



## Councillor Gail O'Neill

### Division 14

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# COUNCILLOR NEWS

NOVEMBER 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 @gailoneilldivision14.

## Local area works

### R T Peak Memorial Lookout renewal project, Kirra Hill

Works to upgrade R T Peak Memorial Lookout at Kirra Hill are complete. This amazing space, which capitalises on the best views on the Gold Coast, is now open to the public.



R T Peak Memorial Lookout, Kirra Hill



### Discretionary Grants

Requests amounting to \$129,474 were received from 30 local community groups in Division 14 and there were many

deserving projects to consider. The applications far exceeded the \$36,688 allocated for the 2020-21 Discretionary Grants Program. Visit my Facebook page for a full list of the successful recipients and details of their respective projects.

### Kirra Pavilion

The upgrade to the Kirra Pavilion building is complete and the new tenants have now commenced their commercial fit-out, with the hope of opening their doors before the Christmas holidays.



Kirra Pavilion Upgrade, Kirra

### Lighting upgrade, Coolangatta

Works are planned to upgrade the lighting in Lanham Street Park, along the pathway between Miles Street and Garrick Street, Coolangatta. The Lanham Street lighting project is an outcome of a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) safety audit conducted in October 2019. The lighting will assist in improving illumination of the pathway, increasing visibility, and reducing blind spots.

The project is proposed to be completed in November. While every effort will be made to keep to the planned schedule, times are indicative and subject to change. Please be advised that disruptions are expected to be minimal and every effort will be made to ensure the pathway remains open for pedestrians.

### Tugun to Bilinga Oceanway

Private seawall works are ongoing along the Tugun to Bilinga Oceanway (between John Street and Short Street) Bilinga. This section of shared path will remain closed until Friday 12 November (weather permitting). A pedestrian detour is in place via Golden Four Drive.

### Currumbin Hills Park, Currumbin

Demolition of the western basketball court (closest to the carpark) and re-turfing works at Currumbin Hills Park are complete in preparation for hardcourt conversion to a new outdoor gym, shelter, pathway, and furniture planned for installation in Jan-Mar 2022.

### Furniture renewal works, Currumbin

A new seat and picnic setting were recently installed at Apex Park, Currumbin near Currumbin Tennis Courts for park users to enjoy the creek-side setting.



Furniture renewal works, Currumbin

### Road safety

With the current diversions on Gold Coast Highway by QPS in regard to COVID-19 checkpoints and freight vaccination hubs, we are imploring motorists who are using local roads including Pacific Parade, Golden Four Drive, and Coolangatta Road to please observe the speed limits which are 50km/h along Coolangatta Road and Golden Four Drive, and 40km/h along Pacific Parade and Golden Four Drive (within Tugun village). Remember safety of all road users and pedestrians is paramount.

## What's on in our community

### Gold Coast Play Money Rewards

The \$3 million the City provided for the Play Money Rewards program has proved very successful for businesses, so much so, the State Government has contributed an additional \$1m to be used exclusively for southern Gold Coast businesses to acknowledge how tough it has been for our border community.



Essentially Cooly tourism ad campaign

### Currumbin Community Special School Art Exhibition

Support the students of Currumbin Community Special School on 12 November at the bi-annual Art Exhibition. The artwork is priced, and some pieces will be auctioned. Light refreshments and beverages will be offered for sale. Please RSVP by phone 5559 9333 or email [admin@currumbinspecs.eq.edu.au](mailto:admin@currumbinspecs.eq.edu.au).

### Christmas in Division 14

We'll be 'decking the halls' of Division 14 early this year to bring some much-needed Christmas cheer, with works to install this year's Christmas decorations and banners having already commenced across the City in October and to continue throughout November.

Save the dates for the following festive events proudly supported by Division 14 (subject to health directives at the time):

- Coolangatta Christmas Carols at Queen Elizabeth Park, Coolangatta on Sunday 12 December
- Currumbin Community Christmas Carols at Galleon Park, Currumbin Waters on Monday 6 December
- Tugun Lights Up at Toolona Street and Wyberba Street Parklands, Tugun on Sunday 5 December
- New Year's Eve Fireworks at Queen Elizabeth Park, Coolangatta on Friday 31 December

All information correct when going to print. For up-to-date information visit us on Facebook @gailoneilldivision14.

# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



## Blessed by nature and our magnificent gardens

Now, more than ever, we must continue to preserve our magnificent natural environment.

As our population grows and pressure on land supplies increases, we all have a responsibility to do more and learn more.

Every year, millions of visitors find their way to the Gold Coast to take in the thrills of our theme parks, the tranquillity of our waterways and the world-heritage listed hinterland trails and waterfalls.

Nature attracts tourists and provides locals with an incredible playground to explore and preserve. With that in mind, City of Gold Coast is spending millions on planting more trees, opening up our green and open space, creating wildlife corridors, maintaining our waterways and securing more land for future conservation.

By working together, we can lead by example and showcase the city's unique regional vegetation communities that border between sub-tropical and temperate regions.

Our city's Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens are simply amazing. Every time I visit, I learn more about the gardens themselves and get to better appreciate the work so many people do behind the scenes to nurture this hidden gem.

The gardens have been developed over decades and soon, we will get to celebrate the establishment of a Biodiversity Visitor Centre.

The centre will be a vibrant destination to learn, explore, and discover the city's unique plant kingdom and its wider ecological attributes – all set among a background of living plant collections, lakes, and open spaces.

The centre will boast interactive displays, education programs, function spaces, and a speciality café to ensure visitors receive an educational experience about the environment and how we can play our part in the region's sustainability. These summer holidays, please find time to visit our botanic gardens.

**TOM TATE - MAYOR**

