

An aerial photograph of a suburban neighborhood. A wide, multi-lane road runs diagonally from the top left towards the bottom right. To the left of the road, there are several houses with light-colored roofs and some trees. To the right of the road, there are more houses, some with solar panels, and a large area of trees. In the background, there is a large, flat, open field, possibly a farm or a construction site. The overall scene is a mix of residential development and open land.

CARDROSS

Community Plan

2025 ~ 2030

Acknowledgement of Country

Mildura Rural City Council, alongside Cardross Progress Association Inc, acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land and we pay our respects to Elders past and present and emerging.

We also celebrate and respect the continuing cultures of the First Nations people of the area and acknowledge the continuing connection of their ancestors.



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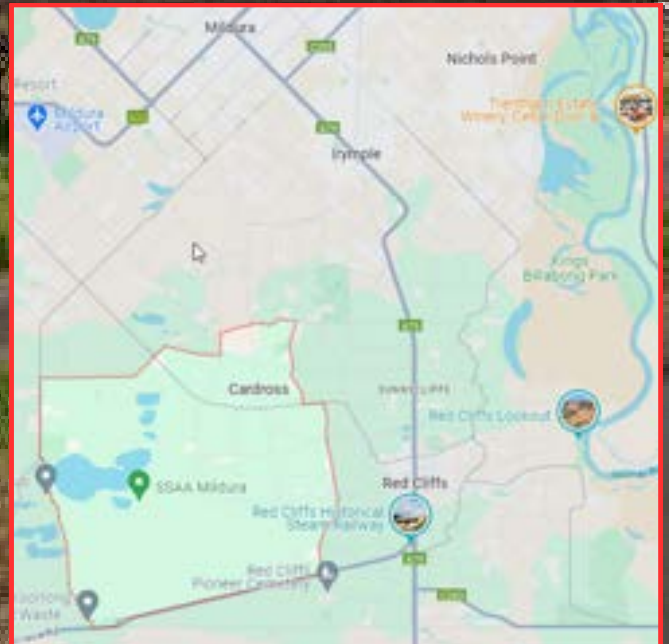
Cardross Community Data 2024

51 Thank you

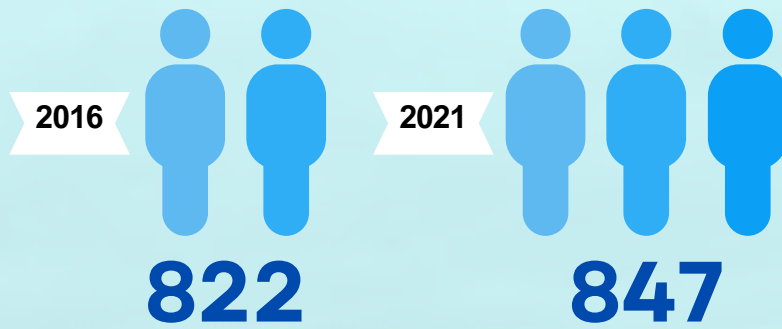
OUR CARDROSS



Approximately 15km
south-east of Mildura



Population



222

Families in the district



Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

23

Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing is the main industry of employment



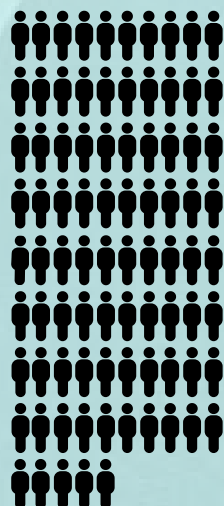
Dwellings



318

Country of Birth

85% Australia



1% Thailand



1% Turkey



1% South Africa



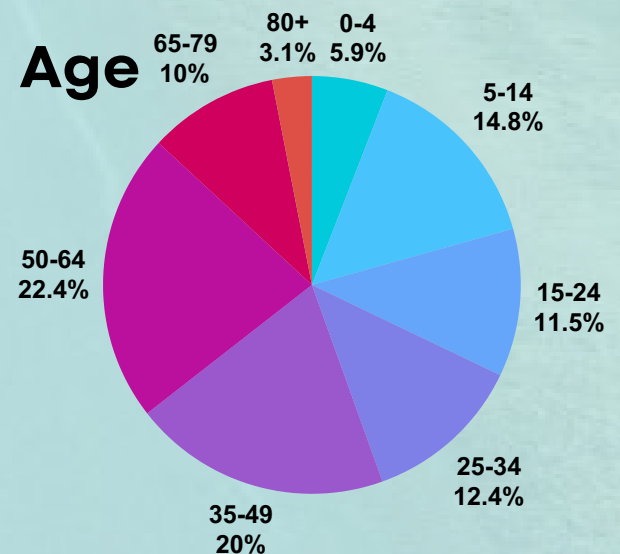
1% Malaysia



1% New Zealand



Age



Our Values

Our community values a peaceful, safe, and caring rural lifestyle with strong family and neighbour connections, excellent local amenities and a commitment to fostering social relationships and community spirit.

Our Mission

Our mission is to enhance Cardross with improved infrastructure, essential services and vibrant community amenities, fostering a safe, accessible and thriving environment for all residents.

Our Vision

Our vision for Cardross is to grow as a safe, quiet, and charming rural community with enhanced infrastructure, excellent services and vibrant community spirit, while maintaining its small-town appeal.





PURPOSE OF THE CARDROSS COMMUNITY PLAN

The Cardross community is home to a diverse range of families and individuals who have chosen to live here due to its convenient location—close to town yet distinct. People also come to Cardross for various activities such as sports and theatre, and to benefit from the high-quality primary educational facilities that offer a more personalised education for children. Additionally, the area boasts a close-knit community atmosphere.

The main reason for developing a community plan for Cardross is to give residents a voice in shaping the future of their community.

The residents of Cardross have identified various needs and desires for their community. These include not only basic necessities, but also additional features required to meet the ongoing needs of the community and support its growth.



Through community consultations, it has become clear that residents want to have a say in their future. A community plan is necessary for several reasons:

- To identify what is important to the community
- To allow residents to influence how the township grow and develop
- To acknowledge the existing needs and wants of community members
- To establish a clear plan and direction for the future
- To foster a stronger sense of community and improve connections within it
- To ensure the community's sustainability across various levels:
 - Physical infrastructure and public facilities
 - Community wellbeing
 - Community involvement
 - Environmental sustainability

Six

Major achievements from the prior Cardross & Koorlong Community Plan

2

Improve playground and family friendly equipment at recreation reserve

BBQ purchase and installation funded by the district service group (May 2013).



1

Undertake plantings & beautification works along main street

200 native trees, planted by 40 students from Cardross Primary School on National Tree Day July 2014. They were planted at the Cardross Reserve



3

Improve sporting facilities/amenities at the Cardross Recreation Reserve

Cardross Community Complex and new public toilets completed 2013 from Flood Recovery money, and renewed oval, netball courts opened



4

Improve lighting in public toilets at recreation reserve

Auto lights installed in new toilets and extra lighting installed outside toilets to light the carpark and walkway to the public toilet at night installed.



6

Create a community newsletter & website

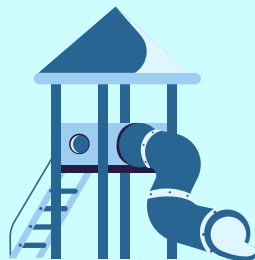
Cardross / Koorlong Facebook account set up (2013/14) and information placed on it relating to Cardross Progress Association, other community news and has regular contributions from community groups on events and items.



