

Items available to community groups

Our office has the following items available for use by our community groups:

- BBQ trailer containing the following equipment: BBQ, large esky, tables and chairs, large TV, speakers, DVD player, and 2 marquees (more available if required)
- PA system
- 3 metre x 3 metre marquees
- Folding machine
- Popcorn machine
- Limited printing can be arranged for groups.

To book any of our items, or for more information, please contact our office on 07 5582 8555 or at division2@goldcoast.qld.gov.au



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

There is no doubt this year will be one that opens further chapters in our city's vibrant storybook.

It is exciting to see new private sector developments being proposed at locations like the Southport marina, at our theme parks, and within key tourism precincts across the coast. These projects build on the city's famous 'have-a-go-spirit' and give confidence to employers and employees, including our 76,000 registered small business owners.

This year, I believe we need to continue to focus on several challenges: cost-of-living-pressures on families; further improvements to our transport network; and safety in our communities.

In the area of cost-of-living, our City has kept annual general rate increases at, or below, CPI for the past 11 years. In every way, that is now our benchmark when Councillors meet to consider the annual budget. Keeping rates low is a 'non-negotiable' for me, as Mayor.

In the field of transport, I fully understand the pressure on our roads with more cars on virtually every street. We all rely on our cars to get around, but we must make the switch to utilising more public transport. That's why we are partnering with the State on a major trial of more public transport for the north of our city, along with putting forward our share of light rail funding for Stages 3 and 4.

Crime is an issue, and while police stats show a drop in major crimes such as armed robbery, we all know street-level crime remains a concern. As Mayor, I host a regular Mayoral Safer Suburbs Forum, bringing together every agency with an interest in public safety. I look forward to working with all levels of government and agencies to ensure our city is safe.

Tom Tate

TOM TATE
MAYOR

Join the Red Cross

The Helensvale branch of the Australian Red Cross are looking for new members.

Everyone is welcome!

Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month.

Please contact Ros for further information on 0457 403 024.

The Community Christmas Market

Thank you to the community for supporting the first annual Community Christmas Market in 2022. We are beginning to plan for this year and would like to hear from you if you would like to be involved.

Expressions of interest are invited for:

- volunteers
- groups to run activities or food stalls
- stall holders
- entertainers
- sponsors

Please contact our office 07 5582 8555 or at division2@goldcoast.qld.gov.au



Please note: We have made every effort for this newsletter to be distributed within your Councillor's Division. Some delivery routes overlap into other Divisions. Subscribe to your local Councillor's digital newsletter via cityofgoldcoast.com.au/councillors.



COUNCILLOR'S MESSAGE

Community is all about the people. It's what makes our growing city a special place to live and raise families.

Community volunteers

One of the best things about being a Councillor is seeing the effort that many people put into volunteering to help their community. I see it daily in our sporting clubs, service clubs, and in our school P&Cs.

The Division 2 area includes the suburbs of Helensvale, Oxenford, and Hope Island. In the area that I represent we have around 38,000 residents living in over 13,000 homes.

Wherever I go in our community there is always someone giving back. It's what makes our growing city a special place to live and raise families. Community is all about the people.

Every January the Lions Club of Helensvale hosts a citizenship ceremony where people from around the world are welcomed into the greatest club on earth. Every year we encourage our newest citizens to get involved and join as many clubs and groups as possible.

It doesn't matter where you may have come from, the fact is the Gold Coast has been growing at an incredible rate since the early 1970's. Our City offers opportunity everywhere but nowhere more than in our sporting clubs, service clubs, and in our schools. I encourage everybody to get involved and give a little bit back through volunteering.

Councillor William Owen-Jones expresses his personal views and makes no representations on behalf of the Council of the City of Gold Coast.

Accessibility is important to us. For more City information, visit:

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A fresh start

You may have seen in the news recently my announcement that I would not be nominating again as your representative for Division 2.

It has been an enormous privilege to represent you for more than 10 years and it's something that I could not have done without the amazing support from my wife Mandy, my children Megan and Liam (and my extraordinary PA Karen!). In 2024 I'm going to try my hand at some new life adventures.

But there's still work to be done and I am 100 per cent committed to finishing the current term of Council. If you would like to speak with me about any issues in your local area, please feel free to contact me on 0412 242 622.





Oxenford Quarry Appeal

In November 2021 the City of Gold Coast made a decision to refuse the development application for the material change of use for extracted industry (quarry), seeking to enlarge and realign the existing quarry footprint and extend the duration of an existing extractive industry (quarry).

The applicant subsequently appealed the decision, and I would like to provide the following update to the community in regard to the Planning and Environment Court appeal (noting this is a 'live' legal case).

The City is defending its decision to refuse the application, and has been joined in that action by several co-respondents. It is a complex and expensive process, and the City has engaged numerous experts to assist the Court to give evidence in the matter.

The preliminary joint expert reports identify any further material or information required by the experts, whether an expert's opinion is affected by another area of expertise, and the identified issues in dispute that the experts propose to address in the joint expert reports. In mid-February the Appellant's lawyers notified what of that further information would be provided and when. There is still a lot of work for the Applicant

to do, and information to be provided, before the experts' joint reports can commence properly.

