



Advocacy Priorities 2021 - 2025

Lobbying for better outcomes
on behalf of our community


A young Indigenous Australian child is the central focus, crouching on a green lawn. The child has white body paint applied to their face, arms, and legs, and wears a headdress made of dried grass and feathers. In the background, another person is partially visible, wearing a black garment with a red and yellow patterned band. The scene is set outdoors with a blurred background of trees and a building.

Acknowledgement of Country

The municipal area of Campaspe lies within the traditional lands of the Yorta Yorta, Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung peoples.

Council acknowledges their unique cultural heritage, and pays our respects to their ancestors, descendants, and emerging leaders as the Traditional Owners of this Country.

We acknowledge their living culture and unique role in the life of this region.



Advocacy is about speaking out on issues that matter to the local community.

Advocacy is a key role of local government

For council, advocacy is about stepping up to speak out on important issues on behalf of Campaspe residents, ratepayers and businesses.

We do this to seek positive outcomes from decision-makers on important issues, such as new infrastructure, funding for programs, or changes to policy or legislation that will benefit our community.

As times move forward, so do community priorities

This document highlights the priority infrastructure and policy needs for Campaspe over the period 2021 - 2025.

We also know that new things can crop up in the interim. Council will be ready to engage when new issues emerge that impact the municipality and region.

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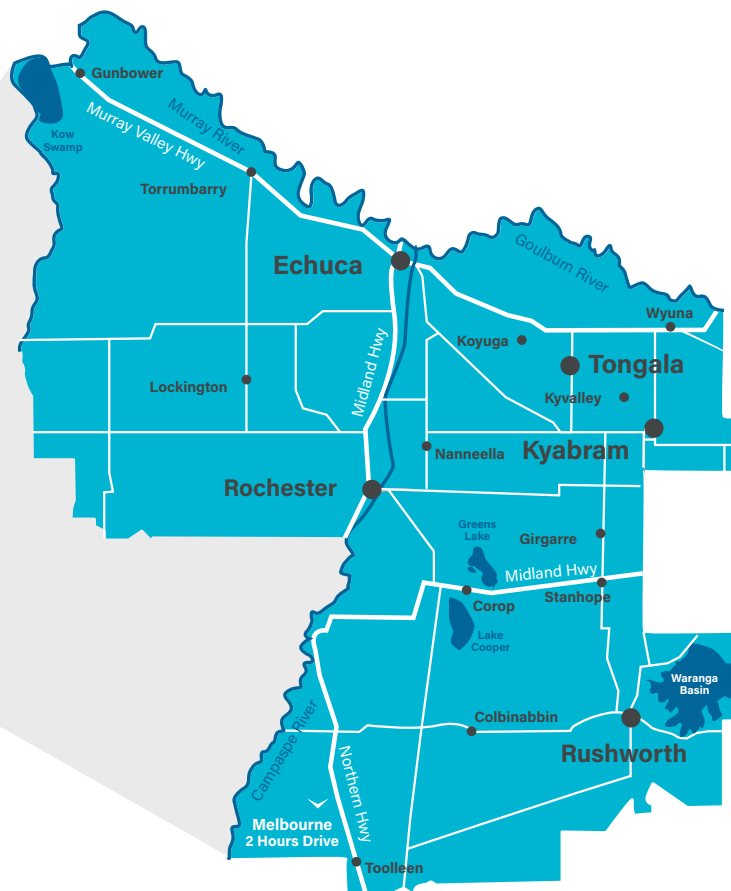
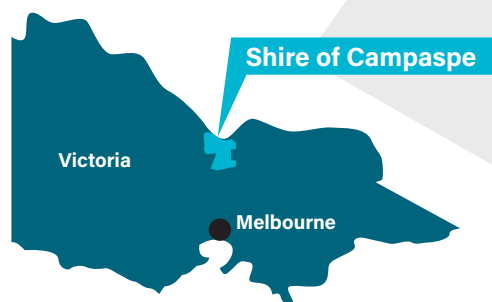
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A large red crane is lifting a metal cage labeled 'PEVELLEY STATION' over a white boat named 'ADELAIDE' on a river. The boat has a red stripe and the name 'ADELAIDE' on its side. Several people are on the boat, and a man is standing on a wooden structure to the left. The background shows a riverbank with trees and a clear sky.

Our Vision

Our places are **vibrant** and **sustainable**,
our people are **strong** and **supportive**.

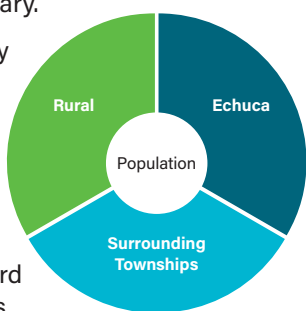
About Our Shire



Overview

The Shire of Campaspe sits directly north of Bendigo in the Loddon Mallee region, with the Murray River forming its northern boundary.

