



# Reshaping our Community 2017/2018 Budget

## Mayor's Message

The 2017/18 Whitsunday Regional Council Budget has been a difficult one as council and the community count the costs of Tropical Cyclone Debbie causing major destruction across our region. Despite this my council is passionate in maintaining a consistent level of service for our 35,500 residents and also implementing new initiatives to create jobs and a bright future for our Whitsunday Region.



Cr Andrew Willcox

In an historic first for the Whitsunday Region, Council will roll out Kerbside Recycling in 2017/18. As part of Council's extensive education program all residents will receive an information pack which will outline the items that can be recycled and also a timetable for collection times. A \$2 million boat ramp and carpark at Shute Harbour will be popular capital works projects for the community in this year's Budget.

Council has received a \$15 million grant from the Queensland Government for the Whitsunday Coast Airport and Council has also applied to the Queensland Treasury Corporation for a low interest \$25 million loan to complete the \$40 million airport terminal and runway upgrade.

The upgrade project will ensure vital airport infrastructure keeps pace with the forecast growth for our region with record passenger numbers over the past 12 months. Council is also pushing ahead with the \$32 million Greening and Growing Bowen Project to be staged over the next three years. This includes the upgrade of the existing Sewerage Treatment Plant, the Recycled Water Pipeline and the new Sewerage Treatment Plant.

From an organisational perspective, improving efficiencies across the board will be a priority, continuing the work commenced last year.

Reshaping Our Community means another exciting and busy year ahead for us all here in the council organisation.

*Mayor Andrew Willcox*

## Cr Jan Clifford - Division 1

A \$2 million boat ramp and carpark at Shute Harbour will be popular capital works projects for the community in this year's Budget.

Residents will notice renewal plans for the existing car park at Shute Harbour. Council has also been advocating hard for \$18 million funding as part of the proposed Category D NDRRA funding for a major rejuvenation project at Shute Harbour.

Pedestrians can look forward to improved connectivity with footpaths budgeted for from Erromango Drive to Mandalay Road and Stage 1 of the Shute Harbour Road footpath.

W4Q PROJECT: Wildlife Park in Jubilee Pocket will receive an upgrade to the playground equipment and will include new BBQ's, seating and shade structures.

*"This budget is about improving liveability and connecting our communities"*



Cr Jan Clifford

We are on track to re-open the Airlie Beach Lagoon by the end of August, with an all new pool surface and improved landscaping and facilities around the Lagoon precinct. Under W4Q a shade structure will be installed over one section of the Lagoon.

