# **VCICEORODOS** FRAMEWORK PLAN

JANUARY 2020











Your partner in planning great places for a growing Victoria

#### © VICTORIAN PLANNING AUTHORITY 2020

This Yarrawonga Framework Plan has been developed by the VPA on behalf of the Victorian Government in collaboration with Moira Shire Council.

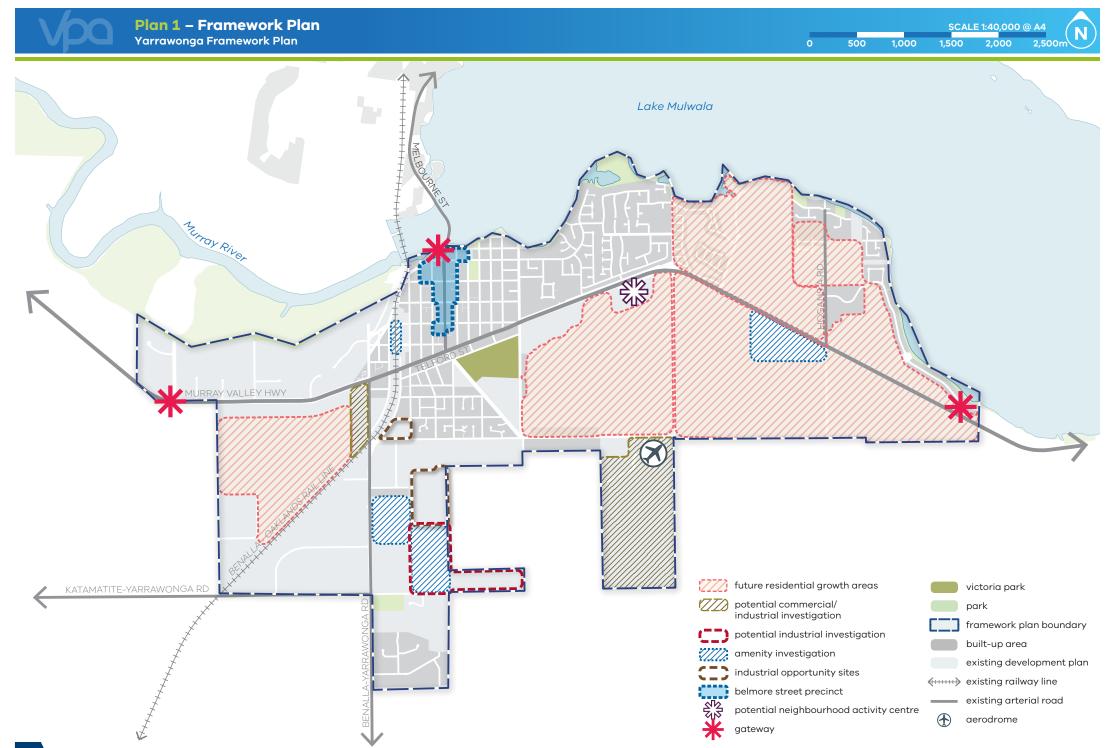
Any projections are based on reasonable assumptions at the time of publication but should not be relied upon without first seeking appropriate expert advice. Although every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this document is factually correct at the time of publication, the VPA does not warrant the accuracy, completeness or relevance of the information. Any person using or relying upon this document does so on the basis that the State of Victoria shall bear no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omissions in the information.

## Table of contents

1	Introduction	6
1.1	Purpose of the document	6
1.2	Summary of project to date	7
1.3	Summary of community engagement	8
1.4	How will the Framework Plan be implemented?	9
2	Context	11
2.1	Regional context	11
2.2	Planning context	13
2.3	Growth context	14
3	Vision & principles	17
3.1	Overarching vision	17
4	Themes, objectives & strategies	19
<b>4</b> 4.1	Themes, objectives & strategies Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities	<b>19</b> 20
4.1	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities	20
4.1 4.2	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities Housing and community infrastructure	20 25
4.1 4.2 4.3	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities Housing and community infrastructure Industry	20 25 31
4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities Housing and community infrastructure Industry Commerce and retail	20 25 31 35
4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities Housing and community infrastructure Industry Commerce and retail Recreation, environment and heritage	20 25 31 35 39
4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 <b>5</b>	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities Housing and community infrastructure Industry Commerce and retail Recreation, environment and heritage Implementation plan summary	20 25 31 35 39 <b>42</b>
4.1 4.2 4.3 4.4 4.5 5 6	Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities Housing and community infrastructure Industry Commerce and retail Recreation, environment and heritage Implementation plan summary References	20 25 31 35 39 42 50

Plans
-------

Plan 1	Framework Plan	4
Plan 2	Regional context	10
Plan 3	Local context	12
Plan 1	Framework Plan	16
Plan 4	Drainage, Major Infrastructure and Utilities	18
Plan 5	Housing and Community Facilities	24
Plan 6	Industry	30
Plan 7	Commercial and Retail	34
Plan 8	Recreation, Environment and Heritage	38
Tables		
Table 1	Principles for future residential development	26
Table 2	Indicative staging of future residential areas	27
Table 3	Implementation plan	42
Figures		
Figure 1	Population projections to 2036 (based on Victoria in Future 2019)	14
Figure 2	Forecast population growth and dwelling demand for Yarrawonga	14
Figure 3	Forecasted shifts in industry share	15
Figure 4	Indicative residential staging map	27
Figure 5	Belmore Street precinct opportunities	36



### Executive summary

Yarrawonga is a key regional centre of the Goulburn regional partnership, which sits within the broader Hume planning region, and has unique strengths as a lifestyle and recreation destination. Across the Murray River is its twin township, Mulwala, which shares economic and community services. Yarrawonga is growing at a faster rate than other townships in Moira Shire, and is expected to continue accommodating most of the shire's population growth. A co-ordinated approach to growth will help ensure that the Yarrawonga of the future is adequately serviced by utilities, infrastructure and community facilities to meet the changing needs of existing and future residents.

As the nature of industry shifts, Yarrawonga will need to adapt to a growing share of population-serving sectors while retaining opportunities for industrial uses that add value to the region. Natural assets, biodiversity, retail and community facilities are key lifestyle and amenity drawcards for both residents and visitors. Therefore waterway health, green spaces and a liveable urban environment are important in planning for Yarrawonga's future in the face of climate change and urban growth.

Yarrawonga has a rich history. There are opportunities to acknowledge and celebrate the connection between Traditional Owners and country, through active engagement with Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation. Conversations with the Yarrawonga community have also revealed a strong generational tie between existing residents and the township's built heritage. We asked the community of Yarrawonga to think about what they want the township to look like in 2050, and captured these aspirations in the vision:

Yarrawonga in 2050 will offer a unique lifestyle experience in a vibrant tourism and community setting that links the town to Lake Mulwala. Its temperate climate, world class recreation facilities, outstanding hospitality and water sports on offer will set it apart as one of Victoria's premier tourism destinations. Yarrawonga will continue to be a location of choice for new residents and businesses seeking to build on the town's proud history and growth potential. Its connectivity to nearby regional centres, diverse community and waterfront location will ensure its future success. The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA), in partnership with Moira Shire Council, has prepared the *Yarrawonga Framework Plan*. This work has been delivered as part of the 2018/19 *Streamlining for Growth* program. The Framework Plan is a high-level plan that sets the direction and necessary steps to achieve the vision for Yarrawonga over the next 30 years.

The vision will be achieved through actions under five major themes:

- 1 **Drainage, major infrastructure and utilities** priorities for critical infrastructure projects such as drainage, roads and utility provision.
- 2 Housing and community infrastructure staging for residential growth areas and facilities required to meet the needs of the community.
- 3 **Industry** opportunities for industrial uses, and direction around maintaining amenity of industrial land and surrounds.
- 4 **Commerce and retail** principles for enhancement of the main street, a retail hierarchy and location of future activity centres.
- 5 **Recreation, environment and heritage** considerations for protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment and drawing connections between past and future.

Many steps are required to implement the vision identified in this Framework Plan which is why the plan has been structured in a way that helps to coordinate delivery. Therefore, each of the five themes contains objectives that direct what changes should be achieved in Yarrawonga. Strategies are listed that support the achievement of each objective, and actions provide key stakeholders with steps to implement the relevant strategy.

