



# Council Rates and Valuations 2017/18

## Council's rating system

Mildura Rural City Council has a differential rating system, which means there are different Rates in the Dollar for different categories of rateable land. Therefore, the total amount of rates you pay depends on the type of property you own. It also depends on the value of your property, which is determined through a property valuation process.

## Property valuations

Council rates are calculated based on the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of a property. CIV is the estimated market value of the property including land and all improvements. Council is required by law to revalue all properties every two years. The valuations shown on your Rate and Valuation Notice are based on the value of your property as at 1 January 2016. The valuation date used by Council is set by the Valuer General. These values will remain in place until 30 June 2018.

## The Rate in the Dollar

Council determines the Rate in the Dollar as part of its annual budget process. To do this, the total rate revenue required to fund Council operations for the year is divided by the combined total Capital Improved Value (CIV) of all rateable properties in the municipality.

## Calculating rates

Rates are calculated by multiplying the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of a property by its applicable Rate in the Dollar. For example:

$$\text{Property CIV is } \$200,000$$

$$\text{Rate in the Dollar is } 0.006648$$

$$\$200,000 \times 0.006648 = \$1,329.60 \text{ (General Rate)}$$

Adding fixed charges where appropriate, will give you your total rates and charges for the year.

## Municipal Charge

A \$100 Municipal Charge is applied to all rateable properties. This charge is designed to ensure all properties make a standard contribution to recovering part of the administrative costs of operating Council. An exemption from paying the Municipal Charge on multiple properties may apply where a Single Farm Enterprise is operating.

## Waste Management Charge

This charge is applied to all properties where a kerbside waste collection or street sweeping service is available, including vacant land. The revenue from this charge is used to provide waste management services such as street sweeping, landfills and recycling programs.

## Fire Services Property Levy

The Fire Services Property Levy (FSPL) was introduced by the State Government on 1 July 2013 as recommended by the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission. Rather than contributing to Victoria's fire services through insurance premiums, a property-based levy is collected with Council rates. This money goes straight to the State Government and does not go to Council.

## Rate Capping

In 2015, the Victorian Government introduced rate capping legislation known as the Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). Under the FGRS the Minister for Local Government sets the Average Rate Cap on General Rates and Municipal Charges. The cap is set on the Average Rate levied in a municipality (ie. revenue/number of assessments). The cap is set at 2% for 2017-18. For more information about the FGRS visit [www.fairgorates.vic.gov.au](http://www.fairgorates.vic.gov.au).

## Payment deadlines

You can pay the full amount in one lump sum or you can spread your payment out by making quarterly instalments.

<b>Full upfront payment deadline:</b>	Thursday 15 February 2018
<b>Quarterly instalment payment deadlines:</b>	1st payment Monday 2 October 2017
	2nd payment Thursday 30 November 2017
	3rd payment Wednesday 28 February 2018
	4th payment Thursday 31 May 2018

## Interest and arrears

If you do not pay your rates on time you will be charged interest. Refer to the back of your Rate and Valuation Notice for more information.

## How to pay your rates

Refer to the back of your Rate and Valuation Notice for details on how and where you can make Council rates payments. Direct Debit payment options are available, which allow you to have rate payments automatically deducted from your bank account.

## Support and assistance

Anyone experiencing financial difficulties or having trouble making rates payments should contact Council as soon as possible to discuss their circumstances and make alternative arrangements.



## About your rates

Rates are a contribution each property owner makes to help cover the costs of the many services and community infrastructure Council provides.

In the 2017/18 Financial Year we will spend more than \$122 million delivering community programs, facilities and services. This includes a capital works program of \$33.7 million to improve and upgrade \$705 million worth of community assets.

As well as rates, Council relies on a number of other revenue streams to ensure it has the budget required for the next twelve months.



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## Council is spending \$122 million in the 2017/18 Financial Year.

These figures illustrate how different Council services, projects and infrastructure are funded in this year's budget.

You can view the budget, along with the Community and Council Plan 2017-2021 at [www.mildura.vic.gov.au](http://www.mildura.vic.gov.au)

### Budget Highlights



**PARKS & OPEN SPACES** \$2.14 million

New play equipment at Park for Play and beautifying the George Chaffey Bridge entrance to Mildura are among projects planned across our 50+ parks.

**DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE** \$7.7 million

Our stormwater drainage network includes 508km of road kerbing, 300 kilometres of underground drains, 10,185 drainage pits, 71 drainage basins, 29 gross pollutant traps and six wetlands.



**ROADS, FOOTPATHS & CYCLEWAYS** \$13.8 million

Council maintains more than 5,000 kilometres of roads, footpaths and walking tracks. A major reconstruction of Mildura's Madden Avenue between Tenth and Eleventh Streets and upgrade to Yelta Road, Merbein West are among road works planned for 2017/18.

**MILDURA AIRPORT RUNWAY RECONSTRUCTION** \$8.5 million

Council secured \$8.55 million in Government Grants to contribute to this important infrastructure project in the 2017/18 Financial Year.

