

MAYORAL REPORT

Council Meeting:	23 June 2020
Report Date:	18 June 2020
Author:	Mayor
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Approval:	Mayor

Winter is upon us, and the year is passing way too quickly

Much anticipated follow up rainfall is trickling in, and we continue to hope that it does in fact arrive.

As we continue to navigate our way through the COVID-19 Pandemic our communities safety remains paramount. Council continues to disseminate relevant information to all of our people through our social media platforms and updated messaging and posters as required.

Our messaging informed by the Murrumbidgee Local Health District (MLHD) and State and Federal counterparts is simple and consistent - we are indeed lucky to live where we do. Cautious re- entry to 'normality' will be informed by the success of the easing of restrictions.

Council is busy - life goes on and we are continuing to deliver in a myriad of ways.

During June, Council has held both a Budget Workshop and an Extraordinary Council Meeting, finalising the draft budget. Prioritising infrastructure spend and associated maintenance on this critical component of Council's business is not an exact science and requires much deliberation. As is clearly identified, we have \$7 million worth of capital grant money to expend, which is a huge opportunity for a small rural Council.

Council has been fortunate to secure a second \$1 million dollars for Drought Communities Funding-Extension. This money will be injected directly into our 3 communities, helping to make them vibrant and welcoming communities for those who live there and those wishing to visit. The money also will enable us to retain the services of our Drought Support Officer, Sam Star, who is providing an invaluable communication stream detailing access and service links to a wide range of assistance and up-skilling opportunities.

Council's initiative to workshop pressing issues prior to our monthly Council Meeting is proving beneficial - although challenging via video link. Nothing replaces face-to-face engagement, but adaptability is the name of the game in our current environment.

Major Projects across the Council Footprint continue to evolve. The sporting change rooms at Darlington Point are completed and are an amazing end product - coupled with renewed vigour, the surrounds look first class and ready for action when, and if, that happens.

The Lions Park amenities and display pavilion in Darlington Point are also progressing, and certainly provides an impressive entry point to the northern entrance of Darlington Point. Tenders have closed for the Sporting Precinct Development in Coleambally. The Bencubbin Road project is progressing to commencement and the Jerilderie Swimming Pool project is on target and on time.

Below are a list of meetings, webinars etc

- 1 June - Council Budget Workshop - Jerilderie
- 2 June - Australian Digital Inclusion Index Webinar
- 3 June - Bencubbin Avenue, Coleambally - Business Operators' Engagement- Coleambally
- 4 June - RAMJO -Water Position Paper, Stakeholder Presentations - Berrigan
- 5 June
 - CICL Meeting - Bridge ownership and maintenance responsibilities - Coleambally
 - Meeting with Larry Walsh and Kate O'Callaghan - Southern Cotton
- 9 June
 - LEMC Meeting via Zoom
 - Jerilderie Beautification Meeting - Preliminary- with Kelly Tyson, Ken Geltch, Julie Conn and Anne Lyons
- 10 June
 - Extraordinary Council Meeting - Budget
 - RAMJO Water Position Paper presentation by Bridgett Leopold EO
- 11 June - Darlington Point Beautification Meeting - Preliminary - with Kelly Tyson, Ken Geltch and Kerry Murray
- 15 June - Meeting with General Manager in Jerilderie
- 17 June - Meeting with Manager, Planning & Environment and General Manager in Darlington Point re planning issue and due process
- 18 June
 - Towns Beautification across Council area – meeting via Blue Jeans with Kelly Tyson, John Scarce and others
 - Coleambally Lions Club Changeover Dinner - Coleambally
- 22 June - meeting with Justin Clancy - Member for Albury - Council Chambers Jerilderie - Areas for discussion - Business development- available stimulus money etc; RMCC Contracts; SDLAM Projects in the Yanco Billabong system

Across June

- Various LGNSW Live Events and OLG Webinars
- COVID-19 updates - Easing of restrictions/testing etc
- Small Business Assistance, Customer Service Initiatives

Regards



Ruth McRae
MAYOR