His Worship the Mayor
Councillors

City of Marion

Notice of General Council Meeting

Council Chamber, Council Administration Centre
245 Sturt Road, Sturt

Tuesday, 22 April 2025 at 6.30 pm

The CEO hereby gives Notice pursuant to the provisions under Section 83 of the *Local Government Act 1999* that a General Council Meeting will be held.

A copy of the Agenda for this meeting is attached in accordance with Section 83 of the Act.

Meetings of the Council are open to the public and interested members of this community are welcome to attend. Access to the Council Chamber is via the main entrance to the Administration Centre on Sturt Road, Sturt.



Tony Harrison

Chief Executive Officer

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1 Open Meeting

2 Kaurna Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

3 Disclosure

All persons in attendance are advised that the audio of this General Council meeting will be recorded and will be made available on the City of Marion website.

4 Council Member Declaration of Interest (if any)

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the General Council Meeting held on 25 March 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422R5.1
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive – Kate McKenzie
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer – Tony Harrison

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the General Council Meeting held on 25 March 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

ATTACHMENTS

1. G C 250325 - Public Minutes [**5.1.1** - 16 pages]

Minutes of the General Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 25 March 2025 at 6.30 pm Council Chamber, Council Administration Centre 245 Sturt Road, Sturt

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor Kris Hanna
Councillor Joseph Masika
Councillor Nathan Prior
Councillor Raelene Telfer
Councillor Luke Naismith
Councillor Jason Veliskou
Councillor Sarah Luscombe
Councillor Jayne Hoffmann
Councillor Matt Taylor
Councillor Renuka Lama (from 6.41pm)
Councillor Jana Mates
Councillor Amar Singh
Councillor Ian Crossland

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison
General Manager City Services - Angela Allison
General Manager Corporate Services - Tony Lines
General Manager City Development - Ben Keen
Chief Financial Officer - Ray Barnwell
Manager Office of the CEO - Sarah Vinall
Unit Manager Governance & Council Support – Victoria Moritz

1 Open Meeting

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

2 Kaurna Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

3 Disclosure

All persons in attendance are advised that the audio of this General Council meeting will be recorded and will be made available on the City of Marion website.

4 Council Member Declaration of Interest (if any)

The Chair asked if any member wished to disclose an interest in relation to any item being considered at the meeting

- Nil interests were disclosed.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the General Council Meeting held on 11 March 2025

Report Reference GC250325R5.1

Moved Councillor Taylor **Seconded Councillor Singh**

That the minutes of the General Council Meeting held on 11 March 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried Unanimously

6 Communications

6.1 Elected Member Verbal Communications - Nil

Moved Councillor Masika **Seconded Councillor Hoffmann**

That the following Communication Items be moved en bloc:

- 6.2 Mayoral Communication Report
- 6.3 CEO and Executive Communication Report

Carried Unanimously

6.2 Mayoral Communication Report

Report Reference GC250325R6.2

Name of Council Member Mayor - Kris Hanna

Date	Event	Comments
22.02.25	City of Marion Stakes Race Day	Attended, speech given
22.02.25	SA Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) Career Expo	Attended, speech given
22.02.25	Ramadan Festival	Attended
24.02.25	Marion Mall Walkers Birthday Celebration	Attended, presented award
24.02.25	AGM Galleon Theatre Group	Attended
27.02.25	ABC Radio Interview at Glenelg	Attended
27.02.25	Citizen of the year awards at Government House	Attended
03.03.25	Oaklands View Club Fundraiser at Capri Cinema	Attended
04.03.25	Parks Week – walk with community	Attended, walked
04.03.25	Gave Leadership Training Session	Attended, provided training
06.03.25	Metro Mayor's meeting to discuss LGA Strategic Plan	Attended
06.03.25	Seaview High School meeting with Principal & Governing Chair	Attended
06.03.25	Austral Volleyball Presentation	Attended
07.03.25	Marino Hall Site Visit	Attended

13.03.25	Warradale Park Tennis Club Site Visit	Attended, speech given
17.03.25	Community & Education Leaders Event – Iftar Dinner	Attended – Mayor & Mayoress
18.03.25	'Marion 100' Focus Group	MC of Event
In addition, the Mayor has met with residents, MPs and with the CEO and Council staff regarding various issues		

Moved Councillor Masika **Seconded Councillor Hoffmann**

That the Mayoral Communication report be received and noted.

Carried Unanimously

6.3 CEO and Executive Communication Report

Report Reference GC250325R6.3

Date	Activity	Attended By
19/02/2025	Meeting | Seacliff Village Bonding	Ben Keen Tony Harrison
20/02/2025	Tonsley PCG Bi-Monthly Meeting	Ben Keen
20/02/2025	LG Professionals SA General Managers and Directors Networking Group Meeting	Ben Keen
21/02/2025	Local Government Metro CEO Meeting	Tony Harrison
21/02/2025	Meeting | CCS and PAE re Strategic Procurement Manager	Tony Lines
24/02/2025	Meeting | CCS and PAE re Strategic Procurement Manager	Tony Lines
24/02/2025	SRWRA Board Meeting	Angela Allison
26/02/2025	Meeting with DSS re: CHSP	Angela Allison
26/02/2025	Irrigation Construction Team Governance Group	Ben Keen
27/02/2025	Event | Australian Day Council Citizen of the year awards	Tony Harrison
04/03/2025	Event | Executive breakfast | Public Sector Network Local Government Focus	Tony Harrison
04/03/2025	Event | Public Sector Network Local Government Focus Day 2025 – KPMG	Ben Keen Angela Allison Tony Harrison Tony Lines
05/03/2025	Meeting | Marino Hall Committee	Ben Keen
06/03/2025	Meeting | SRC JV Advisory Committee	Angela Allison

06/03/2025	Meeting | Department of Premier and Cabinet – Teesdale Update	Ben Keen
07/03/2025	Meeting | City of Marion and SAHT and ASP	Ben Keen
11/03/2025	Meeting | City of Marion and Villawood – Seacliff Development	Ben Keen
13/03/2025	Workshop | AWS Generative AI Proficiency	Tony Lines
14/03/2025	Meeting | LG Professionals Board Meeting	Ben Keen
14/03/2025	Salisbury Water Business - Tour	Angela Allison
17/03/2025	Event | CEDA SA State of the State 2025	Tony Harrison
19/03/2025	SMRF JV Advisory Committee Meeting Dinner	Angela Allison

Moved Councillor Masika **Seconded Councillor Hoffmann**

That the CEO and Executive Communication report be received and noted.

Carried Unanimously

7 Adjourned Items

The Mayor sought and was granted leave of the meeting to vary the order of the agenda and consider the Confidential Adjourned Item - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool Options at the conclusion of the other listed confidential items.

8 Deputations

8.1 South Adelaide Basketball

Report Reference GC2503258.1

Ms McKenzie gave a five-minute deputation to Council regarding South Adelaide Basketball.

9 Petitions - Nil

10 Committee Recommendations - Nil

11 Confidential Items

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

That the following Cover reports to move into confidence be moved en bloc:
11.1 Cover Report – Tonsley Unsolicited Proposal Community Land Revocation
11.2 Cover Report - Marion Basketball Stadium draft Concept Design for community consultation
11.3 Cover Report - City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) Implementation Guide Annual Review 2025
11.4 Cover Report - Commonwealth Home Support Programme Update

7.1 Cover Report - Confidential Adjourned - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool Options

Carried Unanimously

6.41pm Councillor Lama entered the meeting

11.1 Cover Report - Tonsley Unsolicited Proposal Community Land Revocation

Report Reference GC250325F11.1

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.1 Tonsley Unsolicited Proposal Community Land Revocation, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Corporate Services, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Office of the Chief Executive, Manager City Activation, City Activation Senior Advisor, Unit Manager Property and Facilities, Unit Manager Governance & Council Support, Governance Officer, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events Manager People & Culture, Manager Enterprise PMO, to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to the commercial affairs of a business with which the Council is conducting and the receipt, consideration of discussion of the information or matter in an information or briefing session open to the public would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest due to its commercial nature, including financial figures.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest being information relating to the financial and commercial capability of an unsolicited proposal by a third party. The public interest in the Council being able to partner with third parties to provide facilities that benefit its area would be compromised as third parties would be discouraged from partnering with the Council if their confidential commercial information were disclosed.

3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

6.41pm the meeting went into confidence

Moved Councillor Crossland **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.1 Tonsley Unsolicited Proposal Community Land Revocation shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(d) of the Act:

- Report – GC250325F11.1 Tonsley Unsolicited Proposal Community Land Revocation
- Minutes- GC250325F11.1 Tonsley Unsolicited Proposal Community Land Revocation

on the grounds that the document(s) relates to commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest being information relation to the financial and commercial capability of an unsolicited proposal by a third party.

3. Determines this order shall operate for a period of 24 months; or until execution of a contract and will be reviewed every 12 months.

4. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried

Councillor Luscombe called a Division:

Those for: Councillors Crossland, Mates, Naismith, Lama, Telfer, Taylor, Hoffmann and Masika

Those against: Councillors Luscombe, Singh, Veliskou and Prior

Carried

6.56pm the meeting came out of confidence

11.2 Cover Report - Marion Basketball Stadium draft Concept Design for community consultation

Report Reference GC250325F11.2

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.2 - Marion Basketball Stadium Design Concept for community consultation except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, General Manager Corporate Services, Manager Office of the CEO, Manager City Property, Manager City Activation, Project Design Adviser, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events, Media and Engagement Advisor, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support, Governance Officer, Manager People & Culture, Manager Enterprise PMO, to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to negatively impact the outcomes for Council of a future construction tender process for the project and could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest

because it could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

6.39pm the meeting went into confidence

Moved Councillor Telfer **Seconded Councillor Lama**

That Council:

1. Rescinds point 1 of the resolution from its meeting of 27 February 2024 in relation to the item *Marion Basketball Stadium Options (GC240227F11.1)* that states:

That Council:

1. *Endorses Marion Basketball Stadium Option 3 – Build 5 new courts in 2026*
   a. *Noting Council has made provision of project funding of up to $ [redacted] consisting of $ [redacted] federal grant funding and a contribution of $ [redacted] from Council funds.*
   b. *Endorses an additional funding provision of up to $[redacted] to be incorporated into the next iteration of Council's LTFP.*

And

2. *Endorses staff to work with SABC to negotiate a lease based on a rent plus outgoing model, with the rent at the maximum level sustainable for the club.*
3. *Requires $[redacted] to be contributed by South Adelaide Basketball Club (in addition to Federal funding)*
4. *Authorises staff to inform the Marion tennis club that the site is required for other purposes and to offer the Marion Tennis Club assistance to relocate or dissolve the Club, providing members with an opportunity to join neighbouring clubs.*
5. *Notes that staff will finalise the 262 Sturt Road Precinct Plan based on the endorsed solution.*
6. *Notes that staff will engage with Club Marion and relevant stakeholders based on the endorsed solution.*
7. *That staff prepare rate modelling for Council consideration that does not exceed 5% over the long-term financial plan and maintains key financial sustainability parameters*
8. *Request administration to come back to Council with financial modelling which includes the following:*
   a. *Removing the development of the "Northern Library" proposal from the CoMBAS Implementation Guide*
   b. *Delaying the re-development of the Marion Fitness and Leisure Centre*
   c. *Reducing or deferring the amount allocated to streetscape and other capital works programs*

Carried

Point of Order

Councillor Crossland called a point of order citing *Regulation 28 of the Local Government (Procedures at Council Meetings) 2013* stating a breach in procedural conduct that Mayor allowed a Councillor to move a motion without Councillors having asked questions beforehand.

The Mayor opposed the point of order

Councillor Crossland challenged the ruling on the point of order

Moved Councillor Crossland **Seconded Councillor Luscombe**

That a motion of dissent be moved in accordance with Regulation 28 stating that the ruling of the Mayor on the point of order is not agreed with.

Lost

No Breach occurred

Moved Councillor Crossland **Seconded Councillor Luscombe**

That formal meeting procedures be suspended to discuss the item.

Carried

7.05pm formal meeting procedures suspended

7.51pm Councillor Crossland left the meeting

7.53pm Councillor Crossland re-entered the meeting

8.15pm formal meeting procedures resumed

Moved Councillor Telfer **Seconded Councillor Lama**

That Council:

1. Endorses a Marion Basketball Stadium with a minimum of 4 courts.

2. Endorses a total project budget of up to $[redacted] consisting of:
   a. Council contribution of up to $[redacted],
   b. Federal grant funding of $[redacted], and
   c. $[redacted] contribution from South Adelaide Basketball Club.

3. Endorses that the draft 4-court Marion Basketball stadium concept plan be released for a 4-week community consultation in April 2025.

4. Notes that a report on the community feedback will be tabled at the 27 May 2025 General Council meeting.

5. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) / information relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.2 - Marion Basketball Stadium Design Concept for community consultation shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(b) of the Act, :
   - Report - GC250325F11.2 - *Marion Basketball Stadium Design Concept for community consultation*
   - Financial figures within the Minutes - GC250325F11.2 - *Marion Basketball Stadium Design Concept for community consultation*

   on the grounds that the information relates to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is proposing to conduct business with as it contains projected costs for a project yet to be publicly tendered.

6. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

7. Determines this order shall operate until it is revoked, or a further order is made and will be reviewed every 12 months.

8. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried

Councillor Luscombe called a Division:

Those for: Councillors Singh, Veliskou, Naismith, Lama, Telfer, Prior, Taylor, Hoffmann and Masika

Those against: Councillors Crossland, Luscombe and Mates

Carried

8.30pm the meeting came out of confidence

The Mayor sought and was granted leave of the meeting to adjourn the meeting for a period of two minutes.

8.32pm meeting adjourned

8.34pm meeting resumed

11.3 Cover Report - City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) Implementation Guide Annual Review 2025

Report Reference GC250325F11.3

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC20250325F11.3 City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) Implementation Guide Annual Review 2025, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, General Manager Corporate Services, Manager Office of the CEO, Manager City Property, Manager City Activation, Unit Manager Property Strategy and Delivery, Property Asset Planner, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support and Governance Officer and Manager People & Culture, Manager Enterprise PMO, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events, to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the City of Marion Building Asset Strategy Implementation Guide Annual Review, upon the basis that the Council is satisfied that the requirement for the meeting to be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the matter confidential given the information relates to commercial information including financial figures detailing projected costs of projects yet to be publicly tendered and concept designs, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to infer a commercial advantage on a third party and prejudice Council's commercial position.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it could infer a financial advantage to a third party when the project is opened to tender and impair the tender process.

3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

8.34pm the meeting went into confidence

8.46pm Councillor Telfer left the meeting

Moved Councillor Hoffmann **Seconded Councillor Singh**

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.3 City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) Implementation Guide Annual Review 2025 shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(b) of the Act:
   - Report - GC250325F11.3 City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) Implementation Guide Annual Review 2025
   - Attachment 1 – CoMBAS Implementation Guide 2025-2035
   - Minutes - GC250325F11.3 City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) Implementation Guide Annual Review 2025

on the grounds that the information relates to commercial information including financial figures detailing projected costs of projects yet to be publicly tendered, the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to infer a commercial advantage on a third party and prejudice Council's commercial position.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it could infer a financial advantage to a third party when the project is opened to tender and impair the tender process.

3. Determines this order shall operate until it is revoked, or a further order is made and will be reviewed every 12 months.

4. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried Unanimously

8.49pm the meeting came out of confidence

11.4 Cover Report - Commonwealth Home Support Programme Update

Report Reference GC250325F11.4

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(J) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.4 Commonwealth Home Support Programme Update, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Corporate Services, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Office of the Chief Executive, Manager People and Culture, Manager Community Connections, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events, Manager People & Culture, Manager Enterprise PMO to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to divulge information provided on a confidential basis by a Federal Government Agency as part of negotiations regarding the future of the Commonwealth Home Support Program.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as the information could reasonably be expected to undermine governmental decision-making processes by disclosing internal discussions and decision making as well as disclosing commercially sensitive information, potentially comprising the effectiveness of future decisions and negotiations.

3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

8.50pm the meeting went into confidence

8.56pm Councillor Telfer re-entered the meeting

8.57pm Councillor Mates left the meeting and did not return

8.59pm Councillor Taylor left the meeting and did not return

Councillor Veliskou declared a general conflict of interest in the item as a family member is exploring service options and will stay in the meeting for the item.

Moved Councillor Masika **Seconded Councillor Lama**

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item GC250325F11.3 Commonwealth Home Support Programme Update shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(J) of the Act, :
   - Report - GC250325F11.4 Commonwealth Home Support Programme Update
   - Minutes - GC250325F11.4 Commonwealth Home Support Programme Update

   on the grounds that the document(s) relates to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to divulge information provided on a confidential basis by a Federal Government Agency as part of negotiations regarding the future of the Commonwealth Home Support Program.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because undermine governmental decision-making processes by disclosing internal discussions and decision making as well as disclosing commercially sensitive information, potentially comprising the effectiveness of future decisions and negotiations

3. Determines this order shall operate until the 2025-27 CHSP agreement is executed or until an alternate service delivery strategy has been agreed upon and made public, and will be reviewed every 12 months.

4. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried Unanimously

9.11pm the meeting came out of confidence

7.1 Cover Report - Confidential Adjourned - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool Options

Report Reference GC250325F7.1

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Telfer**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b and d) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item *GC250325F7.1 Confidential Adjourned - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool Options*, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, General Manager City Development, General Manager Civil Services, General Manager Corporate Services, Manager Office of the CEO Manager City Property, Manager City Activation, Unit Manager Property Strategy & Delivery, Senior Project Manager, Project Manager Infrastructure, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events and Manager People & Culture, Manager Enterprise PMO, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is proposing to conduct business and would prejudice the commercial position of the Council.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because the public interest is in the Council preserving its negotiating position with any future tenderer for one of the listed projects and obtaining best value for money for its community.

3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

9.12pm the meeting went into confidence

Moved Councillor Veliskou **Seconded Councillor Luscombe**

That the meeting be extended until the conclusion of the following items:

- 7.1 Confidential Adjourned - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool Options
- 12.1 Glandore Oval Cricket Pitch Redevelopment Landowner Approval
- 12.5 SRWRA Charter Review 2025

Carried Unanimously

9.13pm meeting extended.

Moved Councillor Crossland **Seconded Councillor Veliskou**

That formal meeting procedures be suspended to discuss the item.

Carried Unanimously

9.13pm formal meeting procedures suspended

9.30pm formal meeting procedures resumed

Moved Councillor Luscombe **Seconded Councillor Masika**

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item GC250325F7.1 Adjourned - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool Options shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(b)(d) of the Act, :
   - Report – GC250325F7.1 Adjourned - CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives - Plympton Oval Options and Seaside Pool options
   - Attachment 1 – GC250311F18.2 – CoMBAS Unfunded Initiatives – Plympton Oval Options and seaside pool options
   - Minutes – GC250325F7.1

   on the grounds that the document(s) relates to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council may conduct business and would prejudice the commercial position of the Council, as and which would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest, as this Agenda Item includes cost estimates for each of the projects listed in the report, the disclosure of which could confer a commercial advantage on a business submitting a future tender and prejudice the Council's commercial position.
2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because the release of confidential cost estimates for projects could impact Councils ability to obtain the best value for money for its community.
3. Determines this order shall operate until it is revoked and will be reviewed every 12 months.
4. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried

9.35 m the meeting came out of confidence

12 Corporate Reports for Decision

Moved Councillor Prior **Seconded Councillor Hoffmann**

That the following items be moved en bloc:

- 12.1 Glandore Oval Cricket Pitch Redevelopment Landowner Approval
- 12.5 SRWRA Charter Review 2025

Carried Unanimously

12.1 Glandore Oval Cricket Pitch Redevelopment Landowner Approval

Report Reference GC250325R12.1

Moved Councillor Prior **Seconded Councillor Hoffmann**

That Council:

1. Approves Landowner consent for the replacement and repositioning of the centre square cricket pitches at Glandore Oval.
2. Notes that Council will not be liable for any costs associated with the replacement of the center square cricket pitches.

Carried Unanimously

12.5 SRWRA Charter Review 2025

Report Reference GC250325R12.5

Moved Councillor Prior **Seconded Councillor Hoffmann**

That Council:

1. Approves the Southern Region Waster Resource Authority draft Charter 2025.

Carried Unanimously

20 Meeting Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 9.37pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 22 DAY OF APRIL 2025

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CHAIRPERSON

The following items were not considered:

- *12.2 Discretionary Rates Rebate*
- *12.3 Streetscape Plan*
- *12.4 ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Funding Priorities*
- *12.6 Public Art Strategy*
- *13.1 Youth Collective Committee Annual Report 2024*
- *13.2 Monthly Work Health and Safety Report*
- *13.3 Finance Report – February 2025*
- *15.1 Irrigation of Council Reserves*

6 Communications

6.1 Elected Member Verbal Communications

In accordance with the *Code of Practice - Procedures at Council Meeting 2017/18* an Elected Member has the right to speak for up to two minutes in the second meeting of Council every second month from February (with the exception of caretaker period).

6.2 Mayoral Communication Report

Report Reference GC250422R6.2
Name of Council Member Mayor - Kris Hanna

Date	Event	Comments
21.03.25	Unveiling of the Queen's Plaque at Glenthorne National Park	Attended
21.03.25	VIP Opening at Gallery M	Attended and gave speech
23.03.25	Plympton Football Club Season Launch	Attended
23.03.25	Marion Uniting Church – reopening of historic chapel	Attended and gave speech
28.03.25	Citizenship Ceremony	Attended and presented certificates
29.03.25	Hallett Cove Beach Tennis Club (grand final)	Attended
29.03.25	Harmony Week Launch at Domain Theatre	Attended and gave speech
30.03.25	Westminster College Fete	Attended
31.03.25	Christ the King School Visit	Attended and answered questions
02.04.25	Opening of Kytons Bakery New Retail Space	Attended and bought lamingtons
03.04.25	Future Made in Australia Event	Attended and gave speech
03.04.25	Connect@DTC Event	Attended and gave speech
06.04.25	Oaklands Estate Residents Association 39th Annual Residents BBQ	Attended
06.04.25	Glenelg Rebels Presentation Night	Attended and gave speech
08.04.25	Visit to Second Chances Op Shop	Attended
16.04.25	Active Elders Association at Ascot Park – Easter Lunch	Attended
In addition, the Mayor has met with residents, MPs and with the CEO and Council staff regarding various issues		

6.3 CEO and Executive Communication Report
Report Reference GC250422R6.3

Date	Activity	Attended By
19/03/2025	SMRF JV Committee Meeting Dinner	Angela Allison
19/03/2025	LG Professionals SA General Managers and Directors Network Forum: Collaborating with Intent	Ben Keen
20/03/2025	SMRF JV Advisory Committee Meeting	Angela Allison
24/03/2025	Meeting | Flinders University and City of Marion	Ben Keen
25/03/2025	Meeting | Flow Power and CoM re PPA	Tony Lines
27/03/2025	SAALC Governance Meeting	Ben Keen
28/03/2025	Southern CEO Meeting, Holdfast, Mitcham and Onkaparinga	Tony Harrison
28/03/2025	Citizenship Ceremony	Angela Allison
28/03/2025	Meeting | City of Marion, Port Adelaide Enfield and City of Charles Sturt – Cross Council Collaboration	Ben Keen
28/03/2025	Meeting | CCS and PAE re Cross Council Strategic Procurement Manager	Tony Lines
31/03/2025	SRWRA Board Workshop	Angela Allison
31/03/2025	Meeting | CQ Energy and CoM re PPA	Tony Lines
01/04/2025	Flinders Uni. Bedford Park Master Plan Progress Update	Executive Leadership Team
02/04/2025	Meeting | Cleanaway and CoM	Tony Lines
07/04/2025	Meeting | Flow Power and CoM re PPA	Tony Lines
08/04/2025	Meeting | Alex Dighton MP, Member for Black	Tony Harrison
08/04/2025	Meeting | KPMG and CoM re Financial Controls Internal Audit	Tony Lines
11/04/2025	LG Professionals SA Board Planning Session	Ben Keen
16/04/2025	Boral Linwood Site Visit	Angela Allison
17/04/2025	Meeting | Minister Nick Champion | Mayor & CEO	Tony Harrison

7 Adjourned Items - Nil

8 Deputations

8.1 Irrigation and Reserve Maintenance	
Report Reference	GC250422D8.1
Originating Officer	Executive Assistant to the Mayor – Sarah Barnby
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the CEO – Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer – Tony Harrison

SPEAKER

Mr Matt Shilling

ORGANISATION

Resident

COMMENTS

Mr Shilling has requested to make a deputation to Council on behalf of himself and other residents regarding irrigation and reserve maintenance.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9 Petitions - Nil

10 Committee Recommendations

10.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422R10.1
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive - Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to facilitate the receiving and noting of the minutes of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A summary of items considered by the Committee Members is noted below.

Reports for Discussion

- Internal Audit 2023-25
- Internal Audit Program – Implementation of Recommendations
- 2nd Budget Review 2024/25

Reports for Noting

- Council Member Report
- Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-26 & LTFP Update

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Receives and notes the minutes of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025.**
2. **Notes that separate reports will be brought to Council for consideration of any recommendations from the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. FRA C 250408 - Final Minutes [**10.1.1** - 9 pages]

Minutes of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee
held on Tuesday, 8 April 2025 at 4.00 pm
Council Chamber, Council Administration Centre
245 Sturt Road, Sturt

PRESENT

Josh Hubbard (Chair)
Paula Davies (electronic attendance)
Melissa Oors-L'Estrange
Councillor Luke Naismith

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison
General Manager City Services - Angela Allison
General Manager Corporate Services - Tony Lines
Acting General Manager City Development – Charmaine Hughes
Chief Financial Officer - Ray Barnwell
Manager Office of the CEO - Sarah Vinall
Unit Manager Governance and Council Support - Victoria Moritz
Manager Enterprise PMO – Karen Blake
Eric Beere – Partner KMPG
Troy Hutson – Director, Technology Risk SME, KPMG
Michael Richardson - Director, BRM Advisory

1 Open Meeting

The Chair opened the meeting at 4.15pm.

2 Kaurna Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

3 Elected Member Declaration of Interest (if any)

The Chair asked if any member wished to disclose an interest in relation to any item being considered at the meeting

- Nil interests were disclosed.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee Meeting held on 18 February 2025

Report Reference FRAC250408R4.1

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Ms Oors-L'Estrange**

That the minutes of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee Meeting held on 18 February 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried Unanimously

5 Business Arising

5.1 Business Arising Statement - Action Items

Report Reference FRAC250408R5.1

Moved Naismith **Seconded Ms Davies**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Notes the business arising statement, meeting schedule and upcoming items.

Carried Unanimously

Order of Agenda

The Chair sought and was granted leave of the meeting to vary the order of the agenda and consider item 7.1 *Internal Audit 2023-25* next on the agenda.

7 Reports for Discussion

7.1 Internal Audit 2023-25

Report Reference FRAC250408R7.1

Mr Beere, Partner KPMG introduced the item commenting that the internal audit aimed to assess the effective implementation of the organisation's new Project Management Framework. It also considered the status of agreed management actions from the May 2022 audit.

Mr Hutson, Director Technology Risk SME, KPMG provided a summary of the findings commenting:

- The Audit noted improvements in project management capabilities since May 2022 with significant progress observed in governance and risk management.
- Some processes and controls need enhancement to better manage end-to-end project risk, especially in budget, contingency, and variation management.
- Lack of consistent templates and absence of a central Project Management System were identified as gaps. These tools are necessary for ensuring fit-for-purpose controls, leveraging past project learnings, and supporting data-driven decision-making.
- The Audit identifies next steps for ongoing maturity of practices to ensure teams are working well together.

- There were four medium findings relating to budget and financial management, contingency management, variation management and prioritisation, initiation and planning.
- Overall, teams are working well, taking on board lessons learned from the 2022 audit and working hard to address these actions. This audit identified what is working well and understanding tools and guidance needed to achieve the next level of maturity.

The Committee noted the report and provided the following feedback:

- The Committee queried how actual versus scheduled project costs are reported, including variance analysis, percent complete, and financial forecasting. Management confirmed that reporting occurs through the Project Control Board (PCB) monthly, focusing on projected vs actual costs and financial scope of the project.
- There was discussion around the Committee's role in financial oversight of projects. It was noted that while detailed project budgets are not reviewed by the Committee, holistic budget reviews and future-focused discussions on major projects are brought to the Committee through quarterly budget reviews, annual business plan and the long-term financial plan.
- Given the pressures from large capital projects, the Committee suggested biannual reviews into budget vs actual performance for key projects.
- The Committee noted that contingency and variation management remain a high-profile concern and asked what actions are being taken in response to the findings. It was confirmed that a risk-based contingency management approach has been agreed upon, with contingency ratings assigned based on project risk levels.
- Staff acknowledged the need for improved clarity and visibility around how variations are managed in relation to contingency allocations and spend. This remains a focus area for further development.
- The Committee discussed gaps in budgeting and financial management noting MCC Plaza which was identified through sample testing and whether the learnings are reflected in current practices. Management acknowledged this was in relation to marketing activities that were not budgeted and had to be funded from the contingency.
- Management noted significant enhancements to financial monitoring through the Executive Budget Committee (EBC), including improved tracking of cost centres used for individual projects. There is now stronger alignment with the Project Control Board (PCB) process compared to two years ago, enabling deeper analysis and oversight to reduce carryovers on major projects. In addition, there has been improved scheduling and sequencing of meetings to improve cash flow monitoring and overall project management visibility.
- The Committee emphasised the need for fit-for-purpose reporting tools for both project managers and executives in relation to budgeting and financial management and encouraged management to explore and test a number of alternate options. KMPG agreed noting that management needs to find what works for them.
- The Committee suggested standardising allocations for business support (e.g. 1.5% for marketing/advertising). Management indicated work is ongoing to embed such inclusions in budgeting templates and guidelines.
- The Committee discussed variation management noting the finding relates to variations being managed inconsistently, with changes to project scopes and designs being financed through contingency, while not being raised through a variation (or change) request.
- Management acknowledged there is an emphasis on strengthening project management discipline, with benefits realisation and consistency as key areas for improvement.
- The Committee discussed the Project Management Framework and noted that consistency is the focus, while there may be slightly different approaches if there is consistency in the methodology slight variations are acceptable.
- Overall, good progress has been made with further maturity achieved by tightening up some areas of improvement identified.

Action: Management to review existing dashboards and develop project financial reporting for the committee to review.

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Ms Oors-L'Estrange**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Notes the update to the internal audits currently underway.
2. Considers and provides any feedback on the Project Management Framework final report.

Carried Unanimously

The Chair adjourned the meeting for a period of 5 minutes to allow for a break.

4.44pm meeting adjourned
4.48pm meeting resumed

6 Confidential Items

6.1 Cover Report - Glandore Oval Redevelopment - S48 Prudential report

Report Reference FRAC250408F6.1

Moved Ms Oors-L'Estrange **Seconded Councillor Naismith**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Committee orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item FRAC250408R6.1 Glandore Oval Redevelopment - s48 Prudential report, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, General Manager Corporate Services, Manager Office of the CEO, Manager City Property, Manager City Activation, Unit Manager Property Strategy and Delivery, Unit Manager Property and Facilities, Sports & Community Facilities Officer, Project Manager Strategic Projects, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events, Media and Engagement Advisor, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support and Governance Officer, and Michael Richardson, Director from BRM Advisory to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Committee considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to negatively impact the outcomes for Council of a future construction tender process for the project and could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because be contrary to the public interest because it could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Committee should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

4.48pm the meeting went into confidence

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Ms Davies**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item FRAC250408R6.1 Glandore Oval Redevelopment - s48 Prudential report shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(b) of the Act, :
   - Attachment 1 – Glandore Oval Redevelopment – s 48 Prudential report.
   - Report
   - Minutes

   on the grounds that the document(s) relates to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council.

2. Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because it will compromise the ability for Council to ensure best value is obtained through the public tender process for construction works associated with the Glandore Oval redevelopment project.

3. Determines this order shall operate until execution of a contract for the Glandore Oval Construction works and will be reviewed every 12 months.

3. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried Unanimously

5.03pm the meeting came out of confidence

7.2 Internal Audit Program - Implementation of Recommendations

Report Reference FRAC250408R7.2

The Manager Office of the CEO provided a summary of the work undertaken since the previous Committee meeting to improve reporting on progress against audit recommendations. Management advised that a new dashboard reporting approach has been implemented for this reporting period. The focus has been on ensuring executive-level approvals and considered closure of actions, noting that work is continuing in this space. Management is aiming for a more concise summary in the next reporting cycle.

The Committee noted the Project Management Framework Internal Audit Report and provided the following feedback:

- The Committee requested access to the BI dashboard to allow deeper analysis of areas of interest. Management agreed to explore sharing the dashboard with the Committee.
- Management advised that some recommendations remain open by design and functionality of the software and will be reviewed.

- The Committee commented on the number of outstanding actions in the Collaborative Contract Management Audit. Management advised a new cross-council contract management role has been filled, with the appointee commencing shortly to support planning and progression of outstanding actions.
- The Committee encouraged a breakdown of action owners and better understanding of root causes behind recurring issues. Management advised some recommendations remain open by design of the software and will be reviewed and tabled with Executive to determine close-out status.
- Concerns were raised about some recommendations lacking defined risk ratings, and whether this could have an impact prioritisation and assurance. Management clarified that 'improvement opportunities' typically do not carry a risk rating but are still tracked. The Committee expressed that this may lead to confusion and requested clearer descriptors. Management will work with the BI team to address this.
- The Committee also queried consistency in assigning risk owners and whether individuals were adequately supported to own and close actions. Management acknowledged current system limitations, noting plans to resolve this through upcoming HRIS and data integration improvements. Action owners are actively engaged and tracked monthly.
- The team is working to escalate conversations around closure of actions to the appropriate Executive level. The BI reporting will continue to be refined to ensure it is both accurate and streamlined. A six-month timeframe was outlined for reporting improvements, which the Committee agreed was reasonable. Integration with broader risk reporting is also a current focus within the team.

ACTION: Management to explore the sharing of the BI Dashboard with the Committee to allow deeper analysis of areas of interest.

Moved Ms Davies **Seconded Ms Oors-L'Estrange**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Reviews and provides feedback on the Internal Audit Program (Attachment 1).

Carried Unanimously

7.3 2nd Budget Review 2024/25

Report Reference FRAC250408R7.3

The Chief Finance Officer introduced the item providing a high-level summary noting a forecast cash surplus of $1.2 million as at the end of January, reflecting favourable project movements, including the closeout of the Cove Sports Club upgrade. While some projects were under or over budget, the overall position remains strong. Cost pressures were noted, including asbestos-related works at Marino, and additional project allocations such as the soccer pitch.

Additional borrowings are forecast for land acquisition related to the coastal walking trail, with plans to resell unused parcels.

- The Committee noted the 2nd Budget Review Position commenting this was a good outcome and welcomed the positive outcome from the Cove Sports Club project, noting contingency savings resulted in the project coming in under the contract allowance.

- Management acknowledged potential funding announcements may contribute to additional cost pressures, however, highlighted the value of the Executive Budget Committee (EBC) process in enabling comprehensive, ongoing monitoring of actuals versus year-to-date figures. This supports proactive budget management beyond formal legislative reviews.

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Ms Oors-L'Estrange**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Notes the 2nd Budget Review position.

Carried Unanimously

8 Reports for Noting

8.1 Council Member Report

Report Reference FRAC250408R8.1

Moved Ms Davies **Seconded Councillor Naismith**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Notes this report.

Carried Unanimously

8.2 Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-26 & LTFP Update

Report Reference FRAC250408R8.2

Moved Ms Oors-L'Estrange **Seconded Councillor Naismith**

That the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee:

1. Note the verbal update on the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-26 and Long-Term Financial Plan

Carried Unanimously

9 Workshop / Presentation Items – Nil

10 Other Business – Nil

11 Meeting Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 5.25pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 3 DAY OF JUNE 2025

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CHAIRPERSON

10.2 Confirmation of Minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422R10.2
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive - Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to facilitate the receiving and noting of the minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A summary of items considered by the Committee Members is noted below.

Reports for Discussion

- Public EV Charging Stations
- Greening Open Space
- Glenthorne Master Plan Opportunities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Receives and notes the minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025.**
2. **Notes that separate reports will be brought to Council for consideration of any recommendations from the Infrastructure and Environment Committee.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. IE C 250408 - Final Public Minutes [**10.2.1** - 8 pages]

Minutes of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee held on Tuesday, 8 April 2025 at 6.30 pm
Council Chamber, Council Administration Centre
245 Sturt Road, Sturt

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor Kris Hanna

Councillor Joseph Masika	Councillor Jayne Hoffmann
Councillor Nathan Prior (from 6.32 pm)	Councillor Matt Taylor
Councillor Raelene Telfer	Councillor Renuka Lama (from 6.34 pm)
Councillor Luke Naismith	Councillor Jana Mates (Chair)
Councillor Jason Veliskou	Councillor Amar Singh
Councillor Sarah Luscombe	Councillor Ian Crossland (from 6.33 pm)

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison
General Manager City Services - Angela Allison
Acting General Manager City Development – Charmaine Hughes
Acting Manager City Activation - Alex Cortes
Manager Engineering, Assets & Environment – Mat Allen
Chief Financial Officer - Ray Barnwell
Manager Office of the CEO - Sarah Vinall
Senior Strategic & Policy Planner - David Barone
Manager Development and Regulatory Services - Gary Brinkworth
Executive Officer to the General Manager - Tracey Stringer

1 Open Meeting

The Chair opened the meeting at 6.31 pm.

2 Kaurna Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

3 Elected Member Declaration of Interest

The following interests were disclosed:

- Nil

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2025

Report Reference IEC250408R4.1

Moved Councillor Hoffman **Seconded Councillor Singh**

1. That the minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on 11 February 2025 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried Unanimously

5 Business Arising

5.1 Business Arising Statement - Action Items

Report Reference IEC250408R5.1

Moved Councillor Telfer **Seconded Councillor Taylor**

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Notes the business arising statement, meeting schedule and upcoming items.

Carried Unanimously

6.32 pm Councillor Prior entered the meeting

6 Confidential Items

6.1 Cover Report - Lot 707 Marion Road, Bedford Park Code Amendment and Shared Use Pathway

Report Reference IEC250408F6.1

Moved Councillor Naismith **Seconded Councillor Veliskou**

1. Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(m) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item IEC250408F6.1 - Lot 707 Marion Road, Bedford Park Code Amendment and Shared Use Pathway except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager, City Services, Chief Financial Officer, Acting General Manager City Development, Acting Manager City Activation, Manager Engineering, Assets and Environment, Manager Office of the Chief Executive, Manager Development and Regulatory Services, Senior Strategic Policy Planner and Executive Officer to the General Manager, to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected that information relating to the proposal to prepare or amend a designated instrument under part 5 division 2 of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 before the draft instrument or amendment is released for public consultation under the Act.

2. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

Carried Unanimously

6.33 pm the meeting went into confidence

6.33 pm Councillor Crossland entered the meeting
6.34 pm Councillor Lama entered the meeting

Moved Mayor Hanna **Seconded Councillor Taylor**

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Pursuant to section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, orders that the following document(s) relating to Agenda Item IEC250408F6.1 - Lot 707 Marion Road, Bedford Park Code Amendment and Shared Use Pathway shall be kept confidential, except when required to effect or comply with Council's resolution(s) regarding this matter, being document(s) relating to a matter dealt with by the Council on a confidential basis under sections 90(2) and 90(3)(m) of the Act,:
   - Report – IEC250408F6.1 - Lot 707 Marion Road, Bedford Park Code Amendment and Shared Use Pathway
   - Attachment 11.1.1 - Potential Stormwater Pipe Route Options
   - Attachment 11.1.2 - Potential Shared Use Path Route Options
   - Minutes – IEC250408F6.1 - Lot 707 Marion Road, Bedford Park Code Amendment and Shared Use Pathway

   on the grounds that the document(s) relates to information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to comprise information relating to a proposal to prepare or amend a designated instrument under Part 5 Division 2 of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 before the draft instrument or amendment is released for public consultation under that Act being, information relating to a proposal to amend the Planning and Design Code in relation to the suburb of Port Adelaide which has not yet been released for public consultation.

2. Determines this order shall operate until it is revoked and will be reviewed every 12 months.

3. Pursuant to section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to revoke this order in whole or part.

Carried Unanimously

7.00 pm the meeting came out of confidence

7 Reports for Discussion

7.1 Public EV Charging Stations

Report Reference IEC250408R7.1

Anita Saunders, Program Manager, Electric Vehicle Charging at RAA presented 'RAA Charge South Australia Electric Vehicle Charging Network'.

Background

The City of Port Adelaide Enfield and the City of Marion undertook a collaborative RFP process for public EV Charging Stations on council land. Conditions of the RFP included no cost to the councils for the supply and installation and maintenance, adopting a consumer-charge model. The presentation included proposed site locations and an overview of RAA's public EV charging network across South Australia, partially funded by the State Government; RAA identified EV charging gaps in the Marion area.

Next steps include finalising site host agreements, permits, capacity of each site and parking controls.

Discussion

- RAA's business model was discussed; members sought further detail regarding the type/kw of EV charging stations, their cost and efficiency for users.
- Suggested alternative/additional sites for EV charging stations.
- Members agreed the current suggested locations is a good starting point, cautioning against reducing the number of car parking bays near community facilities.

Moved Mayor Hanna **Seconded Councillor Luscombe**

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Notes the public EV charging station update and presentation from RAA.

2. Notes that approval to enter into Section 221 and Section 222 permits for the proposed public EV charging station locations will be presented for endorsement at the General Council meeting to be held on 27 May 2025.

Carried

7.2 Greening Open Space

Report Reference IEC250408R7.2

Background

The Open Space Plan 2024 – 2034 endorsed May 2024 allows for irrigation upgrades. The next review of the Open Space Plan is a mid-life review scheduled for 2028/29.

At the Council Members Planning Day in January 2025 the opportunity to irrigate additional reserves was discussed; Members requested analysis of the unirrigated reserves to be provided for review. Irrigating additional reserves contributes to environmental cooling, climate resilience and recreation.

Staff provided an update on the work that has been done since the Planning Day, including Irrigation analysis, design constraints, construction and cost considerations.

Discussion

Members discussed irrigating the 53 additional reserves, noting:

- The program is currently unfunded, both capital cost and ongoing maintenance
- A more detailed analysis/ranking of the 53 reserves is required to assist Council with their assessment of the reserves
- Deferring the program until the Open Space Plan is due for review was also discussed
- Limitations of the current decision Tool were discussed, requiring further discussion and investigation

Moved Councillor Telfer **Seconded Mayor Hanna**

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee adjourn the item until the March 2027 General Council meeting.

The vote was tied
The Chair made a casting vote and voted against the motion
The motion was lost

Moved Councillor Masika **Seconded Councillor Crossland**

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Note the information on the delivery process and cost implications of expanding the number of open spaces that are irrigated.

2. Recommend that Council request that Administration to provide a revised irrigation support tool matrix considering the inclusion of factors such as: demonstrated community demand, availability of purple pipe supply, capital costs, operating costs, current Open Space planning relating to the 53 proposed sites, to be presented at the General Council meeting in June 2025.

Carried

8.31pm Councillor Masika left the meeting and did not return
8.31pm Councillor Naismith left the meeting
8.32pm Councillor Crossland left the meeting and did not return
8.32pm Councillor Hoffman left the meeting and did not return

8.34pm Councillor Naismith re-entered the meeting

7.3 Glenthorne Master Plan Opportunities
Report Reference IEC250408R7.3

Background

Staff spoke about the Glenthorne National Park Master Plan (2020) and possible development opportunities subject to rezoning of some of the land, noting:

- The current zoning is (Conservation Zone (National Park) and Hills Face Zone (private land areas) - limits land use
- A rezoning of selected land would allow for new opportunities
- Staff sought feedback and support for progressing a Code Amendment and the suggested policy direction.

Discussion

Council have invested in the Glenthorne National Park; support small parcels be rezoned for additional use; risk with rezoning potentially is competition for the site

Moved Mayor Hanna **Seconded Councillor Prior**

That the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

1. Notes the Briefing Paper and supports the proposal to prepare a Code Amendment to rezone the parcels fronting Majors Road at O'Halloran Hill to:

    a. better support a broader range of community, recreation, tourism land uses along with associated small-scale commercial and retail land uses; and
    b. maintain the values of the natural and landscape character of this location

2. Seeks that staff prepare a Proposal to Initiate a Code Amendment for Council endorsement in May.

3. Seeks that the CEO writes to the CEO of the Department for Environment and Water advising of Council's intent to prepare a Code Amendment and seeking the Department's support and ongoing collaboration for this process.

carried Unanimously

8 Reports for Noting - Nil

9 Workshop / Presentation Items - Nil

10 Other Business - Nil

11 Meeting Closure

The meeting was declared closed at 8.53 pm

CONFIRMED THIS 10 DAY OF JUNE 2025

_____

CHAIRPERSON

11 Confidential Items

11.1 Cover Report - Confirmation of Minutes of the Confidential Finance, Risk and Audit Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422F11.1
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive - Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Local Government Act (SA) 1999 S 90 (2) 3

(b) information the disclosure of which (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC250422F11.1 except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, General Manager Corporate Services, Manager Office of the CEO, Manager City Property, Manager City Activation, Unit Manager Property Strategy and Delivery, Unit Manager Property and Facilities, Sports & Community Facilities Officer, Project Manager Strategic Projects, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events, Media and Engagement Advisor, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support and Governance Officer, to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to negatively impact the outcomes for Council of a future construction tender process for the project and could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because be contrary to the public interest because it could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender. 3. Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

11.2 Cover Report - Confirmation of Minutes of the Confidential Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting held on 8 April 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422F11.2
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive - Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Local Government Act (SA) 1999 S 90 (2) 3

(m) information relating to a proposal to prepare or amend a designated instrument under Part 5 Division 2 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* before the draft instrument or amendment is released for public consultation under that Act

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(m) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC250422F11.2, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, General Manager Corporate Services, Manager Office of the CEO, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support, Governance Officer, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events and Media and Engagement Adviser, to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected that information relating to the proposal to prepare or amend a designated instrument under part 5 division 2 of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 before the draft instrument or amendment is released for public consultation under the Act.

Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

11.3 Cover Report - Raglan Avenue Streetscape Upgrade	
Report Reference	GC250422F11.3
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager Engineering, Assets and Environment - Mathew Allen
General Manager	General Manager City Services - Angela Allison

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Local Government Act (SA) 1999 S 90 (2) 3

(b) information the disclosure of which (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item *GC250422F11.3 Raglan Avenue Streetscape Upgrade*, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Corporate Services, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Office of the Chief Executive Office, Manager Engineering, Assets and Environment, Unit Manager Engineering, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support, Governance Officer, Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events and Media and Engagement Adviser to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- financial information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the council during negotiations with a third party.

Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because disclosure of financial information may adversely affect negotiations with a third party.

Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

11.4 Cover Report - Glandore Oval redevelopment	
Report Reference	GC250422F11.4
Originating Officer	Business Support Officer - Governance and Council Support – Cassidy Mitchell
Corporate Manager	Manager City Activation - Charmaine Hughes
General Manager	General Manager City Development - Ben Keen

REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY

Local Government Act (SA) 1999 S 90 (2) 3

(i) information relating to actual litigation, or litigation that the council or council committee believes on reasonable grounds will take place, involving the council or an employee of the council

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Council orders that the public be excluded from attendance at that part of this meeting relating to Agenda Item GC250422F11.4 – Glandore Oval redevelopment, except the following persons: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager Corporate Services, General Manager City Development, General Manager City Services, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Office of the Chief Executive Office, Manager City Activation, Project Manager Strategic Projects, Unit Manager Governance and Council Support, Governance Officer Unit Manager Engagement, Media and Events and Media and Engagement Adviser to enable the Council to consider the Item in confidence on the basis the Council considers it necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public (excepting those persons listed above) in order to receive, discuss or consider in confidence the following information or matter relating to the Item:- information the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to negatively impact the outcomes for Council of a future construction tender process for the project and could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

Notes the disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest because be contrary to the public interest because it could infer a financial advantage to another entity when the project is opened to tender.

Determines, on this basis, the principle that meetings of the Council should be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed by the need to keep consideration of the information or matter confidential.

12 Corporate Reports for Decision

12.1 Council Member Representative for the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422R12.1
Originating Officer	Governance Officer – Amey Johnson
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive - Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to appoint a Council Member to fill the vacant position on the Finance Risk and Audit Committee for the remainder of the term, concluding 30 November 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee is an independent advisory committee of Council, established under the *Local Government Act 1999*. Its membership comprises two Council Members, one proxy Council Member and three independent members. At the General Council Meeting held on 24 October 2024, Councillor Naismith and Councillor Taylor were appointed to the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee, with Councillor Mates appointed as the proxy member for the term of 30 November 2024 to 30 November 2025.

In April 2025, Councillor Naismith resigned from the Finance Risk and Audit Committee, resulting in a vacancy for one Council Member position. Nominations will be sought during the meeting to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the term.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Notes Councillor Naismith's resignation from the Finance Risk and Audit Committee effective 9 April 2025.**
2. **Appoints Councillor XX to the Finance Risk and Audit Committee for the remainder of the term, concluding on 30 November 2025.**

DISCUSSION

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee (the Committee) is a formally constituted committee of Council established under Sections 41 and 126 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and is directly responsible to Council. The Committee operates as an independent and objective advisory body and does not hold any delegated authority to make decisions or implement actions in areas where the Chief Executive Officer has delegation. As outlined in the Committee's Terms of Reference, membership comprises two Council Members, one proxy Council Member, and three independent members. One Council Member must be present at each meeting to reach quorum.

At the General Council Meeting held on 24 October 2024, Councillor Naismith and Councillor Taylor were appointed as Council Member representatives on the Committee, with Councillor Mates appointed as the proxy member for the term of 30 November 2024 to 30 November 2025.

In April 2025, Councillor Naismith resigned from the Committee resulting in a vacancy for one Council Member position for the remainder of the current term. This impacts on 3 scheduled

meetings: 3 June 2025, 12 August 2025 (joint workshop with Council), and 14 October 2025. Meetings are currently held from 4-6pm, with the schedule determined annually by the Committee.

Nominations from Council Members are now sought to fill the vacant position to 30 November 2025. If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies, a secret ballot will be conducted using the preferential voting method. Further details regarding the voting process are provided in **Attachment 1.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Process for meeting ballot [**12.1.1** - 1 page]

Attachment 1 - Process for meeting ballot

At its meeting of 8 September 2015 (GC080915R05), Council resolved to adopt preferential voting as the method to apply when conducting ballots for positions selected by Council.

The process to apply will be as follows:

- Nominations will be sought.
- If more nominations than positions are received, a secret ballot will be held.
- Council members will be provided with ballot papers and requested to indicate their first preference by placing the name of the candidate next to number one of the ballot paper.
- Council members may place the name of the second preference next to number two and continue this process until all candidates are named on the ballot paper.
- As a minimum, Council members must vote for candidates equal to the number of positions. For example, the DAP has three positions. If there are six candidates, members must vote for at least three. If members fail to vote for the minimum number, the vote will be declared invalid.

  Counting

- The first candidate to reach quota will be elected.
- The quota is calculated as follows:

  $$\frac{\text{Total number of formal ballots papers}}{\text{Number of vacancies} + 1} + 1$$

  If a fraction occurs, it will be rounded up. This formula is the same applied to the calculations of quotas within Local Government Elections.
- The ballot papers will be sorted by first preference votes.
- The candidate with the least votes is excluded.
- The excluded candidate's votes are distributed to the next candidate on the ballot paper.
- In the case where there are equal votes at the conclusion of re-distribution of votes, they will both be excluded.
- This process will continue until there is a clear winner.
- In the event that there is a tie at the conclusion of the process, Council will be requested to vote again for one of the two final candidates.

Once a nominee is identified, this will then be voted upon as a formal council resolution under the Local Government (Procedures) Regulations at meetings.

12.2 Discretionary Rates Rebate	
Report Reference	GC250422R12.2
Originating Officer	Team Leader Financial Services – Glinys Watts
Corporate Manager	Chief Financial Officer – Ray Barnwell
General Manager	General Manager Corporate Services – Tony Lines

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to present Council Members with options for the granting of discretionary rate rebates.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Act 1999* provides for rebates of rates, on either a mandatory (Sections 160 to 165) or discretionary (Section 166) basis of 100% or less. Section 166 of the *Local Government Act 1999* permits a council to grant a rebate of rates (i.e. discretionary rebate) for various purposes including:

1. Where the rebate provides relief against a substantial change in rates due to rapid changes or anomalies in valuations.
2. Where the rebate is desirable for securing the proper development of the area.
3. Where the land is being used:
   - for educational purposes
   - to provide facilities or services for children or young persons.
   - to provide accommodation for the aged or disabled.
   - to provide a benefit or service to the local community.

The discretionary rebate granted can be up to and including 100 per cent of the relevant rates and may, for example, apply where a not-for-profit community services organisation does not fall within the mandatory provision.

Following discussion at a Council Member forum, Members requested a review of the criteria used to evaluate applicants and an option to review and potentially phase out rebates that have been in place for many years that may not meet the refined criteria.

The City of Marion currently has 7 organisations, which fall under category 3 above, in receipt of a discretionary rebate, totaling $23,990 per annum.

The impact of evaluating the current recipients of a discretionary rebate under the proposed refined criteria would see discretionary rebates reduce from $23,990 per annum to $9,181 per annum.

Given that City of Marion only has seven organisations receiving discretionary rebates Council may also consider phasing them out over a 3-year period.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Approves the following refined criteria to evaluate applicants for a discretionary rebate:**
   a. **Discretionary rebates will only be provided to not-for-profit organisations.**
   b. **Discretionary rebates will only be provided to organisations providing services to the City of Marion community without charge or for a charge that is below cost.**
   c. **Discretionary rebates will not be provided to organisations that are also receiving a mandatory rebate under Section 160 of the Local Government Act.**
   d. **Consistent percentages will be applied depending on the nature of the organisation.**
      i. **Organisations providing services/benefits to children or youth – 50%**
      ii. **Organisations providing services/benefits to the local community – 25%**
      iii. **Organisations providing accommodation to community members with a disability – 50%**
   e. **Discretionary rebates will not be provided to:**
      i. **Organisations operating from council-owned property**
      ii. **Sporting organisations**
      iii. **Private and not-for-profit residential aged care facilities**
      iv. **Private residential properties – with the exception of a residential construction rebate or a residential rebate where there has been a rapid change, or an anomaly, in valuation**
2. **Notes that the above criteria will be applied to existing and future discretionary rate rebates applications.**

OR

3. **Given that City of Marion only has seven organisations receiving discretionary rate rebates, phases out all rebates over a 3-year period as follows.**
   a. **Year 1 – organisations in receipt of a mandatory rebate will not also be entitled to a discretionary rebate, hence their discretionary rebate will be removed.**
   b. **Year 2 – discretionary rebates be reduced to a maximum of 50%.**
   c. **Year 3 – remove all discretionary rebates.**

DISCUSSION

Applying for a Discretionary Rate Rebate

Any persons or bodies seeking a discretionary rebate are required to submit an application form (available on the City of Marion website) to council and provide council such information as stipulated on the application form and any other information that council may reasonably require.

The Rates Team reviews and evaluates the application form for initial eligibility under Section 166 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and Council's criteria. Following assessment, eligible applicants are included in the Rate Rebate report for Council's consideration and approval in June each year. Each discretionary rebate is listed in this report including a recommendation based on the criteria in Section 166 of the Act as to whether council should grant the rebate. Any new applications are also included in this report for consideration.

Criteria for Granting a Discretionary Rebate

On receipt of a new discretionary rebate application, Council gives special consideration to applicants who can demonstrate that the organisation is not-for-profit and:

- The land is being used to provide facilities or services for children or young persons, or
- The land is being used by an organisation which, in the opinion of Council, provides a benefit or service to the local community.

Further criteria that Council must consider are:

- The nature and extent of council services provided in respect of the land for which the rebate is sought in comparison to similar services provided elsewhere in the area; and
- The community need that is being met by activities carried out on the land for which the rebate is sought; and
- The extent to which activities carried out on the land for which the rebate is sought provides assistance or relief to disadvantaged persons, and
- May take into account other matters considered relevant by Council.

Current Recipients of a Discretionary Rates Rebate

Currently there are 7 organisations in receipt of a discretionary rate rebate on 10 properties:
1. South Adelaide Squash Centre
2. Plympton Sub-branch Returned & Services League
3. Abbeyfield Australia
4. Operation Flinders
5. The Scout Association of South Australia
6. Foodbank of South Australia Inc.
7. Suneden Special School

The rebate ranges from 25% to 100% and in the 2024-2025 financial year totaled $23,990. **Attachment 1** provides a summary of the recipients and their rebates.

Most of these discretionary rebates are historical with the rebates to Scout Association of SA and Suneden School dating back to 2000-2001.

Comparison with Other Councils

As part of the review, staff reached out to other councils for comparison but received limited information to support a comprehensive comparison. Most councils do offer some form of discretionary rebate, and it was noted that:
- All Council's criteria for receipt of a discretionary rebate are based around Section 166 of the Local Government Act 1999.
- Some Councils provide discretionary rebates at a higher total dollar value than City of Marion, but comparison is difficult because of inconsistent recording of discretionary rebates between Councils.
- Whilst all the councils sampled had their Rebate Form on their website, none actively promoted it.
- Some councils provided specific guidance in their rates policies as to what they would or would not provide a discretionary rebate for. For example, one council stipulated they will not provide discretionary rebates to private residential properties or private and not-for-profit residential aged care facilities.

The City of Marion provides two further types of rebates granted under Section 166 of the Act:

Residential construction rebate – Section 166 (1) (a) of the Act provides for the discretionary rebate of rates for the purpose of securing the proper development of the area. Council grants a residential construction rebate to vacant land being developed by applying the residential rate in the dollar.

There is no proposed change to residential construction rebates.

Residential rate rebate – Section 166 (l) (ii) of the Act provides for the discretionary rebate of rates where there has been a rapid change, or an anomaly, in valuation. Council grants a residential rate

rebate to any increase in general rates above 10 per cent (2024-2025) when compared to the general rates for the previous year for those that meet qualifying criteria.

There is no proposed change to residential rate rebates.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Summary of the recipients and their rebates [**12.2.1** - 2 pages]

Appendix 1

Discretionary 25%	**Reason for Discretionary Rates Rebate (per legislation)**	**Rebated Since**		**Current Rebate**	**Rebate Under Revised Criteria**
South Adelaide Squash Centre Recreational activity provided by a Not-for-Profit organisation.	Provides a benefit/service to the local community	2019-20	**Rate $** 4,907	**Rebate $** 1,227	$0
Total			4,907	1,227	0
Discretionary 50%		**Rebated Since**			**Rebate Under Revised Criteria**
Plympton Sub-Branch RSL Support for service / ex-service community	Provides a benefit/service to the local community	2004-05	**Rate $** 5,128	**Rebate $** 2,564	$1,282
Abbeyfield Australia Supported accommodation for adults with mild intellectual disability.	Provides accommodation for aged or disabled.	2005-06	2,927	1,464	$1,464
Total			8,055	4,028	$2,746
Discretionary 75%		**Rebated Since**			**Rebate Under Revised Criteria**
Operation Flinders		2017-18	**Rate $** 6,313	**Rebate $** 4,735	$3,157

Registered charity providing programs for disadvantaged youth.	Provides facilities/services for young persons				
Total			6,313	4,735	$3,157
Discretionary 100%		**Rebated Since**			**Rebate Under Revised Criteria**
The Scout Assoc of South Australia (3 properties) Leadership and life skills programs for youth.	Provides services/facilities for children	2000-01	**Rate $** 6,555	**Rebate $** 6,555	$3278
Total			6,555	6,555	$3278
Mandatory 75% and Discretionary 25%		**Rebated Since**			**Rebate Under Revised Criteria**
Foodbank of South Australia (2 properties) Distribution of surplus food to those in need.		2003-04	**Rate $** 14,635	**Discretionary Rebate** 3,659	$0
Suneden Specialist School Not for profit school providing education and care for children with disabilities.	Provides services/facilities for children	2000-01	15,146	3,786	$0
Total			29,781	7,445	$0

12.3 Streetscape Plan	
Report Reference	GC250422R12.3
Originating Officer	Co-ordinator Streetscape Design – Cain Jeffery
Corporate Manager	Manager Engineering, Assets and Environment - Mathew Allen
General Manager	General Manager City Services - Angela Allison

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to seek council endorsement of the draft Streetscape Plan 2025 – 2029.

REPORT HISTORY

Report Reference	Report Title
IEC240409R7.1	Streetscape Report
IEC240910R7.3	Streetscape Program – Prioritisation Matrix Review
GC241126R12.10	Draft Streetscape Plan 2025 - 2029

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Marion has developed a draft Streetscape Plan (2025-2029) to enhance key urban areas through environmentally sustainable infrastructure and improved pedestrian and cyclist connectivity. Three priority projects were identified with an estimated total budget of $8.3 million.

- Newland Avenue, Marino (2025/26)
- Adams Road, Trott Park (2026/27)
- Norfolk Road, Marion (2028/29)

Community consultation was conducted on the draft Streetscape Plan from 28 November 2024 to 14 February 2025, gathering feedback through online surveys, social media engagement and information at council facilities.

A total of 178 survey responses were received. The draft Streetscape Plan received 84% of respondents expressing support and 92% agreeing that the council should continue prioritising and investing in streetscape upgrades. Key priorities identified by the community included footpaths, street trees, and water-sensitive urban design, with safety improvements ranked as the most beneficial aspect of the program. While many respondents supported the plan, some expressed neutral opinions on specific projects, likely due to a lack of direct impact or availability of detailed design.

Based on the feedback, staff will undertake engagement with the community directly impacted by the project at the design stage of each project should the draft Streetscape Plan is endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Note the Streetscape Plan Community Feedback report (Attachment 1)**
2. **Endorse the draft Streetscape Plan 2025 – 2029 (Attachment 2)**

BACKGROUND

The City of Marion developed a draft Streetscape Plan (2025-2029) to enhance urban infrastructure, focusing on environmental sustainability, pedestrian and cyclist accessibility, and overall streetscape improvements. The plan was developed following feedback from the Infrastructure and Environment Committee on streetscape project prioritisation, service levels, and funding.

Following the Council's review, the option supported by the Committee included the delivery of three key projects within the allocated budget of $8.3 million over four years:

- Newland Avenue, Marino
- Adams Road, Trott Park
- Norfolk Road, Marion

While a fourth project was highlighted as a priority for Perry Barr Road, Hallett Cove, due to the available budget the project was deferred, and it remains a priority for future planning. Additional projects will be considered based on data from community engagement, asset condition, transport studies, and sustainability objectives.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The community consultation was conducted between 28 November 2024 and 14 February 2025 to assess public support for the Draft Streetscape Plan and gather input on key priorities. The engagement process included:

- Online survey via the Making Marion platform
- Social media campaign on Facebook and LinkedIn
- Banners at proposed upgrade locations
- Newsletters (Making Marion: 5,400 subscribers, eTalk: 7,000 subscribers)
- Hard copy surveys at key council venues

Key Findings

A total of 178 responses were received from the survey:

- 84% of respondents were somewhat or strongly supportive of the Streetscape Plan.
- 92% agreed that council should continue prioritising and delivering streetscape upgrades.
- Footpaths and Street Trees were ranked as the most important streetscape elements.
- Water Sensitive Urban Design and Car Parking Safety Improvements followed as high-priority aspects.
- Environmental enhancements were prioritized over accessibility for cyclists and pedestrians and support for local businesses.
- Many respondents acknowledged the contribution of streetscapes to liveability, sustainability, and community connection.

However, respondents were neutral regarding support for individual projects. Possible reasons for this include:

- Lack of detailed project designs for review.
- Respondents not residing near proposed project areas.

Closing the Loop

Upon Council endorsement, the final Streetscape Plan 2025-2029 will be uploaded to Making Marion along with the community feedback report. Participants who wanted to be kept up to date on the plan, will receive an email acknowledging their contribution and providing them with a direct link to the Making Marion project website where they can review the feedback report and final plan.

Participants' contributions have been acknowledged. Where respondents have identified a service request this has been lodged in the customer request system for action.

DISCUSSION

The total budget of $8.3 million across the 3 projects over 4 financial years is currently within the long-term financial plan. Opportunities for grants will be pursued over the term of this plan and any successful grant funding will also be reported through council to ensure transparency and the success of the Streetscape Plan.

It is anticipated that the plan will be reviewed every 2 years, with an updated priority matrix and projects to be included in future iterations of this plan.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Feedback Report - Streetscape Plan [**12.3.1** - 24 pages]
2. Draft Streetscape Plan (2025-2029) [**12.3.2** - 16 pages]

Streetscapes Plan 2025-2029

Community Feedback Report February 2025

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CITY OF MARION

Executive summary

1.0 Consultation purpose and timeline

The purpose of consulting on the draft Streetscape Plan 2025-2029 was to obtain the community's feedback on:

- The support level of the Streetscapes program
- What the community prioritise as their most important streetscape element and aspect
- Whether council should be prioritising and investing in the projects

The consultation period ran from 28 November 2024 until 14 February 2025.

2.0 Survey responses

- Overall, 178 responses were received via the making Marion survey
- 84% of responses (149) were either somewhat or strongly supportive of the Streetscape Plan
- 92% of responses (163) either somewhat or strongly agreed that council should continue to prioritise and deliver streetscape upgrades
- Footpaths and Street Trees were ranked as the most important elements of a streetscape followed by Water Sensitive Urban Design, and Car parking
- Safety Improvements was ranked as the most beneficial aspect of the streetscapes program. Environmental enhancements followed ahead of Accessibility for Cyclists and Pedestrians and Support for Local Businesses
- Respondents agreed that streetscapes can contribute to our vision of a liveable, sustainable community

Streetscapes can contribute to:	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neutral	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree
Liveability	1%	1%	6%	25%	67%
A sense of Community	1%	1%	10%	24%	64%
Sustainability	1%	2%	7%	32%	58%

Executive summary

- When asked to indicate their support level for individual streetscape projects, responses were more neutral.
- This is perhaps because respondents don't live, work or play nearby or use the proposed project locations.

Support for proposed project	Strongly do not support	Somewhat do not support	Neutral	Somewhat support	Strongly support
Newland Avenue	6%	4%	42%	26%	23%
Adams Road	6%	3%	38%	30%	24%
Norfolk Road	5%	3%	33%	37%	23%

Feedback themes

Some key themes emerged from the comments provided in the feedback that included:

1. Parking, congestion and traffic safety

Comments indicated that higher density housing with less parking provision was a factor.

2. Street accessibility, maintenance, beautification and greening

Comments highlighted the perceived poor quality of some footpaths and the requirement for more consistent maintenance programs to keep green spaces healthy.

3. Community safety, engagement and local amenity upgrades

Comments were received relating to personal safety and anti-social behaviour with improved lighting to improve safety in public spaces seen as a possible solution.

Engagement Snapshot

Community consultation commenced on 28/11/2024 and closed on 14/02/2025.

