



Councillor Information Bulletin

For the Ordinary Council Meeting
held on Thursday 16th March 2023

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2. **TABLED CORRESPONDENCE**

- **DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SPORT AND CULTURAL INDUSTRIES.**
Local Government Amendment Bill 2023 Introduced.
- **MAIN ROADS.**
Main Roads Report Great eastern Country Zone.

3. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

4. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPEMENT REPORT**

Wellbeing Update
Tourism Update
Hood-Penn Museum Update

5. **OTHER**



SHIRE OF WESTONIA

March/April 23

Date & Time	What	Where	Who
Tuesday – Friday 14 – 17 March	Medical Student Immersion Program	Westonia	All
Thursday 16 March	Council Meeting	Chambers	Councillors, Senior Staff
Thursday 30 March	Pingelly Staying in Place Conference	Pingelly	CEO & Manager Community Services
Thursday 20 April	Council Meeting	Chambers	Councillors, Senior Staff



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



LGAlert))

Local Government Amendment Bill 2023 introduced

The first tranche of the local government reforms will focus on strengthening local democracy, providing greater transparency and accountability by:

- introducing optional preferential voting, bringing local government elections more in line with State and Federal elections
- requiring public election of mayor or president for all larger councils
- abolishing the use of wards for smaller local governments
- aligning the size of councils with the size of the population of each local government area
- enabling reforms to the owners and occupiers roll to prevent the use of 'sham leases', addressing critical findings of the City of Perth Inquiry
- setting State-wide caretaker periods during ordinary council elections
- setting standardised council meeting procedures
- mandating live streaming and recording of council meetings
- establishing mandated communications agreements between council members and the local government administration
- enabling reforms to require all local governments to publish information through online registers, including registers that disclose information about local government leases, grants, and goods and services contracts
- introducing new requirements for the publication of performance indicators and results for all local government Chief Executive Officers, with provision for limited exemptions for sensitive matters.

A copy of the Bill, the Second Reading speech, Explanatory Memorandum and a blue bill showing the proposed amendments to the Local Government Act 1995 can be sourced from the [WA Parliament website](#).

This Bill incorporates consultation feedback received from the local government sector, including changing the voting system to optional preferential voting from full preferential voting and adjusting the maximum number of councillors for smaller councils from 5 to 7.

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries will be holding a webinar for the local government sector early March 2023 to provide a briefing on the bill and its implications for the local government sector. This will include an address by the Hon John Carey MLA, Minister for Local Government.

Attendance at this webinar is encouraged, particularly for local government CEOs and staff involved in governance and elections. Registration details to be confirmed.

The webinar will be for approximately 30 minutes and will include a briefing and an opportunity to ask questions. The session will be recorded.

Questions regarding the Bill and local government reforms can be directed to actreview@dlgsc.wa.gov.au

You are receiving this email because you are a CEO of a local government in Western Australia and/or are an officer of a local government authority.

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Australian Government



mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Main Roads Report Great Eastern Country Zone

February 2023

Great Eastern Hwy	Coates Gully	58.5 – 65.4	Bridge replacement with culvert	Vincent Vercraeije	Decmil Southern	Phil Pabedinskas
Works are due for completion in February 2023.						



