



Mildura Rural City Council

AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council

5:30pm Thursday 22 December 2022

VENUE:

**Committee & Council Room
76 Deakin Ave, Mildura**

**NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
5:30pm Wednesday 25 January 2023**

Copies of Mildura Rural City Council's Agendas & Minutes
can be obtained online at www.mildura.vic.gov.au

Prayer

Almighty God,

We who are gathered together in Council,
pledge ourselves to work in harmony for
the welfare and development of our Rural City.

Guide us, we pray, in our deliberations,
help us to be fair in our judgement and
wise in our actions,
so that prosperity and happiness
shall be the lot of our people.

Amen.

Acknowledgement of Country

“I would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors”.

Note to Councillors

Declaration of Interest

Councillors should note that in accordance with section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, there is an obligation to declare a conflict of interest in a matter before Council.

A conflict of interest can be *general* or *material* in nature.

A Councillor has a *general conflict of interest* if an impartial, fair-minded person would consider that the Councillor's private interests could result in that Councillor acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.

- Private interests means any direct or indirect interest of a Councillor that does not derive from their public duty and does not include an interest that is only a matter of personal opinion or belief.
- Public duty means the responsibilities and obligations that a Councillor has to members of the public in their role as an elected representative.

A Councillor has a *material conflict of interest* if an affected person would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter.

The benefit may arise or the loss incurred –

- (a) directly or indirectly; or
- (b) in a pecuniary or non-pecuniary form.

An *Affected Person* includes:

- (a) the relevant person;
- (b) a family member of the relevant person;
- (c) a body corporate of which the relevant person or their spouse or domestic partner is a Director or a member of the governing body;
- (d) an employer of the relevant person, unless the employer is a public body;
- (e) a business partner of the relevant person;
- (f) a person for whom the relevant person is a consultant, contractor or agent;
- (g) a beneficiary under a trust or an object of a discretionary trust of which the relevant person is a trustee;
- (h) a person from whom the relevant person has received a disclosable gift.

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

A Councillor must make full disclosure of a conflict of interest by advising the type and nature of the interest immediately before the matter is considered at the meeting. Following the disclosure and prior to the matter being considered or any vote taken, the Councillor with the conflict of interest must leave the room and notify the Chairperson that he or she is doing so.

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MARTIN HAWSON

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1 PRAYER AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2 OPENING AND WELCOME

3 PRESENT

4 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 24 November 2022

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of 24 November 2022 as a correct record

Confidential Meeting of Council held on 24 November 2022

That Council confirm the minutes of the Confidential Meeting of Council of 24 November 2022 as a correct record

Planning Delegated Committee Meeting held on 8 December 2022

That Council confirm the minutes of the Planning Delegated Committee Meeting of 8 December 2022 as a correct record

6 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL AUSPICED MEETINGS

In accordance with Part 21 of Council's Governance Rules, records of Council Auspiced Meetings must be reported to the next Ordinary Meeting of Council and confirmed in the minutes.

A Council Auspiced Meeting is defined in the Governance Rules as a meeting at which matters are considered that are intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision or the exercise of a delegated authority and which is either of the following:

- A meeting of an advisory committee where at least one Councillor is present; or
- A planned or scheduled meeting that includes at least half the Councillors and at least one Council officer.

The record is therefore presented for Council's noting.

Recommendation

That Council note the following records of Council Auspiced Meetings:

- **Planning Forum - 5 December 2022**
- **Council Forum - 8 December 2022**

RECORD OF COUNCIL AUSPICED MEETINGS

Meeting Details	Councillor Attendees	Other Attendees	Matters Discussed	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
<p>Planning Forum - 5 December 2022</p>	<p>Cr Liam Wood Cr Troy Bailey Cr Stefano de Pieri Cr Mark Eckel Cr Glenn Milne Cr Jason Modica</p>	<p>Martin Hawson Chief Executive Officer Daryl Morgan Acting General Manager Development Andrew Millen Manager Development Services Damien Sutton Statutory Planning Coordinator</p>	<p>1. Use and Development of land for a Retail Premises and reduction of bicycle facilities - Fifteenth Street, Mildura</p>	<p>Nil</p>
<p>Council Forum – 8 December 2022</p>	<p>Cr Liam Wood Cr Helen Healy Cr Troy Bailey Cr Stefano de Pieri Cr Mark Eckel Cr Glenn Milne Cr Jason Modica</p>	<p>Martin Hawson Chief Executive Officer Daryl Morgan Acting General Manager Development Mark Jenkins Acting General Manager Community Mark McMillan Acting General Manager Corporate Larni Baird Manager Governance & Performance Angela Umback Executive Communications Officer</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028 2. Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028 3. Mildura Sporting Precinct Project Update 4. Confidential Matter 5. Council Plan in Action 6. Councillor Portfolios and Councillor Representation on Boards/Committees 7. Phriendly Phishing Training 8. Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey - Half-Yearly Results 9. Preventing Violence Through Sport 10. Confidential Matter 11. Flood Impact on Nowingi Place and Events 12. Kerbside Waste and Recycling and Public Place Litter Bin Audit 13. Monthly Management Report 	<p>Nil</p>

7 NOTIFICATION OF ABSENCE

8 MAYORAL REPORT

8.1 MAYORAL REPORT NOVEMBER 2022

File Number: 02/01/06

1. Summary

The following is an update on the activities and functions attended by the Mayor Liam Wood during the month of November 2022.

2. Recommendation

That Council note the contents of this report.

3. Comments

- Mayor & CEO Catch-ups
- River1467 Weekly Interviews
- Mattman Weekly Interviews
- Mayor & CEO Media/Communications Briefings
- Sunraysia Daily Interviews
- Annual Council Meeting
- Constituent Meetings
- Australian Alternative Varieties Wine Show Talk & Taste
- Various Community Flood Preparedness Meetings in VIC & NSW
- Rating Strategy Councillor Briefing
- Ngiwa Yarna
- Various Flood Update Video Recording
- Councillor Briefing - Urban Forest Strategy
- Council Forum
- Wreath Laying - Remembrance Day
- St Joseph's College, Mildura - Guest Speaker
- Victorian Chamber of Commerce & Industry Local Government Roundtable
- Meeting with Urban Enterprise Consultants
- Council Community Grants Funding Presentation
- Clontarf Awards
- Australian Citizenship Ceremonies
- Separation Tree Ceremony & Sapling Presentation
- Mildura Weekly Interview
- Budget 2023/2024 Information Session
- Emergency Management Commissioner's Visit
- Mallee Accommodation and Support Program Annual General Meeting
- Councillor Briefing with KPMG Consulting
- Ordinary Council Meeting
- LG Free From Violence 'Health Check' Conversation
- Phone call with The Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia is His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd). - Flood Discussions

- Murray River Group of Council's Meeting
- Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Mildura Living Magazine - Summer Launch 2022
- Mildura Recreation Reserve Advisory Group Meeting

9 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

9.1 COUNCILLOR REPORTS - NOVEMBER 2022

File Number: 02/01/06

1. Summary

The following is a report on the activities and functions attended by Councillors during the month of November 2022.

2. Recommendation

That Council note the contents of this report.

3. Comments

Cr Ian Arney

- Refer to table

Cr Troy Bailey

- Refer to table

Cr Stefano de Pieri

- Refer to table

Cr Mark Eckel

- Meeting with CEO – KPMG Update
- Refer to table

Cr Helen Healy

- Ngiwa Yarna
- Meeting with Mayor
- Community Flood Meeting - Merbein
- Arts Mildura Board Meeting
- River 1467 Interview
- Meeting with Mallee Heritage Network
- State Election Candidate Forum
- Community Flood Meeting – Nichols Point
- Mattman Radio Interview
- Meeting with Urban Enterprise Consultants
- Australian Citizenship Ceremonies
- Meeting with President of Ford Coupe HTA Event
- Cultural Policy Discussion with MRCC CEO
- White Ribbon Speech and Walk
- MAC Twilight event (Emcee)
- NAP Gallery Opening
- Reading in Mallee Project – Arts Hub
- Merbein South Motor Show
- Ford Coupe HTA Reunion
- Community Flood Meeting

- Mildura West Primary School Year 6 Exhibition
- Arts Mildura Borders Project – During the Flood
- Gender Equity Action Sunraysia Monthly Meeting
- 16 Days of Activism Video Recording
- Audit & Risk Committee Meeting
- Mildura Arts & Culture Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference
- Refer to table

Cr Glenn Milne

- Refer to table

Cr Jason Modica

- Quarterly meeting with MRCC CEO
- Meeting with member from the Climate Committee
- Environmental and Sustainability Portfolio Meeting
- Drought Consultation Meeting
- Meeting with Councillor Jane MacAllister from Wentworth Shire Council
- Meetings with Mildura Regional Development CEO
- Community Flood Meeting - Nichols Point
- Environment Portfolio Meeting
- VETDSS Excellence Awards
- Climate Emergency Community Advisory Group Meeting
- Tour of Analytical Laboratories & Technical Services Australia
- Refer to table

Cr Jodi Reynolds

- Refer to table

This table represents attendances by two or more Councillors at the following functions, as advised by Councillor acceptances for such functions:

Function Attended	Arney	Bailey	de Pieri	Eckel	Healy	Milne	Modica	Reynolds
Annual Council Meeting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mildura Living Launch				✓	✓	✓		
Council Forum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Council Community Grants Funding Presentation				✓	✓		✓	
Ordinary Council Meeting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Budget 2023/2024 Information Session		✓		✓	✓		✓	
Councillor Briefing with KPMG Consulting	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Urban Tree Forest Strategy Briefing		✓	✓				✓	✓

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

10 RESPONSES TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS

Nil

11 QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

12 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

13 PETITIONS, JOINT LETTERS AND DEPUTATIONS

Nil

14 MANAGEMENT REPORTS

14.1 UNDERBOOL AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY PLAN 2023 - 2028

File Number: 12/14/10
Officer: Acting General Manager Community

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 -2028 and seek Council's resolution to endorse the new Community Plan.

2. Recommendation

That Council endorse the new Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028 as presented.

3. Background

The Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028 provides Mildura Rural City Council and the Underbool and District Community with an agreed project action plan for the next five years.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

The COVID-19 pandemic created consultation challenges and in response, Council supported the Underbool Progress Group (UPG) with a media strategy that incorporated various engagement methods. The residents were highly engaged and demonstrated commitment by completing detailed survey responses. The survey data was collated, analysed with a thematic methodology and a draft plan was developed for the Community to review and provide feedback.

Table 1. Engagement activities undertaken in the development of the Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028.

Consultation and Engagement Activity	Method	Participation
Online and hardcopy surveys – Inclusive of Community Consultation and 2040 Council Vision data.	Online and hardcopy surveys	54 detailed responses
Inform stakeholders of the community plan review to provide input and feedback into draft actions.	Surveys Email Phone Face to face	6 intensive interviews
Advancing Country Towns Project data.	Visioning sessions Internal meetings Focus Groups 1 on 1 sessions Small discussion groups Email Phone interviews Online feedback Surveys Public Meetings	Various sub committees and community members: Including 650 people: Emergency Services Advisory Groups Volunteer Groups
Launch the new Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028.	Online	Jan 2023

5. Discussion

Census Data

In the 2021 Census, Underbool had a population of 215 people, 50.5 per cent male and 49.5 per cent female, the median age of 51 years and a total of 66 families reside in the community. In 2016, Underbool had a population of 233 people, however in recent years the population has remained stable due to the demand for housing during the pandemic.

In 2021, Linga had a population of 13 people, which encompassed three families.

Over 39 per cent of people participated and/or completed voluntary work through an organisation or a group, which is almost triple the state average. Full-time and part-time employment accounted for almost 84.3 per cent of the population.

Community Planning

Community Planning aims to improve the effectiveness of public services, programs, and projects, whilst considering the emerging needs and supporting the development of local communities.

Local, State and Federal Government have identified that local people are experts when it comes to understanding the economic and social dynamics of the community.

Community Planning creates a platform for communities to:

- Reach set goals
- Be connected
- Be resilient to emerging changes
- Plan for the future
- Be long term and sustainable.

6. Time Frame

The updated plan will be reviewed after five years.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This Council Report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Economy

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Resilient local businesses that are supported to thrive, contributing to the viability and character of our towns.
- An agile economy underpinned by innovation and industry diversity that attracts investment.
- Access to a range of education, training, and employment pathways
- A skilled workforce that meets current and future industry needs.

Leadership

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Advocate on behalf of the community to address needs and priorities
- Collaborative leadership and partnerships that build capacity and increase opportunities.

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications

Policy

This report updates the current Underbool and District Community Plan 2014 – 2019.

Council Policies that relate to community planning include:

- Community Plan Support Funding Policy CP013
- Community Engagement Policy CP020
- Social Inclusion Policy CP019.

Legal/Statutory

There are no statutory implications associated with the development of this project.

Financial

After the Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028 has been endorsed by Council, the community will be eligible to apply for funding via council's Community Plan Support Fund (CPSF).

The community will also be able to explore other financial opportunities available through the private sector, State and Commonwealth Government.

Implementation of a community plan builds the communities capacity to deliver projects themselves, that would otherwise require financial contribution from council's capital or operational budget.

Environmental

The community plan will be primarily available online, with a limited number of copies printed and therefore reducing paper consumption.

Social

It is acknowledged that community development and planning play a significant role within our community.

Economic

The key functions of community planning include developing strategies that increase economic opportunity in the community.

10. Risk Assessment

By endorsing the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

1 [↓](#) Underbool and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028



Underbool and District
COMMUNITY PLAN 2023-2028

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Underbool and District Community Plan 2023-2028



introduction

This is the second community plan for the Underbool and District Community, covering the period of 2023-2028 outlining the community's long-term goals, aspirations and priorities.

vision, mission statement

Our Vision

To make this a connected, progressive and resilient community.

Mission /Purpose Statement

Maximise opportunities to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Underbool and district community by working together.

Values

Our community values include: Integrity, Inclusiveness, Transparency, Respect and Forward-thinking.

Objectives

To maximise opportunities to ensure the sustainability and future development of the Underbool district and to ensure it continues to be a safe, supportive and active community.

Advocacy and partnerships with all levels of government, not-for-profit organisations, local organisations and other bodies, are vital to achieve these objectives.

Underbool and District Community Plan 2023-2028

about underbool

Gateway to the Pink Lakes Country and the Murray-Sunset National Park

History

The Underbool community is situated in the Mallee region, north-west Victoria, on the Mallee Highway approximately 50km from Ouyen. Underbool is 80kms from the South Australian border, 150km from Mildura and 327km from Adelaide. The area was first occupied by the Wergaia people and there is some evidence of Aboriginal settlement from 6000 to 4000BC in close proximity to water soaks in the area. Aboriginal 'middens' have also been discovered in clay soils close to available water sources.¹

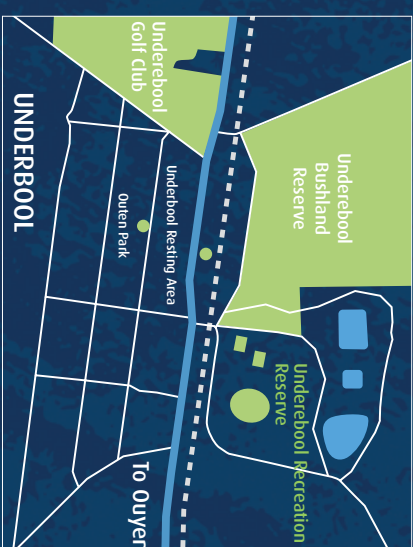
The township was first settled in the early 1900s around the Underbool Railway Station, historically the main economic driver has been agriculture with a particular focus on dryland cropping and prime lamb production. Other major drivers have been small business including, a licenced hotel, accommodation, farming supplies, State Government and automotive car sales and servicing.

In 1885, the Railways Standing Committee considered extending railways into the Mallee and had 'more than paid their way' according to the Railways Commissioner. The Mallee Track communities between Ouyen and Murrayville experienced consolidated growth after

construction of the railway line commenced in 1909, and then opened in 1912.ⁱⁱ In 2021, the Murray Darling Freight Rail Project, which incorporates \$60 million of upgrades to the Ouyen to Murrayville Railway line, is set to stimulate the local economy through direct and indirect employment in Mallee Track townships.

Underbool is the gateway to 'Pink Lakes Country' and the Murray-Sunset National Park with a strong flow of tourism connecting South Australia and NSW via the Mallee Track Highway. Underbool residents travel to Ouyen which is the key main service centre to Mallee Track communities. Underbool has an unique tourism potential from its geographical location and increasing outback recreational activity throughout the National Parks.

Underbool is often home to many travellers who seek to experience the vast Mallee bushland and often enjoy the Wayside stop located on the Mallee Highway adjacent to the business precinct and amenities. Travellers also often camp at the Underbool Recreation Reserve, utilising the local community store, topping up with fuel at the local garage and experiencing the local area.



Underbool and District Community Plan 2023-2028

climate

The mean annual rainfall (1939-2021) is approximately 331mm over a period of 82 days, however this varies widely from year to year. During the drought year of 1982, only 105mm of rain was recorded. Over the summer months of 2010-11 more than 265mm rain was recorded (avg. 490mm across our district).

Rainfall is essential to the success of farming enterprise and other business in the Mallee district.ⁱⁱⁱ

The community experiences temperature of 25-30°C throughout the year and humidity is generally low, although temperatures can soar well over 40°C in summer. Winter nights are cool and frosty, however the weather is often sunny throughout the day.^{iv}

population

In 2021, Underbool had a population of 215, with 109 females and 111 males, of which, 66 families reside. The median age of residents was 51 years. Linga has a population of 13 people, inclusive of 3 families, inclusive of 42.9% female and 57.1% male.

In 2016, Underbool had a population of 220 people.

The unemployment rate of 7.4% was slightly higher than the State average. 30.3% of people who were employed worked 45 hours or more per week, which is almost double the Victorian State Average.^v

embracing our mallee heritage

In 2011, the Underbool Centenary Book Committee, under the auspice of the Underbool Progress Group, produced a 265-page detailed publication highlighting 100 years of history called 'Embracing Our Mallee Heritage'. The aim was to celebrate and capture the indomitable spirit of our pioneering

forefathers, and of those who have followed and built upon the foundations laid.^{vi}

The publication is an example of the local commitment to the future of the community, the extensive history and need to 'embrace our heritage'.

birds of the millewa-mallee 'sunrise to sunset'

In 2020, local photographer Pamela McKinnara published a 267 page compilation of local birds, capturing 45 years of photography adventures. The concept was to promote interest in local species, the abundance of bird life within our communities

and visitors in the Millewa-Mallee and Murray River regions. The collection of high quality photographs is unique to the Millewa-Mallee region and also includes detailed information on range, habitat, breed and nest.^{vii}



Image courtesy of Pamela McKinnara

developing the underbool community plan

The Underbool Progress Group in consultation with the community, developed the first community plan in 2014.

The Community Plan includes the Underbool and surrounding districts, including Linga and has a focus on a number of actions, including maintaining existing assets, making improvements and developing various initiatives in the future.

This is the second community plan for the Underbool and District Community and will cover the period of 2022–2027 with a strong focus on long-term sustainability, long term goals and priorities for the future.

Mildura Rural City Council

In 2021, the Mildura Rural City Council's Community Futures Branch launched a Community Planning Team to assist with the development of a new and innovative plan that would develop existing projects, identify new projects that would enable the community to apply for potential funding opportunities. The Community Plan has a grassroots approach to shaping the future of the community, outlining the long-term goals, aspirations and priorities over the next five years.

The COVID-19 pandemic created a number of consultation challenges and in response Mildura Rural City Council supported the Underbool Progress Group with an extensive media strategy that incorporated various engagement methods. The residents of Underbool and district community participated in a visioning session, completing detailed online and hard copy surveys, phone interviews, video conferencing, email and social media. The residents were highly engaged in issues and demonstrated commitment to the community by completing detailed responses. The survey data was collated, thematically analysed and a draft plan developed for the community to provide feedback on.

The Key Reference Group

The Underbool Progress Group's Key Reference Group (KRG) participated in the community planning process to determine the relevance of previous findings and to determine if there were any new or emerging trends.

In addition, during 2021, data was considered from the Advancing Country Towns project from 2011 to 2017 and Mildura Rural City Council's Imagine 2040 survey data and included online and hard copy surveys, written submissions, community events and various interviews.

About Underbool Progress Group

Underbool Progress Group is a voluntary incorporated community organisation, established on 3 December 1997, represented by community elected individuals who bring a range of views seeking economic and social development for the community of Underbool, similar to the Ouyen Inc. model of operation.^{viii}

The purpose of the Underbool Progress Group is:

- To support other organisations in our community to develop and implement the initiatives contained in this Community Plan
- When required, form partnerships with other organisations in order to achieve community goals
- To promote the Community Plan within the Underbool and district community
- To provide a report to the community to inform them of continuing actions and projects
- Address issues of current and future concern
- Strive to provide opportunities for all residents and visitors.

Membership is open to all members of the Underbool and district community that reside or own property in the Mildura Rural City Council area.



Underbool Progress Group works closely with many stakeholders including Mildura Rural City Council, State and Federal Government to achieve actions and outcomes for the community.

our 10 key themes

1. Our Values
2. Our Vision
3. Community Wellbeing
4. Protecting our Natural Environment
5. Building a Strong Local Economy
6. Connecting our Region
7. Leadership and Governance
8. Protecting our Culture and History
9. Our Concerns
10. Project Action Plan

10



Image courtesy of Kerren Miles

Underpool and District Community Plan 2023-2028

11

achievements to date

The Underbool community has achieved the following:

- Outen Park War Memorial Gate, Pillars and Garden (WW1)
 - Mallee Highway History display and shelters
 - Underbool Swimming Pool Solar Blankets
 - Establishment of Community 'Pink Lakes Pantry'
 - Published book 'Birds of Millewa - Mallee, Sunrise to Sunset
 - Mallee Minors Childcare and Kindergarten extension and upgrades ^{ix}
 - Production of YouTube Community Videos – Underbool Community and Outen Park building, playground and landscaping upgrades
 - Underbool – Linga Memorial Hall Portable Audio Equipment
 - Community Christmas Lighting Installation
 - Underbool Rural Outreach Library Service
 - Underbool defibrillators at Bush Nurse Centre, Wayside Stop, Underbool Recreation Reserve and Fire Truck
 - Underbool Water Treatment Upgrades
 - Solar Power for Underbool Recreation Reserve Complex
- Underbool Primary School Annual Christmas Concert
 - Underbool and District Swimming Sports
 - Underbool Christmas Eve Community Santa visit
 - 'Loop the Lake' Cancer Fundraiser
 - Girls Night In Cancer Research Fundraisers
 - Open Garden Day
 - Messy Church
- Community Assets and Services**
- The Underbool and District community is home to a number of community facilities, groups and services that include:
- Visiting Library Service
 - Rural Landfill and Transfer Station
 - Parks Victoria
 - Linga Airbase
 - GWM Water Reservoir and Treatment Plant
 - Underbool Senior Citizens
 - Underbool-Linga Memorial Hall
 - Uniting/Anglican Cooperative Parish
 - Underbool Press
 - Country Party Room
 - Underbool Cemetery
 - Outen Park
 - Wayside Stop
 - Telstra Exchange
- Community Groups**
- Underbool Progress Group
 - Underbool Recreation Reserve
 - Underbool Cemetery Trust
 - Underbool Community Events Facebook Group
 - Underbool – Linga Hall Committee
 - Weeah Landcare Group Inc
- Health and Wellbeing**
- Mallee Border Health Centre
 - Mallee Track Health and Community Service Bush Nurse Centre
 - Maternal Child Health Outreach Service
- Education and Learning**
- Mallee Minors Child Care and Early Learning Centre
 - Underbool Primary School
- Sporting Groups**
- Underbool Recreation Reserve
 - Underbool Bowls Club
 - Underbool Golf Club
 - Underbool Tennis Club
 - Underbool Swimming Pool
 - Ouyen United kangas Football and Netball Club Inc.
- Emergency Services**
- Country Fire Authority (CFA)
 - Victoria Police
- Underbool Bowls Club Inc
 - Underbool Swimming Pool Advisory Group
 - Underbool Tennis Club
 - Underbool Press Committee
 - Uniting/Anglican Cooperative Parish
 - Catholic Church



Image courtesy of Robert Klarich



Image courtesy of Cassey Gloster

Underbool and District Community Plan 2023-2028

OUR PRIORITIES

1. Our Values

Underbool is a connected, welcoming, inclusive, diverse and family-friendly community.

As a community we value:

- A sense of community
- Peaceful, quiet and relaxing lifestyle
- Inclusive and friendly people
- Diversity of people and interests
- The local historical aspects of the town
- Locally delivered goods and services
- Safety and security
- Dedicated volunteers
- Natural landscapes, bushland and parks

2. Our Vision

The community sees Underbool as a place which supports:

- A clean and tidy town appearance
- Improvements to existing facilities
- To increase opportunities for community
- Integrated, innovative and local health, wellbeing and community services
- Shop buildings are occupied and local business are supported
- Promotion of tourism opportunities that attract visitors, that connect us to the region and that encourage local spending

3. Community Wellbeing

Activities and initiatives that produce a vibrant township with a safe and healthy community.

This includes a focus on:

- A range of recreational and social development opportunities
- Clean, safe community and public amenities
- Access to health and wellbeing services
- Access to high quality early, primary and secondary education
- Trained and experienced volunteer emergency services (CEFA)
- Access to recreation facilities; i.e. Tennis, Golf, Bowls, Netball, Football and exercise groups
- Swimming pool for training, lap swimming, water safety, school carnivals and competitions

4. Protecting Our Natural Environment

Working towards conserving and promoting the natural element of our community.

This includes a focus on:

- Protecting, sustaining and maintaining our bushland, parks, streetscapes and reserves
- Beautification of our town entrances and streetscapes
- Quality residential water supply
- Improved drainage management
- Environmental initiatives
- Energy efficiency through innovative practices
- Waste and recycling facilities and services
- Biodiversity and natural heritage
- Managing noxious weeds
- Animal, plant and pest control

5. Building a Strong Local Economy

Supporting the development of the local economy through employment opportunity, growth and capturing tourism opportunities.

This includes a focus on:

- Maintaining business viability and supporting new services
- Diverse economic infrastructure
- Place based investment
- Creating, developing and capturing tourism opportunities
- Marketing and promotion

6. Connecting Our Region

Linking our towns and connecting our region.

- This includes a focus on:
 - Building partnerships with neighbouring communities and other local government Areas (LGA) x
 - Higher quality and fast speed communication networks
 - Support and advocate for the rural rail network
 - New and improved Township Entrance Signage



Image courtesy of Kerren Miles

7. Leadership and Governance

Ensuring strong leadership and meaningful governance for community.

- This includes a focus on:
- Strong partnerships with government and neighbouring communities
 - Advocacy for public participation and engagement through Underbool Press, Underbool website, community noticeboard, North West Express and Social Media
 - Expertise for delivery of initiatives and projects
 - Support, access and prioritisation of grant funding
 - Participation in Council decision-making

8. Protecting Our Culture and History

Preserving our culture and local heritage.

- This includes a focus on:
- Supporting access to quality arts and library services
 - Building partnerships with Mildura Arts Centre and relevant organisations to deliver a diverse range of arts and cultural experiences
 - Expanding Outen Park War Memorial
 - Protecting local heritage and culture

9. Our Concerns

The community identified a number of concerns and challenges.

- Concerns that were highlighted included:
- An aging and declining population
 - Geographical isolation and distance from larger cities
 - Limited access to essential food, medical, specialist, health and wellbeing services
 - Limited access to public transport

- Limited employment and educational opportunities
- Volunteer fatigue and changing patterns of volunteerism^{xi}
- Lack of independent living accommodation for the elderly

- Lack of investment from Government and service coordination to meet local priorities
- Limited access to entertainment, sporting, non-sporting activities
- Need to maintain high quality roads, footpaths and upgrade lane-ways that are in poor condition.
- Poor and unreliable phone and internet services
- Fear of increasing externally delivered services that will encourage money being spent outside of the community
- The future of Pink Lakes Pantry
- The gap between rural community and urban policy (red tape)
- Safety perception due to insufficient street lighting in some areas
- Vacant and unused buildings
- Neighbouring State border closures disrupting various industries

10. Project Action Plan

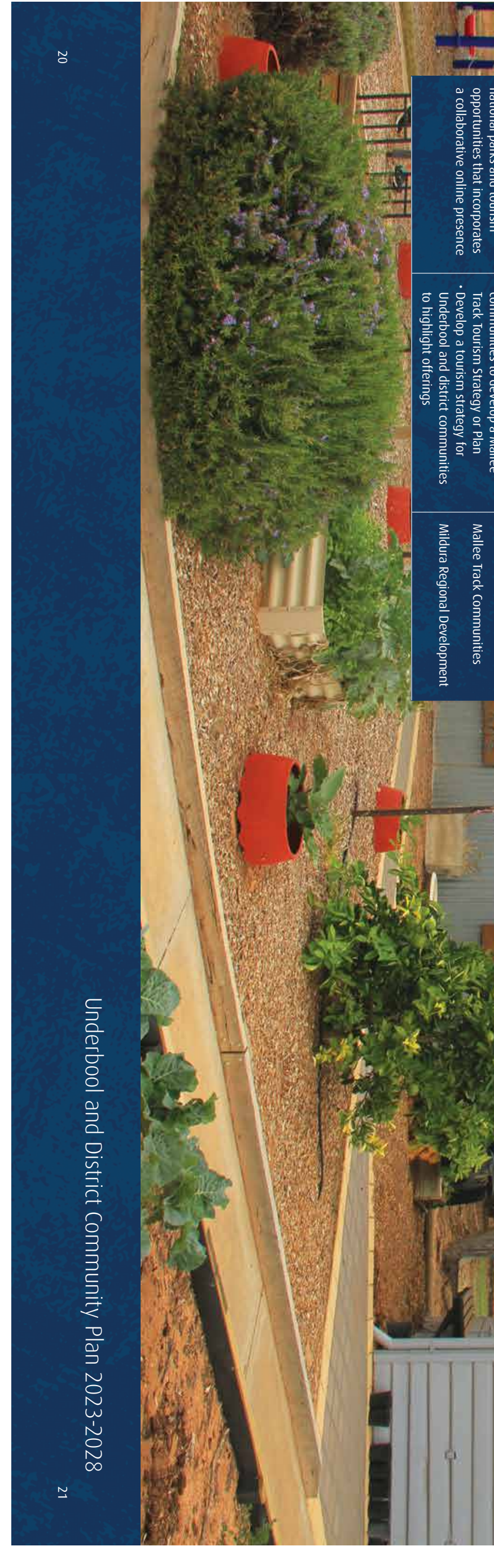
Below is a list of the projects that the community identified as part of the planning process.

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Underbool Community Swimming Pool upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Investigate replacement or upgrade of toddler, main swimming pool, installation of diving blocks and shade sails • Explore funding opportunities and develop a funding strategy. 	Underbool Progress Group Underbool Swimming Pool Advisory Group Mildura Rural City Council
Underbool Bowls Club Synthetic Green and Building upgrade project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate funding strategy • Explore funding opportunities 	Underbool Bowls Club Underbool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council
Outen Park WW1 War Memorial Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope/objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Underbool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council Community
Outen Park Shelter Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Underbool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council Community
Underbool World War Memorial Online Digitisation Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Underbool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council Community
Upgrade Wayside Stop Amenities Block Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to Council to investigate project scope, budget and implementation 	Underbool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council



Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Outen Park toilet Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate to Council to review project scope, objectives, budget and implementation Consider prior research and solutions 	Underbpool Progress Group Outen Park Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Underbpool-Linga Memorial Hall Shade Installation and refurbishment of rear store room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek quotations Explore funding opportunities 	Underbpool-Linga Memorial Hall Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Upgrade street furniture - picnic tables, BBQ and seating areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community consultation with stakeholders and key partners Research project scope, objectives and budget Explore funding opportunities 	Underbpool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council
Underbpool Recreation Reserve Improvements	Explore project scope, budget and funding opportunity for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New or upgrades female netball change rooms and shower facilities New Play equipment Larger amenities block Additional seating surrounding netball courts Shade structure between existing buildings 	Underbpool Rec Reserve Committee Mildura Rural City Council DEWLP
Opportunity for recreational activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunities to develop sporting and recreational activities i.e. walking track, skate park, park gym equipment 	Underbpool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Underbpool Cemetery improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunities to improve the site. 	Underbpool Cemetery Trust
Country Party Room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate building preservation and potential museum type history display 	Community
Industry and Economics		
Local business support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to advocate and support small local businesses 	Local businesses
Rail upgrades Murray Darling Rail Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support improvements to passenger and freight rural rail network 	Vline VicTrack
Pink Lakes Pantry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore disability access to building Explore funding options for future sustainability Ph: 0425 806 170 	Underbpool Progress Group Pink Lakes Pantry Committee
Emergency, Safety and Access		
Improve internet coverage in outlying areas and connection speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form partnerships with neighboring communities and advocate for better connectivity and internet speed 	Underbpool Progress Group Mallee Track Communities Service providers
Street lighting improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore need for additional and improved street lighting in parks, recreational areas and streets 	Underbpool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council Powercor



Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Improve footpath safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and lobby for better maintained or new footpaths Remove or repair derelict or dangerous structures, buildings and trees 	Underbool Progress Group
Review access to immediate emergency resources (Defibrillator, oxygen)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review local emergency resources and advocate for locally accessible resources 	Mallee Track Health and Community Service Emergency Services Community Groups
Underbool Fire Station (CFA) improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunity for a new fire station and improved BBQ area 	Underbool Fire Brigade County Fire Authority
Forward control firefighter vehicle Purpose built firefighter trailer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate suitable options for community Explore funding opportunities 	Underbool Fire Station
Promotion		
Promote community assets, national parks and tourism opportunities that incorporates a collaborative online presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form partnerships with other local communities to develop a Mallee Track Tourism Strategy or Plan Develop a tourism strategy for Underbool and district communities to highlight offerings 	Underbool Progress Group Mallee Track Communities Mildura Regional Development

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Promotion		
Promote community assets, national parks and tourism opportunities that incorporates a collaborative online presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form partnerships with other local communities to develop a Mallee Track Tourism Strategy or Plan Develop a tourism strategy for Underbool and district communities to highlight offerings 	Underbool Progress Group Mallee Track Communities Mildura Regional Development
Town Entrance Signage Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form partnerships with authorities Review and conduct a township signage audit Investigate new signage options and funding strategy 	Underbool Progress Group Mildura Rural City Council Regional Roads Victoria
Community events to enhance social connection i.e Australia Day, Anzac Day, Christmas Eve etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing consultation with community groups to ensure funding opportunities are available and suitable strategic planning is provided to support township 	Underbool Progress Group Community

other projects and initiatives

Below is a list of the other projects and initiatives that the community identified:

- Explore new local industry opportunities
- Link business to tourism opportunities
- Improve and upskill community groups in applying for grants
- Support Recreation Reserve Committee in long term options for site use
- Beautify access points to town
- Investigate transfer station hours of operation and if they meet the needs of the community
- Explore opportunity for installation of a Electric Vehicle (EV) Fast Charger



Image courtesy of Kerren Milles

Underpool and District Community Plan 2023-2028

- References**
- i <https://aiatsis.gov.au/explore/map-indigenous-australia> and 'Aboriginal Languages and Clans - Ian D Clark 1990 Monash Publications.
 - ii 'Mildura Former Shire of Walpeup Heritage Study Stage 2 Volume 2 Key Findings and Recommendations 2013', pg 1.
 - iii Bureau of Meteorology, rainfall average
 - iv Australia Government Bureau of Meteorology Climate Statistics, Walpeup Research Station, summary statistics
 - v 'Census Quickstats 2021', Census Data Australian Bureau of Statistics
 - vi 'Embracing Our Mallee Heritage, Underbool Progress Group', 2011
 - vii 'Birds of the Millewa-Mallee, Sunrise to Sunset, Pam McNamara, 2020
 - viii 'Ouyen Inc Business and Strategic Plan 2011 -2015', pg 7
 - ix 'Kinder Upgrade, <https://www.markgepp.com.au/kinder-upgrade-support-underbool-families/>
 - x 'Ouyen Community Plan', Ouyen Inc 2020
 - xi 'Resilient Service Project', 2014

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acknowledgments

The Underbool and District Community Plan was developed by the Underbool Progress Group in collaboration with Cassey Gloster and Geoff Burr from Mildura Rural City Council. Thank-you to committee members Fran Lynch and Sonia McVicar for working closely with the community in the development of this plan.

Contact us

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 Email: mrc@ Mildura.vic.gov.au

For speech or hearing impaired:
 National Relay Service TTY 13 36 77
 Speak and Listen 1300 555 727

This community plan was developed by the community of Underbool in collaboration with Mildura Rural city Council:

© Underbool Progress Group Inc. 2022
 Underbool Progress Group and Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.





14.2 WALPEUP AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY PLAN 2023 - 2028

File Number: 12/14/18

Officer: Acting General Manager Community

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 -2028 and seek Council's resolution to endorse the new Community Plan.

2. Recommendation

That Council endorse the new Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 -2028 as presented.

3. Background

The Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028 provides Mildura Rural City Council and the Walpeup and District Community with an agreed project action plan for the next five years.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

The COVID-19 pandemic created consultation challenges and in response, Council supported the Walpeup and District Development Committee with a media strategy that incorporated various engagement methods. The residents were highly engaged and demonstrated commitment by completing detailed survey responses. The survey data was collated, analysed with a thematic methodology and a draft plan was developed for the Community to review and provide feedback.

Table 1. Engagement activities undertaken in the development of the Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028.

Consultation and Engagement Activity	Method	Participation
Online and hardcopy surveys – Inclusive of Community Consultation and 2040 Council Vision data.	Online and hardcopy surveys	74 detailed responses
Inform stakeholders of the community plan review to provide input and feedback into draft actions.	Surveys Email Phone Face to face Liaison meeting	6 intensive interviews
Advancing Country Towns Project data.	Visioning sessions Internal meetings Focus Groups 1 on 1 sessions Small discussion groups Email Phone interviews Online feedback Surveys Public Meetings	Various sub committees and community members: Including 650 people: Emergency Services Advisory Groups Volunteer Groups
Launch the new Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028.	Online	Jan 2023

5. Discussion

Census Data

In the 2021 Census, Walpeup had a population of 171 people, split with 50 percent male and female, the median age of 52 years and a total of 36 families reside in the community. In 2016, Walpeup had a population of 158 people, however in recent years the population increased due to the availability of housing during the pandemic.

In 2021, Torrita had a population of 51 people, which encompassed 13 families.

Over 25 per cent of people participated and/or completed voluntary work through an organisation or a group, which is just under the state average. Full-time and part-time employment accounted for almost 84.5 per cent of the population.

Community Planning

Community Planning aims to improve the effectiveness of public services, programs, and projects, whilst considering the emerging needs and supporting the development of local communities.

Local, State and Federal Government have identified that local people are experts when it comes to understanding the economic and social dynamics of the community.

Community Planning creates a platform for communities to:

- Reach set goals
- Be connected
- Be resilient to emerging changes
- Plan for the future
- Be long term and sustainable.

6. Time Frame

The updated plan will be reviewed after five years.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Economy

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Resilient local businesses that are supported to thrive, contributing to the viability and character of our towns.
- An agile economy underpinned by innovation and industry diversity that attracts investment.
- Access to a range of education, training, and employment pathways
- A skilled workforce that meets current and future industry needs.

Leadership

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Advocate on behalf of the community to address needs and priorities
- Collaborative leadership and partnerships that build capacity and increase opportunities.

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications

Policy

This report updates the current Walpeup and District Community Plan 2013 – 2018.

Council Policies that relate to community planning include:

- Community Plan Support Funding Policy CP013
- Community Engagement Policy CP020
- Social Inclusion Policy CP019.

Legal/Statutory

There are no statutory implications associated with the development of this project.

Financial

After the Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028 has been endorsed by Council, the community will be eligible to apply for funding via council's Community Plan Support Fund (CPSF).

The community will also be able to explore other financial opportunities available through the private sector, State and Commonwealth Government.

Implementation of a community plan builds the communities capacity to deliver projects themselves, that would otherwise require financial contribution from council's capital or operational budget.

Environmental

The community plan will be primarily available online, with a limited number of copies printed and therefore reducing paper consumption.

Social

It is acknowledged that community development and planning play a significant role within our community.

Economic

The key functions of community planning include developing strategies that increase economic opportunity in the community.

10. Risk Assessment

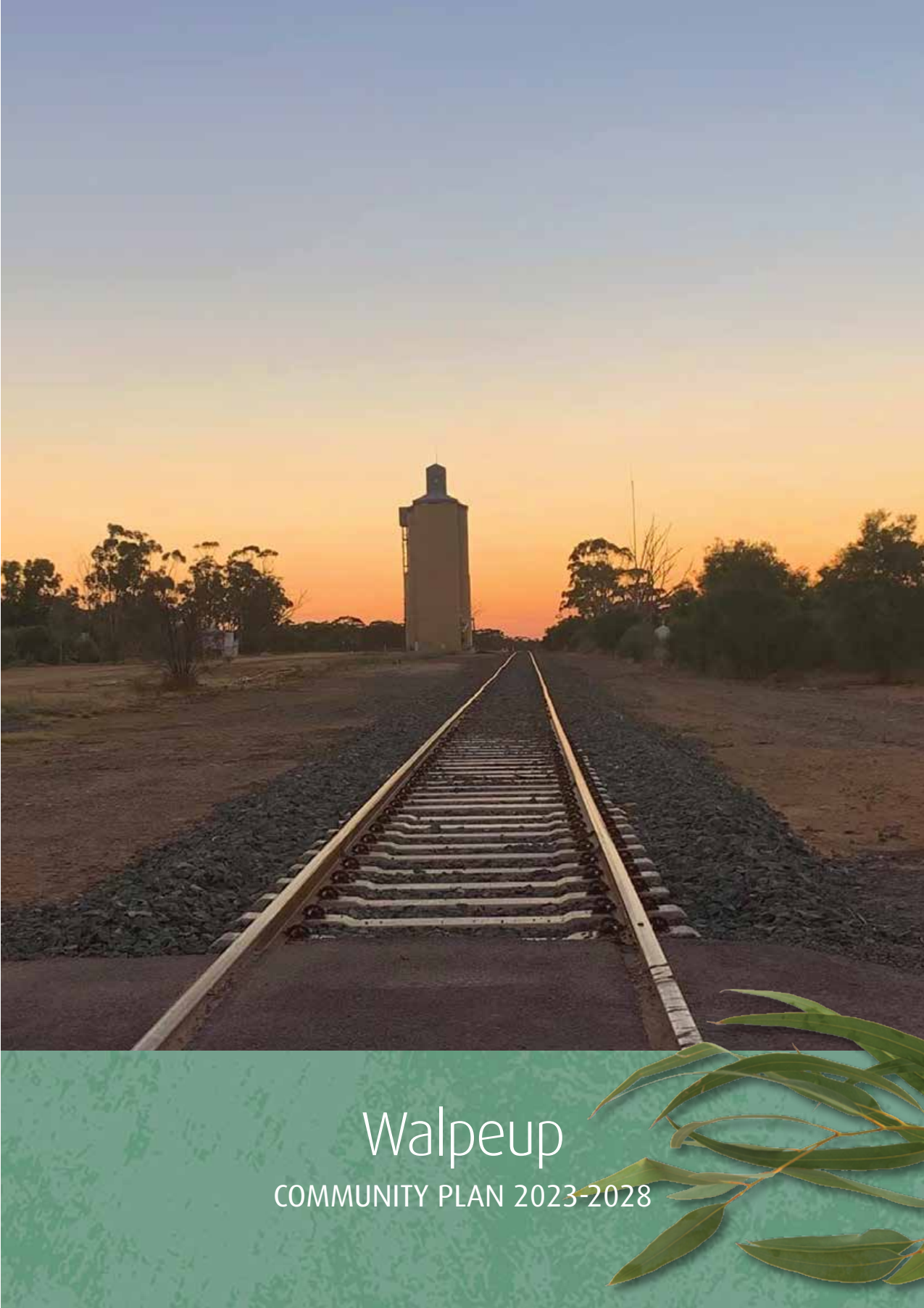
By endorsing the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

1 [↓](#) Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028



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Walpeup and District Community Plan 2022-27

introduction

This is the second community plan for the Walpeup and District Community, covering the period of 2023-2028 outlining the community's long-term goals, aspirations and priorities. The Torrita Township is also incorporated into the plan.

vision and mission statements

Vision Statement

To maintain and improve the quality of life of this community into the future.

Mission Statement

Promote the social, economic and cultural wellbeing now and into the future through effective Governance and community engagement.

Values

Our community values include: Honesty, Integrity, Respect, Responsibility and Community.

Objectives

We will create a safe and supportive place to live, where diversity and lifestyle opportunities are encouraged; and there is opportunity for participation in arts, culture, sport and recreation to enhance wellbeing.

Our Mission

Developing the Walpeup and District Community Plan

The Walpeup and District Development Committee Inc. in consultation with the community developed the first community plan in 2014. The plan focused on a number of actions including maintaining existing assets, making improvements and upgrading town assets.

Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023-28

history

The Walpeup community is situated in the Mallee region, in north-west Victoria, on the Mallee Highway approximately 29kms from Ouyen. The name 'Walpeup' is derived from an Indigenous word and means 'big smoke'. Agriculture settlement began in the 1880s with intensive cereal production occurring and by 1920, 65% of the country had been occupied with the remainder being sandy inferior country.

The township was established along a railway route in 1909 when farming land allotments were offered and the first store opened. A school began in 1912, and by 1920, Walpeup had a population of 400 people – a general store, butcher, bank branch and other businesses.ⁱ

The area contributed around 45% of Victoria's wheat. Typical Mallee soils and the dry climate conditions saw the need for further research

climate

Most of the Murray Mallee region is classified as warm temperate and semi-arid. Walpeup is at the more southern and more humid limit of the range.ⁱⁱⁱ

From 1939 to 2021, the mean maximum temperature for Walpeup has been highest in the month of

into cereal production in this region. In 1932 the establishment of the 'Walpeup Research Station' occurred, closing in 2009, then managed by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (State Government).ⁱⁱ

In more recent times, local tourism attractions have been developed. The Walpeup Wayside Stop, located at the corner of Cregan Street and Murphy Road, allows travellers to stay over. The Walpeup Dryland Memorial Garden, under the management of friendly local volunteers, contains many Mallee native trees and shrubs. The area also boasts interesting walking tracks, including Schubert's Walk.

The Walpeup Memorial Hall is home to a wide range of memorabilia highlighting the district's military, sporting and social history.

January at 32 degrees Celsius, with a mean minimum temperature of 4.8 degrees Celsius for the month of July.^{iv}

Mean rainfall for the years 1939 to 2021 had the highest average of 34.5mm in the month of August.^v



Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023-28

population

In 2021, Walpeup had a population of 171 people with a median age of 50 years. The population has a approximate 50:50 split of men and women, and 36 families call the township home.

In 2016, Walpeup had a population of 158 people and the increase is largely due to the availability of vacant housing during the pandemic. The township is seeing a number of newcomers, including active retirees willing

to contribute to the volunteer economy.

In 2021, Torrita had a population of 51 people, inclusive of 13 families.

former mallee research station

Walpeup was once home to the Walpeup Research Station, commonly known as the Mallee Research Station (MRS). The Victorian Government agricultural research station was established in 1932 and closed in December 2009.^{viii}

The facility was operated by highly trained scientists working in the laboratory and the field, conducting experiments with cereals, sheep, pasture improvement and control of soil erosion.^{ix}

The research farm also developed practices specific to Australia's climate and conditions.

In the early years, wind erosion occurred due to the lack of understanding of the environment and land use in a dry climate. Finely-worked bare fallows led to widespread erosion, a method known and used in higher rainfall country.^x

Improvements in erosion control occurred due to the amalgamation of farming units, greater emphasis on grazing sheep, favorable seasons and changing stable farming methods/practices developed by the Research Station.^{xi}

Managing heritage values from a range of historic, social and technical criteria at the differing

levels of significance: 'Establishing Significance', 'State Significance' and 'Local Significance' requires a multifaceted approach involving experts and members of the community.^{xii}

The whole farm is of scientific significance due to its role in agricultural development, as well as providing State historic value and social value for the community.^{xiii}

walpeup memorial hall

The Walpeup Memorial Hall was established in 1923, with funding from the Australian Government, to commemorate the history of soldiers who had fought in World War 1.^{xiv}

Involvement from farmers, shop-keepers and other community members, along with subsidised government funding, enabled the construction of the Walpeup Memorial Hall.

The Hall holds an extensive archive of Walpeup's history including one of the last remaining First World War 'welcome home' banners. This was created in 1919 by local women and displayed at the local railway station for soldiers returning home from the war.^{xv}

Today the Memorial Hall is used as a multipurpose facility that includes community celebrations, farewells, sporting competitions, the outreach library service, meetings and is the home of district memorabilia.

Mildura Rural City Council

The Mildura Rural City Council's Community Futures Branch launched a Community Planning Team to assist with the development of a new plan that would progress existing and identify new projects that would enable the community to apply for potential funding opportunities. The Community Plan has a grassroots approach to shaping the future of the community, outlining the long-term goals, aspirations and priorities over the next five years.

The COVID-19 pandemic created a number of consultation challenges, and in response Mildura Rural City Council supported the Walpeup and District Development Committee with an extensive media strategy that incorporated various engagement methods.

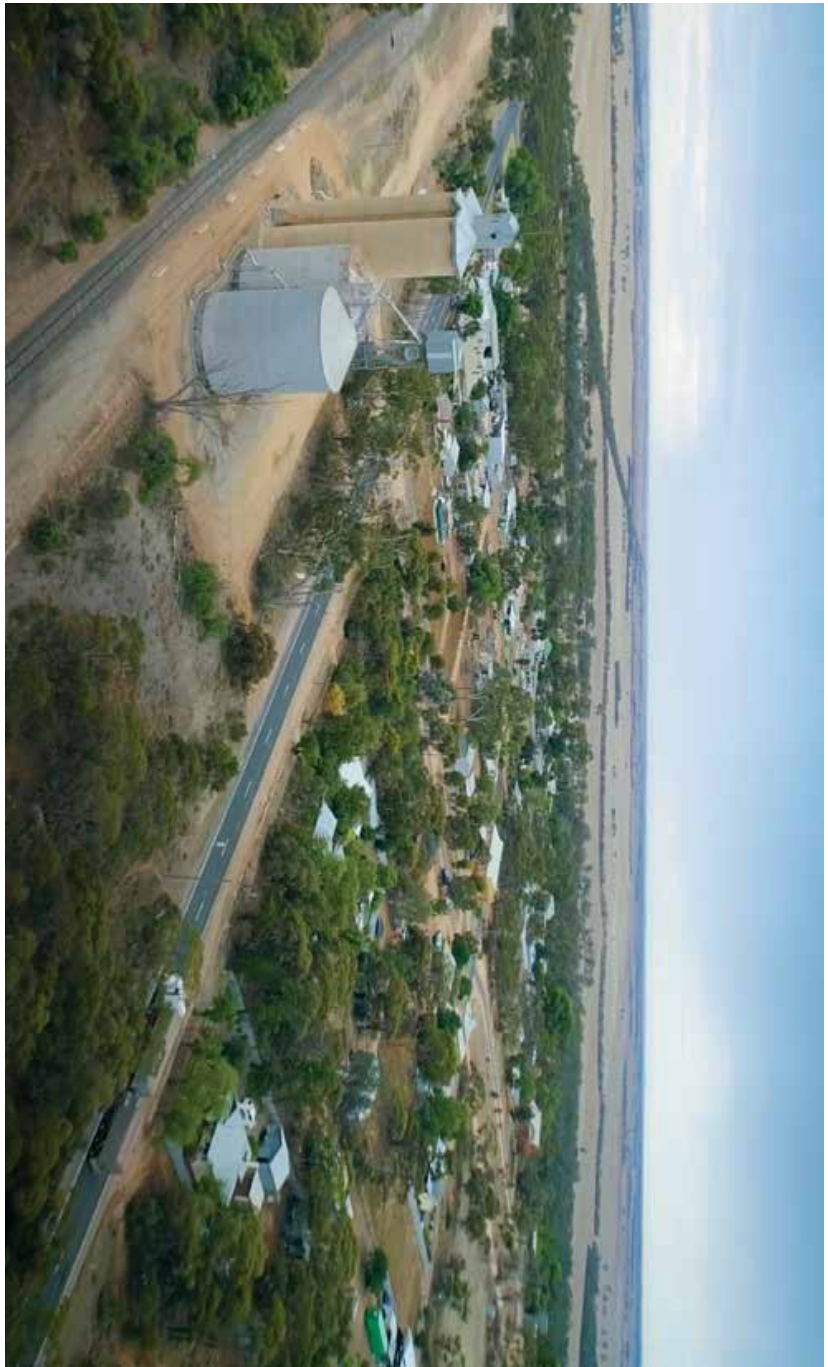
The residents of Walpeup and district community participated in a visioning session, completing detailed online and hard copy surveys, phone interviews, video conferencing, email and social media. The residents were highly

engaged in issues and demonstrated commitment to the community by completing detailed responses. The survey data was collated, thematically analysed and drafted for the community to provide feedback.

The Key Reference Group

The Walpeup and District Development Committee's Key Reference Group (KRG) participated in the community planning process to determine the relevance of previous findings and to determine if there were any new or emerging trends.

In addition, data was considered from the Advancing Country Towns Project 2011-2017 and Mildura Rural City Council Imagine 2040 consultation.



about walpeup and district

The former 'Shire of Walpeup' existed from 1911 to 1994 and was a well-known Local Government Area located in North West Victoria, bordering South Australia and covering 10,964 square kilometres.^{xvi}

It is surrounded by large national parks, including: The Big Desert, Murray-Sunset National Park and Wyperfeld National Park. The 'Shire of Walpeup' was merged with the Shire of Mildura and Mildura City Council amalgamating into 'The Rural City of Mildura'.

Purpose of the Walpeup and District Development Committee Inc.

