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Cover image: 'Yellow gum. One of the winning 2020 #MyCampaspe photo competition entries by Jason Freeman.



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Campaspe Times Newsletter

September 2021

A Plan for our Future

Our Council Plan is now out for comment, a document that sets out the strategic direction and our commitment to the community for the next four years. It also outlines what we will deliver, how we will deliver it, and how we will measure our progress.

Developing a Council Plan is a requirement of a new Council and has been shaped by the community engagement process we started in January this year, our "Campaspe: Thriving Together" program.

Over the next four years, our key strategies focus on:

- Well planned places
- Growing quality of life
- Flourishing diverse local economies
- Resilient natural environments

Also out for comment is our Financial Plan.

This is a another new document required by the Local Government Act 2020 and describes the financial resources required to support the Council Plan and other key strategic plans.

Council will consider community comments before final adoption of both documents. Refer to Council's website "Now Open" for full details, draft documents and online comment forms.

And finally, as we continue to experience State Government restrictions in response to the pandemic an important day coming up is R U OK day, Thursday, 9 September. The lockdowns and associated impacts are felt by us all. It's a reminder that every day is the day to ask, "Are you OK?" To help you in starting the conversation, the ruok.org.au website has lots of resources and information available for schools, business, individuals in your community.

Cr Chrissy Weller
Mayor



Mayor, Cr Chrissy Weller with Echuca East Community Committee President, Peter Murphy, turning the first sod to celebrate the start of the redevelopment project. More about this project on page 6.

INITIATION

PROJECT
PLANNING

DESIGN

PROCUREMENT

DELIVERY

REVIEW AND CLOSURE
(COMPLETED)

Project Update

This financial year more than \$26 million is planned to be spent on new capital projects across the shire to improve our roads, footpaths, bridges, drains and open spaces. The following provides an overview of some of the projects underway.



Echuca and District Livestock Exchange

Delivery

Works have started to rectify supporting columns. The program will be completed across two years.



Marine Vessels

Delivery

The PS Pevensey is on the Moama Slipway with maintenance works underway.



Echuca East Recreation Reserve

Delivery

Stage 1 redevelopment works have started, including construction of a multi-purpose community building.



Rushworth Service Centre redevelopment

Project Planning

Designs will be completed this year to redevelop the service centre including library, with construction to start in 2022. This project is being funded through the State Government Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and Council.



Graham Road, Kyabram reconstruction

Design

Designs have been completed for reconstruction of a section of this road (east of Bolitho Road intersection, extending east for approximately 600 metres). Tenders will be advertised shortly.

Communities Creating Inspiring Places

Two community-driven projects, supported through Council's Place Based Planning program, will deliver unique and inspiring places for residents.

New Community Play Space for Rochester

Before the end of 2021, Rotary Park in Rochester will be transformed into a magical natural community play space. The space will use trees, stumps, logs, boulders, plants, sand, creek beds, ropes, bridges and cubbies to evoke curiosity and create an environment where children and adults can have fun or simply relax. It will also include features that draw from Rochester's local history and familiar landmarks, such as Bill's Hill, Campaspe River and the Red Bridge.

The project is an outcome of the Rochester Place Based Plan and made possible with funding through the Murray Darling Grants Program. The project is being driven by the Rochester Business Network Play Space Committee which has worked closely with Dja Dja Wurrung traditional



The windmill at Rotary Park has already been restored with other works to start shortly.

landowners in planning the space. This has led to indigenous plantings and totems being incorporated into the design, and the word "Wirima", meaning "play", being used in the new name.

Co-president of the committee Eliza-Jane Watson said, "To have an inspiring, joyful place for children and their grown-ups to play and spend time in, will be really special. And, of course, we hope Wirima in Rotary Park will also beckon those travelling through town to stop and take in all that Rochester has to offer. We can't wait!"

Kyabram Community Embraces New Town Vision

"Kyabram is a welcoming, inclusive and progressive community that embraces modern regional living."

This vision statement is at the heart of the Kyabram Place Based Plan, a four-year plan outlining key priorities of the community to make their town even more liveable, inclusive, adaptable and resilient.



A key focus of the Kyabram plan is to enable local businesses to survive and thrive, with a number of projects identified.

Supporting the Kyabram vision are four key focus areas that will guide decision-making and action.