5

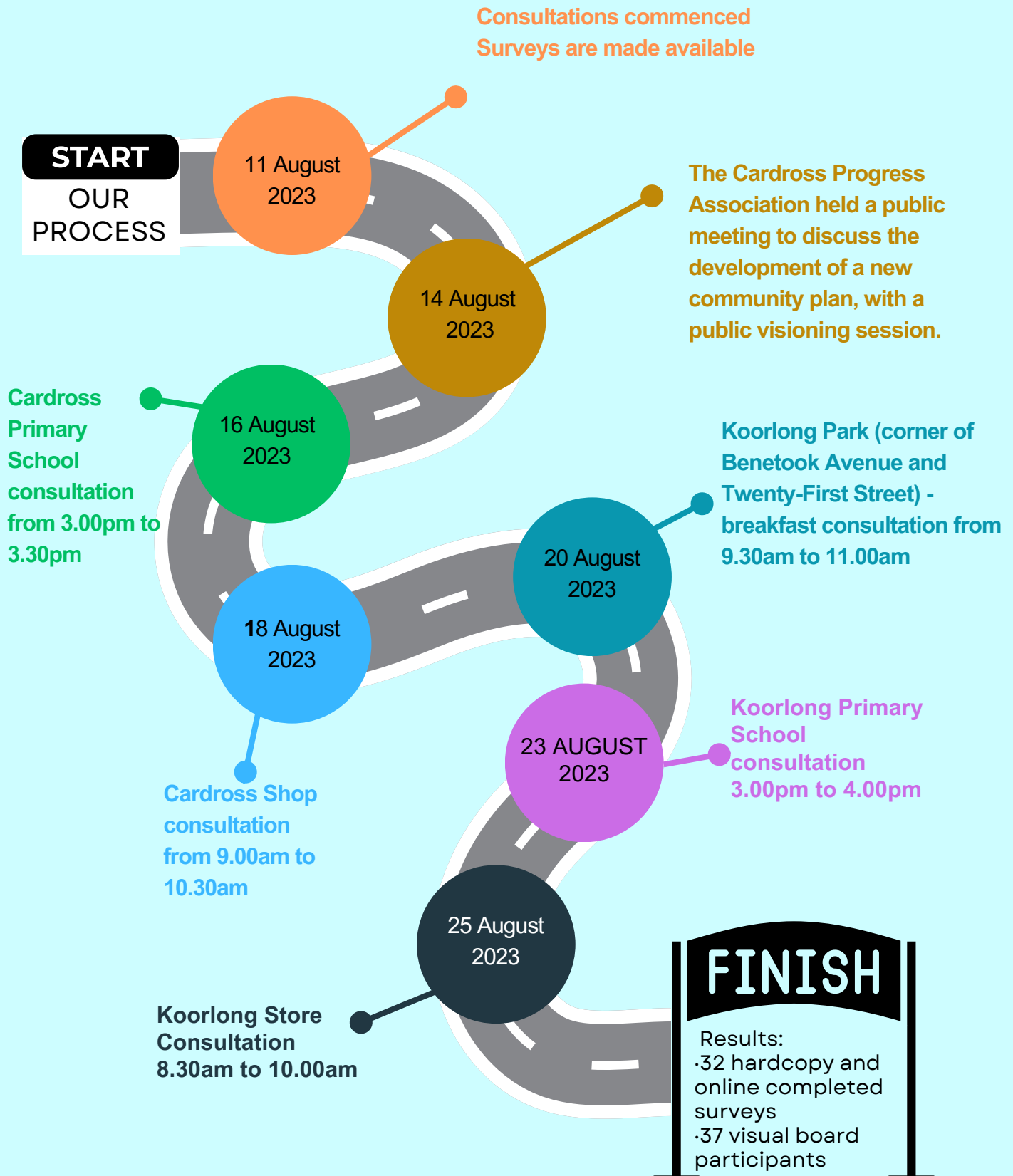
Improve the amount of playground & family friendly equipment at the reserve (ie-: play equipment, BBQ etc)

Playground equipment funded from flood recovery money and community consulted for what they wanted installed with the money allocated. (May 2013)



HOW WE ENGAGED

Community and stakeholder engagement was central to everything we did in developing this plan. It not only informed our priorities, but it kept us on track throughout the whole process. Below is a summary of the engagement schedule we used to develop the plan.





Cardross & Koorlong Community Plan - Visioning Sessions

We're partnering with the Cardross Progressive Association to update the Cardross & Koorlong Community Plan. Community Plans provide a wealth of information, while helping to determine what is valued by local communities and residents.

A series of public visioning sessions are planned throughout the Cardross & Koorlong areas across the following dates:

- 📅 Monday 14 August from 6pm to 8pm - Cardross Hall
 - 📅 Wednesday 16 August from 3pm to 3.30pm - Cardross School consultation
 - 📅 Friday 18 August from 9am to 10.30am - Cardross Shop
 - 📅 Sunday 20 August from 9.30am to 11am (breakfast consultation) - Koorlong Park (corner of Benetook Avenue and Twenty-First Street)
 - 📅 Wednesday 23 August from 3pm to 4pm - Koorlong School (afterschool sessions)
 - 📅 Friday 25 August from 8.30am to 10am - Koorlong Store
- 📄 For more information about the community plan, or to provide your feedback online, please visit yoursay.mildura.vic.gov.au/CardrossKoorlongCommunityPlan



HISTORY OF CARDROSS

The north-west area of the Red Cliffs Soldiers' Settlement was one of the last allocations to be opened up. It was originally known as north-west Red Cliffs but as many of the settlers came from overseas, including retired army officers from the English and Indian armies, it was soon nick-named "New England."

One very hot Sunday, the English settlers gathered under the shade of a huge pepper tree on Block 698-99 clustered around a small table. Mr. Harry Youngs of Block 616 agreed to contact "Steele Blayde", a Sunraysia Daily reporter, to explain to him the resentment felt by the use of the nick-name.

A meeting was then called of the whole district. It was held at Mr. L.G. Painter's property on Wednesday March 5, 1924. Major G. Hooper was elected chairman, Mr. L.G. Painter organising secretary, this was the first of many meetings.

In April 1925, a meeting was held to choose a name for the new township, four names being selected, Cardross, Kenyon, Sundale and Sinai. A ballot was held and the name Cardross was selected. Mrs. Agnes Torney, whose family came from Cardross, Scotland, had put forward its name.

From the beginning Cardross was a very busy close-knit community and in a request for the establishment of a new township, they asked for a school, church, business and residential buildings, a public hall, a packing shed and recreational facilities.

From the start, the Cardross Progress Association was exceptionally alive, and on 14th May, 1925 a dance was held at Bright's shop, the first function held in the township, the profits of the dance being divided equally between the newly formed school committee and the Progress Association.

The school began in what was known as the "Meat Safe" with 30 people attending school by December 1925. The new school costing three thousand four hundred pounds and consisting of two rooms and a cloakroom officially opened on February 26th, 1926 and over the years until the present day further extensions and alterations have taken place.

Camp in the new settlement – Mary Chandler

In 1925 the Cardross Cricket Club was formed and shortly after a Tennis Club and over the years the town has sported a Soccer Team, a Golf Club, a Rifle Club, Aussie Rules Football Club, a Life Saving Club which was the first registered inland life saving club and the Cardross Rowing Club which contained both a men's and women's team. For many years the Cardross Lake was the venue for the last two groups, plus it was very popular for picnics and swimming. Today Cardross still has a Cricket Club and a Football/Netball club.

Over the years Cardross also had a butchers shop, two general stores, a school, health centre, scout hall, church and of course a Hall. The original Hall was a shed purchased from the Red Cliffs Co-op for One hundred pounds. It burnt down in 1938. The new and current hall opened later in the year. It cost One thousand five hundred pounds and was built and paid for by the community.

It was used for dances, balls, kitchen teas, engagements, weddings, concerts, (the Blind Concert was a very popular event) parties, the Mothers' Club, Cardross School, and today Red Cliffs Players, and of course for the Spring Show.

The Cardross Progress Association reformed in 2001 to restore the Hall to its former glory. Thousands of dollars have already been spent on the Hall, the last being a new roof on the outside and a newly repaired ceiling on the inside.

Red Cliffs Players now operate out of the Hall and are working in partnership with the Progress Association Committee. They have built "Lizzie's Room" an addition out the back to store their props and each year hold several productions in the Hall.

Cardross is still a progressive close-knit community and welcomes all newcomers to its midst. New houses are springing up and the town has expanded over the years. The community looks forward to continuing prosperity and growth.



THEME 1

Connected Community



*We value community spirit -
neighbours helping
neighbours*



OBJECTIVE

A cohesive and resilient community fostered through participation and connection.

ACTION 1

Encourage and support local community and family events

Next steps

- Investigate opportunities for the interactions and connections for the Cardross Community e.g. community meal once a month.

Partners

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Cardross Progress Association Inc, community groups, residents, external stakeholders.

Links

- MRCC Events Strategy 2025
- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC grants
- State and Federal grant funding

ACTION 2

Explore and support youth engagement activities or programs e.g. performing arts

Next steps

- Identify opportunities for Youth activities and events throughout the Cardross area.
- Improve accessibility for Cardross youth to attend local events.
- Develop partnerships e.g. with Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Youth Services.
- Investigate funding and grant opportunities for youth events.

Partners

MRCC Youth Services, Victorian Police, Cardross Progress Association Inc, local sporting groups, Homebase, Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS), Hands Up Mallee (HUM), Sunraysia Community Health Service (SCHS), Mallee Accommodation and Support Program (MASP), Red Cliffs Players Inc.

