

Media Release

29 April 2026

April Council Meeting wrap up

The Alice Springs Mayor and Councillors met on Tuesday 28 April 2026 for their monthly Ordinary Council Meeting. The following is a summary of some of the matters discussed. To see full Council reports and minutes visit the ASTC website. A full video of the meeting is available on Council's [website](#).

Community organisations supported through latest funding round

Council has endorsed more than \$97,000 in funding to support the delivery of local programs, services and events across Alice Springs. The funding will assist a wide range of groups, including those focused on arts, disability support, multicultural communities and local initiatives that directly benefit residents.

Event sponsorships were also approved for major events such as Bush Bands Bash, Henley on Todd and the Masters Games, recognising their role in bringing the community together and supporting the local economy. Council's Community Grant and Event Sponsorship programs aim to strengthen local organisations and support activities that contribute to a connected and vibrant Alice Springs.

Community Grants Awardees:

- Central Australian Art Society Inc (\$2,999)
- Central Australia Aviation Museum (\$1,610)
- Integrated Disability Action Inc (\$3,100)
- Yirara College of the Finke River Mission (\$3,500)
- Central Australian Show Society (\$2,863.64)
- Iltja Ntjarra Many Hands Art Centre (\$4,738)
- Alice Springs Uniting Church (\$4,250)
- Alice Springs Christian Ministers Assoc (\$5,000)
- No One Left Behind (\$5,000)
- Studio B School of Dance (\$3,800)
- Central Australian Territory Craft Inc (\$4,500)
- Fiji Multicultural Community Alice Springs INC (\$5,000)

Event Sponsorship Awardees:

- Music NT Incorporated Bush Bands Bash (\$15,000)
- Alice Springs Rotary Henley on Todd Incorporated (\$15,000)
- Tourism NT Masters Games (\$15,000)
- Olive Pink Botanic Garden Alice Film Noir (\$6,000)

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Homelessness priorities to be brought back to Council

Elected Members have requested a report on how to progress short-term priorities identified to support people experiencing homelessness in Alice Springs.

The priorities were discussed at an April 2026 workshop linked to the Joint Statement of Commitment and facilitated by NT Shelter, which brings together organisations working across the homeless sector.

The upcoming report will consider Council's role, including waiving certain Council fees and charges for people experiencing homelessness, establishing a volunteer-run soup kitchen, and installing lockers on Council land for safe storage of personal belongings.

The report will be presented to the June Ordinary Council Meeting to guide next steps and Council's role alongside partner organisations.

Upgrades to improve accessibility and sporting facilities

Council has endorsed a series of upgrades to local sporting facilities, with a strong focus on accessibility and inclusion.

At Traeger Park, funding has been approved to remove six urinals from the change rooms. This change is aimed at creating more private, flexible and inclusive bathroom spaces that better meet the needs of all users, including women, families and people who may feel uncomfortable in traditional layouts.

Council has also approved funding to upgrade the throwing facilities at Rhonda Diano / Head Street Oval, supporting improved functionality for athletes and clubs using the space.

Both projects will be funded through the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee budget and reflect ongoing efforts to ensure Council's facilities are welcoming, accessible and fit for purpose for the whole community.

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New approach to wet weather oval closures

A clearer, more flexible process for closing sporting ovals during wet weather has been endorsed by Council, with a focus on protecting playing surfaces and maintaining safe conditions.

The change removes previous restrictions and gives the Director of Infrastructure Services authority to make closure decisions, based on on-ground assessments and advice from Council's Parks and Gardens team.

Where practicable, affected sporting organisations will be consulted ahead of closures.

The approach was developed in consultation with the Sports Facilities Advisory Committee and aims to strike a balance between continued access for clubs and long-term care of Council's sporting assets.

For further information contact:

Anthony Geppa- Marketing and Communications Coordinator

0439 815 315 or ageppa@astc.nt.gov.au