

ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY, 26 MARCH 2025 AT 4:00 PM

1	Apologies	
2	Declarations	s of Interest
3	Items of Bus	siness
CL01	р3	Induction of Committee Members - Mandatory
CL02	p6	Terms of Reference
CL03	p13	Proposed Meeting Dates 2025
CL04	p14	Customer Requests Management
CL05	p20	Presentation - Griffith Dog Park Petition
CL06	p27	Presentation - Petition for the Cleanliness and Revitalization of OutCity
CL07	p30	Invigorate Griffith
CL08	p33	Review of Policies & Strategies
CL09	p36	Review of Griffith CBD Strategy
CL10	p39	Review of Playground Strategy
4	General Bus	siness
5	Next Meetin	a

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Mark Dal Bon, Councillor Jenny Ellis, Amy Renouf (Community Representative), Anthony Kidman (Community Representative), Brian Savage (Community Representative), Carmel La Rocca (Community Representative), Elizabeth (Will) Mead (Community Representative), Ema Munro (Community Representative), Jenna Thomas (Community Representative), Kevin Taylor (Community Representative), Nicola Thoner (Community Representative), Simone Murphy (Community Representative), Stephen Parker (Community Representative)

Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King; Works Manager – Maintenance, Manjit Chugha; Works Manager – Constuction, Shree Shrestha; Operations Assistant, Cheryl Tucker; Parks & Gardens Manager, Peter Craig and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo

Quorum = 3

If you are unable to attend this meeting please notify the Minute Secretary prior to commencement of the meeting by email or by telephoning Council on 1300 176 077.

This Committee meeting may be attended remotely and recorded by audio or audio-visual means for administrative purposes. No other recording is permitted.

Acknowledgement of Country

Griffith City Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land and waters, and their deep knowledge embedded within the Aboriginal community.

Council further pays respect to the local Wiradjuri Elders, past, present and those emerging, for whom we acknowledge have responsibilities for the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of the local Wiradjuri people.

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL01

TITLE Induction of Committee Members - Mandatory

FROM Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer

TRIM REF 25/27778

SUMMARY

Community members appointed to Council Committees are required to undertake the Committee Induction process as outlined in this report.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee members note the Committee Induction requirements and complete induction process outlined in this report.

REPORT

Members appointed to Council Committees are required to undertake the Committee Induction process as outlined below:

Mandatory Induction Requirements:

Step 1: Read the following Policies and Information on the Committee Webpage Committee Member Induction

- Code of Conduct Policy
- Model Code of Conduct at a Glance Committee Members & Delegates
- Code of Meeting Practice Policy
- Statements to the Media Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Information Protection Principles
- Child Safe Policy and Code of Conduct

Step 2: Complete the online Committee Acknowledgment of Policies Form after reading the above policies.

Conflicts of Interest

Your obligations to disclose and manage conflicts of interest that arise in your role will depend on what type of conflict of interest you have. Part 4 & 5 of the Code of Conduct policy describes Committee members' responsibilities for declaring Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary conflicts of interests.

<u>Conflicts of interest forms</u> may be filled in on-line prior to the meeting or completed in writing at the meeting.

Gift and Benefits Register

Part 6 of the Code of Conduct policy deals with gifts and benefits and outlines requirements for Committee members to submit a Gift and Benefits form.

Terms of Reference

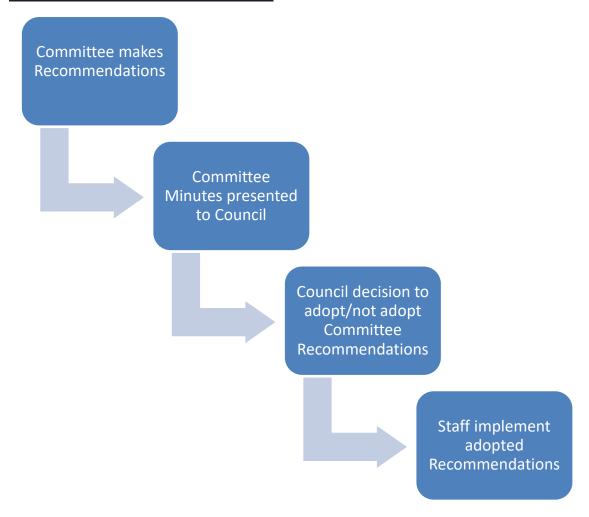
The Terms of Reference for a Council Committee outline its purpose, structure, and operational guidelines, including its objectives, membership composition, meeting procedures, roles and responsibilities, decision-making authority and reporting obligations. They define how the Committee functions within the Council structure, ensuring clarity on delegation limits and governance requirements.

Agenda Items

Committee Secretary will confer with the Chair and responsible Director regarding Agenda items. Should Committee members wish to raise a matter as part of the Agenda, they may email the Committee Secretary 2 weeks before the meeting date.

Alternatively, matters may be raised for discussion during General Business.

Committee Recommendation Process



LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL02

TITLE Terms of Reference

FROM Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer

TRIM REF 25/27784

SUMMARY

Committee to review the Terms of Reference attached.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee adopt the Terms of Reference attached to the report.