- The Walpeup and District Development Committee was established in 1995:
- To provide Council with insights into the needs, circumstances and future direction of the community
- To support the development and implementation of Walpeup local Community Plan
- To lead and support its community in the delivery of Community Plan actions and activities
- To assist Council to connect and communicate effectively with local communities
- To advise Council to the nature of changes within their area, including: developmental and decision-making
- To be inclusive and include broad community participation in the function of the Advisory Group and Community Planning process

- To work closely with all stakeholders, including Mildura Rural City Council and maintain clear communication channels

Membership is open to all members of the Walpeup and district community residents or property owners within the Mildura Rural City Council.

our 10 key themes

1. Our Values
2. Our Vision
3. Community Wellbeing
4. Protecting our History
5. Protecting our Natural Environment
6. Building a strong Local Economy
7. Connecting our Region
8. Leadership and Governance
9. Our Concerns
10. Project Action Plan

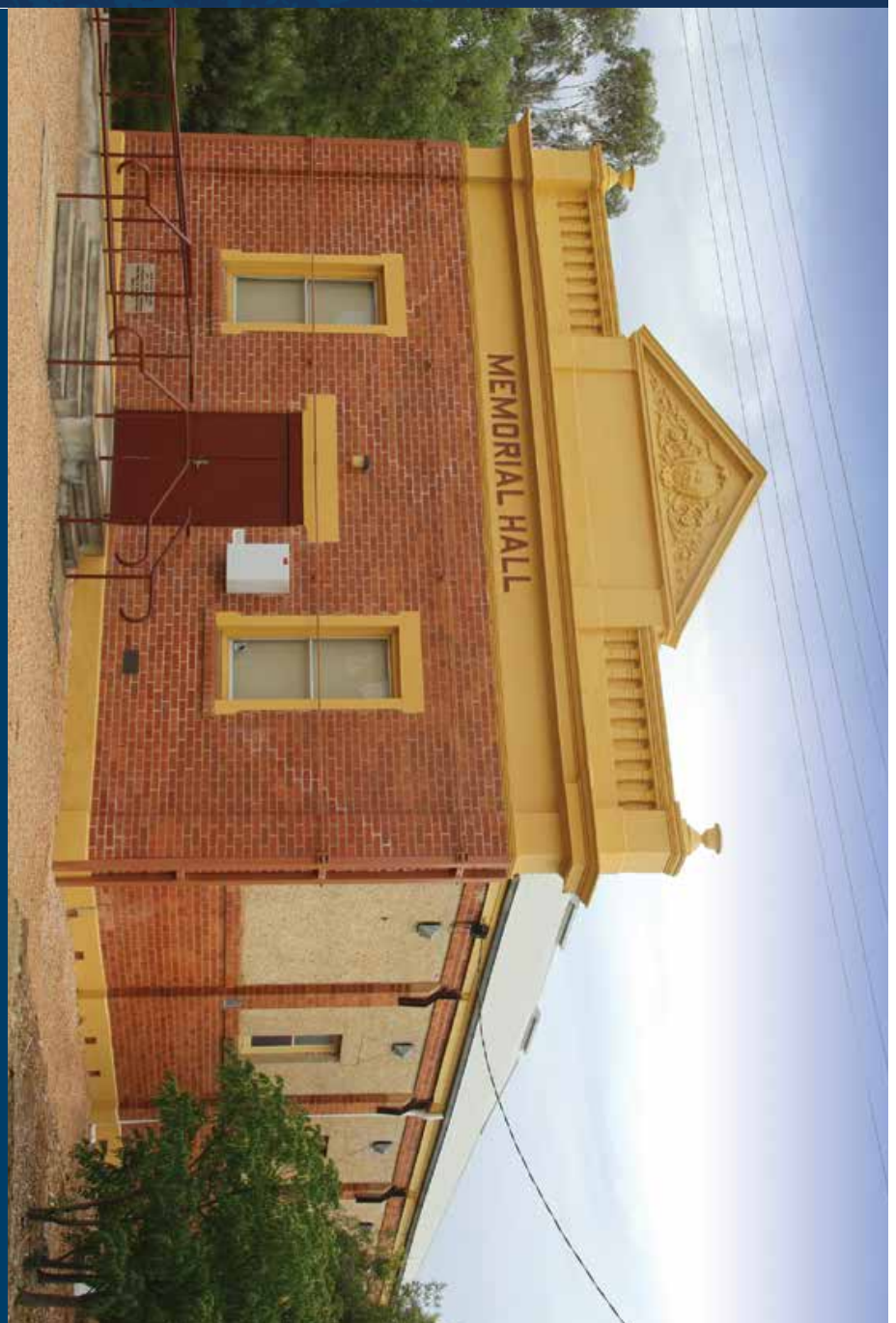
achievements to date

The Walpeup community has successfully achieved the following:

- Walpeup Memorial Hall Building Stabilisation and Restoration
- Walpeup Rural Outreach Library Service
- Walpeup Dryland Memorial Garden
- Walpeup Cemetery upgrades to lawn and gazebo areas
- Wayside Stop upgrade to fire service provision and installation of defibrillator
- Walpeup Wayside Stop Speed Cushioning Project
- Christmas Decoration Project
- Production of Youtube Community Videos - Walpeup Community and Walpeup Memorial Hall
- Walpeup Shop Maintenance
- Walpeup Wayside Stop
- Walpeup Dryland Memorial Garden
- Glen Park
- Walpeup Racecourse Reserve
- Churches
- Torrita Hall
- Community Groups
 - The Walpeup and District Development Committee Inc.
 - The Walpeup Memorial Hall Committee
 - Walpeup Cemetery Trust
 - Walpeup News Facebook Group
 - Weeah Landcare Group Inc
- Sporting Groups
 - Walpeup Recreation Reserve
 - Walpeup Table Tennis
 - Ouyen United Kangas Football and Netball Club
- Health and Wellbeing
 - Mallee Track Health and Community Service Community Car
- Businesses
 - Walpeup General Store
 - Walpeup Post Office
 - Poole and Jackson
- Government
 - Country Fire Authority
 - Mildura Rural City Council Outreach Library Services

Community Facilities, Groups and Services
 The Walpeup and District community is home to a number of community facilities, groups and services that include:

- General facilities**
- Walpeup Memorial Hall
 - Walpeup Cemetery



OUR PRIORITIES

1. Our Values

Walpeup is a people-friendly community with a relaxed lifestyle.

As a community we value:

- A supportive community with a strong spirit
- Peaceful, quiet and friendly environment
- A small community feel
- Local history
- Dedicated volunteers
- Safety and security
- Locally delivered goods and services
- Native flora and fauna
- The natural environment with wide open spaces

- Attraction of outreach services to the community
- Long-term sustainability

3. Community Wellbeing

Activities and initiatives that produce a vibrant township with a safe and healthy community.

This includes a focus on:

- Creating a sense of belonging for residents
- Clean, safe community and public amenities
- Advocacy for a treated water supply
- Well maintained parks and gardens
- Opportunities for children and youth
- Access to transport services
- Access to health and wellbeing services
- Access to recreational activities
- Partnerships with other communities, i.e. Mildura, Ouyen, Underbool, Murrayville
- Funding support for economic development
- Trained and experienced volunteer emergency services (TFA)
- Continuation of Outreach Library Service
- Heritage preservation

4. Protecting our Natural Environment

Working towards conserving and promoting the Mallee region.

This includes a focus on:

- Protecting, sustaining and maintaining our bushland, parks, walking tracks, streetscapes and reserves
- Ongoing maintenance of the Walpeup Dryland Memorial Garden, Glen Park, Schubert Walk and the Wayside Stop
- Beautification of town entrances and streetscapes
- Maintenance and improvement of existing community assets (e.g. Racecourse Reserve)
- Improved drainage management and systems
- Environmental initiatives
- Animal, plant and pest control

5. Building a Strong Local Economy

Supporting the community to maintain and strive for economic growth and employment opportunities.

This includes a focus on:

- Maintaining business viability and supporting new services
- Creating and capturing tourism opportunities
- Diverse economic infrastructure
- Employment opportunities for all residents
- Business support from Government
- Attracting new residents
- Building partnerships with outlying communities
- Providing opportunities for new volunteers to support local initiatives

- Local transport service for students to Ouyen P-12 College
- Lobby for higher quality, better maintained, safer roads
- Access to transport services including Mallee Track Health and Community Service Community Car
- Locally delivered and visiting outreach services
- High speed phone and internet connectivity
- New and improved Township Entrance Signage

7. Leadership and Governance

Ensuring strong leadership and meaningful governance for community

This includes a focus on:

- Strong relationships with government and neighbouring communities
- Communication through Walpy News, community noticeboard, North West Express
- Support and direction from government departments
- Expertise for delivery of initiatives and projects
- Support, access and prioritisation of grant funding
- Participation in Council decision-making

8. Protecting our History and local heritage.

Preserving our culture and local heritage.

This includes a focus on:

- Walpeup Memorial Hall
- The former Mallee Research Station
- The former Walpeup Primary School site
- Glen Park
- Walpeup Cemetery
- Streetscapes including Cregan Street and Glen Street
- Access to quality arts and library services
- Building partnerships with Mildura Arts Centre and relevant organisations to deliver a diverse range of arts and cultural experiences

2. Our Vision

The community sees Walpeup as a place which supports:

- A clean and tidy appearance
- Improvements to existing facilities to increase opportunities for community
- Promotion of tourism opportunities that attract visitors, that connect us to the region and that encourage local spending
- New industry
- Advocacy to Local, State and Federal Governments for grant opportunities to support local businesses and facilities
- Access to local essential services
- Preservation of historically significant landmarks

6. Connecting our Region

Linking our towns and connecting our region.

This includes a focus on:

- Partnerships with Mildura, other LGAs and neighbouring Mallee Track communities
- Place-based projects funded and supported by Local, State and Federal Governments

Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023-28

- ### 9. OUR CONCERNS
- The community planning process raised a number of concerns.
- The concerns that were highlighted included:
- An ageing and declining population
 - Geographical isolation and distance from larger cities
 - Limited access to essential food, medical, specialist, health and wellbeing services
 - Lack of transport options for community to access essential services
 - Limited employment and educational opportunities
 - Volunteer fatigue and changing patterns of volunteerism
 - The need to maintain high quality roads, walking tracks, laneways and footpaths
 - Poor and unreliable phone and internet services
 - Limited access to entertainment, sporting, non-sporting activities
 - The gap between rural community and urban policy (red tape)
 - The quality of our domestic water supply
 - The future of the Walpeup General Store

10. Project Action Plan

The next four pages list the projects that the community identified as part of the planning process.

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Walpeup Memorial Hall Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to review the maintenance and preservation plan for the historic building • Continue to explore funding options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walpeup Memorial Hall Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Walpeup Wayside Stop Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider 'dump point' for visitors to entice longer stays • Reinstall seating at playground equipment • Evaluate and upgrade signage • Continued maintenance of buildings and gardens • Explore funding options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Glen Park War Memorial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community consultation and engagement with key partners • Explore funding options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Walpeup Primary School site development opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued community consultation around use of the site • Explore funding options including MRCC purchase of the land and rental to the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Suggestions Low maintenance sculpture park, history and machinery display		
Walpeup Township Entrance Signage Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community consultation for the design and layout of signage • Review and conduct a township signage audit • Form Partnerships with authorities • Location and development of signage • Explore funding options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council Regional Roads Victoria

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Walking Trail Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate existing walking trails and potential expansion and connection to community assets Upkeep and maintenance plan for the area Explore funding options for development 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Walpeup Recreational Facility Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community consultation in regards to the development and maintenance of area Explore options of connecting walking trail to sporting and exercise facilities Explore funding options to restore golf course Explore funding options to restore tennis courts 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Racecourse Reserve Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Walpeup Cemetery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate options to install a toilet facility in the Walpeup Cemetery Investigate tree plantings options to create wind break on North end Explore funding options 	Walpeup Cemetery Trust
Industry, economics and tourism		
Silo Art Tourism Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate to Mildura Regional Development Investigate and determine project scope, objectives, forecast costing, budget and implementation Consultation with stakeholders Explore funding opportunities 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Regional Development
Walpeup Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support and advocate for local businesses 	Walpeup and District Development Committee
Mallee Highway Shelter and Street Furniture (opposite Walpeup Store)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate options for shelter, seating and tree planting Explore funding options 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council

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Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Industry, economics and tourism		
Streetscaping to beautify the town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for streetscape beautification throughout the town Maintenance of streetscapes and roads Investigate development of existing and new walking trails 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council Regional Roads Victoria
Promote community assets, national parks and history through online presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a tourism strategy for Walpeup and district communities to highlight offerings 	Mildura Rural City Council Mildura Regional Development Walpeup and District Development Committee
Access and safety		
Improve internet coverage in outlying areas and connection speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form partnerships with neighboring communities and advocate for better connectivity and internet speed 	Walpeup and District Development Committee
Improve road safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Widening of Glen Street Maintenance of unsealed roads Review of kerb and channel throughout the township Review of hazardous intersections and entrances throughout the township 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council Regional Roads Victoria
Improve footpath safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for provision of new footpaths Improve and maintain existing footpaths 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council Businesses

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Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Review access to immediate emergency resources (Defibrillator located at Wayside Stop)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review local emergency resources and advocate for locally accessible resources 	Ambulance Victoria Mallee Track Health and Community Service Community Groups
Walpeup Fire Station (CFA) improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate opportunity for a new fire station 	Walpeup Fire Brigade Country Fire Authority
Community Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing consultation with community 	Walpeup and District Development Committee Mildura Rural City Council Community

Image courtesy of Pamela McKinnara

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Walpeup and District Community Plan 2023-28

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CFA Walpeup

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- ii 'Walpeup Research' – Bureau of Meteorology, 2021
- iii 'Census quickstats 2016', Census Data Code SSC22654 (SSC), Australian Bureau of Statistics
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- viii Mallee Research Station, Mildura Rural City Business Case, 2014
- ix 'The Mallee Research Station' – Youtube, 2021
- x 'Mildura (Former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2' – MRCC/Context Pty Ltd, Mildura Rural City Council, 2013
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- xiii 'Mildura (Former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2' – MRCC/Context Pty Ltd, Mildura Rural City Council, 2013
- xiv Mildura Living Magazine, Ben Piscooni, Mildura Rural City Council, 2015
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- xvi 'Mildura Former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Vol 1 – Final Stage 1' – MRCC/Context Pty Ltd, Mildura Rural City Council, 2009

acknowledgments

The Walpeup and District Community Plan was developed by the Walpeup Development Committee in collaboration with Cassey Gloster, Geoff Burr and Darcy Hulland from Mildura Rural City Council. Thank-you to Kate Pole for working closely with the community in the development of this plan.

The final plan was endorsed by Mildura Rural City Council on **XXXX**

For Speech or Hearing impaired:
National Relay Service TTY 13 36 77
Speak and Listen 1300 555 727

This community plan was developed by the community of Walpeup in collaboration with Mildura Rural City Council.

© Walpeup and District Development Committee Inc.
Walpeup and District Development Committee Inc. and Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.

Community plan was developed by the community of Walpeup in collaboration with Mildura Rural City Council.



Mildura Rural City Council



14.3 MURRAYVILLE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY PLAN 2023 -2028

File Number: 12/14/16
Officer: Acting General Manager Community

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 -2028 and seek Council's resolution to endorse the new Community Plan.

2. Recommendation

That Council endorse the new Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 -2028 as presented.

3. Background

The Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028 provides Mildura Rural City Council and the Murrayville and District Community with an agreed project action plan for the next five years.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

The COVID-19 pandemic created consultation challenges and in response, Council supported the Murrayville and District Liaison Committee with a media strategy that incorporated various engagement methods. The residents were highly engaged and demonstrated commitment by completing detailed survey responses. The survey data was collated, analysed with a thematic methodology and a draft plan was developed for the Community to review and provide feedback.

Table 1. Engagement activities undertaken in the development of the Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028.

Consultation and Engagement Activity	Method	Participation
Online and hardcopy surveys – Inclusive of Community Consultation and 2040 Council Vision data.	Online and hardcopy surveys	76 detailed responses
Inform stakeholders of the community plan review to provide input and feedback into draft actions.	Surveys Email Phone Face to face Liaison meeting	11 intensive interviews
Advancing Country Towns Project data.	Visioning sessions Internal meetings Focus Groups 1 on 1 sessions Small discussion groups Email Phone interviews Online feedback Surveys Public Meetings	Various sub committees and community members: Including 650 people: Emergency Services Advisory Groups Volunteer Groups
Launch the new Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028.	Online	Jan 2023

5. Discussion

Census Data

In the 2021 Census, Murrayville had a population of 278 people, 150 male and 121 female, the median age of 51 years and a total of 66 families reside in the community. In 2016, Murrayville had a population of 280 people, however in recent years the population has remained stable due to the demand for housing during the pandemic.

Over 45 per cent of people participated and/or completed voluntary work through an organisation or a group, which is almost double the state average. Full-time and part-time employment accounted for almost 45 per cent of the population.

Community Planning

Community Planning aims to improve the effectiveness of public services, programs, and projects, whilst considering the emerging needs and supporting the development of local communities.

Local, State and Federal Government have identified that local people are experts when it comes to understanding the economic and social dynamics of the community.

Community Planning creates a platform for communities to:

- Reach set goals
- Be connected
- Be resilient to emerging changes
- Plan for the future
- Be long term and sustainable.

6. Time Frame

The updated plan will be reviewed after five years.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Economy

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Resilient local businesses that are supported to thrive, contributing to the viability and character of our towns.
- An agile economy underpinned by innovation and industry diversity that attracts investment.
- Access to a range of education, training, and employment pathways
- A skilled workforce that meets current and future industry needs.

Leadership

Outcomes to be achieved

- Advocate on behalf of the community to address needs and priorities
- Collaborative leadership and partnerships that build capacity and increase opportunities.

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications**Policy**

This report updates the current Murrayville and District Community Plan 2013 – 2018.

Council Policies that relate to community planning include:

- Community Plan Support Funding Policy CP013
- Community Engagement Policy CP020
- Social Inclusion Policy CP019.

Legal/Statutory

There are no statutory implications associated with the development of this project.

Financial

After the Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 – 2028 has been endorsed by Council, the community will be eligible to apply for funding via council's Community Plan Support Fund (CPSF).

The community will also be able to explore other financial opportunities available through the private sector, State and Commonwealth Government.

Implementation of a community plan builds the communities capacity to deliver projects themselves, that would otherwise require financial contribution from Council's capital or operational budget.

Environmental

The community plan will be primarily available online, with a limited number of copies printed and therefore reducing paper consumption.

Social

It is acknowledged that community development and planning play a significant role within our community.

Economic

The key functions of community planning include developing strategies that increase economic opportunity in the community.

10. Risk Assessment

By endorsing the Community Plan, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

- [1](#) Murrayville and District Community Plan 2023 - 2028



Murrayville and District
COMMUNITY PLAN 2023-2028

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Murrayville and District Community Plan

introduction

This is the third community plan for the Murrayville and District Community, covering the period of 2023-2028 outlining the community's long-term goals, aspirations and priorities.

vision and mission statement

Vision Statement

To work with a range of key community groups, Council and other partners, to support, facilitate and encourage the implementation of activities listed within the Community Plan. However, to achieve the maximum benefit of the actions listed the whole community needs to support the objectives of the Plan and actively participate.

Mission/Purpose Statement

To be a forum to raise ideas, harness all our resources and promote our district, to see our community not only survive, but to grow and prosper.

Murrayville and District Community Plan

about murrayville

History

Murrayville is situated in the Mallee region, north-west Victoria, on the Mallee Highway, 21km from the South Australian border and 27km from Pinnaroo. Murrayville and district communities cover a section of approximately 60kms along the Mallee Highway stretching from Boinka to the East of Murrayville through to the border.

It is believed that the first white settlers that came through the Mallee area were Edward John Eyre and his group of six men who attempted to drive their stock overland from NSW to Adelaide in 1838, however they were unsuccessful due to the density of the bushland and scarcity of water for their horses, themselves and stock. Murrayville was named after John Murray, Victorian Premier from 1909-1912.

Settlement of the land occurred from 1908 onwards as land was opened up by the Crown and the railway line was laid between Ouyen and Murrayville. Bores were sunk to deliver much-needed water for domestic and crop use. As land was purchased and developed, a hotel, coffee palace, blacksmith & wheelwright and pioneer store were opened in 1911, a school and a Methodist church in 1912.

A private hospital was opened in 1920 and served the community up until 1954 when the Murrayville

Memorial Bush Nursing Hospital was built. Lutheran and Anglican churches were built in 1923 and 1929, with a Catholic church built in 1937. In 1944 Murrayville Consolidated school, the first of its type in Victoria, was opened. The Murrayville High School was opened in 1969.

Currently, Murrayville boasts the Murrayville Community College, a P-12 school, a Post Office and supermarket, a community hall, a corner shop and newsagent and several other small businesses. For recreation, there is a swimming pool, caravan park, lawn bowls club, numerous parks and playground equipment, a recreation reserve utilised for football, cricket, netball, basketball, golf and tennis.

Murrayville and district communities have a strong volunteer ethic as they have an Ambulance Service, Fire Brigade, State Emergency Service, sporting, historic, dramatic society and other community organisations would not operate without the support of volunteers.

Major industries for employment include grain, sheep and cattle farming, use of bore water to grow potatoes, onions and olives, allied health services, primary and secondary education, Local, State Government and trade.

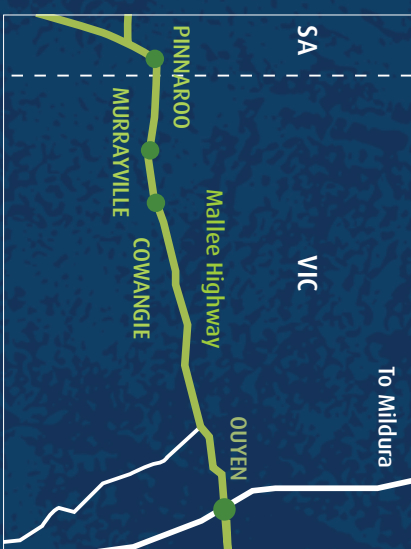


Image courtesy of Kerren Miles

climate

Murrayville sits approximately 71 metres above sea level. According to the Bureau of Meteorology, the mean annual rainfall (1910-2021) is approximately 324mm over a period of 82 days of >1mm, however this varies widely from year to year. During the drought year of 1974, only 114mm of rain was recorded. Rainfall is essential to the success of farming enterprise and other businesses in the Mallee district.

The community experiences mean maximum temperatures from 15 degrees in winter to 31 degrees in summer and mean minimum temperatures from 3 degrees in winter to 13 degrees in summer. Throughout the year humidity is generally low, although temperatures can soar well over 40°C in summer. Winter nights are cool and frosty, but usually fine up to warm, sunny days.ⁱ

population

In the 2021 (census), Murrayville had a population of 278 people, made up of 121 females, 150 males, of which 69 families reside.

In 2016, Murrayville had a population of approximately 280.

The median age of residents was 51 years. People aged between 50 and 69 years made up 39% of the total population.ⁱⁱ

In 2011, Murrayville had a population of 548 people, however in the recent years the population has remained considerably stable.

Over 45% of people participated and/or completed voluntary work through an organisation or a group, which is almost double the state average. Full-time and part-time employment accounted for almost 45% of the population.ⁱⁱⁱ

developing the murrayville and district community plan

This is the third Community Plan for the Murrayville and District community covering a period of 2023-2028. The Community Plan includes the Murrayville and surrounding districts, and has a focus on a number of actions, including maintaining existing

assets, making improvements and developing various initiatives in the future. The Community Plan includes Murrayville and the neighbouring townships of Boinka, Cowangie, Tullye, Carina, Panitya and Danyo.

mildura rural city council

In 2021, the Mildura Rural City Council's Community Futures Branch launched a Community Planning Team to assist with the development of a new and innovative plan that would develop existing projects, identify new projects that would enable the community to apply for potential funding opportunities.

The Community Plan has a grassroots approach to shaping the future of the community, outlining the long-term goals, aspirations and priorities over the next five years.

The COVID-19 pandemic created a number of consultation challenges

and in response Mildura Rural City Council supported the Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Inc. with a media strategy that incorporated various engagement methods. The residents of Murrayville and District Community participated by completing detailed online and hard copy surveys, phone interviews, video conferencing, email and social media. The residents were highly engaged in issues and demonstrated commitment to the community by completing detailed responses. The survey data was collated, thematically analysed and a draft plan developed for the community to provide feedback on.

about murrayville and district liaison committee incorporated

Over the years the Murrayville community has been represented by various groups advocating for the unique needs of the community. The Murrayville Local Government Liaison Committee Inc. became incorporated in 2002 and Murrayville Community Inc. subsequently formed in 2006 with a separate set of objectives.

The committees amalgamated in 2017 to create the Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Inc. with a shared set of priorities to support the ongoing needs of the community.

Membership is open to all members of the Murrayville and district community that

reside or own a property within the Mildura Rural City Council boundary. The committee has many stakeholders including Mildura Rural City Council, State and Federal Government to work towards achieving outcomes for the community.

murrayville caravan park ownership

The Mildura Rural City Council relinquished management of the Murrayville Caravan Park on the 19th of December 2017 and transferred the site to community, operating under a social enterprise model.

A social enterprise is an organisation:

- Established for a specific community-benefit purpose
- That trades to fulfill that purpose, over time deriving a significant portion of income from trade and

- That reinvests the majority of profits/surpluses into achievement of the community benefit purpose.



Image courtesy of Murrayville Community College



Image courtesy of Kerren Miles

our 10 key themes

1. Our Values
2. Our Vision
3. Community Wellbeing
4. Protecting Our Natural Environment
5. Building a Strong Local Economy
6. Connecting Our Region
7. Leadership and Governance
8. Protecting our Culture and History
9. Our Concerns
10. Project Action Plan

achievements to date

The Murrayville community have successfully achieved the following:

- Murrayville Caravan Park upgrades and transfer to community
 - Township drainage, kerb and channel upgrade
 - Lion Park Exercise equipment
 - Murrayville Library
 - Pioneer Park Shade Sails
 - Murrayville Transfer Station, soil capping and recycling collection
 - Murrayville CFA Station
 - Murrayville Multipurpose Centre Kitchen Upgrade
 - Murrayville Swimming Pool Fence
 - Murrayville Tennis Court Lighting
 - Murrayville Cricket Nets
 - Murrayville Cemetery Toilet
 - Temporary Fuel Supply
 - GWM Water Pressure Pumps to increase rates
 - Refurbishment of Pine Hill Walking Trail
 - Defibrillators located at various sites within Murrayville and district communities
 - Weather station
- The Cowangie Community has successfully achieved the following:
- Unisex toilet constructed at the Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall
 - Cowangie Fire Station
 - New 'Larry Perkins' Township Entrance Sign
- Events**
- Australia Day
 - Anzac Day
 - Murrayville P-12 College School Christmas Concert
 - Host biannual Underbool and District Swimming Sports
 - Murrayville Christmas Eve Community Celebration in Pioneer Park
 - Dramatic Society Performances
- Community Groups**
- Cemetery Trust
 - Churches
 - Country Fire Authority
 - Murrayville and District Liaison Committee
 - Murrayville Senior Citizens
 - Murrayville Hall Committee
 - Churches
 - Murrayville Museum and Heritage Society
 - Cowangie CWA
 - Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee
 - Kow Plains
 - Bolinka School
 - Landcare
 - Cowangie Racecourse and Recreation Reserve
 - Murrayville Neighbourhood House
- Education and Learning**
- Murrayville Community College
 - Mallee Minors Child Care and Early Learning Centre
 - Mildura Rural City Council Library
- Health and Wellbeing**
- Mallee Track Health and Community Service 'Bush Nurse Centre'
 - Mallee Border Health Centre
- Businesses and Accommodation**
- Friendly Grocer Supermarket and Australia Post Office
 - Murrayville Newsagency
 - Murrayville Pharmacy
 - Stuff & Nonsense
 - Jacobs Well Retreat and Conference Centre
 - Murrayville Mallee Fowl Hotel Motel
 - Murrayville Caravan Park
 - A & J Super Services
 - Kalmis - Morzer Bruyns Seed Grading
 - GrainCorp
- Government**
- Victoria Police
 - Parks Victoria
 - Ambulance Victoria
 - State Emergency Service (SES)
- Sporting Groups**
- Murrayville Sporting Hub Inc
 - Murrayville Bowls Club
 - Murrayville Swimming Pool

Murrayville and District Community Plan

our priorities

1. Our Values

Murrayville is a connected, welcoming, inclusive, diverse and a family-friendly community.

As a community we value:

- A sense of community and belonging
- Peaceful, quiet and relaxing lifestyle
- Resilient, dynamic, inclusive and friendly people
- Diversity of people and interests
- The local historical aspects of the town
- Locally available goods and services
- Safety and security
- A range of dedicated volunteers
- Natural landscapes, bushland, parks and walking trails

2. Our Vision

The vision for Murrayville is a place where the community has:

- A clean and tidy town appearance
- Integrated, innovative and local health, wellbeing and community services
- Meaningful outreach services to meet the needs of the community
- Shop buildings are occupied and local business are supported
- Advocacy for Local, State and Federal funding grants to support local businesses and facilities

3. Community Wellbeing

Activities and initiatives that produce a safe and healthy community.

This includes a focus on:

- Well-maintained parks and gardens
- Clean and safe public amenities
- Access to high quality early, primary and secondary education
- Opportunities for all ages
- Access to recreational activities. i.e. Murrayville Sports Hub
- Swimming pool for training, lap swimming, water safety, school carnivals and competitions
- Well trained and supported emergency services
- Heritage preservation
- Promoting library services
- Advocate to GWM Water for a potable water supply

4. Protecting Our Natural Environment

Conserving and promoting the natural beauty of our region.

This includes a focus on:

- Protecting and maintaining our bushland, parks, streetscapes and reserves
- Residential water supply
- Drainage management
- Environmental initiatives
- Energy efficiency through innovative practices
- Better recycling and rubbish collection for outlying district
- Waste facilities and services
- Animal and plant pest control

6. Connecting Our Region

Linking our towns and connecting our region.

This includes a focus on:

- Partnerships with neighbouring communities
- Locally funded projects
- Continued transport service for school students
- Adequate locally delivered and visiting outreach services
- Lobby for higher quality, better maintained, safer roads and footpaths
- Community car and bus
- Higher quality and fast speed communication networks
- Support and advocate for the rural rail network
- Establishment of unique Township Entrance Signage

7. Leadership and Governance

Ensuring strong leadership and meaningful governance for community.

This includes a focus on:

- Strong relationships with Government and other communities
- Support, access and priority grant funding
- Participation in local Government decision-making
- Communication through Pinnaroo Border Times, noticeboards and social media
- Representation in community from Local, State and Federal Government

8. Protecting Our History

This includes a focus on:

- Preserving the history of the Murrayville Museum
- Preserving historic architecture
- Explore use of vacant buildings to exhibit local history and art

5. Building a Strong Local Economy

Supporting the development of a local economy.

This includes a focus on:

- Maintaining business viability and supporting new services
- Diverse economic infrastructure
- Creating, developing and capturing tourism opportunities
- Marketing and promotion
- Building partnerships with Mallee Track communities

9. OUR CONCERNS

The community identified a number of concerns and challenges:

- Concerns that were highlighted:
 - An aging and declining population
 - Geographical isolation
 - Limited access to essential food, fuel, medical, specialist, health and wellbeing services
 - Limited access to public transport
 - Limited employment and educational opportunities
 - South Australian border closures
 - Volunteer fatigue and burnout
 - Lack of independent living accommodation for the elderly
 - Retaining existing retail business and expanding new business opportunity
- Lack of investment from government and service coordination to meet local priority
- Limited career and educational opportunities
- Need to maintain high quality roads, laneways and footpaths
- Poor and unreliable phone and internet service
- Limited access to entertainment, sporting, non-sporting activities
- Fear of externally delivered services that will encourage money being spent outside the community
- Gap between rural community and urban policy (red tape)
- Safety perception due to insufficient street lighting in some areas
- Non-potable water supply needs to be upgraded to a fully treated drinking water supply

10. Project Action Plan

On the following pages is a list of the projects that the community identified as part of the planning process.

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Murrayville Sports Hub (New recreational facility, including outdoor space i.e playground, scoreboard)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Murrayville Sports Hub
Modular Scooter and Bike track (Pump)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Murrayville Sports Hub
Murrayville Wetlands and Walking Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Murrayville Wetlands Committee Murrayville Recreation Reserve
Permanent Fuel Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Community Mildura Rural City Council
Murrayville Township Entrance Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to Council to investigate project scope, budget and implementation 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Lions Park Amenities Block Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to Council to investigate project scope, budget and implementation 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Mildura Rural City Council

Image courtesy of Kerren Miles

Murrayville and District Community Plan

Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Infrastructure		
Murrayville Public Swimming Pool Upgrade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Mildura Rural City Council Murrayville and District Liaison Committee
New bowls artificial turf surface	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore funding opportunities 	Murrayville Sports Hub Mildura Rural City Council
Expansion of Murrayville Early Learning Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with stakeholders and key partners • Research project scope, objectives a and budget • Explore funding opportunities 	Mallee Track Health and Community Services Mildura Rural City Council Community
Urban water supply (Upgrade non-potable water supply to drinking water standard)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with the community and water authority to place the project on a future water plan. 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee GWM Water Community
Industry and Economics		
Local business support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to advocate and support small local businesses 	Local businesses
Rail upgrades Murray Darling Rail Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support improvements to passenger and freight rail network 	V/Line VicTrack
Emergency, safety and access		
Improve internet coverage in outlying areas and connection speed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form partnerships with neighboring communities and advocate for better connectivity and internet speed 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Mallee Track Communities Service providers

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Project Description	Next steps	Partners
Emergency, safety and access		
Street lighting improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore need for additional and improved street lighting in parks, recreational areas and streets 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Mildura Rural City Council
Road safety improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bitumen sealing of arterial laneways to increase road safety, access for businesses and suppress dust • Better maintenance of unsealed roads 	Regional Roads Victoria Mildura Rural City Council Murrayville and District Liaison Committee
Improve footpath safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and lobby for better maintained or new footpaths • Remove or repair derelict or dangerous structures, buildings and trees 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Community Mildura Rural City Council Businesses
Promotion		
Promote community assets, national parks and tourism opportunities that incorporates a collaborative online presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form partnerships with other local communities to develop a Mallee Track Tourism Strategy or Plan • Develop a tourism strategy for Murrayville and District communities to highlight offerings 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Mallee Track Communities Mildura Regional Development
Community events to enhance social connection i.e Australia Day, Anzac Day, Christmas Eve etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing consultation with community groups to ensure funding opportunities are available to community events 	Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Community

Source: Murrayville Community Plan Survey Data 2021

Murrayville and District Community Plan

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Murrayville Community College



Murrayville Sports Hub Inc.

other projects and initiatives

Below is a list of the other projects and initiatives that the community identified:

- Explore 3MBR Radio Station options
- Link business to tourism opportunities
- Improve and upskill community groups in applying for grants
- Investigate need for purpose built aged care facility and accommodation
- Explore Men's Shed opportunities
- Video conferencing facility to reduce isolation and increase connection.
- Explore Murrayville Golf Club future development options
- Investigate Murrayville Hall preservation and refurbishment options
- Including portable sound system installation



Murrayville Sports Hub Inc

- References
- i Bureau of Meteorology, Climate Data Online
 - ii <https://www.victorianplaces.com.au/murrayville>
 - iii Census Quickstats 2016, Census Data Code SSC21833 (POA), Australian Bureau of Statistics

20

acknowledgments

The Murrayville and District Community Plan was developed by the Murrayville and District Liaison Committee in collaboration with Cassey Gloster and Geoff Burr from Mildura Rural City Council.

The Murrayville and District Community Plan 2022-2027 was endorsed by Mildura Rural City Council on XXXX

Contact us
www.murrayville.com.au

For speech or hearing impaired:
 National Relay Service TTY 13 36 77
 Speak and Listen 1300 555 727

This community plan was developed by the community of Murrayville and District in collaboration with Mildura Rural City Council.

© Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Inc. 2022
 Murrayville and District Liaison Committee Inc. and Mildura Rural City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, which now comprises the Mildura Rural City municipality. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate and respect their continuing cultures and acknowledge the memories of their ancestors.





14.4 AMENDMENT C117MILD – REZONING OF LOWER MURRAY WATER LAND RIVER AVENUE KOORLONG - DECISION TO ABANDON AMENDMENT

File Number: 13/02/109
Officer: Acting General Manager Community

1. Summary

Mildura Rural City Council has prepared and exhibited Mildura Planning Scheme Amendment C117mild at the request of the proponent Lower Murray Water, which seeks to rezone surplus land at Lot 3 LP115108, River Avenue Koorlong, to facilitate its sale into private hands.

Following consideration of and in response to, matters raised in objecting submissions received to the exhibited amendment, Lower Murray Water has now requested its abandonment. The purpose of this report therefore is to recommend that Council formally resolve to abandon Amendment C117mild.

2. Recommendation

That Council in accordance with:

- (i) Section 28 *Abandonment of amendment, of the Planning and Environment Act 1987*, formally resolve to abandon Amendment C117mild, as exhibited; and**
- (ii) Section 28(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* write to the Minister for Planning, informing of Council's decision to formally abandon Amendment C117mild.**

3. Background

Mildura Rural City Council (the Planning Authority) prepared Amendment C117mild to the Mildura Planning Scheme at the request of the landowner Lower Murray Water (the Proponent).

The amendment proposes to rezone land described as Lot 3 LP115108, River Avenue Koorlong, included in the Public Use Zone 1 (PUZ1) Service and Utility to the Farming Zone (FZ) to facilitate sale of the land into private ownership.

The sale of the land is subject to appropriate zoning for the existing and ongoing use of the land for horticultural purposes.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

The amendment was formally exhibited for public comment from Thursday 28 July 2022 to Monday 29 August 2022. On 22 July 2022 Council sent 148 letters providing notice of the preparation of the amendment as follows:

- Prescribed Ministers (five) per the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- Neighbouring landowners (16) and occupiers of land (nine)
- Planning industry professionals (96)
- Public Sector Agencies and Local Authorities (22).

Statutory advertising was undertaken via the Council’s Notices page in the Sunraysia Daily on:

- Friday 22 July 2022, 5 August 2022, and 19 August 2022
- Saturday 23 July 2022, 6 August 2022, 20 August 2022.

The amendment was also included in the Victorian Government Gazette on Thursday 28 July 2022.

The amendment was also notified online via council’s Have Your Say page www.mildura.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay and the project page at <https://yoursay.mildura.vic.gov.au/Mildura-C117mild>.

Amendment documents were also made available for public inspection via the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Amendments on Exhibition web page: www.delwp.vic.gov.au/public-inspection.

Additionally, a hardcopy folder of Amendment C117mild documents was available for viewing during the public comment period, by visiting Council’s Deakin Avenue Service Centre at 76-84 Deakin Avenue Mildura.

5. Discussion

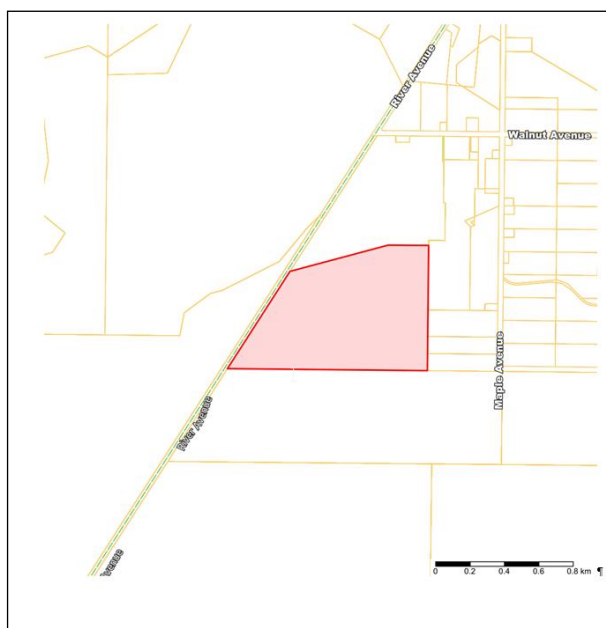


Figure 1: Locality Plan showing subject land at River Avenue Koorlong

Submissions Received

Council received six submissions to the amendment during the public comment period. All submissions (redacted to comply with privacy principles) were posted to the project page (links as advised earlier in this report). Two submissions were received on time and four submissions were received after the close of exhibition.

All submissions were provided to the proponent’s representative for consideration and proposed response to issues raised in the submissions. A summary of these is provided in the following table:

Submission No.	Submitter	Issues	Response
#1	Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	Issues raised for discussion, to be clarified	No change required
#2	B & N Prevedello	Objection	Proponent has considered matters raised and decided to abandon amendment
#3	Goulburn Murray Water (GMW)	No objection	No change required
#4	Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP)	Objection, multiple environmental issues to be addressed	Proponent has considered matters raised and decided to abandon amendment
#5	Department of Transport (DoT)	No objection	No change required
#6	Country Fire Authority	No objection	No change required

Following provision of these submissions to the proponent and consideration of the issues raised therein, the proponent Lower Murray Water has written to Council (please refer attached letter) and advised that:

“Following consideration of the required works through the submission of DELWP, an assessment of the financial viability of the land being re-zoned and the proceeds of sale have been considered.

It has been determined that to proceed with the re-zoning and sale of the land it would not be economic and therefore, on behalf of Lower Murray Water we request that Mildura Rural City Council abandon the amendment.”

As it serves no additional strategic purpose in accordance with the Mildura Planning Scheme, it is considered the amendment should be abandoned as requested.

6. Time Frame

Key dates and deadlines include:

Event	Date
Request for authorisation to prepare amendment under delegation	24 February 2022
Conditional authorisation received to prepare Amendment C117mild under delegation	19 April 2022
Exhibition of Amendment C117mild	22 July 2022 to 29 August 2022
Exhibition Notice in Victorian Government Gazette	Thursday 28 July 2022
Submissions provided to proponent for response to matters raised	5 September 2022
Letter from proponent/landowner requesting Council formally abandon the amendment	4 November 2022
Reported to Council requesting Amendment C117mild be formally abandoned	22 December 2022
Written notice to be provided to Minister for Planning of Council decision to formally abandon amendment and complete other matters prescribed under Section 28 of the <i>Planning & Environment Act, 1987</i> .	Tentative early January 2023

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Place

Outcomes to be achieved:

- A well-developed long-term land use vision
- Sustainable infrastructure that meets the current and future community needs

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications

Policy

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

Legal/Statutory

Council must comply with all Legal and statutory implications required in the *Planning and Environment Act 1987, Section 28 (1) to (4) Abandonment of amendment*.

28 Abandonment of amendment

Planning and Environment Act 1987
No. 45 of 1987

Part 3—Amendment of planning schemes

S. 28(1)
amended by
No. 12/2021
s. 68 (ILA
s. 39B(1)).

(1) The planning authority must tell the Minister in writing if it decides to abandon an amendment or part of an amendment.

S. 28(2)
inserted by
No. 12/2021
s. 68.

(2) Within 10 business days after the day on which the planning authority tells the Minister about its decision under subsection (1), the planning authority must publish a notice of the decision on its Internet site.

S. 28(3)
inserted by
No. 12/2021
s. 68.

(3) A notice under subsection (2) must include—
(a) a statement of reasons for the decision; and
(b) any other prescribed matter.

S. 28(4)
inserted by
No. 12/2021
s. 68.

(4) A notice published under subsection (2) must be available on the planning authority's Internet site for a period of at least 2 months.

Financial

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Environmental

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

Social

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Economic

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Submission #1 - Environment Protection Authority
- 2 [↓](#) Submission #2 - B & N Prevedello
- 3 [↓](#) Submission #3 - Goulburn Murray Water
- 4 [↓](#) Submission #4 - Department Environment Land Water and Planning DELWP
- 5 [↓](#) Submission #5 - Department of Transport
- 6 [↓](#) Submission #6 - Country Fire Authority
- 7 [↓](#) Letter from Proponent - James Golsworthy Consulting for Lower Murray Water

18 August 2022

Peter Douglas
Coordinator Strategic Planner
Mildura Rural City Council
PO Box 105
MILDURA VIC 3502



Our Ref: REQ002389

Dear Peter Douglas,

RE: EXHIBITION OF MILDURA PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C117MILD - REZONING OF LOWER MURRAY WATER LAND - RIVER AVENUE KOORLONG

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice in relation to the proposed planning scheme amendment (the Amendment) C117mild. The Amendment is currently on exhibition until 29 August 2022 and was referred to EPA via email on 28 July 2022. EPA has reviewed the following documents:

- C117mild Explanatory Report;
- Letter to EPA dated 22 July 2022; and
- Gazette Notice – Exhibition.

Ministerial Direction 19

The recognition of the preventative value of EPA's early involvement in strategic land use planning is reflected in Ministerial Direction 19 (MD19), which requires planning authorities to seek early advice from EPA when undertaking strategic planning processes that may significantly impact Victoria's environment, amenity and/or human health due to pollution and waste.

EPA's consideration and advice on relevant planning matters is intended to support decisions made by planning authorities in the early stages of the planning process.

It is noted that EPA received this referral upon exhibition of the Amendment, and this advice is therefore not considered to be in accordance with MD19.

It is in this context that EPA provides the comments below.

Our Understanding of the Proposal

Council has prepared C117mild which proposes to rezone land at River Avenue, Koorlong from Public Use Zone – Schedule 1 (PUZ1) to Farming Zone (FZ). The land was previously owned by Lower Murray Water and has since been sold to a private owner. EPA understands that the land is currently used for the grazing of stock and is proposed to be used for horticultural purposes.

epa.vic.gov.au
Environment Protection Authority Victoria
GPO Box 4395, Melbourne VIC 3001
1300 372 842



DX210082

Potentially Contaminated Land and Ministerial Direction 1

Potentially contaminated land is most often the result of previous land uses. Potentially contaminated land is defined in Ministerial Direction 1 (MD1) - Potentially Contaminated Land and Clause 73.01 General Terms of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) as land:

- (a) used or known to have been used for industry or mining;
- (b) used or known to have been used for the storage of chemicals, gas, waste or liquid fuel (other than minor above-ground storage that is ancillary to another use of the land); or
- (c) where a known past or present activity or event (occurring on or off the land) may have caused contamination on the land.

The purpose of MD1 is to ensure that potentially contaminated land is suitable for a use which is proposed to be allowed under an amendment to a planning scheme and which could be significantly affected by any contamination. Such uses include, residential, public open space, agriculture, a child-care centre, pre-school centre or a primary school (but not a secondary school).

Where land is determined to be potentially contaminated, Council must meet the requirements of Ministerial Direction 1 (MD1). MD1 requires that, for planning scheme amendments that would allow potentially contaminated land to be used for a sensitive use, agriculture or public open space, Council must satisfy itself that the environmental conditions of that land are or will be suitable for that use.

Planning Practice Note 30 – Potentially contaminated land (PPN30) (DELWP, 2021), provides guidance for the identification and assessment of potentially contaminated land, including instructions for how to comply with MD1. Table 2 of PPN30 provides guidance on identifying potentially contaminated land and lists agricultural land uses as an activity that carries a *medium* potential to contaminate land. Table 3 indicates the level of assessment required to ensure the land is, or will be made, suitable for the intended use.

PPN30 outlines that for planning scheme amendments where agricultural land uses are proposed (noting that horticulture falls within the definition of agriculture in the VPP) on sites with a *medium* potential for contamination, Council is required to document consideration of potential for contamination to impact the proposal.

Given the above, EPA advise that, while no further assessment of the land recommended in PPN30, Council are required to document the consideration of potential for contamination to impact the proposal, to ensure compliance with MD1.

Explanatory Report

EPA note that neither MD1 nor MD19 have been noted in the Explanatory Report. In preparing planning scheme amendments, Council should ensure that the Explanatory Report addresses the relevant Ministerial Directions, in this case MD1 and MD19.

Closing

The matters raised in this advice to Council are considered straightforward and we do not wish to be heard in support of this submission. We would be willing to discuss the matters raised with Council to provide clarification if needed. Please contact Sibel Ali on 1300 EPA VIC (1300 372 842), or at stratplan@epa.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Trisha Brice
Team Leader – Strategic Planning Advisory
Development Advisory Unit
Environment Protection Authority Victoria

Planning and Environment Act 1987

MILDURA PLANNING SCHEME- LOCAL PROVISION

AMENDMENT C117 mild

We, Bruno Prevedello and Nancy Prevedello, object to this proposed amendment.

We would point out that the information contained in the first paragraph under the heading **“Why is the amendment required?”**- is not factually correct. The first paragraph states;

“ The land owned by Lower Murray water was originally included in the PUZ1 in order to reflect its public ownership. Since 1998 the land has been leased privately to the adjoining landowners who have used it for agricultural purposes. The land is presently used for grazing stock. Following its rezoning the land will be developed for horticultural purposes in association with the adjoining land.”

The land had in fact been leased during the 1980’s and onwards by Olive/ Geoff Sharman who lived in Nichol’s Point.

As part of the proposed “Deakin Project”, Lake Sharman was to be built at that site as a relift facility to expand the FMIT irrigation district westward. All of this was well before the year 2000. This project did not proceed, but Geoff Sharman continued to hold the lease until 2017/18.

The area FZ was an irrigation overflow area until the Benetook Pipeline system was finished in 1983/84.

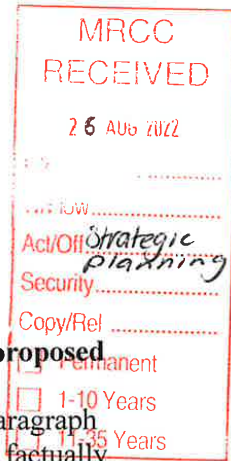
During the heavy rainfall year of 2010/11, it was subjected to severe flooding after water overflowed from the drainage system off Oak Ave Koorlong. A levee had to be erected to stop flood waters inundating sections of Peter/ Vince Dimasi’s fruit block. The centre of this area can best be described as low lying clay pan that had been flooded in 1974 and quite often in the past.

Our real complaint comes under the section headed, **“How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?”**

Section 4(1)(a) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, specifically paragraph (a) and (g) are quoted as having relevance to this amendment.

- (a) To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use and development of the land;
- (g) To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.

We would make the case that the word “fair”, in paragraph (a) along with the words, “to balance the present and future interests of all Victorians”, in paragraph (g) would not apply to the current Irrigators and Stock and



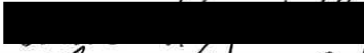

Domestic water users on Box Ave or Maple Ave, Koorlong, should this proposed amendment go ahead.

The current irrigation infrastructure is already at full capacity during peak irrigation season. Some residents on Stock and Domestic meters have already had to truck in water when tanks have run dry. Irrigators can just manage at the moment if they are very mindful of their scheduling. If the irrigation demand is expanded to include the area under this proposed amendment, we fail to see how anyone can work within the limitations of the current infrastructure.

Some of the residents on Box Ave and Maple Ave, that we have spoken too, are very surprised that they were not made aware of this proposed amendment, in light of their complaints over the years to Lower Murray Water and before them to FMIT.

25th August 2022

Bruno Prevedello
Nancy Prevedello

Postal address



Residential address



Telephone  - house & work

Mob 



OFFICIAL

GMW Ref: PSA-22-00011
Doc ID: A4492866

Mildura Rural City Council
Planning Services
planning.services@mildura.vic.gov.au

21 September 2022

Dear Sir and/or Madam,

Planning Scheme Amendment C177

Thank you for your letter and information received 3 August 2022 giving Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) the opportunity to consider this Planning Scheme Amendment.

Goulburn Murray Water's (GMW) areas of interest are surface water and groundwater quality, use and disposal. GMW requires that development proposals do not impact detrimentally on GMW's infrastructure and the flow and quality of surface water and groundwater. Applicants must ensure that any required water supplies are available from an approved source.

Based on the information provided, GMW has no objection to Planning Scheme Amendment C177.

If you require further information please e-mail planning.referrals@gmwater.com.au or contact 1800 013 357.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

Ranine McKenzie
STATUTORY PLANNING PARTNER

ABN: 46 761 336 846

- 1 -

OFFICIAL

PO Box 165 Tatura Victoria 3616 Australia

reception@gmwater.com.au

1800 013 357

www.gmwater.com.au





Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

7 Taylor Street, Epsom
Box 3100, Bendigo DC, VIC 3554
Telephone: 035430 4444
DX 214506
loddonmallee.planning@delwp.vic.gov.au

Ref: SP481224
20220905 ps

Mr Peter Douglas
Co-ordinator Strategic Planning
Mildura Rural City Council
PO Box 105
Mildura Vic 3502

Dear Mr Douglas

MILDURA PLANNING SCHEME – AMENDMENT C117MILD REZONING OF LOWER MURRAY WATER LAND – RIVER AVENUE KOORLONG

Thank you for your letter dated 22 July 2022 to the Minister for Environment and Climate Action regarding the above planning scheme amendment.

The following response from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) comprises the consolidated views of DELWP (excluding the Planning group). The Planning group will provide separate input at the appropriate time.

The subject land is zoned Public Use Zone and is affected by the Development Design Overlay (DDO7) and the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO3) Overlay under the Mildura Planning Scheme.

The amendment proposes to rezone the land from Public Use Zone 1 – Service and Utility to Farming Zone.

Comments

The department provides the following comments based on the information provided in the Explanatory Report for Amendment C117mild:

Native vegetation

The approximate 65-hectare property has areas of native vegetation that are visible from aerial mapping. Although only the trees are clearly visible, it is expected there is also native understorey and groundcover on the site. It is not known if an ecological assessment has been conducted on the property and there is no discussion in the Explanatory Report of any assessments being done as part of the preparation of this Amendment.

There is an approximate 20-hectare mapped wetland (11479) located wholly within the property. Mapped wetlands are considered a patch of native vegetation in the *Guidelines for the removal, destruction and lopping of native vegetation*, DELWP 2017.

The modelled Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) on the property is Chenopod Mallee (EVC158) which is considered as being vulnerable in the Murray Mallee Bioregion.

The future use of the land for horticulture or other agricultural activities will impact on native vegetation and Biodiversity.

Clause 12.01 - Biodiversity

The Explanatory Report has considered Clauses 13 and 14 of the Mildura Planning Scheme however has not addressed Clause 12 which considers Biodiversity and Landscape Values including Clause 12.01 Biodiversity and Clause 12.03 Water Bodies and Wetlands.

Environmental Assessment

It may be beneficial for an environmental assessment to be undertaken to determine the extent and significance of native vegetation of the property to allow for the appropriate zoning or overlays to ensure the protection of the existing biodiversity values on the site.

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorized by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to foi.unit@delwp.vic.gov.au or FOI Unit, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002.



Response

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning wishes to advise that it does not support the proposed amendment as exhibited on the following ground:

- The proposed amendment does not adequately address the requirements of Clause 12 of the Mildura Planning Scheme.