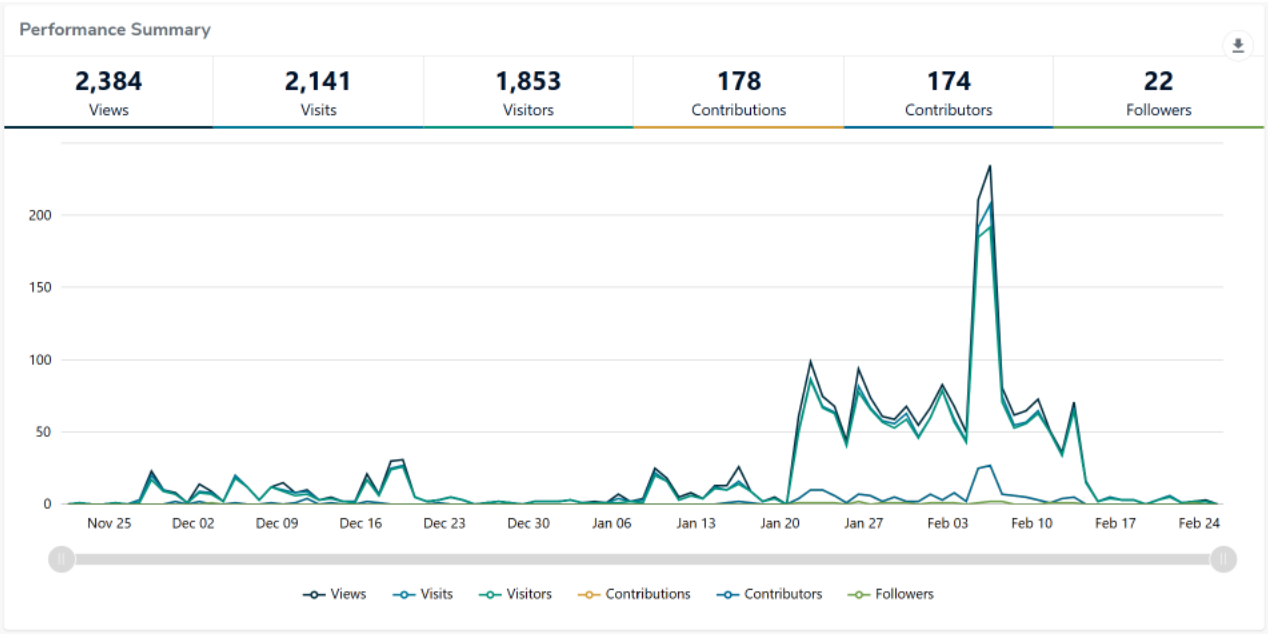
How we engaged:

- Social media campaign
- Banners in proposed upgrade locations
- Making Marion page and online survey
- Making Marion newsletter (5,400 subscribers)
- eTalk newsletter (7,000 subscribers)
- Hard copy plans and surveys at key council venues

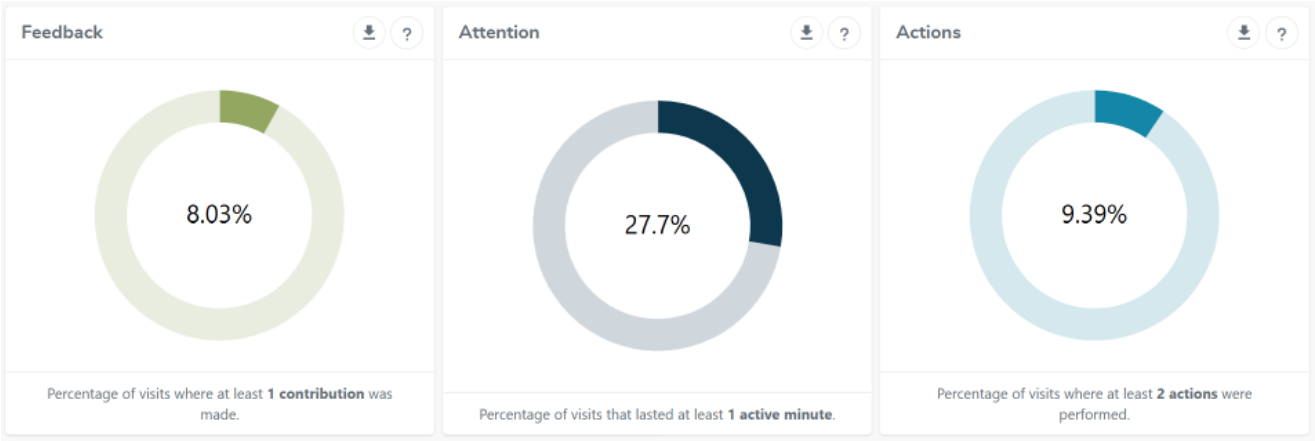


Engagement Snapshot

Overview



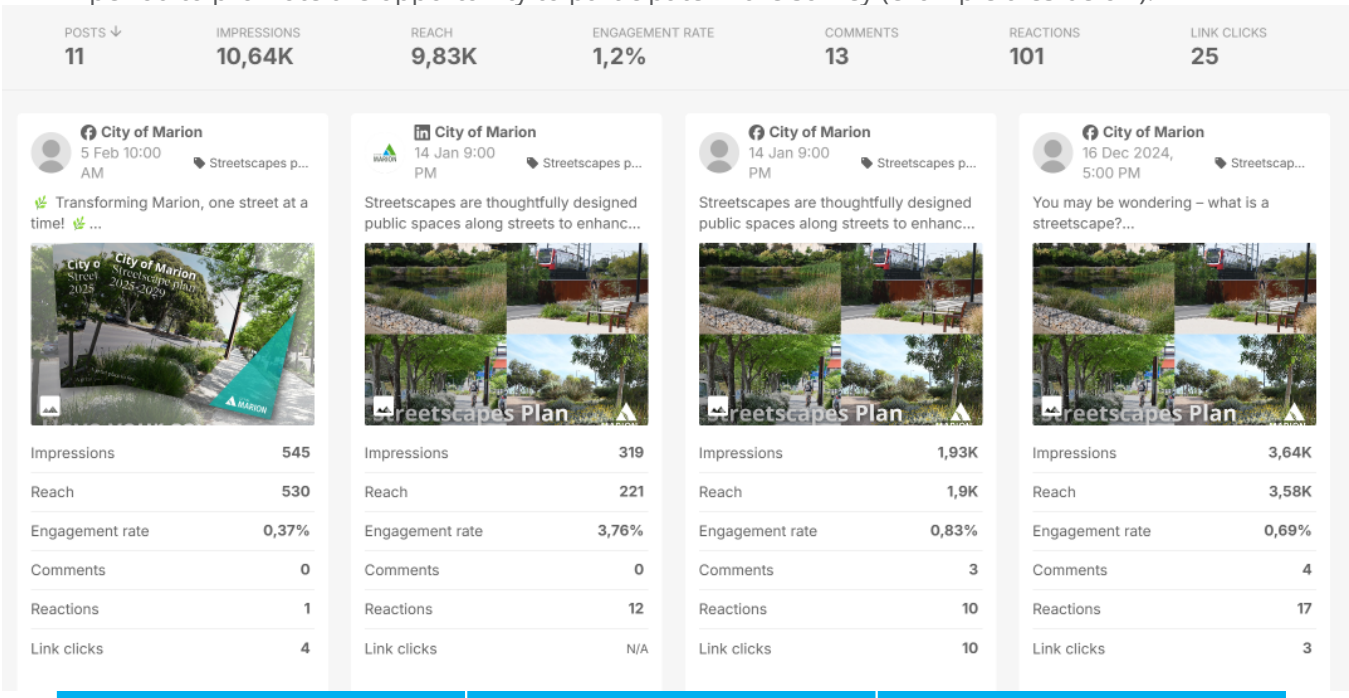
Conversions



Social media campaign

Content:

The campaign used consisted of LinkedIn and Facebook posts throughout the consultation period to promote the opportunity to participate in the survey (example tiles below).



Posts	Impressions	Reactions
11	10,64K	101
Reach	**Engagements**	**Engagement Rate**
9,83K	114	1.2%

Impressions - show the number of times your content was displayed to these users.

Reach - shows the number of unique users that were exposed to your content. If the same person sees one of your posts three times, the Impressions would be 3 but the Reach metric would only count 1.

Engagements - inform about how many times users engaged with a post during their lifetime. Engagement is seen as the combined number of reactions to, comments on, and shares of a post.

Engagement Rate: Calculated by the total engagements a post received divided by the total number of impressions on that post.

Reactions - Reactions are a type of engagement with your Facebook content. They are comprised of the total amount of Love, Haha, Wow, Sad, Angry, and Like actions that users took on your post. This can be reported on in the Measure module.

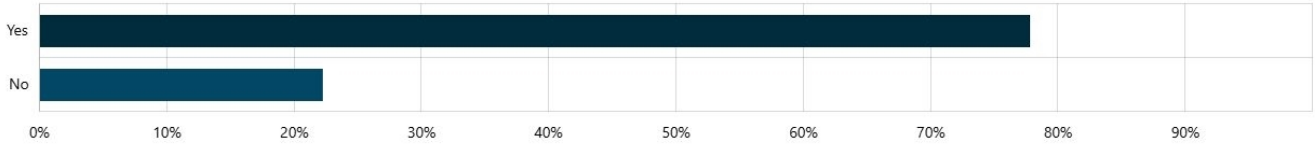
Participant suburbs (suburb)

Suburb	Responses	% of responses
Adelaide	1	1%
Ascot Park	4	2%
Bridgewater	1	1%
Clovelly park	3	2%
Darlington	1	1%
Dover Gardens	4	2%
Edwardstown	6	3%
Glandore	1	1%
Glengowrie	7	4%
Hallett Cove	42	24%
Marino	9	5%
Marion	10	6%
Mitchell Park	6	3%
Morphettville	1	1%
Oaklands Park	10	6%
O'Halloran Hill	1	1%
Park Holme	2	1%
Plympton Park	9	5%
Seacliff	2	1%
Seacliff Park	3	2%
Seacombe Gardens	6	3%
Seacombe Heights	5	3%
Seaview Downs	2	1%
Sheidow Park	14	8%
South Plympton	5	3%
Sturt	3	2%
Tonsley	1	1%
Trott Park	7	4%
Warradale	6	3%

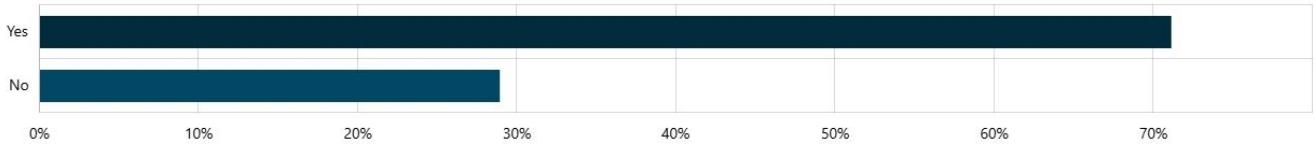
Note: those suburbs highlighted in red are outside the City of Marion

Participant responses

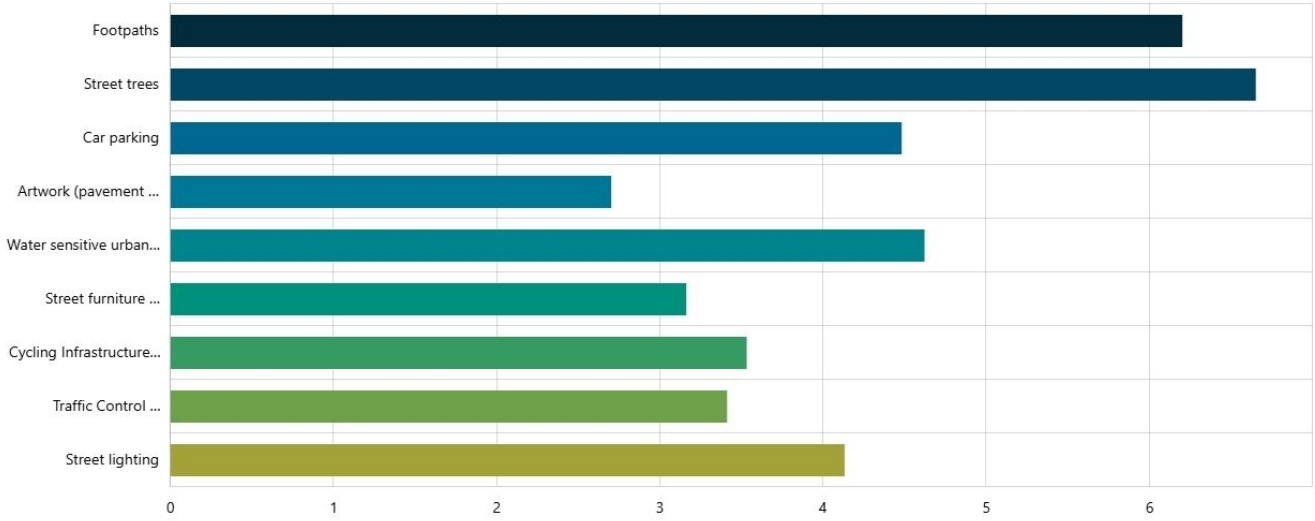
Would you like to be kept informed? (171 responses)



Are you aware of the Streetscapes Program? (173 responses)

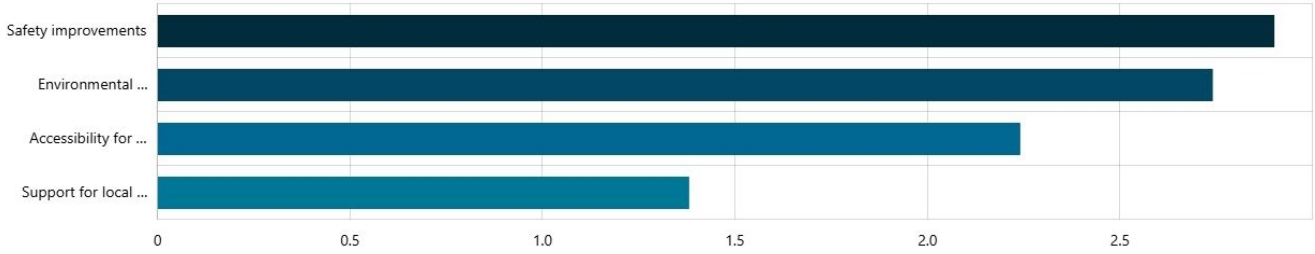


Which streetscape elements are most important to you (please rank)? (162 responses)

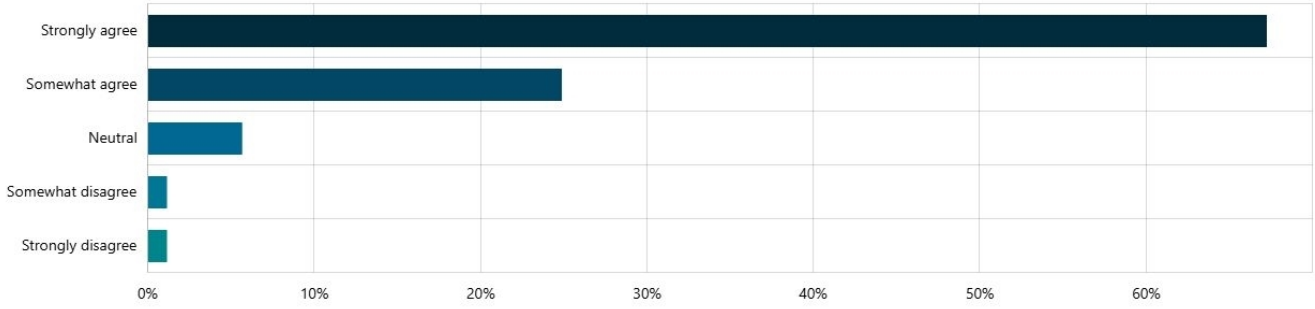


Participant responses

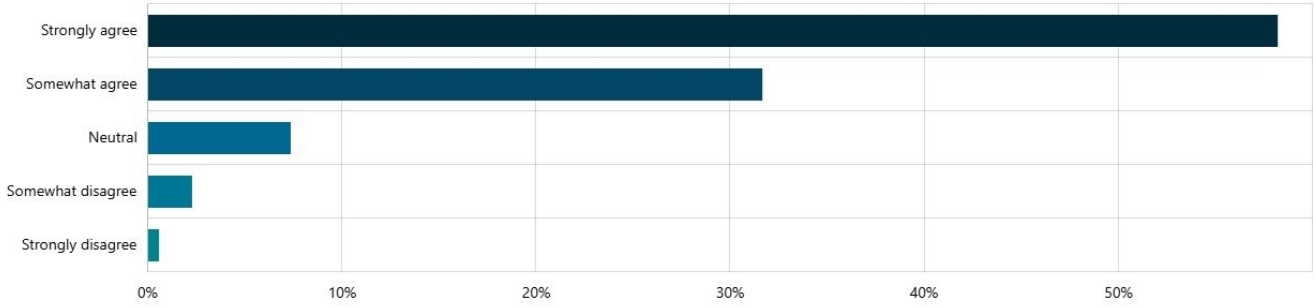
What aspects of the Streetscapes Program do you think are most beneficial to the community, please rank? (160 responses)



Do you agree that streetscapes can contribute to the liveability of the council area? (177 responses)

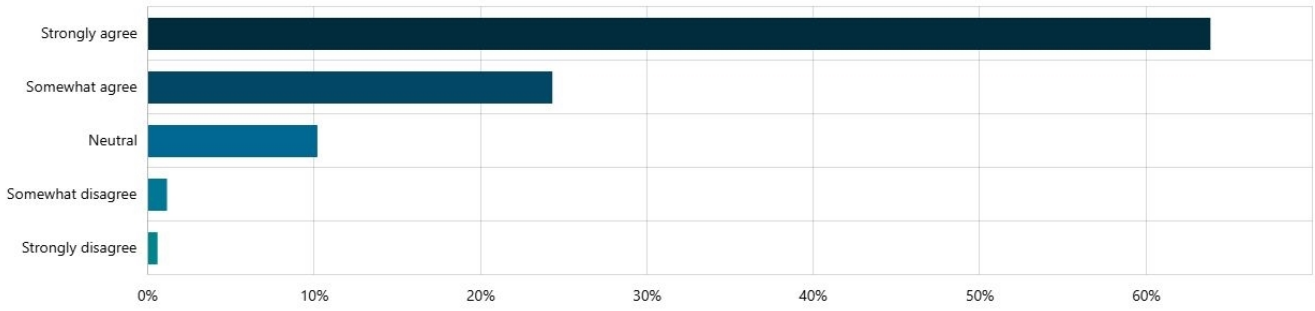


Do you agree that streetscapes can contribute to the sustainability of the council area? (177 responses)

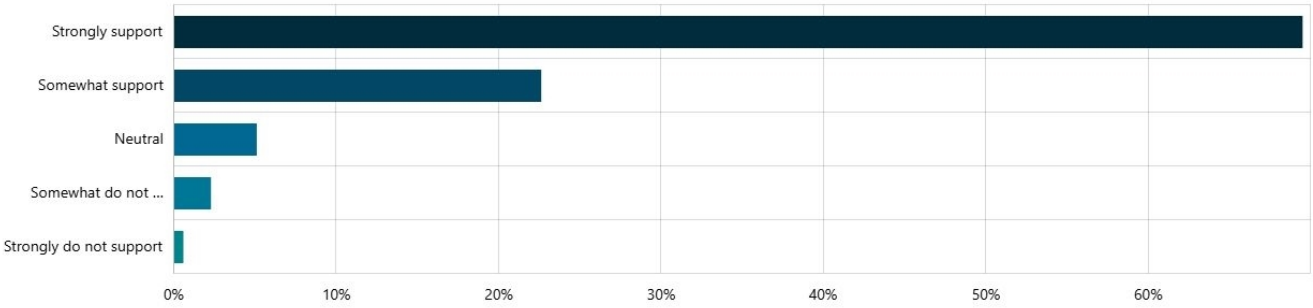


Participant responses

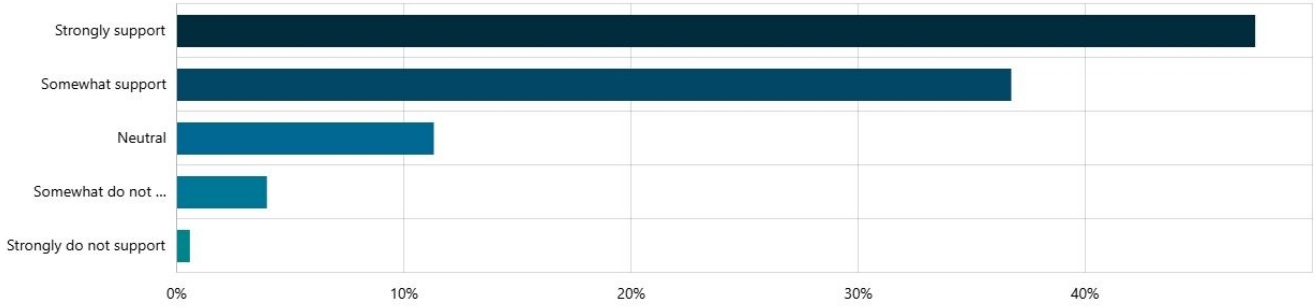
Do you agree that streetscapes can contribute to a sense of community? (177 responses)



Do you support Council continuing to prioritise and upgrade our streetscapes? (177 responses)

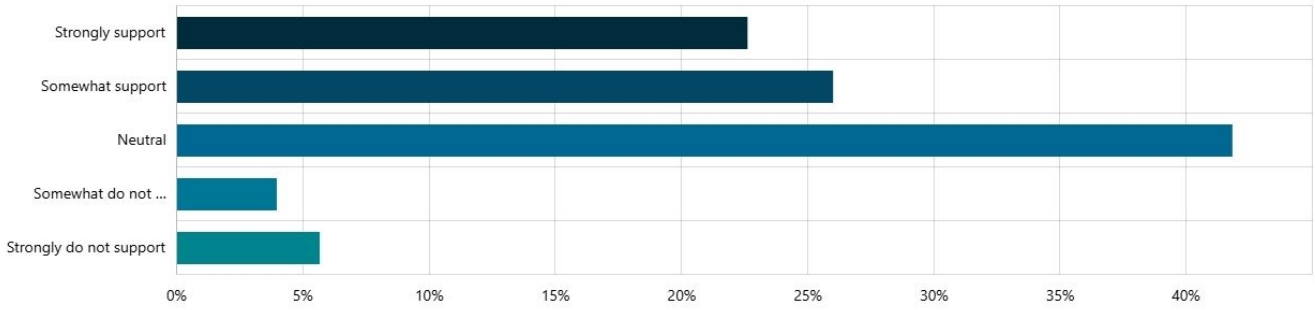


Overall, do you support the streetscapes plan? (177 responses)

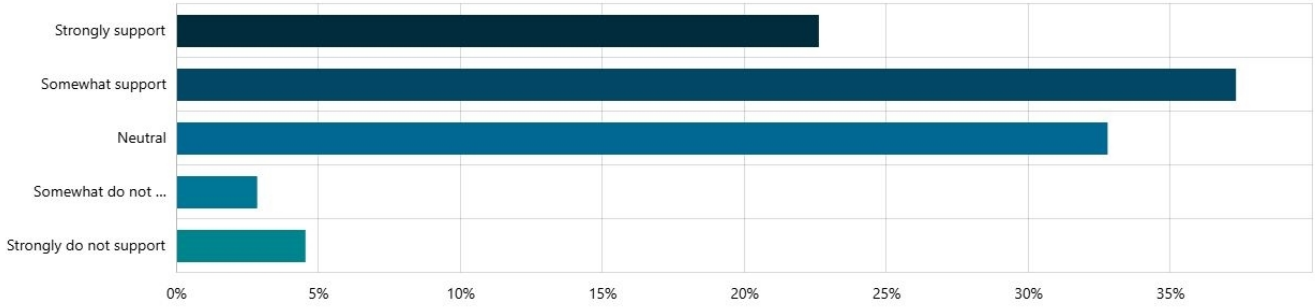


Participant responses

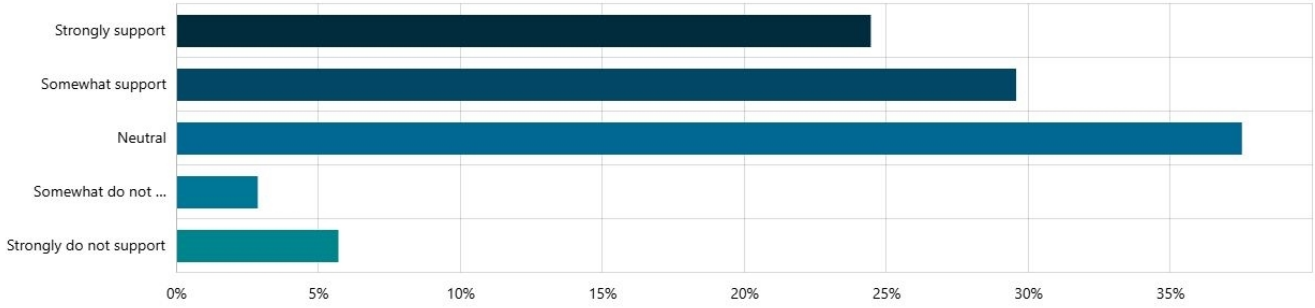
Do you support the streetscape project identified for Newland Avenue (Marino)?



Do you support the streetscape project identified for Adams Road (Trott Park)?



Do you support the streetscape project identified for Norfolk Road (Marion)?



Appendix 1

Do you have any other comments?

131 comments received

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CITY OF MARION

Participant comments

Strongly support

1	Although I strongly support the streetscape projects, what I don't support is the Council not modifying its plans to protect its exisiting tree canopy cover. I understand for the Norfolk Road/Basketball courts upgrades Council is going to wipe out an avenue of existing trees - Council should be modifying what it builds, rather than modifying the environment around what it builds. As a Council who has just 11% canopy cover and it's projection is to only to increase it's canopy by 20% (half of the recommended 30% canopy cover which is the widely accepted target for urban areas) and no where near the 3 - 30 -300 rule.
2	Please keep the existing trees at the Norfolk road basketball court and incorporate them into the build
3	Please take the streetscape opportunity to very deliberately increase the Council area's tree canopy coverage, and consider the specific contribution the Streetscape Plan is expected to contribute to meeting the City of Marion's tree canopy targets.
4	I could not find any mention of reduced speed limits in the proposal. It's essential to consider the well-documented benefits of lower speed limits, particularly in areas with pedestrians, cyclists, children, pets, and those impacted by traffic noise. Firstly, reduced vehicle speeds significantly improve safety outcomes. Studies consistently show that the risk of serious injury or fatality decreases dramatically when vehicle speeds are lower. For example, a pedestrian hit by a car travelling at 30 km/h has a much higher chance of survival than being hit at 50 km/h. Secondly, slower speeds create a more welcoming and livable environment. They encourage more people to walk, cycle, and allow children to play safely in front yards and parks near residential streets. This not only improves public health but also fosters stronger community connections. Thirdly, lower speeds contribute to a significant reduction in traffic noise. Vehicles travelling at higher speeds produce more tyre and engine noise, which can negatively affect the quality of life for residents, disrupt sleep, and even impact mental health. Reduced noise pollution makes neighbourhoods more peaceful and enjoyable places to live. Lastly, pets and wildlife are far more vulnerable to higher speeds, as drivers have less time to react to unexpected movements. A lower speed limit provides crucial extra seconds to avoid collisions. The impact on increased travel time due to lower speeds is minuscule over the distance of these short streets, and the priority, speed and convenience of driving must not trump the safety benefits mentioned above. In light of these points, consider implementing or at least addressing reduced speed limits as a key part of your Streetscape Plan strategy. Ignoring this measure overlooks one of the simplest and most effective ways to save lives, reduce noise pollution, and improve the quality of life for all road users.
5	Stop rain, storm and any other water from collecting dirt and debris from Marion Golf club maintenance area and depositing it in the road, across the road to our driveway entrance. Been asking for YEARS for this to happen !!! Promises promises..... Maintain your paths - clear plants from the footpath regularly don't wait for residents to inform Council it needs to be done to prevent people walking in the road...
6	Plant trees. Trees provide shade, birds and beauty. Golden elms, plane trees etc. Not scrappy smelly weeping desert trees. Please.
7	I am extremely concerned about increased traffic using Heysen drive to access Adam's road and then the expressway. Lander road is such a busy road and people will cut down Heysen drive. The speed humps on Heysen drive do nothing to deter cut-through traffic as people can drive over them at 60+ kph. I constantly see cars speeding through Heysen drive. It is a residential street that should not have to put up with that kind of activity. I would suggest making the speed humps bigger to deter people cutting through to access the expressway. Me and my family access these roads all the time and need to cross the road. It's concerning to think the lander road traffic has a very real potential to funnel through heysen drive
8	The Marino streetscape cannot come soon enough, the areas are like a time forgot, especially around the train station entrance. Its unloved and looks forgotten about for decades, which it has. The proposal does not indicate if the area is included in the plan, but it needs to be. A question on raingardens- what waters them when we have little rain? Do the plants survive and are they truck watered by the Council in dry spells? I walk locally and seeing the verge greening projects that we put in with the community around Kingston Park -plants do not look well and the verge is still weed infested. I am not sure these verges, possibly also called raingardens, aren't all thriving.

Participant comments

Strongly support

9	With all the dense housing in Marion, knock one down build 4 or more, their likely to be rented out by investors, it's important to note if the owner is not going to be responsible to keep their verge in a tidy manner, (the usual not my problem response) unfortunately Marion Council will have to do it for them. Hate to harp on about this but some of us do care when our local suburb starts to look tired and run down.
10	I'm concerned by the ugly box apartments that are far too close together, with no room for trees or gardens, there needs to be some open green space nearby and trees for shade. New designs and outdoor space simply don't suit SA environment. I thought councils were wanting to increase the tree canopy, in reality it appears to be quite the opposite, gardens and trees are destroyed to make way for hot boxes. Parking is an issue in these developments, cars are bigger and most households have 2+ cars. As climate change impacts more people will regret their choices, everyone will need to be constantly running air conditioning. Other than the listed projects, tree planting and maintenance of existing and new trees needs to increase considerably starting ASAP.
11	Not being a cyclist myself but would like to see separation of cyclists via their own decent size lanes wherever possible as it always seems to be a tack on to any planning . I feel that the safer they can be the more likely there maybe a bigger uptake of cycling if people feel safe in a dedicated well thought out bike lane. Love the plantings already done in the sturt rd precinct and the use of the storm water gutters to help water the plantings would love that in our street in Meadowvale rd.
12	Keep up the great work!
13	Can we consider verges as well and promote ways residents can manage them
14	What about Plympton Park?
15	Upgrade street trees that are a nuisance with dropping leaves & berries. Better management of what type of trees are planted in streets
16	plan for adams road looks excellent. well done.
17	Please ensure with the proposed upgrade to Newland Ave. Marino please ensure more car parking spaces in upgraded car park and on streets surrounding the new community centre be increased not decreased and their a decent number of accessibility car parks
18	An important part of a good footpath is the verge. Too many verges in my area are like ugly grass wastelands with seeds that get into dogs' paws. In many cases Nobody takes responsibility for keeping them neat and tidy; not residents, not Council. Time for Council to step up and come up with a plan to overcome this. Oaklands Park has become the king of high density living and residents are buying small homes/apartments, using their garages for extra space and parking their multiple cars on the road. How is Council going to address this in future planning?
19	Having looked at this streets on google maps street view I am gobsmacked these streets are earmarked. The northern part of the council area is so neglected. The streets listed already have well established trees and whilst not perfect are far and greener than anything in areas like Plympton Park which are a concrete jungle.
20	Adams Road: Instead of creating an expansive rain garden next to the carpark, have you considered to incorporate a rain garden within the carpark, by creating swells between the rows of cars accumulating run off and to plant trees in these as well? Also: please consider a shared foot/bike path next to the road. Newland Road: bike lanes next to the car lane is not great as it is the least safe option for cyclists. Please consider a shared bike/footpath instead. Norfolk Road: Please consider to incorporate trees and raingardens in the carpark areas too.
21	I would like more bike paths that are safe and tree lined. It would be good if they went to other paths and made it possible to go to key areas locally and further.
22	I think the rail corridor needs visual enhancement with gardens, trees and public art. I think the crossing of Angus Avenue and Railway terrace edwardstown needs assessment regarding safety and have been collecting videos as supporting evidence.
23	Living in Hallett cove there are a few key points which I think should be addressed as soon as possible: - the light poles which are in the middle of the footpaths. Move them to the side so they do t block the footpaths - speed bumps near Hallett Cove South Primary school, cars are still speeding on Gretel Cresent - loose storm water lids in the footpaths, it's a hazard - More / wider footpaths

Participant comments

Strongly support

24	Hallett Cove is an absolutely beautiful beautiful suburb. Having a cycling path and a few benches with a walking path would be great in Columbia Crescent. And up keeping of the street, especially where the trees are growing by the train tracks.. Maintaining the upkeep of the street is most definitely required. Having a scenic view of the ocean but all the trees in the way and a small walking path and cycling path and a very small park doesn't give it the ambiance and balance required to add more of a community feel to the area..
25	Please develop, at least to a basic level, the reserve at the end of Manunda Way that connects with Bounty Road, Hallett Cove adjacent to the railway line. For a long time now I have sought assistance from the council for something to be done in this reserve as currently it is a major pedestrian thoroughfare to the train station and conservation park that has a dusty/muddy track running through a weed infested block of land. To my eye, the main priorities here are laying a hardened/safe pedestrian walking surface, some lighting and some native plant regeneration. Feel free to contact me on [redacted] to discuss this further. Kind regards, [redacted]
26	Keep going with the improvements for all suburbs as it creates a beautiful place to live and work. Need to increase rain gardens in local streets (i.e. Glengowrie) as it is better to capture and make better use of all the water being lost down the drains.
27	Improving the storm water drainage along Adam's Rd particularly at the bottom as it turns into the subdivision.
28	Will you be taking up my suggestion for the mural painting under the Lander Road tunnel with the Southern Expressway as a highlight for this year's NAIDOC week? Thank You from [redacted]
29	When I drive through the affluent leafy suburbs, I'm amazed at the beautiful BIG trees in their streets. I wonder why the more recent plantings, especially in Nelson Street where I live, are not like these at all. They don't provide decent shade in the hot weather and certainly don't beautify the landscape in the same way for our less affluent suburb.
30	Can not comment on specific projects due to being very new to the Council area. Plan is a very good plan and well written.
31	I think lots of people want to improve their street surroundings. The council should have incentives for people to landscape their verges with approved plants. The council recently ripped up our landscaping efforts on the verge including irrigation to redo a pavement. That's ok but no effort was made to make good even the soil so we can replant.
32	Please utilise local native trees and shrubs wherever possible, improve the environmental amenity / reduce urban heat island effect.
33	Loss of parking due to developments is also a major issue.
34	We need more bus routes and more frequent buses. The weekends are especially dismal. And a bench at every bus stop.
35	Where possible, please consider planting native undergrowth to reduce the need for paving or other hardscaping
36	I think a study on the skinner streets in Edwardstown needs to be conducted. At times an emergency service vehicles would not be able to get down the street when cars are parked opposite each other on the side of the road. Castle Street, Macklin Street, Lynnfield Avenue etc. all have this problem. I feel one side of the road needs to be made no parking to make this safer for everyone.
37	Ensure that suitable trees and understorey planting is included to improve canopy and biodiversity needs

Participant comments

Strongly support

38	MARION COUNCIL Having been a bicycle rider for many years and for many years a frequent user of the shared paths in the Marion areas. Going back 10 or 15 or so years ago you used to come across one , maybe two dogs a day , whereas nowadays nearly everyone has one or two . Many of these dogs are NOT on a lead and run wild with the owners not controlling them. Dogs generally have about the same road sense of a two year old child. Over the years I have been attacked by a few dogs and also have lost control of my riding because of dogs not being controlled by the owners. Luckily I have not been injured yet , but a couple of riding friends have been knocked off their bikes by dogs and sustained injuries. There needs to be some form of "policing"this problem, there was, years ago Council dog control inspectors / but I haven't seen any for years. I have frequently, politely, asked people to get their dog back on a lead, and been abused for doing so. Perhaps there should be a few separate dog parks like there are in some other Council areas, where people can let their dogs run wild and not be a menace to anyone else. Thank you for reading.
39	More street escapes near Seaview high school
40	I'm very happy for any streetscape, anywhere to have a facelift. Of major importance to me are large spreading deciduous trees to provide summer shade but allow winter sun in. Also permeable paving to allow ingress of rain, and gaps in gutters to allow water to soak into nature strips.
41	Please listen to residents/rate payers about increased and somewhat dangerous on street parking since the the development of high density housing. Poor planning, and little to no consultation with residents in affected areas, particularly Plympton Park and Morphettville
42	Wide and shaded footpaths are needed by some but enjoyed by all. They make a place amazing. These roads also need slower speeds for cars, and less space on the road for parking. If you have to meet a budget, choose wide footpaths and shade/trees and drop the rest.
43	Parking on streets needs to be addressed due to increased smaller homes streets are becoming congested. In particular Dwyer Road and Johnstone Roads Marion. Dwyer is used as a cut through and is dangerous when the church and temple have events. Also, the bend on Crews Street needs additional and raised traffic markings as cars cut that bend when travelling between Dwyer and Diagonal.
44	For other areas, removal of invasive exotic pest plants (such as olive trees).
45	Please make the suburb looks more beautiful Thank you
46	There should be humps on Ramsay Ave to slow cars down near Stella Maris School. Should also have less carparking so kids can see oncoming traffic when crossing the road. On Tarnham Rd, the parks closest to Callum Grove should only be 15mins to allow for easy pick up and drop off for Seaview High School students, especially now that the new child care centre on Callum Grove will also have many parents dropping off kids too.
47	The streets surrounding schools in the Marion council region need some investment to make them less barren with adequate traffic management
48	It would be great to see the footpaths in Hallett Cove cleaned / upgraded. The footpath on my street has lots of old moss on it and you can tell it's quite old. Would make the street look more modern and appealing if this was maintained a little better. I love that trees will be planted on our nature strip / verge soon and we are fully supportive of this.
49	Security in Clovelly Park is currently a big problem, and the police are doing nothing about it. Someone needs to
50	I thing the textured paths is super important. In winter walking down Jervois Terrace in Marino is super unsafe. The paths are terrible, broken and slippery. Some are even buried

Participant comments

Strongly support

51	Marion council are not keeping up with the necessary care of reserves they already have.!! Kensington reserve is a dust bowl. It has only weeds left since watering was stopped 5 yrs ago.no tables no shade & in summer we get shoes covered in dirt and in winter covered in mud it is disgusting. Why it is still being mowed regularly goodness know as it makes it even worse and covers the homes with red dust. The other closest park & playground was bulldozed 2 weeks ago!. The Xmas get together this Dec had to have a change of VENUE for us locals. Not good enough
52	I think the suburbs that have the best feel are the ones where there are tree lined street and well maintained council areas. It is also important to maintain council land on streets by removing weeds and replanting dead plants. Morphett Road looks great where the plants have grown but there are also a lot of weeds and spaces where plants have died and have not been replaced. These areas require maintenance and are not just 'set and forget'. Perhaps a volunteer group could assist if funding is an issue.
53	I love the look of trees going all way down the road. Looks appealing and keeps things cool and good for parking. Small shrubs that dont look messy are nice to. Would actually like to see more round about with trees and gardens in them.
54	I love gum trees however I don't like them too much along the road due to their ability to drop branches causing safety issues. I love the aesthetic and functionality of shade giving trees of other species along the street but also think including native plants of many varieties is important. I also like street scapes to identify the local community through signage and visual arts.

Participant comments

Somewhat support

1	I think a key pillar of the streetscape plan should be the retention of existing trees. This needs to be specified upfront as a priority to ensure the designs work around this.
2	It would be good to research and trial new species of street trees and become recognised for dryland streetscaping. Our city lacks personality and street trees and landscaping is one way to bring a sense of individuality to the city. Everything just seems to be the same but there are so many other trees from similar climates around the world that are suitable, both aesthetically and functionally. Many pathetic small trees should be removed that serve no purpose such as small ornamental plums and pears that are struggling to grow, and replaced with better deciduous trees that actually offer passive heating and cooling to homes. Natives should be encouraged in the verge and on all future streetscapes. Large gum trees are often not suitable as street trees but should be planted in all reserves. It would also be good to see more rain gardens/rain harvesting solutions given the future of urban infill and subsequent stress on the stormwater system, and examples of what residents can do (or permit them to do more). This would also educate residents and help others to make more sustainable decisions. Given the ENORMOUS extent of green space and habitat loss expected with future development, there should be minimum requirements for green space in front yards of new houses to contribute to public streetscaping, and council should take more of a stand against state govt in this regard. It would be great to see further promotion and incentives for residents to revegetate verges in attempt to increase streetscaping where public funds aren't available
3	Why I put some what support I love the ideas but the ongoing maintenance seems to be an issue . Council put in trees and then don't look after them several trees around oval road and I have noticed Herron way only the grass gets trimmed plants need pruning at the amphitheatre grand central Ave unless residents bring this to councils attention nothing gets done begs to ask the question what the hell do people do all day at the council sit behind a desk consulating the www and Google . Take a drive down many streets and you will see jobs needed be more proactive than reactive
4	Maintenance of footpaths, median strips and weed growth endangering the community through risk of snakes, fire, vermin is of high importance . There's a lot of cutting back needing done, and dead trees removed in Lonsdale Hwy. Bus stop on Lonsdale Highway Southside between Patpa and Cove Rd- all alone, no light or seat- who would feel safe using this on a dark night or their son/daughter using it?
5	The current streets in Marino are unkept and dead, verges full of weeds. Some ground cover plants on the verges would be great. The new Bmx track at Nimboya road reserve has dead grass, rubbish, one overflowing bin, and lack of parking. And no water for dogs or birds - locals use an old ice cream container which kids also use as a bike jump. It isn't well maintained. Pine tree needles make the footpaths slippery. The train tunnel is graffitied often.
6	Do something about all the cars parked in the streets cluttering our streets, making it difficult and dangerous for pedestrians and motorists.
7	Parking in all areas needs addressing, many streets are full of cars both sides of the streets) of a night time and early mornings, Emergency Vehicles would have difficulty accessing many areas at these times ...
8	Perry Barr has the opportunity to be a gateway into Hallett cove, instead the section off Lonsdale is dark at night and invites parking at the look out that feels unsafe. Tree planting and lighting, cameras might make this a way of detouring trouble.
9	Enhancement of streetscapes needs to also take into account the numbers of redevelopments taking place. For every old house torn down, 2 or 3 houses replace it. Meaning double or triple the numbers of cars - many of which park on streets, get in the way of waste management and can hinder easy access for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. I am all for streets being beautified (and want to see more of it) however without more control of urban planning all we will be able to see on our streets are more parked cars.
10	Would be beneficial for the community if the street trees were native or were fruit trees, adding to a sustainable garden for the community. The trees currently being planted are not all native, nor do they produce any fruit and are used as shade only. This could be improved.
11	Less priority on elements like exposed agg footpaths and art works, and other insignificant architectural quirks which will just date overtime or become vandelised and have no real benefit. invest in trees, water systems for grassed areas for the long term enjoyment
12	In regards to Newland Ave, it's a great start. Feels like the whole road needs shading and greening inprovement. It's a very dry and run down street for how busy it is. But I understand this is a separate program. Anyway, all good, it may just stick out in contrast to the rest of the road.
13	What process has the community have to suggest locations for street scape?

Participant comments

Somewhat support

14	with the aging of our society there will be a growing number of aged & people living with a range of disabilities & if we make the environment safe for the most vulnerable then everyone else benefits. In particular vision, hearing & mobility safety enhancements & risk mitigation are vital as I have lobbied the council since 1998. I assisted [redacted] by walking every street with my Guidedog & wife in Hallett Cove delineating every risk from a vision impairment perspective & its good to see that gradually change is occuring but much still be to undertaken.
15	I am very passionate about city-planning and how it can build a thriving community for businesses and people. It is a bit disappointing to see that the streetscape designs still appear to prioritise cars over people. On the road bike lanes are 'nice' in concept but in reality often endangers bike riders compared to shared use with pedestrian. Pedestrians are unlikely to walk anywhere (decreasing carbon footprint) if they are required to cross busy double lane traffic with no shade.
16	Should have more separated bike lanes
17	Tree plantings need to take into consideration owners having solar panels that may get shaded (particularly in Winter). Also the height should not reach power/NBN cables.
18	Car parking is a massive issue in the area of Edwardstown that my young family and I reside. We have loved seeing the council focus on local parks, streetscape elements such a as trees and footpaths but disappointed in approvals for sub divisions with garages with little space for even medium sized cars and so it makes for very congested local suburban streets.
19	The Vista Street Reserve at Seacombe Heights is continually ignored and No seating, no shade, no Water, no parking (except illegally) and a dead, ugly place summer which becomes an overgrown, weedy mess in winter. No bus stop light currently (at least 3-4 weeks). When is it our turn? I have paid my rates (currently $2545 per annum) for almost 52 years and I believe they are paying for every other area. I have continually asked for improvements and 90% have been rejected. Why?? I am continually picking up rubbish , used condoms, used toilet paper on my property and the reserve - disgusting!!
20	Do NOT reduce speed limits. They are currently very slow at 50 kmh
21	Safety should be the main priority!
22	If encouraging biodiversity and a strong environmental focus, then the homogeneous selection of trees on Adam Road appears to be flawed and focused on street appeal rather than environmental outcomes. Would strongly recommend the council have further diversity in tree selection on these large street upgrades.
23	Many cycle paths need extra lighting
24	Having read the plan, it is somewhat disappointing to see minimal occurring around Trott Park. It is aging compared to neighbouring Sheidow Park and requires more attention than it's being given.
25	The verge at Durchmans roundabout is barren and hot. The pedestrian path to the Boatshed from Arafura is dangerously steepfor the elderly, children , parents and babies in pushers snd prams. It needs to be a zig zag with seating and plantings. The pedestrian path to Hallett Cove Beach Stn from The Cove Road needs mural on the retaining wall to combat graffiti .
26	Council and government have failed miserably on cycling infrastructure to and from places people go. Existing paths, such as the Merino Rocks Bikeway, largely serve recreational use. Our roads fail when it comes to answering the question "Can I safely use my bike instead of my car for daily tasks?" Oaklands Road a great example. Schools everywhere, YMCA, Park Holme shops, skate Park... yet the bike lane is abysmal, unsafe and doesn't encourage a mobility shift. Separated bike lanes on major roads now. Everything else is tokenistic and does nothing for safety, sustainability or facilitating a car-to-bike shift in the community.
27	I believe that more consideration should be given to the type of tree/shrub to be planted. Hallett Cove has beautiful views of the ocean and welcome more tree planting but not at the cost of a resident's view.
28	More work needed in Western wards. More thought given to planning, if high density housing is to continue. Plympton Park was decimated with little to no notification, and poor planning had resulted in too many car lined streets due to inadequate parking on site of each house. Gum trees planted with barely any watering or street sweeping. Poorly maintained footpaths with trip hazards. Dry arid footpaths. Acknowledging council offer of $500 to plant out footpaths and verges, that amount would barely cover the mulch and soil to get the dry, pebbled earth into anything to sustain plant life. Also, back breaking work for older, infirm ratepayers and tenants.

Participant comments

Somewhat support

29	Trott Grove is completely ignored by council, the first 10 mtrs have been done only because it as part of the Diagonal road project. The council can not even sweep the road on a regular basis, I would have thought that general maintenance is a priority over street scape in areas for SHOW. The foot paths and kerbs are in need of repair which I would have thought was a priority for safety reasons over show streets. The council is ignoring general maintenance, and building show monuments. The back streets are ignored especially in Oaklands Park even though the income from this area has probally doubled from infill building, why isn't it spent in the areas that provided the money. Project in Johnstone street was started 3 years ago (updating the wheelchair ramps on the corners of the streets) but was dropped around the time Sturt Road street scape was started?? Street scapes can only benefit rate payers if their streets are included and maintained.
30	We have been waiting for YEARS for the PARK and its surrounds to be cleaned up , in The Tonsley Reserve , on Bradley Grove . We bought our property with the knowledge that the Park would receive annual clean ups and care . Not done for at least 7 years . It is in ugly , dry eyesore .
31	Honestly, you've already destroyed so many suburbs like Seacombe Gardens, by allowing to many townhouses to be built. The streets are an absolute disaster with too many people, and cars,cramped in together. I don't think some "street scaping " can fix what you've already ruined
32	Don’t support speed limit changing to 30
33	Would also like to see more bins in the neighborhood
34	As a resident of Hallett Cove living at [redacted] has asked on numerous occasions for the lanewzy between [redacted] to have a significant upgrade and clean up. This has fallen on deaf ears and continues to be a hazard in so many ways. Perhaps a councillor could meet with me and yhe neighbouring residents to discuss. My number is [redacted]. I await your call.
35	Rarely visit the areas in question so they have no direct effect on me
36	Parking should only be allowed on one side of street. This will ease traffic problems in suburban streets. This would need to be enforced by council
37	Looks good. But the council keeps going back on their word for stopping street parking in normal residential streets as per a fliar we got from council some time ago which has more green streets and less car park streets. But you've back flipped on that and removed no parking signs in our street and now we get so many cars parked here that don't even live in our street. Maybe stop letting places built which can't fit cars on the property. This is in so many streets in Marion.
38	property values in Marino are significantly higher than other suburbs of Marion therefore attracting higher rates, this plan is in line with Councils previous neglect in terms of investment into Marino streetscapes. The drive into Marino along Scholefield Rd / Newland Ave is atrocious, $1.3 m to improve a limited stretch of road is the least Council could do. Marion should look to Onkaparinga Council in terms of streetscape improvement of arterial roads.
39	I think trees are important but they should be safe as to not interfere with footpaths or safe viewing of roads. PLUS car parking on most roads (both sides of roads) is dangerous plus say on Dwyer road the parking restrictions are not policed.
40	More maintenance for the street scapes you have done and look at a bit tired. Ie oaklands overpass. Glass everywhere and weeds plants dying
41	In addition to streetscape I would love something done about the weeds that are overtaking the footpaths making walking unpleasant. Plus all the dog poop. This is in the Park Holme area. Not a big suburb so should be easy to maintain.
42	Yes, how about streetscaping older areas within council area. Council is too focused on newer suburbs. Our footpaths are disgusting.
43	Our streets through oaklands park are becoming cluttered with cars due to the multiple builds in area with only one car garages maybe some cut away areas for parking would be good without removing trees It is dangerous at night with dark cars parked on both sides of road ie : Johnstone,Dwyer, Pemberton Also even though turning right lane onto diagonal road from crew street is helpful it is still very hard to get out with cars speeding around from morphet road and coming down on youre right on diagonal towards Morphett rd it is so bad that I turn left and do a u turn at marion liabrary exit or turn right and go around for my safety
44	Young st Trott park roundabouts and verges need need upgrading as well as field river estate verges.
45	Please just use natural or Australian natives as the Chinese Elms is Sheidow Park are nothing more than a danger in autumn (they turn to sludge on the road and tyres spin on them) and they are so bad for the gutters and drains clogging them up every year with stuff and crap. Add to that I know three people in one street who have allergies to them! There has to be a better tree to plant....

Participant comments

Somewhat support

46	I would like to know how to get involved and receive support to improve my street.
47	The Newland Avenue Marino design does not deal with the inadequate carparking. Current plans will push more cars to local streets causing even more hazards. This needs to be addressed and lots of space to do this exists to expand parking near train station. It's creating safety hazards not addressing this.
48	More enhancements work and future planning needs to be done in the hallett cove precinct, water ways and coastal areas to attract people to use an enjoy some of the special places on the planet. Also there are land areas which need to be developed for housing to add more population, the areas across from the shopping centre and land area bordered by perry Barr red aroona red Lonsdale red has been vacant way too long
49	Previously small streets in sheidow park need attention and street parking is a problem
50	Stretscaping and beautifying one or three parts of the city are all very well but there are whole streets of parts of streets that are overgrown with what now are during yellow weeds- very unsightly and a fire/snake/vermin hazard. Maybe there are more rental houses and people just don't care. Gardens/yards and verges are covered. We need more crews looking out for these and more ways to endure ratepayers or tenants look after their yards.
51	look at seacombe gdns. Forgotten superb that is looking extremely dumpy
52	Unless you plan to adopt modern, world-class standards in urban planning that incorporate advanced civil engineering principles, rather than adhering to outdated Australian standards, these streets will require reconstruction in a few years to keep up. Why not start now? Regarding pedestrian and cycling infrastructure: If the road speed remains at 50 km/h, pedestrian and cycling facilities must be separated from the roadway. Painted, unprotected bike lanes are inadequate at these speeds and most riders don't feel safe using them. Would you feel comfortable allowing an 8-year-old to ride there? Cycle lanes and footpaths should be physically separated and raised at junctions, ensuring motorists slow down and give way. This design prioritizes pedestrian and cyclist safety by granting them clear right-of-way. Alternatively, implement the global standard of reducing road speeds to 30 km/h. With this approach, painted sharrows on the road would suffice for cyclists, while raised footpaths would still ensure pedestrian priority. However, as this road functions as a minor arterial, traffic flow seems to take precedence over active transport users. Therefore, the first solution of separating motorists from vulnerable road users, would be the most appropriate to ensure safety. Finally, I strongly object to public funds being spent on outdated designs that prioritize vehicle flow over the safety and well-being of people.
53	I think The Cove Road Hallett Cove requires a definite streetscape being one of the main entrances into Hallett Cove it is very unappealing, dead brown grass in the middle median strip, mainly dirt really all the way down unkept trees, being a main through road to the boardwalk, cafe and the beach which a huge number of people use you think it would have a welcoming entrance and well kept council grounds
54	Opportunities for trialling of community safety initiatives appear to be lacking for the most part. There is a lot of talk around them in the strategic objectives but these flagship projects on more utilised corridors with bigger budgets are a fantastic opportunity to trial things like smart lighting, traffic calming measures etc and use learnings in other parts of the suburbs. Also, I'm unclear why Alawoona Ave is only mentioned fleetingly and then says 'project on hold due to timing'. If you're going to put it in document at least give us a paragraph explanation somewhere in doc.

Participant comments

Neutral

1	You seem to prioritise any suburb other than Mitchell Park, which still seems to have constant neglect of safety and streetscape by the council.
2	If you wish to improve the safety of the street fronts and verges, you will stop planting dangerous trees and remove the ones that are planted
3	There are too many cars in the side streets as developers build properties without enough parking. It is very tricky negotiating the side streets these days. Rules must change to address this. council could help ????
4	I support the use of artificial grass on council verges
5	They all look good and thoughtfully planned. On road cycle paths are not my favourite option and my granddaughters ride their scooters much more comfortably on flat concrete footpaths.
6	I am a strong supporter for prioritizing the natural environment. This will ensure a livable world for the next generation. I don't see this at the moment. Just destruction to generate money.
7	50 is more than slow enough. 30 would be ridiculous. Streets are for getting from A-B. Maybe concentrate on keeping the nature strip's tidy instead of planting more.
8	how about fixing the curb / corners at johnstone rd / exmoor rd intersection the bloody lazy marion council employees cut it all up but never fixed it up 2018 -2019 causing trip hazards to all rate payers etc.
9	I have no idea about your current plans. I just know Hallett Coves footpaths are unsafe. Slanted, blocked by poles or bins, non existent, narrow and overall unaccessible for prams.
10	I feel that Council has been concentrating more on streetscapes rather thandifficulty in car parking!! While houses are being demolished and replaced by multiple houses the problem will escalate. I find it impossible to have lawn services, large deliveries etc due to no parking available on the roadway outside my property. While I have a long drive backing out is impossible for larger vehicles due to the road width and cars permanently parked opposite! The Mike Turter bike track is over wide and then trees etc on the outside of that. Many bikeriders do not use this facility and still ride 5 or 6 abreast along railway tce on the road! As we are the ratepayers I feel that we are given very little consideration!!😟😐
11	Norfolk Rd, is a narrow and busy RESIDENTIAL street. It's busy with businesses, access to a large Residential care centre and lifestyle village and regular housing. The vision does not show the propsed Basketball stadium which should have vehicular access from Sturt Rd not a residential street. Extra courts will increase traffic to this narrow busy road. Why on earth are you putting parking in a narrow street and a pedestrian crossing. Who is the pedestrian crossing for??? I support streetscaping but don't put trees in the middle of main roads & foliage on corners that make it dangerous turning out of streets.
12	Please don't forget about the Seaview downs area. It is so tired, especially Seacombe road which could be one of the most beautiful roads in the state as you head towards the ocean. Bike lanes, traffic islands, designated parking spots, TREES! I would love to see more streetscape development prioritised in this area. The power substation on the corner of Seacombe Road and Morphett road has now become even more of an eyesore now that all the trees have been removed. Please note the substation in Tonsley Innovation district as a reference of how to hide a substation and make an area beautiful. Thanks
13	Do not plant trees, that in a few years time their roots start to lift roads, foot paths and thereby cause more expense in rectifying the damage. Trees are ok in the right places, but they grow into large trees and consequently require rectification
14	Seacombe gdns looks like a dump. How about fixing parts of this suburb
15	I'd like more European trees along our nature strips. No more natives - they look sad and ugly. Big trees, big canopies, big leaves that throw a huge shadow - better streets

Participant comments

Somewhat do not support

1	The streetscape projects are too few and too limited in scale to have a significant effect on the communities in which they are delivered. These projects either need to be massively scaled up to have significant positive community impact, or funds should be diverted to projects that offer better overall returns for the money spent. As an example, drastically improving tree canopy coverage over footpaths and roads, improving traffic management (lower speed limits and limiting on-street parking), and improving footpaths all help build vibrant and sustainability communities council wide, rather than in small patches.
2	Yes- streetscape is one thing - but councils continued maintenance and attention to their parks is terrible- your Newland Avenue project simply is the front of the Marino hall - it does not actually address the whole of that section of Mewland Avenue - what's the point - ? It's not actually streetscaping Newland Avenue to make it like Sturt road out the front of council chambers - and the condition and maintenance of Newland Avenue linear reserve is terrible!..... council doesn't care about maintaining - yet they wonder why Marino residents continue to push for re allocation to holdfast bay ? Then their is the lack of footpath to the north side of frank street - still hasn't been paved and we've complained on and off for 30 odd years - council talks about safety yet slips on the council layer gravel are common and given it's the pathway to the Marion station for people walking down franks street - it's poor - street trees planted on frank street are dying because they were planted into clay without the ground being treated and soil that allows the street trees to grow based on first - Marion's grounds and infrastructure maintenance of main roads it's a failure and fails in comparison to hokdfast bay council- and yet Marion council rates are far higher than holdfast bay ?..... what does council spend money on ?
3	Regarding Adams Road Trott Park. This is a lot of money to spend on a project in a non-residential area (it has a small section of the Glenthorne National Park to the west and a light industrial area/Southern Expressway to the east). If any existing street trees require removal then this may be contrary to Councils Climate Change Policy & Environment Policy. Will any existing street trees be removed under the current plan? Have any surveys/research been conducted to determine the current numbers of cyclists and pedestrians using this section of Adams Road? Regarding the proposed 1.5m wide concrete path. Why is concrete being used when it is one of the least environmentally friendly materials? This extensive use of concrete would equate to 1500 square metres of concrete. (let alone the volume of concrete used!) Has consideration been given to the impact on the 'Heat Island Effect?' What volume of water is currently discharged from this one kilometre section of Adams Road? Water run-off from the Soccer Field Car Park already discharges to a large holding facility on the southern side of the car park, so any discharge to Adams Road should be minimal. The money allocated to this project would be better spent and contribute much more to the environment and residents if it was allocated to revegetation or greening projects within the council area. I hope this project does not proceed in its current form.
4	I support better streetscapes, however I think all streets should be well planned and maintained. I would prefer council maintain and look after ALL streets equally. Not just a few. This money could be better spent maintaining what we already have. Focus could be on all streets having enough parking, trees, safe footpaths.
5	Nowhere to comment on MANDATORY 2 OFF STREET CARPARKS PER UNIT.your allowing greedy developers to create traffic jams and ghettos so you can make more money.disgusting
6	Safety should be top priority. The state of pathways along roads in Hallett Cove are dangerous and need fixing before you spend so much money on making roads pretty. Barramundi Drive would be a good start!
7	Focus on bringing existing streets up to standard before spending money on luxuries. Woodend Road is dangerous, with blind crests and traffic forced onto the wrong side of the road due to inappropriate parking.

Participant comments

Strongly do not support

1	Surely council has more urgent or sensible priorities perhaps proper watering of our parks or redeem our footpaths for walking etc. meaning trimming,cutting back to access or not planting street tree as the jackaroo that ruin the footpaths making the a tripping hazard and don't drop massive amount of pods on the road and footpaths making it difficult to avoid where elderly owner have trouble clearing away



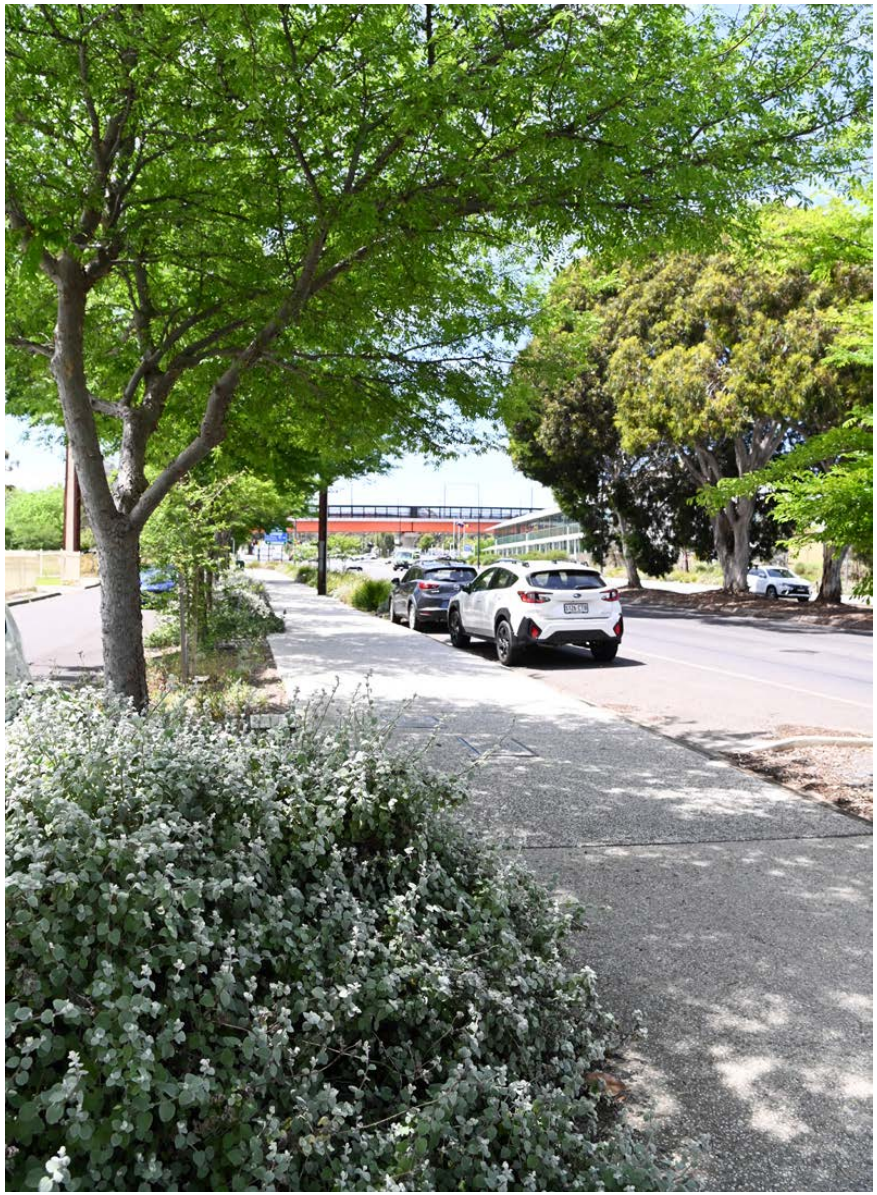
City of Marion
Streetscape plan 2025-2029

A great place to *live*

CITY OF MARION

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Background

Streetscape projects play a pivotal role in enhancing community liveability by fostering social connections, improving safety, supporting local economies, promoting health, and contributing to environmental sustainability.

Since 2017, the City of Marion has advanced its Streetscape Program, which has been shaped and refined through council workshops and endorsed as a comprehensive 15-year initiative. Over this 7 year period, 14 projects have been successfully completed, rejuvenating urban infrastructure by addressing aging assets and optimising resources.

This approach focuses on end-of-life infrastructure renewal, leveraging economies of scale to reduce costs and enhance efficiency, while optimizing road geometry to improve safety for vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists. Environmental improvements, including reducing the heat island effect and implementing cost-effective stormwater management systems like raingardens, further contribute to a more sustainable urban environment.

A key to the program's success is securing funding through partnerships with State and Federal governments and coordinating with major projects to align with broader urban development plans. This collaboration provides vital resources, technical expertise, and strategic support, ensuring impactful and efficient streetscape renewal.

As we enter 2024, the Streetscape Program faces new economic challenges that necessitate a strategic re-evaluation. In response, has worked closely with Council Members to develop a new prioritisation matrix.

This matrix will focus on key factors such as significance, funding partners, safety and condition, social and environmental impacts, and efficiency to guide future projects and continue advancing our community's streetscape infrastructure in a dynamic and evolving landscape.



Since 2017, 14 projects have been successfully completed, rejuvenating urban infrastructure by addressing aging assets and optimising resources.



Strategic alignment

The strategic directions of Liveable, Sustainable, and Community reflect the aspirations of the community for the City of Marion's future.

Liveable
We will create and maintain safe, attractive and accessible public places and facilities.

Sustainable
We protect, restore and connect to the natural environment, building resilience to climate change.

Community
We are a friendly, inclusive and connected community, where everyone belongs.

These themes are integral to achieving a cohesive and forward-thinking approach to urban streetscape development, aligning with our vision for a vibrant, sustainable, and connected community.



Streetscape overview

Streetscape principles

1. A strategic approach will define the street network through balancing the dual roles of streets as safe thoroughfares for movement of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles, and as destinations for people.

2. Streetscape design will be attractive, enable accessibility, and be of high amenity value in key locations so they are places where people of all ages, cultures and abilities want to spend time at different times of the day and year.

3. Landscaping will be environmentally sustainable incorporating the use of water sensitive urban design and the use of appropriate plantings where possible to support the role of streets as connectors, enhance habitat corridors, cool the urban environment, and enhance road safety.

4. Neighbourhood identity and sense of place will be enhanced by streetscapes that contribute to a positive neighbourhood image and provide opportunities for social interaction for the community, neighbours and visitors

5. Streetscapes will be enhanced by visual connections with their surrounding environments.

6. Commercial, business and education precincts will be enhanced by streetscapes that contribute to the attractiveness of these areas.

7. Streetscapes will be maintained by the timely application of proactive maintenance and auditing programs

8. Trees should be planted in accordance with the Tree Management Framework.

9. Streetscape program planning will consider streetscape projects to strategically align to other major projects and developments occurring across the City of Marion.

These principles guide the City of Marion's planning, development and management of streetscapes.





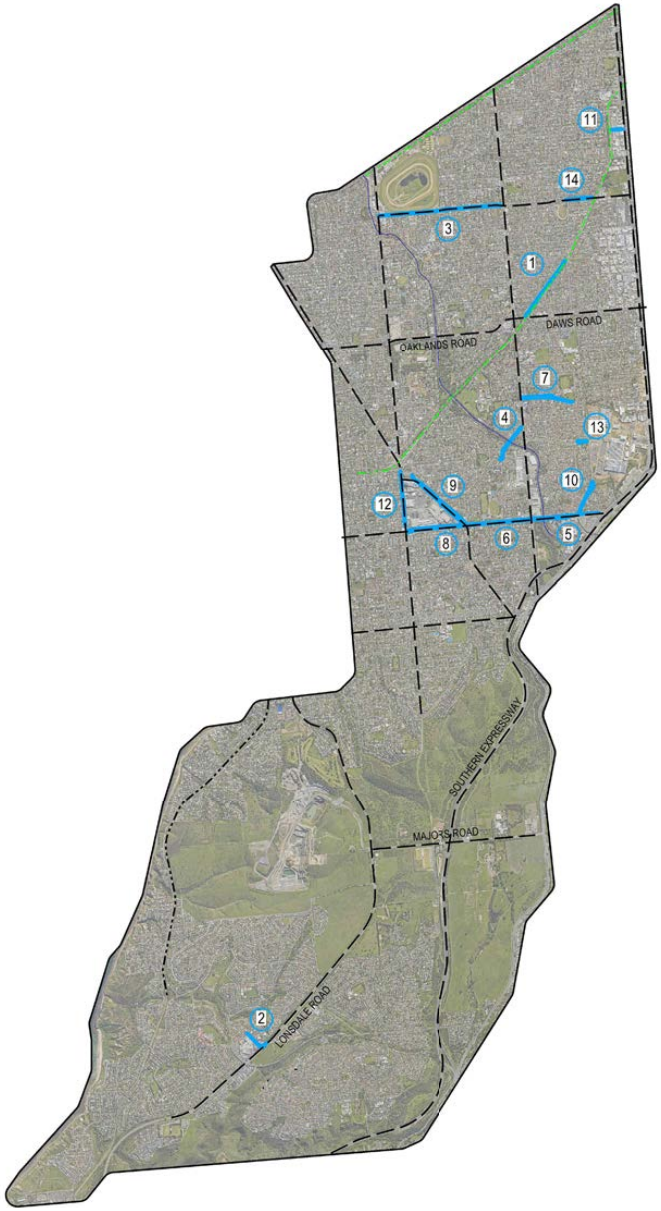
Streetscape elements

- Road/street surfaces, including parking bays and intersections
- Footpaths
- Shared paths
- Street trees
- Verges/landscaping/plantings
- Street furniture
- Street lighting
- Bus shelters/stops
- Public and community art
- Kerbs and channel
- Water Sensitive Urban Design
- Utilities including power, stormwater infrastructure, NBN
- Traffic control devices
- Signage
- Adjoining built form or open space



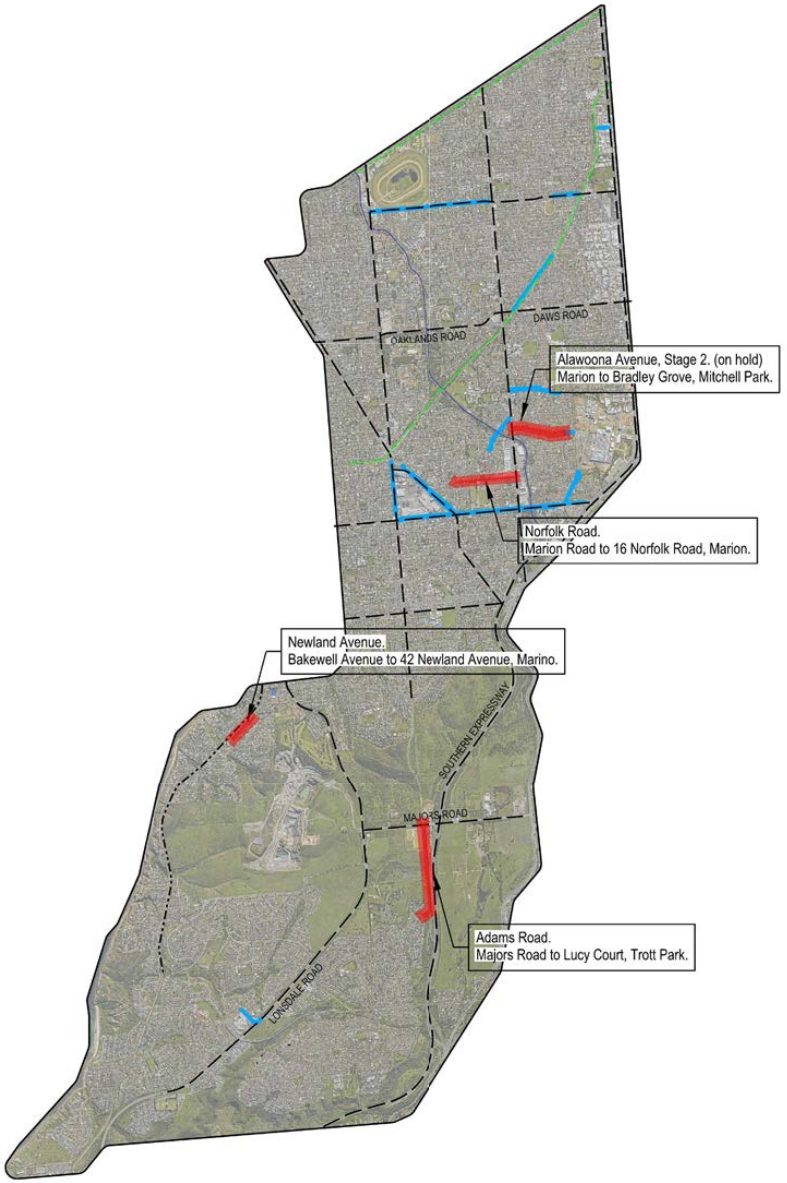






Previous projects

1. **Railway Terrace, Ascot Park**
   Constructed 2014-2015
   Grant funded contribution
   Budget $1.48 M
2. **Ramrod Avenue, Hallett Cove**
   Constructed 2016-2017
   Budget $610,000
3. **Bray Street, Morphettville**
   Constructed 2018-2019
   Budget $1.1 M
4. **Finniss Street, Marion**
   Constructed 2017-2018
   Conjunction with PLEC Project
   Budget $1.5 million
5. **Sturt Road, Mitchell Park**
   Constructed 2019-2020
   Grant funded contribution
   Budget $900,000
6. **Sturt Road, Sturt**
   Constructed 2020-2021
   Grant funded contribution
   Budget $1.1 million
7. **Quick Road, Mitchell Park**
   Constructed 2020-2021
   Private funded contribution
   Budget $1.4 M
8. **Sturt Road, Seacombe Gardens**
   Constructed 2021-2022
   Grant funded contribution
   Budget $1.715 M
9. **Diagonal Road, Oaklands Park**
   Constructed 2021-2022
   Grant funded contribution
   Budget $1.86 M
10. **Birch Crescent, Clovelly Park**
    Constructed 2021-2022
    Grant funded contribution
    Budget $1.196 M
11. **Messine Avenue, Edwardstown**
    Constructed 2022-2023
    Grant funded contribution
    Budget $500,000
12. **Morphett Road, Warradale**
    Constructed 2022-2023
    Grant funded contribution
    Budget $1.5 M
13. **Alawoona Avenue, Mitchell Park (Stage one)**
    Constructed 2023-2024
    Grant funded contribution
    Budget $1.48 M
14. **Raglan Avenue, Edwardstown**
    Constructed 2023-2024
    Grant funded contribution
    Budget $1.8 M



4 year Streetscape Plan

A 4-year Streetscape Plan has been developed using key criteria and weighting to determine the optimum locations that would have the biggest impact to our community. Projects have been included in a Streetscape Prioritisation Matrix.

The 4 Year Streetscape Plan will be subject to review every 2 years to ensure future projects are continually reviewed and adjusted in the Streetscape Prioritisation Matrix. This is to ensure that high value projects are been selected for design and construction in a coordinated and strategically aligned methodology. In addition to supporting the Annual Business Planning and Long-Term Financial Planning processes in the short to long term window.

Commencement date	Street	From	To	Suburb	Budget
2025-2026	Newland Avenue	Bakewell Avenue	42 Newland Avenue	Marino	$1.2 M
2026-2027	Adams Road	Majors Road	Lucy Court	Trott Park	$5.6 M*
2028-2029	Norfolk Road	Marion Road	16 Norfolk Road	Marion	$3 M
On hold**	Alawoona Avenue	Marion Road	Bradley Grove	Mitchell Park	TBC

**Includes a $4.1M Streetscape budget (2026-27) and $1.5M stormwater budget (2025-26).*
***Pending timing of development*



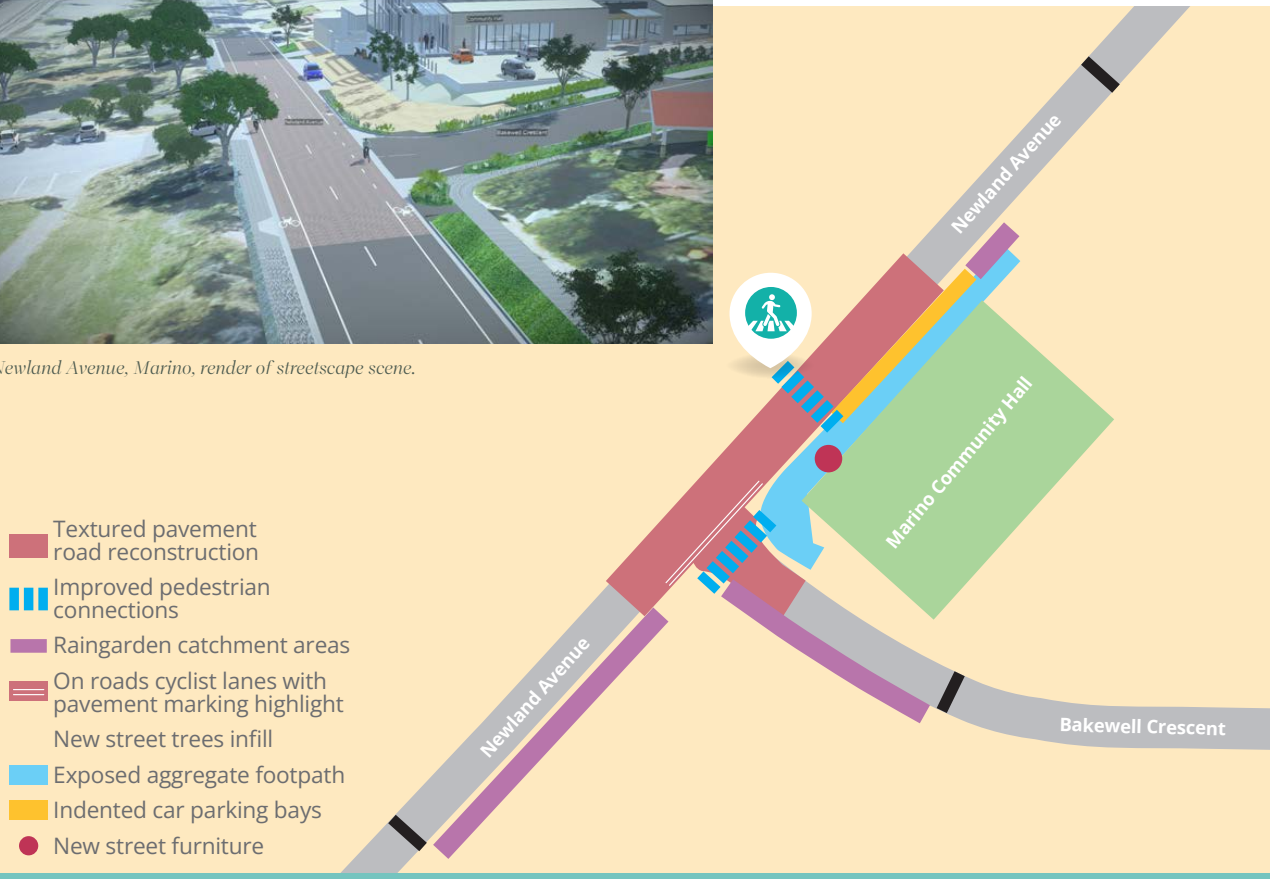
Newland Avenue, Marino

The Newland Avenue Streetscape project aligns with a major council project, enhancing the avenue upgrade alongside the soon-to-be-finished Marino Community Hall, which will serve as a new social hub for both visitors and local residents. To combat the urban heat island effect, the project will leverage grant funding opportunities through Resilient South for urban greening. This includes increasing street tree infill and establishing verge raingardens, which will improve biodiversity corridors and contribute to suburb greening. Furthermore, the addition of textured pavement and enhanced pedestrian connections will significantly improve safety for those accessing the site.

2025-2026 Newland Avenue, Marino



Newland Avenue, Marino, render of streetscape scene.



Key project deliverables

Bakewell Avenue to 42 Newland Avenue | Estimated costing $1.2 M*

**Budget have been developed using past project rates and should be seen as a high-level estimate. Future detailed design work and consultation will be required to determine the scope and a detailed budget estimate which would be presented through the City of Marion's Annual Business Planning process.*



Raingarden side entry pit



Raingarden



Typical street furniture



Kerb ramp crossing

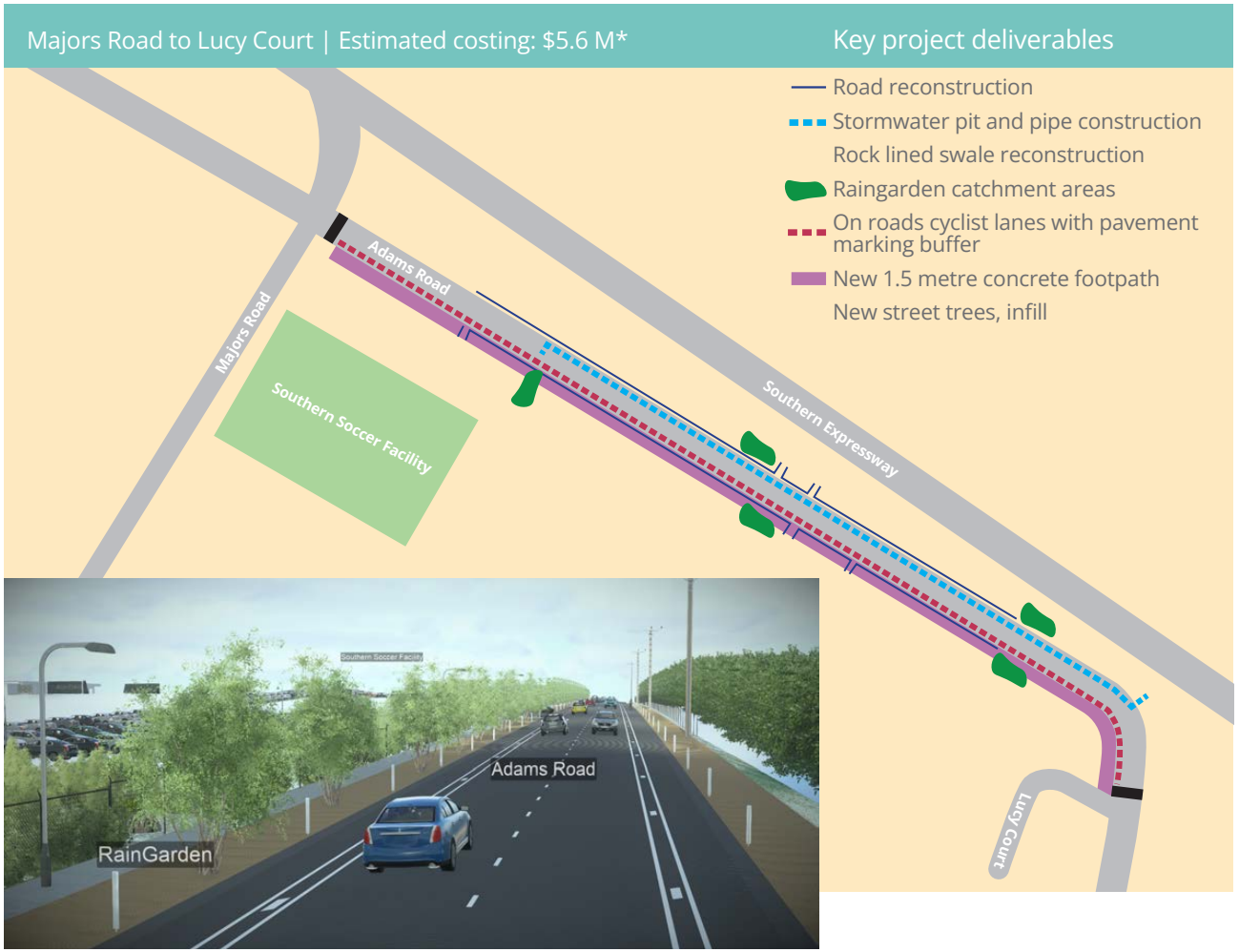


Adams Road, Trott Park

Adams Road includes on-road buffered cycle lanes that connect the north and south, as well as a new footpath and lighting along the western boundary, providing essential access to the Southern Soccer facility and connecting to the BMX facility. The upgraded Majors Road interchange, part of a Department for Infrastructure and Transport project, improves connectivity in the area. Furthermore, stormwater treatment raingardens will help reduce runoff into the Field River from the car park and soccer pitch irrigation.

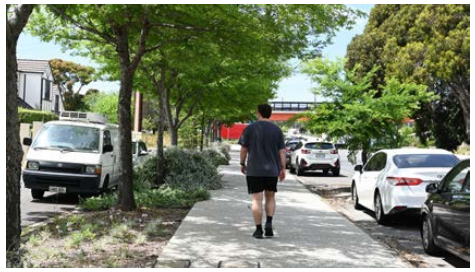
2026-2027 Adams Road, Trott Park

Majors Road to Lucy Court | Estimated costing: $5.6 M*



Adams Road, Trott Park, render of streetscape scene.

**Includes a $4.1M Streetscape budget (2026-27) and $1.5M stormwater budget (2025-26). Staging this project will be more effective and constructable (below ground and above ground assets).*



New footpath connection



Stormwater pits



On-road bike lanes



Typical rain garden



Norfolk Road, Marion

The Norfolk Avenue Streetscape project is designed to complement a major council initiative, focusing on the upgrade of the avenue alongside the basketball stadium off Norfolk Avenue in Marion. This development is anticipated to draw significant grant funding and generate interest both locally and statewide once completed. The new facility aims to enhance the community's health and wellbeing by increasing pedestrian and vehicle traffic. To support this, plans include a new wombat crossing, wider footpaths, street trees, raingardens and indented car parking bays.

2028-2029 Norfolk Road, Marion

Marion Road to 16 Norfolk Road | Estimated costing: $3 M*

Norfolk Road, Marion, render of streetscape scene.



**Budget have been developed using past project rates and should be seen as a high-level estimate. Future detailed design work and consultation will be required to determine the scope and a detailed budget estimate which would be presented through the City of Marion's Annual Business Planning process.*



New pedestrian connection



Street furniture



Stormwater management raingarden



Street tree infill

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CITY OF MARION

12.4 ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Funding Priorities	
Report Reference	GC250422R12.4
Originating Officer	Governance Officer – Amey Johnson
Corporate Manager	Manager Office of the Chief Executive - Sarah Vinall
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The objective of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the "Put Our Communities First" advocacy campaign, led by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) in collaboration with state and territory associations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The next Federal Election must be held by 17 May 2025. Working in conjunction with its member state and territory associations, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has developed a framework and resources for a national advocacy campaign that will run in the lead up to this election. Based around the tagline of "Put Our Communities First", the goal is to secure additional federal funding that will support every council to play a bigger role delivering local solutions to national priorities. All Australian councils have been asked to support and participate in this campaign to ensure a coordinated approach that will deliver the best possible outcomes.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

1. **Council supports the following national federal election funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA)**

    - $1.1 billion per year for enabling infrastructure to unlock housing supply
    - $500 million per year for community infrastructure
    - $600 million per year for safer local roads
    - $900 million per year for increased local government emergency management capability and capacity, and
    - $400 million per year for climate change adaptation.

2. **The Mayor writes to the local federal member(s) of Parliament, all known election candidates in local federal electorates and the President of the Australian Local Government Association expressing support for ALGA's federal election funding priorities.**

DISCUSSION

The campaign "Put Our Communities First" developed by ALGA will advocate for new federal funding to be distributed to all councils on a formula-basis, similar to the Commonwealth's Roads to Recovery Program, or the previous Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. This will ensure that every council and community benefits and support local decision making based on local needs.

In Support of the national federal funding priorities identified by ALGA, a letter has been drafted to

be sent to the local federal members of Parliament, all known election candidates in City of Marion federal electorates and the President of the Australian Local Government Association and is included in Attachment 1.

Supporting a national advocacy campaign does not preclude council from advocating on additional local needs and issues, but it will strengthen the national campaign and support all 537 Australian local governments.

The five national funding priorities have been determined by the ALGA Board–comprised of representatives from each of Australia's state and territory local government associations–and align with key national priorities.

These five funding priorities are:

- $1.1 billion per year for enabling infrastructure to unlock housing supply
- $500 million per year for community infrastructure
- $600 million per year for safer local roads
- $900 million per year for increased local government emergency management capability and capacity, and
- $400 million per year for climate change adaptation.

Further information on each of these priorities is listed below.

Housing enabling infrastructure

A lack of funding for enabling infrastructure–including roads, and water and sewage treatment connections and facilities–is a significant barrier to increasing housing supply across the country. Research from Equity Economics found that 40 per cent of local governments have cut back on new infrastructure developments because of inadequate funding. This research also shows that achieving the National Housing Accord's housing targets would incur an additional $5.7 billion funding shortfall on top of infrastructure funding gaps already being felt by councils and their communities. The five year, $1.1 billion per annum program would fund the infrastructure that is essential to new housing developments, and Australia reaching its housing targets.

Community Infrastructure

ALGA's 2024 National State of the Assets report indicates that $8.3 billion worth of local government buildings and $2.9 billion worth of parks and recreation facilities are in poor condition and need attention. Introduced in 2020, the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program supported all councils to build, maintain and upgrade local facilities, with $3.25 billion allocation formula basis. This program had a significant impact, driving an almost $1 billion improvement in the condition of local government buildings and facilities; and a $500 million per year replacement fund would support all councils to build, upgrade and revitalize the community infrastructure all Australians rely on.

Safer Roads

Councils manage more than 75% of Australia's roads by length, and tragically more than half of all fatal road crashes in Australia occur on these roads. In 2023 the Australian Government announced that it would double Roads to Recovery funding over the forward estimates, providing councils with an additional $500 million per year. However, recent independent research by the Grattan Institute highlighted a $1 billion local government road maintenance funding shortfall, meaning there is still a significant funding gap. Providing local government with $600 million per year tied to road safety programs and infrastructure upgrades would support all councils to play a more effective role addressing Australia's unacceptable road toll.

Climate adaptation

Local governments are at the forefront of grappling with climate impacts as both asset managers and land use decision makers. However, funding and support from other levels of government has failed to keep pace, placing an inequitable burden on councils and communities to fund this work locally. A $400 million per year local government climate adaptation fund would enable all councils to implement place-based approaches to adaptation, delivering local solutions to this national challenge.

Emergency management

Fires, floods and cyclones currently cost Australia $38 billion per year, and this is predicted to rise to $73 billion by 2060. Australian councils play a key role preparing for, responding to and recovering from natural disasters, but aren't effectively funded to carry out these duties. The Government's $200 million per year Disaster Ready Fund is significantly oversubscribed, especially considering the scale and cost of disaster mitigation projects. Numerous national reviews–including the Colvin Review and Royal Commission into Natural Disaster Arrangements–have identified the need for a significant uplift in local government emergency management capability and capacity. A $900 million per year fund would support all councils to better prepare their communities before natural disasters, and more effectively carry out the emergency management responsibilities that have been delegated to them.

In summary, ALGA's "Put Our Communities First" campaign advocates for formula-based federal funding to support all councils in delivering local solutions to national priorities. It focusses on five key areas, including housing-enabling infrastructure, community facilities, road safety, climate adaptation, and emergency management. Councils are encouraged to support and participate to strengthen the campaign and secure increased funding while still advocating for local priorities.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ALGA Federal Funding Priorities Letter for Report [**12.4.1** - 1 page]

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PO Box 21, Park Holme
South Australia 5043

245 Sturt Road, Sturt
South Australia 5047

T (08) 8375 6600
F (08) 8375 6699
E council@marion.sa.gov.au

[Date]

[Name]
[Title]
[Organisation]
[Address]

Dear [Name]

ALGA – National Federal Funding Priorities

I am writing to express the City of Marion's support for the national federal election funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). The priorities advocate to put our communities first by supporting increased funding to Australia's 537 local governments and includes:

- $1.1billion per year for enabling infrastructure to unlock housing supply
- $500 million per year for community infrastructure
- $600 million per year for safer local roads
- $900 million per year for increased local government emergency management capability and capacity, and
- $400 million per year for climate adaptation.

As the closest government to communities, councils can play a meaningful role delivering local solutions to national priorities but require sustainable long-term funding.

Local government's share of national taxation has consistently declined over the past thirty years, as its responsibilities have continued to expand.

Distributing new federal funding programs to all councils on a formula -basis, similar to the Commonwealth's Roads to Recovery Program, or the previous Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program will ensure every council and community benefit and support local decision making based on local needs.

Further information on the identified funding opportunities can be found here: www.putourcommunitiesfirst.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

Kris Hanna

Mayor, City of Marion

DRAFT

12.5 Public Art Strategy	
Report Reference	GC250422R12.5
Originating Officer	Public Art and Place Coordinator – Joyce Louey
Corporate Manager	Manager City Activation - Charmaine Hughes
General Manager	General Manager City Development - Ben Keen

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The objective of this report is to present the Public Art Strategy and Action Plan for Council endorsement to progress to public consultation.

REPORT HISTORY

GC250128R12.2	Interim Report
GC240528R12.2	Public Art Strategy
FORUM241105R1.2	Public Art Strategy consultation
FORUM240507R1.2	Planning for Public Art

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the General Council Meeting held on 28 May 2024 (GC240528R12.2), Council endorsed the creation of a five-year Public Art Strategy consistent with the annual art creation budget of $40,000. On 28 January 2025, the draft Public Art Strategy Interim Report was noted, with plans to present the Strategy for endorsement and public consultation on 25 March 2025.

This Strategy provides a framework for the planning, funding and delivery of public art projects that align with the City of Marion's Strategic Plan 2024-2034, focusing on creating a Liveable Sustainable Community. It aims to foster community belonging, celebrate cultural diversity, and support environmental sustainability, while engaging residents, businesses, and the broader community to promote economic growth.

The strategy will be delivered within the existing public art program creation budget of $40,000 which is utilised for concepts and artwork delivery. Major Projects contain a budget allocation to deliver arts outcomes, requiring no additional funding from Council. Building on past successes, it enhances public art delivery by strengthening site selection, defining key themes, establishing partnerships and securing third-party funding, and maximising opportunities within major projects, open space, and capital works initiatives.

This strategy provides a clear, targeted approach to integrating public art within the City of Marion, enhancing public spaces, fostering community identity, and driving cultural and economic growth.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Draft Public Art Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2030 as outlined in this report for public consultation.**

DISCUSSION

The creation and implementation of a "Public Art Strategy and Action Plan" (**Attachment 1**) is an action of the "City of Marion Business Plan 2023-2027" under the "Liveable" theme. The Public Art Strategy includes:

1. a vision and mission for commissioning public art.
2. 4 key themes of Storytelling, Nature and Sustainability, Inclusion and Participation, and Exploration and Interactivity
3. a framework for responsible, targeted investment in public art.

This Strategy was developed through research, community consultation and stakeholder feedback. Majority of consultation responses were positive, with strong support for public art with:

- 85% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that Council should invest in public art.
- 96% of respondents indicated that public art is good for the community.

Key sites for public art delivery

Three key site hierarchies have been identified for public art delivery; these include:

1. **Hallmark Sites -** Examples of public art projects at Hallmark Sites in the City of Marion include:
   a. The natural landscape of the Coastal Walkway and Glenthorne National Park
   b. Pedestrian and transport hubs like Marion Regional Centre and the Tram Grade Separation Projects, at Plympton and Morphettville
   c. New developments at Seacliff Village.

2. **Connector Sites** - Examples of public art projects at Connector Sites could align with and be funded by City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS), including:
   a. Sports and recreational areas at Glandore Precinct, Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre, Sturt Road Sports Precinct, Cove Sport Stage 2, Majors Road Precinct
   b. Movement linkages of the North-South Corridor
   c. Streetscape upgrades.

3. **Neighbourhood Sites -** Examples for public art projects at Neighbourhood Sites include:
   a. The Council-endorsed Art on Stobie Poles, Utility Boxes, and other small-scale infrastructure program throughout all Council Wards.
   b. Smaller-scale artworks located at neighbourhood developments such as Cove Point, Oaklands Green, Lander Road, and Morphettville.

Action Plan

The accompanying Action Plan outlines goals with targeted strategies and actions for the next five years, ensuring alignment with the City of Marion's Strategic Plan and broader strategies, guidelines and plans.

Expected outcomes with this Strategy

Aligned with the Public Art Guidelines 2020-2028, the City of Marion's Public Art Strategy provides a cohesive framework for integrating public art into urban development. Key outcomes include:

1. Stronger integration of public art into city planning, maximising opportunities within Council's major projects, open spaces, capital works, and external partnerships.
2. Transformation of public spaces into vibrant, welcoming hubs that activate underutilised areas, foster social connections, and enhance safety.
3. A platform for storytelling, allowing residents to share Marion's rich cultural diversity, history, and future aspirations.
4. Economic stimulation by driving foot traffic, supporting local businesses, and attracting new audiences.
5. A more connected and inclusive community, fostering interaction and celebrating shared cultural heritage.

Funding and Resourcing for this Strategy

To successfully deliver public art in the City of Marion, funding and resourcing must be practical to ensure that the intended project scope, purpose, and scale of the works can be achieved in line with the Public Art Strategy.

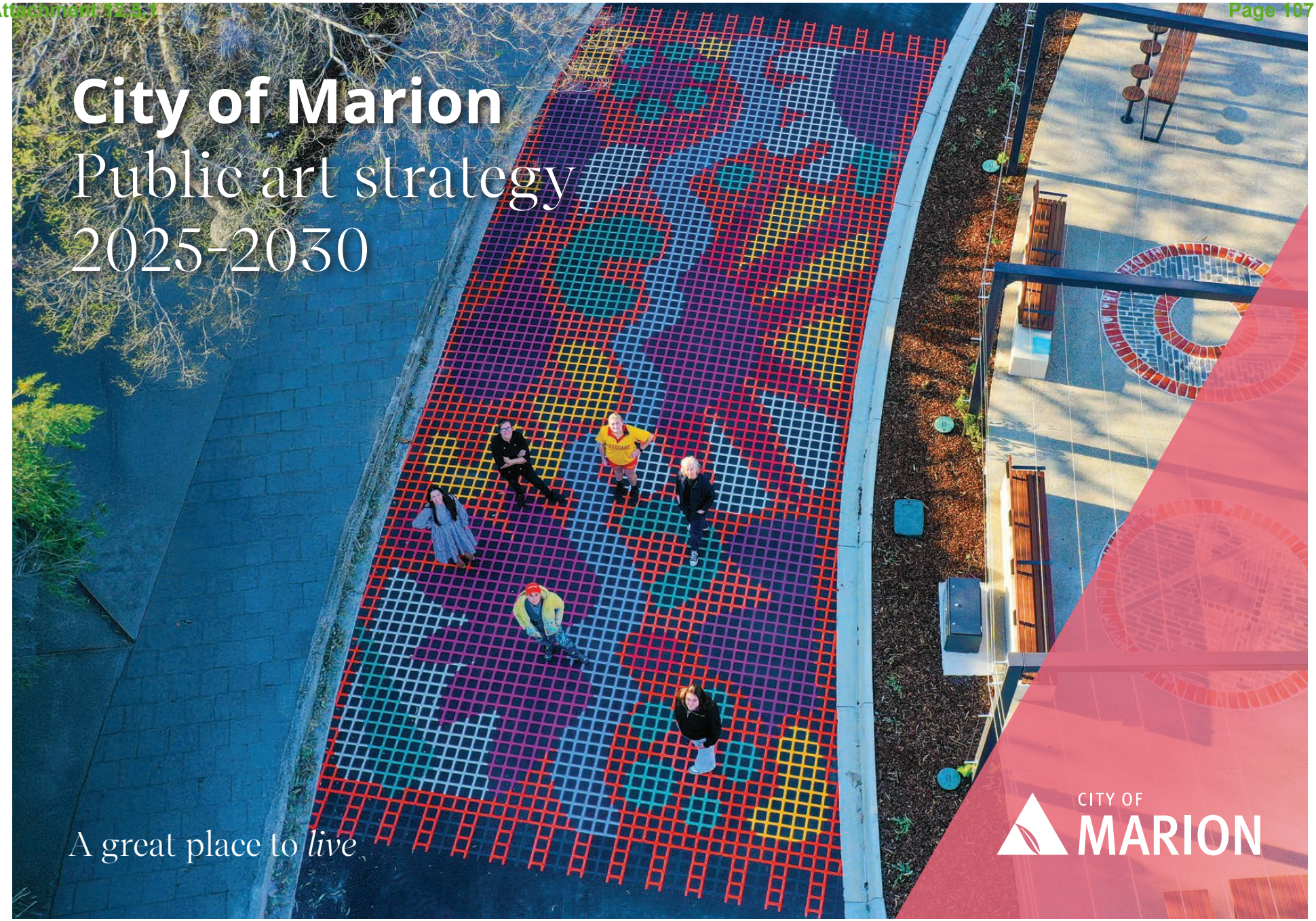
The City of Marion operates within a limited overall budget, with an annual allocation of $25,000 dedicated to the creation of new public artworks and an additional $15,000 for the Art on Utility Boxes, Stobie Poles and other small-scale infrastructure projects. While this strategy does not seek additional funding, it recommends formalising Administration's historical approach for the majority of projects of allocating $35,000+ from major project budgets for projects over $4 million and $10,000 to $30,000 for those valued between $1 million-$4 million, where possible.

Additionally, the strategy supports building partnerships and securing external funding to reduce reliance on Council expenditure while enhancing public spaces through art.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 -Draft Public Art Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2030 [**12.5.1** - 42 pages]
2. CEP Public Art Strategy and Action Plan [**12.5.2** - 8 pages]

City of Marion
Public art strategy 2025-2030



A great place to *live*

CITY OF MARION



Kaurna Acknowledgement

Ngadiu tampendi Kaurna meyunna yaitya mattanya yaintya yerta

This Kaurna acknowledgement was prepared in consultation with traditional custodians.

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Marion acknowledges we are situated on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people and recognises the Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the land.

Gavin Malone, Sherry Rankin, and Margaret Worth, 'Tjilbruke Gateway', 1997, Warriparinga, Warriparinga Way, Bedford Park, photo by Sam Oster

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City of Marion's Public Art Strategy has been developed out of engagement with the community through information sessions, workshops, surveys and feedback posters. It has been guided by *Play Your Part* in collaboration with the City of Marion staff and Council members.

Cover art: Sair Bean in collaboration with Mya Damon, 'Unity in Diversity', 2024, Warracowie Way, Oaklands Park

Executive summary

The City of Marion Public Art Strategy and Action Plan (2025–2030) outlines a comprehensive framework for enhancing public spaces through innovative and impactful public art projects. Aligned with the City's Strategic Plan 2024-2034 of "A Liveable, Sustainable Community", this Strategy aims to foster a sense of belonging, celebrate cultural diversity, and support environmental sustainability while engaging the community and promoting economic growth.

What is public art?

"Public art is artwork located in public spaces and buildings other than galleries and museums. It is created by practitioners for outdoor spaces such as parks, foreshores, beaches, city squares, streets, courtyards and forecourts, or indoor spaces in publicly or privately-owned buildings such as schools, hospitals, churches, shopping centres, recreation centres, local government administration centres, office buildings, hotels, etc.

Public art can take many forms in many different materials. It can be free-standing work or integrated into the fabric of buildings or outdoor spaces, such as a sculpture or mural."

- National Association of Visual Arts (NAVA)

Public art comes in various forms, defined by its physicality, purpose, and materials, designed to achieve social, cultural, economic, and community benefits. It is typically created in relation to its environment, with a focus on community and place.



Gerry McMahon, 'Little Marion Skipping, 2008, Marion Historic Village, George Street, Marion, photo by Sam Oster

Vision and mission

- **Vision:** A public art collection that celebrates the character and identity of the City of Marion community, its people, and the landscape, and contributes to its vision of a liveable and sustainable community.
- **Mission :** To deliver best-practice public art projects in collaboration with a range of stakeholders and create artwork that not only transforms and enhances public space but also educates and reflects Marion's community, cultural and environmental values.

Strategic goals

- Activate and transform public spaces to enhance community identity and safety.
- Foster community engagement with culture and heritage through public art.
- Create iconic and interactive artworks that situate Marion as a cultural hub.
- Empower community and stakeholders to develop meaningful public art projects.
- Build artists' capacity to work collaboratively and deliver work in a community context.



Themes

- **Storytelling**: Public art celebrates Marion's heritage, culture, transformation, and future aspirations by telling creative and meaningful stories.
- **Nature and sustainability:** Public art reflects Marion's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable practices by incorporating environmentally friendly materials in the creation of public art projects, promoting sustainability, and raising awareness of environmental issues.
- **Inclusion and participation:** Public art fosters community pride and collaboration by involving residents in its creation, encouraging ownership, and strengthening connections between individuals and their local environment.
- **Exploration and interactivity:** Public art inspires curiosity and dialogue by offering innovative and engaging experiences that provoke thought, spark conversation, and encourage exploration of new ideas and perspectives.



Site selection and hierarchy

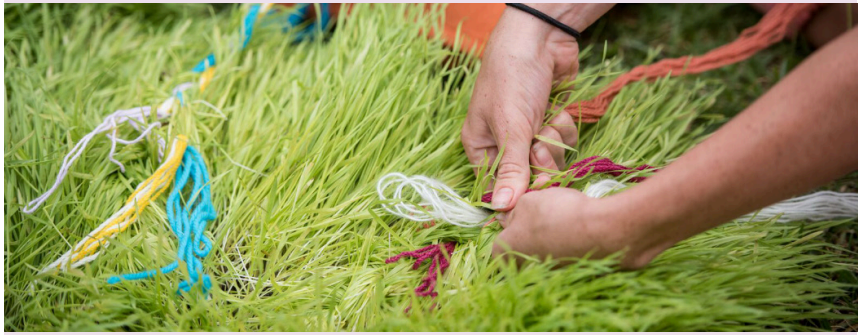
- **Hallmark sites:** High-profile locations for large-scale works. Large to medium scale artworks could be incorporated into this site, and include significant sculptures, large murals, or integrated installations
- **Connector sites:** Key areas linking people and places. This site could include large to medium scale artworks such as significant sculptures, large murals, digital/light based artwork or integrated installations.
- **Neighbourhood sites:** Intimate spaces fostering community connection. This site could include small scale artworks including footpath Inlays, small murals, stobie pole art, digital/light based artwork, landscaping elements.

Upper left: Mark Timberlake, Laura Wills, 'Pages of the River', 2018, Fairford House, Warriparinga

Upper right: Aboriginal Contemporary Arts, 'Kantu' (Leap frog), 2023, Warriparinga, Warriparinga Way, Bedford Park

Why do we need a strategy?

The City of Marion's Public Art Strategy, aligned with the Public Art Guidelines 2020-2028, provides a cohesive framework for integrating public art into urban development. Public art can enhance community spaces and reflects the city's diverse identity.



Laura Wills, 'Weaving Communities', 2017, temporary art installation at Marion Celebrates Festival, photo by Sam Oster

Previously, public art was not always integrated into city planning, leading to some missed opportunities in major projects and partnerships. This strategy addresses those gaps by adopting a strategic, collaborative framework that prioritises early engagement in planning. It focuses on a long-term vision, stronger partnerships, and better resource allocation to ensure public art enhances the city's cultural, environmental, and community goals.

This new strategy improves upon past achievements and aligns with the organisational Strategic Plan. It refines our approach to site selection, third-party funding, and opportunities within major projects, emphasising public art as a fundamental resource to creativity, community engagement, and sustainability. By adopting a more strategic approach, we ensure public art remains integral to Marion's identity and growth.

Given limited funds, external partnerships and funding will be sought to support the creation and delivery of this strategy.

The City of Marion operates within a limited overall budget, with an annual allocation of $25,000 dedicated to the creation of new public artworks and an additional $15,000 for the Art on Utility Boxes, Stobie Poles and other small-scale infrastructure projects. This strategy will support the council in building partnerships and seek external funding, helping to lessen the reliance on council expenditure while continuing to enhance public spaces through art.

Public art can transform spaces into vibrant, welcoming hubs, activate underutilised areas, foster social connections, and improve safety, whilst supporting the City of Marion's broader goals of sustainability, community wellbeing, and cultural celebration.

Marion's cultural diversity and heritage, including the stories of Kaurna people, are central to its identity. Public art provides an accessible platform to celebrate these narratives, fostering reconciliation and a sense of belonging while strengthening connections and creating inclusive spaces.



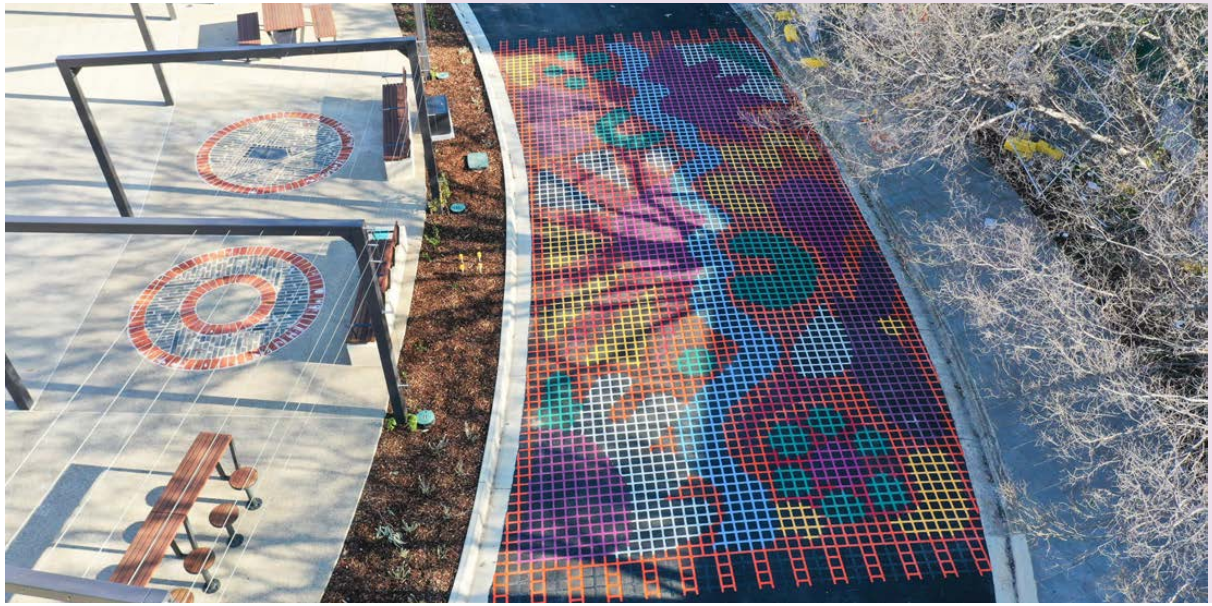
Groundplay, 'Chain Link People', 2012, Mike Turtur Bikeway, Plympton Park

Economically, public art can help stimulate local economies by driving foot traffic to public spaces, supporting businesses, and attracting new audiences. For example, collaborating with businesses and landlords, like the mural on Addison Road in Warradale, enhances public spaces and supports local revitalisation.

Public art can foster community pride, creating a sense of ownership and belonging among residents. This sense of pride, coupled with improved spaces, can lead to higher property values, making the city more appealing to potential residents and investors.



Alexas Bellas, placemaking and activation mural', 2023, Addison Road, Warradale



Martin Corbin, 'Warracowie Wells', 2002, renewed 2024. Sair Bean in collaboration with Mya Damon, 'Unity in Diversity', 2024, Warracowie Way, Oaklands Park

The Public Art Strategy will foster a more connected and inclusive community, creating spaces for interaction and shared cultural heritage. It will enhance the environment, turning ordinary spaces into landmarks that reflect the city's values and identity. A notable work, Unity in Diversity, is a vibrant ground mural made from thermoplastic, located on Warracowie Way, Oaklands Park. The artwork honours the area's rich diversity and historical significance while promoting activity, connectivity, and the vibrancy of the Marion Cultural Centre Plaza and its surroundings.

Why do we need a strategy?

Value of public art

Public art conveys ideas, stimulates conversation, and benefits communities in several ways.

Project2Project, 'Congregate Ins and Outs', 2022, Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre, photo by Trim Photography





Donna Gordge and community, 'A Place with a History and a Future' detail, 2022, Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre



Fostering a sense of belonging, pride and connection to place

Public art can reflect local identity and culture. Local residents can develop a sense of ownership and identify with the stories embodied within the work. *'A Place with a History and a Future'* is a hand dyed, printed and stitched textile artwork installed at Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre. The textile artwork is a community storytelling artwork that acknowledges and celebrates the local environment, culture, industry, employment and community.

Value of public art

Value of public art

Danica Gacesa McLean, Trevor Wren, 'Synthesis B', 2024, Alawoona Avenue, Mitchell Park



Enhancing safety and reducing anti-social behaviour:

Artworks that integrate light and sound have the power to transform spaces, attracting more people visiting a space, and enhancing the sense of safety.

'Synthesis A' and *'Synthesis B'* artworks at Alawoona Avenue Reserves showcases this transformative potential. These installations not only illuminate the artwork itself but also provide ambient lighting for the reserve.

Matt Fortrose, 'The Big Thaw', 2021, Appleby Road Reserve, Morphettville, photo by artist



Educating and challenging perceptions:

Art can raise awareness of issues like environmental concerns by using recycled materials or creatively educating and engaging audiences.

'The Big Thaw' court murals creatively interpret the impacts of coastal flooding, erosion and saltwater intrusion, linking these issues to rising sea levels and increased land temperatures while potentially sparking conversations on sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Barbary O'Brien and community, 'Save the Big Blue Coastal Interpretive Signage', 2004, Coastal Walking Trail, Hallett Cove, photo by Sam Oster



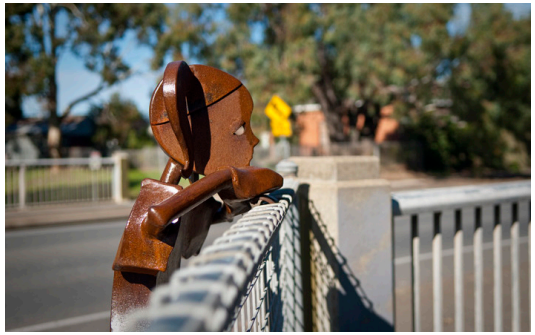
Influencing behaviour:

Public art can encourage exploration and responsible actions.

'Save the Big Blue' coastal interpretive signs which stretch along Marino to Hallett Cove on the Marion Coastal Walking Trail, welcomes and introduces trail users to the marine coastal environment, Kaurna language and coastal heritage. The signs encourage everyone to help protect the natural landscape.

Value of public art

Gerry McMahon, 'Little Marion Pondering', 2008, Finniss Street, Marion, photo by Sam Oster



Celebrating culture and identity

The *'Little Marion'* sculptures in Marion Historic Village, plays an important role in preserving and sharing the stories of a community.

The artwork, which reflects the memories and experiences of a local resident, helps keep the history of the area alive for current and future generations. The sculptures are adored by the community, with a local family living in the village, even adding ribbons to the hair of the Little Marion figures, highlights how public art can foster a deep, emotional connection between a piece of art and its audience. This sense of shared history and personal involvement turns the sculptures into more than just art - they become part of the living narrative of the village.

Sair Bean, 'Pieces of Edwardstown', 2022, Raglan Avenue, Edwardstown



Boosting community engagement and economic impact

Large-scale public artworks can enhance community engagement, increase a region's vitality, and foster community pride. They can also contribute to higher property values and stimulate economic activity.

The *'Pieces of Edwardstown'* mural serves as a welcoming entry point and is part of the Edwardstown Art Trail. Located near Raglan Avenue and Brookes Terrace, the mural transforms the Castle Plaza wall with vibrant colours and shapes, celebrating the area's past retail industry and growth to the present day.

Sair Bean and Creative Pavements installing 'Unity in Diversity', 2024, Warracowie Way, Oaklands Park



Supporting a vibrant cultural and creative sector

Public art provides opportunities for skill development, collaboration for artists, audience engagement and jobs.

'Unity in Diversity' DuraTherm road artwork was created in collaboration with artists, the local community, and road and pavement fabricators.

When developing public art projects, it is essential to clearly understand the purpose of the work. All parties involved must define the creative vision and intended outcomes, as these will shape the creation process, placement, and physical form of the artwork.

Strategic overview

Vision

A public art collection that celebrates the character and identity of the City of Marion community, its people and the landscape, and contributes to its vision of a liveable sustainable community.

Mission

To deliver best-practice public art projects in collaboration with a range of stakeholders and create artwork that not only transforms and enhances public space but also educates and reflects Marion's community, cultural and environmental values.

Goals

- Activate and transform public spaces increasing a sense of belonging and safety.
- Engage community in culture and heritage through public art.
- Develop iconic works which are distinctive, interactive and situate people within the City of Marion.
- Increase the capacity of a range of community, government and commercial stakeholders to develop public art projects that contribute to the social and economic fabric of the City of Marion.
- Increase the capacity of artists within the City of Marion to develop public art and work in a community context.



Michael Kutschbach, 'e.v.a', 2020, Denham Avenue, Morphettville, photo by S. Noonan

Alignment with City of Marion Strategic Plan 2024–2034

The delivery of the vision and the implementation of the Action Plan, will contribute to City of Marion's Community Vision directions of "Liveable", "Sustainable" "Community" and "Our Organisation".



Priority L2 – Accessible and Multiuse Places and Spaces: Public art installations can transform spaces into community hubs, creating public interest.



Priority S2 – Connecting to the natural environment: Public art can promote the value of and engagement with the natural environment and support its preservation.



Priority C1 – A Welcoming and friendly city: Public art contributes to this goal by celebrating local stories, Aboriginal heritage, and the broader cultural narrative of our community.



Priority O6 – Partnerships: Partnering with artists, Aboriginal groups, and other stakeholders to co-create art that aligns with our community values and strategic directions.

Principles

These principles, alongside the City of Marion's Public Art Guidelines 2020-2028, guide the development and delivery of public art projects. They provide a framework for how council shapes and implements initiatives in collaboration with a range of internal and external stakeholders. Regardless of the project's nature, all these principles should be considered in the planning and implementation stages.

1 Quality and excellence

Utilise the skills of professional practicing artists to create high quality artwork. Best practice approaches will be utilised to develop work of artistic merit.

Supports priority O6: Partnerships

2 Integration

Incorporate public art into council projects wherever possible, including precinct planning, master planning, major projects, open space development, streetscaping, and infrastructure.

Supports priority L2: Accessible and multiuse places and spaces.

Supports priority S2: Connecting to the natural environment

3 Participation

Provide opportunities for our community to engage in public art development, both through practical, hands-on involvement and by sharing their stories.

Supports priority C1: A welcoming friendly city.

4 Partnerships

Foster partnerships with our community and other stakeholders to enhance engagement and support for public art projects. This includes collaborating with developers, government, community organisations, local businesses and education institutions.

Supports priority O6: Partnerships

5 Relevance and purpose

Public art will be relevant to our community, with a clear sense of purpose. It will focus on ideas, stories, and concepts that resonate with local residents and provide a clearly articulated value for the City of Marion.

Supports priority C1: A welcoming friendly city.

6 Capacity building

Offer mentoring and skills development opportunities for artists, and build the skills of others to create, interpret, and appreciate public art.

Supports priority O6: Partnerships



Themes

The themes outlined in this Public Art Strategy are vital as they serve as foundation shaping and curating the City of Marion's Public Art Collection. They provide a consistent framework that informs the development of public art briefs, ensuring that artworks resonate with the community and address shared priorities.

By reflecting the outcomes of extensive consultation and research, these themes represent the collective voice of the City of Marion's residents, businesses, artists, and other stakeholders. They capture the community's unique identity, honour its history, and align with the City's broader strategic goals.

"Public art humanises the built environment and invigorates public spaces and is [an] essential to bringing meaning to communities. We need more of it."

CHEB Art and Design, 'Butterfly Fence' detail, 2016, Jervois Street Reserve, South Plympton

Storytelling

Storytelling is a central element of public art development in the City of Marion providing relevance and opportunities for interpretation. It envisions future hopes and aspirations for the city in creative, interactive and engaging ways. By celebrating our diverse heritage and culture, like the "A Place with a History and Future" textile artwork, and sharing stories of our people and place, public art can help the community connect, acknowledges our culture and identity, and contributes to shaping a Liveable, Sustainable Community.

Key focus areas include First Nations stories, multiculturalism and the narratives embodied within the landscape, built heritage, and the city's transformation from an agricultural food bowl to a bustling suburban, industrial, and recreational hub.

Our community's stories and experiences of what makes Marion an exciting place to live, work and play will also be central drivers in the delivery of public art projects.



Donna Gordge and community, 'A Place with a History and a Future', 2022, Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre, photo by Trim Photography



"Show stories of individuals [and individuals], Kaurna, agricultural settlers, brickworks, vineyards, depict what was here."

Nature and sustainability

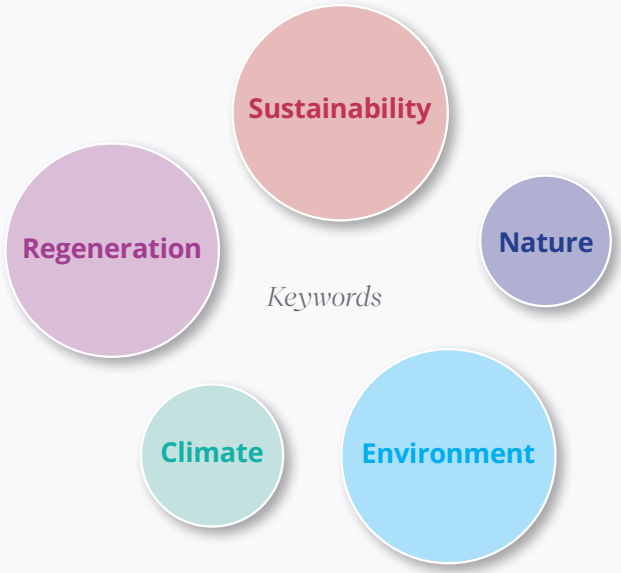
The natural environment, including the flora and fauna within the City of Marion, is highly valued by our community. “Reclaiming Sturt River”, an arts and environment public art project, explores the Sturt River, its surrounding spaces, and the social, cultural and biodiversity stories it holds.

Public art projects can acknowledge climate change, regeneration, and human connections with nature through both form and materials, as well as their location. This theme emphasises sustainability and environmental care, with a focus on areas like the Sturt River, the city’s coastline, Glenthorne National Park, and open green spaces. Public art centred around nature and sustainability also provide opportunities to educate, provoke thought, and encourage dialogue on local and global challenges.

All artworks will be delivered with consideration on minimising negative environmental impacts during material selection, installation, maintenance, renewal and decommissioning.



Ink and Ruby Studios, ‘Birds of the Flood Plain’ detail, 2021, Sturt River Linear Path, Finniss Street, Marion



“Celebrating the natural environment within our concrete jungles - anything uplifting and joyful”.

Inclusion and participation

City of Marion residents have a strong interest in actively contributing to the culture of their community, as seen in places like the Marion Cultural Centre, Marion Historic Village, library branches and local streets through the stobie pole art program.

Public art development encourages civic engagement, offering opportunities for our community to share ideas, meanings and participate in the creation of the artwork. It helps individuals connect with the collective essence of the community, inviting reflection on shared experiences, identities, and the power of community. Collaborative public art fosters community pride, increases ownership, and encourages reflection, challenging norms and inspiring creative adaptation to the environment.



Lorna Nickels, stobie pole art, 2021, Duncan Avenue, Park Holme



Moreyarti, stobie pole art, 2024, Peckham Road, Plympton Park



"Murals with themes of kindness, community, working together, be active, look after each other, celebrate our differences."

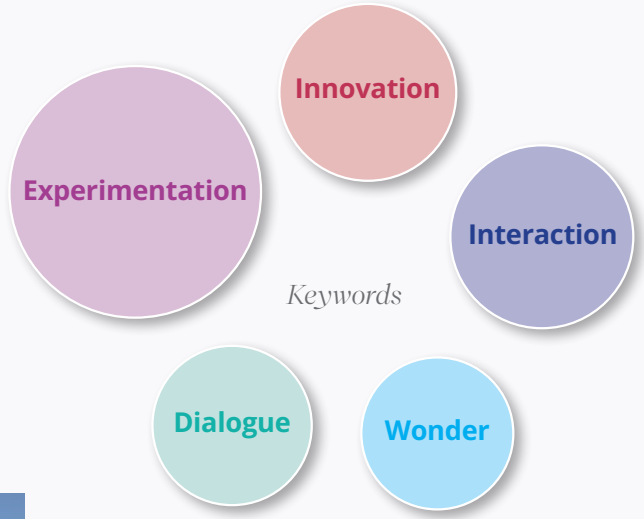
Exploration and interactivity

This theme highlights the power of creative and cultural experimentation to inspire wonder, ignite dialogue, shift perspectives, and craft compelling public art. The City of Marion, a thriving hub of retail areas like Marion Shopping Centre, industry such as Edwardstown, and innovation like Tonsley, has experienced significant transformation since the village of Marion was first mapped out in 1838. Public art in this dynamic context fosters fresh connections with ideas, emotions, and the environment.

An example of this theme is the *'Dig and Delve'* sculpture at Hendrie Street Reserve Playground. An oversized spade, symbolising local agriculture, river life and village settlement. The blade serves as a canvas for images and tactile, visual play, including integrated gongs and keys for playing tunes.



Will Cheesman, Laura Wills, 'Dig and Delve', 2019, Hendrie Street Reserve Playground, Park Holme



"Wouldn't it be wonderful to have a big vision for public art in Marion and to value the importance of imagination".



Hallett Cove, 2021, photo by Stellar Momentum

For this strategy, 5 key council characteristics have been identified, providing an overview that highlights the key areas within the city. The council characteristics have been developed to help identify and incorporate relevant themes for public art, as detailed in the themes section. They provide guidance in the creation of artwork that reflects the city's diverse areas, values, and priorities.

Council characteristics

Culture and heritage

Cultural and Heritage areas include Warriparinga, Perry Barr Farm, Marion Historic Village and Glandore.

Industry

Marion features strong industrial precincts in the north and centre of the city at Edwardstown and Tonsley.

Retail

Retail precincts include Castle Plaza Shopping Centre in the north, Marion Shopping Centre at Oaklands Park, and Hallett Cove Shopping Centre in the south.

Environment

Environmental areas of significance are Glenthorne National Park, Hallett Cove Conservation Park, Coastal Walkway and the Sturt River.

Recreation

Recreational areas stretch from Majors Road in the south to Morphettville Racecourse in the north.

Site selection

The City of Marion, in collaboration with its stakeholders, selects sites for public art based on a range of considerations, and identifies these within a hierarchy that informs the scale, purpose, and nature of the artwork. This approach ensures that each piece is placed in a context that enhances its impact and relevance to the surrounding area.

Site considerations

Location and visibility
Ensure the artwork is accessible and highly visible, considering installation, viewing and maintenance ease.

Demographic use
Tailor site selection to the intended users and purpose—retail, residential, or industrial areas may require different approaches.

Artwork purpose
Align the site with the artwork's goals, such as education or cultural relevance, to amplify its impact.

Strategic priorities
Support the council's vision of a Liveable Sustainable Community by choosing sites that align with development, placemaking, economic growth, natural environmental sustainability and social connectivity.

Site history and future
Consider cultural significance, hazards, and evolution, as well as trends like zoning, population growth, and development plans.

Positive impact on amenity
Public art can have a positive impact on amenity by enhancing the visual appeal of public spaces, creating a sense of identity, and fostering a more engaging and welcoming environment for our community.

Sites for public art

Historically, Marion was known for farming, mining, quarrying and brickmaking. Growth began in the 1880s, with significant subdivision in the 1920s. Significant residential development through the late 1940s, aided by industrial growth and public housing construction.

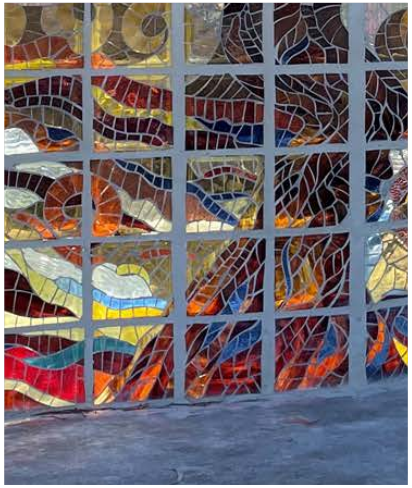
The City of Marion has a resident population of 98,493, with a one per cent annual growth rate and a total land area of 56.17 square kilometres. The city features conservation areas, recreation parks, rivers and a coastline.

Public art sites are categorised based on key factors. These three main categories, with their specific attributes, are articulated and can be viewed in the supporting maps.

In order to successfully deliver public art at these sites, funding and resourcing for public art projects must be practical to ensure that the intended scope, purpose, and scale of the works can be achieved in line with the Public Art Strategy.

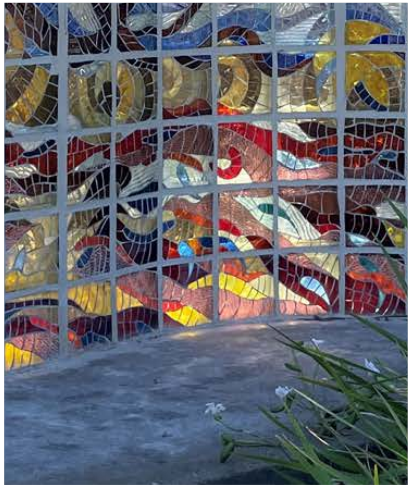
City of Marion will always endeavour to seek external funding, partnerships and relationships to assist in the funding, creation, commissioning and delivery of this Strategy.

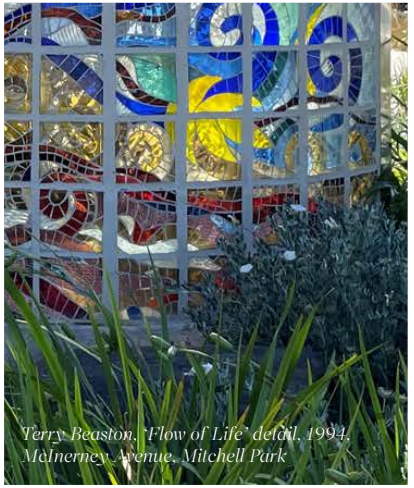












Terry Beaston, 'Flow of Life' detail, 1994, McInerney Avenue, Mitchell Park

Hallmark sites

Hallmark sites are prominent, high-visibility locations with significant pedestrian and/or vehicle traffic, making them ideal for large-scale public art. These sites deliver multi-layered outcomes such as urban renewal, tourism, placemaking and heritage preservation.

Example of opportunities for public art delivery at hallmark sites:*

Project	Year	Type of public art	Council contribution (pending)	External funding (Pending)
Coastal Walkway (align with Coastal Walkway Strategy)	2025-2030	Large-scale artwork	$50,000	$100,000
Tram Grade Separation Projects (Plympton and Morphettville)	2026	Medium scale artworks	-	TBC
Seacliff Village	2026+	Medium scale artwork	-	TBC
Marion Regional Centre	2030+	Mixed-scale artworks including the potential of a sculpture event at Marion Cultural Centre plaza.	-	TBC
Glenthorne National Park	2027+	Medium scale artwork	-	$50,000
Glandore Precinct	2025-2026	Medium scale artwork	$40,250	$15,000

** all opportunities for public art delivery Council will seek, where possible, partnerships, funding contributions and approvals. Large to medium scale artworks could include significant sculptures, large murals, or integrated installations*



Allan Sumner and Exhibition Studios, 'Puru Yuwanthi' (Still standing), 2020, corner Sturt Road and Main South Road, Tonsley

Connector sites

Connector sites link people to various areas or structures and are often part of precincts or specific locations like shopping centres, civic buildings, or recreational reserves. Artworks at these sites vary in scale and scope based on the site's characteristics and specific objectives.

Example of opportunities for public art delivery at connector sites*:

Project	Year	Type of public art	Council contribution (pending)	External funding (Pending)
Sturt Road Sports Precinct (Marion Basketball Stadium)	2025-2027	Medium scale artwork	$40,250	$15,000
Cove Sports Stage 2	2025-2030	Medium scale artwork	$40,250	$15,000
Majors Road Precinct	2030+	Medium scale artwork	TBC	TBC
North-South Corridor	2026-2030	Large scale artwork in collaboration with State Government	-	TBC
Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre	2025-2030	Medium scale artwork	$40,250	$15,000
Plympton Oval	2025-2030	Medium scale artwork	$40,250	$15,000

Note: all opportunities for public art delivery Council will seek, where possible, partnerships, funding contributions and approvals. Large to medium scale artworks could include significant sculptures, large murals, or integrated installations. These projects could be aligned to and funded by the City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS)



Project2Project, Oaklands Community Connections wayfinding sign, 2020, Dwyer Road Reserve, Oaklands Park

Neighbourhood sites

Neighbourhood sites are intimate locations within residential areas that connect directly with the local community and reflects the culture of the space. Found on street corners, in residential reserves, or smaller retail strips these sites are ideal for "human scale" artwork or pieces integrated into the site's physical features. Art at neighbourhood sites fosters participation and engagement with local residents, workers, and the community.

Example of opportunities for public art delivery at neighbourhood sites:*:

Project	Year	Type of public art	Council contribution (pending)	External funding (Pending)
Public Art on Utility Boxes, Stobie Poles, bus shelters, small infrastructure	Annual	Murals, small artworks	$15,000 (Council endorsed program)	-
Cove Point	2030+		-	$15,000
Oaklands Green	TBC		-	$15,000
Lander Road Neighbourhood	2030+		-	$15,000
Morphettville Neighbourhood	2030+		-	$15,000

**Note: all opportunities (aside from the Council endorsed Public Art on Utility Boxes, Stobie Poles and other scale-appropriate assets program) for public art delivery Council will seek, where possible, partnerships, funding contributions and approvals. Small scale artworks could include footpath inlays, small murals, digital/light based artworks or landscaping elements.*

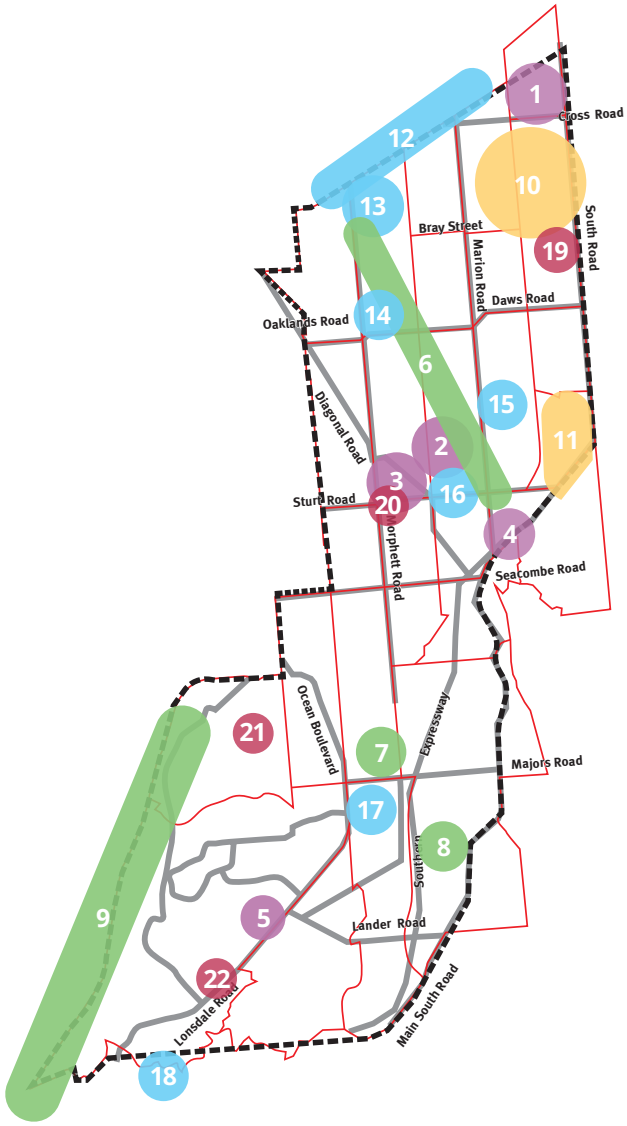


Lorna Nickels, stobie pole art, 2024, Hurst Street, Seaview Downs

Key council characteristics

The council characteristics have been developed to help identify and incorporate relevant themes for public art, they provide guidance in the creation of artwork that reflects the city's diverse areas, values, and priorities.

