

AGENDA EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 JANUARY 2021

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Diffey, V Etheridge, D Grant, D Gumley, A Jones, S Lawrence, G Mohr, K Parker, J Ryan and B Shields

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 12.30pm.

PRAYER:

O God, Grant that by the knowledge of thy will, all we may resolve shall work together for good, we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:

"I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri People who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect to other Aboriginal peoples from other nations who are present".

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MATTERS CONSIDERED BY COMMITTEES:



MAYORAL MINUTE: Retirement of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Michael McMahon

AUTHOR: Mayor

REPORT DATE: 20 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/36

To the Council Ladies and Gentlemen

Office of the Mayor Civic Administration Building Church Street, Dubbo

I was recently advised by the CEO Michael McMahon of his intentions to retire and I have since been provided with his resignation. Refer to **Appendix 1**.

After a distinguished career of 41 years within the Local Government industry, Michael has tendered his resignation effective from 1 April 2020.

Michael joined Dubbo Regional Council in December 2017 on temporary basis and was successful in obtaining the role permanently in October 2018. During his time with DRC, Michael has led Council through the transition of post-amalgamation requirements, through the Covid-19 pandemic and the worst drought in history. He has achieved a long list of accolades during this time in particular;

- Winning the National Local Government Service Network Council of the Year 2020 for DRC's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- 2019 Australian Airport Association Winner Large Regional Airport of the Year
- 2019 Drover Awards Australian Performing Arts Centre of the Year Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre (DRTCC) Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre.
- Development, and construction of major facilities;
 - Dubbo Cycling Facility
 - Rygate Park Development
 - o Adventure playground and carpark Dubbo Regional Botanic Gardens
 - Boundary Road Extension
 - Airport Hire Carpark
 - Wellington Caves Visitor Experience Centre
 - SES/VRA Emergency Services facility

With Council transitioning towards the Local Government Elections to be held later this year in September, I propose that an Acting CEO be appointed until a new Council is elected with the permanent recruitment occurring thereafter.

I intend to seek interest from relevant Directors for this role and seek authority from Council to proceed with the selection process and recommendation accordingly to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Mayor and Council thank Michael McMahon for his commitment and contribution to DRC since December 2017 and also recognise his distinguished career of 41 years within the Local Government industry.
- 2. That the Mayor be authorised to facilitate the selection process for the Acting CEO with the full recruitment process to occur later this year.
- 3. Approval for an appropriate retirement function for Michael's farewell to be held in March 2021.

Councillor Ben Shields Mayor

Appendices:

1 Retirement Letter CEO to Mayor

The Mayor

Cir Ben Shields

14th January 2021

Dubbo Regional Council

Corner Darling St and Church St Dubbo NSW 2830

Dear Ben,

Further to our previous discussions about my intentions to retire this year I want to formally tender my resignation effective 1st April 2021.

It is time for me, after having worked in Local government since 1980 to retire. I have successfully and professionally served many Councils since entering local Government and have been greatly rewarded by the personal associations which I have fostered and staff I have led and mentored over my forty plus years.

I have appreciated the support of Councillors and staff whilst being the CEO of Dubbo Regional Council.

My term with Council has seen many fabulous community improvements, new facilities and significant challenges. I know that the Councillors and staff have acted in unison when dealing with the significant post amalgamation needs and setting a new agenda. We have come together and acted with integrity, courage and vision when managing our path through the challenges and opportunities. It has been a common cause and I am Indeed proud of what we have accomplished.

I wanted to express my gratitude for your guidance and fellowship during my term with Council. It has been an honour to be the first CEO and I leave with fond memories and a real sense of achievement.

I want to wish everyone the very best for the future and every success.

Yours sincerely

Michael McMahon



MAYORAL MINUTE: Entry to Dubbo Regional Council Aquatic Leisure Centres -Australia Day

AUTHOR: Mayor

REPORT DATE: 6 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/9

To the Council Ladies and Gentlemen

Office of the Mayor Civic Administration Building Church Street, Dubbo

Each year for Australia Day, Council coordinates community celebrations in both Dubbo and Wellington with the inclusion of, but not limited to, an official ceremony involving Australia Day Award winners, a speech from a nominated Australia Day Ambassador and a Citizenship Ceremony. During past celebrations, entry to the aquatic leisure centres has been provided to the community for a gold coin donation during a designated timeframe.

Unfortunately, this year the celebrations will be at a reduced capacity due to COVID-19 and the various restrictions in place to stop the spread of the virus.

As Councillors and the community would be very much aware, the effects of COVID-19 on our community from both a business and wellbeing perspective have been a challenge, to say the least.

In an effort to boost community morale and enhance Council's Australia Day community celebrations, I am proposing that Council provide free entry to Dubbo Regional Council's three aquatic leisure centres in Dubbo, Wellington and Geurie every year on Australia Day, commencing this year (26 January 2021) and continuing indefinitely.

RECOMMENDATION

- That the fees and charges in the 2020/2021 Budget for the three aquatic leisure centres in Dubbo, Wellington and Geurie be amended to allow for free entry on Australia Day, 26 January 2021.
- That all future Australia Day events provide free entry to the three aquatic Leisure centres in Dubbo, Wellington and Geurie and future budgets incorporate such provision.

Councillor Ben Shields Mayor



MAYORAL MINUTE: New Year's Eve Event for Wellington

AUTHOR: Mayor

REPORT DATE: 19 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/32

To the Council Ladies and Gentlemen

Office of the Mayor Civic Administration Building Church Street, Dubbo

On the back of the highly successful Dubbo Show Society New Year's Eve Firework Display, a lot of Wellington locals have expressed interest in their town also having some sort of New Year's Eve event.

It's my view that community events like New Year's Eve add to the positive social fabric of a community. It assists in community good will, helps lift the profile of the town as well as helping the areas economy.

As Mayor, I support the notion of having a New Year's Eve event in Wellington.

However, I also believe the event should be community driven, just like how the Dubbo Show Society does an impressive job by organising Dubbo City's event.

Council would support the event like in Dubbo through sponsoring the use of the showground.

A New Year's Eve event does not necessarily have to be about fireworks. There are multiple ways a community can celebrate at New Year's Eve. For this reason, I'm proposing that Council call for community ideas on a New Year's event that can be run by a local community group with Council support.

RECOMMENDATION

- That Council call for submissions and expressions of interest from community organisations and individuals on a New Year's Eve event in Wellington.
- 2. That a report on outcomes of the submissions and expressions of interest be submitted to the May 2021 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Councillor Ben Shields Mayor



Report of the Street Tree Advisory Panel - meeting 18 January 2021

AUTHOR: Governance and Internal Control Manager

REPORT DATE: 22 January 2021

The Committee had before it the report of the Street Tree Advisory Panel meeting held 18 January 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Street Tree Advisory Panel meeting held on 18 January 2021, be adopted.



REPORT STREET TREE ADVISORY PANEL 18 JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: Councillors B Shields, J Ryan, the Director Liveability, the Director Infrastructure, Mrs B Edmondson (Community Representative) and Mrs N Grant (Community Representative).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor S Lawrence and the Manager Recreation and Open Space.

Councillor J Ryan assumed Chairmanship of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.30 pm.

STAP21/1 LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID21/24)

A request for leave of absence was received from Mrs B Sutherland who was absent from the meeting due to the personal reasons.

STAP21/2 PROPOSED TALBRAGAR STREET TREE PLANTING AND BEAUTIFICATION (ID21/23)

The Committee had before it the report dated 13 January 2021 from the Director Liveability regarding Proposed Talbragar Street Tree Planting and Beautification.

OUTCOME

- 1. That the report by the Director Liveability, dated 13 January 2021, be noted.
- That the Street Tree Advisory Panel supports the Talbragar Street Beautification proposal.
- 3. That Council seeks external funding to improve road geometry due to the failure of the road pavement.
- 4. That Council makes strong representation to State Government to develop the old service station into additional permanent car parking.
- 5. That Council staff liaise with business owners to work through any concerns about loss of car parking.
- 6. That Council takes note of the overwhelming public support for the beautification of Talbragar Street.

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 JANUARY 2021



REPORT: Aboriginal Electoral Engagement Strategy

AUTHOR: Chief Executive Officer

REPORT DATE: 12 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/18

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 23 March 2020, considered a Notice of Motion from Councillor Stephen Lawrence regarding an Aboriginal Electoral Engagement Strategy (clause CCL20/38) and resolved as follows:

- 1. That Council note its respect for the region's Aboriginal people and its rejection of racism in all its forms.
- 2. That Council reiterates its commitment to social inclusion and social justice.
- 3. That due to the comparatively low rate of Aboriginal people enrolled to vote and the current lack of Aboriginal councillors, the Chief Executive Officer prepare in consultation with the Aboriginal community and the Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party an 'electoral engagement strategy' to be presented at the April 2020 Council meeting, focusing on candidacy in the 2020 NSW Local Government elections and ensuring Aboriginal voter enrolment in the region is equal with the broader community.
- 4. That the Chief Executive Officer report back at the April meeting on steps previously taken towards Dubbo Regional Council (and the previous Dubbo and Wellington Councils) developing an Aboriginal Employment Policy, a Reconciliation Action Plan and an Aboriginal Procurement Policy.

On 25 March 2020, the Office of Local Government released a circular (20-10) announcing that the September 2020 local government elections would be postponed for 12 months to address the risks posed by the COVID-19 virus. On 29 June 2020, the Office of Local Government released a further circular (20-25) confirming that the next local government elections would be held on 4 September 2021.

Following representations as detailed in the body of this report, it is clear that resources and training/educational programs for Indigenous community members with regard to enrolling to vote, and also standing as a candidate for the election, are lacking in our Local Government Area.

This report recommends that, in addition to engaging Women for Election and offering their "Politics in Colour" program to Indigenous Women in the Local Government Area, Council seek support from the LGNSW President to make representations to the Minister for Local Government regarding appropriate education programs being created and made available to Indigenous community members in respect of the upcoming local government election.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funding is available from the elections budget to cover the \$5,000 cost of the "Politics in Colour" program.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council engage Women for Election and offer their "Politics in Colour" program to Indigenous Women in the Local Government Area.
- 2. That the Chief Executive Officer seek support from the LGNSW President to make representations to the Minister for Local Government regarding appropriate education programs being created and made available to Indigenous community members in respect of the upcoming local government election.
- 3. That the Election Engagement Strategy be developed and available for Council in March 2021.

Michael McMahon
Chief Executive Officer

BACKGROUND

Council, at its Ordinary meeting held on 23 March 2020, considered a Notice of Motion from Councillor Stephen Lawrence regarding an Aboriginal Electoral Engagement Strategy (clause CCL20/38) and resolved as follows:

- 1. That Council note its respect for the region's Aboriginal people and its rejection of racism in all its forms.
- 2. That Council reiterates its commitment to social inclusion and social justice.
- 3. That due to the comparatively low rate of Aboriginal people enrolled to vote and the current lack of Aboriginal councillors, the Chief Executive Officer prepare in consultation with the Aboriginal community and the Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party an 'electoral engagement strategy' to be presented at the April 2020 Council meeting, focusing on candidacy in the 2020 NSW Local Government elections and ensuring Aboriginal voter enrolment in the region is equal with the broader community.
- 4. That the Chief Executive Officer report back at the April meeting on steps previously taken towards Dubbo Regional Council (and the previous Dubbo and Wellington Councils) developing an Aboriginal Employment Policy, a Reconciliation Action Plan and an Aboriginal Procurement Policy.

On 25 March 2020, the Office of Local Government released a circular (20-10) announcing that the September 2020 local government elections would be postponed for 12 months to address the risks posed by the COVID-19 virus. On 29 June 2020, the Office of Local Government released a further circular (20-25) confirming that the next local government elections would be held on 4 September 2021.

Given that the local government elections were postponed and the Country was in the midst of a worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, resolution three above was also postponed.

REPORT

Although the local government elections were postponed to 4 September 2021, there were multiple avenues explored which are explained in more detail as follows:

Licia Heath, CEO of Women for Election, advised that Women for Election has launched their partnership with Women's Business and their "Politics in Colour" program - a program that has been written to encourage and equip Indigenous and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) women to run for public office. This program is being run as a full day workshop at a cost of \$5,000 to deliver in Dubbo. This report recommends that Council engage Women for Election and offer this program to Indigenous Women in the Local Government Area. It is possible to open up this program for other Local Government Areas at a cost.

Contact was made with Local Government NSW (LGNSW) enquiring about any programs or specific training available for Indigenous residents in respect of the next local government election. LGNSW advised that they do not currently offer this kind of training; and recognise that there is a gap for specific and relevant training for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates.

It was further advised that LGNSW have recently joined with Reconciliation NSW and the Local Government Aboriginal Network in writing to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs seeking support for a campaign to encourage more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to stand for election. LGNSW President, Cr Linda Scott, repeated this call in a media release during NAIDOC week.

The NSW Government has initiated a campaign for women who would like to stand for their community, including a range of free workshops to support them in doing so. LGNSW has called for the NSW Government to commit resources for a similar campaign to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In this regard, LGNSW will advise Council if they achieve any good outcomes in this area.

LGNSW mentioned the "Collaborate NSW" website, co-developed with the Office of Local Government approximately four years ago, which has some resources and information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are considering standing for election.

During a Ministerial Briefing held in 2020 via Zoom, I took the opportunity to raise with the Minister for Local Government and the Office of Local Government (OLG), the matter of an educational program for potential future Indigenous candidates and it was indicated that there was merit in the suggestion, with OLG to look into the matter.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the postponement of the local government elections, I will be working with our Indigenous community members and the Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party to create a draft 'electoral engagement strategy'. I hope to have this document available in March 2021.

SUMMARY

Following representations as detailed above, it is clear that resources and training/educational programs for Indigenous community members with regard to enrolling to vote, and also standing as a candidate for the election, are lacking in our Local Government Area.

It is recommended that, in addition to engaging Women for Election and offering their "Politics in Colour" program to Indigenous Women in the Local Government Area, Council seek support from the LGNSW President to make representations to the Minister for Local Government regarding appropriate education programs being created and made available to Indigenous community members in respect of the upcoming local government election.



REPORT: Road Safety Assessment -Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road Dubbo

AUTHOR: Safe Roads Engineer REPORT DATE: 19 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/33

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The inconspicuous nature of the intersection due to the poor alignment of Old Mendooran Road relative to Boothenba Road has made traversing difficult not only for unfamiliar and fatigued drivers but also for local drivers. The location of the unsignalised rail crossing in the vicinity of the intersection has further increased the complexity of the intersection. Measures need to be taken to dramatically improve the road safety issue by addressing the above issues.

It is recommended that Council approval be granted for the closing down the section of Old Mendooran Road between Boothenba Road and the Golden Highway as shown on Council's Plan TM 7414 and improving the alignment of the Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road intersection by ensuring that the northern leg of Old Mendooran Road intersects Boothenba Road at 90°.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no identified funds to undertake the works in the 2020/21 Budget. This work is considered to be a recent high priority. Council has applied through the *Fatal Crash Response Proposal for High Priority Works* fund to assist with the closure process and this application is expected to be successful. The re-alignment of the intersection is not yet designed or funded and once costs are known a project budget will be developed.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council commence the process to close the section of Old Mendooran Road between Boothenba Road and the Golden Highway.
- 2. That the alignment of the Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road intersection be redesigned to ensure the northern leg of Old Mendooran Road intersects Boothenba Road at 90°.

Ridwan Quaium
Safe Roads Engineer

BACKGROUND

The intersection of Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road is a four legged intersection located in a rural area about 12 km northeast of the Dubbo CBD (refer to Site Map below).

Boothenba Road generally runs in an east-west direction while Old Mendooran Road runs in a north-south direction. The intersection is located towards the eastern end of Boothenba Road and the southern end of Old Mendooran Road.

Two major intersections are located in the vicinity of this intersection. The Boothenba Road and Golden Highway intersection is located approximately 725 metres to the east while the Old Mendooran and Golden Highway intersection is located approximately 550 metres to the south.

Boothenba Road is an approved heavy vehicle route. This road is commonly used as a bypass route for heavy vehicles travelling between the Golden Highway and Newell Highway. Old Mendooran Road is generally travelled by local traffic. It is anticipated that traffic volumes on Old Mendooran Road will increase with the sealing of the final section of unpaved gravel pavement towards the Mendooran Road intersection to the north.



Figure 1 - Site Map

REPORT

This report provides an overview of the traffic, geometric and road safety condition and the measures that are need to be taken to dramatically improve the road safety issue at the Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road intersection.

Intersection Location and Overview

The intersection of Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road is a four legged intersection located in a rural area about 12 km northeast of the Dubbo CBD. Boothenba Road generally runs in an east-west direction while Old Mendooran Road runs in a north-south direction. The intersection in question is located towards the eastern end of Boothenba Road and the southern end of Old Mendooran Road.

Two major intersections are located in the vicinity of this intersection, which are the Boothenba Road and Golden Highway intersection and the Old Mendooran Road and Golden Highway intersection. The Boothenba Road and Golden Highway intersection is located about 725 metres east of this intersection and the Old Mendooran and Golden Highway intersection is located about 550 south of this intersection.

Boothenba Road is an approved heavy vehicle route. This road is commonly used as a bypass route for heavy vehicles travelling between the Golden Highway and Newell Highway. Old Mendooran Road is generally travelled by local traffic.

Traffic Control and Intersection Design

The intersection is question is give-way controlled, with the give-way being applied to traffic on both approaches of Old Mendooran Road. There are Give Way signs and hold line markings on both approaches of Old Mendooran Road at the intersection. Opposing traffic is separated through the use of double barrier line markings on all four approaches of the intersection. As the intersection is in a rural area, the speed limit on both roads is 100 km/hr.

Both of the roads at the intersection are two lane two way with basic left and right turn treatments on all four approaches. The Old Mendooran Road legs of the intersection are poorly aligned and heavily skewed by approximately 45° from perpendicular. There are sufficient clear zones on all four approaches of the intersection. The verge on all four approaches consists of light vegetation. In terms of vertical alignment, the topography around the intersection is relatively flat.

There is an unsignalised stop-controlled rail crossing about 35 m south of the intersection on Old Mendooran Road, parallel to Boothenba Road, crossing the Troy Junction/Merrygoen railway line. There are warning signs on both approaches to warn motorists about the rail crossing south of the intersection.

Road Crash Summary

Table 1 below summarises the road crash data at the intersection of Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road from January 2015 to December 2019. The data has been obtained from the Centre for Road Safety, Transport for NSW.

ID	Date	Time	Day	Degree of Crash	Direction of Travel	Location	Traffic Units Involved	RUM
1108386	15 July 2016	16:30	Friday	Injury	South	At intersection	Car and large rigid lorry	10
1152881	14 Oct 2017	17:55	Saturday	Injury	North	At intersection	Car and B- double	10
1192052	11 Jan 2019	13:04	Friday	Injury	South	At intersection	Light truck and large rigid lorry	10
1202535	27 Feb 2019	8:00	Wednesday	Non- casualty	North	At intersection	Station wagon and B-double	10
1217480	26 Sept 2019	16:40	Thursday	Injury	East	50 m east of intersection	Light truck	73

Table 1 - Road Crash Data at Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road Intersection

Descriptions have been provided below with regard to the Road User Movement (RUM) column in Table 1 above:

10 – Cross traffic related crash for vehicles from adjacent direction at intersection.



• 73 – Right off carriageway into object or parked vehicle (off path, on straight).



The location of crashes at the intersection are provided in Figure 2 below.

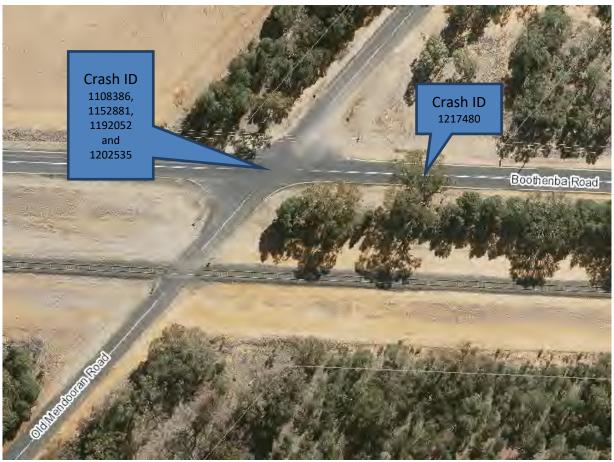


Figure 2 - Crash Locations at Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road Intersection between January 2015 and December 2019.

- Five crashes occurred between January 2015 and December 2019.
- Four of the crashes were casualty crashes, resulting in no fatalities.
- Trucks were involved in all of the crashes.
- Four of the crashes were vehicle/vehicle intersection crossing related crashes and one was a run-off carriageway related crash.
- Three of the crashes occurred in 2019.
- Four of the crashes occurred during weekdays and one during the weekend.
- All of the crashes occurred during the day in fine weather conditions.

In addition to the above, a fatal crash occurred at the intersection at 5.12 pm on Friday, 20 November 2020. The crash involved a car travelling south along Old Mendooran Road and a prime mover travelling east along Boothenba Road. The sole occupant of the car died at the scene of the crash while the driver of the prime mover suffered a head injury. Furthermore, a reported near miss recently occurred at this intersection.

Black Spot Area

The current criteria for the Australia Government Black Spot Programme is three casualty crashes in five years less than 3 km apart and 0.2 casualty crashes/km/year greater than 3 km apart. Based on this criteria, the intersection is classified as a Black Spot area.

Road Safety Issue

The inconspicuous nature of the intersection due to the poor alignment of Old Mendooran Road relative to Boothenba Road has made traversing difficult, not only for unfamiliar and fatigued drivers, but also for local drivers. The location of the un-signalised rail crossing in the vicinity of the intersection has further increased the complexity of the intersection. Measures need to be taken to dramatically improve the existing road safety conditions by addressing the above issues.

SUMMARY

Two actions have been recommended to improve road safety conditions at this intersection.

Action 1

Close down the section of Old Mendooran Road between Boothenba Road and the Golden Highway (refer to **Appendix 1**). The length of this section of road is approximately 540 metres. Closing down the road will involve demolition of the existing pavement and rehabilitating the road reserve area and returning it to natural bushland.

Closing down this section of Old Mendooran Road will convert the existing four-legged intersection of Boothenba Road and Old Mendooran Road into a T-intersection. In addition, Action 1 will reduce the complexity of the intersection as motorists will not have to negotiate an un-signalised rail crossing in close proximity to a cross-road intersection.

A single private property exists on the western side of the section of Old Mendooran Road proposed to be closed. The eastern side of the road is bound by forestry land. The proposed closure of the identified section of Old Mendooran Road will not cause any access related issues to local residents.

The 540 metre section of Old Mendooran Road identified for closure is generally used by motorists as a shortcut between the Golden Highway and the main portion of Old Mendooran Road, running between Boothenba Road and Mendooran Road. Closure of this road will require motorists travel an extra 1.3 km via the intersection of Boothenba Road and the Golden Highway. The increased difference in travel time to reach the Boothenba / Old Mendooran Rd intersection is less than one minute. The overall benefit that will be gained in terms of enhancing road safety as a resultant of the proposed road closure will greatly outweigh any disadvantage perceived by motorists.

Closing down the identified section of Old Mendooran Road will also benefit the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC), managers of the Troy Junction to Merrygoen railway line, as the organisation will be able to eliminate an un-signalised rail crossing from its rail network, improving safety by reducing potential interactions between motorists and trains. To implement this work, Council has applied to Transport for NSW for funding from the *Fatal Crash Response Proposal for High Priority Works* fund.

Action 2

Improve the alignment of the intersection by ensuring that the northern leg of Old Mendooran Road intersects Boothenba Road at 90 degrees. Action 2 requires the prior completion of Action 1.

The acute angle of the existing intersection of Old Mendooran Road and Boothenba Road provides tight observation angles for motorists on southbound Old Mendooran Road, increasing visibility issues at the intersection.

The realignment of the northbound leg of Old Mendooran Road and intersection of Boothenba Road at 90 degrees will improve visibility to motorists, making the intersection much safer and easier to navigate.

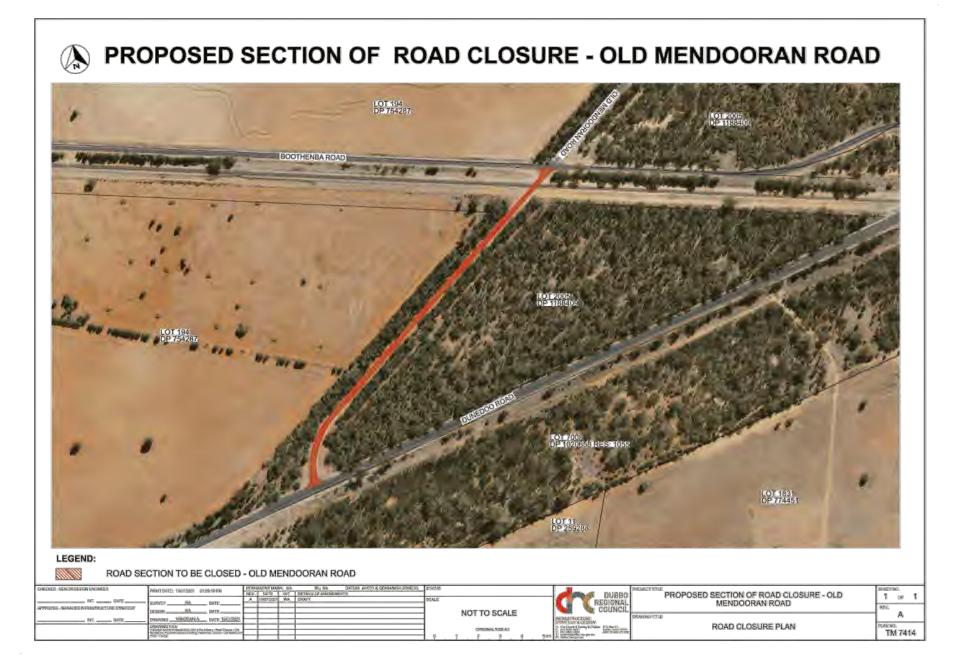
The actions proposed will require significant roadworks as well as the removal of some existing trees to accommodate the realignment works. The benefits that will be gained through enhancing road safety will greatly outweigh the cost and environmental degradation associated with the project. It should also be noted that the section of Old Mendooran Road proposed to be closed will have the potential to become a site that Council can rehabilitate with tree plantings, offsetting those trees cleared to make way for the realignment of the intersection.

This request is consistent with the following Community Strategic Plan's Infrastructure Objective:

- 2.2 Our road transportation network is safe, convenient and efficient.
- 2.2.2.1 Existing traffic management facilities are maintained in a safe and effective operational condition.

Appendices:

1. Old Mendooran Road - Proposed Section of Road Closure TM 7414



EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING Page 23



REPORT: Beautification of Dubbo CBD and Talbragar Street tree planting, public exhibition feedback.

AUTHOR: Manager Recreation and Open Spaces

REPORT DATE: 15 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/11

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the February 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, a Mayoral Minute was tabled requesting investigations to potentially plant additional trees within the CBD. This was intended to provide more shading for pedestrians and reduce extreme summer temperatures caused by asphalt heat absorption.

Conceptual plans for Talbragar Street were developed by Group GSA showing both median and side plantings to enhance the streetscape and provide additional shading to the area. A report was tabled at the Infrastructure and Liveability Committee meeting on 9 November 2020 where it was resolved, in part:

- "1. That proposed tree planting inclusions, centre median installations and sculptural installations for Talbragar Street (between Macquarie Street and Darling streets) be placed on public exhibition for 28 days, enabling community feedback.
- 2. That following public exhibition, a subsequent report be submitted to Council comprising community feedback and recommendations."

The plans went on public exhibition from 9 December 2020 to 4 January 2021. Following representation from members of the Talbragar Street business community the exhibition period was extended to close of business 15 January 2021.

Dubbo Regional Council received 67 submissions. From a detailed review of the submissions it was determined that there was overall strong community support for the proposal of beautifying Talbragar Street through the planting of trees both in the shoulders of the road and a central median. Significant concerns were raised, predominately by the businesses that operate out of Talbragar Street about the loss of a projected 17 – 20 car parking spaces if the proposal went ahead. However, the plans that were publicly exhibited were conceptual only. Significant design work would still be required to determine the actual number of car parks affected that is likely to be significantly less than those proposed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

\$270,000 from 2021/2022 Priority Tree Planting budget will be allocated towards funding this project. An additional \$270,000 will be identified from Recreation and Open Space tree planting budgets savings, or broader Council savings.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Tree planting and beautification of Dubbo CBD is consistent with Dubbo Regional Council's *Community Strategic Plan*, Community Leadership theme 4.3, "the resources of Council are appropriately managed"; Liveability themes, 5.1.3, "the City of Dubbo is recognised as being attractive and welcoming"; 5.5.2, "quality passive... open space is located to maximise access and use by the community"; and the economy theme 3.8, "Dubbo Central Business District... is strategically managed to promote occupation, activity and investment".

RECOMMENDATION

- That the report from the Manager Recreation and Open Space dated 15 January 2021 be noted.
- That the Talbragar Street Beautification Concept Plan be endorsed enabling further development, assisting in determining street tree locations; and identifying any potential car parking impacts within the immediate area.
- That following finalisation of the Talbagar Street Beautification Masterplan that implementation is aligned with the planned Talbragar Street pavement reconstruction, to minimise disruption to business owners and the community during the works.
- 4. That \$270,000 from the 2020/2021 Priority Tree Planting fund be returned, enabling completion of the Drought Resilient Landscape project, due to commence during April 2020 and that \$270,000 from the 2021/2022 Priority Tree Planting fund to go towards the Talbragar Street Beautification, if adopted, with further funds being identified through other Council savings.

Ian McAlister
Manager Recreation and Open Spaces

BACKGROUND

At the February 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting, a Mayoral Minute was tabled requesting investigations to potentially plant additional trees within the CBD. This was intended to provide more shading for pedestrians and reduce extreme summer temperatures caused by asphalt heat absorption.

Continuation of the Talbragar Street planting project is complementary towards works along the western section of Talbragar Street, between Macquarie and Bligh Street. Those works were formerly endorsed during the October 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting. They were identified as a part of a bundled project involving beautification of the three streets, with Wingewarra Street and Bultje Street also included. Those works are being funded with \$440,000 dedicated from the Australian Government Drought Communities Program – Round 2, with a further contribution from Dubbo Regional Council.

Projects, such as these, that increase that canopy cover within the CBD are consistent with assisting Council to meet a number of strategic goals, including those related to the expansion of the Green Web and the City Wide Park adopted plans. There is an extensive library of research papers done on the benefits that street trees and the urban forest can contribute to the community, environment and the urban environment. A snapshot of some of this research is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1. A cross section of some of the research that has been carried out on the benefits of trees within the urban environment.

