

## Your rates

Our low rate in the dollar of \$0.0621 and low minimum rate of \$880 mean that in 2018/19 Bayswater ratepayers in residential areas will continue to enjoy one of the lowest levels of rating across the entire Perth metropolitan area.

This year our rates increased by 3.5 percent. However, this is not an accurate way of comparing Bayswater against other Councils as our consistently low rate in the dollar and low minimum rate ensure our residential property owners pay lower rates.

For example, an owner of an average sized property in the City of Bayswater will see an increase of less than \$1 a week or \$40 on their annual rate bill.

An average City of Bayswater property owner will pay significantly less in rates this year than if they lived in a neighbouring City.

## How your rates are calculated

Each property in the City of Bayswater is given an independent valuation by the Valuer General.

The City sets a 'budget' for the upcoming year. The total 'budget' is the amount of money needed to fund Council's operations, maintenance and any new projects for the year. The budget is funded by rates collected, fees and charges, and government grants.

Your rates are calculated by multiplying your property valuation by the rate in the dollar set by Council.

For example, the owner of an average sized property in the City of Bayswater would pay:

\$18,997 (property valuation) x \$0.0621 (rate in the dollar)  
= \$1,179.71 in rates



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# your RATES at WORK **18/19**



# BUDGET 2018 / 19 DELIVERING THE SERVICES YOU VALUE

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



In the bustling heart of the inner east, the City of Bayswater is home to a culturally diverse and vibrant community set against the backdrop of four burgeoning town centres, over 380 hectares of green open space and a 10km stretch of the Swan River.

To develop a budget that facilitates the delivery of services our community values and maintains our existing assets is no easy task, but it is one I feel confident this Council has achieved.

Here in the City, 90 percent of our rates revenue comes from residential properties and as such the rates burden is carried mostly by residents who are already feeling the pressure from increases in the cost of utilities. With this in mind, we have again opted to keep our 'rate in the dollar' low. In practice, this means the owner of an average sized property in the City of Bayswater will see an increase in their rates bill of less than a dollar a week. Compared to our neighbouring Councils this is extremely low.

I make no excuses for the fact that this is a frugal budget. This is not a budget filled with 'big ticket' new projects. Given the current economic conditions our decision to remain a debt free Council is deliberate. Just like our ratepayers, the City is faced with increases in the cost of water, electricity and fuel – these significantly impact our operations.

The City of Bayswater has built a reputation on the delivery of services that you, our community, value. The City operates three libraries, three recreation centres and supports over 120 local sporting clubs through the provision of club rooms and facilities. We maintain 188 parks, ovals and open spaces, and manage a local road network that spans 360km and carries a replacement cost of \$172 million.

We manage parking, promote responsible pet ownership and ensure the City is bushfire ready. We understand our residents want to feel safe so we have invested heavily in a network of CCTV cameras to complement our regular security patrol service.

We are particularly passionate about the environment, dedicating valuable time and resources to addressing water quality, protecting our wetlands and planting over 1,500 trees to address our declining tree canopy. An early adopter of the three-bin system, we are serious about reducing waste and educating our residents about how they can contribute.

The very fabric of our community lies with the respect we show our most vulnerable residents so we continue to operate two senior citizen centres, and oversee two residential care facilities and four retirement villages. We prioritise the health of young children and their mothers and will continue to operate five child health centres, immunisation clinics and conduct health inspections at local eateries.

We are committed to strengthening our strategic planning framework to better manage growth and ensure the delivery of well-designed buildings. This will complement the success we continue to achieve through the activation of our major town centres of Bayswater, Morley, Maylands and Noranda.

We will continue to host community events that bring families together to celebrate this glorious City we live in. We will deliver a streamlined community grants program that supports environmental and community initiatives brought forward by the raft of hardworking volunteers that give up their time so selflessly to make our City a better place to live, work and visit.

Council has worked hard to deliver this budget in a difficult economic climate. Over the previous year we have been working to proactively reduce costs, remove labour intensive processes and cut 'red tape'. As an organisation we are becoming more agile in our delivery of the services our customers want. Efficiencies have been realised through the relocation of our outpost customer service outlets into our existing three libraries. We are updating our website which will result in more of the services you value being delivered online.