REPORT

Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) (TOR-029) Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee - Terms of Reference J



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

1. Establishment and Guidelines:

1.1 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee is established under section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993 which states:

A function of Council may, subject to this Chapter, be exercised: (b) By a committee of the council

1.2 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee and its members are bound by practices as established in Council policies including:

GC-CP-402 – Council Committees GC-CP-404 – Code of Conduct GC-CP-413 – Code of Meeting Practice COMM-CP-401 - Media Policy COMM-PO-401 - Social Media Policy GOV-CP-316 - Child Safe Policy

Each Committee member will be required to sign an acknowledgment form indicating their acceptance of the above policies which are available on <u>Council's Committee Induction</u> <u>webpage.</u>

2. Authority to Act:

- 2.1 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee does not have authority to implement actions in areas over which Council has responsibility. The Committee does not have any management functions and is therefore independent of management.
- 2.2 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee has no delegated authority to make decisions, it can only refer or recommend matter to the Council for consideration. The Committee forwards the Minutes of every meeting, including any specific recommendations, to the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of the Council for determination.
- 2.3 The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee does not have any authority to commit or expend any Council funds that are not contained within an adopted budget or subsequent variation to that budget via resolution of Council.
- 2.4 Any recommendation for expenditure other than within an adopted budget must be endorsed by Council through adoption of Committee minutes at the next practicable Ordinary Meeting of Council and cannot be acted upon until the adoption of Committee Minutes at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

3. Purpose & Scope:

The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee will:

- 3.1 Provide advice and recommendations regarding the review of various Council policies and strategies on the development, maintenance and improvement of roads, parks and pathways, promoting accessibility, safety, fit for purpose and aesthetic appeal for the community.
- 3.2 Receive periodic status report on the Road Review 2024 actions.

Approved:	Directorate:	Infrastructure and Operations		Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1	
Relevant To:	Date Issued:	11/03/2025	Revised:		Status: Current	Page: 1 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

Relevant Documents:

- Griffith Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy 2021
- Griffith Heavy Vehicle Strategy
- Driveways Maintenance Width Policy
- Plaques Installed by Council Policy
- Roads Open Spaces Naming Policy
- Kerb Guttering Footpath Construction Policy
- Roads Maintenance Upgrading of Unsealed Roads Policy
- Playground Strategy
- Road Review 2024
- Tree Policy
- CBD Strategy Introduction
- CBD Strategy Analysis
- CBD Strategy Recommendation
- CBD Strategy Implementation

4. Alignment to Community Strategic Plan

- Objective 1.2 Actively engage with and seek direction from our community and stakeholders.
- Objective 4.2 Make our community safer.
- Objective 4.3 Provide and promote accessibility to services.
- Objective 4.8 Improve the aesthetic of the City and villages, by developing quality places and improved public realm.
- Obejctive 5.7 Support transport connectivity.
- Objective 6.2 Maintain and develop an effective transport network (airport, public roads, pathways, pedestrian access and transport corridors) for Griffith and villages.

5. Frequency of Meetings:

5.1 Meetings will be held quarterly at dates and times as determined.

The Committee may also call a special meeting in extraordinary circumstances where a majority of members believes this to be necessary.

5.2 Meetings will normally be held at either the Council Administration Building at 1 Benerembah Street, Griffith, or at another accessible venue.

6. Membership and Quorum:

- 6.1 The membership of the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee will be:
 - 1 Mayor
 - 1 Councillors Shari Blumer (Chair)
 - 2 Councillor Mark Dal Bon & Councillor Jenny Ellis
 - 11 Community Representatives as endorsed by Council

Approved:	Directorate:	Infrastructure and Operations		Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1	
Relevant To:	Date Issued:	11/03/2025	Revised:		Status: Current	Page: 2 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

- 6.2 Membership shall be appointed by resolution of Council.
- 6.3 The Mayor, by virtue of holding the office of Mayor, is appointed as a member to all Committees established by Council.
- 6.4 Minimum number for quorum will be 3.
- 6.5 Number of voting members will be 15 (including the Mayor if in attendance).
- 6.6 A quorum is not required for meetings to take place. However, for a decision to be made at a meeting, a quorum of members must be present. If a quorum is not reached, the meeting can be held for information purposes only and discussion recorded as a Report of the Meeting (in lieu of Minutes of the Meeting).

7. Voting:

- 7.1 For the vote to be carried, a majority (more than half) of the voting members present is required.
- 7.2 In the event of a tied vote, the Chair will have the casting vote.
- 7.3 The Mayor will have a voting right at any meeting the Mayor attends.
- 7.4 Council staff do not have the authority to move or second motions nor vote on issues.

8. Chairperson:

- 8.1 Councillor appointed Chairperson is Councillor Shari Blumer
- 8.2 Duties of the Chairperson:
 - 8.2.1 Ensure preparation of agenda before the meeting.
 - 8.2.2 Chair meetings in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice and agreed Terms of Reference. Ensure agenda items are discussed, decisions are made and recorded, as appropriate.
 - 8.2.3 Approve draft meeting minutes.
 - 8.2.4 Represent the Committee as spokesperson.
 - 8.2.5 Comment to the media on minor matters only. Media contact on larger projects are to be channelled through the Mayor's Office.
 - 8.2.6 The Chairperson may cancel scheduled meetings if there are no scheduled Agenda items for consideration.

9. Directorate and Staff Support

- 9.1 The Responsible Directorate is Infrastructure and Operations.
- 9.2 The Director Infrastructure and Operations will determine staff support to the Committee.

9.3 Duties of the Director:

Approved:	Directorate:	Infrastructure and Operations		Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1	
Relevant To:	Date Issued:	11/03/2025	Revised:		Status: Current	Page: 3 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

- Be the nominated contact officer for the Committee.
- Be the main conduit between the Committee and Council.
- Be the custodian of information required for the Committee.
- Coordinate meetings.
- Provide and or collect reports for inclusion in the Agenda.
- Approve items for inclusion in Agenda.
- Monitor and follow-up Action Report.

10. Secretary:

- 10.1 Griffith City Council Governance staff will provide a Minute Secretary and administrative support to the Committee for the purpose of preparing Agendas, Minutes and Action Reports.
- 10.2 Duties of the Secretary:
 - Preparation and distribution of agendas.
 - Issuing notices for meetings (Agendas) at least three days prior to the meeting, ensuring all necessary documents requiring discussion or comment are attached to the Agenda.
 - Taking minutes and notes of proceedings and preparing and distributing minutes of the meeting. Minute taking at Meetings may be shared among Governance staff and technical staff attending the meeting depending on staff loads.
 - Update Action Report and distribute to responsible officer for action.

