

REBUILD & RECOVER:

Flood Resilience Action Plan

October 2022 Update

CAUTION

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Dedicated to a better Brisbane

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Brisbane City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and their unique relationship with their ancestral country. We pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders of Brisbane, and recognise their strength and wisdom.



A message from the Lord Mayor

February's unprecedented rainfall triggered one of Brisbane's biggest ever flood events, eclipsing the damage of 2011 through an unprecedented combination of rising river and creek levels and overland flow.

The volume of rain experienced had a devastating impact across the city, affecting more than 20,000 properties and almost 200 community and sports clubs across 177 suburbs, grounding our CityCats and ferries and damaging roads, parks, paths and bikeways.

Brisbane was built on a flood plain and while we cannot stop flooding, we can always be better prepared. Through this *Rebuild & Recover: Flood Resilience Action Plan*, we outline our commitment to the 37 recommendations of the *Brisbane City Council 2022 Flood Review* undertaken by the Hon. Paul de Jersey AC CVO QC.

This plan will create a more resilient city by ensuring residents, businesses and community groups are better prepared and our infrastructure, facilities and assets are stronger in the face of severe weather events.

Guiding our future flood resilience, this plan is underpinned by responsible and strategic investment in recovery initiatives that will deliver value for money for ratepayers, manage and minimise risk and adopt better preventative measures for the community.

The frequency and severity of extreme rainfall and weather events is rising, which is why Council is embarking on this critical plan to bolster Brisbane's ability to prepare, respond and recover from disasters in the future.

Adrian Schrunner
Lord Mayor



A message from the Flood Recovery Taskforce Chair

I am proud of the efforts that our community has made to recover from the extreme flooding Brisbane experienced earlier this year. I want to acknowledge all the hard work of the volunteers who pitched in with Council's clean up efforts to get our city back on its feet.

Soon after the flood, a Flood Recovery Taskforce was formed. Council's Flood Recovery Taskforce has coordinated the efforts of the entire organisation to continue the clean up and prepare the community, the city and Council for future flooding events.

The Flood Recovery Taskforce has created the *Rebuild & Recover: Flood Resilience Action Plan*, which, when implemented, will help to futureproof Brisbane from extreme weather.

The *Rebuild & Recover: Flood Resilience Action Plan* speaks to 51 actions that will help our community to bounce back faster, make our city more resilient, and ensure that as a Council, we can better endure future severe weather events.

Many of the actions proposed are about addressing the recovery from the recent floods, while others are about planning thoroughly for future storm seasons and natural disasters.

I look forward to working with the Lord Mayor and the people of Brisbane on the opportunities and actions presented in the Action Plan to make sure we build back even better.

Cr Andrew Wines
Civic Cabinet Chair for Infrastructure
Flood Recovery Taskforce Chair

Introduction

Brisbane experienced a severe weather event in February/March 2022 causing widespread river and creek flooding, and overland flow impacting 91% of suburbs. Although Brisbane had experienced flood events like this before, the February/March 2022 event differed in its severity, physical extent and overall impact. When compared with the January 2011 floods, the event in February/March combined river and creek flooding, and overland flow rather than river flooding alone, causing more widespread damage than had been experienced before.

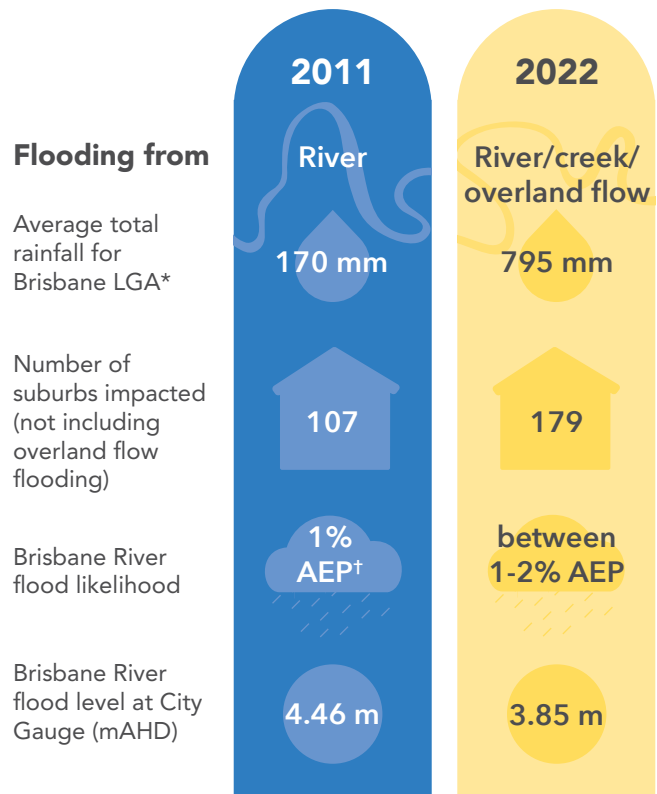
Apart from the flood damage itself, the city's speed of recovery will be influenced by underlying economic conditions, which are different in 2022 than they were in 2011. The 2011 flood event happened towards the end of the Global Financial Crisis. At that time many industries such as construction were on the upturn and available to take on post-flood reconstruction quickly and easily.

