



# Councillor Gail O'Neill

## Division 14

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CITY OF  
**GOLDCOAST™**

# COUNCILLOR NEWS

AUGUST 2021

My office in Tugun is open Tuesday to Friday from 8.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-4.30pm. Due to Covid-Safe practices, I will meet with residents by appointment only. For assistance, please phone 07 5581 5275 or email [division14@goldcoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:division14@goldcoast.qld.gov.au).

To keep up to date with important Division 14 related information visit our Facebook page: [facebook.com/gailoneilldivision14](https://facebook.com/gailoneilldivision14).

## Division 14 2021-22 budget allocations

### Currumbin Hills Park playground upgrade, Currumbin Waters

Combined Division 14 and whole-of-city funding will be used to upgrade Currumbin Hills Park during the 2021-22 Financial Year. Works will include replacing two out of the three existing basketball courts with a new outdoor gym and upgrading the remaining basketball court. A new shelter and seating will also be installed as part of this project.

### Giltrap Park playground upgrade, Kirra

Playground upgrade works at Giltrap Park are planned for Jan-Feb 2022 as part of the Division 14 2021-22 budget allocation. Works will include removal of the stand only swing and returning the area to turf; and extending the existing play area to include a new carousel and see-saw. The old shade structures which have already been removed will be replaced with a new larger shade structure to cover the upgraded playground area.

### Tree planting

The following tree planting projects have been planned for Division 14 over the next 12 months:

- Removal and replacement of African Tulip Trees at Tugun Rugby League Club, Boyd Street.
- Bulk tree planting of 110 trees for Valley Drive, Tallebudgera planned for November 2021.

- Bulk tree planting of 110 trees for Kirra and Coolangatta planned for March 2022.

### Division 14 2021-22 Projects

The following Division 14 projects have been funded from the whole-of-city Budget for 2021-22;

- Renewal of the existing timber 'Boyd's Bridge' located on Currumbin Creek Road, Currumbin Valley
- Remediation of landslips on Ducats Road, Tallebudgera
- Reconstruction of Johnston Street, Bilinga
- New bridge installation across Teemangum Street to replace the old culverts and relocating existing bus stops 300589 & 300590 further north of the current locations.

### Galleon Park playground upgrade, Currumbin Waters

Playground upgrades at Galleon park are expected to commence October 2021.



Concept plan, Galleon Park

## Local area works

### Currumbin State School road safety

The City has a minor works project in place to implement traffic islands within the 'Kiss and Go' lane at Currumbin State School to improve road safety. Installation is anticipated late-July to early-August.

### Cyclists dismount signage, Tugun

The City has installed larger 'Cyclists dismount' signage on the side of the bin at the intersection of Toolona Street and Golden Four Drive which should be more visible to cyclists and skateboarders.

I'm appealing to cyclists and skateboarders to dismount before entering Tugun Village particularly along the stretch of footpath between Toolona Street and Wyberba Street as several of our senior residents use this footpath to attend the medical centre.

## Spotlight on Southern GC

### Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4

Planning has begun for the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 with the Department of Transport and Main Roads Queensland inviting residents to have their say at the various community consultation drop-in sessions throughout the month of August as follows:

- 9am to 5pm at The Pines Shopping Centre, Elanora on 6, 7, 8, 9, 28, 29, 30 and 31 August
- 12pm to 3pm at Tugun Community Centre on 10 and 24 August; and
- 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Tugun Community Centre on 12 and 26 August

For more information about how you can participate and have your say, visit [tmr.qld.gov.au/gclr4](http://tmr.qld.gov.au/gclr4).

### Tom Atkin Hall, Tugun

Congratulations to the Tugun Progress Association on your new neon sign which was supported by a Division 14 grant. Looking forward to the future renovations for the entrance of the hall.



Tom Atkin Hall' signage, Tugun

## Cooly Rocks On

As the local Councillor for Division 14 I have received overwhelming feedback on the success of this year's Cooly Rocks On festival with tens of thousands of tourists and locals flocking to Coolangatta to experience the cars, music, memories and moments of the 50s, 60s and 70s. Southern Gold Coast turned on the fine weather; accommodation houses were at full capacity; and restaurants, cafes, and retail shops reported some great economic benefits.

## What's on in our community

### SWELL Sculpture Festival



The Spiral of Life. Image by artist Melissa Carey, QLD

Proudly supported by Division 14, SWELL 2021, Queensland's largest outdoor sculpture exhibition, will return for the nineteenth year from 10 to 19 September 2021. With over 65 large scale artworks, the main exhibition will transform Currumbin Beach into a stunning outdoor gallery. Also experience pop-up exhibitions throughout the city including SWELL Fringe Festival at Dust Temple, a masterclass at The Valley Estate, and SWELL Kids at Wallace Nichol Park, Currumbin. View the full program online at: [swellsculpture.com.au](http://swellsculpture.com.au).

### Trans-Tasman Surf Competition

The Trans-Tasman Surfing Comp and the Kirra Longboard Klassic due to be held on 10-11 July has been postponed to 11-12 September 2021. The biggest Australia-New Zealand surfing rivalry is coming to Kirra over two action packed days to battle it out to be crowned the first Trans-Tasman surfing champions. The best Aussie vs Kiwi surfing talent will go head to head showcasing their skills on both shortboards and longboards. For details visit: [transtasmansurfing.com](http://transtasmansurfing.com).

### Women's Surf Festival

Proudly supported with a Division 14 Community Event Grant, the Women's Surf Festival due to be held on 10-11 July has been postponed to 11-12 September and will be an incredible two-day event that brings together some of Australia's leading surfing women and specialists to share, inspire and entertain. Join us to Celebrate women styling the waves in surfing, lifestyle, and sustainability at Queen Elizabeth Park, Coolangatta. Programme and tickets here: [womenssurfestival.com](http://womenssurfestival.com).

### Dune planting

The City will be offering a free dune planting session with Our Beaches community as part of the Women's Surf Festival. This session is about getting your hands sandy, weeding, planting, collecting litter, as well as learning about the plants and animals that call our dunes home. Everyone is welcome. Time and location details will be provided upon booking. Programme and bookings here: [womenssurfestival.com](http://womenssurfestival.com).

*All information correct when going to print.*

# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



## Our natural environment deserves protecting

As our coast population increases, pressure on our green and open space also increases.

The City, in partnership with private land holders and the State Government, spends millions every year to preserve our natural assets.

The recent 2021-22 budget includes \$161 million for our parks, natural areas, and environmental conservation.

Of this, \$145.29 million will be invested in parks, natural areas, and recreation, with a further \$14.44 million specific for environmental conservation.

Key initiatives for 2021-22 include:

- \$11 million to commence a program of acquiring up to 40 priority acquisition sites (totalling 3515 hectares) across the city to ensure better wildlife corridor linkages (the first seven sites will be targeted in 2021-22)
- \$7.9 million to manage over 13,000 hectares of bushland across the city
- \$2.47 million to maintain bushfire management including hazard reduction burns, fire management planning, fire breaks, fire trail construction and vegetation management
- \$200,850 to develop a priority species program and support implementation of Koala Conservation Plan
- \$150,400 toward developing collaborative monitoring and reporting arrangements on the health, quality, and protection of our City's natural assets to deliver State of the Environment-type reporting; and
- \$111,900 to implement the environmental offset program for ongoing protection of native vegetation

I trust Gold Coasters won't object to paying an extra \$2.50 into Open Space, including Koala Habitat, (Maintenance and Enhancement Separate Charge) to support these critical land purchases. This charge added to the existing \$1 per annum koala habitat program.

**TOM TATE**  
MAYOR

