

Community News

Brought to you by Cr Mark Booth, Division 2



Creating a resilient city

Resilience starts with the community and once again City of Moreton Bay banded together to show its spirit in the face of a potential natural disaster.

While Tropical Cyclone Alfred didn't quite hit with the gusto that was initially forecast, we still received over 300 requests for fallen trees, there were 62,000 properties affected by power outages, over 120 roads were flooded, and 1,800 tasks were recorded with the Moreton Bay SES Unit.

It took a major effort from residents, emergency responders and Council staff working together to get the city ready to face the cyclone and then back on its feet as soon as possible.

Our Local Disaster Coordination Centre worked day and night to manage the preparation and response, while providing key information to the public and emergency services. Part of that included the distribution of over 3,000 tonnes of sand and over 300,000 sandbags in three days,

which is three times the amount we had ever gone through for a single weather event. We applaud everyone for their preparation, patience and understanding through such a stressful time.

Our City Flood Database and flood mapping was updated in late February, and was critical to accurately predict potential flooding around the city and send real-time messages through our MoretonAlert system.

Look out for our 'Know Your Risk' campaign, so you can understand your risk to floods, and update your emergency plans to prepare for the next flood event.

We'll be rolling out a number of projects and initiatives, all outlined in our Environment and Sustainability Strategy, over the coming years to continually build on our city's resilience to all natural hazards.



**Read this
newsletter online**

Issue 5 May 2025



THE LIVING CITY UPDATE With Mayor Peter Flannery

It's in times of disaster that you really understand just how resilient and supportive our community is. Tropical Cyclone Alfred tested us, but our community spirit shone through. Thank you to all of you, our residents, who worked alongside our emergency responders and the Council team to ready the city for the cyclone, and then again in the aftermath.

It was timely that our City Flood Database and flood mapping had only recently been updated, ensuring a more accurate response to potential flooding risk. This new flood mapping also means residents themselves can more easily access, and better understand, their own flood risk. Be sure to download your Flood Check Property Report and familiarise yourself with the Moreton Bay Flood Viewer.

We're also continuing to advocate to other levels of government for funding to support our city's growth, liveability, sustainability and resilience. As part of this, we're seeking \$30 million to build a new Local Disaster Coordination Centre in Petrie, which will better support first responders and communication during emergencies. You can read more about our priorities at moretonbay.qld.gov.au/matters

Know your risk



Know your flood risk

New flood mapping is now available, using updated data and technology for greater accuracy. Some areas now show higher or lower risk. Check your Flood Check Property Report and explore the Moreton Bay Flood Viewer to understand your risk.

moretonbay.qld.gov.au/knowyourrisk

Keep your pet's details up to date

Have you moved house in the past year? Has your cat or dog recently been desexed or microchipped or sadly passed away? Keeping your pet's registration details up to date ensures we maintain accurate records and helps us reunite you with your furry friend if they go missing.

Update your pet's details today at

moretonbay.qld.gov.au/animals

GO like a PRO!

Residential properties with a land size smaller than 300 or larger than 2,000 square metres can now apply to opt in to the GO service. Additional GO bins can also be requested. Remember, only garden organics material is accepted in your GO bin. Please ensure no contamination of any kind is disposed into your bin. For more info or to apply visit moretonbay.qld.gov.au/GO

Hints to keep your bin as fresh as possible

- Line your bin with leaves or sticks first and add lawn clippings last.
- Put your bin out for collection every fortnight. This reduces odour!
- Mow your lawn as close to bin collection day as possible.



This initiative is supported by the Queensland Government's Recycling and Jobs Fund



Why we should stop shaming diverse housing styles - our community deserves better

I often hear people say, "we should go back to 800 or 1,000 square metre blocks." I get the nostalgia, but we need to consider what this mindset means for our community today.

Moreton Bay already has 81% of its homes as detached houses. In Brisbane, it's just 63%.

Our focus on large blocks has led to a lack of housing diversity, forcing first-home buyers, young families, and retirees to leave their support networks behind.

Why housing diversity matters:

A mix of lot sizes and housing styles creates thriving, well-connected communities. It supports local businesses, improves public transport, and makes services like schools, healthcare, and shops more accessible.

By 2041, Moreton Bay's over-65 population will double. Many older residents want to stay in their community, but without smaller, more affordable homes nearby, they have no choice. Similarly, student housing near campuses can reduce congestion, while mixed-use centres with aged-care facilities help older residents access services.

The cost of urban sprawl:

Without diverse housing, we get urban sprawl—which comes at a high cost. Sprawling developments consume more land, destroying native wildlife habitats and green spaces that provide cleaner air and cooler neighbourhoods.

Then there's the financial impact. Sprawl increases infrastructure costs, forces longer commutes, and puts more cars on the road - leading to higher emissions.

Meanwhile, denser communities:

- Boost the economy – More people near town centres mean more customers for businesses.
- Improve public transport – Higher density supports better bus and rail services.
- Increase safety – More homes near parks mean more "eyes on the street."



- Reduce traffic congestion – Housing near work hubs means shorter commutes.
- Support older residents – Smaller, accessible homes let people age in place.

Enough with the 'dog box' and 'ghetto' insults. Not everyone can, or wants to, live on a big block. Calling smaller homes "dog boxes" or "ghettos" is dismissive of real people's needs.

Many critics of diverse housing bought homes decades ago when prices were lower. But times have changed. Housing affordability is a real challenge, and people need options.

