

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Thursday, 2 September 2021 9:48 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	That is was led by community
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	Strong focus on sustainability and community - the intangible and most important assets
Is there anything we have missed that you	Some library-centric feedback:

would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	<p>1 – there is a lot of focus on environmental sustainability but no mention of community education. Goldfields Libraries new Library Plan lists sustainability as one of our Top 8 goals and we would be keen to partner with Council staff with the knowledge & expertise to deliver key messaging, education & learning to our communities through our library spaces, programs and collections.</p> <p>2 – Under Strategic objective 3. Business and tourism. Possible addition of: Consider opportunities for low cost, internet enabled workspaces and meeting spaces in future community hub / infrastructure development (eg: libraries) to support sole traders, micro-businesses and increasing trend towards remote working.</p>
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 7 September 2021 2:02 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	The document is clear, concise and reflective of the direction of the community.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	No, see below
Please provide any other feedback here:	My only feedback is the Focus area of Connected Communities. I think the phrase "Continue to Acknowledge Aboriginal People" is a little to weak. Maybe consider something like "Continue to deliver improved outcomes and recognition for our Aboriginal people".
Council Plan feedback	

What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	Clear, concise and to the point.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	Great focus on youth and supporting our young people.
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	I believe that the financial plan is too conservative, and fails to appropriately consider increasing borrowings to fast track the infrastructure and upgrades that our growing communities need.
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 September 2021 12:43 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: [Sender Unverified] Re: conversation yesterday

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 2 September 2021 3:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Sender Unverified] Re: conversation yesterday

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your time on Tuesday to discuss Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Draft Council Plan and Draft Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.

It is encouraging to see improving mental wellbeing within the community as the number two strategic objective of the Council. Macedon Ranges Shire Council has been a leader in this space, in particular for young people, and the Council's work has been recognised with a number of awards and citations in particular for the Live4Life program that was developed by the Macedon Shire Council. Prior to Covid-19, mental health was the number one concern of young people across Australia. Covid-19 has just magnified the urgent need for more mental health supports for our young people. It is heartening to see that the Council continuing to prioritise this.

With respect to the draft plan, I did want to point out an inaccuracy in the way Live4Life is articulated and ask that this be amended. It is probably just an oversight but it is important to point out that Live4Life is not just mental health education delivered to secondary schools. It is a whole community response to mental health and wellbeing and suicide prevention. It includes the school and community partnership group, it includes youth mental health first aid education to the wider community; parents, carers, teachers, sporting coaches, men's sheds etc and it also involves the youth participation, youth leadership component - The Crew. It is the delivery of all these components that has been the strength of Live4Life and why it has such a positive impact. It is very important that this is articulated in the draft plan. I would like to suggest the following amendments to the section titled "What We Do in 2021"

Point 1. The plan notes "Continue to increase awareness and resilience in relation to mental health". Suggest this be amended to "Continue to increase awareness and resilience in relation to mental health **through initiatives such as Live4Life**".

Point 2: The plan notes "Support and promote mental health by continued training of mental health first aid sessions and the Older Person Mental Health First Aid course". I suggest this be amended to "Support and

promote mental health by continued training of mental health first aid sessions through Live4Life and the Older Person Mental Health First Aid course”.

Point 5: The plan notes “Continue delivery of Live4Life in secondary schools across the Shire”. Could this please be amended to “Continue delivery of Live4Life in secondary schools and the wider community across the Shire”

Point 6. The plan notes “Expand Live4Life via development and delivery of a primary school-based model to grade 5 and 6 students across the Shire”. As we have previously discussed, the name Live4Life is owned and controlled by Youth Live4Life Ltd. In 2015 the Macedon Ranges Shire Council decided to establish an independent, registered not-for-profit health promotion charity and transfer the name and intellectual property to the new entity, Youth Live4Life. Youth Live4Life is responsible for the Live4Life model, its expansion and the brand. As I have said, Youth Live4Life is very supportive of the Council interest in developing a mental health initiative that is targeted at grade 5 and 6 students and would very much welcome being part of the steering committee to assist with this. But at this stage, given that you are still only in the research and scoping stage and we do not know what this initiative may involve, and it is inappropriate for the name Live4Life to be used at this stage. This may of course change depending on what is developed, and as I have said, we are very keen to be involved and lend our experience and expertise to the steering committee. I suggest this point simply be amended to “Develop and deliver a primary school-based mental health and wellbeing model for grade 5 and 6 students across the Shire”.

I may seem to be pedantic on some of the above amendments but it is very important that there is a proper understanding of what Live4Life is and that it is articulated clearly in the Council’s plans. One of the key recommendations from the two-year independent evaluation of Live4Life is the need to increase the visibility of the entire initiative within communities. By promoting the broader understanding of Live4Life, and sharing outcomes on an annual basis we are able to build more community support and strengthen the wellbeing and resilience of our community. I am more than happy to talk through these points with you further should you wish.

Thanks

[Redacted signature block]

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 8 September 2021 10:57 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	I think the strategic priorities are great, noting the top two: 1. Promote Health and Wellbeing 2. Protect the natural environment

Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	How has the budget aligned to the strategic priorities? Seems alot of money allocated to roads?
Please provide any other feedback here:	I live in [REDACTED], and have seen first hand how Council will focus spending on road upgrades and resurfacing (on roads that by all standards are acceptable to drive on) above important community, health and environmental projects such as stormwater improvement to Five Mile Creek.
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	Some money being allocated to drainage and open space
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	Why is spending so high (nine times higher) for roads?
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 10 September 2021 9:37 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: COMUNITY VISION, COUNCIL PLAN & FINACIAL PLAN

THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR ENVIRONMENT MUST BE RECOGNISED & EMPHASISED, OUR ENVIRONMENT IS OUR FUTURE.

I am currently revegetating a creek on my property with the intention of subdividing my property in the future in a sustainable environmental way incorporating traditional native land management practices.

I would like council to get involved & educate locals on how to do to maintain local native plant & animals in the region.

Please contact me for advice & assistance.

Best Regards
[REDACTED]

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Sunday, 19 September 2021 7:17 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	The idea of trying to bring the community more together
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	I think there needs to be more options of what we can do outside considering current environment
Please provide any other feedback here:	We need a dog park. It would hugely benefit the community as people can make friends and chat so easily with a shared interest. It's safe being outside and gets people more active and inclusive.
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like	

to see included in the draft Council Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	We need a dog park. It would hugely benefit the community as people can make friends and chat so easily with a shared interest. It's safe being outside and gets people more active and inclusive.
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	We need a dog park. It would hugely benefit the community as people can make friends and chat so easily with a shared interest. It's safe being outside and gets people more active and inclusive.

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Sunday, 19 September 2021 3:48 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	Yes
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	I have already raised with Council that basing such a plan on the views of non-randomly selected individuals is not scientifically valid and that the numbers of individual used was too small to reflect the views of an entire community. The process was undemocratic. The Community Vision Assembly was a biased process the results of which should be ignored. The results of the 2017 community consultation are far more valid.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	The vision fails to recognize the protection of the natural environment, the importance of protecting heritage and heritage built environment and the need to protect the rural nature of towns in the Macedon Ranges.
Please provide any other feedback here:	Time and time again the community has told Council that they want to keep Macedon Ranges rural, and the importance of the natural environment and our heritage

	towns. The Council has failed to implement policies that deliver on these expectations. More should be done to assist farmers in the region and to ensure the rural conservation zones likewise protect long-standing rural activities. The requirement to protect native vegetation should apply regardless of zoning. It is ridiculous to prohibit removal of vegetation in one zone while allowing developers to indiscriminately bulldoze.
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	Not much
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	Conversion of farming land to rural conservation does not protect rural activities. The only long term beneficial use of RCZ is as residential land or hobby farms. It is ridiculous that RCZ properties need a permit from Council for a horse or cattle or sheep. The Council should be protecting farming uses in the Shire.
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	Council should publish all financial transactions online so that ratepayer know how their money is being spent and to ensure complete transparency.

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Sunday, 19 September 2021 5:44 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	It set out a set of principles and values.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	The rights of primary producers who feed into our farmer markets and feed the boarder Victorian community . Council's responsibility to deliver key principles which are enshrined in legislation. Climate change which is a priority is ignored in terms of KPIS/actions, not using plastic bags is a minor achievement.
Please provide any other feedback here:	The vison is based on a number of people which is not statistically significant. A structured questionnaire of all residents and followed in 2 years time, to see if Council delivered KPIs/outcomes is more reliable.

Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	It is fundamentally flawed when it is uses as its guide the Community Vision. It does not deliver on how it will protect the region which is its superior obligation enshrined in legislation, it does not deliver on a structured approach to climate change, fires and floods, its role in also safeguarding primary production in the region, water restoration, the rest is what you intend to do, nothing on how it will be measured.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	see above.
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	No comment to early to gauge.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	No comment
Please provide any other feedback here:	

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Sunday, 19 September 2021 5:49 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	It appears to be the same old-same old to me. I thought the Assembly would be bringing in new ideas, innovation, I fear they have just ticked boxes presented to them.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	YES - there is no specific mention of caring for our beautiful environment. Does no one realise we are fast chopping it up, for development at any cost. MRanges towns are losing their most precious asset, space, trees, clean air, room to breathe. Look after our natural environment and you look after its inhabitants.
Please provide any other feedback here:	I have previously voiced my opinion on the Community Vision Assembly (which changed its name every time I read about it) Ratepayers voted in our councillors to be our representatives. It was necessary for them to declare personal details and their visions. The assembly chose

	to remain anonymous, no scrutiny by ratepayers. I believe that to be undemocratic.
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Monday, 20 September 2021 10:10 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	Nothing - it looks like steam rolling over previous commitments to protect the region supported by 24 nameless faceless "allegedly" independently selected members for the community. This process was fundamentally flawed from the beginning, is still a "secret" compromises the transparency required for such an important process and could be successfully challenged in court as a failure of due process. So how could we be expected to see a result that delivered on previous commitments!!!
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	The draft Council Vision and Council Plan fail to recognise the Shire's environmental importance and significance of the critical role our community-hub towns and priceless heritage play in the Shire's liveability and identity. Council must add an additional 'theme' of protecting our natural and built environments

	to ensure Council's direction is representative of most residents' values and reflects its legislative responsibilities..
Please provide any other feedback here:	Recent survey results highlight councils repeated failures across all fields of responsibility and deliverance. Don not make Thi another one of those black marks on the process of local government. Too much weight is given to "the community feedback" process when 600 people out of 15,000 are used as a means to dictate policy. Really big issues should be drafted and sent too each individual household of the people that live here before unaccountable people make change that effect their lives and livelihoods. Clearly the election promises have been selectively forgotten when it comes to this - further evidence of more of the same and disregard for what current community residents want for where they live.
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 20 September 2021 11:29 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Submission to Council Vision & Plan

Australia has a multitude of federal government employees, politicians, bureaucrats, diplomats, economists, scientists, etc to address national and international issues such as nuclear disarmament, defence, climate change and so on.

