

2025/26 Budget & Rates



Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP) Cultural Hub exterior above and interior on right (artist impressions).

The 2025/26 Budget outlines the provision of financial resources for the next 12 months and details how these resources will be applied to deliver the more than 120 services and extensive range of programs and activities Council provides to the Maroondah community.

The Budget and the Financial Plan have been developed through a rigorous process and will ensure Council continues to provide a variety of services at a high quality as expected by our community, whilst ensuring long-term financial sustainability within the rate-capping environment.

A growing population, limited Victorian and Australian Government funding and increasing pressure on Local Government to maintain and extend its provision of services remains an ongoing challenge. We are confident that the 2025/26 Budget is balanced, sustainable and responsible, and will ensure the protection of Council's \$2.2 billion in net assets; the delivery of extensive projects

and services to continue improving Maroondah, the provision of a financially prudent future for our community; continuing to provide extensive services for our community.

The 2025/26 Budget links to the key directions and priority actions of the four year Council Plan through our integrated planning framework and identifies the resourcing to meet 39 major initiatives, as identified in the Council Plan.

These initiatives respond to the needs and aspirations of the community as we work towards the future outcomes identified in the *Maroondah 2050 – Our future together* Community Vision.



Mayor Cr Kylie Spears is pleased that the new Croydon Library will receive \$1M in funding as part of the CCWP Cultural Hub construction.

CONTACT COUNCIL

We support and serve our community at our facilities and across a range of channels. Visit our website for service centre hours.



Croydon Service Centre

Croydon Library, Civic Square,
Croydon

Realm

179 Maroondah Highway,
Ringwood



Mail

PO Box 156, Ringwood,
VIC 3134



Live chat via our website

www.maroondah.vic.gov.au



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Your 2025/26 rates notice has separated Maroondah City Council rates and waste charges, and the levies that Council is required to collect on behalf of the Victorian Government, including the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF)*.

How to pay your rates.



For more information about your Council rates, head to Council's website.

How property rates are calculated

Rates are calculated by multiplying the rate in the dollar amount by the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of the property.

Rate calculation example (approx values)

Rate in dollar	0.00194869
x CIV	\$850,000
= General rate	\$1,656
+ ESVF	\$136
+ Waste services charge	\$385
= Total rates and charges	\$2,177

Valuations

The Victorian Government Valuer-General is responsible for undertaking property valuations (used to calculate rates, fire services levy and land tax) under the Victorian Government’s Valuation of Land Act (1960). As of January 2020, valuations are undertaken annually. The 2025/26 rates notices are based on valuation levels determined by the Valuer General as at 1 January 2025.

Rates and budget

In determining the level of rate income, Council carefully considers:

- the long-term vision, aspirations and needs of the community;
- capital works and services required throughout the year; and
- all sources of non-rate income, such as government grants, fees and charges.

This process then determines the total own source revenue required to meet the delivery of capital works and services for the coming year. This is then calculated and distributed as a ‘rate in the dollar’ for each dollar of property value. Hence the higher the property value, the more rates paid; the lower the property value, the less rates paid.

Differential rates

Differential rates mean that there is a different rate in the dollar for each property classification. This ensures rate revenue is collected in a fair and equitable manner. For information purposes only, the below table details what the differential rate amount would be for this property under the different classifications:

Type of property	Rate in the Dollar
Residential	0.00194869
Commercial	0.00233843
Industrial	0.00233843
Vacant Land	0.00292304
Derelict	0.00584608

Waste service charges

Service	Amount
Residential	
Set of residential bins (80 litre waste)	\$385
Set of residential bins (120 litre waste)	\$465
Second and subsequent set of bins#	\$493
Additional residential bin (120 litre waste)#	\$296
Additional residential Food Organics Garden Organics#	\$230
Commercial (240 litre)	
Once per week**	\$830
Three times per week**	\$1,822
Additional recycling – non-residential#*	\$185
Commercial Garden Organics Service#*	\$267
Industrial	
Industrial 120 litre service#*	\$447
Industrial 80 litre service#*	\$376

Approval of waste service is subject to Council assessment.

* These figures include GST which applies to these services.

Victorian Government waste levy

The Victorian Government charges a landfill levy on all waste disposed of at licensed landfills in Victoria. This charge is paid by ratepayers through the Annual Rates Notice. The Victorian Government waste levy increases every year and is charged per tonne of waste sent to landfill.