11. Responsibility of Committee Members:

- 11.1 Attend meetings and be punctual.
- 11.2 Send an apology if unable to attend a meeting.
- 11.3 Read business papers in advance and undertake necessary research.
- 11.4 Raise issues and concerns, and report on initiatives and issues which may be relevant to or of interest to other members.
- 11.5 Participate in discussions and decision making.
- 11.6 Follow through actions minuted and subsequently adopted by Council.
- 11.7 It is the responsibility of all Committee members to familiarise themselves with and follow practices as contained in the governing Council policies. Refer to Council policies Section 1.2.

Approved:	Directorate:	Infrastructure and Operations		Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1	
Relevant To:	Date Issued:	11/03/2025	Revised:		Status: Current	Page: 4 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

- 11.8 Members must declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest at the start of each meeting or before discussion of a relevant agenda item or topic. Details of any conflicts of interest are to be recorded in the minutes. If members or those invited to Committee meetings find they do have a real or perceived conflict of interest or pecuniary interest they are not allowed to be a part of Committee discussions on the issue. Refer to Council's Code of Conduct for management of conflicts of interest.
- 11.9 Members must only use Council and Committee information for Council purposes and for the purposes for which it was collected. Members are required to maintain the integrity and security of confidential information for which they are responsible.

12. Attendance at Meetings

Attendance at meetings may be by audio visual (such as Zoom).

13. Other Attendees:

Members of the public/agency representatives who are not Committee members may attend Committee meetings by invitation of the Chairperson or Committee only. Such persons shall not be entitled to vote on any decision arising out of that meeting. It is preferred that if a member of the public/agency representative wish to attend a meeting that they address the Committee in relation to the item and leave the meeting before any vote is taken on the matter.

14. Term of Office:

The term of office for Section 355 committees will be the same term as the current Council, unless established as a sunset committee i.e. with a finite time specified.

15. Reporting Framework:

The Committee will report to Griffith City Council via minutes presented to Ordinary Council Meetings.

16. Media Contact

The Chairperson of a Council Committee is the primary spokesperson on matters that have been discussed by a Committee. Priority should be given to the Chairperson to comment on Council decisions, projects and initiatives associated to the relevant Committee unless the Mayor elects to do so.

Contact with the media should be done in the first instance (where possible) by Media Release. All Chairpersons should notify Council's Communications and Integrated Planning team of any contact with the media that relates to Council matters.

Committee members may not speak to the media on behalf of the Committee or Council without approval in advance from Council's Communications and Integrated Planning team.

When communicating with the media, Council Committee members are not to use or disclose information gained during the ordinary course of business of Council in a way that may:

- (a) cause significant damage or distress to a person;
- (b) damage to the interests of Council or a person; or

Approved:	Directorate:	Infrastructure and Operations		Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1	
Relevant To:	Date Issued:	11/03/2025	Revised:		Status: Current	Page: 5 of 6



ROADS, PARKS AND PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

(TOR-029)

- (c) confer an unfair commercial or financial advantage on a person or business when dealing with the media; and
- (d) disclose any confidential information discussed during a confidential session of a council or committee meeting or any other confidential forum (such as, but not limited to, Workshops or briefing sessions).

17. Expenses of Committee Members

Council will not generally authorise payment or provide remuneration to Committee members.

18. Insurance

Committee members are covered by Council's public liability and professional indemnity insurance.

19. Recording of Meetings

Meetings may be recorded by audio or audio-visual means for administrative and minute taking purposes. No other recording is permitted.

20. Review of Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Committee will be adopted for the duration of the Council Term. Any amendment to the Terms of Reference as accepted by the Committee shall be forwarded to Council for consideration but cannot be applied until adopted by Council.

Adopted: Council Meeting – 11 March 2025 Minute No: 25/069

Approved:	Directorate:	Infrastructure and Operations		Document ID: TOR-029	Version: 1	
Relevant To:	Date Issued:	11/03/2025	Revised:		Status: Current	Page: 6 of 6

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL03

TITLE Proposed Meeting Dates 2025

FROM Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer

TRIM REF 25/27782

SUMMARY

The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee will meet quarterly on the fourth Wednesday of the month.

The proposed meeting dates for 2025 are:

- Wednesday, 26 March
- Wednesday, 25 June
- Wednesday, 24 September
- Wednesday, 17 December (third Wednesday due to Christmas Holidays)

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee note the proposed meeting dates for 2025.

REPORT

As above.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL04

TITLE Customer Requests Management

FROM Phil King, Director Infrastructure and Operations

TRIM REF 25/32200

SUMMARY

Griffith City Council has a dedicated Customer Service department to provide a front of house single point of contact for ratepayers, residents and visitors to the Griffith Local Government Area. The staff that work in this department are skilled and trained to receive almost any enquiry that any resident or visitor might have in relation to all services that Council provides.

This report is relevant to the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee as there will be many matters that the members of the committee will likely want to raise at each meeting. This report will outline the most appropriate way to raise these matters.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and note the report.

REPORT

Council is committed to working in partnership with the community, to deliver excellent service standards through dedication, innovation and continuous improvement. The formation of this committee is one way to deliver on this promise. It is important to know that the Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (RPPEC) should not become a voice single one-off complaints about issues on roads, in parks or on pathways.

Council has a number of ways to obtain information from or provide information to regarding various matters. The Council website is the best way to find out most things about Council. This is where polices, plans and strategies are published.

Council has a "report an issue" electronic form on the front page of the Council website (see attachment a).