- Culture and Heritage
- Environment
- Industry
- Recreation
- Retail



1. Glandore
2. Marion Historic Village
3. Marion Cultural and Leisure Precinct
4. Warriparinga
5. Perry Barr Farm
6. Sturt River, Oaklands Wetland
7. O'Halloran Hill Recreation Park
8. Glenthorne National Park
9. Coastal Walkway, Hallett Cove Conservation Park, Marino Conservation Park
10. Edwardstown Industrial Precinct
11. Tonsley Innovation District
12. Mike Turtur Bikeway
13. Morphettville Racecourse
14. Marion Leisure and Fitness Centre
15. Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre
16. Sturt Road Sports Precinct
17. Majors Road Precinct
18. Cove Sports and Community Club
19. Castle Plaza Shopping Centre
20. Westfield Marion
21. Seacliff Village
22. Hallett Cove Shopping Centre

Note: While certain areas may have multiple characteristics, the most dominant one has been chosen to help simplify classifications



Hallmark sites

Hallmark sites are prominent, high-visibility locations with significant pedestrian and/or vehicle traffic, making them ideal for large-scale public art.

Existing

Future opportunities

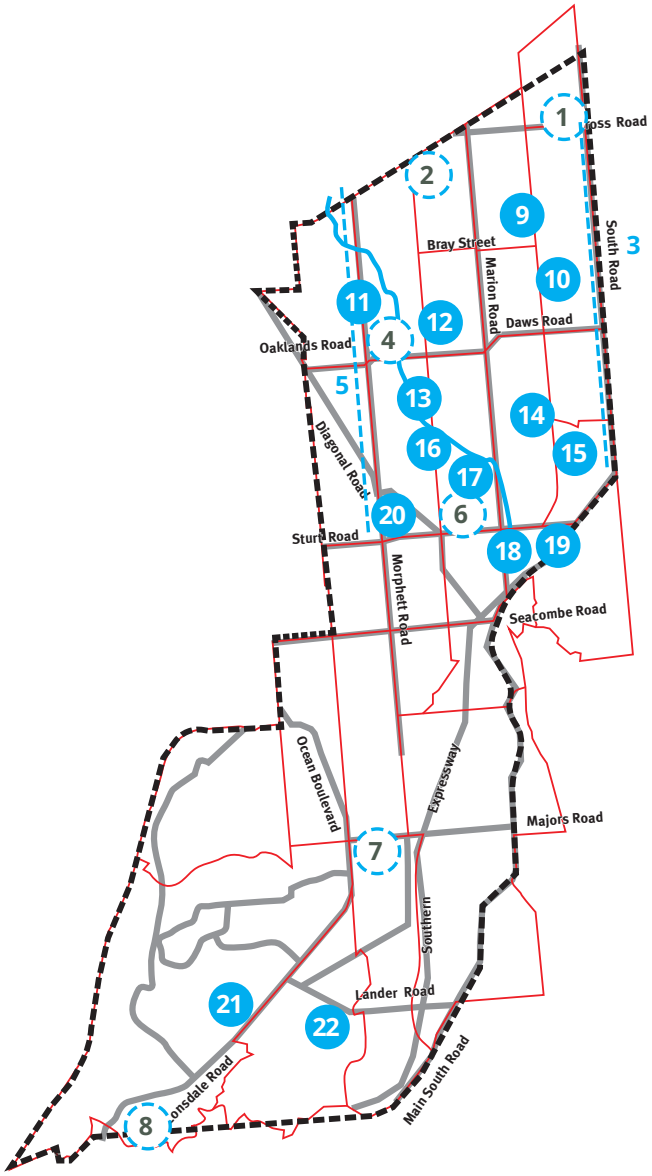
1. Tram Grade Separation Projects
2. Marion Regional Centre
3. Seacliff Village
4. Glenthorne National Park
5. Coastal Walkway
6. Warriparinga

Connector sites

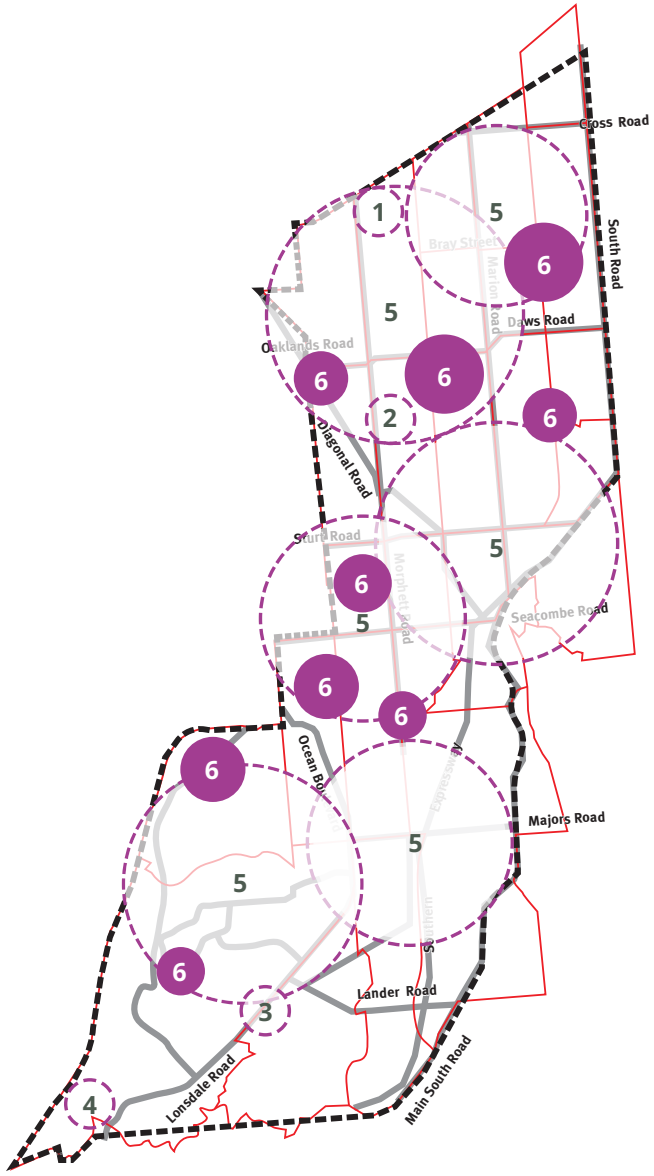
Connector sites link people to various areas or structures and are often part of precincts or specific locations like shopping centres, civic buildings, or recreational reserves.

Existing

Future opportunities



1. Glandore Precinct
2. Plympton Oval
3. North-South Corridor Project
4. Marion Fitness and Leisure Centre
5. Morphett Road Tram Crossing and Morphett Road to Sturt Road Corridor
6. Sturt Road Sports Precinct
7. Majors Road Precinct
8. Cove Sports Stage 2
9. Edwardstown Sports Memorial Recreation Ground
10. Edwardstown Industrial Precinct
11. Morphetttville Parks Sports and Community Club
12. Hendrie Street Reserve Playground
13. Marion Historic Village
14. Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre
15. Tonsley Precinct
16. Sturt River Linear Path
17. Oaklands Reserve
18. Warriparinga
19. South Road/Sturt Road Precinct
20. Marion Cultural Centre
21. Cove Civic Centre
22. Hugh Johnson Boulevard Reserve



Neighbourhood sites

Neighbourhood sites are intimate locations within residential areas that connect directly with the local community and reflects the culture of the space.

Existing

Future opportunities

1. Morphettville Neighbourhood
2. Oaklands Green
3. Lander Road Neighbourhood
4. Cove Point
5. Stobie Pole art, utility box art, bus shelter art installations, and other small-scale artworks
6. Stobie Pole art, utility box art, bus shelter art installations, and other small-scale artworks

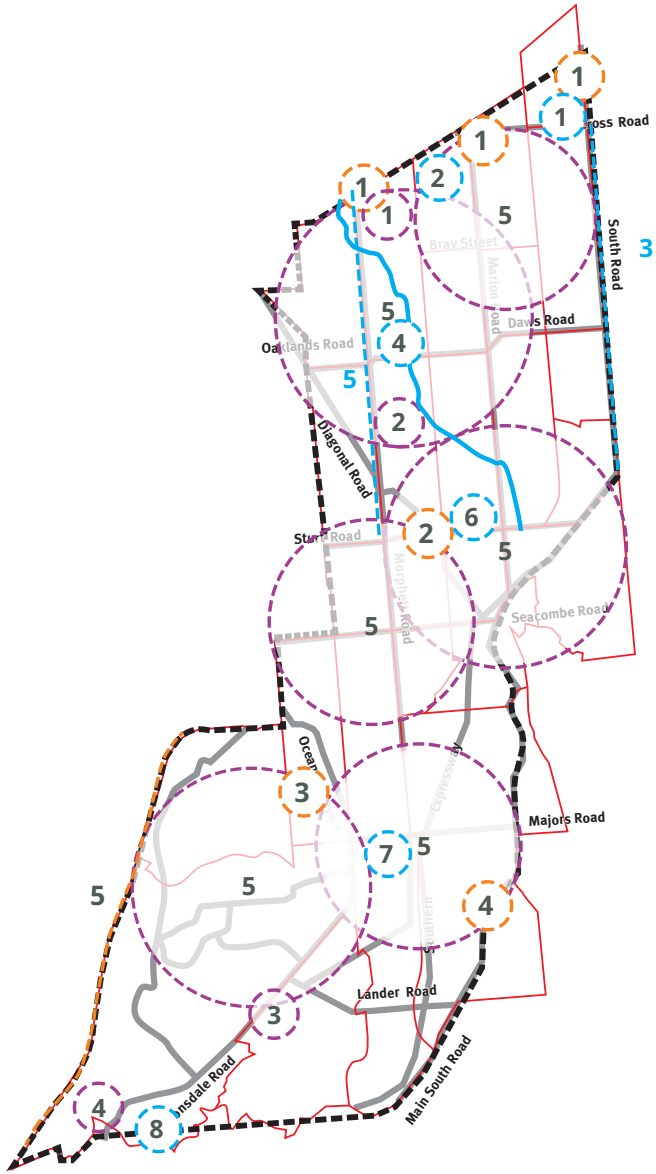
Map overlay of all future opportunities

Hallmark sites

1. Tram Grade Separation Projects
2. Marion Regional Centre
3. Seacliff Village
4. Glenthorne National Park
5. Coastal Walkway

Connector sites

1. Glandore Precinct
2. Plympton Oval
3. North-South Corridor Project
4. Marion Fitness and Leisure Centre
5. Morphett Road Tram Crossing and Morphett Road to Sturt Road Corridor
6. Sturt Road Sports Precinct
7. Majors Road Precinct
8. Cove Sports Stage 2



Neighbourhood sites

1. Morphettville Neighbourhood
2. Oaklands Green
3. Lander Road Neighbourhood
4. Cove Point
5. Stobie Pole art, utility box art, bus shelter art and other small-scale artworks



Action plan

Each goal in the Public Art Strategy is supported by targeted strategies and practical actions, ensuring alignment with the City of Marion's broader vision. The timeframe indicates the expected duration for implementing or addressing each goal, strategy and action.



Strategies	Actions	Timeframe
Goal 1: Activate and transform public spaces, increasing a sense of belonging and safety		
S1.1 Placemaking through art: Use art to create welcoming, vibrant spaces that foster a sense of security and community pride.	Partner with artists to design small and large-scale artworks that revitalise neglected urban areas, create landmarks, and have the potential to boost the local economy near cafés, retail hubs, and other sites (– eg murals, sculptures, installations).	Ongoing
S1.2 Art-Driven revitalisation: Focus on underutilised or unattractive areas, using art to transform and enhance their appeal.	Implement light-based public art, such as illuminated sculptures or light shows, in dark or less-frequented areas to improve perceived safety.	Years 3-4
	Prioritise public art in high-traffic areas like in our local parks and recreation spaces such as Glenthorne National Park, Hallett Cove Foreshore, and transport hubs such as the North-South Corridor, Tram Grade Road Separation Projects, to enhance their aesthetic and functional value.	Ongoing
	Include public art in the development of all major projects such as Glandore Oval, Marion Basketball Stadium, and the Coastal Walkway.	Ongoing
	Integrate art into infrastructure, such as seating, pathways, and lighting.	Ongoing
	Program a variety of public art types across the council, including temporary, ephemeral, permanent, integrated, functional, and interactive artworks.	Ongoing

Strategies	Actions	Timeframe
Goal 2: Engage community in culture and heritage through public art.		
S2.1 Community engagement and participation: Involve diverse groups in the design and development of public art to ensure inclusivity and reflect the varied perspectives and needs of our community. **S2.2 Heritage preservation:** Use art to tell the stories of Marion's transformation and celebrate local culture and history. **S2.3 Cultural celebration and storytelling:** Commission works which reflect local stories and the heritage of the region.	Continue delivering the Public Art on Utility Boxes, Stobie Poles and other scale appropriate assets program, providing opportunities for our community to be involved and participate in the creation of public art.	Ongoing
	Include clear expectations for community engagement and participation within all significant public art briefs to ensure artists involve our community in the creative process.	Ongoing
	Assist the development of public art projects through partnerships with schools, community groups, and other agencies to encourage collaboration and strengthen community ties.	Ongoing
	Develop complementary interpretive materials for all public art works, linking them to online resources to enhance understanding and engagement.	Years 3-4
	Collaborate with Kaurna artists to create artwork that celebrate First Nations culture and heritage. Potential locations for these installations include Field River and Coastal Walkway.	Years 3-4
	Assist third party creators to acknowledge heritage, place and stories through public art. This includes reflecting on the changing nature of neighbourhoods, such as the transformation of industrial areas into housing and community spaces. Example locations for this include Cove Point, Oaklands Green and Lander Road Neighbourhood developments.	Years 1-2
	Continue to expand and promote the Art in Public Places Story Map to showcase and share the diverse public art across the city, enhancing public awareness and engagement.	Ongoing

Strategies	Actions	Timeframe
Goal 3: Develop iconic works which are distinctive, interactive and situate people within the City of Marion.		
S3.1 Landmark creations: Develop medium to large-scale artworks with the potential to become iconic and synonymous with the City of Marion, reflecting its identity and values. **S3.2 Engaging public art experiences:** Develop educational, interactive and digital public art initiatives to foster deeper engagement, learning, and connection with our community.	Scope the development of a triennial sculpture prize, focusing on creating distinctive works at locations like the Marion Regional Centre, Coastal Walkway, Glenthorne National Park.	Year 5+
	Work with Planning team to establish a Developer Contribution Scheme/Precinct Levy to encourage developers to invest in public realm improvement and public art.	Years 1-2
	Explore how augmented reality and other digital features can be incorporated into public art projects, reviewing existing initiatives and creating at least one new augmented reality project.	Year 2
	Work with Planning and Economic Development teams and develop guidelines that highlight the benefits of public art in the larger scale developments and encourage developer involvement.	Years 1-2
	Enhance significant locations within the council area by assisting in the delivering of medium to large-scale public art at Hallmark Sites and Connector Sites.	Year 1+
	Prioritise seeking external funding and partnerships for the delivery of significant public art projects.	Ongoing
	Advocate to state agencies for the integration of iconic public art in large-scale public infrastructure projects, such as the North-South Corridor.	Ongoing

Strategies	Actions	Timeframe
Goal 4: Increase the capacity of community, government and commercial stakeholders to develop public art projects, that contribute to the social and economic fabric of the City of Marion.		
S4.1 Public art to achieve broader strategic goals: Develop public art projects that align with and support council's broader strategic priorities, enhancing the city's overall vision and objectives. **S4.2 Stakeholder Empowerment:** Engage a diverse range of agencies, build partnerships, and strengthen capacity to support the development and sustainability of public art projects.	Work across council departments to develop both permanent and temporary public artworks that align with strategic priorities such as environmental sustainability, reconciliation, urban renewal, active ageing, and health and wellbeing.	Ongoing
	Promote the council's community grants program and the Public Art Guidelines 2020-2028 by engaging businesses, schools, and community organisations	Ongoing
	Undertake briefings for staff and other stakeholders on how public art can achieve a range of strategic aims.	Ongoing
	Assist in creating public/private partnerships to deliver a key public art project with both cultural/creative outcomes and a non-arts outcome.	Ongoing

Strategies	Actions	Timeframe
Goal 5: Increase the capacity of artists within the City of Marion to develop public art and work in a community context.		
S5.1 Professional development: Increase the skills of artists to deliver and participate in public art initiatives. **S5.2 Opportunities to collaborate:** Foster opportunities to bring artists, arts professionals and others together.	Incorporate mentoring opportunities wherever possible within public art initiatives.	Ongoing
	Create a public art incubator program that offers artists an opportunity to better understand the processes of responding to briefs, developing a concept and leading the fabrication of work.	Years 1-2
	Engage with local artists wherever possible, and if artists are engaged from outside the council region integrate knowledge and skill sharing for local artists.	Ongoing
	Collaborate with neighbouring councils on professional development opportunities for artists in relation to public art that also fosters the growth of arts-industry networks.	Years 1-2
	Collaborate and liaise with peak arts and cultural bodies to expand opportunities for creatives working in public art (e.g. Guildhouse, Arts SA, Arts Industry Council of South Australia.)	Ongoing

Funding and resources

Funding and Resourcing for public art projects must be practical to ensure that the intended scope, purpose, and scale of the works align with the Public Art Strategy and council budgets. External funding, partnerships and collaborative relationships will be established to support the successful delivery of this Strategy.

In considering the funding of public art initiatives, council will first and foremost explore all opportunities to secure partnerships or grant funding. By prioritising external funding sources, we can maximise resources, extend the reach of public art projects, and ensure sustainable investment in creative and community-driven initiatives.

The recommendations on the right are provided to support the implementation of the Public Art Strategy and Action Plan, ensuring that as the city changes, grows and develops, its vitality, cultural engagement, and public space value will continue to evolve.

Recommendations

Incorporate public art into all **major projects** with a budget of **$35,000+** for projects exceeding **$4 million**, plus a public art contribution.

Seek and maximise **funding and contributions** from external sources, including the private sector to support impactful public art projects and advance the goals of this strategy.

Integrate public art, where possible, into significant **capital works and open space projects** over **$1 million**, with a budget of **$10,000 - $30,000** for projects valued between **$1 million - $4 million.**

Establish a **Developer Contribution Scheme/ Precinct Levy** to encourage developers to invest in public realm enhancements. This levy could be used for **commissioning public art** or **restoring public spaces** affected by development, such as paths, streetscapes, and open spaces.

Collaborate across council departments to **support public art initiatives**, ensuring that these projects align with and contribute to broader council objectives across multiple strategies.

Support and partner with community and not-for-profit groups to **develop artwork independently** of council.

Foster public and private partnerships that support and **enhance public art initiatives.**

Footnote: Between 2019-2024, 56 public art projects were delivered over six years. City of Marion average annual contribution was $134,300, and grant and external source average annual contribution was $75,300. Includes public art integrated into State Government projects, major projects, city property, engineering, open space, stobie poles, service boxes, bus shelters, business activation

Appendix

City of Marion Public Art Guidelines Definition

The City of Marion defines public art in its Public Art Guidelines 2020-2028, which provide the context for the development of this strategy. It states:

Public art may be:

- permanent and long lasting (usually a minimum of 15 years) using durable material.
- temporary, remaining for a fixed and specified time.
- ephemeral, in place for a very brief span or using non-durable materials, performative arts, projections or sound.

Public art can be stand alone and iconic or integrated into the public realm, architectural projects (both inside and outside), streetscapes, walking and cycling trails, playgrounds and reserves. It can be:

- Site specific, designed specifically for and responsive to, a particular site in regard to scale, materials, form, and concept.
- Commemorative, acknowledging a specific events or person important to the local community, tell the history of the place and connection to country.
- Functional art or design elements integrated into the built or natural environment with a practical purpose such as seating, lighting, furniture, bollards, signage, rubbish bins, landscaping elements, etc. Inside buildings these elements could include building foyers or reception desks, window treatments, door handle, flooring, signage, lighting. furniture, or façade treatments.
- Community art which provides the opportunity for the community to participate in the conceptualising and making of a work of art. This is an empowering process that can contribute to connecting communities and individuals and give voice to and provide a sense of belonging to diverse cultural groups, children, young people, older or those disadvantaged by circumstance. Community art highly values the relationships built in shared creative processes as well as artistic outcomes. Engaging the community in the creation process, fostering connection, belonging, and empowerment, and can give voice to diverse or disadvantaged groups.

Development of this Strategy

This Strategy and Action Plan was developed through research, community consultation, and feedback from key stakeholders, along with a review of relevant documents to understand public art opportunities and expectations in the City of Marion. The following provides an overview of the process.

The following documents were reviewed for this strategy:

- City of Marion Strategic Plan 2024–2034
- City of Marion A Great Place to Play – Open Space Plan 2024–2034
- City of Marion Biodiversity Plan 2024-2029
- City of Marion Reconciliation Action Plan 2024–2026
- City of Marion Walking and Cycling Guidelines 2024
- City of Marion Marketing and Engagement Strategy 2022-2026
- Arts South Australia Public Art and Design Resources
- Business Growth and Engagement Plan (2023/2024, ongoing workplan)

- Artworks Culture and Heritage Asset Management Plan 2024-2034
- Public Art Guidelines 2020-2028

Before developing this strategy, several consultation activities referencing public art were conducted, including both general and targeted consultation:

General consultation

- Consultation with Marion 100, the City of Marion
- Toward 2040... Together – City of Marion Community Engagement Report 2024

Targeted consultation

The following activities were undertaken to gather specific feedback, ideas and public art priorities in the City of Marion:

- Face to face workshops, meetings, and forums with council and City of Marion staff
- Online survey distribution
- Key stakeholder workshops with heritage groups, youth, First Nations communities, and artists.
- General public workshops and library engagement
- Site familiarisation – reviewing current artworks and potential future sites.

Majority of consultation responses were positive, with strong support for public art:

- 85 per cent of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that council should invest in public art.
- 96 per cent of respondents indicated that public art is good for the community.

The following provides an overview of consultation numbers and touchpoints:

- 336 community members directly consulted
- 267 written comments provided through surveys and feedback posters
- 108 surveys completed
- 6 feedback posters installed with 174 feedback comments received
- 10 workshops/meetings conducted with 54 attendees

Appendix

Broader strategic alignment

Public art development aligns with a variety of strategic priorities set by the City of Marion. It serves as a powerful tool to achieve these priorities and reinforces the council's messaging in impactful ways. The following outlines how public art supports and integrates with existing strategies.

City of Marion Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2024-2026:

- The RAP highlights public art, like the Tjilbruke Gateway at Warriparinga, that honours Kaurna cultural heritage and supports reconciliation.
- It promotes the inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture through interpretive signage, permanent artworks, and Kaurna representation.

City of Marion Business Growth and Engagement Plan (2023/2024, ongoing workplan

- Vibrant City: Place based engagement to support public art and placemaking to engage with local businesses to upgrade their façades and public realm through a process of co-design.

City of Marion Walking and Cycling Guidelines 2024

- Integrating public art into pathways and community spaces to enhance engagement, encourage exploration, and promote health and wellbeing through outdoor activity.

City of Marion Biodiversity Plan 2024–2029

- Valuing Nature: Public art can integrate nature themes to raise awareness about biodiversity and the environment.
- Aboriginal land management: Cultural installations like murals, sculptures, or interpretive art pieces can highlight traditional land management practices, celebrate Kaurna heritage and support reconciliation efforts.
- Community Engagement: Public art can engage residents in discussion about biodiversity, conservation, and urban green spaces.

Alignment with Actions:

- Natural Landscaping and Biodiversity Education: Public art in parks or natural areas can feature nature-inspired design, educating the public about local biodiversity.
- Partnerships: Collaborations with local artists, schools, and Aboriginal groups can strengthen community ties and align with biodiversity goals.
- Restoration and Connectivity: Art installations in restoration areas can raise awareness of restoration efforts and showcase native species.

Appendix

City of Marion Open Space Plan - A Great Place to Play 2024–2034

- Activate and Enhance Open Spaces: Public art aligns with the Plan's goal of creating vibrant, attractive open spaces.
- Cultural and Historical Reflection: Public art engages with Aboriginal culture, supports cultural and interpretive signage, and tells local stories.
- Community Engagement and Participation: Public art offers participatory opportunities, fostering community involvement in open space design.
- Environmentally Sustainable Design: Public art can highlight sustainability themes like biodiversity, water-sensitive urban design (WSUD), and natural landscaping.
- Safety and Accessibility: Public art can improve safety and create welcoming spaces, supporting Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

City of Marion Marketing and Engagement Strategy 2022-2026

- Liveable: Public art enhances public spaces, making them more attractive, safe, and welcoming.
- Engaged: Public art serves as a platform for community engagement.
- Innovative: Integrating digital and interactive public art aligns with Marion's vision of being a leader in technology and innovation.
- Promoting the City of Marion: Public art contributes to Marion's branding as a vibrant, cultural destination and enhancing the city's reputation as a place to live, work, and play.

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CITY OF MARION

Designed by CoM Marketing and Communications 2025

Community Engagement Plan

Public Art Strategy and Action Plan

2025-2030

CITY OF MARION

Key Contacts

Engagement contact:	M. Green
Project Lead:	J. Louey
Start / end date:	TBC
Budget Cost Centre:	

Document Amendment Record

Rev	Change Description	Date	Author	Checked
1.0	First draft	24/2/2025	MG	JL

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Governance

Who needs to sign off on the plan?	Required?	Responsibility
Elected Members (all or ward) and Mayor	Yes	ELT
Executive Leadership team	Yes	SLT
Senior Leadership team	Yes	Project Lead
Project Lead	Yes	Engagement Coordinator

1. Project description and background

The City of Marion Public Art Strategy and Action Plan (2025–2030) outlines a comprehensive framework for enhancing public spaces through innovative and impactful public art projects. Aligned with the City's Strategic Plan 2024-2034 of "A Liveable, Sustainable Community", this Strategy aims to foster a sense of belonging, celebrate cultural diversity, and support environmental sustainability while engaging the community and promoting economic growth.

2. Scope of engagement

Initial community consultation was undertaken over a four-week period in September 2024. As well as online options and promotions, workshops were run at key council facilities to gauge public feedback on the importance of public art within the City of Marion.

Outcomes from the 2024 Public Art Survey showed that:

- 85% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that Council should invest in public art
- 96% of respondents indicated that public art is good for the community.
- Less than 13% agreed with the statement 'I don't think public art is important", which confirmed a strong positive sentiment for public art.

Using the feedback provided in the initial consultation a draft plan has now been developed for the purposes of community consultation. The community will be able to review and provide feedback on the draft plan with the feedback received scheduled to be submitted to the General Council meeting on 24 June 2025.

3. Level of engagement

The **engagement level selection tool** is to assist staff in deciding what level of engagement to select – e.g., *inform, consult, involve, collaborate or empower* based on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum (see Appendix 2). It is a technical approach and needs to be used in conjunction with the engagement framework and the human elements such as values and expectations.

Score indicates:
1-2 Very low to Low = at least inform
2-3 Low to Moderate = at least Consult
3-4 Moderate to High = Involve or Collaborate
4-5 High to Very High = minimum Involve, consider Collaborate and Empower

Questions to consider	**Very low**	**Low**	**Med**	**High**	**Very high**
1. What is the level of difficulty to find a solution that everyone can live with?		X			
2. What is the potential for community outrage for your project?	X				
3. How much do major stakeholders care about the decision to be made?			X		
4. What degree of input do the affected landowners and community appear to want?		X			
Count number in each column	1	2	1		
Multiply	x1	x2	x3	x4	x5
Enter score	1	4	3		
Add total of all 5 columns	= 8				
Divide	8/5				
Average score	= 1.6				
Method	Consult				

The following level of engagement is proposed:

Inform	**Consult**
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	***To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.***

4. What good looks like

Community and Stakeholder Engagement on this project has ensured that:

☐ Project materials are provided in an accessible manner and consider:

- Language
- Digital literacy level
- Demographic i.e., elderly

☐ There are clear accessible methods for the community to provide feedback

- Remotely via online means
- Face to face with a project team member
- Filling out hard copy forms at a council facility

☐ Every attempt has been made whilst considering the local area, to ensure that awareness of the project and how to provide feedback is maximised through best practice communications and engagement techniques

☐ Engagement activities will be evaluated by the project team and lessons learned will be incorporated into future project engagements

5. Community engagement issues/risks/mitigations

Risk/ Issue	Proposed mitigation
Community don't see the value in public art and oppose Councils investment in this area.	• Clear messaging on the benefits that public art can deliver for the community

6. Stakeholder identification and analysis

Stakeholder	Level of interest	Level of influence	Why are we engaging? What is their specific interest in the project / proposal?	Level of engagement	Engagement method(s)	Responsibility
Mayor and Elected Members	High	Medium	Council members will endorse the plan to be released for the purposes of community consultation.	Involve	General Council Meeting (22/04/2025).	Project Lead
Marion Community members	Medium	Low	Acknowledging what we heard from the initial consultation in September 2024 and providing the opportunity to contribute feedback on the draft strategy.	Consult	• Making Marion page (draft plan and online survey). • Social media promotion. • Hard copy draft plan at neighbourhood centres.	Engagement team
Key stakeholder contacts within the Arts community	High	Low	Expert review of the strategy and feedback.	Consult	• Email with link to Making Marion materials and online survey. • Promotion within the Local Government Creative Communities Network.	Project Lead
Marion 100 members	High	Low	Highly engaged members of the Marion community who will share and promote the consultation through their networks.	Consult	Email with link to Making Marion page.	Engagement team

7. Engagement activity timeline

Date (Week commencing)	17 March	21 April	28 April	5 May	12 May	23 June
Activity						
GM (General Manager) Signoff Engagement Plan						
Endorsement from Mayor & Elected Members		**(GC 22/4)**				
Consultation period 30 April – 20 May						
Making Marion page (EDM to Making Marion subscribers)						
Social Media promotion						
Hard copy materials at key council locations						
Email to stakeholders						
GC Meeting (feedback report and amended strategy if applicable)						**24/6**

12.6 Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 and Long Term Financial Plan for Public Consultation	
Report Reference	GC250422R12.6
Originating Officer	Unit Manager Statutory Finance – Melissa Virgin
Corporate Manager	Chief Financial Officer – Ray Barnwell
General Manager	General Manager Corporate Services – Tony Lines

REPORT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this report is to present the City of Marion – Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 (ABP) and Draft Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for Council's consideration and endorsement for public consultation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The development of the Draft ABP and LTFP is an iterative process that continues through to the final adoption of the ABP and LTFP at the end of June. This draft has been developed for the purpose of community consultation and, with any amendments arising from the public consultation process, will be considered for adoption by Council at the 24 June 2025 General Council meeting.

The Draft ABP is Council's statement of its intended programs and outcomes for the 2025-2026 year. It connects our long-term planning, as set out in Council's strategic plans, and supports the delivery of the third year of Council's 4-Year Business Plan 2023-2027 (4YBP) with the allocation of resources in the 2025-2026 Annual Budget.

The City of Marion, like many organisations, continues to face challenging market conditions and ongoing inflationary pressures into 2025-2026. In addition to CPI (Adelaide Year on Year CPI to December 2024 recorded at 2.5%), council is also impacted by other cost indices, particularly those in the construction sector, where national cost escalation is projected to remain at around 5% through to 2027.

In preparing the Draft ABP 2025-2026 and LTFP, we have carefully considered these factors to ensure the continued delivery of services and projects in a financially sustainable manner.

Significant work has gone into determining a responsible rate increase that balances community impact with the need to maintain service levels. Investment in key infrastructure, alongside the ongoing capital renewal program, has also been factored in to support the City's long-term financial sustainability.

Feedback from the 4 March 2025 Elected Member Forum and decisions arising from the 25 March 2025 General Council meeting – where project funding priorities were reviewed and endorsed – has been incorporated into this version of the community consultation Draft ABP 2025-2026 and Draft LTFP.

The Draft plan proposes a **4.8%** average rate increase in 2025-2026 to support ongoing services and capital project delivery. For the average residential property, this equates to an estimated $91 per year, or about $1.75 per week.

The Draft ABP 2025-2026 forecasts a net surplus of $0.089m for the coming year, with all other years of the LTFP also forecasting a minor surplus position ensuring Council is meeting its core

'Financial Sustainability' target of maintaining, on average, a break-even or positive funding / (cash) position over the LTFP. The forecast net surplus position for the 10 years of the LTFP is $0.684m.

Community consultation is scheduled to be undertaken from 26 April to 16 May 2025. This consultation period provides an opportunity for the community to provide feedback online through the Making Marion website and/or make submissions via Council's website or alternatively by post. Included within this period is an opportunity for public representation to Council at the 13 May 2025 General Council meeting.

The development of the Draft ABP 2025-2026 will continue through to final adoption with any adjustments or further updates in relation to Council project priorities incorporated into the final version set to be adopted at the General Council meeting on 24 June 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Framework and Key Assumptions noted in this report which have formed the basis for the development of the Draft 2025-2026 Annual Business Plan and Draft Long Term Financial Plan.**
2. **Endorses the City of Marion Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 and Draft Long Term Financial Plan (Attachment 1) to proceed for public consultation, subject to any changes proposed at this meeting.**
3. **Endorses the use of available Reserve funding of $2.432m from the Asset Sustainability Reserve and $2.132m from the Open Space Reserve to support the delivery of the 2025-2026 Annual Business Plan.**

DISCUSSION

Under Section 23 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) Council is required to prepare and adopt an ABP each year, and in doing so, determine the key strategic priorities for the ensuing 12 months in the context of Council's Strategic Plans.

The ABP and LTFP form an integral part of Council's suite of Strategic Management Plans. These plans connect the long-term planning, as set out in Council's Strategic Plans and support the delivery of the third year of the 4YBP 2023-2027 with the allocation of resources in the 2025-2026 Annual Budget. The ABP also establishes the basis for review of Council's performance over the year published in its annual report.

The Draft ABP 2025-2026 and Draft LTFP have been prepared in accordance with the guidelines stated in section 122 of the Act. The plan includes appropriate information pertaining to rates and charges that Council intends to levy, as well as a range of key information required by the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.*

In the preparation of the Draft ABP 2025-2026, consideration has been given to Council's strategic management framework, financial parameters and key issues identified through the environmental scanning process, as well as the relevant Commonwealth, State and Regional strategies and plans.

1. KEY OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE DRAFT 2025-2026 ABP AND DRAFT LTFP

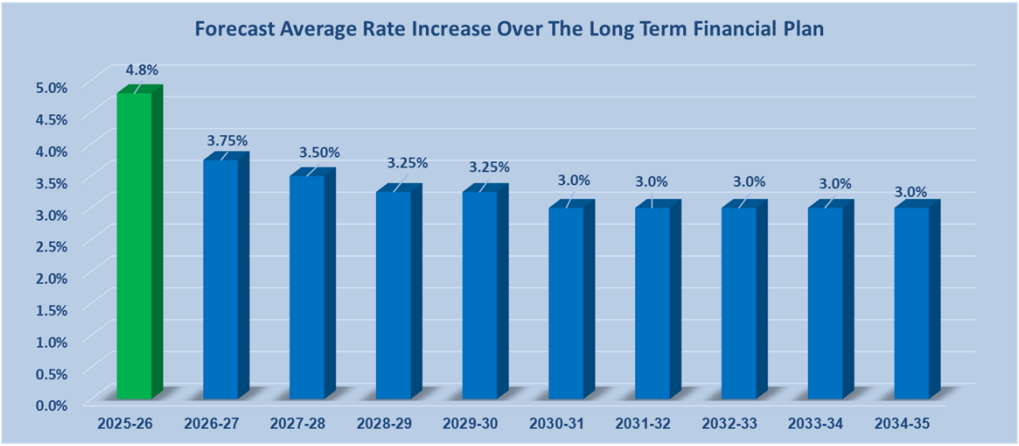
Proposed Average Rate Increase for 2025-2026

The Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP (Attachment 1) has been developed using a proposed average residential rate increase of 4.8% for 2025-2026 plus forecast annual growth of new properties from

development of 1%. Applying an average increase in rates of 4.8% in 2025-26 continues Council's commitment to maintaining the position for an average residential rate that remains among the lower rating metropolitan councils.

All years of the LTFP are forecasting a net surplus position ensuring Council is meeting its core 'Financial Sustainability' target of maintaining, on average, a breakeven or positive funding (cash) position over the LTFP. The forecast net surplus position for the 10 years of the LTFP is $0.684m.

The proposed average rate increase of 4.8% in 2025-2026 is forecast to gradually reduce to 3.0% by 2030-2031 and then be steadily maintained at that 3% level for the remainder of the ten years of the LTFP.



Key Financial Sustainability Ratios

The Draft ABP 2025-2026 and LTFP are forecast to meet the requirements of council's key financial sustainability targets over the 10-year term of the LTFP.

Council may wish to review its targeted ratio for Net Financial Liabilities, which, with the additional funding endorsed at the 25 March General Council meeting for two previously unfunded projects (GC250325F7.1), pushes council's Net Financial Liability Ratio over its current target of 0 – 50% for three of the ten years in the LTFP.

There is no right or wrong target range for the Net Financial Liabilities Ratio – the suggested target range by the LGA is between zero and 100% of total operating income. Typical target ranges used by councils of comparable size is between zero and 80%-100%.

Financial Sustainability Ratios over the LTFP				
	Target	Proposed - 4.8%	Max	Average
Operating Surplus Ratio	0 - 10%	✓	2.43%	1.13%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	0 - 50%	✓	57.28%	41.78%
Debt Servicing Ratio	0 - 10%	✓	5.20%	4.31%

Council's Corporate KPI for Financial Sustainability sets a core target to maintain a breakeven or positive cash funding position over the 10-year term of the LTFP. The Draft LTFP is forecast to achieve this, forecasting a net surplus over the 10 years of the LTFP of $0.684m.

Operating Surplus

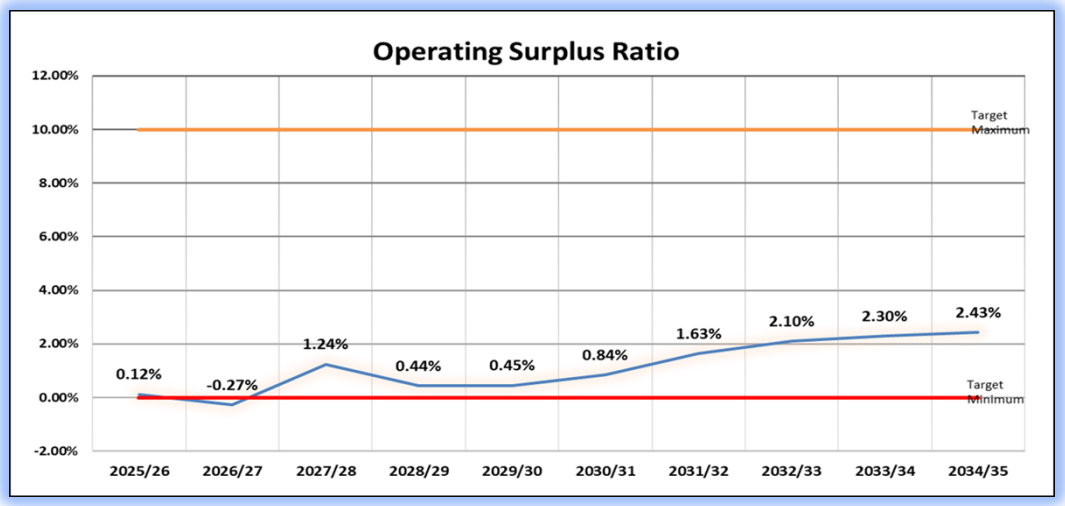
Council's long-term financial sustainability is dependent upon ensuring that on average over time, its expenses are less than associated income. An Operating Surplus arises when operating income exceeds operating expenses for a period. Conversely, an operating deficit occurs when operating expenses exceed the income being generated.

The operating surplus ratio is the operating surplus (or deficit) expressed as a percentage of councils total operating income.

Council Target: - Council should always target for a positive operating surplus ratio over time which will ensure that each generation is paying for the services it receives.

Council's target is to achieve an Operating Surplus Ratio averaging between 0% – 10% over any consecutive 5-year period.

The graph below depicts that over the next 5 years the council will meet this KPI, forecasting one minor operating deficit to occur in 2026-2027. However, the operating surpluses are marginal in the earlier years of the LTFP and leave little room to manoeuvre.



Net Financial Liabilities Ratio – Council Target < 50%

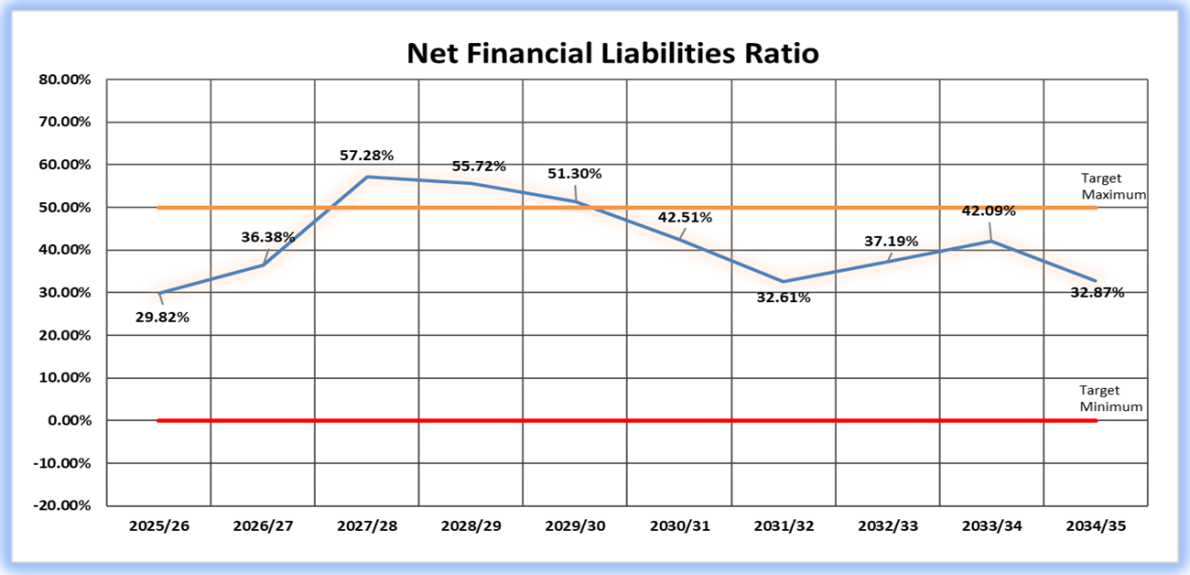
The **net financial liabilities ratio** is calculated by expressing net financial liabilities as a percentage of operating income for the year. As the ratio reduces over time, this indicates that council's capacity to meet its financial obligations from operating income is strengthening.

Council Target Range:
As noted earlier there is no right or wrong target range for the Net Financial Liabilities Ratio – the suggested target range by the LGA is between zero and 100% of total operating income.

The chart below depicts council's forecast performance against council's targeted range for its Net Financial Liabilities ratio.

The LTFP is forecast to remain within Council's current targeted range for seven of the 10 years of the LTFP. However, with the significant capital program forecast over the upcoming three to four

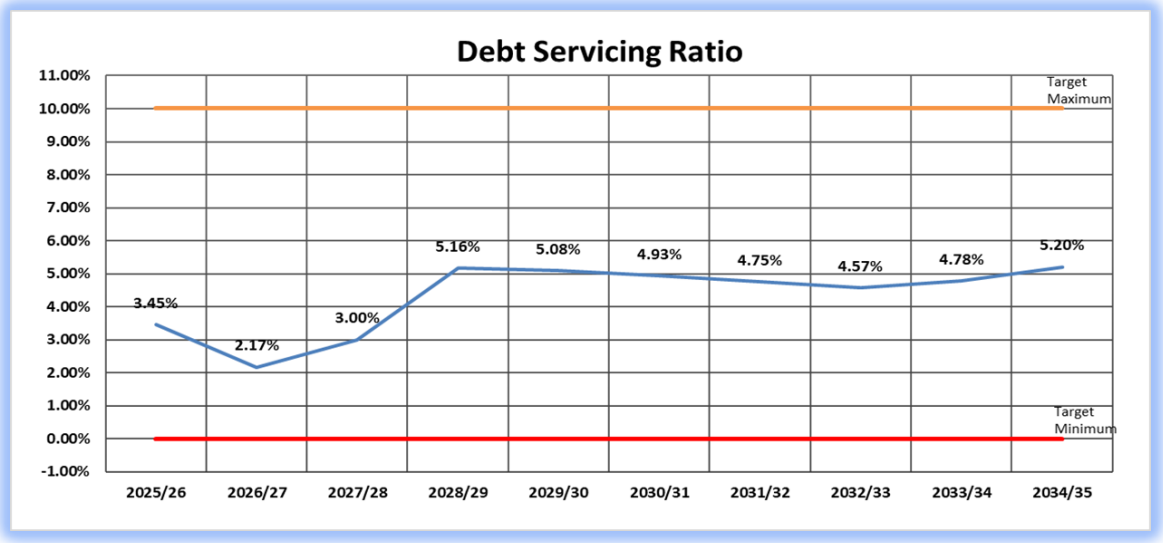
years Council may wish to revise its targeted range to between zero and 65% from the current targeted range of less than 50%.



Debt Servicing Ratio – Council Target – Between 0% and 10%

The Debt Servicing ratio expresses forecast debt servicing costs (principal and interest) as a percentage of operating income. This indicator demonstrates the percentage of income required to meet loan repayments in any year.

Council Target:
The target range for this indicator is between 0% and 10%. The chart below depicts council's forecast performance against council's targeted range for its Debt Servicing ratio, remaining well within the targeted range for the duration of the LTFP.



Capital Works Program for 2025-2026

The planned capital works program for 2025-2026 is forecast at $35.302m, a minor increase $0.230m on the original program for 2024-2025. The table below outlines the proposed programmed capital expenditure for the upcoming year.

Classification	2024-2025 Original Budget $000	2025-2026 Draft Budget $000
Civil		
Road Reseals	3,591	3,543
Kerb & Channel	900	947
Stormwater	3,624	3,425
Footpaths (New)	100	100
Walking & Cycling Plan	-	300
Footpaths (Renewal)	730	730
Kerb Ramps	50	50
Traffic Control Devices	540	540
Car Parks	248	308
Streetscapes	-	1,200
Other Infrastructure	771	550
Total Civil	**10,554**	**11,693**
Open Space		
Open Space Reserves	1,966	2,190
Total Open Space	**1,966**	**2,190**
Property & Buildings		
Property & Buildings	3,912	3,625
Furniture & Fittings	200	208
Total Property & Buildings	**4,112**	**3,833**
Other Capital		
Fleet Replacement	1,448	104
IT Hardware	399	460
Total Other Capital	**1,847**	**564**
Total Capital Works Program	**18,479**	**18,280**
Significant Projects	**2024 - 2025**	**2025 - 2026**
Marino Hall	4,064	-
Marion Cultural Centre Plaza	1,225	-
Marion Golf Club Redevelopment	3,599	-
Marion Golf Club Irrigation	1,325	-
Administration Building Upgrade	2,250	2,359
Coastal Walkway - Cell 3	-	1,796
Glandore Sports Club Redevelopment	150	7,350
Morphettville Park Tennis Club	25	2,200
Cove Sports Club Stage 2 Design	-	50
Marion Outdoor Pool renewal works	-	1,125
Marion Tennis Club facility	-	1,026
Hallett Cove Sea Pool	-	335
Plympton Sports Club upgrade	-	150
Hazelmere Reserve Courts	25	-
Warradale Tennis Club	1,460	-
Marion Basketball Redevelopment	600	362
Southern Soccer Facility Fourth Pitch	500	-
Flinders Greenway	1,100	-
Total Major Projects	**16,323**	**16,753**
Total Capital Works Budget	**34,802**	**35,033**

Classification		
Assets - Renewal	15,314	16,390
Assets - New	19,488	18,643
Total Capital Works Budget	**34,802**	**35,033**

CoMBAS – Indicative Funding

The draft LTFP incorporates the future indicative funding requirement to support the delivery of all projects outlined in the City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS) guide.

The changes proposed through a number of confidential reports at the 25 March 2025 General Council meeting (GC250325F7.1, GC250325F11.1 and GC250325F11.3) have been incorporated into this Draft ABP 2025-2026 and Draft LTFP. There is currently an assumption built into the LTFP that future eligible projects will attract grant funding in the order of 40%. This assumption is currently being reviewed and is subject to change. Should the assumed level of grant funding not be achieved these projects may not progress or may be deferred until such time as Council supports their progression.

Council will on an annual basis have the opportunity to assess whether or not to incorporate these projects into each future year's annual budget.

Key Projects – Funded in ABP 2025-2026
Council's programmed capital renewal program is aligned to Councils Asset Management Plans but also includes funding in the order of $13.7m for delivery of key projects in 2025-2026 including.

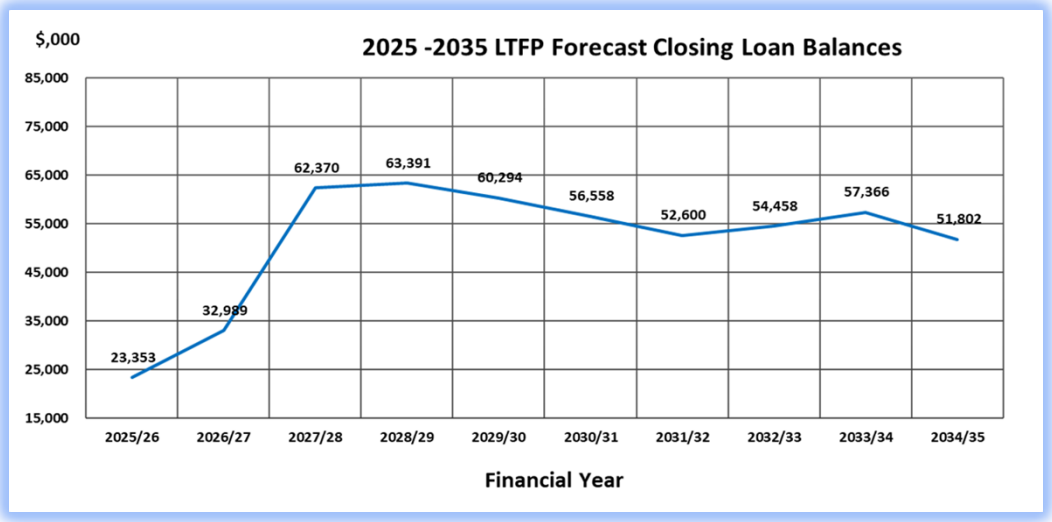
- Glandore Sports Club Redevelopment
- Morphettville Park Tennis Clubrooms
- Completion of Administration Building upgrade
- Further renewal of the Coastal Walkway (Cell 3)

Loan Funding

The City of Marion is in a strong financial position and currently carries minimal debt. The table below depicts forecast loan balances over the 10-year term of the LTFP.

Council forecasts a significant capital works program over the next three years ($152m), some of which will be subject to the attraction of grant funding and, will be partially funded by borrowings ($53.55m).

Borrowings are forecast to average $51.52m over the 10-year term of the LTFP and forecast to peak at $63.39m in 2028-2029.



The City of Marion currently has sufficient capacity to undertake the forecast level of borrowings required to support the delivery of future capital projects which are forecast at $451m over the 10 years of the LTFP.

However, as noted earlier, the LTFP is a forward-looking document, and Council will have the opportunity to review and assess whether or not to incorporate future capital projects into its annual budget.

It should also be noted, in line with Council's Treasury Management Policy, that available cash will be utilised first to defer planned borrowings and borrowings will only be undertaken when the cash balances are down to a minimum working cash balance.

Council Accounting Reserves

Council has maintained Accounting Reserves as a means by which to quarantine monies for a particular purpose.

Following discussion at the 2025 Council Planning Day, the current unallocated funds will be utilised to reduce future borrowings and support the delivery of the 2025-2026 Annual Business Plan and LTFP.

The current unallocated balances are:

- Open Space Reserve $2.132m
- Asset Sustainability Reserve (ASR) $2.432m

The proposed Draft ABP 2025-2026 includes an allocation of $4.564m from these reserves in 2025-2026.

The ASR will retain $141,056 set aside for energy efficiency projects.

2. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT ABP 2025-2026 AND LTFP

The development of the 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP is an on-going iterative process and the framework and assumptions are updated annually based upon the most current data and information prevailing at the time. The Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP have been prepared under the framework and assumptions listed below.

Framework

- Supports the achievement of the City of Marion's Strategic Directions.
- Maintains, on average, a break-even or positive funding (cash) position over the Long-Term Financial Plan.
- Addresses issues arising and opportunities identified from internal audit reviews, service reviews and business excellence assessments.
- Continues to improve the maintenance of assets in accordance with Council's Asset Management Plans, with a priority on maintenance before renewal, and renewal before new when it is cost effective to do so.
- Reviews existing services and assets to ensure they meet prioritised community needs.
- Council only approves new Major Projects where it has the identified funding capacity to do so.

- Maintains Council's position for an average residential rate that remains among the lower rating metropolitan councils.

Key Assumptions

The following key assumptions have been applied in developing the Draft 2025-2026 ABP and Draft LTFP:

Service Levels – Where changes to service delivery are prioritised and approved by Council subject to financial capacity, these changes will be incorporated into the 2025-2026 Budget and LTFP. Where no other endorsement exists, service delivery levels will be maintained at current levels.

Increasing service levels can lead to enhanced public satisfaction and long-term benefits for community well-being, though it typically requires additional funding, staffing, and infrastructure investment.

Conversely, reducing service levels might provide short-term budget relief but could compromise the quality and reliability of essential services, potentially diminishing community trust and long-term outcomes. Balancing these trade-offs is crucial to meet both financial responsibilities and the evolving needs of our community.

Council is currently considering a potential change in an existing service level for the **irrigation of open space**. Funding for this potential change is currently **not factored** into this Draft ABP 2025-2026 and LTFP and any changes endorsed will impact future iterations of the Draft Budget and LTFP.

Rate Revenue – Rating models have been developed to assess average rate increases applied in the LTFP ranging from the proposed 4.8% in 2025-2026 moving gradually back to a forecast 3% from 2030-2031 onwards through to the end of the 10 years of the LTFP. Rateable property growth on new properties from development is forecast on achieving the continued historical trend of 1%.

Significant work has gone into determining a responsible rate increase that balances community impact with the need to maintain service levels. Investment in key infrastructure, alongside the ongoing capital renewal program, has also been factored in to support the City's long-term financial sustainability.

Council has continued to adopt an appropriate rating strategy over the past number of years applying rate increases appropriate to manage escalating costs and inflationary pressures experienced.

The rating position proposed for 2025-2026 is **4.8%** and will enable the achievement of Council's strategic objectives while maintaining long term financial sustainability throughout the 10 years of the LTFP.

Indexation – The 2025-2026 budget is based on forecast expenditure levels indexed to reflect current cost pressures and future anticipated costs including the consideration of major contract price escalation and other market pressures.

The City of Marion, like many organisations, continues to face challenging market conditions and ongoing inflationary pressures into 2025-2026. In addition to CPI (Adelaide Year on Year CPI to December 2024 recorded at 2.5%), council is also impacted by other cost indices, particularly those in the construction sector, where national cost escalation is projected to remain at around 5% through to 2027.

With CPI expected to remain at the higher end of the RBA inflation target of 2–3%, the draft LTFP has factored this higher indexation over the coming years before gradually reverting back to a longer-term forecast of 2.50% from 2028-2029 onwards for operational costs.

Continued price escalation and difficult market conditions makes the forecasting task more challenging leading to a higher-than-normal degree of uncertainty the further one looks into the future. Indexation will where possible be aligned to the Reserve Bank's projected inflation estimates in the medium and longer term, with the following exceptions.

Employee Costs – will be increased in alignment with Council's Enterprise Agreement provisions. In addition, any costs relating to Council approved staff resources to meet operational requirements or Council endorsed new initiatives will be incorporated into the ABP and LTFP.

The current indoor workforce Enterprise Agreement will cease in June 2025 and negotiations for a new agreement have commenced. Higher inflation and moderately stronger wages growth particularly in the sector may impact the outcome of these negotiations and the current provision for employee costs in 2025-2026 and costs over the term of the LTFP.

The impact for every additional 1% in 2025-2026 is in the order of $400k in 2025-2026 and $4.5m over the ten years of the LTFP.

The remaining scheduled annual increase of 0.5% to the Superannuation Guarantee is also incorporated into the LTFP.

Interest Expenses – are directly related to Council borrowings and cash flows. Forecast interest rates are based on current market rates with an added margin giving consideration for future potential rate increases.

Interest Revenue – is directly related to Council investments and cash flows and is carefully monitored in line with interest rate movements.

Non-recurrent Costs / Revenues – An adjustments schedule has been developed to account for any future variations in operating activities (e.g. an adjustment is made for election expenses to reflect that they only occur once every 4 years). Adjustments are made to remove any 2024-2025 one-off expenditure amounts and to account for any future variation in operating activities or contract renewals.

Capital Grants, Subsidies and Monetary contributions – reflect tied monies received in relation to the purchase/construction of new assets and are budgeted in accordance with information known at the time of preparing this document.

Commonwealth and State Government Stimulus / Election funding – Council will continue to seek and optimise the opportunity to leverage any State and Federal stimulus funding provided to the sector.

With the Federal Government election now called the City of Marion is likely to attract Commonwealth funding for some strategic projects. The impact of the attraction of this funding and the resource requirements to deliver identified projects and initiatives will continue to be considered in the development of the Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP through to final adoption in June 2025.

Breakeven or Positive Funding (Cash Position) – A positive cash flow is vital to support operating requirements to continually deliver uninterrupted council services in addition to providing cash to fund:

- Renewal of existing assets over time to maintain community service standards

- Scheduled principal loan repayments and
- Provision of funding for future long term asset management objectives

Council will endeavour to responsibly set rates that minimise the impact on our community but also enable the achievement of its long-term strategic objectives while maintaining a break-even or positive (cash) position over the LTFP thus ensuring the long-term financial sustainability for the City of Marion.

3. ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2025-2026 AND LTFP PROCESS

The key remaining steps for the ABP and LTFP processes are as follows:

Key stages	Date	Meeting
Adopt Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP for public consultation	22 April 2025	General Council
Public consultation period	26 April—16 May 2025	Written submission and feedback via Making Marion
Community representations to Council	13 May 2025	General Council
Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP for final endorsement	27 May 2025	General Council
Review and feedback on Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP	3 June 2025	Finance, Risk and Audit Committee
2025-2026 ABP and LTFP for adoption	25 June 2025	General Council

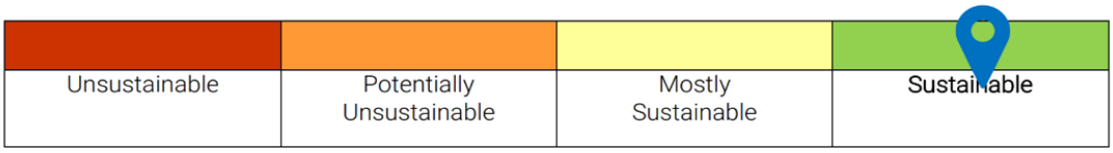
4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVICE SCHEME

On 30 April 2022, amendments to the Local Government Act 1999 came into operation resulting in the implementation of Local Government Advisory Scheme. The purpose of this advisory scheme is to provide ratepayers confidence that the rates they pay are set at the level necessary for their council to provide the services they value. The Essential Services Commission (Commission) of South Australia is the advisory body. The State's 68 councils are subject to the scheme.

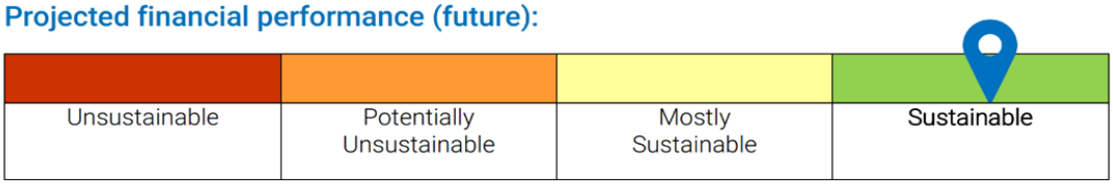
The Commission reviewed the City of Marion's financial performance during the 2023-2024 financial year as part of the tranche 2 councils and the report is attached for information.

The City of Marion has been assessed by the Commission at the higher end of sustainable for past current and future projections.

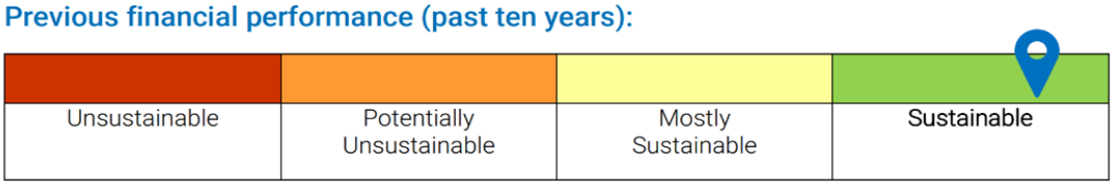
Current financial performance:



Projected financial performance (future):



Previous financial performance (past ten years):



This report, which is included as an attachment to the ABP document, **must be published** in each year's ABP until the next review to be undertaken in 3 years' time.

5. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public consultation on the Draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP will be undertaken for the period 26 April to 16 May 2025. This meets the requirements of s122 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

The Draft Plans and opportunity for community comment will be available on the 'Making Marion' website (www.makingmarion.com.au). Notices will also be placed in community and business newsletters directing readers to Council's website.

The 13 May 2025 General Council meeting will include an allowance of one hour for public representations where members of the public can be invited to make verbal submissions.

Any feedback from the community consultation process will be considered and will inform the draft 2025-2026 ABP and LTFP to be presented for Council's consideration and adoption at the General Council meeting to be held on 24 June 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 and LTFP for Public Consultation. [**12.6.1** - 69 pages]

City of Marion
Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026

A great place to *live*

CITY OF MARION





Kaurna Acknowledgement

Ngadiu tampendi Kaurna meyunna yaitya mattanya yaintya yerta

This Kaurna acknowledgement was prepared in consultation with traditional custodians.

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Marion acknowledges we are situated on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people and recognises the Kaurna people as the traditional custodians of the land.

Welcome

Welcome to the City of Marion's Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026.

This is our draft budget for the year ahead. Due to extraordinary construction costs and other factors such as wage rises, the Elected Councillors and I have been faced with the most challenging budget of the last ten years.

We continue to deliver much-needed upgrades to community and sports facilities. Over the past year we have been busy with Cove netball facilities, Marino Hall and a new golf clubhouse – in this budget we plan for a basketball stadium and a new home for Marion Tennis Club. It is not all about the big projects though; the Councillors and I are very conscious that we have to get the basics right, eg, making sure the rubbish is collected, planting more than 4000 trees per year and maintaining the flatness of our footpaths.

In a departure from recent years when we have held the average residential rate rise to the inflation rate or less, this year we propose a 4.8% per cent average rate increase for the coming year. This will still compare well to most councils in metropolitan Adelaide. Property owners will experience variation in that figure due to changing property values which are obviously outside of our control.

Please let us know what you think. Council Members will consider your views when we finalise the budget in June.

Yours faithfully

KRIS HANNA

Mayor Kris Hanna



Your voice

The City of Marion is seeking your ideas and feedback regarding the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026.

This process provides you with the opportunity to have your say on the level of service and activities undertaken by the council before the final budget is adopted.

Community consultation commences on **Saturday 26 April** and closes on **Friday 16 May at 11:59pm**.

Online submission forms are available on council's community engagement website makingmarion.com.au

Written submissions are welcomed and addressed to the following:

City of Marion
PO BOX 21
Parkholme SA 5046
or council@marion.sa.gov.au

Verbal submissions may be made at the **13 May 2025** General Council meeting, which begins at **6:30pm**. At this meeting, members of the public may ask questions and make submissions in relation to the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 for a total period of one hour.

Each speaker will be allocated a maximum of five minutes to make their submission.

If you wish to make a verbal submission to General Council, please contact:

Sarah Vinall
Manager Office of the Chief Executive
8375 6600



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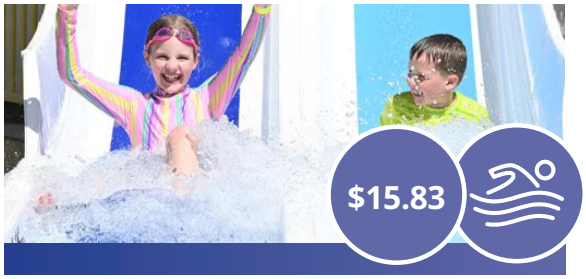
Your rates at a glance

Amounts spent per one hundred dollars ($100)



Infrastructure Management

- Civil infrastructure maintenance
- Asset management
- Stormwater drainage network
- Traffic management



Community Facilities

- Marion Outdoor Pool
- Sporting facilities
- Property management
- Facilities hire (casual and long term)



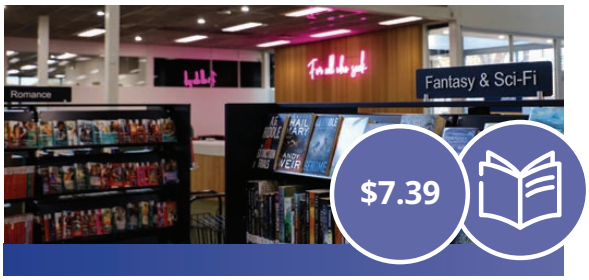
Waste Collection and Management Services

- Kerbside waste collection and management
- Household waste, recyclables, green organics
- Hard rubbish collection and illegal dumping
- Management of waste through our materials recycling facility



Open Space, Parks and Gardens

- Reserve maintenance
- Playgrounds
- Public toilets
- Playground maintenance



Library Services

- Marion Cultural Centre Library
- Parkholme Library
- Cove Civic Centre Library
- Library programs/events



Urban Development, Inspection, Regulation and Control

- Parking control
- Development services
- Dog and cat control
- Food safety



Community Development and Capacity Building

- Youth services
- Neighbourhood centre operations and programs
- Community grant programs



Environmental Sustainability

- Street tree management
- Environmental regulation
- Native vegetation



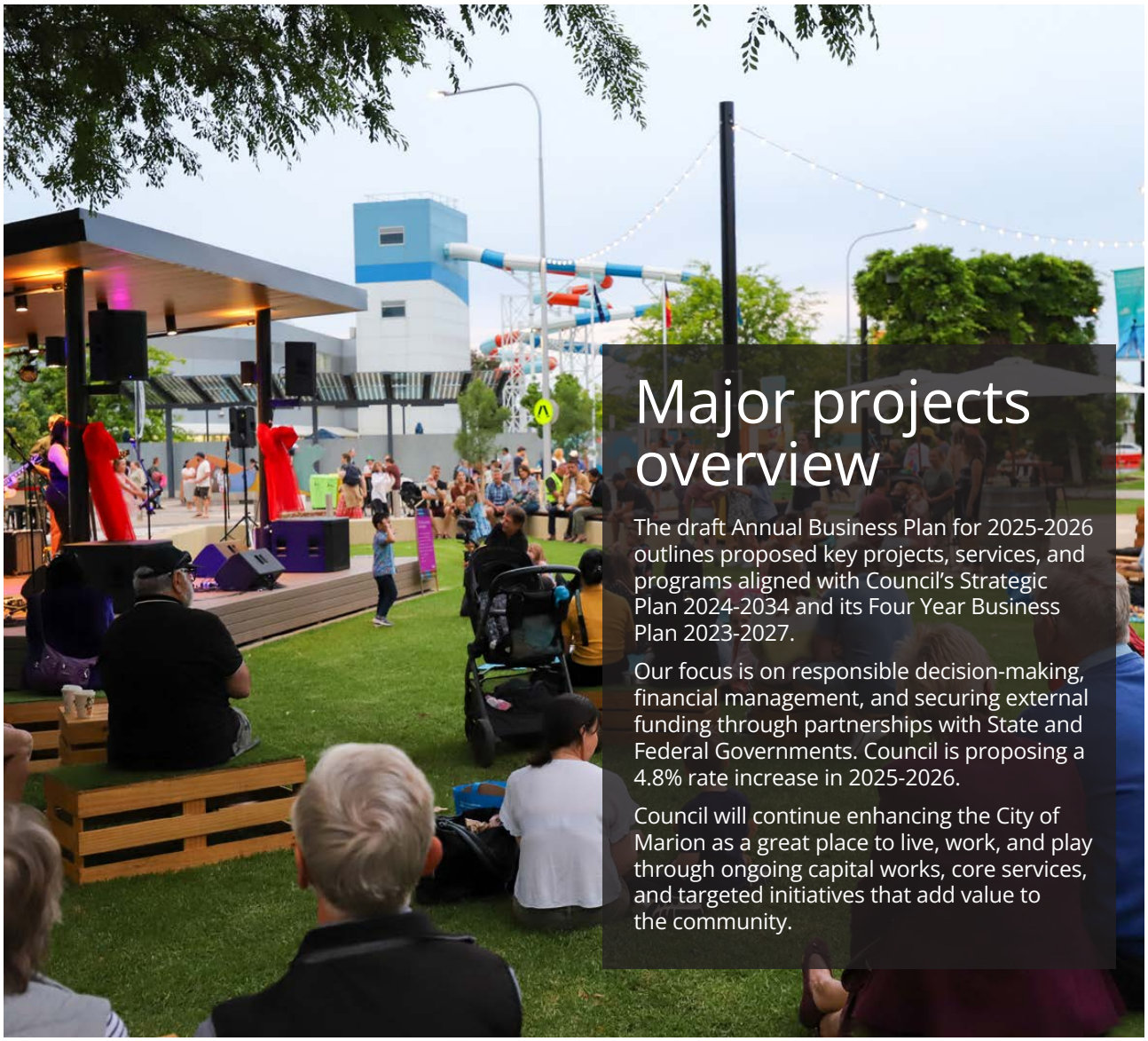
Culture and Recreation

- Cultural heritage
- Community events



Health and Community Care

- Aged care services
- Community buses
- Emergency response



Major projects overview

The draft Annual Business Plan for 2025-2026 outlines proposed key projects, services, and programs aligned with Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2034 and its Four Year Business Plan 2023-2027.

