

# Community Update

## July 2018/19 Budget Edition

**\$120  
MILLION  
BUDGET**



### Mayor's Message

We have plenty of good news to share about our \$120 million budget for this financial year.

You've told us about your priorities for spending in our shire and Council now has a 10 year plan to deliver on these. Through our Community Solutions Panel we've identified your infrastructure priorities and you will see increased investment across the board in road reconstruction, renewal and maintenance.

Council's 2018/19 Budget is also a great win for the environment, with funding for clean energy projects and initiatives that will create a more sustainable future for us all.

We hope this Community Update provides helpful information about the budget and where the money will be spent. It provides a snapshot of the areas of priority for Council and how we will deliver.



**Cr Simon Richardson**



**\$41.3 million**  
For major road works and construction



**\$13 million + \$8 million**  
For sewerage operations & water operations



**\$11.1 million**  
For parks, sports fields, beaches and bush regeneration



**\$9.6 million**  
For recycling and waste services



**\$2.1 million**  
Governance and Administration



**\$9.5 million**  
For maintaining roads, bridges, footpaths and drains



**\$6.2 million**  
For community services, libraries and child care services



**\$8 million**  
For the natural environment, planning and development



**\$2.9 million**  
For enforcement and environmental health



**\$8 million**  
For buildings and pools



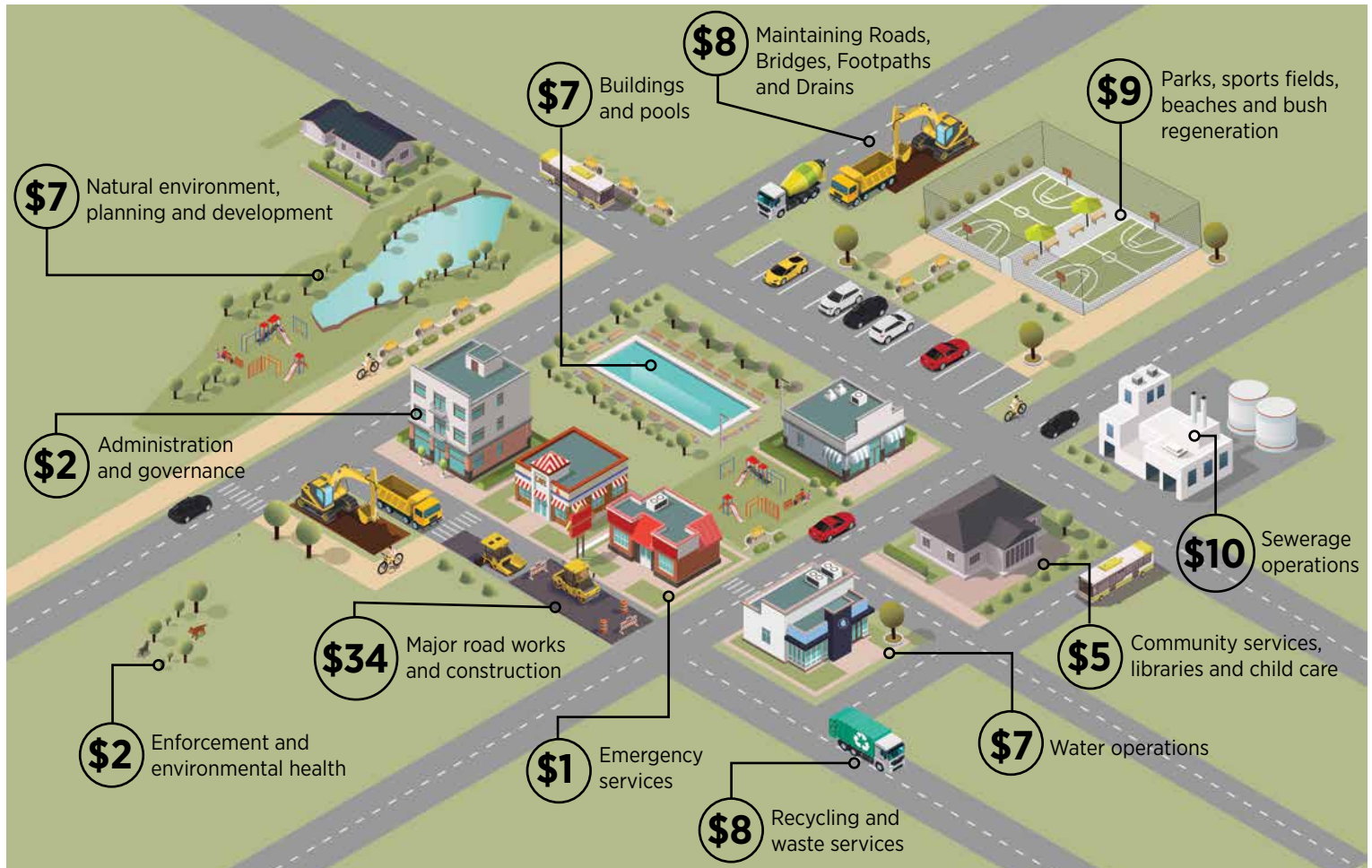
**\$700,000**  
For emergency services

# OUR NEW 10 YEAR PLAN

- ➔ We have infrastructure, transport and services which meet our expectations
- ➔ We cultivate and celebrate our diverse cultures, lifestyle and sense of community
- ➔ We protect and enhance our natural environment
- ➔ We manage growth and change responsibly
- ➔ We have community-led decision making which is open and inclusive.

Did you know our infrastructure portfolio is worth \$521 million? Find out about our infrastructure, its condition and how we fund its maintenance and upgrades in the 120 page briefing book which was considered by our Community Solutions Panel. Download a copy here: [www.byron.nsw.gov.au/briefingbook](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/briefingbook)

