

# Residents' Budget Report



## Message from the Mayor

Redland City Council's Back to Basics budget for 2012-13 has delivered the lowest rate rise of any comparable council in South-East Queensland.

Council will also cut red tape and slash council waste to make it more efficient and support business development.

Our vision is for a Council that listens to its residents and doesn't add to the increasing costs of living, yet still provides the services residents expect.

Council is proud to deliver a budget that is in line with these promises. Some of the highlights are:

- **An overall rates and utilities charges rise of only 0.69% after the direct carbon tax impact is deducted – well below CPI**
- **The lowest rate rise by far of any comparable Council in South East Queensland**
- **A 0% rise in commercial general rates**
- **An average general rate rise for residents of 0.3% or \$3.39 per year (land valuations will affect the impact on individual rates bills)**
- **Abolition of tip fees for all residents**
- **Absorbing the majority of the impacts of carbon tax (up to \$2 million in new costs) through efficiencies and savings**
- **A strong focus on service delivery.**

Ratepayers will continue to benefit as we deliver genuine value for money for our ratepayers. We look forward to serving you well over the next four years.

**Karen Williams**  
Mayor of Redland City

### Jewel in the Crown

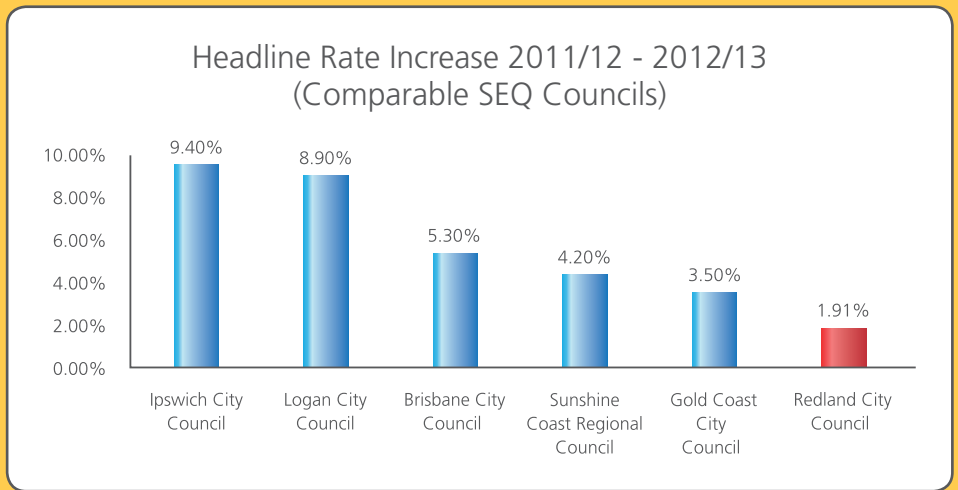
Our vision is that Redland City is recognised as the best place in South East Queensland to live, work, play and to do business.

Redlanders know that already – now everybody else needs to know it too!



## Comparing South East Queensland Council rate rises: We've got a headline rate!

Changes in rates are measured by increases in overall rates and utilities revenue from one financial year to the next. This "Headline Rate" is the measurement all Queensland local councils must report under local government regulations. See how Redland City Council compares.



## Back to Basics Budget 2012/13: Did you know?

Overall predicted rates and utilities revenue for 2012-2013  
= **\$191,396,377**

Overall predicted rates revenue without Water and Wastewater charges (returning for the 2012-2013 Financial Year)  
= **\$103,298,956**

Overall predicted revenue from all sources for 2013-2013  
= **\$259,000,000**

Minimum predicted carbon tax impact for 2012-13 (reflects only predicted direct impacts)  
= **\$1,234,000**

Change in General Rates for the average residential ratepayer  
= **+0.3% or \$3.39 p.a.\***

Change in General Rates for the average commercial ratepayer  
= **0% or \$0\***

Average increase in rates per year per ratepayer (including utilities and carbon tax) = \$1,935,882 ÷ approx. 65,000 ratepayers  
= **\$29.78 p.a.\***

Minimum predicted carbon tax impost on each ratepayer per year for waste that goes to landfill  
= **\$17.51**

Pensioner rebates will remain one of the most generous of comparable SEQ Councils.

**Full Pension Rebate = \$330.00**  
**Part Pension Rebate = \$165.00**



\* This is an average only. Some ratepayers will see increases and others decreases.





## Redland Water comes back home

Our water business has come back home to Redlands after the dissolution of Allconnex.

Redland Water is now in charge of all water and wastewater services, with only bulk water supplies still being owned by the State Government. Redland Water is providing residents with water infrastructure maintenance, meter readings and new connections. It is also collecting and treating waste water.

