

City Views

CITY OF  Armadale

VOLUME 17
AUGUST 2008



2008/09 Budget fuels further growth

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Budget fuels further growth

The City of Armadale is continuing to pave the way for an ever-brighter future in delivering its 2008/09 Budget.

The Budget is focused on continued investment in the City as it grows and develops into a true regional centre. It will continue to support the City's unprecedented growth and cement the foundations for continued, sustainable development well into the future.

The Budget provides for a \$5.58 million investment in the City's road network, \$1.25 million on relocating the Armadale Library to new and improved premises within the Armadale Central Shopping Centre and \$1.67 million for installing new and upgrading existing park facilities such as playgrounds, benches and lighting. The City will also continue to contribute significant resources to its strategic partnership with the Armadale Redevelopment Authority as both parties work to create a dynamic regional centre.

The investments will be funded by an average rate increase of 7.3 per cent, which covers inflation rated at 4.3 per cent (based on the Consumer Price Index – CPI) and a three per cent allowance for continued growth.

Due to the revaluation of all properties by the Valuer General, the rate increase for all properties is not uniform.

This year 77 per cent of all households will pay less than or equal to the CPI of 4.3 per cent. In dollar terms this represents a modest annual increase of \$31.

Armadale Mayor, Linton Reynolds said the continued growth allowance of three per cent went towards investments aimed at



continuing the phenomenal growth Armadale has enjoyed over the past few years.

Cr Reynolds believes many other Councils now recognise the benefits of Armadale's strategic rates planning process.

"We are a far more viable Council as a result of these rates increases and the investments and developments that have resulted from them," Cr Reynolds said

"Most other Councils are now scrambling to catch up and are heavily increasing rates as a result. We are proud to be regarded as a sustainable Council, and a leader in strategically laying the foundations for a successful future," he said.



Seniors and pensioners rebate

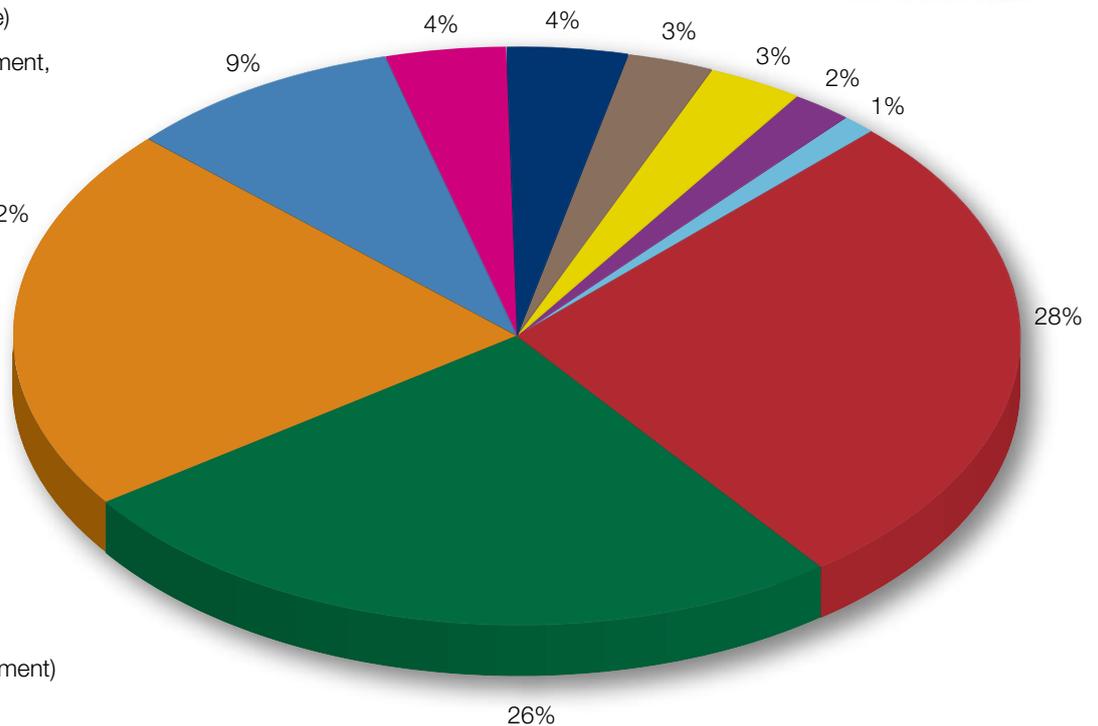
If you owned and occupied your house as at 1 July 2008 and are currently in receipt of a:

