

Mount Isa City Council News



It's hard to believe that we're almost at the end of the year already, and that 2025 is just around the corner.

It has been a memorable first year for us as a Council, and a lot has been achieved since we were sworn in in April.

First and foremost has been the tireless – and ongoing – advocacy we have undertaken in preparation for the eventual closure of the Mount Isa Mines copper-mining and copper-processing facilities in mid-2025.

From this, Council has developed the Mount Isa Economic Diversification and Transformation Strategy, which identifies about 60 economic-



Mayor Peta MacRae

diversification projects, programs, and initiatives that can secure Mount Isa's future following the copper mine closure.

About half of the projects have been identified as immediate priorities, including a new copper and critical-

minerals smelter, new sulphuric acid production facilities, renewable energy projects, decarbonisation initiatives, and new transport and infrastructure projects. We are using the strategy to not only attract new industry to the community, but to lobby the State and Federal governments to provide financial support to help the projects become a reality.

Later in the year, Council signed two very exciting Memoranda of Understanding – one with the Flying Whales, and the other with renewable-energy startup Green Gravity.

The Flying Whales are looking to establish their first ever Australian

airship freight base here in Mount Isa, with their helium-filled blimps capable of transporting large and heavy items, such as mining components, across the country. Green Gravity, meanwhile, are looking to repurpose disused mine shafts to generate renewable electricity. These are both promising projects, and I look forward to seeing their progression.

On behalf of us all at Council, I hope you all have a safe, peaceful and wonderful Christmas and New Year break. And don't forget, Glencore is holding its free Christmas Under the Stars community event on December 14 from 6pm at Buchanan Park.

Ph: (07) 4747 3200
(24 hours)

Email: city@mountisa.qld.gov.au

Facebook: [MountIsaCityCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/MountIsaCityCouncil)

Web: www.mountisa.qld.gov.au

Yellow-lid Recycling Bins Delivered

Yellow-lid recycling wheelee bins have been delivered to Mount Isa and Camooweal residential properties over the past two weeks, with the fortnightly collection of the new bins starting from Monday, December 9.

The red-lid general-waste bins will be collected weekly, instead of twice-weekly, from that date.

Each yellow-lid bin comes with a starting kit, featuring a calendar, a flyer, and other materials to let residents know what can and can't be disposed of in their yellow-lid bin.

To find out which fortnight your recycling collection will be for your address, visit www.mountisa.qld.gov.au/my-bin-day – simply input your address into the search bar, or alternatively click on your address on the map, and the information for your address will appear.

The main items that should go into your recycling bin include hard plastics (soft plastics – the kind that can be crunched up in your hand – should go into general waste); metals (aluminium foil, containers, and cans, including empty aerosol cans; and steel food tins); glass bottles and jars; and paper and cardboard. For more information, please visit www.mountisa.qld.gov.au/waste-rubbish-recycling, or www.mountisa.qld.gov.au/waste-rubbish-recycling/recycle-mate to find out what can go into your recycling bin.

As well as this, each Friday and Saturday from 10am-1pm at an information stall set up in the Mount Isa Village (Kmart Plaza), you can meet Council's recycling team and learn more about residential recycling. The weekly information stall will run until March 2025.

The team will be happy to answer your questions and listen to your concerns.

The introduction of a recycling service coincides with Council's new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) beginning operations.

The MRF – part of the Waste Management Facility – will process recyclable materials collected from the yellow-lid bins.

Implementing recycling in Mount Isa offers significant advantages, including the reduction of Queensland Waste Levy costs, which will lead to substantial financial savings for the community in the coming years.

Additionally, recycling helps to extend the lifespan of the local landfill, reducing the environmental impact and need for costly expansions.

Selwyn, Playway Parks Reopen Following Improvement Works

The Parks Improvement Program works at Selwyn Park (corner of Twenty-Third and Fourth avenues) and Playway Park (Railway Avenue) are now complete, and the parks have reopened to the public.

The works for Playway Park included three new hardcover shade structures (for the barbecue area, the existing swing set, and play equipment area); new concrete pavement for the barbecue area; new rubber softfall; repairs to the existing play equipment; and the installation of a new cockatoo rocker and seesaw rocker.

The works at Selwyn Park included the demolition of obsolete equipment; the installation of a new hardcover shade structure, swing set, softfall, and bench seats; and the installation of new Hercules fencing for enhanced security.

Special thanks to our Parks and Gardens team for the maintenance of the park's lawns following the upgrade works.

The existing fig tree at Selwyn Park was deemed to be a risk to public safety, due to its advanced age and poor health, and as a result was removed before the works began.

To find out more about Council's Parks Improvement Program, including up-to-date information about park closures and reopenings, visit www.mountisa.qld.gov.au/community/projects.



Career Professionals Start Post-grad Training

Mayor Peta MacRae and Acting CEO Chad King recently met and welcomed representatives from the The University of Queensland's Sustainable Minerals Institute, as well as seven young career professionals who are undertaking a six-week graduate training program in Mount Isa.

One of the aims of the training program for the young professionals is to gain knowledge of the total

mining cycle; from data collection and analysis, prospectivity assessment and grassroots exploration to mine development, mining and processing, tailings evaluation, and mine closure and impacts on community and the environment.

Overlaid mining is the general trend to move from a carbon-based to a renewable economy, with growing interest in renewable energy and critical metals.

Mayor MacRae Updates Minister

Mayor Peta MacRae recently met with Federal Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories Kristy McBain in Canberra to update her about Council's Economic Diversification and Transformation Strategy.

The topics included the work Council has done in attracting industry to Mount Isa; new projects that are being considered for the region; and the support Council is seeking.

Cr MacRae and Council CEO Tim Rose were in Canberra for the mayoral



PALM workers' alliance roundtable, and to brief Federal ministers.

"All parties were impressed with the work undertaken thus far," Cr MacRae said.

News In Brief

- If you know of a person or community group dedicated to making the Mount Isa region a better place, help us recognise their efforts by nominating them for a Mount Isa City Council Australia Day Award for 2025. Submit your nomination online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/SFRNYZZ. Nominations close on Sunday 5 January 2025. The Mount Isa Australia Day Awards are an opportunity to publicly acknowledge and celebrate the exceptional achievements and outstanding contributions of individuals and community groups in our region.

- Council will soon carry out community consultation and engagement to understand what sort of works the community would like to see done at Telstra Hill. Council agreed to move forward with community consultation activities at its November 27 Ordinary Meeting. At the meeting, Cr John Doyle said Telstra Hill is a valued community asset, and Council wants to find out what the community would like to see happen there – "whether it's a gravel pathway, or to fix the road itself". Cr Dan Ballard agreed with Cr Doyle and said, whatever decision is made following the community consultation, the end result should be "cost-effective, practical, and fit for purpose". Telstra Hill is a popular destination for recreation and fitness. Council recently spent \$300,000 on the construction of a new carpark at the hill's entrance off the Barkly Highway, with an easement providing pedestrian access to the top of the hill. Council will use the information gathered to inform future budget bids and operational planning.**