Local council cannot be expected to comprehend the scope and complexity of these matters and so MRSC's decision to employ extra staff for this purpose seems wasteful. Eventually we will have a comprehensive national plan for the transition to renewables; the decommissioning of fossil fuel power plants, the creation and storage of green energy and the configuration of the national electricity grid. Local councils may be federally funded to play a role.

Meanwhile council involvement is uncoordinated, of little significance and in some respects counterproductive.

At this time of crisis and uncertainty, council should wipe the slate clean, specify its core responsibilities and discontinue involvement in issues that are the responsibility of other levels of government. Having the three levels of government pulling in different directions is detrimental.

For many years MRSC's plans have promised protection for the environment, preservation of significant landscapes as well as economic growth and an enhanced lifestyle.

However the reality is overdevelopment and overpopulation without the necessary supporting infrastructure. Consequently we have the potholes, traffic and parking problems and a deteriorating lifestyle.

In contrast to MRSC's extravagance, Melbourne city council, among others, has continued to freeze rates in acknowledgement of the fact that we face twin crises and that 1.5 million Australian households are experiencing mortgage stress.

Now is the time for a reassessment of council's role and hopefully a sinking lid on rates.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 21 September 2021 11:55 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Council Plan submission

Dear MRSC,

Please accept this as my personal submission to the draft Council Plan. I have grave concerns about the direction of the draft council plan in the area of Strategic Objective 2. Healthy environment, healthy people.

The current council plan (2017-2027) has a full objective of "Protect the Natural Environment" this needs to be included in the new one. The draft strategic objective 2 Healthy environment, healthy people has virtually no relevance to protecting the natural environment, and concentrates only on the "healthy people" component.

In its current draft form, I would question if it even complies with the Statement of Planning Policy, which has nine binding objectives including Landscape, Biodiversity & Environmental, Water catchment & Supply, Aboriginal Culture Heritage & Caring for Country – these are not sufficiently addressed in the draft Council Plan

The consultation process for this plan has been severely lacking, I believe this to be due to the state government's directive to have a closed deliberative consultation group. This process is flawed with this group being anonymous, so no community members have been able to 'have their say' until this last phase. It shows in the quality and lack of essential content in the draft document. The current council plan (2017-2027) had a lot of community consultation and actually considered and included the feedback.

In summary – please ensure that the objective of "Protect the Natural Environment" is again included in the Council Plan, with meaningful and protective actions.

Our Environment, Our Future

[REDACTED]

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 September 2021 12:18 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	The fact that it was produced by a citizen assembly process.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	Not nearly enough emphasis on environmental protection - it is just lumped in with recreation in Theme 2.
Please provide any other feedback here:	I am heartily sick of providing submissions where I have to reiterate that economy does not trump environment, that it is time to stop privileging economic productivity/tourism etc over the environment. A healthy environment is a prerequisite for a healthy economy and social wellbeing. The Shire's Environment department has excellent staff and does a great job eg we already have an Enviro strategy,

	Biodiversity Strategy, Roadsides plan (but still in draft). However these are underfunded with low compliance able to undertaken, and way below the priority given to planning, tourism etc. MR's environmental assets are priceless, always under threat, and basic to the attractions always touted.
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	Under Strategic Objective 2 despite Healthy Environment being stated first, the few enviro objectives appear well done the list. The do not include progressing for example the many excellent actions outlined in the Biodiversity Strategy 2018.
Please provide any other feedback here:	Refer to my remarks under the Vision Plan. I hope to see the demise of the ill-considered draft Rural Land Use Strategy - see my submission to it for the reasons.
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

Kaitlin Evans

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 21 September 2021 4:46 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Council Vision submission

Dear Macedon Ranges Shire Council,

Please accept my personal submission to the Draft Community Vision.

This document is as lacking in meaningful content as the draft Council Plan. Theme 2 Healthy environment, healthy people again fails to suggest anything to actually protect the natural environment.

Theme 3 Business and Tourism actually is destructive to the natural environment – suggesting amenities and accessibility for natural assets – this just causes constant and ongoing damage. Blanket/blind support for markets is not supported – just look at the damage still evident from the Gisborne market (18 months after it has operated).

Beautification ... of streets, parks and landmarks looks good on paper, yet the species of trees being planted is causing permanent damage – it appears trees are being planted just because they have red leaves in autumn – no consideration is taken of the fact that they are introduced, weedy, barren all winter, cause pollution with their leaf drop, damage waterways and add no habitat value, but interrupt natural processes, harm the natural environment, block up drains and cause residents to have to work hard to clear up the mess they leave. Business and tourism relies on the natural environment – it MUST be prioritised and looked after responsibly – with local native species – not introduced trees from colder wetter climates which do not do well here anyway, and will fail more with climate change.

Please get back to looking after what is important consistently through consultations – the environment! It must be in a theme of its own and with meaningful aims, priorities and focus.

Our Environment, Our Future

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 21 September 2021 5:27 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Have your say: Community vision, Council plan & financial plan

Hi,

After reviewing the draft council plan I would like to make one point

I did not see it mention 'young adults' or youth much or at all. Mental health was mentioned many times and but mainly focused on adult mental health. Youth mental health issues including depression are rising. I think we need to engage our youth and welcome them to our recreation spaces in a positive way.

My idea is building a youth 'play ground' that is solely for youth and young adults. It should challenge, amuse and promote fitness with the young people. This will bring our youth into our recreation areas and get them involved in the community. I go to the Gisborne park with my small children most days. I see many young adults at the park and the only fun thing for them to do is to go on the basket swing. They are always well behaved and my kids like seeing them there. Young people need fun things to do too and there are so many youth in Gisborne.

Obviously this is not in the budget but it is something I would be happy to work with you on and fundraise for it.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 21 September 2021 9:36 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Council Plan
Attachments: MRSC plan (1).doc; ATT00001.htm

Please find attached submission [REDACTED] expressing concerns regarding your Council Plan.

Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Macedon Ranges Shire Council,
Mollison St,
Kyneton.

23rd September 2021

Dear Macedon Ranges Shire Council,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] With 9 groups in the Macedon Ranges, we would like to raise a number of concerns with Macedon Ranges Shire Council's Draft Council Plan. It is extremely disappointing that the "Protect the Natural Environment" has been omitted as a stand-alone priority and replaced with a priority that is dominated by human-centric actions and priorities which leaves very little (if any) regarding looking after the natural environment. We acknowledge that "healthy people" is an important priority, and is dependent on creating a healthy environment but these should be separate objectives as in the previous Council Plan.

The current draft plan is a big step backwards in creating a healthy environment.

Please compare the previous council plan priority of "Protect the Natural Environment" (below) and reinstate it as it was.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Our priorities:

2. Protect the natural environment

- Address climate change mitigation, resilience and adaptation
- Protect biodiversity
- Enhance waterways and water catchment quality
- Manage waste as a resource
- Proactive environmental planning and policy
- Embed environmental sustainability principles across all Council operations
- Improve access of people with disabilities to Council managed reserves

Why are we doing this?

We want to lead by example and improve environmental outcomes in all aspects of life.

How will we do this?

We will:

- reduce Council's greenhouse gas emissions as indicated in Council's Climate Change Action Plan
- implement best practice conservation management techniques to protect biodiversity and manage threats
- increase awareness and action for responsible and sustainable land management practices across the shire, aiming to improve the health of land and waterways
- maintain the high level of community satisfaction with Council's waste management
- implement Council's Environmental Management Plans across our bushland reserves
- prioritise local species in new public plantings wherever possible
- preserve the landscape quality of vistas
- protect and enhance rural and agricultural lands
- continue to apply best practice and partnerships to protect and enhance biodiversity and the natural environment.

What you've told us

It is crucial that we continue to manage bushland reserves responsibly. We must prioritise and protect it before it all disappears.

Establish a tip shop—it may also reduce the amount of hard rubbish incorrectly disposed.

Encourage businesses and residents to go solar.

Year Four 2020–21 action plan

cont.

Priority area 2	Actions
Protect the natural environment We will protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity, enhance water catchment quality, and manage waste as a resource.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake Emissions Reduction Energy Audits of Council buildings to inform preparation of a Zero Net Emissions Strategy and Action Plan and to inform future building upgrades and retrofitting works • Roll out Stage 2 of Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) kerbside collection and continue to reduce waste to landfill • Implement the first stage of works from the Romsey Five Mile Creek Masterplan including upgrading the Pohlman Street footpath and associated landscaping to improve the visitor experience of the creek corridor
Strategies we will pursue: Address climate change mitigation, resilience and adaptation Protect biodiversity Enhance waterways and water catchment quality Manage waste as a resource Proactive environmental planning and policy Embed environmental sustainability principles across all Council operations Improve access of people with disabilities to Council-managed reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence an asset management condition assessment of existing Council Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) assets • Continue review of Vegetation Protection Overlays with Stage 2 completed by 30 June 2021 • Work toward amending the Planning Scheme to introduce new policy and planning controls to implement the Significant Landscapes Study • Continue delivery of a program of community climate change action plans across the shire's townships, building on the success of the previous program in Malmesbury and the current project in Woodend • Commence phase 2 of Council's Single Use Plastics Project and implement a range of actions to phase out single use plastics, based on the audit findings and action plan completed in Year 3 (2019/20) • Deliver the second round of regenerative agriculture workshops and speaker nights, and continue to provide individual sustainable farming advice to land owners as a part of Council's Healthy Landscapes for Healthy Livestock project funded by through the Commonwealth Government's National Landcare Program

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 21 September 2021 9:48 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	The Plan addresses the difficulties experienced by the community during the Covid crisis with an emphasis on mental health and connectivity.

Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	There should be a greater emphasis on biodiversity and saving intact grasslands and woodlands. Barrm Birrm in Riddells Creek has a spectacular flora count and is progressively being destroyed by the lack of a management plan. Private blocks need to be acquired by the Council or Trust for Nature or similar funding body. In general the Environment seems to be taken for granted whereas it should be centre stage. Other biodiversity hotspots to put in the plan include rail corridors, for example the Riddells Creek rail area that has threatened species surviving.
Please provide any other feedback here:	The Riddells Creek movement study and issues of town planning and road configuration needs to happen before the two big proposed developments.
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 2:55 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Submission Community Vision
Attachments: Submission 22nd September 2021.docx

To my south ward councilors.

I reject the community vision as presented by an unelected focus group.
It is not the voice of all residents of the Macedon ranges

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

Submission

Community Vision

I find myself again shaking my head at the Community Vision direction over all the residents of the Macedon Ranges Shire input, the so-called deliberative assembly who have been cherry picked to become the unelected community voice.

Theme One: A connected community is where people have access to the services they need and enabled to contribute, creating a sense of belonging! **It is simply a motherhood statement which is clear and obvious to the community.**

Aim, our community is diverse and has a range of needs. We need to ensure we are addressing all of them. We also need to bridge any gaps between Council actions and community expectations, **explaining the obvious the community constantly demands consultation from our elected council.**

Information gathering, such as surveys, to confirm the needs of older people, sure sounds good, **councils monkey surveys are scripted to have a preferred outcome, stating the obvious again**

Priorities, *the constant focus of council officers / executive team attempting to develop changes in the planning scheme, example Rural Living Zones, expressing for the community to become involved but provides no laypeople examples of what each zone change means a disgraceful example by council.*

Focus Areas, *it is what the community expects, and it does not need an unelected focus group that potentially can represent developers and business groups at the direction of "Deliberately Engaging Pty Ltd" usurping our elected councilors.*

Theme Two, A healthy environment, healthy people, **motherhood statement,**

Resilient communities, yes **and we need to place our natural environment, water ways ahead of all other aims.**

Encourage safe everyday alternatives to car use, and provide safe cycle pathways and footpaths, **council could maintain our roads in the first place.**

Missed opportunity with Theme Two. *Failed to recognize the impact of heavy haulage diesel vehicles ruining our local roads as they traverse the Gisborne Village 24/7 and not a suggestion to inhibit them entering a village with a topography that hinders such movement and the focus group makes no reference?*

A little hint demand the State government construct a bypass around Gisborne Village to allow these vehicles heavy haulage grain trains access to the Melbourne and Geelong ports.

Theme Three, **and here we are with sole reason to have an unelected community forum.**

Economic, growth at the expense of all others, commercial business will create their own opportunities without ratepayers' money underpinning such endeavors.

Council only needs to provide appropriate zoning without intrusion into farmland or impacting on the residential zones

The concern is economic growth will change forever the country and village feel of all towns across the shire, developers have too much say, along with entrepreneurs endangering Hanging Rock and likewise development of homes that impact that line of site.

In closing I hope that our elected councilors can grasp what is occurring here with the Deliberative Engagement process, Our State Government is dismantling your/our AUTONOMY.

To all councilors, please control development across the shire in a manner that does not impact overly on our rural/peri urban lifestyle, petition the State Government to formulate a bypass to prohibit heavy haulage passage through a village with a topography that is unsuitable.

Protect the Macedon Ranges in line with our “Distinctive Areas and Landscapes legislation, and the Statement of Planning policy for future generations.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 3:16 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: DRAFT COMMUNITY VISION 2021-2031 RESIDENT'S FEEDBACK

**DRAFT COMMUNITY VISION 2021-2031
 RESIDENT'S FEEDBACK**

What is missing from this document is PROTECTION and PRESERVATION of shire landscapes and heritage townscapes. This protection is not only not a priority in this "vision". It's not even given its own separate issue category.

The "vision" is all about economic growth and personal wellbeing. There is no recognition in this "vision" that economic growth and protection of shire landscapes and heritage townscapes are mutually incompatible. The Council has always operated on the self-delusion that it's possible to have your cake and eat it too through "careful", "smart" planning. Tell that to the wildlife which is slaughtered in this shire and the kangaroos which are being forced out. It's the same mentality which is leading to the rapid extinction of the koala. Australia leads the world in species extinctions.

Both residents and visitors are entranced by the (relatively) unspoiled landscapes and townscapes of the shire. There are no other large landscape areas or sets of heritage townscapes within a 100km radius of Melbourne which are as unspoiled as in this shire. This is why the state government recognised the shire's uniqueness with its Distinctive Areas and Landscapes legislation.

The draft community "vision" equates economic growth with wellbeing. But this is a fallacious association. The economic growth in our civilisation is such that it is created at the expense of human wellbeing and the sustainability of our environmental matrix. Many learned experts don't expect the human species to survive even another century. The Macedon Ranges Council, like the Victorian state govern, guide themselves by pleasant myths which have no basis in reality. Human health/wellbeing and even fertility are crashing, just like the ocean fish stocks and the koala population.

The majority of residents in this shire choose to live here because it is not an economic powerhouse, but rather "backward", peaceful, and natural. The metropolis with all its jobs and economic opportunities is within commuting distance. It is therefore a fallacy that the shire needs to prioritise a dynamic economy in the shire itself. Even in the US and the UK it is recognised that some areas outside the major cities are dormitory towns for commuters. Commuters like it that way. If they want to thrive in a highly competitive, teeming environment, people are free to live in Melbourne, or Sydney.

The Macedon Ranges Council makes the mistake of thinking it should try to be like every other place in Australia, rather than try to protect its uniqueness. Uniqueness is what draws tourism. Tourists are not drawn to yet another overdose of suburbia and commercial growth/"prosperity". This shire is well-placed to offer an antidote to "progress" and modernity, an escape from high-pressure, crowded, artificial modern living.

So the highest priority of the Council should be to preserve and protect the peace, "backwardness", and unspoiled open vistas and authenticity of the heritage townscapes. In the long run, this is what will guarantee the personal wellbeing of shire residents and visitors, and strong tourism and rural-based industries.

Residents of the Macedon Ranges are already aware of the wellbeing created by their blessed environment and small towns. Most don't want further development. Further development is being forced on us by state and federal population and relentless economic growth policies in a very finite, semi-desert environment, with no wisdom or insight about how an ever more crowded Australia with ever more precarious water supplies and even precarious

future food supplies qualify as an improvement on once sparsely settled Australia. The Australian character is already changing rapidly, and for the worse.

There is nothing more vulnerable to the despoliation of the juggernaut of development than vast unspoiled open landscapes and heritage small towns. It doesn't take much development to spoil everything, like a mouse tail in a bowl of soup. Just preserving most of what is already here will be a failed policy. The ethos and character of what is already here must be protected and preserved. The Council is just not aware of this reality. It doesn't take long to reach a tipping point. People in Melbourne once drove to the unspoiled Dandenongs. It didn't take much to spoil the ethos and character of the Dandenongs, even if there are a few stands of mountain ash left.

The draft community "vision" offers no vision of protecting and preserving what is most valuable in this shire. The draft community "vision" has no awareness that its "vision" of economic and population growth will inexorably destroy what is most valued by most residents of the shire. The draft community "vision" is on track to killing the goose laying the golden eggs.

I have a very low opinion of the Macedon Ranges Council, for a variety of reasons, one of which that it isn't capable of functioning except in semi-secrecy or secrecy. The Council is a fortress of secret government. So it is not surprising that this community "vision" is the product of anti-democratic secret government, in the format of a "Community Vision Assembly" of 24 secret persons secretly creating the future "vision" for the shire. This is the way totalitarian governments function, which is the way I see the Macedon Ranges Council.

I don't have any expectation that the Council or its 24 secret gnomes has the necessary wisdom to produce a successful vision for the shire's future. "Vision" is a very pretentious word in this situation. All the Council and its secret group of gnomes is really doing in this Draft Community Vision is conforming to the mindless, cancer-like development of everything, with the self-deluded belief that it is somehow actually steering the juggernaut of endless development in a very finite place. The Draft Community Vision 2021-2031 is just a predictable list of bland, cliché motherhood statements. There is no vision grounded in reality in this Vision whatsoever.

Where is there in the Draft Community Vision any scepticism, alarm bells, or any awareness of pitfalls and the impossibility of retaining what is most valuable and unique in the shire while relentlessly bent on economic and population growth?

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 4:18 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Submission Community Vision and Council Plan
Attachments: Submission [REDACTED].docx

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Please accept this submission commenting on the draft Community Vision and Council Plan.
Kind regards
[REDACTED]

23 Sept 2021

Submission to Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan

Theme 1 Community Vision 2021 – 2031 Connecting Communities page 5

Connecting Communities is vitally important as the high heat days, more intense bush fires, storms, flooding, pandemics, extinction of animal and plant species, are already increasing due to climate change. We have to improve community connectiveness and resilience and encourage discussion on how we should be going about it. Education is the key to resilience.

I feel that Continued acknowledgment of Traditional Owners is good but we must do much more to improve relationships and share knowledge and expertise.

Information gathering should include all age groups to understand their needs (not just older people)

Theme 2 Healthy environment, healthy people page 6

I feel the first sentence should be: The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment. The health of the environment is important for our survival.

Recreation relates to keeping people healthy and connected but not to the natural environment.

Priorities should include:

Biodiversity - education – encouraging diverse natural habitats, maintain green corridors.

Improving relationship with First Nation people.

Health is a huge priority and deserves a bit more than what has been included. See first sentence. With the increase effects of climate change a huge statement should be made in that vein. I suggest the introduction of a Heat Action Plan (University of Sydney)

Theme 3 Business and Tourism

This is important but not to the detriment of the environment. Jobs should not be a priority when it affects the environment, amenity, or vista. Maintaining a country identity is paramount.

Next page

Council Plan 2021 - 2031

Once again there is a lack of information about the planning for a Climate Emergency. There is an urgency to act over for the next 10 years. I would like to see a specific action plan for each topic about Climate Change and what Council plans to do.

A definition of a Climate Emergency would be good.

Climate change issues should be anticipated and be front and centre of everything we do.