The 2022 economy, in contrast, is experiencing a significant and never-before-seen crossover of economic and societal conditions from the coronavirus pandemic.

Labour force shortages, increases in commodity and labour costs, and shortages in supply chain and materials due to a period of sustained, stimulated building activity will all impact on Brisbane's ability to respond, recover and thrive. Brisbane City Council's efforts will focus on building back better to ensure the city's resilience to severe weather events in the future and readiness to embrace the opportunities of the next decade.



Hawthorne Ferry Terminal



[†]AEP – Annual Exceedance Probability. The likelihood of a flood of a given size or larger occurring in any year; usually expressed as a percentage.

*Calculated using Brisbane City Council rainfall data.

Flood Clean Up Response Snapshot

Council cleared **3,357** streets and collected **75,535** tonnes of waste.



More than **800** Council (and external) personnel helped **clean up** across Brisbane.



10 Council street sweepers operated over two shifts, six days per week for a two week period to clean up flood-impacted roadways, totalling **2,400** hours.



Approximately **285** km of road was impacted with **78** roads requiring significant resurfacing repairs.



17,077 potholes repaired across **176** suburbs by 25 March 2022.



Council removed a significant amount of silt, **several tonnes** of wood and multiple pontoons from the Bicentennial Bikeway in **just over a week**.



170 km of Council-maintained bikeways were safe and clean by **1 April 2022**, ahead of school holidays.



Council manages **1,006** traffic signals in total, of which flooding affected **129** sites to varying degrees.



480 food waste bins were distributed to **113** sites across three days during the severe weather event.



29,000 flood waste loads and more than **26 tonnes** of hazardous waste were dropped off at Council's four Resource Recovery Centres, which were made free for affected residents. This was in addition to Council's '**Operation Collect**' kerbside collection program.



59 community organisations had to close due to flooding; only **4** remained closed by July.



For more details on Council's flood response for impacted assets and programs view the [statistics report](#).

Visit brisbane.qld.gov.au and search 'rebuild recover flood statistics'.



The 2022 Flood Review

On 1 March 2022, the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Councillor Adrian Schrinner announced an independent and comprehensive review would be conducted into the 2022 flood event. The independent review was undertaken by the Hon. Paul de Jersey AC CVO QC.

The *Brisbane City Council 2022 Flood Review* (2022 Flood Review) published on 9 May is available on Council's [website](#) and the recommendations are listed in the Appendix of this Action Plan.

Building back better

Following the independent 2022 Flood Review and recommendations, Council has prepared this *Rebuild & Recover: Flood Resilience Action Plan* (Action Plan) with five guiding principles to ensure Brisbane is **more resilient by building back better.**

Council has wholly embraced the recommendations of the independent review. Many of the recommendations are being implemented through changes to Council's internal operations and processes.

The implementation of all recommendations will further enable and empower the Brisbane community to respond, rebuild and recover from this and future severe weather events. Implementation of both the review and the Action Plan will occur at the same time.

The principles guide the actions and outcomes described in this plan across key focus areas – infrastructure, transport, community, economy, environment and drainage, land use and planning, and organisation and finance.

They highlight how Council is responding to the February/March 2022 severe weather event and how work should be done on the road to ongoing recovery.



Bulimba Ferry Terminal

Guiding principles

- 1 Resilient**

Locate, design and build better infrastructure and community facilities such as roads, paths, sports clubs and ferry terminals and focus building and construction in less flood-prone areas.
- 2 Transparent**

Encourage better-informed and better-prepared communities.
- 3 Future-focused**

Look for city-shaping opportunities that enable climate resilience and disaster preparedness.
- 4 Fiscally responsible**

Maximise public value through strategic recovery investment.
- 5 Clean and green**

Respect and work with nature to deliver sustainable, resilient outcomes and protect our natural habitats.

Infrastructure

Council is focused on repairing flood-damaged community assets, building them back better to be more resilient for the community. Infrastructure recovery includes ensuring Council operations continue during severe weather events while meeting safety standards.

Council will review current building and services standards with consideration of climate change and the associated risks from future storm and river inundation events. Improving the resilience of current assets and services may be needed.

Building back better will also consider building infrastructure in areas that are less prone to flooding risk or specifically designed to be more resilient.

Recovery highlights

50% of the roads impacted by flooding were reopened **within 5 days**, and **95%** were reopened **within 10 days**.

50% of the impacted traffic signals were back on **within 3 days**, and **100%** were back **within 10 days**.

Gresham Street bridge is Brisbane's last timber vehicular traffic bridge and was under replacement at the time of the February severe weather event. Now complete, all Council traffic bridges are robust and **resilient structures**.





Council Infrastructure Actions

1

Develop a framework for public assets and infrastructure addressing the need for resilience in repair and replacement of buildings, parks, bikeways, waterways, drainage, lighting, public facilities and more.

Completed ✓

2

Review the existing standards, including material types and locations, for resilience of a range of public assets such as electrical signals and lighting, structures like bridges and Riverwalk, pontoons, public buildings and roads.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

3

Work with energy infrastructure providers to relocate or improve the flood resilience of essential electrical infrastructure that plays a key role in supporting electrical public assets such as traffic signals and public lighting.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

4

Review road integrity to identify damage and repair road surfaces using the most appropriate design and material selection to support resilience.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

5

Continue to replace existing timber pedestrian bridges such as the bridge at Maiwela Street park in Seven Hills when they reach their end-of-life with more resilient bridge design and materials.

Completed ✓



6

Investigate alternative locations and practices for distribution of sandbags to support communities.

Completed ✓

7

Continue to assess and prioritise the installation of back flow prevention devices as part of the flood mitigation strategy.

Delivery timeframe: Dec 2022

8

Investigate options to manage the natural Shorncliffe escarpment to minimise the potential for slippage and to protect the infrastructure above and below it.

Completed ✓

9

Continue to identify landslip failures and restoration requirements using the most appropriate design and resilience options.

Completed ✓

10

Investigate opportunities for flood resilience or possible relocation of affected public buildings at risk of inundation such as Wilston SES depot.

Delivery timeframe: 30 June 2023

Transport

Council will prioritise the full return of transport services and infrastructure by developing a plan to progressively return ferries and terminals to full operation as soon as possible, and repair bikeways and footpaths, building them to be more resilient to extreme weather.

Recovery highlights

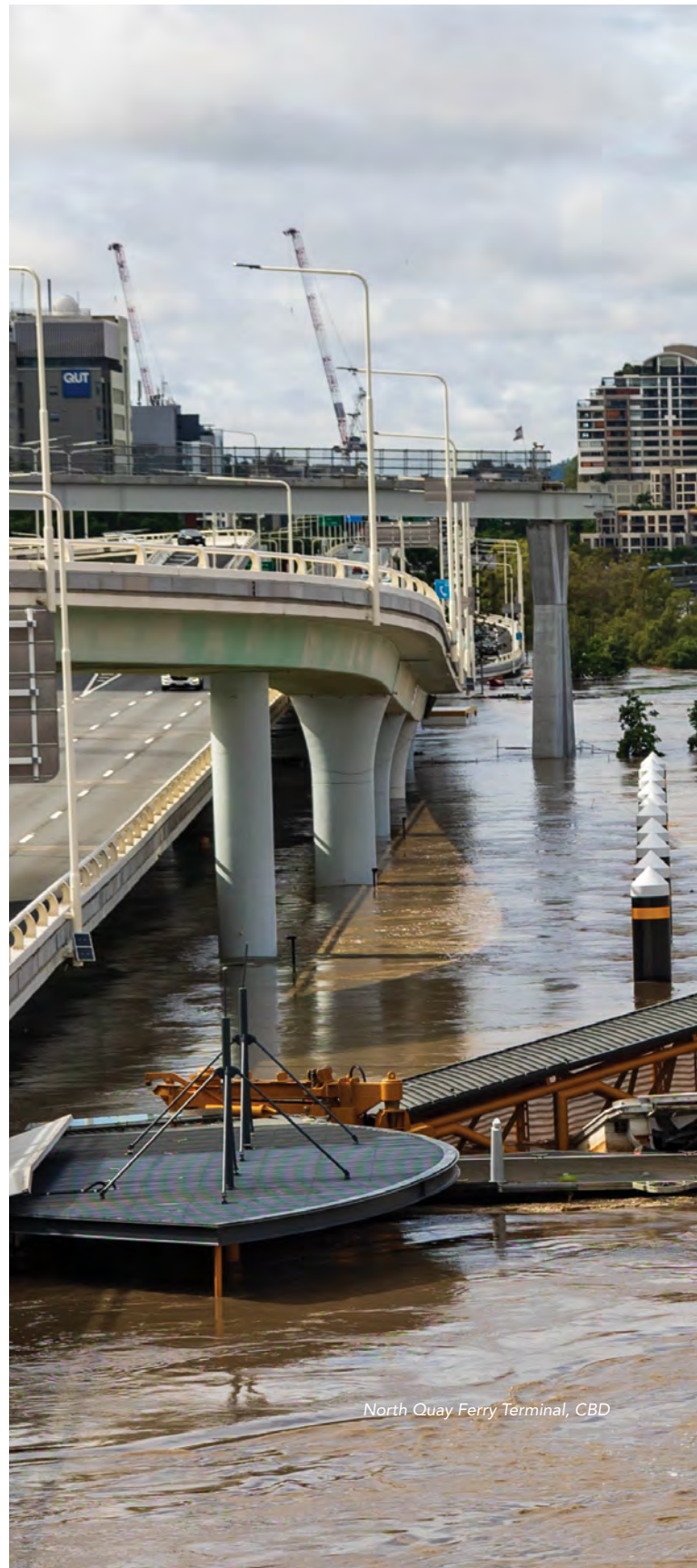
Within a month after the flood and **extensive clean up works**, we created a detour on **Coronation Drive** around the Drift Restaurant for the thousands of daily riders on the Bicentennial Bikeway.

