

MITCHAM

COMMUNITY NEWS

OCTOBER 2020



Hope for brighter days ahead
Blackwood travel agent Lyndall Young has kept her business open to support customers despite 'going backwards' since March. The business is one of many in our community hit hard by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
FULL STORY ON PAGE 3

MITCHAM COMMUNITY NEWS OCTOBER 2020



City of Mitcham residents showed their support for Arbour Day by planting native trees across the City.
Page 3



Panorama based builder EJ Northway & Son has welcomed a series of contracts in recent months as part of Council's push to stimulate the local economy.
Page 4



A food charity at Edwardstown is busier than ever helping to support people affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Page 16

Also in this issue

- 2** Australia Day nominations now open
- 4** Club ready to roll in 2021
- 5** City of Mitcham Annual Business Plan 2020/2021
- 8** Prepare for the bushfire season
- 11** Open Day at Urrbrae Wetland
- 12** Your Elected Members
- 14** Have Your Say on Development Plan changes
- 16** Book in for a food safety session

Cover image: Travelaffare owner Lyndall Young at her Blackwood business with City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes Ross.



Rod Moss elected to Gault

Rod Moss has been declared the new City of Mitcham Gault Ward Elected Member by the Electoral Commission of SA (ECSA).

A resident of Colonel Light Gardens for 45 years, Councillor Moss worked for the State Government for many years and spent five years at Adelaide City Council working in Property Maintenance and Asset Management.

He said he felt the "timing was right" and was looking forward to representing his area.

"I've always been involved in the community through my associations with local sporting clubs in particular," he said. "At Council I would like to see more of a focus on long term project planning and smart, common sense decisions made early on when it comes to major projects like the Blackwood Hub."

When it comes to the Gault Ward, which covers Westbourne Park, Clapham, Colonel Light Gardens, Hawthorn and Lower Mitcham, Cr Moss would like to see "character and history maintained" and a sensible approach taken to development.

Cr Moss played tennis and football for many years, established the junior football program at the Unley Jets at Kingswood, and has contributed many hours as an umpire, president and committee member across both codes.

He was nominated for Australian of the Year in 2006 for his contribution to junior sport.

"I can't speak highly enough of the value of community sport and benefits that it brings; I see it as a reflection of a healthy community."

At home, Cr Moss is a keen gardener and fisherman. He and his wife Andrea have two children and five grandchildren - one family lives in Adelaide and the other in the US.

Seven candidates competed for the vacancy in the Supplementary Election which was drawn on Monday 10 August.

Green light for Karinya Reserve upgrade

A new soccer pitch and clubrooms will be built at Karinya Reserve at Eden Hills as part of a joint project between City of Mitcham, the Sturt Lions Football Club and Federal Government.

Under the project, a new artificial turf soccer pitch will be installed along with a new two-storey clubroom facility at the eastern end of the existing soccer pitch.

Following community consultation in July, Council endorsed an amended Community Land Management Play in July and granted a 10-year lease to the Sturt Lions Football Club for the proposed clubroom and use of the artificial soccer pitch within their approved hours of use.

Work on the project is expected to commence in November.

The project has been funded by a \$2 million Federal Government grant and contribution from the Sturt Lions (\$150,000) and City of Mitcham (\$700,000) as part of its 2020-21 Annual Business Plan and Budget.

Vote now!

A second Supplementary Election to fill a vacancy in Gault Ward is under way with ballot papers due to Electoral Commission SA (ECSA) or via ballot box at the City of Mitcham Civic Centre by 12 noon on Monday 12 October.

Gault Ward covers the suburbs of Westbourne Park, Clapham, Colonel Light Gardens, Hawthorn and Lower Mitcham.

A Swearing in Ceremony is expected to be held on Tuesday 27 October. The successful candidates' terms are expected to expire at the next general election in November 2022.

Find out more at www.mitmachcouncil.sa.gov.au/councilelections.



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 seeking nominations for Council's Australia Day Awards 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 Award

Awarded to persons over 30 years who have contributed in an outstanding way to the local community.

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

The deadline for all nominations is 5pm Friday 13 November.

For further information please email mitchamevents@mitmachcouncil.sa.gov.au or call 8372 8129.

Australia Day

Young Citizen of the Year Award

Awarded to persons under 30 years who have contributed in an outstanding way to the local community.

The Community Event of the Year Award

Awarded to the person or group who has staged the most outstanding community event during the year.



Travel agent hopes for brighter days ahead

It's been a tough year for Blackwood travel agent Lyndall Young who kept the doors open to support customers despite her business "going backwards" since the onset of COVID-19.

Lyndall said 2020 had been the most challenging of her 27 years in business at Travelaffare in Blackwood's main street.

She stayed open with reduced staffing and opening hours, unlike many of her larger competitors who closed early on in the pandemic.

"It's been really important that we are still here for all those people who made bookings," she said. "Since March we've been processing refunds and delivering on the terms and conditions set by airlines and hotels. We've had to bear the brunt of people's frustrations, which has been hard, but we've had some amazing support from people too."

Lyndall said as well as bookings grinding to a halt, her company was working "in reverse", returning money earned last year.

"We're trying to minimise losses for our clients and do everything we can for them during this extremely difficult time."

In recent months Lyndall has started taking bookings from locals to Northern Territory, Queensland and Norfolk Island. She has kept her focus on looking ahead to a brighter future.

"Now might not be a great time to travel, but it's a great time to start planning," she said. "The world



is going to open up again and we'll return to those places; in the meantime, let's start thinking about opportunities for the days ahead."

Along with the Federal Government's JobKeeper payments, Lyndall welcomed City of Mitcham support which saw her receive a full rate waiver for April to June 2020 and a 10 percent rate decrease for the 2020/2021 year.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said: "Many of our small businesses are struggling right now. We're really happy to be able to provide rate relief to help them out. We're hoping our recent decision to build the Blackwood Community Hub will provide a real boost to local businesses."

Find out more about City of Mitcham support for business at www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/council/ourservices.

Mitcham celebrates Arbour Day

City of Mitcham distributed approximately 500 trees and hosted a virtual tree planting on the first day of spring to commemorate Arbour Day 2020.

Residents, schools and community groups were invited to register their interest in receiving a native tree to help increase Mitcham's tree canopy and raise awareness of the importance of trees to our health and environment.

Species included Bottlebrush hakea, Gungurru, Red flowered mallee, Book-leaf mallee, Golden stalk banksia and Weeping pittosporum.

A group of students from Mitcham Girls High's Sustainability Group planted five trees at their school oval.

Watch the video and find information about each species at www.mitcamcouncil.sa.gov.au/arborday.

Right: Mitcham Girls High School Sustainability Group members Leela and Elizabeth helped plant five trees as part of City of Mitcham's Arbour Day event.

Sustainability Group Coordinator Sharyn Clarke is researching the conservation movement in South Australia.

She said the Arbour Day tradition began in Adelaide's South Parklands in 1889, with other colonies following suit.

"The movement was linked with educating children in regard to the value of trees and also aligned with nation-building," she said.

As part of the initiative, celebrity gardener and Mitcham resident Kim Syrus donated his time to creating a video with tips on how to prepare, plant and care for a new tree.



*We're still here
for you!*

thevillage.org.au
Email bhbc@bhbc.org.au
ph. 8370 0333



**BLACKWOOD HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH**

Subscribe to our
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to join with us in worship online



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Facebook





Club ready to roll for 2021

The Clarence Gardens Bowling Club has had a facelift and is looking forward to welcoming new and returning members for the 2020-21 season.

City of Mitcham provided \$160,000 to renew the fascia of the building, install an accessible entry ramp and unisex accessible toilet, including baby change facilities.

Other work carried out by the club during COVID-19 shutdown includes an upgrade to the kitchen including new flooring, painting, tiling and plumbing and a signage upgrade.

Club President Des Jolly said it was a welcome boost for the Club which is celebrating its 70th year.

"Having accessible entry and a toilet is something we have wanted for a long time and will really benefit our members and visitors," he said. "It gives us the opportunity to open up to more people when we hire out the facility."

Clarence Gardens Bowling Club has two grass greens and a synthetic turf green. On Wednesday and Saturday the club competes in pennant competitions and also offers social bowls, while a 'Knight Owls' social competition is held on Thursday nights.

Membership is free for the first year and coaching is available. The club also offers venue hire.

Meals are available on Thursdays each week from 5.30pm to 7pm.

To join or find out more, contact Des on 0436 410 775.

Photo: City of Mitcham Councillor Katarina Steele, Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross, Club President Des Jolly and City of Mitcham Facilities Coordinator Jody Hardenberg at the Winona Avenue club.

Busy time for EJ Northway & Son

Panorama based builder EJ Northway & Son has welcomed a series of contracts from City of Mitcham over the past few months.

The family-owned plumbing and construction company secured four contracts put out to tender by Council as part of its push to stimulate the local economy in the wake of the COVID-19 shutdown.

Projects included construction of a new public toilet and paving at Hillview Reserve, Colonel Light Gardens, toilet refurbishments at Blackwood Bowling Club and Sturt Baseball Club at Mitcham and a kitchen refurbishment at Hawthorn Community Centre.

Supervisor Brett Calladine said the work had ensured the company, which has 10 employees, could remain in business after an initial slump in March.

"Things did slow down for a while there because people were nervous, so we were really happy to secure the tenders," Mr Calladine said. "We've been able to support a lot of other local business as well; there is a real flow-on effect."

EJ Northway & Son was established by Brett's grandfather Ernest in 1946 and employs brothers Brett and Grant as supervisors, their parents



Gillian and Leon as directors and sister Stacey in administration.

The business specialises in property maintenance, general and specialised plumbing repairs, gas fitting, rainwater installations, trade waste and commercial fit-outs.

