

NARRABRI CBD UPGRADE

Frequently Asked Questions

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Works are well underway for the CBD Upgrade. Construction on the tree pods and cabling for CCTV and lighting is now well into the middle block (Doyle to Dewhurst Streets) and kerbing is about to commence in the first block (Lloyd to Doyle Streets).

The following are a list of frequently asked questions Council has fielded since the project commenced in July 2017.

? Will parking in the CBD following upgrade be nose in or reverse in?

The parking for Maitland Street will remain as nose in parking.

? How will people have room to back out of carparks with the centre median and no backing out lane?

There is ample room in our wide main street to accommodate parking, a centre median and driving lane. Road rules state that a "driver of a vehicle must not reverse the vehicle unless the driver can do so safely." The car backing out should wait for a break in the traffic before backing out completely. Common sense should be used and cars travelling down the street should take extra care as well. This will help to slow traffic making the main street safer for everyone.

? Will more car parks be created with the CBD Upgrades?

Yes, Council will be conducting a full parking review of the main street looking at the different parking zones, disabled parking and accessibility. After the road surface is upgraded in early 2018 all parks will be re-linemarked. By eliminating the spaces where trees and light posts used to be there should be around 10 new parks created.

? Some of the hedging is being pulled out during the works - is this really necessary?

There were some works around the corners of the blocks where unfortunately some established hedging had to be removed in order to reach services and dig trenching. The alternative was to dig around the gardens which would take a lot longer and resulted in the paving of the footpaths having to be disturbed. Parks and Gardens staff supervised the removal of the plants and determined they were not suitable for transplanting due to their age and will be replaced with new plants instead.

? Why aren't the works being completed at night and on the weekend?

Council undertook a detailed analysis of the costs to determine the best way to undertake this project. Completing the works at night would have almost doubled the project budget.

? Why are we planting more trees when we just pulled out the old ones due to starlings?

The fig trees that were removed were inappropriate for an urban environment and nearing the end of their lifespan as a good street tree. They had outgrown their location and there was a perception of health risks with the nesting starlings. The new trees have been especially selected for their suitability for this climate and are not prone to the type of foliage the starlings like to nest in. They will also be in the middle of the roadway where traffic disruption will keep nesting to a minimum.

? Why are we putting trees in the middle of the road where they won't provide shade?

The trees located in the middle of the road will reduce the heat bank produced by the black road surface, ultimately reducing the heat generated. As the trees get bigger they will cast shade on the footpath in the late afternoon sun. The trees have been especially selected to create year round shade and colour to the main street and help fulfil the communities priority of having more shade as identified in the CBD Masterplan.

The tree species selected are Eucalyptus Scoparia (willow gum), Fraxinus Raywoodii (claret ash), Lophostemon Confertus (brush box), Pistacia Chinensis (chinese pistachio), Pyrus Bradford (ornamental pear), Pyrus Chanticleer (chanticleer pear), Zelkova Serrata (green vase) and Geijera Parvifolia (wilga or native willow). A further fact sheet on the trees will be provided shortly.

? How much is the upgrade costing and how is it being funded?

The CBD Upgrade has been planned as part of the priorities identified in the Community Strategic Plan. The works are being funded through the following means:

2016/2017 Budget Allocation	\$534,000
Section 94A Funding	\$600,000
Section 94 (Local Roads)	\$126,000
Voluntary Planning Agreement Funds	<u>\$651,000</u>
Total	\$1,911,000