



LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

**AGENDA FOR THE
ORDINARY COUNCIL**

**TO BE HELD IN NAMBUR WARIGA MEETING ROOM
CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS, MORWELL**

**AT 6.00 PM ON
05 OCTOBER 2015**

CM470



Latrobe Community **Vision**

"In 2026 the Latrobe Valley is a liveable and sustainable region with collaborative and inclusive community leadership."

Council **Mission**

Latrobe City continues to implement the values, corporate directions and partnerships necessary to bring reality to the Latrobe's 2026 community vision for a liveable and sustainable region with collaborative and inclusive community leadership.

Council **Values**

Latrobe City Council's values describe how it is committed to achieving the Latrobe 2026 community vision through:

- Providing responsive, sustainable and community focused services;
- Planning strategically and acting responsibly;
- Accountability, transparency and honesty;
- Listening to and working with the community; and
- Respect, fairness and equity.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. OPENING PRAYER.....	5
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND	5
3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE.....	5
4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	5
5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES	5
6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	5
7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.....	5
8. ITEMS HELD OVER FOR REPORT AND/OR CONSIDERATION/QUESTIONS ON NOTICE	6
9. NOTICES OF MOTION	34
10. ITEMS REFERRED BY THE COUNCIL TO THIS MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION	36
10.1 Partial road discontinuance and sale of land 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree.....	36
11. CORRESPONDENCE	50
12. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS	52
13. OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE.....	54
13.1 Assemblies of Councillors.....	54
14. PLANNING & ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY.....	92
14.1 Timber Umbrella Group Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.....	92
14.2 Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne	109
14.3 Planning Scheme Amendment C89 - 145 Traralgon-Maffra Road, Traralgon - Consideration of submissions received during the exhibition period.....	119
14.4 Planning Scheme Review - Update On Progress	178

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

15. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION.....	183
15.1 Waste Management Strategy 2010-2017 Review.....	183
15.2 Draft Play Space Strategy - Release for Public Exhibition.....	191
15.3 Tarwin Street Project Proposed Road Closure	372
15.4 2014/15 Community Grants Program - Change of Project	407
16. COMMUNITY LIVEABILITY	414
17. CORPORATE SERVICES	416
18. URGENT BUSINESS.....	418
19. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC	420
19.1 Confidential Items Held Over	422
19.2 Adoption of Minutes	432
19.3 Confidential Items	433
19.4 Assembly of Councillors	434
19.5 Request for Consideration of an Ex-gratia Payment.....	440
19.6 Proposed Sale Of Land - Neville Street, Traralgon.....	453
19.7 2014/15 Financial Performance and Accumulated Cash Surplus.....	469
19.8 Evaluation of Submissions for Provision of Consultancy Services (Housing Strategy, Rural Land Use Strategy and Industrial Land Use and Employment Strategy)	474

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)****1. OPENING PRAYER**

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

We respectfully acknowledge that we are meeting here today on the traditional land of the Braiakaulung people of the Gunnaikurnai Clan and pay our respect to their past and present elders.

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST****5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES****RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 14 September 2015 be confirmed.

6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors may raise any formal acknowledgements that need to be made at this time, including congratulatory or condolences.

7. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public who have registered before 12.00 Noon on the day of the Council meeting are invited to speak to an item on the agenda or to ask a question of the Council.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

**8. ITEMS HELD OVER FOR REPORT AND/OR
CONSIDERATION/QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
Office of the Chief Executive			
05 December 2011 Office of the Chief Executive	Investigation into Mechanisms Restricting the sale of Hubert Osborne Park Traralgon	That a draft policy be prepared relating to Hubert Osborne Park and be presented to Council for consideration.	Briefing occurred on 27 April 2015 prior to a report coming to Council Currently investigating the further options for restrictions on the sale of Hubert Osborne Park as raised by Cr Kam at the previous Councillor Briefing. A further briefing occurred on 10 August 2015. The policy will return to Council for consideration on 26 October 2015.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p style="text-align: center;">14 September 2015</p> <p>Office of the Chief Executive</p>	<p>Long Term Lease Renewal Agreement - Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club</p>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having complied with sections 190 and 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. By giving public notice b. By considering submissions received 2. Resolves to enter into a 21 year lease agreement with the Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club for part of Glenview Park, 66-110 McNairn Road, Traralgon (subject land), and <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Resolves to consent to the Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club entering into a 21 year sub-lease with Telstra Corporation Limited for part of Glenview Park, 66-110 McNairn Road, Traralgon (subject land), and 4. Requests that the agreement be brought back before Council for final ratification; and 5. Advises the Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club of its decision. 	<p>A meeting will be organised with Traralgon Greyhound Racing Club to discuss the draft lease.</p> <p>A report will be presented to Council in December 2015 once this is finalised</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
13 October 2014 Office of the Chief Executive	Draft Community Engagement Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2019 - Community Consultation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council approves the draft Community Engagement Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2019 be released for community consultation for four weeks from Monday, 20 October 2014 to Friday, 14 November 2014. 2. That following the community consultation process a further report on the Community Engagement Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2019 be presented to Council for consideration. 	<p>Completed.</p> <p>The Community Engagement Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2019 were adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council meeting on Monday, 14 September 2015.</p>
23 March 2015 Office of the Chief Executive	2015/02 - Notice of Motion - Grants Acquittal	<p>That Council Officers conduct a review and prepare a report for Council detailing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The methods of acquittal currently used for all Council grants and other funds dispersed through Council to external entities or individuals on behalf of the State or Federal Government; 2. Internal and external Legislation, Regulations and Policy Requirements around acquittal of such funds; and 3. Council compliance obligations and best practice in regard to the acquittal of the above. 	<p>An internal committee has been convened to develop the information requested, as well as an internal audit being conducted on grant management which will inform the processes.</p> <p>The internal committee will meet once the results from the internal audit are returned in order to inform them for improvement of processes and for providing a report to Council on these matters.</p> <p>It is intended that this will be completed by November 2015.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>27 July 2015</p> <p>Office of the Chief Executive</p>	<p>Proposed Lease Agreement - T.S Latrobe Naval Cadets, Lake Narracan</p>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with sections 190 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act), authorise the commencement of the statutory procedures relating to Council's intention to consider entering into a long term 20 year lease with the Training Ship Latrobe (T.S Latrobe) Naval Cadets for land on the southern shore of Lake Narracan (subject land) by giving public notice and inviting written submissions on the proposal in the Latrobe Valley Express. 2. Receive written submissions and hear submissions on the proposal to lease the subject land from persons who have made a written request to be heard in person or by a party representing them as specified in their submission in accordance with the Act, at its Ordinary Meeting of Council on Monday, 14 September 2015. 3. Advises the Training Ship Latrobe (T.S Latrobe) Naval Cadets of its decision. 	<p>Completed.</p> <p>Report was prepared for 27 July 2015.</p> <p>Public Notices inviting written submission published in the LV Express on 30 July 2015 and 4 August 2015.</p> <p>A further report was considered at the ordinary Council meeting held on 14 September 2015.</p> <p>Council resolved to enter into a 20 year lease with T.S Latrobe Naval Cadets.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>06 July 2015 Office of the Chief Executive</p>	<p>Proposed Sale Of Land - Neville Street, Traralgon</p>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gives public notice of its intention to sell the discontinued laneway adjoining 2 Neville Street, Traralgon, being part of Lot 1 on TP 944314X and the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 11177 Folio 711, and invite submissions pursuant to Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989. 2. Considers any submissions received regarding the proposed sale of the discontinued laneway adjoining 2 Neville Street, Traralgon, being part of Lot 1 on TP 944314X and the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 11177 Folio 711, at its meeting to be held on Monday, 17 August 2015. 3. Notifies the owner of 2 Neville Street, Traralgon, of its decision. <p>17 August 2015</p> <p>That Council lay this matter on the table for further discussions with the owner of 2 Neville Street, Traralgon.</p>	<p>Public Notices inviting written submission published in the LV Express on 23 July 2015 and 30 July 2015.</p> <p>At the 17 August 2015 Council Meeting Council resolved to lay the matter on the table.</p> <p>Further report has been prepared for the 05 October 2015 Council Meeting.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>27 July 2015</p> <p>Office of the Chief Executive</p>	<p>Partial Road Discontinuance and Sale of Land 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgerie</p>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with sections 189 and 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989 (Act)</i>, authorise the commencement of the statutory procedures relating to Council's intention to discontinue and transfer a section of unused road reserve, abutting 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgerie (subject land) by giving public notice and inviting written submissions on the proposal in the Latrobe Valley Express. 2. Receive written submissions and hear submissions on the proposal to discontinue and transfer the subject land from persons who have made a written request to be heard in person or by a party representing them as specified in their submission in accordance with the Act, at its Ordinary Meeting of Council on Monday, 5 October 2015. 	<p>Public Notices inviting written submission published in the LV Express on 30 July 2015 and 4 August 2015.</p> <p>Further report to be prepared for 5 October 2015 Council Meeting.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
14 September 2015 Office of the Chief Executive	Long Term Lease Renewal Agreement - Moe Racing Club	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Having complied with sections 190 and 223 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and section 17D of the <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. By giving public notice b. By considering the submission from the Moe Racing Club 2. Resolves to enter into a 21 year lease agreement with the Moe Racing Club, for part of Joe Tabuteau Reserve, Moe (subject land), and 3. Requests that the agreement be brought back before Council for final ratification; and 4. Advises the Moe Racing Club of its decision. 	<p>A meeting will be organised with Moe Racing Club to discuss the draft lease.</p> <p>A report will be presented to Council in December 2015 once this is finalised.</p>
Planning & Economic Sustainability			
06 May 2013 Planning and Economic Sustainability	Latrobe City International Relations Advisory Committee - Amended Terms of Reference	That the item be deferred pending further discussion by Councillors relating to the Terms of Reference.	<p>Item on hold pending Council's review of Committees.</p> <p>A further report will be presented to Council once the review is complete.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
06 July 2015 Planning and Economic Sustainability	Amendment C94 - Parking Overlay Traralgon and Morwell - Consideration of Submissions	That Council: 1. Having considered all written submissions received to Amendment C94 requests the Minister for Planning establish a planning panel to consider submissions for Amendment C94 and prepare a report; and 2. Advises those persons who made written submissions to Amendment C94 of Council's decision.	Completed 1. Council officers requested the Minister for Planning to establish a Planning Panel on 10 July 2015. Advice received from Planning Panels Victoria that the matter will be considered on the "papers" with report expected in September 2015. 2. Council officers wrote to all submitters on 10 July 2015 to advise that Council had resolved to request a Planning Panel No further action required to execute this resolution.
14 September 2015 Planning and Economic Sustainability	Consideration of the Recommendations of the Panel Report for C87	That Council defer the Consideration of the recommendations of the Panel Report for C87 until the following have taken place: 1. That Council communicates with the Premier to organise a meeting with the EPA, interested Councillors, relevant Council Officers, Australian Paper and relevant stakeholders to discuss Urban Amenity Buffer solutions 2. That Council requests the Department of Energy and Earth Resources to work through the issues to provide a solution to the Coal Residential Interface	1. A letter to the Premier is currently being prepared. 2. A meeting between officers and Earth Resources Regulation Victoria has been scheduled for 29 September 2015.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>13 April 2015</p> <p>Planning & Economic Sustainability</p>	<p>Authorisation to Prepare a Planning Scheme Amendment for the Latrobe Planning Scheme Review (continued below)</p>	<p>1. That Council requests the Minister for Planning to prepare and approve Planning Scheme Amendment C96 under Section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to implement a 'policy neutral rewrite' of the Latrobe Planning Scheme which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amends the Local Planning Policy Framework to update land use planning strategies and polices of relevance to Latrobe City Council and to reflect the changes at the local level to key Council 'governance' documents, notably the Council Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Plan. • Insert adopted policy into the Latrobe Planning Scheme which is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework, has the appropriate strategic justification, been through a community consultation process and subsequently been adopted by Council. 	<p>Completed.</p> <p>1. Council requested the Minister for Planning approve C96 under 20(part 4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 on 3 July 2015. Preliminary advice has been received from Department of Environment Land Water & Planning that the criteria for 20 (part 4) has not been met. A briefing was provided to Councillors on 31 August 2015. Through delegation of the CEO, Council will now request authorisation of a standard planning scheme amendment, with public exhibition most likely during November and early December. A report has been prepared for 5 October Council meeting noting this approach.</p> <p>2. An 'invitation to quote' for suitable consultants to undertake the Housing Strategy project closed on 04 September 2015. Project scheduled to commence in October 2015 subject to procurement.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>13 April 2015</p> <p>Planning & Economic Sustainability</p>	<p>Authorisation to Prepare a Planning Scheme Amendment for the Latrobe Planning Scheme Review (continued)</p>	<p>2. That Council commission a municipal wide Housing Strategy project partly funded from savings from the 2014/15 budget and as proposed in the 2015/16 budget. The Housing Strategy should address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most suitable locations for higher and lower density housing • Identification of areas requiring maximum protection from increased housing densities • Preferred lot densities, especially on the edges of townships in the developing estates • Infrastructure provision required to service new and increased housing growth areas • Open space connectivity to and from new and increased housing growth areas • The use of the most appropriate Victoria Planning Provision tools to achieve preferred housing objectives. <p>3. That Council continues to support the role of Strategic Planning Projects 2013/14 – Housing Strategy and Planning Scheme Review Project Reference Group represented by Councillors White, Kam, Middlemiss, Gibson and Rossiter.</p>	<p>3. The Project Reference Group continues to meet on a regular basis.</p> <p>No further action is required to execute this resolution.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
04 May 2015 Planning & Economic Sustainability	2015/06 - Preparation of Information to Support a Planning Scheme Amendment Regarding Burgan Infestation (continued below)	<p>That a report be prepared for Council on the quickest and most cost effective way of Council acquiring the necessary authority to authorise the removal of Burgan infestation.</p> <p>That this report be tabled at the Council Meeting of 15 June 2015</p> <p>11 June 2015 That Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note this report; and 2. That a further report be presented to Council no later than the 17 August 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting presenting the results of the further assessment, and providing details of costings and timeframes to implement a Planning Scheme amendment subject to the findings. <p>17 August 2015 That Council note this report, and consider options for the removal of Burgan when a further report is presented to Council at or before the 16 November 2015 Council meeting.</p>	<p>Holding report presented to Council 17 August 2015.</p> <p>See below</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
Planning & Economic Sustainability	2015/06 - Preparation of Information to Support a Planning Scheme Amendment Regarding Burgan Infestation (continued)	<p>17 August 2015</p> <p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requests officers to arrange a meeting with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Councillors by October 2015; 2. Requests officers to arrange a meeting with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning with the impacted Reserve Committees, Victorian Farmers Federation representative and councillor delegates by October 2015. 	<p>Representative/s from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning have been booked in for the 19 October 2015 Councillor Briefing.</p> <p>A meeting is also being scheduled after this date with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, representatives from the impacted Reserve Committees, Victorian Farmers Federation representative and a Councillor delegate. (Also to be confirmed)</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
04 May 2015 Planning & Economic Sustainability	Latrobe Heavy Industry Park and Gippsland Logistics Precinct - Project Update and Proposed Next Steps	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the progress made on the Gippsland Logistics Precinct and the Latrobe Heavy Industry Park projects. 2. Reopens a Request for Proposal process aimed at securing private sector involvement in the Gippsland Logistics Precinct. 3. Initiates specific discussions with the Victorian Government to identify opportunities to assist the Government in marketing the potential of the Latrobe Heavy Industry Park to the private sector. 	<p>Discussions have been held with the State Government regarding both these projects. The Heavy Industry Park was put to auction on 7 August 2015. The property was passed in with no bids. Subsequent negotiations are being undertaken, however officers have not been advised anything further at this point in time. Stockdale and Leggo are the agents.</p> <p>A Project Reference Group has been established for the GLP. 2 representatives from RDV and Council Officers are involved in the reference group. The second meeting of the PRG will take place on 22 September 2015. Task is to identify the future activities.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
06 July 2015 Planning & Economic Sustainability	Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Review (continued below)	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the Review of the Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Feasibility Study and Business Case June 2015. 2. Consider the Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre as two separate projects – Latrobe Performing Arts Centre and Latrobe City Convention Centre. 3. In relation to the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Confirms the site of the existing Latrobe Performing Arts Centre in Traralgon as the site for the new Latrobe Performing Arts Centre. b) Undertake a detailed business case for the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre including a strong evidence base for the new facility and confirmation of key design elements. c) Engage a specialised theatre design consultant to confirm key design elements and complete a functional design brief to detail costs of the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre. 	<p>Officers are currently preparing consultant's project briefs for the full business case and concept designs.</p> <p>Officers met with representatives from other regional cities during the week of 7 September 2015 to discuss issues relevant to matters such as the project briefs etc.</p> <p>Following this, a theatre design will be engaged and a community representative working group established to assist in the development of the business case and concept design.</p> <p>It is expected that this will be complete by late 2015 at which time funding opportunities will be discussed with the State Government.</p> <p>A further report will be presented to Council at this time.</p> <p>In relation to the Latrobe City Convention Centre, a project brief will be prepared in the first half of 2015/16 to engage a consultant to undertake investigation to confirm potential demand for a dedicated convention centre. It is envisaged that this will be completed in the 2015/16 financial year.</p> <p>A further report will be presented to Council at this time and depending on the outcome of the demand analysis, a business case including establishment of a</p>
			<p>working group will be progressed.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
06 July 2015 Planning & Economic Sustainability	Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Review (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Allocate \$200,000 from the 2015/16 Financial Year surplus to develop the Latrobe performing arts business case and functional concept design. e) Establish a representative community working group to steer the business case and design for the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre. f) Receive a report pending the outcome of the funding submission to the National Stronger Regions Fund – Round 2. g) Continue to liaise with the Victorian and Commonwealth governments in relation to potential funding opportunities. 	As above

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

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<p>06 July 2015</p> <p>Planning & Economic Sustainability</p>	<p>Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Review (continued)</p>	<p>4. In relation to the Latrobe City Convention Centre:</p> <p>a) Confirms Morwell as the location of the Latrobe City Convention Centre.</p> <p>b) Undertakes further detailed analysis and investigation to confirm potential demand for a dedicated convention centre in Latrobe City.</p> <p>c) Establish a representative community working group, to steer the business case and design for the Latrobe City Convention Centre.</p> <p>d) Allocate funding in future budgets to assist with the development of a business case and functional concept design for the Latrobe City Convention Centre.</p> <p>e) Investigate funding options for the Latrobe City Convention Centre.</p> <p>27 July 2015</p> <p>That Council:</p> <p>2. Receives a report outlining State Government funding opportunities and recommendations on applying for funding through National Stronger Regions Fund Round 3.</p>	<p>As above</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
Community Infrastructure & Recreation			
06 November 2013 Community, Infrastructure & Recreation	Latrobe Regional Motorsport Complex	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council requests the members of the Latrobe Regional Motorsports Complex Advisory Committee to investigate potential sites for the motorsports complex and to advise Council of any sites identified so that further investigation can be undertaken by Council officers. 2. That Council officers meet with Energy Australia to discuss other possible sites for a motorsports complex on their land. 3. That a further report be presented to Council at such time that site options have been investigated 	<p>Initial advice from Energy Australia and HVP is that land is not currently available for this use. Officers continuing to work with both parties to identify potential sites for further investigation.</p> <p>An on-site meeting with Cr Middlemiss occurred in December 2014 to investigate further site options.</p> <p>Further evaluation will be undertaken of sites identified during on-site meeting.</p> <p>Further report to be presented to Council in December 2015.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>23 March 2015</p> <p>Community Infrastructure & Recreation</p>	<p>Riggall Road Local Area Traffic Management Options (continued below)</p>	<p>That Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line mark 29 parallel parking bays in Argyle Street, Traralgon, within 100 metres of the subject site; • Reinstate the 'Local Traffic Only' and 'Load Limit' signage at each end of Riggall Road; • Install 'One Way Only' signage along Argyle Street opposite the exits of the subject site and Reece Plumbing, and paint a directional arrow on Argyle Street to reinforce the one way nature of the road; • Advise the community that it intends to implement a partial closure of the southern end of Riggall Road, Traralgon to prevent traffic from entering Riggall Road from Argyle Street. • Undertake a community information session for the residents of Riggall Road and the broader community in relation to the proposed closure. 	<p>Line marking, and signage completed in May/June 2015</p> <p>Notification of closure to occur in September 2015.</p> <p>Meeting occurred with landowners / residents on 16 September 2015. Concept of traffic islands to make traffic one way presented to community members.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>23 March 2015</p> <p>Community Infrastructure & Recreation</p>	<p>Riggall Road Local Area Traffic Management Options (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Notice of the proposed partial closure and of the rights of the person to make a submission under Section 223 of the Local Government Act be given in the Latrobe Valley Express. • Council send separate notices advising of the proposed partial closure to all owners in the area as detailed on the attached map. • That a Road Safety Audit is undertaken in relation to the proposed partial closure. 	<p>As above</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
04 May 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	2015/05 Addressing Speed Concerns on Haigh St, Moe and Old Sale Rd Newborough	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council Officers investigate and present a report to Council in relation to measures that could be put in place along Haigh St extension Moe, between Old Sale Road and Bennett Street, to deal with speeding motorists. 2. That the Mayor writes to Vic Roads Regional Manager asking if the speed limit along the rural section of Old Sale Road Newborough, between the Haigh St corner and the beginning of the homes after the bridge on Old Sale Rd Newborough, could be unified to the one speed of 80 Km/h, due to the Housing Estate that was established along this section and the new extension of this Estate that has been placed on the market. 	<p>Currently under investigation. Traffic counts have recently been received. A report will come back to Council in September.</p> <p>Letter was sent to VicRoads regarding Old Sale Road on 14 May 2015.</p> <p>No response received to date (21 September 2015)</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
25 May 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	Petition Presented to Council in Regards to Raising the Temperature at Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough (LLMN) One Day Per Week.	That Council: 1. Resolve to trial the hydrotherapy program 1 day per week for a 3 month period and for officer's to review the attendance and viability of this program. 2. Fund the 3 month trial from the 2014/15 & 2015/16 financial year's recurrent budgets. 3. A further report presented to council prior to the end of the trial detailing the benefits and impacts associated with the trial.	Trial to continue through to September. Report on outcome of trial to be presented to Council on 26 October 2015.
25 May 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	Draft Tracks, Trails And Paths Strategy	That Council: 1. Releases the draft Tracks, Trails and Paths Strategy for a period of 6 weeks from Tuesday 26 May 2015 to Friday 7 July 2015. 2. Request a further report be presented to Council with the results of the community consultation process.	Consultation feedback is being collated / reviewed by consultant. Further report to be presented to Council in November

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>25 May 2015</p> <p>Community Infrastructure & Recreation</p>	<p>Request to Air Condition Latrobe Leisure Stadium Facilities (continued below)</p>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considers allocating funding in the 2016/17 financial year for the installation of air handling systems at the following Latrobe Leisure facilities, Traralgon Sports Stadium, Latrobe Leisure Morwell, Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough and Latrobe Leisure Churchill; 2. Instructs Council Officers to undertake further investigation in relation to energy efficiency improvements, heat load reduction and air conditioning systems for the facilities; 3. Identifies and allocates the funding for the investigations detailed in point 2 from savings from the 2014/15 budget; 4. Request a report be presented to Council prior to the development of the 2016/17 budget detailing the results of the investigations detailed in point 3; 	<p>Quotes are currently being requested for investigation in relation to energy efficiency improvements, heat load reduction and air conditioning systems for the facilities.</p> <p>Quotes are currently being requested for the provision of temporary air handling units for the BVC Event in 2016.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
25 May 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	Request to Air Condition Latrobe Leisure Stadium Facilities (continued)	<p>5. Instructs Council Officers to investigate the ability to hire, and the costs associated with, temporary air handling units for the BVC event in 2016;</p> <p>6. Consider the costs of item 5 is as part of the mid year budget review; and</p> <p>7. Advise Basketball Victoria Country of Councils' decision.</p>	As above
11 June 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	Petition Requesting Pedestrian Crossing in Breed Street, Traralgon	<p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Lay the petition on the table to allow a traffic impact assessment to be completed for Breed Street Traralgon.</p> <p>2. Request a further report be presented to Council no later than the 14 September 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting presenting the results of the traffic impact assessment</p> <p>3. Notify the head petitioner about the Council decision.</p> <p>14 September 2015</p> <p>That Council request a further report detailing the traffic impact assessment and potential traffic management options be presented to Council no later than the 16 November 2015 Council meeting.</p>	<p>Investigation has commenced with traffic counts completed.</p> <p>Report to be presented to Council 16 November 2015.</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
11 June 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	Catterick Crescent Reserve Master Plan	That Council defers the decision on this matter until a report can be returned detailing user group numbers and increases or decreases of said numbers over a six year period.	Currently gathering participation data from the user groups/clubs. Still awaiting data from some clubs (03 September 2015) Report to be presented to the 12 October 2015 Councillor Briefing
11 June 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	Maryvale Reserve Master Plan	That Council defers the decision on this matter until a report can be returned detailing user group numbers and increases or decreases of said numbers over a six year period.	Currently gathering participation data from the user groups/clubs. Still awaiting data from some clubs (03 September 2015) Report to be presented to the 12 October 2015 Councillor Briefing
27 July 2015 Community Infrastructure & Recreation	2015/15 - Request for Investigation into Traralgon Netball Court Resurfacing	That Council engage an Independent investigator to investigate the Traralgon Netball Court resurfacing tender process including; 1. The materials used 2. The written Tender brief 3. The overseeing process utilised and reporting details 4. The report with all of these details be brought back to Open Council as soon as practical.	Council has not as yet engaged an independent investigator to investigate the Traralgon Netball Court resurfacing tender process. Council Officers are currently focused on finalising the remediation process with the Contractors who undertook the works. A project brief is currently being developed and quotes will be sought for the investigation during September. The investigation report will be provided to the 16 November 2015 Council meeting.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p style="text-align: center;">14 September 2015</p> <p>Community Infrastructure & Recreation</p>	<p>Petition in relation to the completion of the Traralgon West Sporting Complex</p>	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agrees to lay the petition on the table requesting Council provide assistance to complete the first floor of the Traralgon West Sporting Pavilion. 2. Request a report be presented to the 26 October 2015 Ordinary Council meeting providing Council with information in relation to the petition. 3. Notify the head petitioner about the Council decision in relation to the petition. 4. That a meeting is arranged between Officers, Councillors and user groups to discuss the petition while the petition lays on the table 	<p>User Group meeting scheduled for 08 October 2015</p>

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
Community Liveability			
18 February 2013 Community Liveability	Affordable Housing Project – Our Future Our Place	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council proceeds to publically call for Expressions of Interest as a mechanism to assess the viability and interest in developing an affordable housing project on land known as the Kingsford Reserve in Moe. 2. That a further report be presented to Council for consideration on the outcome of the Expression of Interest process for the development of an affordable housing project on land known as the Kingsford Reserve in Moe. 	This project is currently under review, with a Council report to be presented to Council on 16 November 2015.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council Meeting Date	Item	Resolution	Status Update
<p>09 February 2015</p> <p>Community Liveability</p>	<p>Family Day Care Feasibility</p>	<p>That Council maintain the Family Day Care program at the current level.</p> <p>That the Family Day Care Coordination team is adjusted as required and directly in relation to any reduction of Educators and/or Service Users.</p> <p>That a further review of the program occur within the first six months of the 2015/16 financial year, with a further report being presented to Council for endorsement at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 07 December 2015.</p> <p>That a report be developed demonstrating cost and funding options to grow other early education and care services as a transition plan from FDC into the future.</p>	<p>Further report to be provided to Council in December 2015.</p>
<p>Corporate Services</p>			

NOTICES OF MOTION

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil reports

**ITEMS REFERRED BY
THE COUNCIL TO THIS
MEETING FOR
CONSIDERATION**

10. ITEMS REFERRED BY THE COUNCIL TO THIS MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION

10.1 PARTIAL ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF LAND 560 PROSPER VALLEY ROAD BUDGEREE

Executive Manager

Office of the Chief Executive

For Decision

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to further consider a request to discontinue and transfer a section of unused road reserve abutting 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgerie.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

560 Prosper Valley Road has recently been sold and it has come to the attention of the new owner that the dwelling and out buildings on the property are constructed on unused road reserves that are the responsibility of Council and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

To allow the new owner to obtain clear title to the land that the dwelling is built upon it will be necessary for Council to discontinue part of the Council road reserve and transfer the land to the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgerie.

Council has completed the statutory requirement and invited public submissions. Having considered the submission that has been received Council can now resolve to discontinue the road reserve.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Having complied with Section 206, Schedule 10 and Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:
 - a. By giving public notice;
 - b. By providing an opportunity to those who have requested to be heard at Council's Ordinary Meeting of 5 October 2015;
 - c. By considering submissions received;
2. Resolves to discontinue the unused road reserve adjoining 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree;
3. Resolves to transfer the land to the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, by private treaty;
4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal a Transfer of Land document for the transfer of the section of discontinued road reserve to the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree.
5. Advises the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, of its decision.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives - Governance

In 2026, Latrobe Valley has a reputation for conscientious leadership and governance, strengthened by an informed and engaged community, committed to enriching local decision making.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 3: Efficient, effective and accountable governance

Strategic Direction – To provide open, transparent and accountable governance.

Legislation

Local Government Act 1989

Section 206 and Schedule 10 Clause 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* gives Council the power to discontinue roads:

“A Council may, in addition to any power given to it by Sections 43 and 44 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*-

- (i) discontinue a road, or part of a road, by a notice published in the Government Gazette; and
- (ii) sell the land from that road (if it is not Crown Land), transfer the land to the Crown or itself or retain the land.”

This power is subject to Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* which requires Council “publish a public notice stating that submissions in respect of the matter specified in the public notice will be considered in accordance with this section”.

Council must then consider any written submissions that have been received and any person who has made a submission and requested they be heard are entitled to appear before a meeting of Council.

Policy – Council has not adopted a policy relating to the discontinuance of roads.

BACKGROUND

It has been brought to Council's attention that the private dwelling at 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, has been built on unused road reserves and, as a result, the new owner has requested that Council discontinue the section of Council's road reserve as shown on the attached plan.

The house is located on a Council road created by a road deviation that was undertaken by the former Shire of Morwell in 1940. Furthermore, a small section of the house together with the shed and water tanks have been constructed on part of a Government road, refer attachment – “Record Of Having Re-Established A Parcel” diagram.

The structures that have been built on the unused Government Road are subject to a separate application to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning to acquire this part of the road reserve.

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning seeking comment from Council on this application and a response has been provided indicating that there was no objection to this related transfer of land.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Council previously considered this request at its meeting held on 27 July 2015 and resolved:

That Council:

1. *In accordance with sections 189 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act), authorise the commencement of the statutory procedures relating to Council's intention to discontinue and transfer a section of unused road reserve abutting 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgerie, (subject land) by giving public notice and inviting written submissions on the proposal in the Latrobe Valley Express.*
2. *Receive written submissions and hear submissions on the proposal to discontinue and transfer the subject land from persons who have made a written request to be heard in person or by a party representing them as specified in their submission in accordance with the Act, at its Ordinary Meeting of Council on Monday, 5 October 2015.*

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The reason for the road deviation undertaken in 1940 is unknown and due to the lack of a building permit or other documentation it is not possible to provide an explanation as to how a private dwelling was built on an unused Council road reserve.

The section of road reserve is not required for Council's road network and disposal of the land would not be detrimental to any other resident in the area.

To correct this anomaly it is proposed that Council undertakes the road discontinuance process and sells the land, at valuation, to the current owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgerie.

As stated above, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning are undertaking a separate process to transfer part of the Government road. Once this has been finalised it will be necessary for the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road to undertake a consolidation of the various lots.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

There is not considered to be any risks associated with this report.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

Costs associated with this statutory process are officer's time and resources in the preparation of Council reports and the cost of public notices in the Latrobe Valley Express inviting submissions. Subject to Council finalising the statutory process, the cost of an independent valuation and a notice published in the Government Gazette will also be incurred.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

The cost of the public notice, gazette notice and valuation are borne by the applicant.

In accordance with Council's Sale of Council Owned Property Policy, the land would be sold at valuation unless Council determines otherwise.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Engagement Method Used:

Public comment has been sought via:

- Public notices published in the Latrobe Valley Express on Thursday, 30 July and Monday, 3 August 2015.
- Letters to any adjoining property owners together with VicRoads
- Details placed on the Latrobe City Council website.

Details of Community Consultation / Results of Engagement:

In response to the above public notices one submission has been received from the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, in support of his request to acquire the land from Council.

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Resolve to discontinue the unused road reserve and transfer the land to the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, by private treaty.
2. Resolve not to discontinue the unused road reserve adjoining 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, and retain the land.

CONCLUSION

The section of unused Council road reserve that this dwelling is built on is not required as part of Council's road network. The discontinuance and sale of the unused Council road reserve would provide the owner with freehold title to the land and buildings purchased.

Council has completed the statutory requirement and invited public submissions. Having considered the submission received Council now can now determine whether to discontinue this part of the unused road reserve and transfer the land to the owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, by private treaty.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Nil

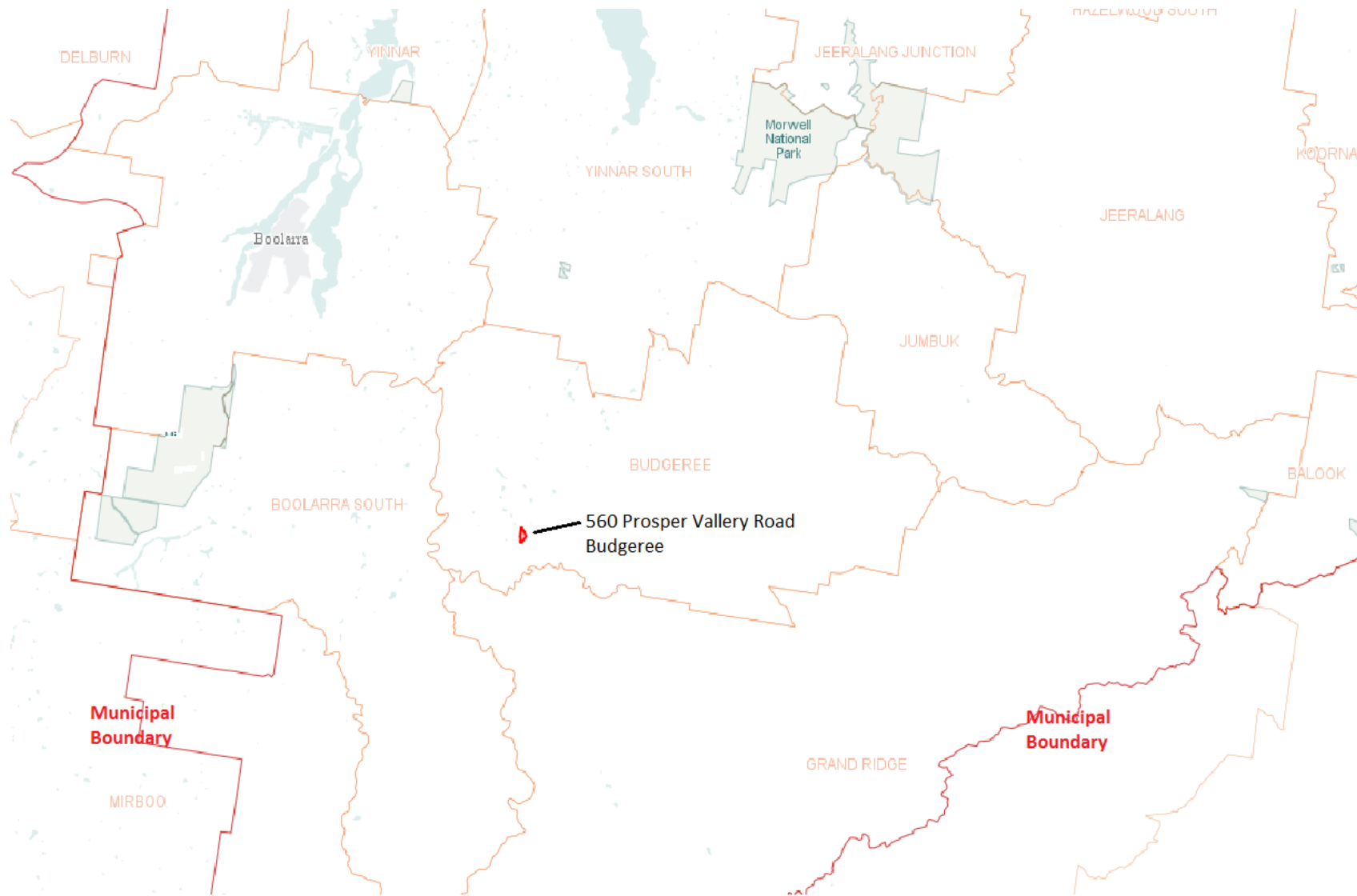
Attachments

1. Locality Map - 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree
2. Aerial Image - 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree
3. Plan - 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree
4. Property Owner Submission

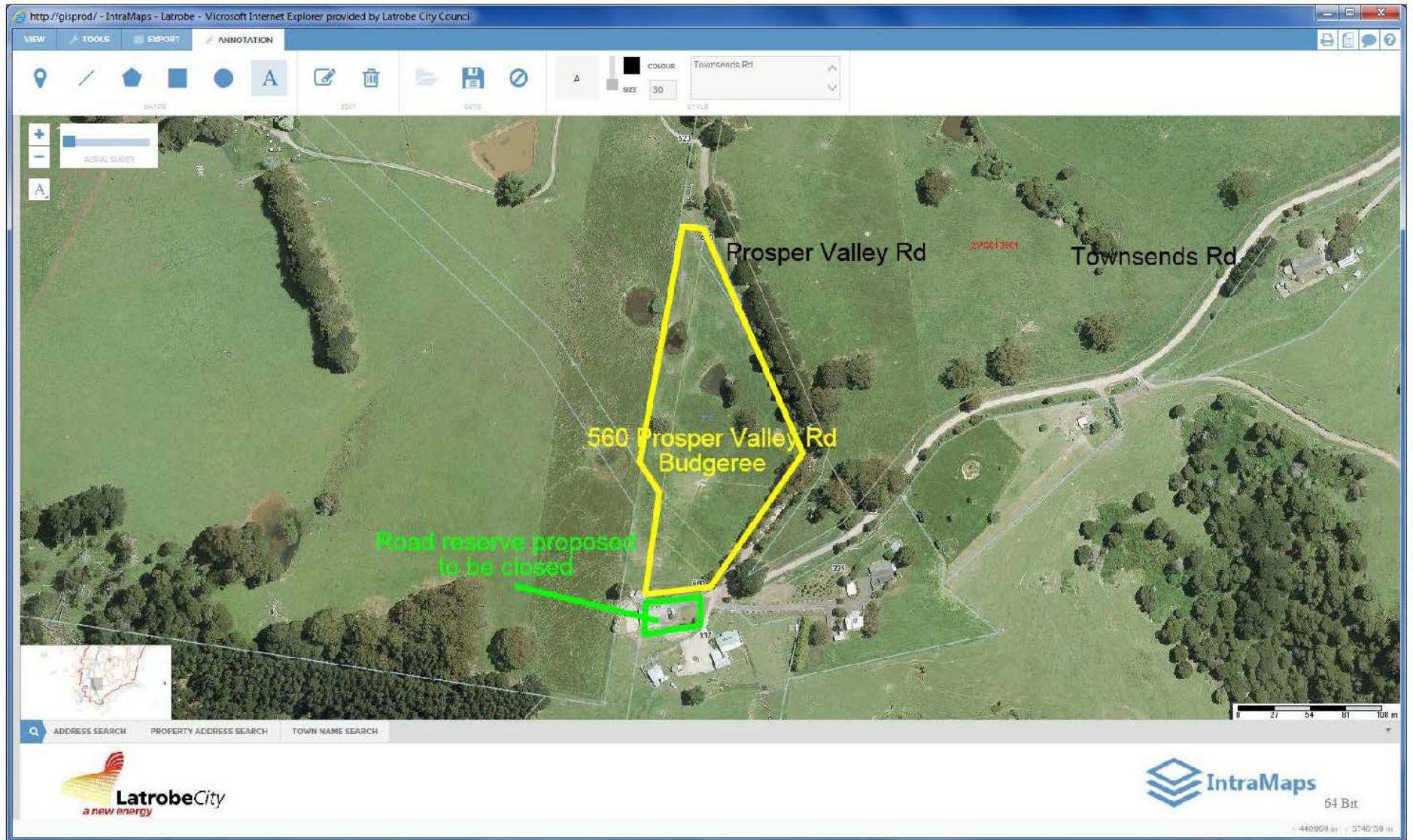
10.1

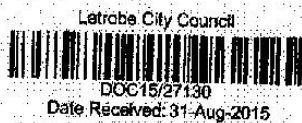
Partial road discontinuance and sale of land 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree

- 1 Locality Map - 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree..... 42**
- 2 Aerial Image - 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree 43**
- 3 Plan - 560 Prosper Valley Road Budgeree..... 45**
- 4 Property Owner Submission..... 47**



PROPOSED ROAD RESERVE DISCONTINUANCE – 560 PROSPER VALLEY ROAD BUDGEREE





560 Prosper Valley Road
Budgeree, VIC, 3870
28 August 2015

e: [REDACTED]

CEO
Latrobe City
PO Box 264
Morwell VIC 3840

Re: Proposed Road Discontinuance – Prosper Valley Road Budgeree

Dear Sir:

Section 4

As the latest owner of 560 Prosper Valley Road, Budgeree, I obviously write in support of the proposal to discontinue the unused road reserve that abuts my land. I do so having discovered that the house I bought was built there, probably over 40 years ago in the 1970s. In preparing a Site Plan for a Building Permit involving adding wall insulation and double glazing to current 6 Star Standards and a new shed cum workshop, it became evident that the boundary dimensions did not match those on the Title and improvement plans were suspended over a year ago.

Previous sales and Title Transfers do not appear to have uncovered the anomaly, and no records have been located to confirm the original plans or siting. Council would seem to have been aware of the dwelling though, as CIV assessments have been made and Rates issued at least as far back as 1994. No other records could be found prior, possibly due to Council amalgamations.

Another portion of land adjacent to the Council road is Crown Land allocated to proposed roads that never eventuated and a separate process is underway to have that transferred.


Prior to the 2 current proposals the property, even for it's small overall size, is quite a patchwork. It appears that part of the currently titled land was intended as a road traversing East - West intersecting a planned North-South road. Both the E-W and part of the N-S were previously incorporated as Lots forming the current Title. Additionally it seems that Morwell Shire Council acquired 2 triangular slivers, at Northern and Eastern extremes in 1940. There appears to have been no occupation undertaken by Council since then, as the current fencing retains the original boundaries. Arrangements are being made to re-align the fencing.

Should the Crown Land Transfer take place, this would create a road to nowhere should the Council's unused road be retained.

If Council approves the discontinuance it would provide some surety to the owner and provide the opportunity to resume improvement plans to bring energy efficiency up to current standards, and not undertake demolition of a solidly built home. A rebuild would also involve further complications in regard to the current FZ Planning Scheme requirements, as the property is under 40Ha.

I thank Council for its agreement to consider this proposal, and for the assistance offered by Officers in the Planning, Rates and especially Property and Statute teams who have provided information and assistance in dealing with the matter.

Regards,



CORRESPONDENCE

11. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil reports

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

12. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Nil reports

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

01 September 2015	Yinnar Community Centre Community Engagement Project Steering Committee	Councillors: Cr White Officers: Liam Bantock, Heather Farley	Nil
09 September 2015	Positive Ageing Reference Committee	Councillors: Cr Kam Officers: Helen Taylor	Nil
17 September 2015	Traralgon CBD Safety Committee Meeting	Councillors: Cr Rossiter Officers: Heather Farley, Teresa Pugliese	Nil
17 September 2015	LINK Committee meeting	Councillors: Cr Middlemiss, Cr Harriman, Cr Gibson Officers: Amanda Harding, Vicky Daddo	Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Assemblies of Councillors records submitted which have been held within the period 11 February 2015 to 23 September 2015.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

Attachments

1. Positive Ageing Reference Committee 11 February 2015
2. Positive Ageing Reference Committee 08 April 2015
3. Latrobe City Industry Forum 03 June 2015
4. Positive Ageing Reference Committee 08 July 2015
5. Early Years Reference Committee 10 August 2015
6. Positive Ageing Reference Committee 12 August 2015
7. Municipal Emergency Management Planning 01 September 2015
8. Yinnar Community Centre Community Engagement Project Steering Committee
01 September 2015
9. Positive Ageing Reference Committee 09 September 2015
10. Traralgon CBD Safety Committee Meeting 17 September 2015
11. LINK Committee meeting 17 September 2015

13.1

Assemblies of Councillors

1	Positive Ageing Reference Committee 11 February 2015.....	57
2	Positive Ageing Reference Committee 08 April 2015.....	61
3	Latrobe City Industry Forum 03 June 2015	65
4	Positive Ageing Reference Committee 08 July 2015	69
5	Early Years Reference Committee 10 August 2015	73
6	Positive Ageing Reference Committee 12 August 2015.....	75
7	Municipal Emergency Management Planning 01 September 2015	79
8	Yinnar Community Centre Community Engagement Project Steering Committee 01 September 2015	81
9	Positive Ageing Reference Committee 09 September 2015.....	83
10	Traralgon CBD Safety Committee Meeting 17 September 2015.....	85
11	LINK Committee meeting 17 September 2015.....	89



Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details: Postive Ageing Reference Committee

Date: 11 February 2015

Time: 1.00 pm

Assembly Location: Rose Garden Meeting Room
(e.g: Town Hall, TOWN, No. xx ADDRESS, Latrobe City Council Offices).

In Attendance:

Councillors: Sandy Kam

Officer/s: Helen Taylor

Matter/s Discussed:

Presentation from Tania Ryan and Marion Byrne from Dementia Gippsland, Presentation from Julie Hocking on Healthy Ageing Project, Seniors Week page in Express, Accessibility to shops, Franklins Street Pedestrian Crossing, Volunteering Submission in partnership with Volunteering Victorian, the need for new members and the process (e.g: Proposed Development in TOWN discussion with residents, Planning Permit Application No. xxx re: proposed xx story development at ADDRESS, etc)

Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act: NO

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: (refer 3. over page)

Councillors: Nil

Officer/s: Nil

Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room: none



Completed by: Helen Taylor



Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes

Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: *Written Record to be made by Council staff member*):

Amendments to the Local Government Act 1989 (Section 80A), operative from 2 December 2008 now stipulate:

"At an assembly of Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a written record is kept of:

- the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending;
- the matters considered;
- any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending under subsection (3);
- whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest as required by subsection (3) leaves the assembly."

The above required information is:

- to be reported to an Ordinary meeting of the Council; and
- incorporated in the minutes of that Ordinary meeting.

2. Section 76AA definition:

"**Assembly of Councillors** (however titled, e.g. meeting / inspection / consultation etc) is a meeting of an advisory committee of the Council, if at least one Councillor is present, or a planned or scheduled meeting of at least half of the Councillors and one member of staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be;

- The subject of a decision of the Council; or
- Subject to the exercise of a function, duty or power of the Council that has been delegated to a person or committee.

Brief Explanation:

Some examples of an *Assembly of Councillors* will include:

- Councillor Briefings;
- on site inspections, generally meetings re: any matters;
- meetings with residents, developers, other clients of Council, consultations;
- meetings with local organisations, Government Departments, statutory authorities (e.g. VicRoads, etc);

providing at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member are present and the matter/s considered are intended or likely to be subject of a future decision by the Council OR an officer decision under delegated authority.

Effectively it is probable, that any meeting of at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member will come under the new requirements as the assembly will in most cases be considering a matter which will come before Council or be the subject of a delegated officer's decision at some later time. If you require further clarification, please call the Manager Council Operations – Legal Counsel.

Please note: an Advisory Committee meeting requires only one Councillor to be in attendance. An advisory committee is defined as any committee established by the Council, other than a special committee, that provides advice to:

- the Council; or
- a special committee; or
- a member of Council staff who has been delegated a power, duty or function of the Council under section 98.

3. Section 80A and 80B requirements (re: **Conflict of Interest**):

Councillors and officers attending an Assembly of Councillors must disclose any conflict of interest.

Section 80A(3)

"If a Councillor attending an Assembly of Councillors knows, or would reasonably be expected to know, that a matter being considered by the assembly is a matter that, were the matter to be considered and decided by Council, the Councillor would have to disclose a conflict of interest under section 79, the Councillor must disclose either:

- (a) immediately before the matter in relation to the conflict is considered; or
- (b) if the Councillor realises that he/she has a conflict of interest after consideration of the matter has begun, as soon as the Councillor becomes aware of the conflict of interest, leave the assembly whilst the matter is being considered by the assembly."

Section 80B

A member of Council staff who has a conflict of interest (direct or indirect) in a matter in which they have a delegated power, duty or function must:

- not exercise the power or discharge the duty or function;
- disclose the type of interest and nature of interest to the in writing to the Chief Executive Officer as soon as he/she becomes aware of the conflict of interest. In the instance of the Chief Executive Officer having a pecuniary interest, disclosure in writing shall be made to the Mayor.



Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details: Positive Ageing Reference Committee

Date: 8 April 2015

Time: 1.00 pm

Assembly Location: Rose Garden Meeting Room
(e.g: Town Hall, TOWN, No. xx ADDRESS, Latrobe City Council Offices).

In Attendance:

Councillors: Sandy Kam

Officer/s: Helen Taylor

Matter/s Discussed: Presentation from Karen Tsebelis – Coordinator Open Spaces LCC on Track, Trails and Pathways Strategy, Julie Hocking – Project Officer – Healthy Ageing Project presented outcomes of the client survey, Anna Tyben – Latrobe Valley Bus Lines (LVBL) spoke to the committee re public transport with discussions on bus stop placement, access issues, safety.
(e.g: Proposed Development in TOWN discussion with residents, Planning Permit Application No. xxx re: proposed xx story development at ADDRESS, etc)

Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act: NO

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: (refer 3. over page)

Councillors: Nil

Officer/s: Nil

Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room: None



Completed by: Helen Taylor





Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes

Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: *Written Record to be made by Council staff member*):

Amendments to the Local Government Act 1989 (Section 80A), operative from 2 December 2008 now stipulate:

"At an assembly of Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a written record is kept of:

- the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending;
- the matters considered;
- any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending under subsection (3);
- whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest as required by subsection (3) leaves the assembly."

The above required information is:

- to be reported to an Ordinary meeting of the Council; and
- incorporated in the minutes of that Ordinary meeting.

2. Section 76AA definition:

"**Assembly of Councillors** (however titled, e.g. meeting / inspection / consultation etc) is a meeting of an advisory committee of the Council, if at least one Councillor is present, or a planned or scheduled meeting of at least half of the Councillors and one member of staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be;

- The subject of a decision of the Council; or
- Subject to the exercise of a function, duty or power of the Council that has been delegated to a person or committee.

Brief Explanation:

Some examples of an *Assembly of Councillors* will include:

- Councillor Briefings;
- on site inspections, generally meetings re: any matters;
- meetings with residents, developers, other clients of Council, consultations;
- meetings with local organisations, Government Departments, statutory authorities (e.g. VicRoads, etc);

providing at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member are present and the matter/s considered are intended or likely to be subject of a future decision by the Council OR an officer decision under delegated authority.

Effectively it is probable, that any meeting of at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member will come under the new requirements as the assembly will in most cases be considering a matter which will come before Council or be the subject of a delegated officer's decision at some later time. If you require further clarification, please call the Manager Council Operations – Legal Counsel.

Please note: an Advisory Committee meeting requires only one Councillor to be in attendance. An advisory committee is defined as any committee established by the Council, other than a special committee, that provides advice to:

- the Council; or
- a special committee; or
- a member of Council staff who has been delegated a power, duty or function of the Council under section 98.

3. Section 80A and 80B requirements (re: **Conflict of Interest**):

Councillors and officers attending an Assembly of Councillors must disclose any conflict of interest.

Section 80A(3)

"If a Councillor attending an Assembly of Councillors knows, or would reasonably be expected to know, that a matter being considered by the assembly is a matter that, were the matter to be considered and decided by Council, the Councillor would have to disclose a conflict of interest under section 79, the Councillor must disclose either:

- (a) immediately before the matter in relation to the conflict is considered; or
- (b) if the Councillor realises that he/she has a conflict of interest after consideration of the matter has begun, as soon as the Councillor becomes aware of the conflict of interest, leave the assembly whilst the matter is being considered by the assembly."

Section 80B

A member of Council staff who has a conflict of interest (direct or indirect) in a matter in which they have a delegated power, duty or function must:

- not exercise the power or discharge the duty or function;
- disclose the type of interest and nature of interest to the in writing to the Chief Executive Officer as soon as he/she becomes aware of the conflict of interest. In the instance of the Chief Executive Officer having a pecuniary interest, disclosure in writing shall be made to the Mayor.



Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details:	Latrobe City Industry Forum
Date:	Wednesday 3 June 2015
Time:	12.30 – 4.00 pm
Assembly Location:	Nambur Wariga Meeting Room, Latrobe City Council Headquarters Commercial Road Morwell 3840.

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Mark Hodge – Chair (External) • Andrew Sprague – Deputy Chair (External) • Leigh Kennedy – Regional Development Victoria (External) • Phil Stone – General Manager Planning & Economic Sustainability • Geoff Hill – Manager Economic Development • Bruce Connolly – Manager Regional Strategy • Sophie Morell – Coordinator Business Development • Emma Bertoli – Executive Assistant Planning & Economic Sustainability 		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of notes from previous meeting • Development of annual meeting topic agenda • Update from strategy project • Update from Economic Development • Invited guest • Discussion on opportunities • Other business • Next Meeting 		
Confidential/ Not confidential	<i>Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act?</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		



CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			

Completed by:
 Emma Bertoli, Acting Executive Assistant Planning & Economic Sustainability, 23 September 2015





Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes
Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: Written Record to be made by Council staff member):

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- the matters considered;
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2. Section 76AA definition:

"**Assembly of Councillors** (however titled, e.g. meeting / inspection / consultation etc) is a meeting of an advisory committee of the Council, if at least one Councillor is present, or a planned or scheduled meeting of at least half of the Councillors and one member of staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be;

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Brief Explanation:

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- meetings with local organisations, Government Departments, statutory authorities (e.g. VicRoads, etc);

providing at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member are present and the matter/s considered are intended or likely to be subject of a future decision by the Council OR an officer decision under delegated authority.

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- the Council; or
- a special committee; or
- a member of Council staff who has been delegated a power, duty or function of the Council under section 98.

3. Section 80A and 80B requirements (re: Conflict of Interest):

Councillors and officers attending an Assembly of Councillors must disclose any conflict of interest.

Section 80A(3)

"If a Councillor attending an Assembly of Councillors knows, or would reasonably be expected to know, that a matter being considered by the assembly is a matter that, were the matter to be considered and decided by Council, the Councillor would have to disclose a conflict of interest under section 79, the Councillor must disclose either:

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Section 80B

A member of Council staff who has a conflict of interest (direct or indirect) in a matter in which they have a delegated power, duty or function must:

- not exercise the power or discharge the duty or function;
- disclose the type of interest and nature of interest to the in writing to the Chief Executive Officer as soon as he/she becomes aware of the conflict of interest. In the instance of the Chief Executive Officer having a pecuniary interest, disclosure in writing shall be made to the Mayor.



Assembly of Councillors Record

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Assembly details: Positive Ageing Reference Committee

Date: 8 July 2015

Time: 1.00 pm

Assembly Location: Rose Garden Meeting Room
(e.g: Town Hall, TOWN, No. xx ADDRESS, Latrobe City Council Offices).

In Attendance:

Councillors: Sandy Kam

Officer/s: Helen Taylor

Matter/s Discussed: Jessica Chambers from the PCP presented on Health Literacy and its importance, Harvey Dinnelli – Department of Economic Development – Transport Coord spoke about transport connections, that any changes seem to be Melbourne centric, requested committee members to attend Public Transport Vic consultation session at Centruy Inn, requested that the committee assist with and Active Transport Project that Traralgon Secondary students are undertaking.
(e.g: Proposed Development in TOWN discussion with residents, Planning Permit Application No. xxxx re: proposed xx story development at ADDRESS, etc)

Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act: NO

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: (refer 3. over page)

Councillors: Nil

Officer/s: Nil

Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:



Completed by: Helen Taylor





Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes

Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: *Written Record to be made by Council staff member*):

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3. Section 80A and 80B requirements (re: **Conflict of Interest**):

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Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details:	Early Years Reference Committee
Date:	Monday 10 August, 2015
Time:	1.00pm to 3.00pm
Assembly Location:	Meeting Room 6, LCC Headquarters, 141 Commercial Road, Morwell

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	Kate Kerslake – A/g Manager Child & Family Services		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	Municipal Early Years Plan Early Years Educator Membership Childrens Expo - October		
Confidential/ Not confidential	Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			

Completed by: Carole Ayres, Secretariat, Early Years Reference Committee



Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes
Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: Written Record to be made by Council staff member):

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3. Section 80A and 80B requirements (re: Conflict of Interest):

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Section 80A(3)

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Section 80B

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Assembly of Councillors Record

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Assembly details: Positive Ageing Reference Committee

Date: 12 August 2015

Time: 1.00 pm

Assembly Location: Traralgon Library Meeting Room
(e.g: Town Hall, TOWN, No. xx ADDRESS, Latrobe City Council Offices).

In Attendance:

Councillors: Sandy Kam

Officer/s: Helen Taylor

Matter/s Discussed: Reviewed community consultation questions ahead of meeting with Maryvale Probus, Nick Francolino (VicRoads) with a number of students from Traralgon Secondary College asked the committee questions relating to their Active Transport Project.

(e.g: Proposed Development in TOWN discussion with residents, Planning Permit Application No. xxx re: proposed xx story development at ADDRESS, etc)

Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act: NO

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: (refer 3. over page)

Councillors: Nil

Officer/s: Nil

Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:



Completed by: Helen Taylor



Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes

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1. Section 80A requirements (re: *Written Record to be made by Council staff member*):

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Assembly of Councillors Record

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Assembly details:	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
Date:	Tuesday 1 September 2015
Time:	10am
Assembly Location:	MACFARLANE BURNET ROOM TRARALGON SERVICE CENTRE

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	Lance King, Rebecca Johnson, Heather Farley		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	Leap reports MECC activations Training and Exercises MEMP Audit Sub Plan Reviews CERA review Hazelwood Mine Inquiry Recommendations		
Confidential/ Not confidential	Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			



Completed by: Rebecca Johnson

Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes

Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

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Assembly of Councillors Record

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Assembly details:	Yinnar Community Centre Community Engagement Project Steering Committee Meeting
Date:	1 September 2015
Time:	7 pm
Assembly Location:	Yinnar Primary School

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	Liam Bantock & Heather Farley		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	Yinnar Community Centre Community Engagement Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on community consultation • Community Centre visioning exercise 		
Confidential/ Not confidential	Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			

Completed by: Liam Bantock, Community Development Officer, 11 August 2015



Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes
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Section 80A(3)

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- (a) immediately before the matter in relation to the conflict is considered; or
- (b) if the Councillor realises that he/she has a conflict of interest after consideration of the matter has begun, as soon as the Councillor becomes aware of the conflict of interest, leave the assembly whilst the matter is being considered by the assembly."

Section 80B

A member of Council staff who has a conflict of interest (direct or indirect) in a matter in which they have a delegated power, duty or function must:

- not exercise the power or discharge the duty or function;
- disclose the type of interest and nature of interest to the in writing to the Chief Executive Officer as soon as he/she becomes aware of the conflict of interest. In the instance of the Chief Executive Officer having a pecuniary interest, disclosure in writing shall be made to the Mayor.



Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details:	Positive Ageing Reference Committee
Date:	9 September 2015
Time:	1300 hrs
Assembly Location:	Traralgon Service Centre

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	Helen Taylor – Manager Community Health & Wellbeing		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of Maryvale Probus Consultation • ASK Pamphlet – Ask, Share, Know • Physical Activity for Healthy Living • Mobility Maps for Major Towns • Outcome of Traralgon Secondary College consultation with the Positive Ageing Reference Committee 		
Confidential/ Not confidential	Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			

Completed by: Helen Taylor – Manager Community Health & Wellbeing – 14 September 2015



Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes
Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: Written Record to be made by Council staff member):

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"At an assembly of Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a written record is kept of:

- the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending;
- the matters considered;
- any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending under subsection (3);
- whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest as required by subsection (3) leaves the assembly."

The above required information is:

- to be reported to an Ordinary meeting of the Council; and
- incorporated in the minutes of that Ordinary meeting.

2. Section 76AA definition:

"**Assembly of Councillors** (however titled, e.g. meeting / inspection / consultation etc) is a meeting of an advisory committee of the Council, if at least one Councillor is present, or a planned or scheduled meeting of at least half of the Councillors and one member of staff which considers matters that are intended or likely to be;

- The subject of a decision of the Council; or
- Subject to the exercise of a function, duty or power of the Council that has been delegated to a person or committee.

Brief Explanation:

Some examples of an *Assembly of Councillors* will include:

- Councillor Briefings;
- on site inspections, generally meetings re: any matters;
- meetings with residents, developers, other clients of Council, consultations;
- meetings with local organisations, Government Departments, statutory authorities (e.g. VicRoads, etc);

providing **at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member are present** and the matter/s considered are intended or likely to be subject of a future decision by the Council **OR** an officer decision under delegated authority.

Effectively it is probable, that any meeting of at least 5 Councillors and 1 Council staff member will come under the new requirements as the assembly will in most cases be considering a matter which will come before Council or be the subject of a delegated officer's decision at some later time. If you require further clarification, please call the Manager Council Operations – Legal Counsel.

Please note: an Advisory Committee meeting requires only one Councillor to be in attendance. An advisory committee is defined as any committee established by the Council, other than a special committee, that provides advice to:

- the Council; or
- a special committee; or
- a member of Council staff who has been delegated a power, duty or function of the Council under section 98.

3. Section 80A and 80B requirements (re: Conflict of Interest):

Councillors and officers attending an Assembly of Councillors must disclose any conflict of interest.

Section 80A(3)

"If a Councillor attending an Assembly of Councillors knows, or would reasonably be expected to know, that a matter being considered by the assembly is a matter that, were the matter to be considered and decided by Council, the Councillor would have to disclose a conflict of interest under section 79, the Councillor must disclose either:

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Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details:	Traralgon CBD Safety Committee Meeting
Date:	Thursday 17 September 2015
Time:	9.01 am to 9.43 am
Assembly Location:	Traralgon Police Station, Kay Street Traralgon

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	Heather Farley Teresa Pugliese		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Russell Northe MP on behalf of the Traralgon CBD Safety Committee to raise in Parliamentary Question Time the issues associated with the proposed late night transport option from Melbourne to rural areas including Traralgon. - Seek information about the resale of MYKI Cards at licenced venues from either LV Bus Lines or Public Transport Victoria. - Seek clarification from Traralgon Taxis about the hours of use of the Seymour Street Taxi Rank. - Enquire about the possibility of increasing the hours of the timed lighting in the Traralgon Multilevel Carpark. - Request the developer to resecure the empty block on the corner of Princes Hwy and Post Officer Place. - Enquire about the possibility of funding an upgrading to the existing CCTV monitor or the possibility of an additional CCTV monitor in the Traralgon Police Station. - Agency reports - Victoria Police reported that three CCTV cameras operating on the Premier Function Centre are currently not working. 		
Confidential/ Not confidential	Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam



	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			

Completed by: Teresa Pugliese, Community Development Officer, Thursday 17 September 2015

Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes
Required pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

1. Section 80A requirements (re: Written Record to be made by Council staff member):

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Assembly of Councillors Record

This form **MUST** be completed by the attending Council officer and returned **IMMEDIATELY** to the Council Operations Team for filing. {see over for Explanation/Guide Notes}.

Assembly details:	LINK Committee meeting
Date:	17 September 2015
Time:	10am – 10.43am
Assembly Location:	Morwell HQ, Meeting Room 5

IN ATTENDANCE

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Dale Harriman	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sandy Kam
	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:	Amanda Harding, Acting Manager Community Relations Vicky Daddo, Media Officer		
Matter/s and main topic/s discussed: <i>Provide dot points only, not the minutes of the meeting</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next date for LINK will be 26 October • Review of proposed items • Discussion of story ideas • Discussion around planned review of LINK 		
Confidential/ Not confidential	Are the matters considered confidential under the Local Government Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES: (refer to page 2)

Councillors:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Christine Sindt	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Graeme Middlemiss	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Peter Gibbons
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Darrell White	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Michael Rossiter	<input type="checkbox"/> Cr Sharon Gibson
Officer/s:			
Times that Officers / Councillors left/returned to the room:			



Completed by: *Amanda Harding, Acting Manager Community Relations*
Assembly of Councillors Record Explanation / Guide Notes
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PLANNING & ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

14. PLANNING & ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY**14.1 TIMBER UMBRELLA GROUP ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS
OF REFERENCE****General Manager****Planning & Economic
Sustainability****For Decision****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council and to endorse the draft Terms of Reference.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Latrobe City Council is currently undertaking a range of activities associated with forestry, timber and wood products and supporting industries. A working group, the Timber Umbrella Group has been meeting since early 2015 to advance these activities.

It has been identified that there is a need to formalise the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council. This need has arisen due to the group undertaking activities which necessitate a more formal approach.

It is proposed that Council establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council and endorse the draft Terms of Reference which will guide the role of the Committee into the future.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council and endorse the draft Terms of Reference.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Acting General Manager Planning and Economic Sustainability declared an indirect conflict of interest under section 78 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives – Economic

In 2026, Latrobe Valley has a strong and diverse economy built on innovative and sustainable enterprise. As the vibrant business centre of Gippsland, it contributes to the regional and broader economies, whilst providing opportunities and prosperity for our local community.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 1: Job creation and economic sustainability

Strategic Direction – Job creation and economic sustainability

- *Work in partnership with business, industry and government to create new jobs and investment in Latrobe City.*
- *Enhance community and business confidence in the future of the local economy.*

BACKGROUND

Latrobe City Council has been proactively supporting the forestry, wood and timber products sector over many years. Council has been proactive in identifying opportunities to leverage the existing plantation asset, well developed local industry, presence of Federation University and willingness of Council to take a lead role in attracting new industry and research and development activities.

At its Ordinary Meeting of 6 November 2013, Council resolved:

1. *That the Chief Executive Officer be delegated responsibility to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with AUSTimber for procurement of the 2016 event and associated opportunities.*
2. *That Council commit \$30,000 cash in 2013/14 to procure this event for 2016.*
3. *That Council commit \$100,000 of in-kind support over 3 years (2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16) inclusive of officer time, council owned facilities and equipment.*

At its Ordinary Meeting of 30 June 2014, Council resolved:

1. *That Council establish a Task Group comprising the Mayor, The two (2) Timber Towns Councillor delegates and Chief Executive Officer to guide the development and consultation of a Wood Encouragement Policy.*
2. *That the Task Group establish a Steering Group to guide the development of a draft Wood Encouragement Policy and Engagement Plan.*
3. *That a further report be presented to Council regarding the draft Wood Encouragement Policy and Engagement Plan at the earliest opportunity.*

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

At its Ordinary Meeting of 15 December 2014, Council resolved

That Council:

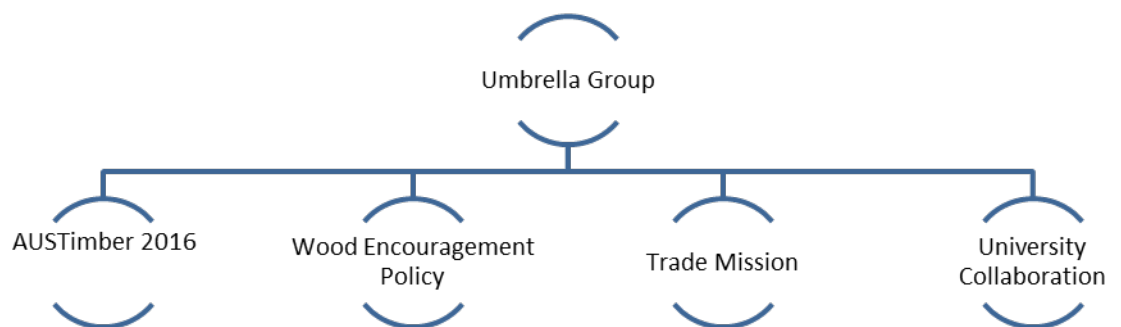
1. *Adopt the Latrobe City Council Wood Encouragement Policy.*
2. *Write to members of the Latrobe City Council Wood Encouragement Policy Steering Committee thanking them for their assistance in developing the draft policy.*

Council has identified that timber products are a potential industry diversification focus area for Latrobe City Council. This has included Council working in collaboration with Federation University in the development of a concept for the establishment of an Innovation and Enterprise Development Centre at the Gippsland Campus. A potential key focus area of the Centre is timber engineered products.

Council also participates in inbound and outbound delegations to promote Latrobe City to potential investors. Advanced timber manufacturing and research and development of timber products are potential investment opportunities for Latrobe City Council and the broader Gippsland Region.

Since the adoption of the *Wood Encouragement Policy* and disbanding of the Wood Encouragement Policy Steering Committee in December 2014, work has continued to be undertaken by Council officers, Councillors and industry sectors and association representatives in progressing the work of Council through the Timber Umbrella Group.

The diagram below provides an overview of activities currently being planned and/or being delivered by Latrobe City Council with guidance from the Timber Umbrella Group.



