

"Council News"



Budget 2016/2017

August 2016

Message from the Shire President



Cr Onida Truran

The 2016/17 Budget for the Shire of Yilgarn was adopted by Council on Friday 15 July 2016.

Council agreed to increase the rate in the \$ for rural and commercial properties by 6%, residential by 3% and mining rates have been reduced. The 6% increase for rural and commercial has been required to offset minimal or no rate increases in recent years. As can be seen from the table below the average annual increase over the past five years has been minimal and our total rate revenue for 2016/17 is less than what it was in 2011/12.

| | Gross Rental Value | | | Unimproved Value | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------|---------|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | Residential | Commercial | Mining | Rural | Mining | Total |
| 2011/12 | 291,507 | 73,675 | 555,094 | 1,522,318 | 1,425,531 | 3,868,125 |
| 2016/17 | 389,289 | 79,960 | 377,287 | 1,671,639 | 1,337,142 | 3,855,317 |
| average annual increase/decrease | 5.96% | 1.65% | -6.41% | 1.89% | -1.24% | -0.07% |

Council and the executive have reviewed our operations in an effort to identify efficiencies as we now live in an environment of reduced revenue, with a decrease in mining rates, a freeze on our general purpose grants, reduction in interest income and increased difficulty in obtaining Royalties for Regions funds. Notwithstanding this it is pleasing to report that the adopted Budget maintains our debt free status and contains a number of initiatives to continue to improve our services to our residents and ensuring the Yilgarn remains a great place to live. These include:

- * Funds for a Youth Space centred around a Jumping Pillow
- * \$20,000 for additional CCTV cameras to increase security at key locations
- * Funds to seal the road to the new Southern Cross Refuse Site
- * \$10,000 to review and renew the Town Planning Scheme and to prepare a Planning Strategy
- * Two new light towers and lights at the Southern Cross oval, to replace two of the old light towers
- * \$350,000 has been set aside for the future upgrade of the Southern Cross Swimming Pool
- * \$15,000 has been set aside for a one-third contribution for re-surfacing the Mount Hampton Tennis Courts
- * \$120,000 to continue the staged upgrade of the Southern Cross Caravan Park
- * Funds have been set aside for free public wi-fi in the Town Centre
- * \$45,000 has been set aside to implement a controlled card system for selected standpipes
- * Funds for a new Shire website and Cloud migration, in readiness for the NBN in 2017



In addition to the above the Shire has also adopted a substantial road works program, with the assistance of funding received from the Federal government (Roads to Recovery) and State government and building maintenance and renewal program. This has been detailed over the page.

Council is also working with the Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils to develop an App to include local information for easy access by tourist's and visitors to our region.

Cr Onida Truran

Your Contribution To Your Fire & Emergency Services

All property owners in Western Australia contribute to the fire and emergency services through the Emergency Services Levy (ESL).

The Emergency Services Levy is included on your local Government rates notice. Local Governments collect the levy on behalf of the State Government and all funds collected are forwarded directly to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

ESL Charges 2016/2017

| ESL Category | ESL Rate (Per \$GRV) | Minimum and Maximum ESL Charges By Property Use | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|---|---------|--|-----------|
| | | Residential, Farming and Vacant Land | | Commercial, Industrial and Miscellaneous | |
| | | Minimum | Maximum | Minimum | Maximum |
| 1 | \$0.012672 | \$71 | \$375 | \$71 | \$213,000 |
| 2 | \$0.009504 | \$71 | \$275 | \$71 | \$156,000 |
| 3 | \$0.006336 | \$71 | \$184 | \$71 | \$104,000 |
| 4 | \$0.004435 | \$71 | \$130 | \$71 | \$73,000 |
| 5 | Fixed Charge \$71 | \$71 | \$71 | \$71 | \$71 |
| Mining Tenements | Fixed Charge \$71 | \$71 | \$71 | \$71 | \$71 |

Property Rates

Rates are set on the basis of two factors:

- ❖ The rate in the dollar set by Council; and
- ❖ Property Valuations provided by the Valuer General.

Council's 2016/2017 Budget provides for a 3.0% increase to the Residential category, a 6% increase to the Commercial and Rural category and a decrease to the GRV and UV mining categories of 31% & 5.5% respectively.

In striking a rate in the dollar for levying rates Council considered a number of factors including the Consumer Price Index, Local Government Cost Index and consumer capacity to pay.

Minimum Rates

The Minimum Rate for Residential this year will be \$500 with all other categories set at a minimum of \$400 except for UV mining which has a lesser minimum of \$260 for exploration and \$800 for licenses.

Why rates will fluctuate?

