

## Special General Council Meeting

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that the next Meeting of the Central Highlands Regional Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, 65 Egerton Street, Emerald** on

**Thursday, 19 March 2020**  
**At 10.00am**

For the purpose of considering the items included on the Agenda.

**Scott Mason**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

### OUR VISION

A progressive region creating opportunities for all

### OUR MISSION

We are a council committed to continuous improvement, a sustainable future and efficient investment in our communities

### OUR VALUES

Respect and Integrity  
Accountability and Transparency  
Providing Value  
Commitment and Teamwork

### OUR PRIORITIES

Strong, vibrant communities  
Building and maintaining quality infrastructure  
Supporting our local economy  
Protecting our people and our environment  
Leadership and governance  
Our organisation



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## **1 PRESENT**

## **2 APOLOGIES**

## **3 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Special General Council Meeting is to consider correspondence from the Deputy Prime Minister The Honourable Michael McCormack around the Infrastructure Investment Program and potential economic stimulus packages.

## **3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

## **4 MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST, CONFLICT OF INTEREST, PERSONAL GIFTS AND BENEFITS**

## 5 DECISION ACTION REPORTS

### 5.1 Infrastructure and Utilities

#### 5.1.1 Fast Tracking of Land Transport Infrastructure Projects on Local Roads..... approx 20 mins

##### DECISION ACTION REPORT

Date: 19 March 2020 Presentation Duration: Approx.20 minutes  
To: Special General Council Meeting  
Author: Kym Downey, Manager Project Development and Contract Delivery  
Authorising Officer: Gerhard Joubert, General Manager Infrastructure and Utilities  
File Reference: Nil

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##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Central Highlands Regional Council (Council) has received correspondence from the Deputy Prime Minister, the Honourable Michael McCormack MP asking Council to identify any Australian Government land transport infrastructure projects on local roads for which construction could commence or be brought forward in the next three to six months. One (1) project that is 'shovel ready' and three (3) projects for which design is not yet complete have been identified. These projects are proposed to be included in the Council submission as potential road improvement projects.

##### OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Central Highlands Regional Council receive the report and note the proposed projects.

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##### REPORT:

Council has received correspondence from the Deputy Prime Minister, the Honourable Michael McCormack MP regarding potential funding and fast tracking the delivery of land transport infrastructure projects on local roads.

The Minister has requested that Council identify any Australian Government land transport infrastructure projects for which construction could commence or be brought forward in the next three to six months. This could include new or existing projects with, or that would qualify for, Australian Government contribution.

Fast-tracking the delivery of critical road projects across Australia is key to driving jobs, strengthening the economy and getting people home sooner and safer.

Details of the total value of available funding, the selection criteria to be applied or the final completion date for proposed projects had not been provided prior to the meeting of 10 March. Further advice has been received from the Minister. The key points of this advice are that:

- The process is only to obtain information on projects **should** funding become available
- Projects must be able to be commenced within the next 3 – 6 months
- Projects must be land transport infrastructure projects eligible for funding under the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP)
- There is no limit on the funding ratio for projects, however the Australian Government's preference is to jointly fund projects with Councils.

The outcome of the process will be advised in due course.

## **State Controlled Roads**

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) have advised that they received similar correspondence. Council has requested that DTMR include the following projects in their submission:

- Dawson Developmental Road (Springsure – Tambo) –
  - CHRC completed the design of 7.5km approved by DTMR
  - Timeframe for current \$40m commitment under Australian Government \$3.5 billion through its new Roads of Strategic Importance (ROSI) initiative, is not known.
  - NAPCO have purchased Mantuan Downs – this is expected to increase demands on this road
- Fitzroy Developmental Road (Bauhinia – Duaringa) –
  - CHRC completed the design of 30km and is processing approval by DTMR
- Cotherstone Road
  - Design and sealing
  - No design work has been completed or approved by DTMR
  - Some sites may be suitable for simple drainage upgrade works
- Duaringa – Apis Creek Road
  - DTMR proposed the potential of a Drainage and Floodway upgrade package.

Elected members have also recommended the following projects for inclusion in the submission to be made to DTMR:

- Fitzroy Developmental Road (Bauhinia – Duaringa)
  - Design is completed for sealed upgrade of unsealed section
  - Timeframe for upgrade is not known
- Fitzroy Developmental Road (Taroom – Bauhinia)
  - No design work has been completed or approved by DTMR

As designs for works on DTMR roads must be approved by the department prior to commencement of works, there is a risk that the completion of designs and receipt of approval may take more than the stated 3 – 6 month timeframe.