KEY POINTS/ISSUES

It is appropriate for Council to now consider new mechanisms that have the potential to drive outcomes which supports diversification toward a more resilient economy and community, with a strong focus on jobs creation and attracting investment to Latrobe City.

Council has recognised that a collaborative approach is needed, as diversification is beyond the scope of Council alone. We should seek to provide pathways for industry sectors, industry associations, education

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

providers, subject experts and government to work together to enhance the economic prosperity of Latrobe City and broader Gippsland region.

Since the disbanding of the Wood Encouragement Policy Steering Committee in December 2014, the Timber Umbrella Group was established to progress a range of activities, to work collaboratively, and provide advice and information to Council in relation to forestry, timber and wood products. The necessity to formalise the Timber Umbrella Group has now arisen due to the Group undertaking activities that necessitate a more formal approach, such as a Council Advisory Committee.

The draft Committee Guide states that 'prior to the establishment of an Advisory Committee, Council shall consider a report covering the following issues', therefore a response to each of these key questions is provided:

Is an Advisory Committee appropriate?

The Timber Umbrella Group is currently used to gain strategic level input from industry and association representatives with a specific level of interest, expertise or involvement in timber, wood and forestry.

What are the Advisory Committee's objectives?

1. Support initiatives which strengthen the forestry, timber and wood industries for the benefit of the Gippsland Regional economy.
2. Facilitate the implementation of the policy goals outlined in the Wood Encouragement Policy.
3. Raise the profile of timber as a sustainable and renewable resource which can be used for a range of applications.
4. Work collaboratively to create an environment which is attractive for investment in research and development and new industries associated with timber products.

The Committee will carry out the following activities in order to achieve the objectives set:

1. *Wood Encouragement Policy Implementation*

Provide support and guidance to ensure the successful implementation of the Wood Encouragement Policy adopted by Council on 15 December 2014. Including the identification of opportunities to showcase timber projects, provide education to Council officers and the broader community, and to encourage and support others to develop their own wood encouragement policies.

2. *AusTimber 2016 Event*

Provide advice and support as required to ensure a successful AusTimber 2016 Event. A trade event incorporating a range of conferences, events and trade shows in April 2016. Showcase the region as a preferred destination for timber investment and research and development activities.

3. *University Collaboration*

Collaborate with Federation University to investigate the potential for research and development and advanced manufacturing

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

opportunities associated with timber products at the Gippsland campus.

4. *Trade Missions*

Provide advice and support as required to Latrobe City Council trade missions associated with timber and advanced manufacturing opportunities.

What are the terms of reference of the proposed Advisory Committee?

Refer to attachment one for proposed draft Terms of Reference.

The TOR has been drafted in-line with Council's adopted TOR template.

What is an appropriate membership, including length of tenure?

In accordance with Council's Draft Committee Guide, the length of tenure will be no longer than three years.

When will the Committee cease to exist or be the subject of a review?

In line with the above point, the Committee would be reviewed at least every three years to allow a review within each Council cycle to consider the appropriateness of the Committee and its members. The Committee would also cease to exist if the objectives of the Committee are met.

What is the required budget and resources required in order to support the Advisory Committee?

Resources required to support the Advisory Committee will include the provision of an officer to provide secretariat support, as well as officer time associated with attending meetings. Minimal budget will be required for catering purposes.

The committee is an advisory committee only, and would have no delegated decision making authority on behalf of Latrobe City Council.

Membership

As the Timber Umbrella Group is already established, and this report is to formalise the committee as an Advisory Committee only, it is recommended that Council retain the current membership of the Timber Umbrella Group, with some proposed new members.

The current Timber Umbrella Group membership includes:

Councillors:

- Cr Dale Harriman, Mayor and Timber Town Delegate (Chair)
- Cr Sandy Kam, Councillor and Timber Town Delegate (Deputy Chair)

Council Officers:

- CEO
- GM Planning and Economic Sustainability
- Manager Economic Development
- Coordinator Regional Strategy (Secretariat Support)

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Industry and Association Representatives:

- Laurie Martin, General Manager AusTimber 2016
- Dr Alastair Woodard, General Manager Wood Products Victoria
- Tim Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Victorian Association of Forest Industries
- Stacey Gardiner, General Manager Forest Contractors Association
- Ross Hampton, CEO, Australian Forest Products Association
- Harry Ballis, Head of Campus – Gippsland, Federation University
- Mal Valance, Pro-Vice Chancellor – Ballarat, Federation University

Proposed new members:

- Cr Sharon Gibson, Councillor and alternate Timber Town Delegate
- Andrew Nieland, Head of Timber Solutions, Lend Lease
- Craig Douglas, Senior Lecturer Architecture and Design, RMIT University
- John Bahoric, Associate Director, Bonacci Group
- Chris Philpot, Make it Wood Campaign Manager, Planet Ark

It is proposed the Timber Umbrella Group be established as an Advisory Committee prior to the next scheduled meeting of Thursday, 26 November 2015. Membership is proposed to include existing Councillors, Council Officers and industry and association representatives, and identified new members. All members are to be formally notified of their appointment by letter.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There will be resource implications associated with the secretariat support provided to the committee and Council officer attendance at meetings.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Engagement Method Used:

Internal consultation has been undertaken with Councillors through a report which was considered at the 21 September 2015 Councillor Briefing. Feedback received from Councillors on the draft Terms of Reference has been incorporated and the revised final draft included as an attachment to this report.

No external consultation has been undertaken in the development of this report.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)****OPTIONS**

1. *Establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council and endorse the Terms of Reference.*
2. *Establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council and request amendments to the proposed Terms of Reference.*
3. *Do not establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee of Council.*

CONCLUSION

It has been identified that the current Timber Umbrella Group should be formalised as an Advisory Committee of Council. It is recommended that Council establish the Timber Umbrella Group as an Advisory Committee and endorse the proposed draft Terms of Reference.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Wood Encouragement Policy 2014

Wood Encouragement Policy Ordinary Council Meeting Report – 15 December 2014

Wood Encouragement Policy Ordinary Council Meeting Report – 30 June 2014

AUSTimber 2016 Event Ordinary Council Meeting Report - 6 November 2013

Attachments

1. Timber Umbrella Group Advisory Committee Draft Terms of Reference

14.1

Timber Umbrella Group Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

- 1 Timber Umbrella Group Advisory Committee Draft Terms
of Reference 101**

Timber Umbrella Group Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference



October 2015





CONTENTS:

1. **Establishment of the Committee**
2. **Objectives**
3. **Membership**
 - Composition of the Committee
 - Length of appointment
 - Selection of members and filling of vacancies
 - Co-option of members
 - Attendance at meetings
 - Resignations
4. **Proceedings**
 - Chair
 - Meeting Schedule
 - Meeting procedures
 - Quorum
 - Voting
 - Minutes
 - Reports to Council
5. **Review of Committee and Duration of the Committee**
6. **Authority and Compliance Requirements**



1. Establishment of the Committee

- 1.1. The Timber Umbrella Group Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”), is a formally appointed Advisory Committee of Latrobe City Council for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- 1.2. The membership of this Committee and these Terms of Reference will be adopted by resolution of Latrobe City Council at an Ordinary Council Meeting.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. The Committee’s role is to report to the Council and provide appropriate advice, information and feedback on matters relevant to this Terms of Reference in order to facilitate decision making by the Council in relation to the discharge of its responsibilities.
- 2.2. The Committee is an advisory committee only and has no delegated decision making authority.
- 2.3. The Committee is established to:
 - 2.3.1. Support initiatives which strengthen the forestry, timber and wood products industries for the benefit of the Gippsland Regional economy.
 - 2.3.2. Facilitate the implementation of the policy goals outlined in Council’s Wood Encouragement Policy.
 - 2.3.3. Raise the profile of timber as a sustainable and renewable resource which can be used for a range of applications.
 - 2.3.4. Work collaboratively to create an environment which is attractive for investment in research and development and new industries associated with forestry, timber and wood products.
- 2.4. The Committee will carry out the following in order to achieve the objectives set:
 - 2.4.1. Implementation of Council’s Wood Encouragement Policy
 - 2.4.1.1. Provide support and guidance to ensure the successful implementation of Latrobe City Council’s Wood Encouragement Policy, adopted 15 December 2014. Including the identification of opportunities to showcase timber and wood products, provide education to Council officers and the broader community, and to encourage and support others to develop their own wood encouragement policies.



2.4.2. AusTimber Event 2016

2.4.2.1. Provide advice and support as required to ensure a successful AusTimber 2016 Event. A trade event incorporating a range of conferences, events and trade shows in April 2016. Showcase the region as a preferred destination for forestry, timber and wood investment, including research and development.

2.4.3. University Collaboration

2.4.3.1. Collaborate with universities to investigate the potential for research and development and advanced manufacturing opportunities associated with timber products at the Gippsland Campus.

2.4.4. Trade Missions

2.4.4.1. Provide advice and support as required to Latrobe City Council trade missions associated with timber and advanced manufacturing opportunities.

2.4.5. Policy and Strategy Development

2.4.5.1. Provide advice as part of a policy, strategy (or other relevant document) review or development processes as required from time to time.

2.4.6. Perform other activities related to this Terms of Reference as requested by the Council.

3. Membership

Composition of the Committee

3.1. The Committee shall comprise of up to eighteen members, being:

3.1.1. The Mayor and two Timber Town Representatives.

3.1.2. Up to a total of eleven representatives from each of the following sectors:

3.1.2.1. Education Sector;

3.1.2.2. Forestry Sector;

3.1.2.3. Engineering Sector;

3.1.2.4. Agriculture Sector;



- 3.1.2.5. Construction Sector; and
- 3.1.2.6. Industry Associations.
- 3.1.3. Latrobe City Council Officers including:
 - 3.1.3.1. Chief Executive Officer;
 - 3.1.3.2. General Manager Planning and Economic Sustainability;
 - 3.1.3.3. Manager Economic Development;
 - 3.1.3.4. Coordinator Regional Strategy (Secretariat)

Length of appointment

- 3.2. The Committee shall be in place for a term of three years or until the objectives outlined in the Terms of Reference are met.
- 3.3. Prior to the expiration of each term, there will be a call for nominations for the next term. Current Committee members are able to re-nominate.

Selection of members and filling of vacancies

- 3.4. Relevant sector representatives will be determined and appointed by Latrobe City Council. The Chair will facilitate the appointment process.
- 3.5. The Committee may fill any vacancies that occur within the determined year period of appointment, subject to the approval of the General Manager of the relevant division and endorsement of Council. Where a vacancy is filled in this way, the appointment shall be limited to the remainder of the period of the original appointment.

Co-option of members

- 3.6. With the approval of the Chair, the Committee may invite other individuals to participate in the proceedings of the Committee on a regular or an occasional basis and including in the proceedings of any sub-committees formed.

Attendance at meetings

- 3.7. All Committee members are expected to attend each meeting.
- 3.8. A member who misses two consecutive meetings without a formal apology may at the discretion of Latrobe City Council have their term of office revoked.
- 3.9. A member who is unable to attend the majority of meetings during the year may at the discretion of Latrobe City Council have their term of office revoked.



Resignations

- 3.10. All resignations from members of the Committee are to be submitted in writing to the General Manager Planning and Economic Sustainability, Latrobe City Council, PO Box 264, Morwell VIC 3840.

4. Proceedings

Chair

- 4.1. The nominated Councillor shall Chair the meetings.
- 4.2. If the Councillor delegate is unavailable he/she shall delegate to the other nominated Councillor to chair the meeting.
- 4.3. If neither Councillor is available, the Chair may nominate a replacement from the current membership of the Committee to chair the meeting.

Meeting schedule

- 4.4. The Committee will determine its meeting schedule and times for each of the meetings. The duration of each Committee meeting should generally not exceed three hours.
- 4.5. Meetings of the Committee will be held quarterly or as may be deemed necessary by Latrobe City Council or the Committee to fulfil the objectives of the Committee. Special meetings may be held on an as-needs basis.

Meeting procedures

- 4.6. Meetings will follow standard meeting procedures as established in any guidance material and outlined in these terms of reference for Advisory Committees provided.
- 4.7. All Committee meetings and records are considered confidential and may be designated as confidential in accordance with Section 77 of the Act.
- 4.8. All recommendations, proposals and advice must be directed through the Chair.

Quorum

- 4.9. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum.
- 4.10. If at any Committee meeting a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be deemed adjourned.



Voting

- 4.11. There will be no official voting process, although all members shall have equal voting rights. Majority and minority opinions will be reflected in Committee minutes.

Minutes of the Meeting

- 4.12. A Latrobe City Officer or authorised agent shall take the minutes of each Committee meeting.
- 4.13. The minutes shall be in a standard format including a record of those present, apologies for absence, adoption of previous minutes and a list of adopted actions and resolutions of the Committee.
- 4.14. Where this meeting is also considered an Assembly of Councillors under the *Local Government Act 1989*, an Assembly of Councillors record must also be submitted in accordance with those requirements.
- 4.15. The minutes shall be stored in the Latrobe City Council corporate filing system (currently LCMS electronic document and records management system).
- 4.16. The agenda shall be distributed at least 7 days in advance of the meeting to all Committee members, including alternative representatives.
- 4.17. A copy of the minutes shall be distributed to all Committee members (including alternative representatives) within 10 working days of the meeting.

Reports to Council

- 4.18. With the approval of the Chair, a report to Council may be tabled on the Committee's progress towards the objectives included in this Terms of Reference.
- 4.19. Reports to Council should reflect a consensus of view. Where consensus cannot be reached, the report should clearly outline any differing points of view.
- 4.20. Reports to Council will be co-ordinated through the General Manager of the relevant division that the Committee falls under.

5. Review of Committee and Duration of the Committee

- 5.1. The committee will cease to exist by resolution of the Council, or once the objectives at item 2.3 have been demonstrated that they have been met, whichever occurs first.



- 5.2. A review of the Committee will take place at least once every three years at which time the Terms of Reference will also be reviewed.
 - 5.3. A review will be conducted on a self-assessment basis (unless otherwise determined by Council) with appropriate input sought from the Council, the CEO, all Committee members, management and any other stakeholders, as determined by Council.
 - 5.4. The review must consider:
 - 5.4.1. The Committee's achievements;
 - 5.4.2. Whether there is a demonstrated need for the Committee to continue;
and
 - 5.4.3. Any other relevant matter.
- 6. Authority and Compliance Requirements**
- 6.1. The Committee is a consultative committee only and has no executive powers nor does it have any delegated decision making or financial authority.
 - 6.2. The Committee must comply with the Assembly of Councillor provisions provided for in the *Local Government Act 1989*.
 - 6.3. Failure to comply with the provisions outlined in this Terms of Reference may result in termination of the Member's appointment.

14.2 INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED LEASE OF PORT OF MELBOURNE**General Manager****Planning & Economic
Sustainability****For Decision****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the submission to the Parliament of Victoria's *Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Parliament of Victoria Port of Melbourne Select Committee wrote to Latrobe City Council during August 2015 to invite submissions to the *Inquiry into proposed lease of the Port of Melbourne*.

Latrobe City Council's submission to the *Inquiry into proposed lease of the Port of Melbourne* highlighted key areas of concern being; exclusivity, price differential, price increases, port congestion, rail freight, and investment in access infrastructure.

A submission was prepared utilising Council's existing strategies and policies. Officers have also liaised with Councillors and relevant stakeholders to gain preliminary views and feedback.

Submissions were due on Friday, 11 September 2015 and due to the current Council Meeting Cycle, Officers were unable to present the submission to Council and meet the submission deadline. A draft submission was circulated to Councillors for feedback via email, with final sign off provided by the Mayor on Friday, 11 September 2015. The submission is yet to be formally adopted by Council.

Formal endorsement is being sought from Council at the 5 October 2015 Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the submission to the Parliament of Victoria's *Inquiry into the proposed lease of Port of Melbourne*.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives - Economy

In 2026, Latrobe Valley has a strong and diverse economy built on innovative and sustainable enterprise. As the vibrant business centre of Gippsland, it contributes to the regional and broader economies, whilst providing opportunities and prosperity for our local community.

Strategic Objectives – Advocacy and Partnerships

In 2026, Latrobe Valley is supported by diversity of Government, agency, industry and community leaders, committed to working together to advocate for and deliver sustainable local outcomes.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 1: Job creation and economic sustainability

Theme 4: Advocacy for and consultation with our community

Strategic Direction – Job creation and economic sustainability

Work in partnership with business, industry and government to create new jobs and investment in Latrobe City.

Strategic Direction – Advocacy for and consultation with our community

Strengthen relationships with the Victorian and Australian Governments to ensure Latrobe City is positioned to maximise benefits from regional policy and funding opportunities.

BACKGROUND

The Victorian Legislative Council resolved to establish a Select Committee to inquire into the proposed lease of the Port of Melbourne on 5 August 2015.

The purpose of the Committee is to examine:

- a) the structure and duration of the proposed lease;
- b) the potential impacts of the proposed lease on the development of a second container port in Victoria;
- c) the potential impacts on the environment of the further expansion of the Port of Melbourne;
- d) the potential impacts of the proposed arrangements on the competitiveness of the Port of Melbourne, the supply chains that depend on it and cost effects on goods passing through the Port of Melbourne;
- e) the effectiveness of the proposed regulatory framework in dealing with the transfer of a monopoly asset from the public sector to the private sector;

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

- f) how the proposed lease balances the short-term objectives of maximising the proceeds of the lease with the longer-term objective of maximising the economic benefits to Victoria of container trade; and
- g) any other relevant matter.

The Committee invited submissions from individuals or organisations interested in expressing their views on the inquiry. The Committee is required to provide a report by 30 November 2015.

The closing date for submissions was Friday, 11 September 2015.

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The Parliament of Victoria Port of Melbourne Select Committee wrote to Latrobe City Council during August 2015 to invite submissions to the *Inquiry into proposed lease of the Port of Melbourne (refer to attachment 1)*.

In response, Officers prepared a submission to the Parliament of Victoria's Port of Melbourne Select Committee's *Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne (refer to attachment 2)*.

The proposed lease will impact on the ability of regional Victoria to develop sustainable long term strategies for freight movements through the Port of Melbourne. Latrobe City Council's submission focuses on six key areas of concern:

- Exclusivity;
- Price Differential;
- Price Increases;
- Port Congestion;
- Rail Freight; and
- Investment in Access Infrastructure.

Submissions were due on Friday, 11 September 2015 and due to the current Council Meeting Cycle, Officers were unable to present the submission to Council and meet the submission deadline. A draft submission was circulated to Councillors for feedback via email, with final sign off provided by the Mayor on Friday, 11 September 2015.

The submission is yet to be formally adopted by Council.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial or resource implications as a result of consideration of this report of the draft submission.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION*Engagement Method Used:*

Preparation of this submission has been undertaken utilising Council's existing strategies and policies.

Officers also liaised with Councillors and key stakeholders to gain preliminary views and feedback on the draft submission.

Final submissions may be made available on the Committee's website during the course of the Inquiry.

OPTIONS

Council has the following options:

1. Endorse the submission to the *Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne*.
2. Rescind the submission to the *Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne*.

CONCLUSION

Latrobe City Council officers have prepared a submission to the Parliament of Victoria's Port of Melbourne Select Committee's *Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne*.

The draft submission has been reviewed by Councillors and feedback incorporated.

Submissions to the *Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne* closed on 11 September 2015 therefore a submission was made, signed by the Mayor. Following submission, formal endorsement is now being sought by Council.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**Attachments**

1. Letter from the Parliament of Victoria's Port of Melbourne Select Committee inviting submissions to the Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne
2. Latrobe City Council's submission to the Inquiry into the proposed lease of Port of Melbourne

14.2

Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne

- 1 Letter from the Parliament of Victoria's Port of Melbourne
Select Committee inviting submissions to the Inquiry
into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne 115**
- 2 Latrobe City Council's submission to the Inquiry into the
proposed lease of Port of Melbourne 117**



PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA
Port of Melbourne Select Committee

Latrobe City Council



DOC15/25355

Date Received: 18-Aug-2015

14 August 2015

Mr Gary Van Driel
Chief Executive Officer
Latrobe City Council
PO Box 264
Morwell VIC 3840

Dear Mr Van Driel

Inquiry into proposed lease of Port of Melbourne

On 5 August 2015 the Victorian Legislative Council resolved to establish a Select Committee to inquire into the proposed lease of the Port of Melbourne.

The Committee is required to examine:

- (a) the structure and duration of the proposed lease;
- (b) the potential impacts of the proposed lease on the development of a second container port in Victoria;
- (c) the potential impacts on the environment of the further expansion of the Port of Melbourne;
- (d) the potential impacts of the proposed arrangements on the competitiveness of the Port of Melbourne, the supply chains that depend on it and cost effects on goods passing through the Port of Melbourne;
- (e) the effectiveness of the proposed regulatory framework in dealing with the transfer of a monopoly asset from the public sector to the private sector;
- (f) how the proposed lease balances the short-term objective of maximising the proceeds of the lease with the longer-term objective of maximising the economic benefits to Victoria of container trade; and
- (g) any other relevant matters.

The Committee is required to report no later than 30 November 2015.

The Committee invites submissions from any individuals or organisations who wish to express views on any aspects of this Inquiry. All submissions are treated as public documents unless confidentiality is requested and granted by the Committee.

Please send submissions (electronic documents e.g. Word, file type are preferred) via:

Email: LCSC@parliament.vic.gov.au

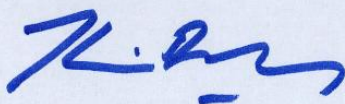
eSubmission: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/pom

Post: Secretary, Port of Melbourne Select Committee, Parliament House, Spring Street,
Melbourne VIC 3002

The closing date for submissions: **Friday 11 September 2015.**

For further information, including a copy of the guidelines for making a written submission, please check the Committee's website: www.parliament.vic.gov.au/pom, or contact me on (03) 8682 2816.

Yours sincerely



KEIR DELANEY
SECRETARY
COUNCIL COMMITTEES



Our Ref: 1240425
DH:BC

10 September 2015

Secretary
Port of Melbourne Select Committee
Parliament House
Spring Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Latrobe City ABN 92 472 314 133
Telephone 1300 367 700
Facsimile (03) 5128 5672
TTY (NRS) 133 677
Post to PO Box 264 Morwell 3840
Email Address latrobe@latrobe.vic.gov.au
Internet www.latrobe.vic.gov.au
AUSDOC DX217733 Morwell

Dear Sirs

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSED LEASE OF PORT OF MELBOURNE

On behalf of the Latrobe City Council I wish to make a submission to the Port of Melbourne Select Committee in relation to the above matter. Our Council is concerned that the proposed lease will impact on the ability of regional Victoria to develop sustainable long term strategies for freight movements through the Port of Melbourne.

Our key areas of concern are:

- **Exclusivity:** The proposed lease will provide an operator with exclusive control over container freight operations through the Port of Melbourne facilities. We also understand that compensation may be payable to the operator if another container port is established in Victoria.

Latrobe City Council has, and continues to, advocate strongly for the establishment of a container port at the Port of Hastings to service export activities in eastern Victoria. If this proposed lease condition proceeded, the establishment of a second container port in Victoria could result in a compensation claim and, therefore, highly unlikely to be supported by the State Government.

- **Price Differential:** The cost to move containers to the Port of Melbourne on rail are subject to a substantial price differential. For example, the cost to move a container through the port facilities to a vessel can vary from \$85-\$100, whereas the same container delivered on a truck is \$10-\$15. This cost impost for rail is not addressed in the proposed lease.
- **Price Increases:** The proposed lease arrangement provides for fixed charges and rents for a period of time; Council understands this period to be the first fifteen years. For the remainder of the lease the successful operator will be able to set the fees, subject only to oversight by the Essential Services Commission. Export businesses that use port facilities are concerned that fees and charges will increase substantially. As an example, one large exporter has undertaken scenario modelling and estimates a potential increase could add \$1.8- \$2 million in costs per annum.

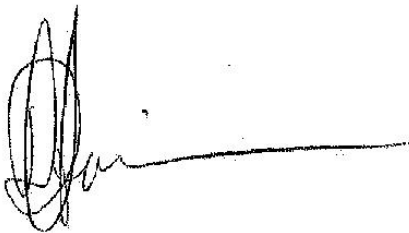
- **Port Congestion:** The current port facilities experience congestion as trucks from all parts of Victoria access the port facilities to load vessels. Council understands this vehicle congestion to be increasing and rather than consider rail access, larger trucks are being considered as a solution. This will do little to alleviate increasing congestion and put larger vehicles on roads that already struggle to deal with the existing vehicle size.
- **Rail Freight:** The construction of the proposed Rail Freight Terminal at the wharf is considered vital. Without this terminal the current physical and artificial cost barriers to utilise rail freight for export/import container traffic will remain.

Without a significant portion of port traffic being contestable by rail, the current inner suburban port related road congestion and road freight damage to country roads will not be addressed, and will worsen as the freight task expands into the future. Without addressing these issues, port related freight costs will increase disproportionately. The social and economic cost of not proceeding with the proposed rail terminal will be a significant burden on the state for the foreseeable future. Council advocates that the future of the proposed rail terminal should not be left in the hands of the successful port privatisation tenderer, rather should be a decision by the State Government to ensure the future needs of Victoria are met.

- **Investment in Access Infrastructure:** The final point Council would like to make is in relation to the use of the funds collected by the State Government from the proposed lease. Rather than have all of the funds directed to the upgrading of level crossings in urban Melbourne, Council requests that a portion of these funds be directed to upgrading the regional road and rail network that supports the goods movements to the port facilities.

If you would like any further information in relation to our submission, please contact Bruce Connolly, Manager Regional Strategy on (03) 5128 5759 or email bruce.connolly@latrobe.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



CR DALE HARRIMAN
Mayor

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)****14.3 PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C89 - 145 TRARALGON-
MAFFRA ROAD, TRARALGON - CONSIDERATION OF
SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED DURING THE EXHIBITION PERIOD****General Manager****Planning & Economic
Sustainability****For Decision****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider all written submissions received in response to proposed Amendment C89 and combined planning permit application, and to seek Council approval to progress the amendment to the next stage by requesting a planning panel to independently consider all submissions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Amendment C89 proposes to rezone land at part 145 Traralgon-Maffra Road, Traralgon from General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z), apply maximum leasable floor areas in the Schedule to the C1Z and insert a supporting strategy and amend the Traralgon Structure Plan at Clause 21.05 of Council's Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). The purpose of the amendment is to allow the site to be developed as a neighbourhood activity centre.

The amendment also includes a combined planning permit application (under Section 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*) that would allow the development of a supermarket and shops, two lot subdivision, removal of native vegetation, reduction of the car parking requirement and creation of access to a Road Zone Category 1 (Traralgon-Maffra Road).

A draft Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan (the NAC Development Plan) for the site is also proposed to provide a clear framework for the uses and scale of development that is supported for the site. The draft NAC Development Plan was exhibited as a supporting document to the amendment.

Amendment C89 was placed on public exhibition during the period 16 July 2015 to 7 September 2015. Following public exhibition of the amendment 29 public submissions were received, comprising 22 submissions of support and seven submissions opposed. Six submissions were also received from referral agencies. This report presents all submissions and outlines the key issues raised.

Given the nature of the submissions both supporting and opposing the amendment, the submissions cannot be satisfied.

As the submissions that request a change to the amendment cannot be satisfied, Council must request the Minister for Planning to establish a planning panel to progress the amendment to the next stage.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Having considered all written submissions received to Amendment C89 and draft Planning Permit 2015/113 requests the Minister for Planning establish a planning panel to consider submissions for Amendment C89 and prepare a report.**
- 2. Advises those persons who made written submissions to Amendment C89 of Council's decision.**

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives – Built Environment

In 2026, Latrobe Valley benefits from a well planned built environment that is complementary to its surroundings, and which provides for a connected and inclusive community.

Strategic Objectives – Economy

In 2026, Latrobe Valley has a strong and diverse economy built on innovation and sustainable enterprise. The vibrant business centre of Gippsland contributes to the regional and broader communities, whilst providing opportunities and prosperity for our local community.

Strategic Objectives – Governance

In 2026, Latrobe Valley has a reputation for conscientious leadership and governance, strengthened by an informed and engaged community, committed to enriching local decision making.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 1: Job creation and economic sustainability

Actively pursue long term economic prosperity for Latrobe City, one of Victoria's four major regional cities.

Actively pursue further diversification of business and industry in the municipality.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Actively pursue and support long term job security and the creation of new employment opportunities in Latrobe City.

Theme 2: affordable and sustainable facilities, services and recreation

To promote and support a healthy, active and connected community.

To provide facilities and services that are accessible and meet the needs of our diverse community.

Theme 5: Planning for the future

To provide a well planned, connected and liveable community.

To provide clear and concise polities and directions in all aspects of planning.

Strategic Direction – Planning for the Future

Provide efficient and effective planning services and decision making to encourage development and new investment opportunities.

Plan and coordinate the provision of key services and essential infrastructure to support new growth and developments.

Legislation

The provisions of the Latrobe Planning Scheme and the following legislation apply to this amendment:

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Transport Integration Act 2010*

BACKGROUND

A request was received from NBA Group Pty Ltd, on behalf of Stable Property Investments Pty Ltd, to amend the Latrobe Planning Scheme, together with a combined planning permit application, to facilitate the development of a supermarket and shops at part 145 Traralgon-Maffra Road, Traralgon.

An initial review of the documents submitted with the application identified the need for further information and alterations and subsequently Council received a revised application on 12 January 2015.

The subject land is located on the north-west corner of Traralgon-Maffra Road and Marshalls Road, Traralgon (refer to the Site Context Plan at Attachment 1). It is currently undeveloped and forms part of the *Traralgon North Development Plan* (TNDP) which is endorsed under Development Plan Overlay Schedule 7 (DPO7). The TNDP provides for the development of 118.6ha of land to create approximately 1077 new residential lots. The TNDP identifies the subject site for a potential growth corridor supermarket subject to further strategic analysis and rezoning. This amendment process provides such analysis and proposed rezoning.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

The purpose of the amendment is to allow the development of a neighbourhood activity centre to support Traralgon's growth by providing access to conveniently located retail facilities and services that meet the local convenience needs of the existing and future community in the Traralgon North growth area and surrounds. The proposal would also create approximately 200 new, ongoing employment opportunities and support Traralgon as Latrobe City's primary regional centre.

Specifically, the amendment proposes to:

- Rezone 2.3ha of land on the corner of Traralgon-Maffra Road and Marshalls Road from General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z);
- Apply maximum leasable floor space areas of 4700sqm for shop and 780sqm for office in the Schedule to the C1Z; and
- Insert a strategy and amend the Traralgon Structure Plan at Clause 21.05 (Main Towns).

The Proposed Zoning map is provided at Attachment 2 and the Explanatory Report outlining the amendment is provided at Attachment 3. It is noted that the DPO7 will remain over the site.

While the planning scheme amendment and planning permit application will be assessed as a combined process, the determination of the planning permit for development will be subject to the outcome of the proposed amendment. The permit application is for:

- The development of a supermarket and supporting shops and services;
- A two lot subdivision;
- Removal of native vegetation;
- A reduction in the car parking requirement; and
- Creation of access to a Road Zone Category 1 (Traralgon-Maffra Road).

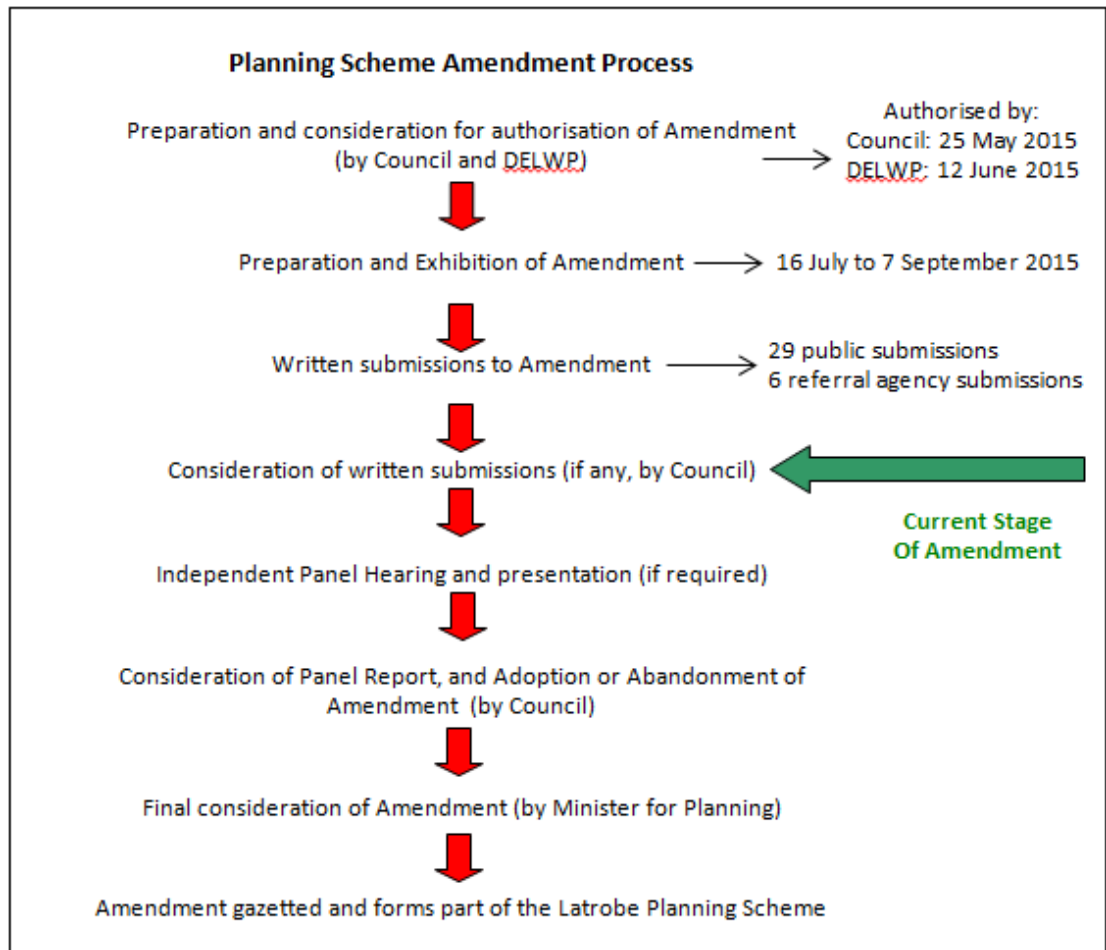
The draft planning permit is provided at Attachment 4.

A draft Traralgon North Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan (the NAC Development Plan) has also been prepared to support the rezoning. The purpose of the NAC Development Plan is to provide greater certainty regarding future commercial development so that it is consistent with the local convenience role and function of a neighbourhood activity centre. The NAC Development Plan was exhibited as a supporting document to the amendment and is proposed to be endorsed under DPO7 as an addendum to the existing Traralgon North Development Plan.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Statutory Requirements

The C89 planning scheme amendment process is shown in the figure below and provides an indication of the current stage of the amendment.



In accordance with the Act, the municipal council, as a planning authority, has a number of duties and powers. These duties and powers are listed at Section 12 of the Act. Under Section 12 a planning authority must have regard to (*inter alia*):

- The objectives of planning in Victoria;
- The Minister's directions;
- The Victoria Planning Provisions;
- The Latrobe Planning Scheme;
- Any significant effects which it considers a planning scheme amendment might have on the environment or which it considers the environment might have on any use or development envisaged by the amendment.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Amendment C89 has had regard to and is consistent with the requirements of Section 12 of the Act. In addition each amendment must address the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's (Department of Planning and Community Development) publication *Strategic Assessment Guidelines for Planning Scheme Amendments*. A response to these guidelines is outlined in the Explanatory Report at Attachment 3.

The proposal is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework and the MSS. This is also explained in the attached Explanatory Report.

Planning Scheme Amendments

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 25 May 2015 Council resolved to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit the proposed Amendment C89.

The Minister for Planning in accordance with Section 8A(3) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, authorised Council to prepare the proposed Amendment C89 on 12 June 2015.

Amendment C89 was placed on public exhibition during the period 16 July 2015 to 7 September 2015.

Sections 22 and 23 of the Act require that Council must consider all submissions received to Amendment C89 and where a submission requests a change that can't be satisfied, request the Minister for Planning to establish a planning panel to consider submissions.

The recommendations of this Council Report are in accordance with Sections 22 and 23 of the Act.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

A total of 29 public submissions and six referral agency submissions were received in relation to Amendment C89. The table at Attachment 5 provides a summary of the submissions.

The amendment is subject to the prescribed process in accordance with the public notice and consultation requirements of Section 96C of the Act. This included advertising in the government gazette and local newspapers as well as written notification to landowners and occupiers that may be materially affected by the amendment.

All statutory and servicing authorities (referral agencies) likely to be materially affected have also been notified of the proposed amendment.

Amendment C89 was placed on public exhibition during the period 16 July 2015 to 7 September 2015.

An 'open house' community information session was held at the McFarlane Burnett Room in Traralgon on 30 July 2015 between 5:00pm and 7:00pm. Approximately 14 people attended the information session.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Council officers also met with one landowner in the surrounding area for a one on one discussion at the landowner's request.

Referral Agency Submissions

Submissions were received from Gippsland Water, the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP), EPA Victoria, the Minister for Roads and Safety, Public Transport Victoria (PTV) and VicRoads. Copies of referral agency submissions are provided at Attachment 8.

Gippsland Water, EPA Victoria and the Minister for Roads and Safety have no objection to the proposal.

DELWP generally supports the proposal provided that recommended planning permit conditions relating to the removal of native vegetation are included. It is noted that three of the recommended conditions have already been included on the draft permit, and the two additional conditions can be included as appropriate.

PTV requested changes to the planning permit to require Marshalls Road to be designed to function as a public transport (bus) corridor and the construction of a bus stop on each side of Marshalls Road. These matters are outside the scope of the amendment and permit application. A potential future bus route has already been nominated in the adopted TNDP with connector streets designed to accommodate potential future bus services. Bus stops will be provided through development contributions. The potential bus route and stops are indicative and there could be an opportunity in the future for a bus route to take an alternate route to pass the proposed neighbourhood activity centre, such as utilising the proposed north-south road connection to Marshalls Road, through the TNDP. Similarly, the upgrade and widening of Marshalls Road is already planned as part of the TNDP.

A late submission was received from VicRoads requesting that further traffic analysis be undertaken relating to the possible implications of the proposal on the intersection of Traralgon-Maffra Road and Princes Highway. This submission is currently being considered by officers to determine whether the requested further analysis is required.

Public Submissions

Following public exhibition 29 written submissions were received in response to Amendment C89. A copy of all submissions is provided at Attachment 6 and a map showing the location of submitters (where possible) is provided at Attachment 7. Section 22 of the Act requires that a planning authority consider all submissions to an amendment.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Amendment C89 Submissions	
Support	20
Support with requested changes	2
Object	7
Total Submissions	29

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

There were a number of key themes identified in the submissions both in support and opposition of the proposal.

Support for the proposal

Submissions supporting the proposal were predominantly from landowners and residents in the eastern area of Traralgon. The reasons for support include:

- Provides benefits through improved accessibility to conveniently located shopping and services for local residents, particularly in the expanding north-east region, as well as surrounding towns such as Glengarry, Toongabbie, Cowwarr, Heyfield and Maffra.
- Relieves pressure on congestion and lack of car parking in the CBD. It is currently very difficult to undertake regular grocery shopping in the CBD, particularly at peak times, due to traffic congestion and parking.
- Provides important shopping facilities to support and stimulate the planned residential growth in the area and provide a level of self-sufficiency for the new estate and community, as opposed to urban expansion that lacks infrastructure and services.
- Provides increased employment opportunities and economic benefits.
- There is a large enough population in Traralgon and surrounding areas to support three main supermarkets and two smaller supermarkets. People will still need to enter the CBD to visit the more specialised shops, maintaining foot traffic.

Opposition to the proposal

Submissions opposed to the proposal raised concerns relating to the following key issues:

- Size and impact on Traralgon CBD and existing businesses
- Location and strategic justification
- Amenity impacts
- Traffic and safety

These key issues are addressed below. Other comments made in individual submissions that were outside these key issues are addressed in the summary of submissions table at Attachment 5.

- Size and impact on Traralgon CBD and existing businesses

Seven submissions object to the proposal on the basis that the size of the proposed supermarket is too large and would have a detrimental impact on existing businesses, particularly in the Traralgon CBD. The reasons given for this objection include:

 - Impact on existing local businesses, particularly on the food and grocery sector, that will undermine the Traralgon CBD and create a 'Mid Valley situation'.
 - The proposed centre is not needed as there are already enough shops and supermarkets in Traralgon as well as vacant shops.
 - Its scale is not appropriate to a neighbourhood of this size. It would be the second largest supermarket in Traralgon and is the sort of scale which might be appropriate to serving a population of at least 12,000 to 15,000 people. It is not at the scale relevant to serving this sector's eventual maximum potential population guesstimated to be in the order of 4,000 to 6,000 people.
 - Maximum size of a supermarket for this sector of Traralgon should be limited to a maximum of about 2,000sqm.
 - The proposal is premature in terms of catchment/trading analysis. The primary trade area associated with the proposal is marginally above 5,000 persons, whereas the accepted or planned catchment for neighbourhood centres is between 8,000 and 10,000 persons. Population growth levels in Traralgon are expected to remain low, meaning that there is little prospect of meeting this threshold in the near future. This has a potential impact of a low trading level for the proposed centre from its immediate catchment, thereby putting pressure on secondary trade areas which has the ability to impact activity and trading in central Traralgon.

State and local planning policy encourages the provision of neighbourhood activity centres in new greenfield residential developments. These centres provide an important community focal point and contain a mix of uses that meet local convenience needs in accessible locations. These centres form a hierarchy together with larger sub-regional centres (ie. the Traralgon CBD) and smaller local centres (eg. smaller 'top up' supermarkets such as the IGA on Park Lane and Foodworks on Hyland Street) which each provide a different role and collectively fulfil the shopping needs of the community.

It is therefore important that new neighbourhood centres are compatible with the broader hierarchy by serving the local convenience needs of the community without unreasonably impacting upon the role and function of the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

To this end, the size of the proposed centre and its potential impact has been carefully considered in the strategic analysis and preparation of the amendment.

The proposed size of the centre constitutes a medium order neighbourhood activity centre containing a mix of uses that is typical to the convenience based role and function of neighbourhood centres.

The Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) submitted with the application and the peer review commissioned by Council both provide an analysis of the proposed centre in relation to its size, existing and future population catchment, viability and likely expenditure, and potential impact on existing retailers. Both assessments conclude that the proposed development is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other local centres. Furthermore, the EIA concludes that a neighbourhood centre is required to meet the retail needs of the local population.

As outlined in the EIA and peer review, the proposed centre would have some impact on the trading of existing centres including the Traralgon CBD, particularly on food and grocery sales. While this would cause some rearrangement of the sector within the CBD, it is within a reasonable level of impact and would not challenge the role and function of the town centre. Similarly, the three small grocery stores on Park Lane in Traralgon, Glengarry and Toongabbie would not compete directly with the proposed centre as their primary purpose is to serve the top-up food and grocery needs of their local catchments. In this way, the proposed centre is compatible with the hierarchy of activity centres in Traralgon.

It is common for new centres, particularly supermarkets as the primary use, in greenfield residential growth areas to be developed ahead of its full population catchment being present. In these situations the supermarket operates at a lower revenue than would normally be considered viable while the population grows. This represents a commercial decision based on the viability of the supermarket operator and does not cause additional customers to be drawn from outside its catchment. The provision of shopping facilities in the early stages of development provides a significant benefit to the community by avoiding the time lag in the provision of services that can often accompany greenfield residential growth.

It is not considered that the proposed development is comparable to Mid Valley given its size (approximately 16% of the land area of Mid Valley), identified catchment and role as a neighbourhood centre.

It is also important to note that the amendment includes maximum leasable floor areas in the Schedule to the Commercial 1 Zone meaning that any future expansion would require a planning permit, providing an opportunity for its economic impact to be assessed. The

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

proposed NAC Development Plan will further guide future permit applications to provide greater certainty regarding the neighbourhood role of the centre.

It is therefore considered that the proposed size of the development is appropriate and would not have an unreasonable impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres.

- Location and strategic justification

A number of submissions object to the specific location of the proposed centre for the following reasons:

- The site is not, and will never be, central to the existing, or potential, residential areas in the north-east sector of Traralgon.
- The neighbourhood centre should instead be located very close to the intersection of Park Lane and Marshalls Road.
- The site is not identified in the Planning Scheme (Traralgon Structure Plan at Clause 21.05) or Traralgon Growth Areas Review as a preferred location for a new neighbourhood centre and introducing this site into the Planning Scheme by way of this Amendment has insufficient justification.
- The Planning Scheme and TGAR recommend that an activity centres strategy be undertaken to determine how future growth should be planned for and serviced. This assessment would properly test the need for new neighbourhood activity centres, the timing for their development based on population growth and the merits of different locations.
- The proposed site is on a residential estate, which is a significant departure from previous planning in Latrobe Valley which has sought to keep commercial and residential settings apart.

Although the current Traralgon Structure Plan at Clause 21.05 and adopted Traralgon Growth Areas Review (TGAR) nominate an activity centre to the west of the site near Park Lane, it is common that the implementation of high level strategic plans such as these involves changes based on further analysis and the timing of development opportunities. This includes refinements to the exact location of activity centres that is in keeping with the strategic intent of the plan and consistent with state and local policy.

The proposed location on the corner of Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road is generally within the same precinct to serve the growing residential areas in Traralgon's north. This location was considered and nominated as part of the endorsed Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP) subject to further analysis and rezoning (this amendment process).

The Economic Impact Assessment provides indicates that the proposed neighbourhood centre will serve a catchment that includes the existing residential area south of Marshalls Road, the TNDP area

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

as well as surrounding towns of Glengarry and Toongabbie to the north. The prominent corner location of the site on Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road make it highly accessible to its catchment, with the EIA stating that it is the preferred location for a neighbourhood centre in this part of Traralgon.

It is noted that the industrial area to the south of the site as well as land to the north and east is identified in TGAR (August 2013) for future residential growth.

The staging of development is also an important consideration in considering the merits of possible locations for the proposed centre. The first stages of residential development in the TNDP are under construction abutting Traralgon-Maffra Road immediately north of the site. It is unknown when land in the vicinity of Park Lane will be developed in the future or whether a proposal in this location would eventuate, noting that the initial location on Park Lane south of Marshalls Road currently nominated on the Traralgon Structure Plan was not developed. As noted above, the opportunity for a neighbourhood activity centre to be developed in the early development stage of the growth area would provide significant social and economic benefits by avoiding the time lag in the provision of services that can often accompany greenfield residential growth.

Similarly, while an activity centre strategy would ideally be prepared for the whole of Traralgon before any new retail centres were created, it would be impractical and detrimental to the community to preclude development opportunities on this basis. It is common for site specific rezonings to be undertaken in the absence of such a strategy given the realities of time and Council resources or to consider new opportunities, which is an important function of the planning scheme amendment process. In these instances the amendment process provides the appropriate strategic analysis and justification, as has been done in order to support this proposal. Council has not committed to the preparation of a retail strategy in its current Business Plan and the timing of when this could occur is unknown.

These submissions relating to the location of the proposed development cannot be satisfied.

- Amenity impacts

Submitter 24 raised concerns that the proposed development would impact the amenity of the existing and future surrounding residential neighbourhood including aesthetic, noise, light, and air quality impacts.

Neighbourhood activity centres are deliberately located within residential areas in order to provide convenient and accessible shopping facilities, sense of community and promote walking and cycling.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

The proposed centre is sited and designed to ensure that there is no unreasonable impact on the amenity of the surrounding residential neighbourhood. This includes frontages to three roads, minimising its direct interfaces with residential properties.

All commercial operations must comply with planning permit conditions as well as the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) legislation regarding noise. In particular, EPA requirements regarding hours of operation, delivery vehicles and noise levels set the standard for commercial uses in residential areas across Victoria. It is noted that the EPA was notified and responded with a submission confirming that the EPA has no objection to the proposal.

the exhibited planning permit conditions address relevant amenity concerns and it is considered that the proposal would not have an unreasonable impact on residential amenity and. Therefore this submission cannot be satisfied.

- Traffic and safety

Submitters 24 and 27 raised concerns regarding traffic and safety as a result of increased traffic volumes generated by the proposed development and the proposed new road to access the centre and adjoining residential area from Marshalls Road.

A Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) was submitted with the proposal and provides an analysis of traffic and movement implications of the proposal including the proposed road access to Marshalls Road and projected traffic volumes. The TIA concludes that the proposed development can be adequately accommodated in the surrounding road network.

The proposal was also referred to Council's internal traffic engineer and VicRoads and appropriate conditions have been included on the draft planning permit. A late submission from VicRoads requesting additional traffic analysis is being considered.

Submission 7 requested that the proposed development include the construction of a pathway for pedestrians along Traralgon-Maffra Road from Princes Highway to Marshalls Road. It is considered that the construction of this path would be beyond the scope of the proposed development as it would form part of the broader planning and infrastructure for the wider area. As the industrial precinct to the south of Marshalls Road transitions to residential, appropriate pedestrian linkages will be put in place at the relevant time.

It is noted that the endorsed Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP) provides for the upgrade of Marshalls Road and the construction of a signalised intersection at the intersection of Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road as part of its Development Contributions Plan (DCP). The signalised intersection is required to be constructed at the same time as the development of the neighbourhood centre (if approved) and will include a safe

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

pedestrian connection to the Gippsland Plains Rail Trail. A shared pedestrian and cycling path will also be provided along the north side of Marshalls Road, connecting the Rail Trail with the existing path network at Park Lane, and along the west side of Traralgon-Maffra Road north of Marshalls Road. Under the DCP the developer of the site is required to pay contributions towards the construction of these and other infrastructure projects. These traffic and pedestrian projects will significantly improve the connectivity and safety of the surrounding neighbourhood.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

Risk to retail uses in the Traralgon CBD has been considered and there is not expected to be a detrimental impact to the viability of retail uses or the role and function of the CBD.

If the proposal does not proceed, there is a risk that the opportunity for the provision of services to the growth area, creation of jobs and economic benefits would be lost.

If the rezoning was to proceed without the Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan endorsed as an addendum to the TNDP, there is a risk that the site could be developed as a larger centre with greater impact on the Traralgon CBD.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

The prescribed fees for planning scheme amendments are detailed in the *Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2012*. The costs associated with a planning scheme amendment include: considering a request to amend a planning scheme, consideration of submissions, providing assistance to a panel and adoption and approval of an amendment.

Statutory fees associated with this proposed amendment will be met by the proponent, Stable Property Investments Pty Ltd.

OPTIONS

The options available to Council are as follows:

1. That Council, after considering all written submissions received to Amendment C89, resolves to request the Minister for Planning to establish a planning panel to consider submissions and prepare a report.
2. That Council, after considering all written submissions received to Amendment C89, resolves to abandon the exhibited Planning Scheme Amendment C89 and inform the Minister for Planning.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)****CONCLUSION**

Amendment C89 seeks to rezone land at part 145 Traralgon-Maffra Road, Traralgon, from General Residential Zone Schedule 1 to Commercial 1 Zone and combined determination of a planning permit that would allow the development of the land as a neighbourhood activity centre containing a supermarket and supporting shops and services.

Given that submissions that request a change to Amendment C89 cannot be satisfied, Council must request the Minister for Planning establish a planning panel to progress the amendment to the next stage.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Planning Scheme Amendment documentation

Proposed development plans (SBM, 9 January 2015)

Draft Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan

Economic Impact Assessment (MacroPlan Dimasi, November 2014)

Review of Economic Assessment (Tim Nott, February 2015)

Transport Impact Assessment (GTA Consultants, July 2014)

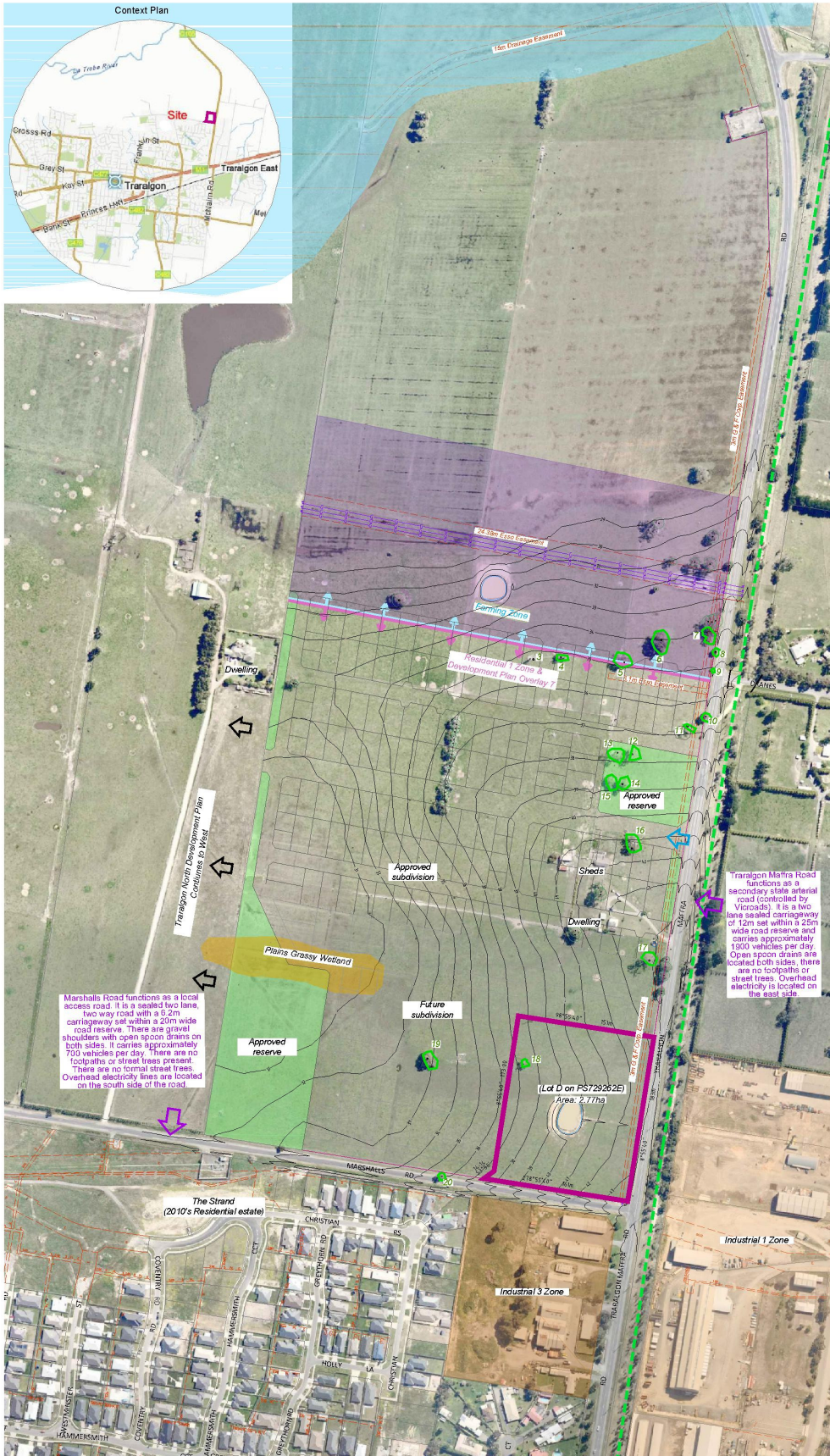
Attachments

1. Site Context Plan
2. Proposed Zoning Map
3. C89 Explanatory Report
4. Draft planning permit
5. Summary of submissions table
6. Public submissions (Published Separately) (Confidential)
7. Map showing location of submitters (Published Separately) (Confidential)
8. Referral agency submissions (Published Separately) (Confidential)

14.3

Planning Scheme Amendment C89 - 145 Traralgon- Maffra Road, Traralgon - Consideration of submissions received during the exhibition period

1	Site Context Plan	135
2	Proposed Zoning Map	137
3	C89 Explanatory Report	139
4	Draft planning permit	151
5	Summary of submissions table.....	165



Notes

1. Site & Surrounds:
 The subject site is located on the north-eastern edge of the Traralgon Township, approximately 4km away from the town centre. To the north is farming land utilised for grazing, to the north-east is a pocket of rural living, to the east is an industrial estate, to the south is standard residential development and to the west is farming land that has been identified for residential development. Land to the north has recently been granted approval for residential subdivision and an application for subdivision of land to the west is pending.
 Nearby community facilities include a maternal and early learning Centre (Park Lane - 1.5km), Latrobe Regional Hospital (town centre - 4km) and Traralgon Primary School (Lobos Rd - 3km). An aged care facility has also been recently approved by Latrobe City Council on the corner of Park Lane and Marshalls Road (~350m away). A community facility is identified in the Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDF) approximately 650m to the west and a potential supermarket is identified on the south-east corner of the subject site.
 Nearby recreation facilities include Harold Preston Reserve (Franklin Street - 1.3km) which offers soccer, netball, table tennis & little athletic facilities. It is also utilised for Sports Education & Development Australia school holiday programs. A local park with playground and shaded seating area is located 1.3km (via the road network) southwest on Hammersmith Circuit. Additional local parks that offer footpaths, grassed areas and seating are located at Mayfair Court (~1.5km) and Peppercorn Court (~2km). Sanctuary Lakes is located 2km south-west and offers an attractive water body, path network and seating.
 Bus Route 45 currently commutes along Marshalls Road & Park Lane. Traralgon & Baimsdale VLine trains also stop at Traralgon Railway Station and a terminus for VLocity trains with direct access to Melbourne is also available.
 The site itself comprises part of Lot C (which is yet to be formally created). It is vacant and utilised for grazing purposes. A 3m wide Easement runs along the eastern boundary. Distinct views are available to the surrounding mountain ranges.

2. Vegetation:
 The area has a long history of grazing and as such comprises mostly of pasture grass. No national or state significant ecological communities have been recorded for grazing purposes. A patch of Plains Grassy Wetland to the west of the site and a number of scattered indigenous trees are considered to be of high local environmental significance. A single indigenous tree is located on the site. Tree numbers shown herein correspond to the Flora & Fauna Assessment & Net Gain Analysis, Traralgon North DCP and DP, by Ecology & Heritage Partners.

3. Planning Controls:
 The subject land is Residential 1 Zone and covered by the Development Plan Overlay - Schedule 7 (DPO7).

4. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage:
 The land is not considered to be culturally sensitive and as such there is no legislative requirement to prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

5. Opportunities:

- To take advantage of undeveloped land located within a developing residential area.
- To provide a supermarket site in accordance with the Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDF).
- To increase facilities within the local area and encourage walking to daily activities.
- To take advantage of existing infrastructure.
- To provide a quality development that responds to the site and surrounds.
- To provide landscaped buffers to both Marshalls Road & Traralgon-Maffra Road.

6. Constraints:

- Location of significant tree.
- Location of easements along east boundary.

7. This plan is based on the Plan of Survey and information obtained from a site visit. Building footprints, access ways, footpaths and roads have been determined from the aerial photograph and site visit. This plan is schematic and should be used for the purposes of this site analysis only.



SITE & CONTEXT PLAN

Proposed Supermarket
 145 Traralgon - Maffra Road, Traralgon
 Latrobe City Council

15534P7_V1
 June 2014

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Planning and Environment Act 1987

LATROBE PLANNING SCHEME

AMENDMENT C89

EXPLANATORY REPORT

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by Latrobe City Council which is the planning authority for this amendment.

The amendment has been prepared at the request of Stable Property Investments Pty Ltd C/- NBA Group Pty Ltd.

Land affected by the amendment

The land affected by the amendment is part 145 Traralgon-Maffra Road, Traralgon. It is located on the north-west corner of Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road, shown in Figure 1 below.

The subject land is known as part Lot A on PS729261 and has an area of approximately 2.3ha.



Figure 1: Subject Site

What the amendment does

The amendment seeks to rezone the land from General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1) to Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z), apply maximum floor space areas of 4700sqm and 780sqm for shop and office respectively in the Schedule to the C1Z, and insert a strategy and amend the Traralgon Structure Plan at Clause 21.05 to support the development of a neighbourhood activity centre on the site.

The amendment is made under Section 96A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to facilitate consideration of a combined planning permit application for the development of a neighbourhood activity centre including:

- buildings and works associated with the construction of a supermarket and supporting shops;
- a two lot subdivision to create a separate lot for the site;
- removal of native vegetation (one remnant tree);
- a reduction in the car parking requirement;
- creation of access to a Road Zone Category 1.

The proposed Site Plan for the combined permit application is provided at Attachment 1 to this explanatory report. The full set of plans and supporting reports are provided separately.

A draft Traralgon North Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan (the NAC Development Plan) is also proposed as a supporting document to the amendment. The NAC Development Plan would be endorsed under the existing Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 7 (DPO7) as an addendum to the existing Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP) which covers the site and the surrounding growth area.

Strategic assessment of the amendment**• Why is the amendment required?**

The purpose of the amendment is to allow the site to be developed as a neighbourhood activity centre. The amendment seeks to apply appropriate planning controls to the land which:

- Allows the commercial development of the site under the Commercial 1 Zone;
- Facilitates the development of a neighbourhood activity centre to meet the local convenience needs of the existing and future community in the Traralgon North growth area and surrounds;
- Provides an appropriate level of control over the intended commercial use and development of the land to establish an activity centre that is complementary to the role and function of the Traralgon CBD and other existing centres.

The rezoning is required to allow Council to consider a combined planning permit application for the development of a supermarket and supporting shops and services.

The proposed rezoning from the GRZ1 to the C1Z, including floor space caps, and supporting amendments to the MSS are required in order to achieve the desired future land use outcome of a neighbourhood activity centre.

The amendment furthers the strategic opportunity for the site as identified in the endorsed *Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP)* which identifies the land as '*potential growth corridor supermarket site (subject to rezoning)*'. The necessary strategic analysis to support the rezoning has been undertaken as part of the amendment process.

- **How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?**

The State Planning Policy Framework seeks to ensure that the objectives of planning in Victoria (as set out in Section 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*) are fostered through appropriate land use and development planning policies and practices which integrate relevant environmental, social and economic factors in the interests of net community benefit and sustainable development.

The relevant objectives of Section 4 of the Act include (*inter alia*):

S.4(1)(a) to provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land; and

S.4(1)(f) to facilitate development in accordance with the objectives set out in paragraph (a).

The amendment implements the objectives of planning in Victoria by providing for and facilitating the fair, orderly, sustainable and economic development of a neighbourhood activity centre in a strategic location that is highly accessible to the local community. The site also benefits from its location within an undeveloped growth area, allowing the site to be orderly planned to achieve a desirable land use and development outcome.

The amendment will facilitate the development of a supermarket and supporting shops and services, thereby promoting the economic and sustainable use of the land to meet the local convenience needs of the existing and future population.

- **How does the amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?**

The amendment is expected to have positive social and economic effects for Latrobe City as it will strengthen the role of Traralgon as the municipality's primary service centre. The Commercial 1 Zone will facilitate the development of a supermarket and supporting shops to service the local community. It will provide for additional short and long term employment opportunities, increased retail choice and competition, and an improvement in the quality and proximity of retail services offered to the residents of Traralgon North and the wider area.

The land is currently zoned for residential development and is located within the Traralgon North Development Plan area. Accordingly, urban development has already been contemplated for the site and as such the amendment does not affect the provision of viable farming and is not expected to have any negative environmental impacts.

A detailed Biodiversity Assessment formed part of this application for rezoning. The proposed development of this site necessitates the removal of one scattered tree which is indigenous to the area. An appropriate offset will be sourced for the removal of the remnant indigenous tree, and this development will not result in any net loss in the contribution made by native vegetation to Victoria's biodiversity.

The future buildings under the permit application have been located away from the abutting internal future dwellings, and are buffered by landscaped tree reserves adjacent to the main road abutments to minimise any unreasonable adverse effects on existing and future residents.

The site enjoys a prominent corner location on two main roads. A detailed Traffic Assessment by GTA Traffic Consultants indicated adequate capacity in the surrounding road network, subject to associated roadwork.

The Gippsland Regional Growth Plan seeks to promote the Traralgon area as part of the Latrobe Regional City. The subject land is included as being part of future urban growth (zoned), and adjacent to a large area designated to be investigated as a future urban growth area. The amendment supports the strategic directions for Traralgon in promoting future regional investment and a more diverse and resilient economy.

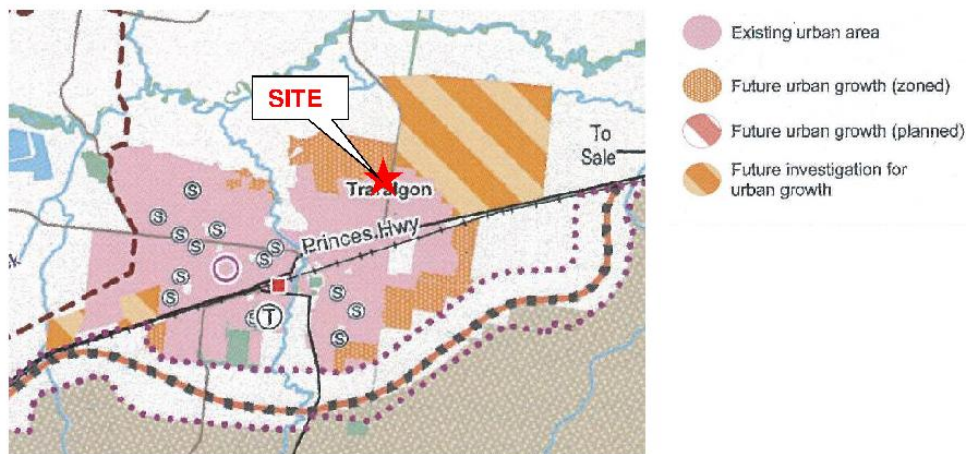


Figure 2: Gippsland Regional Growth Plan (extract)

Both the Traralgon Structure Plan (2010) currently forming part of the planning scheme (Clause 21.05) and the Traralgon Growth Areas Review (August 2013, adopted by Council in April 2014) identify a future neighbourhood and local activity centre respectively within the 'future residential' area in Traralgon North. The Traralgon North Development Plan (November 2013) provides for a potential growth corridor supermarket site on the subject land subject to further strategic analysis as part of this amendment process.

The Traralgon Growth Areas Review (TGAR) is intended to provide a growth strategy that identifies areas for future urban development around Traralgon, the Traralgon-Morwell Corridor, Glengarry and Tyers up to the year 2051. It recognises the need for access to local shopping facilities, stating (in part):

As new residential areas develop, planning policy requires that they are provided within appropriate access to local shops and to community facilities within a walkable distance. The importance of these principles are underlined within the Latrobe Planning Scheme through the incorporation of the Healthy Design Guidelines, as well as through state planning policy which seeks to increase the sustainability of new

communities by providing access within walkable catchments to a range of services for new residents. In addition the Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines prepared by the Growth Area Authority sets out a series of guidelines for the provision of services and facilities, such as 95% of new dwellings should be within 1km of a supermarket (appropriately sized). While these guidelines have been developed for a metropolitan context they provide a useful tool in assessing the potential location of activity centres provided the local context is considered e.g. the appropriate size for any supermarket within these centres.

Planning Scheme Amendment C87, which has been exhibited and a Planning Panel hearing conducted, proposes to implement the recommendations of TGAR into the scheme. Further discussion on this is provided later in this explanatory report in relation to the MSS.

An Economic Impact Assessment (EIA) has been prepared forming part of the rezoning application, and provides an analysis of the economic and social impacts of the proposal. It notes that some impacts are likely to be experienced by competitive retailers but that these impacts are unlikely to threaten the ongoing viability of any existing retailers. The EIA concludes that the proposal would provide a net community benefit given its key positive impacts including:

- Providing a full-line supermarket for local residents;
- Catering to the increased populations in the trade area;
- Reducing travel time for local residents;
- Additional employment.

A peer review of the EIA was commissioned by Council as part of its assessment of the proposed amendment. The peer review supports the findings of the EIA, notably that the proposal would not cause an unreasonable adverse impact on the role and function of the Traralgon CBD or other centres.

The opportunity for a neighbourhood centre to be developed in the early development stage of the growth area would also provide social benefits by avoiding the time lag in the provision of services that can often accompany greenfield residential growth.

• **Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?**

The amendment has considered the relevant bushfire risk. The site is situated within a Bushfire Prone Area, however the site and surrounding area is generally cleared and as such the risk of bushfire is not significant. The area surrounding the site is future residential land and development is expected to commence in the near future. The amendment does not increase the risk to life, property, community infrastructure or the natural environment from bushfire.

The subject land is not affected by the Bushfire Management Overlay.

• **Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?**

The amendment is consistent with the Minister's Direction on the *Form and Content of Planning Schemes* under section 7(5) of the Act.

The amendment is affected by and complies with, Minister's Direction 11 *Strategic Assessment of Amendments* as set out in this Explanatory Report.

The amendment is affected by and complies with, Minister's Direction 15 *The Planning Scheme Amendment Process* of the *Planning and Environment Act*.

- **How does the amendment support or implement the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) and any adopted State Policy?**

The amendment supports the State Planning Policy Framework by providing for the orderly development of the subject land, consistent with the following policies:

Clause 11.01-2 – Activity Centre Planning

The amendment consolidates the role of Traralgon as the primary service centre in the municipality, providing for the establishment of complementary retail uses to support a developing urban precinct that will benefit from economic and transport synergies with the existing centre.

Clause 11.02-3 – Structure Planning

The amendment seeks to give effect to the objectives of the *Traralgon North Development Plan*, which provides the strategic framework for the use and development of land in the area along with the Traralgon Structure Plan and associated documents.