Australian Government



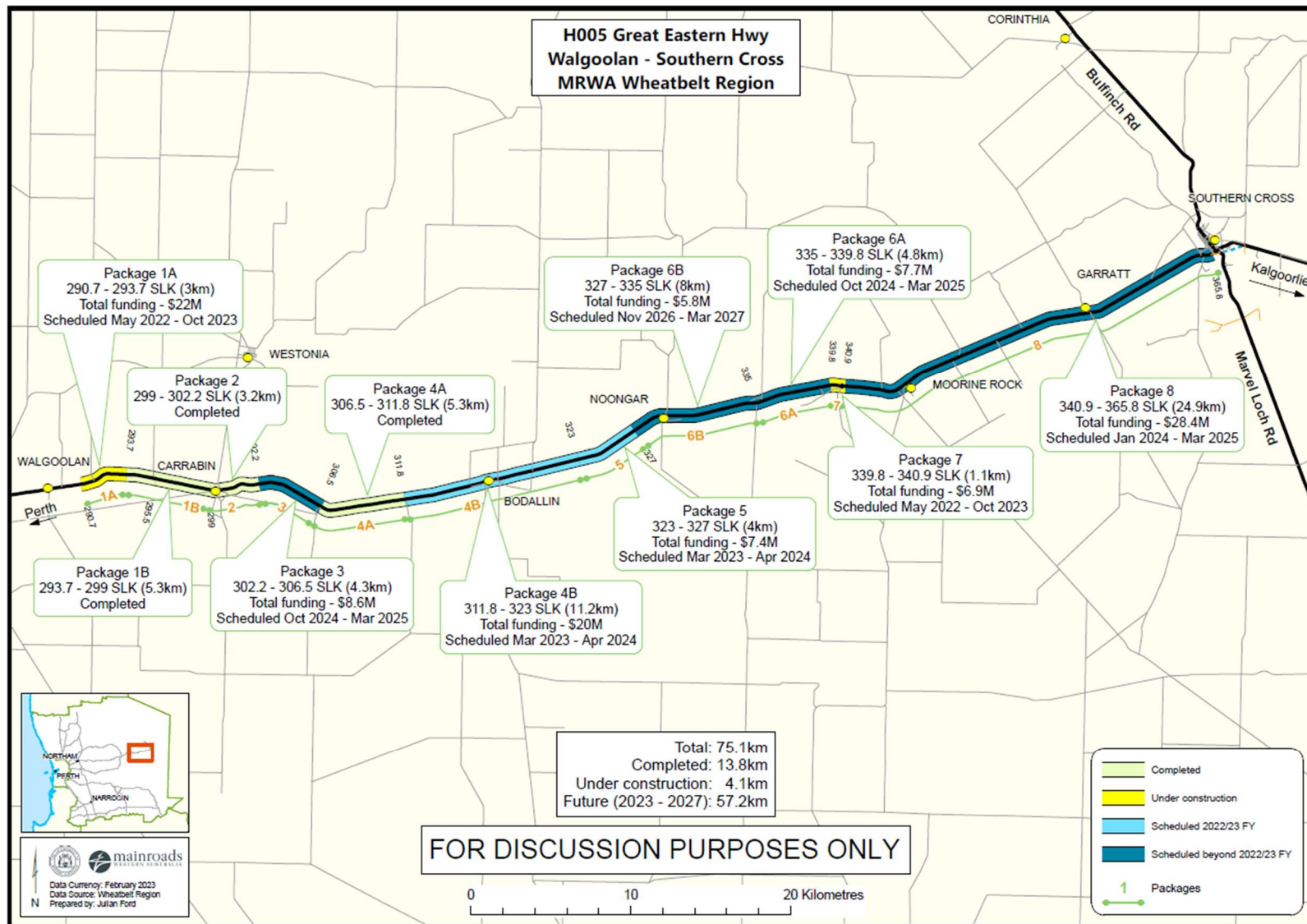
mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

BUILDING OUR FUTURE

Main Roads Report Great Eastern Hwy Upgrades

February 2023

Great Eastern Hwy - Walgoolan Southern Cross (SLK 290 – SLK 365.8)



- Package 1A and 7 - Widening overlay and seal 6km and replace Bridges 629 & 630A – Works commenced in May 2022 and anticipated to be completed October 2023.

Walgoolan Bridge:

- Vegetation clearing complete and side track installed.
- Eastern alignment to be sealed end of February and traffic will transfer to the new alignment from the side track.
- Works progressing on western alignment.
- Structure commenced, foundations installed, pile caps constructed and pre-cast elements in fabrication.

Moorine Rock Bridge:

- Works suspended and discussions continuing with ARC Infrastructure regarding access.

