
FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 2:00 PM

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- 5 Items of Business
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DISTRIBUTION LIST

Councillor Dino Zappacosta (Chair), Glen Andreazza (Councillor - Alternate), Joseph Dal Broi (Community Representative), Luigi Forner (Community Representative), Timothy Laidler (SES), Steve Mortlock (Community Representative), Steve Manwaring (Department Planning, Industry & Environment), Craig Ronan (SES)

General Manager, Brett Stonestreet; Director Utilities, Graham Gordon; Water & Wastewater Manager, Durgananda Chaudhary; Engineering and Design Approvals Manager, Joe Rizzo and Minute Secretary, Leanne Austin

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, 23 NOVEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 2:00 PM**

PRESENT

Councillor Dino Zappacosta (Chair), Joseph Dal Broi (Community Representative), Luigi Forner (Community Representative), Steve Mortlock (Community Representative), Steve Manwaring (Department Planning, Industry & Environment) via Zoom, Darryl Heaslip (SES) via Zoom

Quorum = 3

STAFF

Director Utilities, Graham Gordon, Water and Wastewater Manager, Durgananda Chaudhary, and Minute Secretary, Leanne Austin

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Craig Ronan (SES), Glen Andreazza (Councillor - Alternate), Timothy Laidler (SES), Brett Stonestreet (General Manager) and Joe Rizzo (Engineering and Design Approvals Manager).

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steven Mortlock and Joe Dal Broi that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 July 2023, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Crook Road

Mr Gordon advised the Committee that Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) has de-silted parts of Main Drain J. The Committee requested that Mr Gordon liaise with MI to ensure further maintenance occurs along other sections of the channel that require clearance.

3.2 Correspondence received by Luigi Forner

Councillor Zappacosta referred to a request from Ian Parisotto considered at the previous meeting regarding breaching protocols and review of the flood management plan. Mr Gordon advised Council is undertaking mitigation works at Hanwood and Yoogali as part of the current plan. A review of the Mirrool Creek Flood Study would be considered following the completion of the mitigation works. The Committee will review Mr Parisotto's concerns once the Mirrool Creek Flood Study has been completed.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 COMMUNITY OPINION GROUP MEETING 1 NOVEMBER 2023

The Committee considered the following issues raised at the COG meeting held 1 November 2023 in Yenda.

Request Murrumbidgee Irrigation to have trees removed from the Mirrool Creek riparian zone:

Mr Gordon advised a Plan of Management is in place for Mirrool Creek. Council work with MI regarding removal of trees causing issues and blocking the flow of water however any removal of vegetation requires consultation with a number of stakeholders such as NSW Fisheries.

Council advocate to NSW Government to undertake Flood Study for the entire Mirrool Creek Catchment:

Mr Manwaring advised there is no traction for funding with DPE Water at this stage in relation to a flood study for the entire Mirrool Creek Catchment area and suggested Griffith City Council take a lead role in coordinating other councils in the catchment area to look at funding opportunities. Mr Gordon responded that there is no appetite for this from downstream councils however Council could look at cost sharing options with other local government areas as well as lobbying and investigating potential sources of funding. Mr Manwaring advised he would notify Council if any suitable grants became available.

Natural Resource Access Regulator (NRAR) – Council make submission regarding individual applications received by NRAR for retrospectively unapproved earth works in Mirrool Creek:

Mr Gordon advised that NRAR's main focus is on bores and unauthorised access to water as opposed to unapproved earthworks. Council sought legal advice previously in relation to unapproved earthworks in the Griffith City Council local government area. Until such time as the Mirrool Creek Flood Study & Plan are reviewed it is a difficult issue to address. Affected individuals have the option of seeking legal advice if affected by unapproved earthworks/infrastructure. Mr Manwaring advised that a rural floodplain management plan could help alleviate some of these issues.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Louie Forner and Steven Mortlock that:

- (a) Council request Murrumbidgee Irrigation to have trees removed from the Mirrool Creek riparian zone and the removal of trees in any identified drainage channels.
- (b) Council advocate to the NSW Government to undertake a Flood Study for the entire Mirrool Creek Catchment.

- (c) Council contact the Natural Resource Access Regulator (NRAR) in relation to retrospectively unapproved earth works in Mirrool Creek, requesting that they support a study of the entire Mirrool Creek rural catchment area, so they can base their assessments on an actual model and facts.

