



— City of —  
**Melville**



## Budget Summary 2007 - 2008



## Pay in full and WIN!

Pay your rates in full on or before the due date to automatically go into the draw for the following prizes:

### Major Prize

\$3000 Advantage Saver Account from Westpac Banking Corporation.

### Six Ward Prizes

One multi-venue healthy lifestyle membership per household - (Gym, Swim and Aerobics) for Leeming Recreation Centre, Melville Recreation Centre and Melville Aquatic Fitness Centre valued at \$720 each. Please note the membership cannot be exchanged for a cash amount.

### 4% early payment discount

Pay your rates in full by the discount due date shown on your rates notice and receive an early payment discount of 4%.

The discount is available if all rates, charges and levies, including the Emergency Services Levy and any arrears, are paid in full by the discount due date, and applies to all rates and charges, including the security and waste levies but **excluding** the Emergency Services Levy.

*Note: The discount does not apply to arrears.*





## Message from the Mayor

It gives me great pleasure to present a summary of the 2007/2008 City of Melville Budget.

This Budget has been prepared from a strategic and operational perspective on behalf of the community of the City of Melville, and incorporates a \$28.18 million capital works program and a 6.85 per cent rate increase.

We believe it is a responsible Budget that balances the need to maintain and improve the municipality's many assets while minimising the impact on ratepayers in the face of rising contract and labour costs.

A number of high-level reports into the sustainability of local government have made the City extremely conscious of the need to maintain our natural and built assets to a standard expected by the community. The 2007/2008 Budget reflects a proactive approach to managing our community assets as well as improving delivery of services, including meeting safety and quality standards. We have included additional funds to address deferred asset maintenance and renewal liabilities that have been identified as a result of applying improved asset management principles and activities.

Additionally, the continuing WA boom has meant that our 2007/2008 Budget has to absorb escalating costs of services provided by contractors, building construction, materials and supplies, which have been significantly greater than the Consumer Price Index (CPI). We have also had to increase salaries and wages to retain and attract suitably skilled and qualified staff in light of competition and rising pays created by the boom.

The City is developing a broad and focused approach to community development. Funds have been included in the draft budget to cover the costs of the Council regaining management of the Willagee Community Centre and implementing new policies in regards to the support of recreation and community clubs and organisations. The new Support for Sport Clubs and Community Facilities policies will result in the responsibility for the maintenance, insurance and emergency services levy costs associated with Council-owned buildings leased by sporting and community groups shifting from the clubs to the City of Melville.



We have also brought in-house the contracts for the maintenance of the Point Walter Precinct and the verge junk and green waste collection due to high tender prices. While the cost of running these operations in-house represents a significant increase, they are more cost effective than awarding the contracts to the external parties who provided quotes.

While the proposed rate increase is above the CPI and might be greater than desired, the 2007/2008 Budget is financially responsible, taking a long-term view of the needs of the City and its residents. We have taken into account a broad range of factors with the emphasis being on ensuring appropriate levels of service, increased funding for asset maintenance and renewal and continuance of operational capacity.

In conclusion, this Budget will bolster the City of Melville's strong financial standing and puts in place measures to ensure a bright future for our municipality.

Detailed budget documents are available at all City of Melville libraries, the City of Melville Civic Centre or on our website at [www.melvillecity.com.au](http://www.melvillecity.com.au).

Thank you for your help and support in making Melville a great place.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Katherine Jackson, JP**

**MAYOR**

## Where does the money come from?

### Rates and charges

Funds raised from rates will be \$36.88m, generated by a rate in the dollar of 6.45924 cents (6.04515 cents in 2006/2007) for improved land, 7.100 cents (7.24518 cents in 2006/2007) for unimproved land, and minimum rates of \$500.00 (\$468.40 in 2006/2007) and \$550.00 (\$562.10 in 2006/2007) respectively.

