

ORDINARY MEETING 20 JANUARY 2015	5.4
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OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT CAPITAL WORKS PROGRESS REPORT FOR
PERIOD OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2014

P Hoyer: General Manager Operations

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive and note the progress of the Capital Works Program for the 2nd Quarter of the 2014/2015 financial year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Council adopted a capital works budget in excess of eight (8) million dollars for the 2014/2015 financial year. Attachment 1 to this report details the progress of the capital works program for those works with a budget of \$20 000 or more for the period October 1 – December 31, 2014.

Weather conditions through the Oct-Dec period have been generally ideal for works to be carried out. There has been a significant continued demand on staff time as a result of the planning and work associated with the National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements... Prioritisation has been given to projects that were required to be completed prior to the onset of significant rain.

Overall, the delivery of the capital works program is on schedule and within budget parameters as at 31 December, 2014.

BACKGROUND:

Council adopted a budget for the delivery of capital works in the Shire for the 2014/15 financial year. Attachment 1 gives a summary of the progress of the capital works program for the period 1 October – 31 December, 2014. The attachment is in a “traffic light” format so as to provide a quick oversight of the entire program where performance/progress is shown as follows:

Performance Indicators ● Satisfactory ● Marginal ● Unsatisfactory

A shaded month column is also provided in the attachment which shows the anticipated start month and the months where work is expected to occur and conclude.

COMMENT:

The capital works program remains on track for delivery within time and budget allocations for the 2014/2015 year. The 2nd quarter has seen little weather impact on works and there are no impediments to the delivery of the program at this stage. Major works completed during the quarter include the Connelly Road causeway, rehabilitation road works and new cycle path on Bonnie Doon Road, relining of the Rex Creek intake and the upgrade of the Syndicate Road water main. Woobadda Bridge has also been completed. Staff have performed admirably in completing the works to date, particularly in the absence of a Manager Infrastructure for the Oct-Dec period. It is recommended that Council note the contents of this report.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE:

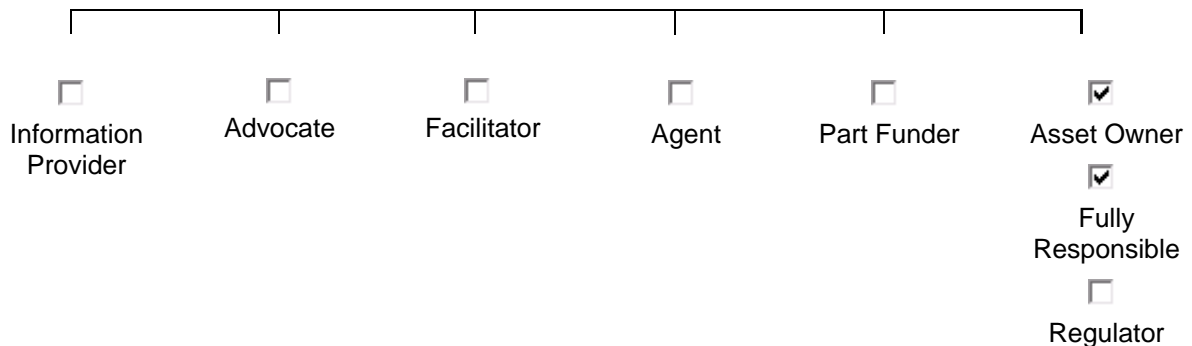
Theme 2: Goal 1

To deliver a sustainable capital works program that generates local opportunities for employment.

COUNCIL’S ROLE:

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council’s involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:



Asset Owner:	Meeting the responsibilities associated with owning or being the custodian of assets such as infrastructure.
Fully Responsible:	Funding the full cost of a program or activity.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Delivery of the capital works program within timeframes and budget is essential to ensuring that Council is financially sustainable and that Council’s assets are maintained and developed to meet the needs of communities within Douglas.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS:

Council must plan and deliver a suitable capital works program to ensure that its assets are able to service the needs of the communities within Douglas Shire. Council has a statutory obligation as a service provider to ensure it is able to provide water and wastewater services to customers. Council’s reputation, and the community’s amenity would suffer if it is unable to maintain assets and service levels at necessary standards. The consequence of inadequate maintenance and upgrade of capital assets will be increased costs in future.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

ECONOMIC: Financial sustainability of the Council would be at risk if capital works programs are not kept within budget, or are not undertaken.

ENVIRONMENTAL: Failing to maintain assets can lead to environmental impacts through the release of materials to the environment outside of licence conditions. Poorly maintained assets can also have impacts on energy and resource use.

SOCIAL: Communities expect assets such as roads, bridges and water/wastewater systems to be safe and maintained to necessary standards.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Consultation has been undertaken with the Managers and Coordinators within the Operations Department, and with the Management Team.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1

