

# MID MURRAY COUNCIL



DECEMBER 2011

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## A Message from the Mayor

As summer rolls in we look toward a busy season with grain harvest underway and the tourism industry preparing for our many guests and visitors we welcome to our region.

Now 12 months from elections I reflect on a few achievements; waste management is tracking well and you will soon see transfer stations upgraded if not already started. Council has also been successful in attracting government funding for Healthy Communities and the Opal program, encouraging active lifestyles and good food choices. These initiatives complement the Fun 4 Youth Bus which travels throughout the district.

The PS Canally has arrived in Morgan adding to the great history of the town as a transport terminus. It will be interesting to watch the changes at the riverfront as the historic connections are slowly restored and linked to tell the tales of the past.

Also pleasing after many years and countless hours of planning is that our Skate Park is now complete. Sincere thanks goes to the many people who have had input to this new facility.

Mayor Dave J Burgess

## OPAL MOVES INTO MID MURRAY COMMUNITY

Opal, the healthy lifestyle program supporting 0-18 year olds to eat well and be active, has kicked off within the Mid Murray Council.

Opal is being delivered by the Commonwealth, State and Local Governments, with our Council one of only 16 in the State delivering it locally.

Over the next 5 years, Opal aims to implement initiatives and programs with the overall goal to create healthy opportunities for people locally and increase numbers of children in the healthy weight range.

Courtney Blacker has come on board as the Opal Manager. Courtney has spent the past 5 years working for the State Government helping to deliver projects through community engagement and media management. Also in the team is Opal Support Officer, Diem Luong who has recently completed a degree in nutrition and food sciences.

Opal is about empowering everyone, whether it be local groups, businesses, sporting clubs, families, facility managers, caterers, education networks or other, to play a part in creating healthy choices for young people.

Opal is driven by individual communities and how it comes to life will depend on input from Mid Murray people. Over the next 6 months, the Opal team will be engaging as many of these key groups as possible to introduce the program, finding out what the community wants from Opal.

The program can be many things – examples of Opal initiatives in regional communities have been: community gardens, healthy snack preparation workshops, community fun-runs, healthy catering options, identifying safe paths to cycle or walk along and installing public water fountains.

The Opal team has already started introducing themselves through a stall at the Teddy Bears' Picnic in Mannum, and also involvement in national Walk2Work Day. They have presented information on Opal to some parenting groups, not-for-profit organisations, and more – and the team is keen to visit more people for a chat about the program, ideas and opportunities.

Opal will look to establish a local advisory committee soon, which will provide input and advice on local priorities. People interested should contact the Opal team.

More updates on Opal will be available in local media so keep your eyes open for how you can get involved.

For more information contact Courtney and Diem at the Mannum Office on 8569 0100, or email Courtney at [cbblack@mid-murray-sa.gov.au](mailto:cbblack@mid-murray-sa.gov.au).



## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Dean Gollan**  
Chief Executive Officer

Responsible for -  
Strategic Planning  
OHS & Risk Management  
Economic Development  
Human Resources  
Governance



**Robin Bourne**  
Director, Corporate &  
Financial Services

Responsible for -  
Financial & Administration  
Management  
Community Services  
Information Technology



**Kelvin Goldstone**  
Director, Development &  
Environmental Services

Responsible for -  
Planning  
Building  
Health  
General Inspection/  
Compliance  
Wastewater Management



**Jon Fry**  
Director, Infrastructure  
Services

Responsible for -  
Asset Management  
Roadworks & Maintenance  
Waste Management  
Parks & Reserves

## MOBILE FUN BOX

Council's 'Mobile Fun Box' continues to be a big hit with young people as it moves throughout the Council area. This portable skate park is a great source of fun and physical activity and reaches out to all parts of the Council district. The Mobile Fun Box alternates through twelve towns for two weeks during each visit. Over an extended period, the Mobile Fun Box will visit each town during peak periods such as school holidays, Christmas, New Year, Easter and other long weekends.

Given the nature of the Fun Box, it is a cycle of short geographical moves to maximise its use and minimise the use of Council resources. This combined with the need for communities to know when the Mobile Fun Box will return to their nearest town, means that it is virtually impossible to alter the existing roster or to move it for one-off events. For more information about the Mobile Fun Box visit [www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au](http://www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au) or phone Council on 8569 0100.

## MID MURRAY SKATE PARK

Dreams have become reality for many young people and their families with the Mid Murray Skate Park now complete! Monday 10 October became the first day that avid skaters, BMX and scooter riders could enjoy this first class facility. The design influenced by local youth, features a massive kidney shaped bowl with varying heights plus a spine, grind rail, ledges, ramps, quarter pipes and open skate surfaces.

