



CITY OF VINCENT

2025/26 BUDGET NEWS



Dear Vincent community,

We're going back to basics with the 2025/26 Budget.

Each year, we focus on delivering essential services, maintaining infrastructure and rolling out projects that matter most to the community. This year is no different.

We know that some within our community are doing it tough, and like many households and businesses, the City is also navigating the impact of rising costs. At the same time, we remain committed to delivering the high standard of services our community values.

In response to these challenges, we have worked hard to make financially responsible decisions when forming the budget and setting rates.

The 4.5 per cent rate increase for the majority of ratepayers aligns with the City's Long Term Financial Plan 2024/25 – 2033/34 and equates to \$1.41 per week or \$73.25 per year.

We are lifting rates for vacant residential property by 25 per cent to encourage owners to act. There are too many empty homes and blocks that are eyesores and attract anti-social behaviour. It's time for these to be developed to alleviate the State's housing shortage.

The budget includes much-needed investment to upgrade footpaths, playgrounds and sporting facilities, increase tree canopy and improve accessibility across Vincent. We want to be a city where everyone can move safely and comfortably.

Our ongoing efforts to increase canopy coverage continue, with hundreds of trees to be planted on our verges and at Hyde Park, where we sadly lost trees due to the polyphagous shot-hole borer infestation.

People from all walks of life love attending free events, participating

in meaningful workshops and programs, and appreciating local art.

We will be sponsoring a variety of community events, holding a range of insightful workshops and supporting art projects.

As a small local government, we do rely on funding from the State and Federal Governments to deliver major projects that benefit people beyond Vincent.

This year I will be advocating strongly for an upgrade of Leederville train station, relocating the concrete batching plants away from Claisebrook, developing the East Perth Power Station, upgrading Leederville Oval and transforming the area around Dorrien Gardens into a vibrant Little Italy Precinct.

I encourage you to follow our social media channels and sign up to the e-newsletter to stay up to date on what's happening in your neighbourhood.

Alison Xamon

Mayor

MAYOR



Alison Xamon

NORTH WARD



Cr Alex Castle
(Deputy Mayor)



Cr Ron Alexander



Cr Nicole Woolf



Cr Suzanne Worner



Cr Ashlee La Fontaine

SOUTH WARD



Cr Sophie Greer



Cr Jonathan Hallett



Cr Ashley Wallace



THE BASICS

- **\$3.6 million** Roads
- **\$248,750** Footpaths
- **\$400k** Drainage
- **\$1.6 million** Playgrounds
- **\$2.7 million** Asset renewals
- **\$4.5 million** Sport and recreation facilities



FOR THE COMMUNITY

- **\$940k** Litis Stadium floodlight upgrade with **\$800k** from grants.
- **\$200k** in accessibility upgrades for Vincent Library, to ensure inclusive access for all community members.
- **\$300k** Birdwood Square floodlight upgrade with **\$100k** from grants, to support increased community and sporting use.



MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS

- **\$1.8 million** Robertson Park: upgrades to tennis courts, dog and leisure park and greenery.
- **\$250k** Beatty Park facilities renewal.
- **\$165k** Halvorsen Hall upgrade.



ADVOCATING FOR VINCENT

We're a small local government with big ambitions. That's why we're actively seeking support from State and Federal Governments to deliver the major projects that matter to the Vincent community.

In 2025/26, we'll focus on securing support for:

- The redevelopment of East Perth Power Station.
- Much-needed upgrades to Leederville train station and Sullivan Logistics Stadium (Leederville Oval).
- The relocation of the two concrete batching plants in Claisebrook.
- The transformation of the area around Dorrien Gardens into a vibrant Little Italy.



A NEW ERA FOR LEEDERVILLE

We're reshaping Leederville to create a more connected, vibrant town centre.

The Avenue and Frame Court carparks will transform into a thoughtfully designed hub with a dynamic blend of residential, commercial, food, community spaces and a new City-owned multi-storey public carpark.

While the transformation unfolds, we're making it easier to visit with new parking options throughout the town centre, including a public carpark on Newcastle Street.