As travel is the biggest cause of emissions in the shire there should be a plan for reducing it.

I would like to know if Council will make changes to building regulations to ensure good ventilation in all buildings to reduce build-up of carbon dioxide and virus particles (as has been found during this pandemic). Good ventilation and using a simple device which monitors levels of CO2 can greatly reduce the spread of the virus.

Calling a climate emergency means finding new and innovative ways to survive and prosper.

Keeping community consulted, informed and involved is important and this should be reflected in the Council Plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 4:58 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Council Plan and Council Vision submission

I wish to lodge the following submission which is reflective of my concerns regarding the Draft Council Plan and Council Vision.

Both fail to reflect the intent and purpose of the Macedon Ranges Distinctive Area and Landscape legislation, the Statement of Planning Policy or any of the many environmental strategies and policies of the shire that are purported to be the basis of the protection of the Shires significant environmental values.

To have the existence of a healthy environment to achieve the stated objective within the draft Council Plan of a "healthy environment healthy people", proper recognition and inclusion of the natural environment requires its own objectives to be set out, yet this is lacking in the documents. The Council plan lacks any credibility in promoting the protection and enhancement of the environment which it uses as the basis to achieve the objectives of the Council plan and Vision.

The many community consultations over the years have resulted in findings that place the natural environment as a priority for Macedon Ranges residents. This is not reflected in the draft Council Plan or Vision and is of a concern. It seems there is an undercurrent of acknowledging the natural attributes of the area but failing to place any importance or priorities to ensure its protection for future generations.

The Council Plan and Vision have seemed to be severely limited in selecting the long term community priorities and values of the Shires Natural Environment.

The state government's process of deliberative consultation in my opinion has failed in allowing the community to have influence on the development of these important documents. There is a concerning tourism and development of tourism emphasis over the environmental values. Having only an opportunity to comment on a final draft is not allowing the majority of the community to be involved in the initial direction of the development of these documents.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
23 September, 2021

From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 5:06 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: [Sender Unverified] Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	Macedon Ranges is unique
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	<p>The Community Vision does not acknowledge that there is no other way forward with climate change but to mitigate its effects in this critical 10 year period. That good governance by the MRSC will make that happen if the community expectations direct MRSC strategy and action.</p> <p>So two themes 1. Mitigate Climate Change. Overarching Theme which makes this a priority in everything that MRSC does. Demonstrates that the community backs and expects MRSC to deliver action on this. Confirms that the community supports the MRSC Climate Emergency declaration</p>

	2. Good governance from local government. Community expects good governance from MRSC; engagement with the community; where State and Federal Policies and Directions over rule Local Government, MRSC advocate on the communities behalf; good financial management
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	The Council Plan does clearly state at the end of the Plan what community expectations it is not delivering on and why.
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	<p>The MRSC needs to explain its governance role so that the community can better understand how local government responds to community expectations. So structure a section of the draft Council Plan into Understand the Context and then Community Engagement.</p> <p>Understand the Context: What does Council do * Local Service Delivery - waste collection/ recycling * Infrastructure - provision, improvement and maintenance - bike paths * Strategic Planning - land use * Regulation & Enforcement - Local Laws * Council Meetings * Considerations and Constraints * Rate Revenue & Financial Management * Governance - Local Government Act * Evidence base and Data to inform MRSC decisions</p> <p>Community Engagement * Community engagement process that informed the Community Vision * How that sets directions for the Council Plan * Communicate this to the community</p>
Please provide any other feedback here:	Community engagement is an identified problem for MRSC. An explanation of what MRSC does do and what is not in its remit should better its community engagement. So the community can do what it needs to do rather than thinking or wishing that the MRSC does that
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	Clear and comprehensive
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see	Development Contribution Plans. Explanation as to how this is levied and what exactly MRSC does with this money. Used for the purpose intended and not used to back up MRSC financial liabilities.

included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 8:24 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Cc: Cr Anne Moore; Cr Annette Death; Cr Bill West; Cr Dominic Bonanno; Cr Geoff Neil; Cr Janet Pearce; Cr Jennifer Anderson; Cr Mark Ridgeway; Cr Rob Guthrie
Subject: [REDACTED] Submission - Community Vision and Council Plan
Attachments: [REDACTED] final-submission-vision-council-plan-2021-2022 230921.pdf

[REDACTED]

Please find attached the [REDACTED] submission on the draft Community Vision and Council Plan.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Submission

23/9/21

Macedon Ranges Draft Community Vision and Draft Council Plan

1 The [REDACTED] Concerns

1.1 Deliberative Engagement Process

Processes for community participation in preparing the Shire's Vision and Council Plan (Community Vision Assembly) have been restricted and lacking transparency, more so than seems to have occurred in other Victorian municipalities. It is difficult to get a clear picture of the actual numbers, but it appears that 25 residents were initially intended to participate, the Vision (p3 text) says 28 were recruited, subsequently reduced by 4 participant withdrawals leaving 24, while the table at page 3 says 27 and demographics are only supplied for that number.

Lack of transparency and broader participation is an issue council must address and significantly improve to avoid repeating this unacceptable situation in future (the Association strongly supports deliberative engagement that has a stronger alignment with the more transparent and inclusive processes undertaken for preparation of the 2017 Council Plan).

1.2 Failure To Recognise Distinctive Area and Landscape

While referring to various other Acts and Plans, and despite the declaration of Macedon Ranges Shire as a Distinctive Area and Landscape since preparation of the Council Plan in 2017, neither the Vision nor Plan recognises the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes legislation or the Statement of Planning Policy the Shire operates under, or council's obligations under them.

Instead, the Vision and the Plan contain the same inconsistencies as Council's draft Economic Development and Rural Land Use Strategies, that of prioritising economic development and downplaying environmental significance (which is not even provided with its own theme). *Where is this attempt to usurp the Shire's legislative narrative coming from?*

1.3 Issues With the Vision and Plan Themes

A concerning change is the reduction of Themes from 4 to 3, particularly in a place as complex as Macedon Ranges Shire (even metropolitan municipalities have more than 3). Having fewer themes is not successful and results in some strong disconnections between the issues (themes) and objectives, priorities and actions. For example, open space is addressed in both *Connecting Communities* and *Healthy Environment, Healthy People*, while the *Connecting Communities* theme has a strategic objective relating to provision of (built-form) infrastructure, while 'connecting' matters are in the *Healthy Environment, Healthy People* theme (the vision for which only relates to environmental matters). it is also not clear how the Council Plan document would be administered.

2 Requested Changes

The following pages show changes requested by the Association to:

- the Community Vision Statement
- the Community Vision Themes
- the Council Plan
- How We Will Measure Success

Content in the following sections is the content of the Community Vision's Community Vision Statement, Themes, Aims, Priorities and Focus Areas, and the Council Plan's Themes, Strategic Objectives, Strategic Priorities and Actions 2021/2022.

Additional or replacement text is shown in underlined bold blue

Deleted text is shown in ~~red strikethrough~~.

Text that has been relocated is annotated

The purpose of requested changes is to assist in making the Council Plan easier to use and clearer by separating environmental issues from health issues and transferring them to a new standalone environment Theme, and to address the Shire's status more fully as a declared Distinctive Area and Landscape and address the context that produces for other Themes, etc.

For economics, as exhibited neither the Vision nor Plan seemed to consider or address agriculture, and this is requested to be added to recognise the wider diversity of the Shire's economy.

An additional performance measure is requested.

There is also a request to include a new initiative in the environment theme relating to a community 'plant it back' revegetation program to help recovery from the June 2021 storm.

Further work by council to provide a more logical grouping of issues with themes would be beneficial.

2.1 Changes Requested To The Community Vision Statement

“With our unique regional identity and [deep connection to our distinctive environment and landscapes](#), Macedon Ranges Shire embodies a caring, [connected](#) and resilient approach to community through its [sustainable](#) local economy, protection of [its](#) natural environment, [a lighter tread on the earth](#) and a collaborative commitment to inclusivity for all.”

Theme 1 – [BUILDING](#) CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Description

A connected community is where people have access to the services and [facilities](#) they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging.

Theme 2 – HEALTHY PEOPLE, [RESILIENT COMMUNITY](#)

[Provide a theme description](#)

Theme 3 – [PROTECTING OUR DISTINCTIVE ENVIRONMENT](#) (NEW)

Description

[Protecting the Shire's natural environment and resources, heritage, landscapes and rural character is prioritised by the State of Victoria and the Shire's community.](#) There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our Shire's impact on the earth and its resources.

~~The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities.~~

Theme 4 – [FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE AND ROBUST LOCAL ECONOMY](#)

Description

[Our local economy is environmentally and socially sustainable, diverse, with vibrant town centres and industries, productive agriculture and a healthy tourism sector.](#)

~~Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity to ensure economic growth.~~

2.2 Changes Requested to the Community Vision

Table 1: Community Vision			
Theme Descriptions	Aim	Priorities	Focus areas
1. BUILDING CONNECTED COMMUNITIES			
A connected community is where people have access to the services <u>and facilities</u> they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging.	Our community is diverse and has a range of needs. We need to ensure we are addressing all of them. We also need to bridge any gaps between Council actions and community expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater transparency from Council to residents through cohesive communications. Roadways, including kerb, footpath and bike path accessibility. Respect for all people, places and environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs and services to acknowledge and address specific needs of vulnerable groups Improvements to kerbs, footpaths and bike paths. Local access to services, such as shelters, for local people. Community-triggered reviews of Council decisions and more deliberative engagement. Continued acknowledgement of Traditional owners. Signage for amenities and differing demographics of the community. Information gathering, such as surveys, to confirm the needs of older people. Better Council communication, such as a weekly newsletter.
2. HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT HEALTHY PEOPLE, <u>RESILIENT COMMUNITY</u>			
<i>(Transferred to Protecting Our Distinctive Environment)</i> <u>Provide a theme description</u>	<i>(Transferred to Protecting Our Distinctive Environment)</i> <u>Provide a theme aim.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation – encourage safe everyday alternatives to car use, and provide safe cycle pathways and footpaths. Health – provide a greater commitment to community health programs and initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling pathways, outdoor exercise equipment and sporting facilities with signage of distances, approximate time frames and gradients for all walking trails, to make them accessible to everyone.
3. New Theme <u>PROTECTING OUR DISTINCTIVE ENVIRONMENT</u> HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, HEALTHY PEOPLE			
<u>Protection of the Shire's natural environment and resources, heritage, landscapes and rural character is prioritised by the State of Victoria and the Shire's community.</u> The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i> There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our Shire's impact on the earth and its resources.	Resilient communities and robust economies rely entirely on a healthy environment. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste – promote and educate about responsible waste management Energy – achieve 100% renewable energy by Council, residents and business. Protection of the natural environment – protect, preserve and enhance bushland <u>biodiversity, landscapes, rural land</u> and waterways. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of expansion to soft plastic and ban single-use plastics. Promotion of renewable energy usage. A clear, concise, long-term environmental Plan Defined walking and cycling trails to protect the surrounding environment within flora and fauna areas. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>

