CITY OF WODONGA  Question time at council meetings

Please refer to the information on the reverse of this form prior to submitting a question.

Questions will be read by the chairperson or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Your name will be read out at the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Persons must be present in the gallery at the time their question is considered. A maximum of two questions per person per meeting will be permitted. Where questions are divided into parts (or sub-parts) each part will be considered a separate question.

Questions may be answered verbally at the meeting by the chairperson, or CEO, or in writing at a later date.

Details of the person completing the question:

Given name: Allen
Surname: Riches

Question:
Can the main sheet in Wodonga be made smoke free. I consider this to be a health issue for all who use the main sheet and surrounds.
August 21, 2017

Enquiries:
Reference: D17.12242/4

Mr Allan Ricketts

Dear Mr Ricketts

Thank you for your question to the council about imposing a ban on smoking in High Street, Wodonga.

Local government is able to make local laws that restrict smoking within certain areas. However, the council believes its primary role is to educate the community on the existing State laws and, where necessary, undertaken enforcement of those laws.

The relevant legislation is the Tobacco Act 1987, and the Tobacco Amendment Act 2016. In 2014 smoking was prohibited around underage sporting events and including certain youth activities, skate parks, children’s playgrounds, schools and child care centres.

More recently on August 1 this year new laws prohibited smoking where food is sold or consumed, with a 10 metre buffer zone to be enforced. This new restriction provides some additional smoke free areas within High Street and should go some way towards addressing your concerns.

At this stage the council does not support a local law to further restrict smoking in High Street. Rather the council will work to educate the community and ensure existing State laws are enforced.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Patience Harrington
Chief Executive Officer

D17.12242/4
Submit a Question for the Council Meeting

Name: Michelle Cowan
Email: 
Address: 
Suburb: 
State: 
Postcode: 
Phone Home: 
Phone Work: 
Mobile:

---

Question:

Serious road safety concerns on Felttimber Creek Road have been witnessed and are acknowledged in both versions of the Hills Strategy making the decision to encourage cyclists on this road dangerous - the narrowness of the road, blind corners and speed of vehicles is acknowledged. Why did Council construct a mountain bike trail that is accessed by Felttimber Creek Road, ahead of addressing the acknowledged serious road safety concerns for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists? Will Council try to remedy this serious problem by removing any native trees from either side of Felttimber Creek road? Can Council give specific details as to how the serious road-safety issues will be addressed and if this is not acceptable to the community, will Council promise to revisit the decision to put mountain bike trails on Klings Hill?

--

This email was Virus checked by UTM 9. http://www.sophos.com The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.
August 21, 2017

Enquiries: Kevin Scully
Reference:

Ms Michelle Cowan

Dear Michelle

I refer to your question to the council meeting regarding safety concerns with Felltimber Creek Road.

Walkers, runners, naturalists and mountain bikers have used and enjoyed our hills, including the Hunchback Hill Complex and Klings Hill, for many years and through that time they have arrived by car, on foot, on bikes and even horses.

As our population has grown and our urban fringe spreads, the usage and demand on our hills has also increased.

One of the objectives of the Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy, that guides the management and master planning for the hills, talks directly to user, neighbour and community safety.

Core components of the plans continue to focus on implementing user codes of conduct, monitoring unauthorised activities and minimising any potential for user conflict (refer to Sections 3.1, 3.2.3 and 3.2.6).

The draft Klings Hill masterplan proposes several strategies to provide safer links for cyclists and walkers between West Wodonga and the Hunchback Hill Complex overall, including Klings Hill. This includes a reduced speed limit along Felltimber Creek Rd, new shared paths as safer alternative routes to the hill's main entry points and investigating an upgrade of the Felltimber Creek Rd and central management track intersection.

The proposed actions in the draft plans are concepts and the detail will be determined in line with the Implementation Plan contained in the draft strategy.
Any action identified as a priority will be subject to:

- Engagement with relevant stakeholders;
- Consideration of social and environmental impacts,
- Identification of required approvals; and,
- Preliminary design, cost estimates and the council’s budgetary process.

The guiding principles also talk to sustainable management and biodiversity values to ensure that facilities and activities can be developed, managed and enjoyed without adverse impacts on the hills' biodiversity, vegetation, habitat, cultural heritage and scenic values or the experiences of other visitors.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Patience Harrington
Chief Executive Officer
CITY OF WODONGA Question time at council meetings

In person: 104 Hovell St, Wodonga, VIC 3690
Post: PO Box 923, Wodonga, VIC 3699 Fax: (02) 6022 9322 Email: info@wodonga.vic.gov.au

Please refer to the information on the reverse of this form prior to submitting a question.

Questions will be read by the chairperson or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Your name will be read out at the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Persons must be present in the gallery at the time their question is considered. A maximum of two questions per person per meeting will be permitted. Where questions are divided into parts (or sub-parts) each part will be considered a separate question.

Questions may be answered verbally at the meeting by the chairperson, or CEO, or in writing at a later date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details of the person completing the question:</th>
<th>Given name:</th>
<th>John</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surname:</td>
<td>Garratt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Question:**

1. What is the total cost to the ratepayers of Wodonga for the design, development, and preparation of the Hills Strategy, succeeding Master plans for each hill, and the priority implementation plans including all community consultation activities and all works carried out by council officers associated with this project?

2. What is the projected cost to Wodonga ratepayers for the full implementation of and ongoing management of the proposed Hills Strategy (and associated plans), including costs for:

   - councils ongoing management of anti-social and unlawful activities and consequences that contravene acceptable practice, relevant codes of conduct, regulations and laws
   - the ongoing additional repairs, maintenance and cleaning & garbage services relevant to all hills and activities
   - additional risk and hazard management activities associated with the protection of residents and residential properties most likely impacted by such risks and hazards (including fire management and associated hazards, and emergency management planning and access), and
   - anticipated council officer and or contractor works associated with ongoing (and unexpected) management of the hills.
28 August 2017

Enquiries: Leon Schultz
Reference: D17.19806

Mr John Garratt

Dear Mr Garratt

Re: Response to question submitted at Ordinary Council meeting August 21, 2017

Q1 – The total costs to the Wodonga ratepayer for the preparation of the design and development of the Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy is as follows:

- The costs for the three rounds of separate consultation, including venue hire, catering, facilitator’s costs and preparation and printing of documents (excluding all staff costs) were approximately $15,000;

- The consultant’s costs associated with initial draft documents and plans and the second draft set of documents with simplified plans of the hills total approximately $135,000.

Q2 – If and when adopted, the works associated with the Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy will then be costed. Costs associated with social and environmental impacts, capital works, operation and maintenance, risk and hazard management are therefore not considered until the strategy is formally adopted.

All items associated with any of the above will require specific budget line items and will be considered by councillors and the public in the course of the budget deliberation process each year.

Most of the operating costs will be covered by the day to day operations for the various council departments and in line with the anticipated growth of the city.

As the strategy indicates, careful consideration will be given to any actions ensuing from the strategy, taking into account the competing priorities.

Yours sincerely

Patience Harrington
Chief Executive Officer
Questions will be read by the chairperson or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Your name will be read out at the meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Persons must be present in the gallery at the time their question is considered. A maximum of two questions per person per meeting will be permitted. Where questions are divided into parts (or sub-parts) each part will be considered a separate question.

Questions may be answered verbally at the meeting by the chairperson, or CEO, or in writing at a later date.

1. How much money has been spent this far on the Hills Activation Strategy? Including any expenses that may have been incurred when council staff visited Mt. Stromlo, with members of the Mt Bike Community, Draft Documentation Costs, Professional Assessments, and Construction of the Mt. Bike Track.

2. Will the council release the latest C.F.A recommendations for the Hill Top Strategy.
28 August 2017

Enquiries: Leon Schultz
Reference: D17.19806

Mr Dan Humpage

Dear Mr Humpage

Re: Response to question submitted at Ordinary Council meeting
August 21, 2017

Q1 - The total costs to the Wodonga ratepayer for the preparation of the
design and development of the Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy can
be broken up as follows:

- The costs for the three rounds of separate consultation, including venue
  hire, catering, facilitator’s costs and preparation and printing of
documents (excluding all staff costs) were approximately $15,000;

- The consultant’s costs associated with initial draft documents and plans
  and the second draft set of documents with simplified plans of the hills
  total approximately $135,000.

The costs associated with construction of the Rock-N-Roller downhill track can
be described as follows:

- The trail concept and feasibility assessment cost approximately $7,000;

- The verification and construction of the trail, including a 12 month
  maintenance contract costs approximately $88,000;

- Purchase and installation of appropriate signage cost approximately
  $2,000.

Council staff visited the Mt Stromlo Mountain Bike Park as part of its
assessment of gathering ideas and knowledge about the development of both
walking and bike trails and their impact on the environment. This visit took
place on Friday, 15 April 2016.

Costs to council were approximately $5,000, including transport,
accommodation and meals.
No members of the mountain bike club were invited or accompanied council staff on this visit. At the time of the visit, one staff member was a member of MTBA (Mountain Biking Australia).

The total costs to date, excluding staff time associated with meetings, reports, consultation, document preparation, construction etc is approximately **$252,000**.

The CFA have provided written confirmation to Council of their commitment and willingness to work with Council on this strategy. The CFA have also indicated that all previous CFA feedback has been positively addressed in this current draft.

Yours sincerely

---

**Patience Harrington**  
Chief Executive Officer