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Shellharbour City Council

Business Paper

30 May 2023

Item no. 10.2.2 - Attachment 1.

Major Projects Advocacy Plan 2023/24



Shellharbour
CITY COUNCIL

Shellharbour City Council **Major Projects** ADVOCACY PLAN 2023/24

DRAFT

**MAY 2023
VERSION I**

Acknowledgement

Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Dharawal Country and recognises their continued connection to the land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and the contribution they make to the life of this city.



About Shellharbour

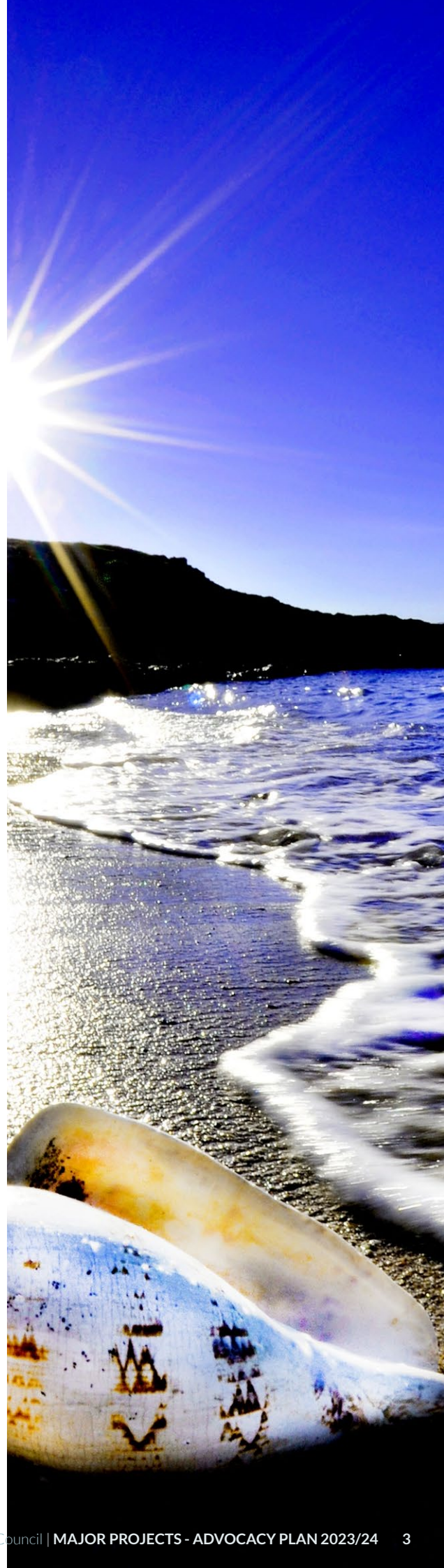
Shellharbour City is a rapidly expanding urban local government area situated one and a half hours drive south of Sydney, in the Illawarra region.

The gateway to the NSW South Coast, Shellharbour spans across 147 square kilometres and features picturesque beaches, rivers and significant nature reserves including the largest natural bushland reserve in the Illawarra, a National Surfing Reserve and State Aquatic Reserve.

Currently home to 78,000 people, Shellharbour's population is expected to increase 32% by 2041. Calderwood, located in the city's west, will see the highest population growth with an increase of almost 400%. Other locations forecast to receive significant growth include Blackbutt, Shellharbour City Centre and Shell Cove.

Shellharbour is a well-connected city with a developing regional airport that currently links the Illawarra and surrounding regions to Melbourne and Brisbane. The new Shell Cove Harbour and Marina also create a significant connection to the 'blue highway' between metropolitan NSW to the north and regional NSW to the south.

Shellharbour City Council's Advocacy Projects describe the key investments that Council is planning in the short and medium term. With a vibrant local economy, strong growth results, co-location with land, sea and air transport situated within one of Australia's lifestyle destinations there are endless reasons to do business in Shellharbour.