## 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Purpose of the document

A range of policy documents, council and agency strategies, and technical reports have informed this Framework Plan, including:

- the *Hume Regional Growth Plan 2014* which identifies Yarrawonga as a key sub-regional settlement and cross-border town;
- the Yarrawonga Strategy Plan 2004 which guides future growth of residential, retail, commercial and industrial uses in Yarrawonga. This Framework Plan is an update to the 2004 Strategy Plan and will supersede it;
- the Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report which provides a high-level economic summary and identifies key issues for future consideration.
- the Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 2: Forecast Report which presents three growth scenarios that forecast population, jobs and dwellings from 2016 to 2051. Preliminary spatial analysis and land use recommendations were provided based on these forecasts. This Framework Plan assists with meeting land use needs identified in the Growth Management Strategy.

Stage 1 and 2 of the *Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy* were tabled and received at the Moira Shire Council Ordinary Council Meeting on 22 November 2017. Council granted approval for the Growth Management Strategy to form the basis of the framework planning process.

A list of key documents and reports is included in the <u>References</u> section of this plan.

#### 1.1.1 Why a framework plan is important

The *Yarrawonga Framework Plan* is an over-arching land use plan that establishes a vision and spatial structure for the growth of Yarrawonga to 2050. It seeks to:

- identify residential and industrial growth areas for Yarrawonga to 2050
- provide direction for co-ordination and staging of growth
- provide direction around servicing and community facility requirements for growth
- identify strategic sites and associated opportunities
- provide a high-level action plan for implementation.

This document provides the reader with an overview of Yarrawonga's strategic planning context. It is primarily a document for council, agencies, the community and potential land owners to get greater certainty around the growth requirements of the township, as well as the broad location and timing of growth. The Framework Plan also addresses flooding issues in the township and provides a whole-of-township strategy to manage stormwater drainage and treatment while contributing to a liveable and resilient community.

The Framework Plan is intended to be more than just a list of popular projects and a list of actions to implement the plan. A list of project and actions on its own will not inspire and will be difficult to attract investment and buy-in. The Framework Plan tells the story about the township so that the projects and actions make logical sense and will help to deliver improved outcomes for the township.

#### How to read this plan



## 2

#### FIVE ELEMENTS

Containing the objectives and strategies for:

- Drainage, major infrastructure & utilities
- Housing & community infrastructure
- Industry
- Commerce & retail
- Recreation, environment & heritage



#### IMPLEMENTATION

Actions

#### 1.2 Summary of project to date

As part of the VPA's 2018/19 *Streamlining for Growth* program, Moira Shire Council was allocated VPA staff assistance to deliver the *Yarrawonga Framework Plan*, and to commission a stormwater drainage study.

#### Project timeline

#### **SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2018**

Pre-planning & project scoping

#### JANUARY - MAY 2019

Identifying issues and opportunities

- Agency engagement on specific issues
- Stormwater Drainage Study (concurrent)

#### JUNE - JULY 2019

Community engagement on the Vision for Yarrawonga

#### AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2019

Draft Plan preparation • Council and agency review

#### **OCTOBER 2019**

Finalisation of Framework Plan

#### 1.3 Summary of community engagement

The framework planning process involved an analysis of council's previous community engagement processes, to acknowledge and gain an understanding of the issues that community members have already raised. This included acknowledging:

- Moira Shire Council's commitment to community engagement in its *Council Plan 2017–2021*
- engagement processes for Moira Shire's Recreation Strategy 2016–2026, Municipal Wellbeing for All Ages Strategy 2017–2021, Yarrawonga Library and Town Hall, Yarrawonga Aerodrome, and Yarrawonga Multisport Stadium Project
- the engagement process for *Moira Shire's Major Towns Strategy Plan Review* (2018).

A separate engagement process was conducted to inform the Framework Plan's vision for the township to 2050. To distinguish the engagement process for the Framework Plan, it was pitched at a thematic level and emphasised the project's longer time horizon. Many community members have specific projects in mind and while this is useful information, the purpose of the engagement was to develop a vision for Yarrawonga which then informs a series of principles to guide future decision making and investment decisions.

Council and the VPA launched an online platform between 26 June to 19 July 2019, which allowed community members to articulate what they value and hope for Yarrawonga to become in the future. Information sessions were also held at Yarrawonga Visitor Information Centre on 4 July 2019 for community members to raise questions and provide feedback in person.

#### 1.3.1 Online story map

54 comments were received through the online story map. Many comments were focused on Belmore Street, Victoria Park and recreational spaces along the foreshore.

#### 1.3.2 Drop-in sessions

127 responses were recorded from the community drop-in session. Priorities that emerged from face-to-face community engagement included better care for the natural environment and open spaces, improved pedestrian and cycling tracks, adaptive re-use of heritage sites for community uses (particularly the school site) and provision of community infrastructure and recreational facilities.

#### 1.3.3 Written submissions

Five written submissions were received, and sentiments were largely aligned with other feedback received online and in drop-ins. Many written submissions had a strong focus on retention of heritage buildings for community purposes.

A full summary of community feedback can be found in <u>Appendix B</u> – <u>Community Engagement Summary Report</u>.

Several of the site-specific issues (e.g. town hall redevelopment, use of former school site and future use of the aerodrome) are being investigated by Moira Shire Council through separate processes. However, the engagement process of the Framework Plan has helped identify major considerations for the future growth of the township and things that the local community values.

The feedback received has been used to inform a vision and principles for the growth of Yarrawonga to 2050.

#### 1.4 How will the Framework Plan be implemented?

#### 1.4.1 Council

The Yarrawonga Framework Plan and Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy will be reference documents in the Moira Planning Scheme, superseding the Yarrawonga Strategy Plan 2004. Completion of these plans also fulfils directions in the planning scheme<sup>1</sup>.

Relevant sections, strategies or actions may be incorporated into the Moira Planning Scheme. It is recommended that Moira Shire Council investigates changes to the planning scheme to implement this Framework Plan.

#### 1.4.2 Agencies

The Yarrawonga Framework Plan will flag issues and relevant actions to be taken by agencies to ensure orderly development of the township. The framework planning process has involved a range of key agencies that will be important partners in the successful implementation of the Framework Plan, including:

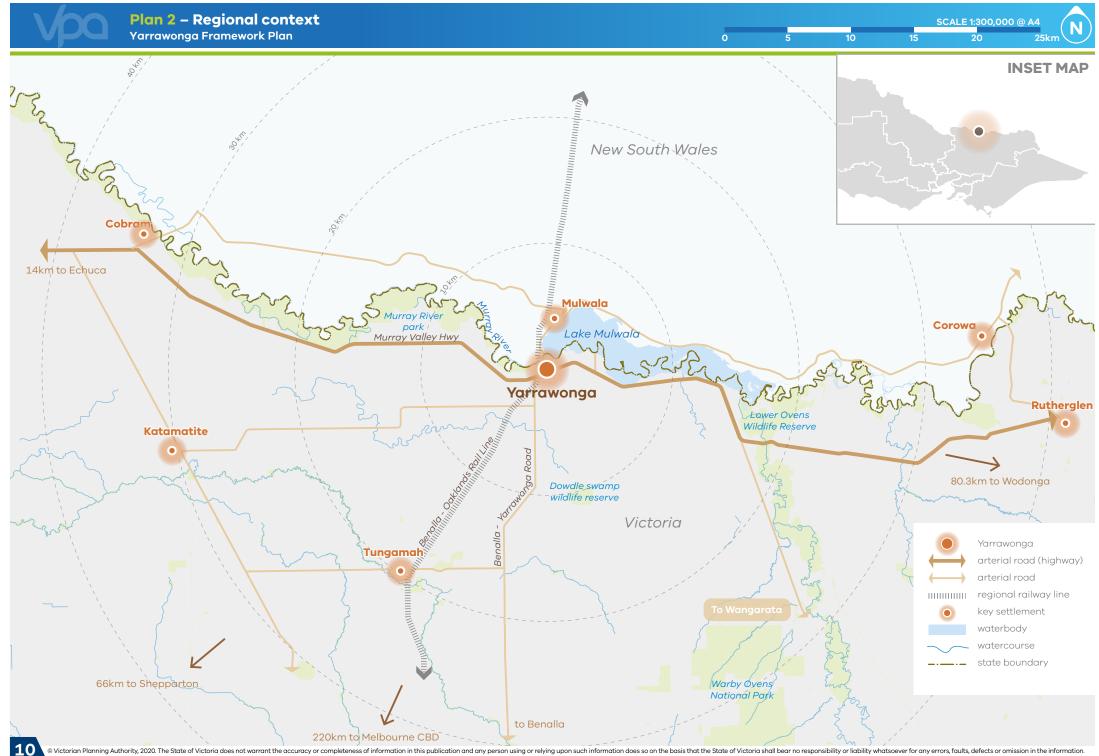
- Aboriginal Victoria
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Department of Transport (Hume Region Network Planning and North East Region Regional Roads Victoria)
- Environmental Protection Authority Victoria
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
- Goulburn-Murray Water
- North East Water
- Utilities providers (NBN, APA Group, Powercor)

