



AGENDA

INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNITY AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

8 JULY 2019

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Diffey, V Etheridge, D Grant, D Gumley, A Jones, S Lawrence, G Mohr, K Parker, J Ryan and B Shields.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at 5.30pm.

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INSTALLATION OF INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE AT SHOYOEN GARDENS (ID19/766)	6
The Committee had before it the report dated 13 June 2019 from the Sister Cities Officer regarding Installation of Interpretive Signage at Shoyoen Gardens.	



**DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

Report of the Infrastructure Community and Recreation Committee - meeting 11 June 2019

AUTHOR: Administration Officer - Governance
REPORT DATE: 24 June 2019

The Committee had before it the report of the Infrastructure, Community and Recreation Committee meeting held 11 June 2019.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Infrastructure, Community and Recreation Committee meeting held on 11 June 2019, be noted.



**REPORT
INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNITY AND
RECREATION COMMITTEE
11 JUNE 2019**

PRESENT: Councillors D Grant, A Jones, S Lawrence, G Mohr, K Parker, J Ryan and B Shields.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

The Chief Executive Officer, the Executive Manager Governance and Internal Control, the Manager Governance Operations, the Community Support Officer, the Director Corporate Services, the Director Economic Development and Business, the Communications Coordinator, the Director Infrastructure and Operations, the Director Planning and Environment (S Jennings), and the Director Community and Recreation.

Councillor S Lawrence assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.35pm.

**ICRC19/33 REPORT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNITY AND RECREATION
COMMITTEE - MEETING 13 MAY 2019 (ID19/639)**

The Committee had before it the report of the Infrastructure, Community and Recreation Committee meeting held 13 May 2019.

Moved by Councillor G Mohr and seconded by Councillor K Parker

MOTION

That the report of the Infrastructure, Community and Recreation Committee meeting held on 13 May 2019, be noted.

CARRIED

ICRC19/34 PROPOSED SCHOOL BUS ZONE - SKILL SET SENIOR COLLEGE AND CENTRAL WEST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY BULTJE STREET DUBBO (ID19/710)

The Committee had before it the report dated 3 June 2019 from the Senior Traffic Engineer regarding Proposed School Bus Zone - Skill Set Senior College and Central West Leadership Academy Bultje Street Dubbo.

Moved by Councillor G Mohr and seconded by Councillor A Jones

MOTION

That this matter be deferred to the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 24 June 2019.

CARRIED

ICRC19/35 CHANGE TO ON-STREET PARKING - CHURCH STREET DUBBO (ID19/711)

The Committee had before it the report dated 3 June 2019 from the Manager Infrastructure Strategy regarding Change to On-street Parking - Church Street Dubbo.

Moved by Councillor D Grant and seconded by Councillor J Ryan

MOTION

That the proposed changes to parking in Church Street Dubbo, as detailed in this report, be implemented to facilitate the construction of an accessible amenities block.

CARRIED

ICRC19/36 DUBBO REGIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL PLAYING FIELD IMPROVEMENT FUND - DUBBO AND DISTRICT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION AND DUBBO TOUCH ASSOCIATION (ID19/602)

The Committee had before it the report dated 17 May 2019 from the Recreation Coordinator regarding Dubbo Regional Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund - Dubbo and District Football Association and Dubbo Touch Association.

Moved by Councillor A Jones and seconded by Councillor G Mohr

MOTION

- 1. That the report from the Recreation Coordinator dated 17 May 2019 be noted.**
- 2. That the Dubbo and District Football Association, Dubbo Regional Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund application for \$9,484 be approved and the Association be formally notified of the outcome of their application.**
- 3. That the Dubbo Touch Association, Dubbo Regional Sports Council Playing Field Improvement Fund application for \$20,000 be approved and the Association be formally notified of the outcome of their application.**
- 4. That the Sporting Asset Coordinator work with the Dubbo and District Football Association and the Dubbo Touch Association in regard to project completion.**

CARRIED

**ICRC19/37 FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A MUSIC BOWL AND ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES
WITHIN SIR RODEN CUTLER PARK (ID19/705)**

The Committee had before it the report dated 31 May 2019 from the Horticulture and Landcare Asset Coordinator regarding Feasibility Study for a Music Bowl and Associated Structures within Sir Roden Cutler Park.

Moved by Councillor K Parker and seconded by Councillor B Shields

MOTION

1. That the report from the Horticulture and Landcare Asset Coordinator dated 31 May 2019 be noted.
2. That Council formally advises the Sir Roden Cutler Entertainment and Events Development Committee of the findings of the report, and that no further consideration will be given to the construction of a Music Bowl at Sir Roden Cutler Park.
3. That Council investigate and consider alternative locations within close proximity of the Central Business District for a music bowl precinct to attract large music and cultural events.

CARRIED

ICRC19/38 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Requests for leave of absence were received from Councillors J Diffey, V Etheridge and D Gumley who were absent from the meeting due to the personal reasons.

Moved by Councillor A Jones and seconded by Councillor J Ryan

MOTION

That such requests for leave of absence be accepted and Councillors J Diffey, V Etheridge and D Gumley be granted leave of absence from this meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 5.37pm.

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CHAIRMAN



DUBBO REGIONAL
COUNCIL

REPORT: Installation of Interpretive Signage at Shoyoen Gardens

AUTHOR: Sister Cities Officer
REPORT DATE: 13 June 2019
TRIM REFERENCE: ID19/766

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden masterplan was originally adopted in 1998. Based on this masterplan Shoyoen and the Biodiversity Garden was developed. The master plan was revised in 2011, and adopted in 2012. That then oversaw the next phase of development including the Sensory Gardens, Oasis Valley and the recently completed Adventure Playground. Wiradjuri Park is a new element that has been relocated to the Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden due to the proposed third river crossing.

Due to the rapid expansion the adopted signage strategy has not been fully implemented and does not include a "History of the Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden" board. This interpretive signage need to be designed in accordance with the existing signage strategy, and should include all works to date as well as including the Wiradjuri Park Tourism Centre that will be commencing shortly following finalisation of the design and tendering.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Based on the interpretive signage strategy developed for the Wellington Aquatic Leisure Centre it is estimated that the cost of quality signage suitable for design and installation at the Dubbo Regional Botanic gardens would be \$80,000 - \$100,000.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the report from the Sister Cities Officer dated 13 June 2019 be noted.**
- 2. That Dubbo Regional Council proceed with the development of a high quality semi-permanent interpretive signage that is consistent with the adopted Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden signage strategy.**
- 3. That the interpretative signage incorporates Shoyoen, Biodiversity Garden, Sensory Gardens, Oasis Valley, the Adventure Playground and Wiradjuri Park.**
- 4. That following the construction of Wiradjuri Park, the signage strategy be implemented across the Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden identifying the history of the site.**

Kylie Sutherland
Sister Cities Officer

BACKGROUND

The Shoyoen and Jurian were gifted to the city of Dubbo from its Japanese sister city Minokamo. The concept and design for the garden was the work of the Minokamo Agricultural and Forestry school and Japanese horticulturalist. Work on the site commenced in 2002 and the garden, complete with an authentic Japanese tea house and associated gates that were prefabricated in Japan and reconstructed on site; was opened in November 2002 on the 153rd anniversary of the founding of Dubbo which was 13 years after the signing of the sister city agreement between Dubbo and Minokamo. The Japanese gardens were the second significant landscape development in the Elizabeth Park Precinct (biodiversity garden was established first). The Japanese gardens popularity with residents and tourists, in many ways, has been a catalyst for further development that include; the sensory garden; oasis valley and the recently opened Adventure playground of what is now the Elizabeth Park Regional Botanic Gardens. It is estimated that at the time of construction the Japanese gardens, tea house and associated buildings were valued at \$1million.

REPORT

Shoyoen has been established for seventeen years and the plantings have reached a level of maturity that offers visitors an amazing sensory experience with beautiful vista's, sounds of trickling water, aroma of flowering plants and close up experiences of bird and aquatic life. Currently there is no interpretive signage that offers the sister city history of the gifting and establishment of the gardens to people of Dubbo or the intricate details of the different aspects of the Japanese design which looks so natural but is actually extremely contrived. Each element is specifically designed and located, in a particular way and has a background story. There is, however, an information brochure with this information that is available from the volunteers and employees at the entry to the gardens.

Visitors to the gardens (resident and non-resident) are not immediately aware that the Shoyoen was a gift from our Japanese sister city Minokamo unless they pick up a brochure or take the time to talk to a volunteer at the entrance.

It has always been the intention of Dubbo Regional Council to install an interpretive story board signage that gives the history and design story of every one of the different gardens and installations at Elizabeth Park, Dubbo Regional Botanic Gardens. With the rapid development of the gardens, particularly over the past seven years, with the addition of the Sensory Gardens (2012), Oasis Valley (2013), carpark (2018) and Adventure Playground (2019), any interpretive signage would have required constant review and updates to keep current with the latest expansion. In addition, Council will soon commence work on the Wiradjuri Park section of the Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden with a completion date estimated at January 2020.

There are several things to consider in the design, placement and timing of the installation of the signage.

1. It must be of a standard and quality to match that of the high benchmark already set at the Regional Botanic Garden which would dictate that the signage be a semi-permanent installation.
A signage strategy has already been established for the Dubbo Regional Garden in terms of wayfinding within the Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden, and also for the identification of plants, and in the case of the Biodiversity Garden includes Aboriginal uses for the different plant species. It is suggested that the signage identifying the development of the Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden be incorporated into the overall signage strategy for the area.
2. It is anticipated that this kind of signage would be expensive to design, construct and install.
3. It follows that signage of this quality should be installed in a central location with high foot traffic so it can be accessed by all the visitors to the garden.
4. It would be preferable for the signage to be under the cover and part of a secure physical structure to avoid fading from the elements and damage through vandalism.
5. Construction of Stage 1 of the Wiradjuri tourism experience is about to commence with associated disturbance of the site (anticipated completion date January 2020).
6. Signage erected at this time would not include details of Stage 1 or Stage 2 of the Wiradjuri tourism experience.

In considering the above temporary signage, such as that on display to the public during the construction phase of the Adventure playground, would not be of an appropriate quality in line with the current design standards of the Botanic gardens. Instead a more permanent high quality installation is envisage as part of the Wiradjuri tourism experience. This would allow for semi-permanent signage to be included as an element in the planning stage and all the issues listed above can be considered. For instance, signage can be erected in secure area not exposed to the weather.

SUMMARY

When considering interpretive signage for the Shoyoen it is necessary to consider signage in terms of the whole of the now substantive Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden precinct. There has always been a plan to include interpretive signage showing the different stages of development and the stories behind each of the different element within the Botanic Gardens. Ongoing development and the lack of a structure in which to site the signage are the reasons signage has not been installed to date.