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## **Record spend planned for capital works**

Sunshine Coast Council has handed down a balanced budget which includes a record capital works program totalling \$189 million.

Financial Management and Business Portfolio Councillor Chris Thompson said the 2011/12 budget delivers for the whole region.

“Our commitment to long term community planning is underpinned by significant increases in infrastructure and service delivery,” he said.

Key infrastructure projects include:

Transportation including streetscapes	\$63.8 million
Parks and Gardens	\$14.1 million
Waste	\$13.3 million
Public realm projects	\$9.1 million
Sunshine Coast Airport	\$ 7.2 million

“We have great communities – that’s why we’re funding new programs to enhance their ‘look and feel’ and make them even better places to live, work and invest.

“The public realm projects will improve the amenity in our town centres which will encourage investment, create jobs, and strengthen our economy. The council’s funding of public realm projects is part of a \$40 million funding program over ten years. This is a significant investment to drive jobs growth and the development of our urban centres,” Cr Thompson said.

“Quality roads are a priority for council – that’s why we’ve committed more than \$14.5 million this financial year towards resealing and rehabilitation.

“A further \$2 million is allocated to turn high priority gravel roads into sealed roads and \$1 million for the replacement and upgrade of gravel on the existing unsealed network.

“Council is also committed to providing quality spaces which encourage active and healthy communities.

“That’s why more than \$14 million will be invested in our parks and gardens including funds for beach access and dunal management, with a further \$1.2 million allocated to local parks.

“Council will also spend more than \$6.2 million on pathways, pedestrian facilities, and construction of key on-road cycle networks throughout the region. Another \$1.2 million will be spent on local pathways.”

### **Media enquiries:**

**Cr Chris Thompson, Financial Management & Business Portfolio Councillor, 5420 8975**

**Richard O’Leary, Marketing Strategist. Phone: 5441 8122**

**Colleen Crowe, Media & Public Relations Co-ordinator. Phone 54208741**

*Page 1 of 1*