

13 November 2019

Dear Councillors and Committee Members,

You are kindly requested to attend the **Finance Committee Meeting** of Wingecarribee Shire Council to be held in **Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Elizabeth Street, Moss Vale** on **Wednesday 20 November 2019** commencing at 9.00am.

Yours faithfully

Barry W Paull
Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance & Risk

DISTRIBUTION:

Councillors

Mayor Clr T D Gair (Chair)
Clr G J Andrews
Clr K J Halstead
Clr G McLaughlin
Clr G Markwart
Clr P W Nelson
Clr I M Scandrett
Clr G M Turland
Clr L A C Whipper

Staff

General Manager
Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance and Risk
Deputy General Manager Corporate, Strategy and Development Services
Chief Financial Officer
Group Manager Corporate and Community
Group Manager Capital Projects
Group Manager Infrastructure Services
Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Management Accountant
Administration Assistant

Business

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

3. APOLOGIES

Leave of absence for this meeting was previously granted to Councillor G Markwart.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Finance Committee Meeting held on 16 October 2019

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

6. AGENDA REPORTS

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7. CLOSED COUNCIL

Nil

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10. MEETING CLOSURE

Our Mission, Our Vision, Our Values

OUR MISSION

To create and nurture a vibrant and diverse community growing and working in harmony with our urban, agricultural and natural environments

OUR VISION

Leadership: *'An innovative and effective organisation with strong leadership'*

People: *'A vibrant and diverse community living harmoniously, supported by innovative services and effective communication with Council'*

Places: *'Places that are safe, maintained, accessible, sympathetic to the built and natural environment, that supports the needs of the community'*

Environment: *'A community that values and protects the natural environment enhancing its health and diversity'*

Economy: *'A strong local economy that encourages and provides employment, business opportunities and tourism'*

OUR VALUES

Integrity, trust and respect

Responsibility and accountability

Communication and teamwork

Service quality

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land and pay my respect to Elders both past and present. I would also like to extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders present here today.

Apologies

Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Declarations of Interest

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the *Local Government Act 1993* regulate the way in which Councillors, Committee Members and nominated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public trust.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest and the reasons for declaring such interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussions or voting on that matter and further require that the member vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

Where necessary any Councillor, Committee Member and nominated staff of Council should disclose any interest and the reason for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration at this meeting.

Councillors and Committee Members are requested to complete the appropriate form to be handed up at the Meeting.

6 AGENDA REPORTS

6.1 Budget Review to 30 September 2019

Reference:	2120/19
Report Author:	Management Accountant
Authoriser:	Chief Financial Officer
Link to Community Strategic Plan:	Effective financial and asset management ensure Council's long term sustainability

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the results of the budget review undertaken for the period ending 30 September 2019 and to seek approval to make the necessary adjustments to the 2019/20 budget.

The Quarterly Review of the Budget is reported to Council at the end of each quarter in accordance with Section 203 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **THAT** Council approve the budget variations reported at the September Quarterly Review as listed in Attachment 1 to the report.
2. **THAT** the projected surplus of \$22,071 be transferred to the Capital Projects Reserve for consideration as part of the 2020/21 Budget.

REPORT

BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 12 June 2019 Council adopted the 2019/20 Operational Plan, Budget and Revenue Policy (MN 270/19).

The 2019/20 Original Budget was adopted by Council as a deficit budget of \$123,000. This was due to an announcement made by the NSW State Government on the 8 May 2019 that there would be a significant increase in the statutory contribution for the emergency services contribution (Rural Fire Services, State Emergency Services and Fire & Rescue NSW) for the 2019/20 financial year.

This report presents the recommended adjustments which have been submitted by Council Officers for the first quarter of the 2019/20 financial year.

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MAIN REPORT

Taking into consideration all adjustments requested as part of the September Quarterly Review, the projected budget result for the 2019/20 financial year is a surplus of \$22,071.

The projected surplus is primarily a result of the decision by the State Government to fund the first year increase in the Emergency Services Levy of \$123,000, and additional rate income when compared to original budget projections.

PROPOSED BUDGET VARIATIONS

Proposed budget variations (Greater than \$15,000) which have been submitted as part of the September Quarterly Review are shown in the table below:

September Review - Proposed Variations (>\$15,000)	2019/20
2019/20 Original Budget - Deficit	(\$123,218)
Income Adjustments	
Emergency Services Levy Grant – increase in income	\$123,218
Rate income – increase in income	\$38,300
Other minor adjustments less than \$15,000	\$7,885
Total Budget Variations – Income	\$169,403
Expenditure Adjustments	
Development Services contractors – increase in expense	\$100,000
Development Services employment – decrease in expense	(\$100,000)
Civic Centre Fit out – increase in expense	\$38,300
Other minor adjustments less than \$15,000	(\$14,186)
Total Budget Variations - Expenditure	\$24,114
Projected 2019/20 Budget surplus as at 30 September 2019	\$22,071

Further commentary on variations to the budget is provided in **Attachment 1**.

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PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS

There are a number of proposed adjustments to Council's adopted Capital Works Program. These adjustments have been included in Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement and comments have been provided. A summary of the major variations is provided in the following table:

Major Capital Works Expenditure Adjustments	2019/20
Station Street Upgrade	\$10,000,000
Civic Centre Refurbishment	\$5,000,000
Berrima Road Deviation Project	\$3,879,481
New Generators Water Treatment Plants	\$3,500,000
Mittagong STP Upgrade	\$2,387,085
Bowral STP Upgrade	\$1,500,589
Sewer Pump Station Renewal	\$805,639
Total Major Capital Works Expenditure Adjustments	\$27,072,794

These works will be reassessed in terms of the timing of delivery and will be included in forward estimates as part of the 2020/21 Budget.

The Berrima Road Deviation Project adjustment reflects the removal of the Federal Government Grant Funding as reported to Council on the 10 April 2019.

COUNCILLOR CONTINGENCY FUND

The uncommitted balance of the contingency fund for the 2019/20 financial year as at 30 September 2019 is \$29,045. Funds have been allocated to the following groups during 2019/20:

Contingency Fund	2019/20
2019/20 Approved Budget	\$25,000
2018/19 Expenditure Revote	\$21,159
Total – 2019/20 Budget Available	\$46,159
MN 551/17 – Mental Health Week	\$3,370
MN 127/18 – The Bundanoon Club	\$3,044
MN 354/18 – Triple Zero cricket challenge traffic Mgmt	\$508
MN 214/19 – Refund DA Fees Moss Vale Anglican Church	\$330
MN 335/19 – Bowral Classic Cycling Event	\$3,000
MN 352/19 – Winterfest Bundanoon	\$854
MN 391/19 – Illawarra Academy of Sport	\$2,000
MN 441/19 – Refund DA Fees Highlands Botanic Gardens	\$3,008
MN 460/19 – Bikes 4 Life financial assistance	\$1,000
Total Funds Allocated 2019/20	\$17,114
Uncommitted Balance – Contingency Fund	\$29,045

SOUTHERN REGIONAL LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE (SRLX)

A copy of the financial report for the Southern Regional Livestock Exchange including proposed adjustments as part of the September Budget Review is provided in **Attachment 2**.

CONSULTATION

Community Engagement

There was no Community Engagement undertaken.

Internal Consultation

Council's Executive and Managers

External Consultation

There was no External Consultation undertaken.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

- **Environment**

There are no environmental issues in relation to this report.

- **Social**

There are no social issues in relation to this report.

- **Broader Economic Implications**

There are no broader economic implications in relation to this report.

- **Culture**

There are no cultural issues in relation to this report.

- **Governance**

Council is required to approve the Quarterly Review of the budget within eight weeks of the end of the quarter in accordance with section 203 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

COUNCIL BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

It is recommended that the projected Budget surplus of \$22,071 be transferred to the Capital Projects Reserve.

RELATED COUNCIL POLICY

2019/20 Operational Plan and Budget

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CONCLUSION

The September Review of the 2019/20 Budget has identified a number of significant adjustments to the Capital Works program. These adjustments do not have an impact on Council's bottom line. The State Government has decided to fund the first year increase in the Emergency Services Levy, and additional rate income has also been realised, contributing to the projected surplus of \$22,071. It is considered prudent to transfer the surplus to the Capital Projects reserve.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Quarterly Budget Review Statement 2019/20 - *circulated under separate cover*
2. Southern Regional Livestock Exchange Quarterly Budget Review Statement September 2019 - *circulated under separate cover*

6.2 Quarterly Operational Plan 2019/20 Progress Report, 1 July to 30 September 2019

Reference:	501/2019
Report Author:	Internal Audit and Legal Support Officer
Authoriser:	A/Coordinator Corporate Strategy and Governance
Link to Community Strategic Plan:	An enhanced culture of positive leadership, accountability and ethical governance that guides well informed decisions to advance agreed community priorities

PURPOSE

This report provides an overview of Council's progress towards delivering its annual Operational Plan 2019/20.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Quarterly Progress Report on Operational Plan 2019/20, 1 June to 30 September 2019, be noted.

