



Community News

Brought to you by Cr Cath Tonks, Division 9



Dolphins players Josh Kerr and Oryn Keeley are ready to tackle disaster preparedness.

Moreton Bay and the Dolphins are no strangers to tough opposition!

Protect your family and property from severe weather this summer by being disaster ready

Be prepared and tackle safety head-on by following these simple tips:

- Develop a household emergency plan by identifying and practising evacuation routes, establishing communication strategies, and designating meeting points. Ensure your entire household understands their roles during an emergency.
- Create and regularly update an emergency supply kit with essentials like water, non-perishable food, medications, important documents, and first aid supplies, including items for any pets.
- Stay informed about severe weather through the city's Disaster Dashboard, which provides emergency news, power outages, road conditions, weather warnings, sandbag stations, and flood gauges.
- Subscribe to MoretonAlert for alerts straight to your phone and email.
- Secure your home by trimming trees, clearing gutters, securing loose items, and knowing how to shut off utilities.

Visit disaster.moretonbay.qld.gov.au and get disaster ready!



Read this
newsletter online

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THE LIVING CITY UPDATE With Mayor Peter Flannery

2024 has been a year of progress and achievement for our city.

Council has worked hard to deliver essential services and programs and will strengthen these efforts in 2025.

We proudly continue to balance our economic growth with enhanced environmental sustainability and community wellbeing.

This year's highlights include:

- Introducing our new Garden Organics (GO) kerbside service
- Developing Waraba as Queensland's newest Priority Development Area
- Securing City Deal funding for five transformative city projects
- Adopting the Better Housing Amendment for improved planning outcomes
- Announcing our very own Olympic venue, the Moreton Bay Indoor Sports Centre at The Mill.

As the end of year approaches, I encourage everyone to shop local and support our businesses, and to enjoy one of our signature Christmas Carol events happening across the city.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors, volunteers, Council staff and you, our residents, for working together to make City of Moreton Bay such an incredible place to live, work, and play.

I hope you and your family have a restful and safe break over the Christmas period and here's to health and happiness in 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Flannery'.



All systems GO: new garden organics collection service launches soon!

Over 120,000 lime green-lidded garden organics (GO) bins are now being delivered to eligible residents across our city, and we're just weeks away from the official launch of our GO collection service!

From 2 December, the GO service will make it easier than ever to dispose of garden waste like grass clippings, branches, weeds and leaves. Your fortnightly GO collection will happen on the same day as your general waste bin, but on the alternate week to your recycling bin.

Why is the new service important? Garden organic waste currently makes up 23% of what we throw in our general waste bins. When this waste ends up in landfill, it generates harmful greenhouse gases. By placing it in your GO bin instead, it will be transformed into nutrient-rich compost, benefiting both the environment and our community.

Contaminants reduce the quality of the compost produced, so it's important to only place materials that grow in your garden into your new bin. Never bag your garden organic waste or put other items like plant pots or potting mix in your GO bin.

Find out more and discover how to GO like a pro by visiting moretonbay.qld.gov.au/GO

This initiative received funding from the Queensland Government's Recycling and Jobs Fund.

Go paperless! Receive your rates and reminders via email

It's easy, convenient and better for the environment. A \$2.50 paper notice fee will apply to all quarterly rate notices received by post from 1 January 2025. Excludes property owners receiving a pension/self-funded retiree concession. To sign up to receive your rate notices by email visit moretonbay.qld.gov.au/eRates



Book week

It was fantastic to join and support the Book Week fun with All Saints Catholic Primary School at Albany Creek!



New green infrastructure trial - Koala escape hatch

City of Moreton Bay is trialling a new innovative wildlife egress device to improve the safety of our roads for drivers and wildlife. The egress device functions as an 'escape hatch' and provides an opportunity for one-way movement of fauna away from the active road if they find themselves on the wrong side of fauna exclusion fencing.

This innovative koala escape hatch will work in conjunction with koala escape poles, which are traditionally installed over koala fencing to help koalas access safe bushland habitat. The trial responds to recent research which suggests that koalas and other species that move across the ground may benefit from additional 'safe exit' infrastructure at ground level.