Community/Individual Benefits		
benefits	Finding	Author
Reducing sun exposure to people	Shade can reduce overall exposure to UV radiation by up to 75%.	Parsons et. al. 1998
Reducing heat related illnesses	Shade provided by large canopied trees during hot summer days help reduce localised day time temperatures by up to 2 degrees. On days over 30 degrees Celsius the risk of heat related morbidity and mortality increases significantly.	Dept of Health (Victoria) 2010
Improving mental wellbeing	Disease rates, including mental disease, were shown to be lower where people had greater access to green space within a 1km radius.	Maas et. al., 2009
Economic Benefits		
Increased willingness to visit retail area and increased economic activity	Encouraging people to visit the retail area, and prepared to pay between 9 – 12% more for equivalent goods and services in comparison to retail areas without trees.	Wolf, K.L. 2014

Reducing energy costs	Increasing tree cover by 10% saves annual heating and cooling costs by an estimated \$50 – \$90 per dwelling as a result of increased shading.	McPherson, Nowak, 1997	
Increasing life expectancy of asphalt	*Shading by large canopied trees protects asphaltic surfaces from UV damage and can increase their life expectancy by up to 30%.*	*Stringer et. al. (n.d)	
	**A 30 yr trial completed in Modesto, California, found that an unshaded segment (the control) required 6 reseals over the trial period, an identical section shaded by Crepe Myrtles (small canopy) required 5 reseals and a third section shaded by <i>Celtis</i> (large canopy required only 2.5 reseals. Shade from the large <i>Celtis</i> was projected to save \$7.13/m2 over the 30 yr trial period.	**McPherson, Muchnick, 2005	
Storing and sequestering Carbon	Chicago's urban forest annually sequesters 318,800 tonnes of Carbon from the atmosphere, equivalent to the greenhouse emissions of over 50,000 cars.	www.chicagotrees.net	
Environmental Benefits			
Provide shade and cool the urban environment.	A 20% increase in a city's urban forest canopy can reduce ambient temperatures by 3 – 4 degrees Celsius.	McPherson, 1993	
Reduce / delay stormwater peak flows and nutrient loads.	During large storm events large canopied trees can intercept 190 – 380 litres of rainfall each.		
	A 38% decline in the urban forest of Palm Beach county, Florida, between 2004 – 2006 resulted in an extra 3.78 billion litres of stormwater being treated.	The American Forests, 2007	
Reduce air-borne pollution and air-borne particles.	A New York study found that its urban forest removed 1,821 tonnes of air pollution at an estimate value to the community of \$9.3 million annually.	Nowak, 2002	

Conceptual plans for Talbragar Street were developed by Group GSA showing both median and side plantings to enhance the streetscape and provide additional shading to the area. A report was tabled at the infrastructure and Liveability Committee meeting on 9 November 2020 where it was resolved, in part, that:

- "1. That proposed tree planting inclusions, centre median installations and sculptural installations for Talbragar Street (between Macquarie Street and Darling streets) be placed on public exhibition for 28 days, enabling community feedback.
- 2. That following public exhibition, a subsequent report be submitted to Council comprising community feedback and recommendations."

The plans went on public exhibition from 9 December 2020 to 4 January 2021. Following representation from members of the Talbragar Street business community the public exhibition period was extended to close of business 15 January 2021.

The Talbragar Street beautification concept plans were first promoted by Photo News on 12 November 2020, following the Infrastructure and Liveability Committee meeting where it was resolved that the plans would go on public exhibition.

Due to a number of other significant projects that Council had on public exhibition the public exhibition of the Talbragar Street beautification proposal was postponed. The public exhibition period commenced 9 December 2020 with it appearing the Council Column and displayed on the Dubbo Regional Council website. Subsequent public notifications appeared in the Council Colum on the 16 and 23 December 2020. In addition, a half page story, including graphics, also appeared in the Daily Liberal on the 14 December 2020. The Photo News further promoted the proposal in their Council Snapshot on 24 December 2020.

A targeted letter drop to Talbragar Street businesses occurred on 7 January 2021 that was then followed up with a Mayoral media release on 8 January 2021.

Dubbo Regional Council received 67 submissions.

From a detailed review of the submissions it was determined that there was overall strong community support for the proposal of beautifying Talbragar Street through the planting of trees both in the shoulders of the road and a central median. Significant concerns were raised, predominately by the businesses that operate out of Talbragar Street about the loss of a projected 17-20 car parking spaces if the proposal went ahead. However the plans that were publicly exhibited were conceptual only. Significant design work would still be required to determine the actual number of car parks affected that is likely to be significantly less than those proposed.

REPORT

The Talbragar Street Beautification concept plan was placed on public exhibition from 9 December 2020 through to 4 January 2021 to seek feedback on the proposal of planting trees down the centre of the street and along the sides to enhance the streetscape and provide additional shading to the area. The extent of this plan was between Darling and Macquarie Street's, although it links to the adopted tree planting program in the lower end of Talbragar Street (Macquarie to Bligh streets). Following representation from members of the Talbragar Street business community the public exhibition period was extended to close of business 15 January 2021.

At the close of the public community exhibition period, Council had received 67 submissions.

In summary, the comments can be largely grouped in the following categories; Support for tree planting, concerns about car parking, the centre median; and other. Other includes concerns over the use of exotics over native tree species, concerns over the timing of the works, potential impacts over Starlings, concerns over the public exhibition etc.

Table 2. Breakdown of comments following public exhibition of the plans.

Support for beautification of Talbragar Street	Concerns about loss of carparking	Concerns about centre median	Other	Incomplete submissions
49	23	5	17	5

Note: the number of comments in the table above exceeds the number of submissions received.

Overall the submissions and comments received by the broader community were strongly supportive of the proposal to beautify Talbragar Street. Most of the concerns identified related to a potential loss of car parking spaces were received from businesses operating in Talbragar Street.

Submissions have been attached as **Appendix 1** and have been numbered in the top right hand corner of the page for convenience and cross referencing. The numbers in the section below relate to the submission number. (Note: submissions appear as they were received with no corrections). Where a submission contained both favourable and opposition inclined comments, these have extrapolated out; and recorded accordingly.

Comments

Support for beautification of Talbragar Street:

1. This proposal Manyana lot of sense. More environmentally friendly summer shade trees needed throughout Dubbo. One question though- will the autumn leaf shedding make the footpath slippery when wet?

Response:

Noted. Dubbo Regional Council has a street sweeping program that assists in the control of autumn leaf drop. This program would be extended to Talbragar Street.

2. The proposed plan would be a huge improvement on what is there now. I agree with the plan.

Response:

Noted.

4. I believe the current proposal contributes trees the damage to retailers is not sufficient. The beautification in Church street with parking down the centre, trees and parallel on the side is a great success for both customers, retailers, business owners, shade and tree use.

I would like current developers to reconsider this plan and strongly urge changes for better commercial and resident outcomes.

Response:

Noted. Research evidence supports that trees in retail spaces makes a significant contribution to the shopping experience, and to the economic activity of the area (Wolf K.L. 2014. City Trees and Consumer Response in Retail Business Districts).

As part of the Development Application process Dubbo Regional Council has processes in place to ensure that Developers contribute to the expansion of the urban forest through the application of tree planting Conditions in their consent.

- 5. I believe the trees in the middle of the street would be sufficient beautification and still maintain the very limited parking that exists now Has it been calculated the percentage of lost parking spots.
- 8. I am writing as a business in Talbragar Street, in response to the proposed tree planting plans. Whilst we are not opposed to trees being planted in the street, I think down the middle of the street will be sufficient. Particularly, as one of the species selected Zelkova serrata 'Wireless' grows to a height of 7 metres, with a canopy of 8 metres. Aside from blocking much of the existing shop signage in the street, there are many awnings which will capture leaf litter from the trees, and the trees themselves will require constant pruning so as not to damage the awnings. As we have seen previously with the existing trees, they attract birds and then issues are created with droppings on the branches, awnings and footpaths.

We respectfully request you reconsider planting the trees along the sides of the street and instead to only plant them down the center.

9. After studying the draft plans for the proposed beautification it seems that we will loss 18 car parks. Love the idea of beautification and shade and having the medium strip lined with trees I have no objection too. This will make it much safer for all. Having the trees taking away parking is my concern but knowing from previous experience with Macquarie St beautification, which had far more reaching impact to parking has not had that much of , I think that we will see more advantages than disadvantages with having a softer cool CBD than we currently have in the street.

Response to 5, 8 and 9.

The planting of trees within a central median only will provide an improvement to the aesthetics of the street scape, however the environmental benefits, including helping to reduce the heat island effect and improving shopper comfort will be greatly diminished.

The plans that were placed on public exhibition were conceptual only to help gauge the public's feeling towards beautifying Talbragar Street. Any impact on car parking has not yet been calculated. If this plan is progressed further investigations are required to determine site constraints to assist in determining the best locations for the trees. As part of these considerations reducing the negative impact to existing car parking would be factored into the final design.

10. Beautification of the street will be great. Great to see Dubbo catching up with other towns in NSW. Look at the Goulburn project and what was done in Casino a few years ago. There are always detractors before something like this gets going. After construction people will like it and then move onto the next thing.

Response:

Noted.

11. Plant trees like the attached. Casino, NSW, CBD.



Response:

Noted.

13. I have worked in Talbragar St for over 11 years. I love the idea of the trees along the street. It will make a huge difference to the temperature in Summer.

Response:

Noted: Trees have a proven positive impact in reducing the heat island effect be reducing the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces that is then re-reradiated out at night (eg: McPherson, 1993).

14. I'm all for more greenery/trees put into the main streets, if you could make the median strip look amazing with more trees and sculptures, I would love that,

Response:

Noted.

16. I love the concept of planting trees to provide shade especially in areas covered with asphalt. I trust that the council has more knowledge than me as to where to specifically plant them, so I trust your proposal, but in my opinion, given our climate, the more trees the better. Thankyou for your great work.

Response:

Noted.

17. All for the trees on the side for shade and beauty.

Response:

Noted.

18. Small business owner

Beautification would look lovely along the centre of Talbragar street

Response:

Noted.

19. Please find a submission from Dubbo Environment Group for the beautification plans of Talbragar, Bultje and Wingewarra Streets to Darling St. attached, with our thanks. Our group consists of 37 newsletter readers, over 220 social media followers and 17 financial members. (Mostly in favour – tree species would prefer natives).

Response:

Dubbo Regional Council chooses trees for streetscapes to achieve a number of objectives. The exotic trees in the plan are Zelkova serrata, or one of its varieties, to achieve solar access to the streets during the winter months and to provide seasonal variance. While we are trying to increase the comfort level of shoppers through summer by increasing the level of shade, we are also trying to avoid the creation of a cold, dank public space during the winter months. Australia, unfortunately has only a limited number of deciduous native trees available to choose from. None of the deciduous native trees, eg: Melia azedarach (white cedar) were considered appropriate. To achieve the required solar access objectives exotic trees are therefore substituted.

25. The idea of planting more trees anywhere in town is fabulous and should go ahead. The CBD looks pretty bare and trees will certainly enhance the aesthetic aspect of the town.

I even want the council to plant a forest on my 25 acres where I'm building a new house this year! (Not a joke, I really mean it if that's at all possible).

Response:

Noted. Unfortunately Council cannot plant trees on private property, however there may be external funding organisations that we can provide the resident information on that can assist her.

26. I fully support the Talbragar street beautification plan. Dubbo is a great place to live and work and more and more people are realising this. To attract more residents and tourists, appearance counts. Compared to other regional towns (eg; Wagga, Orange, Albury, Tammworth), there is a paucity of trees and it is noticeable. Greenery helps cool and makes people feels happy. Global warming is a reality and reducing our carbon footprint is essential. Car spaces only encourage more people to drive and is backward thinking. Time to step into the 21st century!

Response:

Noted. Scientific research supports the value of trees in mental health (eg: Maas et. al., 2009) and sequestering Carbon (www.chicagotrees.net).

27. I FULLY support this beautification plan. Dubbo desperately needs more trees. I was very disappointed at the loss of mature jacaranda trees along Fitzroy street.

Please continue to look at more options for planting more trees everywhere in Dubbo to help reduce urban heat, reduce sun exposure and to make a contribution to lessening our carbon footprint.

MORE TREES PLEASE.

Response:

Noted. The Jacarandas in Fitzroy Street were removed as part of the signalisation of the Cobra / Fitzroy streets as part of a RMS project. The RMS contributed \$250,000 for the replacement of mature Jacarandas that have been planted along the Fitzroy and Cobra Street frontages, within the boundary of Elston Park.

Scientific research supports the value of trees in reducing sun exposure (eg: Parsons et. al. 1998) and sequestering Carbon (eg: www.chicagotrees.net).

28. I live and work in Dubbo and shop on Talbragar St. I am strongly in favour of the beautification plan, as I firmly believe Dubbo needs more extensive planting of trees to reduce the urban heat island effect and protect our community members from sun and pollution. There is plenty of parking around the CBD, and if people have to walk an extra couple of minutes that is also a good thing given our extremely sedentary lifestyles and high rates of obesity. I believe trees will also improve the feel of the street and attract more people, which will offset the loss of car spots for retailers. Please plant more trees!!

Response:

Noted: Trees have a proven positive impact in reducing the heat island effect by reducing the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces that is then re-reradiated out at night (e.g.: McPherson, 1993).

Scientific research supports the value of trees in reducing sun exposure (Parsons et. al. 1998) and the removal of air-borne particulates (pollution), (e.g.: Nowak, 2002).

29. This needs to be fully supported however I would look into using the same trees as Macquarie St for Uniformity and Linden trees are preferred.

Response:

Noted. The trees in Macquarie Street (Celtis australis and C. occidentalis) are both attractive trees that produce a dense shade. However they are also proven to be highly suitable trees for Starlings to roost in. Council is proposing the Zelkova serrata due to a higher angle branch attachment that should help to discourage roosting Starlings.

- 31. I am fully supportive of this project and feel it is in the best interests with regard to further progress and growth of Dubbo as a regional centre.
- 32. Finally, bring Talbragar Street into the modern world. It is stale and looks like it is in a time warp from the 70's.

As we already know, Dubbo exists in a hot climate and climate science would indicate, it is only going to get hotter. We NEED more trees to alleviate these hot temperatures. We need tree canopy to keep our streets cooler and provide shade for the benefit of Dubbo's residents and vistors. Not only would the tree canopy be aesthetically pleasing, but also provide health benefits.

Macquarie Street is now a pleasant street to be in. The trees have matured and provide a canopy. I observe people meeting, sitting, talking and socially interacting because it is now comfortable. The trees have helped bring people back to the CBD to shop.

Unless one is under an awning in Talbragar street in the middle of summer, there is very little shade. There is a paving desert outside the General Post Office. The heat relfected off those pavers in summer is unbearable. I don't utlise that particular post office. The pear trees in boxed pavers are useless.

There is an argument car spaces will be lost. People look for a shadey tree to park their car under. There is plenty of parking adjacent to the railway line and other smaller car parks which all have easy access to Talbragar Street. It would be great to see tree plantings in the car park on the corner of Darling and Talbragar Street rather than just grasses. Again, more shade for people to park their cars under.

The first car spots to go in the car park at the intersection of Brisbane and Talbragar Streets is always under the Trees which are already in existence. (I know from years of experience.)

There is also argument there will be no break in the median strip which will give people easier access to shops. Baloney. Roundabouts help sort this issue out. 17 car spaces is a small sacrifice for the huge benefit these trees will provide. If people want to visit a shop, they will get there albeit parking out the front or a little way up the street.

I would love to see Dubbo become an inland City Oasis full of shade trees providing a cooling ambience and atmosphere, rather than the stale empty street Talbragar presents. I support the plan being offered.

Bring it on Dubbo Regional Council.

Response:

Noted: Scientific research supports the value of trees in reducing sun exposure (e.g.: Parsons et. al. 1998) and improving mental health. (e.g.: Maas et. al., 2009). Trees also have a proven positive impact in reducing the heat island effect be reducing the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces that is then re-reradiated out at night (e.g.: McPherson, 1993).

This beautification project supports Dubbo Regional Council goals of increasing the canopy cover of Dubbo, the expansion of the Green Web and the City Wide Park adopted plans.

33. Dubbo Buslines operate regular route service on Talbragar Street for Transport for NSW. We support the draft concept plan provided consideration has been given to allow sufficient room for buses to operate without risk of body damage from overhanging branches.

Response:

Noted. This will be considered if these plans are further developed.

34. Great for community, business and the general public. Very important to have street tree canopy

Response:

Noted.

36. I fully support the addition of trees to Talbragar St. It is in dire need of beautification and shade. Personally I do not feel that the loss of car spaces is an issue - I have never had an issue finding a park along there and there are plenty of alternatives nearby.

Response:

Noted.

38. I support additional trees being planted in Talbragar Street. This will assist with amenity and reducing solar impact.

Response:

Noted.

39. I would love to see street trees planted into Talbragar Street. Currently Macquarie st is a far more attractive shopping precinct and I would preferentially visit that street rather than Talbragar as a result of the heat and lack of shade on offer in Talbragar St. The loss of a small number of parking places would be more than compensated by an increase in amenity in the street. Currently parking is easy in Talbragar at almost all times of the year, the loss of a small number of car parks would be readily accommodated. If trees were planted and the proposed plan followed I would be far more likely to utilise both streets for shopping.

Response:

Research on the impact of the presence trees in retail areas show that shopper experience is enhanced, that people are willing to travel further for the experience and are willing to pay 9-12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (eg: Wolf, K.L. 2014).

40. In my opinion the Dubbo Regional Council has taken a positive step by planning further tree plantings under the 'Street Tree Priority Planting'.

Response:

Noted.

41. Re Beautification of Talbragar St

Sir

We are extremely disappointed to learn, via TV news, that the Mayor will recommend to Council that the views of storekeepers in Talbragar St re tree plantings and beautification be adopted rather than the more popular viewpoint of the general population.

Currently Talbragar St is totally devoid of any character and is a blight on our lovely city. It offers nothing to soften the harshness of a dry, lifeless streetscape. The addition of trees and some greenery would present a more attractive view for visitors and local shoppers.

Forgoing 20 car spaces is a small loss in the bigger picture of city beautification. We believe the greening up of this street would in fact attract more rather than less shoppers into a more welcoming environment.

Dubbo should be pulling out all stops to attract more shoppers and tourists to town and in particular the drab end of town, viz Talbragar Street.

Shopkeepers cannot expect drivers to gain a parking spot directly outside their premises every time, however, we as potential customers are more likely to shop in a green and visually attractive street than one that is hot, shadeless and totally unappealing. Other regional cities are doing their best to brighten up their cityscape, why can't we?

Our town planners have done a good job drawing up a credible design, let's see it implemented!

Response:

Noted.

42. I do agree that Talbragar St would benefit from some beautification but believe we can arrive at a better outcome without sacrificing car spaces.

Response:

Noted.

45. I think the opportunity of a street beautification is a wonderful idea. However, I would request that there be some modifications to the current proposal.

I am very much in favour of having trees planted along the centre of the road, contained within a median strip, however believe that we need to allow for easy pedestrian crossing areas.

Response:

Noted. At this early stage of the design phase it would be inappropriate and premature to claim that a particular number of car spaces will be lost. If the design progresses it will be necessary to identify and work around a number site constraints, including underground services, traffic and parking considerations etc. During this phase discussions with Traffic Engineers could take place to determine the feasibility / practicality of additional pedestrian crossing points. At present three (3) pedestrian crossing points already exist.

In addition the manner in which Council now plant trees in streets helps to minimise the impact to parking. This is achieved through the use of underground vaults, with only a relatively small surface area being impacted; and the opportunity to re-position car parking spaces, with relevant line marking.

46. According to this Beautification project, I provide some idea to improve the quality of Talbragar Street as one of the main urban streets in Dubbo. Please find the attached PDF

I would like to hear from you about this draft that I provided for you.

hope it is helpful to our city.

Response:

Noted and thank you for the plans.

48. The Talbragar Street Tree Beautification Project, tree planting proposal will vastly improve the public amenity in this historic commercial street in Dubbo's CBD. Implementation of this proposal will improve summer temperatures and enhance the aesthetic appeal for shoppers and visitors alike.

The objections of some retailers is self-interested and short-sighted in my opinion. The proposal as it stands will enhance the probability of shoppers lingering to enjoy the improved amenity, thereby increasing the opportunity of retailers to sell. The old-school notion of only shopping at places at which we can park in front is outdated. If that idea worked, every store at Orana Mall would be in the car park!

Some of the best shopping experiences in the world are in car-less precincts.

This proposal pre-empts more plaza style civic spaces for Dubbo City, where sections have no parking, where shoppers and commuters use low impact public transport, cycling and walking.

Response:

Research on the impact of the presence trees in retail areas show that shopper experience is enhanced, that people are willing to travel further for the experience and are willing to pay 9 -12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (e.g.: Wolf, K.L. 2014).

49. I am a young person who was born and raised in Dubbo. I intend to make Dubbo my future home.

I am supportive of Dubbo Regional Council's plans for the beautification of Talbragar Street.

Dubbo needs more trees in its urban landscape for the comfort of it's residents and street appeal.

Response:

Noted.

51. Thank you for considering the planting of trees in the CBD. The lack of tree cover in the streets is a huge concern in a town which gets very hot in summer. Whilst some businesses are concerned about losing a few parking spots, there is more than enough parking in and around talbragar st. The addition of trees to the streetscape would be a welcome upgrade. I hope that council has the fortitude to proceed despite the objections of shortsighted business owners.

Response:

Research on the impact of the presence trees in retail areas show that shopper experience is enhanced, that people are willing to travel further for the experience and are willing to pay 9-12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (e.g.: Wolf, K.L. 2014).

52. I support the beautification proposal.

Response:

Noted.

53. Hi there

thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding the beautification of Talbragar Street

I am 100% behind councils plan to plant trees in the street and work towards making it a more well presented place in our town

right now its bland with "no life" about it and the current garden beds including the roundabout arent either friendly or well taken care of and it lets down the street

planting trees and maintaining the green spaces will make it way more appealing to me and will encourage me to spend more time and money in the area there

also for me caring for our environment it helps instill trust and love in our council that you want to move into respecting Mother more and taking care of replanting trees - they are so much needed - way more than people acknowledge or respect.

Response:

Noted. Research on the impact of the presence trees in retail areas show that shopper experience is enhanced, that people are willing to travel further for the experience and are willing to pay 9 -12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (eg: Wolf, K.L. 2014).

53. I am all for the beautification of Talbragar st as there are parks that are an absolute eye sore but there is other things that are more important that need attention first in Talbragar st. Carparking should be the number 1 priority for the CBD.

Response:

Noted. At this early stage of the design phase it would be inappropriate and premature to claim that a particular number of car spaces will be lost. If the design progresses it will be necessary to identify and work around a number site constraints, including underground services, traffic and parking considerations etc.

In addition the manner in which Council now plant trees in streets helps to minimise the impact to parking. This is achieved through the use of underground vaults, with only a relatively small surface area impacting and the opportunity to re-position car parking spaces through linemarking.

54. Re Talbragar Street Beautification:

I support and welcome this proposal.

In addition I also support an additional multi-level car-park on the vacant service station site on the corner of Talbragar and Darling Sts.(to address any parking shortfall).

I am regular visitor to and strong supporter of Dubbo (having being born in Dubbo and grown up in the western region of NSW).

Beautification of Talbragar St is urgently required to increase its appeal and sense of destination in its own right.

Such development will increase its appeal and increase foot traffic (and potentially more shoppers). It's current environment is not appealing as too hot and bland.

To provide shade, colour and appeal especially through the summer is a wonderful idea to transform this area worthy of a regional shopping and destination hub.

To delay further misses an opportunity to modernise and green our city as is required.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Response:

Noted. Mayor of Dubbo Region has written to Member of Dubbo, Dugald Saunders requesting support to create additional CBD car parking.

Scientific research supports the value of trees in reducing sun exposure (eg: Parsons et. al. 1998) and improving mental health. (eg: Maas et. al., 2009). Trees also have a proven positive impact in reducing the heat island effect be reducing the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces that is then re-reradiated out at night (eg: McPherson, 1993).

Research on the impact of the presence trees in retail areas show that shopper experience is enhanced, that people are willing to travel further for the experience and are willing to pay 9 -12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (eg: Wolf, K.L. 2014).

55. Do it, trees rock.

Response:

Noted.

56. While the shade from tress is appreciated and creates welcome relief on our hotter days and provides a nicer aesthetic look, they do also block vital signage to commercial businesses if they are not pruned and maintained effectively which has long been an issue in Macquarie Street. We are not suggesting there be no additional trees at all but maybe significantly less then the current plans proposes.

Response:

Noted. The plans that were placed on public exhibition were conceptual only, to help gauge public sentiment towards beautifying Talbragar Street. If the design progresses it will be necessary to identify and work around a number site constraints, including underground services, traffic and parking considerations. This may reduce the number of trees within the streetscape, especially the side plantings. However, it will be nearly impossible not to have a level of impact to business signage.

57. I support the plans for trees in Talbtagar st. It's a hot street with little street appeal, trees will make it cooler and attractive to people. This may attract new business. In summer there are no problems getting car parks, its too hot. Cars and shoppers are in the shaded shopping areas.

However I respect the business owners view about parking.

A compromise may be to put trees down the middle of the road, which will shade the southern part of the street.

I would like to see council progress at least with this compromise, if not the plan in its entirety.

We are planting for the next 20 to 50 years, Dubbo will become hotter due to climate change. We need more canopy cover.

Response:

Noted. The planting of trees within a central median only will provide an improvement to the aesthetics of the street scape, however the environmental benefits, including helping to reduce the heat island effect and improving shopper comfort will be greatly diminished.

If this plan to beautify Talbragar Street continues Dubbo Regional Council will attempt to minimise any negative impacts to car parking within the street.

58. I am heartened by the fact Council is seeking to upgrade this precinct. It is a harsh urban zone that needs softening to help make Dubbo a more attractive city. Landscaping will address visual issues as well as environmental ones, particularly the ever increasing heat islands caused by the built environment. I also wholeheartedly support the inclusion of public art to strengthen the cultural fabric of the town.

Response:

Noted: Trees also have a proven positive impact in reducing the heat island effect by reducing the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces that is then re-reradiated out at night. A 20% increase in a city's urban forest canopy can reduce ambient temperatures by 3 – 4 degrees Celsius (eg: McPherson, 1993).

59. I support the planting of extra trees as illustrated in Talbragar Street beautification plans.

Response:

Noted.

- 61. I very much hope DRC goes ahead with this plan as it is for the following reasons.
 - 1. Talbragar St is way overdue for a facelift. It is hot, stark, boring and the streetscape detracts from the lovely businesses along it.
 - 2. We live in one of the hottest inland cities in Australia and as such we very much need every bit of green we can get.
 - 3. Summers are becoming hotter, so our streets must reflect the need for added shade. There is a lot of evidence to support how much trees reduce the ambient temperature in a street.

Today I had reason to meet someone in Talbragar St. Where did I wait? I sat on one of the seats under the lovely shade tree on the corner of Carrington Ave. Yes I know these trees are not considered a desirable species, but they make this end of the street.

- 4. Added disabled parking and shaded seating will make Talbragar St a much more attractive place to browse and shop.
- 5. I have confidence council staff can accommodate the concerns of some business owners without detracting from this plan.

Response:

A 20% increase in a city's urban forest canopy can reduce ambient temperatures by 3 – 4 degrees Celsius (e.g.: McPherson, 1993). If this plan progresses consideration can be given to additional disabled car parking and seating.

62. Some retailers might not want trees as it will take up car spaces. Think outside the box. Plant trees down the middle of the road and have planter box structures on the pavement. Redeveloped the old petrol station to create more car spaces. People outside of Dubbo mock our lack of trees. Trees make a place much more inviting and attract tourists!! Places like Armidale and Orange leave Dubbo for dead. It is hard to imagine a place as hot as Dubbo that has as few a trees.

Response:

Noted. Mayor of Dubbo Region has written to Member of Dubbo Dugald Saunders requesting support in the creation of additional CBD car parking.

Dubbo Regional Council is currently undertaking additional tree planting projects throughout Dubbo in an effort to increase of tree canopy cover. This includes a project about to commence on the western end of Talbagar, Bultje and Wingewarra streets. Council was successful in securing \$40,000 towards this project, with additional funds being contributed by Council.

63. To whom it may concern,

I have reviewed the plans for the proposed tree planting and beautification of Talbragar Street and the CBD. I fully support these plans for the tree planting to go ahead.

I have lived in Dubbo for over 30 years, and I am disappointed with the lack of trees we have. Dubbo gets so hot and we need the trees to cool our areas down, as well as to look more appealing.

I have never had an issue with finding car parking in Talbragar Street, and I don't believe that planting the trees as proposed with detrimentally affect car parking on Talbragar Street. In fact, I personally think that by creating shady car parking spaces will entice more people to park.their cars in the street, thereby bringing more customers to the shops along Talbragar Street.

Please go ahead with planting the proposed trees, and once this project is completed, please continue to plant more trees around Dubbo.

Response:

Noted.

64. (typed in). As a lifetime resident of Dubbo I have been grateful for the work of Parks and Gardens staff. It adds to our quality of life as we move around the city.

Generally speaking I like the proposed plans for the Talbarager St beautification. Two things come to mind though. Could the centre of the road planting of the trees be done like Brisbane Street? That is with the concrete surrounds to keep it more open?

The days of parking outside the shop of your choice are long gone. Whether we are able bodied or have difficulty walking, we all need regular & safe walking for our well being. The advantages outweigh any disadvantages.

Has DRC considered a multistorey or park opposite Ollie Robbins Oval as part of the existing carpark. It would be a site with less polluted air & conjested (sic) traffic. It would still be centrally located, without clashing with heritage buildings. (The "Hanging Gardens of Bligh St."

I hope your vision for a more user friendly Talbragar Street will be possible. Many shopping areas around Australia have been successfully beautified. Some roads even closed to general traffic & made into a people friendly mall. This has been enhanced for all involved.

Response:

Noted. The Brisbane Street central planting was Stage 1 of a longer term plan to recrown (lower) the street. In the longer term, and as part of the final works on this street, a central median is proposed.

Dubbo Regional Council has not currently investigated developing a multi-storey carpark opposite Ollie Robbins Oval. This could be a future consideration.

66. I support this project and hope Council installs lots of trees and sculptures. The building's awnings don't entirely protect pedestrians from the sun, so providing trees to reduce the ambient temperature would be greatly welcomed.

People might be encouraged to walk/ride into the CBD more if the temperature is reduced. There is still plenty of parking in the surrounding streets, so a small loss of spaces would be far outweighed by the shading and amenity improvements.

<u>Response</u>

Noted.

67. We encourage the addition of more street trees in Dubbo as the 'cooling effect' of vegetation in urban areas is significant. This is an ever increasing factor in many other centres throughout Australia and the world especially in relation to our warming and drier climates. We encourage Council to pursue this action throughout Dubbo.