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Operational Plan 2019/20 contains 205 projects, programs and activities (annual deliverables) across the five key themes from the Community Strategic Plan, *Wingecarribee 2031*, and demonstrates how Council will meet its commitments in the Delivery Program 2017-2021 during the financial year.

REPORT

The Quarterly Progress Report on Operational Plan 2019/20 for 1 June to 30 September 2019 (**Attachment 1**) is an exception report which provides the Finance Committee with an overview of the key achievements, areas which require future focus, and programs and projects that have been placed on hold during the reporting period.

At the end of September 2019, 97.5 percent of all annual deliverables were 'on track', 2 percent 'need attention' and 0.5 percent were 'on hold'. Further details are provided in **Attachment 1**.

CAPITAL WORKS EXCEPTION REPORT

In addition to the Quarterly Progress Report on Operational Plan 2019/20 for 1 June to 30 September 2019, Council has also been provided with a progress report on all major capital works (greater than \$5 million) as **Attachment 2**.

This exception report will be provided on a quarterly basis to the Finance Committee.

COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Community Engagement

Nil

Internal Communication and Consultation

Branch Managers

Executive

External Communication and Consultation

Nil

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

- **Environment**

There are no environmental issues in relation to this report.

- **Social**

There are no social issues in relation to this report.

- **Broader Economic Implications**

There are no broader economic implications in relation to this report.

- **Culture**

There are no cultural issues in relation to this report.

- **Governance**

This exception report provides the Finance Committee with an overview of how Council is progressing towards achieving its commitments as outlined in the Operational Plan 2019/20, thereby enhancing organisational transparency and accountability.

COUNCIL BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RELATED COUNCIL POLICY

Nil

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OPTIONS

The option available to the Committee is to note this report.

CONCLUSION

The Quarterly Progress Report on Operational Plan 2019/20 for 1 June to 30 September 2019 provides the Finance Committee with an overview of how Council is progressing towards achieving its commitments as outlined in the Operational Plan 2019/20. Overall, Council is progressing well to achieve the 205 annual deliverables for the 2019/20 financial year.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Operational Plan - Progress Report - September 2019-20



Quarterly Progress Report Operational Plan 2019/20 For Council Finance Committee

1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019



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Operational Plan Progress - Summary

The following section provides an overview on Council's progress towards delivering its annual Operational Plan 2019-20. The Operational Plan contains 205 projects, programs and activities (annual deliverables) across the five key themes from the Wingecarribee 2031 Community Strategic Plan. Table 1, below, outlines how Council is tracking at the end of the September 2019 reporting period (three month period) to achieve the annual deliverables for each theme. Further information about the deliverables that are not currently on-track is provided at Attachment 1, while Attachment 2 provides a progress report on major capital projects.

Table 1: outlines how Council is tracking in the September quarter to achieve the annual deliverables for each Theme.

Progress Status					
W2031+ Theme	Delayed	On-hold	Critical	Needs Attention	On-Track
Leadership	-	1.7%	-	1.7%	96.6%
People	-	-	-	-	100%
Places	-	-	-	5.9%	94.1%
Environment	-	-	-	-	100%
Economy	-	-	-	-	100%
Total for all annual deliverables	-	0.5%	-	2%	97.5%



Operational Plan Progress - Highlights

Leadership

- The bi-annual Delivery Program Report for the period 1 January to 30 June 2019 was presented to Council on 28 August 2019 and published on Council's website following the Council meeting.
- Council successfully prosecuted for illegal tree removal in Yerrinbool with a \$25,000 penalty and \$11,000 costs order for replacement trees imposed by the Court.
- Council resolved to engage the NSW Electoral Commission to administer Council's election in 2020.
- Council resolved to increase the number of community representatives on the Heritage Advisory Committee from three to four, and appointed two new community members to that Committee.
- Council staff have engaged with services that were given funding by South Western Sydney Primary Health Network to deliver specialist Aboriginal Programs within the Shire, such as Youthlink which has received funding to facilitate a program to address the needs of Aboriginal young people experiencing or at risk of developing mental health and co-occurring alcohol and drug concerns.
- Community feedback was sought on a variety of initiatives including the Alternatives to Euthanasia Policy, Nattai Ponds Draft Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan, amendments to the proposed lease of the Aboriginal Community Cultural Centre in Mittagong and draft Development Control Plan amendments for Renwick and Berrima Landscape Conservation Area.
- Council's new internal communication platform has been implemented, enhancing productivity by enabling staff to communicate across any device and from any location in a collaborative capacity.