The municipality has a resident population of approximately 38,000, with one-third living in and around Echuca, one-third in smaller towns (including Kyabram, Rochester, Tongala and Rushworth), and one-third not in townships but in rural areas. All areas are experiencing population growth.



While the Campaspe economy is overwhelmingly driven by the agriculture, manufacturing, health care and tourism sectors. It can be noted tourism plays a stronger role within Echuca, with the iconic Murray River sitting amongst the state's key tourism destinations.

Strengths we can build on include

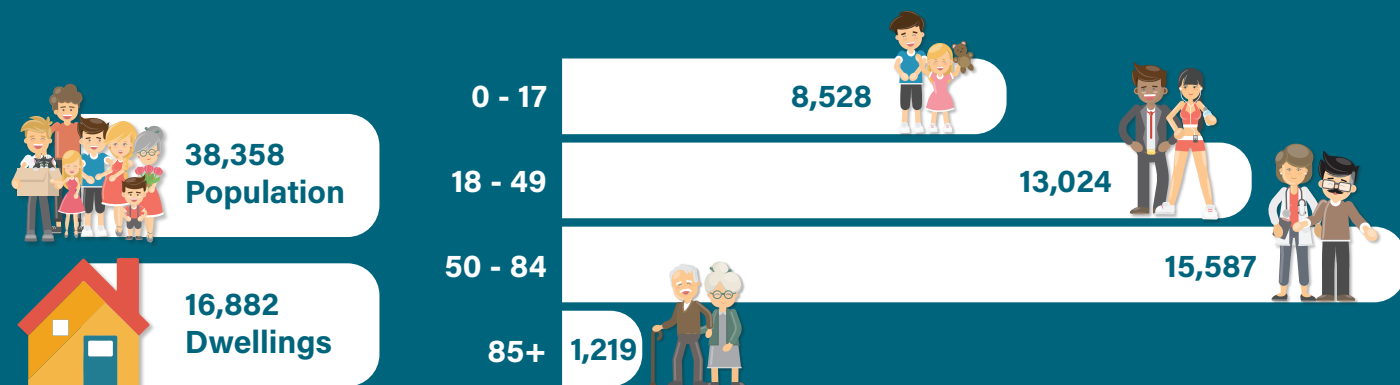
- Road and rail accessibility to Bendigo and Melbourne
- Located centrally to key agricultural regions
- Strong and diversified economy
- Warm climate and access to irrigation
- Relatively high employment levels
- Good access to primary health care and quality primary/secondary education
- High rates of community participation and volunteering
- Natural capital e.g. river systems

Challenges today and ahead include

- Water security for the agricultural industry
- High costs of inputs for industry
- Transport connectivity and access
- After-hours health care
- An ageing population
- Substance abuse
- Availability of tertiary education and training
- Cross-border regulation
- Climate change
- Waste minimisation and sustainable disposal
- Energy self-sufficiency
- Water sustainability
- Digital connectivity

About Our Community

Community Snapshot



We are growing

2019: 37,600 (ERP)
2036: 43,000 (forecast)



We are becoming older and younger

Compared to regional Victoria we have a higher population of both younger people and older people



We have lower levels of education

53.1% of residents held a qualification of some sort in 2016 compared with 57.2% for regional Victoria.



We mainly work in

Manufacturing, Agriculture, Health Care, and Tourism



We have a sizeable Aboriginal population

2.4% of residents are Aboriginal, compared to 1.6% for regional Victoria and 0.8% for the state of Victoria



On average, we earn less

In 2016 the median weekly income was \$1,081, compared to \$1,124 for regional Victoria and \$1,431 for Australia as a whole

Our Advocacy Partners And Audience

Council sees other levels of government as key partners in building a better community for the future. Likewise, Campaspe works alongside the other councils to ensure that infrastructure and policy outcomes carry wider regional benefits.

Most of council's advocacy priorities will come as no surprise – many of these we have been discussing with the community and government for some time. Many will also be found in regional plans where council has worked to ensure that local priorities are strategically identified.

Who We Work With



Federal Government

The federal government holds responsibility for a number of areas of significance to Campaspe, including telecommunications, energy policy and international trade policy - all of which additionally impact on the local agricultural and food processing sector.

Local government also depends on federal financial support to provide critical infrastructure and services to local communities, with roads being a key recipient.

State Government

The state government is responsible for providing a wide range of services important to Campaspe, including health, education, public transport, and major roads. The state government is also a significant partner in the delivery of local community infrastructure through providing funding to council for a range of projects.

Council works hard to keep the state government informed of local priorities through ongoing dialogue and the development of formal submissions.

Regional

Campaspe works strategically within a number of council groups - including the Murray River Group of Councils and the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership - to align infrastructure and policy priorities.

The region's key agencies and stakeholders are also essential partners in the successful delivery of important projects and programs.