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025 Advocacy Plan
- MRCC Youth Engagement Strategy 2020-23
- MRCC Playground Strategy 2021-26 & Recreation Strategy 2021-31

ACTION 3

Promote the well-being and quality of life for ageing residents within the community

Next steps

- Undertake an assessment of the needs and challenges faced by ageing residents in Cardross.
- Organise regular community meetings or workshops to involve ageing residents.
- Gather input and ideas for programs and initiatives.
- Collaborate with local health professionals and organisations to offer outreach programs i.e. fitness classes, nutrition workshops, and mental health support.
- Support social gatherings, outings, and hobby clubs to reduce isolation.

Partners

State & Federal Governments, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Sunraysia Community Health, Northern Mallee Area Mental Health Service, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH), MRCC Positive Ageing

Links

- MRCC Community Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Plan 2021-2025 – Advocacy Plan

ACTION 4

Bring community members together in a fun and relaxed outdoor setting, fostering social connections and community spirit

Next steps

- Organise a community picnic in a local park and encourage attendees to bring their own picnic baskets, picnic tables and blankets.
- Provide engaging activities for all ages e.g. plan games and activities such as sack races, tug-of-war, and scavenger hunts.
- provide activities for children i.e. craft station.
- Arrange live music or a local DJ to provide entertainment.

Partners

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Community Development staff, Cardross Progress Association Inc, community groups, residents, internal & external stakeholders, MRCC Events unit.

Links

- MRCC Events Strategy 2025
- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC grants.
- State & Federal grant funding.

ACTION 5

Emergency preparedness

Next steps

- Seek training opportunities for community members
- Advocate to be a source for information residents
- Review local emergency services and how information is provided
- Seek opportunities to support community preparedness and resilience for future emergencies.

Partners

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee, emergency services, Lower Murray Water, Mallee Catchment Management Authority, Environmental Protection Agency, Cardross Progress Association Inc

Links

- MRCC Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2021
- MRCC Municipal Relief and Recovery Plan
- MRCC Community Vision 2021 - 2040
- Victorian State Emergency Management Plan
- Local Government Act 2020

ACTION 6

Foster community spirit and provide a relaxed environment for residents to socialise and connect

Next steps

- Organise a regular coffee morning at the local hall.
- Provide engaging activities to encourage interaction e.g. small group discussions and/or invite local speakers

Partners

Cardross Progress Association Inc, community

Links

- Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Community Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040
- MRCC Plan 2021-2025

ACTION 7

Inspire an act of civic pride and working together as a community to clean up, fix up and conserve the environment

Next steps

- Identify groups and programs for roadside and public space clean ups.
- Support Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) to implement ongoing green waste collection.
- Provide community education on how to use Snap, Send and Solve regarding illegal dumping of rubbish, overgrown trees, etc.
- Encourage activities or initiatives that foster civic pride.

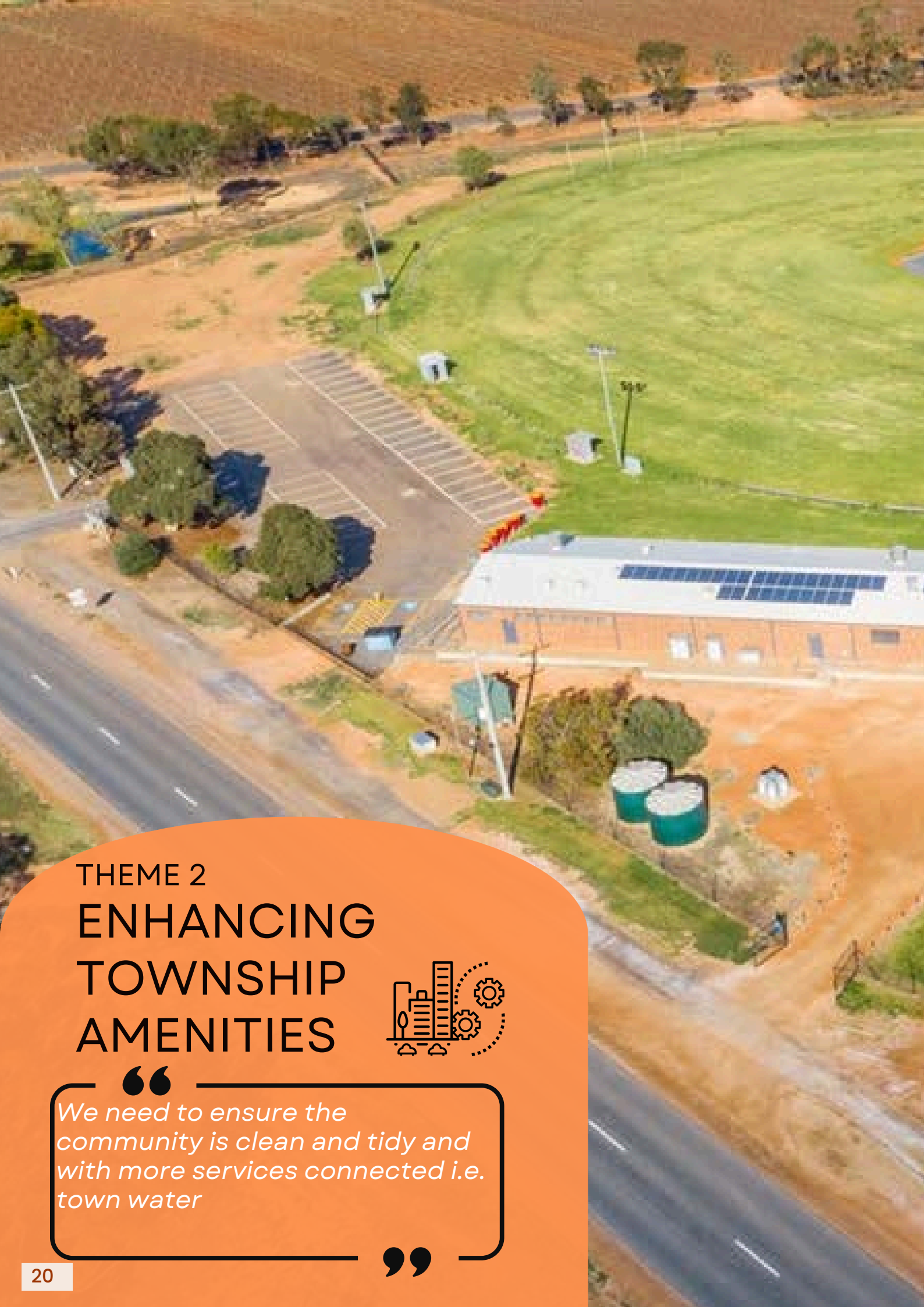
Partners

Cardross Progress Association Inc and Community, MRCC Environmental Sustainability Unit, MRCC Parks & Gardens, MRCC Waste Services, Landcare.

Links

- MRCC Environmental Education Plan 2020-24
- MRCC Environmental Sustainability Report 2020-21
- MRCC Litter and Illegal Dumping Strategy 2020-25
- MRCC Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022-26
- MRCC Invasive Plants and Animals Plan 2020-24
- MRCC Vegetation Management Plan 2020-24
- MRCC Parks and Waste Services
- Environmental Education Plan 2020-2024





THEME 2 ENHANCING TOWNSHIP AMENITIES



We need to ensure the community is clean and tidy and with more services connected i.e. town water



OBJECTIVE

A network of community infrastructure supporting the health, social wellbeing & economic prosperity and to strengthen our sense of belonging

ACTION 1

Support township entrance signage project

Next steps

- Form partnerships with authorities. Review and conduct a township signage audit. Investigate new signage options and funding strategy.

Partners - Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Regional Roads Victoria

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-40

ACTION 2

Improve road safety

Next steps

- Advocate for the assessment of the current road conditions to identify priority areas for treatment.

Partners

Cardross Progress Association Inc, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Regional Roads Victoria

Links

- MRCC Road Safety Strategy
- Community Access and Inclusion Plan 2014 -2018
- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- Road Management Plan

ACTION 3

Take action to protect and enhance green spaces

Next steps

- Identify opportunities for community involvement in National Tree Planting Day and caring for the environment.
- Organise tree planting events and ensure proper maintenance of existing trees.
- Encourage residents to become involved in conservation efforts such as clean up days.
- Investigate options for street beautification through native plants and a rain garden.

Partners

Cardross Progress Association Inc, community groups, residents, Landcare, Greening Mildura, Lower Murray Water, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Environmental Sustainability staff, MRCC Parks and Gardens staff, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)

Links

- MRCC Community Vision 2021 – 2040
- MRCC Urban Tree Strategy 2021 – 2026
- MRCC Native Vegetation and Pest Management Plan 2024 - 2028
- MRCC Environmental Engagement Action Plan 2024 - 2028

ACTION 4

Enhance community health and quality of life by upgrading sewage systems and ensuring access to clean water

Next steps

- Identify current issues with sewage and water access.
- Work with engineers to assess the feasibility of proposed upgrades.