CL02 PROPOSED DATES FOR THE FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2024

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Joe Dal Broi and Steve Mortlock the proposed dates for the Floodplain Management Committee Meetings for 2024 be received with an amendment to the second meeting being 2 May, not 2 March as printed in the Agenda.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee reviewed the report with Mr Gordon providing an update on progress of actions.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 SES Request for Data

Mr Heaslip advised SES are updating Flood Early Warning Cards and would be contacting Council for information to assist with this.

7.2 Flood Studies

Mr Manwaring advised a Flood Study has commenced in the Rankins Springs area.

7.3 Correction to Minutes

Mr Forner advised that a reference on page 3 of the Minutes of the Meeting held 20 July 2023, reference to the Northern Branch Canal should be the Main Canal on the western side of the EMR.

7.4 Road Works Brogden Road - Barber Road

Mr Dal Broi thanked Council staff for undertaking roadworks in the Brogden Road and Barber Road areas.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Floodplain Management Committee is to be held on 1 February 2024 at 2:00 pm.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 2:57 pm.

Confirmed:

CHAIRPERSON

CLAUSE **CL01**

TITLE **Lake Wyangan Flood Study Review Project**

FROM **Durgananda Chaudhary, Water & Wastewater Manager**

TRIM REF **24/7217**

SUMMARY

Council has received \$136,001.00 funding from DPE (Department of Planning and Environment) (now DCCEEW (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water)) under the 2023-24 NSW Floodplain Management Program for the review of Lake Wyangan flood study and floodplain risk management study and plan.

Council is required to:

- Prepare a project brief,
- Select an external consultant through a competitive tendering process, and
- Submit a work plan by 12 April 2024.

Council is currently working on the project brief.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE	CL02
TITLE	Hanwood Stormwater Pump and Levee Project
FROM	Durgananda Chaudhary, Water & Wastewater Manager
TRIM REF	24/7228

SUMMARY

Hanwood stormwater pump and levee project has 3 stages of work and 3 streams of funding:

Stage 1a (stormwater pump and associated drainage work):

Funding term completion date for Stage 1a is 31 March 2024. The work has to be completed by 31 March 2024 as the funding for the Stage 1a will cut off on 31 March 2024.

Work progress is critical.

Stage 1b (drainage work along Kidman Way from Leonard Road to Wilga Street):

Funding term completion date for Stag 1b is 29 February 2024 but it can be extended if required.

Work progress is satisfactory.

Stage 2 (levee along DC DA and DC HANDEPOT, and raising of Kidman Way):

Funding term completion date for Stage 2 is 30 April 2025. The funding term completion date cannot be extended.

Work progress is satisfactory.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL03**

TITLE **Yoogali Levee Project**

FROM **Durgananda Chaudhary, Water & Wastewater Manager**

TRIM REF **24/7272**

SUMMARY

Council has received \$1,040,000.00 under the 2020-21 National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program (NFMIP) for Yoogali McCormack Road Levee and Culvert Upgrades. The culvert upgrade at McCormack Road – Bosanquet Road junction and at McCormack Road - Burley Griffin Way junction was completed in April 2022.

The NFMIP funding will be used for Stage 2 (McCormack Road levee) and Stage 3 (raising Burley Griffin Way as a levee).

Project progress:

- TfNSW has made some changes to the 2018 agreed design. Council is incorporating their comments.
- Also due to the power pole locations on the shoulder, there is not enough space for the levee along McCormack Road. Council is proposing to raise McCormack Road instead as a levee. Next step for Council is to select contractor through a competitive tendering process.
- Design for raising the powerline at McCormack Road – Bosanquet Road junction has been completed and the work has been scheduled to start in March 2024.
- Powerline at McCormack Road – Burley Griffin Way junction also needs to be raised. Council is in contact with Essential Energy and their designers for the design.
- TfNSW had agreed to contribute \$700,000 towards Stage 3 work in 2018 but we didn't have funding to start the work then. Council has asked TfNSW if there would be any contributions from them towards the project now.
- Total project cost will be known only after completion of tendering process. Council will have an opportunity to apply for additional funding in February/March 2024 if the NFMIP funding is not enough to complete both stage 2 and stage 3 work.

