



Community Matters

City of Ipswich update



The City of Ipswich is thriving, with more and more families choosing to call the city home.

Welcome to the September 2025 edition of Community Matters.

The City of Ipswich is thriving.

We are now home to more than 265,000 residents with our city's population having grown by 3.5 per cent – or 9,072 new residents – over the 12 months to 30 June.

Our local economy is defying state, national and international trends, smashing through the \$15 billion mark for the first time and with more jobs than ever.

Over the next 20 years, no council in Queensland will grow at a faster rate than Ipswich. Our population will double, making our city home to more than half a million people.

It is with this enormous growth top of mind that council delivered a responsible, future-focused \$678 million budget in July.

The 2025–2026 Budget is not filled with short-term fixes, but rather investments in essential infrastructure to support our

growing community and an increased focus on efficiencies to make sure ratepayers' money is being directed where it is needed.

The budget includes an almost \$580 million capital works program across the next three years, funding some of the biggest road projects our city has seen. This includes stage 2 of the Springfield Parkway upgrade, continuing the upgrade of Redbank Plains Road and starting major works on Ripley Road.

The budget also includes \$62.3 million for resource recovery, \$24.6 million for environment and sustainability, \$23.6 million for sporting and community facilities and \$8.1 million for arts and cultural services.

In recognition of the cost-of-living pressures facing local households, existing rebates for pensioners and the early payment discount were maintained. And we have worked hard to keep Ipswich rates as low as possible, among the lowest in Queensland.

Also in July, two momentous changes took place for our city. The first was Ipswich's change to being a three-bin city, with green lid garden organics

(GO) bins joining our red lid general waste and yellow lid recycling bins.

Moving to a three-bin system saves ratepayers money and is good for the environment. Diverting more garden organics from landfill reduces the amount council must pay under the Queensland Government's waste levy – currently set at \$125 per tonne of waste sent to landfill and set to rise to \$145 per tonne in coming years.

The second major change in July was the start of our city's new planning scheme, Ipswich City Plan 2025. It followed extensive community engagement and sets our city on the right path to sustainably manage the growth our city is experiencing.

Recently, we've also enjoyed two major festivals – SPARK Ipswich and Galvanized – with the next one, Christmas in Ipswich, just around the corner in November/December.

A lot of good work has been done this year but there is still more to do as, together with your Councillors, we strive to deliver on our shared community vision – Ipswich: a city of opportunity for all.

Mayor Teresa Harding

POPULATION HITS 265,000

Ipswich's population has surpassed the 265,000 milestone, according to latest information.

Council's Planning and Regulatory Services Annual Report Card for 2024–2025 revealed Ripley as the city's fastest growing suburb.

"Our city's population grew by 3.5 per cent to 265,854 in the 12 months to 30 June as more than 9,000 people moved to Ipswich over the 2024–2025 financial year," Mayor Harding said.

"Our growth is exponential, with 8,184 new residents in 2023–2024 and 6,228 in 2022–2023.

"Ripley topped the list of fastest growing suburbs, with 649 new dwellings and 2,024 new residents over the 12 months, followed by Spring Mountain which had 523 new dwellings and welcomed 1,597 new residents.

"Council has a critical role to play in ensuring local housing approvals and supply continues to grow, as our population remains on track to increase to more than 500,000 by 2046.

"In the 12 months to 30 June, there were 2,120 lots created and 4,060 lots approved, highlighting our city's strong position to supply much-needed housing."

IPSWICH ECONOMY BREAKS THROUGH \$15 BILLION BARRIER

The Ipswich economy is defying state, national and international trends with more jobs than ever before and a booming financial bottom line.

The city's Gross Regional Product (GRP) – which measures the total value of goods and services produced in the region – has broken through the \$15 billion mark for the first time in history.

Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding said the Ipswich economy was growing at a faster rate than Queensland's and Australia's, putting the city in a strong position for the years ahead.

"Economically, we continue to punch well above our weight. Our region goes from strength to strength with Ipswich's GRP now at an all-time high of \$15.08 billion, a 4.2 per cent increase on the record-breaking GRP in 2023 of \$14.47 billion," Mayor Harding said.

"In council's Economic Development Strategy 2023–2027 we set a target of 95,040 jobs by 2027 – we have



smashed through that already with 95,532 jobs recorded in 2024.

"We have experienced a \$2.4 billion increase in our GRP over the past three years.

"More and more people are discovering Ipswich's attractive lifestyle and employment options.

"Both big and small businesses are opening their doors in Ipswich, creating high quality jobs for our residents. That is great news for the local economy."

IPSWICH HAS GOT IT GO-ING

Ipswich is now a three-bin city, after the introduction of a dedicated green lid garden organics (GO) bin for households.

Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding said more than 55,000 bins were delivered to residents at no additional cost across Ipswich in time for collections to begin on 1 July.