Griffith City Council is also contactable by:

- In person at the Customer Service Centre From 8:15am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday, 1 Benerembah Street, Griffith NSW 2680
- By Phone on 1300 176 077 from 8:15 am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday
- By Email admin@griffith.nsw.gov.au

Emergency After Hours Contacts are

- Customer Service 1300 176 077
- Water & Sewer Emergencies/Odour Complaints After Hours on (02) 6962 8105
- Animal Hotline (dog attacks, stock on the road etc) After Hours on 0408 210 196

• All fire emergencies please call - 000

When a customer visits or calls, Council will attend to the counter and answer the telephone promptly, courteously and deal with an enquiry directly without unnecessary referrals or transfers. If Council's Customer Service staff cannot deal with the enquiry it will be forwarded to the appropriate department and a telephone call will be returned at the first opportunity.

A Duty Planner and Building Surveyor is available each day to answer any in-depth Development or Building enquiries at the front counter. If Council is not the current service provider for the nature of an enquiry, Council will endeavour to direct customers to the relevant provider.

The Customer Request Management System (CRM) is a massive database that contains each enquiry. All works or services requests from customers are recorded into CRM for actioning and resolving with the relevant department. For works or services request, Council will provide the CRM identification number for the Customer to use for future reference.

Third Party carriage services such as "Snap, Send, Solve" or "Facebook" are not the preferred method of contacting Council. These services don't prompt customers to provide accurate information. Further, they can be used for vexatious complaints. A vexatious complaint can be, but is not limited to, a groundless complaint that causes distress, detriment or harassment to the subject of the complaint; or a complaint that is unduly repetitive, burdensome, or unwarranted when compared to its merits.

It is often surprising to hear about different matters that are raised directly with Councillors and particularly the Mayor. Recently the Mayor was contacted about a tap that wasn't working in a Council facility. This matter should have been raised directly with customer service. A CRM could have been raised and the matter referred directly to the Responsible Council officer. Instead, the Mayor, rang the Director of the impacted department, they then rang the relevant Manager, who in turn contacted the staff involved to discover that the water had been turned off at a main supply. The message was relayed back to all parties and back to the customer.

The following summary of the responsibilities for the Mayor, Councillors and General Manager will help to provide some guidance about what matters ought to be raised with each level within the hierarchy.

Mayor: Exercise policy making functions, presides at meetings of council and carries out civic and ceremonial functions.

Councillors: Represent the interests of residents and ratepayers as a member of the governing body of council.

General Manager: Responsible for efficient operation of council (day to day management) and carry out council decisions.

In summary committee members are reminded not to wait for the next committee to raise an issue that has come to their attention, rather contact Customer Service to ensure that the issue is appropriately referred to the correct staff member.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.3 Provide and promote accessibility to services.

ATTACHMENTS

(a)	Report an Issue - Website 4	17
(b)	See it Report it! QR Code <u>U</u>	18
(c)	Media Release - Council urges residents to play their part by using the See it, Report it QR \$\mathcal{I}\$	19



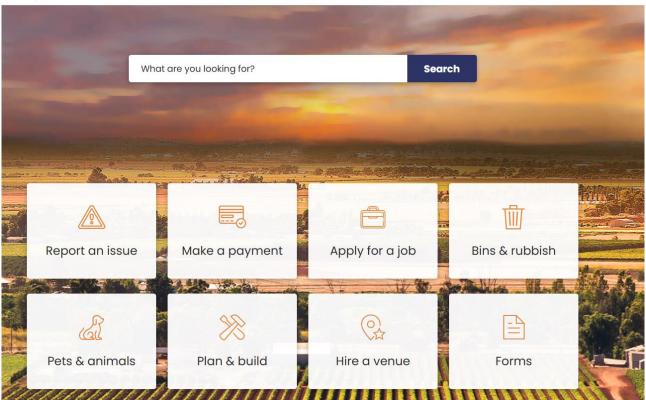
Council Res

Residents

Visitors

Business

Building News







Noticed something that needs attention?
Use Council's **Report an Issue** form to let us know

WE ARE Griffith - together, we make a difference









Thursday 20 March 2025

Council urges residents to play their part by using the See it, Report it QR Code

Griffith City Council has launched the "See It, Report It" QR code initiative, making it easier for residents to report community issues like potholes, rubbish dumping and graffiti.

By scanning QR codes placed at various locations around Griffith, residents can access an online form to submit feedback, including photos and location details, which will then be sent to the relevant Council department to be prioritised for action during normal operating hours.

The initiative aims to improve accessibility, efficiency and community engagement. Residents are encouraged to start using the service immediately.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran said the introduction of the 'See It, Report It' QR code is part of Council's ongoing commitment to enhancing community engagement and is part of the We are Griffith Campaign, under the We are Local section on the website.

"This system empowers our community members to play an active role in identifying and addressing issues and we look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have," said Councillor Curran.

"With calls for us to look at how we can make Griffith cleaner and revitalise the City, this is a way locals can help."

How it works:

Spot an issue: When residents notice a problem or concern in the community, they can simply scan the "See It, Report It" QR code in various locations.

Scan the QR code: Using any smartphone or tablet, residents can scan the QR code, which will instantly direct them to Council's online reporting form.

Submit the form: The online form allows residents to provide details about the issue, including its location and any relevant photos. Once submitted, your request will be registered and actioned to the relevant department, to be prioritised during Council's normal operating hours.

More details are available on connect.griffith.nsw.gov.au/see-it-report-it

ends

Media Information:

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COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL05

TITLE Presentation - Griffith Dog Park Petition

FROM Phil King, Director Infrastructure and Operations

TRIM REF 25/32146

SUMMARY

Council has received a request for a number of upgrades to be considered for the Off Leash Dog Park located on the western end of Community Gardens on Coolah Street, Griffith. This report will provide an update for the Committee to note.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) The Committee note the report.
- (b) The Committee request Council to provide a favourable budget to provide upgrades to the Off Leash Dog Park, Community Gardens, Griffith.

REPORT

The upgrade requested for the Off Leash Dog Park are listed as follows:

- 1. Enlargement of existing park or establishment of a second dog exercise park.
- 2. Installation of lighting for the night time exercise of dogs.
- 3. More obstacles for the dogs.
- 4. A crate to keep dog toys and balls.
- 5. Car Park in Coolah Street adjacent to dog park upgraded.

