

Barunga West *News*



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Looking Ahead *to 2024-25*

As we look forward to the new financial year, I'm excited to share our plans and achievements with you.

Over the past four years, we've successfully completed several major projects with the assistance of grants. Now, our focus turns to strengthening our ongoing focus on fundamental services such as roads, waste management, and the upkeep of our parks and gardens.

In the coming year, we're thrilled to announce the release of residential land in Port Broughton and Bute, industrial land in Port Broughton, and rezoning land for residential development near Fisherman Bay. These initiatives aim to address our district's housing shortage and stimulate growth, which is essential for distributing financial burdens more equitably among ratepayers.

For 2024-25, we have allocated funds for a range of community focused projects. These include landscaping, installing beach access stairs in Fisherman Bay and erecting a monument to recognise the historical significance of Tickera's Well. We're also committed to supporting our community with \$40,000 allocated for community grants.

In addition, we plan to enhance amenities for visitors to Port Broughton Cemetery by improving its seating and shading. We're introducing an adopt-a-street tree program to increase canopy coverage along our streets, promoting a greener and more beautiful environment.

Our council is not immune to significant economic challenges, including high interest rates and inflation. Our agricultural sector is particularly vulnerable, with farmers anxiously awaiting sufficient rainfall. A substantial 28 per cent increase in average capital values requires careful financial planning to minimise impacts on our ratepayers while ensuring adequate funding for council operations.

Despite these challenges, I am proud to announce that, after necessary rate adjustments, our council will maintain one of the lowest rate structures in regional South Australia. Our differential rate and fixed charges remain competitive, and we will not levy additional fixed fees for waste collection.

As we reflect on this past financial year, I am proud to highlight the key milestones and successes Barunga West Council has achieved. Together, we have made significant progress, and I am confident that with your continued support, we will achieve even more in the coming year.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our community.

Warm regards
Leonie Kerley





Seeking Feedback on the Draft Road Upgrade Cost Sharing Policy

The Council is proposing a Draft Road Upgrade Cost Sharing Policy to address unique upgrade requests that represent about 1 per cent of our road network. This policy is not intended to cut road maintenance expenses but to provide a structured approach for handling urgent road upgrade requests that primarily benefit a small group of ratepayers.

For instance, if a small group of ratepayers urgently requires an upgrade from an unsealed to a sealed road, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars, this policy would enable a partnership between the ratepayers and the Council to expedite the upgrade. Under the proposed policy, the Council would cover 50 per cent of the upgrade costs, while the benefiting ratepayers would contribute the remaining 50 per cent. Historically, such requests might not have been prioritised by Council.

If approved, the policy would not prevent ratepayers from requesting upgrades fully funded by the Council. Currently, the Council is considering over \$500,000 worth of such requests through its budget and long-term financial planning processes.



HAVE YOUR SAY

on Council's draft plans and policies

We value your input on our draft strategic plans and policies. You can share your thoughts online via our website or message us on Facebook, or visit our offices in Port Broughton and Bute to review the documents and complete a survey form.

The consultation period will close at the end of June.



