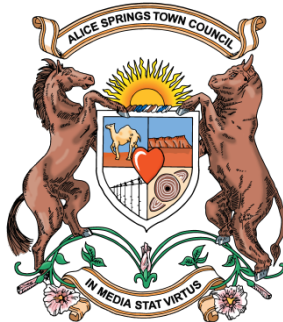


# Special Council

## Business Paper for May 4 2020

Monday 4 May 2020  
Civic Centre

Mayor Damien Ryan  
(Chair)



**ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL  
ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS  
FOR THE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE THIRTEENTH COUNCIL  
TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2020  
AT 3.30PM VIA ZOOM, ALICE SPRINGS**

1. OPENING BY MAYOR DAMIEN RYAN
2. APOLOGIES
3. WELCOME AND PUBLIC QUESTION TIME
4. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST
5. NOTICE OF MOTIONS
  - 5.1 Alice Springs Town Council Elected Member COVID-19 Community Support Measures Analysis – Report No. 85/20 cs
  - 5.2 Deputy Mayor Paterson – COVID-19
  - 5.3 Councillor Eli Melky – COVID-19
  - 5.4 Councillor Marli Banks – COVID-19
6. ADJOURNMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Jennings".

---

Robert Jennings

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

28 April 2020

**TO: CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE – MONDAY 14 APRIL 2020**

**SUBJECT: ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL ELECTED MEMBER COVID-19  
COMMUNITY SUPPORT MEASURES - ANALYSIS**

**AUTHOR: DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES – SABINE TAYLOR**

---

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On 11 March 2020 World Health Organisation declared Coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic. This has led to unprecedented worldwide responses such as physical distancing, limits to public gatherings and self-isolation in an attempt to slow the outbreak.

Whilst these responses were intended to stem subsequent contagion of COVID-19; there has been economic consequences. The restriction to the movement of people and supply chains has financially stressed businesses (particularly those with inadequate liquidity), within the Alice Springs municipality forcing many to close their doors to the public.

Officers have conducted analysis and validation of the proposed Community support measures submitted by Councillors. Each of these proposed measures were considered by officers and the best interests of the Community as a key priority in deferring a recommendation.

The main considerations listed under 'Discussion' limit our ability to correctly anticipate or adequately understand who in our community might be vulnerable or how further disruption will impact a wholesale support measure. Our analysis and validation is limited to current information and as more complete evidence emerges we will refine our assumptions and predictions accordingly.

To move too early on any of the notice of motions would bring inappropriate risk to the organisation as a result of too many unqualified variables. Please refer to the notices of motion that are duly referenced in the 27 April 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That it be a recommendation to Council that:

Due to uncertainty created by the Pandemic, Council note the Community support measures submitted by Councillor's and

1. Council identify a \$5M COVID-19 reserve to provide for the future economic, social and well-being support of the community and the organisation with the following aims and scope:
  - a. Details of the appropriate package will be considered over the coming weeks as part of the Council 2020/21 budget deliberations with a possible announcement of confirmed measures in June or July 2020.
  - b. At a high level the break down of the \$5M COVID-19 Reserve will be
    - i. \$1M for operational requirements as determined by the CEO to allow for the safe, effective and legislative function of the organisation during the COVID-19 Pandemic as discussed in the April 2020 Standing Committee.
    - ii. \$1.2M to provide Council with a suitable non-commercial COVID-19 package to the Alice Springs community as part of the budget deliberations and any COVID-19 related response
    - iii. Alternate community support measures, with consideration of:
      1. \$2.8M for CBD revitalisation, subject to the NT Government commencing all aspects of the CBD revitalisation project on site and confirmed co-funding of \$20M.
      2. Other measures as determined by Elected Members.
2. That Council adopt the Public Benefit Concessions Policy for Commercial Ratepayers.
3. Write to the Northern Territory Government and thank them for their leadership.

## **REPORT**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation (WHO) 11 March 2020.

On 26 March 2020 Council approved measures to support the community and rate payers which included a suspension of all outstanding rates interest from 27 March 2020 until 30 June 2020. These are detailed in the Chief Executive Officer – Robert Jennings report to the Special Meeting of Council on Thursday 26 March 2020.

### **2. DISCUSSION**

The impact of COVID-19 is being felt by communities and businesses worldwide. Council is facing the challenges of keeping employees and our community safe, ensuring essential services are maintained to an adequate level and navigating through complicated and yet to be finalised government stimulus packages.

