



GLADSTONE & SMITHTOWN
**COMMUNITY
CATCH-UP**
21 OCT 2021

Public Amenities	
The toilet block at Smithtown Park was vandalised – will this be replaced?	Council has been successful in obtaining Stronger Country Communities (Round 3) funding to replace the existing Smithtown Nestle Park Amenities. Necessary planning approvals and design documentation have now been completed and Council is currently evaluating tender responses for the construction of the new amenities to occur early in the 2022 calendar year. The existing damaged toilets will be demolished as part of the replacement project.
Is there a timeline on the replacement or refurbishment of the Smithtown Park amenities? The other public toilet in Smithtown is on the opposite side of town, a fair hike for families with small children. If they are not going to be fixed, can we please have them removed as soon as possible as they are aesthetically displeasing in this lovely space and reduce the passive surveillance in the area.	Council has been successful in obtaining Stronger Country Communities (Round 3) funding to replace the existing Smithtown Nestle Park Amenities. Necessary planning approvals and design documentation have now been completed and Council is currently evaluating tender responses for the construction of the new amenities to occur early in the 2022 calendar year. The existing damaged toilets will be demolished as part of the replacement project.
Upgrade the seating and/or add in more seating at Smithtown Park.	Council currently does not have any funding to replace or add more seating at the Smithtown Riverside Park. To provide feedback on facilities please use this Feedback Form , use the Snap Send Solve App or call Customer Service on 6566 3200.
Please replace the Gladstone Wharf and make surrounding area safe	The Gladstone Wharf will be replaced during the 2021/2022 Financial Year. Council has completed a concept design for the replacement, the wharf will be of similar proportions to the old wharf, however it will be constructed to current Australian Standards.
Why were the Pine trees along Smithtown Rd cut down recently?	Council has recently removed a number of Chinese Tallow Trees along Smithtown Rd. Chinese Tallow Trees are classified as a weed with a requirement to be eradicated from the environment.
Proposed bandstand in the park needs more community input and engagement.	The Gladstone Bandstand location and design was discussed between Council and the Gladstone Market Committee. The location that has been chosen is suitable for the Gladstone Markets and can also be used on a daily basis by community and visitors.
Floods	
What is the Council proposing to do since Smithtown was flooded in the last floods? What changes will Council be making?	Council has commenced investigations regarding flood risk management, and how a more proactive approach to flood risk management could be controlled in the future via the Lower Macleay Flood Risk Assessment & Management Plan, which is currently in progress. The SES have also undertaken and documented a post event review with a specific consultation session occurring with the Smithtown community in May.



<p>Is there a local SES number community can call in an emergency, and are local SES Units able to provide/store sandbags in preparation of another storm/flood? How will you share this information regarding the location and availability of the sandbags with community?</p>	<p>There is no local SES phone number. All response is triage and coordinated centrally. Many local SES branches are now looking at building their own stockpiles, however, low volunteer numbers continue to be challenging for many units.</p> <p>Communications, general and including sandbags, primarily sits with SES, then Council shares the information it receives via the Local Emergency Management Centre (LEMC) which is stood up to coordinate emergency response. The SES have undertaken and documented a post event review with a specific consultation session occurring with the Smithtown community in May. A key finding of this review related to the adequate supply of sandbags for the local community.</p> <p>Communicating during a crisis will be further explored via Council's local emergency planning project targeting individual townships with an emphasis on supporting our most vulnerable residents.</p>
<p>ROADS AND FOOTPATHS</p>	
<p>Footpath leading to park and Gladstone Pub and Hub is too narrow, overgrown with plants from residents and cannot be used with a pram, children on bikes and bikes with training wheels.</p>	<p>Council has a program of works for maintaining road verges, parks and gardens across the Shire. Future footpath links for all towns and villages within Council's area are listed in Councils Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP). The PAMP lists all footpath proposals as high, medium and low priority to assist Council in its determination of funding for future footpath works. The PAMP can be found here.</p> <p>The Schedule of Proposed Treatments shows Kinchela Street as a Low Priority, and as such is unlikely to be funded by Council within the next 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>Unfortunately, it is not possible for Council to fund in the short term all footpath works listed in the PAMP, currently estimated to cost in the vicinity of \$7 million.</p> <p>When the PAMP is next reviewed there will be an opportunity for additional locations to be included within work schedules where a need exists, however such a review is unlikely to occur within the next 3 years.</p> <p>If there is a particular area of concern please provide feedback using this Feedback Form, use the Snap Send Solve App, or call Customer Service on 6566 3200.</p>
<p>Can a pedestrian crossing be installed for kids to safely cross the road to get to school at the intersection of Cannane and Rawson Street to join the footpaths?</p>	<p>Council has a program of works for maintaining road verges, parks and gardens across the Shire. Future footpath links for all towns and villages within Council's area are listed in Councils Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP). The PAMP lists all footpath proposals as high, medium and low priority to assist Council in its</p>