Businesses and the community rallied around to help landscape the surrounds as over 1,000 square metres of turf was laid in just over 2 hours. Local youth involved throughout the project worked alongside Lions, other volunteers and Council staff to get the job done in good time. Murraylands Turf, Eichler Earthmovers, Raine & Horne Mannum, Lovell's Bakery, Mannum Auto Centre, Mannum Agricultural Show Society and the Mannum Progress Association all contributed free of charge to the landscaping project which will help protect the finished surface.

Council extends its thanks to all the committee members, individuals and businesses who have supported the project since the project was first proposed, to its fruition. This facility is one of the best of its kind in the state - a fantastic asset and outcome for Council and the community. Young people of all ages who have used the facility said it is great to ride!

Council also thanks those who have pledged their support of the park for the future as we would like to incorporate other equipment to complement the facility. If you are interested in helping by the way of a donation, the Skate Park Committee would be very grateful. Suggestions are invited from the community to help make this a hub of activity for our community.

**Fun 4 YOUth is coming to  
a town near YOUth very  
soon!**



### FIRE DANGER SEASON

It has reached that time of the year where residents and visitors in the Mid Murray Council area must consider the requirements of the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, when lighting fires.

**Murraylands Fire Ban District: 15 November 2011 to 15 April 2012**

**Riverland Fire Ban District: 15 November 2011 to 15 April 2012**

It will be necessary to obtain a permit for any fires in the open during the Fire Danger Season. Permits will not be issued for burning off before 1 February 2012.

Recent changes to the Fire and Emergency Services Act have empowered Police Officers and Council Fire Prevention Officers to issue 'on the spot' fines for certain breaches of the Act.

Further information regarding comfort fires and the lighting of barbecues is available from Rocky Warren, Council's Fire Prevention Officer. Rocky can be contacted on 8564 6020 or 0409 554 807.

Further information can be obtained from the **CFS Hotline on 1300 362 361**.

### MOSQUITOES

After a bad season, Council has continued its mosquito trapping and surveillance program throughout the spring season to identify and treat potential breeding sites. The aim is to reduce the amount of mosquito larvae before we enter the summer season.



Remember to cover up, wear a DEET or Picaridin based repellent and remove all stagnant water from around your home. For further information please contact the Environmental Health Officer or google "Fight the Bite".

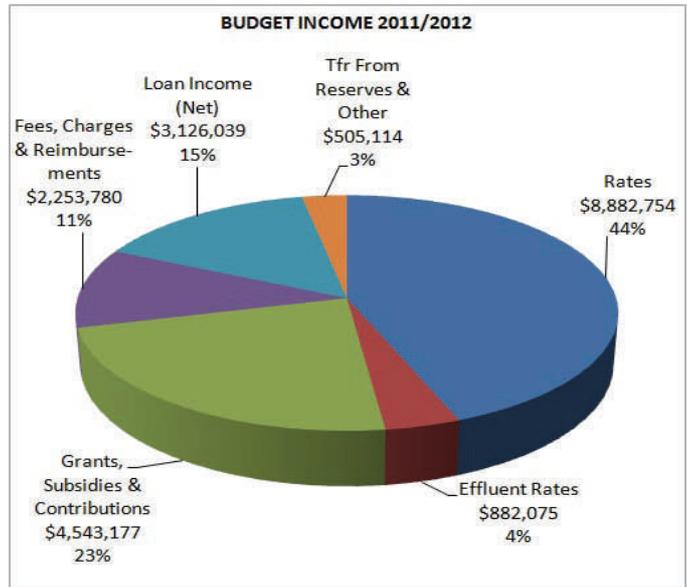
### CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The offices of Council will close at 12 noon on Friday 23 December 2011 and re-open at 9-00 am on Tuesday 3 January 2012.

There will be no changes to household collections during the Christmas/New Year holiday period.

All waste disposals sites will be closed on Christmas Day and on Fire Ban Days.

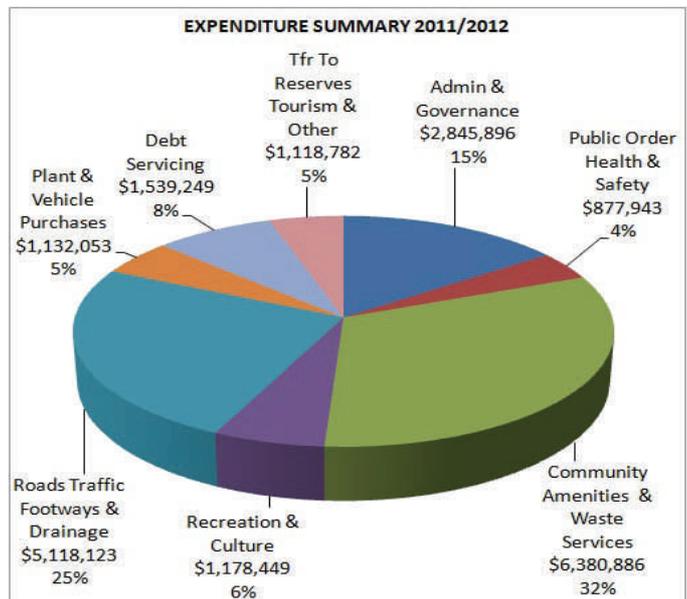
### 2011/2012 BUDGET



**Total Budget Income** includes loans received and reserves funds transfers is \$20,192,939

**Fees, Charges & Reimbursements** includes income received from Rents, Hire Fees, Private Works, Building and Planning fees

