

Budget Guide

2025/26



From the Shire President



With the adoption of the 2025/26 Budget, Council is proud to continue investing in the community's vision for Murray as an outstanding place for community, lifestyle and opportunity.

In this brochure, you'll see how we are not only delivering essential services and maintaining facilities, but also investing in Murray's future.

For example, this financial year, with the generous support from the Bendigo Community Bank Pinjarra, we will refurbish the Murray Library to allow for a better and more modern library layout, while also commencing formal masterplanning and design concepts for a future new Murray Library. Other highlights include:

- \$16,588,498** in sport and recreation
- \$5,084,975** in economic development and tourism
- \$22,927,734** in roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage
- \$3,613,905** in heritage, culture and events
- \$3,147,592** in town planning and environmental protection
- \$4,397,497** in health, welfare and community safety
- \$4,646,042** in waste management

This funding will allow us to progress several significant projects. We will install new sport and recreational facilities, improve community bushfire preparedness, progress with several road works, and install more CCTV to name a few.

All projects are fully funded through the 2025/26 Budget and our long-term financial plan; ensuring we continue to deliver on community priorities with confidence.

Council remains committed to aligning our decisions with community expectations and our Council Plan. We are confident that this budget represents a strong investment in the aspirations of our community.

I encourage you to read more about these initiatives in this brochure and visit our website for further details.

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Your Council



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Council Plan

The Shire of Murray Council Plan 2023 – 2033, sets the Shire's priorities for ten years.

Informed by significant community consultation, the Council Plan represents community priorities and aligns our actions to them.

It includes five strategic focus areas - people, planet, place, prosperity and performance – with a particular focus on health, economic development, tourism development and environmental sustainability.

Inclusive of 186 specific actions across multiple themes, the plan outlines the deliberate steps we will take to drive outcomes and achieve the vision.



People

Our community enjoys excellent health, wellbeing and quality of life.



Planet

Our natural environment is cared for and appreciated.



Place

Our rural charm is preserved while we grow by embracing innovative design ideas.



Prosperity

Our economy is thriving with diverse business, tourism and job opportunities.



Performance

Our can-do attitude helps us to achieve desired outcomes and continuously strive for excellence.



[View our Council Plan](#)

Vision for Murray:

an outstanding place for community,

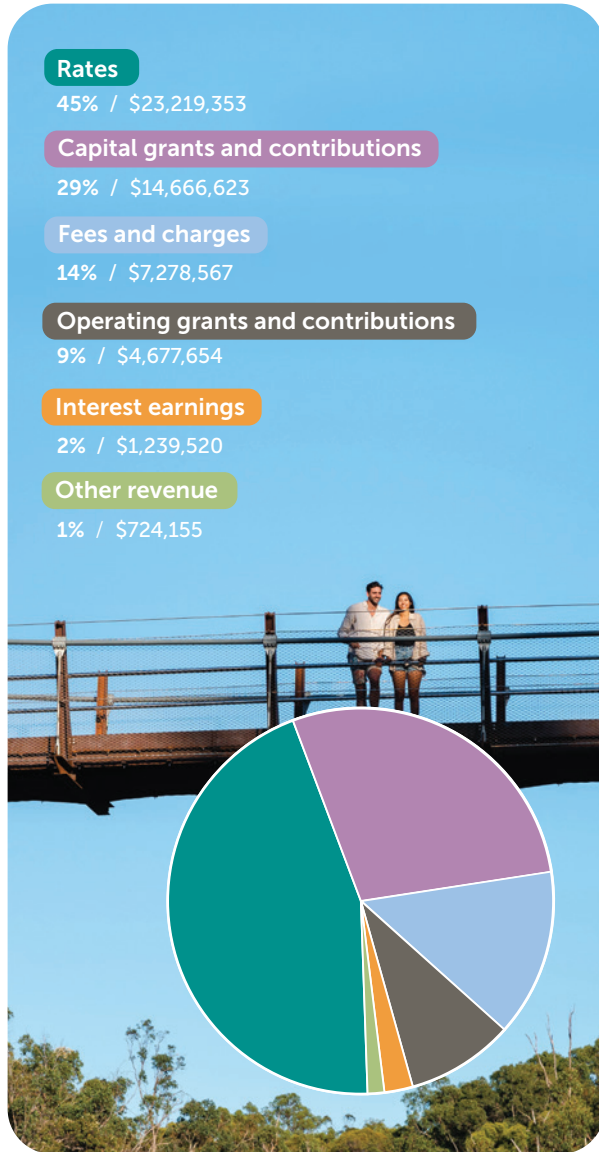
lifestyle and opportunity



Revenue

Did you know... your rates only account for 45% of the Shire's revenue.

Rates aren't enough to pay for everything we do, so we also apply for grants, funding and awards to make up the gap.



