



Shellharbour  
CITY COUNCIL

# Shellharbour City Council **Strategic Projects** ADVOCACY PLAN

**2024-25**



# Acknowledgement of Country



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.

Home to over 79,000 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 live and invest in Shellharbour.

## DISCLAIMER

The projects listed in this document are at various stages of evolution along each project's lifecycle. Some of the projects listed are aspirational and require the support and positive results of a detailed business case or similar to support their potential development. Others are further developed and ready for construction should financial support be provided. It is important to note that the incorporation of a project within this Strategic Advocacy Plan does not imply the project will be undertaken. Like all projects, the cost and benefit to the community must meet or exceed relevant metrics for the project to progress, which is determined by the Council.

# Who we are

## POPULATION GROWTH

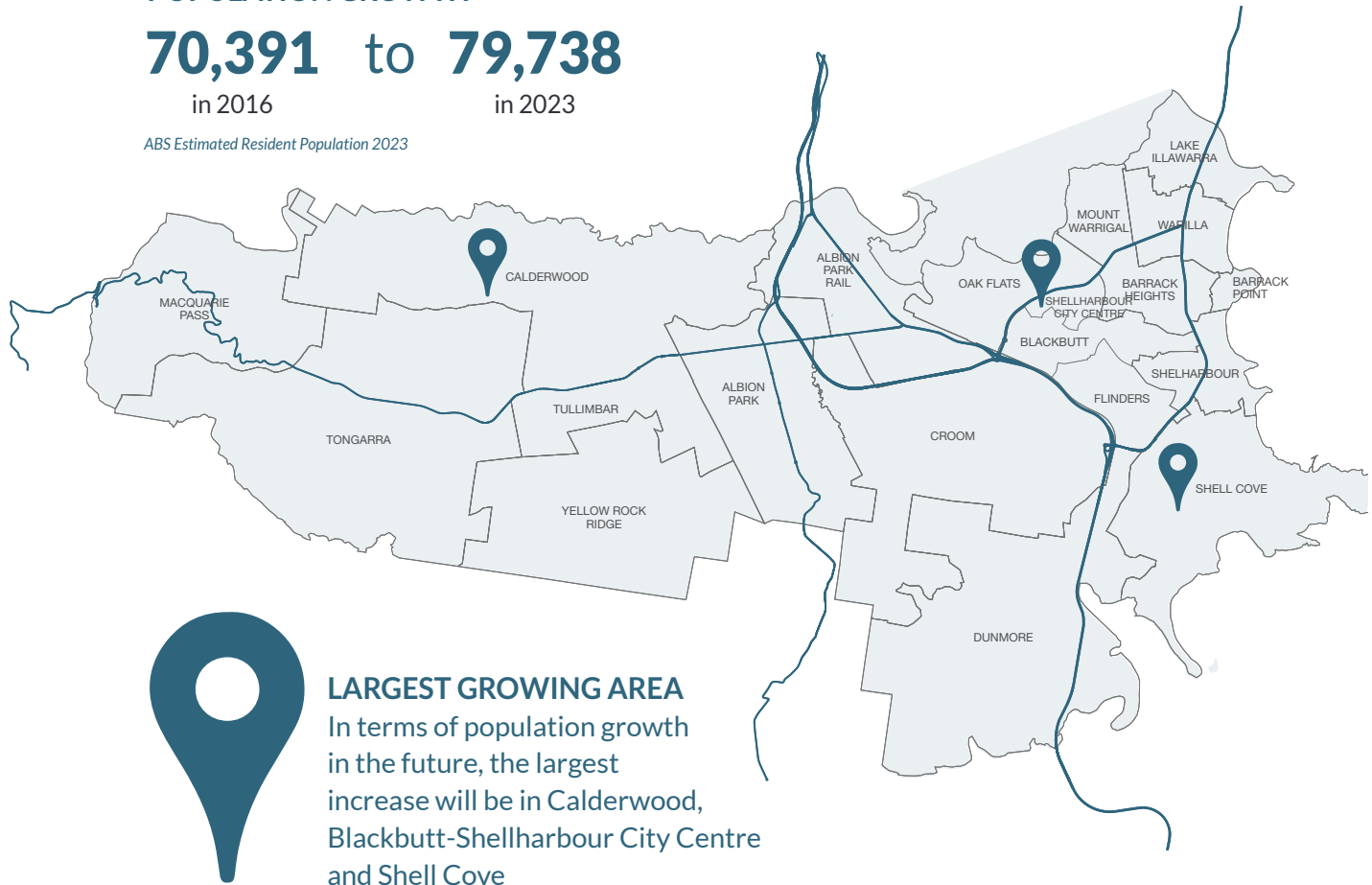
2021 ABS Census Data

# 70,391 to 79,738

in 2016

in 2023

ABS Estimated Resident Population 2023



## WHERE WE LIVE - FORECASTED GROWTH

Area	2021	2041	Growth
<b>Shellharbour LGA</b>	<b>76,492</b>	<b>102,950</b>	<b>▲ 29.9%</b>
Albion Park	13,885	18,034	▲ 67.9%
Albion Park Rail	6,930	7,850	▲ 13.3%
Barrack Heights	5,396	5,738	▲ 4.3%
Blackbutt / Shellharbour City Centre	4,222	8,722	▲ 32.4%
Calderwood (includes Tullimbar)	3,025	14,478	▲ 260.6%
Flinders	7,138	7,019	▲ 3.7%
Lake Illawarra	3,307	3,727	▼ 6.9%
Mount Warrigal	4,911	5,189	▲ 6.5%
Oak Flats	6,830	8,602	▲ 12.6%
Shell Cove	7,599	10,000	▲ 45.2%
Shellharbour/Barrack Point	4,248	4,857	▲ 14.9%
Warilla	6,311	7,938	▲ 7.3%
Rural balance	724	796	▲ 4.8%