"These households joined more than 30,000 households who already had GO bins," Mayor Harding said.

"In just the first four weeks since collections began, residents presented around 64,100 bins, resulting in a 113 per cent increase in GO bins collected compared to last year.

"That's resulted in more than 400 tonnes of additional garden organics diverted from landfill already, an 80 per cent increase on the same time last year.

"Given that was in the middle of winter when lawns are growing more slowly, it is a great result and we expect that rate to go up further in the hotter months throughout spring and summer.

"This means we are already well on our way to meeting our expected 15,000 to 20,000 additional tonnes of green waste recovered in this financial year.

"Before the GO bin rollout, 20 per cent of waste in red lid general waste bins used to be garden organics – the new system means less waste is sent to landfill, meaning ratepayers save money and protect the environment."

For more information about Ipswich City Council's Resource Recovery Strategy visit ipswich.qld.gov.au

Spanning an area of 1,090 square kilometres, Ipswich is home to more than 265,000 residents and counting, making it one of the fastest-growing cities in Queensland.



NEW IPSWICH CITY PLAN PAVES THE WAY FOR 100,000 HOMES OVER 20 YEARS

Ipswich is set to remain a stronghold of housing affordability with the Ipswich City Plan 2025 to unlock construction of 100,000 homes across the next 20 years.

Ipswich Mayor Teresa Harding said Ipswich City Plan 2025, which came into effect on 1 July, tackles housing delivery head on to cater for a population expected to double to more than half a million by 2046.

Mayor Harding said the new planning scheme was a major milestone for Ipswich, representing the culmination of seven years of work to develop a response to current and predicted growth that preserves the city's character and quality of life.

The plan also includes the new Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) to drive infrastructure needed to support growth.

"It replaces a two-decade old planning scheme with a contemporary, fit-for-purpose

scheme that will better allow Ipswich to respond to growth over the next 20 years," Mayor Harding said.

"The City of Ipswich is growing at a faster rate over the next 20 years than any other council in Queensland. As we approach 2032, interest in the affordable and liveable lifestyle that Ipswich offers will only increase.

"The Ipswich City Plan 2025 will deliver increased diversity of housing, helping boost citywide stock from 92,700 homes to 192,400 across the life of the plan, putting downward pressure on home prices and helping address the housing shortage, homelessness and overcrowding.

"Importantly, this policy document promotes building up, not out. Our bold approach to secondary dwellings, where planning approval will not be needed to build a granny flat on certain properties, could

provide the opportunity for 22,000 homes across Ipswich.

"These measures reduce the need for urban sprawl where development encroaches on our natural environment, establishing homes in areas already supported by transport and essential services."

Almost 100,000 people were engaged during the creation of the Ipswich City Plan, and more than 500 submissions received.

"Council will continue to work with other levels of government to attract investment in housing across our city, as well as for funding for the vital infrastructure our city urgently needs to accommodate our growing population, particularly regarding transport," Mayor Harding said.

"Importantly, this is a living document that can be updated, allowing council to respond as demographic and housing trends in Ipswich change and emerge over the next 20 years."



CONTACT DETAILS

Mayor Teresa Harding

Phone (07) 3810 6011

Email mayor@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f [TeresaHardingIpswich](https://www.facebook.com/TeresaHardingIpswich)

@ [@mayorteresaharding](https://www.instagram.com/mayorteresaharding)

The new Ipswich City Plan 2025 came into effect on 1 July.

GOOLPAHJO HONOURED

A sports park in Providence Estate at South Ripley will be named after a First Nations person known for their deep and enduring connection to Deebing Creek and sporting prowess.

The park, under construction in Harmony Crescent, will be known as Goolpahjo Harry Thompson Senior Park after the name was endorsed by council.

Councillor Pye Augustine said the name was adopted after consultation with the Yuggera Ugarapul People members at the Ripley Valley Cultural Collaborative meeting.

"The request was supported by a letter from the descendants

of Goolpahjo Harry Thompson Senior. He had a deep and enduring connection to Deebing Creek, having arrived in the early days, likely in the 1890s," Cr Augustine said.

Councillor Jacob Madsen said Harry Thompson, whose Aboriginal name was Goolpahjo, came to Deebing Creek from Normanby Station, Harrisville.

"Harry met and married his wife Amy at the Deebing Creek Mission in 1895, and they had six children. He was regarded as a great sportsman, particularly renowned for his cricketing prowess," Cr Madsen said.

AGREEMENT ENHANCES PROTECTION FOR KOALAS

Koalas and other important wildlife on a private property at Purga will be further protected through the city's first Voluntary Conservation Covenant between council and landholders.

Councillor Pye Augustine said the agreement, funded through the Ipswich Enviroplan Levy, was a major boost for conservation efforts.