In deliberations Council should consider the following:

- The initial containment of COVID-19 has not been successful. The substantive outbreak occurred in China; spread to Italy, Iran, Japan, Australia and throughout many countries in the world,
- The longevity of the virus; including the potential of a second and third wave remains uncertain,
- A vaccine has not been discovered or disseminated,
- Infrastructure spending to stimulate the economy is being introduced by the Northern Territory Government and subsequent rounds of support are still evolving,
- The Australian Dollar has depreciated against the US Dollar to levels not seen since the global financial crisis (GFC),
- There have been no new cases of COVID-19 in the Northern Territory since 6 April 2020, however we are not in recovery phase and as a result have not completed planning to estimate when we can return to 'business as usual',
- The effect of the impact of disruption to people's lives even before the economic impact on Alice Springs community; mental health issues, fear, stockpiling of food, medical products and being 'stood down' from their jobs has not been quantified,
- Rates and other charges are a secure and reliable source of revenue that Council utilises in the delivery of services to the community,
- Underlying all considerations, we need to understand the implications of the outcomes of any decision on best positioning Council for future resilience,
- Expenditure impacts on Council services such as Rangers, Regional Waste Management Facility, Human Resources and Media,
- Impacts of project delays,
- Analysis of impacts on current Australian Federal Government and Northern Territory Government support measures on our community and if there are consequent unidentified areas of need and
- Officers analysis of appropriate Community Development and infrastructure recovery programs (future targeted aims) and their likely costs.

### **COVID-19 Local Government Support Package**

On Thursday 23 April, the Minister for Local Government Housing and Community Development released via media details of COVID-19 support for the Local Government sector. Essentially the funding supports job creation in communities, waivers and deferrals of rates for businesses in hardship and a review of unspent grants to support Local Government during the COVID-19 pandemic. (Refer Attachment A and Attachment B)

***This information was released at 12.00pm on 27 April 2020, accounting for the lateness of this report.***

**Preliminary Analysis on Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Banks**

For underlying detail please refer to the notices of motion that are duly referenced in the 27 April 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda

Councillor Banks Notice of Motion		
Motion	Cost to Council	Comments
Waive all rates for Q1 of 2020/2021 financial year	-\$5,750,000	No detail on how this will be funded' Equitable option as all rates will be waived'

Officer Analysis and Assumptions				
Assumption	Number	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
Estimated 20/21 Rate Income 0% Increase on 19/20		\$22,874,000		
Rateable Properties	9606			
Average per ratepayer		\$595		
				No detail of how -\$5,750,000 is to be funded
Motion will be funded from Reserves		\$5,718,500	\$22,281,500 Remining in reserves	Currently\$30M in Reserves \$28M internally restricted reserves \$2M Externally restricted
Motion will be funded via reduced services		\$5,718,500	\$29,281,500	19/20 Total expenses \$35,000,000 Further analysis required to identify which services would be reduced and the subsequent impact

**Preliminary Analysis on Notice of Motion submitted by Deputy Mayor Paterson**

Deputy Mayor Paterson Notice of Motion			
Motion	Cost to Council	Comments	
Provide vouchers to all rateable properties	\$300	Value of each voucher	
	<b>-\$2,880,300</b>	Total value of vouchers	
Fund from 3 reserves	\$949,785	100% of City Deals	
	\$500,000	62% of Town Beautification	
	\$1,430,515	53% Todd Mall Beautification / Redevelopment	
Administration Cost	<b>\$200,000</b>	1 FTE for 12-month period	

Officer Analysis and Assumptions				
Assumption	Number	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
Rateable Properties	9606			
Value of voucher		<b>\$300</b>		
Cost to Council		<b>\$2,881,800</b>	<b>-\$1,500</b>	
Average per ratepayer		\$595		
Estimated Administration Cost		<b>\$200,000</b>		1 FTE for 12 month period, including on costs
Motion will be funded from Reserves		<b>\$2,881,800</b>	\$27,118,200 Remaining in reserves	Currently \$30M in Reserves \$28M internally restricted reserves \$2M Externally restricted =10% of total reserves
Percentage of rateable properties with Alice Springs Address	88%			
		<b>\$2,535,984</b>		88% of vouchers would be in Alice Springs
		<b>\$345,816</b>		12% of vouchers not in Alice Springs

Officer Analysis and Assumptions				
Assumption	Number	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
				Issues include: Redemption process, tracking and fraud minimisation require further work How to manage the acquittal of the voucher eg what happens if you don't expend the full value and require change
				Further analysis required as to impact on ability to provide essential services to adequate standard.



