

# ELECTED MEMBERS MID-TERM ACHIEVEMENTS 2022 - 2023



PortAugusta  
CITY COUNCIL



## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS PLAN 2019-2029

In 2019/2020 Council adopted a new strategic management plan: Strategic Directions 2019 – 2029. This document is supported by a Four Year Priority Action Plan.

There are five themes for which Council has an overarching strategic goal, and a number of targeted outcomes.

This report provides an overview of the achievements in relation to the five themes and goals set within the Council's Strategic Plan – Strategic Directions 2019-2029, since the 2022 Local Government Elections.



## THEME 1: COMMUNITY

- **Community Support** - Council continues to provide the community with funding for events, projects and community groups. This includes over 50 events, 20 sporting groups or individuals.
- **ANZAC DAY Celebrations**- The Port Augusta RSL hosted a Dawn Service in Gladstone Square, followed by a Gunfire Breakfast at the Clubrooms.
- **Benevolent Funding** - The Benevolent Society and Westpac Group's Safer Children, Safer Communities program have provided \$1.3million funding to Council over three years to support youth based activities and events in Port Augusta.
- **Malka Aboriginal Art Prize** - In 2023 Malka continued the sponsorship partnership with Bungala Solar Farm, operated by Enel Green Power. This year we received 48 entries.
- **Community Event of the Year – South Augusta Football Club – 2022 Harley Owners Group (Bayside SA Chapter) Rally**- Held at Central Oval the economic benefit to the Port Augusta business community was huge with 330 people attending the rally.
- **Reconciliation Week** - The 2023 Reconciliation Week event was held on 1st June, with a "Be a Voice for Generations" theme.
- **NAIDOC Week** - Port Augusta City Council hosted a NAIDOC Week Elders Lunch at the Yarta Purtli Art Gallery approximately 60 people attended.





**Mayor Linley Shine**  
Mayor 2022 to current  
Councillor 2018 to 2022



**Deputy Mayor Mark Myers**  
Deputy Mayor 2022 to current



**Cr Sam Bates**  
Councillor 2022 to current



**Cr Nora Bennett**  
Councillor 2022 to current



**Cr Phillip Brown**  
Deputy Mayor 2018- 2022  
Councillor 2010 to current



**Cr Louise Foote**  
Councillor 2018 to current



**Cr Maralyn Marsh**  
Councillor 2018 to current



**Cr Michael McKinley**  
Councillor 2022 to current



**Cr John Naisbitt**  
Councillor 1981- 1989,  
2018- current



**Cr Baldev (Sunny) Singh**  
Councillor 2018- current

## THEME 1: COMMUNITY (CONT.)

- **Australia Day Awards** - Gladstone Square in Port Augusta came alive on Australia Day celebrations 2023.
- **Australian Citizenship** - Port Augusta City Council welcomed 13 new citizens at Australian Citizenship ceremonies throughout the year.
- **Public Library** - A diverse range of programs and activities were coordinated by the Library, with over 106 events and activities attracting 1476 participants.
- **Airport** - Flights into the airport, and the respective landing fees continue to increase as a result of FIFO operations within the State. The Precision Approach Path Indicator lighting system was completed to enable jet passenger operations into Port Augusta Airport.
- **Disability Access & Inclusion** - Port Augusta City Council was recognised at the LGASA awards for 'Excellence in Diversity and Inclusion' for our Reconciliation Action Plan and 'Excellence in Community Partnerships and Collaboration' for the Outreach Team – City Outreach Project.

## THEME 1: COMMUNITY (CONT.)

- **Health Focus** - Currently supports 85 clients in Port Augusta, providing a range of quality group activities to maintain and/or improve levels of physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional independence and independent living for as long as possible.
- **Men's Shed** - The Men's Shed provides a much revered social service to older men of the Port Augusta community.
- **Substance Misuse Service** - Council is funded through the State and Commonwealth Governments to provide Substance Misuse Services to the Port Augusta Community. The programs include the Sobering Up Unit, Clean Needle Program, Mobile Assistance Patrol, Assertive Outreach Program, and an Exceptional Needs Program.
- **Art and Culture** - The Bungala Sculpture Exhibition "Solar and Sun" was hosted at the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens with \$25k prize money. Council has been actively engaging with KU Arts to conduct Art workshops, which develop skills and artistic growth among the Aboriginal community.



## THEME 2: ECONOMY

- **Economic Development** - Council maintains close working relationships with Regional Development Australia Far North, and the Spencer Gulf Cities to provide a coordinated approach to regional development and any issues that arise. Council has seen a number of major developments with construction completed including Bentley's Cabin Park, Port Augusta Renewable Energy Park Stage 1 and 2, and development approvals for Port Augusta Operations, Bunnings and Port Playford.
- **Uni Hub Spencer Gulf** - Council has been proud to support the development of this facility and offer support with IT services via a shared services commercial arrangement.
- **Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (AALBG)** - During 2022/2023 the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden received operational funding of \$750,000, from the State Government. Promotion of the AALBG included 'Hello SA' aired 24th July 2022, and a new photographic and video assests were produced by Tourism Australia. Advertising was obtained at the Visitor Information Boards at Lincoln Gap and Discovery Park.