Now In Focus

Our Key Advocacy Campaigns 2021 - 2025

These are our 'big ticket' items: individual projects that will boost liveability and economic opportunities in our communities.

Over the coming period, council will focus its attention on pursuing a number of key local projects with the potential to transform the way we live and do things in Campaspe.

These projects have been researched and planned with local communities over a number of years.

Now 'shovel-ready', these initiatives need the financial support from government to help bring the vision to reality.



Well Planned Places

Victoria Park Recreation Reserve Redevelopment

Victoria Park is a key regional recreation space that needs redevelopment following construction of the new Echuca Moama Bridge to cater for sporting and recreation users.

The revised master plan will:

- Replace the existing ageing user infrastructure with a multi-use pavilion and relocation of tennis and netball courts to enable better use of the reserve, increase capacity and preserve native vegetation.
- Upgrade informal paths to connect into the natural bushland and strengthen pedestrian linkages along the Murray River, from Echuca West right across the bridge to Moama, NSW.
- Improve the protection of the arch and water fountains at the entrance as well as aboriginal cultural heritage in the space.
- Add a new ramp, pontoon and car parking area.
- Upgrade playing surfaces and car parking of oval and tennis courts.
- Improve the area for events including Southern 80 Ski Race, sporting carnivals and concerts.



Why is it important to our community?

- The revision will ensure the project delivers long term sustainability and caters to the needs of the community, visitors, active and passive users and council.
- The current pavilion is not multiple purpose limiting opportunities for other community and sporting groups to use the space.
- The current pavilion doesn't meet the recommended service levels identified by sporting industry bodies as best practice such as AFL, Netball Victoria, etc.
- Delivering safe, connected and accessible pathways will improve community connectedness, engagement, health and wellbeing as well as strengthen links into the natural bush reserve and cross border communities.
- Improved picnic and viewing facilities and amenities will provide an accessible space for the community to gather, connect and enjoy.
- Improved car, boat and trailer parking facilities will support locals and visitors to enjoy and access the river safely.
- Providing for events including Southern 80 Ski Race, sporting carnivals and concerts brings much needed economic stimulus.

What we're seeking?

- Funding of \$6 million to support staged implementation of the Victoria Park Master Plan.
- Council has already committed \$3 million.
- Estimated total project cost of \$9 million.



Well Planned Places

Echuca Aquatic Reserve Redevelopment

Situated on the banks of the mighty Murray River, between the Historic Port of Echuca and the Echuca Moama Bridge, Echuca's Aquatic Reserve is a unique 'natural' amphitheatre surrounded by majestic river redgums.

A space that attracts locals and visitors to enjoy exercise, social gatherings, community markets and events ranging from weddings to car clubs and the award-winning Riverboats Music Festival.

Redevelopment of the Aquatic Reserve is a key milestone in a broader master plan to activate and link the Echuca/Moama riverfront by delivering:

- New accessible sealed paths, and improvements to the existing path network.
- Upgrades to the existing services and amenities.
- Improvements to the stormwater and lagoon system.
- Lighting improvements, including low-level path lighting, and flood and up-lighting of the lagoon and river red gums.
- Additional facilities such as seating, tables, barbeques, bike parking and hydration stations.
- Landscaping using a diverse range of indigenous riverine plants.
- Infrastructure for future extension of the Yorta Yorta Wollithica trail and acknowledgement of the traditional owners.

Why is it important to our community?

Echuca currently receives 950,000 visitors each year, this is expected to increase to 1 million during 2025-29. This contributes \$187 million to local economic output as well as over 1,000 tourism related jobs.

The redevelopment will provide a central space that is safe and accessible to all residents, communities and visitors to meet, connect and enjoy social and physical activities that improve health and wellbeing and improve user safety.

Addition of hydration stations, picnic tables, BBQ and bike parking facilities will allow people to stop and enjoy the natural environment and encourage active participation and community connections and allow visitors to stay longer and utilise the many goods and service providers the town has to offer.

Preservation and improvement of the area's natural beauty, ecological habitat and environmental integrity will establish the area as a key tourist destination creating new tourism opportunities and visitor attraction along with protecting the natural environment.

Stormwater and lagoon management upgrades will improve the health and attraction of the lagoon wetland and improve irrigation to enable year-round spaces for visitors, community and commercial events.

What we're seeking?

- Funding of \$3 million to support staged implementation of the master plan.
- Council has already committed \$1.5 million.
- Estimated total project cost of \$4.5 million.



Community Capacity

Improving Public Transport

Current service timetabling fails to provide connectivity and frequency, significantly impacting smaller towns and communities accessing larger and regional centres.

Local bus routes have not adequately kept pace with development and a township bus route review is critically overdue.

