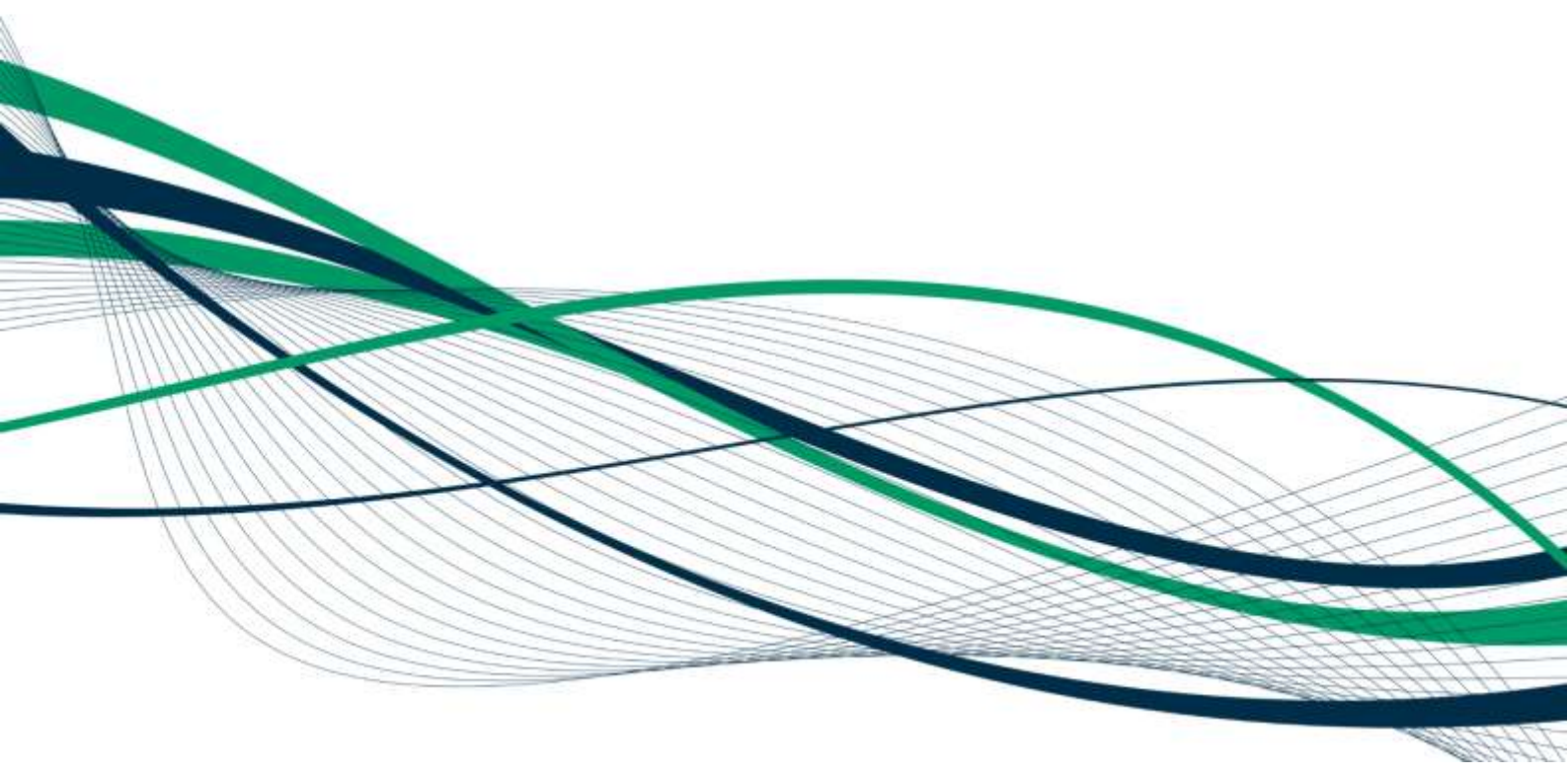




Macarthur Market Street Precinct Plan

Final

August 2019



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Introduction

The Macarthur Market Street Precinct Plan (Plan) summarises the development options for this important recreation and open space facility in the heart of the town. The Plan has been developed from a program of consultation with residents, Precinct user groups and Moyne Shire Council, background research on recreation trends, local and regional development projects and a headline assessment of key Precinct assets.

Proposed short and medium term investment projects for the Precinct highlighted the need for a co-ordinated approach to future planning particularly given the location of significant Council and community assets at the Precinct. In addition, it was seen as timely to look at opportunities for the activation of the Precinct for community and visitor recreation uses.

Purpose

The Plan will guide and inform future development and investment in the Precinct and encourage partnerships between Council, community, government and other stakeholders in the implementation of the Plan. The primary objective of the Plan is to enhance the Market Street Precinct as a focus for both the local community and visitors, and encouraging a broad range of community activity and uses.

Principles

A set of principles have been established to help ensure the strategic intent of the document is maintained over the longer term. They describe how the Plan will be applied and implemented, and how outcomes will be measured and evaluated.

- The Precinct will provide opportunities for all residents and visitors to enjoy a range of recreation activities.
- Maximising Precinct infrastructure, usage, services and the natural environment, will be the primary basis for supporting projects and investment.
- The Precinct will retain its community focus and provide a welcoming and interesting destination for visitors.
- Projects and investment will be assessed and implemented through an integrated and co-ordinated approach to provide for efficient use of initial investment and ongoing management and maintenance.
- Partnerships between user groups, community, Council and other parties will be encouraged and supported and good governance practices fostered.

Township and Community profile

The township of Macarthur is located in the north west of Moyne Shire and the township and region is home to approximately 250 residents and serves a wider catchment of over 500 people (Figure 1).



Figure 1 – Map of township at Census State Suburb level

The landscape around Macarthur is shaped by the region’s volcanic geological history. The area around Macarthur includes Budj Bim, the nearby UNESCO World Heritage Landscape site and a significant environmental feature of the area demonstrating this geomorphology. Budj Bim is also a cultural heritage site with great significance to the Gunditjmarra people. Together, Budj Bim’s geomorphological and cultural heritage significance has led to its recent World Heritage listing, which is expected to attract more visitors to the region. Figure 2 illustrates the proximity of Macarthur to Budj Bim, and therefore it’s potential as a “gateway” and information point for visitors to the National Park, as well as a number of other natural and cultural features of the region.