Further the request to Council also requested the following items to be addressed:

- 6. Broken and leaking Water Bubbler
- 7. Broken concrete lid
- 8. Seat covered in Tree sap to be relocated
- 9. Scheduled maintenance to be completed
- 1. The enlargement of the existing park has been considered by staff. There is proposed extension shown in Attachment a) in red. This would provide an additional 1,260m². It is proposed to retain the fence between the two areas providing an opportunity to dogs to be separated. The entrance gate would be modified to provide access to both areas. An additional benefit would be to allow maintenance on each area in turn and allow owners and their dogs to continue using the park. Council has received a quote for the additional fence.

- 2. Installation of lighting for the night time use could be achieved with the installation of Solar lights located strategically around the park. The solar lights operate in low power mode until they are activated via a motion sensor to their full brightness. Council has received a guote for 3 lights.
- 3. More obstacles for the dogs. Currently there is a tunnel installed in the dog park. This one obstacle is well used as indicated by the bare earth / worn grass surrounding the tunnel. Staff have sourced two varieties of obstacles that could be considered for installation. A budget bid would be required to provide fund suitable for the procurement and installation of a second or third Obstacle. Prices will be shown in a presentation at the meeting although it should be noted that these are commercial in confidence.
- 4. A crate to keep dog toys and balls. This request is denied. If a crate is left in park, staff will be directed to remove it. Council cannot assume any risk for possible transmission of disease, bacteria or other pathogens that may present on shared toys, as this could impact both dogs and their owners. Each dog and owner has varying levels of immunity and resistance to illnesses, depending on factors such as health and vaccination status.
- 5. Car Park in Coolah Street to be upgraded. Council has an annual budget allocation to car park maintenance and the small car park at the off-leash dog park is not in good condition. It is uneven, holds water after rain. It is proposed to regrade, gravel and seal this car park in the 2025/26 financial year.
- **6. Water Bubbler.** The bubbler has been serviced by a plumber. The water bottle filler was clogged and has now been cleaned.
- 7. Broken Concrete Lid. The concrete cover requires the support edging replaced and works are yet to be carried out (the cover will be barricaded until repaired).
- **8. Seat covered in Sap.** The seat has been cleaned and does not require relocation.
- 9. Scheduled maintenance. Council staff have, at times, delayed maintenance on the off-leash dog park when there are owners and their dogs using the park. This has resulted in the park missing out on being mown and maintained at various times in the past. The proposed extension to the dog park will provide a second area and allow for maintenance of each area to be completed with the alternate area being available for use.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.8 Improve the aesthetic of the City and villages by developing quality places and improved public realm.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Proposed Dog Park Expansion <u>J</u> 22

(b) Petition for Griffith Dog Park

24





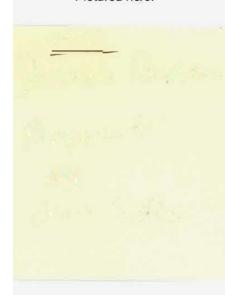


Name and address of principal petitioner: Nicola Thoner,

Summary: Griffith's dog park is behind most other dog parks in the regional area. Albury's dog park on Logan road is huge, with many obstacles and room for dogs to run around. Hay's dog park at Pocok Park has obstacles for their dogs. Leeton's dog park and Darlington Point's Lion Park and park on King Street are large and have a walking track. The location of our dog park is good and there is a big community for dog lovers in Griffith that use the current dog park daily.

Requests:

1. We would like for the dog park to be much bigger. A lot of us have big dogs that don't find the park big enough to run. We throw balls for our pets and we can't get much range before the ball hits the fence. Sometimes at the park there are 20 + dogs and there is just no room, making the dogs feel caged and sometimes prompting aggression because the dogs are all over each other and become annoyed with each other. Some people have suggested extending the current dog park across to the garden maze, moving the access point to down the road and putting another dog park from the other side of the Showgrounds to Griffin Ave. Pictured here:





- 2. To have flood lights for night time, especially in Winter as it gets dark at 5:30-6pm. This is also a safety thing. Some dogs are black and it's hard to see them at night. If we can't see our dogs, it's harder to control them. We also want to feel safe going at night time. Some of us finish work at five and by the time we get to the park it's 5:30 and getting dark. Our dogs can't enjoy a good hour of play because we can't see anything.
- 3. To have more obstacles for the dogs. Currently, we only have one tunnel. A dog park is a place for dog enrichment, they get out of the home and come to the park to socialise, to play and to engage with their environment. Dog park obstacles are also good to encourage help owners train their dogs and give their dogs and owners a purpose instead of standing around chatting. Some obstacles could be: A jump over, hoop jump, long tunnel, sandpit, king of the hill ramp.

4. For council to keep a crate for dog toys and balls so they don't get mowed over. Our dog park community has probably spent over \$500 in balls, toys and things for our dogs to do at the park, given there is only one obstacle, the tunnel. Most of these get mowed over by council. If we could have a crate to put the balls and toys in before they get mowed over, it would save us a lot of time and money. The crate could be placed attached to the fence as one of our dog park members Hailey has done previously. This was taken down due to 'Hygiene reasons' which still hasn't fully been explained to us. Here are some pictures of broken dog balls due to being mowed over.



5. General Maintenance: There are a few safety issues with our park.
a) The dog park carpark is made of dirt and has one pot hole and one raised concrete hill. The pot hole fills with water when raining. We would like to have a concreted car park with a disabled parking spot for our members that aren't able to walk well.



b) There is a drain under the trees on the left side that needs repairing. It's a hazard for dogs and humans that step over it. I have already tripped on it.



c) There is also a chair that is placed in a bad position. It stands alone on the left hand side near the drain and is always dirty and covered in sap. (see below). It is sticky to sit on.