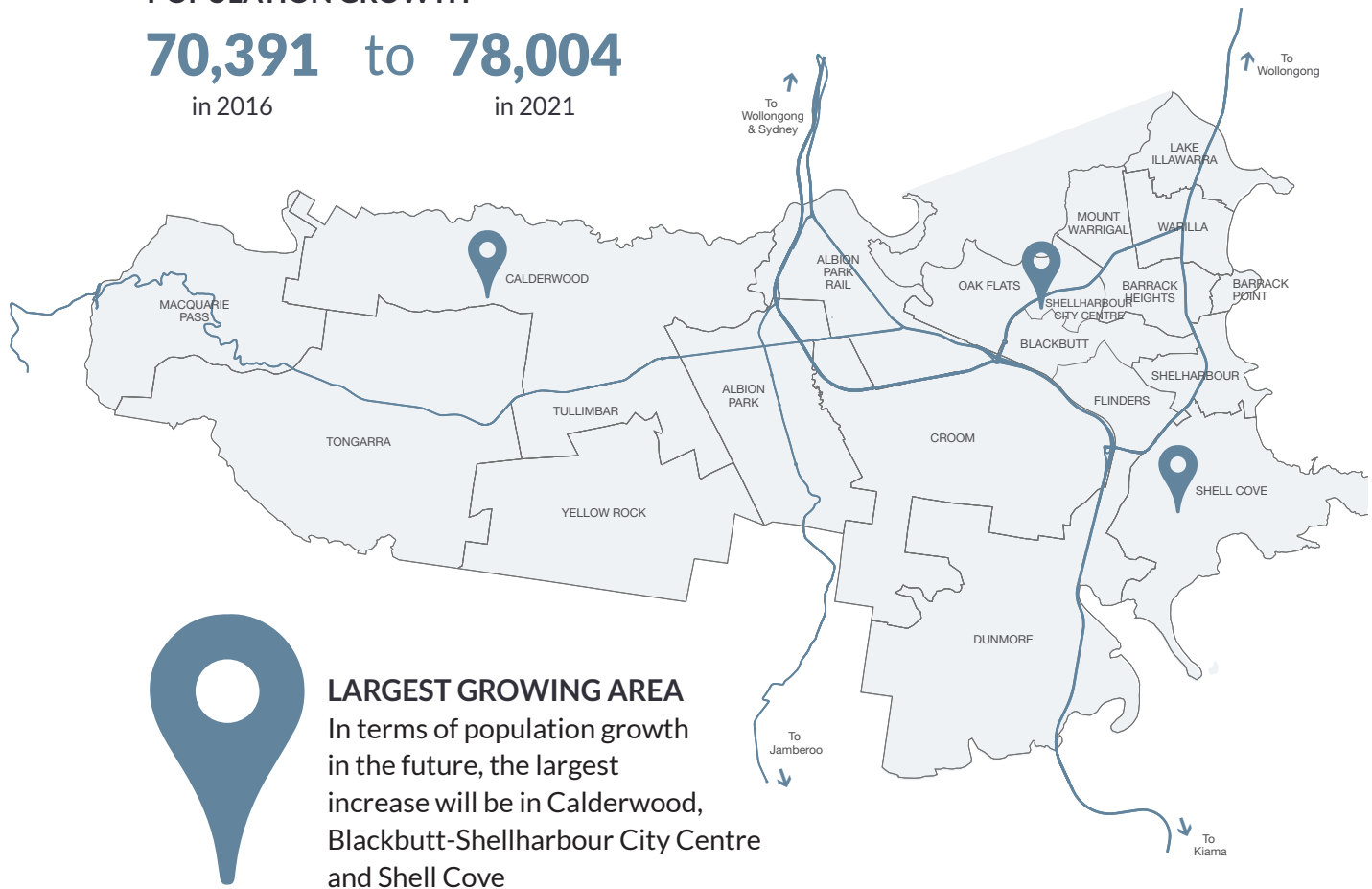


Who we are

POPULATION GROWTH

2021 ABS Census Data

70,391 to **78,004**
in 2016 in 2021



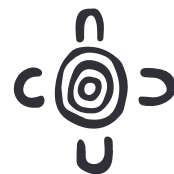
WHERE WE LIVE - FORECASTED GROWTH

Area	2021	2041	Growth
Shellharbour LGA	78,004	102,950	▲ 32.0%
Albion Park	15,825	18,034	▲ 14.0%
Albion Park Rail	7,276	7,850	▲ 7.9%
Barrack Heights	5,556	5,738	▲ 3.3%
Blackbutt / Shellharbour City Centre	4,973	8,722	▲ 75.4%
Calderwood	3,051	14,478	▲ 374.5%
Flinders	7,002	7,019	▲ 0.3%
Lake Illawarra	3,436	3,727	▲ 8.5%
Mount Warrigal	4,959	5,189	▲ 4.6%
Oak Flats	6,891	8,602	▲ 24.8%
Shell Cove	7,000	10,000	▲ 42.9%
Shellharbour/Barrack Point	4,476	4,857	▲ 8.5%
Warilla	6,842	7,938	▲ 16.0%
Rural balance	718	796	▲ 10.9%



90%

of residents are
Australian citizens
(NSW 82.7%)

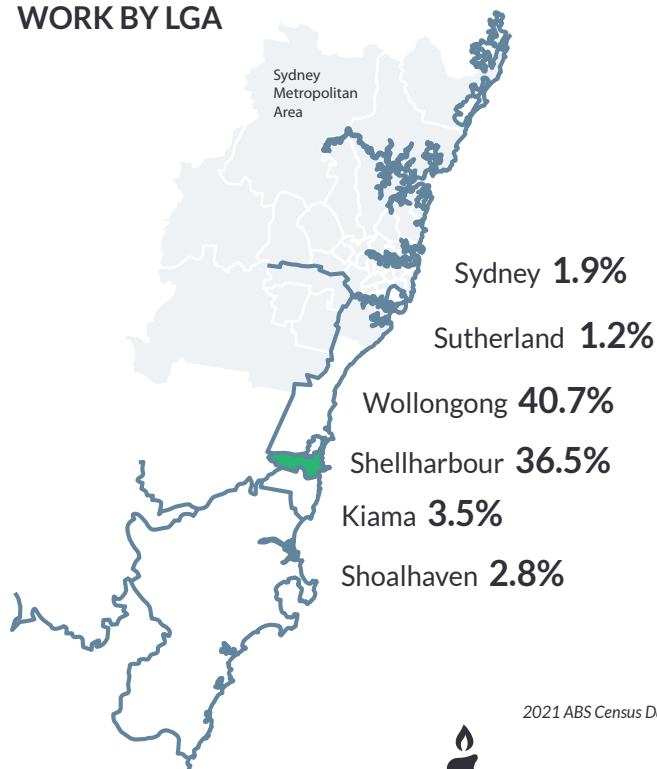


5.0%

of residents are
Indigenous Australians
(NSW 3.4%)

WHERE OUR RESIDENTS WORK BY LGA

2021 ABS Census Data



METHOD OF TRAVEL TO WORK

2021 ABS Census Data



Car
as driver
57.5%



Car
as passenger
3.2%



Worked
at home
18.5%



Train
0.5%



Walked
0.9%



Bus
0.6%

AGE GROUPS

2021 ABS Census Data



Shellharbour NSW

(0 to 11) Babies, pre-school, Primary schoolers	15.1%	14.5%
(12 to 24) Secondary schoolers, Tertiary education and independence	16.4%	15.6%
(25 to 59) Young workforce Parents and homebuilders Older workers & pre-retirees	44%	46.5%
(60 to 85+) Empty nesters & retirees Seniors Elderly aged	24.5%	23.5%

TOP 5 INDUSTRY SECTORS FOR LOCAL JOBS

2021 ABS Census Data



Health Care &
Social Assistance
Shellharbour
NSW

Jobs	%
3,123	16.9%
	13.1%



Retail Trade
Shellharbour
NSW

3,285	17.7%
	10.2%



Construction
Shellharbour
NSW

2,234	12.1%
	8.8%



Education & Training
Shellharbour
NSW

2,262	12.2%
	8.8%



Accommodation
& Food Services
Shellharbour
NSW

1,743	9.4%
	7.5%

Why we Advocate

Advocacy for project delivery is crucial to Shellharbour City Council's commitment to achieving positive outcomes for the community. By identifying and addressing challenges and needs within Shellharbour City, Council develops and delivers critical projects that improve amenity and liveability, support job growth and promote sustainable economic development.

The purpose of this Advocacy Plan is to continue Council's efforts to advocate effectively on behalf of the community it serves to deliver projects the community deserves.