In layman's terms, the next stage of the appeal process may involve the narrowing of the issues to be heard by the Judge once the experts meet and consider the additional information. This is common in Planning and Environment Court matters.

The most recent review before Her Honour Judge Kefford was in late February.

At the time of writing, it is expected that the next stages of the appeal will most likely commence in proper in the coming months.

The quarry operations will continue on site during the appeal process, and the operations (blasting, noise, emissions etc) are regulated by the State of Queensland through a current Environmental Authority issued by the Department of Environment and Science.

Details of all the documents lodged with the Planning and Environment Court can be found at the following address (quoting Nucrush Pty Ltd v Council of Gold Coast – appeal number 3086 of 2021) - bit.ly/3xo86bO

Damian Leeding Memorial Park

One of our most popular parks is Damian Leeding Memorial Park at Oxenford, with a relatively flat (almost) four kilometre footpath around a lovely lake. The park is also home to the Oxenford branch of the Southport Yacht Club who use the safe, flat waters of the lake to carry out their junior learn to sail programs. The Yacht Club trains over 6000 young people a year and engages extensively with a wide network of schools and colleges.

The park is also the home to one of the City's more popular boat ramps. In the coming years the Gold Coast Waterways Authority will be undertaking upgrade works to the boat ramp which will see even greater use.

Just one of the challenges the City has with our growth is how to manage different user groups. Damian Leeding Memorial Park has a limited number of available car spaces and at times finding a spot to park can be most difficult. One project that we are currently working on is the idea of variable signage which could allow for cars to park in the trailer bays during

off-peak times in the future. Digital variable signage seems like an easy idea however it would require a change to the existing Local Laws.

The City has also explored the options for additional car parking to the west of the Southport Yacht Club. It would be a rather expensive capital works project and would require some of the park land to be used.

The park is also used by a lot of residents for walking their pets, with over 5000 dog bags dispensed weekly within the park.

Improvements have recently been made to the entry to the park including the installation of timber bollards to control informal parking at the intersection of Heathwood Drive and Michael Shelley Way. This intersection will also be upgraded over the next year to improve safety. Unfortunately, due to the 60km/h speed limit on Heathwood Drive, additional formal car spaces could not be added to Michael Shelley Way.



Sickle Park

The Hope Island Tennis Club is located on the corner of Sickle Avenue and Park Cove Boulevard, Hope Island. The tennis club has three courts that are available for community use. All three courts are illuminated. The tennis club runs social tennis days as well as providing coaching for all skill levels. Individual and family membership packages are available and are very affordable.

The club can be contacted at hopeislandtennisclub@gmail.com or on 0467 681 650. New members are always welcome.

Our office has recently met with the club and we are working with them with regards to the preliminary designs required for two additional tennis courts, with the view to having them shovel ready for State Government grant applications in the coming years.

The Rotary Club of Hope Island has also approached the City about 'adopting' Sickle Park for community projects. Across the City of Gold Coast there are several parks that have benefited from service clubs like the Lions and Rotary investing their time and efforts in improving park amenity.

The Rotary Club meets regularly in Sanctuary Cove and their members were looking for a long-term community project. We have discussed the idea of them assisting with such things as tree planting, community events, all abilities play equipment, and possibly the formalisation of a flagpole at the park.

The Rotary Club can be contacted at info@hopeislandrotary.org.au. New members are always welcome.

We will be working with both the Tennis Club and Rotary Club to help deliver a mural project on the Sickle Park amenities block.

As part of this current year's financial budget an amount of \$300,000 was allocated towards an upgrade of the oldest pieces of playground equipment in the park. Acknowledging the most recent edition to the playground equipment was for older children, it is hoped that the delivery of a new tower-like playground will be more easily used by younger children.

It is expected that a tender will be issued in mid-2023 for the playground equipment. It will be located under the shade sail where the original equipment is located.

Animal Management are also exploring the possibility of an enclosed off-leash dog area in the northern section of Sickle Park closest to the roundabout. The addition of a new off-leash dog area would need a change to the existing Local Law and would also be subject to community consultation.

Residential bins

We can all play a part in reducing the landfill we produce by re-using or recycling our waste. Many household items can be recycled, some can't. Some items can be placed in your general waste or green organics bin, others may need to be disposed of in another way.

All eligible residential households within the bin collection service area should have a bin set of:

- a 240-litre general waste (landfill) bin and
- a 240-litre recycling bin.

You can help by changing the size and/or make up of your bin set by:

- up-sizing from the standard 240-litre recycling bin to a larger 360-litre recycling bin
- ordering a 240-litre bin for green organics
- changing your bin set to a sustainability bundle (pictured below) which comprises
 - a smaller, 140-litre general waste bin
 - a 240-litre green organics bin
 - a 240-litre OR a 360-litre recycling bin.

To change your bin size, view our [Recyclepedia](#) or for further information, or visit citygc.au/WasteAndRecycling