People

- In July Council held NAIDOC Week celebrations with the official Flag Raising Ceremony and the opening of the 'Poetry in First Languages' Art Exhibition.
- Staff and the NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group conducted a community meeting to re-establish the Wingecarribee's Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group. The Wingecarribee Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group will promote active participation by local Aboriginal people in the consultative and decision-making process regarding education and training-related matters within the Shire.
- Moss Vale War Memorial Aquatic Centre promotions included an August offer of 10 visits for \$10 and a September promotion for an 8 week boot camp challenge commencing in October. These campaigns resulted in an additional 205 people becoming members.
- 179 children registered to participate in the 2019 Winter Reading Challenge in the July school holidays.
- Book Week Celebrations were held between 12-31 August 2019 with a theme of 'Reading is my secret power'. 1,398 children from five schools and six preschools visited the three branch libraries during Book Week.
- Mount Alexandra Reserve Bushcare Group held its inaugural event, a planting day for the Three Creeks Project.



Places

- Upgrade works at Mittagong library took place in September, involving the replacement and restoration of the building's roof including gutters, downpipes, ridge capping and timber batons as well as a new coat of paint in-line with its heritage character.
- Road safety initiatives carried out during the reporting period included learner driver log book runs, a 'Speed busters' program encouraging drivers to slow down for safety around schools and in residential streets, and pedestrian safety campaigns focused on school zones.
- Council undertook programmed and reactive maintenance on its road networks, including Shire-wide preparation works for ten roads as part of the Road Resealing Program as well as unsealed road grading at 44 roads across Yerrinbool, Colo Vale, Joadja, Berrima, Moss Vale, Canyonleigh, Meryla, Wingello and Penrose.
- Capital works completed during the quarter include gravel resheeting at Tugalong Road and Nandi Road Canyonleigh and also at Wombeyan Caves Road at Bullio
- Council's Planning Proposal template and guidelines have been reviewed and updated to ensure ongoing best practice continues. In July, Council resolved to not accept any more Planning Proposals for residential development until the Local Housing Strategy is completed which is anticipated to occur by the end of 2019.

Environment

- Council undertook an active education campaign targeting illegal landfill, known as 'Dob in a Dirtbag'. Targeted letters were also delivered to areas over-represented in terms of the acceptance of fill to warn landowners of the risks of accepting fill onto their land. Council also continues to work with the Illawarra Joint Organisation and Environment Protection Authority on the implementation of the Regional Illegal Dumping program.
- A Southern Highlands Koala Habitat Conservation Tender was developed in collaboration with the Biodiversity Conservation Trust. This will be launched later in 2019 and offers landholders within the Wingecarribee Shire an opportunity to diversify their income by earning annual management payments for conserving native vegetation on their property.
- Council is currently working with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment on a number of key projects including detailed vegetation mapping and a number of koala mapping and protection projects.
- Council consulted with relevant industry bodies on new revised standards for Engineering Design Specifications.

Economy

- The Tulip Time Festival took place in September with a theme of 'Mary Poppins' and the charity partner of Variety - the Children's Charity. 54,500 people visited the festival, an increase of 14% on 2018 figures. More local residents also visited Corbett Gardens during the festival, with numbers up 4% on 2018 attendance. The program of activities and entertainment included Plaster Pit workshops, Flamenco Dancing, music in the Gardens, local school performances and market stalls.
- Council's Destination Southern Highlands unit reviewed and revamped its membership program to better engage with industry and encourage further development and growth. The new program was rolled out in July, with approximately 140 businesses subsequently agreeing to partner with Destination Southern Highlands
- Research has been undertaken on the policy framework for development of a Destination Plan for the Southern Highlands that will guide economic development and tourism initiatives within the Shire. This will remain an ongoing focus.