#### 1.4.3 Developers and investors

While the Framework Plan cannot guarantee specific development outcomes, it provides recommendations and broad advice on where, when and how residential and industrial growth should occur. Prospective developers and landowners should consider the issues raised in the Framework Plan and work with council to achieve outcomes that benefit the township.

Clause 21.04-5: Direction to "Prepare the Yarrawonga Drainage Study".

<sup>1</sup> Clause 21.03-9: Direction to "Review existing strategy plans for the four major towns – Cobram, Yarrawonga, Nathalia and Numurkah".



### 2 Context

#### 2.1 Regional context

Yarrawonga is a township in the Goulburn regional partnership, which sits within the broader Hume planning region, and is located on the Murray River across from its twin town in New South Wales, Mulwala. Yarrawonga is wellconnected via arterial roads to other towns in the region such as Cobram, Rutherglen and Benalla. It also has strong road connections to the larger regional centres of Albury–Wodonga, Wangaratta and Shepparton. Yarrawonga services a large catchment of settlements beyond its local population, including the rural areas of southern New South Wales. As Yarrawonga grows, opportunity for increased retail and services offer will also grow and therefore reduce the need to access higher-order retail and services in other towns.

#### 2.1.1 Mulwala

The twin township of Mulwala falls under the jurisdiction of Federation Council in New South Wales. Mulwala has a smaller population than Yarrawonga, with 2,161 people in the 2016 census and a total land area of 33,416 hectares. Mulwala's economy is largely supported by the New South Wales Department of Defence explosives manufacturing facility, located on the western edge of the township. This facility poses a geographical constraint to the further expansion of the township.

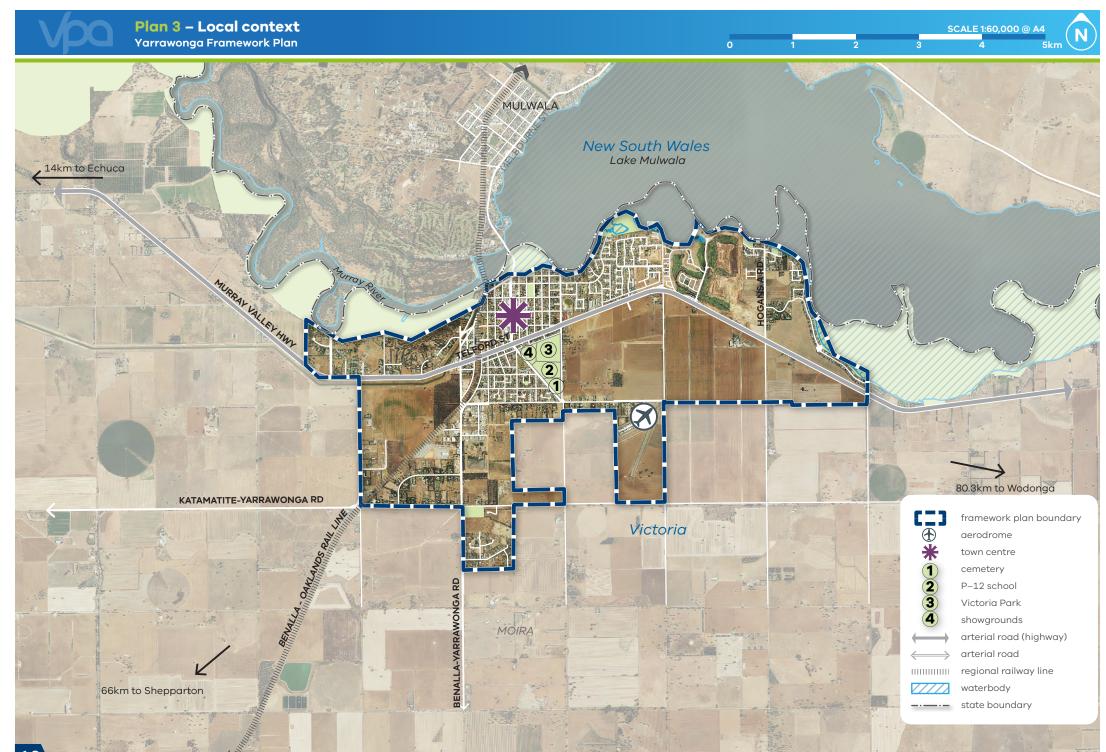
Mulwala's relationship with Yarrawonga as a cross-border twin town is significant as they share important tourism assets, economic activity, and health and education services<sup>2</sup>. Residents of Mulwala are likely to experience a level of reliance on Yarrawonga to provide services such as healthcare and retail<sup>3</sup>.

Cross-border settlements such as Yarrawonga–Mulwala are important from an economic perspective as they have larger, relatively diverse economies when considered as combined rather than isolated settlements. The *Hume Regional Growth Plan 2014* contains the following direction:

Recognise and plan for the influence of cross-border settlements.

<sup>2</sup> Inter-regional assessment: An analysis of regional Victoria's strengths and challenges (Aither, 2019, p. 18).

<sup>3</sup> Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 15).



#### 2.2 Planning Context

#### **State Planning Policy Framework**

Yarrawonga is identified in the *Hume Regional Growth Plan 2014* as a key subregional settlement. Yarrawonga will continue to accommodate some growth and provide services to support surrounding rural communities, alongside other urban localities in the region<sup>4</sup>. The *Hume Regional Growth Plan* notes that locations such as Yarrawonga offer unique growth opportunities centred around natural and lifestyle attractions.

#### **Local Planning Policy Framework**

The township sits within the municipality of Moira Shire Council and is subject to the provisions of the Moira Planning Scheme. Moira Shire's municipal profile lists Yarrawonga as one of four major towns. Several strategies and reports referenced in the planning scheme are relevant to Yarrawonga, including:

- Yarrawonga to Bathumi Future Land Use Strategy 2002, which guides development at the western end of the Yarrawonga–Bundalong corridor to protect Lake Mulwala and the Lower Ovens River;
- *Yarrawonga Strategy Plan 2004*, which informed and is superseded by this Framework Plan;
- Yarrawonga to Bundalong Foreshore Management Plan 2008, which provides direction for an integrated and sustainable approach to the management, use and development of the Lake Mulwala foreshore between Yarrawonga and Bundalong.

Other strategic planning documents relating to Yarrawonga that are not in the planning scheme include:

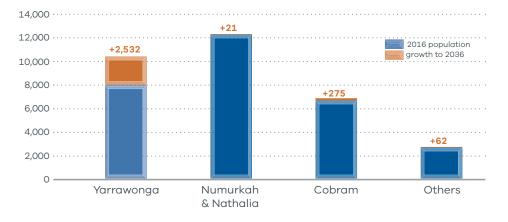
- Yarrawonga Urban Design Framework 2000, which provides direction around the built form of Yarrawonga, particularly the town centre.
- Yarrawonga Futures Plan 2008, which summarises the key issues and opportunities of the township. It presents a vision for the township and identifies key infrastructure and policy initiatives required to fulfil the vision.

A full list of documents that have informed the preparation of this Framework Plan can be found in the <u>References</u> section of this document.