Kyabram Development Committee Chair, Tania Chiswell, said some of the key projects identified within the plan include improvements to local assets such as a dog park, regional parks, and development of a rail trail.

"The plan is a true reflection of Kyabram's long-term strategic needs and ambitions, and a solid pathway forward to maintain momentum and achieve identified projects," Ms Chiswell said.

"We now want to get the wider community involved, set up smaller groups to drive projects. This way residents get to work on projects they have a particular interest in, reporting back to the Committee."

Council has budgeted \$15,000 in 2021-22 towards seed funding projects identified within the Kyabram Place Based Plan.

Become a Tourist in Your Own Backyard!

With current restrictions on interstate and international travel due to the pandemic, there's no better time to become a tourist in your own backyard.

A driving tour is a great way to explore the many wonderful sights, sounds, tastes and activities on offer in Campaspe and two touring maps created by Council make it easy to plan your next adventure.

Northern Victoria Regional Driving Map

Whether you want to get close to nature, immerse yourself in arts, culture and history or experience the best of local wine and produce, the Northern Victoria Regional Driving Map takes you on the roads less travelled.

More than just a map, this touring guide has it all - there's a description of all the main towns in the shire, a listing of cellar doors and farmers' markets, plus water action and attractions, places to hike or bike and more.

As part of supporting Campaspe's tourism sector and stimulating our economy, the map is widely available at visitor information centres across Victoria.



Arts Trail Map

Colourful, user friendly and full of great information, the Arts Trail Map is a great resource for exploring the diverse array of arts and cultural experiences on offer in Campaspe.

Campaspe Shire is home to many talented artists, galleries, public art displays and outdoor murals, and the arts trail map is designed to inspire adventure and bring out the creativity in us all.

The map features arts spaces and places in each town and to help plan a trip, the distance in kilometres from Echuca to each town, is included.

You can explore more than 50 murals scattered across Tongala or browse Kyabram's three galleries at leisure - one of which is fully dedicated to fashion.

The map has recently been updated to include the Kyabram Water Tank Mural by Jimmy D'Vate, Colbinabbin Silos, Many Makers Gallery, Shaq-A-Taque and the Art Depot in Rushworth.



Start Planning Your Next Trip

Both the Northern Victoria Regional Driving Map and the Arts Trail Map are available to download from Council's website at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/touristdrives

There's also an Echuca Picnic Spots Map available at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/picnicspots

Are You a Tourism or Hospitality Operator?

If you're in the tourism or hospitality sector and would like to distribute copies of the maps to guests and visitors from your premises, please contact Astrid O'Farrell on 5481 2200.

Council meetings

Council meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to take part through the question time portion of the meeting. Meetings are held in Echuca and start at 6pm and are streamed live on Council's website. The agenda is available the Friday before each meeting.

- 15 September
- 20 October

Attendance may be cancelled, or limited, at short notice, pending changes to COVID restrictions.

Enjoy the Great Outdoors in a Dining Pod!

Eating in Campaspe's great outdoors just got better with 10 new outdoor pods installed in attractive locations across the shire to encourage more alfresco dining.

With a grant from the Victorian Government's Local Councils Outdoor Eating and Entertainment Package, the pods benefit both businesses and customers as everyone adapts to new models of dining in a safe and practical way.

The pods seat about 6 people, provide some protection from the weather and give a sense of privacy for social get togethers. The pods will be moved to other settings, either individually or combined, to create vibrant outdoor eating precincts during local events and festivals.

There are currently pods in Echuca, Rochester, Kyabram and Rushworth. Be sure to grab a takeaway meal from a local hospitality business and enjoy the great outdoors.



#lovewhereyoulive

What's On A listing of upcoming events across our region. Events may be cancelled or amended at short notice, pending changes to COVID restrictions and approvals.

