

2014



The Rural City of
**MURRAY
BRIDGE**

Bridge to Opportunity



Annual Business Plan & Budget
Summary

2015



FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Welcome

The Rural City of Murray Bridge Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2014-15 aims to effectively balance the competing needs for responsible economic management, provision of significant and necessary infrastructure and assets whilst delivering a high standard of services to our community.

Council is committed to providing residents with the best possible living and working environment, as well as planning for the future by assisting in the promotion of economic growth and prosperity. As a pro-growth Council we will continue to develop initiatives that facilitate strong employment opportunities balanced with the environmental responsibilities, expected of Council as civic leaders, for and on behalf of our communities.

This year the Council has given priority to the development of programs and initiatives that facilitate continued economic growth, focusing on our key economic advantages: our proximity to the Murray River and Adelaide, diverse agricultural and agribusiness sector, vibrant community and strategic location on the Adelaide to Melbourne road/railway corridor.

Key projects such as the Revitalisation of Bridge and Sixth Street, the Stormwater Reuse and Harvesting Scheme, Creating a Better Monarto as well as other compatible Employment Hubs and the Education Precinct Investigations are all aimed at positioning Murray Bridge as a vibrant regional centre with employment growth, and an attractive tourism destination.

These initiatives are supported by Council's extensive capital works program that provides for major works on roads, stormwater, waste facilities and open

space to support a growing and evolving regional centre. It aims to deliver, maintain and renew priority infrastructure assets for the community, whilst also promoting and supporting economic growth.

The structure of this year's Annual Business Plan - Plan, Deliver and Review, reflects the Council's aspirations to deliver and be accountable for quality services and projects to our community. As our community continues to grow, the Rural City of Murray Bridge will maintain its commitment to continuous improvement and value to deliver to the community a high standard of service and excellent facilities. Consistent with the Council of the Future model proposed by the LGA's Expert Panel, we will investigate opportunities to share services and promote regional collaboration with a view to improving financial sustainability and delivery of a full range of quality services to our community.

This commitment will be demonstrated through the identification of the key projects with formulated milestones, targets and performance measures that will form the basis of quarterly reports to the community.

We are confident that the initiatives and services planned and budgeted for this year will contribute to the achievement of the goals and strategies outlined in our Strategic Plan 2011-15 and despite tough economic times the Council will continue to work with the community to build and develop the Rural City of Murray Bridge as the regional centre of the Murraylands

Mayor Allan Arbon OAM
Peter Bond, CEO

What we achieved in 2013-14

- » Regional Cities Pilot Project
- » Implemented the Small Wins Program which included partnering with the community in 18 projects
- » Completion of Ferries McDonald Road
- » Commencement of Stage 1 of the Stormwater Management and Reuse Scheme
- » Sport, Open Space & Recreation Plan
- » Introduction of the One Card System at the library
- » Volunteer Management Plan (winner of the LGMA Leadership and Management Excellence Award)
- » Development of the Youth Action Plan
- » Development and commenced implementation of the RCMB Environmental Management Plan 2014-2018

Highlights of the 2014-15 Budget

Key projects include:

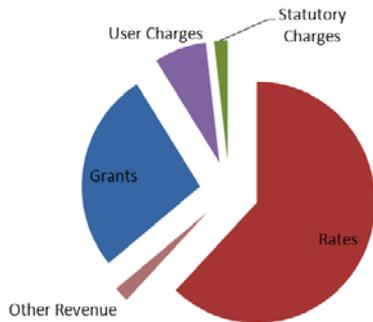
- » Design of Bridge and Sixth Streets
- » Strategic Review of Lerwin Nursing Home
- » Murraylands River Trail Feasibility Study - Stage 1
- » Mitchell Avenue Drainage
- » Implement the Town Centre Traffic Management Plan recommendations

Initiatives in maintenance, renewal and replacement of community assets and facilities will include:

- » Swimming Pool Upgrade
- » Installation of soft fall at playgrounds
- » New Footpath Construction Program (paved and concrete)

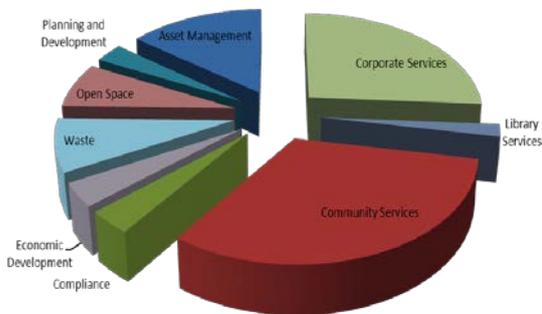
Operating Budget

Income



○ Rates	Are a property tax that provides the main source of income for Council to fund its operations and infrastructure requirements	\$19.89m (62%)
○ Other Revenue	Interest, reimbursements	\$769k (2%)
○ Grants	Funding from State and Federal Governments	\$8.68m (27%)
○ User Charges	Charges for using specific Council services eg hire of council facilities	\$2.29m (7%)
○ Statutory Charges	Fees/fines levied through animal registrations, development fees and parking fines	\$594k (2%)
Total		\$32.2m