Revitalisation and activation of the Echuca Rail Precinct creating an integrated transport hub will:

- Integrate services, including an urban bus service at the rail station improving connectivity for locals and visitors.
- Activate commercial and residential development and investment opportunities on surplus rail land.
- Provide universal access and increase activity within the precinct supporting social inclusion and employment opportunities.

Why is it important to our community?

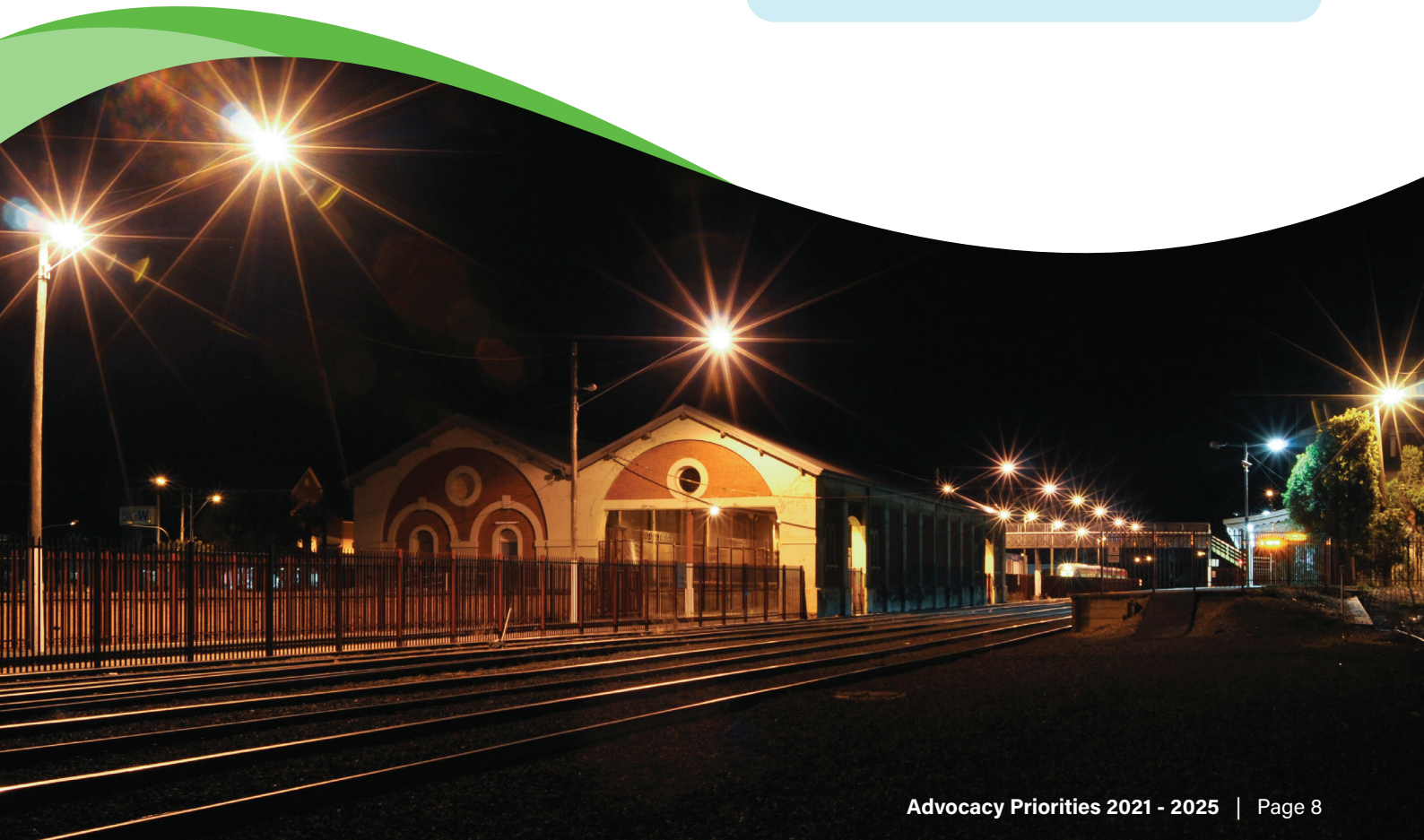
Public transport is vital to local communities, supporting access to essential health, education and professional services, transporting workers to and from jobs and visitors to the region.

Integrated public transport gives convenience, enables social contact and participation in leisure and education activities for those without other means of getting around

Activating the rail precinct will inject stimulus into the local economy, create jobs and opportunities for development. Improve the public realm pedestrian connectivity, safety and servicing.

What we're seeking?

- Five return train services each day (comprising 'shuttle' services to Bendigo rather than through-services to Melbourne).
- Improved integration of the region's bus and train networks to minimise travel and waiting times.
- Funding, approvals and support for implementation of the Echuca Rail Precinct Master Plan.



