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Mayor's Desk by Mayor Cr Rachel Chambers



We all have a 'gut feel' through our experiences that regional areas such as ours don't get their fair share of care. Gut feel however is not enough to argue with when it comes to getting our point across in Brisbane or Canberra.

We all know that our roads need more maintenance. We can see it, we can feel it and after doing a gap analysis this year in council, we know it to be true. In regards to our local roads, we are 33% underfunded in our annual roads program (currently gap is estimated at \$2.3 million). For all of us, that means that our roads are being maintained to the current intervention levels only 66% of the time and for Councillors it basically means that three out of every 10 road related phone calls are angry ones.

In order to get more money to spend on our roads we have one of three options. The first is we can reduce expenditure. This one we are working on with our new CEO who has a background in industry and is delving down deep to ensure we are running as efficiently as possible.

The second way is to increase rates however to get the further \$2.3 million we need, we would have to increase rates next year by 28.85%, so that's not going to be the way forward.

And lastly, we can advocate on behalf of our community in order to garner more money from our State and Federal governments. This is where things get complicated.

Of course we are not the only local government asking for more money – so what makes us so special? And this is where gut feel needs to take a back seat to real data. See I can argue till the cows come home when I have real data on which to base

my argument, where we fall down is when we only go on our own experiences. Politicians from Brisbane and Canberra don't share our experiences, they don't understand what it's like to drive on our roads and to be frank, and our limited population (translated to votes) doesn't warrant them to care.

So it is our job to work through the data to 'prove' to government why we are worthy of the extra investment. Note I said 'our' job. I don't say this lightly. You have to help me do this. North Burnett is leading the charge to have the economic value of the products along its roads to be included in the methodology of road funding. Our argument is this: current methodologies which base investment on traffic count are not reflective of the reasons our roads exist. Our roads exist to move produce, not people and as such the investment the produce makes to the state and federal governments should be factored as part of the cost benefit analysis of investment into them.

Unfortunately, data about our industries and the roads they use in and out of the region is severely lacking. We have both USQ and QUT helping us with this data BUT....we also asked months ago for industry to be invested in this and complete a survey which would help us argue the point...and I'm so disappointed to say that to date we have received 8 back. We can't do this alone, we really need your help. We are doing all we can to improve this situation but without the help of our industries and people using our roads we can't argue our case effectively. It's a short survey but one that may be hugely worthwhile. The survey can be found at www.northburnett.qld.gov.au/transport

Talk soon, Rachel.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council's next **General Meeting will be held in Mt Perry on Wednesday, 26 September** commencing 9am.

All members of the public are welcome to attend Council's Public Question Time, held during **Council's General Meeting from 9:30am to 10:30am**. This is an opportunity to bring forth any items that you would like your Councillors to address.

Prior indication of your question is appreciated. Please phone 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) to discuss with an Executive Support staff member or email executive.support@northburnett.qld.gov.au.

SOD TURNING AT MINGO

The commencement of the Mingo Crossing Caravan Park Upgrade project was celebrated on Friday, 14 September with an official sod turning ceremony on site.

This \$2.5M upgrade is being jointly funded through the Queensland Government's Building our Regions program (\$1.25M) and North Burnett Regional Council (\$1.25M).

Mayor Rachel Chambers thanked the Queensland Government for its co-contribution and acknowledged that the project will enhance the North Burnett regions tourism destination and hero experiences whilst increasing tourism revenue for the local economy.

"The project will see the addition of nine powered sites, establishment of six glamping sites, a second amenities block to allow for increase in caravan park patrons and to provide day users public amenities, inclusion of camp kitchen, development of day users parking area near the existing boat ramp, installation of a play-ground, and development of open river space along the north

east edge of the river for an additional 40 camping sites," Mayor Chambers said.

"The expansion of the Mingo Crossing Caravan and Recreation Area will ensure the facility meets current and future tourism demands. The economic benefits the project will bring to the region will be significant to the tourism economy and provide long term employment opportunities as well as potential mobile micro-business opportunities such as pop up cafes, boat repairs and water sport activities."

The Mingo Crossing Caravan Park Upgrade project is scheduled for completion prior to the end of January 2019.

For further information regarding the project please contact Council's Strategy, Innovation and Assets team on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC).



TENDER – DESIGN & CONSTRUCT PACKAGE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM – MINGO CROSSING CARAVAN PARK & RECREATION AREA

TENDER: 2909_2018-19_QTB_06

Closes: **Wednesday 3 October, 2.00pm**

Tenders are hereby called for experienced companies for the Design & Construct Package Wastewater Treatment System – Mingo Crossing Caravan Park & Recreation Area for North Burnett Regional Council.

