

MITCHAM

COMMUNITY NEWS

AUGUST 2018



Shape Your Place!

Tell us what you think

We are keen to hear your thoughts and ideas about the future shape of the places which are important to you. What are your thoughts on the areas marked for significant change? What do you want to see created in these areas in the future? Where don't you want change to happen?

Council wants to hear your views on the draft Spatial Vision and draft Structure Plans for the City of Mitcham by 5pm on Monday 10 September.

FULL STORY ON PAGES 7-9

MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS AUGUST 2018



CITY OF
MITCHAM



If you are thinking of standing for election at the November 2018 Council elections then come along to an information session to find out more about Council and how to nominate.

Page 2



The City of Mitcham is undertaking a food waste green organics trial with the goal to reduce food waste going to landfill.

Page 3



Discover what services, projects and works will be undertaken in 2018/19 to achieve our long-term goals and objectives captured in Council's Strategic Management Plan 2017-2027.

Page 11

Also in this issue

- 2** Apply Now for a Heritage Subsidy
- 4** Australia Day Nominations are Open
- 5** Mitcham Library is Closed for Redevelopment
- 6** Blackwood Community Hub
- 10** Community Calendar
- 14** Your Elected Members
- 16** Tree Planting in Streets and Reserves



Make a Difference – Nominate for Council

Would you like to make a difference in your community and have a say in local decision-making? Then become an Elected Member for the City of Mitcham.

Council is holding an information session for potential candidates on 10 September at 7pm.

If you are thinking of standing for election at the November 2018 Council elections then come along to an information session to find out more about Council and how to nominate.

Nominations close at noon on Tuesday 18 September.

Information Session Details:

Date: 10 September 2018
Time: 7pm
Location: City of Mitcham Mayor's Parlour
 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

This session will cover the following topics:

- The Role and Function of a Council Member
- Working Together – Chief Executive Officer and Elected Members – What Does it Take?
- The Practicalities – About the Local Government Elections
- Effective Campaigning – Tips and Tricks

For more information call 8372 8888.

10 Great Reasons to Become a Council Member

Only a small number of people ever nominate for position on their local council, but here are 10 reasons you might want to consider it:

- 1** You care about what's happening in your local community
- 2** It's a great way to develop your knowledge
- 3** You want to contribute to your community
- 4** You want to provide a voice for your age group/cultural group/gender
- 5** You're sick of watching from the sidelines
- 6** You've got great ideas to contribute
- 7** It's a nice addition to your CV
- 8** You'll meet interesting people
- 9** It's a way of making a meaningful and lasting contribution
- 10** Your chance to make a difference

Remember to Register your Dog and Cat!

All dogs and cats must be registered by 31 August through Dogs and Cats Online.

If you have a dog or cat at home you should have received this year's registration notice with your dog's new lifetime registration disc and instructions on how to complete the annual dog or cat registration on Dogs and Cats Online.

Dogs and Cats Online is the central database for microchipped and registered dogs and cats and registration payments. Dogs and Cats Online has also become the register of breeders. Please note that your dog or cat is not registered until payment is made. There are three payment options available:

- **Pay Online** visit dogsandcatsonline.com.au to renew the registration using your debit or credit card – MasterCard, Visa, or BPAY and the renewal code
- **By Phone** by calling 8372 8888 during office hours. If you have more than one renewal notice, you must pay each as a separate transaction
- **Pay in Person** 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

For more information call 8372 8888 or visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Other changes you need to be aware of:

Microchipping

From the 1 July 2018, owners must microchip their dogs and cats by 12 weeks of age or at the point of sale. Veterinarians may exempt an animal for medical reasons.

Desexing

Dogs and cats born after the 1 July must be desexed by 6 months of age or 28 days after purchase by the owner. Working livestock dogs as well as dogs and cats owned by registered breeders will be exempt from the requirement to desex, however will still need to be microchipped.

Apply Now for Council's Heritage Subsidy Scheme

Are you planning to restore a heritage listed building within the City of Mitcham?

The City of Mitcham's Heritage Subsidy Scheme provides financial assistance to help homeowners conserve privately owned heritage listed buildings.

Over the past 15 years Council has provided thousands of dollars to assist in the conservation and restoration of privately owned heritage listed buildings across the Mitcham Council area.

The scheme, funded solely by the City of Mitcham, may grant up to 25% of the total cost of the conservation works, to a maximum of \$3,000.

To be eligible to apply for a grant you must own or lease:

- a recognised State Heritage Place
- a recognised Local Heritage Place
- properties located within the State Heritage Area of Colonel Light Gardens
- a Contributory Item within Historic (Conservation) Zones/Policy Areas



For more information and a copy of the Heritage Subsidy Policy visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/heritagesubsidyscheme or for further information contact Council's Development Services on 8372 8807.



Free Kitchen Caddy Trial

The City of Mitcham, with funding support from a Food Waste Incentive Grant from Green Industries SA, is undertaking a food waste green organics trial with the goal to reduce food waste going to landfill.

Towards the end of 2018 Council will supply a bench top container (kitchen caddy), compostable bags and education materials to 5,500 households in St Marys, Clapham, Panorama, Pasadena and Eden Hills.

The pilot program, which will be undertaken over the next three years, aims to divert green organics from landfill.

Use a Kitchen Caddy to Collect your Food Scraps

Kitchen caddies and compostable bags are available from the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park, at a discounted price.

All you have to do is line the basket with a compostable bag or newspaper, place your food scraps in then after 2-3 days or once full, tie the bag at the top and place it into your green lidded FOGO bin.

How your Green Organics is turned into Compost

Ever wondered what happens to your green organics after your green bin is emptied?

Every fortnight Council collects bins full of green organics from the community. Last year we collected just over 9,500 tonnes of your green waste which is turned into compost.

Your green waste is taken to Jeffries composting facility and placed into large piles so the composting process can begin. Over ten weeks your green waste is broken down with the help of microbes while being maintained at just the right temperature and air flow.

Once the organic material has broken down it is screened to remove any contaminants such as plastic bags, irrigation pipe, glass and metal objects that may have been incorrectly placed in a green bin. Finally, the organic material is sorted as compost, soil or mulch and is ready to be used on South Australian gardens.

For more information contact Council's Waste Management Officer on 8372 8809.

What should you put in your green bin?

- lawn clippings
- weeds
- small branches and prunings
- leaves
- cut flowers
- all food scraps including bones and seafood
- paper towel and tissues
- tea leaves and tea bags
- coffee grounds
- pet waste (please place in a compostable bag or newspaper)
- hair
- saw dust
- greasy pizza boxes and paper bags
- even soggy newspapers (removed from its plastic bag).

Buy One Get One Free Offer

The City of Mitcham, East Waste and Jeffries are providing residents with a Buy One Get One Free offer on 30L and 50L bags of Jeffries compost, soil and mulch products. The Buy One Get One Free vouchers can be collected from the Civic Centre and Libraries or downloaded from www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au. The voucher is redeemable until 30 September 2018 at:

- **Hollards**, 20 Grange Road, Hawthorn
- **Hawthorn Sand**, Metal & Landscape Supplies, 96 Belair Road Hawthorn

Please see the voucher for terms and conditions.

buy one get one FREE!

Redeemable on 30L & 50L bags of Jeffries compost, soil and mulch

Available from:
Hawthorn Sand, Metal & Landscape Supplies, 96 Belair Rd Hawthorn
Hollards, 20 Grange Rd Hawthorn

GROW SOMETHING AMAZING!

Maximum one voucher per customer.
Second bag must be of same or lesser value. Offer valid from 01/07/2018 until 30/09/2018.
Subject to availability at participating outlets.

For landscape supply yard use only.
Free bag.

Jeffries jeffries.com.au

Join us on Facebook [jeffriescomau](https://www.facebook.com/jeffriescomau)
Follow us on Twitter [jeffriescomau](https://twitter.com/jeffriescomau)

Real PEOPLE. real FAITH. Real LIFE.