Partners

Cardross Progress Association Inc, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Infrastructure and Assets staff, MRCC Strategic Planning, Lower Murray Water.

Links

- MRCC Community Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040
- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Council Asset Plan 2022 -2031



ACTION 5

Enhance the functionality, accessibility, and aesthetic appeal of the public hall and surrounding infrastructure to better serve the community's needs

Next steps

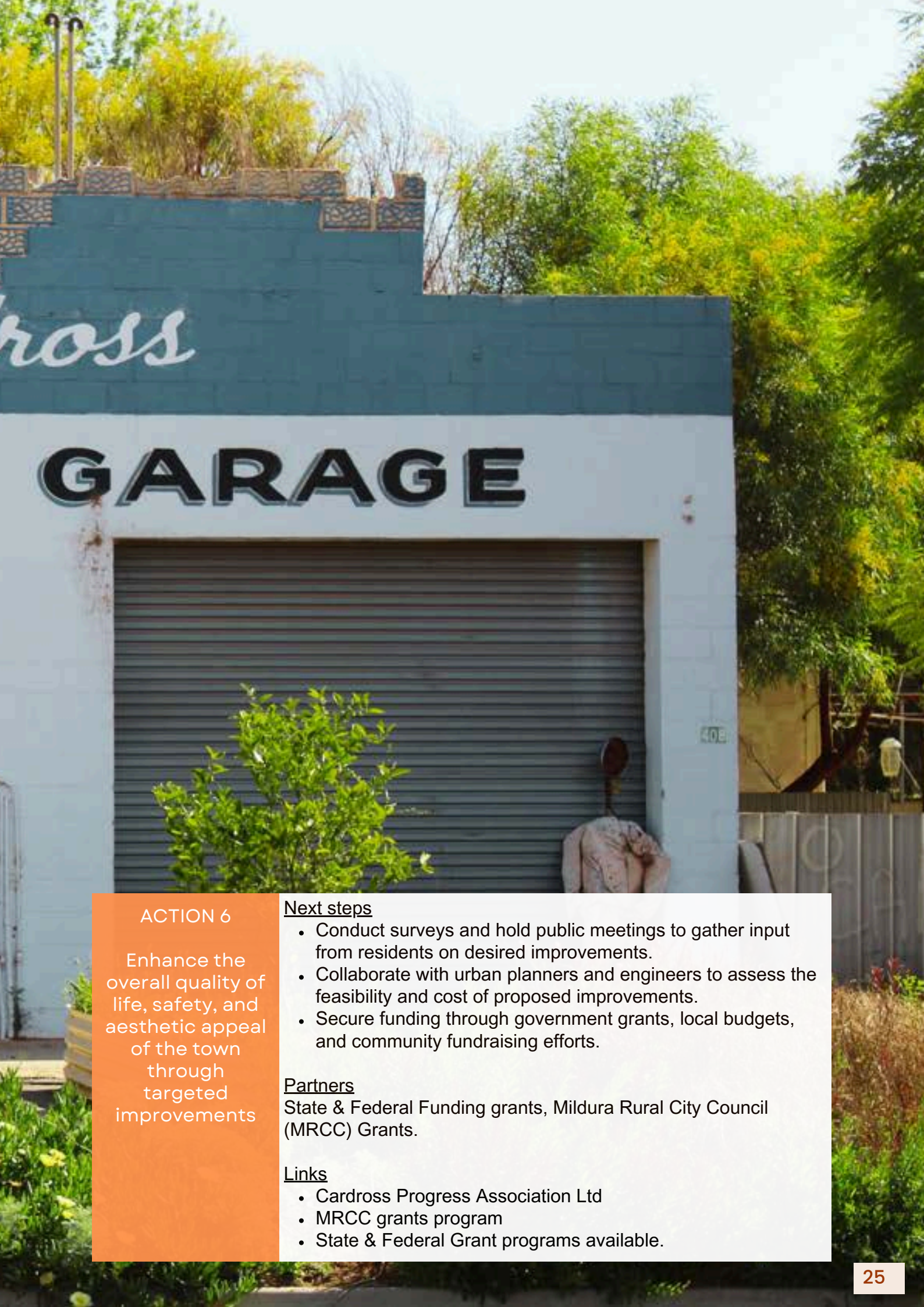
- Conduct surveys and hold meetings to gather input from residents and stakeholders on desired improvements.
- Identify and secure funding through government grants, local budgets, and community fundraising efforts.
- Develop a long-term maintenance plan to keep the town hall in good condition and extend its lifespan. Incorporating sustainable practices such as energy-efficient lighting, water-saving fixtures, solar panels and the use of eco-friendly materials.

Partners

State & Federal Funding grants, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Grants

Links

- Cardross Progress Association Ltd
- MRCC grants program
- State & Federal Grant programs available.



ACTION 6

Enhance the overall quality of life, safety, and aesthetic appeal of the town through targeted improvements

Next steps

- Conduct surveys and hold public meetings to gather input from residents on desired improvements.
- Collaborate with urban planners and engineers to assess the feasibility and cost of proposed improvements.
- Secure funding through government grants, local budgets, and community fundraising efforts.

Partners

State & Federal Funding grants, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Grants.

Links

- Cardross Progress Association Ltd
- MRCC grants program
- State & Federal Grant programs available.

THEME 3

ADVOCACY



*We need to plan for services
for growth, youth & aging,
schools and community groups*





OBJECTIVE

Empowering community members by advocating for equitable policies, amplifying local voices and fostering partnerships that drive social change

ACTION 1

Ensure the community's infrastructure and services are equipped to support growth and meet the diverse needs of youth, aging populations, schools, and various community groups

Next steps

- Gather input from residents, schools, youth organisations, senior groups, and other stakeholders to identify service gaps and priorities.
- Expand recreational facilities, after-school programs, develop mentorship and career development programs for young people.
- Create social and recreational programs to support active aging.
- Support cultural, social, and recreational activities that promote community engagement.

Partners

State & Federal Governments, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Sunraysia Community Health, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, MRCC Positive Ageing, Department of Education, MRCC Strategic Planning

Links

- MRCC Community Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC 2021-2025 – Advocacy Plan
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040

ACTION 2

Investigate and improve public transport options

Next steps

- Consult with Public Transport Victoria on bus routes during their next review.
- Consult with Mildura Taxi companies regarding providing regular service to area.

Partners

Public Transport Victoria, Mildura Bus Lines, Regional Roads Victoria, Cardross Community, Cardross Progress Association Inc, Mildura Taxis, City Taxis Sunraysia, Urcab Mildura

Links

- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Community Vision 2021-40

ACTION 3

Enhance the safety of students and pedestrians by implementing effective school crossing measures

Next steps -

- Collaborate with traffic engineers to study traffic patterns and identify high-risk areas near the school.
- Gather input from parents, school staff, and students to understand their concerns and suggestions for school crossing improvements.

Partners

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Road Safety Officer, Regional Roads Victoria, Cardross Primary School

Links

- MRCC Road Safety Strategy
- Community Access and Inclusion Plan 2014 -2018
- MRCC Plan 2021-2025

ACTION 4

Build cultural awareness, understanding and respect between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members