Rates will fluctuate from year to year as valuations and revaluations are received. An increase in rate revenue overall does not necessarily equate to an increase in the rates paid by any individual property owner, as substantial increases in valuations can have the affect of giving rise to total revenue, where a rate in the dollar increase applied 'across the board' is in line with the Consumer Price Index, and affords a modest increase.

Why use Differential Rates?

Council has utilised a differential rating system since 1995/1996 as a method of more equitably distributing the rate burden according to the level at which assessments consume Council Resources. Methods of valuation used for mining tenements and rural land are not compatible and result in major discrepancies between the two.

Concerns or complaints?

If any ratepayer has concerns regarding their Rates Account, they are more than welcome to contact our Rates Officer on 9049-1001.

Informal Instalment Plans

If you are unable to pay the instalment rates shown on your rates notice, you may contact the Shire of Yilgarn's Rates Officer to discuss other payment options that can be customised to suit your needs.

Rubbish Collection Services

RUBBISH CHARGES:

Council has increased the cost for providing a kerbside collection by 3%, to those properties which are able to receive the collection service, to \$334.00 per bin per annum for GRV Residential/Industrial properties, and to \$364.00 for GRV Commercial. This cost includes the provision of a fortnightly kerbside Recycling Collection service, which has been in place since 2004.

COLLECTION DAYS:

Weekly kerbside collections are provided every Thursday for Bodallin and Moorine Rock and every Friday for Southern Cross and Marvel Loch. Furthermore, fortnightly Recycling Services are provided on the **second** and **fourth** Friday of each month.

Please note, in the event of a five-week month, the second and fourth Friday still applies for Recycling Services.

A Recycling Bin Day calendar can be acquired from the Shire Office free of charge.



Pensioner & Senior Rates

State Government has changed the approved cap for Local Government rates applying to **pensioner** households as of 1st July 2016. The Local government rates notice now includes a concession that is the lesser of \$750 or 50% of the rates payable. Senior card holder rates concession remain unchanged at 25% up to the capped amount. If you have any questions about applying for a concession on your property, please make an application by contacting the Water Corporation on: 1300 659 951 or online at: www.watercorporation.com.au

Any person who wilfully makes a false statement in an application made pursuant to this section or who remains registered as an entitled pensioner/senior knowing that they are not eligible is guilty of an offence. **(Penalty \$1,000.00)**

REBATE REFERS TO CURRENT RATES ONLY ALL SERVICE CHARGES AND ARREARS MUST BE PAID IN FULL WITHIN 35 DAYS OF ISSUE

Emergency Information Hotline

Residents are reminded that the Shire of Yilgarn Emergency Information Hotline service is available. For all road closures, vehicle movement, bushfire and harvest ban information please call 9487 8777. This service is updated as required. For automatic updates on road closures within the Yilgarn district, harvest bans or notification of community events ask to be placed on the Shire of Yilgarn's Whispir list for text message and email notifications by contacting the Customer Service Officer on (08) 9049 1001.

Further information is available as follows:-

- ❖ **Road-use enquiries/reporting of road damage**— please call Mr Robert Bosenberg (Executive Manager for Infrastructure) on 0409 791 135, or Mr Noel Teale (Works Supervisor) on 0409 791 134.
- ❖ **To report a sewerage fault**— please call Mr Nic Warren (Manager Regulatory Services) on 0407 491 027.



9487 8777



Shire of Yilgarn Website

Residents are reminded to have a look at our website for public notices, contact details, information relating to rates, job vacancies, tourism information, local business directory public documents, forms, links and much much more! If you think there is something missing please let us know. Contact Jodie Karra on: 9049 1001 or aso@yilgarn.wa.gov.au

www.yilgarn.wa.gov.au



FREE Crosswords

Crosswords has gone digital. If you would like to be the recipient of the **free** Crosswords straight to your email each fortnight, contact Monica at the CRC via email on: crc@yilgarn.wa.gov.au

Road Construction & Maintenance

Approximately \$4.5m has been allocated to the construction and maintenance of our vast road network. Funding assistance is received from Main Roads WA (State Government) of approximately \$920,000 and from the Roads to Recovery (Federal Government) program of approximately \$1.25m.

