

# 2022/2023 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN Summary



Wattle Range  
COUNCIL



## CEO'S message

The Summary Annual Business Plan 2022/23 provides a brief overview of Council's key priorities and changes for the forthcoming year.

In 2022/23 a key focus for Council is the continuation of recovery from the COVID 19 emergency, implementation of strategies that capitalise on attracting residents and tourists to the Council area and building organisational capacity.

**The following initiatives are a particular focus for 2022/23:**

- Increased investment and extension of services on Council's road network.
- Implementation of the Strategic Planning zoning review across the district.
- Continuation of increased focus on delivering community events, support and activities Council wide.
- Greater focus on supporting tourism strategies across the district.
- Commencement of the implementation of the wayfinding signage strategy across the district.

**In addition, Council will continue a number of initiatives that were implemented as part of last year's response to the COVID 19 emergency:**

- Focus on generating economic stimulus to the greater community through major infrastructure projects.
- Provide an allocation of \$100,000 to enable community groups an opportunity to access these funds for major infrastructure projects.
- Prepare 'Shovel Ready' strategies that can be utilised to leverage future grant opportunities for major infrastructure projects.

In developing this Annual Business Plan, Council encountered many competing demands for community projects, annual cost increases, and the ongoing requirement for asset renewals, all of which need to be prioritised.

The challenge for Council is to deliver a budget that meets current and future community expectations whilst limiting any rate increases and minimising the impact to ratepayers under the current circumstances. In consideration of this, Council is set to raise rates by 5.1% (plus growth from new properties of 0.36%).

The forecasted rate increase is in line with the National Consumer Price Index (CPI) – 2022 March Quarter. It should be noted that inflation will continue to cause pressure on the operations of Council with increased pricing having direct impacts on the delivery of services.

For the 2022/23 financial year, Council is seeking to deliver an operational budget of \$31.43 Million and a capital expenditure budget of \$8.88 Million. Within this budget, Council will continue to focus on increasing asset renewals. In 2022/23 \$5.69 Million has been allocated for the renewal of a wide range of existing facilities and infrastructure. Council has also committed \$3.19 Million for the upgrade and acquisition of new assets.

A strong focus of the capital budget is the funding of our roads. \$1.09 Million has been allocated to re-sheet unsealed roads across the district. In addition, Council is expending funds to purchase \$1.57 Million in new plant and equipment to expand services across the Council district's parks and gardens and road network.

For the forthcoming year, Council is focused on delivering the strategies contained within the Annual Business Plan including rebounding the local economy through major infrastructure development and attracting new industry and investment to the Council area.

**Ben Gower**

Chief Executive Officer

## Capital Expenditure

Council capital expenditure for 2022/23 is set to be \$8.88M and key projects include:

- Road Resheeting **\$1.49M**
- Road Resealing **\$849K**
- Arthur Street Toilets Upgrade **\$150K**
- Rymill Hall Improvements (Storage Facility & Stage Access Upgrade) **\$132K**
- Wayfinding Signage (Penola & Millicent) **\$150K**

## Operating Expenditure

Council operating expenditure for 2022/23 is set to be \$31.43M and key projects include:

- Planning code amendment to the Strategic Land Use Plan **\$55K**
- Dust suppression works on unsealed roads **\$100K**
- Climate Change Action Plan initiatives **\$50K**
- Funding for facilitation, sponsorship and support of local community events **\$61K**
- Council Elections **\$70K**
- Removal of trees & debris from the Millicent township drains **\$50K**

Rates due by

**QUARTER 1**  
14 September 2022

**QUARTER 2**  
7 December 2022

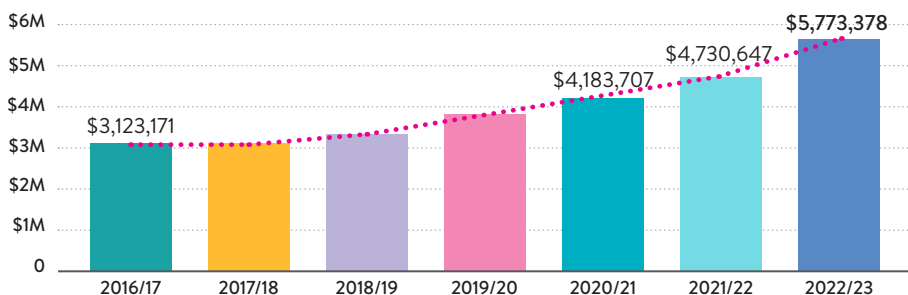
**QUARTER 3**  
8 March 2023

**QUARTER 4**  
7 June 2023

# RATES *in summary*

VALUATIONS	TOTAL		VALUATION CHANGE				
Capital Value	\$5,773,378,400		22.04%↑				
7 YEAR TREND	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	(1.66%)	0.53%	6.89%	13.22%	10.11%	13.07%	22.04%