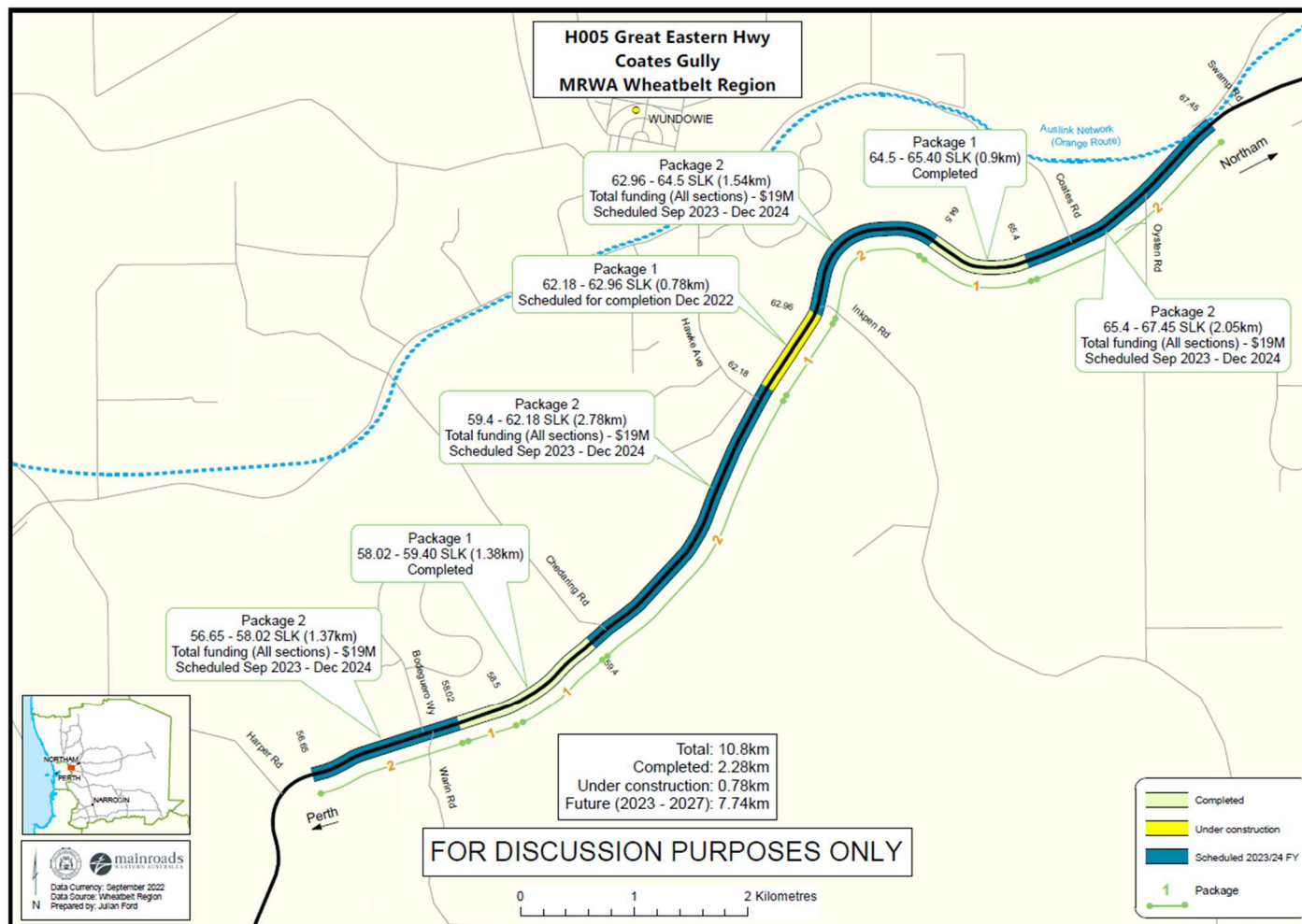
- Packages 1B – 2km roadworks complete.
- Package 4B and 5 – (widening, overlay and seal 15km) – Construction due to commence March 23 to April 24.
 - Upgrade of 15 kilometres between Stephen Road and 2 kilometres West of Noongar South Road in the Shire of Yilgarn
 - Minor upgrade of intersections at Penton Road, Ivey Road, Blyth Road, Bodallin South Road and Bodallin North Road
 - Bodallin townsite upgrades
 - New 2-kilometre east-bound passing lane between Bodallin and Moirine Rock
 - A new west-bound rest area between Bodallin and Moirine Rock
- Package 3, 6A, 6B and 8 – (widening, overlay and seal 45km) - design complete, minor land and services relocation in progress, delivery scheduled for 2024/25 onwards.
 - Covalent Lithium - Parker Range Road intersection with Great Eastern Highway - Upgrade design is currently in progress. The intersection upgrade falls within the Package 8 and delivery scheduled in Jan 2024 onwards.
 - Package 6A - design complete, delivery scheduled in October 2024 to March 2025.