Tender documents can be accessed via Council's website; <https://www.northburnett.qld.gov.au/tenders/>.

A mandatory tender briefing session is to be held 12.45pm Wednesday 19 September 2018 on Site at Mingo Crossing Caravan Park.

For further information or to report any difficulties in obtaining the tender details, please contact Kristy Felhaber on (07) 4921 1780 or email kristy@mcmengineers.com

TENDER – DESIGN & CONSTRUCT PACKAGE POTABLE WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM – MINGO CROSSING CARAVAN PARK & RECREATION AREA

TENDER: 291703_2018-19_QTB_07

Closes: **Wednesday 3 October, 2.00pm**

Tenders are hereby called for experienced companies for the Design & Construct Package Potable Water Treatment System – Mingo Crossing Caravan Park & Recreation Area for North Burnett Regional Council.

Tender documents can be accessed via Council's website; <https://www.northburnett.qld.gov.au/tenders/>.

A mandatory tender briefing session is to be held 11.00am Wednesday 19 September 2018 on Site at Mingo Crossing Caravan Park.

For further information or to report any difficulties in obtaining the tender details, please contact Kristy Felhaber on (07) 4921 1780 or email kristy@mcmengineers.com

ROAD CLOSURE - EIDSVOLD MALMOE ROAD (AT JAMIESON BRIDGE)

As part of North Burnett Regional Council's Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) works, Malmoe Road (at Malmoe Jamieson Bridge), Eidsvold, will be closed from Monday, 24 September 2018 for approximately two (2) weeks whilst flood recovery works, including construction of concrete bridge approaches, are undertaken.

The upgraded road is expected to re-open early October 2018, weather permitting. Road users are advised that an alternate route will be available via A Creek Road during this time.

For further information please contact Council's Works staff on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or email admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au.

Council acknowledges that this project is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments under the Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP).

POSITIONS VACANT

Administration Officer (Customer Service & Library) – Mundubbera

Position Status: Permanent Full-time

Applications close: Thursday, 11 October 2018

To obtain a Position Description and information on how to apply please visit Council's website www.northburnett.qld.gov.au or contact Council's People and Culture team on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC).

North Burnett Regional Council is a drug and alcohol free workplace and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Gary Rinehart
CEO

POSITIONS VACANT

- Administration Officer - MUN - close 11-10-18

TENDERS / EOI

- Wastewater Treatment System - close 03-10-18
 - Potable Water Treatment System - close 03-10-18

Further information on Positions Vacant or Tenders can be obtained via Council's:

Website: www.northburnett.qld.gov.au
 Email: admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au
 Phone: 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or call into one of Council's Customer Service Centres / Libraries.

FLOOD RESTORATION UPDATE

Over the next fortnight, flood restoration works will be concentrated in the following locations:

Biggenden - Cockings Rd, Witton Rd, Wateranga Rd

Eidsvold - Malmoe Rd

Gayndah - Aberdeens Rd, Back Creek Rd, Gayndah Mundubbera Rd, Stockhaven Rd

Monto - Airport Rd, Cannindah Rd, Hays Rd, Monal Rd, Old Rawbelle Rd

Mt Perry - Bilboolan Rd



Hawkwood Rd, Mundubbera 'under construction'.

Council acknowledges the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding is a joint Commonwealth and State Government program.

ARE YOU READY TO TAKE THE PLUNGE?

"The weather is warming up and North Burnett Regional Council is ensuring swimming pools are ready for the September school holidays," Mayor Rachel Chambers has advised.

Eidsvold pool opened to the public on Saturday, 1 September, with Biggenden, Monto and Mundubbera pools opening on Thursday, 20 September 2018. The Gayndah pool is scheduled to open on Saturday, 22 September following completion of works.

To view current pool opening hours, please see Council's Website www.northburnett.qld.gov.au and look under Community / Facilities / Swimming Pools, contact Council's friendly staff on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or email admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au.



NORTH BURNETT Transport Service

MOVIE TIME

Make a booking over the value of \$35 for travel during **September & October 2018** and receive a **\$20 Voucher** for Reading Cinemas Bundaberg*

Looking for something to do with the children these school holidays? Why not take advantage of the North Burnett Transport Service 'Movie Time' promotion and see a movie on us!

Simply make a booking on the North Burnett Transport Service over the value of \$35* and receive a \$20 voucher during September and October 2018 for Reading Cinemas Bundaberg.

*Limit of one voucher per paid booking. Promotion runs from 4 September 2018 to 31 October 2018. See terms and conditions for full details.

For further information on the North Burnett Transport Service or their 'Movie Time' promotion (including Terms and Conditions), see Council's website www.northburnett.qld.gov.au, contact Council on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or email admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au.