



## Mayoral Message



After months of the most extensive community consultation ever undertaken in the city, Council has endorsed to move forward with an application for a permanent increase to land rates. **The key feature of the decision, which was voted to be locked in, is that the increase to the residential, farming and business (general) rating categories will be limited to 27.7%.** This demonstrates the deep regard the Council has had for the impact of any

increase on residents and business.

The Council received a mandate to address the great challenges – lifting investment up to the real cost of maintaining the community's assets (especially roads) and services, and transforming the local economy because it will, inevitably, be disrupted as mining and power generation reduce in output over time. A Special Rate Survey found that 80% of local people consulted consider maintaining and improving roads to be a key priority.

The overall income from land rates will increase by a maximum of 45.7% (including a 3.7% government approved amount for inflation), but the average resident will have their increase limited to 27.7%. Discussions also continue with the mining and power generation businesses around the creation of a future fund, targeted at economic transformation. This could see the total land rate increase fall to around 38%.

On 1 December, Deputy Mayor Cass Coleman and I attended an exciting initiative organised by the Western Sydney University School of Education and Lithgow High School. This initiative is an attempt to overcome the challenge of recruiting sufficient and quality teachers to the Lithgow area.

The trip introduced Pre-Service Teachers from the Master of Teaching (Secondary) Program to the Lithgow region and Teaching High School and give them a taste of what it might be like to live and work in a region outside of Sydney. The ultimate goals are to convince them to complete a placement at Lithgow High School or other high schools in the Lithgow area, and to hopefully then consider teaching in the area. If successful, it will benefit the children of the area as well as the community as a whole.

## On Exhibition

Council is inviting you to have your say on the following:

- Proposed Lease to Wallerawang Memorial Men's Shed Inc Closes 13 Dec
- DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT PART OF CROWN RESERVE 590046 TONY LUCHETTI SPORTSGROUND AND SHOWGROUND (section 38 Local Government Act 1993)

At the ordinary meeting of Council on 26 September 2022 Council resolved to place on public exhibition the draft plan of management for part of Crown Reserve 590046 - Tony Luchetti Sportsground and Showground.

Once adopted, the plan will authorise the subject area to be used for construction of a multi-function building (including Women's Shed) (STCA) as outlined in section 6 of the draft plan of management, and the granting of leases, licenses or other estates for the purposes outlined in section 7 of the draft plan.

### Public exhibition

The draft plan of management will be on public exhibition from Thursday 10 November 2022 to Friday 23 December 2022.

### View the draft plan of management

The draft plan of management is available for viewing:

- on Council's website at [www.council.lithgow.com](http://www.council.lithgow.com)
- in Council's Administration Building at 180 Mort Street, Lithgow, between 9.15am and 4pm weekdays during the public exhibition period

### Submissions

Submissions are invited from the public in relation to the draft plan of management. Submissions must be:

- in writing Marked "Submission – draft plan of management Tony Luchetti"
- Sent to Council's email [council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lithgow.nsw.gov.au) OR posted/delivered to Council's Administration Building at 180 Mort Street, Lithgow
- Received by Council no later than 4pm on Friday 23 December 2022

## Council Half Day Closure

Council facilities will be closed for half a day Thursday 8 December 2022 to enable staff to attend the Council's Staff Service Awards and Christmas function.

The Council administration centre, libraries and depots will close at 12 noon to enable staff to attend the function.

The JM Robson Aquatic Centre will operate as normal.

Council will re-open for normal business Friday 9 December 2022.

## Christmas Closure

The staff of Lithgow City Council wishes the entire community a Merry Christmas and a safe, happy New Year.

Council will be closed over Christmas/New Year from close of business Friday 23 December and reopen on Monday 9 January 2023.

During this time essential services will operate. If assistance is required please call 6354 9999.

## Join our team

Council is currently seeking applications for the following position/s:

- Casual Learn to Swim Instructors closes 24 Feb
- Casual Lifeguard closes 24 Feb
- Graduate Development Planner closes 6 Jan
- Apprentice Greenkeeper closes 16 Dec
- Trainee Building & Development Officer closes 16 Dec
- Unlicensed Plumber closes 9 Dec

Applications must be received by the advertised close date. For further information on any of these positions and to apply, go to the Council's website.