- pensioner payment from Centrelink or Veterans Affairs and a Pension Concession Card issued by Centrelink, or
- Seniors Card issued by the Office of Seniors Affairs and a Commonwealth Seniors Health Card, or
- a Seniors Card only,

you may be entitled to claim a rebate and/or a deferment on your current rates. Contact the City's Rates Department on 9399 0647 to find out more.

How is the \$57 million cash budget spent?

- Recreation and culture (aquatic centres, parks, events and libraries)
- Transport (roads, drains and footpaths)
- Community amenity (town planning, rubbish collection and public toilets)
- General purpose funding (rates, grants and interest on investments)
- Education and welfare (community development activities for seniors, youth and indigenous people)
- Governance (policy development, finance, administration, citizenship and Councillor services)
- Law, order and public safety (fire and emergency services, animal control and community safety)
- Economic services (building control, tourism and economic development)
- Health (immunisation, health inspections and noise control)
- Other property and services (engineering plant and equipment)



Mayor's Message



August is budget time and the City of Armadale is proud to have developed a budget which not only builds on past strategic planning and development but also cements a solid and sustainable foundation for the future.

The 2008/09 Budget will support a vast array of projects, ranging from roads to community events and sporting facility upgrades to a long overdue library relocation.

To support these exciting projects, overall rates will need to increase by an average of 7.3 per cent – that's 4.3 per cent based on Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases and another three per cent 'growth allowance' needed to manage our unprecedented rate of development. Most residential rates, however, will only increase by CPI or less.

This is the final year in a six-year plan under which Council has employed the three per cent growth plus CPI formula – a move that has made us a much more viable Council, able to cope with the rapid change taking place. We are regarded within our industry as a leader in managing long term infrastructure needs and many other Councils are now scrambling to catch up.

Early in 2009 the highlight of the 2008/09 Budget will be the relocation of the Armadale Library into significantly larger premises that will also provide for a higher quality of service to its many thousands of users.

Cr Linton Reynolds, AM JP
City of Armadale Mayor

A snapshot of projects

The 2008/09 Budget will provide \$5.58 million to fund the City's continued investment in the region's road network. The City plans major works at Ranford Road, Gilwell Avenue, Williams Road, Seville Drive, Westfield Road and Forrest Road.

The Budget sets aside \$289,400 for eight new footpaths and \$104,300 for four new bike paths. It includes \$1.25 million to fund the relocation of the Armadale Library to the Armadale Central Shopping Centre. It also earmarks \$273,600 for the upgrade of facilities in Morgan Park, Creyk Park Oval, Cross Park and Springdale Park.

In addition, the City will improve community safety by spending \$580,000 on funding a closed circuit TV surveillance camera network in Armadale's Jull Street Mall.

The City will also continue its highly regarded community events series with \$342,100 in funding for events ranging from the Minnowarra Festival to Australia Day celebrations and the Highland Gathering.

Community development in general will also benefit, with \$254,000 earmarked for initiatives ranging from community safety and youth services to Indigenous support and community projects.

\$1.67 million will be spent on new and existing park facilities such as playgrounds, lighting and benches.



A Smarter Way to Pay

Residents seeking to better manage their household budget when their rates bill arrives can now take advantage of a 'Smarter Way to Pay'.

A Smarter Way to Pay was introduced by Council as a no-fuss way to pay rates over a 12-month period via direct debit, on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis from April to March.

There are no administration fees or penalty interest for ratepayers who adopt this payment method. Payments are reviewed annually and a password is required for security purposes.

This payment option aims to ease the burden that a lump sum or limited instalment payment program can cause.

To take advantage of this Smarter Way to Pay, simply contact the City's Rates Department on 9399 0164 to arrange for an application form to be posted or visit the City of Armadale's Administration Centre at 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale to complete the application form.



Spring Family Bushwalks

Sunday 21 September, 5 October, 19 October, 2 November 2008

The clouds are disappearing and it's a great time to stretch the legs on a City of Armadale Spring Family Bushwalk.

Enjoy the beautiful bushland in our region with family and friends during September, October and November and experience the spectacular spring bloom of native wild flowers.

The City of Armadale's annual Spring Family Bushwalks series is popular with local residents and visitors alike. Why not pack a picnic and spend some time exploring the natural wonders on your back doorstep? All walks are free. First registration is at 8.30am and last registration is at 11am. For more information about Spring Family Bushwalks contact the City of Armadale on 9399 0187.

Spring Bushwalk Calendar		
Sunday 21 September	Bungendore Park Djilba Walk	Choice of two walks – 2.5km or 3km Register at Armadale Christian College car park, Admiral Rd, Bedforddale
Sunday 5 October	Settlers Common Walk	Choice of two walks – 3km or 6km (both one-way) Register at the Field Studies Centre, Cnr Carradine Rd and Albany Hwy, Armadale
Sunday 19 October	Walk the Wungong	5km walk one-way Register at Wungong Dam's lower car park, Admiral Rd, Bedforddale
Sunday 2 November	Churchman Bushland Walk	Choice of two walks – 5km or 6km Register at Beeloo Close, off Churchman Brook Rd, Roleystone

Bushcare author talk

7pm – 9pm, Wednesday 17 September

The well-known author of the 'Field Guide to Australian Birds', Michael Morcombe, will be the special guest speaker at the City's Bushcare and Environmental Advisory Committee community information session on 17 September.

Mr Morcombe, who is also a photographer and artist, will present a talk on nature photography and bird life in South West WA and the Armadale region.

City of Armadale residents are invited to attend this free information session, to be held from 7pm to 9pm in the function room at the City of Armadale's Administration Centre, 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale.

Numbers are limited, so to reserve your place please contact the City's Environmental Officer, Paula Haro on 9399 0194 or pharo@armadale.wa.gov.au

Your Local Libraries

Did you know that over 20,000 people visit one of the City's three libraries every month? In addition to the thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and magazines on offer, the libraries also boast a jam-packed Calendar of Events. Check out these exciting activities for starters!

Asthma Talk

**10am – 12pm, Friday 5 September
Kelmscott Library**

The Asthma Foundation's Lisa Terlick will provide information and skills to help control asthma, including medication, asthma triggers and managing a first aid situation. Bookings essential.

Baby Rhyme Time

**10.30am – 11am, Friday
19 September**

Seville Grove Library

Bounce into Rhyme Time and join other parents and babies under two with an introduction to language including reading, singing and rhymes.

Scrapbook Family History

10am, Thursday 25 September

Birtwistle Local Studies Library

Family researcher Jordie Craig talks about ways to preserve and present your family history through scrapbooking.

Books on Wheels

9.30am – 11am, every Wednesday

Seville Grove Library

In conjunction with Armadale Home Help, the library assists less mobile residents who are without transport to select books and other materials. Morning tea provided.

Armadale Library

7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale
Tel: 9399 0125

Kelmscott Library

2800 Albany Highway, Kelmscott
Tel: 9390 5506

Westfield Library

78 Champion Drive, Seville Grove
Tel: 9497 2622

Wood smoke tips

Smoke from a wood fire can be a nuisance to your neighbours and cause serious problems for people with respiratory illnesses.

To reduce smoke from wood heaters and minimise unsightly haze, follow these simple steps:

- clean your chimney regularly and make sure you burn only dry wood
- start the fire with dry kindling and ensure the air control is fully open
- ensure the fire is as hot as possible before adding larger logs
- make sure you don't choke the fire by overloading it with large logs – an efficient fire should have bright, swirling flames and red, glowing embers
- once the fire is established and burning properly, check your chimney. There shouldn't be significant smoke emissions. If there are, open the airflow a little.

Burning permits

Residents need a permit from the City of Armadale's Health Department for burning vegetation and material on residential properties from now until 30 September 2008.

Permits can only be issued for essential fire control. Householders are urged to consider alternatives such as mulching, taking material to the City's landfill site or utilising the City's greenwaste collection service.

