

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Thursday, June 17, 2021**

## Waratah-Wynyard Council releases its 2021/22 Annual Plan and Budget focussing on financial, social and environmental responsibility

Waratah-Wynyard Council's 2021/2022 Annual Plan and Budget reflects Council's commitment to being socially, financially and environmentally responsible.

The proposed Budget includes capital works expenditure of \$10m, with \$4.339m in new infrastructure spending, \$3.255m in asset renewals, and \$2.416m on upgrades to existing assets.

Acting Mayor Mary Duniam says Council's decisions to construct new and improved infrastructure are carefully considered through Council's Financial Management Strategy.

"The financial impacts are known and planned for. As a result, Council's decisions today will not provide a burden or surprises to the community in the future."

"It will be an exciting time for the community this year, as we enter the delivery and completion phase of a range of strategies and plans such as the Cam River Reserve Master Plan, the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan, and the Wynyard Waterfront and Environs Master Plan Project - which will include the delivery of the new Wynyard Yacht Club and Multi-Use Facility later this year".

Other capital budget highlights for 21/22 include the delivery of the ANZAC Park all abilities playground, further infrastructure improvements at Cardigan Street Recreation Ground and new public toilets for Yolla.

General Manager, Shane Crawford says the budget delivers on community aspirations for new and improved facilities and services whilst maintaining financial responsibility, delivering an underlying surplus of \$309,000 for the 2021/22 year.

"On the back of a zero rate increase in 2020/21, Council will consider a general rate increase of 1.9% for the 21/22 year."

"This budget also has a focus on ensuring that Council's service rates move towards recovering the full cost of service provision. To this end we have made some changes to the way we charge for stormwater services, delivering a more equitable and sustainable cost recovery framework for the future" said Mr Crawford.

**Waratah Wynyard Council**

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Changes also include a modest increase in the waste charges, however the popular decision to provide free entry for ratepayers to the waste transfer station will continue.

In line with Council's commitment to environmental responsibility, Acting Mayor Mary Duniam encourages the community to partner with them in reducing the amount of waste to landfill.

"The cost of waste services is directly impacted by the amount of waste that we produce as a community." Acting Mayor Mary Duniam said.

"Waratah Wynyard Council takes its environmental responsibility seriously. The natural environment is one of the municipality's most important assets and is central to our local identity."

Council will also continue to implement actions contained in its award-winning Integrated Community Environment Plan (iCEP)."

In 2021/22 Council will undertake coastal erosion works at Somerset and Boat Harbour to protect community assets and will complete flood mitigation works at Big Creek and Port Creek in Wynyard.

"Council also acknowledges it has a social responsibility and continues to work with the community to use its voice to shape its future alongside a strong Council willing to listen. Council will continue its commitment to community engagement throughout 2021/22 and continue to deliver actions from the Health and Wellbeing Plan, Age-Friendly Communities Plan, Youth Plan, and the Healthy Tasmania Breathe, Eat, Move & Relax for a Healthy Lifestyle project.

Council's Annual Plan and Budget will be considered for adoption at the meeting on 21 June 2021 and is available now on Council's website.

<https://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/governance/annual-plan-and-budget/>

**Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Thursday, June 17, 2021.**

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