
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON THURSDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2025 AT 2:00 PM

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- 3 Business Arising
- 4 Declarations of Interest
- 5 Items of Business
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- 6 p15 Outstanding Action Report
- 7 General Business
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DISTRIBUTION LIST

Councillor Scott Groat (Chair), Laurie Testoni (Councillor - Alternate), Steve Manwaring (DCCEEW), Craig Ronan (NSW SES), Michael Borg (NSW SES), Ian Parisotto (Community Representative), Paul Rossetto (Community Representative), Ema Munro (Community Representative), John Kerrigan (Community Representative), Steve Mortlock (Community Representative), Joseph Dal Broi (Community Representative)

General Manager, Scott Grant; Director Utilities, Graham Gordon; Water & Wastewater Manager, Durgananda Chaudhary and Minute Secretary, Joanne Bollen

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.

**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 2:02 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Scott Groat (Chair), Councillor Doug Curran (Mayor), Laurie Testoni (Councillor - Alternate) (ZOOM), Steve Manwaring (DCCEEW), Josh Stanbury (NSW SES), Michael Borg (NSW SES), Shane Hargrave (NSW SES) (ZOOM), Dan Williams (Torrent Consulting) (ZOOM), Ian Parisotto (Community Representative), Paul Rossetto (Community Representative), John Kerrigan (Community Representative), Joseph Dal Broi (Community Representative)

Quorum = 5

STAFF

General Manager, Scott Grant, Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Water and Wastewater Manager, Durgananda Chaudhary and Minute Secretary, Joanne Bollen

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Ema Munro (Community Representative) and Steve Mortlock (Community Representative).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of John Kerrigan and Paul Rossetto that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 June 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

Community Representative Ian Parisotto suggested that an amendment to the minutes of the Floodplain Management Committee meeting held on 12 June 2025 may be required.

The General Manager, Scott Grant, recommended that the recording of the meeting be reviewed to identify the matters raised by Mr Parisotto. If relevant information is confirmed, it will be presented to the Committee for consideration of a potential amendment to the minutes.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Parisotto sought clarification on options for managing conflicts of interest. Mr Grant responded that this information would have been provided during the induction process and noted that identifying a conflict of interest is the responsibility of each individual Committee Member, not the Council.

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.

Committee Member Ian Parisotto
Reason – Exit ramp at EMR

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.

Committee Member Paul Rossetto
New North Merribee Channel Floodway and EMR Upgrade Option
Reason – Yenda Progress Association Mirrool Creek Flood spokesperson representing the interests of 1500 Yenda and district residents, including family and friends flooded in the March 2012 floods.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 RESIGNATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBER

A resignation was received from Committee Member, Wendy Quayle, after the last meeting of the Floodplain Management Committee.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Paul Rossetto and Joseph Dal Broi that the information be received.

CL02 TORRENT CONSULTING UPDATE - LAKE WYANGAN FLOOD STUDY AND FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN

Daniel Williams from Torrent Consulting provided the Committee with an update and review of the Lake Wyangan Flood Study and Risk Management Study and Plan.

(Presentation included as Confidential Attachment).

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Paul Rossetto and Joseph Dal Broi that the information be received.

Councillor Doug Curran (Mayor) left the meeting, the time being 3:10pm.

Dan Williams left the meeting, the time being 3:28pm.

CL03 QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE AT FLOODPLAIN COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 12 JUNE 2025

Responses were provided to Mr Parisotto's Questions Taken on Notice at Floodplain Management Committee meeting held on 12 June 2025.

Mr Parisotto expressed concerns regarding Griffith City Council's adoption of the Emergency Breaching Protocol (EBP) and questioned the effectiveness of breaching the main canal in a timely manner.

The Chair, Councillor Scott Groat, queried whether Council receives advance notice of potential flooding.

Director of Utilities, Graham Gordon, advised that the Bureau of Meteorology has early warning systems in place upstream in the Mirrool Creek, which provide automatic alerts to both the community and Council. These alerts are incorporated into the EBP and activate different response timeframes.