Great Eastern Hwy - Coates Gully Replace Bridge Replacements 605, 606 & 607 (SLK 58 – SLK 66)

- Br 605 and 607 – Works complete.
- Bridge 606 – Construction commenced early Oct after winter suspension and schedule to complete by February 2023.

Great Eastern Hwy - Coates Gully Stage 2 Roadworks (SLK 56.3 – SLK 68)

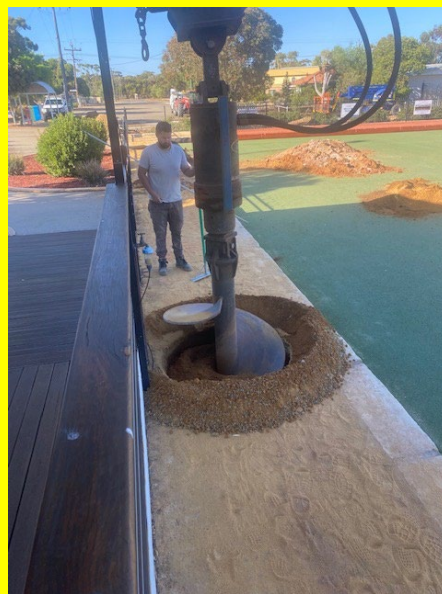
- Services relocation designs and environmental approvals are in progress. Construction in 2023/24.



CEO'S REPORT

- **GENERAL MATTERS**

- Contracted COVID during the month which required attendance at Council meeting via ZOOM.
- Extended long weekend for country week bowls.
- Finalisation of Local Planning Strategy for submission to WAPC for consideration and endorsement at a meeting scheduled for 14 March 2023.
- Participated in LEMC meeting held via ZOOM on Thursday 23 February 2023.
- Attended CEACA meeting held in Merredin on Monday 27 February 2023.
- Along with the Shire President attended the GEZ regional conference held in Merredin on Tuesday 28 February 2023.
- Coordination of shed builders with the installation of footings for the new bowls stadium. Steel structure being installed from Monday 13 with cladding completed the following week.



- Coordination of purchases for the new fuel station with the tank ready for installation in the ground in the next couple of weeks.
- Making enquiries with the Federal Department of Health to register interest in Nurse Practitioner funding program.
- Council has successfully obtained its HACC registration. Enquiries are being made with potential customers with the intention to engage additional domestic and gardening staff to complete work.
- The storage water tank for the airport has been delivered ready for installation.
- DFES Bushfire Safety training has been organised for local volunteers to be held at the Old Miners Hall on 21st & 22nd March and 30th & 31st March for FCo's.

- **DELEGATED AUTHORITY ACTIONS**

- Nil

- **ROADCREW**

- The Warralakin RRG reconstruction project is nearing completion with water binding completed and bitumen seal works commencing 20 March 2023.
- New culverts are being installed in the Baladjie Lake system North Boodarockin Road crossing.
- Summer grading of the worst affected harvest haulage roads
- Still having trouble with the employment of a new road train driver.
- The new HP sidetippers are arriving end of March early April. Recommend that we tender locally for the old GTE sidetippers initially to gauge local interest.

- **TOWN**

- Preparation works have commenced on the construction of the new stage structure at the oval which is repurposing the old bowls shade structures.
- Preparation works including the removal of old shade shelters, fencing and limestone blocks from the bowling green precinct making ready for new stadium.
- Preparation works for the streetscape improvements proposed for Wolfram Street.

