

Mayor's Message



As expected this past week has been a huge one with the June Council Meeting and passing the end of financial year. We now have adopted the 2018/19 Annual Budget, 2017-2021 Revised Council Plan and 2018/19 Rating Strategy alongside various other items.

All of these key documents are now available on Council's website and for those who are just after a snapshot we have a Budget Summary available. I certainly recommend those of you who haven't had a look yet to review these documents as they affect everyone living in South Gippsland.

I am proud to have these fundamental documents finalised as it impacts Council's operations and the future of our region. In particular it is fantastic to have an annual budget resulting in a total budgeted expenditure of \$63.2 million with expenditure on a capital works program of \$23.4 million.

Strengthening our 2018/19 Capital Works Program has been significant for Council and it is only with financial stability that such a feat is possible. As such we must continue to thank our Finance department and all of our staff responsible for developing such an impressive budget.

We have a number of important projects expected for this financial year such as the Bena Kongwak Bridge, Mirboo North Pool, Korumburra Community Hub Design, Loch Main Street Renewal and Toora Pool Masterplan. I know that the community have been rallying behind many of these projects and it is great to be at a time where we can commit to their funding.

Although rate capping by the Victorian Government and the indexation freeze on financial assistance grants from the Federal Government are still in place it is encouraging still provide a high level of service and facilities for the community.

It is my hope that as a Council we can utilise these key documents and strive for improvement over the next twelve months. By putting the community first I have no doubt we will continue to drive for prosperity in South Gippsland.

Cr Lorraine Brunt
Mayor