The extra revenue that being a 100% owner of our water business brings is helping Council keep our other rates and utility charges at lower levels.

Water consumption charges have risen since 1 July 2012, due to a State Government hike in "wholesale" water charges of 22%. This will be evident to ratepayers in their September/October rates bill as water consumption is charged, based on actual usage, for the prior three months.

Water and wastewater utility fee rises (charged by Council) are capped for 2012/13 by State Government at 1.3%.



## Vision for a Vibrant Local Economy

Council has a longer-term vision of a thriving local economy. Some of the ways we will open up opportunities for business and to generate higher levels of employment locally are:

- Keeping rates rises low (especially commercial rates)
- Revitalising the Cleveland and Capalaba CBDs
- Redefining our economic development strategies
- Building our tourism industry
- Putting Redland back on the map as the Jewel in the Crown of South East Queensland!

## Getting Back to Basics: How is Council focusing on value for money?

Redlands residents have spoken clearly that they want value for money and for the "basics" to be done well. They want more efficiency, less red tape and improved service delivery.

That is why we are now focusing on:

- Roads (and related travel infrastructure)
- Rubbish
- Water
- Parks, recreation and environment.

Council has also implemented a "Red Tape Taskforce" and instilled Back to Basics policies within Council to improve our effectiveness and make life easier for our customers.



# Key Projects for 2012/13

These "big ticket" project items are beneficial to all ratepayers across the Redlands. They are just a sample of the many improvements Council makes across the City.

## Roads

2012/13 is a big year for roads. Roadworks account for nearly a third of our total capital expenditure.

### Maintenance and Resealing Capital Expenditure 2012/13: \$13,371,655

From Straddie to Capalaba, from Wellington Point to Mt Cotton, all our roads need constant attention to keep them in good shape. The maintenance and resealing budget pays for works such as:

- Filling potholes
- Refreshing line markings (or creating new ones)
- Resealing sections of roads
- Repairing and installing stormwater drainage
- Cleaning roads and removing hazardous debris

### Southern Moreton Bay Island Road Upgrades Capital Expenditure 2012/13: \$3,705,628

The Southern Moreton Bay Islands are having their road network improved this year. Roads earmarked for an upgrade in this budget include:

- Paula Parade, Lamb Island
- Hastings Terrace and Attunga Street, Macleay Island
- Tenanne, Ross, Regal, Judith and Union Streets, Russell Island
- Access road at Jock Kennedy Park

## Road Reconstruction and Upgrade Program

### Capital Expenditure 2012/13: \$2,153,449

Sometimes, after a lot of use, our roads need a substantial upgrade or reconstruction. Among the projects already planned for 2012/13 are:

- Old Cleveland Road East, Birkdale
- Link Road, Victoria Point

## Waste: Managing our old landfill

### Capital Expenditure 2012/13: \$8,903,000

When we throw something out, it doesn't really go away. That's why our old landfill sites need to undergo "site remediation". Site remediation prevents contaminants from old landfill sites leaching into surrounding areas and puts a barrier between the waste and our people and environment. It makes our community safer and enables us to "recycle" land for safe community use. Constant vigilance and significant work is required to remediate successfully.

Remediation works and investigations are being carried out this financial year at:

- Judy Holt Park and Birkdale Closed Landfill
- Giles Road Closed Hardfill, Redland Bay
- Duncan Road Baseball Field
- Redland Bay Closed Landfill

## Parks, paths & open spaces

### Parks and Open Spaces Infrastructure

### Capital Expenditure 2012/13: \$5,349,379

Our open spaces need to constantly change and evolve to keep up with the changing needs of the community. Some of the major projects for the coming year are:

- Major upgrade of Pinklands Sporting complex include sports field improvement and a 190-bay carpark
- Cleveland Point Reserve Regional Park, continuation of paths at the point, additional seating, plantings etc.
- Refurbishment of public amenities at Norm Price Park - Redland Showgrounds
- The Moreton Bay Cycleway will be extended between Wellington Point and Ormiston (Hilliard's Creek Crossing)



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## To be in the draw for a family pass to RedFest

- Email your name, address and daytime phone number to [redfestcomp@redland.qld.gov.au](mailto:redfestcomp@redland.qld.gov.au). with subject line "RedFest competition" or
- Mail your name, address and phone number on the back of an envelope addressed to "RedFest Competition", Redland City Council, PO Box 21, Cleveland 4163.

**Closing date Friday 31 August. Winners will be phoned by Wednesday 5 September. One entry per person.**