- **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & BUILDING MATTERS**

Nil

- **PLANT HOURS**

The following is a list of plant and vehicle kilometre and hour readings for the period ending 1.3.23

Item		1.2.23	1.3.23
P1	CAT 140 GRADER	1,290hrs	1,393hrs
P2	CAT 12M GRADER	7,453hrs	7,522hrs
P3	PRIME MOVER (OLD FREIGHTLINER)	211,507kms	215,424kms
P4	ROAD TRAIN (NEW FREIGHTLINER)	89,466kms	93,222kms
P5	JOHN DEERE LOADER	4,321hrs	4,418hrs
P6	CAT ROLLER (SKIP)	801hrs	893hrs
P7	MINI-EXCAVATOR	973hrs	973hrs
P8	TELEHANDLER JCB	2,425hrs	2,444hrs
P9	TOYOTA (GRADER UTE)	17,636kms	20,122kms
P10	MITSUBISHI CANTER	3,581kms	3,857kms
P11	TOYOTA HILUX (GARDENER) WT 35	96,264kms	97,771kms
P12	JOHN DEERE (5100)	2,496hrs	2,496hrs
P14	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER GXL (CEO)	5,455kms	8,970kms
P15	TOYOTA PRADO GXL (W/SUPER)	40,697kms	43,297kms
P16	TOYOTA RAV4 (ADMIN)	79,223kms	84,296kms
P17	TOYOTA HILUX DUAL CAB	13,487kms	15,066kms
P19	FAST ATTACK	16,398kms	16,542kms
P20	FIRE TRUCK	6,727kms	6,727kms
P18	WESSY BUS	133,313kms	136,115kms
P22	KUBOTA RIDE ON MOWER (OVAL)	1,997hrs	2,001hrs
P23	TOYOTA MINI-BUS (WT COM V)	33,299kms	34,034kms
P24	CAT ROLLER (LOLA)	1,057hrs	1,152hrs
P25	MICK's BEAUT UTE	157,892kms	159,440kms
P26	GO-GO MOBILE SWEEPER		

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND WELLBEING REPORT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT



The third working group meeting was held on Thursday 9/3/23 to discuss the progress and any new direction for “Wessy on the Green” - 22nd of April 2023.

We have been heavily advertising on social media, websites & through Shire/tourism contacts and MMM advertising started on the 6th of March. We encourage everyone who wants a ticket to get online and book or come and grab a ticket over the counter at the Co-op or Shire/CRC admin. Also on sale is our major Raffle Prize valued at \$5000.00. Two Draw Raffle for a chance to win BP Fuel gift cards to the value of \$2500.00. We are encouraging people to volunteer to help either on the day or the days leading up to the event. Our next and last meeting will be held on

Grant applications & award nominations submitted:

- Department of Communities – Youth Week Grant successful application we received \$2345.00 to enable us to hold a Youth week movie night on the 14th April 2023 it covers Movie rights/hire (Buckley’s Chance), food and drinks. It also allowed us to cover the cost of Perth Reptile co. display, Face painter and a portion of MMM advertising for “Wessy on the Green”.
- Rural Health West - Nomination to WA Rural health excellence awards, category “Peoples Choice” for her Contributions to the community Laura Black NP. Laura was presented as the winner of her award category. Dr Olga Ward was a finalist in her category in “GP of the year”. Shire representatives in Jasmine & Daimon Geier, Renea & John Corsini and Olga and Laura’s partners Andrew & Ron were there to witness & celebrate the remarkable efforts of these two accomplished and highly regarded Women of their fields. At the 2023 WA Rural Health Excellence Awards, held on Saturday 11 March in the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.
- 2023-25 Regional Airports Development Scheme funding. To provide a water supply for the airport terminal (1x 32000L Poly tank). We have received a Funding Deed which has been signed and returned to the RADS team for the grant of \$5343.00 along with the Shire’s agreed payment of \$5343.00 to cover the total cost of the project.
- Collgar Wind farm Community fund Application – Level 2 Sponsorship application has been submitted this month in March 2023. Being for local initiatives, educational programs and scholarships. We have made an application to upgrade the Westonia picture theatre projector system.

Future grant opportunities & award nominations:

- CBH Community Grants next funding round opened February 2023

- Department of LG, Sport & Cultural Industries – Active Regional Communities Grants (up to \$5000) categories; Capacity building, Event hosting and Participation. Applications open all year.

WELLBEING REPORT

Age Care

Application to provide Aged Care by a Government Organisation – Approval has been given and the Shire are now able to provide Domestic support, Gardening/Home Maintenance, Transport and more and will be able to support existing programs such as wellbeing activities, nursing and other health related areas. We are currently applying to be registered with my aged care to become an organisation administrator.

Whilst our Health and Wellbeing officer is on maternity leave staff continue to make themselves available to visit the most vulnerable of our community to keep communication lines open. Including meals on wheels visits and referring or helping with any maintenance, IT or Service issues where possible.

Community activities and resources

Heal Program with Wheatbelt health is still running with great attendance. The course is engaging, informative & interactive. The participants have been given resources and step by step guidance on healthy routines with simple way's to achieve their goals.

Meals on Wheels – now has a total of 12 seniors, utilising this fantastic service. We have been capped at 12 people as a maximum for this service as this is a total of 36 meals per week.

Upcoming events and projects

Mums and bubs hours of power TBA

TOURISM REPORT

WESTONIA TOURIST PARK

The park has still been busy considering this time of year is known to be the quiet time of year. Word is spreading fast and Westonia is quickly becoming a great option for easy weekend getaway with everything it offers.

