

Mayor's Message



This week, Council received some exciting news from the State Government – we were successful in receiving \$2 million in funding for the Rail Precincts in Leongatha and Korumburra. The funding has been allocated under the *Regional Infrastructure Fund – Round Two* and will be added to \$3 million from the Commonwealth Government's *Building Better Regions Fund* and a \$1 million contribution from Council. All up, \$6 million will be spent to upgrade these two precincts.

This is a great outcome for two of South Gippsland's largest townships and will not only help to draw additional tourists to our region, but also rejuvenate these spaces as the heart of town and a space for our community to come together. We have been waiting for this funding for a long time, but now that we have it, work can commence imminently. The first element of the project will commence in the coming weeks – that being the construction of new car parking at the Leongatha precinct.

A full list of upgrades that will be done can be found on Council's website

<https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/gprt-precincts-development>

Music lovers of all ages rejoice! Council, alongside *The Hills Are Alive!*, will be hosting the Reconnect All-Ages Festival on 29 April at the Leongatha Recreation Reserve. It is an opportunity for music lovers of all ages to come together and celebrate attending live music again. Featuring cool sounds by the likes of the Pierce Brothers, this event is not to be missed. Tickets won't last long so make sure you secure yours today by heading to <https://tinyurl.com/2p8k5whn> Entry is just \$10 or \$15 for entry and a bus from one of the following towns: Wonthaggi, Korumburra, Inverloch, Foster, Meeniyan, Mirboo North and Leongatha.

It was also great to hear the State Government's plans to build a new 24-hour ambulance station in Foster are progressing well. This three-bay station will be vital for the emergency health response in South Gippsland, particularly our more southerly townships. It will ensure we have the best facilities and equipment available so our amazing paramedics can continue to take care of our community.

Finally, I would like to once again encourage you to register to Your Say South Gippsland so you never miss an opportunity to share your thoughts on projects, plans and strategies that will

impact our region into the future. There are lots of opportunities coming up that you certainly won't want to miss, so why not register now? You can do so at yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/register

Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor