

## Building better connections

Council has completed a series of upgrades to existing pathways across Noosa Shire, as part of its Pathway Renewals Program.

Renewals, widenings and safety improvements have so far been completed in Diamond Street in Cooroy; Yellowwood Drive, McKinnon Drive, Warratah Close and the Werin Street to Shields Street link in Tewantin; Noosa Parade in Noosaville and Bridge Street in Cooran.

Director of Infrastructure Services, Shaun Walsh, said the recently completed works support Council's 20-year Cycling and Walking Strategy, which aims to get more people riding a bike and walking for health, transport, tourism and the environment.

"Council's goal is to make walking and cycling the preferred mode of transport for residents and visitors in the Noosa Shire," Mr Walsh said.

"These pathway improvements certainly support that objective by creating safer, more accessible links for people to walk to school, exercise or connect to local shops and services," Mr Walsh said.

More pathway renewals are planned across the shire this year.



Council has completed a number of pathway upgrades, including Diamond St in Cooroy, as part of its Pathways Renewals Program.

## Challenging volatile global market

**A dedicated steering committee is helping guide Council during the current global economic instability and rising fuel prices to meet community needs**

Council services continue to operate as normal, however the ongoing fuel-related cost pressures coupled with supply issues are creating challenges.

CEO Larry Sengstock said the increasing costs require a disciplined, agile approach to how Council operates. "Everything is costing us more and it's impacting every aspect of council's business,

so we're looking at practical ways to manage these sharp increases to ensure services continue to be delivered," he said.

A dedicated steering committee meets weekly, monitoring supply conditions, current contract arrangements and planning for a range of possible scenarios. "We have business continuity plans in place and are testing escalation

tipping points to be prepared for every scenario," he said.

"The market is volatile, and likely to be this way for some time.

"Many businesses are feeling the impacts, but we are committed to ensuring all essential services keep operating to serve our community," he said.

Mr Sengstock said the global economic instability and rising material and fuel costs are a key focus in shaping the 2026-27 council budget.

"For a Council of our size, these pressures significantly impact budget forecasting and touch every aspect of council operations," he said.

## 2026 Liveability results released



Noosa residents value nature, open space and safety most, including areas like Noosaville foreshore.

Noosa's natural environment, public open space and sense of safety top the list of what residents value most in the shire.

More than 2,300 people took part in the 2026 Noosa Liveability Survey, the second survey since 2021, contributing over 1,900 ideas about how communities experience their neighbourhoods.

Council's Principal Strategic

Planner, Michelle Tucker, said the findings will help inform future planning and investment priorities.

"The results inform Council's understanding of community priorities and will guide future investment," she said.

Noosa's Liveability Index of 69 was one point lower than 2021 but remained above state (62) and

national (64) benchmarks from the 2025 Australian Liveability Census.

Key findings show Noosa's neighbourhoods are environmentally and visually appealing, and safe.

"The survey offers a clear snapshot of day-to-day life across our neighbourhoods, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement," Ms Tucker said.

Across Noosa, movement and access was the top priority, including safer walking and cycling and links between homes, services and community spaces.

"The survey provides a Liveability Index for 11 locations across the shire, showing us community priorities and how places are performing. It helps us prioritise projects that will have the biggest impact on wellbeing," Ms Tucker said.

"It also helps us balance protecting what makes Noosa special while identifying where improvements can support a more connected and resilient community."

To learn more about the results and key findings, visit [noosa.qld.gov.au](http://noosa.qld.gov.au).

## In Brief



### Art imagination in full bloom

Step into a world of creativity at Noosa Regional Gallery! IMAGINATE: Fields of Feelings showing from 20 June – 12 July, features ceramic artist Bonnie Hislop.

With artworks by Hislop and local school children, IMAGINATE 2026 is a joyful, family-friendly celebration of creativity, imagination, and the magic of being you! \$5 per person – bookings essential.

## Planning ahead for Hilton Esplanade

**Community input to help guide future improvements**

Council is reaching out to better understand how people use and enjoy Hilton Esplanade.

The area is known for its natural charm, but parts of the street and foreshore are ageing and increasingly affected by flooding and erosion, so Council is planning ahead to improve the area.

Council has secured funding for streetscape design improvements and stormwater upgrades, alongside a pilot foreshore resilience project.

These initiatives will help inform future investment and delivery.

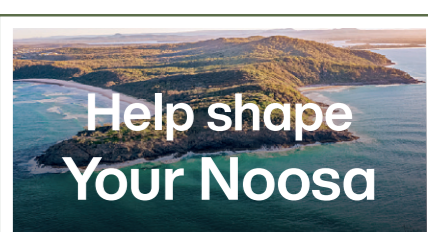
Community feedback is open. Visit [yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au](http://yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au)

"We encourage anyone with an interest in Hilton Esplanade to share their views - whether by attending a pop-up session or completing the short online survey," Infrastructure Services Director Shaun Walsh said.

"Feedback will inform a draft design and works plan, with further consultation to follow."

These planning works are proudly supported by funding from the Queensland Government's Cycle Network Local Government Grants Program and QCoast2100

funding from the Queensland Government and delivered by the Local Government Association of Queensland, in association with Noosa Council.



Each month, in Your Noosa we share updates on Council projects, works in progress across Noosa, programs and opportunities and stories from across our shire. Now we want to hear from you.

- What would you like us to feature?
- How can we make this space more useful?
- Which kinds of stories or updates interest you most?



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