# 90%

of residents are Australian citizens (NSW 82.7%)

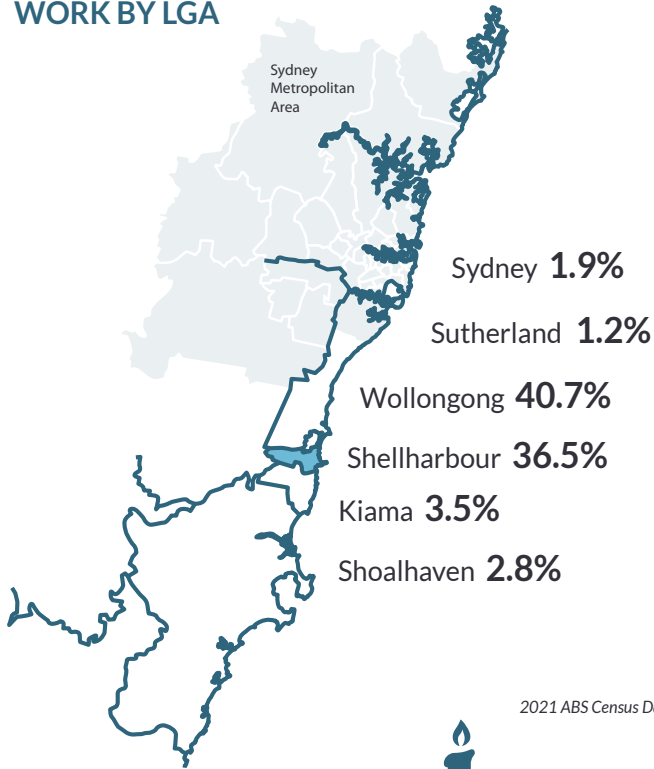


# 5%

of residents are Indigenous Australians (NSW 3.4%)

## WHERE OUR RESIDENTS WORK BY LGA

2021 ABS Census Data



2021 ABS Census Data

## AGE GROUPS



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

## 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%**

## TOP 5 INDUSTRY SECTORS FOR LOCAL JOBS

2021 ABS Census Data

	Jobs	%
 Retail Trade Shellharbour	3,285	17.75%
NSW	341,355	10.17%
 Health Care & Social Assistance Shellharbour	3,123	16.87%
NSW	440,790	13.13%
 Education & Training Shellharbour	2,262	12.22%
NSW	294,165	8.76%
 Construction Shellharbour	2,234	12.07%
NSW	294,461	8.77%
 Accommodation & Food Services Shellharbour	1,743	9.42%
NSW	250,605	7.46%

# Our commitment to advocacy

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councils must give effect to several guiding principles including:

- Councils should provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning and decision-making;
- Councils should carry out functions in a way that provides best possible value for residents and ratepayers
- Councils should plan strategically ... for the provision of effective and efficient services and regulation to meet the diverse needs of the local community
- Councils should work co-operatively with other Councils and the State Government to achieve desired outcomes for the local community
- Councils should manage lands and other assets so that current and future local community needs can be met in an affordable way.
- Councils should actively engage with their local communities.

Shellharbour City Council has prepared this document in line with meeting these principles for our community and to build confidence and community trust in the Council as an advocate for the community.

This document outlines key advocacy priorities Shellharbour City Council is committed to focusing on, and seeking partnerships in relation to, in the future. The projects identified in this document align with the themes and objectives of the Delivery Plan 2022 - 2026 and the Community Strategic Plan 2022 - 2032.

## Advocacy principles

Advocacy is a deliberate process intended to influence public policy and allocation of resources and increase the visibility and understanding of issues impacting the community with an aim to bring about positive change that affect Shellharbour at a local, regional and national level.

The following principles support Council's approach to advocacy:

**Strategic focus:** We will take a planned and strategic approach in ensuring our advocacy actions are aligned with policy and strategic positions adopted by the council.

**Community engagement:** We will actively engage in an appropriate and timely way with our community to understand their aspirations and needs and ensure the community is informed about our advocacy activities.

**Leadership:** We will lead through advocacy on behalf of our community on key issues with an emphasis placed on working with and advocating to state and federal governments.

**Transparency:** We will be open and transparent in our advocacy priorities, that they reflect community priorities, ensuring the way we pursue them and any progress we make is visible and accessible to the community through reporting.

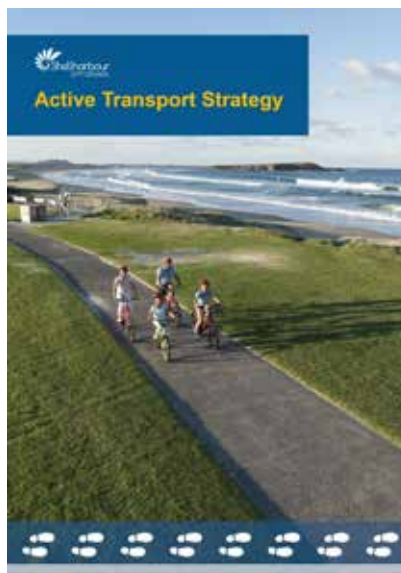
**Collaborative:** We will optimise its likelihood of success by taking a partnership-based approach to our advocacy, identifying key stakeholders, maintaining existing network and alliances, and collaborating with state and federal representatives, groups and community.

