



**Connect. Innovate. Diversify.** 





## **The Mayor**

Gladstone Regional Council's 2022/23 Operational Plan and Budget has delivered a surplus budget to place the Gladstone Region in a strong financial position.

The theme of this year's Budget is Proudly GRC. This theme focusses on our people and being proud of what we do and who we work for. At the core of our business is community, and each day we strive to deliver the best outcomes for our region.

Our delivery of a surplus budget is crucial given that future economic uncertainty and inflationary challenges are likely to appear on the horizon.

Our region, and our nation, are currently navigating through a sharp rise to cost pressures associated with a 20-year high in inflation.

Despite these challenges, Council plans to ensure our infrastructure and services are appropriately planned and delivered, that our essential services remain fit for purpose, and that we provide for, and support, growth projects.

This year's total budget of \$260.4m is backed by a \$51.4m Capital Works program that will maintain and upgrade key assets and community projects.

This program has been supported by both State and Federal Governments to the value of \$14.2m, demonstrating the effectiveness of Council's continued strategy to seek specific funding of the cost to ratepayers of all expenditure, so we can continue to improve our region's infrastructure through external funding, not ratepayer dollars.

The 2022/23 capital expenditure of \$51.4m includes (but not limited to):

- \$11.9m on water and wastewater (sewerage) infrastructure
- \$11.0m on capital roads projects
- \$8.6m on bridge upgrades, renewals and replacements
- \$4.9m on sport, recreation, and community wellbeing
- \$1.8m on footpaths
- \$1.8m on parks and environment.

I am proud to declare that for the 10th consecutive year there will be no new borrowings.

Our focus on reducing existing debt will see interest bearing debt decline to \$92.8m by June 2023 – a \$5.8m reduction from June 2022.

We, as a Council, always have the community at the front of mind, and it was because of this amidst the global uncertainty caused by COVID-19 that we made the strong decision to freeze rates for the 2020/21 financial year.

Last year, for the 2021/22 financial year, we increased the general rate only in line with the Brisbane Consumer Price Index (CPI).

This year, the majority of general rating categories, including residential, have seen an increase of 4.5 per cent.

This is well below the current rate of CPI for Brisbane, which is currently sitting at an increase of 6 per cent over the past year.

When looking at the average residential ratepayer in the Gladstone Region for the 2022/23 financial year, general rates will only increase by 2.5 per cent.

Overall, rates and service charges (including water, sewerage, and waste) have increased by 5.66 per cent.

This is, once again, below the current rate of CPI for Brisbane.

We have been focused on delivering a responsible budget that manages significant inflation while also making decisions to minimise this financial impact on the community.

As we work towards future growth, our overall focus for the 2022/23 Operational Plan and Budget is to ensure the continued recovery and transition of our region and economy.

Matt Burnett Mayor Gladstone Regional Council



## **Budget by the numbers**

Total Budget \$260.4M



\$4.95 Utility Charges Average costs per day for utility charges



\$11.0M Roads on capital roads projects



**\$2.5B** Value of Assets Total value of Council owned assets



**\$8.6M** Bridges Upgrades, renewals and replacements



**\$51.4M Capital Works** To maintain and upgrade key assets and community projects

**\$14.2M** Grant Funding

\$11.9M

Infrastructure upgrades,

renewals and replacements



\$4.9M Sport, Recreation and Community Wellbeing on capital projects

**\$1.8M Parks and Open Spaces** Capital parks and environment projects

# \$1.8M Footpaths and Cycleways

Upgrades, renewals and replacements

**Key Services** 

**\$54.9M** Roads, Bridges, Footpaths and Drainage

**\$42.1M** Water Services

**\$36.2M** Sewerage Services

**\$24.2M** Waste Services **\$18.7M** Parks and Environment

**\$9.3M** Arts and Culture

Water and Waste Water Supply

**\$4.7M** Community Development and Support **\$4.0M** Library Services

\$3.8M Local Laws

**\$3.3M** Pest and Environmental Health **\$1.4M** Strategic Projects

**\$1.1M** Economic Development

**\$0.8M** Disaster Management

#### Gladstone Regional Council 2022/23 Budget Summary

# 2022/23 Capital

# **Budget Highlights**

#### **AGNES WATER/ SEVENTEEN SEVENTY/ CAPTAIN CREEK**

\$50,000 Sewer Main Renewals

\$805,998 Murphy Road, Captain Creek - Stabilise pavement and seal

#### AMBROSE

\$94,000 Gentle Annie Road, Ambrose (Hut Creek) - Bridge renewal

**BAFFLE CREEK** 

\$429,998 Flat Rock Picnic Grounds

#### **BENARABY**

\$2,086,500 Benaraby Landfill - Capping of Cell 2

O Raglan

Balacia

### **BOYNE ISLAND/ TANNUM SANDS**

#### \$1,020,374 Turtleway Works

\$864,000 Boyne Tannum Memorial Parklands

- Stage 2 \$731,962 Boyne Tannum Pool

\$2,955,000 **BITS Irrigation Replacement** 

#### **BOYNE VALLEY**

\$361,500 Norton and Dawes Streets, Nagoorin - Bitumen seal

## CALLIOPE

Curtis Island National parl

South End

Curtis Island

\$300,000 Calliope River Rest Area Upgrade of toilet block \$725,441

Silverdale Reservoir Renewal

## **CURTIS ISLAND**

\$2,250,000 Curtis Island - Power Replacement

## **GLADSTONE**

\$996,548 Gladstone Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Stage 3

\$150,000 Tondoon Botanic Gardens - Bonsai House utility services

\$1,236,013 Toolooa Street, Gladstone - Pavement renewal (Derby - Agnes)

\$2,667,225 A05 Rising Main - Replace/reline

\$2,300,000 Gladstone WWTP Distribution tower & process water reservoir

Wilson Island

**Heron Island** 

Rosedale

LOWMEAD

\$1,495,000 Various Bridge Replacements

\$4,855,000 Various Bridge Renewals

## **MIRIAM VALE**

\$2,115,000 Bindaree Road, Miriam Vale (Three Mile Crk) - Bridge upgrade

\$50,000 Miriam Vale Community Centre upgrade

#### **MOUNT LARCOM**

\$85,000 Mount Larcom Cemetery New Lawn Beams

### ROSEDALE

\$240,000 Ferry Road, Rosedale - Renew culvert structure (Ch 540)

### WHOLE OF REGION

\$2,790,000 Asphalt overlays and bitumen seals

\$4,914,102 Gravel Resheeting

Lady Elliot Island

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