Hi Anna,

Please see the below replies to questions on notice;

Response to Mr Roy Butler MP

Otford Causeway betterment (photos attached)

The Otford Causeway project, completed in November 2023:

Total project spend across Design, Project management, and Construction = **$1,628,481**
Final funding amount = **$1,206,146**
Total shortfall covered by Council = **$422,335**
There were a number of elements of the causeway project that constituted "betterment" in the eyes of the funding body. This included various upgrades to increase the performance, safety, and Natural Disaster resilience of the asset. A summary of betterment items is provided below. Total approx. amount spent on betterment = **~$112,000** (~7% of total expenditure)

- Installation of upstream culvert apron slab = ~$25k (to better protect the causeway and to ensure longevity and resilience of asset in future storm events)
- Installation of upstream culvert wing walls = ~$4k (to better protect the causeway and to ensure longevity and resilience of asset in future storm events)
- Installation of kerb & gutter and dish drains = ~$12k (to improve site overland flow management)
- Increased length of castellated kerb = ~$7k (to better protect the causeway and increase vehicular safety)
- Renewal and minor reconfiguration of surrounding linemarking = ~$2k (to better suit current standards, better suit the new design, and increase safety)
- New road signage = ~$12k (to better suit current standards, better suit the new design, and increase safety)
- New vehicle activated signage = ~$50k (to increase safety)

Road shoulder and edge drain betterment

There are several sites around the LGA where road shoulders and road edge drains have experienced damage and scour, following the AGRN1119 event in April.

Advice from our in-house Geotechnical team is that replacing like-for-like in either of these cases is essentially futile, as the same scouring/damage will undoubtedly occur again in future large events. Replacing like-for-like at these types of sites would result in an ongoing requirement for regular repairs after every larger event, periodic roadside hazards and impacts following storm events, and increased potential for damage to the road pavement.

We are funding betterment to have the shoulders repaired with a trafficable fibrecrete/shotcrete swale, as opposed to replacing like-for-like.

While this scenario results in a larger financial impact to Council, it is noted that there is still significant benefit to undertaking these works by increasing the resilience of key road corridors in the Wollongong LGA such as Mount Keria Road. In addition to strengthening the road for future storm events, there will likely be a reduction in future maintenance and repair works, and a likely reduction in roadside damages and hazards following storm events and the corresponding reduction of road closures/impacts that can occur.

Mount Keria Road example for AGN1119 (286 metres of road)

Repair of unsealed shoulder, like-for-like = ~$150 / Lm = $43K

Construction of fibrecrete/shotcrete swale, betterment = ~$326 / Lm = $93K

Regards,

Nathan

wollongong
city of innovation

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OTFORD CAUSEWAY – Storms of 2023


DANGER
DEEP
EXCAVATION
DANGER
EXCLUSION
ZONE


25
km/h
25
km/h
ROAD SUBJECT TO
FLOODING
INDICATORS SHOW DEPTH