

# CANOWINDRA CBD ACTIVATION



## Community update - JULY 2024

The Canowindra Town Centre Activation project aims to protect and enhance the heritage of the Canowindra CBD area, with an old-fashioned, rustic and nostalgic feel.

The project is designed to develop Canowindra as a key regional destination and leveraging off the town's unique characteristics and offerings, to diversify the local economy, and grow the town as a local business and tourism hub.

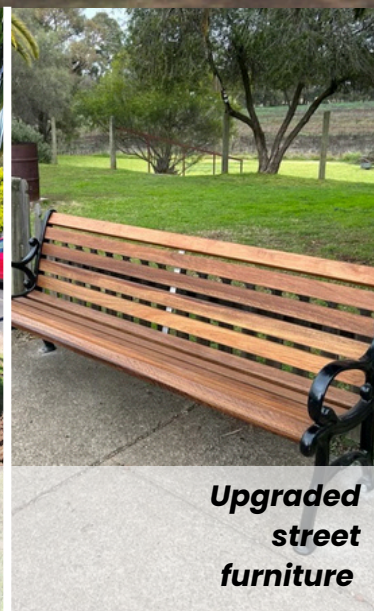
**A number of works are planned for the next 6-months. This is an update on what has been done to date, and what is coming...**



*Artist impression*



**Wayfinding palm trees alongside the Swimming Pool**



**Upgraded street furniture**



**Plantings at the Ex-Services Club**

### WHAT'S BEEN DONE SO FAR?

The following works have been completed as part of the project:

- **New street furniture** in Gaskill St and at Swinging Bridge area
- **Widening of footpath** from Gaskill to Swinging Bridge
- Installation of **palm trees** outside Swimming Pool and Age of Fishes Museum
- Installation of **new gardens** outside of the Canowindra Ex-Services Club building

### WHAT'S NEXT?

Over the next 6-months the following works are due to be completed:

- **Replacement of the Swinging Bridge**, with a new suspension-style swinging bridge
- Installation of **new footpaths** along the Northern side of the Belubula River linking to the twin bridges
- Installation of **pedestrian crossing points** in Gaskill Street
- Completion of the Ex-Services Club gardens, including installation of **metal art panels**
- New wayfinding **signage and lighting**.



*Project concept*

For more information on the project, go to:

<https://www.cabonne.nsw.gov.au/Council/Major-Projects/Canowindra-CBD-Activation-Project>



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**Q Why are you proposing to replace the bridge?**

**A** The existing bridge was damaged in the November 2022 floods. Whilst repair works were undertaken to reopen the bridge to pedestrians, the bridge does not meet current safety standards.

The works proposed by Council, will ensure additional longevity to the bridge, while also complying with current standards.

**Q Is't this project just a waste of money?**

**A** This project will be entirely funded through grants from the NSW and Federal Governments.

The compliance and longevity of the Swinging Bridge were identified by the Canowindra community as part of the development of the Canowindra Masterplan.

This Masterplan enabled Council to be successful in receiving \$2.118m funding to activate the Canowindra CBD.

As part of the grant application, Council was required to provide a sound business case for assessment, evidence of community/business support, and an outline of the complete scope of works and costs proposed.

**Q How long will the bridge be closed?**

**A** The existing bridge is required to be demolished prior to the new bridge being installed.

The works are due to commence in late August.

It is proposed that the works will take approximately 3-months to complete, with the bridge due to reopen in mid/late December 2024.

The area will not be accessible during this time.

**Q How will a new bridge respect the heritage of the old bridge?**

**A** While the original Swinging Bridge was built in 1925, it has undergone a number of significant repairs and rebuilds including significant structural works in the 1990's.

The new Swinging Bridge will be constructed from steel and reference heritage aspects of the current bridge including location, height, size and style.

The bridge will have new ramps leading to the deck to improve accessibility.

The new bridge will be built to better withstand flood events and improved safety and accessibility.

**Q Will the new bridge still swing?**

**A** Yes. The bridge will still be a suspension style bridge - so will still swing - while still meeting improved safety standards.

The bridge will have new large ramps leading to the bridge deck to improve accessibility.

**Q Are there any additional works proposed at the site?**

**A** Additional works at the site include works to rehabilitate the banks alongside the Swinging Bridge.

The banks suffered significant damage during the November 2022 flood event, eroding a significant amount of soil from both banks of the river. This erosion has continued since and threatens both the recreation areas and potentially the bridge itself.

Works would include replacement of the existing trees along the banks, rock armouring the eroded banks, and landscaping and vegetation works on the banks. These works would be carried out in tandem with the swinging bridge reconstruction works.

install of new lighting and additional cement works and furniture at the swinging bridge.



**Project concept**

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<https://www.cabonne.nsw.gov.au/Council/Major-Projects/Canowindra-CBD-Activation-Project>