

## Input sought for land sales

Council is planning to commence community consultation in line with its legislative requirements regarding the sale of surplus land.

As part of its Strategic Land Review Project and following community input, Council officers identified 23 vacant land parcels as potentially surplus to the community's needs. The 23 properties proposed for sale in 2015/16 are a combination of land to be sold publicly and land that may be sold to an adjoining landowner.

The consultation and statutory process (legislative requirements) includes a letter to affected adjoining landowners. Key stakeholders and community groups will also be informed and a public invitation for submissions will appear in local papers in the first week of December. Information on this project, including a full list of the 23 surplus properties proposed for sale, will be displayed on Council's website.

This process is part of Council's ongoing review of its property portfolio and Mayor, Cr Bob Newton, said demonstrated a pro-active approach to Council asset management.

"The Land Sales Program is a way of identifying opportunities to raise revenue to contribute to new and improved community services," he explained. "This reduces the impact on our ratepayers."

The project is also a way to tidy-up property boundaries that are often already occupying Council land. This improves the safety and appearance of land by reducing the amount of small and unused spaces.

"The community had significant input into the evaluation process and helped inform the revised evaluation matrix," Cr Newton said. "We want to continue to work together with our community to deliver this project and benefit from the outcomes."

Any enquiries about Council's land sales program can be directed to Manager Sustainable Communities, Chris Van Der Ark, on 5662 9200.

**PR 1749 12/11/15**