Clause 11.04-3 – Employment Corridors

The amendment will provide for the development of a new retail facility within a growing urban area. It will generate substantial employment opportunities through the construction phase and ongoing operation of additional retail facilities.

Clause 11.05-1 - Regional Settlement Networks

The amendment will provide for sustainable growth and development in accordance with the adopted Traralgon North Development Plan, and the strategic directions of the Gippsland Regional Growth Plan to promote Traralgon as a productive and sustainable regional centre.

Clause 11.08 - Gippsland Regional Growth

The amendment will result in a development which will strengthen economic resilience by being part of a more diverse economy and building on the region's traditional strengths through new investment, innovation and value-adding.

Clause 17.01-1 – Business

The amendment provides for the creation of a new retail facility within a newly developing urban area that will provide a net community benefit in relation to accessibility, efficient infrastructure use, economic prosperity and employment opportunities.

Although the subject land is not an existing or specifically planned activity centre, it does satisfy the strategy of providing small scale shopping opportunities to meet the needs of local residents. This is particularly relevant in growth areas where new centres must be created to support new residential neighbourhoods.

The proposed centre will provide a net benefit to the local community, and will provide shopping opportunities in a convenient location to meet the needs of local residents and workers.

- **How does the amendment support or implement the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) and, specifically the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)?**

The amendment is generally consistent with Council's MSS in facilitating development that supports the strategic growth of Traralgon as a regional city. In particular, the amendment implements the following strategies for identifying appropriate locations for retailing at Clause 21.07-6 (Retailing Overview):

- *Encourage neighbourhood shops providing local convenience goods and services in locations accessible to local communities.*
- *Encourage shops that do not significantly detract from the function of the existing major retail centres.*
- *Discourage 'out of centre' retail developments.*
- *Provide for localised convenience retailing.*

The amendment proposes to create a new neighbourhood activity centre to support the local convenience shopping needs of the existing and future population of the growth area and surrounding community.

Clause 21.05-6 (Specific Main Town Strategies – Traralgon) provides a structure plan for Traralgon which includes the identification of a 'possible future neighbourhood centre' on Park Lane to the west of the site. The development of a neighbourhood centre in this location was not realised and the land is now developed as residential.

The adopted Traralgon Growth Areas Review (TGAR) provides a revised framework plan for Traralgon, notably the identification of a larger growth area for future residential development to the north and west of the site. Proposed Amendment C87 seeks to implement the review and replace the Traralgon Structure Plan at Clause 21.05 with a revised structure plan to reflect the strategic directions of TGAR. The revised structure plan identifies two proposed local activity centres approximately one kilometre to the east and west of the subject site, as well as the expanded future growth area. The nominated centre to the west of the site partly represents a relocation of the centre on Park Lane as a result of it having not being developed in that location, as well as being better located to support a larger growth area.

As part of the strategic assessment of the amendment consideration has been given to the size and location of the proposed activity centre.

The proposed neighbourhood activity centre is larger than the local centre previously contemplated by TGAR. This is supported by further analysis that has been undertaken to inform the amendment. As outlined previously, an EIA and peer review forming part of the amendment conclude that the proposed centre would meet the local convenience needs of the local area and would not unreasonably detract from the role and function of the Traralgon CBD and other existing centres.

The proposed floor space caps are proposed so that any future expansion beyond what had been assessed under the current proposal would require a planning permit, providing an opportunity for its economic impact to be assessed at that time. Together with the draft Traralgon North Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan this seeks to ensure that

the use and development of the C1Z site is consistent with its local convenience role and does not unreasonably impact the CBD or other centres.

Although the existing and proposed Traralgon Structure Plan don't specifically identify an activity centre on the subject site, these locations are indicative and it is considered that the location of a new centre within one kilometre of the nominated locations is generally consistent with the intent of the structure plan. The location of the proposed centre on the corner of Traralgon-Maffra Road and Marshalls Road was considered as part of the Traralgon North Development Plan as well as the EIA. The neighbourhood centre would serve the future residents of the growth area as well as the surrounding towns to the north of Glengarry and Toongabbie. The proposed location is therefore considered appropriate for a neighbourhood centre given its dual main road frontage and high accessibility.

For these reasons, the proposal is consistent with the strategic intent of providing appropriate retail services to support the local convenience needs of the community in line with the strategies of Clause 21.07-6 outlined above. It is also generally consistent with the intent of Clause 21.05 in providing well located activity centres to support the future growth areas of Traralgon. The amendment proposes to amend the Traralgon Structure Plan to nominate a neighbourhood activity centre on the site as supported by the strategic analysis of this amendment.

- **Does the amendment make proper use of the Victorian Planning Provisions?**

The amendment makes proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) by applying the Commercial 1 Zone to facilitate the development of a neighbourhood activity centre.

Maximum leasable floor areas for shop and office can be utilised in the Schedule to the Commercial 1 Zone for areas outside metropolitan Melbourne. The use of floor space caps is appropriate in providing a mechanism for the economic impact of any further development on the site to be assessed to ensure that it is appropriate to the neighbourhood role of the centre.

This will be further supported by the draft Traralgon North Neighbourhood Activity Centre Development Plan which is proposed to be endorsed under the existing DPO7 as an addendum to the existing Traralgon North Development Plan.

- **How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agencies?**

The proposed amendment will be referred to all relevant agencies that may have an interest in the proposal as part of the exhibition stage of the amendment process.

Preliminary feedback has been sought from VicRoads in relation to the amendment and combined planning permit application. VicRoads does not object to the proposal subject to the inclusion of appropriate permit conditions on the development.

- **Does the amendment address the requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?**

The proposed amendment and development of the land for a supermarket and supporting shops is not likely to have an impact on the transport system as defined by Section 3 of the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

A Traffic Impact Assessment (October 2011) was prepared by GTA Consultants and forms part of this submission. This Assessment concluded:

Based on the analysis and discussions presented within this report, the following conclusions are made:

- i. Following the full development of the area, it is expected to generate up to 1,250 and 12,500 vehicle movements in any peak hour and daily respectively.*
- ii. There is adequate capacity in the surrounding road network to cater for the traffic generated by the area, subject to Marshalls Road being reconstructed to a 'Connector Street – Level 2' standard.*
- iii. The internal road network is expected to be able to accommodate the projected daily traffic volumes.*
- iv. Provision should be made for potential future public transport services, particularly along Marshalls Road.*
- v. Footpaths should be provided on both sides of each of the roads within the development area, and appropriate bicycle facilities also provided.*

The amendment therefore supports the objectives and principles of the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

Resource and Administrative Costs

- **What impact will the new planning provisions have on the administrative costs of the responsible authority?**

The proposed amendment would not have an unreasonable impact on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority.

Where you may inspect this Amendment

The amendment is available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at the following places:

Latrobe City Council Corporate Headquarters 141 Commercial Road Morwell VIC 3840	Latrobe City Council Traralgon Service Centre 34-38 Kay Street Traralgon VIC 3844
Latrobe City Council Moe Service Centre 44 Albert Street Moe VIC 3842	Latrobe City Council Churchill Service Hub 9-11 Phillip Parade Churchill VIC 3842

The amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning web site at www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/planning/publicinspection

Submissions

Any person who may be affected by the amendment may make a submission to the planning authority. Submissions about the amendment must be received by 7 September 2015.

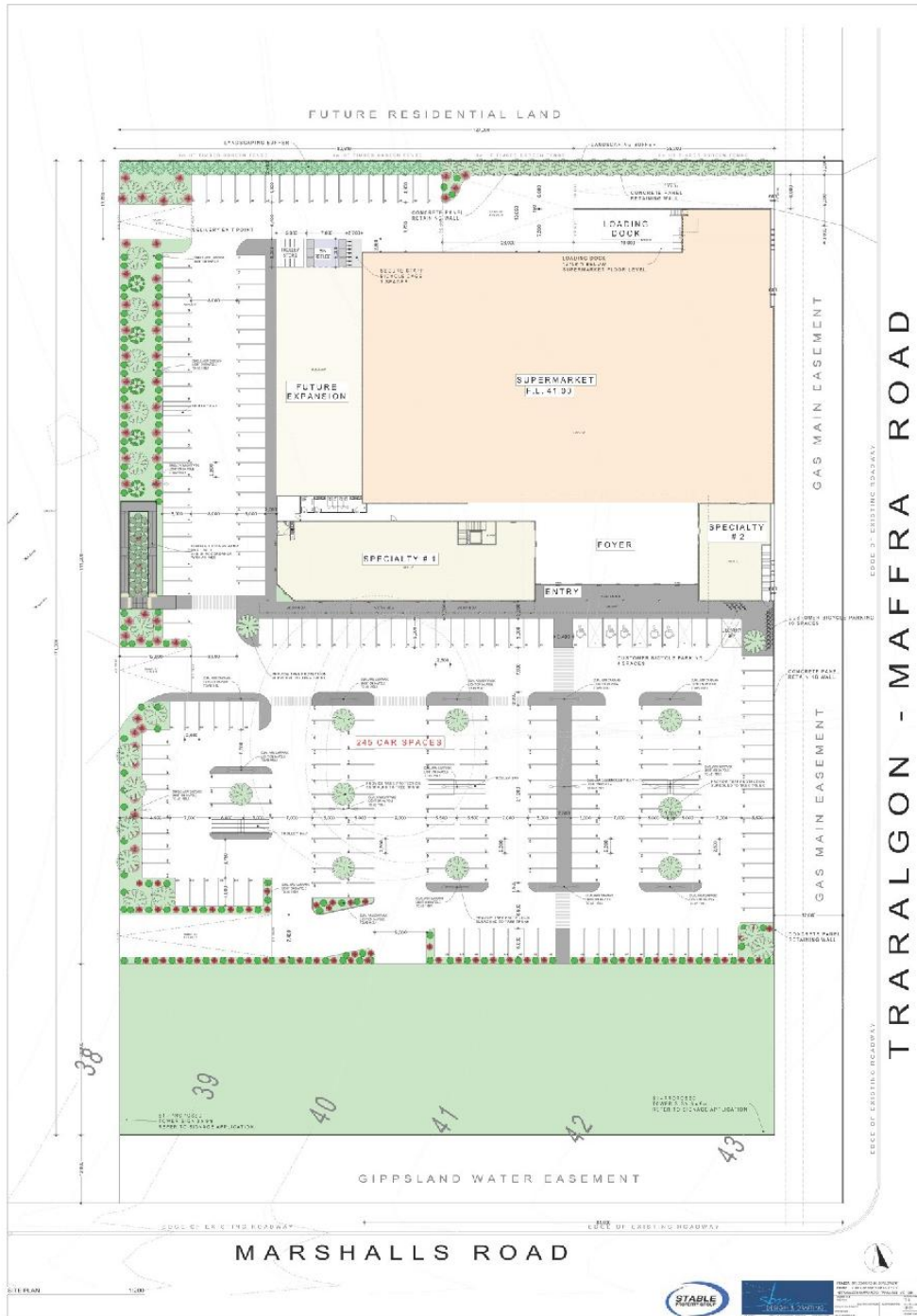
Submissions must be sent to: Lucy Lane
Senior Strategic Planner
Latrobe City Council
PO Box 264
MORWELL VIC 3840

Panel Hearing Dates

In accordance with clause 4(2) of Minister's Direction No. 15 the following panel hearing dates have been scheduled for this amendment:

- Directions hearing: week commencing 2 November 2015.
- Panel hearing: week commencing 30 November 2015.

Attachment 1 – Proposed Site Plan (combined permit application)



Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

PLANNING PERMIT

GRANTED UNDER DIVISION 5 OF PART 4 OF
 THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT
 1987

Permit No.:

Planning Scheme: Latrobe Planning Scheme

Responsible Authority: Latrobe City Council

ADDRESS OF THE LAND:

Part 145 Traralgon-Maffra Road, Traralgon

THE PERMIT ALLOWS:

Buildings and works associated with a supermarket and shops, two lot subdivision, removal of native vegetation, reduction in the car parking requirement and creation of access to a Road Zone Category 1.

THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS APPLY TO THIS PERMIT:

Amended Plans Condition

1. Prior to the commencement of works, amended plans must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plans must be generally consistent with those provided by modified to show:
 - a) Landscaping in accordance with an endorsed landscape plan under Condition 9.
 When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit.

General Conditions

2. The development as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
3. Upon completion of the works, the site must be cleared of all excess and unused building materials and debris to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
4. Once building works have commenced they must be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
5. All buildings and works must be maintained in good order and appearance to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
6. Any assets required to be relocated to facilitate the development must be done so at the cost of the applicant and subject to the relevant authority's consent.
7. All pipes (except down-pipes), fixtures, fittings and vents servicing any building on the site must be concealed in service ducts or otherwise hidden from external view to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority
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Permit No.:

Page 1 of 14

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- 8. No plant, equipment, services or architectural features other than those shown on the endorsed plan are permitted above the roof level of the building/s except with written consent of the Responsible Authority.

Landscaping Conditions

- 9. Prior to the commencement of any works, an amended landscape plan must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must include, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:
 - a) Landscaping and planting within all open areas of the site;
 - b) Larger shade trees and additional trees within the car park area;
 - c) Additional species added to the pallet of trees, shrubs and grasses. This should incorporate specified that have been approved in the approved residential subdivision on the balance of the site;
 - d) The shared path along the eastern and southern boundaries of the site;
 - e) Trees near the path on the southern side of the development to provide a consistent streetscape approach with the adjoining residential subdivision;
 - f) Greater tree coverage on the eastern side of the development;
 - g) Greater buffer planting and increased diversity of plant species with a range of heights and forms on the eastern side of the development;
 - h) Fencing and landscaping along the northern boundary of the site to appropriately screen the loading zone area from the residential interface;
 - i) Clear detail of proposed temporary landscape treatment for the 'pad sites' on the southern part of the site. This can be in the form of a separate interim landscape plan but must be submitted and approved together with the overall landscape plan;
 - j) New plantings including their layout in the new road reserve on the western side of the site and in any public open space areas;
 - k) A detailed planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and groundcovers, including botanical names, common names, pot sizes, sizes at maturity and quantities of each plant;
 - l) All proposed open space and streetscape embellishments (including materials and finishes) such as installation of pathways, garden beds, seating, shelters, picnic facilities, boardwalks, tree planting, signage, drinking fountains, irrigation systems, playgrounds, artwork, retaining walls, protective fencing (temporary and permanent), wetlands and ornamental water bodies;
 - m) Detailed planting and construction drawings including site contours and any proposed changes to existing levels including any structural elements such as retaining walls, viewing decks, boardwalks or bridges;
 - n) Additional supporting information, such as certified structural designs or building forms;
 - o) Vehicle access points for maintenance purposes;
 - p) Mechanisms/structures or landscaping for the exclusion of vehicles from landscaped areas were necessary;
 - q) The removal of existing disused structures, foundations, pipelines or stockpiles and the eradication of weeds;

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- r) Design and construction layouts for equipment in playground areas;
- s) All proposed street-tree planting using semi-advanced trees, with minimum container size of 45 litres;
- t) Location of public lighting; and
- u) A detailed maintenance plan for all proposed landscape features. This plan must include minimum maintenance standards that will be met during the permit holders maintenance period of the development generally in accordance with the Responsible Authority's current maintenance standards for the following:
 - Grass cutting heights
 - Weed treatment
 - Plant care and replacement
 - Tree watering and care
 - Litter management
 - Mulch coverage
 - Street furniture maintenance/repairs
 - Playground defects or damage

When approved, the plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit.

10. Prior to the occupation of the buildings or by such later date as is approved by the Responsible Authority in writing, the landscaping works shown on the endorsed plans must be carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
11. The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, including that any dead, diseased or damaged plants are to be replaced.

Development Conditions

12. Before the commencement of any works hereby permitted or prior to the certification of the plan of subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988 (whichever is earlier), a site drainage plan, including levels or contours of the land and all hydraulic computations, must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The drainage plan must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of Latrobe City Council's Design Guidelines and must provide for the following:
 - a) How the land including all buildings, open space and paved areas and stormwater from upstream areas will be drained to the legal point of discharge for a 1 in 10 year ARI storm event.
 - b) An underground pipe drainage system conveying stormwater discharge to the legal point of discharge.
 - c) A drainage system providing for all stormwater discharging from the land to be conveyed to the legal point of discharge. The pipe drainage system must be designed to take the 1 in 10 year ARI storm event.
 - d) Mitigation of potential detriment to downstream landholders resulting from increased stormwater volumes or concentrated stormwater discharges.

Date Issued:**Date Permit comes into operation:**

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Signature for the Responsible Authority

Permit No.:

Page 3 of 14

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- e) Details (including on-site detention) to ensure that stormwater discharge from the land must be limited to pre-development flows and to ensure that there are no adverse effects on flooding either upstream or downstream of the development.
 - f) All stormwater discharging from the land must be discharged so as not to cause erosion or flooding to the subject or surrounding land.
 - g) Provision of over-land surcharge routes and cut-off drains and associated infrastructure for the safe and effective passage of stormwater flows arising from areas upstream of the subject land.
13. Appropriate measures must be implemented throughout the construction stage of the development to rectify and/or minimize mud, crushed rock or other debris being carried onto public roads or footpaths from the subject land, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
14. Before the use commences of the development hereby permitted, or by such later date as is approved by the Responsible Authority in writing, the following works must be completed in accordance with the endorsed plans and to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:
- a) All drainage works must be constructed in accordance with the approved site drainage plan.
 - b) The areas shown on the endorsed plans for vehicle access, loading and car parking must be constructed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the approved plans including surfacing with an all-weather sealed surface, drained, line marking to indicate each car space and all access lanes; and clearly marked to show the direction of traffic along access lanes and roadways.
15. Before the use commences of the development hereby permitted, or by such later date as is approved by the Responsible Authority in writing, all road works, drainage and other civil works associated with the construction of the road identified as Lighthorse Avenue must be completed for the full length of this road's abuttal to the proposed development, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, in accordance with the engineering plans and specifications approved by the Responsible Authority.
16. Where proposed, all lighting used to externally illuminate buildings, works and uses shall be fitted with cut-off luminaries (baffles), so as to prevent the emission of direct and indirect light onto adjoining roadways, land and premises to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
17. The areas set aside for car parking, access lanes and driveways must be maintained in a continuously useable condition to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
18. The loading and unloading of goods from vehicles must only be carried out on the land subject to this permit and must not disrupt the circulation and parking of vehicles on the land.
19. Car spaces, access lanes and driveways must be kept available for these purposes at all times.

Amenity Conditions

- 20. All security alarms or similar devices installed on the land must be of a silent type in accordance with any current standard published by Standards Australia International Limited and be connected to a security service.
- 21. Any external lighting must be designed, baffled and located so as to prevent any adverse effect on adjoining land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

22. The loading and unloading of vehicles and the delivery of goods must at all times be undertaken within the boundaries of the subject land unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
23. The loading zone at the rear of the supermarket may operate only between the hours of:
 - 7.00 am — 10.00 pm Monday to Saturday
 - 9.00 am — 10.00 pm Sundays and public holidays
 unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
24. A Loading Management Plan for the loading bay at the rear of the supermarket must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. Supermarket loading must be conducted in accordance with this Plan. The Plan must provide for the following:
 - a) Signage/devices to restrict loading vehicles to enter from Traralgon-Maffra Road only;
 - b) Loading must occur from within the loading bay designated on the approved plans under this permit.
 - c) Loading may only occur between the hours of
 - 7.00 am — 10.00 pm Monday to Saturday
 - 9.00 am — 10.00 pm Sundays and public holidays
 - d) Trucks requiring to reverse into the loading bay may only do so between the hours of
 - Monday to Friday 7 am to 4 pm
 - Saturday 7 am to 9 pm
 - e) All deliveries to the supermarket must be made through the loading bay only.
25. Goods or packaged materials must not be stored or left exposed outside the building so as to be visible to the public from a road or other public place.
26. Noise from the premises must not exceed limits prescribed by the State Environment Protection Policy (Control of Noise from Commerce, Industry and Trade) No. N-1.
27. The use must be managed so that the amenity of the area is not detrimentally affected, through the:
 - a) transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
 - b) appearance of any building, works or materials;
 - c) emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil;
 - d) presence of vermin
 or otherwise, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Native Vegetation Offset Conditions

28. In order to offset the removal of one scattered tree with a strategic biodiversity score of 0.105 approved as part of this permit, the permit holder must provide a native vegetation offset that meets the following requirements, and is in accordance with the *Permitted clearing of native vegetation – Biodiversity assessment guidelines* (DEPI 2013) and the *Native vegetation gain scoring manual* (DEPI 2013):

The offset must:

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- contribute a gain of 0.002 general biodiversity equivalence units
 - be located within the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority boundary and the Latrobe municipal district if available
 - have a strategic biodiversity score of at least 0.084
29. Before any native vegetation removal approved under this permit commences, evidence that the required offset has been secured must be provided to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Offset evidence must be:
- a security agreement for the offset site or sites that complies with the Permitted clearing of native vegetation – Biodiversity assessment guidelines (DEPI 2013), including a 10 year offset management plan that has been endorsed by the responsible authority; and/or
 - a credit register extract from the Native Vegetation Credit Register.

A copy of the offset provided will then be endorsed by the Responsible Authority and form part of this permit.

30. Before the commencement of any works, the permit holder must advise all persons undertaking the vegetation removal/works on site of all relevant conditions of this permit.

Subdivision Conditions

31. Plans submitted for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 must show to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:
- a) Easements for drainage purposes,
 - b) Road reserve widths complying with the Traralgon North Development Plan and the endorsed plans under this permit,
 - c) Splays, a minimum of 3 metres by 3 metres unless required otherwise, at all intersections of the local road network, and
 - d) Street names complying with the requirements of the Department of Environment and Primary Industry’s “Guidelines for Geographic Names 2010”.
32. Prior to the lodgement of engineering construction plans and specifications for any road works for the subdivision, a functional layout plan for the subdivision must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved the functional layout plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The functional layout plan must be drawn to scale with dimensions and an electronic copy (PDF) provided. The functional layout plan must incorporate the following:
- a) A fully dimensioned subdivision layout, including proposed street names, approximate lot areas, lot numbers and widths of street reservations.
 - b) All works from the Infrastructure Schedule of the Traralgon North Development Plan identified in accordance with the provisions of the Section 173 Agreement on title.
 - c) Topography and existing features, including contours for the subject land and any affected adjacent land.
 - d) The location of all trees (or group of trees) existing on the site, including dead trees and those that overhang the site from adjoining land.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- e) Details of tree protection zones (TPZs), for all trees to be retained on site (if any).
 - f) Any trees proposed for removal from the site clearly designated.
 - g) Typical cross-sections for each street type, dimensioning individual elements, services offsets and street trees.
 - h) Details of intersection treatments and traffic calming measures in accordance with Latrobe City Council’s Design Guidelines and Austroads’ Guide to Traffic Management.
 - i) The provision of roundabouts at all cross-road intersections.
 - j) Location and alignment of kerbs, indented parking spaces, footpaths, shared paths, bus stops, line marking and traffic controls.
 - k) The proposed minor drainage network.
 - l) Preliminary location of reserves for electrical kiosks;
 - m) Works external to the subdivision, including both interim and ultimate access requirements.
 - n) Intersections with roads external to the subdivision.
33. Prior to the commencement of any road, drainage or landscaping works associated with the subdivision, a Site Management Plan shall be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the Site Management Plan will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The Site Management Plan must include:
- o) Traffic management measures - the plan must detail measures proposed to protect and maintain vehicle use of the existing road system and pedestrians using existing footpaths adjacent to the development, how site access will be obtained, how construction vehicles will access and egress the site and the management of public access to the site. The plan must include details of all signage on adjacent roads.
 - p) Construction management measures - the plan must outline how issues such as deliveries, noise, mud on roads, and dust generation will be managed onsite during the construction phase. Details of a contact person/site manager must also be provided, so that this person can be easily contacted should any issues arise.
 - q) An environmental management plan for the works detailing techniques for erosion prevention, temporary drainage and sediment control measures and vegetation protection during the construction of the works and post construction. Reference should be made to the Environment Protection Authority’s publication 960 ‘Doing it right on subdivisions’.
 - r) Cultural protection issues – the plan must demonstrate how the recommendations of any Cultural Heritage Management Plan applying to the land are to be carried out.
34. Control measures in accordance with the approved Site Management Plan shall be employed throughout the construction of the works to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The Responsible Authority must be kept informed in writing of any departures from the Site Management Plan. If in the opinion of the Responsible Authority the departure from the approved plan is significant then an amended plan must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The approved measures must be carried out continually and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

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35. Polluted drainage must be treated and/or absorbed on the lot from which it emanates to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Polluted drainage must not be discharged beyond the boundaries of the lot from which it emanates or into a watercourse or easement drain.
36. Prior to the commencement of any road and/or drainage works for the subdivision, detailed engineering plans and specifications must be submitted to the satisfaction of and approved by the Responsible Authority. The engineering plans must be generally in accordance with the approved Functional Layout Plans and consistent with the approved landscape detail plans. When approved the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and electronic copies in both PDF and DWG formats must be provided. The plans must include:
 - a) All works from the Infrastructure Schedule of the Traralgon North Development Plan identified in accordance with the provisions of the Section 173 Agreement on title.
 - b) Design and construction of all new roads including connections to existing roads. Roads shall be designed and constructed in accordance with the Traralgon North Development Plan, the endorsed plans and Latrobe City Councils "Design guidelines".
 - c) Temporary vehicle turnarounds at the ends of streets to be continued in future stages, including a low maintenance sealed surface. Turning areas must be a minimum of 20 metres in diameter.
 - d) Concrete footpaths along both sides of all proposed streets, unless otherwise required and 2.5 metre minimum width concrete shared pedestrian/bicycle paths through all reserves to be provided in accordance with Latrobe City Council's Design Guidelines and the endorsed plans.
 - e) Underground piped drainage to each lot and provision of over-land surcharge routes and cut-off drains. Drainage plans must include hydraulic computations. The stormwater drainage system must:
 - Be designed to take the 1 in 5 year ARI storm event,
 - Meet the current best practice performance objectives for stormwater quality as contained in the "Urban Stormwater Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines, CSIRO 1999" as amended,
 - Ensure that flows downstream of the subdivision site are restricted as proposed in the endorsed Stormwater Management Plan.
 - f) Provisions shall be made for stormwater from all storm events greater than the 1 in 5 year event and up to and including the 1 in 100 year ARI storm event including:
 - Provision of over-land stormwater surcharge routes and cut-off drains for the safe and effective passage of stormwater flows arising from both within the development and from areas upstream of the development.
 - All new and existing lots should be free from inundation.
 - All streets, footpaths and cycle paths that are subject to flooding must meet the safety criteria $v_{ave} < 0.35 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ (where d_a = average depth in metres and v_{ave} = average velocity in metres per second).
 - g) Appropriate intersection treatments and traffic calming measures in accordance with Latrobe City Council's Design Guidelines and Austroads' Guide to Traffic Management.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- h) The provision of roundabouts at all cross-road intersections. Roundabouts must be designed in accordance with Austroads "Guide to Road Design".
 - i) Street lighting in accordance with Australian Standard AS1158, along all new roads and all new shared paths and upgraded street lighting at the locations of proposed intersection works external to the development.
 - j) All traffic signage, street name signage and road pavement line marking.
 - k) High stability permanent survey marks at locations in accordance with Latrobe City Council's Design Guidelines, levelled to the Australian Height Datum and coordinated to the Map Grid of Australia (MGA94).
37. Before a Statement of Compliance is issued for this subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the operator of this permit must construct road works, drainage and other civil works to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, in accordance with the engineering plans and specifications approved by the Responsible Authority and must include:
- a) All works from the Infrastructure Schedule of the Traralgon North Development Plan identified in accordance any agreement entered with the Responsible Authority.
 - b) All proposed new roads in accordance with the endorsed plans.
 - c) Concrete footpaths along both sides of all proposed streets and shared pedestrian/bicycle paths through all reserves to be provided in accordance with the endorsed plans and Latrobe City Council's Design Guidelines.
 - d) Intersection treatments and traffic calming measures.
 - e) Underground piped drainage to convey stormwater from each lot to the legal point of discharge for the 1 in 5 year ARI storm event.
 - f) Works to ensure that flows downstream are in accordance with the approved stormwater management plan.
 - g) Works to ensure the stormwater management system meets current best practice performance objectives for stormwater quality.
 - h) Provisions for stormwater from all storm events greater than the 1 in 5 year event and up to and including the 1 in 100 year ARI storm event including:
 - i. Provision of over-land stormwater surcharge routes and cut-off drains for the safe and effective passage of stormwater flows.
 - ii. Arrangements for the capture of overland stormwater flows from adjacent upstream areas not previously developed.
 - iii. All new and existing lots should be free from inundation.
 - iv. All streets, footpaths and cycle paths that are subject to flooding must meet the safety criteria $d_{ave} < 0.35 \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$ (where d_{ave} = average depth in metres and v_{ave} = average velocity in metres per second).
 - i) Earthworks within the development to ensure that vehicle access can be obtained to each proposed allotment.
 - j) Street lighting along all new roads and shared paths and upgraded street lighting at the locations of proposed intersection works with external roads.

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Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- k) All traffic signage, street name signage and road pavement line marking.
- l) The installation and registration of high stability permanent survey marks.
- m) Provision of temporary vehicle turnarounds with a low maintenance sealed surface, at the end of all streets proposed to be continued in a later stage of the development where there are new lots with frontage onto the completed sections of those streets.
38. Before a Statement of Compliance is issued for any stage of this subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the operator of this permit must pay to Latrobe City Council:
- a) For all works to become the responsibility of Latrobe City Council at the expiry of the maintenance period, an engineering plan checking fee of an amount equivalent to 0.75% of the estimated cost of constructing the works proposed on the engineering plans,
- b) For all works to become the responsibility of Latrobe City Council at the expiry of the maintenance period, an amount equivalent to 2.5% of the estimated cost of constructing the works which are subject to supervision, and
39. Before a Statement of Compliance is issued for any stage of this subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the operator of this permit must provide to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:
- a) Final as-built plans for all works to become the responsibility of Latrobe City Council at the expiry of the maintenance period, in an electronic format complying with A-Spec requirements, levelled to the Australian Height Datum and coordinated to the Map Grid of Australia (MGA94).
40. Before a Statement of Compliance is issued for this subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the maintenance period, including any defects liability period, for all works to become the responsibility of Latrobe City Council, must be completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority unless an arrangement to secure compliance with this condition has been agreed to in writing by the Responsible Authority under Section 21(1)(b)(ii) of the Subdivision Act 1988.
41. Unless otherwise required in this permit, all works to become the responsibility of Latrobe City Council at the expiry of the maintenance period, shall be maintained by the operator of this permit for a period of three months from the date of practical completion of the works. Maintenance of road works shall include all inspections required in accordance with Latrobe City Council's Road Management Plan. At the end of this maintenance period, a Defects Liability Period of nine months shall then apply to the works at the end of which time Final Completion of the works will be issued.
42. The layout of the subdivision as shown on the endorsed plan must not be altered without the permission of the Responsible Authority.
43. The owner of the land must enter into agreements with the relevant authorities for the provision of water supply, drainage, sewerage facilities, electricity, gas and telecommunication services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the authority's requirements and relevant legislation at the time.

Section 173 Agreement Condition – Development Contributions

44. Prior to the commencement of any works, the operator of this permit must enter into an agreement with the Responsible Authority made pursuant to Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act) to provide that the Development Infrastructure Levy associated with the land must be paid prior to the commencement of any development.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

The agreement must require the payment of infrastructure contributions for:

- a) The acquisition of any land required for a road reserve for a road that Council proposes to be funded by the contributions agreement. Where that road is proposed to be wider than what presently exists, the infrastructure payment required must only relate to the additional width of the required road reserve. The contributions must be in the proportions set out in the development contributions tables in the approved development plan.
- b) The construction of any road that Council proposes is to be funded by the contributions agreement. If widening is to an existing road, then the infrastructure payment required must only relate to the difference between a road comprising the existing pavement width and a road comprising a widened pavement and associated facilities in the proportions set out in the development contributions tables in the approved development plan.
- c) The design and construction of stormwater drainage infrastructure including main drainage, wetlands, and retarding basins as described in the approved development plan.
- d) The improvement of public open space, including active open spaces as identified in the approved development plan.
- e) The acquisition of land for public open space, including active open spaces and community facilities, in the proportions set out in the development contributions tables in the approved development plan.
- f) A contribution towards the development of community facilities in the proportions set out in the development contributions tables in the approved development plan.
- g) The acquisition of land for stormwater drainage purposes in the proportions set out in the development contributions tables in the approved development plan.
- h) Infrastructure associated with the proposed bus route.
- i) Traffic calming treatments.
- j) The walking and cycling network including safe crossing points on the abutting arterial roads (excluding footpaths along roads).

except with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

Application must be made to the Registrar of Titles to register the Section 173 Agreement on the title to the land under Section 181 of the Act.

The operator of this permit must pay the reasonable costs of the preparation, review, and execution and registration of the Section 173 Agreement.

Prior to the commencement of works the operator of this permit must provide Council with a copy of the dealing number issued by the Titles Office. Once titles are issued Council requires the operator of this permit or its legal representative to provide either:

- a) a current title search; or
- b) a photocopy of the duplicate certificate of Title

as evidence of registration of the Section 173 Agreement on title.

- 45. Prior to the commencement of any works hereby permitted, the Development Infrastructure Levy associated with the land upon which this development is proposed, must be paid to the

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

Responsible Authority unless there is an agreement with the Responsible Authority to secure the payment by some other means or other timeframe.

VicRoads Conditions

- 46. Before the submitted plans are endorsed a revised plan showing an AUL (s) left turn lane in accordance with the Austroad guidelines and VicRoads specifications must be approved by VicRoads.
- 47. Prior to the construction of the development a detailed functional layout plan in accordance with VicRoads Eastern Region checklist showing a left turn lane into the loading bay access on the Traralgon Maffra Road must be approved by VicRoads. This access must demonstrate correct access into the development.
- 48. Prior to the occupancy of the building the loading bay access and left turn lane must be constructed at no cost and to the satisfaction of VicRoads.

Future Expansion of Supermarket

- 49. The development of the future expansion of the supermarket as shown on the endorsed plans is not approved under this permit and is subject to further planning approval.

Expiry Condition – Subdivision

- 50. This permit will expire if:
 - a) the plan of subdivision is not certified within 2 years of the date of this permit; or
 - b) the registration of the subdivision is not completed within 5 years of certification.

The Responsible Authority may extend the time if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three months afterwards.

Note: The commencement of the subdivision is regarded by Section 68(3A) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 as the certification of the plan, and completion is regarded as the registration of the plan.

Expiry Condition – Development

- 51. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:
 - a) The development is not started within two years of the date of this permit; or
 - b) The development is not completed and the use has not commenced within four years of the date of this permit.

The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires, or within six months of expiry of permit. An extension of time to complete the development or a stage of the development may be requested if—

- the request for an extension of time is made within 12 months after the permit expires; and
- the development or stage started lawfully before the permit expired.

Notes

- Note 1. The operator of this permit must ensure that all relevant Permits have been obtained prior to the commencement of the use.

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

- Note 2. In accordance with section 17 of the Subdivision Act, the works required to be undertaken under this permit as part of the subdivision hereby permitted, shall not commence until the Plan of Subdivision has been certified and the engineering plans for the works required have been approved.
- Note 3. In accordance with the requirements of the Road Safety (Traffic Management) Regulations, a responsible entity for a road or road-related area (as defined in the Road Safety Act) may install Major Traffic Control Devices on the road or road-related area only with the authority of VicRoads.
- Note 4. This permit does not authorize the commencement of any building construction works. Before any such development may commence, the applicant must apply for and obtain appropriate building approval
- Note 5. Unless exempted by Latrobe City Council, an Asset Protection Permit must be obtained prior to the commencement of any proposed building works, as defined by Latrobe City Council’s Local Law No. 3. Latrobe City Council’s Asset Protection Officer must be notified in writing at least 7 days prior to the building works commencing or prior to the delivery of materials/equipment to the site.
- Note 6. The location of the legal Point of Discharge for any property and the connection point into Latrobe City Council’s stormwater drainage system can be obtained by completing a Legal Point of Discharge form, found at www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Our_Services/Other_Services/Infrastructure/Work_Permits_and_Property_Information
- Note 7. A Latrobe City Vehicle Crossing Permit must be obtained prior to the commencement of the construction of all new vehicle crossings and for the upgrading, alteration or removal of existing vehicle crossings. The relevant fees, charges and conditions of the Vehicle Crossing Permit will apply to all vehicle crossing works. It is a requirement that all vehicle crossing works be inspected by Latrobe City Council’s Asset Protection Officer.
- Note 8. All removal of native vegetation within this development area is accumulative and any further removal of native vegetation associated with future staging may push the application into the moderate risk-based pathway.
- Note 9. VicRoads: Separate consent for works within the road reserve and the specifications of these works is required under the Road Management Act. For the purposes of this application the works will include provision of:
 - Left turn lane

(If the permit has been amended, include the following table indicating the date and nature of amendments included in the amended permit)

Date of amendment	Brief description of amendment

Date Issued:	Date Permit comes into operation: (or if no date is specified, the permit comes into operation on the same day as the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation)	Signature for the Responsible Authority

Planning and Environment Regulations 2005 Form 9

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS PERMIT**WHAT HAS BEEN DECIDED?**

The Responsible Authority has issued a permit. The permit was granted by the Minister administering the **Planning and Environment Act 1987** under section 96I of that Act.

WHEN DOES THE PERMIT BEGIN?

The permit operates from a day specified in the permit being a day on or after the day on which the amendment to which the permit applies comes into operation.

WHEN DOES A PERMIT EXPIRE?

1. A permit for the development of land expires if -
 - * the development or any stage of it does not start within the time specified in the permit; or
 - * the development requires the certification of a plan of subdivision or consolidation under the **Subdivision Act 1988** and the plan is not certified within two years of the issue of a permit, unless the permit contains a different provision; or
 - * the development or any stage is not completed within the time specified in the permit, or, if no time is specified, within two years after the issue of the permit or in the case of a subdivision or consolidation within 5 years of the certification of the plan of subdivision or consolidation under the **Subdivision Act 1988**.
2. A permit for the use of land expires if -
 - * the use does not start within the time specified in the permit, or if no time is specified, within two years after the issue of the permit; or
 - * the use is discontinued for a period of two years.
3. A permit for the development and use of land expires if -
 - * the development or any stage of it does not start within the time specified in the permit; or
 - * the development or any stage of it is not completed within the time specified in the permit, or, if no time is specified, within two years after the issue of the permit; or
 - * the use does not start within the time specified in the permit, or, if no time is specified, within two years after the completion of the development; or
 - * the use is discontinued for a period of two years.
4. If a permit for the use of land or the development and use of land or relating to any of the circumstances mentioned in section 6A(2) of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**, or to any combination of use, development or any of those circumstances requires the certification of a plan under the **Subdivision Act 1988**, unless the permit contains a different provision -
 - * the use or development of any stage is to be taken to have started when the plan is certified; and
 - * the permit expires if the plan is not certified within two years of the issue of the permit.
5. The expiry of a permit does not affect the validity of anything done under that permit before the expiry.

WHAT ABOUT APPEALS?

- * Any person affected may apply for a review of -
 - a decision of the responsible authority refusing to extend the time within which any development or use is to be started or any development completed; or,
 - a decision of the responsible authority refusing to extend the time within which a plan under the **Subdivision Act 1988** is to be certified, in the case of a permit relating to any of the circumstances mentioned in section 6A(2) of the **Planning and Environment Act 1987**; or,
 - the failure of the responsible authority to extend the time within one month after the request for extension is made.
- * An application for review is lodged with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.
- * An application for review must be made on an Application for Review form which can be obtained from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, and be accompanied by the applicable fee.
- * An application for review must state the grounds upon which it is based.
- * An application for review must also be served on the Responsible Authority.
- * Details about applications for review and the fees payable can be obtained from Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

**SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS & PLANNING COMMENT TO
PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C89 – 145 TRARALGON MAFFRA ROAD, TRARALGON**

Public submissions

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
1.	AEC Investments Enterprises Pty Ltd	Support	Support the proposal as it will provide convenient and accessible retail space for the residents located at the north-east extremity of the Traralgon Township.	Submission of support noted.
2.	Sumeet Brar	Opposed	Proposal should not be supported as it will affect existing local businesses. Already have enough shops and supermarkets.	An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.
3.	Parminder Kaur	Opposed	Proposal will have very bad effects on existing local businesses. Already have enough shops in town, with a big number of existing shops and buildings that are vacant.	An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.
4.	Tina Harkin	Support	Proposal will offer more work opportunities for local people and a service to people from the outlying towns. A supermarket and other shops in the	Submission of support noted.

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
			proposed location will take some pressure away from the town centre and assist with the current lack of parking.	
5.	Brad Harkin	Support	Does not agree with the continual expansion of new estates in Traralgon with limited advancements in infrastructure to handle to the growing population. Therefore supports the proposal as it will provide a shopping centre for the new estate and make is a self-sufficient community. It will also result in less congestion in the CBD, where parking is an issue.	Submission of support noted.
6.	Cassie Spagnolo	Support	Supports the proposal as having a supermarket closer to home would be of great convenience.	Submission of support noted.
7.	Barbra Gapper	Supports with requested changes	Fully supports the proposal for the intended purposes. Consideration needs to be given to the construction of a pathway for pedestrians along the Traralgon/ Maffra Road from the Princes Highway to Marshalls Road. It would be fair to expect that persons living close by would use this facility and to be able to walk or ride there in a safe way would be advantageous. To expect people to walk along the road way is not a safe option, given the increased traffic that can be expected.	Submission of support noted. It is considered that the construction of this path would be beyond the scope of the proposed development as it would form part of the broader planning and infrastructure for the wider area. As the industrial precinct to the south of Marshalls Road transitions to residential, appropriate pedestrian linkages will be put in place at the relevant time. It is noted that the developer of the proposed supermarket would be required to pay contributions under the TNDP which, together with the broader precinct, will fund the construction of shared paths along the Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road frontages of the site as well as other infrastructure that will improve pedestrian connectivity in the local area.
8.	David Langmore	Opposed	Objects to the proposal for the following reasons: <i>Location</i> – Subject land is not, and will never be, central to the existing, or potential, residential areas in the north- east sector of Traralgon. A large area	<i>Location</i> – The proposed location on the corner of Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road was considered and nominated as part of the endorsed Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP) subject to further analysis and rezoning

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
			<p>immediately to the east of the subject land is zoned and used as an extensive industrial area. Therefore the proposed shopping centre would not be providing facilities for any near-by residents to the east. It would also be relatively distant to many residents in the north-east sector, with it not being easily accessible for pedestrians in this sector.</p> <p>This could be resolved by having the neighbourhood centre at the intersection of Park Lake and Marshalls Road.</p> <p><i>Scale</i> – The scale of retail facilities are not at a scale appropriate to a neighbourhood of this size. If developed, the proposal would be the second largest supermarket in the whole of Traralgon. This scale of supermarket would be appropriate at serving a population of at least 12,000 to 15,000 people. It is not the scale relevant to serve the existing population of this sector, not for its ultimate maximum population which is to be in the order of 4,000 to 6,000 people.</p> <p>The maximum size supermarket for this sector of Traralgon should be limited to a maximum 2,000 sqm.</p>	<p>(this amendment process).</p> <p>There are advantages and disadvantages to possible neighbourhood centre locations including comparison with the suggested location at Park Lane.</p> <p>While a location at Park Lane would be more central to the TNDP area, as detailed in the Economic Impact Assessment the proposed centre will serve a wider catchment that includes the existing residential area south of Marshalls Road, the TNDP area as well as surrounding towns of Glengarry and Toongabbie to the north. The prominent corner location of the site on Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road make it highly accessible to its catchment, with the EIA stating that it is the preferred location for a neighbourhood centre in this part of Traralgon.</p> <p>In addition, the opportunity for a neighbourhood centre to be developed in the early development stage of the growth area would provide significant social and economic benefits by avoiding the time lag in the provision of services that can often accompany greenfield residential growth.</p> <p>Shared paths along Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road and the construction of a signalised intersection at Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road under the TNDP will improve pedestrian accessibility to the site.</p> <p><i>Scale</i> – An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the</p>

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
				role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.
9.	Ashwin Pragji	Opposed	As a retailer in the Traralgon CBD, having a full sized Woolworths and other speciality shops in the outskirts of Traralgon is a concern. Fear that this proposal will drain a substantial amount of revenue from the CBD, with a number of retailers already doing it tough and would be creating a 'mini Morwell' situation.	An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.
10.	Mark Baines	Support	Resides at the north/west end of Traralgon and having a supermarket at that end of town would save time and effort with having to deal with the already congested CBD.	Submission of support noted.
11.	John & Heather O'Connor	Support	Reside in Glengarry and find it extremely hard and frustrating to get a car park within the vicinity of the current supermarkets, especially at school drop off and pick up times. To be able to stop in at Marshalls Road would be fantastic.	Submission of support noted.
12.	RGM Accountants & Advisors Pty Ltd	Support	Support the proposal as it will provide residents to the east of Traralgon with easier access to the products and services offered by the proposal. Residents on the outer lying areas of Toongabbie and Glengarry will be able to access products and services from the Marshalls Road shopping precinct, which would ease congestion in the CBD. Additional employment opportunities will be a much needed boost to the Traralgon and wider Latrobe City economy.	Submission of support noted.

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
13.	Tim Ferguson	Support	Fully support the proposal as it would be very handy to have a large supermarket close by and believes that it will increase property value in the area.	Submission of support noted.
14.	Leon & Marg Hammond	Support	Strongly support the proposal being passed as it will assist in relieving the congestion of traffic in the Traralgon CBD. Proposal would be able to support the surrounding residential developments and people from Glengarry, Toongabbie, Cowwarr and even beyond to Heyfield and Maffra.	Submission of support noted.
15.	Graeme Matthews	Support	As a property owner in the vicinity of the proposal it would great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when its gets busy and impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.
16.	Glenda Matthews	Support	Owns property within the vicinity of the proposal and cannot see any adverse effects if it's built. Would great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when its gets busy and impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.
17.	Robert Matthews	Support	Strongly supports the proposal as it would service regular shopping needs without having to enter the Traralgon CBD. In recent years shopping in the CBD has become increasingly difficult with parking and traffic.	Submission of support noted.
18.	Jenny Neave	Support	As a property owner within the vicinity of the proposal it would be great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when it gets busy and it's almost impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.
19.	Stockland Development Pty Ltd	Opposed	Objects to the proposal for the following reasons:	<i>Absence of proper strategic planning support – while an activity centre strategy would ideally be prepared for the whole of Traralgon before any</i>

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
			<p><i>Absence of proper strategic planning support</i> - The subject land is not identified in the Planning Scheme or the draft Traralgon Growth Areas Review as a preferred location for a new neighbourhood centre.</p> <p><i>Proposal is premature</i> – The Planning Scheme and the draft Traralgon Growth Areas Review recommend activity centre strategies be undertaken to determine how future growth should be planned and serviced. This work is yet to be done and would properly test the need for new neighbourhood activity centres.</p> <p><i>Impact upon Traralgon CBD</i> – Primary trade area for the proposal is marginally above 5,000 people, whereas the accepted catchment for neighbourhood centres is between 8,000 and 10,000 people. If the proposal was to proceed it could result in low trading levels from its immediate catchment and thereby putting pressure on secondary trade areas, which has the ability to impact activity and trading in the Traralgon CBD.</p>	<p>new retail centres were created, it would be impractical and detrimental to the community to preclude development opportunities on this basis. It is common for site specific rezonings to be undertaken in the absence of such a strategy given the realities of time and Council resources or to consider new opportunities, which is an important function of the planning scheme amendment process. In these instances the amendment process provides the appropriate consideration of strategic analysis and justification, as has been done in order to support this proposal.</p> <p><i>Impact upon Traralgon CBD</i> – An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.</p>
20.	Leanne Sutton	Support	As a property owner within the vicinity of the proposal it would be great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when it gets busy and it's almost impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.
21.	David Garrett	Support	As a property owner within the vicinity of the proposal it would be great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when it gets busy and it's almost impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
22.	Ormond Higgins	Support	As a property owner within the vicinity of the proposal it would be great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when it gets busy and it's almost impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.
23.	Anthony & Shonna Meo	Support	As a property owner within the vicinity of the proposal it would be great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when it gets busy and it's almost impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.
24.	Michael & Jonine Naughton	Opposed	<p>Strongly objects to the proposal for the following reasons:</p> <p><i>Aesthetic impact</i> – Commercial Zone being placed in a residential estate is a significant departure from previous planning in Latrobe Valley, which sought to keep commercial and residential settings apart. Placing a large commercial site at the top of a valley looking down on surrounding communities has little aesthetic value.</p> <p>Placing a service station so close to residential properties beggars' belief that council officials do not live in this environment. Although a service station is in place at the west end of Traralgon, the size and hours of operations is completely different.</p> <p><i>Economic impact</i> – Such a proposal being considered in a residential setting when already numerous commercial sites exist in surrounding areas. Council officers stated in Latrobe Valley Express that Latrobe City Council growth is below average, it is therefore argued that building houses does not, on its own, increase population.</p> <p>Council's <i>Review of Economic Assessment</i> indicates a decline in CBD business of up to 6% and an 18% reduction in CDB food and grocery sales, which is</p>	<p><i>Amenity impact (including aesthetic, noise, light and pollution)</i> – Neighbourhood activity centres are deliberately located within residential areas in order to provide convenient and accessible shopping facilities, sense of community and promote walking and cycling.</p> <p>The proposed centre is sited and designed to ensure that there is no unreasonable impact on the amenity of the surrounding residential neighbourhood. This includes frontages to three roads, minimising its direct interfaces with residential properties.</p> <p>All commercial operations must comply with planning permit conditions as well as the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) legislation regarding noise. In particular, EPA requirements regarding hours of operation, delivery vehicles and noise levels set the standard for commercial uses in residential areas across Victoria. It is noted that the EPA was notified and responded with a submission confirming that the EPA has no objection to the proposal.</p> <p><i>Economic impact</i> – An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application</p>

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
			<p>likely to impact smaller shops more significantly.</p> <p><i>Traffic and safety</i> – Proposal will have a substantial impact on road volume, noise and pollution not only impacting current residents, but new residents to 'The Rise' estate. The volume of traffic produced will have a considerable impact on amenity and pose a rise to the safety of families and children.</p> <p>The prediction of predicted traffic volumes of 12,500 movements a day on Marshalls Road is out of expectations for a regional city feeder road and is an inappropriate impact on local surrounding communities.</p> <p><i>Noise</i> – Monitoring is required to meet the requirements of current legislation relating to residential estates. Although operating hours are proposed between 7.00 am – 10.00 pm, the facility will impact on noise, light and traffic volumes and will a detrimental factor to the area beyond these hours.</p> <p>Believes that EPA Guidelines 2008 will be breached by this development and will leave Council open to civil action by residents.</p> <p><i>Light Pollution</i> - Should a supermarket and associated subsidiary shops be built, lighting will exceed that apportioned to residential estates.</p> <p><i>Pollution</i> - Notes that air quality monitoring shows Traralgon exceeding the expected 4 hour limit for pollution. The Hazelwood Mine Fire Enquiry has pointed to air quality issues in Latrobe Valley, which this development will exacerbate, and impact on population health.</p>	<p>concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.</p> <p><i>Traffic and safety</i> – A Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) was submitted with the proposal and provides an analysis of traffic and movement implications of the proposal including the proposed road access to Marshalls Road and projected traffic volumes. The TIA concludes that the proposed development can be adequately accommodated in the surrounding road network.</p> <p>The proposal was also referred to Council's internal traffic engineer and VicRoads and appropriate conditions have been included on the draft planning permit.</p>
25.	John & Kate Kamphuis	Support	As a property owner within the vicinity of the proposal it would be great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when it gets busy and it's almost	Submission of support noted.

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
			impossible to find handy parking.	
26.	Axella Johannesson	Opposed	<p>Objects to the proposal for the following reasons;</p> <p>With so many triggers for the development to occur, it may never be built, thereby locking up the land for Woolworths and not its competition.</p> <p>Exodus of shoppers from CBD may be detrimental to the CBD.</p> <p>Potential to fragment the population as less people will visit the CBD and hence will miss opportunities to 'socialise'.</p>	<p>An Economic Impact Assessment submitted with the application concludes that the proposal is economically supported and would not have a significant adverse impact on the Traralgon CBD or other existing centres. Although there would be some impact on existing retailers, particularly in the grocery segment of the CBD, this would be within a reasonable level and the role and function of the existing centres will be maintained. A peer review commissioned by Latrobe City Council supports this conclusion.</p> <p>Planning permits are not linked to a particular supermarket operator (eg Woolworths) and therefore do not 'lock up' the land from other operators. Planning permits relate to the land, so any operator could construct an approved development. If the development didn't occur, any operator could submit a different proposal by applying for a planning permit, which would then be assessed against the criteria of the approved Development Plan. There can be multiple planning permits for the same land.</p> <p>As large regional towns grow and expand it is important that new residential areas are provided with services such as shopping facilities to meet the local convenience needs of the community, provide a focal point and sense of place, reduce congestion, and promote walking, cycling and shorter car trips. The proposed neighbourhood centre would operate in a 'hierarchy' with the Traralgon CBD by providing a different role that would not undermine the role of the CBD.</p>
27.	Peter Wood (late submission)	Support for Amendme	Does not oppose the proposal, but does not support the extension to the land to west, titled 'future subdivision'. The amendment should state that this	Support is noted. Any future expansion to the west would be subject to a separate planning scheme amendment and is considered unlikely,

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
		nt Concerns regarding permit	<p>amendment fulfils the requirements of the planning scheme to develop a neighbourhood activity centre.</p> <p>Provides the following feedback in relation to the planning permit:</p> <p><i>Car Parking</i> - Opposes the reduction in car parking and requests that Latrobe City Council review its overall parking provisions to ensure fairness across the municipality, prior to granting any reduction; and</p> <p><i>Traffic</i> - Questions the creation of access on to the Traralgon Maffra Road with little traffic management plan details provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access details skimpy. Details not provided as to another road on the western boundary that runs north/south but with no access to Marshall's Rd. • Observed that work has already commenced on the western boundary to create a road with access to Marshall's Rd. This therefore pre-empted an outcome that does not include traffic detail for this occurrence. • No traffic management detail that addresses the access point off Traralgon-Maffra Rd, including main road run-offs and road widening. • LCC capital works program for 2015/2016 cites \$1,093,000 by way of Government Grant, provided to signalize the intersection at Marshall's Road and Maffra Road, but no mention of this nor any associated traffic management works, particularly the impact on each of the roads and its relationship to the proposed planning permit application. • The lack of details from LCC as to road widening of Marshall's Rd, the provision of footpaths and bicycle tracks, drainage and other associated works and an indication as to when this infrastructure is likely to be commenced and at 	<p>noting that a permit application is underway for residential development of the adjoining land.</p> <p><i>Car parking</i> – A reduction in the car parking requirement of 14 spaces is sought. The decision guidelines for the consideration of car parking reductions include '<i>efficiencies gained from the consolidation of shared car parking spaces</i>'. It is common that car parking requirements are reduced in neighbourhood activity centres given the likelihood of multi-purpose trips and the opportunity for consolidation of shared spaces.</p> <p>Empirical data has been provided in the Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) (further information attachment letter) providing examples of this. Based on this information it is considered that the proposed reduction of 14 spaces is appropriate to the proposed neighbourhood activity centre and car parking demand will be met.</p> <p><i>Traffic</i> – The proposed access from Traralgon-Maffra Road will provide an entry for delivery vehicles only. It has been assessed as part of the TIA and VicRoads has not objected to this access point and appropriate conditions requiring the detailed design of the access to be approved have been included on the draft permit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed north-south access road on the western boundary of the site, to/from Marshalls Road, will provide the only public access to the centre. • The work referenced relates to temporary access for construction vehicles to The Rise residential development to the north. Should the proposed access to Marshalls Road not be approved the current temporary access would be removed at the completion of the residential development.

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
			what and whose cost.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As detailed above the proposed access point from Traralgon-Maffra Road will provide an entry for delivery vehicles only. Land needed from the site for this access point is shown as becoming part of the road reserve on the proposed plan of subdivision. The signalised intersection at Marshalls Road and Traralgon-Maffra Road is required under the Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP) and this is noted in the TIA. It is a Development Contributions item (100% attributable to the TNDP precinct). This means that the developer, together with contributions from all landowners within the precinct, pays Council for the cost of the intersection. Widening of Marshalls Road, the provision of shared paths, drainage and other associated works including the timing of infrastructure delivery are also set out and required under the TNDP. These works will be funded through development contributions.
28.	Traralgon Chamber of Commerce and Industry (late submission)	Support	<p>Support the development as proposed. It will be great for the shoppers in the CBD as it will alleviate some of the crowding that currently happens, particularly on long weekend and other public holidays. This will improve access for small business in the CBD which is finding it particularly difficult in the current climate.</p> <p>Would object to any future expansions that would see the shopping centre move from a "Community Village" to a major shopping Centre similar to TCP and Mid Valley.</p> <p>Expect that any funding for infrastructure, eg roads, foot paths, traffic lights etc should not be paid for by Latrobe City, and instead funded by the developer.</p>	<p>Submission of support noted.</p> <p>It is noted that infrastructure will be funded through development contributions under the Traralgon North Development Plan.</p>

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Opposed	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
29.	Ellen Ellis (late submission)	Support	As a property owner in the vicinity of the proposal it would great to see a supermarket in the neighbourhood as it's become very difficult to shop in town when its gets busy and impossible to find handy parking.	Submission of support noted.

Referral agency submissions

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Objection	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
1.	Gippsland Water	Support	Has no objection to proposal.	Noted.
2.	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	Support	Generally supports the proposal and provided recommended planning permit conditions relating to the removal of native vegetation.	Recommended conditions 1, 2 and 3 have already been included in the draft permit. Recommended conditions 4 and 5 will be included as appropriate.
3.	EPA Victoria	Support	Has no objection to the proposal.	Noted.
4.	Hon Luke Donnellan, Minister for Roads & Road Safety		Acknowledged that VicRoads had previously provided Latrobe City Council with planning permit conditions.	Noted.
5.	Public Transport Victoria	Request changes	Requested the following changes: <i>Road Network</i> – Marshalls Road should be designed to function as a public transport (bus) corridor. <i>Planning Permit</i> – Provided planning permit conditions relating to; Marshalls Road being constructed to a standard to accommodate public transport access and the construction of a bus stop on each side of Marshalls Road.	The upgrade and widening of Marshalls Road is planned as part of the adopted Traralgon North Development Plan (TNDP). The proposed development will contribute to this upgrade through the Development Contributions Plan (DCP) forming part of the TNDP. A proposed future bus route has already been nominated in the TNDP to serve the new residential neighbourhood including the subject site, with bus stops to be funded under the DCP. The connector streets within the TNDP have been

Sub No.	Name / Organisation	Support / Objection	Summary of Issues	Planning Comment
				designed to accommodate the potential future bus services. The potential bus route and stops are indicative and there may be an opportunity in the future for a bus route to take an alternate route to pass the proposed neighbourhood activity centre, such as utilising the proposed north-south road connection to Marshalls Road.
6.	VicRoads (late submission)	Request changes	<p>Requested the following changes:</p> <p><i>Arterial Road</i> – All infrastructure associated with the operation of the Arterial Road is to be contained within the Arterial Road reserve boundaries.</p> <p>Any land required to be set aside for Arterial Road purposes shall be shown as Road R1 on the Plan of Subdivision.</p> <p><i>Traffic Analysis</i> – Further traffic analysis of the intersections of the Princes Highway and McNairn Road and the Princes Highway Traralgon – Maffra Road is required. As a result of the findings, provide any mitigating solutions to ensure no loss of service on the Arterial Road network (if required).</p>	This was a late submission and officers are currently considering whether the requested further traffic analysis is needed. Further detail has been sought from VicRoads in order to properly inform the consideration of this request.

14.4 PLANNING SCHEME REVIEW - UPDATE ON PROGRESS

General Manager

**Planning & Economic
Sustainability**

For Information

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the application of a fast track amendment made to the Minister for Planning in accordance with the resolution at the 13 April 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An application has being made to the Minister for Planning to authorise the preparation and full public exhibition of a proposed amendment to the Latrobe Planning Scheme. The Amendment proposes to update the Local Planning Policy Framework (including Municipal Strategic Statement).

In accordance with the Council resolution made at the 13 April 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting, an application for a section 20(4) amendment for the Planning Scheme Review to undergo a fast track amendment was made to the Minister for Planning. Preliminary advice from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) has indicated that at a regional level this application will not be supported. While initially encouraged to seek a fast track amendment, subsequent advice from DELWP after they undertook a more detailed review of the document changes, is that it will likely lead to refusal by the Minister for Planning to consider the Amendment as a fast track amendment.

A new application has been made to the Minister for Planning for authorisation, including full exhibition of Amendment C97.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes this Planning Scheme Review – Update On Progress report.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

In 2026, Latrobe Valley benefits from a well-planned built environment that is complementary to its surrounding, and which provides for a connected and inclusive community.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Strategic Objectives - Governance

In 2026, Latrobe Valley has a reputation for conscientious leadership and governance, strengthened by an informed and engaged community, committed to enriching local decision making.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme 5: Planning for the future

To provide clear and concise policies and directions in all aspects of planning.

Strategic Direction – Planning for the future

Provide efficient and effective planning services and decision making to encourage development and new investment opportunities.

In consultation with the community, review Council's Municipal Strategic Statement and the Latrobe City Planning Scheme.

Legislation

The discussions and recommendations of this report are consistent with the provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) and the Latrobe Planning Scheme.

BACKGROUND

A major review of the Latrobe Planning Scheme was identified in the Council Plan 2013-2017, including reviewing the Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF), zones and overlays, and a general review of its format and content.

Council adopted the Latrobe Planning Scheme Review Report (October 2014) at the 5 November 2014 Ordinary Council Meeting and this report has been provided to the Minister for Planning. Hence Latrobe City Council has met their obligation under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to review the Latrobe Planning Scheme every four years. Therefore there is no statutory requirement to undertake the changes proposed in the *Latrobe Planning Scheme Review Report (October 2014)*. It is recognised however, that a planning scheme amendment is required to update to the Planning Scheme.

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

In accordance with the Council resolution made at the 13 April 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting, an application for a section 20(4) amendment for the *Latrobe Planning Scheme Review Report (October 2014)* to undergo a fast track amendment was made to the Minister for Planning. Preliminary advice from DELWP has indicated that at a regional level this application will not be supported. While initially encouraged to seek a fast track amendment, subsequent advice from DELWP after they undertook a more detailed review of the document changes, is that it will likely lead to refusal by the Minister for Planning to consider the Amendment as a fast track amendment.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

A briefing was provided to Councillors on 31 August 2015 to discuss the options for moving forward the project in a timely manner. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will exercise his delegations in accordance with the Council's instrument of delegation to request the Minister for Planning to authorise the amendment.

An authorisation request for Amendment C97 – Planning Scheme Review was submitted to the Minister for Planning under delegation of the CEO on the 10 September 2015. The authorisation has now being received with full public exhibition likely to occur during October-December 2015.

Amendment C97 proposes to implement the recommendations of the recently adopted *Latrobe Planning Scheme Review Report (October 2014)* in particular:

- Prepare and exhibit a revised LPPF updating land use planning strategies and policies of relevance to Latrobe City Council;
- Insert adopted policy into the Latrobe Planning Scheme which is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework, has the appropriate strategic justification, been through a community consultation process and subsequently been adopted by Council;
- Reflect the changes at the local level to key Council 'governance' documents, notably the Council Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Plan; and
- Reflects the 'Further Strategic Work' outlined in the Planning Scheme Review Report.

The amendment will not implement any changes to zones or overlays required to achieve the objectives and strategies identified by the Review.

It is noted that there are already a number of other concurrent amendments to the Latrobe Planning Scheme including Amendment C87 (Traralgon Growth Areas Review), Amendment C89 (Traralgon North Neighbourhood Activity Centre), Amendment C94 (Introduction of the Parking Overlay) and other site specific rezoning applications.

Amendment C97 – Latrobe Planning Scheme Review does not incorporate changes to the Latrobe Planning Scheme foreshadowed in these concurrent amendments (e.g. coal provisions, odour buffer issues, commercial rezoning's and parking provisions). Amendment C97 makes structural changes to the existing MSS with no changes to existing main town structure plans, as well as integrating key agreed Council policy positions from already adopted documents. Amendments C87, C89, C94 and other site specific rezoning's form part of separate processes where relevant matters will be considered, and hence are outside the scope of Amendment C97.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

The adoption of the Review and subsequent forwarding to the Minister has fulfilled the statutory requirement. Implementing the findings of the Review through a Planning Scheme Amendment is the next step towards meeting Council's economic and planning objectives and strategies outlined in the Council Plan 2013-2017.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

Funds have been allocated through budget savings in the current 2015-2016 budget year to enable a standard planning scheme amendment to proceed.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

In the preparation of the new Municipal Strategic Statement and LPPF targeted consultation with key internal Council and government departments was undertaken as part of the Planning Scheme Review (October 2014).

Amendment C97 – Latrobe Planning Scheme Review will be subject to the prescribed process in accordance with the public notice and consultation requirements of Section 19 of the Act.

This will include advertising in the government gazette, local newspapers and community information sessions. Notification will be given to submitters of the Planning Scheme Review (October 2014), as well as community groups, major stakeholders and government agencies.

OPTIONS

The options available to Council are as follows:

1. Receive and note this report
2. Request further information

CONCLUSION

The application for the Minister for Planning to consider the Planning Scheme Review as a fast track amendment is likely to be refused. A request for authorisation was made to the Minister for Planning under CEO delegation, to progress Amendment C97 – Latrobe Planning Scheme Review to full exhibition. This request has been granted and Amendment C97 – Latrobe Planning Scheme Review will proceed to full exhibition in October–December 2015.

Attachments

Nil

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION

15. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE & RECREATION

15.1 WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2010-2017 REVIEW

General Manager

**Community Infrastructure &
Recreation**

For Decision

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Waste Management Strategy (WMS) actions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is required as an update to Council of the actions implemented in the Waste Management Strategy to comply with sustainability and liveability provisions and to deliver opportunities and improve the waste management system.

Since 2010 there have been significant changes in the management of waste within Latrobe City Council and this review will highlight the changes and the effects. The implementation of technology has provided up to date data for analysis to identify future predictions that facilitates management of key issues.

The review of the WMS has provided a comprehensive update on the obligations of local governments to provide an essential community service by protecting the environment and public health, maximise the productive value of resources and minimise the long term costs to households, industry and government. The new policies, frameworks and plans disseminated from State and Federal legislation will guide the future of waste management.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the review of the Waste Management Strategy 2010 – 2017.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives - Natural Environment

In 2026, Latrobe Valley enjoys a beautiful natural environment that is managed and protected with respect to ensure a lasting legacy for future generations.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 1: Job creation and economic sustainability

Theme 2: affordable and sustainable facilities, services and recreation

Theme 3: Efficient, effective and accountable governance

Theme 4: Advocacy for and consultation with our community

Theme 5: Planning for the future

Strategic Direction – Natural Environment

Provide and promote environmentally sustainable waste management practices to attain best practice ‘final storage quality’.

BACKGROUND

Currently within Latrobe City the management of waste includes kerbside collection and disposal, hard waste services, operation of transfer stations, organic recycling facilities, materials recovery facility (MRF), landfill operations, street sweeping, footpath sweeping, illegally dumped rubbish, public litter collection, waste education and other waste clearance activities.

The Waste Management Strategy 2010-2017 (WMS) requires a midterm review to ensure the plans, policies, strategies and actions that are the drivers of waste management from a Federal, State and local government perspective are endorsed and updated for the effective and efficient management of the overall objectives.

The WMS was adopted 6 December 2010 and has provided significant directions in waste management and the provision of waste services with the key focus on resource recovery, maximisation of landfill airspace and waste sustainability education.

Since 2010 there have been significant changes in the management of waste within Latrobe City Council and this review will highlight the changes and the effects.

The key focus areas within the Strategy are:

- Individual facility cost;
- Individual facility tonnage arising per waste stream collected;
- Waste Education Plan review with a focus on:
 - Community education and participation in waste management;
 - Increased community awareness of sustainable waste generation practises;
 - Increasing capture of recyclable materials; and
 - Reduction of contamination in recyclable collection systems.
- Enforcement plans to identify a flow of actions for persistent:

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

- Failure to use the kerbside collection bins correctly; and
- Littering and illegal dumping.
- Transfer station management and infrastructure;
- Green waste collection centre provision and contracts;
- Advanced waste treatment;
- Kerbside Collection bin size and contracts;
- Creation of a littering and illegal dumping plan;
- Provision of Public Place Recycling across Latrobe City; and
- Landfill.

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

This review provides an updated list of the Strategies, Policies, Plans, Frameworks and terminology and includes the results from the WMS Action Plan to date.

During 2009/10 Latrobe City Council's four major waste contracts were due to expire and required tenders to be developed and presented to the market. These contracts represented approximately \$7 million of Councils annual recurrent budget so it was extremely important to ensure the scope of works for each contract was concise and aimed at delivering the required services effectively and efficiently. The use of technology to advance efficiencies was a major factor in the selection of suitable contractors and has been instrumental in achieving financial and operational success.

Any legislative changes required since the adoption of the WMS in 2010 have been introduced by Latrobe City Council's Waste Sustainability department to ensure compliance of mandatory practices.