We would like for this chair's position to be moved or removed - it is not used often because it is dirty and covered in sap and is also placed away from the other chairs. It also gets in the way of throwing balls. We would like more chairs to be placed at the top of the hill of the dog park, where the sun is in Winter. It would also be lovely to have a picnic table with a shade covering so we can sit with our coffees while our dogs play.

d). To have a drain around the water tank for the dogs. The water tank leaks from the side nozzle and the water bowl spills out onto the dirt, creating mud and mess.

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL06

TITLE Presentation - Petition for the Cleanliness and Revitalisation of Our City

FROM Phil King, Director Infrastructure and Operations

TRIM REF 25/32141

SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 11 March 2025 a Petition for the Cleanliness and Revitalisation of Our City Attachment (a) was presented to Council by Doreen Wood. The resolution of Council was to Receive and note the petition. Further Councillor Testoni requested that the petition be referred to the Road, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee endorse the proposed horticultural actions proposed by staff.

REPORT

Council has provided a Media Release "Council Responds to Petition with Workshop Planned" for publication Attachment (b). Council held a Special Councillor workshop with senior staff on Monday 17 March. At this workshop a presentation was made highlight the issues raised by the petition in relation to the London Plane trees in Banna Ave. The part of the presentation relating to Banna Ave trees is Attachment (c) to this report.

The Issues that have been specifically addressed are the community concerns relating to the London Plane Trees which include Leaf curl and discolouration, Exposed Roots, Chemical use, and Watering.

Council staff have proposed to apply a nitrogenous fertilizer to the soil in conjunction with a winter rain event, apply a folia fertilizer, continue with the procedure to not use herbicide and as the temperature heats up over next summer double the watering duration from what is usual.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.8 Improve the aesthetic of the City and villages by developing quality places and improved public realm. and item 5.2 Be a location of choice for business investment, employment and learning.

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Petition for the Cleanliness and Revitalization of Our City 1. 28
- (c) Presentation Plane Trees Banna Ave, Griffith (under separate cover) 👳



5 FEB 2025

Petition for the Cleanliness and Revitalization of Our City

To: The City Council



Background

Our city, once a beacon of vibrancy and charm, is facing a decline that is both visible and troubling. The entrances to our town, which should warmly welcome visitors, are instead marred by weeds and dead shrubs. Our iconic plane trees along Banna Avenue, which used to stand tall and healthy, now appear stressed and neglected due to insufficient watering. Moreover, the middle block, once bustling with activity, now presents a series of empty, dirty, and uninviting shop fronts. This downward trend is not only an eyesore for residents but also a deterrent for potential visitors, whose disheartening comments reflect the urgent need for action. Before it keeps going into decline, we must take action.

Urgency of the Matter

It is imperative that we act now and make our Council aware of the situation before it falls into further decline.

Petition Request

We respectfully request that the City Council take the following actions:

As ratepayers we deserve to see our money spent on these important issues to invigorate our city and entice visitors and locals to enjoy what we once had.

Signatories

By signing this petition, we reaffirm our commitment to the cleanliness and revitalization of our city and express our collective voice in urging the City Council to take immediate and decisive action.

Conclusion

We trust that the City Council will give this petition the serious consideration it deserves and take the necessary steps to address the untidy state of our city. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter

Doreen Wood

Proprietor Valentine Modes



Wednesday 12 March 2025

Council responds to petition with a workshop and new committee set to meet

Griffith City Council has acknowledged a petition presented at the Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday, 11 March 2025, regarding concerns about the city's appearance and its impact on local businesses.

A Council workshop has been scheduled for Monday, 17 March 2025, to further discuss the matters raised in the petition and explore practical solutions for improving key areas within Griffith. Councillors and relevant Council staff will be involved in these discussions.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran, confirmed Council's commitment to maintaining and enhancing the city's streetscape while acknowledging the vital role of local businesses in shaping the community.

"Council values community feedback and appreciates the dedication of our business owners, including Doreen Wood of Valentine Modes, who has been a longstanding contributor to Griffith's retail sector for nearly 50 years," Councillor Curran said.

"I understand the concerns raised and I recognise the passion shown for our city. Enhancing the CBD is something that has been on our radar for some time and the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee is a result of that.

"This committee's first meeting will be held on 26 March 2025. The role of the committee is to provide guidance on the development, maintenance and improvement of roads, parks and pathways to ensure accessibility, safety and aesthetic appeal for the community."

Council has also initiated several programs aimed at supporting businesses and revitalising Griffith's streetscape. The recently launched We Are Griffith campaign includes a shop local component, encouraging residents to support local retailers and strengthen the business community. In addition, Council has collaborated with local radio and the Griffith Business Chamber to hold Council Cafés, providing opportunities for retailers and the community to share their ideas.

Further updates will be provided following the upcoming workshop as Council continues working closely with business owners, landlords and residents to enhance Griffith's appearance and economic vitality.

ends

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INFORMATION REPORT

CLAUSE CL07

TITLE Invigorate Griffith

FROM Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer

TRIM REF 25/32444

SUMMARY

Following the receipt of the Petition for the Cleanliness and Revitalization of Our City, a community forum (Invigorate Griffith) has been organised on the 3 April 2025, at the Gem Hotel in partnership with the Griffith Business Chamber to inform residents of:

- (a) Spending trends in Griffith based on data retrieved from Council's subscription to Spendmapp and
- (b) To receive feedback from retail business owners and interested residents.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Invigorate Griffith - Flyer ↓ 31
 (b) Media Release - Ideas to invigorate Griffith explored during Council workshop ↓

INVIGORATE GRIFFITH FREE BUSINESS EVENT

UNDERSTANDING GRIFFITH'S SPENDING TRENDS & COMMUNITY FORUM

Join Griffith Business Chamber and Griffith City Council for an insightful presentation on supporting local – spending patterns and trends in Griffith's Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism sectors.

