

## Mount Isa Budget 2023-24

Speech – June 21, 2023

Good morning, everyone.

It is my pleasure to present the 2023-24 Mount Isa City Council Budget for adoption.

This Budget embodies Council's vision for progress and the wellbeing of the community. It recognises affordability pressures. It also reflects Council's strategic priorities and lays the groundwork for a brighter future for Mount Isa residents.

In the 2023-24 Budget, Council is proposing to put forward a 3.3% rates increase for average residential properties, compared to the April 2023 inflation rate of 6.8%. Council is also proposing a 3.6% increase in water access and consumption charges, a 4.8% increase in sewer charges, and a 5% increase in waste charges.

To help soften this blow for aged pensioners, Council will be increasing the Council pension concession by 88%, from \$85 per year to \$160 per year.

This will be on top of the \$200 per year State Government rates concession that pensioners receive.



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For the 2023-24 financial year, Council is expected to have an operating revenue of \$71.86 million and an operating expenditure of \$71.74 million.

Council has allocated \$46 million towards capital works. Of this amount, \$20.59 million is funded by grants revenue from the State Government or Federal Government, and \$21.19 million is for new projects.

Of the total capital works budget amount, there is \$10.11 million on roads renewals; \$7.78 million on water and sewerage; \$950,000 on parks and reserves; \$15.1 million on Environmental and Regulatory Services; \$9.58 million on community facilities; and \$2.5 million on mobile plant replacement.

In Camooweal, Council will be spending \$400,000 for a water treatment upgrade.

Council recognises the importance of investing in the city's infrastructure. A well-planned and maintained infrastructure network is crucial for the efficient functioning of our city and the comfort of its residents.



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Council also recognises the importance of good governance and financial responsibility. We are committed to transparent and accountable decision-making processes.

The Budget reflects Council's commitment to sound financial management, ensuring that ratepayer dollars are utilised efficiently and effectively.

This Budget sets the stage for a strong and sustainable future for Mount Isa. It encompasses our strategic priorities of infrastructure development, sustainability, and good governance.

As we move forward, Council will work tirelessly to implement the initiatives outlined in this Budget and listen to the needs of our community, and will continue to prioritise asset management, the improvement of service levels, and the preservation of strong cash reserves.

I would like to thank the Mount Isa City Council staff who have done a great job putting this budget together.

Would any Councillors like to move the motion to formally move the 2023/24 Mount Isa City Council Budget for adoption?