"The covenant protects the land for conservation purposes in perpetuity, meaning it is binding for the current and future landowners and is recognised under Queensland's *Land Title Act 1994*," Cr Augustine said.

"It will ensure the land remains home to its koala population, as well as a range of other native animals seen on the property, including echidnas, bandicoots, sugar gliders, possums, dunnarts, kingfishers, kites, eagles, wrens and owls."



A property in Purga inhabited by koalas is being protected under a Voluntary Conservation Covenant.

Councillor Jacob Madsen thanked the landowners for their commitment to the local environment.

"The property is in a strategically important location for the conservation of koalas as it is adjacent to federally recognised Areas of Regional Koala Significance, as well as near other like-minded landholders who are undertaking conservation works in this area," Cr Madsen said.

"Conservation efforts like these make Ipswich a great place to live, where iconic native flora and fauna thrive in our city and can be enjoyed by residents and visitors."

BRIDGE UPGRADE KICKS OFF

Work has begun to replace the ageing, single-lane Purga School Road bridge at Purga.

Council has begun the \$7.9 million Purga School Road upgrade after a \$5 million contribution through the Federal Government's Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program.

Councillor Jacob Madsen said the 36-metre-long timber bridge had served the community well for decades but it was time for an upgrade.

"We are replacing the bridge with a new two-lane concrete structure that will provide safe passage over the Purga Creek for generations to come," Cr Madsen said.

"We are also duplicating the 1.6km section of the single-lane Purga School Road between Morgans Road and Ipswich Boonah Road.

"This will deliver significant benefits for the people of Purga."

Councillor Pye Augustine said the upgrade was part of council's commitment to deliver for the city's rural communities.

"These communities are a vital part of the important road upgrades our city needs to accommodate a growing population on track to hit more than half a million by 2046," Cr Augustine said.

"Purga residents enjoy a fantastic way of life and I'm delighted council is supporting this area with a significant investment to upgrade Purga School Road."

Detours will be in place during the works, which are expected to be completed in the first half of 2026. For more information visit [Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects)

Division 1 stretches from Mount Mort in the west to White Rock in the east and includes Blackstone, Calvert, Deebing Heights, Ebenezer, Flinders View, Goolman, Grandchester, Jeebropilly, Lower Mount Walker, Mount Forbes, Mount Walker West, Mutdapilly, Peak Crossing, Purga, Raceview, Redbank Plains, Ripley, South Ripley, Swanbank and Willowbank.



IN BRIEF

Drainage works progress

Significant works to improve drainage along Champions Way at Willowbank are progressing and remain on track to be completed in early 2026. Construction began in early June and includes the installation of a 900-millimetre-wide, 80-metre-long concrete diversion drain. The project will mitigate catchment flows impacting properties downstream from the site by diverting flows collected from the existing internal bund of Willowbank Raceway.

Heit Family Park improvements

An important upgrade is being delivered at Heit Family Park at Willowbank. Improvements include the installation of sandstone blocks and timber post and rail fencing to the park's perimeter to improve safety and restrict car and motorcycle access to the park. For more information about local projects visit Maps.Ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects

Great time to get active

Did you know Division 1 is home to some of the best nature walks in South East Queensland? Popular tracks include White Rock - Spring Mountain Conservation Estate in Redbank Plains and Flinders - Goolman Conservation Estate at Purga. It's important to plan ahead and take appropriate supplies if enjoying a bushwalk. For more information about local walking tracks, visit Ipswich.qld.gov.au

GROWING COMMUNITIES IN LINE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE UPLIFT

Division 1 will benefit from a diverse range of projects to match the growing community's needs in council's 2025-2026 Budget.

Councillor Jacob Madsen said there was a strong focus on planning for the major growth Division 1, which covers about 55 per cent of the city, is facing.

"Our residents have told us they want the road network to keep up with the growth our division is facing, and this year's budget responds to those concerns," Cr Madsen said.

"It includes \$9 million for stage one of the upgrade of Ripley Road to a standard four-lane urban road from the Cunningham Highway to Fischer Road.

"This is part of a \$113.8 million upgrade over four years, funded in part through EDQ Catalyst Funding and DCOP Municipal Charges.

"Ripley Road is a key piece of infrastructure linking the Cunningham and Centenary highways.

"This important investment will future proof the suburb as it continues to grow."