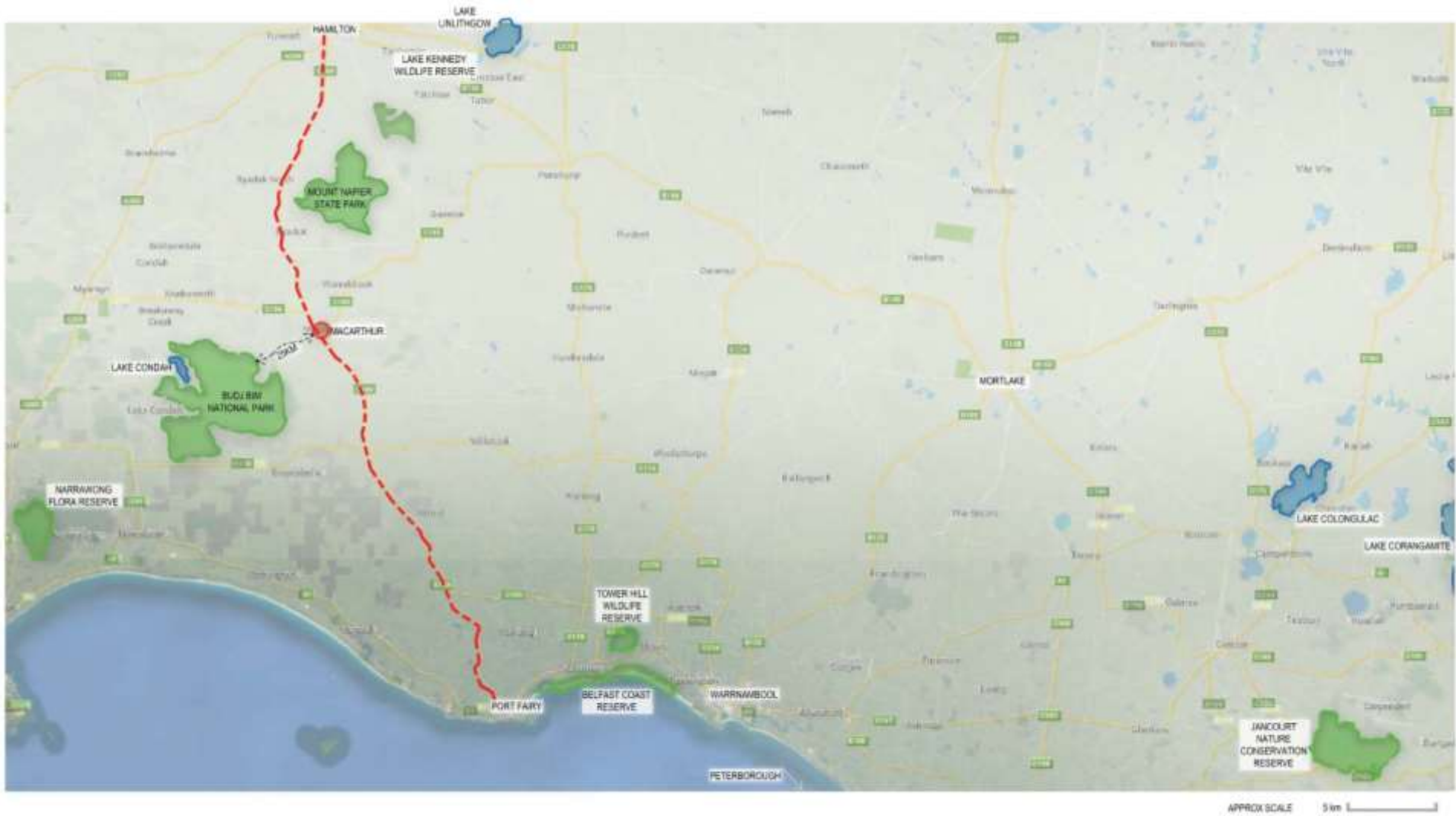


Figure 2 – Regional context

The area around Macarthur is also known for its valuable grazing and agricultural land, and has a proud history associated with pastoral and soldier settlement, community services and rural industries. The nearby Macarthur Wind Farm is currently the largest wind farm in the Southern Hemisphere with 140 turbines generating enough power for over 150,000 homes.

An overview of the community of Macarthur and its surrounds is provided in Figure 3.

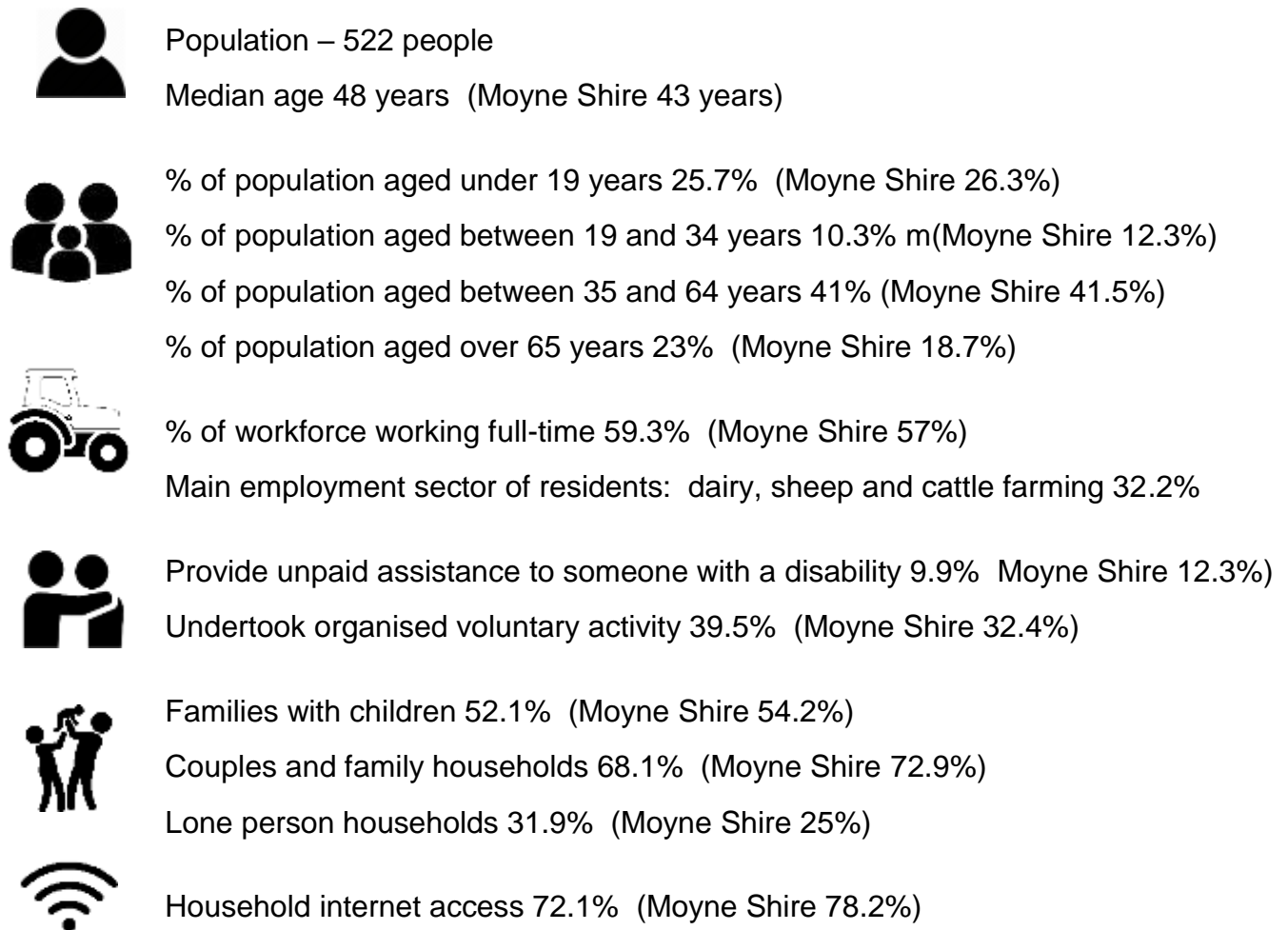


Figure 3 – Summary Census data 2016 at State Suburb level

Moyne Shire also uses the REMPlan data program to add to the statistical information available through Census.

Whilst the town has experienced moderate population decline, REMPlan forecasts indicate population growth as described below (see also Figure 4 and Figure 5). It should be noted that REMPlan uses a slightly different geographic data analysis area to Census in order to give a more accurate picture of town forecast data.

The REMPlan data shows that between 2016 and 2041, the total population is forecast to grow by 74 residents (↑ 32.5%). Whilst the data shows that largest increase will be in the “retirement” age group, the rate of growth is almost evenly split between groups aged under 49 and those aged over 50. REMPlan data also shows that the highest growth will be lone person households.

