

Mayors Report – June 2018

As in my previous reports, Tasman Council staff and Councillors have been working for several months on the 2018/19 budget for adoption at the June Council Meeting. The 2018/19 budget and Annual Plan were approved at that meeting and I would encourage members of the community to go the Council website or if that is not possible, then into the office to request a copy of the Annual Plan. For those who like to see the numbers here is an estimated summary for the 2018/19 financial year:

Estimated Revenue for Council - \$ 6,625,000

Estimated Expenditure of the Council - \$ 6,566,000

Estimated New Borrowing by the Council - \$ N/A

Estimate Capital Works of the Council - \$ 7,659,151

The General Rate of 8.1156670 cents in the dollar of the Assessed Annual Value of the rateable land in our Municipal Area equates to a 2.5% rate rise. The Annual Plan also sets out the key focus areas that Tasman Council will aim to deliver in the coming year.

Council's budget for 2018 - 2019 provides funding for essential services, maintenance of existing assets and new infrastructure growth.

The budget commits funds of \$7.659 million for renewal, upgrading and new Council assets with some of the capital works projects including:

- \$2.885m for renewal/reconstruction of sections of Stormlea, Reef View, Stacey, Pirates Bay, Ohlsens, Cartela, Penzance and Eagle View Roads and the replacement of Andersons Road bridge.
- \$723k for resheeting of unsealed roads on Gwandalan, Dam, Thorntons, Lyne, Hurdle, Hylands, Jenkins, Jones, McDonalds, Coppings, Robinsons and Lookout Roads.
- \$390k for plant replacement.
- Replacement of Nubeena Recreation Ground clubrooms, new sports ground lighting, practice wicket, access road and carpark sealing (incl. extension).
- \$65k for LED streetlight replacement.
- \$1.247m for road upgrades including sealing of additional segments on Old Jetty, Sommers Bay, Waterfall Bay and Stormlea Roads (Nubeena Rd junction through to Thorntons Rd junction).
- \$355k for installing new stormwater infrastructure principally to improve road drainage.
- Five (5) additional affordable housing units at Pearls Court, Nubeena.

In addition the budget provides \$1.70m for asset maintenance and support for the activities and events of our community groups and organisations through funding of \$30,000 as part of Council's Community and Youth Grants Program.

Primary Health Tasmania has written to inform me that Huon Regional Care has elected not to re-contract as a provider under the rural primary health services program in the Tasman

Municipal Area after 30 June 2018. The services provided under this contract are for chronic health conditions, e.g. diabetes, heart disease and lung disease.

Huon Regional Care have kindly offered to continue (and will be funded by Primary Health Tasmania) to provide these chronic health services to eligible community members until the tendering process has concluded by the end of October.

There will be no changes in the General Practice (GP Practice) or to the residents in the Tasman Health and Community Service.

Primary Health Tasmania has sent me a Community Survey to circulate. These will be available for residents to collect and fill in from the Council, GP Practice at the Tasman Health and Community Service reception and the Community House in Nubeena. If you are unable to collect a form from these venues, contact either the Council or myself and we will send you the form.

Councillors, Council staff and I am sure the residents are all getting totally frustrated with the merger process and the time it is taking to finalise. The Local Government Board report will be provided to Minister Gutwein by the end of June who will then forward it as a confidential draft report to both the Tasman and Sorell Council to comment on. It will then be sent back to the Minister for his final stamp of approval and then be made available to the public. Councillors do not want to make this final decision without the residents and ratepayers, in both Municipal Areas, having had an opportunity to also read the report. Councillors do not want to make this final decision without the residents and ratepayers, in both Municipal Areas, being able to read the final report.

Roseanne Heyward
Mayor