**Preliminary Analysis on Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Melky**

Councillor Melky Notice of Motion			Officer preliminary Analysis and Assumptions			
Motion	Estimate (\$)	Comments	Assumption	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
<b>Current Budgeted rates income</b>	\$22,854,000		<b>Current Budgeted rates income</b>	<b>\$22,874,000</b>	\$20,000	Due to changes to V/G changes the valuation. Slight increase (rounded)
	\$14,949,287	Zoned Residential		\$14,972,370	\$23,083	Zoned Residential
	\$7,552,923	Zoned Commercial		\$7,552,923		Zoned Commercial
	\$351,790	Other		\$328,707	<b>\$23,083</b>	Other

Councillor Melky Notice of Motion			Officer preliminary Analysis and Assumptions			
Motion	Estimate (\$)	Comments	Assumption	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
<b>Expected Loss of income</b>	<b>\$813,900</b>		<b>Expected Loss of income</b>	<b>\$813,900</b>		15% of 19/20 total user fees income budget
	\$6,900	TENNIS HOUSE				Currently \$566 per month in rent, unless there's a change in commercial rent (i.e. freezes/waivers) should continue to receive rent.
	\$2,000	TOTEM THEATRE				Unsure what this income is from
	\$89,000	TRAEGER PARK				This equals 95% of budgeted income for 20/21
	\$8,000	PUBLIC TOILETS				This equals 100% of budgeted income for 20/21
	\$350,000	WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY				If the facility remains open would this be an impact?
	\$20,000	LIBRARY				This equals 70% of budgeted income 20/21
	\$250,000	POOL				This equals 70% of budgeted income 20/21
	\$50,000	PARKING				This equals to 50% of budgeted income 20/21

	\$23,000	HARTLEY SCHOOL				Currently \$1480 per month in rent, unless there's a change in commercial rent (i.e. freezes/waivers) should continue to receive rent.
	\$15,000	NATIONAL TRUST NT McDOUGAL STUART				Currently \$1270 per month in rent, unless there's a change in commercial rent (i.e. freezes/waivers) should continue to receive rent.

Councillor Melky Notice of Motion			Officer preliminary Analysis and Assumptions			
Motion	Estimate (\$)	Comments	Assumption	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
<b>Rates Waiver</b>	\$1,142,700	Assumes 20% of eligible rate payers apply for hardship waiver in Q1	<b>Rates Waiver</b>	\$1,143,700	-\$1,000	No data available to support assumption To date no hardship applications have been received How will short fall be funded?

Councillor Melky Notice of Motion			Officer preliminary Analysis and Assumptions			
Motion	Estimate (\$)	Comments	Assumption	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
	<b>\$747,464</b>	Residential property 5% RATE REDUCTION - Estimated cost		<b>\$750,000</b>	\$2,536	5% reduction on residential rates 20/21
<b>Actual Rates Income</b>	\$22,106,563		<b>Revised Rates Income</b>	\$22,124,000		
			<b>Expected Residential Rates</b>	\$15,016,600		20% of ratepayers having a quarter of their rates waived: 20% of 15,016,600 = \$3,003,320/4 <b>\$750,830</b>
<b>Estimated cost of 5%rate reduction year one</b>	<b>\$747,464</b>		<b>Estimated cost of 5%rate reduction year one</b>	<b>\$750,000</b>		
<b>Rate freeze on residential properties 21/22</b>	<b>\$22,854,000</b>					Financial impact is difficult to estimate at this stage.