Saturday, 11 September

Elmore Equestrian Club HRCav Double Point Show - Elmore Event Centre, 0419 329 764

11-12 September

American Iron Echuca Heritage Truck Display - Rotary Park, Rose St, Echuca 0428 506 807

Sunday, 12 September

Girgarre Farmers' Produce & Craft Market - Girgarre Memorial Hall & Park Reserve, 0458 546 283

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale - Birdwood Ave, 5857 2866

Saturday, 18 September

Echuca Farmers' Market - Aquatic Reserve, Echuca, 0417 597 282

REHF Rushworth Market - High St, Rushworth, 0402 576 103

Sunday, 19 September

Sounds for the Soul - Echuca Uniting Church, Hare St, 0429 801 342

Fashion, Food, and Flowers' Friends of Gargarro - Stanhope Hall, 5854 6482

Echuca Country Music Concert - Kyabram Bocce Club, Kyabram, 0438 160 222

24 - 26 September

Echuca Basketball Junior Tournament - Echuca Stadium, High Street, 0414 322 677

Saturday, 25 September

Rochester Town Market - Rochester CBD, Iddles Lane & Rotunda Park, 0408 220 861
Jigarre Jammin - Girgarre Memorial Hall, 5854 6283

Saturday, 2 October

Echuca Farmers' Market - Aquatic Reserve, Echuca, 0417 597 282

Gunbower Cup - Gunbower Race Course, 257 Dormoyle Rd, 0428 509 982

Tongala Community Garage Sale - Various locations Tongala, 0417 590 699

Victorian Canoeing Mini Marathon - Echuca Boat Ramp, Scenic Dr, Echuca, 0430 366 442

Sunday, 10 October

Girgarre Farmers' Produce & Craft Market - Girgarre Memorial Hall & Park Reserve, 0458 546 283

Stanhope Monster Garage Sale - Birdwood Ave, 5857 2866

Kyabram Come Try Fishing Day - Channel Bank, McEwen Road, 0427 552 541

10th Campaspe Carp Catch - Campaspe River at Echuca, Strathallan, Rochester, Elmore & Axedale, 5484 9293

Saturday, 16 October

Echuca Farmers' Market - Aquatic Reserve, Echuca, 0417 597 282

REHF Rushworth Market - High St, Rushworth, 0402 576 103

Kyabram Agricultural Spring Show - Kyabram Showgrounds, Allan St, 0428 992 450

Wednesday, 20 October

Echuca Harness Racing Club - Frank Ryan Raceway, Simmie St, 5482 2036

22 - 24 October

Lockington Country Music Festival - Lockington Community Hall, 0408 597 307

Saturday, 23 October

Rochester Town Market - Rochester CBD, Iddles Lane & Rotunda Park, 0408 220 861

Jigarre Jammin - Girgarre Memorial Hall, 5854 6283

Rushworth Spring Garden Festival Garden Expo Day - High Street, 0438 523 415

23 - 24 October

Hotel Rochester Motors & Music Festival - Hotel Rochester carpark, 5484 1040

Sunday, 24 October

Girgarre Open Garden Festival - Various locations Girgarre, 5854 6482

Register your community event. Free website event listing is available to community groups within the shire.
Register at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au

Exciting Community Projects for Echuca and Gunbower

Two exciting community infrastructure projects will soon become a reality funded through the Victorian Government's Community Infrastructure Loans Scheme. This low interest loan scheme makes it possible for councils to deliver significant infrastructure projects they may otherwise be unable to fund.

Echuca East Recreation Reserve Redevelopment

This \$6.94 million project will create a new multipurpose community centre and transform a barren area into an active community recreation and leisure space. The project is an outcome of the Echuca East Recreation Reserve Master Plan, developed in consultation with the community in 2015.

Located next to Echuca East Primary School, the reserve is home to a variety of community groups and used extensively by the school and local residents. The facilities have served the community well for many years; however, they are now in poor condition and nearing the end of their useful life.

Stage one works, from July 2021 to February 2022, include construction of the building, onsite parking and playground. Stage two works, scheduled from November 2021 to October 2022, will include the redevelopment of open spaces, dog zones, community group storage shed and a second toilet block.

The project is being delivered in partnership with the Echuca East Community Committee, made up of user group representatives.

Committee president Peter Murphy said, "It's a fantastic project. The large multipurpose building will enable a broad range of community activities. And it will be great to see the reserve reinvigorated with new a new playground, landscaping and walking paths for the enjoyment of the whole community."

The project is expected to be completed late next year. After the user groups move into the new facilities, the existing ad hoc buildings within the reserve will be demolished.



Gunbower Lions Park Redevelopment

This \$811,000 project will see the redevelopment of the existing Lions Park in Gunbower, situated on the foreshore of the Gunbower Creek.