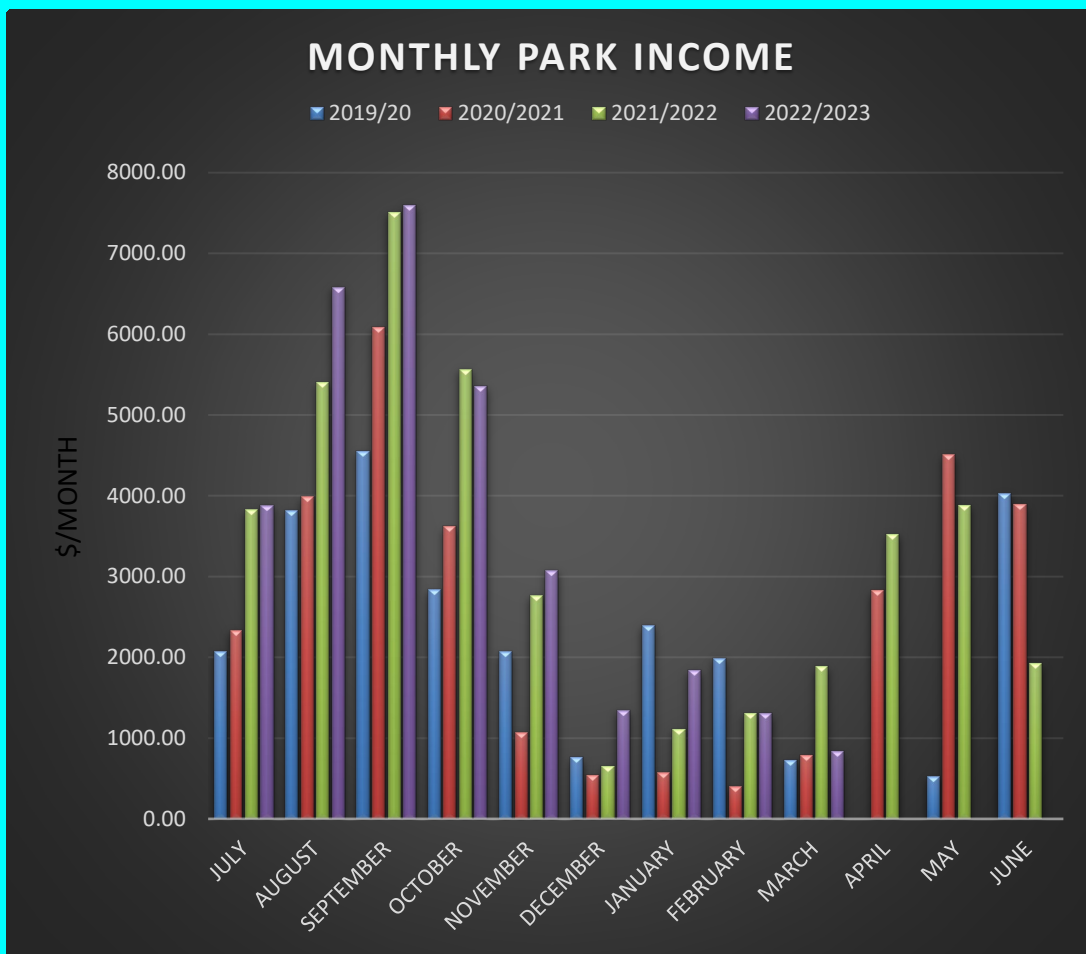
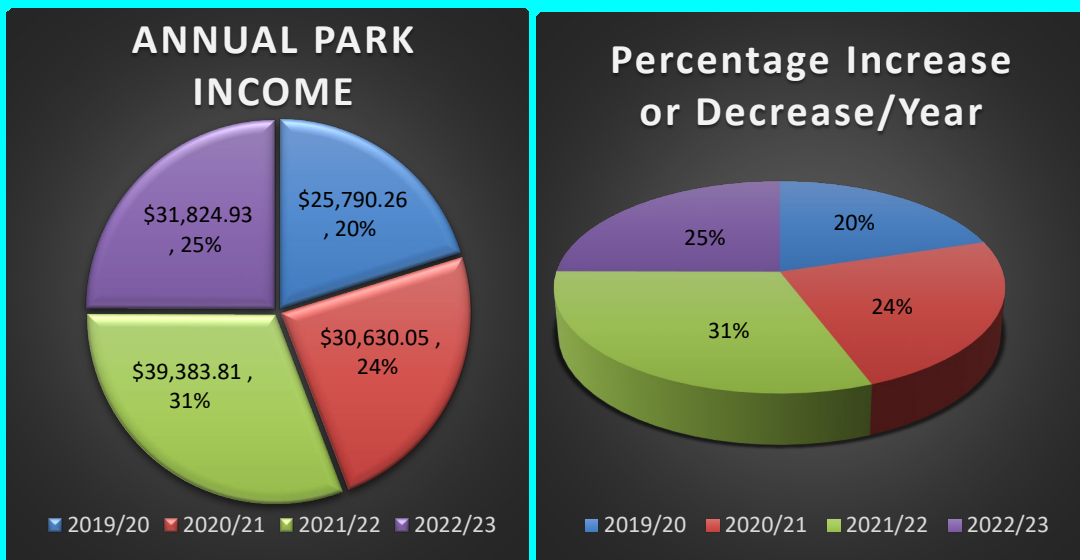
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- Various minor repairs and maintenance ongoing. Focal area being bathroom maintenance (fixtures and disabled bathroom upgrade)

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Permanent signage required to say “If office is unattended, please ring the caretakers phone or Shire office alternatively you can visit the Shire office during business hours Monday to Friday to complete your booking”.
- Overflow – new signs needed for sites and information sign needed to describe who ring or see to book in and outline that you must un-hook also defined bays might be a good idea for this area.

STATISTICS



HOOD-PENN MUSEUM

With a recent plug on the ABC news January has been the busiest it has ever been! Luckily there has always been a volunteer available to take visitors through the museum over the weekends while it is shut, reports from the volunteers was that most who visited had made a special trip out to Westonia just for the muesum expirience. The farm scene is still a work in progress with works on constructing a shire map with the early settlers and who owned which location underway.

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- Various minor repairs and maintenance ongoing

RECENT PROJECTS

- Old Truck modification for farming scene and Back drop in-place.

FUTURE PROJECTS

- New scenes to be created in the existing space of the old storage room to tell the stories of our primary industries of which Westonia was founded on.

STATISTICS