This is an Australian first 'in network' trial of the device. 16 units have been installed across seven council managed roads and locally in Division 9. These include Samsonvale Rd, Lilley Rd, Kremzow Rd, Old North Rd, Youngs Crossing and Rolland Pde.



DIVISION 9 UPDATE With Cr Cath Tonks

With 2024 coming to an end, it has been great to see local projects completed and some projects getting ready to start in the new year.

Thank you to the residents who have been in touch throughout the year and provided feedback about how we can improve our local area.

There are plenty of local Christmas events coming up and I hope to see many residents out enjoying some festive fun, including the popular Eatons Hill Santa which will be held on Friday 6 December.

From my family and I, best wishes for a safe and happy Christmas, I hope you are able to relax and enjoy time with family and friends and all the best for a wonderful 2025!

CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

City of Moreton Bay's administration and customer service centres will close from 12 pm Tuesday 24 December 2024, reopening at 8.30 am Thursday 2 January 2025. Council's Call Centre will continue to respond to emergency matters on (07) 3205 0555. Household waste collection services will operate as normal. For a full list of closures and operating hours please visit:

moretonbay.qld.gov.au/closures

Cath

PROJECTS

Commencing soon

Warner - Playground and Fitness Renewal: Work is scheduled to commence late January 2025 and is expected to be completed in seven weeks, weather permitting. The playground renewal will include a large combination play tower for all aged children, climbing nets, slides, inclusive multi user carousel, a swing bank including; a basket swing, senior and toddler swings and an interconnecting rubber surface for accessibility. A new fitness installation will also be installed near the park shelter and will include an adjustable tension exercise bike, adjustable tension chest press, and a static fitness station including a chin-up bar, sit-up bench, and dip bars.



In Progress

Brendale - Brendale Street Park - Dog Off Leash Area. Construction has commenced and will include fencing, gates, pathway seating, bin, water bubbler and landscaping.

Completed

Warner - Old North Rd and Centurion Circuit - Fauna Infrastructure Renewal.

Warner - Boxwood Court Park - Dog Off Leash Area extension. Construction has commenced and will include linking path, shared entry gate, with seating and existing trees to be retained.



JOYNER UPDATE

There has been much conversation about the Joyner area in our community and I would like to provide some information and history for this area.

The area around Regent Street and Oxford Street, Joyner, was zoned an Emerging Community in the 2016 Council Planning Scheme, however at this time it also had some protections in place throughout the area with koala mapping or overlays that were and still are generated by the Queensland Government. At that time however, it was recognised that a review of the State Government mapping was needed to improve the protections of koala habitat in particular the green corridors connecting areas of koala habitat.

On 7 February 2020, those protections changed when the protected vegetation koala mapping was dramatically reduced by the State Government and also less connected than previously.

On 29 August 2020, 6 months later, the State Government amended the mapping again in response to strong representations from Council and the community and some additional areas were included. However disappointingly, for Joyner, the areas that were included were different to the areas that were protected just six months earlier.

In addition to this, the amended mapping does not make the protection of green corridors linking to core koala habitat areas explicitly clear on maps. Unfortunately, this therefore allowed more development to occur with less protections for our koalas and their habitat. Joyner does still have corridors that are protected throughout the area, following the creek line and I will continue to advocate for whatever protections we can enforce from developers. It would be great if development occurred with the retention of trees and green spaces, however, without explicit state mapping in place to mandate a requirement to connect specific koala habitat areas, and due to Queensland's performance based planning system, Council cannot guarantee or enforce specific outcomes. Despite the absence of an explicit state mandate requiring specific corridors and connections to be protected in Joyner, Council officers with my support have successfully negotiated a requirement for development to deliver a 50m wide environmental corridor for 380m (measuring 19,000m²) through the area to assist in the connection of core koala habitat areas. The negotiations will continue for the protection of more areas and corridors in the future.