Councillor Melky Notice of Motion			Officer preliminary Analysis and Assumptions			
Motion	Estimate (\$)	Comments	Assumption	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
<b>Savings from reduced services</b>	<b>\$3,172,700</b>					Further analysis required
	<b>\$100,000</b>	Review parks redevelopment budget				No contribution to parks - funded by reserve funds 20/21
	<b>\$100,000</b>	Review recycling budget				Further analysis required
	<b>\$250,000</b>	Review Climate action plan				Funded by reserves 19/20
	<b>\$250,000</b>	Road reserve maintenance		<b>\$225,700</b>	\$243,000	86% employee costs
		Move to have owner/occupier maintain own verge				Insurance implications and coverage of this.
	<b>\$80,000</b>	Road reserve development				Further analysis required
	<b>\$100,000</b>	Public toilet refurbish				No funds to refurbish toilet
	<b>\$92,700</b>	Correctional Services Contract Labour				Outsourced labour. This would increase requirements of other staff
	<b>\$100,000</b>	Parks and Reserves				Further analysis required
	<b>\$85,000</b>	Art Collection				Art work housed at Araluen Art

Councillor Melky Notice of Motion			Officer preliminary Analysis and Assumptions			
Motion	Estimate (\$)	Comments	Assumption	Estimated (\$)	Difference	Comments
						Centre - Payment for storage
	\$450,000	Library operational				Further analysis required
	\$800,000	Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre				Further analysis required
	\$500,000	Operational plant and vehicles (1 year of reduced vehicle upgrade and new purchases)		\$337,000		Budgeted for 20/21
	\$50,000	Media relations operational				\$89,000 allocated to materials and contracts budget. Remainder is for employees.
	\$65,000	Human Resource operational				\$5000 budgeted for materials and contracts. The rest is for employees
	\$150,000	Organisational - operational				Further analysis required

Councillor Melky's proposed MOTIONS						
Provide 5% reduction on residential property				Impact \$750,000		
Rate rise freeze on residential property						Financial impact is difficult to estimate at this stage
Support sporting associations with ongoing coaches and sports coordinator survival - costed from SFAC budget	\$100,000					This figure equates to 13% of current SFAC budget.
Expand hardship policy to include businesses and commercial property owners						Further analysis required.
Create a hardship administration team to assess all applications in an efficient and suitable timeframe - including hotline and ASTC website special link/tab				Approx. \$250,000		Financial impacts depend on the number of employees in the admin team. (2x FTE)
Move to have owner/occupier maintain own verge						Insurance implications and coverage of this. Further analysis required.

Councillor Melky's proposed MOTIONS						
Assess the need for and budget for a second fortnightly curb side waste pick up - at no additional cost to the rate payer				\$300,000		Costed based on a 6 month contract. To be confirmed by contractor
Assess Value of Art collection and review future of collection						Further analysis required.
Reduce the current penalty interest on late rates from 19% down to 9%, effective 30 June 2020				\$132,500		Financial impact approx. reduction of 47% (19/20 budget is \$250,000 reduced by 47% = \$132,500)
Outsourcing Council services						Further analysis required.



Whilst Elected Members support for the community through their proposals is recognised, in Officer's opinion, with the ongoing uncertainty created by the pandemic and very recent supply of the support package details by NT Government; an alternative officer recommendation which includes the recent NT Government support as well as other measures to provide Officers with the time to properly work through the impacts of all proposals as part of the budget deliberations.

**2. POLICY IMPACTS**

Numerous policies will be impacted by the pandemic and will be amended as required.

**3. FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

Significant risks are inevitable should any of the current Elected Member proposals be adopted to early and without appropriate consideration. COVID-19 will have a sizeable impact on the 2019/20 and subsequent budgets on both the expenditure and income sides.

**4. SOCIAL IMPACTS**

Social impacts will be documented in future reports.

**5. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Environmental impacts will be documented in future reports.

**6. PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Council continues to deliver messaging on COVID-19 related matters in alignment with Australian Federal and Northern Territory Government announcements.

**7. ATTACHMENTS**

- A. NT Government Support Package media release**
- B. Public Benefit Concession Policy for Commercial rate payers.**



Sabine Taylor  
**Director Corporate Services**

**Alice Springs Town Council**

**Notice of Motion**

I, Councillor Matt Paterson wish to give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the next Alice Springs Town Council Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 in relation to Alice Springs Town Council providing appropriate COVID-19 support to the community.

**MOTION:**

**That Alice Springs Town Council:**

- 1. That ASTC introduce a voucher scheme for the 20/21 FY to all rateable properties in the Municipality to the amount of \$300 per property. These vouchers are to be spent on local businesses in Alice Springs.**

**Supporting Information to Motion**

**How Does this Work?**

Each rateable property is given vouchers that amount to \$300.

These can be spent at businesses throughout Alice Springs who have registered under the scheme. These vouchers can be used at places such as restaurants, cafes, retail outlets etc. Properties can have vouchers sent out, similar to that of the regional waste management facility.

