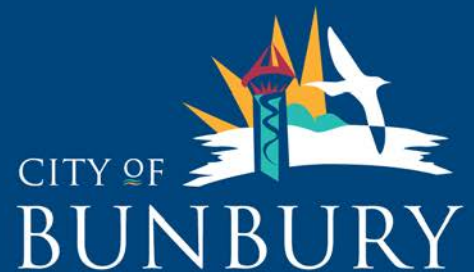


# MEDIA STATEMENT



Friday, 10 March 2017

## **City strengthens its sound financial position**

Identifying cost savings and utilising innovative technologies has helped the City of Bunbury strengthen its sound financial position following the adoption of a Budget review this week.

The review highlighted a number of savings across a range of areas, which will see the surplus increase \$42,412 to \$499,701 and the Budget reduce \$965,000 to \$81.62m.

This includes a decrease in capital expenditure of \$842,000 and a reduction in capital income of \$1.06m.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said a focus on productivity and staff identifying savings had played a major role in keeping the City on the right financial track.

“These efforts are highlighted by figures that show the use of fuel across our fleet is expected to decrease by \$146,134, which is a significant amount,” Mr Brennan said.

“When you combine that with the savings in labour and materials that have been made in a number of areas and on a variety of projects, it shows that we are taking it seriously when it comes to reducing costs.”

Mr Brennan said one of the most impressive savings identified came from extensive research into innovative and alternative technologies for a bore pump that serviced open space on San Marco Promenade in Pelican Point.

By using a cutting-edge solution to repair the pump, the City was able to save \$225,000 on the cost of using traditional methods.

The Hydrosmart unit installed uses electric resonance frequencies to greatly improve the quality of water, which results in more effective irrigation of the open space.

“This is genuine sustainable water technology that requires no ongoing costs or consumables and it lasts for decades,” Mr Brennan said.

“So not only does it result in savings this financial year – the unit cost just \$25,000 compared to the expected cost of \$250,000 – it will continue to deliver savings into the future.”

Council is also well into its Budget process for the 2017-18 financial year, with its adoption to take place in July.

**ENDS**

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