NORTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL

26 May 2022

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Mayors Message



What does Graffiti and Vandalism Cost You?

Have you noticed in the Council meeting minutes and agenda, (section 8.13), that we keep track of the vandalism throughout our municipality?

In April, graffiti, and damage at the Pioneer Park toilets in Evandale cost \$1500. Graffiti at the War Memorial Oval Toilet in Campbell Town cost \$600. In the 2021/2022 budget, it is estimated that Council has spent \$10,500 to date across the municipality.

These figures are made up of the materials required to rectify the vandalism, officer time and fleet costs associated with travelling to the locations. However, it doesn't consider the loss of productivity when officers are called away from other projects, which causes delays in trying to complete them.

Some of the incidents that our officers resolve include:

Public toilets:

- Smashed toilet bins, garbage tipped out,
- Toilet pans kicked off the mounts,
- Grab rails removed, missing,
- Lighting of fires in sinks, and toilet bowls,
- Burnt waste pipes on hand basins,
- Kicked in cubical doors, broken interactor bolts,
- Filling toilet bowls with full toilet rolls,
- Kicked off hand dryers,
- Soap dispensers stolen,
- Hand sanitizer smashed,
- Toilet flush buttons broken,
- Baby change tables broken,

BBQ structures and shelters,

- Graffiti is common,
- Burning materials/items the BBQs,
- Leaving obscene mess including faeces,

Skate parks

- · Graffiti which can be offensive,
- The Longford Skate Park gate has been damaged on about 12 separate occasions.

The most common method used to produce graffiti is marker pens, spray paint, or etching into surfaces. Much of this is dealt with by our Cleaners, often daily.

Our Cleaners regularly take care of the issues without any of the public being aware of what has occurred, and they should be applauded for this although, it is a shame they are having to deal with it in the first place.

We utilise graffiti block paint which make cleaning and removing the graffiti less difficult. We have ensured adequate lighting is provided and have also placed more cameras in the last few years to act as a disincentive and provide footage to police when required.

This article is asking community members to help us by encouraging positive behaviours.

Mary Knowles OAM

Mayor

Youth Activities

Our Youth Officer is now sharing a free monthly newsletter that you are invited to subscribe to through this link here: http://eepurl.com/hYYEVf



Project Updates

Eleven new trees have been planted at the Secombe Street roundabout intersection.

Five, Zelkova Serrata - Common name: Mushashino'

Deciduous, medium sized tree with narrow, compact upright growth, smooth grey bark with horizontal lenticels. Green foliage in summer, turning yellow and copper-bronze in autumn. High frost tolerance and high drought tolerance once established.





Six, Quercus palustris – Common name: Pin Oak Conical in shape, a fast-growing deciduous tree with shiny, deeply lobed dark green leaves. In autumn, foliage turns bronze with occasional red coloured leaves.

As the tree matures, it forms a distinctive structure whereby upper branches point upwards, middle branches are horizontal and lower branches droop.