Draft Annual Business Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan

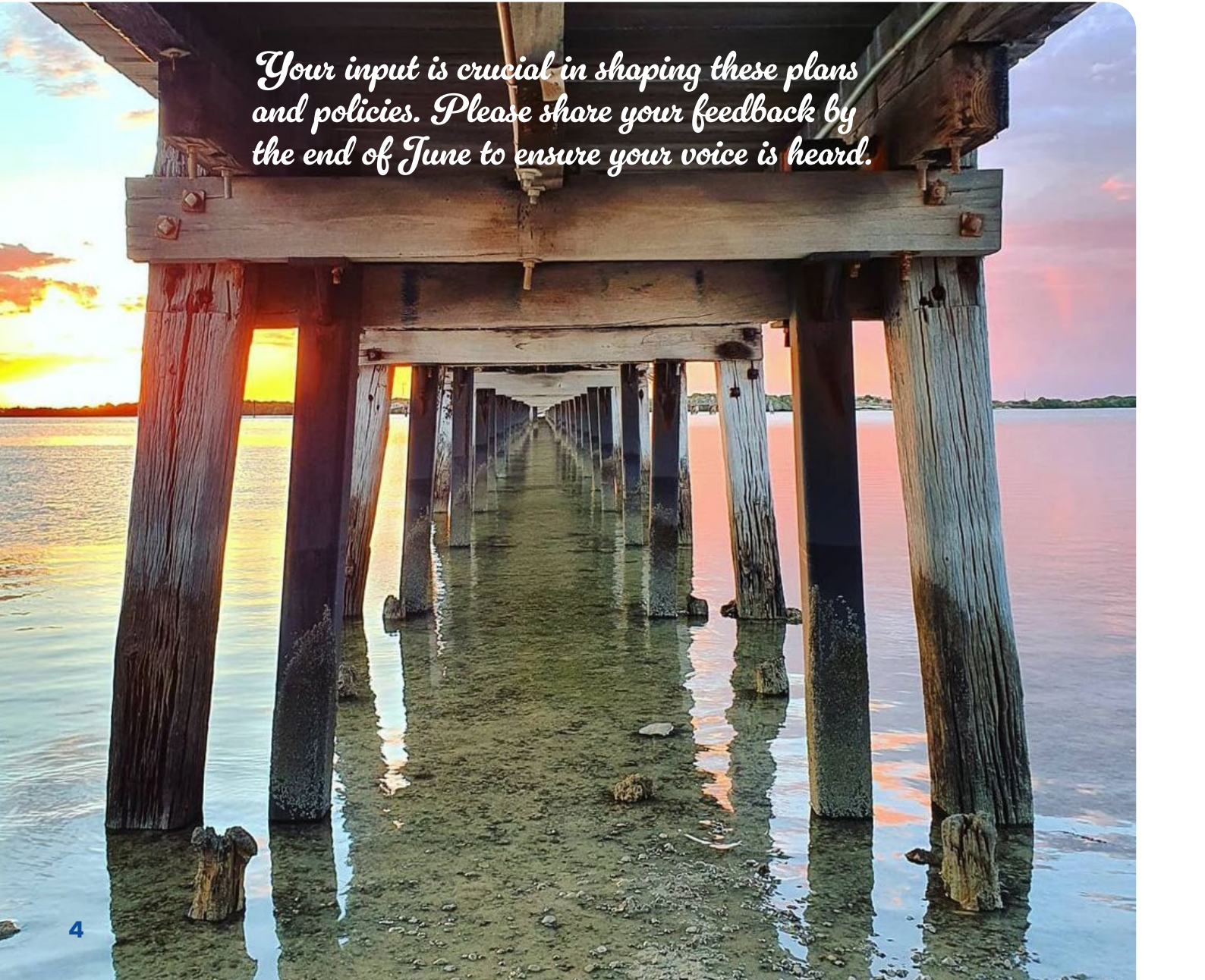
Council is seeking community feedback on its Draft Annual Business Plan (including budget) for 2024-25 and the Long-Term Financial Plan 2024-2034. These documents outline the Council's expected income and expenses for the short and long-term, ensuring that spending on projects and services aligns with the strategic vision in the Strategic Community Plan 2024-2028.

These plans are developed with the needs of the community in mind, both now and in the future.

Draft Reconciliation Action Plan

Council is seeking public feedback on the draft 2024-2025 Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which aims to foster greater unity and respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the Barunga West community.

Council is committed to celebrating the history, culture, and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people throughout our district. The RAP outlines steps that the Council will take towards reconciliation, developed in collaboration with the Nharangga Aboriginal Progress Association.



Your input is crucial in shaping these plans and policies. Please share your feedback by the end of June to ensure your voice is heard.

Developments for 2024-25

A snapshot of Council projects and initiatives proposed for 2024-25.

Grace Harwar Drive Residential Land Development \$628,000

Civil works will bring power, water, kerbing, and roads to finalise titles for 18 residential blocks.

Port Broughton Employment Zone \$1.33 million

Hornby Road will see new power and road infrastructure to facilitate the sale of five large industrial blocks, boosting local employment.

Bute Residential Land Development \$123,000

Civil works will provide power, water, and driveways for eight allotments along Arbon Road.

Cemetery Upgrade \$20,000

Enhancements at Port Broughton Cemetery include new seating, upgraded shelters, paving, and levelled ceremony space for a serene visitor experience.

Fisherman Bay \$22,000

Post-construction, we will invest in vegetation and beach access improvements at Fisherman Bay.

Tickera Well Structure \$15,000

In collaboration with the Tickera Community and Recreational Association, we will commemorate the historic well with a new structure and informative signage.

Roads and Footpaths \$1.5 million

Renewal of sealed and unsealed roads across the district, with new footpaths in Port Broughton to enhance safety and accessibility.

Port Broughton Main Street

Detailed design and engineering work for Bay Street to prepare for future upgrades, including footpaths, plantings, and infrastructure improvements.

First Home Buyers Rebate

The \$500 annual rebate for first-time homeowners will continue until June 30, 2025.

Community Operations

Focus areas include intensified weed management, a street tree giveaway program to increase the tree canopy, and continued advocacy for health services and childcare support.



Tickera Well



Port Broughton

Key Land Developments

In a proactive move to tackle the ongoing housing crisis, Barunga West Council has announced a series of land development projects with civil works to be completed in 2024-25.

These initiatives aim to increase the availability of residential and industrial properties, ensuring sustainable growth for our region.

