

## From the Shire President John Daw



Developing a budget that can deliver and maintain the services and facilities that are valued by our ratepayers is no easy task but it is one I feel confident our Council has achieved for 2019/20.

This year's budget, which was adopted at a recent Ordinary Council Meeting, reflects an annual rates increase of 2.8% from the previous year. It reinforces Council's ongoing commitment to a lower rating profile over a longer term which is especially important in our current economic times.

In 2019/20, residential ratepayers will pay on average \$10 less (per household) for their rates and rubbish charges than the previous year. This is due to a savings offset by a decrease in waste charges, created by operational efficiencies in waste management.

While it is easy to compare rate increases with other neighbouring Councils, it is important to be mindful of several factors that are unique to our Shire. For example, we have a large geographical area

comprising dispersed town sites, a low population density and therefore a low level of rate growth.

We also have a large number of assets – compared to other metropolitan areas – such as 656kms of roads which must be regularly maintained by the Shire.

While our community is very fortunate to have enjoyed the new Mundaring Arena and Boya Community Centre, the Shire is responsible for the considerable operating costs associated with these state-of-the-art facilities.

Over the next 12 months, the Shire will work towards a number of key projects including an upgrade at Morgan John Morgan Reserve; a lighting upgrade at Mundaring Oval; an extension to the skate park at Mt Helena Oval; and resurfacing courts at Mundaring Tennis Club, to name a few.

As always, our decision-making and allocation of budget is guided by community input. Now is an opportune time to play an important role in shaping the future of our Shire as we undertake



comprehensive engagement to help inform the Strategic Community Plan 2030.

There will be a series of workshops, an online survey and other activities over August, many of which will be open to the entire community.

I urge you to get involved and share your aspirations and vision for our unique region. For more information, go to the Shire's new online engagement portal, Engage Mundaring - [www.engage.mundaring.wa.gov.au](http://www.engage.mundaring.wa.gov.au)

## Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 9 July, 6.30pm

On the agenda this month:

- Proposed Shire of Mundaring Recreation Plan

Location:

Shire Administration Building 7000 Great Eastern Hwy, Mundaring.

Visit the Shire website, Shire Administration or Shire libraries to view the agenda.



Image: David Baylis, Community News

## New Grab n Go @ Coppin

Residents now have the choice of two locations to recycle suitable household items thanks to a new reuse shop in Mundaring.

Grab n Go @ Coppin, which opened last week, is expected to follow the success of the Shire's first Grab n Go @ Mathieson which opened two years ago.

Residents can browse the items on show and take anything for free. The purpose of the shop is to encourage recycling and repurposing of items.

Grab n Go @ Coppin is open during normal transfer station opening hours. Any resident with a waste transfer station pass can access the shop.

## Workshop for Volunteers

Are you a group treasurer or committee member of a club or community group? Learn how to manage club finances to support financial sustainability at a free workshop being hosted by Gary Collins of JGC Group on Tuesday, 16 July at 6.00pm. For more details and to register, please phone Tracey on 9290 6678.



## Celebrate NAIDOC Week with Shire of Mundaring

Celebrate and commemorate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples at a special NAIDOC Week event being held on Monday, 8 July 2019 from 10am at the Shire of Mundaring Administration Building.

The free community event will include a Welcome to Country by local Senior Whadjuk Yok, Cindy Nelson, followed by the raising of the Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags.

Attendees are then invited to Mundaring Community Sculpture Park to take part in a cultural art activity and sample a selection of bush tucker treats.

Shire President John Daw said NAIDOC

Week provides an opportunity to formally acknowledge and appreciate the important role Indigenous culture has had, and continues to have on our community.

This year's NAIDOC theme, "Voice. Treaty. Truth. Let's work together for a shared future," acknowledges the reforms set out in the Uluru Statement from the Heart that represent the unified position of First Nations Australians.

"The 2019 NAIDOC theme is a timely reminder that reconciliation is a journey that we're all on together," Cr Daw said.

"NAIDOC celebrations are an engaging way for the whole community to come together to learn about the Shire's local Indigenous culture."



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