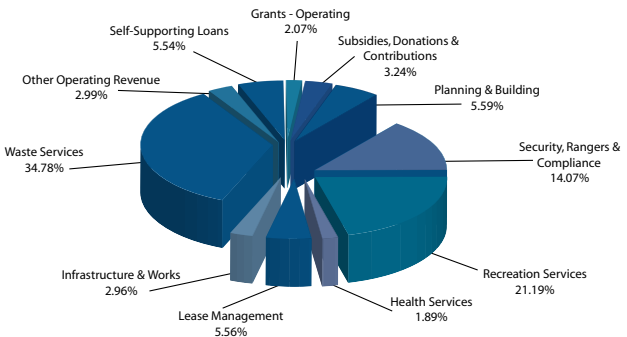
This represents an overall rate in the \$ increase of 6.85% on 2006/2007.

Separate charges will be levied for Residential Rubbish - \$235.00 (\$220.00 in 2006/2007), Community Safety and Security - \$37.50 (\$38.30 in 2006/2007) and swimming pool inspections - \$13.75 (\$13.75 in 2006/2007).

### Operating Revenue

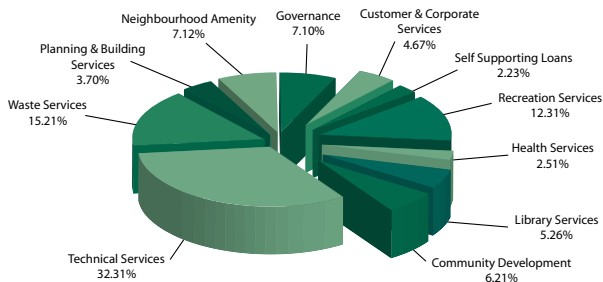
One of the challenges facing local government in Australia is to reduce reliance upon rates to fund operations. To reduce the burden on ratepayers we seek diversified revenue sources such as grants, contributions by users of facilities and revenue generating operations.

In 2007/2008, the City of Melville will generate \$28.5m in operating revenue.



## Where does the money go?

The breakdown of the City of Melville's operating expenditure for the 2007/2008 financial year is shown below.



## Who does what?

### Governance

Includes costs relating to Members of Council and City of Melville strategic operational costs.

### Customer and Corporate Services

Includes costs relating to the Corporate Services Division and provision of strategically focused advice to the Council and Management Team on all issues in regards to governance, including Statutory Compliance, Risk and Audit, Customer Services, Finance (including Procurement), Payments, Rates and Payroll, Information Management and Technology, Property and Contracts and Members of Council.

### Self Supporting Loans

Represents the payments made by the City of Melville in respect of the loans raised on behalf of community organisations. These organisations in turn make payment to the City.

### Recreation Services

Includes costs relating to the three recreation centres, which receive 1.1 million attendances each year. The centres are open 362 days of the year and each centre is open for an average of 100 hours each week. The recreation centres offer more than 700 program opportunities per week to allow residents to be physically active.

### Health Services

Includes immunisation, health inspections (including the issuing of licenses for various premises), pest control, health promotion and education, analytical fees, noise control and health clinics.

## **Library Services**

Includes the costs for the City of Melville's five libraries, which are open seven days a week. Library membership exceeds 56 per cent of the population, with more than two million issues each year.

## **Community Development**

Works in partnership with the community to identify local assets and strengths; develops community driven initiatives and projects; and facilitates opportunities for community engagement and participation. This includes responsibility for two community centres, Melville Volunteer Resource Centre, Heathcote Museum and Gallery, Melville Discovery Centre and Wireless Hill Telecommunications Museum.

## **Technical Services**

Includes the care, maintenance and development of the City's infrastructure, including parks, reserves, buildings, streetscapes, roads, footpaths and drainage.

Technical Services looks after 500km of roads, 800ha of parkland, 480km of paths, 30,000 street trees, and 210 buildings, which add up to \$600 million of assets.

## **Refuse**

Includes the collection and disposal of two million pick ups of general household waste bins each year and one million pick ups per year of recycling bins; the provision of commercial waste and recycling services; collection and disposal of all street and parks litter bins; and the provision of green waste and junk verge collection services to all households. Additionally, Waste Services provides annual waste and recycling information calendars and undertakes bin repair, delivery and maintenance services.