Well Planned Places

Regional Trails Experiences

- **Murray River Adventure Trail Links**
- **Waranga Trail**

Completion of the Murchison to Heathcote Trail is a priority development identified in the Loddon Campaspe Regionally Significant Trails Strategy which travels via Rushworth and takes in historic attractions of the Victorian Gold Rush and local wineries.

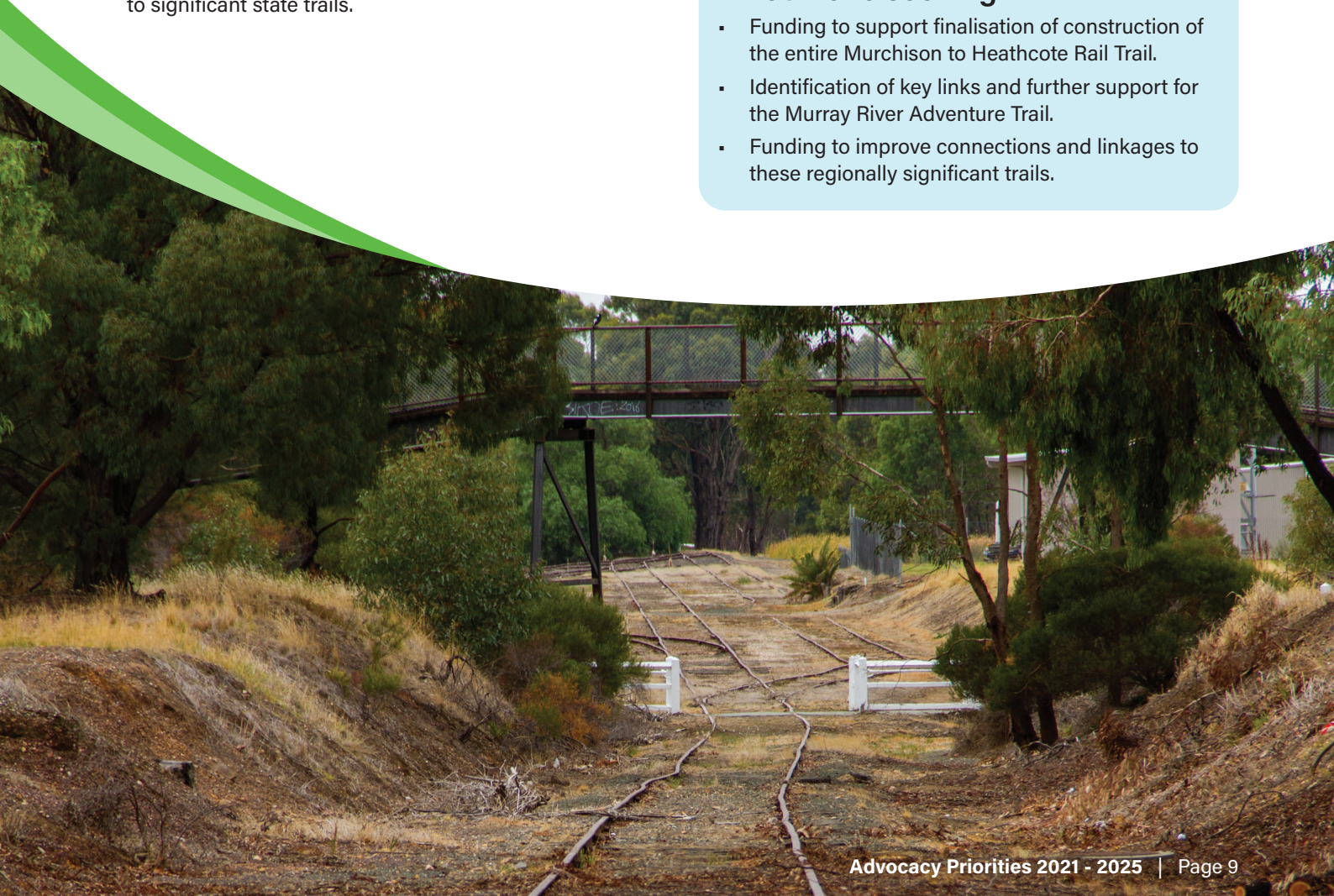
- Continued support and engagement with partners to identify links for our community and visitors to the Murray River Adventure Trail, a proposed multi-sport adventure trail along the length of the Murray River.
- Deliver and improve key shared walking and cycling paths showcasing the uniqueness of the region, connections to the natural environment and linkages to significant state trails.

Why is it important to our community?

- The visitor economy is an important industry across the Shire of Campaspe and a significant source of employment for locals. The trails will attract users from outside the local communities and will have an economic benefit to local food and beverage outlets, accommodation facilities and other retail services.
- The Murchison to Heathcote Rail Trail has been designed to be universally accessible catering for different trail experiences, adventurer needs and preferences.
- Nature-based and adventure tourism contributes positively to individual health and wellbeing, improving local liveability, social, cultural and environmental connections and protects sensitive areas.

