

Community Conversations

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MAYORAL MESSAGE

Welcome to Federation Council's quarterly Community Conversations Newsletter.

The purpose of the newsletter is to engage with residents from across the Federation region to highlight the many projects and works that are currently being delivered for the betterment of Council's communities.

Council in June adopted its new Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) suite of documents. The adoption of these documents involved a significant journey for Federation Council and its communities.

This framework is what Council will use to continually work towards achieving our communities vision, supported by the five pillars of built Federation, Economic Federation, Natural Federation, Social Federation and Well governed Federation. Further details are on page 3 of this newsletter.

In another important milestone, the Corowa Aquatic Centre final design concept plans were accepted by Council and the Swimming Pool Advisory Committee. This is such a fabulous outcome for the community as the new facility will include an outdoor 8 lane 50m pool, an indoor heated multipurpose pool that includes 3 x 25m lanes for lap swimming and training, as well as a learn to swim/warm water exercise area with varied depths to accommodate a variety of users.

Next month will reach another milestone as my fellow eight Councillors and I will have had the pleasure of governing Federation Council for 2 years of our 3 year term. We are extremely proud of the many achievements and community priorities that have been delivered during this period, as the Council continues to grow.

The coming 12 months in particular will remain an important time for us as Council continues to deliver many major projects that will define the future growth of our region. This work is led by Council Staff who are a credit to our organisation and I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank them for their commitment to the delivery of the unprecedented works program.

Community feedback and engagement is important to Council and we look forward to continuing to work together to achieve positive outcomes for Federation Council communities.

Kind regards, Federation Council Mayor - Pat Bourke.



ENGAGE WITH US

Visit Council's website:
www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au
for the following information
and much more...

- Latest News
- Project Updates
- Upcoming Events
- Tourism Initiatives

Follow us on Facebook
@ Federation Council

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COUNCIL ADOPTS INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING DOCUMENTS



Federation Council has adopted its 2019/2020 Operational Plan, 2018 - 2021 Delivery Program and Financial Plan, with implementation commencing on 1 July 2019.

In addition to significant community infrastructure projects to be delivered, Council will also focus on delivering a \$37 million capital works program which includes:

- Road improvements, \$12.9 million.
- Corowa-Mulwala Trail, \$3.3 million.
- Howlong Industrial Estate development, \$1.5 million.
- Corowa Saleyards improvements, \$500,000.
- Ageing Well Strategy implementation, \$25,000.
- Ball Park Caravan Park rectification works, \$150,000.
- Daysdale flood plain risk management, \$140,000.
- Mulwala, Howlong and Corowa Flood Study, \$185,000.

Council also has a strong business as usual approach and commits to continuing to deliver over 60 different services across the area. Many of these are only possible by the significant valued contribution of our many fabulous volunteers.

A number of key projects and initiatives as highlighted in this year's delivery program include:

- Corowa Aquatic Centre, \$9.5 million.
- Howlong Multipurpose Hall, \$1.6 million.
- Urana Aquatic Leisure Centre Building, \$935,000.
- All Abilities Playground at Purtle Park Mulwala, \$809,000.
- Bangerang Park Corowa, playground upgrades and renewal works, \$650,000.
- Oaklands Medical Centre, \$614,000 (Purchase and renovations).
- Corowa Skate Park extension and part renewal works, \$453,000
- Lonsdale Reserve, Mulwala Bay 13 upgrade and continuation with Master-plan works, \$200,000.

Continued improvements to our roads network will include:

- On-going bitumen re-seals and patching programs, gravel re-sheeting and unsealed roads maintenance.
- Boree Creek Freight link road reconstruction.
- Continued widening, sealing and rehabilitation on Redlands Road.
- Continued widening, sealing and rehabilitation on Federation Way north of Urana.

“Council plans and policies are inter-connected and do not exist in isolation. Our Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework allows Council to bring its various plans together and to prepare holistically and sustainably for the future,” Mayor Bourke said.



COROWA AQUATIC CENTRE FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT PLANS

The appointed designer for the Corowa Aquatic Centre project, Stephen Johansson from Facility Design Group, has presented Council and the Swimming Pool Advisory Committee with final design concept plans for the new complex.

The final plans include an outdoor 8 lane 50m pool, an indoor heated multipurpose pool that includes 3 x 25m lanes for lap swimming and training as well as a learn to swim/warm water exercise area with varied depths to accommodate a variety of users.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Patrick Bourke said this is yet another important milestone in this critical project for Council and community.

