



MINUTES

ROADS, PARKS & PATHWAYS ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 3:30 PM

PRESENT

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Mark Dal Bon, Councillor Jenny Ellis, Councillor Doug Curran, Amy Renouf (Community Representative), Anthony Kidman (Community Representative) (Zoom), Brian Savage (Community Representative), Elizabeth (Will) Mead (Community Representative), Ema Munro (Community Representative), Jenna Thomas (Community Representative) (Zoom), Kevin Taylor (Community Representative), Simone Murphy (Community Representative), Stephen Parker (Community Representative), Doreen Wood (Community Representative), Patricia Clarke (Community Representative)

Works Manager - Construction, Shree Shrestha, Carmel La Rocca (Community Representative) and Nicola Thoner (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

General Manager, Scott Grant, Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director Sustainable Development, Joe Rizzo, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Director, Business, Cultural and Financial Services, Matthew Hansen, Works Manager - Maintenance, Manjit Chugha, Parks & Gardens Manager, Peter Craig, Operations Assistant, Cheryl Tucker, Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst, Open Space Planning Officer, Jason Bertacco and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo and Leanne Austin

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Jenny Ellis and Elizabeth (Will) Mead that an apology be received from Libby Trembath,

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Jenny Ellis and Brian Savage that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 June 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

Members making a pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members making a significant non-pecuniary interest declaration are required to leave the meeting during consideration of the matter and not return until the matter is resolved.

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

Members making a less than significant non-pecuniary interest declaration may stay in the meeting and participate in the debate and vote on the matter.

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The agenda items were discussed simultaneously.

NSW SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM - EARLY INVESTMENT ROUND

Mr Grant began the presentation by providing the Committee with context of the NSW Sustainable Communities Program, including a brief overview of the CBD Strategy, the importance of community feedback, and details regarding the grant application.

Mr Badenhorst continued the presentation by highlighting the progress made under Griffith City Council's CBD Strategy. He outlined key achievements including the development of parking areas, pedestrian networks, cycle networks, creating areas to stay longer, nightlife improvements, placemaking and public benches and seating.

Simone Murphy entered the meeting at 3:38pm.

Councillor Dal Bon entered the meeting at 3:44pm.

Mr Grant informed the Committee that a range of ideas, submissions, and suggestions have already been received. Some of these ideas have been implemented, others are new or repeated, and a few fall outside the scope of the current grant and will need to be reserved for future stages/opportunities. He explained that the \$3 million in grant funding must be allocated across nine specific categories including:

1. Shared Pathways
2. Irrigation
3. Tree Maintenance and surrounds
4. Roundabout beautification
5. Modification of and additional tree lighting Banna
6. Replacement of banners
7. Memorial Gardens Entrance
8. Power and Data upgrades

9. Median Strip

Mr King entered the meeting at 3:55pm.

Mr King provided an overview each of the above-mentioned items in detail.

Mr Hansen left the meeting at 3:58pm and returned at 3:59pm.

Mr King advised that items 1, 2, 3, and 5 are fixed and limited to further consultation, due to Australian Standards and serviceability requirements. Items 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 require input from the Committee and community, to help create the best possible outcome.

Mr King provided a brief overview of Stage 2, which includes the upgrade of existing footpaths within the CBD and is dependent on further funding. He also informed the Committee that as part of the Sustainable Communities project, \$1 million has been allocated to Lake Wyangan. This funding will be used to enhance infrastructure, upgrade irrigation systems and improve amenities at the Lake.

Mr Savage requested if he could include Entrances to the City as a category for the grant. In response Mr King informed the Committee this funding is not proposed to extend out to the city entrances.

Following the presentation and a series of questions and responses, Councillor Blumer invited the Committee to share their thoughts and ideas regarding items 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. The following key themes emerged:

Item 4 - Roundabout Beautification – Suggestions focused on reducing maintenance requirements while incorporating vibrant colours, shade-providing trees, drought-tolerant plants (such as pigface), varied plant heights, natural elements and designs that reflect local heritage and include public artwork. Cooling the areas through strategic planting was also suggested.

Item 6 - Replacement of Banners – The Committee expressed interest in introducing a more diverse and seasonal rotation of flags and banners throughout the year.

Item 7 - Memorial Gardens Entrance – Ideas included increasing shade structures and seating, as well as installing solar-powered infrastructure to support irrigation and night-time lighting.

Item 8 - Power and Data Upgrades – Wi-Fi access, solar panels, digital notice boards, a PA system, and ambient music in key public areas. Need to consult shop owners.

Item 9 - Median Strip Enhancements – Options for the median strip along Crossing Street to Blumer Avenue were discussed.

Councillor Dal Bon suggested that community members submit photos of roundabouts from other towns for inspiration. Photos can be uploaded through the Connect Griffith website on the Invigorate Griffith page. Additionally, Councillor Blumer also requested a media release to be issued.

Councillor Blumer asked Ms Donaldson for suggestions on how to best engage the community. In response, Ms Donaldson outlined several approaches, including initiatives such as a walk shop and open meetings in addition to the Connect Griffith Website and Invigorate Griffith Platform. Councillor Blumer noted the Committee could endorse a community engagement strategy.

Ms Munro requested Mr Phil King provide a map to highlight the streets and areas in discussion.

SMT COMMENT

The next Meeting of the Roads Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee is scheduled for 23 October 2025 to discuss standard Agenda items carried over from the September Meeting. An Extraordinary Committee Meeting will be scheduled 26 November 2025 at which concept designs will be provided for the Sustainable Communities Grant scope. This will be an opportunity for the Committee to comment and finalise drafts prior to community consultation.

A communications plan can be developed following the Extraordinary Meeting to include consultation processes, website enhancement and community engagement activities. At the conclusion of the consultation period, a final summary of submissions will be collated and reported back to the committee for recommendation to proceed with detailed design.

The below Table outlines the proposed timeframe for activities associated with the Grant:

Define scope of deliverables to RPPEC	25 September 2025
Concept designs to RPPEC	26 November 2025
Council to endorse concept designs for public exhibition	9 December 2025 Council Meeting
Exhibition Period	Extended to end February 2026
RPPEC meeting to consider submissions and 60% complete designs based on submissions received for recommendation to Council	April 2026
RPPEC Minutes to Council	May 2026
Detailed design for construction	June 2026
Obtain Quotations and engage contractors	TBC
Project Completion	December 2027

6 GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil.

7 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Roads, Parks & Pathways Enhancement Committee is to be held on Thursday, 23 October 2025 at 4:00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:02pm.