

# Scenic Living

SCENIC RIM REGIONAL COUNCIL



**Community consultation and advocacy for our region will be defining features of this Council term as we continue to work with residents and other levels**

**of government to achieve the best outcomes for the Scenic Rim.**

Late last year, the Scenic Rim hosted the Australian Government's Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport's inquiry into local government sustainability, providing a valuable opportunity to raise awareness of the challenges we face as a Council in meeting our community's growing needs.

With a population estimated to grow to 67,000 by 2041, the key challenges will be meeting the expectations of current residents as well as future residents, attracting new businesses to provide employment opportunities and assisting existing businesses to expand.

Currently, 70 per cent of Council's income is from rates, the majority of which is residential, with the remaining 30 per cent from grants, fees and charges, which is not sustainable in the short term.

Over the next decade, Council will need to allocate funds for the renewal, replacement and maintenance of more than \$1 billion of community infrastructure as well as the installation of new infrastructure to accommodate the region's forecast growth.

Rates alone will not have the capacity to meet community needs and expectations, which makes our advocacy for funding from the state and federal governments a key priority for Council.

Putting in place key infrastructure will unlock investment in to our region for compatible industry that will in turn create the jobs, drive our economy and provide alternative

revenue streams for Council, with particular regard to corporate rates.

As we continue to rebuild from a series of natural disasters, and more recent flooding which has further damaged our local road network, Council is grateful for the support from the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Be assured that this Council will continue to explore every avenue to secure funding opportunities for improved services and infrastructure for our region.

Council is also committed to continued community consultation and I hope that you will take advantage of the opportunities to join the conversation on a range of topics that will help to shape the future of our region.

In line with our focus on representation and respect, Council will soon be conducting a series of community information sessions which I hope you will attend.

In addition to the community consultation on the 2025-2026 Budget, there will be an opportunity to provide input into the development of Council's Corporate Plan, which will set the direction for the Scenic Rim's growth and development over the next five years, as well as a range of other initiatives.

There will also be an opportunity to be involved in guiding the future of our towns as master plan committees are formed for Canungra, Kooralbyn and Kalbar, with expressions of interest to be called in coming months.

I look forward to working with you as we continue to build a better future for our region.

**Mayor Tom Sharp**



## GRANTS SUPPORT ECO PROJECTS

**Council's environmental grants totalling almost \$180,000 will support a wide range of individual and community projects to help protect threatened species, combat invasive weeds and restore habitat for native plants and animals.**

The Environmental Grants Program represents a partnership between Council and the community, contributing to the protection, enhancement and sustainability of the Scenic Rim region which is renowned for its biodiversity.

Although the Scenic Rim is home to many large national parks, much of the remaining native habitat in the region is found on private properties and landowners have an important part of play in helping to preserve its wide variety of native plants and animals and healthy ecosystems.

Plantings for koala corridors, protection of platypus habitat, installation of nest boxes for greater gliders, recovery of habitat following the 2023 Christmas Night storm and restoration of creeks and bushland are among funded projects to be undertaken across the region in coming months.



# ONE MILLION TREES

program branches out

**Council's One Million Trees Program not only offers trees but also a variety of native tube stock plants for projects ranging from erosion control to butterfly, bird and insect gardens, food for koalas and plantings to encourage greater biodiversity or fill gaps in creek lines.**

With the aim of creating a lasting legacy by enhancing the Scenic Rim's spectacular scenery and natural environment, the One Million Trees program includes the Rural Trees, River Trees, Habitat Trees and Community Trees initiatives.

Under the program, owners of properties of more than one hectare are eligible for up to 1,000 free native tube stock plants. Those who own properties of under one hectare, but which include a waterway, are also eligible for native tube stock plants.

Free plants are also available for community and school planting projects.

Simply scan the QR code, fill out the one-page application form and, if approved, a voucher will be provided with details of how to collect plants from nurseries at Kalbar, Beaudesert or Tamborine Mountain.

The One Million Trees Program will be ending in 2025 so don't miss out on your free plants.

# CELEBRATE SCENIC RIM'S BEST

at Eat Local Month 2025!

**Mark your calendars for June 2025—Eat Local Month is returning, presenting the perfect opportunity to showcase our spectacular region to your friends and family.**

It's not just a celebration for locals, it's an invitation for visitors to experience more than 100 foodie events across the month of June. From paddock-to-plate dining and exclusive on-farm experiences to hands-on workshops and scenic tours of our towns and villages.

As a local, you're already familiar with the Scenic Rim's best-kept secrets and locations, and Eat Local Month is your opportunity to share them with those who may never have experienced it before. From long lunches with breathtaking views to intimate dinners prepared by Queensland's top chefs, it's the perfect way to showcase our region's fabulous food culture and natural beauty.

Invite your friends and family to taste the freshest local produce, sip award-winning wines, and explore our stunning landscapes. Whether they're here for a weekend getaway or a special event, Eat Local Month offers the ultimate way



to celebrate our region's rich food and farming heritage.

From May 30 to June 29, five weekends of carefully curated long weekend itineraries will offer something for everyone to enjoy.

Start planning now and get ready to welcome your loved ones to a month of unforgettable flavours and experiences found only in the Scenic Rim.



## WORKSHOPS to raise biosecurity awareness

**The community's role and responsibilities in protecting Queensland from invasive plants and animals will be highlighted in a series of free workshops to be presented by Council.**

Funded in the first round of the Queensland Biosecurity Grants Program, the workshops support the state government's efforts in bolstering biosecurity preparedness and resilience.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, everyone is responsible for taking all reasonable steps to stop the spread of invasive plants and animals and the free workshops aim to increase community awareness and understanding of Council's biosecurity plan and of landowners' General Biosecurity Obligations (GBOs).