National Waste Policy 2010-2020;

Toward Zero Waste (TZW) reviewed in 2012 and replaced by Getting Full Value – The Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy, April 2013;

SV2015 – Strategic Plan;

Product Stewardship Act 2011;

Ministerial Advisory Committee on Waste and Resource Recovery Governance Reform 2013;

Victorian Litter Strategy 2012-2014;

Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan Victoria 2015-44;

Draft Victorian Organic Resource Recovery Strategy;

Victorian Auditor-General's Report – Managing Landfills

The WMS included an Action Plan to confirm that future performance was able to be quantified.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

The Action Plan is listed below and includes comments relating to the status of each action. The comments also reflect the changes to Divisions, Departments and staff position descriptions implemented through business restructuring or other related requirements.

Changes that have been implemented since 2010 include:

- Manager Natural Environment Sustainability to Manager Waste Sustainability;
- Waste and Recycling Services Coordinator to Coordinator Waste Services;
- Waste Education Officer to Sustainability Education Officer;
- Toward Zero Waste to Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan Victoria 2015-44;
- Gippsland Regional Waste Management Group to Gippsland Waste And Resource Recover Group, and
- Waste Contracts.

Waste Management Strategy 2010 – 2017 Action Plan

Recommendation	Actions	Responsibility	Completion Date	Comments
1. Transfer Station and Green Waste Collection Centre Information	1.1 Contractual requirement to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cost per facility; - Tonnes per waste stream for each facility; and - Electronic data capture system. 	Contract tender evaluation	Feb 2011	Completed – Transfer Station Contract start date: 2 July 2011 Acceptance & Processing of Green Organics Contract start date: 2 July 2011
2. Commercial waste landfill diversion strategy	2.1 Identify a strategy for the reduction of commercial waste arising at Hyland Highway landfill. Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Financial; - Incentive; - Facilitation; and - Education strategies. 	Latrobe City Council officers and GRWMG	Feb 2011	Not Completed. Changes to the regional waste management groups have interrupted this project. Ongoing.
3. Waste Education Plan	3.1 Review the Waste Education Plan Action Plan to ensure alignment with the adopted strategy; 3.2 Continue working in collaboration with Gippsland Regional Waste Management Group to achieve waste education goals; 3.3 Identify the best education methods for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction of contamination in all methods for collection of recycling and green waste; - Methods for increasing 	Waste Education Officer and GRWMG	Feb 2011 Ongoing Ongoing	Completed. Changes to the regional waste management groups have interrupted Plans due to funding arrangements. New SV Projects have been provided for 2015-16 and include: Waste

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Recommendation	Actions	Responsibility	Completion Date	Comments
	<p>capture rate of recyclables and green waste in all collection systems;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engaging all sections of Latrobe City community, including commercial waste providers; and - Reduction in littering behaviour across the municipality. 			<p>Education Strategy; Engaging the community on waste; Education for improving resource recovery; The Litter Champion Role and VLAA; and Love Food Hate Waste Program.</p>
4. Advanced Waste Treatment	<p>4.1 Support Gippsland Regional Waste Management Group efforts to provide a business case for a Regional AWT facility;</p> <p>4.2 Ensure that any GRWMG recommendations are feasible financially and physically for Latrobe City; and</p> <p>4.3 Maintain the ability to implement an AWT at a Latrobe City level, should a technology arise.</p>	<p>Manager Natural Environment Sustainability</p> <p>Contract tender evaluation. Manager Economic Sustainability</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Feb 2011</p>	<p>Changed to Manager Waste Sustainability. Changes to the regional waste management groups.</p> <p>Ongoing. Gippsland Collaborative Waste Investment Initiative EOI mid-2015.</p> <p>Ongoing.</p>
5. Kerbside Collection	<p>5.1 Review the current bin size offering to residents with the potential to offer an 80L MGB garbage bin;</p> <p>5.2 Review the feasibility of providing a Kitchen Organics kerbside collection service should a Regional or Local solution to Kitchen Organics treatment become viable;</p> <p>5.3 To allow for future AWT development to be supported with materials arising from the kerbside or transfer stations the Council should ensure that future contracts provide the ability for materials to be sent to a facility of Latrobe City Councils choice, with compensation to the operator if it entails extra cost;</p> <p>5.4 Continue identification of household and commercial users that are continually misusing the kerbside collection bins as a requirement for the kerbside collection contractor to monitor and report offenders on a monthly basis should be</p>	<p>Waste and Recycling Services Coordinator</p> <p>Waste Education Officer and GRWMG</p> <p>Manager Natural Environment Sustainability.</p> <p>Contract tender evaluation.</p> <p>Waste and Recycling Services Coordinator, Contractor</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>July 2012</p> <p>June 2011</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Changed to: Coordinator Waste Services.</p> <p>Completed – not viable at this stage due to costs involved. EOI for Gippsland Collaborative Waste Investment Initiative.</p> <p>Completed – Contractual obligations provided.</p> <p>Monthly reporting and audits provided by contractual obligations.</p>

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Recommendation	Actions	Responsibility	Completion Date	Comments
	included in future kerbside collection contracts; 5.5 Further review system for the enforcement of waste management systems, including: - Education that will be provided to identified offenders; - Warnings that would be provided to repeat offenders; - Statutory fining/enforcement to repeat offenders.	Waste Education Officer Local Laws Officers	June 2012	Completed – Depot staff responsible for auditing and collection. Camera technology implemented in kerbside collection contract – audits and reporting process.
6. Hard waste service	6.1 Review the current provisions for hard waste funding and identify how funding will occur post 2010/11; and 6.2 The 'at call' service provider be required to stop at one of the waste transfer stations provided by the Council.	Manager Natural Environment Sustainability Contract tender evaluation	June 2011 Feb 2011	Changed to: Manager Waste Sustainability Completed. Charged to Rates. Completed – Contract obligation.
7. Transfer Station	7.1 Implement actions identified in the report Latrobe City Council <i>Review of Transfer Station management Contract and Infrastructure</i> ; and 7.2 Review current Transfer Station gate fees.	Waste and Recycling Services Coordinator	June 2011	Completed – New Contract, including 4 year infrastructure upgrade project. Completed – Annual review as per contract obligation.
8. Green Waste Collection Centres	8.1 Review the provision of Green Waste Collection Centres as totally separate facilities from Transfer Stations; 8.2 Implement actions identified in the Report <i>Latrobe City Council Greenwaste Contract review</i> .	Waste and Recycling Services Coordinator	June 2011	Completed – New Contract.
9. Littering and illegal dumping	9.1 Continue participating in the GRWMG Littering Prevention Task Force. 9.2 Review provision of Public Litter Bins in current areas of high littering; 9.3 Cross reference with the Waste Education Plan to ensure that education systems focused at littering behaviour are put into place; 9.4 Further review the system for the enforcement of littering prevention, to include: - Education that will be provided to identified offenders;	Waste Education Officer and GRWMG Waste Education Officer and Local Laws Officers	Ongoing June 2014 June 2012 June 2012	Changed to: Waste Sustainability Officer Gippsland Waste & Resource Recovery Group (GWRRG) Includes: Victorian Litter Alliance Implemented a streamlined auditing process within kerbside collection contract.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

Recommendation	Actions	Responsibility	Completion Date	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Warnings that would be provided to repeat offenders; - Statutory fining/enforcement to repeat offenders. 			Media waste education program that includes all Latrobe City Council waste contractors.
10. Public Place Recycling (PPR)	<p>10.1 Review the provision of PPRs with a view to installing them in high sporting locations alongside Public Litter Bins (PLBs);</p> <p>10.2 Ensure that PPRs put in place are clearly different to PLBs through use of different colours, Educational stickers and different shape of material receivable entrance.</p>	Waste and Recycling Services Coordinator and Waste Education Officer.	June 2011	<p>Ongoing program with Community Recreation Officer</p> <p>Ongoing. Requires specific collection contractor and budgets for capital and operation prior to implementation.</p>
11. Financial Considerations	<p>11.1 Investigate financial implications of moving to full cost recovery for whole of life approach;</p> <p>11.2 Investigate financial implications for moving to 80L garbage bins.</p>	Manager Natural Environment Sustainability and Manager Finance	May 2011	Full cost recovery has been implemented in conjunction with the Waste Cost Model.

Operational Overview

Capital infrastructure works at the transfer stations has provided a greater level of safety for customers and operational staff, increased the recovery of resources to approximately 75% increasing the life of the landfill, reduced the carbon footprint for transport, traffic management reduced to a minimum and electronic capture of data.

Landfill management is controlled by the issue of a landfill licence by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and is strictly adhered to through adopting the Best Practice Environment Management (BPEM) guidelines as determined by the: Siting, Design, Operation and Rehabilitation of Landfills publication. An EPA appointed Auditor oversees the management and operation of the landfill via an annual Landfill Audit approved by the EPA. Non-conformances in any area of management or operation are reported to the EPA for further actions.

The next two years for Waste Sustainability will be to further increase the recycling habits of the community by the introduction of a new phase in education with a media campaign that is aimed at reducing the level of contamination in the collection of kerbside recycling whilst growing the effort.

Latrobe City Council is a party to an Expression of Interest for utilisation of the combined waste streams within the region to drive private sector

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

investment in medium to large scale economic infrastructure the business of resource recovery.

The WMS has been instrumental in the success of Latrobe City Council's waste management and will continue to provide significant guidelines with the flexibility to amend, adapt and improve as determined by technological changes, infrastructure investment, new or improved market demands or financial assessments for the viable provision of services.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial or resource implications related to a decision on this report.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Engagement Method Used:

No consultation was required for this report.

OPTIONS

The options that are available to Council are;

1. Accept the report on the Waste Management Strategy 2010 – 2017 as presented;
2. Request further information regarding the overall Waste Management Strategy;
3. Not accept the report on the Waste Management Strategy 2010 – 2017 as presented.

CONCLUSION

The Waste Management Strategy provides sustainable solutions to the collection, disposal and resource recovery of waste materials and its key aims are to guide the development and improvement of the current waste management practices, be consistent with Federal, State and Regional changes in an appropriate economic and transparent manner.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Nil

Attachments
Nil

**15.2 DRAFT PLAY SPACE STRATEGY - RELEASE FOR PUBLIC
EXHIBITION**

General Manager

**Community Infrastructure &
Recreation**

For Decision

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Play Space Strategy to Council for consideration and to seek endorsement to release it for community consultation in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Play Space Strategy was identified to be commenced in the 2014/15 financial year. The project commenced in August 2014 with consultants @Leisure Planning appointed to assist with the development of the strategy.

This report presents the draft Play Space Strategy for consideration and discussion by Council.

Whilst the Playground Strategy (2006-2021) is still current, the Playground Improvement Implementation Plan that falls from the current strategy is in its final year. The review of this strategy was seen as an opportunity to improve current play provision and include a strong focus on providing supporting infrastructure associated with playgrounds at Latrobe City Playgrounds.

The current Playground Strategy has a focus on play equipment and it is clear that at ground level that there is limited focus on the supporting infrastructure and landscape such as shade, seating, and path access. In addition to this, worldwide studies in play identify the importance of nature and sensory play for childhood development, which has not been addressed in the current Playground Strategy or implementation plans. There are many examples of seating or tables in playgrounds across Latrobe City that are inaccessible to prams, wheelchairs and the like due to there being no paths.

The draft strategy proposes a range of customised recommendations for renewal and development of all Latrobe City playgrounds and parks they sit in, hence the name change to the Play Space Strategy.

Significant consultation and engagement activities undertaken as part of the previous strategies recently developed by Latrobe City Council, such as the Public Open Space Strategy (2013), Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2013) and the review of the Latrobe City Council Planning Scheme (2014) has informed and guided the development of the draft strategy.

The proposed next step in the process is to undertake formal community engagement through public exhibition of the draft strategy.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

The feedback and suggestions provided during the public exhibition period will guide the development of the final strategy. It will also assist in the development of a prioritised implementation plan that will hopefully be included in the capital works program.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Releases the draft Play Space Strategy for a period of 8 weeks from Tuesday 06 October 2015 to Friday 27 November 2015.**
- 2. Request a further report be presented to Council with the results of the community consultation process.**

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives - Recreation

In 2026, Latrobe Valley encourages a healthy and vibrant lifestyle, with diversity in passive and active recreational opportunities and facilities that connect people with their community.

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 2: affordable and sustainable facilities, services and recreation

Strategic Direction –

- *Promote and support more involvement of children in active recreation and sport*
- *Develop and maintain community infrastructure that meets the needs of our community*
- *Promote and support opportunities for people to enhance their health and wellbeing*
- *Enhance and develop the physical amenity and visual appearance of Latrobe City*
- *Continue to maintain and improve access to Latrobe City's parks, reserves and open spaces*

BACKGROUND

The Latrobe City Council Playground Strategy (2006-2021) and Latrobe City Council Playground Improvement Implementation Plan were identified for review commencing in the 2014/2015 financial year.

Although the Playground Strategy is a current document through to potentially 2021, the current Playground Improvement Implementation Plan (2011-2016) is now commencing its final year actions and highlights the need to formally adopt a new playground strategy vision.

In 2013, the Latrobe City Council Playground Improvement Plan (2011 – 2016) was amended following a report presented to Council on 15 July 2013. Council resolved the following:

1. *That Council formally amend the Playground Improvement Implementation Plan 2011 -2016 to reflect the following:*
 - *Retain the Burnside Drive Morwell and Hicks Court Traralgon playgrounds in their current positions until such time as the equipment becomes unsafe and unsuitable for further use.*
2. *Defer any decision regarding the Taylor Crescent Traralgon and Murphy Crescent Traralgon Playgrounds subject to further consultation.*

Moved: Cr O'Callaghan

Seconded: Cr Harriman

That the recommendation be adopted.

For the Motion

Councillor/s Rossiter, Harriman, White, O'Callaghan, Kam

Against the Motion

Councillor/s Gibbons, Middlemiss

Abstain

Councillor/s Sindt

The Mayor confirmed that the Motion had been CARRIED

The current strategy requires a complete and thorough review to ensure that Latrobe City's play spaces are designed, developed and maintained to respond to current trends and community expectations.

The current Playground Strategy concentrates on provision, rather than the quality and functionality of the space. The strategy has focused on predominantly on the playground equipment without any consideration for the supporting infrastructure such as seating, shade, landscaping, paths and drinking fountains.

The Play Space Strategy is a municipal wide strategy to guide planning, development, maintenance and management of play spaces within the municipality.

The project objectives of the strategy are:

- Provide an easily understood strategic vision for the future planning and improvement of play spaces across Latrobe City, ensuring a 'whole park' approach ;
- Provide a strong focus on the benefits of accessible play spaces and embellishing parks to attract and retain a wide cross section of the community;
- Improve existing spaces in line with Latrobe Community Vision, Council Plan and Public Open Space strategy;
- When improving playgrounds consider opportunities for enhanced integration with the surrounding environment and use of natural features to increase play space opportunities and overall appeal;
- Review the existing Latrobe City Playground strategy 2005-2021;

Recent strategies and plans endorsed by Latrobe City Council have highlighted the need for more detailed planning and programs to address connectivity and increasing physical activity levels as well as a need to improve the overall amenity of Latrobe City.

The Play Space Strategy is also influenced by a great deal of public feedback received over the last few years relating to existing playgrounds within Latrobe City, particularly unpopular removals.

The Council Plan 2013 -2017 identifies five key strategic directions. The Strategic Direction 2 in the Council Plan 2013 - 2017 identifies the need for appropriate, affordable and sustainable facilities services and recreation.

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was adopted by Council in 2013. The aim of this plan is to achieve maximum levels of health and wellbeing through identifying and assessing the actual and potential public health issues in the community and outlining strategies and actions to prevent or minimise them. It also aims to identify opportunities to support health and wellbeing through the four domains of Environments for Health, built, social, economic and natural environments.

Based upon research and consultation undertaken during the development of the plan, six strategic directions have been identified which reflect the Community Vision within Latrobe 2026 and align with the Council Plan 2013 – 2017. Each strategic direction is supported by a number of objectives and measures.

Some of the measures include:

- Children and young people are being more active
- An increase in walking and cycling on designated pathways, tracks and trails.
- Latrobe City parks, gardens, ovals and green spaces are being used by more residents

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

- More people are walking/cycling and using public transport to travel to and from work
- Increased access to drinking water fountains in public places and spaces
- More adults reporting feeling safe walking in their local area at night and during the day
- Organisations in Latrobe work together to improve health and wellbeing for residents

In 2014 the Latrobe City Council Planning Scheme was reviewed. Public open space was most commented upon theme in the on-line survey and in the one on-one consultations with the community. The issues varied from the lack of open space, the quality of the open space to the need for greater connectivity by cycling and walking paths.

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The draft Play Space Strategy provides an assessment of all existing play spaces in Latrobe City Council and provides recommendations on how Council can enhance what we already have.

These recommendations are based on the following guiding principles:

- *ACCESSIBILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION*

Ensure that areas are accessed by paths and appropriate equipment and furniture is provided to encourage all ages and abilities to mix.

- *EQUITY*

Ensure that an equitable distribution of play spaces is available across both rural and urban communities of Latrobe City.

- *DIVERSITY AND UNIQUENESS*

A diversity of landscape elements, types of play and play stimuli, as well as types of equipment are to be encouraged. Diversity enhances the play experience and makes parks memorable.

- *ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRITY AND AMENITY*

Natural elements should be part of all play spaces, encouraging children to become familiar with and curious about nature. This will enhance the potential for children to become passionate about natural systems and protecting the environment.

- *PLAY VALUE: SOCIAL, IMAGINATIVE, CREATIVE AND PHYSICAL*

An understanding that play value is not only represented in the assets and their monetary value. In addition to equipment and paths that support physical activity, play spaces should also cater for social opportunity and provide a range of loose materials and props for imaginative and creative play.

- *INTEGRATED DESIGN*

Future design will demonstrate that the focus of planning and design will provide a 'whole of park' approach.

- *DEGREE OF DEPENDENCE*

Understanding that some children will be developmentally vulnerable in some areas due to other social/health factors, so accommodating this in the design of certain local level park designs.

- *RISK AND CHALLENGE*

Providing spaces where children have opportunity to learn to take graduated risk in settings where the price of failure is not life threatening or serious injury.

- *CO-LOCATION*

Play spaces should be part of social, family recreation parks that are designed to provide social and physical opportunities for the whole family.

- *COMPLEXITY OF DESIGN*

Providing a balanced park that provides a range of different spaces to accommodate a range of activities and personalities.

Another important aspect that has been addressed in the Play Space Strategy is play space hierarchy and provision of infrastructure at a local, district and regional level. New play spaces are usually developed in newly developed subdivision, and the cost of these are borne by the developer as part of the public open space contributions.

Costs associated with the redevelopment of existing play spaces will depend upon what current infrastructure is in the play spaces, such as pavilions, bbq's, seating, landscaping, paths and play equipment. An approximate or indicative cost can be attributed to the following hierarchy of play spaces:

Regional - \$300,000 - \$1,000,000

District - \$50,000 - \$100,000

Local - \$30,000 - \$50,000

It is important for future development and maintenance of Latrobe City play spaces that service levels are clearly understood by both internal parties and the general community.

For example, there would not be provision of public toilets and BBQ facilities at a local play space, however these types of facilities would be mandatory for a regional play space (Attachment 3).

A review of the actions in Latrobe City Playground Improvement Plan (2011-2016) have been subject to review during the development of the draft Play Space Strategy.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

Actions resulting from the amendment to the Latrobe City Playground Improvement Plan in July 2013 will be completed as part of the community engagement activities planned during the proposed public exhibition period. These actions relate directly to the playgrounds at Taylor Crescent Traralgon and Murphy Crescent Traralgon.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

The risk of not releasing this draft Play Space Strategy for public exhibition is that a strategy will be developed with no community aspirations or ownership.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

Funds have been allocated in the 2014/15 budget year to enable the completion of the Play Space Strategy.

Under the Local Government Act 1989 ("The Act"), Council is required to prepare and adopt an annual budget. The budget is required to be adopted by 30 June each year.

A four year Strategic Resource Plan has been developed to assist Council in adopting a budget within a longer term prudent financial framework. The key objective of the Financial Plan is financial sustainability in the medium to long term, whilst still achieving the Council's strategic objectives as specified in the Council Plan and Latrobe 2026 Vision.

"The Act requires a Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) to be prepared covering both financial and non-financial resources (including human resources) for at least the next four financial years to achieve the strategic objectives in the Council Plan. In preparing the SRP, Council must take into account all other plans and strategies in regard to services and initiatives which commit financial and non-financial resources for the period of the SRP.

The future adoption or endorsement of any future recommendations will require Council to consider the possible implications to the Strategic Resource Plan.

Council currently provide capital funds to the Playground Improvement Implementation Plan (2011-2016) and it is the intention that the revised Play Space Strategy incorporates an implementation plan that operates in a very similar fashion.

Whilst some future recommendations may require additional capital funding allocation, many of the recommendations, in particular those relating to the supporting landscape and infrastructure can be achieved by changing design and maintenance practices without necessarily increasing the cost to deliver projects.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Engagement Method Used:

As previously indicated in the Background section of this report, extensive community consultation has been undertaken in the development of a number of key strategies and plans:

- Public Open Space Strategy (2013)
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2013)
- Review of the Latrobe Planning Scheme (2014)

Details of Community Consultation / Results of Engagement:

A communication strategy to inform and engage with the community about what is proposed for their local or favourite playground has been developed (Attachment 4)

Community engagement activities that will be undertaken during the public exhibition period will include:

- Workshops and meetings with key stakeholder groups and individuals including:
 - Peak Bodies (Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Gippsport, Sport & Recreation Victoria, Regional Development Victoria, Gippsland Multicultural Service,)
 - Playgroups, pre-schools and kinder-gardens
 - Specialist schools and carers
 - Schools and Educational Institutions
 - Interested local community clubs, organisations and members
 - Township associations
- Meetings with interested community members
- Social media promotion
- Latrobe City Council Noticeboard
- Radio advertising
- Community Sounding Board

Following the public exhibition of the draft strategy, the strategy will be refined to include feedback and ideas received from the community during engagement activities.

This feedback provided during the public exhibition period will inform the development of a prioritised and fully costed implementation plan, similar to the existing Playground Improvement Implementation plan 2011- 2016.

This implementation plan is currently funded through the capital works program and it is the intention that the new implementation plan will operate in a similar fashion.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)****OPTIONS**

Council has the following options available:

1. Endorse the draft Play Space Strategy for public exhibition for a period of 8 weeks from Tuesday 06 October 2015 to Friday 27 November 2015.
2. Not endorse the draft Play Space Strategy for public exhibition for a period of 8 weeks from Tuesday 06 October 2015 to Friday 27 November 2015.
3. Request further information or changes be provided in relation to the projects.

CONCLUSION

The recommendations in the draft Play Space Strategy respond to issues and themes identified in the development of previously endorsed strategies and plans, such as the Public Open Space Strategy, Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan and the review of the Latrobe Planning Scheme.

The strategy proposes significant improvements to the overall functionality, usability and amenity of Latrobe City's Play Spaces.

The proposed next step in the process is to undertake formal community engagement through public exhibition of the draft strategy.

A range of community engagement activities are planned to ensure that the strategy meets the community's needs. The feedback and suggestions provided during the public exhibition period will guide the development of the final strategy.

It is recommended that the draft strategy be released for community comment for an 8 week period.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Nil

Attachments

1. Latrobe City Play Space Strategy DRAFT
2. Play Space Recommendations DRAFT
3. Play Space Facilities Hierarchy of Service Levels
4. Community Engagement Plan - Playspace Strategy

15.2

Draft Play Space Strategy - Release for Public Exhibition

- 1 Latrobe City Play Space Strategy DRAFT 201**
- 2 Play Space Recommendations DRAFT..... 283**
- 3 Play Space Facilities Hierarchy of Service Levels..... 367**
- 4 Community Engagement Plan - Playspace Strategy 369**



Play Space Strategy

DRAFT



28/08/15

About this document

This document is the DRAFT Latrobe Play Space Strategy.

This document follows:

- Site inspections and an analysis of existing assets and the supply of play spaces in Latrobe
- A literature review
- An assessment of Latrobe demographics
- Benchmarking of like LGAs
- Preparation of a Play Space Recommendations document

Acknowledgements

@leisure would like to acknowledge the input provided by a range of stakeholders in preparing this document. These include:

- Karen Tsebelis (Co-ordinator Recreation and Open Space),
- Kat Marshall (Recreation and Open Space Development Officer)
- Josh Whittaker (previously Acting Recreation and Open Space Development Officer)

Play DMC undertook the site inspections and condition assessment of Latrobe's play spaces.

Jeavons Landscape Architects undertook the assessment of the individual spaces and prepared the design recommendations.

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28/08/15

Contents

1. Introduction and Background.....	3
Why does Council need a play strategy?	4
What is play?	4
The benefits of play	5
2. Guiding principles	8
3. Play spaces in Latrobe	13
Catchment hierarchy of play spaces	13
The quality of play spaces	19
4. Managing the condition of play equipment and associated infrastructure	27
5. Objectives and Actions.....	33
5.1 Play space planning and design	33
5.2 Environmental integrity and amenity	33
5.3 Asset management	34
5.4 Locality specific recommendations	35
Morwell	35
Moe / Newborough	37
Traralgon	42
Churchill	49
Yallourn North	51
Glengarry	52
Hazelwood	52
Tyers	52
Toongabbie	52
Yinnar	53
Boolarra	53
Flynn	54
6. Appendices	55
Appendix 1: Inventory of Council-owned play spaces	55
Appendix 2. Demographic Characteristics	58
Appendix 3: Notes from benchmarking with other LGAs	61
Appendix 4. Maintenance requirements	78



28/08/15

1. Introduction and Background

The brief

The brief identified the intent of the project as to:

- Provide an easily understood strategic vision for the future planning and improvement of play spaces across Latrobe City, ensuring a 'whole park' approach
- Provide a strong focus on the benefits of accessible play spaces and embellishing parks to attract and retain a wide cross section of the community
- Improve existing spaces in line with Latrobe Community Vision, Council Plan and Public Open Space Strategy
- "When improving playgrounds consider opportunities for enhanced integration with the surrounding environment and use of natural features to increase play space opportunities and overall appeal"
- Review the existing Latrobe City Playground Strategy 2005-2021.

Tasks

Tasks conducted as part of this project included:

1. Identify the benefits of a range of aspects of play.
2. Provide clear definitions for each level of the play hierarchy (local, district & regional) based on Council's Public Open Space Strategy.
3. Provide benchmarked recommendations of distances between play spaces, based on safe walking distances.
4. Identify play provision based on localised demographic data.
5. Identify future regional play space locations and themes.
6. Provide a valuation of current equipment.
7. Provide maintenance resourcing recommendations based on Local Government Authorities benchmarking.

8. Provide a range of maintenance levels and standards (core service levels)
9. Provide recommendations on how maintenance can continually improve in the future.
10. Identify training and development opportunities for staff responsible for the maintenance of play spaces.
11. Develop a prioritised play space improvement plan on the basis of hierarchy and current provision

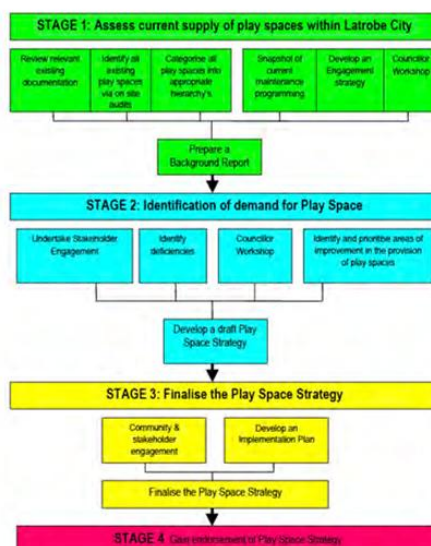
Play spaces

The term "play spaces" is used in this document to describe outdoors facilities provided for play that include play equipment in public parks. These may include other facilities and landscape elements that contribute to a play experience.

This strategy acknowledges that play spaces may also be provided in children's centres and other community building and aquatics centres. These are not analysed in this plan.

Process

The process identified for the conduct of the strategy is as follows:





28/08/15

Why does Council need a play strategy?

A Play Strategy can help Council achieve:

- A Council-wide coordinated approach to planning, developing, and maintaining play spaces
- A more strategic and agreed basis for determining funding and capital priorities for developing and maintaining play spaces
- A planned approach to addressing the most challenging issues arising with regard to play space development and improvements. This will make it quicker and easier for Council to make decisions and respond to proposals and requests
- Better value from Council's investment in play spaces
- A better match between community expectations and what Council can and does provide
- Higher quality play spaces across the City, that include more spontaneous play, more natural elements, and spaces that foster learning and interaction
- Provide a more strategic basis behind directions, and a sound basis on which to discuss future and specific developments with residents
- An agreed, more holistic and broader, less equipment approach to play provision
- Intergenerational play opportunities for a wider spectrum of age groups, and people of all abilities; and
- A better understanding by the community about what Council is seeking to achieve through play opportunities

What is play?

Play is a complex behaviour that involves many different aspects of self-expression, and includes physical, social, creative and cognitive activity.

Play is an enjoyable, non-threatening and legitimate activity for children, making it a primary communication and developmental tool.

Through play children are challenged and can test their skills and identity. By participating in different forms of play, children gain valuable developmental skills, such as the ability to interact with others and form friendships, as well as physical, neural, social and sensory development, crucial for good health outcomes.

At a young age, children have no comprehension of what it is to be healthy or physically fit, only what is fun or enjoyable to participate in, making play a powerful tool in development and health prevention.

Play is evident in all ages, but provision commonly focuses on children due to its benefits for development.

Play occurs everywhere, not just in locations designed specifically for it. Play spaces however provide important and legitimate public place to play. Public play spaces should complement opportunities provided in private and other settings and thereby enhance opportunities for development for the benefits of the broader community.



28/08/15

The benefits of play

Play is a crucial part of childhood and an accessible, fun and stimulating way of staying active and healthy. It also provides an important basis for maximising development potential.

Key benefits of providing public play spaces include:

Physical activity

- Children are increasing overweight and this affects not only their health but also their ability to lead productive, active lives and perform in educational settings.
- Encouraging children to play outdoors can contribute substantial gains in aerobic activity as well as physical skill development outside of sport and education.

Mental health

- Play by nature is fun. It provides relief from routine roles and surroundings, and other stresses in daily life.
- Outdoor play has the added advantage of potential contact with nature and the associated restorative benefits.

Social inclusion

- Affordable places for children and families to meet and gather are important as households and yards decrease in size.
- Public play spaces that are accessible to children of all abilities promote social inclusion and interaction, tolerance and understanding.
- Play for children with a disability is especially critical to development. Play environments can provide additional social benefits for children who may have limited mobility and access to other children, and opportunities to develop vital social skills, such as persistence, resilience and empathy. Social interaction can provide valuable role modelling for basic physical activities.
- Families with children with disabilities often seek out things such as; opportunities to interact with others, graded physical challenges, and sensory stimulation. A play space can provide all of these.

Contact with nature

Encouraging children to connect with the natural world enables access to a diversity of affordable play stimuli, changeability, loose parts, and props that in turn stimulate play and learning.

Access to nature can promote environmental education and stewardship that will encourage a positive attitude to conservation and outdoor activity later in life.

The ability to see and interact with nature provides restorative benefits and contributes to a sense of wellbeing.

All children should have access to environments conducive to play, in order for the child to develop.



28/08/15

Policy and planning context

Council's Mission and Vision

Council's MISSION¹ is to provide:

The best possible facilities, services advocacy and leadership for Latrobe City, one of Victoria's four major regional cities.

Values

- Providing affordable people focused community services
- Planning strategically and acting responsibly, in the best interests of the whole community
- Accountability, transparency and honesty
- Listening to and working with the community
- Respect, fairness and equity
- Open to and embracing new opportunities

A key theme of Council's plan is:

- To promote and support a healthy, active and connected community
- To provide facilities and services that are accessible and meet the needs of our diverse community
- To enhance the visual attractiveness and liveability of Latrobe City

Open Space Vision

The vision outlined in the Open Space Strategy 2013 is:

- Latrobe City will plan, provide and manage a diverse range of attractive, appealing and sustainable public open space facilities that are welcoming, accessible, and enhance the character of individual townships or neighbourhoods.

Play spaces are highly valued. The community engagement process for the Open Space Strategy found that:

- 53% of residents responding to Open Space survey in 2013 use playgrounds (third after Local parks, and walking tracks and trails).
- 50% of respondents said usual activity was Playgrounds related.
- 58% said they value "playgrounds" most about Latrobe's parks, and
- 11% said the priority was to improve playgrounds

The Council's Open Space Strategy identified the following key issues related to demand for play spaces:

- Linkages and connections (including those used for active transport)
- Physical accessibility
- Sustainability – standards, maintenance and acquisition
- Increase activation and appeal of existing spaces.
- Way-finding signage
- Enhance what we already have
- Improve service / maintenance levels
- Improve public toilets
- Promote / market what we have.
- Additional car parking.
- Enhance planning provisions within the Planning Scheme and local planning policy
- Provide / upgrade public toilets, playgrounds and gathering spaces
- Improve maintenance standards and consistency (common issues highlighted
- Include vegetation management, mowing frequency, tree litter and broken glass)
- Proactively identify reserves that are suitable for off-leash dog exercise areas
- The benefits of collaborative partnerships and a high degree of community involvement are recognized by all parties
- Council's role and capacity to provide additional support to groups and to encourage additional 'community stewardship' should be explored
- Core infrastructure including paths, seating, drinking taps, fitness stations, way finding signage and interpretive information.

¹ Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-17



28/08/15

The previous Play Strategy

A playground strategy was prepared in 2006. This strategy focused on rationalisation of play equipment areas. However this scale of rationalisation was later identified as unsustainable.

This plan seeks to acknowledge the benefits of play whilst recognising the challenges of maintaining play equipment. It takes a more strategic and whole of park approach to enhancing play experiences, use and value, through focusing on selective development to improve the quality of play opportunities.

Demographic context

Settlement type and density

The nature of the settlement (for example whether people live in a locality that is a major and small town, rural village or rural locality) determines the likely availability of private open space, the availability of hard surfaces, access to nature and to other children and hence incidental play opportunities in an area.

The nature and density of a residential settlement therefore influences the need for play spaces and what Council provides, so as to complement the nature of play experiences likely to be available to children in their local environment.

The population density of Latrobe is relatively low with many children likely to have access to some private open space.

Newborough has the highest population density in Latrobe. See table 13 in Appendix 2. Increasing density means fewer households will have access to private open space for play.

Age profile

The age profile of the City remains relatively 'young' (i.e. by 2021 20% of the total population will be aged under 15 years). Therefore provision of play opportunities will continue to be a priority, is however an increasing proportion of older adults are in Latrobe – as is the trend in most other regional locations.

Traralgon has the highest number of children between 4-7 years out of all Latrobe localities. Traralgon South has the highest percentage of children in the 4-7 year age cohort.

As many people do not live in one house for more 5 years and it is expensive and difficult for Council to continually alter provision to suit the age profile of a locality, play spaces need to be provided on a relatively equitable basis that is not going to be significantly influenced by age profile.

Play spaces can be important to all people. Apart from young children they provide affordable non threatening places for: parents to meet while children play, families to go and meet other families, places where older sibling might need to wait, or for teenagers to socialise and hang out. As many grandparents now look after children play spaces also need to cater to older carers and people who just want to be where there is community activity.

Income and social disadvantage

In some areas due to the social determinants of health, some children will be developmentally vulnerable, and may benefit more from the availability of good play experiences. The indicators of these can be found in the Aust. Early Development Census and the SEIFA index that provides an indication of social disadvantage (see table 15 in Appendix 2). Areas with industry may also affect health and development opportunities for children.

The Aust. Early Development Census shows that in Moe/Hernes Oak, Morwell and Yallourn have the highest number of developmentally vulnerable children less than 5 years of age, based on scores for more than one vulnerability. These localities also have the lowest SEIFA scores for 2011. In these areas a good distribution of social and physical play opportunities will be very important.

Some families will be more dependant on a local play space than others, such as those with low incomes, or without a car, that have fewer leisure choices.



28/08/15

2. Guiding principles

The following guiding principles are proposed to guide the future planning design and management of play spaces in Latrobe.

These principles have been applied when assessing the current provision of play spaces.

Nine key guiding principles are summarised below and outlined in the following pages.

P1. Accessibility and social inclusion

P2. Equity

P3. Diversity and uniqueness

P4. Environmental integrity and amenity

P5. Play value: social, imaginative, creative and physical

P6. Integrated design

P7. Degree of dependence

P8. Risk and Challenge

P9. Colocation

P10. Complexity of design

P1. Accessibility and social inclusion

Play spaces should be provided in parks that are central, prominent and connected to residential areas they serve by a footpath or a shared path. In urban areas play spaces should be within a walkable distance of all residences.

Specific site features should be provided in all play spaces to encourage social interaction. Easy circulation routes should encourage multiple types of users. Seating should be located where adults can interact with each other and with playing children and desirably be located on a seamless accessible path system.

Play spaces must be able to encourage people of ages and abilities to play together. As a minimum people of all ages must be able to easily get to, and into park and to the social focus of the play space.

District and regional play spaces should have a higher degree of accessibility than local spaces and provide an internal path system, appropriate elements and specifically provided equipment for people with a disability, as well as support facilities.

Within every precinct children with a disability and of different ages should be able to find some moving equipment that suits their needs (e.g. children with a physical disability, toddlers, and teenagers etc).

P2. Equity

Where possible in urban areas play spaces will be distributed in a relatively equitable way, within walking distance of all residences. In small rural villages one central play space will be supported instead of multiple spaces.

Equity also means that all types of people will have access to a play space that is appropriate to their needs.

P3. Diversity and uniqueness

Diversity enhances the likelihood that all children will be motivated to play and find play experiences that are of interest and appropriate to them regardless of age, ability, cultural background and social economic status, and where live.

A diversity of landscape elements, types of play, and play stimuli, as well as types of equipment, are to be encouraged; within each play space, as well as across each precinct, each town, and across the City.

Any equipment selected for one park should meet a gap identified as well as offers a different choice or style of play from other nearby parks.

Play spaces should complement rather than duplicate what opportunities there may be available for play in the environment where children live. For this reason parks for play in rural settlements should be different to those in urban areas.



28/08/15

Where budgets are limited, it is preferable to select play items on the basis of whether many different people can use them, and in how many different ways.

Many parks are memorable to children and families because there is something special that gives a unique local identity to the park or play space. Children might give the park a local name like "egg park", "rocket park", or "train park". These may include a unique tree or iconic structure, a special landform, a hiding space, or some other special feature. Such "signature" items, no matter how small, are a good landmark for parents.

Parks dominated by natural elements may not always 'read' as a play space at first, and parents may not think to take their children there. Items that are special to children might not be those that are obvious to adults.

P4. Environmental integrity and amenity

Play spaces should be integrated into, rather than separated from, the surrounding landscape. Natural elements should be part of all play spaces, and encourage children to be familiar with and curious about and interact with nature. This will enhance the potential for children to become passionate about natural systems and protecting the environment.

Because natural and living things are not manufactured, they offer far more variety and complexity than most purpose built play structures. Loose natural materials offer opportunities for open-ended play and children benefit from: nature's changeability, and the ability to freely gather and use natural elements in their imaginative games in whichever way they see fit. Natural elements can define some very beautiful and appealing spaces that children as well as adults enjoy.

P5. Play value: social, imaginative, creative and physical

Value is not only represented in the assets and their monetary value (even though these are considerable). It is also the benefit to children (and society) from all the developmental opportunities that quality play experiences deliver to them. The community benefits from having ecologically stable, healthy environments in parks, from the opportunities to meet one another in highly amenable outdoor settings, and from opportunities to build social relationships.

Play value is about maximising a child's potential by facilitating the development of specific skills and attributes through particular features of a play space. Play value relates to social, imaginative, creative and physical play.

From birth, babies work on balance and hearing and connecting these to vision, through movement and play. All the senses thus learn to work together. In addition to the five 'external' senses, three internal ('hidden') senses play a huge role in children's development:

- Vestibular sense (head position)
- Kinaesthetic or body movement sense (feedback about changes made in body position)
- Proprioceptive sense (held together by a sense of feeling where the body is in space).

Movements such as spinning, swinging, rocking, balancing, sliding, hanging upside down, bike riding, jumping and rolling all contribute to this vital development.

In addition to equipment and exercise paths that support physical activities (e.g. as climbing, ball games and running for example) play spaces should specifically cater for social opportunities (ie by group seating and tables by equipment that encourages co-operation, multiple children using ie double swings multiple seat rocker), and loose and nature materials and props for imaginative and creative play.



28/08/15

Features in play spaces will typically need to be purpose-built to be attractive, and to facilitate particular types of play for development opportunities (such as swinging). However, at least some elements in the space should be open ended and adaptable for different uses, or have no particular purpose, in order to provide for children's own imaginative /creative play. This "open ended" play provides scope for children to invent games of their own. Research² has shown that this kind of play rarely relates to an adult devised theme set by the play space designer (such as a boat or train or other idea) and comes from the children themselves. It can be facilitated by placement and choice of infrastructure and landscape elements.

Physical activities can also be made social: make climbing sociable; going somewhere and connected to other elements. Provide multiple seat rockers – not just single seat. Provide basket/ bird nest swings so multiple children can swing together, or carousels for spinning.

P6. Integrated design

In future the focus of planning and design should be parks for play, rather than play spaces or playgrounds.

Play space design should not be seen as separate from the design of park. Equipment, paths, social and support facilities as well as landscape elements are all key parts of an integrated play space design.

The physical location of elements in a park, and their relationships to one another, are critically important in how and whether a park or the play space is used, or used to its maximum potential.

² Herrington, Susan with Chandra Lesmeister, Jamie Nicholls, and Kate Stefiuk) 7c's An information guide to young children's outdoor play spaces 2007 Vancouver: Westcoast Childcare Resource Centre.
<http://www.wstcoast.org/playspaces/outsidecriteria/7Cs.pdf>
Accessed 20 Feb 2013

There are two broad aims as described below.

1. Avoid conflicts by:

- Separating busy active zones from sedentary play
- Separating noisy from quiet
- Separating vulnerable children from boisterous more risky activity areas

Some items need to be located where vulnerable children don't cross their path

Sand play needs to be protected from busy activities.

2. Maximise the benefit from locating two zones next to one another. For example:

- An open grass or paved ball game area near a play and picnic space will provide convenience and supervision for parents as well as activities that can flow easily between the two zones for most age groups.
- Co-location of areas can stimulate games and play between more than one area. For example: the combination of a cubby space with a sand pit and some loose materials such as water, twigs or flowers that can all enhance the cubby play.

Linking social /seating spaces with an active area such as skating areas, ball courts or an exciting feature like a flying fox work well together and enhance interaction.

P7. Degree of dependence

In some areas due to the social determinants of health, some children will be developmentally vulnerable; will be more dependants on a local play space than others. For example children from households with low incomes, low education and experiencing other social disadvantage, or those without a car. These children may benefit more from the availability of good play experiences.

In some locations due to the placement of local parks, subdivision design, and physical barriers to other parks such as major roads, railways and river corridors, fenced sites etc. some residences will be dependant on one existing play space. These key spaces need to be identified and enhanced because of this dependence.



28/08/15

P8. Risk and Challenge

Children need to be able to test, develop and extend their abilities, as they grow older.

A play space needs to provide choice and graded challenges or children will seek it elsewhere.

The ability for children to climb and test themselves physically is linked to the development of self-confidence and autonomy, as balance, co-ordination and strength develops along with children's sense of judgment, decision-making and persistence.

Risk is an inherent part of life. Attempts to eliminate all forms of risk taking behaviour are unrealistic and counter-productive, resulting in children unable to recognize or deal with serious dangers when they do arise. It is preferable that children have opportunities to learn to take graduated risk in settings where the price of failure is not life threatening or serious injury.

Risk and challenge is necessary for learning. Danger on the other hand is when risk cannot be easily understood due to the development age. For example for children under 12 years of age judgement has not developed to the point where the child can judge the speed and the risk associated with traffic, or deep water for example.

Play spaces should be designed so as to:

- Offer children the chance to acquire skills at their own pace
- Allow children to opt in or out by choice
- Provide support in learning to climb
- Test their skills and judgment through climbing (for example trees) within the relative safety of a park.

When risks in play space are being considered the benefits of providing challenge and learning must also be considered.

P9. Colocation

Play spaces should not be single-purpose spaces designed only for children. Play spaces should be part of social, family recreation parks that are designed to provide social and physical opportunities for the whole family and for people of all abilities. These parks should be colocated with sporting and other community facilities to enhance their use and attractiveness and provide economies of scale in management.

Colocation of features that stimulates games and play between more than one area, enhance play experiences. For example: the combination of a cubby space with a sand pit and some loose materials such as water, twigs or flowers that can all enhance the cubby play.

P10. Complexity of design

When spaces within a park or play area vary in size, and when there is some visual complexity within a play space, children benefit from the potential for more complexity and variety in their play.

Planting and changes of level contribute to visual and spatial interest and complexity.

Space itself suggests and encourages some types of behaviour to children:

- Long narrow spaces (such as at an airport terminal) seem to suggest running.
- When you can't see all of a space it encourages you to explore, play chasey or play hide and seek games.

Changes in level within a park or play space provide opportunities to look down, roll down, jump down, balance along and enjoy in any number of ways that children will devise for themselves.

Quite small, seemingly insignificant sub-spaces within a park can have value to children. The divisions that separate and define individual spaces might be quite subtle. Where solid walls, plants, hedges, fences, or other built features define smaller spaces, children adapt these 'rooms' for imaginative/role play in smaller groups.



28/08/15

Frequently children need to construct their own small cubbies and dens to enclose themselves and provide the right-scaled spaces for their play. In parks where there are loose thin branches and leaves available, these might be used for this purpose. This kind of play is very important to children and there are fewer and fewer places where it can take place.

Routes up and down, over and through, and complex levels that offer opportunities to run and climb through three dimensional space provide benefits for play that are not available in flat spaces with a simple array of open decks and thin posts. Some games require smaller spaces and simply would not occur in flat, open, exposed terrain.

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28/08/15

3. Play spaces in Latrobe

There are currently one hundred and eighteen play spaces in Latrobe that are owned and managed by Council. These are the focus on this strategy.

For the purposes of this each of the main towns: Traralgon, Morwell, Moe, and Churchill have been divided into precincts that reflect residential areas served by play spaces.

Additionally, there are play spaces on crown land and or managed by committees of management, in preschools and on sporting reserves, for example, within the City of Latrobe. These were not assessed as part of this project.

A second volume to this strategy: *Play Space Recommendations* provides an analysis and images of play spaces by town and precinct, and recommended actions. A summary of actions per precinct is provided in Chapter 5 of this volume.

Play space are provided in some twenty localities in the City. These localities are:

1. Moe
2. Newborough
3. Yallourn North
4. Morwell
5. Churchill
6. Jeeralang Junction
7. Yinnar
8. Yinnar South
9. Boolara
10. Hazelwood
11. Hazelwood North
12. Traralgon
13. Traralgon East
14. Traralgon South
15. Jeeralang North
16. Tyers
17. Callignee
18. Flynn
19. Glengarry
20. Toongabbie

A list of play space by locality and hierarchy is provided in Appendix 1.

Maps for each locality with play spaces are provided in the *Play Space Recommendations* – a separate document to this.

Due to the number and spread of facilities in the area, separate area maps were produced for easier identification of facilities.

Catchment hierarchy of play spaces

The Open Space Strategy 2013 identified the hierarchy of open space as follows:

- **Local** - The majority of houses in residential areas should have access to a minimum of 0.5 hectares of public open space within a 500-metre radius. Local parks shall generally comprise a minimum area of 0.75 – 1.0 hectare.
- **District** - The majority of houses in residential areas should have access to district level public open space within a 3 km radius.
- **Regional** - Each town with a population of over 10,000 people should have regional level public open space within the township boundaries.

Generally these descriptions of catchment hierarchy are valid for play spaces however, the size of a space doesn't necessarily have to be directly related to hierarchy.

In addition to the catchment hierarchy it is suggested that the nature of settlement is also considered when planning and managing play spaces (See distribution of play spaces section).



28/08/15

Open space function type

The Open Space Strategy 2013 did not have a park type such as Play space/social/ family recreation etc. The only one similar was “General Parkland”.

In future, it is desirable that play spaces are not located as small single purpose spaces – but are parks for play: provided as part of an integrated neighbourhood or district park that serves people of all abilities from a wide range of age groups.

Hierarchy and distribution of play spaces

Settlement type

The nature of the Settlement (for example whether the locality is a major and small town, rural village or rural locality) determines the likely availability of private open space, the availability of hard surfaces, and incidental play opportunities in an area. The nature and density of a residential settlement therefore influences the need for play spaces and what Council provides so as to complement the nature of play experiences likely to be available to children in their local environment.

In rural villages (with some community, school or commercial facility) one play space should be provided in a central location such as in conjunction with the hall, community centre of sports reserve, or in a central civic reserve. Rather than multiple sites equitably distributed.

Hardstand for skating and ball play may provide the best complement to availability of wild spaces, and nature based experiences for Children living in rural areas, than equipment to facilitate climbing for example.

In urban townships play spaces should be distributed equitably, to reflect the distribution of residences- preferably within walking distance (500m) of each.

In dispersed rural areas – typically there would be no separate play space provision – as the nearest village would service these localities.

Catchment hierarchy

Latrobe’s play spaces have been classified as either local, district or regional level facilities.

Play spaces in Latrobe are predominantly local level (104 play spaces, or 88%).

There are nine district-level play space and five regional-level play spaces.

The following table shows the catchment of play spaces by location in Latrobe.

Table 1: Location of play spaces by hierarchy

Hierarchy	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
Local	28	33	43	104
District	1	5	3	9
Regional	3	1	1	5
TOTAL	32	39	47	118

Some play spaces require embellishment to meet the consistent standard of their hierarchy. Some areas would also benefit from additional district or regional open spaces.

Play spaces with a regional catchment

Three of the five regional play spaces in Latrobe are located in Moe [Apex Park (central), Apex Park (east) and Lions Park (west)]. These three play spaces are located in the same precinct, in the north west of the town, and north west of the railway line. The railway creates a barrier to access for the majority of residences in the town.

Town Common Playground (Morwell), and Newman Park (Traralgon) are other regional play spaces in Latrobe. The Town Common Playground (Morwell) is located in the south of the town away from the majority of the population, and south of the railway line.





28/08/15

An additional regional level park for social family recreation is warranted in Churchill. The most appropriate site for this would be Mathieson Park.

Regional destination play spaces often have a theme. However themes do not often add to the play value provided. The theme is often something that appeals more to adults and the designer, than provides play stimuli for children.

It should be noted however that the cost of the managing regional level play spaces to accommodate high use including the cost of wear and tear, traffic management, waste rubbish for example may be considerable higher than other spaces.

Play spaces with a district catchment

There are some areas of the City that would benefit from a slightly higher catchment play space.

The Botanic Gardens is a district-level play space in Moe, located east of Narracan Reserve. A district-level play space would also be desirable in the south western part of Moe.

Morwell town has one district-level play space – Immigration Park. This play space is located in the south (south of Princes Dr). A district-level play space would also be desirable in Morwell's north.

The Newman Park play space is well located in the centre of Traralgon. The play space however is at the rear of the open space not in a very prominent location, and subject to barriers to access in the Princes Highway and railway line.

Traralgon town has one other district-level play space – Explorers Park. This park is located in the north of Traralgon and services a wider neighbourhood with a street network of mainly cul-de-sacs. A district-level play space would also be desirable in the west of Traralgon.

District and regional play spaces as venues for events

Regional level parks can often provide a community focus point and are in demand as a venue for events such as markets and community celebrations. Provision of shelter car parking and three-phase power and lighting can be important in facilitating such events. Their location in a larger green space can facilitate activities such as markets, or, camping and over flow car parking etc, for events and can build community capacity and provide economic benefits.

The need for open spaces to be programmed as a venue, is increasing. This programming may be small scale "programs" such as fitness training and group exercise, school excursions as well as community fun runs, large scale sporting carnivals and events, and private celebrations.

As the population density increases in the major towns the demand for public open spaces for events and private celebrations is likely to increase.

Regional and district spaces with play spaces are likely to be the most appropriate sites for community events.

Where possible, any future planning and design of play spaces, which may hold events, should consider the availability of three-phase power, car parking and buffers from immediately adjacent residents.



28/08/15

Distribution of play spaces

In the urban areas the following principles underpin the analysis of play space distribution:

- Walkable distance
- Physical barriers define precincts, and
- Dependence on a space

Walkable distance

Generally speaking most parents will not walk much more than 500m with young children to a park, and most children will not walk independently more than this distance to the average park. This only applies to the urban townships. In small rural localities play spaces should be in a central hub with other community, sporting and recreation facilities.

Physical barriers define precincts

Major roads and other physical boundaries may provide barriers to children and families walking to spaces, or undermine their prominence. These distances and boundaries have been taken into account in identifying precincts for each main town. These are mapped in the *Play Space Recommendations* document and spaces have been analysed by precinct. Multiple spaces in a precinct need to complement each other to provide a diversity of play opportunities.

Dependence

The layout of urban areas and physical barriers isolate some residential areas from parks and play spaces. In some instances this leaves an area dependent on one space and where this occurs this dependence has been identified. Where residents are dependent on one space then even if this space is poor quality it may be more important and there is a greater need to enhance the experiences available at this space.

The distribution of play spaces across the three main towns: Moe, Morwell and Traralgon, is relatively equitable.

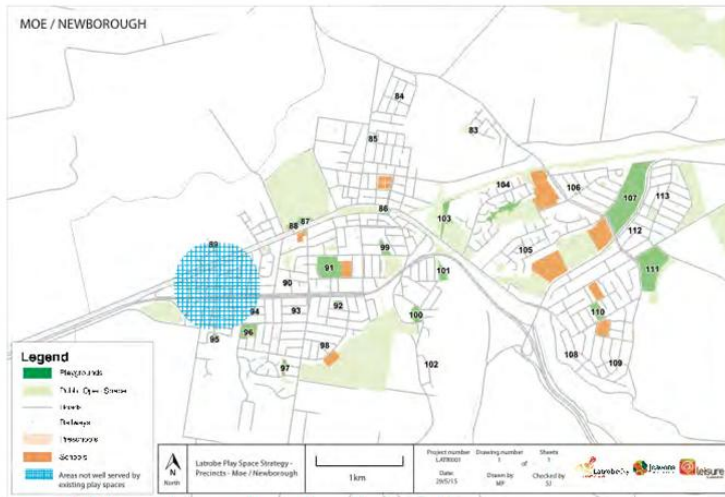
Some small residential areas are not well served for play, as they are beyond 500m from existing play spaces for example. These are discussed on the following pages:



28/08/15

Moe

Although there is a particularly good distribution of play spaces in Moe, the area marked on the map below, shows an area near Watsons Rd North / Brendan St in the far west of the town outside a 500m walkable distance of an existing play space.



Morwell

Areas not well served by a play space are shown on the map below:

- Area 1: The new residential area around Skeldale Wynd.
- Area 2: Spring Ct / Park Ave in the south east of the town.
- Area 3: Residences to the south west of Sir Norman Brookes Park.





28/08/15

Traralgon

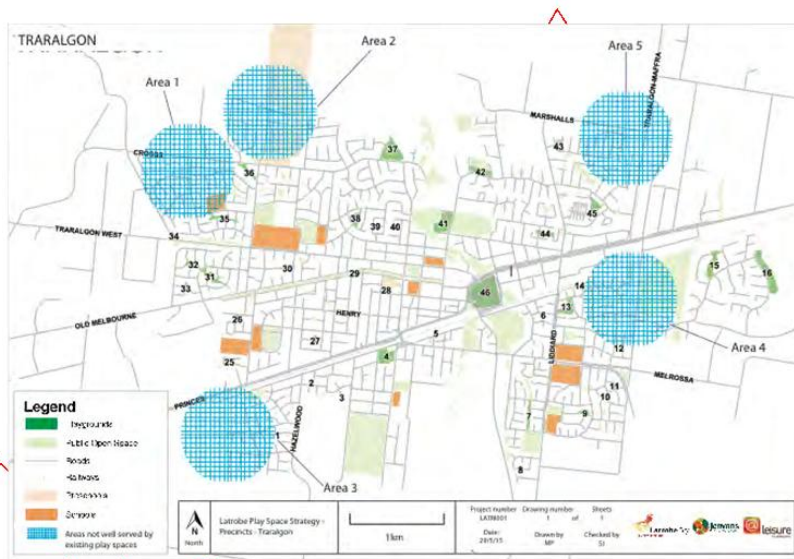
Areas not well served by a play space, are shown on the map below:

Area 1 & 2: Streets both north and south of Cross's Rd (except the mid section around The Downs)

Area 3: New residential areas at the western end of Donegal Ave.

Area 4: Residences around area of Glenview Dr

Area 5: Christian Rise and surrounding streets





28/08/15

The quality of play spaces

Overview of quality

Detailed site inspections were undertaken of all key play spaces. The quality of existing play spaces was assessed based on the guiding principles identified in Chapter 2.

There is a good distribution of play spaces across Latrobe. However there is some disparity in the quality of play spaces.

Play spaces in the Moe area are of a higher quality, and better distributed, than those in the Morwell area and Traralgon area.

One of the major issues is that there is no obvious use of many play spaces, and local parks – with the exception of swings. This suggests that many play spaces are either not relevant to potential users or that there are insufficient experiences and opportunities offered to motivate people to go there.

Many play spaces are in a poor condition, and are not being adequately maintained. This also reduced the perceived value of them to their local communities.

Better play value would be created if parks were developed with additional landscape elements, seats, and paths circuits etc. - so they are nice places to be, and they are easy places to get around. These will encourage children and families outdoors, especially in Morwell, where the environments are exceptionally unappealing.

There is increasing interest and understanding by the population of the value of play and what contributes to this. However this is not reflected in the current provision or design of existing facilities. They appear to project an image that could be perceived as disinterest in children and families, and a lack of understanding about both play itself and about the value of amenity, social interaction and community building. Current existing play spaces are not providing a good return on investment.

Trees, shade and access to nature

There are many beautiful open spaces in Latrobe and many have large mature trees. These include Bayley St Reserve in Moe and Reservoir Park in Churchill. Most are not in or integrated into play spaces. In fact, there is very limited shade or trees near equipment.

Play value can be derived as much from the landscape, as equipment, and enabling better value to be derived from associated play equipment that is provided. One example is providing sand or at least vegetation near an under deck cubby house or shop, where children can use flowers, leaves etc in play.

Many sites could be considered as environmentally impoverished. Even on creek lines there is little evidence of revegetation works. This evidence suggests that in environmental and landscape works are not a priority in design and construction.

A major greening program for play spaces would be beneficial – for play value, general amenity for those other than the “players” and for mental health, well being and biodiversity benefits.

District and regional-level play spaces should have both natural (trees) and built shade facilities (e.g. BBQ shelter). Lions Park (west) (Moe), Newman Park (Traralgon), Immigration Park (Morwell), Yinnar Skate Park (Yinnar), and Hazelwood Pondage Reserve (Hazelwood) only have treed shade. The following play spaces do not have shade:

1. Botanic Gardens, Moe – district-level play space should have both natural and built shade facilities
2. Smallburn Avenue Reserve, Newborough
3. The Boulevard Reserve, Morwell
4. Angela Court Reserve, Morwell
5. Nindoo Drive Reserve, Morwell
6. Jack Harrison Park, Traralgon
7. Rod Dunbar Park, Traralgon
8. The Downs Reserve, Traralgon
9. Bradman Boulevard Reserve, Traralgon
10. Explorers Park, Traralgon - district-level play space should have both natural and built shade facilities
11. Hugh Court Park, Traralgon
12. Milligan Park, Traralgon
13. Southdown Way Reserve, Traralgon.



28/08/15

Planning and design

In most cases the quality of a play space should be as dependent on the overall siting and design of the park – as on any play equipment area.

In future a stronger focus on the park design is desirable to provide parks for play. All parks need a design concept prepared by a professional, that considers:

14. The site's potential for play
15. Any unique features on the site that should be protected and enhanced
16. The best way to ensure accessibility to key features and facilities
17. Siting and orientation for any infrastructure to ensure the best relationship of the space to adjacent residences or adjacent facilities,
18. The nature and location of planting and landscape elements and pathways
19. The nature and range of play experiences to be provided
20. Activities to be facilitated in the choice of equipment

When a new space is going to be designed or a n existing one redeveloped it is desirable to ensure that a master plan and design does not focus just on the one space – but at least all of the adjacent spaces or all play spaces in a precinct. In this way diversity of opportunities can be enhanced.

In terms of development: a focus on creating a framework of canopy trees, other landscape elements and a path network in play spaces should be a priority – before providing play equipment. This would make a significant difference to use and play value of spaces.

In their current form – primary equipment areas - don't reflect the value of play, or the amenity, social interaction and community building opportunities they could do, if they were better designed.

In future the design of new spaces should focus on providing play opportunities for people of all ages and abilities in central social community hubs that are not single-purpose play equipment areas for children.

The site assessment identified the need for more integrated landscape design of play spaces, as well as the benefit of additional horticultural and natural elements, paths, and possible art works.

The shift to a different and more integrated form of play space and a cost effective of planning and design process will require:

21. A new multi skill set in play space planning and design
22. A compressed and affordable design and construct process
23. Changes in asset management to include landscape and art whose specific purpose is play
24. A different process for inspections of non-equipment items
25. Potentially more horticultural and path maintenance and cleaning for example in some areas (compared to mowing and equipment maintenance).
26. Additional resourcing and staff training about constructing and managing play spaces

The key to integrated design is the employment of a design team with skills and experience in:

27. horticulture / landscape and play space design
28. managing sub consultants (for example artist artists), a knowledge of play equipment safety and in using all elements in a play context
29. articulating what is required to ensure all elements are compliant for public use, and
30. determining how spaces should be managed to meet management and play value requirements.

A key objective is to deliver an integrated overall landscape outcome rather than just provide play equipment, and to use a process that is cost effective.

A compressed design process is common practice in other Councils, in recognition that local play spaces are typically low budget jobs that can be done in partnership with design consultants and in-house horticultural and construction staff.



28/08/15

The process should include a sketch design for the whole play space and surrounds (this might be a whole local park or a small section of a larger park) if skilled staff are available to implement it.

Council could consider issuing a group of play space redesign projects at once. This can make small budget jobs cost effective for staff, an enable experienced consultants from elsewhere to prepare such designs, and ensure that multiple spaces complement each other and together create a diversity of opportunities.

Construction management skills will be needed in house if detailed design documentation isn't provided, so as to meet horticultural, landscape construction and play value requirements.

Designers of non equipment and landscape elements should, as part of the design exercise, be required by Council to specify how these elements should be managed and maintained as play elements.

Accessibility and social inclusion

The site visits indicated that more focus on accessibility and social inclusion in play spaces would be desirable.

Only one site in Moe (Apex Park Central) and one in Morwell (Town Common Playground) has play elements that are accessible to people with a physical disability.

Better provision for older children or carers would also be desirable. Additional provision for seating is required.

It is not possible to make all places or all play elements accessible to all people. However it should be possible to make one area and or key social elements such as a BBQ and seating area, or path circuit adjacent to equipment in every park accessible to people using a mobility aid.

District and regional-level play spaces should have an accessible path of travel into the play space from the street, and between the play space and the car park. The following district and regional-level play spaces only have grassed access:

- Apex Park (east), Moe
- Lions Park (west), Moe
- Yinnar Skate Park, Yinnar
- Hazelwood Pondage Reserve, Hazelwood
- Apex Park, Glengarry.

Across the City a grading of accessibility is desirable, and this information should be available and provided so people can make choices about accessibility before they arrive.

Levels of accessibility were assessed in the following way.

Lowest level 1.

Criteria: Cannot access the site from path /road into property due to physical barrier – or absence of path, no way finding for blind person etc.

Level 2.

Criteria: Can get to at least a social area with mobility devise or along a path – i.e. picnic, hub, around the equipment etc. but nothing more

Level 3.

Criteria: Can get to social area, and there is a accessible path that moves around the space to equipment, activities etc. – but no access to, or no specialized equipment

Level 4.

Criteria: Can get to equipment and some equipment suitable for people with ambulatory impairments, or has a mobility devise such as: sand play table, hammock swing, arm operated swing / bucket swing with back support / straps, ramped equipment or accessible path of travel to facility with right height e.g. with shop/ steering wheel, cubby underneath.



28/08/15

The following table describes the level of access as defined above, by location in Latrobe.

Table 2: Level of access by location

Level of access	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
Level 1	27	31	41	99
Level 2	3	7	5	15
Level 3	1	0	0	1
Level 4	1	1	1	3
TOTAL	32	39	47	118

Wheelchair swings

A question was asked during this project as to whether it was beneficial to have an additional wheelchair swing such as a Liberty Swing.

Some parents have said that their children don't like using these swings, as they don't want to "be made to look different" or "singled out". In this way wheelchair swings may be seen as promoting segregation and thus not all inclusive. However many children with high support needs are unlikely to use a swing unless such a swing is provided and therefore gain important access to this movement.

Signs provided with wheelchair swings often say "restricted area" and imply keep out. Children can be fearful of them as they are fenced off and as they are told "this swing is only for children with a disability".

The cost of buying the wheelchair swing apparatus, providing a wheelable all weather surfaces and a fence, makes these swings very expensive. However if such a swing is donated to Council they should be:

- Located adjacent to a managed centre where access to the key is convenient at all times when the swing is likely to be used
- Sited as a central feature of the space and so a child swinging can see other children playing and feel they are a part of the action.
- Placed so there is some shade and so as to avoid sun in the eyes of the users.
- Sited on an interesting route within the play space, and close to where other children are swinging, with clear views through fences to other activities.

Internal and park perimeter circuit paths

Paths are a key indicator of accessibility for people relying on wheelchairs and mobility aids, for people with impaired vision, but for families with strollers and older people who are more subject to falls from uneven surfaces.

Paths can facilitate a large range and types of play –both fine and gross motor skill development, and the learning of how to ride a bicycle. Paths are often used in play with marbles or small balls, and miniature toy cars for example. They are often the canvas for young children's drawings, and are sought after as the only hard surface in play spaces in some small rural communities.

Paths address the significant increase in the number of children using balance bikes, scooters and a wide range of small toy vehicles, as well as people using mobility aids. Paths are also a great way for all family members to be encouraged to go outdoors, exercise, socialise and to allow the development of basic skills such as riding a bike in a safe location.

A path system orders the space and provides links between elements and access to the key areas of the park.

Under half of Latrobe's play spaces have a path leading to the play space. These are however generally concrete or other hard surface path. This is consistent across localities.

Off-road trails to parks and play spaces provide opportunities for people to be physically active, socialise and experience nature, as well as move safely around the neighbourhood. They are important for active transport and essential for younger and older people who cannot drive. Links to off-road trails provide valuable extensions to the recreation and play activities available locally.

As a minimum, district and regional-level play spaces should be serviced by paths, both from the street and footpath to the play space. Currently several district or regional-level play spaces do not meet this criterion.



28/08/15

Loose surfaces with large particles such as Lilydale Toppings should be avoided in public paths, as these are slippery and difficult to manage for frail and older people, and people using mobility devices.

Where appropriate, unsealed path such as those with a consolidated gravel pavement – such as a granitic sand path, may be used in urban areas, however they should be formed paths. A formed path is one where: the grade has been levelled for the safety of a user and to shed water; a base is provided and the path has an edge.

Path surface materials must be well graded with different particle sizes that fit snugly together to form a tight, dense mass are the best for trails that can be cost effectively maintained.

The following table describes the nature of play space paths by locality in Latrobe.

Table 3: Nature of play space paths by locality

Path /access	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
Overgrass only	19	23	21	63
Gravel path	2	2	1	5
Hard surfaced path	5	1	6	12
Combination of above	6	13	41	38
TOTAL	32	39	47	118

Age groups catered for

Regional-level play spaces should cater to multiple age groups. Most of Latrobe’s regional play spaces have elements suitable for older children – except Lions Park (west) and Apex Park (east).

The following table describes the age groups catered for in play spaces by location in Latrobe. In most cases play spaces will cater for multiple age groups:

Table 4: Age groups catered for in play spaces by main locality

Age groups catered for	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
<4 years	30	36	46	112
4 – 7 years	32	38	47	117
8 – 12 years	30	37	46	113
13+ years	3	6	6	15





28/08/15

Types of equipment

Issues associated with play equipment identified on site include the following:

- Equipment can be consciously provided to reflect the need for specific type of activity or development: ie carousel can assist with vestibular development in early childhood.
- The types of equipment commonly provided are repetitive. Many are small combo climbers with a double swing.
- Most items (other than swings) do not provide any movement, or encourage activity or group interactions, and items are typically dotted singly around a park.
- Many of the horizontal ladders are not graded in height and there is no deck or bar to aid access to them.

Many spaces have opportunities to build on physical features of reserves (e.g. through planting on creek line etc.) More opportunities for creative and imaginative play and nature interaction could significantly add interest and play value to play spaces.

As many items are not integrated with surrounding features, landscape elements or have paths systems supporting them, there few benefits derived from spinoffs of play between the structures, or between the structures and the landscape. All the sites therefore rely on the structures for all play experiences, which provides poor value (especially as these structures themselves are so uninteresting).

On many sites (especially Moe) there is over emphasis on individual spring toys (for example versus a group rocker). There are no items conducive to group activity such as a carousel (there is only two: in Elgin Park, Morwell and Yinnar Centenary Garden). Spinning is a very important activity for children’s vestibular (brain) development.