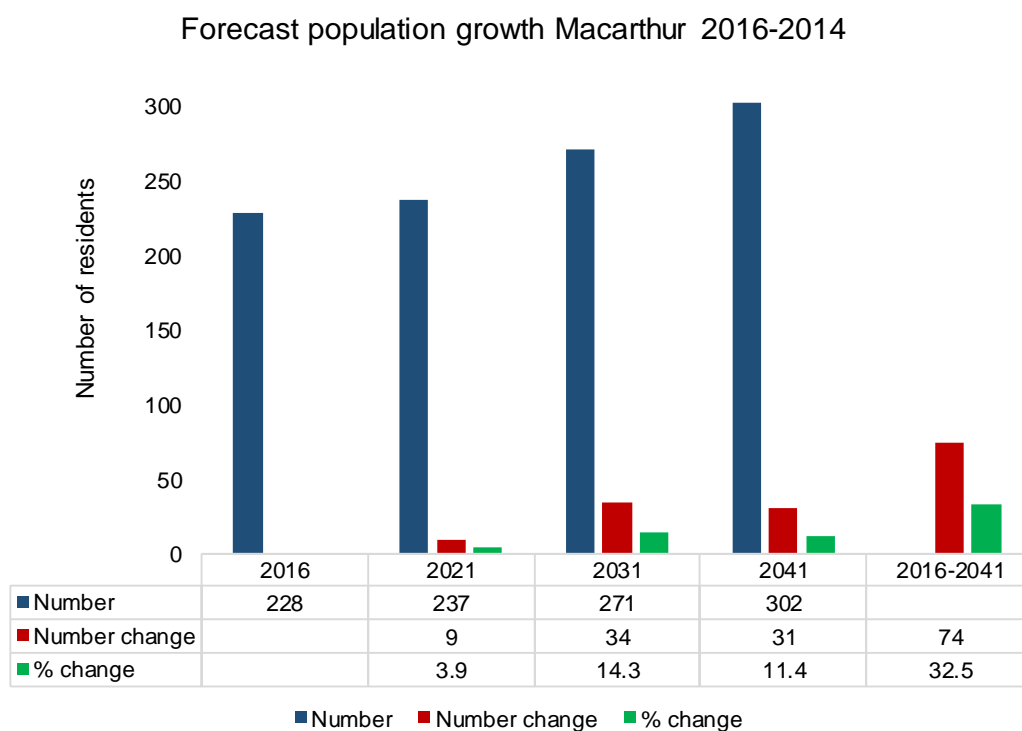


Figure 4 – REMPlan forecast total population growth

Forecast population growth by age groups 2016-2041

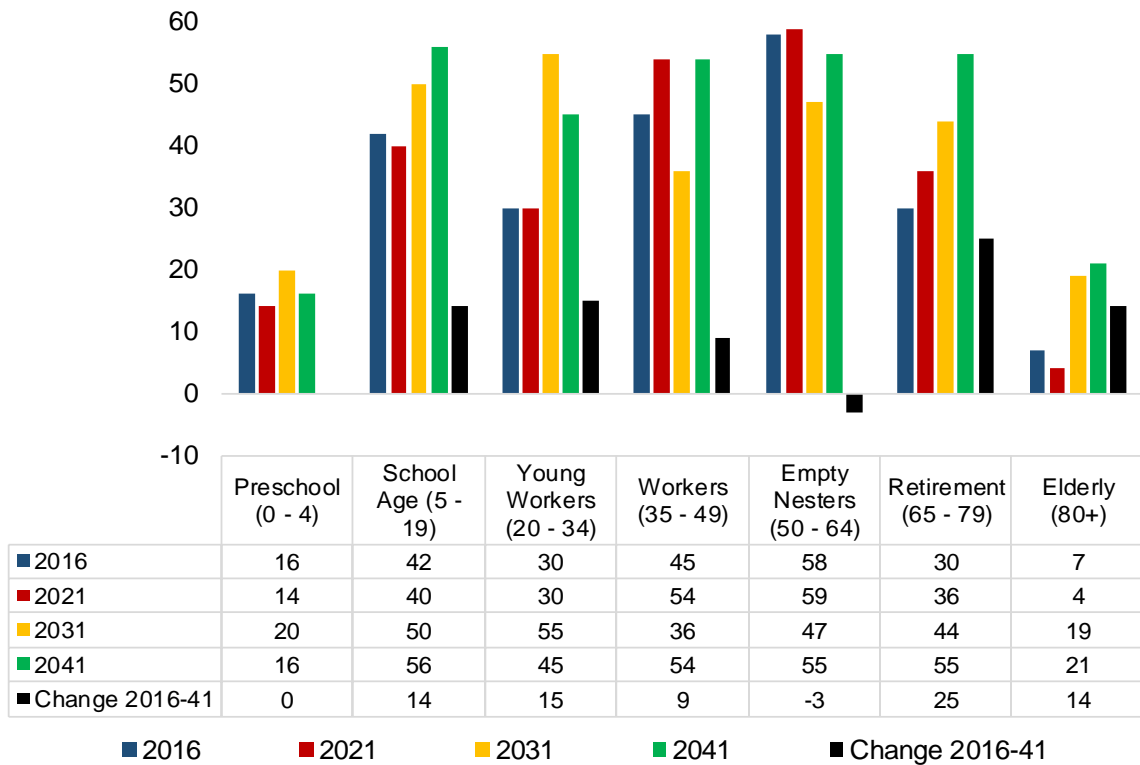


Figure 5 – REMPlan forecast population growth by age groups

Macarthur continues to be a proud rural community, providing a number of local services to residents and visitors. These include a kindergarten, primary school, local store, post office, Macarthur Hotel, pharmacy, trade services, rural supplies, community health centre, visitor accommodation, Macarthur Police Station and a Men’s Shed. Sporting facilities include the Macarthur Pool, Macarthur Bowls Club, Recreation Reserve, Golf Club, and Camp Draft arena. The Eumeralla River is also an important natural feature of the town. A number of these elements are illustrated on Figure 6.

Current Precinct

Township Context

The Market Street Precinct is located in the centre of the town and comprises a range of community related uses, as described in detail in the Precinct Uses section. The location of the Precinct, along with a number of the key elements of the township referred to above, are shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6 illustrates that not only is the Precinct located in the centre of the township, it has strong and direct connections with a range of other community and commercial uses in the town.

Further, the Precinct is located on the Hamilton – Port Fairy Road, placing it mid-way between these two important centres, and therefore acts as a stopping point for a large number of travellers between these townships.

The Precinct as identified in Figure 6, and as addressed in this Plan, contains both Council managed Crown Land (between Market Street and the existing fence alignment to the west of the playground, Macarthur Pool, tennis courts and the Macarthur Bowls Club) and VicRoads managed Road Reserve (from the fenceline referred to above to the eastern kerb of High Street (Hamilton Port Fairy Road)).



Figure 6 – Township context

Precinct Uses

The Market Street Precinct comprises the following main uses. These uses are shown in Figure 7.

Playground

The existing playground is located at the northern end of the Precinct. It consists of a range of proprietary playground equipment including a post and deck climbing structure, two swings, a see-saw and two activity boards. The playground itself is supported by a range of park infrastructure including a shelter, electric barbecue and seating.

The ground surface is soft-fall mulch contained by raised timber sleeper edge. The playground appears to have been installed around ten years previously.

The playground is entirely fenced, which is seen as a positive aspect by the local kindergarten which regularly uses the playground.

The playground is currently scheduled for upgrade in the next 2 – 5 years.



Existing playground

Macarthur Pool

The Macarthur Pool was opened in 1966 and is a seasonal pool which currently opens from 1 December to mid-March (13 weeks) each year. It is a 25m long, four lane pool. The pool complex also includes a toddler pool approximately 30cm deep.

The Pool is owned by Council and operated under a service agreement with YMCA. Further support is provided by the Macarthur Pool Committee, who are not a Council appointed committee.

The Pool has a large catchment beyond Macarthur, although no patronage data was available during the preparation of the Plan.

In discussion with Council and the Pool committee, a number of issues and opportunities were identified and discussed, including:

- The existing Pool kiosk/ office is in poor condition and suffers from an inefficient layout
- The existing hydraulic and water filtration system is in poor condition and is in need of *overhaul and/or replacement*
- Some areas of the pool concourse are in poor condition and have moved in relation to the pool shell
- The existing pool slide was constructed in 2018 to replace a previous structure and is a popular addition, widening the recreation offer of the pool
- The key aspiration of the Pool Committee is to introduce a splash pad to further widen the recreation activities offered by the Pool.



Existing pool

Tennis Courts

The tennis courts are located between the Macarthur Pool and the Macarthur Bowls Club. There are two synthetic grass tennis courts.

The courts have been used by the Macarthur Tennis Club, although there has been only limited use of the courts for organised Club use, such as coaching, competition, and social play, in recent years. The Club currently has a very small membership of less than 10, and has no teams playing in organised tennis competitions.

Since the court access gates were locked in 2015 for community safety reasons, the Club has received only a small number of enquiries from the public for social use. Instead Macarthur residents appear to be accessing organised tennis activities at the Broadwater Tennis Club (less than 20km from Macarthur), and with other clubs and facilities also available in Hamilton, Port Fairy and Warrnambool. The Club have also had issues with providing maintenance of the facilities under their licence agreement with Council.

In discussion with the Tennis Club committee, a number of issues and opportunities were identified and discussed, including:

- The Club's current very small membership constrains its sustainability
- The Club has little capacity to maintain the existing courts
- The existing courts are subject to the growth of moss, which becomes an issue if left untreated
- The existing clubrooms, which are part of the same building as the Macarthur Bowls Club rooms, generally meet the Club's needs
- The Club would like to resurface the asphalt areas to the east of the tennis courts to create a permanent Hot Shots court area
- The Club is happy to support the tennis courts being left open for general community recreation use, however, would need Council to assume the responsibility for their maintenance and upkeep.

Public Toilet

The existing public toilet is located in the Hamilton – Port Fairy Road reserve, and managed by the Shire of Moyne. The toilet is a brick structure and provides 2 female cubicles, 1 male cubicle and 1 male urinal. The toilet appears well used by travellers passing through town, and also serves as the male toilet for the Macarthur Bowls Club, which does not have sufficient toilet facilities within their own space (refer further discussion below).

Following a site inspection and discussion with the community, a number of issues and opportunities were identified associated with the toilet facilities, including:

- The toilet is a visually prominent but unattractive element within the Hamilton – Port Fairy Road streetscape
- The toilet does not comply with current requirement for all abilities access
- The septic effluent treatment system utilised by the public toilet, swimming pool toilets and Bowls Club toilets is at over capacity leading to excessively wet ground in the vicinity of the toilet building and gardens area. The system requires renewal.