The project includes construction of:

- accessible footpaths
- canoe launching area
- natural play space
- BBQ and shelter
- picnic tables
- seats

The existing heritage tractor displayed will be relocated, the area will be landscaped and irrigated, and a flagpole installed.

The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2021.



Recycling is Easy

Council's eight resource recovery centres are set up to divert as much material as possible from landfill. If you come prepared, recycling is easy at the centres. By sorting your waste in advance, you will save time as well as money.

Many items can be recycled for free at the centres, including:

- Batteries (car and truck)
- Batteries (household)
- Co-mingled recycling (containers, bottles, jars, plastic with recycle symbols 1-6, glass, aluminium, steel)
- E-waste (tv, computer, etc)
- Fencing wire
- Fluorescent/compact fluorescent light tubes/bulbs (including LED and incandescent)
- Mobile phones (including batteries and accessories)
- Paint tins (empty up to 20L)
- Paper and cardboard
- Scrap metal (ferrous and non-ferrous)

- Whitegoods (washing machines, dishwashers, microwaves etc) - fridges and air conditioners attract a small recycling fee for degassing.

The following can also be recycled for free at the Echuca and Mt Scobie (Kyabram) Resource Recovery Centres:

- Clothing
- Polystyrene
- Silage wrap (must be loose and clean to be accepted)
- Soft plastics
- Steel water tanks

Chemical drums (DrumMUSTER program approved) can also be recycled for free at Echuca, Mt Scobie and Rochester and motor oil (up to 20L) can be recycled for free at Echuca, Mt Scobie, Rochester and Rushworth centres.

For a full list of items that can be recycled at the resource recovery centres, visit webpage:

www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/resourcerecovery

Cannot be recycled	Can be recycled
✗ Plastic bags	✓ Plastic bags can be recycled through participating supermarkets or at the Echuca or Mt Scobie resource recovery centres
✗ Recycling in plastic bags – Recyclable material should go in the yellow bin loose	✓ Empty the contents out of the plastic bag into the yellow bin – this will avoid the bag and all contents going into landfill
✗ E-Waste (anything with a battery or cord like printers, computers, TVs, etc)	✓ E-waste can be taken for free to a resource recovery centre for recycling

For a full list of what goes in which bin, refer to Council's A-Z Waste and Recycling Guide – www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/AZguide

- To check your kerbside bin collection day, visit webpage – www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/bindates

Recycle These For FREE at your Resource Recovery Centre

The infographic lists the following items that can be recycled for free:

- Large cardboard and paper
- Clothing (only at Echuca and Mt Scobie)
- Fluorescent light tubes
- eWaste
- Batteries (car and household)
- Mobile phones
- Scrap metal
- Empty paint tins
- Motor oil

Only at Echuca, Mt Scobie, Rochester and Rushworth

More at www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/RRC

Customer Service

Across the past two years additional Council services have been added online, giving the community access to more information, as well as the ability to lodge requests for service 24/7.

With frequent short term service centre closures due to State Government restrictions, the ability to access information when and where residents want has become even more important.

In increasing online services, Council also appreciates some residents are not tech savvy and would prefer in-person assistance. Customer kiosks at each service centre allow residents to access Council's website, lodge service requests, make payments, read information, or make online comment to a document open for comment. To assist residents in using the kiosk, customer service staff are ready to assist. In addition, help sheets have been developed, with step-by-step instructions, for common tasks. Recently the ability to lodge planning



applications as well as information certificates online was added to the suite of services. Residents can also review current advertised planning applications or search the planning register to view progress of an application through to the decision on the application.

#campaspeservices

Service centres are now also equipped with an 'online meet up facility' in meeting rooms, enabling residents to book an appointment with staff and meet with them online. The rooms can also be booked for community meetings within service centre opening times.

#MyCampaspe Photo Competition



Capture the essence of where you live in this year's #MyCampaspe photo competition, now open until 30 September.

Send in snaps of your favourite places, faces or special times to illustrate what you like best about the Campaspe Shire region, and your photo could be featured in our 2022 calendar.

Up to five photos can be entered by each person, with each winning entry receiving \$50, a calendar and bragging rights for a full year.

Selected photos from the competition will form part of Council's photographic library and feature in promotional publications, social media and reports.

Applications are online, with entry photos able to be uploaded directly from your smartphone. Full details at

www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen