

councilconnect

Rebuilding our road network

Council has decided to put on hold projects that can be delayed to focus on rebuilding our 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 be working closely 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.

Council will also be working with Canegrowers to deal with the impending sugar crush season.

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



View council's awe-inspiring pottery collection

To coincide with the Sarina Art Extravaganza, Artspace Mackay is pleased to showcase an exhibition of pottery and ceramics at the Sarina Art Gallery.

This beautiful selection of works include recently donated works from the estate of local Sarina identity and arts advocate, John Aioldi, works by some of Australia's best-known ceramic artists and a donation from the Pioneer Potters will be on show from May 23 to 27. Admission is free.

Good old fashioned fun

The Greenmount Homestead will be a buzz of activity on Sunday, May 29 from 9am til 4pm for the annual Heritage Fair.

The historic venue in Walkerston will be providing entertainment for the whole family including food, markets and local talent. Entry into the Homestead is free.

Did you know?

That Coastal Community Activities are held each month at local beaches in Mackay. To have fun and make a difference to your local beach visit our website.



National tick of approval

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.

Coming soon

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.



Project snapshot - Middle Creek Road



Motorists can enjoy new and improved conditions along Middle Creek Road following the completion of major upgrade works.

Council has spent \$450,000 upgrading 900 metres of the road which include a culvert upgrade, road widening and bitumen seal.

Finishing touches such as line markings will be carried out this week.

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