## THEME 3: ENVIRONMENT

- **Wastewater Treatment Plant** - Monitoring of the lagoon is ongoing which includes daily testing of the water prior to the flow to the storage lagoon. Above average rain fall has seen a reduction in the requirements of the consumption of treated water in park lands, areas in the bridge construction, Eastside foreshore and parklands adjacent to the construction area. A larger chlorine tank has been installed at the wastewater treatment plant to assist in the performance of the plant.
- **Environmental Health** - 2022-2023 saw the introduction of a new Food Safety Management Tools/Standard 3.2.2A. All food businesses have been advised of the new standard and the implementation due date of December 2023. During 2022/2023 the number of food businesses increased to 91 premises compared to 89 on the last financial year, with 71 premises were inspected under the Food Act 2001 requirements.
- **Tree Maintenance**
  - 253 street tree trimming requests
  - 28 parks storm damage debris collection requests
  - 221 branch/ litter collection requests
  - 14 garden bed maintenance requests
  - 106 street tree assessment requests
  - 25 delegated tree removals
  - 2 pest nuisance tree removals
  - 70 replacement tree plantings
  - 137 stump removals
  - 34 dead tree removals
  - 8 termite treatments



## THEME 4: INFRASTRUCTURE

- **ETSA Oval Reserve** - Another SA Water funded drinking fountain has recently been installed, at ETSA Oval Reserve beside the Lea Memorial Theatre following Council's successful grant application as part of the SA Water BYOB: Bring Your Own Bottle community program.
- **Chinnery Oval Reserve** - New AFL goalposts were installed at Chinnery Oval just prior to the commencement of the 2023 football season.
- **Playspace** - A replacement climbing structure was installed at Sid Welk Reserve, Port Augusta West. At Northey Crescent Reserve there has been an addition to the playground equipment with a grasshopper rocker and T-swing. As part of Council's public consultation for the annual playground renewal program, the community survey feedback was valuable for assisting with the selection of the preferred replacement playground designs across the city.
- **Parks and Gardens** - The management and planning of parklands and sporting grounds are informed by the Open Space and Play Space Strategy 2016-2031 and Asset Management Plan principles. Open space areas, including 21 public playgrounds are maintained through a combination of internal staff and contractors.
- **Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre** - The Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre reopened in February 2023 after undergoing an extensive pool upgrade including replacement of exiting pipework, new plant room, inclusive access ramp for the main pool and liner refurbishment, plus a new shade structure and water splash pad.
- **Port Augusta Cultural Centre – Yarta Purtli** - During the 2022/23 Period the art gallery hosted 8 exhibitions and 9 workshops/performances.
- **Infrastructure Investment** - Over \$3.2M of capital infrastructure works has been informed by the Asset Management Plan process.
- **Joy Baluch AM Bridge Duplication** - In 2022/2023 the Port Wakefield to Port Augusta Alliance (PW2PA) and DIT completed works on the new Bridge with an opening and bridge walk held on 14 March 2023.
- **Barbeques Westside Foreshore Reserve - renewals & Bird Lake Lookout Reserve BBQ refurbishment** - The replacement barbecues feature stainless steel cabinets and more energy efficient hotplates, with one unit designed for equal access.

## THEME 4: INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Road Works** - Over \$800,000 of capital roads works was carried out resulting in over 5,000 square metres of road reseals and intersection upgrades. In addition to this, Old Tarcoola Road was upgraded with new kerbing, pavement and Asphalt surface, with a project value of \$273,000 (50% funded through the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel- Special Local Road Program)
- **Footpaths** - In 2022/2023, over 3,800 square meters of footpath work was undertaken representing \$350,000 of capital expenditure upgrades. The footpath program is informed by the Asset Management Plan in conjunction with Council's connectivity program to ensure the construction of footpaths that provide network linkages for pedestrian traffic.

## THEME 5: GOVERNANCE & FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- **Review of Long Term financial plan**
  - Operating Surplus Ratio 6.9%
  - Net financial liabilities 22.7%
  - Asset sustainability ratio 53.6%

Balance of borrowings at 30/6/2023  
\$4,086,028.01

- **Operating Expenditure**  
2021/2022 \$33,326,800  
2022/2023 \$33,702,400
- **Childcare** - Port Augusta Childcare Centre currently has 88 families enrolled, with 97 children having access to childcare currently. This is on a fulltime, part time and casual basis. We also have a wait list of 50 children.
- **Customer Requests**  
2020/2021 2233 CRMs 99% closed  
2021/2022 2592 CRMs 96% closed



**John Banks**  
Chief Executive  
Officer



**Melissa Kretschmer**  
Director  
City Services



**Luke Culhane**  
Director  
Corporate and  
Community  
Services



**Kevin Delaney**  
Director  
Infrastructure