



Mount Barker Regional Saleyards Summary of Advisory Committee Matters

2017/2018 Budget and Fees Saleyards Strategic Plan

The Committee has recommended the following budget items to the Council for 2017/2018:

- Outloading Ramp Bugle Modification (\$17,000) - Additional ramp since successful completion of first two ramp modifications.
- Bitumen Repairs (\$25,000) - Ongoing program.
- Airconditioning in entire Office Block (\$11,000).
- Light Tower Globe Replacement - Receivals (\$25,000) - Replacement with LED globes as they are getting very dull at night
- Long Wand and Data Logger (\$7,000)
- Replace Guttering - Weighbridge Roof (\$6,000) - Guttering is rusting out.

Given the state of the economy the Committee has recommended a 2% increase in fees is appropriate. It is noted that expenditure should be contained to approximately this level and assuming the current throughput remains steady.

Following discussion on a range of issues with livestock agents in December 2016 and January 2017, a revised Strategic Plan was recommended for adoption by the Council. The Council adopted the new 10 year plan at its May 2017 meeting.

This plan provides an overview of the Shire's long term plans for the Saleyards and the actions needed to achieve those goals. It also provides some measures of success. This Plan is one of the Shire's strategies that 'inform' its Strategic Community Plan and Business Plan.

This plan is similar to the original 2014 - 2023 strategic plan, but has been updated to reflect discussions by the Saleyards Advisory Committee and comments from livestock agents. A summary of the changes is as follows:

The main additions are:

1. Be flexible in accommodating special sales and holding cattle for shipping trade.

2. Aim to achieve higher cattle throughput, while recognising limitations and variables outside our control.
3. Maintain a fee structure that suits relevant stakeholders.
4. Continue to develop proposals and seek grant funding for the development of new infrastructure which meets strategic and/or operational goals.
5. Consider opportunities for interfacing with electronic selling systems.

New Loading Ramp

The Saleyards Advisory Committee has endorsed a proposal to proceed with the design and documentation of a new loading ramp leading into the new dirt pens.

Opus Engineering has been engaged to do the plans. The design will replicate the other ramps on site.

The intention is to have the plan 'shovel ready' so that potential grant opportunities can be sourced in the future.

Saleyards Manager's Report

The Gate 2 Plate field day on 21 March at Willyung Farms had 300 attendees over the two days including 90 students from 6 different agricultural Colleges and High Schools. Sponsor displays and heifers and steers on view in the feedlot received significant interest. The presentation and dinner night was held at Southern End in Denmark on 19 May

On 1 May, the new generator was delivered and by 3 May, Mount Barker Electrics connected it to the main power box. The unit was tested for approximately 1 hour with everything we need for sale day running.



On 4 May (sale day) Western Power had its second scheduled power outage at 7.30am. Weighbridges started at 4am to process as many cattle as possible before the outage. The generator was warmed up at 6.55am and yards were changed over to stand alone power at 7.15am with minimal disruption. Changeover took about five minutes to shut down and restart with all parties impressed.

We have been cleaning out dirt pens when weather permits, mainly on the

uncovered dirt pens. We are hoping to get it all done before winter sets in. We have been able to fix some sprinkler uprights under the roof and receival troughs as required, which are hard to do normally as the repairs need to be done under the concrete.

On 3 May, a number of Esperance trucks arrived and from one of those an animal was noted as wild. Before drafting had commenced the animal escaped by having two attempts at jumping out at approx 3.30pm. After escaping the Angus Cow jumped a further three fences before stopping. All authorities were notified as soon as the animal escaped and were on alert as to keep the animal off Albany Highway.