LAST YEAR WE



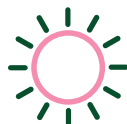
Diverted **6100 tonnes** of waste from landfill through FOGO and Verge Valet.



Upgraded **6.1 hectares** of in-ground irrigation to improve water efficiency.



Converted **22,000m²** of underutilised turf into new waterwise native garden areas.



Installed **100 kilowatts** of solar panels.

THIS YEAR WE WILL



Aim to save **1274 kilolitres** in water, equivalent to about two 25m pools.



Improve waste diversion through a transition to Energy Recovery Technology, formally known as Waste to Energy.



Upgrade irrigation systems at Weld Square, Birdwood Square and Beatty Park Reserve.



Implement water and energy efficient initiatives across community facilities.



CANOPY

Our suburbs are feeling the heat from the loss of trees on private land, and the infestation of polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB).

We're working hard to protect existing trees and plant more of them across our suburbs, streets and open spaces.

From verges to public parks, we're investing in greenery that supports wildlife, resists pests like the borer, cools our suburbs, and creates beautiful places for people to connect with nature.

THIS YEAR WE WILL

- Plant **hundreds of new trees** following the completion of underground power works in North Perth/Mt Hawthorn.
- Sell **16,000 native shrubs** and **small trees** at the May 2026 Native Plant Sale.
- Undertake restoration of the Hyde Park islands including planting of over **4000 native plants**.
- Seek funding opportunities to improve PSHB management and undertake post treatment restoration projects including **new tree planting** projects.
- Work towards **increasing our canopy** by an additional 6 per cent by 2030, after achieving a 1 per cent increase between 2020 and 2024.



From street art to local socials, Vincent's heart beats with culture, creativity and community.

We're invested in the experiences and programs that bring people together and make life here vibrant, inclusive and unique.



RAINBOW PICNIC



FESTIVAL OF CULTURE



\$232k sponsorship to deliver 16 free or low-cost events, including Perth Festival, Leedy Artfest and Jazz Picnic in the Park.



Four exhibition slots at Lightbox Laneway Gallery **\$10k** to support local artists.



Mural Co-funding Program
\$35k to bring art to Vincent and support professional and emerging mural artists.



City of Vincent Film Project
\$32k sponsorship, mentorship and in-kind support for early career filmmakers.



SUPPORTING OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

We're committed to providing support and opportunities to all residents, including \$326k to programs for:

- seniors
- multicultural community
- LGBTQIA+ community
- reconciliation
- young people and children
- diversity, access and inclusion

VINCENT'S FINANCES

We continue to be one of the lowest rating councils in Perth, with an increase of 4.5 per cent for 2025/26, for the majority of ratepayers.

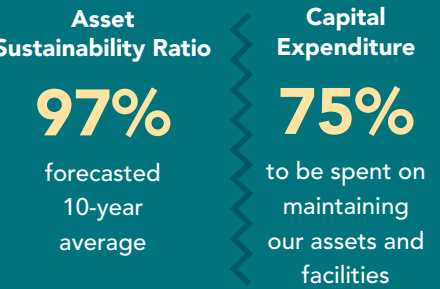
For the average household, this will be an increase of:



Rates for vacant residential properties have increased by 25 per cent. We hope this will incentivise owners to develop or sell unused land.

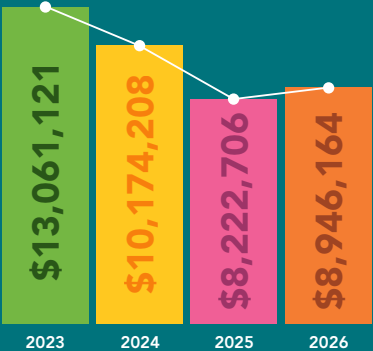
Vincent has been recognised by the Office of the Auditor General as one of WA's top 20 councils for financial reporting and controls. This award is a testament to our ongoing commitment to accountability and transparency with our community.