Three locations: Blackwood Hills Baptist - Melrose Park - Norwood

Find out more at thevillage.org.au



VILLAGE CHURCH
MEMBER OF BAPTIST CHURCHES SA

Australia Day Nominations are Now Open!

We all know of someone who has given up countless hours to our local community, helped our environment or organised an amazing community event. So why not nominate that someone, group or event that has contributed significantly to the local community.

The City of Mitcham is currently seeking nominations from the community for Council's Australia Day Awards and Awards for Excellence to acknowledge achievements by individuals and or groups who have made an outstanding contribution to our community. Nominations are accepted in the following categories:

Australia Day Citizen of the Year

Awarded to persons over 30 years who have given outstanding service to the local community.

Australia Day Senior Citizen of the Year

Awarded to persons over 30 years who have given outstanding service to the local community.

Australia Day Young Citizen of the Year

Awarded to persons under 30 years who have given outstanding service to the local community.

Australia Day Event of the Year

Awarded to the community event which made a significant contribution to the local community.

Local Hero

Awarded to persons who have given outstanding service to their local community.

Nomination forms and guidelines are available at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or from the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.

The deadline for all nominations is 5pm Friday 16 November.

For further information please call 8372 8888 or email mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



Celebrate Christmas at Carols at Kingswood Oval

Carols at Kingswood Oval on Sunday 2 December 2018.

As a result of the \$7 million Mitcham Memorial Library redevelopment there is the need to temporarily relocate our Christmas Carols celebration for 2018.

We will be hosting our 22nd annual Carols at Kingswood Oval on the corner of Belair Road and Halsbury Avenue, Kingswood on Sunday 2 December.

Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for further information.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Nat via email mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



Come and Try at the Cumberland Park Community Centre

Join our new 10-week come and try program at the Cumberland Park Community Centre and enjoy gardening workshops, art and cooking classes, storytelling and a carers group.

ECH and the City of Mitcham are providing weekly workshops from October every Wednesday from 10am until 12noon at the Cumberland Park Community Centre, 388 Goodwood Road, Cumberland Park.

To help us prepare for our exciting come and try program we are hosting workshops to seek your ideas on Wednesday 15 August, 19 September and 26 September between 10am and 12noon.

We want to hear from you what our neighbourhood needs and which activities you enjoy the most so we can provide programs that you would like to participate in.

While the workshops will run for two hours, we are also inviting people to drop in between 9am and 4.30pm for a chat.

The come and try program is open to everyone and ECH clients are encouraged to bring along family and friends of all ages.

Workshops during the trial program will be free and there is car parking on site. Bookings are not essential and walk-ins are welcome.

For more information, visit ech.asn.au or call 1300 275 324.

Become a Sponsor of Carols at Kingswood Oval

The City of Mitcham is getting into the Christmas spirit as preparations are being made for the annual Carols and we are looking for sponsors.

The fun and festivity of our Carols event at Christmas time has been enjoyed by over 5,000 people for the last 21 years from the City of Mitcham and across Adelaide. Sponsors have the opportunity to engage with up to 30,000 households in our district.

Varying levels of sponsorship, either in kind or financial support, are available. Expressions of interest are required by Friday 31 August.

For further information about sponsorship opportunities or to receive a Sponsorship Information Package, please contact Nat, email mitchamevents@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or call 8372 8129.



Digital Publishing Author Matt Pike

Hear independent author and designer Matt Pike speak about his experience with the world of Digital Publishing at the Hawthorn Community Centre on Wednesday 26 September at 6.30pm.

Learn about how it differs from traditional publishing; online tools and processes he has used; digital platforms; and on demand print services. Matt has published 11 books including the Zombie Rising and Apocalypse: Diary of a Survivor series; has exhibited his work around Australia and New Zealand and designs his own cover artwork.

Books will be available for sale and signing. Bookings essential call 8372 8255.

Mitcham Memorial Library is Closed for Redevelopment

The Mitcham Library has now closed and relocated to the Hawthorn Community Centre in Frimley Grove, Hawthorn during the redevelopment.

The Mitcham Library at the Hawthorn Community Centre is offering public access computers, printing and copying facilities, Justice of the Peace, children's activities including story time and baby time, newspapers and magazines, lounge areas, reserved items (holds), external returns chute after hours and children's, teens, and new adult fiction in reduced collection sizes.

Remember that the Blackwood Library remains open and offers a full range of library services.



With the limited space available at the Hawthorn Community Centre we are unable to offer our browse collection of Adult Fiction and Non Fiction books. Just ask our wonderful staff who will help you find the right book online for you to reserve and then collect when it arrives.

Opening hours are the same!

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Monday, Tuesday, Thursday | 10am to 5.30pm |
| Wednesday | 10am to 8pm |
| Friday | 10am to 2pm |
| Saturday | 10am to 4pm |
| Sunday | 2pm to 5pm |

Closed on Public Holidays

Update on the Redevelopment

The footings have been excavated and poured with the installation of all in-slab services. The northern car park infrastructure has been removed and permeable paving and kerbing has been installed.

School Holidays at the Library

Join in the fun during the October school holidays...

Board Games and Catan

Play Catan or enjoy other board games – Chess, Scrabble, Cluedo or Snakes and Ladders at the Blackwood Library on **Thursday 4 October** 2pm to 4pm. You can use ours or bring your own. All ages are welcome. Snacks supplied.

Origami Workshop

Come and make a paper crane mobile and a book mark at the Hawthorn Community Centre on **Monday 8 October** 2pm to 3.30pm or at the Blackwood Library on **Thursday 11 October** 2pm to 3.30pm. Suitable for school age children. \$5 per child. Bookings with payment essential.

Chess-Gamers at the Hawthorn Community Centre

Join our regular kids, youth and family chess-gamers group for a fun game of social chess at the Hawthorn Community Centre on **Tuesday 9 October** from 3.45pm to 5.15pm.

Every Day Craft

We will also be offering free everyday crafts from **Tuesday 2 October to Sunday 14 October**. Drop in to see us.

For more information call the Mitcham Library on 8372 8244 or Blackwood Library on 8372 8255.

iPad Class now at the Blackwood Library

Do you have an iPad that you would like to learn how to use?

Our basic iPad class will help you understand how to use the main functions of the iPad and to develop self-help skills.

Classes are held on selected Thursdays between 2pm to 4pm. The class costs \$10 with a maximum of four in the class. Bookings are essential.

Upcoming Classes

| Basic | Advanced |
|--------------|--------------|
| 30 August | 27 September |
| 13 September | |

For more information about classes call the Blackwood Library on 8372 8255.



Mitcham Library

Temporarily located at:

5 Frimley Grove, Hawthorn SA 5062
Phone: 8372 8244

Mitcham Toy Library

Room 2, Mitcham Community Centre
242 Belair Road, Hawthorn SA 5062
Phone: 8274 1351

Blackwood Library

215 Main Road, Blackwood SA 5051
Phone: 8372 8255

Blackwood Toy Library

Blackwood Community Centre
4 Young Street, Blackwood SA 5051
Phone: 8278 6997

**MITCHAM
LIBRARY
SERVICE**

Have Your Say on Fund my Neighbourhood Projects

The City of Mitcham is inviting feedback from the community on concept designs for the State Government Fund my Neighbourhood Projects during August.

Council is managing six Fund my Neighbourhood Projects that our community nominated and voted for. These six projects, selected by the community, are

- 1. Mortlock Park**
Colonel Light Gardens, Toilet adjacent the playground
- 2. Avenue Road Reserve**
Cumberland Park, Toilet at the Playground/ Skate Park
- 3. AA Bailey Reserve**
Clarence Gardens, Playground upgrade
- 4. Waite Street Reserve**
Blackwood, Playground upgrade for Nature Play
- 5. Price Memorial Oval**
Hawthorn, Climbing Wall and Bike Track
- 6. Downer Avenue Reserve**
Belair, Nature Playground

For more information please contact Rick Hennig, Strategic Projects Engineer on 8372 8888.



Have your say on the draft concept designs by visiting www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/fundmyneighbourhood

For more information visit:

- www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/fundmyneighbourhood
- City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park
- Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood



Belair Golf Course and Country Club

The future of Belair Golf Course and Country Club is one step closer, with businesses, community groups and Non-Governmental Organisations soon to be invited to submit their proposals for the site.

This unique opportunity to shape the site's future as part of Belair National Park is important to the community, with more than 2,200 people sharing what they value about Belair National Park and what they feel would be suitable for the site.

Feedback highlighted that community priorities for the site are retaining affordable access, environmental sustainability and supporting the community, possibly through

a range of recreational activities, commercial opportunities or educational facilities.

Expressions of Interest will be considered by the Department for Environment and Water for either a portion of, or the whole site and businesses with environmentally, socially and economically sustainable proposals are encouraged to apply.

For more information visit
www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/Home
or email DEWBelairEOI@sa.gov.au



Blackwood Community Hub: Our Community Place

The City of Mitcham has draft plans for a future, Library, Community Centre and Waite Street Reserve, currently known as the Blackwood Community Hub. The Blackwood Community Hub will be an exciting multi-purpose facility that fosters community interaction and learning.

The community are invited to find out about the Blackwood Community Hub and make suggestions that will help shape and seek future funding for the development and use of this exciting community place. You can:

- Complete the Blackwood Community Hub feedback form online visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au
- View the Blackwood Community Hub display and complete the feedback form, at one of the following three locations:
 - City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park
 - Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood
 - Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood

Consultation closes at 5pm on Wednesday 29 August 2018.

**It is so COLD outside.....
But who cares when you are at
Care & Share!**

Why not come along, join in the fun activities and meet new friends?
Enjoy conversation over a lovely hot meal for lunch.

Care and Share at Trinity is a Social Activity Group for people who are over 65 years and live in the South/East metropolitan area.

Activities and a 2 course lunch is \$15 (not inc. transport)

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9.30am - 2.30pm

www.trinityclg.org.au/care-and-share

Call Janine for your **FREE** trial day
8276 1144



Shape Your Place!

Council wants to hear your views on the draft Spatial Vision and Key Precinct Structure Plans for the City of Mitcham.

Tell us what you think by completing an online survey at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au by 5pm on Monday 10 September

Shape Your Place!

Council wants to hear your views on the draft Spatial Vision and draft Structure Plans for the City of Mitcham by 5pm on Monday 10 September.

The City of Mitcham is a great place to live, work, play, study and do business. We have an abundance of green space; world class health and educational facilities on our doorstep; historic buildings and places to explore and inspire; and a strong economy supported by a variety of businesses.

We are keen to hear your thoughts and ideas about the future shape of the places which are important to you. What are your thoughts on the areas marked for significant change? What do you want to see created in these areas in the future? Where don't you want change to happen?

Provide your feedback by completing an online survey at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au by 5pm on Monday, 10 September 2018 (hard copies of the survey are available if required).

Changes to the Planning System

We are facing significant change to the current planning system, initiated by the State Government. The impending changes will impact our community in a number of ways, including:

- the introduction of a single planning rulebook, called the Planning and Design Code, for the whole state which will replace existing individual Council Development Plans
- a more standardised approach – the Planning and Design Code will substantially reduce the total number of planning zones across the state
- less opportunity to comment on planning applications that might impact you – the community is being encouraged to participate at the policy setting stage
- Council will no longer be a decision-maker in developing and applying planning policy, but rather will be an influencer of State Government
- the SA Planning portal will be a “one-stop-shop” for information, online services (including lodging applications) and community participation in the planning system – this will be managed by the State Government
- new development assessment pathways will be introduced, with the aim of streamlining the assessment process

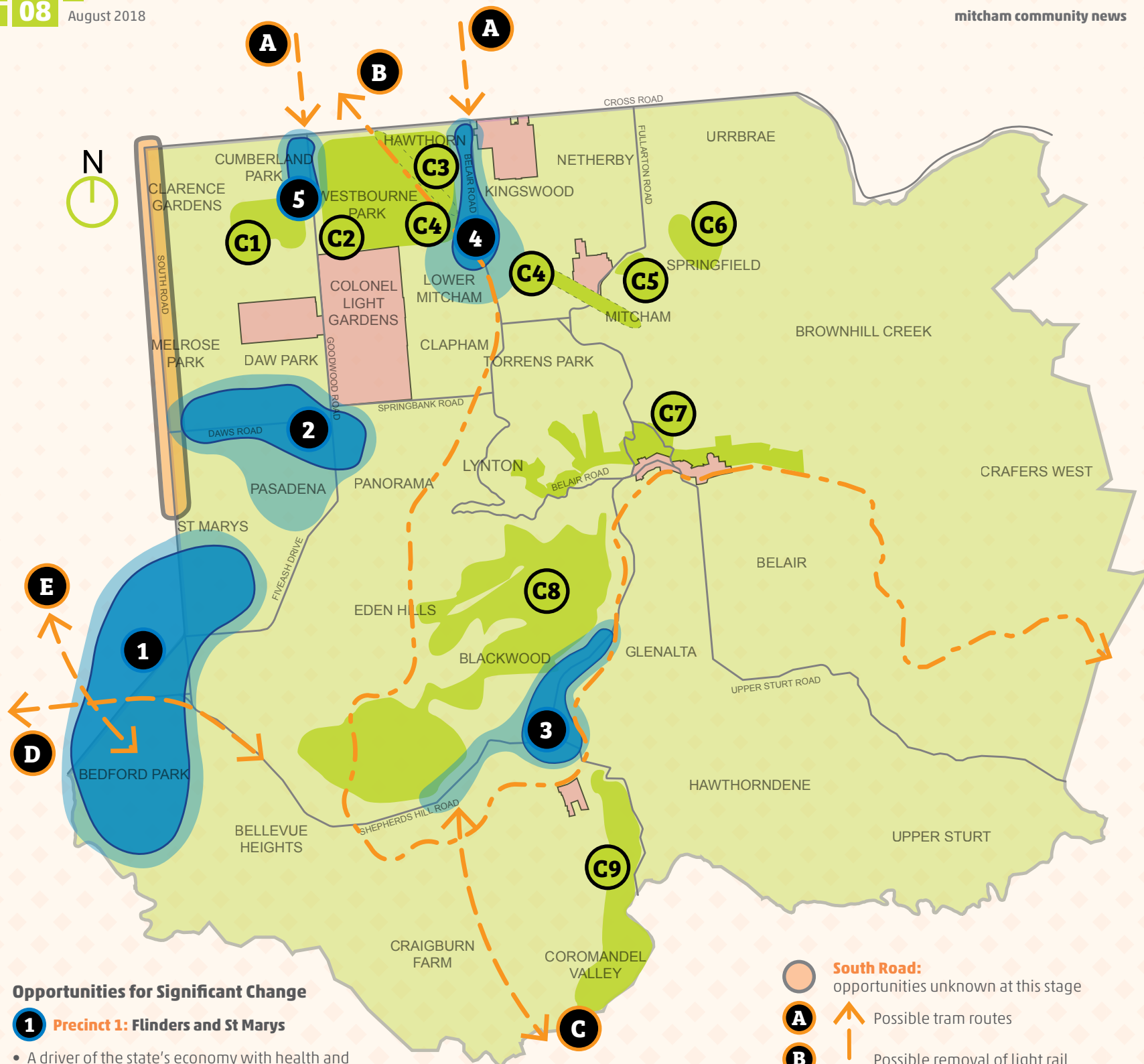
More information on the new planning system can be found at www.saplanningportal.sa.gov.au

Shaping our Places

Planning policy (ie, zoning) says what development should occur and where – this helps to shape our City. How our City functions and feels affects our everyday lives – what we do in it, how we move through it, and how we feel when we're in it.

So that we understand how our City could and should be shaped in the future, we have been working with experts and community members on a Spatial Vision for the whole council area and structure plans for key areas.





