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MEDIA RELEASE:

ROADWORKS PLAN RELEASED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

A four year Roadworks Plan through to 2016 has been released by the Wattle Range Council for public comment.

With a road network of more than 2,000 kilometres the development of the draft four year Roadworks Plan has followed the establishment of a Road Hierarchy for the sealed and unsealed road networks. The Hierarchy differentiates between rural and urban roads and streets on the basis of the roads being classified as arterial, distributor, collector or local roads.

The development of the Road Hierarchy and an assessment of the condition of these roads have allowed Council to determine priorities in the network. These priorities then allow Council to allocate funds towards the priority roads as a means of ensuring the service standards of the road network is maintained.

Council will continue to invest in the resealing of its existing sealed road network based on the assessment of the condition of the sealed road network. In 2012/13 an allocation of \$500,000 has been provided for resealing, \$1,650,000 to refurbish parts of the unsealed road network and \$276,000 to construct and seal roads.

The remaining three years of the draft Roadworks Plan provides for continued investment in the maintenance and upgrading of the road network as follows –

- 2013/14 – 24.5 kilometres of unsealed roads undergo major refurbishment and 4.1 kilometres of new roads constructed and sealed;
- 2014/15 – 25.1 kilometres of unsealed roads undergo major refurbishment and 5.67 kilometres of new roads constructed and sealed; and
- 2015/16 – 27.9 kilometres of unsealed roads undergo major refurbishment and 4.5 kilometres of new roads constructed and sealed.

Mayor Peter Gandolfi said: “The release of the draft four year Roadworks Plan for comment is a step forward for Council and the community.

“The adoption of the Roadworks Plan will give the community advance notice of major roadwork activity in their area and across the Council region.”

He said there will always be an ongoing challenge for Council to manage the cost of upgrading and maintaining the road network and its ability to fund these major roadworks into the future.

“The development of the Roadworks Plan will provide the basis of long term financial planning for Council,” Mr Gandolfi said. “The need for Council to be financially sustainable coupled with the growing demand for services and facilities needs to be carefully planned in an affordable manner.”

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The public are invited to provide written comment on the draft four year Road Plan to Council by 6th June 2012.

Copies of the draft four year Roadworks Plan and Road Hierarchy are available from any Council Office during normal working hours or from Council's website – www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au

For further information in relation to this press release, please contact Mayor Peter Gandolfi

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