Next steps

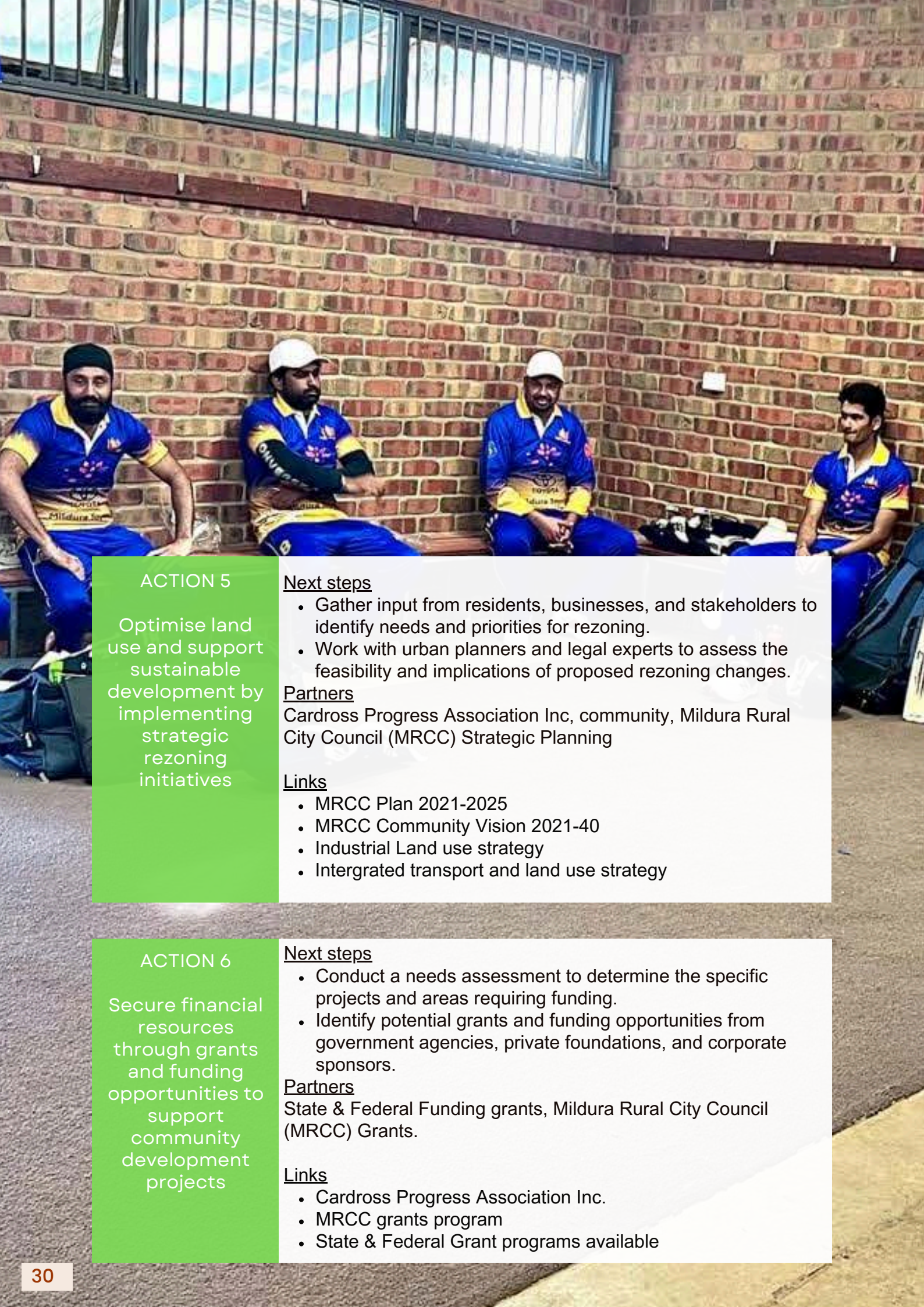
- Recognise the traditional custodians of Cardross and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the community, their heritage, culture and beliefs.
- Promote Aboriginal cultural celebrations that people of other cultures can be involved in
- Consider inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups in local events/activities

Partners

Ngiwa Yarna Committee, Cardross Progress Association Inc, First People of the Millewa Mallee Aboriginal Corporation, MDAS, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), MRCC Healthy Communities Department, residents, Cardross Primary School

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040
- Anti-Racism Strategy
- The Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
- Healthy and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025



ACTION 5

Optimise land use and support sustainable development by implementing strategic rezoning initiatives

Next steps

- Gather input from residents, businesses, and stakeholders to identify needs and priorities for rezoning.
- Work with urban planners and legal experts to assess the feasibility and implications of proposed rezoning changes.

Partners

Cardross Progress Association Inc, community, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Strategic Planning

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-40
- Industrial Land use strategy
- Intergrated transport and land use strategy

ACTION 6

Secure financial resources through grants and funding opportunities to support community development projects

Next steps

- Conduct a needs assessment to determine the specific projects and areas requiring funding.
- Identify potential grants and funding opportunities from government agencies, private foundations, and corporate sponsors.

Partners

State & Federal Funding grants, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Grants.

Links

- Cardross Progress Association Inc.
- MRCC grants program
- State & Federal Grant programs available



ACTION 7

Support participation and inclusion of culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) communities in social, economic and cultural life

Next steps

- Consider inclusion of multicultural groups in local events/activities.
- Have on offer information on a range of local services and sporting clubs, etc.

Partners - Cardross Progress Association Inc, Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council (SMECC), AMES, Cardross Primary School, Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), MRCC Community Development staff, residents.

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040
- Anti-Racism Strategy
- Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- Multicultural policy statement

THEME 4

RECREATION



“We need to be providing recreational facilities beyond just sporting facilities”





OBJECTIVE

To enhance the community's quality of life by developing accessible, diverse and sustainable recreational facilities and programs that promote physical health, social interaction and environmental stewardship

ACTION 1

Strengthen and expand local clubs and programs to promote physical activity, community engagement, and overall well-being

Next steps

- Assess existing sporting clubs, their membership levels, facilities, and programs.
- Gather input from residents, club members, and stakeholders to identify gaps and opportunities for growth.
- Host community events, such as sports tournaments and family fun days, to engage residents and promote club membership.
- Apply for grants and funding from government agencies, sports organisations, and private foundations.
- Organise fundraising events to generate additional resources for club growth and development.

Partners

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Recreation Staff, MRCC Community Development staff, Cardross Progress Association Inc, Community groups, residents, internal & external stakeholders

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31
- Cardross Progress Association Ltd
- Cardross Recreation Reserve Master Plan 2009 - 2019



ACTION 2

Investigate and support enhancements to sporting grounds and facilities, such as the Cardross Recreation Reserve, including the addition of an RV and/or caravan stopping site with a dumping station

Next steps

- Establish partnerships with appropriate services to investigate public community risk & grants.
- Secure Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) support to build an RV dumping point.
- Undertake a feasibility/site upgrade assessment.
- Consult with stakeholders around potential new dump point site.

Partners

MRCC Recreation Staff, MRCC Community Development staff, Cardross Progress Association Inc, Sporting Groups, MRCC Parks and Recreation Department, MRCC Facilities and Assets Department, Community groups, residents, internal & external stakeholders

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31
- Cardross Progress Association Ltd
- Cardross Recreation Reserve Master Plan 2009 – 2019
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-40



ACTION 3

Investigate and support the creation and/or continuation of mountain bike /cycling trails
E.g. trails linking nearby towns and walking trail

Next steps

- Secure Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) support to create, improve and upgrade local bike and walking tracks and connecting between surrounding towns.
- Gather input from local cyclists, outdoor enthusiasts, and residents to understand their needs and preferences.

Partners

State and Federal Funding grants, MRCC Road Safety team, Sport and Recreation Victoria, Walks Victoria, Lower Murray Water

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Asset Plan 2022-31
- Regional Roads Victoria
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)
- Mildura Tracks and Trails Strategy July 2012



ACTION 4

Promote physical activity and well-being by installing outdoor exercise stations accessible to all community members

Next steps

- Identify suitable locations for outdoor exercise stations, such as parks and walking trails.
- Conduct surveys and hold public meetings to gather input on preferred types of exercise equipment and locations.
- Organise demonstrations to teach residents how to use the equipment effectively and safely.

Partners

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) Recreation Staff, MRCC Community Development Staff, Cardross Progress Association Inc, Community Groups, residents, internal and external stakeholders.

Links

- MRCC Plan 2012- 2025
- MRCC Recreation Strategy 2021-31
- Mildura Public Open Space Strategy 2021
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040



THEME 5 PROMOTION/ TOURISM



“

I see cardross as a good growth area for people to have houses with big back yards and lots of young children to take advantage of our great little school and bush surroundings

”

SSPRING
TDOOR MARKET

OCTOBER 12

10:30am - 4:00pm
stalls from 9:30am



OBJECTIVE

To boost local tourism by promoting the community's unique cultural, historical and natural attractions, fostering sustainable tourism practices and enhancing visitor experiences to drive economic growth and community pride.

ACTION 1

Manage and support population growth to ensure sustainable development, economic prosperity, and a high quality of life for all residents

Next steps

- Undertake a detailed analysis of current and projected population trends to understand growth patterns and future needs.
- Evaluate existing infrastructure and services to identify areas that need expansion or improvement to accommodate population growth

Partners - Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Cardross Progress Association Inc, community groups, residents, MRCC Economic Development Team.

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040
- MRCC Visitor Servicing Strategy 2021-2025

ACTION 2

Stimulate economic growth and create job opportunities by attracting new businesses to the community

Next steps

- Develop a Business Plan for Cardross to identify potential industries and businesses that would thrive in the community.
- Establish a community working group to develop ideas, methods and public community grants available in attracting and retaining new business opportunities.

Partners - Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC), Cardross Progress Association Inc, community groups, residents, MRCC Economic Development Team.