	<p>determination of funding for future footpath works. The PAMP can be found here. The Schedule of Proposed Treatments does not list Cannane and/or Rawson Street as a priority, and as such is unlikely to be funded by Council within the next 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>Unfortunately, it is not possible for Council to fund in the short term all footpath works listed in the PAMP, currently estimated to cost in the vicinity of \$7 million.</p> <p>When the PAMP is next reviewed there will be an opportunity for additional locations to be included within work schedules where a need exists, however such a review is unlikely to occur within the next 3 years.</p>
<p>Pin Drop: Footpath too narrow; trees and shrubs overgrown. Site: Kinchela St, Gladstone.</p>	<p>Council has a program of works for maintaining road verges, parks and gardens across the Shire. Future footpath links for all towns and villages within Council's area are listed in Councils Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP). The PAMP lists all footpath proposals as high, medium and low priority to assist Council in its determination of funding for future footpath works. The PAMP can be found here.</p> <p>The Schedule of Proposed Treatments shows Kinchela Street as a Low Priority, and as such is unlikely to be funded by Council within the next 3 to 5 years.</p> <p>Unfortunately, it is not possible for Council to fund in the short term all footpath works listed in the PAMP, currently estimated to cost in the vicinity of \$7 million.</p> <p>When the PAMP is next reviewed there will be an opportunity for additional locations to be included within work schedules where a need exists, however such a review is unlikely to occur within the next 3 years.</p> <p>If there is a particular area of concern please provide feedback using this Feedback Form, use the Snap Send Solve App, or call Customer Service on 6566 3200.</p>
OTHER	
<p>Parking on market days have filled the streets with vendors taking up spaces for customers and residents.</p>	<p>As long as anyone that is parking in that vicinity, is doing so legally, there isn't anything that can be done regarding the vehicles taking up spaces for customers and residents.</p> <p>If there are people that are parking across residents' driveways, the resident can take photos and submit them- via the Snap, Send, Solve App, or using this Feedback Form, to Council and the Ranger team can investigate it further.</p> <p>If there is an issue with people parking in bays that have been set aside for customer parking only, for example, the Gladstone Hotel parking, then this would have to be taken up by the hotel and how they want to manage that. If there is</p>



	<p>an issue with people not abiding by any stipulated times zones, then this can be enforced by a Ranger on a needs basis.</p> <p>If it is the actual Vendors/ Stall holders that are utilising the street spaces, then we would have to check with the approvals that were given and the permissions that were given for the markets to be held.</p>
Could council please consider creating an area for grey nomads to overnight in Smithtown Park which would add business revenue to the area for very little investment work?	<p>Both the Yakka Watson Park and Nestle Riverside Park are classified as Public Recreation, as such overnighing of campers would not be permissible. The current utilisation of both parks shows sustained demand for their existing purpose to be retained.</p> <p>When the Economic Development & Tourism Strategy is next reviewed there will be an opportunity for additional locations to be considered where a need exists.</p>
Are there any plans to reinstate or maintain the levee banks of the area following the audit that was completed? Where do we find these results online?	<p>Council is progressively undertaking works to reinstate levee banks to design level in accordance with the past audits undertaken. To date, works have been undertaken in stages in the Kempsey, Frederickton and Smithtown areas. Following the floods earlier this year, works have been undertaken on the levee around Kinchela Bridge. Works are now planned for the Austral Eden area. Audit results can be found at Rivers - Kempsey Shire Council working with the Macleay Valley community (nsw.gov.au)</p> <p>Further survey works undertaken since the audits has identified selected locations where levees identified in the audits do not require raising as they are already at design levels.</p>
Can Gladstone Swimming Pool introduce a Season Family Pass to make it more accessible to families over the summer season?	<p>The aquatic facilities across the Shire are operated under management agreements. The fees and charges are set by the lessee, not Council. To provide feedback on facilities please use this Feedback Form or call Customer Service on 6566 3200.</p>