## WHERE DO YOUR RATES GO? FOR EVERY \$100 SPENT, WE INVEST IN...



# INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE



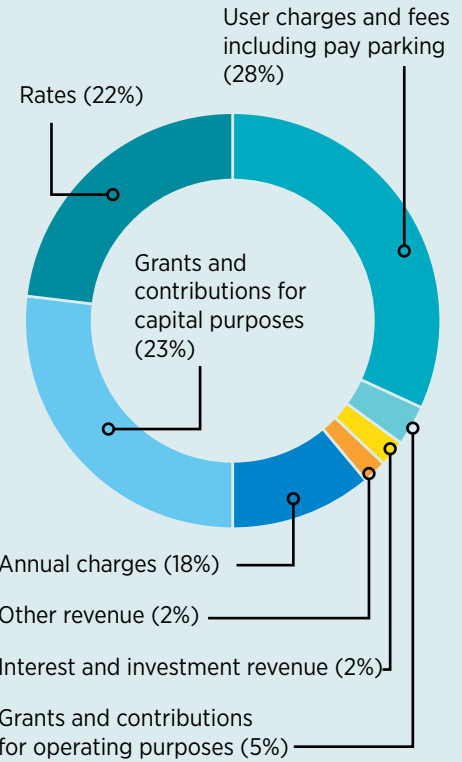
## ROADS ARE A MAJOR FOCUS IN 2018/19

- **Road resealing** – 20.4 kilometres of roads are scheduled to be resealed.
- **Pothole patching** – Council will continue its heavy pothole patching program this year and the pothole truck will provide more responsive pothole patching across the Byron Shire.
- **Gravel re-sheet program** – for the first time we're investing \$200,000 in a gravel re-sheet program.

## CONTINUED LOBBYING & ADVOCACY

With more than two million visitors a year enjoying the natural beauty and hospitality of the Byron Shire and utilising our ageing infrastructure, Council will continue to actively lobby the Federal and State Government for further funding and ways to raise additional revenue.

## FUNDING FOR THE BUDGET



# GOOD NEWS FOR RATE PAYERS

## Free or low-cost community services and events

Tap into a range of free services at Byron Shire's three libraries or take advantage of council-run child care, vacation care and after school care services around the shire. Be part of Byron's Safe Summer in the Bay festivities each New Years Eve. Come along to our Australia Day activities or our NAIDOC Week celebrations. Council proudly partners with community organisations running events and will provide seed funding and support for five community events this year. See our website and What's On for further details.

## Achieving zero emissions

A range of benefits will flow from clean energy initiatives over the next 12 months including expansion of solar farms at the Bangalow, Byron and Brunswick Valley sewage treatment plants. Council will also begin transforming our Shire's sewage and waste into 'bioenergy' using state of the art technology. This will result in lower bills and greater self-sufficiency for the Shire. It's another big win as Council moves towards its goal to achieve zero emissions by 2025.

