



Councillor Russ Cook

KEEPING YOU UPDATED

A message from Russ

I couldn't be more proud to live in a city whose resilience and determination to fight against the odds constantly surpasses expectation.

It certainly has been a whirlwind start to the year, with our city being hit by a 1 in 500-year unprecedented monsoon. Townsville may have been inundated by water, but the resilience and generosity of our community filled the hearts of not only those in Australia, but people from around the world. I'm so proud to represent the diverse and proud community of our Division.

Whilst our city recovers, Council's business as usual continues with the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland funding enabling us to deliver shovel-ready projects throughout our community. Townsville City Council continues to create local jobs for the future with projects like the 1.8m diameter water pipeline and the Southern Suburbs Rising Main and the Recycled Water Re-Use Scheme pipeline well underway.

If you'd like to receive more information on Townsville, visit Council's website and sign up to City Update, our quarterly e-news bulletin.

Cr Russ Cook

Joe Kirwan Park Upgrades

The upgrades to Joe Kirwan Park are well underway with the installation of new fitness equipment complete and a basketball court currently being constructed.

This follows Townsville City Council's invitation to residents to have their say on the concept for the new playground.

The results of the consultation were extremely close but concept one, which included Mars Rover play equipment and a space themed mega deck has been declared the winner.

Residents are very passionate about their parks and open spaces – Joe Kirwan Park was in real need of an upgrade.

Concept one proved a great choice, particularly as it offers plenty of shade to protect from our North Queensland sun.

The park will become a space used even more regularly by families and those who use the space for social sport.

It is expected 10 jobs will be created over the life of the project which includes new exercise equipment, an upgraded basketball court and the playground revamp.

The project is funded through the Queensland Government's Works for Queensland program.



TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

You're invited to
Community Council
Your city... your say.

DIVISION 5: 4 JUNE

For more information, visit townsville.qld.gov.au



REBUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

As the city gets back on its feet after the unprecedented monsoon, the resilience of our community continues to shine through.

Throughout the last two months Council has been busy assessing the damage, prioritising projects, and working with residents and other agencies to help the city start to rebuild.

It's been a huge job. But the commitment of our community to make our city shine again has been inspirational.

Moving forward

Council already had a strong vision for the future of Townsville prior to the unprecedented monsoon and this hasn't changed. We have not forgotten about our responsibilities to the Townsville community.

Council is dedicated to improving community spaces and providing top-class infrastructure which create jobs for locals and supports local businesses.

Council is committed to delivering on its promises, a few of our current major projects are:

- The Haughton Pipeline Duplication Project[^]
- Water Smart Package[^]
- Recycled Water Re-Use Scheme
- Townsville Battery Plant
- Central Park and the Stadium Precinct
- Flinders Lane
- Castle Hill Concept Plan
- Townsville Lagoon
- Central Park & Dean Street Concept Plan
- Riverway Splash Water Park
- Townsville City Bus Hub^{**}
- Heatley Park Upgrade^{*}
- Joe Kirwan Park Upgrade^{*}
- Pallarenda Esplanade Upgrade^{*}
- Charles Moroney Park Upgrade^{*}
- Nathan Street Enhancement Project^{*}
- Kerbside Collection
- North Australian Festival of Arts
- Northern Fringe Festival
- Strand Ephemera
- Festival of Stories
- Townsville Eats
- Hervey Range Recovery Facility
- 10 Year Sport & Recreation Facility Strategy

Our commitment to the Townsville community is unwavering and we're excited about the future of this great city.

Your Council. Our Community.
townsville.qld.gov.au

TOWNSVILLE LOCAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE GROUP

In the wake of the unprecedented monsoon, Council is leading a multi-agency, coordinated plan for a stronger Townsville.

The Local Recovery and Resilience Group comprises of Council, Queensland and Australian Government departments and agencies, local business, industry and community groups.

This is a true team effort – working together to help our region recover.

Our efforts are focused around key areas of need:



We're doing whatever it takes, for as long as it takes. The people of Townsville are resilient. Our unrivalled community spirit will help restore our region and positively shape its future.

Log onto Council's Emergency Management Dashboard to keep up-to-date on recovery efforts: disaster.townsville.qld.gov.au

A MESSAGE FROM JENNY

Our city has just survived its worst ever natural disaster due to an unprecedented monsoonal event. While not every home or every family were impacted by flooding, there was significant damage to homes, property and infrastructure throughout our community.

