



Senior staff inspect roads

Horsham Rural City Council senior staff inspected gravel roads across the community on Monday partly in response to concerns expressed by the community, including through the recent Community Satisfaction Survey.

Managers and operations supervisors joined Chief Executive Officer Sunil Bhalla in the inspection, which examined roads in the Kalkee, Polkemmet, Grass Flat, Natimuk, Telangatuk and Wonwondah areas.

“It is good to see first-hand the condition of our roads, particularly following the very wet June,” Mr Bhalla said.

“The roads we inspected have been the subject of customer requests over the past 12 months, and it is pleasing to see where problem roads have been addressed by our staff to improve their condition.

“Over the past few years, Council has increased the budget for gravel road re-sheeting from about \$600,000, to \$900,000 and then in this year’s budget \$1,000,000, and it is pleasing to see this being effectively delivered on the ground.

“But still I acknowledge there are roads that, even with recent grading, are starting to show that their gravel layer is wearing thin, and it is time for them to be placed on the list for re-sheeting in the next program.

“Council has a systematic process for planning this process, where the depth of gravel on roads is manually checked to determine which roads have the highest priority for re-sheeting. It was good to compare this information from across the municipality with actual conditions on the ground.”

Mr Bhalla said a local resident accompanied the



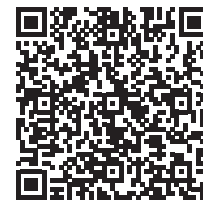
group during inspections in the Grass Flat area.

“It was interesting to hear his observations and concerns about Council’s roads.”

“The inspection also visited some areas that are subject to flood recovery works, which are now progressing well across the municipality, but will still take some 6-12 months to complete.

“We know we need to keep improving our roads. It is a huge focus for the team – both in terms of budget and resources.”

Residents can help improve the condition of roads by reporting defects via HRCC’s online service request system or by calling 53829777.



NEW NATIMUK FOOTPATHS

Work is underway on new footpaths that will provide Natimuk families with a safer route to school.

HRCC’s urban infrastructure team is constructing new paths along Regent Street and Old Noradjuha Road, outside Natimuk Primary School.

The works are a result of community feedback and are funded through this year’s Budget.

Expo to guide future planning

Residents will have the chance to help shape Horsham Rural City Council’s strategic planning at a three-day public engagement event this month.

The Horsham Rural City Talks Expo will be at Horsham Town Hall on Thursday August 10, Friday August 11 and Saturday August 12.

The Expo will allow the community to influence the development of key documents such as the Council Plan (including the Health and Wellbeing Plan), Annual Action Plan and its Budget.

People’s contributions to the expo will also inform the planning and design of projects slated for the future.

Mayor Robyn Gulline said the event would include information and displays and people would be able to ask questions and provide feedback directly to Council staff and Councillors.

“The launch of the Expo will be held on Thursday evening between 6pm and 8pm and we would love for you to be involved. You can also drop into the Town Hall at any time that suits over the three-day Expo,” she said.

“The Expo has been designed to provide a transparent process that gives all members of our community an equal voice in planning for our future.

“All feedback provided by the Community during the Expo will be included in an Engagement Outcomes Report, which will



Horsham Rural City Talks EXPO

You’re invited

to the Horsham Rural City Talks 2023 Expo

You are invited to learn more about what’s happening with specific projects at Council at the Horsham Rural City Talks 2023 Expo.

All contributions will inform further planning and design of projects currently under consideration by Council.

Topics & Projects include

- Age friendly communities
- Pathways and crossings
- Play spaces strategy
- Creative Horsham
- Housing strategy

Join us:

- **Thursday 10 August**, 6pm to 8pm
- **Friday 11 August**, 10am to 7pm
- **Saturday 12 August**, 10am to 1pm

at Horsham Town Hall,
71 Pynsent Street, Horsham, 3400

- **Drop in**
- **Add your ideas**
- **Talk to staff and Councillors**

Also featuring

- **Broadcast live on Mixx FM throughout Friday**

be made available to the community and considered by Council when reviewing the Council Plan and Annual Action Plan and developing the Council Budget for 2024-2025,” Cr Gulline said.

Participants will have a chance to complete surveys and participate in workshops.

There will also be an online version of the Expo on Council’s website where the community can view the exhibits and provide feedback on the plans and projects.

EXPO DETAILS

Thursday 10 August
6pm to 8pm

Friday 11 August
10am to 7pm

Saturday 12 August
10am to 1pm

*Heritage Hall, Horsham Town Hall
Pynsent Street, Horsham*

HAVE YOUR SAY

Current Community Engagements

For full details visit the *Have Your Say* section of the HRCC website

WEEDS AND PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023-2026

The plan will set out how noxious weeds and pest animals will be managed on council-managed roadsides.

Submissions can be made via email council@hrcc.vic.gov.au or by post until 9am, Monday 7 August.

CREATIVE HORSHAM PLAN

The Creative Horsham (The Plan) is the creative strategy for Horsham Rural City for 2023-2026, and follows the previous Arts & Culture Strategy which ran from 2014-18. HRCC is now seeking community feedback on the draft plan.

Submissions can be made via email council@hrcc.vic.gov.au or by post until 9am, Monday 7 August.



Next Council Meeting: Monday 28 August 2023 - 5.30pm

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