

## Summary of Council's 11 March 2024 Ordinary Meeting

### North Wagga Flood Mitigation recommendation on public exhibition

Council received the draft consultant reports regarding the North Wagga Flood Mitigation Options and will place them on public exhibition from 15 March 2024 to 26 April 2024.

Council noted the recommendation from the Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee to pursue a combined approach to mitigating flood impacts in North Wagga.

This is a staged approach and includes upgrading the existing North Wagga Levee system (Stage 1 of L4B - 5% AEP (1 in 20)) and offering Voluntary House Raising and Purchase (subject to risk reduction and cost effectiveness).

It also includes increasing the road heights and bridges along Hampden Ave to provide a safe evacuation route (Stage 2 of Option L4B), subject to funding.

Following the public exhibition period Council will receive a further report addressing any submission and providing a recommendation for flood mitigation options for North Wagga.

### RP-1 NORTH WAGGA FLOOD MITIGATION OPTION PROJECT

### Active Travel Plan Stage 1 to receive funding to enable its completion

Council noted the status of the Active Travel Stage 1 (ATP1) project and authorised the drafting of an amendment to the Local Infrastructure Contributions Plan (LICP) as outlined in the Financial Implications section of the presented report.

The report consists of the project status, remaining budget and additional budget required for the remaining work to complete the ATP1 project.

The Active Travel Plan Stage 1 project commenced in 2018 and has 10 links consisting of shared bicycle and pedestrian paths. The project continued through the COVID-19 pandemic and, barring some small elements (islands, signs, paint etc) is mostly complete, excluding the Forest Hill link.

A large portion (3.6km) of the Forest Hill link is planned to be on the railway reserve between Bakers Lane and Elizabeth Avenue. This requires the permission of Transport for NSW and their appointed representative UGL (previously John Holland).

Permission has been sought since 2019. When permission to access the corridor is received, Council will progress with the last stage of ATP1.

Since the project was first planned costs for construction have risen year on year, and it is noted that the increase in cost between the time of solidifying the budget and obtaining funding and now is in excess of 50 per cent.

The proposed funding sources to allow completion of the project in its entirety is a combination of developer contributions included within the Local Infrastructure Contribution Plan (LICP).

These plan items were for the provision of shared paths and footpaths around the City, some of which have been delivered by the Active Travel project.

To ensure transparency and in order to meet Council's statutory requirements it is proposed to amend the LICP to reflect the proposed use of the funds.

These changes will be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, before the presentation of a report to Council detailing the outcomes of the consultation.

#### RP-2 ACTIVE TRAVEL PLAN STAGE 1 (ATP1)

#### **Avenue of trees get the tick of approval**

Council received a request from the Presentation Sisters Wagga Wagga to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the first five Sisters from Ireland to provide Catholic education in Wagga Wagga.

The Presentation Sisters Wagga Wagga have proposed contributing funds to create an avenue of trees on Bourke Street between Redhill Road and Holbrook Road.

Council noted the request from the Presentation Sisters and endorsed accepting the funding offer of \$14,762 from the Presentation Sisters to establish a tree corridor in Bourke Street.

#### RP-3 PRESENTATION SISTERS - AVENUE OF TREES

#### **Amended financial policies to be placed on public exhibition**

A scheduled review of the Procurement and Disposal Policy (POL 110) and the Corporate Purchase Card Policy (POL 053) has been undertaken.

Amendments being proposed to policies require the endorsement of Council prior to the policies being placed on public exhibition.

Council endorsed placing the draft Policies on public exhibition for a period of 28 days from 12 March 2024 to 9 April 2024 and invite public submissions during this period.

Following the public exhibition Council will receive a further report addressing any submissions made and proposing adoption of the policies unless there are any recommended amendments deemed to be substantial and requiring a further public exhibition period.

#### RP-4 FINANCE POLICIES - PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

## **Council's Operational Performance Report showing majority of actions on track**

Council received and noted the Operational Performance Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023.

This report provides details of Council's performance against the Combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2023/2024 as at December 2023.

In accordance with the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework, Council is required to report its progress against the Delivery Program at least every six months.

The Operational Performance Report 2023/24 six-monthly progress update provides an overview of Council's activities and performance between 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023.

Overall Council has performed well during the period with 88.67% of operational plan actions being either on track or completed.

RP-5 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - 1 JULY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

-- Ends --

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### **About Wagga Wagga City Council**

Wagga Wagga City Council serves more than 68,000 residents across an area of 4825 square kilometres with an overall budget of more than \$236M.

The organisation manages more than \$2.48 billion in assets, including a 2300km road network, Wagga Wagga Airport, Livestock Marketing Centre and the Oasis Aquatic Centre.

Council also provides important community facilities such as Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga City Library, Museum of the Riverina and Civic Theatre, as well as maintaining countless parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities to ensure Wagga maintains its reputation as 'the City of Good Sports'.

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