Table 1: Community Vision

Theme Descriptions	Aim	Priorities	Focus areas
4. <u>FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE AND ROBUST LOCAL ECONOMY</u> BUSINESS AND TOURISM			
<p><u>Our local economy is environmentally and socially sustainable, diverse, with vibrant town centres and industries, productive agriculture and a healthy tourism sector.</u></p> <p>Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity to ensure economic growth.</p>	<p>Economic development is important crucial for the continued growth of the economy of the Macedon Ranges Shire. <u>Protecting the Shire's rural character, and natural resource base including water catchments, biodiversity, soils, rural land, and capacity for agricultural production, is critical for a sustainable economy and preserving the Shire's character and identity.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attracting diverse, sustainable industries (and jobs) to the region through incentives, including reduction in bureaucracy. Promotion of 'Local First' across the region. Beautification and improved signage of streets capex, parks and landmarks. Community-led and driven activities to engage residents and encourage a local focus with support of Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support of local business. that is above the influence from external pressures. Promotion of the local economy by prioritising local purchase and contracting within the shire, such as preferencing local business for contracting goods and services. Investing in the promotion of tourism by enhancing and maintaining local landmarks and parks. Enhance amenities and accessibility for natural assets. Promote local identity to stimulate tourism and the economy, such as waiving venue hire fees and supporting community markets and trade fairs.

2.3 Changes Requested to the Council Plan

Table 2: Council Plan			
Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
1. BUILDING CONNECTED COMMUNITIES			
		Integrate land-use planning and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire. <i>(transferred to Protecting our Distinctive Environment)</i>	<i>(transferred to Protecting our Distinctive Environment)</i>
<p>A connected community is where people have access to the services and facilities they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging. <i>(Vision Description)</i></p> <p>Our community is diverse and has a range of needs. We need to ensure we are addressing all of them. We also need to bridge any gaps between Council actions and community expectations. <i>(Vision Aim)</i></p>	<p>We will maintain our built environment – including roads, paths, buildings, open space and other assets – in a fiscally, environmentally and socially sustainable way.</p>	Improve connectivity and movement, and provide transport choices to the community, including walking trails and bike paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to improve continuous accessible paths of travel to key destinations, such as recreation and community facilities, through the funding of the Footpath Construction ProgramAdvocate to the Victorian Government for improvements to bus and rail public transport servicesDevelop and adopt an Asset Plan to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020Undertake the Woodend corridor study to investigate the movements of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles within Woodend's main road corridor, identifying areas of concern and possible solutions
		Provide well-designed, fit-for-purpose, multi-use open spaces and infrastructure for the community to connect, engage and participate in a financially sustainable way	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Progress the development of a new Open Space Strategy and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning SchemeCommence construction on stage 1 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project and continue advocacy for funding towards future stage deliveryDeliver the annual capital works programUpdate the Kyneton Showground precinct Master PlanUpdate the Romsey Sports precinct Master PlanCommence the Macedon Ranges skate park strategyContinue implementation of the funded Romsey Ecotherapy Park. Deliver stage 2 and 3 projects with Regional Development Victoria and the community
		Continue to acknowledge and work with the First Nations People	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Advance Indigenous reconciliation through working with First Nations People on the implementation of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>
2. HEALTHY PEOPLE, RESILIENT COMMUNITY			
Provide a Vision Description.	<p>We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, volunteers,</p>	<p>Encourage active and healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities, and provide recreation facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimise accessibility and usage of open space and facilities through a program of development and renewals for open space, playgrounds and sporting infrastructureWork in partnership with health, education and community organisations, including sporting clubs and community groups, to enhance opportunities for improved health, and participation in passive and active recreationDeliver first-year actions for Council's Health and Wellbeing PlanDeliver first-year actions for Council's Disability Action PlanContinue to deliver the actions for Elevate – Council's Youth Strategy 2018–2028Facilitate/partner with health service providers within the communityParticipate in the Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative to improve health and wellbeing outcomes in Macedon Ranges and advocate for ongoing funding

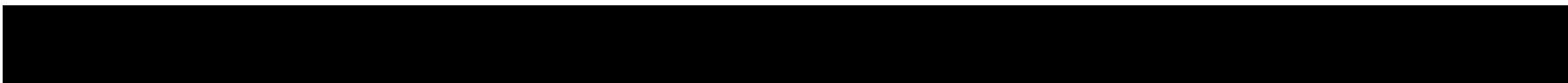


Table 2: Council Plan

Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
	community safety, and arts and culture.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018–2028 (from Business & Tourism)
		Engage families to promote the importance of early childhood education and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Department of Education to support current education reforms, such as the rollout of three-year-old kindergarten in the Macedon Ranges Shire and School Readiness Funding. • Provide and support access to quality kindergarten programs across the shire • Improve social connection for children and families with barriers to social engagement • Deliver the first-year actions for Council's Early Years Plan – CREATE • Strengthen municipal planning of early years' services • Explore feasibility of Macedon Ranges becoming a child friendly community • Continue to deliver maternal and child health, and early childhood services and programs, including immunisation and supported playgroups
		Maintain systems and capacity to manage and respond to emergency events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and mitigate key emergency risks • Leverage partnerships with key agencies and community groups to improve response to and recovery from emergency events • Contribute to Municipal Emergency Management Planning • Learn from emergency management response to improve future responses
		Support our community to ensure better access and connection for facilities and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor the implication of aged care reform on Council's role in supporting older people • Become members of the Every Age Counts coalition and take the pledge to address ageism • Advocate for access to health services locally
		Explore opportunities for affordable housing in the shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a draft policy on social and affordable housing • Advocate for involvement in the Victorian Government's Big Housing Build program
		Assist to improve mental wellbeing within the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to increase community awareness and resilience in relation to mental health • Support and promote mental health by continued training of mental health first aid sessions and the Older Person Mental Health First Aid course • Work with Commonwealth and state governments to advocate for the establishment of a youth mental health service in the Macedon Ranges Shire • Continue to support phase 2 of Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's Human Code project through the Healthy Masculinities Partnership Grant • Continue delivering Live4life in secondary schools across our shire • Expand Live4Life via development and delivery of a primary school-based model to grade 5 and 6 students across our shire
		Promote a more inclusive community by supporting vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support targeted initiatives for young people of diverse backgrounds that enable them to express their identities, such as raising the Rainbow Flag on International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia • Continue to demonstrate leadership in advancing gender equality through the implementation of Council's Gender Equality Action Plan, including delivery of year one actions • Construct a designated modular change room at the Gisborne Aquatics Centre, which will enable Council to meet Child Safe requirements, and improve service provision and accessibility



Table 2: Council Plan

Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
3. <u>PROTECTING OUR DISTINCTIVE ENVIRONMENT</u> New theme			
<p><u>Protecting the Shire's natural environment and resources, landscapes, heritage and rural character is prioritised by the State of Victoria and the Shire's community.</u></p> <p>The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities.</p> <p>There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our shire's impact on the earth and its resources. (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p>	<p><u>We will implement the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy and</u> protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity, and <u>protect and enhance landscapes, rural land and</u> water catchment quality. (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p> <p><u>This includes effective land-use planning, which has a direct impact on the environment and liveability of our shire.</u> (from Connecting Communities)</p> <p>The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021. (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p> <p>We will take action to reduce waste in order to protect public health and the environment. (from Healthy</p>	<p>Integrate land-use planning, and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire (from Connecting Communities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress the Kyneton Town Centre Urban Design Framework to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Progress the Gisborne Structure Plan incorporating the Neighbourhood Character Study and Town Centre Urban Design Framework Plan to Council for decision and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Progress the Romsey Structure Plan to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Progress the Planning Scheme Amendment to incorporate the heritage study for Woodend, Lancefield, Macedon and Mount Macedon into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Enhance planning protection of the shire's heritage assets. The Macedon Ranges Shire Thematic Environmental History will guide Council's strategic approach to identifying and protecting the shire's heritage, done systematically, within a contextual understanding of land-use development over time Progress the review of Council's Developer Contributions Plans (Gisborne and Romsey) and consider any future changes to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme recommended by its findings (from Connecting Communities)
		<p>Lessen the severity of climate change through actions that enable Council and the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a suite of environmental upgrades to Council buildings to enhance energy efficiency and environmental performance Replace all remaining standard street lights with energy-efficient lights through the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Lighting the Regions Project Continue delivery of a program of community climate change action plans across the shire's townships Research ways for Council to support the use and uptake of electric vehicles across the shire Protect, preserve and enhance bushland <u>reserve conservation, native vegetation</u>, and biodiversity (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)
		<p>Improve the quality of recycling, minimise the generation of waste and establish alternatives to landfill disposal (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence implementation of actions to phase out single-use plastics, based on the audit findings and action plan Actively promote the use of reusable nappies through the Maternal and Child Health Service Commence the implementation of the actions identified in the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021–2026 Decrease tonnes of waste to landfill per capita (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)
		<p>Provide opportunities to experience open space and bushland reserves <u>support ecological management of bushland reserves and roadsides</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise the review of the Hanging Rock Environmental Management Plan and commence implementation of priority actions Finalise the Roadside Conservation Management Plan that aims to enhance the conservation value of Council-managed roadsides, while mitigating fire risk and maintaining road safety Work towards amending the Planning Scheme to introduce new policy and planning controls to implement the Significant Landscapes Study Commence implementation of recommended master plan actions at the Gisborne, Kyneton and Malmsbury Botanic Gardens, including the delivery of an entry garden (western entrance) at the Gisborne Botanic Gardens Riddells Creek Street tree planter boxes – determine a solution to retain the existing trees while providing new planter boxes developed with a different construction methodology (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)

