

# COVID-19 RECOVERY IN THE CITY OF BAYSWATER



The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been felt worldwide, and the City of Bayswater has not been immune. The City's economic, infrastructure and community recovery plans aim to lessen the impacts of COVID-19 in the community by supporting individuals, businesses and groups. With these plans, we are protecting those who call the City home, boosting our local economy and ensuring the vibrancy of our local areas by improving our facilities.

## How did we respond?

- Closed and reopened our facilities in line with public health advice.
- Acted quickly to provide more services and events online.
- Ran a successful redeployment program for City employees.
- Kept in touch with more than 800 vulnerable community members.
- Implemented a \$0 rate increase for 2020/21.
- Created a Financial Hardship Policy.
- Developed the 'Buy in Baysie' program to support local businesses.
- Suspended recreation memberships free of charge.
- Waived or temporarily reduced a number of fees and charges.
- Increased cleaning regimes.
- Left lights on for longer in parks to increase community safety and promoted healthy, active lifestyles.



## Ongoing local impacts we are aiming to address

- Unemployment and underemployment, especially for youth and the culture and arts community.
- Mental health and social isolation issues.
- Financial hardship for individuals and organisations.
- Increased demand for support services.
- Focus on spending locally.
- Temporary closures of sporting and recreational clubs and facilities; and cancellation of services, events and initiatives.
- Increases in recreational and social activity in parks, reserves and on pathways.
- Heightened requirements for preventative health and hygiene measures.
- The consequences of poor eating habits developed during restriction periods.
- Increases in family and domestic violence and elder abuse.
- Fast-tracked federal, state and local works to boost the economy.
- Prioritisation of METRONET construction program and associated works.
- Decreased business and consumer confidence.

## Transition from response to recovery

The City has transitioned to a recovery phase to ensure continued benefits for our community.

### Recovery Structure and Plans

- The City's response and recovery actions have been shaped by the WA Roadmap to Recovery and the needs of our community.
- On 28 May 2020, the City's recovery structure comprised three working groups - Community, Economic, and Infrastructure. These groups were tasked with the creation and implementation of the City's recovery plans.
- A COVID-19 Recovery Steering Group was established to oversee and coordinate the recovery effort.

### Recovery Plan objectives



#### Community

- Reconnect, support and engage the community with upskilling opportunities, the continued provision of programs and services, and grant funding.



#### Economic

- Re-activate the local economy by helping businesses to adapt, embrace new opportunities and re-engage customers.



#### Infrastructure

- Revitalise public parks, places, spaces and infrastructure facilities with new and existing projects.

# THE CITY'S RECOVERY EFFORT

## Local stimulus snapshot

Total budget \$5.09 million



**Major projects**  
\$3.15 million



**Infrastructure projects**  
\$1.3 million



**City projects**  
\$200,000



**Community capital grants projects**  
\$286,762



**Energy efficiency projects**  
\$150,000



**Package to stimulate business investment and growth**



**Planning fees waived or reduced**

## Local Economic and Social Stimulus Package

- \$5.09m investment in local infrastructure, including:
- Detailed design work for Morley Sport and Recreation Centre Basketball Court Extension.
- Detailed design for the redevelopment of Maylands Waterland.
- Rehabilitation of Noranda Netball Centre.
- Refurbishment of 25m pool, pool hall and plant room at Bayswater Waves.
- Capital improvements to community facilities, as requested by local clubs and groups.
- Maintenance and renewal of City building assets.
- Resurfacing of Bayswater Waves carpark.
- Footpath construction and maintenance.
- Passive lighting improvements.
- Town centre streetscape works.
- Energy efficiency projects.

## 2020/21 Budget works focused on community recovery



### Community

- Better Bayswater Grant.
- Community Events Grant.
- Black Bird making arts initiative.
- Fit 4 Life spring fitness health program.
- Free community events such as the Perth Symphony Orchestra concert.
- Relaunch of a homelessness services and information publication during Anti-Poverty Week 2020; second rough sleeper count and Christmas food appeal.
- Six purple benches in five suburbs to raise awareness of family and domestic violence and honour victims of domestic homicide.
- Development of emergency welfare plan for animals.
- Chatty Cafes initiative.
- Community Upskillers and Youth Workshops.



### Economic

- Business Investment and Growth Program to attract new investment and support existing businesses.
- Grant funding for shopfront enhancements through the Business Booster Program.
- Implementation of the destination marketing and branding strategies for the town centres.
- Implementation of 14 day turn-around for simple development applications.
- Encouraged selection of local suppliers.



### Infrastructure

- Stage one works for the Morley Sport and Recreation Centre basketball court extension.
- Stage one of Maylands Waterland redevelopment works.
- Enhanced maintenance and upgrading of parks and reserves.
- Fast tracking building maintenance projects.

### Partnerships with the Western Australian State Government

- Tonkin Highway Gap and associated works.
- METRONET – Bayswater Train Station and Morley-Ellenbrook Line.

### Additional Federal Government funding

- Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

## Future options for recovery

To provide further recovery support for the community, the City is pursuing funding opportunities including grants and the City's mid-year budget review. The following projects may be included as part of the City's on-going recovery process if funding is secured.



### Community

- Provide funding opportunities for the delivery of free local events and initiatives through the City's Community Grants Program.
- Improve access and inclusion within Bayswater Waves and The RISE.
- Provide subsidised workshops, free events and upskilling opportunities to support and connect community members.
- Initiatives and partnerships with existing service providers as part of the City's Local Homelessness Strategy.
- Get Moving - outdoor exercise equipment promotion, and events aligned with the City's Act Belong Commit partnership.
- Implement the Cultural Plan 2019-24, to develop cultural and artistic opportunities through partnerships, initiatives and events aligned with community recovery.
- Continue to install purple benches in partnership with Orana House.



### Economic

- Install LED lighting in the area surrounding the Morley Library.
- Improving Noranda Nook.
- Living Laneways – bringing laneways in Maylands to life.
- Transform the amphitheatre outside The RISE.
- Create a community gathering space at Bert Wright Park.



### Infrastructure

- Park redevelopments at Wattle Park, Mahogany Reserve and Bath, and Tranby House reserves.
- Completion of stage one of the Maylands Waterland redevelopment.
- Stage two of the Morley Sport and Recreation Centre basketball court extension – including toilets, changing areas and stadium seating.
- Infrastructure improvements for passive recreation including footpaths, lighting, park furniture and playgrounds/exercise equipment.
- Community building and energy efficiency upgrades.