Victorian Government Emergency Services Volunteer Fund

The Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF) has been introduced by the Victorian Government to replace the Fire Services Property Levy. Under the new Fire Services Property Amendment (Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund) Act 2025, Council must collect the ESVF on behalf of the Victorian Government. Each property is allocated an Australian Valuation Property Classification Code (AVPCC) by the Valuer General Victoria which is used to determine land use classification for the ESVF. Please refer to www.sro.vic.gov.au/esvf for further information. If you have any ESVF enquiries, please contact: esvf@dtf.vic.gov.au or call 1300 819 033.

Supplementary valuations and rates

If a change is made to your property that affects the valuation or classification, a supplementary rate notice will be issued. The supplementary rate notice will reflect your new property data and replace any previous rates notice, or valuation. Examples include demolition or construction of a building, subdividing of land, renovations and additions. Please note you may receive a Supplementary Notice as your Annual 2025/26 Notice with the new Valuation under the effective date. The ‘old’ Valuation will be the standard one from 1 January 2025.

Overdue rates and interest

Late payment of rates incurs an interest charge that is fixed by the Victorian Government at 10 percent. When rate payments are received after the due date, the planned income changes and projects must be financed from more expensive funding sources. The charging of interest on overdue rates offset the additional costs of alternative sources of funding.

Payment options and due dates

Any overdue amount listed must be paid immediately.

In full: Current rates are to be paid on or before 15 February 2026.

Four instalments: First instalment must be paid on or before 30 September 2025.

Nine instalments (direct debit only): Debited from your nominated bank account, on the last day of each month from September 2025 to May 2026. If this day falls on a weekend or public holiday, the debit will take place on the next business day.

Financial assistance and hardship

Council recognises that some of our community may experience either temporary or permanent financial difficulty. Council is committed to offering a variety of payment options and will follow best practice for the collection and recovery of rates and charges. Please refer to Council’s website for more information or the National Debt Help Line on 1800 007 007 or visit www.ndh.org.au

Municipal rates concession

For 2025/26 the Victorian Government rebate is 50 per cent of the current year rates to a maximum of \$266.

The State Revenue Office also grants a \$50 rebate on the Emergency Service Volunteer Fund Levy.

- Eligible cards include:**
- Pensioner Concession Card (PCC).
 - DVA Gold Repatriation Health Card – Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI).
 - DVA Gold Repatriation Health Card – War Widow (WW).

A look inside the 2025/26 Budget

The recently adopted *2025/26 Budget* will support the delivery of more than 120 services and programs, protect Maroondah's \$2.2 billion in community assets and deliver \$46.03 million of responsive and extensive capital projects. It is a balanced, sustainable and responsible budget that will ensure a strong future for our community.

Rates at work

The diagram below outlines the services received by the Maroondah community for each \$100 spent by Council.



Total income

	\$ Million	Approx. % of the total
Rates and charges	116,159	60.5
Statutory fees and fines	5,846	3.0
User fees	35,464	18.4
Grants – operating	8,131	4.2
Grants – capital	7,234	3.7
Contributions – monetary	6,919	3.6
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	7,875	4.1
Other income	4,244	2.2
Total	191,872	100

The Council Plan lists a range of priority actions to be undertaken by Council over the four-year period from 2025/26 to 2028/29.

Projects identified for delivery over the next 12 months

Updating and implementing the *Maroondah Liveability, Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031*.

Undertaking the staged redevelopment of the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct.

Working in partnership to plan for and support the Victorian Government kindergarten reforms.

Working in partnership to implement road improvement works at Eastfield Road, Railway Avenue and Morinda Street, Ringwood East and at Holloway Road, Croydon North.

Undertaking footpath construction in the Principal Pedestrian Network and progressing renewal of the Mullum Mullum Creek shared trail.

Implementing Council's *Sustainability Strategy 2022-2031*, including the development of a Climate Change Plan.

Reviewing and updating Council's *Waste, Litter and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-2030*.

Work in partnership to deliver the staged implementation of the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project.

Developing and implementing a Creative Maroondah Strategy.

Working in partnership to implement the *Bayswater Business Precinct Transformation Strategy*.

Implementing the Maroondah 2050 Community Vision.

Developing and implementing Council's Customer Service and Communications strategies.

Reviewing a range of Council's core technological systems and undertaking the phased implementation of enterprise-wide replacement systems.

Evolving organisational capacity and implementing systems to minimise risks to cybersecurity impacts.

Advocating on key local issues on behalf of the Maroondah community in the lead up to the Victorian Government election.



1300 88 22 33 or 9298 4598
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