Similarly there are not enough swings, which are one of the few well-used items. These also provide important development and social opportunities for children. There are no bird’s nest swings or other inexpensive ways of providing group interactions.

The Moe area has a lack of diversity of equipment types compared to the Morwell area and the Traralgon area.

There could be a better distribution of some play equipment components. For example:

- Only one of ten track glides in Latrobe is found in Moe
- Only eight of 39 seesaw spring rockers in Latrobe are found in the Moe.

The following table describes the play space equipment types by location in Latrobe.

Table 5: Play space equipment types by location

Equipment types	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
Junior combo	26	31	47	104
Double/triple swing	23	34	45	102
Seesaw spring rocker	8	18	23	49
Spring rocker*	17	23	27	67
Freestanding slide**	8	8	6	22
Monkey bars	6	5	5	16
Track glide	1	4	6	11
Basketball/net ball tower	2	2	1	5
Climbing frame	3	2	2	7
Exercise equipment	1	1	1	3
Helicopter	0	0	1	1
Hippo (Little Tykes)	0	0	1	1
Maze	0	1	1	2
Flying fox	2	0	1	3
Sandpit digger	0	1	2	3
Liberty swing	0	1	1	2

* Includes multiples

** May not all be freestanding





28/08/15

Other support facilities

Off-street parking

Some 21% of Latrobe’s play spaces have off-street parking. Only 13% of play spaces in Traralgon have off-street parking, compared to 25% in the Moe area and 28% in Morwell.

District and regional-level play spaces should have off-street parking where possible.

The following table describes the off-street parking provision at play spaces, by location in Latrobe.

Table 6: Off-street parking provision by location

Off street parking	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
Yes	8	11	6	25
No	24	28	41	93
TOTAL	32	39	47	118

Lighting

Some 68% of play spaces do not have a source of lighting. In Traralgon 80% are not lit, this is significantly higher than those in the Moe and Morwell areas. Whilst it is not imperative that play equipment area are lit per se, most play spaces should in the most social and community hubs to be successfully and these spaces should be the ones that encourage use and movement around the neighbourhood in the evening.

District and regional-level play spaces should have access to lighting. The following district or regional level play spaces are not lit.

- Lions Park (west), Moe
- Newman Park, Traralgon
- Immigration Park, Morwell
- Mathison Park, Churchill
- Yinnar Skate Park, Yinnar
- Yinnar Centenary Garden, Yinnar
- Hazelwood Pondage Reserve, Hazelwood
- Apex Park, Glengarry
- Tyers Recreation Reserve, Tyers.

The following table describes the source of play space lighting by location in Latrobe.

Table 7: Source of play space lighting by location

Light source	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
None	15	27	38	80
In play space or nearby	11	5	6	22
Street lighting	6	7	3	16

Fenced sites

Fencing contributes to the diverse package of features that some families seek for their play. Fencing may also be required when there may hazards such as a water body or busy road adjacent to an area children are attracted to, or to enclose a large moving object.

Some families, whose children may have a tendency to abscond for example, need fences to be able to play, but every park does not need a fence.

Fenced play spaces sites relatively equitably distributed across the municipality and these sites should be promoted to make people aware of these opportunities.

The majority of Latrobe’s play spaces are not fenced (84%). Only four of the play spaces across Latrobe with some fencing are located in the Morwell area.

When fencing play equipment care must be taken not to locate the fence too close to the equipment. The curtilage of equipment is often critical to play and the games that spin off from equipment. Where possible a fence is generally best provided around the park edge or road verge, rather than around just the equipment.

McMillan St Reserve in Morwell is an example where the siting of the fence provides a cage affect – which detracts from use and play opportunities.

Where fencing is provided around a single item such as a Liberty swing (to prevent people running in front of its) - signage must encourage use from all community members. Generic signage provided with this equipment implies it is a “ restricted area” – and not accessible to some people.

The provision of a gate will determine effectiveness of a fence for those who rely on it.





28/08/15

The following table describes the status of fencing in play spaces by location in Latrobe.

Table 8: Status of fencing by location

Fence type	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
Full (with gate)	1	0	1	2
Full (no gate)	1	1	0	2
Part fenced	7	3	5	15
Not fenced	23	35	41	99
TOTAL	32	39	47	118

Toilets

Regional play spaces should have toilet access. All Latrobe’s regional play spaces are in close proximity to toilets.

It is generally not affordable or necessary to provide toilets in local play spaces unless sited in conjunction with facilities that encourage a long duration of stay.

The following table describes the status of play space toilets by location in Latrobe.

Table 9: Status of play space toilets by location

Toilets	Moe	Morwell	Traralgon	TOTAL
None	26	31	42	99
< 100m	4	6	5	15
> 100m	2	2	0	4
TOTAL	32	39	47	118

Drinking fountains

District and regional-level play spaces should have drinking fountain facilities. The following district or regional-level play spaces do not have these facilities:

- Lions Park West, Moe
- Newman Park, Traralgon
- Botanic Gardens, Moe
- Immigration Park, Morwell
- Mathison Park, Churchill
- Yinnar Skate Park, Yinnar
- Hazelwood Pondage Reserve, Hazelwood
- Explorers Park, Traralgon.

Eleven of Latrobe’s play spaces have drinking fountains (9%). Only two of these play spaces are in Traralgon.

Seating

Provision for seating can enhance length of stay if a caregiver is comfortable for example, and other family members can sit and watch or read. It is also desirable that tables are provided in play spaces to complement seating. These can facilitate picnicking and other group activities and provide a social focal point for the space.

Multiple seats and the configuration of seats (for example facing each other can encourage more social interaction.

Twenty five percent of Latrobe’s play spaces do not have seating. A larger number of play spaces in Morwell do not have any seating.

The Moe area is better served for seating where only 13% of play spaces do not have seating, and there are 2.3 seats per play space.





28/08/15

4. Managing the condition of play equipment and associated infrastructure

The condition of existing play spaces

Play DMC undertook a condition assessment of Latrobe’s play spaces for this project in March 2015.

A separate spread sheet has been submitted to Council with the results of the onsite assessment, as well as replacement value of assets. An analysis of the each play space and recommended actions is provided in the *Play Space Recommendations* which is a separate volume to this report.

The condition of equipment was rated out of a possible 5 (best condition).

Moe area

The condition of play spaces in the Moe area averaged 3.4/ out of 5.

Play spaces with the poorest condition were:

- Cross St Reserve (1/5)
- Jeeralong Avenue Reserve (2/5)
- Scott Avenue Reserve (2/5)
- Ted Summerton Reserve (2/5)
- Apex Park (central) (2/5)
- Randall Crescent Reserve (2/5)

Morwell area

The condition of play spaces in the Morwell area averaged 3.0 out of 5.

Play spaces with the poorest condition were:

- Boolarra Skate Park, Boolarra (2/5)
- Churchill Skate Park, Churchill (2/5)
- Immigration Park (2/5)
- Tulloch Street Reserve (2/5)
- Town Common Playground (2/5)
- Berg Street Reserve (2/5)

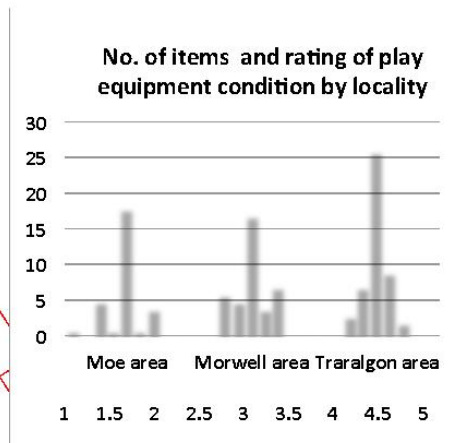
Traralgon area

The condition of play spaces in the Traralgon area averaged 2.9 out of 5.

Play spaces with the poorest condition were:

- Hubert Osborne Park (2/5)
- Sir Frank Macfarlane Burnet Reserve (2/5)
- Apex Park, Glengarry (2/5)

The following graph describes the condition of play spaces (on a 0-5 scale), by location.



Asset management

An asset management plan is a tool combining management, financial, engineering and technical practices to ensure the level of service required by users is provided at the most economical cost to the community.

Play equipment (the assets) must be considered inputs not outputs. The play experiences are the real outputs.

Additional work may be required by Council to provide an asset management plan for play spaces that addresses the following issues:

- The levels of management required by recently revised Australian standard
- The changing nature of play space provision to include more than just traditional play equipment
- Inclusion of trees and other landscape elements as assets
- The need to acknowledge that the design life of some play and recreational infrastructure is a lot longer than its functional life (i.e. the physical equipment is likely to last longer than its market appeal). When recreational assets reach the end of their useful life, replacement with the exact same asset is not likely to meet service levels or community demand





28/08/15

- Replacement may trigger the need for redesign instead, and in some cases relocation of play equipment into more sustainable hubs elsewhere
- A practical and simple asset management system that is cost effective to use is required.

Asset replacement and renewal

Asset renewal priorities will need to be compared with major improvements recommended in the *Play Space Recommendations* document, that are based on precinct wide assessments, play value, demand and core service provision.

An important asset management issue is that assets are not replaced “like for like” when they are replaced. The functional life of play equipment and sports facilities is considerably less than the durability of most components, and the community demand for specific design equipment and attributes will fluctuate on more frequently in line with commercial trends and availability. When equipment is due for renewal, the nature of what is required, and the design of the space it contributes to, must be reassessed as part of an asset renewal process.

Replacement value of play assets has been estimated from site inspections, based on other examples elsewhere.

Condition, design life and replacement value was estimated based on site inspections.

Council estimates that the total value of all play equipment is \$2,761,682. This appears to be an under estimation of replacement value.

The overall replacement value of play equipment assets estimated following site inspections was as \$3,596,000.

Core Service Levels

Location, distribution, size, quality and design and management requirements that ensure that play spaces are “fit for purpose” are defined as **core service levels** in this plan.

By having these Council can more accurately cost future provision of play spaces, assist service organisation who may come to Council with proposal to build play spaces, as well as respond equitably to pressure to provide high quality facilities that may not be warranted, or that may be considered over serving in some areas.

The following tables outline draft recommended service levels for provision of access and infrastructure in play spaces, by catchment hierarchy. These should be expanded to include maintenance.

These will assist with aligning Council resources and community expectations, and responding to requests from the public for additional facilities.



28/08/15

Table 10: Proposed core service levels for access

Catchment	Car parking immediately adjacent	Accessible car space	Bicycle parking	Accessible path into park and to social area/ seating/ shade/ equipment 3	Formed/ sealed path linking all elements	Accessible path of travel to car park	Site served by shared trail	Park perimeter path	Accessible path linking play elements 4	Accessible play equipment 5
Local	x	x	√	√	x	x	√	x	0	0
District	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	0
Regional	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

Table 11: Proposed core service levels site and associated infrastructure

	Centrally located park, overlooked by house frontages	Park with other social, environmental and sporting elements	Min park size 1ha	Located on prominent site/ main road	Seating	Play Equipment	Drinking water	Lighting	Fence	Built shade / shelter	Toilet	Tree shade & soft landscape
Local	√	Min. Social and environmental	√	0	√	√	x	0	0	x	x	v
District	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	v	0	√	0	v
Regional	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	v	0	√	√	v

Table 12: Proposed core service levels site and associated infrastructure

	BBQ	Tables	Bins	Public art	Park name signs	Interp'tn signs	Synthetic softfall	Synthetic surface under swings	LEGEND
	x	0	0	0	√	0	x	0	√ = yes
	0	√	√	0	a structure or in-ground paving etc.	0	0	√	x = no
	√	√	√	√	√	0	0	√	0 = optional

3 Accessibility Level. Can get to at least a social area with mobility devise or along a path – i.e. picnic, hub, around the equipment etc.

4 Accessibility Level. Can get to social area, and there is an accessible path that moves around the space to equipment, activities etc.

5 Accessibility Level. Some equipment suitable for people with ambulatory impairments/ have mobility devise e.g. sand play table, hammock swing, arm operated swing / bucket swing with back support / straps, ramped equipment or accessible path of travel to facility with right height e.g. with shop/ steering wheel, cubby under etc.





28/08/15

Risk management and maintenance

There are six key elements to a play space risk management system. These are outlined in the Australia Standard: AS4685 - Playground Equipment and Surfacing Part 0: Development, Installation, Maintenance and Operation.

The key elements are:

1. Systematic record keeping
2. Post-installation inspection of new or refurbished play spaces
3. Routine inspection and maintenance (Level 1)
4. Operational inspection and maintenance (Level 2)
5. Comprehensive inspections (Level 3)
6. Accident reporting procedures.

Standards Australia has recently updated the previous AS 4486-1997 and this document will become AS 4695 - Part 0 (in 2015). This Standard clearly outlines in detail the number and types of inspections, the accompanying maintenance tasks, and the recordkeeping practices that are required.

The maintenance regime for existing play spaces

There are some key challenges faced by Council in maintaining play spaces. These include the following:

- The demand for higher standards of play space design in a context of reduced availability of funds for both capital and maintenance
- The increasing the number of custom designed and landscape play elements and proportionately less off-the-shelf equipment requires different approaches to assessment and different maintenance tasks, procedures, systems and training
- Assessing the condition, service standards, cost, risk and financial projections of elements that are not off-the-shelf equipment

- Asset managers will need to be trained in play value and play as well as managing landscape and art elements through the design process and maintenance
- Council will need designers to provide a vision for management of nature play elements and an intention of how landscape and art are to be managed.
- This will also ensure that designs are grounded and practical to manage, and management is considered during the design process.

Council has a program of maintenance and a budget allocation set each year for the maintenance and upgrade of equipment. However this program appears to be significantly under funded. The current budget does not allow all spaces to be maintained adequately. Currently staff have to either maintain all spaces to a lesser level or service only a proportion of the necessary sites. This means the program of required maintenance tasks continues to escalate.

The site inspections indicated that no mulch provided as a softfall met current depth requirements. In addition Swing S-hook openings of approximately 10mm do not meet current requirements.

Supporting partners staff and committees of management involved in play spaces

There are other partners involved in the provision and management of play spaces in Latrobe. These currently include committees of management and service clubs and could include schools.



28/08/15

Committees of management

Committees of management for kindergartens and preschools and for sports reserves may provide and look after play spaces. This includes purchase, design and maintenance. Typically these committees rely on manufacturers to design play spaces, and undertake other management tasks themselves.

Volunteer members of committees of management are essential in the cost effective and democratic local processes employed by Council. However the provision of planning, design and management of play spaces needs to be undertaken by qualified staff with adequate training and appropriate levels exposure to risk.

If there is too much exposure to risk of volunteers undertaking all tasks, and the risk of not providing users with the benefits of high play value, then additional training, supervision, or delegation of some tasks may be necessary. The roles of committees and Council include planning, design, construction, inspection and maintenance and risk management of play spaces and all infrastructure.

Some tasks with higher risk to users and the committee, may be more cost effective to provide by Council. However it is not possible to maintain additional play spaces within the current Council budget.

If staff and volunteers have appropriate qualifications such as landscape design, recreation planning or engineering or asset management they may also need additional play and play equipment related training.

Training concerning play equipment, and the relevant Australia Standards is regularly available through Play Australia. Additionally early childhood, landscape and play design training are also available. Volunteers will also need to follow the steps required by the Australian Standards to manage the risks associated with play equipment.

Council should also ensure that committees and staff are appropriately resourced and equipped to undertake each of the necessary roles they play.

It is also desirable that even if volunteers are trained, work conducted, authorised and construction managed by them in this area is peer reviewed, and the output is required to be satisfactory.

As the owner of the asset Council should at a minimum sign off on the compliance of construction of any new facility provided and any repair works, and regularly inspect the condition of facilities.

Council staff responsible for the kindergartens and preschools under committees of management, should receive training to inspect and manage the condition of these play spaces. These are different from public play spaces and should be managed in accordance with relevant Australian standards, and quality early children teaching practice.

Schools

In small communities collocating public and school playgrounds, or entering in joint agreements with a school for Council to assist in the provision and management of a play space may be a good strategy to provide sustainable play spaces in small communities.

Service clubs

Service clubs can make a major contribution to the funding and construction of play spaces. Spaces designed and constructed by a service club should however be designed by a professional and details be in keeping with the guideline principles and the core service levels identified in this plan, be assessed as compliant before use and be maintained in accordance with Australian standards.

The process described in the planning and design chapter (where a professional play designer prepares a sketch in conjunction with the group and an in-house horticultural and construction staff) and the service club constructs the facility under supervision of a Council project manager, could alleviate issues that can be experienced in using volunteers.

Construction management skills will be needed in house if detailed design documentation isn't provided, so as to meet horticultural, landscape construction and play value requirements.



28/08/15

Where Council works in conjunction with other partners and volunteers on the provision of management of play spaces, Council should ensure:

- A design concept is prepared by a play designer and personnel with horticultural experience and is agreed with Council prior to construction
- That such concepts include landscape, planting and other equipment or infrastructure
- That such play spaces conform to the guiding principles included in this document
- That prior to construction some training occurs with any volunteers
- That the construction is supervised
- That on completion the facility is assessed and deemed compliant before it is opened for public use.
- That a management plan and maintenance schedule for the space is agreed with Council prior to construction, and the responsibility for inspections, monitoring and maintenance of the space is agreed.



28/08/15

5. Objectives and Actions

5.1 Play space planning and design

Objective:

Deliver an integrated overall landscape outcome that enhances specific development opportunities and uses a design process that is cost effective.

Actions

1. Adopt the guiding principles as proposed to guide the future planning design and management of play spaces in Latrobe.
2. Upgrade district play spaces to provide social, physical, imaginative and creative play experiences, landscape elements and an internal paths system. Provide a strong social focus in each space, and select play items on the basis of whether many different people can use them, and in how many different ways. Provide space and service that will enable use of these spaces for events.
3. In future design play spaces as integrated opportunities in central social community hubs that are not single-purpose play equipment areas for children, and so as to that serve people of all abilities from a wide range of age groups.
4. Consider introducing a new process to work more closely with developers and contractors, in addition to early childhood, horticultural, professionals and other partners to deliver high quality play spaces cost effectively.
5. Consider using a play space designer to prepare a sketch design concepts for multiple play spaces in the one precinct to ensure they can be developed to complement each other.
6. Design an accessible path of travel with a suitable surface for mobility devices, into and around all regional play spaces.
7. Introduce tables into more play spaces to encourage older people and more social groups
8. Consider providing an additional regional level park for social, family recreation in Churchill. The most appropriate site is the Civic space adjacent to the library – and the skate park.
9. Encourage children's engagement in the planning and design of public and centre play spaces, and parent advisory groups in the design of centre play spaces
10. Prioritise the provision of play spaces in areas not served by existing ones, and where there are a high proportion of vulnerable children and household incomes are low.
11. Enhance the accessibility and connection of play spaces along rail trails.

5.2 Environmental integrity and amenity

Objective:

Provide canopy trees and landscape elements as part of all play space developments

Actions

12. Upgrade shade at play spaces starting with district play places.
13. Consider undertaking community education about the value of trees, in conjunction with a major park improvement program to include more trees and horticultural/ landscape elements in parks.
14. Promote the value of, and provide landscape elements including trees as a priority in all new play space developments.
15. Continue to support processes such as MyPark - which engages with the community including children to plant trees and activate local parks.



28/08/15

5.3 Asset management

Objective:

Provide adequate resources to maintain all play assets in a compliant way and to enhance the value of those to users.

Actions

16. Prepare an asset management plan for play spaces.
17. Seek additional resources to increase the level of maintenance of play spaces in Latrobe as per Australia Standard: AS4685 - Playground equipment and surfacing Part 0: Development, Installation, Maintenance and Operation.
18. Plan for an reduction in the cost of mowing, in the budget, in favour of an increase in the cost of maintaining, landscape, furniture and cultural elements in play spaces.
19. When a play space is due for asset renewal, ensure a review of design is conducted with adjacent residents.
20. Continue to work with partners such as service clubs, and volunteer committees to plan design and manage play spaces. Ensure that committees, and groups work closely with a play designer, to develop the concept, that construction is certified as compliant before use and personnel are trained in play value, management, with monitoring and repair works undertaken by Council.
21. Provide ongoing training for Council staff involved in the planning design, management and maintenance of play equipment, and provide more formalised opportunities for communication between these staff.
22. Work with committees of management to clarify the roles and responsibilities of play space planning design and management.
23. Transfer inspections of play spaces managed by Committees of Management: from reserve committees of management to parks staff, and from kindergarden and preschool committee to early childhood staff, following training.
24. Continue to provide horticulture, landscape and play space design skills internally, along with construction and management skills in the play space design and management team.
25. Expand on the draft core service levels provided, to include maintenance tasks.
26. Track different categories of costs associated with play space management to inform future cost planning.



28/08/15

5.4 Locality specific recommendations

Morwell

Morwell North West

Given the lack of choice here it is recommended that more care be taken with the quality of the existing provision for play in this precinct.

Helen St Reserve

27. Ensure new equipment includes a challenging item of equipment that can accommodate a group (e.g. a large swivel birds nest swing).
28. Provide additional / improved seating around the play space.
29. Add more trees for shade and interest, and consider some landscape elements for play such as some large.

Northern Reserve

30. Add a path to a new accessible social focal point with seating and shade.
31. Add a new double swing (senior) and consider adding a space net type of climber.
32. Redesign the edges of this space and add trees and planting, possibly a cubby relating to one of the existing cubby spaces, and add logs and stepping stones to create a landscape for play that will extend the play on the equipment and give it more value.
33. Consider adding an informal bike trail at this reserve.

Morwell Central North

Savign St Reserve

34. Upgrade seating and shade.
35. This small play space would benefit from some gentle earthworks to create a low mound separating the play space from the street.

36. Add some log seats and on the cubby side create some ground level interest with log tree stumps, flat rocks or similar to connect to the play in the cubby.

37. Add some additional logs for climbing.

Well St Reserve

38. Consider some minor earthworks to bench out a small zone in the immediate vicinity of the play space. This will allow for a low curved rock retaining/seating wall on the up-slope side and could provide a good seating place for parents.
39. Plant trees behind and around the play space.
40. Consider adding a path into the space for wheelchairs, prams and strollers.
41. Add some ground level interest aimed at young children to encourage exploration and creative play; such as sand, low vegetation, stepping stones, etc.
42. Consider planting in the pre-school as well, which appears to lack landscape value for play.

Morwell Central

Barry St Reserve

43. Redeveloped the Barry Street Reserve as a neighbourhood park with investment in social accessible seating, play for a range of ages, planting, shade and amenity, because of its proximity to the school.
44. Upgrade the whole park with planting, path, furniture, seating and especially good-sized trees.
45. Design a new play space that is completely different from all of the other local play spaces - preferably use timber or nets to impart character, and utilise the landscape to complement the equipment and extract better value from it.



28/08/15

46. Provide at least two double swing frames and preferably include some other interesting equipment that moves, spins or rocks and accommodates a group of children at once.

Tulloch St Reserve

47. Relocate the play equipment to more central position in the park.
48. Provide additional plantings for interest and shade.

McMillan St Reserve

49. Realign some sections of the fence so that the fence is effectively only along the street frontage and the house fences form the remainder of the enclosure. This will reduce the caged-in feeling of the space.
50. Plant some trees, create an attractive accessible seating space with a path within the fence, and design the immediate surroundings to encourage children to explore outside the equipment.
51. Excavate out a natural looking swale to contain the sand and add some rocks, logs bridges and plantings. The presence of the fence provides the possibility to provide this good sand play area.

Morwell Central East

It is recommended that two sites be upgraded to better quality settings:

- Ronald Reserve
- Burnside/Budge St play space

52. Consider Ronald Reserve as the most suitable space to become a low key district attraction on this side of the township. It is possible that the current playground is not located in the best position for this new role as there is no district-level play space north of the highway in Morwell, where the bulk of residents live, and where most of the play spaces are of low interest, and with little variety.

Ronald Reserve

53. Seek the most suitable location for a better play space in Ronald Reserve.
54. If suitable, this current site could be improved with some earthworks/mounding to separate the play space from the road, to provide enclosure, terrain and play interest.
55. Add some more interesting all ages, all abilities group activities such as a large carousel and a bird's nest swing, and planting and shade trees.
56. Consider adding a net climbing structure.
57. Ensure there is an accessible path to a central, amenable seating zone.

Burnside/Budge St Play Space

58. This site is located near the creek and should be redesigned in a completely different way, to reflect the creek environment.
59. Provide an accessible setting with some timber structures, using climbing logs and natural materials/elements to encourage exploration and imaginative/role play.
60. The other two sites should also receive some improved planting and seating as a minimum.

Morwell East

This precinct is characterised by bare expanses of fairly flat uninteresting open spaces which are not conducive to attracting families to play outside. Neither of these sites is very prominent, but as Nindoo Drive is more central. This space should be upgraded into a more sociable accessible space.

Nindoo Dr Reserve

61. Reconsider this whole space. Consult residents and plan a concerted effort to revegetate the creek line and re-think the play space at the same time.
62. Plant along the fence lines and plan some attractive spaces with trees, lawn to play on, and a play space aimed at a range of ages.
63. Create an amenable central seating space that would encourage social interaction between residents.



28/08/15

Angela Ct Reserve

64. This site is in need of improvements to the landscape to provide some shade, amenity, and some open-ended play settings that do not entirely rely on the equipment. It would benefit from a path and a seating area in tree shade.

Morwell South West

This residential precinct is somewhat isolated in the municipality, confined by the railway line to the west, the highway to the north and Maryvale Crescent to the east. There is therefore a high level of dependence on the only play space here at Driffield St Reserve.

Driffield St Reserve

65. Plant a backdrop of trees and design some un-manicured elements for play by older children such as a bike track and some climbing logs and rocks.

Morwell South Central

Berg St Reserve

Because of the proximity of Elgin St/Town Common Reserve, it is not necessary to extend this play space too much. Nonetheless it may be worth optimising the experiences here so the two sites complement one another.

66. Add a low takeoff deck each end of the horizontal ladder to make it more usable, and link these decks into a ground level obstacle/balancing course (using rocks and logs) winding through the play space.
67. Consider adding a hedge like row of trees along the street line to provide a sense of enclosure while allowing a view in.

Town Commons Reserve, Elgin St

68. This site could benefit from some small improvements that would make it more inclusive, especially by extending a rubber path into the play space enclosure and taking it wherever possible to at least allow all children to participate in the social play if not the swinging and other activities.

Morwell South East

Immigration Park

69. The space would be more attractive if low planting along the fence lines were incorporated into the play space design.
70. Consider adding a space net climber as no play spaces in Morwell include one of these.

Moe / Newborough

Moe North West

Mervyn St Reserve

This park is the only one serving its immediate catchment, and therefore has a reasonably high level of dependence upon it for play and social interaction locally. As such it would benefit from the following improvements.

71. Provide a path access to a social/seating area.
72. Provide accessible seating in the area shaded by trees.
73. Design seating to encourage social interaction.
74. Provide natural/loose/open ended play elements such as planting, logs, boulders, sand etc to complement the existing equipment.
75. Provide more attention to the provision of backdrop planting along the side and rear fence line.s
76. Plant a row of large umbrella shaped trees along the street line (allowing views in).

Moe North Central

No actions required.



28/08/15

Moe Central

The three play spaces in this precinct are effectively the same. Each offers a basic package of equipment-based activities aimed at a generally junior target age group. The western end of the precinct is not served by a play space.

77. Locate a new play space should be sought west of Truscott Ave.

Marshall Ave Reserve

78. Improve the park design so that the park also provides an interesting and beautiful setting with or without play equipment.

Ted Summerton Reserve

79. Upgrade into a higher quality play space (district) and redesigned using the good shelter and path as a focal point.
80. Remove the equipment and re-use as spare parts if required.
81. A new play space should provide at least two double swing frames (one junior/toddler and one senior).
82. The space should provide for a more interesting suite of activities for juniors and older children supported by a quality landscape for play, and a range of elements should cater for users with disabilities. It should be entirely different in appearance and function from others in the precinct.
83. Consider including a feature item such as a large space net.

Stoddart Reserve

84. Consider how this park could better support children's activities and create a more interesting environment around the equipment. Connect a path into the play area and create a new landscape focal point such as a sand stream with low flat boulders as an edge.
85. Plant to create a complex backdrop.

Moe Central Apex / Lions Park

This whole park is the destination park for play in Moe, between the Apex and Lions Parks offering a wide range of play items.

It is important that this Apex/Lions Park provides a destination experience that is different from all local parks, and is worth travelling to.

The park could be improved in many ways.

86. Prepare a play precinct master plan that integrates the two areas so that able-bodied and less able children can play alongside one another across the whole park.
87. Provide slightly more emphasis on social connections, seating and picnicking, and possibly a path system in some areas (without spoiling the natural character of others).
88. Consider relocating and joining some items so that together they create more complexity between them, thereby extending the play and getting better value from the equipment.
89. Investigate ways that the landscape could provide better play value with adventurous areas with sand, logs and rocks.
90. Plant areas within the Accessible Playground to add more shade and natural interest.
91. Consult users of both areas to determine how well each space meets their needs.
92. Avoid the use of stock standard equipment in this park that has been used in virtually all over Moe/Newborough. In particular the small, steel-deck climbing units with a slide that are ubiquitous here.



28/08/15

Moe South

The play spaces within this group are relatively spread out, so residents are fairly dependent on the park closest to them.

The combination of equipment and settings across the group has a low level adequacy but would benefit from more landscape / natural interest for children to: explore, ride bikes, climb trees, build cubbies etc.

Randall Cres Reserve

93. Plant some very large trees around the play space. Add a large birds nest swing.

John St Reserve

94. Plant some very large trees around this play space as well. Any new design work should complement the Elizabeth St Primary School play space and not duplicate it.

Scorpio Dr Reserve

95. Add some interest in this linear reserve such as a bumpy dirt bike path, large boulders.

Phillip St Reserve

96. Add major tree planting and one moving item to suit groups of older children (eg carousel). Add climbing logs.

Moe South Central

Scott Avenue Reserve

97. Consider adding a moving item of equipment that caters for groups of children of older/mixed ages.
98. Consider enlarging the hardcourt to a half or even a full size court.
99. Additional shade tree planting would help define the space and provide visual amenity, including the provision of backdrop planting along fence lines.

Stoddart St Reserve

100. Design a space here that could support social interaction for parents and children from the school as well as the local community.
101. Provide a path, well placed seating under shade, visual amenity and a much higher level of sensory interest in the play space.
102. Consider fencing the street frontage of this park.

Moe South East

TB Drew Park

103. Provide a seamless path entry from the street linking to an amenable seating/social space
104. Provide a choice of seating/perching that could include logs in a semi-circle
105. Add planting, large boulders, nature trail etc. around parts of the perimeter, with the long term goals of adding shade and natural play experiences that adds complexity and extends the play value of the equipment.
106. The addition of one more interesting/challenging/moving item of equipment such as a medium size space net, some in-ground playground trampolines or a large swivel birds nest swing.

Bayley St Reserve

107. Retain as a low key site with predominantly natural elements.
108. Add a large branched log on the up-slope side of the mulch for climbing, balancing and seating.
109. Add landing decks or at least a step each end of the horizontal ladder, then connect to a stepping/balancing route made of logs, rocks or similar.
110. Consider working with local children and add an informal dirt bike circuit around the triangular end of the reserve.



28/08/15

Wirrana Dr Reserve

111. Retain as a small-scale local play space.
112. Check the demographics in the immediate vicinity and consider a long term re-design depending on the age cohort.
113. Options might include the design of a play garden with detailed vegetation, paths, sand and logs/rocks, or a more physically active space for older children. Existing equipment could be working into either option.

Newborough North East

Montane Bvd Reserve

114. This park is the only one serving its immediate catchment and therefore has a high level of dependence upon it for play and social interaction locally.
115. The design of the whole park is substandard and provides no amenity. There is not one tree, and no seating. The play equipment is fenced into an unattractive cage and there is no possibility of children exploring a natural environment nor developing their own independent play.
116. The play activities in the cage are limited to the junior age group who would most enjoy imaginative play in a natural setting.
117. Remove the fence.
118. A complete planting design for the park, including:
 - shade tree planting
 - the provision of backdrop planting along the side and rear fence lines
 - provision of accessible seating in shade.
119. Design of seating to encourage social interaction.
120. Provision of natural/loose/open ended play elements such as planting, logs, boulders, sand etc to complement the existing equipment.
121. At least one item of moving equipment providing group play for all ages such as:
 - a carousel
 - birds nest swing or similar

- a mini trampoline.

122. A group of landscape elements such as large rocks or similar that provide for open ended play.

Newborough Central West

The play spaces within this group are relatively isolated from one another so residents are fairly dependent on the one closest to them.

Jeeralang Ave Reserve

123. This park requires more attention to tree planting, shade and amenity.
124. Consider adding a second swing frame, resulting on one double toddler/junior frame and one more exciting senior double swing.

Ollerton Reserve / Merton Crt

125. Remove this equipment (with the possible exception of the swing) and re-use elsewhere if desired.
126. Create a small accessible setting that builds on a forest theme, with some logs arranged for climbing, possible use of nets, more interesting swings and encourage cubby building and creative play.

Botanic Gardens Play Space

127. Assess the function and purpose of this play space through greater consultation with the Moe community.
128. Relocate the exercise equipment to a more suitable park.
129. If there is a demand for a children's space at the tennis courts and botanic gardens, then this space should be replaced with a design that has a character more in keeping with a botanic garden, with planting and natural elements as the main feature.



28/08/15

Newborough Central East

John Field Reserve

130. As the local destination play space here, it is worth improving the amenity and accessibility of this space. This may include:

- Relocate the play space to a more prominent position in the open space
- Add more planting and grouped seats
- Add a special attraction such as a simple bike play area.

Stearman St Reserve

131. Some value needs to be added to the play experience via landscape elements, adding amenity through tree shade and planting, and making an accessible social space that would attract social interaction.

Hallston St Reserve and Boolarra Ave Reserve

These reserves share the same catchment. They are too similar to one another and neither is interesting enough on its own.

132. Consider removing the equipment at Boolarra (except swing) and redesign the space with vegetation designed for play, sand, terrain, logs and a completely different style of presentation. Utilise timber cubbies at ground level adjacent to the sand.

Newborough South

The play spaces within this precinct are all variations on a similar theme (slide, basic climbing, a swing and two spring toys). The following recommendations treat these three sites as a group, together aiming to meet the needs of the local community.

133. Each should be developed differently to provide more choice in styles settings and activities between the sites, with emphasis on Hearn Park as the main focus of investment locally.

Hearn Park Playground

134. Invest in this play space as a local focus for social interaction.

135. Consider removing the current equipment and relocate some items if required elsewhere.

136. Choose equipment that enables groups to use it together rather than single use items.

137. Design a small but integrated new play space that incorporates a path and play elements (some accessible) with a range of different activity types - for example a spinning carousel accommodating a group of children, better swings for a range of ages, and more interesting climbing. Place these to ensure that some value can be obtained from nearby landscape or planting.

Smallburn Ave Reserve

The objective for this reserve is to create an attractive small park for residents from the immediate vicinity. There may be a few options here:

138. Remove the equipment altogether, plant more trees, screen the fence line, and create an appealing open space, or

139. Create more planting and interest, add more furniture, add a double swing, and add some features such as very large boulders and climbing logs to create a low key but worthwhile local play space. The existing equipment could be removed at the end of its useful life. Discussing this with local residents.

Harvey St Reserve / Cross Street

This is a slightly more prominent reserve and the objective here is to complement the larger Hearn Park.

140. Consider adding bollards or even a low fence around the triangular end of the park to create a sense of enclosure (and safety) and to prevent parking on the grass

141. Invest in the amenity of the reserve with more planting to screen the fence line at the wide end of the park, the creation of a small social focal point with better group seating, tree planting for shade, and a path.

142. Add a landscape feature for play such as a swale filled with sand, log bridges and a cubby, for example.



28/08/15

Newborough South East

Monash Reserve

- 143. Establish a new play space (in line with the recommendations of the Moe Outdoor Recreation Plan) that includes some kind of visual containment such as a low hedge or similar.
- 144. Consider connecting into the cypress row to create some imaginative play pockets under the trees.

Traralgon

Traralgon North

Rod Dunbar Park

- 145. Consider moving this play equipment a little closer to the houses and away from the road if a suitable space can be found.
- 146. If the fence is considered necessary, consider repositioning it so that it encloses a larger area, with lawn and other play opportunities inside it.
- 147. Plant the fence line with flowering shrubs of the same height as the fence to make it more attractive.
- 148. Undertake tree and shrub planting, provide shade, and some open ended ground level interest such as an obstacle course of log balance beams, stepping rocks or similar.
- 149. Construct a trail through interesting planting.

Rangeview Park

- 150. Take advantage of the central location near the school and create a community meeting and play space with emphasis on accessible, social space with furniture, built and tree shade to enhance the existing equipment.
- 151. Add some more natural play elements (rocks logs and terrain) for children of all ages.
- 152. Add at least one more double swing frame or a bird's nest swing, and or a carousel.

Downs Reserve/Cross's Road

- 153. Provide path access from Grubb Ave
- 154. Design a wheelchair accessible activity (such as a cubby with interactive panels, music, etc.) and add this to one of the existing rubber areas.
- 155. Add a shaded, social focal point with seats etc. and link these to a path that integrates all the spaces and activities.
- 156. Enclose the whole space with a circle of large shade trees planted as close as practicable to the equipment to provide some spatial enclosure, shade and amenity.

Stockdale Reserve

- 157. Carry out a safety audit on the play equipment as soon as possible.
- 158. Implement the landscape plans for the park here with large trees, social spaces, and some ground level details that would provide for play, bike riding, exploration and nature play.



28/08/15

Traralgon West

Freeman Park West (Willaroo Court)

This linear parkland is a major asset and should be treated as a connected system.

159. Ensure there is a good trail system right along the creek to encourage walking and cycling. Add signs.
160. Improve the park as a whole; define spaces with more tree planting and consult residents regarding other activities here such as possibly providing a community garden, a bike play area or other low key activities with a natural setting.
161. The play space needs to be improved with minor additions to obtain the best value out of the existing investment in equipment and surfacing. For example there is a rubber surface and a path that is probably intended to provide wheelchair access to an under deck cubby. Check whether it is indeed possible to reach the cubby or whether the posts block the entry. Check whether there are any accessible activities under the deck, and if not add some.
162. Provide an attractive central seating area with shade and a path.

Freeman Park East

163. Improve the park, as above.
164. Any play space needs to be completely different from the Freeman Park West equipment and should be located where it is visible from Brologa Blvd.

Jack Harrison Park

165. Provide an accessible social/seating space and connect this and the play space to the main path.
166. Plant a strong circle of trees around the play equipment and add additional planting across the reserve to improve the amenity of the whole park.
167. Provide some natural elements for play here such as a sand/stream with planting, rocks and logs.

Blanck Park

168. Prepare a low key design for the whole reserve that better delineates individual spaces and gives them more character - for example a hedge might contain the play space within one section of the reserve.
169. Provide a focal point for seating.
170. Add at least one piece of equipment that provides movement, challenge and activities for a group of children, such as a carousel
171. Consider removing the slide and replacing it with a timber structure resembling a tree house. This could also have a slide.

Traralgon North Central

Bradman Reserve

This is an important large space and serves as a district park for this precinct. It needs attention to spatial qualities and amenity. This park has been earmarked in the Traralgon Outdoor Recreation Plan for further development.

172. Provide a centrally located, accessible shelter, BBQ and seating area. Plan a path system linking these to some of the play elements.
173. Add accessible toilets.
174. Consider creating some mounding around the play space on a few sides to both help as a windbreak and to contain the space, but also to create some clambering hills (some flat rock steps/climbers could be added into the mounds)
175. Complement the flat open space and equipment with some other natural elements for play such as a swale containing sand, log bridges and the like.
176. Make sure there are some accessible spaces and activities.



28/08/15

Maskrey Reserve

This site is suitable to be upgraded into a more focal park that caters for social interaction and play for a range of ages, in relation to its role as a tennis/sports reserve.

The Reserve is earmarked for an upgrade of seating and a picnic area.

- 177. Remove the existing equipment and re-use elsewhere if required.
- 178. Redesign the play space and create an accessible focal point for social interaction with shade and amenity. Design a play space entirely different in style, materials, setting and types of play from all others locally.
- 179. Plant a strong circle of shade trees around the whole play space, and integrate planting and natural elements into the design.
- 180. Preserve good sightlines from the tennis courts into the play space.

Grant St Park and Gilwell Park

These parks are very close to one another

The poorly designed street layout here justifies the retention of both sites as parks as green open space because otherwise residents would not have access to any park within hundreds and hundreds of metres.

- 181. Retain Gilwell Park Play Space, and add some extra elements to diversify the play.
- 182. Remove play equipment at Grant St and upgrade the park with a new design including big trees, furniture, a path system and nature play but not necessarily play equipment.
- 183. Replace this site with a new, more prominent play space at Agnes Brereton Reserve. This is a more prominent location, caters for netball competitions, and is more accessible to the whole northeast corner of this small precinct.

New play spaces

- 184. Create a new play space at Agnes Brereton Reserve, in the southwest corner of the playing field and close to the netball court (as recommended in the Traralgon Outdoor Recreation Plan).
- 185. There is a relatively large area un-served by play spaces between:
 - Douglas Pde and Cross's Rd, and
 - Between Grubb Ave and Gilmour St.
- 186. This area has a large amount of open space but this is mostly, unfortunately, poorly located behind houses in a number of landlocked reserves that should not be developed as play spaces. Consider planting these reserves with magnificent trees.
- 187. The reserve with a street frontage to Inverness Way could be considered for a new landscape and play space.
- 188. Alternatively consider locating a higher level play space in the Traralgon Sporting Complex /Apex Park and education precinct. Such a new space needs to be located carefully where it gets maximum prominence, and preferably where families might gather in the context of primary school drop offs/after school meeting places. The location as recommended in the Traralgon Outdoor Recreation Plan, amongst the trees on the Johnson St frontage, would be suitable.
- 189. Do not duplicate the style of steel equipment used in other local reserves in any such new development.



28/08/15

Traralgon North East

Explorer Park

This large exposed play space needs some spatial containment.

190. Undertake some thinning of the existing shrubs is undertaken, or limbing up the vegetation, to provide views through into the play space.
191. Plant some very large trees around it. Add some low level planting for play with narrow pathways and small spaces to explore. Vegetation is preferably placed where it doesn't block views from main sightlines.
192. If there is no shortage of space consider adding a rocky creek bed/swale for play. This could become a major landscape feature with planting; log bridges, rocky edges and a loose surface. This will take the pressure off the equipment to sustain children during a visit here. Add a footpath at the front of the park.

Bond Park

193. Reconsider the play equipment here. Remove the slide and redesign the space. Utilise some alternatives to the local items (e.g. structures) with some complexity made of timber (the slide could be reused); or some cable climbers, some rotating or bouncing items such as a playground trampoline, or any other well thought out design that provides for a range of ages, amenity, and some play opportunities not available locally.
194. Add logs, rocks, and incidental landscape elements to encourage children to expand play away from the equipment.

The Strand Reserve

195. Consider some reconfiguration of this play space to achieve more optimum results. In particular consider a layer of accessible rubber paths to provide access to the cubbies and other play activities.

196. Consider enlarging the fenced area and including some sand, shrub planting and some irrigated lawn within the fence as a counter point to the equipment.

Medew Reserve

197. Discuss this reserve with local residents and establish how it is used.
198. Improve landscape through the park.
199. Consider some additions to the play space such as a carousel but make sure that the play space always remains as visible as possible from Pepperdine Ct.

Christian Rise

200. Ensure that the park has adequate attention to the amenity afforded by planting of large shady trees, a good path system, and some seating in sociable positions such as near the courts.

'The Rise'

This site will need to provide for any new suburban residential development north of Marshalls Road.

201. The park development needs to provide an interesting landscape, amenity, accessibility, social interaction and play value for a range of ages.

Traralgon Central West

Lloyd Park, Wood Park and Burge Park

202. Consider all three together and make small improvements that create different play experiences from site to site.
203. Improve the landscape on all three sites and especially with tree planting.

Hubert Osborne Park

204. Because of the street layout and the lack of other suitable parks for play, this site has to provide play opportunities for the whole area east of Lafayette St.



28/08/15

205. Consider some minor redesign of the play space such as adding a path to a central seating area, and from there add some accessible play activities.

206. Consider adding a hardcourt; and even a junior sand play space with planting, rocks and logs.

207. Add planting for shade.

Brookes St Reserve

208. Add a path, carefully located through the park, linking the to the play space and to seats.

209. Plant to screen fence lines, and to further enhance the amenity of this space. Consider some feature planting for play such as a wildflower swathe, a picking garden, rocky stepping stones or a planted maze.

210. Consider adding a large carousel and or a big bird's nest swing and make these accessible.

Kay St Reserve

211. This facility could be enhanced by providing a low key children's agility course /obstacle course linking into and through the adult equipment, and adding balancing logs, stepping stones, Burmese bridges, etc. to provide more interest for the whole family.

Traralgon Central

Newman Park

212. This park /play space would benefit from the addition of a new layer of planting, furniture and even some changes in level between the existing rubber zones and concrete paths, to tie the spaces all together into a cohesive design and to provide shade, natural elements, better play value, and more amenity.

213. Observe and consult families living with disability to check how else the space could be improved.

Traralgon South West

There are only two play spaces in this precinct and they are relatively isolated from one another, so their communities are highly dependent upon each space locally.

McNulty Drive Reserve

214. Design a new layer of tree planting and other vegetation to enhance the amenity of this whole park.

215. Re-position some of the equipment such as the horizontal ladder and link it via decks, stepping stones, stepping logs etc. to a balancing /obstacle course amongst planting.

216. Consider removing this slide and replacing with a structure that includes a slide and provides a wheel chair accessible cubby underneath a higher deck.

217. Check the height of the chin up bars and consider dropping at least one of them down so more people could use them. Such as children.

Carrington Park

218. Plant vegetation around the fence lines to screen properties.

219. Design a new layout for the park as a whole and include a path, large trees for amenity and some additional play activities. These could be simply some big climbing logs or other natural elements to complement the existing equipment.

Other

220. Consider also developing the open space between Bank St and Oak Avenue into an attractive park with magnificent trees and planting, seating and paths, if not a play space.



28/08/15

Traralgon South Central

Judd Park

221. Plant the site and add some landscape interest.

Hugh Court Park

222. Improve the whole park with tree planting, screening to fence lines and natural elements for play. The slide could be removed and replaced with an alternative structure that connects better into the landscape.

Duncan Cameron Reserve

223. This play area should be upgraded into a higher level social /meeting and play space with a path, seating and possibly a shade structure or shelter.

224. The space would benefit from the addition of a challenging piece of moving equipment that older children can use in groups, either rocking spinning or multi directional items.

225. The area close to trees could be enhanced with some logs for play.

Queens Parade Park

226. This park needs to be redesigned with a strong planting palette to screen the boundaries, and create an attractive green presence.

227. Redesign the play space as a new local play space using landscape elements and some low key equipment for a range of ages.

228. Make sure it is quite different from all others locally.

Traralgon South East

Crisp Park

229. This play equipment should be removed and replaced with a slightly more complex design, possibly of timber, and a redesign of the park that creates an interesting landscape using climbing logs, large rocks and planting.

Bonnie Vista Reserve

230. Create an interesting landscape with large trees and other elements around the whole park, to supplement the equipment.

Hourigan Park

231. Consider adding a shared trail right along the reserve from the Recreation Reserve / Showgrounds right down to join up with the trail along Liddiard St in the south.

232. Plant trees around the play space and add a seating area.

Think Big Reserve

233. Remove this equipment and prepare a master plan for this whole park, with the intention of providing a district level social and play space with planting, a quality landscape, paths, shade, an accessible seating area and an accessible play space for a range of age groups designed within a playful landscape.

234. The play space must be different from all other local play spaces and in particular different from Macey Park.

Macey Park

235. Add some more exciting equipment here that moves, spins or rocks and accommodates a group of children at once.

236. Add trees and consider some terrain- a big swale with sand in it for play, or a bumpy bike play area.



28/08/15

Layton Reserve

- 237. Add a path and some accessible activities to utilise the rubber surface.
- 238. Plant some additional large trees to provide additional strong visual interest.

Milligan Park

- 239. Add a strong landscape here for play and amenity.

Coleman Park

- 240. Add a strong landscape here for play and amenity.

Priestly Park

- 241. A play space is considered necessary in this southern corner of the precinct east of Liddiard Road, but this site is not the preferred location. Following the relocation of equipment, the park should be planted with good quality trees (see below).

Kevin Lythgo Reserve

This site is in a more prominent space than Priestly Park and is close to a primary school.

- 242. It is recommended that a suitable space be found and the play equipment at Priestly Park be relocated here.
- 243. The new space should be designed with a good, accessible social space that encourages social interaction after school.
- 244. The play space needs to accommodate children with disabilities, pre-school aged and older children.

Traralgon East**Robert Farmer Park**

- 245. Prepare a quick master plan for the whole reserve; consult residents about their needs; enhance the planting across the whole park.
- 246. Add some complexity in the landscape for play and amenity; extend the opportunities for both older and younger children.
- 247. Add a social heart to the space. Enhance the accessibility of the whole reserve and play space.

Southdown Way Reserve

- 248. Provide some landscape treatment that invites children's hands on participation, such as sand, rock and logs.
- 249. Add some more landscape elements to complement the Robert Farmer Reserve.
- 250. Above all plant some large trees.

Traralgon South**Ray Symonds Playground**

Park not inspected according to Play DMC master inventory.



28/08/15

Churchill

New civic space play space

251. Develop a new regional play space close to the library. This should be fully custom-designed and unique within Churchill. It does not need to be large but should ideally have a higher level of detail in the design and present a more manicured and natural appearance. It must be accessible to people with disabilities and needs to provide quality seating areas. A small water play feature, for example could be ideal.

Andrews Park West

This park also serves the catchment of a primary school.

252. Retain play equipment and undertake a major refurbishment with attention to paths, accessibility, shade, tree planting and amenity.

253. Add a carousel and other equipment appealing to older primary school children, such as a large net or flexible climber.

White Pde Reserve

254. This play space should be removed and Walker Parade and Watsons Park should be improved to compensate.

255. The park should be retained and used to create a beautiful reserve with some large trees, planted fence-lines and an attractive path circuit.

Watsons Park

Strategically the role for this park should be as a focal park for the residential areas on the west side of the main Boolarra /Churchill Road. The co-location of the school and the pre-school on this site create an important dynamic for the park and play space, and the play space could provide a valuable meeting place for parents and children. This play space also needs to compensate for the removal of White Park play space.

256. Undertake a full upgrade; prepare a simple master plan establishing the ideal location for the play space.

257. Create an appealing space with a new accessible path system and an entirely different style from any other park in Churchill.

258. Consider providing some timber structures, possibly with a natural character using forked tree logs or similar and possibly nets.

259. Include an accessible sand play area and ground level cubby and should provide some purpose designed spaces with rocks and logs etc. to encourage nature exploration, especially for younger age groups.

260. Plant trees with interesting forms specifically for play such as in circles or double lines would add inexpensive play value.

Walker Pde Reserve

This play space remains as a small local park.

261. The site needs a sketch plan to upgrade planting and amenity around the equipment area to celebrate it.

262. Consider adding a new feature item or two of play equipment that provides exciting movement, accessibility and group activity, and a ring of large trees around it.

263. Add a path. Aim to make one of the seats on the swing accessible, providing back support and accessible surface.

Mathison Park

264. This park should ideally provide a special experience unique to this setting and not duplicate common play equipment available in most towns and parks such as the freestanding slide and single spring toys.



28/08/15

English Reserve

265. This is an appealing reserve and should be retained but the play space is not really necessary, as it is so close to Walkley Reserve.

This play equipment is also not of great value here.

266. However, if residents prefer to keep a play space here, this equipment could be retained if desired, but overall it would be ideal to redesign a special play space that relies more on landscape elements and planting.

Reservoir Park

267. Retain this site as a local play space, but improve the immediate surroundings.

268. Remove most of the equipment from here and relocate to other larger sites such as Walkley St Reserve, where there will be less dependence on these single items. The swing could remain.

269. Replace the equipment with equipment of a different type from all the others locally, providing for climbing and agility.

270. Complement this with the planting of some very large trees and add a few landscape elements such as rocks and logs if required.

271. Consider adding wildflowers in a swathe across the site to create seasonal colour.

Walkley Park

This reserve is to be treated as the main play space for this precinct with highest concentration of equipment.

272. The park itself needs to be upgraded to create more amenity, accessibility and the sense of a more detailed focal point around the play space.

273. A simple master plan should be prepared for the park, investigating the best location for the play space, and associated paths, shade trees and links to the pre-school and the nearby school.

Churchill Skate Park Reserve

274. Check the amenity and accessibility of the skate facility and maximise any opportunities for shade, seating and wheelchair access to the ramps themselves. Ensure paths connect into the park near the library.

Glendonald Park

Strategically this park is an important park for the whole eastern side of the town.

275. This park needs a quick master plan to plan out where to place very large trees, screening shrubs to fence lines, and how to enhance the ground level interest here.

276. Provide some under deck cubbies that are wheelchair accessible via a rubber path - because it has some larger scale play equipment.

277. As the swings here are clearly well used, add at least one double swing frame for older children and dedicate one smaller double frame to younger children/toddlers.

278. Add another challenging swing such as a large multi-directional swing, or one that both rocks and swings; both must be very carefully located so that toddlers cannot inadvertently run into the swing path.

Glendonald Park East

279. Remove this swing and consolidate into the rest of the play space. Check the role of this part of the reserve and consider it in the master planning process.

280. Link this side of the reserve with a fully accessible path to the main play space and add a sign if required.

281. Upgrade the amenity of the street frontage here as well.



28/08/15

Yallourn North

Marshall St Reserve

282. When this equipment comes up for replacement, upgrade the park as well as the play space to give it more of an identity.
283. Use some shrubs or a hedge or other low feature to provide more separation from the road, and to define an attractive shape that is less linear.
284. Explore the understorey of the vegetation for play and consider creating a cubby or log climber or similar to invite exploration of the nature zone.
285. Add some seats and ideally a short path that could double up as a hard surfaced play element for wheeled toys.

Low Rd Reserve

286. Remove some of the older spring rockers; one new group rocker would be adequate.
287. Re-organise the remaining space; consider adding a large tree right in the play space for shade and amenity.
288. Replace the rocker/s with a carousel or senior climber such as a simple net/cable-climbing complex that is inexpensive and doesn't take up too much room.
289. Plant fence lines with flowering shrubs.

Anderson Ave Reserve

290. Upgrade the park as a whole to improve amenity, play and visual interest.
291. Plant fence lines with flowering shrubs.
292. Design a seamless path system and lead to a central seating space with a beautiful tree as a focal point.
293. Create a landscaped setting for play and complement existing structures with some rocks and logs and planting with narrow paths between them for children to explore.

294. Remove the spring rocker, as there are many of these locally and replace with an alternative form of movement/bouncing and preferably one that provides for group interaction.

Rossmore Ave Reserve

295. Redesign this park utilising the slope for play and visual interest.
296. Plant the fence lines with flowering shrubs.
297. Create a path to the high side of the slope and create a central seating area with trees placed to provide shade but not block the view.
298. Cut into the slope and create a bridge across to the upper deck of a new cubby deck with climbing and a slide. This could be wheelchair accessible form both above and below if linked to paths.
299. Retain the cut with a rock clamber with low flat rocks leading down to the mulch, interplant between the rocks with tussocky plants.
300. Use landscape elements such as more rocks and logs to create balancing and links.
301. Remove the freestanding slide.

Lions Park

As the premium play space this site is worth further investment in accessible play and something for older children. Consider the following:

302. Add a wheelchair accessible (possibly rubber) path to a new very large (6m high) swivel swing that would be an excellent addition to this park if there were room.
303. Add a custom designed wheelchair accessible cubby connected to a path.
304. Plant effective shade trees as close as possible to the play space, with the aim of removing the shade structures over time.



28/08/15

Glengarry

Apex Park

Prepare a simple plan for an upgrade:

- 305. Make sure the space is more accessible including to amenities/drink fountain and picnic shelter.
- 306. Provide a path system through the space would provide some organisation for the space, if done well.
- 307. Consider adding some large flat boulders to the sand pit edge and some tussock or other planting close by.
- 308. Consider adding one more challenging moving piece of equipment into the park to provide for all ages but especially older children - such as a carousel, a birds-nest swing or similar.

Hazelwood

Hazelwood Pondage Reserve

When the equipment comes up for replacement, the whole space should be redesigned.

- 309. Consider selecting the following:
 - A natural character with some tree house structures and net bridges or similar customised elements
 - Possibly an adventurous sand play area that will absorb children for a long period of time
 - A creek setting that links to the lake is another possibility
- 310. These designs should be wheelchair accessible to the key spaces.

Tyers

Tyers Recreation Reserve

The equipment is fairly old but offers a good level of complexity.

311. Consider the addition of:

- An adventurous moving item for older children.
- An accessible play activity.
- Natural play elements to extend the play and invite exploration, using boulders logs and planting.
- Natural shade from trees.

Toongabbie

Toongabbie Town Common

- 312. Add a rubber path linking the footpath to the underdeck areas and making some wheelchair accessible cubby spaces underneath.
- 313. Replace or complement the single spring toy with a more interesting rocker with multiple seats.
- 314. Check the adequacy and accessibility of any seats in the space.
- 315. Plant a non-invasive vine along the fence line to improve the appearance of this edge.
- 316. Adding additional planting where possible



28/08/15

Yinnar

Alfred Dr Reserve

317. Focus on the amenity of the reserve above all.
318. Prepare a quick master plan for the whole park and aim to create an amenable welcoming outdoors environment with some very big trees to enclose the space, seating and a path, vegetation and natural elements for play, and aim to create a greater sense of adventure.
319. Consider adding a low key dirt bumpy bike track here and engage local children in its design.
320. The freestanding slide could eventually be removed, as could some of the spring rockers. These could possibly be replaced with two 'spica' type spinning poles. A strong landscape feature such as a rocky swale with sand or gravel, log bridges and a low cubby deck or similar would add more potential for open-ended play here.

CWA Park/Yinnar Skate Park

This site could benefit from some attention to the surroundings.

321. Involve local youth in a simple design for a social space where skaters and other can watch from an accessible, amenable seating area. As skate parks can provide a valuable resource for play for people in wheelchairs to use, (especially children and young people) it would be ideal if a seamless path connected the concrete ramps etc. to the footpath.

Charles Bond Park

322. Plant a half circle of magnificent trees curving around the south west corner of the park to contain the space
323. Add some sculptural or natural play features under the trees (stepping logs; a low deck around a tree; low carved animal sculptures etc.) to extend the play. Link these to the existing climber to extend the play.

324. Add some low planting for play around the climber to provide some play materials for use in the cubby.

Yinnar Centenary Park

325. Refurbish this space as the destination play space for Yinnar.
326. Prepare a sketch master plan for the whole park to ensure that the whole space is designed to maximise the play and social opportunities of the park.
327. Consider removing the climbing unit and replace with a more interesting and complex structure that could be customised. Ideally it should be durable timber, offering ground level play that could offer wheelchair accessible cubby spaces; climbing in various means, and sliding for more than one age group.
328. Consider adding some more detailed planting as a feature in this park.
329. Consider adding a path and a play element such as a deck or cubby on the higher level of the raised grassed podium in the park and add a net bridge to link across to the new cubby structure.
330. Retain the carousel and a double junior swing and add a senior double swing as well, preferably one offering more challenge.

Boolarra

Boolarra Railway Park

The equipment here is somewhat ageing, and is the same as the other play space in town.

331. Remove the 'skale' swing from here and the play space upgraded by the addition of:
- A nature zone such as a dry creek bed, cubby, and plantings
 - Large birds nest swing
 - Carousel
 - Rubber wheelable surface into the access area for the birds nest swing and cubby, and if possible to the other items to maximise their accessibility
 - If funds and space allow, add a large climbing net.



28/08/15

Limonite Rd Playground

332. Retain the equipment but focus on enhancing the landscape for play. Utilise planting rocks and logs to create a more complex environment. Plant some beautiful large exotic trees in a circle around the equipment to complement others nearby. Consider adding wildflowers in a swathe across the site to create seasonal colour.

Flynn***Flynn Recreation Reserve***

333. If the space is well used this character could be enhanced by using landscape elements to encourage further exploration of the environment- some stepping stone paths leading into some under-tree spaces, and some large logs to clamber on.

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28/08/15

6. Appendices

Appendix 1: Inventory of Council-owned play spaces

Table 12: List of Council-owned play spaces, by locality and catchment hierarchy

Reserve name	Address	Locality	Hierarchy
Limonite Rd Playground	Limonite-Boolarra Rd	BOOLARA	Local
DEPI Reserve - Railway Res	Duke St	BOOLARA	Local
White Pde Reserve	34-36 Fraser Crescent	CHURCHILL	Local
Churchill Skate Park Rese	5 Philip Parade	CHURCHILL	Local
Andrews Park West	Maple Crescent	CHURCHILL	Local
Watsons Park	Watson Park Preschool, 22A Heesom Crescent	CHURCHILL	Local
English Reserve	Manning Drive	CHURCHILL	Local
Reservoir Park	Cutler Crescent	CHURCHILL	Local
Walkley Park	Williams Avenue	CHURCHILL	Local
Walker Pde Reserve	McDonald Way	CHURCHILL	Local
Glendonald Park	Amaroo Drive	CHURCHILL	Local
Glendonald Park East	Churinga Drive	CHURCHILL	Local
Flynn Recreation Reserve	Graham's Road	FLYNN	Local
Apex Park	Main St	GLENGARRY	District
Mathison Park	Mackeys Road	HAZELWOOD NORTH	District
Hazelwood Pondage Reserve	Yinnar Road	HAZELWOOD	District
Ferguson St Reserve	Ferguson Street	MOE	Local
Hennessey St Reserve	Hennessey Street	MOE	Local
Moe Skate Park Reserve	George Street	MOE	Local
Apex Park (Central)	Waterloo Rd	MOE	Regional
Apex Park (East)	Waterloo Rd	MOE	Regional
Lions Park	Waterloo Rd	MOE	Regional
Mervyn St Reserve	Mervyn Street	MOE	Local
Marshall Ave Reserve	Marshall Avenue	MOE	Local
Ted Summerton Reserve	37-39 Vale Street	MOE	Local
Scott Avenue Reserve	Scott Avenue	MOE	Local
Phillip St Reserve	Phillip Street	MOE	Local
John St Reserve	John Street	MOE	Local
Randall Cres Reserve	Randall Crescent	MOE	Local
Elizabeth St PS	Elizabeth St	MOE	Local
Scorpio Dr Reserve	Scorpio Drive	MOE	Local
Stoddart St Reserve	10-14 Stoddart Street	MOE	Local
HG Stoddard Memorial Park	Vale Street	MOE	Local
TB Drew Park	Cemetary Road	MOE	Local
Bayley St Reserve	Bayley Street	MOE	Local
Wirrana Dr Reserve	Wirrana Drive	MOE	Local
Botanic Gardens	Narracan Drive	MOE	District
Town Common Playground	Elgin Street	MORWELL	Regional
Helen St Reserve	Helen Street	MORWELL	Local



28/08/15

Reserve name	Address	Locality	Hierarchy
Northern Reserve	Holmes Road	MORWELL	Local
Barry St Reserve	Barry Street	MORWELL	Local
Tulloch St Reserve	17-21 Tulloch Street	MORWELL	Local
McMillan St Reserve	10-14 McMillan Street	MORWELL	Local
Ronald Reserve	Vary Street	MORWELL	Local
Savage St Reserve	39-47 Savage Street	MORWELL	Local
Well St Reserve	Elizabeth Wilmot Preschool, 23-29 Well Street	MORWELL	Local
Waterhole Crk Nth West	Beattie Crescent	MORWELL	Local
Burnside Drv Reserve	The Boulevard	MORWELL	Local
Waterhole Crk Sth East	The Boulevard	MORWELL	Local
Angela Ct Reserve	Angela Court	MORWELL	Local
Nindoo Dr Reserve	Nindoo Drive	MORWELL	Local
Immigration Park	Princess Way	MORWELL	Di strict
Fairway St Reserve	Fairfield Square	MORWELL	Local
Driffield Rd Reserve	Driffield Road	MORWELL	Local
Berg St Reserve	Berg Street	MORWELL	Local
Waratah Drive Reserve	Btwn 43 & 45 Waratah Dr	MORWELL	Local
Smallburn Ave Reseve	16 Smallburn Avenue	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Montane Bvd Reserve	Montane Boulevard	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Merton Crt Reserve (Ollerton Ave Bushland Reserve)	Merton Court	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Jeeralang Ave Reserve	Banksia Street	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Stearman St Reserve	2-8 Stearman Street	NEWBOROUGH	Local
John Field Reserve	1A Southwell Avenue	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Harvey St Reserve (Cross St Reserve)	Cross Street	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Balfour St Reserve (Hearn Park Playground)	Balfour Street	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Monash Reserve	Monash Road	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Hallston St Reserve	16-18 Hallston Street	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Boolarra Ave Sth Reserve	50-52 Boolarra Avenue	NEWBOROUGH	Local
Toongabbie Town Common	Victoria St	TOONGABBIE	Local
Coleman Park	27 Murphy Crescent	TRARALGON	Local
Carrington Park	Jarra Court	TRARALGON	Local
Judd Park	Ray Street	TRARALGON	Local
Hugh Ct Park	5 Hugh Court	TRARALGON	Local
Duncan Cameron Park	2-12 Francis Street	TRARALGON	Local
Queens Parade Park	Queens Parade	TRARALGON	Local
Crisp Park	Dowling Street	TRARALGON	Local
Hourigan Park	Hunter Road	TRARALGON	Local
Bonnie Vista Reserve	Bayley Drive	TRARALGON	Local
Priestly Park	McDonald Court	TRARALGON	Local
Milligan Park	Murphy Crescent	TRARALGON	Local
Macey Park	Lyndon Crescent	TRARALGON	Local
Lloyd Park	Sunderland Circuit	TRARALGON	Local
Wood Park	Coster Circle	TRARALGON	Local
Burge Park	7-8 Hicks Court	TRARALGON	Local



28/08/15

Reserve name	Address	Locality	Hierarchy
Hubert Osborne Park	Seymour Street	TRARALGON	Local
Kay Street Reserve	Kay Street	TRARALGON	Local
Blanck Park	Pollock Avenue	TRARALGON	Local
Freeman Park West	Willaroo Court	TRARALGON	Local
Jack Harrison Park	Quail Court	TRARALGON	Local
Rod Dunbar Park	Grey Street	TRARALGON	Local
Rangeview Park	Birregun Court	TRARALGON	Local
Downs Reserve	Cross's Road	TRARALGON	Local
Bradman Bvd Reserve	Bradman Boulevard	TRARALGON	Local
Maskrey Reserve	Barker Crescent	TRARALGON	Local
Gilwell Park	Gilwell Avenue	TRARALGON	Local
Grant Park	Grant Court	TRARALGON	Local
Harold Preston Park	Davidson Street	TRARALGON	Local
Explorers Park	Franklin Street	TRARALGON	District
The Strand Reserve	Hammersmith Circuit	TRARALGON	Local
Bond Park	Firmin Street	TRARALGON	Local
Medew Reserve	Strathcole Drive	TRARALGON	Local
Newman Park	Peterkin Street	TRARALGON	Regional
Think Big Reserve	Liddiard Rd	TRARALGON	Local
Dyer Park	Brookes St & Denison St	TRARALGON	Local
Layton Park	Btwn Maguire Ct, & Robert's St	TRARALGON	Local
Stockdale Park	Hill View Rd	TRARALGON	Local
Robert Farmer Park	Ellavale Drive	TRARALGON EAST	Local
Southdown Way Reserve	Ellavale Drive	TRARALGON EAST	Local
Ray Symonds Playground	3-7 Keith Morgan Drive	TRARALGON SOUTH	Local
Front of Tyers Recreation Reserve	Tyers Rd	TYERS	District
Marshall St Reserve	Marshall Street	YALLOURN NORTH	Local
Low Rd Reserve	Low Road	YALLOURN NORTH	Local
Anderson Ave Reserve	Anderson Avenue	YALLOURN NORTH	Local
Rossmore Ave Reserve	21 Rossmore Avenue	YALLOURN NORTH	Local
Lions Park	Reserve Street	YALLOURN NORTH	Local
Alfred Dr Reserve	Alfred Drive	YINNAR	Local
CWA Park	Main St	YINNAR	District
Charles Bond Park	Wicks Street	YINNAR	Local
Yinnar Bicentennial Park	Main Street	YINNAR	District



28/08/15

Appendix 2. Demographic Characteristics

Table 13: Latrobe City population projections, population density and SEIFA index data

Area	Population 2014	Population 2036	% Change	Hectares (ha)	Pop Density (Ppha) 2014	Pop Density (Ppha) in 2036	2011 SEIFA index
Traralgon - Traralgon east	27298	36546	33.88	9108	3.00	4.01	974.9
Morwell	14342	16123	12.42	4483	3.20	3.60	844.6
Moe - Moe South	9692	12157	25.43	3082	3.14	3.94	850.5
Newborough	7203	8436	17.12	1947	3.70	4.33	915.5
Churchill	5016	5643	12.50	2118	2.37	2.66	910.0
Rural North	3114	3429	10.12	20664	0.15	0.17	982.0
Rural North East	2162	2837	31.22	14369	0.15	0.20	1003.5
Rural South East	3664	4008	9.39	39056	0.09	0.10	1049.9
Rural South West	3215	3678	14.40	47785	0.07	0.08	990.3
Latrobe City	75706	92857	22.65	142612	0.53	0.65	929.0

Table 14: Latrobe City Municipality age breakdown (5 year increments) in 2011 and estimates for 2021 and 2036

Age yrs.	2011		2021		2036		Change	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	2011 -2021	2011 -2036
0 to 4	4871	6.6	5544	6.8	5911	6.4	673	1040
5 to 9	4531	6.2	5696	7	6179	6.7	1165	1648
10 to 14	4754	6.5	5292	6.5	6074	6.5	538	1320
15 to 19	5329	7.2	4740	5.8	5673	6.1	-589	344
20 to 24	5247	7.1	4760	5.9	5467	5.9	-487	220
25 to 29	4802	6.5	5002	6.2	5361	5.8	200	559
30 to 34	4215	5.7	5317	6.5	5714	6.2	1102	1499
35 to 39	4369	5.9	5437	6.7	6121	6.6	1068	1752
40 to 44	4748	6.5	5012	6.2	6241	6.7	264	1493
45 to 49	5135	7	4910	6	6030	6.5	-225	895
50 to 54	5164	7	4960	6.1	5760	6.2	-204	596
55 to 59	4798	6.5	5078	6.2	5314	5.7	280	516
60 to 64	4429	6	4968	6.1	5146	5.5	539	717
65 to 69	3385	4.6	4532	5.6	4927	5.3	1147	1542
70 to 74	2709	3.7	3953	4.9	4631	5	1244	1922
75 to 79	2081	2.8	2811	3.5	3904	4.2	730	1823
80 to 84	1657	2.3	1902	2.3	2757	3	245	1100
85 +	1372	1.9	1332	1.6	1646	1.8	-40	274
Totals	73596	100	81246	100	92856	100	7650	19260



28/08/15

Table 15: Demographic characteristics of children by town

Locality	Population	Projected	Children under yrs		Children 4- yrs		Children 8-12 yrs		Children 13-15yrs		Income per household Ave per week	PW a disability		Couple family with children	SEIFA 2011 Score
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		No.	%		
Boolarra	1174		52	4.4	43	3.6	61	5.2	55	4.7	\$1,026	53	56%		
Churchill	4943	5643	258	5.2	254	5.1	287	5.8	211	4.2	\$905	323	50%		
Moe	8753	12,157	413	4.7	400	4.5	523	5.9	321	3.6	\$674	673	45%	934	
Moe Sth	565	*inclusive	31	5.4	41	7.2	38	6.7	33	5.8	\$1,636	*inclusive	*inclusive		
Hazelwood	279	Not known	8	2.8	16	5.7	24	8.6	5	1.7	\$900	7	55.5%		
Hazelwood North	1475	Not known	58	3.9	60	4	114	7.7	88	5.9	\$1,668	Not known	67%		
Hazelwood South	322	Not known	22	6.8	22	6.8	32	9.9	12	3.7	\$1,554	14	72%		
Morwell	14005	16,122	740	5.2	661	4.7	829	5.9	522	3.7	\$732	1,159	45%	881	
Newborough	6933	8,439	328	4.7	336	4.8	428	6.1	288	4.1	\$883	585	53%	956	
Traralgon	23837	36,545	1404	5.9	1264	5.3	1596	6.7	911	3.8	\$1,125	1316	55%	944	
Traralgon East	1864	Not known	104	5.5	111	5.9	151	8	108	5.8	\$1,963	38	70%	988	
Traralgon South	469	Not known	24	5.1	42	8.9	58	12.3	32	6.8	\$1,943	9	73%	1076	
Yallourn North	1493	Not known	74	4.9	63	4.2	81	5.4	65	4.3	\$886	80	52%	944	
Yinnar	811	Not known	31	3.8	50	6.1	56	6.9	41	5	\$1,110	33	58%		
Yinnar South	668	Not known	28	4.1	23	3.4	49	7.3	37	5.5	\$1,472	23	65%		
Toongabbie	500	Not known													
Tyers	900	Not known													
Jeeralang (incl. Junction & North)	589*	Not known													
Callignee	495*	Not known													
Glengarry	677*	Not known													
TOTAL				Av. 4.82%		Av. 5.64%		Av. 7.22%		Av. 4.57%					

Note: Data sourced from mbkconsulting.com.au/mbk1_007.htm "Population Forecasts Gippsland"

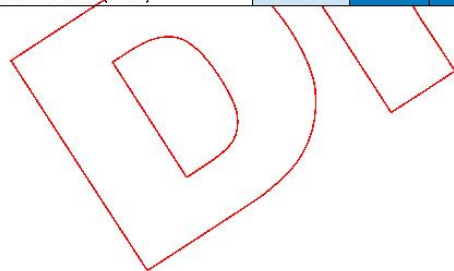
*Data sourced from 2006 census not available for 2011.