## **Planning and Building Services**

Includes costs associated with processing an expected 2,000 planning applications and 3,000 building licences with a value of \$360 million.

About 3,500 inspections of private swimming pools are also undertaken and 2,470 certificates of advice for property transactions are issued, involving 24,000 documents and 28,800 phone calls.



## Neighbourhood Amenity

Includes animal and dog control, fire prevention, parking and other law enforcement, State Emergency Service operations, and safety and security programs and initiatives.

The anticipated expenditure on the Community Safety and Security Program is \$3.73 million, which incorporates an amount of \$1.88 million that will be recovered from the City of Cockburn.

## Notes

### Loan Indebtedness

The total principal amount owing by the City of Melville by way of loan as at 30 June 2007 was \$5,257,271 (\$5,315,603 as at 30 June 2006). This amount is directly related to self supporting loans to various community groups and the cost of servicing the debt is wholly met by these groups. The City of Melville is effectively the guarantor for these loans.



The Budget includes a proposal to raise loans of up to \$9 million to help fund 50 per cent of the cost of the Mount Pleasant underground power project. The cost of meeting loan repayments and other debt servicing costs will be met by the property owners of Mount Pleasant to whom underground power will be provided.

As a member of the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (SMRC), the City of Melville acts as a guarantor in respect of part of the loan liability of the SMRC. At 30 June 2007 this amounts to \$18,769,240 (\$15,650,970 as at 30 June 2006).

### Objects and Reasons for Rates

The overall objective of the rates and charges in the 2007/2008 Budget is to provide for the net funding requirements of the City of Melville's various programs as outlined in the annual budget.

The differential rating information advertised on 19 May 2007 included a rating structure based upon a 6.85% increase in rates.

## **Rates, Charges and Discounts**

### *All Improved Land*

Improved land, which incorporates General Residential, Duplex, Multi-Unit, Strata Properties, Homeswest, General Industrial, Commercial, Service Station, Hotel/Tavern, TAB and Hospital, attracts a rate of 6.45924 cents (6.04515 cents in 2006/2007) in the dollar on Gross Rental Values with a minimum rate of \$500.00 (\$468.40 in 2006/2007) per lot, location or other piece of land.

### *All Unimproved Land*

Unimproved land which incorporates General Residential, Duplex, Multi-Unit, Strata Properties, Homeswest, General Industrial, Commercial, Service Station, Hotel/Tavern, TAB and Hospital attracts a rate of 7.100 cents (7.25418 cents in 2006/2007) in the dollar on Gross Rental Values with a minimum rate of \$550.00 (\$562.10 in 2006/2007) per lot, location or other piece of land.

## **Refuse Charges**

### ***Residential Properties (Including Community Groups)***

The annual charge for rateable land provided with a refuse service is \$235.00 (\$220.00 in 2006/2007) per service. This service includes a weekly domestic collection, fortnightly recycling collection, one junk goods and three green waste kerbside collections. The residential refuse charge applied to eligible pensioners is \$160.00 (\$147.00 in 2006/2007).

### ***Non Rateable Properties (Excluding Community Groups)***

The charge for a service provided to non-rateable land will be \$365.00 (\$341.00 in 2006/2007) per service.

### ***Commercial Properties (Including Bulk Waste)***

A charge of \$317.00 (\$298.00 in 2006/2007) per annum for one standard removal and disposal of refuse per week in a 240 litre container applies.

#### *Bulk Waste Charges include:*

\$30.00 (\$30.00 in 2006/2007) per service – 1 bin of 1.5 cubic metre capacity

\$40.00 (\$40.00 in 2006/2007) per service – 1 bin of 3.0 cubic metre capacity

\$50.00 (\$50.00 in 2006/2007) per service – 1 bin of 4.5 cubic metre capacity

## Swimming Pool Inspection Fee

Pool owners are advised that State Government legislation requires that all private swimming pool enclosures be inspected at least every four years.