Temporary bus replacement and Personalised Public Transport services were implemented in March 2022 to **support impacted ferry customers**.

The ferry operator's **management plans**, which include revised mooring plans for the fleet, have been revised and updated. These plans were successfully applied in response to the May 2022 rain event by moving all vessels to safe berthing locations and suspending services until **safe to resume**.

Bus service operations were **fully operational** across our city in **9 days**.

The **Toombul Bus Interchange** was closed due to flooding with temporary bus stops in place nearby. The interchange reopened on **Monday 6 June**.



North Quay Ferry Terminal, CBD

Council Transport Actions

1

Repair our river transport network including ferries, the terminals at Sydney Street, Holman Street, Queensland University of Technology, Maritime, North Quay, Regatta, Milton and University of Queensland and associated infrastructure, to bring ferries progressively back into service.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

2

Deliver programs aimed at improving and repairing our network of bikeways and footpaths, including 5 damaged sections of the Kedron Brook Bikeway, with a focus on flood-resilient design.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

3

Replace the CityCat Beenung-urrung.

Delivery timeframe: Dec 2023

4

Review activities and decisions to ensure the safety of the ferry fleet during a flood event and where improvements are required.

Completed ✓

5

Replace 2 damaged active transport bridges – Koorinal Drive bridge, Jindalee and Hawera Court bridge, Aspley – to reinstate local connectivity.

Delivery timeframe: June 2024

6

Investigate options for future bikeway upgrades to improve flood resilience and active transport outcomes.

Completed ✓

Community

The February/March 2022 flood event was devastating for many in Brisbane, including households and sporting and community organisations. Council was able to provide immediate assistance and continues to help not-for-profit community groups to build back better and improve their long-term flood resilience.

Council is working with all disaster-impacted community lessees to access funding opportunities from all levels of government and provide education on topics such as grant writing and flood resilience. Council will continue to fix community sites and provide funding to assist with rebuilding efforts through the Rebuild & Recover – Club Partnerships program.

The Rebuild & Recover – Flood Resilient Communities program is helping our community organisations by providing technical assessments, recommendations and repairs to help them build back better.

Recovery highlights

*Within 5 days of the event, Council rolled out the **Community Facility Disaster Relief Payment Program**, providing an immediate \$5,000 to clubs to make their facilities safe, conduct minor repairs and return to operations. More than **\$1.5 million in relief payments** have now been approved.*





Council Community Actions

1

Continue to support affected local community groups through the Flood Disaster Relief Payment program.

Completed ✓

2

In partnership with Brisbane Sustainability Agency, deliver a Rebuild & Recover – Flood Resilient Communities Program and continue to deliver the Flood Resilient Homes Program.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

3

Continued delivery of the Community Organisation Grant Support program to assist local community groups like Toowong Bridge Club, Stones Corner Community Kindy, Portuguese Society and Northern Suburbs Bowls Club with access to government funding programs.