“Following review of the plans, Council and the Swimming Pool Advisory Committee have confirmed acceptance of the overall concept design with no amendments requested or required.”

“The new aquatic centre will support our residents to have access to the very best facility that we could responsibly achieve given the project budget and operating costs.”

“Coupled with the other sporting facilities in close proximity, the new facility will be the centre piece of the sporting precinct which will be a significant attraction for the entire region.”

“Throughout the process, Council has engaged with the Swimming Pool Advisory Committee who have provided important feedback to developing the final concept plan. The committee have been proactive in providing feedback and the result demonstrates the valuable relationship that Council has with the community.”

“Council along with staff look forward to delivering the new facility to the community in mid to late 2020,” he said.

Council will now generate the design and construct tender documentation which will include a very detailed schedule and call for price options on key items, particularly where substantial price variations between possible solutions exist.

Council will continue to keep the community informed about the progress of construction of the new Corowa Aquatic Centre.

The final designs are available for viewing from Council’s website.



MULWALA BUSINESS PARK - 32 LOT INDUSTRIAL ESTATE RELEASED

Federation Council has released a new 32 lot Estate at the Mulwala Business Park to meet the ongoing demand for industrial land within the region.

Land Details

- Serviced, high quality blocks.
- Power, sewer, telco and water.
- Land area ranging from 7761m² - 1182m².

Terms

- 60 day settlement from date of issue of title.
- Development to occur within 12 months of settlement.
- Industrial land fixed at \$58 per (m²) plus GST.

Further information is available by contacting Council.



Above: Tim Fischer & Federation Council Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke. Mr Fischer grew up in Boree Creek where he later farmed in between his long and distinguished career, including service in the Vietnam War, and many years in Federal Parliament.

TIM FISCHER COMMUNITY PARK

Federation Council has re-named the Boree Creek Community Park in honour of former Deputy Prime Minister, Tim Fischer AC, who hails from Boree Creek.

On Sunday 21 July, a special event occurred, to honour this service to his country, and for never forgetting Boree Creek, where it all began for Tim, and a place he feels very much where his heart is.

Around 80 locals and 200 train passengers on board a classic 47 Diesel Locomotive called the Riverina Spirit, who had travelled from Albury on the train with Tim, all joined in to surprise Tim with this announcement, and to unveil a special sign to signify the Parks new name.

YARRAWONGA MULWALA BRIDGE SURVEY

Federation Council recently invited residents in the Mulwala community to have their say on the preferred route of the new Yarrowonga - Mulwala Bridge via a survey.

This was a voluntary process, however, Council strongly encouraged participation so Council could gain the communities views in relation to the preferred route. A new bridge is required over Lake Mulwala to replace the existing bridge. The Victorian State Government is responsible for the delivery of this critical project.

Both the Yarrowonga and Mulwala and surrounding communities clearly demonstrated their support for the green route and Council has now endorsed this as the preferred alignment. This is now consistent with the Moira Shire Council's preferred alignment.

Council surveyed the Mulwala community via postcode, of those on the electoral roll, during May/June 2019 to understand their views of the preferred route of the new Yarrowonga Mulwala Bridge. The survey process was voluntary and Council strongly encouraged participation by the Mulwala community.

The completed survey documentation and results were independently distributed and collated by a mailing and survey management firm. The results showed a total of 1562 surveys were distributed on 25 May 2019, with 28 days to return them. 867 completed surveys were returned, and 73 unopened surveys were returned. Of those who voted, 604 (70%) were in favour of option one (Green route); and 259 (30%) were in favour of option two (Grey route). Six responses did not clearly pick an option that could be identified. Two ticked both options.

This is a return rate of just over 55%, considered extremely high for a voluntary survey. This is a strong validation of the topics importance to the community, and justifies Council's decision to conduct the survey. It is also a very strong representative sample, to gain 55% of the views of a particular target audience.

Federation Council Mayor, Cr Patrick Bourke said the survey results demonstrated that the preference of the majority of survey respondents is clearly for the Green Route for the new bridge over Lake Mulwala. Council considered the results at the July Ordinary Meeting, and determined based on the preference of the majority of

survey respondents, that the Green Route is now the preferred alignment for Council.