Mr Dal Broi queried whether breaching would still be necessary if the East Mirrool Regulator gates were opened early enough.

Mr Gordon advised that there are eight gates on the southern side and three on the northern side of the regulator. He noted that under the adopted EBP, the gated system is designed to accommodate a 1-in-50-year flood event.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of John Kerrigan and Ian Parisotto that the report be noted.

Councillor Laurie Testoni left the meeting, the time being 3:47pm.

CL04 AGENDA ITEMS RECEIVED FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr Rossetto submitted two Agenda items for the Committee to consider.

Item 1 – Upgrade Flood Gates Option

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Paul Rossetto and John Kerrigan that the Floodplain Management Committee recommend to Griffith City Council the completion of the reinstatement of EMR flood gates option presented by consultants BMT WBM Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study Plan August 2015 C.2 EMR Flood Escape Upgrade C.2.1 Description of Works.

- Construction of new flood relief structure at the East Mirrool Regulator as a replacement of the existing structure. The existing five bay and eight bay flood check in the northern and southern bank of the Main Canal is proposed to be replaced with a 9 bay 2.4 x 1.8m gated structure (or similar) on each bank.
- Scour protection works at the structure inlets and outlets are provided to protect the receiving channel and downstream floodplain from excessive erosion.
- Channel modification works are required both upstream and downstream of the structure to provide appropriate transition of flow to the existing channel/floodplain of Mirrool Creek.
- Raising of strengthening of the right Northern Branch Canal (completed by MI).

Item 2 – Reinstatement of Attenuating Levee

Mr Gordon requested that the item be taken on notice to allow time to obtain further information. The Committee voted against this request.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Paul Rossetto and John Kerrigan that the Floodplain

Management Committee recommends to Council that the reinstating of an attenuating levee at the flood design height of the North Merribee Channel banks recently levelled by Murrumbidgee Irrigation. Also, the reinstatement of a syphon through the attenuating levee as per 1978 Water Resources Commission Report 'Guidelines for Mirrool Creek Flood Plain Development Barellan to Yenda.'

Page 7 "Where the floodway crosses the North Merribee Supply Channel a syphon will be required to ensure that flood flows are unobstructed."

The installation of a syphon aims to slow flood flows of the upstream flood storage area immediately east and upstream of the North Merribee Channel realignment in accordance with the principles set forth in the NSW Floodplain Development Manual.

Mr Gordon explained that the 1978 Water Resources Commission Report 'Guidelines for Mirrool Creek Flood Plain Development Barellan to Yenda' report recommended to keep the floodway unobstructed and the motion contradicts this by reinstating an "attenuating levee" in which case, this would reduce the effect of the floodway.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, 28 October 2025 Council resolved the following:

25/297

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Mark Dal Bon that in relation to the Recommendations in CL04:

Item 1:

- (a) Council obtains an estimation of costs for consultants to detail design the above 4 dot points in the Committee's recommendations
- (b) Council explores funding options for the detail design through the State Government Floodplain Management Program.
- (c) Once State Government flood funding sources are identified and applicable to the detailed design of the 4 dot points, Council consider, as part of future budget deliberations, the required matching funding.

Item 2:

- (a) Prior to reinstating an attenuating levee across the floodway, Council applies for funding from the State Government to conduct a review of the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan once all stages of the Yoogali levee project are fully complete.
- (b) Council considers, as part of future budget deliberations, the required matching funding necessary to conduct a review of the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

SMT Comment:

The Terms of Reference of the Floodplain Management Committee do not permit the Committee to implement actions in areas over which Council has responsibility, or to commit or expend any Council funds that are not contained within an adopted budget or subsequent variation of a budget.

Should Council choose to adopt the above recommendations of the Committee, this matter will need to be deliberated as part of the budget process.