**Why?**

This could invest \$2,880,300 to businesses in Alice Springs over 9 months.

Small business provides much support to Alice springs by providing sponsorship, in kind support and much more.

By introducing this scheme, it may ensure that more businesses continue to operate after the current pandemic has passed.

**When will vouchers be issued?**

These vouchers are issued in September and December.

Vouchers will expire at the end of the 2021 FY.

In September, properties will receive 7 x \$20 vouchers, in December properties will receive 8 x \$20 vouchers.

**Business Portal**

Locally owned businesses apply to be registered under the scheme, businesses can promote that they are a part of the scheme and can be put on the ASTC website.

ASTC could also approach the Department of Trade, Business and Innovation to work collaboratively on the scheme.

**Who is eligible?**

Owner/s of every rateable property receives the vouchers.

You will receive as many vouchers as properties you own. (e.g. If you own 3 properties, you are eligible for 3 x \$300 worth of vouchers.)

**Cost**

Total cost of the vouchers will be \$2,880,300.

Administration costs are also required. This is estimated at 1 fulltime position for 12 months.

**Budget line**

City Deals Project Line - \$949,785 (Currently \$949,785)

Town Beautification - \$500,000 (Currently \$810,406 in reserves)

Todd Mall Beautification - \$1,430,515 (Currently \$2,704,430 in reserves)

Total - \$2,880,300

or other appropriate reserves

Mover: Councillor Paterson

Seconder:

**Alice Springs Town Council**

**Notice of Motion**

I, Councillor Eli Melky wish to give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the next Alice Springs Town Council Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 in relation to Alice Springs Town Council providing appropriate COVID-19 support to the community.

**MOTION:**

**That Alice Springs Town Council:**

- 1. In response to the COVID–19 crisis, Council set a budget for 2020/2021 that provides a 5% rate reduction on residential property based on the budget as set during 2019/2020**
- 2. In response to the COVID–19 crisis Council set a budget for 2021/2022 with a rate rise freeze on the Residential property based on the 2019/2020 budget**
- 3. In response to the COVID–19 crisis, Council set a budget for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 that provides a rate rise freeze on the total collected rates on business and commercial property based on the 2019/2020 budget.**
- 4. Establish a once off COVID–19 Sports and Recreation fund to support sporting associations with ongoing coaches and sports coordinator survival funding of \$100,000.00 – to be costed from the SFAC budget.**
- 5. In the case where a rate payer is not a natural person, Council amend policy 510 to allow Council the ability to introduce a new COVID-19 hardship concession plan for business operators and commercial property owners.**
- 6. Creates a COVID-19 Hardship administration team to ensure applications from all rate payers' natural persons, commercial or businesses who apply under section 164 and 165 for either a waiver or deferral of rates, can be assessed in an efficient and suitable time frame. Including hotline and ASTC website special link/tab.**
- 7. Allocate Road Side reserve / verge maintenance to the Owner / Occupier**
- 8. Assess the need for and a budget for a second fortnightly curb-side waste pick up for additional waste and green waste no additional cost to rate payer**
- 9. Assess saleable assets i.e.: Unused or unusable open space that maybe zoned under parks,**
- 10. Assess value of Alice Springs Art Collection and review future of collection**
- 11. Reduce the current penalty interest on late rates from 19% down to 9% on all rate payers effective from the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2020**
- 12. Investigate where Council can benefit by outsourcing and utilising private enterprise taking on more of Council services.**

Mover: Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded:



ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL

COVID-19

COMMUNITY

CARE - ADAPT – RECOVERY  
PLAN

---

COUNCILLOR ELI MELKY

*“Together, planning to deal with  
COVID – 19  
will bring out the best in our  
Community “*

A TOWN LIKE ALICE



# THE ROAD AHEAD

---



# PLAN

---

## CONTROL OUR DESTINY

Council will need to carefully consider how it can contribute to the Community by taking a BEST PRACTICE approach. This plan will deliver care in the short term, adapt for the medium term and launch a recovery plan for the long term.