**Responsive:** We will deliver our advocacy in a way that is adaptable and responsive to changing political and funding environments, taking an innovative and solutions-focused approach to unexpected issues and opportunities.

## Advocacy activities

Shellharbour City Council will undertake a range of activities to promote and deliver on our advocacy objectives. A variety of methods will be used to support advocacy efforts such as submissions, direct lobbying, leading deputations, hosting decision-makers and consultations, media strategies, advertising and campaigns.

**This document is also aligned with the following strategic documents:**



# Distinguishing Regional, City-wide, and Neighbourhood projects





The projects contained in this Advocacy Plan are categorised into three levels of significance: Regional, City-wide, and 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 for both Shellharbour City and other parts of NSW.

City-wide projects focus on directly improving services and amenities within the Shellharbour Local Government Area (LGA). These projects will improve local infrastructure, community facilities and services that primarily benefit residents.

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 primarily within that neighbourhood.



*Image - future design of Shell Cove*

# Strategic Projects

## REGIONAL PROJECTS

- Shellharbour City Masterplan
- Performing Arts, Convention and Cultural Community Centre
- Shellharbour Airport
- Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3
- Regional Multi-Sports, Aquatics and Leisure Facility
- Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Plan
- Shellharbour Marina - Recreational Customs Facility

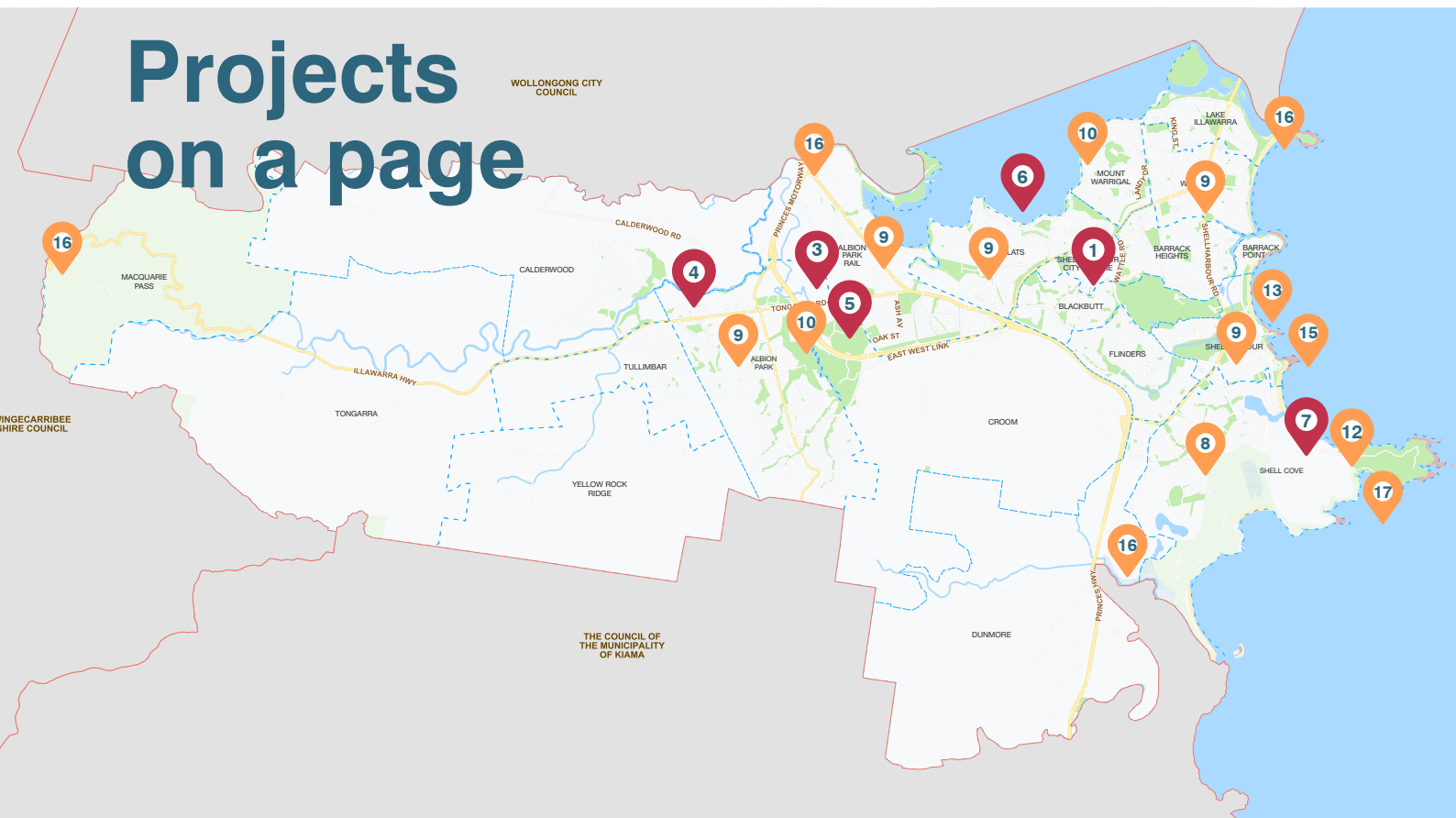
## CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

- Improved connection to Killalea State Park
- Town Centre improvements
- Flood risk mitigation and climate resilience
- Active Transport Network
- Aboriginal Interpretive Centre
- Shellharbour Coastal Walking link
- Sustainability projects
- Shellharbour Aquatic Facilities accessibility improvements
- Tourism gateway and wayfinding signage
- Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PROJECTS

