

The decision by Viterra to not extend the contract with Genesee & Wyoming Australia (GWA) for the transport of grain to the Port Lincoln export port has seen the last trains on the railway line on 31st May.

The District Council of Lower Eyre Peninsula has been a long term supporter of rail freight, and wrote three letters to the government between April 2017 and February 2019 requesting that the implications of closing the railway line be fully considered.

In particular Council requested that the costs associated with the operation of the railway line be fully considered against the long term impact on the road network.

A study commissioned by the Department of Planning Transport & Industry (DPTI) and Genesee &

Wyoming, and carried out by the Snowy Mountain Engineering Corporation (SMEC) was released in April. The study concluded that retaining at least segments of the existing rail network, including between Cummins and Port Lincoln, would provide better cost / benefit outcomes than a move to all grain being transported by road.

However, importantly this conclusion did not consider the financial assessments of the key stakeholders including GWA and Viterra. Viterra has subsequently concluded that they can move grain at a cheaper price by road, while GWA have advised that continuance of the trains at the current prices is not sustainable for their organisation.

The outcome is that rail freight will cease, and the

Commonwealth & State Governments have now committed \$32 million to assist with bringing the Tod Highway, Flinders Highway and Lincoln Highway up to a standard to cater for the increased truck use.

Council has commissioned a study into the condition of the Tod Highway from north of Karkoo to the Flinders Highway intersection. This has identified upgrades to bring the road up to standard for its future purpose, including widening of the lane widths, building wider shoulders, acceleration lanes and passing lanes, vegetation trimming, and intersection upgrades.

Council has also reached agreement with DPTI to assess options to improve traffic flows through Cummins, and to the Viterra Strategic Grain

site. This assessment will include future use of the rail corridor through the town, options for traffic flow on Bruce Terrace and Railway Terrace, truck parking bays, links between Bruce Terrace & Railway Terrace and possible by-pass options to access the Viterra site.

It is not yet known how much of the allocated \$32 million will be spent on the Tod Highway and in Cummins, and the time frames for required works are also unknown.

Council will continue to work with DPTI in relation to these issues, and will consult with the community to ensure that any available funding is used to maximum benefit of our community.

RODNEY PEARSON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Budget & Annual Business Plan

Annual Business Plan meetings will be held on Wednesday, June 5 across the Council district, and Council is keen to hear the views of local communities in relation to the envisaged projects.

- ⇒ **Port Lincoln Golf Club, 10am to 11.30am**
- ⇒ **Coffin Bay Sporting Complex, 1pm to 2.30pm**
- ⇒ **Cummins Council Chambers, 7.30pm to 9pm**

Written submissions will be received until 5pm, Wednesday, July 3 and people making a written submission may arrange to speak to that submission at the Council meeting prior to final consideration and adoption of the Annual Business Plan.

Infrastructure and Community Projects in the budget include: -

Road works	\$4,100,000
<i>Including:</i>	
Coffin Bay Parking	\$419,000
Bratten Way	\$1.6m
<i>(subject to 2:1 funding from Commonwealth)</i>	
Hidden Valley Lane to Roberts Rd <i>(fire access track & fencing)</i>	\$150,000
Re-sheeting	\$638,000
Routine road maintenance	\$1.36m
Waste Management	\$852,000
Community Projects	\$368,000
Cummins Cemetery gazebo	\$ 40,000
Mt Dutton Bay public toilet refurbishment	\$ 20,000
Farm Beach beach access improvement	\$ 85,000
Poonindie Reserve improvements	\$ 20,000
Tulka Playground shade sail	\$ 60,000
Louth Bay Playground shade sail	\$ 35,000
Coffin Bay Beach access <i>(Between boat ramp & Crinoline Point)</i>	\$100,000
Louth Bay cliff top walking trail extension	\$ 5,000
Mount Dutton Bay boat ramp solar lights <i>(Boat ramp & jetty)</i>	\$ 3,400
Community Grants	\$ 75,000
Airport Runway <i>(15/33 pavement replacement)</i>	\$380,000

The rate increase on average properties is proposed to be 3.3 per cent.



COMMUNITY GRANTS: Mayor Jo-Anne Quigley with Amesha Meyers, Belinda-Jane, Ellie and Caleb Moroney, Josie Hammond, Jan Phelps, Barb Boyce, Carol Fathers and Steve Glover.

Certificate to Council grant recipients

Council presented certificates to the recipients of its annual Community Grants program.

Seven local organisations will share in \$45,000 for various community projects.

Recipients of the 2018/19 Community Capital Support Grants were:

- United Yeelanna Football Club: \$5500 - upgrading lights at Karkoo oval;
 - Cummins Kapinnie Netball Club: \$5500 - resurface courts;
 - North Shields Sports Association: \$5500 - Fencing at Dorward Oval.
- Recipients of the 2018/19 Com-

munity Reserves Support Grants were:

- Tulka Progress Association: \$10,000 - shed for community centre;
- Cummins and District Enterprise Committee: \$7,400 - Friends of Cummins Cemetery group to build shelters and seating at the Cummins Cemetery;
- Coffin Bay Progress Association: \$5,300 - playground fencing on the Coffin Bay foreshore;
- Big Swamp Community Centre: \$5,800 - solar panels on the Big Swamp Community Centre.



COUNCIL MEETING 18 APRIL 2019 **Long Beach Vehicle Access** *W42 W&I/18/19*

Council reaffirmed its decision to not restrict vehicle access between the southern carpark and the boundary of the National Park – a distance of about 300m.