Mayor Bourke said, "Today is the start of both Councils working together with a shared view for replacing the nearly 100-year-old road bridge. Reaching agreement on the green route has been made possible by both Councils ensuring that those that are most affected by it had a legitimate say, the communities that live in Mulwala and Yarrowonga. We are very confident the strong vote for green will be the catalyst for convincing both State Governments to revisit the route alignment."

"The green route will give both towns a chance to create tourism precincts connecting the towns to Lake Mulwala; they can become pedestrian precincts rather than highways and trucks. There is enormous opportunity for public space, foreshore activation, visitor services and people."

"For too long the discussion has been about traffic analysis, it's now time to start talking about how the towns will function better as tourism and lifestyle destinations and the green route will help us achieve that. We think it's vital that Government listen to the people who live in the towns affected by these 100 year decisions, we have and that's what's convinced us to back green. We'll be calling on both Road Ministers to re-open discussions on route selection in response to overwhelming community support for green.

Then we can continue advocacy for its construction, it's moved to number three on the Murray River priority list and we want to keep it right up there with the weir bridge closing to traffic next year. Council will now convene meetings with Regional Roads Victoria, Transport NSW and the Moira Shire Council to formally relay the survey results and Council's decision, a decision that aligns with that of Moira Shire, to progress this important project," he said.



Above: Moira Shire Council Mayor Cr Libro Mustica & Federation Council Mayor Cr Patrick Bourke

COUNCIL AWARDS COMMUNITY GRANTS

A total of \$28,779 was allocated to community groups at Council's May monthly meeting, through Round Two of the Federation Council Community Grants Program.

This program provides an excellent opportunity for Council to support community projects that deliver positive benefits to the local community and congratulations are extended to the successful applicants.

COMMUNITY GROUP	AMOUNT	PROJECT & NOTES
Corowa Soccer Club	\$1,000	Material for games.
Corowa Athletics Club	\$2,700	Storage Container for new mat.
Corowa Business Chamber	\$2,000	Decorations for Christmas Tree.
Corowa Community Gardens/RDS	\$1,030	Documentary Film.
Corowa District Historical Society	\$649	Replacement of A4 Printer/Photocopier & purchase of additional stackable chairs.
Corowa Pony Club	\$2,300	Fifteen sets of jump wings.
Howlong Cricket Club	\$2,300	Three iPads to assist in training, match results & administration.
Howlong Men's Shed	\$2,000	Christmas Decorations for town.
Mulwala Progress Assoc. Interpretative Signs	\$2,800	History signs.
Oaklands Central School P & C	\$2000	Children's Christmas Party.
Riverine Plains	\$3000	Farm Ag Data System.
TunzaFun Amusement Group	\$2800	Upgrade of security systems.
Urana Arts	\$2500	Hats off to Freddie Fox Exhibition.
Corowa Car & District Club	\$1700	Car/Bike Show Shine: Materials.
TOTAL GRANT FUNDING ALLOCATED:	\$28,779	

2019 VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION AWARDS & CELEBRATIONS

More than 120 people celebrated and recognised the wonderful contribution volunteers make to our community at the Howlong Golf Resort on Sunday 2 June 2019.

Guest speakers Edwina Hayes and Liz Seeliger inspired and entertained guests with their messages about staying connected, serving the community in which we live as it sets aspirations and demonstrates powerful leadership.

Volunteers enthusiastically give their time, energy and expertise to help out, support and make a difference in

our community. Federation Council respects and appreciates the unwavering support.



Above: Councillors Bronwyn Thomas, David Longley and Norm Wales, with guest speakers Edwina Hayes & Liz Seeliger



Above: Ellen Lavis, Molly Pearce, Noah Little, Dylan Forge, Olivia Hughes. Jacob Read, Tyler Martin & Maxim Blockley



NINE SWORN IN FOR SECOND YEAR OF YOUTH COUNCIL

Federation Council congratulates the incoming 2019/2020 Youth Council who was announced at their June meeting.

The Federation Youth Council welcomed three new members with Ellen Lavis, Jacob Read and Maxim Blockley who will join Dylan Forge, Noah Little, Tyler Martin, Molly Pearce, Olivia Hughes and Caitlin Moir who have opted for a second term.

During the meeting in July the Youth Council evaluated what is important to young people in the Federation Council area and from this will define a program of delivery over the next twelve months.



DIGGER LOUGHNAN PARK FISHING JETTY

The Digger Loughnan Park Fishing Jetty in Mulwala is finished and open for the community and visitors to enjoy.