Photo: EJ Northway & Son supervisors Grant and Brett Calladine at Hillview Reserve, Colonel Light Gardens, one of four projects undertaken for the Council since March.

Volunteers restore Pony Ridge Trail habitat

Trail volunteers have planted 240 trees, shrubs and grasses along the Pony Ridge Trail, Belair, over the past three months.

Volunteers meet one Saturday per month and completed a total of 168.5 hours' trail maintenance work in the 12 months to October.

The group was joined by Unley High School Year 11 Outdoor Education students who planted 300 grasses, reeds and rushes in Blackwood Hill Reserve.

This collaborative project was part of the school's mountain biking and environmental conservation awareness work.

City of Mitcham has approximately 40km of off-road trails for cycling and walking, set across four zones and covering a variety of terrain.

Would you like to volunteer? Find out more at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/trails or call 8372 8888.



EAT • TALK • BELONG



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

Why not come along, join in the fun activities and meet new friends?

Enjoy conversation over a lovely hot meal for lunch.

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

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

www.careandshare.org.au

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



New and improved services for the community

Increased Public Art funding

Council will increase the public art budget to expand public art in the area.

Continued extension and upgrade of the stormwater network

Stormwater capital projects associated with road renewal works, strategic upgrades and Smart Water Design upgrades will be implemented.

Flinders City Bikeway

Design and delivery of the Flinders City Bikeway as part of the Darlington Upgrade.

Continued implementation of Brownhill Keswick Creek

Contribution to the Regional Subsidiary to implement Brownhill Keswick Creek Flood Mitigation Works.

Karinya Reserve sport facilities upgrade*

Upgrade Karinya Reserve, Eden Hills, sports facilities including a new clubroom and a new artificial pitch.

Blackwood Community Hub and Waite Street Reserve activation*

Subject to State Government funding, Council plans to construct a combined library and community centre and activate the Waite Street Reserve in Blackwood.

Sturt Linear Shared Use Path

Detailed design of the Sturt Linear Shared Use Path from Craighburn Farm to Eden Hills.

Continuation of the Water Sensitive Urban Design Program

Implement smart water management including tree inlets and soakage pits.

Kingswood Oval sport facilities upgrade

Redevelopment of the clubroom/ changerooms at Kingswood Oval.

Hawthorndene Oval sport facilities upgrade

Development of new changerooms at Hawthorndene Oval.

City wide Accelerated Tree Program

Increasing the tree planting program.

*Subject to further Council decisions

City of Mitcham Annual Business Plan 2020/2021

At a time of unprecedented challenges, Council's 2020-21 Annual Business Plan is focussed on continuing to support our community, particularly those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ratepayers who have been financially impacted by the crisis can apply to receive a 10 per cent rate rebate. For those not impacted, our budget includes an average rate increase of 1.91% to cover continued delivery of existing services and additional State Government charges.

The budget also includes \$29.4 million of capital investment in new and enhanced services with an ongoing expenditure of \$1.5 million.

Council's expenditure

In addition to the \$66.1 million allocated to continue existing service delivery, new service delivery and debt servicing, Council will invest \$54.6 million on asset replacement and creation.

This includes \$21.6 million on renewing existing assets, \$3.6 million on reducing the asset backlog and \$29.4 million in the construction or acquisition of new assets and asset enhancements.

Grant (or other external) funding of \$14.5 million as well as proceeds from the sale of existing assets of around \$4-6 million are also included as part of the capital budget.

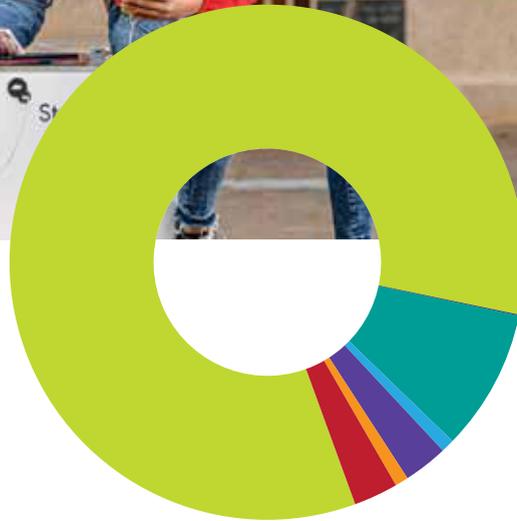
Expenditure on community assets is summarised below:

Asset Category	Renewal (\$m)	New (\$m)	Backlog (\$m)	Total (\$m)	Revenue (\$m)
Bridges	0.49	-	-	0.49	
Bus Shelters	-	-	0.05	0.05	
Car Parks	0.22	-	-	0.22	
Buildings & Land	3.13	26.6	-	29.74	14.0
Footpaths	1.91	0.14	2.54	4.58	
IT Equipment	0.26	0.06	-	0.32	
Office Furniture & Equipment	0.15	-	-	0.15	
Parks, Gardens & Open Space	0.50	0.23	0.01	0.74	0.40
Plant & Equipment (incl Fleet)	3.45	-	-	3.45	0.74
Public Lighting	0.09	-	-	0.09	
Playgrounds	0.68	-	-	0.68	
Retaining Walls	0.22	-	-	0.22	
Roads	10.11	0.11	0.98	11.21	0.05
Stormwater & Drainage (incl Brownhill & Keswick Creeks)	0.40	2.22	-	2.62	0.10
TOTAL	21.62	29.36	3.58	54.57	15.29



Income

Rates income is the primary source of funding used to provide a range of essential everyday services to the community with \$54.6 million raised in the form of rates and \$8.7 million from other sources including user fees and charges, and State and Federal grants.



- 84.0% Rates
- 0.9% User charges
- 2.7% Landscaping levy
- 0.2% Reimbursements
- 2.9% Statutory charges
- 0.0% Investment income
- 8.7% Grants, subsidies and contributions
- 0.7% Other revenue

Legend

- Buildings
- Footpaths
- Parks, Gardens and Open Space
- Playgrounds
- Roads and Kerbs
- Sport and Recreation Facilities
- Stormwater
- Retaining Walls
- Bridges
- Bus Shelters
- Car Parks

Capital Works Program

Blackwood

- Acorn Avenue
- Ashby Reserve
- Blackwood Community Hub
- Blackwood Library
- Blackwood Oval
- Brighton Parade
- Garnet Avenue
- Hewett Reserve
- Hovea Street
- Macs Flat
- Main Road
- Melton Street
- Mitcham Community Housing

Brownhill Creek

- Tilleys Hill Road

Clapham

- Alberta Avenue
- Anson Avenue
- Calgary Avenue
- Catherine Street
- CC Hood Reserve
- Clapham Reserve
- Cole Street
- Columbia Avenue
- Dunkirk Avenue
- Haddington Reserve
- Moriane Avenue
- Quebec Avenue
- Toronto Avenue
- Windermere Avenue

Clarence Gardens

- AA Bailey Reserve
- Bice Street
- Bideford Avenue
- Chamberlain Avenue
- Fulton Place
- Ilford Road
- Leith Avenue
- Wainright Street
- Winona Avenue

Colonel Light Gardens

- Colonel Light Gardens Bowling Club
- Hillview Reserve
- Kandahar Crescent
- Kent Road Reserve
- Light Place
- Lincoln Avenue
- Mortlock Park
- Reade Park
- Reade Park Lawn Tennis Club

Coromandel Valley

- Hillside Road
- Jackson Reserve
- Main Road
- Sturt River Linear Park
- Sturt River Reserve

Craigburn Farm

- Creswell Avenue Reserve

Cumberland Park

- Avenue Road
- Cumberland Avenue

Daw Park

- Francis Street
- Goodwood Road

Eden Hills

- Karinya Reserve
- Murtoa Road

Glenalta

- Bermuda Way
- Byrne Street
- Dunn Avenue
- Dunns Reserve
- Glangary Avenue
- Hannaford Reserve
- Laffers Reserve
- Margaret Avenue
- Petherick Reserve

Hawthorn

- Delwood Reserve
- Egmont Terrace
- Hawthorn Crescent
- Jervois Street
- Mitcham Football Clubrooms
- Soldiers Memorial Gardens
- St Georges House

Bedford Park

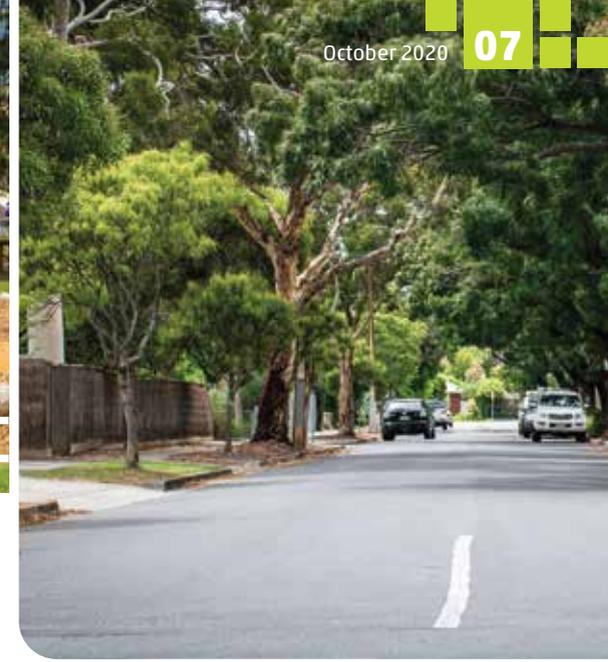
- Edgar Street

Belair

- Belair Road
- Belair Scouts
- Burnell Drive
- Gloucester Avenue Reserve
- Hannaford Barn
- Main Road
- Nunyarra Reserve
- Penno Parade North
- Upper Sturt
- Windy Point Carpark Lookout

Bellevue Heights

- Bellevue Heights Tennis Club
- Donnybrook Reserve
- Eve Road Reserve
- Manson Reserve



What rates will I pay?

