

YOUR COUNCIL *update*

ISSUE 56 April 2024



Welcome to the April issue of the Wattle Range Council Newsletter

The aim of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of Council's key activities and any strategic decisions made that may affect our local communities. Additional information on Council's activities can be found on our website www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/wattlerangecouncil

Mayor's UPDATE

Over the past month the Mayor has represented Council at a range of civic and community meetings and engagements.

This included meeting with a group outgoing members of the Wattle Range Road Safety Group, to look over the new barbecue at the Millicent Road Safety Centre. The group has ceased after over 30 years of service in the Wattle Range region, making one final donation to the community as they wrap up.



Mayor Noll expressed his gratitude to the group for their efforts in raising road safety awareness and the support they had provided to those impacted by road trauma across the region.

Community DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

At the April meeting, Council heard from Roger Babolka (Chief Executive Officer) and Steve Duldig (Board Member) of the Stand Like Stone Foundation, seeking Council sponsorship for the Stand Like Stone Foundation in the upcoming financial year.

Key PROJECTS

Council has 105 capital projects listed for the 2023/24 financial year, valued at \$14.275 Million. As at March 28, 46% of these projects were completed, 32% in the process of being delivered and 18% in the procurement phase.

Key project updates include:

- With the tenders for the construction of the Council Service Centre now awarded, contract negotiations with the preferred supplier are underway. The project start date will be confirmed on signing of the contract with completion expected around the end of May 2025.

- Detailed design drawings for the Millicent Swimming Lake reconstruction are completed and the Quantity Surveyor has provided a secondary review estimate. Officers will now undertake a detailed review of the proposed cost analysis with the aim to present options for the most cost-effective approach for consideration by members at the May Council meeting.
- Work is almost complete on the Millicent Library roof and air conditioning upgrade and should be finalised in the coming days.
- Quotes are being sought for lighting along the Millicent Road walkway path from Railway Terrace to the outlet in Beachport.
- Work on the upgrade to the Wallaby Room at the Gladys Smith Early Learning Centre has begun and should be complete by the end of the month.
- Tender documents are being prepared for the installation of wayfinding signage in the townships of both Millicent and Penola.
- Repairs to the roof over the Millicent Civic and Arts Centre toilets are underway.
- Council's new tilt try truck has arrived and joins the fleet.

Key DECISIONS

During this meeting, Council resolved to:

- lobby the South Australian Premier to support Millicent Swimming Lake refurbishment project with an appropriate State Government grant;
- appoint nominee Ashish Aggarwal as the second independent member to the Council's Audit & Risk Committee for a period coinciding with the four-year term of Council;
- approve the submission of an application for the reconstruction of a 1.7km section of Tower Road at a total cost of \$850,000 to the Special Local Road Program, whilst also nominating the Tower Road reconstruction to the Local Road Community Infrastructure Program;
- support Mayor Noll in undertaking an Acknowledgement of Country as part of his address at the Anzac Day service held at the Millicent Cross of Sacrifice later this month; and
- award the tender for the construction of the carpark at the Beachport Recreation Centre to contractors Hamlyn Wilson Pty Ltd with a project value of \$218K.

Community Vision

Missed out on the Community Vision session in your town? You can still be involved! We want to hear what matters to you and what you would like to see happen in your area.

Simply visit www.engage.wattlerange.sa.gov.au and navigate to your town's Community Vision page.

Need help? Call in to one of Council's offices in Millicent, Beachport or Penola or the Millicent Library and one of our friendly staff will assist you.

If we haven't visited your town yet, stay tuned. We will be there sometime soon.



Want to read more?
Head to our website for full Council meeting agendas, reports and minutes.