# Step one

## Assess the situation

---

**\$22,854,000.00**

Current budgeted rates income  
as per 2019/2020 municipal plan,

### RATES INCOME BREAKDOWN -2019/2020

ZONED RESIDENTIAL - \$14,949,287.00

ZONED COMERCIAL - \$ 7,552,923.00

OTHER - \$ 351,790.00

Total Rates expected \$22,854,000.00

# Expected loss of Council income

During the restriction period, Council will be expecting a loss of income during restriction period estimated at 6 months from the following areas

---

Tennis House	\$6,900.00
Totem Theatre	\$2,000.00
Traeger Park	\$89,000.00
Public Toilets	\$8,000.00
Waste Management Facility	\$350,000.00
Library	\$20,000.00
Pool,	\$250,000.00
Parking	\$50,000.00
Hartley School	\$23,000.00
National Trust NT McDougal Stuart	<u>\$15,000.00</u>
Total	<u><b>\$813,900.00</b></u>

# Plan to CARE.

## Expected rate concession /waiver

---

**Furthermore: Expected Rate Concessions / waiver**

It is estimated 20% of eligible rate payers may need to apply for a rate concession /waiver under hardship for a period of one quarter payable in 2020/2021

**The cost is estimated at \$1,142,700.00**

Calculated:

(Total income for period 2019/2020 \$22,854,000 at 20% of annual rates = \$4,570,800.00 / 4 = \$1,142,700.00

# RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY 2 YEAR PLAN RATE REDUCTION 2020/2021 & RATE FREEZE 2021/2022

---

We can do more for Residential Property in 2020/2021

Year One > 2020/2021

➤ Budgeted rates income	\$22,854.000.00
➤ Residential Property 5% RATE REDUCTION – Estimated cost	<u>\$ 747,464.35</u>
➤ <u>Actual rates income</u>	<u>\$22,106,563.00</u>

We can do more for Residential Property in 2021/2022

Year Two > 2021/2022

➤ Freeze on raising Rate on Residential Property – Actual rates income	\$22,854.000.00
➤ Budgeted rates income	\$22,854.000.00

# BUSINESS COMMERCIAL PROPERTY 2 YEAR RATE FREEZE PLAN

---

## RATE FREEZE ON COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AND BUSINESS

- Freeze on raising Rate on all Business and Commercial Properties for period 2020/2021
- Freeze on raising Rate on all Business and Commercial Properties for period 2021/2022

# Estimated Financial Challenge 2020/2021

---

Estimated loss of Fees and Charges in 2020/2021	\$ 813,900.00
Estimated one quarter rates concession Waived	\$1,142,700.00
Estimated cost of 5% rate reduction year one	\$ <u>747,464.35</u>
Total	<u>\$2,704,064.35</u>

# Plan to ADAPT Adjust and Consolidate Council Service Assessment

---

Council will experience a reduction in demand and must assess the reduced obligations to provide some services currently budgeted for in our 2019-2020 municipal plan.

Council can adapt by adjusting and consolidating areas of its services and obligations that have or will become redundant and or less in demand.

Given the impending challenge on Council finances, the solution will be to implement a sound financial plan that allows Council to adapt and be phased in over the next 12 months. The plan will need to identify any savings resulting from a reduction in demand on Council services during this epidemic.

# Savings from Services with reduced demand 2020/2021

---

## Accounts under – objective 1& 2 - Dynamic Community

Account # 227 - Review parks redevelopment budget	\$100,000.00
Account #        Review Recycling budget	\$100,000.00
Account #        Review Climate action plan	\$250,000.00
Account # 164 - Road Reserve Maintenance – Move to have owner/occupier maintain own verge	\$250,000.00
Account # 226 – Road Reserve Development	\$80,000.00
Account # 213 - Public Toilets refurbish -	\$100,000.00



# Savings from Services with reduced demand

2020/2021 Cont.

---

Account # 313 – correctional services contract labour	\$92,700.00
Account # 84 – Parks & Reserves	\$100,000.00
Account # 446 – Arts Collection	\$85,000.00
Account # Library Operational	\$450,000.00
Alice springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre	\$800,000.00
Account # 94 – operational plant & vehicles	\$500,000.00
(1 years of reduced vehicle upgrade and new purchases)	

# Savings from Services with reduced demand 2020/2021 Cont.

---

Account 548 – media relations operational	\$50,000.00
Account # 706 Human resources operational	\$65,000.00
Account # 712 Organisational – operational	<u>\$150,000.00</u>
<b>Total possible savings in 2020/2021 budget</b>	<b><u>\$3,172,700.00</u></b>

