

Budget 2016 - 2017



\$88.7million Capital works program to boost economy

Multiple multimillion dollar projects could be set for the Region over the upcoming twelve months through the largest Capital Works Program Council has seen in four years.

Today Rockhampton Region Mayor Margaret Strelow announced \$88.7 million dollars' worth of projects that have been included in the draft 2016-17 Budget.

Mayor Strelow said each project has been chosen in an effort to relieve economic pressure.

"Some capital works that were scheduled for upcoming financial years have now been brought forward to immediately create jobs and retain families in the Region," Mayor Strelow said.

"This draft budget will fund major projects that are not only essential but also very exciting for the future of our Region."

Mayor Strelow said the draft budget proposes to deliberately put jobs on the table while delivering new and exciting recreational spaces, better roads, more footpaths and upgrades to facilities that are vital for our community today and in the long-term.

"One of the greatest outcomes of this budget is our investment in job creation and our investment in local businesses to help sustain our local economy."

Major highlights in the proposed capital works budget include:

- **\$15.9 million** for the Riverbank Redevelopment, for 2017/18 (total expenditure of \$35.5million for project) with a full reconstruction of Quay Street, riverside restaurant, playgrounds and smart technology creating a contemporary platform for future community events along the riverbank.
- **\$14 million** for the redevelopment of Kershaw Garden's over three years, including carried forward from current year). (Total expenditure of \$13.1million for project). Following the devastating impact of TC Marcia, this project will fund a playground, water play, amenities, seats and BBQs.
- **\$800,000** to build a new pound facility at Gracemere. (Total expenditure for project of \$1.6 million). This will lead to improved animal welfare, increased capacity for lost animals and enable better management of infectious diseases in the animals.

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- **\$1.1 million** for Stage 2 of the Mount Morgan Sewerage Upgrade which is imperative to the basic amenity of the township. Mount Morgan Water Treatment Plant also sees expenditure of \$800,000 for improvements and replacements in this budget year.
- **\$215,000** to build a library facility at Gracemere in the Council offices on Ranger Street. The budget provides for an upgrade of the furnishings and fittings so that this building can be the long awaited library space for all the community to enjoy.
- **\$10.1 million** for the repair of infrastructure damaged during Tropical Cyclone Marcia. A sizeable portion of the Roadworks Capital program is dedicated to repairing and upgrading a number of roads damaged by the quick succession of natural disaster events. Key roads such as Pilbeam Drive, Dean Street and Thozet Road will be improved in addition to a number of rural roads. The majority of these works will be contracted out due to the rules of reimbursement under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements guidelines.

In addition to these major projects, the capital works program also includes:

• Lakes Creek Road Landfill - Life Extension	4,000,000
• North Rockhampton Sewerage Treatment Plant Upgrades	1,750,000
• Reconstruction Capricorn Street - Gracemere Creek	1,630,018
• McLeod Park Drainage Scheme (Stage 2A)	1,500,000
• Gracemere Sewerage Treatment Plant Augmentation	1,200,000
• Cedric Archer Park sport and recreation precinct	1,150,000
• Redevelopment of the 42nd Battalion Memorial Pool	1,083,432
• Glenmore Water Treatment Plant Electrical Renewals	1,000,000
• North Street-Canning Street to Robert Street Upgrade	930,000
• Main Runway Resurface commencement at the airport	800,000
• Reconstruction Campbell Street-Albert Street to North Street	734,400