Council will invest in civil works to install essential infrastructure such as power, water, kerbing, and roads at the Grace Harwar Drive site in Port Broughton. This redevelopment will facilitate the settlement of 18 residential land titles, 15 of which have already been sold off-plan.

Civil works will also be completed at Hornby Road, Port Broughton. This development will create five large industrial blocks, ready for sale to interested parties, bolstering local employment opportunities.

The Bute project will see the Council finishing civil works to bring power, water, and driveways to eight allotments along Arbon Road. This development will enable the settlement of pre-sold blocks off-plan, contributing to the region's residential growth.



These key projects underscore Council's commitment to addressing the housing crisis and supporting economic development through strategic land releases and infrastructure improvements.

Alford tennis court upgrade



Mundoora main street upgrades



Fisherman Bay



Reflecting on Four Years of Progress

Projects and Initiatives

During the past four years, Barunga West Council has not only maintained its core services and functions such as waste management, road maintenance, and the upkeep of parks and gardens, but has also tackled a backlog of maintenance requirements and leveraged grants to fund new infrastructure and initiatives for growth.

Read about some of the key projects and initiatives over the following pages.

2020-21

In 2020-21, Council invested in a record number of projects, thanks to more than \$1.5 million in government funding through the Drought Communities Program and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. Key projects included:

- A new roof and rainwater tanks for the Bute Sporting Clubrooms
- New playground equipment for the district
- An all-access playground for the Port Broughton foreshore
- Electrical service upgrades at the Port Broughton Oval, foreshore, and Tourist Park
- Civil works for underground power lines at the new helipad at Port Broughton Hospital
- A new kitchen for the Tickera Community Centre
- Upgrades and reopening of the Bute Soldiers' Memorial Hall
- Raising and releveling the Mundoora Bowling Club's floor and internal fittings repair.

Council created a tourism and events program and launched the 'Top of the Yorke' tourism brand, new signs and brochures for the Snook Road Nature Walk, promotion of camping and fishing areas, staged the inaugural Feast on the Foreshore, and Port Broughton's sesquicentennial events including the Show'n'Shine vintage vehicle festival.



Port Broughton All Abilities Playground



Bute Town Hall



Edmund Street, Port Broughton



Mundoora Bowling Club



Kulpara Hall

2021-22

During 2021-22, there were significant infrastructure improvements, including:

- An upgrade of Edmund Street, Port Broughton
- Sand replenishment and revegetation at Port Broughton's foreshore
- Ninnes Road upgrades
- Bute Silo Art project
- Upgrades to the Alford Town Hall
- Upgrades to the Kulpura Town Hall.

Strategic plans developed during this period included a draft Master Plan for Tickera, a Recreational Trails Strategy, and a Master Plan for Main Streets at Mundoora, Kulpura, Bute, Tickera, Alford and Port Broughton.

PORT BROUGHTON EVENTS 2021-22

Council hosted the following annual events in Port Broughton to unite the community and welcome visitors:

- **Seaside Markets:** Two major seaside markets were held
- **Feast on the Foreshore:** On Good Friday, Council brought together food trucks and music.
- **Show N Shine:** On the last Sunday of May, car enthusiasts gathered for a fantastic display of classic and custom vehicles.
- **New Year's Eve Fireworks:** Council welcomed the New Year with family-friendly fireworks, lighting up the sky over Port Broughton.
- **Christmas Festival:** The festive season included a wonderful Christmas Festival and the installation of a community Christmas tree, and Santa's Cave.



Sand replenishment, Port Broughton

2022-23

In 2022-23, completed key projects included:

- An upgrade to Bute's Community Wastewater Management System
- An upgrade to Port Broughton's Community Wastewater Management System to accommodate Fisherman Bay
- Sand replenishment works along Port Broughton's foreshore
- A beach access ramp in Port Broughton
- Repairs to Port Broughton's Old Chamber
- Upgrade of the Alford playing courts
- The Port Broughton boat ramp toilet project.

Council also collaborated with the community to:

- Remove overhead wires and install new poles and cables on Whiting Road, Fisherman Bay
- Launch the Top of the Yorke tourism website
- Install Port Broughton's first ATM at the Council building
- Initiate rezoning of rural land near Fisherman Bay for residential development
- Introduce a new Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO) collection service.

2023-24

In the current financial year, Council has completed or will complete projects such as:

- Upgrades to the Bute playing courts
- Upgrades to the Port Broughton playing courts
- Connecting Bute's play spaces project
- Stormwater infrastructure and upgrades to Mundoora's main street
- The Fisherman Bay Freeholding project
- Sand replenishment works on Port Broughton's foreshore
- The Port Broughton jetty pontoon project
- The Civic Square upgrade project
- The Tickera Foreshore rejuvenation project
- The Kulpura RV and Dump point project.

