



MEDIA RELEASE

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Cloncurry Shire Council Adopts its 2025-26 Budget

Cloncurry Shire Council handed down its 2025-26 budget on Tuesday, 1 July 2025.

The budget locks in a modest operating surplus of \$2.44m that will be put toward capital renewal and investment, with a Capital Works program of \$56.7m and a further \$28.987m of flood damage works to be completed. Rates increases sit between 3-4% for the majority of ratepayers, with water and waste charges increasing by 3% and sewer charges increasing by 4%.

Rates & Charges

Mayor Greg Campbell noted, "Cost of living pressure is at the forefront of everyone's minds at present. Accordingly, we have endeavoured to keep increases to rates and charges as low as possible."

"We've been able to hit the 3-4% target across most categories and charges and maintain a balanced budget through driving efficiencies in our operations, modest but sustained population growth, our continued success in attracting external funding from the State and Commonwealth governments, and through the continued strength of the mining and agricultural sectors."

Roads and Transport Infrastructure Projects Council is allocating \$67.337m to its road and transport program for 2025-26.

This includes:

- 620km+ of Flood Damage works across the Shire's road network
- Completion of the Coppermine Creek Bridge Project
- Completion of 13.92km of new seal for Granada Road
- Construction of 2 x replacement causeways and 1 x new causeway on the Malbon Selwyn Road
- Deliver 2025-26 stabilisation and reseal program
- Commencement of Scarr Street Revitalisation Project
- Commence renewals and upgrades to runways, aprons and taxiways at the Cloncurry Airport (subject to finalisation of funding agreement).

“Cloncurry is a major transport hub and it is important that Council continues to invest in maintenance and improvements along key transport corridors within the Shire.”

“It is encouraging to see Cloncurry Council continuing to secure State and Federal Government funding for local road and transport projects as this ensures every ratepayer dollar is leveraged as efficiently as possible,” said Mayor Campbell

Other Capital Works

Many Council projects span multiple years and this budget will see a number of carryover projects completed. This includes completion of:

- Construction of the Curry Kids Early Learning Centre upgrade
- Construction of industrial sheds and warehouses at the Industrial Estate
- Dajarra Water Security Project (mains replacement and bore installation)

A number of other projects will commence in 2025-26:

- Cloncurry Water Security Projects
- Dajarra Playground installation
- Construction of Equestrian Centre Shade Infrastructure
- Shire Hall Stage Upgrade and Flooring Renewal

Mayor Campbell commented on the wide range of investment, across all asset classes, noting that “It demonstrates Council’s commitment to investing in fundamentals and in improving liveability in the Shire. Council sees a number of these projects as key critical in driving continued economic and population growth in Cloncurry.”

Priority Project Planning

Planning and design will be completed for a number of key Council Projects in 2025-26, which will enable delivery from 2026-27 and subsequent years.

These Priority Projects include:

- Cloncurry Water Treatment Plant Upgrades
- John Flynn Place Renewal and Upgrade Project
- Industrial Estate Extension (Stage 2)
- New Residential Subdivision (Brisbane and Griffith Street)

“As 2026 draws nearer, Council is setting up for the delivery of its remaining Priority Projects outlined in our 2021-26 Corporate Plan. These once-in-a-generation projects will have a significant impact on our community and so require a great deal of thought-out planning, stakeholder engagement and peer review to ensure they deliver on our vision for the Shire.” Said Mayor Campbell.

Community Program

Cloncurry Shire continues to punch above its weight in terms of its Community Service program, allocating \$2.94m to a range of key services and initiatives.

This includes the provision of:

- Community and Council events program
- Childcare operations
- Swimming pool operations
- Urban Renewal and Investment Attraction program
- New Homebuilder Grant
- Management of St Andrews Garden Settlement (over-50s unassisted living facility)
- Ramsay Street General Practice subsidy
- Continued support for the PCYC: housing and facilities
- Continued support for the School Chaplaincy program
- Provision of library and gallery services
- Maintenance of parks, gardens, recreation reserves, cemeteries

“Often people new to our Shire comment on the array of community events and services offered. Council prides itself on being able to support our hard-working volunteers and community groups, making it a great place to live.” Said Mayor Campbell.

Environment and Animal Management

Council continues to support best-practice land management and has allocated \$0.546m to its environmental commitments, which include:

- Weed management activities
- Wild/Feral animal management activities: 1080 baiting program, bounty program for wild dogs, feral cats and pigs.
- Environmental management activities, including mosquito fogging
- Animal Control activities:

Council has continued to keep registration fees for de-sexed and microchipped animals, making registration free for these pets during the discount period (1 July – 30 September 2025).

Council has also reduced surrender fees to encourage the re-homing of unwanted dogs. Council has maintained sector-high fees for menacing, dangerous and restricted dog registrations as well as for multiple impoundments.

Plant Acquisition and Replacement

Council's Plant Acquisition and Replacement budget is set at \$975,000, factoring trade-ins and auctions. The program will see Council replacing a number of trucks, tractors and slashers, trailers, tippers and fleet vehicles.

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