



Lithgow
City Council

COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

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180 Mort Street, Lithgow
Phone: 02 6354 9999
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council@Lithgow.nsw.gov.au
www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Lithgow Visitors Centre
Phone: 02 6350 3230
tourism@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Lithgow Library Learning Centre
Phone: 6352 9100
lithgow.library@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Eskbank House Museum
Phone: 6351 3557
eskbank@lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Council Meetings
13 July 2009
3 August 2009
24 August 2009
14 September 2009
6 October 2009 (Tuesday)
2 November 2009
23 November 2009
14 December 2009

Rate Instalment Due
31 August 2009
30 November 2009
28 February 2010
31 May 2010



Mayoral Message

Mayor Neville Castle

Major upgrading of infrastructure will be the focus for council over the next few months following the allocation of \$3,814,000 of grant funds from the Federal Government's Regional Local Community Infrastructure Program (Round 1: \$529,000 and Round 2: \$3,285,000)

Council is extremely pleased and excited about receiving this money which will see a multitude of community facilities upgraded including the Wallerawang Library, Portland's Crystal Theatre, Lake Wallace Boatshed, Vale Hall, upgrades to the Union Theatre, a renewed hockey surface at Glanmire Oval and major upgrades to the Civic Ballroom and Grandstand at the Tony Luchetti Showground.

In addition, \$400,000 has been allocated from the grants for a new skate park in Lithgow which will replace the existing skate park with a modern facility. The Council thanks all those young people who contributed to the design.

Following a recent visit to the Emirates Resort in the Wolgan Valley, I am pleased to say that the project is well on track with completion imminent. There has been a significant investment of over \$100million into the council area in the building of the resort which has been a boost to the local economy with many

locals employed on the job.

In addition, the resort has been actively training staff to take up positions with the first paying customers expected in October.

On the 1 June, Council adopted its Management Plan for 2009/10. This Plan outlines all of the work that Council will carry out in the next financial year. Rates will go up by a minimum of 3.5% with a special rate variation of 5% being sought to provide additional work on Council's roads, buildings and library resources.

Over \$40million will be expended on major upgrades of the Sewerage Treatment Plants in Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland. This will see an increase in service charges for those people who are connected to the sewer. Council is required to undertake these works to ensure the health and wellbeing of the community.

On another note Council is continuing to look towards the future with the development of a comprehensive Local Environmental Plan, Economic Development Strategy, Tourism Strategy and Crime Prevention Plan. Already there has been significant input into these strategies from the community and we look forward to more input through the council advisory committees and community consultation forums.

"\$3,814,000 grant funding received from Federal Government will significantly improve community infrastructure in Lithgow, Portland and Wallerawang."

P2 Planning for our future to meet the needs of the community
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P4 Sustaining our waterways and serving communities
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P6 Providing infrastructure for growth and improving our assets.
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P8 Encouraging community involvement.

Planning For The Future



The Urban Sustainability Project

Council has employed EcoSTEPS Consultants to work with the community to develop a business plan for a two-year Urban Sustainability Program which will be designed around the FORWARD program.

Future leader in the establishment of new green industries.

Offsetting Carbon Emissions – ours and others, and Reducing emissions where possible. Rejuvenating our waterways.

Working together with residents, community groups, businesses and government in

Acknowledging our industrial heritage and assisting CO2 emitters.

Recycling household food waste, regeneration of soil, and

Developing sustainable communities via an improved local environment

The program is designed to reduce individual contributions to systematic climate change by developing a coordinated approach to improving environmental sustainability.

Possible ideas raised in consultations to date for the project to focus on include residential and commercial waste reduction, improved recycling, litter reduction strategies and protection of waterways.

Joint Regional Planning Panels

Mayor Neville Castle and Andrew Muir, Group Manager Regional Services will be representing Council on the Joint Regional Planning Panel introduced by the Minister for Planning to determine regionally significant applications.

The Panel's role is to determine development applications which have a capital investment of more than \$10million; subdivisions of over 250 lots or applications which are deemed to be designated development. Developments with a value of more than \$5million such as public and private infrastructure, crown

development, eco-tourism development or where council is the developer or has a conflict of interest will also be determined by the panel.

Representation on this panel is important to the economic development and growth of our area as any designated development which requires an Environmental Impact Statement will need to be referred to the Panel. An example of this type of development would be a crushing plant or a development application for the redevelopment of a pyrotechnics facility.

