



News from your Local Councillor

Cr Julie Talty

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, particularly in higher risk areas such as Mt Cotton, Sheldon and Redland Bay.

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 ensure Council continues 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 the hinterland.

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

Meanwhile, the process for setting up the rural fire service is well advanced, with discussions continuing with QFES and residents.

Issues, including the overall cost of the operation, are being worked through and Council is investigating locations for the brigade and the equipment needed.

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.



COMMUNITY SAFETY: The process of establishing a rural fire brigade in the division is now advanced, with talks continuing with the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and residents.

If you have any feedback on fire management, please let us know at emergency@redland.qld.gov.au.

 facebook.com/CrJulieTalty

Cr Julie Talty Division 6

City seeks land for sport

Council is looking to buy land for new sports grounds and amenities, with Redland Bay, Mt Cotton and Sheldon among the areas identified.

It follows studies which show the city has a shortage of suitable land to meet residents' future sporting and recreational needs.

Council is inviting landowners to flag their interest in selling land

that might be suitable for sporting fields. It wants to identify, investigate and, if agreed, acquire land that could be used for fields, courts, facilities and associated uses such as carparking. Purchase prices are regulated and are determined through independent valuations.

It is important to understand that Council is in no way looking to acquire land without agreement from the

landowner, but we feel it is important that we move now to identify what is available and, where agreed, preserve that land for community sports facilities by purchasing it.

Council is looking for large parcels of land, such as three or more adjoining 10ha to 20ha blocks up to single blocks of 100ha-plus. The land needs to be mainly flat, mostly cleared and with a good road frontage. The bulk of the

land should be flood-free and not need significant earthworks to support playing areas.

Following a site investigation, Council will seek its own property valuation, with any sale dependent on the approval of Councillors. Interested landowners can contact Council at rcc@redland.qld.gov.au or by calling the Property Office on (07) 3829 8494.



Important upgrades

Final engineering is now complete for the upgrade of the corner of Collins Street and School of Arts Road, with this section next to be constructed.

The design will see the intersection swing behind the beautiful Queenslander house. The left-in access for homes in the area of Wilson Esplanade has been preserved.

This upgrade will improve safety along this section. Importantly, the magnificent Moreton Bay fig on the existing intersection will be saved.

Currently there is some inconvenience around Collins Street 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.

These road upgrades are expected to cost about \$10 million and take place in phases this year and next year. 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.

This is a major road construction, so I ask you to bear with us through these works as the end result should be worth it. The complexity of services provided and the number of access points for local streets make this a complex project. However, the result will be improved connectivity within Redland Bay and infrastructure to better able to meet residents' needs.

New seawall

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

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

With Phase 1 adopted, Council is now 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.



SHOW TIME: I recently attended the East Coast Muscle Car Club's Tuff Metal show in Brisbane, an example of the types of events Council is actively working to secure for the Redlands.

Spotlight on events

Council has endorsed a comprehensive events strategy and action plan as part of a range of measures to support local businesses and help create jobs.

The *Redland City Events Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2022* will help make our city a great destination for a range of unique events, while also providing top-class shows and other entertainment for locals.

This five-year plan will support existing events, while attracting new events that fit our vision for the City and build on our reputation as a worthy cultural and arts destination.

Events are a major attraction for visitors and residents alike, particularly those involving food, wine and music.

We now have a clear guide to how events operators, businesses, Council and other agencies can work together to make the most of our opportunities, such as those presented by the 2018 Commonwealth Games on the Gold Coast, the largest event to occur in Australia this decade.

We are also looking to develop at least one signature event that is uniquely Redlands and has the potential to draw interstate visitors.

The *Redland City Events Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2022* is available on Council's website at www.redland.qld.gov.au/events-strategy.

Bayview flashback

This photograph, provided by Denice McKinlay, will be displayed at the old hut at Bayview Park as part of Council's interpretive and directional trails signage project. It shows Redlands Horse Trail Riders Club members Peter Johnson, Peter Bradford and Adam West. Established in 1984, the club is now known as Red Rivers following amalgamation with the Logan Rivers Redlands Club.