The total amount of rate revenue to be raised for 2020/21 is based on an average rate increase of 1.91% (excluding new properties).

A targeted rate reduction via a 10% rate remission will be applied for all COVID-19 impacted ratepayers resulting in an average rate decrease of 8.09%.

Ratepayers financially impacted by COVID-19 will see residential rates decrease by \$147 on average, and commercial rates decrease by \$346 on average. For those not impacted rates will increase by \$34 on average (residential), and \$75 on average (commercial).

How are properties valued?

Council uses capital values, provided by the State Valuation Office, as the basis for distributing the fixed budgeted amount of rate revenue across all ratepayers and land use types.

Rates based on land use (differential rate)

Council uses land use as a factor to apply differential rates. If you believe a property has been incorrectly classified as to its land use, a written objection may be made (to the Council) within 60 days of receiving the first rates notice for 2020/21.

Rebates and deferral of rates

Rebates and deferral of rates are available to eligible properties. In addition to the targeted rate relief in 2020/21 for COVID-19, Council has a Postponement of Rates for Seniors Scheme and also applies a rate capping scheme to all properties to ensure that significant increases in rates are moderated over time.

For more information on Council's Annual Business Plan, Long Term Financial Plan or Rates visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au or call 8372 8888.

Hawthorndene

- Birch Avenue
- Deneland Drive Reserve
- Forest Avenue
- Hawthorndene Drive
- Hawthorndene Oval
- Mulga Road
- Myrtle Road
- Myrtle Road Drainage Reserve
- Oak Crescent
- Scroop Reserve
- Suffolk Reserve
- Upper Sturt
- Watahuna Avenue
- Willow Avenue

Kingswood

- Arnold Street
- Balham Reserve
- Harrow Terrace
- Kingswood Oval
- Park Terrace
- Princes Road
- Vernon Avenue

Lower Mitcham

- Butler Avenue
- Catherine Street
- Dunbar Avenue
- Hay Street
- Kinross Avenue
- Mitcham Avenue
- Verco Avenue
- Wattle Avenue

Lynton

- Lynton SES Building
- Walkway

Melrose Park

- Duncan Street
- Ferry Avenue
- Kegworth Reserve
- Maria Street
- Marion Street Reserve
- Martha Street
- Morgan Avenue
- Winston Avenue
- Works Depot

Mitcham

- Barrans Reserve
- Birdwood Street
- Lorraine Avenue
- McElligotts Reserve
- Mitcham Cemetery
- Mitcham Cultural Village
- Mitcham RSL
- Mitcham Village Institute
- Old Belair Road
- Princes Road
- Waverley Street

Netherby

- Bartley Avenue
- Finlayson Street
- French Street
- Montrose Avenue
- Smith-Dorrien Street

Panorama

- Gully Reserve
- Kentucky Reserve
- Lawn Street
- Moriane Street
- O'Deas Reserve
- Ontario Avenue
- Shepley Avenue

Pasadena

- Branson Reserve
- Branson Reserve / Sierra Nevada Reserve
- Cashel Street
- Grant Jacob Reserve
- Julia Avenue
- Magdalene Terrace
- Marschall Boulevard
- McDiarmid Avenue
- Naomi Terrace
- Pasadena Crescent
- Piazza Reserve
- Quinlan Avenue
- Ritz Boulevard

St Marys

- Adelaide Terrace
- Barnett Avenue
- Cashel Street
- Crystal Avenue
- Denis Street
- Denis Street Reserve
- Donald Street
- Donald Street Reserve

- Dorene Street
- Duncan Street
- Lloyd Street
- Manse Terrace
- Osbourne Street
- Pinn Street
- Quinlan Avenue
- Ragless Street
- Sierra Nevada Reserve
- Tobruk Avenue

Torrens Park

- Ballogie Road
- Belair Road
- Blythewood Road
- Church Road
- Civic Centre
- Fife Avenue
- Gowrie Street
- Haddington Reserve
- Muggs Hill Road
- Paisley Avenue
- Springbank Road
- Wemyss Avenue

Urrbrae

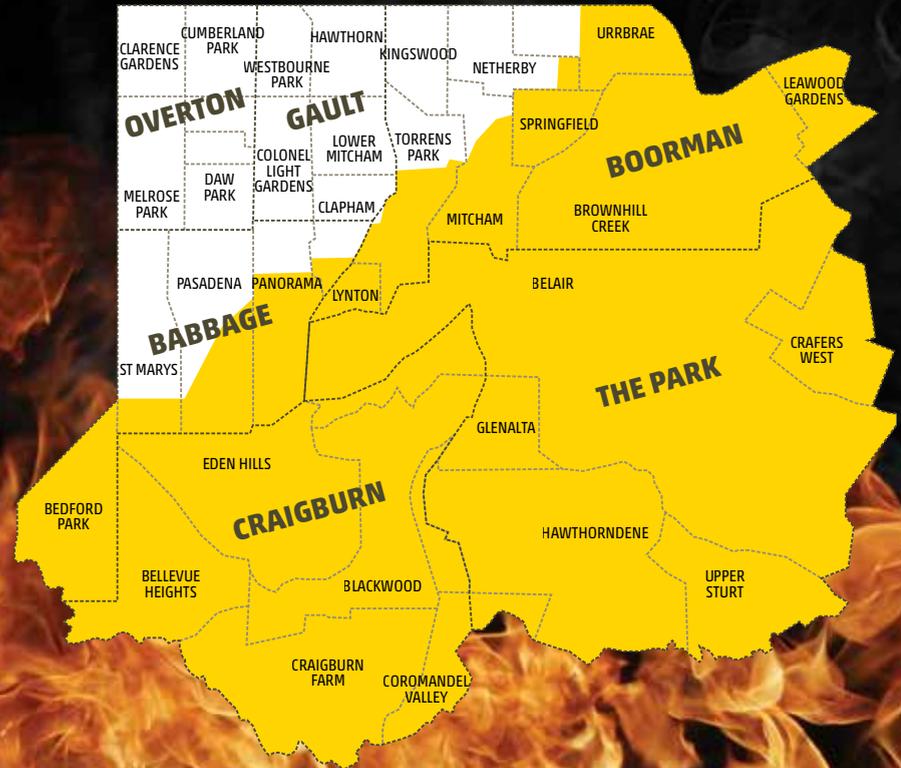
- Greenwood Grove
- Meadowbank Rise
- Various

Various

- Brownhill Creek
- Westbourne Park**
- Batchelor Reserve
- Westbourne Park Memorial Hall

Prepare for the bushfire season

As a resident of the City of Mitcham if you live in the shaded area, then you live in a Bushfire Prone Area.



PREPARE TO LIVE AND SURVIVE IN A BUSHFIRE PRONE AREA

During the summer of 2019-20 bushfires devastated many parts of South Australia and resulted in the loss of three lives and the destruction of many buildings.

The Mount Lofty Ranges, incorporating the Mitcham and Adelaide Hills area, are considered amongst the most bushfire prone and vulnerable areas in Australia.

Living in a bush setting, such as the Adelaide Hills, is a lifestyle choice many South Australians make. The benefits are great, but so are the risks.

You need a practical Bushfire Plan to know exactly what you and your family will do on these days. Bushfire prevention is a year-round responsibility and necessity, it is much more than a weekend clean-up just prior to the bushfire season.

Bushfire Survival Plan

If you live in a bushfire prone area you can expect several days a year on which you, your family and your house may be threatened by fire. You need a practical bushfire plan to know exactly what you and your family will do on these days.

A written and practised Bushfire Survival Plan is the most important part of your preparation to survive a bushfire. Thinking 'I will leave early' is not enough.

You must **Prepare to Act and Survive**. Your Plan will help you take action and avoid making last-minute decisions that could prove deadly during a bushfire.

The majority of people who die during bushfires in South Australia are caught fleeing their homes at the last minute.

A prepared Plan allows you to identify triggers to leave early, make major decisions in advance and will help keep you focused and making better decisions.

Why should you have a Bushfire Survival Plan?

- The majority of people who die during bushfires in South Australia are caught fleeing their homes at the last minute.
Preparing your Plan allows you to identify the triggers to leave early or prepare to actively defend your property.
- Bushfire can be scary and overwhelming. This is not the time to be making major decisions.
Preparing your Plan allows you to make major decisions in advance and will help keep you focused and make better decisions in the event of a bushfire threat.
- During a bushfire, you will most likely be worried about your loved ones.
A prepared and practised Bushfire Survival Plan will help family members know where others are and what they will be doing.
- You might find at the last minute that you don't have the clothing, equipment or resources to enact your plan to leave early or stay and defend.
A prepared and practised Bushfire Survival Plan will help you to identify the resources you need.
- Bushfires can be unpredictable and the best laid plans can go wrong.
A well prepared Plan will include contingencies and back-ups if your primary Plan fails. A written and practised Bushfire Survival Plan is the most important part of your preparation to survive a bushfire.

SO REMEMBER

FIRES CAN THREATEN SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT WARNING.

WATCH FOR SIGNS OF FIRE, ESPECIALLY SMOKE, FLYING EMBERS AND FLAMES.