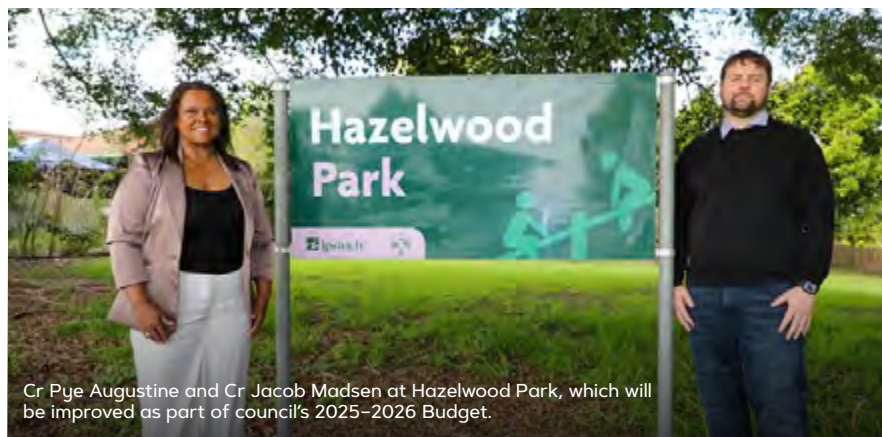
Councillor Pye Augustine said council had heard loud and clear that residents want the basics to be done well.

"I'm pleased that their voices have been heard and \$100,000 has been allocated as part of \$1.3 million over four years for the Bremervale Park Upgrade Constructed Wetlands project," Cr Augustine said.

"More than \$760,000 has been allocated towards parks rehabilitation across the division and \$457,000 will be used to replace the existing pathway and improve stormwater drainage at Hazelwood Park, Flinders View.

"Redbank Plains Library carpark has been expanded to meet the needs of our library users, funded through the South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program."

For more about this year's budget visit Ipswich.qld.gov.au



Cr Pye Augustine and Cr Jacob Madsen at Hazelwood Park, which will be improved as part of council's 2025-2026 Budget.

CONTACT DETAILS

Cr Pye Augustine

Phone (07) 3810 7986

Email pye.augustine@ipswich.qld.gov.au

[pyeaugustine2024](https://www.facebook.com/pyeaugustine2024)

Cr Jacob Madsen

Phone (07) 3810 8191

Email jacob.madsen@ipswich.qld.gov.au

[crjacobmadsen](https://www.facebook.com/crjacobmadsen)

GAME ON WITH NEW SPRING MOUNTAIN CLUBHOUSE

A new \$3.5 million clubhouse at Silver Jubilee Park at Spring Mountain is proving a hit with players, sporting officials and spectators alike.

The Silver Jubilee Sports Facility Clubhouse was delivered in partnership with the Australian Government (\$1.97 million) through its Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program and Ipswich City Council (\$1.55 million).

Councillor Paul Tully said the clubhouse was being used by two local sporting clubs – the Springfield Stingers Touch Football Club and Springfield Lakes Hawks Rugby Union Club.

“The clubhouse allows these clubs to provide members and players with excellent facilities, in turn attracting more members and players,” Cr Tully said.

Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic said the clubhouse, which has a club room, four change rooms, a commercial grade kitchen and canteen, was a win for the community.

“As more families move to the area, it’s important to provide options for sport and community – this clubhouse encourages residents to participate in both,” Deputy Mayor Jonic said.

STRIDES MADE IN MANAGEMENT OF INVASIVE WEEDS

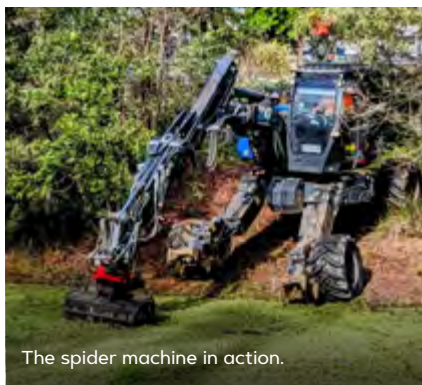
More than 80 tonnes of the invasive weed salvinia has been removed from two key waterways in Springfield Lakes as part of a coordinated approach by Ipswich City Council and developer Stockland.

Salvinia is a highly invasive aquatic weed that is capable of rapid growth in favourable conditions, in some cases, doubling in size overnight.

In a council-first trial, specialist equipment known as a ‘spider excavator’ was deployed to remove salvinia from a hard-to-access pond at 9000 Viewpoint Drive in Springfield Lakes.

Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic said the spider’s unique design allows it to traverse steep terrain and enter shallow water bodies, making it ideal for challenging environments like the pond at Viewpoint Drive.

“While the primary lakes are still owned and maintained by Stockland, council is assisting with salvinia



The spider machine in action.

management in surrounding and linked water bodies to support the overall care of the connected waterways,” Deputy Mayor Jonic said.

Councillor Paul Tully said weed management treatment was also carried out at the pond near 31 Vistula Circuit Reserve.

“Council deployed an aquatic weed harvester to remove a dense mat of salvinia that had formed on the water’s surface,” Cr Tully said.

COMMUNITY EMBRACES RENEWED CENTRE AT GOODNA

A revamped community centre in Goodna is helping residents enjoy improved access to health and wellbeing programs.

Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic said council took on the management of the Goodna Community Centre at Layard Street, previously Goodna Cultural and Arts Centre, to better cater to the community’s health and wellbeing needs.

“The centre has been restored and renamed following damage from the 2022 floods, reopening in April this year,” Deputy Mayor Jonic said.

“Council’s popular and affordable Active and Healthy program has taken centre stage here – with activities like boxing, pilates and mobility yoga attracting people from Goodna and beyond.

“The centre also hosts children and family programs, as well as various community services provided by organisations like 54 Reasons, RSL and Wiser Pasifika.”

Councillor Paul Tully said the renewed centre was a great success.

“To August, more than 1,500 people have attended the 151 classes that are offered at the centre,” Cr Tully said.

“I have enjoyed seeing this centre become a community hub where residents recreate and connect with their neighbours.

“I am looking forward to seeing more residents take advantage of this wonderful facility.”

Visit [Ipswich.qld.gov.au](https://www.ipswich.qld.gov.au) for more information about Active and Healthy Ipswich.

Division 2 stretches from Gables in the north to Spring Mountain in the south, and includes Augustine Heights, Bellbird Park, Carole Park, Brookwater, Camira, Goodna, part of Redbank, Springfield, Springfield Central and Springfield Lakes.



IN BRIEF

Camira park to get upgrades

Langley Park in Camira will receive upgrades through council's Provisional Projects program. Improvements will include new plantings, better integrated play areas and improved soft-fall areas. The works are expected to start in the first half of next year. For more information about local projects visit Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/civicprojects

More shade for Goodna park

A mature fig tree will be planted at Evan Marginson Park playground at Woogaroo Street, Goodna, to provide more shade for park users. The works are expected to start in the first half of next year. The project was approved under council's Provisional Projects program, which allows councillors to identify projects of importance to the local community not already included on council's Capital Works Program.

Games venue confirmed

Brighton Homes Arena at Springfield Central has been confirmed as a 2032 Games venue, ahead of the finalisation of the sports program next year. The venue's status was confirmed in the Queensland Government's 2032 Delivery Plan. Modern Pentathlon has been speculated as an option for Brighton Homes Arena, a sport that has been a continuous part of the Summer Olympics since 1912 and remains in the LA 2028 program.

BUDGET BRINGS BOOST FOR ROADS AND RECREATION

Major investments will be made in community infrastructure and facilities across Division 2 following the recent adoption of the 2025-2026 Budget.

Councillor Paul Tully said roads, repairs and recreation were the focus.

"The budget includes \$7 million to continue our city's largest ever road upgrade, including stage two of Springfield Parkway to a standard four-lane urban road, extending from Topaz Road to Hymba Yumba Independent School in Springfield. This is part of a \$42.3 million investment over five years," Cr Tully said.

"There is also \$750,000 to progress planning and design for upgrading Augusta Parkway and Sinnathamby Boulevard to a standard of a four-lane urban road from Eden Station

Drive to Main Street including a bridge duplication at Springfield Central and Augustine Heights."

Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic said libraries, sports facilities and parks throughout the division would also see benefits as council delivered for a growing population.

"Division 2 has some of Ipswich's highest growth rates. That's why council has allocated \$407,000 for improvements and to progress planning at Springfield Central Library," Deputy Mayor Jonic said.

"The budget also includes \$400,000 for improvements to Grande Park at Springfield Lakes including replacing the park's mountain slide.

"There is \$310,000 in this budget for sports facility rehabilitation – this includes the renewal of lighting at Evan Marginson Park netball court at Goodna."



Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic, Goodna Netball Association President Tima Tapuaiga and Cr Paul Tully at the Goodna Netball Association courts in Layard Street, Goodna.

CONTACT DETAILS

Cr Nicole Jonic

Phone (07) 3810 8193

Email nicole.jonic@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f CrNicoleJonicDiv2

Cr Paul Tully

Phone (07) 3810 8192

Email paul.tully@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f PaulTully

ESSENTIAL REPAIRS DELIVERED AT RIVERVIEW CENTRE

Essential repairs to the Riverview Resource Recovery Centre's transfer pit have been completed.

Councillor Andrew Antonioli said the transfer pit, which had been in use for about 40 years, needed remediation works to extend its life.

"In April 2023, council engaged a structural engineer to undertake a detailed inspection of the transfer pit," Cr Antonioli said.

"The inspection identified repairs necessary to extend the life of the pit wall and ramp area of the transfer pit for the next 20 years."

Councillor Marnie Doyle said the works were needed to ensure the safety of community members who visit the facility and council's own resource recovery centre employees.

"Both sides of the transfer pit were re-opened to customers in August, with all construction fencing from the customer vehicle bays on the western side of the pit removed," Cr Doyle said.