Links

- MRCC Plan 2021-2025
- MRCC Community Vision 2021-2040
- MRCC Visitor Servicing Strategy 2021-2025



CONNECTED COMMUNITY	A cohesive and resilient community fostered by participation and strength	Encourage and support local community and family events
		Explore and support youth engagement activities or programs e.g. performing arts
		Promote the well-being and quality of life for ageing residents within the community
		Bring community members together in a fun and relaxed outdoor setting, fostering social connections and community spirit
		Emergency preparedness training
		Foster community spirit and provide a relaxed environment for residents to socialise and connect
		Inspire an act of civic pride working together as a community to clean up, fix up and conserve the environment
Enhancing Township Amenities	A network of community infrastructure supporting the health, social wellbeing & economic prosperity and to strengthen our sense of belonging	Support township entrance signage project
		Improve road safety, reduce maintenance costs, and enhance the overall infrastructure by sealing roads in the community
		Investigate actions to protect and enhance green spaces
		Enhance community health and quality of life by upgrading sewage systems and ensuring access to clean town water
		Enhance the functionality, accessibility, and aesthetic appeal of the public hall and surrounding infrastructure to better serve the community's needs
		Enhance the overall quality of life, safety, and aesthetic appeal of the town through targeted improvements
Advocacy	Empowering community members by advocating for equitable policies, amplifying local voices and fostering partnerships that drive social change	Ensure the community's infrastructure and services are equipped to support growth and meet the diverse needs of youth, aging populations, schools, and various community groups
		Investigate and improve public transport options
		Build cultural awareness, understanding and respect between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members
		Enhance the safety of students and pedestrians by implementing effective school crossing measures
		Optimise land use and support sustainable development by implementing strategic rezoning initiatives
		Secure financial resources through grants and funding opportunities to support community development projects
		Support participation and inclusion of culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) communities in social, economic and cultural life

Recreation

To enhance the community's quality of life by developing accessible, diverse and sustainable recreational facilities and programs that promote physical health, social interaction and environmental stewardship

Strengthen and expand local clubs and programs to promote physical activity, community engagement, and overall well-being

Investigate and support the creation and/or continuation of mountain bike /cycling trails E.g. trails linking nearby towns and walking trail

Investigate and support enhancements to sporting grounds and facilities, such as the Cardross Recreation Reserve, including the addition of an RV and/or caravan stopping site with a dumping station

Promote physical activity and well-being by installing outdoor exercise stations accessible to all community members

Promotion/ Tourism

To boost local tourism by promoting the community's unique cultural, historical and natural attractions, fostering sustainable tourism practices and enhancing visitor experiences to drive economic growth and community pride.

Manage and support population growth to ensure sustainable development, economic prosperity, and a high quality of life for all residents

Stimulate economic growth and create job opportunities by attracting new businesses to the community

Appendix One

Cardross Community Data 2024

All data is referring to the **2021** ABS Census, unless otherwise stated. For the purposes of this data the localities are defined by the boundaries as shown below.



Land size

Localities	Area (ha)	% of LGA	Persons / ha
Cardross	4,068	0.18%	0.21
Total (Mildura LGA)	2,208,192	100.00%	0.03

Population

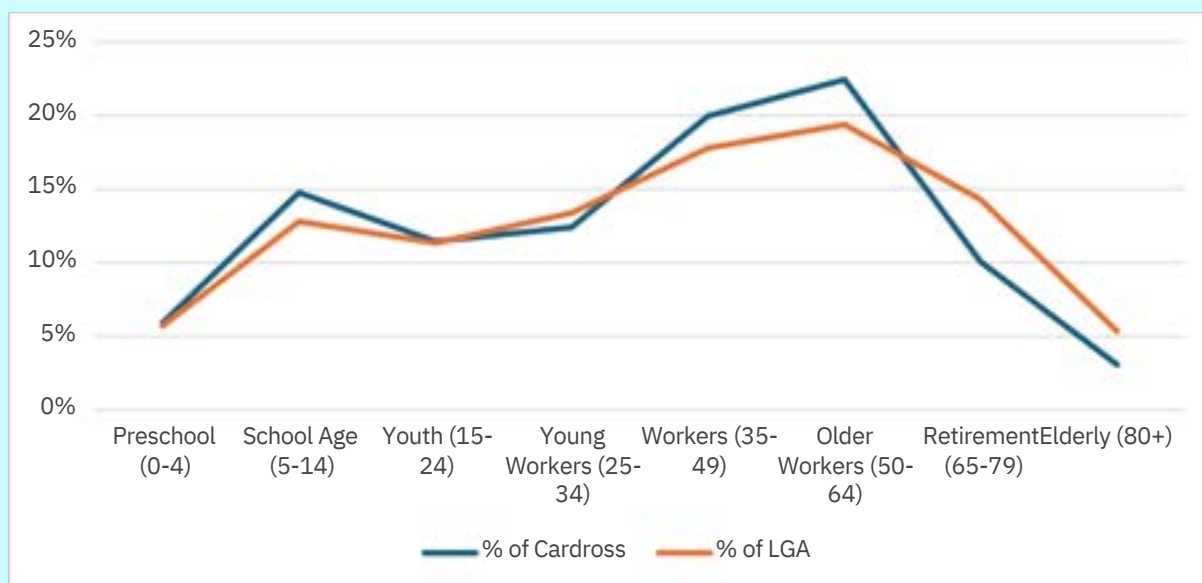
	2021					2016			Change from 2016 to 2021	
	Persons	% of LGA	Persons / ha	Males	Females	Persons	% of LGA	Persons / ha	Persons	% Change
Cardross	847	1.49%	0.21	442	400	822	1.53%	0.20	25	↑ 3.04%
Total	1,243	*2.18%	0.07	642	593	1,185	2.20%	0.07	58	↑ 4.89%

*2.18% of Mildura LGA population

Life Stages (Age)

Life Stage	Number of People	% of Locality	Change (2016 to 2021) Persons	Change (2016 to 2021) %
Pre-school				
(0-4)	50	5.90%	-6	↓ -10.71%
School Age (5-14)	125	14.76%	-23	↓ -15.54%
Youth (15-24)	97	11.45%	5	↑ 5.43%
Young Workers (25-34)	105	12.40%	10	↑ 10.53%
Workers (35-49)	169	19.95%	6	↑ 3.68%
Older Workers (50-64)	190	22.43%	22	↑ 13.10%
Retirement (65-79)	85	10.04%	-5	↓ -5.56%
Elderly (80+)	26	3.07%	16	↑ 160.00%
Total	847	100.00%	25	↑ 3.04%

Median Age 39



Note of Interest: Cardross has seen a decline in babies and school aged children, but a large (160%) increase in elderly. However, Cardross also has a higher than average population of Workers and Older Workers, indicating a strong workforce.

Cultural Diversity

	People	% of Locality	People 2016	% of Locality	Mildura LGA	%	Victoria	%
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	23	2.7%	13	1.6%	2,619	4.6%	65,646	1%
Country of Birth								
Australia	723	85.4%	664	80.0%	44,464	78%	4,228,667	65%
Other top responses:								
Thailand	12	1.4%						
Turkey	10	1.2%						
South Africa	7	0.8%						
Malaysia	6	0.7%						
New Zealand	5	0.6%						

Notes of Interest: Cardross has an indigenous population below the Mildura LGA average, but above the Victorian average of 1%.

In the 2021 census 85.4% of people stated they were born in Australia, which is well above the Mildura LGA average of 78%. The only other responses for country of birth were Thailand, Turkey, South Africa, Malaysia and New Zealand. This is quite different to the data from the 2016 census where 80.0% of people stated they were born in Australia. The other responses for country of birth were Italy 1.2%, Turkey 1.1%, Taiwan 0.8%, Germany 0.7% and New Zealand 0.6%

Household composition

	People	% of Locality	Mildura LGA	%	Victoria	%
Family households	222	79.6%	14,414	67.7%	1,676,129	70.1%
Single (or lone) person households	47	16.8%	6,177	29%	619,542	25.9%
Group households	10	3.6%	689	3.2%	94,559	4%

Average number of children per family 2

Note of Interest: The number of group households and single person households should be considered for future development as this influences the demand for different dwelling types (ie a higher share of single person households would increase demand for smaller, potentially low maintenance properties).