Council is working hard to leverage as much revenue as possible from sources other than rates thus reducing the burden faced by ratepayers. We are developing an advocacy framework to ensure we are best placed to attract grant funding for key infrastructure projects, sustainable initiatives and innovation in technology.

I would like to reassure you that your Council is well positioned to deliver on the vision you contributed to. I present this budget to you as a record of our commitment to deliver the services we value.

**Mayor Dan Bull**

# BUDGET HOW YOUR RATES BUILD OUR COMMUNITY

## Caring for our seniors \$11.6 million

The City will continue to operate the Bayswater and Morley Senior Citizen Centres. Carramar, Tranby and City of Bayswater Hostels will continue as residential care facilities for the most vulnerable in our community. Independent living accommodation at Carramar and Mertome Village, and Walmsley and Salisbury Retreat will remain under the City's direction.

## Waste and recycling \$11.4 million

An early adopter of the three bin system, the City co-ordinates a weekly domestic and fortnightly recycling and green waste collection. We are committed to the promotion of waste education in schools and the broader community.

## New playgrounds \$435,000

As part of its Playground Replacement Program the City will deliver five new playgrounds this year.

## Security and CCTV \$2 million

The City will continue to keep your neighbourhood safe with its regular security patrol and network of CCTV cameras.

## Rangers and emergency management \$1.3 million

The City will continue to manage parking, promote responsible pet ownership and ensure we are bushfire ready.

## Asset management \$2.9 million

Aside from its local road network, the City continues to maintain a significant number of community halls and toilet facilities, its Administration Centre and Works Depot, toilet facilities and significant heritage buildings such as the WA Ballet.

## Libraries \$3.1 million

We provide three libraries conveniently located in our retail centres of Morley, Bayswater and Maylands.

## Tree planting \$400,000

This year the City will plant over 1,500 street trees to address the metropolitan-wide decline in tree canopy.

## Recreation \$9.6 million

The City operates three recreation centres, The RISE, Bayswater Waves and Morley Sport and Recreation Centre

## Sporting facilities \$5.7 million

The City supports over 120 local sporting clubs by providing club rooms and facilities.

## Parks and open space \$8.4 million

The City maintains over 188 parks, ovals and open spaces. This equates to 380 hectares of green space and includes two public golf courses and 25 active sporting ovals. The City also maintains a raft of picnic areas complete with BBQ facilities and gazebos.

## Community grants \$440,000

The City provides grants to environmental, sporting and community groups. This year the City will contribute \$412,000 towards initiatives that contribute to our vision for a strong and inclusive community.

## Community events \$744,000

Popular community events including the Autumn River Festival, Avon Descent Finish Line Family Fun Day, as well as a raft of concerts and movies in the park, and sunset markets.

## BUDGET

Our operating budget is \$81.9m million. This is made up of rates income (including waste and aged care funding), government grants, fees and charges.

## Environmental management \$2.5 million

The City will continue to address water quality through the creation of living streams, riverbank restoration and the protection of wetlands such as Eric Singleton Bird Sanctuary, Lightning Swamp and Berringar Park. The City has committed \$1 million to improve the water quality of the Maylands Lakes.

## Public Health \$2 million

The City operates five child health centres and immunisation clinics, conducts health inspections at cafes and restaurants and controls pests such as mosquitoes. We monitor air pollution, respond to noise complaints and test the water quality of our river and public pools.

## Place management \$355,000

The City will continue to fund the activation of its major town centres of Bayswater, Maylands, Morley and Noranda. Place Managers will build on the unique identity of each retail strip through initiatives such as public art, street furniture, festivals, historical walks and streetscape improvements.

## Planning \$3 million

We will continue to assess planning, sub-division and building licences. The City continues to develop its strategic planning framework to better manage growth and ensure high quality built form. This year \$100,000 has been committed towards planning for the broader Meltham Station Precinct.

## Roads, footpaths and drainage \$9.8 million

The City will continue to upgrade its existing network of roads, footpaths, drains and street lighting. The City manages 360km of local roads at a replacement cost of \$172 million. This year an additional \$500,000 will be spent on the extension of the footpath network.