**Transfers from Reserves & Others** includes Transfers from Reserve Accounts, Mannum Caravan Park Income, Interest Received and Sale of Plant



**Total Budget Expenditure** includes debt servicing and reserves transfers is \$20,191,381

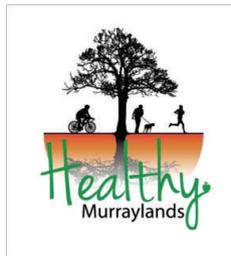
**Administration & Governance** includes Information Technology, Public Liability Insurance, General Administration and Council Members' Expenses

**Community Amenities & Waste Services** includes Street Lighting, Public Conveniences, Sanitation & Garbage and Effluent Drainage Schemes

**Transfers to Reserves, Tourism & Other** includes Mannum Caravan Park Expenditure & Development, Tourism, Depot Upgrades, Building Control and Reserve Account Transfers

## HEALTHY MURRAYLANDS

The Mid Murray Council is partnering with the Coorong, Southern Mallee, Karoonda East Murray and Rural City of Murray Bridge Councils in the rollout of an Australian Government Healthy Communities Initiative.



This initiative is known as *Healthy Murraylands*, and will be delivered over the next two years to all five council districts across the Murraylands.

Dietitian Bianca Gazzola has been appointed as the *Healthy Murraylands* Co-ordinator and will work with the Councils to deliver a range of healthy lifestyle initiatives.

Ambassador for *Healthy Murraylands* is radio and TV personality Andrew 'Cosi' Costello. Cosi was born and bred in the Murraylands and after a stint on the national TV show, *The Biggest Loser* in 2008, losing 47kg, appeared at the very successful *Healthy Murraylands* fun run/walk launch in Mannum on Thursday 1 December 2011.

Mid Murray Council Mayor and Vice-President of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association, Dave Burgess, said he believes this program offers a perfect opportunity to the Murraylands. He said that we can focus on how we can create new opportunities in our local communities that will be sustainable over the long term, helping all of us to maintain healthy and active lifestyles.

The program will provide ways to improve nutrition and increase physical activity participation in towns of the Mid Murray Council. This may include community gyms and gardens, healthy lifestyle programs and walking groups with training available for interested community members.

To find out more information log onto the new *Healthy Murraylands* website [www.healthymurraylands.com.au](http://www.healthymurraylands.com.au) or contact Bianca at the Mid Murray Council on 8569 0100 or [bgazzola@mid-murray.sa.gov.au](mailto:bgazzola@mid-murray.sa.gov.au)



**PROUD AMBASSADOR:** Healthy Murraylands ambassador Andrew 'Cosi' Costello will encourage local Murraylands residents to follow in his active footsteps with Project Co-ordinator Bianca Gazzola

## MOTOR BIKES ON ROAD RESERVES

Council having received many complaints and being aware of the damage/nuisance caused by motor bike riding on road verges and reserves has implemented a signage program throughout the district. Council's Compliance staff are policing illegal bike riding and are taking appropriate action. On the spot fines of \$180 each applies for illegal bike riding on road verges and reserves.



## DISABLED ACCESS INCENTIVE SCHEME

Council has again endorsed a scheme that provides grants of up to \$500 to assist the private sector in improving access for people with disabilities.

The scheme is an example of Council's commitment to its Disability Access Action Plan which endorses the principle of equal access.

Information on the grants can be obtained by contacting Council's Director, Development & Environmental Services, Kelvin Goldstone at the Cambrai office on 8564 6020.

## MID MURRAY COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

All correspondence to PO Box 28,  
Mannum SA 5238

Email: [postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au](mailto:postbox@mid-murray.sa.gov.au)

Website: [www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au](http://www.mid-murray.sa.gov.au)

**Principal Office/Administration, Mannum**

Ph: (08) 8569 0100 Fax: (08) 8569 1931

**Development & Environmental Services, Cambrai**

Ph: (08) 8564 6020 Fax: (08) 8569 1931

**Infrastructure & Works Services, Morgan**

Ph: (08) 8540 0060 Fax: (08) 8569 1931