Wallerawang Industrial Park Feasibility Study Underway

Lithgow City Council, Delta Electricity and the Department of State and Regional Development are working together to investigate the feasibility of developing a ten hectare site for industrial purposes as a means of addressing a perceived lack of industrial land available within the Lithgow Local Government Area.

With funding assistance provided by the Department of State and Regional Development, Hill PDA have been engaged to complete this project. Hill PDA is a multidisciplinary consultancy firm that provides expertise in Property

Economics, Property Valuation and Urban Planning.

This feasibility study will identify the need/market demand for industrial land in the region and the suitability of a ten hectare site at Wallerawang.

This is an exciting project for the region and marks the beginning of a series of critical projects currently being completed to identify and develop economic opportunities.

If you would like more information or would like to contribute your ideas contact the Economic Development

Cultural Precinct Study

Council has received funding from Xstrata Coal NSW as part of their Community Partnerships Program to undertake a Cultural Precinct Study for Lithgow.

The study will investigate the development of a Cultural Precinct comprising of: The Hoskins Memorial Institute; The

Union Theatre; Top of Main Street; Eskbank Station; Eskbank House Museum; Blast Furnace Park; and Lake Pillans Wetlands.

Council will be undertaking an extensive community consultation process to identify the future tourism potential of this precinct.

Meeting Your Needs



Safer Communities

Alcohol related violence has been a major concern raised with Council during recent consultations with the community and local organisations for Council's Crime Prevention Plan.

In answer to the communities concerns, Council has recently resolved, in accordance with Section 644 of the Local Government Act 1993, to re-establish or establish Alcohol Free Zones within the Lithgow and Portland Central Business Districts for a period of 4 years.

Alcohol Free Zones create a prohibition on the consumption of alcohol on the street, footpaths or public carparks within the zone. People are still able to carry unopened alcohol from one

location to another for example to home or a restaurant. Council has established the alcohol free zones:

- To reduce the incidence of alcohol related crime in areas bordering on, adjoining, or adjacent to licensed premises.
- To reduce the amount of related litter in these areas.
- To provide a safer environment for users of local streets, footpaths and public carparks without hindrance from people irresponsibly drinking alcohol.

The boundaries of the zones are signposted. The zones will be enforceable by the Police.

New Food Standards

Council is working with owners and employees of food premises to create awareness of the new Food Standards.

Council has a strong commitment to the health of all residents and visitors with the production and supply of safe food to all consumers being paramount.

Council is working closely with the NSW Food Authority to ensure that all providers of food are meeting Food Safety

Standards and Food Laws. Inspections are undertaken without prior notice and premises are inspected in order to assess their compliance with these standards.

Routine inspections have recently been completed at all restaurants, takeaway food outlets, pubs, and other commercial food premises. Council will soon begin an inspection program for school canteens and sporting facilities.

Giving Youth a Voice

The recent pro-active involvement of local youth in developing the Lithgow Skate Park concept has been the catalyst for Council resolving to review the previous Youth Council and implement a new Youth Committee. The Committee will:

- Create a voice for youth to community leaders
Manage the new skate park
- Advise Council on a strategic direction for youth services in the local government area.
- Assist in the development of a positive image of youth in the community.
- Raise awareness of youth issues in the community.
- Help the Council address youth issues and work towards a better community for youth by working directly with youth representatives.
- Promote youth in a positive way through community and youth events.
- Represent youth and promote youth leadership opportunities to schools and service clubs such as Lions Club, Rotary and Quota.
- Develop leadership skills among young people in the Lithgow Local Government Area.

Possible future projects for this committee will be: Youth week events, Music events and Sports events.

If you wish to be involved in the Youth Committee contact the Community Development Officer on 6354 9999

Weddings At Eskbank

Looking for a romantic and intimate setting for your special day?

Why not have your wedding ceremony or wedding photos taken in the grounds at Eskbank House Museum.

With the romance of roses and grandeur of yesteryear Eskbank House is the perfect place to celebrate your marriage.

**Eskbank House Museum is open 10am to 4pm
Wednesday to Sunday for enquiries and inspection.
Phone 6351 3557**

Sustaining Waterways



Green Waste Collection Dates

12 October 2009
7 December 2009
8 February 2010
12 April 2010

During the growing season Council provides a Green Waste Collection Service. The following items will be picked up:

- Garden prunings no longer than 2 metres and no thicker than 200mm, tied in bundles
- Lawn clippings and leaves must be placed in a durable container, cardboard box or hessian/plastic bag.
- A weight limit of 16 kilograms for each bundle or box applies.
- Maximum quantity of 1 cubic metre (about 4 wheelie bins) for each collection.

