

# Budget newsletter



City of  
**Melville**

JULY 2025

## Investing responsibly in our community

There's no doubt that the City of Melville continues to be an enviable place to live, raise a family, run a business or enjoy all the attractions that we have.

This year's Budget aligns closely with the Council Plan for the Future 2024 - 2034, which was shaped by community input and outlines the City's vision for a vibrant, sustainable and inclusive Melville.

In our 2025-2026 Budget, we've maintained a strong focus on delivering important services and infrastructure while maintaining financial responsibility and responding to the needs of our community.

Following valuable feedback from residents, the City has reduced the proposed rate increase to a more modest 4%, recognising the ongoing cost-of-living pressures affecting many households.

This means the average residential property will see an increase of around \$87 per year, or just \$1.67 per week, helping us continue to deliver high-quality services while managing increasing costs in materials, labour and infrastructure.

This rates revenue is essential in funding ongoing service delivery, renewing and maintaining assets, and delivering new infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing population.

I hope this Budget Newsletter is helpful in outlining how your annual rates contribute to the sustainability, growth and prosperity of our City, and support communities that are healthy, connected, safe and have a strong sense of community.

Our \$60.4 million capital works program will fund improvements across the City's 18 suburbs, including:

- Upgrades to sporting changerooms at Len Shearer, Karoonda, Winnacott Reserves, Beasley and Troy Parks.
- Redevelopment of the Blue Gum Community Centre.
- Design work for the new Library and Cultural Centre.
- Public space improvements at Canning Bridge, including Moreau Mews Town Square and the park at The Esplanade.
- New traffic signals at North Lake Road and Winterfold Road.

There is lots to celebrate about living in the City of Melville, and I encourage you to explore and experience our beautiful natural places, connect with community and support our local businesses.

Lastly, I'd like to thank our Elected Members and staff for all of their work in preparing this budget.

You can view a copy of the full budget report at the City of Melville Civic Centre, all City of Melville libraries, or online at [melvillecity.com.au/budget](https://melvillecity.com.au/budget)



I wish you all a very happy and successful financial year.

**Katy Mair**  
City of Melville Mayor

# Pay your rates and WIN!



**3 x \$1,000**  
prizes from Westpac

PLUS



**3 x LeisureFit**  
**12-month**  
memberships

EACH valued  
at \$1,524

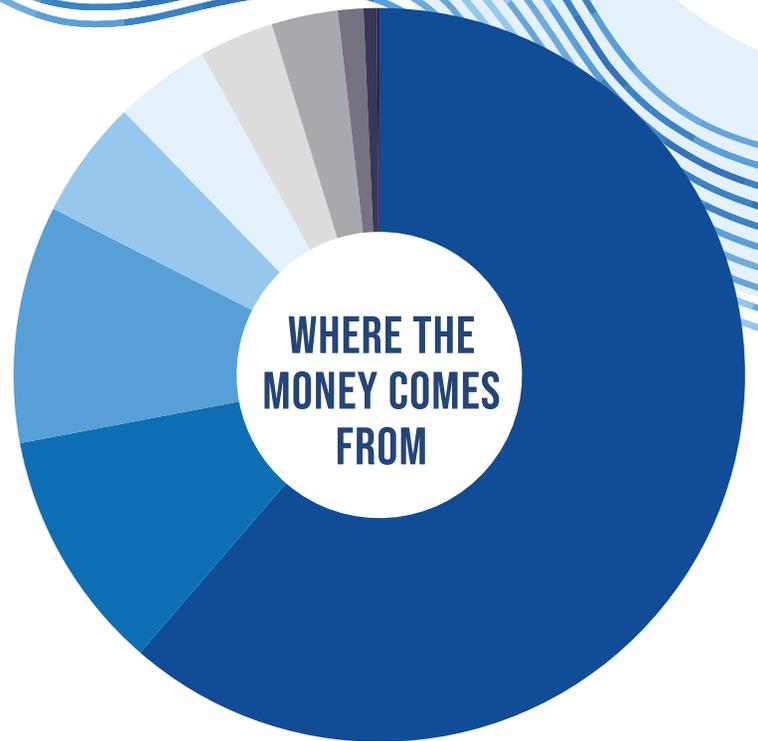
For **three winners** who pay in full or their first instalment by Friday, 29 August 2025.

