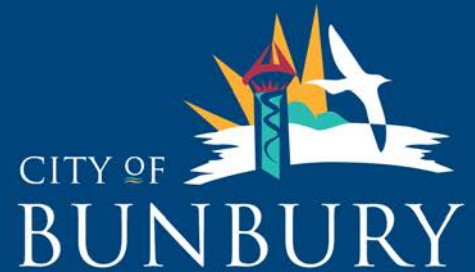


MEDIA STATEMENT



Friday, 10 March 2017

City strengthens its sound financial position

Identifying cost savings and utilising innovative technologies has helped the City of Bunbury strengthen its sound financial position following the adoption of a Budget review this week.

The review highlighted a number of savings across a range of areas, which will see the surplus increase \$42,412 to \$499,701 and the Budget reduce \$965,000 to \$81.62m.

This includes a decrease in capital expenditure of \$842,000 and a reduction in capital income of \$1.06m.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said a focus on productivity and staff identifying savings had played a major role in keeping the City on the right financial track.

“These efforts are highlighted by figures that show the use of fuel across our fleet is expected to decrease by \$146,134, which is a significant amount,” Mr Brennan said.

“When you combine that with the savings in labour and materials that have been made in a number of areas and on a variety of projects, it shows that we are taking it seriously when it comes to reducing costs.”

Mr Brennan said one of the most impressive savings identified came from extensive research into innovative and alternative technologies for a bore pump that serviced open space on San Marco Promenade in Pelican Point.

By using a cutting-edge solution to repair the pump, the City was able to save \$225,000 on the cost of using traditional methods.

The Hydrosmart unit installed uses electric resonance frequencies to greatly improve the quality of water, which results in more effective irrigation of the open space.

“This is genuine sustainable water technology that requires no ongoing costs or consumables and it lasts for decades,” Mr Brennan said.

“So not only does it result in savings this financial year – the unit cost just \$25,000 compared to the expected cost of \$250,000 – it will continue to deliver savings into the future.”

Council is also well into its Budget process for the 2017-18 financial year, with its adoption to take place in July.

ENDS

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BUNBURY GOLF CLUB INC
SUPERINTENDENT - DES RUSSELL

HYDROSMART WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM



THE HYDRO SMART SYSTEM HAS BEEN FITTED FOR NEARLY TWO YEARS NOW AND HAS IMPROVED OUR COURSE AND RETICULATION SYSTEM SINCE WE INSTALLED IT. OUR FAIRWAYS IN PARTICULAR SEEM TO HAVE A GREENER LEAF ALL YEAR ROUND WHICH MEANS WE SPEND LESS ON FERTILISERS. WHEN WE INSTALLED THE HYDRO SMART SYSTEM OUR RETICULATION SYSTEM WAS ONLY 12 MONTHS OLD AND WHEN WE CUT INTO THE 200MM MAIN LINE THERE WAS ALREADY A BUILD UP OF BETWEEN 5-8MM OF AN IRON SLUDGE BONDING TO THE PIPE. WHEN WE INSPECTED THIS PIPE PIECE ABOUT 12 MONTHS LATER THE IRON BUILD UP WAS REDUCED TO MERELY A FINE FILM ON THE PIPE. WE HAVE ALSO FOUND THAT SPRINKLERS ONCE CLEANED OF THE ORIGINAL BUILD UP ARE NO LONGER BLOCKING WITH THE SAME IRON SLUDGE. WE HAVE HAD NO EVIDENCE OF STAINING OF ANY TYPE AND WE HAVE ACTUALLY ERECTED SOME NEW WHITE SIGNS THAT HAVE SHOWN NO STAINING OF ANY KIND EVEN THOUGH OUR IRON READINGS COME IN AT ABOUT 19PPM. AT THIS POINT OF TIME WE ARE VERY HAPPY WITH THE HYDRO SMART SYSTEM WITH THE EXCEPTION OF OUR DAMS STILL RETAINING THE IRON COLOUR WHICH WE HOPED WOULD CLEAR UP BUT THIS IS NOT THE MAIN REASON WE CHOSE TO INSTALL THIS SYSTEM. FROM THE FIRST DAY OF INSTALLATION OF THE HYDRO SMART RICK GIBLETT HAS BEEN AN INTEGRAL PART AND A VERY INTERESTED PARTY AND MORE THAN WILLING TO HELP IN ANY TESTING AND OVERALL SUPPORT.

200MM PIPE SECTION