INVESTING IN OUR ASSETS

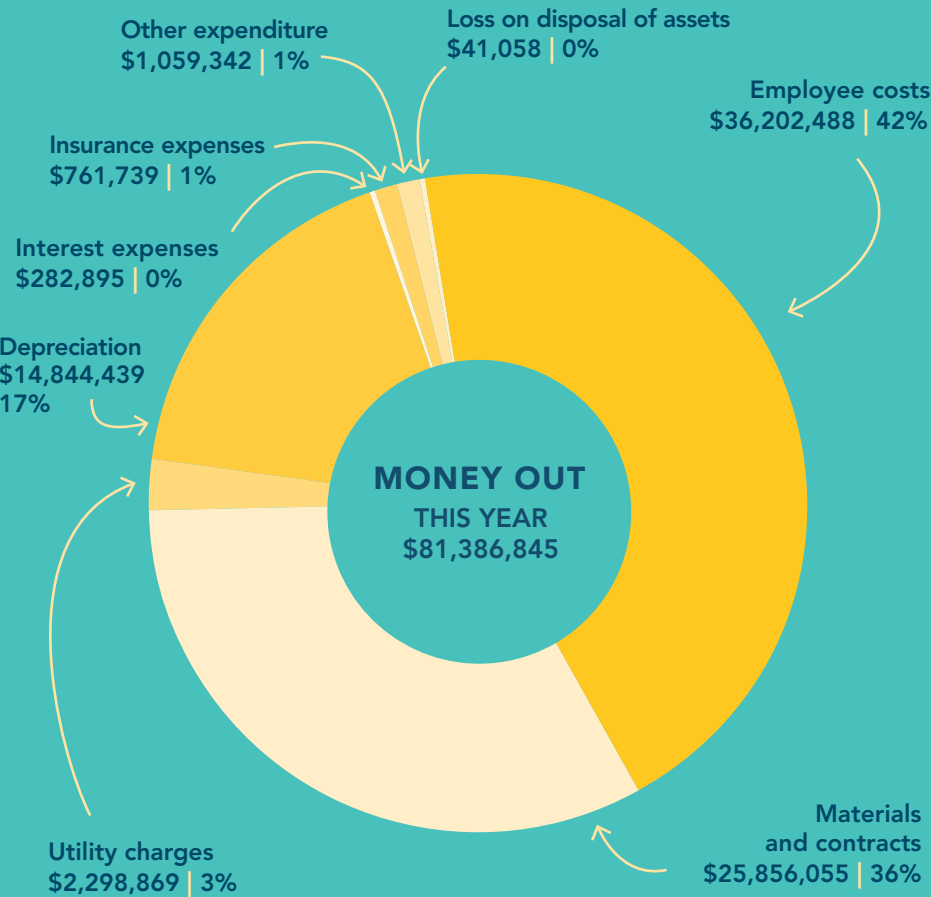
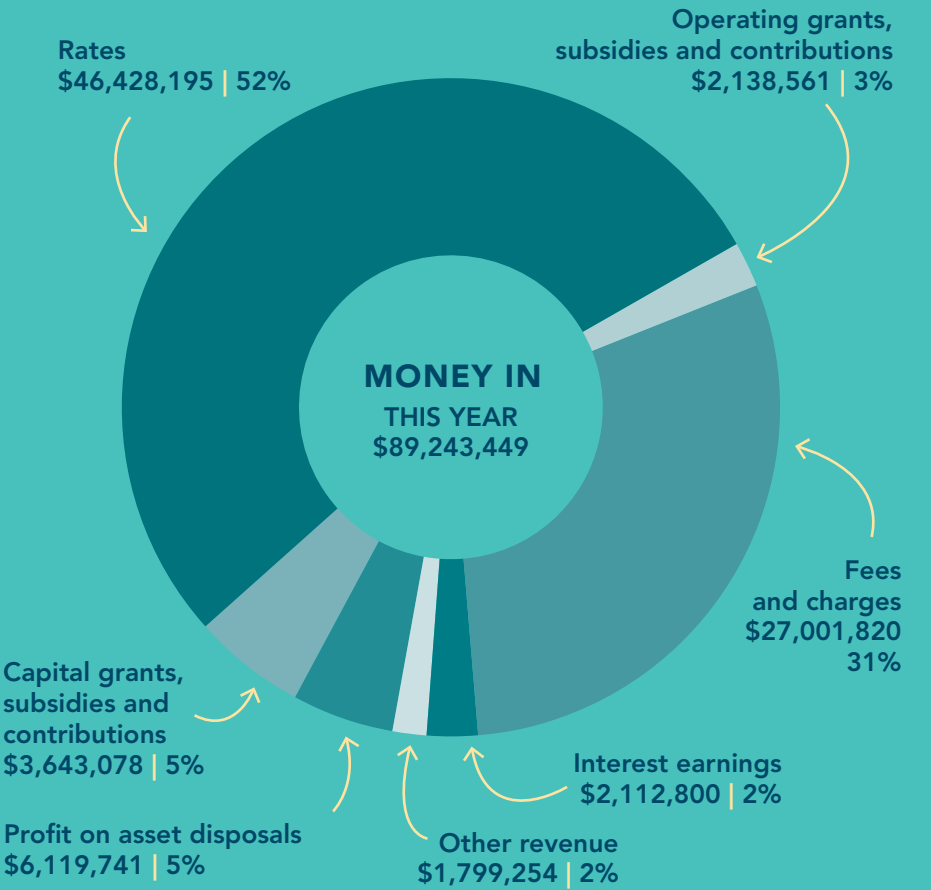


