

# Budget Guide

## 2026/27



## From the Shire President

With the adoption of the 2026/27 Budget, Council is proud to continue investing in the community's vision of Murray as an outstanding place for community, lifestyle and opportunity.

While the annual budget delivers great outcomes in the here and now, it also ensures we continue to maintain our assets and invest in opportunities that will benefit Murray in the years ahead.

Through the budget, the Shire will fund a wide range of services aligned to the Shire's five strategic pillars: people, planet, place, prosperity and performance.

In addition to its business as usual service, the Shire will invest in a breadth of important projects. I encourage you to read more about these initiatives in this brochure and visit our website for further details.

As part of the budget, Council has adopted an overall rate increase of 4.95 percent. In setting the rate increase, Council carefully considered the rising cost of delivering services and maintaining infrastructure, while remaining mindful of the financial pressures facing households and businesses.

Community expectations are always at the forefront of Council decisions. With a budget that is aligned closely to our Council Plan, we have great confidence we are investing appropriately in community aspirations.



**Shire President**

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Douglas McLarty'.

Douglas McLarty

# 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 almost 200 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](#)



A woman with blonde hair, wearing a light-colored checkered dress and sandals, is smiling and holding the ropes of a large blue and green swing set. Two children, a boy and a girl, are sitting on the swing. The boy is wearing a red shirt and the girl is wearing a white shirt and blue shorts. They are all smiling and appear to be enjoying the swing. The background shows a park with green trees and a clear blue sky. The swing set has a large green arch and blue ropes. The ground is covered in green grass and a blue safety mat.

Vision for Murray:

an outstanding place for community,  
lifestyle and opportunity.

# Revenue

**Did you know... your rates only account for less than half of the Shire's revenue.**

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

## Rates

\$25,322,251

## Non-operating grants and contributions

\$11,930,458

## Fees and charges

\$9,171,505

## Reserve transfers

\$8,410,820

## Operating grants and contributions

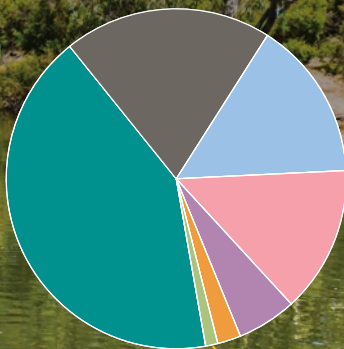
\$3,415,687

## Interest earnings

\$1,340,624

## Other revenue

\$695,994



## Highlight Projects

Through the budget, the Shire will invest in a breadth of important projects. These include:



