

ITEM 13 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JOHN DORAHY - FOOTPATHS

Councillor John Dorahy has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that -

- 1 Council strategically develop a 10-year Business Plan for the installation of footpaths on at least one side of every street across the Wollongong LGA that provides surety to residents, school children, business owners and visitors that they can walk, push strollers and ride bicycles safely when traversing Wollongong LGA roadways.
 - a The strategic emphasis of the Plan is to ensure a footpath is laid within 1km of every school and education facility to ensure the safety of children and parents/grandparents/carers do not have to walk on roads.
- 2 A briefing be provided to Councillors to discuss the importance of this Motion to Wollongong residents and what is required to execute the requested 10-year Business Plan before bringing it to the next Budget process of 2023.”

Background provided by Councillor Dorahy:

As we know, Council is spending approximately \$15M on footpath installation. That is good though the target points are varied and potentially ‘not connected’ to provide a meaningful outcome except to comment, ‘we are doing our bit’.

To highlight the challenge of this Motion, please see the below excerpt from the January Council Business Paper showing a particular comment that concerns me:

‘Footpaths – Reallocate budget from Footpaths program to Roadworks program’

We as Councillors should work together to bring Wollongong further into the 21st Century for the safety and well-being of our residents, children, business owners and visitors by installing at least one footpath along the length of each and every street. Council made serious and excellent attempts to provide cyclists with cycleways and now is the time to provide our residents and their children, parents, grandparents and visitors the chance to be safer in negotiating the streets of Wollongong.

As we have experienced in recent months, the rainfall has made walking, riding and negotiating grass verges extraordinarily difficult and outright dangerous for those residents, parents, children and others having to walk on the roads where vehicles pass close by with splashing water and potential accidents waiting to happen.

Fortunately, I believe most parents and residents would have driven children to school or arrived at the shops by other means than walking, though you would have observed many students still walking to school on the roads. Dangerous!

The target of this Motion is to receive a Business Plan to ensure that footpaths are promptly installed on those streets within a 1km radius of any school or education facility, not what looks to be a haphazard approach to spending allocated funds without a thoughtful plan. The extension of this plan is to then install footpaths within 1km of suburban shopping centres that can, over time, connect to the footpaths near the schools and education centres, followed by a footpath on at least one side of every street.

Finally, I suggest for any new estate development that footpaths be laid on every street to ensure the future is safer for the pedestrians and cyclists of Wollongong.

CAPITAL PROJECT REPORT

as at the period ended 29 October 2021

ASSET CLASS PROGRAMME	\$'000		\$'000		YTD EXPENDITURE	\$'000	
	CURRENT BUDGET		PROPOSED BUDGET			VARIATION	
	EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING	EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING		EXPENDITURE	OTHER FUNDING
Roads And Related Assets							
Traffic Facilities	3,353	(2,678)	3,353	(2,678)	518	(0)	(0)
Public Transport Facilities	315	0	315	0	23	0	0
Roadworks	14,280	(4,490)	15,271	(5,031)	4,999	991	(541)
Bridges, Boardwalks and Jetties	2,272	(217)	1,822	(217)	482	(450)	0
TOTAL Roads And Related Assets	20,220	(7,385)	20,762	(7,927)	6,022	541	(541)
West Dapto							
West Dapto Infrastructure Expansion	8,118	(8,118)	8,118	(8,118)	2,182	(0)	0
TOTAL West Dapto	8,118	(8,118)	8,118	(8,118)	2,182	(0)	0
Footpaths And Cycleways							
Footpaths	13,563	(8,055)	13,322	(7,814)	2,809	(241)	241
Cycle/Shared Paths	7,933	(5,643)	7,979	(5,689)	1,634	46	(46)
Commercial Centre Upgrades - Footpaths and Cycleway	4,080	(820)	4,089	(829)	1,309	9	(9)
TOTAL Footpaths And Cycleways	25,576	(14,518)	25,390	(14,333)	5,752	(185)	185
Carparks							
Carpark Construction/Formalising	610	(325)	735	(450)	132	125	(125)
Carpark Reconstruction or Upgrading	1,312	(187)	1,312	(187)	587	0	0
TOTAL Carparks	1,922	(512)	2,047	(637)	719	125	(125)
Stormwater And Floodplain Management							
Floodplain Management	2,595	(566)	2,220	(416)	101	(375)	150
Stormwater Management	6,270	0	6,495	0	1,024	225	0
Stormwater Treatment Devices	55	0	55	0	0	(0)	0
TOTAL Stormwater And Floodplain Man	8,920	(566)	8,770	(416)	1,124	(150)	150
Buildings							
Cultural Centres (IPAC, Gallery, Townhall)	700	0	700	0	216	(0)	0
Administration Buildings	2,435	0	1,635	0	529	(800)	0
Community Buildings	13,447	(2,783)	13,485	(2,822)	3,172	38	(39)
Public Facilities (Shelters, Toilets etc.)	490	(30)	490	(30)	56	0	0
TOTAL Buildings	17,072	(2,813)	16,310	(2,852)	3,974	(762)	(39)
Commercial Operations							
Tourist Park - Upgrades and Renewal	1,404	0	1,399	0	46	(4)	0
Crematorium/Cemetery - Upgrades and Renewal	131	0	136	0	17	4	0
Leisure Centres & RVGC	180	0	180	0	3	0	0
TOTAL Commercial Operations	1,715	0	1,715	0	66	(0)	0

Program	Major points of change to Capital Budget
Traffic Facilities	<p>Removal of part of Transport for NSW funding for existing project due to reduced scope of work arising from community engagement.</p> <p>Reallocate budget to Capital budget contingency.</p>
Roadworks	Reallocate budget from Footpaths Program to Roadworks program.
West Dapto Infrastructure Expansion	Rephase Housing Affordability Funding (HAF) for West Dapto road upgrade project.
Footpaths	Reallocate budget from Footpaths Program to Roadworks program.
Cycle/Shared Paths	<p>Rephase Transport for NSW and Resources for Regions funding for Grand Pacific Walk share-way project at Clifton.</p> <p>Rephase Section 7:12 Developer contributions for new share-way project at Princes Highway, Fairy Meadow.</p>