- Amenities upgrades
- Playground upgrades
- Sporting upgrades
- Shell Cove Sportsfield
- Albion Oval carpark upgrade
- Swansea House
- Cemetery upgrade and development
- Shade implementation
- Lake Illawarra Foreshore activation
- Yellow Rock Road upgrade
- Reddall Reserve Kiosk

# Projects on a page



## REGIONAL PROJECTS

1. Shellharbour City Masterplan
2. Performing Arts, Convention and Cultural Community Centre (site to be determined)
3. Shellharbour Regional Airport
4. Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3
5. Regional Multi-Sports, Aquatics and Leisure Facility
6. Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Plan
7. Shellharbour Marina - Recreational Customs Facility

## SHELLHARBOUR CITY-WIDE PROJECTS

8. Improved connection to Killalea State Park
9. Town Centre improvements
10. Flood Risk Mitigation and Climate Resilience
11. Active Transport Network (various locations)
12. Aboriginal Interpretive Centre
13. Shellharbour Coastal Walking Link
14. Sustainability Projects (various locations)
15. Shellharbour Aquatic Facilities Accessibility Improvements
16. Tourism Gateway and Wayfinding Signage
17. Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan

# Project Status

The start date of each project in this Advocacy Plan varies depending on multiple factors.

To provide greater insight into the status of each project, all projects have been classified into four categories: Shovel Ready, Pending Design, Future Concept and NSW State Government.



## FUTURE CONCEPT

Future Concept projects are aspirational in nature. Initial concept design work may be completed, detailed planning and community consultation is still required.

Finance and or co-funding is necessary to undertake detailed business case and or community benefit analysis.



## PENDING DESIGN

Pending Design projects require additional design, planning, community consultation, business case development finance and or co-funding prior to beginning.



## SHOVEL READY

Shovel Ready projects can commence within 12 months as detailed planning, community consultation and costings have already been completed.

Finance and or co-funding is required for project to begin immediately.



## NSW STATE GOVERNMENT

The NSW State Government is deemed to be the responsible agency for all major planning, development and financing for these projects.

## REGIONAL PROJECTS



Project	Future Concept	Pending Design	Shovel Ready	NSW Govt Delivery
Shellharbour City Masterplan				
Performing Arts Centre, Convention and Cultural Community Centre				
Shellharbour Regional Airport				
Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3				
Regional Multi-Sports, Aquatics and Leisure Facility				
Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Plan				
Shell Cove Marina - Recreational Customs Facility				

## CITY-WIDE PROJECTS



Project	Future Concept	Pending Design	Shovel Ready	NSW Govt Delivery
Improved connection to Killalea State Park				
Town Centre Improvements				
Flood Risk Mitigation and Climate Resilience				
Active Transport Network				
Aboriginal Interpretive Centre				
Shellharbour Coastal Walking Link				
Sustainability Projects				
Shellharbour Aquatic Facilities Accessibility Improvements				
Tourism Gateway and Wayfinding Signage				
Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan				



Shellharbour City Centre

# Shellharbour City Masterplan

A long-term plan for the city centre with a vibrant heart, a resilient economy and improved regional employment

Funding sought:  
**\$3.5M**

Estimated project cost:  
**TBD**



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



The Shellharbour City Masterplan is the gamechanger to unlocking the potential of the city centre and bringing central Shellharbour to life. The project will increase the opportunity for development in Shellharbour CBD, deliver quality community spaces and a mix of retail, entertainment, commercial and residential developments.






The site includes government or Council-owned land, including the soon-to-be decommissioned Shellharbour Hospital and adjoining TAFE and NSW Land and Housing properties, as well as privately-owned land. These lands provide a unique opportunity to address key government and Council housing priorities to deliver short-term outcomes for the community.

