



Rushworth & District Action Plan

2024 - 2033

8.0 Action Plan

The 19 key actions identified by the community that will help achieve the vision for Rushworth are as follows. Note that the achievement of these actions will be dependent on attracting sufficient funds and resources. Whilst actions are listed under a specific focus grouping; they may in fact be relevant to numerous focus groupings.

Quick win = 1-12 months;

Short-term = 1-3 years

Medium-term = 4-7 years

Long-term = 8-10 years

Ongoing = continuously

Health, Wellbeing and Culture			
Objective: To promote opportunities for our community to be healthy, active and creative			
Project	Details	Potential partners	Priority
Health	We will advocate for additional GPs and health professionals to service Rushworth on a permanent or visiting basis to provide a broad range of health services to our residents, including mental health support, primary prevention, alternate medicines and health promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waranga Medical Centre Goulburn ▪ Royal Flying Doctor Service ▪ Health professionals ▪ Campaspe Shire Council 	Ongoing
Arts Precinct	We will support the development of an arts precinct in Rushworth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rushworth Art Depot Steering Group ▪ Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Rushworth Events ▪ Arts Victoria ▪ Regional Development Victoria. 	Ongoing

Community Participation and Resilience			
Objective: To provide opportunities for our local residents to actively participate in the community and connect with one another			
Project	Details	Potential partners	Priority
Governance	We will establish a Development Committee made of interested local residents to implement the Place Based Plan and to be a voice for Rushworth. The terms of reference for the governance group committee will clearly outline the community's values and vision (particularly around areas such as health, wellbeing and culture; community participation and resilience; built and natural environment; and tourism, events and business).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rushworth community ▪ Campaspe Shire Council 	Quick win
Club and organisational support and development	We will work in partnership with Campaspe Shire Council to support and develop clubs and organisations in Rushworth, e.g., sports clubs, business networks, special interest groups, etc, and to seek ways in which to link volunteers to these clubs and organisations (e.g., through the development of an app and promotion in the Waranga News)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Local business owners ▪ Existing clubs and organisations ▪ Waranga News 	Ongoing
Children's education and development	<p>We will establish or facilitate programs, activities, events and services in the community that are designed to enhance literacy, cognitive and language skills of children, as well as enhance their (and their family's) inclusion and connection to the community, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A free toy library ▪ A program which involves older adults reading to children ▪ Home parenting education and support programs ▪ Children's events such as Teddy Bear's Picnic ▪ Assisted playgroup with qualified staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Rushworth Pre-School ▪ Rushworth Library ▪ Rushworth P-12 College ▪ St Mary's Primary School ▪ Rushworth Community House Ongoing 	Ongoing
Supporting young people	<p>We will establish a youth space in Rushworth that provides opportunities for young people to meet up with other young people, connect with the community and to access activities, events, programs and services, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mentoring programs ▪ FReeZA events (music, arts, etc) ▪ Life skills ▪ Education and employment skills ▪ Social activities ▪ Mental health support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Young people ▪ Rushworth P-12 College ▪ Victoria Police ▪ Kyabram Blue Light Disco Committee 	Ongoing
Older adults	We will undertake an active living strategy for older adults to identify ways to enhance their life as they age in the community by exploring inclusion, connectivity, accessibility, services, programs, events and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Council of the Ageing (COTA) Victoria 	<p>Short-term for strategy</p> <p>Medium- to long-term for implementation</p>

Built And Natural Environment

Objective: To protect and enhance our natural assets and the places and spaces around us

Project	Details	Potential partners	Priority
Footpaths and trails	We will feed any information about missing links in the footpath trail network in Rushworth and District into Campaspe Shire Council's mapping system and Active Transport Strategy (which includes actions to improve the safety of footpaths) to better link key areas in the town and to create opportunities for tourism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaspe Shire Council • Rushworth P-12 College • St Mary's Primary School 	Medium- to long-term for implementation
Sport and recreation facilities	We will undertake a township sport and recreation master plan to identify upgrades required to sport and active recreation facilities in Rushworth and Moora including the skate park, swimming pool, nature-based play, the bowling club, Rushworth P-12 Stadium, Rushworth Public Park Reserve and Moora Recreation Reserve. The master plan will explore how to best activate sport and active recreation facilities through programming, shared usage, shade, seats, play spaces, outdoor fitness equipment, picnic facilities, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaspe Shire Council • Rushworth P-12 College • Rushworth Public Park Reserve Committee of Management • Moora Recreation Reserve Committee of Management • Sport and recreation clubs / organisations 	Short-term for master plan Medium- to long-term for implementation
Whroo Forest and Heathcote-Graytown National Park	We will enhance and protect Whroo Forest and the Heathcote-Graytown National Park, including advocating for the development of sustainable opportunities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided tours, e.g., wildflower tours (short term) • Gold fossicking and gold panning (medium term) • Tracks / trails suitable for walking and cycling from Rushworth to Waranga Basin, linked to the Waranga Rail Trail (medium term) • A walking / cycling connection from Rushworth to Heathcote via the Heathcote-Graytown National Park and connecting to Shepparton in the other direction (long term) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rushworth Museum • Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) • Parks Victoria • Campaspe Shire Council • Greater Shepparton City Council • City of Greater Bendigo • Private sector 	Short-term to long-term
Habitat restoration	We will support Waranga Catchment Landcare Collective to undertake ecological thinning of local Box-Ironbark woodlands and forests on private land (in partnership with landholders) for habitat restoration and eco-friendly firewood. This project will result in rapid habitat improvement for threatened woodland species such as Critically Endangered Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot (both priority species in the Federal Government's Threatened Species Action Plan) as well as more than twenty other threatened woodland birds, five reptiles, four mammals and two frogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waranga Catchment Landcare Collective • Catchment Management Authority • Trust for Nature • Universities 	Ongoing

