

17 April 2019

## COUNCIL ADOPTS PROPOSED BUDGET 2019/20 FOR PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Council adopted the Proposed Budget 2019/20 for public exhibition at its meeting held last night in Trentham.

Mayor Cr Don Henderson said that the 2019/20 Proposed Budget responsibly funds the operations, services and capital investment that we will deliver to the community to achieve the vision of Our Council.

"I'm pleased with the outcome of the Proposed Budget 2019/20 and have great pleasure on behalf of Councillors to recommend it to our community for feedback. It delivers for communities across the Shire with the completion of a number of important infrastructure projects, increased maintenance, and the continuation of essential services – all delivered in a financially sustainable model and with no new borrowings," said Cr Don Henderson.

The Capital Works program for 2019/20 will be \$9.84 million, a significant allocation of funding. This is an investment of 55% of general rates, with small and large projects to be delivered across the Shire, including over \$5.5 million in road works.

"Our Council looks forward to working with the community to deliver a range of exciting projects in 2019/20, including the Daylesford Skate Park, masterplan and design works at Clunes, Glenlyon and Trentham Recreation Reserves, new and upgraded footpaths and an off-lead dog-park at Clunes" said Cr Don Henderson.

"Rate increases have been capped at 2.50% in line with the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System, and even with the current concerns within the waste and recycling industry Council has been able to hold increases to waste charges to an average 3.2%."

Council will now accept e-waste materials for free to encourage the recycling of e-waste items at our transfer stations and has introduced significantly reduced first year animal registration fees to encourage the registration, de-sexing and microchipping of cats and dogs.

The proposed budget includes a number of new and continuing initiatives such as the upgrading of disabled parking spaces; continuation of construction works of the Creswick Trails; increased maintenance of aquatic facilities; Stage 3 of the Hepburn Planning Scheme Review, as well as the implementation of actions from the Biodiversity, Economic Development, Active Women and Girls and Youth Strategies.

"I encourage the community to get involved in the budget process by providing input and feedback on priorities outlined in the proposed budget," said Cr Don Henderson.

You can read the proposed budget online at [www.hepburn.vic.gov.au](http://www.hepburn.vic.gov.au) or access a copy at Council Offices in Daylesford, Creswick and Clunes and libraries in Daylesford and Trentham.

If you would like to make a submission, please send by letter or email with the subject "2019/2020 Budget Submission". Please forward feedback to:

Chief Executive Officer  
Hepburn Shire Council  
PO Box 21  
Daylesford VIC 3460

or email [shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au](mailto:shire@hepburn.vic.gov.au).

If you would like to speak to your submission at a Special Meeting of Council on Tuesday 4 June 2019, please indicate this in your submission. Submissions close 5.00pm, Thursday 23 May 2019.

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