Table 2: Council Plan

Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
	<i>Environment, Healthy People</i>	<p>Improve the management of water, including flooding risk, water quality of potable catchments, creeks and waterways, and the efficient use of water (<i>from Healthy Environment, Healthy People</i>)</p> <p>NEW <u>Initiate a program to assist environmental recovery from June 2021 storm damage</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence priority waterway restoration works that implement adopted waterway environmental plans Continue the water conservation works program (<i>from Healthy Environment, Healthy People</i>) <u>Continue to prioritise the protection of water quality in potable water catchments</u> <u>In consultation with relevant authorities and Landcare groups, mentor and provide guidance on locations and species for a community “plant it back” re-vegetation program</u>
4. <u>FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE AND ROBUST LOCAL ECONOMY</u> BUSINESS AND TOURISM			
<p><u>Our local economy is environmentally and socially sustainable, diverse, with vibrant town centres and industries, productive agriculture and a healthy tourism sector.</u></p> <p>Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity to ensure economic growth.</p> <p>Economic development is <u>important</u> crucial for the continued growth of the economy of the Macedon Ranges Shire.</p>	<p>We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual, <u>environmental</u> and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with Council's vision.</p>	<p>Encourage economic vitality (including tourism, agribusiness and local employment options)</p> <p>Support local industry sectors that align with our vision and strategies</p> <p>Support small business and the local economy</p> <p>Engage with emerging technology solutions and initiatives to increase the <u>productivity, safety and</u> liveability of the shire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Council adoption, commence implementation of actions contained in Year 1 of Council's Economic Development Strategy Progress the Events Strategy 2021–2025, including development of the Autumn Festival Progress the Rural Land Use Strategy (incorporating the 'In the Farming Zone Strategy') to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018–2028 (<i>transfer to Arts & Culture at Healthy People, Resilient Community</i>) Continue to support local Business and Tourism Associations (BATAs) and industry-sector peak bodies, and look to have geographic and industry sector coverage Continue to increase the engagement of the business community with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Business Awards Continue to provide a package of support measures for the community and local businesses to assist the shire's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic Deliver obligations under Small Business Friendly Charter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver 14-day payments to local suppliers Engage with businesses Streamline business applications Help set up and support local business networks Support the local economy by encouraging procurement to be undertaken locally Advocate for improved communications infrastructure



2.4 Key performance indicators

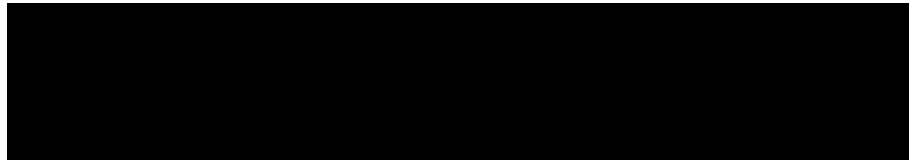
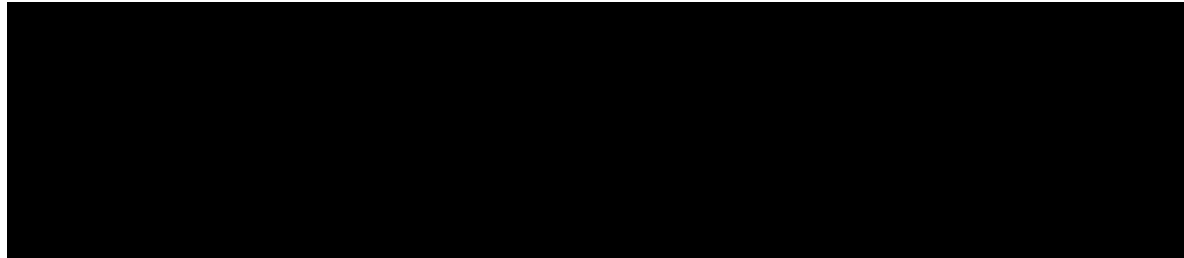
Add (at “Deliver Strong and reliable Government”):

“If we are successful we will see”

[Implementation of Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy](#)

“Outcome measures”

[Consistency with Planning and Environment Act Part 3AAB and Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy.](#)



From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Thursday, 23 September 2021 10:42 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	Yes
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	The draft Council Vision and Council Plan fails to recognise the Shire's environmental importance and significance or the critical role our community-hub towns and priceless heritage play in the Shire's liveability and identity. Please add an additional 'theme' of protecting our natural and built environments to ensure Council's direction is representative of most residents' values as shared in 2017 community consultation and also reflects its legislative responsibilities.
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Council Plan feedback	

What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	The draft Council Vision and Council Plan fails to recognise the Shire's environmental importance and significance or the critical role our community-hub towns and priceless heritage play in the Shire's liveability and identity. Please add an additional 'theme' of protecting our natural and built environments to ensure Council's direction is representative of most residents' values as shared in 2017 community consultation and also reflects its legislative responsibilities.
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	The draft Council Vision and Council Plan fails to recognise the Shire's environmental importance and significance or the critical role our community-hub towns and priceless heritage play in the Shire's liveability and identity. Please add an additional 'theme' of protecting our natural and built environments to ensure Council's direction is representative of most residents' values as shared in 2017 community consultation and also reflects its legislative responsibilities.
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 24 September 2021 8:45 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council; Cr Jennifer Anderson; Cr Mark Ridgeway; Cr Janet Pearce; Cr Rob Guthrie; Cr Anne Moore; Cr Annette Death; Cr Bill West; Cr Geoff Neil; Cr Dominic Bonanno
Subject: Submission re: Draft Community Vision and Council Plan 2021-2031
Attachments: [REDACTED] final-submission-vision-council-plan-2021-2031.pdf

Dear MRSC ,Mayor, DMayor and Counselors

My initial response to reading the draft council Vision and Plan documents was to note with dismay that the Distinctive Landscapes Statement of Planning vision and priorities of protection of landscape environment biodiversity and agriculture had not been represented or visibly reflected, anchoring and aligning both documents to the States vision.

Thus having the good fortune to read the judicious, detailed [REDACTED] submissions regarding the draft Community Vision and Council Plan [attached], rather than reinvent the wheel, I wish to submit that I wholeheartedly support all of the [REDACTED] observations/questions/requirements in the form of the proposed inclusions and amendments to both the Vision and the Plan in said attachment.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Submission

23/9/21

Macedon Ranges Draft Community Vision and Draft Council Plan

1 The [REDACTED] Concerns

1.1 Deliberative Engagement Process

Processes for community participation in preparing the Shire's Vision and Council Plan (Community Vision Assembly) have been restricted and lacking transparency, more so than seems to have occurred in other Victorian municipalities. It is difficult to get a clear picture of the actual numbers, but it appears that 25 residents were initially intended to participate, the Vision (p3 text) says 28 were recruited, subsequently reduced by 4 participant withdrawals leaving 24, while the table at page 3 says 27 and demographics are only supplied for that number.

Lack of transparency and broader participation is an issue council must address and significantly improve to avoid repeating this unacceptable situation in future (the Association strongly supports deliberative engagement that has a stronger alignment with the more transparent and inclusive processes undertaken for preparation of the 2017 Council Plan).

1.2 Failure To Recognise Distinctive Area and Landscape

While referring to various other Acts and Plans, and despite the declaration of Macedon Ranges Shire as a Distinctive Area and Landscape since preparation of the Council Plan in 2017, neither the Vision nor Plan recognises the Distinctive Areas and Landscapes legislation or the Statement of Planning Policy the Shire operates under, or council's obligations under them.

Instead, the Vision and the Plan contain the same inconsistencies as Council's draft Economic Development and Rural Land Use Strategies, that of prioritising economic development and downplaying environmental significance (which is not even provided with its own theme). *Where is this attempt to usurp the Shire's legislative narrative coming from?*

1.3 Issues With the Vision and Plan Themes

A concerning change is the reduction of Themes from 4 to 3, particularly in a place as complex as Macedon Ranges Shire (even metropolitan municipalities have more than 3). Having fewer themes is not successful and results in some strong disconnections between the issues (themes) and objectives, priorities and actions. For example, open space is addressed in both *Connecting Communities* and *Healthy Environment, Healthy People*, while the *Connecting Communities* theme has a strategic objective relating to provision of (built-form) infrastructure, while 'connecting' matters are in the *Healthy Environment, Healthy People* theme (the vision for which only relates to environmental matters). it is also not clear how the Council Plan document would be administered.

2 Requested Changes

The following pages show changes requested by the Association to:

- the Community Vision Statement
- the Community Vision Themes
- the Council Plan
- How We Will Measure Success

Content in the following sections is the content of the Community Vision's Community Vision Statement, Themes, Aims, Priorities and Focus Areas, and the Council Plan's Themes, Strategic Objectives, Strategic Priorities and Actions 2021/2022.

Additional or replacement text is shown in underlined bold blue

Deleted text is shown in ~~red strikethrough~~.

Text that has been relocated is annotated

The purpose of requested changes is to assist in making the Council Plan easier to use and clearer by separating environmental issues from health issues and transferring them to a new standalone environment Theme, and to address the Shire's status more fully as a declared Distinctive Area and Landscape and address the context that produces for other Themes, etc.

For economics, as exhibited neither the Vision nor Plan seemed to consider or address agriculture, and this is requested to be added to recognise the wider diversity of the Shire's economy.

An additional performance measure is requested.

There is also a request to include a new initiative in the environment theme relating to a community 'plant it back' revegetation program to help recovery from the June 2021 storm.

Further work by council to provide a more logical grouping of issues with themes would be beneficial.

2.1 Changes Requested To The Community Vision Statement

“With our unique regional identity and [deep connection to our distinctive environment and landscapes](#), Macedon Ranges Shire embodies a caring, [connected](#) and resilient approach to community through its [sustainable](#) local economy, protection of [its](#) natural environment, [a lighter tread on the earth](#) and a collaborative commitment to inclusivity for all.”

Theme 1 – [BUILDING](#) CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

Description

A connected community is where people have access to the services and [facilities](#) they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging.