Mandating only large blocks won't solve anything. It'll just drive up prices, worsen sprawl, and push more people out.

It's time to embrace diverse housing—for young families, retirees, and everyone in between. Moreton Bay should be a place where all of us can live, thrive, and stay connected.

Cheers, *Boothy*





Free plant voucher

Council provides one free native plant voucher to residential property owners each financial year.

You can use your voucher to get one of the following:

- four tube stock pot plants
- two plants in medium-sized pots
- one plant in a large pot.

To apply for your voucher, lodge a request via moretonbay.qld.gov.au

au/Community-Nurseries

Friends of Lagoon Creek Community Nursery is close to Division 2, located on the corner of Pettigrew Street and Toovey Street, Caboolture.

The nursery is open Thursday (9 am - 12 pm) and Sunday (8:30 am - 10:30 am). To confirm stock and trading hours visit: friendsoflagooncreek.com



2025 Australia Day Awards

On Australia Day I attended the Australia Day citizenship ceremony where we welcomed 453 brand new Aussie Citizens and celebrated three outstanding locals who have been honoured for improving the lives of others by contributing to their local communities.

Congratulations to the City of Moreton Bay 2025 Australia Day Award winners:

Citizen of the Year Award: Robert Hopkins

Mayor's Community Spirit Award: Emily Finn

Mayor's Community Spirit Award: Tracy Lech

These remarkable winners have forged meaningful connections with residents and played a pivotal role in strengthening and enriching our vibrant communities.

These awards shine a light on the unsung heroes of our city.

To learn more about the 2025 Australia Day Award winners, visit moretonbay.link/Australia-Day-Awards



Mayor's Community Spirit Award winner: Emily Finn

Local Division 2 resident Emily Finn of Narangba won the Mayor's Community Spirit Award. Emily is a dedicated advocate for inclusion, championing the sport Boccia and other sports for people with disabilities. As the Moreton Bay Boccia program's coach, she has led teams to international success, organised major competitions, and tirelessly supported her community.

Moreton Bay's mountain bike scene is about to ramp up!

The wait is almost over! Council's first owned mountain bike trails are underway, and whether you're a seasoned shredder or just starting out, this will be your go to spot. Bringing fresh trails, insane features, and epic jumps, the new Lagoon Road Mountain Bike Trail at Burpengary will take your riding experience to the next level.

Trail highlights

The upgraded network will feature a Climbing/Flow Trail for those who love a steady grind and a smooth ride back with connecting trails to link all the best sections.

Next-level features

The proposed trail network may include features like Medium and Large rollers to build speed and control, a Table Top Jump for big air, and a Timber Kicker Ramp to launch with style. Plus, unique features like the Timber Snake Ladder, Wave Rider, and Rock elements will add variety and challenge.

Trail types

A Flow Trail that keeps things smooth and rhythmic to Technical Trails designed for enthusiasts, the new mountain bike trails will cater to all skill levels.

Trail feature examples:



Rollers



Tabletop Jump



Trailhead



Timber Track Feature



Timber Double Roller



Timber Drop

Brodies Park (North) fitness station

Brodies Park fitness station at 15 Dunvegan Drive, Morayfield, offers a well-rounded selection of both kinetic and static exercise equipment. The kinetic components are designed to target leg and shoulder strength, featuring a leg press, shoulder press, butterfly press, and a cycle seat. The static equipment includes step-up platforms, a sit-up board, a fitness ladder, and a chin-up bar.

All these amenities are conveniently shaded by a 'hip and ridge' style shade structure, providing a comfortable environment for users.





Enviro Explorers

The Caboolture Regional Environmental Education Centre will come alive with wild and wonderful fun for the whole family. Pack your sunscreen and binoculars and get ready for a day of nature discovery and outdoor adventure!

Saturday 12 July | 10 am to 2 pm

CREEC, Burpengary

**[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
community-events-calendar](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/community-events-calendar)**

Make Music Month

Each June, we turn up the volume at our galleries, museums, libraries and beyond with a month-long music trail. Enjoy free events, live performances, jam sessions, workshops, and more, as we put music on the map in Moreton Bay!

1 - 30 June | Various locations

**[moretonbay.link/
makemusicmonth](http://moretonbay.link/makemusicmonth)**

**MAKE
MUSIC
MONTH**
1 - 30 June 2025



Moreton Bay PrideFest

Celebrate love, diversity, and inclusion at Moreton Bay PrideFest, a vibrant festival featuring live entertainment, dazzling performances, and family-friendly fun!

Saturday 14 June | 1 pm to 9 pm

Pine Rivers Park, Strathpine

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
**[visitmoretonbayregion.com.au/
pridefest](http://visitmoretonbayregion.com.au/pridefest)**

WHAT'S ON

Anywhere Festival

The fifth annual Anywhere Festival Moreton Bay will be taking over the nooks and crannies of City of Moreton Bay in May.

8 - 25 May 2025

Various locations

**[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/
Anywhere-Festival](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Anywhere-Festival)**

National Simultaneous Storytime

Join children from all over Australia and New Zealand for National Simultaneous Storytime as we read *The Truck Cat* by Deborah Frenkel and Danny Snell. Free. No bookings required. Facilitated by our friendly staff. National Simultaneous storytime is held annually by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator, is read simultaneously in libraries, schools, pre-schools, childcare centres, family homes, bookshops and many other places around the country.

Wednesday 21 May | All Libraries

moretonbay.qld.gov.au/libraries



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