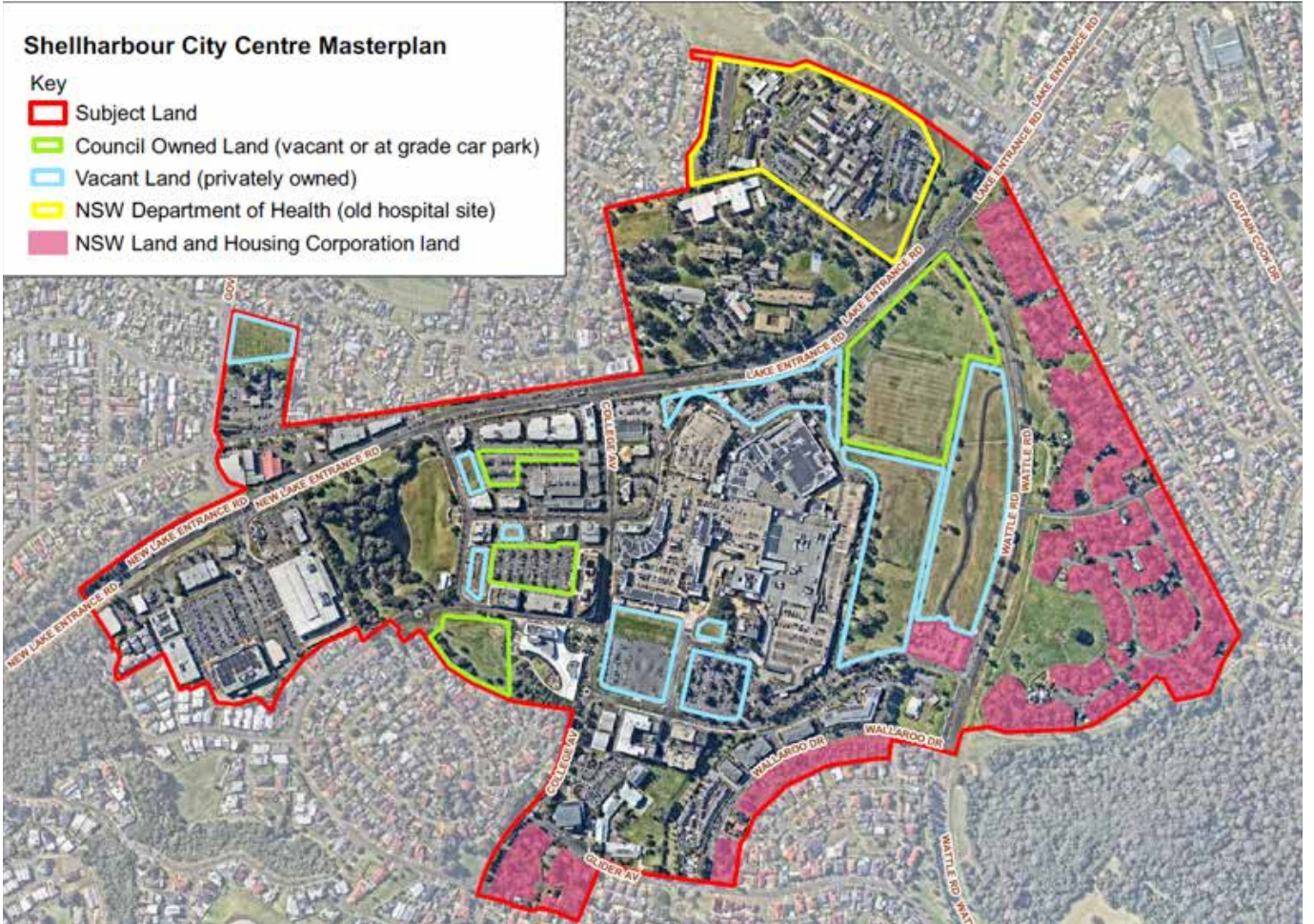
It is anticipated this long-term planning framework for the city centre will potentially unlock critical housing supply of more than 5000 dwellings. In addition, the Masterplan would identify opportunities for community open spaces, residential, retail, accommodation and commercial.

The NSW State Government is a key strategic partner in the delivery of this project.

# Shellharbour City Centre Masterplan

## Key

-  Subject Land
-  Council Owned Land (vacant or at grade car park)
-  Vacant Land (privately owned)
-  NSW Department of Health (old hospital site)
-  NSW Land and Housing Corporation land



# Shellharbour Airport

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

Funding sought:  
**\$20M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$20M**



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



Shellharbour Airport has the capacity to unlock exciting opportunities for the region, providing more local jobs, increased industry, opportunities for innovation, investment and infrastructure as well as opening up the region to Australia.

As the strategic and tourism gateway to the Illawarra, South Coast and Southern Highlands, the NSW Government has already identified the airport as having high economic and tourism potential. Council has recently adopted its Shellharbour Airport Masterplan in May 2024.

Servicing Australia's ninth largest population centre of approximately 480,000 people, any investment will capitalise on the economic benefits and establish Shellharbour as an attractive place to live, work and visit.

Council has previously completed infrastructure improvements to help accommodate the growing demand for air travel, including the construction of a new terminal building and Aviation Business Park. As this demand continues to grow, Council is seeking additional support to complete the following infrastructure upgrades.

## Security screening

As Shellharbour Airport seeks to attract larger aircraft catering to more destinations, the security screening requirements will also increase. The addition of passenger and baggage security screening is a top priority for Council. The terminal building was upgraded in 2021 with a view to accommodate the future installation of security screening for both passengers and baggage. As a result, minor terminal expansion may be required as well to give greater comfort levels to passengers.





Shellharbour Airport

### Taxiway/Apron Upgrade

With the anticipated increased usage and expanded operations, upgrades to the existing taxiways and apron areas are expected. As larger aircraft and more destinations utilise the airport, the strength of the parking aprons may need to be increased.

### Drainage

Shellharbour Airport has faced significant operational challenges due to the increased occurrences and intensity of adverse weather conditions. The existing drainage system, originally designed for fewer aircraft movements, lacks resilience to support increased levels 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 help to increase the runway’s resilience and reduce the amount of time the airport is closed and will provide increased reliability and consistency of services.

### Aviation Business Park Growth

The successful development of Stage 1 (20,000 m<sup>2</sup>) 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.

Council is seeking support to complete all stages of the Aviation Business Park. This will provide a total of about 60,000m<sup>2</sup> of fully serviced land to meet the future demand for airside access sites.

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 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.

### HARS Development – Support

The Historical Aircraft Restoration Society (HARS) is seeking an upgrade of its precinct infrastructure at Shellharbour Airport. With a vision to operate a unique and interactive tourism precinct, HARS is seeking to upgrade two of its hangars, add an additional hangar and two architecturally designed pavilions. The aviation museum contains more than 75 civilian and military aircraft, of which 20 are flyable. HARS is considered within the Shellharbour Airport Masterplan.



# Performing Arts, Convention and Cultural Community Centre

Enrich the lives of our community and visitors by providing a modern, flexible, performing arts and community facility

Funding sought:  
**\$200,000**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$30M**



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



The Performing Arts and Community Centre is a planned distinctive landmark that will further increase Shellharbour's reputation as an arts and culture destination.

The Shellharbour Village Theatre, nestled in the picturesque Shellharbour Village, is due for renewal and has the potential to be redeveloped into the centrepiece for this project. Alternatively a new site may be considered for this project.

