



NOTES – FRIDAY 21ST JUNE 2019

MEETING WITH COUNCILLOR MEGAN O'HARA SULLIVAN AT WESTBROOK HALL

This is a record of the questions we raised to Councillor Megan O'Hara Sullivan and the official responses from the associated departments. Megan has confirmed that all of Toowoomba Region's responses are public information which we may share.

Q1 - Westbrook is a growing community and has been demonstrated to be a highly desirable place to live. However, vacant land is presently limited. A development such as Fernleigh would be in the best interest of Westbrook and the greater region. Why has the surrounding undeveloped land not been included in the PIA?

Toowoomba Region Response

The current PIA was adopted by Council in June 2017.

Two important criteria that land needs to meet to be included in the PIA are:

- it is zoned for urban development; and*
- it is in the urban footprint in the SEQ regional plan.*

At the time the current PIA was adopted the land north of Westbrook did not meet either of these criteria (the urban footprint didn't change to include land north of Westbrook until August 2017).

Council is about to commence a review of the PIA.

The Westbrook Focus Group has requested an expected timeframe for the review of the PIA (Priority Infrastructure Area)

Q2 - Westbrook has two parks (Skate Park & Centenary Park) which cater to our children. However, there are no footpaths in the surrounding areas leading to them. Mothers travelling with young children are finding they are needing to use the roads for prams, scooters and bikes to travel to the parks because the nature strips are too difficult to navigate (especially with prams). We see this as a safety concern.

Toowoomba Region Response

Council is preparing a Footpath Network Development Plan (FNDP) to guide its investment in footpaths across the region.

As part of the above work, a preliminary inspection of the Westbrook area has been undertaken and additional sections of footpath have been identified (and mapped) for the area, including along Barwick Street, Keding Road, Roslyn Street, Gore Street, Main Street and Progress Avenue to provide footpath connections to Centenary Park and Westbrook Park ('skate park').

Note: Council has not been briefed on the work identified here nor any of the other footpath network development work. This will be done through a future Councillor Information Session.

There are a number of challenges with constructing footpaths in this area due to the table drains and un-kerbed roads which may increase the cost because culvert crossings over some table drains are likely to be required.

Council's Open Space Strategy also identifies path connections to open space areas in Westbrook including eastern boundary of Westbrook Park and also along Barwick Street.

As part of the FNDP, a program of future footpath construction works will be developed and presented to Council for funding consideration in future budgets.

Q3 - Carla Park (in Carla Cres) was proposed to be developed within 5 years of the surrounding housing development being completed. Any idea when we can expect to see this park developed?

Toowoomba Region Response

Carla Crescent Park is scheduled for upgrade to a Local Park in the Local Government Infrastructure Plan (LGIP).

Subject to availability of landscape architect resources park design is scheduled to begin in the 2020/21 financial year with construction, subject to Council capital budget funding and approval, to begin in the following 2021/22 financial year

A range of improvement works have been carried out at Westbrook over the last number of years to include Ferguson Road – Dog Off Leash Park – works completed this F/Y, Skate Park, Centenary Park.

For background information over the last 3 years Council have spent \$284,185 on various improvements at Centenary Park, Westbrook Park and Ferguson Road Park as per works detail and budget detail outlined in attached spreadsheet. [Spreadsheet pasted below.](#)

2016/2017		
Ferguson Road Park		
1013166	PK16/17 Signage Ferguson Road Park	2,113.00
1013168	PK16/17 Pathways Ferguson Road Park	26,930.00
		29,043.00
Centenary Park		
1005427	Centenary Park, Westbrook Playground	53,416.83
Westbrook Park		
1011593	PK16/17 Westbrook Tennis Lights	24,684.03
1015065	PK16/17 Westbrook Park Fencing	14,809.30
1014473	PK16/17 Skate Surface Westbrook10k	8,185.78
2018/2019		
Ferguson Road Park		
1026555	PM New Signs Ferguson Road Open Space	1,829.61
1026610	PK18/19 Ferguson Road Fencing	21,053.94
1026611	PK18/19 Ferguson Road Pathway	60,864.52
1026612	PK18/19 Ferguson Road Seating	12,166.18
1026613	PK18/19 Ferguson Road Gazebo	7,150.00
		103,064.25

Centenary Park		
1018646	PK17/18 Centenary Park Install Bollards	14,925.04
1021458	PK17/18 Centenary Park Fence Replace	3,442.70
		18,367.74
Westbrook Park		
1018661	PK17/18 Westbrook Park Gazebo Replace	28,510.49
1027072	PK18/19 Westbrook Skate Park	4,103.64
	Westbrook Total	284,185.06

Q4 - There has been talk of a need for a new state High School to be developed in the South-Western corridor to relieve capacity issues on Harristown and cater for the projected growth of the outer south-west. How are TRC working with the State Government to secure land for a future State High School?

Toowoomba Region Response

We met every couple of years with the planners from the education department, so they understand where development is occurring in the Toowoomba region. They have identified the need for a high school in the short to medium term in the south-west of Toowoomba, indicating that the school could be in Westbrook, Drayton or Darling Heights.

We have no preference for which area and local planning we have done for Westbrook identifies a preferred location. The Drayton Land Use Investigation won't identify a site but will include criteria that should be used to determine a site.