
**DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE 2026 COMMENCING AT 4:00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Laurie Testoni, Jodie Ridge (Community Representative), Ralph Twaddell (Community Representative), Soheil Derakhshan (Community Representative), Lindsay Wickey (Community Representative), Dene Beltrame (Community Representative)

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson, Director, Infrastructure and Operations, Phil King, Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst, Community Development Coordinator, Melissa Canzian, Community Development Officer, Viviana Degenkamp, Isis-Rae Ronan, Public Programs Officer and Minute Secretary, Antoinette Galluzzo

Absent: Geoff Tarr (Community Representative) and Marilyn Hams (Community Representative)

1 APOLOGIES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Jodie Ridge and Soheil Derakhshan that apologies be received from Jaimee Damini (Community Representative), Suzanne Biondo (Community Representative), Rocco Catanzariti (Community Representative), Debbie Honeychurch (Community Representative) and Project Planner, Melanie Vella.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Soheil Derakhshan and Ralph Twaddell that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 April 2026, 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

CL01 KURRAJONG LIFESTYLE CHOICES

Mr King informed the Committee that line marking has been completed, and footpath is being constructed. Mr King also highlighted as it is a state road, Transport NSW are the authority for speed zones. Ms Ridge to make a submission to Transport NSW in relation to the two other requests within the letter.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Laurie Testoni and Soheil Derakhshan that the Committee note the information.

CL02 HELEN DALTON MP REQUEST - ACCESSIBILITY AND SAFETY CONCERN IN RELATION TO BANNA AVENUE IN GRIFFITH

Mr King informed the Committee that a review of the disabled parking spaces along Banna Avenue has been completed, highlighting that there are 21 parking spaces zoned as disabled parking between Jondaryan Avenue and Kookora Street.

Current disabled parking configuration is considered adequate along Banna Avenue as the designs provide direct access from vehicles to raised garden area and crossings, supporting flexible movement for users.

Feedback from a recent Council Café indicated that some disabled parking spaces do not have access to the centre island. The installation of pram ramps on the corners of the islands could create disadvantages, including forcing some users to exit onto the traffic side of vehicles or into the flow of traffic. Having additional access paths from disabled parking spaces in the centre islands would allow access to the centre island.

CL03 “Feedback from Council Café”, also addresses disabled parking concerns in Banna Avenue. The Committee discussed additional pram ramps in the centre islands.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Ralph Twaddell and Lindsay Wickey that:

- (a) Council promote disabled parking spots for wheelchair accessibility in Banna Avenue.
- (b) Council consider the installation of additional ramps adjacent to all disabled parking zones in the centre aisle of Banna Avenue and other possible opportunities within Banna Avenue, subject to a successful budget bid in the 2027/28 budget.

CL03 FEEDBACK FROM COUNCIL CAFE

Discussed within the previous clause.

CL04 EASY READ VERSION DIAP

Ms Canzian informed the Committee that an easy read version of the Disability, Inclusion and Access Plan (DIAP) has been developed and was adopted on the 16 June 2026 in conjunction with the full version.

Ms Ridge thanked Council for the successful event held last December “International Day of People with Disability”.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Lindsay Wickey and Soheil Derakhshan that the information be received.

CL05 REQUEST FOR DESIGNATED DISABILITY CAR PARKS - DOG PARK - COOLAH STREET GRIFFITH

The Committee received correspondence and a petition from community members requesting inclusion of two designated disability car parking spaces at the Coolah Street Dog Park to ensure the facility remains accessible, inclusive, and welcoming to all members of the community.

In response, Mr King informed the Committee that extensions of the dog park are currently being completed, and supported the request of the additional disabled car parking spaces.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Dene Beltrame and Jodie Ridge that Council staff respond to the authors of the letters and petition, in favour of the request.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Request for Letter of Support - Audience Development Fund

Ms Ronan informed the Committee that the Art Gallery is applying for funding through the Audience Development Fund through Museums & Galleries of NSW, highlighting the valuable opportunity to strengthen accessibility and equity for neurodivergent audiences visiting the gallery.

Mr King left the meeting at 4:51 pm.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Ralph Twaddell and Lindsay Wickey that the Committee support the application to Audience Development Fund through Museums & Galleries of NSW, by a letter of support.

Ms Ronan left the meeting at 4:56 pm.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

At the Committee meeting held on 1 April 2026, Councillor Blumer asked when the irrigation system is being installed at Lake Wyangan. This was **TAKEN ON NOTICE**. In response Mr Badenhorst stated there have been delays due to the fuel crisis, and is expected to be completed within the next 12 months.

Councillor Blumer requested a report be presented to the next Committee meeting in relation to the Carers Australia event.

The side gate request at the Community Centre has now been completed, and the Committee thanked staff.

At the Committee meeting held on the 19 November 2025 the Committee requested a report highlighting options and costings for a standalone Adult Change Facility equipped with a hoist and proposed modifications to the Olympic Street Community Centre to allow accessibility to the bathroom facilities. In response, Mr Badenhorst stated that the costing for a standalone Adult Change Facility equipped with a hoist is \$350,000 - \$400,000 and the modifications to the Olympic Street Community Centre to allow accessibility to the bathroom facilities, is not a secure option for a 24-hour bathroom facility as it is not vandal proof, and has many operational issues.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Lindsay Wickey and Jodie Ridge that the report be noted.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Disability Inclusion & Access Committee is to be held on Wednesday, 16 September 2026 at 4:00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 5:12 pm.