Current public toilet

Macarthur Bowls Club

The Macarthur Bowls Club facilities are located at the southern end of the precinct, at the corner of Market Street and Heckfield Street. The facilities consist of a single synthetic bowls green, Club rooms with kitchen and meeting facilities, storage sheds and a single female cubicle toilet. The Macarthur Bowls Club currently has 47 members, and membership has been relatively stable for the past five years. The Club attracts bowlers from areas and townships beyond Macarthur. Current regular use of the Club facilities includes:

- Tuesday: social bowls
- Thursday: social bowls; bowls practice
- Friday: Ladies' pennant
- Saturday: Men's pennant
- Six regional tournaments / events each year

In discussion with the Bowls Club committee and members, a number of issues and opportunities were identified and discussed, including:

- The current clubrooms lack change facilities and adequate toilet facilities. The single existing toilet cubicle is used as a female facility, with mem required to use the existing public toilet on High Street. The Club has received a State Government grant of \$300,000 towards new / upgraded amenities. The Club's current preferred plan is for change, toilet and storage facilities to be built along the western edge of the bowling green
- The size of the kitchen restricts use of the clubrooms on major event days, such as the regional tournaments hosted by the Club
- Other than the kitchen, the size of the clubroom generally meets the Club's needs, as the Club is able to utilise the adjoining tennis clubroom area
- There is a lack of available parking in and around Market Street, particularly when the Macarthur Pool is open
- The surface of the assembly area off the green in the southwest corner is not even; it slopes towards the green creating a minor safety issue. All ability access is also an issue of current site entry and facility design
- The Club is open to supporting an enhancement of the entrance into the facility from High Street as part of the proposed project to expand amenities and storage. This would have potential advantages in encouraging use of the High Street parking in addition to Market Street parking.

Macarthur and District Memorial Rose Garden

The Memorial Rose Garden is located in the south-western corner of the Precinct, within the Hamilton – Port Fairy Road reserve, at the corner with Heckfield Street.

The garden is a memorial to fallen soldiers from the Macarthur district, and is associated with a formal war memorial structure. this regard the garden has the potential to contribute to explaining the cultural history of MacArthur to visitors.

The garden is entirely planned and maintained as a community project and is highly prized by the community.



Existing War Memorial and Rose Garden

High Street (Hamilton – Port Fairy Road) Reserve

The land to the east of High Street, between the carriageway and the fence defining the western boundary of the facilities described above, is road reserve under the management of VicRoads (refer Figure 7). Its use and visual character, however, are as an extension of the open space areas of the Precinct.

The road reserve east of the carriageway is broadly grassed with a number of canopy trees and areas of feature shrubs, as well as range of features more typical of a park setting, including:

- A timber rotunda with seating
- A wishing well memorial to members of the Macarthur and District Lions Club
- Sign boards describing prominent past members of the Macarthur community
- Banner poles announcing arrival at Macarthur
- Picnic tables
- The public toilet (described above)
- The Macarthur War Memorial and Rose Garden (described above)



High Street road reserve

Beyond the park space described above, High Street provides a large number of car parking spaces on the western side of the main carriageway. Site observation and discussion with the local community has indicated that these spaces are little used, compared with the parking on Market Street, which has conversely been described as over used / congested. One key reason for the lack of use of High Street parking for Precinct activity is the difficulty of pedestrian movement to Market Street, where key activity areas, particularly the Pool and Bowls Club, are entered from. The continuous run of fencing between Eversley Street to Heckfield Street further exacerbates this lack of connection for pedestrians to Precinct assets.

During the early stages of developing the Precinct Plan, discussions were held with VicRoads around opportunities to encourage and enhance pedestrian movement from High Street, and particularly crossing of the main carriageway by pedestrians. These discussions indicated that there are no current plans to widen the current carriageway and that VicRoads would not support a formal pedestrian crossing or mid-road pedestrian refuge in the current road configuration. VicRoads did, however, indicate a number of potential actions which could be considered to enhance the crossing of the road and also encourage more visitors to stop within the town. These included:

- Providing for parallel parking on both side of the carriageway to encourage travellers, particularly those with caravans or recreational vehicles, to stop
- Providing a formal kerb between existing parking on the western side of the existing carriageway, to provide pedestrians with a safe place to wait before crossing the road
- Creating a number of kerb extensions between new parallel parking bays to indicate preferred point of crossing for pedestrians



Existing High Street Road Reserve



Figure 7 – Current Precinct uses

The ownership and management of the spaces and uses described above are summarised in Table 1 below.

Activity	Land ownership	Facility / asset management
Macarthur Bowls Club	Crown land	Moyne Shire Committee of Management with a licence agreement (LA053) with the Bowls Club
Macarthur Tennis Club	Crown Land	Moyne Shire Committee of Management with a licence agreement (LA054) with the Tennis Club
Macarthur Pool	Crown Land	Moyne Shire Committee of Management with a pool management contract with the YMCA. There is also a Macarthur Pool Committee but they are not a Council appointed committee and have no license agreement with Moyne Shire Council for management of pool operations.
Public Playground	Crown Land	Moyne Shire appointed as Committee of Management
Public toilets	Moyne Shire Council	Managed by Moyne Shire Council – located on Crown Land – VicRoads road reserve
Other adjacent open space and roads	Crown Land – VicRoads road reserve	Open space including public toilets managed by Moyne Shire Council and the community.

Table 1 - Primary uses and governance

Consultation

A program of consultation with community, Council and project stakeholders was undertaken to inform the development of the Plan. This included current user groups of the Precinct namely the Bowls Club, Tennis Club, Pool Committee and YMCA. Local residents and businesses were also consulted as well as other key groups and agencies including the Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and Regional Roads Victoria.

Specifically, the stakeholder and community consultation process included:

- An initial meeting with the Macarthur Tennis Club committee to discuss current issues and aspirations (26th March 2019)
- An initial meeting with the Macarthur Pool committee to discuss current usage and the associated aspirations of the committee (26th March 2019)
- An initial meeting with the Macarthur Bowls Club, particularly to the Club's current building plans and associated issues and aspirations (26th March 2019)
- A community workshop to discuss issues and aspirations (26th March 2019)
- A meeting with Regional Roads Victoria (22nd May 2019)
- An onsite meeting with Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (21st May 2019)
- Second meeting with the Macarthur Tennis Club to explain the direction of the draft Precinct Plan (21st May 2019).
- Second meeting with the Macarthur Pool committee to explain the direction of the draft Precinct Plan (21st May 2019).
- Second meeting with the Macarthur Bowls Club to explain the direction of the draft Precinct Plan (21st May 2019).
- A second community workshop to discuss the proposed responses to identified issues and aspirations, and explain the proposed direction for the town facilities and streetscape (22nd May 2019)
- Final community workshop to explain revisions to the draft Precinct Plan following comments raised at the previous round of meetings.

The community workshops encouraged participants to provide feedback and discuss the preliminary, draft and final draft plans. The majority of community comments and suggested changes raised during these workshops were incorporated into revision of the Plan. Moyne Shire Councillors and Council officers were also included in consultation and development activities.

Key themes that emerged through these consultations and helped shape and guide the Plan included:

- Macarthur Bowls Club requires enhanced toilet, amenity and storage facilities
- The Macarthur Tennis Club has not been able to maintain the existing tennis courts or meet public insurance requirements, so that the courts have not been actively used. The future management and use of the tennis courts was therefore a key issue
- The Macarthur Pool is a highly valued facility, but requires an upgrade of pool water supply and filtration infrastructure the concourse pavement and other facilities on the site
- The form of the public playground renewal / upgrade, proposed in the next 2-5 years was a key consideration for Precinct activation
- The Precinct experiences a range of parking issues, particularly on Market Street, during times of high activity
- The existing public toilet is a visually dominant facility and requires upgrade of the capacity of its septic treatment system
- The fenced nature of all facilities in the Precinct creates a negative visual impression and prevents pedestrian movement between High Street and Market Street
- The central nature of the Precinct and the range of activities it supports indicates its importance as a community focal space, as well as its potential to respond to the anticipated future growth of the Macarthur community and increased visitation to the region from the Budj Bim destination
- The Precinct has potential to be an important stop for travellers, providing toilet and recreation facilities and also the opportunity to promote, acknowledge and direct people to Budj Bim Cultural Landscape.

A separate on-site meeting was also held with Market Street traders and residents who have concerns about existing parking issues and options put forward by the draft Plan for one-way traffic and angle-parking in Market Street.

Future Precinct

The Plan was developed after review of the existing conditions and features of the Precinct, confirmation of issues and opportunities with stakeholders and community, and a review of the preliminary draft Plan by the community and council officers.

Vision

The Plan has been developed to not only address current issues, but to also achieve a distinct function and purpose for the Precinct – that the Precinct will be a focus for a diverse range of community recreational, social and cultural activity, and will therefore be a centre of community life for Macarthur residents. In performing this function, the Precinct will also support and encourage other community and commercial activity nearby.