Shane Hargrave (NSW SES) left the meeting, the time being 4:07pm.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

Ian Parisotto raised a question regarding the delegation of authority under the State Emergency Service Act to breach canal banks. The matter was taken on notice.

The Outstanding Action Report was noted.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Terms of Reference

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Paul Rossetto and Ian Parisotto that the Committee not advertise for a new member, the Community Representatives be 6 and the minimum number for quorum will be 3.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Floodplain Management Committee will be advised.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 4:49pm.

CLAUSE **CL01**

TITLE **Proposed Meeting Dates for 2026**

FROM **Joanne Bollen, Governance Officer**

TRIM REF **25/130984**

SUMMARY

The proposed meeting dates for 2026 are:

- 5 March 2026
- 4 June 2026
- 3 September 2026
- 3 December 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL02**

TITLE **Agenda Items Received from Committee Members**

FROM **Joanne Bollen, Governance Officer**

TRIM REF **25/133386**

SUMMARY

The attached Agenda Items were received by a member of the Floodplain Management Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee note the report.

REPORT

On Wednesday, 13 November 2025 Mr. Paul Rossetto submitted items for inclusion in the Floodplain Management Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, 4 December 2025.

- **Recording of Floodplain Management Committee minutes**
- **Yoogali Levee update & DEECCW priority funding for unfinished levees**

Refer to report in Agenda.

- **Below Kooba regulator Main Canal north bank flood access**
- **ToR Review of EMR Emergency Breaching Protocols and Support Framework Document (safety exit ramp and stockpiling of soil)**
2015 Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study and Risk Management
- **SES Update – Ministerial Consent**
- **Progress on letter to Murrumbidgee Irrigation re leaking pipe at Yenda corner of Myall Park Road and Beelbanger Road**

Letter was sent to Murrumbidgee Irrigation on 23 May 2025.

- **Mirrool Creek landholders adjacent to creek concerns of overgrown vegetation and trees blocking water flows EMR to Hanwood**
- **Invitation to meet new Murrumbidgee Irrigation CEO to attend Floodplain Management Committee meeting – assisting Council locate funding for EMR flood gates upgrade.**

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This item links to Council's Strategic Plan item 1.1 Provide clear, accessible, relevant information.

ATTACHMENTS

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (a) | Agenda Items Received from Committee Members ↓ | 10 |
| (b) | Agenda Items Received from Committee Members ↓ | 11 |
| (c) | Agenda Items Received from Committee Members ↓ | 12 |

Hi Joanne,

Please find attached several items for inclusion in the next FMC meeting scheduled for the 4th of December 2025.

1. Yoogali Levee
2. Below Kooba regulator Main Canal north bank flood access.
3. ToR Review of EMR Emergency Breaching Protocols
4. SES Update – Ministerial Consent for breaching main canal
5. Update on Yenda MI leaking pipe at cnr of Beelbanger Road & Myall Park Road
6. Mirrool Creek landholders concerns overgrown vegetation below EMR & Widgelli
7. Invitation to meet new MI CEO Phill Holiday

Thanks

Cheers Paul

From: [Paul Rossetto](#)
To: [Joanne Bollen](#)
Date: Thursday, 20 November 2025 6:07:14 AM

Hi Joanne,

Please find below an Update on several items for inclusion in the next FMC meeting scheduled for 4th December 2025.

1. Yoogali Levee update
2. ToR Review - EMR Emergency Breaching Protocols and Support Framework document
2015 Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Flood Study and Risk Management Plan - URGENT!
3. SES Update - Ministerial consent
4. Yenda MI leaking pipe cnr of Beelbangera Road and Myall Park Road still leaking - Update
5. Mirrool Creek landholders adjacent to creek concerns of overgrown vegetation & trees blocking water flows EMR to Hanwood.
6. Invitation to meet new MI CEO Mr Phil Holiday as a guest speaker.

Thanks Cheers Paul

Hi Scott,
FYI

Several agenda items for inclusion on Dec 4 FMC meeting agenda.

