



Media Release

November Meeting Wrap

9 November 2017

At its November Ordinary Meeting, Buloke Shire Council noted its progress against the Annual Plan, adopted the Municipal Emergency Management Plan and has resolved to submit for the funding of key roads under the Local Roads to Market Program amongst a busy agenda.

Council has noted excellent progress against the Annual Plan. The Annual Plan represents goals set within the Council Plan 2017-2021 to be achieved in the first year and is reported on quarterly to Council. Highlights so far for the Annual Plan include; funding for Green Lake and the Buloke 2030 Project, launch of Buloke Early Years network and the progress of the Donald Levee project.

Council has adopted both its Municipal Emergency Management Framework and Municipal Emergency Management Plan. The framework was developed to help Council move towards a best practice model for emergency management planning and preparedness. The framework encourages community resilience participation during planning, response and recovery.

Council will apply for the funding of key road projects under the Local Roads to Market Program. The key road projects are; gravelling the Ninda Turriff Road (\$545,333), upgrading of Birchip-Corack Road (\$490,000), upgrading Watchem - Warracknabeal Road (\$237,000), upgrading Yeungroon Road (\$350,000) and the sealing of Industry Drive, Donald (\$81,000). If successful Council will match the funding of these projects as is required under the program in Council's 2018/19 Capital Budget.

Council will continue to the Buloke Loddon L2P learner driver mentor program with a financial contribution of \$5,000. The program has been operating in the region for seven years, directly supporting 65 local youths and their families. The vehicle currently being used by the program has come to the end of its life and Council are contributing half the costs for a replacement vehicle.

Council will also contribute \$5,000 towards the Socio-Economic Value of Recreational and Environmental Water- Survey for 2017-2018. The previous survey demonstrates that recreational lakes provide a net benefit of \$1,000,000 per annum to the Buloke community as well as over \$300,000 of health benefits. Council has facility upgrades scheduled for three of its lakes next year as well as key funding being announced for the Bringing Water Back to Green Lake project.

Council continued to support the community through its Community Grants and Sponsorship program by allocating \$2,000 to the Donald Pony Club and \$2,000 to the Donald Garden Club both from the Project Support Fund. Donald Pony Club plans to demolish the existing clubhouse, which is infested with white ants and replace it with a portable modular structure. The Donald Garden Club intends to provide Fruit Fly traps to protect the Donald community. These two allocations take the tally to \$10,795 of the budgeted \$20,000 for the financial year.

Council's final meeting for the year will be held from 7.00pm on Wednesday 13 December at the Wycheproof Supper Room.

End release

For further information contact Team Leader Communications, Travis Fitzgibbon on 1300 520 520 or tfitzgibbon@buloke.vic.gov.au