Completed ✓

4

Rebuild & Recover – Club Partnerships Program (sporting), outlining repair and/or improvement approach with clubs such as Norman Park Sports and Community Club, Valley Hockey Club, Sandgate Hawks AFC and Carrington Boating Club to build back better to make structures more resilient.

Delivery timeframe: in progress



5

Support and encourage a resilient community through improved information and warning systems during flood events.

Completed ✓

6

Enhanced community education and resilience activities supporting behaviour change, including the use of flood information online, targeted education, place-based installations, and use of emerging technologies to better inform communities.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

7

Explore opportunities to relocate key community facilities such as Jindalee pool or consolidate facilities such as Commercial Hockey with Gold Crest Cricket at Finsbury Park, Wilston.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

Economy

The severe weather event affected more than 2,500 business properties, with anecdotal evidence suggesting those with disaster response plans fared better than those that did not. Council will continue to make information available to businesses and property owners so they are more prepared and resilient for future events.

In February, many businesses were impacted either directly by flooding or indirectly through the loss of power. This meant that some businesses not only lost valuable stock but also their ability to bounce back while waiting for power to be restored. Actions are provided to address this issue to ensure businesses can recover more quickly from any future events.

The weather event has been another blow to businesses on top of COVID-19. Council, through the Brisbane Economic Development Agency, is keen to ensure that visitors, potential staff and businesses across Australia know that Brisbane is back in business, to drive extra demand for services and enable growth. Council will call on the incredible Brisbane spirit, encouraging residents to support local businesses through a 'Made in Brisbane' initiative.

Recovery highlights

*Council worked with partners to stand up **temporary flood recovery hubs** in key locations to **help business get back on their feet**.*



Council Economic Actions

1

Develop a Flood Resilient Business program, providing business continuity guides to assist businesses in being prepared for future flooding events.

Delivery timeframe: Nov 2022

2

Work with energy infrastructure providers to relocate or improve the flood resilience of essential electrical infrastructure for businesses.

Delivery timeframe: May 2024

3

In partnership with Brisbane Economic Development Agency, deliver marketing campaigns aimed at attracting visitors, businesses and talent to Brisbane.

Completed ✓

4

Deliver an initiative to encourage Brisbane businesses and residents to buy local.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

Environment and Drainage

Environmental sustainability and climate resilience is at the heart of all we do. It has long been recognised that sustainable systems help us stay resilient and adaptable when faced with the sudden impacts of flood, drought and other adverse natural events.

Council will learn from the 2022 flood event to support a resilient natural environment that is healthy, expansive, diverse, connected, well-managed and robust. These learnings will be reflected in an update to our *FloodSmart Future Strategy* and through the delivery of key environmental actions.

Brisbane's waterways provide environmental, social and flood mitigation functions. A balanced assessment of the full range of waterway functions, through a series of master plans will encourage use of the floodplain as a valuable and sustainable resource capable of delivering multiple benefits to the community.

Significant investment in flood and drainage infrastructure has been made in recent decades. Council has built and maintains more than 2,700 kilometres of pipes under the city and 66 backflow devices along the Brisbane River. The review of flood mitigation opportunities across the city will support a consistent approach to how flood mitigation works are prioritised and funded.

Many industrial premises in the Rocklea area were significantly inundated when the Oxley, Stable Swamp and Rocky Waterholes creeks flooded during the February 2022 event.

Large volumes of hazardous materials entered the creeks including fuels, oils, chemical drums and containers, with 310,000 litres of oily water removed from the waterway following the flooding. Opportunities to reduce contamination and pollution entering our waterways will be investigated and pursued with the Queensland Government.

Council provides information to residents and businesses to help them be resilient, adaptable and prepared for flooding. Council is committed to undertaking and maintaining up-to-date flood studies for Brisbane catchments. Ongoing updates will be made to flood information and studies to reflect data from the 2022 flood event.

Recovery highlights

Council inspected **8,078** gullies that were inundated by flood water, cleaning **312** gullies and vacuuming a further **95** gullies.

Council restored **46** of **93** affected parks completely for the Easter school holidays.





Council Environment and Drainage Actions

1

Continue to review, assess and prioritise flood mitigation opportunities across the city.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

2

Improve flood resilience of Council's natural assets such as parks and waterways, including the rebuilding of embankments at Johnston Street and Bedford Street, Gordon Park.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

3

Work with the Queensland Government to review and assess opportunities where contamination and pollution from natural disasters can be limited.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

4

Publish flood information studies and data to improve community awareness of the risks of flooding and look for opportunities to improve the information.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

5

Identify and prioritise opportunities across the city for master plans that provide flood resilience, ecological, recreation and amenity to the local community, one such example being a master plan for Kedron Brook.

