



Cessnock City News

July 2021

The first half of 2021 has been a big year for Cessnock City Council and the second half is looking just as busy. So far, this year we have celebrated a number of significant milestones including the opening of Bridges Hill Park Playground, completion of the Gingers Lane, Government Road and Hart Road roundabout works, a new bridge for Paynes Crossing and opening of Millfield Skatepark stage one. There is plenty more to do with our \$43 million Capital Works Program and I look forward to delivering this to the community.

As the local government election approaches in September, I would like to acknowledge our Councillors. It has been great working with Cessnock City Mayor, Cr Bob Pynsent and each councillor for the benefit of the community. I look forward to continuing this positive work with the next elected councillors.

Lotta Jackson
General Manager



Paxton Public School students, Mayor, Cr Bob Pynsent and General Manager, Lotta Jackson in front of the new shade sails installed at Paxton Park.

A message from your Mayor

It has been a privilege to serve the Cessnock community as a Councillor since 1999 and hold the position of Mayor for nine years. I would like to acknowledge the community for their support, Council staff for their hard work and Councillors for their dedication to our community.

Representing this community for over two decades has been extremely rewarding, but it has not been without its challenges. As our community grows so does the need to upgrade roads, parks and other facilities. The new Council will face similar challenges when it comes to funding. I am proud that our Council has seen incredible success in attracting grant funding since it was elected. In fact, we have secured \$46 million in grants since September 2016.

Council must continue to operate strategically to ensure continued financial sustainability while also delivering for our wonderful community. I look forward to seeing Council's continued progress and success.

Regards,

Bob Pynsent, Cessnock City Mayor



Mayor, Cr Bob Pynsent and Founder of Lioncrest Education, Terry Hughes at the Bridges Hill Park Playground Opening in April.



Capital Works Program Update



Gingers Lane, Government Road and Hart Road Roundabout



Millfield Skatepark Stage 1



Paynes Crossing Bridge



Bridges Hill Park Playground

RECENTLY COMPLETED

- Millfield Skatepark Stage 1
- Upgrade of Gingers Lane, Government Road and Hart Road Roundabout
- Paynes Crossing Bridge
- Bridges Hill Park Playground
- Bus stop upgrades at Kearsley, Aberdare, North Rothbury, Bellbird and Greta
- Branxton Lions Club storage facility
- Tourism and wayfinding signage installed, including 25 new suburb signs, 3 new Information Bays and City Gateway Entry Signage
- Playground upgrade for Weston's Bluey Frame Park
- New playground for Branxton's Brunner Park
- Culvert replacement Colliery Street, Aberdare
- Construction of shared footpath on Fourth Street, Weston

CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

- Upgrade of Col Brown Rotary Park, Kurri Kurri
- Shared pathway Cumberland Street, Cessnock
- Splash pad at Cessnock Pool
- Shared pathway/cycleway between Branxton and Greta
- Implementation of the Miller Park Masterplan
- Shoulder widening on Sandy Creek Road, Quorrobolong
- Road safety works on Sandy Creek Road, Mount Vincent
- Upgrades to Church Street, Branxton
- Improvements to Oakey Creek Road, Pokolbin
- Road rehabilitation works to Wollombi Road, Millfield Stage 7

UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Road rehabilitation of Camp Road, Greta
- Bridge replacement Nelson Street, Greta
- Kurri Kurri Commercial Centre Upgrade
- Replacement of Yango Creek Road Bridge, Wollombi



You can keep up-to-date with Council's works at www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/works

Sign up to Cessnock City eNews to stay up-to-date with the latest news, events, projects and services

Understanding Grant Funding



CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM: \$43 MILLION

\$27M
GRANT FUNDING

\$16M
COUNCIL'S CONTRIBUTION

We hear residents asking why we are spending their rates on upgrades like signage when they would rather us use it to fix up a local road...

Many works you see being carried out across the Cessnock LGA are grant funded by the NSW or Federal Government. It doesn't mean your local roads are missing out because of these projects. When Council is successful in securing a grant, the money can only be spent on what was identified in the application. Simply put, grant funding is extra money Council has

secured to improve where you live. In fact, without grant funding our \$43 million Capital Works Program would be significantly smaller at \$16 million. The fact we're so successful at securing grants means we've injected another \$27 million into the Cessnock community.

To find out about upcoming and current works, visit our [website](#).

Your rates at work



Scan the QR code for a detailed breakdown of how your rates are used within our Local Government Area.



Comment on our Draft Environmental Zoning Framework

Residents are encouraged to have their say on the Draft Environmental Zoning Framework. The draft framework outlines how Council may apply the environmental zones in the future. The framework sets out draft criteria and principles to determine which lands will be zoned environmental and recommends draft land uses and objectives for the environmental zones. The framework is part of the ongoing Environmental Lands Study that is being undertaken to identify lands of high environmental value in the Cessnock LGA. Residents can provide feedback until Friday 6 August. To have your say visit Council's website.



More parks for playful pooches



We're inviting your feedback on our plan to expand and upgrade the existing network of off leash areas across the Cessnock Local Government Area (LGA).

With approximately 34,000 registered dogs in the LGA, we recognise that dog owners are a large portion of the community and a key user group of our open space areas.

Following a community survey conducted throughout September 2020 via Council's website and distributed to key stakeholders, 177 responses were received which identified a lack of fenced areas, inconvenient locations and overall animal safety are key concerns with the existing off leash areas.

The draft Off Leash Dog Exercise Area Plan remedies these issues and details the upgrade of existing off leash areas in Cessnock, Stanford Merthyr, Branxton and Greta, and the addition of five more in Cessnock, Cliftleigh, Ellalong, Weston and Bellbird North. Notably, it proposes a new fenced off leash area at community favourite, Bridges Hill Park.

Read and have your say on the draft Off Leash Dog Exercise Area Plan on our website until Sunday 8 August.

www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay

More time to Discover at CPAC



Still have Dine and Discover vouchers that you haven't used? You have until Tuesday 31 August to use them!

Your Discover vouchers can be used to buy tickets for any shows at Cessnock Performing Arts Centre, just book and pay before 31 August. There are a few conditions to use the vouchers. For all the info visit the Service NSW website.

www.service.nsw.gov.au/campaign/dine-discover-nsw



WHAT'S ON IN 2021



Stay up-to-date with Your Community



MyCity Events Calendar



MyCity Community Directory

Register online:
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/mycity
Check out the calendar:
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/events
Check out the directory:
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/directory

Contact our Customer Service Team on (02) 4993 4100 during business hours or email council@cessnock.nsw.gov.au for more information.

SAVE THE DATE!

25 SEPTEMBER

The Newcastle Writers Festival is back and returning to Cessnock in 2021 in partnership with Cessnock City Library and Cessnock Performing Arts Centre.

You won't believe who will be visiting Cessnock this year! Watch this space!

NEWCASTLE WRITERS FESTIVAL **NWF**



Save the date

2021 NSW Local Government elections

Saturday 4 September

Voting is compulsory

elections.nsw.gov.au/age21
1300 135 736

BE COVID SAFE



WEAR A FACE MASK



CHECK IN AT VENUES



SOCIAL DISTANCE



USE HAND SANITISER



WASH YOUR HANDS

For information on Council services and facilities:
www.cessnock.nsw.gov.au/COVID-19

For general information on COVID-19:
www.health.nsw.gov.au



STAY IN TOUCH



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