Response:

Noted: Trees also have a proven positive impact in reducing the heat island effect by reducing the amount of heat absorbed by hard surfaces that is then re-reradiated out at night. A 20% increase in a city's urban forest canopy can reduce ambient temperatures by 3 – 4 degrees Celsius (e.g.: McPherson, 1993).

Loss of carparking:

3. I object to the loss of car parking spaces.

- 4. Retail and businesses are doing things tough, we do not need anything prohibiting easy parking and access to ALL businesses. Centre parking with trees allows entry from both directions.
- 5. Talbragar st can not afford to lose parking places to trees. People already struggle to find parking when visiting businesses in the street. Has it been calculated the percentage of lost parking spots.

I thought that if a bussiness puts a development application to you the council there is a requirement for a certain number of parking places. Yet your development has no requirement to look at the number of parking spaces. Our business often gets elderly people that have to park quite a long way away and then complain to us about the lack of parking in the street. I strongly appose this beautification project as propose and would like mor consideration given to parking.

- 6. I am absolutely GOB SMACKED that Council is considering planting trees in car parking spaces. The single biggest complaint I have from my customers is that they can't find parking in Talbragar Street. So they go elsewhere to shop. Do you have any idea of the consequences of these decisions? How can you be so clueless and even consider removing PARKING SPOTS at any time let alone when bricks & mortar businesses are fighting to survive against the might of online competition. Council needs to decide, DO YOU WANT A THRIVING CBD or to be in charge of a GHOST TOWN? Honestly, I am so SICK OF COMPLAINING ABOUT THE LACK OF PARKING. Please rethink the strategy. I suggest only planting down the centre median strip and LEAVE OUR PARKING SPOTS AS THEY ARE. Please don't go to war with Talbragar Street businesses because we are going to start a HUGE FIGHT ON THIS ONE!
- 7. On behalf of the directors of property owner we advise that we object to the beautification if allowances can not be made for parking. Currently whilst owning 5 off street parks we find it difficult for our clients to find parking to attend our office. We are happy that council identifies the need to beautify the street however it can not be done at the sacrifice of losing car spaces. We welcome further communication regarding the concept and council's suggestion for increasing car parks in nearby locations.
- 9. After studying the draft plans for the proposed beautification it seems that we will loss 18 car parks.

12. I strongly oppose to this so called beautification of Talbragar St, as our main complaint from customers already is it is so hard to find parking let alone taking out another 6 parks to replace with trees, especially when directly out the front of my shop is a proposed tree to be installed less then 5 meters from an existing tree. Then in the centre of the street, how are people supposed to cross the road?, by cutting through the new gardens. That's Ok if your young but a majority of my customers are elderly and struggle to park to far away as it is. Also eliminating any sunshine that warms our shop in the winter months. This is all without mentioning the leaves and mess these will make that ultimately will make it into the shops for more cleaning. Are you trying to drive businesses out of the street?

Needless to say I am against this project.

- 13. However, lack of parking is already an issue. I strongly agree with turning the old servo into car parking. I've been saying it for years. It's an eyesore!
- 14. but maybe leave the sides as just carparks as you can never find a carpark as is. Very supportive of new initiatives to create new carpark spaces.
- 18. BUT please DO NOT remove or replace car parking spaces due to already limited parking
- 29. I disagree with the Mayors suggestion of creating more car parking on the corner of Talbragar and Darling and that parking should be found behind the main streets. The corner of Talbragar and Darling should be investigated to be beautified into a nicer precinct as a gateway from the railway to our city especially in the event of Fast Rail upgrades. Perhaps a multilevel carpark could be done behind the library or the parking along the Railway line looked at to introduce more spaces.
- 30. I'm not in favor of the the current plans, as a business owner i can only see it would impact on the current or lack of parking we have in street. If Council can accurately provide the current number of parking spaces before & after, this may change my mind.
- 37. As a business operator in Talbragar Street since 2018 I am opposed to the current proposal for the following reasons:-
 - 1. The imaging appears to reduce the available car parking on Talbragar Street. There is already very limited parking on the street at this end of town. Many of the Talbragar Street businesses do not have parking behind their premises meaning all staff need to find alternate parking to free up as much street parking as possible. If the car parks are reduced customers may choose to shop elsewhere. There is no off street parking on Talbragar Street available to customers at present.

- 3. The placement of trees on the edges of the street will obscure and/or damage (birds) the shop signages that they are planted in front of. Business have spent funds on signage to promote their businesses and to improve the look of their premises. There is a risk a business could be disadvantaged against same industry competitors on Talbragar Street if one business has its signage obscured and the other does not. If business signage can no longer be seen from all approaches due to tree coverage, will the business owner be compensated for the financial loss incurred from wasted signage, the loss of business, and possibly the devaluing of their commercial property?
- 42. I do agree that Talbragar St would benefit from some beautification but believe we can arrive at a better outcome without sacrificing car spaces.
- 43. I am writing in response to the Talbragar Street Tree Beautification Project proposed to business owners in Talbragar Street, dated 7 January 2021.

As the business owner of parking, I would like to strongly object to the loss of any car parking in Talbragar Street. Currently, our customers all ready struggle to park in Talbragar Street, especially during peak times and when there are various events at either the Aquatic Leisure Centre or DRTCC.

I would prefer to see the funding for the beautification of Talbragar Street go towards developing more car parking for employees of businesses in Talbragar Street.

- 45. Kerbside Trees I, like most other traders in the street, will be against the concept of large trees being planted in front of their premises. Most businesses spend an enormous amount of money on their business branding and signage, and I personally do not wish to have a large tree covering our shopfront.
 - Car Parking I request that further investigations be made to other options that allow for the loss of less car parks. I appreciate that there will be some losses in the parking spaces, however simply request that this be minimised.
- 47. I live out of town and only go to Dubbo on a Friday. I arrive around 11am or 12noon. I often find it very difficult to get a parking spot in Talbragar Street and have to drive 2 or 3 times around the block. Taking away parking spaces would make it even worse. There are a few places where people park for long periods in both Talbragar and Brisbane Streets.

I have no problem with people going to hotels for lunch BUT they should go and park somewhere else. People don't usually take an hour visiting other businesses on Talbragar Street. I have read that some say it is too hot in the cars in the summer but what guarantee do they have that they will be able to park on the eastern side of a tree. There must be better ways to beautify the street without taking away parking spaces. Why not hang colourful banners off the lights. There are some beautiful indigenous designs but PLEASE leave the parking spaces as they are.

- 50. I'm against this taking away parking in an area that is already hard to get a park would not be beneficial
- 53. I am all for the beautification of Talbragar st as there are parks that are an absolute eye sore but there is other things that are more important that need attention first in Talbragar st. Carparking should be the number 1 priority for the CBD.
- 56. There also appears to be a loss of car spaces when a growing and developing CBD actually requires more car spaces.
- 58. I appreciate there would be strong pushback from business owners. Parking is obviously a major factor, and one that is only going to get worse as Dubbo continues to grow.

There is no easy solution to the parking issue, however the area of land to the NE corner of the Brisbane and Talbragar Street intersection could well be an ideal area for something multi storey that would be designed to meet future parking demands for the city. The upper levels of the car park could extend north over the railway line (air rights development), providing further parking for both sides of the track and effectively joining up the currently severed Brisbane Street, albeit from an elevated level within the carpark. This would support the ample parking on the western end of the precinct, under the railway line near the Visitor Information Centre.

Perhaps business owners would be more willing to get on board with the Beautification of Dubbo CBD scheme if projects to address long term parking were also being developed and promoted in conjunction.

Multi level carparks can be attractive as well, with the right design!

60. As an owner of commercial properties in Talbragar Street.I ask that the Dubbo Regional Council give serious consideration on building a multi-storey car Park for the street.

Talbragar Street doesn't have the luxury of BLIGHT Street to help carry the workers car parking.

There are people that are parking in the parking area near the railway line that work in Brisbane /Carrington Ave. as there is reduced parking [and have time restrictions in place]

There should be no parking fees applied to this area.

I have no objection to the beautification of the street but you can't take car parking spaces away from a retail area that relies on people that come in from the smaller towns to shop.

The businesses in Talbragar Street are businesses that need to keep the car spaces either by removing the workers cars from the streets [into a multi car parking station]

66. 1. When the Mayoral minute was adopted in February 2019 to proceed with the investigation for beautification of the street, was it considered by Council staff or Councillors as to the likely acceptance by, or the impact on the traders within the street. When the plan produced a potential loss of 17/20 car parks, was there a stress test applied to a selection of business, in the street to determine if there were threats which may weaken the strength of some businesses. So, whilst I understand this project was proposed in good faith, the key impacting components have potential in the longer term, to reduce turnover and business profit, and cause job losses.

Response to 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 18, 29, 30, 37, 42, 43, 45, 47, 50, 53, 56, 58, 60 and 66

The plans, as currently developed, are conceptual only, designed to provide the community an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal to beautify Talbragar Street, enabling further development and refinement of the plans. They are not intended to be taken as final construction / installation plans.

There is significant research about the benefits that trees provide to the urban environment, and these are identified in Table 1. These benefits include Environmental, Community / Individual and Economic benefits that build significantly over time.

At this early stage of the design phase it would be inappropriate and premature to claim that a specific quantity of car spaces will be lost. If the design progresses it will be necessary to identify and work around a number of site constraints, including underground services, traffic and parking considerations etc.

Additionally, the manner in which Council now plant trees in streets helps to minimise the impact to parking. This is achieved through the use of underground vaults, with only a relatively small surface area impacting vehicles (e.g.: south side of Wingewarra Street and east of Darling Street), and the opportunity to re-position car parking spaces through line marking. Through these measures a tree site does not necessarily take up a full car space and it is therefore unlikely that there will be a loss of 17-20 car parking spaces. However, until further investigations and design is carried out it is difficult to provide a definitive answer.

The Mayor has previously written to the Member for Dubbo Dugald Saunders in relation to improving CBD parking.

Dubbo Regional Council chooses trees for streetscapes to achieve a number of objectives. The exotic trees in the plan are Zelkova serrata, or one of its varieties, to achieve solar access to the streets during the winter months and to provide seasonal variance. By using deciduous trees for the side plantings we are allowing sunshine into the shops and avoiding the creation of a cold, dank public space during the winter months.

.....

Centre Median

- 17. The centre median is a bad idea. At the moment congestion is eased because cars can pull off into the side lane. Inserting the median would increase traffic in already a congested CBD.
- 37. 2. A continuous median strip or even a divided median strip installed as proposed will increase the congestion from Talbragar St into Macquarie St tenfold. The congestion from Brisbane Street to Macquarie Street is already significant due to the delays on Macquarie Street while cars park and reverse in the single lane of traffic .You can wait for upwards of 15 mins to get onto Macquarie St from Talbragar. This will discourage people from driving down Talbragar St to access businesses. We have an additional lane on the south side now, which assists. The median strip will take this away. Not all customers can walk long distances to access this street.
- 45. Median Strip I request that the proposed median strip be modified to allow for regular pedestrian refugees. I am very much in favour of having trees planted along the centre of the road, contained within a median strip, however believe that we need to allow for easy pedestrian crossing areas.
- 56. I write as the Principal at

We act on behalf of 10 different property owners in managing their assets in the Talbragar Street blocks in which the proposed beautification is planned.

From our extensive experience and observations of the slow traffic flow in Macquarie Street over many years now, we believe the amount of trees planned and the installation of an unbroken median strip will have the detrimental effect of slowing traffic through Talbragar Street to a similar crawl much of the time as currently occurs in Macquarie Street.

The median strip limits the ability to park on either side of the street or to pass vehicles that are waiting to park, thus causing similar congestion as regularly seen in Macquarie Street. This congestion and slowing of traffic in Talbragar Street will in our view cause shoppers and others to avoid the street if it is often congested and therefore impacting on businesses that might otherwise had those shoppers parking close to or nearby to their outlets.

60. The traffic flow in street has improved since the round about at Brisbane and Talbragar Street.

The flow needs to remain and putting a medium strip in the centre of the road could have the same issue that Macquarie Street has where the through traffic is held up when someone is parking or reversing out of the park.

Response to 17, 37, 45, 56 and 60

Noted: As the plans that were placed on public exhibition were conceptual only to help gauge public sentiment towards beautifying Talbragar Street, any impact on the centre median has not been fully calculated. If this plan is progressed, further investigations are required to determine site constraints and the best location of the trees to minimise any negative impact to traffic flow.

The comments regarding traffic being held up by reversing or parking vehicles is noted. However a similar issue arises when drivers hold up traffic to cross the line of traffic to park on the opposite side. The inclusion of a median strip, similar to Macquarie Street, would eliminate this cause of traffic delay and potentially improve the flow of traffic along Talbragar Street.

During this phase discussions with Traffic Engineers could take place to determine the feasibility / practicality of additional pedestrian crossing points. At present three (3) pedestrian crossing points already exist.

Other

- 37. 3. The placement of trees on the edges of the street will obscure and/or damage (birds) the shop signages that they are planted in front of. Business have spent funds on signage to promote their businesses and to improve the look of their premises. There is a risk a business could be disadvantaged against same industry competitors on Talbragar Street if one business has its signage obscured and the other does not. If business signage can no longer be seen from all approaches due to tree coverage, will the business owner be compensated for the financial loss incurred from wasted signage, the loss of business, and possibly the devaluing of their commercial property?
 - 5. Talbragar Street businesses on the southern side already struggle with regular poor behaviour and malicious damage from pub goers walking between pubs. The planting of trees next to our awnings may give drunken people access to our upstairs areas (via tree climbing onto an awning) and then into our premises.

The proposal in its current form appears to prioritise beautification over practicality, damage and loss of income for those of us attempting to run businesses in the CBD of Dubbo.

Thank you for your consideration.

Response:

Noted. The comments about the potential impact to a business's promotional signage is noted. However there is also research that has been carried out that highlights the presence of trees in retail areas enhancing shopper experience; that people are willing to travel further for the experience; and are willing to pay 9 -12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (eg: Wolf, K.L. 2014). Shoppers are usually aware of where shops are that they want to visit, or can easily locate them through personal technology. Shops located in malls are a good example of this awareness or ability to locate shops they wish to visit.

The timing of any works associated with the proposed beautification plan has not been established. However the road pavement of Talbragar Street is failing and it would be appropriate to time any tree planting works with these restorative works. These works are also not currently scheduled but will need to be done in the immediate future.

Comments about antisocial behaviour are noted. However, increasing the number of people in an area often discourages poor behaviour amongst others. It is envisaged that the location of the trees, if adopted, will be further away from building then in Macquarie Street making it unlikely that they can be used as access points.

38. The text of the proposal and plans are inconsistent - the plans do not show any Angophoras being planted, only Elms.

As stated on similar proposals, I worry about the impact of deciduous leaf drop on the water quality of the Macquarie River as it has been demonstrated that autumn leaf drop is damaging to river biota. It would be ideal if these leaves could be controlled prior to reaching stormwater, or within the stormwater system itself.

67. The text says 'nine new *Zelkova serrata "Wireless" trees* planted on either side of the streetscape (four to the north and five to the south), and eight *Angophora floribunda* trees included in a new centre median', however the plan only shows Zelkova as far as we can determine.

The proliferation of the loss of leaves in autumn cause an eyesore in Macquarie St already and should not be extended into Talbragar. These leaves are also swept into the Macquarie River during run-off events and contribute to pollution of the River, and impact on the river environment.

Response:

The plans as shown are conceptual only, and the change to Angophora for the centre planting wasn't reflected in the concept designs as exhibited.

As part of the design and placement of the tree pits, space is made available for the street sweeper to assist in reducing leaf loading to the river.

42. We have recently installed an automatic gate and new fence on Brisbane St which opens at 10am (same as the hotel) because many days there were no spaces for our patrons because local shoppers and, in particular, the courthouse would fill our car park.

As Dubbo continues to grow, I believe there is a need for more car spaces (not fewer) and other options, such as a multi level carpark next to the pawn brokers, should be explored.

The reversing/ merging lane in Talbragar St is also important to maintain if possible. This greatly assists with traffic flow, particularly during peak hours and the Christmas period where cars are already banked up to the police station.

Response:

Noted.

44. It looks nice i just have 1 concern and that the fact that we have quite a number of drivers in dubbo who will wait for someone to come out of a park and back the whole main st up. This will only be made worse by bottle necking talbrigar st as well. My uncle was an paramedic and said it's a nightmare for 000 services as is so I don't know what the solution to that is.

Response:

Noted.

- 15. Instead of trees, providing haven for noxious birds, aka Macquarie Street, provide wide streetscape, extra parking and extra disabled parking and access to the footpath for wheelchairs. Do not bottleneck traffic or reduce parking.
- 38. I assume someone has checked whether introduced Starlings, which are not being controlled, will utilise the proposed elms and create additional problems as per other exotic street trees.
- 45. Trees I request that further investigations be placed into the variety of trees that are planted. The trees in the Macquarie Street beautification attract feral birds and make a mess along the footpaths. I understand that DRC have proposed the use of two alternative species.

Response to 15, 38 and 45:

Dubbo Regional Council engaged Charles Sturt University to undertake a study on Starlings within the Dubbo CBD. As part of the study it was identified that Starlings are an extremely adaptable bird and will potentially roost in nearly all species of trees. The trees that were identified as poor roosting trees were open canopied trees such as

Eucalyptus leucoxlon (Yellow Gum). These are not considered an appropriate species in this location. Further investigation of the deciduous tree species used in this, and other CBD streetscapes, are ongoing. Zelkova serrata "Green Vase" is looking promising as a species that limits Starlings due to the angle of branch attachment – compared to other species.

45. Traffic Flow - I believe that Dawson Wilkie's model used in Macquarie Street does not enable traffic to continue to flow smoothly. Dawson's plan was that there was to be enough room to be able to back a vehicle from the carpark without altering the flow of the traffic. This is not the case.

This is certainly the circumstance on the Southern side of Talbragar Street presently, however is difficult to reverse from a carpark on the northern side of Talbragar Street.

May I suggest that you also consult the Police Department also. Basically any emergency vehicle that departs from the police station either heading north, east or west - all travel along Talbragar Street - generally at a heightened level of pace. The police will require that they have fast and uninterrupted access to areas of Dubbo.

Time - The Macquarie Street beautification crippled businesses in the CBD whilst the renovations took place. What road works will be required, what electrical, drainage and plumbing works will be required, and at what time do you wish to do the works?

Response:

Noted. Further discussions with Traffic Engineers will be conducted to help assess the impact to the traffic flow, including emergency services.

The timing of any works associated with the proposed beautification plan has not been established. However the road pavement of Talbragar Street is failing and it would be appropriate to time any tree planting works with restorative works. These works are also not currently scheduled but will need to be done in the immediate future. However, during the beautification works that took place back in the 1990s many of the services have already been lowered or relocated meaning that the time to undertake both the reconstruction of the street pavement and the beautification works can be kept to a minimum.

35. Dubbo Regional Council's obsession with using exotic tree species for street plantings is completely inappropriate. We have so many great native species (both locally and from other locations) that we should be encouraged to plant them. Drought resistance, low maintenance trees should be used. Shade is so important in urban locations to reduce overall

Use natives!

40. I do not consider trees non-endemic to the immediate region a suitable choice and I understand that they have been chosen to be 'consistent' with plantings already completed-the question I would ask is 'why do tree plantings have to be the same throughout the CBD'?

Surely a variety of species is able to provide a more interesting streetscape!

My preference would be for planting trees endemic to the immediate region and by so doing emphasise the unique environment of our Dubbo region.

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments.

- 47. Not only that but the trees that are suggested, when I did some research are completely wrong. Don't the Councillors remember what happened when they had deciduous trees in Macquarie Street? and the other type of tree suggested are like gums and we, who live in the bush, know what they do, shed branches. Is the Council prepared to pay for hospital costs if people fall over and are they prepared to pay for damage to cars from fallen branches. Doubt it.
- 48. The only improvement I can suggest for this proposal is to use Mugga Ironbarks as a signature local species. See:

http://mywalkaboutplants.com/eucalyptus-sideroxylon/

67. We however question the appropriateness of the species planned for Talbragar Street — Zelkova serrata. From our research this species is totally unsuitable for Dubbo in terms of the climate, and placing these in an area of extreme heat potential extreme ie a bitumen street. There are so many small, drought resistant Callistemon and Melaleuca (and other species) that can be used in these situations. (C. viminalis and M. linariifolia spring to mind). With crown raising they would be very suitable. Why couldn't Angophora be used more extensively?

In terms of the ongoing inclusion of non-native species to the Dubbo urban area, it continues to cause severe problems to the Dubbo Rivercare Group as they contribute to the exotic volunteer species along the Macquarie River — the Celtis planted in Dubbo streets is one of our major weed species that we have to deal with.

We wish to encourage Council to consider more appropriate tree plantings throughout the council area including the Central Business District. It should also consider the impact of climate change that should form part of a larger portfolio of adaptation and clever design for our city to become more climate ready. Ideally the development of a plant list to recommend appropriate species for both Council lands, the public, developers and businesses to guide this would be most useful.

We have seen a number of instances where trees and shrubs have been planted in areas and subsequently failed due to our environment. This would be an ongoing cost to Council and other developments let alone the opportunity that is lost to dealing with the heat effects of our urban area. Likewise, this summer is not the norm and to continue to consider species more suitable for cooler climates is very short sighted.

Response to 35, 37, 47, 48 and 67

Dubbo Regional Council chooses trees for streetscapes to achieve a number of objectives. The exotic trees in the plan are Zelkova serrata, or one of its varieties, to achieve solar access to the streets during the winter months and to provide seasonal variance. While we are trying to increase the comfort level of shoppers through summer by increasing the level of shade, we are also trying to avoid the creation of a cold, dank public space during the winter months. Australia, unfortunately has only a limited number of deciduous native trees available to choose from. None of the deciduous native trees, eg: Melia azedarach (white cedar) were considered appropriate. To achieve the required solar access objectives exotic trees are therefore substituted.

The Zelkova is a tough, hardy plant that will survive in this environment, as it is in Wingewarra and Bultje streets especially with the Stockholm Method that provides vastly improved growing conditions through the use of underground vaults and biochar. The research indicates that it is not a profilic seeder.

- 37. 4. I have significant concerns about potential road closure and disruption to customer and staff access throughout the implementation of this project, all of which is unclear. It is currently a very difficult time to be in Business in Dubbo. We are recovering from 3 years of drought with a year of COVID following. I am very concerned that there will be months of road works and interference (both noise and access) while this project is undertaken.
- 56. We are also mindful that following a prolonged drought of several years followed by the COVID pandemic in 2020 and now continuing in 2021 that retailers and business owners will encounter unwanted further disruption and most likely reduced sales turnover if substantial and lengthy beautification works are to be undertaken at some point in the not to distant future.

Response to 37 and 56.

Noted. Dubbo Regional Council are conscious of the recent issues affecting our community. The timing of any works associated with the proposed beautification plan has not been established. However the road pavement of Talbragar Street is starting to fail and it would be appropriate to time any tree planting works with these restorative works. These works are also not currently scheduled but will need to be done in the relatively near future.

- 66. I wish to make a submission and thank Council for the opportunity.

 DECLARATIONS
 - 1. I am a member of Talbragar St traders' group which has made a submission.
 - 2. I do not own directly or beneficially any property in Talbragar St or Dubbo CBD.

I would like to direct my comments around the human side of the proposal, and not focus on the content included in other submissions.

- 1. When the Mayoral minute was adopted in February 2019 to proceed with the investigation for beautification of the street, was it considered by Council staff or Councillors as to the likely acceptance by, or the impact on the traders within the street. When the plan produced a potential loss of 17/20 car parks, was there a stress test applied to a selection of business, in the street to determine if there were threats which may weaken the strength of some businesses. So, whilst I understand this project was proposed in good faith, the key impacting components have potential in the longer term, to reduce turnover and business profit, and cause job losses.
 - 2. Council during the Covid period has been very supportive through its messages to the community and local business owners, even encouraging the community to buy from a local business. This is a message that has been well received and appreciated in the community. I question how Council decided that it would put on public display the proposed Talbragar St beautification plan over the busiest time in the Xmas period and close submissions on 4 January, and during this exhibition time Council was closed for 10 days on public holidays and Council holidays. Did it not occur to either Councillors or senior staff that in the lead up to and over the Xmas holiday period was not a good time to ask Talbragar St businesses to engage in the required process of making a submission on an issue of great importance to the majority.
 - 3. It is noted Council did not advise the registered owners of property in the Talbragar St CBD, of the proposal. Accordingly, owners not resident in Dubbo, and there are many, may not be aware of the subject proposal, although if the proposal were to proceed, may impact on the rental and sale value of their property. WHY were these owners not entitled to know about what Council is proposing in the street? Some have been owners for over 50 years. Surely a circular from Council from the rates data base at the time the public exhibition commenced would have been a basic service one would expect from any well-managed organisation.
 - 4. Whilst Council has complied with requirements to advertise in local media, it did not make any direct contact with traders in Talbragar St until 7 January, when it delivered to all businesses a very descriptive A4 brochure with colour plans and information. This was 3 days after (4 January) the original closing date for submissions. WHY did Council not communicate with the traders in the street at the time the public exhibition commenced or even earlier. I can

accept Council has complied with the law in terms of the notification of the public exhibition, however it does not appear to have met a general duty of care to the business community in directly communicating with them, to ensure the beautification proposal was understood. The beautification is the biggest change proposed for Talbragar St in the last 50 years, and surely the traders and property owners were entitled to some communication from Council. Whilst Council claims to be part of the community, and works with it, this is one occasion in my opinion it has failed to meet its own standards.

- 5. Talbragar St has the most diverse retailing strip in Dubbo, along with a wide range of other businesses and service providers. Predominately a small business street of private owners along with the Post Office, Rivers, and some branches of national traders. It is an important business locale to contribute to the general attraction for Dubbo locals, and those from the region to shop in Dubbo. Council is aware of the threats to business in the current era, from online shopping, the majors competing with small business, and the general trading conditions a result of drought and Covid19 over the last 4 years. One would have though these factors would more than ever persuade Council of the need to communicate closely with the traders in Talbragar St.
- 6. There are a number of long established retail business traders in Talbragar St that offer Council wide ranging experience, of not only trading conditions in the street, and the threats the beautification may pose to business generally, but the opportunities to grow the business area of Talbragar St. A selection of such businesses is:

Whitney Jewellers	101 years
Suttons Family menswear (Harry' for Menswear)	94 years
Snares Newsagency	65 years
Dubbo Culinary and Kitchenware's	40 years

It does not appear any of these traders have had any contact instigated by Council, since the Mayoral minute of February 2019, until a visit from the Mayor on 8 January, after the Meeting of Talbragar St traders proposed for 11 January, was published in local media.

Along the street many other businesses are long established, all with a commitment to Dubbo and Talbragar St, ready to always work with Council in a collaborative way for the benefit of Dubbo when given the opportunity.

7. The proposed Beautification of Talbragar St, has been imposed on businesses, it is not as a result of consultation, collaboration or a desire to act in the best interest of the businesses in the street. The public notice on Council webpage did not mention within the proposal that car parking spaces would be removed.

- 8. There is however a desire within traders generally to work with Council as to a future form of beatification including an increase in trees, and other features. If Council reconsiders the outcome after submissions are considered and starts again in consultation with the traders in the street then over the next few years it is likely an acceptable form of beautification will be achieved, This will require all stakeholders acting in good faith.
- 9. Councillors should not be surprised that business owners were vey concerned that the public exhibition was conducted over the busiest trading period of the year pre-Christmas, and over the Christmas/New Year and Council holiday period. Council offices were closed for 10 days of the exhibition period. It is disappointing that Mr McMahon, as CEO allowed the exhibition to take place at this time, knowing how inconvenient it is for business owners to cope with such a challenge in the Christmas trading period. Mr McMahon's signature appears on the DRC December, notifying the closing date for Council page Daily Liberal 16 submissions was 4 January, and he and Council are responsible for the inconvenience and concern Dubbo Regional Council's choice of dates for the public exhibition has caused.
- 10. Businesses in Dubbo and Talbragar St are hoping 2021 is a year of recovery, with the significantly improved economic conditions in the region, following the record grain harvest and following 3 years of drought and 1 year of Covid. Surely Council is cognisant of the trading conditions of past years and would want to assist businesses to facilitate recovery in 2021. To achieve this outcome, Council should refrain from any disruption to the street, other than urgent and necessary repairs.
- 11. In 46 years I have traded in various CBD locations; Church St 4 months, 176b Brisbane St- 11 years, 211 Macquarie St- 19 years, and for past 16 years in Talbragar St, which is by far the best business location in the city. Talbragar St will be an important generator of attracting shoppers to Dubbo over the next 20 years, and it is hoped Council can through collaboration with the stakeholders in the street, be a part of the success.
- 12. Less parking, less customers, less turnover, less trading profit, less jobs, lower value of business, rent and property.
- 13. Talbragar St was beautified in the early 1990's following the Macquarie St upgrades. This was a most successful program by Council and has served traders in the street very well. It has provided a very good traffic flow, and importantly Talbragar St has enjoyed a very high occupancy rate over the last 20 years. How does Council think beautification will improve the trading performance of the businesses, with less car parking, and less access within the street?

14. I am not a "knocker of Council" and I put forward my record of working with Council going back to 1983 on various Committees' and in other roles and will rely on that record.

However I am very critical as to the way Council has handled the management of the proposed beautification project, particularly the disregard towards retailers, business and property owners, in the street, and the timing of the public exhibition, which did not need to be in December 2020, and the response and rejection of proposed plan from Talbragar St traders reflects the management of the beautification plan by Council.

15. I would like to recognise the assistance provided to Talbragar St traders by Clr Stephen Lawrence who facilitated the extension of the closing date from 4 January to 15 January, and Mr Ian McAlister for providing a detailed and comprehensive response on the proposed plan to the Talbragar St traders group.

Finally, I hope Council will now take time to engage in widespread consultation and collaboration with Talbragar St businesses and property owners, and then as a result in future years revise the proposal to add to the beautification of the street.

NOTE: The views expressed in this submission are solely mine and do not represent any organisation or company I have been, or remain associated with.

Response:

The plans, as exhibited, were conceptual plans only, designed to provide the community the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal to beautify Talbragar Street to enable further development and refinement of the plans. They are not intended to be taken as final construction / installation plans.

At this early stage of the design phase it would be inappropriate and premature to claim that a particular number of car spaces will be lost. As the design progresses it will be necessary to identify and work around a number site constraints, including underground services, traffic and parking considerations etc.

Additionally, the manner in which Council now plant trees in streets helps to minimise the impact to parking. This is achieved through the use of underground vaults, with only a relatively small surface area impacting vehicles, and the opportunity to re-position car parking spaces through line marking. Through these measures a tree site does not necessarily take up a full car space and it is therefore unlikely that there will be a loss of 17-20 car parking spaces. However, until further investigations and design is carried out a definite answer cannot be provided.