The department is prepared to consider an amendment that provides adequate protection for the Biodiversity values of the site through appropriate zoning or overlays.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the Planning and Approvals team via p&a.north@delwp.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Tim Norden

Program Manager
Planning and Approvals

21 September 2022



Department of Transport

GPO Box 2392
Melbourne, VIC 3001 Australia
Telephone: +61 3 9651 9999
www.transport.vic.gov.au
DX 201292

Ref: PSA337/22

Peter Douglas
Coordinator Strategic Planning
Mildura Rural City Council
PO Box 105, Mildura, Victoria 3502

Dear Peter

**MILDURA PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C117MILD – EXHIBITION
REZONING OF LOWER MURRAY WATER LAND – RIVER AVENUE KOORLONG**

Thank you for your letter dated 22 July 2022 seeking comments from the Department of Transport on the proposed Planning Scheme Amendment C117mild (the Amendment) to the Mildura Rural City Council Planning Scheme.

The Department wishes to advise that it has no objection to the Planning Scheme Amendment.

The Department of Transport looks forward to working with Council on future strategies and plans. Should you wish to discuss this matter in more detail, Ajay Kalia would be pleased to assist and can be contacted on Tel: 5761 1871 or statutory.planning@roads.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely



Jasmine Bartlett
Team Leader – Statutory Planning
Under delegation from the Head, Transport for Victoria
3/11/22





Our patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria

CFA Fire Prevention and Preparedness
8 Lakeside Drive Burwood East Vic 3151
Email: firesafetyreferrals@cfa.vic.gov.au

CFA Ref: 18000-77210-121489
Telephone: 8746 1412
Council Ref: C117MILD

1/9/2022

Jacqueline Murnane
Mildura Rural City Council
POBox 105
MILDURA VIC 3500

Dear Jacqueline,

SUBMISSION TO PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT

Proposal: C117MILD
Location: River Avenue Koorlong

Thank you for providing CFA notice of C117Mild in accordance with section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

CFA has reviewed the proposed planning scheme amendment and would like to make the following submission.

Bushfire Hazard

- The location is not within a BMO area
- The site can however be exposed to annual grass/ scrub fire events that can expose the site to Direct Flame, Radiant heat, and some Ember Attack.

Bushfire Mitigation Measures

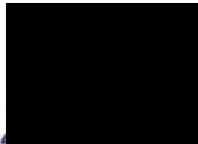
- The transition of the land to Farming zone may certainly increase the management of the land and subsequently help reduce fire risk from its current state.

Conclusion

CFA supports the amendment in its current form.

If you wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact David Allen Manager Community Safety on 8746 1412.

Yours sincerely,



David Allen AFSM
Manager Community Safety
North West Region



planning and development specialists

www.jgconsult.com.au

telephone 03 5022 8411
email admin@jgconsult.com.au
140 pine avenue mildura victoria 3500
po box 1650 mildura victoria 3502
ABN 51 124 624 148

Mark Jenkins
Manager of Environmental Services
Mildura Rural City Council

Email: mark.jenkins@mildura.vic.gov.au

3 November 2022

Dear Mark

**AMENDMENT C117MILD – REZONING OF SURPLUS LOWER MURRAY WATER LAND FROM PUZ1 TO FZ
LOT 3 LP115108 RIVER AVENUE KOORLONG**

We refer to the receipt of submissions regarding the above-mentioned Planning Scheme. Amendment is acknowledged, in particular, it is noted that DELWP required ecological surveys and investigations of the vegetation communities possibly located on the land.

Following consideration of the required works through the submission of DELWP, an assessment of the financial viability of the land being re-zoned and the proceeds of sale have been considered.

It has been determined that to proceed with the re-zoning and sale of the land it would not be economic and therefore, on behalf of Lower Murray Water we request that Mildura Rural City Council abandon the amendment.

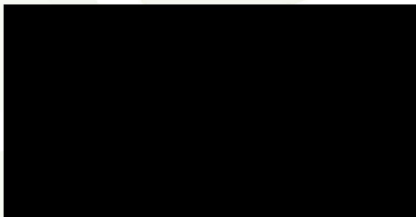
Should you have any queries, please contact our office on 03 5022 8411.

Yours sincerely
James Golsworthy Consulting



James Golsworthy
Director

Our ref: 21-034



14.5 MEMBERSHIP TO CAMPAIGNS THAT SUPPORT CULTURAL INCLUSION

File Number: 12/14/04
Officer: Acting General Manager Community

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for Mildura Rural City Council to become a member of “Welcoming Cities” and a supporter of the Australian Human Rights Commission re-invigorated “Racism. It Stops With Me” campaign.

2. Recommendation

That Council approve Mildura Rural City Council to become a member of “Welcoming Cities”, and a supporter of the Australian Human Rights Commission “Racism. It Stops With Me”.

3. Background

The 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) census recorded 56,972 people residing in the Mildura Rural City Council Local Government Area. Around 22 per cent of the local area’s population recorded that they were born overseas and 20.1 per cent of the population speak a language other than English at home. Additionally, 4.6 per cent of our population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

We are a geographic area of incredible cultural diversity, which is to be celebrated and supported. Membership of “Welcoming Cities” and supporting “Racism. It Stops With Me” indicates to our community, and more broadly, council’s commitment to cultural inclusion. Participation in both campaigns also gives council staff access to resources, information, and support to help build culturally inclusive practices across our organisation and community.

The information, support, and campaign materials available through both campaigns will likely be very useful in the development of Council’s Anti-Racism Strategy in 2023.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

This document provides a summary of recent research conducted by Mildura Rural City Council, to inform in the development of the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-25. The consultation was undertaken by ASDF Research, with the two primary pieces of research conducted being:

- COVID-19 Community Survey; and
- Mildura Community Vision Research.

During the COVID-19 pandemic (55 per cent) of those surveyed indicated that they were less satisfied with their feelings of being part of the community and 32 per cent said they were talking to their neighbours less. A reduction in talking to neighbours was more common amongst:

- those living below the poverty line (38 per cent);
- those who speak a language other than English (43 per cent); and
- renters (38 per cent).

There is no proposed consultation for this initiative. Community consultation for Council's Anti-Racism Strategy is currently in progress.

5. Discussion

Welcoming Cities is a national network of cities, shires, towns and municipalities who are committed to an Australia where everyone can belong and participate in social, cultural, economic and civic life. Membership is free for local government, and enables access to resources, training, support, and peer networking which would be useful for Council officers working with culturally diverse community members.

To become a member, the relevant council officer needs to return the "Commitment to be a Welcoming City" form signed by the Council representative (i.e. Contact person with Welcoming Cities – for Mildura Rural City Council this would be council's Diversity and Inclusion Officer) and a Council Executive (Welcoming Cities nominate this person to be either the Mayor or CEO).

"Racism. It Stops With Me" is a national anti-racism campaign of the Australian Human Rights Commission, working to increase awareness of racism and equip more Australians with tools to address it. Council was a signatory of "Racism – It Stops with Me", however since the 2022 re-launch, we are now invited to re-commit to highlighting and tackling racism in communities, homes, workplaces and schools.

Becoming a supporter of the "Racism. It Stops With Me" campaign requires completion of a simple form.

Membership and participation in these campaigns (in addition to already being a designated "Refugee Welcome Zone") emphasises council's commitment to cultural inclusion, and provide helpful supporting evidence for award nominations.

6. Time Frame

It would be useful to join these campaigns as soon as possible, so that relevant resources can be used in the development of our Anti-Racism Strategy in early 2023.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Community

Outcomes to be achieved:

- Social and cultural diversity is respected, supported and celebrated
- Respect Aboriginal culture, connection to country and Traditional Owners of the land.

This report also relates to the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan Action 4.8 *“Develop a place based Anti-Racism Strategy in partnership with local services and community to take action against racism and promote respect, inclusion and social cohesion across the Municipality”*.

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications**Policy**

- Community Engagement Policy CP020
- Social Inclusion Policy CP019
- Aboriginal Recognition Policy CP058.

Legal/Statutory

- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*
- *Racial Discrimination Act 1975*
- *The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Financial

Welcoming Cities offers several different membership options. It is recommended that council sign up to the free model as it will provide a level of support and resources that suits our current needs.

Environmental

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

Social

Positive social impacts through support to First Nations People and culturally diverse communities and increasing social cohesion.

Economic

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

14.6 ADOPTION OF REFUND POLICY CP034

File Number: 18/02/01
Officer: Acting General Manager Corporate

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the updated Refunds Policy CP034 and seek Council's resolution to adopt the updated policy.

2. Recommendation

That Council adopt the updated Refunds Policy CP034 as presented.

3. Background

This policy provides refund guidelines and conditions for Mildura Rural City Council staff and its customers when a customer requests a refund for a payment made to the Mildura Rural City Council.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

Consultation has been undertaken with Council's Strategic Management Team, Team Leaders and the Executive Leadership Team.

5. Discussion

Council policies are developed and approved by Council to help govern how the organisation operates. They outline organisational decision-making processes and protocols for service delivery and civic administration.

In accordance with the review schedule, this policy and its principles have been comprehensively reviewed. A clause was added regarding making refunds where a payment is received via B-Pay. Minor changes have also been made and these are presented in the attachment.

6. Time Frame

The updated policy will come into force if adopted by Council and will be reviewed every three years.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Leadership

Outcome to be achieved:

- A financially sustainable organisation.

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications

Policy

This report updates the current Refunds Policy CP034.

Legal/Statutory

This policy complies with all requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020*, *Consumer Affairs Victoria*, and *Section 36 of the Fire Services Property Levy Act 2012*.

Financial

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Environmental

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

Social

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Economic

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

1 [↓](#) Refunds Policy CP034



Mildura Rural City Council

Refunds Policy

Policy – CP034

Prepared	Reviewed	Approved	Date	Council Minute No.
Manager Financial Services	ELT	Council	26 June 2019	2019/0124
EDMS: 18/02/015			To be reviewed: June 2022	
Document Owner: Manager Financial Services			Review Frequency: Three Years	

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1. The purpose of this policy is

To provide refund guidelines and conditions for Mildura Rural City Council staff and its customers when a customer requests a refund for a payment made to the Mildura Rural City Council.

2. Policy Statement

This policy applies to all refunds, chargebacks, reimbursements or any other payment required to be made to a customer of the Mildura Rural City Council and its associated business units.

This will ensure a consistent and equitable approach to customer requests for a refund of payments made to Mildura Rural City Council.

3. Principles

- Individual provisions or legislative requirements will apply to the issuing of refunds by different service departments of Mildura Rural City Council. This could include things such as required notification periods for cancellations.
- If a customer believes they are entitled to a refund, they should send all relevant details in a ~~written~~ request to Mildura Rural City Council. These can be electronic via email mrcc@mildura.vic.gov.au.
- Duplicate payments or overpayments made in error relating to a Council service or infringement will be refunded within 30 days of the refund application.
- Proof of purchase must be provided for all merchandise exchanges or refunds.
- Mildura Rural City Council will not issue refunds via cheque or cash. ~~Bank details and a new creditor form~~ [A refund form](#) must be filled in for the payment to be made via electronic funds transfer.

- Where a payment has been made via a credit card/debit card, the refund must be charged back against that card where practicable/possible.
- Where a payment has been made via an electronic payment method, the refund must be returned using the same method where possible.
- Mildura Rural City Council is not required to give refunds where a customer has had a change of mind or made a wrong decision.
- Refunds may be issued where the services have been wrongly described, miscalculated, cancelled or incorrect information provided. Proof of purchase must be supplied.
- ~~Refunds will be issued where goods are faulty, wrongly described, different from a sample shown to the customer or don't do what they are supposed to. A receipt must be retained for proof of purchase.~~
- Where applicable, customers can choose between a refund, exchange or credit within same service category.
- Refunds will only be made to the person who made the payment or to whom the customer account's name is in. In addition, a request for refund can be made by an authorised representative. If the customer is a minor, a parent/guardian can request a refund on the minor's behalf. Proof may be required to verify this.
- An administration fee of a maximum of \$20 can be imposed against debtor accounts with a credit balance and where services have ceased for a minimum of three months and no contact has been by the customer in response to statements issued showing this credit balance.

4. Implementation

- Manager Financial Services
- It is the branch manager's responsibility to ensure that their branch is treating refunds and reimbursement of their services' areas appropriately according to Council policy and procedures.

5. Definitions

Debtor account	The account of a customer who owes Council money.
Refund	Repayment of an amount to a customer for a goods or service.
Reimbursement	Repayment of money to staff or a customer for money that has been spent.
Chargeback	Repaying an amount to a customer back onto the <u>debit / credit</u> card that was used to purchase the good or service.
Proof of Purchase	Proof of purchase would be considered a valid tax invoice.

6. Legislation and other references

6.1 Legislation

For further information related to this policy, see:

- Consumer Affairs Victoria
- Section 36 of the *Fire Services Property Levy Act 2012*.

6.2 Documents

- Bpay Billers Operation Manual
- [Mildura Visitor Information Centre Goods Refund Policy OP189](#)
- [Administration of Rates Policy CP050](#)
- [Debtor Refund Request Form](#)

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6.3 Risk Assessment Reference

Please tick the corporate governance risk(s) that this policy is addressing.

Risk Category	✓	Risk Category	✓
Asset Management Committees		Financial Sustainability	✓
Compliance – Legal & Regulatory	✓	Human Resource Management	
Contract Management		Leadership & Organisational Culture	
Contract Tendering & Procurement		Occupational Health & Safety	
Corporate Governance		Organisational Risk Management	
Environmental Sustainability		Project Management	
		Public Image and Reputation	

14.7 COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION ON PORTFOLIOS

File Number: 02/01/06
Officer: Acting General Manager Corporate

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to allocate portfolios to Councillors in accordance with the Council's Portfolio Policy.

2. Recommendation

That Council appoint the following Councillors to the Portfolios as listed:

Portfolio	Primary	Secondary
Community Development and Gender Equity	Cr Helen Healy	Cr Mark Eckel
Community Health and Wellbeing	Cr Troy Bailey	Cr Ian Arney
Arts, Culture & Heritage	Cr Helen Healy	Cr Stefano De Pieri
Recreation and Events	Cr Mark Eckel	Cr Liam Wood
Environment and Sustainability	Cr Jason Modica	Cr Jodi Reynolds
Infrastructure and Assets	Cr Glenn Milne	Cr Liam Wood
Economic Development	Cr Stefano De Pieri	Cr Glenn Milne
Agriculture	Cr Ian Arney	Cr Jason Modica
Governance, Performance, Risk and Audit	Mayor	Deputy Mayor

3. Background

Councillor Portfolios have been developed to allow Councillors to develop a comprehensive understanding of particular areas of Council.

This does not diminish Councillors' responsibilities to the whole of the community, nor does it mean that Councillors can abrogate their responsibilities as part of the decision-making process. However, it allows Councillors to focus on strategic matters relating to specific areas of Council.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

Consultation has been undertaken to determine representation on Portfolios.

5. Discussion

Portfolio areas are aligned with the Council Plan 2021-2025.

6. Time Frame

The allocation of Portfolios will be in place until a new Community and Council Plan is adopted.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Leadership

Outcome to be achieved:

- Effective governance to deliver results in line with community expectations

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications**Policy**

This report aligns with the Councillor Portfolio Policy.

Legal/Statutory

There are no legal or statutory implications associated with this report.

Financial

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Environmental

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

Social

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Economic

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risk.

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

14.8 ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO 2 - COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW

File Number: 04/02/01
Officer: Acting General Manager Development

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the amended Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law for adoption.

2. Recommendation

That Council having:

- (i) completed the statutory process under Division 3 of Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* for the making of the Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law;
- (ii) obtained a certificate from a suitably qualified lawyer stating that, in their opinion the Community Local Law is consistent with the local law requirements set out in section 72 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, attached to this Report;
- (iii) undertaken community engagement in accordance with Council’s Community Engagement Policy in respect of the Community Local Law; and
- (iv) noted that no submissions were received in respect of the Community Local Law, resolves to make the Community Local Law in the form attached to this Report.

3. Background

The current Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law was last adopted by Council in April 2017.

With the introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020* and other Act revisions (e.g. *Environment Protection Act 2017* and *Residential Tenancies Regulations 2020*), it is necessary that Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law be reviewed for consistency as well as an opportunity to “modernise” its language and definitions.

The purpose of Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law outlines rules to ensure the peace, order and good government of the municipality. It relates to a wide variety of issues including use of public reserves, consumption of alcohol in public spaces, use of streets, roads, footpaths and Council land, keeping of animals, collection of waste and disposal of rubbish.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

Consultation has been undertaken internally between Council Departments, via Council's Executive Leadership Team and also the draft amended Local Law presented (prior to exhibition) at the August 2022 Council Forum.

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, a period of public consultation and exhibition was undertaken with an expiration date of 2 December 2022, at which point no public submissions were received. The exhibition included circulation in local newspapers, availability at Council Service Centres and in Council Libraries and available to view on Council's website. The "Council Have Your Say" section of the website received 44 page views during the exhibition period.

Council's contracted lawyers, Maddocks Lawyers suggested a minor alteration: -

- When Council requires notice prohibiting skating to be published in a newspaper circulating throughout the municipal district – instead replace newspaper generally circulating within the municipal district to on the Council's website.

The minor change has been made to the exhibited document but, since this alteration will not affect the rights or responsibilities of any person, no further community engagement was required (see section 73(6) of the *Local Government Act 2020*).

5. Discussion

The purposes of the Local Law are contained in the attached document. A summary of the substantive and major changes when compared to the existing Local Law is provided below:-

- **Clause 1.7 Authorising Provisions** to only include the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Domestic Animal Act 1994*. To delete any reference to the Mildura Planning Scheme as it does not authorise the making of a Local Law.
- **Clause 1.8 Scope of this Local Law** is amended to apply to all parts of a Road, unless stated otherwise.
- **Clause 1.9 Definitions** various definitions have been clarified and or altered according to other Act changes – the main changes are to the definitions of Commercial Activity, Green Waste, Litter, with Open Air and Permanent Structure (being new definitions) and Waste Collection Service also clarified.
- **Clause 2.1 Keeping of Animals** the ambiguity between clause 2.1 (1) and (2) has been removed and simplified and an urban and non-urban definition has been added instead of a property area definition. It is considered best practice to refer to zones (depicting Urban and Non-Urban areas) rather than as existing property size for the keeping of animals. No changes to the table numbers of animals has been made.
- **Deletion of the following Clauses** 2.3 Noise and Smell, 2.5 Leashed Areas, 2.7 Bees/ Wasps/ Fruit Flies, 3.7 Emission of Offensive Material/ Odour and Noise, 3.10 Plan Incorporated by Reference, 3.11 All Waste Septic Systems, 4.5 Redundant Vehicle Crossings, 9.4 Notice To Comply.

- **Clause 3.1 Recycling and Waste Collection System** amended for clarity.
- **Clause 5.13 Camping on Council Land or in Public Places** amendments have been made to clarify the regulation of camping throughout the Municipal District. Cl 5.13 is now expressly limited to camping on Council land or in a public place. Also provision has been added to specify matters to be considered when Council is deciding whether to issue a camping permit.
- **Clause 5.14 Camping on Land other than Council Land and Public Places** this clause is now concerned with camping in any area not dealt with under Cl 5.13 and matters to which Council must have regard too when deciding whether to grant a camping permit.

It should be noted that additional RV, Caravan and or Camping locations within the municipality for permanent, limited and or short-stay accommodation/ activation are actions to be undertaken pursuant to the Mildura RV, Caravan and Camping Strategy. It is envisaged that the amended Local Law clauses (Camping on Council and other land) provides the enforcement and permit process via application in conjunction with the Strategy.

- **Clause 6.4 Exemption From This Part** an amendment made to permit holders of a general licence to serve liquor for consumption on footpath trading areas. This was an anomaly in the Local Law identified by Victoria Police and the Liquor Licencing Commission.
- **Clause 8.4 Trading From Roadside** changes made to incorporate Council's Footpath Trading Policy into the Local Law.
- Note there are other minor changes that deal with grammar, spelling and clause number changes.

6. Time Frame

If adopted, the amended Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law will become active from that date of this Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The Chief Executive Officer will cause notice of Council making Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law to be published in the Government Gazette and on Council's website, as required by s 74 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Community

Outcome to be achieved:

- A community that feels safe

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

There are no asset management implications associated with this report.

9. Implications

Policy

The introduction of the Local Government Act 2020 and revision of a number of separate, however associated legislation and Acts, deemed it necessary that Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law be reviewed.

Further, this update is consistent with the principles of good governance and best practice to periodically review Local Laws and policies.

Legal/Statutory

This Local Law No 2 – Community Local Law complies with the requirements in section 72 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Financial

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Environmental

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

Social

This Local Law No 2 – Community Local Law outlines rules to ensure the peace, order and good government of the municipality. It also contributes to the community feeling safe.

Economic

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will not be exposed to any significant risks. However, it is good governance, best practice and timely given the introduction of the Local Government Act 2020

Risks	Controls	Residual Risk
The existing Local Law No. 2 would not be aligned with current legislation/ regulations	Local Government Act 2020 Other related Regulations/ Acts	Low

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

- 1↓ Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law
- 2↓ Certificate from Maddocks Lawyers



Mildura Rural City Council

**LOCAL LAW NO. 2
COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW**

[8733864:35316822_1]

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PART 1 PRELIMINARY

1.1 Title

This is Local Law No. 2 – Community Local Law.

1.2 Objectives

The purposes of this Local Law are to:-

- (1) provide for the peace, order and good government of the Municipal District;
- (2) provide a safe and healthy environment, in which the residents of the Municipal District enjoy a quality of life that meets the general expectations of the community;
- (3) control and regulate emissions to the air in order to improve the amenity, environment and quality of life in the Municipal District;
- (4) ensure that the public can properly use and enjoy Public Reserves by regulating activities and behaviour in Public Reserves;
- (5) control the consumption of alcohol in designated areas within the Municipal District;
- (6) control the different uses to which Streets, Roads, Footpaths and Council Land can be put so as to ensure that there is a proper balance between private uses and the need to maintain freedom of movement for the public;
- (7) manage, regulate and control the keeping of animals and birds; and
- (8) embrace best practice local law making principles of accessibility, accountability, compliance, consistency, currency, efficiency, enforceability, necessity and transparency.

1.3 Operation Date

This Local Law operates from the day following its making.

1.4 Revocation Date

Unless this Local Law is revoked sooner, its operation will cease on the tenth anniversary of its making.

1.5 Revocation of Existing Local Laws

Mildura Rural City Council Community Local Law No. 2 (2017) is revoked on the date on which this Local Law comes into operation.

1.6 Application

This Local Law applies throughout the Municipal District.

1.7 Authorising Provisions

The Council's authority to make this Local Law is contained in section 71 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 42 of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*.

1.8 Scope of this Local Law

- (1) This Local Law applies to the whole of the Municipal District, except where it is apparent from its wording that a clause or provision applies to a specific area.
- (2) Where this Local Law applies to a Road, it applies to all parts of the Road, unless expressly stated otherwise.
- (3) The provisions of this Local Law apply to the extent that they are not inconsistent with any Act or Regulation applicable to the Council or its Municipal District.
- (4) Where this Local Law prohibits any act, matter or thing or provides that such act, matter or thing can only be done or exist with a Permit, that prohibition or provision will not apply if the act, matter or thing can be done or can exist by reason of an express permission in the Planning Scheme.
- (5) References to any land in this Local Law include buildings and other structures permanently affixed to the land and any land covered with water and any structures over any water affixed to the land or to the land covered with water.

1.9 Definitions

Unless the contrary intention appears in this Local Law, the following words and phrases are defined to mean:

Act	means the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Advertising sign	includes any board, notice, structure, banner or other similar device used for the purpose of soliciting sales or services or promoting a brand or person or notifying people of the presence of an adjacent property, organisation, business or event or directing people to a place, whether real, internet-based or electronic, where goods or services may be obtained.
Alcohol	means a beverage or other prescribed substance intended for human consumption with an alcohol content greater than 0.5% by volume at a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius.
Alcohol Free Area	Means an area of, or in, the Municipal District, which has been declared by the Council as an “alcohol free” area and has appropriate signage erected and maintained.
Animal	excludes a Person but includes, although is not limited to, any of the species or groups listed in the first column of the Table of Animal Numbers and Types in clause 2.1 Keeping Animals, and includes Livestock, reptiles, insects and any other living animal tame or wild kept by a person.
Applicant	means the person who applies for a Permit under this Local Law.
Asset Protection Permit	means a Permit referred to in clause 9.5 of this Local Law.

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Community Local Law No. 2 - 2022

Assistance Animal	has the same meaning as in the <i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i> .
Authorised Officer	means any person appointed pursuant to section 224 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and, in relation to a provision regulating the use, possession or consumption of alcohol where a notice has been published in the Government Gazette pursuant to section 224A of the Act, any police officer.
Barbecue	means a device used for the cooking of food outdoors whether constructed or manufactured and whether powered by gas, electricity, liquid or solid fuel, or any combination of them and includes kettles, rotisserie spits and traditional inground fire pit cooking.
Bin	means a receptacle for the storage of household refuse and rubbish as provided or approved by the Council.
Built-up area	means an area consisting of Roads along which there is urban development or along which street lighting is provided.
Bulk rubbish container	means a bin, container or other structure designed or used for holding a substantial quantity of rubbish and which is unlikely to be lifted without mechanical assistance but excludes a container used in connection with the Council's regular domestic rubbish collections.
Busk	means to perform to the public, whether by acting, juggling, dancing, singing, mime, statue, drawing, playing a musical instrument or otherwise entertaining passers-by, with or without collecting money.
Camping	means erecting, occupying or using any tent or makeshift or similar form of accommodation (whether temporary or permanent), or parking, occupying or using any caravan or other movable form of accommodation.
Commercial Activity	includes any activity conducted for the purpose of financial gain or profit and includes but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any business or trading activity involving the sale of goods or services; (b) the use of Council Land or fixtures on Council Land in connection with any business or trading activity; (c) the collection of abandoned goods for gain or reward, but excludes the use of Roads or thoroughfares for the purpose of travelling from place to place.
Contaminated Material	means any material designated by the Council as unacceptable for deposit in a Council-provided mobile bin or other Council-provided bin or class of bin and published by the Council from time to time.
the Council	means Mildura Rural City Council.

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Community Local Law No. 2 - 2022

Council Land	means Land owned by, vested in, leased by, or otherwise occupied by the Council, or under the Council's management or control, which the public may or may not have access to (whether an admittance fee is required or not), and includes any building, structure or fence thereon and every Council sewer or drain.
Council Sewer or Drain	means any sewer or drain vested in the Council pursuant to section 198 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> .
Domestic Birds	means a small bird such as a canary, finch, budgerigar or the like that is kept in a cage or aviary, but does not include Poultry or roosters.
Dwelling	means a building used as a self-contained residence which normally includes a kitchen sink, food preparation facilities, a bath or shower and a closet pan and wash basin, and includes out-buildings and works normal to a Dwelling.
Emergency Service	includes the ambulance service, fire brigade service, police and state emergency service.
Environmental Health Officer	means any Environmental Health Officer appointed by the Council from time to time.
Fire Prevention Officer	means any Fire Prevention Officer appointed by the Council from time to time.
Footpath	means any publicly accessible path that is designed and provided for the use of pedestrians, or that is regularly used by pedestrians and not vehicles, or that is a segregated footway or a shared footway.
Green Waste	means all types of organic Waste designated by the Council as acceptable Waste for any Green Waste collection as published by the Council from time to time.
Incinerator	means a structure, device or contraption (not enclosed in a building) which is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) used or intended, adapted or designed to be used or capable of being used for the purpose of burning any matter, material or substance; (b) not licensed or otherwise subject to control under the provisions of any legislation; and (c) not a barbecue while being used for cooking food.
Infringement Notice	means an Infringement Notice issued by the Council or by an Authorised Officer under this Local Law.
Land	includes buildings and other structures permanently affixed to land, land covered with water and any estate, interest, easement, servitude, privilege or right in or over land.
Liquor	See 'Alcohol'

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Litter	has the meaning ascribed to it in section 112 of the <i>Environment Protection Act 2017</i> as amended from time to time.
Litter Device	means a receptacle suitable for collecting and disposing lawfully of the excrement of an Animal.
Livestock	means an Animal of any species used in connection with primary production or kept or used for recreational purposes or for the purposes of recreational sport, other than a dog or cat.
Municipal Building	means any building (and its grounds) owned, occupied, controlled or managed by the Council, which has some or all areas designated for public or community access but may also have some or all areas designated for employee or staff only access, including a recreation centre.
Municipal District	means the district under the local government of the Council.
Non Urban Area	means any area that is in a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Rural Living Zone; (b) Rural Conservation Zone; (c) Farming Zone; (d) Rural Activity Zone; (e) Public Conservation and Resource Zone; or (f) Public Park and Resource Zone, under the Planning Scheme.
Notice to Comply	means a notice to comply issued under this Local Law.
Offensive	means in relation to the emission of noise, dust, smoke, ash, odour, waste or other thing, which due to its intensity, duration, frequency, or other factor, results in a level of personal discomfort that a reasonable person would not expect to endure, or results in an unreasonable disruption to normal living activity.
Open Air	means any place other than within a Permanent Structure.
Outdoor Eating Facility	means any table and/or chairs used for commercial purposes and located on Council Land or a Road at which food or drink is served and may be consumed in connection with premises adjoining or situated nearby.
Park	means a Public Reserve or part of a Public Reserve that has been improved by the construction of a playing field, or contains playground equipment, or contains provisions for cooking or other eating facilities or has established and maintained lawns and garden beds.
Penalty unit	has the same meaning as in section 110 of the <i>Sentencing Act 1991</i> .

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Permanent Structure	means a structure of a permanent kind consisting of a roof and fully enclosed on all sides, but does not include a tent.
Permit	means a permit issued under this Local Law.
Person	includes an individual, partnership, unincorporated body, association and corporation.
Planning Scheme	means the Mildura Planning Scheme.
Poultry	includes any fowl, duck, goose, ostrich, turkey, pheasant, quail, guinea fowl, squab and any other avian species kept for the production of eggs or ordinarily consumed as food by humans.
Procession	means an organised group of people, proceeding along a Road or a gathering for a ceremony or function and includes fun runs and bicycle events.
Public Place	has the same meaning as in section 3 of the <i>Summary Offences Act 1966</i> .
Public Reserve	means any Park, garden, lake, sporting or recreation ground or common owned by the Council or under its management or control and includes any Road, parking area, hall or other building located thereon.
Recreational vehicle	includes all motorised bikes, trail bikes, motor bikes, motor cars, motor scooters, go-carts and any other vehicles which are propelled by a motor and which are normally used for recreation.
Recyclables	means any substances or articles which the Council designates as Recyclables and are described by the Council and published on the Council's website from time to time.
Refuse Facility	means in relation to Building Works a receptacle capable of retaining builder's refuse within a Building Site and preventing removal of the builder's refuse by unauthorised persons or by wind or rain.
Road	has the meaning ascribed to it in the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> and includes a road related area as defined in the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> as amended from time to time.
Sell	means to offer, negotiate, accept or undertake an exchange of goods or services for consideration. Under this Local Law it includes to barter or exchange, to agree to sell, to offer or display for sale, to have or keep goods in possession for the immediate purpose of sale rather than storage, to use any machine or mechanical device for the purpose, and to direct, cause or attempt any of these things.

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Service authority	means an entity (whether publicly or privately owned) which provides, or intends to provide, water, sewerage, drainage, gas, electricity, telephone, telecommunications or like services under the authority of an Act of Victoria or the Commonwealth and may include an emergency service.
Shopping trolley	means a wheeled container or receptacle supplied by a retailer for enabling customers to transport goods.
Smoke Free Area	means an area of, or in, or on, any Public Reserve or Council Land, which has been declared by the Council as a “smoke free” or “non-smoking” area and has Smoke Free Area signage erected and maintained.
Spruik	means attracting custom by public aural appeals to passersby, with or without sound amplification equipment.
State road authority	has the meaning ascribed to it in the <i>Road Management Act 2004</i> .
Street festival	means an organised recreational, cultural, commercial or social gathering of people that is held on a Road or Footpath.
Street Party	means an organised social gathering of people from one or several adjacent Roads that is held on a Road or Footpath.
Trade Waste	means any Waste, refuse, slops or other matter arising from or generated by any trade, industry or commercial undertaking.
Traffic	means the movement of people by foot, or in, or on, a Vehicle along, across or within a Road.
Traffic Control Device	means a Traffic Control Device, within the meaning of the <i>Road Safety Road Rules 2017</i> as amended from time to time.
Urban Area	means any area that is in a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Low Density Residential Zone; (b) Mixed Use Zone; (c) Township Zone; (d) Residential Growth Zone; (e) Neighbourhood Residential Zone; (f) Industrial Zone; (g) Commercial Zone; (h) Public Use Zone; (i) Special Use Zone; (j) Comprehensive Development Zone; or (k) Urban Floodway Zone, under the Planning Scheme.

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Vehicle	has the meaning ascribed to it in the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> .
Vehicle Crossing	means the constructed surface between the road pavement to the property boundary for vehicle access, including any Footpath section, crossing culverts, kerb and channel or layback.
Waste	has the meaning ascribed to it in section 3 of the <i>Environment Protection Act 2017</i> as amended from time to time.
Waste collection service	means a service provided by the Council to collect and remove Waste, Recyclables and Green Waste from land within the Municipal District.

PART 2 ANIMALS

2.1 Keeping of Animals

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, keep any Animals other than in accordance with the types and numbers in the following table:-

TYPE OF ANIMALS	MAXIMUM NUMBERS	
	URBAN AREA	NON URBAN AREA
Dogs	2	2
Cats	2	2
Poultry	10	100
Domestic Birds (includes Pigeons)	30	100
Domestic Mice	10	10
Guinea Pigs	2	10
Ferrets	4	10
Domestic Rabbits	2	2
Pigs	Not Permitted	6
Horses/Donkeys/Mules	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Camel	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Cattle	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Sheep	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Goats / Alpacas	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Ostriches	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Emus	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Roosters	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Peacocks	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit
Any other agricultural animal	Not Permitted	No Maximum Limit

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In determining whether to grant a Permit for the keeping of Animals where the number exceeds that set out in the Table, the Council must take into account:-

- (1) the zoning of the property;
- (2) the size of the property;
- (3) the proximity to adjoining properties;
- (4) the amenity of the area;
- (5) the type and additional numbers of Animals to be kept;
- (6) the likely effects on the owners or occupiers of adjoining properties;
- (7) the adequacy of Animal shelters;
- (8) the effect on the property's drainage; and
- (9) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

Clause 2.1 does not apply where a planning permit has been obtained for a property used for the purposes of Animal boarding, breeding or any other commercial activity involving animals, or where the occupier is licensed in accordance with the *Wildlife Act 1975*, or where the occupier is a member of a breeding or racing organisation which is approved by the Council.

Dogs kept for working stock on land exceeding 20 hectares are not counted in the numbers prescribed by clause 2.1.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

2.2 Litter of Animals

For the purpose of calculating the maximum limit of the number of Animals kept on a single property, the progeny of any Animal lawfully kept will be exempt for a period of 12 weeks after birth.

2.3 Noise and smell

For the purposes of this clause, "owner", includes a person who keeps or harbours the Animal or has the Animal in his or her care for the time being whether the Animal is at large or in confinement.

- (1) The owner of a dog that defecates in a Park, in or on a Road that contains a constructed Footpath or maintained nature-strip, or any walking path or shared Footpath or any other Public Place that has constructed surfaces or equipment or fixtures provided for the enjoyment of the public, must remove the faeces and deposit it as litter in a lawful manner.
- (2) A Person in charge of any dog on any Road or other Council Land must carry a Litter Device suitable to clean up any excrement left by his or her Animal and must produce such Litter Device upon request of any Authorised Officer.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

2.4 Effective Fencing

Each owner and each occupier of land must ensure that livestock kept or grazed on the land under his or her control does not cause a threat to public safety.

- (1) Each owner and each occupier of land must not use the land for the grazing or keeping of livestock unless it is adequately fenced for the purpose of preventing the livestock from straying onto any Road or Council Land.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

- (2) If land used for the grazing or keeping of livestock is not adequately fenced then in addition to any penalty that may be imposed, he or she may be issued a Notice to Comply directing the owner or occupier of the land to do any or all of the following:

- (a) install, repair, replace or modify fences and gates;
- (b) remove any livestock from the land; and
- (c) not permit the grazing and keeping of livestock on the land until required works have been completed.

2.5 NOT USED

2.6 Grazing

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, allow any livestock to graze on any Council Land or Road.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

2.7 Bees/Wasps/Fruit Flies

- (1) Each owner and each occupier of land must destroy English and European wasps nesting on the land and must comply with any direction to do so in writing by an Authorised Officer.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

- (2) For the Prevention of Fruit Fly Infestation within the Municipal District, each owner and each occupier of land is guilty of an offence:-

- (a) who leaves, or allows to remain any fruit on the ground of the land;
- (b) does not annually prune and maintain any fruit trees on the land; or
- (c) does not dispose of any fruit that lies on the ground of the land by sealing the fruit in a receptacle or container such as a plastic bag and placing it in a rubbish bin.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

2.8 Riding Horses on Reservations and Footpaths

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, ride a horse or cause or authorise another person to ride a horse in a Park.

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2.9 Permission

- (1) The Council may issue a Permit for a horse to be ridden in a Park where it is reasonably necessary for this to take place and there is no reasonable and safe alternative.

PART 3 ENVIRONMENT

3.1 *Recycling and Waste Collection System*

- (1) To use the Recycling and Waste Collection System provided by the Council, the occupier of any land to which the Council provides a Waste collection service must:
- (a) use only Council provided mobile bins or other Council approved bins;
 - (b) ensure that all Council provided or other Council approved bins remain on, and are not removed from, the residential premises to which they have been allocated;
 - (c) not place in any mobile garbage bin, mobile recycling bin or mobile green organics bin any Contaminated Material;
 - (d) if directed by the Council to remove contaminated material from any mobile bin, comply with that direction;
 - (e) if directed by the Council to dispose of all contents of a mobile bin containing Contaminated Material, comply with that direction;
 - (f) place the mobile bins out for collection prior to 5.00am on the day of collection or such other time as designated by the Council from time to time;
 - (g) not leave any mobile bin out for collection more than one day before or one day after a designated collection day, unless otherwise requested by an Authorised Officer;
 - (h) place all mobile bins:
 - (i) adjacent to the kerb outside the front of the premises, at least half a metre clear of any fixed object or adjacent bin and, as far as practicable, free of any other obstruction to collection; or
 - (ii) at an alternative collection point as approved or designated by an Authorised Officer;
 - (i) ensure that any mobile bin (including contents) placed out for collection does not exceed 50 kilograms;
 - (j) maintain all mobile bins in a clean and sanitary condition;
 - (k) ensure that the area where the mobile bins are kept on the premises is kept clean and in a sanitary condition;
 - (l) ensure that the lid of any mobile bin is closed, other than when in functional use;
 - (m) not cause damage to any mobile bins;
 - (n) ensure that each mobile bin is not overfilled thereby preventing the lid from being completely closed;
 - (o) not place out for collection any material immediately adjacent to the mobile bin; and

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- (p) ensure that no mobile bin is removed from the premises except for collection of material in accordance with this Local Law.
- (2) Council provided mobile bins or other Council approved bins remain the property of the Council and may be:
 - (a) removed in whole or part; or
 - (b) replaced or exchanged in whole or part with bins of a different designated Waste type,by the Council from any land to which the Council provides a waste collection service (including Recyclables and Green Waste collections) if the occupier fails to comply with conditions of use outlined in sub-clause (1)(a) of this provision.
- (3) An occupier or owner of any land to which the Council provides a waste collection service (including Recyclables and Green Waste collections) must not after receiving one initial written warning place any Contaminated Material in a Council provided mobile bin or other Council approved bin.

Penalty for First Offence: 5 Penalty Units

Penalty for Second Offence: 10 Penalty Units

Penalty for Third and Subsequent Offences: 20 Penalty Units

3.2 Bulk Rubbish Containers

- (1) An occupier of premises who arranges for the collection of trade waste from or in respect of the premises or for the placement of a bulk rubbish container on the premises must ensure that the requirements of this clause 3.2 are complied with.
- (2) Bulk rubbish containers or bins used for the collection and storage of trade waste must be managed to Council's reasonable satisfaction, including:
 - (a) be constructed of impermeable material;
 - (b) be watertight;
 - (c) be water, fly and vermin proof;
 - (d) be equipped with any removable drainage plug required by an Authorised Officer, for public health or safety or amenity reasons;
 - (e) be thoroughly cleaned following each occasion when it is emptied;
 - (f) have a fitted lid which is kept closed at all times except when trade waste is being deposited or removed; and
 - (g) be emptied at least weekly or more regularly if the contents become offensive.
- (3) An occupier of premises must ensure that:
 - (a) the bin is stored and maintained in a clean, sanitary and inoffensive condition and kept clear of any footway, pavement or ground adjoining the storage area, to the satisfaction of the Council's Environmental Health Officer; and

- (b) the storage site is supplied with a tap connection and hose of a size approved by the Council's Environmental Health Officer.

3.3 Transportation of Waste

A person must not convey or cause to be conveyed in any vehicle on any Road any manure, dead animals or remains, offal, bones, hides, skins, offensive matter, refuse, rubbish or other Waste matter unless the vehicle is constructed, fitted, loaded and covered so that:

- (1) no leakage occurs or other material is dropped or deposited on any Road, Council Land or adjacent area from the vehicle; and
- (2) the possibility of escape of offensive odours is reduced.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

3.4 Depositing of Waste at a Municipal Landfill/Transfer Station

- (1) Every person using a municipal landfill or transfer station must deposit waste in accordance with any directions of the attendant on duty and any signs erected at the facility and must pay the appropriate fee as set by the Council from time to time.
- (2) The Council may, by resolution, require persons to be registered with the Council before being able to use a municipal landfill or transfer station.
- (3) The Council may, by resolution, prohibit categories of waste from being deposited at a municipal landfill or transfer station.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

3.5 Unsightly Land

- (1) Each owner and occupier of Land must not allow or permit the Land or any nature strip or grassed area of a Road abutting the Land to be kept in a manner which is unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the surrounding area, and, without limiting the generality of this clause, must not allow or permit the Land or nature strip or grassed area to:-
 - (a) harbour rubbish;
 - (b) harbour machinery and/or implements;
 - (c) contain disused excavation or waste material; or
 - (d) be a haven for vermin or excessive vegetation growth or any noxious weed.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) Where the condition of any land is unsightly or detrimental to the general amenity of the surrounding area, a Notice to Comply may be served on the owner or occupier of the land.

3.6 Dangerous Land

- (1) An owner or occupier of land must not cause or allow the land to be kept in a manner which is dangerous or likely to cause danger to a person, life or property, including but not limited to land which is:
 - (a) a haven for vermin or any noxious weed;
 - (b) used without a Permit for the storage of any substance which is dangerous or is likely to cause danger to a person, life or property;
 - (c) occupied by any unsecured dangerous item likely to be an attraction to children; or
 - (d) occupied by an unsecured hole or excavation.
- (2) An owner or occupier of land must create a fire break around the land if directed to do so by the Fire Prevention Officer.

Penalty: 5 Penalty units

3.7 Incinerators/Open Air Burning

- (1) A person must not light or allow to be lit or remain alight any Incinerator of any kind in any part of the Municipal District which is in a Commercial or Residential Zone under the Planning Scheme.
- (2) Sub-clause (1) does not apply in respect of horticultural properties or land used for the grazing of stock if the incinerator is 100 metres or more from a neighbouring residence.
- (3) A person must not, without a Permit, burn or cause to be burned any material in the Open Air on any Land or Road.
- (4) Sub-clause (3) does not apply in respect of Land outside the irrigation area.
- (5) Permits shall not be issued under sub-clause (3) during the 'fire danger period', as declared in accordance with the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958*.
- (6) Despite this clause a person must not allow open air burning in any part of the Municipal District on a total fire ban day.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

3.8 Application

- (1) Clause 3.7 does not apply to:
 - (a) a Barbecue while the Barbecue is attended and being used for the purpose of cooking food; or
 - (b) a fire lit by a person for the purpose of the person enjoying their culture or practising their religion.
- (2) This Part 3 does not apply to:-

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- (a) any structure or device licensed under the provisions of the *Environment Protection Act 2017*;
- (b) any structure or device located on commercial or industrial premises subject to control under the provisions of the *Environment Protection Act 2017*;
- (c) any person engaged in fuel reduction burning pursuant to section 11(2) of the *Summary Offences Act 1966*; or
- (d) any person performing any act in order to comply with the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958* or any regulations made under it.

PART 4 PROTECTION OF COMMUNITY ASSETS

4.1 *Drainage Tappings*

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, enter, destroy, damage, interfere with or tap into any Council sewer or drain.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

4.2 *Damage to Watercourses*

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, destroy, damage or interfere with a ditch, swale, drainage basin, creek or drain or other watercourse on Council Land.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

4.3 *Vehicle Crossings*

- (1) Owners of land:

- (a) where kerb and channel are constructed; or
- (b) within another area designated by the Council from time to time,

must ensure that each point of vehicular access from a carriageway on a Road to their land has a properly constructed Vehicle Crossing.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

Infringement Notice: 2 penalty units

- (2) Where a properly constructed Vehicle Crossing exists, a person must not use any other passage or route for vehicular access to the land.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

Infringement Notice: 2 penalty units

- (3) For the purposes of this clause a Vehicle Crossing is properly constructed if:-

- (a) it was constructed by or in accordance with the terms of an approval by the Council or a State Road Authority; or
- (b) the Council has approved in writing the method of construction of the particular Vehicle Crossing.

- (4) If a point of vehicular access from a carriageway on a Road to adjacent land specified in sub-clause (1) does not have a properly constructed Vehicle Crossing, the Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of the land.

- (5) In the case of roll-over type kerbing adjacent to land specified in sub-clause (1) where a specific vehicular crossing point is not constructed, the Council may nominate the location at which vehicles are to cross the kerb. Where access to land is not in accordance with the location nominated by the Council, the Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of the land.

4.4 Temporary Vehicle Crossings

- (1) Where it is likely that building works on any land will involve vehicles leaving a road and entering the land, the person responsible for the building works must obtain a Permit for the construction of a temporary Vehicle Crossing which protects the existing road, kerb, drains, footpath and street trees.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

- (2) The Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on any person who should make application under clause 4.4(1) for a temporary Vehicle Crossing.
- (3) The person responsible for the building works must repair any damage to the existing Road, kerb, drains and footpath.
- (4) Where an existing Vehicle Crossing, footpath, street tree, kerb or other part of the Road may be damaged, the Council may require the person responsible for the building works to pay a bond to the Council.
- (5) The holder of a Permit under sub-clause (1) must, within 48 hours of completion of the works, arrange with the Council for an inspection of the site.
- (6) The amount of the bond required under clause 4.4(4) must be proportionate to the likely cost of repairing any damage and may be refunded on completion of the inspection referred to in clause 4.4(5) or may be retained by the Council to offset the costs of repairing any damage to the existing Vehicle Crossing, footpath, street tree, kerb or other part of the Road.

4.5 Redundant Vehicle Crossings

- (1) Where works on any land involve the relocation or closure of a point of vehicular access, any redundant part of a Vehicle Crossing must be removed and the kerb, drain, footpath, nature strip or other part of the Road reinstated to the satisfaction of the Council.
- (2) The Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner of any land, requiring the removal of part or all of a Vehicle Crossing which does not provide an effective point of vehicle access to the land.
- (3) The Notice to Comply may require the reinstatement of any part of the Road.

4.6 Street Levels

- (1) A person must not carry out any building or other works or fence on any part of any land immediately abutting a Road or Public Reserve which is inconsistent with the level fixed by the Council for the Road or Public Reserve.
- (2) The Council or an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on any person who has not complied with clause 4.6(1).
- (3) Any person may obtain details of the levels fixed by the Council for any Road or Public Reserve by making application to the Council.

4.7 Repairs on Roads and Footpaths

- (1) A person must not dismantle, paint, carry out maintenance on or repair a vehicle on a Road or Footpath or permit or authorise another person to do so.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) Nothing in clause 4.7(1) shall prevent a person making a temporary repair to a vehicle on a Road solely for the purpose of removing that vehicle or in an emergency.

4.8 Letter Boxes on Road Reserves

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, erect or allow to be erected a letter box on a Road or Footpath.

Penalty: 3 penalty units

- (2) Permits for the erection of letter boxes on Roads may be subject to conditions, including, but not limited to, conditions relating to the:

- (a) siting and maintenance of the letter box;
- (b) obligations on the Permit holder to undertake alterations and repairs directed to ensuring that a letter box is safe, suitable and appropriately located; and
- (c) avoiding or protecting underground facilities and other assets in the Road.

- (3) Where sub-clause (1) or the conditions of sub-clause (2) are being breached, an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner or occupier of the land.

4.9 Discharge of Water Prohibited

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, cause or Permit:-
- (a) the direct or indirect flow of any irrigation water onto any Council Land;
 - (b) the discharge of any water onto any Council Land;
 - (c) the discharge of any water onto any land (including land of that person) so as to cause or permit such water to discharge onto Council Land;
 - (d) any substance other than storm water to be discharged into the stormwater system; or
 - (e) flow of storm water run-off from undeveloped sites or construction sites that causes soil to be deposited onto Council Land, Roads or stormwater drains.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

4.10 Control of Sprinklers

- (1) The owner of land must ensure that any irrigation sprinkler heads on the land are fitted with either half circle sprinkler heads or standard sprinkler heads fitted with

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adequate solid metal guards so as to prevent the discharge of irrigation water onto the adjacent Road.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

4.11 *Parking or Driving in Langtree Mall*

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, drive or park a vehicle in the Langtree Mall.
- (2) Sub-clause (1) does not apply to persons driving emergency vehicles or to staff of Council or public authorities while carrying out their duties.
- (3) When determining whether to grant a Permit, the Council or Authorised Officer will have regard to the time of access requested and the safety of pedestrians.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

4.12 *Works on Council Land and Buildings*

- (1) A person must not construct, redevelop or undertake improvement works on Council owned, managed or controlled land and facilities without the prior written consent of the Council.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

PART 5 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND AMENITY

5.1 Road and Footpath Obstructions

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit:-
- (a) occupy or fence off part of a Road or Footpath;
 - (b) erect a hoarding or overhead protective awning on a Road or Footpath;
 - (c) use a mobile crane or travel tower for any work on a Road or Footpath;
 - (d) remove or prune any street tree on a Road or Footpath; or
 - (e) plant any tree or shrub or landscape any part of a Road or Footpath.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

- (2) Where a Permit is issued under sub-clause (1) the Council or an Authorised Officer may determine, and require the payment of, fees for the reinstatement of Roads, Footpaths or street trees damaged or altered by works of a type listed in sub-clause 5.1(1)(a) to (e) inclusive.
- (3) The Council may require payment of the fees prior to the issue of a Permit.
- (4) The Council may, before issuing a Permit, require the payment of a bond to secure the cost of repairs to a Road, Footpath or Council asset damaged or affected by works of a type listed in sub-clause 5.1(1)(a) to (e) inclusive.
- (5) The holder of a Permit issued under sub-clause (1) must within 48 hours of completion of the work arrange with the Council for an inspection of the site.
- (6) The amount of the bond must be proportionate to the likely cost of repairing any damage or replacing any Road, Footpath or Council asset and may be refunded on completion of the inspection referred to in clause 5.1(5) or may be retained by the Council to offset the cost of making good any damage.

5.2 Storage of Materials on Road

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, deposit or place any soil, garden refuse, prunings, building materials, refuse containers, building rubbish, electrical cords, air hoses, shipping containers or other similar obstructions on, upon, across or over any Road or Footpath, or Council asset.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

5.3 Street Parties, Street Festivals and Processions

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, hold a party, festival or procession on any Road.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) In determining whether to grant a Permit for a party, festival or procession, the Council or Authorised Officer may take into account:-

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- (a) whether the party, festival or procession will unreasonably inconvenience Road users including all owners and occupiers of properties with vehicular access to the section of Road to be closed;
 - (b) whether the written permission of the Victoria Police and the relevant State Road Authority has been obtained and their requirements met;
 - (c) whether the Road can be closed to vehicular traffic, or partly closed to vehicular traffic with safe and effective separation of vehicular traffic from festival or procession patrons and equipment; and
 - (d) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (3) In determining whether to grant a Permit for a street party, the Council or Authorised Officer must take into account:-
- (a) whether the Road can be closed to vehicular traffic without detriment to the traffic management of the area, for the duration of the street party;
 - (b) whether the owners or occupiers of land with any vehicular access via the section of Road to be closed have been advised by the applicant by letter and given at least seven days to comment or object;
 - (c) whether a person on behalf of the applicant has been nominated to erect and remove the barriers which close the Road at locations and times specified by an Authorised Officer;
 - (d) whether the Footpath on at least one side of the Road can be kept clear of obstructions; and
 - (e) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (4) Where the application is to conduct a party the application must be made at least 14 days before the party is to take place.
- (5) Where the application is to conduct a festival or procession, the application must be made at least 28 days before the festival or procession (as the case may be) is to take place.

