



Media Release

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2016-17 Budget delivers \$47.3 million for Shire Road Networks

Livingstone Shire Council has today adopted its 2016-17 Budget with a focus on optimising service delivery for ratepayers, while continuing major investment in strategic infrastructure needed to underpin the Shire's long-term sustainability and post-cyclone economic recovery.

Mayor Bill Ludwig said a record \$88.8 million Capital Works Program at the heart of the Budget, will deliver an unprecedented \$47.3 million investment (53.2%) across the Shire's 1,400 kilometre strategic urban and rural road network.

"Projects ranging in scope and scale will deliver multiple benefits across the Shire," Mayor Ludwig said

"A 'snapshot' of key rural projects include \$690,000 to construct Stage 1 of the strategic link-road to connect Bungundarra to Rossmoya, \$630,000 to upgrade Sleipner Road in Mount Chalmers, \$290,000 to replace Werribee Bridge, \$908,000 to fix the dangerous Hidden Valley 'black-spot' intersection, and \$125,000 in floodway upgrades for Milman Road.

"Combined a further \$3.2M will be spent on capital re-sheets and maintenance grading of gravel roads across the Shire. Shared pedestrian cycleway networks from Emu Park to Byfield will see a combined investment of \$1.72M with over \$400,000 being provided by the State Government.

"An allocation of \$1.27M will provide a safer bus set down area and signalised intersection at the corner of Taranganba and Frangipani Road. A further \$1.15M will be spent to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety with a new signalised crossing on Scenic Highway at the southern end of Matthew Flinders Drive.

"The single biggest project will be the \$16.3 million Scenic Highway restoration at Statue Bay with \$11.7M of funding assistance from State and Federal Natural Disaster and Relief Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

"A further \$14.4 million joint investment with the Queensland State Government will deliver Stage Two of the Panorama Drive strategic link-road.

"When complete, Panorama Drive will service the Capricorn Coast's northern growth corridor, alleviate identified long-term traffic management issues, and create a critical evacuation and supply route during natural disasters," Mayor Ludwig said.

Roads Councillor Glenda Mather said to help the long-term funding of planned major improvements across the Shire's, the 10% discount for prompt payment will no longer apply to the Road Levy.

"The 10% prompt payment discount will however continue to apply to the General Rates across all categories," Cr Mather said.

For interviews, please contact Mayor Bill Ludwig on 0428 791 79