The projects within this Advocacy Plan support the City's Community Strategic Plan (CSP), which outlines Council's approach to addressing community, environmental, economic, and leadership challenges. The projects are also consistent with NSW State Government priorities to ensure alignment with broader government objectives.

The projects will be delivered through funding contributions from Council, Federal and State Governments and other sources of investment to meet the needs of current and future communities. However, certain projects identified will require support and delivery from other levels of government and the private sector, which Shellharbour City Council will actively advocate for.



Council's Objectives as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan 2022 - 2032

1.1
We inspire
community
spirit

1.2
We are a
liveable
community

2.1
We are
sustainable

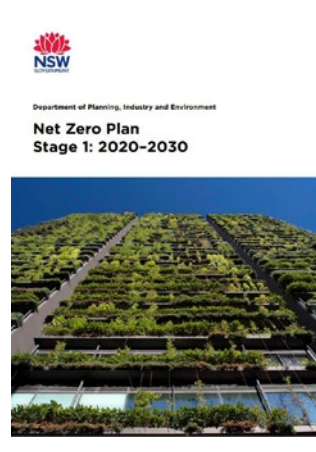
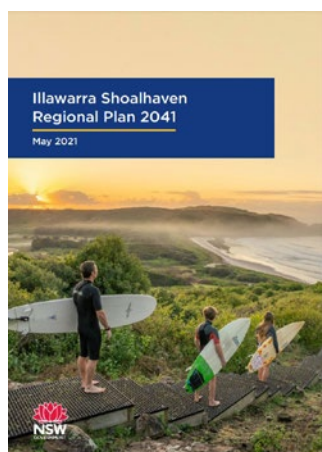
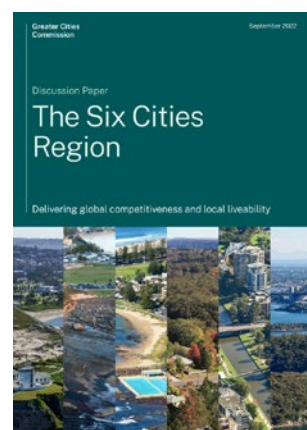
2.2
We are a
beautiful &
connected
City

3.1
We support
a strong
local
economy

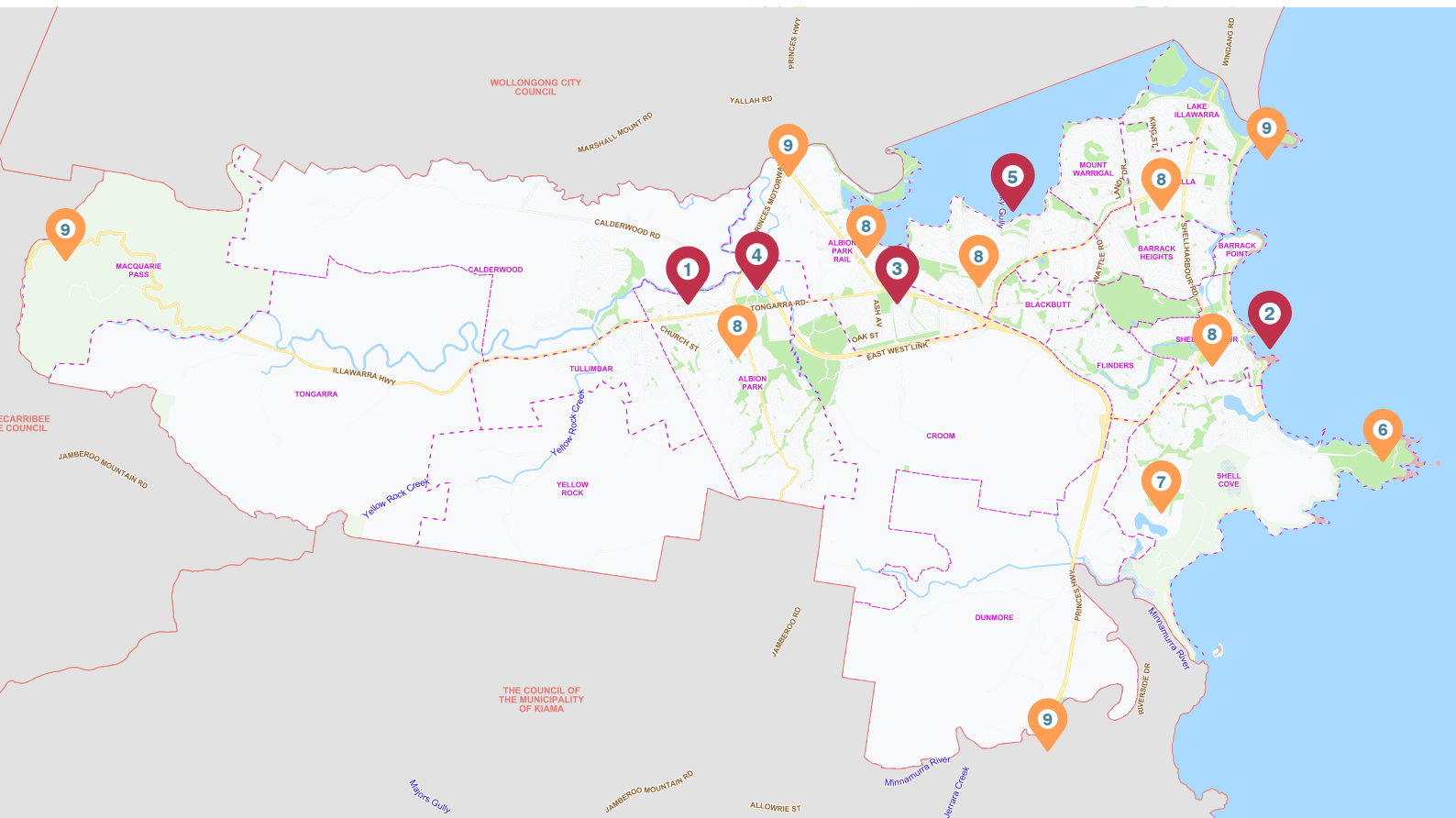
4.1
We deliver
our future
together

4.2
We have
strong
leadership

This document is also aligned with the following City & Regional strategic documents:



Major Projects on a page



REGIONAL PROJECTS

1. Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3
2. Performing Arts, Convention & Cultural Centre
3. Regional Multi-Sports & Leisure Facility
4. Shellharbour Regional Airport
5. Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Plan

SHELLHARBOUR CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

6. Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan
7. Improved connection to Killalea State Park
8. Town Centre Improvements
9. Tourism Gateway and Way Finding Signage

Distinguishing Regional, Shellharbour City-wide, and Local Neighbourhood projects.