<sup>4</sup> Hume Regional Growth Plan (State Government of Victoria, 2014, p. 47)

#### 2.3 Growth context

Yarrawonga is the largest of four urban centres in Moira Shire, alongside Cobram, Numurkah and Nathalia<sup>5</sup>. Yarrawonga is forecast to accommodate the majority of population growth in the shire (<u>Figure 1</u>), therefore demand for jobs and services is expected to increase in the township.



#### Figure 1 Population projections to 2036 (based on Victoria in Future 2019)

The Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 2: Forecast Report was prepared by MacroPlan Dimasi on behalf of the VPA and Moira Shire Council in 2017, with the aim of presenting growth forecasts to inform more detailed landuse planning. Three growth scenarios were prepared for analytical purposes to enable forecasting of population, jobs, dwellings and floor space consumption from 2016 to 2051. The scenarios adopted were "Low growth", "Medium growth" and "High growth". Under all scenarios, Yarrawonga is projected to experience positive population growth. MacroPlan Dimasi deemed the medium scenario to be most likely, therefore this Framework Plan utilises projections from this scenario. Findings from the Forecast Report are summarised in the following paragraphs.

#### 2.3.1 Population and demographics

The Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy identified that Yarrawonga will grow by over 6,000 people over the next 30 years which means that over 2,500 new homes will need to be built. The Growth Management Strategy identified that Yarrawonga has enough planned residential supply to accommodate growth beyond 30 or more years.

#### forecast population growth



Source: Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017)

#### Figure 2 Forecast population growth and dwelling demand for Yarrawonga

Key demographic trends include:

- An ageing population, with the median age increasing from 47 in 2015 to over 50 by 2031.
- A changing industry structure including a long-term shift away from traditional industries, offset by an increasing share of service-based industries.

<sup>5</sup> Note that the *Victoria in Future 2019* population projections consider Numurkah and Nathalia collectively. This is reflected in Figure 1.

The implications of these trends are:

- Growth of healthcare and social assistance services
- Strong demand for aged care facilities
- Need for more diverse housing typologies suited for an ageing population, and more affordable housing options
- Need to ensure sufficient community and recreation infrastructure to support young families moving to Yarrawonga, and
- Need for public and community transport options for a changing demographic.

#### 2.3.2 Economy

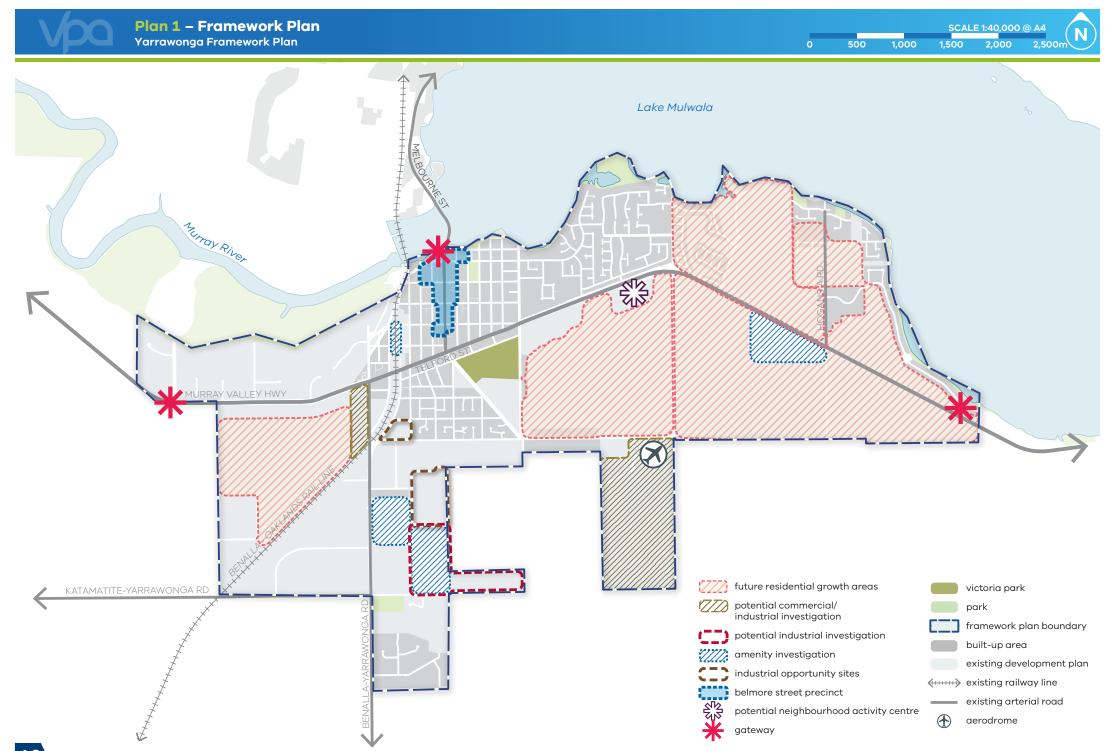
Three employment growth scenarios were explored, based on the low, medium and high population scenarios. Employment projections were scaled based on forecast shifts in industry share (Figure 3), with a forecast increase in the services sector and decrease in more traditional sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fishing. Overall, Yarrawonga is expected to accommodate an increasing share of jobs in the Shire with a growth of 1,700 jobs. The employment rate within the township is not forecast to change significantly. This indicates that over time, the surrounding region will increasingly rely on Yarrawonga as the location of the job market reflecting an anticipated change in the nature of the regional economy.

Further discussion of implications on industrial, retail and commercial floor space can be found in <u>Sections 4.3 Industry</u> and <u>4.4 Commerce and Retail</u>.

		2011-2016	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	CHANGE 2011–2031
	Agriculture, forestry & fishing	2.4%	2.0%	1.5%	1.0%	-1.4%
	Manufacturing	5.0%	4.5%	4.0%	3.5%	-1.5%
X	Construction	9.3%	9.5%	10.0%	10.5%	<b>1.2</b> %
	Wholesale trade	2.1%	2.0%	<b>1.8%</b>	1.6%	-0.5%
Ì	Retail trade	19.0%	19.5%	20.2%	20.4%	1.4%
	Accommodation & food services	9.8%	10.0%	10.1%	10.2%	0.4%
	Financial & insurance services	2.6%	2.4%	2.2%	2.0%	-0.6%
ß	Professional, scientific & technical services	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%	4.2%	0.6%
	Education & training	8.6%	9.0%	9.0%	9.2%	0.6%
	Healthcare & social assistance	21.8%	22.0%	22.2%	22.2%	0.4%

Figure 3 Forecasted shifts in industry share

Source: MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017



© Victorian Planning Authority, 2020. The State of Victoria does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of information in this publication and any person using or relying upon such information does so on the basis that the State of Victoria shall bear no responsibility whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omission in the information.

16

## 3 Vision & principles

#### 3.1 Overarching Vision

The vision for Yarrawonga in 2050 was informed by community engagement held in June and July 2019:

Yarrawonga in 2050 will offer a unique lifestyle experience in a vibrant tourism and community setting that links the town to Lake Mulwala. Its temperate climate, world class recreation facilities, outstanding hospitality and water sports on offer will set it apart as one of Victoria's premier tourism destinations. Yarrawonga will continue to be a location of choice for new residents and businesses seeking to build on the town's proud history and growth potential. Its connectivity to nearby regional centres, diverse community and waterfront location will ensure its future success.

The vision is underpinned by the following principles that guide Yarrawonga's future growth:

#### **PRINCIPLE 1** Support a well-connected township

- Support an integrated network of roads, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.
- Provide more connected and high-quality open space.
- Maintain connections with Mulwala and the region for both people and freight.

#### PRINCIPLE 2 Celebrate heritage and community

- Support a stronger focus on adaptive reuse of heritage buildings and celebration of Yarrawonga's history.
- Provide recreation facilities, particularly for young families and older residents.
- Ensure community infrastructure is well-located in central locations and easily accessible.

#### **PRINCIPLE 3** Protect the natural environment

- Protect biodiversity and waterway health.
- Increase tree coverage along streets and in open spaces.