It is acknowledged that the public exhibition period extended over the period of Christmas and New Year. However in this era of mass communication through social media and web based platforms the impact of Council being closed for a period of 10 days didn't prevent people from providing feedback through the electronic form provided. Importantly, this public exhibition was targeted at the whole Dubbo community to determine whether or not the Talbragar Street beautification would be well received or not.

Council has not specifically targeted business owners who live away from Dubbo. The Council Resolution required that the plans be placed on public exhibition for 28 days enabling community feedback and this has been complied with. The information was provided publicly through a range of media outlets and platforms. Also, as has been mentioned, there is a Talbragar Street traders group that could have advised or disseminated the information.

The proposal was initially covered by Photo News on 12 November 2020, following the Infrastructure and Liveability Committee meeting (9 November) where it was resolved that the plans would go on public exhibition. It was first exhibited by Dubbo Regional Council in the Council Column, 9 December 2020. It was subsequently run in the Daily Liberal - Council Column on the 16 and 23 December 2020. A half page story also appeared, including graphics, in the 14 December 2020 Daily Liberal. It also appeared in the Photo News Council Snapshot on 24 December 2020. It has appeared on social media sites. A leaflet was distributed to all business owners on the 7 January 2021. It is acknowledged that this distribution was outside the original date for end of submissions, there had been significant coverage of the proposal through the local media, as well as on the Dubbo Regional Council website and through social media. As the plans showed the beautification of a public space, being the streetscape of Talbragar Street, the public exhibition was targeted at the whole of the Dubbo community and not any particular group. Dubbo Regional Council met its obligation to inform the community, which is demonstrated through the number of submissions received.

Dubbo Regional Council is conscious of the recent issues affecting our community. The timing of any works associated with the proposed beautification plan has not been established. However the road pavement of Talbragar Street is starting to fail and it would be appropriate to time any tree planting works with restorative works. These works are also not currently scheduled but will need to be completed in the near future.

The beautification of Talbragar Street in the 1990s did not achieve the full scope of what was originally proposed and it was always intended that further improvements to the street would be undertaken at some time. This is demonstrated by the chevroned islands that are marked down the centre line of Talbragar Street. These islands were identified as future tree planting sites.

Dubbo Regional Council is aware of the importance of Talbragar Street as part of the City's economy. While car parking is one consideration for retail areas there is research on the consumer's response to trees within these areas. This research clearly show that the provision of a shady attractive retail area greatly enhances shopper experience, that people are willing to travel further for the experience and are also willing to pay 9 -12% more on goods and services as opposed to areas without trees (eg: Wolf, K.L. 2014). The notion of simply retaining, or providing more car parking, as the only way to increase economic activity is not supported by the research.

Public exhibition of the Talbragar Street Beautification concept plans resulted in a total of 67 submissions. The number of submissions indicate positive community uptake resulting from various promotional platforms — notably print, Council's website and social media. The submissions received indicate that the broader community would like to see the streetscape and the shopping experience of Talbragar Street improved through the planting of trees and the use of sculptural elements. There is concern, especially from the traders that operate in Talbragar Street that the loss of any car parking spaces will have serious and long lasting negative impact on their respective business. If the recommendation to progress the design is adopted, Council staff will endeavour to minimise carpark losses, through the design phase.

SUMMARY

The Talbragar Street Beautification concept plan was placed on public exhibition from 9 December 2020, through to 4 January 2021, seeking feedback on the proposal of planting trees down the centre of the street and along the sides. This is with the intention to enhance the streetscape and provide additional shading. The expanse of this plan is between Darling and Macquarie streets. Although, it links to the adopted tree planting program in the lower end of Talbragar Street (Macquarie to Bligh streets). Following representation from members of the Talbragar Street business community, the public exhibition period was extended until close of business 15 January 2021.

At the close of the public community exhibition period, Council had received 67 submissions.

In summary, the comments can be largely grouped in the following categories; Support for tree planting, concerns about car parking, the centre median and other. The "Other" category includes concerns related to use of exotics instead of native tree species, concerns over the timing of the works, potential Starling impacts; or concerns related to the public exhibition.

Support for beautification of Talbragar Street		Centre median observations	Other	Incomplete submissions
49	23	5	17	5

Note: the number of comments in the table above exceeds the number of submissions received.

Overall the submissions and comments received by the broader community are strongly supportive of the proposal to beautify Talbragar Street. Most concerns identified related to potential loss of car parking spaces and they have been received from businesses operating in Talbragar Street.

Appendices:

1 Talbragar Street Beautification Submissions

Attendant 1.

lan McAlister

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Monday, 14 December 2020 3:24 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Annefte
Surname:	Priest
Telephone Number:	Q417655395
Address:	3 Dulhuniy Ave Dubbo
Email:	apriest53@gmail.com
Submission:	This proposal Manyana lot of sense. More environmentally friendly summer shade trees needed throughout Dubbo. One question though- will the autumn leaf shedding make the footpath slippery when wet?
File Upload if required:	

Ian McAlister

From:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent:

Tuesday, 15 December 2020 9:08 AM .

To: Subject: Dubbo Regional Council Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening altachments.]

First name:	Noeline	
Surname:	Lummis	
Telephone Number:	0427485010	
Address:	21 Waterfell Cres Dubbo	
Email:	noelineji44@bigpond.com	
Submission:	The proposed plan would be a huge improvement on what is there now, I agree with the plan.	
File Upload if required:		

lan McAlister

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 11:19 AM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening altachments.]

First name:	Garry
Surname:	Gowans
Telephone Number:	0268873258
Address:	7L Newbury Lane Dubbo NSW
Email:	garry.gowans@activ8.net.au
Submission:	I object to the loss of car parking spaces.
File Upload if required:	



From: Therese Porter <noillysplace98@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 15 December 2020 10:10 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Taibragar Street Beautification

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

My name is Therese Porter.

I have looked at the proposed beautification plan for Talbragar Street, particularly between Brisbane Street and Darling Street.

I would like to make comment based on the following:

As a rate paying resident living in dubbo...

As a rate paying commercial building owner in Talbragar street

As a business owner (Molly's Place) in Talbragar Street

I believe the current proposal contributes trees the damage to retailers is not sufficient.

The beautification in Church street with parking down the centre, trees and parallel on the side is a great success for both customers, retailers, business owners, shade and tree use.

I would like current developers to reconsider this plan and strongly urge changes for better commercial and resident outcomes.

Retail and businesses are doing things tough, we do not need anything prohibiting easy parking and access to ALL businesses.

Centre parking with trees allows entry from both directions.

Thank you for your time

kind regards Therese Porter

lan McAlister

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Thursday, 17 December 2020 9:51 PM

Ta:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message, Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Brien
Surname:	Parker :
Telephone Number:	0409850934
Address:	100A Talbragar St
Email:	brian@oranaenergysystems.com
Submission:	Talbragar st can not afford to lose parking places to trees. People already struggle to find parking when visiting businesses in the street. I believe the trees in the middle of the street would be sufficient beautification and still maintain the very limited parking that exists now Has it been calculated the percentage of lost parking spots. I thought that if a bussiness puts a development application to you the council there is a requirement for a certain number of parking places. Yet your development has no requirement to look at the number of parking spaces. Our business often gets elderly people that have to park quite a long way away and then complain to us about the lack of parking in the street. I strongly appose this beautification project as propose and would like mor consideration given to parking.
File Upload if required:	

lan McAlister

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Saturday, 19 December 2020 2:25 PM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Kerryann
Surname:	George
Telephone Number:	68844468
Address:	139-141 Talbragar Street
Email:	dubboculinary@ozemail.com.au
Submission:	I am absolutely GOB SMACKED that Council is considering planting trees in car parking spaces. The single biggest complaint I have from my customers is that they can't find parking in Talbragar Street. So they go elsewhere to shop. Do you have any idea of the consequences of these decisions? How can you be so clueless and even consider removing PARKING SPOTS at any time let alone when bricks & mortar businesses are lighting to survive against the might of online competition. Council needs to decide, DO YOU WANT A THRIVING CBD or to be in charge of a GHOST TOWN? Honestly, I am so SICK OF COMPLAINING ABOUT THE LACK OF PARKING. Please rethink the strategy. I suggest only planting down the centre median strip and LEAVE OUR PARKING SPOTS AS THEY ARE. Please don't go to war with Talbragar Street businesses – because we are going to start a HUGE FIGHT ON THIS ONE!
File Uplead if required:	

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au > Sent: Monday, 21 December 2020 12:11 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au > Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Graeme
Surname:	Board
Telephone Number:	0268826822
Address:	.66 Talbragar Street
Email:	gboard@bobberry.com.au
Submission:	On behalf of the directors of Bob Berry Real Estate, business owner, and Talbragar Holdings R/L, property owner we advise that we object to the beautification if allowances can not be made for parking. Currently whilst owning 5 off street parks we find it difficult for our clients to find parking to attend our office. We are happy that council identifies the need to beautify the street however it can not be done at the sacrifice of losing car spaces. We welcome further communication regarding the concept and council's suggestion for increasing car parks in nearby locations. Graema Board
File Upload if required:	



From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au > Sent: Wednesday, 23 December 2020 9:14 AM

To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au > Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plant

[EXTERNAL Message; Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Debbie.
Surname:	D'Camer
Telephone Number:	0418978546
Address:	22 Talbragar Street Dubbo
Email:	-doconnor@raywhite.com
Submission:	I am writing as a business in Taibragar Street, in response to the proposed tree planting plants. Whilst we are not opposed to trees being planted in the street. I think down the middle of the street will be sufficient. Particularly, as one of the species selected Zeikova serrata "Wireless" grows to a height of 7 motios, with a canopy of 8 metres. Aside from blocking much of the existing strop signage in the street, there are many awnings which will capture leaf litter from the trees, and the trees themselves will require constant pruning so as not to damage the awnings. As we have seen previously with the existing trees, they attract birds and then issues are created with droppings on the branches, awnings and feetpaths. We respectfully request you reconsider planting the trees along the sides of the street and instead to anly plant them down the center.
	Kind regards, Debbie O'Connor
ile Upload if	

From:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent:

Wednesday, 23 December 2020 3:34 PM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Peler	
Surname:	Sutton .	
Telephone Number:	0268822558	
Address:	39 Talbragar St	
Email:	sales@harrys.online	
Submission:	After studying the draft plans for the proposed beautification it seems that we will loss 18 car parks. Love the idea of beautification and shade and having the medium strip lined with trees I have no objection too. This will make it much safer for all. Having the trees taking away parking is my concern but howing from previous experience with Macquarie St beautification, which had far more reaching impact to parking has not had that much of , I think that we will see more advantages than disadvantages with having a softer cool CBD than we currently have in the street.	
File Upload if required:	the short specific and the short the short specific and a same constant specific and a specific	

From:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent:

Thursday, 24 December 2020 10:45 AM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Tim	
Surname:	Barnes	
Telephone Number:	0420735761	
Address:	34 colony crescent dubbo	
Email:	Timbarnes6@gmail.com	
Submission:	Beautification of the street will be great. Great to see Dubbo catching up with other towns in NSW. Look at the Goulburn project and what was done in Casino a few years ago. There are always detractors before something like this gets going. After construction people will like it and then move onto the next thing.	
File Upload if required:		

From: Sent: To:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Monday, 4 January 2021 12:36 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Attachments: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan 0_106365_04Jan2021123525_20210104_095525_pg

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Tim
Surname:	Barnes
Telephone Number:	0420635761
Address:	:34 colony crescent dubbo
Email:	Timbamas6@gmail.com
Submission:	Plant trees like the attached, Casino, NSW, CBD.
File Upload If required:	0_106365_04Jan2021123525_20210104_095525.jpg

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

lan McAlister

From: Sent: To: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Thursday, 7 January 2021 10:49 AM

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Chris	
Surname:	Hall	
Telephone Number:	0402863197	
Address	123 Talbragar Street	
Email:	store@hendersonsmenswear.com.au	
Submission:	I strongly oppose to this so called beautification of Taibragar St, as our main complaint from customers already is it is so hard to find parking let alone taking out another 6 parks to replace with trees, especially when directly out the front of my shop is a proposed tree to be installed less then 5 meters from an existing tree. Then in the centre of the street, how are people supposed to cross the road?, by cutting through the new gardens. That's Ok if your young but a majority of my customers are elderly and struggle to park to far away as it is. Also eliminating any sunshine that warms our shop in the winter months. This is all without mentioning the leaves and mess these will make that ullimately will make it into the shops for more cleaning. Are you trying to drive businesses out of the street?	
File Upload If required:	Company of the Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-Anti-	

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

lan McAlister

From: Sent: Ta: comms@dubbo nsw.gov.au

Friday, 8 January 2021 1:45 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Beilnda	
Surname:	Coady	
Telephone Number:	0408276256	
Address:	4 Bramlea Street Dubbo	
Email:	Belindacoady@gmail.com	
Submission:	I have worked in Talbragar St for over 11 years. I love the idea of the trees, along the street. It will make a huge difference to the temperature in Summer. However, lack of parking is already an issue. I strongly agree with turning the old servo into car parking. I've been saying it for years. It's an eyesore!	
File Upload if required:		

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Friday, 8 January 2021 1:33 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Alec	
Surname:	Scholes	
Telephone Number	0457587358	
Addross:	145 Yaruga Street Dubbo	
Email:	alecscholes00@gmail.com	
Submission:	I'm all for more greenery/trees put into the main streets, if you could make the median strip look amazing with more trees and sculptures; I would love that, but maybe leave the sides as just carparks as you can never find a carpark as is. Very supportive of new initiatives to create new carpark spaces.	
File Upload if required:		

From: Sent: To: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Friday, 8 January 2021 12:45 PM

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links of opening attachments.]

First name:	Ross	
Surnamo:	Mason	
Telephone Number:	0402303993	
Address:	16 MacGregor St Dubbo	
Email:	ross mason@hotmail.com	
Submission:	Instead of trees, providing haven for noxious birds, aka Macquarie Street, provide wide streetscape, extra parking and extra disabled parking and access to the footpath for wheelchairs. Do not bottleneck traffic or reduce parking.	
File Upload if required:		

From: Sent: To: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Friday, 8 January 2021 2:53 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Wayne	
Surname:	Connor	
Telephone Number:	0438960034	
Address:	15R Berii Drive	
Email:	wayne@dubbo.org.	
Submission:	I love the concept of planting trees to provide shade especially in areas covered with asphalt. I trust that the council has more knowledge than me as to where to specifically plant them, so I trust your proposal, but in my opinion, given our climate, the more trees the better. Thankyou for your great work.	
File Upload if required:		

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Friday, 8 January 2021 3:25 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Zeck	
Surname:	Marlan	
Telephone Number:	0400124005	
Address:	104 Talbragar Street:	
Email:	zaarkacha.madan@austcommunilymedia.com.au	
Submission:	All for the trees on the side for shade and beauty. The centre median is a bad idea. At the moment congestion is eased because cars can pull off into the side lane. Inserting the median would increase traffic in already a congested CBD.	
File Upload if required:		

From: Sent: To:

Subject:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Friday, 8 January 2021 2:36 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Barbara	
Surname:	Johnson	
Telephone Number:	0427818825	
Address:	137 Talbragar street	
Email:	Barbieannello@yahoo.com.au	
Submission:	Small business owner Beautification would look lovely along the centre of Talbragar street BUT please DO NOT remove or replace car parking spaces due to already limited parking	
File Upload if required:	***	



From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au < comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Sunday, 10 January 2021 1:10 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Margaret	
Surname;	MeDonald	
Telephone Number:	+61498821973	
Address:	7 Lakeland Br	
Email:	margmact7@bigbond.com	
Submission:	Please find a submission from Dubbo Environment Group for the beautification plans of Talbragar, Bultje and Wingewarra Streets to Darling St attached, with our thanks. Our group consists of 37 newsletter readers, over 220 social media followers and 17 financial members.	
File Upload if required:	0_106365_10Jan2021130828_Street Beautification Macquarie St to Brisbane St to Darling St.docx	



Street Beautification Macquarie St to Brisbane St to Darling St.

Submission from Dubbo Environment Group, January 2021

Dubbo Environment Group has tendered a submission for the beautification DRC draft plan of the streets leading west from the main street to the river in 2020. In this submission we described in detail our issues with exotic trees, the negative effects that such planting has upon our environment, upon the education of our gardening residents, and upon the portrayal of ourselves as a rural city on the western plains of NSW, proud of its own unique Australian identity.

Our previous submission listed the many positive aspects of trees. We also expressed our grief at the loss of suburban trees due to water restrictions, drought, Climate Change and urban development. We applaud therefore, any plans to add more street -trees to our city. We particularly applaud the addition of the tree, Angophora floribunda, which is endemic to our region.

While the Zelkova serrato species is a very pretty, easy to manage, hardy tree, which to our knowledge does not self-propagate extensively, we are none-the-less disappointed to see an exotic chosen. If DRC councillors and staff took a leisurely walk along the Troy Gully reserve from Myall St. to Dunedoo Rd, they would clearly see the damage that exotics have done to this otherwise native bushland. The Troy Gully community with the support of council over the previous 30 years have worked hard to return this green space from bare cleared farmland to what it may have resembled before settlement. It is the home to many species of birdlife including water-birds and quail, and to at least one rakali (water-rat). Along the water canal from Myall St. to the second foot-bridge now grow some 15 or more self-sown exotic trees. From here across the public grassland to Dunedoo Rd. now grow another 30 or so exotic trees. Council has not extracted them. These trees will continue to grow and spread, destroying the native habitat and corrupting the water- course and its natural vegetation and fauna.

We reiterate, that it is counterproductive to plant weeds, model that planting to residents, and then fund the extraction of these weeds by staff and community groups.

What Troy Gulley volunteers and DCC wished to achieve:



January 2021



Self-sown exotic trees (Southern Troy Gulley Reserve):











January 2021

Self-sown exotic trees (Northern Troy Gulley Reserve):









January 2021

From: Sent: comms@dubbe.nsw.gov.au

Sunday, 10 January 2021 9:14 AM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

EXTERNAL Message. Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Emma
Surname:	Gorrie
Telephone Number:	0368530685
Address:	15 Fountain Circuit
Email:	emma_gorrie@fiotmail.com
Submission:	
File Upload If required:	

21.

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Saturday, 9 January 2021 2:11 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Brenda
Surname:	Stevenson
Telephone Number:	0428140355
Address:	47 Temworth St Dubbo
Email:	Branda_Stevenson@bigpond.com
Submission:	Please plant more trees - so many people comment that we have had so many trees removed in Dubbo and a green leafy environment is attractive and cooling
File Upload if required:	gang distributed Advances on plants for a second se

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

lan McAlister

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Saturday, 9 January 2021 1:02 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	. Zao
Surname:	Griggs
Telephone Number:	0400793749
Address:	. 82 Fountain Circuit
Email:	Zac Griggs@yahoo.com.au
Submission:	
File Upload if required:	

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Saturday, 9 January 2021 1:01 PM Dubbo Regional Council

To: Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be caulious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Caroline
Surname	Harland
Telephone Number:	0427671997
Address:	82-Fountain Circuit
Email:	Caz Harland@gmail.com
Submission:	
File Upload if required:	

Front

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent:

Saturday, 9 January 2021 10:26 AM

To: Subject: **Dubbo Regional Council** Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name.	George
Surname:	Lam:
Telephone Number:	0407898014
Address:	100 Dalion st
Émail:	lamhoitai@yahoo.com.au
Submission:	
File Upload if required:	

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Saturday, 9 January 2021 10:15 AM
To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Teulle	
Surname:	Flore-Chapman	
Telephone Number:	0431469979	
Address	61 SI Georges Tce	
Email:	_florech@gmail.com	
Submission:	The idea of planting more trees anywhere in town is fabulous and should go ahead. The CBD looks pretty bare and trees will certainly enhance the absthetic aspect of the town. Leven want the council to plant a forest on my 25 acres where I'm building a new house this year! (Not a joke, I really mean it if that's at all possible).	
File Upload if required:	AT IL PERSON MAIN ENDERS AND READY S UNIVER LINCOLD BY MAIN AND MAIN PARKET.	

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au From: Saturday, 9 January 2021 10:14 AM Sent: To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan Subject

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	James
Surname:	Callett
Telephone Number:	0402232566
Address:	5 Chanara Crescent
Email:	jamespaulcollett@gmail.com
Submission:	I fully support the Talbragar street beautification plan. Dubbo is a great place to live and work and more and more people are realising this. To attract more residents and tourists, appearance counts. Compared to other regional towns (eg. Wagga, Orange, Albury, Tammworth), there is a paucity of trees and it is noticeable. Greenery helps cool and makes people feels happy. Global warming is a reality and reducing our carbon footprint is essential. Car spaces only encourage more people to drive and is backward thinking. Time to step into the 21st century!
File Upload if required:	

From: Sent: To:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Saturday, 9 January 2021 9:56 AM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Melinda
Surname:	Collett
Telephone Number:	0411705989
Address:	5 Chanara Cres, Dubbo
Email:	minbradfield@gmail.com
Submission:	I FULLY support this beautification plan. Dubbo desperately needs more frees. I was very disappointed at the loss of mature jacaranda trees along Fitzroy street.
	Please continue to look at more options for planting more trees everywhere in Dubbo to help reduce urban heat, reduce sun exposure and to make a contribution to tessening our carbon footprint.
	MORE TREES PLEASE.
File Upload if required:	

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au From: Saturday, 9 January 2021 5:21 AM Dubbo Regional Council Sent: To:

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	- Kate	
Surname:	Crossley	
Telephone Number:	0477840535	
Address.	1 Neccundra Place Dubbo	
Email:	crossley_kate@hotmail.com	
Submission:	I live and work in Dubbo and shop on Talbragar St. I am strongly in favour of the beautification plan, as I firmly believe Dubbo needs more extensive planting of trees to reduce the urban heat island effect and protect our community members from sun and pollution. There is plenty of parking around the CBD, and if people have to walk an extra couple of minutes that is also a good thing given our extremely sedentary lifestyles and high rates of obesity. I believe trees will also improve the feel of the street and attract more people, which will offset the loss of car spots for retailers. Please plant more trees!	
File Upload if required:		

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Friday, & January 2021 3:55 PM Dubbo Regional Council

To: Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Carlo
Surname;	Hilton
Telephone Number:	0411898113
Address:	23 Coral Cres
Email:	carlo.hilton@hotmail.com
Submission:	This needs to be fully supported however I would look into using the same trees as Macquarie St for Uniformity and Linden trees are preferred. I disagree with the Mayors suggestion of creating more car parking on the corner of Talbragar and Darling and that parking should be found behind the main streets. The corner of Talbragar and Darling should be investigated to be beautified into a nicer precinct as a gateway from the railway to our city especially in the event of Fast Rail upgrades. Perhaps a multilevel carpark could be done behind the library or the parking along the Railway line looked at to introduce more spaces.
File Upload if required:	

30

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Monday, 1T January 2021 11:07 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Gina	
Surname:	Brown	
Telephone Number:	9416058211	
Address:	149 Talbragar Streel.	
Email:	info@whitneysjewellers.com.au	
Submission:	I'm not in favor of the the current plans, as a business owner i can only so it would impact on the current or lack of parking we have in street. If Council can accurately provide the current number of parking spaces before & after, this may change my mind.	
File Upload if required:		

From: Sent: To: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Monday, 11 January 2021 12:30 PM

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Collo
Surname:	Mcclintock
Telephone Number:	0400384022
Address:	61 St Georges Terrace, Dubbo
Email:	ckmcclintock@yahop.com.au
Submission:	I am fully supportive of this project and feel it is in the best interests with regard to further progress and growth of Dubbo as a regional centre.
File Upload if required:	

Primariticality \$ + 16935.

Ian McAlister

From:

Sent:

To:

Subject:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Monday, 11 January 2021 7:50 PM Dubbo Regional Council Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

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[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	balinda	
Surname:	edmondson	
Telephone Number:	0407253271	
Address:	18 Tumberry Terrace	
Email:	belinda.edmondson@gmail.com	
Submission:	Finally, bring Talbragar Street into the modern world, it is stale and looks like it is in a time warp from the 70's. As we already know, Dubbo exists in a hot climate and climate science would indicate, it is only going to get hotter. We NEED more trees to alleviate these hot temperatures. We need tree canopy to keep our streets cooler and provide shade for the benefit of Dubbo's residents and vistors. Not only would the tree canopy be aesthetically pleasing, but also provide health benefits.	
erit	Macquarie Street is now a pleasant street to be in. The trees have matured and provide a canopy. I observe people meeting, sitting, talking and socially interacting because it is now comfortable. The trees have holped bring people back to the CBD to shop.	
	Unless one is under an awning in Talbragar street in the middle of summer, there is very little shade. There is a paving desert outside the General Post Office. The heat reflected off those pavers in summer is unbearable. I don't utilise that particular post office. The pear trees in boxed pavers are useless.	
· .	There is an argument car spaces will be lost. People look for a shadey tree to park their car under. There is plenty of parking adjacent to the railway line and other smaller car parks which all have easy access to Talbragar Street. It would be great to see tree plantings in the car park on the corner of Darling and Talbragar Street rather than just grasses. Again, more shade for people to park their cars under.	
	The first car spots to go in the car park at the intersection of Brisbane and	

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

ED21/5274

know from years of experience.)

There is also argument there will be no break in the median strip which will give people easier access to shops. Baloney. Roundabouts help sort this issue out. 17 car spaces is a small sacrifice for the huge benefit these trees will provide. If people want to visit a shop, they will get there albeit parking out the front or a little way up the street.

I would love to see Dubbo become an inland City Casis full of shade trees providing a cooling ambience and atmosphere, rather than the state empty street Talbragar presents.

I support the plan being offered.

Bring it on Dubbo Regional Council.

Belinda Edmondson.

File Upload if required:

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33

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 11 January 2021 3:46 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Refered
Surname:	Hamblin
Telephone Number:	58822900
Address:	33 White Street
Email:	themblin@dubbabuslines.com.an
Submission:	Dubbo Bualines operate regular route service on Talbragar Street for Transport for NSW. We support the draft concept plan provided consideration has been given to allow sufficient room for buses to operate without risk of body damage from overhanging branches:
File Upload if required:	

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Tuesday, 12 January 2021 11:00 PM From: Sent:

To:

Dubbo Regional Council Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan Subject:

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	Barbara
Surname:	Sutherland
Telephone Number:	09456495128
Address:	20 Goode Street Dubbo
Email:	rof.barb6@yahoo.com.au
Submission:	Great for community, business and the general public. Very important to have street tree canopy
File Upload if required:	p p

1.

From: Sent: To: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Tuesday, 12 January 2021 8:56 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Dubbo Regional C

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be caulious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Daryl
Surname:	Green
Telephone Number:	0427952033
Address:	PO Box 1683
Email:	daryl.green@bigpond.com
Submission	Dubbo Regional Council's obsession with using exotic tree species for street plantings is completely inappropriate. We have so many great native species (both locally and from other locations) that we should be encouraged to plant them. Drought resistance, low maintenance trees should be used. Shade is so important in urban locations to reduce overall temperature.
	Use natives!
File Upload if required:	

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Tuesday, 12 January 2021 8:41 PM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name;	Fred.	
Surname:	Randell	
Telephone Number:	0431484622	
Address:	7 Brian Hambly PI	
Email:	fredrandell@gmail.com	
Submission:	I fully support the addition of trees to Talbragar St. It is in dire need of beautification and shade. Personally I do not feel that the loss of car spaces is an issue - I have never had an issue finding a park along there and there are plenty of alternatives nearby.	
File Upload if required:		

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lan McAlister

From:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Sent;

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Tuesday, 12 January 2021 3:07 PM Dubbo Regional Council Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan To: Subject:

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Michelle
Surname:	Osborne
Telephone Number:	0402988071
Address:	SL Dunlóp Road Dubbo
Email:	michelle@osbornelegal.com.au
Submission	As a business operator in Talbragar Street since 2018 I am opposed to the current proposal for the following reasons: 1. The imaging appears to reduce the available car parking on Talbragar Street. There is already very limited parking on the street at this end of town. Many of ithe Talbragar Street businesses do not have parking behind their premises meaning all staff need to find alternate parking to free up as much street parking as possible. If the car parks are reduced customers may choose to shop elsewhere. There is no off street parking on Talbragar Street available to customers at present. 2. A continuous median strip or even a divided median strip installed as proposed will increase the congestion from Talbragar St into Macquarie St terifold. The congestion from Brisbane Street to Macquarie Street is already significant due to the delays on Macquarie Street while cars park and reverse in the single lane of traffic. You can wait for upwards of 15 mins to get onto Macquarie St from Talbragar. This will discourage people from driving down. Talbragar St to access businesses. We have an additional lane on the south side now, which assists. The median strip will take this away. Not all customers can walk long distances to access this street. 3. The placement of trees on the edges of the street will obscure and/or damage (birds) the shop signages that they are planted in front of. Business have spent funds on signage to promote their businesses and to improve the look of their premises. There is a risk a business could be disadvantaged against same industry competitors on Talbragar Street if one business has its signage obscured and the other does not. If business signage can no longer be seen from all approaches due to tree coverage, will the business owner be compensated for the financial loss incurred from wasted signage, the loss of business, and possibly the devaluing of their commercial property? 4. I have significant concerns about potential road closure and disruption to customer and staff access

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

ED21/6016

5. Talbragar Street businesses on the southern side already struggle with regular poor behaviour and malicious damage from pub goers walking between pubs. The planting of trees next to our awnings may give drunken people access to our upstairs areas (via tree climbing onto an awning) and then into our premises.

The proposal in its current form appears to prioritise beautification over practicality, damage and loss of income for those of us attempting to run businesses in the CBD of Dubbo.

Thank you for your consideration.

File Upload if required:



From: Sent:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Tuesday, 12 January 2021 2:24 PM

To:

Dubbo-Regional Council Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan Subject:

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Tim
Surname:	Hosking
Telephone Number:	0438600837
Address:	41L debeaufort Dr
Email:	limhosking27@gmail.com
Submission:	I support additional trees being planted in Talbragar Street. This will assist with amenity and reducing solar impact. The text of the proposal and plans are inconsistent - the plans do not show any Angophoras being planted, only Elms. As stated on similar proposals, I worry about the impact of deciduous leaf drop on the water quality of the Macquarie River as it has been demonstrated that autumn leaf drop is damaging to river biota. It would be ideal if these leaves could be controlled prior to reaching stormwater, or within the stormwater system itself. Lassume someone has checked whether introduced Starlings, which are not being controlled, will utilise the proposed elms and create additional problems as per other exotic street trees.
File Upload if required:	Total Comments of the Comments

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

39

lan McAlister

1. Calgar 1.

From: Sent; comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

To:

Tuesday, 12 January 2021 1:59 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Lynton
Surname:	Add:
Telephone Number:	+61428267104
Address:	259 Brisbane St
Email:	lynton.auld@dubbo.nsw.gov.au
Submission:	I would love to see street trees planted into Talbragar Street. Currently Macquarie st is a far more attractive shopping precinct and I would preferentially visit that street rather than Talbragar as a result of the heat and lack of shade on offer in Talbragar St. The loss of a small number of parking places would be more than compensated by an increase in amenity in the street. Currently parking is easy in Talbragar at almost all times of the year, the loss of a small number of car parks would be readily accompdated. If trees were planted and the proposed plan followed I would be far more likely to utilise both streets for shopping.
File Upload if required:	September 1991 Control of the Septem



Comments/Submission:-

TALBRAGAR STREET TREE PLANTING PLANS

In my opinion the Dubbo Regional Council has taken a positive step by planning further tree plantings under the 'Street Tree Priority Planting'.