## Total Capital Valuations \$,000



Rate Codes	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Primary Production	Vacant Land	Other
Rate in the \$	0.3829	0.3525	0.3525	0.2549	0.4969	0.4969
% change	11.54% ↓	12.17% ↓	12.17% ↓	13.24% ↓	13.11% ↓	13.11% ↓

## Other Charges

WASTE COLLECTION			COMMUNITY WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT SCHEME			
	3 BIN	2 BIN		Penola	Southend	Kalangadoo
Full Rate	\$334	\$261	Occupied	\$667	\$667	\$667
Pensioner	\$214	\$171	Vacant	\$499	\$499	\$499

Minimum Charge **\$610** (applicable to 20% of rateable properties)

REGIONAL LANDSCAPE LEVY (STATE GOVERNMENT TAX)			
Residential, Vacant & Other	Commercial	Industrial	Primary Production
\$84.40	\$122.25	\$195.20	\$353.30

For an explanation of the Landscape Levy, please contact the Limestone Coast Landscape Board at 11 Helen Street, Mount Gambier, email [lc.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au](mailto:lc.landscapeboard@sa.gov.au) or phone 08 8735 1204.

## Operating Income

Council has budgeted to receive operating income of \$28.28M in 2022/23, this income is derived from a number of different sources including rates and charges, statutory and user charges, grants, subsidies and contributions, investment income and other income.

## Rebates for Pensioners

Council will continue to provide a pensioner rebate for the waste collection service charge. The rebate will be provided to eligible pensioners who have either an Aged or Disability Pension or a Department for Veteran Affairs Card.

Ratepayers who had previously received this rebate in 2021/22 will continue to receive this rebate during 2022/23.

However, if you are eligible and did not receive this rebate during the 2021/22 year you will be required to fill out an application form and show proof of the appropriate pension card to Council staff. Applications will be received up to September 30, 2022.

## Can I object to my valuation increase?

Yes, you can object to your valuation by making an application to the Office of the Valuer General. Your objection can be made online or by post at the following address:

**Office of the Valuer-General**  
GPO Box 1354  
Adelaide SA 5001

# EVERY \$100 OF YOUR RATES *is spent on...*





# CAPITAL EXPENDITURE *by category*

The capital expenditure works program for 2022/23 is \$8.88M with this year's focus being on roads and new plant & equipment purchases that will increase service delivery on roads and parks & gardens areas across the district.

Sealed Roads  
**\$1.01M**  
Unsealed Roads  
**\$1.49M**



Kerb & Gutter  
**\$180K**  
Footways  
**\$389K**



Plant  
**\$1.57M**



*(Purchasing new plant for expansion of service delivery on roads maintenance and parks & gardens)*

Plant **\$1.267M**

*(Replacing existing plant)*



Halls  
**\$174K**



Public Toilets  
**\$302K**



Animal Control .....	<b>\$11K</b>
Caravan Parks.....	<b>\$48K</b>
Childcare.....	<b>\$120K</b>
Coastal Protection.....	<b>\$104K</b>
Community Support.....	<b>\$885K</b>
CWMS.....	<b>\$27K</b>
Depot .....	<b>\$275K</b>
Elected Members .....	<b>\$12K</b>
History / Museums.....	<b>\$76K</b>
IT Support Services.....	<b>\$32K</b>
Libraries.....	<b>\$240K</b>
Parks & Gardens.....	<b>\$191K</b>
Saleyards .....	<b>\$22K</b>
Stormwater .....	<b>\$100K</b>
Swimming Pools.....	<b>\$132K</b>
Tourism .....	<b>\$170K</b>
Waste Management.....	<b>\$50K</b>

## 2021/2022 *Capital Works highlights*



Coonawarra Rail Trail  
(Cycling & Walking Path)  
**\$2.065M**

The construction of the much-anticipated Coonawarra Rail Trail project commenced in 2021/22. Works are continuing with sections of the trail opening for public access as they reach completion. An official opening of the trail will be scheduled once the project is fully delivered.

This project has been completed with the support of the Federal and State governments under Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Programs (Phases 2 & 3) and the State Bicycle Fund.

Southern Ocean Tourist Park Recreation  
Hall & Camp Kitchen **\$300K**

Construction of the new recreation hall & camp kitchen at the Southern Ocean Tourist Park was completed in September 2021 and has been a welcome addition for holidaymakers over the ensuing holiday periods.

Carpark Sealing Lake McIntyre, Millicent **\$55K**

The public access carpark at Lake McIntyre in Millicent was sealed in January 2022.

Mount Burr Service Roads (Stage 2) **\$330K**

Construction works for Stage 2 in the upgrade of service roads to the township of Mount Burr were completed (Roads 2 & 4). The final sealing works for roads 1 & 3 (constructed last financial year) were also finished.

Road Resheeting **\$1.2M**

A number of unsealed roads across the Council district have been re-sheeted over the 2021/22 financial year, totaling 37.6km of works.



## Have you received your waste disposal vouchers?

A waste disposal voucher is required at all our Council Waste Transfer Stations and Resource Recovery Centres as well as some form of identification.