## Looking after our beaches and marine life



Join our campaign to make the Byron Bay foreshore Smoke-Free and put an end to littering on our beaches. Help us create a Butt Free Byron we can all enjoy.

## Planning for greater liveability

Living and working in well-connected and healthier places all comes down to planning. That's why Council is progressing place plans for Byron Bay, Bangalow and Mullumbimby this year as well as designing a precinct plan for the Byron Arts and Industrial Estate.

## Keeping fit and healthy, and enjoying our parks

The Cavanbah Centre, swimming pools and our recreation and sports fields are great places to improve your fitness and wellbeing and get involved in team sport (both indoor and outdoor). We are spoilt for choice when it comes to our open spaces, parklands, playgrounds and stunning natural

environment. The Byron Bay Town Centre Masterplan includes the rejuvenation of Railway Park featuring beautiful landscaping, playground equipment and better connection to town.

## Recycling and reducing landfill

We all want to send less to landfill. Did you know that you can request a smaller sized red bin from Council at no charge? Find out more about using Council's 3 bin system more effectively via our website.



Did you know that Council's Environmental Levy is used to fund a team of three Bush Regeneration Officers, who work to restore native vegetation and habitat at more than 160 sites across the Shire. Check out Byron Shire Council's facebook page, where staff member Dave shares his monthly bush tips with the community.

# UNDERSTANDING YOUR RATES AND CHARGES

The revenue Council receives from your rates and charges includes ordinary rate revenue which is used to provide general services such as roads, sporting grounds, parks and gardens, libraries and other community facilities and services. The revenue generated from water charges, sewer charges, stormwater charges and waste charges is used to fund those services specifically.

Your rate notice will list the rates and charges applicable to your property. Further information about out how we will levy rates and charges in 2018/19 is outlined in our Statement of Revenue Policy in our 2017/21 Delivery Program and 2018/19 Operational Plan on our website.



Save paper and the environment by choosing to receive your quarterly rates and water notices electronically. See your Rates or Water Notices for details required for registration.

## FREE BULKY AND GARDEN WASTE DROP-OFF

Each property is entitled to one single free drop-off each financial year of up to 150kg bulky waste items (e.g. furniture, carpet, appliances, mattresses) or up to 500kg garden waste.

### For more information, visit:

[www.byron.nsw.gov.au/bulk-waste-disposal](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au/bulk-waste-disposal) or call our Resource Recovery Hotline on 1300 652 625.

## STOP WATER LEAKS

Leaking pipes, taps and toilets not only waste water but cost hundreds and sometimes thousands of dollars. Water leaks are not always visible, and owners or tenants are responsible for water consumed, so it is wise to regularly check for leaks. See your water notice for handy hints to stop leaks.

## UPDATE ON THE SPECIAL RATE VARIATION (SRV)

In June 2017, the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) approved a 'special rate variation' for Council to increase the total revenue generated by rates by 7.5 per cent per annum for four years.

We are now in the second year of this approval with the additional revenue of \$2.276 million (18/19) committed to asset renewal and maintenance.



# MORE WAYS TO CONNECT

## Visit Council

You can visit us at our offices in Mullumbimby and at the Byron Visitors Centre to renew permits, make payments and have your questions answered by our friendly team.



## Keeping you informed

We're working hard to strengthen our communication and engagement and build on the quality of information available on our new website and via social media.

## New and improved website

Visit our new website: [www.byron.nsw.gov.au](http://www.byron.nsw.gov.au).



## Facebook and Instagram

You're invited to be part of the ongoing conversation on facebook where we have an active community of 4000 followers and check out our new Instagram page.



## Our community engagement platform

[www.yoursay.com.au/byron](http://www.yoursay.com.au/byron)

Check out Council's [yoursay.com.au/byron](http://yoursay.com.au/byron) platform where you can find current Council surveys and consultation and have a say.

## ENews

Get a fortnightly summary of Council news from ENews. Email [media@byron.nsw.gov.au](mailto:media@byron.nsw.gov.au) to subscribe.

## Report It

Did you know you can report a problem or request a service via Report It? Find this useful contact tool on the home page of our website. To report an issue after hours, call 6622 7022.

