

# MILDURA FUTURE READY



**4x**

Major Projects



**\$88m**

Initial Investment



**1000**

New jobs



**\$400m**

Economic Output



Improved health  
and wellbeing

## Mildura Future Ready

### Reviving our social and economic wellbeing through major infrastructure investment

Mildura Future Ready is a plan to secure investment in major infrastructure projects that will diversify our region's economy and enhance community wellbeing.

This initiative brings together four key projects, presenting them with equal priority for funding and implementation. Together, these projects have the collective capacity to transform our region and future proof it for years to come.

Under the Mildura Future Ready banner, we will activate public support and lobby state and federal governments to invest \$88 million in our region.

### Why do we need Mildura Future Ready?

- We are the third most socio disadvantaged local government area in Victoria.<sup>1</sup>
- Lack of jobs growth – forecast jobs growth for North West Victoria to November 2020 is 4.4 per cent, half the Victorian average of 8.8 per cent.<sup>2</sup>
- Low population growth – Mildura's population increased just 0.2 per cent to 53,878 in the past 12 months. It's expected to increase by just 0.65 per annum.<sup>3</sup>
- High unemployment – Mildura's unemployment rate is 6.54 per cent, significantly higher than both the Victorian (5.8 per cent) and national (5.7 per cent) averages. This translates to 1657 people unemployed in our region.<sup>4</sup>
- Our economy lacks diversity, which limits our capacity to generate new job opportunities. Employment in traditional industries - agriculture, forestry and fishing - fell 35 per cent between 2001 and 2011. Retail, health care and social assistance are the most dominant sectors.<sup>5</sup>
- We are missing out on large-scale, sustained investment from state and federal governments to other major regional centres.
- Although strategically located between three capital cities, residents are isolated, with limited public transport connections to the rest of Victoria.
- Lack of investment in tourism product and infrastructure to entice visitation.

Source: 1.ABS Local Government Area (LGA) Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage, 2011, 2.Department of Employment Projected Employment Growth North West Victoria – Nov 2015-Nov 2020, 3.Victoria in Future 2016 Population and household projections to 2051 (DEWLP) 4.Small Area Labour Markets Australia March Quarter 2017, 5.ABS Census of Population and Housing - Industry of Employment (2001-2016) Mildura-Wentworth





## Outcomes of Mildura Future Ready

- Once implemented, Mildura Future Ready will create economic stimulus through ongoing jobs that diversify business, tourism and investment opportunities in the Mildura region.
- Attract, host and support regional, national and international events, conventions and concerts.
- Regional hub for motorsports, basketball, volleyball and cricket.
- Attract and host major state and national level sports competitions, showcase matches and carnivals.
- Tourism gateway that showcases our environmental and cultural assets including the river, Indigenous heritage and social diversity.
- Transport interchange connecting NSW, VIC and SA through rail, air and bus transport.

## Benefits of Mildura Future Ready

- Improved employment, health and wellbeing outcomes.
- Attract and retain population growth.
- A resilient and growing tourism and transport sector.
- A more active, engaged and connected community.
- Connection and affordable access to the rest of Victoria and beyond.
- Affordable recreational opportunities.
- Increased capacity and demand for residential investment.
- Diversified economy.
- Viable job opportunities.
- Increased awareness of Mildura as a major regional hub for tourism, events and transport connections.

## Mildura Future Ready Projects



### Mildura South Regional Sporting Precinct

Development of an indoor and outdoor sporting complex in one of Mildura's residential growth areas has long been a priority for the Mildura community. The proposed precinct would provide a home base for local sport and recreation clubs and bolster our chances to host major sports, entertainment and conferencing events. Plans include a 3000-seat capacity entertainment centre, six-court indoor stadium, squash courts, change rooms, café and alfresco area, AFL-standard oval and second multipurpose sports field.

### Mildura Motorsports & Community Precinct

Capitalising on Mildura's robust motorsports sector, this project will see a major, multipurpose motorsports precinct established at Koorlong. Bringing together the region's key motor sports clubs and facilities, the 547 hectare precinct would include a sealed 3km road circuit (with potential for expansion), a skid pan, pits and control tower, office facilities, maintenance/wash-down shed, food/beverage facilities, parking and camping site.

### Mildura Riverfront Redevelopment – Stage 2

This exciting proposal would further enhance Mildura's position on the iconic Murray River and make it Victoria's most significant inland river city. With facilities for locals and visitors alike, the plan builds on the recently completed Stage 1 works which connected Mildura's CBD to the riverfront. Stage 2 includes the release of public and privately owned land for community, commercial and residential developments, a tourism centre with visitor information services, café and cultural centre, transport interchange and landscaping developments.

### Return of Passenger Rail Services

Passenger rail services have not been available in Mildura since 1993 and we are the only major regional Victorian centre without a passenger train. The proposed service would run between Mildura and Melbourne, via Maryborough and Ballarat with a travel time of less than seven hours. A train service would reduce the impacts of isolation in our community, particularly for low income earners, the elderly, young people without a licence and people with a disability. It would also provide another way for tourists to visit the district.