Further, the Precinct, in functioning as a community asset, will also become a more attractive place to visitors and travelers to stop – to not only enjoy the space in its own right but to learn more about the culture and history of the township and the broader region, particularly acting as a gateway to Budj Bim Cultural Landscape.

The Plan is outlined in Figure 8, and its key directions and features, aimed at achieving this vision, are summarised in the following sections.

Cultural Garden / Walk

The norther playground will be relocated from its current location to the more central; location between the Macarthur Pool and the Macarthur Bowls Club (refer below for further discussion).

In place of the current playground, a new garden will be developed, with the particular objective of displaying, explaining and featuring indigenous plant species and other landscape materials. The garden would be developed in collaboration with the Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and would provide an introduction, for both residents and visitors, to the culture and history of local indigenous communities. This will particularly recognise that other aspects of local history and culture are already expressed in the Macarthur War Memorial Rose Garden and the signboards depicting local personalities. The new garden would merge with an upgraded park space in the road reserve area, with new signage and interpretive features and new planting and landscape development along a connecting path leading to the Rose Garden.

Taken together the new garden and the existing features would then provide a unified “cultural walk” presenting an overview of the long cultural heritage of the region and acting as a “gateway” to other cultural and environmental features around Macarthur, particularly the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape.

Macarthur Pool

The key direction proposed for the Pool is to support the Pool committee’s aspiration to install a new “splash-pad” play area to diversify the recreation opportunity offered at the Pool. It is recommended that this splash-pad incorporate a shallow toddler pool area, so that these two facilities are integrated and treated in a consistent manner. Integration of the toddler pool and splash pad would also potentially provide additional space for an access path from High Street to Market Street.

In addition to the new splash pad, Council is currently (August 2019) undertaking a review of existing pool water reticulation and filtration infrastructure to determine costs for upgrades and/ or replacement.

The Plan also proposes a new barbecue / picnic space to provide for families and social groups attending the Pool during the summer season. This would be located on the western fence of the pool area, allowing the same structure to serve the new cultural garden and walk.

Multi-use Play Area

The two tennis courts located between the Macarthur Pool and the Macarthur Bowls Club are proposed to be reduced to a single multi-use court providing for basketball, netball, tennis and potentially futsal. This will operate as an open community court available for all users. The multi-use court will be located close to Market Street.

The remainder of the area currently occupied by the tennis courts will be used to create a new and upgraded playground. This playground would be suitable for a range of ages from pre-school to adult and will be integrated with the multi-use court creating a diverse play space for both formal and informal play and social sport.

The play area will be supported by a new public toilet and barbecue / picnic space including seating and shelter with direct sightlines and access to the playground. Playground fencing will be provided as necessary for safety and surveillance, but will be subject to the detailed design of the playground.

In addition to the provision of an enhanced range of play opportunities for the Macarthur community, the new multi-use play area will have a number of broader benefits to the Precinct:

- It will allow the removal of the existing tennis court fences, providing an important opening allowing facilitating access between Market Street and High Street
- It will provide a new a family space suited not only to local residents but also to travellers requiring a place to “take a break”

Macarthur Bowls Club

The development of the Plan explored a number of options with the Macarthur Bowls Club for building works responding to the Club's identified need for enhanced toilets, amenities and storage. The options focused on two main directions:

1. A space which combined the Club's requirements with a new public toilet, allowing the existing public toilet to be demolished. A preferred location for this option was at the western end of the existing Club building, incorporating and extending into the existing tennis court space
2. A separate building which consolidated the Club's additional needs into a new structure, but which didn't allow for public access to toilets. This building would be located along the western edge of the bowls green, replacing the existing storage building.

After discussion, the Macarthur Bowls Club decided to follow the second of these directions and this is reflected in the Plan.

Public Toilet

With the Macarthur Bowls Club decision to pursue a separate building option which does not include public toilet facilities, the Plan identifies a location for the new public facility.

The new toilet is proposed in a similar location to the existing facility, but will be co-located with picnic and barbecue facilities and the new multi-use playground, enhancing this as a Precinct that caters for both the local community, visitors and travelers.

Upgrade of the existing septic system will be undertaken by Council prior to the construction of any new facilities to ensure their capacity is taken account. The new facility will comply with all current DDA and AS1428 accessibility requirements.

Memorial Rose Garden

The existing War Memorial Rose Garden will remain as existing and will continue to be managed as a community project.

As noted above, while existing independently, the garden will form part of a broader cultural garden / walk which will promote, commemorate and celebrate the diverse history of the Macarthur district and community.

Parking

In response to parking issues identified by the community and stakeholders, the Plan proposes the following:

- Provision of parallel parking on both sides of High Street for visitors and long vehicles (as suggested by Regional Roads Victoria)
- Extension of 90 degree angle parking on High Street to ensure no overall loss of parking spaces (as suggested by Regional Road Victoria)
- Construction of a paved space and herb outstands between 90 degree parking and parallel parking on High Street, to provide for enhanced pedestrian safety (as suggested by Regional Roads Victoria)
- Investigation into parking and traffic options on Market Street under a Traffic Management Study. This investigation should particularly consider the following arrangements suggested by stakeholders and community during the Plan process:

1. Retain existing parking and traffic arrangements
2. Retain existing traffic flow and re-define parking on western side of Market Street as short-term parking during business hours
3. Retain existing traffic flow and remove all parking on the western side of Market Street
4. Convert traffic flow to one-way with occasional angled parking on the west side of Market Street, allowing for large vehicle movements
5. Convert traffic flow to one way, with occasional angled parking on the eastern side of Market Stet, allowing for large vehicle movements.



Figure 8 – Final draft Precinct Plan

Following the final Macarthur community workshop, participants were asked to complete a project and consultation feedback form, based on the final draft plan as presented at the time. The following results were provided from 19 responses:

