

## **BUDGET MEDIA STATEMENT**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **City Budget highlights at a glance**

***July 3, 2015***

Leading the way nationally, the City of Greater Geraldton is incorporating the recommendations and priorities of the Geraldton community made during the ground-breaking deliberative democracy process earlier this year as part of the Community Summit. In another WA first, the City listened to the community who reviewed our range and level of services and capital works priorities, and the priority list of non-mandatory services developed during the Community Summit. In total, the community has spent more than 6500 hours reviewing every aspect of City operations.

Budget highlights at glance:

- Total increase in rates revenue limited to 3.9% plus growth.
- Introduction of concessions to soften impact of significant valuation increases.
- Removal of City Centre Specified Area Rate.
- \$275,000 for a flood plain management study (grant funded).
- \$130,000 allocated to Chapman River Wildlife Corridor and Greenough River.
- \$100,000 for Midwest Gascoyne Recovery Project to benefit 19 local governments.
- Sale of former Greenough Shire office and former Geraldton Depot.
- \$4,500,000 to decontaminate Olive Street and provide additional public open space.
- \$50,000 to investigate and establish a Volunteer program.
- \$75,000 to fund the HMAS *Sydney II* 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- \$65,000 for public art.
- \$60,000 for an Aboriginal employment and training scheme.
- \$150,000 allocated for signature events.
- \$94,000 increase in parks maintenance.
- \$671,000 increase in road maintenance.
- \$182,000 increase in asset management.
- \$10,000 for a customer service review.
- \$8,000,523 for a Multi User Facility and Youth Precinct on the Foreshore.
- \$1,408,000 for 500lux lights at Wonthella Oval.
- \$18,071,742 to finalise the Karloo Wandina (Verita Road) Project.
- \$7,175,000 for Beresford Foreshore beach protection.

- \$1,000,000 for new animal management facility.
- \$4,054,700 upgrade to Queens Park Theatre.
- \$100,000 Mullewa Transfer Station.
- \$486,450 for Town Beach finger jetty upgrade.
- \$1,000,000 for Geraldton Airport fire main upgrade.
- \$240,000 to provide mobility impaired access to Town Beach.
- \$150,000 to refurbish Mullewa Youth Centre.
- \$14,458,668 to renew roads and drainage infrastructure.
- \$1,693,475 to renew parks and gardens infrastructure.
- \$1,701,803 for new roads and drainage infrastructure.
- \$1,997,000 to replace ageing plant and equipment.

**ENDS:**