North Pinjarra  
Playground and  
Recreation Space upgrade

\$ 800,000<sup>1</sup>

Stage One South Yunderup  
Oval Carpark

\$ 750,000<sup>2</sup>

Edenvale/St Johns  
Church Toilets

\$ 728,245<sup>1</sup>

Murray Delta Islands  
Foreshore Management  
and Adaptation

\$ 662,905

Pathway Construction  
and Renewals

\$ 528,674

Pinjarra Railway Buildings  
Conservation

\$ 400,289<sup>2</sup>

South Yunderup  
Oval Lights

\$ 368,565

Waterways Renewal

\$ 339,065

Parks Renewal

\$ 254,705



YOUR FIRE RISK TODAY IS

Bushfire Mitigation

\$ 250,000<sup>3</sup>

Coolup Road East Bridge

\$ 250,000

**Edenvale Landscape Works**

**\$ 215,000**



**Firefighting Water Tanks**

**\$ 200,000<sup>2</sup>**

**Pinjarra Cemetery Picket Fence Replacement**

**\$ 110,000**

**Batavia Quays Boating Facility**

**\$ 200,000<sup>4</sup>**

**Murray Community Resource Centre and Department of Transport Vehicle and Licensing Services activation**

**\$ 100,000**

**Drainage Works**

**\$ 161,849**



**Murray Aquatic Leisure Centre designs for expansion**

**\$ 150,000**



**Future new Murray Library Redevelopment Plan**

**\$ 137,844**

**Murray Aquatic Leisure Centre Vending Machine, Pilates Studio and Sauna**

**\$ 84,260**

**Community Storage Shed (Sir Ross McLarty Oval)**

**\$ 130,000**

**Schoolmasters House Veranda Works**

**\$ 75,000**

**Heritage Building  
Conservation Works**

**\$ 50,000**

**Coastal Hazard Risk  
Mitigation and Adaptation  
Plan Annual Monitoring**

**\$ 20,000**

**Footpath - Humphrey  
Street, Pinjarra**

**\$ 50,000**

**Jolly Rambler  
Boulevard remedial works**

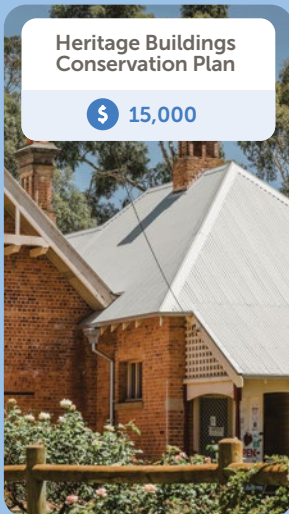
**\$ 40,000**

**Heritage Buildings  
Conservation Plan**

**\$ 15,000**

**Cantwell Park Picket  
Fence Replacement**

**\$ 35,000**

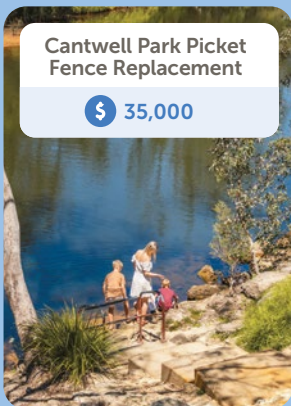


**Goal Posts -  
Montgomery Park**

**\$ 7,500**

**Shoreline Adaptations**

**\$ 25,000**



<sup>1</sup> Funded by Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

<sup>2</sup> Supported by Alcoa

<sup>3</sup> Funded by Department of Fire and Emergency Services

<sup>4</sup> Funded by Department of Transport

# Roads Projects

Another major investment will be in the Shire's road networks.



## Major Roads Program

*(2/3rds funded by Main Roads)*

Del Park Road

\$ 630,000

Lakes Road

\$ 750,000

Hopelands Road

\$ 375,000

Paterson Road

\$ 90,000

Burnside Road

\$ 375,000

South Yunderup Road

\$ 344,007

Old Mandurah Road

\$ 150,000

Old Bunbury Road

\$ 375,000

## Roads to Recovery Roads Projects

*(fully funded by the Australian Government)*

Culeenup Road (East)

\$ 200,000

George Beacham

\$ 561,882

Resheeting Program

\$ 100,000

Resealing

\$ 324,320

## Other Funded Roadworks

*(fully funded by WA Government)*

Munday Avenue

\$ 743,084

A further \$820,961 is committed to other resealing, resheeting and traffic management works across the Murray network.

# How rates are calculated

The 2026/27 budget considers the impact of rates on residents and ratepayers, while balancing the need for revenue to fund service delivery and achieve the objectives of the 2026 Council Plan. An increase of 4.95% has been applied to the overall rate yield for the 2026/27 financial year.

Property valuations provided by the Valuer General are used as the basis for calculation of rates each year. Rates are calculated by multiplying a property's value by the applicable rate in the dollar.

Properties rated on the Unimproved Value method are revalued every year, while Gross Rental Value properties are valued every 3-4 years. The Shire's most recent Gross Rental Revaluation was completed in 2024. Council assess and adjust its rate in the dollar for each rating category to counteract the overall impact of valuation movements. This ensures a consistent and equitable distribution of the required rates yield from one year to the next.

For the 2026/27 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.

## Differential Rates

| GRV Rate Categories    | Rate in \$ |
|------------------------|------------|
| GRV General            | 0.087738   |
| UV Rate Categories     | Rate in \$ |
| GRV General            | 0.005709   |
| UV Industrial / Mining | 0.011339   |

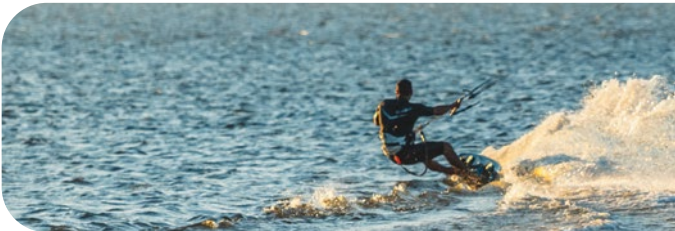
# Objects and Reasons – Differential Rates

## UV General

| Characteristic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Properties that are used for purposes other than industrial or 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 Industrial/ Mining

| Characteristic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Properties that are 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. |



## Minimum Payments

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 local government services and facilities. The following minimum payments are proposed for 2026/2027.

| Rate Category              | Minimum Payment \$ |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| GRV General                | \$1,444            |
| GRV General (Storage Unit) | \$1,087            |
| UV General                 | \$1,444            |
| UV Industrial / Mining     | \$1,444            |

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.

## 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 2026/27 financial year totals \$289,475.

Totals for individual categories:

S6.26 (d) Religious Purposes \$30,340

S6.26 (e) Religious School \$18,690

S6.26 (f) Non-Government School \$10,533

S6.26 (g) Charitable Purposes (including Social Housing) \$108,830

S6.26 (j) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Act 2005 \$121,082

The total CPI increase since 2020 has been 28.41%. The Shire's 4.95% rate increase this year brings the total rate increase since 2020 to 23.34%.

# 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 2026-2027

## July 2026

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

## August 2026

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

## September 2026

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |

## October 2026

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

## November 2026

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |

## December 2026

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |

## January 2027

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |

## February 2027

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |

## March 2027

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

## April 2027

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

## May 2027

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |

## June 2027

| M  | T  | W  | T  | F  |
|----|----|----|----|----|
|    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |

 Recycle Weeks



Sign up for  
enotices



### Report it!

Noticed something  
that needs our  
attention? Let us  
know.



# Shire of Murray

## Contact us

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