



Residents are campaigning for a pedestrian bridge across the Cooks River.

Picture: PHIL ROGERS

# Call to build footbridges

Lauren Murada

A COMMUNITY campaign has begun to build a pedestrian bridge across the Cooks River in South Murrumbidgee.

Murrumbidgee councillor Peter Olive will raise the idea at the Murrumbidgee Council meeting tonight, asking for a report on two bridge options.

He said the current footpath on Unwins Bridge was not good enough and suggested either one footbridge be attached to the northwestern side of Unwins Bridge or below Warren

Park, The Warren.

"The situation at Unwins Bridge, Tempe, is ridiculously poor," he said. "Getting some extra pedestrian bridges will increase the safety and accessibility of the parklands and paths on the banks of the Cooks River, especially for kids and the elderly who are increasingly using the river banks."

Cr Olive said as the weather gets warmer and more families go to the Cooks River through the school holidays, it's time for something to be done.

"Getting better connections between the open spaces and facilities would be fantastic for everyone," he said.

"There are many bridges further upstream, but it seems the reach between Illawarra Rd and Tempe station has missed out. A bridge across the river just below Warren Park would allow the community to access both sides of the river."

The Cooks River Committee has also joined the campaign and member Michael Easton said a new bridge is necessary.

"I have two young kids and we use the Cooks River a lot, especially considering how much work has been done down there," Cr Olive said.

"We take the kids riding up and down the river and to Woll Creek, and the major issue to cross Richardsons Cres (Unwins Bridge) is there is no pedestrian crossing and large amounts of traffic."

To sign the petition for a footpath across the Cooks River in South Murrumbidgee go to [gopetition.com/petition/40571.html](http://gopetition.com/petition/40571.html)