The NFMIP funding term completion date is 30 April 2025. The funding term completion date cannot be extended.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

CLAUSE **CL04**

TITLE **Hanwood Drainage Images 2022/23**

FROM **Dino Zappacosta, Councillor**

TRIM REF **24/11478**

SUMMARY

Councillor Zappacosta will address the Committee regarding the attached images.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee note the images.

REPORT

Councillor Zappacosta will address the Committee regarding the attached images.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This report has no relevance to the Council's Strategic Plan.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Photos - Hanwood 2022/23 [↓](#)

9









TITLE Outstanding Action Report

TRIM REF 24/11705

RECOMMENDATION

The report be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

(a) Outstanding Action Report [↓](#)

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ACTION REPORT**FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 23 November 2023**

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item	Action	Action Officer	Comments
23 November 2023	CL01 COMMUNITY OPINION GROUP MEETING 1 NOVEMBER 2023	<p>RECOMMENDED on the motion of Louie Forner and Steven Mortlock that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Council request Murrumbidgee Irrigation to have trees removed from the Mirrool Creek riparian zone and the removal of trees in any identified drainage channels. (b) Council advocate to the NSW Government to undertake a Flood Study for the entire Mirrool Creek Catchment. (c) Council contact the Natural Resource Access Regulator (NRAR) in relation to retrospectively unapproved earth works in Mirrool Creek, requesting that they support a study of the entire Mirrool Creek rural catchment area, so they can base their assessments on an actual model and facts. 	Graham Gordon	

20 July 2023	General Business	Council to discuss the obstruction of willow trees at the inflow channel of Barren Box Swamp.	Graham Gordon	
20 July 2023	General Business	Council discuss ownership and maintenance of the drainage channel on Crook Road, Hanwood with Murrumbidgee Irrigation, accounting for the 86ML/day of water that the new Hanwood pump station has the potential to pump.	Graham Gordon	
4 May 2023	EMR Regulator and Barellan water level sensors	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Joe Dal Broi and Steve Manwaring that Council write to Water NSW for justification of services rendered for the fee in the vicinity of \$17,000 that Council currently pay for the monitoring of water level sensors at the East Mirrool Regulator and in Barellan.	GM	20/07/2023: Report to Committee on 20/07/2023. Council to pursue potential to transfer ownership of devices due to funding through BoM, or Council negotiate the frequency of device monitoring.
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	

17 November 2022	Lake Wyangan Flood Mitigation Action Update	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Joe Dal Broi and Councillor Glen Andreadza that Council write to relevant Ministers and authorities advising of issues relating to failure of organisations such as SES to take responsibility and issue required directives.	Brett Stonestreet	Letter drafted to Minister Emergency Services. Hon. Steph Cooke MP.
17 November 2022	Lake Wyangan Flood Mitigation Action Update	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Glen Andreadza and Steven Mortlock that Council endorse the actions taken in the emergency flood situation at Lake Wyangan to implement the Lake Wyangan Flood Pumping Project.	Graham Gordon	
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	
10 December 2020	Flood Maps Revision	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Peter Budd and Sally Jones that: (a) Once finalised, the revised Yenda flood maps are to be emailed to Committee members for approval to present to Council.	Durgananda Chaudhary	Revised Yenda flood maps were emailed to the committee members on 21/01/21. Council meeting on 23/02/21 has endorsed to place the revised Yenda maps on public exhibition. 5/8/2021: Letters to be written to key community groups such as the

		(b) The recommendation to Council is to place the revised maps on public exhibition to be adopted as Revised Flood Maps for Yenda, appended to the existing 'Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan 2015' by March 2021.		Progress Association and people who made submissions to advise them of the outcome of the revised mapping.
10 December 2020	Yoogali McCormack Road Levee and DC605J Culvert Upgrade	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Peter Budd and Luigi Forner that Council apply for funding for Stage 2 Yoogali (Levee along McCormack Road.) through the DPIE grant fund opening in January 2021.	Durgananda Chaudhary	The 2021/22 funding round is now open and closes on 18/03/21. Council will apply for funding for Stage 2 Yoogali work i.e. Levee along McCormack Road.
27 February 2020	Murrumbidgee Irrigation Maintenance Program	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Andreazza and Joe Dal Broi that MI report back to the Committee regarding protocols for cleaning vegetative growth in Mirrool Creek and Main Drain J.	MI	
27 February 2020	Funding Application Options for 2020/21	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Steve Mortlock and Councillor Glen Andreazza that: (a) Council apply for funding for the Hanwood Stormwater Pump and Levee Stage 1 (pump and pipe works). (b) Funding application for the Yoogali McCormack Road Levee and DC605J Culvert	Graham Gordon	Council has applied for funding for the Hanwood Stormwater Pump and Levee Stage 1 construction. Council did not apply for funding for Yoogali McCormack Road Levee Stage 2 construction.