Our focus is on responsible decision-making, financial management, and securing external funding through partnerships with State and Federal Governments. Council is proposing a 4.8% rate increase in 2025-2026.

Council will continue enhancing the City of Marion as a great place to live, work, and play through ongoing capital works, core services, and targeted initiatives that add value to the community.



Events

Council is set to bring the community together more often with an expanded events calendar. The much-loved Marion Celebrates will return to its home at the Marion Cultural Centre Plaza, celebrating art and culture in a vibrant festival setting.

The extremely popular Touch a Truck returns, giving kids the chance to get close to a range of trucks, diggers, emergency services vehicles, and more, with sirens, flashing lights, and plenty of excitement for the family.

More events than ever will be held across the city, creating more opportunities for the community to come together and enjoy.



Sturt River Biodiversity Corridor

A Federal grant was secured to work in partnership with the Friends of Sturt River Landcare group to create a biodiversity corridor between Warriparinga, Bedford Park and the Oaklands wetlands, Marion. The grant includes revegetation, ecological monitoring (vegetation, birds and insects), biodiversity sensitive urban design and educational signage. Aboriginal Urban Design has been engaged as a consultant to assist in the development of the signs and to design, install and maintain a Kaurna garden bed at the base of a culturally significant River Red Gum in Kenton Avenue Reserve, Oaklands Park.



Morphettville Park Clubroom upgrade*

The aging Morphettville Park Tennis Clubroom will be rebuilt providing a slightly larger footprint than the existing building to allow for compliant/accessible toilets and shower areas and increased storage, subject to grant funding.



Warradale Park Tennis upgrade

The upgrade to the Warradale Park Tennis Club will include an internal refit of the existing club room and an upgrade to shower and toilet facilities, bar, and office space.



Land Management - Traditional Cultural Burning

Council and the Friends of Upper Field River volunteer group have secured a Green Adelaide grant to collaborate on restoration efforts aimed at rejuvenating Mallee Box grassland. As part of this project, an Aboriginal organisation will apply traditional cultural burning techniques to help restore country and control invasive weed species. The burning will take place at Barton Drive Reserve, Trott Park adjacent the Kauwi-marnirla- Field River Conservation Park and will be accompanied by community engagement events to ensure local involvement and awareness.



Marion Basketball Club upgrade

Council has proposed a new 4 court indoor basketball stadium at the current site of Norfolk road. Works to be completed in 2025-2026 are design, development approval and tender for construction contractor



Reserve and playground redevelopments across council

Council proposes to invest over $2m toward reserve upgrades across the council area as part of the capital works program. Proposed key upgrades include the design for playground upgrades at Cove Sports, Marion Oval and Manoora Drive Reserve, Hallett Cove. Council will construct new playgrounds at Scarborough Terrace Reserve in Dover Gardens, Southbank Boulevard Reserve in Trott Park.



Glandore Oval Upgrade

Council, following the removal of old buildings, will commence construction of a new clubhouse, car park, and install new landscaping. The State Government has provided $5m towards this project.



Streetscapes projects

The Newland Avenue Streetscape upgrade will complement the soon-to-be-completed Marino Community Hall, a new social hub. To tackle the urban heat island effect, the co- funded project will improve urban greening, adding street trees and verge raingardens to boost biodiversity. Improved pedestrian pathways and textured pavement will also enhance safety and accessibility.



Coastal Walkway

Council will undertake design work to upgrade Cell 3 of the Coastal Walkway from Murto Gully to Westcliff Reserve.

**Subject to grant funding*



Our Vision

Community Vision: A liveable, sustainable community.

The strategic directions of Liveable, Sustainable, and Community reflect the aspirations of the community for the City of Marion's future.

A fourth strategic direction, Our Organisation, sets the focus for council and its staff toward fulfilling the 10 Year Community Vision and Strategic Directions. These interconnected directions emphasise a commitment to achieving holistic outcomes for the council area.

Liveable	Sustainable	Community	Our Organisation
We will create and maintain safe, attractive and accessible public places and facilities.	We protect, restore and connect to the natural environment, building resilience to climate change.	We are a friendly, inclusive and connected community, where everyone belongs.	We listen to our community and partner for the benefit of our community. We deliver high quality, cost-effective services, reliably and innovatively.

Our Values

Engage with respect | We are:

- Committed to a safe and inclusive workplace
- Connected, caring and professional
- Honest, transparent and act with integrity

Embrace excellence | We are:

- Adaptable, driven and continuously improve
- Accountable for our decisions and actions
- Proactive in sustainability and support the environment

Focus on the customer | We are:

- Engaged with our diverse community
- Responsive and proactive
- Dedicated to a great customer experience



Strategic Management Framework

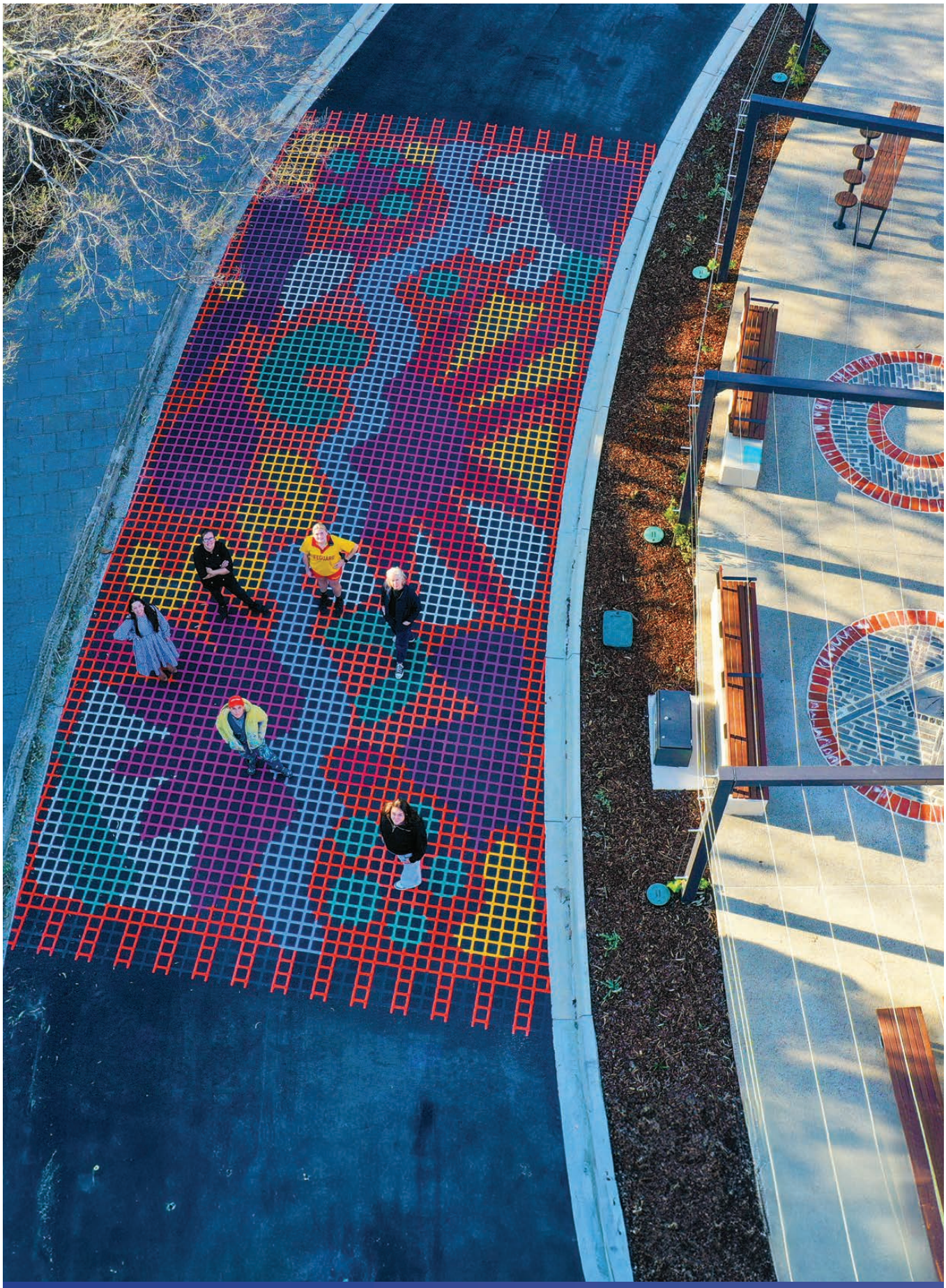
This Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 is an integral part of Council's Strategic Management Framework that will enable strategic and operational plans, management systems and processes to work together to effectively deliver the Community Vision.











Significant influences

The following external issues and opportunities have influenced the development of Council's budget for 2025-2026.

Partnership funding

The Council has actively advocated for support for key projects through partnership funding over the past year. It has worked closely with state and federal governments to promote a partnership approach for the essential upgrade of existing facilities and developing new ones to better serve the community.

Climate resilience

In line with its new strategic plan, the Council is committed to building climate resilience through a range of initiatives. These include enhancing the energy efficiency of council buildings, increasing the use of renewable energy, planting thousands of trees each year, and implementing sustainable waste and water management practices across the council area. These actions are designed to strengthen the city's resilience to climate-related challenges, with ongoing monitoring through a climate risk register to ensure proactive management of potential threats.

Project delivery

The successful delivery of Council's projects is subject to potential risks, primarily due to the high volume of major infrastructure projects across South Australia, which has put pressure on contractor availability. Additionally, the region is experiencing widespread skills shortages, further exacerbating these challenges and potentially affecting timelines and project outcomes.

Cost of services

Like many organisations council faces rising costs associated with delivering services, including inflation, increased insurance premiums, and shortages in the construction workforce. These factors contribute to higher service costs across the board, requiring careful budgeting and resource allocation. While council aims to keep rates as low as possible, it must balance this with the need to effectively maintain and renew assets throughout their lifecycle and deliver core services. This ensures the long-term sustainability and functionality of critical infrastructure, while also addressing the immediate financial pressures of service delivery.

Climate response

How council is preparing for climate impacts

Guided by our Community Vision: A Liveable, Sustainable Community and the City of Marion Strategic Plan 2024-2034, we are committed to integrating climate resilience and sustainability into our financial planning, risk management, and service delivery.

The City of Marion is committed to reducing carbon emissions and embedding climate risk considerations into asset management, infrastructure planning, and service delivery. Council manages climate related risks under its enterprise approach to risk management. These efforts address both physical and transition risks associated with climate change, ensuring long-term financial and environmental sustainability.



Increased heat

Warmer temperatures overall

Longer, hotter and more frequent heatwaves



Drought conditions and reduced rainfall

Less rainfall overall

Longer and more frequent droughts

Declining spring rainfall



More intense rainfall and storms

More intense heavy rainfall

Increased frequency and severity of storms



More dangerous fire weather

Longer fire danger seasons

More days of extreme fire danger



Coastal

Sea level rise

More frequent and higher storm surges

Increased coastal erosion



Emissions reduction

Increased requirements to reduce emissions to mitigate climate change

Key climate action initiatives for 2025-2026

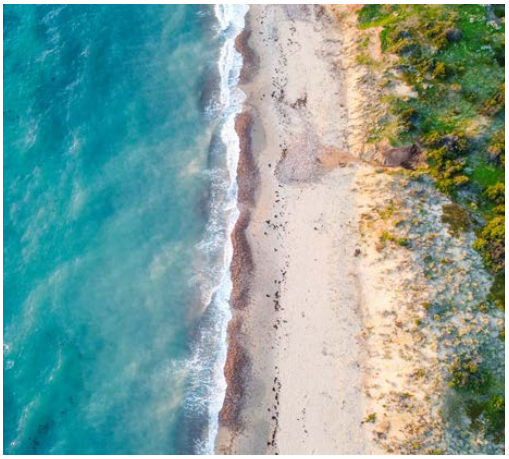
Governance and coordination

Environmental Sustainability Team
Eight specialists driving climate risk integration, adaptation planning, and emissions reduction across council operations, ensuring regulatory compliance.

Resilient South Regional Climate Partnership
A collaboration with regional councils and the SA Government to enhance climate resilience, coordinate policy action, and leverage funding.

Resilient South Regional Coordinator
Oversees implementation of the Regional Climate Action Plan (ReCAP) to embed resilience in decision-making and investment planning.





Climate risk management and resilient infrastructure

Resilient Asset Management Program (RAMP)
Identifies infrastructure vulnerabilities, integrating climate risk into asset management to reduce long-term costs and liabilities.

Coastal climate monitoring and hazard planning
Supports adaptation to sea level rise, erosion, and extreme weather through the Marion Coastal Monitoring Program (2025-2028) and development of a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Plan (CHAP) (pending grant funding).

Sustainable resource management and emissions reduction

Marion Water
Manages stormwater through an aquifer storage and reuse (ASR) scheme, reducing potable water reliance, cutting costs, and enhancing urban greening.

Emissions Reduction Strategy
Driving net-zero progress through:

- 100% renewable electricity transition for council operations.
- EV fleet expansion and charging infrastructure.
- Energy efficiency upgrades in council facilities.

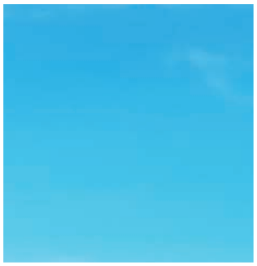


Framework of the Annual Business Plan

The Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 has been prepared on the basis of a framework that aims to inform the community and hold the City of Marion accountable to its stakeholders. The key items in this framework are as follows:

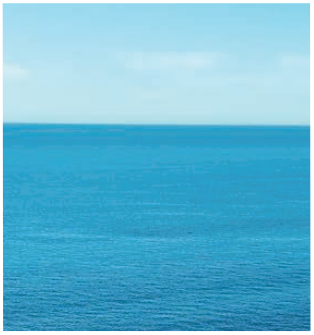
Support the achievement of the City Of Marion's strategic directions.

This Annual Business Plan has been reviewed against the Strategic Plan to ensure that council's activities over the next 12 months make the best possible progress towards achieving the Community Vision for the future City of Marion.

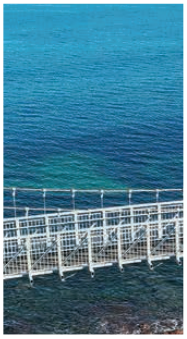


Address issues arising and opportunities identified from internal audit reviews, and business excellence assessments.

Every year the council undertakes a number of internal audits. These reviews and assessments have identified a number of key opportunities or requirements for the council to improve its operations. This document includes the necessary resources to continue council's independent review process and implement recommendations accordingly.



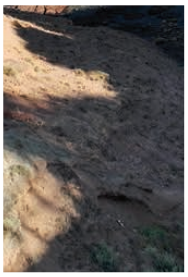




Maintain, on average, a break-even or positive funding (cash) position over the long term financial plan.

With a primary focus on cash flow and ensuring the council's asset renewal and upgrades are fully funded, this target is currently being met. To ensure ongoing financial sustainability, the council monitors and reviews all its financial indicators together.

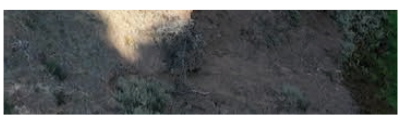


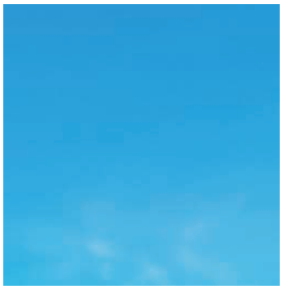


Continue to improve the maintenance of assets in accordance with Council's Asset Management Plans, with a priority on maintenance before renewal, and renewal before new, when it is cost effective to do so.

The Annual Business Plan has been prepared taking into consideration individual Asset Management Plan requirements and outcomes of recent infrastructure audits. The City of Marion has a target of 90-110 per cent for the Annual Asset Renewal Funding Ratio.



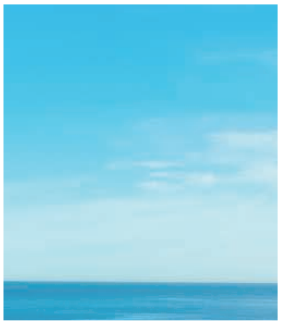




Review existing services and assets to ensure they meet prioritised community needs.

The council continues its rolling process of service reviews, aimed at maximising community value through continuously improving its operating efficiency and service performance to the community. This Annual Business Plan has been prepared based on continuing existing services, noting that a rolling program of review is being implemented.

Collaboration with other councils will continue to assist capacity building for shared strategic opportunities, innovation and cost efficiencies and enables the ability to align processes and reduce duplication.





Council only approve new major projects where it has the identified funding capacity to do so.

Council debt is forecast to increase to $23.353m by 30 June 2026, and peak at $63.391m in 2028-2029. With consideration given to key financial indicators, Council has continued to retain the funding capacity to consider additional strategic Major Projects and is currently investigating partnerships to aid the development of several initiatives.

These additional forecast borrowings after 2025-2026 relate to Council's contribution towards new initiatives in the Capital Works Program. Any changes to the timing and scope of the capital projects may impact the funding required, and in turn the total requirement for borrowings currently factored into the Annual Business Plan 2025-2026.





Maintain council's position for an average residential rate which remains among the lower rating metropolitan councils.

Comparative 2024-2025 data shows that council's average residential rate continues to remain among the lower rating metropolitan councils, with its current position ranking being the 5th lowest of 18 metropolitan councils.



Continuing and improving service delivery

All councils have responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 1999* and other relevant legislation to deliver services for the community. Council is committed to maintaining all services including, but not limited to:

Ongoing services	
Reserves, parks and gardens management	Tree planting
Community facilities management	Public health planning
Infrastructure management	Positive Ageing and Inclusion (PAI)
Waste and recycling services	Community transport
Library services	Dog and cat registration
Environmental sustainability	Arts and cultural promotion and support
Business support services	Citizenship ceremonies
Development and building assessments	Supporting community gardens
Land use and development planning	Community Leadership Program
Emergency planning and response	Graffiti removal
Community grants and partnerships	Justice of the Peace (JP)
Sport and recreation promotion and support	Community centres
Community health and safety	Parking and traffic management

Enabling services	
Financial management	Innovation
Governance support	Strategic Asset Management
Strategic planning	Communication, marketing, and engagement
Operational support	People Management
Continuous Improvement	ICT and knowledge management
Risk management	Strategic procurement and contracts management
Strategic partnerships	Disability Access and Inclusion Planning







Project priorities

In 2025-2026 the council plans to commence or continue working on the following strategic initiatives, as outlined in our 4 Year 2023-2027 Business Plan, or through council resolutions:

Continuing initiatives

Continuing initiatives from prior years	Key strategic theme
Construct Marion Basketball Stadium	Liveable L2.2
Continue annual tree planting across council	Sustainable S1.2
Deliver an annual program of environmental engagement activities events and programs	Sustainable 2.2
Partner to deliver the Resilient South Program	Sustainable S3.1
Continue with transition of council's passenger vehicles to electric	Sustainable S3.2
Deliver community events including Australia Day events, Touch a Truck, Concert at the Cove, citizenship ceremonies, opening events, Reconciliation Week event and civic events	Community C1.1
Deliver the Youth and Community Grants Program	Community C2.1
Deliver Council's Reconciliation Action Plan	Community C2.3
Support National Reconciliation week	Community C2.3
Deliver an annual program of business events and engagement	Community C2.4
Continue to deliver the 'Southern Business Mentoring Program' and business hubs program	Community C2.5
Provide the community bus to support residents to remain connected	Community C3.3
Upgrade of council's administration building	Our Organisation O1.2
Upgrade Warradale Park Tennis Club	Our Organisation O1.2
Upgrade Glandore Oval Clubroom and car park	Our Organisation O1.3
Continue to support the Gap Year Program	Our Organisation O3.1
Implement the Information Services Strategy	Our Organisation O5.1

New projects commencing in 2025-2026

2025-2026 new initiatives	Key strategic theme
Deliver the annual capital works program (stormwater, road reseal, kerbs, kerb ramps, open space works, property/building, footpath, streetscape upgrades, traffic upgrades, other infrastructure)	Liveable L1.1, L2.2
Newland Avenue, Marino Streetscape upgrade	Livebale L1.3
Reserve and playground development across council	Liveable L2.2
Commence the Sturt River Biodiversity Corridor Project	Sustainable S1.3
Land restoration to reduce weed control utilsing cultural burning land management techniques	Sustainable S2.3
Resurface Cove Netball Courts	Our Organisation O1.2
Redevelop the Morphettville Park Tennis Club clubrooms*	Our Organisation O1.2
Design Coastal Walkway Cell 3 (between Murto Gully and south to Westcliff Reserve)	Our Organisation O1.2





**Subject to grant funding*

Asset Management

The City of Marion's Asset Management vision is to maintain community assets at agreed service levels, maximising value throughout their lifespan. These assets, including roads, buildings, playgrounds, and stormwater drains, support current and future generations. Council prioritises best practice in asset management, considering performance, risks, funding, and compliance with legislative and policy requirements.

Assets must be resilient and adaptable to future needs and climate impacts, such as increased bushfires, heatwaves, and flooding. Asset management plans focus on climate resilience, transitioning to a low-carbon future, and addressing risks cost-effectively. The council aims to optimise spending on asset maintenance, renewal, and creation, balancing affordability and technological advancements to enhance community quality of life.



The City of Marion owns and manages a large and diverse asset portfolio valued at over one billion dollars

- Artworks, culture and heritage assets
- Buildings and structural assets
- The Coastal Walkway
- Fleet, plant and equipment assets
- Open space assets
- Stormwater assets
- Transport assets
- Tree assets
- Water treatment and resources assets

Measuring our success

Monitoring performance is a critical element of strategic management. It is the mechanism for ensuring that the Council is contributing to the achievement of its objectives in both the Strategic Plan and the 4-Year Business Plan 2023-2027. Our Key Performance Indicator (KPI) dashboard for 2025-2026 (provided in the table below) takes account of these objectives.

		Key Performance Indicator	Core target	Stretch target
Financial	1	Financial Sustainability	Council maintains, on average, a break-even or positive funding (cash) position over the Long Term Financial Plan	Council maintains a break-even or positive funding (cash) position in delivering its annual budget
	2	Asset Renewal Funding ratio (A measure to assess that we are renewing or replacing non-financial assets in accordance with our future Asset Management renewal requirements)	Asset Renewal Funding Ratio between 90 and 110%	
	3	Total employee costs (including agency staff)	Less than or equal to 4.5% increase in actual employee costs (including agency staff) against prior year's actual costs-adjusted for Council endorsed changes to meet resourcing requirements	Less than or equal to 4% increase in actual employee costs (including agency staff) against prior year's actual costs - adjusted for Council endorsed changes to meet resourcing requirements
Organisational	4	Staff engagement	Achievement of an overall employee pulse survey result of 70%, with at least 50% employee participation per SLT department	Achievement of an overall employee pulse survey result of 75%, with at least 50% employee participation per SLT department
	5	Delivery of agreed projects identified in the Annual Business Plan and the third year targets in the 4-Year Business Plan	Greater than or equal to 95%	No stretch target
	6	Delivery of council's capital works program	Greater than or equal to 85% delivery of council's planned capital works program (adjusted for extraordinary items)	Greater than or equal to 90% delivery of council's planned capital works program (adjusted for extraordinary items)
Environment	7	Carbon Neutrality - carbon emissions footprint, measured against Council's endorsed Carbon Neutral Plan (applicable 2021-2022 onwards)	Actual annual emissions less than the plan's annual target emissions	Actual annual emissions 5% less than the plan's annual target emissions
Customer	8	Overall satisfaction with council's performance (measured annually)	Greater than or equal to 75% rated as satisfied or above	Greater than or equal to 85% rated as satisfied or above
	9	Customer Experience		
	9a	Ease of lodging requests	75% satisfied or more	80% satisfied or more
	9b	Time taken to address and action requests	65% satisfied or more	70% satisfied or more
	9c	Satisfaction with requests handling	55% satisfied or more	60% satisfied or more

Funding the Annual Business Plan

Your rates in 2025-2026

The Annual Business Plan is based on a 4.8 per cent increase in the average rate for the coming year. In setting rates for 2025-2026, council has forecast the revenue required to meet the costs of delivering the services and projects that will be provided to the community in 2025-2026.

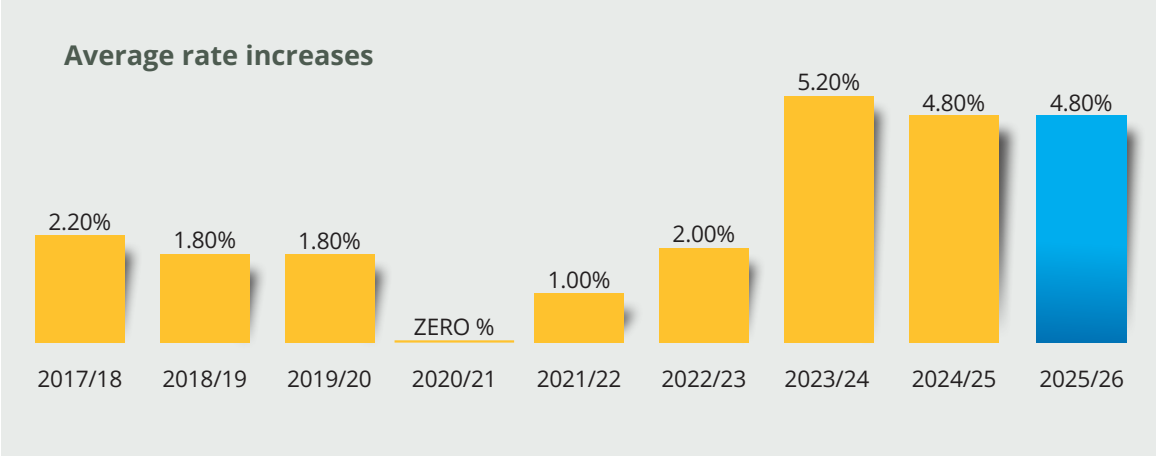
Rates account for 81 per cent of council's operating revenue with other sources including fees, charges and grants. These revenues contribute to the necessary funding for planned operating and capital renewal programs in 2025-2026.

While the average rate increase is 4.8 per cent, it is to be noted that actual rates payable by a rate payer will vary according to individual property valuations, the attributed land use, and whether there has been any new development or capital improvement on the land.

Council is aware of the impact rate increases have on the community. We are continually looking for opportunities that allow this cost to be minimised, support our community during uncertain times, and maintain the fiscal responsibility required of council.

With changing community needs and other external influences impacting on the community, there is a need for council to consider how to plan more effectively, both for the longer term and for an immediate community benefit. The rate increase is set at a level that provides confidence that services will be maintained and that a sufficient capital expenditure program is planned to maintain council's assets.

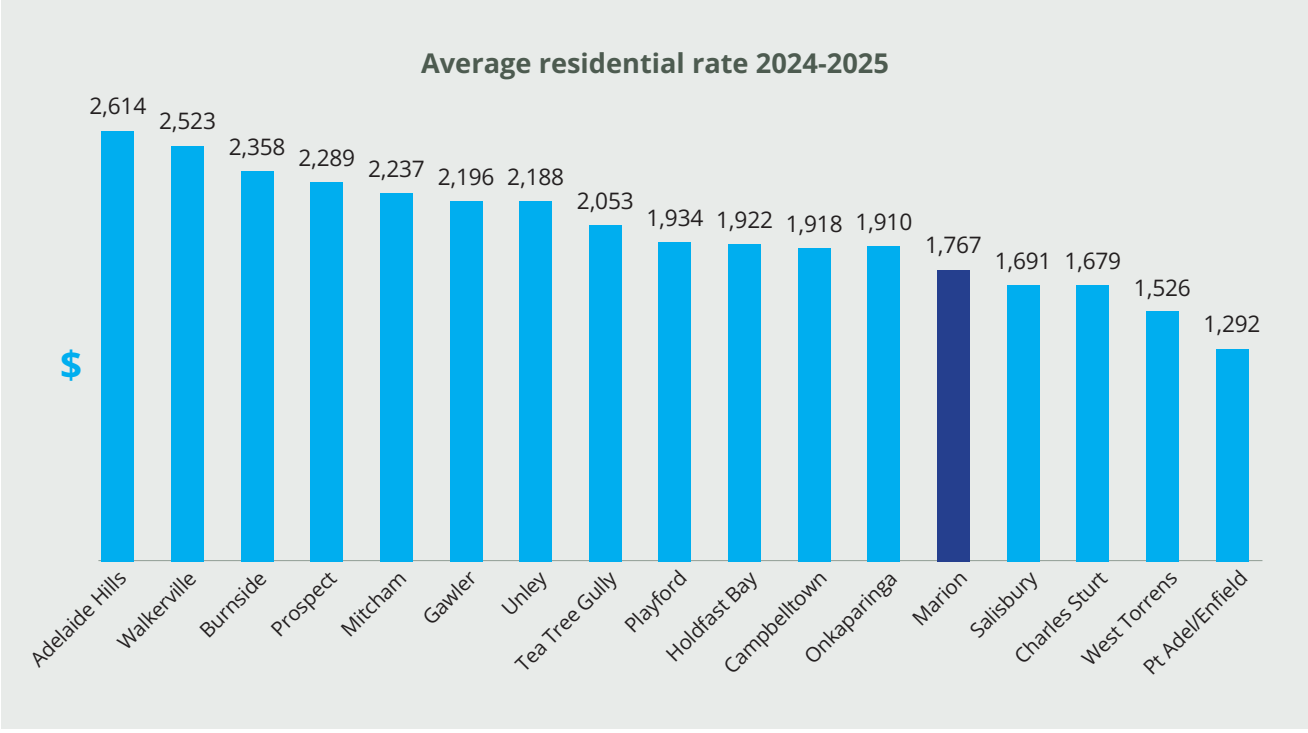
The outcomes of the community consultation, as well as a balance between achieving the strategic directions, maintaining services and assets, ensuring financial and environmental sustainability, supporting intergenerational equity and making provision for those in the community who are experiencing hardship, have been considered in setting the rate increase for the Annual Business Plan 2025-2026.





Comparative rating data

With a 4.8% increase, the City of Marion's average residential rate is in line with Council's Annual Business Plan framework and set to remain among the lower rating metropolitan councils. In 2024-2025 the City of Marion had the 5th lowest average metropolitan residential rate.



Differential rating

Council currently derives 17.1 per cent of its rate revenue from the Commercial and Industrial sectors – Commercial (15.5 per cent) and Industrial (1.6 per cent).

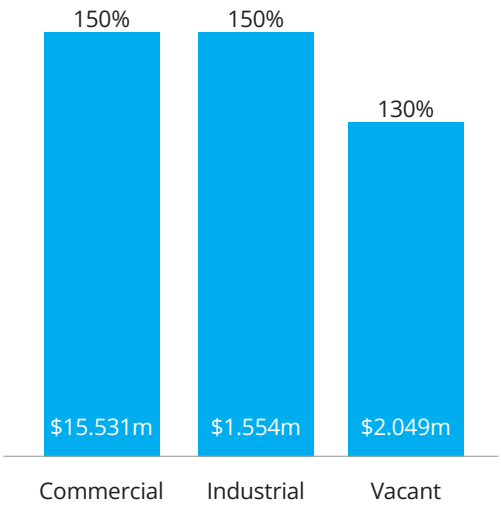
Commercial and Industrial users consume a greater proportion of council resources than residential properties, particularly in regard to the use of roads, footpaths, traffic, parking, storm water drainage, public health and environment.

Council uses a differential rating system to raise revenue based on its Land Use to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of rates within the City of Marion.

The differential rate is charged in addition to the normal rate. In applying this approach, council will take into consideration all prevailing economic conditions and changes and adjust its differential rates accordingly, to ensure an appropriate and fair equalisation of rates across all land use categories.

Differential rates to apply to land use are as follows:

Differential rating



The average increase in rates for 2025-2026 by land use category is outlined below:

Land use category	Expected revenue 2025 - 2026	Average increase 2025 -2026
Residential	$80,271,583	$91
Commercial - Shop	$7,347,940	$516
Commercial - Office	$1,032,877	$449
Commercial - Other	$7,150,447	$760
Industrial - Light	$527,687	$812
Industrial - Other	$1,026,697	$1,269
Primary production	$30,606	$10
Vacant land	$2,048,760	$95
Other	$949,763	-$235





Budgeted income statement

An operating surplus of $0.150m before capital revenues is forecast for 2025-2026. The operating surplus is required to support the renewal of existing infrastructure in accordance with council's Asset Management Plans and to support construction of new assets to deliver services.

Budgeted Income Statement	2nd Review 2024/25 $'000	Budget 2025/26 $'000	Variance $'000
Operating Revenue			
Rates - General	92,548	97,937	5,389
Rates - Regional Landscape Levy *	2,341	2,458	117
Statutory Charges	2,828	2,820	(8)
User Charges	4,418	4,732	314
Grants/Subsidies	10,584	11,268	684
Investment Income	403	350	(53)
Reimbursements	1,182	751	(431)
Other Revenue	1,091	393	(698)
Share of Profit/(Loss) Regional Subsidiaries	645	793	148
Total Operating Revenue	**116,040**	**121,502**	**5,462**
Operating Expenditure			
Employee Costs	47,410	50,088	2,678
Contractor Services	35,444	30,440	(5,004)
Materials	7,153	6,543	(610)
Finance Charges	285	851	566
Depreciation	23,783	24,921	1,138
Other Expenses	8,598	8,511	(87)
Total Operating Expenditure	**122,673**	**121,353**	**(1,319)**
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Revenues	**(6,633)**	**150**	**6,781**
Capital Grants and Contributions	5,492	5,448	(44)
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	**(1,141)**	**5,598**	**6,737**

* Note: The Regional Landscape Levy is collected by council on behalf of the Green Adelaide Board.



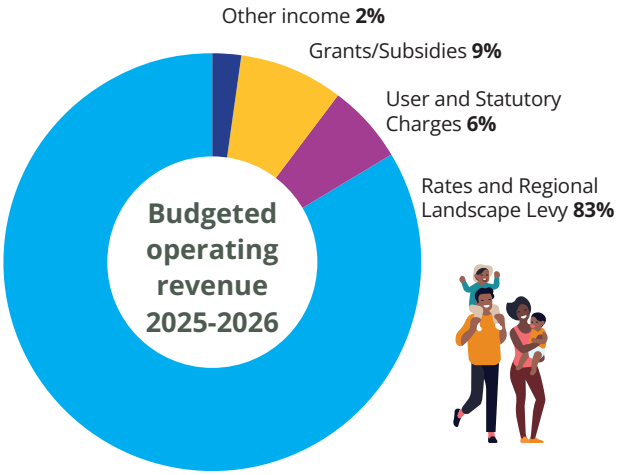
Operating revenue

The main source of income for council is rate revenue; making up just under 81 per cent (83 per cent including Regional Landscape Levy) of total revenue in 2025-2026, with other sources being government regulated fees for statutory services, untied federal grant monies, as well as other grants from the State and Federal government.









General rates

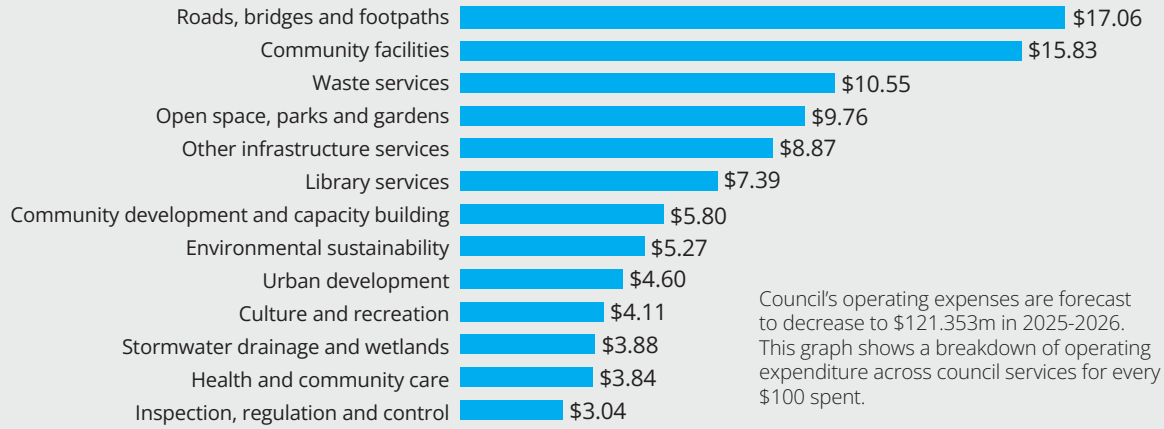
Council's revenue in 2025-2026 includes $97.937m ($92.548m in 2024-2025) to be raised in general rates. The budget has been developed on the basis of a 4.8% average rate increase (excluding new developments and capital improvements). In setting rates for 2025-2026, council has forecast the revenue required to meet the costs of delivering the services and projects to be provided to the community in 2025-2026.

Growth from new property development is forecast at 1 per cent for 2025-2026. This predominantly is the result of new housing in Marion, as reported by the Valuer General. The revenue created by this growth will cover the increased costs of servicing a growing community, which includes the requirement to maintain and provide for the replacement of infrastructure such as stormwater drainage and transport networks.

User Charges set by Council – relate mainly to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users of council's services. These include charges for the use of council's community facilities, swimming pool admission and the like. Statutory Charges set by State Government relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include development application fees, health act registrations and parking fines.

Grants and Subsidies – grants include all monies received from State and Federal sources for the purpose of funding the delivery of council's services to ratepayers and for the funding of the capital works program. Operating grants are forecast at $11.268m for 2025-2026, an increase of $0.684m on grants received in 2024-2025.

Operating expenditure



Council's operating expenses are forecast to decrease to $121.353m in 2025-2026. This graph shows a breakdown of operating expenditure across council services for every $100 spent.

Employee costs

Employees are responsible for the provision of council's key services, including the ongoing maintenance of open space areas, libraries, neighbourhood centres, the Marion Outdoor Pool, urban development, health and community care. Employees are either directly employed by council, or indirectly through an employment agency (i.e. agency staff) where temporary workforce requirements have arisen through seasonal demand or short-term vacancies of existing positions.

Employee costs are forecast to increase by $2.678m primarily because of increases stemming from Enterprise Agreements provisions, increases to the Superannuation Guarantee Contribution and additional staffing resources for Council endorsed initiatives.

Contractor services

Contractor services relate mainly to the provision of council services by external providers. Council uses contractors to assist in the provision of major services such as waste collection and management, and also where specialist services or advice is required, where it is not warranted for council to have permanent in-house resources. A decrease of $5.004m is forecast in the 2025-2026 budget which primarily relates to one off expenditure relating to Digital Transformation projects due for completion in 2024-2025 and other once off project expenditure no longer required in 2025-2026.

Materials

Council's Materials budget includes utilities, products utilised in the delivery of community services and maintenance of council's infrastructure, open space, and other assets, as well as fuel for the fleet of vehicles used to deliver services. A decrease of $0.610m in materials is forecast in the 2025-2026 budget primarily relating to one-off equipment purchases made in 2024-2025 which are not required in 2025-2026.

Other expenses

Other expenses have decreased by $0.087m in 2025-2026.

Capital revenue

Capital grants and contributions

Council has incorporated $5.448m in capital grants and contributions towards new capital works planned in 2025-2026. Funding includes Federal and State Government grant funding contributions towards council's prioritised new initiatives/projects.

Budgeted capital expenditure

Capital Expenditure	2nd Review 2024/25 $'000	Budget 2025/26 $'000
Buildings and Major Projects	26,412	20,377
Infrastructure:		
Roads & Kerbs	3,793	4,490
Stormwater	4,465	3,425
Footpaths	2,207	1,180
Traffic Control Devices	1,811	540
Other Infrastructure	3,300	858
Plant and Equipment	2,443	564
Furniture and Fittings	175	208
Streetscapes	1,898	1,200
Other	2,535	2,190
Total Capital Expenditure	**49,039**	**35,032**
Represented By:		
Capital Expenditure		
Assets - Renewal	15,407	16,390
Assets - New	33,632	18,642
	49,039	**35,032**

The 2025-2026 Budgeted Statement of Capital Expenditure forecasts a total capital funding requirement of of $35.032m including $16.390m renewal and $18.642m new and upgrade.

Funding for key capital projects in the 2025-2026 budget includes forecast funding towards:

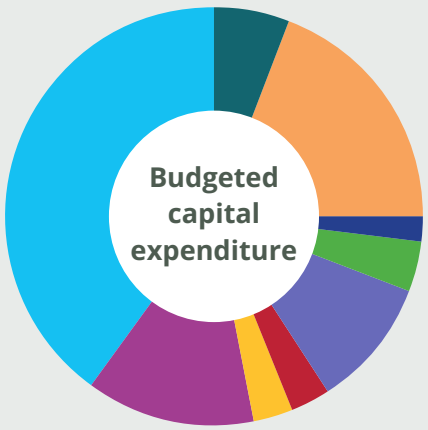
Glandore Sports Club redevelopment

Morphetville Park Tennis Club upgrade

Marion Tennis Club relocation

Coastal Walkway upgrade works

The chart below summarises council's planned Capital Works Program for 2025-2026:



- Major projects **40%**
- Open Space development **6%**
- Buildings **19%**
- Plant/equipment/furniture and fittings **2%**
- Traffic devices/other infrastructure **4%**
- Drains **10%**
- Streetscapes **3%**
- Footpaths **3%**
- Roads and kerbs **13%**

Financing the budget

Financing the budget refers to the use of borrowings or available cash balances to meet any shortfall between expenditure (both operating and capital) and revenue.

The table below identifies the council's net funding result. Council's budget for 2025-2026 is expected to result in a net decrease in funding of $2.788m.

Net Lending/(Borrowing)	2nd Review 2024/25 $'000	Budget 2025/26 $'000
Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Amounts	(6,633)	150
less: Net Outlay on Existing Assets		
Capital expenditure on asset renewal/replacement	15,407	16,390
less Depreciation/Ammortisation	(23,783)	(24,921)
	(8,376)	**(8,531)**
less: Net Outlay on New/Upgrade Assets		
Capital expenditure on New & Upgrade Assets	33,632	18,642
less Capital Grants	(5,492)	(5,448)
	28,140	**13,194**
Adjustments		
Proceeds from asset disposal	360	2,517
Share of Equity - Regional Subsidiaries	(645)	(793)
	(285)	**1,724**
Net funding increase/(decrease)	**(26,682)**	**(2,788)**

Financing Transactions	2nd Review 2024/25 $'000	Budget 2025/26 $'000
New Borrowings	13,986	11,250
less: Repayment of Principal on Borrowings	(309)	(3,331)
less: Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Investments		
- Transfers from/(to) Reserves	14,211	4,840
- Cash Deficit/(Surplus)	(1,205)	(89)
Funds used to defer borrowings in prior years	-	(9,882)
Equals: Financing Transactions	**26,682**	**2,788**

Financing transactions associated with accommodating the expected net lending result in 2025-2026 are found in the above table. Council's Long Term Financial Plan includes an allowance for borrowings of up to $11.250m in 2025-2026 to support the funding requirements of council's Capital Works Program.

Council's borrowings are forecast to reach $23.4m by June 2026. Over the Long Term Financial Plan, they are projected to peak at $63.391m in 2028-2029 with its Debt Servicing Ratio peaking at 5.20% in 2034-2035 against a maximum target of 10.0% and its Net Financial Liabilities ratio peaking at 57.28% in 2027-2028 but staying within the targeted range of 0 - 50% over the next 5 years.

Financial ratios

To assist council in meeting its objective of financial sustainability, a series of financial indicators endorsed by the Local Government Association (LGA) are provided. Where a council target has not been adopted, the recommended LGA target has been used.

The table below details these financial indicators and whether or not the prescribed target will be achieved over the next five year period. All key financial ratios are forecast to be within their targeted ranges for the 2025-2026 year and on average over the 10-year term of Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

Operating Surplus - this ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.

The Asset Renewal Funding Ratio indicates whether council is renewing or replacing assets at the rate of consumption. Council's long term target of 100 per cent ensures that council aims to invest adequately in maintaining its asset base.

The Net Financial Liabilities Ratio indicates the extent to which the net financial liabilities of the council can be met by the council's total operating revenue. With the consumption of cash on significant capital works and major projects forecast to be completed in 2024-2025 and additional projects in 2025-2026 along with loan funding forecast to be utilised up to $11.250m in 2025-2026, the Net Financial Liabilities Ratio is projected to remain within Council's target range in 2025-2026.

The Debt Servicing Ratio measures the total annual loan principal and interest repayments as a percentage of total income for the year.

This ratio identifies Council's ability to service its debt obligations from operating revenues. The ratio is anticipated to increase slightly with the new loan repayments in 2025-2026 but remains in the lower end of Council's targeted bandwidth for this ratio.

Ratio	Council Target	2025-26 Budget	5 Year Average
Operating Surplus	0% - 10%	0.12%	0.40%
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio	90% - 110%	100.00%	100.00%
Net Financial Liablities	0% - 50%	29.82%	46.10%
Debt Servicing	0% - 10%	3.45%	3.77%

Appendix 1 - Capital works list

Open space and recreation works program 2025-2026

Location	Suburb	Ward	Description
Olivier Terrace Reserve	Hallett Cove	Coastal	reserve upgrade
Koomooloo Crescent Reserve	Hallett Cove	Coastal	reserve irrigation upgrade
Willoughby Avenue Reserve	Glengowrie	Mullawirra	reserve irrigation upgrade
Mulcra Avenue Reserve	Park Holme	Mullawirra	reserve irrigation upgrade
Matthew Street Reserve	O'Halloran Hill	Southern Hills	reserve upgrade
Gully Road Reserves	Seacliff Park	Southern Hills	reserve upgrade
Southbank Boulevard	Sheidow Park	Southern Hills	playground and reserve upgrade
Branksome Terrace Reserve	Dover Gardens	Warracowie	reserve upgrade
Scarborough Terrace Reserve	Dover Gardens	Warracowie	playground and reserve upgrade
Ben Pethick Reserve	Marion	Warracowie	reserve irrigation upgrade
Warradale Park Reserve	Warradale	Warracowie	public toilet
Penrith Court Reserve	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	reserve upgrade
Maesbury Circuit	Sturt	Warriparinga	reserve irrigation upgrade
Daws Road Reserve	Ascot Park	Woodlands	reserve upgrade
Minor Open Space Enhancements & Activation	Various	Various	

Property/building works program 2025-2026

Location	Suburb	Ward	Description
Capella Oval	Hallett Cove	Coastal	cricket pitch cover
Morphettville Park Tennis Club	Morphettville	Mullawirra	clubroom renewal
Marion Outdoor Pool	Park Holme	Mullawirra	renewal works
Plympton Sports Club	Plympton Park	Mullawirra	netting behind goals
Cove Netball Club	Hallett Cove	Southern Hills	court resurfacing
Marion Cultural Centre Library	Oaklands Park	Warracowie	internal building upgrade
Marion Basketball Stadium	Marion	Warriparinga	stadium redevelopment
Marion Bowling Club	Marion	Warriparinga	lighting renewal
Mitchell Park Sports & Community Club	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	flooring renewal
Administration Centre Building	Sturt	Warriparinga	building renewal
Glandore Oval	Glandore	Woodlands	new clubhouse and carparking
Various	Various	Various	building and heritage signage upgrades

**Please note Capital Works Programs are subject to change.*

Road reseal program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward	From	To
Brooklyn Drive	Hallett Cove	Southern Hills	Brooklyn Drive No.9	Erebus Glen Southern
Capella Drive	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Minnipa Drive	Manoora Drive
Capella Drive	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Perry Barr Road	Weerab Drive
Dutchman Drive	Hallett Cove	Coastal	The Cove Road	Moth Court
Grand Central Avenue	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Ranger Street	Grand Central Court
Grand Central Avenue	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Columbia Crescent	Shamrock Road
Great Eastern Avenue	Sheidow Park	Southern Hills	Edward Beck Drive	Platten Street
Gwen Street	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Dutchman Drive	Cherub Street
Marine Avenue	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Grand Central Avenue	St Vincent Avenue
Mercedes Avenue	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Caprice Street	Ginkgo Street
Perry Barr Road	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Berringa Street	Capella Drive
The Copse	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Beeches Road	Cul-De-Sac
The Cove Road	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Railway Bridge End	Dutchman Drive
The Cove Road Eastern Carriageway	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Genesta Street	Railway Bridge
The Cove Road North Carriageway	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Lonsdale Road	Sandison Road
Shaftesbury Terrace	Marino	Coastal	Rockford Place	Robertson Place
Maxwell Terrace	Glengowrie	Mullawirra	Winston Crescent	Council Boundary
Hendrie Street	Morphettville	Mullawirra	Tensing Avenue	Condada Avenue
Hendrie Street	Morphettville	Mullawirra	Carlisle Avenue	Wallala Avenue
Davenport Terrace	Seaview Downs	Southern Hills	Seacombe Road	Cadell Street
Eyre Street	Seaview Downs	Southern Hills	Gawler Street	Basten Avenue
Gooroonga Street	Seaview Downs	Southern Hills	Fowler Street	Ross Street
Holt Court	Trott Park	Southern Hills	Chifley Crescent	End
Johnstone Road	Oaklands Park	Warracowie	Perrin Street	Dwyer Road

**Please note Capital Works Programs are subject to change.*

Road reseal program 2025-2026 (continued)

Road name	Suburb	Ward	From	To
Milham Street	Oaklands Park	Warracowie	Morphett Road	Warracowrie Way
Miller Street	Seacombe Gardens	Warracowie	Vardon Street	Harbrow Avenue
Kildonan Road	Warradale	Warracowie	Morphett Road	Ulva Avenue
Kildonan Road	Warradale	Warracowie	Mattson Avenue	Struan Avenue
Celtic Avenue	Clovelly Park	Warriparinga	Winsor Avenue	Bradley Grove
Alison Avenue	Marion	Warriparinga	Oakleigh Road	Malcolm Avenue
Peter Street	Marion	Warriparinga	Marion Road	Oakleigh Road
Lynton Avenue	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	Bradley Grove South	Bradley Grove North
Mary Street	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	Car Park	Alawoona Avenue
Nellie Avenue	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	Brenda Street	Dead End
Sampson Court	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	Sampson Road	Cul-De-Sac
Crystal Street (Lane Way)	Seacombe Heights	Warriparinga	Glen St	Dead End
De Laine Avenue	Edwardstown	Woodlands	South Rd	Mons Terrace

Kerb program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward
Kerb and Channel Program	Various	Various
Kerb Ramp DDA Upgrade Program	Various	Various
Kerb Ramp Creation Program	Various	Various

New footpath program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward
Lighthouse Drive	Hallett Cove	Coastal
Bandon Terrace	Marino	Coastal
Kiah Crescent	Sheidow Park	Southern Hills
MacArthur Avenue	Warradale	Warracowie

Footpath renewal program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward
Ramrod Avenue	Hallett Cove	Coastal
Newland Avenue	Marino	Coastal
Patpa Drive	Hallett Cove	Southern Hills
Great Eastern Avenue	Sheidow Park	Southern Hills
Celtic Avenue	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga
Mimosa Terrace	Tonsley	Warriparinga
Oak Avenue	Tonsley	Warriparinga

**Please note Capital Works Programs are subject to change.*

Transport program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward	Description
Gretel Crescent	Hallett Cove	Coastal	School crossing
Barramundi Drive	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Traffic signal renewal
Gledsdale Road	Hallett Cove	Coastal	School crossing
Gledsdale Road	Hallett Cove	Coastal	School crossing
Sandison Road	Hallett Cove	Coastal	School crossing
Quailo Avenue / Zwerner Drive	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Intersection upgrade
Diagonal Road - Stop 28B (East Side)	Warradale	Warracowie	Bus Shelter renewal program
Barramundi Drive - Stop 48 (North Side)	Hallett Cove	Coastal	Bus Shelter renewal program
Morphett Road - Stop 26 (West Side)	Oaklands Park	Warracowie	Bus Shelter renewal program
Main South Road - Stop 32 (West Side)	O'Halloran Hill	Southern Hills	Bus Shelter renewal program
Bradley Grove - Stop 27A (East side)	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga	Bus Shelter renewal program

Stormwater program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward
Brolga Place	Sturt	Warriparinga
Morphett Road	Seaview Downs	Southern Hills
Adams Road	Trott Park	Southern Hills

Streetscape program 2025-2026

Road name	Suburb	Ward
Newland Avenue	Marino	Coastal

Water treatment and resources program 2025-2026

Location	Suburb	Ward
Skipper Close Reserve Detention Basin	Hallett Cove	Southern Hills
Warriparinga Bore Renewal	Bedford Park	Warriparinga

Other infrastructure program 2025-2026

Details	Suburb	Ward
McInerney Avenue Lighting	Mitchell Park	Warriparinga
Furness Avenue Lighting	Edwardstown	Woodlands
Walkway Lighting (Edward Beck Drive to Pryor Loop)	Sheidow Park	Southern Hills

**Please note Capital Works Programs are subject to change.*

Appendix 2 -
Budgeted Income Statement

Budget 2024-2025 $'000	2nd review 2024-2025 $'000		Budget 2025-2026 $'000
		Operating Revenue	
92,486	92,548	Rates - General	97,937
2,337	2,341	Rates - Regional Landsacape Levy	2,458
2,738	2,828	Statutory Charges	2,820
4,164	4,418	User Charges	4,732
9,174	10,584	Grants/Subsidies	11,268
300	403	Investment Income	350
1,020	1,182	Reimbursements	751
668	1,091	Other Revenue	393
645	645	Share of Profit/(Loss) SRWRA	793
113,533	**116,040**	**Total Operating Revenue**	**121,502**
		Operating Expenditure	
46,610	47,410	Employee Costs	50,088
30,533	35,444	Contractor Services	30,440
6,460	7,153	Materials	6,543
359	285	Finance Charges	851
21,100	23,783	Depreciation	24,921
8,385	8,598	Other Expenses	8,511
113,447	**122,673**	**Total Operating Expenditure**	**121,353**
86	(6,633)	**Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Revenues**	**150**
2,642	5,492	Capital Grants and Contributions	5,448
2,728	**(1,141)**	**Net Surplus/(Deficit) resulting from Operations**	**5,598**

Appendix 3 -
Budgeted Statement of Financial Position

Budget 2024-2025 $'000	2nd review 2024-2025 $'000		Budget 2025-2026 $'000
		Current Assets	
10,090	756	Cash	4,946
4,955	6,531	Receivables	5,463
488	600	Inventory	528
15,533	**7,887**	**Total Current Assets**	**10,938**
		Current Liabilities	
10,119	17,534	Creditors	15,458
6,715	7,134	Provisions	7,123
1,815	1,029	Loans	1,364
18,649	**25,697**	**Total Current Liabilities**	**23,945**
(3,116)	(17,810)	Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)	(13,007)
		Non-Current Assets	
9,511	9,916	Investment in Regional Subsidiaries	10,709
1,198,934	1,353,662	Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	1,360,537
-	23,080	Other Non-Current Assets	23,080
1,208,445	**1,386,658**	**Total Non-Current Assets**	**1,394,326**
		Non-Current Liabilities	
667	700	Provisions	711
17,562	15,126	Loans	21,989
18,229	**15,826**	**Total Non-Current Liabilities**	**22,700**
1,187,100	**1,353,022**	**Net Assets**	**1,358,619**
		Equity	
461,695	453,405	Accumulated Surplus	463,843
725,405	899,617	Reserves	894,776
1,187,100	**1,353,022**	**Total Equity**	**1,358,619**

Appendix 4 -
Budgeted Statement of Changes in Equity

Budget 2024-2025 $'000	2nd review 2024-2025 $'000		Budget 2025-2026 $'000
		Accumulated Surplus	
456,494	440,335	Balance at beginning of period	453,405
2,728	(1,141)	Net Surplus/(Deficit)	5,598
2,563	15,064	Transfers from Reserves	4,939
(90)	(853)	Transfers to Reserves	(99)
461,695	**453,405**	**Balance at end of period**	**463,843**
		Asset Revaluation Reserve	
711,329	893,903	Balance at beginning of period	893,903
711,329	**893,903**	**Balance at end of period**	**893,903**
		Other Reserves	
16,549	19,925	Balance at beginning of period	5,714
(2,473)	(14,211)	Net change	(4,840)
14,076	**5,714**	**Balance at end of period**	**873**
725,405	**899,617**	**Total Reserves**	**894,775**
1,187,100	**1,353,022**	**Total Equity**	**1,358,619**

Appendix 5 -
Budgeted Statement of Cash Flow

Budget 2024-2025 $'000	2nd review 2024-2025 $'000		Budget 2025-2026 $'000
		Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
112,960	115,395	***Receipts***	121,191
(92,326)	(98,890)	***Payments***	(97,853)
20,634	**16,505**	**Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities**	**23,338**
		Cash Flows from Financing Activities	
		Receipts	
9,500	13,986	Loans Received	11,250
		Payments	
(657)	(309)	Principal Repayments	(3,331)
8,843	**13,677**	**Net Cash (Used In) Financing Activities**	**7,919**
		Cash Flows from Investing Activities	
		Receipts	
2,157	5,492	Capital Grants/Subsidies & Contributions/Investments	5,448
353	360	Sale of replaced assets	17
-	-	Sale of surplus assets	2,500
		Payments	
(39,376)	(49,039)	Purchase of IPP&E	(35,032)
(36,866)	**(43,187)**	**Net Cash (Used In) Investing Activities**	**(27,067)**
(7,389)	(13,005)	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash Held	4,190
17,479	13,761	Cash at Beginning of Reporting Period	756
10,090	**756**	**Cash at End of Reporting Period**	**4,946**

Appendix 6 -
Budgeted Funding Statement

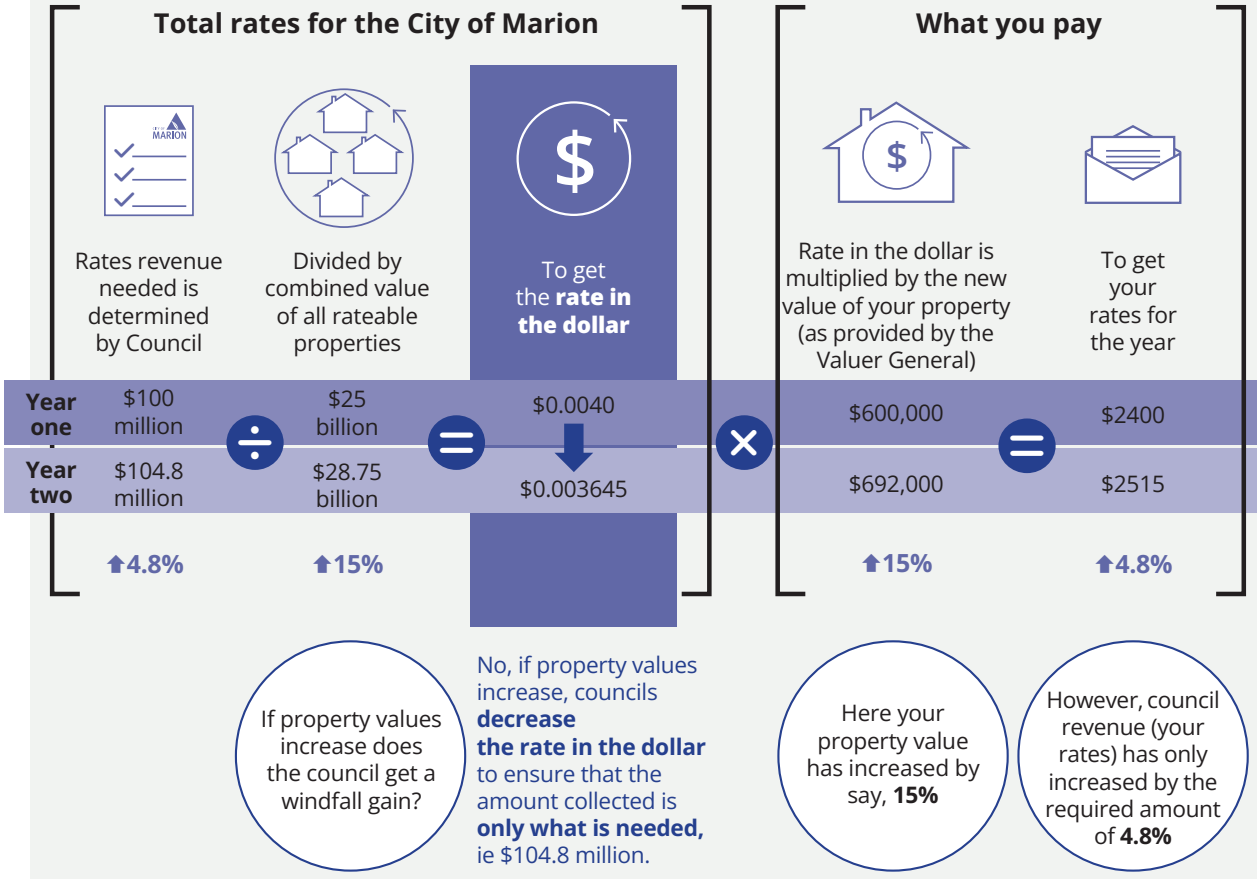
Budget 2024-2025 $'000	2nd review 2024-2025 $'000		Budget 2025-2026 $'000
		Operating Revenue	
94,823	94,889	Rates	100,395
2,738	2,828	Statutory Charges	2,820
4,164	4,418	User Charges	4,732
9,174	10,584	Operating Grants & Subsidies	11,268
300	403	Investment Income	350
1,020	1,182	Reimbursements	751
668	1,091	Other	393
645	645	Net gain - SRWRA	793
113,533	**116,040**		**121,502**
		Operating Expenses	
46,610	47,410	Employee Costs	50,088
30,533	35,444	Contractual Services	30,440
6,460	7,153	Materials	6,543
359	285	Finance Charges	851
21,100	23,783	Depreciation	24,921
8,385	8,598	Other	8,511
113,447	**122,673**		**121,353**
86	**(6,633)**	**Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Revenues**	**150**
		Capital Revenue	
2,642	5,492	Capital Grants & Subsidies	5,448
2,728	**(1,141)**	**Net Surplus/(Deficit)**	**5,598**
21,100	23,783	Depreciation	24,921
(645)	(645)	Share of Profit SRWRA	(793)
23,183	**21,997**	**Funding available for Capital Investment**	**29,726**
		Capital	
15,314	15,407	less Capital Expenditure - Renewal	16,390
19,488	33,632	less Capital Expenditure - New	18,642
353	360	add Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	17
-	-	add Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets	2,500
(11,266)	**(26,682)**	**Net funding increase/(decrease)**	**(2,788)**
		Funded by;	
		Loans	
9,500	13,986	Loan Principal Receipts (Net)	11,250
(657)	(309)	less Loan Principal Repayments	(3,331)
8,843	13,677	Loan Funding (Net)	7,919
		Movement in level of cash, investments and accruals	
49	1,205	Cash Surplus/(Deficit) funding requirements	89
(2,473)	(14,211)	Reserves Net transfer to/(transfer from)	(4,840)
-	-	Funds used to defer borrowings in prior years	9,882
(2,424)	**(13,006)**	**Cash/Investments/Accruals Funding**	**5,131**
11,266	**26,682**	**Funding Transactions**	**2,788**

Appendix 7 -
How your rates are calculated

Valuations do not determine the rates income of a council. Property values are used to determine the share of the total budgeted rates that one property pays relative to other properties in the council area.

Property valuations are used by councils to determine the rate in the dollar to generate the total amount of rate revenue that councils need. Councils review the rate in the dollar annually making sure they only raise the budgeted rate revenue as required.

The following example illustrates how your rates are calculated using the rate in the dollar.



If property values increase does the council get a windfall gain?

No, if property values increase, councils **decrease the rate in the dollar** to ensure that the amount collected is **only what is needed,** ie $104.8 million.

Here your property value has increased by say, **15%**

However, council revenue (your rates) has only increased by the required amount of **4.8%**

Appendix 8 - Rating policy

1. RATING

(1) VALUATION METHODOLOGY AND ADOPTION

Council uses Capital Value as the basis for valuing land within the council area. Capital Value is the value of the land and all of the improvements on the land. The council also continues to adopt the capital valuations distributed by the Valuer-General.

(SEE ANNEXURE 1)

(2) DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

All land within a council area, except for land specifically exempt under section 147 (2) of the Act is rateable. The Act provides for a council to raise revenue through a general rate, which applies to all rateable land, or through differential general rates, which differentially apply to classes of rateable land. Council uses a differential rating system to raise revenue based upon Land Use to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of rates within the City of Marion. In applying this approach, council will take into consideration all prevailing economic conditions and changes and adjust its differential rates accordingly, to ensure an appropriate and fair equalisation of rates across all land use categories.