5.4 Street Activities

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, solicit or collect on any Council Land, on any Road or Footpath or from house to house any gifts of money.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) The Council may from time to time exempt any person or class of persons or any particular collection activity from the need for a Permit.
- (3) A person must not, without a Permit, on any Road, Footpath or Council Land:-
- (a) distribute any handbills (other than electoral material on Commonwealth, State and Local Government polling days), goods, gifts or advertising material or other printed matter;
 - (b) perform, busk or solicit money;

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- (c) deliver any public address;
- (d) spruik, or call out from any business or retail premises in order to attract customers from a Road or Footpath to the premises; or
- (e) use any sound amplification equipment.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.5 Trees and Plants, Signs and Structures Not To Obstruct or Obscure

The owner or occupier of any land must not allow any vegetation growing on the land or any sign, structure or other thing located on the land:

- (1) to obstruct or interfere with:
 - (a) the passage of Traffic on a Road;
 - (b) the clear view of any driver or pedestrian lawfully using a Road or any other Vehicle, pedestrian or Traffic Control Device upon a Road;
 - (c) the view between motor vehicles and trains at a railway level crossing; or
 - (d) street lighting or any Traffic Control Device;
- (2) to otherwise constitute a danger to vehicles or pedestrians or compromise the safe or convenient use of an abutting Road;
- (3) to extend over any part of the Footpath or Road in such a way that it obstructs the safe passage of persons using devices like a pram, wheel-chair, child's pusher or walking frame;
- (4) in the case of a tree or plant in or growing on land, to allow it to overhang a Footpath at a height of less than 2.4 metres; or
- (5) to accumulate dropped berries, leaves or other materials on a Footpath so as to cause an obstruction or danger to any pedestrian.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

5.6 Behaviour in Public Reserves

A person must not while in a Public Reserve:-

- (1) without a Permit, light any fire, other than in a portable barbecue unless in a barbecue, fireplace or similar device installed by Council or subject to a Permit;
- (2) act contrary to any sign;
- (3) play any games with a hard ball except in an area set aside for that purpose;
- (4) ride a horse in a Public Reserve other than on a Road or in an area designated for the riding of horses;
- (5) without a Permit, camp or erect a tent; or

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- (6) without a Permit, take part in or organise any concert, public assembly or public event.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.7 Damaging or Defacing Council Land Including a Road

- (1) A Person must not, unless employed, authorised or contracted by the Council for the purpose, do the following in, or on, Council Land:
- (a) destroy, damage or interfere with Council Land;
 - (b) construct an opening or gate in a fence on the boundary of Council Land which is more than one (1) metre wide;
 - (c) destroy, damage or interfere with, or allow to be destroyed, damaged or interfered with, any Council Land or any Road or any thing on any Council Land or any Road;
 - (d) destroy, damage, remove, plant or interfere with any tree, garden-bed or plant in, or on, Council Land, other than for the purposes of maintaining grass or other permitted plantings on a nature strip;
 - (e) do or omit to do anything which causes any natural or other material to escape or otherwise be conveyed onto a road and thereby become a hazard;
 - (f) destroy, damage or interfere with any other property or assets in, or on, Council Land that are owned or managed by the Council;
 - (g) remove, or allow to be removed, any thing from any Council Land or any Road which belongs to the Council or is affixed or attached to the Council Land or Road (as the case may be), unless authorised by the Council to do so, whether under this Local Law or otherwise; or
 - (h) cause any damage to any Council assets in, or on, as a result of a failure as an owner or occupier of any land to adequately maintain, or to rectify any faults within a reasonable time in, drainage systems, utility supply systems or any other matter for which the owner or occupier of the land is responsible for maintaining.

Penalty: 10 Penalty Units

- (2) An Authorised Officer may remove and impound any thing that is in or on Council Land in contravention of this clause. Where any thing is impounded, there must be compliance with the provisions of clause 9.9
- (3) A person who holds an Asset Protection Permit and is acting in accordance with its purpose, scope and conditions is exempt from this provision.

5.8 Behaviour on Council Land

- (1) A Person must not, while in or on Council Land, behave in a manner that endangers others or unreasonably interferes with the quiet enjoyment of the Council Land by any other Person.

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- (2) An Authorised Officer may direct a person who commits an offence against this Local Law on Council Land to forthwith leave the Council Land, whereupon such person must comply with the direction.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.9 Motor Vehicles

- (1) A person must not park any motor vehicle within a Public Reserve except;
- (a) in an area set apart for the purpose;
 - (b) when and where directed or authorised by the Council or an Authorised Officer to do so; or
 - (c) upon payment of such fees (if any) as may be prescribed and authorised by the Council from time to time.
- (2) A person must not display a Vehicle for sale on a road or on Council Land.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

5.10 Removal of Offenders from a Reserve

- (1) An Authorised Officer may direct a person who commits an offence against this Local Law in a Public Reserve to forthwith leave the Public Reserve, where upon such person must comply with the direction.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.11 Erection of Notices and Signs by the Council in Public Reserves

- (1) The Council may for the purposes of this Part 5 and for the better control, management and preservation of a Public Reserve, erect therein such notices or signs as it sees fit designating where and in what manner entry to or access to the Public Reserve or any part thereof or any specified activity is allowed, prohibited or otherwise controlled.
- (2) A person must not remove such notice or sign except with the authority of the Council.
- (3) A person must not contravene the provisions of any such notice or sign.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.12 Public Swimming Pools

- (1) A person must not while attending a Public Swimming Pool:-
- (a) cause a nuisance or use Offensive behaviour towards another person;
 - (b) act to endanger any person;
 - (c) act to interfere with the quiet enjoyment of the Public Swimming Pool by any person;

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- (d) destroy, damage or interfere with any Council property;
- (e) bring any animal, other than an Assistance Animal, into the Public Swimming Pool site;
- (f) enter the Public Swimming Pool site without paying the appropriate fee as determined by the Council;
- (g) consume alcohol on the Public Swimming Pool site; or
- (h) bring into the Public Swimming Pool site any glass container.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.13 Camping on Council Land or in Public Places

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, camp on Council Land or in a Public Place or on any Road unless they are within a Caravan Park registered under the *Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2020*.

In determining whether to grant a Permit, the Council must take into account:

- (a) the location of the land;
- (b) the Planning Scheme zone of the land;
- (c) the suitability of the land for camping;
- (d) the number of tents or other structures to be located on the land;
- (e) the length of time the tents and other structures that will be erected on the land;
- (f) the availability of sanitary facilities to the land;
- (g) the likely damage to be caused to the land; and
- (h) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

5.14 Camping on Land other than Council Land and Public Places

- (1) An owner or occupier of Land must not, without a Permit, allow camping on that Land.
- (2) In determining whether to grant a Permit, the Council must take into account:
 - (a) any relevant standards, guidelines or codes;
 - (b) whether a building permit for a dwelling has been granted in respect of the land;
 - (c) the adequacy of the standard of habitation on the site;

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- (d) the means by which effluent from the camp or facilities is to be treated and the method of disposal;
 - (e) whether any rent or charge is being paid by any person occupying the land for the camp to any person in respect of the occupation;
 - (f) whether the establishment of a camp will have any effect on the amenity of the area on which it is situated; and
 - (g) any other matter relevant to the circumstances associated with the application.
- (3) Clause 5.14(1) does not apply to camping in the following circumstances:
- (a) camping within a Caravan Park registered under the *Residential Tenancies (Caravan Parks and Movable Dwellings Registration and Standards) Regulations 2020*;
 - (b) camping in accordance with an exemption issued by the Council from time to time;
 - (c) camping directly associated with the accommodation of itinerant persons employed on the land for the purposes of the harvesting of produce from the land;
 - (d) camping (excluding in a caravan) for a period of six (6) weeks or fewer in any twelve (12) month period; or
 - (e) the use of a caravan for sleeping purposes for seven (7) consecutive nights or less.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

5.15 Temporary Dwellings

- (1) Subject to clause 5.15(2) a person must not establish, erect or occupy a temporary dwelling.
- (2) Nothing in clause 5.15(1) prevents a person who has obtained a Permit from the Council from establishing, erecting or occupying a temporary dwelling in association with the construction of a permanent detached dwelling.
- (3) A Permit issued pursuant to clause 5.15(2) operates from the date of issue and expires on the expiry date stipulated in the Permit or, if no expiry date is stipulated, after 12 months.
- (4) A person must not, after the issue of an Occupancy Permit for the permanent detached dwelling or the expiration of a permit for the temporary dwelling, occupy the temporary dwelling.

5.16 Leaving Shopping Trolleys

- (1) A person must not leave, or cause or authorise another person to leave, a shopping trolley in any of the following areas:-
 - (a) a Road; or

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- (b) Council Land except in an area designated by the Council for that purpose; or
 - (c) any other Public Place.
- (2) The owner of a shopping trolley must not allow the shopping trolley to be left in any of the following areas:
- (a) a Road; or
 - (b) Council Land except in an area designated by the Council for that purpose; or
 - (c) any other Public Place.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

5.17 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys

- (1) An Authorised Officer may impound any shopping trolley left in contravention of this Local Law.
- (2) An Authorised Officer who has impounded a shopping trolley must notify the owner of the shopping trolley of the impounding as soon as practicable.
- (3) The Council may, by resolution from time to time, determine a fee which is not to exceed an amount that reasonably represents the cost to the Council of impounding, keeping and releasing the shopping trolley, which must be paid by the owner of a shopping trolley before the Council is required to release the shopping trolley.
- (4) Shopping trolleys that have been impounded by the Council for three (3) months may be disposed of by the Council by tender or public auction or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or be given away.

5.18 Naming a Road

- (1) A person must not erect a sign applying a name to a Road without first obtaining the consent of the Council.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

5.19 Property Numbers to be displayed

- (1) The Council may allot such numbers as are necessary to identify each premises in the Municipal District and, from time to time, may make changes to any address number.
- (2) If the Council has allocated a number to a premises the owner of that premises must mark the premises with the number and must renew or replace the number as often as may be necessary.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (3) The owner of the premises must ensure that the number is of a sufficient size and is placed in such a position as to be clearly readable from the Street on which the premises have their frontage.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

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5.20 Residential Parking Scheme

- (1) The Council may, from time to time by resolution, designate any area of the Municipal District as an area in which a residential parking scheme is in operation.
- (2) The Council may at any time by resolution rescind, amend or vary any resolution so made.
- (3) The Council must give appropriate public notice of any resolution made under clauses 5.20(1) and (2).
- (4) A person who resides in an area in which a residential parking scheme is in operation may make application in the form of Schedule 3 to the Council for a Residential Parking Permit.
- (5) The Council may grant a Residential Parking Permit subject to such conditions as may be determined from time to time.
- (6) A Residential Parking Permit may specify the vehicle to which the Permit applies.
- (7) A Residential Parking Permit may specify the Street or Streets or part of the Street to which the Permit applies.
- (8) The holder of a Residential Parking Permit may park an eligible vehicle in the Street or Streets as specified in the Permit without being required to comply with any parking restrictions as to time indicated by parking signs associated with the Street or Streets.
- (9) The Council may, from time to time by resolution, determine a fee to be paid for a Residential Parking Permit.
- (10) Prior to the introduction of a new residential parking scheme the Council must notify the owner and occupier of every residence in the area advising as to:-
 - (a) eligibility;
 - (b) how to apply for a Permit;
 - (c) the cost of the Permit; and
 - (d) how the proposed scheme will operate.

5.21 Use of Skateboards and Bicycles

- (1) A person must not use a skate-board, bicycle, toy vehicle, roller skates or inline skates in an area that has been declared to be an area where such activity has been prohibited by:
 - (a) Council resolution on Council's website; or
 - (b) signage erected in accordance with a Council resolution.
- (2) A Council resolution referred to in sub-clause (1) may specify any or all of the conveyances mentioned.
- (3) A person must not use a skate-board, bicycle, toy vehicle, roller skates or inline skates in a shopping mall.

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- (4) Where any person uses a skate-board, bicycle, toy vehicle, roller skates or inline skates in contravention of sub-clause 5.21(1) or (3) an Authorised Officer may remove the item and impound it.
- (5) The Council may, from time to time determine a fee which must be paid by the owner of a skate-board, bicycle, toy vehicle, roller skates, or inline skates that has or have been impounded under sub-clause (4) before the Council is required to release the impounded item.
- (6) Any skate-board, bicycle, toy vehicle, roller skates or in-line skates that has or have been impounded by the Council for more than one (1) month may be disposed of by the Council by tender or public auction or such other manner determined by the Council.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

5.22 Clothing Bins

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, place a clothing bin on any Council Land or Road.

PART 6 CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL IN PUBLIC PLACES

6.1 Roads/Car Parks/Public Reserves

A person must not, on a Road or Public Reserve, or in a motor vehicle parked on a Road or Public Reserve, in a prescribed area during a prescribed period:

- (1) consume any Alcohol; or
- (2) have in his or her possession or control any Alcohol other than Alcohol in a sealed container with an unbroken seal.

Penalty: 2 penalty units

6.2 Prescribed Area

- (1) The Council may by resolution specify areas of the Municipal District to be a prescribed area for the purposes of clause 6.1. If the Council prescribes an area to be a prescribed area, it must:
 - (a) publish a notice on its website;
 - (b) erect signage signifying prescribed areas; and
 - (c) ensure that a description of the area is available for inspection at the offices of the Council during normal business hours.

6.3 Prescribed Period

- (1) The Council may by resolution, at the time of specifying an area to be a prescribed area, specify in relation to that area:
 - (a) periods of the year; or
 - (b) periods of the week; or
 - (c) periods of the day, or of specified days,that are to be "no alcohol" periods for the purposes of clause 6.1.
- (2) If no period is specified in relation to an area, the "no alcohol" period for that area is all day every day.
- (3) For the purpose of this Part, a "no alcohol" period is a prescribed period.

6.4 Exemption from this part

This Part does not apply to:

- (1) an area in which the consumption of Alcohol is permitted in accordance with a licence granted under the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*;
- (2) circumstances to which the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998* does not apply by virtue of section 6 of that Act; or

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- (3) consumption of Alcohol at an organised event for which a Permit has been granted.

PART 7 BEHAVIOUR

7.1 *Misuse of Shopping Trolleys*

- (1) Any person who, while in a Public Reserve or other Public Place, uses a shopping trolley for any purpose other than the purpose for which the shopping trolley has been specifically designed is guilty of an offence.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

7.2 *Urination, Defecation and Vomiting in Public*

- (1) A person must not urinate, defecate or vomit in a Public Place other than in a toilet facility constructed for such a purpose.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

7.3 *Behaviour in Certain Public Places*

- (1) An Authorised Officer may direct a person to leave any Public Reserve, pedestrian mall, Footpath or other Public Place if the Authorised Officer believes on reasonable grounds that the person is behaving in a riotous, indecent, offensive, threatening or insulting manner or using threatening, abusive, obscene, indecent or insulting words.
- (2) A person to whom a direction is given under sub-clause (1) must comply with that direction.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

7.4 *Music Noise (Vehicles, Public Places)*

- (1) An Authorised Officer may direct a person playing amplified music in a Public Place (including in a Street or Public Reserve or in a motor vehicle in a Street or Public Reserve) to cease playing such music if the music is offensive.
- (2) A person to whom a direction is given under sub-clause (1) must comply with that direction.
- (3) This clause does not apply to a person who has the permission of the Council or the owner of the Public Place to play the amplified music.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

7.5 *Damage to Council Property*

- (1) Any person who is involved in an activity that is damaging or defacing Council property or assets, or that could reasonably be foreseen to damage Council property or assets, must immediately cease such activity upon being directed to do so by an Authorised Officer.
- (2) A person to whom a direction is given under sub-clause (1) must comply with that direction.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 5 penalty units

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7.6 Wetlands and Fountains

A person must not –

- (1) enter, swim, paddle, bath, dive or jump in a wetland or fountain located on any Council Land or in a Public Place; or
- (2) throw, place or cause or suffer to be thrown or placed any liquid, powder substance, stones, rocks, sticks, paper, dirt or rubbish or other object, substance or thing of any kind into a wetland or fountain located on Council Land or in a Public Place.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 5 penalty units

PART 8 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON COUNCIL LAND

8.1 Commercial activity on Council Land

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, carry out any Commercial Activity on Council Land.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

For the purpose of this clause a person is deemed to have complied with clause 8.1 if:

- (2) the Commercial Activity is an integral part of an activity authorised by a Permit issued under the provisions of another clause of this Local Law; or
- (3) the Commercial Activity is authorised under, or contemplated by, some other binding agreement entered into with the Council.

8.2 Advertising Signs / Display Of Goods

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, place or cause or authorise another person to place:-

- (a) an advertising sign on any Council Land; or
- (b) any goods or vehicles for display or sale on any Road.

- (2) The Council may by resolution exempt any person or class of persons or any particular type of advertising sign or other activity from the requirement to obtain a Permit under this clause.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (3) In deciding whether or not to grant a Permit the Council may take into account:-
- (a) whether the advertising sign or goods will create a hazard to pedestrians or will otherwise cause an obstruction;
- (b) the amenity of the area;
- (c) any other signs associated with the applicant's premises; and
- (d) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (4) When any advertising signs or goods are placed or displayed contrary to this Local Law or in contravention of any Permit conditions the advertising sign or the goods may be removed by an Authorised Officer and impounded.
- (5) The Council may, by resolution from time to time, determine a fee which must be paid by the owner of any impounded advertising sign or goods before the Council is required to release the advertising sign or goods.
- (6) Advertising signs or goods that have been impounded by the Council for more than one month may be disposed of by the Council by tender or public auction, or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or given away. Where perishable goods have been impounded, the Council may dispose of the goods as soon as reasonably appropriate.

8.3 Signs relating to Sale of Real Estate

- (1) Where premises (not being vacant land or a display home) are:
 - (a) to be sold by public auction; or
 - (b) open for inspection by the public;

a flag not exceeding two (2) square metres may be displayed on the premises or a neighbouring premises provided:

 - (c) it does not obstruct the movement of pedestrian or vehicular traffic along a Road or Footpath;
 - (d) it does not impair the vision of pedestrians or drivers of vehicular traffic along a Road or Footpath; and
 - (e) the mounting point of the flag is on or within the boundary of the premises.
- (2) Any flag displayed under sub-clause 8.3(1) must be removed immediately upon the completion of the public auction or the public inspection.
- (3) Movable Advertising Signs relating to the sale of real estate must comply with clause 8.2.
- (4) Sub-clause 8.3(3) does not apply to vacant land or a display home.

8.4 Trading From Roadside

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit:-
 - (a) erect or place on any Council Land or in any Public Place a vehicle, caravan, trailer, table, stall or other similar structure for the purpose of selling any goods or services; or
 - (b) sell any goods or services from a property or Road, Footpath, Council Land or Public Place adjacent to a Road or Footpath to any person who is on that Road, Footpath, Council Land or Public Place.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) In determining whether or not to grant a Permit the Council may take into account:-
 - (a) whether permits required by the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, *Food Act 1984* or any other legislation have been obtained;
 - (b) whether any other Council requirements by way of policy or guidelines have been met, including under the Footpath Trading Policy;
 - (c) whether the activity will disturb, annoy or disrupt adjacent property owners or occupiers;
 - (d) whether the activity will be detrimental to the amenity of the area;
 - (e) whether the safety of Road users or the passage of vehicles will be affected by the placement;

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- (f) whether appropriate arrangements can be made for:-
 - (i) waste water disposal;
 - (ii) litter and garbage;
 - (iii) lighting; and
 - (iv) advertising signs;
 - (g) whether the consent of the relevant state road authority has been obtained where the Road is owned or managed by a state road authority; and
 - (h) any other matter relevant to the circumstances of the application.
- (3) If the Council has entered into an agreement (by way of lease, licence or otherwise) in relation to trading from a particular site, no person other than the person with whom the Council has the agreement may trade from that site whether or not that person has a Permit, unless the Council or an Authorised Officer determines otherwise.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (4) A person placing an object or structure on a Footpath in connection with a Commercial Activity must comply with the Footpath Trading Policy.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (5) The document titled 'Footpath Trading Policy', as made and amended by the Council from time to time and published on the Council's website, is hereby incorporated into this Local Law.
- (6) In addition to any other power which it has, the Council may by resolution determine a fee, charge, fare or rent payable by the seller of any goods or services from a property, Road, Footpath, Council Land or Public Place adjacent to a Road or Footpath to any person who is on that Road, Footpath, Council Land or Public Place.
- (7) Where as determined by an Authorised Officer the provisions of clause 8.4 or the conditions of any Permit are not being complied with the Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner or occupier of the relevant land or Permit holder.
- (8) Where the use of a site or the contravention of any conditions on a Permit continue after a Notice to Comply has been served any goods and associated equipment may be removed by an Authorised Officer and impounded.
- (9) The Council may, by resolution from time to time, determine a fee which must be paid by the owner of any impounded goods and associated equipment before the Council is required to release the goods and associated equipment.
- (10) Goods and associated equipment that have been impounded by the Council for more than one month may be disposed of by the Council by tender or public auction, or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or given away. Where perishable goods have been impounded, the Council may dispose of the goods as soon as reasonably appropriate.

8.5 Outdoor Eating Facilities

- (1) A person must not, without a Permit, establish an Outdoor Eating Facility on any Council Land, Footpath or other part of a Road.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (2) In deciding whether to grant a Permit the Council may take into account:-
- (a) whether the facility is conducted in conjunction with and as an extension of food premises located immediately abutting the facility, and the applicant is the person conducting such food premises;
 - (b) whether the food premises are registered in accordance with the *Food Act 1984*;
 - (c) whether the facility would be located where it would obstruct visibility at an intersection;
 - (d) whether appropriate and safe pedestrian access can be maintained;
 - (e) whether the tables, chairs and other equipment to be used will be a hazard; and
 - (f) any other matter relevant to the application.
- (3) The Permit holder must ensure that the Outdoor Eating Facility is maintained in a clean and tidy condition at all times.
- (4) Where the provisions of clause 8.5 or the conditions of any Permit are not being complied with an Authorised Officer may serve a Notice to Comply on the owner or occupier of the relevant food premises or the Permit holder.
- (5) Any tables, chairs, umbrellas, heaters or other equipment in an Outdoor Eating Facility used in contravention of clause 8.5 or 8.6 or of any conditions of a Permit may be removed by an Authorised Officer and impounded.
- (6) The Council may, by resolution from time to time, determine a fee, which must be paid by the owner of any Outdoor Eating Facility equipment, before the Council is required to release that equipment.
- (7) Equipment that has been impounded by the Council for more than one month may be disposed of by the Council by tender or public auction or may be transferred to the municipal landfill or given away.
- (8) The holder of a Permit must move or remove the Outdoor Eating Facility when requested by an Authorised Officer or a member of an emergency service.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

- (9) The holder of a Permit must remove the Outdoor Eating Facility from the Footpath at the close of business each day or at such earlier time as is specified in the Permit.

Penalty: 5 penalty units

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8.6 Outdoor Eating Facilities - Hotels and Licensed Restaurants

- (1) The following provision, in addition to clause 8.5, applies to Outdoor Eating Facilities provided by the owners, occupiers and proprietors of premises licensed under the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*.
- (2) The Council may revoke a Permit at any time if the behaviour of patrons using an Outdoor Eating Facility becomes rowdy, offensive or otherwise disruptive of the quiet use and enjoyment of the Footpath or Road by other persons or if the owner, occupier or proprietor of the hotel or licensed restaurant breaches any provisions of the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*.

PART 9 GENERAL

9.1 Notice to Comply

- (1) The Council or an Authorised Officer may, by serving a Notice to Comply in the form of Schedule 2, direct any owner, occupier or other relevant person to remedy any situation which constitutes a breach of this Local Law.
- (2) A Notice to Comply must state the time and date by which the situation must be remedied. The time required by a Notice to Comply served under this Local Law must be reasonable in the circumstances and what will be reasonable will vary depending on the matters to be remedied, but should take into account, if applicable:
 - (a) the amount of work involved;
 - (b) the degree of difficulty;
 - (c) the availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
 - (d) climatic conditions;
 - (e) the degree of risk or potential risk; and
 - (f) any other relevant factor.

9.2 Failure to Adhere to Notice

- (1) Any person who fails to remedy a situation in accordance with a Notice to Comply served under this Local Law is guilty of an offence.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

9.3 Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances

- (1) An Authorised Officer may, in urgent circumstances arising as a result of another person's failure to comply with this Local Law, take action to remove, remedy or rectify a situation without the necessity to serve a Notice to Comply provided:
 - (a) he or she determines that the circumstances are, or situation is, urgent and that the time involved or difficulties associated with serving a Notice to Comply may place a person, animal, property or thing at risk or in danger;
 - (b) the Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, approves the proposed action;
 - (c) details of the circumstances and remedying action are, as soon as possible, forwarded to the person on whose behalf the action was taken; and
 - (d) the Council is advised as soon as practicable of the action taken.
- (2) The action taken by an Authorised Officer under clause 9.3(1) must not extend beyond what is necessary to cause the immediate abatement of the risk or danger involved.

9.4 Appeal against Notice to Comply

- (1) Any person who is aggrieved by the requirements of a Notice to Comply may apply to the Council for review of the Notice to Comply and to be heard and make a written submission for consideration by the Council.
- (2) An application for review under sub-clause (1) will not in any way remove that person's obligation to act in accordance with any directions or notices which are applicable under this Local Law.

9.5 Application for Permit

- (1) An application for a Permit must be in writing and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee, if any, as determined by Council resolution from time to time.
- (2) The Council may require an applicant to give notice of their application in the manner specified, and may permit other persons to make a submission and to be heard in respect of it.
- (3) The Council may require additional information to enable an application for a Permit to be properly considered and for the purposes of administering and enforcing the provisions of this Local Law.

9.6 Permits May Be Conditional

- (1) The Council or an Authorised Officer may issue a Permit with or without conditions, including conditions relating to:-
 - (a) the payment of a fee or charge;
 - (b) a standard to be applied;
 - (c) a time limit to be applied;
 - (d) the happening of an event;
 - (e) the rectification, remedying or restoration of a situation or circumstance;
 - (f) where the applicant is not the owner of the subject property, the consent of the owner; or
 - (g) the granting of some other permit or approval which may be required by the Council or another statutory or public authority whether under this Local Law or otherwise.

9.7 Duration of Permits

- (1) Except where expressly stated in this Local Law or in the Permit, the Permit will operate from the date it is issued and will expire one year after the date of issue.

9.8 Cancellation of Permits

- (1) A Permit may be cancelled by the Council or an Authorised Officer at any time, if it is clear that the conditions under which the Permit was issued have not been complied with, provided:-

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
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- (a) a Notice to Comply has been served upon the Permit holder; and
 - (b) the time for compliance with the Notice to Comply has expired.
- (2) Where the Permit holder is not the owner of the land to which the Permit relates and the owner's consent was required to be given to the application for the Permit, the owner must be notified of the:
- (a) Notice to Comply when it is issued; and
 - (b) cancellation of the Permit, where applicable.
- (3) Where any Permit issued under this Local Law contains conditions any person who contravenes or fails to comply with a condition is guilty of an offence.

Penalty: 10 penalty units

Infringement notice: 2 penalty units

9.9 Power of Authorised Officer to Impound

- (1) If an Authorised Officer has impounded an animal or other thing in accordance with this Local Law, the Council may refuse to release it until the appropriate fee or charge for its release has been paid to the Council.
- (2) As soon as possible after impounding the animal or thing the Authorised Officer will, if practicable, serve a Notice of Impounding in the form of Schedule 1 on the owner or person responsible for the item which has been impounded, setting out the fees and charges payable and the time by which the item must be retrieved.
- (3) An impounded thing must be surrendered to:
 - (a) its owner; or
 - (b) a person acting on behalf of its owner who provides evidence to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer of their authority from the owner,
on
 - (c) evidence to the satisfaction of the Authorised Officer being provided of the owner's right to the thing; and
 - (d) payment of any fee determined by the Council or an Authorised Officer from time to time.
- (4) Clause 9.9(3) does not apply to the impounding of any item where the nature of the item impounded is such that it would be impracticable to return the item to the person from whom it was seized and impounded or the owner.
- (5) If after the time specified in the Notice of Impounding an impounded animal or thing is not retrieved, an Authorised Officer may take action to dispose of the impounded animal or thing.
- (6) When the identity or whereabouts of the owner or person responsible for the impounded item is unknown, the Authorised Officer must take reasonable steps to ascertain the identity or whereabouts of that person and may proceed to dispose of the impounded item in accordance with sub-clause (3) once he or she is satisfied that all reasonable efforts have been made to contact the owner or person responsible for the impounded animal or thing.

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- (7) Any proceeds from the disposal of impounded items must be paid to the owner except for the reasonable costs incurred by the Council in the administration of this Part.
- (8) In the event that the owner cannot be identified or located within one year of the date the Notice of Impounding was served any proceeds as described in paragraph (7) will be dealt with in accordance with the *Unclaimed Money Act 2008*.

9.10 Offences

- (1) Any person who contravenes a provision of this Local Law is guilty of an offence.

9.11 General Penalty

- (1) If no penalty is specified for an offence against this Local Law, the penalty will be ten (10) penalty units.
- (2) The penalty for a second or subsequent offence against this Local Law is twenty (20) penalty units.

9.12 Infringement Penalty

- (1) An Infringement Notice may be issued as an alternative to prosecution in respect of offences against this Local Law.
- (2) If no infringement penalty is specified for an offence against this Local Law, the infringement penalty will be two (2) penalty units.

9.13 Infringement Notices

- (1) An Authorised Officer may serve an Infringement Notice on a person whom the Authorised Officer believes has committed an offence against this Local Law, in accordance with the *Infringements Act 2006*.

9.14 Council Staff and Contractors

- (1) Despite anything to the contrary in this Local Law, where the proper discharge of a contract with the Council or duties of office requires a member of Council staff or person acting on the Council's behalf to do something that requires a Permit under the provisions of this Local Law, those provisions do not apply and no Permit need be obtained.

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
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SCHEDULE 1

ENVIRONMENT LOCAL LAW

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
SCHEDULE 1

NOTICE OF IMPOUNDING

TO: _____
(Name)

(Address)

The following item(s) has/have been impounded in accordance with the Council's Community Local Law.

Describe: _____
items
impounded _____

You may collect the items by attending at the municipal offices between the hours of _____ and _____ to see _____ and by paying the following:
(Contact Officer)

Details _____

Of _____

Fees and Charges _____

If you fail to collect the item(s) and pay the required fees and charges by (date), the authorised officer will proceed to dispose of the item(s) in accordance with the Council's policy.

Date: _____

Name of Authorised Officer: _____

Telephone: _____

(Signature of Authorised Officer): _____

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
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SCHEDULE 2

**COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW
MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL**

SCHEDULE 2

NOTICE TO COMPLY

TO: _____
(Name)

(Address)

You have breached clause _____ of the Council's Community Local Law. To remedy the breach you must carry out the following work, within _____ days from the date of this notice.

Work _____
to be _____
listed _____

You should contact _____ (contact officer) at the municipal offices between the hours of _____ and _____ for any further information about this Notice.

If you fail to comply with this Notice you will be guilty of an offence and liable for payment of the penalty of \$ (penalty) for the *first/second or subsequent offence and the authorised officer will proceed to carry out the work, the cost of which, in addition to the above penalty you will be liable for.

Date: _____
(Insert Date)

Name of Authorised Officer: _____

Telephone: _____

* Strike out whichever is not applicable

Signature of Authorised Officer: _____

NOTE: If this Notice relates to a contravention of a Permit and the Notice is not complied with, the Permit may be cancelled. If you do not wish to have the Permit cancelled you should comply with the conditions in this Notice or show cause to the Council in writing why the Permit should not be cancelled.

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SCHEDULE 3

**MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW**

SCHEDULE 3

APPLICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT

RESIDENTIAL AREA No: _____

I wish to apply for a permit to allow my vehicle to be parked in accordance with the Council's Residential Parking Scheme.

Name: _____

Surname (Other Names): _____

Address: _____

Vehicle Registration No: _____

Description of vehicle (eg. make, model, colour): _____

I declare that I reside permanently at the above address. (Please tick) _____

I have attached a copy of my vehicle registration certificate to this application.
(Please tick)

Dated: _____

Signature: _____



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Solicitor’s Certificate – Section 74(1) *Local Government Act 2020*

**Mildura Rural City Council
Community Local Law – Local Law No. 2**

The Mildura Rural City Council (**Council**) is proposing to make Community Local Law – Local Law No. 2 (**proposed Local Law**).

I have been asked to provide a certificate under s 74(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (**Act**) in respect of the proposed Local Law.

In accordance with s 74(1) of the Act, I have assessed the proposed Local Law for consistency with the local law requirements, as outlined in the following table.

Local Law Requirement	Consistent
A local law must not be inconsistent with any Act (including the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i>) or regulations.	<p>Yes.</p> <p>As at the date of this certificate, the proposed Local Law does not overlap or conflict with, or duplicate, existing legislation. The proposed Local Law is therefore not inconsistent with any Act or regulations, nor, with respect to the <i>Sex Work Decriminalisation Act 2022</i> does it undermine the objectives of that Act.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law has been reviewed for compatibility with the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i> (Charter). The proposed Local Law engages a number of rights, including the rights to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief (see cls 3.7, 5.4 and 5.6); • freedom of expression (see cls 5.4, 5.6, 7.3 and 7.4); • peaceful assembly (see cls 5.3, 5.4 and 5.6); • enjoy cultural rights (see cl 3.7); and • not be deprived of their property (see cls 9.3 and 9.9). <p>Each of these matters has been assessed and it has been determined that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most activities which engage the Charter can be conducted with a permit issued by Council; and • each limit, if any, is proportionate and can be demonstrably justified taking into account the matters set out in s 7 of the Charter. <p>The proposed Local Law, having been reviewed for compatibility with the Charter, is therefore considered to be compatible with the Charter.</p>
A local law must not duplicate or be inconsistent with a planning scheme that is in force in the municipal district.	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law is drafted so as not to operate where it concerns matters which are otherwise addressed under the Mildura Planning Scheme.</p>
A local law for or with respect to the issuing of film permits must not be inconsistent with the film friendly principles.	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Not applicable – the proposed Local Law does not address film permits.</p>

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Local Law Requirement	Consistent
<p>A local law must not exceed the power to make local laws conferred by this Act or any other authorising Act.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>I consider the activities sought to be regulated by the proposed Local Law to be matters for or with respect to which Council has a function or power under the Act and other Acts. The proposed Local Law is therefore consistent with, and does not exceed, the scope of Council's powers to make Local Laws under the Act.</p>
<p>A local law must be consistent with the objectives of this Act or any other authorising Act.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>I consider the activities sought to be regulated by the proposed Local Law to be matters of municipal concern and matters that have been reasonably understood to be within the province of municipal government because they affect the safety, amenity, welfare and good government of the municipal district and its inhabitants and are consistent with the overarching governance principles set out in section 9 of the Act.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law furthers the objects of accountable, transparent, collaborative and efficient operations of Council in a manner that engages with the municipal community and its needs.</p>
<p>A local law must be expressed as clearly and unambiguously as is reasonably possible.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law is as clear and unambiguous as is reasonably possible. The purpose of each of its provisions and the means adopted to implement the purpose is discernible from the provision itself.</p> <p>This certificate has not sought to interrogate Council as to whether the purpose of each of the proposed Local Law provisions as drafted, and the manner in which the proposed Local Law seeks to implement those purposes, is as Council had intended them to be when enacting the proposed Local Law. This certificate assumes that Council is aware of the purpose behind each provision and has familiarised itself with, and accepts the manner in which, that purpose is implemented by the Local Law.</p>
<p>Unless there is clear and express power to do so under this Act or any other authorising Act, a local law must not—</p> <p>(i) seek to have a retrospective effect; or</p> <p>(ii) impose any tax, fee, fine, imprisonment or other penalty; or</p> <p>(iii) authorise the sub-delegation of powers delegated under the local law.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not seek to have retrospective effect; • makes provision for the imposition of penalties in respect of offences that are created, which penalties are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consistent with s 79 of the Act; ○ similar in nature when compared to like councils; and ○ sufficient to act as a deterrent for most offences while also reflecting the seriousness of those offences; • makes provision for the setting and imposition of fees in a manner that is consistent with s 77 of the Act; and • does not authorise the sub-delegation of any powers.
<p>A local law must comply with any details prescribed in the regulations relating to the preparation and content of local laws.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>No regulations relating to the preparation and content of local laws have, at the time of preparing this certification, been made.</p>



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This certificate is only valid as at the date below. I cannot predict what may occur in future with respect to:

- a) amendments to the proposed Local Law that Council may make;
- b) other legislation that may be made or amended which brings the proposed Local Law into conflict or which overlaps with the proposed Local Law (including future regulations);
- c) a decision of a Superior Court which fundamentally changes the accepted principles or precedent regarding the inconsistency of laws;
- d) amendments to the Mildura Planning Scheme which bring the proposed Local Law into conflict or which overlaps with the proposed Local Law; or
- e) the manner in which Council administers or makes decisions with respect to the granting of permits or exemptions under the proposed Local Law which may bring the proposed Local Law into conflict with other legislation.

I, Kate Emily Oliver, Partner at Maddocks, certify that I:

- am an Australian lawyer who has been admitted to the legal profession for at least 5 years;
- am not a Councillor of Council;
- have reviewed the proposed Local Law against the local law requirements; and
- am of the opinion that the proposed Local Law is consistent with the local law requirements set out in s 72 of the Act.

Signed by Kate Oliver
in Victoria on 6 December 2022

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)
)

14.9 ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO 5 - PROTECTION OF COUNCIL ASSETS AND CONTROL OF BUILDING SITES

File Number: 04/02/01
Officer: Acting General Manager Development

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the amended Local Law No 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites for adoption

2. Recommendation

That Council having:

- (i) completed the statutory process under Division 3 of Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2020* for the making of the Local Law No. 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law;
- (ii) obtained a certificate from a suitably qualified lawyer stating that, in their opinion the Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law is consistent with the local law requirements set out in section 72 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, attached to this Report;
- (iii) undertaken community engagement in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy in respect of the Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law; and
- (iv) noted that no submissions were received in respect of the Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law, resolves to make the Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law in the form attached to this Report.

3. Background

The purpose of the Local Law No 5 is to:

Ensure the peace, order and good government of the municipality. It relates to a wide variety of issues including protection of council assets on road reserve, stormwater protection, use of streets, roads and footpaths and containment, removal and disposal of builder's refuse.

The current Local Law No 5 was last reviewed in 2015. Following the introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020*, a revision on the Local Law No 5 was deemed necessary. Maddocks Lawyers have reviewed this document and have provided their comments for Council to consider and make necessary amendments.

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

Internal consultation between relevant teams and staff were organized to ensure consistency between the local laws governed by the council and the Local Law No 5 was published for public exhibition from 11th of November to 9th of December and has received 16 page views and no feedbacks.

Therefore, no further changes were considered, and the document is presented for endorsement at this Ordinary Council meeting.

5. Discussion

The changes in the document highlighted by the Maddocks Lawyers were mainly administrative in nature ensuring appropriate use of language throughout the document to be consistent and to avoid confusion. Any duplications were removed as part of the review.

Council has removed the templates attached to the existing Local Laws No 5, to provide greater flexibility to amend the wordings in those forms, as necessary. However, a reference to those forms were provided in the document. The consistency with community local law was checked before the document was presented for public exhibition on the 11 November 2022. No feedback was received, and the document was finalized following an internal discussion with relevant teams.

6. Time Frame

If adopted, the amended Local Law No. 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law will become active from that date of this Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The Chief Executive Officer will cause notice of Council making Local Law No. 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law to be published in the Government Gazette and on Council's website, as required by s 74 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Community

Outcome to be achieved:

- A community that feels safe

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

Local Law No. 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law aligns with Council's Asset Management Plan and Municipal Road Management Plan.

9. Implications

Policy

The introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020* and revision of a number of separate, however associated legislation and Acts, deemed it necessary that Local Law No. 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law be reviewed.

Further, this update is consistent with the principles of good governance and best practice to periodically review Local Laws and policies.

Legal/Statutory

This Local Law No. 5 – Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law complies with the requirements in section 72 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Financial

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Environmental

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Social

A clear and concise document will help the council to ensure the council assets are protected and will benefit the public in the municipality in avoiding any safety hazards.

Economic

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will be exposed to the following risks:

Risks	Controls	Residual Risk
The existing Local Law No. 5 would not be aligned with current legislation/ regulations	Local Government Act 2020 Other related Regulations/ Acts	Low

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

- 1 [Local Law No 5 - Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law](#)
- 2 [Certificate from Maddocks Lawyers](#)



Mildura Rural City Council

**PROTECTION OF COUNCIL ASSETS AND CONTROL OF BUILDING
SITES
LOCAL LAW NO. [5]**

[22 December 2022]

PART 1 INTRODUCTION

1. Title

This Local Law No. [5] of the Mildura Rural City Council and shall be titled 'Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites'.

2. Purpose of Local Law

The Local Law is made for the purposes of:

- (a) providing for the peace, order and good government of the Municipal District;
- (b) protecting public infrastructure assets from damage caused by building work;
- (c) protecting the health and safety of persons attending building sites and those near or passing building sites;
- (d) protecting the environment and the amenity of the Municipal District; and
- (e) defining standards to which persons engaged in building work must adhere.

3. Authorising Provision

This Local Law is made under section 71 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

4. Commencement and Revocation

This Local Law comes into operation on [22 December 2022] and ends on [21 December 2032] unless revoked sooner.

5. Area of Operation

This Local Law shall apply and have operation throughout the whole of the Municipal District.

6. Definitions

In this Local Law:

Asset Protection Permit	means a permit issued under this Local Law.
Authorised Officer	means any person appointed pursuant to section 224 of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> .
Builder	means the person in charge of carrying out any building work.
Builder's refuse	includes any solid or liquid domestic or commercial waste, debris, or rubbish, and without limiting the generality of the above, includes any glass, metal, plastic, paper, fabric, wood, food, vegetation, soil, sand, concrete, rocks any other waste material, substance or thing generated by or in connection with building work.
Building	includes any structure or building, whether temporary or permanent, and any part of a building or structure, whether temporary or permanent, and includes any swimming pool or spa.
Building site	means land upon which building work is being carried out or proposed to be carried out.
Building work	means work for or in connection with the construction, renovation, alteration, demolition, repair, relocation or removal of a building in addition to any landscaping or concreting.
Chief Executive Officer	means the Chief Executive Officer of Council and includes any person acting in that position.
Construction period	means the period in which building work is carried out.
Council	means the Mildura Rural City Council.
Council assets	includes drains, footpaths, nature strips, vehicle crossings, gutters, kerbs and channels to the road and any other asset for which Council is responsible for maintenance and or repair.
Council Land	means Land owned by, vested in, leased by, or otherwise occupied by the Council, or under the Council's management or control, which the public may or may not have access to (whether an admittance fee is required or not), and includes any building, structure or fence thereon and every Council sewer or drain.
Land	includes any allotment capable of being disposed of separately.
Municipal district	means the municipal district of the Council.
Owner	in relation to a building means the owner of land on which the building is situated.
Penalty units	has the same meaning as in section 110 of the <i>Sentencing Act 1991</i> .
Refuse facility	means a suitable rubbish receptacle capable of restricting debris and other waste from leaving the building site.
Road	has the meaning ascribed to it in the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> and the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> and includes a road related area as defined in the <i>Road Safety Act 1986</i> as amended from time to time.
Security bond	means a payment made to Council for the purposes of securing public assets and infrastructure from the cost of damage during building work.
Stormwater system	means stormwater system which provides for the conveyance of stormwater run-off including kerb and channel, open channels, underground pipe systems and natural waterways.

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 Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.5 – 2022

<p>Temporary vehicle crossing</p>	<p>means a crossing that extends from the boundary of a property over any public assets, such as footpaths, nature strips, kerbs and channels to the road, and which is designed to prevent damage to the assets caused by motor vehicles and materials entering and leaving the property during the currency of building work.</p>
<p>Vehicle crossing</p>	<p>means the constructed surface between the road pavement to the property boundary for vehicle access, including any Footpath section, crossing culverts, kerb and channel or layback.</p>

Part 2 Asset Protection

7. Asset Protection

Asset Protection Permit

- 1) A person must not, without an Asset Protection Permit, remove, destroy, damage or interfere with, or cause, suffer or permit to be removed, damaged or interfered with, any Road, Council Land or other Council asset.
- 2) A builder must ensure that no Council assets are damaged as a result of building work or any work associated or connected with building work including the delivery or removal of any material or the like to or from the building site.
- 3) A person who makes an application for an Asset Protection Permit must:
 - (a) lodge with the Council an application in a form approved by the Council; and
 - (b) pay the application fee.
- 4) The Council may require a person to provide additional information before further considering an application for an Asset Protection Permit.
- 5) An Asset Protection Permit may:
 - (a) allow a person to enter land from a road other than by a permanently constructed vehicle crossing;
 - (b) allow building materials or equipment to be deposited on Council Land or a Road in circumstances where the storage of such materials or equipment on the land containing the building site is not possible or practical; and
 - (c) allow a builder's refuse facility to be placed on land other than the land containing the building site in circumstances where the placement of the builder's refuse facility on the land containing the building site is not possible or practical.
- 6) An Asset Protection Permit may be subject to such conditions as the issuing Authorised Officer determines, including but not limited to:
 - (a) requiring that any or all Council assets damaged be repaired, replaced or reinstated within a specified time and to a specified standard; and/or
 - (b) requiring a temporary vehicle crossing to be installed and maintained for the duration of any building work.
- 7) An Asset Protection Permit expires on the date specified on the permit or, if no date is specified, 12 months after the date of issue unless it is renewed or revoked sooner.

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
 Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.5 – 2022

- 8) A builder must not, without an Asset Protection Permit, allow:
- (a) entry to the building site other than by a pre-existing vehicle crossing; or
 - (b) building material or equipment to be deposited on any land other than the land containing the building site.
- 9) Regardless of whether a building permit had been issued or is required, a builder:
- (a) must notify the Council, in writing, of the proposed building work at least 7 days before building work commences;
 - (b) may provide to the Council written notice of any prior damage to any Council asset or part thereof at least 7 days prior to the commencement of any building work or the delivery of any equipment or building materials;
 - (c) must notify the Council, in writing, immediately on becoming aware of any damage to any Road, Council Land or Council asset as a result of the building work or work associated with the building work, including the delivery or removal of materials or equipment; and
 - (d) must repair, to the satisfaction of the Council, any damaged Council asset that was damaged as a result of the building work or any work associated with the building work, including the delivery or removal of material or equipment.
- 10) In deciding to grant an Asset Protection Permit, the Council may, at any time, require the applicant to provide to it a security bond, the amount of which is to be proportionate to the likely cost of repairing any potential damage to any Council asset.
- 11) The Council may retain so much of the security of the bond as is necessary to offset the costs of repairing any damage to Council assets or remedying any breach of this Local Law or a failure to comply with the conditions of the Asset Protection Permit.
- 12) Upon completion of the building work, or the expiry of an Asset Protection Permit, the Council must, subject to sub-clause (11), refund any remaining amount of the security of the bond to the person who lodged it.
- 13) If the Council is unable to locate a person entitled to a refund under sub-clause (12), the money held by the Council must be dealt with in accordance with the *Unclaimed Money Act 2008*.
- 14) For the purpose of determining whether any damage to a Council asset has been caused in the course of building work, a failure to provide notice under sub-clause (9) identifying specific damage will give rise to a presumption that the specific damage was caused by the builder and was as a result of or associated with the carrying out of building work.
- 15) It is a defence to an offence against subclause (1) for the builder to prove that the specific damage was not caused by, or as a result of, the building work or any work associated with the building work.

Part 3 Stormwater Protection

8. Stormwater Protection

- 1) Where any building work is being carried out on any land, the owner and the builder must ensure that the building site is developed and managed to prevent stormwater pollution through the contamination of run-off by chemicals, sediment, animal wastes or gross pollutants, including measures to:
 - (a) minimise the amount of mud, dirt, sand, soil or stones deposited in the abutting Roads or washed into the stormwater system; and
 - (b) prevent building cleanup, wash down and other wastes being discharged offsite or allowed to enter the stormwater system.

Part 4 Control of Builder's Refuse

9. Containment of Refuse

- 1) Where any building work is being carried out on any land, the builder must:
 - (a) provide a refuse facility for the disposal of builder's refuse that adequately contains all builder's refuse on the building site;
 - (b) ensure the refuse facility remains on the building site (except for such periods as are necessary to empty the refuse facility) for the duration of the building works;
 - (c) not place the refuse facility on any Council Land or Road without an Asset Protection Permit; and
 - (d) empty the refuse facility whenever full and, if necessary, provide a replacement refuse facility.

10. Disposal of Builders Refuse

- 1) During building work the builder must:
 - (a) ensure that all builder's refuse which requires containment is placed in the refuse facility referred to in clause 9;
 - (b) ensure that builder's refuse is not deposited in, over or on any land other than in accordance with clause 9; and
 - (c) not allow any builder's refuse to be deposited in or over any part of the stormwater system.

11. Removal of Builder's Refuse

- 1) On any land where building work is being or has been carried out, the owner and builder must remove and lawfully dispose of all builder's refuse including, without limiting the generality of the above, the builder's refuse in the refuse facility referred to in Clause 9, within 7 days of completion of the building work or issue

of an occupancy permit or certificate of practical completion, whichever occurs first.

- 2) The driver of any vehicle involved in placing or removing builder's refuse facilities must not access the building site other than by way of a vehicle crossing or temporary vehicle crossing.

Part 5 Administration and Enforcement

12. Fees, Charges and Costs

- 1) The Council may from time to time determine the fees and charges payable under this Local Law.
- 2) The Council may waive, reduce or alter any fee, charge, bond, guarantee or payment applying under this Local Law, with or without conditions.

13. Other Local Laws

- 1) Where another Local Law requires a permit or approval in respect of matters for which an Asset Protection Permit can be or has been issued, the Asset Protection Permit is deemed to be the permit or approval required by the other Local Law, and a permit under the other Local Law will not be required.

14. Offences

- 1) It is an offence against this Local Law:
 - (a) To obtain an Asset Protection Permit where one is required;
 - (b) to fail to comply with any condition of an Asset Protection Permit;
 - (c) to fail to comply with any provision of this Local Law;
 - (d) to fail to comply with a Notice to Comply; and
 - (e) to submit incorrect, inaccurate or misleading information in an application for an Asset Protection Permit.

15. Notice to Comply

- 1) Where any person has failed to comply with any requirement of this Local Law or of an Asset Protection Permit, an Authorised Officer may cause to be served on the person a Notice to Comply in the form of Schedule 1 to this Local Law.
- 2) A Notice to Comply, issued in accordance with this Clause 15, must:
 - (a) identify the contravention or non-compliance to be remedied;
 - (b) contain directions stating the action required to remedy the contravention or non-compliance; and
 - (c) specify the date and time by which the contravention or non-compliance must be remedied.
- 3) The time and date by which an action must be taken under a Notice to Comply must be reasonable in the circumstances and what will be reasonable will vary depending on the matters to be remedied, but should take into account, if applicable:
 - (a) the amount of work involved;
 - (b) the degree of difficulty to carry out the work;
 - (c) the availability of necessary materials or other necessary items;
 - (d) climatic conditions;
 - (e) the degree of risk or potential risk;
 - (f) the response if any by the person to be served with the Notice to Comply; and
 - (g) any other relevant matter.
- 4) An owner, builder or any person served with a Notice to Comply may make representations to Council about the matters contained in the Notice to Comply.
- 5) The making of representations under sub-clause (4) does not stay the operation of the Notice to Comply.

16. Power to Act in Urgent Circumstances

- 1) An Authorised Officer may, in urgent circumstances arising as a result of another person's failure to comply with this Local Law, take action to remove, remedy or rectify a situation without the necessity to serve a Notice to Comply provided:
 - (a) he or she determines the circumstances are, or situation is, urgent and that the time involved or difficulties associated with serving a Notice to Comply may place a person, animal, property or the environment at risk or in danger;
 - (b) the Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, approves the proposed action;
 - (c) details of the circumstances and remedying action are, as soon as possible, forwarded to the person on whose behalf the action was taken; and
 - (d) the Council is advised as soon as practicable of the action taken.
- 2) The action taken by an Authorised Officer under this Clause 16 must not extend

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.5 – 2022

beyond what is necessary to cause the immediate abatement of the risk or danger involved.

17. Penalties

- 1) The maximum penalty an offence against this Local Law is 10 penalty units for the first offence and 20 penalty units for a second or subsequent offence.
- 2) In addition to any penalty imposed pursuant to this Local Law, a penalty not exceeding 2 penalty units will apply for each day that a contravention of this Local Law continues after a finding of guilt or conviction for an offence against it.
- 3) An infringement notice may be issued under Clause 18 as an alternative to prosecution for an offence against this Local Law.

18. Infringement Notices

- 1) Where an Authorised Officer has reason to believe that a person is guilty of an offence against this Local Law, the Authorised Officer may serve on that person an infringement notice.
- 2) The penalty fixed for an infringement notice under this Local Law is 2 penalty units.

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.5 – 2022

Local Law No 5 of the Mildura Rural City Council

Schedule No.1

Notice to Comply

To: (Name) _____

(Address) _____

The following constitutes a breach under Clause..... of the Council's Local Law No 5

To remedy the breach you must carry out the following work, by _____

_____ Date (and time if desired)

Work to be undertaken

You should contact _____ (contact officer) at the Municipal Offices, between the hours of 8.30am and 5pm for any further information about this Notice.

If you fail to comply with this Notice you will be guilty of an offence and liable for payment of the penalty of \$ For the first/second* or subsequent offence and the Council will process to carry out the work and you will be liable for the costs of carrying out that work.

Date (insert date)

(Name of council officer) _____

Telephone No. _____

(Signature of council officer) _____

*strike out whichever is not applicable

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.5 – 2022

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MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.5 – 2022

[8733864:35494503_1]

MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL
Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law No.[5]



Mildura Rural City Council

APPLICATION FORM ASSET PROTECTION PERMIT

Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____ Contact Name: _____

Property Address at which building works are to be undertaken:

Street No: _____ Lot No: _____

Street Name: _____ Suburb: _____

Builder's Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No: _____ Fax: _____ Mobile: _____

Type of Construction: _____

e.g New Dwelling, Residential Additions, House Demolition/Removal, Unit/ Commercial Development

Permit required for: temporary vehicle crossing/building materials-equipment outside
allotment/refuse facility outside allotment

Signature of Builder: _____ Date: _____

Payee Name: _____

Asset Protection Permit	\$ _____
Security Deposit	\$ _____
Total Payable	\$ _____

NOTES:

Any damage attributed to removal/demolition or construction works which is not reinstated at the end of the building process will be carried out at the owner's expense and withdrawn from the security deposit and the balance refunded.

Council Local Law No. [5] requires building works are not to commence prior to the issue of this permit. Failure to comply with the Local Law may result in a fine.



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Solicitor’s Certificate – Section 74(1) *Local Government Act 2020*

Mildura Rural City Council
Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local
Law – Local Law No. 5

The Mildura Rural City Council (**Council**) is proposing to make Protection of Council Assets and Control of Building Sites Local Law – Local Law No. 5 (**proposed Local Law**).

I have been asked to provide a certificate under s 74(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (**Act**) in respect of the proposed Local Law.

In accordance with s 74(1) of the Act, I have assessed the proposed Local Law for consistency with the local law requirements, as outlined in the following table.