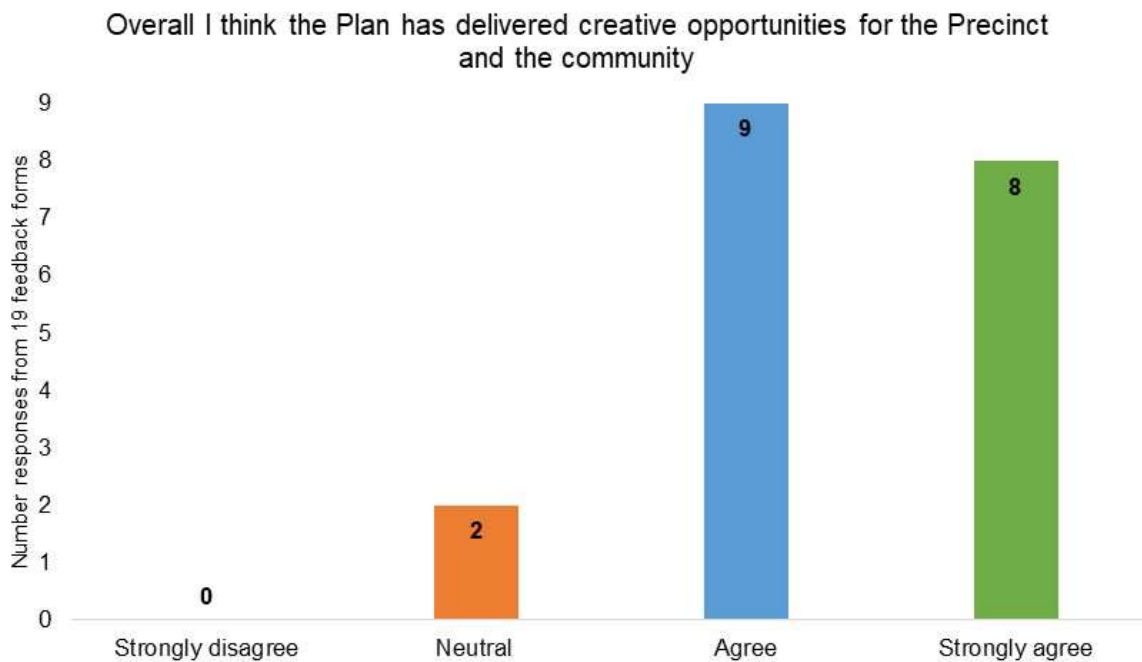


Figure 9 – Community feedback - creative opportunities response

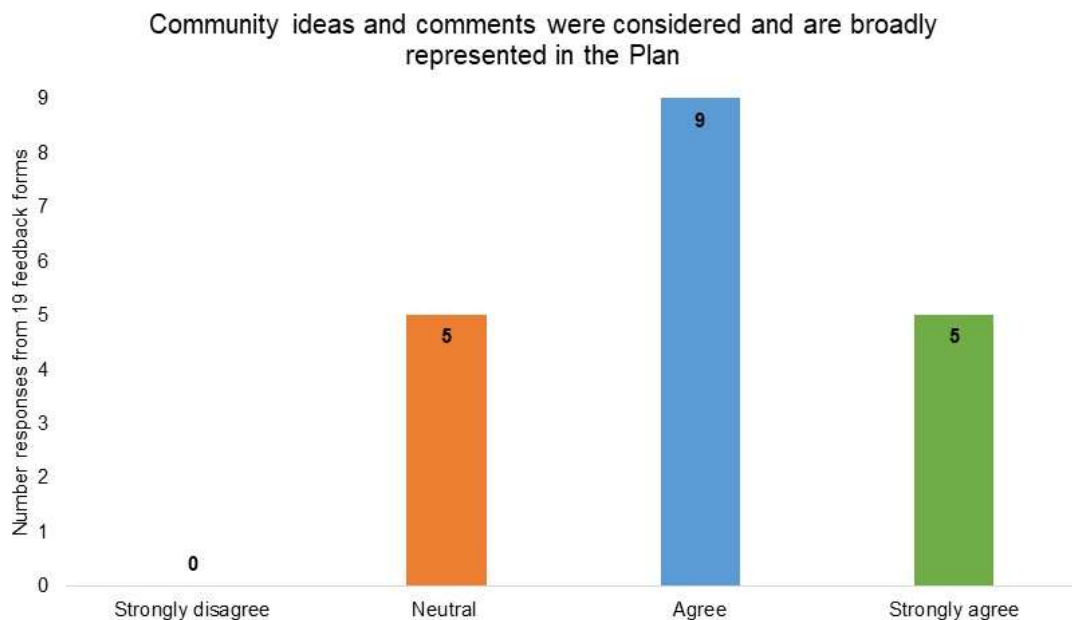


Figure 10 – Community feedback – community ideas and comments response

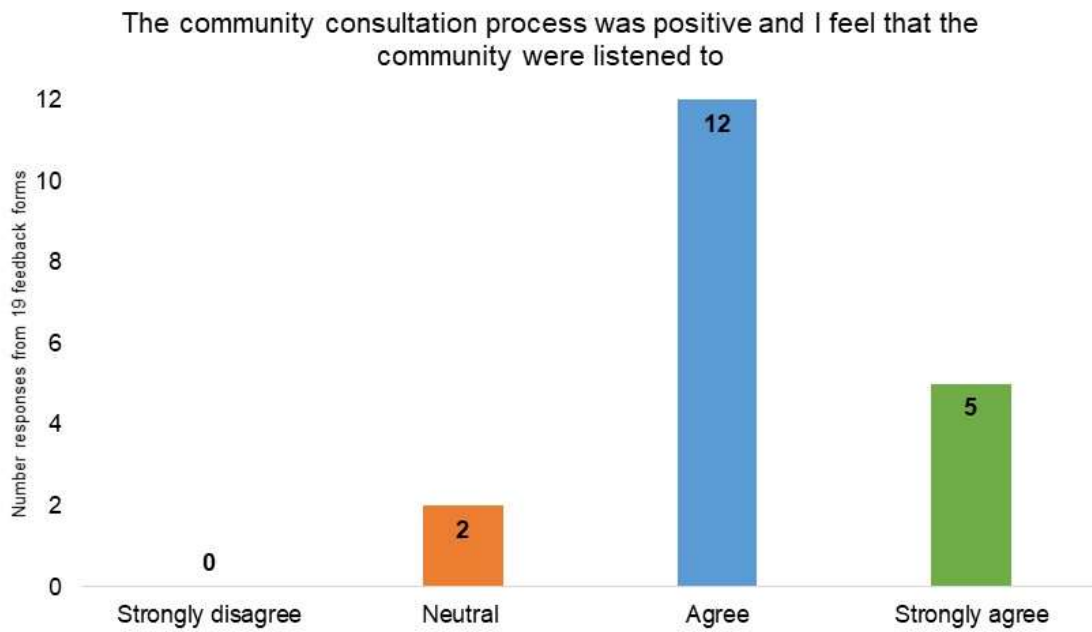


Figure 11 – Community feedback – consultation process response

Further community feedback is provided in Appendix A: Community feedback summary.

Implementation strategy

Implementation of strategic plans such as Market Street Precinct Plan is rarely achieved in a single step. Rather they are achieved over a series of stages dependent upon factors such as the need for detailed design of projects, planning approval processes, service authority approvals, available funding and so on. In the case of the Market Street Precinct Plan a number of key strategic considerations leading to implementation are outlined below,

Priorities

A key factor leading to implementation is the definition of achievable individual projects and assigning implementation priorities to these. Priorities may be based upon factors such as the significance of a project to a local community, or the logical sequencing of projects to achieve an integrated implementation outcome. Project timing may also change based on opportunities for funding and community partnerships.

A review of the proposed directions has led to the identification of the following projects and priorities. Broadly for the purposes of this report, short term priorities could be achieved within 2 years, medium term priorities could be achieved within 5 years and long term projects achieved over a 10-year timeframe. On-going projects do not have a specific timeframe.

Short term priorities – 1 to 2 years

- Upgrade Precinct septic system
- Development of the new Bowls Club facilities
- Confirm costings to replace Pool water filtration and reticulation systems
- Undertake the Market Street Traffic Management Plan
- Progress renewal and relocation of the playground and development of the multi-use court

Short – medium term priorities 2 to 4 years

- Pool water filtration and reticulation infrastructure upgrade
- Finalisation of playground and court area and development of new toilet block and picnic shelter
- Splash pad and toddler pool

Medium term priorities – 3 to 5 years

- Development of interpretative gardens area on site of current playground

Medium - long term priorities – 5+ years

- Shared pool and community garden BBQ and shelter
- Provision of parking bays in Eversley Street
- Parking bays on western side of Precinct in High Street
- Kerbing and parking treatments on western side of High Street

On-going priorities

- Footpaths, landscaping, lighting, signage and other Precinct works should occur in parallel with other projects and in an integrated manner.

Outline costings

The following estimated costings have been developed as a guide for key projects under the Plan. More detailed costings would form part of further studies and assessments including opportunities for community-based revenue streams from programs and events.

Market Street Precinct projects and works	Cost estimate
Bowls Club Amenities project	\$300,000
Upgrade to Precinct septic system	\$30,000
Traffic and Parking Management Study Market Street	\$8,000
Playground renewal - removal and relocation	\$100,000
Redevelopment of a multi-use court using 1 existing tennis court	\$100,000
Pool water filtration and reticulation infrastructure upgrade	Est \$300,000+
Development of new toilet block and picnic shelter	\$250,000+
Splash pad and toddler pool	\$130,000 - \$150,000
Shared pool and community garden BBQ and shelter	\$80,000
Footpaths as proposed	\$100,000
Landscaping, irrigation, lighting, signage and interpretation	\$80,000
Provision of 12 parking bays in Eversley Street	\$100,000
Estimates for general ground works such as removal of tennis courts, Precinct fencing and other works	\$20,000
Parking bays on western side of Precinct in High Street	TBC
Kerbing / parking treatments on western side of High Street	TBC
Estimated total of costs as shown.	\$1.618+m

Funding

The Plan will need to attract a range of funding to support its implementation. Whilst Council can allocate budgets for projects through its annual Capital Works allocations and through ongoing maintenance budgets, additional capital investment will be needed to be found. Council will work with Precinct user groups and the community on fundraising options for the Plan. The following provides some potential for support funding.

Details of some potential sources of support funding are provided in the Appendix B: Funding program summary. Some of these funds can be applied specifically for the Precinct, or form part of a larger “region” based approach to community, visitor and project development.

It should be noted that many of these grants are rounds-based with applications open during specific periods. The grants include programs that were closed to applications at the time of this Plan but which could be suitable for the Plan should further rounds be announced.