I do not consider trees non-endemic to the immediate region a suitable choice and I understand that they have been chosen to be 'consistent' with plantings already completed-the question I would ask is 'why do tree plantings have to be the same throughout the CBD'?

Surely a variety of species is able to provide a more interesting streetscape!

My preference would be for planting trees endemic to the immediate region and by so doing emphasise the unique environment of our Dubbo region.

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments.

Diana HOFFMAN Mrs

13 Buninyong Road

DUBBO

Mob. 0429 351 940

12/01/2021

41.

19 Meadowbank Dr Dubbo 2830 12/1/21

The CEO Dubbo Regional Council Church St DUBBO 2830

Re Beautification of Talbragar St

Sir

We are extremely disappointed to learn, via TV news, that the Mayor will recommend to Council that the views of storekeepers in Talbragar St re tree plantings and beautification be adopted rather than the more popular viewpoint of the general population.

Currently Talbragar St is totally devoid of any character and is a blight on our levely city. It offers nothing to soften the harshness of a dry, lifeless streetscape. The addition of trees and some greenery would present a more attractive view for visitors and local shoppers.

Forgoing 20 car spaces is a small loss in the bigger picture of city beautification. We believe the greening up of this street would in fact attract more rather than less shoppers into a more welcoming environment.

Dubbo should be pulling out all stops to attract more shoppers and tourists to town and in particular the drab end of town, viz Talbragar Street.

Shopkeepers cannot expect drivers to gain a parking spot directly outside their premises every time, however, we as potential customers are more likely to shop in a green and visually attractive street than one that is hot, shadeless and totally unappealing. Other regional cities are doing their best to brighten up their cityscape, why can't we?

Our town planners have done a good job drawing up a credible design, let's see it implemented!

Sincerely John & Sue Dixon



From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 13 January 2021 3:26 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Nelson
Surname:	Kelly
Telephone Number:	0421385872
Address:	9 Venetian
Email:	nelson@mpkholels.com.au
Submission:	Representing the Castlereagh Hotel and adjoining retail shops 79 - 91 Tallarager St.
	Ldo-agree that Talbragar St would benefit from some beautification but believe we can arrive at a bester outcome without sectificing car spaces.
	We have recently installed an automatic gate and new fence on Brisbane St which opens at 10am (same as the hotel) because many days there were no spaces for our patrons because local shoppers and, in particular, the courthouse would fill our car park.
	As Dubbo continues to grow. I believe there is a need for more car spaces (not fewer) and other options, such as a multi level carpark next to the pawn brokers, should be explored.
,	The reversing/ merging lane in Talbragar St is also important to maintain if possible. This greatly assists with traffic flow, particularly during peak hours and the Christmas period where cars are already banked up to the police station.
	Happy to discuss further anytime.
	Regards, Nelson Kedy
File Upload If required:	



125-127 Talbragar St, Dubbo NSW 2830

Phone: 02 6882 8080 Fax: 02 6882 9199

Email: gunpro@bigpond.com

13 January 2021

Dear Mr McAlister,

lam writing in response to the Talbragar Street Tree Beautification Project proposed to business owners in Talbragar Street, dated 7 January 2021.

As the business owner of Gunpro, I would like to strongly object to the loss of any car parking in Talbragar Street. Currently, our customers all ready struggle to park in Talbragar Street, especially during peak times and when there are various events at either the Aquatic Leisure Centre or DRTCC.

I would prefer to see the funding for the beautification of Talbragar Street go towards developing more car parking for employees of businesses in Talbragar Street.

If you require any further information, please feel free to contact us on 02 6882 8080 or gunpro@bigpond.com.

Kind Regards,

Martin and Nicky Bourke

From:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent:

Wednesday, 13 January 2021 8:42 PM Dubbo Regional Council

To:

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Shaye	
Surname:	Jones	
Telephone Number:	0407120488	
Address:	162 Yaruga st	
Email:	cr_isjones@blgpond.com	
Submission:	It looks nice i just have 1 concern and that the fact that we have quite a number of drivers in dubbo who will wait for someone to come out of a park and back the whole main st up. This will only be made worse by bottle necking talbrigar st as well. My uncle was an paramedic and said its a nightmare for 000 services as is so I don't know what the solution to that is.	
File Upload If required:		





12 January 2021

The CEO Dubbo Regional Council PO Box 81 DUBBO NSW 2830

Dear Si

I wish to express my concerns regarding the proposed Talbragar Street Beautification as per the current proposed plan.

On Monday evening, I attended the Castlereagh Hotel with a group of other Talbragar Street, traders to discuss the current proposed plan.

I think the opportunity of a street beautification is a wonderful idea. However, I would request that there be some modifications to the current proposal

Median Strip : Trequest that the proposed median strip be modified to allow for regular pedestrian refugees. I am very much in favour of having trees planted along the centre of the road, contained within a median strip, however believe that we need to allow for easy podestrian crossing areas.

Kerbside Trees - I, like most other traders in the street, will be against the concept of large trees being planted in front of their premises. Most businesses spend an enormous amount of money on their business branding and signage, and I personally do not wish to have a large tree covering our shopfront.

Trees — I request that further investigations be placed into the variety of trees that are in planted. The trees in the Macquarie Street beautification attract feral birds and make a messalong the footpaths. Lunderstand that DRC have proposed the use of two alternative species.

Car Parking \simeq Frequest that further investigations be made to other options that allow for the loss of less car parks. Lappreciate that there will be some losses in the parking spaces, however simply request that this be minimised.

DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL

ACTIONED TO ... HECO

14 1411 2021

CONTAINER # DIFFE

raywhitedubbo.com.au

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Ray White Oubbo Jib Talwan is the cl Talwan is 1807 (2830) Control 1959 Charles 1930 (1808) Charles 1930 (1808)

ED21 6954

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Traffic Flow - I believe that Dawson Wilkie's model used in Macquarie Street does not enable traffic to continue to flow smoothly. Dawson's plan was that there was to be enough room to be able to back a vehicle from the carpark without altering the flow of the traffic. This is not the case.

This is certainly the circumstance on the Southern side of Talbragar Street presently, however is difficult to reverse from a carpark on the northern side of Talbragar Street.

May I suggest that you also consult the Police Department also. Basically any emergency vehicle that departs from the police station either heading north, east or west - all travel along Talbragar Street - generally at a heightened level of pace. The police will require that they have fast and uninterrupted access to areas of Dubbo.

Time - The Macquarie Street beautification crippled businesses in the CBD whilst the renovations took place. What road works will be required, what electrical, drainage and plumbing works will be required, and at what time do you wish to do the works?

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. If you wish to contact me, I can be contacted on 0418 634 868.

Yours faithfully

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

46

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>

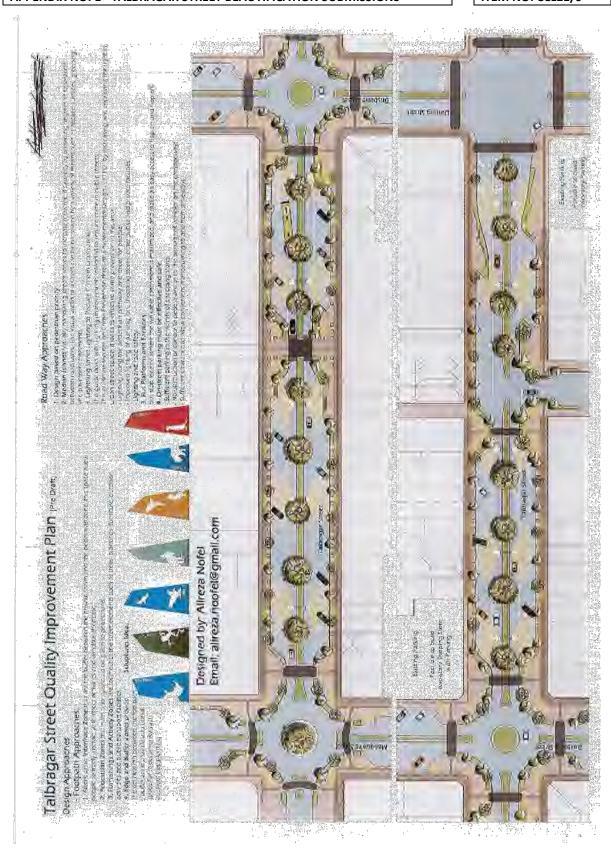
Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 7:01 AM

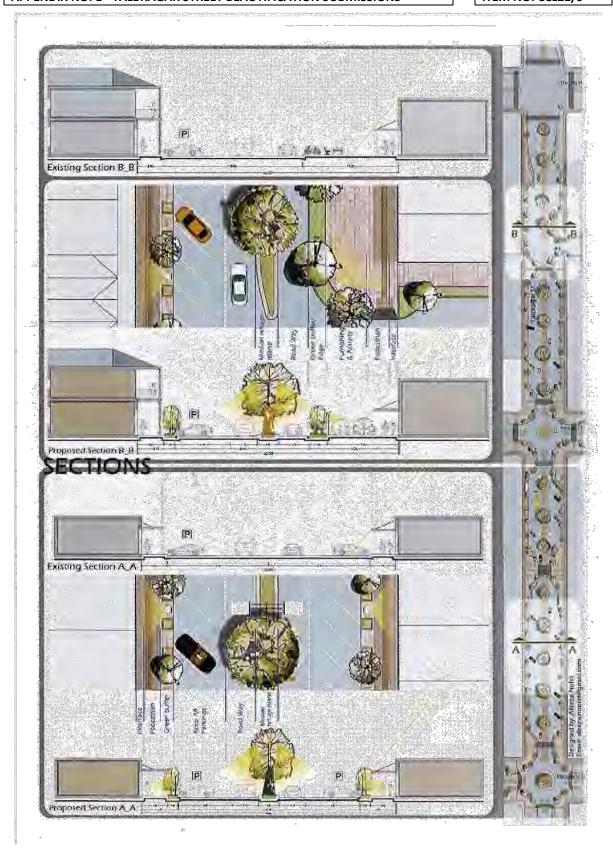
providence y

To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Alireza
Surname:	Nofel
Telephone Number:	0412869867
Address:	unit 1/69 Bullje street, Dubbo, 2830
Email:	alireza noofel@gmail.com
Submission:	Dear SinMadam
	According to this Beautification project, I provide some idea to improve the quality of Tailbragar Street as one of the main urban streets in Dubbo. Please find the attached PDF files.
	I would like to hear from you about this dreft that I provided for you.
	hope it is helpful to our city.
	look forward to hearing from you.
	best regards:
	-Wileza Notal
File Upload if required:	0_106365_15Jan2021065907_Talbragar Street - Quality Improvment Plan_L.pdf

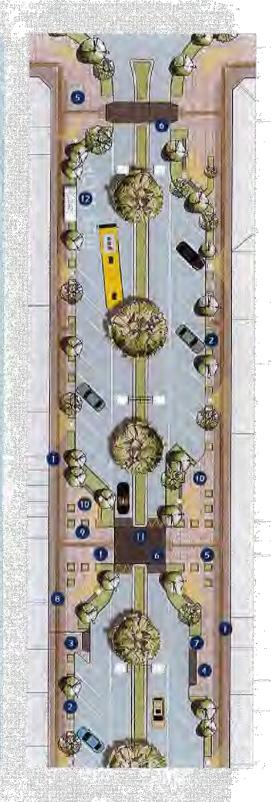


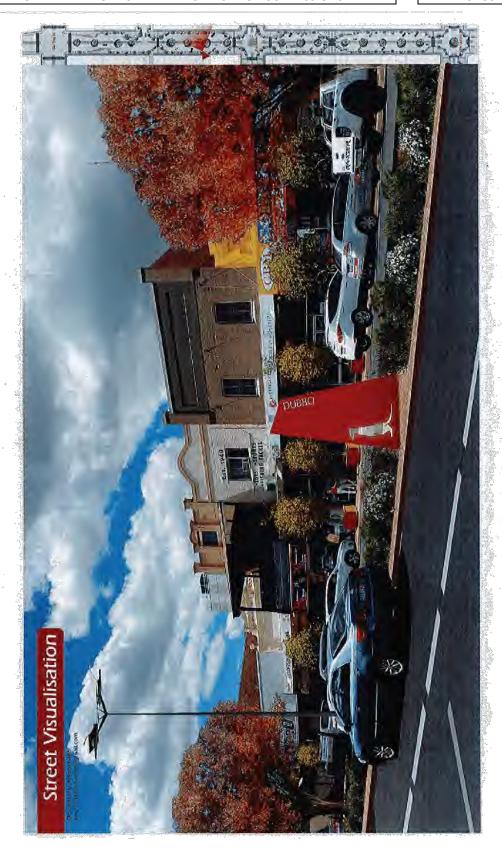


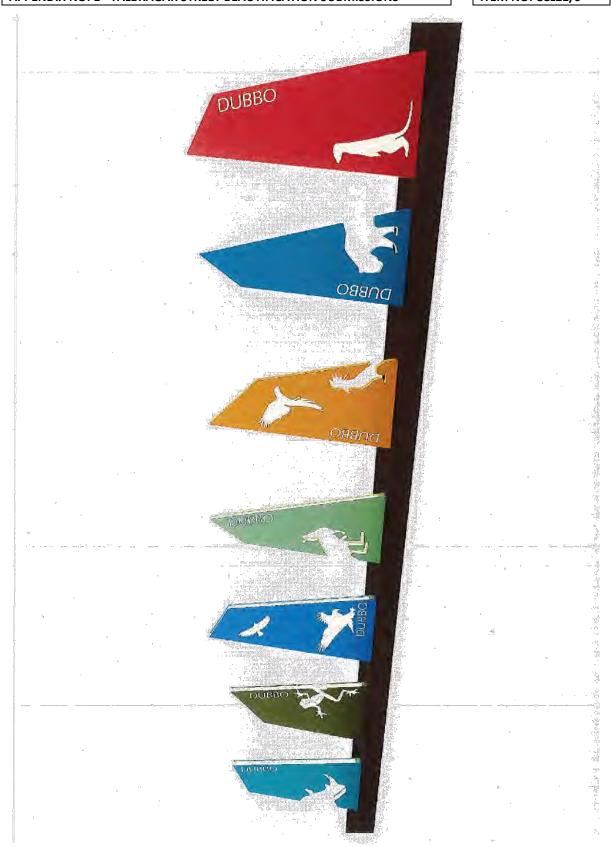
Design Standards

- Interface Zones provide a 'shoreline'
- Extension Zones provide areas for green buffer and Furniture
- Paving materials are consistent with the footpath
- Driveway crossovers use a dropped-kerb arrangement
- Pedestrian Zones are free from obstructions
- Use paving to highlight interaction with vehicles
- Dropped kerb arrangement to facilitate vehicle access
- Align and maintain clear and consistent paths for blind people
- Widen footpaths
- Opportunities are provided for additional amenities and activity
- Raised Crossing Points at key pedestrian locations
- Provide access to public transportation

Designed by: Alucza Noiel Frmail: alucza noorelingmall.com







47

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Thursday, 14 January 2021 11:18 PM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be caulious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Kate
Surname:	Bailey:
Telephone Number:	0428873640
Address:	P.O. Box 169, Guerie
Email:	silkyoak@hwy.com.au
Submission:	Live out of town and only go to Dubbo on a Friday. I arrive around 11am or 12noon. I often find it very difficult to get a parking spot in Talbragar Street and have to drive 2 or 3 times around the block. Taking away parking spaces would make it even worse. Not only that but the trees that are suggested, when I did some research are completely wrong. Don't the Councillors remember what happened when they had deciduous trees in Macquarie Street? and the other type of tree suggested are like gums and we, who live in the bush, know what they do, shed branches. Is the Council prepared to pay for hospital costs if people fall over and are they prepared to pay for damage to cars from fallen branches. Doubt it. There are a few places where people park for long periods in both Talbragar and Brisbane Streets. I have no problem with people going to hotels for lunch BUT they should go and park somewhere else. People don't usually take an hour visiting other businesses on Talbragar Street. I have read that some say it is too hot in the cars in the summer but what guarantee do they have that they will be able to park on the eastern side of a tree. There must be better ways to beautify the street without taking away parking spaces. Why not hang colourful banners off the lights. There are some beautiful indigenous designs but PLEASE leave the parking spaces as they are.
File Upload if required:	

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Thursday, 14 January 2021 8:53 PM Dubbo Regional Council Sent:

To:

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan Attachments: 0_106365_14Jan2021205258_P3310220-Large.jpg

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Jack
Surname:	Rändell
Tolephone Number:	0418605041
Address:	66 Taylor Street Dubbo
Email:	jack@fishdug.com.au
Submission:	The Talbragar Street Tree Beautification Project, tree planting proposal will vasily improve the public amenity in this historic commercial street in Dubbo's CBD. Implementation of this proposal will improve summer temperatures and enhance the aesthetic appeal for shoppers and visitors alike.
	The objections of some retailers is self-interested and short-sighted in my opinion. The proposal as it stands will enhance the probability of shoppers lingering to enjoy the improved amenity, thereby increasing the opportunity of retailers to self. The old-school notion of only shopping at places at which we can park in front is outdated. If that idea worked, every store at Orana Mall would be in the car park!
4	Some of the best shopping experiences in the world are in car-less precincts.
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	This proposal pre-empts more plaza style civic spaces for Dubbo City, where sections have no parking, where shoppers and commuters use low impact public transport, cycling and walking.
	The only improvement Loan suggest for this proposal is to use Mugga Ironbarks as a signature local species, See: http://mywalkaboutplants.com/eucalyptus-sideroxylon/
File Upload if required:	0_106365_14Jan2021205258_P3310220-Large.jpg

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Thursday, 14 January 2021 4:14 PM

To:

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

Tyla
Comerford
0458111997
18 Tumberry Terrace
tyla.comerford@gmail.com
I am a young person who was born and raised in Dubbo. I intend to make Dubbo my future home. I am supportive of Dubbo Regional Council's plans for the beautification of Talbragar Street.
Dubbo needs more trees in its urban landscape for the comfort of it's residents and street appeal.

50.

lan McAlister

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 9:02 AM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Venessa
Surname:	Sowden
Telephone Number:	0419030234
Address:	15 Thornelt Place dubbo nsw 2830
Email:	declar.2007@hotmail.com
Submission:	I'm against this taking away parking in an area that is already hard to get a park would not be beneficial
File Upload if required;	

5-1

From: Sent: To: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Friday, 15 January 2021 8:59 AM

Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	John .
Surname:	Gibson
Telephone Number:	0405751278
Address:	29 Palmer st
Email:	John m gibson@hotmail.com
Submission:	Thank you for considering the planting of trees in the CBD. The lack of tree cover in the streets is a huge concern in a town which gets very hot in summer. Whilst some businesses are concerned about losing a few parking spots, there is more than enough parking in and around talbragar st. The addition of trees to the streetscape would be a welcome upgrade. I hope that council has the fortitude to proceed despite the objections of shortsighted business owners.
File Upload if required:	

From: Sent: To:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Friday, 15 January 2021 8:56 AM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Luke
Surname:	Metedith
Tolophono Number:	0412284804
Address;	10 Dawson Dubbo
Email:	vlmoredith.mail@gmail.com
Submission:	I support the beautification proposal,
File Upload if required:	

in mennya pall Kalimilik

From: Sent: To:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Friday, 15 January 2021 8:50 AM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.)

First name:	Ann-Maree
Surname:	Chandler
Telephone Number:	0413557759
Address:	23 Sherrard Crescent
Email:	wambinya@indidgconnect.com.au
Submission:	thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding the beautification of Talbragar Street
	I am 100% behind councils plan to plant trees in the street and work towards making it a more well presented place in our town right now its bland with "no life" about it and the current garden beds including the roundabout arent either friendly or well taken care of and it lets down the street
Tend autor un au	planting trees and maintaining the green spaces will make it way more appealing to me and will encourage me to spend more time and money in the area there
	also for me caring for our environment it helps instill trust and love in our council that you want to move into respecting Mother more and taking care of replanting trees—they are so much needed—way more than people acknowledge or respect.
	Thank you
	Ann-Maree

APPENDIX NO: 1 - TALBRAGAR STREET BEAUTIFICATION SUBMISSIONS

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

ED21/7792

0413557759

File Upload if required:

SS,

lan McAlister

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

To:

Friday, 15 January 2021 9:56 AM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be caulious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Natalie	
Surname:	White	
Telephone Number:	0456265042	
Address.	7 Catchpole Close Dubbo NSW 2830	
Email:	nateliekatewhite94@gmail.com	
Submission:	I am all for the beautification of Talbragar st as there are parks that are an absolute eye sore but there is other things that are more important that need attention first in Talbragar st. Carparking should be the number 1 priority for the CBO.	
File Upload if required:		

54

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	
rustname.	Stephen
Surname:	Matchett
Telephone Number:	0488273584
Address:	4 Conrad Ave Charlestown 2290
Email:	Slephen matchett@health risk gov au
Submission:	Re Talbragar Street Beautification:
-	I support and welcome this proposal,
	In addition I also support an additional multi-level car-park on the vacant service station site on the corner of Talbragar and Darling Sts. (to address any parking shortfall).
	I am regular visitor to and strong supporter of Dubbo (having being born in Dubbo and grown up in the western region of NSW).
	Beautification of Talbragar St is urgently required to increase its appeal and sense of destination in its own right.
	Such development will increase its appeal and increase foot traffic (and potentially more shoppers). It's current environment is not appealing as too hot and bland.
	To provide shade, colour and appeal especially through the summer is a wonderful idea to transform this area worthy of a regional shopping and destination hub.
•	To delay further misses an opportunity to modernise and green our city as is

E021/8377

required.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Regards

Stephen Matchett

File Upload if required:

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Friday: 15 January 2021 2:53 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Owen
Surname:	Barnes
Telephone Number:	0413064569
Address:	12 champagne
Email:	Owen1986b@hotmail.com
Submission:	Do II, trees rock.
File Upload if required:	A



From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 2:33 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Andrew
Surname:	McDanald
Telephone Number:	0407459231
Address:	4/64 Buille Sirset, Dubbo
Email:	amcdonald@amcdubbo.com
Submission:	I write as the Principal at Andrew McDonald Commercial Dubbo. Our Agency acts exclusively in the sales, leasing and management of commercial and industrial property in Dubbo. We act on behalf of 10 different property owners in managing their assets in the Talbragar Street blocks in which the proposed beautification is planned. From our extensive experience and observations of the slow traffic flow in Macquarie Street over many years now, we believe the amount of trees planned and the installation of an unbroken median strip will have the detrimental effect of slowing traffic through Talbragar Street to a similar grawl much of the time as currently occurs in Macquarie Street.
	The median strip limits the ability to park on either side of the street or to pass vehicles that are waiting to park thus causing similar congestion as regularly seen in Macquarie Street. This congestion and slowing of traffic in Talbragar. Street will in our view cause shoppers and others to avoid the street if it is often congested and therefore impacting on businesses that might otherwise had those shoppers parking close to or nearby to their outlets.
	There also appears to be a loss of car spaces when a growing and developing CBD actually requires more car spaces.

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ED21/8385

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While the shade from tress is appreciated and creates welcome relief on our hotter days and provides a nicer aesthetic look, they do also block vital signage to commercial businesses if they are not pruned and maintained effectively which has long been an issue in Macquarie Street. We are not suggesting there be no additional trees at all but maybe significantly less then the current plans proposes.

We are also mindful that following a prolonged drought of several years followed by the COVID pandemic in 2020 and now continuing in 2021 that retailers and business owners will encounter unwanted further disruption and most likely reduced sales turnover if substantial and lengthy beautification works are to be undertaken at some point in the not to distant future.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our submission. We are happy to discuss further by phone if needed on 6884 3444.

Andrew McDonald

(Andrew McDonald Commercial Dubbo)

File Upload if required:

57

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au < comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au > Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 1:47 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council < council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au > Subject: Submission - Taibragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
First name:	Marik
Surname:	Gardner
Telephone Number:	0419611302
Address:	194 Fitzroy st Dubbo
Email:	Mark gardner@vbs.net.au
Submission:	I support the plans for frees in Tailblagar st. It's a hot street with little street appeal, frees will make it cooler and attractive to people. This may affract new business. In summer there are no problems getting car parks, its too hot. Cars and shoppers are in the shaded shopping areas.
	However I respect the business owners view about parking.
	A compremise may be to put trees down the middle of the road, which will shade the southern part of the street.
	I would like to see council progress at least with this compromise, if not the plan in its entirety.
	We are planting for the next 20 to 50 years. Dubbo will become hofter due to elimate change. We need more canopy cover.
	Thanks
	Mark
File Upload if required:	



From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 1:12 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo .nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Alexandra
Surname:	Мидах
Telephone Number:	D408745633
Address:	75 Jubilee Street Dubbo
Email:	alexandra@designtribedubbo.com.au
Submission;	Dubbo-Regional Council,
	I am heartened by the fact Council is seeking to upgrade this precinct. It is a harsh urban zone that needs softening to help make Dubbo a more attractive city. Landscaping will address visual issues as well as environmental ones, particularly the ever increasing heat islands caused by the built environment. It also wholeheadedly support the inclusion of public art to strengthen the cultural fabric of the town. I appreciate there would be strong pushback from business owners. Parking is obviously a major factor, and one that is only going to get worse as Dubbo continues to grow.
	There is no easy solution to the perking issue, however the area of land to the NE corner of the Brisbane and Taibragar Street intersection could well be an ideal area for something multi storey that would be designed to meet future, parking demands for the city. The upper levels of the car park could extend north over the railway line fair rights development, providing further parking for both sides of the track and effectively joining up the currently severed Brisbane Street, albeit from an elevated level within the carpark. This would support the ample parking on the western and of the precipal, under the railway line near the Visitor

.

ED21/8392

Information Centre.

Perhaps business owners would be more willing to get on board with the Beautification of Dubbo CBD scheme if projects to address long term parking were also being developed and promoted in conjunction.

Multi level carparks can be attractive as well, with the right design!

Kind regards,

Alexandra Murray

File Upload if required:

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

From: Sent: To:

comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Friday, 15 January 2021 12:04 PM Dubbo Regional Council

Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Susah
Surname:	EUL .
Telephone Number:	9427660212
Address:	18/3 Royal Pines Close Dubbo
Email:	-bobsusiehockey@hatmail.com
Submission:	1 support the planting of extra trees as illustrated in Talbragar Street beautification plans.
File Upload if required:	

60

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au <comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 12:03 PM
To: Dubbo Regional Council <council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>
Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

First name:	Jöhn E
Surname:	Hering
Telephone Number:	0408 867 494
Address	99, whylandra street
Email:	phin her@bigpond net au
Submission:	The CEO.
	Dear Sir, As an owner of commercial properties in Talbragar Street, lask that the Dubbo Regional Council give serious consideration on building a multi-storey car Park for the street.
	Talbragar Street doesn't have the luxury of BLIGHT Street to help carry the workers car parking. There are people that are parking in the parking area near the railway line that
	work in Brisbane / Carrington Ave. as there is reduced parking [and have time restrictions in place].
	There should be no parking fees applied to this area. I have no objection to the beautification of the street but you can't take car parking spaces away from a retail area that relies on people that come to from the smaller towns to shop.
	The businesses in Talbragar Street are businesses that need to keep the car spaces either by removing the workers cars from the streets finto a multi car parking station.

•

The traffic flow in street has improved since the round about at Brisbane and Talbragar Street

The flow needs to remain and putting a medium strip in the centre of the road could have the the same issue that Macquarie Street has where the through traffic is held up when someone is parking or reversing out of the park.

File Upload if required:

EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au Friday, 15 January 2021 11:37 AM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Narelle
Surname:	Grant
Telephone Number:	0421131551
Address:	232 Darling St
Email:	ggrant50@optusnet.com.au
Submission:	I very much hope DRC goes ahead with this plan as it is for the following reasons.
	Talbragar St is way overdue for a facelift. It is hot, stark, boring and the streetscape detracts from the lovely businesses along it.
	2. We live in one of the hottest inland cities in Australia and as such we very much need every bif of green we can get:
	 Summers are becoming hotter, so our streets must reflect the need for added shade. There is a lot of evidence to support how much trees reduce the ambient temperature in a street.
	Today I had reason to meet someone in Talbragar St, Where did I wait? I sat on one of the seats under the lovely shade tree on the corner of Carrington Ave. Yes I know these trees are not considered a desirable species, but they make this end of the street.
*** ***	Added disabled parking and shaded seating will make Talbragar St a much more attractive place to browse and shop.
	5. I have confidence council staff can accommodate the concerns of some business owners without detracting from this plan.
File Upload if required:	

Front: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 11:23 AM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

First name:	Tim	
Surname:	Barnes	
Telephone Number:	0420 835 761	
Address:	34 colony crescent dubbo 2830	
Email:	T/mbarnes6@gmail.com	
Submission:	Some retailers might not want trees as it will take up car spaces. Think outside the box. Plant trees down the middle of the road and have planter box structures on the pavement. Redeveloped the old petrol station to create more car spaces. People outside of Dubbo mock our lack of trees. Trees make a place much more inviting and attract tourists!! Places like Armidale and Orange leave Dubbo for dead. It is hard to imagine a place as hot as Dubbo that has as few a trees.	
File Upload if required:		

APPENDIX NO: 1 - TALBRAGAR STREET BEAUTIFICATION SUBMISSIONS

ITEM NO: CCL21/9

63

From: Charmaine Grady <charmaine.grady@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 9:23 AM

To: Dubbo Regional Council < council@dubbo.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Talbragar St/CBD Beautification

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments]

To whom it may concern,

I have reviewed the plans for the proposed tree planting and beautification of Talbragar Street and the CBD. I fully support these plans for the tree planting to go ahead.

I have lived in Dubbo for over 30 years, and I am disappointed with the lack of trees we have. Dubbo gets so not and we need the trees to cool our areas down, as well as to look more appealing.