The 2007/2008 fee for this service will be at the statutory maximum of \$13.75 (\$13.75 in 2006/2007) per annum (inclusive of GST) for each registered pool enclosure. This annual fee is designed to recover the cost of all inspections over a four-year inspection cycle, so that the inspection cost per pool is \$55.00 each four years, but paid in annual instalments.

The actual cost of conducting these inspections exceeds the income received as a result of the statutory fee not having been reviewed for many years.

## Service Charge – Community Liaison Security Service

A service charge of \$37.50 (\$38.30 in 2006/2007) will be raised in 2007/2008 for the purpose of meeting the operating cost of the Community Security Service. This represents a reduction of \$0.80 on the 2006/2007 charge.

## Service Charge – City of Fremantle Underground Power Scheme

Twenty-six properties in Palmyra within the City of Melville were included in an Underground Power scheme undertaken by the City of Fremantle and shall be charged in accordance with the scale of fees established by the City of Fremantle. The income from these service charges will be remitted to the City of Fremantle. The relevant charges are:

- Network Charge, Single Residential Property - \$2,850.00.
- Network Charge, Multi Unit Property - \$2,550.00.
- Service Charge, Single Residential Property - \$500.00
- Service Charge, Multi Unit Property - \$500.00
- Service Modification Charge, Single Residential Property - \$200.00

## Payments

### Pensioner Rates

If you hold a current seniors/pensioner or other rate concession card (valid from July 2006) you may be eligible for a concessional rebate on your rates.

### Discount

An early payment discount of 4% discount is available if all rates, charges and levies, including the Emergency Services Levy (ESL) and any arrears,

are paid in full by the discount date shown on the rates notice. This discount applies to all rates and charges, including the security and waste levies, but excludes the ESL. The discount does not apply to arrears.

### **Payment by installments**

Payment is available through an instalment plan to help spread the cost. The instalment plan is made up of four instalments and incurs an administration fee of \$15.00 (\$16.00 in 2006/2007).

### **Payment by Direct Debit**

A direct debit facility is also available which lets you make arrangements for an automatic periodic deduction from your bank account. This facility incurs an administration fee of \$30.00.

### **Penalty Interest**

Penalty interest will be levied at the statutory maximum rate of 11% where payment in full or the first instalment is not received within 35 days of the specified date, or if any subsequent instalments are not paid by the respective due dates.

An interest rate of 6% will be imposed on all underground power and streetscape service charges or specified rates that remain unpaid.

Recovery action for unpaid rates and charges will be placed in the hands of the City of Melville debt collection agencies and the costs recovered from defaulting ratepayers. A Legal Action Administration fee of \$100.00 will be levied on overdue accounts that require debt recovery action through the courts.

### **Payment Difficulties**

Should you be experiencing financial difficulties, alternative payment arrangements to meet the rates account may be made with the City of Melville by contacting the Rates Section on 9364 0902 or by email at [melinfo@melville.wa.gov.au](mailto:melinfo@melville.wa.gov.au).

We strongly encourage those who have difficulties in meeting their payments to make contact with our Rates Section as early as possible.

The City of Melville also provides a financial counselling service. This service is available from 9.30am to 1.00pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday by phoning 9364 0661.

## CITY OF MELVILLE CONTACT DETAILS

### BUSINESS HOURS

Melville Information	9364 0159
Ranger Services	9364 0628
Dog/Animal Pound	9364 0760
Planning and Development Services	9364 0111
Infrastructure Services	9364 0691
Health Services	9364 0275
Civic Centre	9364 0666
Rates Enquiries	9364 0902

### ALL HOURS

Maintenance Hotline	1800 626 119
Community Security Service	1300 653 643
Online customer requests	<a href="http://www.melvillecity.com.au">www.melvillecity.com.au</a>

### AFTER HOURS ONLY

Ranger Services after hours	0418 943 219
-----------------------------	--------------

#### Street Address:

City of Melville  
10 Almondbury Road  
Booragoon WA 6154

#### Postal Address:

Locked Bag 1  
Booragoon WA 6954

Website [www.melvillecity.com.au](http://www.melvillecity.com.au)

Email [melinfo@melville.wa.gov.au](mailto:melinfo@melville.wa.gov.au)