Dwellings

	Cardross	Mildura LGA	Victoria
Dwellings	318		
Average number of bedrooms per dwelling	3.3	3.1	3.1
Average number of people per household	2.9	2.4	2.5

Employment

Workforce participation & Volunteering

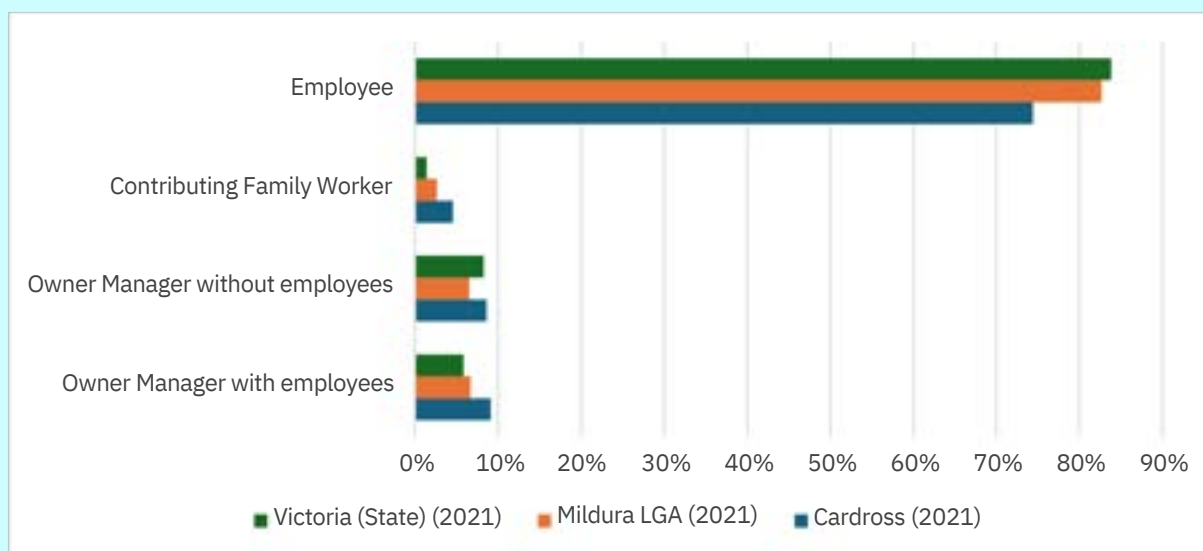
	People	% of Locality*	Mildura LGA	%*	Victoria	%*
Worked full-time	250	57.5%	14,908	56.3%	1,871,278	56.2%
Worked part-time	131	30.1%	8,280	31.3%	1,076,741	32.3%
Away from work	36	8.3%	1,916	7.2%	214,876	6.5%
Unemployed	16	3.7%	1,375	5.2%	167,667	5%
Volunteer work (through an organisation or group)	113	16.8%	6,347	13.7%	712,003	13.3%

*percentage of people in the labour force aged 15 and above

Employment Type (self employed)

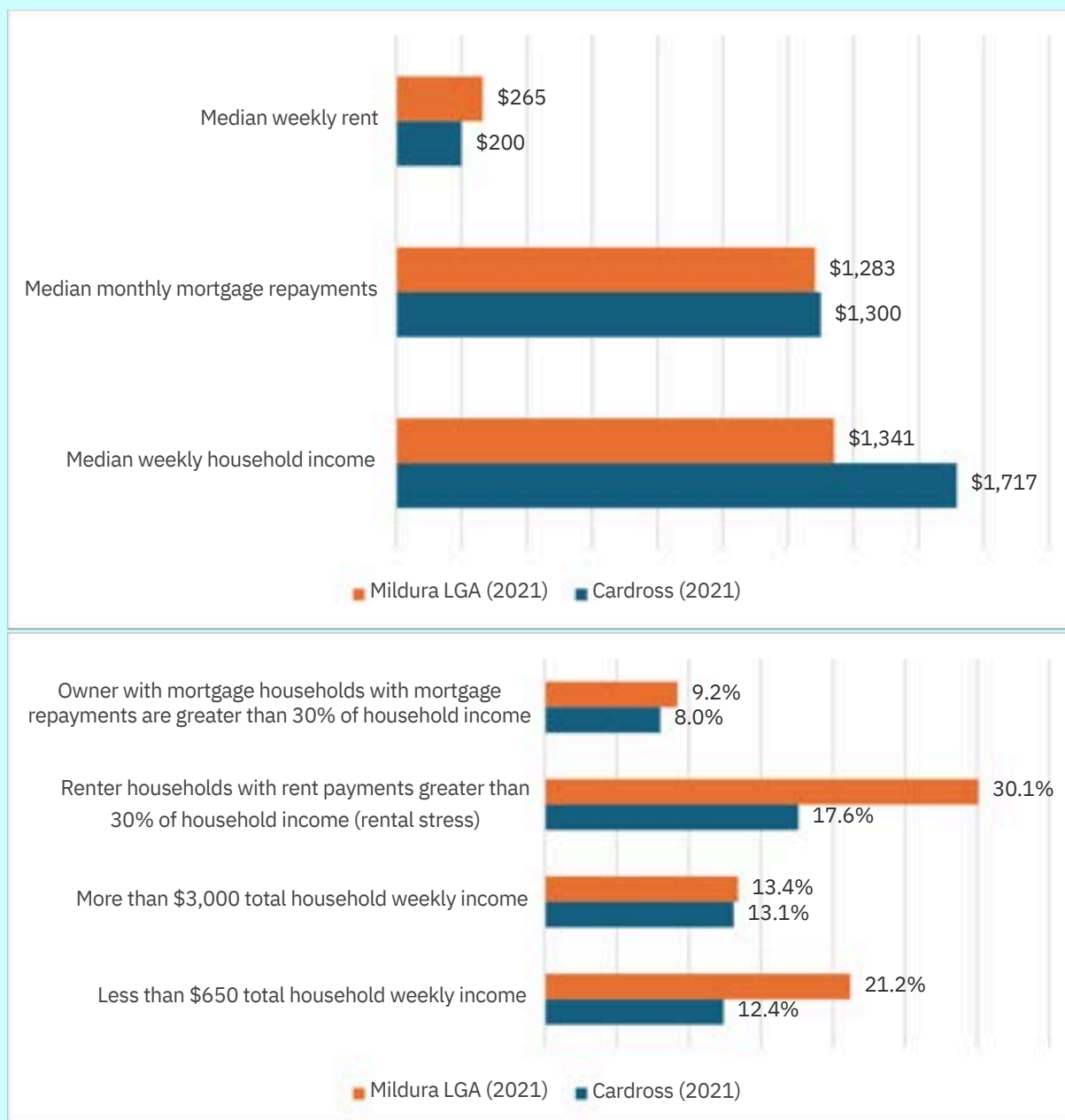
Type	Cardross		Mildura		Victoria	
	Persons	% of Locality*	Persons	%*	Persons	%*
Owner Manager with employees	38	9.09%	1679	6.69%	184188	8.25%
Owner Manager without employees	36	8.61%	1634	6.51%	260815	5.82%
Contributing Family Worker	19	4.55%	661	2.63%	43505	1.38%
Employee	311	74.40%	20752	82.68%	2650972	83.81%

*percentage of people in the labour force aged 15 and above



Household Income and Wealth

	Cardross	Mildura LGA	Victoria
Median weekly household income	\$1,717	\$1,341	\$1,759
Median monthly mortgage repayments	\$1,300	\$1,283	\$1,859
Median weekly rent	\$200	\$265	\$370
Less than \$650 total household weekly income	12.4%	21.2%	16.4%
More than \$3,000 total household weekly income	13.1%	13.4%	24.2%
Renter households with rent payments greater than 30% of household income (rental stress)	17.6%	30.1%	30.9%
Owner with mortgage households with mortgage repayments are greater than 30% of household income	8%	9.2%	15.5%



Notes of Interest: Due to the sensitive nature and small population numbers only a percentage (rather than actual figure) is available for the townships.

It should be noted that these figures are from the 2021 census. Due to the substantial growth of the housing market and a tight rental market in Australia, including regional Victoria, these figures should be used as guide rather than current figures. For example, the median rent for houses in 2023 is estimated at \$420 per for the Mildura LGA, compared to \$265 in 2021.

