

CAMDEN COUNCIL

Media Release



15 May 2014

Investing in our Community's Future

At the Council meeting held Tuesday 13 May 2014, Council adopted the draft Revised 2013/14 – 2016/17 Delivery Program and Draft 2014/15 Operational Plan (Budget) for public exhibition.

The Delivery Program and Operational Plan outlines local services as well as supporting programs and activities that Council proposes to undertake over the next three years. Works included in this revised Delivery Program will either be completed or well underway by the 2016/17 financial year.

Mayor of Camden, Councillor Lara Symkowiak said this budget includes one of the largest capital works programs ever undertaken by Council.

"I am extremely proud and excited about this budget and what it is set to deliver over the coming few years. It is very ambitious with a strong emphasis on sporting and recreation facilities, parks and playgrounds, youth facilities and footpaths".

"I'd like to thank my colleagues Councillors Debby Dewbery, Teresa Fedeli, Penny Fischer, Peter Sidgreaves and Greg Copeland who supported this budget. Councillors Eva Campbell, Greg Warren and David Bligh voted against the proposed budget".

"I am delighted to deliver a balanced budget position, whilst also delivering large key infrastructure for our community's future. I am determined to lead a Council that is proactive and gets things done."

"Our new Delivery Program allocates almost \$20 million to six major projects:

- \$2.816mil towards Stage 1 of the Narellan Sporting Complex (near Bunnings)
- \$8.691mil for Mount Annan Leisure Centre expansion
- \$1.754mil for a major upgrade of the Camden Town Centre including paving works
- \$3.6mil for construction of a decked Camden CBD Car Park
- \$650,000 for construction of an Outdoor Multi-Purpose Youth Facility in the Mount Annan/Currans Hill vicinity; and
- \$2.107mil for construction of a PCYC (along with a \$2mil contribution from the NSW Government)".

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As part of the 2014/2015 Budget and revised Delivery Program, other projects Council is proposing to implement are;

- \$1,925,400 for an additional 26 staffing positions to ensure service to our residents keeps up with growth
- \$600,000 for improvements to Camden Cemetery
- \$300,000 per annum for construction of new footpaths across the LGA with emphasis around bus shelters, schools and shops
- \$183,400 for new playgrounds across the LGA
- \$75,000 towards economic development (creation & running of a Business Alliance)
- \$70,000 for a new Off-Leash Dog Area at Narellan
- \$50,000 for improvements at the Bicentennial Equestrian Park
- \$20,000 for bins at bus shelters across our LGA
- \$20,000 for air conditioning and storage at Camden Museum

The 2013/14 – 2016/17 Delivery Program and Draft 2014/15 Operational Plan (Budget) will be on public exhibition until 11 June 2014.

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Words: 430

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