Scheduled Projects for 2016/17 include:

| Project | Budget | Funding |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| Bodallin Nth Rd - 10mm Reseal (SLK 15.6-21.6) | 172k | MRWA / Shire |
| Parker Range Rd - 10mm Reseal (SLK 24.5-30.5) | 178k | MRWA / Shire |
| Koolyanobbing Rd - 7m Seal (SLK 23.5-25.5 & 48-49) | 528k | MRWA / Shire |
| Koolyanobbing Rd - 10mm Reseal (SLK 20-23) | 99k | MRWA / Shire |
| Bodallin Nth Rd - Reseal (SLK 23-25.5) | 63k | Roads to Recovery |
| Southern Cross Sth Rd - Reseal (SLK 2.6-5.8) | 90k | Roads to Recovery |
| Cramphorne Rd - Seal (SLK 0.00-6.0) | 163k | Roads to Recovery |
| Cramphorne Rd - Gravel Overlay (SLK 12.2-15.2) | 113k | Roads to Recovery |
| Cramphorne Rd - 7 metre Seal (SLK 5.5-7.5) | 287k | Roads to Recovery |
| West Corinthia Rd - Gravel Overlay (SLK 13.8-15.8) | 67k | Roads to Recovery |
| Unkovich Road - Gravel Overlay (SLK 0.00-2.5) | 90k | Roads to Recovery |
| Dulyalbin Rd - Gravel Overlay (SLK 40.5-44) | 118k | Roads to Recovery |
| Emu Fence Rd - Gravel Overlay (SLK 126.5-128.5) | 78k | Roads to Recovery |
| Southern Cross South Rd - Gravel Overlay (SLK 68-73) | 179k | Roads to Recovery |
| Emu Fence Road - Gravel Overlay (SLK 124-126.5) | 81k | Shire |
| Kent Rd - Gravel Overlay (SLK 9.5-11.5) | 79k | Shire |
| Grace Rd - 2km Gravel Overlay | 77k | Shire |
| Landfill Access Rd - Seal (SLK 0.00-3.5) | 294k | Shire |
| Algenib St Hospital Emerg Access Rd - 400m Seal | 17k | Shire |
| Leonis St (South.Cross) - Bitumen Reseal | 12k | Shire |
| Serpentis Stree (South.Cross) - Bitumen Reseal | 6k | Shire |
| Pictoris Street (South.Cross) - Bitumen Reseal | 13k | Shire |
| Altair St (South.Cross) - Bitumen Reseal | 56k | Shire |
| Hydra St (South.Cross) - Bitumen Reseal | 27k | Shire |



Building Maintenance

The Shire of Yilgarn owns numerous community buildings throughout the Shire. Some of the major maintenance / renewal works budgeted to be completed in 2016/17 include:

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Medical Centre | renewal of flyscreens, skirting, cupboards, mens toilet ceiling |
| Community Resource Centre | renewal of front gable, reception counter, flyscreens and gutter brackets |
| Occasional Child Care Centre | renewal of kitchen, renewal of windows |
| Senior Citizens Centre | renewal of cupboards, downpipes, grab handles, upgrade security lighting |
| Homes for the Aged | refurbish one of the units plus other scheduled maintenance |
| Cemetery | upgrade map directory, install grave markers |
| Community Centre | renew front façade, replace emergency exit doors, replace emergency lighting |

Change of Personal Details Form

If the details on your Rates Notice are incorrect, please fill in the form below and return it to:

Shire of Yilgarn
 Rates Officer
 PO Box 86
 SOUTHERN CROSS WA 6426 or Email: rates@yilgarn.wa.gov.au



Current/New Details:

| | | |
|--|--------------|------------|
| Surname/Company Name: | | |
| Title: | Other Names: | DOB: |
| Residential Address: | | |
| Suburb: | | Post Code: |
| Postal Address: (If the same as above leave blank) | | |
| Suburb: | | Post Code: |
| Phone Number: | Mobile: | |

Details of Properties in your name

(1) Assessment Number: _____ Lot Number: _____
 Street Address: _____
 Suburb: _____

(2) Assessment Number: _____ Lot Number: _____
 Street Address: _____
 Suburb: _____

(3) Assessment Number: _____ Lot Number: _____
 Street Address: _____
 Suburb: _____

If you have more than 3 properties in your name, please include assessment numbers for each.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PAY YOUR RATES EARLY TO WIN!

In an effort to encourage early full payment of your rates, the Shire of Yilgarn is offering the following prizes:

First Prize:
 A \$500 voucher to spend
 at The Esplanade Hotel
 Fremantle.



Second Prize:
 \$250 Westfield shopping
 voucher



Third Prize:
 \$200 Shopping spree at the business
 of your choice in the Yilgarn



Fourth Prize:
 \$50 to spend at a local
 Restaurant of your choice in the
 Yilgarn

Simply fill out your details below and return this section with your rates notice. The prize will be drawn at the September Council Meeting after the discount closing date of **Wednesday 7th September 2016**.

Assessment Number: _____ Name: _____
 Telephone Number: _____ or Email Address: _____