



Community News

Brought to you by Cr Mark Booth, Division 2



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 blue ink, appearing to read '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

Better Housing Amendments

City of Moreton Bay has implemented the Better Housing Amendment to improve liveability. Approved by the State Government in late August, it aligns with the ShapingSEQ Plan, prioritising efficient land use, diverse housing options, and sustainable growth.

The amendment addresses housing challenges by promoting good design, varied housing options, and enhanced neighbourhoods. Major changes include enhanced parking requirements, increased green spaces, appropriate setbacks, and improved standards for secondary dwellings. These measures aim to foster attractive streetscapes, open spaces, and better living environments.

Following extensive consultation with the community and stakeholders, the amendment balances new development demand with community expectations. Council is committed to working with industry to ensure a collaborative planning process while protecting the environment and delivering essential services.

The amendment targets five key planning policy areas: Next Generation Neighbourhoods (including changes to boundary setbacks and site cover), Off-Street Car Parking, Secondary Dwellings, Student Accommodation, and the Warner Investigation Area boundary reduction.

Taking effect on 30 October 2024, applicants can submit proposals under either version of the scheme for up to 12 months post-change. After 30 October 2025, all applications must comply with the amended scheme. While some legacy projects may be approved under the old scheme, the improvements promise better developments moving forward, addressing long-term housing needs. As the saying goes, "The best time to start was yesterday; the second-best time is today."



DIVISION 2 UPDATE With Cr Mark Booth

City of Moreton Bay is embarking on a transformative journey with the recent implementation of the Better Housing Amendment. Approved by the State Government, this update to our planning scheme aligns with the ShapingSEQ 2023 Plan, targeting sustainable growth and diverse housing options.

Addressing critical housing challenges, the amendment encourages well-designed secondary dwellings and increases green spaces, directly responding to community needs. As we face a projected population of 792,700 by 2046, accommodating a projected 97 new homes each week (2021 to 2046) is essential.

While infrastructure development is often seen as a prerequisite for housing, requiring developers to fund it upfront risks making projects unaffordable. Instead, this amendment promotes smart growth strategies, emphasising infill development that preserves our environment.

Let's embrace this opportunity, balancing housing demands with community expectations and ensuring a vibrant, liveable Moreton Bay for all. The time for thoughtful action is now!

Right Sizing

City of Moreton Bay is set for substantial growth over the next 25 years, with the population projected to rise from 484,400 in 2021 (currently more than 510,000) to 792,700 by 2046, according to the State Government's South East Queensland Regional Plan Review 2023 (ShapingSEQ 2023). This growth, at an average annual rate of 2%, will require the addition of around 125,800 new dwellings over this period, or 5,032 new dwellings per year, totalling 313,900 homes across the city by 2046. Alongside this housing demand, improvements in transport, job opportunities, and essential services will also be crucial.

This growth will differ from the past, bringing unique challenges and opportunities, including fiscal uncertainty and housing affordability issues that call for strategic adjustments to meet the needs of an expanding population.

Several factors are driving this growth. In preparing ShapingSEQ 2023, the State Government estimates that 38.7% of the population increase will stem from overseas migration, 25.4% from interstate migration, and 7.8% from intrastate. The demographic shift will see a decrease in the proportion of children and youth (0 to 17 years) from 22.6% in 2021 to 20.5% in 2046, while the percentage of older adults (65 years and over) rises from 15.9% to 19.5%. This ageing population will impact workforce dynamics, economic growth, government revenue, and demand for healthcare services.

Further, they noted changes in household structures are also notable, with one-person households projected to increase significantly, from 23.4% in 2021 to 40.5% by 2046. This trend, partly driven by an ageing population, indicates a shift towards smaller living arrangements. The prevalence of extended family households is growing, coupled families are declining, and older couple-only households are on the rise.

To accommodate the required housing without exacerbating urban sprawl, the ShapingSEQ 2023 plan emphasises utilising already developed land, moving towards 70% infill development and 30% greenfield development across South East Queensland. This strategy seeks to promote development near existing infrastructure and minimizes environmental impacts, preserving green corridors and biodiversity.

Adapting to the evolving demands of the population involves offering a diverse range of housing options. ShapingSEQ 2023 also provides the growth projections signalling a shift towards single-person households, highlighting the need for alternatives to traditional housing.

Encouraging options like units, townhouses, duplexes, or granny flats will allow residents to "right-size" their living arrangements, ensuring diverse choices.





Infrastructure before the development, it's easy right?

Residents often advocate for infrastructure to be built before new housing developments. While this notion seems straightforward, the reality is far more complex and often misunderstood.

Firstly, funding for infrastructure is a significant concern. If Council is to cover these costs, we must consider how we would finance it. With less than 3% of all taxes flowing to councils, how would local governments fund this? This raises the question: how do we balance service delivery today with the city's infrastructure needs in the future? We're looking at billions of dollars needed over the next 30 years to support growth.

If developers are tasked with funding infrastructure, it raises legal issues around how Council can charge for something that isn't formally approved yet. Would this lead to approval of developments simply because infrastructure had been built beforehand, potentially leading to poorly planned neighbourhoods? Furthermore, if infrastructure is built but no development occurs promptly, could this be seen as a waste of ratepayer money?

It's crucial to note that developers are already required to deliver necessary infrastructure at the time their projects are approved to ensure there is "no net worsening" of existing networks. This includes essential services such as roads, stormwater management, water, sewerage, and parks, usually provided concurrently with the developments.

Current statistics show rapid population growth in our area, increasing from more than 510,000 residents now to an expected 792,700 by 2046, necessitating the construction of about 97 new dwellings weekly (2021 to 2046). Requiring developers to supply all infrastructure upfront could dramatically raise project costs, making housing developments unfeasible or leading to significantly higher prices for new homes—factors that already threaten housing affordability in Moreton Bay.

I understand and empathise with community concerns about infrastructure. I once shared this perspective before exploring the practical implications. Unfortunately, the question of how this infrastructure gap will be funded remains a current challenge for all levels of government and the development industry.



Beer & Beats

Prepare your taste buds and get ready for an evening of live music, great company, and refreshing brews at this brand-new event.

Sunday 17 November, 2 pm - 6 pm
Symphony Crescent Park, Burpengary

[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
community-events-calendar](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar)

WHAT'S ON

Christmas in Moreton Bay

Celebrate the festive season with joyful carols, family fun and of course, a visit from Santa! From 4 pm to 8 pm, experience the holiday cheer at one of five free events across Moreton Bay.

North Lakes - 30 Nov

Caboolture - 1 Dec

Murrumba Downs - 7 Dec

Redcliffe - 8 Dec

Pine Rivers - 15 Dec



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](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar)

Pets in Public Spaces information sessions

Join us at one of our pet-friendly education pop-ups held in local parks across Moreton Bay. Learn about your responsibilities as a pet owner, get some tips and advice, and pick up some freebies. Plus, we also provide FREE microchipping for registered dogs.

For a full list of events visit [moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
pet-education](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/pet-education)



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. From exciting outdoor adventures to fun-filled workshops, there's something for everyone.

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



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