"We want to thank the community for its support and patience while these necessary works were undertaken and treating council staff with respect."

BIG NAMES JOIN THE NICHOLAS STREET PRECINCT

The big names keep coming for the revitalised Nicholas Street Precinct in Ipswich Central as major outlets sign-on to do business.

Hello Harry The Burger Joint, Italian icon Vapiano, acai outlet Nautical Bowls and gym juggernaut Anytime Fitness have all either opened their doors or signed on to join the Precinct in the past six months.

Councillor Andrew Antonioli said nearly all of the council-owned retail spaces in the Precinct have now been leased.

"It's important for our community and businesses that Ipswich Central is a vibrant and engaging city heart," Cr Antonioli said.

"Joining the Precinct's existing suite of food and dining options, these new eateries will offer further enticement for people to visit and explore our city heart."

Councillor Marnie Doyle said it was testament to the Precinct's strength as a drawcard for major brands.

"The Nicholas Street Precinct is now a strong drawcard for residents and visitors alike, with an impressive range of food, service and retail options," Cr Doyle said.

"The Precinct is cementing itself as a hub of economic, cultural and social activity in Ipswich."

For more information about what is happening in the Nicholas Street Precinct, visit [Nicholasst.com.au](https://nicholasst.com.au)

REDBANK PLAZA LIBRARY UPGRADE ON THE WAY

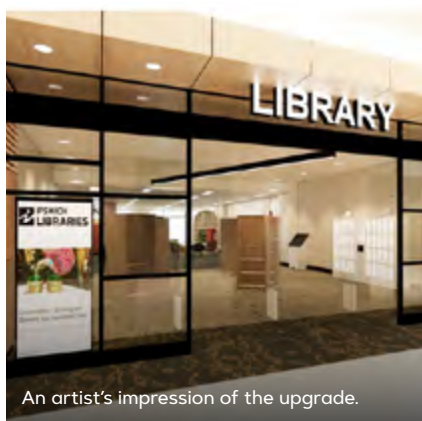
Upgrades to the popular Redbank Plaza Library will soon be underway.

Councillor Marnie Doyle said the library will be extended and refurbished, with a new main entrance located internally on level three of the plaza.

"The upgrade will increase library operating space by almost 20 per cent from 412 to over 492 square metres," Cr Doyle said.

"This will mean additional services can be provided for the community, including Marketplace Collection, Smart Lockers, and a children's space with more programs and study areas."

Councillor Andrew Antonioli said on average 36,000 people make a trip



An artist's impression of the upgrade.

to the Redbank Plaza Library each year, with 116 programs delivered there in 2024.

"The library attracts patrons from Collingwood Park, Goodna, Redbank, Redbank Plains, Riverview and Bellbird Park. Last year, 30,000 items were loaned. I look forward to seeing this increase as more take advantage of the upgraded library," Cr Antonioli said.

The upgrade will be jointly funded by council and the Redbank Plaza owners under a seven-year lease.

Division 3 stretches from One Mile, Leichhardt and parts of Wulkuraka in the west to parts of Redbank and Goodna in the east, and includes Basin Pocket, Booval, Bundamba, Coalfalls, Collingwood Park, Dinmore, East Ipswich, Eastern Heights, Ebbw Vale, Ipswich, Newtown, North Booval, Riverview, Sadliers Crossing, Silkstone, West Ipswich and Woodend.



IN BRIEF

Goupong Park planning begins

Work to develop an initial concept for the future upgrade of Goupong Park at Collingwood Park will begin this financial year after the project received funding in council's 2025–2026 Budget. A total of \$200,000 has been set aside over three years in the Capital Works Program to allow for the planning and design necessary for the future upgrade of the park to District Recreation Park level.

Boost for Division 3 doggos

Improvements at two local parks will satisfy thirsty Ipswich doggos (and their owners) with a new stainless-steel dog bowl and tap installed at Fail Park in North Booval and at the East Ipswich Honour Playground. The upgrades were delivered under council's Provisional Projects program, which allows councillors to identify projects of importance to the local community not already included on council's Capital Works Program.

Focus on pedestrian safety

Crossing the intersection of Burnett Street and Ferrett Street, Sadliers Crossing will soon become safer for pedestrians, people who rely on mobility devices, parents with prams, and cyclists. Kerb ramps and cut-throughs will be constructed to improve safety and accessibility at the intersection, with the works to be delivered under council's Provisional Projects program and expected to be completed this financial year.

INVESTMENTS TO IMPROVE LIVEABILITY FOR RESIDENTS

A new roundabout to improve traffic at a busy intersection, footpath improvements at Eastern Heights and Silkstone, road resurfacing at Redbank, Bundamba and Woodend, and a new dog off leash area at Limestone Park are among the works to start across Division 3 suburbs as part of council's 2025–2026 Budget.

