

councilconnect

Rebuilding our road network

Council will be working with local canegrowers to deal with the impending sugar crush and repair priority roads.



The road network throughout Mackay is in terrible condition following ongoing wet weather and the impact of natural disasters.

Mayor Col Meng said the sheer volume of damage has resulted in a re-prioritisation of limited resources.

"The community needs to realise we are faced with an enormous rebuilding and restoration program that is unprecedented," he said.

"This is not a six or twelve month process; we are faced with potentially a three year program of repair and reconstruction."

"All available resources, skilled labour, plant and material will be focused on fixing our roads."

The Queensland Government has approved council's \$106 million claim relating to the 2010 Cyclone Ului event and it is estimated that the damage bill for the 2010-2011 events could be in the order of another \$100 million.

Council's Civil Operations and maintenance crews will also be working with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to fulfil its obligations under road maintenance agreements and urges motorists to please be patient while repairs are underway and drive to the conditions of the road.

>> To keep residents informed a weekly update, detailing work schedules and projects will be available on our website every Friday.

National tick of approval



Principal Scientist Stuart Boyd and Cr Deirdre Comerford are pleased with the NATA accreditation.

Mackay Regional Council's Water and Waste Services laboratory has received the tick of approval, accreditation from the National Association of Testing Authorities.

NATA accreditation means formal recognition of the lab and its capabilities to perform specific types of testing.

Water and Wastewater Services portfolio councillor Deirdre Comerford said NATA accreditation is of great

benefit to the lab, the Water and Waste Services department and the community as it provides a benchmark for performance through an independent technical evaluation.

"The guidelines set in place by NATA will help ensure the continued supply of safe drinking water for our community."

Regular surveillance checks will be carried out to ensure consistency and accuracy in the data that is collected.

Project snapshot > Perry Road



Reconstruction works will begin on Perry Road this week. The works include earthworks, drainage, landscaping, construction and sealing and traffic control.

Cost: \$540,000

Completion date: Early August, weather permitting.

>> For more information on road works and traffic disruptions, visit council's website



All day entertainment and good old fashioned fun

The Greenmount Homestead will be a buzz of activity on Sunday, May 29 for the annual Heritage Fair.

From 9am til 4pm the historic venue in Walkerston will be providing good old fashioned fun for the whole family including markets, food and local talent.

Entry into the Homestead is free and you can tuck into some yummy treats, devonshire tea or Bushman's Pies, view the vintage car displays and plant stalls and listen to the Bush Poet and the old pianola playing.

Grab a piece of grass and go back into time with life stories of retired homestead caretaker Gloria Arrow. Gloria will be sharing her invaluable insights into the past and the history of Greenmount.

>> To find out more about the Greenmount Heritage Fair visit our website.

Temporary Food Permits

Council has listened to your calls and at the start of the new financial year temporary food permits will be available for market events.

If you would like to prepare food for sale as a commercial operation at the markets then from July 1, Mackay is your oyster.



Councillors recently repealed the Mackay City Council Food Establishment Policy to allow the preparation of food for sale from temporary food premises.

You will also be able to apply for an annual food business licence should you wish to prepare food for sale regularly at any one market event.

>> Stay tuned to Council Connect for further updates.

Did you know?

Council has funding available all year round for talented young athletes.

If this is you, please contact council's Community Development department.