



Councillor Gail O'Neill

Division 14

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COUNCILLOR NEWS

MARCH 2021

My office in Tugun is open Tuesday to Friday from 8.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4.30pm. Due to COVID-19 Safe practices, the Councillor will meet with residents by appointment only. For assistance, please telephone 07 5581 5275 or email division14@goldcoast.qld.gov.au.

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

Local area works

Snapper Rocks amenities refurbishment

Refurbishment works have commenced at the amenities block at Snapper Rocks. Renovations include:

- replacement of roof purlins and sheets
- floor and wall tile replacement
- Installation of new partition walls
- electrical component and plumbing hardware upgrade
- repainting building interior

The site will be closed for approximately eight weeks (weather permitting). Several carparks will be used by the contractor. Two portaloos have been placed behind Rainbow Bay SLSC for public use.

Captain Cook Memorial upgrade project, Point Danger

Due to structural defects and concrete cancer, the iconic Captain Cook Memorial site, which includes the Marine Rescue facilities, podium, kiosk, and deck, will be demolished and replaced. Additional car parks will be installed.

The project is jointly funded by Tweed Shire Council and City of Gold Coast with additional Restart NSW funding from NSW Government. Works are scheduled to commence in late-March with completion expected by the end of the year (weather permitting).

Service road and Oceanway widening, Tugun

I have commenced talks with City officers on a new project south of Wagawn Street to upgrade the service road and widen

the Oceanway between Wagawn Street and Elizabeth Street. We are hopeful this project will receive co-funding from State Government.

Kirra Eagle

The Sea Eagle (locally known as 'Kirra Eagle' or the 'Rusty Chook') is a public artwork by local artist, the late Craig Medson (1960-2015), which was installed on Kirra Hill in October 1983.

Consulting experts have determined that the sculpture can no longer be safely displayed in the public domain due to the gradual decay of the structure.

Given the historical significance to the local area and the community, Council proposes to undertake a procurement process to identify an experienced steel restoration company to renew the Sea Eagle sculpture to ensure it can remain



Kirra Eagle

on display without an exclusion zone for a minimum of 10 years.

Removal of the Sea Eagle sculpture will occur when construction commences on the Kirra Hill renewal project. A request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) will be publicly advertised in the coming months for the sculpture renewal.

If restoration of the Sea Eagle is feasible, it is anticipated the sculpture will be reinstalled in 2022.



Kirra Hill renovation perspective

R T Peak Memorial Park lookout renewal project, Kirra Hill

Located on Kirra Hill, R T Peak Memorial Park contains multiple assets which have reached end of life. The City is undertaking a renovation that significantly improves the amenity and recreation value of this area, with works to include:

- new lookout platform and balustrades
- footpaths and new stairs
- elevated lawn and shade trees
- picnic settings and new seating
- large custom shelter
- BBQ and hot water tap facilities

This project is co-funded by COVID-19 Works for Queensland Grant Program. Construction will commence late March and is expected to be completed by the end of June 2021 (weather permitting).

During construction, pedestrian and vehicle access to the parkland will be limited to the Kirra Hill Community and Cultural Centre. Throughout certain stages of construction there will be traffic control on Garrick Street and Marine Parade to manage large deliveries to site and roadside works.

Robert Neumann Park, Currumbin Valley

In the lead up to the 2020 election residents of Currumbin Valley reached out to me about providing a great playground area for children in the Valley. I was able to budget \$290,000 in the 2020-21 Division 14 Budget to deliver an upgrade to the park which includes this fabulous nature-based playground. Completion of the upgrade is scheduled for April. Council is looking to formalise the current parking area and investigating additional bays for park visitors.



Robert Neumann Park playground perspective

Spotlight on SouthernGC

Softball and baseball collaboration

I have invested \$50,000 from Division 14's budget allocation towards the relocation of Gold Coast Softball Association to share the Copclicks facilities with Twin City Baseball Club. This funding will also go towards upgrading of diamonds for both clubs.

HubbleGC

Mission - HubbleGC is a place where young people belong – to enhance the lives of youth, the future of our community; by creating pathways and tools to navigate challenges, discover opportunities, and to help chart their direction.



A Virtual Youth Hub committee was established in July 2020 by Community Bank Tugun, and consists of over 35 local representatives from community, business, youth and government. Youth/Community consultation was sought to determine the name, platform, and seek guidance on content with almost 800 people responding to the survey. HubbleGC is currently working on delivering a website in the first half of 2021.

Community Bank Tugun provided \$5,000 in seed-funding and continues to provide in kind support. Queensland Police Service provided funding of \$5,830 towards website development. This project is supported by founding members Community Bank Tugun and Divisions 13 and 14.

What's on in our community

Shout Out Fest

Save the date for Shout Out Fest 2021 during Queensland Youth Week on Saturday 17 April 2021 (subject to Qld Health and City Events approval).

This event will be conducted under a COVID-19 Safe Event Plan with attendees asked to register online beforehand. More details will be available in my next newsletter and on my Facebook page in the lead up to the event.

All information is correct when going to print.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Loving the air we breathe

Minimising pollution is essential to maintain the Gold Coast as the paradise we all love so we are powering ahead with ten new electric vehicle charging stations around the city.

This coincides with news from General Motors, the world's 4th largest vehicle maker, that it will stop producing petrol and diesel cars by the middle of the next decade. From 2035 they will all be electric.

To take a leading role in this innovation and demonstrate our city's green credentials, we are encouraging zero-emissions vehicles through adoption of world-first technology from local company Tritium. Its 75kW chargers are 50% faster than most EV stations and can fuel 2 cars at a time. Importantly, they can be scaled-up to 150kW as demand increases.

The first charger is at Broadbeach with others to come at Coolangatta, Southport, Pimpama, Bundall, Carrara and Nerang. Within a 50km radius of each other, they will create a viable cross-city network that will keep expanding.

Better still, the City's Virtual Power Plant that harnesses solar power from nearly 50 Council buildings supplies the new chargers. It is a highly practical example of innovation driving environmental protection.

As Gold Coast continues its exciting journey as global city of the future, we must show the world we nurture our environment and care for the heritage we leave our children and their children. Reducing harmful emissions into the atmosphere to help ensure the air we breathe is as fresh and clean as possible is a responsibility the City takes seriously.

Tom Tate

TOM TATE
MAYOR