This project will give new life to one of the region's cultural tourism assets, allowing greater opportunities for professional creative development and performance.

Redevelopment of the theatre and internal spaces of this historic building will increase functionality and purpose, improve building condition to meet disability access standards and focus on integrated technology to provide modern and innovative experiences for audiences.

Shellharbour is a community engaged in arts and culture, however, lacks dedicated infrastructure to showcase and grow this part of the economy.

The project will complement the existing performing arts facilities within the region and will have the opportunity to meet the demand for small to medium-sized performances.



Tripoli Way - Artist Concept

## Tripoli Way Extension - Stage 3

The Tripoli Way Extension will improve transport infrastructure for the region and growing urban developments

Project status:  
**NSW GOVERNMENT**



With one of the fastest-growing LGAs in NSW, the Tripoli Way Extension (Stage 3) has been identified as critical to the overall liveability of the city.

The Council received funding from the State Government to build Stage 1 and 2 of Tripoli Way. With this project under way, consideration is now being given to securing funding for Stage 3.

The Tripoli Way Extension will support the projected population growth of the region, with more than 8000 residential and commercial land lots approved, improve reliability and accessibility as well increase the economic viability of Albion Park.

The Extension has been part of Council's long-term strategic plan since 1961, designed to alleviate congestion on the Illawarra Highway in Albion Park to create a continuous travel route between Terry Street in the east and Broughton Avenue in the west.

The need for the extension is critical to manage these growing communities and provides a valuable addition to the broader transport network.

Council continues to advocate with the State Government, seeking support to bring this project to completion.

# Regional Multi-Sports, Aquatics and Leisure Facility

A state-of-the-art Regional Multi-Sports Aquatics and Leisure Facility to meet the growing demand for sporting participation in the Shellharbour community

Funding sought:  
**\$100M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$120M** (phased)



Project status:  
**FUTURE CONCEPT**



The Regional Multi-Sports, Aquatics and Leisure Facility in Shellharbour will help 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 more than 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 facility is planned to be an all-purpose, phased project with indoor and outdoor sports and swimming facilities, with synthetic all-year round playing fields.

This facility is planned to serve as the headquarters for regionally-based sports associations. 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, Aquatics and Leisure Facility are to provide equitable access, 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 will be staged over time to ensure it best serves the community. Council will undertake a business case to establish its best use before the delivery of the project.

Ageing infrastructure within the LGA could be reviewed, ensuring facilities remain at a high standard. A centrally situated location within Albion Park Rail has been identified as a suitable site near transportation links and services.



Lake Illawarra

# Lake Illawarra Coastal Management Program (CMP)

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

Funding sought:  
**\$8M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$12M** (phased)



Project status:  
**SHOVEL READY**



The project aims to develop and implement a comprehensive Coastal Management Program to protect, preserve and enhance the ecological, economic and social values of Lake Illawarra.

Lake Illawarra 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 developed with input from the community and various agencies. A cost-benefit assessment determined the feasibility and effectiveness of each action.

Over the next decade, a range of land managers, including Wollongong City Council, Shellharbour City Council, Crown Lands, and Property NSW, will need to collaborate to implement the CMP. These organisations have committed to incorporating the program's actions into their planning and budgeting processes.

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



Shellharbour Marina

# Shellharbour Marina Recreational Customs Facility

Investing in infrastructure to allow Shellharbour Marina to become the preferred point of entry for recreational vessels up to 40 metres arriving and departing on the east coast of Australia

Funding sought:  
**\$2M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$2M**



Project status:

**FUTURE CONCEPT**



Shellharbour Marina has had extensive investment in infrastructure and facilities since opening in November 2021. Following this, Shellharbour Marina can accommodate vessels ranging from small yachts and power vessels through to Super yachts up to 40 meters via state-of-the-art facilities.

By obtaining official recognition from relevant authorities and through further investment in specific infrastructure, including first point of entry operation office and biosecurity entry points, Shellharbour Marina is seeking to become the preferred east coast entry point for recreational vessels given it is the mid-point for sailors seeking to explore north or south of Australia's east coast.

Increased traffic of small vessels and super yachts through Shellharbour Marina injects vital economic stimulus into the local community, driving spending on accommodation, dining, shopping, vessel maintenance and recreational activities.

The influx will create employment opportunities across various sectors.

Local businesses also stand to benefit from heightened demand for goods and services by catering to the needs of vessel operators and crew members, ranging from marine supplies to fuel, maintenance and repair services.



Killalea State Park

# Improved connection to Killalea State Park

Improving transport connectivity

Project status:  
**NSW GOVERNMENT**



The improved connection to Killalea State Park project seeks to create a secondary 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 and users of the State Park. The existing path, on Killalea Drive and Southern Cross Boulevard, provides limited connectivity and is currently the only traversable access in and out of the popular Killalea State Park. By connecting Dunmore Road with Killalea via Buckleys Road, the project aims to strengthen transportation links and promote tourism in the area.



Albion Park town centre

# Town Centre improvements

Create vibrant, inclusive and commercially successful town centres of Warilla, Albion Park, Oak Flats, Shellharbour Village, Albion Park Rail

Funding sought:  
**\$12M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$20M** (phased)



Project status:  
**FUTURE CONCEPT**



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.

Due to the upgrade of Tripoli Way, Tongarra Rd in Albion Park, is an immediate focus for revitalisation as the dynamics of the town centre are susceptible to shifts in liveability.

Consideration will be given to retail, commercial and entertainment activities, mixed use and higher density living, new or expanded community facilities and a safe, attractive and sustainable public domain.



Shellharbour Village





# Aboriginal Interpretive Centre Masterplan

Create a place where we can learn about the Dharawal People and preserve our indigenous history

Funding sought:  
**\$200,000**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$TBD**



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



The Aboriginal Interpretive Centre, located on Dharawal land, will serve as an important contributor to the cultural and social understanding, and appreciation of the Coastal Aboriginal culture.

Proposed to be seated above the Pacific Ocean with sightlines to the sacred Five Islands, Windang Island and other places of historic Aboriginal significance, the Centre will provide a keeping place for important artefacts alongside information to enable the interpretation of local indigenous history and culture.

Shellharbour was a meeting place, known as Yerrowah, where the Wodi Wodi people of the Dharawal nation would gather and catch fish. The proposed Centre will showcase the Dharawal history, which has been traced to 17,000 Before Present at the nearby Bass Point.

This will be a one-of-a-kind facility that has the potential to create employment and tourism opportunities as well as economic benefits for the wider community.

Council is in discussion with stakeholders, including Community, to understand how this facility could be complementary with the development of a cultural precinct at Killalea National Park.

Council is seeking funding for the preparation of a concept plan, business case and community engagement. State and federal funding support of the construction of the Aboriginal Interpretive Centre will be critical to the project's success.



2024 April flood event

# Flood Risk Mitigation and Climate Resilience

Funding sought:  
**\$85M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$115M**



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



Council understands the increasing risks faced by the community from the potential impacts of climate change and increased flooding.

Recent flood events have highlighted the need for critical infrastructure to improve the flood resilience of the City.

Council has adopted Floodplain Risk Management Plans for the major catchments, Lake Illawarra, Horsley Creek, Elliot Lake (Little Lake) and Macquarie Rivulet.

These plans have been developed in accordance with the NSW Government's flood policy under the NSW Flood Program. They identify vulnerable areas that are flood prone and suffer both tangible and intangible impacts from floods and changing climate.

Council is seeking funding support to implement flood mitigation options from Council's adopted plans, as well as agency support to improve critical state infrastructure, including roads, culverts and bridge upgrades, to improve flood and climate resilience for the community.

Future requirements across each of the major catchment areas differ based on several of the above factors and the relative size of the catchment areas.



Reddall Reserve

# Active Transport Network

Enhance the active transportation network

Funding sought:  
**\$55M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$60M** (phased)



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



Council aims to improve active transport, in partnership with governments and health organisations, in a bid to address key barriers that deter people from walking and cycling.

The aim of this project is to complete the initiatives identified in Council's Active Transport Strategy, which was adopted in February 2024, to improve active transport links such as bicycle lanes, footpaths and strategic walk and cycle networks across the City.

Council will focus on connecting important links and building new infrastructure where needed. Through these efforts, Council hopes to create an environment and culture that encourages a walking-friendly, cycle-friendly and public transport-friendly City.

An active transport network that is suitable for users of all ages and abilities is important as it promotes inclusivity, accessibility and safety. Providing a safe and convenient network of walking and cycling paths will encourage residents to participate in active transport, leading to a more active and healthier community.



Bushrangers Bay

# Bass Point Reserve Plan of Management and Masterplan

Manage and protect Bass Point Reserve

Funding sought:  
**\$200,000**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$ TBD**



Project status:  
**PENDING DESIGN**



Shellharbour City Council is seeking to develop a Plan of Management and Masterplan to guide the framework for the sustainable use, development and preservation of Bass Point Reserve.

Bass Point Reserve is a State Heritage-listed 72-hectare coastal headland Crown reserve located south east of Shell Cove and 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 rainforest and pristine marine habitats with scenic vistas.

As Crown Land Manager for the Reserve, Shellharbour City Council is required to develop a Plan of Management that sets out objectives, authorises 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.

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

Shellharbour City Council and the Infrastructure Betterment Fund, comprising of Federal and NSW State Government contributions, will upgrade the Bass Point Tourist Road.

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

# Sustainability Projects

Deliver a climate resilient, liveable and sustainable city

Funding sought:  
**\$6M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$ TBD**



Project status:  
**SHOVEL READY**



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.

To reach these targets, Council is seeking funding for key sustainability projects.

## 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.

Closed landfill cells within the Dunmore facility will be investigated for renewable energy sources, including solar farms. The City is also exploring the feasibility of installing solar electricity generation and micro-grids within this and other council properties.

## Greening Strategy

The strategy will respond to emerging trends and current challenges for greening our city, with an aim to improve the storage of carbon, 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 to identify areas that need attention.



Beverley Whitfield Ocean Pool

# Shellharbour Aquatic Facilities Accessibility Improvements

Shellharbour City Council is committed to providing fair and equitable access to all Council's facilities

Funding sought:  
**\$2.3M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$2.5M**



Project status:  
**SHOVEL READY**



Council owns and operates a single saltwater ocean pool - Beverley Whitfield - and several chlorinated pools at Albion Park, Oak Flats and Warilla, that are ageing and do not provide access that is compliant to current standards for accessibility for all abilities.

Council has identified the need to retrofit a modern standard accessible ramp in to the Shellharbour Ocean Pool and is considering a program to improve accessibility at its chlorinated pools by updating existing chair hoists.

These upgrades will improve access and service to a broad range of the community as well as visitors to Council's aquatic facilities.





# Tourism Gateway and Wayfinding Signage

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

Funding sought:  
**\$1M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$1.5M**



Project status:  
**SHOVEL READY**



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. This will include consistent fonts and design elements on all location signage, as well as on the City's website, visitors guide, and marketing campaigns.

In recognition and acknowledgement of our local Indigenous culture the Dharawal names or terms for each area or activity will also be incorporated into City signage.