Theme 2 – HEALTHY PEOPLE, [RESILIENT COMMUNITY](#)

[Provide a theme description](#)

Theme 3 – [PROTECTING OUR DISTINCTIVE ENVIRONMENT](#) (NEW)

Description

[Protecting the Shire’s natural environment and resources, heritage, landscapes and rural character is prioritised by the State of Victoria and the Shire’s community.](#) There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our Shire’s impact on the earth and its resources.

~~The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities.~~

Theme 4 – [FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE AND ROBUST LOCAL ECONOMY](#)

Description

[Our local economy is environmentally and socially sustainable, diverse, with vibrant town centres and industries, productive agriculture and a healthy tourism sector.](#)

~~Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity to ensure economic growth.~~

2.2 Changes Requested to the Community Vision

Table 1: Community Vision			
Theme Descriptions	Aim	Priorities	Focus areas
1. BUILDING CONNECTED COMMUNITIES			
A connected community is where people have access to the services <u>and facilities</u> they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging.	Our community is diverse and has a range of needs. We need to ensure we are addressing all of them. We also need to bridge any gaps between Council actions and community expectations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater transparency from Council to residents through cohesive communications. Roadways, including kerb, footpath and bike path accessibility. Respect for all people, places and environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs and services to acknowledge and address specific needs of vulnerable groups Improvements to kerbs, footpaths and bike paths. Local access to services, such as shelters, for local people. Community-triggered reviews of Council decisions and more deliberative engagement. Continued acknowledgement of Traditional owners. Signage for amenities and differing demographics of the community. Information gathering, such as surveys, to confirm the needs of older people. Better Council communication, such as a weekly newsletter.
2. HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT HEALTHY PEOPLE, <u>RESILIENT COMMUNITY</u>			
<i>(Transferred to Protecting Our Distinctive Environment)</i> <u>Provide a theme description</u>	<i>(Transferred to Protecting Our Distinctive Environment)</i> <u>Provide a theme aim.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation – encourage safe everyday alternatives to car use, and provide safe cycle pathways and footpaths. Health – provide a greater commitment to community health programs and initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling pathways, outdoor exercise equipment and sporting facilities with signage of distances, approximate time frames and gradients for all walking trails, to make them accessible to everyone.
3. New Theme <u>PROTECTING OUR DISTINCTIVE ENVIRONMENT</u> HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT, HEALTHY PEOPLE			
<u>Protection of the Shire's natural environment and resources, heritage, landscapes and rural character is prioritised by the State of Victoria and the Shire's community.</u> The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i> There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our Shire's impact on the earth and its resources.	Resilient communities and robust economies rely entirely on a healthy environment. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste – promote and educate about responsible waste management Energy – achieve 100% renewable energy by Council, residents and business. Protection of the natural environment – protect, preserve and enhance bushland <u>biodiversity, landscapes, rural land</u> and waterways. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of expansion to soft plastic and ban single-use plastics. Promotion of renewable energy usage. A clear, concise, long-term environmental Plan Defined walking and cycling trails to protect the surrounding environment within flora and fauna areas. <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>

Table 1: Community Vision

Theme Descriptions	Aim	Priorities	Focus areas
4. <u>FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE AND ROBUST LOCAL ECONOMY</u> BUSINESS AND TOURISM			
<p><u>Our local economy is environmentally and socially sustainable, diverse, with vibrant town centres and industries, productive agriculture and a healthy tourism sector.</u></p> <p>Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity to ensure economic growth.</p>	<p>Economic development is important crucial for the continued growth of the economy of the Macedon Ranges Shire. <u>Protecting the Shire's rural character, and natural resource base including water catchments, biodiversity, soils, rural land, and capacity for agricultural production, is critical for a sustainable economy and preserving the Shire's character and identity.</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attracting diverse, sustainable industries (and jobs) to the region through incentives, including reduction in bureaucracy. Promotion of 'Local First' across the region. Beautification and improved signage of streets capex, parks and landmarks. Community-led and driven activities to engage residents and encourage a local focus with support of Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support of local business. that is above the influence from external pressures. Promotion of the local economy by prioritising local purchase and contracting within the shire, such as preferencing local business for contracting goods and services. Investing in the promotion of tourism by enhancing and maintaining local landmarks and parks. Enhance amenities and accessibility for natural assets. Promote local identity to stimulate tourism and the economy, such as waiving venue hire fees and supporting community markets and trade fairs.

2.3 Changes Requested to the Council Plan

Table 2: Council Plan			
Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
1. BUILDING CONNECTED COMMUNITIES			
		Integrate land-use planning and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire. <i>(transferred to Protecting our Distinctive Environment)</i>	<i>(transferred to Protecting our Distinctive Environment)</i>
A connected community is where people have access to the services and facilities they need and are empowered to contribute, creating a sense of belonging. <i>(Vision Description)</i> Our community is diverse and has a range of needs. We need to ensure we are addressing all of them. We also need to bridge any gaps between Council actions and community expectations. <i>(Vision Aim)</i>	We will maintain our built environment – including roads, paths, buildings, open space and other assets – in a fiscally, environmentally and socially sustainable way.	Improve connectivity and movement, and provide transport choices to the community, including walking trails and bike paths	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continue to improve continuous accessible paths of travel to key destinations, such as recreation and community facilities, through the funding of the Footpath Construction ProgramAdvocate to the Victorian Government for improvements to bus and rail public transport servicesDevelop and adopt an Asset Plan to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020Undertake the Woodend corridor study to investigate the movements of pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles within Woodend's main road corridor, identifying areas of concern and possible solutions
		Provide well-designed, fit-for-purpose, multi-use open spaces and infrastructure for the community to connect, engage and participate in a financially sustainable way	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Progress the development of a new Open Space Strategy and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning SchemeCommence construction on stage 1 of the Macedon Ranges Regional Sports Precinct project and continue advocacy for funding towards future stage deliveryDeliver the annual capital works programUpdate the Kyneton Showground precinct Master PlanUpdate the Romsey Sports precinct Master PlanCommence the Macedon Ranges skate park strategyContinue implementation of the funded Romsey Ecotherapy Park. Deliver stage 2 and 3 projects with Regional Development Victoria and the community
		Continue to acknowledge and work with the First Nations People	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Advance Indigenous reconciliation through working with First Nations People on the implementation of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan <i>(from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</i>
2. HEALTHY PEOPLE, RESILIENT COMMUNITY			
Provide a Vision Description.	We will contribute to positive health and wellbeing in our community by proactively supporting mental health, the prevention of violence against women, healthy lifestyles for all ages and abilities, social connection and inclusion, volunteers,	Encourage active and healthy lifestyles for people of all ages and abilities, and provide recreation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimise accessibility and usage of open space and facilities through a program of development and renewals for open space, playgrounds and sporting infrastructureWork in partnership with health, education and community organisations, including sporting clubs and community groups, to enhance opportunities for improved health, and participation in passive and active recreationDeliver first-year actions for Council's Health and Wellbeing PlanDeliver first-year actions for Council's Disability Action PlanContinue to deliver the actions for Elevate – Council's Youth Strategy 2018–2028Facilitate/partner with health service providers within the communityParticipate in the Healthy Heart of Victoria initiative to improve health and wellbeing outcomes in Macedon Ranges and advocate for ongoing funding

Table 2: Council Plan

Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
	community safety, and arts and culture.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018–2028 (from Business & Tourism)
		Engage families to promote the importance of early childhood education and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Department of Education to support current education reforms, such as the rollout of three-year-old kindergarten in the Macedon Ranges Shire and School Readiness Funding. • Provide and support access to quality kindergarten programs across the shire • Improve social connection for children and families with barriers to social engagement • Deliver the first-year actions for Council's Early Years Plan – CREATE • Strengthen municipal planning of early years' services • Explore feasibility of Macedon Ranges becoming a child friendly community • Continue to deliver maternal and child health, and early childhood services and programs, including immunisation and supported playgroups
		Maintain systems and capacity to manage and respond to emergency events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and mitigate key emergency risks • Leverage partnerships with key agencies and community groups to improve response to and recovery from emergency events • Contribute to Municipal Emergency Management Planning • Learn from emergency management response to improve future responses
		Support our community to ensure better access and connection for facilities and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor the implication of aged care reform on Council's role in supporting older people • Become members of the Every Age Counts coalition and take the pledge to address ageism • Advocate for access to health services locally
		Explore opportunities for affordable housing in the shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a draft policy on social and affordable housing • Advocate for involvement in the Victorian Government's Big Housing Build program
		Assist to improve mental wellbeing within the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to increase community awareness and resilience in relation to mental health • Support and promote mental health by continued training of mental health first aid sessions and the Older Person Mental Health First Aid course • Work with Commonwealth and state governments to advocate for the establishment of a youth mental health service in the Macedon Ranges Shire • Continue to support phase 2 of Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's Human Code project through the Healthy Masculinities Partnership Grant • Continue delivering Live4life in secondary schools across our shire • Expand Live4Life via development and delivery of a primary school-based model to grade 5 and 6 students across our shire
		Promote a more inclusive community by supporting vulnerable groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support targeted initiatives for young people of diverse backgrounds that enable them to express their identities, such as raising the Rainbow Flag on International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia • Continue to demonstrate leadership in advancing gender equality through the implementation of Council's Gender Equality Action Plan, including delivery of year one actions • Construct a designated modular change room at the Gisborne Aquatics Centre, which will enable Council to meet Child Safe requirements, and improve service provision and accessibility

