

Council sponsorship to help grow three Wagga Wagga events

Three major events in Wagga Wagga over the coming 12 months will be supported by Council's Major Events, Festivals and Films Sponsorship 2025/26 fund.

At its Ordinary Meeting earlier this week, Council endorsed a total of \$39,209.66 in funding under Round One of the program towards the delivery of the Riverina Harvest Festival, Carols by Candlelight and Christmas with the Con.

Council's Destination and Events Coordinator Kimberly Parker said Major Events, Festivals and Films Sponsorship recognises the importance of events bringing visitors to our region.

"The funding plays an important role in supporting organisers to deliver major events in the city, Ms Parker said.

"These successful events deliver strong social benefits and economic returns for Wagga Wagga, while showcasing our public spaces and energising our city."

Riverina Harvest Festival by Murrumbidgee Landcare was successful in its application for sponsorship through the Incubator Event stream for its 2026 event.

Scheduled for 20 and 21 March 2026, the event comprises a conference on day one and a community festival on day two, featuring local and regional produce markets, music and workshops with local experts.

"The event increases local food tourism by encouraging local and regional travel and enhances the agri-tourism industry in the region," Ms Parker said.

The second successful recipient is Carols by Candlelight, hosted by non-for-profit organisation, Specialist Medical Resources Foundation.

The event is scheduled to be held on 6 December 2025 and is looking to host this at Wagga Beach: Riverside Precinct.

"The event will showcase an exciting program of roving entertainers, family entertainment and food stalls that will appeal to young families, and seniors.

"The pre-show entertainment features First Nations and multicultural performances that will foster greater understanding between different sections of the community."

The third recipient is Christmas with the Con, which is staged and delivered by the Riverina Conservatorium of Music, a free community event, bringing a diverse audience together to enjoy an evening of live music.

The event is scheduled to be held at the Wagga Beach: Riverside Precinct on 13 December 2025, and will feature performances from more than 200 musicians, including soloists, ensembles, talented vocalists and the Riverina Conservatorium of Music Orchestra.

The recommended funding was determined by a panel including three community members with event management experience.

The program has three streams – incubator events, developing events and flagship events – catering for the different development and growth of events.

“There are more opportunities for event organisers to apply for Major Events, Festivals and Films Sponsorship, with Round Two of funding now open for applications,” Ms Parker said.

For more information on the program or to make an application, visit www.wagga.nsw.gov.au/eventssponsorship

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Contact 6926 9190 or media@wagga.nsw.gov.au

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 \$277.1 million.

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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