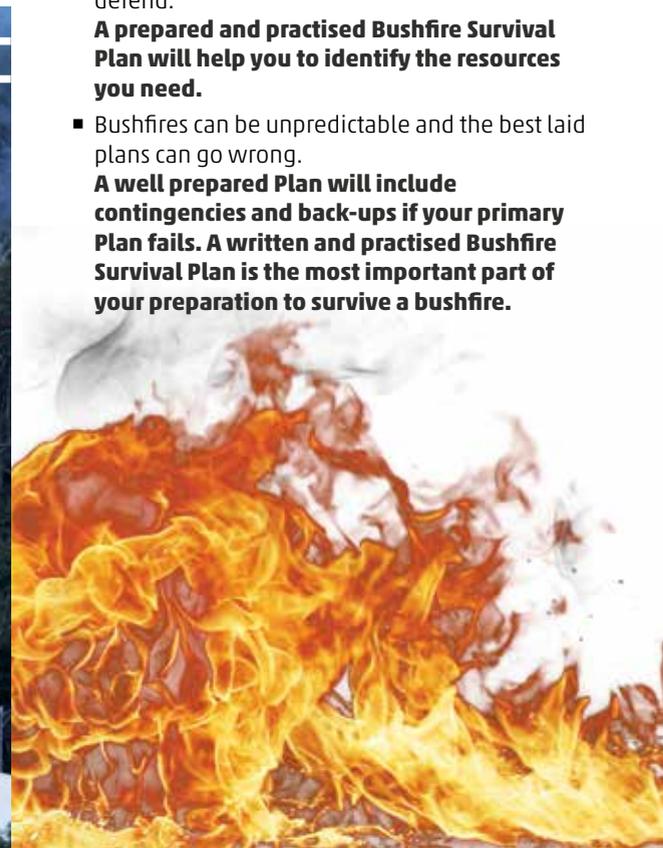
KNOW THE FIRE DANGER RATING IN YOUR AREA.

BE AWARE OF LOCAL CONDITIONS AND KEEP INFORMED.

HAVE YOUR BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN AND KIT READY.

CALL 000 TO REPORT A FIRE.

WATER AND POWER SUPPLY COULD BE CUT WITHOUT NOTICE.



BE BUSHFIRE READY

Are you prepared this bushfire season? Join us to learn about bushfire behaviour, home and property preparation, keeping informed and where to go and when.

Date: Thursday 8 and 15 October

Time: 6.30pm to 7.30pm

Venue: Blackwood Library

Each session covers different topics. Hills residents encouraged to attend both.

To book call the Blackwood Library on 8372 8255.

TO SEEK INFORMATION

LISTEN TO LOCAL RADIO

VISIT WWW.CFS.SA.GOV.AU

CALL THE BUSHFIRE INFORMATION HOTLINE ON 1800 362 361

BUSHFIRE SURVIVAL PLAN WORKSHOPS

City of Mitcham is partnering with the CFS Community Education Team to deliver community education to residents.

Come along to a free Bushfire Survival Plan Workshop.

Date: Sunday 8 November

Time: 9am to 1pm

Venue: Blackwood Community Centre, 4 Young Street, Blackwood

By the end of the session residents will have a written Bushfire Survival Plan to take home.

For more information or to register please visit www.tinyurl.com/blackwoodcfsworkshop or call Laura on 0428 811 831 or email laura.gemmell2@sa.gov.au.



If family members get separated

Consider what you will do if a bushfire comes while your children are at school or family members are at work. Find out the school's policy on bushfires. Do not allow panic to drive anyone into life threatening conditions searching for missing relatives or pets.

Where to go

Investigate if there is a designated community refuge nearby and what you will need to take. You may be able to shelter with family or friends in a nearby suburb or even at a well-prepared neighbour's home. Decide in advance where you will go and ensure that it is a safe area.

Residents are encouraged to have an annual clean-up program and complete the task before the start of the Fire Danger Season and to maintain this program throughout the season.

When clearing properties

Consideration must be given to proper land management principles and in accordance with the Native Vegetation Act.

Fuel reduction

Good fuel reduction practices are essential throughout the year, especially prior to summer.

Remove all flammable materials away from around the house and other buildings and keep bark and mulch to below 10 centimetres (4 inches) in depth.

All heaps of bark, fallen leaves, undergrowth, mulch and other flammable heaps should be kept well clear of the house, outbuildings and from under trees or shrubs.

Prune lower tree limbs and cut long grass within 20 metres of a residential dwelling and five metres from any other buildings.

Your property and home

Many factors influence the loss of life and property during bushfires including:

- The location and accessibility of your property.
- Amount and type of vegetation.
- Condition and placement of buildings.
- Availability of water.
- Physical capabilities of your family to defend the property.

Long-term preparation may include changing the layout of your property to include:

- Strategically placed garden walls.
- Driveways, trees and shrubs.
- Outbuildings.

Clean up now for summer safety and remove all flammable materials from around the house. Walk around your home and identify potential spots where a fire may start.

Properties on steep slopes

Greater ground clearance is necessary on sloping properties, especially under established trees. A fuel-reduced zone of 30 to 40 metres is recommended on steep slopes. The intensity of grassfires increases with the height and quantity of grass. If the grass can't be kept short by grazing animals, it should be slashed well before the Fire Danger Season to allow time for the debris to rot.

Why do houses burn?

Many houses survive the fire front only to be destroyed later by fires started from burning debris. Strong winds can break glass or damage roofs allowing flying embers to get inside the house. In a bushfire a house can burn because of:

- Burning debris landing on or around the house.
- Radiant heat from the approaching fire.
- Direct flame contact.

MANAGING VEGETATION AROUND YOUR HOME

SLASH OR MOW GRASS ON VACANT LAND AND AROUND HOMES AND OTHER BUILDINGS.

DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A 20 METRE ASSET **PROTECTION ZONE** AROUND YOUR HOME, BY REDUCING FUELS SUCH AS GRASSES, TREE LIMBS, BRANCHES, LEAF LITTER AND TWIGS FROM AROUND YOUR HOME.

CLEAR AROUND TREES AND REMOVE DEAD BRANCHES, PRUNE LOWER LIMBS AND CUT BACK BRANCHES OVERHANGING THE ROOF.

PROVIDE SPACE BETWEEN TREES AND SHRUBS TO PREVENT A CONTINUOUS CANOPY OR LINE OF VEGETATION FROM THE BUSH OR GRASS LAND TO THE HOUSE.

KEEP GUTTERS AND ROOF CLEAR OF LEAF LITTER, TWIGS AND OTHER DEBRIS AND SCREEN WITH METAL GUTTER GUARDS.

REMOVE HEAPS OF BARK, HEAVY MULCH, WOOD, VEGETATION PILES AND ANY OTHER FLAMMABLE MATERIALS THAT ARE CLOSE TO YOUR HOME OR SHEDS.

PREPARE FOR THE BUSHFIRE SEASON

Spark proofing

Survival of the house can depend on the type of property, sparks and flammable material entering through windows, under doors, roofs and floorboards.

Protect your home by:

- Fitting metal fly wire mesh or solid screens to spark proof windows, doors, ventilators and skylights.
- Boxing in or screening eaves and under floor areas.
- Sealing gaps in the roof area along ridge capping and fascia boards.
- Removing all plastic, straw or flammable awnings and pergola coverings.
- Removing any flammable materials lying near or under the house.

Property access

Clear access will allow for the safe movement of fire fighting vehicles. Gateways should be at least three metres wide. Roadways need a well compacted surface with slopes no greater than one metre rise for every four metres, with solid crossings over permanent waterways. Turn areas of 25 metres in diameter are necessary.

Water supply

Mains water cannot be relied on during bushfires as power could be cut or water pressure dramatically reduced. If you have water tanks, dams or a swimming pool, a portable pump and a hose will be required to provide water reserves for the CFS. Gravity fed water tanks with wide opening outlets enable quick filling of buckets plus the use of portable pumps. To use your pumping equipment fit gate valves to all new tanks. Ideally your water supply should be close to the house and there should not be exposed areas of plastic pipe or hose to melt.

Catastrophic fire days – making the decision to leave early

A fire burning under catastrophic conditions is virtually uncontrollable and houses are not designed to withstand these fires.

On forecast catastrophic days residents should leave the area either the night before or early in the morning and stay away until conditions improve or they are advised it is safe to return.

Leaving early – what does it mean?

Leaving early means being away from high risk areas before there are any signs of fire. It does not mean waiting for a warning or waiting to see or smell smoke. It does not mean waiting for a knock on the door.

Plan to survive

Make your decision now.

- YES - we are staying and are prepared to defend our property.
- YES - we are going early as we aren't prepared to defend our property.

Even if you plan to go, you must prepare your house and property as if you were staying, you may have no option but to stay and defend as there may be no way out of the area.

BUSHFIRE PREVENTION IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT

FOR INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON PROTECTING YOUR PROPERTY FROM BUSHFIRE, CALL MITCHAM BUSHFIRE PREVENTION OFFICER ANTHONY ANDERSON ON 8372 8133.



Backyard burning

Backyard burning of rubbish or green waste material is banned throughout the City of Mitcham year-round. A charcoal only fire is permitted for the purpose of comfort or cooking outside the Fire Danger Season provided:

- It is no larger than one metre square.
- There is a four metre clearance of flammable materials.
- There is an adequate extinguishing agent.
- A responsible person attends the fire at all times.
- The burning does not interfere with neighbours.
- The fire is completely extinguished when finished.

Parking in the hills

Lives and homes are put at risk if access to fire tracks or the most direct route to a fire is impeded by parked cars obstructing traffic. When you park, ensure that there is at least three metres of road clearance alongside your car which will allow other vehicles to pass. This is required by law and you may save a life!

FREE GREEN WASTE DAYS

Council will provide 12 free green waste days to assist residents prepare their properties for the upcoming Fire Danger Season. These include 10 free days throughout October, November and December and two free days in January and February.

This facility will be FREE with only green waste accepted – no rubbish. Proof of residency will be required. No commercial businesses allowed.

For dates, visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/lyntongreenorganics and follow Council's Facebook page @CityofMitcham for updates. The days will be held at Lynton Green Waste Depot at Beagle Terrace, Lynton.

Green waste material can consist of grass cuttings, leaf matter and prunings (branches no larger than 200 millimetres or 8 inches in diameter).