#### **PRINCIPLE 4** Provide higher order infrastructure

- Enhance amenity of key roads, particularly Belmore Street and Murray Valley Highway.
- Implement drainage and stormwater treatment infrastructure to address flooding events, protect water quality of the lake and waterways, and enhance community and environmental values.
- Respond to changes in major infrastructure such as the bridge, freight routes and aerodrome.
- Ensure servicing needs of existing and future residents are met.
- Consider the future needs of heavy vehicle movement.

#### **PRINCIPLE 5** Establish a local activity centre hierarchy

- Strengthen the role of Belmore Street as the centre of town, through improved amenity and more diverse uses.
- Provide for local convenience retail that complements primary and secondary activity centres in growth areas.

#### **PRINCIPLE 6** Leverage local strengths to grow the economy

- Support initiatives that attract visitation and tourism.
- Support retail and commercial uses that draw investment into the township.

The following section details how the vision and principles will support an integrated land use planning framework for Yarrawonga through the five themes.

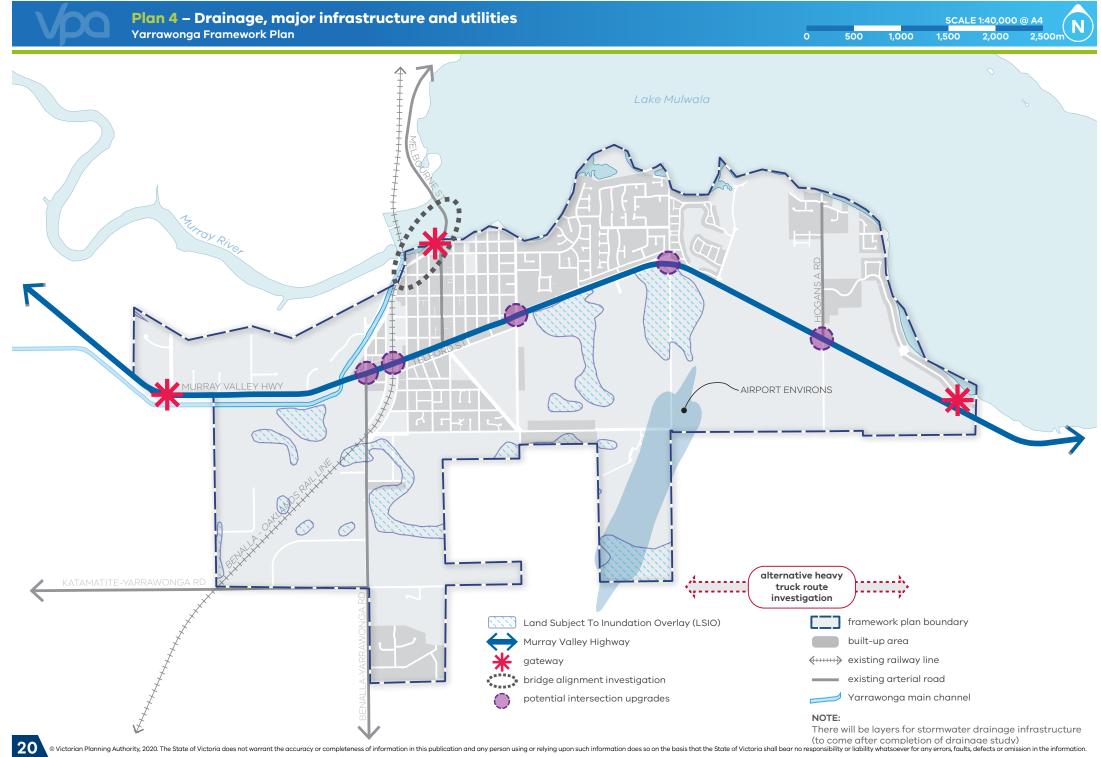


## 4 Themes, objectives & strategies

The vision and principles for Yarrawonga inform the land use framework for Yarrawonga through five major themes:

- 1 Drainage, major infrastructure & utilities
- 2 Housing and community infrastructure
- 3 Industry
- 4 Commerce & retail
- **5** Recreation, environment & heritage

Each theme represents a significant land use topic that needs to be addressed to provide a robust and resilient plan for Yarrawonga's future. Each theme contains **objectives** stating what council and the community want to achieve. **Strategies** are identified that support the achievement of each objective, and **actions** provide key stakeholders with steps to implement the relevant strategy.



#### 4.1 Drainage, major infrastructure & utilities

Yarrawonga will have an integrated and safe road network that balances the needs of people and freight. Drainage will be informed by a catchment-wide approach and protect the water quality of Lake Mulwala. Future development will be well-serviced by essential infrastructure. Yarrawonga will have infrastructure that facilitates connections to Mulwala and the rest of the Hume region.

To facilitate orderly development in Yarrawonga, it is crucial to ensure that new development is well-serviced and connected to a wider network of essential infrastructure such as electricity, water and sewerage. Stormwater drainage is a particularly significant challenge for both existing and planned development. Drainage strategies for future developments should be guided by a holistic strategy that is conducted on a catchment basis and meets appropriate standards for flood protection and environmental performance. At the same time, drainage and stormwater treatment infrastructure provision should be economically feasible for developers and landowners. Where possible, such infrastructure should contribute towards liveable and resilient communities by providing amenity benefits.

A coherent transport network is another key consideration for growth, as future residents and workers should have access to the services and amenities in the existing township by walking, cycling, public transport and the private vehicle. It is also important that the new estates of Yarrawonga connect to one another and are not a series of disconnected estates on the fringe of the town. Access to arterial road linkages and rail infrastructure is also important to leverage opportunities for freight and supply chain industries in Yarrawonga. Yarrawonga's connection with Mulwala should be maintained to continue supporting Yarrawonga's cross-border servicing and tourism role.

Work is ongoing to resolve several transport infrastructure projects, including the future alignment of the Yarrawonga–Mulwala bridge and intersections upgrades along the Murray Valley Highway. Future land use planning will need to consider the outcome of these decisions and respond in a manner consistent with the objectives of the Framework Plan.

#### 4.1.1 Key issues

#### Flooding and stormwater management

Waterways in the Hume region are highly significant environmental, economic, social and cultural assets, supplying water to one of Australia's major foodproducing areas. While regular flooding plays an important role for agricultural productivity and ecosystem health, it can also impact on major urban centres such as Yarrawonga. Management of flooding has been one of the main challenges in Yarrawonga and Moira Shire as a whole, largely resulting from the flat topography and proximity of Yarrawonga to the Murray River and its tributaries. Several flood modelling studies were undertaken in the past, including a *Yarrawonga Flood and Drainage Master Plan 2015* which recommends a range of mitigating works.

The Framework Plan draws on the *Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy* to outline principles for stormwater drainage that takes a catchment-wide approach. These principles have been developed based on the *Infrastructure Design Manual*<sup>6</sup> which Moira Shire Council adopted in June 2007, to:

- take a catchment-wide approach in managing urban stormwater runoff
- address both minor and major flows in site-based drainage strategies
- maintain or enhance the level of drainage service provision within catchments when introducing new development
- deliver infrastructure that caters for upstream flows and protect downstream flows
- ensure best practice water quality treatment
- provide infrastructure that is cost effective from a maintenance and operational perspective, and
- consider and identify potential opportunities for incorporating integrated water management into drainage management.

21

#### 4.1.2 Integrated transport

As the town grows and shifts in its demographic profile, there will be competing demands placed on the transport network. Public and active transport options should be introduced to provide alternatives to private vehicles, facilitate a multi-modal transport network and support active, healthy lifestyles.

#### 4.1.3 Murray Valley Highway

The Murray Valley Highway runs along the southern boundary of the existing township. Council has worked with Regional Roads Victoria to identify several infrastructure upgrades along the highway (Plan 4). The Murray Valley Highway is the gateway road into and out of Yarrawonga. Therefore, as new development occurs south of the highway, it is important to enhance the amenity of the highway and provide safe north-south connections. Access to the Murray Valley Highway needs to be appropriately planned to ensure safe connections that protect the role and function of the Murray Valley Highway.

#### 4.1.4 Proposed alternative heavy truck route

Upon full development of the township, further investigations may be needed to consider the need for a bypass of Murray Valley Highway. This is anticipated to be a long-term action to ensure that freight movement does not run between the existing township and new development to the south. A future investigation should be conducted in conjunction with the Department of Transport, including Regional Roads Victoria. Issues that need to be addressed include:

- Upgrades to existing roads to enable a bypass;
- Impact of a bypass on the arterial road network;
- Constraints associated with the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and Rural Flood Overlay;
- Constraints associated with the railway line.

#### 4.1.5 Yarrawonga-Mulwala Bridge

The Yarrawonga Weir crossing is expected to be closed to traffic in 2020 for safety and risk management reasons. This leaves the Yarrawonga–Mulwala bridge as the only crossing point between the two towns. Maintaining a good cross-border connection is important to facilitate economic and social activities<sup>7</sup>. As a result, the New South Wales and Victorian governments are undertaking a planning study investigating a new crossing between Yarrawonga and Mulwala. Future foreshore planning should account for the new crossing point once an alignment has been confirmed. Should heavy vehicle movement be redirected onto existing roads, council would need to engage with Regional Roads Victoria to ensure that these roads are upgraded to meet the infrastructure needs for freight movement.

Resolution on the Yarrawonga–Mulwala Bridge will require the collaboration of State and local governments in both Victoria and New South Wales.

<sup>7</sup> Hume Regional Growth Plan (State Government of Victoria, 2014, p. 61).

#### 4.1.6 Utility provision

Communications, energy, water and sewer utilities are critical to support growing communities. The VPA has corresponded with several utility providers to query the capacity for servicing and better understand the servicing infrastructure considerations for future development. These have been summarised:

- Electricity Powercor is the current electricity provider to Yarrawonga, which supplies via two feeders from Cobram East. Current forecasts do not show the need for additional feeders in the short term. Should customer loads increase to a point where the need is justified, Powercor has a site for a potential future zone substation in Yarrawonga. Future development in growth areas should involve working with Moira Shire Council and Powercor to ensure that network requirements are planned and provided for.
- Internet NBN is currently provided in the existing urban areas of Yarrawonga and the new Silverwoods development. There are no existing plans to install or upgrade infrastructure in identified residential and industrial growth areas. Extension of the network to service new developments should form part of future precinct planning and be customerinitiated.
- Gas APA Networks manages, operates and maintains the gas reticulation network in Yarrawonga on behalf of Australian Gas Networks. The existing township is well-supplied with reticulated natural gas adjacent to the identified potential growth areas. To ensure that APA Group's strategic schedule of works accounts for new development, developers and Moira Shire Council should ensure appropriate staging and layout of development.
- Sewerage and water North East Water monitors and plans for infrastructure needs ongoing. North East Water is aware of the residential growth fronts, and this Framework Plan can help inform its future needs planning.

Future development should consider servicing needs in the planning process, to ensure that future communities have the necessary utility infrastructure.

#### 4.1.7 Objectives

#### O1 To facilitate a strategic approach to stormwater management

- Strategy 1 Require future development to take a catchment-wide approach for managing urban stormwater runoff.
- Action 1.1 **Council** to reference the *Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy* into the Planning Scheme.
- Action 1.2 **Council** to ensure that all future development aligns with the principles and proposed asset placement options outlined in the *Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy*.
- Strategy 2 Maintain and enhance existing stormwater drainage and treatment assets to support future growth and climate change adaptation.
- Action 2.1 **Council** to continue to monitor current drainage assets and implement flood mitigation options outlined in the *Yarrawonga Flood and Drainage Master Plan 2015.*
- Action 2.2 **Council** to explore options for funding future drainage infrastructure.
- Strategy 3 Support opportunities for integrated water management.
- Action 3.1 **Council** to consider opportunities for introducing linear wetlands with amenity benefits, as outlined in the *Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy*.
- Action 3.2 **Council** to explore opportunities to integrate stormwater management and treatment with streetscape improvements.

Refer to <u>Action 20.1</u> – integrated water management opportunities can be tied with streetscape improvements to Belmore Street.

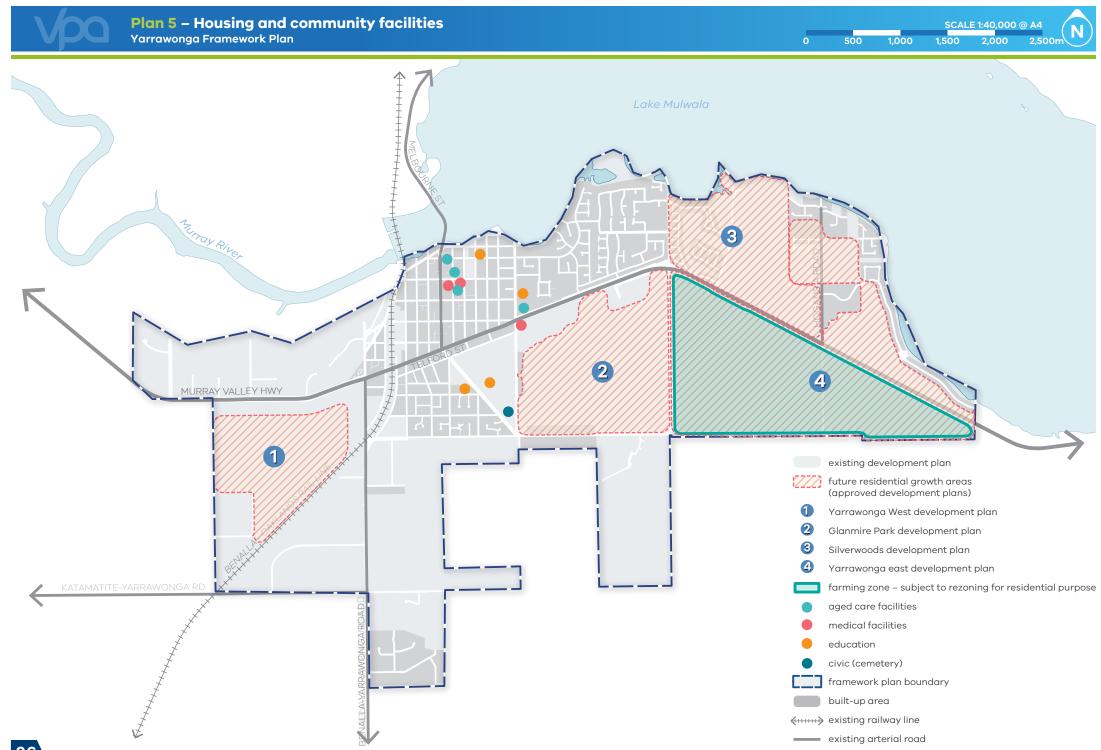
02	To maintain a connected and efficient road hierarchy
Strategy 4	Protect capacity on the arterial road network for freight movement.
Action 4.1	<b>Council</b> to work with the <b>Department of Transport</b> and <b>Regional</b> <b>Roads Victoria</b> and relevant New South Wales authorities to ensure that a new bridge alignment has capacity for freight movement.
Action 4.2	<b>Council</b> to investigate the need for an alternative heavy vehicle bypass and progress discussions with <b>Department of Transport</b> and <b>Regional Roads Victoria</b> .
Strategy 5	Provide safe local street access for cyclists and pedestrians.
Action 5.1	<b>Developers</b> to provide street networks in new estates that connect into existing streets and neighbouring estates.
Action 5.2	<b>Council</b> to work <b>with Regional Roads Victoria</b> to investigate opportunities for council to take responsibility for management of Belmore Street <sup>8</sup> .
Strategy 6	Protect the amenity of the Murray Valley Highway.
Action 6.1	Council to encourage future subdivision to orientate towards the Murray Valley Highway, with connections via frontage roads.
Action 6.2	<b>Council</b> to investigate opportunities for gateway features signalling entry on both ends of the Murray Valley Highway.
Strategy 7	Facilitate safe cross-border connections.
Action 7.1	<b>Council</b> to work with the <b>Department of Transport</b> and <b>Regional</b> <b>Roads Victoria</b> and relevant New South Wales authorities to ensure that a new bridge alignment connects into the existing

road network

<sup>8</sup> More information on Belmore Street can be found in Section 4.4 Commerce and Retail.