This presentation is using real transaction data from Spendmapp by Geografia, which will provide business owners with valuable insights into local and visitor spending, peak trading periods and trends.

Following the Spendmapp presentation, breakout groups will be held to discuss ideas on how we can collectively invigorate Griffith.



When: 5:45pm Thursday 3rd April 2025 **Where:** Gem Hotel Function Room Griffith

Register: events.humanitix.com/supporting-local-understanding-griffith-s-spending-trends





Thursday 20 March 2025

Ideas to invigorate Griffith explored during Council workshop

Griffith City Council is investigating ways to invigorate the City, following a workshop held on Monday, 17 March 2025.

The workshop was convened in response to the "Petition for the cleanliness and revitalisation of our city," tabled at last week's Ordinary Meeting by long-time Banna Avenue business owner, Doreen Woods.

Included in discussions was the NSW Government's Sustainable Communities grants program and the recent announcement of the \$15 million Early Investment Round funding by Minister for Agriculture, Regional NSW and Western NSW, Hon Tara Moriarty MLC. The Early Investment Round provides funding opportunities for projects by Councils and businesses in nine Local Government Areas impacted by Federal Government water buybacks. Council will now prepare a report to determine priority projects for potential funding.

One of the key options raised was a review of the Griffith CBD Strategy 2015, which has already delivered significant improvements, including, Yambil Street upgrades, Kooyoo Street enhancements and the Olympic Street Youth Precinct.

Griffith Mayor, Councillor Doug Curran said Council is committed to exploring opportunities that enhance the City for both residents and visitors.

"We appreciate the strong community interest in revitalising Griffith and ensuring our public spaces meet community expectations," Councillor Curran said.

"We will be looking closely at this grant opportunity to see how we can leverage these funds to help invigorate Griffith considering the CBD Strategy's scope of works."

Councillors are urging business owners and interested residents to attend the Invigorate Griffith community forum on Thursday 3 April 2025 at the Gem Hotel Function Room Griffith from 5.45pm to provide feedback on ways to invigorate the City. Spaces are limited. RSVP now to secure your spot: https://bit.ly/3FEQIqy

ends

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COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL08

TITLE Review of Policies & Strategies

FROM Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer

TRIM REF 25/32123

SUMMARY

Council has a number of strategies and policies in place to manage the implementation and upgrade of Council infrastructure. This report summarises and provides links to the strategies and policies relevant to this committee.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee read and note the policies and strategies relevant to the Roads, Parks and Pathways Committee.

REPORT

Griffith Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy 2021 - The review of the Griffith Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy aims to improve the existing Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) and Bicycle Plan, incorporating expanded infrastructure since 2009. The strategy merges both plans into a unified approach to make Griffith a fully accessible community, promoting walking and cycling as sustainable transport options. Key goals include creating an equitable and accessible transport network, improving safety, and encouraging walking and cycling over motor vehicle use. The strategy also outlines necessary engineering actions, with an estimated cost of \$42 million, and emphasizes regular monitoring and updates as infrastructure develops.

Griffith Heavy Vehicle Strategy - The study aims to develop a strategic heavy vehicle route network plan for Griffith and surrounding areas, ensuring safe, direct access for heavy vehicles. This is in response to the NSW Government's Integrated Land Use and Transport Policy and growing pressure for improved access to accommodate larger vehicles like B-Triples and AB-Triples. Griffith City Council created four strategic goals for the plan: supporting economic development, ensuring an equitable and accessible transport network, improving safety, and minimizing environmental and community impacts. The plan focuses on reducing heavy vehicle movement in sensitive areas, improving connectivity, and enhancing safety for all road users.

<u>Driveways Maintenance Width Policy</u> - To delineate responsibility for the maintenance of driveways and access routes to properties. To enhance the appearance in residential areas by limiting the width of residential driveways.

<u>Plaques Installed by Council Policy</u> - The purpose of this policy is to provide a policy framework for the installation of all plaques to be installed on Council property which includes, but is not limited to: In Council owned buildings and facilities, on Council owned buildings and facilities, on pavements, and in parks and gardens or furniture. All plaques installed in or on Council property need to conform to this policy. Any existing plaque cannot be taken as a precedent for future approvals. This policy does not cover cemetery plaques, signage, display boards or public art.

<u>Roads Open Spaces Naming Policy</u> - To ensure a consistent and coordinated approach to the naming of new roads and open spaces in the Griffith Local Government Area (LGA).

<u>Kerb Guttering Footpath Construction Policy</u> - To establish fair contribution from the land owners benefiting from the construction of kerb and guttering and footpaths and to require the provision of this facility in future subdivisions.

<u>Roads Maintenance Upgrading of Unsealed Roads Policy</u> - To establish standards and practices for the maintenance and upgrading of Council's unsealed roads. To provide a fair option for property owners to upgrade a gravel road to a seal and reduce problems caused by dust to residential properties.

<u>Playground Strategy</u> - The Griffith Playground Strategy (2013) was developed by the Griffith City Council to guide the provision and management of playgrounds within the area. The strategy aims to offer diverse, high-quality play experiences in a sustainable and cost-effective manner, recognizing the significant role of playgrounds in promoting physical health, social connections, and child development. Despite challenges like deteriorating equipment and financial constraints, the Council prioritizes clear direction in the design, provision, and maintenance of playgrounds. The strategy emphasizes community engagement and introduces nature-based and contextual play environments to enhance diversity and promote sustainability.

<u>Road Review 2024</u> - As part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements, Council is required to undertake service reviews to encourage continuous improvement across Council's operations.

<u>Tree Policy</u> - The Tree Policy aims to enhance the quality of streetscapes, parklands, and private land in urban areas by establishing maximum tree canopy cover, promoting species and age diversity, and ensuring efficient, cost-effective management. It integrates tree management with broader policy goals and emphasizes maintaining healthy trees through recognized practices. The policy also provides criteria for selecting trees in parklands and urban areas, ensuring their placement minimizes hazards and maintenance costs.