Expenditure highlights

- Sport and recreation**
Murray Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Murray Library, green spaces and community facilities such as playgrounds and skate/BMX parks.
\$16.6m
- Waste management**
Bin collection services, recycling and verge collections as well as managing hazardous waste and waste transfer station.
\$4.6m
- Health, welfare and community safety**
Health inspections, senior citizen and youth services. Ranger services, CCTV and community safety initiatives.
\$4.4m
- Economic development and tourism**
Dwellingup Trails and Visitor Centre, Food Innovation Precinct Western Australia, promotion of tourism destinations and economic stimulation projects.
\$5.1m
- Transport**
Roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage.
\$23m
- Heritage, culture and events**
Public art, festivals and events, and maintenance of built and natural heritage.
\$3.6m
- Town planning and environmental protection**
Administration of town planning schemes and services, and environmental protection programs.
\$3.1m

Major projects

Investment in 2025/26

Sir Ross McLarty Sports Precinct

Replacement and upgrade of George Beacham Pavilion (\$2,950,000²) and Enzo Menara Pavilion (\$260,000¹). Installation of cricket infrastructure including nets and wickets (275,000¹).



\$3.5m

North Pinjarra Revitalisation

An upgrade to facilities that will secure the recreational area as the primary precinct for the North Pinjarra community.¹



\$800k

Edenvale Heritage Precinct

Installation of infrastructure that will allow the location to host both large and small scale events.¹



\$750k

South Yunderup Oval lights

Installation of LED sport lighting that will enable nighttime training and games.¹



\$368k

Murray Library

Investment into Murray's much-loved and only public library to be refurbished, enhancing its functionality and community appeal.³



\$200k

\$1.45m

Dwellingup Oval Pavilion

An upgrade of pavilion facilities.¹



\$324k

Bushfire preparedness

Enhancements to community safety with the installation of large firefighting water tanks and Fire Danger Rating Boards.¹



South Yunderup Water

Upgrade of reticulation that will provide a consistent water supply to Lucie Hunter Park, Sandy Cove and South Yunderup Oval.



\$390k

Capital roadworks

Extension of Munday Avenue to Greenlands Road, plus ongoing road renewal and improvement works along numerous regional roads.^{1,2}



\$6m

CCTV network

Installation of optic fibre and CCTV cameras at the Pinjarra Railway Precinct.



\$91k

¹ Supported by State Government

² Supported by Australian Government

³ Supported by Bendigo Bank

Check out more about these, and other major projects on our website



How rates are calculated

For the 2025/26 financial year Council will impose the following differential rating categories. These categories ensure that rate revenue is collected on a fair and equitable basis, taking into consideration the cost of delivering services to each of the respective land classes in the district.

Objects and Reasons

UV General

Characteristic
Properties that are used for purposes other than rural lifestyle or industrial/mining.
Object
The object of this differential rate is to ensure that all ratepayers make a reasonable contribution towards the services and infrastructure provided and maintained by the Shire for the benefit of residents.
Reason
This is considered the base rate by which all other UV rated properties are assessed. Revenue derived from this category will assist with funding the service levels expected by the community, achieving strategic community objectives and minimum standards of performance to which the Council will be measured by the State Government and others.

UV Rural Lifestyle

Characteristic
Properties that are used primarily for residential purposes.
Object
The object of this differential rate is to ensure that all UV property owners with a residential use make a reasonable and consistent contribution towards the services and infrastructure provided and maintained by the Shire for the benefit of the residents. This rate is to be slightly higher than the general rate.
Reason
The slightly higher rate in the dollar is to reflect the higher cost of servicing these properties and to better align the contribution of these properties to other properties with a similar use.

UV Industrial/ Mining

Characteristic
Properties used for industrial or mining purposes.
Object
The object of this differential rate is to ensure that all UV property owners which carry out impactful activities, contribute adequately to the services and infrastructure of the community. This rate is to be higher than the general rate.
Reason
The higher rate is to reflect the impact of activities which have a significant negative impact on the strategic planning, local environment, structure and the rural character of the district and where development and livability within the district is impacted from these activities.

Variation in Adopted Differential Rates to Local Public Notice

As part of 2025/26 budget preparations the proposal to impose differential rates was advertised as required by legislation. Subsequent to advertising the proposed rates Council finalised its 2025/26 budget funding requirements. To ensure adequate funds are provided for long term capital investment the adopted rates are different to those previously set out in the local public notice. The advertised rates and minimum payments compared to those adopted are as follows:

Differential General Rate Category	Proposed Rate in \$ as advertised	Adopted Rate in \$	Reason for the difference
GRV General	0.083160	0.083600	To provide funds for long term capital investment
UV General	0.005965	0.005996	
UV Industrial Mining	0.011830	0.011892	
UV Rural Lifestyle	0.006066	0.006097	
Minimum Payment Category	Proposed Minimum as advertised	Adopted Minimum	Reason for the difference
GRV General	\$1,369	\$1,376	To provide funds for long term capital investment
GRV General Lesser Minimum (Storage Unit)	\$1,030	\$1,036	
UV General	\$1,369	\$1,376	
UV Industrial Mining	\$1,369	\$1,376	
UV Rural Lifestyle	\$1,369	\$1,376	

Minimum Payments

General rates are calculated by multiplying a property's valuation (GRV or UV) by the rate in the dollar set by Council, less any concessions. If the calculated rates are below the minimum rate contribution, the minimum rate applies.

