

thrive.

BUDGET
EDITION
.....
2020/21



Flying foxes and nature play

With a growing number of families in Ashfield, Bassendean and Eden Hill, the Town will build three new playgrounds in 2020-21.

This follows community input into the upgrade of playgrounds at Palmerston Street Reserve, Bassendean, and at Padbury Way Reserve, Eden Hill.

A new nature based playground at Sandy Beach is a step closer with the detailed design completed, and funds provided for new toilets. The playground will feature a flying fox with timber platform, an A-frame triple swing with basket, tree tower, concrete slide, water fountain and water play trough, timber steppers, an accessible tee pee, stilts, balance logs, a dual tight rope, hive cubby, sand pit, sand play table and sand pulley, barbecues, lighting and seating and the like.



PRIORITIES FOR 2020-21

In addition to the usual services, supports and facilities that the Town provides for our community, projects funded this year include:

- Town Centre Master Plan to attract investment and fulfil the community's vision for a vibrant Town centre with diversity of housing, jobs, prospering small businesses, social amenity and connection in the Old Perth Road and train station precinct
- Strategic River Assessment
- Three bins –Saving landfill costs and protecting the environment with a Food Organics and Garden Organics bin system, using State Government funds, at no extra cost to our ratepayers
- Underground Power in parts of Eden Hill and Bassendean, with Western Power funding all of the major infrastructure costs and property owners only funding the cost of connection from the boundary to the home. Property owner contributions have been deferred until September 2021, delaying any financial impact for over a year
- Planting another 1,000 new shade trees across our neighbourhoods
- Old Perth Road markets resume
- Jubilee Reserve Masterplan
- Whitfield Street Safe Active Street – Construction underway
- Second Avenue to Fourth Avenue Living Stream (design)
- Success Hill Spillway –Detailed design & construction
- Regenerate Mary Crescent Reserve - "Our Park Our Place" Project
- Green Trail – Blend path infrastructure with local surroundings along our railway
- Restoration works at Bindaring Wetlands
- New footpaths



Hello Bassendean Community



This year has been particularly challenging for many in the Town of Bassendean.

We can all be very proud of the way our community has come together and supported one another through COVID-19. Our individual and collective actions have helped to minimise the potential consequences of the pandemic, yet we remain very conscious that there are people in our community who are struggling due to the ongoing financial impact. In recognition of this Council has adopted a budget for 2020/21 that features no increase in rate revenue and has frozen fees and charges. This means that the Town will not collect any more in rates than it did in the last financial year.

Maintaining rates revenue at the same level as last year will help us strike a balance between minimising the cost to ratepayers while also ensuring we have adequate finances to fund essential services and facilities that will help our Town bounce back from COVID-19. We have also forged some strategic partnerships with government agencies to share funding of various projects and to reduce the reliance on ratepayers.

Given the unusual circumstances, Council used the opportunity to reassess priorities and projects,

allocating funds for those that are likely to deliver the most economic, social and environmental benefit to our community and facilitate our community's recovery from COVID-19.

Despite Council's commitment to freeze rates revenue there will be some variation on individual rates notices as a result of the State Government's Valuer General recently undertaking their triennial revaluations. The result of this is a redistribution of the rates burden within the Town depending on how much the Valuer General determined the gross rental value (GRV) of your property value had changed compared to your neighbours.

We recognise that everyone works hard to earn the money that the Town collects in rates and appreciate your contributions that allow us to deliver the projects and services that our community values and that make our Town an even better place to live.

Renée McLennan
Mayor



Total number of RATEABLE PROPERTIES 7,308	Properties on the MINIMUM RATE OF \$1,106 2,397	Properties on RATE IN THE DOLLAR 4,911	RATE IN THE DOLLAR 8.323 cents	Increase in Town revenue from rates SINCE LAST YEAR \$0	RATES INCREASE 0%
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REVALUATIONS

The State Government's Valuer General has recently revalued all properties in the Town. These valuations determine the Gross Rental Value (GRV) of all properties in a district. Council rates for these properties are calculated by multiplying the GRV by the rate in the dollar necessary to achieve the revenue required to deliver services to the community. Watch the video on our website for an explanation.

Despite the Town's commitment to derive no more revenue from rates than in 2019-20, rates levied for individual properties will change, due to the revaluation of property values by the State Government.

While the GRV for some properties increased, the GRV for most properties fell -- some by less than the average of 13% and some by more. This will have the following effect for individual property owners:

The GRV of my property went up or fell by less than 13%



RATES INCREASE



The GRV of my property fell by more than 13%



RATES DECREASE

The effect of a revaluation is to redistribute the rates burden among property owners to achieve a fair distribution as property values change over time.

WE'RE OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Here's five things we're doing to stimulate our economy:

- 1** A Town Centre Masterplan project to help attract much needed investment and development while creating more housing and jobs
- 2** Updating our planning framework to provide the optimal environment to attract investment and promote good development and design
- 3** Maximise use of land and buildings owned by the Town
- 4** Reviewing procurement practices to place a greater weighting on local suppliers
- 5** Promoting local businesses and encouraging residents to eat, drink and shop locally

Be a Loyal Local. Visit <https://www.bassendean.wa.gov.au/listings/business>

✓ MORE TIME TO PAY

Council adopted a Financial Hardship Policy to help property owners experiencing financial hardship by enabling you to apply for assistance relating to outstanding rates or service charges or sundry debts. Please contact our Rates Officers on 9377 8000.

✓ TIP PASSES

Find your tip passes attached to your Rates Notices and keep them in a safe place.

✓ FIRE SAFETY

For fire safety reasons, you are required to maintain your property and reduce all combustible material. See the notice in this envelope.

✓ PENSIONER DISCOUNTS

Rebates are available on your rates if you have a Pensioner Concession Card, Commonwealth Senior Health Card or a State Senior Card.

RIVER FORESHORE

The Swan River is one of our greatest assets and the Town works with state government agencies to ensure it is protected for future generations to enjoy.

This year a Town review of the condition of the Swan River foreshore and assets at Point Reserve, Sandy Beach, Pickering Point, Success Hill and Ashfield Flats will help develop a framework for its future management and investment.

The outcome will help inform Council decisions and allow community input into planning the environmental and recreational needs such as erosion control and jetties.

More information, including opportunities for community participation, will be provided later in the year.