What we're seeking?

- Funding to support finalisation of construction of the entire Murchison to Heathcote Rail Trail.
- Identification of key links and further support for the Murray River Adventure Trail.
- Funding to improve connections and linkages to these regionally significant trails.



Community Capacity

Lifesaving Aerodrome Upgrades

Upgrades to provide the capacity and capability to cater for the new larger air ambulance fleet of aircrafts.

- A helipad, all weather access, upgraded lighting and energy efficiencies along with an increase in length and width of the runway, taxiways and aprons and drainage.
- Reconfiguration allowing more planes to land and take off.
- Facilities that meet industry standards and remain operational providing important lifesaving access to healthcare and emergency services to our community.

Why is it important to our community?

- Without these upgrades the new Air Ambulance Victoria and the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Fleet of aircraft will not be able to access the facility, denying our community access to critical life changing medical treatment.
- Support investment and growth in business and tourism.
- Regional airports provide a critical connection to medical based services and clinics and support regional businesses and tourism.

What we're seeking?

- Funding of \$2.1 million to enable the project to progress to construction.
- Estimated total project cost is \$4.1 million.
- Council has already spent approximately \$275,000 in detailed design and has committed a total of \$1.9 million.



Standing By Our Communities

Council Support For Local Issues

Council's advocacy role includes backing local groups with their lobbying efforts when needed.

There are a number of non-council projects identified as indispensable to the progression of the Campaspe community, in particular in the spheres of education and regional economic development.

Campaspe Shire Council endorses these key projects and the work being undertaken by various community organisations to seek government recognition and funding support.



Echuca Wharf Universal Access

The Echuca Wharf is an iconic tourism experience where visitors can live and breathe the historic experience of the past by travelling on steam powered paddlesteamers.

Due to the ageing infrastructure the area is inaccessible to the elderly and people with mobility issues, posing safety risks to the public and limiting the use of the wharf by tourism operators.

A new universal all access floating pontoon will improve accessibility to the iconic Murray River and the paddlesteamer experiences delivering an improved tourism product.

What we're seeking?

Funding of \$480,000 to support improvements to the visitor experience and construction of a floating pontoon at the Echuca Wharf.

World Heritage Bid Central Victorian Goldfield

Support 13 Victorian councils working together to secure World Heritage listing for the Victorian Central Goldfields that will place the region and Victoria on the world stage.

What we're seeking?

A strong commitment from government to support the bid for a World Heritage listing for the region.

Gargarro Regional Botanic Gardens

Gargarro Regional Botanic Gardens is located in the small town of Girgarre. The project is being delivered in stages across the next 20 years at a total project cost in excess of \$20 million. The project has completed parklands, water storage, extensive plantings and a feature amphitheatre. Five sensory gardens and a plant nursery are planned, yet to be delivered.

What we're seeking?

Funding for detailed design and construction of the remaining stages is needed.

Regional Trailer Exchange

Echuca, on the Victorian NSW border, is a popular location for freight drivers to exchange trailers and return to their area of origin. NSW Cobb Highway is the start/end of a critical road train network that permits B triple road trains making Echuca a key transport interchange hub.

A trailer exchange is needed to allow drivers to safely park vehicles and improve road safety for the local community and visitors.

What we're seeking?

Funding for the identification, design and construction of a dedicated trailer exchange facility.

Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector Colbinabbin – Toolleen – Corop Pipeline

Investment in water-saving infrastructure extending the existing domestic and stock pipeline providing reticulated water supply south of Colbinabbin towards Toolleen. The pipeline will directly service the existing cropping and mixed farms and expanding viticulture industry.

The pipeline will result in significant water savings by evaporation and seepage from the current dams and open channels as well as expand the area accessible to water and provide certainty to agribusinesses.

What we're seeking?

Funding to support a business case to confirm the economic and agribusiness benefit.

Connected Communities - Improving Walking & Cycling Linkage

Safe, accessible and enjoyable shared pathways that connect missing links, promote active transport and give more people opportunities to be healthy, active, socially and environmentally connected.

More physical activity can help our community feel better physically and mentally and overcome many of the health challenges facing our community.

Compared to other modes, active transport is cheap, healthy and good for the environment but without safe, connected and accessible infrastructure, communities are restricted and active transport is not available.

What we're seeking?

Funding to install pedestrian footpaths and cycleways, crossings and facilities to complete connection of the network.

Co-Location of Early Childhood Education Centres

Co-location of Early Childhood Education Centres into existing schools and included in the planning for new schools across the region. Co-locating services within schools has significant benefits locally. Services are on one site, sharing common rooms and services, infrastructure and equipment provide benefits to parents, staff and the service.

What we're seeking?

Funding to support the co-location of kindergartens with already established primary schools across the municipality.