28/08/15

Table 16: Early childhood vulnerability

Latrobe community*	Number of children under 5 years	Percentage of children developmentally vulnerable (%)							SEIFA Score *
		Physical health and wellbeing †	Social competence	Emotional maturity	Language and cognitive skills (school-based)	Communication skills and general knowledge	Vulnerable on one or more domains of the AEDC	Vulnerable on two or more domains of the AEDC	
Latrobe community	941	2.0	1.3	2.0	1.0	11.3	6.0	6.1	N/A
Churchill	70	11.9	10.2	10.2	15.3	13.6	33.9	16.9	934.01
Churchill surrounds	34	3	6.1	9.1	3	3	9.1	6.1	1027.28
Glengarry/Tyers/Toongabbie	47	11.4	11.4	2.3	4.5	4.5	18.2	6.8	1024.88
Hazelwood North (2009)	24	4.5	4.5	4.5	0	9.1	9.1	4.5	1083.58
Moe/Hernes Oak and surrounds	163	17.5	13.6	18.2	14.9	17.5	33.8	21.4	882.37
Morwell	174	11.6	17.4	18.1	14.2	15.5	29.7	21.3	881.47
Newborough and surrounds (2009)	85	8.6	7.4	7.4	14.8	9.9	24.7	14.8	956.36
Traralgon South and surrounds *	17	6.3	0	0	0	6.3	6.3	6.3	1076.8
Traralgon/Traralgon East (2009)	304	10.8	9.7	9.3	8.2	6.8	23.3	12.9	988.54
Yallourn North (2009)	23	33.3	14.3	23.8	14.3	28.6	38.1	38.1	944.05





28/08/15

Appendix 3: Notes from benchmarking with other LGAs

Definitions used for local, district and regional play spaces

Wellington Shire Council

- Neighbourhood - within 400m walking distance for locals.
- District - medium scale - for the local community with a variety of play structures, surfaces and spaces.
- Regional - variety of play opportunities - 20 minute drive for locals - regional catchment.

South Gippsland Shire Council

South Gippsland don't use definitions – they refer to 'larger' and 'smaller' spaces.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Baw Baw uses neighbourhood, local, municipal and regional play spaces. Council have recently undertaken a range of documents (Parks and Gardens Strategy, PSPs, Open Space Strategy, Open Design for New Subdivision) that have a range of catchment definitions. They are in the process of standardising an approach to this. Our definitions still require some work to align all our documents.

From the Play Baw Baw Strategy 2008-2012:

- Neighbourhood - small scale based on a 500m catchment radius meeting the needs of immediate community.
- Local – mid-sized and based on a catchment radius of 1000m meeting the needs of local community.
- Municipal - addresses greater needs of the municipality through provision of higher order play opportunities.
- Regional - provides support facilities and play experiences not provided at other levels, and that which attracts or targets attendance from the whole municipality and external visitors.

Further detail on play space definitions is provided in the Strategy.

Kingston City Council

No comments provided.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

- Neighbourhood - serves just the immediate neighbourhood.
- Local - generally serves a whole precinct.
- District - serves a group of precincts.
- Regional - serves a much larger catchment.
- Town Park - serves an urban civic environment.

Ballarat City Council

- Local - within 400-500m, junior playground, set up for younger kids. Smaller slides have swings.
- Neighbourhood - a little bigger than local, more aimed at 8-10 year olds.
- District - aimed at both junior and senior play. They would anticipate that people might travel 5-10 km to get there, and hang around longer.
- Regional - people would stay for half a day, there would be a BBQ on site, toilets, and a place to buy food.

Bendigo City Council

- Local - comes down to level of play opportunities within 400m.
- District - a higher level of play opportunities within 2km.
- Regional - a significant level of play opportunities and infrastructure (Council does not have a catchment for this).

From Bendigo Play Space Strategy 2008:

- Local play spaces are those located within walking distance of most homes in the urban areas of the municipality. These play spaces do not generally offer a broad range of opportunities due to their smaller size, however, they do offer an opportunity for local people to travel by foot or bicycle to the site and to interact with their local community.
- Across a precinct, however, there should be a broad range of play opportunities available in local play spaces.
- District play spaces offer a wider range of play opportunities and are generally located within a 15 minute bicycle ride or short car trip from most homes within the Bendigo



28/08/15

urban boundary and in several other towns, e.g. Heathcote and Elmore. Older children can access these sites independently.

- Regional play spaces are the largest of all and offer a wide variety of play opportunities and associated amenities. People tend to spend multiple hours at these sites and may even come from towns outside the municipality to enjoy the facilities and opportunities available. Committees of Management that look after play spaces

Wellington Shire Council

Yes. Kinders are stand alone. A couple of recreation reserves have playgrounds (we don't promote playgrounds on rec reserves). We do inspect some non-council maintained playgrounds but only pass the results to the Committee of Management.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Some Recreation Reserve Committees of Management and Kinders look after play spaces. In both cases Council drop in the play space, and it is left to them to undertake maintenance. Council still does audit the spaces. There have been examples where the maintenance is not done well, however they are not actively seeking to bring these play spaces back into Council management.

Baw Baw Shire Council

There are a couple of Committees of Management that look after play spaces, but as this has not worked well, Council are trying to take development and maintenance responsibilities back in-house. Council has installed the spaces, and nothing else has been done by Committees of Management. These few spaces are being put back on Council's routine maintenance schedule - Council are getting their act together in this area.

Kingston City Council

No, all development and maintenance of play spaces is undertaken by Council.

Ballarat City Council

Committees of Management do not look after any play spaces. Council does the maintenance for all play spaces on recreation reserves. There are about ten play spaces that Kinders supply and undertake the maintenance for.

Bendigo City Council

Their Play Space Strategy only involved Council owned and managed play spaces, so they generally have nothing to do with play spaces provided by other sources. An exception is Roslyn Park. This is a district-level play space, and only publicly accessible outside of school hours.

Catchment or distance threshold standards

Wellington Shire Council

We take a different approach because standard distances are an issue in low density populations - rural towns and towns with absentee rates. We have taken a one size does not fit all approach.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Not aware of any catchment standards Council have.



28/08/15

Baw Baw Shire Council

- Neighbourhood - 500m.
- Local - 1000m.
- Municipal - none.
- Regional - none.

Kingston City Council

No comments provided.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

- Neighbourhood - 400-500m.
- Local - none.
- Municipal - none.
- Regional - none.

Ballarat City Council

- Local - 400-500m.
- Neighbourhood - <5km.
- District - 5-10km.
- Regional - no distance, but people would travel from out of town to get to these facilities.

Bendigo City Council

- Local - 400m.
- District - 2 km.
- Regional - unsure.

Maintenance regimes

Wellington Shire Council

Not all are treated the same. Capital replacement is similarly equally scaled, although often move around because of differing site conditions.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Council audits all play spaces. More time is spent maintaining larger play spaces that require more regular upkeep and more money spent.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Council has maintenance regimes for play spaces. These are daily to monthly depending on play space hierarchy.

Council's *Play Baw Baw Strategy 2008-2012* does not provide detail on this issue.

Kingston City Council

The frequency for maintenance increases from Local to District to Regional playgrounds.

Ballarat City Council

Council tends to be reactive to maintenance everywhere regardless of level, and tends to base maintenance action on calls received from the public.

Bendigo City Council

Council does have maintenance regimes for play spaces.

Council's *Bendigo Play Space Strategy 2008* provides some detail on the maintenance of play spaces.



28/08/15

Cost of maintenance

Wellington Shire Council

No comments provided.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Unable to provide details for the cost of maintenance.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Not sure that these costs are defined, or that she is able to give us any information in regard to this.

From *Play Baw Baw Strategy 2008-2012*:

- Neighbourhood - \$10-20,000.
- Local - \$20-50,000.
- Municipal - \$50-100,000.
- Regional - \$100,000+.

Kingston City Council

Approximately \$300,000.

Ballarat City Council

Can't break down by catchment, but there would be a total spend of about \$150-\$200,000 that covers remuneration for two staff members, and for materials.

Bendigo City Council

Bendigo's budget for this year is \$1.2m (three complete play space renewals, and six new play spaces costing between \$50,000 - \$395,000). Maintenance costs total \$100-120,000 for all play spaces. This includes parts and maintenance etc, but does not capture man-hours. They would estimate 'A' level sites (local) would capture over half of this budget, but they haven't broken this down further. Soft fall is taken out of another budget - generally \$20-30,000 per year (but this year is more like \$40,000). Council could do a lot better in dealing with issues of costing.

A further breakdown of costings is provided in the *Bendigo Play Space Strategy 2008*.

Training of staff

Wellington Shire Council

Occasional training for all parks staff. A few have undertaken the assessors course.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Training of staff is undertaken. The staff member responsible for managing play space maintenance has completed a Level 2 course, and this is updated yearly. Other play space maintenance staff members have completed Level 1 training courses.

Baw Baw Shire Council

There is no training of staff in the play space development side of things. It is typical of rural Councils for the maintenance crew to simply look in brochures and choose like for like play spaces replacements (in terms of costs and type of facility).

There has been no strategic thinking in the past, with just the standard two swings and slide facility installed.

Council has started to acquire some in-house urban design expertise, with new designs and thinking resulting from this. Council receives more external funding now. Open space planning has been a significant gap for Council in the past, and processes have been quite adhoc.

Kingston City Council

Yes, training related to any changes or updates to the standards or the industry in general.

Ballarat City Council

Yes, they do train their small crew, including going to the Play Australia courses. Council's asset people have undertaken training on auditing play spaces. Council's Facility Maintenance Planner has done a range of courses related to play spaces.

Bendigo City Council

One member of staff now has accreditation to audit play spaces. They have used Paul Grover in the past.



28/08/15

Staff have been to Play Australia courses, and attended courses relating to Youth Standards in the past.

Training of volunteers / reserve committees

Wellington Shire Council

Unsure if any training of volunteers / Committees of Management is undertaken.

South Gippsland Shire Council

No training of volunteers / reserve committees is undertaken.

Baw Baw Shire Council

There is no training on external sources. They feel Council should have all responsibilities related to play spaces, therefore training should only be done in-house.

Kingston City Council

No.

Ballarat City Council

No training of volunteers / reserve committees is undertaken. Council look after their own play spaces - it is easier to maintain standards that way.

Bendigo City Council

No training of volunteers / reserve committees is undertaken.

Frequencies of inspections

Wellington Shire Council

Same for all, externally twice a year, May and November (so works can be completed before Christmas). Staff are also supposed to do a cursory inspection whenever they are on site.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Smaller spaces - fortnightly. Larger spaces - twice weekly.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Council has maintenance regimes for play spaces. A visual audit is undertaken when doing maintenance and monthly structural inspections. These are daily to monthly depending on play space hierarchy.

There is an annual independent inspection undertaken.

Kingston City Council

All playgrounds are audited monthly.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

Neighbourhood - regular inspections and maintenance usually once every 6 weeks. Reactive response to safety concerns within 24 hours, and to graffiti, vandalism and other damage within 48 hours.

Local - weekly inspections and maintenance usually once every 6 weeks. Reactive response to safety concerns within 24 hours, and to graffiti, vandalism and other damage within 48 hours.

District - regular inspections and maintenance, but frequency of visits determined by usage levels. May vary seasonally with usage patterns. Specialist spaces such as skate parks or courts also require frequent inspections.

Regional - very frequent management inspections, minimum weekly, possibly daily in busy times. Higher degree of wear and tear will be expected than for other sites. Reactive response within 24 hours to safety concerns, vandalism, graffiti etc.

Ballarat City Council

- Local - twice a year.
- Neighbourhood - twice a year.
- District - monthly.
- Regional - monthly.
- There is a once yearly condition audit of all play spaces.



28/08/15

Bendigo City Council

- Local - for 'A' level plays spaces 1-7 days.
- District - for 'B' level play spaces 7-14 days.
- Regional - for 'C' level play spaces up to 28 days.

Methods of programming capital works

Wellington Shire Council

An ongoing cyclic replacement program based on a 12 year replacement / upgrade.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Council have a capital works calendar they stick to. Asset renewal, and the information they receive on usage dictates priority spend.

Baw Baw Shire Council

They are going through this programming process right now. It is the least mature area of Council at present. Audits have been done, and now being put into asset renewal plans. Condition reports have been done, and now they know what play spaces need to be replaced.

Kingston City Council

Yes, part of capital works renewal budget for playgrounds.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

Council have a *Capital Works Playground Renewal Programme* that considers:

- An assessment of existing playgrounds based on maintenance reports in order to determine an approximate end of asset natural life date.
- Predicted Capital Works Playground Renewal Budgets until 2016/2017.
- Proposed playground classification upgrades as recommended in the report.

Ballarat City Council

Programming of capital works is based on their Play Space Planning Framework / Strategy, and yearly condition audits. Council also has a policy that ensures treated Pine on play spaces gets

replaced. No distinction is made between local and regional play spaces.

Bendigo City Council

Programming of capital works is based on renewal compliance, in-house knowledge about what our worst spaces are, and outside information. Programming is also influenced by usage and political factors.

Core service levels

Wellington Shire Council

No comment provided.

South Gippsland Shire Council

In smaller towns basic facilities are provided. In larger towns 'feature' play spaces are provided.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Core services exist, but not all play spaces meet that service level.

From the Play Baw Baw Strategy 2008-2012

Neighbourhood:

- Within 300m, up to 0.5ha, included walking links and drainage reserves.
- Playground >\$10,000 (meets Australian standards).
- Community consultation optional.
- Path linkages between activities and amenities.
- Shade – natural first preference.
- Accessible to all – paths, surfaces.
- Active and creative play elements – pumps, sound tubes, etc.
- Community art optional.
- Seating.
- Lighting of path link if significant.



28/08/15

Local:

- Within 1000m. 1km. may have a range of non-competitive areas.
- Playground >\$20,000 (Meets Aust. standards).
- Community consultation optional.
- Path linkages between activities and amenities.
- Shade – natural first preference.
- Accessible to all – paths, surfaces.
- Active and creative play elements – pumps, sound tubes, etc.
- Community art optional.
- Seating.
- Lighting of path link if significant.
- Drinking water tap.

Municipal:

- Within 2km, 3ha, may have combination of active and passive space.
- Playground >\$50,000 (Meets Aust. standards).
- Community consultation in design.
- Site specific theme e.g. Natural environment, historic, cultural, etc.
- Path linkages between activities and amenities.
- Shade – natural first preference.
- Accessible to all – paths, surfaces, toilets, car parking, play elements.
- Active and creative play elements – pumps, sound tubes, etc.
- Public art in design.
- Toilets, BBQ's, Seating, Car parking, Lighting, Drinking water tap, Landscaping.

Regional:

- Regional attractor, services population >30,000, highly accessible, tourist area/focus.
- Playground >\$100,000 (Meets Aust. standards).
- Community consultation in design.
- Site-specific theme e.g. Natural environment, historic, cultural, etc.
- Path linkages between activities and amenities.
- Shade – natural first preference.
- Accessible to all – paths, surfaces, toilets, car parking, play elements.

- Active and creative play elements – pumps, sound tubes, etc.
- Public art in design.
- Toilets, BBQ's, Seating, Car parking, Lighting, Drinking water tap, Significant landscaping.

Kingston City Council

Yes, this is integrated into the maintenance program according to classification of the play space.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

Neighbourhood:

- Most important unit or building block of the open space and playground system. Serves homes generally within walking distance. Connection to other parks via off road trails and linkage parklands important.
- 400-500m from home, based on approximately 10 minute walk. Unlikely to attract visitors who do not live in the immediate surrounds.
- Primary purpose is for social/ family recreation. Important for children old enough to walk or cycle to playgrounds independently. Help make up for a lack of private space. Important meeting places.
- Visits are likely to be of short duration.
- Level of development will vary from site to site and depending upon the degree of dependence upon this play space locally. The more dependence, the higher the quality /amenity required.
- Seating and tree shade is important. A basic seamless, wheelchair accessible path system usually required. Drinking water may be provided where feasible. BBQ's, built shade, car parking and toilets are not expected.



28/08/15

- The whole local precinct needs to be considered as a package in which no single park/playground necessarily caters for everyone, but within the precinct toddler, junior and older age groups will find activities that suit them. Parks with a higher level of dependence need to cater for more age groups.
- Within every local precinct, a child or adult with a disability must be able to access a choice of play /social opportunities. Parks with a high level of dependence require higher levels of accessibility. A basic but seamless path system providing physical access into the park, to social areas, and to some play activities is expected in most parks.
- Minimum park size 1ha for a park bounded by streets.
- Children need a range of neighbourhood play opportunities. Combinations of built play structures, open spaces, trails, hard and soft surfaces, vegetation and free choice 'loose' landscapes and materials provide the best value. Consider any and all of these as play provision, as long as there is a good local choice.
- Neighbourhood play spaces should be viewed as part of a "package" within each precinct, between them providing a diverse range of play settings, activities, materials, and products differing from others within the same catchment.
- Regular inspections and maintenance. Frequency of visits usually once every 6 weeks. Reactive response to safety concerns within 24 hours, and to graffiti, vandalism and other damage within 48 hours. Materials must be durable in local conditions.
- Mail-out draft concept plan to residents, erect sign in the park showing concept plan, advise local Councillors, advise local village committee, post information on Council's website, media, amend/modify design as required.
- Frequently located near a node such as a shopping centre, school or community centre. Intended as an essentially local facility, serving users who live relatively close by. Travel would be by foot or bike and possibly by car.
- Primary purpose is for social/family recreation. The role as a social meeting place near other community facilities is frequently important.
- Visits are likely to be of short duration, often connected to another visit i.e. to shops, kinder etc.
- Level of development will vary from site to site and depending upon the degree of dependence upon this play space locally. The more dependence, the higher the quality and amenity required.
- Effective tree shade is important over a choice of seating and play areas. A seamless, wheelchair accessible path system is required. Drinking water ideally provided. BBQ's, built shade, car parking and toilets are not expected.
- Local play spaces need to provide for a range of age groups. General range can sometimes be tilted towards one age group (such as near a kindergarten vs. a secondary school) but the design should not rule out play by the non-target age group. In parks with high levels of dependence - cater for more age groups.
- A seamless accessible path system from street, car park or footpath into the park, to all social spaces and into the 'heart' of the play area is expected. Parks with a high level of dependence require higher levels of accessibility to a choice of play opportunities.

Local:

- Serve the whole playground precinct. They are typically larger and more prominent than the neighbourhood play space, with a distribution similar to local primary schools



28/08/15

- Minimum park size recommended not less than 1 ha for a park bounded by streets. Preferably larger and more complex than neighbourhood level parks. Play spaces within any reserve can vary greatly in size.
 - Designs must provide good value for play with open-ended elements for imaginative and social play, and loose materials from the environment to complement built playground structures, physical activities; bike play and hard and softfall play areas.
 - Local parks and play spaces need to complement all other play spaces within the same catchment.
 - Weekly inspections and maintenance. Frequency of visits usually once every 6 weeks. Reactive response to safety concerns within 24 hours, and to graffiti, vandalism and other damage within 48 hours. Materials must be durable in local conditions.
 - As per Neighbourhood classification.
- District:**
- Destination playgrounds, drawing people from further afield than their immediate residential areas, but generally less significant than Regional parks and playgrounds. Town Parks are usually associated with Civic precincts such as libraries, municipal offices and civic squares.
 - Typically serves a cluster of playground precincts. Attract visitors from across precinct boundaries, by car, bike or on foot, (especially if the reserve is connected via off road trails to other residential areas).
 - Primary purpose is social/family recreation but the park may have other significance, such as providing sports facilities, a civic precinct, a beach, or a natural environment etc. providing an external draw-card.
 - Visits are likely to be of long enough duration for toilets to be required.
- Design of the whole site requires more attention to detail in resolution of details such as accessibility, site levels, materials, edging, surfacing, paths, garden beds, shade, seating than expected for Local Parks.
 - Effective tree shade is important over a choice of seating and play areas. A seamless, wheelchair accessible path system is required. Drinking water ideally provided. BBQ's, built shade, car parking and toilets are not expected.
 - Play areas need to cater for all age groups.
 - A seamless accessible path system from street, car park or footpath into the park, to all social spaces and into the 'heart' of the activity area and to a good range of play activities is required. Some effort to provide access to height and to natural areas is expected.
 - District parks vary according to the other purposes such as sports facilities. Play spaces within District reserves vary in size depending upon the usage patterns and the nature of adjacent facilities, but they need to be large enough to accommodate a good range of activities and amenities.
 - The package of attractions is an important feature. Play spaces need to provide a good range of physical, creative and imaginative play settings for children of all ages and their families. Some custom design of elements will be expected to create a distinctive space.
 - Play spaces need to complement others of the same classification across the municipality, but it is especially important that adjacent District and Local parks within the same catchments differ from one another.
 - Regular inspections and maintenance, but frequency of visits determined by usage levels. May vary seasonally with usage patterns. Specialist spaces such as skate parks or courts also require frequent inspections. Materials must be durable in local conditions.



28/08/15

- Identify major stakeholders, circulate Playground Questionnaire, mail-out draft landscape concept plan to residents within catchment, erect sign in the park showing concept plan, advise local Councillors, advise local Village Committee, post information on Council's website, media, public meeting if required, amend/modify design as required.

Regional:

- Destination places that attract visitors from across a region. Typically larger parcels of open space, on a site with landscape, cultural, sporting or environmental attractions with wider significance. Vary because of unique qualities.
- Depend upon a unique setting. Typically only one or two per municipality or even a group of municipalities. Attracts visitors from across the municipality and further afield.
- Typically offer the largest range of activities and amenities, in a custom-designed setting. Function as a destination or focal point for social /family / recreation, possibly with other specialist role/s.
- Visits will be expected to be of at least some hours' duration and a range of amenities will be required to provide for these longer visits.
- High quality facilities, unique and designed specifically for this space. Sufficient interest to attract visitors for longer duration stay.
- Sufficient amenities to accommodate large numbers and groups. Car parking, a seamless hierarchy of paths, accessible toilets, built shade, BBQ's, drinking water, a choice of seats and probably more than one shelter will be required.
- Play areas need to cater for all age groups.
- Seamless accessibility to the site, to the site, from car parking, into the park, and to all facilities is required. Picnic facilities and toilets must be fully accessible. Most play activities should be accessible to children and adults with disabilities. Seamless access to more challenging activities, and to a choice of settings including natural areas is expected.
- Size of the play space itself will vary, but is unlikely to be smaller than 7000m² plus

peripheral facilities such as parking and toilets.

- Play spaces need to be unique, reflecting the character or theme of the site. The 'package' of attractions is an important feature. Play spaces need to provide a good range of physical, creative and imaginative play settings for all children and their families.
- Should be unique. Regional Play spaces and their parks should differ from one another, wherever they are located. Materials and style typically reflect the character of the setting.
- Very frequent management inspections, minimum weekly, possibly daily in busy times. Higher degree of wear and tear will be expected than for other sites. Reactive response within 24 hours to safety concerns, vandalism, graffiti etc. Choose durable materials.
- Identify major stakeholders, establish a steering committee of special interest groups if applicable, circulate Playground Questionnaire, mail-out draft landscape concept plan to residents within the catchment, erect sign in the park showing concept plan, advise local Councillors, advise local Village Committee, post information on Council's website, media, public meeting if required, amend/modify design as required.

Ballarat City Council

The Play Space Framework has Development Standards for Play Spaces for local, neighbourhood, district and regional. The core services levels they provide in local level play spaces might be linked with local level open space. Capital improvements might be based on the audits undertaken the previous year.

Bendigo City Council

Council has a Core Service Agreement. This determines how often they visit sites, what they do in their work, and assets information.

Also see *Section 7.0 Play Space Design Matrix* for core service level information on local, district and regional play spaces.



28/08/15

Current trends for play spaces

Wellington Shire Council

We focus on creating high quality relevant play spaces for each community. There is largely a focus on a high level of naturalistic elements (but we have for >15 years).

South Gippsland Shire Council

- More natural environments and better landscaping.
- People expecting more from a play space.
- Increased use of play spaces.
- People calling Council with safety concerns. E.g. fencing spaces (which is not supported by Council).

Baw Baw Shire Council

- Design is the number one trend - a well-designed play space has not been an option for Council in the past.
- There is a greater expectation in the community that they will be consulted.
- People are interested in diversity, not just the standard two swing and slide combo.
- People expect that open space will link up as a network.
- People expect shade cloth and fences, though Council disagree with these. Council want to go more natural - fencing is the last resort. More rubber, less soft fall.

Kingston City Council

- Nature based play.
- Diversity of experience.

Ballarat City Council

- The use of natural plays spaces. Mums are keen for more natural products.
- People like the bird basket facilities.
- Engagement people got a sense that rationalisation of facilities was not as good an outcome as retaining and improving existing facilities.
- People get attached to their local play space. New facilities will result in activation.
- Council now use Facebook to promote new and refurbished play space. This results in higher use.

Bendigo City Council

- Customising play spaces rather than just going to the product supplier for their models.
- More emphasis on play space theming.
- Integrating play spaces into the local environment.



28/08/15

Current challenges for play spaces

Wellington Shire Council

None. Council is very supportive.

South Gippsland Shire Council

- Council has a lot of smaller parks with low usage - it is a pain to have to replace equipment on these open spaces.
- It is challenging dealing with public enquiries about fixing / replacing equipment. They do not field so many enquiries about the actual design of play spaces.
- Financially they do ok with finding the money to do play space works.

Baw Baw Shire Council

- As a rural area, they know the value in investing in play spaces for giving kids something to do. Traditionally Council has not been willing to invest in this.
- Council have found it challenging strategically locating play spaces in such a large geographical area.
- The challenge from the operations team has been in the maintenance of more highly designed spaces (e.g. maintaining highly textured play space features).

Kingston City Council

- Value for money.
- Rate caps (unclear until process provided by State Govt.).
- Community expectation growing and funds not matching.

Ballarat City Council

- Having a low budget to undertake play space projects.
- Public expect full accessibility on all play spaces (at very high cost to Council).
- Council is spending far more than 10 years ago due to their policy of adding concrete edging and drainage to play spaces.
- There is a challenge in lifting standards in general.
- Bendigo City Council
- Costs - several years ago they had a very small budget - it is much larger now. Council

have trouble establishing what is an appropriate budget for an entry-level local play space.

- Community engagement - it has been a challenge having the time to do this, however they have found that taking two years to do a design and build is better than rushing it through.
- Cross-organisational thinking - having both recreation and operational staff on the same page for what they need for local, district and regional play spaces.
- Distribution - they need to look at the distribution of district play spaces vs. local play spaces more. Perhaps this will result in less (but better) facilities.
- Developers - they have delivered both poor quality and over-manicured play spaces. Council could not at the time point to suitable play space examples for them to use. Council need to establish a standardised approach.



28/08/15

Locations / addresses for regional play spaces

Wellington Shire Council

- Sale Botanic Gardens.
- Macalister Park (Maffra).
- Apex Park (Heyfield).
- Memorial Park (Yarram).
- Apex Park (Stratford).

South Gippsland Shire Council

- McIndoe Park (Leongatha).
- Coleman Park (Korumburra).
- Station Rd (Foster).
- Sagasser Park (Toora).

Baw Baw Shire Council

They have regional play spaces, but not in the way Melbourne might classify a regional space. A \$250,000 play space will be classified as a regional play space at Baw Baw. They are judged in how elaborate they are, art features, levels of connectivity, lots of textures. Recent documents have shown that we have fallen far short of regional standard and our Open Space Strategy says we do not have this standard of space.

Our highest level of playground is Burke St Park (Warragul). In the near future Warragul and Drouin Civic Park playgrounds will be redeveloped and be the most impressive in our area.

From the Play Baw Baw Strategy 2008-2012

There are three sites throughout the Shire that have been selected as regional sites. Burke St Park (Warragul) requires a major upgrade to meet this standard and Market St Park requires local support in order to proceed. It is envisaged that Burke St is prioritised in 2008/09 and Market St Park be completed within the 5 year budget if support is gained.

Kingston City Council

No comments provided.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

Braeside Park (Parks Victoria) - there may be others, but they are not noted in the Strategy.

Ballarat City Council

- Lake Wendouree – constructed in 1998.
- A regional AAA play space will be built at Victoria Park at the end of the year.

Bendigo City Council

- Hargreaves mall "Fun Loong" play space.
- Lake Weeroona Play Space (Mary Jeavons designed, but now close to the end of its life).
- Strathdale Park will be upgraded to one (district level play space at present but located in a regional park).
- Kangaroo Flat - was meant to have one but currently it is district level.
- Eagle Hawk Park will soon be at regional level.
- Botanic Gardens (as part of major redevelopment the play space will in the next few years be regional).



28/08/15

Approaches to accessibility

Wellington Shire Council

Depends on the individual sites.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Council follow AAA guidelines. This includes ensuring that integrated paths are provided.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Council basically try the make all play spaces as accessible as possible - integrated pathways that enable people to more around, and basing accessibility both on where people would use the space and on past data.

From Play Baw Baw Strategy 2008-2012:

Baw Baw Shire is committed to the provision of services to the members of the community regardless of race, religion, language, culture or other attributes or circumstances, all residents must by guaranteed equal opportunity and equal access to services.

This should be achieved by the provision of:

- Pathways to the playground that met Australian Access Standard.
- Location of car parking in relation to playgrounds.
- Disabled parking in relation of playgrounds.
- Accessible path access around and through the site.
- Heights and positioning of sensory elements and planting in relation to access pathways.
- Wet pour rubber below and leading to equipment such as swings and low slides to facilitate easy access to the equipment.
- Auditory and tactile elements to ensure experiences for children with impaired vision.
- Ensure Australian Standards are met.

Kingston City Council

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

- Provide seamless path access into the park.
- Eliminate stepped level changes and raised borders wherever possible and provide a path system with barrier-free surfaces.
- Provide turning spaces large enough for wheelchair use (especially relevant within cubbies or on decks).
- Incorporate surfaces that make wheeled-play interesting and fun.
- Provide synthetic impact absorbing surfaces in key areas allowing access across mulch to play structures.
- Provide wheelchair access to at least some play settings and in particular to the social or focal points of the playground where every child would want to play. Include cubbies, and imaginative / role play areas such as vehicle play.
- Design activities and surfaces in such a way that it is possible to allow a person in a wheelchair to face the activity front-on, and to get their knees under (a shelf, shop counter, activity panel or similar).
- Incorporate seats or perches immediately adjacent, for carers to assist in the play.
- Some items such as ground level mazes, cubbies and imaginative play settings, boats and trains, and activity panels are the easiest to make accessible and these have the best potential for social inclusion. Whenever these are planned into a space, they should, as a matter of course, be designed to be accessible.
- If it is possible to include a large item that provides movement, such as a birds-nest swing, or a double rocker with back support, that many people with a disability can use (if they can be transferred) make sure this is on an accessible surface.
- Provide access to creative elements such as music and sand or interesting natural spaces.
- Eliminate barriers such as log borders, steps or stairs to any of these sections.
- Include ramps allowing wheelchair access to elevated areas where this is feasible, and ensure that there is some accessible play value once the user reaches the top.



28/08/15

- Provide opportunities to experience texture, sound, smell and other sensory delights.
- Provide opportunities to leave the wheelchair, and to lie or sit in an alternative supportive position.
- Courts, paths and hard surfaces such as skate parks.
- Incorporate flat treads and stairs, as well as rung ladders or more challenging features, into climbing structures.
- Provide colour - contrast handgrips at changes of level within play structures.
- Delineate edges and level changes.
- Remove trip hazards.
- Ensure that particular care is taken with design for safety, so that children with balance problems and vision impairments do not inadvertently fall through openings in guard rails or cross the paths of swings.
- Provide simple back support structures on seats, swings, and seesaws and in sand pit areas. This is also important for carers.

Ballarat City Council

Council can't afford to make all play spaces fully accessible. Current strategies include: rubber under swing sets, paths for both ambulant users and grandparents, concrete edging to avoid stepping into a space, providing steps to slides (not rope). Council have established six bird nest swings in past year - 50% of all new play spaces now have bird nests.

Bendigo City Council

Council don't have a focus on accessibility at a local level. They would consider some district play spaces to be accessible. All regional play spaces would be accessible. Council considers that accessibility is broader than just mobility, it's also about being inclusive (ie the user being in the centre of activity, even if not using it). They have been working with a couple of disability groups e.g. autism groups. Accessibility is also about providing sensory experiences, seating, drinking, 'L' shape accessible BBQs. Council are trying to think outside the box. They have one liberty swing but considers it a dud, because it requires fencing and therefore is not inclusive. These things need to be well located.



28/08/15

Processes in establishing new play space sites

Wellington Shire Council

No comment provided.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Council have not had many new play spaces (only at recreation reserves). Council has a very general process of grant allocation, design of space, community engagement, and construction.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Council identify where play spaces are required, then it goes out to consultation. The level of engagement is based on the level of hierarchy; then working parties are established, on site consultation, surveys, children's expos, analysis of data analysis, and assessment of options. When all this is done well, then they tend to get less negative feedback.

The *Baw Baw Active By Design Strategy* provides guidelines for providing play spaces in new residential development.

Kingston City Council

Focus on renewal and upgrade for play spaces older than 20 years rather than new play facilities.

The *Kingston Playground Strategy 2010* provides criteria for the location of play spaces.

The Strategy states that parks for play should be located in positions that is:

- Prominent, visible from houses and easily accessible to them on foot or bike.
- Large enough to provide adequately for the functions that will be required, without conflicts from immediate residents.
- For parks less than 1ha, avoid surrounding by houses on all sides. Allow for off-road connection to other open space.
- Preferably attractive with character and amenity.

Ballarat City Council

New play spaces are established through new residential development. The project goes through the planning department, then recreation planning, then parks and gardens. Developer's designs go through various Council departments before approval.

Bendigo City Council

A brief is prepared to develop objectives, SAD (survey, analysis, design), issues and opportunities, community engagement, design response.

Local play spaces - a concept design, letters are sent out to a 400m catchment, on site listening post, meet designers to provide feedback.

District play spaces - a two stage consultation process, pre-design chatting to groups, concepts and more consultation.

Regional play spaces - (e.g. Eagle Hawk Park) surveys, and consultation with five schools. It's all about creating ownership to foster usage and reduce vandalism.



28/08/15

Processes for play space reviews / refurbishments

Wellington Shire Council

No comment provided.

South Gippsland Shire Council

Council follows what is on their renewal schedule. Again, the process is similar to new play spaces - community engagement, design etc.

Baw Baw Shire Council

Same as new play spaces generally.

Kingston City Council

Guided by Playground Strategy, and by capital works program.

From the Kingston Playground Strategy 2010:

- When a site is identified for repairs or major upgrading works, it is important to get best value out of the opportunity to change the playground.
- Take the opportunity to check three aspects of the existing design simultaneously: play value, access to users with disabilities and their carers, and safety, upgrade all of these where appropriate and possible.
- When assessing a playground for possible replacement, the following issues need to be taken into consideration:
 - The relative age and play value of the equipment,
 - Compliance with current safety standards,
 - A new master plan for the whole park, that may propose a new playground,
 - The cost of continual repairs, and
 - Excessive vandalism that may have caused structural damage.

Ballarat City Council

Refurbishments are flagged through condition audits for the following year. Community engagement people do a letter drop advising of plans (providing Council contact details). A prior Council children's study talked directly to children as to what they wanted, so they use that information as part of their processes. The *Play Space Framework* plays a major role. Council always replace the digger on the play space. Kids love it. Council encourage more natural play spaces. Council does more master planning than redesigns of individual play spaces.

Bendigo City Council

Council basically apply local processes to play space refurbishments.



28/08/15

Appendix 4. Maintenance requirements

Safety Management System

The asset management, inspections and maintenance of public play spaces is an important part of council's responsibilities and serves the overall vision for play provision

There are five critical components of a Safety Management System: -

- Systematic record keeping
- Post-installation inspection of new or refurbished play spaces
- Routine inspection and maintenance (level 1)
- Operational inspection and maintenance (level 2)
- Comprehensive inspection (level 3)
- Accident reporting procedures.

These points are discussed below.

Systematic Documentation and Record Keeping

New AS4685 - Playground equipment and surfacing Part 0: Development, Installation, Maintenance and Operation

Standards Australia will shortly update the previous AS 4486-1997 and this document will become AS 4695 - Part 0 (in 2015). This Standard clearly outlines in detail the number and types of inspections, the accompanying maintenance tasks, and the recordkeeping practices that are required.

Key summary points as well as some more detailed extracts from this Standards document are included below. These summaries are not intended to replace the full text of the Standard, and the responsible Council officers must read the full Standard.

Record Keeping

As part of a safety management system, accurate records relating to playground procurement, installation, maintenance and repairs must be systematically stored and kept up to date.

Such records need to include:

- Records of suppliers, manufacturers, designers and installers for each site,
- Inspection and maintenance instructions,
- Operating instructions, if applicable,
- Dates of installation,
- Any certificates of inspection and testing, if applicable,
- All operator's records of inspections, maintenance, repairs and modifications,
- Incident records and subsequent actions.

These documents should be accessible when needed for maintenance, inspection, and repairs and in the event of an accident.



28/08/15

Post-installation Inspections

A comprehensive post-installation inspection needs to be conducted by a competent person prior to opening of any playground to the public. The report should also include the results of any risk assessments and/or risk benefit assessments that have been carried out where non-compliances have been identified.

Routine inspection and maintenance (Level 1)

This is a visual inspection intended to identify obvious hazards that can result from wear and tear, vandalism or weather conditions. It should be carried out daily, weekly or fortnightly taking into account the frequency of use and local conditions. It is not a full technical audit and the intention is that staff that are already on site carrying out maintenance tasks should carry this out.

Planning the tasks:

- List the components to be inspected and maintained for each park and play space.
- Prepare a schedule with frequency of each task.
- Carry out the inspections and maintenance tasks according to the schedule.
- Keep accurate records of all work.

Competence

The staff members doing the Level 1 works need to be experienced and competent at inspecting the play space, equipment and surfaces thoroughly, carrying out the routine maintenance tasks, and keeping records. It is not a requirement that these staff be accredited safety auditors.

Routine inspections should check and report on:

- Broken or missing parts of the equipment,
- Loose-fill impact attenuating surfacing depth at least 300 mm, and
- Damage to unitary impact attenuating surfacing.

Routine maintenance tasks should include as a minimum:

- Removal of broken glass, syringes, dog fouling and other debris or contaminants,
- Raking and topping up loose-fill impact attenuating surfacing if there is insufficient material or if it is compacted,
- Emptying of bins and removal of rubbish,
- Cleaning tables, chairs, BBQS and other auxiliary items,
- Reporting dead overhanging branches for immediate removal,
- Reporting and/or removing graffiti, and
- Reporting vandalism.

Systematic, accurate records of inspections and maintenance procedures must be kept.

Operational inspections and maintenance (Level 2)

An operational inspection shall be carried out regularly, on a **monthly or quarterly basis** unless there are compelling reasons to deviate from this inspection frequency. This is not a formal safety audit and it is expected competent Council staff will carry out these tasks or approved contractors.

Planning the tasks:

- List the components to be inspected and maintained for each park and play space.
- Prepare a schedule with frequency of each task.
- Carry out the inspections and maintenance tasks according to the schedule.
- Keep accurate records of all work.
- Agree on procedures for dealing with breakdowns.

Competence

The staff members doing the Level 2 works need to be competent at inspecting the play spaces in more detail than level 1, inspecting equipment and surfaces thoroughly, carrying out the repairs and keeping records. They do not need to be a qualified auditor or engineer, but would be expected to be experienced in play space inspections and maintenance practices.



28/08/15

Operational inspections and maintenance tasks should include:

- All the issues listed in the Level 1 Routine Inspections described above,
- Checking for excessive wear of moving or 'sealed for life' parts (including chain links),
- Inspecting all moving parts subject to wear,
- Ensuring that bolts and fasteners are secure,
- Checking and removal of any protrusions and sharp edges,
- Checking the structural integrity and/or stability of all playground equipment including auxiliary items. Equipment that relies on a single anchor or attachment point should be carefully inspected,
- Checking corrosion, particularly within structural members,
- Maintenance and repair of all impact attenuating surfacing,
- Checking foundations below playing surface for exposed concrete, rot, and corrosion,
- Checking and tightening of fixings and fastenings,
- Check wire ropes and cables for fraying,
- Check cableway main cable tension and the maximum speed of the traveller,
- Check impact and attenuating edges of swing seats, pommels and other moving equipment that can impact users,
- Check clearances beneath carousels and ensure that the underside is clear of protrusions and sharp edges,
- Lubrication of bearings and bushes,
- Checking that entrance gate closers and locking mechanisms are operational,
- Checking that subsidence or other movement has not created new entrapment points, and
- Other operational inspection and maintenance as appropriate.

Comprehensive inspection (Level 3)

This inspection/audit is intended to establish the overall level of safety of the equipment, foundations and playground surfaces. This inspection shall be carried out annually. The intention is to check both the design and the condition of equipment and surfaces.

Examples of factors that should be included in a checklist when conducting comprehensive inspections are included in the AS 4685 Part document, but essentially the purpose is to check the design and condition of all play elements and surfaces for compliance with current Standards.

Competence

The staff members doing the Level 3 comprehensive inspections need to be competent and experienced in inspecting the play spaces for compliance with current Australian Standards.





28/08/15

About this document

This document is the Latrobe Play Space Strategy Recommendations.

This document is organised by township and provides:

- An analysis and images of existing play spaces
- A summary, recommendations and map by precinct

Recommendations are also provided in Volume 1: Latrobe Play Space Strategy Preliminary Draft

Acknowledgements

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- Karen Tsebelis (Co-ordinator Recreation and Open Space),
- Kat Marshall (Recreation and Open Space Development Officer)
- Josh Whittaker (previously Acting Recreation and Open Space Development Officer)

Play DMC undertook the site inspections and condition assessment of Latrobe’s play spaces.

Jeavons Landscape Architects undertook the assessment of the individual spaces and prepared the design recommendations.

Contents

1. Morwell 2

2. Moe / Newborough..... 15

3. Traralgon 35

4. Churchill..... 62

5. Small towns 71

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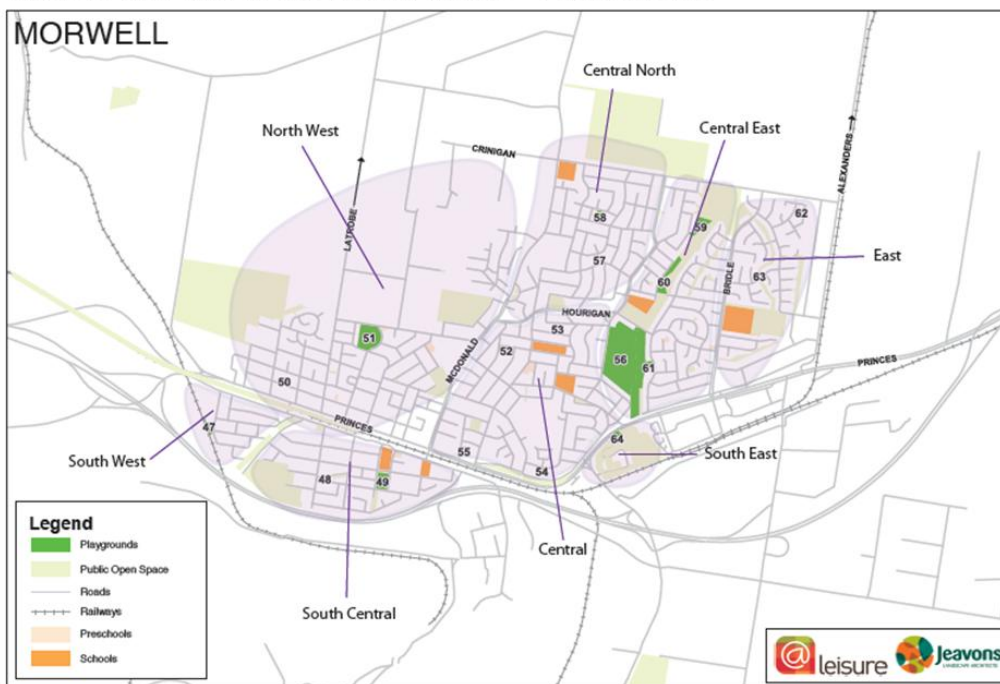
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28/08/15

1. Morwell

LATROBE PLAY SPACE STRATEGY - PRECINCTS



Introduction to residential precincts in Morwell

The playgrounds in Morwell are discussed below in groups according to their geographic location. The assumption is that groups of play spaces within a geographic area together provide a package of play and recreation opportunities for local children and families, and these need to be discussed together.

Single parks and play spaces that do not have others within the same local catchment are considered to be *parks of high dependence* and may need to each provide a slightly more diverse range of opportunities because local residents have fewer choices within their residential catchment.

Demographic characteristics in Morwell

At the 2011 census Morwell had 2,230 children aged under 12yr. This represented around 16% of the total population of the town.

Morwell has one of the highest levels of socio-economic disadvantage in Latrobe, meaning opportunities to engage in play, and realise the health benefits of play, are limited. The SEIFA index of Morwell is 845. Areas such as Moe South (1044) and Hazelwood (1016) have considerably lower levels of disadvantage.

Morwell has a high proportion of the population with a disability, which requires consideration of accessibility to and within play spaces for all abilities. 7.2% of the Morwell population has stated some disability compared to 3.6% of Traralgon residents, and 5.5% of Moe / Moe South residents.

Morwell has a high proportion of children that are developmentally vulnerable, meaning children may be disadvantaged socially, physically, and emotionally. Access to play spaces may have a positive influence on these aspects of development. Morwell has 21.3% of its children vulnerable on two of more domains of the *Australian Early Development Census*. This is a figure behind only Yallourn North (38.1%) in the municipality.





28/08/15

MORWELL NORTH WEST

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
50	Helen St Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This is the only play space serving this large residential precinct west of Latrobe Road. It is adjacent to a bowling club with its own small car park. The small park has an attractive backdrop of trees and appears to be well used. It does not offer any shade overhead and does not offer much interest to older children. The equipment is due to be replaced.</p>
51	Northern Reserve Holmes Rd MORWELL	District	 <p>This is the only play space serving this large residential precinct east of Latrobe Road. It is located on the edge of a playing field and could be considered to be the local destination play space. It is a play space with a high level of dependence. As such it needs to provide more interesting opportunities for play. This equipment is more complex than usual but it has limited appeal for both older and young children. There is no shade, no play value derived from the landscape, and little to encourage imaginative play. The space is not accessible and doesn't appear to have any seating or provision for social interaction.</p>

SUMMARY

These two reserves between them serve a large area west of McDonald Road.

- Given the lack of choice here it is recommended that more care be taken with the quality of the existing provision for play in this precinct.

Helen St Reserve

- Ensure new equipment includes a challenging item of equipment that can accommodate a group (eg a large swivel birds nest swing).
- Provide additional / improved seating around the play space.
- Add more trees for shade and interest, and consider some landscape elements for play such as some large boulders for climbing.





28/08/15

MORWELL NORTH WEST

- Northern Reserve**
- Add a path to a new accessible social focal point with seating and shade
 - Add a new double swing (senior) and consider adding a space net type of climber
 - Redesign the edges of this space and add trees and planting, possibly a cubby relating to one of the existing cubby spaces, and add logs and stepping stones to create a landscape for play that will extend the play on the equipment and give it more value
 - Consider adding an informal bike trail at this reserve.

MORWELL CENTRAL NORTH

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
57	Savige St Reserve MORWELL	Local	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>This small park has a few large trees but the play space feels exposed to the street – some seating could be provided. The equipment has a ground level cubby that is not very inviting and could be enhanced by landscape treatment and shade nearby.</p>
58	Well St Reserve MORWELL	Local	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>This park is adjacent to a pre-school. The playspace is on a slightly sloping site and the play space design has not taken advantage of the slope.</p> <p>The park has not been designed to maximise the benefit of co-location near the kindergarten, to facilitate social interaction between parents and play for young children. The park is dull and tree-less near the equipment.</p>





28/08/15

MORWELL CENTRAL NORTH

SUMMARY

Savage St Reserve

- Upgrade seating and shade
- This small play space would benefit from some gentle earthworks to create a low mound separating the play space from the street
- Add some log seats and on the cubby side create some ground level interest with log tree stumps, flat rocks or similar to connect to the play in the cubby
- Add some additional logs for climbing.

Well St Reserve

- Consider some minor earthworks to bench out a small zone in the immediate vicinity of the play space. This will allow for a low curved rock retaining/seating wall on the up-slope side and could provide a good seating place for parents. Plant trees behind and around the play space
- Consider adding a path into the space for wheelchairs, prams and strollers
- Add some ground level interest aimed at young children to encourage exploration and creative play; such as sand, low vegetation, stepping stones, etc.
- Consider planting in the pre-school as well, which appears to lack landscape value for play
- Add a second swing if desired.



28/08/15

MORWELL CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
52	Barry St Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This is a good sized park located not far from a school. The equipment is more or less the same as in all other local parks and the site offers no visual or social interest, no shade or amenity and no access.</p>
53	Tulloch St Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This is a potentially attractive park with a slope and a path through to the next street. The play equipment is poorly located close to the road and poorly placed taking no advantage of the slope and with no visual interest, planting, shade or other redeeming features.</p>
54	McMillan St Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This site is the only play space serving the southern edge of this precinct. The play space is dull and has been fenced in an unfortunate way that has created a cage, and denies any relationship with the landscape. There are no trees inside the caged-in area. There is no path.</p>



28/08/15

MORWELL CENTRAL

SUMMARY

All of the playgrounds in this precinct are substandard, though the fenced equipment in McMillan St does at least offer some complexity within the play structures.

None of the play spaces offer shade, planting, social interaction, access or inclusion, or any kind of play outside low level climbing swinging, rocking and sliding.

As at least one of the play spaces in the next precinct north (Savige St) is similarly substandard. This leaves a very large area of Central Morwell without quality play opportunities.

Because of its proximity to the school between Barry Street and Rowell Street, the Barry Street Reserve should be redeveloped as a neighbourhood park with investment in social accessible seating, play for a range of ages, planting, shade and amenity.

Barry St Reserve

- Upgrade the whole park with planting, path, furniture, seating and especially good-sized trees
- Design a new play space that is completely different from all of the other local play spaces - preferably use timber or nets to impart character, and utilise the landscape to complement the equipment and extract better value from it
- Provide at least two double swing frames and preferably include some other interesting equipment that moves, spins or rocks and accommodates a group of children at once.

Tulloch St Reserve





- Relocate the play equipment to more central position in the park
- Provide additional plantings for interest and shade.

McMillan St Reserve

- It is recommended that some sections of the fence be realigned so that the fence is effectively only along the street frontage and the house fences form the remainder of the enclosure. This will reduce the caged-in feeling of the space
- At the same time, plant some trees, create an attractive accessible seating space with a path within the fence, and design the immediate surroundings to encourage children to explore outside the equipment
- The presence of the fence provides the possibility to provide as a good sand play area - excavate out a natural looking swale to contain the sand and add some rocks, logs bridges and plantings.



28/08/15

MORWELL CENTRAL EAST			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
56	Ronald Reserve Vary St MORWELL	Local/ District	  <p>This play space is located between the tennis courts and the oval. It is aimed at younger children but is unlikely to occupy their interest for long and the access may be difficult to manage for very young unsupervised children. The space is exposed and unshaded.</p>
60	Waterhole Creek Reserve North West Cnr. Burnside St and Budge St MORWELL	Local	  <p>This is a very attractive setting on the creek. The equipment does not do justice to the setting and is more or less the same as many of the other playgrounds locally.</p>
59	Waterhole Creek South East Reserve Fitness Track The Blvd MORWELL	N/A	  <p>This site is a group of fitness equipment at the northern end of the creek and the northern end of the precinct. It is an attractive setting with tree shade.</p>



28/08/15

MORWELL CENTRAL EAST

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
61	The Boulevard Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This play space is located not far from the Waterhole Creek and also not far from Ronald Reserve. It offers a very basic set of activities with no amenity or shade.</p>

SUMMARY

This precinct is not well provided for in terms of quality play settings, and the play spaces that do exist are not well located in relation to housing.

It is recommended that two sites be upgraded to better quality settings:

- Ronald Reserve, and
- Burnside/Budge St play space.

Thinking strategically, there is no district-level play space north of the highway in Morwell, where the bulk of residents live, and where most of the play spaces are of low interest, and with little variety. There is little to cater for low-key family outings by bike or on foot, for anyone with a disability, for older children, or for any kind of adventurous play.

For this additional reason, Ronald Reserve may be the most suitable space to become a low key district attraction on this side of the township. It is possible that the current playground is not located in the best position for this new role.

Ronald Reserve

- Seek the most suitable location for a better play space in Ronald Reserve
- If suitable, this current site could be improved with some earthworks/mounding to separate the play space from the road, to provide enclosure, terrain and play interest
- Add some more interesting all ages, all abilities group activities such as a large carousel and a bird’s nest swing, and planting and shade trees
- Consider adding a net climbing structure
- Ensure there is an accessible path to a central, amenable seating zone.


Burnside/Budge St Play Space

- This site is located near the creek and should be redesigned in a completely different way, to reflect the creek environment. Provide an accessible setting with some timber structures, using climbing logs and natural materials/elements to encourage exploration and imaginative/role play
- The other two sites should also receive some improved planting and seating as a minimum.






28/08/15

MORWELL EAST			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
62	Angela Ct Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This space serves mainly very local residents as it is located at the end of a court and is not very prominent. It is an unattractive park with no trees.</p>
63	Nindoo Dr Reserve MORWELL	Local/ District	 <p>This is a very unappealing space on the side of a creekline that has no vegetation, and which is fenced off from the play space. The equipment is a bare minimum and there is no shade, seating, path or any other amenity.</p>
SUMMARY			
<p>This precinct is characterised by bare expanses of fairly flat uninteresting open spaces which are not conducive to attracting families to play outside.</p> <p>Neither of these sites is very prominent, but as Nindoo Drive is more central, it is recommended that this space should be upgraded into a more sociable accessible space.</p> <p>Nindoo Dr Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconsider this whole space. Consult residents and plan a concerted effort to revegetate the creek line and re-think the play space at the same time. Plant along the fence lines and plan some attractive spaces with trees, lawn to play on, and a play space aimed at a range of ages. Create an amenable central seating space that would encourage social interaction between residents. <p>Angela Ct Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This site is in need of improvements to the landscape to provide some shade, amenity, and some open-ended play settings that do not entirely rely on the equipment. It would benefit from a path and a seating area in tree shade. 			



28/08/15

MORWELL SOUTH WEST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
47	Driffield St Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This play space would benefit from the addition of some rough landscape elements for play such as rocks and logs for climbing and scrambling, as well as a bike play area.</p>
SUMMARY			
<p>This residential precinct is somewhat isolated in the municipality, confined by the railway line to the west, the highway to the north and Maryvale Crescent to the east. There is therefore a high level of dependence on the only play space here at Driffield St Reserve.</p> <p>Driffield St Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant a backdrop of trees and design some un-manicured elements for play by older children such as a bike track and some climbing logs and rocks. 			



28/08/15

MORWELL SOUTH CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
48	Berg St Reserve MORWELL	Local	 <p>This long triangular shaped reserve is fairly central to the south central precinct of Morwell. The park does have some attractive trees providing an appealing backdrop to the play space. There is none the less a slight feeling of exposure to the streets on both sides of the play equipment.</p> <p>The play equipment offers a reasonable variety of junior physical play activities but not much to encourage imaginative play.</p>
49	Town Commons Reserve Elgin St MORWELL	Regional	



28/08/15

MORWELL SOUTH CENTRAL

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
			 <p>This is the destination regional play space for Morwell. It provides a good range of activity types (including one of the few spinning carousels in the municipality) and has included some activities that are accessible to children with disabilities. There is still a lack of full integration between the accessible and the inaccessible older play space which in some ways defeats the purpose of full inclusion. For example, the path that stops at the gate to the older equipment area, and the very low gradient ramps that do not really reach any height at all.</p>

SUMMARY

Berg St Reserve

Because of the proximity of Elgin St/Town Common Reserve, it is not necessary to extend this play space too much. Nonetheless it may be worth optimising the experiences here so the two sites complement one another.

- Add a low takeoff deck each end of the horizontal ladder to make it more usable, and link these decks into a ground level obstacle/balancing course (using rocks and logs) winding through the play space
- Consider adding a hedge like row of trees along the street line to provide a sense of enclosure while allowing a view in.

Town Commons Reserve, Elgin St

- This site could benefit from some small improvements that would make it more inclusive, especially by extending a rubber path into the play space enclosure and taking it wherever possible to at least allow all children to participate in the social play if not the swinging and other activities.



28/08/15

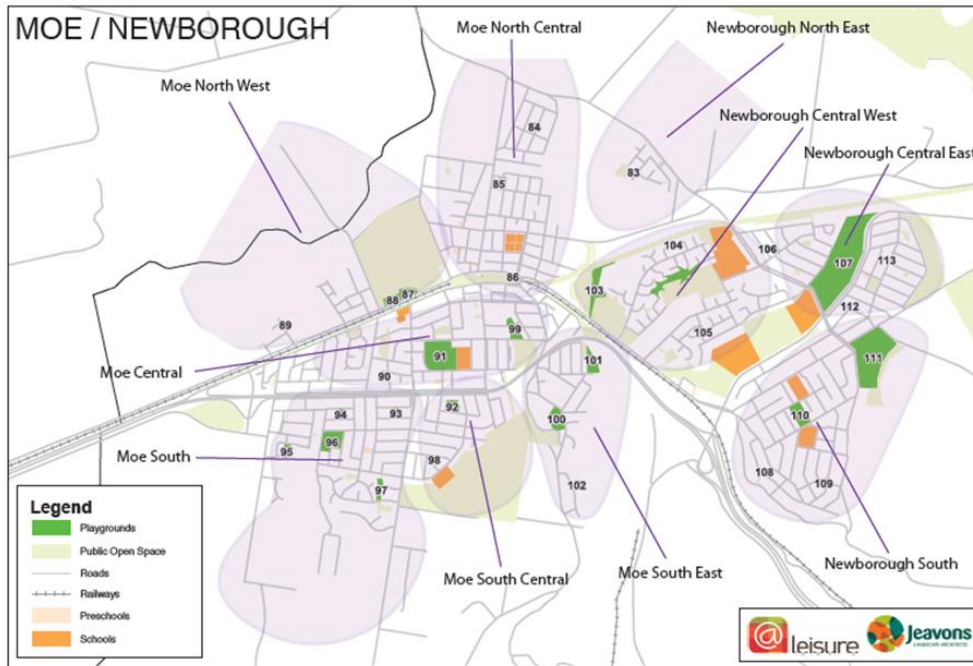
MORWELL SOUTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
64	Immigration Park Princess Way MORWELL	District	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;">    </div> <p>This is an attractive parkland area, lake and picnic setting that incorporates the Gippsland Immigration Museum, as well as the TAFE. This park is largely green and irrigated and though the play space has not been located to take advantage of the trees, it shows the amenity provided by attractive tree planting.</p> <p>There is a seat well placed in the tree shade. The play space is close to some sculptural pieces that are part of the museum display.</p> <p>The triangular play space is fenced to the roads and the fence line is a little exposed and not very attractive. The equipment only caters for very young children.</p>
SUMMARY			
<p>Immigration Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The space would be more attractive if low planting along the fence lines were incorporated into the play space design This may be a suitable space to add a space net climber as no play spaces in Morwell include one of these. 			



28/08/15

2. Moe / Newborough

LATROBE PLAY SPACE STRATEGY - PRECINCTS



Introduction to residential precincts in Moe / Newborough

The playgrounds in Moe / Newborough are discussed below in groups according to their geographic location. The assumption is that groups of play spaces within a geographic area **together** provide a package of play and recreation opportunities for local children and families, and these need to be discussed together.

Single parks and play spaces that do not have others within the same local catchment are considered to be *parks of high dependence* and may need to each provide a slightly more diverse range of opportunities because local residents have fewer choices within their residential catchment.

Demographic characteristics in Moe / Newborough

At the 2011 census the Moe, Moe South and Newborough areas had 2,538 children aged under 12. This represented around 16% of the total population of the town.


Moe and Newborough are low income areas, meaning families may have limited means of accessing play spaces. The average weekly household income in Moe (\$674) and Newborough (\$883) are half the average weekly household income in Moe South (\$1,636), Hazelwood North (\$1,668) and Hazelwood South (\$1,554).

Moe has the highest level of socio-economic disadvantage in Latrobe, meaning opportunities to engage in play, and realise the health benefits of play, are limited. The SEIFA index of Moe is 838. Newborough (915) also has a high level of disadvantage.





28/08/15

MOE NORTH WEST			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
89	Mervyn St Reserve MOE	Local	
SUMMARY			
<p>This park is the only one serving its immediate catchment, and therefore has a reasonably high level of dependence upon it for play and social interaction locally.</p> <p>As such it would benefit from the following improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A path providing access to a social/seating area ▪ Provision of accessible seating in the area shaded by trees ▪ Design of seating to encourage social interaction ▪ Provision of natural/loose/open ended play elements such as planting, logs, boulders, sand etc. to complement the existing equipment ▪ More attention to the provision of backdrop planting along the side and rear fence lines ▪ A row of large umbrella shaped trees along the street line (allowing views in). 			



28/08/15

MOE NORTH CENTRAL

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
84	Ferguson St Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This site serves the north of the precinct and is reasonably centrally located there. Provision for older children as well as younger is desirable.</p>
85	Hennessey St Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This play space is located next to an early childhood centre and serves the south of this precinct. This park should provide for parent seating/tables in shade and play for young children.</p>

SUMMARY

Ferguson St Reserve

- Consider adding a senior birds nest swing, carousel or other multi-age moving equipment.

Hennessey St Reserve

- Consider adding a sand play area with logs, rocks and planting. Relate this to the under deck cubby area.



28/08/15

MOE CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
90	Marshall Ave Reserve Caldwell Street MOE	Local	 <p>This park is not well located as it is not far from the Ted Summerton Reserve, but leaves most of the western side of this precinct without access to a play space. Because of the layout of the streets, no houses west of Truscott Rd are served and though the park has good potential, the play space is certainly not worth travelling a distance to.</p>
91	Ted Summerton Reserve Vale Street MOE	Local/ District	 <p>This play space is located centrally to this precinct and between the other two play space sites. It is not well located from a surveillance perspective (no houses or streets directly face it), but does serve the users of the sports reserve. It is located close to the rear of the South St Primary School. The site has a good path and picnic shelter with furniture. The site and play equipment are both very dull and the same as other play spaces. This situation is unsuitable for a larger reserve such as this to which users are likely to travel.</p>
99	HG Stoddart Memorial Park Vale Street MOE	Local/ District	 <p>This is a large park with attractive tree plantings as a backdrop (though not near the equipment). The play space is minimal and does not reflect the quality of the park.</p>



28/08/15


MOE CENTRAL

SUMMARY

The three play spaces in this precinct are effectively the same. Each offers a basic package of equipment-based activities aimed at a generally junior target age group. The western end of the precinct is not served by a play space. It is recommended that:

- A location for a new play space be sought west of Truscott Ave
- Improve the park design at **Marshall Ave Reserve** so that the park also provides an interesting and beautiful setting with or without play equipment
- **Ted Summerton Reserve** should be upgraded into a higher quality play space (district) and redesigned using the good shelter and path as a focal point. Remove the equipment and re-use as spare parts if required. A new play space should provide at least two double swing frames (one junior/toddler and one senior). The space should provide for a more interesting suite of activities for juniors and older children supported by a quality landscape for play, and a range of elements should cater for users with disabilities. It should be entirely different in appearance and function from others in the precinct. Consider including a feature item such as a large space net.
- **Stoddart Reserve:** Consider how this park could better support children’s activities and create a more interesting environment around the equipment. Connect a path into the play area and create a new landscape focal point such as a sand stream with low flat boulders as an edge. Plant to create a complex backdrop.





MOE CENTRAL APEX/LIONS PARK

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
87	Apex Park Waterloo Rd MOE	Regional	 <p>This park has been purpose designed to offer a range of fully accessible play elements. Some spaces within the play area are bare and less attractive but the structures have a good degree of complexity and are located close to one another which has some benefits</p>





28/08/15

MOE CENTRAL APEX/LIONS PARK			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
			for both children and supervising adults.
88	Lions Park Waterloo Rd MOE	Regional	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;">     </div> <p>There is a good range of equipment types provided.</p> <p>The Lions Park play space contrasts to the Apex area, being spread out and dotted over a very large area within the park. There are pluses and minuses of locating equipment in this way. Children probably get more exercise running from one to the other, which is good. The park can probably accommodate larger numbers in this way, without feeling crowded. However parents may have trouble finding their children in the park. There is less of a central social focal point in this part of the park, diminishing the social value of the play experience.</p> <p>By locating each item of equipment individually there is no play benefit that derives from the relationship between play elements themselves, nor with the landscape in this case.</p> <p>None of these items of equipment are accessible to children or adults with disabilities possibly exacerbating a sense of exclusion. There is no path system apparent, linking areas within the space.</p>



28/08/15

MOE CENTRAL APEX/LIONS PARK



SUMMARY

This whole park is the destination park for play in Moe, between the Apex and Lions Parks offering a wide range of play items. The park could be improved in many ways, by:

- Preparing a play precinct master plan that integrates the two areas so that able-bodied and less able children can play alongside one another across the whole park
- Providing slightly more emphasis on social connections, seating and picnicking, and possibly a path system in some areas (without spoiling the natural character of others)
- Considering relocating and joining some items so that together they create more complexity between them, thereby extending the play and getting better value from the equipment
- Investigating ways that the landscape could provide better play value with adventurous areas with sand, logs and rocks
- Planting areas within the Accessible Playground to add more shade and natural interest
- Consulting users of both areas to determine how well each space meets their needs.


It would also be advisable to avoid the use of stock standard equipment in this park that has been used in virtually all over Moe/Newborough. In particular the small, steel-deck climbing units with a slide that are ubiquitous here. It is important that this Apex/Lions Park provides a destination experience that is different from all local parks, and is worth travelling to.

MOE SOUTH

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
93	Phillip St Reserve MOE	Local	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p>This is a play space with relatively high dependence, as it is reasonably isolated within the precinct. It is a good sized reserve with a good framework of trees (though not close enough to the equipment). It has little ground level interest. This equipment offers more or less the same experiences as many others. It is very dull, and doesn't offer much interest to older children.</p>




28/08/15

MOE SOUTH			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
94	John St Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This play space is virtually identical to Scorpio Dr Reserve (without the flying fox). The planting is quite interesting and complex. The relationship of the equipment with the shelter is not close enough and the equipment area is inadequate, sterile and exposed.</p>
95	Randall Cres Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This is a play space with relatively high dependence as it is relatively isolated within the precinct. The park is large and has a large grassed field adjacent. The play space area has a potentially good layout, let down by its immediate environment which is barren and exposed. The landscape offers no additional value for play. There are few signs of use.</p>
96	Elizabeth St Play Space MOE	Local	 <p>This centrally located space is a shared school site. The equipment offers more complexity than most local play spaces but would benefit from some accessible activities, plus seats.</p>





28/08/15

MOE SOUTH			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
97	Scorpio Dr Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>Play space with relatively high dependence as it is relatively isolated within the precinct. Though the layout is a bit disconnected, the linear park is more interesting than most with some complexity offered by the planting. The flying fox offers some variety but otherwise the equipment is too basic. Stand-alone slides, for example do not offer good value for play.</p>
SUMMARY			
<p>The play spaces within this group are relatively spread out, so residents are fairly dependent on the park closest to them. The combination of equipment and settings across the group has a low level adequacy but would benefit from more landscape / natural interest for children to: explore, ride bikes, climb trees, build cubbies etc.</p> <p>Randall Cres Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant some very large trees around the play space. Add a large birds nest swing. <p>John St Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant some very large trees around this play space as well. Any new design work should complement the Elizabeth St Primary School play space and not duplicate it. <p>Scorpio Dr Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add some interest in this linear reserve such as a bumpy dirt bike path, large boulders. <p>Phillip St Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add major tree planting and one moving item to suit groups of older children (eg carousel). Add climbing logs. 			



28/08/15

MOE SOUTH CENTRAL			
NO.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
92	Scott Avenue Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This is a play space with relatively high dependence as it is relatively isolated within the precinct. It is a good sized, attractive reserve with some large trees (though not close enough to the equipment to provide shade). The park has a small half court and backboard.</p>
98	Stoddart St Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This is a play space with relatively high dependence as it is relatively isolated within the precinct. This play space is very close to Barings Special School. It would be beneficial to redesign this space.</p>
SUMMARY			
<p>Scott Avenue Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider adding a moving item of equipment that caters for groups of children of older/mixed ages Consider enlarging the hardcourt to a half or even a full size court Additional shade tree planting would help define the space and provide visual amenity, including the provision of backdrop planting along fence lines. <p>Stoddart St Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be beneficial to design a space here that could support social interaction for parents and children from the school as well as the local community. This requires a path, well placed seating under shade, visual amenity and a much higher level of sensory interest in the play space It may be valuable to fence the street frontage of this park. 			



28/08/15

MOE SOUTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
100	TB Drew Park Cemetery Rd MOE	Local	 <p>This is a very attractive setting with lovely views and some large trees. The playground has not been located to take advantage of shade or interest provided by the trees. There is erosion on the perimeter fenceline.</p>
101	Bayley St Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This is a beautiful site with lovely views. The play space offers very limited experiences, no seats to admire the view and no path access. Loose mulch on the slope is hard to maintain.</p>
102	Wirrana Dr Reserve MOE	Local	 <p>This is a play space with high dependence as it is relatively isolated within the precinct. The open space is attractive and vegetation provides a good backdrop to the play space. The equipment is of low value and shows little sign of use. It is difficult to access by younger/less able children.</p>



28/08/15

MOE SOUTH EAST

SUMMARY

TB Drew Park

The park requires:

- A seamless path entry from the street linking to an amenable seating/social space
- A choice of seating/perching that could include logs in a semi-circle.

The play space could benefit from:

- Adding planting, large boulders, nature trail etc. around parts of the perimeter, with the long term goals of adding shade and natural play experiences that adds complexity and extends the play value of the equipment
- The addition of one more interesting/challenging/moving item of equipment such as a medium size space net, some in-ground playground trampolines or a large swivel birds nest swing.

Bayley St Reserve

- Retain as a low key site with predominantly natural elements
- Add a large branched log on the up-slope side of the mulch for climbing, balancing and seating
- Add landing decks or at least a step each end of the horizontal ladder, then connect to a stepping/balancing route made of logs, rocks or similar
- Consider working with local children and add an informal dirt bike circuit around the triangular end of the reserve.


Wirrana Dr Reserve

- Retain as a small-scale local play space
- Check the demographics in the immediate vicinity and consider a long term re-design depending on the age cohort
- Options might include the design of a play garden with detailed vegetation, paths, sand and logs/rocks, or a more physically active space for older children. Existing equipment could be working into either option.



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH NORTH EAST

No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
83	Montane Blvd. Reserve, N'BOROUGH	Local	

SUMMARY

Montane Blvd. Reserve

This park is the only one serving its immediate catchment and therefore has a high level of dependence upon it for play and social interaction locally.

The design of the whole park is substandard and provides no amenity. There is not one tree, and no seating. The play equipment is fenced into an unattractive cage and there is no possibility of children exploring a natural environment nor developing their own independent play.




The play activities in the cage are limited to the junior age group who would most enjoy imaginative play in a natural setting.

This site needs the following improvements:

- Remove the fence.
- A complete planting design for the park, including:
 - shade tree planting
 - the provision of backdrop planting along the side and rear fence lines
 - provision of accessible seating in shade.
- Design of seating to encourage social interaction
- Provision of natural/loose/open ended play elements such as planting, logs, boulders, sand etc. to complement the existing equipment
- At least one item of moving equipment providing group play for all ages such as
 - a carousel
 - birds nest swing or similar
 - a mini trampoline.
- A group of landscape elements such as large rocks or similar that provide for open ended play.



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH CENTRAL WEST			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
103	Botanic Gardens Narracan Dr N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This site is close to the Botanic Gardens, tennis courts and the Moe/Yallourn Rail Trail. This playground is really a group of fitness equipment near the tennis courts. It doesn't bear any effective relationship with the Botanic Gardens. As a fitness circuit it may be acceptable; as a play environment it offers a very limited experience with no landscape amenity, seats, shade or other benefits. Fortunately there are no residential areas depending upon this space, which is a low key destination reserve somewhat isolated by the creek to the north and the railway line to the south.</p>
104	Ollerton Reserve Merton Crt N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This play space is located in a tree grove on the edge of the bushland reserve. The play equipment is basic and poorly selected and does not reflect the surroundings.</p>
105	Jeeralang Ave Reserve Tarwin Grove N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This reserve is centrally located within its local catchment and more or less serves this whole area on its own, as the other two playgrounds discussed above are isolated by some large developments (the aged care and some light industrial buildings) and the Ollerton Bushland Reserve.</p> <p>The playground is reasonably complex and offers a range of activities. The setting is dull and uninviting and does not offer shade or amenity to users. There are few trees.</p>



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH CENTRAL WEST

SUMMARY

The play spaces within this group are relatively isolated from one another so residents are fairly dependent on the one closest to them.

Jeeralang Ave Reserve

- This park requires more attention to tree planting, shade and amenity.
- Consider adding a second swing frame, resulting on one double toddler/junior frame and one more exciting senior double swing.

Ollerton Reserve / Merton Crt

- Remove this equipment (with the possible exception of the swing) and re-use elsewhere if desired.
- Create a small accessible setting that builds on a forest theme, with some logs arranged for climbing, possible use of nets, more interesting swings and encourage cubby building and creative play.

Botanic Gardens Play Space

- Assess the function and purpose of this play space through greater consultation with the Moe community.
- Relocate the exercise equipment to a more suitable park.
- If there is a demand for a children's space at the tennis courts and botanic gardens, then this space should be replaced with a design that has a character more in keeping with a botanic garden, with planting and natural elements as the main feature.



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH CENTRAL EAST			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
106	Stearman St Reserve N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This is the only playground serving this precinct north of the large John Field Reserve. The park is flat, drab and exposed and does not appear to be well used.</p>
107	John Field Reserve Southwell Avenue N'BOROUGH	District	 <p>This playground is located within a major sports precinct, and therefore serves as a low key destination play space. The equipment here offers a more complex arrangement of climbing and sliding activities. There is a curious elevated shelter centrally located in the play space. The setting here is dull and exposed.</p>



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH CENTRAL EAST

No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
112	Hallston St Reserve N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This play space is located in a small reserve with two attractive large trees but otherwise no vegetation. There is no shade to the play space. There is little evidence of use.</p>
113	Boolarra Ave Reserve N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This park is only a minor variation on the equipment at Hallston Reserve, though aimed at a younger age group. The space is not appealing to parents, nor to young children.</p>

SUMMARY

John Field Reserve

- As the local destination play space here, it is worth improving the amenity and accessibility of this space. This may include:
 - Relocate the play space to a more prominent position in the open space
 - Add more planting and grouped seats
 - Add a special attraction such as a simple bike play area.

Stearman St Reserve


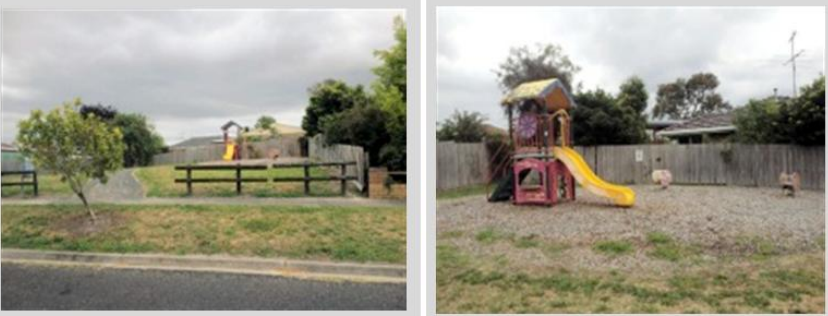
- Some value needs to be added to the play experience via landscape elements, adding amenity through tree shade and planting, and making an accessible social space that would attract social interaction.

Hallston St Reserve and Boolarra Ave Reserve

- These reserves share the same catchment. They are too similar to one another and neither is interesting enough on its own. Consider removing the equipment at Boolarra (except swing) and redesign the space with vegetation designed for play, sand, terrain, logs and a completely different style of presentation. Utilise timber cubbies at ground level adjacent to the sand.





28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH SOUTH			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
110	Hearn Park Playground Balfour St N'BOROUGH	District	 <p>This park is centrally located within the precinct; easily accessed from most streets, and the playground is adjacent to the hall and a BMX track. It is also close to two schools. This is the most important play space in this residential precinct. There are picnic shelters and seats but there does not appear to be a path system making these accessible.</p> <p>The activities are effectively the same as in the other two play spaces locally. The landscape does not offer any play value. There is little evidence of use.</p>
108	Smallburn Ave Reserve N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This very small play space serves the western edge of the precinct. There is a path through the park linking through to Shanahan Pde. There is one large tree in the park but no other amenable feature. The play equipment is basic and shows no sign of use.</p>



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH SOUTH			
No.	RESERVE/ ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
109	Harvey St Reserve Cross Street N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This is a potentially attractive reserve with some large trees. The triangular shaped park is in a prominent location and easily accessed from a number of streets. It is quite flat and has an exposed feeling, at the intersection of two roads. Residents appear to use it for car parking. The equipment is basic and offers very similar activities to Hearn Park. The seating is not very welcoming.</p>
111	Monash Reserve Monash Road N'BOROUGH	Local	 <p>This play space serves a sports reserve and is adjacent to the tennis courts. It is protected by a striking group of cypress trees which provide a good backdrop. The equipment itself is dull and the same as most other play spaces in Newborough but there is some evidence of use here.</p>



28/08/15

NEWBOROUGH SOUTH

SUMMARY

The play spaces within this precinct are all variations on a similar theme (slide, basic climbing, a swing and two spring toys). The following recommendations treat these three sites as a group, together aiming to meet the needs of the local community. Each should be developed differently to provide more choice in styles settings and activities between the sites, with emphasis on Hearn Park as the main focus of investment locally.

Hearn Park Playground

- Invest in this play space as a local focus for social interaction
- Consider removing the current equipment and relocate some items if required elsewhere
- Choose equipment that enables groups to use it together rather than single use items
- Design a small but integrated new play space that incorporates a path and play elements (some accessible) with a range of different activity types - for example a spinning carousel accommodating a group of children, better swings for a range of ages, and more interesting climbing. Place these to ensure that some value can be obtained from nearby landscape or planting.

Smallburn Ave Reserve

The objective for this reserve is to create an attractive small park for residents from the immediate vicinity. There may be a few options here:

- One would be to remove the equipment altogether, plant more trees, screen the fence line, and create an appealing open space
- The other would be to also create more planting and interest, add more furniture, add a double swing, and add some features such as very large boulders and climbing logs to create a low key but worthwhile local play space. The existing equipment could be removed at the end of its useful life. It is worth discussing this with local residents.

Monash Reserve

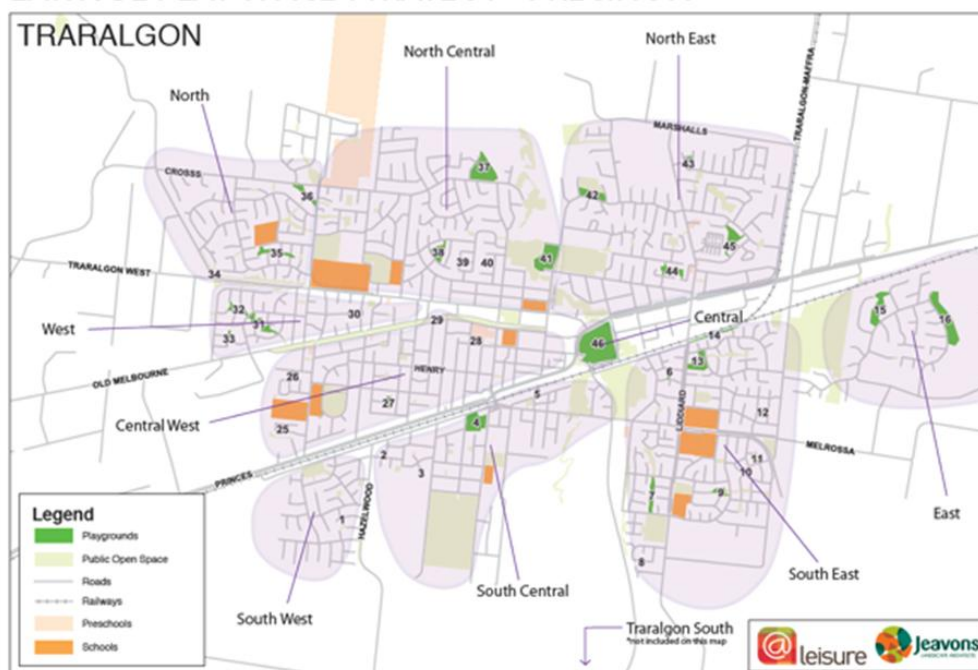
- Establish a new play space (in line with the recommendations of the Moe Outdoor Recreation Plan) that includes some kind of visual containment such as a low hedge or similar
- Consider connecting into the cypress row to create some imaginative play pockets under the trees.



28/08/15

3. Traralgon

LATROBE PLAY SPACE STRATEGY - PRECINCTS



Introduction to residential precincts in Traralgon

The playgrounds in Traralgon discussed below in groups according to their geographic location. The assumption is that groups of play spaces within a geographic area together provide a package of play and recreation opportunities for local children and families, and these need to be discussed together.

Single parks and play spaces that do not have others within the same local catchment are considered to be *parks of high dependence* and may need to each provide a slightly more diverse range of opportunities because local residents have fewer choices within their residential catchment.

Demographic characteristics in Traralgon

At the 2011 census the Traralgon area had 4,754 children aged under 12. This represented around 18% of the total population of the town.





Traralgon has a rapidly growing population meaning there will be higher number of potential users of Latrobe’s play spaces. The population of Traralgon – Traralgon east is expected to grow 34% between 2014 and 2036. This is a significantly higher figure than Morwell (13%) and Moe – Moe south (26%).

Traralgon has a high proportion of children that are developmentally vulnerable, meaning children may be disadvantaged socially, physically, and emotionally. Access to play spaces may have a positive influence on these aspects of development. Traralgon has 23% of its children vulnerable on one of more domains of the *Australian Early Development Census*. The average across Latrobe is 6%.







28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
34	Rod Dunbar Park Corner Grey St/Tyers Rd TRARALGON	Local	  <p>This site is flat and has little amenity or spatial interest. It is very similar to Rangeview Park in the activities it offers.</p> <p>The play space is located in a strange position near a big road and not directly connected to homes. It has an unappealing fence around it, no shade trees or other attractive features.</p>
35	Rangeview Park Birregun Court TRARALGON	Local	  <p>This site is not only relatively central in this precinct, it is located not far from a primary school and has potential to become a play space where parents and children might socialise after school, for example. The space is not very appealing at present but the reserve is extensive.</p>





28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
36	Downs Reserve Cross's Road TRARALGON	Local/ District	 <p>This site has had a major investment in equipment and surfacing but the amenity of the space is low and no advantage of the rubber surface has been taken to provide any accessible activities for children using mobility aids. The black surface is unattractive and no doubt becomes very hot, with no shade.</p> <p>There is no path access to Grubb Ave.</p>
	Stockdale Fields Reserve View Hill Drive TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This site services a new subdivision at the northern extent of this precinct. There is a high level of dependence on this space.</p> <p>Landscape plans for this reserve show a future BBQ shelter, landscape works and tree planting. At present the space is exposed and a little dismal.</p> <p>If this play space has been provided by a developer. It demonstrates the need for a clear and detailed briefing document regarding the requirement to provide a park, not just play equipment. This site could be a focal point for a new community and aid in community building and social interaction.</p> <p>The swing appears to be installed uncomfortably close to the net and there is something unusual about the net which suggests that it should be audited as soon as possible.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH

SUMMARY

Rod Dunbar Park

- Consider moving this play equipment a little closer to the houses and away from the road if a suitable space can be found
- If the fence is considered necessary, consider repositioning it so that it encloses a larger area, with lawn and other play opportunities inside it
- Plant the fence line with flowering shrubs of the same height as the fence to make it more attractive
- This site needs tree and shrub planting, shade, and some open ended ground level interest such as an obstacle course of log balance beams, stepping rocks or similar. A trail through interesting planting could be added.

Rangeview Park

- Take advantage of the central location near the school and create a community meeting and play space with emphasis on accessible, social space with furniture, built and tree shade to enhance the existing equipment
- Add some more natural play elements (rocks logs and terrain) for children of all ages
- Add at least one more double swing frame or a birds nest swing, and or a carousel.

Downs Reserve/Cross's Road

- Provide path access from Grubb Ave
- Design a wheelchair accessible activity (such as a cubby with interactive panels, music, etc.) and add this to one of the existing rubber areas
- Add a shaded, social focal point with seats etc. and link these to a path that integrates all the spaces and activities
- Enclose the whole space with a circle of large shade trees planted as close as practicable to the equipment to provide some spatial enclosure, shade and amenity.

Stockdale Reserve

- Carry out a safety audit on the play equipment as soon as possible
- Implement the landscape plans for the park here with large trees, social spaces, and some ground level details that would provide for play, bike riding, exploration and nature play.




28/08/15

TRARALGON WEST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
31	Freeman Park East Brolga Boulevard TRARALGON	Local	Play space has been removed.
32	Freeman Park West Willaroo Court TRARALGON	Local	  <p>This is a large and central reserve that is very poorly located in relation to the fronts of houses and public surveillance, tucked away between the ends of courts and not visible from any major streets. There is a framework of large trees.</p> <p>The equipment is reasonably extensive.</p>
33	Jack Harrison Park Quail Court TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This site is reasonably central in its immediate catchment. The reserve is addressed by a few housing frontages but is otherwise cut off from much surveillance from large streets. Nonetheless there are good path linkages through housing in all directions. The park itself has low amenity with no trees, shade or path connection to the play space.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON WEST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
30	Blanck Park Pollock Avenue TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This site is one of relatively high dependence, located on the eastern end of the precinct and isolated from the other parks by the street layout. The park is essentially a large traffic island. It has a good framework of trees but the equipment is inadequate. The space lacks much character and feels exposed to the street on all sides.</p> <p>The surfacing was also inadequate (at the time when the photo was taken).</p>

SUMMARY

Freeman Park West (Willaroo Court)

- This linear parkland is a major asset and should be treated as a connected system
- Ensure there is a good trail system right along the creek to encourage walking and cycling. Add signs
- Improve the park as a whole; define spaces with more tree planting and consult residents regarding other activities here such as possibly providing a community garden, a bike play area or other low key activities with a natural setting
- The play space needs to be improved with minor additions to obtain the best value out of the existing investment in equipment and surfacing. For example there is a rubber surface and a path that is probably intended to provide wheelchair access to an under deck cubby. Check whether it is indeed possible to reach the cubby or whether the posts block the entry. Check whether there are any accessible activities under the deck, and if not add some
- Provide an attractive central seating area with shade and a path.

Freeman Park East

- Improve the park, as above
- Any play space needs to be completely different from the Freeman Park West equipment and should be located where it is visible from Brolga Blvd.

Jack Harrison Park

- Provide an accessible social/seating space and connect this and the play space to the main path
- Plant a strong circle of trees around the play equipment and add additional planting across the reserve to improve the amenity of the whole park
- Provide some natural elements for play here such as a sand/stream with planting, rocks and logs.







28/08/15

TRARALGON WEST

SUMMARY

- Blanck Park**
- Prepare a low key design for the whole reserve that better delineates individual spaces and gives them more character- for example a hedge might contain the play space within one section of the reserve
 - Provide a focal point for seating
 - Add at least one piece of equipment that provides movement, challenge and activities for a group of children, such as a carousel
 - Consider removing the slide and replacing it with a timber structure resembling a tree house. This could also have a slide.

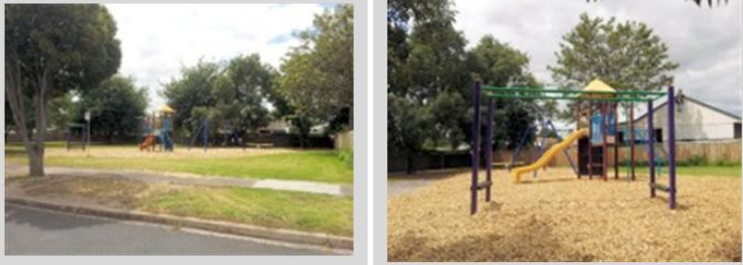

TRARALGON NORTH CENTRAL

No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
37	Bradman Reserve Bradman Blvd TRARALGON	District	 <p>This large reserve is very flat land open. It has a large collection of steel equipment but no landscape for play. There has been some recent planting which is good, but it doesn't provide shade to the seats and table.</p>
38	Maskrey Reserve Barker Crescent TRARALGON	Local / District	 <p>This site is part of a large prominent sports reserve with tennis courts, and easily accessible to a number of streets.</p> <p>The equipment here is dull and similar in materials and style to all other local parks. The site is without character and without shade or any landscape interest. There does not appear to be a path or any furniture.</p>





28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
39	Gilwell Park Gilwell Avenue TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This site has some good mature trees as a backdrop but the play space takes no advantage of them. The play equipment is so similar in style to both of the others here it is tempting to suggest removing this one and creating a park landscape.</p>
40	Grant Park Grant Court TRARALGON	Local	 <p>Is more or less identical to Gilwell Park give or take a few details such as a roof. This park is tucked away at the end of a court. Not prominent.</p>

SUMMARY

Bradman Reserve

- This is an important large space and serves as a district park for this precinct. It needs attention to spatial qualities and amenity
- This park has been earmarked in the Traralgon Outdoor Recreation Plan for further development. Provide a centrally located, accessible shelter, BBQ and seating area. Plan a path system linking these to some of the play elements
- Add accessible toilets
- Consider creating some mounding around the play space on a few sides to both help as a windbreak and to contain the space, but also to create some clambering hills (some flat rock steps/climbers could be added into the mounds)
- Complement the flat open space and equipment with some other natural elements for play such as a swale containing sand, log bridges and the like
- Make sure there are some accessible spaces and activities.





28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH CENTRAL

SUMMARY

Maskrey Reserve

- This site is suitable to be upgraded into a more focal park that caters for social interaction and play for a range of ages, in relation to its role as a tennis/sports reserve
- The Reserve is earmarked for an upgrade of seating and a picnic area
- Remove the existing equipment and re-use elsewhere if required
- Redesign the play space and create an accessible focal point for social interaction with shade and amenity. Design a play space entirely different in style, materials, setting and types of play from all others locally
- Plant a strong circle of shade trees around the whole play space, and integrate planting and natural elements into the design
- Preserve good sightlines from the tennis courts into the play space.

Grant St Park and Gilwell Park



- These parks are very close to one another
- The poorly designed street layout here justifies the retention of both sites as parks as green open space because otherwise residents would not have access to any park within hundreds and hundreds of meters
- It is recommended that Gilwell Park Play space be retained, and possible addition of some extra elements to diversify the play
- The play equipment at Grant St could be removed and the park upgraded with a new design including big trees, furniture, a path system and nature play but not necessarily play equipment
- It would be justifiable to replace this site with a new, more prominent play space at Agnes Brereton Reserve this is a more prominent location, caters for netball competitions, and is more accessible to the whole north east corner of this small precinct.

New play spaces

- Create a new play space at Agnes Brereton Reserve, in the southwest corner of the playing field and close to the netball court (as recommended in the Traralgon Outdoor Recreation Plan).
- There is a relatively large area un-serviced by play spaces between:
 - Douglas Pde and Cross's Rd, and
 - Between Grubb Ave and Gilmour St.
- This area has a large amount of open space but this is mostly, unfortunately, poorly located behind houses in a number of landlocked reserves that should not be developed as play spaces. Consider planting these reserves with magnificent trees
- The reserve with a street frontage to Inverness Way could be considered for a new landscape and play space
- Alternatively consider locating a higher level play space in the Traralgon Sporting Complex /Apex Park and education precinct. Such a new space needs to be located carefully where it gets maximum prominence, and preferably where families might gather in the context of primary school drop offs/after school meeting places. The location as recommended in the Traralgon Outdoor Recreation Plan, amongst the trees on the Johnson St frontage, would be suitable
- Do not duplicate the style of steel equipment used in other local reserves in any such new development.




28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
42	Explorers Park	Local	 <p>This large exposed site services the whole north western corner of this precinct on its own. The play space is located within an enormous area of flat open grass with a few groups of shrub plantings. There is no shade or amenity. There is no footpath at the front of the park.</p> <p>There is a path circuit that accommodates bike riding, though this tends to flood in wet periods.</p> <p>The play equipment includes a ground level cubby that could provide wheelchair accessible play but it does not appear to have a path connecting it to any access path.</p>
44	Bond Park Firmin Street TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This park is located poorly, facing only the backs of houses but there is a path system connecting more than one street. There is an attractive framework of trees.</p> <p>The play space is sub-standard for the number of residents who depend upon it, and identical to too many others in Traralgon.</p>




28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
43	The Strand Reserve Hammersmith Ct TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This reserve is in a relatively new subdivision in the north-east area of Traralgon. This is an unusually large and complex collection of play equipment which has some appealing qualities. Less appealing is the way it has been placed on the site and the way it has been fenced.</p> <p>The equipment area appears to have been designed to be accessible to children with disabilities but there is no path system linking the play elements.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
45	Medew Reserve Strathcole Drive TRARALGON		 <p>This large triangular park on its own has to serve the south eastern corner of this residential precinct that includes some relatively high density housing. The reserve would have been well located to do so, except that it is entirely land locked, and does not face any streets nor address the fronts of any but two houses on Pepperdine Ct. The landscape does have a few mature trees but is otherwise uninteresting. The play space is too similar to the others locally.</p>
	Christian Rise TRARALGON		This reserve has a landscape design proposal for a half basketball court, a set of football goal posts, and a path linking to the rail trail network.
	Proposed Playground 'The Rise' TRARALGON		<p>Plans for a new playground here have not yet been approved.</p> <p>As this site should provide for new suburban residential development north of Marshalls Road, the park development needs to provide an interesting landscape, amenity, accessibility, social interaction and play value for a range of ages.</p>

SUMMARY

Explorer Park

- This large exposed play space needs some spatial containment, but it is also recommended that some thinning of the existing shrubs is undertaken, or limbing up the vegetation, to provide views through into the play space. Plant some very large trees around it. Add some low level planting for play with narrow pathways and small spaces to explore. Vegetation is preferably placed where it doesn't block views from main sightlines
- If there is no shortage of space consider adding a rocky creek bed/swale for play. This could become a major landscape feature with planting, log bridges, rocky edges and a loose surface. This will take the pressure off the equipment to sustain children during a visit here. Add a footpath at the front of the park.

Bond Park


- Reconsider the play equipment here. Remove the slide and redesign the space. Utilise some alternatives to the local items (eg structures) with some complexity made of timber (the slide could be reused); or some cable climbers, some rotating or bouncing items such as a playground trampoline, or any other well thought out design that provides for a range of ages, amenity, and some play opportunities not available locally
- Add logs, rocks, and incidental landscape elements to encourage children to expand play away from the equipment.





28/08/15

TRARALGON NORTH EAST	
SUMMARY	
<p>The Strand Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider some reconfiguration of this play space to achieve a more optimum results. In particular consider a layer of accessible rubber paths to provide access to the cubbies and other play activities Consider enlarging the fenced area and including some sand, shrub planting and some irrigated lawn within the fence as a counter point to the equipment. 	
<p>Medew Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss this reserve with local residents and establish how it is used Improve landscape through the park Consider some additions to the play space such as a carousel but make sure that the play space always remains as visible as possible from Pepperdine Ct. 	
<p>Christian Rise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the park has adequate attention to the amenity afforded by planting of large shady trees, a good path system, and some seating in sociable positions such as near the courts. 	
<p>'The Rise'</p> <p>As this site will need to provide for any new suburban residential development north of Marshalls Road. The park development needs to provide an interesting landscape, amenity, accessibility, social interaction and play value for a range of ages.</p>	

TRARALGON CENTRAL WEST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
25	Lloyd Park Sunderland Circuit TRARALGON	Local	 <p>The large trees here are a benefit to the amenity of the reserve. The equipment is dull and the site does not offer any other features to extend its play value.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON CENTRAL WEST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
26	Wood Park TRARALGON	Local	  <p>This site is flat and open and exposed. The equipment is dull and the site does not offer any other features to extend its play value.</p>
27	Burge Park Hicks Court TRARALGON	Local	  <p>This park is close to being landlocked. This site is flat and open and exposed. The equipment is dull and the site does not offer any other features to extend its play value.</p>
	Brookes St Reserve		  <p>This is a well located prominent reserve that has some very attractive mature trees. The equipment offers a little more complexity than the other local play spaces to the west and south though they are all in a similar vein. It would be further enhanced by more planting to screen fence lines and more variety in the play opportunities.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON CENTRAL WEST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
28	Hubert Osborne Park Seymour Street TRARALGON		
			<p>This park is part of a large recreation precinct that includes a swimming pool and a bowling club. The play space is quite large and has a reasonable degree of complexity but the equipment doesn't offer a great deal of challenge for older children, and doesn't have a landscape that enhances the play experiences for younger or less able children. There is no path system and no shade.</p>
29	Kay Street Reserve TRARALGON		
			<p>This fitness track is located in a linear reserve along the old Melbourne Road.</p>





28/08/15

TRARALGON CENTRAL WEST

SUMMARY

Lloyd Park, Wood Park and Burge Park

- Consider all three together and make small improvements that create different play experiences from site to site
- Improve the landscape on all three sites and especially with tree planting.

Hubert Osborne Park

- Because of the street layout and the lack of other suitable parks for play, this site has to provide play opportunities for the whole area east of Lafayette St
- Consider some minor redesign of the play space such as adding a path to a central seating area, and from there add some accessible play activities
- Consider adding a hardcourt; and even a junior sand play space with planting, rocks and logs
- Add planting for shade.

Brookes St Reserve

- Add a path, carefully located through the park, linking the to the play space and to seats
- Plant to screen fence lines; and to further enhance the amenity of this space. Consider some feature planting for play such as a wildflower swathe, a picking garden, rocky stepping stones or a planted maze
- Consider adding a large carousel and or a big bird's nest swing and make these accessible.

Kay St Reserve

- This facility could be enhanced by providing a low key children's agility course /obstacle course linking into and through the adult equipment, and adding balancing logs, stepping stones, Burmese bridges, etc. to provide more interest for the whole family.



28/08/15

TRARALGON CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
46	Newman Park TRARALGON	Regional	 <p>This large playground is located centrally in Traralgon, cut off from residential areas but located within a destination park on the creek. It has a massive collection of equipment of all different types. There has been a large expenditure on rubber surfaces but there is little shade or amenity or emphasis on play with loose, natural materials. Some of the activities within the rubber areas are not themselves usable by children in wheelchairs, (such as the truck above, for example).</p>



28/08/15



TRARALGON CENTRAL

SUMMARY

Newman Park

- This park /play space would benefit from the addition of a new layer of planting, furniture and even some changes in level between the existing rubber zones and concrete paths, to tie the spaces all together into a cohesive design and to provide shade, natural elements, better play value, and more amenity
- Observe and consult families living with disability to check how else the space could be improved.

TRARALGON SOUTH WEST

No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
1	Carrington Park Jarrah Ct TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This is a park of high dependence. The provision for play is too basic and the site is not appealing as a park.</p>
	McNulty Drive Reserve TRARALGON		 <p>This space has a good accessible shelter and path system.</p> <p>The setting is unappealing. There is provision for a range of age groups but these are disjointed with no connection or flow between them. They rely on a mechanical idea of play that does not recognise the games children would add of their own, if the space supported and encouraged this kind of play. Single freestanding slides for example do not offer much extended value, and the horizontal ladder would benefit from being connected into a linked obstacle course that encourages groups of children to play socially. Better value could be obtained from this space if the landscape offered more to engage children.</p>





28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH WEST

SUMMARY

There are only two play spaces in this precinct and they are relatively isolated from one another, so their communities are highly dependent upon each space locally.

McNulty Drive Reserve

- Design a new layer of tree planting and other vegetation to enhance the amenity of this whole park
- Re-position some of the equipment such as the horizontal ladder and link it via decks, stepping stones, stepping logs etc. to a balancing /obstacle course amongst planting
- Consider removing this slide and replacing with a structure that includes a slide and provides a wheel chair accessible cubby underneath a higher deck
- Check the height of the chin up bars and consider dropping at least one of them down so more people could use them. Such as children.

Carrington Park

- Plant vegetation around the fence lines to screen properties
- Design a new layout for the park as a whole and include a path, large trees for amenity and some additional play activities. These could be simply some big climbing logs or other natural elements to complement the existing equipment.

Other

- Consider also developing the open space between Bank St and Oak Avenue into an attractive park with magnificent trees and planting, seating and paths, if not a play space.




28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
2	Judd Park Ray Street TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This is a well-placed prominent park at the far west of this precinct. The equipment offers a reasonable range of activities but the site is bland.</p>
3	Hugh Court Park TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This park is tucked away at the end of a court. It is not well placed but as there is no other play space to the east until Duncan Cameron Reserve, it will probably need to remain.</p> <p>The equipment is of little value apart from the swings.</p> <p>The site has little appeal, no effective shade to the equipment, no path system and little social amenity.</p>
4	Duncan Cameron Reserve Francis Street TRARALGON	Local/ District	 <p>This is a large park with an oval, centrally located within the precinct and with a good level of prominence. There are some attractive mature trees near the play space and the equipment provides some slightly different products to complement nearby parks.</p> <p>The play space does not appear to have a path system or much of a social space for seating and gathering.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH CENTRAL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
5	Queens Parade Park TRARALGON		 <p>This play equipment is the same as in Hugh Court park. This small has some good large trees but an unattractive and rundown backdrop. There is a relatively high level of dependence on this park locally so this equipment is inadequate.</p>

SUMMARY

Judd Park

- Plant the site and add some landscape interest.

Hugh Court Park

- Improve the whole park with tree planting, screening to fence lines and natural elements for play. The slide could be removed and replaced with an alternative structure that connects better into the landscape.

Duncan Cameron Reserve

- This play area should be upgraded into a higher level social /meeting and play space with a path, seating and possibly a shade structure or shelter
- The space would benefit from the addition of a challenging piece of moving equipment that older children can use in groups; either rocking spinning or multi directional items
- The area close to trees could be enhanced with some logs for play.

Queens Parade Park

- This park needs to be redesigned with a strong planting palette to screen the boundaries, and create an attractive green presence
- Redesign the play space as a new local play space using landscape elements and some low key equipment for a range of ages. Make sure it is quite different form all others locally.



28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
6	Crisp Park Dowling Street TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This park has two street frontages. The play space is dull and its park could be improved. There is a relatively high dependence on this park as there are no other play spaces south of here until Hourigan Park.</p>
7	Hourigan Park Hunter Road TRARALGON		 <p>This play space is part of a long and valuable linear reserve that passes north south through the middle third of this precinct. There is no path in the northern section of the reserve. The reserve could link right through to the Rec Reserve and showgrounds if a trail were added to the parkland. This would be a valuable walking and riding resource.</p> <p>The playground is poorly located where it is not easy to see from the fronts of any houses. The equipment here would function as a destination for walking and riding along the reserve. The immediate area around the equipment is unattractive and exposed with no trees or apparent seating.</p>
8	Bonnie Vista Reserve Bayley Drive TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This park is relatively isolated in the south of this precinct located between two courts where it is not very prominent and not very accessible to other streets. The space is dull and there is little evidence of use. It would be improved by creating an interesting landscape for both play and amenity here, with residents' involvement.</p>





28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
13	Think Big Reserve Liddiard Road TRARALGON	Local	 <p>This park is the only prominent, large reserve in this south eastern precinct. The equipment is outmoded and insufficient. The reserve has some good sized trees but is otherwise somewhat dull.</p>
12	Macey Park Lyndon Crescent TRARALGON		 <p>This is a good sized park prominently located between two street frontages. The site is flat and dull with unattractive fence lines; there are some good mature trees.</p> <p>There is a reasonably high level of dependence on this park. One of the play structures is very similar to the adjacent Layton Reserve.</p>
	Layton Reserve Between Maguire Ct and Roberts St TRARALGON		 <p>This is a large reserve with some attractive trees.</p>



28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH EAST				
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES	
11	Milligan Park Murphy Crescent TRARALGON			
			This park is very dull open and exposed. It is very close to Coleman Park and the two are fairly similar.	
10	Coleman Park Murphy Crescent TRARALGON			
			This park is very dull open and exposed. It is very close to Milligan Park and the two are fairly similar.	
9	Priestly Park McDonald Court TRARALGON	Local/ District		
			Poorly located with no street frontages-can be seen from only a few houses. The space is flat, open and dull. The space net provides a welcome change from other play equipment found locally. Other equipment is similar to other local parks.	



28/08/15

TRARALGON SOUTH EAST

SUMMARY

Crisp Park

- This play equipment should be removed and replaced with a slightly more complex design, possibly of timber, and a redesign of the park that creates an interesting landscape using climbing logs, large rocks and planting.

Bonnie Vista Reserve

- Create an interesting landscape with large trees and other elements around the whole park, to supplement the equipment.

Hourigan Park

- Consider adding a shared trail right along the reserve from the Recreation Reserve / Showgrounds right down to join up with the trail along Liddiard St in the south
- Plant trees around the play space and add a seating area.

Think Big Reserve

- Remove this equipment and prepare a master plan for this whole park, with the intention of providing a district level social and play space with planting, a quality landscape, paths, shade, an accessible seating area and an accessible play space for a range of age groups designed within a playful landscape
- The play space must be different from all other local play spaces and in particular different from Macey Park

Macey Park

- Add some more exciting equipment here that moves, spins or rocks and accommodates a group of children at once
- Add trees and consider some terrain- a big swale with sand in it for play, or a bumpy bike play area.

Layton Reserve

- Add a path and some accessible activities to utilise the rubber surface
- Plant some additional large trees to provide additional strong visual interest.

Milligan Park

- Add a strong landscape here for play and amenity

Coleman Park

- Add a strong landscape here for play and amenity

Priestly Park

A play space is considered necessary in this southern corner of the precinct east of Liddiard Road, but this site is not the preferred location. Following the relocation of equipment, the park should be planted with good quality trees (see below).

Kevin Lythgo Reserve

- This site is in a more prominent space than Priestly Park and is close to a primary school. It is recommended that a suitable space be found and the play equipment at Priestly Park be relocated here. The new space should be designed with a good, accessible social space that encourages social interaction after school. The play space needs to accommodate children with disabilities, pre-school aged and older children.



28/08/15

TRARALGON EAST			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
15	Robert Farmer Park Ellavale Drive TRARALGON EAST	Local	 
			 <p>A large and attractive parkland reserve that cuts through a corner of the suburb. It passes behind houses but does have a good street frontage to Ellavale Drive.</p> <p>There is a series of paths in various sections but it is not clear whether these link up with each other.</p> <p>The play equipment is a little featureless without any visual complexity.</p>
16	Southdown Way Reserve Ellavale Drive TRARALGON EAST	Local	  <p>There has been some planting on the perimeter of this space but so far no large trees are evident.</p>





28/08/15

TRARALGON EAST

SUMMARY

Robert Farmer Park

- Prepare a quick master plan for the whole reserve; consult residents about their needs; enhance the planting across the whole park
- Add some complexity in the landscape for play and amenity; extend the opportunities for both older and younger children
- Add a social heart to the space. Enhance the accessibility of the whole reserve and play space.

Southdown Way Reserve

- This space needs some landscape treatment that invites children’s hands on participation, such as sand, rocks and logs
- Add some more landscape elements to complement the Robert Farmer Reserve
- Above all plant some large trees.

TRARALGON SOUTH

No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	
17	Ray Symonds Playground Keith Morgan Drive TRARALGON SOUTH	Local	Park not inspected according to Play DMC master inventory.

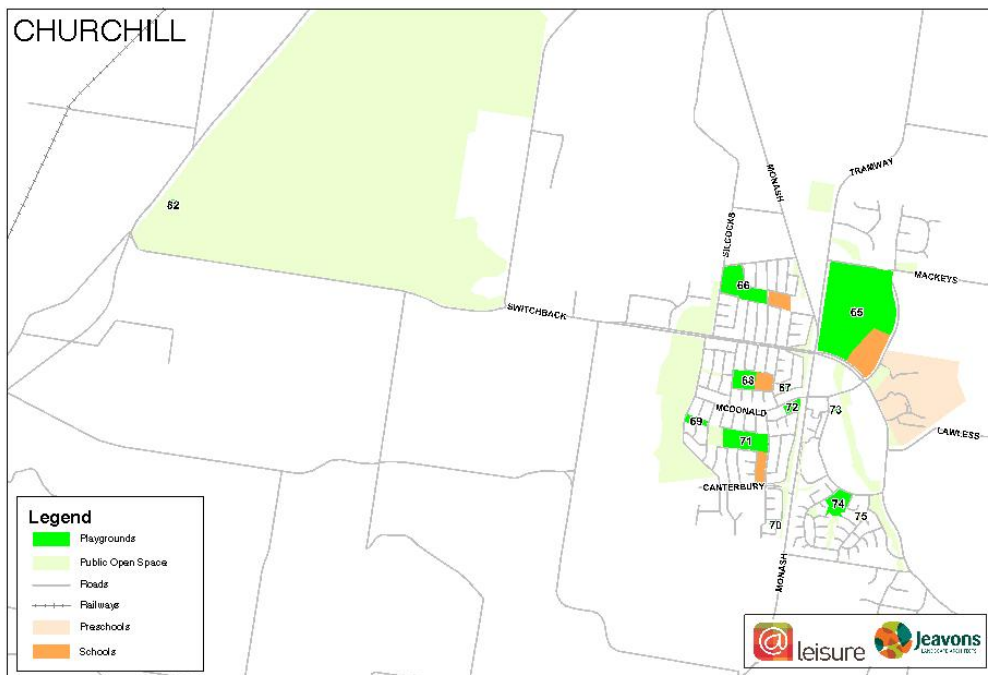




28/08/15

4. Churchill

LATROBE PLAY SPACE STRATEGY - PRECINCTS



Introduction to residential precincts in Churchill

The playgrounds in Churchill are discussed below in groups according to their geographic location. The assumption is that groups of play spaces within a geographic area together provide a package of play and recreation opportunities for local children and families, and these need to be discussed together.

Single parks and play spaces that do not have others within the same local catchment are considered to be *parks of high dependence* and may need to each provide a slightly more diverse range of opportunities because local residents have fewer choices within their residential catchment.

Demographic characteristics in Churchill



At the 2011 census Churchill had 799 children aged under 12 years. This represented around 16% of the total population of the town.

Churchill has a high proportion of children that are developmentally vulnerable, meaning children may be disadvantaged socially, physically, and emotionally. Access to play spaces may have a positive influence on these aspects of development. Churchill has 33.9% of its children vulnerable on one or more domains of the *Australian Early Development Census*. This is a figure behind only Yallourn North (38.1%) in the municipality.





28/08/15

CHURCHILL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
66	Andrews Park West Maple Crescent CHURCHILL	Local	 <p>This is the western end of a large park that serves the northern residential precinct of Churchill. Churchill North Primary School is located at the eastern end of the reserve.</p>
67	White Pde Reserve Fraser Crescent CHURCHILL	Local	 <p>This equipment is quite old and unappealing. Judging by the grass growing under the climbing frame, only the swing is ever in use. The equipment is only approximately 200m from two other reserves.</p>





28/08/15

CHURCHILL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
68	Watsons Park Watson Park Preschool Heesom Crescent CHURCHILL	Local	
			 <p>This large park is well located on a prominent site in the centre of the residential precinct. The park is adjacent to the Churchill Primary School and has a pre-school on site as well. There is a major path close to the play space but it does not appear to enter the play space.</p> <p>The play space does not make the most of its co-location, and is very dull; especially the junior equipment. It does not appear to be in good condition.</p>
69	English Reserve Manning Drive CHURCHILL	Local/ District	 <p>The terrain here with its gentle green slopes and the mature trees with a walkway between combine to make this a very attractive park. The play equipment is dull and repetitive. The play equipment here is not really necessary as Walkley Park is only a few hundred meters away.</p>





28/08/15

CHURCHILL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
70	Reservoir Park Cutler Crescent CHURCHILL	Local	 <p>This park has a beautiful outlook onto the hills around Churchill. It has some very attractive trees close to the playground but the play space is the same as most of the other sites in Churchill- flattish, exposed, open with no tree shade, no seats, no complexity, no landscape details and a very dull selection of equipment.</p>
71	Walkley Park Williams Avenue CHURCHILL	Local	 <p>This is a large reserve, prominently located in the middle of the residential area west of the main street. This play space is a little hard to see from Williams Ave. as it is located on the top of a slope. There are some lovely medium and long distant views from the top.</p> <p>There is no path to the play space from any of the many streets around this reserve. The equipment is slightly more complex than usual but the space around the play area is dismal and exposed.</p>





28/08/15

CHURCHILL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
72	Walker Pde Reserve McDonald Way CHURCHILL	Local	  <p>This is a large prominent corner reserve centrally located in the township. It forms a connection from the west to the shopping centre across the road.</p> <p>Though the reserve in the immediate vicinity of the play space is very dull, there are some interesting trees forming a good backdrop to the park.</p> <p>There are only two items of equipment with no seats shade or amenity. The swing is well used.</p>
73	Churchill Skate Park Reserve 5 Philip Parade CHURCHILL	Local	 <p>The skate park is well located right in the centre of town adjacent to the library and close to the shopping centre. .</p>
74	Glendonald Park Amaroo Drive CHURCHILL	Local Upgrade to District	  <p>This is a large reserve close to the heart of the township and not far from the university campus.</p> <p>The park has good potential and there has been an investment in shade structures, a shelter and some paths. The space is still to open and undefined with no close up detail, big trees for shade or amenity, or any sense of the value of the park as a whole.</p>





28/08/15

CHURCHILL			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
75	Glendonald Park East Churinga Drive CHURCHILL	Local	 <p>This equipment appears to comprise one swing only in a vast open space. This is not worth maintaining on its own.</p>
65	Mathison Park Mackeys Road CHURCHILL NORTH	District	 <p>This is an attractive destination recreation reserve on the side of a fishing lake. It has a play space, a picnic area and fitness equipment and there is a circuit path around the reserve linking back to the township, Kurnai College and Churchill College campus. The space is not currently well maintained. The rural character is attractive with the trees providing shade and framing views of the lake.</p>



28/08/15

CHURCHILL

SUMMARY

Each of the residential precincts in Churchill is well served by large and potentially high quality open space.

There are many attractive aspects to these parks - they are well located and distributed across the township. They are large and have some rolling terrain; many have a good framework of trees and have lovely views. At ground level however, the play spaces are universally uninteresting and lack many features that might be expected in an established township.

An overall deficiency is the general lack of good park layout and design, and attention to general amenity regardless of the details of the play spaces.

A specific problem for the town is the lack of a focal play space that could possibly be located close to the town hall/ library.

There is no invitation for families to use these spaces and there is a general lack of attention to the value of spaces that encourage social interaction (accessible, shaded seating/tables etc.) adjacent to play spaces.

The play spaces do not complement one another as a whole and repeat the same design approach in various forms on most of the reserves.

Overall there are few items of moving equipment, no carousels, no accessible play spaces, few with shade, none with any ground level planting, and few with materials other than small-section steel posts and small decks. None utilise any natural materials and there are no sand pits, rocks or logs for play.

Consider the following strategic suggestions for the town as a whole, aiming to create a much better package for play for all ages:

New civic space play space

Develop a new play space close to the library. This should be fully custom-designed and unique within Churchill. It does not need to be large but should ideally have a higher level of detail in the design and present a more manicured and natural appearance. It must be accessible to people with disabilities and needs to provide quality seating areas. A small water play feature, for example could be ideal.

Andrews Park West

- This park also serves the catchment of a primary school
- The play equipment can be retained but the surroundings need a major refurbishment and attention to paths, accessibility, shade, tree planting and amenity
- Add a carousel and other equipment appealing to older primary school children, such as a large net or flexible climber.

White Pde Reserve

- This play space should be removed and Walker Parade and Watsons Park should be improved to compensate. The park should be retained and used to create a beautiful reserve with some large trees, planted fence-lines and an attractive path circuit.



28/08/15

CHURCHILL

SUMMARY

Watsons Park

- Strategically the role for this park should be as a focal park for the residential areas on the west side of the main Boolarra /Churchill Road. The co-location of the school and the pre-school on this site create an important dynamic for the park and play space, and the play space could provide a valuable meeting place for parents and children
- This play space also needs to compensate for the removal of White Park play space
- The park itself needs a full upgrade; prepare a simple master plan establishing the ideal location for the play space
- Create an appealing space with a new accessible path system and an entirely different style from any other park in Churchill
- Ideally this might involve some timber structures, possibly with a natural character using forked tree logs or similar and possibly nets. The space could include an accessible sand play area and ground level cubby and should provide some purpose designed spaces with rocks and logs etc. to encourage nature exploration, especially for younger age groups
- Trees with interesting forms planted specifically for play such as in circles or double lines would add inexpensive play value.

Walker Pde Reserve

- This play space remains as a small local park
- The site needs a sketch plan to upgrade planting and amenity around the equipment area to celebrate it
- Consider adding a new feature item or two of play equipment that provides exciting movement, accessibility and group activity, and a ring of large trees around it
- Add a path. Aim to make one of the seats on the swing accessible, providing back support and accessible surface.

Mathison Park

- This park should ideally provide a special experience unique to this setting and not duplicate common play equipment available in most towns and parks such as the freestanding slide and single spring toys.

English Reserve

- This is an appealing reserve and should be retained but the play space is not really necessary, as it is so close to Walkley Reserve
- This play equipment is also not of great value here
- However, if residents prefer to keep a play space here, this equipment could be retained if desired, but overall it would be ideal to redesign a special play space that relies more on landscape elements and planting.
-



28/08/15

CHURCHILL

SUMMARY

Reservoir Park

- Retain this site as a local play space, but improve the immediate surroundings
- Remove most of the equipment from here and relocate to other larger sites such as Walkley St Reserve, where there will be less dependence on these single items
- The swing could remain
- Replace the equipment with equipment of a different type from all the others locally, providing for climbing and agility
- Complement this with the planting of some very large trees and add a few landscape elements such as rocks and logs if required
- Consider adding wildflowers in a swathe across the site to create seasonal colour.

Walkley Park

- This reserve is to be treated as the main play space for this precinct with highest concentration of equipment
- The park itself needs to be upgraded to create more amenity, accessibility and the sense of a more detailed focal point around the play space. A simple master plan should be prepared for the park, investigating the best location for the play space, and associated paths, shade trees and links to the pre-school and the nearby school.

Churchill Skate Park Reserve

- Check the amenity and accessibility of the skate facility and maximise any opportunities for shade, seating and wheelchair access to the ramps themselves. Ensure paths connect into the park near the library.

Glendonald Park

- Strategically this park is an important park for the whole eastern side of the town. This park needs a quick master plan to plan out where to place very large trees, screening shrubs to fence lines, and how to enhance the ground level interest here
- Because it has some larger scale play equipment it would be easy to provide some under deck cubbies that are wheelchair accessible via a rubber path
- As the swings here are clearly well used, add at least one double swing frame for older children and dedicate one smaller double frame to younger children/toddlers
- Add another challenging swing such as a large multi-directional swing, or one that both rocks and swings; both must be very carefully located so that toddlers cannot inadvertently run into the swing path.

Glendonald Park East

- Remove this swing and consolidate into the rest of the play space. Check the role of this part of the reserve and consider it in the master planning process
- Link this side of the reserve with a fully accessible path to the main play space and add a sign if required
 - Upgrade the amenity of the street frontage here as well.



28/08/15

5. Small towns

YALLOURN NORTH			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
20	Marshall St Reserve YALLOURN NORTH	Local	
			<p>This play space has a small but reasonable range of activities for a local play space. It is located uncomfortably close to the road leading past the reserve, which is an access track to a water treatment facility. There is no provision for seating. The proximity to the trees is attractive and provides additional potential play value. The pine log equipment will require replacement in the foreseeable future.</p>
21	Low Rd Reserve YALLOURN NORTH	Local	
			<p>This is a potentially appealing, prominent corner reserve and new trees have been planted recently. The play space is focused mainly on junior children and there are too many spring rocker items. Fence lines are exposed and there is no shade over the equipment area or seat.</p>




28/08/15

YALLOURN NORTH			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
22	Anderson Ave Reserve YALLOURN NORTH	Local	 <p>This reserve does have some excellent large trees but the rest of the site is flat, dull and exposed.</p> <p>Apart from some details in the climber the equipment offers little variation from others locally.</p>
23	Rossmore Ave Reserve YALLOURN NORTH		 <p>This is a prominent, sloping reserve with lovely views but the site itself is very dull. There is no shade and are few trees on site. No advantage has been taken of the slope. The equipment is the same as many reserves locally.</p>
24	Lions Park Reserve St YALLOURN NORTH	District	



28/08/15

YALLOURN NORTH			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
			 <p>This is the district play space for Yallourn North, well located near the shop and opposite the sports reserve. The park has a well organised path system to seating and tables/bbq etc. and there is a shade structure over the equipment which is aimed largely at the junior/senior primary ages. There is no tree shade. The path doesn't link into the play space and the play activities are not wheelchair accessible.</p>

SUMMARY

Marshall St Reserve

- When this equipment comes up for replacement, upgrade the park as well as the play space to give it more of an identity.
- Use some shrubs or a hedge or other low feature to provide more separation from the road, and to define an attractive shape that is less linear.
- Explore the understorey of the vegetation for play and consider creating a cubby or log climber or similar to invite exploration of the nature zone.
- Add some seats and ideally a short path that could double up as a hard surfaced play element for wheeled toys.

Low Rd Reserve

- Remove some of the older spring rockers; one new group rocker would be adequate
- Re-organise the remaining space; consider adding a large tree right in the play space for shade and amenity.
- Replace the rocker/s with a carousel or senior climber such as a simple net/cable climbing complex which is inexpensive and doesn't take up too much room.
- Plant fence lines with flowering shrubs.

Anderson Ave Reserve

- Upgrade the park as a whole to improve amenity, play and visual interest.
- Plant fence lines with flowering shrubs.
- Design a seamless path system and lead to a central seating space with a beautiful tree as a focal point.
- Create a landscaped setting for play and complement existing structures with some rocks and logs and planting with narrow paths between them for children to explore.
- Remove the spring rocker as there are many of these locally and replace with an alternative form of movement/bouncing and preferably one that provides for group interaction.



28/08/15

YALLOURN NORTH

SUMMARY

Rossmore Ave Reserve

- Redesign this park utilising the slope for play and visual interest.
- Plant the fence lines with flowering shrubs.
- Create a path to the high side of the slope and create a central seating area with trees placed to provide shade but not block the view.
- Cut into the slope and create a bridge across to the upper deck of a new cubby deck with climbing and a slide
- This could be wheelchair accessible from both above and below if linked to paths
- Retain the cut with a rock clamber with low flat rocks leading down to the mulch; interplant between the rocks with tussocky plants.
- Use landscape elements such as more rocks and logs to create balancing and links.
- Remove the freestanding slide.

Lions Park


As the premium play space this site is worth further investment in accessible play and something for older children.

Consider:

- Adding a wheelchair accessible (possibly rubber) path to a new very large (6m high) swivel swing that would be an excellent addition to this park if there is room.
- Adding a custom designed wheelchair accessible cubby connected to a path.
- Plant effective shade trees as close as possible to the play space, with the aim of removing the shade structures over time.




28/08/15

GLENGARRY			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
18	Apex Park Main St GLENGARRY	District	
SUMMARY			
<p>This is a good sized reserve, prominently located in the town and adjacent to the pre-school. The park has a small half court which caters for all ages. The equipment is oriented more towards younger children. There is a sand pit, though this is not shaded.</p> <p>There are some attractive large trees on the site. As this space has a multiple role in the town and has a high level of dependence, catering for picnics, for families dropping off children at pre-school, and for older children in the town, it would be ideal to give this park a minor refurbish. Prepare a simple plan for an upgrade:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make sure the space is more accessible including to amenities/drink fountain and picnic shelter ▪ A path system through the space would provide some organisation for the space, if done well ▪ Consider adding some large flat boulders to the sand pit edge and some tussock or other planting close by ▪ Consider adding one more challenging moving piece of equipment into the park to provide for all ages but especially older children - such as a carousel, a birds-nest swing or similar. 			



28/08/15

HAZELWOOD			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
82	Hazelwood Pondage Reserve Yinnar Road HAZELWOOD	District	
SUMMARY			
<p>This is a potentially attractive camping reserve on the shores of the lake not far from Churchill. The site is flat and fairly open. Children could spend a fair bit of time in such as space if they camp there for holidays and weekends with their families.</p> <p>Some of the equipment is reasonably old. The space is exposed and doesn't have shade or much visual interest.</p> <p>This kind of site needs to offer a character completely different form playgrounds in townships nearby.</p> <p>It is therefore ideal that when the equipment comes up for replacement, that the whole space is redesigned.</p> <p>It might be desirable to select:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A natural character with some tree house structures and net bridges or similar customised elements ▪ Possibly an adventurous sand play area that will absorb children for a long period of time ▪ A creek setting that links to the lake is another possibility. <p>These designs should be wheelchair accessible to the key spaces.</p>			




28/08/15

TYERS			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
	Tyers Recreation Reserve Tyers Rd TYERS	District	
SUMMARY			
<p>This is a well located town park servicing this small township. It offers shade and amenities and has attractive large trees and a good path system.</p> <p>The equipment is fairly old but offers a good level of complexity.</p> <p>It could benefit from the addition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An adventurous moving item for older children ▪ An accessible play activity ▪ Natural play elements to extend the play and invite exploration, using boulders logs and planting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural shade from trees. 			



28/08/15

TOONGABBIE

No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
19	Toongabbie Town Common Victoria St TOONGABBIE	Local	

SUMMARY



As the main play space for this small township, this park offers a reasonable range of activities for a range of ages. It has a magnificent large tree on one street frontage.

It could be improved by:

- Adding a rubber path linking the footpath to the underdeck areas and making some wheelchair accessible cubby spaces underneath
- Replacing or complementing the single spring toy with a more interesting rocker with multiple seats
- Checking the adequacy and accessibility of any seats in the space
- Planting a non-invasive vine along the fence line to improve the appearance of this edge
- Adding additional planting where possible.



28/08/15

YINNAR			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
78	Alfred Dr Reserve YINNAR	Local	 <p>This park serves the southern residential area of the town. It has a relatively high level of dependence on this play space.</p> <p>The space is large flat and open and very unappealing. There are no trees near the equipment and the space looks neglected. The equipment provides some variation from the standard equipment but has some items that deliver low play value such as the single slide and the single spring toys.</p>
79	CWA Jubilee Park/Yinnar Skate Park Main St YINNAR	District	 <p>This park does provide some seats and has a good backdrop of trees but it lacks a good focal point for groups to gather and watch the skating. There is no path into the space.</p>



28/08/15

YINNAR			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
80	Charles Bond Park Wicks Street YINNAR	Local	 <p>This park is centrally located in residential area of the town. It is a potentially attractive reserve and new trees have been planted. There are some very large good trees on the reserve but the seating and play equipment is disconnected from these so there is no shade at all over the play space.</p> <p>There is a path that provides a good link between two streets.</p> <p>The 'skale' swing is a welcome addition to the suite of local equipment.</p> <p>The play space is rather flat and dull and doesn't take advantage of the area under the trees.</p>
81	Yinnar Centenary Park Main Street YINNAR	Local	 <p>This is the destination park for this township. It looks well looked after and provides shade, seating and a barbecue.</p> <p>The play space offers the only carousel yet seen in the municipality. The climbing unit with slide is not interesting or complex enough for this space. There does not appear to be any wheelchair accessible play activity.</p> <p>The space doesn't take advantage of the raised area behind the equipment.</p>



28/08/15

YINNAR

SUMMARY

Alfred Dr Reserve

- Focus on the amenity of the reserve above all
- Prepare a quick master plan for the whole park and aim to create an amenable welcoming outdoors environment with some very big trees to enclose the space, seating and a path, vegetation and natural elements for play, and aim to create a greater sense of adventure
- Consider adding a low key dirt bumpy bike track here and engage local children in its design
- The freestanding slide could eventually be removed as could some of the spring rockers. These could possibly be replaced with two 'spica' type spinning poles. A strong landscape feature such as a rocky swale with sand or gravel, log bridges and a low cubby deck or similar would add more potential for open-ended play here.

CWA Park/Yinnar Skate Park

- This site could benefit from some attention to the surroundings. Involve local youth in a simple design for a social space where skaters and other can watch from an accessible, amenable seating area. As skate parks can provide a valuable resource for play for people in wheelchairs to use, (especially children and young people) it would be ideal if a seamless path connected the concrete ramps etc. to the footpath.

Charles Bond Park

- Plant a half circle of magnificent trees curving around the south west corner of the park to contain the space
- Add some sculptural or natural play features under the trees (stepping logs; a low deck around a tree; low carved animal sculptures etc.) to extend the play. Link these to the existing climber to extend the play
- Add some low planting for play around the climber to provide some play materials for use in the cubby.

Yinnar Centenary Park

- Refurbish this space as the destination play space for Yinnar
- Prepare a sketch master plan for the whole park to ensure that the whole space is designed to maximise the play and social opportunities of the park
- Consider removing the climbing unit and replace with a more interesting and complex structure that could be customised. Ideally it should be durable timber; offering ground level play that could offer wheelchair accessible cubby spaces; climbing in various means, and sliding for more than one age group
- Consider adding some more detailed planting as a feature in this park
- Consider adding a path and a play element such as a deck or cubby on the higher level of the raised grassed podium in the park and add a net bridge to link across to the new cubby structure
- Retain the carousel and a double junior swing and add a senior double swing as well, preferably one offering more challenge.



28/08/15

BOOLARRA			
No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
76	Limonite Rd Playground Limonite/ Boolarra Rd BOOLARRA	Local	 <p>This is an attractive reserve but the equipment and the space itself lacks detail for play, and also lack shade trees and ground level interest. The 'skale' swing and the slide are identical to the Railway Reserve play space.</p>
77	Boolarra Railway Park Railway Pde BOOLARRA	Local	 <p>This is a very attractive town park in a focal reserve opposite the shops. The park provides shade seats, attractive mature trees and manicured grass. The play equipment is low key but offers a reasonable range of activities; it is enhanced by the attractive space.</p> <p>The slide and the 'skale' swing are both the same as on the Limonite Road park site. This is not ideal in a small town like Boolarra where the parks need to each provide entirely different activities.</p>



28/08/15

BOOLARRA

SUMMARY

Boolarra Railway Park

As the equipment here is somewhat ageing, and is the same as the other play space in town, it is recommended that the 'skale' swing be removed from here and the play space upgraded by the addition of:

- A nature zone such as a dry creek bed, cubby, and plantings
- Large birds nest swing
- Carousel
- Rubber wheelable surface into the access area for the birds nest swing and cubby, and if possible to the other items to maximise their accessibility
 - If funds and space allow, a large climbing net.

Limonite Rd Playground

Retain the equipment but focus on enhancing the landscape for play. Utilise planting rocks and logs to create a more complex environment. Plant some beautiful large exotic trees in a circle around the equipment to complement others nearby. Consider adding wildflowers in a swathe across the site to create seasonal colour.

FLYNN

No.	RESERVE / ADDRESS	CLASS	NOTES
	Flynn Recreation Reserve Grahams Road FLYNN	Local	

SUMMARY

This play space has an attractive rural character and is set into the vegetation which provides good shade. The equipment offers a reasonable range of activities. If the space is well used this character could be enhanced by using landscape elements to encourage further exploration of the environment- some stepping stone paths leading into some under-tree spaces, and some large logs to clamber on.



19/05/15

Table 10: Proposed core service levels for access

Catchment	Car parking immediately adjacent	Accessible car space	Bicycle parking	Accessible path into park and to social area/ seating/ shade/ equipment ³	Formed/ sealed path linking all elements	Accessible path of travel to car park	Site served by shared trail	Park perimeter path	Accessible path linking play elements ⁴	Accessible play ⁵ equipment
Local	x	x	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	o	o
District	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o
Regional	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 11: Proposed core service levels site and associated infrastructure

	Centrally located park, overlooked by house frontages	Park with other social, environmental and sporting elements	Min park size 1ha	Located on prominent site/ main road	Seating	Play Equipment	Drinking water	Lighting	Fence	Built shade / shelter	Toilet	Tree shade & soft landscape
Local	✓	Min. Social and environmental	✓	o	✓	✓	x	o	o	x	x	✓
District	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	o	✓
Regional	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	✓	✓	✓

Table 12: Proposed core service levels site and associated infrastructure

	BBQ	Tables	Bins	Public art	Park name signs	Interp'tn signs	Synthetic softfall	Synthetic surface under swings	LEGEND
Local	x	o	o	o	✓	o	x	o	✓ = yes
District	o	✓	✓	o	May be on a structure or In-ground paving etc.	o	o	✓	x = no
Regional	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	o	o	✓	o = optional

³ Accessibility Level. Can get to at least a social area with mobility devise or along a path – i.e. picnic, hub, around the equipment etc.

⁴ Accessibility Level. Can get to social area, and there is an accessible path that moves around the space to equipment, activities etc.

⁵ Accessibility Level. Some equipment suitable for people with ambulatory impairments/ have mobility devise e.g. sand play table, hammock swing, arm operated swing / bucket swing with back support / straps, ramped equipment or accessible path of travel to facility with right height e.g. with shop/ steering wheel, cubby under etc.