The projects contained in this Advocacy Plan are categorised into three levels of significance: Regional, Shellharbour City-wide, and Local Neighbourhood projects.

Projects of regional importance will have a significant impact within and beyond the broader Illawarra-Shoalhaven region. These projects will provide services and amenities for the benefit of community members from both Shellharbour City and other parts of NSW.

Shellharbour City-wide projects focus on directly improving services and amenities within the Shellharbour LGA. These projects will improve local infrastructure, community facilities and services that benefit residents of the City.

Local neighbourhood projects are smaller in scale and focus on improving the immediate local neighbourhood. These projects will improve such facilities as local parks, playing fields, amenities, footpaths, playgrounds and community centres. They will improve the quality of life and liveability for residents within that neighbourhood.

Shellharbour Projects 2023/24

and onwards

REGIONAL PROJECTS

- Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3
- Performing Arts, Convention & Cultural Centre
- Regional Multi-Sports & Leisure Facility
- Shellharbour Regional Airport
- Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Plan

SHELLHARBOUR CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

- Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan
- Improved connection to Killalea State Park
- Town Centre Improvements
- Active Transport Network
- Affordable Housing
- Tourism Gateway and Way Finding Signage
- Sustainability Projects

LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECTS

- Amenities Upgrades
- Playground Upgrades
- Sporting Upgrades
- Albion Oval Carpark Upgrade
- Shellharbour City Stadium Court Expansion Planning
- Cemetery Upgrade & Development
- Shade Implementation in play spaces
- Lake Illawarra Foreshore Activation
- Yellow Rock Road upgrade
- Reddall Reserve Kiosk



Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3

Complete the Tripoli Way Extension to improve transport infrastructure for the region and growing urban developments

Complete stages 1 & 2 of the Tripoli Way Extension project.

The Tripoli Way Extension is an essential project in Council's long-term plan that aims to reduce congestion on the Illawarra Highway through Albion Park, creating a continuous travel route between Terry Street in the east and Broughton Avenue in the west, avoiding the town centre.

The State Government approved developments of Tullimbar and Calderwood Valley have resulted in over 8,000 residential and commercial lots west of Shellharbour City. The need for the extension is paramount to manage these growing communities and provides a valuable addition to the broader transport network.

Since 1993, Council has collected contributions for the project, the project has now progressed to the stage of property acquisitions, final design and approvals. Council has received a commitment of \$20million by the new State Government, to fund the construction phase set to commence in 2024.

Delivery of the final stage of the Tripoli Way Extension

The final component of the Tripoli Way Extension is Stage 3. It will alleviate traffic congestion in the town centre of Albion Park and help reduce the impacts of traffic growth along Tongarra Road over the next 20 years. This will be achieved by diverting traffic from Albion Park town centre and by providing direct access to the high-growth community of Calderwood. Tripoli Way Extension Stage 3 will create a valuable addition to the transport network by improving safety and reducing traffic congestion.

Shellharbour City Council is advocating for the NSW Government to deliver Stage 3 of the Tripoli Way Extension.



State Government
delivery of Stage 3



Performing Arts, Convention & Cultural Centre

Enrich our community's and its visitors' lives by increasing the spectrum of quality arts and cultural events.

Develop a Performing Arts, Convention and Cultural Centre to create a regional creative hub that contributes to Shellharbour as a desirable place to live, work, visit and create.

The Performing Arts, Convention, and Cultural Centre in Shellharbour Village is planned to be a distinctive landmark that has a unique point of difference from other regional facilities by having a focus on integrated technology to provide a modern and innovative experience for audiences and visitors.

This state-of-the-art facility will be a showpiece for the entire community, offering affordable and accessible creative spaces for emerging and established artists from across NSW. It will enable the production of artistic and cultural experiences in various forms that reflect the modern world and celebrate multi-cultural diversity. The availability of new digital technologies will enable artists to create sensory immersive experiences. The facility will be welcoming to all members of the community and be a hub for regional artistic endeavours.

This facility will assist in promoting Shellharbour Village as a tourist attraction, enabling visitors to connect with Shellharbour's history and identity. It will also complement the capacity of The Waterfront at Shell Cove to attract national and State significant conferences by providing additional spaces to support convention activities. This will further activate Shellharbour Village as a dining and hospitality destination, adding to the diversity of its tourism offering.

Council will initially undertake a comprehensive consultation process and produce a business case to ensure the facility meets community needs, is financially sustainable and has the capacity to make a long-term contribution to the cultural development of the City.



Funding request:
\$30M

Estimated project cost:
\$45M



Regional Multi-Sports & Leisure Facility

Develop an inclusive and accessible Regional Multi-Sports Facility.

Develop a state-of-the-art Regional Multi-Sports & Leisure Facility to meet the growing demand for sporting participation in the Shellharbour Community.

The Regional Multi-Sports and Leisure Facility is set to be developed in Shellharbour to meet the growing demand for sports and recreational facilities in the community. With 29 active reserves that support a wide range of sporting activities and over 40% of the community involved in sports clubs or associations, there is a need for a high-quality facility that can accommodate the growing population and rising levels of participation.

The Regional Multi-Sports and Leisure Facility will be an all-purpose, phased project with indoor and outdoor sports and swimming facilities, making it a one-stop shop for all leisure needs. This facility will serve as the headquarters for regionally based sports associations and become the main headquarters for sports in the Shellharbour LGA. It will also feature amenities that will attract domestic and international events to the region, contributing to the financial sustainability of Council and the NSW visitor economy.



The objectives of the Multi-Sports and Leisure Facility are to provide equitable access to multi-sport facilities to encourage sport participation for women and girls, and to provide inclusive and accessible facilities that support sport participation for First Nations peoples, people with disabilities and people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

A masterplan will be created to build the facility on an existing greenfield site, and it will be staged over time to ensure it best serves the community and meets its objectives. Council will undertake a business case to establish its best use before the delivery of the project.