WARNER INVESTIGATION AREA UPDATE

At our Council General Meeting on 4 September 2024, Council adopted the Better Housing Amendment and supporting Planning Scheme Policies Amendment No. 2, with a commencement date of 30 October 2024 for both amendments. As you may know, this has been quite a journey and one that had to await final approval from the State Government. This means both koala habitat and rural residential character have been preserved for the Warner community with a reduction of the southern and western boundaries of the Warner Investigation Area. This is a direct reflection of community feedback on the importance of protecting the natural environment and in particular koala habitat. The approved reduction relates to the part of the Investigation Area located south of Conflagration Creek and Warner and Coorparoo Roads that contains pre-existing rural residential development, along with areas to the west containing matters of state environmental significance. This change is in line with planning investigations and community consultation previously undertaken in 2017, and ongoing community feedback raising the importance of protecting the natural environment, particularly local koala habitat and retaining the existing character of the area. Additionally, the Better Housing Amendment includes a range of updates to the Planning Scheme to enable Council to better address residents' concerns. These will ensure sustainable and well-planned housing meets community expectations as our city grows including:

- Lot sizes that can accommodate backyards
- Appropriate setbacks and site coverage to avoid overcrowded neighbourhoods and loss of privacy
- Diverse types of housing in well-chosen locations
- More greenery such as open areas, trees and landscaping, so neighbourhoods look and feel good
- Better parking requirements — to accommodate cars on-site and less on our streets.

The amendment took effect on 30 October 2024, it is important to note however, under the State Government's *Planning Act 2016*, there are transitional Superseded Planning Scheme provisions whereby applicants can request a development application to be made and assessed under the current planning scheme for a period of up to 12 months post the Better Housing Amendment coming into effect. After 30 October 2025, these provisions will expire, and new development applications must comply with the amended planning scheme. For more information visit:

yoursay.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/better-housing-amendment



Community focus

Situated in Joe Davis Park at Brendale, the Pine Rivers Croquet Club, offers a beautiful setting to enjoy Gateball, Ricochet or Golf Croquet. They are a friendly and welcoming group who hold regular free "Come and Try" days throughout the year. With playing sessions held five times a week, it's a great opportunity for anyone looking to try a new sport and meet new friends. For more information, get in touch with the club via **pineriverscroquetclub@gmail.com**



I was able to join the team at Meals on Wheels, Moreton Bay and help out with deliveries. This service is more than just a healthy meal, every meal delivered provides a wellbeing check, social connection and a link to the community. Moreton Bay Meals on Wheels was formed in 2021 and combined Pine Rivers and District, Burpengary, Caboolture, Samford distribution centre and Bribie Island. Volunteers are always welcome, please get in touch with the team if you would like to assist via **info@mowmbr.org**



Summer school holiday fun!

With the school holidays just around the corner, we've got a fantastic lineup of free or low-cost activities to keep kids active and creative.

Check out the full list of events and activities on offer and plan your summertime fun at moretonbay.link/school-holidays

WHAT'S ON



Pine Rivers Christmas Carols

Enjoy a festive evening with joyful carols, kids entertainment, food trucks, markets, fireworks and holiday fun for all ages.

Sunday 15 December
4 pm - 8 pm
Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine

Twilight markets

Albany Creek State School twilight markets promises to be a great night out with markets, entertainment, food trucks and much more. A nice time to start your Christmas shopping!

Friday 22 November, 5 pm - 8 pm
696 Albany Creek Road, Albany Creek



Aussie Arvo is back for 2025

Join us for an afternoon of Aussie fun! Enjoy free entry, free rides, music, fireworks, and exciting competitions. Indulge in \$2 sausage sizzles, popcorn, fairy floss, and sideshow games. Don't miss out on this fantastic day for the whole family!

Sunday 26 January, 2 pm - 7 pm
Lawnton Aquatic Centre



Australia Day in Moreton Bay

Make this Australia Day an absolute ripper!

On Sunday 26 January, enjoy a relaxing day at Music in the Park at Scarborough or Bribie Island. Featuring live performances, food trucks and great vibes.

Bribie Island, 1 pm to 5 pm
Scarborough, 1 pm to 6 pm

For more details on community events visit moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar

Splash & Play @ The Mill Water Park

Join the Splash and Play event in Moreton Bay for a fun-filled day of water activities, live music, and family entertainment!

Saturday 1 February, 8 am - 12 pm,
The Mill Water Park, Petrie
moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar



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