Method	Timeframes	Target Groups	Purpose	Responsibility	Source/notes	Type of consultation (IAP2)
Email key community groups and other stakeholders	15 September 2015	Groups with a specific interest in children and play. For example: playgroups, kinders, school groups, carers	Provide contacts with opportunities to be involved, identify needs and issues, recommended improvements, and provide more detailed usage data. Notify them that community workshops and a telephone interview will be conducted.	Council to email/post information to identified stakeholders advising them about the Play Space Strategy.	Letters/emails to be sent out on day 1 of the public exhibition period.	Inform
Media / web release for Council distribution	September 2015	The general community, particularly those with an interest in children and play.	Attract interest to drive people to the website and surveys. To promote and provide information about the project and seek involvement and specific information	Council to distribute	Newspaper, radio, Latrobe City website and Facebook Page	Inform
Project poster for Council distribution	September 2015			Council to distribute	Leisure facilities, kindergartens, childcare centres, community centres	Inform

Launch project web page and comment feedback form/survey	15 September – 13 November 2015	The community, particularly those with an interest in children and play.	One-stop-shop for project information, comments and link to the surveys. Seek information from stakeholders and the community about preference, priorities, gaps and issues	Both Council and @leisure to build website. @leisure to do collation and analysis	Latrobe City Website with banner and link to survey	Inform and consult
Conduct telephone interviews	15 September – 13 November 2015	Telephone interview key community groups and other stakeholders, including local playgroups and childcare centres, reserve committees of management and State government agencies	Detailed information from stakeholders to identify needs and priorities. Reaching out to community members that may not access the online surveys.	@leisure to deliver all elements	@leisure to conduct all calls basing conversation on survey questions available online	Inform, consult and involve
One on One meetings	15 September – 13 November 2015	Community/ residents, and user groups/ stakeholders	Provide opportunity for individuals to meet directly with Council officers to discuss any components of the strategy	Council officers responsibility	Offer this option in all correspondence and marketing material	Inform, consult and involve

Evaluation	@Leisure will collate all information collected throughout the engagement period and working in collaboration with Council officers, will use this information to inform the final strategy and develop a new play space implementation plan.
Reporting	When the play space strategy is finalised and the implementation plan developed, the strategy will be put up to Council for endorsement.

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)****15.3 TARWIN STREET PROJECT PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURE****General Manager****Community Infrastructure &
Recreation****For Decision****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to begin the process of temporarily closing the northbound lane of Tarwin Street, Morwell, between the intersection of Commercial Road and the median break, as part of the VicHealth funded community activation of Tarwin Street.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Latrobe City Council has previously submitted a funding application through VicHealth's Community Activation Program, to transform and activate a community space for physical activity. Council's Recreation and Open Space team, in conjunction with the Healthy Communities team, identified Tarwin Street as an appropriate location for such an initiative and were successful in receiving \$50,000 funding for this project.

The project involves closing off the northbound lane of Tarwin Street to vehicular traffic from the median break to the Commercial Road intersection; a distance of approximately 30 metres. To facilitate this, Council needs to exercise its power under clause 10 of Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, which allows Council to place obstructions or barriers on a road temporarily.

Before exercising this power, Council needs to consider any submissions from VicRoads and the public in relation to the matter. It is recommended that Council begin this process to ensure this project can be implemented within VicHealth's timeframes and funding conditions.

RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

- 1. Publish a Public Notice in the Latrobe Valley Express on 8 October 2015, advising the community that it intends to close the northbound lane of Tarwin Street, Morwell, at the median break to prevent traffic from exiting to Commercial Road, and of their rights to make a submission under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*;**
- 2. Write to VicRoads to notify them of Council's intention to close Tarwin Street, and to invite their feedback on the matter;**
- 3. Consider any submissions received in relation to the proposed closure of Tarwin Street as part of a final decision on the closure of Tarwin Street at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on Monday 16 November 2015.**

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared a conflict of interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

This report is consistent with Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley and the Latrobe City Council Plan 2013-2017.

Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe Valley

Strategic Objectives – Built Environment

In 2026 Latrobe Valley benefits from a well-planned built environment that is complementary to its surroundings, and which provides for a connected and inclusive community

Latrobe City Council Plan 2013 - 2017

Theme and Objectives

Theme 5: Planning for the future

To provide a well-planned, connected and liveable community

BACKGROUND

VicHealth's Community Activation Program aims to create and activate places within local communities that increase access and opportunities for physical activity and social connection. Latrobe City Council submitted a funding application in April this year to transform Tarwin Street, Morwell, under this program. Tarwin Street was chosen due to its central location, high pedestrian activity, and its existing central island that is not currently utilised to its full extent.

VicHealth notified Latrobe City Council that they were successful in attracting \$50,000 with this application in late May. The program will fund the costs of closing the road and transforming the space into a vibrant, safe and accessible place that enables and inspires social and physical activity. The funding will also cover a project officer to oversee and coordinate the space, and all activities that happen within the space.

Furthermore, following the announcement of the \$50,000 VicHealth funding, Latrobe City Council was also advised it would be funded an additional \$80,000 for the delivery of a range of arts activities by the following key arts groups:

- The Australian Ballet
- Circus Oz
- Melbourne Arts Centre

In order to facilitate the successful delivery of this project, the northbound lane of Tarwin Street between the median break and Commercial Road will need to be closed for the duration of the project.

KEY POINTS/ISSUES

The location of the proposed closure of Tarwin Street is shown below in the shaded area:



Figure 1: Location of Proposed Road Closure

This location on Tarwin Street is considered to be ideal for this proposal for a number of reasons, including:

- High pedestrian activity, central location in close proximity to cafes and other retail, and its existing central island, shade and seating;
- The existing ban on eastbound vehicles entering Tarwin Street means that it is not the main north-south access to the Morwell Activity Centre. Therefore the closure will not have an impact on vehicle accessibility as both controlled intersections of Hazelwood Road and Chapel Street are more suitable for north-south access. Furthermore, the median break at the closure will allow northbound vehicles to turn around;
- As per Rule 73 of the *Road Safety Road Rules 2009*, pedestrians have right-of-way over vehicles turning into Tarwin Street from Commercial Road. However, this is poorly understood, and the project will make this pedestrian priority clearer to all road users on the southbound lane of Tarwin Street, and give pedestrians priority by closing off the northbound lane.

In addition, there is evidence to show that improving pedestrian amenity increases economic activity. The '*Good for Busine\$\$*' discussion paper commissioned by the Heart Foundation in 2011 examined the benefits of making streets more walking and cycling friendly. It has found that streets

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

made attractive for pedestrians result in them spending more time and therefore more money per visit.

While the closure of Tarwin Street will result in the loss of four parking spaces, it is considered that, based on the information above, overall it will have a positive impact on accessibility and the retail trade in the Morwell Activity Centre.

Section 207 of the *Local Government Act 1989* describes the powers that Council has over traffic, stating:

*“Subject to the **Road Safety Act 1986** and any regulations made under that Act, but without limiting any other powers of a Council as a road authority, the powers include the specific traffic management powers set out in Schedule 11.”*

The following clause under Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989* that specifically relates to the closure of Tarwin Street for this project states:

10. Power to place obstructions or barriers on a road temporarily

- (1) A Council may block or restrict the passage or access of vehicles on a road by placing and maintaining any temporary barrier or other obstruction on the road—
 - (c) for a genuine traffic diversion experiment.
- (2) A Council must not exercise this power given to it under subclause (1)(c) unless it has considered a report from the Roads Corporation concerning the exercise of the power.

In addition, Section 207A of the *Local Government Act 1989* details the ability for people to make submissions under section 223 (right to make submission), stating:

“A person may make a submission under section 223 on the proposed exercise of any power under—
(b) clauses 9, 10(1)(c), 11 and 12 of Schedule 11”

Summarising the above sections, schedules and clauses, Council needs to do the following under the *Local Government Act 1989* to close Tarwin Street for this project:

- Publish a Public Notice that advises members of the public of the intention to temporarily close this northbound section of Tarwin Street, and that they have the right to make a submission in regards to the proposal for at least 28 days, as per section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*;
- Notify VicRoads of this intention and consider any report from them in regard to this.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA 05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)

In order to successfully implement this project in line with VicHealth's funding conditions and timeframes, it is recommended that Council commence this process of closing Tarwin Street.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management framework.

Should Council not wish to pursue the closing of Tarwin Street, the \$50,000 funding received for the project, and the further \$80,000 for the delivery of key arts programs, will need to be returned to VicHealth.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

The entire Tarwin Street Project is to be funded under VicHealth's Community Activation Program, including funding for a Project Officer to oversee the transformation. As such, there are no financial and resource implications for Council.

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Apart from the statutory consultation requirements under Sections 207 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, which will require the Public Notice and notification to VicRoads, a variety of consultation with stakeholders has either occurred or is planned as part of the Tarwin Street Project, including:

- Council Officers have personally visited individual businesses that will be directly impacted by the Tarwin Street Project and road closure, with traders showing excitement and giving positive feedback regarding the proposal;
- Council Officers have held individual meetings with the following groups and organisations, all of which have advocated their support for the Tarwin Street Project:
 - Traders Group
 - Advance Morwell
 - Future Morwell
 - ReActivate Latrobe Valley
 - 50-Mile Market

Upon approval to commence the process to close Tarwin Street, further consultation with the above groups and the general community will be undertaken, encouraging them to make a submission under Section 223 to be considered as part of the final decision to close the road at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 16 November 2015. Council Officers will also set up a stall at the 50-Mile Market during this time to engage with the community.

OPTIONS

Council has the following options in relation to the proposed closure of Tarwin Street, Morwell:

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

1. Begin the statutory process to consider closing the northbound lane of Tarwin Street north of the median break; or
2. Do not support the proposed closure of Tarwin Street.

CONCLUSION

Council has received \$50,000 funding through VicHealth's Community Activation Program to close a section of Tarwin Street and transform the space into a vibrant, safe and accessible place that enables and inspires social and physical activity. To enable this to occur, Council is required to exercise its power under clause 10 of Schedule 11 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, which allows Council to place obstructions or barriers on a road temporarily.

In addition to VicHealth's aims of the project, there is strong evidence to suggest that making streets more pedestrian friendly increases the time that people stay in an activity centre, and increases their spend while they are there. This, as well as the existing traffic and environmental conditions of Tarwin Street, makes it an ideal location for such a project, and the funding provided by VicHealth means it is a great opportunity for Council to undertake and deliver an initiative that has the potential to deliver a range of positive outcomes for the community.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Nil

Attachments

1. Heart Foundation's 'Good for Busine\$\$'

15.3

Tarwin Street Project Proposed Road Closure

- 1 Heart Foundation's 'Good for Busine\$\$'..... 379**



Good for Busine\$\$

The benefits of making streets more walking and cycling friendly

Discussion paper



Introduction

The Heart Foundation has commissioned a discussion paper that explores the economic benefits of making streets more walking and cycling friendly.

Background

Physical inactivity is a significant risk factor for cardiovascular disease and other chronic diseases, such as type 2 diabetes and some cancers.

The growing prevalence of physical inactivity in Australia, along with the alarming rise in the number of South Australians who are overweight or obese, is putting an enormous strain on the health system.

Walking is an activity that will not just benefit the health system. Increasing walking will also provide gains in relation to economic vitality, climate change, traffic congestion, social cohesion and community safety.

The I Heart Foundation works towards creating an environment that encourages people to walk more often. The I Heart Foundation SA is asking all state and local government departments to consider walking first when developing policies, strategies, guidelines, projects, programs, planning and events.

We are working to raise the profile of walking, to initiate discussions and debate, and to put walking onto the agenda of a broad range of departments.

A potential barrier identified in 2010 was around retailer perceptions that creating pedestrian and cycle friendly streets would negatively impact on the retail sales of the traders located on those streets. Retailers and trading associations had opposed reducing traffic speeds in high pedestrian areas and had called for more car parking near local shops.

As a result of identifying this barrier to creating walking and cycling friendly environments the I Heart Foundation commissioned Dr Rodney Tolley, the Director of Walk21, to develop an independent discussion paper that explored the benefits to retailers, residents and councils. In particular it looked at case studies from around the world that show the increased business and vitality that catering for pedestrians provides. The discussion paper concludes that there needs to be collaborative support from government, private and business sectors for walking and cycling friendly environments.

The *Good for Busine\$\$* discussion paper was released on **22nd November 2011**.

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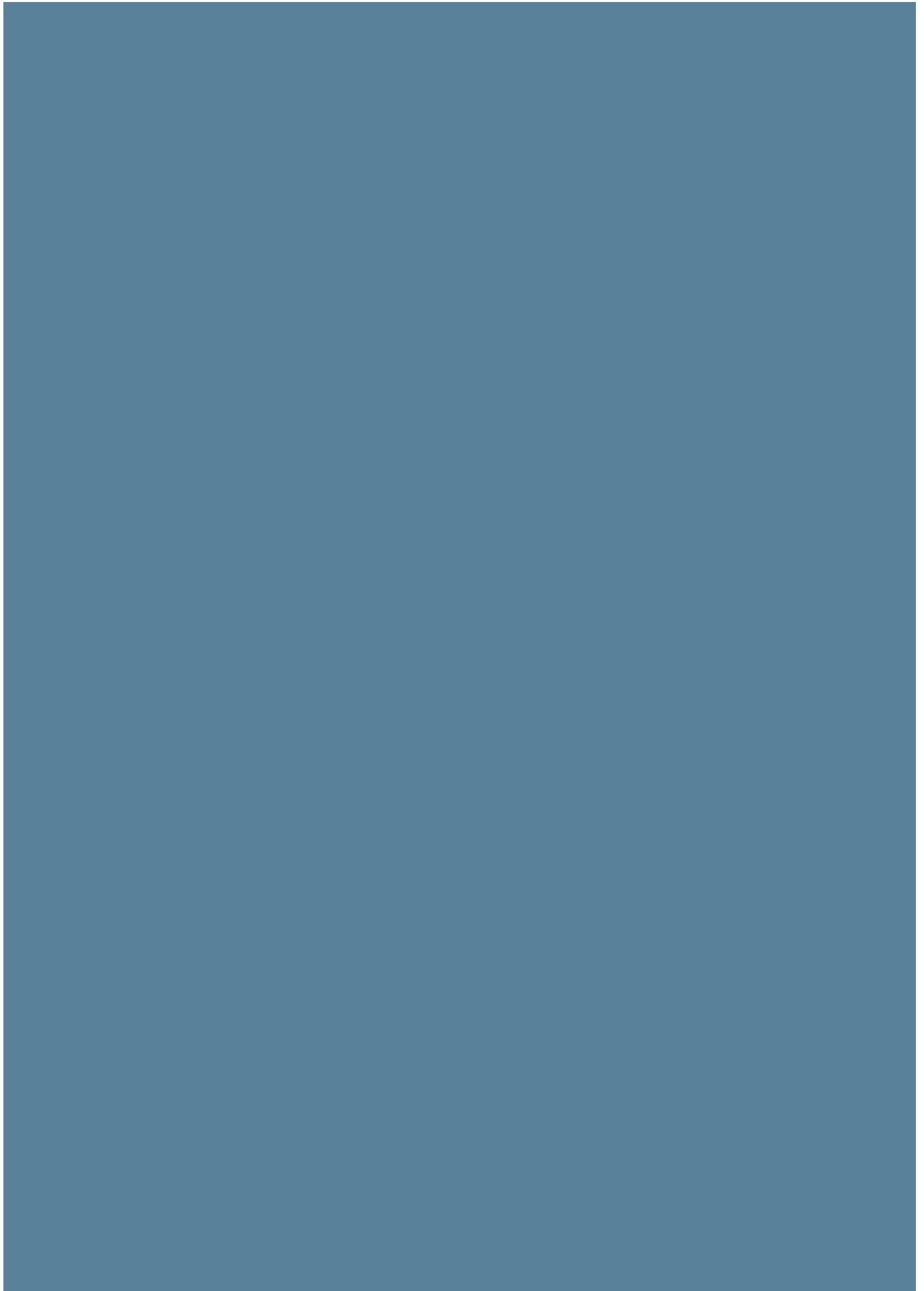
Discussion paper

Good for Busine\$\$

The benefits of making streets more walking and cycling friendly

Written by Dr Rodney Tolley

Commissioned by Heart Foundation South Australia





Contents

7	Executive summary
8	Introduction
10	Better streets
14	The economic benefits of walking and cycling friendly environments
24	Costs and benefits of investing in walking and cycling
26	Conclusions
28	References



Executive summary

Good for Busine\$\$ is a discussion paper for built environment professionals and business people to show the positive financial benefits of making streets more walking and cycling friendly.

This report asserts that a well-designed, quality street environment that promotes walking, cycling and public transport is good for business.

*"... it would be advantageous to local businesses to support measures aimed at attracting more pedestrians and bus passengers to the local shopping centre rather than car users ... wider pavements (sidewalks) and traffic restraint measures should result in attracting more regular, dedicated custom to the area and have a positive impact on retailers and customers alike."*¹

The Heart Foundation (SA) commissioned this discussion paper to bring together the evidence around the financial benefits to retailers and residents in making commercial streets more walking and cycling friendly.

Walking and cycling to local shops is good for business and good for the local economy and is essential to the success of revitalisation strategies.

Streetscape enhancements add value to an area and are associated with higher rents and the attraction of new businesses. In addition there is good evidence to show that improving walking and cycling environments raises private property values by significant amounts.

This report has shown that:

- A high proportion of all retail expenditure comes from local residents and workers.
- Space allocated to bicycle parking can produce much higher levels of retail spend than the same space devoted to car parking.
- Many car-borne shoppers are "drive-through" shoppers, stopping to pick up one item on the way to their eventual destination, rather than people for whom shopping is their main purpose for visiting the area.
- It is difficult to estimate the value of non-drive-in spend for main streets. However, it is always bigger than we think.
- Retail vitality would be best served by traffic restraint, public transport improvements, and a range of measures to improve the walking and cycling environment.

The Heart Foundation is calling on Local Governments, built environment professionals, planners, private developers, retailers and businesses to support better environments for walking and cycling. This will require:

- Measures to reduce speed.
- Reallocation of road spaces.
- Widening footpaths and providing cycle and bus lanes.
- Using local knowledge to determine what the problems are and devise solutions.
- Improving public transport.
- Greening the street and making it more attractive with landscaping and street furniture.
- Investing in maps, street signs and wayfinding.

As this report and the case studies have shown, making streets more walking and cycling friendly will:

- Increase retail rental values.
- Increase sale prices of nearby homes.
- Significantly increase pedestrian and cyclist activity.
- Generate more business and stimulate the local economy.
- Revitalise 'drive-through' districts into lively places that people want to visit.
- Encourage people to spend time outside of their homes.
- Reduce noise levels.
- Create attractive and popular places for Adelaide and South Australia.

High quality walking and cycling environments around shops, neighbourhood activity centres and mainstreets are vital for the economic health of South Australia.

Introduction

Improvements in the walking and cycling environment have the potential to increase the value of residential and retail properties.

The Heart Foundation supports built environments that promote active living. People who are not physically active are more likely to have risk factors for cardiovascular disease and other chronic diseases. Encouraging all South Australians to incorporate physical activity such as walking and cycling into their daily lives is associated with a wide range of health, social, economic and environmental benefits. The Heart Foundation works to increase opportunities for all South Australians to walk and cycle for recreation, transport or health.



The *30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide*² encourages new development on existing urban land and the establishment of development around existing transport hubs that are walkable, connected and mixed use (residential and commercial together). These types of developments require that built environment professionals and developers consider the role of streetscapes as not solely the domain of cars but also spaces for pedestrians and cyclists. Additionally our streets will increasingly become important as public spaces for social and commercial interaction.

The Heart Foundation has investigated the barriers to walking and cycling and found they are numerous, including actual and perceived safety. In Australia we are highly dependent on the motor vehicle, have segregated land use, disconnected streets, low residential density and limited public transport and local employment.³ Our investigations have concluded that walking can be increased through a mixture of interventions and planning that focus on mixed use developments, street connectivity, neighbourhood aesthetics, as well as micro-level changes such as street lighting, shade trees, footpaths and street crossings.⁴

Creating a more walking and cycling friendly environment in established neighbourhoods and streets presents additional challenges. Retrofitting and rejuvenating are terms that relate to the redesign or upgrade of existing neighbourhoods to enhance their capacity for active living. One of the barriers to this type of development is the formidable public and private sector costs.⁴

But there are additional benefits of well-designed, quality streets beyond the increased levels of physical activity. Benefits range from long term health benefits to direct, measurable financial benefits. Evidence shows that replacing short distance car trips with walking and cycling can have a significant impact on the environment; considering that 40% of all private car trips made in Australia are less than 3km.⁵ Improvements in the walking and cycling environment have the potential to increase the economic value and activity in the local area, as reflected in the sale price of residential properties and the rental price of retail properties.



The Heart Foundation commissioned Dr Rodney Tolley to research this discussion paper. The aim was to review case studies and ascertain the financial benefits for shop owners and residents of improving the street environment - with a specific focus on the 'Healthy by Design' considerations. Shop owners and residents have an interest in the changes that local government make to the transport infrastructure and streetscape in the vicinity of their shops as such changes can make a significant positive or negative impact.⁷ 'Streets' in this report refer to the typical shopping strip and town centres of Australia or the high street of the UK. These streets may include shops and cafes, as well as non-commercial community facilities such as libraries, community centres and churches, and private residences.

This report seeks to:

- Summarise the current national and international literature relating to retail and economic value and activity of improvements to streets. This includes peer reviewed papers, existing literature reviews and grey literature.
- Compile relevant case studies from Australia and overseas.

Better streets

Shopping streets that hinder pedestrians and cyclists along with poor public transport risk losing business, productivity and employees.

In many cities and towns around the world an urban renaissance is under way, creating pedestrian-friendly urban areas by enhancing their quality and environment and, in turn, improving their amenity, viability and vitality. The creation of safe and attractive walking and cycling environments in towns and cities is a necessary condition for success and is central to improving them for shoppers, visitors, workers and residents alike. In other words, quite apart from pro-walking and pro-cycling arguments based on sustainability, the environment, health, community cohesion or social inclusion, there is a strong business case for improving walking and cycling conditions.

As the UK report *Making the Case for investment in the walking and cycling environment*⁸ shows, interventions to improve the walking and cycling environment are successful in:

- Significantly increasing pedestrian activity (footfall).
- Improving safety: leading to fewer road casualties, injuries to pedestrians and traffic collisions.
- Reducing vehicle speeds.
- Delivering social benefits: these interventions increase opportunities for social interaction which can facilitate the development of social capital. They can also lead to higher numbers of people taking part in outdoor activities and spending time outside their homes.
- Delivering economic value: the schemes have increased the sale prices of nearby homes and increased retail rents.
- Encouraging more physical activity: this is particularly noticeable in, for example, increases in the proportion of children walking to school.
- Reducing noise levels.
- Reducing the number and distance of car trips, implying a modal shift away from the car to walking.
- Providing attractive and popular places: the public are positive about investments in the walking environment, and the schemes usually have the support of visitors and residents. People tend to report that investments in the walking environment lead to more attractive and safe places.

Interventions to improve the walking and cycling environment currently being implemented internationally include:

- Safe routes to schools
- Speed reduction
- Public realm improvements
- Mixed priority routes
- Shared use paths
- Reallocation of space
- Shared space
- Mixed measures

Transport 2000⁹ has argued that we can turn mainstreets into places for people by:

- Reducing traffic speeds and traffic danger. Slower speeds are essential if road casualties are to be reduced and pedestrians and cyclists are to feel safe. Encouraging drivers to slow down requires traffic calming measures such as narrowed carriageways or raised tables.
- Widening footpaths and providing cycle lanes. Wider footpaths create a safer pedestrian environment and allow people to shop comfortably and to socialise. They also open up space for seating and tree planting. Cycle lanes can help give cyclists equal priority as cars and make cycling safer.
- Using local knowledge to find out what the problems are and what the solutions might be. Local communities and businesses need to be fully involved in street improvements. An approach is needed that ensures solutions are community-led and are not imposed on local people by well-intentioned professionals.



- Improving public transport so people are encouraged to use buses instead of cars. More frequent services, improved bus stops with lowered kerbs for those with impaired mobility, and well designed shelters with seating would make public transport more accessible.
- Greening the street and making it more attractive. Trees, grass verges, street furniture and art help to create streets that are sociable places where people enjoy spending their time. Trees and street furniture help create space in which the car is no longer dominant and drivers get the message that they are driving through a place for people, not just vehicles.
- Reducing the amount of traffic. Travel plans with schools and commuter plans with employers can help reduce the actual volume of traffic and reduce pollution and noise at the same time.

Complete Streets

The 'main street into people place' approach has been championed in North America recently under the banner of 'Complete Streets':

"Complete Streets are streets for everyone. They are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists, and public transportation users of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a Complete Street. Complete Streets make it easy to cross the street, walk to shops, and bicycle to work. They allow buses to run on time and make it safe for people to walk to and from train stations."

What do Complete Streets policies do?

"Creating Complete Streets means transportation agencies must change their approach to community roads. By adopting a Complete Streets policy, communities direct their transportation planners and engineers to routinely design and operate the entire right of way to enable safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation."

Source: <http://www.completestreets.org>

Case study 1

Valencia Street, Mission District, San Francisco

Traffic lanes in this street were slimmed to slow down cars and accommodate other users. Merchants reported that street changes enhanced the area. Nearly 40 per cent of merchants reported increased sales, and 60 per cent reported more area residents shopping locally due to reduced travel time and convenience. Overall, two-thirds of respondents described how the increased levels of pedestrian and cycling activity and other street changes improved business and sales. A network of complete streets appears to be more safe and appealing to residents and visitors, which is also good for retail and commercial development.

Source: <http://www.completestreets.org>

Case study 2

Barracks Row, Washington DC¹⁰

Street design that is inclusive of all modes of transportation, where appropriate, not only improves conditions for existing businesses, but also is a proven method for revitalising an area and attracting new development. Washington DC's Barracks Row was experiencing a steady decline of commercial activity due to uninviting sidewalks, lack of streetlights, and speeding traffic. After many design improvements, which included new patterned sidewalks, more efficient public parking, and new traffic signals, Barrack's Row attracted 44 new businesses and 200 new jobs.

Economic activity on this three-quarter mile strip (measured by sales, employees, and number of pedestrians) has more than tripled since the inception of the project.



Before



After

Photo Credit: <http://www.completestreets.org>

Case study 3

Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC, USA¹¹

In 1999, a group of more than 500 citizens and other stakeholders mobilised in Raleigh, North Carolina, around Hillsborough Street, the N.C. State University "town/gown" connector, which was then listed as the state's most dangerous street for pedestrians. At that time, the street was run down and home to a few businesses that appeared to be hanging on by a thread. Through a design-driven consultation, the community learned how street making is integral to their development. By the time the first major phase of the street remake was finished in October 2010, four roundabouts had been installed, a road diet (reduced space for motorised traffic) was in place, and streetscape improvements included new medians, more parking, wider sidewalks, and ample crosswalks.

Today, the street is complete and alive. More than \$200 million in new mixed-use development investments are coming to the street, traffic is flowing well, and students and motorists are safer and more comfortable. A hearty business environment is in place and growing. Even Raleigh's own city councillors have been amazed at how the complete streets movement has affected the entire social and political process. These leaders consider themselves well versed in how transportation investments can be leveraged to build a sustainable future and more enjoyable present for the community.

In the same paper, Burden and Litman¹¹ comment:

"The community can benefit from investments that improve walking, cycling, and public transit. Such projects, when combined with new land use patterns, support local economies by leveraging public investments and often include a revival in retail activity, private investment, social capital, and tourism. Investments typically increase retail sales by an average of 30 percent and land value from 70 to 300 percent."



Photo Credit: <http://www.hillsboroughstreet.org>

Case study 4

Pavements to parks, San Francisco

Background

San Francisco's streets and public rights-of-way make up fully 25% of the city's land area, more space than is found in all of the city's parks. Many of the streets are excessively wide and contain large zones of wasted space, especially at intersections. San Francisco's "Pavement to Parks" projects seek to temporarily reclaim these unused swaths and quickly and inexpensively turn them into new public plazas and parks. During the temporary closure, the success of these plazas is evaluated to understand what adjustments need to be made in the short term, and ultimately, whether the temporary closure should be a long term community investment.



Precedent

San Francisco's Pavement to Parks projects are inspired by the recent success of similar projects in New York City - where plazas and seating areas have been created in excess roadway simply by painting or treating the asphalt, placing protective barriers along the periphery, and installing moveable tables and chairs. Streets such as Broadway have been transformed into much more inviting and pedestrian-friendly spaces through New York's efforts.

Design

Each Pavement to Parks project is intended to be a public laboratory where the City can work with the community to test the potential of the selected location to be permanently reclaimed as public open space. Materials and design interventions are meant to be temporary and easily moveable should design changes be desired during the trial-run. Seating, landscaping, and treatment of the asphalt will be common features of all projects.

Location Selection

Locations for Pavement to Parks projects are selected based on the following criteria:

- Sizeable area of under-utilized roadway.
- Lack of public space in the surrounding neighbourhood.
- Pre-existing community support for public space at the location.
- Potential to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety via redesign.
- Surrounding uses that can attract people to the space.
- Identified community or business steward.

Source: <http://sfpavementtoparks.sfplanning.org/>

Photo Credit: San Francisco Planning Department

The economic benefits of walking and cycling

People that walk and cycle spend money. A number of case studies have been selected to illustrate the positive financial benefits that are clearly gained from investing in walking and cycling.

In the past there has been very little data about walking and cycling and its linkages to the economy. However, evidence is emerging of the general economic significance of cycling and walking to towns and cities. At the level of the city as a whole, there is clear evidence that walkability and quality-of-life go hand in hand, so the city is more attractive to inward investment. For example, when cities are ranked according to quality of life, those with much walking (and cycling) are high on the list because they are healthy and have good air quality. It is no coincidence that the top three 'Livable Cities' in the world – Melbourne, Vienna and Vancouver – are regarded as amongst the most walkable cities anywhere.¹²

At the level of the individual street there is now increasing amounts of research on walking and cycling and economic activity. Both walking and cycling are sufficiently slow and flexible to allow their adherents to stop and spend en route more easily than can a car driver or bus passenger. Indeed, given their heightened awareness of the environment around them – of shops, window displays, stalls etc – walkers are more likely to notice the opportunities to spend. The key issue though is the improvement in the quality of the urban environment that results from a rise in the volume of walkers and a fall in the dominance of cars. It is that quality which results in higher visitation levels and frequencies, longer dwell times, and higher levels of expenditure per head. In other words, 'a good physical environment is a good economic environment.'¹³

The Sustrans document *Traffic restraint and retail vitality*¹⁴ argues that retail vitality depends in large measure on an attractive environment. Heavy and/or fast-moving traffic drives people away. It argues that traffic restraint should always be combined with measures to improve the street environment, such as:

- Footpath widening
- Seats
- Planting
- Decorative surfaces
- Raised footpath crossings
- Improved cleaning and maintenance regime.

Increasing retail turnover

The London study *Quality streets: why good walking environments matter for London's economy*¹⁵ examined economic impacts of walking and public realm improvements, through a series of interviews across a range of business sectors: landowners and developers, retailers, developers and entertainment service providers. It emerged that:

- All businesses rely on attracting customers whether they are passing retail trade, or tenants for an office block.
- 85 per cent of respondents identified the quality of the streetscape as "important" in the ability to attract customers or tenants.
- 89 per cent of respondents felt that "their front door is the street" and critical to self-image.

Various studies indicate that well-planned non-motorised transportation improvements can increase customer visits and local business activity.¹⁶ In a 2009 study in Toronto, people who biked and walked to the area reported they spent more money in the area per month than those who drove there (see case study 16).¹⁷ A German study¹⁸ showed that:

- Motorists are not better customers than cyclists, pedestrians, or public transport users.
- Because they buy smaller quantities, cyclists shop more frequently (11 times a month on average, as opposed to seven times a month for motorists).
- Approximately 75 per cent of motorists purchase two or less bags of goods, and so could carry their goods by foot or bicycle.
- Most shopping trips involve distances that could be walked or cycled.

Moreover, in walkable cities there is good customer retention for local shops: in the Netherlands, the town of IJouten, with its high levels of cycling (and walking) has retail turnover 2.5 times higher per square metre than elsewhere in the country.

Furthermore, a dollar spent at an independent business generates about 3 times as much benefit to the local economy as spending a dollar at a chain retailer. Locally-owned businesses thrive in densely-built, walkable communities, and



Photo Credit: Nigel Flannigan

are more likely to stock local products, supporting other local businesses.¹⁹

Increasing retail property values

*"A high quality streetscape and a pro-active improvement programme add to the value of a property, protecting and enhancing the value of your asset."*¹⁹

The importance of a high quality streetscape can be seen by comparing it to the impact where the streetscape is poor. Oxford Street offices command a lower rent than the surrounding areas due to the concentration of traffic¹⁹ and in other London shopping streets, tenants on the asphalted side of a road compare their situation unfavourably with the tenants on the other side of the road, which is paved with York stone. One of the interviewees stated that the company has 'considered disinvesting' from areas where the streetscape was felt to be very poor.

A London study found that improvements in the street design quality can add an average of 4.9 per cent to retail rents of all shops and premises located on the high street.²⁰ The most important street elements for users were: lighting, footpath quality and maintenance, vehicles not parked on the footpath, provision of crossings, local area maps, information boards and signed routes.¹¹

The *Quality Streets* report¹⁵ finds a number of key lessons:

- Landowners, developers and businesses clearly perceive the importance of streetscape in maintaining and enhancing the value of their assets.
- Streetscape enhancement adds value to an area: this is associated with higher rents or the attraction of new tenants/businesses.
- The reputation of certain areas and the businesses that are resident in them is based on the quality of the public realm.
- Streetscape improvements create the impression of a prosperous area, and businesses in the same vicinity that have not benefited from this perception are keen to buy into it.
- High levels of maintenance and revenue funding are as important as the quality of the initial design.

Increasing private property values

Improved walking and cycling conditions and shifts from motorised to non-motorised modes can increase property values. In 2009 Cortright²¹ evaluated the effects of walkability on housing prices using the WalkScore (see www.walkscore.com) and 95,000 real estate transactions, controlling for house and neighbourhood characteristics. He found that walkability had a statistically significant, positive impact on housing values. In a typical metropolitan area in the USA, each WalkScore point increase was associated with a \$700 to \$3000 increase in home values. Shifting from average to above-average WalkScores typically increased a home's value by \$4,000 to \$34,000, depending on the metro area. For example, in Charlotte, NC, houses in the Ashley Park neighbourhood, with WalkScore values averaging 54 have median prices of \$280,000, while an otherwise similar home in the Wilmore neighbourhood, which has WalkScores averaging 71, would be valued at \$314,000. Controlling for all other factors, shifting a house from Ashley Park to more walkable Wilmore would increase its value by \$34,000 or 12%.

This reflects the value consumers attach to walkable neighbourhoods, which tend to be denser, mixed use neighbourhoods with good accessibility, including high quality public transport.

These outcomes are corroborated by Pivo and Fisher²² who studied apartments, retail, office, and industrial properties and concluded that "on a 100 point scale, a 10 point increase in walkability increases property values by 5 to 8 percent, depending on property type." Carol Coletta, President and CEO of CEOs for Cities in the US commented:²³

"These findings are significant for policy makers. They tell us that if urban leaders are intentional about developing and redeveloping their cities to make them more walkable, it will not only enhance the local tax base but will also contribute to individual wealth by increasing the value of what is, for most people, their biggest asset."

Lower speeds are important too: evidence shows that a 5 to 10 mph reduction in traffic speeds increases property values for adjacent residences by 18% to 20%.²⁴

Case study 5

Achieving high quality streetscapes through innovative design and by questioning standard approaches: Kensington High Street, London⁸

Kensington High Street is not only a major east-west radial route to the centre of London, but also an important commercial/retail street flanked by highly desirable residential areas. In recognition of this the Borough Council initiated a programme of streetscape improvements in the mid-1990s to improve the quality of the public realm as an attractive place to live and work, and to sustain the vitality and viability of the High Street as a major shopping destination in the face of other competing retail developments.

Despite agreement that the new street should accommodate existing traffic flows, the design objectives started to shift away from standard traffic engineering solutions to a more radical streetscape design. This redressed the balance from vehicles to pedestrians and created a coherent, legible and easily accessible street.

The south footway was widened and a new 3m central reserve was achieved by reorganising traffic lanes to provide cycle parking and tree planting in the centre.

Rearrangement and simplification of pedestrian crossings and the extension of the central reserve allows the road to be crossed easily and safely. The removal of barriers to movement, especially guardrails at staggered crossings, provides a sense of liberation to the pedestrian, trusting both pedestrians and drivers to use the street responsibly. The removal of guard railing has been controversial, with traditional views holding that railing is essential to pedestrian safety. However, the first three years of the scheme saw a 47 per cent reduction in accidents in High Street compared with a 35 per cent fall elsewhere in the Borough. Pedestrian casualties fell by 59 per cent and latest figures indicate that this reduction has been maintained.

Completed in 2003 the revamped street has removed all unnecessary visual and physical clutter, coordinated the design and location of new street furniture, and coherently defined the footway/carriageway boundary. There has been a 12.9 per cent growth in sale prices of flats within 200m of the scheme.

The improvements have proved a tremendous success and have reinforced the image of the High Street as a premier shopping destination and show what can be achieved with the vision and will to push the boundaries of accepted practice.



Before



After

Case study 6

London²⁵

London has many examples of revitalisation based around walkability. It is the Mayor's vision "to make London one of the world's most walking friendly cities by 2015." Currently the city is investing £17m per year on wayfinding and signage schemes and streetscape improvements. There have been some spectacular results. For example in Great Queen Street, the removal of guard rails and widening of footways has created room for window shopping. The economic benefits are estimated to be between £6.3m and £28.4 m for an outlay of £2.4m.

A second example is the rebuilding of the North Terrace of Trafalgar square, a £25m investment under the World Squares for All Project. Since completion, there has been an increase in visitors of over 300 per cent, to the point where this is now the third most popular attraction in London.

Case study 7

Newlands Avenue, Hull, UK⁸

The recent refurbishment on Newlands Avenue has been commended, particularly due to its attention to detail and use of pioneering features. The Newlands project was aimed at improving road safety on a busy shopping street and making it more pleasant for all road users. The initial performance of the scheme is very encouraging, with road casualties dropping by 67 per cent (within the 4 months for which data is available)

- Overall pedestrian crossing movements increased by 18 per cent
- Crossing movements by people with reduced mobility increased by 15 per cent
- Cycle flows on Newland Avenue increased by 17 per cent
- Average property values within the Newland Avenue postcodes increased by 65 per cent between July 2003 and December 2005.

Increasing retail vitality

Michael Loveday's work on many European city centres has shown the direct economic benefits of improvement of retail environments.²⁶ These benefits can be classified as immediate or strategic.

Immediate

- Increased footfall (defined as the number of people who go into a shop or business in a particular period of time)
- Longer stays (hours/days)
- More expenditure
- More intensive commercial exploitation of the area
- More uses and spend on the street
- Increased property values
- Higher rents
- More repair/regeneration of sites, therefore spin off construction investment
- New business formations
- New traders and therefore increased 'pulling power'
- More and varied jobs.



Photo Credit: Rodney Tolley

Strategic

- Improvement in the town's retail rankings
- New strategic roles for public space, stimulating tourism spend
- Confidence booster, prompting wider urban regeneration
- Ability to integrate latent economic assets
- Creation of new economic quarters
- Improvement in quality of life, assisting workforce recruitment and retention
- Creation of new image – cafe society, festival city, seasonal city, evening economy hub – to stimulate profile and investment.

Walkable retail areas with unique visual, cultural, social and environmental qualities provide competitive advantages. Their "place-making dividend" attracts people to visit often, stay longer and spend more money.²⁷

Case study 8

Times Square and Broadway, New York City*

Mid-town Manhattan in the past was deficient in public space. Times Square is a world famous square, but it was filled with traffic, with nowhere for people to sit or linger.

There was a need to reduce traffic congestion and improve journey times whilst also improving safety, particularly of pedestrians who were often forced to walk on the road because there was not enough space for them. There was also the desire to make the key destinations of Times and Herald Squares into more pleasant walking environments and spaces for people to congregate.

A demonstration project created a pedestrian plaza almost overnight in late 2009, using cheap materials, moveable seating and paint. Many sceptics predicted that traffic gridlock would result. After an eight month trial, Mayor Bloomberg confirmed that the plaza would be made permanent and that Broadway from 47th to 42nd Streets and 33rd to 35th Streets would remain closed to traffic.

This closure yielded some startling results:

- 84 per cent more people are staying (e.g. reading, eating, taking photographs) in Times Square than before the projects.
- 42 per cent of NYC residents surveyed in Times Square say they shop in the neighbourhood more often since the changes.
- 26 per cent of Times Square employees report leaving their offices for lunch more frequently.
- 74 per cent of New Yorkers surveyed by the Times Square Alliance agree that Times Square has improved dramatically as a result of this project.
- The expansion of pedestrian space and the resulting reduction of overspill footfall in to the road (for example, by 80 per cent in Times Square) has reduced injuries to pedestrians by 35 per cent.

In the words of Janette Sadik-Khan, the NYC Transportation Commissioner, "It has shifted the paradigm for what a street and sidewalk experience is supposed to be like in New York City." She went on to say:²⁹

"Once you realise that you can use your streets to improve the quality of life, the economics and the environmental health of your city, I think that's a transformative moment"



Before



After

Photo Credit: NYC Department of Transportation

Case study 9

City of Melbourne, Australia^{8,30}

Melbourne city has been undertaking a whole city renaissance to revitalise city life, transforming the city centre from an empty place where only workers go, to a vibrant centre with a resident population and 24 hour destinations. Substantial changes to the city centre from 1994 to 2004 included wider footways, more greenery, street art and usable 'laneways' (10 times more active and accessible lanes, alleys and arcades).

Overall there has been a 39 per cent increase in pedestrian traffic on weekdays and a 98 per cent increase on weekday evenings. The central area has seen an 830 per cent increase in residents and a 275 per cent increase in cafés.

What was described formerly as an 'empty, useless city centre' has been transformed. As the report on the progress says³⁰ "The results clearly illustrate that places designed to be people-friendly attract people, and public life will follow."



Before



After

Photo Credit: Rodney Talley

Case study 10

Wanstead High Street, London⁸

This street runs between two underground train stations approximately a mile apart. The High Street and its surrounding areas underwent significant improvements to the walking environment, including new footpath surfacing, accessible crossings, new street lighting on the main road and two crossing routes to the park, de-cluttering, improvements to street furniture and the installation of CCTV. Transport for London have supported this as part of a 'Key Walking Routes' initiative, linking important local destinations by improving the walking environment.

The objective was to increase walking for short trips by taking a holistic approach to the whole area around the high street and enhancing walking routes to the two stations, bus terminus, school, library and High Street.

The main outcome recorded is that Wanstead High Street has achieved an average 98 per cent increase in pedestrian numbers. The impact of this on retail activity has not been measured but is likely to be substantial.



Photo Credit: Transport for London

Case study 11

Changing car parking to bicycle parking in Lygon Street, Melbourne, Australia³¹

Lygon Street, Carlton, is a popular cycling route near Melbourne University. It is a mixed use mainstreet – groceries, cinema, comparison goods, cafes, etc. It has few bicycle parking spaces.

Surveys have shown that the average cyclist's expenditure is 73 per cent of a car user's, but space required to park a bike is only 12 per cent of the space required to park a car. Cyclists spend more on comparison goods, such as clothing and eating out, and less on groceries/cinema per visit.

In Lygon Street:

- Each m² of space allocated to cars generates \$6 per hour.
- Each m² of space allocated to bicycles generates \$31 per hour.

Put another way, the researcher estimated that:

- 1 car space produced \$27/hr retail spend, but
- 6 bike spaces replacing the car space would produce \$97/hr in retail spend.

The report concludes that incrementally replacing car parking with bike parking would therefore make economic sense.

Shopping and modal choice

The relationships between mode used, shopping frequency and amount spent have been the subject of a number of studies. Sustrans¹ studied shoppers and how they travel in the UK and noted that:

"It is very instructive to analyse how many businesses a shopper will visit according to their mode of travel. Cyclists and car users make four times as many single-shop visits as pedestrians – on foot, it is so much easier to call in to another shop on the same trip.....The figures suggest that many car-borne shoppers are "drive-through" shoppers, stopping to pick up one item on the way to their eventual destination, rather than people for whom shopping is their main purpose for visiting the area. This will have a negative impact on a busy retail street, which is likely to be disproportionate to the extra business that it generates."

In the Australian suburb of Yarra (inner suburb of Melbourne) 82 per cent of local residents, 48 per cent of local workers and 41 per cent of visitors travel by foot, bicycle or public transport to get to the five local main shopping streets.³² Most local residents and workers visit a main street very frequently (many daily and 80-90 per cent more than once a week). Even though they spend less per visit (about half) than the "visitors", local residents/workers provide 75 per cent of local retail and services turnover. The amount of "non-drive-in spend" (\$/visit x frequency x active transport mode share) is estimated to be 50 per cent on average for Yarra's shopping streets.

Grant and Herbes have commented:³²

"It's difficult to estimate the value of non-drive-in spend for main streets. It's 80 per cent in London, 50-75 per cent in inner-area main streets with tourists and reasonable public transport, and possibly 30 per cent at suburban centres like Ringwood in Melbourne. However, it is always bigger than we think. In any case, people who drive in still have to walk to spend, so in the end everyone benefits from a better walking environment."

Comparing retailers' and shoppers' interests and concerns

Retailers in the Austrian city of Graz were asked how they thought their customers travelled to the shop, and shoppers were then interviewed to determine the reality. The results were fascinating: retailers hugely overestimated the importance of the car, and underestimated how many of their customers walked, cycled and used public transport (see Figure 1).¹

Since then, this study has been replicated on two neighbourhood shopping streets in Bristol, UK and again retailers overestimated the importance of the car. It was also found that they overestimate how far their customers travel and underestimate how many shops each customer visits.

A third study in Edinburgh supports these results. Local shoppers, visitors and retailers in Edinburgh city centre were asked what positive and negative factors affected them most. The shoppers' main concern was a good range of shops in an attractive comfortable environment. Parking was not identified as important (see Figure 2). The retailers' views were completely out of line with their customers. Parking was the only issue mentioned by more than 10% of retailers.

A New Zealand survey found that retailers and shoppers have different priorities.⁷ When asked about transportation and urban design of local shopping areas, it was found that shoppers placed a high importance on crossings, wide footpaths and frequent bus services, but not a lot of importance on on-road parking. Retailers considered parking as the primary concern. High quality urban design and provision for sustainable transport were identified as important by both shopper and retailers.

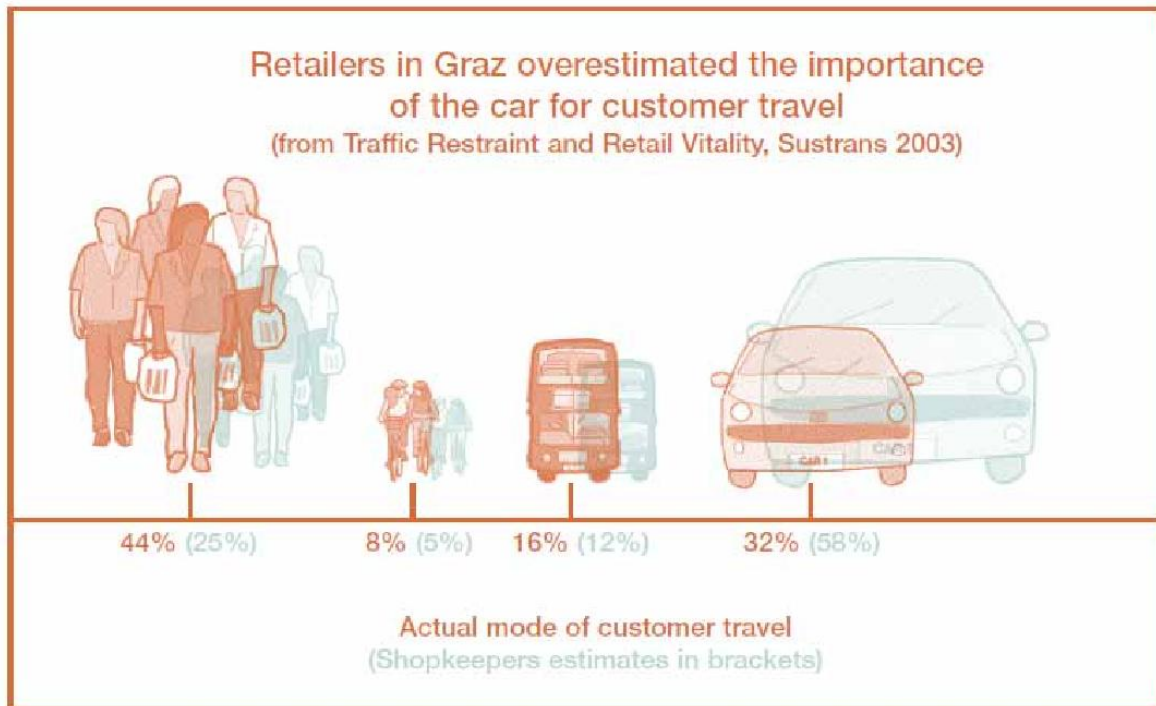


Figure 1 Estimates of shoppers’ modal split by retailers and shoppers¹



Figure 2 Comparison of shoppers’ and retailers’ concerns¹

Sustrans comments:

“These findings have real significance for business planning – as well as land use and transport. It is traditional for retailers to pursue more car access and parking, and to resist measures to promote walking, cycling and public transport use – although pedestrian shopping areas tend to be commercially most successful. Our findings suggest that retail vitality would be best served by traffic restraint, public transport improvements, and a range of measures to improve the walking environment.”

Case study 12

Columbus Avenue, San Francisco³⁶

The Columbus Avenue Neighborhood Transportation survey was conducted during two weeks in March 2008. The purpose of the survey was to understand the travel patterns, area preferences and preferred transportation improvements of Columbus Avenue corridor visitors and residents. Findings included:

- Transit users and walkers spend less on average per visit than auto users, but come to the area at twice the frequency for recreational purposes.
- Because of the higher frequency of visits, transit riders and pedestrians spend more than drivers on recreational activities on a monthly basis.
- The majority of respondents indicated that what they liked the most about the area is the pleasant atmosphere and the restaurants. This indicates that enhancing Columbus Avenue's sidewalk culture is key to attracting visitors as well as San Franciscans to the area.

Case study 13

Acland Street, City of Port Phillip, Victoria^{33,34}

Observations of pedestrian movements in 2003 showed that the main section of Acland Street was subject to chronic congestion, preventing the safe and comfortable passage of pedestrians. This was brought about by the narrow footpath, high level of footpath trading and heavy 'window shopping' (cake shops). As a consequence, the Council proposed effectively widening the clear footpath area by relocating existing footpath trading to the parking bay area for 85 metres and removing nine parking spaces.

This proposal was opposed by the Acland Street Traders Association. In response it commissioned its own market research study in June 2003. It found that:

- *'Walking to the precinct is important and popular'* – Of locals interviewed, over 50 per cent walked to the centre. All walk within the centre.
- Local residents comprise over 50 per cent of all visitors and local residents account for over 85 per cent of the total expenditure.
- 57.2 per cent of expenditure is 'walked' to the centre, and a further 16 per cent comes from cycling / public transport. Only 26 per cent of total expenditure share emanates from those driving to the centre.

The traders realised that removing car spaces would only affect around a quarter of their customers (and at least some of those would return on other forms of transport, anyway). But more importantly, they recognised that their largest and most loyal customer group was actually local. Improving the walking environment for them was likely to actually increase their loyalty and might help attract them back to the area more often – which would translate into a bonus for local business.

As a consequence, the Association withdrew its opposition to the Council proposals, which have since been carried out. Indeed, it actually transformed the traders association into one of the strongest supporters of the change. Acland Street is undoubtedly more walking-friendly than it ever was, and everyone has benefited.

This case study reaffirms research carried out in many other cities which shows that car parking is of less significance to local retail activity than is often thought, and that space for people on foot is a more significant attribute.



Case study 14

Northcote, City of Darebin, Victoria³⁵

In 2008, Darebin City Council was considering installing accessible tram stops at several locations on High Street. The aim of the survey was to gain an understanding of travel and shopping behaviours of visitors to the Northcote shopping precinct to assist in assessing the potential impact of a reduction in on-street parking resulting from the introduction of the tram stops.

The key findings of this research are that:

- High street visitors tend to walk or catch public transport, while visitors to Northcote Central and Plaza tend to drive to those centres.
- High Street visitors are more willing to lose car parking spaces to accommodate streetscape improvements than visitors to Northcote Central or Plaza.
- Visitors to Northcote Shopping precinct place a higher level of importance on cleanliness and maintenance, pedestrian access and safety than business respondents who thought car parking was most important.
- Business respondents tended to overestimate car-based travel and underestimate walking and public transport use amongst visitors to Northcote Shopping precinct.

This study reaffirms in an Australian context the overemphasis placed on car travel and parking by business respondents compared to shoppers.

Case study 15

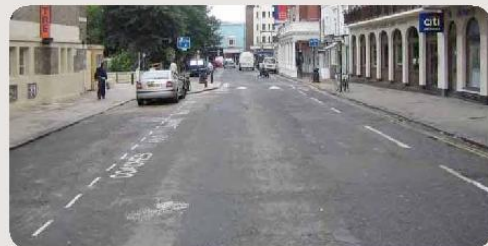
New Road, Brighton, UK⁶

New Road is a busy commercial street with bars, restaurants, shops, a library and two theatres. It has been redesigned to create a shared space with high quality granite paving across the whole area. The area has been de-cluttered with road markings and signs all but removed. This has resulted in a pedestrian friendly environment without the need to apply formal restrictions to motor traffic. Seating and lighting have been used to ensure the space is attractive to travel through and spend time.

The objective was to enable the street to fulfil its potential as a place. The result is an environment which is vibrant and welcoming. It has won numerous awards for urban design and has received overwhelming public support from both users and local businesses. Local restaurants and bars have invested in tables and chairs for outside their premises, enhancing the lively and social atmosphere. Local businesses feel that the shared space has improved the sense of community in the area, improving the perception of the road and the businesses on it by providing a better environment for customers.

The outcomes in figures are:

- 162 per cent increase in pedestrian activity.
- 93 per cent reduction in traffic volume.
- Reduction in traffic collisions from 3 in 2004 to 2006 to zero since completion in 2007.
- Research participants from the business community unanimously agreed that the scheme had benefited their business.



Before



After

Photo Credit: Gehl Architects

Costs and benefits of investing in the walking and cycling environment

Cost benefit analysis

The *Making the case* report⁶ argues that:

“Investments in the walking environment are good value for money – even accounting for the fact that most evaluations only consider a small number of potential benefits. Cost-benefit analyses tend to underestimate the value of the walking environment, because very few studies have accounted for the impacts of increased walking on road casualties, congestion, fuel costs and other motorised travel costs, noise and air pollution, carbon dioxide and reduced public costs of providing for motorised transport. There are likely to be substantial benefits arising in these areas where investment in walking leads to modal shift.”

Hard evidence for the value of active travel investments is provided by Davis:³⁷

“This review assesses the evidence base from both peer reviewed and grey literature both in the UK and beyond. Almost all of the studies identified (UK and beyond) report economic benefits of walking and cycling interventions which are highly significant, and these average 13:1. For UK interventions only the average figure is higher, at 19:1.”

Davis summarises:

“Investment in infrastructure and to facilitate increased activity levels amongst local communities through cycling and walking is likely to be a ‘best buy’ for our health, the National Health Service at large in terms of cost savings, as well as for the road transport sector.”



Photo Credit: complete streets coalition

Car parking cost savings

There are also savings to be had from car parking management. Litman²² observed that a typical car parking space requires 13–19 square metres of land. There is usually an opportunity cost associated with devoting land to kerbside parking, as the land could be used as a bus lane, bike lane or additional footpath width. Brisbane has parking costs which are among the highest internationally, indicating the potential financial savings presented by walking and cycling as a replacement for driving to Brisbane's CBD.³⁰



Case study 16

Bike lanes, on-street parking and business, Bloor Street, Toronto¹⁷

Proposals to install bike lanes on major streets are often met with opposition from merchants who fear that the reallocation of road space from on-street parking to on-street bike lanes would hurt business. The purpose of this study is to understand and estimate the importance of on-street parking to business on Bloor Street, a medium-to-high-density, traditional commercial street in downtown Toronto.

The study surveyed the opinions and preferences of 61 merchants and 538 patrons on Bloor Street and analysed parking usage data in the area. It incorporated a series of surveys to:

- Determine the relative importance of on-street parking to business activity on Bloor Street West.
- Project the impacts on business activity of reallocating space from on-street parking to bike lanes or widened sidewalks.

Among the study's findings:

- Only 10 per cent of patrons drive to the Bloor Annex neighbourhood.
- Patrons arriving by foot and bicycle visit the most often and spend the most money per month.
- There are more merchants who believe that a bike lane or widened sidewalk would increase business than merchants who think those changes would reduce business.
- The reduction in on-street parking supply from a bike lane or widened sidewalk could be accommodated in the area's off-street municipal parking lots.

Conclusions

High quality pedestrian and cycling environments are integral to retail and business success.

Sustrans' summarise:

“Evidence indicates that it would be advantageous to local businesses to support measures aimed at attracting more pedestrians and bus passengers to the local shopping centre rather than car users. Major investment in the walking environment, such as wider pavements (sidewalks) and traffic restraint measures, should result in attracting more regular, dedicated custom to the area and have a positive impact on retailers and customers alike.”

There have often been misperceptions – underestimates – in the retailing community of the value of walking and cycling to main streets and neighbourhoods centres. This misperception creates the risk of mistakes in transport and planning policy. It is important that transport arrangements in main streets are not managed on the basis of myth and misunderstanding. Of course the views of retailers are important, but that does not mean that they should become the de facto transport planners in the city.

Walking and cycling are essential to the success of revitalisation strategies. Streets, laneways and squares that are dirty, dangerous and unattractive discourage walking and reduce the quality of urban life. This is not just about walking and cycling as a means of getting from A to B. It is also about sitting, talking, meeting neighbours, helping strangers and allowing children to play. If centres are not connected to surrounding residential areas and public transport, pedestrian volumes will fall. Poor urban design will have the same effect. People feel safest in places that are busy with others going about their ordinary business, so falling numbers of pedestrians becomes a vicious circle. Reduced footfall inevitably means reduced turnover for retail and other businesses, a reduction in the quality of the retail offer and further retrenchment of the area. It is no exaggeration to say that high quality pedestrian and cycling conditions are absolutely integral to retail and business success in Activity Centres.

There is a strong business case for improving walking and cycling conditions:

- There are direct economic benefits of improvement of retail environments, which can be both immediate and strategic.
- Streetscape enhancement adds value to an area: this is associated with higher rents or the attraction of new tenants/businesses.
- The reputation of certain areas and the businesses that are resident in them is based on the quality of the public realm.
- There is evidence that improving walking and cycling environments raises property values by statistically significant amounts.

This report has shown that

- It is difficult to estimate the value of non-drive-in spend for main streets. However, it is always bigger than we think.
- A high proportion of all retail expenditure comes from local residents and workers.
- Complete Streets have led to more retail sales, more people shopping locally, revitalisation of areas, new businesses and higher land value.
- Space allocated to bicycle parking can produce much higher levels of retail spend than the same space devoted to car parking.
- Car parking is of less significance to local retail activity than is often thought. Space for people on foot is a more significant attribute.
- In some cases, patrons arriving by foot and bicycle visit Main Streets the most often and spend the most money per month.
- Many car-borne shoppers are “drive-through” shoppers, stopping to pick up one item on the way to their eventual destination, rather than people for whom shopping is their main purpose for visiting the area. This has a negative impact on a busy retail street, which is likely to be disproportionate to the extra business that it generates.
- Retail vitality would be best served by traffic restraint, public transport improvements, and a range of measures to improve the walking and cycling environment.

The Heart Foundation is calling on Local Governments, planners, development agencies, private developers and businesses to invest in and support better environments for walking and cycling. This will require:

- Reducing traffic speeds and road danger.
- Widening footpaths and providing cycle lanes.
- Using local knowledge to determine what the problems are and devise solutions.
- Improving public transport.
- Greening the street and making it more attractive.

As this report and the case studies have shown, making streets more walking and cycling friendly will:

- Increase retail rents in the area.
- Increase sale prices of nearby homes.
- Significantly increase pedestrian and cyclist activity (footfall).
- Generate more business and stimulate the local economy.
- Revitalise 'drive-through' districts, into lively places that people want to visit.
- Encourage people to spend time outside of their homes.
- Reduce noise speed.
- Create attractive and popular places for Adelaide and South Australia: the public are positive about investments in the walking environment, and schemes usually have the support of visitors and residents.

High quality walking and cycling environments around shops, activity centres and main streets are vital for the economic health of South Australian cities.



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15.4 2014/15 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM - CHANGE OF PROJECT

General Manager

**Community Infrastructure &
Recreation**

For Decision

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to table correspondence received from the 1st Morwell Scout Group, seeking Council's approval for the group to use funds allocated through the 2014/15 Community Grants Program, for a purpose other than that which the funds were originally granted.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2014/15 Council approved the following project: 'Construction of meeting room wall'.

Further details of the approved project:

- *The 1st Morwell Scout Group has a wonderful facility on Margaret Street in Morwell. The facility caters for Cubs (7 to 10 year olds), Scouts (10 to 14 year olds), and Venturers (14 to 18 years old). At the facility there is a 10 meter by four meter mezzanine floor with a stair case leading to it. At the present moment there is a chain mesh full height fence overlooking the main hall. The scout group plan to construct a non-load bearing stud and plaster wall, with a window to make it into a dedicated space, which can be used while all the noise and commotion is happening on the main hall floor.*
- Project number MCW141500094 - \$4,000 was allocated to the 1st Morwell Scout Group for this project.

On 28 August 2015, Latrobe City Council received correspondence from Mr Roy Ewald, Group Leader of the 1st Morwell Scout Group advising that the original project has not commenced. The 1st Morwell Scout Group was advised by the Building Maintenance Manager of Scouts Australia that a commercial builder would need to be appointed to carry out the proposed works for the project. (Refer to attachment 1)

The 1st Morwell Scout Group had intended to complete the project using in-kind group support, a trade builder – the trade builder however does not have the correct insurances or registration as a commercial builder, which is mandatory for the type of project initially proposed.

Do to this requirement; the 1st Morwell Scout Group is now seeking permission from Council to change the original project for the following new proposed project:

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

- Provide 1st Morwell Scout Group with an extension of time to allow them to seek a suitable design and quotation for the construction of a disability access ramp to the main entrance landing.

If the request from the 1st Morwell Scout Group is not granted, the group realises that they will be required to return the grant funds of \$4,000 to Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Grants permission to the 1st Morwell Scout Group to use the \$4,000 grant funding from the Minor Capital Works project number MCW141500094, for a new proposed project of: 'Construction of a disability access ramp to the main entrance landing of the 1st Morwell Scout Group building'.**
2. **Grants permission to the 1st Morwell Scout Group the extension period of 12 months to scope the new project, seek a design and quotes for construction of the disability access ramp.**
3. **Request an acquittal be submitted with supporting documentation as evidence to show how the \$4,000 was spent, by the 1st Morwell Scout Group, should permission be granted.**

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 1989* in the preparation of this report.

OFFICER COMMENTS

Community grants are allocated to programs, activities/events, or facilities that will assist in the ongoing development or maintenance of the recreational, social and cultural needs of the citizens of Latrobe City, thus contributing to the overall development of the municipality.

The new proposed project requested by the 1st Morwell Scout Group fits with the criteria of the Community Grants Program.

Attachments

1. Correspondence received from 1 Morwell Scout Group request for change of project

15.4

2014/15 Community Grants Program - Change of Project

- 1 Correspondence received from 1 Morwell Scout Group request for change of project 411**

26 August 2015

To Latrobe City Council.
Latrobe City
PO Box 264, Morwell, 380

Latrobe City Council.

2014/15 Community Grants Program.

Re – Grant submission MCW141500094 – to 1st Morwell Scout Group (Group) - project not commenced due to builder registration requirements – original project abandoned, requesting permission for alternate project with extension of time.

Submission MCW141500094 - construction of meeting room wall in Scout Hall.

Construction would involve removal of existing 13 metre length wire mesh wall section, replaced with a timber studded wall and lined with plaster board, creating an enclosed room from what currently is a mezzanine storage area of 13 by 4 metre enclosed on three sides with brick wall, the wire mesh wall of 13 metres overlooks the main hall area. Access to this storage area is via a stair case already in place; the studded wall and lining would create an enclosed room suitable for meetings, and also provide sound proofing from the lower main hall area.

The quote of \$4000 was supplied by trade's builder for material and his time, remaining contribution supplied by parents of scout youth members as in-kind trades labour. Estimated time to undertake project, based on weekend work periods only (due to availability of building trade and parent volunteers) was 3 weekends.

As the Scout hall is used during week days, excepting for school holidays, the project was scheduled during a school holiday period so that project activities do not interfere with scout youth programs.

As a consequence of several scheduling issues, the project was eventually scheduled for the July 2015 school holidays.

Following consultation with Mr Doug Dixson, Building Maintenance Manager, Scouts Australia Victorian Branch (Branch), owner of the Scout Hall (building), in regard to types of insurance required by building trades, I was instructed of the following conditions;

The building is classified as a schedule 9 public accessible building, any modifications to internal or external construction, ie not maintenance or like for like works, shall only be carried out by a commercial builder, who would in this case also have both public liability and professional indemnity insurance.

As the project quote was supplied by a trade builder, who neither had the above mentioned insurances, nor registered as a commercial builder, the above requirement specified by Branch was not be met. Consequently Branch advised me that we cannot proceed with the project unless such a builder was used for this project.

The original scope of work and quote for this project relied upon it being substantially built by in-kind trade labour, and the majority of Grant Funding would be taken up by material costs.

To engage the services of a commercial builder, on a professional basis, would subsequently outstrip the available funding.

It was therefore elected by the 1st Morwell Scout Group - Support Committee to abandon the project, and examine alternative actions.

The committee have identified a higher priority need to install a concrete disability access ramp, extending from a nearby footpath up to the building's main entrance landing, a rise of some 200mm.

At this late stage in time, I am exploring the option of modifying the project from 'construction of meeting room wall' to the 'construction of a disability access ramp' as an alternative project.

As the Grant funding should have effectively been spent within the next few months, I would not anticipate that suitable design, quotes, or construction can be achieved within the immediate short term to satisfy the Grant spending timeframe requirement, that being, within 12 months of receiving the community grant.

With the above information in mind, I am requesting council consider one of the following options, and advise the Group accordingly;

1 - Council give permission to alter the project scope, and offer the Group an extension of time; to allow for the Group to seek a suitable design and quotation for the construction of a disability access ramp to the 1st Morwell Scout Hall main entrance landing, and if quotes fit within the grant funds, have this project completed within six months, or

2 - Council do not give permission for the above, and request the Group to return the grant funds; as the originally proposed project has been abandoned.

If the first option is not acceptable, and funds are returned, the Group anticipate it will submit a grant application for the proposed disability access ramp during the next round of community grant applications for the 2016/17 year.

Yours sincerely



Roy Ewald

Group Leader, 1st Morwell Scout Group, 0413201914.

232 Jeeralang North Road, Hazelwood North, 3840

COMMUNITY LIVEABILITY

16. COMMUNITY LIVEABILITY

Nil reports

CORPORATE SERVICES

17. CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil reports

URGENT BUSINESS

18. URGENT BUSINESS

Business may be admitted to the meeting as urgent business in accordance with clause 26 of the Meeting Procedure Local Law by resolution of the Council, if it relates to a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda and:

- 1. cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next Ordinary meeting; or*
- 2. involves a matter of urgent community concern.*

MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

19. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989 enables the Council to close the meeting to the public if the meeting is discussing any of the following:

- (a) Personnel matters;
- (b) The personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;
- (c) Industrial matters;
- (d) Contractual matters;
- (e) Proposed developments;
- (f) Legal advice;
- (g) Matters affecting the security of Council property;
- (h) Any other matter which the Council or Special Committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person;
- (i) A resolution to close the meeting to members of the public.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Ordinary Meeting of Council closes this meeting to the public to consider the following items which are of a confidential nature, pursuant to section 89(2) of the Local Government Act (LGA) 1989 for the reasons indicated:

19.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS HELD OVER

Agenda item 19.1 *Confidential Items Held Over* is designated as confidential as it relates to a matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person (s89 2h)

19.2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Agenda item 19.2 *Adoption of Minutes* is designated as confidential as it relates to a matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person (s89 2h)

19.3 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda item 19.3 *Confidential Items* is designated as confidential as it relates to a matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person (s89 2h)

19.4 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS

Agenda item 19.4 *Assembly of Councillors* is designated as confidential as it relates to a matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person (s89 2h)

19.5 REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF AN EX-GRATIA PAYMENT

Agenda item 19.5 *Request for Consideration of an Ex-gratia Payment* is designated as confidential as it relates to contractual matters (s89 2d)

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
05 OCTOBER 2015 (CM470)**

- 19.6 PROPOSED SALE OF LAND - NEVILLE STREET, TRARALGON**
Agenda item 19.6 *Proposed Sale Of Land - Neville Street, Traralgon* is designated as confidential as it relates to contractual matters (s89 2d)
- 19.7 2014/15 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND ACCUMULATED CASH SURPLUS**
Agenda item 19.7 *2014/15 Financial Performance and Accumulated Cash Surplus* is designated as confidential as it relates to personnel matters (s89 2a)
- 19.8 EVALUATION OF SUBMISSIONS FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES (HOUSING STRATEGY, RURAL LAND USE STRATEGY AND INDUSTRIAL LAND USE AND EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY)**
Agenda item 19.8 *Evaluation of Submissions for Provision of Consultancy Services (Housing Strategy, Rural Land Use Strategy and Industrial Land Use and Employment Strategy)* is designated as confidential as it relates to contractual matters (s89 2d)