Councillor Marnie Doyle said the projects in the Capital Works Program aimed to improve liveability for the division's 60,000 residents.

"I'm pleased preliminary works will start this financial year to install a roundabout at the intersection of Blackstone Road, Thomas Street and Creek Street in Silkstone, as part of a three-year, \$5.5 million project," Cr Doyle said.

"Residents have long expressed concern about this busy intersection, particularly the difficulty safely entering and exiting Creek Street and Sealy Street at peak times.

"On Cemetery Road, Eastern Heights and Prospect Street, Silkstone, navigating footpaths will become easier when \$460,000 works are complete in the coming year."

Councillor Andrew Antonioli said Limestone Park would see construction begin on a new off leash dog area.

"Local residents and their pooches will no doubt welcome the much-requested dog park in Limestone Park, with construction of this \$600,000 project anticipated to begin this financial year," Cr Antonioli said.

"In Queens Park, the beloved Ipswich Nature Centre will receive \$2 million for boardwalk upgrades and improvements to its animal husbandry and biosecurity area to help protect the centre's 200 animals from diseases and pests. Across the park, the Queens Park Ceremonial, Healing and Remembrance Place will be created following a budget allocation of \$300,000."



Cr Marnie Doyle and Cr Andrew Antonioli with visitors to the Ipswich Nature Centre, Sian and daughter Abby.

CONTACT DETAILS

Cr Marnie Doyle

Phone (07) 3810 8194

Mobile 0499 018 360

Email marnie.doyle@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f [MarnieDoyleDivision3](#)

Cr Andrew Antonioli

Phone (07) 3810 7664

Mobile 0488 079 375

Email andrewa@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f [andrewantonioli4ipswich](#)

COMMUNITY AND COUNCIL COMBINE FOR PARK WORKS

Changes to provide more shade for users of Cribb Park off leash dog area are proving popular.

Councillor Jim Madden said the works came about following community feedback he and fellow Division 4 Councillor David Martin received.

"Park users approached us about the lack of shade in the dog off-leash area, asking whether the fencing could be realigned to include the existing seating and shelter," Cr Madden said.

"Council delivered this effective solution to allow users to play with their furry friends while enjoying the shaded picnic area.

Division 4 Councillor David Martin said the project was completed as part of council's Provisional Projects program.

"Community voices drive Provisional Projects, allowing divisional councillors to submit minor projects that are of importance but not currently included in the three-year capital works program," Cr Martin said.

"This fencing change is a great result with council not only listening to residents' concerns but also listening to the solution they put forward."

For more about dog off-leash parks visit ipswich.qld.gov.au

MAJOR UPGRADES FINISHED AT TALLEGALLA CEMETERY

Extensive upgrades and an expansion of Tallegalla Cemetery in Tallegalla have been completed as the facility approaches its 150 years of operation.

Councillor David Martin said Tallegalla Cemetery, located on Rosewood Marburg Road, is one of Ipswich's historic cemeteries serving the community, dating back to 1876.

"The works included improvements to internal roads, landscaping and new amenities to support future growth, while protecting the heritage of the site," Cr Martin said.

"In addition to a new memorial path, we have also constructed new edging, shelters, pathways and seating. There is new signage and line-marking and old fences have been replaced. Landscaping work included established trees, ground cover, seating and shelters."

Councillor Jim Madden said the expansion works extended north within the cemetery and below the existing heritage area but did not impact existing graves

"The cemetery is a significant connection to Ipswich's past and present, and it was important that council carry out construction to meet community expectations," Cr Madden said.

"The work included retaining and protecting existing lawn beams and burial plots, extensive earthworks, building new roads and car parking, and rehabilitating the existing road network."

NEW TRAFFIC LIGHTS IMPROVE SAFETY AT KARRABIN

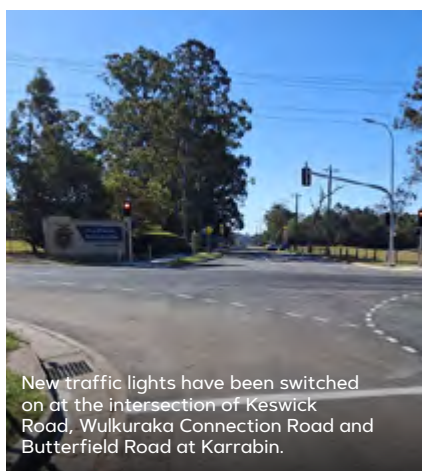
A major safety upgrade which included the installation of traffic signals and street lighting at the intersection of Keswick Road, Wulkuraka Connection Road and Butterfield Road at Karrabin has traffic flowing more safely and smoothly.

Councillor Jim Madden said the works included the installation of traffic signals, 120m of footpath and line-marking.

