

# COMMUNITY News

## REPAIRING OUR ROADS

### RECOVERING FROM THE STORMS AND FLOODS IN WOLLONDILLY

Following four significant storm and flooding events in the last three years, Council is dealing with the widespread damage caused by the compound effect of these severe storms.

During the storms and floods, we had our extraordinary crews monitoring, closing, cleaning up and then reopening many of the bridges that link our villages and towns and connect the Shire to our neighbouring local government areas. They were out in unpleasant weather conditions repairing potholes, sandbagging and supporting our fantastic local emergency services to keep the community safe.

We have seen significant pothole damage right across the Shire's 870km of roads as well as landslides on several of our connecting roads including Broughton Pass and Barkers Lodge Road.

Wollondilly's not alone though, with roads all over Sydney and NSW suffering damage that will take months and even years to repair.

The timeframe to carry out all the repairs is largely weather and funding dependent. Our crews have been working long hours and on weekends doing their best to fill potholes and make the roads safe until more long-term repairs can be carried out. The scale of damage is placing significant pressure on Council's resources and budget.

While we're putting absolutely everything into the repair effort, the reality is the unprecedented scale of damage requires the NSW and Commonwealth governments to bring their significant budgets to bear to address the issue.

The NSW Government has shown willingness to work with Council to expedite repair funding, which is welcomed, and Council is grateful for the \$1m in funding received to date. However to really get on top of the problem we have requested an urgent \$25-30M funding injection.

The biggest 'circuit breaker' for our roads would be the NSW Government taking over management of our major roads like Remembrance Driveway, Silverdale Rd and Menangle Rd. We're advocating hard for this as it would enable Council to focus our limited funds on local roads where it's also desperately needed, and the state to directly fund the repair of the main roads.

Wollondilly has experienced a series of emergency situations in recent years including bushfires, the Covid-19 pandemic, and the storms and floods; all of which have negatively impacted our budget. Council has proactively made allowances for natural disasters and emergencies in the 2022/23 budget and Long-Term Financial Plan, to mitigate potential future negative economic impacts.

We have heard from the community and we know that improving the Shire's road network is a clear priority, so the good news is that we will be investing a record \$21.1M in capital works and maintenance of our major roads and bridges in the 2022/23 Financial Year. Another road crew focussing on roadside drainage and vegetation plus more funds for pavement repair and faster pothole fixing are some big improvements for the year ahead.



BLAXLAND CROSSING



DOUGLAS PARK CAUSEWAY



ENGINEERS AT BROUGHTON PASS



REPAIRING THIRLMERE WAY

# PRECINCT UPDATE



## SHIRE HALL

We are excited to announce the first stage of Shire Hall upgrades has now been completed, after various unforeseen delays. The refurbishment saw the preservation and celebration of heritage features, whilst also accommodating numerous internal upgrades and increased accessibility. There are a number of options available to the community for bookings. Contact our Facilities & Recreation team on [4677 1100](tel:46771100).



## CHILDREN'S SERVICES BUILDING

Work continues to progress on the Children's Services Building. It will provide a purpose built, early learning focused centre that will enable the relocation of the existing 30 place before and after school care spots. The new building will also accommodate an additional 30 places for pre-school. It is due to be completed late 2022.



## PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

The development application for the 350+ seat Performing Arts Centre has now been approved by the NSW Planning Panel. The beautiful new building will provide a state-of-the-art local venue for music, theatre, exhibitions and civic events, and will be a major injection into the cultural life of Picton & the wider Wollondilly area.

## Call to Reclassify REGIONAL ROADS

Wollondilly Council has renewed its ongoing commitment to advocate for the NSW Government to commit to reviewing and reclassifying Wollondilly's key regional roads as State roads.

Reclassification of high traffic volume roads such as Remembrance Driveway, Silverdale Road, Menangle Road and Montpelier Drive would make the NSW Government responsible for the funding, maintenance and repairs.



## PICTON BYPASS

Wollondilly Council continues to advocate for a much needed Picton Bypass and welcomes the Federal Government's \$95.6m promise for planning at Picton Road and a Picton Bypass in the recently revealed budget.

Planning for and building critical infrastructure such as the Picton Bypass will reduce traffic chaos and accidents when Victoria Bridge is closed, provide a safe evacuation route during disasters, reduce the expected traffic increase in the town centre due to planned growth, and provide an alternate route for heavy vehicles.

If you have questions, contact [pictonbypass@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pictonbypass@transport.nsw.gov.au)

# RESILIENT WOLLONDILLY

## BECOMING A RESILIENT COMMUNITY

Over the coming months Council will be developing Community Profiles and Asset Maps. This was a recommendation that arose from the feedback we received following the 2019/20 Black Summer bushfires.

The purpose of this project is to better understand all of our towns and villages and to support emergency preparedness and resilience building. We will be conducting workshops and outreach across the Shire to ensure that we capture the voices of as many people as possible. There will also be online engagement opportunities on the Your Say section of our website. Keep an eye on Council's Facebook page for outreach and workshop dates.