Yet stories abound of great courage, resilience and community spirit that North Queenslanders are renowned for particularly Townsville.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Council staff, Defence, SES, police, Fire and Emergency Services, Health, Ambulance, Ergon and all members of the public who worked together in a united way to help the people impacted, neighbours, friends and family – often while their own family were impacted.

We must acknowledge the loss many have faced and are still suffering. Previous events have shown that recovery takes far longer than response and reconstruction.



As a community, we have a responsibility to continue to check in on our families, neighbours and mates and remind all there is help available. There are agencies, including church based and not for profit groups, ready to assist and help those still feeling the effects of the devastating flooding and rain event.

I want to reassure everyone in our community – especially those directly impacted by this monsoonal event – that the city's recovery effort is a coordination and community-led approach combining agencies from all levels of government, the not-for-profit sector and the business community.

Council has short, medium and long-term plans to repair damaged infrastructure, assist local residents and support the city's economic recovery.

Council had a strong vision for the future of Townsville prior to the unprecedented monsoon and this has not changed – myself and my team of Councillors will deliver on our commitments to the community.

We are totally focussed on getting our city through these challenges and is more resilient than before.

We are doing whatever it takes, for as long as it takes, to help people get back on their feet and fully recover from this unprecedented natural disaster.

Cr Jenny Hill
Mayor of Townsville

Mount Louisa Community Information Breakfast



Townsville City Council's Mount Louisa Community Information Breakfast was a great success with hundreds of residents attending the event on Sunday 31 March.

The Mount Louisa Open Space Masterplan was released last month and aims to transform Mount Louisa into an activity and recreation hub – the project is a key pillar for Council's Townsville2020 Masterplan.

The breakfast was a great opportunity for residents to share their thoughts about the proposed Masterplan.

Council will use the feedback collected from the engagement to help inform the priorities for delivery of the Mount Louisa Open Space Network.

Legacy Breakfast

Earlier this year Councillor Mark Molachino and I were ushers at the Legacy Breakfast in Hangar 2 at the Townsville Airport as we are both volunteer Legatees.

This breakfast is one of the major fundraisers for Townsville Legacy and this year Sir Angus Houston provided an outstanding speech on leadership that had the audience captivated.

Cr Molachino and I are both ex-ADF members, with Cr Molachino having served in Iraq before being an elected Councillor.



Orchid Show

Last May I was lucky enough to attend the Townsville Orchid Society's Autumn Orchid Show at their hall in Joe Kirwan Park. Over the 3 day event more than 1,000 people attended and enjoyed the outstanding display of orchids. Many of the experienced members also had orchids available for purchase.

Do yourself a favour and attend one of the 3 shows they do annually - Autumn, Winter and Spring. Their next show is 12 - 14 July 2019.

For more information please visit their website townsvilleorchidsociety.org.au



Cr Cook at Townsville City Council Customer Service Counter, CityLibraries Thuringowa Central

Meet Your Councillor

Don't forget you can Meet Your Councillor at CityLibraries Thuringowa Central in the Eastbrooke Health Hub most Monday and Friday mornings from 9am until noon.

I also set up at various places on the road side, parks or shopping centres at least once a month. If you see my marquee please drop in and say g'day or ask any questions that you may have.

Alternatively you can always phone or send an email using the details in this newsletter.



Cr Cook at the District Junior Rugby League carpark



White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation

I am a very proud White Ribbon Ambassador and even prouder to be involved in Townsville City Council becoming White Ribbon Workplace Accredited.

To become a White Ribbon Accredited Workplace is an extensive process that can take over a year to complete but it is well worth the journey.

This year Council held a Cheese for Change Day at most of our depots and sites to raise money for White Ribbon. This staff event was to increase awareness of family and domestic violence and the devastating affect it has on individuals, family, friends and how it can ripple into the workplace. As a former Queensland Police Officer I unfortunately experienced firsthand these effects on society.

Council should be applauded for the great work they are doing towards the White Ribbon Workplace Accreditation.



Danny Lynch, Acting Director Infrastructure and Operations and Michael Bissell, General Manager Construction Maintenance and Operations and Cr Cook signing the pledge at the Dalrymple Road depot event.