

MEDIA STATEMENT



Wednesday, 27 July 2016

Community projects benefit from Budget

Community infrastructure along with support for events and festivals are big tickets items in the 2016/17 City of Bunbury Budget.

The biggest project is the first stage of the Koombana foreshore redevelopment, which will involve a \$4.6m transformation of the popular beachside location to create an accessible and connected waterfront for residents, visitors and tourists to enjoy.

A contribution of \$1m for a water playground features in the Budget and caters for stage one of the project, with remaining funding being sought from the State Government and other contributors.

An allocation of \$488,000 has been made towards the development and support of events including Australia Day, Christmas carnival and external events, while \$387,000 will go towards operational support for the Bunbury Regional Entertainment Centre.

A range of other funding has been identified to benefit the community, including:

- Replacement, upgrade and development of new dual-use paths (\$826,000);
- Fit-out of the Bunbury Museum and Heritage Centre (\$383,645);
- Developing a detailed design for a proposed Civic and Cultural Precinct (\$365,000);
- Improving landscape, parks, gardens and entry statements (\$325,000);
- Implementing strategies from the Withers Local Area Plan (\$150,000);
- Small community grants funding (\$105,000);
- Replacing playground equipment (\$99,315);
- Improvements to Bicentennial Square, including installation of shade sails (\$50,000);
- Next stage of St Mark's Bike Park upgrade (\$50,000);
- Installing drinking fountains in parks and on cycleways (\$10,000).

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said it was important the community's needs were addressed as part of a responsible budget.

"While the cost of installing infrastructure such as drinking fountains is small when you consider a total City expenditure of \$80m, it is facilities such as this that make a big difference in our community," Mr Brennan said.

"We need to continue to identify opportunities to improve everything from playgrounds and public spaces to our museum and art gallery to ensure Bunbury remains a diverse and vibrant place for people to live and visit."

Jamie Tatham, Communications Officer

T: 9792 7136 **T:** 0447 936 037 **E:** jtatham@bunbury.wa.gov.au

4 Stephen Street, Bunbury WA 6230 - PO Box 21 Bunbury WA 6231

TTY: 13 36 77 **F:** (08) 9792 7184 **W:** www.bunbury.wa.gov.au