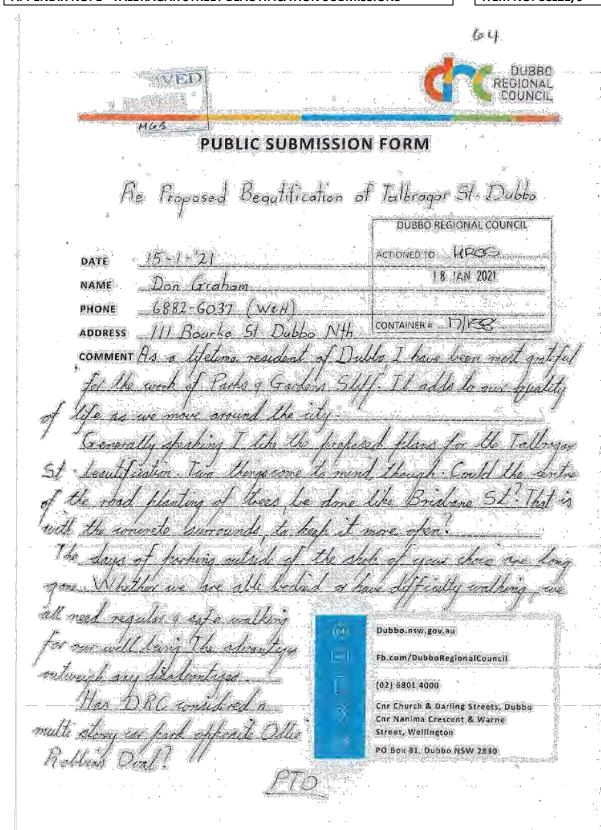
I have never had an Issue with finding car parking in Talbragar Street, and I don't believe that planting the trees as proposed with detrimentally affect car parking on Talbragar Street. In fact, I personally think that by creating shady car parking spaces will entice more people to park their cars in the street, thereby bringing more customers to the shops along Talbragar Street.

Please go ahead with planting the proposed trees, and once this project is completed, please continue to plant more trees around Dubbo.

Thank-you,

Charmaine Owens

0407215727



ED21/8742

As part of the existing as park. It would be a site with less polluted sir & conjected traffer. It would still be centrally located, without clashing with horitage buildings.

(The "Hanging Gordens of Bligh St")

I hope your vision for a more user friendly Talbrogar St. will be possible. Many shopping areas around Australia, have been successfully beautified. Some roods even closed to general traffic q made into a people friendly mall. This has enhanced the quality of life for all involved.

Your surcenely

Orn, Erolam

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DUBBO NSW 2830

and more than a way to be a subject to the subject of the subject DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL The CEO
Dubbo Regional Council
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RESUBMISSION TO PUBLIC EXHIBITION TALBRAGAR ST BEAUTIFICATION PROPOSAL.

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wish to make a submission and thank Council for the opportunity.

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DECLARATIONS

- 1. I am a member of Talbragar St traders' group which has made a submission.
 - 2. I do not own directly or beneficially any property in Taibragar St or Dubbo CBD.

I would like to direct my comments around the human side of the proposal, and not focus on the content included in other submissions

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- 1. When the Mayoral minute was adopted in February 2019 to proceed with the investigation for beautification of the street, was it considered by Council staff or Councillors as to the likely acceptance by, or the impact on the traders within the street. When the plan produced a potential loss of 17/20 car parks, was there a stress test applied to a selection of business, in the street to determine if there were threats which may weaken the strength of some businesses. So, whilst I understand this project was proposed in good faith, the key impacting components have potential in the longer term, to reduce turnover and business profit, and cause job losses.
- Council during the Covid period has been very supportive through its messages to the community and local business owners, even encouraging the community to buy from a local business. This is a message that has been well received and appreciated in the community. I question how Council decided that it would put on public display the proposed Talbragar St beautification plan over the busiest time in the Xmas period and close submissions on 4 January, and during this exhibition time Council was closed for 10 days on public holidays and Council holidays. Did it not occur to either Councillors or senior staff that in the lead up to and over the Xmas holiday period was not a good time to ask Talbragar St businesses to



- engage in the required process of making a submission on an issue of great importance to the majority.
- 3. It is noted Council did not advise the registered owners of property in the Talbragar St CBD, of the proposal. Accordingly, owners not resident in Dubbo, and there are many, may not be aware of the subject proposal, although if the proposal were to proceed, may impact on the rental and sale value of their property. WHY were these owners not entitled to know about what Council is proposing in the street? Some have been owners for over 50 years. Surely a circular from Council from the rates data base at the time the public exhibition commenced would have been a basic service one would expect from any well-managed organisation.
- 4. Whilst Council has compiled with requirements to advertise in local media, it did not make any direct contact with traders in Taibragar St until 7 January, when it delivered to all businesses a very descriptive A4 brochure with colour plans and information. This was 3 days after (4 January) the original closing date for submissions. WHY did Council not communicate with the traders in the street at the time the public exhibition commenced or even earlier. I can accept Council has complied with the law in terms of the notification of the public exhibition, however it does not appear to have met a general duty of care to the business community in directly communicating with them, to ensure the beautification proposal was understood. The beautification is the biggest change proposed for Taibragar St in the last 50 years, and surely the traders and property owners were entitled to some communication from Council. Whilst Council claims to be part of the community, and works with it, this is one occasion in my opinion it has failed to meet its own standards.
- 5. Talbragar St has the most diverse retailing strip in Dubbo, along with a wide range of other businesses and service providers. Predominately a small business street of private owners along with the Post Office, Rivers, and some branches of national traders. It is an important business locale to contribute to the general attraction for Dubbo locals, and those from the region to shop in Dubbo. Council is aware of the threats to business in the current era, from online shopping, the majors competing with small business, and the general trading conditions a result of drought and Covid19 over the last 4 years. One would have though these factors would more than ever persuade Council of the need to communicate closely with the traders in Talbragar St.
- 6. There are a number of long established retail business traders in Talbragar St that offer Council wide ranging experience, of not only trading conditions in the street, and the threats the beautification may pose to business generally, but the opportunities to grow the business area of Talbragar St. A selection of such businesses is:

Whitney's Jewellers 101 years
Suttons Family menswear (Harry's for Menswear) 94 years
Snares Newsagency 65 years
Dubbo Culinary and Kitchenware's 40 years

it does not appear any of these traders have had any contact instigated by Council, since the Mayoral minute of February 2019, until a visit from the Mayor on 8 January, after the Meeting of Talbragar St traders proposed for 11 January, was published in local media.



Along the street many other businesses are long established, all with a commitment to Dubbo and Talbragar St, ready to always work with Council in a collaborative way for the benefit of Dubbo when given the opportunity.

- The proposed Beautification of Talbragar St, has been imposed on businesses, it is not as a result of consultation, collaboration or a desire to act in the best interest of the businesses in the street. The public notice on Council webpage did not mention within the proposal that car parking spaces would be removed.
- 8. There is however a desire within traders generally to work with Council as to a future form of beatification including an increase in trees, and other features. If Council reconsiders the outcome after submissions are considered and starts again in consultation with the traders in the street then over the next few years it is likely an acceptable form of beautification will be achieved. This will require all stakeholders acting in good faith.
- 9. Councillors should not be surprised that business owners were vey concerned that the public exhibition was conducted over the busiest trading period of the year pre-Christmas, and over the Christmas/New Year and Council holiday period. Council offices were closed for 10 days of the exhibition period. It is disappointing that Mr McMahon, as CEO allowed the exhibition to take place at this time, knowing how inconvenient it is for business owners to cope with such a challenge in the Christmas trading period. Mr McMahon's signature appears on the DRC Council page Daily Liberal 16 December, notifying the closing date for submissions was 4 January, and he and Council are responsible for the inconvenience and concern Dubbo Regional Council's choice of dates for the public exhibition has caused.
- 10. Businesses in Dubbo and Talbragar St are hoping 2021 is a year of recovery, with the significantly improved economic conditions in the region, following the record grain harvest and following 3 years of drought and 1 year of Covid. Surely Council is cognisant of the trading conditions of past years and would want to assist businesses to facilitate recovery in 2021. To achieve this outcome, Council should refrain from any disruption to the street, other than urgent and necessary repairs.
- 11. In 46 years I have traded in various CBD locations; Church St ~ 4 months, 176b Brisbane St-11 years, 211 Macquarie St-19 years, and for past 16 years in Talbragar St, which is by far the best business location in the city. Talbragar St will be an important generator of attracting shoppers to Dubbo over the next 20 years, and it is hoped Council can through collaboration with the stakeholders in the street, be a part of the success.
- Less parking, less customers, less turnover, less trading profit, less jobs, lower value of business, rent and property.
- 13. Talbragar St was beautified in the early 1990's following the Macquarie St upgrades. This was a most successful program by Council and has served traders in the street very well. It has provided a very good traffic flow, and importantly Talbragar St has enjoyed a very high occupancy rate over the last 20 years. How does Council think beautification will improve the trading performance of the businesses, with less car parking, and less access within the street?
- 14. I am not a "knocker of Council" and I put forward my record of working with Council going back to 1983 on various Committees' and in other roles and will rely on that record. However I am very critical as to the way Council has handled the management of the proposed beautification project, particularly the disregard towards retailers, business and property owners, in the street, and the timing of the public exhibition, which did not need

EP21/8751

- to be in December 2020, and the response and rejection of proposed plan from Taibragar St traders reflects the management of the beautification plan by Council.
- 15. I would like to recognise the assistance provided to Talbragar St traders by Cir Stephen Lawrence who facilitated the extension of the closing date from 4 January to 15 January, and Mr Ian McAlister for providing a detailed and comprehensive response on the proposed plan to the Talbragar St traders group.

Finally, I hope Council will now take time to engage in widespread consultation and collaboration with Talbragar St businesses and property owners, and then as a result in future years revise the proposal to add to the beautification of the street.

NOTE: The views expressed in this submission are solely mine and do not represent any organisation or company I have been, or remain associated with.

Yours sincerely

Bob Berry

M 0148 636954

E bberry@bobberry.com.au

PO Box 7011 Dubbo NSW 2830



Ian McAlister

From: Sent: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Friday, 15 January 2021 4:25 PM Dubbo Regional Council

To: Subject:

Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	Tim
Surname:	Howlett
Telephone Number:	0435787381
Address:	4 Ellenborough Ave, Dubbo
Email:	timjameshowlett@gmail.com
Submission:	I support this project and hope Council installs lots of trees and sculptures. The building's awnings don't entirely profect pedestrians from the sun, so providing trees to reduce the ambient temperature would be greatly welcomed. People might be encouraged to walk/ride into the CBD more if the temperature is reduced. There is still plenty of parking in the surrounding streets, so a small loss of spaces would be far outwelghed by the shading and amenity improvements.
File Upload if required:	

Ian McAlister

From: comms@dubbo.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Friday, 15 January 2021 3:57 PM

To: Dubbo Regional Council

Subject: Submission - Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plan

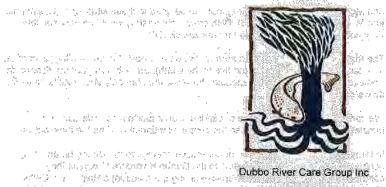
Attachments: 0_106365_15Jan2021155620_Dubbo Rivercare Group Inc - Submission re Talbragar

St Plantings, 15 Jan 21 pdf

[EXTERNAL Message: Be cautious of clicking on links or opening attachments.]

The following information has been submitted from the Dubbo Regional Council:

First name:	Dubbo Rivercare Group Inc
Surname:	Rivercare Group Inc
Telephone Number:	0427952033
Address:	See below
Email:	dubbor/vercare@gmail.com
Submission:	Please find attached our submission. Thank you
File Upload if required:	0_106365_15Jan2021155620_Dubbo Rivercare Group Inc - Submission re Talbragar St Plantings, 15 Jan 21 pdf



Email, dubborivercare@gmail.com

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Dubbo Regional Council graphs are busing or particles or bases 20 agents in the state of the council of the cou to and the first of the court of the first of the first of the set of the first of

Submission – Talbragar Street Tree Planting Plans, Dubbo Regional Council

The Dubbo Rivercare Group Inc appreciates the opportunity to provide a submission to the above proposal.

The Dubbo River Group Inc (previously the Dubbo Macquarie Rivercare Group Inc) is a volunteer group that focuses on improving the river corridor environment of the Macquarie River primarily in the urban area of Dubbo (from the South Weir to the Troy River Bridge). The group has worked in this area since 2002, contributing to the Improvement of the river corridor through weed control, planting activities and ongoing maintenance of the river corridor. In 2019 our group contributed about 470 hours of volunteer time to improving the Macquarie River, that continued into 2020.

As a group focussed on the river corridor we are aware of the impacts of the street trees and their impacts to the river environment. We are also aware of the need to maintain, retain and increase the level of suitable plantings both on and off river to promote the many advantages that vegetation especially trees contribute to the environment of Dubbo.

In relation to this proposal we offer the following comments:

- We encourage the addition of more street trees in Dubbo as the 'cooling effect' of vegetation in urban areas is significant. This is an ever increasing factor in many other centres throughout Australia and the world especially in relation to our warming and drier climates. We encourage Council to pursue this action throughout Dubbo.
- We however question the appropriateness of the species planned for Talbragar Street -Zelkova serrata. From our research this species is totally unsuitable for Dubbo in terms of the climate, and placing these in an area of extreme heat potential exfreme le a bitumen street. There are so many small, drought resistant Callistemon

and Melaleuca (and other species) that can be used in these situations. (C. viminalis and M. linariifolia spring to mind). With crown raising they would be very suitable. Why couldn't Angophora be used more extensively?

- The text says 'nine new Zelkova serrata "Wireless" trees planted on either side of the streetscape (four to the north and five to the south), and eight Angophora floribunda trees included in a new centre median', however the plan only shows Zelkova as far as we can determine.
- We can understand that the loss of parking is an important consideration for businesses along Talbragar St, so the central planting should be the main activity.
- In terms of the ongoing inclusion of non-native species to the Dubbo urban area, it
 continues to cause severe problems to the Dubbo Rivercare Group as they
 contribute to the exotic volunteer species along the Macquarie River the Cellis
 planted in Dubbo streets is one of our major weed species that we have to deal with.
- The proliferation of the loss of leaves in autumn cause an eyesore in Macquarie St already and should not be extended into Talbragar. These leaves are also swept into the Macquarie River during run-off events and contribute to pollution of the River, and impact on the river environment.

We wish to encourage Council to consider more appropriate tree plantings throughout the council area including the Central Business District. It should also consider the impact of climate change that should form part of a larger portfolio of adaptation and clever design for our city to become more climate ready. Ideally the development of a plant list to recommend appropriate species for both Council lands, the public, developers and businesses to guide this would be most useful.

We have seen a number of instances where trees and shrubs have been planted in areas and subsequently failed due to our environment. This would be an ongoing cost to Council and other developments let alone the opportunity that is lost to dealing with the heat effects of our urban area. Likewise, this summer is not the norm and to continue to consider species more suitable for cooler climates is very short sighted.

Please contact myself should you have other enquiries.

Yours sincerely

Daryi Green

Dubbo Rivercare President



REPORT: Initial Categorisation of Crown Land

AUTHOR: Liveability Projects Officer

REPORT DATE: 7 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/13

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 1 July 2017 the *Crown Land Management Act, 2016* came into force. Under the new Act, Dubbo Regional Council was identified as the trustee of 193 Crown Land Reserves. As part of the new Act, Plans of Management are required for all Crown Land reserves classified as "Community" land.

Under the *Crown Land Management Act 2016*, Council managers must assign to all Crown Land under their management one or more initial categories of community land referred to in section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council managers must assign a categorisation they consider to be most closely related to the purposes for which the land is dedicated or reserved. Multiple categories may be assigned to Crown Land where Crown Land is subject to multiple reservation or dedication purposes. In assigning an initial categorisation, Council managers should refer to the Local Government Act 1993 provisions that govern the management and use of each community land category. Council managers should consider how these categories would preserve and facilitate the use of the land for the purpose for which the land was originally set aside by its dedication or reservation.

When considering the use and management of community land, council managers should refer to the core objectives for each category prescribed by the Local Government Act 1993, as well as the guidelines for the categorisation of community land prescribed by the Local Government Regulation 2005.

The former Dubbo City Council produced a Plan of Management for Community Land in 2013 (Parks and Landcare - Plan of Management for Community Land Asset Classification Standards and Maintenance Service Levels) which categorised some crown land reserves. At that time only the predominant use category was assigned. No equivalent document for the former Wellington Shire Council could be found. This review defines all relevant categories for all crown reserves that are community land in Dubbo Regional Council area.

Using the provided guide "Guideline—initial categorisation of Crown land managed by council Crown land managers" an initial category or categories has been assigned.

Once community land is categorised Council can commence developing plans of management. Should changes be identified as being required of the initial categorisation during the plan of management process a public hearing must be held into those proposed changes, in addition to the normal exhibition process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Crown Land management is defined under the *Crown Lands Management Act 2016 (Crown Land Management Act 2016)* and the *Local Government Act 1993 (Local Government Act 1993)*. NSW Legislation allows for the delivery and implementation of strategic planning and capital works programs under *the Crown Land Management Act 2016, Local Government Act 1993,* and *EP&A Act*.

This program is consistent with the Community Strategic Plan theme of Liveability:

5.3 The lifestyle and social needs of the community are supported.

5.10 The quality of our environment and lifestyle is enhanced by the provision of environmental education and regulation.

5.10.1 Land use management improves and sustains the built and natural environment.

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- That the report by the Liveability Projects Officer, dated 13 January 2020 be adopted.
- 2. That the report be submitted to the Department of Crown lands, with the Council resolution and supporting documentation for Ministerial consent.

Peter Christie
Liveability Projects Officer

REPORT

Council has considered a number of reports relating to Crown Land management.

On 9 November 2020 the ILC made recommendation to Council that the report **Crown Land Review – Surplus Land** be adopted. At the Ordinary Council meeting 23 November 2020 the recommendation was adopted. This report has now been sent to Crown Lands advising them of our desire to relinquish care and management of the thirty two (32) reserves to the State Government.

On 14 September 2020 ILC made recommendation to Ordinary Council that the report **Crown Land management – Operational Land** and the **Crown Land Management – Cemetery Reserves** and made recommendation of both to be placed on public exhibition. The outcomes of the public exhibition process are yet to be considered by council. These reports if adopted by Council and subsequently approved by the Minister will result in some reserves becoming operational lands. At the Ordinary Council meeting 28 September 2020 this recommendation was adopted.

This report addresses the remaining Crown Land Reserves, which are classified as community land with a few exceptions.

Three cemeteries Tubba-gah Aboriginal Burial Ground, Rawsonville Cemetery and Bodangora Cemetery are to be removed from the proposed revised Crown Land Management – Cemetery Reserves report and are included in the Categorisation report for the following reasons:

- Council is the appointed Crown Land Manager for these three cemeteries, the other cemeteries are devolved to council.
- Tubba-gah Aboriginal Burial Ground is a declared Aboriginal place and of cultural significance.
- Rawsonville Cemetery is listed as a Heritage item in the LEP.
- Bodangora was previously converted to a public park under the former Conversion of Cemeteries Act 1974 No 17.

Three reserves are also being considered for removal from the Crown Land Management – Operational Land report as it is now considered likely that Crown Lands would not consent to them being operational land based on a review of the requirements for operational land which includes that the NSW Department of Industry—Lands and Water will only issue ministerial consent to manage land as operational where a council manager can demonstrate that either the land:

- does not fall within any of the categories for community land under the Local Government Act 1993; or
- could not continue to be used and dealt with as it currently can, if it were required to be used and dealt with as community land.

These reserves are: Dubbo and Wellington Kindergartens, State Emergency Service, Euchareena Reserve, Wongarbon Tank, Dubbo Showground and Wellington Town Hall. The reasons are:

- Kindergartens can be categorised as general community use.
- Euchareena Reserve and showground have a reserve purpose of public recreation.
- Wongarbon Tank has a reserve purpose of environment protection and is listed as a heritage item.
- Guidance is that rescue stations and town halls should be general community use.

Under the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (Crown Land Management Act 2016), council managers must assign to all Crown land under their management one or more initial categories of community land referred to in section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Local Government Act 1993). The Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Part Four sets out the guidelines for the categorisation of community land. In summary these are:

Natural Area - possesses a significant geological feature, geomorphological feature, landform, representative system or other natural feature or attribute that would be sufficient to further categorise the land as bushland, wetland, escarpment, watercourse or foreshore.

Sportsground - if the land is used or proposed to be used primarily for active recreation involving organised sports or the playing of outdoor games.

Park - if the land is, or is proposed to be, improved by landscaping, gardens or the provision of non-sporting equipment and facilities, for use mainly for passive or active recreational, social, educational and cultural pursuits that do not unduly intrude on the peaceful enjoyment of the land by others.

Cultural Significance – an area of significance for one of more of the following: Aboriginal use occupation or connection, aesthetics, archaeological, historical, technical or research or of significance, because of the area's association with Aboriginal life after 1788 or the area's association with a contemporary community for social, spiritual or other reasons. If a reserve is listed in the Dubbo or Wellington LEP it has been categorised as culturally significant.

Community Use - may be made available for use for any purpose for which community land may be used, whether by the public at large or by specific sections of the public, and is not required to be categorised as a natural area under section 36A, 36B or 36C of the Act and does not satisfy the guidelines under clauses 102–105 for categorisation as a natural area, a sportsground, a park or an area of cultural significance.

Land that is categorised as a natural area is to be further categorised as one or more of the following:

- a) bushland;
- b) wetland;
- c) escarpment;
- d) watercourse; and

e) foreshore.

A review of the land categorisation of all Crown land identified as Community has now been completed. Within the attached report are the proposed categorisation of the remaining one hundred (100) Crown land reserves under the control of Council.

SUMMARY

Appendix 1 provides the proposed initial categorisation for one hundred (100) Crown land reserves where council is the crown land manager.

Appendices:

1 Dubbo Crown Land reserves Initial Categorisation

Dubbo Regional Council Initial Categorisation

Executive Summary

This report provides the details on crown land within Dubbo Regional Council local government area for land which is either devolved or where council is the crown land manager. The crown land reserves in Dubbo Regional Council local government area have been identified as either

- Surplus Land 32 Reserves were identified as surplus and Council has resolved to submit a request to resign as crown land manager
- Devolved Land 42 reserves identified where no further categorisation or plan of management is required and council manages the land in accordance with S 48 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- 3. Operational Land The CLM Act provides that Crown land managed by council managers as public land must be managed as if it were community land, unless the minister administering the CLM Act has given written consent to classify the land as operational. The Minister will only issue ministerial consent to manage land as operational where a council manager can demonstrate that either the land:
 - . does not fall within any of the categories for community land under the LG Act, or
 - could not continue to be used and dealt with as it currently can, if it were required to be used and dealt with as community land
- 4. Community Land Under the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act), council managers must assign to all Crown land under their management one or more initial categories of community land referred to in section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993 (LG Act). Council managers must assign a categorisation they consider to be most closely related to the purposes for which the land is dedicated or reserved. Multiple categories may be assigned to Crown land where Crown land is subject to multiple reservation or dedication purposes. Using the provided guide "Appendix B to Guideline—initial categorisation of Crown land managed by council Crown land managers" an initial category has been assigned.

101 reserves identified

The categories are:

- Natural Area (sub category watercourse, bushland, escarpment, wetland and foreshore)
- b. Sportsground
- c. Park
- d. Area of cultural significance
- e. General community use.

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Stuart Town Camping Reserve 2852 RESERVE_NO 2852 RESERVE_TY RESERVE RESERVE_NA VILLE STATUS CURRENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL CLM MANAGER Dubbo Regional Council PURPOSE Camping Whole: Lot 7007 DP 1054319, Lot 7018 DP 1055857 Parish Tronbacks County Wellington IRONBARKS WELLINGTON DUBBO REGIONAL DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL 3318.96337369 Current Use: Managed as part of neighbouring property Action: Classify R 2852 as community land and categorise as general community use.

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

Cathead Corner 5889





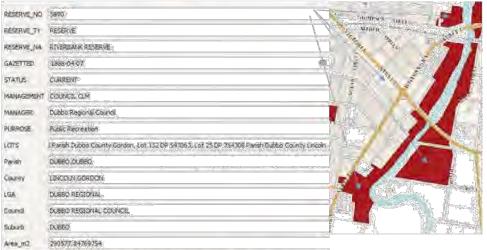
Current Use: Managed as Park

Action: Classify R 5889 as community land



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dubbo Riverside 5890



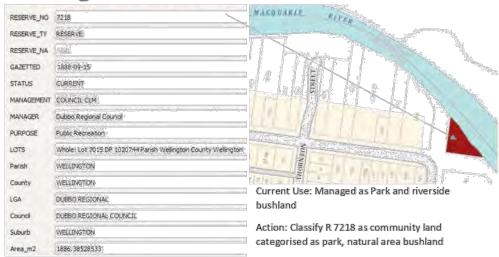


Current Use: Managed as Wiradjuri and Sir Roden Cutler Parks, riverside bushland and Lady Cutler Sportsgrounds

Action: Classify R 5890 as community land categorised as park, natural area bushland and sportsgrounds

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

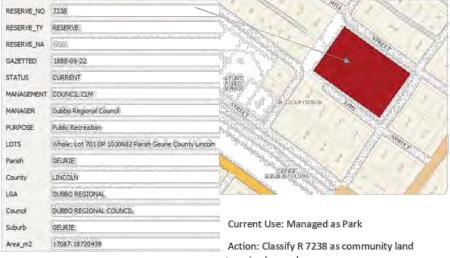
Wellington Riverside 7218





Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Guerie Lime St Park 7238

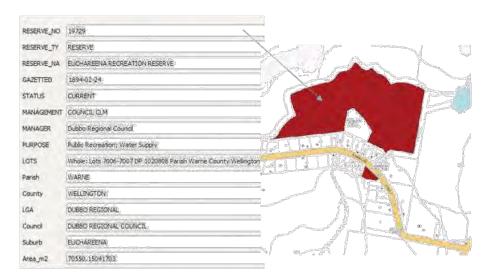


categorised as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Euchareena Recreation Reserve 19729



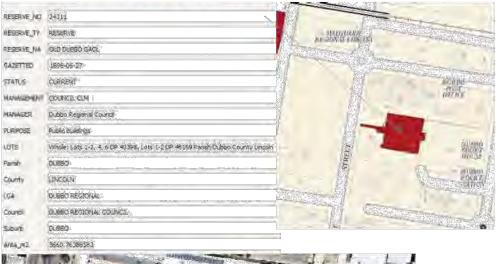
Current Use: Are of natural bushland with dam previously used as town water supply

Action: Classify R 19729 as Community land and categorise as natural area bushland and natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Old Dubbo Gaol 24311



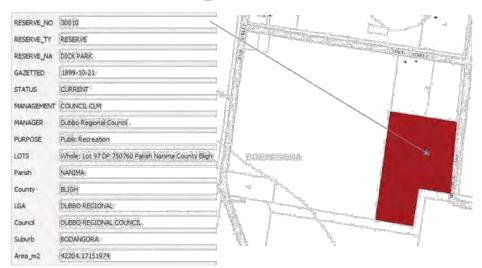


Current Use: Old Dubbo Gaol Tourist attraction

Action: Classify R 24311 as Community land categorised as an area of cultural significance

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dick Park Bodangora 30010



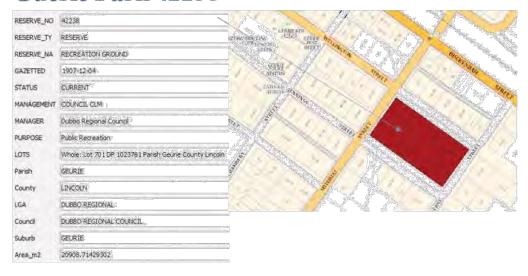


Current Use: Bodangora War Memorial and surrounding park, identified in LEP as heritage item

Action: Classify R 30010 as community land and categorise as part area of cultural significance and part park

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Guerie Park 42238



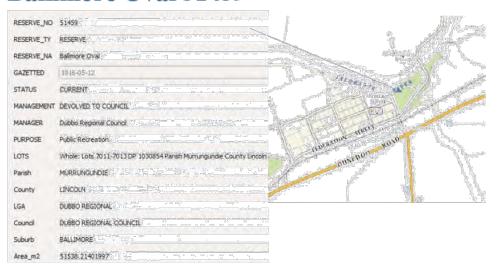
Current Use: This parcel is currently managed as a sportsground with pool, tennis courts and cricket oval





Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Ballimore Oval 51459



Current Use: This parcel is currently managed as a sportsground with oval, tennis courts and playground and natural areas

Action: Classify R 51459 as community land and categorise as sportsground and natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

Wongarbon Park 57459



Current Use: This parcel is currently managed as a park with Bbq area, play equipment and tennis court

Action: Classify R 57949 as community land categorised as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Market Square 59111



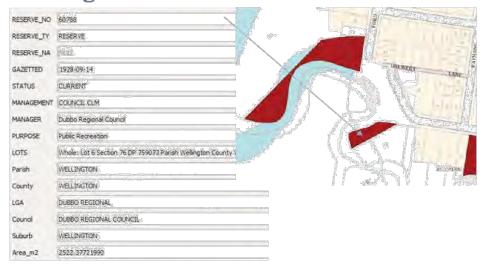
Current Use: Used for cricket with the Girl Guides hall in the south east corner

Action: Classify R 59111 as community land categorised as sportsground and general community use



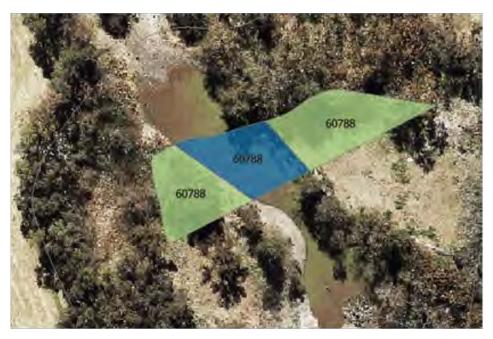
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wellington Riverside 60788



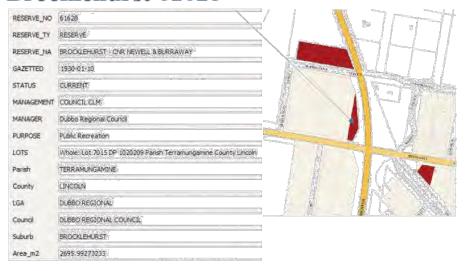
Current Use: This parcel is currently managed as a riparian area and bushland

Action: Classify R 60788 as community land and categorise as natural area bushland and natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Brocklehurst 61628



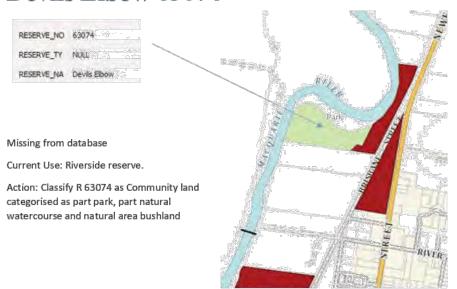


Current Use: Road side open space.