The jetty is positioned over Lake Mulwala and will provide residents and visitors a location to enjoy the pristine views and fish for the elusive Murray Cod.

Well done to the team at Focus Engineering for their terrific work over the past few months in delivering this project, which was funded through the NSW Government: Regional Growth - Environment & Tourism Fund.

Find out further information from Council's website.

A MESSAGE FROM THE AGEING WELL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Welcome to the introductory article of the Federation Ageing Well Advisory Committee.

The Federation Council in 2018, developed a strategy to help guide planning for older people in our community and engaged an Ageing Well Advisory Committee.

The Ageing Well Advisory Committee is made up of members of the community, who are aged over 55 and are passionate about promoting a better lifestyle for everyone in their later years.

Important priorities for the committee are social interaction, advocating for local services, staying abreast of transport, health, and ageing in place options, as well as ensuring that people are aware of what is available in their community.

The Committee aims to support and monitor the actions of the strategy. This new article in the Council's newsletter is one of the strategy's many initiatives to support people to age well in the communities of the Federation Council.

Best wishes,

Gail and Yvonne

Ageing Well Advisory Committee Members



**Ageing
Well**
Together

AGEING WELL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Representative members of the committee are as follows:

Corowa	Wendy Eyers, Stan Bromley, Ita Mensforth and Gail Law
Howlong	Mike Gardiner and Jenny Enever
Mulwala	Liz Seeliger and Jan Doyle
Oaklands	Yvonne Perrin
Urana	Jenny Hearn

We value your feedback about Ageing Well in the Federation Council, so please contact us. You can speak directly to your local Ageing Well Advisory Committee Member, contact Council's Community Development Team Leader on 02 6033 8999 or email ageingwell@federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au.

MEET AN AGEING WELL MEMBER

Name: Yvonne Perrin

Lives: Has lived in Oaklands with her husband Gary for the last nine years.

Yvonne likes to travel whether it be to visit family or for pleasure and sightseeing, and she also loves being part of the vibrant Oaklands community. She is an active member of the CWA and Oaklands RSL and Bowling Club. She represents Oaklands on the Ageing Well Advisory Committee and is passionate to see the local residents receive all of the services they need for a healthy and happy life as they age.



AGEING WELL IN OAKLANDS

In the community of Oaklands there are a number of activities available for assisting in ageing well.

- Monday morning is Tai Chi at the hall for both men and women, which is great for arthritis sufferers.
- The Oaklands and District Men's Shed Inc. meets every Monday morning.
- There are regular movie afternoons at the Oaklands RSL and Bowling Club.
- The Valmar bus travels three times a month from Oaklands to Yarrowonga, Albury and Wagga respectively for social, shopping and entertainment.
- The Oaklands CWA and the Oaklands and District Lions Club meets once a month and are very active in the community.
- People can play golf or bowls and the clubs are always welcoming of new members.

HAPPY HEALTH & WISE: GENTLE EXERCISE

Staying physically active is the single most important thing you can do to stay fit and independent, as you get older. Physical activity is good for the body and mind.

Corowa Gentle Exercise

Corowa RSL Club Auditorium, Betterment Parade
Wednesday 10:30am
Contact: Christine (02) 6033 3796

Mulwala Gentle Exercise

Mulwala Civic Centre, 71 Melbourne Street
Tuesday 10:00 am
Wednesday 1:30 pm
Thursday 10:00 am
Friday 10:00 am
Cost: Gold coin
Contact: Liz, 0425 848 618 or Astrida, 0431 039 247

Oaklands Tai Chi Class

St Columba's Catholic Church Hall, Hunter Street
Monday 9:30 am
Cost: Gold coin
Contact: Louise 0427 004 714

Savernake Gentle Exercise

Savernake School of Arts
Wednesday 10:00 am
Cost: Gold coin
Contact: Liz 0425 848 618

For more information on Murrumbidgee Local Health District Programs email mlhd-exercise@health.nsw.gov.au.

Urana Stepping on Program

Strength and balance exercise
Urana Multi-Purpose Service Community Health Service,
127-129 Princess Street
Monday 10:00 am
Cost: \$2 includes morning tea and a talk
Contact: Bill (02) 6920 8112 or Harry (02) 6920 8374

Please check with your GP if you have recently been diagnosed with or experienced any circulatory, musculoskeletal or respiratory problems/conditions or other health problems or before commencing any new exercise regimen.