Local Law Requirement	Consistent
A local law must not be inconsistent with any Act (including the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i>) or regulations.	Yes. As at the date of this certificate, the proposed Local Law does not overlap or conflict with, or duplicate, existing legislation. The proposed Local Law is therefore not inconsistent with any Act or regulations, nor with respect to the <i>Sex Work Decriminalisation Act 2022</i> does it undermine the objectives of that Act. The proposed Local Law has been reviewed for compatibility with the <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</i> (Charter). The proposed Local Law engages a number of rights, including the right to not be deprived of their property (see cls 7(11) and (13)). Each of these matters has been assessed and it has been determined that each limit, if any, is proportionate and can be demonstrably justified taking into account the matters set out in s 7 of the Charter. The proposed Local Law, having been reviewed for compatibility with the Charter, is therefore considered to be compatible with the Charter.
A local law must not duplicate or be inconsistent with a planning scheme that is in force in the municipal district.	Yes. The proposed Local Law is drafted so as not to operate where it concerns matters which are otherwise addressed under the Mildura Planning Scheme.
A local law for or with respect to the issuing of film permits must not be inconsistent with the film friendly principles.	Yes. Not applicable – the proposed Local Law does not address film permits.
A local law must not exceed the power to make local laws conferred by this Act or any other authorising Act.	Yes. I consider the activities sought to be regulated by the proposed Local Law to be matters for or with respect to which Council has a function or power under the Act and other Acts. The proposed Local Law is therefore consistent with, and does not exceed, the scope of Council’s powers to make Local Laws under the Act.

[8733864:35839030_1]



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Local Law Requirement	Consistent
<p>A local law must be consistent with the objectives of this Act or any other authorising Act.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>I consider the activities sought to be regulated by the proposed Local Law to be matters of municipal concern and matters that have been reasonably understood to be within the province of municipal government because they affect the safety, amenity, welfare and good government of the municipal district and its inhabitants and are consistent with the overarching governance principles set out in section 9 of the Act.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law furthers the objects of accountable, transparent, collaborative and efficient operations of Council in a manner that engages with the municipal community and its needs.</p>
<p>A local law must be expressed as clearly and unambiguously as is reasonably possible.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law is as clear and unambiguous as is reasonably possible. The purpose of each of its provisions and the means adopted to implement the purpose is discernible from the provision itself.</p> <p>This certificate has not sought to interrogate Council as to whether the purpose of each of the proposed Local Law provisions as drafted, and the manner in which the proposed Local Law seeks to implement those purposes, is as Council had intended them to be when enacting the proposed Local Law. This certificate assumes that Council is aware of the purpose behind each provision and has familiarised itself with, and accepts the manner in which, that purpose is implemented by the Local Law.</p>
<p>Unless there is clear and express power to do so under this Act or any other authorising Act, a local law must not—</p> <p>(i) seek to have a retrospective effect; or</p> <p>(ii) impose any tax, fee, fine, imprisonment or other penalty; or</p> <p>(iii) authorise the sub-delegation of powers delegated under the local law.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The proposed Local Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not seek to have retrospective effect; • makes provision for the imposition of penalties in respect of offences that are created, which penalties are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ consistent with s 79 of the Act; ○ similar in nature when compared to like councils; and ○ sufficient to act as a deterrent for most offences while also reflecting the seriousness of those offences; • makes provision for the setting and imposition of fees in a manner that is consistent with s 77 of the Act; and • does not authorise the sub-delegation of any powers.
<p>A local law must comply with any details prescribed in the regulations relating to the preparation and content of local laws.</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>No regulations relating to the preparation and content of local laws have, at the time of preparing this certification, been made.</p>



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This certificate is only valid as at the date below. I cannot predict what may occur in future with respect to:

- a) amendments to the proposed Local Law that Council may make;
- b) other legislation that may be made or amended which brings the proposed Local Law into conflict or which overlaps with the proposed Local Law (including future regulations);
- c) a decision of a Superior Court which fundamentally changes the accepted principles or precedent regarding the inconsistency of laws;
- d) amendments to the Mildura Planning Scheme which bring the proposed Local Law into conflict or which overlaps with the proposed Local Law; or
- e) the manner in which Council administers or makes decisions with respect to the granting of permits or exemptions under the proposed Local Law which may bring the proposed Local Law into conflict with other legislation.

I, Kate Emily Oliver, Partner at Maddocks, certify that I:

- am an Australian lawyer who has been admitted to the legal profession for at least 5 years;
- am not a Councillor of Council;
- have reviewed the proposed Local Law against the local law requirements; and
- am of the opinion that the proposed Local Law is consistent with the local law requirements set out in s 72 of the Act.

Signed by Kate Oliver
in Victoria on 6 December 2022

)
)
)

14.10 ADOPTION OF TOURISM SIGNAGE AUDIT, REVIEW AND STRATEGY

File Number: 2122/2568
Officer: Acting General Manager Development

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Draft Tourism Signage Audit, Review and Strategy to Councillors.

2. Recommendation

That Council adopts the Tourism Signage Audit, Review and Strategy.

3. Background

Tourism Signage consultants, Wayfound were appointed in January 2022 to complete the following scope of work, with the intent to develop a clear strategic direction for the enhancement of tourism signage throughout the Mildura LGA:

- Complete a tourism signage review and audit against Australian standards
- Deliver a report detailing outcomes and providing relevant assessments and recommendations
- Highlight opportunities to improve directional and tourism signage
- Highlight opportunities to improve visitor and local navigation and experience
- Assess/benchmark the LGA against similar LGA's
- Review existing signage application guidelines and provide recommendations for development of updated guidelines

4. Consultation Proposed/Undertaken

Development of the Draft Strategy has been done in consultation with over 40 tourism-related businesses, community representative groups, an internal Project Working Group and a period of internal review.

Following this initial consultation phase, the draft strategy was progressed through Council Forum and put out for public exhibition for a period of three weeks. During this public exhibition period there were several comments received (see attached), all positive and supportive not requiring amendments or ideas/requests that will be actioned in the roll out of the strategy.

5. Discussion

The draft Tourism Signage Audit, Review and Strategy addresses key actions over a five-year period. Actions within the strategy identify priorities that have not been recently addressed and provides the framework for Council to make decisions on the location and style of all future tourism signage and wayfinding in the Mildura Region. The Strategy contains clear guidelines for developing policies and processes that assist in implementing a suite of distinctive, innovative, and consistent tourism signage and supports the achievement of Council’s strategic tourism goals.

Having now completed the audit and relevant assessments, our existing tourism signage has been rated as ‘fair’. Some key assessments highlighted include instances of:

- Inconsistently applied signage and self-instigated signage by local businesses
- Recurring instances of faded/damaged signage
- Entry signs that are uninspiring and in poor condition
- Lack of developed signage policy and guidelines
- Opportunities for consolidation of signage, removal of obsolete signage and installation of signage that has been overlooked
- Enhancement opportunities for destination and event branding
- Development and management of a tourism-signage asset register for circa 700 signs

This piece of work provides Council with a clear outline of opportunities for delivering considered upgrades and provides guidance of responsibilities for associated costs and maintenance related to tourism signage (both Council and private business associated costs).

Should the strategy be endorsed, initial rollout is expected to formally commence in the 2023/24 financial year (subject to budget allocation), however opportunities existing prior to then to make early gains on some priority/quick-win opportunities. These include:

- Develop Council’s signage policy + application guidelines
- Continue and elevate work with community groups to develop Town Entry Statements (using existing plans)
- Use existing available project funds (circa \$90,000) to remove obsolete signage and replace all relevant high visibility/high priority signage requiring upgrades

The ongoing management and delivery of the Tourism Signage Strategy will be cross-departmental, requiring centralised project management from the Events and Projects Team for updates and reporting purposes.

6. Time Frame

Phase/Task	Due Date
Council Meeting – Endorsement of Strategy	December 2022
Project Inception	February – May 2023 (TBC)

7. Strategic Plan Links

This report relates to the Council Plan 2021-2025 in the Strategic Direction:

Place

Outcome to be achieved:

- Adequate and sustainable infrastructure to meet future demand

Economy

Outcome to be achieved:

- A valued and vibrant tourism industry and recognised visitor destination

8. Asset Management Policy/Plan Alignment

The adoption of this strategy will require future considerations around Council's asset management policy in regard to tourism-related signage.

9. Implications

Policy

This strategy recommends the development of a tourism signage policy and guidelines for application.

Legal/Statutory

Legal/planning considerations may be required at various stages of the strategy rollout, particularly when:

- Reviewing locations of tourism-related signage
- Removing non-compliant tourism signage provided by private businesses
- Assessing qualifying criteria for tourism-related signage
- Making assessments on Department of Transport (formerly VicRoads) roads

Financial

Many of the recommendations requiring financial commitments to progress actions already have budget embedded in operational budgets. Availability of funds and resources will result in implementations being rolled out progressively. Council will look to seek additional funding opportunities should they arise to implement the strategy where budgets do not allow.

Environmental

Environmental considerations are limited and should be considered when assessing/advancing individual implementations.

Social

Provides a range of social enhancements for the region as well as specific townships. These include increasing the overall visual appeal of the region and increasing overall town pride.

Economic

This strategy is designed to support the economic uplift for the region, enhancing the overall offer to visitors and promoting in-region visitation to increase length of stay and dispersity of travel throughout the LGA.

10. Risk Assessment

By adopting the recommendation, Council will be exposed to the following risks:

Risks	Controls	Residual Risk
Delivery Risks- Some actions require a financial commitment.	Actions with costs outside of operational budget are longer term, providing time to identify funding options and opportunities	Medium
Business/Public Sentiment Risk –public sentiment risk if Council were to aggressively pursue the removal of privately installed tourism-related signage.	Consultation process clearly outlined when identifying and removing signage not meeting criteria	Low

11. Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared during the preparation of this report.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) MRCC Tourism Signage Strategy - Wayfound - October 2022
- 2 [↓](#) Public Exhibition Feedback - Tourism Signage Strategy - November 2022
- 3 [↓](#) Tourism Signage - Public Feedback - Sunraysia Residents Association - November 2022



**Tourism signage audit,
review & strategy**

Submitted to:



Mildura Rural City Council

October 2022 - V6.0

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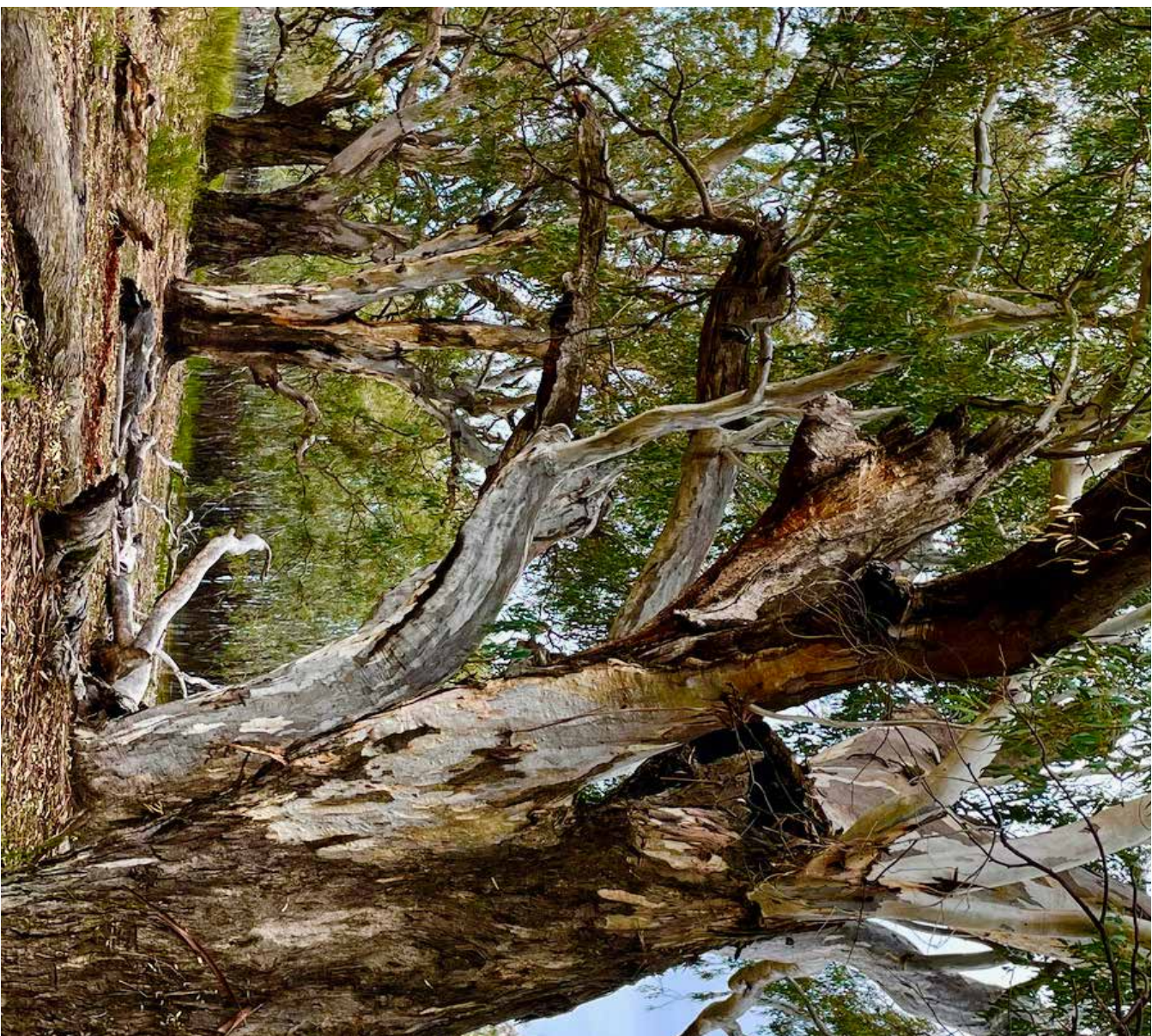
Mildura Rural City Council - Tourism, Signage Audit, Review Strategy | V6.0 2

DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **Promotional billboards** Promotional billboards are used in tourism for destination marketing. This type of advertising is often found strategically positioned along roadsides. The object of the roadside promotional billboard is to spark or prompt a spontaneous decision during a traveller's current trip. The signage basically helps them to 'exit and experience'. The promotional message is used to remind and reinforce, keep a destination or attraction in the mind, increasing brand awareness over time and influencing future decisions.
- **LGA Entry Statements** mark and define the entry to the LGA. Well designed, high quality boundary signs do more than define a geographic region. Entry statements can grow tourism, attract investment and even become a destination on their own right. They convey the vibrancy of the local culture and maintain a strong harmony with the surrounding environment.
- **Town entry statements** capture a sense of arrival, beautify the entry point and help to establish the identity of the city or town for tourists and local residents alike. Effective gateway signage has a positive impact on local economic development and tourism.
- **Visitor Information Boards** are usually installed at rest areas and in-town stopping points. They provide information that helps with wayfinding and orientation (eg: contain maps of the area), attractions and features, visitor information services, and services, facilities and amenities available in the area.
- **Temporary/Event Banners & signs** are temporary promotional signs and banners that are used to highlight events and activities but are not permanent signs.
- **Interpretive Panels** provide information about attractions, historic sites, lookouts, etc. and can be arranged single signs or groups of signs.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

MRCC	Mildura Rural City Council
DOT	Department of Transport (VIC)
MRD	Mildura Regional Development
MCH	Mildura City Heart
MRTB	Murray Regional Tourism
NTSRG	National Tourism Signing Reference Group
CTRG	The Chaffey Trail Reference Group
RCFG	Red Cliffs Focus Group
AS	Australian Standard
CBD	Central Business District
RV	Recreational Vehicle
VIB	Visitor Information Bay
VIC	Visitor Information Centre



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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND



Mildura Rural City Council

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) commissioned tourism signage consultancy Wayfound to develop a whole of destination integrated tourism wayfinding and signage strategy (the Strategy). The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that current and future signage facilitates safe and positive journeys and enhances the dispersal of visitors and their connection with the people and the places of Mildura Region.

The strategy will be delivered in the following stages;

1. Pre-visit research and project planning.
2. Entire MRCC tourism signage audit and stakeholder engagement.
3. Benchmarking MRCC against other regional LGA's.
4. Development and delivery of the completed signage strategy.

MRCC is located in the north west corner of Victoria and borders both South Australia and New South Wales. It is the main crossroad for most visitors travelling between these three states. MRCC recognises the value of the tourism sector with tourism contributing \$308 million to the local economy. To better leverage this section of the economy MRCC has commissioned a number of projects to get a better understanding of its tourism demographics and strategies to to grow the sector. These strategies include:

1. Mildura Regional Development Business Plan 2020-2021
2. Mildura CBD Plan 2020 - 2035
3. Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024

4. Visitor Servicing Strategy 2021 - 2025
 5. Mildura RV, Caravan & Camping Strategy (draft)
- Almost all of these strategies make some mention of improving signage with the draft Mildura RV, Caravan & Camping Strategy clearly defining the improvement of visitor signage as a key part of this strategy.

Tourism signage is an extremely important element of any destination's branding, marketing and visitor information strategies. Signage is critically important to presenting a consistent tourism experience and to retaining and dispersing visitors throughout the Mildura Region. Signage also provides opportunities to raise awareness of the area's attractions and features and encourage people to stop and visit. The existing tourism related signage in the Mildura Region does not enhance the visitor experience or adequately direct visitors to the area's many attractions.

The Strategy forms part of a suite of initiatives by MRCC to encourage visitors to stop, extend their length of stay and increase expenditure in the Mildura Region.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE STRATEGY?

The Strategy is limited to addressing the wayfinding and tourism-related signage needed for visitors who are travelling in vehicles to find their way safely and efficiently to the tourism destinations, attractions and major sporting facilities within Mildura Region.

It does not pertain to pedestrian wayfinding, signage once at the destination/attraction, private/commercial signs, business identification signs, town/village signs (other than entry signs), public facilities signs, cycling or walking trails or advertising.

Signage is critically important to presenting a consistent tourism experience and to retaining and dispersing visitors throughout the Local Government Area.



Old timber directional sign on the Calder Hwy near Mittyack



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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

1.2 WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?

The Strategy provides the framework for Council to make decisions on the location and style of all future tourism signage and wayfinding in the Mildura Region. The Strategy contains clear guidelines for developing a suite of distinctive, innovative and consistent tourism signage and supports the achievement of Council's strategic tourism goals. It gives direction for choosing the right signage for the particular circumstance, for locating signs and for further development of signage policies and processes. Priorities for action and an implementation plan are also included. It has a number of objectives which are to:

- Improve how visitors are made aware of, and guided to, the diverse experiences, attractions and tourism services across the Mildura Region and its towns and villages.
- Improve access to the Mildura Region and its destinations, particularly those with tours, products and experiences that visitors can enjoy.
- Enhance the visitor experience and the amenity of the community.
- Enhance the image of the Mildura Region as a tourism destination by encouraging consistent themes and innovative and distinctive signage across the Council.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Engaging and informing the community, particularly stakeholders involved in tourism-related activities and businesses, was a key component of developing the Strategy. Their feedback and input has been considered and incorporated into this strategy and its recommendations.

In May 2022, MRCC invited stakeholders for local community groups, tourism businesses and government agencies to participate in a series of community workshops held in Mildura and Red Cliffs.

Wayfound also made itself available to work with individual stakeholders who could not make the community workshop

STAKEHOLDER SESSIONS

Who	When
Visitor Information Centre Staff	Monday 16 May,
Mildura Visitor Information Centre	3-3:30pm - 4:30pm
Community Consultation - Session 1	Monday 16 May, 5:00pm - 6:30pm
Community Consultation - Session 2	Tuesday 17 May 3:30pm - 6:30pm
Red Cliffs Focus Group	Thursday 17 May 5-15pm - 7:15pm
Mildura Regional Development	Friday 18 May 1:00pm - 2:00pm
Further Community Consultations	Friday 17th June (phone)
Project Working Group	Ongoing

Engaging and informing the community was a key component of developing the Strategy.

STAGE 01

Review of previous reports and documents

- Mildura Regional Development Business Plan 2020-2021
- Mildura CBD Plan 2020 - 2035
- Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024
- Visitor Servicing Strategy 2021 - 2025
- Mildura RV, Caravan & Camping Strategy (draft)
- Local, State (Vic Roads, Dept of Transport) and relevant national tourism signage guidelines and standards, e.g. NTSRG.
- Best practice principles and guidelines for tourism wayfinding signage.

STAGE 02

Site visits

- Site visits to audit all tourist signage, identify and document tourism signage issues and opportunities throughout the Mildura Region.

STAGE 03

Community & stakeholder consultation

- Meeting with tourism and business operators and associations (see table on this page).
- Internal meetings with Council staff involved in tourism, traffic management and infrastructure development.

STAGE 04

Development of the Strategy

- Based on consultation, research, signage best practice and signage data.
- Consideration of submissions received by Council before deciding whether to adopt the Strategy.



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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

1.3 ABOUT MILDURA RURAL CITY COUNCIL

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) is located in the north-western corner of Victoria. The MRCC covers an area of 22,083 square kilometres (8,526 sq mi) and is largest LGA in Victoria. MRCC's population is expected to reach 93,000 by mid 2022. The city of Mildura is the main population centre and its seat of local government and administrative centre. Other towns in the shire include Merbein, Red Cliffs, Irymple, Ouyen, Werrimull, Murrayville, Walpeup and Underbool. MRCC was formed in 1995 with the amalgamation of the City of Mildura, Shire of Mildura and Shire of Walpeup.

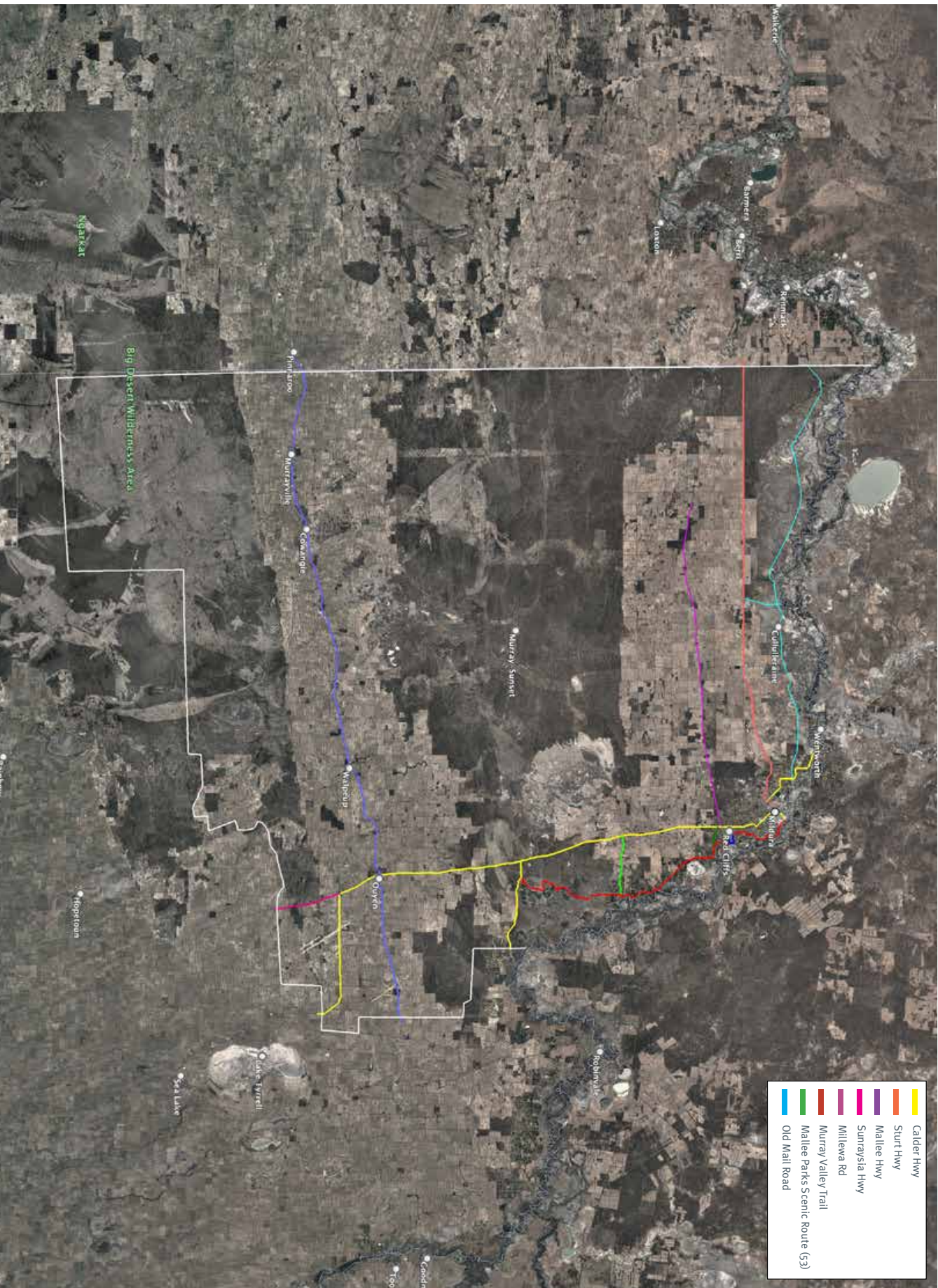
The MRCC covers most of the Mallee region of Victoria with Murray-Sunset National Park covering almost a third of the LGA area. Other protected areas include Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, Big Desert Wilderness Area and Murray-Kulkyne Park on the Murray River. The southeast of the LGA is used primarily for broad acre grain growing. In the north irrigated fruit growing (primarily citrus, grapes and almonds) is highly productive and supports Mildura and nearby towns.

MAIN ROUTES INTO THE LGA

The main arterial routes through the MRCC is the Calder Hwy (north-south 147Kms), the Mallee Hwy (east-west 173Kms) and Sturt Hwy (east-west 113Kms). Other routes include parts of the Sunraysia Hwy and the Hattah-Robinvale Rd (23Km) It takes roughly 1.5 hours to travel the Calder Hwy from the southern boundary near the locality of Mittyack to the northern LGA boundary at the Abbotstford Bridge at Curlewaa.

Tourist routes through the region include the Mallee Parks Scenic Route (G3) and the Murray Valley Trail.

Current vehicle trip times to Mildura from Melbourne is 6.0 hrs (542 Kms), from Adelaide 4.15hrs (397Kms) and 10.5 hrs (1015Kms) from Sydney.



Major roads within in Mildura Rural City Council



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE



SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.1 TYPES OF TOURISM SIGNAGE

This section provides information about the purpose of tourism signage, best practice for wayfinding, signage design and relevant policies and standards for signage. The roles and responsibilities of Vic Roads and the Victorian Department of Transport in determining signage eligibility, priorities and guidelines are also explained. This information is provided because it has been used in the formulation of this Strategy and provides the decision-making process by these regulatory authorities.

Road Signage

Road signs are primarily for wayfinding to destinations and attractions and are subject to specific guidelines and standards. These signs are explained further in Section 3 of this Strategy.



Destination Signage

Destination signage supports the tourism road signage and, while being subject to the policy requirements of the relevant road authority, can be designed to reflect the area's unique character and tourism branding. They usually have a standard design, layout, materials and construction to create a seamless journey and enhance the visitor experience. They should be placed in similar locations at sites so that visitors understand where to look for information. These signs are explained further in Section 4 of this Strategy. (Refer to Definition of Terms Page 3)



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.2 THE PURPOSE OF TOURISM SIGNAGE

Tourist signs are an important part of creating a visitor-friendly destination and defining the community's image.

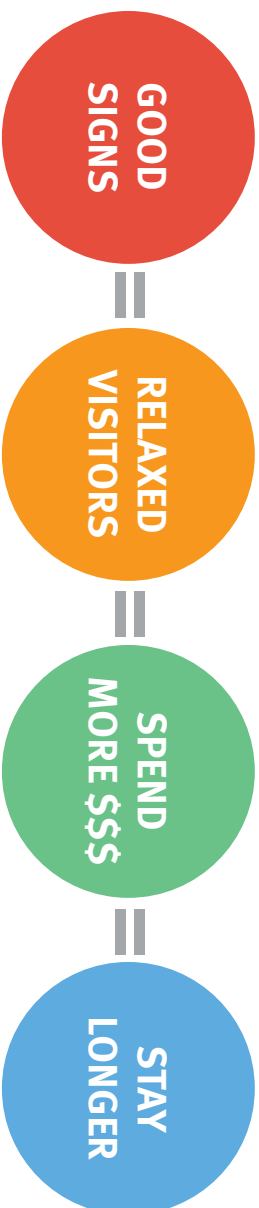
To achieve this, tourist signs have a range of functions that need to be considered in their design and planning including:

The two main purposes of tourism signs are to:

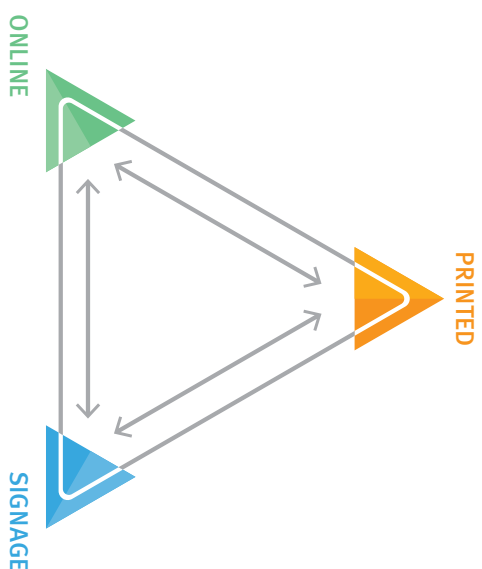
- 01** Safely and efficiently guide visitors to their destination.
- 02** Inform visitors of the range of attractions and services available at a destination.

- Giving advance notice of experiences and services, particularly where a change in direction is required.
- Giving immediate notice of an attraction or service and facilitating safe access.
- Directing visitors to sources of tourist information (eg. visitor centres, information bays and interpretative centres).
- Reassuring visitors that they are traveling in the right direction.

When visitors know where to find the services and experiences they are looking for, they can focus more on enjoying the experience and less on worrying about how to get there and even worse, how to get back to where they came from if they get lost.



Effective road signage can mean the difference between visitors stopping to explore a town or attraction, or just driving past.



Signage is only one part of the visitor information system. It is important to understand that signage is only one part of the system that visitors use to learn about a destination and to find their way around. They get information from a variety of sources before and during their visit including online, printed materials, Visitor Information Centres, word of mouth from locals or other visitors, and from road signs.



Mildura Visitor Information Centre is located at the Alfred Deakin Centre. The VIC is currently undergoing a complete refit. From April 2021 through till March 2022 the centres visitation numbers were 85,900.

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.2 THE PURPOSE OF TOURISM SIGNAGE

The underlying approach emphasised in the state and national signage guidelines is always to limit the number of signs approved and installed on the road network. This is to ensure road safety and to minimise clutter. Generally, the maximum number of signs that are allowed to be installed at an intersection is four signs (the maximum number of signs that can be read, understood, and acted upon with safety [depending on length of legends]). This would include a road nameplate, a -green/white- geographic destination sign and up to two tourist or service signs. This policy complies with the Australian standard signposting principles.

The VIC Roads view is that visitors plan their journey in advance and only key services that benefit the wider community should be signed from the Highway. Australian Standard (AS 1742.5:2017) states there are more effective ways for operators to assist people to reach their destination, including providing a clear address and a map on their printed and online materials. Most people now have access to online maps or GPS and this can frequently be used in place of signage if the address is clearly defined.

The National Tourism Signing Reference Group (NTSRG) document, Tourist Signing Rationalisation: A practical guide for road signing practitioners explains that the purpose of tourism signage is NOT to replace marketing and information provided by tourism businesses and destination.

The NTSRG guidelines specify that:

- A directional sign should be the last link in the communication chain between the business (or destination) and their customer.
- Almost all visitors to a destination arrive armed with some level of awareness and information. So, the primary signing need is directional, and not motivational.
- Visitors are initially motivated to visit a town, city or region because of preconceived knowledge about the destination. This may be acquired through a variety of means, but rarely because of road signage.
- Directional and reassurance signs simply confirm that they're heading in the right direction.

Road signing to tourism attractions and services can be a contentious issue for road authorities. The cause of the tension is often the absence of clear, fair and equitable guidelines for the tourism industry. There is also a misperception by many operators that signs are promotional tools.

(source: NTSRG)



National Tourism Signing Reference Group



Typical brown tourist signs in MRCC



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

MRCC SIGNAGE POLICY AND GUIDELINES.

Currently MRCC has no formal signage policy for tourism, services and community signage. There are no guidelines for applying for signage, no formal criteria for who can have signage and what type of signage they can have. This situation can cause problems for council and frustration for businesses applying for signage.

To rectify this the first step is to develop an MRCC signage policy. The purpose of a signage policy is to meet the signage needs of the community, visitors and service businesses whilst still upholding the basic principles of traffic management and road safety, as well as protecting the visual amenity of the Mildura region. Once a policy is developed it can be ratified by council. This will give council officers legal grounds to enforce the removal of non compliant signage.

Once a signage policy has been adopted the next step is the development of a set of guidelines that can direct decisions in what type of signs go where, who can have signs, an application process for tourist and service businesses and community groups applying for signage.

Established guidelines will better deliver:

- A cooperative signage process for Council, the local community, tourism and business operators.
- Improve awareness and access to tourist activities and facilities for visitors to MRCC.
- Ensure a high standard of coordinated and complementary signage and associated infrastructure in future capital works programs.
- Signage acknowledge and celebrate the traditional owners where practical and relevant.
- Ensure directional signs within road reserves are visually acceptable.
- Rationalise signs to minimise the proliferation of signs through co-operation and consultation with the affected sign owner.
- Ensure full cost recovery for applications for Tourist and Community signs.
- Reducing sign proliferation that detracts from the visual amenity of MRCC, and lessens the effectiveness of all signs,
- Ensure compliance with related legislative, guidelines and standards.

- Ensure guidelines and requirements for signs are readily accessible and understandable to the community, council staff and applicants who apply for sign installations.
- Give direction for choosing the right signage for the circumstance and location.

Recommendation

- MRCC to develop a council signage policy, signage guidelines and an application process.
- MRCC to review all council signage to bring them into alignment with this strategy.
- Conduct regular audits of tourist, services and community signs against Council's signage Policy (to be developed) and progressively remove signage that is not compliant.



Example of old and poorly maintained private and illegal directional signage in MRCC



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

There are four main types of road signs used by visitors to find tourist attractions and facilities in Australia. These are:

- Directional signs (white on green)
- Tourist attraction signs (white on brown)
- Services signs (white on blue)
- Community facility signs (white on blue)

These signs are explained in detail in the Vic Roads Traffic Engineering Manual Vol 2/Chapter 11 *Tourist and Services Signs*. The signs are internationally recognised by most visitors, especially when standard universal symbols are used.

VIC ROADS AND COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

Vic Roads is responsible for authorising, installing and removing signs on state roads. These include highways (Calder, Mallee & Sturt) and other major roads with the MRCC region.

MRCC is responsible for installing signage on the remainder of the public road network in its area. Council also installs and maintains some brown and blue signs on the Calder and other highways within urban areas (e.g.: Mildura). However, approval for these signs is still the responsibility of Vic Roads.

APPLYING FOR TOURIST SIGNS

Tourist Attraction and Tourist Accommodation applicants must satisfy the criteria as set out in Vic Roads brochure - *"Tourist Signing Guidelines - Information for Tourism Businesses"*.

To apply for Tourist Attraction and Tourist Accommodation signage within a road reserve applicants should lodge an application with the MRCC officer responsible for tourist signing who will make the initial assessment.

If the attraction or accommodation meets the criteria then applicants can submit a Vic Roads "Tourist Attraction Signing Application Form" which are downloadable from [Vic Roads website](#). Vic Roads will notify council within 14 days that the application has been:

- The application has been approved
 - The application has been rejected
 - The application has been referred to other authorities for consideration.
 - Additional information is required.
- The cost of all signage is to be borne by the applicant.

COORDINATION BETWEEN VIC ROADS AND COUNCIL

As Vic Roads and MRCC control different parts of the road network, it is essential that policies, processes and decisions are aligned and coordinated so that, in practice, signage is consistent and makes sense to the travelling public as they navigate the road network.

Council and Vic Roads must work together closely to ensure signage facilitates connectivity between signage. For example if an attraction is located off a state road, signage on the Calder Highway cannot be approved by Vic Roads until Council has installed signage on the local roads to the attraction.

IMPROVING SIGNAGE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The NTSRG recommends that local government authorities develop a formal structure or committee that assists them to manage all aspects of tourism signage, including identifying requirements and priorities in a collaborative, well-informed way. The committee membership should include:

- A Council officer assigned to manage tourism signage.
- An officer from the Vic Roads who has the authority to assist with tourism signage management and decision-making.
- A representative with expertise in tourism.

Recommendation

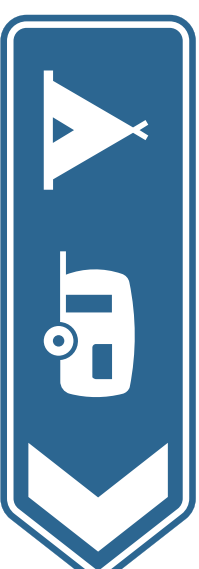
MRCC to establish a formal committee, made up of representatives from MRCC and Mildura Regional Development to manage all aspects of tourism signage within MRCC



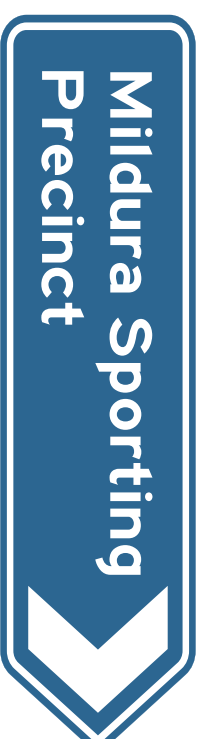
Directional signs (white on green)



Tourist attraction signs (white on brown)



Services signs (white on blue)



Community facility signs (white on blue)



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

LAYOUT/CONTENT

- Tourist signs identify the type of attraction (eg. Historic Site) with a symbol. Major attractions usually also note the name of the attraction.
- The signs typically contain two to three words and use of standard internationally recognised symbols.
- Symbols are generally based on Australian Standard AS 2899.1 – 1986 (Public information symbol signs) and international standard ISO 7001.

THE HIERARCHY OF TOURISM ATTRACTION SIGNS

There is a defined hierarchy (or family) of brown tourist signs that should be used. In their entirety, they create a connectivity from sign to sign, ensuring the visitor's journey to their destination is smooth, safe and efficient.

ELIGIBILITY FOR TOURIST ATTRACTION SIGNS

Types of attractions

- Commercial/non-commercial tourist operations, e.g. wineries;
- National parks;
- Natural features;
- Conservation parks/botanic gardens;
- Historic sites/buildings/towns;
- Scenic lookouts; and
- Tourist drives and trails

Criteria for Tourist Attraction Signage Essential (Vic Roads)

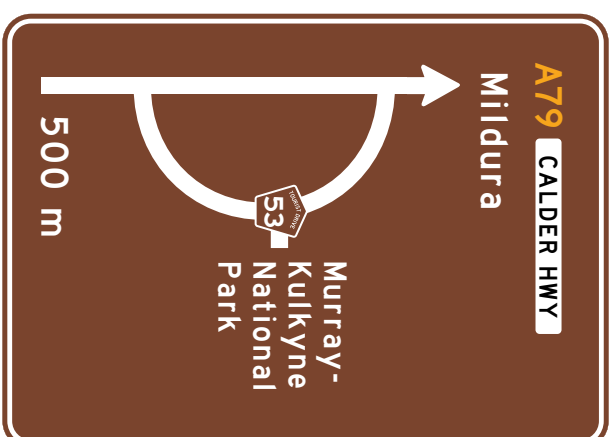
In order to qualify for tourist attraction signage, a tourist attraction (other than a natural feature) must satisfy all of the following essential criteria. The attraction must:

1. Have tourism as a Core Business Activity.
2. Provide a substantive tourism experience in addition to, or as part of, any commercial/retail activity;
3. Have all relevant State and local government licences and approvals to operate as a tourist attraction; including health, planning and parking requirements.
4. Be open to the public without prior booking during the attractions normal opening hours;
5. Be open on weekends and at least three other days of the week, plus public and school holidays;
6. Be open for a minimum of 7 hours per day on the days the attraction is open;
7. Be listed on the database of the nearest accredited Visitor Information Centre (with opening hours, admission prices, location and directions);
8. Promote the location and clear directions to the attraction to visitors from outside the local area;
9. Be appropriately signed within the property line so that it is easily identifiable by passing motorists;
10. Have appropriately trained visitor contact staff; and
11. Maintain a record of visitor numbers and comments.

Desirable

It is also desirable that the attraction:

- Be a member of a recognised Local, Regional or peak sector tourism organisation and/or be accredited under a scheme approved by the Tourism Accreditation Board of Victoria;
- Provides parking for coaches and other large vehicles; and
- Provides parking for disabled visitors.



Diagrammatic advance warning sign



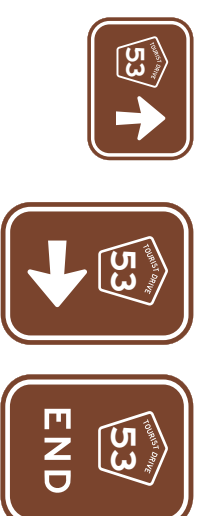
Trailhead/Reassurance sign



Advance warning sign



Positional sign



Tourist Drive trail markers



VicRoads - Tourist signposting manual



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

SIGNAGE TYPES

Advance warning signs

Advanced warning signs are placed prior to a major intersection (White on Green sign) or turn off to a significant tourist attraction (White on Brown sign). These signs are designed to inform motorists of upcoming important intersections. These signs are erected at a distance of 300 to 400 meters if the approach speed is greater than 75km/h and approximately 200 meters if the approach speed is 75km/h or less.

Reassurance signs

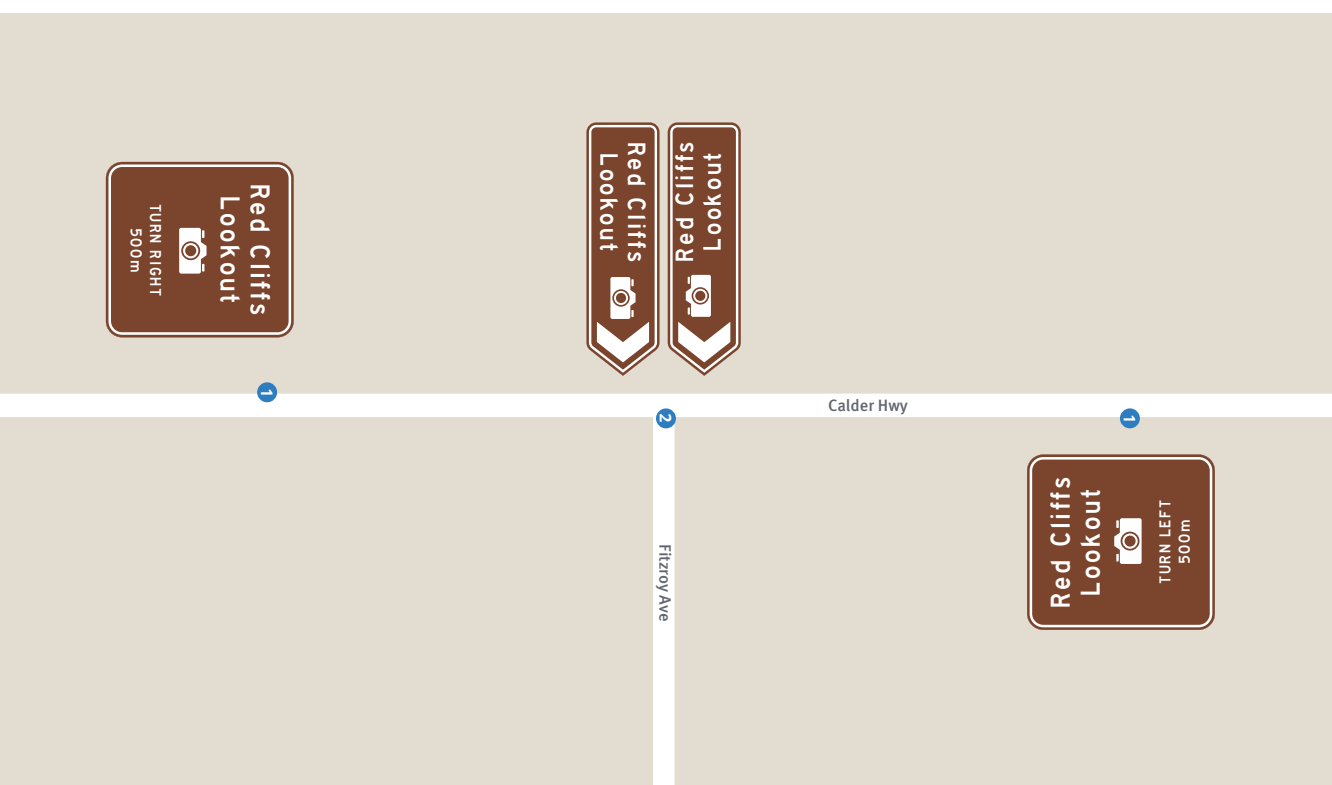
The purpose of reassurance signs are to reassure the motorist that they have turned on to the correct road. Reassurance signs are usually positioned as soon as practicable after the intersection. These signs will have the name and the distance to the town(s) along this route (White on Green). If it is a list of attractions (e.g.: wineries), then the same order applies but the sign is White on Brown (see example on this page) with the closest town or attraction at the top of the list. Reassurance signs are placed as soon as practicable after the intersection, generally 400 meters beyond the intersection in rural areas and 150 – 200 meters in urban areas.

Intersection/positional signs

Intersection signs are generally double sided and positioned adjacent the turning point or intersection. These signs are distinctive by their large white chevron/arrowhead and distance in kilometres to the attraction. Positional signs are like Intersection sign but do not display a distance to the attraction. These signs are used for attractions that are located within 1 kilometre from the turn-off.



Kow Plains road sign application off Mallee Hwy (Top) Advance warning sign, (Middle) Intersection sign, (Bottom) Positional sign



Example of road sign application for a tourist attraction off Calder Hwy (1) Advance warning signs, (2) Intersection signs



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

BLUE SERVICES SIGNS

Blue services signs feature on road signs to forewarn motorists of upcoming services. These can include fuel, accommodation, meals etc. These signs usually feature Australian Standard symbols.

Community facility signs are also white on blue and denote community facilities of a non-commercial nature.

There are two types of signs that fall into this category.

- Hospitals
- Railway and bus stations
- Post Offices
- Tertiary education institutions
- Churches and religious institutions
- Airports
- Shopping centres

SERVICE SIGNS

Services signs have white lettering on a blue background. They use Australian Standards symbols and direct motorists to essential facilities and services that may benefit them.

Service signs are used for:

- Accommodation facilities
- Caravan and camping parks/areas
- Visitor information centres
- Tourist information boards/bays
- Visitor radio services
- Service stations
- Public toilets
- Rest areas
- Parking areas

TOURISM ATTRACTION SIGNS

Tourist attraction signs use white lettering on a brown background. They identify tourist attractions of significant recreational and cultural interest, and may make use of tourist attraction symbols. While there are national standards for Australian Tourist Symbols, each state generally has few additional symbols. This is the case for Victoria which has introduced additional symbols for Food & Produce, Arts & Crafts, Theatre and cross country and downhill skiing.

There were also examples of brown signs being used incorrectly. For example, some community facilities signs in Mildura have brown signs instead of blue signs.

COMMUNITY FACILITY SIGNS

These signs have white lettering on a blue background and denote facilities of a non-commercial nature which are located on side streets (reference page 12). Eligible facilities are restricted to those that are likely to be sought by a significant number of strangers to the area. They may be used by visitors and, in some cases, attract visitors in their own right.

Eligible facilities include:

- Town halls, civic centres and municipal offices
- Municipal depots/tips
- Sporting and recreational grounds/facilities



Australian Standard Symbols

Vic Roads approved tourism symbols



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Directional signs use white lettering on a green background. They provide directions to towns and cities and particular locations. Most include reference to a route numbering system or road name. They reassure motorists that they are traveling in the right direction, and facilitate traffic movement in the safest and most direct way.

Green directional signs are subject to the Austroroads Guides (Guide to Traffic Management) and Australian Standards (AS 1742, 1743 & 2890), which the Vic Roads adopted in 2011 as its primary technical reference for directional signs.



Reassurance

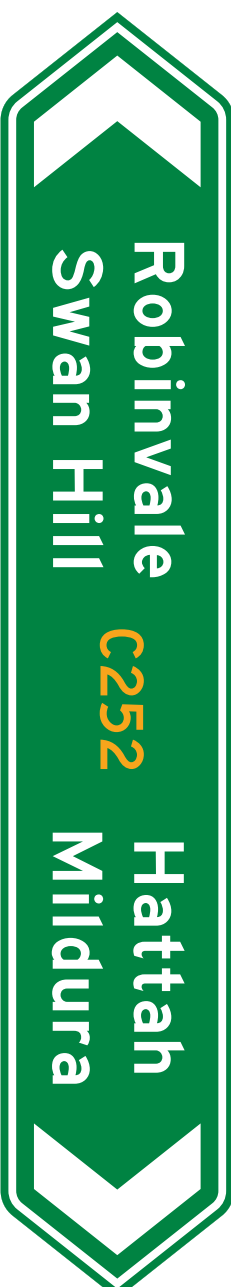


Advance Warning



Positional

Intersection



Intersection

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.4 WAYFINDING PRINCIPLES/GUIDELINES

Wayfinding is about finding one's way and relates to how a person orientates him/herself and navigates through an area or place. A wayfinding system is a unified series of related informational, advisory and directional aids to help visitors travel around successfully, safely and with confidence.

A good wayfinding system aims to answer the following basic questions.

- Where am I?
- How do I get where I want to go?
- What is the quickest route? The safest?
- The most attractive?
- How long will it take or how far is it?
- Where can I find amenities I may need or want, such as toilets, places to rest, places to eat, shopping or places of interest?
- Where can I get help or additional information?

The visitor needs a logical progression of orderly information, which becomes more detailed as they approach their destination.

Best practice for signage design is guided by the need to be coherent, conspicuous, legible and functional.

The principles underpinning MRCC's signage system

Principle	Description
Compliant	Signs must meet required Australian standards and align with available Roads and Maritime Services manuals, guidelines, policies or other guidance.
Clear and functional	Legible, high contrast, easily recognisable, concise, easily understood.
Consider journeys	Logical connection and progression between signs to tourism products and experiences, visible, advance warning, safe, limit the number of signs to the minimum necessary.
Minimal impact to environment and visual amenity	Signs should not clutter the landscape or reduce aesthetic beauty or vistas, signs should be attractive and fit well in the environment. Avoid and minimise impacts to the environment e.g. vegetation.
Design	Designs that incorporate sculpture and art considered where reasonable, feasible and add value.
Acknowledgement of Aboriginal cultural heritage	Local traditional names, designs and languages are incorporated where appropriate and in consultation with Aboriginal communities.
Accessibility	Cater for diverse abilities and languages.
Adaptability	Fit for purpose, adaptable to be easily updated or changed.
Cost-effective	Good quality, durable, easily and locally sourced materials, easily accessed and maintained, low whole of life cost.
Maintenance	Assessment, cleaning and maintenance should be scheduled and completed on a regular basis. Outdated, inconsistent signs or those in poor condition should be replaced or removed.

SIGNAGE PLANNING

Before undertaking any wayfinding signage project it is critical that the entire proposed route is walked/driven and a signage plan is developed for the project.

BEST PRACTICE IN WAYFINDING SIGNAGE DESIGN

Wayfinding signage needs to be coherent, conspicuous, legible and functional.

DESIGN

- Design, colour palettes and style elements should be locally meaningful and universally appealing.
- Sign background and lettering colours should be high contrast.
- Colours should be chosen to stand-out from the surroundings.
- Clear, legible typefaces that are large enough to be seen at a distance should be used. Title-case is usually the most legible.
- A limited, easily recognisable and consistent palette of symbols and pictograms should be used throughout.

CONTENT

- Signs should be uncluttered – using the minimum amount of information and text possible.
- Only major landmarks/attractions should be included with detailed interpretation panels provided at sites.
- Terminology should be concise, easily understandable and unabbreviated.
- Information should be provided in different formats to cater to a wide range of user abilities and limitations (such as non-English speakers and people with disabilities).

LOCATION

- Sign location should be decided by documenting trip origin points, destination points, circulation pathways, decision making points and sight lines.
- Information signs should be in logical places where people might expect to find them to be – e.g.: outside of train or bus stations or the visitor information centre.
- Signs should not be obstructed by other signs.
- Point in the right direction.
- Be consistently located so pedestrians know where to expect them throughout the journey.

FUNCTION

- Wayfinding systems generally consist of combinations of signs – Information panels, navigation and orientation.
- Sign design and materials are durable, flexible and adaptable to accommodate changes or future requirements.
- Signage fits the environment well – striking the balance between being obvious but not jarring.
- Has a combination of whole journey information and segmented or sequential information.

By following these practices it is possible to implement a comprehensive wayfinding system for almost every application.



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.5 SIGNAGE PLACEMENT

DECISION MAKING POINTS (EXAMPLE)

One of the most important steps in signage planning is understanding where the decision making points are. Decision making points are where the navigator must make a wayfinding decision (for example, whether to continue along the current route or to change direction). It is important that signage is placed at these points giving navigators ample time to process the message and make the required directional decision. The higher the speed limit, the more time is required for decision making. At highway speeds a minimum of 300m is required.



