



Special Rate Variation Edition

Special Rate Variation Results

This morning Council has been informed that the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART), has approved the application for a Special Rate Variation on a permanent basis.

This means that the application to retain the 13.2% increase applied last year has been approved, as well as a further increase of 5% (which includes the rate peg of 2.3%) for the next three years.

IPART has made an independent assessment of Council and of its financial status and has clearly accepted that:

- There was a financial need for the proposal
- The community were aware of the proposal
- The impact on ratepayers was reasonable
- Council had exhibited its IP&R documents
- Productivity and cost containment improvements had been undertaken
- Conditions are in place to ensure the money is spent in the areas that were outlined in the application including asset renewal and maintenance

The average residential ratepayer will expect to pay an additional \$59 for the 18/19 financial year or \$1.10 per week and about \$2 per week for business rates and farmland.



Council needed to make the hard decision to increase rates, to ensure that we can deliver for our community now and into the future.

The approval will now allow Council to:

- Improve financial sustainability
- Fund capital works
- Reduce infrastructure backlog
- Reduce operating deficit
- Fund asset renewals and maintenance

With this announcement, Council will be able to deliver improvements to a number of sporting fields, undertake further streetscape works, provide improvements to existing facilities and renew our road infrastructure.

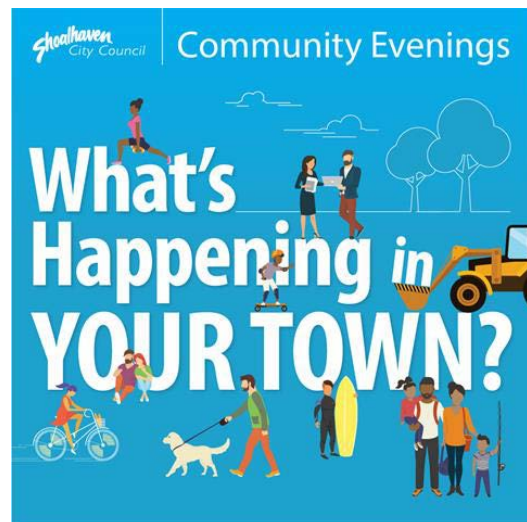
**Find out more about the IPART
Determination SRV**

Find Out What's Happening in Your Town

Council is inviting the community to attend one of three information evenings to hear first-hand what is happening in our City now and into the future. This is your chance to find out what Council is planning for your neighbourhood and hear about all the latest strategies and plans. Learn the facts direct from specialists in their field.

The free evening allows people to drop in between 6pm to 8pm and learn about:

- How Council will deliver and spend the new financial year budget
- What Capital Works and Roadworks are planned
- How Council will help protect your Coastline
- How can we improve the Nowra Riverfront and CBD
- What will the Developers Contribution Funding contribute to
- Waste and Water Services
- Get involved in the future strategy for Shoalhaven Libraries
- Be the first to hear about the newly built Shoalhaven Animal Shelter
- Discover how the Rangers protect you in our community



Find Out more about the Community Information Evenings

- Tuesday 29 May 2018 - Nowra School of Arts, Berry Street Nowra
- Thursday, 31 May 2018 - Ulladulla Civic Centre, 81B Princes Highway, Ulladulla
- Thursday, 7 June 2018 at Vincentia Public Hall, Lot 13 Coles Car Park, The Wool Road Vincentia

Come along to this family friendly evening full of information. There is a kid's corner, lucky door prizes and light refreshments.

Bayswood Park Opens

Mayor Amanda Findley has officially opened the Pacific City Park at Bayswood to the community.

Since the original playground's installation in 2008, there were issues relating to its low-lying location and its inaccessibility for the community and continued maintenance problems due to regular water logging. The

water logging of the site was associated to the close proximity of a waterway and soil condition limitations. The water logging also compromised the normal lifespan of the existing playground which Council recognised, hence the relocation of the playground to a new site.

The new playground has been built on adjacent higher ground with an additional above ground 200mm concrete edge with ag-line drainage to further prevent any water pooling in the playground. The new equipment features an intergenerational swing and play elements that will create play enjoyment for all ages.

The site of the old playground will have additional soil added. Park care groups will plant and mulch the area to feature a native plant display. The original blue and white feature poles will stay on the site and be one of the main features in the native gardens.

Mayor Amanda Findley said, "Thank you to all the community who provided feedback and support on this project. It is wonderful to see the new playground finished and we welcome the young and old to enjoy playtime in these beautiful surroundings."



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Road Works

Council will commence works on the Bolong Road and Meroo Street Intersection Roundabout on Monday, 28 May 2018.

Council is planning to infill the old garden section in the middle of the roundabout by



[For all the latest Road Works click here](#)

Moona Moona Creek Pedestrian Bridge

Update: Council has commenced works on the Pedestrian Bridge with the project expected to be completed in late July.

Works on the seawall extension are underway based on tidal movements. The piles and bridge beams are being manufactured off-site, and installation of the piles is planned in the coming weeks.

See Council's [Road works page for more information.](#)

extending the concrete apron and constructing a new kerb. This will provide long vehicles a wider pavement section to negotiate the turn onto Bolong Road towards the east and make it a safer turn for drivers.

Traffic control will be managing all vehicle movements through and around the works, in particular long vehicles thus minor delays may be experienced at various times throughout the works. Large vehicles may be directed by traffic control to the opposite side of the road as they come through the roundabout so please adhere to traffic control instructions on site.

The construction works is scheduled for completion by 4 June 2018 dependent on weather and subsurface conditions encountered during the works.



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