To find out more contact Council's Community Recovery Officer on **4677 9654** or [recovery@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recovery@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au)

## IMPACTED BY FLOODS? HELP IS AVAILABLE

Were you impacted by the recent flood event? If you require any information or support following the floods please contact Council's Community Recovery Officer on **4677 9654** or [recovery@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recovery@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au)

## DA WAIVER FOR FLOOD IMPACTED PROPERTIES

Was your property impacted by the recent storms in Wollondilly? Council recently resolved to waive all relevant Council fees, including any DA fees, for those undertaking flood repair, remediation or property protection works as a result of the recent flood & storm event.

Contact Council's Development Services team on **4677 1100** if you would like more information.



## WOLLONDILLY SHIRE WIDE *Flood Study*

The draft Wollondilly Shire Wide Flood Study is now on Public Exhibition. Thank you to everyone who contributed knowledge of flooding history and rainfall amounts in Wollondilly.

The Flood Study uses the latest topographic data and modelling techniques as well as local knowledge from our community, in an effort to better understand the nature and extent of flood risk across Wollondilly Shire. It's part of a process that will lead to later Flood Risk Management Studies and enable us to determine the best mitigation options to include in future Risk Management Plans for specific areas.

Visit [yoursay.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au](http://yoursay.wollondilly.nsw.gov.au) to find out more, and tell us if the mapping and information is consistent with your observations and experience.



 STRATEGIC   
REFERENCE GROUPS  
& Advisory Groups

*Are you passionate about your community?  
Do you love working with people?  
Do you have skills and knowledge to share?  
Join one of Council's Strategic Reference  
Groups or Advisory Groups*

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 10 JUNE

SCAN TO APPLY



OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

# Wollondilly is Growing & WE HAVE A PLAN!

The Wollondilly Shire now has approximately 54,000 residents, but by 2036 over 92,000 people will call Wollondilly home. Many of these will live in the Wilton Growth area.

Council has a plan in place to help manage growth in the Shire. Our Wollondilly 2040 Local Strategic Planning Statement was developed to ensure Wollondilly has a prosperous, resilient and sustainable future and to make sure that we protect our unique towns and villages from over-development.

The NSW Department of Planning has already started rezoning land for new homes in Wilton. Their plan for the area, Wilton 2040, will guide the growth of 15,000 new homes. This growth will also be supported with the Wollondilly Contributions Plan, which means every time development occurs, Council collects funds from developers to pay for new local infrastructure. We expect \$345M will be collected for transport and open space improvements.

With new development comes new jobs, and our Employment Lands Strategy is in place to help guide over 20,000 new jobs that are coming to Wollondilly.



## PLANNING UPDATES

Head to Council's website for updates on:

- Current rezonings/planning proposals in our Shire
- Our Shire Wide Heritage Study
- Studies commencing to investigate more land for jobs
- Information regarding Wollondilly's connection to the Western Sydney Airport as well as other State projects in the area
- Consistently updated planning controls, to make it easier to carry out events and activities in our Shire.



## What's On IN WOLLONDILLY?

20-22 MAY  
ILLUMINATE  
WOLLONDILLY

16 JULY  
PICKTON 200<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

2-4 JUNE  
TOGETHER  
ARTS

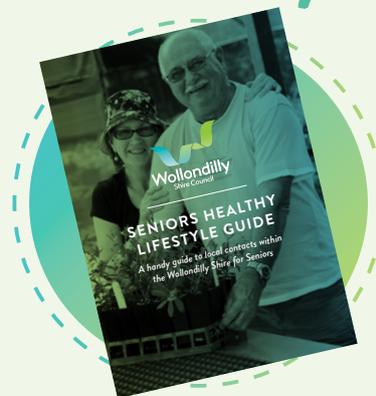
6 AUGUST  
SUMMERFEST  
DOUGLAS PARK

25-26 JUNE  
THIRLMERE  
FESTIVAL OF STEAM

21 AUGUST  
DOGGY  
DAY OUT

Visit [wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/events](http://wollondilly.nsw.gov.au/events) for the latest updates and news on Wollondilly events.

## SENIORS Healthy Lifestyle GUIDE



Wollondilly Council, in partnership with the 2022 NSW Seniors Festival, has recently launched the Wollondilly Seniors Healthy Lifestyle Guide; a printed booklet to encourage seniors to connect in with local services.

Call our Community Projects Team on **02 4677 1100** to organise your copy, or search 'Seniors Healthy Lifestyle Guide' at [wollondilly.nsw.gov.au](http://wollondilly.nsw.gov.au)

## FIND OUT MORE, PARTICIPATE AND GET IN TOUCH...

### Council Forums and Meetings

Community Forums and Council Meetings take place on the third and fourth Tuesday of each month in the Shire Hall at 6:30pm.

Agendas are available in Council's Foyer and on Council's website seven (7) days prior to the Community Forum.

#### Community Forums - 6.30pm

- Tuesday 21 June
- Tuesday 19 July
- Tuesday 16 August

#### Council Meetings - 6.30pm

- Tuesday 28 June
- Tuesday 26 July
- Tuesday 23 August

#### Local Planning Meetings - 3.30pm

- Thursday 2 June
- Thursday 7 July
- Thursday 4 August

Please note these dates are subject to change | Check Council's website to stay updated.

### Council Contacts

P (02) 4677 1100

F (02) 4677 2339

E [council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@wollondilly.nsw.gov.au)

Postal Address: PO Box 21, Picton, NSW, 2571

In Person: Frank McKay Building,  
62-64 Menangle Street, Picton, NSW, 2571

Opening Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am to 5pm