Always In Our Sights

The Enduring Local and Regional Challenges

These issues include some of our community's persistent difficulties, which council strives to progress through regional collaboration and sustained dialogue.

Our communities face a range of persistent difficulties – issues that stay on the agenda for successive years and continuously evolve.

Council works to advance these issues through regional collaboration and raising their profile through ongoing advocacy and dialogue with government.



Secure and Affordable Water Supply for the Agricultural Sector

Agriculture needs secure and affordable water supplies to grow fresh produce and raise livestock. Farmers use water to irrigate crops and pasture, apply pesticide and fertiliser, cool crops and control frost.

Scarce water supplies can interrupt agricultural production and threaten regional incomes and jobs.

Protecting and adapting farming for the future means securing reliable, sustainable water supplies.

Victoria is Australia's largest agriculture producer, producing \$15.9 billion worth of agricultural product from only 11.5 million hectares of land.

Better water infrastructure both on and off farm supports agriculture's long-term future and prosperity. Agriculture's growth prospects relies on this infrastructure, particularly highly water-dependent sectors like dairy and horticulture. Modern water infrastructure can also support agriculture businesses to make changes that allow for continued profitability in the face of rapidly changing climate conditions.

What we're seeking?

Funding to support on farm efficiencies in irrigation practice and modernisation across the Goulburn Murray Irrigation Region.

Policy Impacting Freight Routes

Key transport routes unusable due to funding criteria restriction.

The increasing size, demand and mass limits of freight vehicles means that many bridges and culverts across regional Victoria require strengthening to allow travel by Higher Mass Limit Vehicles (HMLVs).

O'Dea Road, Echuca is a key transport route for freight linking to the Murray Valley and Northern Highway. HMLVs cannot use this key town bypass due to 2.5km of unsealed road requiring drainage and culvert infrastructure upgrades owned by Goulburn Murray Water (GMW).

Under the current funding guidelines agencies, such as GMW, cannot apply for funding to upgrade and strengthen these critical pieces of road infrastructure.

Consequently, producers and manufacturers in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District are not able to use many of the key transport routes.

What we're seeking?

The eligibility criteria for Roads and Bridges funding needs to be changed to allow agencies (such as GMW) other than road managers to apply for funding to upgrade key infrastructure.

Long-Term Funding Certainty for Regional Road Maintenance and Upgrades

Regional roads support workers and freight, transport regional goods and produce to market, link tourists with regional attractions, and help keep communities connected. Keeping roads and bridges in good condition reduces fuel consumption, tyre wear, and vehicle maintenance and repairs, which in turn reduces vehicle greenhouse gas emissions and their environmental impact.

A large proportion of the road network is old and made from materials not intended for current truck loading and vehicle requirements.

Roads and supporting infrastructure are also vulnerable to extreme weather, which is exacerbated by the impacts of climate change. The quality of regional roads is declining, but keeping communities connected and their economies functioning means regional roads must be properly maintained and upgraded.

The Victorian Government should provide a transparent framework that defines the level of service, or desired condition, of each type of regional road and bridge in a hierarchy based on defined criteria. Not every road needs to be maintained at the same standard but should be maintained to meet its intended purpose.

The Victorian Government should dedicate a 10-year funding program to regional road maintenance and upgrades. Providing road managers the long-term certainty needed to prioritise investments more efficiently, investing in upgrades supports economic and social outcomes.

What we're seeking?

Development of a 10-year funding program for regional road maintenance and upgrades.

Building a Grid that Supports Renewables

The National Electricity grid is ageing and in need of significant transformation to cater for future growth and demand in solar infrastructure in regional communities and in particular the commercial and industrial sectors.

Regional Victoria has vast renewable energy resources to harness solar and wind, however the existing electricity grid is struggling to cater for this growing demand and capacity. Improvements are needed to ensure security, sustainability and transmission across the state.

What we're seeking?

Increased investment and review of network connection requirements across Victoria.

Federal and state support for regional towns to progress community led renewables projects delivering local economic development and investment in regional Australia.

Policy commitment to mandate battery storage capacity to be minimum of 180 hours.

Charging the Regions

Rollout of a comprehensive Electric Vehicle (EV) charging network across Victoria is needed.

Expansion of the existing Electric Vehicle charging infrastructure network would enable greater regional connectivity and accelerate EV uptake.

The rollout must incorporate at least one fast charger (25–50kW DC) per municipality across Victoria. Increased chargers would generate increased tourism and economic benefits of \$260 million by 2030, improve air quality and reduce emissions as well as support local supply chains such as installers and equipment manufacturers.

Digital Connectivity

Digital technology and infrastructure are fundamental to the economic and social growth of regional Victoria. Digital connectivity creates opportunities and decreases barriers.

Quality digital connection is essential for businesses and households to be able to participate and engage in modern life, engaged with friends and family as well as access everyday services, including health care and education. Digital connectivity reduces the need to travel and brings services to the home or business.