The Shire imposes a minimum payment across all rating categories. The minimum payments have been determined by Council on the basis that all ratepayers must make a reasonable contribution to the cost of service delivery and provision of facilities. The minimum rates that have been adopted by Council for 2025/26 are:

Rate Category	Minimum Payment
GRV General	\$1,376
GRV General (Storage Unit)	\$1,036
UV General	\$1,376
UV Rural Lifestyle	\$1,376
UV Industrial / Mining	\$1,376

The lesser minimum applied to GRV General for storage unit properties is in recognition that storage units are additional facilities utilised by existing residents and ratepayers and do not necessarily increase demand for Council services.

Concessions

Under *Section 6.47 of the Local Government Act 1995*, Council offers the following rate concessions.

Circumstances in which the waiver or concession is granted	Objects and reasons of the waiver or concession
Bona-fide primary producers residing within the Shire as per Policy F7.	In recognition of the critical economic importance of the agricultural industry, Council has adopted Policy F7 to assist bona-fide primary producers.
Bona-fide primary producers residing within neighbouring Shires as per Policy F7.	In recognition of the critical economic importance of the agricultural industry, Council has adopted Policy F7 to assist bona-fide primary producers.

Applied to strata-titled lots within the Riverglades Complex.

Concession applied in recognition of property owners required to pay the mandated fee under the Caravan Parks & Camping Grounds Regulations.

Applied to the property located at Lot 7 Mounsey Road, West Coolup whilst the property is made available as a recognised forward fire base.

Concession applied in recognition of the community benefit afforded by the use of the airfield in assisting with firefighting activities.

Applied to the property located at 7 Paceway Court, Pinjarra.

Concession applied to reduce rates on the property to an equitable level in recognition of the importance of the equine industry to the district.

Exemptions

Pursuant to the provisions of *Section 6.26 of the Local Government Act 1995*, Council is required to provide a rating exemption to various organisations operating within the Shire. This results in the wider Shire of Murray community subsidising these property owners. The estimated rates exemption for the 2025/26 financial year totals \$245,431.

Totals for individual categories:

S6.26 (d) Religious Purposes \$21,706

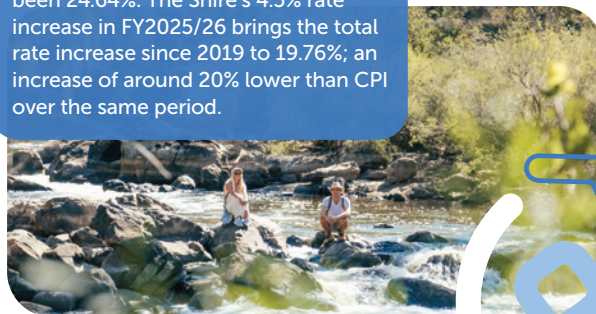
S6.26 (e) Religious School \$13,042

S6.26 (f) Non-Government School \$9,882

S6.26 (g) Charitable Purposes (including Social Housing) \$85,429

S6.26 (j) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Act 2005 \$115,371






Since 2019, the total CPI increase has been 24.64%. The Shire's 4.5% rate increase in FY2025/26 brings the total rate increase since 2019 to 19.76%; an increase of around 20% lower than CPI over the same period.



Waste and recycling

Be a good sort

The following items belong in your recycling bin:

-  **Aluminium and steel cans** – clean and empty
-  **Plastic bottles and containers** – lids off, clean and empty
-  **Paper** – excluding shredded paper
-  **Glass bottles and jars** – lids off, clean and empty
-  **Cardboard** – flattened



Place items loose in the bin, not in plastic bags.

Did you know that you can upgrade to a 360L recycling bin for a one-off fee of \$45. Simply contact the Shire to learn how.



Verge collection guide

Each residential property that receives a weekly waste service gets one hard waste and two green waste collections each year. To find out your bin day and when verge collections are scheduled, scan the below QR code.

Green waste

-  Tree and shrub prunings up to 1.5m with trunks up to 0.3m in diameter
-  Lawn clippings, loose leaves, stumps, palm logs, weeds, root material, general rubbish or whitegoods

Hard waste

-  Whitegoods, scrap metal, bed frames, lounges, cupboards, furniture and materials less than 1.5m long
-  Tyres, batteries, car bodies or parts, green waste, asbestos, building rubble, hazardous waste or glass



Bin and verge collections for the Shire of Murray

Recycling Calendar 2025-2026

July 2025					August 2025					September 2025					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4					1	1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	
14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	
21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	
28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	29	30					
October 2025					November 2025					December 2025					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
		1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31						29	30	31			
January 2026					February 2026					March 2026					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
			1	2	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6	
5	6	7	8	9	9	10	11	12	13	9	10	11	12	13	
12	13	14	15	16	16	17	18	19	20	16	17	18	19	20	
19	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	23	24	25	26	27	
26	27	28	29	30						30	31				
April 2026					May 2026					June 2026					
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	
		1	2	3					1	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	29	30					

■ Recycle Weeks



Shire of Murray

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