the benefits already starting to flow through.

Council has established a dedicated webpage with industry-specific information and regular updates about government support packages, COVID-19 fact sheets and resources to support businesses at this time.

Future tourism campaigns are also being developed to promote and encourage post-COVID visitation to Redlands Coast.

Helping our clubs

Council is developing support packages for local sporting and community clubs, as well as offering assistance in accessing potential funding streams.

Clubs directly affected by COVID-19 can access Council's provisions to waive, suspend or defer Council fees.

A one-off contribution equivalent to three months of network charges has also been made available to clubs and associations directly affected by COVID-19 and registered under Council's Community Electricity Scheme.

Grants assistance

Council has introduced targeted grants to support local businesses and community organisations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic totalling approximately \$290,000.

It has also focused its Advancing Regional Innovation Program budget to support businesses introducing innovation to their business operations of approximately \$80,000, bringing the total grants assistance pool to \$370,000. For details, go to Council's COVID-19 Business and Community page at redland.qld.gov.au

Public centres and spaces

Council is working to restore operations across the city, with popular services such as libraries already open under state rules with some restrictions.

For the latest on what's happening at the libraries, art galleries, Redland Performing Arts Centre, IndigiScapes and Animal Shelter, check Council's website.

Parks, playground equipment, dog off-leash areas, skate parks, outdoor exercise equipment, basketball hoops, picnic settings and barbecues have re-opened subject to state rules.

Watching your back

The Redland City Local Disaster Management Group continues to monitor COVID-19 developments around the clock and is working closely with state authorities and Councillors to ensure the safety and resilience of residents.

Stay informed

Council's recovery measures are guided by the State Government and its expert medical advice. You can monitor the latest state directives and advice by visiting the Queensland Health website at www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus

Supported by Council, a Disaster Chaplaincy Hotline has been established to help those affected by COVID-19. It operates daily from 8am-8pm on: [1800 841 106](tel:1800841106)

Working with you

Our community response to the recent changes has been inspiring. From pet rocks, colouring-in and chalk messages to inspiring photographs of the area, Anzac driveway offerings and Mother's Day picnics by the bay - all while respecting physical distancing, which is impressive. Please stay connected, kind and patient with loved ones, neighbours and community members. Let me know what is working well and what areas need support. We can all help to support each other, the local economy, volunteers and business leaders as Council assists on the journey ahead. Your positive contributions all make this area a great place to call home.



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