Your 2022/23 vouchers have been included with your rates notice. Ratepayers who have lost their vouchers may apply for replacement vouchers by completing the Lost Voucher & New Purchase Request Form and a Statutory Declaration Form available from any of Council's offices or on the website.

Council's waste transfer stations are operated by Veolia and all enquiries should be directed to 08 8724 8121 or email [se.operations@veolia.com](mailto:se.operations@veolia.com)

Council has a number of waste initiatives such as our Community Mulch Days. For more information visit [www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/wasteinitiatives](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/wasteinitiatives)

## Register Your Dog online

Dog registration details are now maintained on the Dogs and Cats Online system, a central database of all dogs and cats that reside in South Australia.

All dogs must be registered at three months of age and then annually. Recent Dog & Cat Reforms require ALL new generations of dogs and cats, (born after 1st July 2018) to be desexed and ALL dogs & cats to be microchipped. New registrations, renewals and any changes to registration details can be made at [www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au](http://www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au) or your nearest Council office.

Under South Australian legislation, all dog registrations fall under two simple categories: Standard Dog – a dog that is both desexed and microchipped; and Non-Standard Dog – all other dogs. Wattle Range Council has also chosen to apply discretionary rebates for some concession holders and owners of working dogs. Please refer to Council's Annual Fees and Charges schedule for a list of fees.

It is also the responsibility of the dog owner to advise Council if the dog has moved, been sold, given away or if the dog is deceased. This can also be done online or by contacting Council directly.

Anyone experiencing issues renewing their registration online is encouraged to call into their nearest Council office for assistance.



## Council Service Centre Project

In June 2022 Council resolved to progress to the detailed design phase of this project, which is expected to take about four months. The aim of the proposed development, on the corner of Williams Road and North Terrace, is to improve customer service for the local community and provide a contemporary, collaborative, and safe working environment for almost 70 Council staff, who will be co-located under the one roof for the first time since the 1997 Council amalgamations.

Further details, including a full set of Frequently Asked Questions, are available on our website at [www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/our-council/major-project-updates/council-service-centre](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/our-council/major-project-updates/council-service-centre)

## Fire prevention is your responsibility

Under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* it is the responsibility of all landowners to take reasonable steps to prevent the outbreak of fire or the spreading of fire to or from their property. Know your responsibilities, take positive action to prepare for fires by taking simple steps around your home. Fuel reduction is one of the most important preparations you can undertake.

Council will commence inspections of properties for the level of preparedness and height of flammable undergrowth in October. Should it be noted that fuel hazard reduction works have not been undertaken on your property, Council will take action necessary to ensure works are completed.

Remember the lives of you and your family are irreplaceable

Clean it up now  
before a fire does!

For further information in relation to bushfire prevention measures, please contact Council's Fire Prevention Staff on 08 8733 0900, SA Country Fire Service on 1800 362 361 or visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)

## Methods of Payment to Council

COMING SOON!  
AUSTRALIA POST BILLPAY.



The Australia Post Billpay payment option will replace the current DEFT payment option which is being phased out of operation by Macquarie Bank. The Australia Post Billpay option will be available from October 2022 and will allow ratepayers to pay their rates via Cash, Card or Cheque.



Ratepayers can make arrangements to pay their rates via Direct Debit on a weekly, fortnightly, monthly, quarterly or annual basis. Direct Debit Request Forms are available from Council's Offices or on the website. BPAY is another easy and efficient method of payment when paying your rates.

Those choosing this method are reminded that each property has its own unique BPAY number. These numbers need to be used in separate transactions in order to ensure your accounts can be identified and settled correctly. Ratepayers are also able to access their rates notices electronically through eNotices. For further information on how to sign up for this service please see your rates notice.

## Kerbside Waste Collection Hotline

Council's kerbside collection service is provided by Cleanaway. For all missed bins, contamination, lost, stolen or damaged bins, please call Cleanaway on 1300 410 896 or email [wrc@cleanaway.com.au](mailto:wrc@cleanaway.com.au) For information on bin collection days/times visit [www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/kerbsidecollectionservice](http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/kerbsidecollectionservice)

Keep an eye out for your new kerbside collection calendar. You should see it arrive in your letterbox in August. The calendar has information about the types of waste that can go in each bin and will be valid for another 2 years.

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR BINS AT THE KERB BY 6AM.**

## Stay informed with Antenno

Stay connected to your community – get the latest Council notices and information from Antenno.

Antenno is free to use and will notify you of rubbish and recycling collections, council events and so much more. COMING SOON! Dog on the loose? Graffiti on a fence? Soon you will be able to report these issues to Council through Antenno also.

Antenno is available for your Council alerts today from the App Store or Google Play.



After Hours Contact  
DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN CONTACT  
COUNCIL 24/7 ON 08 8733 0900?

Council provides urgent after hours assistance in the following areas:

- ANIMALS • ROADS • TREES
- COUNCIL BUILDINGS & FACILITIES