Built And Natural Environment

Objective: To protect and enhance our natural assets and the places and spaces around us

Project	Details	Potential partners	Priority
Climate change mitigation and adaptation	<p>Work in partnership with emergency services to help our community respond to the risks of climate change through measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting ways to help residents to ensure that their homes are climate-ready (i.e., retro-fitting existing homes to provide comfortable and safe living conditions for vulnerable residents) ▪ Facilitating and promoting workshops with the Rushworth Community House and local emergency services to help local residents prepare emergency plans for natural disasters such as floods and fire ▪ Seeking funding to help local organisations to prepare for events such as evacuations and mass gatherings in emergency situations / natural disasters ▪ Identifying and establishing a Place of Last Resort for residents to gather during emergencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) ▪ Rushworth Community House ▪ Local emergency services ▪ Campaspe Shire Council 	Short-term
Road safety	<p>Advocate for road safety improvements in and around Rushworth and District to VicRoads and Campaspe Shire, particularly for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waranga Outlet Bridge ▪ Rushworth-Nagambie Road to Reedy Lake Road (complete the sealing of this section) ▪ Roads that may require a reduction in the speed limit (e.g. to the east and west of Rushworth). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ VicRoads / Rural Roads Victoria ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Victoria Police 	Ongoing
Agriculture sector	<p>Engaging with the agricultural sector to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secure the future of farming in the region ▪ Facilitate the sharing of knowledge and information about agricultural practices ▪ Connect farmers to one another and to the broader community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural industry bodies ▪ Farming community 	Ongoing

Tourism, Events and Business			
Objective: To grow the economy and increase prosperity in Rushworth			
Project	Details	Potential partners	Priority
Visitor information	<p>We will provide information for visitors about the attractions within Rushworth and District (using heritage branding that we develop) through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Updating existing Rushworth map (quick win) ▪ Providing information at the Waranga Rail Trail gateway (quick win) ▪ Developing potential itineraries identifying how to spend a half day or full day in Rushworth (quick win) ▪ Utilising the museum as a visitor information centre (in addition to its historic displays), e.g., using the alcove for brochure / map displays (quick win) ▪ Developing a dedicated Rushworth website and use of social media sites such as instagram, Facebook and tik tok to promote the area (short term) ▪ Installing a large map of the town on the Lions Park toilet external wall (short term) ▪ Installing signage at the eastern entry to the Shire to promote the tourist attractions in Rushworth (short term) ▪ Placing plaques on buildings in High Street and Moora Road (short term) ▪ Developing interpretive signage incorporating QR code links to photos, videos or audio recordings of older residents recounting historical events or ways of life in Rushworth (medium term) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Heritage Victoria ▪ Tourism Victoria ▪ Rushworth Museum ▪ Rushworth Heritage Group ▪ Rushworth Historical Society 	Quick win to medium term
Visitor accommodation	We will better promote existing accommodation by mapping and promoting it and will advocate for an upgrade to the caravan park at Waranga Basin, including the possible provision of glamping and kayak and stand-up paddle board hire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goulburn Murray Water ▪ Lake Waranga Caravan Park Managers ▪ Echuca Moama Tourism ▪ Campaspe Shire Council 	Medium-term
Facilities for Recreational Vehicles, Electric Vehicles & Caravans	We will develop a Recreational Vehicle and Caravan stop and waste dump with Electric Vehicle (EV charging stations) in a central location in Rushworth so that visitors can more easily park and access shops and services in Rushworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Tourism Victoria 	Medium-long term
Waranga Basin development	We will encourage and promote additional events and water-based activities such as fishing, sailing, triathlons, Bush Nipper program and water skiing at Waranga Basin for the enjoyment and safety of local residents and visitors alike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waranga Boating Club ▪ Goulburn Murray Water ▪ Fisheries Victoria ▪ Surf Life Saving Victoria ▪ Campaspe Shire Council 	Ongoing

Tourism, Events and Business

Objective: To grow the economy and increase prosperity in Rushworth

Project	Details	Potential partners	Priority
Activating Rushworth town centre	<p>We will establish new events in Rushworth and District for the enjoyment of local residents, to highlight our assets and to attract visitors to our area, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rushy Ironbark Triathlon ▪ Food, wine and music festival ▪ Events that celebrate our wildflowers, birds and gold 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rushworth Events Committee ▪ Campaspe Shire Council ▪ Local businesses ▪ Community groups ▪ Event management companies 	Ongoing