

Mayor's Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Good things are happening right across South Gippsland. While you might not always see the planning that goes into Council projects, we all notice the results.

Sometimes people ask, "What does Council actually do?" Well... quite a lot, as it turns out.

From playgrounds to toilets, sporting facilities, boating facilities and road upgrades, we're continuing to invest in projects that make a real difference across South Gippsland.

Works are well underway on the **Port Welshpool** Pontoon replacement, with the project expected to be completed by the end of August. Thanks to full funding from Better Boating Victoria, this \$750,000 project is delivering a pontoon designed to withstand local weather conditions and importantly, it will also improve access for everyone. The new all-abilities design, including a boat hoist for wheelchair users, will enhance boating opportunities for more members of our community.

If you live in or around **Nyora** the progress of the new playground and public toilet that's being built there will be a big improvement. I've seen the plans for the playground and it's going to be amazing when it's finished and will be a fantastic space for families to gather and play.

We're not stopping there! Works on Bridge Street in **Korumburra** are also progressing well. This project started as a Budget submission by a community member and is now becoming a reality – a great example of how community ideas can turn into tangible improvements. You can't say we don't listen.

Lighting projects at the **Leongatha** Recreation Reserve and **Nyora** Recreation Reserve have also been awarded and will begin shortly, and the new **Korumburra** Tennis Club facilities are nearing completion.

Renewal of part of Canterbury Road in **Venus Bay** has been approved as part of the annual Budget and will go out to tender in the very near future.

Several key locations across South Gippsland have also been selected for safety upgrades, funded through the Transport Accident Commission. From better crossings to calmer traffic, the projects are all about creating safer, more welcoming spaces for



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

everyone. Throughout the year ahead, we will all see improvements in traffic safety across South Gippsland this year, including in Venus Bay, Foster, Leongatha, Sandy Point, Loch, Korumburra and Nyora.

Of course, major infrastructure projects aren't all that Council does. We also work on providing services, from Maternal and Child Health services to Youth Council programs to helping reunite lost pets with their owners and more. There's so much that "just happens" because of the work taking place behind the scenes to ensure these services continue to be delivered smoothly, week in and week out, which is about South Gippsland Shire Council working for you.

Citizenship Ceremony

I would like to warmly invite everyone to attend this week's Citizenship Ceremony, as we welcome our newest Australian citizens. The event will take place at 6.00pm on Wednesday 5 August at Memorial Hall in Leongatha. It's always a privilege to celebrate such an important milestone with people who have chosen to call South Gippsland home.

Get involved

Finally, there are a couple of great opportunities to get involved with Council programs. Expressions of Interest are now open for musicians who are keen to perform as part of the **Coal Creek Sunday Sessions**, and community groups are reminded that applications for the current round of **Community Grants** close on 31 August. Information about both application processes is available on Council's website.

Thank you for your continued support as we deliver the projects, services and opportunities that help make South Gippsland a great place to live, work and enjoy.