

Shire President's Message

The impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic have reached all corners of the world. While the Shire of Victoria Plains has, and remains, in a good position from a zero-case perspective, nonetheless there are many parts of daily life which have changed.

The State Government of Western Australia declared a State of Emergency in March 2020 and the WA State Pandemic Plan set out the role local Government plays.

The Shire of Victoria Plains has been planning for the worst & hoping for the best. The Local Recovery Co-ordination Group (LRCG) was activated and meet frequently to plan & measure the Shire's response & recovery. The CEO activated the Business Continuity Plan to ensure essential Shire business continues during the emergency. A specific COVID19 response plan was promptly developed, giving the Shire operational direction. I thank our Shire Staff who've adapted to the rapidly changing environment. Several State & Federal Government directives have impacted facilities & services provided by the Shire and our response is communicated to the community in our COVID-19 flyers, social media and newsletter updates. Council undertook a specific workshop which resulted in the COVID-19 Framework, a document used to guide future planning including the 20-21 budget setting process. Rest assured, your Shire Staff & Council are working together with you, to minimise the disruption & impact to residents in our Shire.

The Shire of Victoria Plains community should be extremely proud! When social distancing became necessary, you found ways to band together & support the vulnerable. Taking the time to check in on neighbours and a general overall kindness. I've witnessed businesses repurpose themselves and adapt to changing circumstances, even stepping up to provide extra services to their community. The resilience you have shown has been inspiring.

I sincerely thank the input & respect our community has shown to date. While individual circumstances & reactions will differ amongst our community, cooperation & respect will certainly help us reach the best outcome.