Total Reduced Services Amount  
\$3,172,700.00

# Year One - 2020/2021 Budget Balancing Plan

---

Year One - 2020 / 2021 Budget balancing plan

Total possible Savings in 2020/2021 budget expenses	\$3,172,700.00
Total estimate losses including income and concession amount	<u>\$2,704,064.35</u>
<u>Total Savings</u>	<u>\$ 468,635.65</u>

2020/2021 Budget savings \$468,635.65

# Year Two - 2021/2022 Budget Balancing plan

---

## Year Two - 2021 / 2022 Budget balancing plan

Total possible reduction in 2021/2022 budget expenses	\$1,500,000.00
Total estimate losses including income and concession amount	<u>\$ 500,000.00</u>
<u>Total Savings</u>	<u>\$1,000,000.00</u>

**2021/2022 Budget Savings \$1,000,000.00**

# Expected 2020 / 2021 - 2021 / 2022

---

Year One: 2020/2021 expected savings

Total Savings                      \$468,635.65

Year Two: 2021/2022 expected savings

Total Savings                      \$1,000,000.00

# RECOVERY PLAN

---

## RECOVERY PLAN

Begin the Alice Springs Town Economic Recovery by consolidating and reducing spending over the next 2 years.

We will be in a strong financial position to achieve a full and successful recovery of our town's economy and secure our future.

# Review current Internally Restricted Reserve

---

RWMF Future Landfill Site	\$3,917,045.00
Capital (Infrastructure)	\$5,175,863.00
Todd Mall Redevelopment	\$2,849,360.00
Regional Waste Management Plant & Equip.	\$1,464,333.00
Civic Centre Upgrade	\$ 420,000.00
Street Lighting	\$3,282,199.00
Kerbside collection	\$ 930,698.00
Town Beautification	\$ 810,406.00
City Deals Project	\$ 949,785.00
Investment (interest)	<u>\$ 445,000.00</u>
	<u>\$20,244,689.00</u>

# RECOVER AND GROW

---

- ❖ Borrow up to 60% on the value of a Project – lowest lending rates in decades.
- ❖ Engage in Partnerships with business, private and public
- ❖ Seek Government Funding both NTG and Commonwealth level
- ❖ Apply special levy per project
- ❖ Sell infrastructure that is no longer sustainable or viable
- ❖ Seek to subcontract services Including Pool, Road Maintenance, other
- ❖ Build new Library - life long learning centre



# Build it and they WILL come!

---

- ❖ Seek to produce an income from assets and infrastructure.
- ❖ Increase our population
- ❖ Land release and develop in partnership
- ❖ Reduce costs
- ❖ Build infrastructure for the future growth of our town, such as roads, parks,
- ❖ Multipurpose sports precinct
- ❖ Improve Parking CBD / car park multi story with residential and commercial residence

# All you need is the Will to succeed

---

- ❖ Invest by supporting businesses to help re-establish and kickstart their recovery
- ❖ Incentive to attract university graduates back home to work and live here
- ❖ Incentive to retain retirees who leave town for a sea change, to a Billion star sky change
- ❖ Attract and grow our population by providing incentives for home buyers with reduced rates on first year of ownership.

NOTE: Civic Centre Loan paid out the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017. Council continues to collect and incorporate in budget spending \$525,000.00 PA, previously used to pay annual loan repayment.

# Motions for Ordinary Council Meeting

## 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020

---

I Councillor Eli Melky wish to move the following motions:

That:

In response to the Covid – 19 crisis, Council set a budget for 2020/2021 that provides a 5% rate reduction on residential property based on the budget as set during 2019/2020.

And

In response to the Covid – 19 crisis Council set a budget for 2021/2022 with a rate rise freeze on the Residential property based on the 2019/2020 budget.

Seconder:

# Motions for Ordinary Council Meeting

## 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020

---

I Councillor Eli Melky wish to move the following motions:

That:

In response to the Covid – 19 crisis, Council set a budget for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 that provides a rate rise freeze on the total collected rates on business and commercial property based on the 2019/2020 budget.

Seconder:

Motions for Ordinary Council Meeting  
27<sup>th</sup> April 2020

I move that Council

- ❖ Establish a once off Covid – 19 Sports and Recreation fund to support sporting associations with ongoing coaches and sports coordinator survival funding of \$100,000.00 – to be costed from the SFAC budget.