Correct decision making point scheme



Incorrect decision making point scheme



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SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.6 SIGNAGE CONSOLIDATION

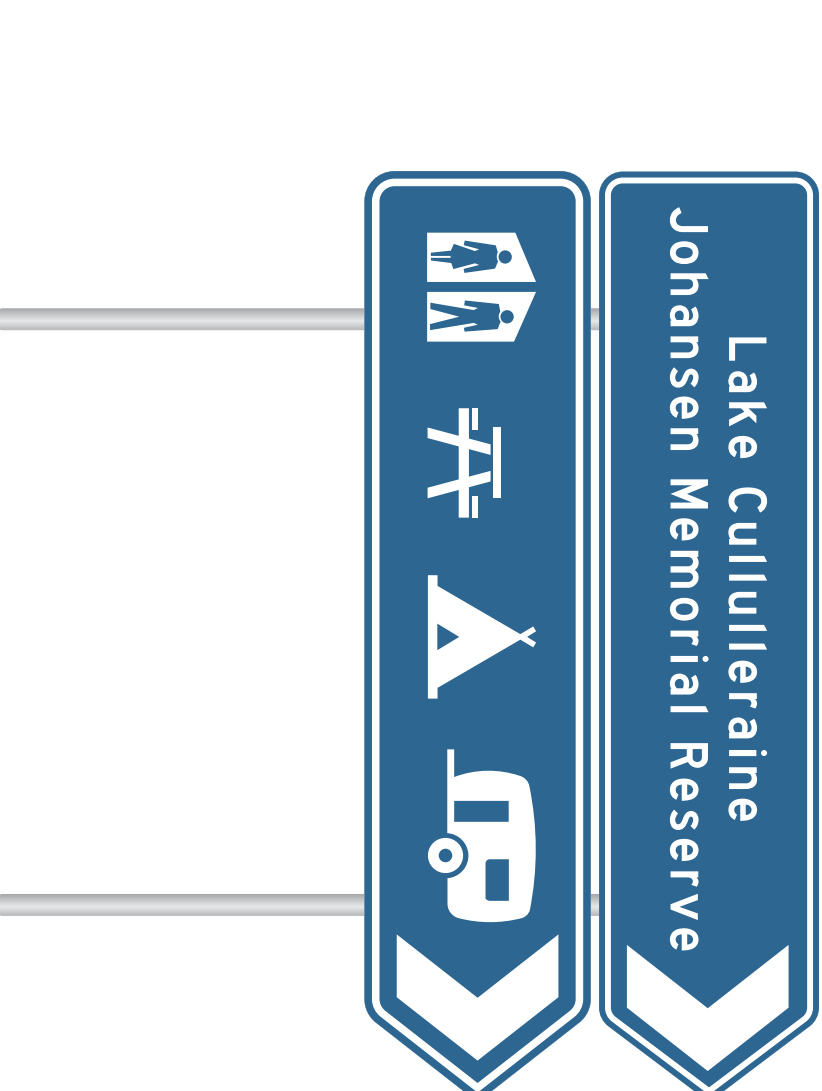
When undertaking a signage plan it is also important to see where the new signs can be consolidated with existing sign messages to create one sign. Too often sign clusters are continually added, creating a totem pole effect. When too many signs are added, there are too many competing messages and the intent is lost.

TIME DELAYS & FRUSTRATION CAUSED BY POOR WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

Poor wayfinding signage can result in time delays, frustration and loss of enjoyment. It takes about 15 minutes every time you need to stop, check directions, consult maps and look for signs. This can turn what is supposed to be an enjoyable visit into a frustrating experience taking far longer than it should.



Existing sign cluster



EXAMPLE - Consolidated signage suggested for Lake Cullulleraine



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

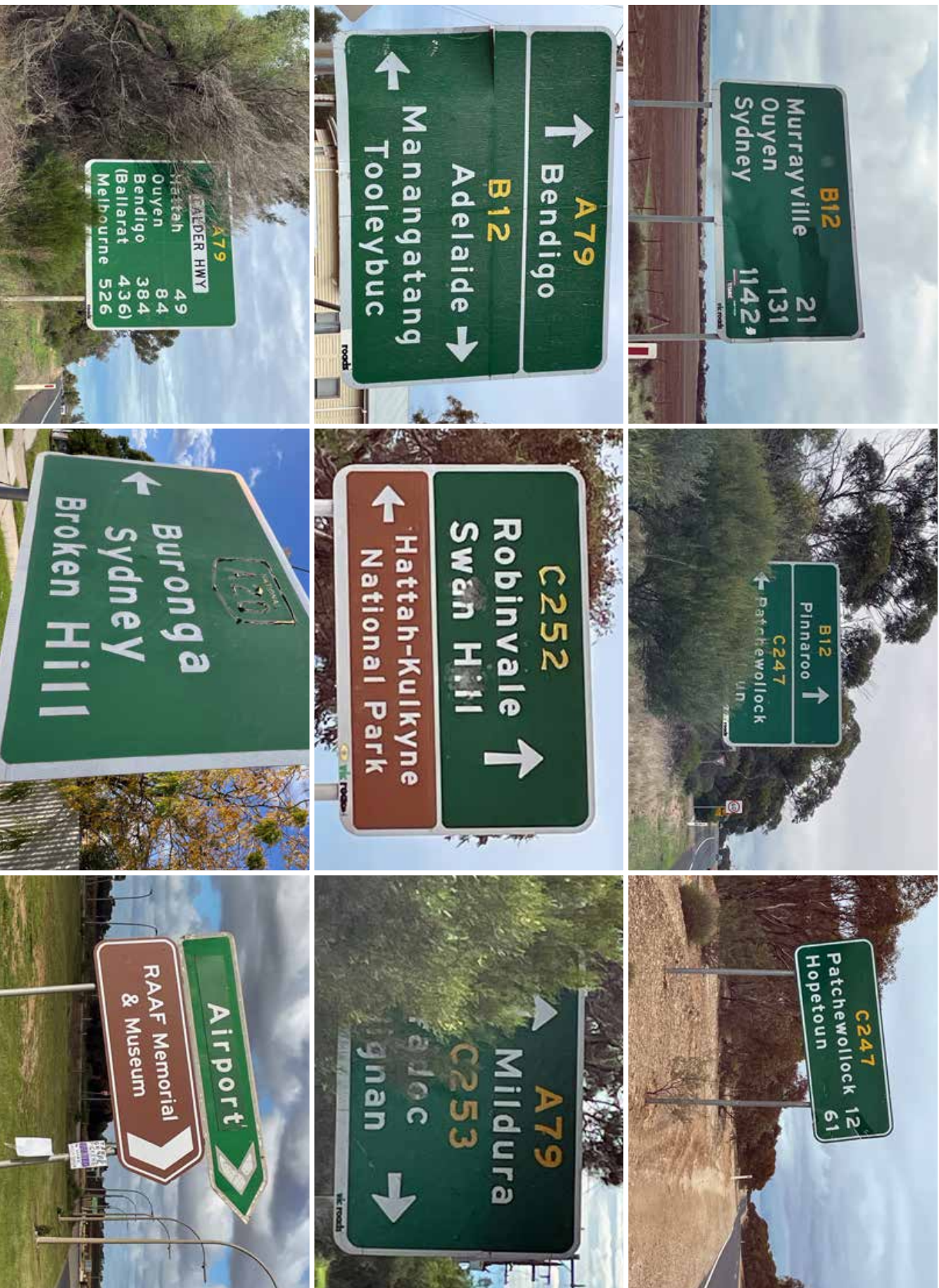
3.1 MRCC GREEN DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

GREEN DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

Green directional signage throughout MRCC is generally good with advance warning, intersection and reassurance signs well positioned on the road reserve. We did not locate any gaps in the signage system with all signs generally placed where visitors would expect to find directional signage. In some instances additional signs have been added to the original structures and review and consolidation is required. There were a number of signs overgrown, damaged, faded or in need of some general maintenance and cleaning. (See full signage audit document)

Recommendation

- Review intersections with large sign clusters and consolidate signage structure.
- Conduct a regular asset review of all MRCC controlled road signage
- Replace damaged and faded signs.



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.1 MRCC BROWN DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

BROWN DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

Throughout MRCC brown tourist signs are applied inconsistently and incorrectly. There seems to be some confusion in their application. In many instances we noted brown tourist attraction signs used for community services and tourist services. In other instances legitimate tourist attractions are signed with blue community signs (Refer to page 14 for Vic Roads eligibility criteria)

In many instances where tourist signs are correctly applied the signs are now faded and in need of replacement.

Recommendation

- Review all institutions with brown tourist signs to determine if they are lawful and meet Vic Roads guidelines eligibility criteria
- Replace damaged and faded signs.



Poorly design sign, wrong location, closest location should always be on top.



Karadoc - Remove Lindemans sign no longer has a tourist operation here



Red Cliffs - Replace, sign panel faded



Merbein South - Replace sign panel faded



Nangiloc - Replace sign panel faded



Merbein South - only one of these signs in the MRCC



Nangiloc - Replace sign panel faded



Karadoc - Remove no winery estates open to the public here



Werrinul - Lake Cullulleraine is a brown sign here and a blue sign on Sturt Hwy. Is it a tourist attraction or a community facility?



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.1 MRCC BLUE DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

BLUE SERVICES SIGNS

Throughout MRCC there are numerous blue services signs in need of replacement, refurbishment or removal. There are signs for facilities and services that no longer exist including tourist information radio stations (these are redundant) and signs for rest areas and information points that no longer exist.

In other instances directional signage for facilities and services are missing or inconsistently positioned. As an example some caravans and motels have advance warning and positional signs and others do not.

Recommendation

- Review all blue visitor services and locations
- Replace damaged and faded signs.



Ouyen - Town services advance warning sign. Faded and in need of replacement. Currently no information at the information bay.



Ouyen - Town services sign. Faded and in need of replacement



Lake Cullulleraine - Town services advance warning sign. cut back undergrowth



Mildura - Redundant tourist information radio signs (no longer operational)



Ouyen - Town services sign. Consolidate all signs into one sign panel



Ouyen - The only EV charge point sign sighted in MRCC



Lake Cullulleraine - Town services advance warning sign. Replace sign panel



Lake Cullulleraine - Town services advance warning sign. Replace sign panel



Ouyen - Blackburn Park Directional sign at Mallee/Calder Hwy intersection completely overgrown



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.1 MRCC INCORRECTLY SIGNED ATTRACTION & FACILITIES



Ouyen - Golf Clubs are not tourist attractions, this should be a blue sign



Ouyen - Town Centre sign should be white on blue



Messenger Mailbox Track - not open to the public, should be black on white, Management vehicles only should be black on yellow



Is Woorlong Wetlands a community facility or does it qualify as a tourist attraction?



Kings Billabong, definitely a tourist attraction should be a brown fingerboard



Red Cliffs Town Centre should be a blue sign



Rio Vista, Lock 11, Mildura Station and Arts Centre should be on one brown panel, community facilities on a blue panel



Probably shouldn't have a sign at all.



Houseboat hire doesn't qualify as a tourist attraction



Mildura - Community facilities should have blue signs, not brown. This sign tries to do too much and therefore fails. Vic Roads recommends no more than four lines of text, not eleven



Mildura - Community facilities should have blue signs, not brown



Merbein common should be a blue sign



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.2 MRCC TOURIST DRIVES

TOURIST DRIVES

MRCC has a number of tourist drives. Three of which are signed and at least another four nominal drive itineraries that pass or conclude in Mildura.

Mallee Parks Scenic Route, State Tourist Drive 53 - This trail is a loop trail from the Calder Hwy through Hattah-Kulkyne National Park along the Mourmpall Track and is dry weather access only. The trail leaves the Calder Hwy at Carwarp and rejoins the highway at Hattah (or in reverse order from the south). This tourist drive is the only route that is completely signed with a full suite of advance warning, intersection signs and trail route markers.

Murray Valley Trail - It appears as though this trail was set up sometime ago by the Murray Darling Association. The trail began at the mouth of the Murray at Goolwa and followed the river up through South Australia and briefly into NSW to Wentworth before crossing into Victoria. This tourist drive crosses into Victoria from NSW via the George Chaffey Bridge and immediately heads south along the river via various local roads before joining the Kulkyne Way, Boonoonar Rd. From Boonoonar Rd the trail passes through Hattah-Kulkyne National Park (same route as State Tourist Drive 53) before exiting the park and heading east on the Hattah Robinvale Rd.

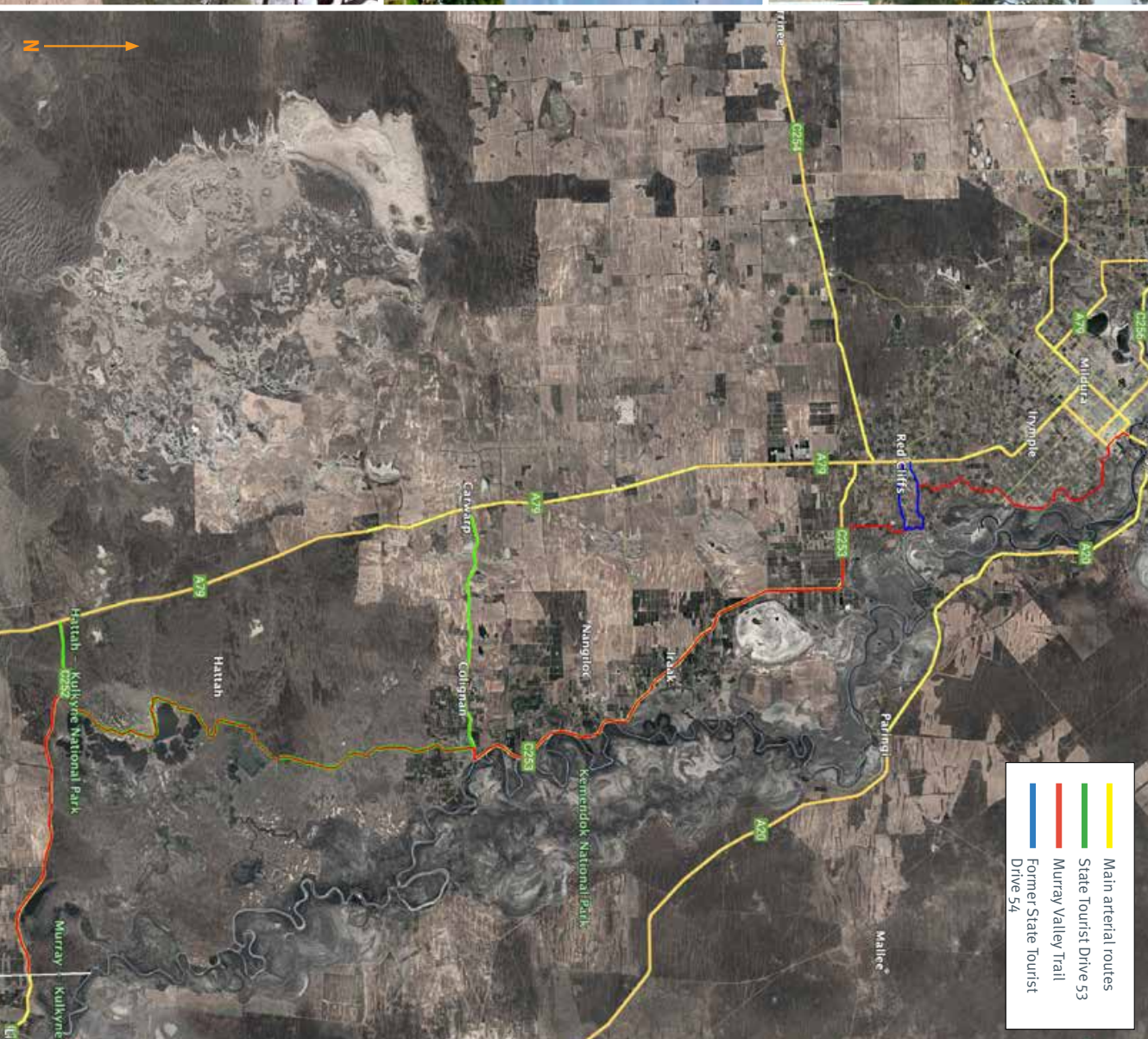
Whilst numerous signage and infrastructure still exists it appears that this trail is no longer supported and the trail is now defunct as I can find no reference to it online and have received no response to my enquiries from the Murray Darling Association.

The Chaffey Trail - The Chaffey Trail explores the early history and development of Mildura. The trail has 12 sites spread between Merbein (1), Mildura (8), Kings Billabong (2) and Red Cliffs (1). The trail has no defined route and is a mix of sites some of which make up walking trail itineraries around the Mildura CBD with the remaining sites reached by car. The trail is well interpreted and supported by a website and an active volunteer group.

The Chaffey Walking Trails - The two walking trails start at the Alfred Deakin Centre (location of the Visitor Information Centre) where there is a trailhead sign that gives visitors a brief overview of the Chaffey trail. Unfortunately it makes no mention of the two walk trails



TOP: Mallee Parks Scenic Route 53 - Advance warning sign. MIDDLE: Murray Valley Trail fingerboard signs. BOTTOM: Murray Valley Trail Information board at Psyche Bend Pumping Station



MRCC Tourist Drive Routes



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.2 MRCC TOURIST DRIVES

that start from this location, to learn about these you need to access the website. These trails - "Deakin Ave Walk" and "East Mildura Walk" combined only have two sites that are actually listed on the Chaffey Trail website (The Mildura Club and the Grand Hotel). The other building though significant to Mildura's history are not actually part of the Chaffey Trail. Ideally each walk trail should have its own QR code link to its respective page on the Chaffey Trail website.

The Chaffey Drive Trail - Currently there is no designated drive trail for the Chaffey sites. Just a numbered list of the sites. The trail has one trailhead sign on Twelfth St giving distance to Chateau Mildura, Kings Billabong (not part of the Chaffey Trail) and Psyche Bend pumping station. It is generally believed visitors prefer itineraries as this give them clear understanding of what can be comfortably visited within a set time period and the distance they will be travelling. As the Chaffey sites are spread between Merbein and Red Cliff a drive trail of around 70/100kms is easily achievable for most visitors and makes a comfortable full days outing. Alternatively a shorter version of just the Mildura sites would be a good option for visitors who do not have time for a full day excursion.

The Chaffey Trail Interpretive Signage - The interpretation of the Chaffey Trail is well written and well designed with each interpretive point having a distinctive eye catching graphic representation. This good work has unfortunately been let down by poor fabrication and installation. The interpretation is printed on vinyl affixed to ACM panels. Unfortunately no anti-graffiti/UV laminate has been applied making them susceptible to tagging and vandalism (this has already occurred at Mildura Wharf Interp point). Secondly the panels have been affixed to the pedestal with the wrong fastenings (screws and flat washers). This has resulted in the interpretive vinyl distorting when the screw and washer have screwed down on to the face of the sign. This will result in dirt and moisture getting between the vinyl and the sign panel which will shorten the life of all panels affected. These panels should have been affixed using either blind rivets or signwriters adhesive.

Red Cliffs Tourist Drive, State Tourist Drive 54 - During our research we found a listing for this route in Vic Roads listed tourist drives. Tourist Drive 54 headed out to the river via Indi Ave and Nursery Ridge Rd then returned via Pumps Rd and Fitzroy Ave. This tourist drive was fully signed in as late as 2018 but for some reason all signage for this tourist drive has been removed.

Other Trails - Numerous other drive trail itineraries pass the MRCC or finish/start in Mildura. These trails although not signed are listed on various tourism website, these include:

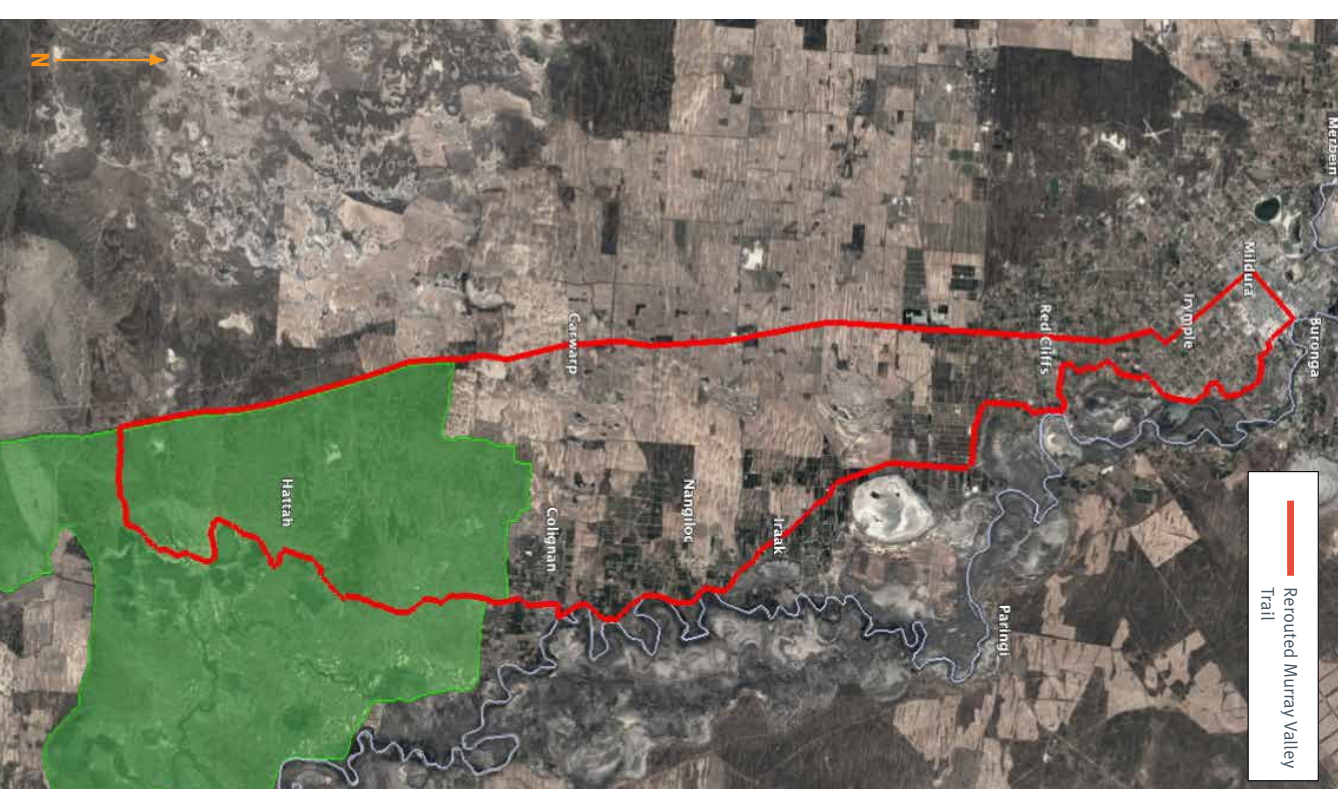
1. The Murray River Road (visithemurray.com.au)
2. Murray River Drive (travelvictoria.com.au)
3. Murray River Get Away (visitmelbourne.com)
4. Mighty Murray River Drive(visitmsw.com)

Recommendations

- State Tourist Drive 53 - Some of the advance warning road signs on the Calder Hwy are in need of replacement.
- The Murray Valley Trail - if no longer supported by the Murray Darling Association there is a great opportunity to re-purpose the MRCC portion of this trail as an out and back loop trail from Mildura. This trail could follow the existing route along the river through Hattah-Kulkynie National Park and back up the Calder Hwy through Red Cliffs. Currently there is no tourist drives leaving Mildura and this would make a great day trip for visitors staying in Mildura. To re-purpose this trail would not be a lot of work. It would be a case of deciding where to put the Trailhead sign (start point) for the trail and replace the existing fingerboard signs and install trail markers along the trail route. This route would be a great way to showcase the regional produce, the river attractions south of Mildura and the Hattah-Kulkynie National Park before heading back up to Mildura through Red Cliffs.
- The Chaffey Trail - 1) Redesign, replace and reposition directional signage within Mildura taking into account decision making points and consistency in signing all trail attractions. 2) Visitors like itineraries so expand the Chaffey Trail to become a proper drive trail. The route could leave the Visitor Centre, take in the town attractions before Merbein, Red Cliffs before heading back via the riverside attractions to finish at the Grand Hotel. 3) Consider developing a drive trail app that could expand the interpretation through photo galleries and audio presentation to bring the stories to life
- Replace State Tourist Drive 54 with a proper signed route via Fitzroy Rd to Red Cliffs Lookout and Murray River Boardwalk.



Red Cliffs Tourist Drive 54- Calder Hwy/Indi Ave Intersection (Google StreetView 2018)



SUGGESTED: Rerouted Murray Valley Trail Route



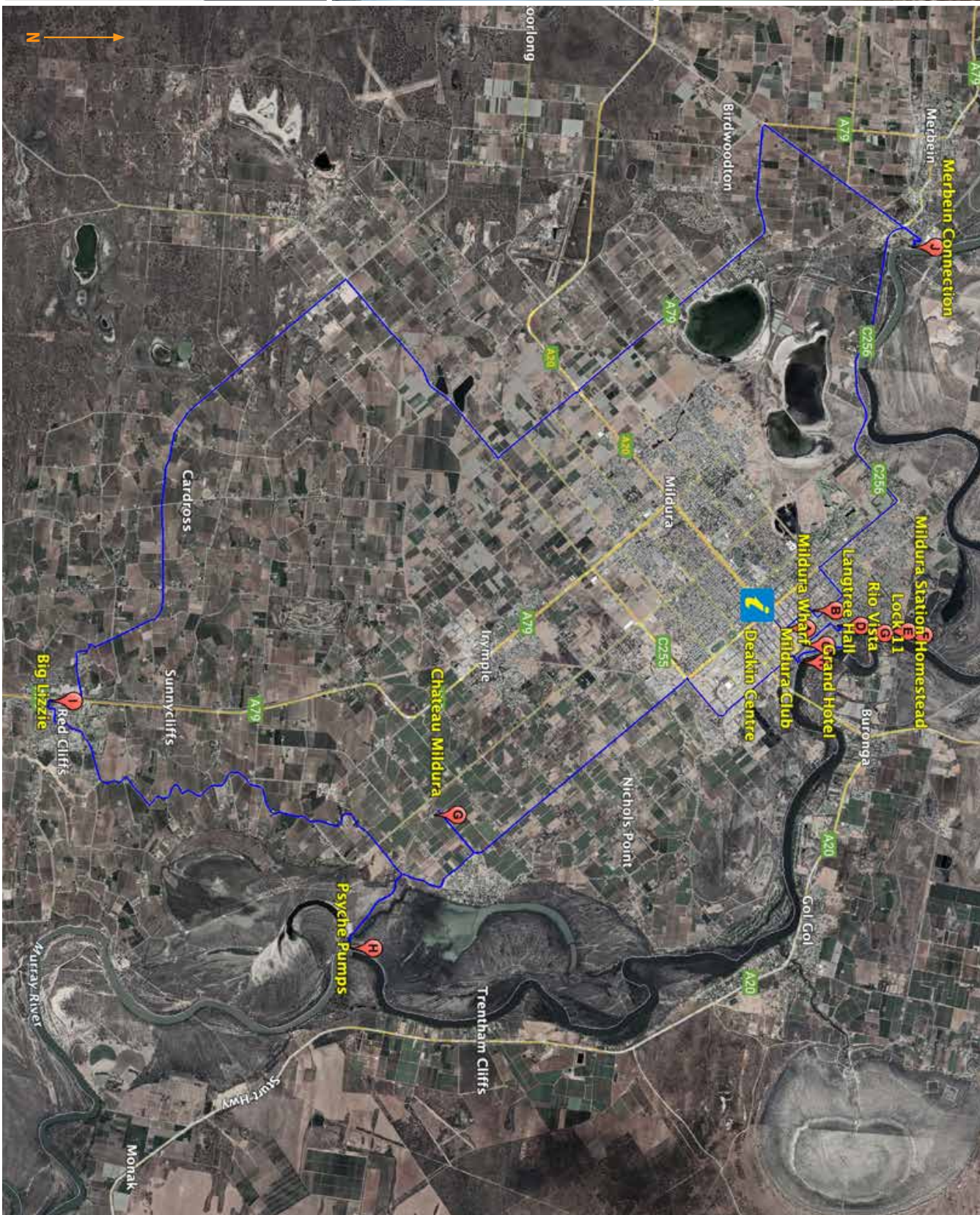
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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.2 MRCC TOURIST DRIVES



TOP: Chaffey Trail Overview sign outside of the Deakin Centre. MIDDLE: Confused sign information at Merbein. BOTTOM: Interpretive panels damaged by poor installation.



SUGGESTED: Chaffey Drive Trail

SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.3 MRCC WINE TOURISM

MILDURA WINE TOURISM

Despite the Murray-Darling appellation being Victoria's largest wine region there is very little in the way of wine tourism. As a wine region it's very understated, this could be largely due to the fact that the Murray-Darling regions main focus is bulk wine with a very limited cellar door offering.

Mildura Cellar Doors - Overall directional signage to Mildura's cellar doors is from poor to non-existent. All wineries have some property signage (estate signage on their property) most of which is ineffectual or in poor condition.

Currently there are only five wineries that offer a cellar door experience with only one Capogrecco having a suite of brown directional signs from arterial roads. The other winery with a full set of directional brown tourist signs is Lindemans south of Red Cliffs which is a large bulk wine operation and does not have a cellar door. The other Mildura wine experience is Sunraysia Cellar Door in Mildura itself which offers wine tastings for over 250 regional producers. This cellar door is located within the Mildura CBD. Each winery listed as a cellar door has a website which states their opening hours.

Wine Tourism Signage Guidelines - In response to the growing demand of wine tourism Vic Roads released a manual in 2011, this publication "Wine Tourism Signage Guidelines" covers all aspects of wine tourism signing.

Wine Region Gateway Signs - The Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation developed an appellation system of 21 declared wine regions in Victoria. Mildura falls under the Murray-Darling Appellation which covers both sides of the Murray from the SA border to where it joins the Swan Hill appellation North West of Swan Hill.

The Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation has strict eligibility requirements for gateway signs but with the Murray-Darling being such a well established wine region it meets most of the eligibility criteria (See Vic Roads "Wine Tourism Signage Guidelines" 2011 for full criteria).

Where the region falls short is in two points;

1. "Signing is part of an integrated information

2. "At least four wineries which conform to the Tourist Signage Guidelines criteria for tourist attractions, are open on any given day of the week within the region."

Mildura probably qualifies on point 2 but work needs to be done to improve the marketing support material for point 1. The only printed reference sighted during our site visit is the Winery & Cellar Door listing on page 52 of the Mildura - Wentworth Visitor Guide.

There are also eligibility criteria for signing individual wineries, most of which applies to general tourist operations (refer to page 14) but with the addition of holding a vigneron's license and have a purpose built facility (cellar door)

Recommendations

- Apply for and install Wine Region Gateway Signs on principal visitor access roads (Calder & Sturt Hwy).
- Work with cellar doors to improve property signage.
- Install directional signage to all operational cellar doors from the nearest arterial road. (see examples next page).
- Develop a cellar door map, distribute to all operational cellar doors. Encourage cellar doors to produce and distribute their own cellar door brochure.
- Remove all brown tourist directional signage to Lindemans.



Capogreco Winery - Only Mildura winery with brown directional signage, most signs old and faded, no cellar door symbol (grapes)



Cappa Stone Wines - small sign easy to miss along Calder Hwy where traffic is travelling at 100kph, no signs at 22nd St intersection.



Oak Valley Estate - Old faded signage leaves a poor impression to visitors



Varden Estate - small sign, difficult to read, easy to miss



Chateau Mildura, part of the Chaffey Trail



Remove all brown tourist signage to Lindemans Winery. No cellar door at this winery



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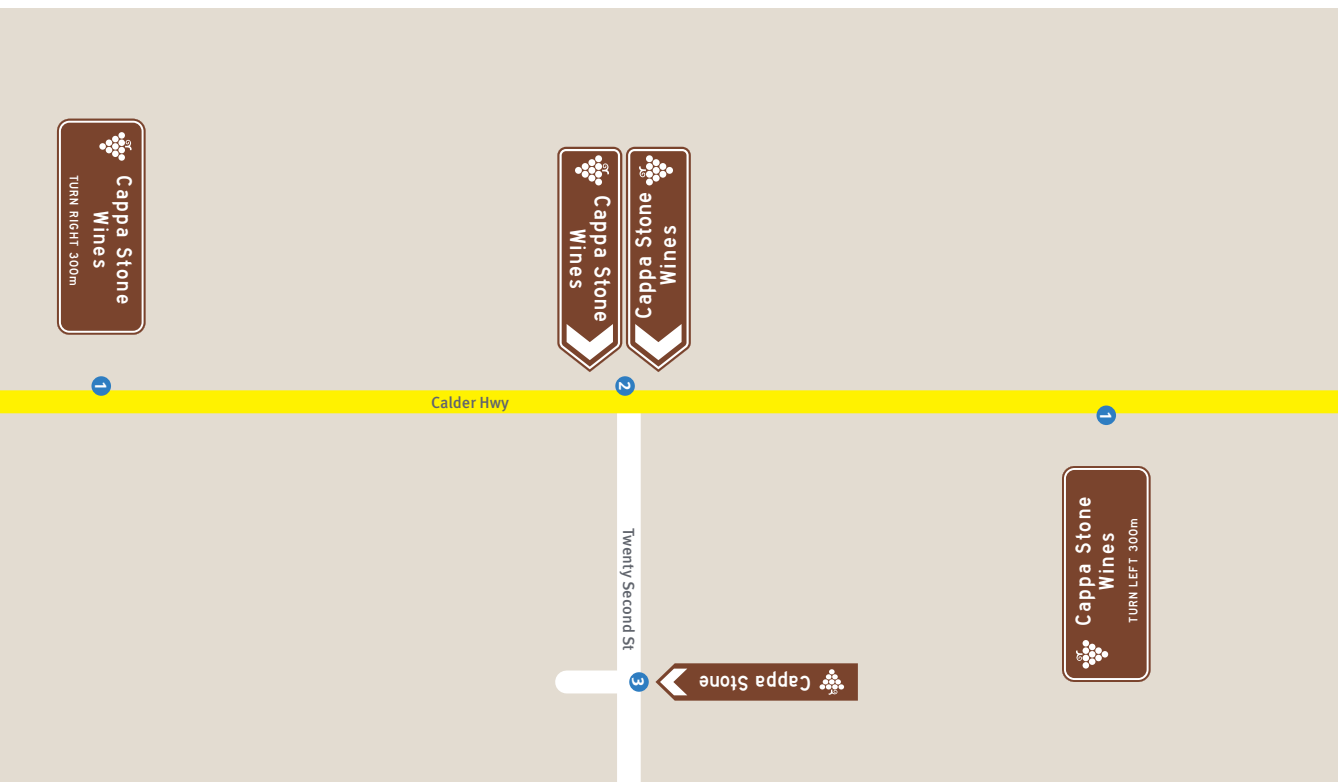
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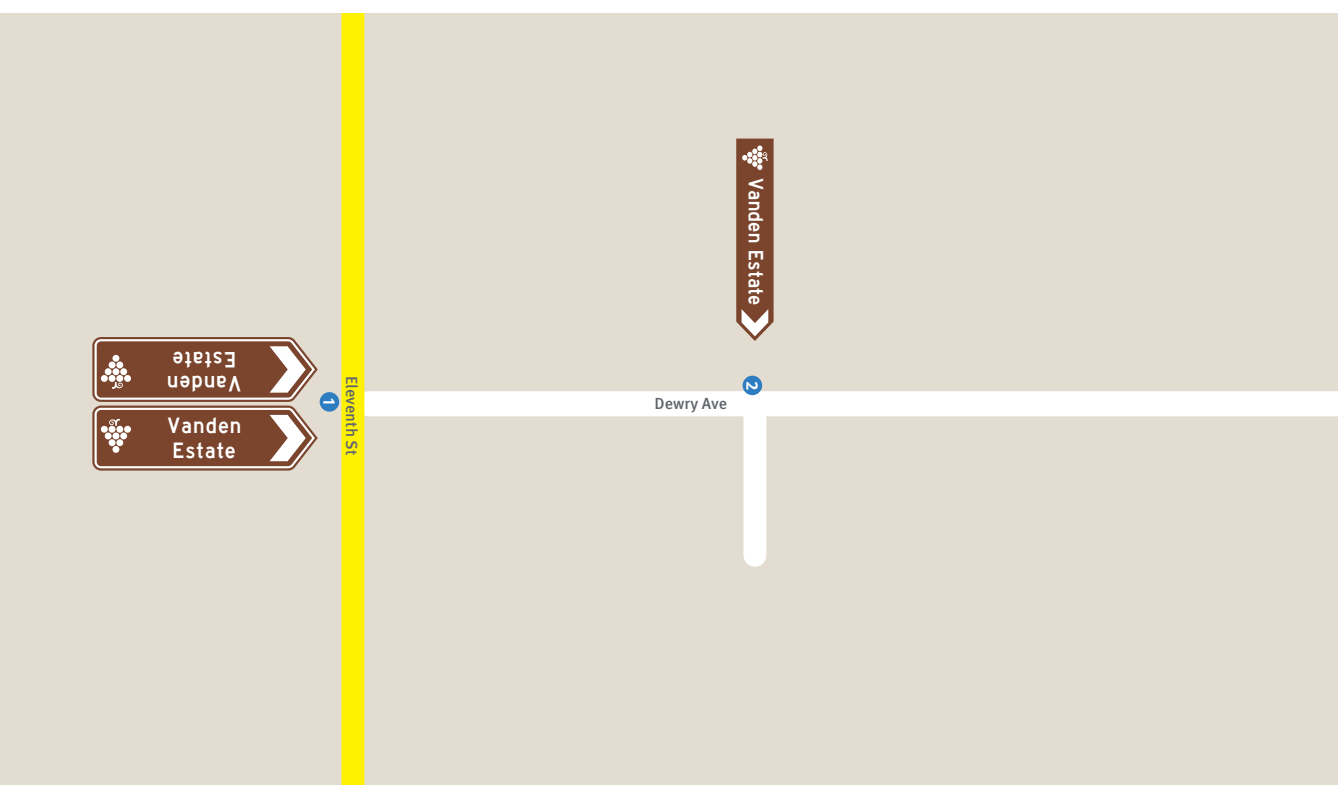
3.3 MRCC WINE TOURISM



EXAMPLE: Wine Region Gateway Sign



EXAMPLE: Signage Plan for wineries located off major arterial road (1) Advance warning signs, (2) Intersection signs, (3) Positional sign



EXAMPLE: Signage Plan for wineries located off minor arterial road (1) Intersection signs, (2) Positional sign



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.4 MILDURA ATTRACTIONS

ATTRACTIONS

Mildura has numerous tourist attractions within the city boundary but has no clear signage plan to get visitors to these attractions from Deakin Ave, the main arterial road through Mildura.

Most visitors travelling into Mildura will drive down Deakin Ave, along this route there is no directional signage to any of Mildura's attractions. This is especially apparent on the approach to the Deakin Ave /7th Street intersection. At this location there is only one small brown fingerboard sign (past the decision making point - refer Page 14) directing to the Inland Botanical Gardens 7kms away in NSW.

There is no directional signage to any of Mildura's riverside parks and services or to the attractions north of town on Chaffey/Cureton Ave. If by chance visitors do turn left the first brown directional sign they will encounter a poorly designed directional sign on the wrong side of the road (again past the decision making point) at the 7th St/ Chaffey Ave intersection. This sign ties to mix community facilities in with tourist attractions neither of which it delivers successfully. This example of poor signage layout is not just an isolated case.

Cureton Ave Attractions - Along Cureton Ave there are four of Mildura's visitor attractions which are also part of the Chaffey Trail. These are Rio Vista House/Arts Centre Precinct, Lock 11 & Lock Island, Mildura Station Homestead and Mildura Station Graveyard. Located at the corner at the Chaffey Ave/Cureton Junction is a brown sign directing people to various community facilities. This should be a blue sign. Once on Cureton Ave there is only a pedestrian wayfinding sign for Rio Vista House, it should have a Chaffey Trail positional sign. Next attraction further along Cureton is Lock 11 this attraction has a Chaffey Trail positional sign but it is on the wrong side of the road and also tries to combine directional sign for Mildura Homestead. Again due to poor positioning and design it misses the mark. Next stop is Mildura Station Homestead as per Rio Vista there is no Chaffey Trail positional sign and the property signs are overgrown and easily missed. Last attraction along Cureton Ave is the Mildura Station Graveyard. This again has no Chaffey Trail positional sign and the current old wooden sign at this location has almost rotted away.



No brown advance warning or intersection signs at Deakin & 7th St



The only brown directional sign at this intersection is for an attraction 7kms away in NSW



Chaffey/Cureton Ave intersection - poorly designed sign with too much information for visitors to take in. (see replacement example)



Chaffey/Cureton Ave - Incorrectly signed and positioned community facility sign (should be a blue sign)



Cureton Ave - No Chaffey Trail positional sign for Rio Vista. Pedestrian wayfinding signs are designed for pedestrian traffic, not vehicles



Poorly designed and positioned Chaffey Trail sign at Cureton Ave/Hugh King Dr intersection - sign should be adjacent to the intersection



Mildura Station Homestead - Sign hidden behind trees, no Chaffey Trail positional sign at this location



Mildura Homestead Graveyard - sign well past it's use by date. No Chaffey Trail positional sign at this location



Chaffey Bend - No directional signage from Cureton Ave to any of the trailhead nodes along this road



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.4 MILDURA ATTRACTIONS

Along this stretch of the river between the Mildura riverside parks and Chaffey Bend there is a walking & cycling track which is well utilised by locals yet there is no directional signs to the various trailhead points. Trailhead signage has been installed but unless you are a local it highly likely that you will miss the various access points from Cureton Ave.

Mildura's Riverside Parks - Mildura has a large riverside frontage where it has developed an extensive park and activity complex between Lock 11 and the George Chaffey Bridge. The park also hosts two of Mildura's Chaffey Trail historic attractions - Lock 11 and Mildura Wharf. The park complex contains all public amenities including parking, numerous toilets, picnic tables, barbecues etc. The parks also hosts cafes, an art gallery, Nowingi Place concert area and numerous youth and children's activity areas.

In our discussion with Visitor Information Centre staff they remarked that the most often asked question is "How do I get to the river?" While directions to the river parks appears fairly obvious to locals, but for visitors who are unfamiliar with Mildura, when you get to the 7th St intersection the river is obscured by trees and parkland. You cant see the river until you get to Hugh King Dr/7th St intersection, and then it is only a glimpse as you go past.

Vehicle Wayfinding - The parks main vehicle entrance is off 7th St via Hugh King Dr with two other minor entrances off Cureton Ave. Despite considerable funds being spent on improving the amenity of the area no consideration has been given to road signage. Apart from two old signs directing to the Chaffey Trail attractions there is no signage actually directing visitors to the riverside parks. It seems road signage has been completely overlooked.

Pedestrian Wayfinding - The parks have a multitude of pedestrian wayfinding stations which although architecturally interesting in design, their tall narrow structure doesn't really lend themselves to creating a map suitable for navigating the greater area. Where the wayfinding is really lacking is with connectivity to the CBD and entertainment precinct. Within the park area there is no visitor information point to give visitors who arrive in the parks by vehicle an understanding of what's on in the greater area or the attractions up the hill in the Mildura CBD. Typically a pedestrian



Eastbound - No directional signage to Mildura's riverside parks off 7th St other than an old faded Chaffey Trail sign



Westbound - No directional signage to Mildura's riverside parks off 7th St



Westbound - No directional signage to Mildura's riverside parks off Cureton Ave other than an old faded Chaffey Trail sign



Mildura Wharf - Faded in need of replacement and positioned past the decision making point



Sign poorly designed, positioned on the wrong side of the road. No mention of riverside parks and amenities



Lock 11 has a Chaffey Trail positional sign but there is no corresponding sign for Mildura Wharf



No directional signage within the park to the various attractions and amenities



Pedestrian wayfinding stations within the riverside park precinct



Main pedestrian access point to and from the Mildura CBD



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.4 MILDURA ATTRACTIONS

wayfinding map should be orientated in the direction that the person viewing the map is facing. The "You are here" pin should always be located in the centre of the map with concentric rings marking locations within 5mins and 10 mins walk from the viewers current location. Most of the current maps are taken up by the river and the NSW side of the river instead of pointing visitors back towards the Mildura CBD.

Cycle Wayfinding - A significant network of cycle paths and trails start and finish in Mildura's riverside parks. Along the park section of these paths are some trail markers which notify users that these are shared paths, but there is no trailhead information to let visitor know how far they can ride along the paths and riverside tracks (I think they go beyond Merbein?).

Mildura's Other City Attractions - Mildura's other city attractions include the Chaffey Trail attractions - The Mildura Club, Langtree Hall and the Grand Hotel. Each of these sites include an interpretive point but there are no brown fingerboard street signs directing visitors to their actual location. Both the Mildura Club and the Grand Hotel are on major arterial roads and are reasonably easy to find. Langtree Hall though has been relocated and is hidden away on residential Walnut Ave. There is no directional signage or positional signage for this attraction.

RAAF Memorial & Museum - Mildura played a significant part in Australia's war effort in WW2 and was home to the RAAF's 20TU flight training school for the duration of the war. Nearly every RAAF pilot flying in the Pacific theatre passed through Mildura. Located at the airport is a small museum open Friday through Sunday. The museum is staffed by volunteers and feature memorabilia and photos of the airfield during the war years. At the airport perimeter entrance there is a large brown intersection sign but beyond that there is no further signage directing to the actual museum. Along Walnut Ave there is a memorial and a tree planted for each of the 52 pilots and aircrew who lost their lives while training at Mildura. Researching family military history is becoming increasingly popular within Australia. With so many Australian airmen passing through Mildura during WW2 there is considerable opportunity through an interpretive trail to better tell the story of the part Mildura played in the war years.



Pedestrian wayfinding linkage between the parks and the CBD are in need of much improvement



Maps overloaded with park information and NSW, but very little in what is available in the adjacent CBD (but directions to the airport).



Mildura Club - part of Chaffey Trail interpretation



Langtree Hall, easy to miss, no Chaffey Trail positional sign



Grand Hotel interpretive



Large directional signage for the RAAF Memorial & Museum at Walnut Ave/ Sturt Hwy intersection but no further directions.



Etiwanda Wetlands - This significant flora and fauna reserve should be upgraded to brown tourist signs with hiking symbol



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.4 MILDURA ATTRACTIONS

Etiwanda Wetlands - This significant wetland situated on the edge of the Mildura Commercial district is frequented by over a 130 different species of birds as well as other flora and fauna. The wetlands features walk trails, bird hides, interpretation, toilets and sheltered rest areas. This wetlands is easily missed as there is only one tiny blue fingerboard stating "Wetlands" at the intersection of 7th St & Etiwanda Ave. Consideration should be given to upgrading this to a tourist attraction and upgrade all directional signage to brown tourist signs with the Lookout (bird hide) and hiking symbol.

Other Attractions (NSW) - Across the river from Mildura are three other attractions, Mildura Motor Museum, Trentham Estate Winery and the Australian Inland Botanical Gardens. Both Mildura Motor Museum and Trentham Estate are signed with advance warning and positional signage. The Australian Inland Botanical Gardens is signed from the Deakin Ave/ Seventh St intersection, across the George Chaffey Bridge all the way to the attraction.

Recommendations

Cureton Ave Chaffey Trail Attractions

- Review all signage from the 7th St/Chaffey Ave intersection. Replace all brown community signage with the correct blue community signs.
- Install Vehicle wayfinding signage for the Mildura Art Centre at Cureton/

Cherry Ave intersection.

- Install proper Chaffey Trail positional signs adjacent entrance to Rio Vista, Mildura Station Homestead and Mildura Station Graveyard.
- Replace and reposition Chaffey Trail Lock 11 positional sign adjacent to Hugh King Dr intersection
- Install directional signs to walking/cycling trailhead points e.g Chaffey Bend parking areas.

Riverside Parks

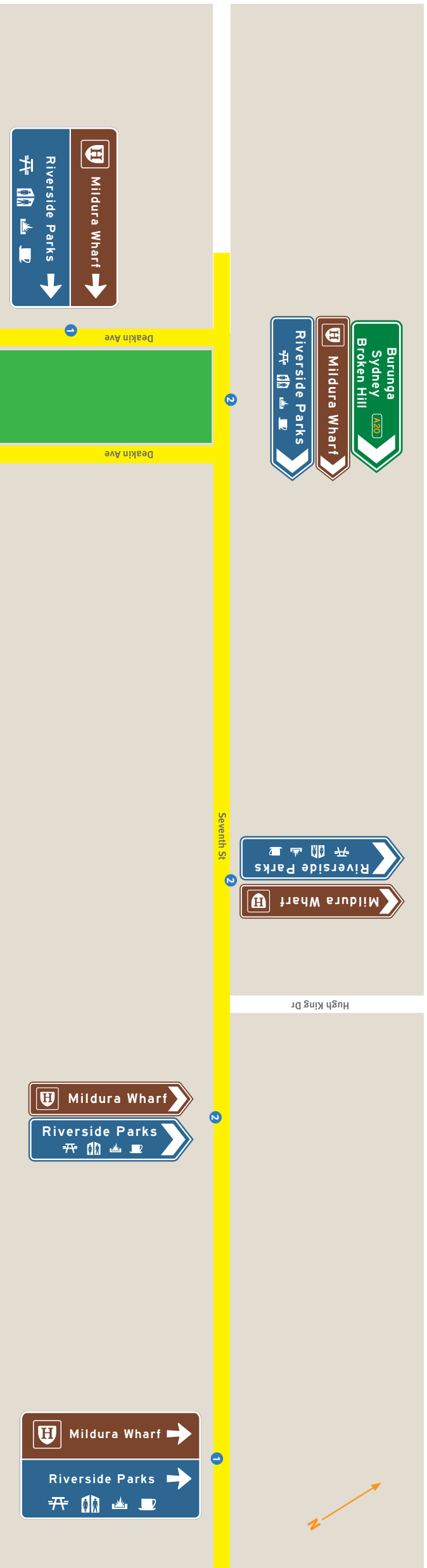
- Start all tourist directional signage from Deakin Ave. Install brown/blue tourist advance warning signs just north of the Fifteenth St/Deakin Ave Roundabout on Deakin Ave.
- Install brown/blue directional signage for the riverside parks in advance of the Deakin Ave/7th St intersection.
- Install directional signage to the riverside parks prior to the 7th St/Hugh King Dr intersection.
- Install internal vehicle wayfinding signage within the park at the main intersection after you enter via the railway underpass (eg directions to amenities and Lock 11 etc..
- Install Chaffey Trail positional sign at Mildura Wharf car park.
- Redesign park pedestrian wayfinding maps to include less of the NSW side

of the river and more of the Mildura CBD Entertainment precincts. Each map does not need to cover the entire park.

- Install Visitor information Board about CBD attractions at the intersection of the Langtree Ave stairs and the shared path (between Riverfront gallery and Rowing Club lawns).
- Install trailhead information signs for walk /cycle trails e.g distance to Lock 11, Mildura Station Homestead etc.

Other Attractions

- Install Chaffey Trail positional signs near Mildura Club, Grand Hotel and Langtree Hall.
- Install brown directional fingerboard signs to Langtree Hall.
- Improve directional signage from Walnut Ave/ Alan Mathews Dr to RAAF Museum.
- Investigate the development of an WW2 RAAF interpretive trail from the RAAF Museum around the airport grounds.
- Upgrade Etiwanda Wetlands to a tourist attraction and install a new brown signage suite from 7th St/Etiwanda Ave intersection.



SUGGESTED - Signage design for Deakin Ave Seventh St approach to riverside parks



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT 3.5 MILDURA OTHER ATTRACTIONS

KINGS BILLABONG ATTRACTIONS

South west of Mildura are four of the MRCC's main tourist attractions. These are Kings Billabong, Psyche Bend Pumping Station, Château Mildura and Woodsies Gem Shop. At various time tourist directional signage has been installed to guide visitors to these attractions. The result is a huge mix of different sign types many positioned in the wrong location on the wrong side of the road or are in need of replacement.

11th St to Kings Billabong & Psyche Bend Pumps - The main route to these attractions from Mildura is 11th St. This street intersects Deakin Ave and is the most direct route to get to the south west side of Mildura. As previously mentioned brown tourist directional signs should be positioned at these major intersections. This is not the case, the first directional sign is a (1) trailhead/reassurance sign nearly 3 Kms from the Deakin Ave intersection. This Chaffey Trail sign advises the distance to Château Mildura, Kings Billabong and Psyche Bend Pumps.

From this point it is a straight run to the 11th St/Cureton Ave intersection. At the Belar Ave intersection is a tiny fingerboard sign (2) for Château Mildura which judging by all of the tyre marks of cars doing a U-turn beyond the intersection it is easy to miss. At the intersection of 11th St/Cureton Ave is a large Chaffey Trail directional sign (3) for Kings Billabong and Psyche Bend Pumps also a smaller directional sign for Woodsies Gem Shop. Turning right on to Cureton Ave the next stop is Kings Billabong. Unfortunately there is no positional sign here and with the thick bush it's very easy to just drive pass and miss this attraction entirely. Further along Cureton is the turn off to Psyche Bend pumping station. This intersection is well signed with Chaffey Trail positional signage (4) and is the end of this route. At the Cureton Ave/Psyche Bend Rd intersection there are directional fingerboards for the Murray Valley Trail (5) but no directional signage to take visitors to attractions further south along the river such as the Red Cliffs lookout and the Murray River Boardwalk.

Calder Hwy to Kings Billabong - South East of Irymple are brown advance warning signs (6) for Kings Billabong via Irymple Ave. This route is well signed in advance of the intersection and joins the 11 St route at the intersection of Irymple and 11th St. At this intersection there is only faded small brown fingerboard sign (7) on the wrong side of the road. Again easy to miss. From this intersection the route is the same as the 11th St route.

Woodsies Gem Shop - Also from Calder Hwy south of Irymple are directional signage for Woodsies Gem Shop. Brown tourist signs (8) are positioned in advance of the Morpung Ave intersection. From here it is a straight drive to the Morpung/Cureton Intersection where property signage is positioned to directed you around the corner to this attraction. Morpung Ave runs parallel to Irymple Ave leaving one to think why were these two routes not combined?



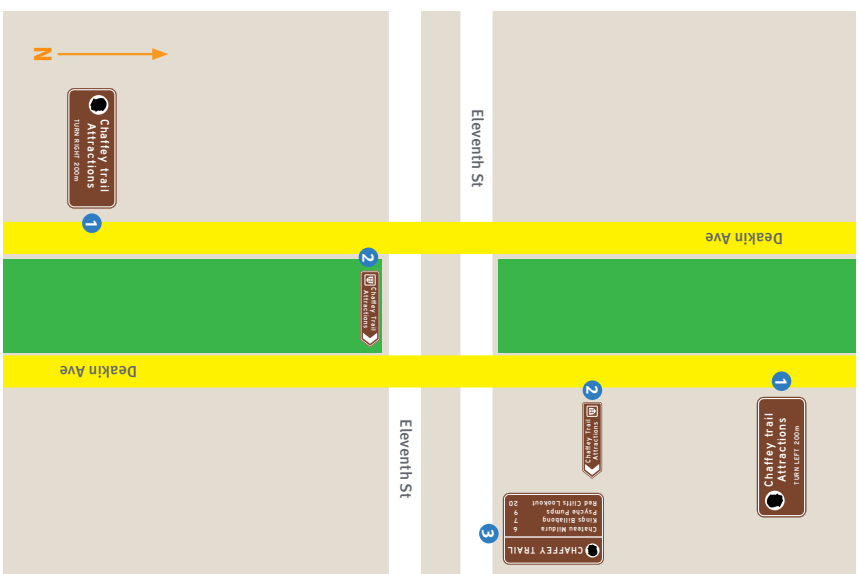
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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT 3.5 MILDURA OTHER ATTRACTIONS

Recommendations

- Install brown directional signage on Deakin Ave North and South of the 11th St intersection.
- On 11th St relocate the trailhead/reassurance sign to within 500m of the Deakin Ave/11th St intersection.
- Install a larger double sided intersection sign at the 11th St/Belar Ave intersection for Chateau Mildura.
- Install large double sided brown positional signs for Kings Billabong adjacent the car park.
- Standardise signage family used throughout MRCC.
- Combine Kings Billabong & Woodsies Gem Shop route from Calder Hwy to both use Morpung Ave.
- Install brown trailhead/reassurance signage from Psyche Bend Rd to link up with Red Cliffs attractions.



