

MAYOR'S BUDGET REPORT

The global financial crisis has hit Australia hard, particularly a growth Council such as the City of Wanneroo.

In fact the City will be impacted more so than any other local government because it is the largest growing local government in the State. However, despite the global financial crisis, the City of Wanneroo will still deliver a balanced budget in 2009/10, using sound financial management.

Consolidation and creating efficiencies so as to keep the pressure off household expenditure, while maintaining the services the community has grown to know and love has been the focus of the City's 2009/10 Budget.

The City has prioritised its spending according to what services residents and ratepayers continually identify as important. With this in mind, the City will be looking to deliver safer roads, a greener and more sustainable Wanneroo and active, connected and safer communities.

In 2009/10, the City of Wanneroo will work to:

- Protect and secure the City's finances
- Improve community safety
- Deliver key infrastructure projects

Over the next 12 months, the City will spend \$72 million on Capital Works Projects. A significant component of the new Capital Works Program will be \$19 million on the major roadway extensions and upgrades. Within its operating budget of \$110.9 million a key aspect will be the expenditure of \$31.8 million towards community amenities.

The City has made the difficult but necessary and responsible decision to reduce its Community Events Program including postponing the Beach to Bush Festival and the Summer Concert Series until 2010/11.

I know how much the residents love the community events the City hosts every year, however, we made the decision based on community market consultation that told us the community would support the City reducing its spend on our Concert Program in return for additional spend on community safety.

Despite this, the City will still offer its great sports, libraries and arts programs as well as a one-off Australia Day event and major concert at the Centenary Wanneroo Show.