Terms and conditions apply. Visit [melvillecity.com.au/ratesprizedraw](https://melvillecity.com.au/ratesprizedraw)

# BUDGET OVERVIEW

- Rates | **\$114.9M**
- Net reserve funding | **\$20M**
- Fees and charges | **\$19.6M**
- Capital grants, subsidies and contributions | **\$9.8M**
- Interest earnings | **\$7.9M**
- Service charges | **\$6.2M**
- Grants, subsidies and contributions | **\$5.5M**
- Sale of assets | **\$2.1M**
- Other revenue | **\$1.1M**
- Self-supporting loans | **\$0.2M**

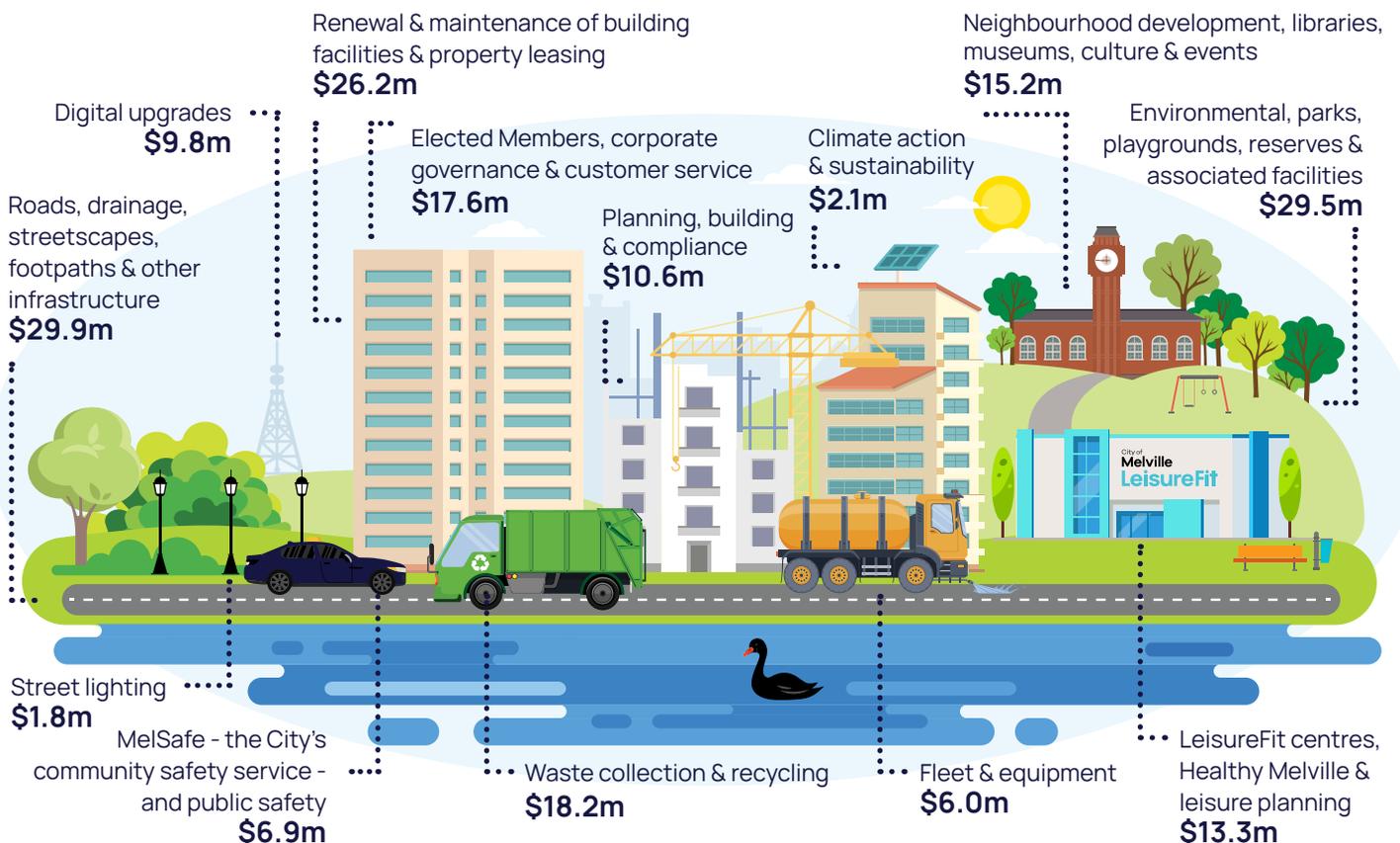
**TOTAL: \$187m**



We acknowledge and thank the State and Federal Governments, and our other partners for grants and contributions received.

## HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT

Your rates help us deliver hundreds of high quality services, renew and maintain assets, provide new infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing population, and contribute to communities that are great places to live, work and visit.



# GET TO KNOW YOUR CITY

Our Council Plan for the Future 2024–2034 (the Council Plan) provides a community-informed and Council-led vision that sets our strategic direction for the next ten years.

In late 2023, we heard from over 3,000 community members in person, online, at workshops, community and business events, pop-ups and listening posts.

You told us what you think makes the City of Melville unique, what you love, and what could be enhanced, along with your key areas of priority and focus.

We used this feedback for a major review of both our Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan, our highest level documents that set direction for the future and guide decision making.

These plans have been brought together to create a cohesive, coordinated and integrated Council Plan to ensure that our vision, five outcome areas and strategic objectives are all connected to achieving our community's aspirations and priorities.

Our budget planning has worked hand in hand with the Council Plan to ensure we're continuing to be community informed and Council led.

The plan introduces a new updated vision: **Vibrant, Sustainable, Inclusive Melville.**

Our key outcome areas are:



| Healthy, Safe and Inclusive  | Clean and Green   | Sustainable and Connected Development  | Vibrant and Prosperous   | Good Governance and Leadership   |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Healthy, safe and inclusive communities with a sense of belonging and wellbeing. | A clean, green and sustainable City for current and future generations. | Sustainable, connected development and transport infrastructure across our City. | Economic prosperity and vibrant, resilient communities and businesses. | Leadership and good governance for the benefit of the whole community. |

## INTRODUCING MELSAFE - WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SECURE AND CARING COMMUNITY

In September 2025, the City of Melville will launch MelSafe, a streamlined service that brings together the functions of our Ranger patrols and Community Safety Service (CSS) into one coordinated team.

MelSafe responds to feedback from residents and ratepayers over confusion on who to call when for community safety needs. From September, MelSafe will be the single point of contact.

The MelSafe team will continue to provide a wide range of services - including neighbourhood safety patrols, emergency management support, fire prevention, ranger services including dog and cat control, noise complaint response, CCTV operations, and parking enforcement - while maintaining an active street presence.

Visit [melvillecity.com.au/melsafe](https://melvillecity.com.au/melsafe) for more information.

JULY 2025

# CITY FAST FACTS

Located on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja

- 113,404 residents
- 10,676 registered businesses
- 18km foreshore
- 281ha bushland
- 861ha public open space
- 205 parks and reserves
- 47,000 street trees (approximately)
- 501km footpaths

## City projects 2025-2026

- Blue Gum Community Centre Redevelopment
- Library and Cultural Centre Design Work
- Atwell House and Gallery Redevelopment
- North Lake Road and Winterfold Road New Traffic Signals
- Troy Park Pavillion Refurbishment and Changeroom Upgrade
- Karoonda Reserve Changeroom Upgrade
- Tompkins Park Pavillion Refurbishment (Stage 3B) and Lighting Upgrade
- LeisureFit Booragoon Outdoor Spray Park plus Spa and Sauna Refurbishment
- Leeming Recreation Centre Changeroom Refurbishment
- Beasley Park Changeroom Refurbishment
- Park Construction at The Esplanade
- Majestic Boardwalk Refurbishment
- Goolugatup Heathcote Lowerlands Development
- Webber Reserve Redevelopment
- Bicton Baths Public Toilet Renewal
- Melville Community Men's Shed Modification
- Moreau Mews Town Square Procurement Work
- Winnacott Reserve Changeroom Upgrade

