



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Mark Edwards

MAINLAND
EDITION

Dear resident of Redland Bay

After many years, the long-awaited Collins Street and School of Arts Road upgrade is nearing.

Recent residential development on Collins Street has triggered Council to design an upgrade which will see the intersection of Collins Street and School of Arts Road swing behind the beautiful Queenslander house at the existing intersection.

It will provide the home's residents with a more peaceful front yard while improving safety along this section. Importantly, the magnificent Moreton Bay fig on the existing intersection will be saved.

Currently there is some inconvenience for Collins Street traffic due to the residential development on the western side but this should be overcome when a roundabout is built at the intersection with Penzance Drive.



REDESIGN: The Moreton Bay fig will be saved as part of the upgrade of the intersection of Collins Street and School of Arts Road at Redland Bay.

The road upgrade is expected to cost about \$10 million and span two years.

The first year is dedicated to relocation of underground services such as sewer pipes, water, waste water, electricity, NBN, cable, phone lines and all the things we don't see but are there. So in the next year when you see workers active along this road, you will know what they are doing.

The following year will see the earthworks and asphalt that will complete the upgrade.

I apologise in advance for the disruption that this will cause and, as it is a major road construction, the timeframe is longer than usual. However the result will be improved connectivity within Redland Bay and infrastructure to meet the needs of a growing local population.

Seawall upgrade to include new ramp

Work is underway to upgrade the Redland Bay seawall at the end of Bay Street, pictured.

Council's construction crews and contractors will build a 2.5m-wide access ramp as well as a new rock armour seawall.

The ramp will have handrails either side and bollards at the top to prevent vehicle access. Weather permitting, the work will be finished by 26 May.

Meanwhile, the development of Council's

comprehensive Coastal Adaptation Strategy has been backed with \$195,650 in funding from the State Government's QCoast2100 Program.

Council worked closely with the Local Government Association of Queensland to present our case for the grant, which will support phases 1-5 of Council's strategy to identify and develop management plans for erosion-prone areas.

This strategy will put us on the front foot in tackling coastal erosion

and recognises that we face significant issues as a relatively small council with about 220km of coast to manage, much of it in our division.

When finalised, the overall strategy will provide a consistent and transparent approach to managing existing and emerging coastal hazards, as well as informing future planning.

With Phase 1 adopted, Council is about to begin community engagement as part of Phase 2, which looks at emerging risks.



This will address long-term concerns for areas of our coastline as well as community expectations, allowing us to better plan for the long-term sustainable management of our coast and foreshores.



Events plan brings benefits

Council has endorsed a comprehensive events strategy and action plan to support local businesses and help create jobs across the city.

The Redland City Events Strategy and Action Plan will help make the Redlands a great destination for a range of unique events, while also providing top-class shows and entertainment for locals.

This plan will support existing events, while attracting new events that fit with our vision for the city as a worthy cultural and arts destination.

Events are a major attraction for visitors and residents alike, particularly those involving the visual arts, food and wine and music. We are looking to develop at least one signature event that is uniquely Redlands.

Head over to see Girt by Sea

The Girt By Sea awards evening will be held at Russell Island Recreation Hall on Saturday, 18 March, from 6pm and all are welcome.

The evening will celebrate the artistic works that have been entered and displayed at the arts precincts on both Russell Island (Kennedy Farm House) and Macleay Island (Coast Road) over the weeks preceding the event.

The winning entries will be kept under wraps until the awards evening, where acquisition prizes ranging from \$500 to \$14,000 will be awarded. Mayor Karen Williams will assist me in the presentation of awards.

This arts event is one of the most lucrative events of its type in Australia and celebrates not only the art works but also our community of artists and our unique islands lifestyle.

After the awards night, many of the art works will be available for sale from the islands' galleries, so make sure you take the opportunity to visit the displays.

Entry to the awards evening is \$5, which includes finger food and drinks are available for sale.

The following acquisition prizes are available to participating artists, subject to selection by judges:



Sculpture Section:

four prizes of \$8000 and three prizes of \$14,000, for a total of \$74,000.

Painting Section:

10 prizes of \$500, five prizes of \$1000, two prizes of \$2500 and one prize of \$5000, for total of \$20,000.

Fire management review under way

A Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) review of Council's fire management program should be delivered soon.

This review will look at our current work as well as future planning to map the effectiveness of the Redlands' fire mitigation program.

QFES is doing modelling which will show the risks and identify areas where we can be more effective.

For instance, it is looking not only at what programmed burns were conducted in risk areas but what those burns actually achieved.

It also is looking at whether Council needs

to reframe Local Law 3 relating to the clearing of land to reduce fire risks as well as Local Law 6, which relates to conservation, as both were the source of some angst during the recent incidents on Russell Island.

The QFES review will continue to learn from recent fires and increase the safety of residents.

It will start with Russell Island, where there have been two bushfires this summer, then extend to areas such as Redland Bay.

Council also will continue its "Street Meets" across the city to discuss disaster management planning and answer residents' questions.

Recent fires, stretching back to the big North Stradbroke Island blaze a couple of years ago, have provided Council's disaster management team and emergency services with valuable lessons.

Fire management is a process of seeking continual improvement and the QFES review and your feedback will help us to better defend your areas. If you have any feedback on fire management, please let us know at emergency@redland.qld.gov.au.

I also urge you all to ensure you have a copy of the disaster management plan for your area. You will find it at www.redlandsdisasterplan.com.au.

Park upgrades

Two Redland Bay parks are in the process of getting a make-over. The existing play equipment at Charlie Buckler Sportsfield, on Redland Bay Road, and at Point Talburpin Park, on McWilliam Street, is being replaced with fun, new structures.

Weather permitting, both should be ready for kids by the end of the month.

Keep in touch

Why not join the hundreds of residents who have already contacted me for help with an issue? You can email me anytime at mark.edwards@redland.qld.gov.au or telephone 0407 695 667.

Warm regards,

Cr Mark Edwards
Division 5 - Mainland