Expenditure



○ Community Services	Recreation & Sport, Arts and Culture, youth events and programs, Parental & Community Engagement Project (PaCE), Obesity Prevention & Lifestyle (OPAL) program, Community Safety, Cultural Development, Lerwin.	\$8.4m (32%)
○ Library	Murray Bridge Regional Library	\$503k (2%)
○ Open Space, Environment and Recreation	Maintenance and upgrade of Council reserves and sporting facilities.	\$1.9m (7%)
○ Waste Management	Domestic, recycling, green and hard waste collection service	\$2.2m (8%)
○ Corporate Services	Customer Services, Information Technology, Record Management, Governance, Organisational Development and Finance	\$7m (26%)
○ Planning and Development	Planning, Building Assessment and Policy Development	\$804k (3%)
○ Compliance	Environmental Health, Dog & Cat Management, Parking Compliance	\$947k (4%)
○ Economic Development	Economic development initiatives and tourism	\$978k (4%)
○ Asset Management	Maintenance and upgrade of Council facilities	\$3.8m (14%)
Total		\$26.205m

Capital Program

Asset Category

Roads/Footpaths	\$5,954,928	\$1,918,804
Stormwater	\$6,564,173	\$1,600,000
Buildings	\$69,210	
Open Space	\$230,000	\$89,469
Plant and Equipment Program	\$931,231	\$80,000
Lerwin Nursing Home	\$60,000	
Total	\$13,809,542	\$3,688,273

Expenditure

\$5,954,928
\$6,564,173
\$69,210
\$230,000
\$931,231
\$60,000
\$13,809,542

Income

\$1,918,804
\$1,600,000
\$89,469
\$80,000
\$3,688,273

Rates at a Glance

In setting its rates for the 2014-15 financial year, Council has been guided by its Community Plan (2012-2020) and Strategic Plan (2011-2015). These documents can be found at www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au.

This will require the Rural City of Murray Bridge to raise \$18m in differential rates. For the 'typical' residential ratepayer this will mean an average of \$52.00 increase on last year or (an additional \$1.00 per week).

What are rates?

Rates are a principle source of funding for Council services representing approximately 62% of the total operating revenue.

Rates are levied as a tax on property in accordance with the provision of the Local Government Act. They are not a service or user charge, but a tax based on property value. As rates are levied on the value of property, those with higher valued properties pay more than those with lower valued property.

How your rates are calculated

Rates are calculated by multiplying the value of a property (as assessed by the Valuer-General), by the 'rate in the dollar', which is calculated by dividing the sum of rates required by the Council, by the total valuation of properties in the Council area.

Depending upon the land use a differential rate is applied as follows:

Land Use	Cents in the \$
Residential	- .622310
Commercial	- .995695
Industrial	- .871235
Primary Production	- .560079
Vacant Land	- .809002
Other	- .622310

How land is valued

The amount each ratepayer contributes is based on their property valuation as assessed by the Valuer-General.

If you do not agree with the Valuer-General's valuation assessment of your property on which your rates are calculated, you may object to the State Valuation Office within 60 days of service of your annual rates notice at GPO Box 1354, Adelaide SA 5001, or by phone 1300 653 345 or email lsgobjections@sa.gov.au

Other levies and charges

We also collect other levies and charges:

Natural Resource Management Levy

Included on your rates notice is a separate levy that Council collects on behalf of the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board. Council does not retain this income nor determine how it is spent. For information about how the levy is used please contact the Board on (08) 8582 1460.

For 2014-15 the NRM levy will be .010456 cents in the dollar.

Kerbside Recycling & Green Waste Services

Urban and Outer township \$124 pa
Rural Areas \$75 pa

Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) Council recovers the cost of operating and maintaining sewerage schemes at Riverglen and Woodlane.

For 2014-15 the service rates and charges for CWMS will be:

Riverglen \$735 + .4617444 cents in the \$
Woodlane \$520 + .2316640 cents in the \$

Postponement of rates for seniors

Ratepayers who have a State Seniors Card (or ratepayer who have applied and are eligible for a State Seniors Card) may apply to postpone payment of their rates on their principle place of residence. Seniors must pay the first \$500 rates charged each year but can postpone payment of any amount above this. Pensioners or self funded retiree concessions can further reduce the amount required to be paid each year.

Postponement rates remain a charge on the land and must be paid when the property is sold or disposed of. Monthly interest charges apply to amounts postponed.

More Information

Council's Rating Policy outlines all the details relating to the rate structure, user charges, rebates, postponement of seniors and payment options. A copy of the policy and our full Annual Business Plan can be downloaded from Council's [website](http://www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au) www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au or can be obtained from the Local Government Centre.

For more information ph (08)8539 1100 or email rates@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Rural City of Murray Bridge Local Government Centre

2 Seventh Street (PO Box 421)
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253

t 08 8539 1100
f 08 8532 2766
council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au

Visitor Information Centre

3 South Terrace
Murray Bridge

T 08 8539 1142

Works Depot

21 Hindmarsh Road
Murray Bridge

T 08 8539 1160

Public Library

Level 2
Murray Bridge Market Place
Murray Bridge

T 08 8539 1175

Regional Gallery

27 Sixth Street
Murray Bridge

T 08 8539 1420

Lerwin Nursing Home

67 Joyce Street
Murray Bridge

T 08 8539 1185

Youth Centre

3-5 Railway Terrace
MURRAY Bridge

T 08 8531 2122

Town Hall

13-17 Bridge Street
Murray Bridge

T 08 8539 1430

www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au

