



MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday 20 June 2017

Waratah-Wynyard Council will deliver its first operational surplus budget since 2007 after the Annual Plan and Budget 2017-2018 was adopted at the June Council meeting on Monday night.

“The Annual Plan is projected to achieve an overall surplus of \$1.139M and an operating surplus of \$356,488 which is an excellent result,” Mayor Robby Walsh said.

This years’ budget includes an investment in infrastructure of just over \$6.9 million, which is once again one of the largest Capital Works programs delivered by the Council.

“A strong focus has been given to the completion of the Somerset Village Development Plan and the delivery of the Wynyard Foreshore and Environs Masterplan, including the new Goldie Street North Carpark and civic space,” Mayor Walsh said.

Mayor Walsh 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 and had kept the rate increase to 1.5%, which was consistent with the Local Government Association of Tasmania’s 2016 Council Cost Index.

“The need to keep rate increases to the minimum level possible is something that is always at the front of our minds,” Mayor Walsh said.

“Council has focused on utilising LEAN principles to identify savings, while still being able to deliver the services expected by our community.”

Some of the major budget allocations for projects include:

- o \$897,000 for the Wynyard Goldie Street North Carpark;
- o \$450,000 for improvements of the Wynyard Wharf Carpark;
- o \$825,000 for a new boardwalk between the Wynyard Wharf and Wynyard;
- o \$615,000 for the remediation of Camp Creek
- o \$690,000 for the completion of the Somerset Village Development Plan
- o \$180,000 for the renewal and/or upgrade of the Inglis River Trail
- o \$183,000 for the completion of the Council administration building upgrade.

Further enquiries may be directed to:- Communications Officer Patrick Fahy on 0427 207 57.

**Authorised for general media distribution by Michael Stretton, General Manager,
Waratah-Wynyard Council on Tuesday 20 June 2017**

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