ONE-OFF GRANTS

Over the past four years, Council has worked extremely hard to secure additional funding through one-off grants totalling \$5.81 million. This funding is in addition to the support provided to the Council by federal and state governments, including contributions from the Drought Communities Programme, Financial Assistance Grants, Roads to Recovery Program, and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

2020-21

- \$700,000 from the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program for an upgrade to Ninnes Road
- \$5,000 from the Connecting Drought Communities for the Feast of the Foreshore
- \$49,150 from Tackling Tough Times Together for the Bute Silo Art Project
- \$5,000 from the Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program for the Port Broughton War Memorial lights.



2021 Feast on the Foreshore

2021-22

- \$92,812 from the Stormwater Management Fund for the Mundoora Main Street and Stormwater project
- \$117,400 from the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing Infrastructure Projects Program for playing court upgrades at Port Broughton, Bute, and Alford
- \$250,000 from Wellbeing SA's Healthy Towns Challenge for Connecting Bute's outdoor play spaces
- \$10,000 from Australia Day Community Grants
- \$5,000 from the SA Tourism Commission Regional Events Fund for the Feast on the Foreshore
- \$2,731 from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Cultural, Heritage and Arts Regional Tourism Grant for Gallery 1871
- \$3,800 from the Dog and Cat Board Breeder Compliance Grant for Paws in the Park
- \$400,000 from PIRSA's Recreational Fishing, Boating and Camping Facilities Grant Fund for the Port Broughton pontoon and boat ramp toilet
- \$25,000 from Green Industries for FOGO implementation.



Connecting Bute's outdoor play spaces



Tickera Foreshore

2022-23

- \$359,000 from the National Emergency Management Agency Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Measure for Port Broughton's beach nourishment program
- \$16,303 from the Australia Day Council's community grants for flag poles, tables, chairs, and a sound system for events
- \$18,540 from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator grant for a Heavy Vehicle Route and Risk Assessment report
- \$5,505 from Green Industries for regional transport subsidy for recyclable waste removal
- \$10,000 from the Landscape Board SA for the Vegetation Management Plan and vegetation survey for the Willamulka Corridor
- \$5,750 from the Department for Environment and Water Coastal Protection Grant for the Tickera Foreshore Rehabilitation Project
- \$3,155,000 from the Local Government Association's Community Wastewater Management State Government subsidy to upgrade the Port Broughton CWMS to accommodate Fisherman Bay.

2023-24

- \$9,998 from the Landscape Board SA for the Tickera Historic Well and Nharangga walking trail
- \$11,090 from Northern Yorke Landscape Board for the renewal of fencing south of the Port Broughton dog park in the area known as FOBBS Patch
- \$35,000 from the PIRSA Thriving Communities Program for the Nharangga Civic Square Public Art project
- \$500,000 from the Planning and Development fund for Port Broughton's main streets
- \$7,546 from the Regional Transport Subsidies Program for the provision of kerbside recycling services
- \$10,000 from the Dog and Cat Management Board for cat cage and trap program.

State and Federal Government grants have been crucial in supplementing ratepayer funds to support various community projects and infrastructure improvements.

In addition to the above grants that Council has managed, Council staff have also supported nine groups in the community to apply for and secure \$85,298 of grant funding, reducing the need for volunteers to fundraise to make these projects happen.



Port Broughton Civic Square

Celebrating Our Community

Port Broughton and Bute have received well-deserved recognition.

Port Broughton

2023 SA'S TINY TOURISM TOWN OF THE YEAR

This award highlights our town's charm, friendly atmosphere, and the unique experiences we offer to visitors.



Advocacy Wins and Awards

Council has achieved great things in advocacy and bringing home some impressive awards, all while making our community a better place to live and visit.

We've secured support from the State Government for two important projects:

RURAL CARE PROGRAM EXPANSION IN BUTE

This means more accessible care services for our rural community, supporting local families and individuals who need it most.

UPPER YORKE ROAD UPGRADE

A multimillion-dollar upgrade between Port Broughton and nearby areas will improve our roads, making travel safer and easier for everyone.

Bute 'Beaut' Silo Art

2023 AUSTRALIAN STREET ART AWARDS

The silo art took home Gold for Best Rural Art and Silver for Best Mega Mural. These awards celebrate the creativity and community effort that turned our silos into stunning works of art recognised nationally.





Save the Dates

Council is continuing its efforts to sponsor or deliver a range of events for the community and visitors to the area for the remainder of the year including:

6 October 2024

Port Broughton October Long Weekend Seaside Markets

14 December 2024

Christmas Festival (including Pageant, Santa Cave and Street Festival)

31 December 2024

New Year's Eve celebrations including fireworks



To find out more, visit Council's offices at Port Broughton or Bute, visit our website, or find us on social media.



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