From 1 October until 30 November this year, burning is subject to the Bush Fires Act and permits must be obtained from the City's Ranger Services.



National Tree Day

More than 70 local residents of all ages braved wet weather to plant more than 3,000 native seedlings at Roley Pools as part of the City's National Tree Day celebrations on Sunday 27 July.

Community volunteers donned garden gloves and sturdy shoes to plant dry-land and river sedge seedlings funded by the Swan River Trust's Riverbank Grants Program.

Coordinated by the Armadale Gosnells Landcare Group (AGLG) and supported by the City of Armadale, the National Tree Day event at Roleystone also received support from community groups Roleybushcare and Friends of Roley Pools.

Parents, children, seniors and teens all enjoyed digging the seedlings in and were energised with morning tea and lunch, kindly supplied by organisers.

A separate Schools National Tree Day event, also coordinated by AGLG and the City of Armadale, was staged on Friday 25 July at Palomino Reserve, Champion Lakes.

More than 10,000 indigenous flora seedlings, funded through an AGLG Main Roads WA Grant, were planted by local school children.

You're Welcome

Detailed access information for City of Armadale facilities and amenities will be available to residents later this year as part of the You're Welcome WA Access Initiative.

The You're Welcome Project, which is funded by the City, aims to enable people with disabilities, their families and carers to participate in community life by encouraging community organisations and businesses to make their services and facilities accessible.

An assessment of City of Armadale facilities is currently underway.

The resulting access information is expected to be available to the public via the City's website www.armadale.wa.gov.au by November 2008.

Useful details such as pedestrian access, signage, seating, lighting, accessible parking, toilets and lifts – along with photos – will be featured for each location, helping disabled or less mobile residents plan their outings with ease.

Stage 2 of the You're Welcome Project is due to start at the end of this year, with local business partners contributing access information for their buildings and amenities.

Calling all community artists

If you are a community artist and live in the City of Armadale, register now for the State-wide Community Artist Listing.

Community Arts Network WA (CANWA) is running this free service, which provides community artists with opportunities to facilitate and work on community arts projects.

Register for the Community Artist Listing at www.canwa.com.au

The City of Armadale is a member of CANWA and supports local artists and art organisations through its Community Development Team.

The City is currently collating a database of local artists, art groups and other arts resources. To be a part of this directory go to www.armadale.wa.gov.au and click on the Your Community page.

Useful Council Numbers

City of Armadale Administration Centre

Tel: 9399 0111
Fax: 9399 0184
 Email: info@armadale.wa.gov.au
 Address: 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale WA 6112
 Opening hours: Monday to Friday 8.15am to 4.45pm

City of Armadale newsletter

The *City Views* provides residents with information about Council policies, services, activities and community events. We welcome your articles and suggestions.

Next deadline: 5 September 2008

Email: Catherine Halsall at chalsall@armadale.wa.gov.au

Tel: 9399 0634 Fax: 9399 0184

Published by the Armadale City Council, Locked Bag 2, Armadale WA 6992

This newsletter is printed on environmentally friendly paper



Rock 'n' Dale Battle of the Bands

YAC 10th anniversary

The 10th anniversary of the City's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) will be celebrated with a special function on Tuesday 23 September.

YAC members past and present will be acknowledged for their efforts throughout the last decade advocating for local youth, organising youth-oriented events and assisting Council on youth issues.

Among their many activities YAC has participated in City of Armadale's Minnowarra Festival and Highland Gathering, the Rock 'n' Dale Battle of the Bands, Forrestdale Skate Park, the Kelmscott Show and the "Don't Turn Your Break Into A Wake" road safety campaign.

The City of Armadale would like former members of the Committee to attend the 10th anniversary function, joining current YAC members, Armadale Councillors and government ministers in the celebrations.

YAC's members are aged 14 to 24 and are drawn from local high schools and the City of Armadale community to represent the views of young people to Council. The Committee meets monthly at the City's Administration Centre in Armadale.