Completed ✓

6

Review and update Council's *FloodSmart Future Strategy* to reflect learnings and best practice from the floodplain management plans.

Delivery timeframe: May 2024

An aerial photograph of a river flowing through a park. A paved path runs alongside the river, with green grass and trees on the opposite bank. A person is walking on the path. The river is surrounded by some debris and vegetation, suggesting a flood event.

7

Review and prioritise the capping management of closed landfills to reduce the environment and community's risk of exposure to waste and leachate.

Completed ✓

8

Design and locate park assets for flood resilience and select materials that promote efficient asset recovery.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

9

Rebuild or relocate damaged playgrounds such as Kalinga Park playground, Taylor Bridge Reserve playground and Julatten Place Park playground to minimise future flood damage or loss.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

10

Repair and reinstate walking trails and fire management access roads within conservation reserves such as Mt Coot-tha Forest and Karawatha Forest.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

11

Inspect and reinstate (where necessary) more than 300 kilometres of the stormwater network inundated by flood water.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

12

Improve scour protection around stormwater pipe outlets.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

Land Use and Planning

Council will investigate changes to *Brisbane City Plan 2014* (City Plan) to make our city more resilient to future flood events.

After the 2011 floods, major changes were introduced to the planning scheme such as flood immunity levels for different land uses and minimum floor levels for habitable rooms and building height in flood-affected areas. These changes have increased the level of protection and resilience for new land uses and building work. The use of certain materials and the type of building work homeowners can do under their homes can make it easier for their property to bounce back from flooding.

Council is reviewing the recent flooding events to assess the suitability of City Plan and if changes are necessary to the Flood Overlay code, mapping and planning scheme policy. Other aspects of City Plan will also be assessed to help increase the resilience of land uses across the city. Working with the development industry to raise awareness of design and resilience best practice is also integral to this work.

Council will continue to deliver the Flood Resilient Homes Program and will work with the Queensland and Australian governments to understand the Resilient Homes Fund and how Council can deliver these programs to help residents to prepare for, live through and recover from flooding.

Recovery highlights

Following the **February/March 2022** severe weather event Council published the Approvals for repairing, raising, or rebuilding flood-affected houses fact sheet, as well as providing dedicated Planning Information Officers to ensure homeowners could **quickly access key information** and advice about when a Council approval is required to repair or rebuild a house after a flood, including renovations, plumbing and pool fences.



Council Land Use and Planning Actions

1

Review provisions in City Plan to enable building back better and improve flood resilience such as flood mapping, building height and design, the landslide overlay, storage of hazardous materials, critical infrastructure, flood planning scheme policy and floodplain management plans. Interim measures including Temporary Local Planning Instruments may be introduced where necessary.

Delivery timeframe: June 2023

2

Assess land uses in flood-prone areas, including commercial and industrial uses, to improve resilience against future flooding events.

Delivery timeframe: June 2023

3

Work with the development industry to raise awareness of planning and building design best practice to mitigate flooding impacts and improve resilient development generally.

Completed ✓

Organisation and Finance

The February/March 2022 severe weather event affected thousands of Council assets including buildings, quarries, ferries, natural areas, community facilities and roads, with an estimated cost to Council of \$656 million. This cost is partially offset by insurance and other recovery and reconstruction funding, with an estimated net loss to Council of \$327 million.

Managing a recovery effort of this magnitude requires strong fiscal management, which Council will achieve through the 2022-2023 annual plan and budget, and employing a long-term financial sustainability model.

Council is focused on maximising public value through strategic investment in recovery activities and advocating to other organisations to help our city and its communities prepare for the impacts of future severe weather events.

Following the 2022 severe weather event, Council commenced a mammoth clean-up of the city. While the regular bin collection resumed the day after the event, Council provided additional support to the community by:

- clearing streets and collecting flood-affected and household waste
- delivering additional food waste bins to specified locations
- allowing residents to drop off flood-affected waste for free to Council transfer stations
- extending opening hours for all recovery centres to assist residents in cleaning up.

Every severe weather event provides Council with the opportunity to review operational and recovery responses. A comprehensive review is underway, including a review of transfer station operations and temporary waste collection locations.

Council seeks to ensure we remain agile and can best serve the needs of the community should a future severe weather event occur.