<u>CBD Strategy</u> - Griffith CBD Strategy is a visionary, working document, that aims to direct Council in the future development of the city centre. The purpose of the Strategy is: To develop an attractive place to live, work and stay, improve the connection and quality of public open space, reinforce the city role as a regional centre and promote more sustainable development and lifestyle.

Policy / Strategy	Date of Adoption	Committee Review Date	Comment
Playground Strategy	Adopted March 2014 – 95% completion of High Priority Recommendations		
CBD Strategy	Adopted in 2015 – 10 from 16 complete		
Tree Policy	Adopted August 2022 – Review required		
Griffith Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategy 2021	Adopted July 2021 – Partially complete		

Griffith Heavy Vehicle Strategy	Adopted August 2013 – Mostly complete	
Driveways Maintenance Width Policy	Adopted August 2022 – Review required	
Plaques Installed by Council Policy	Adopted January 2024 – Review required	
Roads Open Spaces Naming Policy	Adopted January 2024 – Review required	
Kerb Guttering Footpath Construction Policy	Adopted August 2024 – Review required	
Roads Maintenance Upgrading of Unsealed Roads Policy	Adopted August 2024 – Review required	
Road Review 2024	Adopted November 2024 – In Progress	

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL09

TITLE Review of Griffith CBD Strategy

FROM Phil King, Director Infrastructure and Operations

TRIM REF 25/32139

SUMMARY

In 2015, Council adopted an ambitious plan that seeks to rejuvenate the city centre of Griffith. The strategy primarily focuses on developing an attractive city centre that people want to visit more frequently and stay for longer periods of time - allowing businesses greater opportunity.

Recently the NSW Government announced the NSW Sustainable Communities Program (NSW SCP) which will provide \$160 million to projects and initiatives that support and create jobs, establish industry, and support existing industry to innovate and stimulate economic development.

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That Council apply for funding for the upgrading of Banna Ave as reflected in the CBD Strategy
- (b) That Council review the CBD Strategy to identify the completed initiatives and consolidate the remaining recommendations into achievable projects with clear objectives and scope of works.

REPORT

The strategy is presented in 4 parts published on Council's website. The four parts include the Introduction, Analysis, Recommendations and Implementation. The strategy is focused on the entire CBD identified by the out boundary of Kookora Street, Willandra Ave, Coolah Street, Jondaryan Ave, Bridge Road, Crossing Street, Wakaden Street, Kooringal Ave.

The recently announced NSW Sustainable Communities Program provides some opportunity for infrastructure projects

More information can be found at this link.

https://www.nsw.gov.au/regional-nsw/nsw-sustainable-communities-program

The main recommendations presented in the strategy are included in Table 1 below

TABLE 1: CBD Strategy Recommendations

Upgrading Kooyoo Street and Yambil Street as inviting areas to walk, socialise and stay	COMPLETED 2025
Redeveloping Neville Place	
into a civic open garden	
Upgrading Banna Avenue	
to promote the main street and retail core	
Developing Olympic Park	COMPLETED 2024
into a major Youth precinct and activity zone	
Redeveloping the Main Canal as recreational attraction in the City	PARTIALLY COMPLETE 2024
attraction in the Oity	
Upgrading off-street car park to provide a	COMPLETED 2023
higher level of amenity	

The CBD Strategy Recommendations are broken into the following individual components:

- 01 Strategy Responsive Streets
- 02 Strategy North-South Connection
- 03 Strategy City full of Places
- 04 Strategy Celebrated Canal
- 05 Strategy Consolidated Centre
- 06 Strategy Green City

Within each of the strategies there are a number of recommendations and within each recommendation there are number of initiatives. Many of the initiatives have been enacted through incorporation into the projects that have been completed in the past 10years.

A review of the CBD strategy would provide an opportunity to form a number achievable projects, each one would have a with clear objective. Each project will also have a scope of works and identified milestones that would allow the formation of a project schedule and cost estimation. Each project could be based on a CBD Strategy initiative that has yet to be fully implemented.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 4.8 Improve the aesthetic of the City and villages by developing quality places and improved public realm.

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Griffith CBD Strategy Introduction (under separate cover) ⇒
- (b) Griffith CBD Strategy Analysis (under separate cover) ⇒

- (c) Griffith CBD Strategy Recommendations (under separate cover) ⇒
- (d) Griffith CBD Strategy Implementation (under separate cover) 😊

COMMITTEE REPORT

CLAUSE CL10

TITLE Review of Playground Strategy

FROM Phil King, Director Infrastructure and Operations

TRIM REF 25/32492

SUMMARY

The Griffith Playground Strategy was prepared in 2013 and adopted by Council in March 2014. The Strategy guides the provision and management of playgrounds within the Local Government Area. The strategy aims to offer diverse, high-quality play experiences in a sustainable and cost-effective manner, recognizing the significant role of playgrounds in promoting physical health, social connections, and child development. Despite challenges like deteriorating equipment and financial constraints, the Council prioritizes clear direction in the design, provision, and maintenance of playgrounds. The strategy emphasizes community engagement and introduces nature-based and contextual play environments to enhance diversity and promote sustainability.

RECOMMENDATION

Council staff provide an achievement report to show what has been completed and which areas of the strategy are yet to be enacted.

REPORT

The strategy is now ten years old and almost all of the high priority parks have been upgraded in accordance to the recommendations from the strategic document. The data that was used for the statistical analysis is now more than 10 years old.

There were a large number of recommendations that were not high, and these ought to be reconsidered to determine if they are still relevant 10 years on from 2015.

The Roads, Parks and Pathways Enhancement Committee (RPPEC) has Parks as one of the key focuses of the committee and it is entirely appropriate for this strategy to be one of the first that the committee commence to review.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 3.1 Undertake Council activities within a clear framework of strategic planning, policies, procedures and service standards.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Playground Strategy (under separate cover) ⇒