

# Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku

## STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku's annual budget for the 2004/05 financial year demonstrates Council's long-term commitment to service provision and major initiatives within the Ngaanyatjarra Lands communities, all of which are financed from the Shire's own resources without borrowings. Highlights of this year's budget include:

- Maintenance and capital works projects planned under the Shire's Transport program total \$2.236 million - this includes realignment and upgrade work to all-weather gravel standard on the community access roads and the Great Central Road ("Outback Highway"). Of particular note in this year's capital works program is the allocation for major engineering works for the sealing of the Blackstone community internal roads. The 2004/05 program also incorporates \$50,000 earmarked for the installation of pilot-activated lighting at the Warakurna airstrip, a project carried over from the previous financial year.
- \$40,000 allocated towards major community environmental cleanup and landscaping programs in Blackstone, Wingellina, Jameson and Warburton.
- The Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku will contribute \$750,000 over the next five years as a key program partner in the Ngaanyatjarra Telecommunications Project, which will enable the local communities to access broadband telecommunications infrastructure and services previously unavailable in our area. Rollout is scheduled to commence in early 2005, and additional funding for the project has come from the Commonwealth and Western Australian Governments and Ngaanyatjarra Council/Health Service.
- A total amount of \$662,359 has been budgeted towards the recurrent operations of its Recreation and Culture Program in 2004/05. This principal activity includes the continuing operations and management of the Tjulyuru Ngaanyatjarra Cultural and Civic Centre, the Ngaanyatjarra Regional Arts Development Program, development and promotion of local arts and cultural heritage matters, Sports Development Program and the ongoing maintenance of swimming centres, broadcasting facilities, and sports ovals in the local communities.
- Council has allocated \$451,100 in capital funding under the Recreation and Culture Program for the acquisition of replacement vehicles and the

construction of new basketball courts in Blackstone, Warburton and Kanpa communities. A contribution of \$36,000 has also been made available towards the development of the new Ngaanyatjarra Media & Communications Centre in Wingellina.

- Council has made a commitment under its Education and Welfare program to the ongoing operations of the Ngaanyatjarra College (\$10,000) and "Strengthening Families Community Playgroups Program (\$10,000) in conjunction with the Ngaanyatjarra Health Service. In addition, Council will be contributing the sum of \$60,000 towards the operations of the Ngaanyatjarra Land Management Unit for support for environmental and land use planning issues across the region (including the management of the Ngaanyatjarra Indigenous Protected Area [IPA]).

Council has an outstanding record in providing essential infrastructure and local government services to the remote communities within the Ngaanyatjarra Lands of Western Australia. This is due to the commitment of Council and its enormously dedicated staff, and we will all continue to strive to improve such services for the benefit and amenity of all residents and visitors to our area. This budget reflects Council's ongoing commitment to service provision, community and regional development, equity, accountability and responsible management.

**John Damian McLean JP**  
**Shire President**



**Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku**  
ON A JOURNEY