Health and Wellbeing

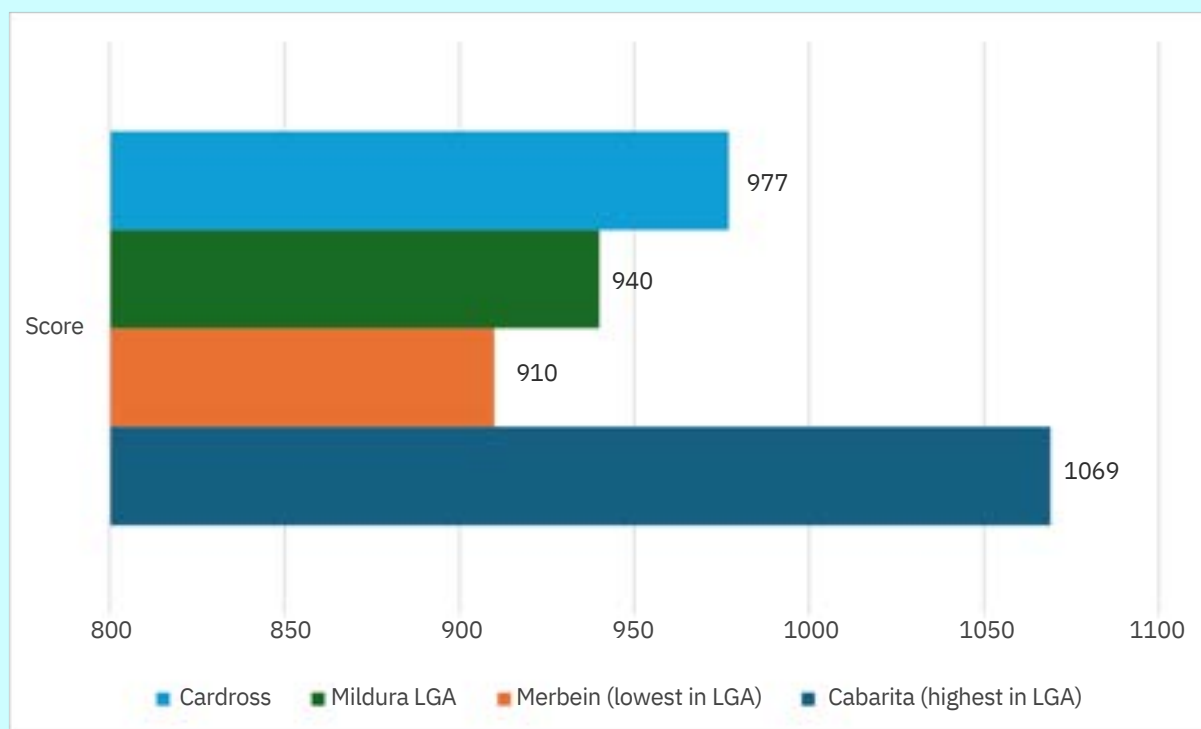
SEIFA Disadvantage score

Socio Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) is a suite of indexes that have been created by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from social and economic Census information.

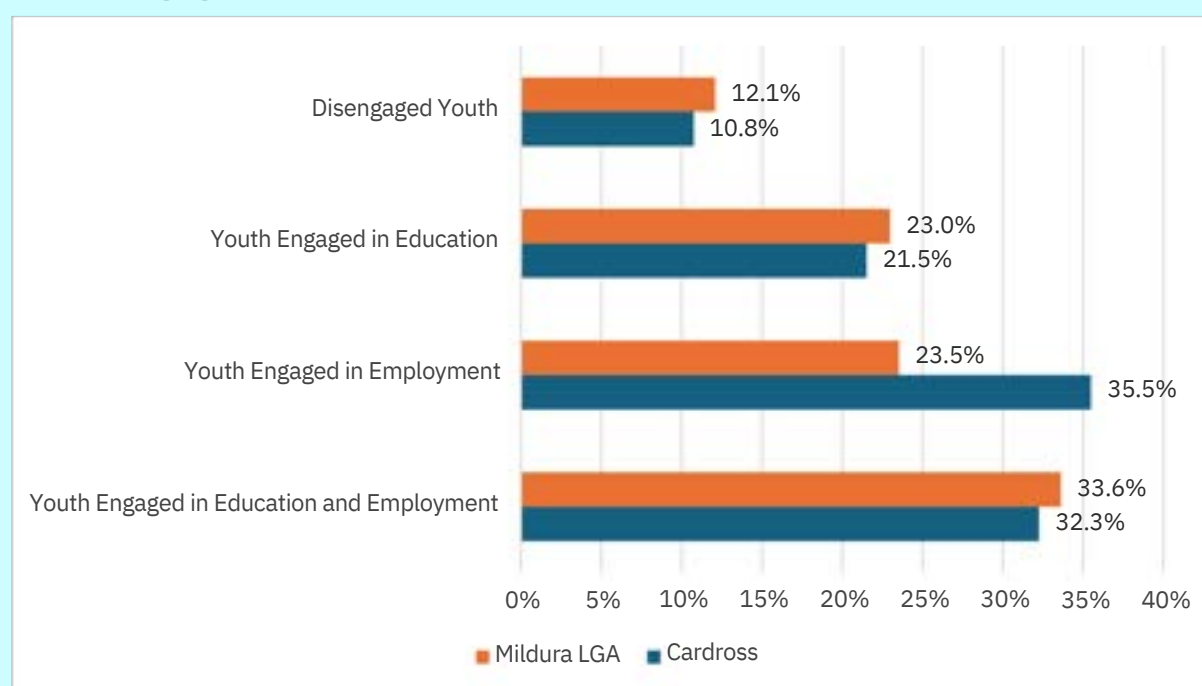
A low score indicates relatively greater disadvantage, for example due to (among other things): many households with low income, many people with no qualifications, or many people in low skilled occupations.

A high score indicates a relative lack of disadvantage in general, for example due to (among other things): few households with low incomes, few people with no qualifications, and few people in low skilled occupations.

Localities	SEIFA Disadvantage		
	Score	National Rank	Victorian Rank
Cardross	977	4,216 / 14,462	576/2823
Mildura LGA	940	133 / 547	Equal 5/80



Youth Engagement



‘Youth’ refers to the population between the age of 15 – 24 years.

*Disengaged youth identifies persons aged 15 – 24 who are either ‘unemployed’ or ‘not in the labour force’ and not enrolled in education.

Main industries of employment

Industry	2021		2016		Change from 2016 to 2021	
	Persons	%	Persons	%	Persons	%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	58	13.91%	55	16.32%	3	↑ 5.45%
Retail Trade	55	13.19%	47	13.95%	8	↑ 17.02%
Construction	39	9.35%	19	5.64%	20	↑↑ 105.26%
Health Care and Social Assistance	33	7.91%	29	8.61%	4	↑ 13.79%
Manufacturing	31	7.43%	20	5.93%	11	↑ 55.00%

Notes of Interest: The largest component of the ‘Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing’ industry is ‘Grape Growing and ‘Citrus Fruit Growing’, as well as ‘Nursery Production (Outdoors)’.

There has been a significant increase in people employed in ‘Construction’ and ‘Manufacturing’.

Climate

Long-Term Averages

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Years
<i>Temperature</i>														
Mean maximum temperature (°C)	32.6	31.8	28.6	23.7	19.1	16.0	15.5	17.4	20.7	24.2	27.7	30.4	24.0	78 1946 2024
Mean minimum temperature (°C)	16.9	16.5	13.9	10.2	7.4	5.2	4.4	5.2	7.4	9.9	12.6	15.0	10.4	78 1946 2024
<i>Rainfall</i>														
Mean rainfall (mm)	23.2	20.5	18.9	19.6	25.1	22.6	24.6	25.3	26.5	29.3	26.3	24.3	286.2	77 1946 2024
Mean number of days of rain ≥ 1 mm	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.8	4.0	4.6	5.0	5.2	4.3	4.4	3.7	2.7	43.6	77 1946 2024

Source: Bureau of Meteorology – Monthly climate statistics Mildura Airport

Disclaimer

All figures, data and commentary presented in this software are based on data sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), most of which relates to the 2021 and 2016 Census.

ABS sourced data has been randomly adjusted by the ABS to avoid the release of confidential data. The ABS states that "No reliance should be placed on small cells."

These changes may cause the sum of rows or columns to differ by small amounts from the table totals.

Sources

[2021 Cardross, Census All persons QuickStats | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

[REMPLAN Community](#)

[Climate statistics for Australian locations \(bom.gov.au\)](#)



Thank You

The Cardross Progress Association Inc has developed this plan with the support of our community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the dedicated and caring community members who took part in our engagement process. Your ideas, suggestions and feedback are reflected in this Community Plan, which will help shape a vibrant and prosperous future for our beautiful region.

Get Involved

You can actively participate in decision-making for the Cardross community through the Cardross Progress Association Inc.

Contact Us

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3496

Feel free to reach out and engage with us!





Cardross

TAYLORS GARAGE

CARDROSS GENERAL STORE

LIC. POST OFFICE

POST

Home of The Famous Cardy Burger

BEER GARDEN
ALCOHOL AT REAR

CARDROSS
PUBLIC HALL
1938

CARDROSS SCHOOL
4263

CARDROSS COMMUNITY COMPLEX
HOME OF THE LIONS
CARDROSS RECREATION RESERVE
COMMUNITY COMPLEX
860 - AREA - PLAYGROUND - NETBALL COURTS
PARKING - DUAL

GO
CARDY

CARDROSS
PRIMARY SCHOOL

CARDROSS
CARDY

CARDROSS
Primary

FIRST PEOPLE OF
THE MILLERNA-MALLIE
Latji Latji & Ngintalt