Action: Classify R 61628 as Community land categorised as general community use

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

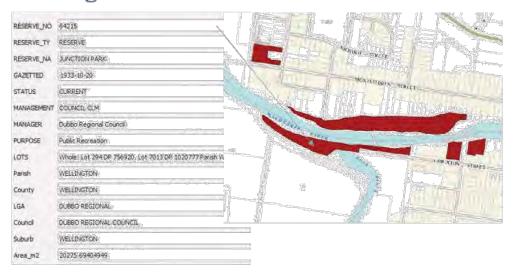
Devils Elbow 63074





Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wellington Junction Park 64215



Current Use: Riverside bushland and riparian

Action: Classify R 64215 as Community Land and categorise as natural area bushland and natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wise Park Guerie 64276



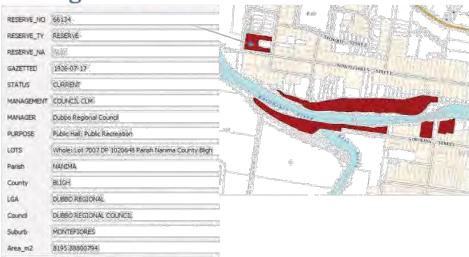
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 64276 as Community Land and categorise as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wellington Teamsters Park 66134



Current Use: Park, listed a heritage item in LEP

Action: Classify R 66134 as Community Land and categorise as sportsground and park of cultural significance due to being the site of the last duel



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Apex Park 74762



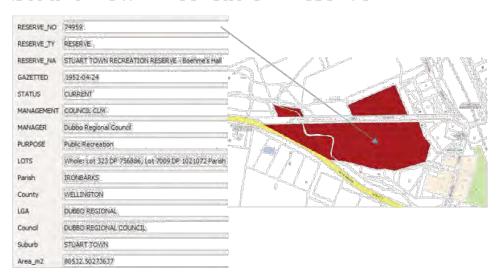
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 74762 as Community land and categorise as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Stuart Town Recreation Reserve 74959



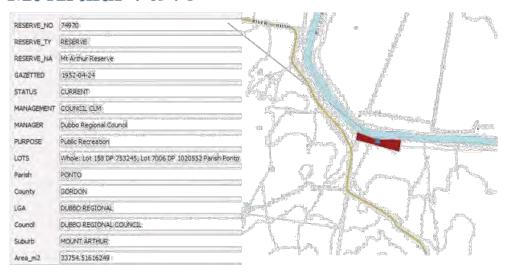
Current Use: Leased to Stuart Town Advancement Association, operated as park, sportsground, machinery museum, overnight camping, contains Boehme's Hall which is of cultural significance

Action: Classify R 74959 as Community Land and categorise as Park, Sportsground, cultural significance and General community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Mt Arthur 74970



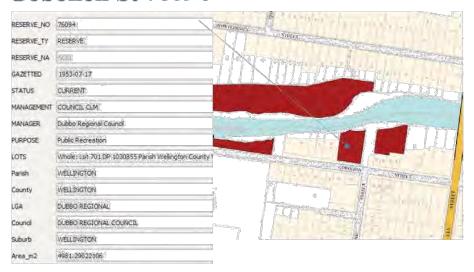
Current Use: Bushland adjacent to river

Action: Classify R 74970 as Community Land and categorise as natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Gobolion St 76094



Current Use: Open space and Bushland adjacent to river

Action: Classify R 76094 as Community Land and categorise as General Community Use and Natural Area Bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Eumungerie triangle 76994



Current Use: Park and play equipment

Action: Classify R 76994 as Community Land and categorise as Park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Roadside rest area 77158



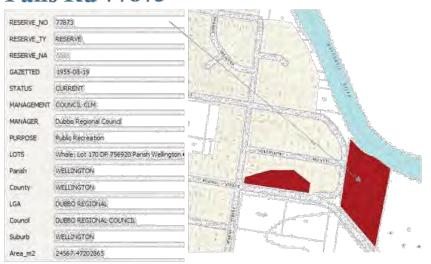
Current Use: Road side rest area

Action: Classify R 77158 as Community Land and categorise as general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Falls Rd 77873



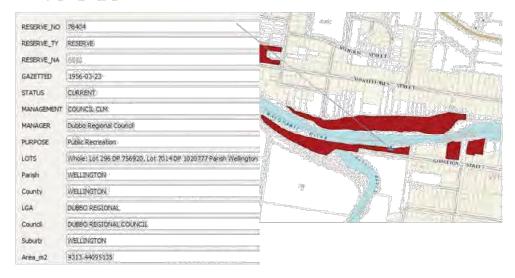
Current Use: Leased to neighbour

Action: Classify R 77873 as Community Land and categorise as natural area bushland and general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Riverside 78404



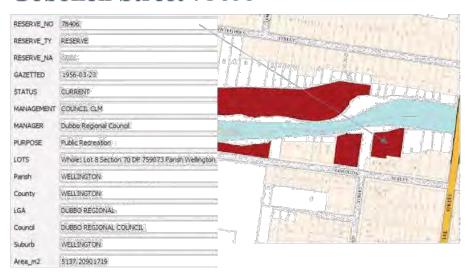
Current Use: Bushland adjacent o the river and roadway associated with low level bridge crossing "Duke of Wellington Bridge"

Action: Classify R 78404 as Community Land and categorise as natural area bushland, general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Gobolion Street 78406



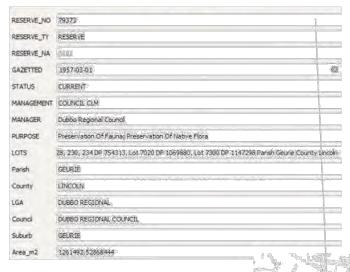
Current Use: Open space and Bushland adjacent to river

Action: Classify R 78406 as Community Land and categorise as general community use and natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Bald Hill Reserve 79373



Current Use: Natural area with mountain bike trail, small area developed adjacent to water storage as water filtration plant

Action: Classify R 79373 as part operational land and part Community Land and categorised as natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020



Teresa Maliphant Park 80171

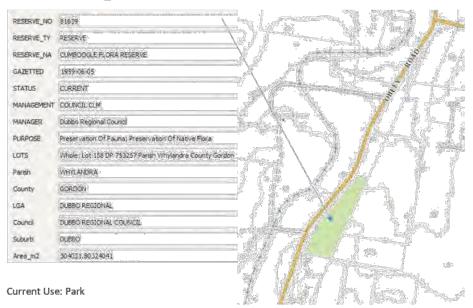
Action: Classify R 80171 as Community Land categorised as park

Current Use: Park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Cumboogle Flora Reserve 81639



Action: Classify R 81639 as Community Land categorised as natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Devils Elbow North 83803



Current Use: BBQ area, powerline easement and

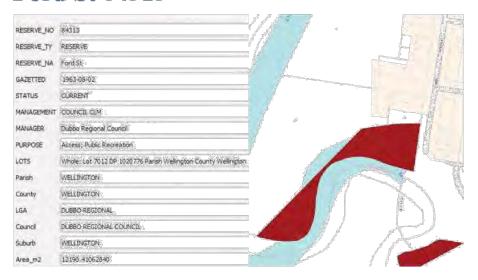
bushland

Action: Classify R 83803 as community land and categorise as part park, part natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Ford St 84313



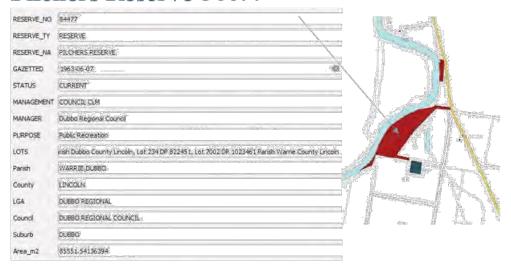
Current Use: river and adjacent banks

 $Action: Classify \ R\ 83803\ as\ community\ land\ and\ categorise\ as\ part\ natural\ area\ ware course,\ natural\ area\ bushland,\ general\ community\ use$



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Pilchers Reserve 84477



Current Use: part leased to Lazy River estate for public recreation and business, part park, watercourse and bushland

Action: Classify R 84477 as community land and categorise as part general community use, park, natural area watercourse and natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dubbo Showground 84662



Current Use: Operated as a harness racing track, showground for a variety of business and community events, previously identified as operational

Action: Classify R 84662 as community land categorised as part sportsground and part general community use.



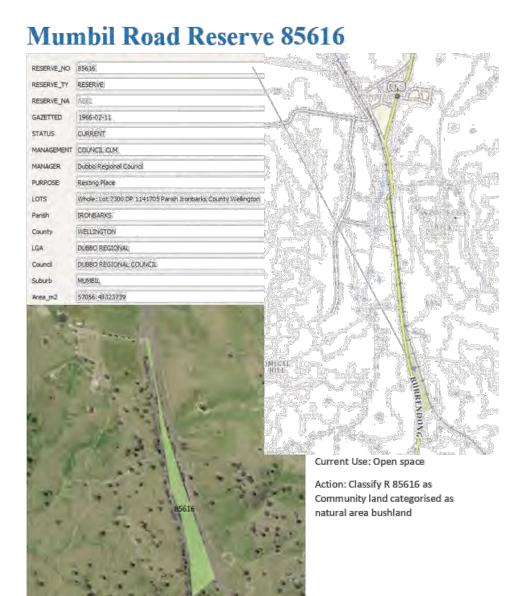
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



Current Use: Closed cemetery for preservation of graves

Action: Classify R 85225 as Community land categorised as an area of cultural significance

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Daphne Park 86916



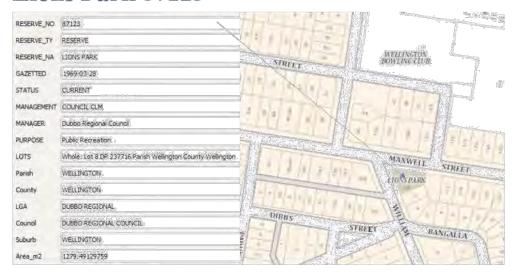
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 96916 as Community land and categorise as Park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Lions Park 87123



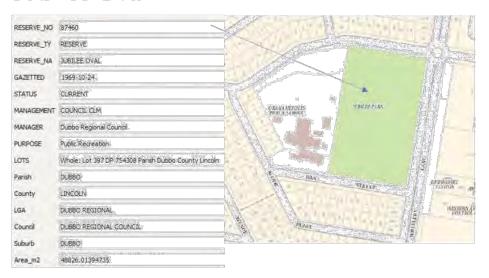
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 87123 as Community land and categorise as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Jubilee Oval 87460



Current Use: Sportsground for cricket, soccer, softball and baseball

Action: Classify R 87460 as Community land and categorise as sportsground



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dubbo Kindergarten 87513



Current Use: Kindergarten

Action: Classify R 87513 as Community land and categorise as general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Brigalow Park 87989



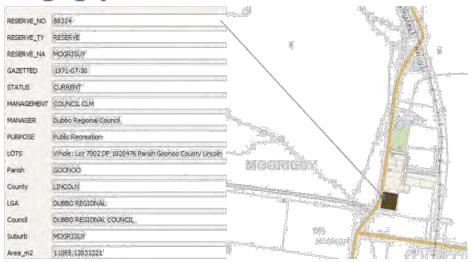
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 87989 as Community land and categorise as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Mogriguy 88324



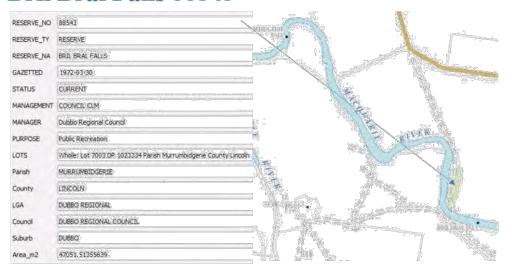
Current Use: Open Space

Action: Classify R 88324 as Community land and categorise as general community use



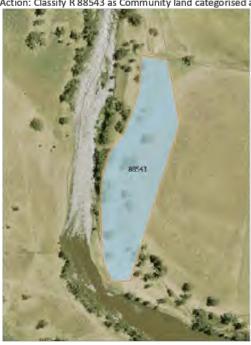
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Bril Bral Falls 88543



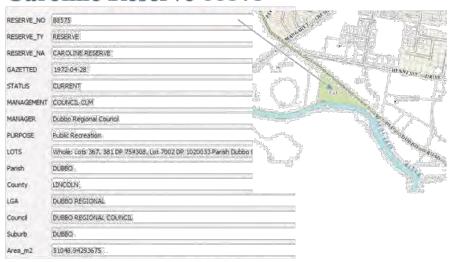
Current Use: Riverside reserve used for camping, fishing, swimming, bird and platypus watching, listed in LEP as heritage item

Action: Classify R 88543 as Community land categorised as a park and area of cultural significance



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Caroline Reserve 88575



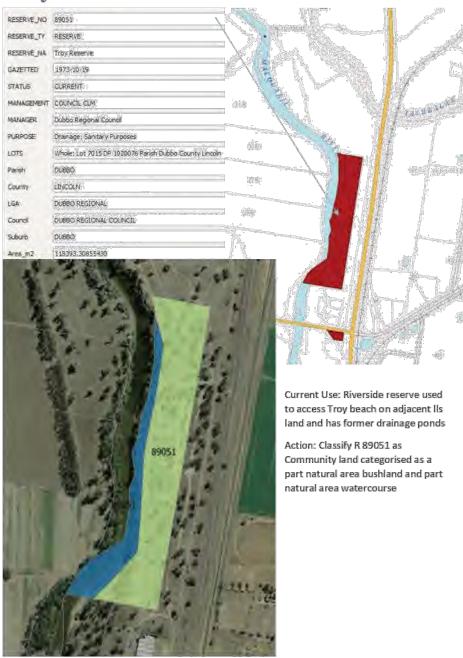
Current Use: Riverside reserve used for bbq, picnic, fishing bird watching

Action: Classify R 88575 as Community land categorised as a part park and part natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Troy 89051



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wellington kindergarten 89362



Current Use: Kindergarten

Action: Classify R 89362 as Community land and categorise as general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dubbo Rescue Squad 89366



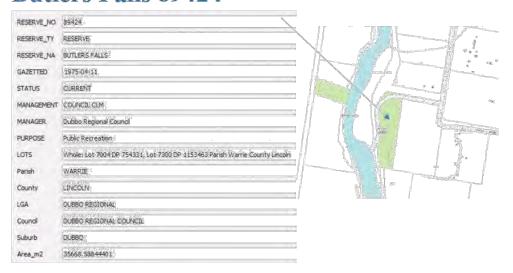
Current Use: State Emergency services

Action: Classify R 89366 as Community land and categorise as general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Butlers Falls 89424





Current Use: Riverside reserve, toilet facilities

Action: Classify R 89424 as Community land categorised as a part natural area bushland and part park of cultural significance due to it being a river crossing point

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

Purvis Lane 90116



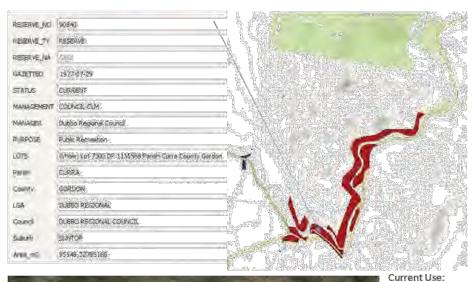
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Neurea 90790



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Glenfinlass 90840





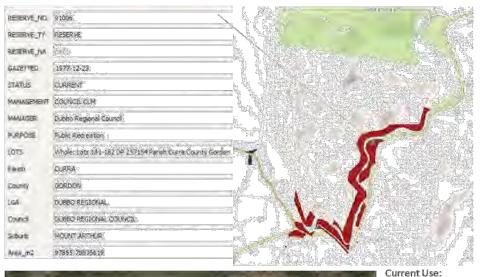
of reserves along Curra Creek Action: Classify R 90840 as Community land categorised as natural area

bushland and natural area watercourse

One of a set

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Glenfinlass 91006





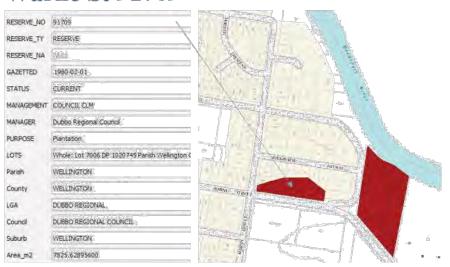
of reserves along Curra Creek Action: Classify R 91006 as Community land categorised as natural area bushland and

natural area watercourse

One of a set

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Warne St 91709



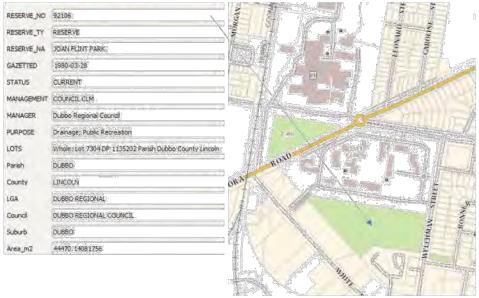
Current Use: open space

Action: Classify R 91709 as Community land categorised as general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Joan Flint Park 92106





Current Use: Park, water retention basin Action: Classify R 92106 as Community land categorised as

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

Redbank Reserve 95643



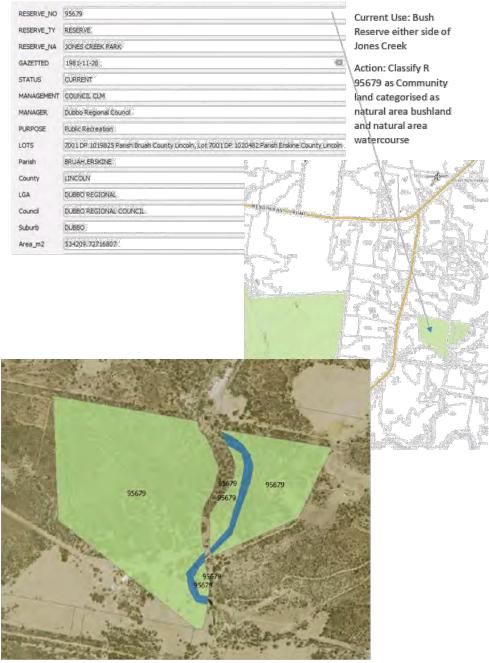


Current Use: Riverside reserve

Action: Classify R 95643 as Community land categorised as natural area bushland

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

Jones Creek 95679

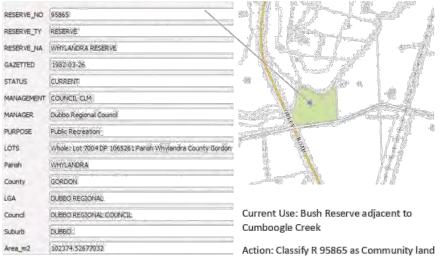


Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dickigundie 95864 RESERVE_NO 95864 RESERVE_TY RESERVE_NA DIOXIGUNDIE RESERVE STATUS CURRENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL CLM Dubbo Regional Council PURPOSE Public Recreation Whole: Lot 700 7 DP 1020296 Parish Minore County Narromine Parish MINORE NARROMINE County LGA DUBBO REGIONAL Council DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL 151343.69420212 Area_m2 Current Use: Bush Reserve adjacent to Macquarie River Action: Classify R 95864 as Community land categorised as natural area bushland

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Whylandra 95865

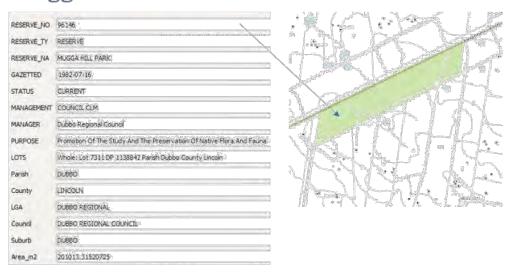


categorised as natural area bushland and natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Mugga Hill 96146



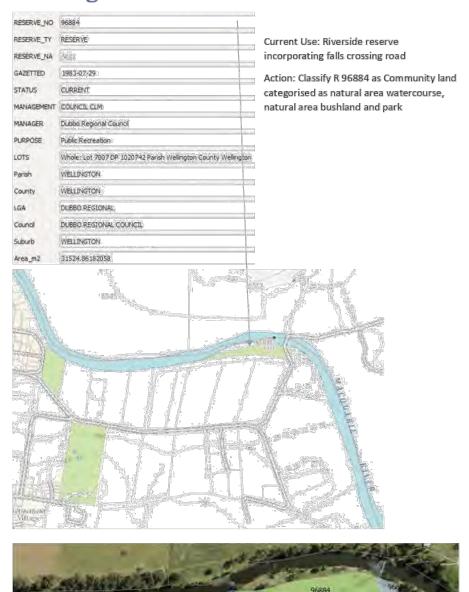
Current Use: Bush Reserve incorporating walking and mountain bike trails

Action: Classify R 95864 as Community land categorised as natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

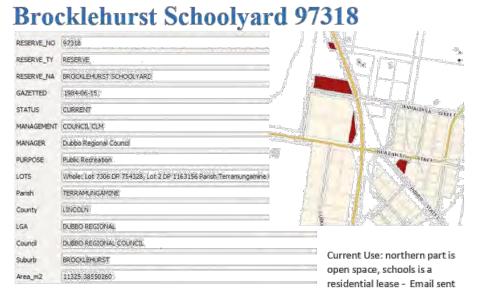
Wellington Riverside 96884



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



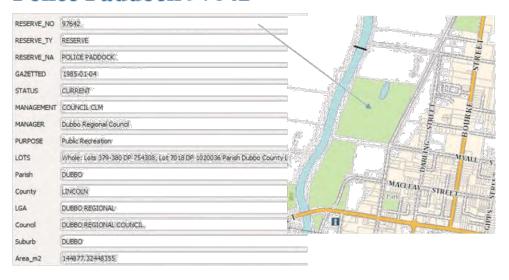
to CL



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation – 13 January 2020

Action: Classify R 97318 as Community land categorised as general community use

Police Paddock 97642



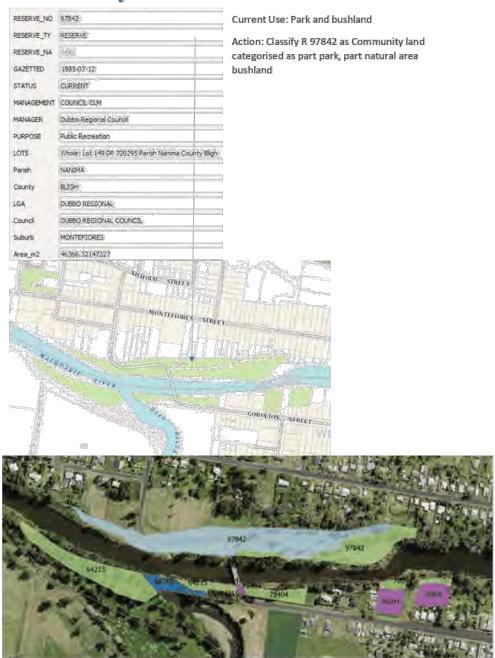
Current Use: Open Space

Action: Classify R 97642 as Community land categorised as part park, part natural area bushland



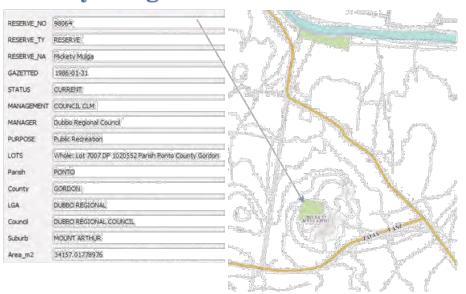
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

John Oxley Park 97842



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Mickety Mulga 98064



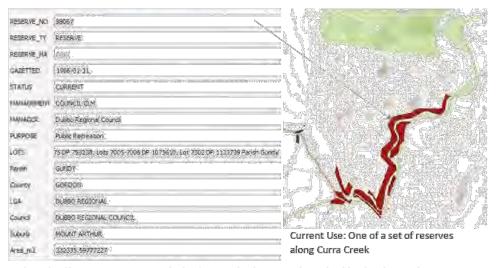
Current Use: Bushland

Action: Classify R 98064 as Community land categorised as natural area bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Glenfinlass 98067

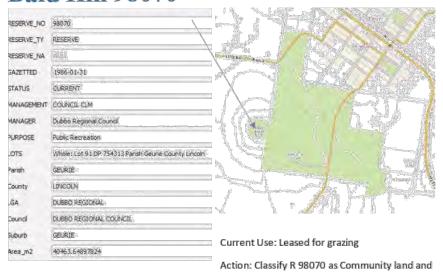


Action: Classify R 98067 as Community land categorised as natural area bushland and natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Bald Hill 98070



categorised as natural area bushland



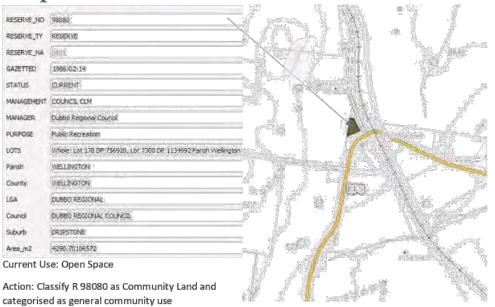
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Bell River 98079



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

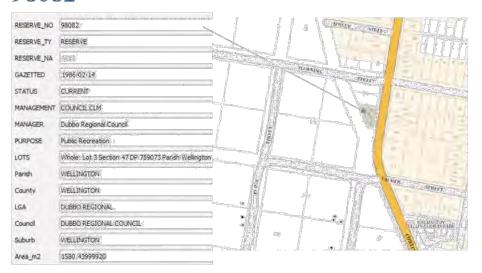
Dripstone 98080





Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

98082



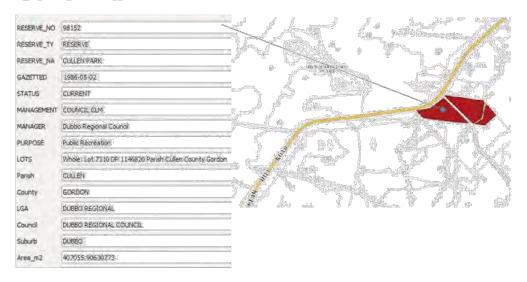
Current Use: Open Space

Action: Classify R 98082 as Community land and categorised as general community use



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Cullen Park 98152

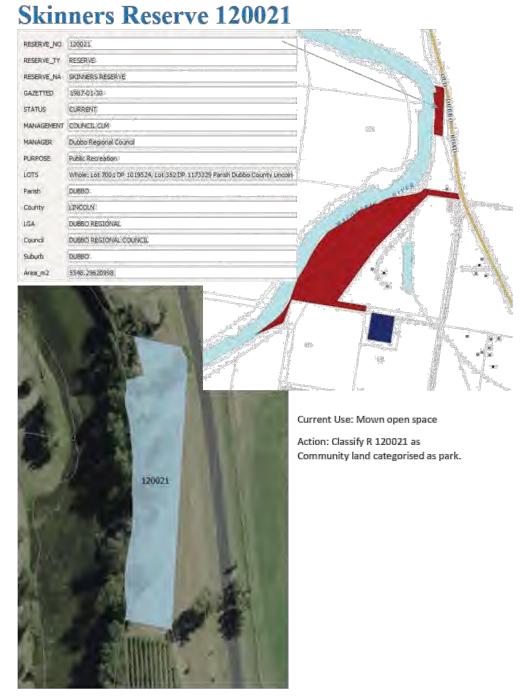


Current Use: Bushland

Action: Classify R 98152 as Community Land and categorised as Natural Area Bushland



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

RESERVE_NO 120022 RESERVE_TY RESERVE RESERVE_NA NUBINGERIE ROAD RESERVE GAZETTED 1987-02-13 STATUS CURRENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL CLM MANAGER Dubbo Regional Council Public Recreation e: Lot 87 DP 753220, Lot 7004 DP 1109295, Lot 7003 DP 1125955 Parish Be LOTS BENOLONG GORDON County DUBBO REGIONAL DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL Suburb BENOLONG

Nubingerie Road Reserve 120022

Current Use: Managed in conjunction with neighbouring parcel Lot86 DP 753220 Res 75511?

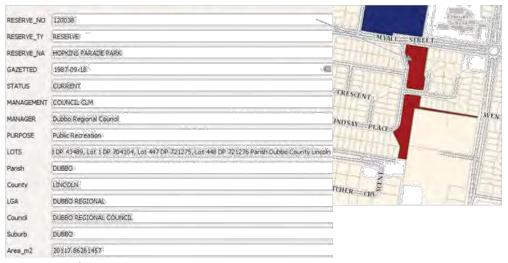
Action: Classify R 120022 as Community land categorised as Natural Area Bushland.

31645.28053281



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Hopkins Parade Park 120038



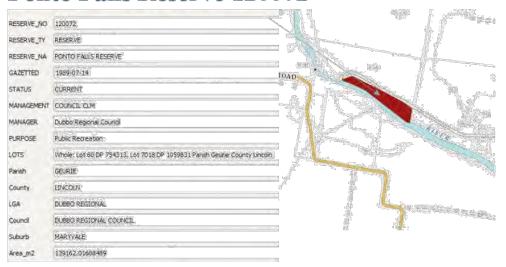
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 120038 as Community land categorised as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Ponto Falls Reserve 120072



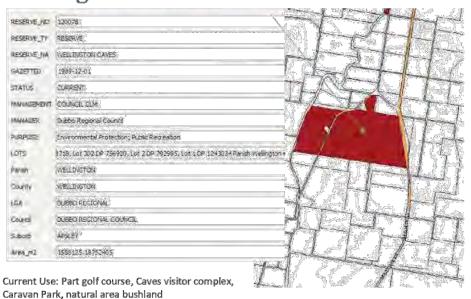
Current Use: Park and camping reserve

Action: Classify R 120072 as Community land categorised as park and natural area watercourse



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wellington Caves 120078



Action: Classify R 120078 as Community Land and categorised as general community use (culturally significant, sportsground, natural area bushland (partly culturally significant)



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Lincoln County Raceway 120088



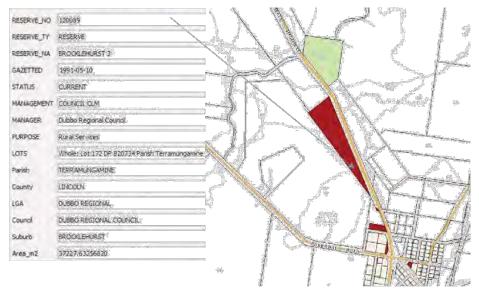
Current Use: Go kart racing facility



Action: Classify R 120088 as Community Land and categorise Sportsground

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Brocklehurst roadside 120089

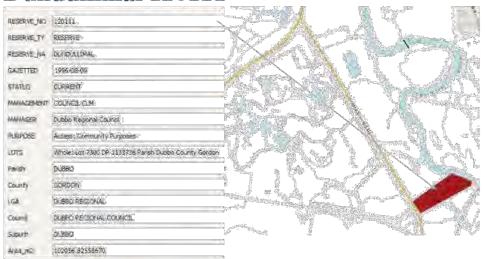


Current Use: Roadside rest area

Action: Classify R 120089 as Community land and Categorise as general community use



Dundullimal 120111

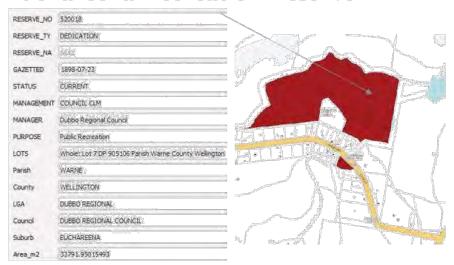




Current Use: Includes walking track, road entrance to Dundullimal homestead, toilet and bbq area, mountain bike trail, seats

Action: Classify R 1200111 as Community land and categorised as part park, natural area bushland and watercourse

Euchareena Recreation Reserve 520018



Current Use: Bushland, oval and playground

Action: Classify R 520018 as Community Land and categorise as part natural area bushland and part park.