SUGGESTED - Signage plan for Deakin Ave/Eleventh St Intersection (1) Advance warning signs, (2) Intersection signs, (3) Trailhead sign



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Deakin Ave/11th St intersection northbound - Brown directional signage required



Deakin Ave/11th St intersection southbound - Brown directional signage required



Trailhead/Reassurance sign - First directional signage to these attractions is located 3kms from the start point



Belar Ave small fingerboard sign very easy to miss on the wrong side of the road



Kings Billabong - no advance warning or positional sign at this attraction



Kings Billabong - interpretive



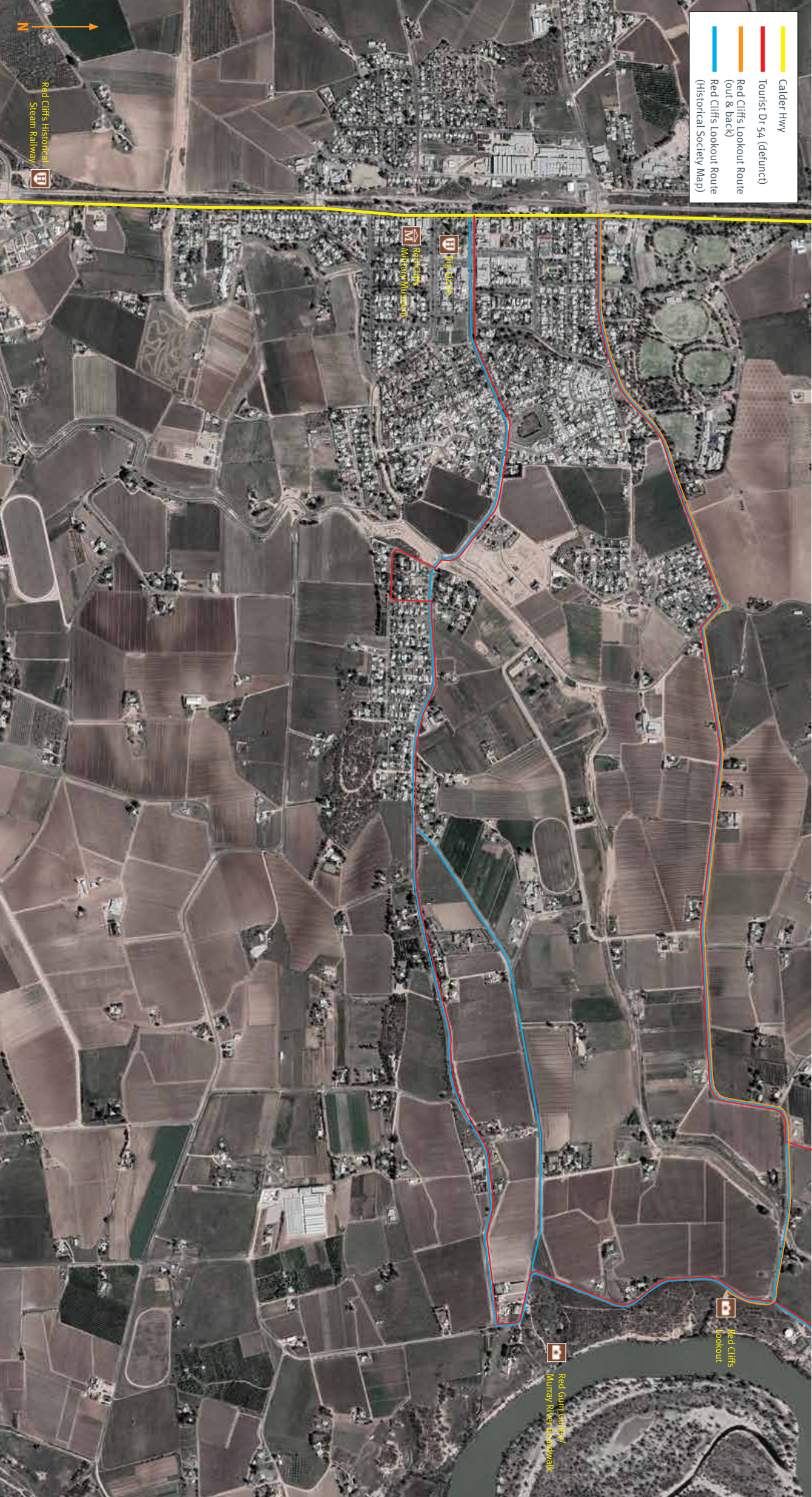
Faded fingerboard at Rympole Ave/11th St intersection



There seems to be some confusion within MRCC as to what colour sign to use for tourist attractions vs community facilities.

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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT 3.6 RED CLIFFS ATTRACTIONS



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.6 RED CLIFFS ATTRACTIONS

RED CLIFFS ATTRACTIONS

Located south of Mildura on the Calder Hwy is the town of Red Cliffs. The town was established as a Soldier Settler community after WW1 and officially became a town in 1920.

Red Cliffs has a number of tourist attractions including Big Lizzie, Red Cliffs Lookout, Red Gum Gully/Murray River Boardwalk, Red Cliffs Historical Railway and the RSL- Red Cliffs Military Museum.

Red Cliffs Tourist Drive 54 - In our research we uncovered a tourist drive out to Red Gum Gully, Red Cliffs Lookout, Cliffside and back to Red Cliffs via Pump Rd and Fitzroy Ave. This tourist drive was still signed as late as 2018 (Google Street View) but since then all tourist drive signage has been removed. The Red Cliffs Historical Society has a similar driving route in their current brochure (not signed)

Big Lizzie - This well know attraction is situated on Calder Hwy and is also part of the Chaffey Trail. The attraction is well signed with large positional signs on either side of the highway. The attraction is well interpreted.

Red Cliffs Lookout - This attraction is located approximately 6.0kms east of Red Cliffs and is a popular attraction with visitors . Recently large advance warning signs have been installed north and south of the Calder Hwy/Fitzroy Ave Intersection. Unfortunately this has been let down due to not upgrading the intersection signage suite at this location. The route travels east on Fitzroy and Cocklin Ave before turning on to Pumps Rd and Woomera Ave. Small brown fingerboard signs are positioned at all intersections . At the Red Cliffs Lookout there is a large double side positional sign.

Red Gum Gully/Murray River Boardwalk - This attraction is located a kilometre south of the Red Cliffs Lookout. It is often overlooked as there is no directional signage from the Red Cliffs Lookout to this attraction. When you do arrive at the location there is a large directional sign "Murray River Boardwalk" facing in what appears to be the wrong direction. The reason for this is that this sign was part of Red Cliffs Tourist Drive 54 which travelled this route in an anticlockwise direction rather than the current out and back route.



Newly installed large advance warning signs for Red Cliffs Lookout on Calder Hwy north and south of Fitzroy Ave



Minuscule brown fingerboard at Calder Hwy/Fitzroy Ave intersection - larger double side intersection sign required here



Remove all brown signs directing to Lindemans, this is a large winery operation, not a tourist attraction.



Kulkyinie Way/Edey Rd - Remove.No wineries open to the public



Calder Hwy/Millewa Rd intersection - Replace Steam Train sign panel



Millewa Rd - Steam Railway sign replace panel and cut back bush



Red Cliffs "Town Centre" - should be a blue sign



Red Cliffs Tourist Drive 54 directional sign (Google Streetview 2018)



Murray River Boardwalk - sign appears to face the wrong way, but actually faced the right way when Red Cliffs Tourist Drive 54 was in place.



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3.6 RED CLIFFS ATTRACTIONS

Red Cliffs Historical Railway - This attraction is located across the railway line at the start of the Millewa Rd. Operated by volunteers it's open to visitors one Sunday a month. Currently there is faded brown positional signage at the Calder Hwy/Millewa Rd intersection and an overgrown property sign in need of replacement.

RSL-Red Cliffs Military Museum - This small museum is part of the Red Cliffs RSL and is only open the first Sunday of each month. There is no directional signage to this attraction.

Red Cliffs Lions Visitor Information Bay - This visitor information bay is the most up-to-date within the MRCC. The information panels look to have been recently replaced and provide a good mix of Red Cliffs town history, a well designed map and a list of local attractions to visit. Unfortunately it is let down by the fact that the whole visitor information bay is largely blocked from view by trees. It's unlikely any visitor will see it until they have already driven past it.

Recommendations

- Install large brown double sided intersection sign at Calder Hwy/Fitzroy Ave intersection.
- Remove all redundant winery signage on Kulkryne Way.
- Replace "Steam Train" intersection sign at Calder Hwy/Millewa Rd intersection.
- Replace "Town Centre" sign with the correct blue sign with blue service icons e.g. cafe, meals, toilets etc.
- Cut back trees at Lions Club visitor information bay.
- Provide directional linkage signage between Red Cliffs Lookout and Red Gum Gully/Murray River Boardwalk.
- Convert Murray River Boardwalk sign to double sided.



Red Cliffs Lions Club information Bay hidden on the back fence behind the trees



Red Cliffs Lions Club information Bay - Well designed but unfortunately hard to find



Big Lizzie, well signed from both directions on Calder Hwy (No Chaffey Trail icon).



Again small fingerboard signs used to direct visitors to the Red Cliffs Lookout at Fitzroy Ave



Again, small fingerboard sign used at Pumps Rd and Woomera Ave



Large easy to find positional sign at Red Cliffs Lookout, unfortunately no further signage to direct visitors to Red Gum Gully and Murray River Boardwalk

SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.6 MERBEIN ATTRACTIONS

MERBEIN ATTRACTIONS

Merbein is situated 12 Kms north west of Mildura. It is the most northern town in Victoria. Like Mildura and Red Cliffs, Merbein was set up as an irrigated settlement in the early 1900's.

Merbein has three tourist attractions all within close proximity of each other, these include the Merbein Lookout, Blandowski Walk/Stairs and Merbein Common.

Merbein Lookout - At this location is one of the Chaffey Trail interpretive points "Merbein Connection" which interprets the story of the nearby Mildura Winery. Directional signage to this site is better than some of the other sites on the Chaffey Trail. Though some thought should have been given to incorporating recognised Australian brown tourist symbols on these signs e.g. the Lookout and Hiking symbol. Here there is a positional sign at the Ranfurly Way/River Ave intersection followed by brown fingerboard signs on the opposite side of the intersection. From the intersection it is a straight drive down to the River Ave Forbes Dr intersection. Here the signage has been positioned past the decision point with competing signs pointing in opposite directions. This signage structure should have been positioned further back on River Ave prior to the intersection. At the turn-off to the Lookout on International Dr is a mix of brown signs and old Merbein Rotary Club signs, most of which are looking a bit old and tired. Again there is a mix of signs present at the actual lookout. These include old Rotary Club signs, mixed interpretation, plaques a stone cairn and MRCC park signs. Many of these signs could be combined into a uniform set of interpretive panels. There is also a Parks Victoria map giving an overview of the site and the other attraction and facilities at Merbein Common.

Blandowski Walk/Stairs - The newly refurbished walk trail takes visitors from the cliff top to the river floodplain of Merbein Common. As with the other attractions at this site there is directional signage from Ranfurly Way.

Merbein Common - This common is a popular free camping spot. It has walking trails, picnic spots with barbecues and a boat ramp. While fairly well known to locals and on camping websites like Wikicamps there



Historical marker, Ranfurly Way- no longer there. Looks like its been removed since the irrigation channel was piped and filled in.



Some interpretive signage at Chaffey Park but does not appear to be connected to the "Historical Marker" signage.



Signage rationalisation required at Ranfurly Way/ River Ave intersection



Signage rationalisation required at River Ave/Forbes Dr intersection. No use of Australian standard symbols



Old Rotary sign should be replaced by a plaque/interpretive sign at the lookout and Blandowski signs should be rationalised into one sign



Old oversize Rotary sign should be replaced by an interpretive panel



No signage or walking/hiking symbols on any of the brown directional signage leading to this point



Graffitied signage at Blandowski walk trail trailhead



Entrance sign to Merbein Common - no mention of any of the amenity and facilities available here



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.6 MERBEIN ATTRACTIONS

is no indication of the facilities and amenities that exist here for casual visitors on any of the existing signage. The only directional signage are brown fingerboard signs simply stating "Merbein Common". yet again, there is inconsistency in selecting the correct signage type. At the bottom of the hill is an entry statement sign "Welcome to Merbein Common" Winery Entrance. This sign appears to be a local council park sign and probably pre-dates the LGA amalgamations. Again there is no indication of the facilities available here.

Recommendations

- Design and install a new signage suite for direction to Merbein attractions (see example this page)
- Remove Historical Marker signage on Rantfury Way (both directions)
- Consolidate and rationalise interpretive and Rotary Club signage at Merbein Lookout
- Replace Merbein Common entry statement
- Clean vandalised signage at Merbein Lookout



EXAMPLE: Suggested signage plan for Merbein Lookout



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3.6 MRCC OTHER ATTRACTIONS

MRCC NATIONAL PARKS

Outside of the main population areas of Mildura, Red Cliffs and Merbein the landscape is vastly different with a mix of Mallee Scrub and broad acre farming.

Tracts of land deemed unsuitable for farming are now national parks and wilderness areas. These include Hattah Kulkylne National Park, Murray Sunset National Park, Wyperfeld National Park and Big Desert Wilderness Park.

Hattah Kulkylne National Park - The Hattah-Kulkylne National Park is situated off the Calder Highway, between Ouyen and Mildura. It is 35km north of Ouyen and 74km south of Mildura. Murray-Kulkylne Park adjoins Hattah-Kulkylne National Park in the south-east. This park is probably the most easily accessible with most tracks accessible by 2WD vehicles. The park is administered by Parks Victoria and is well signposted from the Calder Hwy. It is the only National Park in MRCC with a Visitor Centre. The park is also accessed as part of the Mallee Parks Scenic Route Tourist Dr 53.

Murray Sunset National Park - Murray-Sunset National Park is between Ouyen and Mildura and the South Australian border. Access to the park is via the Calder Highway, and from South Australia via the Sturt and Mallee Highways. Access for 2WD vehicles is limited to the main entry points with the rest of the park being accessible by 4WD only. The main tourist attraction in the park are the Pink Lakes situated north of the Mallee Hwy between Boinka and Underbool. Whilst the park has park entry signage at most access points the Pink Lakes access road is the only attraction with a suite of brown advance warning and intersection signs. Isolated sections of Murray Sunset NP are located along the southern bank of the Murray River between Merbein and the South Australian border, these sections are known as Lindsay Island, Mulcra Island and Wallpola Island. Access to these sections is from either the Sturt Hwy or the Old Mail Rd.

Wyperfeld National Park & Big Desert Wilderness Park - Although both accessible from the Mallee Hwy we could find no directional signage to these parks. The main access points to these parks appear to be from the LGA's south of the park.



Mallee Hwy - Murray-Sunset NP (Pink Lakes advance warning)



Mallee Hwy - Murray-Sunset NP (Pink Lakes intersection sign)



Murray-Sunset NP (Pink Lakes park entrance information bay)



Mallee Hwy - Murray-Sunset NP (Pink Lakes park entrance information bay)



Millewa Rd - Murray-Sunset NP northern entrance track



Sturt Hwy - Murray-Sunset NP entrance to Shearers Quarters camping area.



Kulkylne-Robinvale Rd - Hattah-Kulkylne NP southern entrance



Calder Hwy - Hattah-Kulkylne NP southern boundary



Hattah-Kulkylne NP is the only Mallee NP with a visitor centre



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.6 MRCC OTHER ATTRACTIONS

MALLEE HWY ATTRACTIONS

The Mallee Hwy traverses east-west across the southern districts of MRCC for 473 Kms. The highway enters from South Australia in the west and exits through Swan Hill Rural City Council in the east. Along the highway are an assortment of small towns spread between Murrayville in the West to Ouyen in the east. Of these Oyen on the Calder Hwy crossroads is the largest.

Murrayville - Murrayville is the second largest town along MRCC's stretch of the Mallee Hwy after Ouyen. The town is also the northern terminus of the Mallee Track which crosses the Big Desert Wilderness Park from Nhill. The town has a comfortable rest area across from the hotel which is also the trailhead for their Pine Hills walking trail. Murrayville also has a largely intact 1920's commercial street scape which would benefit from interpretation. One of the most popular yet unofficial attractions in Murrayville is the tank graveyard on the eastern edge of town. Here the remains of several WW2 era tanks are parked. The war surplus tanks were brought to the Mallee after WW2 and converted to bulldozers for scrub clearing. Again with permission from the owner they would benefit with the inclusion of some interpretation.

Cowangie - Hometown of Australian motor racing legend Larry Perkins. While there isn't much left at Cowangie the locals have interpreted what there is of the towns former commercial street with interpretation in front of the remaining buildings.

Kow Plains Homestead - South East of Cowangie is Kow Plains Homestead. This attraction is well signed from the highway with brown advance warning and intersection signs (unfortunately with out the brown "Historic Place" icon). Directional fingerboards guide visitors to the homestead just south of Cowangie. The extensive homestead site has been well preserved and interpreted with well written content on quality produced photo anodic aluminium panels. Depending on their orientation to the sun, some of these panels are reaching the end of their lifespan and will be in need of replacement within the next few years'.

Underbool - Underbool is the next town east of Cowangie. The town has a well appointed rest area with bays for overnight camping. Along the main



Murrayville - Gateway to Outback Victoria



Murrayville Trails and the Rainbow Bee Eater



Murrayville - Mallee Track directions lost amongst the community facilities. This track should have its own sign



Murrayville - Largely intact commercial street scape



Murrayville - Tank graveyard on the eastern edge of town



Cowangie - Town Entry Statement



Cowangie - Main Street old bakery, only the oven remains



Cowangie - Bush Nursing cottage



Cowangie - Bush Nursing cottage



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3.6 MRCC OTHER ATTRACTIONS

street interpretive signage has been installed marking where the original businesses were located. Unfortunately apart from noting what business was located at a particular site and who owned there is no actual interpretation. Underpool is also a minor jump off point for Wyperfeld National Park but there is no directional signage for the park.

Walpeup - A popular stopping point with a well appointed caravan park otherwise the town has no recognised tourist attractions.

Recommendations

- Murrayville - Separate Mallee Track directional sign from community service signs.
- Murrayville - Investigate interpretive signage for the Murrayville commercial precinct and the tank graveyard.
- Underpool - Investigate improvement to the town interpretive signage.



Kow Plains Homestead - advance warning signs on Mallee Hwy (no historic "H" symbol)



Kow Plains Homestead - directional fingerboards to Kow Plains and amenities



Kow Plains Homestead - Entry statement



Kow Plains Homestead - Interpretation, some in need of replacement



Underpool Rest Area interpretive



Underpool Proper interpretation brings these stories to life, this doesn't



Underpool Rest Area Interpretive



Murrayville - Malleefowl Interpretive panel in need of replacement



Danyo - Danyo Avenue of Honour commemorative plaque

SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.6 MRCC OTHER ATTRACTIONS

MILLEWA RD ATTRACTIONS

The Millewa region is a dry land farming district of MRCC. The region lies west of Red Cliffs and bound by the Murray river and Sturt Hwy in the north and Murray-Sunset National Park in the south. The area has a two villages Werrimull being the largest and the other being Meringur. At Meringur is the Millewa Pioneer Park set up by locals in 1986. The park showcases how the early pioneers who settled here in the 1920's lived. The park is run and administered by local volunteers.

The Millewa Rd is also used as a short cut for travellers heading from the Sturt Hwy to the Calder Hwy wishing to save time and cut out going through Mildura.

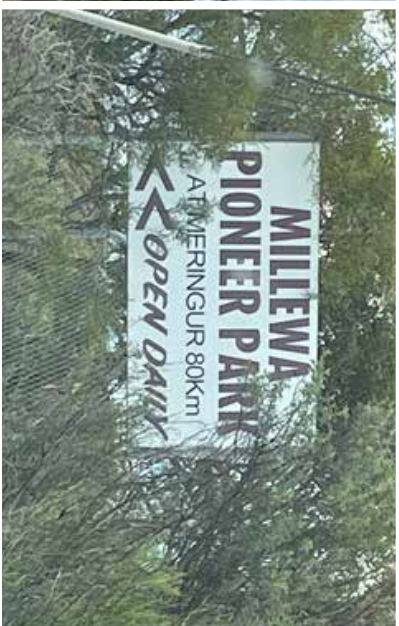
Whilst getting out to the Pioneer Park is a fairly straightforward drive it is still a fair investment in time. There needs to be investigation in finding additional attractions and activities for visitor to do on there way to and from Meringur. For example the beautiful Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Werrimull should be a stopping point. Interpretation of the railway and how it helped in the development of the region. Develop a silo art trail from six remaining redundant grain silo's along the Millewa Rd.

Recommendations

- Consistently name the attraction "Millewa Pioneer Park" across all signage.
- Replace Millewa Pioneer Park at Calder Hwy/Millewa Rd intersection (near Historic Steam Railway).
- Develop additional attractions and activities to encourage visitors to visit Millewa region. Give people enough to do to make a days outing.
- Install brown directional signage and interpretive signage for Our Lady of Lourdes church Werrimull.
- Develop Interpretive stops along the route to and from Meringur.
- Investigate the feasibility of developing the redundant grain silos into a silo art trail.



Meringur - Millewa Pioneer Park - 160 Kms round trip



Red Cliffs - Millewa Rd overgrown "Millewa Pioneer Park" directional sign



Meringur - "Meringur Pioneer Park"



Meringur - "Millewa Historic Centre"



Lake Cullulleraine - "Meringur Pioneer Centre"



Meringur - Millewa Pioneer Park pioneer display



Meringur - Again the misunderstanding between what qualifies for brown signs, and what qualifies for blue signs



Bambill - Old grain receival weighbridge



Werrimull - Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, no directional signage to this beautiful building



Werrimull - Lake Cullulleraine has brown tourist signs on the Millewa Rd and blue services signs on Sturt Hwy



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.6 MRCC OTHER ATTRACTIONS

STURT HWY ATTRACTIONS

The Sturt Hwy traverses east-west across the northern end of MRCC for 118Kms from the South Australian Border, through Mildura and into NSW. North of the highway is the Murray River and the Old Mail Rd, south of the highway is the Millewa region. The area between the South Australian border and Millewa South is sparsely populated irrigated farm land, broad acre farming and old pastoral runs along the river.

The only settlement between the South Australian border and Merbein South is the small settlement of Lake Cullulleraine. This small settlement hosts two caravan parks and the Johansen Memorial Reserve. The reserve is signed as a recreation area. Overall signage at the reserve is in need of a complete overhaul to replace worn and remove redundant signage (see example page 20).

At other points along the Sturt Hwy are small brown fingerboard signs directing visitors to camping spots and attractions within Murray-Sunset NP.

Recommendations

- Rationalise signage at Johansen Memorial Reserve.
- Replace signage for Wallpolla Island.



Lake Cullulleraine locality sign



Johansen Memorial Reserve Entry statement



Oversize plank sign



Lake Cullulleraine wayfinding overview (no "You are here" marker)



Lake Cullulleraine Interpretive



Wallpolla Island old faded intersection sign with "State Forest" painted out



The Old Mail Rd



Directional fingerboard signs at Lock 9



Historic Lock 9 pumping station



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.7 MRCC CARAVAN & CAMPING

MRCC CARAVAN & CAMPING

MRCC is developing an RV, Caravan & Camping Strategy (Currently in draft form), in this document one of the issues it addresses is the need for developing a tourism based signage strategy.

MRCC has numerous caravan and camping options throughout the LGA. There are 28 caravan and holiday park within the MRCC region (19 in MRCC, 9 across the river in NSW) and 27 National Park camp grounds within the LGA. When towing a caravan especially in built up areas motorists need as much advanced warning as possible to direct them to the desired destination which may be a caravan park, a dump point or just a suitable place to park while they explore the town or do some shopping. Always remember "Good signage = Relaxed visitors, who stay longer and spend more money". Generally caravan park signage within MRCC could best be described as fairly good though it seems to be inconsistently applied. Some caravan parks are well signed with advance warning and positional signs while other caravan parks have none.

When approaching a caravan park on a main arterial route there should be a blue advance warning sign (with Caravan/camping symbols) announcing "Name of Caravan Park" - "300m" etc (See example this page), followed by a positional sign adjacent to the caravan park entrance.

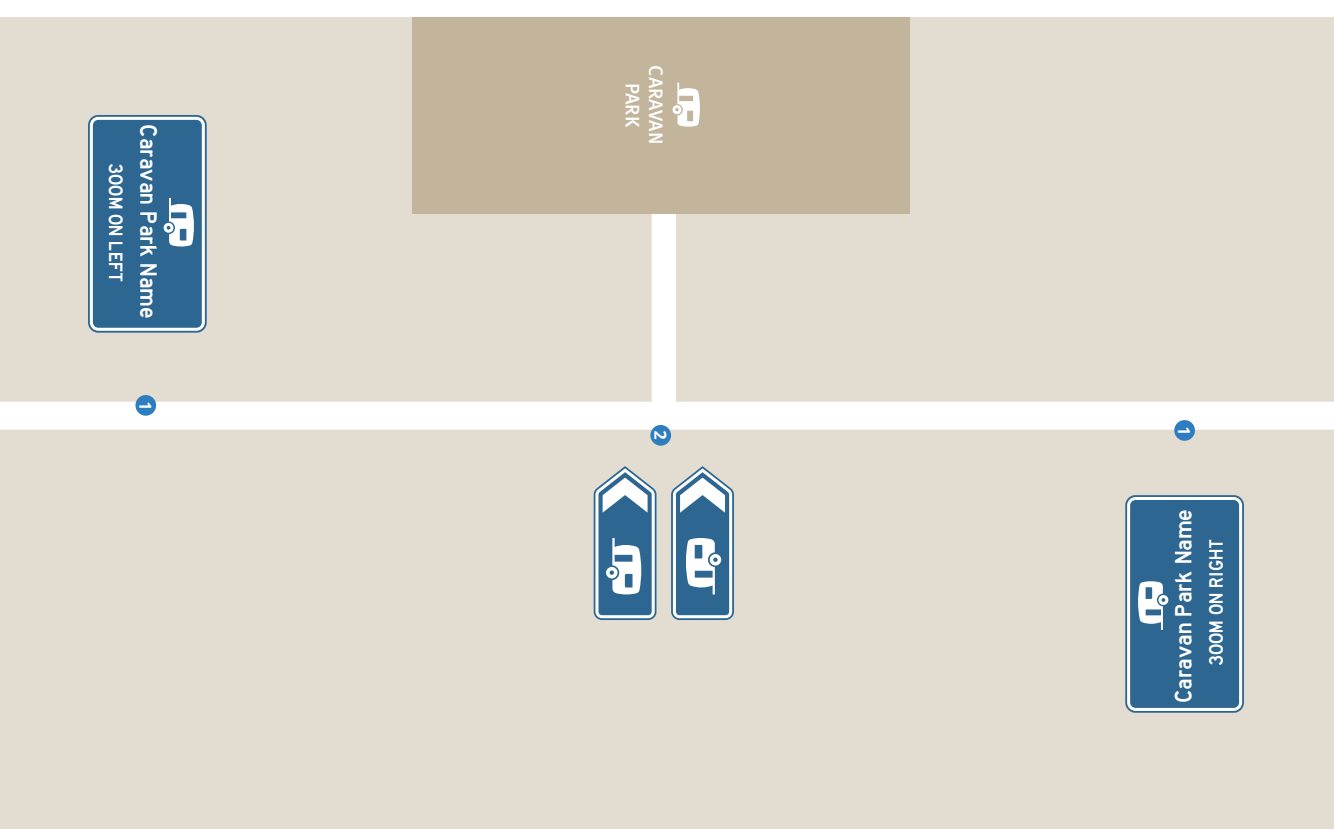
To keep the amount of text used on a sign to a minimum, symbols should be used instead of words, where practicable. For example, the caravan park symbol should always be used instead of the words "caravan park" and the tent symbol instead of "Camping Ground".

Mildura - Mildura has one of the largest concentrations of caravan parks we have ever seen with 10 caravan parks in and around the city plus 1 in Irymple. As there are so many caravan parks within Mildura it's impractical to install an advance warning sign system for directions to all caravan parks within the city boundary. Mildura's caravan parks are generally spread out around the edges of the city with a concentration of four parks along Fifteenth St/Calder Hwy and two more on Sturt Hwy near the airport.

As an example the caravan parks on Fifteenth St/Calder Hwy are signed with advance warning sign but don't have positional signs adjacent to the caravan park entrance. The positional sign is important as some caravan park entrances are well off the roadway or obscured by trees, other buildings and business signs. On Sturt Hwy there are two caravan parks near the airport, Sunraysia and Sun Siesta. These parks are both on a busy stretch of Sturt Hwy yet neither have any advance warning or positional signage. On Calder Hwy prior to the Calder Hwy/Cowra Ave intersection directional signs for the Palms Caravan Park have been installed but there is no directional signage for the nearby Rivers End Caravan Park which is less than 500m away from Palms Caravan Park on Cureton East Ave. At the intersection of 7th St East and Benetook Ave there are advance warning signs for Sun City & Palms Caravan Parks. Sun City is now under new management and is now called Rivers End Holiday Park.



Calder Hwy caravan parks are well signed but there is no signage for Sturt Hwy caravan parks



EXAMPLE - (1) Advance warning signs, (2) Positional signs adjacent park entrance



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.7 MRCC CARAVAN & CAMPING

Merbein - Merbein only has one caravan park located on the western side of town next door to the Kenny Park Recreation Reserve. Approaches to the caravan park are signed but it has the biggest mix of sign types, there is no consistency in what sign type used. It is important to develop and maintain a standard sign type across the whole LGA.

Other Caravan Parks - Most of the other caravan parks within MRCC are reasonably easy to find. Most are situated on the highway and are fairly well signed and are within town boundaries. Nangilloc Caravan Park only has an intersection sign facing northbound traffic at the Calder Hwy/Brownport Rd intersection at Carwarp and no advance warning signs. At the location of this park there is no road signage at all, this may be due to the fact that the park was closed for sometime but has now reopened.

RV Dump Points - Currently there are only two free to the public RV dump points in MRCC. Mildura has one, and one is located in Ouyen but is currently closed.

Mildura - The Mildura dump point is located at the MRCC works depot on Benetook Ave. There are currently no directional signage to this facility from the nearest arterial roads - 15th St/Calder Hwy and 11th St. The dump point is only signed with small non standard dump point symbols at the car park entrance and across the duel carriageway adjacent to the entrance. From all reports this location is difficult to access especially for car/caravan combinations.

Ouyen - According to the CMCA (Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia) website this MRCC RV dump point is closed and there is an interim dump point located at the Ouyen caravan park (fees apply for use). The caravan park has one faded non standard dump point sign facing northbound traffic with no signage for southbound traffic.

RV Friendly Towns - Currently only Ouyen is signed as an RV Friendly. As mentioned in the draft RV, Caravan & Camping Strategy Mildura meets all of the essential requirements and lacks only one of the desirable requirements to qualify for RV Friendly Town status. With such a large caravan and camping industry within Mildura it would make good sense for Mildura to have RV Friendly Town status.



Merbein - River Ave/Reilly St intersection, no directions to Merbein's Caravan Park, only Mildura parks



Nangilloc - Calder Hwy, only directional signage for northbound traffic



Ouyen - Caravan park signage, faded, cluttered and overgrown.



Merbein Caravan Park directional signage - Every type of directional sign type used



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.7 MRCC CARAVAN & CAMPING

Car & Caravan parking - much as with caravan parks the same principles should apply to direct motorists to the appropriate place to park a car and caravan with plenty of advance warning, directional signs positioned prior to the decision making points with clear and distinct parking bays for car and caravan combinations (See examples next page).

Currently within MRCC only Ouyen has dedicated car/caravan parking at its Community Park on Oke St (this site is also the only public EV charging point in MRCC). The site is well laid out with pull through parking bays. There is some issue with the location of the signage at the entrance but otherwise it is well appointed. Mildura meanwhile only has designated car/caravan parking at Deakin Centre. To access this parking requires visitors to transit through the full length of what is a busy sports and swimming complex car park. Once there, there's only four bays, each of diminishing size. While the Deakin Centre parking is good for visitors wishing to access the Visitor Information Centre the nearest shopping/supermarket (IGA) nearly a kilometre away. Again as per the draft RV, Caravan & Camping Strategy we recommend that the Nowingi Place car park be redeveloped to include Car/Caravan parking. This site is both close to the river amenities and the Mildura CBD.

Recommendations

- Standardise directional signage for all caravan parks. Each park to have a suite of advance warning and positional signs (see example page 46).
- Install full suite of signs for Sturt Hwy caravan parks.
- Rationalise and replace old signage at Ouyen Caravan Park.
- Install full suite of signs for Nangiloc Caravan Park at Carwarp and at caravan park location on Kulkynite Way.
- Apply for RV Friendly Town status for Mildura.



Ouyen - Only signposted RV friendly town within MRCC



Ouyen - multitude of signs at caravan park entrance



Ouyen - Non standard RV dump point northbound on Calder Hwy, no corresponding southbound sign. Australian standard dump point symbol



Walpeup - clean uncomplicated sign at park entrance on Mallee Hwy



Ouyen Community Park with car/caravan parking and EV charging



Renamed - Now called Mildura Riverside Holiday Park



Unofficial Car/Caravan Parking at the Nowingi Place car park



Deakin Centre Car/Caravan parking with diminishing parking bays



Small non-standard RV Dump Point sign at entrance to MRCC depot car park off Benetook Ave.

SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.8 MRCC ACCOMMODATION SIGNS

ACCOMMODATION SIGNS

There are various types of accommodation options throughout the MRCC, some of these are well established and have been in operation for many years, whilst some are fairly new. It's been noticed throughout the audit the complete lack of consistency in signing these businesses.

Firstly, all accommodation types come under visitor services, therefore these businesses should have a blue services fingerboard sign with the white bed which is the Australian standard for this type of accommodation.

Generally, the name of the service is not permitted on signs if there are multiple services signed at one location. Otherwise, the name used on the sign should be restricted to the minimum number of words to distinguish the accommodation or service – generally no more than 3 words plus any relevant symbol.

Recommendation

- MRCC to develop a policy for correctly signing this type of business.
- Audit all businesses of this type to ensure they fit within the VIC Roads guidelines and sign accordingly.
- Remove redundant signs. Replace all incorrect signs.



Ouyen - Faded accommodation signage



Woerlong Holiday Flats signed correctly - but may no longer be in business, can't find any online presence for Woerlong Holiday Flats



Red Cliffs Accommodation sign hidden in the trees



Kulkyrie Way accommodation sign "Holiday Flats" may no longer be in business



Lock 9 Lodge - should be a blue fingerboard



Mildura - B&B accommodation fingerboard (Bed symbol should be at the pole end of the sign panel)



Mildura - Calder Hwy/15th St



Mildura - Some motels have signs, some don't? (Bed symbol should be at the pole end of the sign panel)



Red Cliffs - Motel advance warning sign



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.8 MRCC ACCOMMODATION SIGNS

ACCOMMODATION SIGN APPLICATION

When installing blue services signs it is important that this is done correctly following Australian Standards.

The street name should always feature at the top of the structure, and this should be a standard black on white fingerboard. Text should be in Highway Gothic at 54opt. Street types (e.g. road, street avenue) should use standard abbreviations RD, ST, AVE.

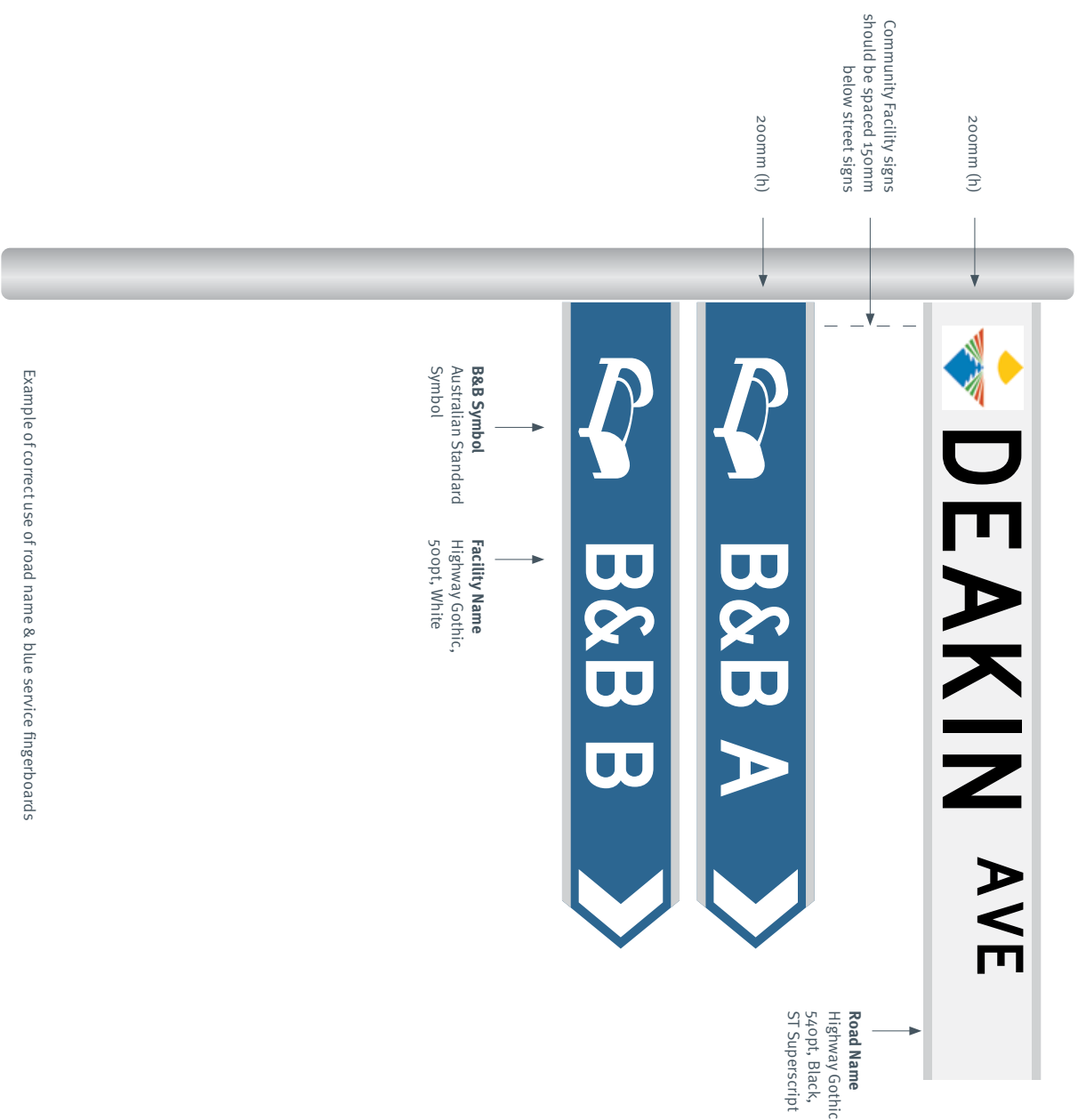
Below the street name sign there should be a gap of 150mm before the next fingerboard.

Blue service fingerboards -these should be in Australian Standard Blue with white text in Highway Gothic at 50opt. Where possible Australian Standard symbols should be used (refer to page 17 for correct symbols). If an accommodation business has a long name e.g. "Sunraysia Holiday B&B" the name can be abbreviated to just "Sunraysia" and the B&B symbol.



Tourist accommodation signing can utilise the following symbol types:

Signage should only be positioned from the nearest regional road intersection.



Example of correct use of road name & blue service fingerboards



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.9 RED CLIFFS SERVICES

RED CLIFFS SERVICES

Red Cliffs is situated 15Kms south east of Mildura and straddles the Calder Hwy. Red Cliffs has a well developed CBD with the full range of services. Accommodation options include a motel and a caravan park.

Apart from directional signage to the motel and caravan park blue services sign are non existent. On both the northbound and southbound approaches there are none of the usual blue services advance warning signs. Somehow these signs haven't been installed or were removed some time ago. Apart from the Red Cliffs Lions Club rest area all of Red Cliffs services lie east of Calder Hwy within the CBD. This includes toilets, shops and cafes. At the Calder Hwy/Indi Ave intersection there is no blue services signs directing visitors into the Red Cliffs CBD

Recommendations

- Install blue services advance warnings signs north and south of Red Cliffs on Calder Hwy.
- Install blue town services sign at Calder Hwy Indi Ave intersection.
- Install large double sided intersection sign for Red Cliffs Lookout at Calder Hwy/Fitzroy Ave Intersection.
- Develop old railway station parking lot as a designated car/caravan parking area.



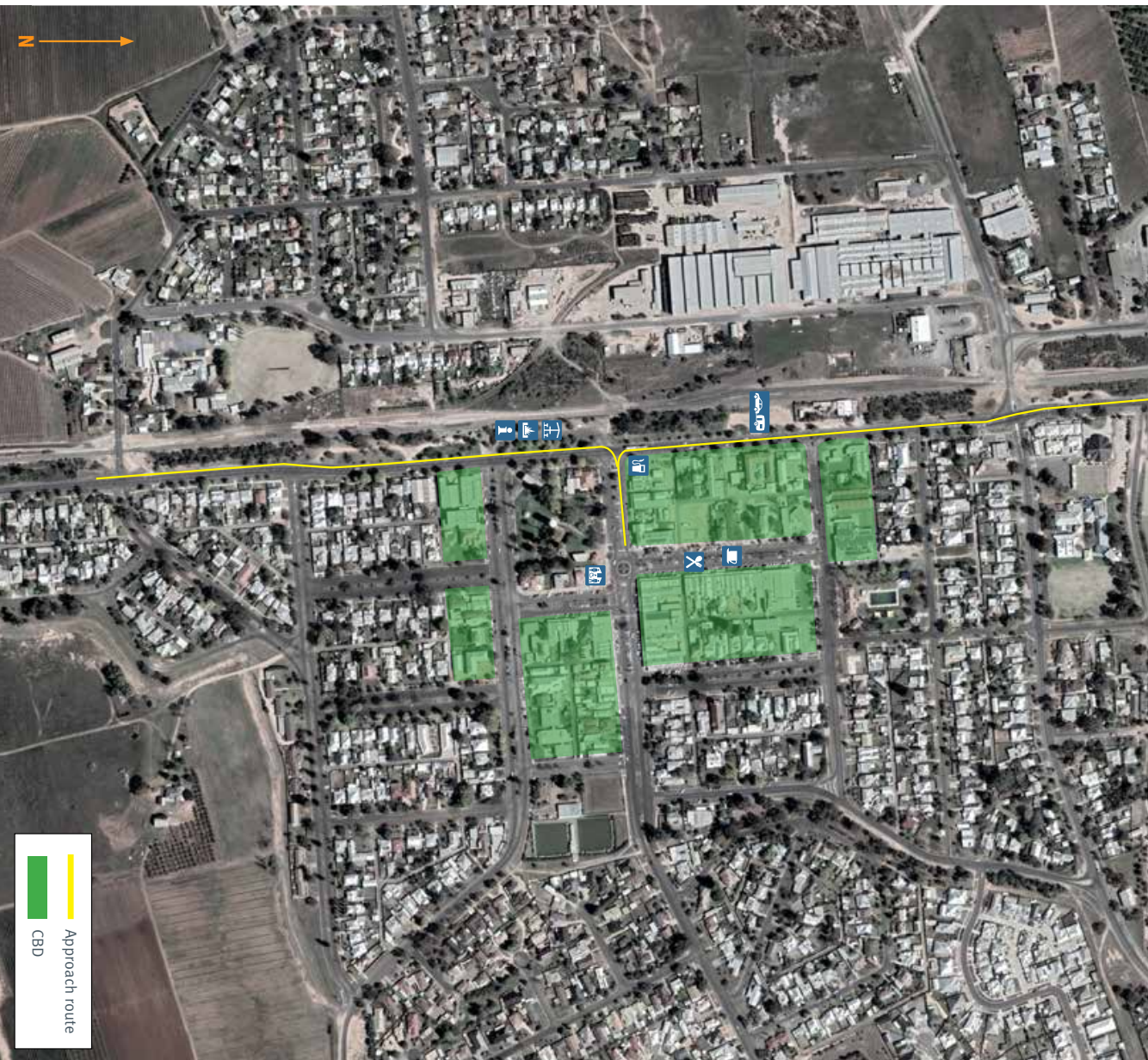
Red Cliffs - Town Entry Statements



Red Cliffs - Overgrown reassurance sign on Calder Hwy



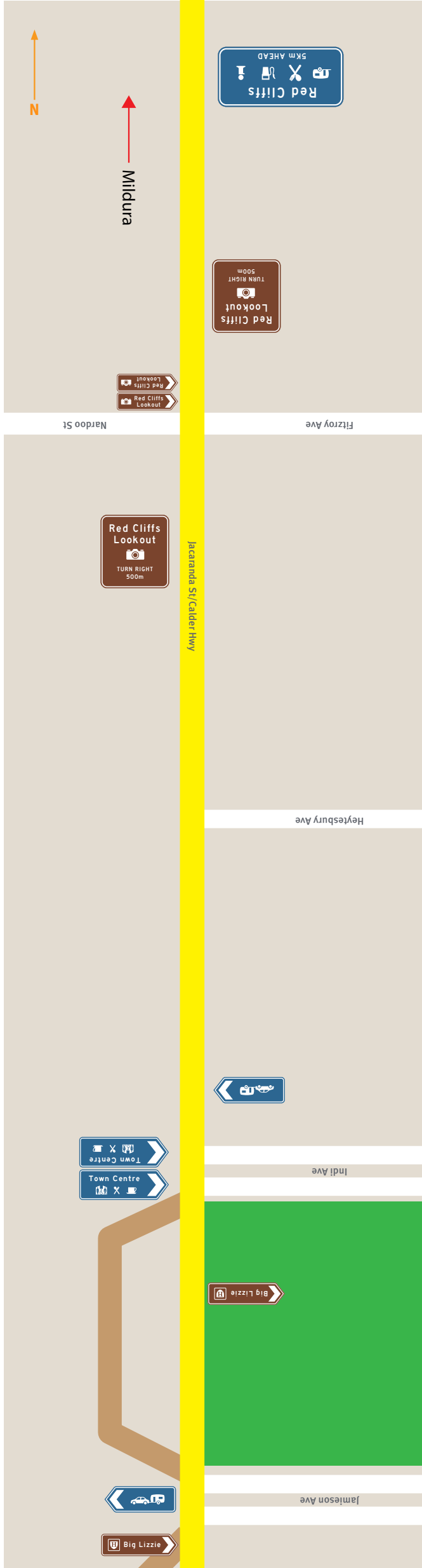
Red Cliffs - Lion Club Rest Area



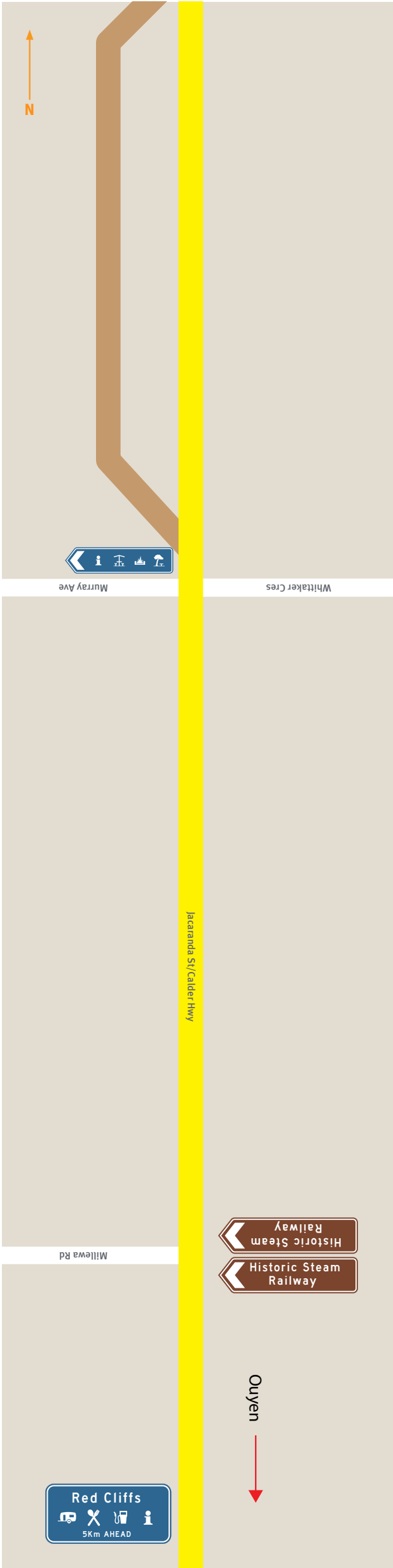
SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.9 RED CLIFFS SERVICES SIGNAGE PLAN

RED CLIFFS SERVICES PART A



RED CLIFFS SERVICES PART B



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.9 OUYEN SERVICES

OUYEN SERVICES

Ouyen is situated in the south eastern corner of MRCC. The town sits on the crossroads of the Calder and Mallee highways and is the largest town in the southern section of MRCC. The commercial heart of Ouyen is on the western side of the railway and is centred on Oke St. The town has a range of shops including a very popular bakery/cafe and a modern supermarket. Accommodation options include the hotel, two motels, a caravan park and few B&B/ serviced apartment options.

While Ouyen isn't known for its tourist attractions it has an active progress association - Ouyen Inc. Through the efforts of this group numerous services of benefit to both locals and visitors have been incorporated into the town. These include the towns Community Park and the upgrade of facilities at Ouyen Lake. The Community Park is situated on Ouyen's commercial strip. The park has a full suite of amenities including parking for buses and car/caravans, toilets and an EV charging station. Next door to this park is the towns historic Roxy Theatre. Recently the town has undertaken the redevelopment of Ouyen Lake. The lake situated on the north west side of town has been fully landscaped with lawn planted around the entire lake. New facilities have been installed including toilets, picnic shelters and barbecues. Currently the lake only has entry statements installed at the Scott St entrance with directional signage from town yet to be installed. There is some conjecture to what the route to the lake will be but generally everyone was in favour of bringing in visitors via Oke St rather than the more direct route of Scott St as this will benefit the Ouyen retail businesses. The new Ouyen Lake could be signed as either a tourist attraction (brown sign) or as a community facility (blue sign).

At the junction of Mallee and Calder Hwy is the Blackburn Park Rest Area. This rest area is a popular stopping place for travellers. The facilities here include toilets, picnic tables and tourist information. The Visitor information bay is well presented but is completely devoid of any relevant tourist information. The only information presented is an old faded map "Mallee Tracks" and some information on a community solar project. This visitor information has a lot of passing traffic which makes this a good location to



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.9 OUYEN SERVICES

Promote to visitors the attractions in the area and Ouyen's services and amenities.

Signage around Ouyen is in generally fairly poor condition with lots of signs faded and in places overgrown. These signs are covered in more detail in the signage audit.

Recommendations

- Develop a new town signage plan from the Mallee/Calder Hwy intersection all the way to Ouyen Lake (see example next page).
- At Ouyen Lake plan and install the relevant regulatory signs. Try to cover all signage requirements in one go so all signage can be consolidated in one place.
- Replace Ouyen Blue Services advance warning signs.
- Refurbish and install new visitor information panels at the Blackburn Park Visitor Information Bay.
- Cut back trees and undergrowth around affected signs



Ouyen - Tidy Town Winner, how long ago?



Overgrown signage at Mallee/Calder Hwy intersection



Blackburn Park is a popular rest area



Old faded non conventional sign at Mallee/Calder Hwy intersection



Not sure why a local community club needs such a large sign



Blue services advance warning sign faded and in need of replacement



Welcome to Ouyen - Town entry statement in need of replacement



Ouyen Community Park - Bus & Car/Caravan Parking, Toilets and EV Charging



Ouyen Lake entrance



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SECTION 3. MRCC SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.9 OUYEN SERVICES SIGNAGE PLAN



SUGGESTED - services signage plan for Ouyen



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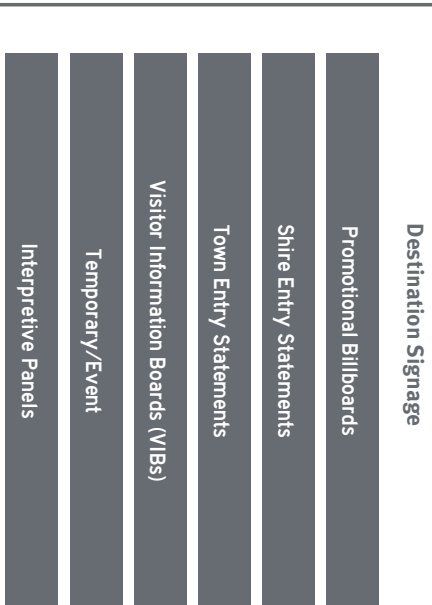
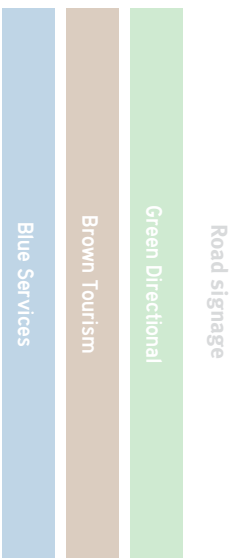


SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM



SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.0 BACKGROUND



This section provides background information on the destination signs and how they can be used to promote the MRCC's attractions and experiences.

While there is little opportunity to influence the design of green, brown and blue road signs, there is scope to create a suite of unique and well-designed destination and marketing tourism-related signs for MRCC.