DEBT REDUCTION

19 per cent reduction in debt between 2023/24 and 2024/25.



*The increase in debt in 2025/26 is due to Underground Power loans, to provide longer payback periods for residents.



UNDERGROUND POWER



Construction is underway!

Project Area One, which includes parts of North Perth and Mt Hawthorn, is officially under construction. We anticipate starting construction on the next project area in early 2026, subject to a co-funding agreement being signed by Council.

The cost of undergrounding power will be split between Western Power and the property owner, with a discount for eligible seniors and payment options available.

Ratepayers from Project Area One (North Perth/Mt Hawthorn) will receive their first underground power service charges this year,

included in the 2025/26 rate notice. These residents will be the first to see power lines removed in their residential streets.

Service charges for the next project area are anticipated to be issued in the 2026/27 financial year.

Design work is nearing completion for Project Area Two (North Perth/Mt Lawley) and Project Area Three (Perth/Highgate) and is well underway for Project Area Four (Leederville).

By undergrounding power lines, we're not only improving safety and visual amenity for increased property value but also increasing capacity. More circuits, larger cables, and innovative network design means Western Power can better manage energy demands and power us towards net-zero.

Council's vision in its 10-year Strategic Community Plan is for Vincent to be a leafy and vibrant 24-hour city synonymous with quality design and sustainability.

Undergrounding power will help achieve this vision quicker than any other single project in our history.

We are regularly updating our website as this program progresses. To find out more, visit vincent.wa.gov.au/underground-power



RATES FAQ



What does rate in the dollar mean?

The rate in the dollar figure is calculated by dividing the money to be collected from general rates by the total valuation of all rateable properties. This figure is then multiplied by the GRV to determine the amount you will pay in rates.

What is a GRV?

The Gross Rental Value (GRV) is determined by the Valuer-General for all rateable and levied properties in

Western Australia. It is the total annual rent a property might be expected to attract if it is rented out. Any enquiries related to your GRV should be directed to Landgate Valuation Services.

What are differential rates?

The City uses a differential rates system, which includes different categories for vacant and occupied residential and commercial properties. Each category has a different rate. The system aims to have a more equitable spread of contributions from ratepayers.

What happens if I'm struggling to pay my rates?

We can provide flexible payment plans or rates smoothing by direct debit. You can have the option to pay in instalments. We also have a financial hardship fund for ratepayers who demonstrate financial hardship to defer payments, interest free, for six months. A concession of up to \$250 for vacant residential properties will be available. More information about how to apply for these programs can be found on your rate notice.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Find out about the current projects open for consultation and have your say.

imagine.vincent.wa.gov.au

STAY IN TOUCH

vincent.wa.gov.au

   @cityofvincent

SIGN UP TO ENEWS



Stay up to date with what's happening in Vincent.