		Upgrade State 2 (levee along McCormack Road) to be determined by Council after consideration of tenders.		
27 February 2020	Hanwood Stormwater Pump and Levee	Mr Mortlock enquired if Council had adequate generators available? Mr Gordon advised this should be investigated further in relation to emergency management.	Graham Gordon / Durgananda Chaudhary	
27 February 2020	Recommendations from Floodplain Risk Management Review May 2018 – Internal Audit Report	<p>Council should consider the implementation of the following education strategies in due course:</p> <p>(a) Advice about flooding to residents from time to time.</p> <p>(b) Articles in local papers containing certain advice or where to find it about. Information provided in social media and the GCC website. The information could include: An indication of the range of flood risks in different areas.</p> <p>(c) The need to be flood ready, including an explanation or overview on flood warning processes within the LGA. The location of evacuation centres (in the event of the emergency evacuation process being activated). Contact details for additional information.</p>	Graham Gordon	<p>(a) Generic information sheet to be created that can be loaded on Council's website.</p> <p>(b) Same as (a) above.</p> <p>(c) This is part of the Griffith Emergency Plan.</p>

31 October 2019	Flows to Barrenbox Swamp	<p>RECOMMENDED on the motion of Peter Budd and Sally Jones that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) A report be prepared for the next Committee meeting in relation to Main Drain J advising of flow rates at various points, structures, recent upgrades. (b) Options to be presented regarding implementing protocols for Barrenbox Swamp during flooding situations. (c) Carrathool Shire to be represented at the next meeting. 	Graham Gordon Durgananda Chaudhary	<p>Report included in Agenda for 27 February 2020 meeting.</p> <p>Email sent to Carrathool Shire Council inviting the GM and Director Infrastructure to the next meeting 27 Feb 2020.</p>
31 October 2019	Farm Levees Mirrool Creek Floodplain – Rural Floodplain Management Plan	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Sally Jones and Peter Budd that Council engage with DoPIE Water and the State Government to initiate a new rural Floodplain Management Plan for the Mirrool Creek catchment.	Graham Gordon	27/02/2020: RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Andreazza and Joe Dal Broi that Council lobby for funding for the preparation of a rural Floodplain Management Plan for the Mirrool Creek catchment.
20 June 2019	Farm Levees Mirrool Creek Floodplain – Illegal Levy Banks	RECOMMENDED on the motion of Peter Budd and Joe Dal Broi that the Committee endorse the Griffith Main Drain J and Mirrool Creek Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan be reviewed and that investigations are carried out to identify any	Graham Gordon	Ongoing.

		illegal works taken out such as levy banks and appropriate action taken. The review is to take into consideration flows from adjoining Council areas and consultation to occur with those Councils in relation to what action Griffith City Council will be undertaking.		
27/02/2018	Yoogali McCormack Road Levee & DC605J Culvert Upgrade - Cardno	<p>RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Dino Zappacosta and Sally Jones that:</p> <p>(a) The Committee accept the Design Report and the Design Drawings in current format and recommend for public exhibition.</p> <p>(b) The Committee recommend a separate investigation of raising Burley Griffin Way as another levee location option.</p>	Graham Gordon	<p>The design report and the drawings were exhibited for public comments. Only one submission was received. The submission was supportive of the levee but against the upgrade of the culverts.</p> <p>The concept design of raising Burley Griffin Way as levee has been prepared and submitted to OEH for approval of additional funding to carry out the detailed design.</p> <p>13/08/2018: OEH has approved additional funding to carry out the detailed design of raising Burley Griffin Way as levee. Cardno is progressing to finalise the detailed design of raising Burley Griffin Way as levee.</p> <p>22/02/2019: Design prepared and sent to RMS for approval.</p>