Council further resolved that it has no objection to bollards being installed adjacent the southern car park at Long beach to protect dune vegetation in this area.

Flight Training – Port Lincoln Airport *W42 W&I/19/19*

Council received a status update report in relation to the Flight Training Development proposal at the Airport.

Council also heard 3 deputations opposing the flight training development, and was provided with a copy of all correspondence received, generally relating to overflying residential areas, noise and frequency, timing of flights, and impact on private / general aviation recreational pilots.

Council resolved to prepare a consolidated response covering the development assessment process being undertaken by the State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP), including reference to the work being undertaken to assess noise as required by the EPA and SCAP.

Funds for runway upgrade *W42 W&I/19/19*

Council has received a Commonwealth Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program grant of \$180,000 covering 50 per cent of the cost for the pavement replacement of Runway 15/33 at the Port Lincoln Airport.

The grant application comes after local pilots voiced concerns over the runway's buckshot gravel surface last year.

Council plans to complete the \$360,000 project, which will take about eight weeks, during the 2019/20 financial year.

nb Council has since been advised that the State Government will provide matching funding towards this project meaning there is no cost to Council.

Push for recycling *W46 (2)*

Council received a deputation from the Coffin Bay Progress Association requesting that a recycling service be considered for the town.

Council resolved that it will consider the waiving of fees for metals, plastics and glass at its two Waste Transfer Stations (Cummins and Coffin Bay) in the 2019/20 budget.

Council also resolved to further consider a general kerbside recyclables collection service at the expiry of the current kerbside collection contract in June 2021.

Council will investigate opportunities for both the Council and community to become more waste conscious, including with the undertaking of community education.

Eyre on Eyre progressing *F36 FN/17/19*

Council provided its feedback to Regional

Development Australia in relation to final concept plans for the proposed Farm Beach Camp Ground Upgrade and Fishery Bay camp ground development.

- Camp grounds will have a 'bush camping' feel
- Farm Beach to get a new ablution block near the beach access, and tractor parking moved to a less conspicuous location.
- Fishery Bay will have low key campsites, and a separate pedestrian access to the beach.

Funds for A Day on the Bay *F39 (3)*

Council allocated \$2,000 to the Coffin Bay Tourist Association to assist with the 'A Day on the Bay' event.

Donation to road safety group *F39 (5)*

Council has agreed to continue to contribute \$2000 a year to the Lower Eyre Road Safety Committee, subject to matching funding from the City of Port Lincoln and the District Council of Tumby Bay.

Shed to be removed *F39 (8)*

Council will provide the Coffin Bay Progress Association with \$2,500 to remove the pump shed at the rear of the Coffin Bay Hall.

Increase in Road to Recovery funding *F41 (1)*

Council received correspondence from the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development advising of an increase to Council's Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Funding allocation for the 2019-20 to 2023-24 years.

The increase is as part of an additional \$2.2 billion being allocated to the Local and State Government Road Safety package from 2019-20.

This announcement brings Council's annual Roads to Recovery funding allocation to \$426,200 per annum for five years being an increase of approximately 46 per cent from the previous Roads to Recovery Funding Program.

Coomunga Rifle Range *C126 CL/31/19*

Council noted that agreement has been reached with the Department of Defence for the off-market acquisition of the Coomunga Rifle Range by Council.

The land will be transferred to Council subject to Council being satisfied that a detailed site assessment does not present any adverse findings.

COUNCIL MEETING 17 MAY 2019 **By-Law implementation** *W50 W&I/24/19*

Council noted that the adopted by-laws will take effect from the end of May, covering Moveable signs, Roads, Local Government Land, Dogs and Foreshores.

Council resolved an indicative rolling program between now and June 2020 to

develop new policy and make resolutions to support various aspects of the by laws.

Tulka Coastal Reserve – Vehicle access request *W50 W&I/25/19*

Following a request from the Tulka Progress Association Council reaffirmed its position that vehicular access not be permitted to the coastal reserve in front of shacks along Sheoak Road.

This position is consistent with the treatment of coastal reserves in shack areas across the Council district, and will be reviewed as part of the by-law implementation work.

Eyre Peninsula Freight Task *C148 CL/35/19*

Council received a report related to the future of rail freight, noting that \$32m has been allocated by the Commonwealth and State governments to upgrade the highways to cater for road freight.

Council has sourced a condition report in relation to the Tod Highway identifying issues that should be addressed on this road.

Council will also be facilitating a study of traffic movement in Cummins, aimed at improving traffic safety and amenity given the pending increase in truck movements.

Flight Training Adelaide *C148 CL/36/19*

Council received the latest correspondence received from residents in relation to the flight training activity.

Council endorsed the arranging of on ground local noise data capture at specific locations in North Shields and Poonindie, and modelling of noise impact in the Cummins township.

Support for community garden *F46 (1)*

Council has supported the initiative of the Cummins Community Garden committee by waiving fees for green waste over the next five years up to a set maximum green waste delivery.

Study to look at impact of sea level rise *F46 (2)*

Council endorsed an application for funding under the 2019/20 Coast Protection Board Grants for a study to evaluate the impact of sea level rise and storm surge at North Shields, Farm Beach and Tulka.

Request to lower speed limit *W50 W&I/26/19*

Council will advocate to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure for the speed limit along Bruce Terrace, Cummins, to be permanently 40 kilometres an hour.

The speed limit has typically been applied during the harvest season when there are more trucks passing through Cummins, but Council feels with the conclusion of grain freight activity on the local railways on May 31 a permanent lower speed limit is favourable.