

Gracemere Community Conversation Meeting

Date 8 November 2017, 7pm. Meeting held at the Gracemere RSL

Meeting Notes:

1. Cr Ellen Smith opened the meeting and thanked all that attended.
2. Rockhampton Regional Council (the Council) provided an overview of works completed in the Gracemere area over the last 6 months.
 - a. Upgrade of Allen Road
 - b. Construction of Capricorn Street
 - c. Middle and Macquarie Intersection
 - d. Middle and Stewart Intersection
 - e. Fisher Street Footpath (Ranger to Russell)
 - f. Ranger Street Footpath (Fisher to Labanka)
 - g. Ranger Street Footpath (Barry to Fisher)
 - h. Arthur Street Reseal (Lawrie to James)
 - i. Old Capricorn Highway Slurry Seal
 - j. Breakspear Street Reseal
 - k. Donovan Crescent Reseal
 - l. Ranger Street Reseal
 - m. Lister Street Reseal
 - n. Brooks Street Culvert
3. The Council provided works programmed for the Gracemere area for the next 6 months.
 - a. Slurry seal program including Huff Street (Windsor Street to end) and the School carark (Johnson Road)
4. The Council provided an overview of achievements, works in progress and planned works from a Communities perspective.
 - a. Cedric Archer Park Water Play area was opened on the 13 November and included the installation of water play area, amenities building and associated infrastructure.
 - b. Touch of Paradise Lagoons will be focused upon in the next dry season and will include: Remedial works to the lagoons and upgrade (as required) of footpaths immediately adjacent to perimeter of the lagoons only. (Excluding landscaping to the surrounding areas).
 - c. Gracemere Cemetary Ashes Garden is in its final stages of being completed.

5. The Council provided an overview of the Economic Action Plan and its progress.
6. The Council provided an overview of the Riverfront Revitalisation and the Rockhampton Recreational Fishing Development Strategy.
7. An open floor was provided to the community for questions and answers, the following areas were covered:
 - a. Resident raised that the corner of John and James Street, Gracemere is a blind corner due to vegetation. Council to investigate.
 - b. Resident raised that there is a need to implement a footpath connection between Laurie Street to Barry Street. Council to consider.
 - c. Resident raised that Sommerset Road (Gracemere Industrial Area) needs upgrading due to the amount of use. Council to investigate.
 - d. Resident raised that Macquarie Street requires a bridge rather than a culvert due to types of large vehicles using this area. Council to consider.
 - e. Resident indicated that communications need to be improved when works are going ahead in the Gracemere Industrial Area. Feedback will be provided to project management.
 - f. Resident raised that there is outstanding safety matters that Aurizon have not attended to. Councillor Smith indicated that a deputation from Aurizon to the Council will be sought in the New Year.
 - g. Resident raised that there is a large hole filling with water opposite Donovan Road and that Council needs to address this “large swimming hole”. Council to investigate.
 - h. Resident indicated that GIA businesses wrote to Council asking a series of question regarding the Pound however there was no answer. The letter asked questions in a variety of areas – dogs barking, air conditioning, generators etc... Council indicated that the noise levels anticipated are appropriate for an industrial area and that animal welfare will be well maintained.
 - i. Resident indicated that animal owners need to take better practices to care for their own animals.
 - j. Resident raised that many of the historical (older) streets could have a slurry seal applied to assist the overall life. Council to investigate if this could be applied.

- k. Resident raised that the recent funding to assist in the revitalisation of Springers Lagoon could be better spent elsewhere. Council provided an overview of the Springers Lagoon project and that it would have deterrents in place for people wanting to undertake illegal 4WD activities.
- l. Resident raised that the current discount on infrastructure charges doesn't go far enough as it doesn't influence further growth in industrial areas such as the GIA. Council responded that a significant investment in the GIA was made by Council and that it was important that now a return on the community's investment is made.
- m. Resident raised that the Gracemere CBD beautification seems to have stalled and requested information on what is happening in this space as it has been in train for three years. Cr Smith indicated that Council will discuss with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and that monies from the Works for Queensland Program has been allocated to the Gracemere for further beautification works.
- n. Resident raised that Douglas Street and Macquarie Street required better slashing down as there are visibility issues. Council to investigate with Cr Williams and Cr Smith present.
- o. Resident raised that Oregano Street, there is a major concern that the fencing is not sufficient to keep children away from the drains. Vandals have been removing fencing. Council to investigate.
- p. Resident raised that Breakspear Street and Ted Price Park has a similar issue where children can access the drains. Council to investigate.
- q. Resident asked what is happening with the Pound construction. Council responded that works will commence in December.
- r. Resident raised that Casa Street requires an investigation for safety reasons, specifically around the bends – traffic sometimes overshooting the bend near pedestrians. Resident raised that footpaths are required here to assist pedestrians. Council to investigate with Cr Williams and Cr Smith present.
- s. Resident asked when is old Gracemere Road being upgraded. Council responded that it will be considered in the budget.
- t. Resident indicated that he was proud to be living in Gracemere and the community needs to take pride in where they live as Gracemere is a great place to live. All at the meeting agreed.