The differential general rate Land Use categories are as follows:

Category 1 Residential
Category 2 Commercial – Shop
Category 3 Commercial – Office
Category 4 Commercial – Other
Category 5 Industrial – Light
Category 6 Industrial – Other
Category 7 Primary Production
Category 8 Vacant
Category 9 Other

These differential rates will be used to determine the rates in the dollar for all properties within the City of Marion area for the financial year. These rates will be specified in Council's rate declaration for each financial year.

(SEE ANNEXURE 1)

(3) MINIMUM RATE

A minimum amount payable by way of general rates is determined to apply to the whole of an allotment (including land under a separate lease or licence) and only one minimum amount is payable in respect of two or more pieces of adjoining land (whether intercepted by a road or not) if they are owned by the same owner and occupied by the same occupier.

The Minimum Rate to apply to properties within the City of Marion will be detailed in Council's rate declaration for each financial year.

(SEE ANNEXURE 1)

(4) SERVICE CHARGE

The Council has decided not to impose any service charges for this financial year.

(5) REGIONAL LANDSCAPE LEVY (FORMERLY NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT LEVY)

The council, under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019, is required to collect this levy. It does so by imposing a separate rate for all rateable properties within the council area.

For each financial year, the levy for each property will be determined by the total capital valuation within the City of Marion. The calculation is as follows;

Total Capital Value divided by the Total Amount Required, (set for the financial year by the Green Adelaide Board) determines an appropriate rate in the dollar, this rate in the dollar will then be adopted to each property.

(SEE ANNEXURE 1)

(6) PAYMENT OF RATES

The council has determined that payment of rates for the 2025-2026 financial year will be by four instalments, due on 1 September 2025, 1 December 2025, 2 March 2026 and 1 June 2026. However, the total amount of rates may be paid in full at any time.

Council has determined that rates may be paid by the following methods:

- Payrix – Direct via council's rating portal

- Australia Post – Post office, telephone or internet
- Bpay – Telephone or internet payments
- Centrepay – Deductions directly from Centrelink deductions
- Direct Debit – Direct from either a cheque or savings account
- Eservices – Direct through the council's internet system
- In person - At council offices
- By Mail - PO Box 21 Park Holme SA 5043

(7) LATE PAYMENT OF RATES

Council imposes an initial penalty (a fine) of 2 per cent as prescribed under the Act on any instalment that is received late. A prescribed interest rate (which includes the amount of any previous unpaid fine and interest) will apply on the expiration of each month that a balance remains unpaid.

When the council receives a payment in respect of overdue rates, the money received is applied in the order set out below, in accordance with Section 183 of the Act:

- First – to satisfy any costs awarded in connection with court proceedings;
- Second – to satisfy any interest costs;
- Third – in payment of any fines imposed;
- Fourth – in payment of rates, in chronological order (starting with the oldest account first).

(SEE ANNEXURE 1)

8) REBATES AND POSTPONEMENT OF RATES

(8.1) RATE REBATE POLICY

Refer to the Rate Rebate Policy attached.

(8.2) RESIDENTIAL RATE REBATE

Section 166 (1) (l) (ii) of the Act provides for the discretionary rebate of rates where, among other things, there has been a rapid change in valuations.

Council will provide relief against a substantial increase in rates payable on residential land due to large increases in capital value by applying a rebate of general rates to eligible ratepayers.

For the current financial year a rebate will be applied to properties to cap any increase in general rates at 10 per cent, subject to meeting the qualifying criteria set out below:

- The property is the owner's principal place of residence.
- The property has not had more than $20,000 of improvements.
- The property value has not increased due to zoning changes.
- The land use for rating purposes has not changed since 1 July of the previous financial year.
- The property has not sold since the 1 January of the previous financial year.

The Residential Rate Rebate will be applied automatically to properties that can be readily identified as being eligible. Where this rebate is not applied automatically, ratepayers who consider they could be eligible for rate capping may apply in writing to council. Applications will be assessed against the eligibility criteria. Only applications for the current financial year will be accepted and must be received in the current financial year.

(8.3) RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION ON VACANT LAND

Under Section 166 (1) (a) of the Act, and for the purpose of securing the proper development of the area, a discretionary rebate of general rates for the 2025-2026 financial year will be granted in respect of an assessment classed as vacant land by the council, where:

- The principal ratepayer of the assessment applies to the council for the rebate prior to 30 June 2026, and
- The footings have been poured on the property by 30 June 2026.

The amount of the rebate will be the difference between the general rate in the dollar applicable to Vacant land, and the general rate in the dollar applicable to Residential land. This is calculated by the number of days remaining between 1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026 from the date footings are poured for a residence on the land. Minimum Rate is still applicable.

(8.4) POSTPONEMENT OF RATES – HARDSHIP

Section 182 of The Act permits the council, on the application of the ratepayer, to partially or wholly remit rates or to postpone rates, on the basis of hardship. Where a ratepayer is suffering hardship in paying rates they may submit an application in writing to the council's Team Leader Rating Services. The council treats such inquiries confidentially.

(8.5) POSTPONEMENT OF RATES – SENIORS

An application may be made to council by ratepayers who meet the criteria required for qualification for postponement under Section 182A of The Act. (SEE ANNEXURE 1 for criteria)

(9) SALE OF LAND FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RATES

The Act provides that a council may sell any property where the rates have been in arrears for three years or more. Council is required to notify the owner of the land of its intention to sell the land, provide the owners with details of the outstanding amounts, and advise the owner of its intention to sell the land if payment of the outstanding amount is not received within one month. Except in extraordinary circumstances, the council enforces the sale of land for arrears of rates.

(10) CONCESSIONS
COST OF LIVING CONCESSION

Pensioners, low-income earners and self-funded retirees holding a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card can receive a Cost of Living Concession. Eligibility includes pensioners and low-income earners who are tenants.

For further information contact the Concessions Hotline on 1800 307 758.

RATE REBATES
(1) POLICY STATEMENT

Council has decided to adopt a Rate Rebate Policy for all rateable land within the council's area which is applied in accordance with Sections 159 to 166 of the Act. This Policy will assist the council as a decision making function and is intended to provide guidance to the community as to the matters that the council will take into account in deciding an application for a rebate.

The Policy also sets out the type of land use for which the council must grant a mandatory rebate of rates and the percentage amount applicable, and those types of land use where the council has the ability to grant a discretionary rebate of rates. Rebates will only be available when the applicant satisfies the requirements under both the Act and, where appropriate, the requirements of this Policy.

(2) MANDATORY REBATES

Mandatory rate rebates will be granted by council at the prescribed rate in accordance with Sections 159 to 165 of The Act.

S160 – Health Services 100% Rebate
S161 – Community Services (Including Housing Associations) 75% Rebate
S162 – Religious Purposes 100% Rebate
S163 – Public Cemeteries 100% Rebate
S164 – Royal Zoological Society of SA 100% Rebate
S165 – Educational Purposes 75% Rebate

Where the council is satisfied from its own records, or from other sources, that a person or body meets the necessary criteria for a mandatory rate rebate, the council will grant the rebate accordingly. Where the council is not satisfied based on the information in its possession or otherwise does not hold relevant information, it will require the person or body to lodge an application in accordance with this Policy.

(3) DISCRETIONARY REBATES

A discretionary rate rebate may be granted by the council, at its absolute discretion, up to and including 100 per cent relief to any cases pursuant to Section 166 of the Act.

Any persons or bodies seeking a discretionary rebate, will be required to submit an application form to the council and provide to the council such information as stipulated on the application form and any other information that the council may reasonably require.

(4) APPLICATION

Application forms may be obtained online at marion.com.au or from the council office located at 245 Sturt Road, Sturt.

The council will advise an applicant for a rebate of its determination of that application in

due course, after receiving the application and receiving all information requested by the council. The advice will state –

- if the application has been granted, the amount of the rebate; or
- if the application has not been granted, the reasons why.

(5) IN REGARDS TO PRESCRIBED DISCRETIONARY RATE REBATES THE COUNCIL WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 166(1A) OF THE ACT, THE FOLLOWING MATTERS –

- The nature and extent of council services provided in respect of the land for which the rebate is sought, in comparison to similar services provided elsewhere in the council area;
- The community need that is being met by activities carried out on the land for which the rebate is sought; and the extent to which activities carried out on the land, for which the rebate is sought, provides assistance or relief to disadvantaged persons; and
- Such other matters as the council considers relevant.

(6) THE COUNCIL MAY TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OTHER MATTERS CONSIDERED RELEVANT BY THE COUNCIL INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING–

- Why there is a need for financial assistance through a rebate;
- The level of rebate (percentage and dollar amount) being sought and why it is appropriate;
- The extent of financial assistance, if any, being provided to the applicant and/or in respect of the land by Commonwealth or State agencies;
- Whether the applicant is entitled to a mandatory rebate of rates in accordance with Sections 159 to 165 of the Act;
- Whether the applicant has made/intends to make applications to another council;
- Whether, and if so to what extent, the applicant is or will be providing a service within the council area;
- Whether the applicant is a public sector body, a private not for profit body or a private for profit body;
- Whether there are any relevant historical considerations that may be relevant for all or any part of the current council term;
- The desirability of granting a rebate for more than one year;
- Consideration of the full financial consequences of the rebate for the council;
- The time the application is received;
- The availability of any community grant to the person or body making the application;
- Whether the applicant is in receipt of a community grant; and
- Any other matters and policies of the council, which the council considers relevant.

All persons or bodies wishing to apply to the council for a discretionary rebate of rates must do so on or before 1 May in that financial year for the following financial year.

- The council may grant a rebate of rates on such conditions as the council thinks fit.
- The council may, for proper cause, determine that an entitlement to a rebate of rates under the Act no longer applies.
- Where an entitlement to a rebate of rates ceases or no longer applies during the course of a financial year, the council is entitled to recover rates, or rates at the increased level (as the case may be), proportionate to the remaining part of the financial year.

It is an offence for a person or body to make a false or misleading statement or representation in an application, or to provide false or misleading information or evidence in support of an application made (or purporting to be made) under the Act.

The maximum penalty for this offence is $5,000.

If a person or body has the benefit of a rebate of rates and the grounds on which the rebate has been granted cease to exist, the person or body must immediately inform the council of that fact and (whether or not the council is so informed) the entitlement to a rebate ceases. If a person or body fails to do so that person or body is guilty of an offence.

The maximum penalty for this offence is $5,000.

(7) DELEGATION

The council has delegated its power, pursuant to Section 44 of the Act to determine applications and to grant a discretionary rebate of rates, to the Chief Executive Officer.

The council has delegated its power, pursuant to Section 44 of the Act to determine applications and to grant a discretionary rebate of rates, to the Chief Executive Officer subject to the following condition:

- Where the discretionary rate is not more than $5,000.

(8) REVIEW OF REBATE

A person or a body aggrieved by a determination of the council in respect of an application for a rebate may, within 14 days of the date of the notice of determination, seek a review of that decision in accordance with the council's Internal Review of Council Decisions Policy.

(9) COMMUNITY GRANTS

If an application for a rebate is unsuccessful, the council has an absolute discretion to then treat the application as one for a community grant and to determine it in accordance with the council's Community Grants Policy.

(10) AVAILABILITY OF POLICY DOCUMENTS

Policy documents are available for inspection at the council offices and on the website at marion.sa.gov.au. Persons may obtain a copy of any Policy document upon payment of the fee set by the council.

DISCLAIMER

A rate cannot be challenged on the basis of non-compliance with this Policy and must be paid in accordance with the required payment provisions.

Where a ratepayer believes that the council has failed to properly apply this Policy they should raise the matter with the council. In the first instance contact the council's Team Leader – Rating Services on 8375 6617 to discuss the matter. If, after this initial contact, a ratepayer is still dissatisfied they should write to the Chief Executive Officer, City of Marion, PO Box 21, Park Holme, SA 5043.

ANNEXURE 1
1. VALUATION METHODOLOGY AND ADOPTION

Under the Act, the council may adopt one of three valuation methodologies to value the properties in its area. They are:

- Capital Value – the value of the land and all of the improvements on the land.
- Site Value – the value of the land and any improvements which permanently affect the amenity of use of the land, such as drainage works, but excluding the value of buildings and other improvements.
- Annual Value – a valuation of the rental potential of the property.

The council considers that the Capital Value method of valuing land provides the fairest method of distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers on the following basis:

- The equity principle of taxation requires that ratepayers of similar wealth pay similar taxes and ratepayers of greater wealth pay more tax than ratepayers of lesser wealth;
- Property value is a relatively good indicator of wealth and capital value, which closely approximates the market value of a property, provides the best indicator of overall property value;
- The distribution of property values throughout the council area is such that few residential ratepayers will pay significantly more than the average rate per property.

Any ratepayer dissatisfied with the valuation made by the Valuer General may object in writing to the Valuer General within 60 days of receiving a rate notice, explaining the basis for the objection. This is provided that ratepayer has not:

(a) previously received a notice of this valuation under the Act, in which case the objection period is 60 days from the receipt of the first notice; or

(b) previously raised an objection to that valuation.

The 60 day objection period may be extended by the Valuer-General where it can be shown there is reasonable cause to do so.

It is important to note that the lodgement of an objection does not change the payment of rates or the due date.

2. DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

All land within a council area, except for land specifically exempt (e.g. crown land, council occupied land and other land prescribed under the Act – refer to Section 147), is rateable. The Act provides for a council to raise revenue for the broad purposes of the council through the imposition of a single general rate or through differential general rates that apply to all rateable properties within the council area.

Following a review of rating options available under the Act during the 2002/2003 financial year, the council consulted extensively with the community on this issue and concluded that a differential rating system would improve the equity in rate distribution across the community. The review included a comparison of rating methods and rates by land use within the Adelaide metropolitan area.

Differential general rates are based on Land Use as determined in the Local Government (General) Regulations 2013 under the Act. If a ratepayer believes that a particular property has been wrongly classified by the council as to its land use, then they may object (to the council) to that land use within 60 days of being notified. A ratepayer may discuss the matter with a Rates Officer, on 8375 6600 in the first instance. The council will provide, on request, a copy of Section 156 of the Act which sets out the rights and obligations of ratepayers in respect of objections to a land use.

An objection to the land use:

- Must be in writing
- Must set out-
- The grounds of the objection; and
- The land use (being a land use being used by the council as a differentiating factor) that should, in the objector's opinion, have been attributed to the land; and
- Must be made within 60 days after the objector receives notice of the particular land use to which the objection relates.

This 60 day objection period may be extended where it can be shown there is reasonable cause to do so.

The council may then decide the objection as it sees fit and notify the ratepayer. A ratepayer also has the right to appeal against the council's decision to SACAT (SA Civil and Administration Tribunal). It is important to note that the lodgement of an objection does not change payment of rates or the due date.

3. MINIMUM RATE

The reasons for imposing a minimum amount payable by way of general rates are:

The council considers it appropriate that all rateable properties make a contribution to the cost of administering the council's activities;

The council considers it appropriate that all rateable properties make a contribution to the cost of creating and maintaining the physical infrastructure that supports each property.

No more than 35 per cent of properties will be subject to the minimum amount.

4. REGIONAL LANDSCAPE LEVY (FORMERLY THE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LEVY)

It is important to note that council is required to collect this levy under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 and operates as a revenue collector for the Green Adelaide Board in this regard. It does not retain this revenue or determine how the revenue is spent.

For further information visit: landscape.sa.gov.au

5. LATE PAYMENT OF RATES

Under the Act, the council applies penalties (fines and interest) to arrears of rates (i.e. rates which are not paid on or before the due date). The council issues a final notice for payment of rates when rates are overdue i.e. unpaid by the due date. If rates remain unpaid more than 21 days after the issue of the final notice then the council may refer the debt to a debt collection agency for collection. This may result in legal proceedings with costs on-charged to the ratepayer.

The council offers assistance to ratepayers experiencing difficulty in making their rate payment by the due date. The council will consider approving extended payment provisions

or, in circumstances where hardship can be demonstrated, deferring the payment of rates.

The council may be prepared to remit penalties (fines and interest) for late payment of rates where ratepayers can demonstrate hardship or sufficient other reason for late payment.

All applications for remissions must be submitted to: Rating Services Section, City of Marion at council@marion.sa.gov.au

6. DISCRETIONARY REBATE

The Act requires the council to rebate the rates payable on certain land ('mandatory rebates'). The Act, at section 166, also empowers the council to grant discretionary rebates of rates of up to 100 per cent of the rates and/or charges payable. The council, in considering discretionary rebates, must balance the benefits of providing rebates, with the impact that such rebates have on its overall income (and hence upon the general ratepayer base). To promote the transparency of this process the Council has adopted a Rate Rebate Policy. A copy of this Policy is available at the council offices or on council's website at www.marion.sa.gov.au.

7. POSTPONEMENT OF RATES – SENIORS

The following criteria must be satisfied before the postponement is granted.

- The person is a prescribed ratepayer, or the spouse of a prescribed ratepayer;
- A prescribed ratepayer means the holder of a current State Seniors Card or a person eligible to hold such a card who has applied but is yet to be issued with a card.
- Rates are payable on the principal place of residence.
- The land is owned by the prescribed ratepayer, or the prescribed ratepayer and his or her spouse, and no other person has an interest, as owner, in the land.
- Any current mortgage over the property which was registered prior to 25 January 2007 will be no more than 50 per cent of the Valuer-General's capital value of the property.

An application must be made in the prescribed manner and form and be accompanied by such information as the council may require. Any rates which are postponed will become due and payable when:

- The title to the land is transferred to another person; or
- There is failure to comply with a condition of postponement. A minimum amount of $500 of the annual rates must be paid.

An entitlement to a remission will be applied to the proportion of the rates that has not been postponed, unless notice to the contrary is received in writing from the owner.

Interest will accrue on the amount postponed at the prescribed rate per month, under the Act until the amount is paid.

Should the entitlement to a postponement cease to exist, the owner of the land must inform the council in writing, unless the rates and any interest have been paid in full.

Appendix 9 - Long Term Financial Plan to 30 June 2035

Long Term Financial Plan to 30 June 2035

	2025/26 $'000	2026/27 $'000	2027/28 $'000	2028/29 $'000	2029/30 $'000	2030/31 $'000	2031/32 $'000	2032/33 $'000	2033/34 $'000	2034/35 $'000
Rates Indexation	4.80%	3.75%	3.50%	3.25%	3.25%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%
Income										
Rates	100,395	105,233	110,036	114,779	119,723	124,577	129,623	134,871	140,327	146,000
Statutory Charges	2,820	2,905	2,985	3,059	3,136	3,214	3,295	3,377	3,461	3,548
User Charges	4,732	4,874	5,008	5,133	5,261	5,393	5,528	5,666	5,807	5,953
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - operating	11,268	10,296	10,532	10,753	10,978	11,210	11,447	11,691	11,940	12,195
Investment Income	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350	350
Reimbursements	751	774	795	815	835	856	878	899	922	945
Other Income	393	404	415	426	436	447	459	470	482	494
Net gain - equity accounted Council businesses	793	817	841	867	893	919	947	975	1,005	1,035
Total Income	**121,502**	**125,653**	**130,962**	**136,181**	**141,613**	**146,966**	**152,526**	**158,299**	**164,294**	**170,519**
Expenses										
Employee Costs	50,088	51,591	52,290	53,858	55,474	57,138	58,852	60,618	62,437	64,310
Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	45,493	47,124	48,097	48,831	50,470	51,865	52,701	54,002	55,379	56,834
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	24,921	25,918	26,954	29,259	31,344	33,225	35,218	37,331	39,571	41,945
Finance Costs	851	1,361	1,999	3,632	3,682	3,497	3,264	3,027	3,136	3,291
Total Expenses	**121,353**	**125,993**	**129,340**	**135,580**	**140,970**	**145,725**	**150,036**	**154,978**	**160,522**	**166,380**
Operating Surplus	**150**	**(341)**	**1,623**	**602**	**642**	**1,242**	**2,490**	**3,321**	**3,772**	**4,139**
Operating Surplus Ratio	**0.12%**	**-0.27%**	**1.24%**	**0.44%**	**0.45%**	**0.84%**	**1.63%**	**2.10%**	**2.30%**	**2.43%**
Amounts Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	5,448	9,907	15,201	9,543	4,268	1,256	1,827	18,177	19,167	1,819
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	**5,598**	**9,567**	**16,824**	**10,144**	**4,911**	**2,498**	**4,317**	**21,498**	**22,939**	**5,958**
Capital (Balance Sheet) and Reserve Movements										
Capital Expenditure	(35,032)	(44,601)	(72,507)	(39,650)	(32,872)	(25,137)	(26,591)	(67,798)	(72,399)	(34,668)
Loan Repayments (External)	(3,331)	(1,364)	(1,919)	(3,379)	(3,497)	(3,736)	(3,958)	(4,193)	(4,702)	(5,564)
Funds from Suplus Asset Disposal	2,500	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Funds from Replaced Asset Disposal	17	476	281	250	766	516	757	817	643	908
New Loan Borrowings (External)	11,250	11,000	31,300	4,400	400	-	-	6,050	7,610	-
Net Transfers (to)/from Reserves	4,840	(99)	(28)	(99)	(99)	(6,399)	(8,749)	7,326	7,426	(7,449)
Total Capital (Balance Sheet) and Reserve Movements	**(19,756)**	**(34,587)**	**(42,873)**	**(38,478)**	**(35,302)**	**(34,756)**	**(38,541)**	**(57,798)**	**(61,422)**	**(46,773)**
Net Result (including Depreciation & Other non-cash items)	**(14,157)**	**(25,021)**	**(26,048)**	**(28,334)**	**(30,391)**	**(32,259)**	**(34,224)**	**(36,299)**	**(38,483)**	**(40,815)**
Add back Depreciation Expense (non-cash)	24,921	25,918	26,954	29,259	31,344	33,225	35,218	37,331	39,571	41,945
Add back Other Expenses (non-cash)	(793)	(817)	(841)	(867)	(893)	(919)	(947)	(975)	(1,005)	(1,035)
Less Grants Received in Advance	(4,943)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred borrowings not used in prior years	(4,939)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash Budget Surplus	**89**	**80**	**65**	**58**	**60**	**47**	**48**	**57**	**84**	**96**

Attachment 1 - ESCOSA



Response to ESCOSA advice report

On 30 April 2022, amendments to the *Local Government Act 1999* came into operation resulting in the implementation of the Local Government Advisory Scheme. The purpose of this advisory scheme is to provide ratepayers confidence that the rates they pay are set at the level necessary for their council to provide the services they value. The Essential Services Commission (Commission) of South Australia is the advisory body. The State's 68 councils are subject to the scheme.

The Commission reviewed the City of Marion's financial performance during the 2023-24 financial year. The review has been in addition to the existing program of review of financial sustainability by City of Marion's internal auditor, external auditor and independent scrutiny from our Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

The City of Marion has been assessed by the Commission at the higher end of sustainable for past, current and future projections.

Current financial performance

Unsustainable	Potentially unsustainable	Mostly sustainable	Sustainable

Projected financial performance (future)

Unsustainable	Potentially unsustainable	Mostly sustainable	Sustainable

Previous financial performance (past 10 years)

Unsustainable	Potentially unsustainable	Mostly sustainable	Sustainable

With a key focus on maintaining rates at or under inflation, even in the face of high and unprecedented construction costs well above inflation, incurring borrowings only when prudent to do so for new capital works, the City of Marion is in an enviable position in relation to financial performance.

Notwithstanding the work by the Commission as an advisory scheme, rather than a compulsory one in that the Commission cannot require councils to follow that advice, the City of Marion has provided a response to the recommendations below.

ESCOSA recommendation	City of Marion response
Continue to review its inflation forecasts in its budget and forward projections from 2024-25, given the potential for higher short-term inflation outcomes, followed by a return to long-term averages.	Continually reviewing and assessing inflationary forecasts are already a key element of analysis undertaken by the City of Marion included in the annual and long-term budget setting process. The City of Marion will continue to review economic indicators, inflation results and forecasts including those published by the Reserve Bank. The City of Marion appreciate a dynamic and data driven approach to inflation forecasting enhances the accuracy and robustness of our forecasts and fosters greater confidence in our budgetary decision-making processes.
Consider better clarity in its forward estimates in its long-term financial plan concerning the assumptions for its cost and revenue estimates	The City of Marion will continue to use robust analysis in developing the cost and revenue assumptions. Key assumptions used in the development of Council's Annual Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan are already published as part of the budget development process contained within council agendas.
Report any actual and projected cost savings in its annual budget (and long-term financial plan, as appropriate), to provide evidence of constraining cost growth and achieving efficiency across its operations and service delivery.	The City of Marion uses a conservative approach to expenditure budgeting and forecasts with minimal discretionary funding factored into the annual business plan. However, the City of Marion does explore opportunities for efficiencies which look to free up capacity to meet demand for the 1,000 new residents per year rather than continually seek new resources. Where these efficiencies result in direct savings these will be published in Council's Annual Report.
Consider undertaking a comprehensive revaluation of its depreciable assets by an external valuer at least every four years to ensure the forecast rate of asset consumption (and depreciation expense) in the long-term financial plan reflects recent macro-economic conditions.	The City of Marion appreciates that the COVID-19 period did result in unusually high asset valuation fluctuations. With the post COVID economy returning to more moderate inflationary measures it is not considered necessary to increase the frequency of asset valuations to 4 years.
Report in its annual business plan the estimated average annual change for all of its nine categories of general rates, together with the quantum of annual revenue it expects to collect from these distinct categories of rates (with minimum rate revenue reported separately), providing greater clarity and transparency to its ratepayers.	The City of Marion will review the publication of this information in future Annual Business Plans to provide clarity and meaningful information to our ratepayers.

OFFICIAL

Advice

Local Government Advice

City of Marion

February 2024

Enquiries concerning this advice should be addressed to:

Essential Services Commission
GPO Box 2605
Adelaide SA 5001

Telephone: (08) 8463 4444
Freecall: 1800 633 592 (SA and mobiles only)
E-mail: advice@escosa.sa.gov.au
Web: www.escosa.sa.gov.au

City of Marion

AT A GLANCE

OVERVIEW

The Essential Services Commission finds the City of Marion's current and projected financial performance **sustainable** taking into account the council's forecast moderate expense growth increase over the next 10 years and the planned average rate increases of 3.3% p.a. per property over this period

RISKS IMPACTING SUSTAINABILITY

- ⚠ If moderate growth in forecasted expenses is not realised and the Council maintains the current cost trajectory, ratepayers risk shouldering the burden through unexpected higher rate increases
- ⚠ Asset renewal expenditure in line with the LGA target range of between 90% and 110% is not met

CONTINUE

- ✓ Reviewing inflation forecasts in the budget and forward projections from 2024-25
- ✓ Adhering to a robust strategic planning process

COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS

- Consider better clarity concerning assumptions for the cost and revenue estimates
- Report any actual and projected cost savings in the annual budget and long-term financial plan
- Report in the annual business plan the estimated average annual change for all of the nine categories of general rates
- Consider a comprehensive revaluation of the depreciable assets by an external valuer at least every four years.

KEY FACTS

- Population in 2021 was **94,721**
- Council covers **55 square kilometres**
- **44,902** rateable properties in 2022-23
- **$84.3 million of rate income** in 2022-23
- Value of assets held in 2022-23 equals **$1.20 billion**

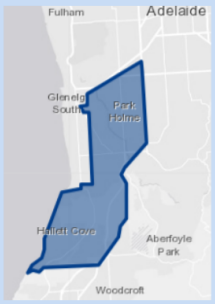


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Glossary of terms

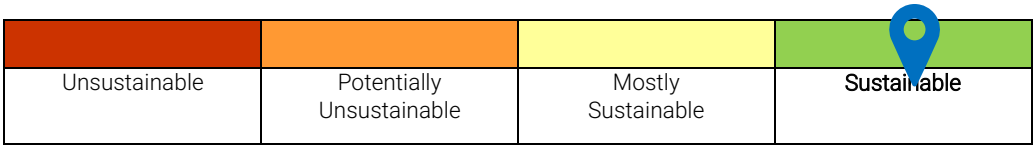
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AMP	Asset management plan (also called an IAMP)
Commission	Essential Services Commission, established under the *Essential Services Commission Act 2002*
CPI	Consumer Price Index (Adelaide, All Groups)
Council	City of Marion
CWMS	Community Wastewater Management System
ESC Act	*Essential Services Commission Act 2002*
F&A	Local Government Advice: Framework and Approach – Final Report
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
IAMP	Infrastructure and asset management plan (also called an AMP)
LG Act	*Local Government Act 1999*
LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper	Local Government Association of South Australia, Financial Sustainability Information Paper 9 - Financial Indicators Revised May 2019
LGGC	Local Government Grants Commission
LGPI	Local Government Price Index
LTFP	Long-term financial plan
Regulations	*Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*
RBA	Reserve Bank of Australia
SACES	The South Australian Centre for Economic Studies
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SMP	Strategic management plan
SG	Superannuation Guarantee
The scheme or advice	Local Government Advice Scheme

Legend: Low-risk Moderate-risk High-risk

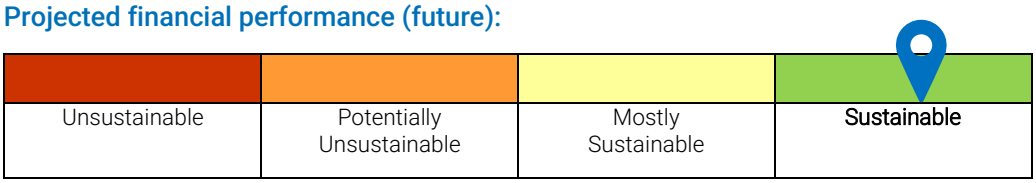
1 The Commission's key advice findings for the City of Marion

The Essential Services Commission (**Commission**) considers the City of Marion (**Council**) to be in a **sustainable** financial position with historical and projected operating surpluses. The projected strong ongoing financial performance should enable it to accommodate asset renewal as required to maintain service levels without the need for further significant rate increases.

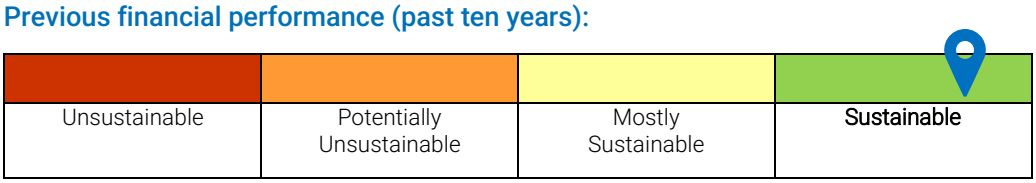
Current financial performance:



Projected financial performance (future):



Previous financial performance (past ten years):



Looking ahead, the Commission suggests the following steps to help ensure the Council budgets transparently, reports its cost savings and efficiencies, ensures the assumptions underpinning its financial and asset management planning are clear and sets rate levels more transparently.

Budgeting considerations

1. **Continue** to review its inflation forecasts in its budget and forward projections from 2024-25, given the potential for higher short-term inflation outcomes, followed by a return to long-term averages.
2. **Consider** better clarity in its forward estimates in its long-term financial plan concerning the assumptions for its cost and revenue estimates.

Continuing to provide evidence of ongoing cost efficiencies

3. **Report** any actual and projected cost savings in its annual budget (and long-term financial plan, as appropriate), to provide evidence of constraining cost growth and achieving efficiency across its operations and service delivery.

Refinements to asset management planning

4. **Consider** undertaking a comprehensive revaluation of its depreciable assets by an external valuer at least every four years to ensure the forecast rate of asset consumption (and depreciation expense) in the long-term financial plan reflects recent macro-economic conditions.

Reporting and containing rate levels

5. **Report** in its annual business plan the estimated average annual change for all of its nine categories of general rates, together with the quantum of annual revenue it expects to collect from these distinct categories of rates (with minimum rate revenue reported separately), providing greater clarity and transparency to its ratepayers.

2 About the advice

The Essential Services Commission (**Commission**), South Australia's independent economic regulator and advisory body, has been given a role by State Parliament to provide advice on material changes proposed by local councils in relation to elements of their strategic management plans (**SMPs**) and on the proposed revenue sources, including rates, which underpin those plans.[1]

One of the main purposes of the Local Government Advice Scheme (**advice** or **the scheme**) is to support councils to make 'financially sustainable' decisions relating to their annual business plans and budgets in the context of their long-term financial plans (**LTFP**s) and infrastructure and asset management plans (**IAMP**s)[2] – both required as part of a council's SMP.[3] Financial sustainability is considered to encompass intergenerational equity,[4] as well as program (service level) and rates stability in this context.[5] The other main purpose is for the Commission to consider ratepayer contributions in the context of revenue sources, outlined in the LTFP.[6] In addition, the Commission has discretion to provide advice on any other aspect of a council's LTFP or IAMP it considers appropriate, having regard to the circumstances of that council.[7]

The first cycle of the scheme extends over four years from 2022-23 to 2025-26, and the Commission has selected 17 councils for advice in the second scheme year (2023-24), including the Council (**Council**).

This report provides the Local Government Advice for the Council in 2023-24.

The Council is obliged under the *Local Government Act 1999* (**LG Act**) to publish this advice and its response, if applicable, in its 2024-25 annual business plan (including any draft annual business plan) and subsequent plans until the next cycle of the scheme.[8] It does not need to publish the attachment to the advice (these will be available with the advice on the Commission's website[9]), nor is it compelled under the LG Act to follow the advice.

The Commission thanks the Council for meeting with the Commission and for providing relevant information to assist the Commission in preparing this advice.

2.1 Summary of advice

In general, the Commission finds the Council's current and projected financial position and outlook strong and sustainable with operating surpluses achieved historically, and continued surpluses forecast in the medium to longer term.

The Council will continue to rely on rate contributions, as well as grants income growth, to achieve this performance, but the Commission notes that historically the Council's rate levels were relatively low.[10]

---

1 Amendments to the *Local Government Act 1999* (**LG Act**) (s122(1c) to (1k) and (9)) specify the responsibilities for the Commission and local councils for the Local Government Scheme Advice. The Commission must provide advice to each council in accordance with the matters outlined in s122(1e), (1f) and (1g).

2 Commonly referred to as asset management plans.

3 The objectives of the advice with reference to a council's LTFP and IAMPs are presented under LG Act, s122(1g). LG Act s122(1) specifies the requirements of a council's SMP, including the LTFP and IAMPs.

4 'Intergenerational equity' relates to fairly sharing services and the revenue generated to fund the services between current and future ratepayers.

5 Commission, *Framework and Approach – Final Report*, August 2022, pp. 2-3, available at www.escosa.sa.gov.au/advice/advice-to-local-government.

6 LG Act s122(1f)(a) and (1g)(a)(ii).

7 LG Act s122(1f)(b) and (1g)(b).

8 LG Act s122(1h).

9 The Commission must publish its advice under LG Act s122(1i)(a).

10 Refer to council rates data for 2021-22 available at https://councilsinfocus.sa.gov.au/home. The Commission is not relying on these rate comparisons for its advice: the data source provides just one indicator, among many, which has informed its advice on the appropriateness of the rate levels.

Looking ahead, the Council has forecast an increase in its borrowings to finance infrastructure projects drawn from its City of Marion Building Asset Strategy (CoMBAS). As a result, its level of net financial liabilities is forecast to increase from $18.7 million in 2023-24 to $41.0 million in 2032-33 (within acceptable limits for a council of its size). This reduces the pressure on its rates base to fund the annual capital spending as it occurs, which in turn supports intergenerational equity.

Although the Council has forecast higher expenditure on new assets and asset renewals than what it has achieved historically, its forward projections indicate a slight decrease in the value of assets per property (to $27,829 in 2032-33 from $27,843 in 2023-24). These projections (in asset values per property), as they stand, would contribute to the Council's sustainability into the future and reflect a period of asset and service consolidation. By implication, this also indicates the Council's asset stock will decline in real terms. At the same time, the Council's LTFP also shows its continued commitment to maintaining community service levels by spending adequately on the renewal of its existing asset base.

In recent years, the Council has run small operating surpluses, indicating that the operating income it collects is generally exceeding its operating expenses by a small margin. The Commission notes that the Council is continuing to forecast small operating surpluses in the short term. If its total operating expenses (including deprecation) do not reflect current macro-economic conditions, the Council risks understating its total operating expenses and overstating its operating surplus ratio.

The Commission also considers that there may be opportunities to achieve greater savings and efficiencies in the Council's recurrent budget and encourages it to review and report on this. In general, a focus on managing its growth-related assumptions and consulting with its community about rate contributions and service levels should help the Council to identify and act upon opportunities to reduce affordability risk to the community.

2.2 Detailed advice findings

The next sections summarise the Commission's more detailed observations and advice findings regarding the Council's material changes to its 2023-24 plans (compared with the previous year's plans), its financial sustainability (in the context of its long-term operating performance, net financial liabilities, and asset renewals expenditure), and its current and projected rate levels.

In providing this advice, the Commission has followed the approach it previously explained in the Framework and Approach – Final Report (F&A). The attachment explores these matters further.[11]

2.2.1 Advice on material plan amendments in 2023-24

Key Points:

- ✓ An additional improvement of $104.4 million or 10.3 percent in total operating income on the 2022-23 estimates (for the period 2023-24 to 2031-32) mostly driven by higher rates, grants and subsidies and user charges.
- ⚠ An additional $102.8 million or 10.6 percent in total operating expenses on the 2022-23 estimates (for the period 2023-24 to 2031-32) mostly driven by 'materials, contracts and other' expenses, finance costs and depreciation expenses.
- ✓ The long-term financial plan is based on forecast expenditure levels indexed to reflect current cost pressures and future anticipated costs, factoring indexation at the higher end of the RBA target over the coming two years before reverting to a longer-term forecast of 2.5 percent from 2025-26 onwards.

[11] The attachment will be available on the Commission's website with the Advice.

The Council's 2023-24 LTFP includes an improvement to its projected operating performance and increases to its projected capital expenditure estimates, compared with the 2022-23 forecasts,[12] as follows:

- An additional improvement of $104.4 million or 10.3 percent in total operating income. Most of this increase is due to higher rates, which increased by $87 million or 9.9 percent on the 2022-23 estimates (for the period 2023-24 to 2031-32). Grants, subsidies and contributions have also increased by $7.6 million or 12.5 percent, and user charges have increased by $7.9 million or 31.8 percent.
- An additional $102.8 million or 10.6 percent in total operating expenses. This includes an additional $71.9 million or 20.5 percent for 'materials, contracts and other' expenses, and an additional $13 million or 309 percent in 'finance costs'. Depreciation has also increased by $8.2 million or 4.5 percent.

The Council's LTFP is based on forecast expenditure levels indexed to reflect current cost pressures and future anticipated costs.[13] The Council's LTFP has factored indexation at the higher end of the RBA target over the coming two years before reverting to a longer-term forecast of 2.5 percent from 2025-26 onwards. Given the current high inflationary environment and the degree of uncertainty in future events that may impact inflation, the Commission considers that it would be appropriate for the Council to:

1. **Continue** to review its inflation forecasts in its budget and forward projections from 2023-24, given the potential for higher short-term inflation outcomes, followed by a return to long-term averages.

Based on updated inflation assumptions in its 2023-24 LTFP, an increase in its cost and revenue estimates (excluding employee costs) by up to 10 percent over the 2023-24 to 2031-32 forecast period,[14] compared with the same estimates in its 2022-23 LTFP, could be accounted for by higher inflation forecasts. The Council has not adjusted its operating income and expense forecasts by higher amounts than its adjusted inflation forecasts (both with increases of 10.3 percent and 10.6 percent on 2022-23 estimates[15]). This suggests that there are not higher forecasts in real terms.

The Commission notes that the Council's stated assumptions for indexation in its 2023-24 LTFP are based on its annual review of these forecasts. Notwithstanding the need for the Council to find savings and reduce any inflationary impact on its community, the Commission has found that it would be appropriate for it to:

2. **Consider** better clarity in its forward estimates in its long-term financial plan concerning the assumptions for its cost and revenue estimates.

2.2.2 Advice on financial sustainability

Operating performance

Key Points:

- Operating surpluses consistently achieved between 2012-13 and 2021-22, with the operating surplus ratio averaging 8.1 percent in that time.
- The operating surplus ratio is forecast to average 4 percent per annum between 2023-24 and 2032-33.

[12] The overlapping forecast period in both LTFPs (2022-23 to 2031-32 and 2023-24 to 2032-33).
[13] City of Marion, *2023-2033 long-term financial plan*, June 2023, p. 6.
[14] The set of nine years forecast in both the 2022-23 and 2023-24 LTFP projections.
[15] Based on the overlapping forecast period in both LTFPs (2022-23 to 2031-32 and 2023-24 to 2032-33).

Over the past 10 years, operating expenses increased annually on average by 4.5 percent (compared with CPI of 2 percent) primarily driven by increases in 'Materials, contracts and other' expenses (6.3 percent), and employee costs (3.2 percent).

'Materials, contracts and other' projected expenses and costs for depreciation are forecast to increase by an average of 2.6 percent and 4.0 percent per annum respectively, from 2022-23 to 2031-32.

Forecast modest expenses growth over the next 10 years, combined with higher rate increases, will likely assist the Council's operating performance to remain in surplus. Nonetheless, should the Council not achieve the moderate expense projections it could result in further rate increases.

For the past 10 years, the Council's operating surplus ratio[16] generally displayed an underlying decreasing trend from 7.1 percent in 2012-13, to 0.5 percent in 2021-22 (8.1 percent on average). Looking ahead, it is forecast to meet the lower end of the suggested target range in each year to 203233 (4 percent on average).

The Commission notes that the Council's operating surplus ratio decreased sharply in the three years to 2021-22. The decrease largely coincided with the average rate revenue per property growing at only 0.8% over the same period as the Council sought to minimise rate increases on its community. At the same time the Council's operating expenses grew at 6.8 percent in the three years to 2021-22 which is mostly attributable to materials, contracts and other expenses increasing at 10.8 percent for the same period. The operating surplus ratio is forecast to gradually improve as operating income grows at a faster rate than operating expenses in the ten years to 2032-33.

The Council's operating expense growth (from 2012-13 to 2021-22) was primarily due to an average annual increase in 'Materials, contracts and other' expenses of 6.3 percent and a 3.2 percent increase in employee costs.[17]

The depreciation expense measured as a percentage of the Council's total expense was around 17 percent in 2012-13 and in 2022-23. The Commission notes that typically the depreciation expense when measured as a percentage of total expenses is around 20 percent for Councils in South Australia suggesting the Council's depreciation expense could be lower than what is required to reflect the current cost of the Council's assets. This could also cause an overstatement of the Council's operating surplus ratio. The depreciation expense is discussed in further in the asset renewal expenditure section.

Looking forward, the Council is projecting average annual rates revenue growth of 3.3 percent to 2032-33, which is above the forecast long-term inflation[18] and represents a real term increase in rates. This average growth in annual rates revenue is also higher than expected expense growth (rates are discussed in more detail in section D).

Higher forecast average expense growth of 3.1 percent per annum is slightly above the RBA-based forecast inflation growth and is also lower than the Council's past performance (with average annual growth of 4.5 percent in the 10 years to 2021-22).

16 The operating surplus ratio is defined as: Operating Surplus (Deficit) ÷ Total Operating Income. The general target is to achieve, on average over time, an operating surplus ratio of between zero and 10 percent (Local Government Association of South Australia, *Financial Sustainability Information Paper 9 - Financial Indicators Revised,* May 2019 (LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper), p. 6).

17 Based on the compound average annual growth rate formula (which is the adopted approach to calculating average annual growth rates throughout the Commission's advice).

18 The forecast average annual growth in the CPI from 2023-24 to 2032-33 is estimated to be 2.6 percent based on the RBA forecasts for the CPI (Australia-wide) to December 2025 (and the Commission's calculations of average annual percentage growth) and the midpoint of the RBA's target range (2.5 percent) from 2025-26.

The Council's data (provided to the Commission) shows that employee numbers increase negligibly (to 363 FTEs in 2032-33 from 362 in 2023-24), and its employee expenses are forecast to increase by an average of 2.7 percent per annum from 2023-24 to 2032-33. In addition, 'Materials, contracts and other' expenses and costs for depreciation are forecast to increase by an average of 2.6 percent and 4.0 percent per annum respectively, from 2022-23 to 2031-32. The estimated rate of growth in these expenses over the next 10 years, combined with higher rate increases, will likely assist the Council's operating performance to remain in surplus. Nonetheless, the Commission notes that, should the Council not be able to achieve these moderate expense projections (i.e., these assumptions are understated), it could result in further rate increases as a result of operating expenses growth outgrowing operating income growth.

To assist the Council in achieving its forecast operating surpluses, the Council may need to find more savings and efficiencies in its budgets. To this end, the Commission has found that it would be appropriate for the Council to:

3. **Report** any actual and projected cost savings in its annual budget (and long-term financial plan, as appropriate), to provide evidence of constraining cost growth and achieving efficiency across its operations and service delivery.

Net financial liabilities

Key Points:

- ⚠ The net financial liabilities ratio has been negative each year from 2012-13 to 2021-22 averaging negative 20 percent, which is below the suggested LGA target range, however noting that borrowing levels were relatively low over this time.
- ✓ The annual average forecast for the net financial liabilities ratio from 2022-23 to 2031-32 is 30 percent.
- ⚠ Total borrowings are forecast to increase from $21.1 million in 2023-24 to a peak in 2031-32 of $57.6 million. These additional forecast borrowings after 2023-24 relate to the Council's capital forecast expenditure to 2032-33 and its strategy to finance infrastructure projects.

The Council's net financial liabilities ratio[19] result was negative each year from 2012-13 to 2021-22, which is below the suggested LGA target range. Looking ahead, the Council has forecast that its net financial liabilities ratio will be positive throughout the forecast period to 2031-32 and remain within the suggested LGA target range. The annual average forecast for the net financial liabilities ratio from 2022-23 to 2031-32 is 30 percent.

The Council's borrowing levels were relatively low from 2012-13 to 2021-22 and its net financial liabilities ratio was negative (averaging negative 20 percent over these years). The Council's net financial liability is forecast to increase from $18.7 million in 2023-24 to $41.0 million in 2032-33. Accordingly, the net financial liabilities ratio is also forecast to increase from 18 percent in 2023-24 to 27 percent in 2032-33. The level of net financial liabilities and the ratio are driven by the total borrowings, which are forecast to increase from $21.1 million in 2023-24 to a peak in 2031-32 of $57.6 million. These additional forecast borrowings after 2023-24 relate to the Council's capital forecast expenditure to 2032-33[20] and its strategy to finance infrastructure projects articulated in its City of Marion Building asset Strategy report (CoMBAS).

[19] The net financial liabilities ratio is defined as: Net financial liabilities ÷ Total operating income. This ratio measures the extent to which a council's total operating income covers, or otherwise, its net financial liabilities. The suggested LGA target range is between zero and 100 percent of total operating income, but possibly higher in some circumstances (LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper, pp. 7-8).

[20] City of Marion, *2023-24 annual business plan*, June 2023, p. 15.

The Council stated in its 2023-33 LTFP that it has a desirable target range is between zero and 50 percent for its net financial liabilities ratio.[21] Community concerns about the Council's level of debt also appear small, with the Commission noting that only one out of the 78 submissions received expressed concern about the forecast level of debt in 2032-33.[22]

Asset renewals expenditure

Key Points:

- ✓ Between 2012-13 and 2021-22 total capital expenditure averaged $25.3 million per annum including $14.7 million per annum on new or upgraded assets.
- ✓ From 2023-24 to 2032-33, the Council's asset renewal funding ratio (under the 'IAMP-based' approach) is forecast to be within the suggested LGA target range, with an average of 100 percent.
- △ Asset stock per property rose by 0.6 percent for each year over the 10 years to 2021-22, implying that the value of Council's asset stock, has declined in real terms (the increase is lower than historical inflation).
- ⬢ The depreciation-based asset renewal ratio from 2012-13 to 2021-22 averaged 66 percent which is below the suggested LGA target range.
- △ The depreciation-based asset renewal ratio is forecast from 2023-24 to 2032-33 to be 85 percent which is slightly below the LGA target range lower band.
- ✓ Comprehensive asset management plans for all asset classes and condition assessments have been carried out on all assets within the last four years.

The Commission notes that prior to 2020-21, the Council reported the asset renewal funding ratio in its annual report using the depreciation based method.[23] While the Council had renewal expenditure targets in place prior to this, the depreciation-based method was considered the more reliable and suitable measure and retained comparability to previous years. Looking ahead, from 2023-24 to 2032-33, the Council's asset renewal funding ratio[24] (under the 'IAMP-based' approach) is forecast to be within the suggested LGA target range, with an average of 100 percent.

In the 10 years to 2021-22, the Council marginally grew its asset base with total capital expenditure averaging $25.3 million per annum (including $14.7 million per annum on new or upgraded assets). This has led to a small average increase in the value of the asset stock per property of $133 or 0.6 percent for each year over the 10 years to 2021-22. This implies that the value of Council's asset stock has declined in real terms (the increase is lower than historical inflation).

The Council's forward projections indicate that the value of assets per property will decrease slightly to $27,829 per property in 2032-33 (from $27,843 in 2023-24) – this represents a fall in real terms of 2.7 percent (the RBA-based forecast rate of inflation is 2.6 percent per annum). These projections, as they stand, would contribute to the Council's sustainability into the future and reflect a period of asset and service consolidation.

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21 City of Marion, *2023-33 long-term financial plan*, June 2023, p. 11.

22 City of Marion, *General Council Meeting Agenda -13 June 2023, Attachment 11.5.4 Draft 2023/2024 annual business plan, Making Marion– Public Consultation,* available at https://cdn.marion.sa.gov.au/meetings/agendas/GC230613-Final-AgendaV2_2023-06-08-050047_lpcj.pdf

23 City of Marion, *2020 annual report*, October 2021, p. 82.

24 The IAMP-based method is the current industry standard whereby asset renewal/replacement expenditure is divided by the recommended expenditure in the IAMP (or AMP). Ideally, this will show the extent to which a council's renewal or replacement expenditure matches the need for this expenditure, as recommended by the plan. The suggested LGA target range for the ratio is 90 to 110 percent (LGA SA Financial Indicators Paper, p. 9).

The Commission notes that the small growth in asset stock per property could also be a result of the frequency of asset valuations undertaken by the Council. For all infrastructure assets the council has a program to undertake an independent desktop revaluation process annually and a full comprehensive revaluation for infrastructure (81 percent of its depreciable assets) every 5 years.[25]

For land, buildings, site improvements and other assets (19 percent of depreciable assets) a comprehensive external valuation is undertaken every 5 years. For interim years additions and adjustments are recorded at cost and not indexed.[26]

Notwithstanding the Council's annual desktop revaluation and the indexing of depreciation,[27] the Commission notes that undertaking a comprehensive revaluation every five years could present a risk in the current macroeconomic environment. Inflation and the upward impact to asset prices could result in depreciation charges not reflecting recent asset valuations. As previously mentioned in the operating performance section this could cause the Council's depreciation expense to be lower than what is required to reflect the current cost of the Council's assets. In addition, it could also cause an overstatement of the Council's operating surplus ratio. For these reasons the Commission considers it appropriate for the Council to:

4. **Consider** undertaking a comprehensive revaluation of its depreciable assets by an external valuer at least every four years to ensure the forecast rate of asset consumption (and depreciation expense) in the long-term financial plan reflects recent macro-economic conditions.

When the asset renewal funding ratio is instead calculated by the depreciation-based method,[28] it is forecast to average 85 percent over the forecast period (2023-24 to 2032-33). This is slightly below the suggested LGA target range and follows an average performance of 66 percent for the ratio from 2012-13 to 2021-22. Nevertheless, this could indicate the total depreciation expenses is higher than the required expenditure on capital renewals under its various AMPs. Alternatively, it could also indicate that the Council's capital renewal expenditure is below the appropriate level.

According to the Council's 2022-23 annual report a comprehensive revaluation was carried out by independent valuation for the period ending 30 June 2023 for the Council's infrastructure assets (roads, footpaths, kerbs, drains, bridges, traffic devices and traffic signs) and its buildings and other structures.[29]

Other infrastructure assets such as car parks, lighting, walking trails and reserve pathways as well as land and land improvements and all other assets (excluding plant, equipment that are recognised at cost) had a comprehensive revaluation carried out by independent valuation for the reporting period, 30 June 2018.[30]

The Council currently has individual AMPs for transport, buildings, water resources, open space, coastal walkway, fleet and technology. It also undertakes an annual review of its forecast asset management expenditure. The revised forecast annual funding requirements are updated in Appendix A of each asset management plan and incorporated into the Council's adopted ABP and LTFP.[31] The Council's 'Refresh of Budgeted Expenditures Accommodated in the LTFP' document outlines the revised forecast expenditure for each AMP.

In addition the Commission also notes that the Council's annual 'state of the assets' report that covers

[25] Submissions to the Essential Services Commission of South Australia – Response to follow up questions – City of Marion. November 2023, p. 3.
[26] Submissions to the Essential Services Commission of South Australia – Response to follow up questions – City of Marion. November 2023, p. 3.
[27] Based on the Council's Excel template (with material amendment reasons) it provided to the Commission.
[28] Where asset renewal/replacement expenditure is divided by depreciation expenses.
[29] City of Marion, *2022-23 annual report*, June 2023, p. 24.
[30] City of Marion, *2022-23 annual report*, June 2023, p. 24.
[31] City of Marion, *refresh of budgeted expenditures accommodated in the LTFP,* August 2023, p. 1

asset valuation, condition, asset performance, risk, intervention levels, level of service monitoring and future financial sustainability options and consequences.[32]

These matters (among others) have informed the Council's planned operating and maintenance budgets, and asset renewal needs. The Commission's review of the AMPs has found that, on balance, the Council's strategic planning processes aligns with good practice for a council of its size and complexity.

2.2.3 Advice on current and projected rate levels

Key Points:

- ⚠ Rate revenue per property growth has averaged 2.4 percent or $39 per annum for each property in the period between 2012-13 and 2021-22 which is 0.4 percent above CPI for the same period.
- ✓ Budgeted for an average rate increase of 5.2 percent or $100 per property for its existing ratepayers in 2023-24 and represents a fall in real terms as the increase is below CPI for the same period.
- ⚠ Between 2023-24 and 2032-33 the average rate increase across all categories is forecast to be 3.3 percent, from $1,980 to $2,645 per property, and is 0.8 percent above the RBA-based forecast average inflation of 2.6 percent per annum in the same period.

The Council's rate revenue per property growth has averaged 2.4 percent or $39 per annum for each property over the past 10 years,[33] to reach an estimated $1,834 per property in 2021-22. This has slightly exceeded CPI growth of an average of 2.0 percent per annum over this period, but also encompasses 1.0 percent average annual growth in rateable property numbers.[34] Current rate levels partially reflect its recent history of constrained spending growth, predominantly on capital expenditure (on renewals, and new and upgraded assets), material costs, and employee related costs.

The Council has budgeted for an average rate increase of 5.2 percent or $100 per property for its existing ratepayers in 2023-24,[35] representing a reduction in real terms as the increase is below the level of inflation.[36] This was higher than it had anticipated charging for this year in its 2022-23 long-term financial plan projections (2.4 percent for existing rateable properties). The rate increase reflects higher short-term inflation (anticipated by the Council through its indexation of rates in its long-term financial plan). In 2022-23, the Council had 44,902 rateable properties and expects this to increase to 49,401 in 2032-33, representing modest growth of 1 percent per annum in rateable properties.[37]

Looking forward, between 2023-24 and 2032-33 the average rate across all categories is forecast to increase from $1,980 to $2,645[38], a cumulative increase of $665 per property. This equates to a 3.3 percent average annual increase (between 2023-24 and 2032-33), above the RBA-based forecast

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32 City of Marion, *2019-28 asset management strategy*, March 2019, p. 6.
33 From 2012-13 to 2021-22.
34 CPI Adelaide (All groups). Average annual growth in the LGPI published by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies was similar (at 2.0 percent). Available at https://www.adelaide.edu.au/saces/economic-and-social-indicators/local-government-price-index.
35 Based on the Council's 2023-24 annual business plan and its Excel template (with the 2023-24 forecasts) provided to the Commission. The Commission has used $89.438 million (in 2023-24 budgeted rates revenue) compared to unaudited 2022-23 estimates. Individual rate level changes may be higher or lower depending on the rates category and property value.
36 CPI Adelaide (all groups) increased by 7.9 percent in the year to March 2023 quarter and has reduced in the year to June 2023 and September 2023 quarters to 6.9 percent and 5.9 percent, respectively. Available at https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/price-indexes-and-inflation/consumer-price-index-australia/sep-quarter-2023.
37 Based on the Council's 2023-24 annual business plan and its Excel template (with the 2023-24 forecasts) provided to the Commission
38 This includes rates growth of 4.3 percent expected each year of which 1 percent is for property growth.

average inflation of 2.6 percent per annum and representing a real increase in rates over that period.[39]

The Council uses a differential rating system to raise revenue based upon land use. This option was adopted following a review of the rating options in 2002-03, which involved the Council consulting extensively with the community and concluding that the differential rating system would ensure a fair and equitable distribution of rates within the Council.[40] As a result, different rate categories are subject to varying changes, with residential ratepayers to pay an average increase of $80 per property on 2022-23 levels. Vacant land, commercial and industrial are subject to average increases of $262, $755 and $862 per property, respectively.[41]

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* (Regulations) require, at a minimum, that the annual business plan provides a statement on the average change in the expected rates for each land use category.[42] While the Council has complied with this obligation,[43] the Commission considers that it would be appropriate for the Council to also:

5. **Report** in its annual business plan the estimated average annual change for all of its nine categories of general rates, together with the quantum of annual revenue it expects to collect from these distinct categories of rates, providing greater clarity and transparency to its ratepayers.

2.3 The Commission's next advice and focus areas

In the next cycle of the scheme, the Commission will review and report upon the Council's:

- ongoing performance against its LTFP estimates (including depreciation), and
- achievement of cost savings and efficiencies and its continued reporting of these in its plans.

[39] The forecast average annual growth in the CPI from 2023-24 to 2032-33 is estimated to be 2.6 percent based on Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) forecasts for the CPI (Australia wide) to June 2025 (and the Commission's calculations of average annual percentage growth) and the midpoint of the RBA's target range (2.5 percent) from 2025-26.
[40] City of Marion, *2023-24 annual business plan*, June 2023, p. 44
[41] City of Marion, *2023-24 annual business plan*, June 2023, p. 23
[42] Under Regulations s6(ec) Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.
[43] City of Marion, *2023-24 annual business plan*, June 2023, p. 23

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CITY OF MARION

Designed by CoM Marketing and Communications 2025

13 Corporate Reports for Information/Noting

13.1 Youth Collective Committee Annual Report 2024	
Report Reference	GC250422R13.1
Originating Officer	Projects & Partnerships Team Leader – Jacqui Clark
Corporate Manager	Manager Community Connections - Merran Fyfe
General Manager	General Manager City Services - Angela Allison

REPORT HISTORY

Report Reference	Report Title
GC230411R11.1	Youth Collective Committee Annual Report 2023
FORUM241203R1.2	Youth Collective Committee Presentation

REPORT OBJECTIVE

To provide Council with an overview of the Youth Collective Committee's (YCC) work and achievements during the 2024 year, and present the YCC's Annual Report 2024 which highlights the contributions the group makes to youth engagement and community development within the City of Marion.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The YCC Annual Report 2024 summaries the key initiatives, events, and contributions made throughout the year, and is a key action for the group to prepare and publish at the conclusion of each year. This report serves to inform Council of the YCC's role and outcomes in relation to engaging local young people and fostering a vibrant, inclusive community.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Notes the Youth Collective Committee Annual Report 2024**

DISCUSSION

Background

The YCC operates with an ongoing 0.6 FTE resource. Presenting the Annual Report forms part of the YCC's annual program of outcomes, providing a direct link to Council, transparency of the YCC program and accountability within the group for the work undertaken.

Councillor Luscombe serves as the Council's representative for the YCC.

2024 Highlights

The YCC's Annual Report 2024 (Attachment 1) covers four key areas which were discussed at Council Forum on 3 December 2024:

- Introduction to the YCC

    - Overview of the YCC's mission, objectives, and youth-led approach.
    - Structure of the committee, highlighting the unique contributions of each role.
- 2024 Projects and Initiatives, with highlights including
    - Just Dance Tournament: The YCC's first project in 2024, held in partnership with the Marion Cultural Centre, offering an inclusive and sensory-safe space for youth engagement.
    - Vaping Consultation Project: An initiative addressing the vaping crisis, involving surveys, school visits, and public consultations to gather youth perspectives and inform City of Marion of the opportunities to support reducing harm.
    - Voice It Podcast: A youth-led platform for amplifying voices, fostering connections, and discussing topics relevant to young people in the Marion community.
    - Beyond Sight: The YCC's major event for White Cane Safety Day, celebrated in partnership with the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre. Activities such as Dining in the Dark and DOGA (yoga with dogs) promoted accessibility and inclusion, raising awareness of visual impairments and fostering community connections.
- Representation and Advocacy
    - The YCC's active involvement in local and state-level consultations, ensuring youth perspectives influence decision-making.
    - Key contributions include engagement with state government advisory groups, internal council planning, and strategic consultations.
- What Matters to Young People
    - Presentation of recurring themes identified through YCC's community engagement, such as accessibility, mental health, cost of living, and housing challenges.

The 2025 YCC group, consisting of 15 young people, has been successfully recruited and onboarded. This new group brings a mix of returning and first-time members, ensuring continuity and fresh perspectives in the YCC work for the upcoming term.

This report recognises the YCC's significant contributions to youth engagement and highlights the value of the YCC's ongoing partnership with Council in building an inclusive and supportive community for young people to thrive.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Youth Collective Committee Annual Report 2024 [**13.1.1** - 14 pages]

City of Marion

Youth Collective Committee

Annual Report

2024



VOICE IT | CREATE IT | DO IT

YOUTH COLLECTIVE COMMITTEE

CITY OF MARION

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BACKGROUND

In 2019 the City of Marion engaged in a city-wide consultation to inform the CoM Youth Engagement and Consultation Report 2019 - 2023. One of the key findings was that young people wanted to be involved in issues that affect them and have a voice in Council.

Initiating a Youth Collective Committee (YCC) was proposed to Council in November 2019 and was voted for in the affirmative.The committee has been endorsed as an ongoing Council initiative.

The YCC commenced July 2020, including four cohorts during this time. The committee members are appointed for a one-year term following an application process. The YCC then decide on their own structure, vision, and goals for their term to be truly youth led.

The YCC is implemented using an asset-based community development approach and a collective impact approach. An asset-based approach focuses on what is successful in the community, where passion already lies and building on it. A collective impact approach is a collaboration framework that engages across sectors and groups who share a common interest to address a social issue within a community. The framework consists of;

1. **A common social agenda**
2. **A shared measurement framework**
3. **A shared plan of action for mutually reinforcing activities**
4. **Open communication fostering genuine collaboration**
5. **A backbone organisation with the skills and resources to keep everyone on track.**

YCC VISION

"We aim to work with teams and departments across the Council on issues, topics and concerns that are important to our young people. Our vision is to work on issues such as safety and security, mental health, the environment, arts and music, education and technology relevant to young people in our local Council area. We also work to provide a unique perspective on Council issues, whilst also gaining important skills, learning about local government and youth specific issues."

FROM THE CHAIRS



MADDY

CHAIR

This year, the Youth Collective Committee (YCC) put together some amazing events to bring young people together and promote inclusion. We learnt how to represent our community, develop our skills, build relationships within the committee and I feel like we've made a real difference for young people in the City of Marion.

We started the year with a fun Just Dance event, which was a great way for people to connect and have a good time. One of our biggest events was Beyond Sight, which focused on disability inclusion. We hosted a dinner in the dark, where people experienced what it's like to eat a meal without sight, helping them understand the challenges faced by those with vision impairments.

We also organised stall at this venue, the SA Marion Aquatic Centre, giving local small businesses a chance to showcase their products and connect with the community. It was incredible to see people supporting local businesses while also learning about accessibility and inclusion.

Overall, this year has been all about bringing people together, creating new experiences, and making a real impact. We're excited to keep building on this next year!

I am so grateful to have been the Chairperson for 2024 and I am so proud of our team and what we have achieved on behalf of young people in the City of Marion. This report shows what we've been up to this year and how we work. I really hope you enjoy it!



EMMA

VICE CHAIR

It's incredible to see how much the Marion Youth Collective Committee (YCC) has accomplished and the positive impact we've had on our community. Serving as Vice Chair this year has been an absolute privilege.

One of the events that stood out to me in 2024 was the Just Dance event at the Marion Domain Theatre. This event brought together young people and their families, not just from Marion or even Adelaide but as far as Melbourne, for a night of joy, music, and inclusivity. Being involved in organising and promoting this event was a highlight for me, as it perfectly embodied the YCC's mission to create spaces for connection and celebration.

Another event I'm proud of was our main event of the year Beyond sight, which was a visual impairment awareness event held close to White Cane Safety Day partnered with the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre. This initiative aimed to educate and foster understanding about the experiences of visually impaired individuals while promoting accessibility, inclusion and fun. The event was both insightful and impactful, reminding us of the importance of representation and empathy in our community work. Beyond these projects, the YCC has made strides in youth advocacy, mental health awareness, and leadership development. Our workshops and events have empowered young voices, ensuring they feel heard and valued.

On a personal level, my time as Vice Chair has been a journey of growth and fun. I've gained leadership and communication skills, developed a deeper understanding of our community's needs, and worked alongside a passionate team. Working with the YCC Officer Shannon, YCC Chair Maddy, and my fellow members has been inspiring, and I'm proud of what we've achieved together.

2024 has been a year of challenges, growth, and celebration. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve and look forward to contributing even more in the year to come!

YOUNG PEOPLE IN MARION

Young people aged 12 to 25 make up approximately 14% of the City of Marion's population, contributing to its vibrancy and diversity. The area is home to many culturally diverse communities, including young migrants, enriching the local culture and perspectives

In the City of Marion, young people face challenges, including rising living costs and access to housing, while maintaining strong engagement in environmental issues and community life. The City of Marion plays a critical role in supporting young people by partnering with youth services, fostering collaboration, and offering grants to ensure best practice outcomes for young people.



* In 2024 young people in South Australia identified the following top concerns:

1. **Cost of Living**
2. **Climate Change**
3. **Discrimination and Inequality**
4. **Housing and Homelessness**

*Key Insights as identified within 2024 Mission Australia Youth Survey

FOCUS AREAS

The focus areas for the Youth Collective Committee have been determined following consultation with the YCC and the wider community. Current data informs YCC priorities for their term.

The focus areas for 2024 were:

- **MENTAL HEALTH**
- **ENVIRONMENT**
- **ARTS/MUSIC**
- **EDUCATION/TECHNOLOGY**
- **INCLUSION**
- **YOUTH SPECIFIC EVENTS (SOCIAL CONNECTION)**

RECOGNITION

The YCC has received broad scale recognition for their achievements both as a collective and individually.

We were finalists in the SA 7 News Young Achievers awards 2024 for our work in 2023.

Following the success of the committee's achievements, the Marion YCC model of engagement has garnished a great reputation within the youth sector. The model has retained engagement consistently while other Council youth committees have struggled. The model has been praised and several Councils have reached out looking to replicate our model. Marion is considered a leader in the field.



ENGAGEMENT & REPRESENTATION

ACTIVELY REPRESENTING YOUNG VOICES IN COUNCIL MATTERS

The primary role of the YCC involves ensuring that the perspectives and concerns of young individuals are heard and considered within the Council's decision-making processes. This includes actively engaging in discussions, providing feedback, and advocating for policies that directly impact the youth demographic.

The committee members act as ambassadors, representing diverse viewpoints and issues affecting young people in the City of Marion. They participate in meetings, consultations, and forums, articulating the needs and aspirations of their peers to ensure their voices are included and valued in Council deliberations.

During 2024 members of the committee represented the City of Marion at several summits, consultations, roundtable discussions and served on additional committees broadening the impact of what the YCC can achieve.

