

# Mayor's Message



This week has been filled with fantastic opportunities for me and some of my fellow councillors. In particular it was an honour meeting with the Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull as we accepted funding for the Gippsland Trails and Tracks – Feasibility Study.

The Federal Government provided \$66,000 in funding through the Regional Jobs and Investment Package Local Infrastructure Grants – Latrobe Valley Stream towards the study which will guide tracks and trails in the region to support recreation and tourism. Council was proud to be the lead agency in making the application on behalf of the Gippsland Local Government Network, Destination Gippsland and Bicycle Victoria.

Rural Councils Victoria also held a forum last Wednesday which I attended alongside Cr. Brown, Cr. Edwards and our Chief Executive Officer Tim Tamlin. The forum was a fantastic opportunity to hear more from Rural Councils Victoria who are aiming to raise awareness and understanding of issues that impact rural communities.

I would like to congratulate Cr. Brown for making the address for Rural Councils Victoria on their Victorian Government budget submission. It was fantastic seeing a fellow Councillor have the opportunity to participate. The budget submission has a key focus on fixing rural roads, particularly those ageing assets that are a vital part of the rural road network.

Talking about budgets, I would like to remind everyone that submissions on the Revised Council Plan 2017-2021, Proposed Annual Budget 2018/19 and the Proposed Rating Strategy 2018/19 are still open. These documents are essential for the function of Council, making it vital we hear from community members.

To view these key documents please visit Documents on Public Exhibition on Council's website. More details are also available here on how to make a submission and the key purpose for each document.

I thank our community members that have made submissions so far during this consultation period and I look forward to hearing your feedback.

**Cr Lorraine Brunt**  
**Mayor**