Seconder:

- ❖ In the case where a rate payer is not a natural person, Council amend policy 510 to allow Council the ability to introduce a new Covid-19 hardship concession plan for business operators and commercial property owners.

Seconder:

- ❖ Creates a Covid-19 Hardship administration team to ensure applications from all rate payers' natural persons, commercial or businesses who apply under section 164 and 165 for either a waiver or deferral of rates, can be assessed in an efficient and suitable time frame. Including hotline and ASTC website special link/tab.

Seconder

- ❖ Allocate Road Side reserve / verge maintenance to the Owner / Occupier

Seconder :

Motions for Ordinary Council Meeting  
27<sup>th</sup> April 2020

I move that Council

- ❖ Assess the need for and a budget for a second fortnightly Curb side waste pick up for additional waste and green waste  
no additional cost to rate payer

Seconder:

- ❖ Assess saleable assets ie: Unused or unusable open space that maybe zoned under parks,

Seconder:

- ❖ Assess value of Alice Springs Art Collection and review future of collection

Seconder:

- ❖ Reduce the current penalty interest on late rates from 19% down to 9% on all rate payers effective from the 30<sup>th</sup> of  
June 2020

Seconder:

- ❖ Investigate where Council can benefit by outsourcing and utilising private enterprise taking on more of Council services.

Seconder:

# The Future Alice Springs is up to us



**Alice Springs Town Council**

**Notice of Motion**

I, Councillor Marli Banks wish to give notice of my intention to move the following motion at the next Alice Springs Town Council Ordinary Meeting scheduled for Monday the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 in relation to Alice Springs Town Council providing appropriate COVID-19 support to the community.

**MOTION:**

**That Alice Springs Town Council:**

- 1. That the ASTC structure the waiving of rates under section 165 of the Local Government Act for all rate payers for the first quarter of the 2020/2021 financial year to provide financial relief in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and to ensure best practice decision, seek assessment via the internal Risk and Audit Committee and the Local Government Authority to qualify this recommendation. This assessment must include a legal opinion ensuring we conform with Council Policy, in accordance with the Local Government Act, Accounting Regulations, and Local Government Authority.**

**Supporting Information to Motion**

This motion has come from the need to respond to the world epidemic that has gripped our town and affected our community.

Due to the restrictions imposed by safety measures taken to date in relation to COVID-19, we are experiencing unprecedented economic strain for individuals and businesses alike.

People are worried and concerned on what the future holds, and there is no certainty for anyone that we are going to come out of this in one piece. The community of Alice Springs is looking towards the ASTC to waive rates for a period to combat the economic strain that people are experiencing. We should offer support in the form of waiving of Council rates under hardship and make this available to all rates payers for the first quarter of the 2020/2021 budget due in September. It is the right thing to do given the financial hit our community has taken, we can't afford not to support the community. We need to be measured in how we approach this financially decision to ensure that due diligence is taken and we adapt with processes of best practice standards. I know that by investing in our community we will experience both economic and social returns for the future. It is about giving people the peace of mind that we see what you are going through, we hear that you are suffering, and we back you to get back on your feet. We are in this together.



In summary if every eligible rate payer was to apply for a rates waive under the grounds of hard-ship, the financial impact on the Council could be up to \$5,750,000, which is equivalent to one quarter of annual rates. Criteria on how applications are assessed will need to be defined. To date Alice Springs Town Council has publicly released a number of measures in response to the COVID -19 Epidemic, in order to assist community.

On the 27th of March 2020, Council unanimously elected to approve measures to assist community that included the following:

1. That the local weighting criteria for Council procurement be increased from current 10% to 30% weighting in Council's Procurement of Good and Services Quotations and Tenders Policy until 30 June 2020.
2. 2. From 27 March 2020, the charging of interest on outstanding rates balances is suspended until 30 June 2020.
3. The rates payment due dates for the last quarterly payment will be extended from 3 April 2020 to 30 June 2020.
4. Fees and charges – as from 27 March 2020:
  - a. Fees associated with the Civic Centre public toilet shower usage will be waived until June 2020.
  - b. All Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre (ASALC) memberships and 10 visit passes are suspended, to resume upon reopening.
  - c. Library late fees waived until the Library is reopened.
  - d. The Sports Facility Advisory Committee participation levy will be waived until 30 June 2020.

Mover: Councillor Banks

Seconder: Councillor Satour