## **Local Roads**

The following potential local road projects were proposed at the General Meeting of 10 March 2020:

- Lilyvale Road: two (2) kilometres widen, overlay and seal works - \$2,400,000
  - Design of 12km is complete and crew is currently on site
  - Two (2) kilometres is a practical package to potentially put out to contract as well.
- Arcadia Valley Road: two (2) kilometres pave and seal works and construction of an emergency landing area for Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) - \$1,200,000
  - Designs for simple upgrade works could be completed within the 3 – 6 month timeframe
- Mulcahy's Road: two (2) kilometres, seal and drainage upgrade works - \$1,500,000
  - Designs for simple upgrade works could be completed within the 3 – 6 month timeframe
  - Drainage design could take longer

The project on Arcadia Valley Road has been taken from Council's adopted Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) and Roads to Recovery (R2R) programs and the Lilyvale Road project from the Mine Funded Roads program. Mulcahy's Road has been identified for inclusion in a future R2R program.

Elected members have also recommended the following projects for inclusion in the council submission:

- Yamala Feeder Roads – sections that do not require realignment or drainage structure upgrades
  - 9.8 kilometres of Gem Road, as widen and overlay of existing road, could potentially be designed by 30 June 2020 for construction.
  - Only concept designs have been completed to date
  - Completion of final designs is not included in the current budget
  - Two (2) kilometres is a practical package to potentially contract out

## CONSIDERATIONS / IMPLICATIONS:

### **Corporate/Operational Plan Reference:**

- 2. Building and Maintaining Quality Infrastructure;
- 2.1.4 - Plan and deliver essential infrastructure that supports a sustainable future.
- 2.2 - Corporate Plan Strategy: Affordable and well serviced infrastructure
- 2.2.2 - Develop a roads and transport strategy ensuring the efficient and effective use of resources.

### **Budget/Financial/Resourcing:**

Council is currently in negotiation with gas resource companies to determine the value of contribution required to mitigate the impact of increased traffic on Arcadia Valley and Mulcahy's Roads.

The project on Arcadia Valley Road has been taken from Council's adopted Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) and Roads to Recovery (R2R) programs and the Lilyvale Road project from the Mine Funded Roads program. Mulcahy's Road has been identified for inclusion in a future R2R program.

Council crews are currently working on Lilyvale Road and design and specification documents for the additional proposed works have been completed.

### **Legal/Policy/Delegations:**

Not applicable

### **Communication/Engagement:**

Council has discussed potential projects on state-controlled roads with DTMR and have provided advice as to priorities. The Infrastructure department has advised suitable projects from current programs and proposed delivery timeframes.

All these roads potentially support existing school bus routes. This will lend support to any application in terms of community benefits. Council does not currently have access to approved school bus routes for state-controlled roads.

Further support can be provided on traffic volumes but will require additional works to put together for a submission on both State Controlled and local roads.

### **Risk Assessment:**

Should Council be successful in receiving funding, construction will have to commence immediately. This may impact on the delivery of other projects. Nominating larger projects introduces the risk of non-completion of delivery within any potential required timeframe.

### **Timings/Deadlines:**

Council is required to provide a response by 20 March 2020.  
Submitted projects must be able to commence within 3 – 6 months

### **Alternatives considered:**

Alternate projects were considered however the focus is on projects that are at or close to being 'shovel ready' and for which there is an opportunity to extend the scope of works if additional funding should be made available.

## SUMMARY:

The possible receipt of additional external funding will allow council to fast track programmed projects that will improve the safety and efficiency of local roads and contribute to the prosperity and wellbeing of local economies.

The following potential local road projects are proposed:

- Lilyvale Road: two kilometres widen, overlay and seal works - \$2,400,000
- Gem Road: 2 kilometres widen, overlay and seal works - \$900,000
- Mulcahy's Road: two kilometres pave, seal and drainage upgrade works - \$1,500,000
- Arcadia Valley Road: two kilometres pave and seal works and construction of an emergency landing area for Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) - \$1,200,000

Projects on the following state-controlled road projects have been recommended to DTMR:

- Dawson Developmental Road (Springsure – Tambo)
- Fitzroy Developmental Road (Bauhinia – Duaringa)
- Cotherstone Road sealing and drainage
- Duaringa - Apis Creek Road Drainage and Floodway upgrade package.
- Duaringa Bauhinia Road
- Bauhinia Taroom Road

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Correspondence - The Hon Michael Mc Cormack MP - Fast tracking the delivery of land transport infras [5.1.1.1 - 1 page]
2. Correspondence - Land Transport Infrastructure Boost [5.1.1.2 - 1 page]
3. Submission - Local Government Land Transport Infrastructure Projects [5.1.1.3 - 2 pages]

– END OF REPORT –

OFFICIAL



**The Hon Michael McCormack MP**

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**Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development  
Leader of The Nationals  
Federal Member for Riverina**

Ref: MS20-000401

Dear Mayors/Councillors

I am writing to seek your assistance in fast-tracking the delivery of land transport infrastructure projects on local roads.

Fast-tracking the delivery of critical road projects across Australia is key to driving jobs, strengthening the economy and getting people home sooner and safer.

Through the Infrastructure Investment Program, the Australian Government assists local governments to upgrade local roads, bridges and intersections. These investments, including through the Roads to Recovery Program, are critical to improving the safety and efficiency of local roads, and contributes to the prosperity and wellbeing of local economies.

I am seeking your assistance in the identification of any Australian Government land transport infrastructure projects for which construction could commence or be brought forward in the next three to six months. This could include new or existing projects with, or that would qualify for, Australian Government contribution. I would appreciate receiving your response in the attached template by 20 March 2020 through my Department at [IIP@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:IIP@infrastructure.gov.au). The government will communicate the outcome of the process in due course.

I look forward to continuing to work closely with you to deliver infrastructure needed to ensure the ongoing stable contribution to the Australian economy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michael McCormack'.

Michael McCormack

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The Hon Michael McCormack MP  
Parliament House Canberra | (02) 6277 7520 | [minister.mccormack@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:minister.mccormack@infrastructure.gov.au)  
Suite 2, 11-15 Fitzmaurice Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 | [michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au)

OFFICIAL

From: [iip@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:iip@infrastructure.gov.au)  
Sent: 12 Mar 2020 01:11 PM  
To: [iip@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:iip@infrastructure.gov.au)  
Subject: Land Transport Infrastructure Boost [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Majors/Councillors

We have received several emails seeking additional information to assist in preparing a response to the Deputy Prime Minister's letter.

We hope the following advice will assist you in responding:

- This process is only to obtain an early indication from Councils on which projects could be bought forward should funding become available.
- Projects could include either new or existing projects that are planned to commence shortly. Where existing projects already received an Australian Government contribution, please identify this in your response.
- Projects must be able to commence construction within three to six months.
- Projects must be land transport infrastructure projects eligible for funding under the Australian Government's Infrastructure Investment Program (IIP).
- Supporting information on projects is not required at this stage.
- There is no limit on the funding ratio for projects, however the Australian Government's preference is to jointly fund projects with Councils.

Information on the IIP can be found at

[https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure\\_investment/investment\\_road\\_and\\_rail.aspx](https://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure_investment/investment_road_and_rail.aspx)

We trust this information is of assistance.

**w:**  
[www.infrastructure.gov.au](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au)  
GPO Box 594,  
Canberra ACT 2601



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Infrastructure**  
**Regional Development and C**

*The department proudly acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Australia, and their continuing connections to the land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to them and to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

**Local Government Land Transport Infrastructure Projects: Potential for Construction to Commence in 3-6 Months**

Project name/description	Relevant Council	Total Project Cost	Australian Government contribution	Other contribution	Potential construction start date	Potential construction end date
<b>Lilyvale Road</b> - 2 kilometres widen, overlay and seal works	Central Highlands Regional Council	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	Potential resource company contribution to be negotiated	April 2020	July 2020
<b>Gem Road (Yamala Feeder Roads)</b> - 2 kilometres widen, overlay and seal works	Central Highlands Regional Council	\$900,000	\$900,000		July 2020	September 2020
<b>Mulcahy's Road</b> - 2 kilometres pave, seal and drainage upgrade works	Central Highlands Regional Council	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	Potential resource company contribution to be negotiated	July 2020	September 2020
<b>Arcadia Valley Road</b> - 2 kilometres pave and seal works and construction of an emergency landing area for Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS)	Central Highlands Regional Council	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	Potential resource company contribution to be negotiated	July 2020	September 2020


## **6 CLOSURE OF MEETING**