1. Recording of FMC minutes
2. Yoogali Levee & DEECCW priority funding for unfinished levees.
3. Progress Report on letter to MI re leaking pipe at Yenda corner of Myall Park Road & Beelbanger Road
4. ToR Review of flood studies addition of EMR Emergency Breaching Protocols (Ministerial Consent)
5. Landholders concern overgrown vegetation blocking Mirrool Creek downstream of EMR and past Widgelli.
6. Invitation To new MI CEO to attend FMC meeting – Assisting Council locate funding for EMR Flood Gates Upgrade.

Thanks
Cheers Paul

CLAUSE CL03

TITLE Yoogali Flood Mitigation Work

FROM Durgananda Chaudhary, Water & Wastewater Manager

TRIM REF 25/140526

SUMMARY

Yoogali flood mitigation work comprises of 3 stages:

Stage 1: Upgrade of DC605J culverts at Bosanquet Road/McCormack Road junction and Burley Griffin Way/McCormack Road junction – **Completed in 2021.**

Stage 2: Raising McCormack road as levee – **Completed in 2025.**

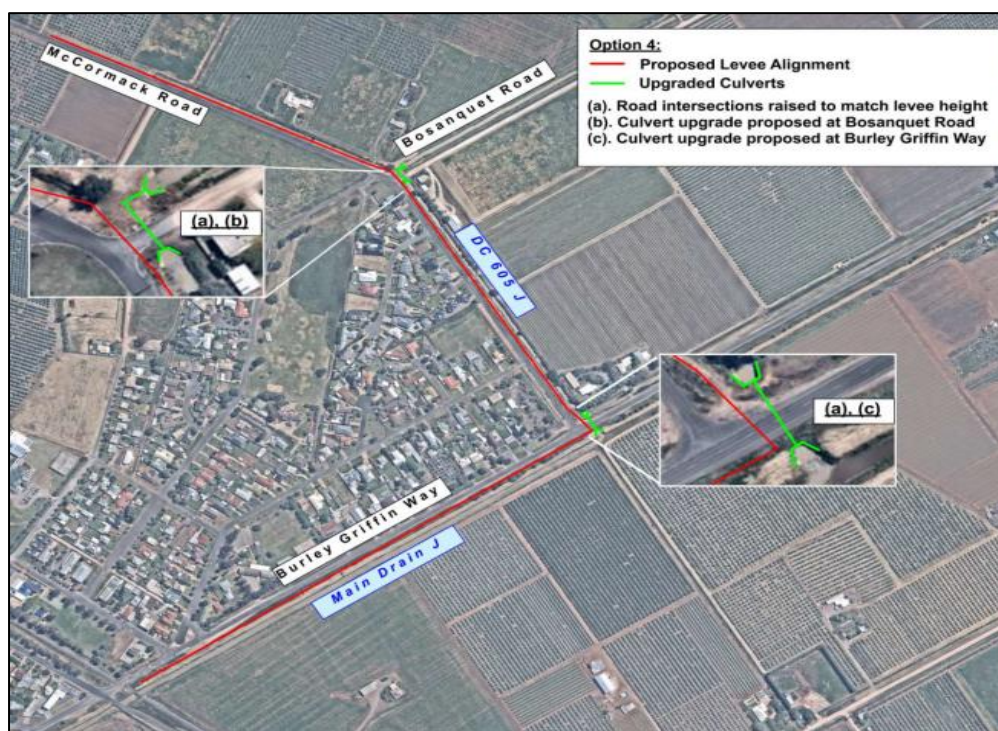
Stage 3: Raising Burley Griffin way as levee.

- Transport for NSW (TfNSW) estimate for Stage 3 was over \$5.0M.
- TfNSW has plan to upgrade/widen Durley Griffin Way in 2025/26.

It is proposed that the Floodplain Management Committee support:

- Construction of an earthen Levee along the bank of Main Drain J from McCormack Road to Railway line.
- Funding application in the next round DCCEEW funding (February/March 2026) which will also require 1/3 contributions from Council.