A suite of destination signs can include the following types of signage:

- Promotional Billboards** – these can be used for promoting and providing directional information for the area and specific attractions. They are aimed at encouraging visitors to stop and stay longer.
- LGA Entry Statements** – these are also referred to as gateway signs. They create a sense of arrival to a region, LGA or town/village and identify an area as a destination (i.e. a place worth stopping). They should reflect the character of the place.
- Town Entry Statements** – these are at the entrance to a town or village. They usually reflect the destination's branding but with a regional approach they might include the regional and council brand.
- Visitor Information Boards (VIBs)** – provide information that helps with wayfinding and orientation (e.g. contain maps of the area), attractions and features, visitor information services, and services, facilities and amenities available in the area.
- Temporary/Event** – these signs are used to highlight events and activities but are not permanent signs.
- Interpretive Panels** – these signs provide information about attractions, historic sites, lookouts, etc. and can be arranged single signs or groups of signs.



Examples of existing tourism signage in MRCC



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.1 PROMOTIONAL BILLBOARDS

At present, the MRCC has three promotional billboards, two of these are trailer mounted - one at Hattah and one at Gol Gol. There is also a third fixed billboard located at the Sturt Hwy Airport intersection. All of these billboards are looking tired and faded and don't seem to have much in common with MRCC current tourist branding other than the name and the tag line.

There was a positive response to developing promotional billboards, however the design needs to align with the region's branding.

The community does not want an excessive number of signs and supports careful selection of locations, especially if large billboard type signs are used. Vic Roads does not approve of these types of signs in the road reserve.

Four large standard size promotional billboards throughout the Shire are suggested.

Principles & Guidelines

Placement of these billboards should be based on the following criteria:

1. **Purpose** - These billboards would be used only for the purpose of promoting MRCC and its tourism experiences. They should not be used to promote specific businesses or towns.
2. **Location** - Billboards should be placed where they don't deter from the enjoyment of the natural environment, they should be placed where they do not project above the horizon and ideally where the ground or the tree line is rising above the top of the billboard. The billboards should be positioned a safe distance from the roadway. These billboards can only be used on private or MRCC owned land.
3. **Line of Sight** - Look for locations that have a clear line of sight from approximately 250 meters. This is the maximum distance that the casual observer will notice your billboard when travelling at the standard highway speed limit of 110kmh.
4. **Messaging** - Keep it very simple. The best way for MRCC to promote a destination is through large professionally shot images of the destination with simple messages which aligns with Mildura's tourist branding "experience better". It is important that the billboard does not distract drivers.

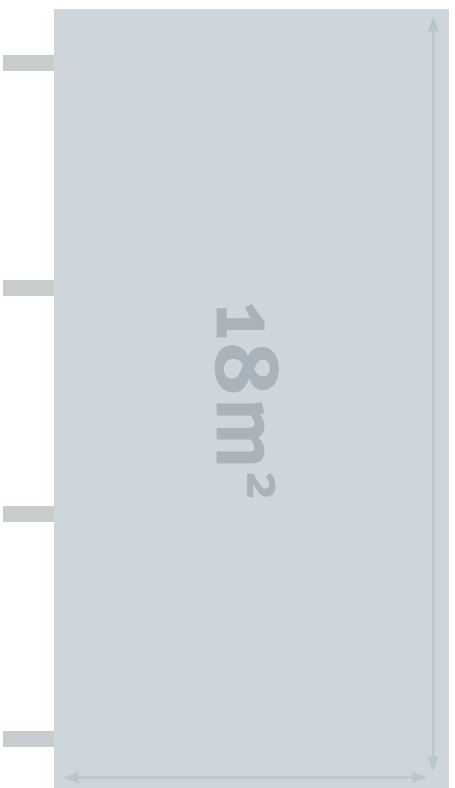
5. **Materials/Size** - Promotional billboards should follow standard Australian sizes, this will allow the MRCC to access a large pool of outdoor advertising contractors to service and maintain these billboards. The billboards should be fitted with aluminium tracking to allow them to be changed out regularly with new images or event related images e.g. Mildura & Wentworth Country Music Festival.
6. The smallest size billboard that can be used to fulfil the purpose and site should always be chosen to minimise impacts to vegetation, scenic landscapes and amenity.

Recommendation

Council investigate potential locations to install up to four promotional billboards along the Calder and Sturt Hwy to promote MRCC. This would:

- Align with MRCC's Tourism Branding.
- Align with the principles in this Strategy.
- Include consideration of locations south of Red Cliffs and Abbotstford Bridge on Calder Hwy, west of Merbein South and north of George Chaffey Bridge on Sturt Hwy.
- These will require development consent, and may have permissibility issues, depending on where they are located.

**Super 6's
6m x 3m**

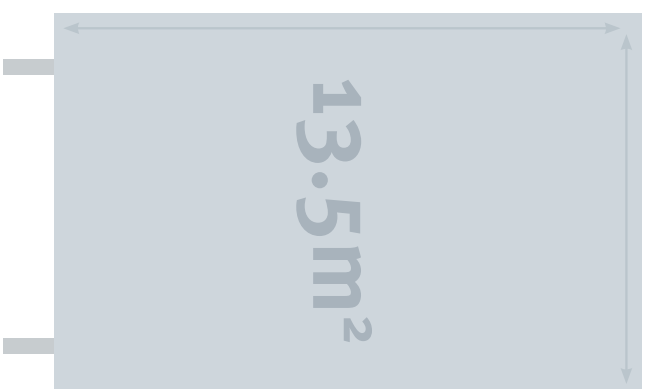


Australian Standard Billboard sizes.

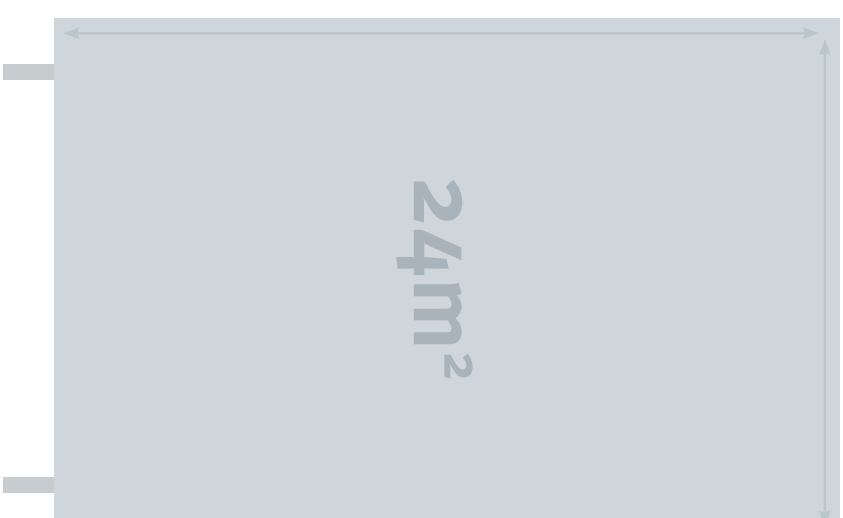
**Super 8's
8.3m x 2.2m**



**Portrait 2
4m x 6m**



**Portrait 1
3m x 4.5m**



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM 4.1 PROMOTIONAL BILLBOARDS



Hattah - Mobile billboard on Calder Hwy



Gol Gol - Mobile billboard on Sturt Hwy



Airport Access Rd/Sturt Hwy intersection - Fixed airport management promotional billboard



Mildura - 9th St Mural



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.2 MRCC BOUNDARY ENTRY STATEMENTS

MRCC BOUNDARY ENTRY STATEMENTS

MRCC has boundary entry statements in place at all the LGA boundaries entry points on the Sturt, Calder, Mallee and Sunraysia Highways and on the Hattah-Robinvale Rd. Each location is signed with a large panel sign and looked to have been installed at the same time as the many locality signs positioned within the MRCC

These boundary entry statements look as though they have been in place for some time and in most cases are well past their use by date. Many of the signs were damaged or were de-laminating.

When compared with the entry statements of the surrounding LGA's MRCC entry statements could best be described as underwhelming. There is no sense of arrival at the MRCC's boundaries and a complete lack of any creativity in their design. In most cases the logo (diamond shape) has faded and is barely recognisable and the blue/grey body of the sign gets lost against the background mallee scrub. When crossing at the George Chaffey Bridge on an overcast day we completely missed there was an entry statement positioned on the southern side of the bridge, it wasn't until we went back and checked the video footage that we noticed that there was a sign there. Similarly at the Abbottsford Bridge.

During our research we looked at the surrounding LGA's and in most cases they have recently replaced their boundary signage or were in the process of doing so. Swan Hill's entry statements were particularly a stand out in design and construction.

Recommendation

- Design and develop new LGA entry statement that better reflect MRCC branding.



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.3 MRCC TOWN ENTRY STATEMENTS

MRCC TOWN ENTRY STATEMENTS

Town entry statements across the MRCC vary greatly from town-to-town. They range from corten steel constructions to assorted metal and wooden panel signs. Generally these signs have been commissioned and built by and for each individual community. This results in variety of designs that have no cohesion as a group or any representative branding that they are part of MRCC. Many of these signs are now looking old and tired and in need of replacement.

Most surprising was that Mildura the largest population centre in the MRCC has no town entry statements at all other than a couple of the small grey locality signs that MRCC is festooned with. There is a complete lack of any sense of arrival especially arriving from the south on Calder Hwy or from the west on the Sturt Hwy.

Both Merbein and Red Cliffs have developed large corten/powder coated town entry statements which have been professionally designed and fabricated. These signs are probably the only ones worth keeping.

Principals and guidelines

1. **Community** - Community buy-in must be sought at the start of the process. It cannot be underestimated the importance of getting the community engaged and involved in the project. This will help achieve a successful outcome.
2. **Design** - Create a memorable design that visitors will recognise and establish the connection between the entry statements and the broader MWRC experience. Local materials should be sourced whenever possible.
3. **Size and scale** - A suite of entry statements of complementary designs and sizes that suit different locations and a hierarchy for the MRCC towns and villages would be ideal. They should be of an appropriate scale for the size of the location and be able to be seen from a reasonable distance (about 200 meters) by people travelling in vehicles.
4. **Visibility** - Lighting and power supply e.g. mains power or solar should be carefully considered for night time viewing.



MRCC Town Entry Statements



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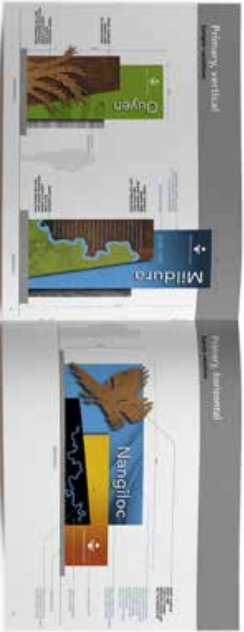
SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.3 MRCC TOWN ENTRY STATEMENTS

- 5. **Site location** - Locations should be chosen so the entry statement can be clearly viewed but is not a distraction or safety hazard for motorists. Entry signs should not interfere with other road safety and regulatory signs and be placed in locations to convey a positive image of the location.
- 6. **Construction** - High quality construction and use of materials that are durable, high quality and replaceable.

Recommendation

- In 2020 MRCC commissioned design studio Challis Design to develop town entrance signage guidelines to aid the development of town entry statements for all of the towns and villages within MRCC. The concepts Challis developed were adaptable to give each town/village its own identity yet still form part of an overarching MRCC brand.
- The design styling developed by Challis Design also complemented the entry statements already installed by Merbein and Red Cliffs. It seems as though this project never got beyond the concept development stage. Our recommendation is to continue with the work developed by Challis to roll out branded town entry statements across the MRCC.



MRCC Town Entry Statement development (Challis Design)



MRCC Town Entry Statements

Mildura's Town Entry Statement



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.4 MILDURA DESTINATION BRANDING AND EVENT PROMOTION

MILDURA DESTINATION BRANDING AND EVENT PROMOTION

Mildura has a well developed tourist brand, a supporting positioning statement "experience better", a comprehensive website - visitmildura.com.au, active social media and tourist brochures. All of this helps getting people to come to Mildura but the visitor experience is left a little flat when they eventually arrive.

Whichever way you drive into Mildura there is a complete lack of any sense of arrival. This applies to all four highway entrances as well as from the airport. There is not one entry statement, promotional billboard or piece of destination branding anywhere to be seen as you enter the city. It's almost as if the citizens of Mildura are not that interested in the perception that this can leave visitors with. During our site visit we spoke with two recent residents who have relocated of Mildura. They remarked that "the residents know where everything is and what's going on but really aren't that interested in showing any one else".

Besides destination branding event promotion is sadly lacking. While events are well promoted online on the What's On Mildura website - eventsmildura.com.au there is very little to inform the casual drive through visitor about any current or up coming events.

There are not too many cities the size of Mildura that have not been bypassed by an outer ring road. This makes Mildura feel as though it is the cross-roads of Australia with a constant stream of traffic flowing through the city day and night from all directions. The majority of this traffic flows through the city via Deakin Ave. Being a planned city on a grid layout Mildura has large wide avenues and streets that provide ample space for Mildura to promote its brand and the attractions on offer in both Mildura and the MRCC region.

On each of the city's approaches there should be large entry statements installed that promote the colourful Mildura brand and positioning statement. These entry statements could also incorporate large digital displays that can be used to promote city events and attractions. The large roundabout at the 15th St/Deakin Ave or where the current flag poles are

located at the head of Deakin Ave is an idea location for a large destination branding project. This large roundabout is the junction for the Calder and Sturt Hwy and has ample room to do something really creative that could really enhance the Mildura brand.

Other prominent locations include the round about Sturt Hwy/7th St/San Mateo Ave.

Flag systems are a great way to promote events and attractions. Clusters of flags positioned down Deakin Ave would provide wonderful visual cues when promoting an event or for annual celebrations like Christmas and Australia Day etc. Modern flag system come with internal halyard systems where one person can change out a set of flags in an hour. Other innovations include Rota-Head systems where the flag remains erect even in the lightest breeze.

When crossing the George Chaffey Bridge into NSW on the NSW side of the border flags are prominently displayed from the light poles, unfortunately there are no corresponding flags on the MRCC side. Eventually we did find the one Mildura branded piece of destination branding - the mural on 9th St.

Recommendation

- Install large prominent entry statements at all four highway entry points into Mildura.
- Develop and install a large creative branded installation at the 15th St/Deakin Ave roundabout.
- Install flag clusters on the northern end of Deakin Ave, 7th St and San Mateo Ave roundabout.
- Install flag structures on the Victorian side of the George Chaffey Bridge.



EXAMPLES: Recently installed large digital display entry statement Forrest Hwy, City of Bunbury, City of Dandenong Christmas Rota-Head Flags



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.5 MRCC VISITOR INFORMATION BAYS

MRCC VISITOR INFORMATION BAYS

MRCC has a number of visitor information bays (VIB's) spread throughout the LGA. Like the town entry statements none of the VIB's are branded as of being part of MRCC. Each VIB has been installed independently by the local community.

Generally lock-up noticeboards with acrylic windows are a poor choice for outdoor application. The acrylic tends to turn opaque and dirt, dust and dead insects tend to build up within the noticeboard void. These noticeboards usually have some locking mechanism which often goes missing which make it hard to clean and maintain. The best material for VIB panels is printed Hi UV resistant vinyl with an anti graffiti laminate (as per Red Cliffs VIB). Generally this material will last for three to five years depending on orientation to the sun and by which time they should be updated and replaced.

Below I've detailed each Visitor Information Bay from best to worse.

These include the following locations:

1. Red Cliffs (Lions Club Red Cliffs Rest Area)
2. Murrayville (Murrayville Rest Area)
3. Underpool (Underpool Rest Area)
4. Ouyen (Blackburn Park Rest Area)
5. Lake Cullulleraine (Johansen Memorial Reserve)

Red Cliffs Visitor Information Bay - The Red Cliff VIB is best within the MRCC. The information panels look to have been recently replaced and the information provided is well written and properly designed. Each panel is printed on Hi UV resistant vinyl and affixed to ACM composite sheeting. The centre panel has a map of the town centre and a larger near area map which most importantly has a "You Are Here" pin for visitors to orientate themselves where exactly they are. The only problem with this VIB is its location in the very back of the park hidden behind a stand of trees. (see Red Cliff section page 38)

Murrayville Visitor Information Bay - This VIB seems to have been developed/supplied by the Victorian Government as it bears state government stickers on all three panels. The information primarily deals with accessing the Murray-Sunset NP and the Big Desert Wilderness Area. There is very little about the



Red Cliffs Visitor Information Bay, well designed and presented



Red Cliffs Visitor Information Bay - Well researched and written



Red Cliffs Visitor Information Bay - Well designed map



Murrayville Visitor Information Bay - Good layout



Lake Cullulleraine - Good quality structure



Lake Cullulleraine - Old fade information behind opaque acrylic



Ouyen Visitor Information Bay - Good location and structure poorly presented information



Ouyen Visitor Information Bay - Old faded Mallee Tracks map



Underpool - completely home made



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4.5 MRCC VISITOR INFORMATION BAYS

general attractions and services in Murrayville and the surrounding area. When tourist information is put behind acrylic noticeboard panels as this one has the acrylic will gradually turn opaque making it difficult to read.

Underbush Visitor Information Bay - Completely home made by local community members. Good effort but the content is fading and should be replaced by a professionally designed and produced VIB panel.

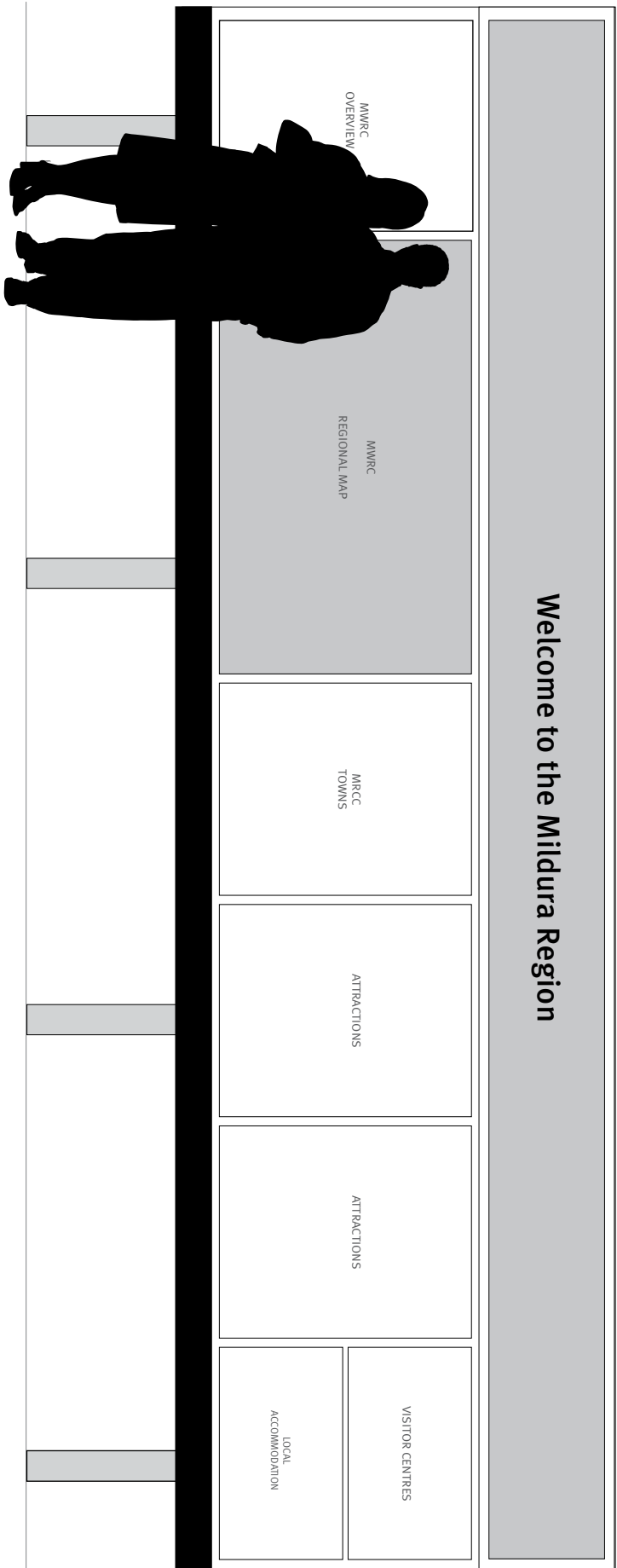
Ouyen Visitor Information Bay - As previously mentioned in the Ouyen section the actual VIB is well sited at Blackburn Park Rest Area. The structure is sound and in good condition unfortunately anything that could be considered tourist information is either faded or non-existent. Like the Murrayville VIB the acrylic panels are becoming opaque making it hard to read.

Lake Cullulleraine Visitor Information Bay - This one is the worst, old dirty acrylic noticeboard panels completely devoid of anything that could be described as tourist information.

Apart from the five locations mentioned towns such as Mildura and Merbein have no visitor information bays at all. Hattah and Cowangie both display the white "i" visitor information symbol on their blue services boards but we could not find evidence of VIB's at either of these localities.

Recommendation

- Develop a standard three tier suite of visitor information boards (see next page) that can be installed in each town/village within the MRCC.
- Develop locations for large Tier 1 visitor information bays at MRCC entry points e.g. Ouyen, Lake Cullulleraine, south of Abbotstford Bridge, Murrayville, Mildura River Parks etc.
- Develop standardised content across all MRCC VIB panels that incorporate the Mildura tourist brand. Retain control of all artwork so panels can be quickly update when damaged or due for replacement.



Example 1 - Main MRCC entry points (e.g.Ouyen, Lake Cullulleraine, Abbotstford Bridge, Murrayville etc.) Visitor Information Boards 6.0m X 4.5m

Principals and guidelines

Visitor Information Boards should contain the following information:

Be on brand – The design and layout should reflect the tourism brand and style adopted by MRCC.

Develop a suite – There should be a suite of sizes (see next page) and types so that information can be provided in staggered and complementary ways. For example, near the entry to the MRCC, large boards with comprehensive information should be provided, medium sized boards can be used in larger towns and smaller ones can be used in small towns and villages.

Locations – Locate Visitor Information Boards in conjunction with access to facilities (eg: toilets and rest areas) as this is a good way to get people to stop and check out what's on offer in the Mildura region

Content – The key requirements for a Visitor Information Board can be broken down into three basic categories:

- What can I see & do? (local history & attractions, activities & events, walk & drive trails),
- What services & facilities are available? (services & amenities, accommodation options, key contacts)
- How do I find what I'm looking for? (area and regional maps).

The most important thing when planning the content for a Visitor Information Board is to ask yourself "is this information relevant to visitors?"

Advertising – If MRCC VIB's are to include advertising, guidelines should be established and all artwork approved before an advertising panel is approved for production and installation. All advertising should be for

a set period of time and renewable every twelve months.

Maintenance – Implement an annual maintenance schedule for all of your Visitor Information Bays.

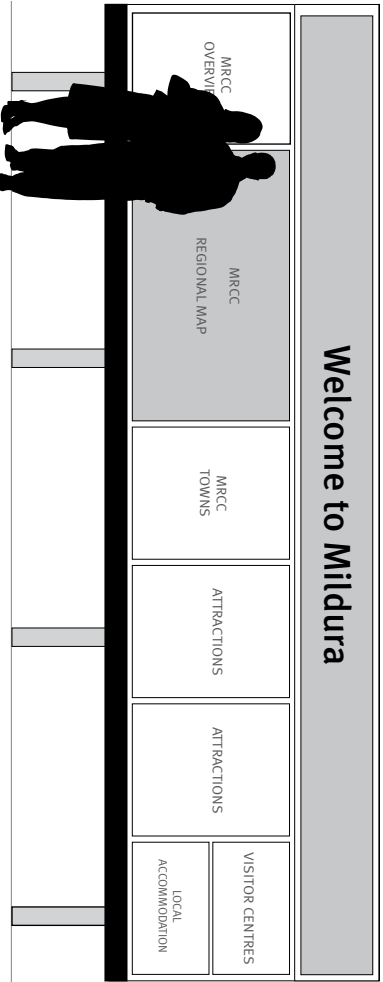


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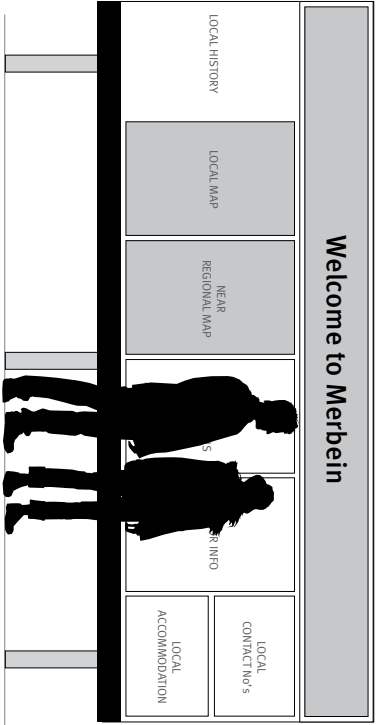
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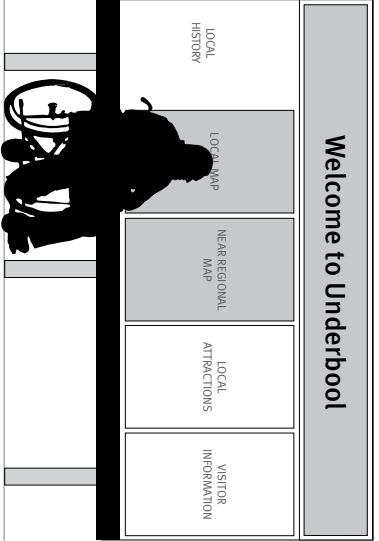
4.5 MRCC VISITOR INFORMATION BAYS



Example 2 - Large Town Visitor Information Boards 6.0m X 1.5m



Example 3 - Medium Town Visitor Information Boards 4.0m X 1.5m



Example 4 - Small Town Visitor Information Boards 3.0m X 1.5m

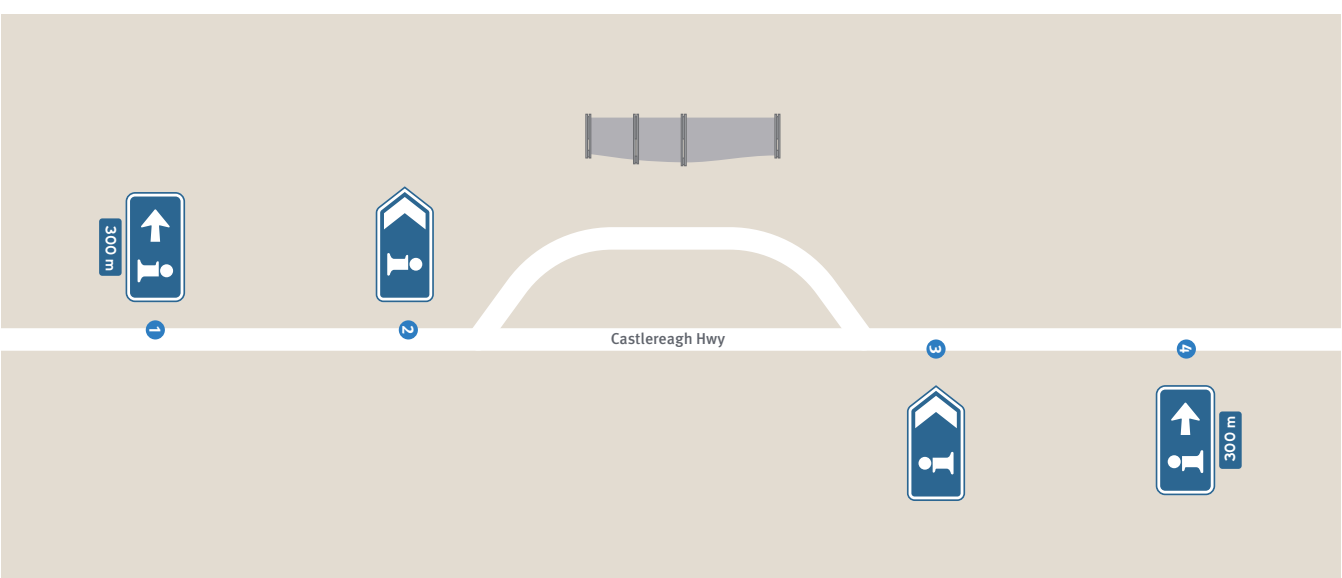
Note: These are examples only of a suite of Visitor Information Boards and the types of information they should contain. They should be designed to be congruent with the MRCC Tourism Brand.

Visitor Information Bay road signage

Throughout the MRCC there is no consistent signing of visitor information bays. Some are partially signed, some are signed for only one direction and some are not signed at all.

Recommendation

Standardise all visitor information bay road signage as per example right.



Example – Correct signage for directions to roadside Visitor Information Bays



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.6 MILDURA VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

MILDURA VISITOR CENTRE

Visitor Information Centres (VIC) are an important mechanism for providing visitors with a wide range of information about the attractions, services, facilities and things to do. Many visitors use VIC's as their first port of call when they arrive in a new place. Signing these well so visitors can locate them easily is essential. To assist with navigation, these direction signs need to be consistent, accurate and reliable.

The safest and most suitable routes should be considered for visitors to find their way to a VIC.

VIC wayfinding signs should be placed prior to decision making points, starting at the town boundary and continue to where the VIC is located.

Throughout MRCC the Mildura VIC is well signed, we found signage directing to the Mildura VIC as far away as South Australian border on the Sturt Hwy over 110 kms away. Most of the signage is good however some of it could use some cleaning. On arrival in Mildura at Mildura Airport

we drove directly to the VIC unassisted. Signage design is a bit variable but generally amongst some of the better examples we have seen.

Recommendation

- No recommendations - Mildura is currently refurbishing their VIC. The centre is located in a large airy space within the Deakin Centre and will be enhanced by the improvements.



Handy reference - National Tourism Signing Reference Group publication
- "Road Signing Accredited Visitor Information Centres"



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Mildura Visitor Information Centre - signed from the South Australian border



Inbound on Sturt Hwy approaching Merbein South



6kms to Mildura, only 5 to the Visitor Information Centre



Merbein



Mildura - 11th St/Deakin Ave intersection



Mildura - 7th St/Deakin Ave intersection

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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.7 MRCC VISITOR MAPS

MILDURA VISITOR MAPS

A good quality, accurate visitor information map contributes to a higher level of visitor enjoyment and gives a positive impression of the place. The maps should be designed in a way that they can be adapted for the tourism brand, message and priorities. They should be provided in formats to be used for specific purposes and online, in print and on signs (visitor information boards, kiosks and pedestrian wayfinding). Visitor maps are an essential tool for raising awareness of what's on offer and helping visitors find specific attractions/experiences – e.g. drive trails, historic sites & activities. They should be consistently used. The same style of map should be available online, on signs and in print form so users understand where to find information.

The printed visitor maps that are currently available for MRCC are hard to read, they don't use Australian Standard symbols (see pages 15 & 16 of this strategy) and are poorly laid out. The maps have far too much road detail for what the average visitor will require and they are printed on the wrong paper stock - gloss paper is poor to write on.

Principals and Guidelines

Ensure the map has the right content for its purpose – Is it to show people how to get around your region and the services and attractions on offer? Is it for a tourist drive trail, a walk trail or for an activity like mountain bike riding or bushwalking? Each of these will have different requirements.

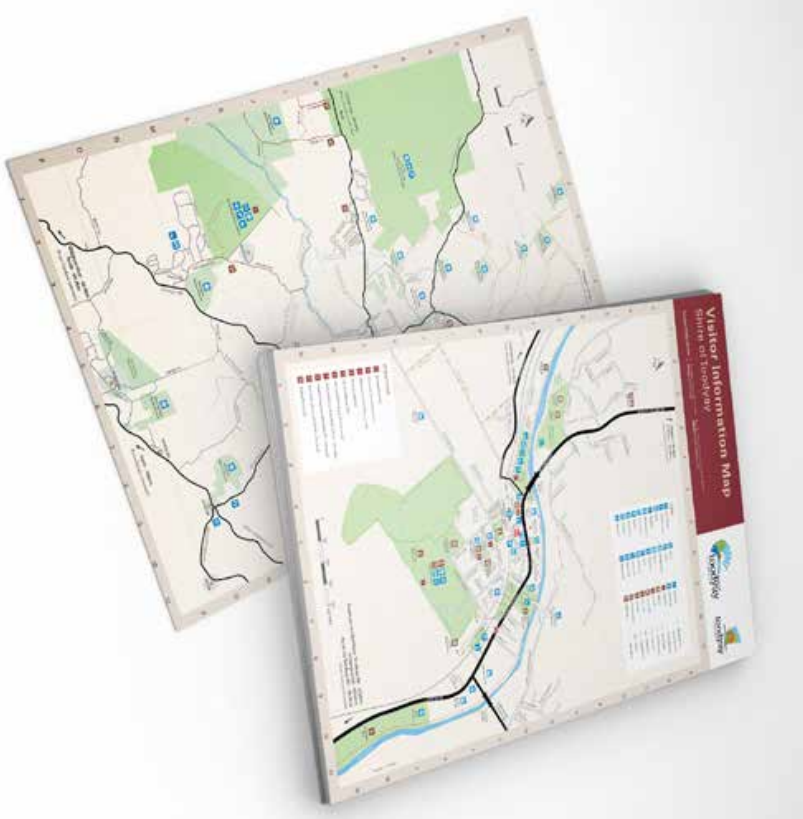
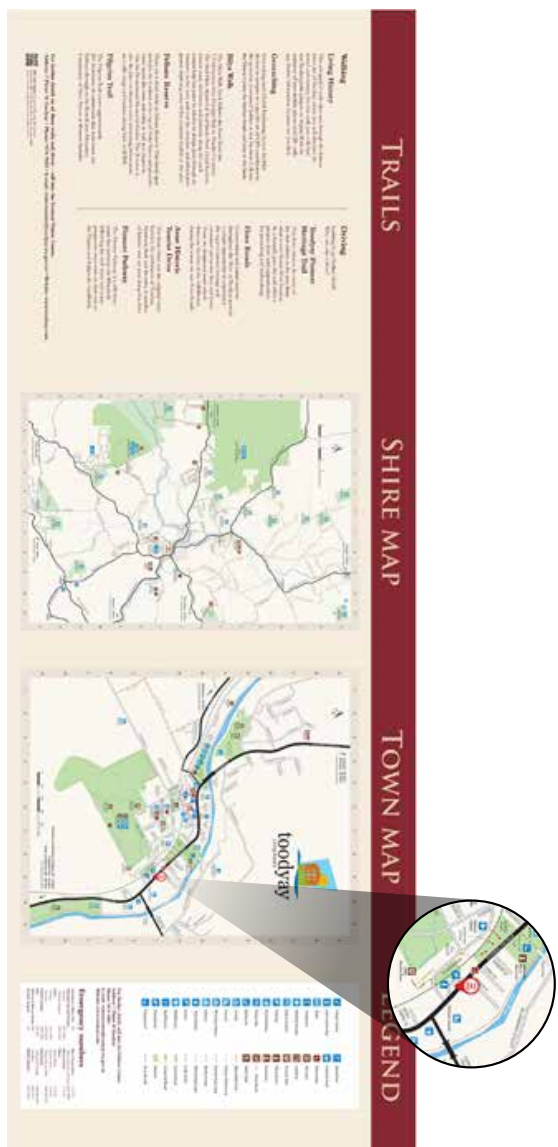
Design the map so it is easy to use – If you are designing a map to be used by bush walkers it must fit easily into a pocket and not be difficult to fold. If your map is primarily for elderly users, legibility factors such as type size, colours used etc. must be considered.

Use the right format – Consider how the maps will be distributed? Will users pick up one from a visitor centre? If so, do they need to fit in a standard size brochure rack? Or how much space will it take up on the counter? Or will users download it from your website and print it out?

Maps on Visitor Information Boards

- Always include a 'you are here' indicator.
- Show the larger area (e.g. the LGA) for orientation along with local areas or specific sections but be

- certain the scale is the right size to be legible.
 - Give indications of distances to destinations – driving time, walking distance etc.
 - Include arrows, clear text and Australian standard symbols for services, facilities and attractions.
 - Visitor Information Board maps should be at eye level.
- Recommendation**
- Replace current VIC maps with A3 map pads where VIC Staff can quickly tear off a map and write in directions or point out attracts of specific interest to visitors. One side should concentrate on the Mildura CBD and the riverside parks and the reverse should be an all of LGA overview map.



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SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.8 MRCC INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

MRCC INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

Interpretation is the act of explaining, re-framing, or otherwise showing your own understanding of something. Good quality interpretation raises awareness of the history, culture and experiences of a place. Good interpretation is a key plank in good tourism experiences. It can lead to repeat visitation and also positive endorsements (through word of mouth and social media sharing platforms). This is particularly important with sites like TripAdvisor where photos and comments can be posted instantly and shared with friends.

Like most LGA's interpretative signage is very mixed and has been installed in a project by project basis which results in a very mixed range of styles and designs. All of the projects sighted in MRCC appear to have been led by various committees and interest groups, we sighted no interpretive projects that appear to have been commissioned by MRCC or carried the MRCC logo. Indigenous interpretation is fairly minimal with some representation at the riverside parks and the main pedestrian access point on 7th St.

Principals and Guidelines

There are six basic steps to follow for a high-quality interpretive experience.

- 1. Planning** – Planning is the KEY to using limited resources effectively and to producing attractive, quality signs and creating a worthwhile experience. What is the purpose of the experience? What do you want people to learn?
- 2. Content** – The written content and images must be interesting and engaging. A professional writer with experience in researching and writing interpretive content should be engaged.
- 3. Design** – Engage a professional graphic designer with experience in interpretive signage design to work with you on this step. They will understand how to make the layout interesting and easy to read.
NOTE - Always ensure that MRCC retains full ownership of all artwork and it is properly archived. This will make it much easier to produce replacement panels.
- 4. Materials and fabrication** – Consider the final selection of the sign materials based on the environment, durability, ease of maintenance and longevity along with the fit and requirements for

the type of experience at the site. For example, drive trails will have different needs, options and opportunities to say, a historic site. Consider using local materials such as stone or timber whenever possible and cost effective.

- 5. Installation** – This stage should be carefully planned and managed by the signage contractor and the designer to ensure the process is safe, efficient and there is minimal disruption to the public. This stage should not be left to an installer without clear instructions or direction.
- 6. Maintenance** – The need for maintenance and cleaning is often overlooked. This will affect the life of the sign and give visitors a negative impression of the place and experience. It simply doesn't make sense to invest time, effort and money in an interpretive signage project to then neglect its maintenance. Establishing roles/agreement and resources needed for maintenance of signage should be established during planning phase.

Recommendation

Develop guidance for community groups to assist them with developing effective interpretation of the area that could include:

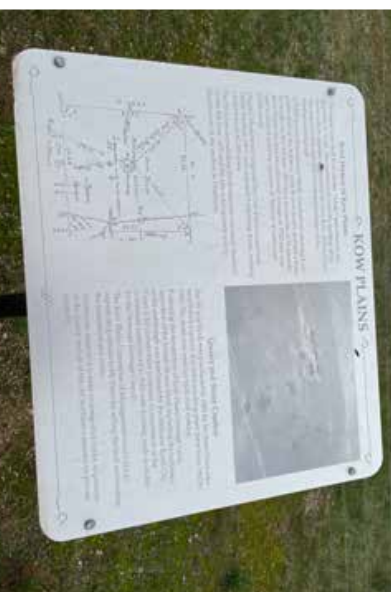
- Encouraging creative alternatives to interpretive signage that do not involve panels of information.
- Criteria for when interpretive signage would be supported e.g. significant story and interesting to a wide audience.
- Text must be professionally written.
- Must be professionally designed.
- Specifications for materials that should be used.
- Installation must be compliant with relevant Australian standards.
- Clear agreement on maintenance responsibilities and ownership of interpretive signs.
- Templates for interpretive panels.
- Location principles e.g. accessible, does not detract from visual amenity.



Ouyen - Illustrations would help to demonstrate how Mallee grows



Ouyen - Malleefowl interpretive, good quality interpretation, well written and illustrated. Panel in need of replacement



Cowangie - Kow Plains interpretation on photo anodic panels. Panels will need to be replaced in the next few years



Cowangie interpretation



Chaffey Trail Interpretation - well designed and written interpretation let down by poor quality fabrication and installation



Mildura - Riverside parks interp panels falling. Panel in need of replacement, who has the artwork?



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SECTION 5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Actions to be rolled out progressively and subject to funding and resources. MRCC to seek funding opportunities to implement the Strategy where budgets do not allow.

Some of the actions and recommendations require significant commitment of resources and will require time to plan and consult with various stakeholders and wider community. Where quick wins are possible to make substantial improvement and address issues raised in the community consultations, MRCC should look to implement in near future to being to progress the strategy. Quick wins are identified in the implementation table.

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Review Council's signage policies and practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRCC to develop council signage policy, signage guidelines and an application process MRCC to review all council signage to bring into alignment with strategy 	EPEO	EAPC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council signage policy developed Signage guidelines in existence Signage application process formalised 	High	No						
Audits of tourist, services and community signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct regular audits of tourist, services and community signs against Council's signage policy Remove non-compliant signage 	WES	Asset Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audits delivered on time Tourism signage asset register updated Non-compliant signage removed 	High	No						
Develop communications strategy for tourism signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop strategy to communicate with business and operators to clarify purpose of signage Circulate Council signage policy, guidelines and application process to businesses and operators 	MarComms	EPEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications strategy developed Signage, guidelines and application process distributed Signage, guidelines and applications process housed on Council's website 	High	No						
Develop relationships with Department of Transport and Regional Roads Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess how to streamline signage application and installation process 	EPEO WES	DOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streamlined process identified for both application and installation 	High	Yes						
Establish project control group to manage tourism signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish formal structure or committee to manage all aspects of tourism signage within MRCC 	EPEO	WES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project control group established 	High	Yes						
Conduct tourism product audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify key attractions eligible for brown tourist attraction sign Identify locations eligible for blue services and facilities signs to help visitor wayfinding to key attractions, trails, picnics & 	MRD	VIC WES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible attractions and locations identified Suite of signs for eligible sites assessed and compliant 	High	No						



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SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> rest areas, playgrounds, sporting facilities and public toilets Ensure eligible attractions, services and facilities have right suite of signs (advanced warning, intersection, and position signs), the right symbols and distances where compliant with signage guidelines 											
Drive trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace faded and damaged Tourist Dr 53 signs on Calder Hwy 	WES	DOT Asset Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$10,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Murray Valley Trail – investigate feasibility of MRCC rerouting trail to become an out and back loop from Mildura 	VIC	MRD		Medium	No	\$20,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate feasibility to develop Chaffey Trail attractions into proper drive trail 	CTRG	VIC		Medium	No	\$50,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install large intersection signs for Red Cliffs lookout at Calder Hwy/Fitzroy Ave intersection (example pg15) 	WES	Asset Services		High	Yes	\$10,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for and install Wine Region gateway signs on principal access visitor roads (Calder & Sturt Hwy) 	MRD	DOT WES		High	Yes	\$10,000					
Wine Tourism Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with cellar doors to improve property signage 	VIC	EPED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	Medium	No	N/A					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently sign all wineries on state and regional roads as per Vic Roads signing guidelines Provide link to current document on web 	VIC	DOT		Medium	No	\$25,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a cellar door map, distribute to all operational cellar doors + VIC 	MRD	VIC		High	Yes	\$5,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove all signs associated with closed wineries or who no longer have a cellar door e.g., Lindemans 	WES	DOT		High	Yes	N/A					



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SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Mildura Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cureton Ave Chaffey Trail – review signage from 7th St/Chaffey Ave intersection out to Chaffey Bend. Replace brown community signage with correct blue community signs. Install proper Chaffey Trail positions signs adjacent Rio Vista entrance, Mildura Station Homestead and Mildura Station Graveyard and Lock 9 as per strategy recommendations (pg31-32) Riverside Parks – install directional signage as per diagram on pg34 Redesign and install new pedestrian wayfinding maps on existing Riverside Parks pedestrian wayfinding Install pedestrian style visitor information bay in Riverside Parks adjacent to stairs/walkway to Langtree Ave Install Cycle/walking trailhead signs at shared path main access points Chaffey Trail – install positional signs for Chaffey Trail Mildura CBD attractions (pedestrian type sign) Improve directional signage to RAAF Museum from Walnut Ave Upgrade Etiwanda Wetlands to tourist attraction. Install new brown signage suite from 7th St/Etiwanda Ave intersection 	CTRG	Asset Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$30,000					
		WES	Asset Services		High	Yes	\$50,000					
		MRD	VIC		Medium	No	\$20,000					
		WES	MRD		High	Yes	\$40,000					
		WES	Asset Services		Medium	No	\$10,000					
		WES	CTRG		Medium	No	\$10,000					
		WES	VIC		Medium	No	\$10,000					
		VIC	WES		Medium	No	\$10,000					



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SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Other Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install brown directional signage on Deakin Ave North and South of 11th St intersection On 11th St relocate trailhead/reassurance sign to within 500m of Deakin Ave/11th St intersection Install larger double sided intersection sign at 11th St/Belar Ave intersection for Chateau Mildura Install large double sided brown positional signs for Kings Billabong adjacent car park Combining Kings Billabong & Woodsies Gem Shop route from Calder Hwy to both use Morpung Ave Install brown trailhead/reassurance signage from Psyche Bend Rd to link up with Red Cliffs attractions 	WES	DOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$50,000					
Red Cliffs Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace "Steam Train" intersection sign at Calder Hwy/Millewa Rd intersection Cut back trees at Lions Club visitor information bay Provide directional linkage signage between Red Cliffs Lookout and Red Gum Gully/Murray River Boardwalk Convert Murray River Boardwalk sign to double sided 	WES	Parks & Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$20,000					
Merbein Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install a new signage suite for direction to Merbein attractions (see example pg 41) Remove Historical Marker signage on Ranfurly Way (both directions) Consolidate and rationalise interpretive and Rotary Club signage at Merbein Lookout Replace Merbein Common entry statement Clean vandalised signage at Merbein lookout 	WES	Asset Services VIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$32,000					



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SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
MRCC Other Attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Murrayville – Separate Mallee Track directional sign from community service signs Murrayville – Investigate interpretive signage for Murrayville commercial precinct and tank graveyard Unberbool – Investigate improvement to town interpretive signage 	WES	Asset Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	Medium	No	\$35,000					
MRCC Other Attractions (Millewa Road)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently name attraction "Millewa Pioneer Park" across all signage Replace Millewa Pioneer Park sign at Calder Hwy/Millewa Rd intersection (near Historic Steam Railway) Install brown directional signage and interpretive signage for Our Lady of Lourdes church Werrinull Develop interpretive stops along the route to and from Meringur 	WES	Asset Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	Low	No	\$15,000					
MRCC Other Attractions (Sturt Hwy)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rationalise signage at Johansen Memorial Reserve Replace signage for Wallpolla Island 	WES	Asset Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$50,000					



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SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
MRCC Caravan & Camping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardise directional signage for all caravan parks. Each park to have suite of advance warning and positional signs (see example pg46) 	EPEO	WES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directional signage for caravan parks reviewed where required, additional signage installed/removed to ensure consistency at each park 	High	Yes	\$30,000					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install signage appropriate with RV Friendly Town Status for Mildura (once achieved) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review signage requirement in line with RV Friendly Town Status Once achieved, install at appropriate locations 	High	Yes	\$5,000					
MRCC Accommodation Signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRCC to develop policy for correctly signing this type of business Audit of all businesses of this type to ensure fit within VIC Roads guidelines and signs accordingly Remove redundant signs. Replace all incorrect signs 	EPEO	WES / VIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy for accommodation signage developed Audit of accommodation business signage delivered Remove and replacement of redundant/incorrect signs Added to asset management register 	Medium	No	N/A					
Red Cliffs Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install blue services advance warning signs north and south of Red Cliffs on Calder Hwy Install blue town services sign at Calder Hwy Indi Ave intersection 	WES	DOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue service signs installed Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$15,000					
Ouyen Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop town signage plan from Mallee/Calder Hwy intersection all way to Ouyen Lake (see example pg56) Install relevant regulatory signs at Ouyen Lake, consolidated so all signage in one place Replace Ouyen Blue Services advance warning signs 	Community Futures	DOT WES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All actions assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$60,000					



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Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Promotional Billboards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate potential locations to install up to four large promotional billboards along Calder & Sturt Hwys 	MRD	DOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viability/need assessed Potential sites identified Promotional strategy developed Relevant promotional signage installed Added to asset management register 	Medium	No	\$300,000					
MRCC Boundary Entry Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and develop new LGA entry statement that better reflect MRCC branding Install new boundary entry statements once developed 	Community Futures	DOT VIC MRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entry statements developed New signage installed Added to asset management register 	High	Yes	\$100,000					
MRCC Town Entry Statements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll-out Town Entry Statements based on work already developed by Challis Design 	Community Futures	DOT VIC MRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Towns and specific locations identified Consult with various town community groups to design new Town Entry Statement Challis Design to create individual designs Town Entry Statements installed 	Medium	No	\$250,000					
Mildura Destination Branding & Event Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install large prominent entry statements at all four highway entry points into Mildura Review opportunity to develop and install large creative branded installation at the 15th St/Deakin Ave roundabout Continue opportunity to install flagtrax system at prominent locations Review opportunity to install flag clusters on Victorian side of George Chaffey bridge 	MRD	DOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viability/need assessed Those viable carried forward and implemented Added to asset management register 	Medium	No	\$300,000					
		MRD	DOT		Low	No	N/A					
		Events & Projects	VIC		High	Yes	\$250,000					
		Events & Projects	VIC		High	Yes	N/A					
MRCC Visitor Information Bays	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop standard three tier suite of visitor information boards, installed in each town/Village Develop locations for large Tier 1 visitor information bays at 	MRD	DOT VIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant assessments made for need and locations of visitor information bays 	Medium	No	\$400,000					



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SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Recommendation	Action	Lead Department	Supporting Department	KPI's	Priority	Quick Win	Indicative Costs	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRCC entry points – e.g. Ouyen, Lake Cullulleraine, south of Abbotford Bridge, Murrayville, etc Develop standardised content across all MRCC VIB panels that incorporate Mildura tourist brand Standardise all visitor information bay road signage (example pg 67) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts designed for visitor information bay panels Visitor information bay panels installed Added to asset management register 								
Mildura Visitor Maps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace current VIC maps with A3 map pads 	VIC	MRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VIC maps replaced 	High	Yes	\$5,000					
Interpretive signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop standardised suite of interpretive signage for attractions throughout LGA 	Community Futures	EPEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community guidelines developed for consistency and project management purposes Signage developed in tandem with various community groups Installation and asset management process developed Where relevant, added to asset management register 	Low	No	\$10,000					

CTRG	Chaffey Trail Reference Group
DOT	Department of Transport
EAPC	Events & Projects Coordinator
EPEO	Economic Projects & Events Officer
MRD	Mildura Regional Development
VIC	Visitor Information Centre
WES	Works & Engineering Services



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PUBLIC EXHIBITION FEEDBACK: TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY

NAME	COMMENTS (reference specific points)	OVERALL STRATEGY VIEW (positive, neutral, negative)
Janelle Harrington	I am thinking really about psyche pump road, where the signage is too late for people towing caravans. It must be on free camps listing. They miss the road and the next turning point is our driveway. It also needs to be known that in wet weather it is limited access.	Positive.
Cordula Merkelback	As part of work in the Northern Mallee Leaders program, our groups is focusing on River safety and accessibility. As part of a larger project with many ideas, our first suggestions is to provide multi-lingual information about River Safety along the River, in particular Apex Park. The idea was to include a QR code and include them on the existing signage at Apex Park. Council already did some work and a translated document exists and sits on the Council website, but not at the location itself. I am wondering if this is something that could be part of this strategy, perhaps on one of the Interpretive Panels referenced? I don't know if there are any already at Apex Park, but it would be a great opportunity to acknowledge the traditional owners, some information about Apex itself and the safety warning. It's great to attract all the visitors into our beautiful region, but if we are talking about attracting international visitors as well we should bear in mind that not everyone speaks English.	Positive
Kylie	Firstly I'd like to say this strategy looks great, a lot of work has clearly gone into this. I do have one small suggestion/idea, I refer to section 4, specifically 4.2 and 4.3 boundary and town entry statements. Im sure I wouldn't be alone in saying I would love to see the local aboriginal tribe/s name/s for these areas/locals included somewhere on the new entry signs as they are rolled out. I've seen this done in regional parts of SA and loved the initiative and inclusivity. If this proved challenging, a statement such as 'welcome to Latje Latje country' or similar could be used instead. That's my 2cents worth, excited to see this project evolve.	Positive



23 November 2022

Our ref. no. SRA/MRCC/Tourism221123

Mike Wall
Economic Projects & Events Officer
Mildura Rural City Council
Mildura.

Dear Mike,

Tourism community thoughts input

Thank you for your return call last Friday 18th re: the Tourism Community Input survey.

Both John Green and I met with the Manager of the Center Plaza Mildura early last week to discuss what opportunities are available to further the promotion of our city and region throughout the Plaza.

The Plaza has recently installed a state of the Art- electronic advertising system which has many options for many types of advertising that reaches the minds of their customers. There are two companies involved with the Plaza who have set up their equipment throughout the mall area of the Plaza that may be viewed by the public.

I did not know the statistics of the visiting customers to the Plaza on one day, but there are about 10,000 people visiting daily and about 3.5 mil annually which I believe is an extremely good reason for your Council to have this opportunity followed up.

If I can be of any more of assistants to you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Wayne Roberts
President
Sunraysia Residents Association Inc

Regd. Office: 854, Fourteenth Street, Mildura, VIC 3500
Email: MilduraBranch.RatepayersVic@gmail.com

15 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

16 COMMUNITY QUESTIONS

17 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Recommendation

That Council resolve to move into confidential business to deal with the following matters as pursuant to Section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

17.1 CONSIDERATION OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2023 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Section 3(1)(f) - Personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, if released the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item, would unreasonably disclose the personal information of applicants.

17.2 INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES TO HOST AN EVENT

Section 3(1)(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released

Pursuant to section 66(5)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, if released the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item, may prejudice the commercial position of Council, as various negotiations remain pending.

17.3 TENDER AWARD – SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CRUSHED SEALING AGGREGATE PANEL – CONTRACT 2223/12

Section 3(1)(a) - Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released

Pursuant to section 66(5)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, if released the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this Agenda item, may prejudice the commercial position of Council, as various negotiations remain pending.

18 CLOSURE