



MEDIA RELEASE
Friday 26 August 2016

Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh said about \$6700 a year will be saved at the Wynyard Works and Services Depot thanks to a lean project.

Waratah-Wynyard Council in partnership with the Circular Head Council has engaged Tasmanian firm Productivity Improvers to deliver lean training to both organisations.

“The adoption of lean principles across both Councils is ensuring that we are focusing on utilising the knowledge and expertise of our employees in making improvements that not only make us more efficient, but also lower our costs,” Mayor Walsh said.

“This lean project is just one of many examples of where Council staff have taken what they have learnt and applied it in a practical sense.”

The lean project saw the complete redesign and eventual manufacture of a new trailer at the Works and Services Depot for the Urban Works team.

Project leader Urban Works Coordinator Paul Whitsitt said the new trailer was designed to help ensure the team had easy and better access to the right tools and equipment on site when needed.

“We did some calculations on lost time and kilometers travelled per day and found there was a lot of time over a year that we could save,” Mr Whitsitt said.

“Based on these calculations we were looking at more than 105 hours and 3172km per year lost because of the existing trailer and how it was being used.

“Often when out on the job we would need to return to the depot to get additional equipment, whereas with the new design everything we need is right there on site.”

Mayor Walsh was impressed by the project and said it also provided a number of safety improvements.

“This is a great outcome and the improved safety and ergonomic design of the trailer will mean that there is less chance of injury to our staff,” Mayor Walsh said.

“I congratulate the team on their efforts and look forward to seeing more initiatives throughout the organisation.”

The estimated return on investment of costs involved in the project is estimated to be recovered in 16 months’ time.

Further media enquiries may be directed to:-

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**Authorised for general media distribution by Michael Stretton, General Manager,
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