

5.5. WARNER STREET FOOTPATH

REPORT AUTHOR Michael Kriedemann, Executive Manager Infrastructure

MANAGER Mark Stoermer, Chief Executive Officer

DEPARTMENT Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to:

- 1. Transfer \$26,000 from the Fleet Renewal Program, \$20,000 from the Diggers Pedestrian Bridge Project \$10,000 from Finlay Crescent Project and \$44,000 from the Opal Street Lighting Project to the Warner Street Project to complete the construction of the concrete footpath.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Stage 1 of the Warner Street upgrade project has been substantially completed, with the kerb & channel, stormwater pits / pipes and carparking areas improved. These works have improved the amenity of the area and increased stormwater drainage efficiencies in the street.

Pedestrian access is an important issue in Warner Street. The project scope included the installation of a concrete footpath joining the existing paved footpath areas at the intersections of Owen Street and Grant Street. This work has not been completed due to the budget being exhausted.

In order for the footpath works to be completed, it is necessary to transfer savings from other funded projects within the 2019/2020 capital budget. If the budget is transferred, Council will be able to complete the footpath works this financial year.

BACKGROUND

In the 2019/2020 budget, Council allocated \$250,000 towards the Warner Street renewal project. At the budget review in December 2019, Council adjusted the project budget to \$551,825.

The scope of works for this stage of the project included the renewal of kerb & channel on the northern side of Warner Street, between Owen and Grant Streets. Additionally, the works included the construction of multiple new stormwater inlet pits, underground stormwater pipes, raising the finished level of the informal parking areas under the large street trees and improving the surface drainage within the properties adjacent to the work.

This work has been completed and has performed well over the wet season.

COMMENT

Pedestrian access is an important issue in Warner Street. The project scope included the installation of a concrete footpath joining the existing paved footpath areas at the intersections of Owen Street and Grant Street. This work has not been completed due to the budget being exhausted.

In order for the footpath works to be completed, it is necessary to transfer savings from other funded projects within the 2019/2020 capital budget. If the budget is transferred, Council will be able to complete the footpath works this financial year.

PROPOSAL

That Council resolve to:

1. Transfer \$26,000 from the Fleet Renewal Program, \$20,000 from the Diggers Pedestrian Bridge Project, \$10,000 from Finlay Crescent Project and \$44,000 from the Opal Street Lighting Project to the Warner Street Project to complete the construction of the concrete footpath.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated that \$100,000 is required to construct a concrete footpath along the full length of Warner Street, between Owen and Grant Streets. Some reconstruction work will be required at the intersection of Grant Street and Owen Street to ensure the proposed concrete footpath ties into the existing clay pavers at these locations.

This additional budget can be allocated from the following existing projects within the 2019/2020 capital budget:

1. \$26,000 in savings has been identified in the Fleet Renewal Program. All vehicles have been ordered for the 2019/2020 financial year;
2. \$20,000 in savings has been identified in the Diggers Pedestrian Bridge Project. The handrail materials have been ordered and the Bridge Crew will install the new handrails; and
3. \$10,000 in savings has been identified for the completed Finlay Crescent Projects.
4. \$44,000 in savings has been identified in the Opal Street Lighting Project. The concept design has been completed and the detailed design is underway. The construction work will be completed in future years.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are high pedestrian and cyclist numbers along Warner Street. Providing separation between motorists and pedestrians will improve safety and reduce the risk of injury to pedestrians. If this work is completed in the 2019/2020 financial year, it will be completed prior to Covid-19 restrictions being eased, which will reduce construction disruptions for residents and tourists.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Nil

Environmental: Nil

Social: The concrete footpath will provide all weather pedestrian infrastructure that enhances active transport options in and around this precinct.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Initiatives:

Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

Douglas Shire Council embraces the diversity of our communities and values the contribution that all people make to the Shire. We recognise that it is a core strength of the region. We acknowledge our past so that it may guide us in the future. We recognise the wrongs done to our Indigenous community and we actively seek to reconcile so that we may all benefit from and enjoy our Shire. We acknowledge early European settlers who forged an agricultural base for our economy and we welcome all new arrivals as part of our broader community.

Goal 1 - We will celebrate the diversity of our community and ensure that all infrastructure, programs, and services are underpinned with inclusiveness and accessibility.

Theme 2 - Fostering Sustainable Economic Growth

A robust economy is at the heart of a thriving community and enables investment in environmental protection. While our remoteness is a key attribute, it also presents challenges for attracting new business and investment. We must also meet the challenges of fierce competition in the tourism sector. Council will partner with industry to build, diversify and promote the Douglas economy. Council will design and deliver infrastructure, strategies and services that support the local economy and businesses.

Goal 1 - We will build appropriate infrastructure and deliver services that connect and support businesses.

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:

Builder/Owner Council makes a significant investment every year in the infrastructure that underpins the Shire through its capital works program. Council will manage its assets with appropriate frameworks and deliver its projects through robust project management.

CONSULTATION

Internal: In preparing this report, consultation was undertaken with the Project Manager, Coordinator Civil Operations and the Capital Works Project Control Group.

External: Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

During the project scoping phase, the community indicated a desire to improve pedestrian safety in this area. This additional funding will enable the construction of the off-road concrete footpath.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil