

# Blue Mountains City Council Tourism Investment

Quarterly Update - September 2019



## We are enhancing the visitor experience at Echo Point

Council will be delivering significant upgrades at Echo Point from mid-October 2019.

These important works, which are expected to be completed by August 2020, will provide an impressive and immersive experience for all those who visit the site.

The upgrades include:

- A new gathering place (amphitheatre)
- A new Prince of Wales Lookout
- An accessible, night-lit boardwalk connecting the lookouts, amphitheatre and Council's accredited Visitor Information Centre (VIC), and
- Security bollards and CCTV.

The new gathering place (amphitheatre) will provide a space, on the eastern side of the Echo Point platform, for about 70 people. Echo Point is one of the most visited sites of Aboriginal cultural significance, in Australia. We want the special value of this place to be appreciated by everyone, so that they take away a deeper appreciation of the complexity and beauty of Aboriginal culture.

We also want it to be easily accessible, and safe for everyone who comes to visit.

**There will be partial closures of Echo Point during the construction period. We apologise for any inconvenience. Our VIC will remain open seven days a week, 9am to 5pm, except for Christmas Day.**



*Council received matched funding from the Federal Government's National Stronger Regions grant program, for this project.*

Go to [bmcc.nsw.gov.au/echo-point](https://bmcc.nsw.gov.au/echo-point) for more information, including a fact sheet.

If you would like to sign up for updates or have any questions or comments, please email: [echopointupgrade@bmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:echopointupgrade@bmcc.nsw.gov.au)



Should you have any questions regarding Council's Tourism program please contact Patricia Lane-Gonzalez, Economic Development Program Leader, at [council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@bmcc.nsw.gov.au).



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## Visitor infrastructure projects

Council staff have been busy delivering critical tourism projects and initiatives, to ensure we provide both high quality visitor infrastructure and also support our local businesses to deliver high quality visitor experiences. Some of the infrastructure delivered, or soon to be delivered, are noted below:

**Echo Point upgrades** valued at \$3.6M – as detailed on previous page.

Delivery of Western Sydney City Deal Western Parkland City Liveability Program projects, valued at more than \$18.7 million, which includes:

- **Upgrades to four district parks** at Blackheath, Wentworth Falls, Springwood and Glenbrook, and
- A significant **upgrade of 2.35km of walking tracks between key features of Knapsack Reserve**, at the Scenic Eastern Escarpment.

We also delivered an upgrade of the **Glenbrook Visitor Information Centre**, opened November 2018, valued at \$1.5M.

Council is spending approximately \$1m annually on **walking track renewal and upgrades**.

**Currently under construction are the:**

- **Katoomba Falls Night Lit Walk** – valued at \$180,000 (to be completed December 2019), and
- **Mount Blackheath** – renewal of toilets, hang-gliding infrastructure and upgrade of walking tracks and lookouts to be accessible, valued at \$233,000 (to be completed March 2020).

## Delivering other tourism initiatives

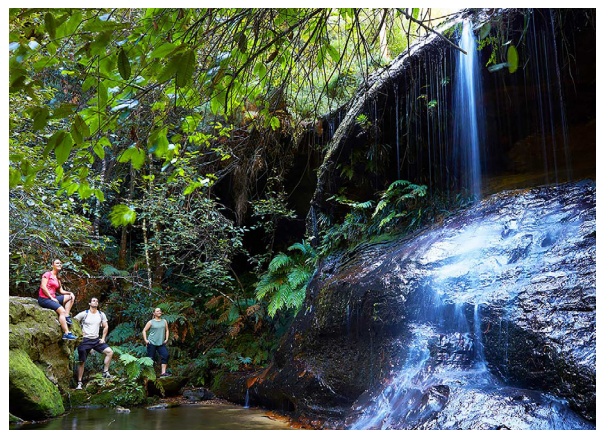
- The 'Wake Up with' Regional Collaborative Marketing Campaign with DNSW Sept – Nov 2018 (BMCC contribution of \$55,000).
- City Entry Signage Design in collaboration with Traditional Owners, valued at \$45,000.
- Delivery of Winter Magic Management Plans including 5 year events strategy, valued at \$80,000.
- Quarterly business training, including tourism specific workshops such as: Get Connected, Creating Awesome Experiences and Taxi Drivers as Destination Ambassadors.



*Charles Darwin Walk*

Recently completed works are:

- **Minnehaha Falls Walking Track, Katoomba** – rock detachment and cliff stabilisation works, valued at \$200,000.
- **Scenic Southern Escarpment** – precinct upgrade including Katoomba Cascades, valued at \$1.3M.
- **Centennial Glen, Blackheath** – Pit toilet installation, accessible parking, wayfinding and trackhead signage, valued at \$70,000.
- **Charles Darwin Walk, Wentworth Falls** – two pedestrian footbridges, valued at \$85,000.
- **Central Park, Wentworth Falls and South Lawson Cataract Falls** – new pedestrian footbridges, valued at a total of \$75,000, and
- **Florabella Pass, Warrimoo** – walking track stone step upgrade and repair, valued at \$25,000.



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