

# Draft 2010-11 Budget

## Impact of the Stevensons Road Closed Landfill Situation

**The City of Casey's is calling for community feedback on its draft 2010-11 Budget, which is on public exhibition until Friday 18 June 2010.**

Of the \$220 million total budget, \$175 million is proposed to be spent on delivering more than 100 different Council services to the community and \$45 million is allocated to the Capital Works Program.

Council has had to make very difficult decisions in respect to some significant expenses out of its direct control, including carrying the full short-term costs associated with the remediation and monitoring of Stevensons Road closed landfill (\$41.9 million).

The City of Casey doesn't believe it's fair that the Cities of Casey and Frankston are faced with costs of almost \$100 million over the next 20 years to remediate the landfill site. If VCAT didn't over-ride the buffer zone against Council's request and allow houses to be built up to the landfill boundary, the methane leak would never have happened.

Casey ratepayers should not have to shoulder the entire burden of a situation that State Government agencies helped to create. That's why Council is seeking \$41.9 million in funding assistance from the State

Government towards the short-term remediation and monitoring of the landfill.

The City of Casey has submitted a comprehensive business case and, in the last 18 months, has attended 14 meetings with politicians and state bureaucrats, and has sent 18 letters to the Government; all without result.

Council's door is still open for discussion and it is hoped that the Government will face up to its responsibilities and make the \$41.9 million contribution so that ratepayers don't have to carry the full \$100 million burden.

Council could have delivered a general rate rise similar to that of 2009-10, which was one of the lowest of Melbourne's 31 metropolitan councils on a per capita basis, but the unfortunate reality is that Council has been left with no other option but to borrow money in the 2010-11 budget to cover the landfill costs which has resulted in Council's rates increasing to 11.69%.

If the State Government makes the requested contribution, Council will ensure that the budget is subsequently amended so that the rate payments are correspondingly reduced.

### ***Have Your Say on the Budget***

If you think it's not fair that you should have to pay the entire costs of the landfill remediation and think the State Government should assist, register your view as part of Council's budget consultation process.

The draft 2010-11 budget is on public exhibition until Friday, 18 June 2010. During this period, copies of the draft budget will be available for inspection at the City of Casey's Narre Warren, Narre Warren South and Cranbourne Customer Service Centres as well as on the City of Casey website.

**Written submissions under Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* on any proposal contained in the draft budget must be made to Council by close of business on Friday, 18 June 2010. Submissions should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, City of Casey, PO Box 1000, Narre Warren, 3805.**

#### **Customer Service Centres**

**Cranbourne**  
Centro Cranbourne

**Narre Warren**  
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**Narre Warren South**  
Amberly Park  
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