Through these efforts, Council will address the Destination Sydney Surrounds South Destination Management Plan 2022-2030 call for more clarity and brand identity for Shellharbour.

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 the City of Shellharbour remains a welcoming and memorable destination for all visitors.



# Shellharbour Coastal Walking Link

## Stage One

Funding sought:  
**\$ 10M**

Estimated project cost:  
**\$10M**



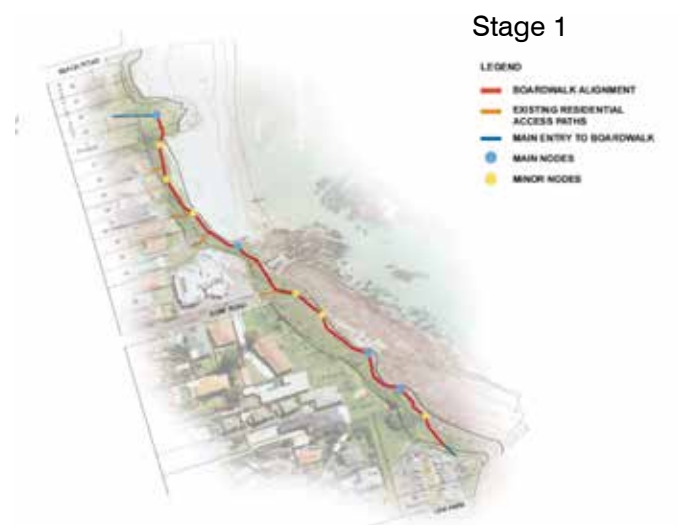
Project status:  
**FUTURE CONCEPT**



The Shellharbour Coastal Walking Link is a shared cycle and footway that connects Cowrie Island, Shellharbour Surf Club and Shellharbour North Beach, Shellharbour, NSW. The Coastal Walking Link is an elevated platform accessible for all users.

The purpose of installing the shared cycle and footway at the identified location is to provide safe access for beach goers, interpretative (signage) information regarding the region and a continuous pedestrian and cycle link between the two areas.

In its initial phase, the cycleway and pathway will activate Shellharbour Village while proposed later stages seek to install an Aboriginal heritage walking track that connects Shellharbour North Beach, Cowrie Island, Shellharbour Village and Bass Point Reserve.





# Neighbourhood Projects





Reddall Reserve

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 liveability 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, neighbourhood projects are an essential part of building strong and vibrant communities.



Reddall Reserve



Playground at Jock Brown Sportsfield



Project Name	Objective	Funding request	Project Cost
Swansea Farmhouse	<p>Built in the early 1920s, Swansea Farmhouse and its associated storage sheds, former barn and corral structures are recognised as having local heritage significance.</p> <p>Urgent conservation works, including heritage works, seek to halt further deterioration of the Swansea Farmhouse and the project aims to complete the required repairs to retain this historic building. Works include removing aspects of latter additions, bringing the building back to its former footprint whilst structural works to meet current standards and building practices. Additional works include repair existing external and internal fabrics and fit outs of the building ensuring any used materials are sympathetic to the heritage significance of the building.</p> <p>Conservation of Swansea Farmhouse will allow the celebration of its rich history and give it a second life with the Farmhouse being used for its original purpose as a private residence or for appropriate and adaptive use such as café, office use or community group use.</p>	<b>\$1.5M</b>	<b>\$1.5M</b>



Project Name	Objective	Funding request	Project Cost
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**Amenities Upgrades**

Ski Way Park  
Reddall Reserve  
Pioneer Park

Council recognises that access to clean and secure public toilets is an essential aspect of public health and safety, particularly for vulnerable community members.

**\$1.3M**

**\$2.6M**

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.

**Playground Upgrades**

Blackbutt Reserve  
Jilba Park

Renew and upgrade existing playgrounds in the City 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  
Flinders Reserve Field 1  
Jock Brown Oval

The City's Community Strategic Plan and Open Space and Recreation Needs Study and Strategy (2021) 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 projects also aim to improve connectivity with neighbouring sporting facilities to increase the utilisation of the sites. These improvements, will provide a more inclusive and accommodating environment for all users.

**TBD**

**TBD**



Project Name	Objective	Funding request	Project Cost
Shell Cove Sportsfield	<p>The Shell Cove Sportsfields project will provide a state of the art sporting facility to increase sporting amenity in the City and to service the community's growing needs. The oval-shaped offering suits the growing demand for cricket and AFL in the area.</p> <p>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.</p>	<b>\$5M</b>	<b>\$20M</b>
Albion Oval carpark	<p>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.</p>	<b>\$400,000</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>
Cemetery upgrade and development	<p>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.</p>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$2M</b>



Reddall Reserve Kiosk

Project Name	Objective	Funding request	Project Cost
Shade implementation in play spaces	Implementing a shade program in play spaces 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 play spaces, Council aims to encourage more outdoor physical activity and create a more enjoyable and healthy experience for our community.	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
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.	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
Yellow Rock Road upgrade	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Widening of lanes for better traffic flow</li> <li>• Enhanced on-street parking options</li> <li>• Shared path connections and crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists</li> <li>• Intersection upgrades to increase safety and reduce congestion</li> <li>• Kerb, gutter, and stormwater drainage improvements</li> <li>• Updated line marking and signposting for better visibility and navigation</li> </ul> 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 suburb.	<b>\$4.5M</b>	<b>\$5M</b>
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 'drawcard' 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.	<b>\$1.9M</b>	<b>\$5M</b>



Shellharbour  
CITY COUNCIL

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