For more information about the 10th anniversary function or volunteering with YAC, please contact the City's Youth Officer, Gregg Pearce on 9399 0637 or email gpearce@armadale.wa.gov.au

Councillor Contact List

Heron Ward



Cr Linton Reynolds AM JP, Mayor
Tel: 9390 7433



Cr Jim Stewart
Tel: 9497 9524

Jarrah Ward



Cr Pat Hart
Tel: 9496 1634



Cr Laurie Scidone
Tel: 9496 0445 Fax: 9496 3445

Lake Ward



Cr Jeff Munn JP CMC Deputy Mayor Tel: 9397 1247



Cr June MacDonald
Tel/Fax: 9399 1738

Minnowarra Ward



Cr Keith Lethbridge
Tel: 9399 5270



Cr John Knezevich
Tel/Fax: 9497 1638

Neerigen Ward



Cr Guenter Best
Tel: 9399 4371 Fax: 9497 3985



Cr Bob Tizard
Tel/Fax: 9497 3469

Palomino Ward



Cr Jim Everts
Tel: 9399 6327 Fax: 9399 6833



Cr Wayne Mauger
Tel: 9399 4798

River Ward



Cr Ruth Butterfield
Tel: 9390 1459



Cr Henry Zelones JP
Tel: 9495 4073 Fax: 9495 4838

City of Armadale
7 Orchard Ave, Armadale
Tel: 9399 0111 Fax: 9399 0184
www.armadale.wa.gov.au

YOUR COUNCIL



The new face of Armadale

Vibrant, modern, appealing. This is the new Armadale City centre; a place for good coffee, a wide variety of eating places, a movie or great shopping.

The City of Armadale has overseen a remarkable transformation of its CBD in recent times, with rapid growth throughout the region fuelling development and greater choices for community members.

Change has occurred quickly. Since 2005, Armadale has seen the development of the Grand Cinema complex, including eateries Hans Cafe, Wok in a Box, Jesters, Subway and Roast on the Run, along with a new-style Gloria Jean's Cafe and alfresco area overlooking Memorial Park.

In 2007 there was the phased opening of the redeveloped Armadale Shopping City, with a range of cafes such as Aroma, Coffee Club, and Jamaica Blue, plus expanded retail shops.

Earlier this year the Centre's food hall opened, while a large Dome Cafe and Gelare have given the Jull Street Mall a new look.

Also in early 2008, the first stage of the Armadale Central Shopping Centre, including Woolworths, opened its doors. Subsequent stages will open later this year and early in 2009 and will include a food hall and specialty shops.

Other recent CBD developments include the Harvey Norman complex, while the opening of the Australian Technical College – Perth South in Armadale has provided local youth with further training and employment options.

The City of Armadale is continuing its endeavours to attract investors keen to take advantage of the burgeoning commercial opportunities in the region.



While local government receives only three per cent of taxes it is responsible for the management of 35 per cent of the nation's assets including roads, footpaths, parks, gardens, bridges and public buildings.

City of Armadale Council and Committee Meetings

August, September and October meeting cycles are displayed below. All meetings are held in the City of Armadale's Administration Centre, 7 Orchard Avenue, Armadale and are open to the public.

August 2008		
Mon 25 Aug	7pm	Council
September 2008		
Mon 1 Sept	7pm	Technical Services Committee
Tues 2 Sept	7pm	Community Services Committee
Mon 8 Sept	7pm	Council
Mon 15 Sept	7pm	City Strategy Committee
Tues 16 Sept	7pm	Development Services Committee
Mon 22 Sept	7pm	Council
October 2008		
Mon 6 Oct	7pm	Technical Services Committee
Tues 7 Oct	7pm	Community Services Committee
Mon 13 Oct	7pm	Council
Mon 20 Oct	7pm	City Strategy Committee
Tues 21 Oct	7pm	Development Services Committee
Mon 27 Oct	7pm	Council

Volunteers needed

You don't have to compete in the Beijing Olympic Games to win a 2008 medal – just volunteer as a marshall for the Golden Spokes Open Cycle Race at the Champion Lakes Regatta Centre on Sunday 26 October, 2008.

The City of Armadale is seeking enthusiastic community members to fill 100 marshalling roles for this big event. All volunteers will receive a pewter medallion, polo shirt, hat and a free breakfast on the day.

For more information and to register your interest contact the Armadale Volunteer Resource Service on 9399 0629 or email volunteering@armadale.wa.gov.au