Opportunities for Significant Change

1 Precinct 1: Flinders and St Marys

- A driver of the state's economy with health and education facilities that are competitive in a global market.
- A renewed vibrancy in and around a world renowned innovative precinct with strong regional links and a large daily influx of visitors.
- A variety of housing, services and leisure offerings for a diverse demographic.
- A distinctively leafy and green environment for our community, students and visitors to live, recreate, stay, study and work.

2 Precinct 2: Goodwood and Daws Roads

- A region focussed on the physical and mental wellbeing of its community based on supporting the ability for residents to 'age in place'.
- A recognised destination that is sensitively integrated into the existing community, with small-scale commercial ventures that support the community.
- An area driven by innovation and diverse solutions where accommodation, allied health and medical and other services support a mix of generations.
- A strategically located opportunity area in close proximity to the Southern Innovation District and on a direct route between it and the City of Adelaide.

3 Precinct 3: Blackwood Centre

- A strong identity as a unique hills destination supported by clear physical and cultural focal points and a broad range of services, leisure and lifestyle offerings.
- A walkable main street made vibrant both day and night by attracting visitors and offering a diversity of housing choices nearby.
- A range of transport options and improved amenity for pedestrians.

4 Precinct 4: Belair Road Centre

- Expanded opportunities for new and existing commercial development.
- A vibrant commercial centre with diverse housing options.
- A walkable strip with access to places that support economic, cultural and civic amenities.

5 Precinct 5: Goodwood and Cross Roads

- A flexible, activated space with a mix of housing choices and fine grain mixed use developments providing employment opportunities.
- A recognisable pedestrian friendly node enlivening a key movement / transport approach to the Flinders and St Marys precinct.

South Road: opportunities unknown at this stage

- A** Possible tram routes
- B** Possible removal of light rail
- C** Possible Southern link road
- D** Improved links to Marion and Blackwood
- E** Extension to Tonsley Line rail link

Limited Change

- C1** Special character area - Cumberland Park
- C2** Special character area - Westbourne Park
- C3** Special character area - Hawthorn
- C4** Special character area - Brownhill Creek
- C5** Special character area - Mitcham
- C6** Special character area - Springfield
- C7** Special character area - Hills 1
- C8** Special character area - Hills 2
- C9** Special character area - Hills 3
- H** Historic conservation areas - no change - off limits

Shape Your Place!

A Draft Spatial Vision for the City of Mitcham

The Spatial Vision for the City of Mitcham and the Key Precinct Structure Plans provide guidance for the City's future development. They will also help us to negotiate with the State Government on how and where planning policy (zoning) should be applied to our City.

We need to carefully balance the need for development and progress, with the lifestyle and character of the City that our community values. Council wants to ensure that the City of Mitcham is an exciting and desirable place to live, work, play, study and do business into the future – this planning project is an important part of helping to achieve this.

The draft Spatial Vision for the City of Mitcham identifies:

- five key precincts which have opportunity for significant change
- a set of outcomes to support and guide the development of each key precinct
- key connections to, from and within the City
- areas for small-scale and gradual change within the City
- areas of the City that should be "off-limits" for further development
- areas which have special character

Key Precinct Structure Plans

At a series of workshops in October 2017, Council enlisted the help of people from different parts of the community (including experts, residents, land owners and investors) to form ideas about the future shape of places in our City.

The outcome of the workshops was a series of community ideas for the five key precincts identified in the draft Spatial Vision for the City. These ideas were subsequently reviewed by staff and elected members at eight workshops and draft Key Precinct Structure Plans were produced.

The draft Key Precinct Structure Plans provide a high level overview of how the key precincts might change over the long term, including:

- which areas might support different land uses than currently exist
- where further growth or intensification of existing land uses might be appropriate
- where improvements to public spaces and places might be best located (potentially as a driver of private development)
- where change is required to better manage transport, traffic and parking
- where cycling and pedestrian networks could be improved or established

While the draft structure plans are at a high conceptual level and do not specify particular zones or boundaries, they do indicate anticipated land uses. It is intended that these structure plans form the basis of our negotiations with the State Government as to how the new Planning and Design Code is applied across our City.

Public Meeting

A public meeting is scheduled for **7pm on Tuesday 4 September 2018** at the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park. This is one of the ways to share your views with Council.

Limited spaces are available.

Visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or telephone 8372 8888 to register your interest in speaking at the public meeting and for further details.



Tell us what you think!

Provide your feedback by completing an online survey at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au by 5pm on Monday 10 September 2018 (hard copies of the survey are available if required).

We are keen to hear your thoughts and ideas about the future shape of the places which are important to you. What are your thoughts on the areas marked for significant change? What do you want to see created in these areas in the future? Where don't you want change to happen?

Your feedback is important to us and will help us to negotiate with the State Government on how the new Planning and Design Code is applied within the City of Mitcham.

How to Have Your Say

Provide your feedback by completing an online survey at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au by 5pm on Monday 10 September 2018 (hard copies of the survey are available if required).

It must be noted that the documents and ideas we are now seeking your feedback on do not have any legal effect. They represent concepts and ideas only at this stage and may change after community consultation. Nor is there any guarantee that the State Government will agree to all or any of the plan. It therefore cannot be relied upon for the purposes of future development proposals, land valuation processes and future development potential for any land depicted therein. The proposed investment in public spaces is conceptual only and is not yet funded.



Want to know more?

Further information is available at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au and at displays located at the Civic Centre, Blackwood Library and Hawthorn Community Centre. We will also be hosting community listening posts during the consultation at:

City of Mitcham Civic Centre
Tuesday 14 August 2018
5.30pm to 7pm

Cumberland Park Shopping Centre
Thursday 16 August 2018
9.30am to 11am and 6pm to 7.30pm

Mitcham Square Shopping Centre
Thursday 23 August 2018
9.30am to 11am and 6pm to 7.30pm

City of Mitcham Civic Centre
Tuesday 28 August 2018
5.30pm to 7pm

Pasadena Green Shopping Centre
Thursday 30 August 2018
9.30am to 11am and 6pm to 7.30pm

Find out more and share your views at
www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or email
shapeyourplace@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au



community groups



social activities



community events

Mitcham Community Calendar

Friends of Sturt Gorge

Listen to Guest speaker Kurna Elder, Uncle Jeffrey Newchurch at **7.30pm on 21 August** at the Bellevue Heights Primary School Hall talk about the recent recognition of the Kurna people as native title holders for lands around Adelaide. ■

Mitcham Historical Society

Listen to guest speaker Professor Ron Danvers talk about his experience of restoring historic interiors such as the Barr Smith Theatre at School College on **Wednesday 22 August at 7pm**. Cost \$5. To book call 0417 867 277. ■

Adelaide-Mitcham

Prostate Cancer Support Group

Join us on **Thursday 23 August** at the Colonel Light Gardens RSL Club, 4 Prince George Parade, Colonel Light Gardens at **7pm**. Listen to guest speaker Dr Paul Drew BSc PhD, Discipline of Surgery, University of Adelaide. Call 0406 006 654 or visit www.adelaide-mitchampcsg.org ■

Caring Friends

Supports adults who have experienced a loss in a friendly environment over morning tea, activities and entertainment. Joins us at the Institute Hall, 53 West Parkway, Colonel Light Gardens at **10am every Friday**. Call 8179 5697. ■

Mitcham Hills Combined Probus Club

Join us each month on the **fourth Monday at 10.15am** at the Flagstaff Hill Golf Club. Guest speakers and lots of fun and friendship. Call 8278 6269. ■

Out of the Blue Suicide Prevention Network Inc

Join this group of volunteers to improve understanding of suicide and its prevention on the **second Monday of each month from 7pm to 8.30pm** at the Blackwood Community Centre. Email ootbcommittee@gmail.com ■

Colonel Light Gardens Ladies Probus Club

Enjoy fellowship, guest speakers, outings and morning tea on the **first Friday of the month at 10am** at the Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church, 560 Goodwood Road, Daw Park. Call 0419 006 895. ■

Rotary Club of Mitcham

The Rotary Club of Mitcham meets **Wednesdays** at the Edinburgh Hotel at **6.30pm** for a meal, fellowship and guest speaker. Become involved in local and international projects. Call 0418 788 401 or email Mitcham.rotary@gmail.com ■

Mitcham Kiwanis

Help improve the community we live in by joining the Mitcham Kiwanis who meet **twice a month** at the Marion Sports Centre, Sturt Road, Marion. Call 8374 3694. ■

Heart Foundation Walking Group

If you enjoy walking join this free walking group each **Monday at 9.15am** and **Friday at 9am** at The Meeting Place 42a Angas Road. Everyone welcome including prams and dogs on leads. Visit walking.heartfoundation.org.au or call 0431 937 563. ■

Coffee, Craft and Chat

Bring along your own craft project to work on including quilting, crotchet, knitting, tatting, embroidery or mending **9.30am to 12pm on Thursdays** (during school terms) at 42a Angas Road, Hawthorn. Cost: \$2. Call 0415 311 999. ■

Mainly Music

Introduce children aged 0-5 years to music at **9.45am on Thursdays** during school term at St Michaels, Church Road, Mitcham. \$5. Call 0418 844 982. ■

Friday Craft at St Michael's Church

Classes are held during school terms each week from **10am to 11.30am** in the hall at St Michael's Church. \$5 per person, includes morning tea. ■

Thursday Craft

at Westbourne Park Uniting Church

Classes held during school terms at 27 Sussex Terrace, Hawthorn from **9.30am to 12noon** each week. \$5 per class, includes morning tea. Crèche available. Call 8271 7066 or find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/thursdaycraft ■

Messy Church at Westbourne Park Uniting Church

Enjoy an afternoon for families on **Saturday 18 August and 15 September from 5pm to 7.30pm** at the Westbourne Park Uniting Church, 27 Sussex Terrace, Hawthorn. Call 8271 7066. ■

Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church

Bring your kids to playgroup every **Tuesday at 10am**. Cost \$4. Kindy and primary school children can join the Kids Club **every second Friday at 6pm**. Cost \$4. If you are looking to meet people visit the Friendship Centre on **Thursdays 10am to 3pm** for morning tea and lunch. Call 8276 7416 or visit 560 Goodwood Road, Daw Park. ■

Hawthorn Pre-schoolers' Playgroup

Free play group for 0-4 year olds from **10am to 12pm on Wednesdays and Fridays** (during school terms) at 42 Angas Road, Hawthorn. Call 0431 937 563. ■

Grow Free

Sharing cart at Trinity Baptist Church at 8a Bedford Square, Colonel Light Gardens. Give what you can, take what you need. Fresh home-grown goodness. ■

Hills Choral Society

Commemorating the 100 anniversary of the Armistice the Hills Choral Society with an orchestra presents "The Armed Man", "Memoirs of Corporal Keeley" and "Oh What Lovely War" during two performances on **Saturday 27 October and Sunday 28 October** at the Blackwood Church of Christ, Shepherds Hill Road, Blackwood. Tickets through Trybooking or call 0400 887 166. ■

Twisted: a yarn festival for creatives

Visit Gallery One on **Sunday 19 August from 10am to 3pm** for the 'Twisted' festival. Discover the world of weaving, knitting and crochet, felting, macramé and dyeing and so much more. Visit www.facebook.com/GalleryOneMitcham or call 0431 297 258. ■

Dementia and their Families Support Program

Caregivers are invited to register for this free research program to receive assistance in managing dementia in the home. This is a research project based on The Care of Persons with Dementia in their Environments program. Participants receive up to 10 consultations, either at home or via telehealth, with a registered, qualified Occupational Therapist. There are no additional costs. For more information call Kate on 0402 334 895. ■

Quarterly Folk Dance

Enjoy the Australian Traditional and Bush Dance Society of SA's Mitcham Village Folk Dance on **Saturday 6 October from 7pm to 10pm** at the Mitcham Village Institute, Princes Road, Mitcham. Music by Pining for the Fjords. All dances are called, flat shoes recommended. No previous experience is needed and you don't need to bring a partner. \$15. For more information visit www.atbdsdancesa.com.au or phone 0418 837 411. ■

Seniors in Harmony

Enjoy lively musical concerts on **Tuesday 4 September** with St John's Grammar School Junior Choir at **1.30pm**. Held at the Mitcham Cultural Village, Princes Road, Mitcham, performances are followed by afternoon tea. For group bookings email seniorsharmony@gmail.com. ■

St Columba's Church Fete

Come along to the church fete at 3 Rosevear Street, Hawthorn on **Saturday 13 October 8.30am to 2pm** and **Sunday 14 October 10.30am to 1pm**. Books, clothes, cakes, jams, toys, plants, trash and treasure, BBQ, morning tea, much more! On Saturday 10am to 12pm enjoy listening to The Second Wind. Call 8272 3813. ■

City of Mitcham Annual Business Plan 2018/2019

The Annual Business Plan sets out the proposed services, projects and works for 2018/19 in achieving our long-term goals and objectives captured in Council's Strategic Management Plan 2017-2027.

Council is continuing to focus on improving community sporting and recreational facilities together with maintaining the standard of all of the community's assets.

In 2018/19 Council is budgeting for \$62 million in expenditure on delivering services as well as investing \$25 million on capital works. This plan continues to drive efficiencies and financial savings with a proposed underlying operating surplus of \$415,000.

Investing in Community Assets, Service Enhancements and Projects

Council will be spending a total of \$25 million on assets being \$15 million on renewing existing assets and reducing backlog and a further \$11 million will be spent on constructing or acquiring new assets and enhancing services.

Expenditure on community assets is summarised below:

| Asset Category | Total '000 |
|--|---------------|
| Bridges | 897 |
| Bus Shelters | 22 |
| Car Parks | 157 |
| Buildings and Land | 2,425 |
| Footpaths | 2,270 |
| IT Equipment | 329 |
| Mitcham Redevelopment | 6,238 |
| Office Furniture and Equipment | 102 |
| Parks, Gardens and Open Space | 1,864 |
| Plant and Equipment (incl Fleet) | 1,410 |
| Playgrounds | 476 |
| Retaining Walls | 67 |
| Roads | 6,128 |
| Sports Facilities | 460 |
| Sports Lighting | 124 |
| Stormwater and Drainage (incl Brownhill and Keswick Creeks) | 1,425 |
| Traffic Control Devices | 785 |
| TOTAL | 25,179 |



New and Improved Services for the Community

The new and improved services with a one-off \$2 million capital investment cost and an ongoing expenditure, of \$285,000 include:

- Way2Go Program
- Hillview Reserve Public Toilets
- Community Building Contributors
- Implement Brownhill Keswick Creek
- Half Footpath Construction Program
- Fund My Neighbourhood Projects
- Club Grants
- Soldiers Memorial Gardens - Brown Hill Creek
- CC Hood Reserve - Shelter

Key Achievements from 2017/18

Mitcham Memorial Library and
surrounds redevelopment

St Marys Clubrooms upgrade

Increasing the footpath network

Community Public Art Grant

Annual Art Prize

Way2Go Program

Traffic Improvements in Brighton
Parade, Watahuna Avenue, Waite
Road, Winston Avenue, Pole Road and
Serpentine Road

Water Sensitive Urban Design

Leases and Licenses Review



Legend

Buildings



Footpaths



Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces



Playgrounds



Roads



Sport and Recreation Facilities



Stormwater



Retaining Walls



Bridges



Traffic Control



Trails Network



Bus Shelters



Car Parks

Bedford Park

Frances Street Reserve

Randall Park

Belair

Belair Guides

Downer Avenue Reserve

Hannaford Barn

Main Road

Windy Point Upper Car Park

Bellevue Heights

Offler Avenue

Sargent Parade

Shepherds Hill Road

Vaucluse Court

Blackwood

Blackwood Bowling Club

Blackwood Community Centre

Blackwood Football Club

Blackwood Hill Oval

Blackwood Library

Blackwood Recreation Centre

Coromandel Parade

Cumming Street

Gamble Cottage

Hovea Street

Hewett Reserve

Hillside Road

Main Road

Station Avenue

Waite Street Reserve

Walkway

Wolseley Road

City of Mitcham Annual Business Plan 2018/2019

Capital Works Program

Clapham

Boucaut Street

Gort Avenue

Price Avenue

MacPherson Street

Clarence Gardens

AA Bailey Reserve

Abercrombie Court

Aldershot Street

Bideford Avenue

Clarence Gardens Bowling Club

Goodale Avenue

Nieass Reserve

Winona Avenue

Colonel Light Gardens

Bedford Square

Broadway (east and west)

Colonel Light Gardens Institute

Colonel Light Gardens Guide Hall

Colonel Light Gardens Scout Hall

Colonel Light West Tennis Club

Eton Street

Hastings Road

Hereford Place

Kent Road

Lancaster Avenue

Mortlock Park

Pembroke Place

Reade Park

Rochester Avenue

View Street

Windsor Avenue

West Parkway

Coromandel Valley

Boronia Avenue

Coromandel Parade/
McNamara Road

Sturt River Linear Park

Turners Avenue

Winns Bakery

Craigburn Farm

Grand Boulevard

Cumberland Park

Alexander Avenue

Avenue Road Reserve

Hope Ward Tennis Club

Goodwood Lane

Daw Park

Harvey Hayes Reserve

Ormond Avenue

Roseberry Street

Eden Hills

Blackwood Lions Club Shed

Cooper Street

Depindo Avenue

Ellison Avenue

Karinya Reserve

Kinedana Street

Wilora Road

Glenalta

Sherwood Reserve

Hawthorn

Bowillia Avenue

George Street

Hilda Terrace

Price Memorial Oval

St Georges House

Short Avenue

Hawthorndene

Apex Park

Cypress Avenue

Hawthorndene Drive

Hawthorndene Oval

Main Road

Oak Crescent

Turners Avenue

Kingswood

Arnold Street

Bakers Road

Balham Avenue

Harrow Terrace

Hillview Road

Kingswood Oval and Clubroom

Kingswood Tennis Club

Kyre Avenue

Mitcham RSL

Truro Avenue

Lower Mitcham

Aboyne Road

Denman Tennis Club

Dunbar Avenue

Hay Street

Mitcham Community Centre

Mitcham Railway Station

Price Avenue

Sizer Street

Spruce Court

Yulinda Terrace

LyntonLynton, Blackwood Hill,
Pony Ridge

Lynton Depot

Walkway (Beagle Terrace)

Melrose Park

Cudmore Court

Romsey Grove

Brett Street

Jose Street

Kingston Avenue

Leonard Street

Marion Street

Margaret Court

Regent Street

Rozzells Reserve

Swift Avenue

Walter Street

Wheaton Road

Mitcham

Bradey Street

Brown Hill Creek Road

Evans Road

Lisburne Avenue

McElligotts Quarry Reserve

Mitcham Cultural Village

Neweys Road

Norman Reserve

Old Belair Road

Welbourne Street

Netherby

Claremont Avenue

Finlayson Street

Netherby Reserve

Rentoul Avenue

Panorama

Alma Street

CC Hood Reserve

Crescent Avenue

Eliza Place

Boothby Street

Ontario Avenue

Page Crescent

Seaview Crescent

Vancouver Avenue

Pasadena

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Eyre Boulevard | |
| Gunther Parade | |
| Kimba Grove | |
| Magdalene Terrace | |
| Naomi Terrace Reserve | |
| Pasadena Grove | |
| Pimbaacla Grove | |
| Ritz Boulevard | |

St Marys

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Barnett Avenue | |
| Denis Street | |
| Lloyd Street | |
| Mingbool Avenue | |
| Norman Street Reserve | |
| Ragless Street | |
| South Road | |
| The Crescent | |

Springfield

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Balfour Road | |
| Meadowvale Road | |

Torrens Park

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Balkissoch Road | |
| Barrrelder Road | |
| Brook Street | |
| City of Mitcham Civic Centre | |
| Fife Avenue | |
| Highland Avenue | |
| Hugh Street | |
| Jansen Court | |
| John Fisher Drive | |
| Lochness Road | |
| Paisley Avenue | |
| Muggs Hill Road | |
| Owen Street | |

Urrbrae

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Birksgate Drive | |
|-----------------|--|

Westbourne Park

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Westbourne Park Guide Hall | |
| Harvey Avenue | |
| Norseman Court | |
| Shearer Avenue | |



Operating Projects

Operating projects are one-off expenditures over one to two years maximum. They do not generate ongoing expenditure or the creation or replacement of assets and can include things such as feasibility studies, plans or one-off events.

Council endorsed the following projects totalling \$400,000:

Infrastructure asset audit and revaluation

External audit of financial systems and processes

Living Well plan

Independent insurance review

City Image – year 1

Heritage Plans for two heritage listed buildings – year 2

Urrbrae Wetlands desilting

Implementation of the Animal Management Plan

Council contribution to feasibility study of Western Bypass

Waite Street Reserve Landscape Concept Plan (re-budgeted)

Blackwood District Centre planning

Implementation of the Integrated Transport Plan

Trial Roll-Out of Free Food Organics Collection System

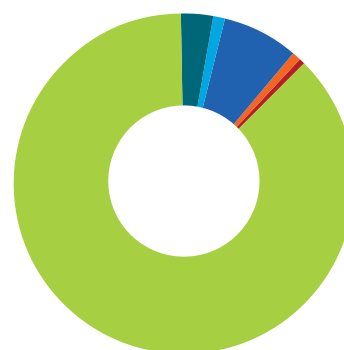
Budget and Rates

In response to the current economic climate and to achieve our commitment to maintain and improve services to the community and maintain financial sustainability, homeowners will pay an average of 2.97% more in rates this financial year increasing the average residential rate by \$49 from \$1,655 to \$1,704. A summary of costs contributing to the rate increase are provided below.

| | Percentage |
|---|--------------|
| Financial Savings | (1.16%) |
| Provision of existing services (including funding debt repayment in approximately 27.7 years) | 3.16% |
| Maintaining Existing Services | 2.0% |
| New and Improved Services (including asset renewal backlog) | 0.56% |
| State Government cost shifting (eg Waste Levy) | 0.41% |
| TOTAL | 2.97% |

Sources of Income

Rates income is the major source of funding for providing a range of essential everyday services to the community with \$52.5 million (excluding NRM Levy) being raised from rates and \$7.6 million from other sources as follows:



| | |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| \$52.5m | Rates |
| \$1.9m | Statutory charges |
| \$0.6m | User charges |
| \$3.9m | Grants, subsidies, contributions |
| \$0.5m | Other income |
| \$0.2m | Reimbursements |

Where Income is Spent?

This year Council will have a net expenditure of \$52.1 million delivering services, capital works and projects to the community as summarised here.



| | |
|---------|--|
| \$3.5m | Building Assets |
| \$0.1m | Sports Facility Assets |
| \$1.4m | Community Services |
| \$1.5m | Customer Experience |
| \$2.3m | Development Services |
| \$4.6m | Environmental Management |
| \$0.6m | Environmental Health Services |
| \$3.6m | Governance Support |
| \$2.6m | Library Services |
| \$10.9m | Traffic and Transport |
| \$4.1m | Parks, Gardens and Open Space |
| \$0.2m | Regulatory Services |
| \$2.5m | Stormwater Assets |
| \$9.9m | Organisational Support |
| \$6.4m | Waste Services |
| -\$1.0m | Headline Operating Surplus (excl Subs) |

For further information on Council's Annual Business Plan and Rating and Financial Management Policies visit www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au or call 8372 8888.

Mayor Glenn Spear



Telephone: 0438 221 762

gspear@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

This is the final Community News for this Council term. As I ponder the last four years I have to ask myself if I have honoured the commitment I made to residents when I stood for election.

Local Government is certainly challenging, and at times terribly frustrating, however it can also be a highly rewarding experience. I am confident that I have worked hard and done my best for the community. I am deeply honoured and feel privileged to have served as your Mayor.

I stand by my position on political influence in Council and have experienced nothing that has changed my opinion on this topic. I believe that people who come to Council with a political agenda miss the point of Local Government. In my opinion once an elected member nominates for State or Federal parliament they should resign from Council and not receive any further ratepayer funded allowances.

At a recent Council meeting Councillor Munro introduced a motion incorporating a lower rate increase on the back of identifying other Council savings. Surprisingly to me some Councillors favoured an increase in rates without a "savings" target. As the vote was tied at 6 votes all I used my casting vote in favour of a smaller increase. I made this promise to ratepayers and a position I strongly favour. With a \$60 million dollar budget I reject the notion that we cannot find efficiencies in Council.

We are underway with significant capital projects including Mitcham Library, St Marys Park, new playgrounds, new public toilets and commencing new tree planting. We are delivering high quality services at a rate never seen before in Mitcham and still have a balanced budget with debt levels well within government accounting standards.

I am pleased to report that development approval has been given to the Council initiated Blackwood Central Commercial precinct. This Council has not added to the 38 or so other reports into Blackwood that previous Councils have done!

Rate Capping is topical at the moment; it seems that I am a lone voice with regard to my in principal support for a well-founded cap on increases in Council rates. I am quite comfortable to have protections in place for residents. It is interesting to hear so many voice an opinion that without Councils having the power to implement increases beyond CPI that the roof will cave in.

I resigned my position on the LGA Board after submission for increases to board sitting fees from \$500 per annum to approximately \$20,000 per annum. At a time that the sector is promoting the non-implementation of rate capping this is unacceptable to me.

I thank my wife Tracey for her total support and counsel, she accompanies to many of the Civic functions I attend and I would struggle to get everything done without her.

Council nominations open in September; perhaps you are considering nominating, I am happy to discuss this with you.

To keep up to date with what I am currently working on, follow me at www.facebook.com/GlennWSpear/

The Park Ward Cr Jane Bange



Telephone: 0478 076 400

jbange@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Twenty two months since I was elected to Council and I have so enjoyed this time - the ability to help residents in practical ways, the opportunity to know our Council area more thoroughly, the mental stimulation, and the discussion around setting future directions for Council.

One of my passions is public art and I am pleased to see the Mitcham Arts Advisory Group up and running. They have already recommended \$23,000 of public art projects for the last financial year and I look forward to seeing these works appear. Some residents may feel this is a waste of money. However, compared to what we spend on sport, this is a very modest amount of money for the entire Council area. Just last meeting, Council was looking to spend \$460,000 on works for just one sporting facility. I certainly see the value of sport for many reasons but consider, until now, the arts have missed out in comparison.

It is good to see the steady progress in the rebuilding of the Mitcham Memorial Library which is due to open next January. However, I have been greatly disturbed by the push to have the Toy Library taken off-site as this, to my mind, undermines the community consultation process. When Council sought comments about the proposed designs, every option showed the Toy Library as a 'key integral feature' and over 95% of respondents supported having the Toy Library on-site. Construction had long started when a proposal was made to run the Toy Library off-site so it would not be housed within the new Library.

As a Councillor, I place a great deal of importance upon process. It is as important, if not more so, than the outcomes, for, if the process is inconsistent, complicated, or lacking in transparency, the outcomes reached will most likely be flawed. Though the process of community consultation takes time, when done well, it will deliver results that are supported by the majority of our community. To my mind, it is time well spent.

Too often, politicians of all levels of government skimp on genuine community consultation. How often have we felt that outcomes had already been determined and consultation was largely window dressing, done in order to tick the relevant box? Then, further into the process, when it becomes obvious that community views have been sidelined, a lot of staff time (and cost) is taken up responding to community objections to what is being proposed. This is what has largely happened in the process of the Toy Libraries.

Next month, the rolls close for Council voters, in the lead up to our next election in October. I hope to see a wider range of fellow candidates stand - people who reflect the diversity within our communities. Hopefully, there will be some candidates who are younger, maybe from a non-English speaking background, or who are parents of young children.

Babbage Ward Cr David Munro



Telephone: 0403 161 462

dmunro@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Passing an unbalanced budget

This year's budget and rate rise was the first time I can recall we managed to get an unbalanced budget approved by the chamber. In past years the Council has set rates so that it covers all the predicted expenses of the upcoming year, however this year we approved a rate rise that will not cover all of the predicted costs of Council. There was much debate that the rate rise should have been set higher, but with the unknown costs of the recycling issue I could not consciously expect ratepayers to pay for something without any awareness of the real cost. So I moved a motion that the rate rise be set at 2.97% knowing that there may be a shortfall, however there also may not be. I also included in the motion that Council and administration set themselves a target to reduce ongoing costs to an agreed value of \$200k. Hopefully we will go beyond that. In my experience the chamber spends a lot of time setting the rate rise amount but once it is set there is no accountability throughout the year to reduce costs or expenses. Making recommendations to review the removal of services is a hard decision and of course a lot easier to just increase rates. There must come a time when we should look at the expenditure in areas and be prepared to look for alternatives. I believe that now we have the motion to reduce expenses along with a target amount set by the chamber, that we will be motivated to constantly review expenses. I am proud that we have moved in this direction as it provides an opportunity to constantly review our expenditure, reassess the efficiencies in services and drive accountability.

Additionally, it is great to see that the shelter for CC Hood Reserve has also been included as part of the funding for the 18/19 financial year. The shelter has been requested for a long period of time and given the amount of visitors both two and four legged to the reserve it will be a great asset to CC Hood Reserve.

As I come to the end of my second term as Councillor for the Babbage Ward I would like to say what an amazing experience it has been. There have been some real tough decisions that have had to be made in the ward, particularly with all the impacts of the Darlington project. Works still continue to be made in the Bedford area and the rapid change of the suburb is a once in a lifetime experience. I am truly looking forward to seeing the area move of the old TAFE site and Women's Memorial Playing Field being tidied up and seeing the link between Tonsley and Flinders becoming a reality.

As my last article before Local Government elections in November, I continue to be committed to my local community and encourage you to contact me about concerns or issues.

Craigburn Ward Cr Karen Hockley



Telephone: 0423 919 080

khockley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

I was recently invited to talk with a group of kids about how our government works and my role in local government. The children were lovely and attentive and they asked some really insightful questions. My older boy said I got 9 out of 10 for the presentation but added that I bored the group to tears and used too much jargon – he's a harsh critic!

The experience reminded me why I'm so active in our democracy. As a child I would spend time thinking about our society and who made it fair. I knew who did this at school and wondered how things were organised in the adult world. In high school and university my thinking was expanded by the concepts of economic theory. MBA studies and a professional career have reinforced a belief that the language and practice of those in leadership roles permeates our society and influences our culture.

This is why the health of our democracy is so important to me. Our democracy is the mechanism by which we choose the individuals who will lead our community and determine the kind of society we live in and leave for our children.

My high school study of politics focused on the dismissal of the Whitlam Government. The focus on this event and its description as a 'constitutional crisis' is testament to the stability and relative strength of our system of government and our democracy.

This strength is valuable to our society and to our economy. Organisations are reluctant to invest in productive assets in environments where unrest is likely. If our children live in an environment with less stability, they may struggle to develop into well-balanced and happy adults.

Like any muscle, the health and strength of our democracy is reduced when it's not put to work. When we have seats that are always held by one group or another our democracy gets lazy. When we have elected officials that serve their own interests or the interests of their benefactors our democracy gets lazy. People start to think that there is no point and become disillusioned.

As a child I never imagined that I would have the opportunity to help shape our community by being a Councillor in Local Government. I made a commitment to providing full and pro-active representation, to seeking out your views, listening and working for solutions that are in line with community sentiment. I made this commitment because I believed that it would strengthen our democracy and deliver a form of Local Government that the community would value.

As this is my last article before the Local Government elections, I would like to thank you for your emails, letters and phone calls. I remain committed and really appreciate it when you take the time to let me know how you feel about issues. Your comments always inform my vote. Please call me on 0423 919 080, email at khockley@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or find me on Facebook at facebook.com/KarenHockleyCouncillorforMitcham. I'd love to hear from you.

Gault Ward Cr Stephen Fisher



Telephone: 0407 973 321

sfisher@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Mitcham Council has purchased brighter LED street lights to replace the old types. Which not only improve road and pedestrian safety, but use less than half the wattage, saving ongoing costs for electricity.

The State Government's implementation plans for the 2016 Planning, Development and Infrastructure (PDI) Act are bad news. Assessment of building proposals has been carried out by the Development Assessment Panel (DAP) recently renamed Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP). This name-change is designed to create confusion about who is responsible for approving/rejecting applications to build development applications (DAs).

The older DAP had three Councillors, outnumbered by four independent members. The new CDAP only has one Councillor, with three independent members. The Councillor sitting on the CDAP is constrained to administer the Mitcham Development Plan, so they are not legally allowed to represent their community in carrying out the process of assessment of DAs.

Worse still, the planning fraternity of Adelaide have developed a concept of "on merit", claimed to be supported by various ERD and Supreme Court of SA decisions. This "on merit" idea treats the written English in all Development Plans as **"only guidelines"**, not plain English aims and rules.

This is despite Supreme Court of SA Decision #244 on 04/07/2007, Justice DeBelle overturned an ERD Court ruling and restored Mitcham's decision to refuse the application. See <https://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/sa/SASC/2007/244.html> Justice DeBelle stated "Future development should complement the existing mixed character...constructed between 1920 to 1970, **by respecting and preserving the private open space and low density qualities of the area**". Higher density redevelopment in the past "often resulted in development significantly out of character with its locality and the loss of existing affordable housing stock."

"The commissioner **has treated the prescribed minimum standards in Principles 1 and 2 as some kind of norm. ... This is to distort the plain meaning and intent of desired standards. ... Had the Council intended that the prescribed minimum standards should be the norm, it would have said so...** The Commissioner has (acted) ... that, if a proposal complies with the minimum quantitative standards, it must be approved. **That is not necessarily so. Compliance with minimum standards rarely leads to a grant of development consent.**

This landmark decision cut through the nonsense that any Development Plan must be interpreted. Instead, it states that the intention of any Development Plan is clearly stated in the English language, and must mean what it says. Despite this decision being ignored by the planning fraternity, **the new PDI will throw out every Council's Development Plan and replace with a state-wide one-size-fits-all version.**

Rises in population, increase travel times on already clogged arterial roads, undo road infrastructure improvements, and will require enormous water, sewerage and electricity upgrades to localities which suffer high-rise intrusions.

Both major parties' politicians unfortunately continue to be obsessed with increasing Adelaide's population.

Let your State and Federal Member of Parliament know that chasing growth diminishes your quality of life, and ask them to support a stable population.

Overton Ward Cr John Sanderson



Telephone: 0402 517 945

jsanderson@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

Budget

Now the Budget and Long Term Financial Plan has been approved by Council, staff can plan civil works for the next 12 months. This includes engineered plans for storm water, kerbing and watertable construction, road replacement and maintenance. Parks and gardens, and similar to the works adjoining the Mitcham Memorial Library construction along Brownhill Creek. This particular construction will take a while to complete, but it will be worth the wait.

Development at Lot 362 Regent Street, Melrose Park

At the time of writing this article Elected Members are advised this item will come to Council on 10 July, for discussion only. The new plan for this site does not have a through road to Kegworth Road, that has been blocked off and additional car parking has been included. The item will then be in the agenda for approval, with any amendments, on 24 July. Regrettably I will be on leave overseas, which was planned in 2017. Elected Members will give this item their full discussion and consideration.

Repatriation Hospital Site

We are all still waiting on the final plans and/or maybe a ward re-opened to accommodate the patients that are unable to access a bed at other hospitals. We all wish to know what the site will finally look like.

Road Works on Winston Avenue

You all would be aware that the road works on Winston Avenue. This is being funded from the Government Black Spot program. Many intersections have had new kerb and water table construction to all clear passage of pedestrians crossing the road. These works will make the area a much safer place as there have been a couple of accidents in the past years. Sorry for the slow traffic at peak times.

Rate Capping

I don't believe this will be as bad as some people believe. There will be the odd projects which may miss out on funding from Council, but, Council is able to apply for exemptions at the approval of Government. Watch this space as no one is fully "around" rate capping as yet.

As always, I am available on the Council website, or mobile 0402 517 945 or 8277 1884 if you wish to discuss any Council issue please contact me.

Protecting our Heritage River Red Gums at Mitcham Reserve

Mitcham Reserve's River red gums have been given the best chance of reaching grand old age for future generations to enjoy.



Above: The Monarch of the Glen, 2016.

Top right: The Monarch of the Glen, 1910 (C Petts).

Bottom right: Native plantings at Mitcham Reserve.



Last winter grass around the trees was replaced with mulch to improve the health and prolong the life of the trees. The mulch has now begun to break down and restore the soil.

This winter Council has planted over 2,500 indigenous plants in these mulched areas to help maintain the health of the River red gums. Species such as wattles (Acacia species) have been planted to fix nitrogen in the soil, to improve fertility to promote tree growth. Other native plants will support the local habitat such as birds that help control insects which can affect the River red gums.

Our trees, especially Mitcham's magnificent River red gum trees are important for our City. Not only

do they clean the air we breathe, they also act as wind-breaks, they moderate our climate and they provide habitat for native animals.

At 200 to 250 years of age Mitcham Reserve's River red gums are considered relatively young. With the good care we are providing these trees will live to be more than twice their current age and several centuries from now they may reach the size of the Monarch of the Glen.

The Monarch of the Glen is a River Red Gum located in Brownhill Creek and is about 400 years old. It is a Kauria shelter tree and was the temporary home of early pioneers who used the burnt out tree for shelter during hard economic times from the 1840s to 1930s.

Downer Reserve Trail

The City of Mitcham with the support of volunteers has upgraded the Downer Reserve Trail in Belair.

Downer Reserve, located between Penno Parade and Downer Avenue in Belair, has the Belair Scout Group based in the reserve and is looked after by a dedicated Bush for Life group.

Council recently replaced the steps linking Penno Parade and Downer Avenue with a natural surface trail. Trail maintenance volunteers, members of the Belair Scout Group and Bush for Life members volunteered their time planting over 200 indigenous plants and grasses to revegetate the old step areas.

A new play area is also planned for this reserve through a Fund My Neighbourhood grant.

If you would like to find out more about Council's trail network or get involved, call 8372 8888 or visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trails



Above: Trail maintenance volunteers, members of the Belair Scout Group and Bush for Life volunteers at a community planting day in July.



Tree Planting in Streets and Reserves

Council will finish planting 1,200 trees in streets and parks across the City by the end of winter.

Trees are planted to replace those that had to be removed, to fill gaps in tree avenues or to green-up spaces where there might not have been trees in the past.

Council plants a variety of tree species to provide shade, to improve the local amenity and provide habitat. When considering what tree species to plant we look at the soil type, neighbouring land uses, verge width, vehicle and pedestrian access and safety requirements, as well as the location of underground and overhead services.

To ensure our City's trees remain healthy and safe we water and prune young trees, which helps them to establish quickly and live a long and safe life.

If you notice any problems with trees in our streets or parks please contact us on 8372 8888 or lodge a request for service at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

You can help new trees by giving them a bucketful of water each week during spring, summer and autumn.

Each newly planted tree is now recorded on specialised software to ensure that it receives follow-up maintenance such as watering and pruning. Work on mature trees is also recorded and linked to Council's geographic information system to assist us to schedule maintenance and respond to requests from the community. By collecting this data Council will be able to better understand the different life cycle costs of our tree species.