The total cost of the project was about \$1 million, which included \$198,000 in grant funding under the Queensland Government's School Transport Infrastructure Program.

"This is a high-growth area of Ipswich, with more people moving to surrounding suburbs. There have been crashes at this location in the past, so this work was a priority for council," Cr Madden said.

Councillor David Martin said it was great to see the construction



New traffic lights have been switched on at the intersection of Keswick Road, Wulkuraka Connection Road and Butterfield Road at Karrabin.

finished for footpaths and kerb ramps, landscaping and turfing of disturbed areas, and installation of light poles and traffic signals.

"The intersection has become particularly busy due to growth in traffic along Wulkuraka Connection Road and continued growth in traffic associated with West Moreton Anglican College."

Division 4 stretches from Woolshed in the west to Barellan Point in the east, and includes Rosewood, Walloon, Brassall, Amberley, Pine Mountain, Yamanto, Karalee, Marburg and more.



IN BRIEF

BMX jumps for Yamanto

New BMX jumps will be installed at Sarah Drive Park at Yamanto. The need for the jumps was recognised by Division 4 Councillors who noticed park users had created their own makeshift jumps. The works will be delivered under council's Provisional Projects program, which allows councillors to identify minor projects of significance to the community not already on council's Capital Works Program.

Awareness signs approved

The green light has been given for two new speed awareness signs in Division 4. Council will install the signs at Arthur Summervilles Road at Karalee and Diamantina Boulevard at Brassall to increase motorists' awareness of local speed limits. The signs are being funded through council's Provisional Projects program.

Plan to help manage growth

Council is working to develop a Western Growth Corridor Structure Plan to help manage development in the high growth areas of Rosewood, Walloon and Thagoona. Over the next two decades, it is expected the corridor's population to grow from 10,000 today to more than 70,000. The structure plan, supported by an infrastructure plan, will guide the area's long-term development and provide certainty for residents, businesses and developers about how the area can develop. To stay up to date with this project, visit Shapeyouripswich.com.au/western-growth-corridor

UPGRADES FOR ROADS AND SPORTING FACILITIES

Upgrades to roads and sporting facilities – including Ipswich's newest grandstand – are among the wins for Division 4 residents in council's 2025–2026 Budget.

Councillor David Martin said \$4.6 million had been allocated to progress the construction of a new grandstand at Ipswich Jets' home ground, North Ipswich Reserve.

"This funding will progress the construction of a new western grandstand as part of stage one of the development, helping to deliver the people of Ipswich the national-standard boutique rectangular stadium we so very much deserve," Cr Martin said.

The project will cost \$40 million in total over three years, with the Federal and Queensland governments contributing \$20 million and \$10 million respectively, and council providing \$10 million.

"There is also strong focus on improving lighting fixtures so our athletes can play and train into the night, with \$400,000 for Blue Gum Reserve in Karalee, \$160,000 for the cricket nets at Cribb Park in North Ipswich, and \$270,000 for Tivoli Sporting Complex," Cr Martin said.

Councillor Jim Madden said important upgrades to local roads and footpaths would progress.

"I'm delighted this Budget locks in \$2.5 million for the reconstruction of road pavement along Adelong Avenue, Thagoona," Cr Madden said.

"Enterprise Street in Wulkuraka will be upgraded and \$1.2 million will be spent on drainage improvements at North Ipswich.

"The multi-purpose Tivoli Sporting Complex will receive \$2 million to start an \$8.5 million upgrade over two years, partly funded through SEQ Liveability Fund 2024–2027."



Cr Jim Madden and Cr David Martin with Karalee Tornados Rugby League Club President Chris Neale at Blue Gum Reserve in Karalee.

CONTACT DETAILS

Cr David Martin

Phone (07) 3810 6163

Email david.martin@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f [DavidMartinlovethiscity](https://www.facebook.com/DavidMartinlovethiscity)

Cr Jim Madden

Phone (07) 3810 7879

Mobile 0473 817 630

Email jim.madden@ipswich.qld.gov.au

f [jimmadden1958](https://www.facebook.com/jimmadden1958)

Community Matters

Catch up with your Councillors



Easily catch up with your Councillors in your local area.

- Invite your divisional Councillors to your next community, sport or club meeting.
- Book an appointment to meet at your local library branch – Springfield Central, Redbank Plains and Rosewood.
- Attend a local community catch up in your area.

To organise a meeting email council@ipswich.qld.gov.au or call (07) 3810 6666.

For the full list of locations, dates and times visit ipswich.qld.gov.au/communitymatters or call (07) 3810 6666.

2026 Ipswich Australia Day Awards



Know a local hero or community group making a difference?

Nominate them today.

**NOMINATIONS CLOSE
2 NOVEMBER**

ipswichaustraliadayawards.com.au

