



MEDIA RELEASE

Issue date: 31 July 2024

At the 30 July 2024 Special Council Meeting, Council unanimously adopted the 2024-25 Annual Budget and Shire's new Corporate Business Plan.

The \$12.4 million budget includes \$3.2 million in capital works involving road improvements, footpaths, community and sporting infrastructure and essential plant replacement.

Headlining the budget is the construction of a new hockey and cricket pavilion at the showgrounds to replace the existing facility which has reached end of life. The new \$280,000 facility will house two of the Shire's proudest sporting clubs for years to come and is being funded through the Commonwealth's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program.

The budget delivers essential road upgrades to including:

- Dongolocking Road (\$253,000)
- Ballagin Road (\$207,219)
- Beaufort Road (\$180,000)
- Piesseville-Tarwonga Road (\$155,186)

The budget also includes \$60,000 to improve amenity and access at the Wetlands Park, \$40,000 for new Christmas lights, \$20,500 for new shade sails at the Memorial Pool, and \$35,000 for upgraded toilets at the showgrounds.

Reflecting the challenging economic circumstances and inflationary pressures the budget includes a rate yield increase of 3.4%. Recent wage decisions by industrial relations authorities which have resulted in wage cost increases that exceed CPI will be absorbed by the Shire through responsible budgeting.

Council's newly adopted Corporate Business Plan 2024-2028 sets out a four year program for capital and service improvements to deliver Council's vision described in the Strategic Community Plan. The Corporate Business Plan will inform future budget decision making and planning for capital investment and service delivery.

Cr Phillip Blight
SHIRE PRESIDENT

End of Media Release

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