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Sunshine Coast Council Stimulus Package

On 24th March 2020 the Sunshine Coast Council (SCC) released its economic stimulus package. The key components of this package are as follows:

- SCC aims to keep money circulating in the local economy and work flowing for the construction and related industries by **accelerating programmed maintenance** and reviewing its Capital Works Program to identify additional opportunities. This will include bringing forward scheduled works at Venue 114, The Events Centre & Caloundra and Sunshine Coast Stadiums
- SCC will be contacting affected business to provide the following **additional support** and review fees and charges including:
 - Ensuring dedicated staff to assess temporary use permits
 - Additional staff to facilitate building and plumbing approvals
 - Relaxation of curfews in relation to deliveries of essential items to supermarkets and pharmacies
 - Parking regulators will issue warnings instead of infringements unless the infringement relates to health and safety issues or parking in disabled spaces. Paid parking in Caloundra will also be waived from 31 March to 30 June 2020.
- SCC will **reimburse or wave** the following fees and charges:
 - Footpath/outdoor dining and trading permit fees from 1 March to 31 July 2020
 - Food licensing fees from 1 March to 31 August 2020
 - Community event and major event permit fees from 1 March to 30 June 2020 or facilitate the ability to postpone for 12 months and refund bond until new date established
 - Commercial low-use/high-use permits from 1 March to 31 July 2020
 - Filming application fees from 1 March to 30 June 2020



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- Cancellation of venue hire, and bookings will not be subject to cancellation fees at all council venues from 16 March to 30 June 2020
- Payment of infrastructure charges for MCU developments will be assisted through a staged payment process up to three years, including the initial payment being deferred between 6-9 months (interest free). A reduced interest rate (TBA) will run over the life of the staged payment period.
- SCC will **expedite payments** to local contractors in a bid to improve cash flow and stem the economic impacts of COVID-19. Their aim is to pay all invoices within 7 days, provided all information has been provided and the goods or services have been delivered within contractual arrangements.
- Free posters for business are also available to download and print to enable you to keep your customers informed about changes to your trading hours, movements to trading online or take away and delivery options.
- Wellbeing support is available via the B-Well and Prosper portal. See <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Business/Business-Programs/B-Well-and-Prosper> for further information.
- For event operators with approved permits and current applications through SCC, permit fees will be credited for up to 12 months.

For further information in relation to the SCC programs and support and to stay up to date with new announcements, please refer to <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Business/COVID19-Support-for-Business>

Alternatively, please contact **SRJ Walker Wayland** on 07 5301 9957.