



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Paul Bishop

### Hello fellow citizens,

As spring is in the air, many residents are taking advantage of the longer, warmer days with outdoor recreational activities in our local parks and places.

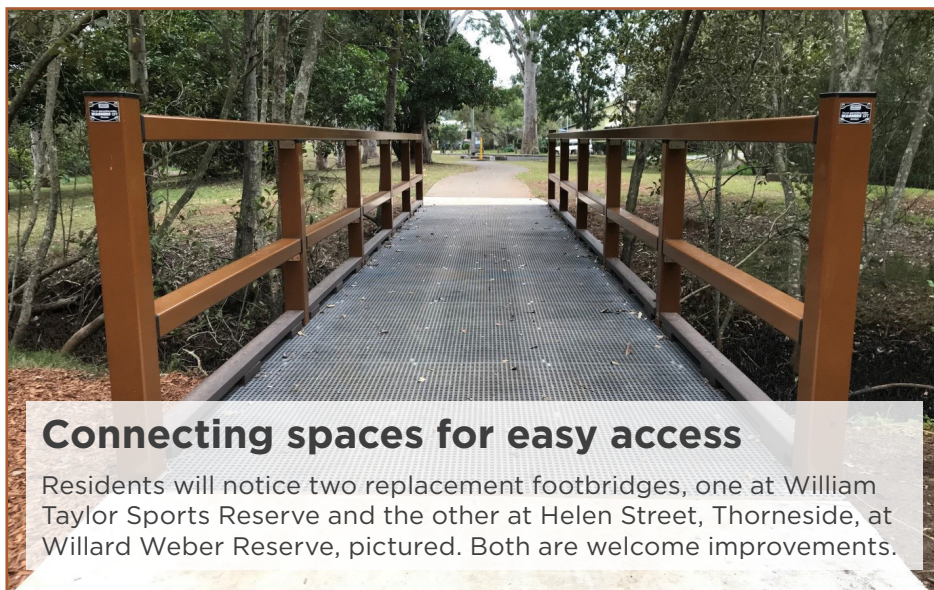
Therefore, in this newsletter we share news of upgrades and planning improvements to our outdoor areas in Birkdale and Thorneside.

As you are out and about enjoying our civic spaces, please do not hesitate to report any raised sections of footpath, damaged signs, graffiti or other issues so officers can investigate and keep on top of things that are important to us all.

For general issues, contact [rcc@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:rcc@redland.qld.gov.au) or, if you want to contact me to follow up an issue, raise any other kind of concern or share an idea, contact [paul.bishop@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:paul.bishop@redland.qld.gov.au)

**Cr Paul Bishop Division 10**

Connect with me at [CrPaulBishop](https://www.facebook.com/CrPaulBishop)



### Connecting spaces for easy access

Residents will notice two replacement footbridges, one at William Taylor Sports Reserve and the other at Helen Street, Thorneside, at Willard Weber Reserve, pictured. Both are welcome improvements.

### Enjoying our play spaces

Upgrades for the Beth Boyd Park outdoor gymnasium are expected to begin in October, all going well.

This replacement gym station, pictured, will be a welcome improvement for the many families who use the exercise area for health and wellbeing. Like the tremendous improvements to Three Paddocks Park gym, near Murray Street, Councillor Infrastructure Grant money is being used to deliver this infrastructure, which will be a welcome addition for the whole community.



### Open for easy supervision at popular Beth Boyd Park

Many Beth Boyd Park users have given the new and improved toilet facilities, pictured, a huge thumbs up.

The block features family-friendly multi-gender facilities, with a change room and shared hand-washing areas, which allow for safe access and supervision.

The outdoor shower for wash-down (previously at the back of the block) has been temporarily removed due to continued drainage issues in that location.

I am pleased to say that this feature (popular among water paddlers and waders) has been flagged for installation at another location in the near future.



## Mangrove odour

After many residents raised concerns about an unpleasant odour along the waterways from Capalaba through to Thorneside, I requested officers search the area for the cause.

While I'm pleased to report that there were no failures found in any Council systems, the smell persisted. On further investigation, reports of similar odours in other mangrove areas across New South Wales and Queensland were found.

Research by Council officers has revealed that local mangrove trees drop seeds from about May to November, depending on seasonal variability. With no recent rains or major intertidal flushes, the rotting seeds have stayed within the waterways. Additionally, the still air of winter spreads the odour across the low topographical areas where people reside.

I have been assured by officers that this is a natural phenomenon and not related to municipal waste-water issues. All sewerage treatment processes remain operating to best-practice standards.

If you have concerns about Council issues or infrastructure, please contact [rcc@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:rcc@redland.qld.gov.au)

## Plans progressing for Thorneside foreshore

Many Birkdale and Thorneside residents who enjoy the waterside leisure and recreation opportunities of the Queens Esplanade foreshore will also be aware of the multiple sensitivities the area presents for residents, wildlife and for erosion management.

With many different officers, departments, levels of government, conservation and recreation groups now being consulted, it appears that the community consultation efforts from 2016 are being used to help formulate the Queens Esplanade Foreshore Erosion Management Plan. I will be working with Council officers and relevant stakeholders to help bring the proposal back to residents before work commences in 2020-21.



## Diabetes Walk 2019

Beth Boyd Park will once again be the location for the JDRF One Walk, raising awareness and funds for junior diabetes research.

This year's event will be from 8am on Sunday 20 October. For information on how you can be involved, search JDRF OneWalk Redlands.

## Supporting seniors & library home delivery

The new Redlands Coast mobile library is smaller and can now get to more places. I've requested visits to local retirement villages. If any seniors or residents with reduced mobility would like access to Council's free mobile lending services, please contact me or email [library@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:library@redland.qld.gov.au)



*COMMUNITY: Supporting Age Friendly Futures at a recent Department of Communities workshop at the Redland Performing Arts Centre.*

## Free street tree for verge

Any resident who wants a street tree in front of their property is invited to request a free planting assessment by officers. Appropriate trees provide shade, habitat for local fauna and add amenity to the area.

Residents interested in verge gardening can request a permit from Council, which also offers guiding principles designed to keep people safe, minimise hazards and encourage use of appropriate plants.

Well managed verges can be used by pedestrians and service providers and be beautiful as well. There is a fact sheet on Council's website.

