



MEDIA RELEASE: TUESDAY, 24 APRIL, 2018

\$10 million Capital Works Program proposed for 2018-19 Draft Budget

Strathbogie Shire Council's 2018-19 draft Budget and revised Council Plan was released for public exhibition at tonight's Special Council Meeting (Tuesday 24 March).

The budget has a strong focus on renewal and replacement of ageing infrastructure over the coming financial year, with a capital works budget of \$10.268 million and a whole host of exciting projects, including:

- ✓ Avenel Preschool Upgrade- \$526,000 (\$376,000 external funds)
- ✓ Nagambie Recreation Reserve Upgrade- \$250,000 (\$150,000 external funds)
- ✓ Euroa Visitor Information Centre- \$160,000
- ✓ Nagambie Toilet Block- \$400,000
- ✓ Friendlies Reserve improvements- \$210,000 (\$160,000 external funds)
- ✓ Deep water boat ramp at Lake Nagambie- \$395,000 (Pending \$295,000 grant application)
- ✓ Roads- resealing, road shoulders, re-sheeting, rehabilitation- \$2.45 million
- ✓ Upgrade of zero class roads- \$400,000
- ✓ Bridges and major culverts- \$1.25 million

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Amanda McLaren said the budget endeavours to strike a balance between ratepayer affordability and the need to source adequate funds to maintain a large geographical area and significant infrastructure with a small ratepayer base.

"With the State Government setting a rate cap of 2.25 percent, Council is proposing an increase of less than that- at 1.9 percent," Mayor McLaren explained.

"We have also reduced the farm rate from 85 to 82.5 percent of the residential rate, in recognising the contribution the farming sector makes to our local economy."

Residents will see their waste charges increase by 3 percent due to increasing costs associated with the delivery of the services.

"We encourage you to take a look through the budget by visiting <http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/council/plans-policies-strategies-a-reports/corporate>, or dropping in to Council Offices, and we invite your submissions," Cr McLaren said.

Submissions need to be provided to Council in writing, by either emailing info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au or handing in a written letter to Customer Service before 31 May 2018.

Residents will have the opportunity to address their submission at a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 12 June.



A finalised budget will be endorsed at a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday 26 June after submissions have been considered.

-ENDS-

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