## City places

- AH Bracks Library and Creative Space
- Willagee Community Centre and Willagee Library
- Bull Creek Community Centre and Bull Creek Library
- Blue Gum Community Centre
- Operations Centre
- Civic Centre
- Canning Bridge Express Library
- Canning Bridge Community Centre and Cirque Business Hub
- Forbes Building Community Space
- LeisureFit Melville
- City of Melville EcoHub

See what other projects and works are planned at [melvillecity.com.au/capitalworks](http://melvillecity.com.au/capitalworks)



### Activity Centres

- Canning Bridge
- Kardinya Activity Centre (Draft)
- Melville City Centre
- Melville District Activity Centre
- Murdoch Health and Knowledge Precinct
- Myaree Business Area
- Riseley Centre

# Frequently asked questions

## How are rates calculated?

Each property is individually assessed by the Valuer General's office once every three years to determine its Gross Rental Value (GRV), which is the yearly rent the property would be expected to receive.

Landgate completed the gross rental valuation (GRV) assessments of all properties in the City of Melville as at the Date of Valuation, being 1 August 2021 and the valuations came into effect on 1 July 2023.

As part of the yearly budget process, we calculate the Rate in the Dollar by dividing the total amount of money to be raised in general rates by the total value of all rateable properties. The resulting figure is the Rate in the Dollar. A combination of these two result in your rates charges: Your rates = GRV x Rate in Dollar.

## The Rates in the Dollar for 2025-2026

| Type                            | Rate in \$ | Minimum Rate |
|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Residential Improved/Unimproved | 7.618139   | \$1,491.80   |
| Commercial Improved/Unimproved  | 9.385581   | \$1,209.50   |

## What is the Emergency Services Levy?

The Emergency Service Levy helps fund WA's fire and emergency services, including fire stations, volunteer fire brigades, State Emergency Service (SES) units, the Volunteer Marine Rescue Service and the multi-purpose Volunteer Emergency Service Units.

This levy is a State Government charge and is required to be collected on behalf of the Department of Fire and Emergency Service (DFES) by all Western Australian Local Government Authorities. For more information, visit [dfes.wa.gov.au/esl](https://dfes.wa.gov.au/esl)

## What is the Property Surveillance Charge?

All properties are charged the Property Surveillance Charge which helps fund the City's highly visible, 24/7 mobile safety patrol service. From September, this service will be known as MelSafe - the City's streamlined approach to community safety, combining Rangers and Community Safety Service (CSS). MelSafe helps keep our community safe and secure through high visibility patrols, where they observe, monitor and report suspicious behaviour and information to the WA Police Force. For more information, visit [melvillecity.com.au/melsafe](https://melvillecity.com.au/melsafe)

## What is the Pool/Spa Inspection Fee?

In accordance with the Building Regulations 2012, a Pool/Spa Inspection Fee is charged to properties that have a private pool or a spa containing water that is more than 300mm deep. It is used to fund the Swimming Pool Compliance Program, which includes inspection and advice to property owners on pool safety and legislative obligations. All pools in the City of Melville are inspected every four years. For more information, visit [melvillecity.com.au/pools](https://melvillecity.com.au/pools)

## Stay connected

TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MELVILLE, SIGN UP TO OUR ENEWS

AT [MELVILLECITY.COM.AU/ENEWS](https://melvillecity.com.au/enews) AND FOLLOW US ON SOCIALS:

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 [youtube.com/cityofmelville](https://youtube.com/cityofmelville)

 [instagram.com/melvillecity](https://instagram.com/melvillecity)

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