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Brighton approves rates hold and budget

THE Brighton Council has approved its budget for the next financial year and confirmed that rates will be held at this year's level.

Mayor Tony Foster said in view of the impact of the COVID-19 emergency, Council was determined there would be no increase in the general rate for all ratepayers in the municipality.

The approved budget also provides for record capital works spending of \$12.5 million in 2020 – 2021.

"We are seeking to do all we can to stimulate the local economy and provide enhanced services for our community," Cr Foster said.

"This includes major works such as the Gunn Oval changerooms, the Pontville Park pavilion development, stage two of the Bridgewater Parkland, a new off-lead dog area for Seymour Street in Brighton and improvements to the Old Beach off-lead dog area.

"Road works scheduled for completion include significant upgrades to Green Point Road, Baskerville Road, Jetty Road, Augustus Street and Andrew Street.

"Council will also seek to extend the roadside tree planting program which is enhancing our streetscapes and proving very popular with residents."

Cr Foster said Brighton Council appreciated the prevailing special circumstances and that ratepayers were dealing with the economic impact of the coronavirus and recovery may be difficult for many.

"We trust that by holding down rates and the record capital works program, we are playing a positive role supporting the recovery and our community.

"Despite the difficult circumstances, Brighton's ratepayers continue to benefit from the full range of services at the lowest possible cost and we are determined to maintain this approach in the current environment and into the future," Cr Foster said.

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