Council will prepare design and cost estimation by February 2026.



RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

TITLE Outstanding Action Report

TRIM REF 25/128805

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Action Report - Floodplain Management Committee - 4 December 2025 [↓](#) 16

ACTION REPORT**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 4 DECEMBER 2025**

| Date of Meeting | Agenda Item | Action | Action Officer | Comments |
|------------------------|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| 9 October 2025 | CL04 AGENDA ITEMS RECEIVED FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS | <p>Item 1:</p> <p>(a) Council obtains an estimation of costs for consultants to detail design the above 4 dots points in the Committee's recommendations.</p> <p>(b) Council explores funding options for the detail design through the State Government Floodplain Management Program.</p> <p>(c) Once State Government flood funding sources are identified and applicable to the detailed design of the 4 dot points, Council consider, as part of future budget deliberations, the required matching funding.</p> | Graham Gordon | <p>27/11/2025: Resolved at the Council Meeting held 28 October 2025.</p> <p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Mark Dal Bon that in relation to the Recommendations in CL04:</p> <p>Item 1:</p> <p>(a) Council obtains an estimation of costs for consultants to detail design the above 4 dots points in the Committee's recommendations. To be submitted to March 2026 FMC meeting.</p> <p>(b) Council explores funding options for the detail design through the State Government Floodplain Management Program. To be considered after costs presented to FMC meeting.</p> <p>(c) Once State Government flood funding sources are identified and applicable to the detailed design of the 4 dot points, Council consider, as part of future budget deliberations, the required matching funding. To be considered after costs</p> |

| | | | | presented to FMC meeting. |
|----------------|--|--|---------------|--|
| 9 October 2025 | CL04 AGENDA ITEMS RECEIVED FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS | <p>Item 2:</p> <p>(a) Prior to reinstating an attenuating levee across the floodway, Council applies for funding from the State Government to conduct a review of the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan once all stages of the Yoogali levee project are fully complete.</p> <p>(b) Council considers, as part of future budget deliberations, the required matching funding necessary to conduct a review of the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.</p> | Graham Gordon | <p>27/11/2025: Resolved at the Council Meeting held 28 October 2025.</p> <p>RESOLVED on the motion of Councillors Scott Groat and Mark Dal Bon that in relation to the Recommendations in CL04:</p> <p>Item 2:</p> <p>(a) Prior to reinstating an attenuating levee across the floodway, Council applies for funding from the State Government to conduct a review of the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan once all stages of the Yoogali levee project are fully complete.</p> <p>(b) Council considers, as part of future budget deliberations, the required matching funding necessary to conduct a review of the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.</p> <p>To be considered once Yoogali Levee project fully complete.</p> |
| 9 October 2025 | OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT | Ian Parisotto raised a question regarding the delegation of authority under the State Emergency Service Act to breach canal banks. The matter | SES | |

| | | | | |
|------------------|--|---|----------------------|--|
| | | was taken on notice. | | |
| 17 November 2022 | Lake Wyangan Flood Mitigation Action Update | RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Glen Andreazza and Steven Mortlock that Council apply for funding to review the Lake Wyangan Flood Study (2012) and Lake Wyangan Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (2013). | Graham Gordon | <p>13/08/2024: Council has received funding from DCCEEW and engaged Torren Consulting to review the flood study and plan.</p> <p>27/11/2025: Torren Consulting has updated the Floodplain Management Committee at 2025 meetings.</p> |
| 5 August 2021 | Education Strategy and Display Board | RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Dino Zappacosta and Sally Jones that Council investigate the feasibility of establishing an education program highlighting the history of the Mirrool Creek catchment area. | Durgananda Chaudhary | <p>13/08/2024: This will be done once flood mitigation works are completed.</p> <p>27/11/2025: has not progressed given the location options are very overgrown with cumbungi or the alternative site is on private MI land.</p> |