Governance

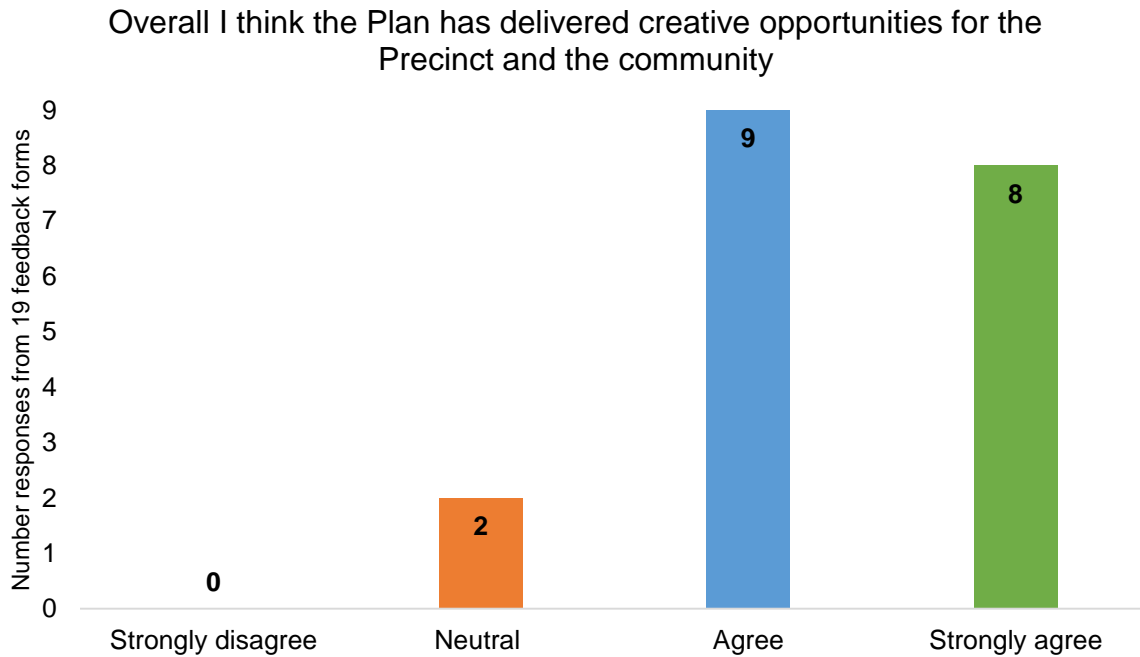
The Macarthur community and Precinct user groups have been active participants in development of the Plan. Whilst these primary user groups – Bowls Club, Tennis Club and Pool Committee individually oversee their area of interest, greater co-operation and liaison between these groups should be encouraged. In addition, it is important that the wider community also has the opportunity to have input and oversight of the Plan and Precinct more broadly.

The Plan recommends the establishment of a Market Street Precinct Consultative Group comprising of representatives from the user groups, Macarthur business owners and interested community members. The Group would be chaired by a Moyne Shire Councillor and secretariat and other support services provided by Council’s Community Strategy Officer. Council and other agency officers and stakeholders would be called to participate in meetings on an as needs basis.

The Group would meet on a quarterly (or as needs) basis to discuss projects and Plan implementation and highlight any issues or opportunities presented by the Plan and on-ground activities and works.

Appendix A: Community feedback summary

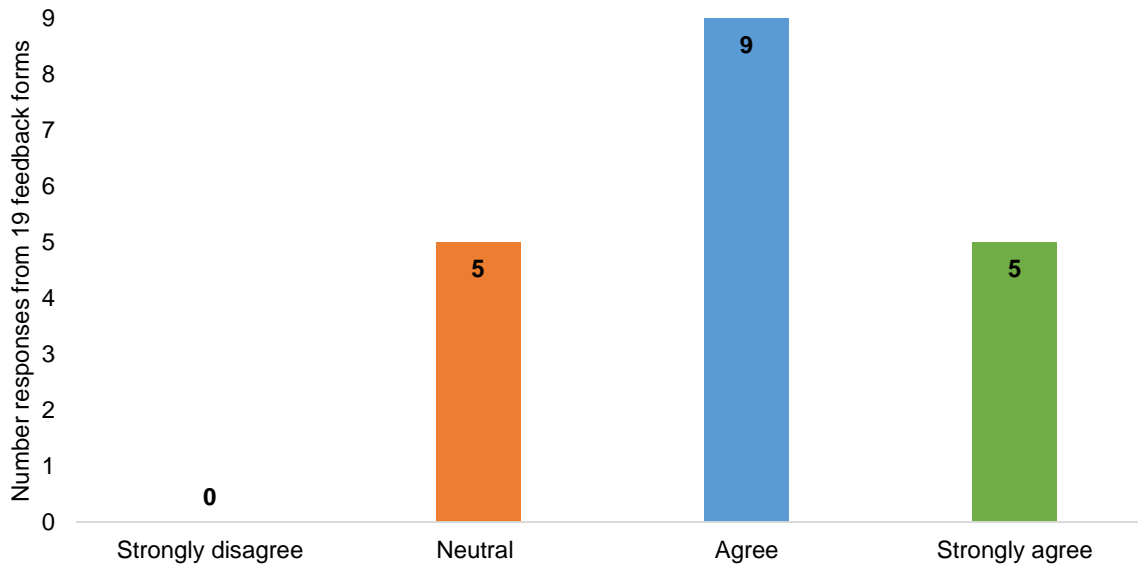
Three community workshops were held in March, May and June with an average attendance of 30 – 35 community members at each. At the final workshop, attendees were asked to provide feedback on the process and the Plan with the following results and comments.



Comments

- Draws amenities together and shared where appropriate and removes significant fencing and barriers.
- Not all change is necessary
- Timeframe and finances might well see any changes a long way off!
- Fantastic concept!
- It gives the whole community an opportunity to "own" the precinct

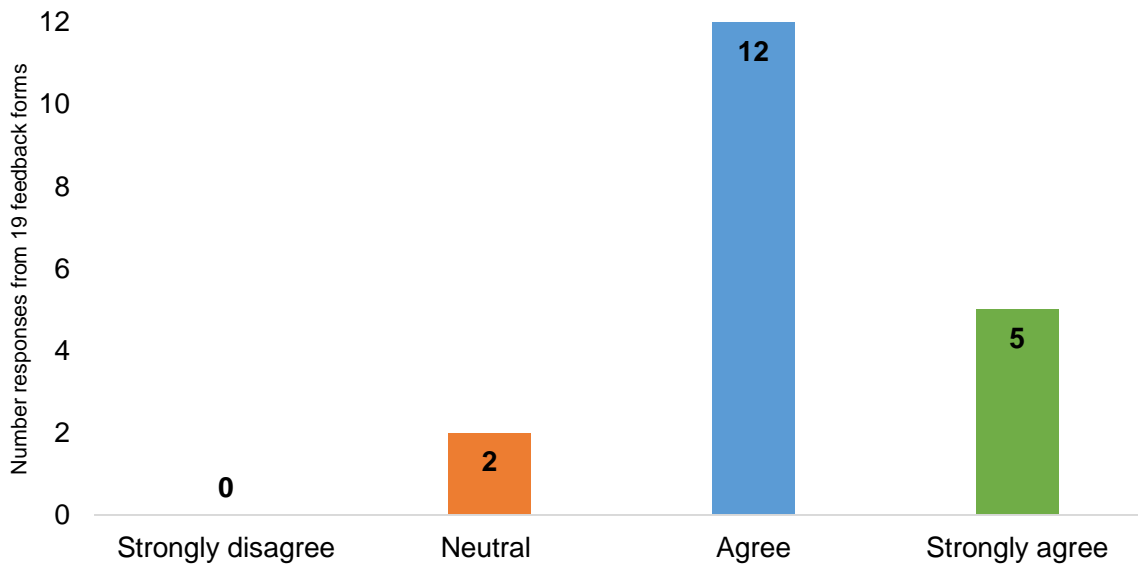
Community ideas and comments were considered and are broadly represented in the Plan



Comments

- Separate consultations with stakeholders undertaken provided good baseline for community input.
- Seemed to be very one-sided towards favouring the Bowls Club
- Wasn't at first meeting to know full extent.
- Everyone has been given an opportunity for input. Comments have been taken into consideration.
- I thinks it's beautiful.

The community consultation process was positive and I feel that the community were listened to



Comments

- Due process of consultation progressed with all ideas/revamps with adequate follow up meetings to clarify changes
- Council rep listened and responded
- Absolutely!

