



# Mount Isa Budget 2020-21

Mayoral Speech – June 24, 2020

Mayor Danielle Slade

Good afternoon everyone. I am proud to present the 2020-21 Mount Isa City Council budget.

The first half of this year has been unlike anything any of us have ever experienced before.

With the spread and impact of the coronavirus around the world, the ripple effects have touched virtually every community throughout Australia and most of the world. And Mount Isa has been no exception.

From local businesses shutting down for several months, leaving many people out of work, to other businesses facing uncertain futures, and sporting clubs having to cancel their activities, the impacts of COVID-19 will continue to be felt in communities big and small.

We as a Council have recognised this and have acted accordingly. We appreciate and understand that many people and businesses have been struggling, and will continue to struggle for some time yet.

That's why, for the 2020-21 financial year, we have a zero general rates increase and have not increased any Council operational fees or charges.

This will provide some surety and peace of mind for ratepayers, many of whom are doing it tough due to the coronavirus pandemic, while still securing our ability to deliver a solid capital works schedule for the benefit of the whole community.

This schedule will ensure Mount Isa's and Camooweal's essential public infrastructure, facilities and assets continue to be upgraded and maintained to a high standard. Mount Isa residents deserve and rightly expect nothing less.

Understandably, in this current economic climate, a priority for this Council is to be careful with our spending while still delivering a Budget that is achievable and fair for the community.



# Mount Isa Budget 2020-21

Mayoral Speech – June 24, 2020

Mayor Danielle Slade

We have allocated \$29.408 million towards capital works in this year's Budget.

Of this figure, more than half will be funded by the Queensland or Australian governments, made possible with Council contributions, and includes:

- \$3.7 million on city and rural roads and pavements
- \$4.1 million on city-wide sewer and water infrastructure
- \$2.2 million for maintenance and upgrades of community facilities including cemeteries, sporting and public amenities
- \$2 million for plant and machinery
- \$3.3 million for CBD beautification, footpaths, and parks
- \$5.7 million for Council's Recycling Initiative
- \$2.5 million to upgrade the Family Fun Precinct
- \$2.9 million to begin installing Smart Water Meters across Mount Isa

As part of this capital works Budget, a total of \$16.4 million will be allocated to maintaining vital Council infrastructure and services, such as urban and rural roads, and the water mains and sewerage networks.

It will also be invested in our local parks, open spaces and footpaths, beautifying the Mount Isa welcome signs and town entries, and in maintaining facilities such as Buchanan Park, Outback at Isa, the Mount Isa Civic Centre and the Camooweal Town Hall.

And a total of \$9.54 million will be invested in important environmental initiatives including Council's Recycling Initiative, the rollout of smart water meters throughout Mount Isa, and the construction of a tanker waste-receiving facility at the Water Treatment Plant.

Now more than ever, in this current economic climate, it's important for Council to have a measured Budget, and to look at where savings can be made as much as possible.



# Mount Isa Budget 2020-21

---

Mayoral Speech – June 24, 2020

Mayor Danielle Slade

---

Going forward, prioritising the upkeep and improvement of the city's water infrastructure throughout this current term, to minimise the potential of water leaks, will save not just this precious resource, but also significantly benefit Council's bottom line in the long run.

And wherever possible, we should be looking at projects that can be funded or supported by the Queensland or Australian governments.

It is vital that Council continues to keep its workforce employed and to keep the city ticking over until everything has returned to normal, and this is exactly what this Budget sets out to achieve.

I wish to thank all of the hardworking Council staff, Chief Executive Officer Sharon Ibardolaza and the Finance team for their excellent work in developing this restrained and achievable Budget.

I formally move the 2020/21 Mount Isa City Council Budget to you for adoption.