- Commissioner for Children and Young People - Youth Impact Summit Steering Committee
- Commissioner for Children and Young People - HUB Magazine
- Commissioner for Children and Young People Period Poverty Summit
- Youth Parliament
- YP & Me Youth Conference
- Marion Youth Vigil
- Nat Cooke's Ministers Advisory Committee
- Amanda Rishworth's Southern Youth Roundtable
- The Marion 100
- United Nations Youth South Australia State Conference
- Department for Human Services Youth Action Plan Consultation
- CoM Public Art Plan Consultation
- Internal CoM Consultations

UPSKILLING

The YCC prioritises the development of skills and capabilities among its members through various initiatives. Workshops, training sessions, and skill-building exercises are organized to enhance leadership, communication, project management, and critical thinking skills. These opportunities not only empower the committee members to become effective advocates but also equip them with the necessary tools to navigate complex challenges.

Understanding the WHY

In 2024, the Youth Collective Committee (YCC) strengthened its role by prioritising purpose-driven decision-making. As a diverse representative voice for young people in the City of Marion, the YCC was upskilled to ensure every project was derived from evidenced-based data, strategy, and community need rather than just ideas.

Staff facilitated training in policy analysis, strategy interpretation, and data-driven decision-making, equipping YCC members to read council strategies, interpret survey data, and align projects with broader community priorities. This shift ensured that every initiative had a clear purpose and long-term impact.

Key areas of upskilling included:

- Understanding policy and strategy documents to align projects with Council goals.
- Using survey data and community feedback to inform decisions.
- Prioritising purpose over activity, ensuring initiatives create real impact.
- Strengthening advocacy and leadership skills, allowing YCC members to confidently articulate their work to stakeholders.

By embedding this strategic approach, the YCC has become a more informed, impactful, and representative voice for young people in the City of Marion.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Instagram remains our primary method of engagement directly with young people. This year we saw significant increase in engagement and follower numbers and is to be largely credited for the success of applications and attendance. The YCC Instagram is primarily run by the young volunteers themselves. This is a unique model compared to other Councils. The YCC Instagram now has 1175 followers. The YCC also launched a youtube channel and a podcast which will be alternative communication pathways to those under 16 when the social media ban begins.

Make sure to give us a like on Instagram
@Marionycc



MENTORSHIP

The YCC Officer plays a pivotal role in guiding and facilitating the activities of the Youth Collective Committee. Acting as a mentor, enabler and facilitator, the officer assists in aligning the committee's objectives with the City of Marion's goals. The officer provides essential support by offering insights, resources, and guidance to empower the committee members.

The officer helps nurture leadership qualities, fosters teamwork, and encourages innovative thinking among the youth committee, thereby contributing to their personal and professional development.

In order to have an accurate representation of the diversity of young people within Council on our committee, that comes with a diversity of challenges and one on one mentoring is an important part of ensuring the development of the individuals and the delivery of action.

We have created space for the development of our members that has resulted in:

- **The support for young people to create their businesses.**
- **Gaining employment opportunities.**
- **Increased resillance and confidence in young people**
- **Allow for equal access participation and meaningful engagement.**





The YCC does more than discuss issues, they actively implement solutions and initiatives addressing the specific needs of young people in the City of Marion. By having identified key concerns such as safety, mental health, education, inclusion, the environment, arts, and technology, the committee formulates action plans and projects. These initiatives might include organizing events, awareness campaigns, workshops, or partnering with relevant stakeholders to implement programs that directly benefit and cater to the needs of young individuals in the community. The YCC takes ownership and executes tangible actions, thereby making a substantial and positive impact on the lives of the young people in the City of Marion.

JUST DANCE TOURNAMENT

As part of Youth Week, the Youth Collective Committee (YCC) partnered with the Marion Cultural Centre (MCC) to deliver the first-ever Just Dance Tournament, a key achievement in the committee's ongoing commitment to youth engagement and inclusion.

With a focus on accessibility, the YCC implemented sensory-safe considerations to ensure a welcoming space for all abilities. The tournament fostered a judgment-free atmosphere where young people could connect, express themselves, and participate in friendly competition.

The event attracted 20 competitors, with many more attending to support their friends.

Hosted by the YCC the tournament saw participants showcase their enthusiasm and creativity before we crowned the champion.

MCC's support was instrumental in the event's success, providing a professional venue and reinforcing the value of youth-led initiatives. The overwhelmingly positive feedback demonstrated the impact of this initiative, highlighting the YCC's role in creating inclusive, community-driven experiences for young people in the City of Marion.



ACTION

ACTION

HEADSET HEROES

The Headset Heroes workshop was a standout achievement for the Youth Collective Committee (YCC) in 2024, showcasing the power of youth-led initiatives in emerging technology. Delivered in partnership with Marion Libraries, this three-day workshop introduced young people to the exciting world of virtual reality (VR), equipping them with industry-level skills in 360° filming and immersive content creation. Participants learned to build their own VR environments using CoSpaces and tested them with the latest Meta Quest 3 headsets—an experience that was both educational and highly engaging.

Led by YCC Creative Director, Cameron Coggins, a passionate VR advocate, this initiative was designed as a pilot program to explore how immersive technologies can be used for education and creativity. The impact was clear:

- 100% retention rate, with all participants returning for the full three days.
- 4.7/5 average rating from attendees.
- 100% learning success, with every participant leaving with the ability to create their own VR experience.

The success of this workshop extended beyond the event itself. Cameron, who was mentored by the YCC Officer and City of Marion Libraries, has since launched his own VR education business, Reality Bytes, and has been approached by other councils to replicate the program. He now plans to apply for a Carclew Youth Arts grant to further expand his work in this space.

The overwhelming positive feedback from young people and parents reinforced the value of this initiative. One parent shared, “Cameron was absolutely amazing with the kids. My son absolutely loved Headset Heroes!! For something to get him as enthusiastic as he is, it must’ve truly been brilliant!”

This project not only demonstrated the YCC’s leadership in innovative youth programming but also highlighted the life skills and employment pathways that can emerge from such initiatives. With strong momentum and support from Carclew, we are excited to build on this success and continue introducing young people to the incredible possibilities of virtual reality.



ACTION

VOICE IT! PODCAST

In 2024, the Youth Collective Committee (YCC) launched Voice It!, a podcast designed to amplify youth voices in the City of Marion. Available on Spotify and YouTube, the podcast provides a platform for young people to discuss issues that matter to them, from mental health and education to social issues and community initiatives.

Recognising a gap in youth representation in media, the YCC created Voice It! to ensure young people had a space to share their perspectives. The podcast features interviews with young leaders, changemakers, and special guests, offering insightful discussions that reflect real youth experiences.

The launch marked a significant milestone for the YCC, showcasing their commitment to youth-led initiatives and digital innovation. Committee members took charge of planning, recording, editing, and promoting the podcast, developing valuable skills in media production, storytelling, and public speaking.

Since its debut, Voice It! has received overwhelmingly positive feedback. As the podcast continues to evolve, new episodes will highlight diverse voices and timely discussions, further strengthening its impact.

HAPPY LUNGS PROJECT

In 2024, the Youth Collective Committee (YCC) initiated the Happy Lungs Project, a youth-led response to the growing vaping crisis among young people. Recognising the urgent need for education, awareness, and harm reduction, the YCC developed this initiative to engage young people in meaningful discussions about vaping and its impacts.

Spearheaded by YCC member Lachlan, the project focused on idea creation and consultation, laying the groundwork for a comprehensive youth-driven approach. The YCC launched a consultation process, gathering insights from young people through surveys, school visits, and community sessions to understand their perspectives, concerns, and knowledge gaps surrounding vaping.

While 2024 was primarily focused on research and strategy development, the YCC is committed to expanding Happy Lungs in 2025. The next phase will involve expert collaboration, educational resources, and youth-focused initiatives designed to provide accurate information and practical solutions. Through this project, the YCC aims to empower young people to make informed choices and advocate for healthier communities.



ACTION

ACTION

MAJOR EVENT - BEYOND SIGHT

Beyond Sight, held at the SA Aquatic & Leisure Centre on October 26th, was more than an event—it was a movement raising awareness about visual impairment. Organised and led by the Marion Youth Collective Committee (YCC) in partnership with the SA Aquatic & Leisure Centre, the day featured immersive experiences that challenged participants to navigate daily tasks without sight, fostering empathy, inclusion, and awareness. The event provided an invaluable learning experience for YCC members, who actively engaged with the community while developing leadership and event management skills.

The day began with bustling markets and live music from musicians from South Australian School for the Visually Impaired, creating a vibrant atmosphere. Attendees explored local stalls featuring artisan goods, community organisations, and accessibility initiatives. The event quickly gained momentum, drawing a large crowd eager to engage in activities offering insight into life with visual impairment.

A highlight was the DOGA (yoga with dogs) session, where participants bonded with dogs The Guided Wibit session followed, challenging attendees to navigate an inflatable water obstacle course blindfolded, emphasising trust and adaptability.

In the afternoon, an inclusive Shrek 2 screening featured audio descriptions and subtitles for accessibility. The event concluded with a sold-out “Dinner in the Dark” , where guests dined blindfolded, heightening their senses and deepening appreciation for challenges faced by visually impaired individuals.

Beyond Sight was a resounding success, selling out most activities and raising over $2,000 for Guide Dogs SA. Attendees praised the event for increasing their understanding of accessibility and inclusion. The YCC, in collaboration with the SA Aquatic & Leisure Centre, is proud to have led and facilitated such an impactful experience, gaining valuable insights and experience while further promoting awareness and connection within the community.

2025 Youth Collective Committee



Following a competitive selection process, fifteen young people have been selected to be a part of the City of Marion's Youth Collective Committee for 2025. Of the fifteen, nine are returning six are new.

- Abinav Murugappa, 16
- Arianna Burgos, 17
- Antony Abbracciavento, 18
- Emma Eldhose, 15
- Zachary Hocking, 18
- Lachlan Van Dyk, 18
- Maddison Jeffrey, 17
- Teesha Soni, 16
- Shreya Madhan Raj 16
- Cameron Coggins, 20
- Nash Kirk, 14
- Jayden Macdonald, 19
- Ruby Cowan, 13
- Prakruthi Ravi, 24
- Sophie Clarke, 16

LOOKING FORWARD

This year has been marked by energy, enthusiasm, and tangible outcomes. We've connected with our community, advocated for important issues, and created innovative programs that empower young people. As we move into 2025, we remain committed to making a positive difference and representing the voices of our youth.

HIGHLIGHTS

WHAT'S YOUR YCC HIGHLIGHT OF 2024?

MADDY

My highlight this year, as it was my first year, was our very first event - the Just Dance Tournament. I was able to invite all my friends and it was such a fun and inclusive space. I really felt like we were in charge and we had made it happen. Being a part of a giant dance group with young people I didn't know and having so much fun was just amazing! I put my hand up for chair and I didn't know what to expect but it's been amazing!

LACHLAN

One of my highlights from this year with the YCC was our first meeting in the park, where heavy rain unexpectedly joined us. Instead of cancelling, we embraced the moment, threw on our rain jackets, and laughed as we got to know each other in the downpour. It was a great start to the year, setting the tone for a team that thrives together no matter the challenges.

SHANNON

It's been 5 years of highlights! My time with the committee has been the absolute joy of my life and moving forward is so bittersweet. The young people that have made up the YCC over the past 5 years have taught me so much, the City of Marion created space for an authentically youth-led model of governance and action and I am so proud to be a part of it. My highlight will always be the time I got to spend with these amazing young people and the way they have shaped me as a person and a practitioner. Thank you YCC.

SOPHIE

My highlight was all the friends I made and the activities I got to attend. I really love it! Also the smoothie bike at Beyond Sight was very fun!

ANTONY

There were many highlights in YCC this year. But obviously Beyond Sight is the project I am the most proud of. It's amazing to see how much it grew from last year and how many people came to be involved in an event like that. I felt very proud that I helped make it happen

CAMERON

The YCC has been a world of opportunities for me. After we ran Headset Heroes with the Libraries I felt confident enough to start my own business Reality Bytes Media and my whole world looks different! I am so honored to be a part of a community that gives back and has so many opportunities to be involved in!

EMMA

My YCC highlight of 2024 was the Just Dance event held at the Marion Domain Theatre. This initiative brought young people and families together for a fun and inclusive evening of music, movement, and connection. I played an active role in organising and promoting the event, ensuring it was accessible and engaging for all. Seeing the smiles, laughter, and energy in the room was incredibly fulfilling, as it showcased how events like these can foster a sense of community and joy—not just in Marion but also beyond, with young people traveling from Melbourne just for the event. It was amazing to see the reach and impact!

NASH

My highlight was that I got to represent kids with autism and make sure our events were inclusive of people with autism.

13.2 Monthly Work Health and Safety Report - February	
Report Reference	GC25042213.2
Originating Officer	Unit Manager WHS – Mark Jentsch
Corporate Manager	Manager People and Culture - Kate McKenzie
General Manager	Chief Executive Officer - Tony Harrison

REPORT OBJECTIVE

To update council on WHS key performance indicators.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Reporting culture remains consistent across council and is reflected in a consistent reduction in the occurrence of work related injury.

Rolling 12 month Average Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) has reached a historic low of 1.2 lost time injuries per million hours worked.

Rolling 12 month Average Total reportable Injury Frequency Rate has also reached a historic low of 7.5 reportable injuries per million hours worked.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Notes this report.**

DISCUSSION

Hazard and Near Miss Reports (Reporting to 28 February 2025)

Historical statistics inform us that when there is a healthy culture of proactive Hazard/Near Miss Reporting, there is a consequential reduction in injuries to workers. Hazards and Report Only (Near Misses) are reported to date for this financial year and are outlined in Tables 1 & 2. They can be compared against those reported last financial year which are outlined in Table 3 & 4.

Table 1: Hazard Reports - Financial Year 2024/25

Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total	Ave
1	5	3	3	1	2	3	2					**20**	**2.5**

Table 2: Report Only - Financial Year 2024/25

Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total	Ave
6	5	16	4	2	2	1	2					**38**	**4.8**

Table 3: Hazard Reports - Financial Year 2023/24

Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total	Ave
3	0	3	1	5	2	2	5	3	0	5	1	**30**	**2.5**

Table 4: Report Only - Financial Year 2023/24

Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total	Ave
1	2	1	3	5	2	1	3	3	6	6	3	**36**	**3**

Lost Time Injuries Reported (Skytrust reporting data)

Lost Time Injuries (LTI's) are those injuries where a whole work day or shift has been lost due to a workplace injury. LTI's reported to date for this financial year are presented in Table 5 and can be compared against those reported last financial year which are presented in Table 6.

Table 7 provides descriptions of the LTI's for the current financial year.

Table 5: Number of LTI's per month - Financial Year 2024/25

Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Total
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**1**

Table 6: Number of LTIs per month - Financial Year 2023/24

Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	**2**

Table 7: Outline of LTIs reported - Financial Year 2024/25

No.	Description of Incident	Mechanism of Injury	Injury Description
1	Using quick cut in order to cut down SEP pit for new surround.	Muscular Stress while handling object other	Pain in lower back

Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (Skytrust reporting data)

The Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (LTIFR) is a measure of the occurrence of Lost Time Injuries per million hours worked. The current financial year LTIFR is 2.5; tracking above the annual target of 2.34.

Rolling Average Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate (Skytrust reporting data)

Rolling Average LTIFR is a measure of the LTIFR trend over rolling 12 month reporting period.

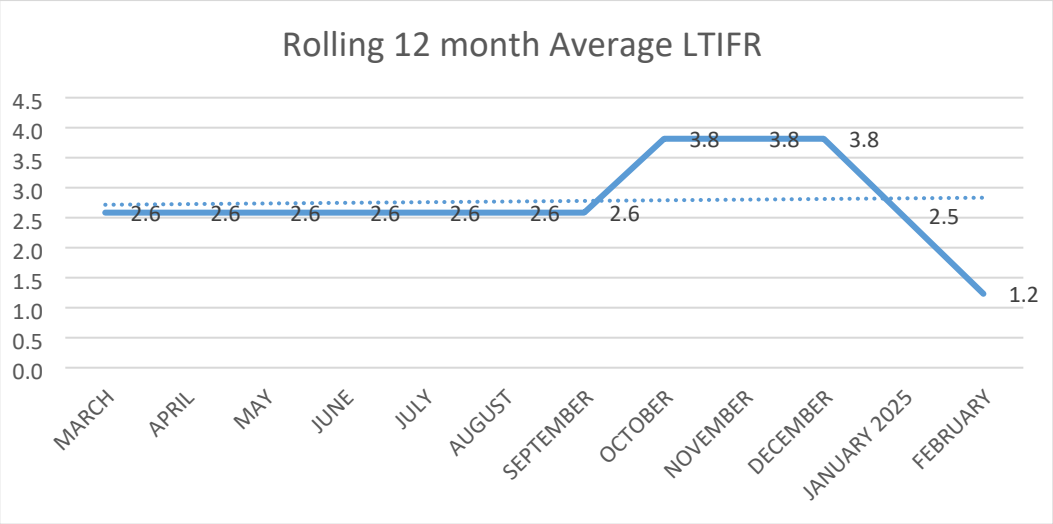


Figure 1: Rolling LTIFR over 12 months

Rolling Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (SkyTrust reporting data)

Total Recordable Incidents include fatalities, LTI's and incidents resulting in the employee receiving medical treatment and/or is certified as only fit to undertake suitable duties. The Rolling Total Recordable Incident Frequency Rate (TRIFR) provides analysis of the TRIFR over the last 12 months.

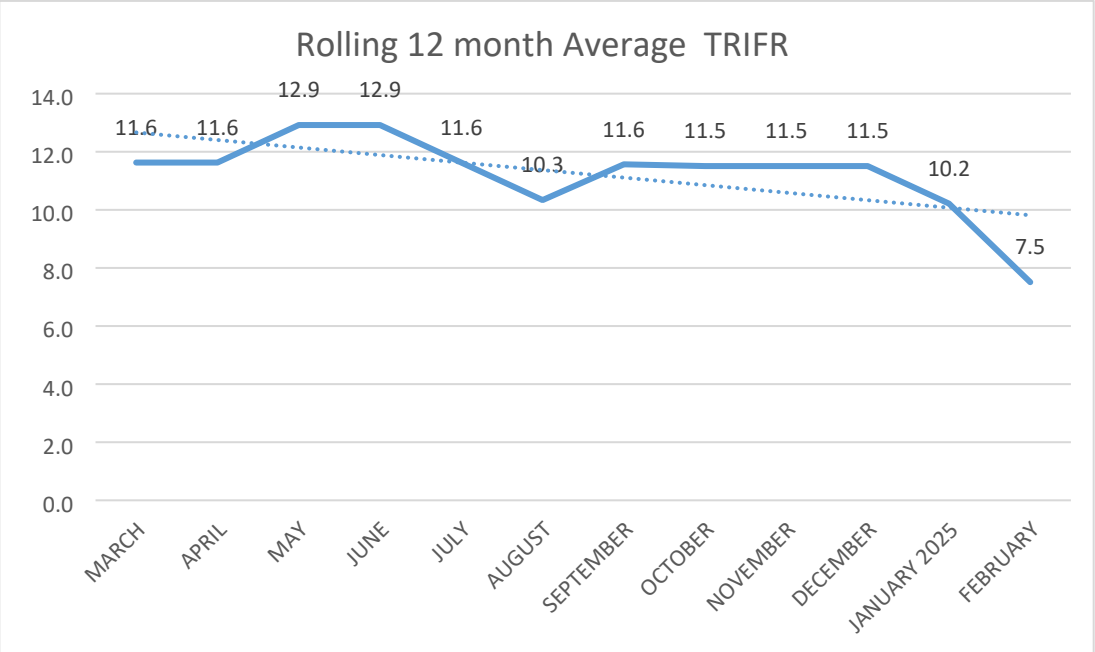


Figure 2: Rolling TRIFR over 12 months

13.3 Finance Report - February 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422R13.3
Originating Officer	Assistant Financial Accountant – Kaedan O'Neill
Corporate Manager	Chief Financial Officer – Ray Barnwell
General Manager	General Manager Corporate Services – Tony Lines

REPORT OBJECTIVE

This report provides Council with information relating to the management of financial resources under its control as of February 2025. This report is one of a series of reports designed to assist Council in achieving and maintaining a financially sustainable position. Other reports assisting in this process include the Quarterly Budget Reviews and the Long-Term Financial Plan.

This report includes financial information regarding major projects. The principles used for the assessment of reportable projects are:

- Council has agreed to proceed with the project and approved a Prudential Report under Section 48 of the *Local Government Act* 1999.
- The Whole-of-Life Cost is greater than $5.4 million dollars (including grant assisted projects).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Notes the report.**

DISCUSSION

This report is presented on a regular basis to provide Council Members with key financial information to assist in monitoring Council's financial performance against budget.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Funding Statement - Actual versus Budget Feb 25 [**13.3.1** - 3 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Capital Works Feb 25 [**13.3.2** - 6 pages]
3. Attachment 3 - Sundry Debtors and Rates Feb 25 [**13.3.3** - 2 pages]

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APPENDIX 1

Funding Statement – Actual versus Budget

The Funding Statement provides a view of Council's financial performance against the approved budget and is consistent with the information provided at budget reviews. It provides a review against all of the elements contained within the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Financial Position that are adopted as part of the Annual Budget Report. It details Council's:

Statement of Comprehensive Income -

The operating result is recognised as one of Council's key financial indicators. The budget framework includes a commitment to its ongoing Financial Sustainability maintaining an Operating Surplus Ratio of between 0% and 10%, on average over each five-year period, which for 2024-2025 means a targeted operating surplus of between $0 and $11.604M.

Comment: Council currently has a net operating surplus result of $0.944M before capital revenues, against a year to date forecast operating deficit budget of $1.005M. The 2024-2025 annual budget forecasts a net cash surplus of $1.205M. This position is detailed in the attached Funding Statement and variation notes.

Capital Budget - $49.039M

The Capital Budget is linked to Council's key financial indicator – "Asset Renewal Funding Ratio" and an actual to budget comparison reflects Council's progress in achieving its Capital program.

Comment: The actual to budget position reveals that the year to date Capital Renewal Budget is on track to be spent.

Loans -

The loans component of the Funding Statement identifies any new proposed loan receipts or principal payments. Council's borrowings are included in Council's key financial indicator – "Net Financial Liabilities" which reflects Council's total indebtedness.

Comment: $13.986M of new borrowings and $0.309M of principal repayment are budgeted for 2024-2025, meaning that the overall loan liability balance is forecast to increase by $13.677M to $15.435M by 30 June 2025. To date this loan has not been required.

Cash will be utilised to fund expenditure within the context of Treasury Management to ensure loans are not drawn down where temporary cash holdings are available.

Reserves & Cash -

Various fund movements such as surplus budget review results, unspent grants and carryover projects at year end are reflected as transfers to reserves, whilst utilisation of reserve funds are recognised as transfers from reserves.

Comment: Council's adopted budget for 2024-2025 includes Transfer to Reserves of $0.852M and Transfers from Reserves of $15.064M, after accounting for amounts quarantined for specific projects or works, the below funds are available for use for the following purposes:

Asset Sustainability Reserve (ASR)	$2.573M
Open Space Reserve	$2.132M
Total	**$4.705M**

The net budgeted transfer from reserves for 2024-2025 is $14.211M.

The 2024-2025 2nd Budget Review forecasts a net cash surplus of $1.205M.

Funding Statement
as at 28 February 2025

Original Adopted Budget $'000	Carryovers $'000	Budget Review Adjustments $'000		YTD Actual $'000	YTD Budget $'000	YTD Variance $'000		Annual Budget $'000	Note
			Operating Revenue						
94,823	-	66	**Rates**	63,171	63,164	8	F	94,889	
2,738	-	90	**Statutory Charges**	2,158	2,124	34	F	2,828	
4,164	-	254	**User Charges**	3,255	3,195	60	F	4,418	
9,174	69	1,341	**Operating Grants & Subsidies**	8,227	8,368	(141)	U	10,584	A
300	-	103	**Investment Income**	449	438	11	F	403	
1,020	-	162	**Reimbursements**	684	656	28	F	1,182	
668	122	301	**Other Revenues**	378	467	(89)	U	1,091	
645	-	-	**Net gain - Equity Accounted Investments**	-	-	-	-	645	
113,533	**191**	**2,316**		**78,321**	**78,410**	**(89)**	**U**	**116,040**	
			Operating Expenses						
46,610	-	800	**Employee Costs**	31,451	31,473	22	F	47,410	
30,533	3,128	1,783	**Contractual Services**	20,331	20,353	22	F	35,444	
6,460	-	693	**Materials**	3,848	3,833	(15)	U	7,153	
359	-	(74)	**Finance Charges**	50	50	-	-	285	
21,100	-	2,683	**Depreciation**	15,842	15,842	-	-	23,783	
8,385	-	213	**Other Expenses**	5,854	5,854	(1)	U	8,598	
113,447	**3,128**	**6,099**		**77,377**	**77,406**	**28**	**F**	**122,673**	
86	**(2,937)**	**(3,782)**	**Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Revenues**	**944**	**1,005**	**(61)**	**U**	**(6,633)**	
			Capital Revenue						
2,642	2,293	557	**Capital Grants & Subsidies**	758	758	-	-	5,492	
-	-	-	**Contributed Assets**	40	40	-	-	-	
2,642	**2,293**	**557**		**798**	**798**	**-**	**-**	**5,492**	
2,727	**(644)**	**(3,224)**	**Net Surplus/(Deficit) resulting from operations**	**1,742**	**1,803**	**(61)**	**U**	**(1,141)**	
21,100	-	2,683	***add*** **Depreciation**	15,842	15,842	-		23,783	
(645)	-	-	***less*** **Share of Profit Equity Accounted Investment**	-	-	-		(645)	
23,182	**(644)**	**(541)**	**Funding available for Capital Investment**	**17,584**	**17,645**	**(61)**	**U**	**21,997**	
			Capital						
15,314	1,765	(1,672)	***less*** **Capital Expenditure - Renewal**	6,349	6,064	(285)	U	15,407	B
19,488	11,078	3,066	***less*** **Capital Expenditure - New**	11,326	11,635	310	F	33,632	C
-	-	-	***less*** **Capital - Contributed assets**	40	-	40	U	-	
(353)	-	(7)	***add*** **Proceeds from Sale of Assets**	(405)	(360)	46	F	(360)	
(11,266)	**(13,487)**	**(1,929)**	**Net funding increase/(decrease)**	**275**	**305**	**(31)**	**U**	**(26,682)**	
			Funded by						
			Loans						
9,500	-	4,486	**Loan Principal Receipts (Net)**	-	-	-		13,986	
(657)	-	349	**Loan Principal Repayments**	(152)	(152)	-		(309)	
8,843	**-**	**4,835**	**Loan Funding (Net)**	**(152)**	**(152)**	**-**		**13,678**	
			Movement in level of cash, investments and accruals						
49	-	1,156	**Cash Surplus/(Deficit) funding requirements**	15,097	15,128	(31)		1,205	
(2,473)	(13,487)	1,749	**Reserves Net - Transfer to/(Transfer from)**	(14,975)	(14,975)	-		(14,211)	
(2,424)	**(13,487)**	**2,905**	**Cash/Investments/Accruals Funding**	**122**	**153**	**(31)**		**(13,006)**	
11,266	**13,487**	**1,929**	**Funding Transactions**	**(275)**	**(305)**	**31**	**U**	**26,682**	D

Variation Notes

	Category	Variance - Favourable/ (Unfavourable)	Variance - Budget Timing	Comment
A	**Operating Grants & Subsidies** Unfavourable ($141k)		($233k)	Reflects to budget timing in relation to the receipt of CHSP funding.
			$92k	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			($141k)	
B	**Capital Expenditure - Renewal** Unfavourable ($285k)		($255k)	Reflects budget timing relating to purhcases for the Vehicle replacement program.
			($30k)	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			($285k)	
C	**Capital Expenditure - New** Favourable $310k		$128k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Raglan Avenue Streetscape Upgrade.
			$182k	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			$310k	
D	**Funding Transactions** Unfavourable ($31k)		**($116k)**	This variance is the sum total of all variances and reflects an increase against council's expected YTD cash position.

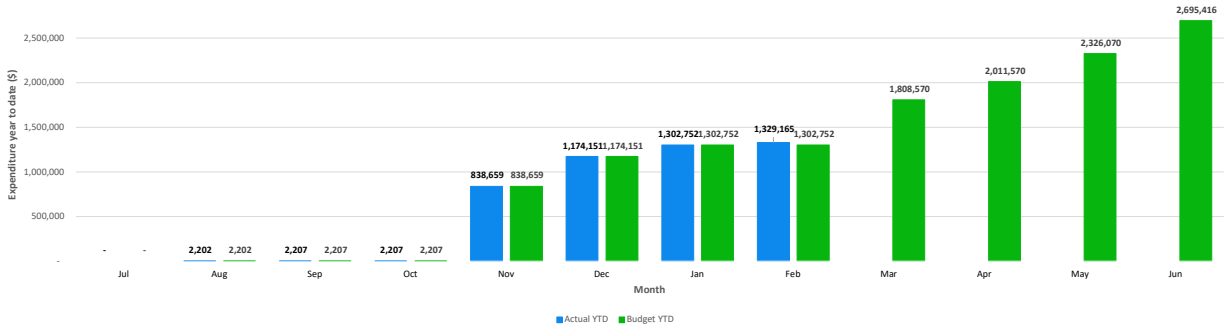
The above comments referring to budget timing variations are where some monthly budget estimates are not reflective of the actual expenditure patterns as at reporting date.

Funding Transactions
This variance is the sum total of all variances and reflects an increase against council's expected YTD cash position.

Road Reseal

Monthly Comment

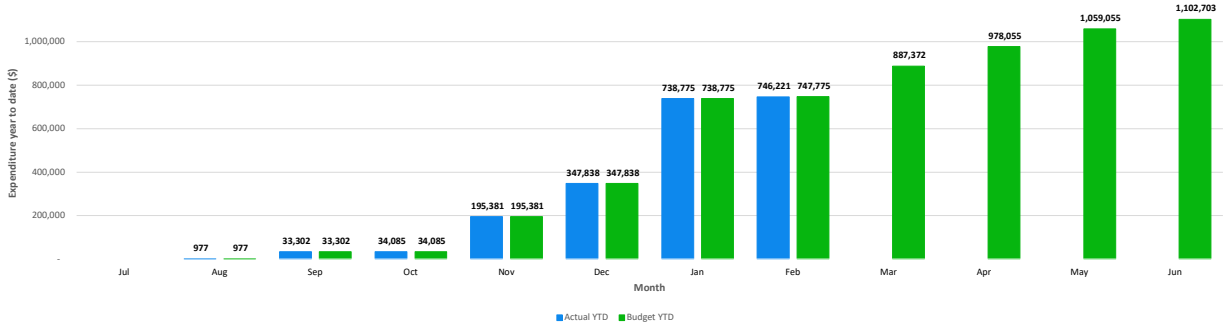
Program in progress with works 70% complete. Tenders for Acacia Street & Cedar Avenue are currently being evaluated.



Kerb and Water Table

Monthly Comment

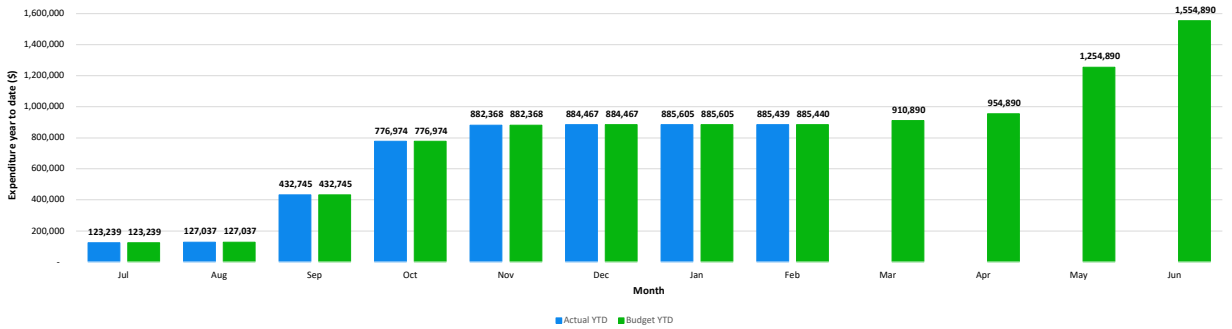
Program in progress and on track with works 80% complete.



New Footpath Construction

Monthly Comment

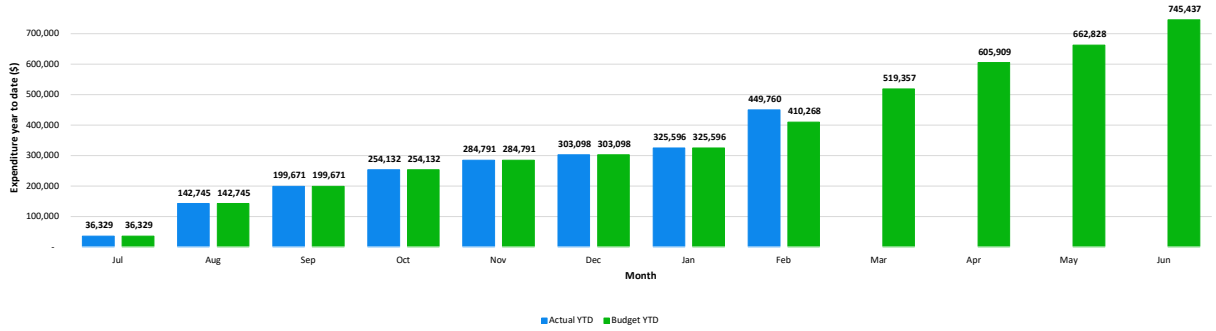
Program in progress with works 60% complete. Preliminary works on Sampson Road have commenced. Works at Berrima/Patpa Staircase are awaiting quotation from contractors.



Renewal Footpath Construction

Monthly Comment

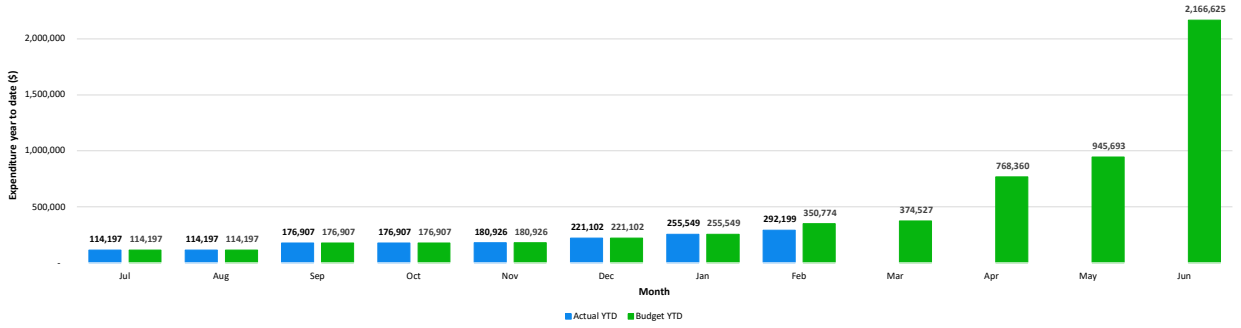
Program in progress with works 60% complete. Works on Beadnall Terrace are in progress, while works on Sturt River Linear Park & Spinks Road are anticipated to commence March/April.



Transport

Monthly Comment

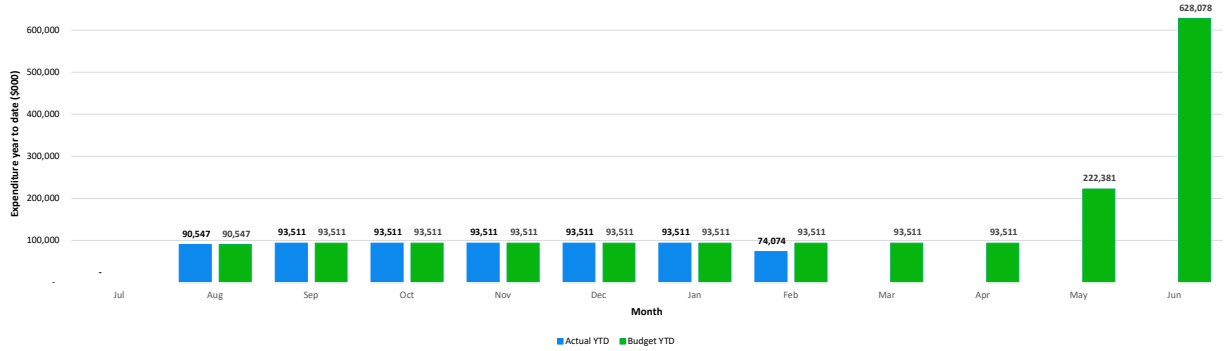
Program is in progress with works at Our Lady of Grace School commenced. Tender process underway for Hugh Johnson Reserve & Mostyn Road. Construction of Traffic Control Devices anticipated to commence in March.



Car Parks

Monthly Comment

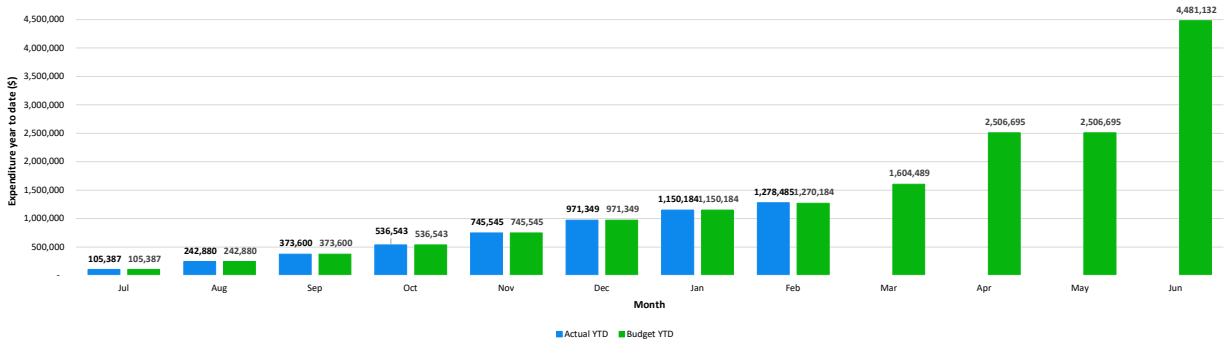
Program is in progress with Boat Shed car park & accessway and Alawoona Reserve car park complete. Preliminary works have commenced for Moreland Avenue car park.



Stormwater

Monthly Comment

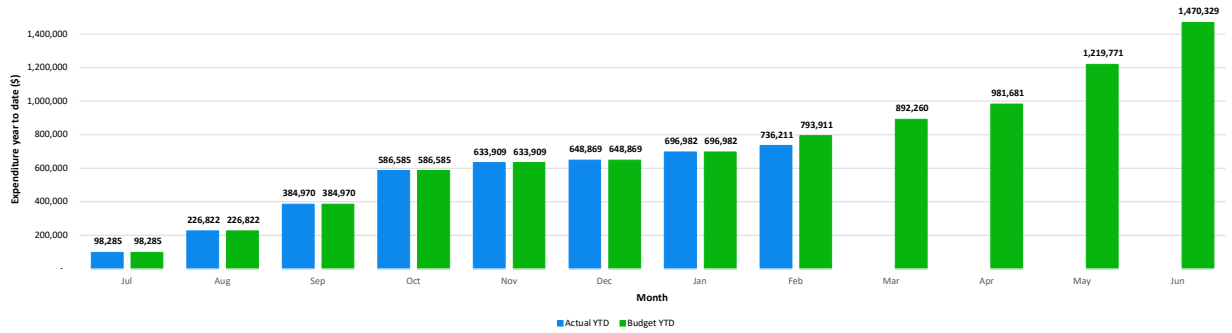
Program in progress with works on Beadnall Terrace in Progress. Tender has now closed for works at Coolah Terrace with evaluation currently being undertaken.



Street Trees

Monthly Comment

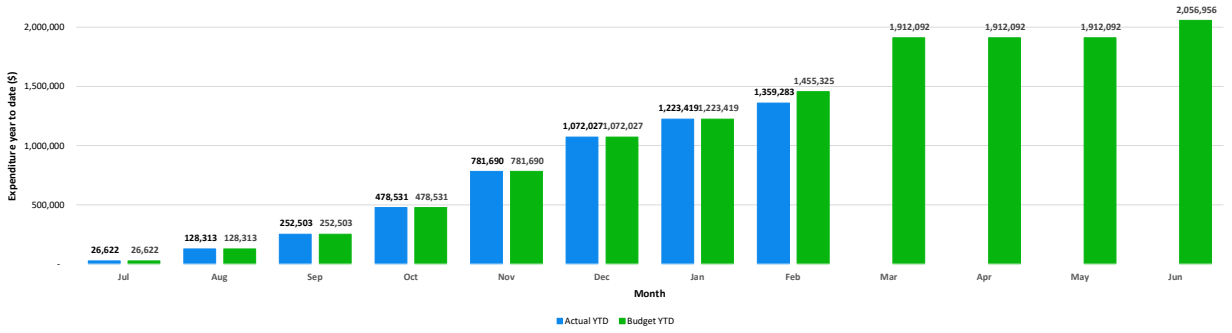
Program in progress with 2,700 street trees planted. This program is on track. Planting will recommence in May.



Streetscapes

Monthly Comment

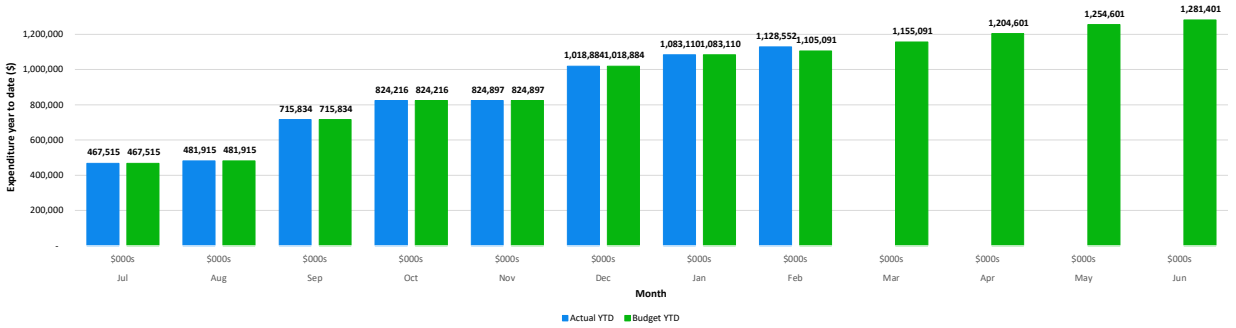
Program has commenced with works on Alawoona Avenue complete. Works on Raglan Avenue are in progress.



Irrigation

Monthly Comment

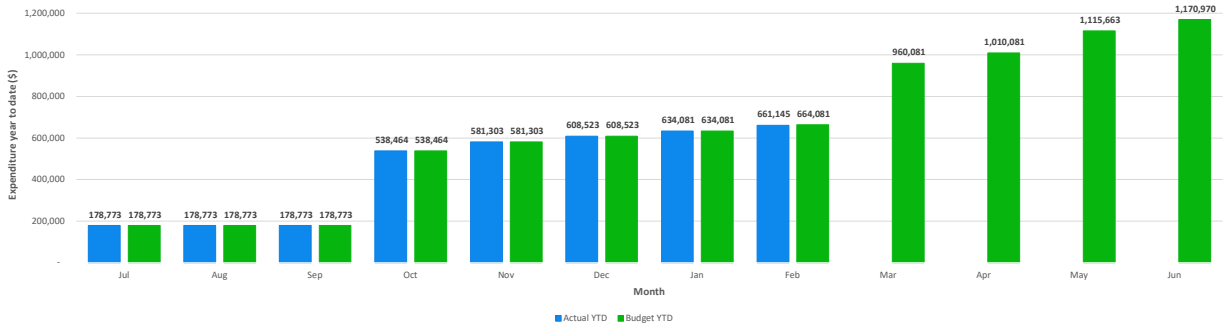
Program has commenced with works on Seacliff Golf Course 95% complete, the remaining projects in this program are complete.



Wetlands

Monthly Comment

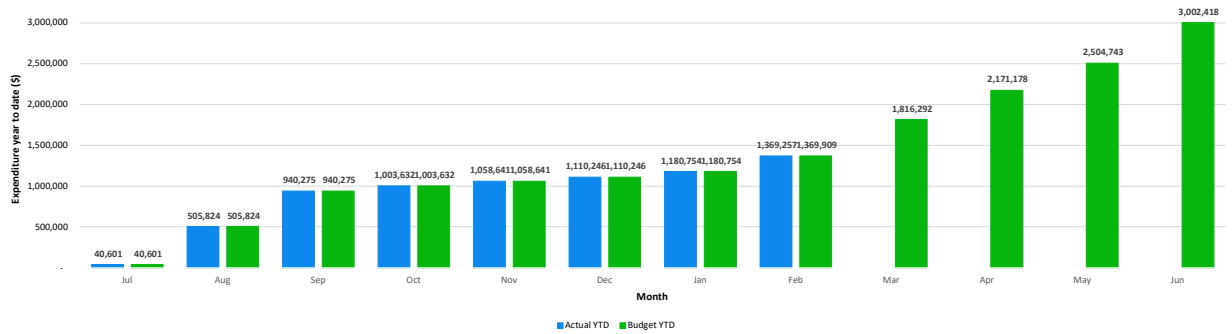
Program in progress with works 70% complete. Works on the Golf Park Pipes anticipated to be completed by end of March. Remaining projects in the program are anticipated to commence in March/April.



Open Space Developments

Monthly Comment

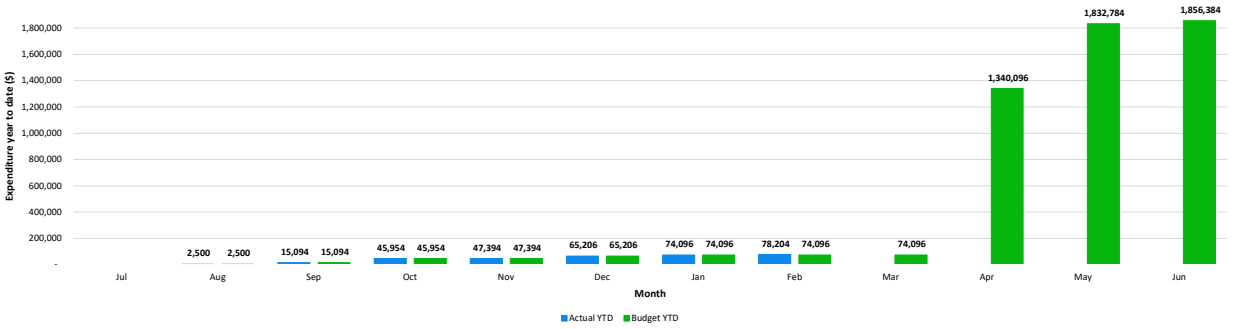
Program has commenced with works on Graham Watts Reserve, Roy Lander Reserve & Elizabeth Ryan Reserve in Progress. A number of projects in this program are in the planning and design stages.



Sports Facilities and Courts

Monthly Comment

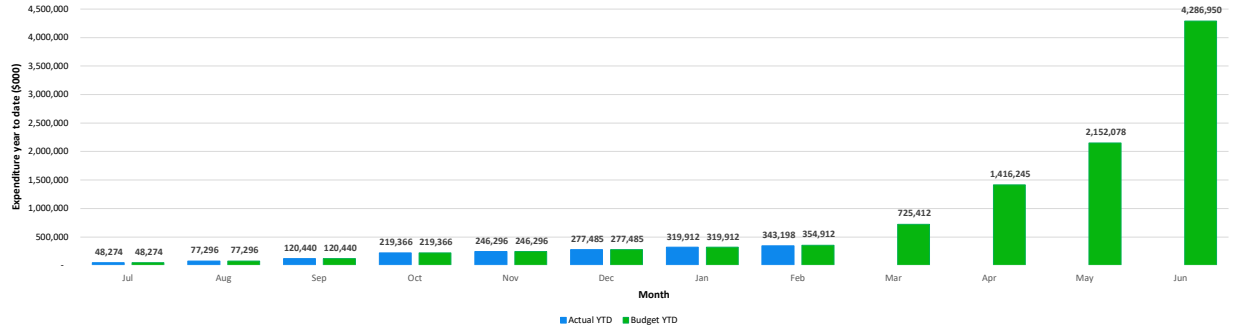
Program is in progress with draft concepts for Hazelmere Reserve Court Lighting and Morphettville Park Tennis Clubrooms being reviewed. Works at Southern Soccer Facility have commenced.



Building Upgrades

Monthly Comment

Program has commenced with works on MCC Theatre Seating, Marion Outdoor Pool Chlorine Dosing Upgrade, Trott Park Neighbourhood Centre Electrical Trenching & Building Security System (Admin, Cove Civic Centre & Fairford House) complete. Contracts have been awarded for EV Stations at Admin & City Services with commencement anticipated March/April. A number of projects in this program are in the preliminary stages.



Marino Hall Upgrade

	2024-25 Actual YTD	2024-25 Budget	Project Cost At Completion
Income			
State Government Grant Contribution			500,000
Commomwealth Government Grant Contribution		600,000	3,000,000
Total Income	**-**	**600,000**	**3,500,000**
Expenditure			
Operating	-	-	-
Capital Construction	(3,695,936)	(6,280,197)	(8,392,744)
Total Expenditure	**(3,695,936)**	**(6,280,197)**	**(8,392,744)**
Project Result Surplus/(Deficit)	**(3,695,936)**	**(5,680,197)**	**(4,892,744)**

The remaining $4.893M of project funding required will be funded by Council.

Council have received the State Governments contribution to this project and $2.400M of the Commonwealth contribution

Sundry Debtors Report - Ageing report as at 28 February 2025

Appendix 3

Debtor	Total Balance	Current	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	90+ Days	Percentage of total 90+ day balance	Comments for 90+ Day balances
General Total	**25,275.60**	**9,597.65**	**2,502.00**	**3,020.00**	**.00**	**10,155.95**	12%	Made up of 2 out of 14 debtors. Two accounts totalling $10,155.95 are being worked through with the debt collector.
Neighbourhood Centres Total	**78.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**78.00**	0%	Made up of 2 debtors, with both being individually insignificant. One Account is being worked through with the debtor.
Regulatory Services Land Clearing Total	**16,843.75**	**14,973.75**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**1,870.00**	2%	Made up of 1 out of 9 debtors. This account is in the process of being transferred to their rates account.
City Property - Leased Facilities Total	**165,107.73**	**74,265.45**	**5,624.15**	**33,222.38**	**3,521.41**	**48,474.34**	59%	Made up of 2 out of 25 debtors. Both of these accounts are on payment plans, payments of $668.85 have subsequently been received in March.
City Property - Sporting Facilities Total	**4,970.90**	**.00**	**4,970.90**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Civil Services Private Works Total	**68,148.43**	**48,490.00**	**3,950.00**	**4,547.50**	**.00**	**11,160.93**	14%	Made up of 9 out of 28 debtors. Eight accounts totalling $10,460.93 are on payment plants, payments of $175.00 have subsequently been received in March. One account totalling $700.00 is being worked through with the debt collector.
Swim Centre Debtors Total	**17,868.86**	**12,692.96**	**5,175.90**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Environmental Health Inspections Total	**21,832.20**	**5,327.00**	**864.00**	**2,490.00**	**2,592.00**	**10,559.20**	13%	Made up of 60 out of 121 debtors, with none individually significant. One acocunt totalling $40.00 has subsequently been settled in March.
Marion Cultural Centre Total	**444.00**	**.00**	**180.00**	**.00**	**182.00**	**82.00**	0%	Made up of 1 debtor, this account has subsequently been settled in March.
Local Government Total	**79,024.30**	**41,066.98**	**33,828.86**	**4,128.46**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Total	**399,593.77**	**206,413.79**	**57,095.81**	**47,408.34**	**6,295.41**	**82,380.42**		
Total Aging Profile		**52%**	**14%**	**12%**	**2%**	**21%**		

Category	Description
Employees	Anything that relates to CoM employees.
General	Anything that does not fit into one of the below categories.
Neighbourhood Centres	For hire of rooms in Neighbourhood Centres, etc. - usually charged out at an hourly rate. Also includes cultural workshops and tours.
Regulatory Services Land Clearing	When council has had to clear land due to non-compliance of owner.
Sporting Clubs & Other Leases	Rent, electricity, water, maintenance, etc. charged out to lessees.
Civil Services Private Works	Repairs or modifications to infrastructure (footpaths, kerbs, driveway inverts). Can be at resident request.
Swim Centre Debtors	Outdoor Swimming Centre - used for lane hire, school visits, etc.
Grants & Subsidies	Government grants and subsidies.
Environmental Health Inspections	Food Inspection fees.
Regulatory Services Other	Vehicle Impoundment fees and other regulatory services.
Supplier Refunds	Where a supplier owes the City of Marion funds. This category is used to keep track to ensure we have received payment for credits.
Development Services	Includes contribution from residents and/or developers for the removal and/or replacement of Council Street Trees and significant trees.
Living Kaurna Cultural Centre	Relates to programs run through the LKCC.
Environmental Health Testing	Environmental testing fees.
Local Government	Transactions with other Local Government corporations.
Communications	Anything related to communications.
Economic Development	Events, etc. relating to economic development within the City of Marion.
Marion Cultural Centre	Hiring of the Marion Cultural Centre.

*any category that does not have any outstanding invoices will not be displayed.

Rates Report - Collection of Rates to 28 February 2025

ANALYSIS OF OUTSTANDING RATES AS AT 28 FEBRUARY 2025

	Note			% of Total Annual Rates
CURRENT	1	$	30,446,645	32.1%
OVERDUE	2	$	436,557	0.5%
ARREARS	3	$	1,949,735	2.1%
INTEREST	4	$	218,350	0.2%
POSTPONED	5	$	285,154	0.3%
LEGALS	6	$	16,184	0.0%
		$	**33,352,625**	**35.2%**
TOTAL ANNUAL RATES FOR 2024/25		**$**	**94,809,117**	

Note 1: Current
Current rates represent the total amount of rates levied in the current financial year that are not yet due for payment. For example at 1st January this represents Quarter 3 & Quarter 4 rates unpaid.

Note 2: Overdue
Overdue rates represent rates levied in the current financial year that remain unpaid past their due payment date. For example on 1st January, this represents rates from Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 that remain unpaid.

Note 3: Arrears
Rates in arrears represent rates and charges levied in previous financial years that remain unpaid .

Note 4: Interest
Interest represent the fines and interest applied to overdue rates and rates in arrears.

Note 5: Postponed
Postponed rates represent any rates amount due by seniors that have been granted a deferral, until the eventual sale of their property, as allowable under the Local Government Act. Interest is charged on these deferred rates and is recoverable when the property is sold.

Note 6: Legals
Legals represent any legal fees, court costs that have been incurred by Council in the collection of rates in the current financial year. These amounts represent costs that have been on-charged to the defaulting ratepayers and are currently outstanding.

13.4 Finance Report - March 2025	
Report Reference	GC250422R13.4
Originating Officer	Assistant Financial Accountant – Kaedan O'Neill
Corporate Manager	Chief Financial Officer – Ray Barnwell
General Manager	General Manager Corporate Services – Tony Lines

REPORT OBJECTIVE

This report provides Council with information relating to the management of financial resources under its control as of March 2025. This report is one of a series of reports designed to assist Council in achieving and maintaining a financially sustainable position. Other reports assisting in this process include the Quarterly Budget Reviews and the Long-Term Financial Plan.

This report includes financial information regarding major projects. The principles used for the assessment of reportable projects are:

- Council has agreed to proceed with the project and approved a Prudential Report under Section 48 of the *Local Government Act* 1999.
- The Whole-of-Life Cost is greater than $5.4 million dollars (including grant assisted projects).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Notes the report.**

DISCUSSION

This report is presented on a regular basis to provide Council Members with key financial information to assist in monitoring Council's financial performance against budget.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Funding Statement - Actual versus Budget March 25 [**13.4.1** - 3 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Capital Works March 25 [**13.4.2** - 6 pages]
3. Attachment 3 - Sundry Debtors & Rates March 25 [**13.4.3** - 2 pages]

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APPENDIX 1

Funding Statement – Actual versus Budget

The Funding Statement provides a view of Council's financial performance against the approved budget and is consistent with the information provided at budget reviews. It provides a review against all of the elements contained within the Statement of Comprehensive Income and the Statement of Financial Position that are adopted as part of the Annual Budget Report. It details Council's:

Statement of Comprehensive Income -

The operating result is recognised as one of Council's key financial indicators. The budget framework includes a commitment to its ongoing Financial Sustainability maintaining an Operating Surplus Ratio of between 0% and 10%, on average over each five-year period, which for 2024-2025 means a targeted operating surplus of between $0 and $11.604M.

Comment: Council currently has a net operating surplus result of $2.343M before capital revenues, against a year to date forecast operating surplus budget of $2.849M. The 2024-2025 annual budget forecasts a net cash surplus of $1.205M. This position is detailed in the attached Funding Statement and variation notes.

Capital Budget - $49.039M

The Capital Budget is linked to Council's key financial indicator – "Asset Renewal Funding Ratio" and an actual to budget comparison reflects Council's progress in achieving its Capital program.

Comment: The actual to budget position reveals that 80.23% of the year to date Capital Renewal Budget has been spent.

Loans -

The loans component of the Funding Statement identifies any new proposed loan receipts or principal payments. Council's borrowings are included in Council's key financial indicator – "Net Financial Liabilities" which reflects Council's total indebtedness.

Comment: $13.986M of new borrowings and $0.309M of principal repayment are budgeted for 2024-2025, meaning that the overall loan liability balance is forecast to increase by $13.677M to $15.435M by 30 June 2025. To date this loan has not been required.

Cash will be utilised to fund expenditure within the context of Treasury Management to ensure loans are not drawn down where temporary cash holdings are available.

Reserves & Cash -

Various fund movements such as surplus budget review results, unspent grants and carryover projects at year end are reflected as transfers to reserves, whilst utilisation of reserve funds are recognised as transfers from reserves.

Comment: Council's adopted budget for 2024-2025 includes Transfer to Reserves of $0.852M and Transfers from Reserves of $15.064M, after accounting for amounts quarantined for specific projects or works, the below funds are available for use for the following purposes:

Asset Sustainability Reserve (ASR)	$2.573M
Open Space Reserve	$2.132M
Total	**$4.705M**

The net budgeted transfer from reserves for 2024-2025 is $14.211M.

The 2024-2025 2nd Budget Review forecasts a net cash surplus of $1.205M.

Funding Statement
as at 31 March 2025

Original Adopted Budget $'000	Carryovers $'000	Budget Review Adjustments $'000		YTD Actual $'000	YTD Budget $'000	YTD Variance $'000		Annual Budget $'000	Note
			Operating Revenue						
94,823	-	66	**Rates**	71,139	71,115	23	F	94,889	
2,738	-	90	**Statutory Charges**	2,339	2,275	63	F	2,828	
4,164	-	254	**User Charges**	3,853	3,673	180	F	4,418	A
9,174	69	1,341	**Operating Grants & Subsidies**	9,401	9,563	(162)	U	10,584	B
300	-	103	**Investment Income**	472	481	(9)	U	403	
1,020	-	162	**Reimbursements**	752	693	60	F	1,182	
668	122	301	**Other Revenues**	391	559	(168)	U	1,091	C
645	-	-	**Net gain - Equity Accounted Investments**	-	-	-	-	645	
113,533	**191**	**2,316**		**88,347**	**88,360**	**(13)**	**U**	**116,040**	
			Operating Expenses						
46,610	-	800	**Employee Costs**	34,939	35,073	135	F	47,410	D
30,533	3,128	1,783	**Contractual Services**	22,945	22,409	(536)	U	35,444	E
6,460	-	693	**Materials**	4,271	4,248	(23)	U	7,153	
359	-	(74)	**Finance Charges**	50	50	-	-	285	
21,100	-	2,683	**Depreciation**	17,688	17,688	-	-	23,783	
8,385	-	213	**Other Expenses**	6,111	6,042	(69)	U	8,598	
113,447	**3,128**	**6,099**		**86,005**	**85,510**	**(493)**	**U**	**122,673**	
86	**(2,937)**	**(3,782)**	**Operating Surplus/(Deficit) before Capital Revenues**	**2,343**	**2,849**	**(506)**	**U**	**(6,633)**	
			Capital Revenue						
2,642	2,293	557	**Capital Grants & Subsidies**	1,256	1,256	-	-	5,492	
-	-	-	**Contributed Assets**	40	40	-	-	-	
2,642	**2,293**	**557**		**1,296**	**1,296**	**-**	**-**	**5,492**	
2,727	**(644)**	**(3,224)**	**Net Surplus/(Deficit) resulting from operations**	**3,639**	**4,146**	**(506)**	**U**	**(1,141)**	
21,100	-	2,683	***add*** **Depreciation**	17,688	17,688	-		23,783	
(645)	-	-	***less*** **Share of Profit Equity Accounted Investment**	-	-	-		(645)	
23,182	**(644)**	**(541)**	**Funding available for Capital Investment**	**21,327**	**21,834**	**(506)**	**U**	**21,997**	
			Capital						
15,314	1,765	(1,672)	***less*** **Capital Expenditure - Renewal**	6,918	8,623	1,705	F	15,407	F
19,488	11,078	3,066	***less*** **Capital Expenditure - New**	13,177	15,208	2,031	F	33,632	G
-	-	-	***less*** **Capital - Contributed assets**	40	-	40	U	-	
(353)	-	(7)	***add*** **Proceeds from Sale of Assets**	(405)	(360)	46	F	(360)	
(11,266)	**(13,487)**	**(1,929)**	**Net funding increase/(decrease)**	**1,597**	**(1,638)**	**3,235**	**F**	**(26,682)**	
			Funded by						
			Loans						
9,500	-	4,486	**Loan Principal Receipts (Net)**	-	-	-		13,986	
(657)	-	349	**Loan Principal Repayments**	(152)	(152)	-		(309)	
8,843	**-**	**4,835**	**Loan Funding (Net)**	**(152)**	**(152)**	**-**		**13,678**	
			Movement in level of cash, investments and accruals						
49	-	1,156	**Cash Surplus/(Deficit) funding requirements**	16,420	13,185	3,235		1,205	
(2,473)	(13,487)	1,749	**Reserves Net - Transfer to/(Transfer from)**	(14,975)	(14,975)	-		(14,211)	
(2,424)	**(13,487)**	**2,905**	**Cash/Investments/Accruals Funding**	**1,445**	**(1,790)**	**3,235**		**(13,006)**	
11,266	**13,487**	**1,929**	**Funding Transactions**	**(1,597)**	**1,638**	**(3,235)**	**F**	**26,682**	H

Variation Notes

	Category	Variance - Favourable/ (Unfavourable)	Variance - Budget Timing	Comment
A	**User Charges** Favourable $180k		$180k	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			$180k	
B	**Operating Grants & Subsidies** Unfavourable ($162k)		($234k)	Reflects budget timing in relation to the receipt of CHSP funding.
			$72k	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			($162k)	
C	**Other Revenues** Unfavourable ($168k)		($165k)	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			($165k)	
D	**Employee Costs** Favourable $135k		$135k	Predominantly reflects budget-timing variances in addition to a higher vacancy rate than forecast.
			$135k	
E	**Contractual Services** Unfavourable ($536k)		($413k)	Relates to the classification of budget between operating and capital for the Southern Soccer 4th Pitch.
			($135k)	Reflects budget-timing with regards to Annual IT Licenses paid in advance.
			$12k	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			($536k)	
F	**Capital Expenditure - Renewal** Favourable $1,705k		$376k	Reflects budget timing relating to the Warradale Tennis Club Upgrade.
			$291k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Buildings projects.
			$284k	Reflects budget timing relating to purhcases for the Vehicle replacement program.
			$256k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Wetlands projects.
			$211k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Road reseal projects.
			$205k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Stormwater works.
			$82k	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			$1,705k	
G	**Capital Expenditure - New** Favourable $2,031k		$1,227k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Marino Hall Upgrade.
			$576k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Raglan Avenue Streetscape Upgrade.
			$373k	Reflects budget timing with regards to Marion Golf Park Clubroom.
			($145k)	Relates to a number of variances which are individually insignificant.
			$2,031k	
H	**Funding Transactions** Favourable $3,235k		**$3,188k**	This variance is the sum total of all variances and reflects an increase against council's expected YTD cash position.

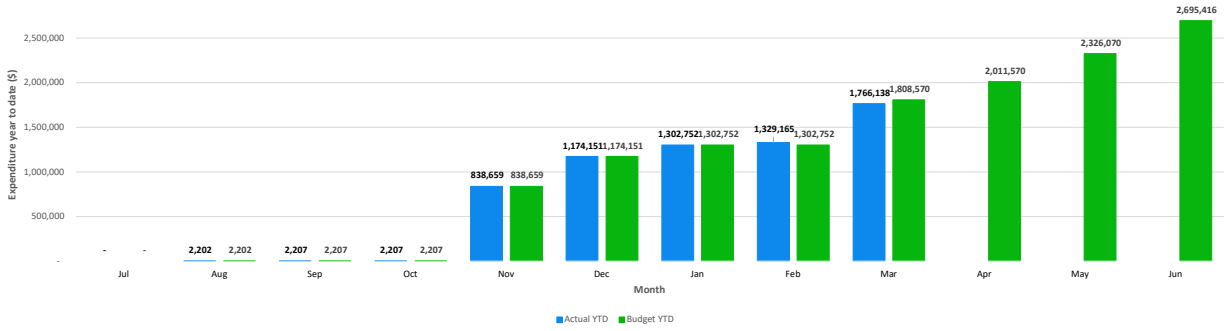
The above comments referring to budget timing variations are where some monthly budget estimates are not reflective of the actual expenditure patterns as at reporting date.

Funding Transactions
This variance is the sum total of all variances and reflects an increase against council's expected YTD cash position.

Road Reseal

Monthly Comment

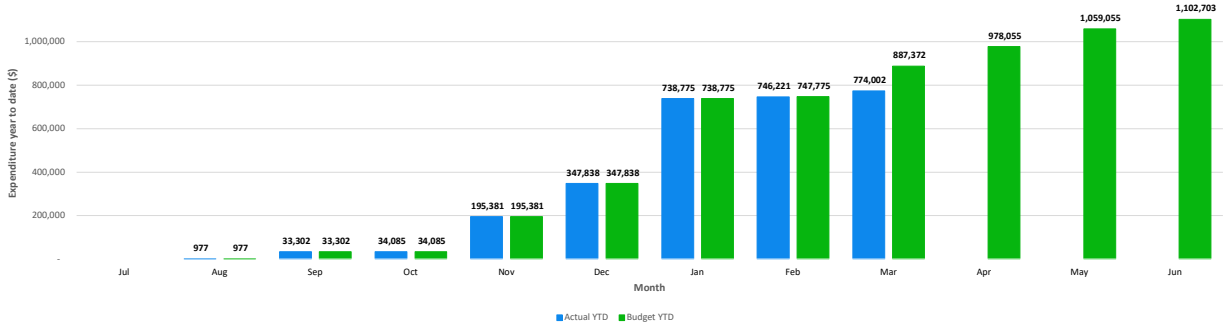
Program in progress with works 70% complete. Works on Acacia Street & Cedar Avenue anticipated to commence in April.