The three things I like best about the Plan are:

One	Two	Three
<p>Movement of playground but still needs fencing.</p> <p>Multi-use court integrated with playground.</p> <p>Rejuvenated tired area.</p> <p>Undecided.</p> <p>Pool.</p> <p>Toilet block to be built where majority of members wanted it.</p> <p>Remove tennis court.</p> <p>Improvement to facilities</p> <p>Bowling Club building position.</p> <p>Bowls Club facility stand alone can now forge ahead.</p> <p>Walk through the middle.</p> <p>Ideas good for pool and play areas - but when?</p> <p>Picnic area.</p> <p>Integrated.</p> <p>The flow through effect.</p> <p>Integration of assets.</p> <p>Enhances the area.</p> <p>Incorporating all activities.</p>	<p>New garden area.</p> <p>Inclusive theme of Macarthur and Indigenous people.</p> <p>Pool plan.</p> <p>Upgrading of area.</p> <p>Swimming Pool developments.</p> <p>Swimming pool - I strongly agree needs upgrade.</p> <p>Bowls Club can proceed with plans for updating toilet and change area.</p> <p>Pool.</p> <p>Inviting.</p> <p>The soft lines and curved lines from one area to another.</p> <p>Focal point area for town.</p> <p>Improved toilets.</p> <p>Parking changes.</p>	<p>New public toilets</p> <p>Enthusiastically progresses planned projects to a common collective goal.</p> <p>Traffic management plan.</p> <p>User friendly plan.</p> <p>Walk through from High St to Market St.</p> <p>Garden and walkways.</p> <p>The new layout makes sense.</p> <p>Ability to walk High St to Market St without going round the perimeter.</p> <p>Garden ideas.</p>

The three things I would improve / change about the Plan are:

One	Two	Three
<p>Playground fencing.</p> <p>The rotunda needs to go - used officially once in 10 years and is neglected - is Lions Club domain.</p> <p>Move parking from Market St to High St.</p> <p>Wheelchair access into clubs from High St side.</p> <p>Remove tennis court and Club!</p> <p>Prioritise upgrading of public toilets!</p> <p>Parking in Market St - retain some on west side.</p> <p>Need to keep some permanent parking for Bowls members in Market Street.</p> <p>Playground will be a lot smaller!</p> <p>Make sure the rotunda goes!</p> <p>Consideration for locals and visitors.</p> <p>The timeline shortened.</p> <p>BBQ plan.</p>	<p>Less garden, more parking at Eversley St end.</p> <p>Combined Bowls Club Public toilets.</p> <p>Public toilets on end of Club (Bowls excess to their toilets inside Clubrooms).</p> <p>Timeframes for projects.</p> <p>Disabled car parking for Bowling Club.</p> <p>Add more equipment into aboriginal garden.</p> <p>Parking and safety needs to be addressed.</p>	<p>Leave parking as is at Post Office end of High Street.</p>

Is there anything that you think has been missed?

- Nil - however being aware of closeness to Highway - speed reduced to 50km
- No competition tennis held here of 30 years!
- Parking in the High St area not only deprives parking for the Post Office but creates danger for elderly bowlers crossing the street. Maybe speed limits should be put in place.
- No
- I believe the western access to the bowls club needs to be re-considered and that the club be strongly encouraged to look at it.
- Wi-Fi access.

Any other comments you would like to make?

- An excellent initiative. Great to promote Macarthur for passers-by to stop and enjoy the whole Precinct.
- Consideration to promotional press releases and updates and timelines.
- Parking changes unnecessary.
- Broadwater Tennis has 30-50 cars playing tennis there.
- Get things moving as soon as possible!
- Purely a selfish comment - but an access from Heckfield St opposite the Hotel would perhaps allow more parking opportunities for the Bowling Club.
- I like the final comments about trying to "pull" the various area - bowls, pool, playground / bbq area etc together to make the precinct more user friendly. Issues - parking, safety and security for various "clubs" resources.
- Council needs to move on this quickly. The Budj Bim World Heritage Listing will increase tourism and we need to take advantage of this. It is probably a good time to source some government grants on the back of this.
- I believe the public toilets are the most important part for improvement.
- Great opportunity for Macarthur.

Appendix B: Funding program summary

Sport and Recreation Victoria

Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV) provide a range grants and funding to support sport and recreation in Victoria including local community clubs.

Sporting Club Grants Program

Provides grants to assist in the purchase of sports uniforms and equipment and to improve the capacity and accessibility of Victorian clubs and other community sport and recreation organisations and increase the skills of their coaches, officials and managers. Various small grants are available for these activities.

Female Friendly Facilities Fund

Assists local clubs and organisations to develop grounds, pavilions, courts and lighting to enable more women and girls to participate in sport and active recreation. Grants of up to \$500,000 are available on a SRV \$2 : \$1local funding ration, providing for a total project of \$750,000.

Community Sports Infrastructure Fund

Provides grants for planning, building new, and improving existing facilities where communities conduct, organise and participate in sport and recreation. Various funding streams are delivered under the fund including:

- Minor Facilities – grants of up to \$250,000 on a SRV\$2 : \$1local funding ratio are available for community sport and recreation groups, working in partnership with local government, to develop or upgrade community sport and recreation facilities.
- Recreation Planning or Facility Feasibility - grants of up to \$30,000 on a SRV\$2 : \$1local funding for projects focusing on recreation planning or facility feasibility. One application is accepted per municipality.

Regional Development Victoria

Regional Development Victoria (RDV) delivers the Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund (RJIF) which invests in growing jobs, building infrastructure and strengthening communities in regional Victoria. Relevant funding streams under the program include the following.

Rural Development Program

Provides funding for investing in local infrastructure, creating opportunities for economic growth and enhancing the appeal and liveability of rural towns and surrounding areas. The program can also fund early-stage project planning.

Rural Development Program	Funding available	Funding ratios
Infrastructure	Up to \$300,000	RDV\$3 : \$1 other
	\$300,000 to \$500,000	RDV\$2 : \$1 other (ex land)
Project and strategic planning	Up to \$50,000	RDV\$2 : \$1 other

Table 2 – Rural Development Funding program structure

Stronger Regional Communities Plan

Provides small grants of up to \$50,000 to support rural and regional towns in attracting families and young people to live and work by investing in community-led initiatives and partnerships. The SRCP program will support initiatives under the following two program streams:

- Community Capacity Building - supports initiatives that build skills, increase citizen participation and grow local economic initiatives.
- Population Attraction – supports priority projects that promote relevant lifestyles and employment opportunities.

Stronger Regional Communities Plan	Funding available	Funding ratios
Rural Council LGA	Up to \$50,000	RDV\$3 : \$1 other
Other – private sector, NFPs etc.	Up to \$50,000	RDV\$3 : \$1 other

Table 3 – Stronger Regional Communities Plan funding structure

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) aims to maximise community connections around themes of climate change, energy, environment, water, forests, planning, local government and emergency management. DELWP run a number of funding programs that could support implementation of the Plan.

Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants

Offers funding for projects that seek to involve and educate young Victorians in valuing and actively caring for Victoria's biodiversity and our natural environment. Up to \$5,000 available to schools, kindergartens, childcare centres, Scouts, Guides and youth groups.

Victorian Landcare Grants

Project grants of up to \$20,000 were available for on-ground works, capacity-building activities, community education and engagement projects to protect, enhance and restore Victoria's land and natural environment. Support grants of \$500 were also available for new and existing groups.

Community and Volunteer Action Grants

Aims to support practical community efforts to deliver conservation projects on public and private land. Grants between \$5,000 and \$50,000 have been provided to successful applicants to support communities in efforts to conserve their local biodiversity and threatened species.

Energy and industry funds

Moyne Shire has attracted significant investment in energy and resources projects including the gas and wind energy sectors. These investments can be significant in economic scale made by large national and multinational entities.

These investments generally recognise that local communities both benefit and can be impacted by their development. To address some of these outcomes, many companies provide community-based funding and support programs. Currently these mainly fund smaller scale community projects. However, there may be opportunities for Council to work with communities on advocating and securing industry investment in larger-scale community projects and initiatives. The development of Plan and identified priorities will go some way to supporting this funding approach.

Arts and cultural funds

There are a number of arts and culture-based funding programs and initiatives that could be explored for the Plan. These can vary in scale and outcome but may support small community arts events and programs which would need to be developed in partnership with the community. Regional Arts Victoria can provide guidance on what type of projects could be explored and link the community with arts professionals and organisations.

Philanthropic and other funding sources

There are a significant number of local philanthropic, trust and other funds that could support projects and programs of the Plan. These include but are not limited to:

- South West Community Foundation
- A L Lane Foundation
- Thomas O’Toole Foundation
- Ern Hartley Foundation
- A & H Graham Foundation
- Ray and Joyce Uebergang Foundation
- Gwen and Edna Jones Foundation
- Isobel and David Jones Foundation
- Rena and Fletcher Jones Foundation
- Isobel and David Jones Foundation
- Local aboriginal co-operatives
- RSL and Department of Veterans Affairs for infrastructure based projects
- Deakin University and SWTAFE particularly in the areas of cultural and environmental heritage research
- Council also subscribes to the monthly Easy Grants Newsletter which lists a significant number and variety of grants from government, organisations, trusts and corporates.



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Vision

Moyne Shire will be a vibrant, liveable, and prosperous community.
People are diverse, resilient and feel happy and safe.

Purpose

To work responsibly with the community to provide opportunities,
respond to issues, look after assets, encourage investment and
empower communities to help themselves.

Local call number **1300 656 564**
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Website **www.moyne.vic.gov.au**
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