



Mayor Beresford's February 2022 Council Meeting Wrap-up

Policy Reviews

At this month's meeting Council reviewed two of its policies, the Recruitment and Selection Policy and the Alcohol and Drugs Policy. This action is in accordance with the Council's aim that all policies are reviewed every two years. It also adopted a new policy titled Injury and Illness Management and Return to Work Policy. This policy covers the return to work of employees who have been absent on personal/sick leave or workers' compensation leave. It provides a procedure which will allow the Council to bring back employees to work as soon as is safely possible and properly assess and plan for suitable employment.

Telecommunication Tower at Willacora

The application on behalf of Field Solutions Group for a Material Change of Use for a telecommunication facility (tower) on an area of land located on rural property Willacora on the Jobs Gate Road was approved. The approval was for an amended location on the property, the new location map being tabled at the meeting and will be subject to the listed relevant and reasonable development conditions and general advice. This approval will enable the applicant to continue with the digital connectivity project currently underway across the Paroo Shire.

Hot Springs & River Walk Project

The quotation submitted by New State Builders to construct the Hot Springs, River Walk and Pontoon Project on and adjoining the Warrego River at Cunnamulla has been approved. It is expected that work on the site will commence in the near future and the project should be completed within nine months.

Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme

A four year program of roadwork to be funded under TIDS has been submitted to the South West Regional Road & Transport Group. Roads nominated for work under this scheme are the Jobs Gate Road and the Eulo-Toompine Road, two shire roads which carry significant local traffic as well as being strategic interstate and tourist link roads. The scheme provides funding on a 50/50 matching basis and for the 2022/2023 financial year there will be an increase in the amount of funding provided which will allow Paroo Shire to undertake work to the value of \$2,080,000.

Qld. Treasury Corporation

Following the Council meeting, Councillors met with representatives from the Qld. Treasury Corporation who gave a presentation on budget preparation, highlighting the role of Councillors and Executive Staff in developing a Council budget. The Paroo Shire Council will shortly be commencing workshops on its 2022/2023 budget so the presentation was very timely and provided an avenue for Councillors and the CEO to participate in discussions around the various aspects of the forthcoming budget.

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