A centrally situated location within Albion Park Rail has been identified as a suitable site in close proximity to transportation links and services.



Funding request:
\$30M

Estimated project cost:
\$40M (phased)

Shellharbour Regional Airport

Improve the accessibility and connectivity of Shellharbour Airport for both residents and visitors to the region through infrastructure improvements

Shellharbour Airport is a vital gateway to the Illawarra, Shoalhaven and Southern Highlands regions, serving as an aviation hub for the community. Council has recently completed significant infrastructure improvements to enhance the Airport's accessibility and accommodate the growing demand for air travel, including the construction of a new terminal building and Aviation Business Park. To further improve the Airport's capabilities, Council is now seeking support to complete the following infrastructure upgrades:

Operational Requirements

Taxiway Upgrades & Repair

The growth of the Airport has resulted in increased usage and expanded operations that have led to the need for upgrades and repairs to existing taxiways. These arterial connections within the Airport precinct are critical for safe and efficient aircraft movements on the ground. These taxiway upgrades will also facilitate the safe movement of further RPT service aircraft that will use the terminal simultaneously. These improvements also cater for growing general aviation traffic movements.

Drainage

Shellharbour Airport has faced significant operational challenges due to adverse weather conditions, resulting in closures of both runways and the terminal building. The existing drainage system, originally designed for fewer aircraft movements, is not suitable to support the current level of aircraft movements and general airport activity. The airport requires a thorough drainage review with a view to upgrade its capacity to support effective operations during significant adverse weather events. Improved drainage will reduce the amount of time the airport is closed to operations and will provide increased reliability and consistency of services. These upgrades will not only benefit the airport's operations but also support increased tourism within the region.



Total Funding request:
\$15M



Additional Hard-stand parking

The growth of the airport has generated an increase in demand for hardstand aircraft parking facilities. There is currently insufficient hardstand parking which inhibits general aviation activity and the business and tourism benefits that flow from such activity. These improvements will enhance the airport's reputation as a gateway to the Illawarra-Shoalhaven and Southern Highlands regions, as well as promoting business related general aviation activity.

Aviation Business Park Growth

The successful development of Stage 1 (20,000 m²) of the Shellharbour Airport Aviation Business Park has created serviced employment lands to support the location of aviation related enterprises to further grow the airport and to progress the economic development of Shellharbour City.

As a result of growing demand, Council is currently seeking support to complete all stages of the Aviation Business Park. This will provide a total of approximately 50,000m² of fully serviced land to meet the growing demand for airside access sites. A number of commercial enterprises are currently operating at the airport and the Business Park significantly extends the amount of serviced employment land available at the airport.

The Business Park has direct airside access, direct frontage onto taxiways and two sealed runways. It is accessible by road and suitable for heavy transport vehicles through a dedicated security entrance to the

airport. It is suitable for a range of aviation-related commercial uses such as aircraft maintenance, pilot training, charter operations, emergency services and other aviation-related activities.

The completion of the development of the Aviation Business Park will include installation of all services and utilities and extension of existing road access and taxiways, enabling the immediate occupation by suitable tenants.

Airport Capability Expansion

The growing demand for public air travel to and from regional destinations has highlighted the need for the runways at Shellharbour Airport to be lengthened. This is essential infrastructure to enable the airport to service larger RPT aircraft (737, A320), indeed the most common sized aircraft that operate RPT services within Australia. These improvements will also be coupled with other upgrades to the existing runways to support larger aircraft. In addition, upgrades to the passenger terminal will be required to support security screening and larger passenger throughput. These developments will not only cater to the growing demand for air travel, but also support expected continued growth. The improvements will also enable larger aircraft to use the airport for purposes other than passenger transport.

Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Program (CMP)

A comprehensive strategy to safeguard our natural resource, joint initiative with Wollongong City Council

Develop and implement a comprehensive Coastal Management Program that aims to protect, preserve and enhance the ecological and cultural values of Lake Illawarra

Lake Illawarra, a prized natural resource in the Illawarra region, holds immense ecological, social, economic, and cultural significance. In order to protect and preserve this invaluable asset, the Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Program (CMP) has been designed as a long-term strategy for its coordinated management.

The CMP encompasses 39 specific actions, organised under nine management strategies to combat threats to the lake. These actions were meticulously developed by auditing previous management plans, incorporating recommendations from the CMP process, and considering input from the community and various agencies. Multi-criteria analysis and cost-benefit assessment determined the feasibility and effectiveness of each action.

The comprehensive management plan involves physical works, monitoring, investigations, planning, and education initiatives to enhance recreational opportunities while preserving the lake's ecological and cultural values. Over the next decade, a range of land managers, including Wollongong City Council, Shellharbour City Council, Crown Lands, and Property NSW, will collaborate to implement the CMP. These organizations have committed to incorporating the program's actions into their planning and budgeting processes.

Delivery of the Lake Illawarra CMP is estimated to cost \$36,340,000 over 10 years. Wollongong City Council and Shellharbour City Council have already allocated budget resources towards achieving environmental goals and objectives, which will help finance some of the CMP's actions. Additional funding opportunities include various state and federal grant programs.



Funding request:
\$24.3M

Project cost:
\$36.4M



The nine management strategies include:

- Improve Water Quality
- Enhance Planning and Management Arrangements for the Lake
- Manage the Entrance Channel
- Protect and Rehabilitate Estuarine and Riparian Vegetation
- Maintain and Improve Recreational Amenity
- Protect and Promote Cultural Heritage
- Manage Foreshore and Bank Erosion
- Prepare for Inundation Risks
- Protect and Manage Key Fauna

By investing in the Lake Illawarra CMP, we can safeguard this vital natural resource for future generations. Our collective efforts will ensure that the lake continues to offer environmental, social, cultural, and economic benefits to the Illawarra community.

Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan

Manage and protect Bass Point Reserve.

Develop a Plan of Management and Masterplan to guide the framework for the use, development and preservation of Bass Point Reserve

Bass Point Reserve, a 72-hectare coastal headland Crown reserve located south of Shellharbour Marina, is a significant cultural and environmental asset. It contains a number of Aboriginal and European heritage sites, as well as high-quality coastal vegetation, a state-protected littoral rainforest, and marine habitats with scenic vistas.