The Lynton Depot will be closed when the weather forecast exceeds 37.5°C or an extreme or catastrophic fire danger rating is declared in Mt Lofty Ranges Fire District.

Book Now!

NaturePlus
Miticham Spring School Holiday Program

School holiday program on now!

Get out in nature these school holidays and enjoy one of the many free and low cost activities spread right across the City of Mitcham for all ages.

We have embraced the theme of Nature Plus, with nature and sustainability at the heart of many activities and others embracing the Plus element with fun and exciting opportunities to try something a little different.

With close to 20 different activities on offer across 10 different sites, the City of Mitcham will be a hive of activity these school holidays.

All activities have been planned to comply with COVID-19 requirements. You can help us by making sure you book before attending any sessions.

Activities include:

- Making Waves Science Show
- Collect a Craft
- Storytime
- Geocaching
- Nature Journaling
- Native Bee Hotel Workshops & DIY Kits
- Incredible Invertebrates
- Interactive Wildlife Education
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Bees Wax Making
- Mitcham History Tours
- Macramé Owl Making
- Japanese Cherry Blossom Painting
- Kindness Rocks – Paint and Decorate Rocks
- Mexican Magic Craft
- DC & Marvel Performance and Craft
- Improv Theatre Sports
- Screenplay Writing



To view the full listing, dates, times, locations, descriptions, costs and how to book, please visit www.mitichamcouncil.sa.gov.au/schoolholidays.



City of Mitcham Open Space Asset Officer Tim Birkett pictured with logs salvaged from the Springbank Road/ Goodwood Road intersection upgrade.

Springbank Road to Nature Play

Timber removed during the upgrade of the Goodwood Road and Springbank Road intersection will be recycled into natural play spaces at City of Mitcham parks and reserves.

Two trees were removed as part of Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) works in July to make way for the widened intersection.

During consultation with DPTI, City of Mitcham put in a request to salvage the trees and recycle the logs and timber in landscaping, particularly play spaces.

City of Mitcham Mayor Dr Heather Holmes-Ross said some of the timber would form a nature play element as part of an upgrade at Barrans Reserve in Lower Mitcham and a playground renewal at Hewett Oval. Council will seek feedback from the community on these upgrades in coming months.

"It is always disappointing to lose trees in our area, but we're pleased that we have had the opportunity to recycle them through natural play spaces and landscaping," she said. "The logs will be used in multiple projects over the next 12 months including as edging or borders to hold in sand or bark chips, as steppers and climbing logs."

Urrbrae Wetland Open Day

Discover the new bird hide and explore four new trails on Sunday 18 October from 1.30pm to 4pm.

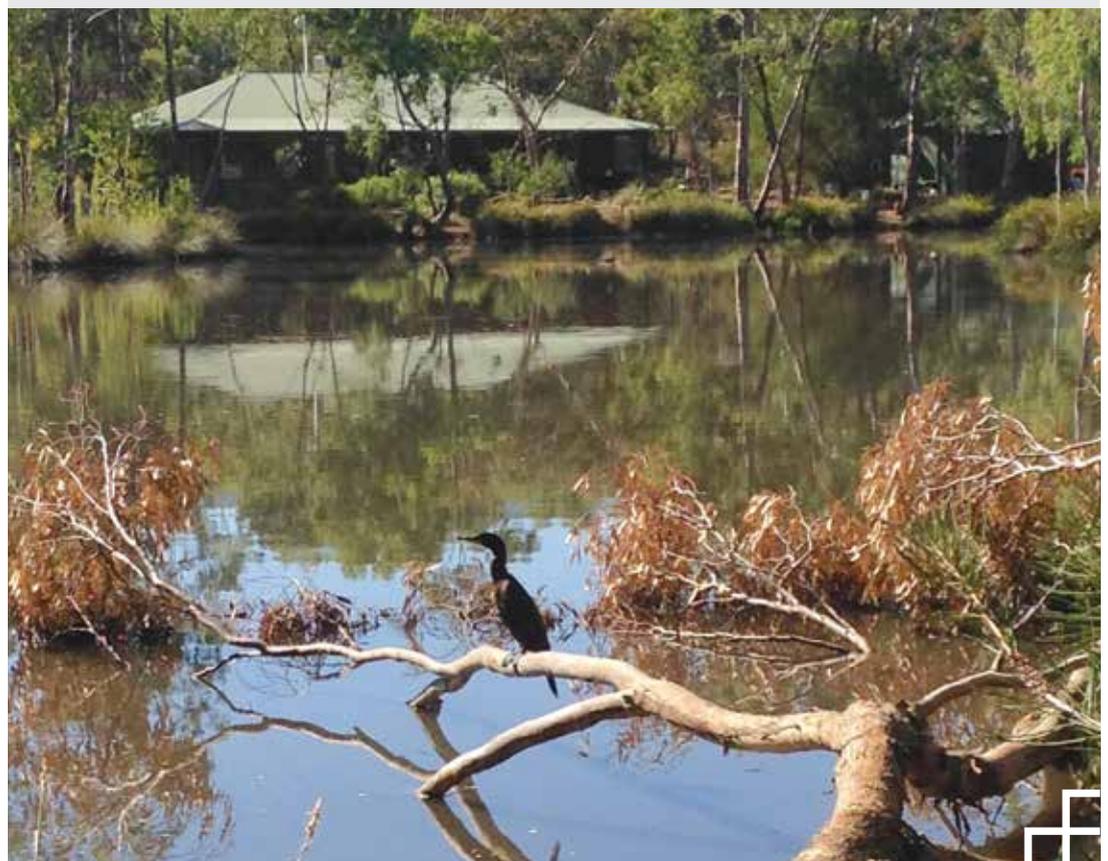
The Friends of the Urrbrae Wetland invite you study wildlife from the new bird hide at the Urrbrae Wetland.

Bring your binoculars to view the local bird life on the ponds, maybe spy the shy Nankeen night heron in the reeds or find a family of parrots in the newly installed bird boxes high in the trees.

Check out the new 'Bee Hotel' and guess who might be rearing larvae there and investigate new seedling plantings in the established bushland.

The day will be run in a different format this year with information sheets developed for four different paths to allow visitors to walk, learn and explore. Wetlands volunteers will be on hand to answer questions.

For more information about the wetland, the Learning Centre at www.urrbraewetlandlc.org or visit www.mitichamcouncil.sa.gov.au/urrbraewetland.





Mayor
Dr Heather
Holmes-Ross

Telephone: 0401 841 000

hholmes-ross@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

After the resignation of our two Gault Ward representatives earlier this year, it is with great pleasure that we welcome Cr Rod Moss to our Council, as the first of two new councillors. Rod has many qualities that will make him an excellent elected representative. He is well known and respected within the community and has a significant local following which he has generated through years of community service. He is an avid sportsman, and through his previous employment with Adelaide Council, already has a good understanding of local government. I appreciate Rod's presence in the Chamber and I am very pleased that the residents of Gault Ward are now represented.

Cr Moss's first attendance was on the evening of the most important decision of the Council year - the budget! In speaking with residents, and from my own (pre-Council) experience, it appears that little is known about how Council builds its budget, so I have taken this opportunity to shed some light on the process.

Our budget discussions typically begin in January and continue until April. We then consult with the community during May, and make a final decision in June, although this year's was delayed due to COVID-19. Building the budget is an exciting and arduous task which takes many hours of staff and Elected Members' time. This is, of course, entirely appropriate, as our budget decisions are pivotal in determining the future direction of Council.

Budget expenditure can be divided into three parts. The first involves delivering the same services next year that Council presently delivers. These include operational and maintenance costs, for example, waste removal (rubbish and recycling), and maintaining assets - fixing existing roads, footpaths, playgrounds, parks, sporting clubs and ovals, community halls, libraries, and other Council-owned properties. Our Council staff, through the CEO, have committed to delivering these services, in each following year, for, at most, their current cost plus a CPI increase. Meeting this commitment provides a tangible way for the Chamber to hold the administration to account.

Another expenditure relates to responsibilities and charges which the State Government shifts to Council. Examples include costs associated with increased environmental protection requirements, and charges such as the solid waste levy; a charge by State Government to Council dependent on the weight of waste sent to landfill. Council has no option but to fund these costs.

The third type of expenditure involves the provision of new services, which will almost inevitably incur a rate rise but will provide additional benefit to our community. Examples of these include accelerated tree planting, new stormwater systems, new bikeways, LED lighting, and new sporting and community facilities. The list of opportunities is endless; however, the challenge is to strike a balance between improved services and rate affordability. The decision is always contentious. This year's budget was particularly nuanced due to the added pressures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. I believe we have balanced rate relief and economic stimulus in one of the most sensible, defensible and aspirational budgets in the City's history.



Craigburn Ward
Cr Lindy Taeuber

Telephone: 0420 372 566

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This is my second column since COVID-19 has changed much in everyone's lives. It brings home to me the value of our open spaces and I have seen greatly increased usage in my closest park as riders, dog walkers, joggers and nature players all enjoy the space and freedom.

My personal congratulations to new Gault Ward Councillor Rod Moss on his election and a warm thank you to outgoing Cr Jasmine Berry (one of only two female councillors ever elected to Gault Ward) for her service to the City of Mitcham.

I am very proud of the **budget** that Council has delivered as it provides a 10 per cent reduction in rates (and other flexibility) for most COVID affected residents and a rate rise of 1.91 per cent for non-COVID affected residents. Other councils chose to give a zero per cent rate rise to every property but we wanted to actually reduce the rate charge for those affected.

The Blackwood Hub has, quite rightly, received a lot of consideration and comment. The project has been supported by every Councillor over the years however recently some have pulled back, concerned about the total cost and/or undertaking any significant project during COVID-19. The Blackwood Hub project is a library, community centre, modest services centre, car park and upgrade to Waite Street Reserve. The proposed Council contribution is around \$7m - almost identical to the Council contribution towards the Mitcham Memorial Library, gardens and car park upgrade which employed 108 people during construction. A significant difference is that the MML has three community centres, the Civic Centre, the Community Shed and Local History Building within 1.2km. The Hub will be the only Council-run community centre and library in the southern part of Mitcham Council. I took seriously our meeting with Premier Steven Marshall who said that it is helpful for Councils to assist in stimulating the economy by considering borrowing at the current very low interest rates and actioning capital projects such as the Hub. The Premier asked us to 'contribute to standing up our economy'.

Other significant Craigburn Ward projects completed or being progressed are - new Bellevue Heights tennis courts, new road into the Lions Shed, roundabout work on Coromandel Parade, a management plan for Karinya Reserve, commencement of the Sturt Lions clubhouse and new pitch and funding to progress the Sturt River Linear Trail.

Very importantly, as we head into the bushfire season, Council will consult the community about the opening of Star Lily and/or Verdelho Streets as exits only during the bushfire season. At the same time Council will invite feedback on the broader 'Craigburn Farm Western Bypass Study' and seek information about residents' bushfire action plans.



Overton Ward
Cr Katarina Steele

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It's time to plan for Christmas celebrations. Even if now we cannot know how widespread COVID-19 infections will be in the remaining months of this year, at the Council we must make decisions and prepare for it. We are tossing up many ideas, but the main criteria will be: it must be safe.

Talking about the future, there are good things to look forward to. In Overton Ward this year many footpaths and several streets have received a facelift. Gladys Street has an extra bonus: artwork relating to its past in the form of kerb inscriptions.

The road renewal will continue in the next financial year, for example on Bice, Wainwright and Winona Streets and Chamberlain Avenue. Bice Street should receive rain gardens too. Some of the planned footpath renewals are for Bideford Avenue, Fulton Place, Avenue Road and Morgan Avenue - just to mention a few. There will be much-needed help on Marion Street Reserve, and AA Bailey and Kegworth Reserves will receive improvements too.

Let's hope the world will soon have a vaccine against COVID-19 and that there will be no need for big restrictions in our social interactions. We tend to say that we can then go back to where we were before the pandemic. But I don't want to just continue as we did before. We should learn and do it better.

One of the big experiences of the last months was the clearing of the air due to a lessening of our travel and industrial activities. But at the same time, we used a lot of extra plastic, including takeaway containers.

And what about food waste? Over 7 million tonnes of food are wasted in Australia every year, which costs the economy approximately \$20 billion. Food waste costs a typical family household up to \$2,200 to \$3,800 annually in lost or uneaten food.

Even before the pandemic five per cent of the Australian population had experienced some form of food insecurity, 40 per cent of those at a severe level.

I was stunned to learn that at the same time 5.25 million metric tonnes of CO₂ is created via methane production from anaerobic decomposition, which is equivalent to the amount produced in the Australian iron and steel manufacturing industries combined. What is your way of disposing food leftovers? I collect them in a plastic bag in the freezer and then empty it into the green bin before the bi-weekly collection date. You could use any container or kitchen caddy (a kitchen caddy and roll of 52 compostable bags costs at the council \$12, a roll of 52 compostable bags costs \$5).

The days are heating up, spring is here and we are happy to go out more often - with limitations. But we can go to movies, theatre and sports events. Please don't forget to support your local businesses, have a coffee at your local cafe, buy fresh bread or a cheery bouquet of flowers, and keep caring for each other.



**Babbage Ward
Cr Yvonne Todd**

Telephone: 0418 891 097

ytodd@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

2020 is passing so quickly even with COVID-19, but the same issues come up over footpaths, tree planting, parks, playgrounds, traffic and roads.

Some happy news that cheered the Springbank Secondary College school community was the announcement by Minister John Gardner that Springbank Secondary College would continue, and be funded for a new resource centre and other facilities. I thank and congratulate the Minister for recognising the uniqueness of the school.

Being on Council means that difficult decisions must be made. I research each decision and approach with an informed and open mind. Originally I thought I would not support the current budget and long-term financial plan but I was swayed by several things to change my mind and support it. Firstly, that the State and Federal governments gave us a clear message that local government should spend money on major projects, and secondly, that our major projects require funding commitments from State and Federal governments. If the advice from the Premier and Prime Minister changes to "do not spend" in the next six to 12 months, the budget and project spending can be changed.

At the Springbank, Goodwood and Daws road intersection, the design plans are 100 per cent complete and work has started on trenching for the service utilities. The road build will start in November and finish in late 2021. I attended a recent briefing and an information session to raise residents' concerns about noise and traffic problems during the build. The department staff are open to conversations about what might disturb residents who live near the road works, so if you live nearby to the works and experience problems, contact the project team, by email: DPTI.communityrelations@sa.gov.au or phone: 1300 794 880. Remember that the trucks are not allowed to detour via side streets. Report them if they do.

The loss of a large gum tree on the Springbank and Goodwood road corner was very distressing for residents and urged me to prepare a motion to request the Local Government Association to negotiate with the State Government for a formal agreement on the process for consulting about tree removal and for a review of the "Significant and Regulated" Tree laws. Native gum trees take at least 60 years to grow so removal of just one means a significant loss in terms of air quality and habitat.

Some good news is that the intersection provides vacant land in front of the Tower Arts centre on the Springbank Secondary College corner. DIT tell me they have no plans for this land yet, other than trees. I think there could be an opportunity for something eye catching to be there for the community to love and enjoy. Think about it and let me know if you have an idea for how that land could best be used.

Please call or email me if you have council issues to discuss.



**Craigburn Ward
Cr Darren Kruse**

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dkruse@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

We have passed a smart, targeted budget where if you're COVID affected, you will get a 10% rebate on your rates. With a less than CPI increase of 1.91% (\$34pa) for those that are not COVID affected (all public servants) we have budgeted to deliver all existing services while keeping the debt under control and maintaining our financial sustainability. As noted by our independent Audit Committee "The plan demonstrates ongoing financial sustainability, on the basis that all key financial indicators are within accepted parameters set by the Local Government Authority".

The jewel in that budget is a provision for the long overdue Blackwood Hub that while has a headline price tag of \$20M, is only going to cost Council around \$7M in nett terms after we take into account the \$5M from Federal Government, the \$5M we have asked for from SA Government and the eventual sale of the surplus old library and adjoining land. With these down payments, we have positioned our budget to be shovel-ready and have shown the SA Government that we are prepared to put our own skin in the game.

Premier Steven Marshall addressed Council via Zoom and was supportive of all levels of government investing in important community infrastructure. From his point of view, SA Government will get a \$20 million build for \$5 million and it's exactly the type of stimulus spending they want. Mayor Heather wrote to the Premier on 3 September with letters of support from Steve Murray MP and Nicolle Flint MP. The project has since been supported in writing by Sam Duluk, the Member for Waite.

Pleasingly, under the last Council we spent exactly \$6.94M on the upgrade to the Mitcham Memorial Library, so equity between the Hills and the Plains is preserved – not that you would think that from listening to the debates! When the SA Government steps up, we WILL build this intergenerational facility that will become the heart of Blackwood, linking via a \$2M connecting boulevard Foodland and Coles.

The Sturt Lions soccer club will get a new artificial soccer pitch and two-story clubrooms. The \$2.85M project with \$2M from the Federal Government, \$700K from Council and \$150K of their own money will break ground soon.

The 2020/21 budget also includes:

- the massive solar upgrade saving \$370K pa in electricity
- \$668K at Hawthorndene Oval for new cricket club clubhouse and changerooms
- \$100K for Sturt Linear Shared Use Path

Looking forward, residents of Craigburn Farm and Blackwood South will soon be consulted on opening additional BUSHFIRE exit(s) onto Cummings Street during the fire danger season. Currently 1000 residents have just one way out – to the east onto Coromandel Parade. That's a recipe for disaster. Ideally, residents would leave prior to dangerous days, so we will also ask "Do you leave on extreme or catastrophic days, and if not why not?."

We are planning how to spend the budgeted \$30K on Christmas celebrations to ensure we are all COVID safe. Hang in there everyone – we will get through this.



**The Park Ward
Cr Corin McCarthy**

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csmccarthy@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au

The last few months have been very important for Mitcham and the hills residents that I serve.

Standing up for residents against the bus cuts

I was very proud to lead the Council's advocacy against the cuts to bus stops and routes in the Mitcham hills. The proposed cuts to bus routes like the 195, 196 and 197X required a firm stand. It was great to see the community come together and oppose the bus cuts, and for this to pay off.

Ten per cent rebate for those receiving JobKeeper or JobSeeker

Following my April motion, the budget has included that eligible ratepayers experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, can defer outstanding rates and charges per property until 15 December 2020. They will also be able to access a 10 per cent rates rebate in 2020-21.

Ratepayers eligible for this rebate are:

- Commercial ratepayers (direct or indirect) who have been required to close
- Commercial ratepayers (direct or indirect) who are eligible for the 'JobKeeper' payment
- Non-Commercial ratepayers (direct or indirect) who are eligible for either the 'JobSeeker' or 'JobKeeper' payment
- Any other ratepayer (direct or indirect) who has seen their income fall by 15 per cent or more.

I'm proud, because the rebate gives real relief to families doing it tough and at the same time, Council is keeping rates low generally, with a rate rise for others of 1.9 per cent, much lower than in previous years.

Q4 rates waiver for eligible businesses

I was also very proud that Council acted to waive rates in Quarter Four 2019-20 for businesses that were forced to shut due to COVID-19 restrictions and for a 50 per cent waiver for businesses operating but receiving JobKeeper.

New infrastructure creating jobs for the community

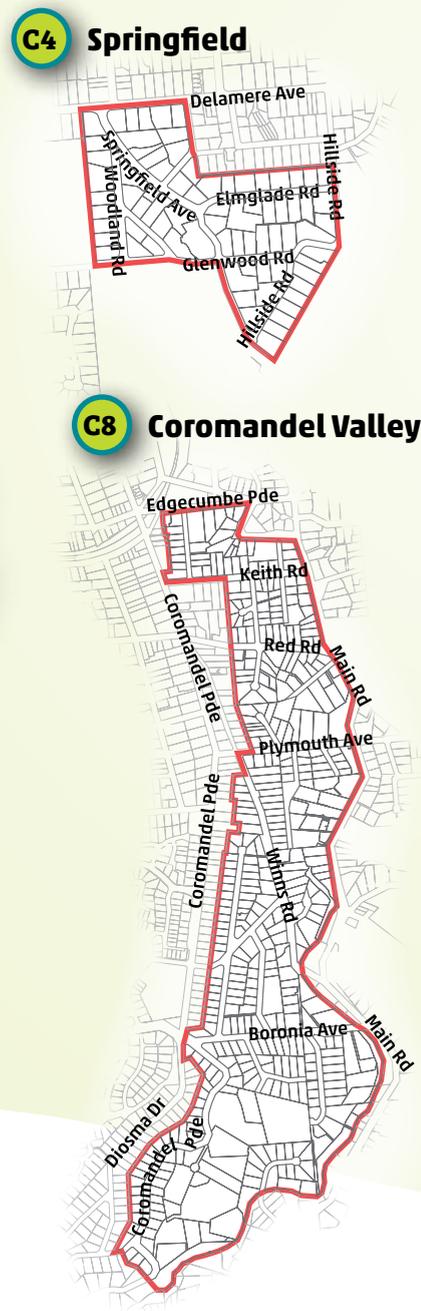
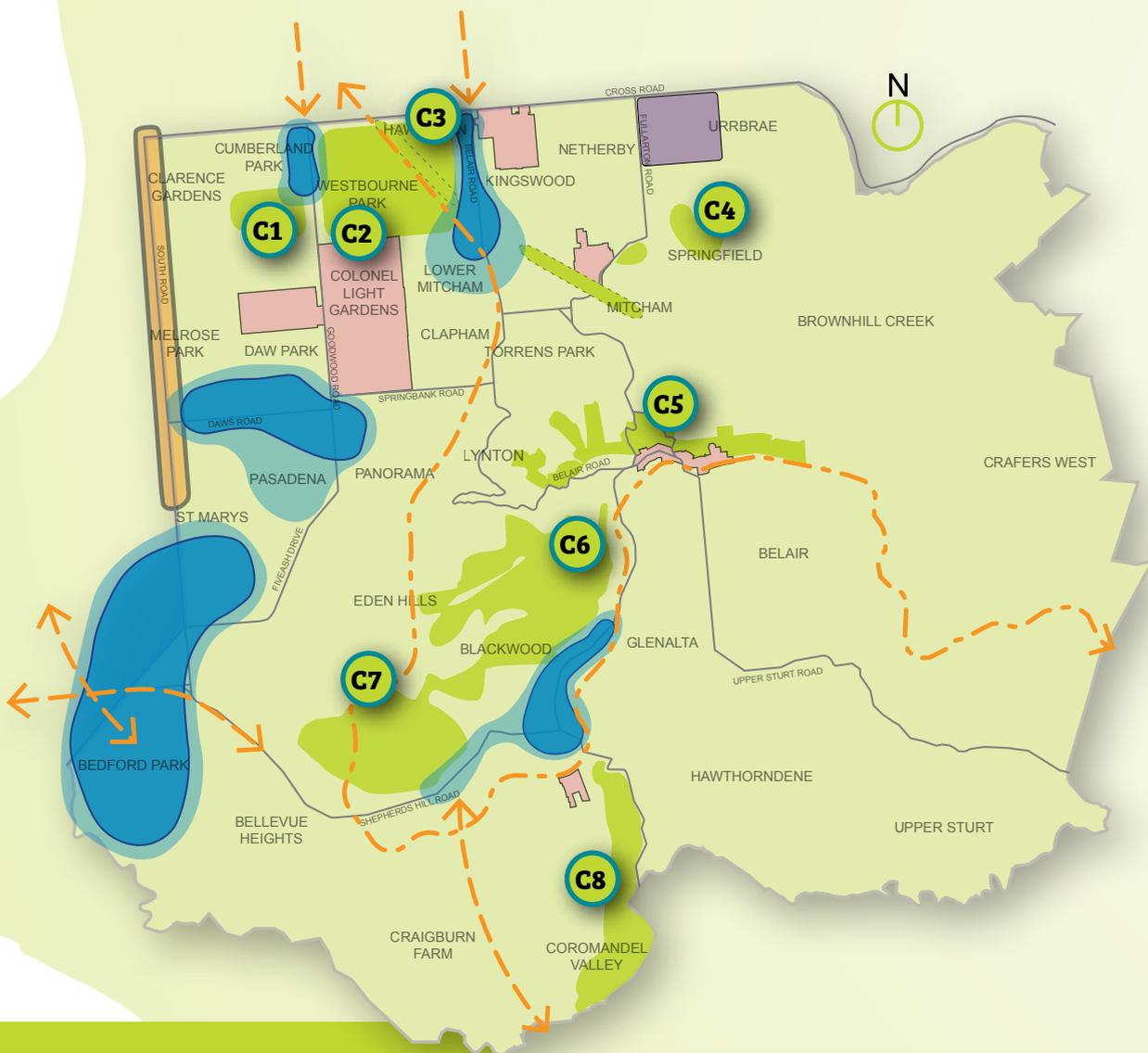
The budget has included the \$20 million Blackwood Hub, with the project still subject to a further \$5 million of external funding being required, before it is brought to Council to decide to commence. Council is lobbying the State Government and remains appreciative of the existing \$5 million of funding from the Federal Government as part of a commitment given by the Member for Boothby. This project will transform the heart of Blackwood and the Waite Street Reserve district.

The new infrastructure also includes the \$2.8 million upgrade of Karinya Reserve and the Sturt Lions football facility, with \$700,000 of Council funding contributed.

These projects provide for jobs in the community in this time of COVID-19 recession. They will also provide community facilities for all generations to enjoy.

Tribute to Jasmine Berry

Lastly, I'd like to pay my regards to Cr Jasmine Berry, who unfortunately left Council in June. Jasmine was a really passionate advocate for the people of Gault Ward and she always acted in the best interests of Mitcham Council in her decision making. I wish her and her family all the best for the future.



Things to Know...

- This DPA does not affect Council’s established heritage areas and is not linked to heritage in any way.
- It is intended that each area affected by this DPA will have its current Development Plan Zone replaced by the Residential Character Zone.
- It is not the intent of this DPA to impact the development potential of individual properties beyond the controls already in place in Council’s Development Plan (such as minimum allotment sizes; site coverage; building heights and building setbacks).
- Council has no control over demolition of buildings in these areas. Demolition (unless a local or state heritage place) is a complying development under the state’s planning legislation. The DPA does not alter this position.
- Properties immediately adjoining and outside these areas are not affected by this DPA.

Have your say on Development Plan changes

The City of Mitcham is updating its Development Plan to better recognise and maintain residential character in parts of the City. Council is seeking your views on these updates.

Council’s Spatial Vision

During 2017 and 2018 a Spatial Vision for the City of Mitcham was developed by Council with the help of the community. This Vision sets out how our City should grow and develop into the future, with an emphasis on stimulating investment and economic growth, balanced against maintaining the special residential character in many areas of our City for the benefit of future generations.

The Minister for Planning and Local Government approved the Growth Precincts Development Plan Amendment in August. The changes realised through this amendment include new and updated zoning in key growth areas, aimed at stimulating our local economy and generating growth and investment opportunities for the future.

Enabling growth and change in our key growth precincts will reduce pressure on other residential areas and help protect the City’s much valued special character.

Special Residential Character Areas

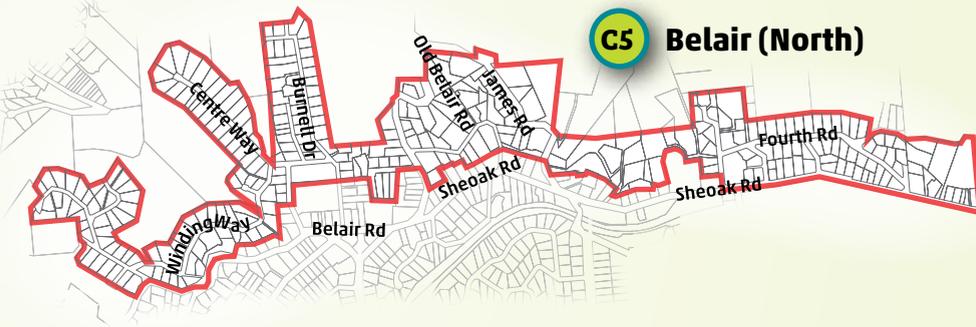
Special Residential Character Areas are local areas that exhibit desirable character attributes that give a community its identity. Not to be confused with heritage areas, Character Areas do not necessarily represent a cultural legacy or history but capture a desired visual appearance. Character can be enhanced by new development that strengthens desired character traits.

The areas affected by this DPA, encompassed by the red boundary on the maps above, include parts of the following suburbs:

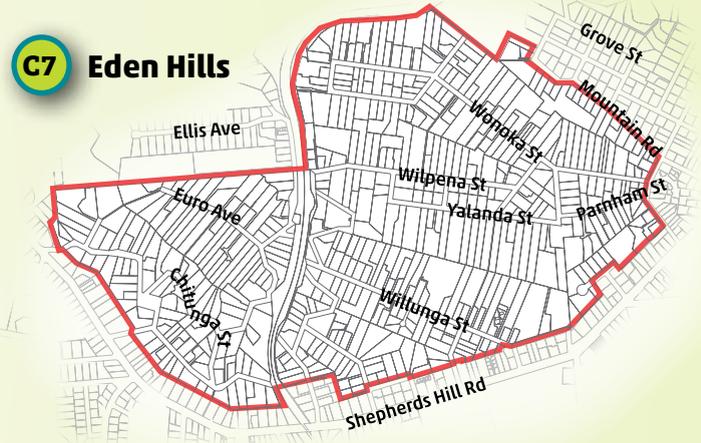
- C1** Cumberland Park
- C2** Westbourne Park
- C3** Hawthorn
- C4** Springfield
- C5** Belair
- C6** Blackwood
- C7** Eden Hills
- C8** Coromandel Valley

These maps can be viewed online at www.mitichamcouncil.sa.gov.au/draftdpa.

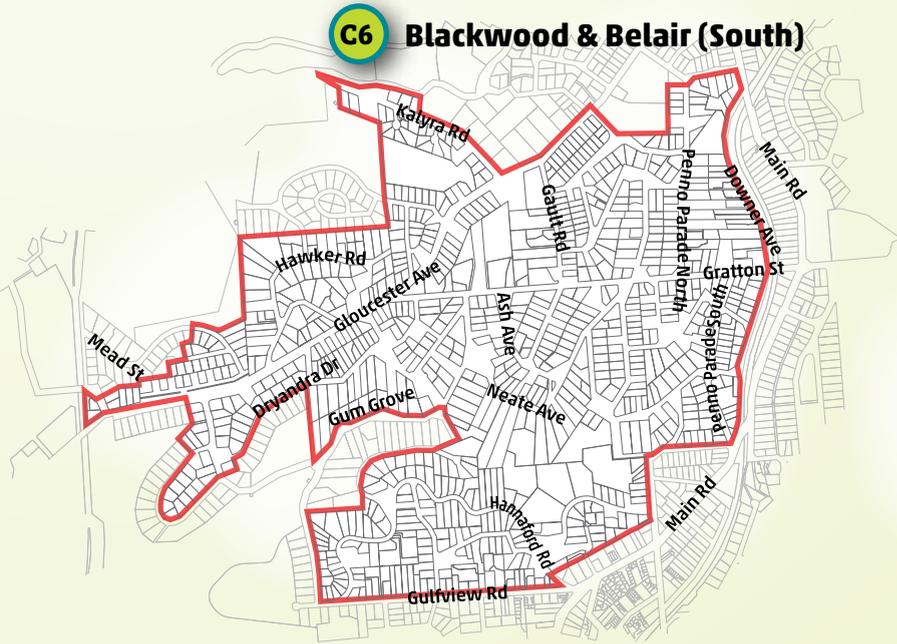
The areas affected by this DPA are encompassed by the red boundary on the maps shown. These maps can be viewed online at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/draftdpa.



C5 Belair (North)



C7 Eden Hills



C6 Blackwood & Belair (South)



C2 Westbourne Park



C1 Cumberland Park

C3 Hawthorn

Why this work is needed

The South Australian Planning System is undergoing significant change. These changes are likely to impact Council and our community in several ways, including how development applications are processed and assessed; how the community participates in the planning system; and how local issues are addressed in a system that will be weighted more in favour of a one-policy-fits-all approach.

Council has a limited window of opportunity to make changes to its existing Development Plan before it is transitioned into the Planning and Design Code. The Code will replace all development plans to become the single source of planning policy for assessing development applications across South Australia.

Council's current Development Plan lacks any residential character zones. This leaves us exposed to the potential for development that does not meet community expectations. Residential character zones will be transitioned to a Character Area Overlay in the new Code.

It is anticipated that changes to the planning system will take effect in the first half of 2021. Find out more at www.plan.sa.gov.au.

Read about the draft DPA

During the consultation period, the draft DPA will be available to download from www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/draftdpa and available to view at:

- City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.
- Mitcham Memorial Library, 154 Belair Road, Hawthorn.
- Blackwood Library, 215 Main Road, Blackwood.

Paper copies of the DPA will be available for purchase from the Civic Centre at a cost of \$20.

Meet with Council staff

To address COVID-19 limitations, no open days or drop-in sessions have been scheduled for this DPA.

One-on-one or small group face-to-face meetings can be arranged if requested. Facilities are available for Council staff to meet virtually if that is preferred, via Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

Please contact Ben Hignett on 0419 711 417 or 8372 8888 to discuss the DPA and meeting arrangements.

Get involved – Have Your Say!

Share your views on the draft DPA with us:

-  Complete an online feedback form at www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/draftdpa.
-  Pick up a form from the City of Mitcham Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.
-  Write to us at PO Box 21, Mitcham Shopping Centre, Torrens Park SA 5062.
-  Email us at mitcham@mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Written submissions must be received at Council by 5pm on Friday 13 November 2020.

All written submissions will be available for public viewing as required by legislation.

Speak Up

Register your interest to make a verbal submission at the public meeting to be held at 7pm on Tuesday 17 November 2020 at the Civic Centre, 131 Belair Road Torrens Park.

Please register prior to 5pm 13 November 2020 as this meeting will not be held if nobody registers to speak.

Where to next?

Council will consider all written and verbal submissions received and decide whether to:

- proceed with the draft DPA as is;
- proceed with amendments to the draft DPA; or
- not proceed with the draft DPA.

If Council decides to proceed with the draft DPA, as is or with amendments, then the draft DPA will be forwarded to the Minister for Planning to seek final approval.

More Information

For more information on the draft DPA and the proposed changes, and on the past work that has led to this draft DPA, please visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/draftdpa.

More information on the Planning and Design Code can be found at www.plan.sa.gov.au.



Volunteers Gwen Spiero and Sue Hoffmann help distribute food to the community at Gwen's Pantry, Edwardstown.

Demand increases at Gwen's Pantry

A food charity run by Edwardstown Baptist Church is busier than ever helping to support people affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gwen's Pantry is run by volunteers who meet twice a week to provide food for up to 100 people from a kitchen at St Marys.

The charity began 11 years ago and helps put together and distribute hampers using food purchased from Foodbank and donated by Second Bite, OzHarvest and Woolworths. Food packs include a range of staples, from cereals and cheese to fruit and vegetables, tinned food and eggs.

Volunteers also distribute bread to local schools that run breakfast programs for their students.

The charity's namesake Gwen Spiero said demand had increased since COVID-19, particularly among international students who did not qualify for JobSeeker or JobKeeper payments.

"The overseas students are really struggling because they have lost their part time jobs, they need to pay rent, and they might not have support from home," she said. "People on JobSeeker are still coming to us because they are using the extra money to buy clothes and get in front with their bills."

Gwen's Pantry is open 10am to 12pm Tuesdays and 10am to 2pm Thursdays.

The Pantry is open to anyone in the community and new volunteers are welcome. To find out more contact Patrick at office@ebc.org.au or call 8276 1040.

Gwen is one of a team of volunteers who helped establish the service, based at the Edwardstown Baptist Church off South Road.

Volunteer Sue Hoffmann joined eight months ago and says she loves being involved.

"It's great to have a chat and get to know people," she said. "The work that is done here is just fantastic for people, it is really making a difference in their lives."

Pastor Patrick Gillespie said Gwen's Pantry stayed open throughout the crisis despite losing many of its older volunteers, many of whom have since returned.

The Church is expanding its community services at the site and has launched a craft and morning tea group and a friendship club for people who are living with a disability or who need support.

"Our focus has shifted to creating a place where people who are disconnected or who need support can come and spend time, get out of the house, enjoy a cuppa, because social isolation is a real issue for many people."

City of Mitcham's Immunisation Service

The City of Mitcham holds four regular public clinics within the Council area.

These clinics are provided in accordance with the recommended vaccination schedule and the current National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines.

The clinics are held:

First Wednesday of every month

Mitcham Council – Civic Centre

131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

11.30am to 1pm

Blackwood Community Centre

4 Young Street, Blackwood

5.30pm to 6.30pm

Third Wednesday of every month

Blackwood Community Centre

4 Young Street, Blackwood

11.30am to 12.30pm

Mitcham Council – Civic Centre

131 Belair Road, Torrens Park

5.30pm to 7pm

For more information please contact Council's Immunisation Coordinator on 8372 8816 or visit www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au.

Book in for a food safety session

The City of Mitcham has recommenced free food safety training sessions.

If you're a food handler working for a food business within the City of Mitcham then this course is for you.

Our first session will be held on Thursday 15 October from 9.30am to 11.45am.

The second and final session for 2020 is on Thursday 3 December 5.30pm to 7.45pm.

Sessions are held at the City of Mitcham Civic Centre Mayor's Parlour, located on Level 2, 131 Belair Road, Torrens Park.

To book, call the Environmental Health team on 8372 8816.

No time for complacency

Environmental Health Officers continue to remind City of Mitcham residents of the importance of staying COVID-19 safe.

The outbreak in Victoria has increased the risk of COVID-19 in South Australia and shown how easy it is for the virus to spread.

For us to enjoy a connected and vibrant life, we cannot afford to be complacent.

Following each new announcement from the South Australian Government, Council's Environmental Health Officers continue to inform our community, especially the business community, how to be COVID-safe.

While South Australia has managed well through the pandemic so far, we need everyone to keep doing the great work that got us here.

Businesses can keep up to date with changes to emergency directions at www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/response.

For advice and guidance contact the Environmental Health Team on 8372 8816.

Remember to:

- Wash your hands regularly
- Minimise touching your face
- Wipe down frequently touched surfaces
- Cover coughs and sneezes into your elbow of a tissue
- Stay home if you're feeling sick
- Keep your distance from others whenever and wherever possible
- If you have symptoms of COVID-19, even mild, get tested.

