
**DISABILITY INCLUSION & ACCESS COMMITTEE
TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 4:00 PM**

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Confirmation of Minutes
- 3 Business Arising
- 4 Declarations of Interest
- 5 Items of Business
 - CL01 p7 Committee Member Agenda Item - Suzanne Biondo
 - CL02 p8 Update: Griffith Play Ground Strategy
 - CL03 p9 Update: Audience Development Fund through Museums & Galleries of NSW
 - CL04 p10 Update: International Day of People with Disability
 - CL05 p11 School Holiday Cooking Workshop
- 6 p12 Outstanding Action Report
- 7 General Business
- 8 Next Meeting

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Councillor Shari Blumer (Chair), Councillor Laurie Testoni, Geoff Tarr (Community Representative), Jaimee Damini (Community Representative), Jodie Ridge (Community Representative), Marilyn Hams (Community Representative), Ralph Twaddell (Community Representative), Soheil Derakhshan (Community Representative), Suzanne Biondo (Community Representative), Lindsay Wickey (Community Representative), Rocco Catanzariti (Community Representative), Dene Beltrame (Community Representative), Debbie Honeychurch (Community Representative)

Director Economic & Organisational Development, Shireen Donaldson; Urban Strategic Design & Major Projects Manager, Peter Badenhorst; Project Planner, Melanie Vella; Community Development Coordinator, Melissa Canzian 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.

**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.

CLAUSE **CL01**

TITLE **Committee Member Agenda Item - Suzanne Biondo**

FROM **Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer**

TRIM REF **26/99541**

SUMMARY

Please find attached correspondence received from Committee Member, Suzanne Biondo on 11 August 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Correspondence - Suzanne Biondo - 11 Aug 2026 (under separate cover)
(confidential)

CLAUSE **CL02**

TITLE **Update: Griffith Play Ground Strategy**

FROM **Melanie Vella, Project Planner**

TRIM REF **26/26894**

SUMMARY

Staff to provide an update regarding the Griffith Playground Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee note the information.

REPORT

Nil

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL03**

TITLE **Update: Audience Development Fund through Museums & Galleries of NSW**

FROM **Antoinette Galluzzo, Governance Officer**

TRIM REF **26/108997**

SUMMARY

Public Programs Officer to provide an update on the application to Audience Development Fund through Museums & Galleries of NSW.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL04**

TITLE **Update: International Day of People with Disability**

FROM **Melissa Canzian, Community Development Coordinator**

TRIM REF **26/112146**

SUMMARY

Staff to provide an update on International Day of People with Disability.

RECOMMENDATION

The information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL05**

TITLE **School Holiday Cooking Workshop**

FROM **Melissa Canzian, Community Development Coordinator**

TRIM REF **26/112299**

SUMMARY

Staff to provide information on upcoming school holidays cooking workshops.

RECOMMENDATION

The information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

TITLE Outstanding Action Report

TRIM REF 26/80260

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

- (a) Action Report - Disability Inclusion and Access Committee - 16 September 2026   13

ACTION REPORT**DISABILITY INCLUSION AND ACCESS COMMITTEE – 16 September 2026**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Action Officer	Comment
17 June 2026	7.1 Request for Letter of Support - Audience Development Fund	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.	Melissa Canzian	3/09/2026: Letter of Support completed, Public Programs Officer to provide an update at the 16 September 2026 Committee Meeting.
17 June 2026	CL05 Request For Designated Disability Car Parks - Dog Park - Coolah Street Griffith	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.	Phil King	9/09/2026: Response has been sent in favour of the request.
17 June 2026	CL02 Helen Dalton Mp Request - Accessibility And Safety Concern In Relation To Banna Avenue In Griffith	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.	Shireen Donaldson / Phil King	9/09/2026: Centre Aisle of Banna Ave has been assessed and a budget bid will be prepared for the 2027/28 additional access ramps to be installed.
1 Apr 2026	CL01 New Disability Inclusion Action Plan	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Shari Blumer and Lindsay Wickey that the Committee invite Carers Australia to Griffith in the third	Shireen Donaldson / Melissa Canzian / Councillor Shari Blumer	17/06/2026: Councillor Blumer requested a report be presented to the next Committee meeting (16 September 2026) in relation to the Carers Australia event.

