



Bundaberg Regional Council's 2011/2012 Budget includes record funding for flood damaged infrastructure while planning for future growth and delivering a diverse range of services across our region that will benefit the community, over the coming 12 months and well into the future.

This Budget is an important link to our Long Term Community Plan, revitalizing communities in the short term and planning for future growth in the long term.

Some of the highlights include:

- *The largest ever capital works expenditure on Roads and Drainage around the region of over \$40Million*
- *\$21.4 million allocated for new and upgraded Water and wastewater infrastructure across the region*
- *\$15 million towards Waste Management Services and Infrastructure, including major upgrades and additional infrastructure at the Cedars Road Regional Landfill; University Drive and Qunaba Transfer Stations.*
- *Additional Seniors Housing*
- *Upgrades to major sporting and recreational facilities across the region*
- *Continuation of Streetscape projects in Gin Gin and Childers*
- *Upgrades to our parks and foreshores, including new and upgraded car parks and roadworks around our popular coastal boat ramps*
- *Completion of the new entry road to Bundaberg Regional Airport*
- *Ongoing installation of new footpaths and bikeways to enhance and improve existing networks*
- *Cemetery upgrades across the region*
- *Upgrades to infrastructure at Council-run Holiday parks to generate additional revenue from these important tourism facilities*
- *Upgrades to many of our venues and facilities to provide improved services for our residents*
- *Upgrade to Bundaberg Regional Library – the first major upgrade since it opened in 1994.*

Water & Wastewater Facilities

\$6 Million will be allocated over the next two years for the construction of a new Wastewater Treatment Plant at Gin Gin and major upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plants at Thabeban and Millbank. Council will also begin design work to construct a major new Wastewater facility to service the coastal areas between Burnett Heads and Elliott Heads and the eastern suburbs of Bundaberg.

The water treatment plant at Gregory River will be upgraded to improve water quality. Council is also providing for current and future development by the allocation of \$3.5m for construction of a new 6 megalitre water reservoir at the Hummock.



Venues & Facilities

An additional \$1.7 million in funding will be spent on Council's venues and facilities in the coming 12 months. Council manages 180 venues and facilities and this funding will ensure that they continue to operate effectively and efficiently as important community hubs and meeting places.

Roads & Drainage

In the coming 12 months, Council will embark on the largest ever capital works programme for roads and drainage around the region totalling \$40.6 million.

\$3.7 million has been allocated to address the urgent drainage issues across the region .

Over \$20 million will be spent across the region as part of the ongoing program to repair flood-damaged roads and bridges. The repair work will be funded from the National Disaster Relief Program.

\$5 million has been allocated in this budget for an extensive resurfacing program to strengthen the pavement on many of the major roads in our network.



Sporting & Recreation Infrastructure

Following a funding announcement by the Federal Government, the new Athletics Facility adjacent to Bundaberg Regional Airport will be constructed this financial year. This facility will not only be a huge boost to our local athletes, but will be a major catalyst in attracting major athletics events and training camps to the region.

The development of the Recreational Precinct will also begin, with funding allocated for infrastructure works and an application submitted for further Federal Funding through the RDAF. This major project includes the relocation of the existing Bundaberg Showgrounds to the current Agrotrend site.

While this will bring together many facilities used by community groups and the public, it will also reduce maintenance costs and consolidate activities into one, more manageable site.



Streetscapes

The current Streetscape redevelopment work in Gin Gin Streetscape is expected to be completed this financial year, bringing with it improved safety for pedestrians and vehicles; as well as economic benefits to the region.

Work will start on the next stage of the Childers Streetscape, continuing on the excellent work already done to beautify the charming heritage town of Childers.



Seniors & Community Facilities

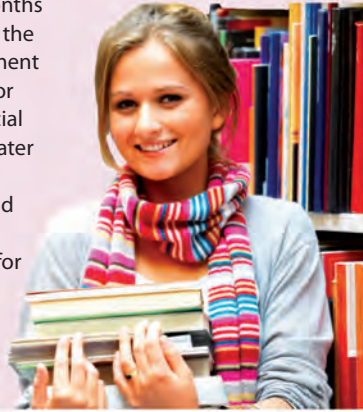
Affordable housing for our Seniors continues to be a priority. A further 8 Seniors units will be built in the coming 12 months at Margaret Olsen Place in Bundaberg; while 4 more units at Kolan Gardens in Gin Gin will be completed by late August.

There will also be upgrades to the region's Respite Centres for Seniors, as well as the Neighbourhood Centres in Childers and Gin Gin, which provide important services and support for the community.



Bundaberg Regional Library

Our successful and popular Libraries in Bundaberg, Childers, Gin Gin and Woodgate will again be a priority this year. Bundaberg Library is one of the busiest regional libraries in Queensland, with 60,000 visits in the last 12 months alone and the refurbishment planned for this financial year will cater for future growth and additional demands for increased services.



Parks & Foreshores

Our region is blessed with a wonderful climate and it is important that Council continues to develop and maintain attractive open space and parklands for residents & visitors to enjoy.

Over the next 12 months, \$9 million has been allocated towards the maintenance and upgrading of our 350 parks and foreshores. Those who enjoy boating will also benefit from upgrades of car parks & roadworks around our regional boat ramps.



Holiday Parks

Significant upgrades continues will be completed at the Council-run Holiday Parks – at Burnett Heads, Elliott Heads, Finemore (City), Moore Park Beach and Miara. These upgrades will help boost tourist numbers, providing additional revenue to Council and providing more facilities for this important tourism market.



Footpaths & Bikeways

In the coming 12 months Council will continue the installation of new footpaths and bikeways to enhance and improve existing multimodal networks. This coordinated approach will ensure that residents can enjoy these important recreational facilities.



Childers Industrial Estate

In this financial year, Council will be completing the design and relevant approvals for the next stage of the Childers Industrial Estate. This will be an important project for the popular Industrial Estate and ensure future economic growth for the Childers area.



Services & Waste Management Facilities

A second landfill cell will be constructed at the Cedars Road Regional Landfill site to accommodate future growth in demand.



New weighbridges and associated infrastructure at University Drive and Quanba Waste Transfer Stations will ensure that the new State Government legislation covering commercial waste can be managed efficiently.

Cemeteries

There will be upgrades at several Cemeteries across the region in the coming 12 months, ensuring these important facilities will be viable into the future.



For more details on Bundaberg Regional Council's 2011/2012 Budget, visit Council's website or phone our Call Centre.

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