Table 2: Council Plan

Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
3. <u>PROTECTING OUR DISTINCTIVE ENVIRONMENT</u> New theme			
<p><u>Protecting the Shire's natural environment and resources, landscapes, heritage and rural character is prioritised by the State of Victoria and the Shire's community.</u></p> <p>The community prioritises the protection of the natural environment and recreational facilities.</p> <p>There is also strong community support for initiatives to minimise our shire's impact on the earth and its resources. (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p>	<p><u>We will implement the Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy and</u> protect our natural environment through proactive environmental planning, advocacy and policy to address climate change, support biodiversity, and <u>protect and enhance landscapes, rural land and</u> water catchment quality. (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p> <p><u>This includes effective land-use planning, which has a direct impact on the environment and liveability of our shire.</u> (from Connecting Communities)</p> <p>The Macedon Ranges Shire declared a Climate Emergency in 2021. (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p> <p>We will take action to reduce waste in order to protect public health and the environment. (from Healthy</p>	<p>Integrate land-use planning, and revitalise and protect the identity and character of the shire (from Connecting Communities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress the Kyneton Town Centre Urban Design Framework to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Progress the Gisborne Structure Plan incorporating the Neighbourhood Character Study and Town Centre Urban Design Framework Plan to Council for decision and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Progress the Romsey Structure Plan to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Progress the Planning Scheme Amendment to incorporate the heritage study for Woodend, Lancefield, Macedon and Mount Macedon into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Enhance planning protection of the shire's heritage assets. The Macedon Ranges Shire Thematic Environmental History will guide Council's strategic approach to identifying and protecting the shire's heritage, done systematically, within a contextual understanding of land-use development over time Progress the review of Council's Developer Contributions Plans (Gisborne and Romsey) and consider any future changes to the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme recommended by its findings (from Connecting Communities)
		<p>Lessen the severity of climate change through actions that enable Council and the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement a suite of environmental upgrades to Council buildings to enhance energy efficiency and environmental performance Replace all remaining standard street lights with energy-efficient lights through the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Lighting the Regions Project Continue delivery of a program of community climate change action plans across the shire's townships Research ways for Council to support the use and uptake of electric vehicles across the shire Protect, preserve and enhance bushland <u>reserve conservation, native vegetation</u>, and biodiversity (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)
		<p>Improve the quality of recycling, minimise the generation of waste and establish alternatives to landfill disposal (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence implementation of actions to phase out single-use plastics, based on the audit findings and action plan Actively promote the use of reusable nappies through the Maternal and Child Health Service Commence the implementation of the actions identified in the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021–2026 Decrease tonnes of waste to landfill per capita (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)
		<p>Provide opportunities to experience open space and <u>bushland-reserves support ecological management of bushland reserves and roadsides</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise the review of the Hanging Rock Environmental Management Plan and commence implementation of priority actions Finalise the Roadside Conservation Management Plan that aims to enhance the conservation value of Council-managed roadsides, while mitigating fire risk and maintaining road safety Work towards amending the Planning Scheme to introduce new policy and planning controls to implement the Significant Landscapes Study Commence implementation of recommended master plan actions at the Gisborne, Kyneton and Malmsbury Botanic Gardens, including the delivery of an entry garden (western entrance) at the Gisborne Botanic Gardens Riddells Creek Street tree planter boxes – determine a solution to retain the existing trees while providing new planter boxes developed with a different construction methodology (from Healthy Environment, Healthy People)

Table 2: Council Plan

Themes	Strategic Objectives	Strategic Priorities (4 Year)	Actions 2021/2022
	<i>Environment, Healthy People</i>	<p>Improve the management of water, including flooding risk, water quality of potable catchments, creeks and waterways, and the efficient use of water (from <i>Healthy Environment, Healthy People</i>)</p> <p>NEW Initiate a program to assist environmental recovery from June 2021 storm damage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commence priority waterway restoration works that implement adopted waterway environmental plans Continue the water conservation works program (from <i>Healthy Environment, Healthy People</i>) Continue to prioritise the protection of water quality in potable water catchments In consultation with relevant authorities and Landcare groups, mentor and provide guidance on locations and species for a community "plant it back" re-vegetation program
4. FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE AND ROBUST LOCAL ECONOMY BUSINESS AND TOURISM			
<p>Our local economy is environmentally and socially sustainable, diverse, with vibrant town centres and industries, productive agriculture and a healthy tourism sector.</p> <p>Business and tourism is about prioritising and promoting the people, resources, services and our regional identity to ensure economic growth.</p> <p>Economic development is important crucial for the continued growth of the economy of the Macedon Ranges Shire.</p>	<p>We will foster economic vitality in a way that promotes positive individual, environmental and community health outcomes, including business diversity, housing, transport, information and communication technology, and employment options. Investment attracted to the shire will be consistent with Council's vision.</p>	<p>Encourage economic vitality (including tourism, agribusiness and local employment options)</p> <p>Support local industry sectors that align with our vision and strategies</p> <p>Support small business and the local economy</p> <p>Engage with emerging technology solutions and initiatives to increase the productivity, safety and liveability of the shire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to Council adoption, commence implementation of actions contained in Year 1 of Council's Economic Development Strategy Progress the Events Strategy 2021–2025, including development of the Autumn Festival Progress the Rural Land Use Strategy (incorporating the 'In the Farming Zone Strategy') to Council for decision, and consider implementation into the Macedon Ranges Planning Scheme Continue delivering actions from the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018–2028 (transfer to Arts & Culture at Healthy People, Resilient Community) Continue to support local Business and Tourism Associations (BATAs) and industry-sector peak bodies, and look to have geographic and industry sector coverage Continue to increase the engagement of the business community with the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Business Awards Continue to provide a package of support measures for the community and local businesses to assist the shire's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic Deliver obligations under Small Business Friendly Charter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver 14-day payments to local suppliers Engage with businesses Streamline business applications Help set up and support local business networks Support the local economy by encouraging procurement to be undertaken locally Advocate for improved communications infrastructure



2.4 Key performance indicators

Add (at “Deliver Strong and reliable Government”):

“If we are successful we will see”

[Implementation of Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy](#)

“Outcome measures”

[Consistency with Planning and Environment Act Part 3AAB and Macedon Ranges Statement of Planning Policy.](#)



From: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - do not reply <noreply@openforms.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 28 September 2021 12:53 AM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Subject: Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission



Your say: Community Vision, Council Plan and Financial Plan submission

Your details	
First name	[REDACTED]
Last name	[REDACTED]
Email address	[REDACTED]
Would you like to present to your submission(s) at a Council's Submitters Committee Scheduled for 13 October 2021?	No
Community Vision feedback	
What do you like about the draft Community Vision?	That there is such a thing
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Community Vision?	It says healthy environment but does not follow through with action, the words are empty without action
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Council Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Council Plan?	That such a document exists
Is there anything we have missed that you	Unfortunately this is another missed opportunity for council to demonstrate environmental leadership.

would like to see included in the draft Council Plan?	Everyday I see MRSC failing to recognise the Shire's environmental importance and significance. I see it in the way the engineering team over designs and builds concrete footpaths in sensitive environmental areas, I see it in the consultants reports published by council that are city centric, I see it when I stand at the top of Mt Gisborne and see the massive overdevelopment of willowbank road. And unfortunately this report tells me that more of same will continue into the future because MRSC are not protecting this amazing place. I'm hoping that positive change comes to MRSC before it's too late. What legacy does MRSC want to leave for future generations?
Please provide any other feedback here:	
Financial Plan feedback	
What do you like about the draft Financial Plan?	
Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see included in the draft Financial Plan?	
Please provide any other feedback here:	

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 September 2021 4:52 PM
To: Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Council Plan submission - [REDACTED]n
Attachments: [REDACTED] Submission on the Draft Council Plan 2021-2031.pdf; ATT00001.htm

SUBMISSION BEGINS

Dear Council,

[REDACTED] have reviewed relevant aspects of the Draft Council Plan 2021-2031 and submit the following comments.

1. Structure and Coverage

Reference

Pages 8-9

Strategic Objective 2

4-Year Strategic Priorities

Comments

The Friends note with dismay the apparent watering down of commitment to the protection of the environment and support of biodiversity in this Draft Plan. Despite these words being expressed in the description of the Strategic Objective, there is nothing in the 4-Year Strategic Priorities that point to any kind of action or focus on these matters.

In bundling together the 'health of people' and the 'health of the environment', this strategic objective reads like a grab-bag of possible 'nice to haves' rather than the decided outcome of a 'deliberative' process. And because it is large and somewhat incoherent some very important 'priorities' have been missed. While the idea of healthy people deriving from a healthy environment sounds good, for the purposes of a clear planning document that reflects the priorities of the Community it might be better to split this Strategic Objective into its two distinct parts. This will then provide space for strategic priorities that might actually lead to the achievement of a healthy environment.

2. Gisborne Botanic Gardens

Reference

Page 15

Strategic Objective 2

4-Year Strategic Priority: 'Provide opportunities to experience open space and bushland reserves'

What we will do in 2021-2022: Commence implementation of recommended Master plan actions at the Gisborne.....Botanic Gardens including the delivery of an entry garden (western entrance) at the Gisborne Botanic Gardens

Comments

The Friends note that the 'delivery of an entry garden (western entrance) at the Gisborne Botanic Gardens' is **not** a recommendation in the Master Plan of the Gisborne Botanic Gardens (2017). Further, the fact that \$98,000 was approved for allocation to this activity in the Annual Budget 2021/22 suggests that the Masterplan priorities are being overridden by staff-driven priorities and processes.

After four years of implementation, this Master Plan is a long way from 'commencement', and a review of progress and expenditure against the Master Plan priorities and probable costs is warranted. A revision/update of the Master Plan to restore some sort of alignment between plans and actions and estimated costs may also be necessary. This would also provide an opportunity to bring the Master Plan into alignment with other Council-endorsed policies and plans including, in particular, the Strategic Environmental Works Plan for Council-managed Waterways as it pertains to the sections of Jacksons Creek that interface with the Botanic Gardens.

SUBMISSION ENDS

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Strategic Planning](#)
Subject: Re: Submission: Vision and Council Plan
Date: Wednesday, 29 September 2021 3:28:50 PM

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

Please note, as headed , the second submission was for the Vision and Council Plan, not an addition to the RLUS.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Vision and Council Plan

Submission

The myopic 'Vision' approved by a Community Vision Assembly of 24 anonymous people does not represent our views, nor those of the Macedon Ranges community who have chosen to live in a much valued rural environment.

Prioritised by this 'Vision' is the Economic Development Plan and the flawed Rural Land Use Strategy which proposes rezoning a large portion of the Shire to facilitate development, financially benefiting a few whilst degrading the landscape and environment, and being contrary to State Distinctive Areas legislation.

One presumes these documents were prepared by external consultants, at considerable cost to ratepayers, for how else could an omission of this magnitude (ignorance of The Distinctive Areas legislation) be explained.

In a time of uncertainty, with climate change and threatened extinction of wildlife species, the Council Plan for a rural Shire must prioritise the natural environment with the Distinctive Areas legislation and Statement of Planning Policy as the 'guiding light' - not economic growth which is more appropriate to the aspirations of an urban council.

[Redacted signature]