Dubbo racecourse 520038



Current Use: Racecourse and associated facilities

 $\label{lem:community} \ Land \ and \ categorise \ as \ part \ race course, \ part \ general \ community \ use$



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Victoria Park No 1 Oval 520039



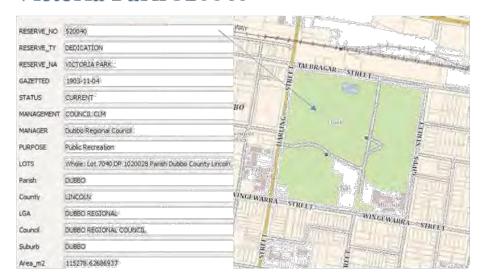
Current Use: Football and cricket oval, small area included in Victoria Park

Action: Classify R 520039 as Community land and categorise as part sportsground, part park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Victoria Park 520040



Current Use: Park, sports ovals, former caretaker cottage and stables used for community use, small area used for pool extension



Action: Classify R 520040 as Community land and categorise as part sportsground, part park, part general community use

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dubbo Aquatic Centre 520041



Current Use: Pool

Action: Classify R 520041 as Community land and categorise as sportsground



THORBY

VAMAN

HAY STREET

Wahroonga Park 520042



Current Use: Park with toilet facilities and playground

Action: Classify R 520042 as Community land and categorise as park

Dubbo Riverside 520043



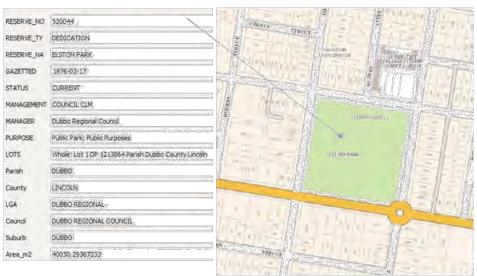


Current Use: Mixed use of sportsgrounds, park, river, and bushland

Action: Classify R 520043 as Community land and categorise as part park, sportsground, natural area watercourse, natural area bushland

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Elston Park 520044



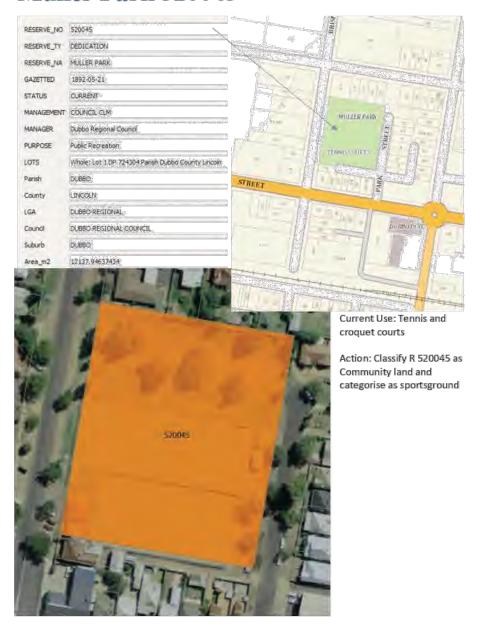
Current Use: Park and Tennis courts

Action: Classify R 520044 as Community land and categorise as part park, sportsground

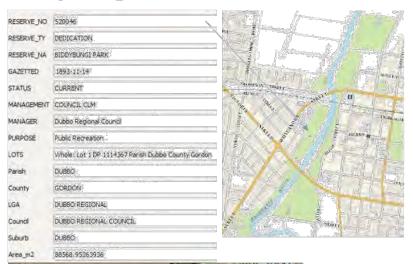


Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Muller Park 520045



Biddybungi Park 520046





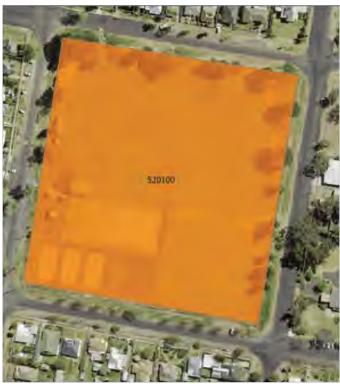
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 520046 as Community land and categorise as park

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Rygate Park 520100



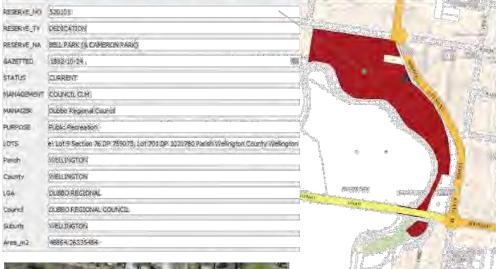


Current Use: Sportsground, tennis, cricket, basketball and football

Action: Classify R 520100 as Community land and categorise as sportsground

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Cameron and Bell Park 520101





Current Use: Part Park with Anzac Memorial, playground, library and part sportsground including aquatic leisure centre

Action: Classify R 520101 as Community land categorised as part Park and part sportsground

Noting most of the reserve is an area of cultural significance except for the small portion in the south not bordered in light orange.

R 1000275 is devolved to Council and does not require classification

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Paramount Tennis Complex 520102



Current Use: Tennis complex

Action: Classify R 5200102 as Community land and categorise as sportsground



Kennard Park 520103



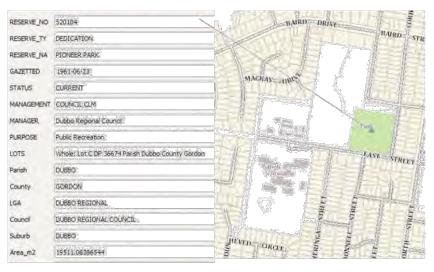


Current Use: Sportsground for football and cycling

Action: Classify R 520103 as Community land categorised as Sportsground

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Dubbo Pioneer Park 520104



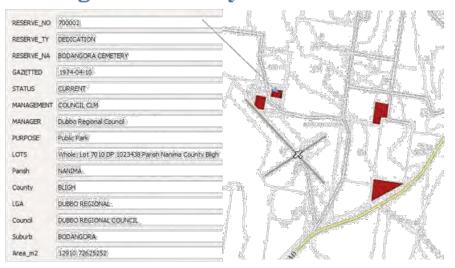


Current Use: Sportsground for football and cricket

Action: Classify R 520104 as Community land categorised as sportsground

Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Bodangora Cemetery 700002



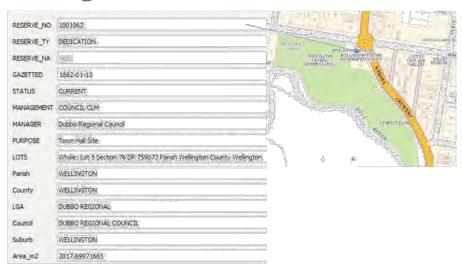
Current Use: Park

Action: Classify R 700002 as Community land categorised as park



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wellington Town Hall 1001062



Current Use: Town Hall

Action: Classify R 1001062 as Community land categorised as general community use and an area of cultural significance



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wongarbon Tank 1002907



Current Use: Natural bushland with walking track

Action: Classify R 1002907 as Community Land and categorise as natural Area Bushland. The 2 portions either side of R 1002908 are of cultural significance.



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Wongarbon RFS 1002908

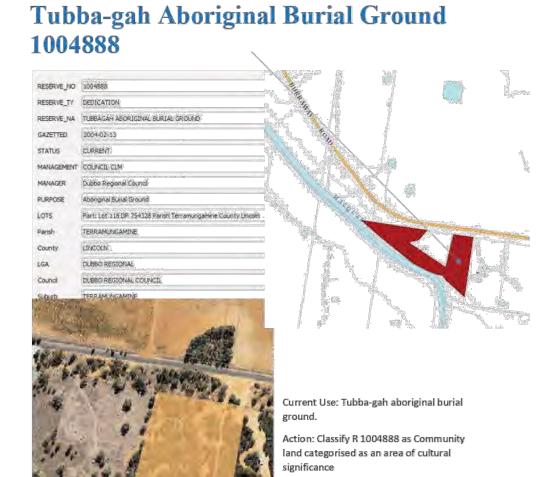


Current Use: Natural bushland with walking track, water storage dam

Action: Classify R 1002908 as Community land categorised as general community use of cultural significance

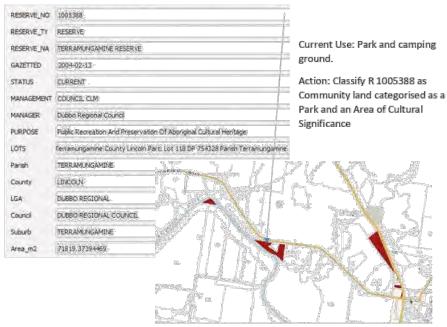


Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



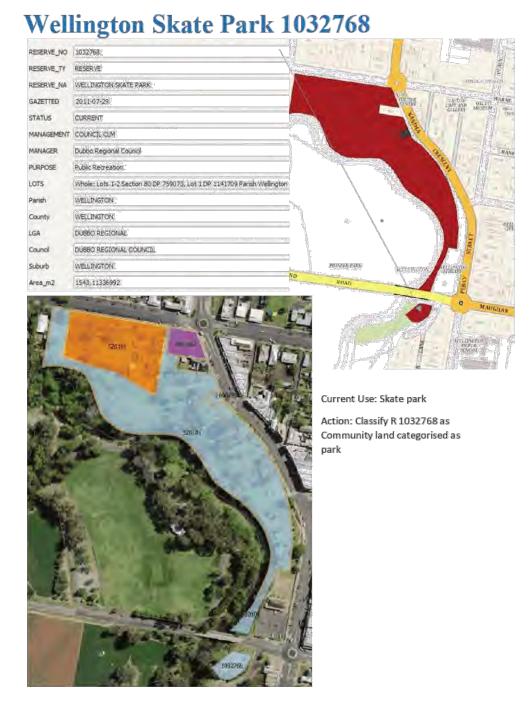
Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020

Terramungamine 1005388





Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



Dubbo Crown Land Reserves Initial Categorisation - 13 January 2020



REPORT: Operations of the Western Plains Cultural Centre Cafe

AUTHOR: Director Culture and Economy

REPORT DATE: 7 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/14

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The current licence to operate the café at the Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC) is due to end on the 7 February 2021 as requested by the current contractor, Georgia Stevens from the Gallery Café.

Following formal advice from the current contractor regarding termination of licence in November 2020, Council staff moved quickly to fill the licence through a public Expression of Interest process. Following this process, no complying applications were received. In consideration of this, time constraints over the Christmas holiday period and the effect of COVID-19 on the hospitality industry Council's CEO supported a proposal to undertake operations of the café internally for an initial 12 month period.

With existing WPCC staff already having experience in café management, in house operations of the café will enable greater integration and flexibility with events and clients at the WPCC, in addition to supporting activities outlined in the adopted cultural development plan. This trial period will also provide transparency to Council on the extent of the opportunity for café income to assist in the operational cost of this valuable community and cultural asset, above what may be achieved through an external licence agreement.

The café will be named Creo. Creo is the Latin word for create, make and produce. The name aligns well to the activities and outcomes of the WPCC and the café operation itself. The café offering will have a heavy focus on supporting regional producers, and creative delivery of quality fare.

A café operations team is being established with a mix of contract and casual staff being employed. Café staff working for the current contractor were also provided opportunity to apply for any new positions of interest. There has been a range of interest in positions from high calibre candidates.

A future report will be provided to Council in October 2021 to consider the operational structure following this 12 month trial period.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The café will be integrated into the operational budget of the WPCC. The expected rent from a licence agreement of \$36,400 p.a. will no longer be received. It is expected that revenue through café sales will negate this loss.

With the ongoing operations, there is expected added expense in the form of wages, operating costs and consumables. It is forecast that total operations, expenses and income will not have a negative effect on the forecast budget of the Western Plains Cultural Centre during the review period that will extend across the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 financial years.

Pricing at the café will be based on recommended retail price where appropriate and cost of goods sold, any corporate overheads and standard industry margins. Pricing strategy of the café will be high quality fare at reasonable prices.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That report of the Director Culture and Economy dated 7 January 2021 be noted.
- 2. That a report be provided to Council in October 2021 with regard to the trial of inhouse café operations and consideration of a future operational structure.

Natasha Comber
Director Culture and Economy

BACKGROUND

The café at the Western Plains Cultural Centre has previously been operated through a lease and more recently a licence agreement since the opening of the centre 14 years ago. The current contractor, Georgia Stevens from the Gallery Café gave notice in November 2020 to terminate her lease on 7 February 2021.

Council currently received income from the licence agreement of \$36,400 p.a.

REPORT

Due to the recent notification the current contractor, Georgia Stevens, requesting to end the current licence term, staff undertook an Expressions of Interest for a new licence agreement through public application. Although there was some interest shown through the process and mandatory inspection meeting, there were only two Expression of Interest applications submitted and neither complied with Councils requirements for a long-term licence agreement.

In consideration of the time pressure over the holiday season, current market conditions and the existing staff capability and experience with café operations, Council's CEO supported proposal for the ongoing operations of the WPCC Café to be undertaken internally for a 12 month period.

Following this period Council will need to make a determination on the future operational structure.

A Café operations team will be established as part of the Western Plains Cultural Centre team. A Café Team Leader will be employed on a temporary contract, reporting to the Operations Coordinator at the Western Plains Cultural Centre, part of the Regional Experiences branch in the Culture and Economy Division.

Café employees will be placed on temporary contracts or employed as casuals for the review period. Staff currently employed by the existing contractor, will be provided opportunity to apply for the new temporary and casual roles. Council will also consider other staff who express interest in being part of the new team. An information session was held with interested staff that currently work for The Gallery café in regards to potential opportunities and expectations of any new positions on offer.

Following a one week transition from the current licence agreement the café is set to reopen with the new operations team, new menu and new branding on 15 February 2021.

The café will be named to Creo. Creo is the Latin word for create, make and produce. These words will support future positioning and marketing of the new café. The name aligns well to the activities and outcomes of the WPCC and the café operations. The café offering will have a heavy focus on supporting regional producers, and creative delivery of value for money, quality fare.

A café operations team is being established with a mix of contract and casual staff being employed. Café staff working for the current contractor were also provided opportunity to apply for any new positions of interest. There has been a range of interest in positions from high calibre candidates.

It was unfortunate that the public Expression of Interest process did not attract suitable candidates for a long-term licence agreement however direct management under a trial period does present great opportunities for Council and synergies with WPCC operations and cultural services. This includes greater integration and flexibility with events and clients at the WPCC in addition to supporting activities outlined in the adopted cultural development plan.

This trial period will also provide transparency to Council on the opportunity for café income to assist in the operational cost of this valuable community and cultural asset, above what may be achieved through an external licence agreement.

During the one year review period, a feasibility study of future operations to operate the café will be undertaken with a report to Council in October 2021 for further consideration.

SUMMARY

The current licence to operate the café at the Western Plains Cultural Centre (WPCC) is due to end on the 7 February 2021 as requested by the current contractor, Georgia Stevens from the Gallery Café.

Following an unsuccessful Expression of Interest process and in consideration of current market conditions and WPCC staff experience in café operations and 12 month trial of inhouse management is being undertaken.

Following a one week transition from the current licence agreement ending on the 7 February 2021, the café is set to reopen with the new operations team, new menu and new branding on 15 February 2021.

The café will operate under the new business name of the Creo Café and the offering will have a heavy focus on supporting regional producers, and creative delivery of quality fare.



REPORT: Rates Harmonisation

AUTHOR: Revenue Accountant

REPORT DATE: 6 January 2021

TRIM REFERENCE: ID21/10

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The NSW State Government requires all merged Councils in NSW to establish a new, equitable rating structure and to transition to it by 1 July 2021.

The Minister for Local Government wrote to merged Council's on 17 November 2020 regarding the process of harmonising rates under the Local Government Act 1993. The letter advised that the Office of Local Government had obtained legal advice which confirms that the proclamation establishing each new council only allows the continuance of a former council decision. It does not operate to allow the new council to set a new minimum ordinary rate with application across the new local government area that is higher than the Statutory Minimum ordinary rate.

The Office of Local Government subsequently released Special Guidelines for new councils applying to harmonise minimum rates on 1 July 2021. In accordance with the Special Guidelines Council needs to apply to the Office of Local Government to include minimum rates in the harmonised rate structure that exceed the Statutory Maximum Minimum Rate being \$565.00 in 2021/2022.

The proposed 2021/2022 Rate Structure incorporates a General Income Variation increase (i.e. a rate pegging limit) of 2.0% being the full General Income Variation permitted for the 2021/2022 year as set by IPART.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report. This report itself does not result in any direct financial implications as the actual ad valorem and minimum rates applicable under the 2021/2022 financial year will be determined as part of the Revenue Policy contained within the Draft 2021/2022 Operational Plan.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council apply to the Minister for Local Government to set minimum ordinary rates in the 2021/2022 Dubbo Regional Council Rating Structure for the following rating categories and sub-categories that are above the 2021/2022 Statutory Limit for minimum ordinary rates:

a.	Residential Urban	\$715.70
b.	Residential Firgrove	\$699.60
c.	Residential Richmond	\$699.60
d.	Business Ordinary	\$715.70
e.	Business Central Business District	\$715.70
f.	Business Wellington	\$715.70
g.	Business East Dubbo	\$715.70
h.	Business Cobra Street	\$715.70
i.	Business Wellington Road	\$715.70

- 2. That Council note the proposed minimum ordinary rates are consistent with those applicable to the current applicable minimum rates for the former Dubbo City Council.
- 3. That Community engagement be undertaken that Council related to the requirement to adopt a harmonised rating structure for the 2021/2022 financial year.
- 4. That as part of the comprehensive community engagement process Council establish a Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.
- 5. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor to select the committee membership of the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.
- 6. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the terms of reference and meeting arrangements for the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group.

Bronwyn Maxwell
Revenue Accountant

BACKGROUND

The NSW Government requires all merged Councils in NSW to establish a new, equitable rating structure and to transition to it by 1 July 2021.

REPORT

The Structure of a Rate

A rate may, at Council's discretion, consist of:

- A wholly ad valorem amount (i.e. based wholly on land value);
- An ad valorem amount that is subject to a minimum amount; or
- A base amount to which an ad valorem amount is added.

The former Dubbo City Council's Rating Structure consisted of ad valorem rates subject to a minimum amount. The former Wellington Council's Rating Structure consisted of a base amount to which an ad valorem rate was added.

It is proposed that Dubbo Regional Council's rating structure to be implemented from 1 July 2021 consist of an ad valorem amount that is subject to a minimum amount. The adoption of a structure that consists of an ad valorem amount that is subject to a minimum amount minimises the number of assessments that experience a change as a consequence of harmonising the two rating structures. Properties previously rated within the former Dubbo City Council rating structure will retain the same rating structure. Rate assessments from the former Wellington rating structure will all be impacted by the change from base amounts and an ad valorem rate to an ad valorem and minimum rate structure.

Minimum Rates

Section 548 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Act) allows a council to specify a minimum amount of a rate to be levied on each parcel of land. If a council makes an ordinary rate for different categories or sub-categories of land, it may specify a different minimum amount for each category or sub-category.

If a council resolves to adopt a minimum amount of a rate, the minimum amount must not exceed the relevant permissible limits provided in the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. This is known as the 'Statutory Limit' and cannot be exceeded unless IPART has approved the higher amount for the minimum ordinary rate. Councils are required to apply to IPART for an increase to minimum rates where they are planning to increase minimum rates above the 'Statutory Limit' for the first time, or if they are increasing minimum rates already above the 'Statutory Limit' by more than the rate peg.

Application of Special Guidelines

Councils must apply to the Minister for Local Government when proposing to harmonise minimum ordinary rates above the Statutory Limit. The Deputy Secretary, Local Government, Planning and Policy, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) holds a temporary delegation under section 548 of the Local Government Act 1993 to determine minimum rate applications from new councils for 2021/2022.

The former Dubbo City Council rate structure included minimum ordinary rates above the Statutory Limit for several rating sub-categories.

The Minister for Local Government wrote to merged Councils on 17 November 2020 regarding the process of harmonising rates under the Local Government Act 1993. The letter advised that the Office of Local Government (OLG) had obtained legal advice which confirms that the proclamation establishing each new council only allows the continuance of a former council decision. It does not operate to allow the new council to set a new minimum ordinary rate with application across the new local government area that is higher than the Statutory Limit for the minimum ordinary rate.

The Office of Local Government subsequently released Special Guidelines for new councils applying to harmonise minimum rates on 1 July 2021. The Special Guidelines only apply if a new council is seeking to set a harmonised minimum ordinary rate across its new council area that is higher than the current statutory limit of \$554.00 in 2020/2021, but no higher than the highest minimum ordinary rate of any one of the former councils or part of a former council area that was previously approved by IPART (plus the 2021-2022 rate peg).

Applications to the Office of Local Government to harmonise minimum rates above the statutory minimum must be signed by the Chief Executive Officer and Responsible Accounting Officer. The application must also include a copy of the council's Resolution applying to the Minister for Local Government to set minimum rates in the council area for 2021-2022 for any rating category or subcategory that is above the statutory limit and is equal to or below the highest minimum ordinary rates previously approved by IPART for a former council or part of a former council area, and provide a link to the Resolution on the council's website.

In accordance with the Special Guidelines it is recommended that Council apply to the Office of Local Government to include minimum rates in the harmonised rate structure that exceed the Statutory Limit which has been set by IPART as \$565.00 in 2021/2022. The proposed minimum ordinary rates within the harmonised rating structure are based on the minimum ordinary rates adopted for 2020/2021 for the Dubbo City Council rating structure, increased by the 2.0% rate peg.

Proposed 2021/2022 Rating Structure

The proposed 2021/2022 Rating Structure incorporates a General Income Variation increase (i.e. a rate pegging limit) of 2.0% being the full General Income Variation permitted as set by IPART (rate peg). The actual ad valorem and minimum rates applicable under the 2021/2022 financial year will be determined as part of the Revenue Policy contained within the Draft 2021/2022 Operational Plan and may vary slightly to ensure Council's structure maximises Council's rate yield and is complaint with rate pegging requirements.

Ordinary Rates (Section 494)	Ad Valorem Amount (Rate in \$)	Minimum Amount		
RESIDENTIAL				
Residential Ordinary	0.532495	\$544.00		
Residential Urban	0.759900	\$715.70		
Residential Wellington	1.867459	\$540.00		
Residential Firgrove	0.564366	\$699.60		
Residential Richmond	0.564366	\$699.60		
Residential Village	0.605168	\$565.00		
Residential Geurie	0.605168	\$565.00		
BUSINESS				
Business Ordinary	1.048800	\$715.70		
Business – Central Business	2.592126	\$715.70		
District				
Business Wellington	2.560266	\$715.70		
Business East Dubbo	3.179442	\$715.70		
Business Cobra Street	3.179442	\$715.70		
Business Wellington Road	3.179442	\$715.70		
FARMLAND				
Farmland Ordinary	0.443459	\$380.45		
MINING				
Mining Ordinary	6.000000	\$565.00		

Should the Office of Local Government not approve for Council's rating structure to include minimum amounts that exceed the Statutory Limit it is proposed that the maximum 'Statutory Minimum' being \$565 for the 2021/2022 financial year will be applied to the categories that are currently proposed to exceed the statutory minimum ordinary rate. In order to maintain the existing rate yield from these categories and sub-categories the ad valorem rate applicable to these sub-categories will be increased should the minimum rate be reduced to \$565 to ensure the rate yield from each category and sub-category is maintained.

Community Engagement

Community engagement will be required regarding the harmonised rating structure whereby ratepayers are informed of Council's requirement to adopt a harmonised rating structure and the impact the harmonisation will have on their 2021/2022 rates.

Ratepayers will be impacted by the mandatory harmonisation of the Residential Ordinary, Business Ordinary and Farmland Ordinary rating categories. All properties within the former Wellington Council rating structure will be impacted by the change to a rating structure that is based on an ad valorem amount subject to a minimum rate.

It is recommended that Council establish a Rate Harmonisation Reference Group as part of the community engagement process. The Rate Harmonisation Reference Group will provide a community reference panel, selected through an expression of interest and appointed by the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor. The panel will have approximately 10-12 members who represent a range of ratepayer groups, including:

- Business Ratepayers;
- Residential Ratepayers;
- Farmland Ratepayers;
- Former Dubbo City Council ratepayers; and
- Former Wellington Council ratepayers.

It is envisaged this group will provide a feedback report to council in relation to the proposed rating structure. The group will be provided detailed and in-depth information related to the Rates Harmonisation project and be supported by Council staff to provide a quality and informed feedback report.

It is recommended that Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer and Mayor to select the committee membership of the Rates Harmonisation Reference Group and that Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to finalise the terms of reference and meeting arrangements for the Rate Harmonisation Reference Group.

It is proposed that Council undertake the following community consultation:

- Initial Rates Harmonisation notification flyer with the February 2021 Instalment notices (Appendix 1);
- Rate Harmonisation information on Council's website;
- Detailed information on Council's website following February 2021 Council meeting;
- Detailed newsletter with the May 2021 Instalment notices;
- Letters to ratepayers in the Residential Ordinary, Business Ordinary and Farmland Ordinary rating categories that are being harmonised;
- Detailed information on Council's website when the Draft Operational Plan is on display during May 2021;
- Rate Harmonisation Reference Group meetings;
- Community Engagement meetings; and
- Newsletter in with the 2021/2022 Annual Rates Notice issued in July 2021.

Timetable

- Councillor Workshop February 2021.
- Council meeting finalise preferred rate structure 22 February 2021.
- Minimum Rate Application to Office of Local Government prior 26 February 2021.
- Community Consultation February to April 2021.
- Inform ratepayers of their applicable category and sub-category March 2021.
- Office of Local Government Minimum Rate Application determination 9 April 2021.
- Revenue Policy public exhibition with Draft Operational Plan May 2021.
- 2021/2022 Revenue Policy Adopted 28 June 2021.
- July 2021 Levy 2021/2022 Rates and Annual Charges.
- July 2021 Issue 2021/2022 Annual Rate Notices.

SUMMARY

The NSW Government requires all merged Councils in NSW to establish a new, equitable rating structure and transition to it by 1 July 2021. Dubbo Regional Council is required to adopt a harmonised rating structure that meets legislative requirements as set in the Local Government Act 1993. Council must harmonise the rates for the existing Residential Ordinary, Business Ordinary and Farmland Ordinary rating categories.

Following the release of advice by the Office of Local Government regarding how minimum rates that currently exceed the statutory minimum rate limit will be treated and the release of Guidelines in November 2020, it is recommended that Council apply to the Office of Local Government to include minimum rates in the new rating structure that exceed the 2021/2022 Statutory Limit of \$565.00.

The Office of Local Government recently opened a consultation on Local Government Rating Reform, running until 5 February 2021, which must be considered by Council in the context of applying harmonised rates in our region. This may alter the current legislation and proposed 2021/2022 rating structure.

Appendices:

1 Dubbo Regional Council Rate Harmonisation fact sheet included with February 2021 Rate Instalment Notices

RATES HARMONISATION NEW RATING STRUCTURE FROM 1 JULY 2021



The NSW Government requires all merged councils to implement a new aligned rating system by 1 July, 2021. This is called harmonisation.

While we will be contacting ratepayers individually regarding the changes, stay updated at dubbo.nsw.gov.au



Why our rating structure is changing

Two different rating structures, and two different methods, have been used to calculate rates since the amalgamation of Dubbo City Council and Wellington Council in 2016.

Restrictions put in place by the NSW Government at the time of the merger have prevented us from addressing these inconsistencies until now.

What it does not do

Rates harmonisation does not increase the total amount of rating income we receive, which is controlled by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) $through \, an \, annual \, rate \, peg. \, \, It \, is \, simply \, a \, more \, equitable \,$ redistribution of the total amount across all rateable properties.

Legislation requires Council to merge some existing rating categories. The harmonised single structure will have various impacts on individual ratepayers.

Council has been working to find the best and fairest outcome for ratepayers and to minimise the impact ratepayers experience as a consequence of harmonising the two rating structures.

How your rates are calculated

Council is legislated in the way we calculate your rates. The 'ordinary rate' payable on a property is determined by the category of the land and the valuation of the land. Under the current rating structures properties from the Dubbo structure pay an 'ad valorem' rate that is subject to a 'minimum amount', while properties from the Wellington structure pay a 'base rate' and an 'ad valorem' rate.

Council has been working to find the best and fairest outcome for ratepayers and to minimise the impact ratepayers experience as a consequence of harmonising the two rating structures.

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RATES HARMONISATION NEW RATING STRUCTURE FROM 1 JULY 2021



Categorisation of land

Your property is categorised for rating purposes based on its primary use. The four categories are residential, business, farmland and mining.

Sub-categories are also applied to improve the equity of the rates structure. Properties not in a sub-category are required to be merged into one residential, business, farmland or mining category.

Land valuation

The NSW Valuer General's office determines land values at least every three years. Land valuations do play a role in how the 'total rates' amount is distributed among property owners, as they are used to calculate your rates.

Proposal

Council is proposing to adopt a rating structure using the 'ad valorem' rate that is subject to a 'minimum amount'. The existing Dubbo City Council rating structure includes 'minimum amounts' that exceed the 'Statutory Minimum' set annually by IPART.

It is proposed to apply to the Office of Local Government under special guidelines for Council's harmonising minimum rates to retain the 'minimum amounts' from the current Dubbo structure increased by the rate peg.

Minimum amounts help to smooth out the rate distribution in a category or sub category.

Michael McMahon Dubbo Regional Council's Chief Executive Officer