Attachment 1 - Operational Plan Progress - Exceptions

Operational Plan Item	Status	Remedial Action	Approval Status
OP024 - Undertake a review of all Farmland rating properties to ensure they comply with Section 515 of the Local Government Act 1993			
Finance, Fleet and Procurement	On Hold		Approved
<p>In May 2019, Council approved a further extension of its rates deferral scheme for all eligible farmland rated properties for the 2019/20 rating year.</p> <p>Given the current drought conditions which are being experienced across the Shire, a review of all farmland rated properties would be difficult to undertake due to the levels of de-stocking which is taking place. The practice of de-stocking will significantly distort this review and will not be a true reflection of those properties which meet the requirements for farmland rating under the Local Government Act.</p> <p>It is instead proposed to develop a Farmland Rating Policy which will then be used to inform reviews to be undertaken once drought conditions improve across the Shire.</p>			
OP038 - Develop Plans of Management for Crown Lands, where Council is deemed to be the Crown Land Manager			
Assets and Project Delivery	Needs Attention	Costs associated with engaging a consultant to assist with Plan of Management Audit (PoM) development should be considered in order to meet the deadline of June 2021.	Approved
<p>The Plan of Management Audit (PoM) has been completed. Crown have advised that the categorisation of the parcels of land transferred under the revised Crown Lands Act has progressed and should be completed in October 2019. The audit estimates that the PoMs will take just over three years to complete if delivered in house.</p>			
OP109 - Continue to develop and commence implementation of Station Street upgrade project			
Assets and Project Delivery	Needs Attention	Council continues to explore areas of influence to obtain a timely response from Transport for NSW.	Approved
<p>Council is continuing to apply pressure to obtaining a resolution from Sydney Trains and Transport NSW concerning the minor land acquisition to facilitate the proposed road works. Council and its consultants are also working with the Roads and Maritime Services to satisfy the traffic management requirements of the proposed redesign.</p>			



Operational Plan Item	Status	Remedial Action	Approval Status
OP120 - Pursue grant funding for the redevelopment of the Bowral Memorial Hall			
Assets and Project Delivery	Needs Attention	Council Officers to continue to make enquiries regarding Round 3 of the Regional Cultural Fund and to continue to explore other appropriate grant opportunities.	Approved
<p>Council has made an application to the Create NSW Regional Cultural fund in the past two rounds for funding for the Bowral Memorial Hall Redevelopment project, but was unsuccessful. It is intended to apply in Round 3 of this fund, however, the third round has not yet been announced. Enquiries have been made to Create NSW, but as yet a third round has not been confirmed.</p> <p>Alternative grant opportunities have been considered, however, none have been identified that are an appropriate fit for this project.</p>			
OP134 - Deliver drinking water network operations/ maintenance programs to meet adopted Drinking Water Management System requirements			
Water and Sewer	Needs Attention	Greater focus will be placed on this activity in the second and third quarters.	Approved
Operational maintenance of the water distribution network was primarily reactive in the first quarter.			



Attachment 2 - Major Capital Projects (Greater than \$5 Million) - Quarterly Progress Report

Project Name	Approved Budget	Total Actual Expenditure	Expected Completion Date	Current Project Milestone	Next Steps	Officer Comments
Civic Centre Refurbishment	\$9,046,000	\$1,445,547	December 2020	Development Application and section 4.55 modification completed. All design documentation finalised and awaiting Construction Certificate. Tender briefing has been conducted with great interest from the preselected contractors (from Early Tenderer Involvement process).	Tender close on 12 November with planned Council report submission at 27 November meeting with Letter of Acceptance to then be expediently issued.	Site establishment and construction commencement estimated for mid-December. Invasive works including some demolition and courtyard hoarding to be undertaken during Christmas shutdown period to minimise impact to occupants. Stakeholder management plans are being developed to coincide with staging plans from contractors to prepare and inform staff and customers of potential disruptions
Station St Upgrade	\$16,330,000	\$2,045,171	November 2021 Dependent on timely resolution with Sydney Trains	Final designs are being modified and developed as a resolution from Sydney Trains is still in negotiations. Final designs and utility adjustments cannot be completed until land acquisition from Sydney Trains is approved. Works Authorisation Deed agreement with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) has been executed for Station St.	Enabling works on Kirkham Rd have commenced. Roundabout design is still being developed in order to find the balance between Sydney Trains constraints and RMS requirements.	A Transport for NSW representative has been appointed as the single point of contact to assist with resolving the Sydney Trains impasse and RMS constraints.



