



MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday 19 April 2016

Waratah-Wynyard Acting Mayor Mary Duniam has invited the community to have its say on the Draft Annual Plan and Budget 2016-2017.

This year's budget includes an investment in infrastructure of just over \$6 million, which is one of the largest Capital Works programs ever delivered by this Council.

Council released its annual plan for the first time last year prior to adoption to provide the opportunity for community feedback and input.

"Last year about 45 people took part in sessions to review the plan and we hope by continuing this practice that we are able to gather views from a wide cross section of the community on Council's priorities as well as the proposed rates increase," Cr Duniam said.

"Having the community's involvement in this process ensures that we are not only on the right track, but also that they have a better understanding of the budget process."

Cr Duniam said Council had worked hard to balance the costs of rates with the need for the development of new assets and the need for reconstruction and renewal.

"Council has therefore proposed an increase in the general rate of 1.87%, which is consistent with the Local Government Association of Tasmania's 2016 Council Cost Index," Cr Duniam said.

“Council is always working on ways to keep cost increases to a minimum not only by continuing to enhance our resource sharing arrangement with the Circular Head Council, but also to look at other avenues of funding.”

Some of the projects and initiatives included in the annual plan include:

- \$750,000 for the development of a Wynyard Central Area Development Plan and the design and construction of a new carpark at the rear of the former Stubbs Hardware site in Wynyard;
- \$40,000 to complete upgrades to the Sisters Beach Esplanade recreational area;
- \$400,000 to complete next stage of the Somerset Village Development Plan;
- \$500,000 to commence staged implementation of the Camp Creek Rehabilitation works;
- \$675,000 for the completion of road works included in the Wynyard Waterfront and Environs Masterplan;
- \$60,000 for the completion of a Boat Harbour Development Plan to improve public amenity, traffic and parking arrangements, recreational use and development opportunity;
- \$200,000 to complete Stage 2 of the Council Administration Building Refurbishment Project;
- \$50,000 to undertake a re-branding of the Council to align the corporate and destination marketing brand for Waratah-Wynyard;
- \$824,000 for the renewal and upgrade of sections of Mt Hicks Road and Oldina Road; and
- \$559,00 for the renewal of rural roads including Baulds Road, Brunts Road, Buggs Lane, Buggs Road, Deep Creek Road, Oonah Road and Robin Hill Road.

Information sessions on the Annual Plan will occur in the first two weeks of May at the following locations.

- Monday 2 May at the Waratah-Wynyard Council Waratah office, Smith Street, Waratah from 4-6pm;
- Thursday 5 May at the Waratah-Wynyard Council chamber, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard from 6-7pm; and
- Tuesday 10 May at the Somerset Primary School, 30a Beaufort Street, Somerset from 6pm-7pm.

Copies of the draft Annual Plan and Budget are available online or at Council offices. Feedback can be made in person at Waratah-Wynyard Council offices, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard, or Smith Street, Waratah, in writing to the General Manager PO Box 168, Wynyard Tasmania, 7325 or email council@warwyn.tas.gov.au, via www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/yoursay, or posted onto Council’s Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/WaratahWynyard. Comments close at 5pm on Friday 20 May 2016.

Further enquiries may be directed to:-

Communications Officer Corey Speers on 0427 207 573.

Authorised for general media distribution by Daniel Summers, Acting General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Tuesday 19 April 2016

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