On the Sunday night of the collection week, simply put your materials at the kerbside where you leave your mobile garbage bin.

Materials left for collection will be removed on the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of the collection week.

To arrange for collection contact the Council Administration Centre on 6354 9999

Water Restrictions

Level 4 Water Restrictions

apply for residents supplied from the Farmers Creek Water Supply living in Lithgow and Marrangaroo.

During winter (1 June to 31 August) garden watering with sprinklers, hand held hoses and Micro Systems is able to be carried out as part of the odds and evens system for 4 hrs per day between the hours 8.00am - 10.00am and 4.00pm - 6.00pm.

Level 5 Water Restrictions

apply to villages and localities serviced from the Fish River Water Supply which includes Portland, Wallerawang, Lidsdale, Cullen Bullen and Glen Davis.

Gardens can only be watered by bucket unless an alternative water supply is available for example bore or dedicated rainwater tank.

Garden watering with sprinklers, hand held hoses and systems connected to reticulated supply are prohibited.

Drought Relief Funding

Lithgow City Council, Delta Electricity and the Department of State and Regional Development are working together to investigate the feasibility of developing a ten hectare site for industrial purposes as a means of addressing a perceived lack of industrial land available within the Lithgow Local Government Area.

With funding assistance provided by the Department of State and Regional Development, Hill PDA have been engaged to complete this project. Hill PDA is a multidisciplinary consultancy firm that provides expertise in Property

Economics, Property Valuation and Urban Planning.

This feasibility study will identify the need/market demand for industrial land in the region and the suitability of a ten hectare site at Wallerawang.

This is an exciting project for the region and marks the beginning of a series of critical projects currently being completed to identify and develop economic opportunities.

If you would like more information or would like to contribute your ideas contact the Economic Development Officer on 6354 9999.

Water Infrastructure Improvements

Fluoridation Update

Council is working with NSW Health to install Fluoridation Dosing Equipment with the aim to improve dental health in the local government area. It is advised that this project will be subsidised by the NSW Department of Health through their "Teeth for Health Program".

This project is currently in the planning stages and further details will be provided to the community over coming months. It is anticipated that following the required approvals process the equipment will be installed and operational early in the new year.

Water Pipeline Construction

Council works staff have been busy constructing a new bulk water pipeline at South Bowenfels.

The pipeline will link an existing reservoir behind Strathlone Estate with a new reservoir, to be constructed later this year, on the western side of the Great Western Highway.

A new reticulation pipeline is then planned to service the new residential subdivisions in the area and provide additional storage of water.

Serving Our Community



The One-Stop Shop

The One-Stop Counter has been operating now for over three years and offers a range of services to make enquiries as quick and easy as possible.

For your convenience Council offers a range of payment options for your rates and water such as credit card payment by phone or direct to Customer Service, Post Office, Bill Pay, Bpay or by mail.

Our Customer Requests Management System allows staff to lodge and track the progress for works requests and complaints. Distribution via this system to relevant Council Departments ensures efficiency and enables a response to be provided within adequate timeframes.

Enquiring about a building application, we can provide you with a range

of information sheets on how to submit a Building Application or Development Application. By calling, faxing or e-mailing us in advance we can provide you with a free quote on your development application. That way you are prepared when you come into lodge your application.

When coming to register your precious pet don't forget to bring the microchipping papers and desexing information for a quick and easy registration. The girls at the One-Stop Shop are responsible for entering all animal registrations into the NSW Animal registry and can assist you with recording any change of address, ownership, contact details etc. on your animal's registration.

Council Clean-Up Dates

7 September 2009

8 March 2010

Council provides a "Clean-Up Collection" for bigger domestic items such as bulky materials, cases, boxes, cartons and securely tied bundles able to be picked up by 2 men.

Council WILL NOT remove any liquid or materials which require the use of a shovel, is too heavy to be lifted by two men, or is toxic, agricultural or chemical material.

Bookings are essential and must be arranged in the week prior to the collection date.

On the Sunday night of the collection week, simply put your materials at the kerbside where you leave your mobile garbage bin.

Materials left for collection will be removed on either the Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of the collection week.

To arrange for collection contact the Council Administration Centre on 6354 9999

Faults Hotline 6354 9999

Council encourages community members to report any faults in relation to the following facilities:

- Oakey Park Water Treatment Plant
- Lithgow Sewage Treatment Plant
- Portland Sewage Treatment Plant
- Wallerawang Sewage Treatment Plant
- Lithgow Solid Waste Facility
- Portland Garbage Depot

Mapping Now Online

Online Mapping is a user friendly interface to Council's Geographical Information System, and can be used to view information relating to properties, zoning, topography and aerial photography within the Local Government area.

It is a useful tool for people preparing land use applications, allowing them to see how their property is effected by regulatory and site constraints.

Online mapping is available on Council's website
www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au

Planning For The Future



A First Class Library for Wallerawang

The community will benefit greatly from the renovation currently being finalised at the Wallerawang Branch Library.

\$64,000 in funding provided by the Commonwealth Government through the Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program (RLCIP) has provided the community with a re-designed layout of the facility which will not only improve its appearance but inject new energy and life into the Library. Improvements include:

- The purchase of new furnishings, air conditioning and painting:
- A new IT area with 6 computers for internet access
- Provision of an after school activity area for youth and a new children's reading area.

Council anticipates that the works will be completed by mid July with an official opening soon after. Library services have continued to operate in another part of the same building to provide the community with a consistent level of service during the renovation.

Regional and Local Communities Infrastructure Program

The recently announced Regional and Local Communities Infrastructure Program funding for the Lithgow local government area will assist Council to promote Lithgow as a centre of regional excellence that encourages community growth and development.

Council received \$529,000 in the first round of funding from the Federal Government's Regional and Local Communities Infrastructure Program, and an additional \$3,285,000 in Round 2 of the Program.

Round 2 works are in advanced planning stage, and construction of these works will commence toward the end of 2009 and early 2010 following completion of Round 1 works. Community consultation with the users of the Lithgow Sporting and Cultural Precinct has been undertaken, with designing and scheduling of works currently being finalised. Round 2 works represent \$4,158,000 in improvements with Council providing \$387,500, the Hockey Association providing \$125,000 and the Department of Aging and Health providing \$100,000 along with funding of \$3.285 million.

Round 1 works to be completed by 30 September 2009	
Lithgow Skate Park	\$260,000
Civic Ballroom, Lithgow	\$30,000
Vale Hall, Lithgow	\$10,000
Union Theatre, Lithgow	\$50,000
Wallerawang Library	\$64,000
Wallerawang Boatshed	\$35,000
Crystal Theatre, Portland	\$80,000
Proposed works for Round 2	
Design and Project Management	\$140,000
Lithgow Skate Park – Design & Installation of equipment.	\$240,000
Civic Ballroom, Lithgow	\$1,070,000
Tony Luchetti Sports Ground Precinct	\$747,500
Ashley Grandstand	\$660,000
Glanmire Oval Precinct	\$1,140,500

Lithgow Skate Park

A skate park designed by youth for youth which is challenging and unique has been the focus of the Lithgow Skate Park Project.

Council staff has worked closely with local youth and the community to ensure that the project meets all expectations. The new Skate Park will be located in the approximate vicinity of the old facility and has been re-developed as part of the overall Lithgow Sporting and Cultural Precinct Improvement Program at the Tony Luchetti Sportsground.

The new skate park will provide a family friendly environment, with picnic facilities and seating in a high visibility area which can be incorporated into other activities within the Precinct.

Improving Our Assets



Farmers Creek Flood Mitigation Program

Council has commenced construction of the final section of stage 1 of the Farmers Creek Flood Mitigation work. The bulk excavation of soil from the southern side of Farmers Creek will allow for further widening of the existing channel and continued construction of the mass block retaining wall.

The work consists of some 155 meters of new wall and fence construction in an easterly direction from the existing wall alignment adjacent to the Tony Luchetti Sporting entrance. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by September 2009.

The Farmers Creek Flood Mitigation Project will see a total of 360 meters of newly constructed channel widening completed on both the northern and southern sides of Farmers Creek which will alleviate intense stormwater flows through the Hermitage Flat area with the increase in channel capacity.

Additional investigation, survey and design of Farmers Creek to the east of the current works will be carried out during 2009/2010 to determine the extent of future stages of channel widening works.

Curtin Place Stormwater Project

A new stormwater pipe line has been constructed in Curtin Place, Lithgow through the road reserve from Methven Street to Bayonet Street.

The completed project consists of approximately 280 meters of new stormwater pipe installation and several new stormwater pits, which will assist with current major flooding issues that arise from intense stormwater events predominately experienced during the summer months.

Lithgow Pound

Under the Companion Animals Act, owners of puppies and kittens must take two steps to ensure lifetime protection of their pet.

1. Microchip your pet
2. Register your pet

This will assist in getting your pet back to you safely if it is lost, hurt or stolen.