Presentations by Council's Biosecurity team, biodiversity officers and guest speakers will focus on potential biosecurity risks to the Scenic Rim, including invasive weeds and animals, to help protect the region's key industries of agriculture and tourism.

The workshops will run across the Scenic Rim until the end of June 2025. See Council's website [scenicrim.qld.gov.au](http://scenicrim.qld.gov.au) for details.

# REVITALISING OUR REGION

## The revitalisation of the Scenic Rim's towns and villages continues in 2025 with construction set to commence in late February on Gallery Walk at Tamborine Mountain.

Community feedback from residents, business operators and visitors has helped shape planning for the popular precinct, with off-street car parking, wheelchair-accessible car parks, a pedestrian crossing and improvements to the road and footpaths prioritised in the first stage of the project.

Space has been created in the footprint of the car park to encourage pop-up exhibitions for local artists and artisans, providing a safer area for people to gather without blocking the footpath, and there will be improvements to the public toilets.

Davidson Park, the centrepiece of the Beaudesert Town Centre revitalisation project, opened in time for families to enjoy the Christmas-New Year holiday period.

This inviting space, recognising the Scenic Rim's heritage and culture, offers

something for everyone, from shaded picnic areas and seating to a grassed amphitheatre and deck for family gatherings or community events.

*The Beaudesert town centre revitalisation is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Queensland Government in association with Scenic Rim Regional Council.*

*The Gallery Walk car park and amenities improvements, Stage 1 was developed with the support of the Queensland Government in association with Scenic Rim Regional Council.*



## CREATIVE SCENIC RIM

An insight into what's happening across our vibrant and thriving cultural community.

**CREATIVE**  
SCENIC RIM



## WHAT'S ON AT THE LIBRARY!

Find your next book, e-book or audiobook, free workshops, and community activities.

**SCENIC RIM**  
**LIBRARIES**



## BE HEALTHY AND ACTIVE

Access free and low-cost activities to support your health and wellbeing.

*Be*  
**HEALTHY**  
*and* **ACTIVE**



## WHAT'S ON SCENIC RIM

Your go-to guide for everything to see and do in the Scenic Rim.



## CUPPA IN THE COMMUNI-TEA

Find out where you can join us for a free cuppa and a chat.



## DISASTER DASHBOARD

Keep your family safe by signing up today.

**DISASTER**  
**DASHBOARD**



# YOUR SCENIC RIM

Councillors



Mayor

Tom Sharp Mobile: 0408 300 634



DIVISION 1

Cr Amanda Hay

Mobile: 0448 376 650



DIVISION 2

Cr Kerri Cryer

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Cr Jennifer Sanders

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Cr Marshall Chalk

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Deputy Mayor

DIVISION 6

Cr Duncan McInnes OAM

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## Divisional Map



# FUNDING ASSISTANCE

## drives road to recovery

**Works are underway in the Scenic Rim's centre and west to restore roads damaged in two declared disasters in 2022 and to make them more resilient to future flooding.**

Support from the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) is underpinning Council's restoration works at Josephville, Roadvale, Rosevale and Moorang in the wake of two major flood events, February to April 2022 and May 2022.

Works are progressing at Round Mountain Road, Roadvale Road, Rosevale Road and Tarome Road and are expected to be completed by late April 2025, site conditions and weather permitting.

In addition to DRFA funding for restoration works, Council also secured Betterment funding which will ensure the reconstructed roads are not only restored to their pre-disaster condition but also more resilient to future flooding.

Following damaging rains and flooding which began on Sunday 10 November 2024, Council has welcomed the Queensland Reconstruction Authority's announcement of approval of additional disaster support for the Scenic Rim.

Severe landslips were recorded in a number of locations, and some key roads failed completely, including Knapp Creek Road south of Kooralbyn.

# NEW LAWS FOR DOG OWNERS

**Changes to Queensland Government legislation have reinforced the importance of pet owners' compliance with laws covering cats and dogs.**

The *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* was amended in 2024, providing new penalties including on-the-spot fines and prison terms for owners who fail to control their dogs, following the rise in the number of complaints about aggressive dogs and dog attacks across the state.



# WASTE REPORT CARD

## shows continuing improvement



**The successful partnership between Council and the community in reducing the impact of waste on the environment and capitalising on economic opportunities from materials reuse is detailed in the third-year report card on the Scenic Rim Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026.**

Key achievements of 2023-2024 included the delivery of Council's waste education programs in schools and the introduction of bin health checks – random 'lift of the lid' inspections of household bins providing residents with feedback on their waste disposal habits to prevent recyclable items from ending up in landfill.

Through kerbside collections and residential and commercial self-haulage, some 22,657 tonnes of waste was

disposed of to landfill during 2023-2024 with a per capita reduction of 40 kilograms from the previous year.

Resources recycled during 2023-2024 included 4,811 tonnes of mulch, 2,216 tonnes of cardboard, 100 tonnes of e-waste, 94 tonnes of tyres, 49 tonnes of waste oil, 43 tonnes of batteries and 33 tonnes of paint through the Paintback scheme.

Initiatives to raise community awareness of thoughtful disposal of waste were a priority for Council in 2023-2024, with its engaging waste education programs reaching 380 students and scores of adults across the region.

Promoting reuse over disposal of items to landfill, the Scenic Rim Garage Sale Trail in November 2024 saw 1,500 enthusiastic shoppers participating in 27 sales of second-hand treasures.