

# BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS at a glance



#### \$9.385 million Operating Surplus

= Responsible financial management



#### \$0.589 million Underlying Surplus

= Achieving financial sustainability



#### \$16.179 million Capital Works Program

= Investing and maintaining our asset base



#### **Projects supported by grants**

= Support from all levels of government



#### No new loans proposed

= Current loans payout in 2024/2025



#### \$534,000 Community Grant and Project Funding

= Investing in our local clubs and communities



#### **Projects Occurring Across the Gannawarra**

= Improving liveability for all residents



#### **Total Rate Revenue Capped at 1.5%**

= Complying with the Fair Go Rates System

Council is proud to deliver a proposed budget that maintains Council's assets and current services, is financially prudent and delivers projects that will benefit residents and visitors to the Gannawarra.

The highlight of this year's budget is a \$16.179 million Capital Works program, featuring several long-term projects that are supported by the State and Federal governments. These projects aim to grow the Gannawarra now and into the future, whilst the support of our State and Federal counterparts minimises the financial impact of these works on ratepayers.

This budget complies with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System, which states that the total revenue raised through municipal rates cannot increase by more than 1.5 per cent compared to the previous year.

Council recognises that residents have faced many challenges during the past few years, including the drought and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. These challenges have been a key factor in developing this budget.

Council encourages all residents to provide feedback on the proposed budget, which can be done by visiting www.gsc.vic.gov.au/budget by 5pm Monday, 24 May 2021.

Cr Charlie Gillingham Mayor, Gannawarra Shire Council

### A BUDGET FOR the Community

Council will continue supporting communities throughout the Gannawarra in the following ways:



**Community Grants program (\$84,000)**: Council invites community groups to apply for up to \$5,000 of funding from its Community Grants Program. Applications open in August 2021.



**Major Community Project funding (\$250,000)**: Council will partner with community groups to develop projects on non-Council owned properties.



**Strategic Project funding (\$200,000)**: Council will budget for strategic projects outlined in the Gannawarra Shire Council Plan 2017-2021 to enable these works to be ready for development.

## A BUDGET THAT GROWS the Gannawarra now and into the future

#### **KERANG**

- Atkinson Park All Abilities Park (\$1.1 million): Development of an All Abilities Playground. NOTE: Grant dependent.
- Kerang CBD Redevelopment Stage 2 (\$1 million):
   Continuation of works to improve Victoria Street, Kerang.
   NOTE: Federal Government-funded project.
- Gannawarra Shire Children's Centre extension (\$650,000):
   Upgrade of building and furnishing of rooms to cater for
   3-year-old kindergarten. NOTE: State Government-supported project.

#### **COHUNA**

- Cohuna CBD Waterfront Connection Project (\$1.7 million):
   The continuation of works that will link the Cohuna central business district to Gunbower Creek. NOTE: State Government-supported project.
- Cohuna Sporting Precinct Masterplan (\$100,000):
   The development of a Masterplan for the Cohuna Sporting Precinct, which will guide future developments and assist in attracting funding for future works.
- Morton Garner Pavilion (\$475,000 for 2021/2022):
   Replacement of the current pavilion at the Cohuna
   Recreation Reserve with a new multi-purpose facility that can be used for agriculture, sporting and community events.

   NOTE: Federal Government-funded project.

#### KOONDROOK

Kerang to Koondrook Rail Trail (\$2.4 million for 2021/2022):
 To be completed between 2021/2022 and 2022/2023, this walking and cycling trail between Kerang and Koondrook will form part of the Murray River Adventure Trail. NOTE: Grant dependent.





#### **QUAMBATOOK**

Sustainable recreational water (\$1.2 million for 2021/2022): Purchase of water and waterfront works for recreational use for the proposed Quambatook Weir Pool project. NOTE: Grant dependent.

#### **MURRABIT**

Township stormwater drainage development (\$1.154 million): Improvements to the town's stormwater drainage. NOTE: Federal Government-funded project.

#### KERANG LAKES DISTRICT

- **Kangaroo Lake North End Foreshore Development** - Stage 2 (\$830,000): Enhancement of the boat ramp, installation of a fixed jetty and landscaping works. NOTE: Grant dependent.
- Apex Park Bridge replacement (\$300,000): Upgrade of bridge that provides vehicle access to Apex Park, Reedy Lake. NOTE: Grant dependent.

### Other Projects

- Sealed roads rehabilitation program (\$1.060m)
- Gravel road re-sheeting program (\$994,000)
- Bitumen road reseal works program (\$910,000)
- **Building renewals** (\$310,000)
- Stormwater Network and Pump renewal (\$160,000)
- Kerb replacement program (\$153,000)
- Pools renewal program (\$135,000)
- Footpath replacement program
- **Gannawarra Library Service resources** Cohuna and Kerang branches (\$100,000)

### WHERE THE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM COMES FROM

Council's 2021/2022 Proposed Budget Capital Works program is funded through three revenue sources, as specified below:

FUNDING SOURCES	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
COUNCIL OPERATIONS * Rates	\$6.065M	37.49%
* State and Federal Government grants	\$10.099M	62.42%
<b>DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS</b> * Other funding sources	\$0.015M	0.09%
LOANS	\$0	0.00%
TOTAL	\$16.179M	

### A BUDGET THAT MAINTAINS A BALANCED RATING STRATEGY

Council is committed to adjusting the rating strategy to account for the current economic conditions. The property revaluation to be undertaken as at 1 January 2021 has not been received at the time of preparing this report. Council is awaiting valuation data for 2021/22 from the Valuer General's office. Calculation of rates in this Proposed Budget is based on current valuation figures.

To achieve a budget rate increase that is considered fair and equitable for all rate payers, Council has increased the rates by 1.5%.

TYPE OR CLASS OF LAND	2020/2021 CENTS/\$CIV	2021/2022 CENTS/\$CIV	CHANGE
General rate for residential properties	0.006323	0.006415	1.46%
General rate for commercial/industrial properties	0.006496	0.006688	2.96%
General rate for farm irrigation district properties	0.005318	0.005397	1.49%
General rate for farm dryland properties	0.004292	0.004358	1.53%
General rate for cultural and recreational properties	0.003161	0.003213	1.66%

The Municipal Charge remains at \$100 and will be applied to all rateable properties.

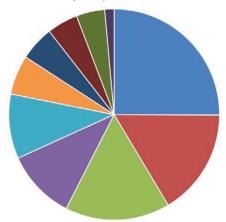
Waste Management Charges are based on achieving full cost recovery to ensure this service is sustainable for the long term. The proposed annual charges for 2021/2022 are set to an overall increase of 3.24% as follows:

120-litre general waste bin: \$368 (\$11 increase)
240-litre general waste bin: \$528 (\$16 increase)

• Green waste bin: \$59 (\$3 increase)

# A BUDGET THAT SUPPORTS key Community Services

The 2021/2022 Proposed Budget also invests in providing important ongoing services to the community, as specified below:





**Community Care** (\$4,604,537)



Children and Youth (\$3,002,747)



Roads, Bridges, Footpaths and Drainage Maintenance (\$2,954,972)



Recreation - Parks, Reserves and Pools (\$1,965,375)



Waste Management Services (\$1,819,826)



Community Facilities (\$1,107,619)



Planning, Building and Compliance (\$971,857)



**Economic Development and Tourism** (\$869,329)



**Libraries and Arts/Culture** (\$803,284)



**Environmental Management** (\$263,255)