PORT STEPHENS COUNCIL

2020 to 2021 Community advocacy priorities
Progressing the Williamtown Special Activation Precinct

Progress planning for and funding of the establishment of a Special Activation Precinct (SAP) at Williamtown.

$150 million+

1. To significantly improve the drainage of water out of Williamtown to alleviate significant land use constraints.
2. To unlock the potential of land surrounding Newcastle Airport, driving Aerospace investment, innovation and 6000 jobs in Port Stephens.
3. Seek a commitment for a rail link from Newcastle Airport to Tomago to increase accessibility through public transport options.
4. Align all levels of government to facilitate future development through streamlined planning, processes and access to funding through a city/regional deal.
5. Plan for design elements and public domain treatments that mark Williamtown as a global gateway to the Hunter, Greater Newcastle and Port Stephens.

6000 jobs in Port Stephens

Essential upgrades to Newcastle Airport Code E runway

Seek a joint commitment to assist Council, as co-owner of Newcastle Airport, to upgrade the airport runway to accommodate long range international flights.

Less than $70 million – runway and terminal

Newcastle Airport requires an upgrade to accommodate long range aircraft (Code E) to unlock the full potential of the Hunter region, create 4400 jobs and boost the economy by up to $12 billion. The uplift would be gained through international airfreight together with increased passenger tourism traffic. The required work includes both airfield and substantial terminal upgrades. Making this happen requires a coordinated funding model from State and Federal Governments along with Newcastle Airport's monetary commitment.

Better community health facilities

To support the wellbeing of our growing community and improve health outcomes including specialised services such as renal dialysis.
Kings Hill urban development

Seek a commitment to assist Council and landowners to implement the Kings Hill urban release area, delivering approximately 4000 dwellings.

$80 million for highway interchange and drainage channel

Raymond Terrace, is the largest town in Port Stephens and a centre of strategic importance across virtually every metric. Its population growth targets and commercial/retail future relies almost entirely on a substantial increase in available affordable housing. The Kings Hill urban release area is currently the only viable solution to this significant challenge.

Town centre revitalisation

Seek support and funding opportunities to complement Council’s financial commitment to invest in spaces, places and rejuvenate the town centres of Port Stephens.

$25 million

Creating vibrant and liveable spaces in a key driver of economic growth. We know that vibrant communities attract new investment, help business retain a skilled workforce, attract visitors and increase visitor spend.

Council is committed to investing heavily in the revitalisation of our town centres both through infrastructure investment and place based initiatives such events, activations and cultural experiences.

Support is sought from the State Government to help build on this momentum and invest in tourism infrastructure, wayfinding signage and public domain enhancements that will help boost the NSW economy through new private investment, infrastructure enhancements and a thriving visitor economy.

Restart the Port Stephens local economy

TO HELP PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES RECOVER FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 GLOBAL PANDEMIC
Better connections

Seek firm commitment and funding for:

1. M1 Pacific Motorway extension to connect Sydney, the Hunter and NSW north coast
2. Cabbage Tree Rd/Tomago Road duplication
3. Sealing unsealed roads across Port Stephens
4. A dual carriageway for Nelson Bay Road from Stockton to Williamtown
5. As well as important pathway connections across the LGA

1. **$100+ million for next stage** — A critical missing link, the long-awaited M1 extension will address sustained traffic growth on one of our nation’s most important motorways.
2. **$100 million** — A strategic upgrade to accommodate traffic growth from an expanded Newcastle Airport and Williamtown/Tomago industrial areas.
3. **$17 million** — A rolling program to seal roads will address significant risks to road safety for residents and visitors.
4. **$100+ million for next stage** — Slated for significant growth from tourists and permanent residents, the realisation of Nelson Bay’s potential is constrained by this largely single lane road.
5. **$2.5 million** — Connecting pathways between Shoal Bay and Nelson Bay to improve heath, wellbeing and mobility between aged care facilities and the town centre.
6. **$2 million** — Improving cyclist and pedestrian connectivity between Medowie and Raymond Terrace CBD.
7. **$2 million** — Shared path between Williamtown RAAF to Medowie connecting pedestrian staff between the base and the community.
8. **$9 million** — High priority pathways as part of the Tomaree Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan ensuring safety and accessibility for pedestrians.

Maximise the economic contribution of regionally significant infrastructure including Newcastle Airport, through implementation of the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan.
Foreshore revitalisation

Funding to implement foreshore revitalisation works that seek to maximise the social and economic value of our foreshore areas through improving facilities to cater for visitors, tourism businesses and residents.

$6 million+

Port Stephens is a pristine marine park more than double the size of Sydney Harbour and is home to some of the most physically striking tourist destinations in NSW. Work is currently underway to plan for the future of the Eastern Groyne area along the Nelson Bay foreshore, which will act as an important gateway to our Port. This is a high use area for recreation, tourism and commercial operations and forms a critical part of our coastline — essential upgrades are required to maximise its attractiveness and usability for residents, visitors and commercial operators. We are also seeking to implement important coastal erosion work at Sandy Point, Corlette — one of Port Stephens’ most iconic pieces of shoreline. A detailed management plan has been certified and includes sand nourishment, rock revetment work, stormwater drainage and public safety measures. Protective works are urgently required for a section of this coastline before further extreme weather events deliver catastrophic results for residents and visitors.

Sport and recreation infrastructure

Seek funding support for high class, multi-functional sports complexes at Nelson Bay and Raymond Terrace that will cater for local, regional and national sporting organisations and events.

$10 million for initial stages of Tomaree and King Park sports complexes

Whilst delivering high quality sporting infrastructure is a fundamental requirement of Port Stephens Council, this project has the potential to significantly enhance the region’s visitor economy and drive demand from national sports event organisers, particularly in the off-peak tourism season.
Smarter cities blueprint

Seek a commitment to assist Council in implementing a range of actions from our Smart Cities Blueprint.

$1 million for Smart Cities pilot projects

Port Stephens is undergoing a digital transformation that will significantly change the lives of people in our region. Our Smart Cities Blueprint aims to use digital technologies to improve community connectivity, make better decisions and create partnerships to lead innovation. Investment in digital technologies and infrastructure will improve the liveability of our town centres, support local business and create a sustainable future for residents, workers and tourists. Infrastructure innovation such as Council’s smart parking scheme will improve parking supply, road safety and place activation in town centres. Data collected from smart infrastructure projects can help Council provide value for money facilities that meet the needs of our community.

Message from the Mayor

Port Stephens is known for its incredible natural beauty, unique wildlife and strong community spirit. These characteristics make our place an ideal recreation, tourist and retirement destination as well as a great place to live, work and play.

As we prepare for our future and potential growth, it’s important we are equipped to meet the needs of our community for many years to come.

Like communities across the globe, our region has felt the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. To restart our economy and deliver on our region’s full potential, we require significant investment from both public and private sectors.

Our Council calls on all levels of government to partner with us and drive these 8 major initiatives that will shape the future of Port Stephens for years to come.

Our community is like no other — and we are seeking policy commitments from government to ensure the focus on our community is at the forefront of their future planning.

We ask that our state and federal representatives join us in delivering these projects for our community as we work together on building a bright tomorrow for Port Stephens.

Ryan Palmer
Mayor of Port Stephens