One of the biggest challenges faced by rural and regional Victoria is having access to essential services. Without quality NBN connections available many rural and regional communities are falling behind.

Council supports the Loddon Campaspe Regional Partnership Priority Projects aimed at addressing the digital connectivity gaps.

Investing in Rural and Regional Victoria's Future

With Victoria's population continuing to expand at a rapid rate, it's essential that a better balance is struck between the growth of Melbourne versus regional Victoria. Many of the state's regions and rural communities lag behind, despite offering great lifestyle opportunities, jobs and affordable housing.

Council calls for long term planning to identify and plan for large and small scale infrastructure projects, investment attraction and economic productivity to match population and demand growth.

This includes mechanisms and funding to support key infrastructure projects in rural areas and regional cities to stimulate population growth outside Melbourne.

Investment in rural areas and regional cities will strengthen local industries, employ local people and support them tackling skills shortfalls and challenges.

Explore options for hydrogen use throughout the region.

What we're seeking?

Industry stimulus of \$5 – 7 million to support a comprehensive rollout of Electric Vehicle charging network across Victoria.

What we're seeking?

Continuation of mobile blackspot funding.

Rollout of very fast connectivity in the region's major centres, and the Gisborne - Bendigo - Echuca corridor.

Rollout free public WiFi in the region's major and smaller centres.

Improved access of rural communities to telehealth to reduce the health inequalities in health service access and provision.

Expansion of the 5G network coverage across regional Victoria.

What we're seeking?

Ongoing commitment to funding and implementation of the Loddon Campaspe priorities of Victoria's Infrastructure Strategy 2021-2051.

Funding to support a hydrogen business plan for Campaspe.

Addressing Barriers to Recycling and Reducing Waste

Reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling resources conserves valuable virgin materials, increases economic productivity, and reduces pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

Victoria is producing more waste today than ever before. From 2000 to 2018, waste generation doubled from 7.4 million to 14.4 million tonnes each year. About 30% was buried in landfill. Resource recovery rates have stagnated at just under 70% of total waste.

In May 2021, the Victorian Government released Victoria's climate change strategy and its waste sector emission reduction pledge, which reduces emissions and also reinforces the Victorian Government's commitment to halving food waste by 2030 and diverting 80% of waste from landfill.

Infrastructure solutions, policies, planning and performance monitoring need to be appropriately funded, adapted over time and supported by targets that incentivise performance that reduce barriers to recycling and reducing waste.

What we're seeking?

Adequate infrastructure solutions and funding to match policy change that support reducing waste, reusing materials and recycling resources.

Education Drives Economic Growth

Evidence shows there is a consistent link between where people live and their educational outcomes at all stages of education.

Rural and remote students have reduced access to education services compared to metropolitan students.

Vocational education and training (VET) is an important pathway for regional and remote students, particularly where directly connecting to local industries and local jobs.

Further, linking future skill requirements to school curriculum will strengthen the transition of students to employment and build a workforce equipped for the future. There are opportunities to expand a number of innovative programs focused on this outcome in the region.

What we're seeking?

Ongoing commitment to funding and implementation of the Loddon Campaspe Economic Growth Strategy, particularly supporting the development of vocational training solutions that better serve the needs of businesses in sub-regional centres.

Kindergartens: Universal Access to 15 Hours

Early childhood education is the foundation for lifelong learning.

The National Partnership Agreement with the Federal Government guaranteeing funding of 15 hours per week for all kindergarten-aged children expired in December 2021. A commitment for a further four years is yet to be established.

Permanent ongoing funding is needed, without ongoing funding for universal access to early childhood education, many families will no longer be able to afford putting their children into kindergarten. This impacts children, their families, and kindergarten staff, and at the same time jeopardises Australia's quality of education.

What we're seeking?

Permanent ongoing funding of 15 hours per week for all kindergarten-aged children.

Opening the Borders to Business

Service delivery and regulatory differences between states make living, working and running businesses in border communities more challenging and costly.

COVID-19 state border closures had significant local and regional impacts.

Making it easier to do business across borders has economic benefit, while addressing practice and regulatory barriers to people accessing education, justice, health and other services improves health and social outcomes in border communities – making our border areas better places to live.

Council welcomed the Victorian Government's establishment of a cross-border commissioner and the Victoria's Border Brokers. Council will continue to use this opportunity to advocate for changes that realise:

- Improved coordination of service delivery.
- Opportunities for integrated planning and infrastructure development.
- Removal of red-tape for local businesses.

What we're seeking?

Sustained engagement with business and local government to deliver solutions to cross border issues impacting businesses and community through inconsistent regulations and red tape.





Corner Hare and Heygarth Streets, Echuca

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Monday to Friday

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 #campaspeshire

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Rushworth, 33 High Street

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