As Crown Land Manager for the Reserve, Shellharbour Council is required to develop a Plan of Management that sets out objectives, authorizes land use, and identifies the fundamental values and purposes of the Reserve to protect and enhance it. The Plan of Management will guide the sustainable management of the Reserve. Subsequently, the Council will work with the

community to prepare a Masterplan that creates a vision and framework for the Reserve's use, development, and preservation, with benefits in recreation, tourism, environmental conservation and management, and cultural heritage.

Council is currently seeking funding support to develop the Plan of Management and Masterplan to both develop and preserve Bass Point Reserve.



Funding request:
\$200,000



Improved connection to Killalea State Park

Improving transport connectivity

Create an alternate transport link between Killalea to improve connectivity and allow alternate emergency access.

The creation of an alternate access route to Killalea is essential for the well-being of the local community. The existing path, dependent on Killalea Drive and Southern Cross Boulevard, struggles with limited connectivity. To mitigate these concerns, the Council is actively seeking support for the development of an alternative route to Killalea that will both enhance regional accessibility and bolster tourism. By connecting Dunmore Road with Killalea via Buckley's Road, the project aims to strengthen transportation links and promote tourism in the area. In pursuit of collaborating with the State Government to establish this goal, the Council is dedicated to alternative access road to Killalea, further supporting the local community and tourism sector.



Delivery by the
State Government



Albion Park

Town Centre Improvements

Create vibrant, inclusive and commercially successful town centres

Undertake Town Centre upgrades to create vibrant, inclusive and commercially successful town centres.

Town centres and main streets are the heart of our communities, providing a hub for social and economic activity. However, many of our town centres require upgrades to improve their functionality and create a more vibrant atmosphere. Council is seeking funding to support upgrades to town centres in Albion Park, Albion Park Rail, Shellharbour Village, Oak Flats, and Warilla. With town centre plans already in development, implementing these upgrades will enhance the public and private domain integration, establish consistent landscaping throughout the city, and create a network of connected public spaces across the town centres. These improvements will improve accessibility, encourage economic expansion, and ultimately create a more enjoyable and thriving community for residents and visitors alike.

Shellharbour Village



Warilla



Albion Park Rail



Funding request
\$12M

Project cost:
\$20M (phased)

Active Transport Network

Enhance the active transportation network

Complete the initiatives identified in the Active Transport Strategy to improve active transport links connecting people, community and businesses.

The Active Transport Network project aims to develop active that is safe, healthy, and accessible for the community. The aim is to encourage physical modes of travel to work, school, parks, cafes, shops, and other destinations while reducing the dependence on motor vehicles. This will ultimately improve community health and well-being.

Shellharbour City Council's Active Transport Strategy aims to connect people, businesses, and communities, making it easier to travel by foot, bike, or public transport. Over the next ten years, the Council will focus on the initiatives listed in the strategy to improve transportation in the area. This includes connecting important links and building new infrastructure where needed. Through these efforts, Shellharbour City Council hope to create a vibrant and sustainable transport system that benefits everyone in our community.

To achieve this, Shellharbour City Council is seeking funding to support the initiatives identified in the Active Transport Strategy. This will enable us to create a healthier, more connected, and sustainable community for all to enjoy.



Funding request
\$10M

Project cost:
\$20M (phased)

Affordable Housing

Advocated for the development of diverse, accessible and sustainable housing options

The Affordable Housing Advocacy Project focuses on addressing the crucial issue of affordable housing by appealing to state and federal governments for support. Shellharbour City Council aims to facilitate and endorse diverse, affordable housing developments that meet the projected needs of the community.

Safe, secure, and affordable housing is essential to individual well-being and contributes to the vitality of the community. The Council's Local Housing Strategy delineates the community's housing priorities and aspirations for the next twenty years, envisioning a diverse range of housing options tailored to residents' lifestyles and needs.

Shellharbour City Council has designed the Local Housing Strategy to pinpoint priorities and recommendations for enhancing affordable housing across the LGA. Government agencies play a pivotal role in these efforts, including promoting greater housing diversity and choice, as well as affordable options for people with low to medium incomes and at-risk groups.

The strategy also advises the distribution of affordable, social, and public housing throughout various areas in the Shellharbour LGA, ensuring proper location and servicing. Additionally, the Council aims to collaborate with government agencies, the housing sector, and community housing providers to allocate land for residential housing developments focused on affordable, low-cost options.

Ongoing support from government agencies is vital to achieving Shellharbour City Council's primary goal of ensuring an adequate and suitable supply of housing for the community's evolving needs. With this backing, we can continue to foster a diverse and affordable housing landscape that accommodates the requirements of all residents.



Delivery by the State
& Federal Government

Tourism Gateway and Way-Finding Signage

Enhance the visitor experience and promote the unique character and identity of the Shellharbour LGA

Increase the visibility of local attractions, improve visitor experiences, and promote the unique character and identity of the Shellharbour by developing a Tourism Gateway and wayfinding signage project

Improving the region's gateway and wayfinding signage is an essential step towards enhancing the tourism industry in Shellharbour. The goal is to create a system of signs that directs visitors throughout the region and provides a distinct and memorable visual identity that aligns with Council's branding style and logo; this will include consistent fonts and design elements on all location signage, as well as on our website, visitors guide, and marketing campaigns. Furthermore, to pay homage to the local Indigenous culture by incorporating Dharawal meanings or terms for each area or activity into our signage.

Through these efforts, Council will address the Destination Sydney Surrounds South Destination Management Plan 2022-2030's noted weakness of a need for more clarity and brand identity for some destinations in the region. The plan is also aligned with Tourism Shellharbour's Destination Management Plan 2018-2022, which recognises the importance of investing in improved signage to support our region's growth and development. By securing funding for this project, Council will ensure that City of Shellharbour remains a welcoming and memorable destination for all visitors.



Funding request
\$1M

Project cost:
\$1.5M

Sustainability Projects

Deliver a climate resilient, liveable and sustainable city

Implement sustainability projects that promote a climate-resilient, livable, and sustainable city in Shellharbour

Shellharbour City Council is committed to taking decisive action on climate change and has set ambitious targets to reduce carbon emissions. Council aims to achieve net-zero council operational emissions by 2035 and net-zero community emissions by 2050. These targets align with Council's commitment to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the community and contribute to the global goal of limiting temperature rise.

To reach these targets, Council is seeking funding for several key sustainability projects. The projects aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency, and promote sustainable practices across the community.

Shellharbour City Council will also work with local businesses and residents to promote sustainable practices and encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources.

Through these initiatives, Council aims to create a more sustainable and resilient community while contributing to a healthier and more sustainable planet. The projects represent a significant opportunity to build a more sustainable future for Shellharbour and lead by example in addressing the challenges of climate change.



Funding request
\$6M (phased)



Zero Emissions Program

As global temperatures continue to rise, the Illawarra region is at risk of enhanced bushfires, extreme heat, ocean acidification, and growing storm and flood risks. To address this pressing issue, Shellharbour Council has set ambitious targets to reach net zero council operational emissions by 2035 and net zero community emissions by 2050.

To achieve these targets, Council has committed to a budget of \$4.3 million to progress Operational Emissions Reduction Plan initiatives. These initiatives will focus on transitioning to renewable energy sources, improving fleet management, waste and landfill processing, policy changes, and measuring and reporting progress. The council is actively seeking funding support for these initiatives.

In addition, Shellharbour City Council is also committed to developing a Community Emissions Reduction Plan, with a budget of \$800,000 plus implementation costs. This plan will involve developing a community emissions baseline and engaging and educating the community on reducing emissions from the largest sources. Funding is also being sought to develop and implement this plan.

By working towards these targets and implementing sustainable initiatives, Council aims to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the community and contribute to the global goal of limiting temperature rise. Recognising the importance of taking action on climate change and is committed to creating a more sustainable and resilient future for all residents.

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Shellharbour City Council is committed to reducing transport emissions and accelerating the transition to 100% renewable energy sources in the Shellharbour LGA. As part of this commitment, Council aims to provide electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure throughout the area. This journey has already begun with Council receiving co-funding from the State Government in early 2023.

Currently, the council is developing a city-wide plan that will identify suitable locations for EV charging stations and potential public-private partnerships that can facilitate the implementation of this infrastructure in key areas. To achieve this goal, the council is seeking funding of \$550,000 to facilitate necessary electrical infrastructure upgrades for five priority charging locations.

By providing EV charging infrastructure, the council hopes to encourage the adoption of electric vehicles in the Shellharbour LGA, reduce transport emissions, and contribute towards the overall transition to renewable energy sources. This investment is critical to achieving Shellharbour City Council's emissions reduction targets and creating a more sustainable and resilient community. Council recognises the importance of investing in sustainable transport solutions and is committed to creating a more sustainable and resilient future for all residents.

Dunmore Landfill Gas-to-Energy Capture and Renewable Energy Feasibility Study

The Dunmore landfill site in Shellharbour presents a unique opportunity to explore renewable energy options and make productive use of otherwise unutilised land. Shellharbour City Council is exploring the feasibility of developing a gas-to-energy facility co-located with a solar farm at the site. The project aims to convert flared methane gas into energy, thereby reducing the landfill's methane emissions.

Furthermore, the closed landfill cells within the Dunmore facility can be further investigated for renewable energy

sources, including solar farms. The council is also exploring the feasibility of installing solar electricity generation and micro-grids within other council properties.

To facilitate this project, the council is seeking \$250,000 to conduct a detailed scoping study for local energy generation on council land. This study will explore the feasibility of developing a gas-to-energy facility co-located with a solar farm and other renewable energy options that can be explored at the Dunmore landfill site and other council properties. By investing in local energy generation, Council can reduce the reliance on fossil fuels and move towards a more sustainable future while creating new economic opportunities for the region. The project aligns with the council's commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and transitioning to renewable energy sources.

Greening Strategy

Improving and investing in places that benefit both people and nature is crucial to ensuring our town centres, neighbourhoods, streets, natural areas, coastlines, and open spaces are sustainable and liveable for future generations.

The Greening Strategy aims to support the health and well-being of our community, encompass biodiversity, and ultimately maximise liveability. The strategy responds to emerging trends and current challenges for greening our city, with an aim to improve the storing and sequestering of carbon (to offset climate change), shading and cooling of our streets and public places, reducing sun exposure, increasing a sense of local identity, encouraging outdoor activity, reconnecting people with nature, reducing infrastructure costs, attracting investment, and promoting tourism.

To achieve the goal of greening the city, Shellharbour City Council plans to map the heat zones in the city to identify areas that need attention. The use of technology will be employed to soften high areas of pollution, including traffic islands that are currently all concrete. The council will also plan to protect the trees that we have in the city while promoting an increase in density in our town centres. Additionally, the council is exploring the feasibility of underground power systems to reduce reliance on above-ground powerlines. The Greening Strategy will also identify opportunities to enhance biodiversity and provide habitat for threatened flora and fauna species, and a home for significant state and federally listed endangered ecological communities.

Shellharbour City Council's Greening Strategy provides an organisational-wide vision, ensuring a robust strategic approach to conserving, enhancing biodiversity within our urban environment and unique natural areas. The strategy is underpinned with a set of actions that support the council's dedicated investment in greening the city.

Local Neighbourhood Projects 2023/24

and onwards





Local neighbourhood projects are incredibly important as they focus on improving the immediate area where people live, work, and play. These projects have a significant impact on the quality of life and liability of the neighbourhood.

By improving facilities such as local parks, playing fields, amenities, footpaths, playgrounds, and community centres, neighbourhood projects create a more inviting and attractive environment for residents.

In addition to the social benefits, neighbourhood projects also have practical benefits. Better footpaths and playgrounds improve safety for pedestrians and children, while the enhancement of local amenities makes the area more attractive to businesses and visitors. This, in turn, has a positive economic impact, leading to increased property values and greater opportunities for residents.

Overall, local neighbourhood projects are an essential part of building strong and vibrant communities. By investing in the immediate area, these projects help to create a more liveable, welcoming, and prosperous neighbourhood for everyone.





