

WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting – 16 August 2018

Item 20 Fixing Country Roads – Round 4

Division:	Technical Services
Management Area:	Technical Services
Author:	Acting Director Technical Services – Russell Lloyd
CSP Key Focus Area:	Public Infrastructure and Services
Priority:	P13 Road networks throughout the Shire need to be safe, well maintained and adequately funded.

Purpose

To endorse projects to be submitted by Council to the State Government for funding under Fixing Country Roads Program Round 4.

Background

The NSW Government introduced the Restart NSW Fund in 2011. A part of the initiative is the Fixing Country Roads Program providing funding for Councils to repair and upgrade roads throughout NSW. There have been three previous rounds of funding made available and Council has applied for funds in each previous round.

Council was successful in obtaining funding in Round 3 for the following application:

‘Coonabarabran Over Dimension Route – Investigation of Weir and Options for Strengthening.’

A Deed of Agreement has recently been signed and a consultant is to be engaged to undertake the work.

However Council’s other projects were unsuccessful.

Round 4 has now been opened with no set closing date.

Issues

Council has been specifically invited to resubmit the project listed first in its Round 3 submission being the provision of a ‘New Bridge over Billy Kings Creek on Purlewaugh Road’ project.

For this project to be successful it is suggested that emphasis needs to be given to the heavy vehicle movements, a strengthening of the argument that there is an extensive detour required for freight movements whenever Purlewaugh Road is affected by floodwaters and the volumes of freight involved. To this end support for the project has been sought from the NSW Farmers Association, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR), Australian Forest Products Association and NSW Grain Growers Association.

Additionally it is considered that a number of other projects that meet the eligibility criteria should be submitted.

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The criteria are:

1. Access, Productivity and Safety Benefits
2. Growth and Economic Benefits
3. Strategic Alignment
4. Deliverability and Affordability

The other suggested projects are:

2. 'Coonabarabran Over Dimension Route – Rehabilitation and strengthening of failed pavement between Gardener Road and Baradine Road' – Estimated cost \$270,000 (funds sought \$250,000).
3. 'Beni Road, 65km South of Coonabarabran – Realignment of bend to improve road safety' – Estimated cost \$200,000 (funds sought \$200,000).
4. 'Warrumbungles Way, 2km East of Binnaway – Bridge to replace culvert in conjunction with railway crossing upgrade' – Estimated cost \$700,000 (funds sought \$675,000).
5. 'Blackstump Way, North of Coolah towards Warrumbungles Way – Road rehabilitation from Warrumbungles Way intersection to Deadmans Gully' – Estimated cost for Stage 1 - \$1,200,000 (funding sought \$1,100,000).

Diagrams showing the location of each project are attached.

Options

The Council has the option to apply for any number of projects that meet the criteria set for the Fixing Country Roads or not apply. The projects proposed meet the criteria and are not currently funded within Council's budget.

Financial Considerations

The Council budget does not provide for funding of any of the five projects proposed. However if any of the projects are successful the impact on the budget will not exceed \$100,000. The grant guidelines provide for up to 100% funding but Council's are encouraged to include co-contributions.

Attachments

1. Plan of *'New Bridge over Billy Kings Creek on Purlawaugh Road'* Project
2. Plan of *'Coonabarabran Over Dimension Route – Rehabilitation and strengthening of failed pavement between Gardener Road and Baradine Road'* Project
3. Plan of *'Beni Road, 65km South of Coonabarabran – Realignment to bend to improve safety'* Project

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4. Plan of *'Warrumbungles Way, 2km East of Binnaway – Bridge to replace culvert in conjunction with railway crossing upgrade'* Project
5. Plan of *'Blackstump Way, North of Coolah towards Warrumbungles Way – Road rehabilitation from Warrumbungles Way intersection to Deadmans Gully'* Project

RECOMMENDATION

That Council apply for funding under the NSW Restart Fixing Country Roads Program Round 4 for the following projects:

1. New Bridge over Billy Kings Creek on Purlewaugh Road – Estimated cost \$525,000 (funds sought \$500,000).
2. *'Coonabarabran Over Dimension Route – Rehabilitation and strengthening of failed pavement between Gardener Road and Baradine Road'* – Estimated cost \$270,000 (funds sought \$250,000).
3. *'Beni Road, 65km South of Coonabarabran – Realignment of bend to improve road safety'* – Estimated cost \$200,000 (funds sought \$200,000).
4. *'Warrumbungles Way, 2km East of Binnaway – Bridge to replace culvert in conjunction with railway crossing upgrade'* – Estimated cost \$700,000 (funds sought \$675,000).
5. *'Blackstump Way, North of Coolah towards Warrumbungles Way – Road rehabilitation from Warrumbungles Way intersection to Deadmans Gully'* – Estimated cost for Stage 1 - \$1,200,000 (funds sought \$1,100,000).