Recovery highlights

*Council waste services operated with **minimal disruption** to **regular services** due to the severe weather event.*

*Council's annual budget for the financial year **2022-23** has been set, responsive to the February 2022 severe weather event.*



Council Organisation and Finance Actions

1

Ensure implementation and monitoring of all 37 recommendations of the 2022 Flood Review.

Delivery timeframe: in progress

2

Actively advocate and support (where possible) the Australian Government to:

a. explore improvements in rainfall data, forecasting and warning

Completed ✓

b. update building codes and standards to include flood-resilient design and accreditation systems

Completed ✓

c. establish a Centre of Excellence for Flood Resilient Design and Construction in Brisbane through ongoing projects and partnerships.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

3

Actively advocate and support (where possible) the Queensland Government to:

a. establish the provision of FloodWise Property Reports as a state-wide standard

Completed ✓

b. change state-based building codes and standards to improve river infrastructure such as pontoons.

Completed ✓

4

Actively advocate the Insurance Council of Australia for 'build back better' flood resilience insurance plans.

Completed ✓

5

Review operational and recovery responses to ensure better preparedness in future disaster events.

Completed ✓

6

Appropriately manage the financial impact to Council of the flood recovery through insurance and other recovery and reconstruction funding.

Delivery timeframe: ongoing

7

Incorporate financial impacts and management responses into the Annual Plan and Budget 2022-23 and long-term financial sustainability model.

Completed ✓

8

Review and keep current a register of approved temporary waste collection locations for both food waste and general waste generated due to a disaster event.

Delivery timeframe: Oct 2022

9

Ensure that Resource Recovery Centres operate in an agile manner to respond efficiently during a disaster event.

Completed ✓

Appendix

2022 Flood Review recommendations

All 37 recommendations from the *Brisbane City Council 2022 Flood Review* are listed below, and the timeframes for implementing them. Council is committed to implementing all 37 recommendations to create a more flood-resilient Brisbane.

2022 Flood Review recommendation	Timeframe
2.1 Pullenvale Ward: that Council regularly review the Isolating Communities Sub-Plan of the Disaster Management Plan to ensure optimal deployment of relief assistance for the Pullenvale Ward.	Completed ✓
2.2 Tennyson Ward: that Council continue to review the provision of a flood proof Ward Office for the Tennyson Ward.	Completed ✓
3.1 Backflow Prevention Devices: that Council continue to assess and prioritise the installation of BPDs as part of its flood mitigation strategy.	23 Dec 2022
3.2 Flood Resilient Homes Program: that the FRHP be continued, and if possible, extended into more flood affected areas, and that consideration be given to its extension to flood affected business premises and apartment buildings, with town planning incentives to participants.	30 Nov 2022
3.3 Flood Resilient Homes Program: that the FRHP be reviewed in light of the 2022 weather event, taking into consideration the feedback from residents who had already participated in the program.	Completed ✓
3.4 Voluntary Home Purchase Scheme: that subject to the availability of State and Federal funding, the VHPS be reinstated.	Completed ✓
3.5 Updating Existing Flood Studies: that Council use new data obtained as a result of the 2022 weather event to update the existing flood studies knowledge base.	Completed ✓
3.6 Floodplain Management: that the new data obtained as a result of the 2022 weather event be incorporated into the modelling within Council's existing flood studies to further enhance Council's floodplain management.	30 Jun 2025
3.7 Maintenance Issues: that where specific maintenance issues have been referred to this review by Councillors or residents, for example of blocked drains and overgrown creek beds and banks impeding outflow, it fall to Councillors to raise those matters with the relevant Council Divisions.	Completed ✓
4.1 Role of Councillors: that the role of local Councillors is formally understood and documented in the various guides and SOPs within the disaster management frameworks.	Completed ✓
4.2 Councillor Training: that mandatory training occur for newly elected Councillors in the disaster management frameworks and operations.	Completed ✓
4.3 Councillor Refresher Training: that regular refresher training is given at defined intervals, including the opportunity for Councillors to participate in desktop and simulated emergency exercises.	Completed ✓
4.4 Red Cross MOU: that Council work with the Australian Red Cross to review the current MOU and consider alternate procedures for the registration of evacuees and management of the centres during periods of unavailability of Red Cross Officers.	Completed ✓
4.5 Community Hubs: that Council work with local Councillors to develop a model that integrates the function of community hubs and evacuation centres such that impacted residents can effectively access the support needed during a disaster event.	30 Sep 2023
4.6 Evacuation Centres: that Council assess the adequacy of having only two major evacuation centres for a city the size of Brisbane.	Completed ✓
4.7 Update Maps and Reports: that Council review and, if appropriate, update the Flood Awareness Maps and FloodWise Property Reports using data gathered during and after the weather event, including to add the 2022 weather event flood levels.	Completed ✓