FIREWOOD COLLECTION

Residents in the Federation Council area can apply to obtain a permit to collect firewood from roadsides for home heating.

Firewood collection is limited to 1 April – 30 September each year. The permit application fee is \$30.00.

To apply for a permit, residents must complete the application form available from Council's website or at any Council office.



**FEDERATION
COUNCIL**

**LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
WEEK 2019**

*YOUR
COUNCIL*

29 July - 4 August

Local Government Week is a great opportunity to explore all the ways that Federation Council is a part of our community.

DID YOU KNOW!

Local government week is a great opportunity to explore all the ways that Federation Council is a part of our community. Federation Council is part of your daily life and we would like to showcase some of the things we do for the community. You probably know all about roads, rates and rubbish but there is much more to local government.

- Federation Council employs more than 180 people. Our staff are made up of permanent employees, casuals, trainees, apprenticeships and undergraduates.
- 30,501 people visited the three Federation Council Libraries and 45,955 items were borrowed.
- 795,000 lambs and sheep were yarded through the Corowa Saleyards with a total value of over \$115M.
- 560 km's of Rural Roads and Town Streets were maintenance graded and 69 km's of Rural Roads and Town Streets were resealed.
- Federation Council allocated \$70,000 worth of grant money to some of our well deserving local community groups.
- Council's Water and Sewerage treatment plants treated over 3000 Mega-litres of water and over 800 Mega litres of sewage.
- Federation Council infrastructure assets comprising of Roads, Bridges, Water, Sewerage, Swimming Pools, Footpaths, Playgrounds, Buildings replacement value is \$625 Million.
- Council's Corporate website received 80,484 visits with 213,434 page views.
- 100% of food businesses in Federation Council were either 3,4 or 5 star rating making our area a safe place to eat.
- Approximately 193 inspections of septic and aerated wastewater systems were inspected as part of the roll-out of Council's new Onsite Sewerage Management Strategy. There are over 1,000 septic properties in the Federation Council area and inspections will continue over the coming years.
- 25 skin penetration, body piercing, beauty and hairdressing businesses were inspected and all businesses passed demonstrating a high commitment to hygiene standards.

HOW TO CONTACT COUNCIL

COROWA OFFICE

100 Edward Street, Corowa
Phone: (02) 6033 8999

HOWLONG OFFICE

59 Hawkins Street, Howlong
Phone: (02) 6026 5055

URANA OFFICE

30 William Street, Urana
Phone: (02) 6033 8999

MULWALA OFFICE

71 Melbourne Street, Mulwala
Phone: (03) 5744 3439

Federation Council is committed to the delivery of excellent customer service and offers a number of ways for residents and visitors to connect with Council Offices.

To contact us or bring something to our attention, please use one of the following methods:

- Visit one of our Council Offices in person.
- Visit our website www.federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au and click 'Connect'.
- Call us on (02) 6033 8999 during business hours or 1800 110 088 after hours (for urgent issues).
- Send us a letter to PO Box 77, Corowa NSW 2646 or council@federationcouncil.nsw.gov.au

A central customer service system is used to lodge requests and report issues identified by residents. It is important that all requests and issues are captured through this system to ensure they are managed in the most efficient way and responded to.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday, 20 August 2019

Tuesday, 17 September 2019

Tuesday, 22 October 2019

Tuesday, 19 November 2019

Tuesday, 17 December 2019

Federation Council extends an invitation to community members to attend meetings which commence at 9.30am. Meetings can also be live streamed via Council's YouTube channel. Council meeting minutes and agendas are available from Council's website.

RATES INFORMATION

Rates are payable by **31 August, 30 November, 28 February and 31 May each year** and penalties apply for late payment. Local Government is the only sphere of government to send you a total statement of your tax liability for the year before your payment is due.

Residents are encouraged to read their rates notices carefully to ensure they understand the choices Council has made and the payment options available to residents.

Council can agree to more flexible payment arrangements for residents who have difficulty meeting their normal instalment payments. If you are having trouble meeting your payments, contact Council.

HOW TO PAY YOUR RATES

Did you know there are numerous convenient ways that our residents can pay their rates?

- Pay online on our corporate website using the renowned BPOINT.
- You can send us cheques and money orders in the post, made payable to Federation Council.
- Through your bank via BPAY.
- Direct Debit.
- Post Billpay at any Australia Post Office.