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Action Officer	Comment
		quarter of the year to have an event focusing on carers.		8/09/2026: Email sent to the Committee to support and promote an existing initiative that has been specifically designed to celebrate and thank unpaid carers for the invaluable role they play every day.
1 Apr 2026	CL01 New Disability Inclusion Action Plan	The Committee suggested inviting the Bus Lines Company to a future Committee meeting to have a discussion and ask questions regarding accessible transport.	Melissa Canzian	11/06/2026: Bus Lines contacted, unavailable at our meeting time 4pm. Suggested meeting at the Stadium on 16 September 2026 at 10am. 3/09/2026: Bus tour booked in for Wednesday 9 September 2026.
19 Nov 2025	Outstanding Action Report	19/11/2025: The Committee requested that two reports be circulated prior to the next meeting, as Councillors will need this information when preparing their budget bids. The reports should outline: 1. Options and costings for a standalone Adult Change Facility equipped with a hoist. 2. Proposed modifications to the Olympic Street Community Centre to allow accessibility to the bathroom facilities.	Peter Badenhorst	1/04/2026: Ms Donaldson advised the Committee from the action item arising from 19 November 2025 regarding modifications to the accessibility of bathroom facilities at Olympic Street Community Centre, noting that the estimated cost of works is approximately \$50,000 - \$100,000, with operational implications under investigation. 17/06/2026: 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.
28 May 2025	CL07 Items Raised by Committee Member	Item 3 – Mrs Hams raised the issue of disabled parking at Service NSW. A disabled parking space has been removed and it is very difficult for	Shireen Donaldson SMT	17/09/2025 Action: A letter to be sent on behalf of the Committee to Service NSW

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Action Officer	Comment
		disabled people to access the footpath. Ms Donaldson advised this would be raised with the Senior Management Team.		and be recorded on a Correspondence Register. 1/12/2025: Letter was not sent to Service NSW, as staff provided a response. Please see below. After receiving a complaint about a mobility aids rolling away, Council's assessment of the designated disabled parking spot at Service NSW, found that it was non-compliant with AS 2890. There are two parallel parking spots designated for disabled parking on both the eastern and western sides of Kooyoo Street between Canal Street and Yambil Street.
28 May 2025	CL07 Items Raised by Committee Member	Item 2 – Mrs Hams raised the issues of access at the Yenda Post Office and kerb and guttering at the Yenda shops. Mrs Donaldson advised the Committee she would raise the access to the Yenda Post Office issue with the Senior Management Team. The kerb and guttering issue will be referred to the Roads, Parks, Pathways Enhancement Committee.	Shireen Donaldson SMT	17/09/2025: Report to RPPEC 23 October 2025. 17/09/2025: Cr Testoni thought Council did an inspection – Ms Donaldson to follow up. 17/09/2025 Action: A letter to be sent on behalf of the Committee to Yenda Post Office and be recorded on a Correspondence Register. 1/12/2025: Letter was not sent, as RPPEC to review. 30/03/2026: Access to the Yenda Post office is the responsibility of the owner. The kerb and gutter has been constructed as per the standards of the era it was installed. It remains functional and fit for purpose. It is higher than modern standards although there is a ramp and a layback to assist with access from the road pavement

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Action Officer	Comment
				onto the footpath. Council currently has no intention to upgrade the kerb & gutter in Yenda.
28 May 2025	CL06 Kooyoo Street Mall - Installation of Tactile Indicators	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Jodie Ridge and Ralph Twaddell that Council install yellow tactile indicator tiles (Option 2) in accordance with AS 1428.4 Means to assist the orientation of people with vision impairment – Tactile ground surface indicators (TGSIs), as recommended by best industry practice for safety.	Phil King	16/06/2025: Approved by Council, fitting to take place. 9/09/2025: Council will order materials and fit in accordance with plan by November 30 2025. 25/03/2026: Status remains the same, anticipated to be completed this financial year. 08/09/2026: Works programmed for completion prior to Dec 2026.
2 February 2023	Adult Change Facilities	Ms Owen to prepare a letter to Griffith City Council and Griffith Sports Council requesting that Adult Change Facilities be installed in at GRSC.	Peter Badenhorst	3/5/2023: Ms Owen sent a letter to the GRSC asking that adult change facilities be considered for their venue. Councillor Blumer advised that Councillor Testoni and the Sports Council will progress this matter. 6/06/2024: RECOMMENDED on the motion of Pat Cox and Marilyn Hams that Council investigate the cost of installing adult change facilities at the Griffith Regional Sports Centre. SMT Comment: Should Council support the above recommendation, Council staff will be required to undertake an assessment of the GRSC as to its ability to accommodate the equipment required. As part of this assessment, Council staff will obtain a costing to purchase a mobile adult change table and mobile hoist.

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Action Officer	Comment
				The Committee further discussed the lack of accessible adult change facilities outside of business hours and central to the community, with possible MLAK system facilities to be looked at. RECOMMENDED on the motion of Nickolette Owen and Soheil Derakhshan that Council investigate the creation of a 24-hour accessible adult change facility with a hoist in a central location in Griffith, an option being Memorial Park. 17/09/2025: Referred to RPPEC 17/09/2025: Council Investigate different options of the installation of a 24-hour accessible adult change facility with a hoist in a central location in Griffith with the options and costings presented to the next Committee meeting on the 19 November 2025. 12/11/2025: Report to first meeting in 2026.