2022 Flood Review recommendation	Timeframe
4.8 Creek Flood Alert Program: that Council explore further expanding Council's creek flood alert program to allow additional residents and businesses to register and receive alerts when rain or flow levels in nearby creeks indicate that properties may be at risk of flooding.	Completed ✓
4.9 Flood Awareness Tools: that Council continue actively to invite access to the full range of flood awareness tools to ensure knowledge they were available, they are accurate and that they are utilised.	Completed ✓
4.10 Other Agencies: that Council share learnings and feedback with other agencies about the 2022 weather event and continue to work together with them to improve the coordination of emergency responses.	Completed ✓
4.11 Other Agencies: that Council require other agencies to provide alternative contacts to ensure that a representative is available to assist the LDCC and LDMG at all times.	Completed ✓
4.12 Community Hubs: that Council recognise and formalise the role of community hubs and their volunteers as an integral part of the community response to disaster events.	30 Sep 2023
4.13 Mud Army: that Council review the implementation of a Mud Army in response to such an event, possibly on the basis that a Mud Army fill a supplementary role to ordinary spontaneous community volunteering.	Completed ✓
4.14 Operational Review: that Council take on board feedback regarding waste disposal, road closures and sandbags in its operational review of the 2022 weather event.	Completed ✓
5.1 EA System Review: that Council advocate that the QFES undertake a review of the system that distributes the EAs to determine whether there is a more efficient method by which EAs can be distributed, particularly in circumstances where the EA must be distributed to a large number of people.	Completed ✓
5.2 EA Process Review: that Council review the 'request for EA process' with QFES as there seemed to be some delay in the review and approval by QFES of the wording of the EA and timing of the issue of the EA. This process and QFES' expectations for the EA scripting could, for example, be agreed to prior to the event such that the fact-specific EA during an event might be the refinement of pre-agreed templates.	Completed ✓
5.3 EWAS Uptake: that Council rigorously promote community uptake of the Weatherzone severe weather and creek alerts system.	Completed ✓
5.4 Public Warnings and Advice: that consistent and widely publicised channels be used to relay emergency information. These channels should be accessible by everyone. Non-digital channels, e.g. radio, should continue to be used. Residents should continue to be encouraged to have a battery powered radio in case of power failure.	Completed ✓
5.5 Terminology: that continuing consideration be given to the terminology of public warnings and advice – continuing to avoid reference to, say, a '1 in 100-year flood', but also developing a way of referring to flood heights in Brisbane River other than by height at the 'City Gauge' – which few citizens would understand.	31 Oct 2022
5.6 Provision of Information: that Council continue to refine its capacity to publish timely public warnings and alerts and provide practical advice to residents such as 'move your car to higher ground', 'charge your devices and prepare for power outages', and provide emergency contact numbers and details.	Completed ✓
6.1 Basements: that building owners and body corporates be encouraged to retrofit electrical and other essential services located in basements in flood prone areas to ensure protection from inundation.	Completed ✓
6.2 Planning Laws: that Council review, with the State Government where relevant, the existing planning laws in light of the 2022 weather event to further mitigate impacts from flooding.	30 June 2023
6.3 Private Pontoon Regulation: that Council review the legislative framework concerning approval and control of private pontoons and make representations to the relevant authorities or make permitted changes, where appropriate, to the City Plan.	Completed ✓
6.4 Private Pontoon Construction: that Council review with relevant bodies the materials used for pontoon construction and the tethering of pontoons to embankments.	Completed ✓
7.1 Infrastructure: that Council consider whether improvements can be made to design, location and material selection in order to further improve future flood resilience of Council's riverine and waterway infrastructure.	In progress for ongoing delivery
7.2 Build Back Better: that where Council infrastructure has been damaged, a prime consideration – possibly aided by Queensland Reconstruction Authority funding, should be to 'build back better' to maximise resilience against future flood events.	Completed ✓
7.3 Ferries: that further consideration be given to ensuring the safety of the ferry fleet in such an event, by moving them expeditiously to a secure location (assuming time and conditions allow this to be done safely), where they will not be damaged by debris, etc.	Completed ✓
7.4 Active Transport: that Council review the prioritisation of cleaning active transport routes in its operational review of the 2022 flood event.	Completed ✓

BIKEWAY
SUBJECT TO
FLOODING AND
TIDAL
INUNDATION
INDICATORS SHOW
DEPTH



Hanlon Park / Bur'uda, Stones Corner

Brisbane City Council
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