Project Name	Approved Budget	Total Actual Expenditure	Expected Completion Date	Current Project Milestone	Next Steps	Officer Comments
SRLX Upgrade	\$5,200,000	\$122,595	July 2021	Selling arena seating scheduled to commence early November. Concept design for holding yards has been developed and is being fine tuned	Finalise requirements for holding yards and complete detailed design for tender.	Extensive consultation and input is continuing with all stakeholders to ensure an efficient fit for purpose facility whilst ensuring functional outcomes align with budget constraints
STP Upgrade Moss Vale	\$29,600,000	\$153,000	March 2024	Concept design is significantly completed. Currently under review by the consultant.	Completion of concept design and progressing water quality (discharge) impact assessment as required by Environment Protection Authority (EPA).	Intention is to consider modelling the detailed design for Bowral STP for use with the Moss Vale and Mittagong STP Upgrades.
STP Upgrade Bowral	\$31,500,000	\$192,000	March 2023	With the completion of the Bowral STP concept, request for tender documentation is currently being prepared for the detailed design	Request for tender for consultancy services to undertake the detailed design with the tender for the detailed design estimated for release in November 2019.	Funding of \$6.6M has been endorsed via Restart NSW equating to 25% of project value. Finalisation of detailed design will be pending on the EPA water quality monitoring results.
STP Upgrade Mittagong	\$15,700,000	\$169,000	September 2024	Concept design is significantly completed. Currently under review by the consultant	Completion of concept design and progressing water quality (discharge) impact assessment as required by EPA.	Intention is to consider modelling the detailed design for Bowral STP for use with the Moss Vale and Mittagong STP Upgrades.

6.3 Belmore Falls Road, Burrawang Creek Bridge Side Track

Reference:	7850/6
Report Author:	Manager Assets
Authoriser:	Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance and Risk
Link to Community Strategic Plan:	Provide an accessible, efficient and interconnected public transport system within and out of the Shire

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to fund the construction of a side track adjacent to the Belmore Falls Road, Burrawang Creek Bridge.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve the allocation of \$150,000 from the Capital Projects Reserve for the construction of a side track at Belmore Falls Road, Burrawang Creek Bridge in the 2019/20 Budget.

REPORT

BACKGROUND

Council recently engaged specialists to complete level 3 bridge inspections on all Council road bridges which included load limit recommendations.

The level 3 bridge report for Burrawang Creek Bridge - Belmore Falls Road stated that “the bridge does not comply with the requirements of AS5100.7:2017 for all the assessed vehicle loadings, with the appropriate factors of safety outlined in the standard.” The report further recommends a gross load limit of 3t apply to the bridge based on the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) bridge formulae.

Council has applied for a \$400,000 grant, under Fixing Country Roads, to replace the bridge. The application is supported by a strong Benefit Cost Ratio of 5.8 and is expected to be announced in December 2019.

REPORT

Council has investigated options to maintain access for all road users impacted by the 3T load limit, this included utilising the alternative route via the causeway along Belmore Falls Road. It has been determined that the side track adjacent to the Bridge manages the risk of access most effectively. The cost estimate for the side track is \$150,000.

COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Community Engagement

Wider community consultation has not been undertaken.



Internal Communication and Consultation

Assets and Infrastructure Services

External Communication and Consultation

Council has been in regular communication with key stakeholders within the Belmore Falls Road area.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

- **Environment**

There are no environmental issues in relation to this report.

- **Social**

There are no social issues in relation to this report.

- **Broader Economic Implications**

The side track will ensure heavy vehicle movements can be accommodated and will support local businesses operating within the area.

- **Culture**

There are no cultural issues in relation to this report.

- **Governance**

There are no governance issues in relation to this report.

COUNCIL BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The current uncommitted balance of the Capital Project Reserve is \$777,800. The primary purpose of the Capital Projects Reserve is to ensure funding can be made available for emergency / unforeseen capital projects as they are identified.

RELATED COUNCIL POLICY

Asset Management Policy

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OPTIONS

The options available to Council are:

Option 1

That Council approve the allocation of \$150,000 for the construction of the side track adjacent to the Belmore Falls Road, Burrawang Creek Bridge.

Option 2

That Council does not approve the allocation of \$150,000 for the construction of the side track adjacent to the Belmore Falls Road, Burrawang Creek Bridge.

Option No. 1 is the recommended option to this report.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of a side track at Belmore Falls Road, Burrawang Creek Bridge will maintain access to all road users.

ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments to this report.

Barry W Paull

Deputy General Manager Operations, Finance and Risk

Wednesday 13 November 2019