

Mayors Corner,
11th October 2007

Hi Folks,

Water Issues

Inglewood Shire has submitted its draft drought management plan to the Department of Natural Resources and Water for registration. Local residents seeking to comment on the draft plan need to lodge their submissions with Council by 26 October, 2007.

Council has received funding under the Urban Drought Water Program which has enabled us to recommission the bore in Texas and equip it with a submersible pump. This will give Texas the security of water especially whilst these dry conditions continue.

Black Spot Funding

The Southern Downs Regional Road Group will be involved in a safety audit program which entails the accident history. It is very unlikely that any of our own roads will fit the criteria for funding for this round, but this process will assist in future rounds of Black Spot Funding for our shire.

2007/08 Plant Purchases

Plant purchases for this financial year have been authorized by Council at our September meeting. These items included:

- Crane and Winch - \$29,495.95
- Slasher - \$2,992
- Ride on Mower - \$5,500
- Post Hole Borer and Digger - \$4,389
- Laser Leveler - \$28,050
- Front End Loader - (estimated) \$300,000

Texas All Abilities Playgrounds Grant

Council are very excited with the approval of \$375,750 All Abilities Playgrounds Grant. This program was to create 20 playgrounds, however only 16 were approved throughout Queensland. It must enable all children to access this facility for children's health, wellbeing and learning. It is to become a safe and free community resource where families can relax and enjoy respite. This project is to include community planning and participation. Texas Police Constable Damian Houston has already been an initial instigator of involving the school children in the Skate Park and the landscape planning. This will now enable them to complete this area in partnership with Council. The Minister at the time, Warren Pitt's message to our Council is that all abilities will enable children to have fun, interactive and challenging play experiences.

Overgrown Allotments

Spring has sprung and so have the weeds thanks to recent rain and continued warm weather. To help prevent the outbreak of nuisance pests that thrive in overgrown vegetation Council is asking residents to regularly mow their lawns.

Lawns and gardens that are neatly maintained not only greatly improve the amenity of local streets, but reduce breeding habitat for mosquitoes, mice and reptiles.

While it's great to see the town looking green, Council has received numerous complaints about overgrown allotments. Overgrown weeds are not only unsightly but attract unwanted pests that bring potential health risks. Now is the perfect time for

residents to spring clean their yards. Mowing the lawn once a fortnight, emptying and removing containers that hold water and stacking building materials at least 300mm off the ground are simple tips all residents can follow to prevent breeding grounds for vermin, reptiles and mosquitoes.

In cases of neglected properties, Council will issue a notice to the property owner to cut and remove the vegetation within 14 days and should the property continue to be neglected, Council can appoint staff to conduct a clean up at the landowner's expense. Residents who own vacant allotments and larger allotments with adjoining properties are also reminded to maintain these properties with regular mowing and removal of rubbish.

Until next time
Mayor Joan