Kerb and Water Table

Monthly Comment

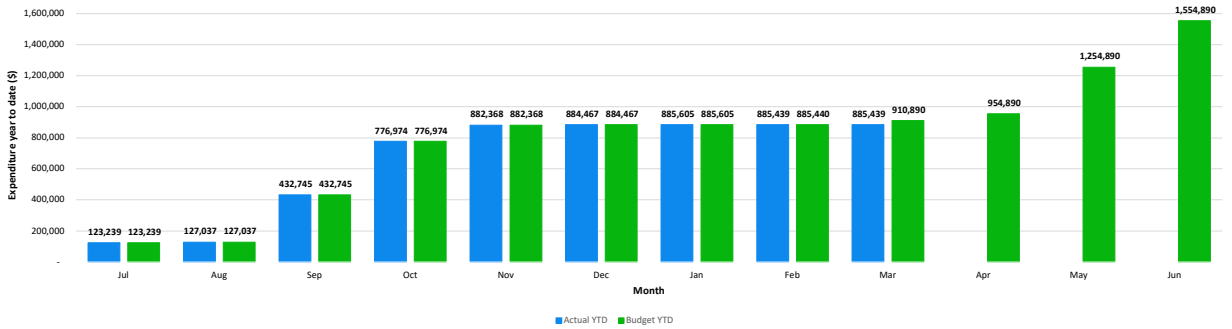
Program in progress and on track with works 80% complete.



New Footpath Construction

Monthly Comment

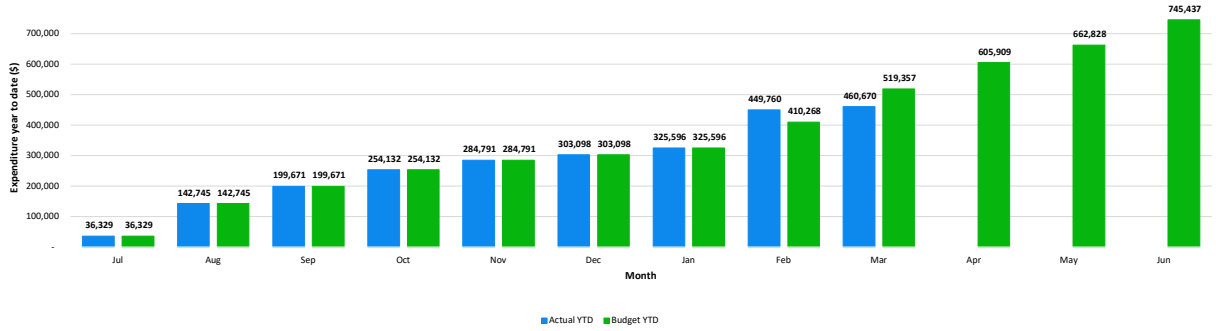
Program in progress with works 60% complete. Preliminary works on Sampson Road have commenced. Quotes in relation to works at Berrima/Patpa Staircase are currently being reviewed.



Renewal Footpath Construction

Monthly Comment

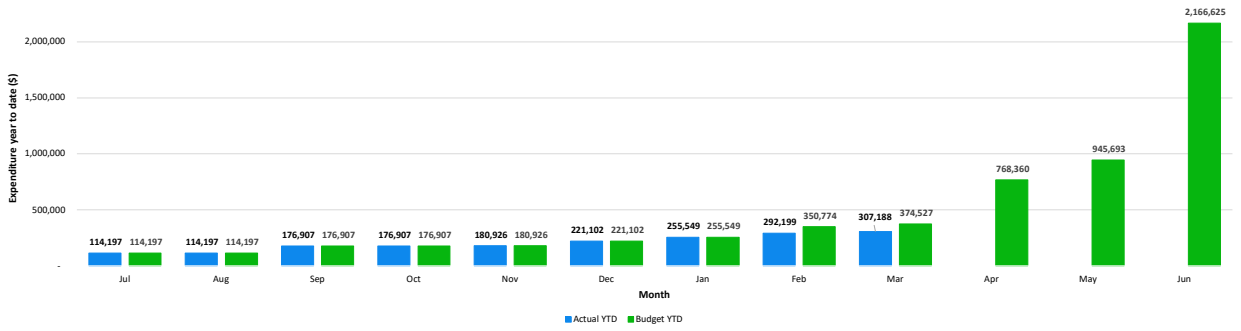
Program in progress with works 60% complete. Works on Beadnall Terrace and Thomas Street are in progress, while works on Sturt River Linear Park & Spinks Road are anticipated to commence April.



Transport

Monthly Comment

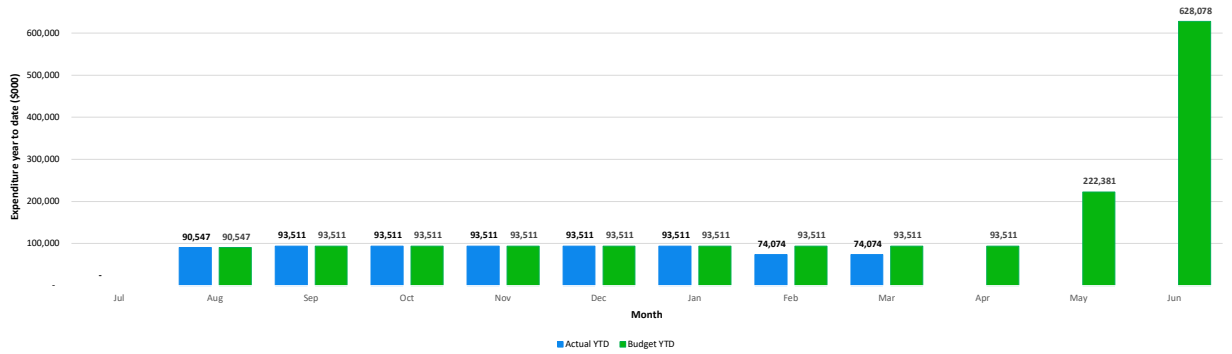
Program is in progress with works at Our Lady of Grace School as well as construction of Traffic Control Devices have now commenced. Tender process underway for Hugh Johnson Reserve & Mostyn Road.



Car Parks

Monthly Comment

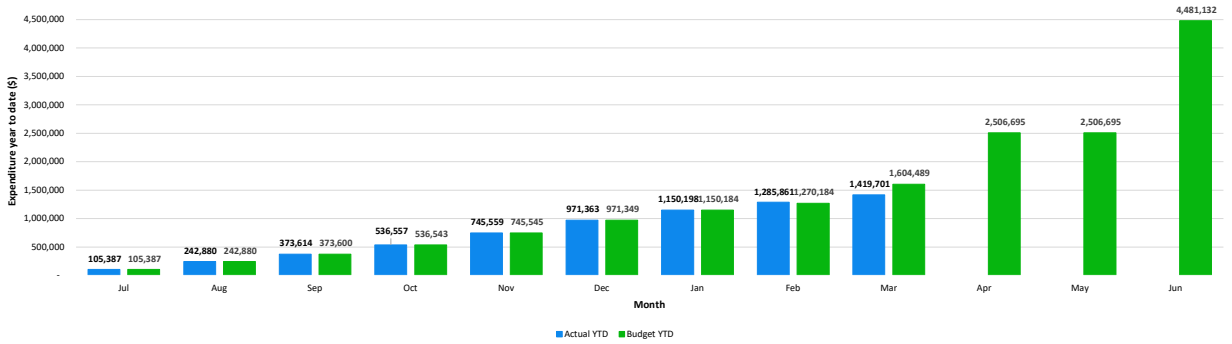
Program is in progress with Boat Shed car park & accessway and Alawoona Reserve car park complete. Tendering in process for works at Moreland Avenue car park.



Stormwater

Monthly Comment

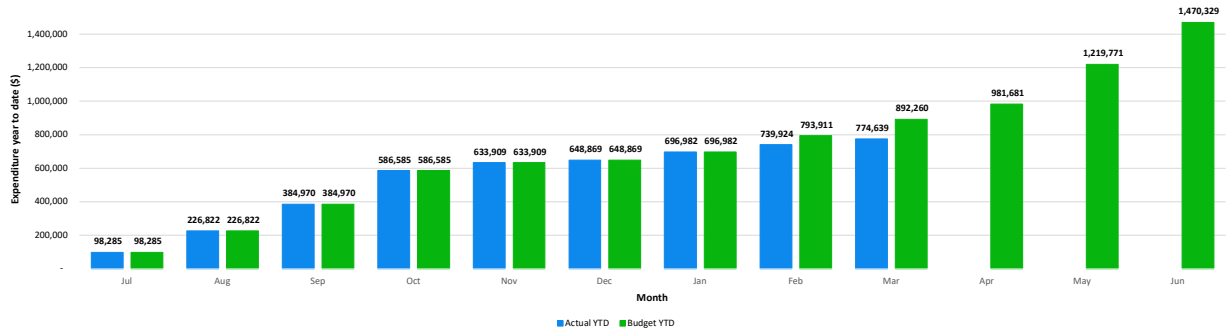
Program in progress with works on Beadnall Terrace in Progress. Tender evaluation in progress for works at Coolah Terrace.



Street Trees

Monthly Comment

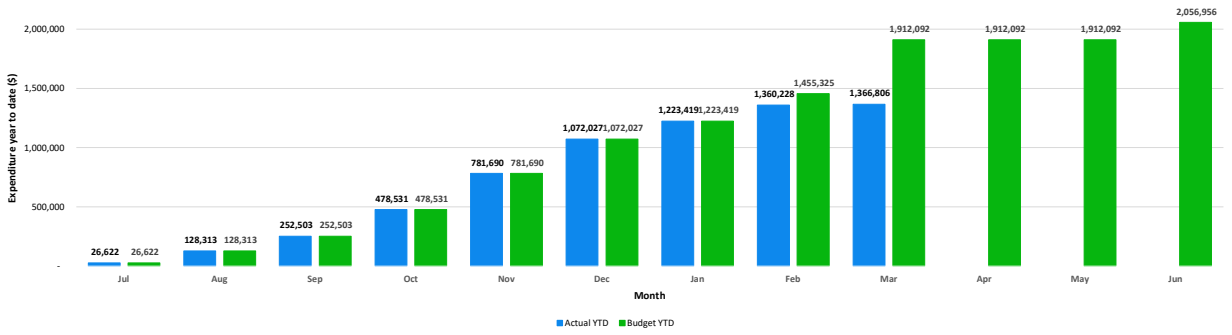
Program in progress with 2,700 street trees planted. This program is on track. Planting will recommence in May.



Streetscapes

Monthly Comment

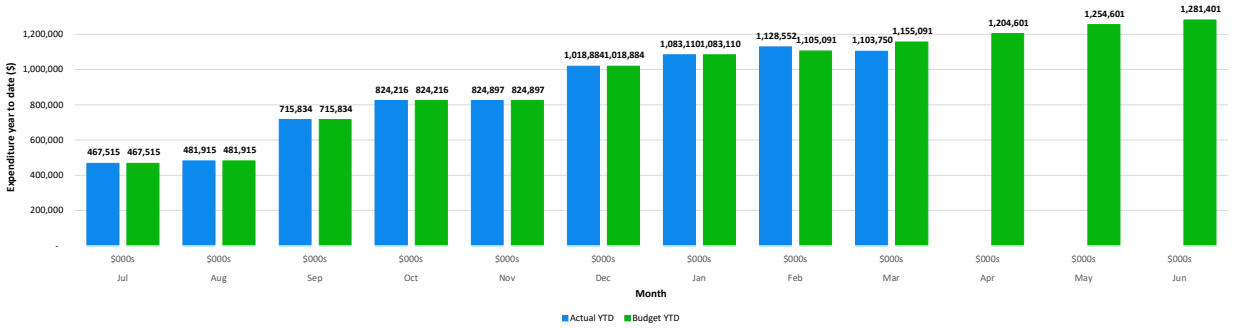
Program has commenced with works on Alawoona Avenue complete. Works on Raglan Avenue are in progress.



Irrigation

Monthly Comment

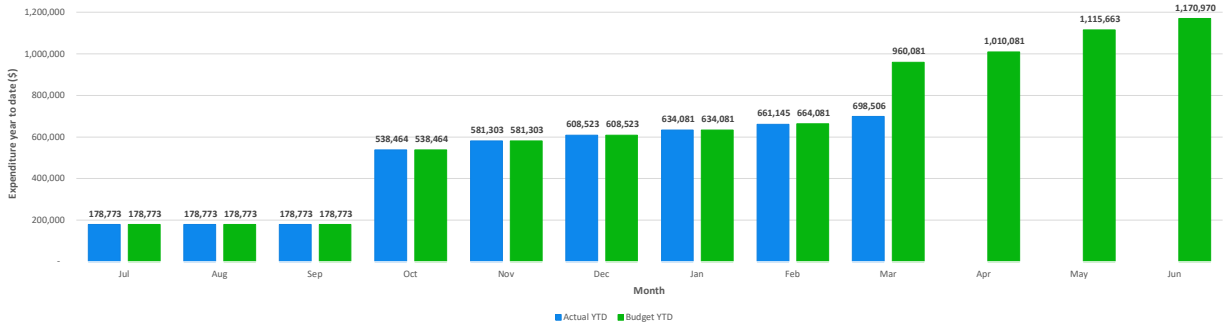
Program has commenced with works on Seacliff Golf Course 95% complete, the remaining projects in this program are complete.



Wetlands

Monthly Comment

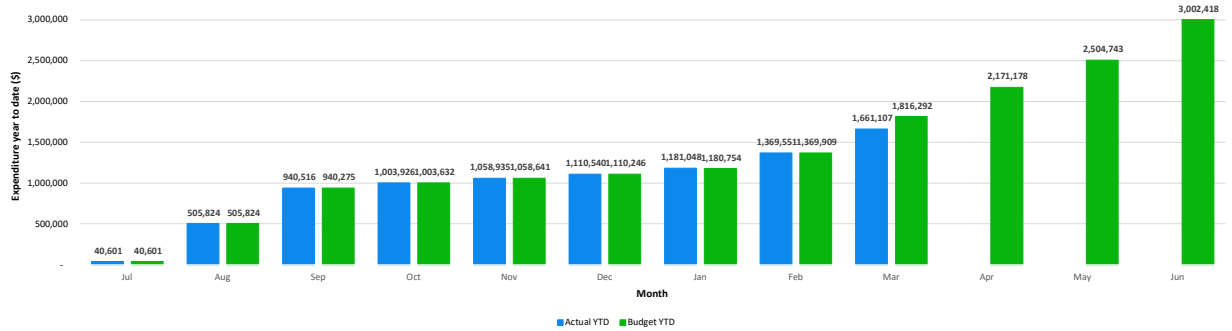
Program in progress with works 70% complete. Program is on track to be completed by end of financial year.



Open Space Developments

Monthly Comment

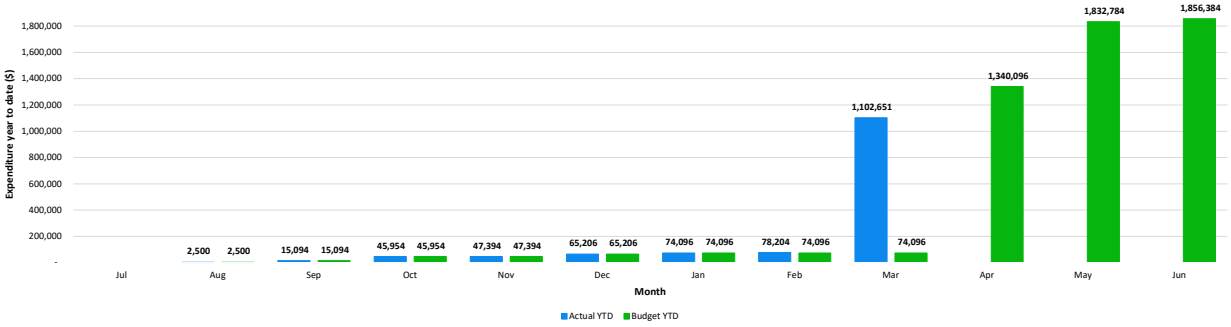
Program has commenced with works on Graham Watts Reserve, Roy Lander Reserve & Elizabeth Ryan Reserve in Progress. A number of projects in this program are in the planning and design stages.



Sports Facilities and Courts

Monthly Comment

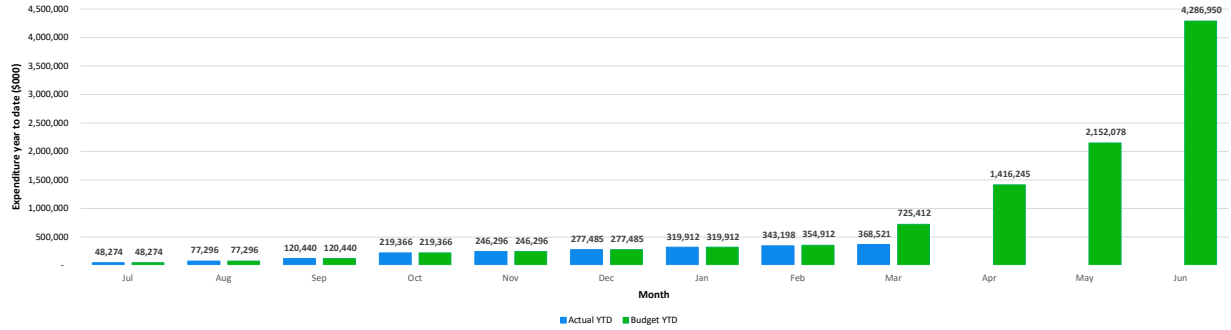
Program is in progress with draft concepts for Hazelmere Reserve Court Lighting and Morphettville Park Tennis Clubrooms being reviewed. Works at Southern Soccer Facility have commenced.
Two payments in relation to the Southern Soccer Facility of approx. $500k each were made earlier than expected at the end of March which are budgeted for in April.



Building Upgrades

Monthly Comment

Program has commenced with works on MCC Theatre Seating, Marion Outdoor Pool Chlorine Dosing Upgrade, Trott Park Neighbourhood Centre Electrical Trenching & Building Security System (Admin, Cove Civic Centre & Fairford House) complete. Works on the EV Stations at Admin & City Services have commenced. A number of projects in this program are in the preliminary stages.



Marino Hall Upgrade

	2024-25 Actual YTD	2024-25 Budget	Project Cost At Completion
Income			
State Government Grant Contribution			500,000
Commomwealth Government Grant Contribution		600,000	3,000,000
Total Income	**-**	**600,000**	**3,500,000**
Expenditure			
Operating	-	-	-
Capital Construction	(4,001,668)	(6,280,197)	(8,392,744)
Total Expenditure	**(4,001,668)**	**(6,280,197)**	**(8,392,744)**
Project Result Surplus/(Deficit)	**(4,001,668)**	**(5,680,197)**	**(4,892,744)**

The remaining $4.893M of project funding required will be funded by Council.

Council have received the State Governments contribution to this project and $2.400M of the Commonwealth contribution

Sundry Debtors Report - Ageing report as at 31 March 2025

Appendix 3

Debtor	Total Balance	Current	30 Days	60 Days	90 Days	90+ Days	Percentage of total 90+ day balance	Comments for 90+ Day balances
General Total	**24,905.60**	**10,067.65**	**.00**	**2,502.00**	**2,180.00**	**10,155.95**	12%	Made up of 2 out of 14 debtors. Two accounts totalling $10,155.95 are being worked through with the debt collector.
Neighbourhood Centres Total	**33.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**33.00**	0%	Made up of 1 debtor, which is individually insignificant.
Regulatory Services Land Clearing Total	**16,348.75**	**6,888.75**	**7,590.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**1,870.00**	2%	Made up of 1 out of 6 debtors. This account is in the process of being transferred to their rates account.
City Property - Leased Facilities Total	**396,482.13**	**304,469.68**	**9,993.98**	**5,121.94**	**29,007.13**	**47,889.40**	58%	Made up of 3 out of 43 debtors. Two accounts totalling $47,373.05 are on payment plans. One account totalling $516.35 has subsequently been settled in April.
City Property - Sporting Facilities Total	**5,094.58**	**123.68**	**.00**	**4,970.90**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Civil Services Private Works Total	**65,700.93**	**40,770.00**	**7,510.00**	**3,950.00**	**2,847.50**	**10,623.43**	13%	Made up of 9 out of 25 debtors. Eight accounts totalling $9,923.43 are on payment plants. One account totalling $700.00 is being worked through with the debt collector.
Swim Centre Debtors Total	**42,455.16**	**28,599.80**	**8,679.46**	**5,175.90**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Grants & Subsidies Total	**602,600.90**	**602,600.90**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Environmental Health Inspections Total	**18,905.50**	**2,593.00**	**1,008.00**	**720.00**	**2,088.00**	**12,496.50**	15%	Made up of 70 out of 105 debtors, with none individually significant.
Marion Cultural Centre Total	**260.00**	**260.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Local Government Total	**65,900.10**	**41,066.98**	**.00**	**24,833.12**	**.00**	**.00**	0%	
Total	**1,238,686.65**	**1,037,440.44**	**34,781.44**	**47,273.86**	**36,122.63**	**83,068.28**		
Total Aging Profile		**84%**	**3%**	**4%**	**3%**	**7%**		

Category	Description
Employees	Anything that relates to CoM employees.
General	Anything that does not fit into one of the below categories.
Neighbourhood Centres	For hire of rooms in Neighbourhood Centres, etc. - usually charged out at an hourly rate. Also includes cultural workshops and tours.
Regulatory Services Land Clearing	When council has had to clear land due to non-compliance of owner.
Sporting Clubs & Other Leases	Rent, electricity, water, maintenance, etc. charged out to lessees.
Civil Services Private Works	Repairs or modifications to infrastructure (footpaths, kerbs, driveway inverts). Can be at resident request.
Swim Centre Debtors	Outdoor Swimming Centre - used for lane hire, school visits, etc.
Grants & Subsidies	Government grants and subsidies.
Environmental Health Inspections	Food Inspection fees.
Regulatory Services Other	Vehicle Impoundment fees and other regulatory services.
Supplier Refunds	Where a supplier owes the City of Marion funds. This category is used to keep track to ensure we have received payment for credits.
Development Services	Includes contribution from residents and/or developers for the removal and/or replacement of Council Street Trees and significant trees.
Living Kaurna Cultural Centre	Relates to programs run through the LKCC.
Environmental Health Testing	Environmental testing fees.
Local Government	Transactions with other Local Government corporations.
Communications	Anything related to communications.
Economic Development	Events, etc. relating to economic development within the City of Marion.
Marion Cultural Centre	Hiring of the Marion Cultural Centre.

*any category that does not have any outstanding invoices will not be displayed.

Rates Report - Collection of Rates to 31 March 2025

ANALYSIS OF OUTSTANDING RATES AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	Note			% of Total Annual Rates
CURRENT	1	$	20,333,173	21.4%
OVERDUE	2	$	385,083	0.4%
ARREARS	3	$	1,867,448	2.0%
INTEREST	4	$	223,411	0.2%
POSTPONED	5	$	293,012	0.3%
LEGALS	6	$	16,102	0.0%
		$	**23,118,229**	24.4%
TOTAL ANNUAL RATES FOR 2024/25		**$**	**94,809,117**	

Note 1: Current
Current rates represent the total amount of rates levied in the current financial year that are not yet due for payment. For example at 1st January this represents Quarter 3 & Quarter 4 rates unpaid.

Note 2: Overdue
Overdue rates represent rates levied in the current financial year that remain unpaid past their due payment date. For example on 1st January, this represents rates from Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 that remain unpaid.

Note 3: Arrears
Rates in arrears represent rates and charges levied in previous financial years that remain unpaid .

Note 4: Interest
Interest represent the fines and interest applied to overdue rates and rates in arrears.

Note 5: Postponed
Postponed rates represent any rates amount due by seniors that have been granted a deferral, until the eventual sale of their property, as allowable under the Local Government Act. Interest is charged on these deferred rates and is recoverable when the property is sold.

Note 6: Legals
Legals represent any legal fees, court costs that have been incurred by Council in the collection of rates in the current financial year. These amounts represent costs that have been on-charged to the defaulting ratepayers and are currently outstanding.

14 Workshop / Presentation Items - Nil

15 Motions With Notice

15.1 Irrigation of Council Reserves	
Report Reference	GC250422M15.1
Council Member	Councillor – Ian Crossland

MOTION

That Council

1. **Agrees to improve 53 public reserves owned by the City of Marion (*identified in Annexure A*) over the next 6 years with a combination of irrigation, natural landscaping and biodiversity.**

2. **Allocates funding of $500,000 in the 2025-2026 budget towards the design phase and $1.5m of funding in each of the next 5 years (2026 to 2031).**

3. **Notes that the biodiversity vegetation will be funded through biodiversity plan funds.**

4. **Notes that on completion of all 53 reserves the ongoing annual operational cost is estimated to be $700,000.**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The City of Marion currently has 53 reserves across council which are largely unusable. Our Open Space team have assessed these reserves and confirmed that they can be activated and improved with a combination of irrigation, natural landscaping and biodiversity.

Reference to the value of open space features in: -

City of Mation Strategic Plan 2024 – 2034 'A livable, sustainable community.'

- *We will create and maintain safe, attractive and accessible public places and facilities.*
- *We protect, restore and connect to the natural environment, building resilience to climate change.*
- *We will create and maintain safe, attractive and accessible public places and facilities.*

The Toward 2040...Together

In summary, the community have told council that they would like a green, sustainable, safe and liveable city that is accessible, inclusive, friendly, walkable, and socially connected. What's important is that council focus on core services, increasing tree canopy, environmental protection, more walking and cycling paths… and improving community wellbeing.

City of Marion Regional Public Health Plan 2025- 2029

"*A thriving community is built on the health of its individuals. We will do what we reasonably can to encourage healthy minds and healthy hearts*." Mayor Kris Hanna

Creating supportive physical environments (natural and built)
Responding to issues from the wider society that are affecting the community locally

Community sentiments –

- *Green space is a priority*
- *Climate change is a concern particularly for young people*
- *Trees and green space are valued*
- *Greening initiatives (tree planting and horticulture) are a #1 priority for the environment*
- *Having playgrounds as well as parks, pools and places where everyone can have fun a top priority for children*

In around 2012 the City of Marion deactivated a number of reserves in response to the drought occurring across SA and in accordance with SA Water restrictions. Many reserves have been re-activated however a number still remain without irrigation and are either unsightly or unusable. There are no current plans to activate these reserves.

Without irrigation we unfortunately lost a number of plants including some large trees.

Over the years I have received a number of complaints related to the poor condition of reserves which are not suitable to walk across due to the prickly weeds or have become dusty spaces which emit the same heat as a bitumen road. These complaints are repeated across the council area. In response council has endorsed the value of green spaces and places where everyone can enjoy in a number of strategic plans.

Council is aware that our community values open space and we have received many accolades for our current open spaces and playgrounds currently available across our council area. It is now time for Council to be climate and drought ready and to take action to protect our existing trees and to improve the value of these reserves within the community.

The main project cost is the design and installation of irrigation infrastructure. Our current irrigation team are already stretched and we will require a second irrigation team.

The project management and general reserve designs can be completed by the Open Space team without additional staff.

Part of the ongoing cost will be the additional water used to irrigate the reserves. Initially many reserves will be connected to SA Water, however there will be opportunities and a business case to transition many of these reserves to our own “Oaklands water”

Response Received from	Manager City Activation – Charmaine Hughes
General Manager	General Manager City Development – Ben Keen

STAFF COMMENTS

At the Infrastructure and Environment Committee on 8 April 2025, the following motion was carried:

1. **Note the information on the delivery process and cost implications of expanding the number of open spaces that are irrigated.**

2. **Recommend that Council request that Administration to provide a revised irrigation support tool matrix considering the inclusion of factors such as: demonstrated community demand, availability of purple pipe supply, capital costs, operating costs, current Open Space planning relating to the 53 proposed sites, to be presented at the General Council meeting in June 2025.**

Staff are preparing a report to be presented at the General Council meeting on 24 June 2025. This report will include a revised irrigation decision tool for Council's consideration and inclusion within the Open Space Plan.

For more information, please see below Staff's original response from the deferred motion from 25 March 2025 (GC250325M15.1).

A Landscape Irrigation Management Plan and Irrigation Decision Support tool were established in 2012 in response to drought conditions. The plan enabled the prioritisation of irrigation for the purpose of sport and recreation. Since 2013, other water sources have become available and additional reserves watered due to proximity to alternate Oaklands water.

The Irrigation Framework is currently being reviewed. The review will also align with related strategies including Open Space, Environment Sustainability, Biodiversity and Public Health.

The Open Space Framework and Plan (2024-2034) were endorsed in May last year. Irrigation projects are planned and funded through this 10-year plan. Sites that are funded meet the requirements under Councils Irrigation Decision Support Tool. There are currently 121 irrigated reserves and 124 unirrigated reserves across the City. Of the unirrigated reserves, road verges, traffic islands, biodiversity and other sporting or car parking infrastructure have not been considered, leaving 53 potential sites for irrigation.

Following a commitment by the General Manager, City Development at the January 2025 Planning Day to provide information via email to Members, Administration have progressed the strategic review and analysis of unirrigated reserves, enabling a response to the motion to be provided. Please see attached revised **Appendix A.**

This topic is scheduled to be discussed at an upcoming Infrastructure and Environment Comm ittee meeting on 8 April. Pending Members' preferences, a report could be brought to General Council 22 April 2025 for decision. Noting that a decision at this meeting would enable the project to be included within the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 and Long-Term Financial Plan which are being considered by Council on this date.

Information relating to the financial impact of this work can be found in **Appendix B**. The proposed change in service level for irrigation and landscaping will incur additional forecast spend, with further ongoing costs beyond the proposed 6 years.

If Council wish to defer this item to the Infrastructure an Environment Committee Meeting on 8 April, they may consider the motion below:

That Council:

1. **Notes a report on Irrigation of Council Reserves will be presented to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee Meeting to be held on 8th April 2025.**

2. **Requests a further report be presented to the General Council Meeting on 22 April 2025 for decision.**

ATTACHMENTS

1. Annexure A (53 reserves) [**15.1.1** - 4 pages]
2. Appendix A - Analysis 53 Unirrigated Sites (revised) [**15.1.2** - 4 pages]
3. Appendix B - Financial Impact - Increase in Service Level [**15.1.3** - 2 pages]

MULLAWIRRA WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m2)**	**General Comments**
1. Na Botto Reserve	Morphettville	2,000	1,000	Irrigation will compliment Biodiversity Plan natural landscaping funding.
2. Teesdale Crescent Reserve	Plympton Park	2,300	820	Site could benefit from portion of natural landscaping under existing trees.

WOODLANDS WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Daws Road Reserve	Ascot Park	1,000	1,164	Enhance endorsed in Biodiversity Plan for natural landscaping.
2. Terra Avenue Reserve	Mitchell Park	300	285	Irrigation could enhance Biodiversity Plan for natural landscaping.

WARRACOWIE WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Branksome Terrace Reserve	Dover Gardens	5,000	500	Surrounding area has had increased housing density and would benefit from irrigation, fruit trees dying on site.
2. Kent Avenue Reserve	Warradale	1,833	200	New trees planted would benefit from irrigation and enhance look of shelter.
3. Waratah Square Reserve	Seacombe Gardens	2,000	0	Existing tree canopy and mulched garden beds.

WARRAPARINGA WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Grace Road Land	Darlington	2,000	2,000	In addition to irrigation, add mulch under the trees to provide further natural landscaping.
2. Kensington Street Reserve	Clovelly Park	2,000	0	Existing natural landscaping in detention basin. Irrigation will enhance this space.
3. Nicholas Road Reserve	Marion	1,500	1,500	
4. Tonsley Hall Reserve	Mitchell Park	1,000	500	Detention basin and some natural landscaping already exist. Irrigation would be a small portion of this site.
5. Brabham Straight	Marion	3,000	1,500	Irrigated reserve would look good with seat and pathway. Irrigation would only be a strip amongst the mature existing trees.
6. Brenda Street Reserve	Mitchell Park	1,000	500	Plenty of trees. Looks like an informal path to bus stop through reserve - this could be formalised.
7. Rosefield Lane Reserve	Sturt	500	n/a	Landscaping has recently been completed. The area has been hydroseeded and irrigation will help this area thrive.
8. Vista Street Reserve	Seacombe Heights	5,000	150	Sloping site. Natural landscaping to enhance the existing telescope art seating node. Previous customer requests to have this site irrigated.

COASTAL WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Beeches Road Reserve	Hallett Cove	6,200	265	Natural landscaping site in Biodiversity Plan. Potential for seating.
2. Fairhill Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,900	523	Natural landscaping site in Biodiversity Plan (24/25).
3. Linear Park Reserve	Hallett Cove	6,000	5,000	Natural landscaping for plants under trees. Irrigation - additional water meter needed.
4. Lucretia Way Reserve	Hallett Cove	4,800	2,100	Small flatter area near Lucretia Way suitable to be irrigated for dog walkers. Additional water meter required. Significant existing natural landscaping.
5. Newland Avenue Linear Park	Marino	2,400	1,500	New tree planting and natural landscaping programmed for 2025/26. Other adjacent upgrades (Marino Community Hall, Newland Ave Streetscape, Marino Railway Station).
6. Perry Barr Farm	Hallett Cove	2,900	3,200	Sloping reserve with community garden. Irrigated turf along Madison Ct to provide informal recreation area.
7. Ragamuffin Drive Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,800	1,800	Natural landscaping and revegetation site. Sloping towards waterways.
8. Weerab Drive Railway Corridor / Reserve	Hallett Cove	0	2,100	Remnant native veg site with Kaurna burn program - part of Biodiversity Plan. Railway corridor land suitable for natural landscaping.
9. Zwerner Drive Reserve	Hallett Cove	3,500	3,800	Suggest irrigated turf along shared path for visual amenity.
10. Admella Court Reserve	Hallett Cove	3,000	1,200	Large Reserve. Stormwater pipes centrally through the site. Lower section flatter and greater potential use. No other irrigated areas to the west of the rail line.
11. Arafura Court Reserve	Hallett Cove	0	1,000	Some irrigation would increase casual use, but too steep. Planting would help to stabilise embankments.
12. Gretel Crescent Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,500	0	Could function as connector - Pavana and Shamrock. Underutilised. Potential for irrigation
13. Kalmia Court Reserve	Hallett Cove	0	0	Too steep to function as a connector. Lower section flatter, would only service some
14. Manunda Way Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,800	1,200	The southern section presents opportunities on a local level. It links a series of open spaces along the rail corridor.
15. Newland Avenue Reserve	Marino	0	0	Community Garden. Good tree coverage. Biodiversity planting centrally.
16. Resolute Cresent Reserve	Hallett Cove	600	250	Very small reserve on a minor street. Increase planting to the rear and lawn to the front. Low priority for irrigation due to proximity to Pavana Reserve.
17. Robertson Place Reserve	Marino	1,300	200	Reserve has nice character and planted beds, would benefit from irrigation.
18. Westcliff Reserve	Marino	800	920	Endorsed in Biodiversity Plan for natural landscaping. Irrigation would increase casual use, but catchment is not massive and more biodiversity planting.

SOUTHERN HILLS WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Elura Avenue Reserve	Sheidow Park	800	900	Well established trees. Central section sloping but not too steep for irrigated turf. No shrub planting, but opportunities around edge under canopy.
2. French Crescent Reserve	Trott Park	1,800	1,030	Water meter located near French Crescent side of reserve.
3. Hughes Court Reserve	Trott Park	4,000	1,002	Large basin located in the southern reserve. Decommissioned irrigation system on site.
4. Islington Drive Reserve	Sheidow Park	4,500	4,000	Due to tree density, extensive hydro-vacuuming to install irrigation. Turf maintenance may be difficult due to tree density. Decommissioned irrigation system on site.
5. Matthew Street Reserve	O'Halloran Hill	2,270	2,600	Only area suitable for irrigation would be a very narrow strip adjacent a linear track. Steepness of the site, plus tree density, makes it difficult to irrigate.
6. Percival Crescent Reserve	Trott Park	1,800	3,211	Water meter shown, could not be located on site.
7. Peter Court Reserve	O'Halloran Hill	2,600	2,650	Reserve has an existing kick-about lawn, currently not irrigated.
8. Phyllis Court Reserve	Trott Park	1,500	Retain existing	Decommissioned irrigation system on site. Would be a good reserve to irrigate.
9. Strutt Court Reserve	Trott Park	2,100	1,725	
10. Berrima Road Reserve	Sheidow Park	4,200	2,700	Open area at reserve has a grade of almost 1:6. Irrigation not value for money.
11. Doulton Drive Reserve	Trott Park	2,000	1,500	Most of site has a steep gradient not suitable for recreational use. Stormwater at bottom of reserve. Irrigation proposed to flat area near existing bench seat. May need hydrovac.
12. Heysen Drive Reserve	Trott Park	660	450	No natural landscaping, new trees. Cut through path, sloping site. Could not locate water meter.
13. Hume Street Reserve	Seaview Downs	1,300	200	Small area with natural landscaping and seats. Irrigated grass to complement, next to a kindy.
14. Klippel Ave Reserve	Trott Park	2,500	2,000	Mulched areas under trees, no understorey planting. Large sloping reserve 2 x bench seats.
15. Lander Road Reserve	Trott Park		5,000	Large Road Reserve adjacent to Hugh Johnson Reserve (more than double the size of Hugh Johnson Reserve). Very unlikely as a recreational space. Heavy density of trees, steep layout.
16. Montague Drive Reserve	Sheidow Park	2,000	1,500	Open area, fairly flat, shared use walking trail. Irrigated grass area.
17. Morford Reserve	Sheidow Park		800	Narrow linear trail with new trees, shared use walking path. Large existing trees at East end. Don't recommend irrigated turf, good for Natural Landscaping.
18. Scarvel Avenue Reserve	Trott Park	900	80	Large existing trees, sloping site. Small reserve used as cut through. Has one bench seat at top and some existing natural landscaping.
19. Tyson Avenue Reserve	Trott Park	1,700	1,700	Some large, mulched areas under trees - no understory planting. Large flat area, potentially good reserve for irrigation. Two existing bench seats. Existing tap on site.
20. West Street Reserve B	Seacliff Park	900	800	Large existing trees. Flat area in middle. Sloping site towards the south. Adjacent main road - Ocean Boulevard.

MULLAWIRRA WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m2)**	**General Comments**
1. Na Botto Reserve	Morphettville	2,000	1,000	Irrigation will compliment Biodiversity Plan natural landscaping funding.
2. Teesdale Crescent Reserve	Plympton Park	2,300	820	Site could benefit from portion of natural landscaping under existing trees.

WOODLANDS WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Daws Road Reserve	Ascot Park	1,000	1,164	Enhance endorsed in Biodiversity Plan for natural landscaping.
2. Terra Avenue Reserve	Mitchell Park	300	285	Irrigation could enhance Biodiversity Plan for natural landscaping.

WARRACOWIE WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Branksome Terrace Reserve	Dover Gardens	5,000	500	Surrounding area has had increased housing density and would benefit from irrigation, fruit trees dying on site.
2. Kent Avenue Reserve	Warradale	1,833	200	New trees planted would benefit from irrigation and enhance look of shelter.
3. Waratah Square Reserve	Seacombe Gardens	2,000	0	Existing tree canopy and mulched garden beds.

WARRAPARINGA WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Grace Road Land	Darlington	2,000	2,000	In addition to irrigation, add mulch under the trees to provide further natural landscaping.
2. Kensington Street Reserve	Clovelly Park	2,000	0	Existing natural landscaping in detention basin. Irrigation will enhance this space.
3. Nicholas Road Reserve	Marion	1,500	1,500	A mix of Natural Landscaping and Irrigation across the site, considering mature trees.
4. Tonsley Hall Reserve	Mitchell Park	1,000	500	Detention basin and some natural landscaping already exist. Irrigation would be a small portion of this site.
5. Brabham Straight	Marion	3,000	1,500	Irrigated reserve would look good with seat and pathway. Irrigation would only be a strip amongst the mature existing trees.
6. Brenda Street Reserve	Mitchell Park	1,000	500	Plenty of trees. Looks like an informal path to bus stop through reserve - this could be formalised.
7. Rosefield Lane Reserve	Sturt	500	0	Landscaping has recently been completed. The area has been hydroseeded and irrigation will help this area thrive.
8. Vista Street Reserve	Seacombe Heights	5,000	150	Sloping site. Natural landscaping to enhance the existing telescope art seating node. Previous customer requests to have this site irrigated.

COASTAL WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Beeches Road Reserve	Hallett Cove	6,200	265	Natural landscaping site in Biodiversity Plan. Potential for seating.
2. Fairhill Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,900	523	Natural landscaping site in Biodiversity Plan (24/25).
3. Linear Park Reserve	Hallett Cove	6,000	5,000	Natural landscaping for plants under trees. Irrigation - additional water meter needed.
4. Lucretia Way Reserve	Hallett Cove	4,800	2,100	Small flatter area near Lucretia Way suitable to be irrigated for dog walkers. Additional water meter required. Significant existing natural landscaping.
5. Newland Avenue Linear Park	Marino	2,400	1,500	New tree planting and natural landscaping programmed for 2025/26. Other adjacent upgrades (Marino Community Hall, Newland Ave Streetscape, Marino Railway Station).
6. Perry Barr Farm	Hallett Cove	2,900	3,200	Sloping reserve with community garden. Irrigated turf along Madison Ct to provide informal recreation area.
7. Ragamuffin Drive Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,800	1,800	Natural landscaping and revegetation site. Sloping towards waterways.
8. Weerab Drive Railway Corridor / Reserve	Hallett Cove	0	2,100	Remnant native veg site with Kaurna burn program - part of Biodiversity Plan. Railway corridor land suitable for natural landscaping.
9. Zwerner Drive Reserve	Hallett Cove	3,500	3,800	Suggest irrigated turf along shared path for visual amenity.
10. Admella Court Reserve	Hallett Cove	3,000	1,200	Large Reserve. Stormwater pipes centrally through the site. Lower section flatter and greater potential use. No other irrigated areas to the west of the rail line.
11. Arafura Court Reserve	Hallett Cove	2,000	1,000	Some irrigation would increase casual use, but too steep. Planting would help to stabilise embankments.
12. Gretel Crescent Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,500	0	Could function as connector - Pavana and Shamrock. Underutilised. Potential for irrigation
13. Kalmia Court Reserve	Hallett Cove	2,400	0	Too steep to function as a connector. Lower section flatter, would only service some
14. Manunda Way Reserve	Hallett Cove	1,800	1,200	The southern section presents opportunities on a local level. It links a series of open spaces along the rail corridor.
15. Newland Avenue Reserve	Marino	0	0	Community Garden. Good tree coverage. Biodiversity planting centrally. Restoration site.
16. Resolute Cresent Reserve	Hallett Cove	600	250	Very small reserve on a minor street. Increase planting to the rear and lawn to the front. Low priority for irrigation due to proximity to Pavana Reserve.
17. Robertson Place Reserve	Marino	1,300	200	Reserve has nice character and planted beds, would benefit from irrigation.
18. Westcliff Reserve	Marino	800	920	Endorsed in Biodiversity Plan for natural landscaping. Irrigation would increase casual use, but catchment is not massive and more biodiversity planting.

SOUTHERN HILLS WARD				
Reserve Name	**Suburb**	**Proposed Irrigation Area (m^2)**	**Proposed Natural Landscaping Area (m^2)**	**General Comments**
1. Elura Avenue Reserve	Sheidow Park	800	900	Well established trees. Central section sloping but not too steep for irrigated turf. No shrub planting, but opportunities around edge under canopy.
2. French Crescent Reserve	Trott Park	1,800	1,030	Water meter located near French Crescent side of reserve.
3. Hughes Court Reserve	Trott Park	4,000	1,002	Large basin located in the southern reserve. Decommissioned irrigation system on site.
4. Islington Drive Reserve	Sheidow Park	4,500	4,000	Due to tree density, extensive hydro-vacuuming to install irrigation. Turf maintenance may be difficult due to tree density. Decommissioned irrigation system on site.
5. Matthew Street Reserve	O'Halloran Hill	2,270	2,600	Only area suitable for irrigation would be a very narrow strip adjacent a linear track. Steepness of the site, plus tree density, makes it difficult to irrigate.
6. Percival Crescent Reserve	Trott Park	1,800	3,211	Water meter shown, could not be located on site.
7. Peter Court Reserve	O'Halloran Hill	2,600	2,650	Reserve has an existing kick-about lawn, currently not irrigated.
8. Phyllis Court Reserve	Trott Park	1,500	Retain existing	Decommissioned irrigation system on site. Would be a good reserve to irrigate.
9. Strutt Court Reserve	Trott Park	2,100	1,725	Natural Landscaping under existing mature trees, irrigation to outside edges.
10. Berrima Road Reserve	Sheidow Park	4,200	2,700	Open area at reserve has a grade of almost 1:6. Irrigation not value for money.
11. Doulton Drive Reserve	Trott Park	2,000	1,500	Most of site has a steep gradient not suitable for recreational use. Stormwater at bottom of reserve. Irrigation proposed to flat area near existing bench seat. May need hydrovac.
12. Heysen Drive Reserve	Trott Park	660	450	No natural landscaping, new trees. Cut through path, sloping site. Could not locate water meter.
13. Hume Street Reserve	Seaview Downs	1,300	200	Small area with natural landscaping and seats. Irrigated grass to complement, next to a kindy.
14. Klippel Ave Reserve	Trott Park	2,500	2,000	Mulched areas under trees, no understorey planting. Large sloping reserve 2 x bench seats.
15. Lander Road Reserve	Trott Park	2,000	5,000	Large Road Reserve adjacent to Hugh Johnson Reserve (more than double the size of Hugh Johnson Reserve). Very unlikely as a recreational space. Heavy density of trees, steep layout.
16. Montague Drive Reserve	Sheidow Park	2,000	1,500	Open area, fairly flat, shared use walking trail. Irrigated grass area.
17. Morford Reserve	Sheidow Park	0	800	Narrow linear trail with new trees, shared use walking path. Large existing trees at East end. Don't recommend irrigated turf, good for Natural Landscaping.
18. Scarvel Avenue Reserve	Trott Park	900	80	Large existing trees, sloping site. Small reserve used as cut through. Has one bench seat at top and some existing natural landscaping.
19. Tyson Avenue Reserve	Trott Park	1,700	1,700	Some large, mulched areas under trees - no understory planting. Large flat area, potentially good reserve for irrigation. Two existing bench seats. Existing tap on site.
20. West Street Reserve B	Seacliff Park	900	800	Large existing trees. Flat area in middle. Sloping site towards the south. Adjacent main road - Ocean Boulevard.

Appendix B

Financial Impact

The proposed change in service level for Reserve Irrigation and Landscaping over the 6 year project term would incur forecast additional costs of $12.714m, with further ongoing costs beyond the 6 years in the order of $1.124m. This factors in year on year indexation of 3% which may change based on future market conditions.

Borrowings of $6.176m for new capital, currently unfunded in Council's recently adopted Asset Management Plans and Long Term Financial Plan currently being developed will be required. In addition, operational costs over the 6 years of the project ($6.538m) will be required to be funded from rates revenue. The total forecast additional rates revenue to be raised to support the increased operational costs and service the additional borrowings is in the order of $8 million over the next 6 years.

The table below portrays the additional costs over the 6 year term of the project

Financial Impact - Change in Service Level for Reserve Irrigation							
	2025-26 $'000	2026-27 $'000	2027-28 $'000	2028-29 $'000	2029-30 $'000	2030-31 $'000	Total $'000
Capital Costs							
Irrigation Infrastructure Costs	-	1,030	1,061	1,093	1,126	1,159	**5,468**
Project Design	200	77	80	82	84	87	**610**
Additional Vehicle	-	45	-	-	-	52	**97**
Increase in Capital Costs	**200**	**1,152**	**1,140**	**1,175**	**1,210**	**1,298**	**6,176**
Operating Costs							
Natural Landscaping	-	515	530	546	563	580	**2,734**
Staff Costs	-	192	197	203	209	216	**1,017**
Irrigation Maintenance	-	33	68	106	143	188	**538**
Landscape Maintenance	-	34	69	107	146	191	**548**
Water	-	35	72	111	153	199	**571**
Vehicle running costs	-	15	16	16	17	17	**82**
Depreciation	-	39	40	42	43	44	**208**
Loan Interest	-	62	118	171	220	269	**840**
Increase in Operating Costs	**-**	**925**	**1,111**	**1,303**	**1,494**	**1,704**	**6,538**
Total Project Costs - Capex and Opex	**200**	**2,078**	**2,252**	**2,478**	**2,704**	**3,003**	**12,714**
Loan Principal and Interest Repayments	**-**	**151**	**300**	**454**	**613**	**785**	**2,303**
Additional Rates required to service Operational Costs and Additional Loan Repayments	**200**	**1,014**	**1,293**	**1,586**	**1,887**	**2,220**	**8,001**
Forecast required additional increase in rates	**0.20%**	**0.90%**	**0.25%**	**0.20%**	**0.20%**	**0.20%**	
Forecast Rates Increase Based on current 4.8% Model	4.80%	3.50%	3.25%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	
Revised Forecast in Rates Increase across the project	**5.00%**	**4.40%**	**3.50%**	**3.20%**	**3.20%**	**3.20%**	

Rating Impact - In assessing the required additional rate increase the 4.8% LTFP model is used as a baseline. To accommodate the additional expenditure occurring over the 6 year term, there is an estimated increase in rates required as demonstrated in the table above of +0.2% - 2025-26 , +0.9% - 2026-27, +0.25% - 2027-28 and +0.2% in the years 2028-29 to 2030-31.

It should be noted that other factors and risks may need to be considered that may also impact the potential outcomes above include;

- Potential future project price escalation
- Other Grant Funding Opportunities or commitments that may arise
- Future changes to other service levels requiring additional funding from council
- Other operating costs that may escalate such as employee costs – currently under negotiation

The above information has been compiled within a limited timeframe and while it informs Council Members on the potential rating impact of these high-level costing further detailed analysis may be required to form a comprehensive view on the operational and financial impacts to proceed with this project.

15.2 Library of Things	
Report Reference	GC250422M15.2
Council Member	Councillor – Sarah Luscombe

MOTION

That Council:

1. Notes that incorporating a 'Library of Things' into City of Marion libraries could present as a useful opportunity for Council to contribute to more sustainable living and a circular economy through improving the community's accessibility to borrowing items for a one-off project or to try before buying.

2. Requests that staff prepare a report for Council investigating the viability of the City of Marion operating a 'Library of Things', incorporating research into service models, outcome/usage data of similar initiatives in other councils, risks/benefits, and discussion of how a 'Library of Things' may benefit within the City of Marion context. The report should include options for Council's consideration and come back to Council by 23 September 2025.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

A 'Library of Things' aims to foster the circular economy and reduce excessive consumption and accumulation of objects that are not regularly used. It expands library services beyond providing access to traditional items such as books. A Library of Things is intended to add value to library collections by providing other useful objects such as equipment or appliances for community members to either try before they buy or use for a short time to complete a specific task. Whilst the City of Marion currently has opportunities for the community to borrow 'things' from our three library branches, including educational toys, IT equipment, and thermal imaging cameras, we do not currently have a formal Library of Things.

Various other local libraries are running a Library of Things as a part of their service delivery model, including the City of Onkaparinga at Woodcroft Library (see Appendix for photos of the Woodcroft Library of Things stand); City of Prospect Libraries ; City of Salisbury Libraries; Adelaide Sustainability Centre at The Joinery on Franklin St, Adelaide; and a more limited collection at City of Adelaide Libraries, as well as interstate models such as Lake Mac Libraries in NSW.

Items available for borrowing may include:

- Bakeware and kitchen utensils (e.g. cake pans, cake turntables, cupcake stands, decorating kits, stand mixer, pasta machine, paella pan, tortilla press, mixing bowl set).
- Party gear (e.g. chocolate fountain, fairy floss maker, speaker, disco ball, cocktail set, punch bowl, portable turntable with rechargeable battery).
- Energy saving devices (e.g. light meter, air quality sensor, energy toolkit, thermal imaging – note: City of Marion already has some of these items available for borrowing).
- Camping and outdoor gear (e.g. metal detector, binoculars, bike maintenance kit, foot pump, walking poles, tents, picnic set).

- Gardening implements (e.g. pruning set, kid's gardening set, spade, garden fork, personal protective equipment – note: Marion LIFE has a garden tool library which includes items such as lawn mowers and whipper snippers. This costs $5 per item with a $10 deposit).
- Assisted living aids (e.g. crutches, double handed mug, reach grabber, jar/tap turners).
- Toys and board games (note: City of Marion already has toy libraries),
- Tools (e.g. screwdriver set, wheel brace, stud sensor, tape measure, adjustable wrench, spanner set, plier set).
- Sports equipment (e.g. volleyball net, bocce set, beach cricket set, soccer practice goal).

Items available for borrowing and service models differ between various libraries. For example:

- Libraries within a local council area may focus on a particular theme of items in each individual library (e.g. within a local council area, one library may have bakeware and party gear, another may have gardening implements and camping/outdoor gear, and so on); or,
- All the libraries have the same items/options in each; or,
- One library location in the council area has all the items (e.g. City of Onkaparinga Woodcroft Library model).

Terms and conditions of borrowing are clearly set out by the libraries and may include criteria such as the following (from Onkaparinga Libraries):

- Borrowers must be aged 18 or older.
- Free membership with valid identification and proof of address.
- Up to 4 items on loan at any one time.
- Loan period of 2 weeks.
- Items cannot be renewed.
- Holds cannot be placed.
- All items must be borrowed and returned during library opening hours and must be returned to the library in which they were borrowed.
- Items cannot be returned in the out of hours chute.
- Items are for personal use only and cannot be used for commercial purposes.
- Items must be used safely, responsively and with care, following any provided guidelines or instructions.
- Borrowers assume all risk associated with the use of the item. Council is not liable for injury, damage, or loss resulting from the use of the borrowed item.
- Borrowers to report any issues or damage to library staff.
- Borrowers must return items clean and in the same condition as they were borrowed.
- Damaged or missing parts may incur fees. Fees for damaged or lost items will be determined based on the replacement or repair cost of the item.

Community feedback has been important to shape the various Libraries of Things items which are on offer in each council and community area. For example, the City of Onkaparinga undertook a community survey to highlight items that the community would most appreciate having access to borrow, to ensure that the collection of items aligned with community needs.

The City of Onkaparinga Library of Things was set up as two-year trial initially, utilising community feedback to plan for the second year of the trial, which will conclude in March 2026. This two-year trial initiative is an action in Onkaparinga's Climate Change Response Plan 2022-2027.

The Onkaparinga Library of Things at Woodcroft consists of a four-sided stand with hooks on each side, and a card on each hook that represents the items available to borrow. The cards hang on a hook that is labelled for each item, and when the card is removed, a small sign behind the card indicates that the item has been borrowed and is not available. The card has a photo and description of the item. Borrowers take the card corresponding to the item they wish to borrow to the counter for processing to borrow the item. A library staff member will then collect the item, bring it to the counter and process the hire, before the borrower then takes the item. See Appendix for photos of the Woodcroft Library of Things stand.

Response Received From	Team Leader Community Programs and Learning – Salma Khan
Corporate Manager	Manager Community Connections – Merran Fyfe
General Manager	General Manager City Services – Angela Allison

STAFF COMMENTS

If supported, administration will provide a report on options in September 2025.

15.3 Motion - Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 and Long Term Financial Plan	
Report Reference	GC250422M15.3
Council Member	Councillor – Jana Mates

MOTION

Inclusion with the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025 – 2026 and Long-Term Financial Plan Page 8-9 to include the following:

- **A clear breakdown of each project overview with a range of the total estimated cost, and the amount factored into the 25-26 Annual Business Plan.**
- **Inclusion of feedback question relating to Major projects.**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026 and Long-Term Financial Plan is a key council financial document. With consultation due to commence shortly, and a capital works budget of $151million council has an opportunity to engage with the Community in a transparent manner, to highlight the key financial issues for Community consultation, maintain transparency and provide an opportunity for the public to provide feedback on preferred major projects and how they will be funded.

Response Received From	Chief Financial Officer – Ray Barnwell
Corporate Manager	N/A
General Manager	General Manager Corporate Services – Tony Lines

STAFF COMMENTS

While Council ordinarily does not publish specific project costings in the Annual Business Plan document to avoid disadvantaging Council in future procurement processes, we do recognise that, for the purpose of community consultation, it is valuable to provide a high-level overview of key capital projects and their indicative funding in the upcoming financial year.

We also note that major project consultation is often undertaken as a separate, dedicated process outside of the Annual Business Plan. However, we agree that providing this overview within the Draft Annual Business Plan can enhance transparency and support more informed community feedback during this consultation period.

In response to the motion, we have redrafted Pages 8–9 of the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025–2026, as **attachment 1** to include an indicative summary of major projects, a broad estimated cost range, and the amount allocated in the 2025–2026 budget.

We propose that this redrafted section, subject to any amendments or endorsement at this meeting be included in the Draft Annual Business Plan 2025-2026.

Community consultation is due to commence from 26 April- 16 May with an engagement plan underway. A question will be included that seeks to understand community levels of support for each of the major projects outlined on page 8-9 of the Draft Annual Business Plan.



Major projects overview

The draft Annual Business Plan for 2025-2026 outlines proposed key projects, services, and programs aligned with Council's Strategic Plan 2024-2034 and its Four Year Business Plan 2023-2027.

Our focus is on responsible decision-making, financial management, and securing external funding through partnerships with State and Federal Governments. Council is proposing a 4.8% rate increase in 2025-2026.

Council will continue enhancing the City of Marion as a great place to live, work, and play through ongoing capital works, core services, and targeted initiatives that add value to the community.



Events

Council is set to bring the community together more often with an expanded events calendar. The much-loved Marion Celebrates will return to its home at the Marion Cultural Centre Plaza, celebrating art and culture in a vibrant festival setting.

The extremely popular Touch a Truck returns, giving kids the chance to get close to a range of trucks, diggers, emergency services vehicles, and more, with sirens, flashing lights, and plenty of excitement for the family.

More events than ever will be held across the city, creating more opportunities for the community to come together and enjoy.



Sturt River Biodiversity Corridor

A Federal grant was secured to work in partnership with the Friends of Sturt River Landcare group to create a biodiversity corridor between Warriparinga, Bedford Park and the Oaklands wetlands, Marion. The grant includes revegetation, ecological monitoring (vegetation, birds and insects), biodiversity sensitive urban design and educational signage. Aboriginal Urban Design has been engaged as a consultant to assist in the development of the signs and to design, install and maintain a Kaurna Garden bed at the base of a culturally significant River Red Gum in Kenton Avenue Reserve, Oaklands Park.



Morphettville Park Clubroom upgrade*

The aging Morphettville Park Tennis Clubroom is set to be redeveloped, with the project expected to cost between *$1.8m* and *$2.2m*. The rebuild will deliver a modern facility with a slightly larger footprint than the existing building, incorporating accessible and compliant toilets and shower areas, along with increased storage. Council is also seeking to attract external grant funding to support the delivery of the project.



Warradale Park Tennis upgrade

Council is continuing to progress the upgrade of the Warradale Park Tennis Club, with total project costs estimated between *$1.2m* and *$1.5m*. The project planned to be completed in 2025-2026 includes an internal refit of the existing clubroom, along with upgrades to the shower and toilet facilities, bar, and office space. The works are being supported through grant funding, with contributions of *$545k* from the State Government and *$272k* from the Federal Government.



Land Management - Traditional Cultural Burning

Council and the Friends of Upper Field River volunteer group have secured a Green Adelaide grant to collaborate on restoration efforts aimed at rejuvenating Mallee Box grassland. As part of this project, an Aboriginal organisation will apply traditional cultural burning techniques to help restore country and control invasive weed species. The burning will take place at Barton Drive Reserve, Trott Park adjacent the Kauwi-marnirla- Field River Conservation Park and will be accompanied by community engagement events to ensure local involvement and awareness.



Marion Basketball Club upgrade

Council is progressing plans for a new *$30m+* plus 4 court indoor basketball facility at the current Norfolk Road site. The new facility will provide a much-needed boost to local indoor sports infrastructure, catering to growing community demand . The project is being supported by a significant *$6m* funding contribution from the Federal Government. Council is proposing an investment of approximately *$360k* in 2025-2026 to advance detailed design, secure development approvals, and prepare for construction.



Reserve and playground redevelopments across council

Council proposes to invest over *$2m* toward reserve upgrades across the council area as part of the capital works program. Proposed key upgrades include the design for playground upgrades at Cove Sports, Marion Oval and Manoora Drive Reserve, Hallett Cove. Council will construct new playgrounds at Scarborough Terrace Reserve in Dover Gardens, Southbank Boulevard Reserve in Trott Park.



Glandore Oval Upgrade

Council, following the removal of old buildings, will commence construction of a new clubhouse, car park, and install new landscaping. The State Government has provided *$5m* towards this *$9m+* project. Construction will commence shortly with planned expenditure in the order of *$7m* in 2025-2026 with the remaining spend in 2026-2027 to complete the project.



Streetscapes projects

Just over *$1m* is proposed to be spent in 2025-2026 on the Newland Avenue Streetscape upgrade. This upgrade will complement the soon-to-be-completed Marino Community Hall, a new social hub. To tackle the urban heat island effect, the co- funded project will improve urban greening, adding street trees and verge raingardens to boost biodiversity. Improved pedestrian pathways and textured pavement will also enhance safety and accessibility.



Coastal Walkway

Council is proposing to undertake design and construction work to upgrade Cell 3 of the Coastal Walkway from Murto Gully to Westcliff Reserve. Council has allocated over *$1.5m* for the upgrade in the 2025-2026 financial year.

**Subject to grant funding*

15.4 Council Verges and Footpaths	
Report Reference	GC250422M15.4
Council Member	Councillor – Jason Veliskou

MOTION

That Council commits to an increased monitoring and maintenance regime of:

1. **Footpaths to,**
    - **Remove tripping hazards**
2. **Verges to,**
    - **More timely removal of footpath obstruction from overhanging out outgrowing Street trees**
    - **Increase street tree maintenance regime to manage unruly growth and tree suckers**
    - **Improve verge weed control.**

That Council is presented with a report (or reports) with analysis of how these improvements will be made and the associated costs by June 2025.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

The verge, or footpath, is a piece of (predominantly) Council infrastructure that impacts practically all our residents. It is what literally connects people to the community, neighbours and facilities and needs to be fit for purpose and safe.

The condition of the footpaths, the overhanging trees and the condition of verges is an issue that has been continually raised by residents and is particularly important for older residents, who can face significant adverse impacts where there are hazards. By having footpaths people feel are not usable (or safe) it can lead to some of the most vulnerable in our community avoiding their use and isolating themselves, a direct contrast to our goals of positive ageing and community engagement.

I have been advised over time, that there is a regime in pace, certain standards, but from the state of our footpaths and verges many would agree it is clear we need to do better.

I know examples of tripping hazards that have been brought up in the previous year that are awaiting remedy, this to me points to an obvious resource and/or process issue. But there are far more tripping hazards that have not been notified and council really should be identifying these earlier to prevent injury that can have life-changing negative impacts on some residents.

Pavers are a significant problem as they make it harder to identify where a lip could be a tripping hazards due to the way they lock together. Council should reconsider where pavers are used to locations with minimised ground movement that can create tripping hazards. Council should also reconsider the parameters it uses on what constitutes a tripping risk as it may be the case that people trip at level below these parameters.

This motion is about the condition of our current footpath and verge assets, getting it right with what we have already.

Whilst street trees have a regular pruning schedule in regard to managing overall growth, it of often that case with some trees that branches grow over footpaths to the extent that require people walking through to duck down or walk on the road or the unsealed verge to avoid them. This is a

significant issue for older residents who are not as flexible but can be an issue for any resident especially if they do not notice and walk into them at face/eye level. There obviously needs to be more done to improve the maintenance regime to ensure residents can walk on footpaths without the need to avoid wayward tree branches.

Finally, the state of our verges is another issue residents complain about, be it the state of weeds and grasses or the tree suckers coming out from the bottom or around existing street trees. Whilst this may not be as much of a safety risk as the other two issues, it has a significant impact on local amenity and should be considered as can impacts a significant cohort of residents. Increased monitoring and treatment can reduce the work required later on and associated costs, as well as maintaining better street appeal.

Attachment 1 - Example of current tripping hazard on Marion Road Park Holme
Attachment 2 - Overgrown verge growth tree suckers 2025

Response Received From	Manager Operations – Damian Garcia
Corporate Manager	N/A
General Manager	General Manager City Services – Angela Allison

STAFF COMMENTS

If supported, staff will prepare a report to be bought to a General Council meeting by June 2025.





16 Questions With Notice

16.1 Public Art Strategy	
Report Reference	GC250422Q16.1
Council Member	Councillor – Jana Mates

QUESTION

Could an actual figure be provided per project for the spend on public art, including staffing, and public art allocation through major project budgets, over the past five years?

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Noting the comment within Item 12.6 Public Art Strategy 'While this strategy does not seek additional funding, it recommends formalising Administration's historical approach for the majority of projects of allocating $35,000+ from major project budgets for projects over $4 million and $10,000 to $30,000 for those valued between $1 million-$4 million, where possible.'

Response Received From Public Art and Place Coordinator – Joyce Louey

Corporate Manager Acting Manager City Activation – Alex Cortes

General Manager Acting General Manager City Development – Charmaine Hughes

STAFF COMMENTS

Table 1 below provides a summary of public art investment per project through the major project budgets over the last five years. The table shows the City of Marion contributed $241,475 to provide public art through major projects and received $100,000 from State Government, providing a total spend of $341,475.

Table 1

Major Projects	Commissioner	City of Marion $	State Grant $
Morphettville Park Sports and Community Centre redevelopment public art	City of Marion	$60,000	
Dwyer Road Reserve upgrade public art	City of Marion	$19,105	
Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre redevelopment public art	City of Marion	$80,000	$100,000
Marino Community Hall redevelopment public art	City of Marion	$35,000	
Marion Cultural Centre Plaza upgrade public art	City of Marion	$47,370	
	Total	**$241,475**	**$100,000**

Table 2 summarises other public art projects delivered on behalf of other Council services, and with local businesses and Government. Where Government funding was provided, Administration collaborated on the design and delivery and assumes responsibility for ongoing maintenance.

Table 2

Projects (2020 – 2024)	City of Marion $	Grant / external $
Art on Stobie poles, utility boxes and other infrastructure	$60,00	
Tonsley railway station upgrade		$10,000
Main South Road upgrade		$145,000
Edwardstown Revitalisation Project	$65,530	
Glandore playground upgrade	$17,000	$15,000
Reclaiming Sturt River project	$52,641	$15,000
Nannigai Reserve upgrade	$19,053	
Streetscape Messines Avenue upgrade	$26,500	
Mitchell Park Quick Road Reserve project	$6,500	$5,000
Mitchell Park Sports and Community Centre	$19,859	
Hugh Johnson Boulevard Reserve upgrade	$52,610	
Tonsley Innovation District		$79,768
Park Holme library activation	$3,000	
Vista Street Reserve upgrade	$45,602	
Tarnham Road Reserve upgrade	$24,000	
Warriparinga Coach House upgrade		$77,200
Trott Park art trail	$2,000	
Bus shelter upgrades	$2,500	
Alawoona Avenue Reserve upgrade	$47,982	
Total	**$444,777**	**$346,968**

Table 2 shows that City of Marion contributed $444,777 to provide public art through other council wide projects, with other funding standing at $346,968.

In summary, Council has spent $686,252 on public art projects, with an additional $446,968 of external funding secured, over the last five years.

Table 3 below summarises the 1.0 FTE Public Art and Place Coordinator salary. The 70% allocation reflects public art project delivery over the past five years with the remaining salary on administration, program management and partnerships.

Table 3

Year	Salary	Oncost (15%)	Total	70% Allocation
2023/24	$105,506	$15,826	$121,332	$84,932
2022/23	$98,831	$14,825	$113,656	$79,559
2021/22	$89,420	$13,413	$102,833	$71,983

2020/21	$83,820	$12,573	$96,393	$67,475
2019/20	$82,177	$12,327	$94,504	$66,152

17 Motions Without Notice

18 Questions Without Notice

19 Other Business

20 Meeting Closure

Council shall conclude on or before 9.30pm unless there is a specific motion adopted at the meeting to continue beyond that time.