Contact your local vet to microchip your puppy or kitten.

Then call into the One-Stop Shop at Council to register your new companion.

If you have lost your dog or cat, or you're looking to adopt a new pet contact Council on 6354 9999.

The Lithgow Pound is open between 3pm and 4pm, Monday - Friday to view animals.

Proposed Capital Works Program

July - October 2009

Maintenance of Gravel Roads

- Glen Alice Road, Capertee Valley
- Glen Davis Road, Capertee Valley
- Turon Gates Road, Capertee
- Palmers Oakey Road, Palmers Oakey
- Curly Dick Road, Tarana
- Goldies Road, Hampton
- Dowdells Road, Hampton
- Biddy's Pinch Road, Hampton
- Martins Road, Rydal
- Blackheath Creek Road, Hartley
- Sir Thomas Mitchell Drive, Bowenfels

Gravel Re-sheeting and Patching

- Upper Nile Road
- Dunville Loop Road
- Glen Davis Road
- Airly Street, Glen Davis

New Amenities Construction

- Conran Oval, Lithgow

New Playground Equipment

- Andrew Street Park, Lithgow
- Brook Street Park, Lithgow

Encouraging Community Involvement



World Masters Games

You can be a part of the World Masters Games, as a competitor, a volunteer or just a spectator. This exciting event is coming not only to Sydney, but to Lithgow too.

The World Master Games is a multi-sport event that attracts mature aged sports men and women from around the globe who share a commitment to the simple philosophy of "sport for life".

The seventh World Masters Games will be held in Australia's global city, Sydney, from 10 - 18 October 2009, attracting approximately 30,000 competitors to the event from over 100 countries, competing in 28 sports.

As part of the World Masters Games, orienteering events will be staged in the Lithgow region on the 14, 15 and 17 October 2009. The events comprise of two qualification events for the long distance

competition and a long distance final event. These events will attract approximately 1,200 competitors to the region, for a period of approximately six days providing an estimated \$1.5million into the Lithgow region's economy.

As part of the World Masters Games – Orienteering, an opening parade will see the World Masters - Orienteer's march down Main Street. An Opening Ceremony will then follow, staged at the Tony Luchetti Showground. Locals are invited to attend these events.

Volunteers will be crucial to the success of the 2009 World Masters Games. The 2009 World Masters Games Organising Committee is looking to recruit community-minded people.

For details on volunteering or competing in the events, contact World Masters on 02 8116 2010

Live Well Lithgow.... A Healthy Lifestyle Challenge

Council is partnering with Sydney West Area Health Service, Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre and the community to promote a Healthy Lifestyle Challenge for Lithgow.

The program focuses on promoting diet and exercise as part of a 12 week challenge. Eat Well, Live Well will be used to promote healthy meal choices at food retail outlets. Move Well, Live Well will promote active living through regular exercise programs. The 12 week challenge caters to all levels from a gentle 30 minute walk, tai chi classes, or aqua fitness classes through to more strenuous aerobic activity and team sports.

The will kick off on 5 September with a Healthy Lifestyle Expo. Local

businesses (gyms, sports stores), sporting clubs, health and medical providers, health food stores and government bodies (such as Heart Foundation, Cancer Council and Diabetes Australia) are invited to participate in this exciting event. Demonstrations of healthy cooking, challenges, along with massages, blood pressure checks, fitness assessments and demonstrations of activities designed to get you fit and improve your lifestyle are all being planned for this exciting event.

For further details on this exciting initiative contact the Lithgow Life Well in Lithgow Officer on 6354 9999.

Volunteering A Rewarding Experience

Being a Lithgow City Council volunteer can be a rewarding and enriching experience as two of Councils, Eskbank House & Museum Volunteers found out recently when the members of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society visited the museum.

"Members of the Kurrajong-Comleroy Historical Society wish to sincerely thank you and members of the Eskbank House Museum for the friendly manner extended to our members whilst visiting your fascinating Museum"

"Everyone enjoyed each of the varying exhibits in the beautiful Eskbank home and outbuildings. It was fascinating to view the many varied exhibits including some very unusual pieces of furniture and some of the pottery from the old Lithgow Pottery.

"Please thank the volunteers Michael and Susan. I am sure many of our members will be encouraging others to visit this Museum which is an important part of our history.

"We wish you well in the preservation of this Lithgow Icon. Wrote Ms Holland, Secretary of the Society (letter 5/4/09).

**Information on
Volunteering in
the Lithgow Area,
contact the Cultural
Development Officer
on 6354 9999**