Project Name	Objective	Project Cost	Funding request
Amenities Upgrades			
Ski Way Park Elliott Park Deakin Reserve	<p>Shellharbour City Council acknowledges the importance of providing accessible and well-maintained public toilets for the community and visitors. The Council recognises that access to clean and secure public toilets is an essential aspect of public health and safety, particularly for vulnerable community members</p> <p>To address this need, Council has prioritised designing and maintaining public toilets, ensuring they are safe, inclusive, and easy to use. Council is also implementing measures to address issues related to privacy and maintenance, recognising that these are critical factors in ensuring that people can use public toilets with ease and dignity.</p> <p>Overall, the Council is committed to ensuring that public toilets are accessible and well-maintained, recognising that this is an essential function of local government that contributes to the community's health, safety, and well-being.</p>	\$1.8M	\$900,000
Playground Upgrades			
Jock Brown Oval Blackbutt Reserve Jilba Park	Renew and upgrade existing playgrounds in the Shellharbour LGA to improve quality and safety, provide diverse and inclusive play spaces that cater to various ages and abilities, and promote physical activity, social interaction, and positive mental health. The upgrades will prioritise natural and sustainable design elements and comply with relevant safety standards and guidelines to ensure the well-being of all users.	\$800,000	\$800,000
Sporting Upgrades			
Keith Hockey Oval Barrack Heights Sportsfield Benson Basin Sportsfield Tullimbar Oval King Mickey Park McDonald Park Netball Courts Flinders Reserve Field 1	The Shellharbour City Council's Community Strategic Plan and Open Space and Recreation Needs Study & Strategy (2020) outlines the importance of ensuring that sporting grounds and facilities support active participation. To achieve this goal, these projects have been determined to address the shortcomings of existing sporting infrastructure. This includes shortages of storage facilities, first aid facilities, referee facilities, and accessible parking, as well as improving access to amenities such as toilets and connections to and around the building. These project also aim to improve connectivity with neighbouring sporting facilities to increase the utilisation of the sites. By implementing these improvements, these projects will level the playing field and provide a more inclusive and accommodating environment for all users.	To be determined	To be determined



Shell Cove Sportsfield	The Shell Cove Sports field project will provide an eagerly anticipated sports field in a stunning elevated location on the southern edge of the award-winning Shell Cove development. The Shell Cove development has delivered a 12.5 Ha boat harbour, including a marina, an 18-hole golf course, and over 3,000 residential properties helping to address regional housing supply demand. The project was first identified in Council's Section 94 Contributions Plan in 2005; the oval-shaped offering suits the growing demand for cricket and AFL in the area. The developer contributions collected for the project will provide modern and accessible facilities, including a turf wicket sports field, training nets, multi-gender appropriate sports field change rooms, accessible public toilets and car parking. Supporting grant programs and contributions provide the opportunity to elevate the project outcomes and take advantage of this high-profile, strategically important location for community sport in Shellharbour and its participants.	\$10M	\$5M
Albion Oval Carpark Upgrade	Improve the functionality and accessibility of the parking facility while enhancing the safety and overall user experience for carpark users and the surrounding community. The upgrade will provide high-quality public spaces that are well-activated and promote efficient traffic flow.	\$400,000	\$400,000
Shellharbour City Stadium Court Expansion Planning	Shellharbour City Stadium Court Expansion plans to increase the capacity and quality of indoor sporting facilities to meet the community's growing needs. The expansion project aims to enhance the range of indoor sporting opportunities available to residents and visitors, improve the quality and safety of facilities, and provide an inclusive and accessible environment for all users.	\$300,000	\$300,000
Cemetery Upgrade & Development	Provide accessible, sustainable and respectful interment options that meet the diverse cultural and religious needs of the Shellharbour community, now and into the future. The development of cemeteries will aim to provide a range of affordable and suitable burial options that are respectful of the environment and comply with relevant regulations and industry best practices. The cemeteries will also be designed to offer a peaceful and tranquil setting for visitors to pay their respects and reflect on the lives of their loved ones.	\$2M	\$300,000



Shade implementation in playspaces	Implementing a shade program in playspaces across the LGA will improve the safety and comfort of children and families using these facilities. The program aims to provide shade structures that are well-designed, durable, and strategically located to provide maximum coverage during peak sun hours. By providing shade in playspaces, Council aim to encourage more outdoor physical activity and create a more enjoyable and healthy experience for our community.		To be determined
Lake Illawarra Foreshore Activation	The Lake Illawarra foreshore upgrade project aims to transform the waterfront into a vibrant and welcoming destination for residents and visitors alike. The upgrade will enhance the natural beauty of the area and improve access to the water, creating opportunities for water sports and leisure activities. This project aims to create a vibrant and thriving community space for everyone to enjoy.		To be determined
Yellow Rock Road Upgrade	<p>Shellharbour City Council is committed to enhancing safety and improving pedestrian access in the city's rapidly expanding western suburbs, specifically in the areas of Tullimbar and Yellow Rock. The proposed upgrades to the road off Illawarra Highway will create a safer and more accessible environment for residents and visitors alike. Key improvements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widening of lanes for better traffic flow • Enhanced on-street parking options • Shared path connections and crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists • Intersection upgrades to increase safety and reduce congestion • Kerb, gutter, and stormwater drainage improvements • Updated line marking and signposting for better visibility and navigation <p>These upgrades aim to provide a safer and more enjoyable experience for our community by prioritising pedestrian access and road safety. By investing in infrastructure improvements, the Council is fostering a more connected and vibrant environment for residents of Shellharbour's growing western suburbs</p>	\$5M	\$4.5M
Reddall Reserve Kiosk	An upgraded Kiosk will provide an improved offering to the park, and create a building that is more sensitive and integrated to the unique setting. The improved kiosk would encourage activation as a 'draw-card' to the northern area of the park. The existing location is the most suitable in the park due to proximity to street and parking, setback from the foreshore and views from the kiosk location. The upgrade will improve accessibility to amenity, provide sheltered seating and include an informal play area to activate the area around the upgraded kiosk.	\$5M	\$1.9M



Shellharbour
CITY COUNCIL

Enquiries and feedback should be made to:
The Chief Executive Officer
Shellharbour City Council
Dharawal Country
Locked Bag 155
Shellharbour City Centre NSW 2529

Telephone: (02) 4221 6111
Facsimile: (02) 4221 6016
E-mail: council@shellharbour.nsw.gov.au

www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au