#### O3 To ensure that utility and servicing needs are met

- Strategy 8 Provide new development with adequate utility and servicing infrastructure.
- Action 8.1 **Council** to continue liaising with relevant utility providers about timing and provision of servicing infrastructure.
- Action 8.2 North East Water to consider the future growth areas outlined in this Framework Plan in planning for future water and sewerage needs.



#### 4.2 Housing and community infrastructure

Future housing in Yarrawonga will align with the township's lifestyle character and join up with the existing built area. A variety of medical, recreational, education and civic uses will be accessible to residents.

Yarrawonga has been growing relatively faster than many surrounding townships in Moira Shire. Yarrawonga's housing stock has been relatively homogeneous in type to date, with separate houses as the major type of residential dwelling in the town. There is potential to provide more diverse housing typologies in the township to accommodate the growing population and shifting demographic trends such as an ageing population and growing tourism market.

A supply of good quality housing should be complemented by community infrastructure to support growth and liveability in the township. Community infrastructure refers to buildings and open spaces that provide services, activities and programs for the community, such as passive and active recreation, education and health facilities, and community centres. It can be provided by government, not-for-profit organisations and the private sector.

#### 4.2.1 Key issues

#### **Future residential development**

Yarrawonga has adequate residential land supply to meet housing needs up to 2051 and beyond. Forecasts indicate that approximately 74 dwellings per year are required to accommodate future growth<sup>9</sup>. Development should be staged in a manner that enables timely delivery of residential land and provide greater certainty for council and developers to plan for utilities and supporting infrastructure. Consideration should also be given to encouraging smaller properties, with configurations and prices that are more suited to an ageing population and lone person households as well as continuing the delivery of the traditional housing product. Issues to consider in unlocking the planned supply of residential land include:

#### **Existing development plans**

The Development Plan Overlay (DPO) applies to future residential growth areas in Yarrawonga (refer to <u>Appendix A – map of existing overlays</u>). The purpose of the DPO is to guide the form of development to the satisfaction of the responsible authority (i.e. council). There are currently four approved development plans in the township (<u>Plan 5</u>). However, they were produced independently of each other and were not guided by a township-wide framework, resulting in discrete development that is not well-integrated with adjoining estates.

Improvements could be made to plans for undeveloped land to promote more cohesive development across the township, particularly south of Murray Valley Highway which lacks the same ease of access to recreational facilities on the foreshore. A planning scheme amendment is not required to amend a plan established by a DPO, therefore council can work with landowners to make the necessary modifications utilising this Framework Plan as per Table 1.

<sup>9</sup> Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 16)

 Table 1
 Principles for future residential development

#### Drainage

Drainage strategies for individual developments should be based on a broader township-wide drainage strategy<sup>10</sup> and consider opportunities for incorporating water sensitive urban design.

#### Neighbourhood and township character

Ensure lots front onto streets and public realm assets such as open spaces and the waterfront.

#### **Open space linkages**

Provide high quality, easily accessible active and passive open spaces. Streets and drainage assets can be utilised as open space linkages to enhance shade ways and promote urban cooling.

#### Interfaces

Develop appropriate buffers and separations between residential and potentially non-compatible uses (e.g. agricultural, industrial). Further direction on industrial-residential interfaces can be found in <u>Section 4.3</u> Industry.

#### Connectivity

Ensure good connectivity between new estates and established areas of the township (refer to <u>Action 5.1</u>). Active movement should be encouraged through provision of footpaths and bicycle lanes.

#### Mobility

Consider the needs of older residents by providing routes for mobility scooters and other similar devices.

#### **Solar access**

Encourage street orientation to maximise solar access to lots.

#### Activity/convenience centres

Ensure sufficient provision of and access to community infrastructure and local convenience retailing<sup>11</sup>.

### 10 Refer to <u>Section 4.1 Drainage, Major Infrastructure and Utilities</u> for more information on drainage.

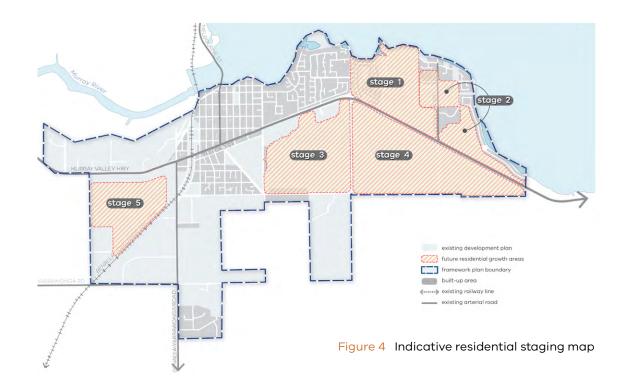
11 Refer to <u>Actions 14.3</u> and <u>23.1</u>.

#### Future rezoning for residential purposes

Currently, the majority of land covered by the DPO has been zoned for residential purposes under the General Residential Zone and the Low Density Residential Zone. The exception is land covered by Yarrawonga East Development Plan (DPO6) zoned Farming (<u>Plan 5</u>), that will eventually need to be rezoned for residential uses. The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has identified a potentially contaminated site at 8537 Murray Valley Highway within this area (<u>Plan 6</u>) that shows signs of fuel tanks and possible agricultural chemical storage. In preparing a future amendment for rezoning, council must satisfy that environmental conditions of the land are or will be suitable for residential uses.

#### Staging of development

Residential growth should be logical and contiguous to existing urban areas. Clear staging of development will support timely provision of servicing and community infrastructure. Forecasts in the Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy suggest the following indicative timelines for staging of residential growth:



#### Table 2 Indicative staging of future residential areas

	Development Plan name & overlay number	Time frame	Approx. area & lot yield	Description/ considerations
1	Silverwoods (DPO6)	Ongoing (staged subdivision commenced)	160 hectares 600 lots	
2	<b>Yarrawonga East</b> (DPO3 & DPO6 north of Murray Valley Highway)	Short to medium-term	42 hectares 370 lots	Some subdivision has commenced. Potential to include a local activity centre.
3	<b>Glanmire Park</b> (DPO7)	Short to medium-term	196 hectares 1,300 lots	This is a logical growth front due to a high level of capacity and contiguity with the main area of Yarrawonga.
4	<b>Yarrawonga East</b> (DPO6 south of Murray Valley Highway)	Medium to long-term	370 hectares 2,630 lots	A rezoning would be required before this land can be developed for residential uses.
5	<b>Yarrawonga West</b> (DPO5 & DPO6)	Long-term	140 hectares 900 lots	

#### 4.2.2 Community infrastructure and education

Moira Shire's distance from capital cities has resulted in Yarrawonga and Cobram developing as a service hub for the surrounding region. This means that Yarrawonga is vital in providing surrounding rural areas with access to health and social services<sup>12</sup>.

The median age of Yarrawonga is 10 years above the Victorian average and 2–3 years above the median age in Moira and the Hume Region<sup>13</sup>. Consequently, there will likely be a growing demand for health care services and social assistance. Council should also consider specific residential dwelling requirements of older residents such as smaller properties and aged care facilities. There are four existing aged care facilities (<u>Plan 5</u>) providing 218 residential places, with an estimated 37 additional residential places by 2021<sup>14</sup>.

While it is important to respond to the needs of an ageing population, Yarrawonga is also home to families that choose to stay or relocate from Melbourne and other parts of the region. Community infrastructure should be provided to meet the needs of families, such as education facilities, playgrounds and sporting facilities. Public transport provision should also be considered as future demand grows. While the town centre is the main hub for retail and higher order community facilities, alternative locations for community infrastructure may be explored as the town grows<sup>15</sup>.

#### 12 Hume Regional Growth Plan (State Government of Victoria, 2014).

- 13 Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 17).
- 14 Ibid. (p. 18).
- 15 Refer to <u>Section 4.4 Commerce and Retail</u> for further direction on the activity centre hierarchy and potential locations for neighbourhood and local activity centres.

#### 4.2.3 Objectives

O4 Strategy 9	To plan for timely and residential growth Ensure staged delivery of housing.
Action 9.1	<b>Council</b> to monitor planning permit applications and encourage development to be staged according to <u>Table 2</u> .
Action 9.2	<b>Council</b> to undertake a residential land supply audit post-2051 to identify remaining available residential land supply and take-up rates.
	Refer to $O3$ for utility provision considerations.
05	To provide housing in appropriate locations
Strategy 10	Contain development within the framework plan boundary.
Action 10.1	Council to encourage infill development, particularly closer to the town centre, other local centres ( <u>Plan 7</u> ) and key recreation locations ( <u>Plan 8</u> ).
Strateay 11	Ensure that future residential development does not occur on

### Strategy 11 Ensure that future residential development does not occur on contaminated land.

Action 11.1 Council to ensure that land to be rezoned for sensitive uses is suitable for that use, pursuant to provisions of Ministerial Direction 1 under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (shown on <u>Plan 5</u> as "farming zone – subject to rezoning for residential purposes").

### O6 To promote new development to be of high quality and character

### Strategy 12 Ensure housing develops in a manner that enhances the character of the township.

Action 12.1 **Council** to incorporate relevant principles of the *Managing Residential Character in Rural and Regional Victoria*<sup>16</sup> report into the Moira Planning Scheme.

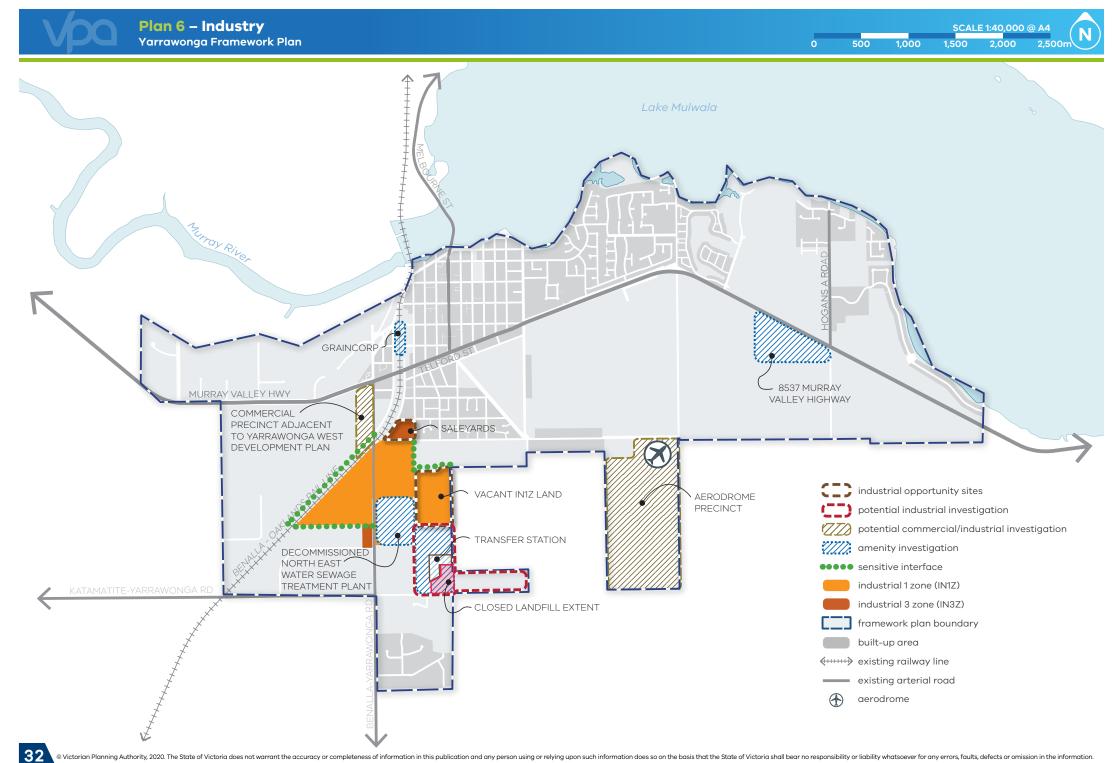
#### Strategy 13 Encourage better built form in new estates.

Action 13.1 **Council** to investigate options to modify existing development plans to better align with the principles stated in <u>Table 1</u>.

<sup>16</sup> Study led by Municipal Association of Victoria (Planisphere, 2015)

- **O7** To provide community and education infrastructure that responds to changing demographic trends
- Strategy 14 Plan and support the provision of and access to community and education infrastructure.
- Action 14.1 **Council** to monitor the demand for aged care services over time and work with service providers to ensure adequate supply.
- Action 14.2 **Council** to monitor the demand for education infrastructure over time and work service providers, including the **Department of Education and Training**, to ensure adequate supply.
- Action 14.3 **Council** to determine the community and education infrastructure requirements of Yarrawonga at full build out which will inform further work on how to fund and deliver required infrastructure<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>17</sup> This potential community needs assessment could be undertaken for a number of Moira's settlements.



#### 4.3 Industry

Industry in Yarrawonga will be supported by major infrastructure that will respond to and complement the Hume region's changing economy, while protecting the town's amenity.

Currently, the largest contributing sectors to Moira Shire's economy are manufacturing and agriculture, forestry and fishing. Analysis in 2017 revealed that manufacturing had a 32.6% share and agriculture, forestry and fishing had a 15.1% share of economic output<sup>18</sup>. However, Yarrawonga has several different characteristics because of its role as a regional servicing centre. Yarrawonga has a higher dependence on retail trade, accommodation and food services, and health care and social assistance relative to Moira and the Hume Region. The share of retail and service sectors in Yarrawonga is projected to continue growing in alignment with broader trends across regional Victoria.

A 2004 Industrial Land Review indicated that industrial uses in Moira Shire consist of light and service industries, agricultural sales, and warehouse and storage. As a regional centre, Yarrawonga should continue to support the core rural sectors of Moira, for example through a focus on freight and supply chain activities.

#### 4.3.1 Key issues

#### Industrial land supply

There is approximately 110 hectares of zoned industrial land in Yarrawonga, located to the east and west of Benalla–Yarrawonga Road. There is sufficient zoned industrial land to accommodate the current and projected market demand, therefore industrial uses should be located on existing zoned land before any further land is rezoned for industrial uses. However, it is noted that there are existing constraints to unlocking zoned industrial land, including:

- lack of clarity around major infrastructure initiatives such as the bridge alignment may impact future industrial development and capacity, and
- constraints posed by single ownership and unwillingness of land owners to advance land to market for development.

The need for zoning more industrial land should only be assessed in the medium- to long-term as the supply of existing zoned land nears exhaustion.

#### Industrial opportunity sites

Several sites contain zoned industrial land that has not been developed. Opportunity sites are shown on <u>Plan 6</u> and include:

Vacant IN1Z land: Approximately 22.5 hectares, zoned Industrial 1. This is a logical area for expansion of industrial uses, with consideration given to the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. Future industrial uses should also establish a suitable amenity buffer where required to protect residential uses to the north.

**Saleyards:** Approximately six hectares, currently zoned Industrial 3. The site contains four parcels of Crown land<sup>19</sup>. It has been identified as a high value location for industrial land uses, and IN3 zoning provides an appropriate buffer between industrial land to the south and residential land to the north.

#### **Industrial interfaces**

Land adjacent to industrial uses requires appropriate treatment to protect the amenity of sensitive uses (e.g. residential) from issues such as pollution and noise. Appropriate interfaces also protect industrial activity from encroachment. Sensitive interfaces for future development are indicated on <u>Plan 6</u>.

18 Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 20). 19 Allotments 2, 4, 4A and 4B Sec. 60\PP5901

#### **Amenity investigation**

Several sites in the township have been raised by the Environmental Protection Authority as sites that require further consideration due to amenity issues. These are shown on <u>Plan 6</u> and include:

- Graincorp facility<sup>20</sup> at 63 Sharp Street EPA has previously received dust and noise complaints from adjoining residential areas.
- Land potentially contaminated by fuel storage and mechanical works at 8537 Murray Valley Highway – potential contamination needs to be addressed before residential development can occur.
- Yarrawonga closed landfill<sup>21</sup> at 81 Channel Road EPA has issued a postclosure pollution abatement notice requiring council to undertake annual external auditing to monitor environmental impacts. A 500 metre buffer should be established in accordance with EPA publication 1518.
- Yarrawonga transfer station<sup>22</sup> at 81 Channel Road 250 metre buffer should be established in accordance with EPA publication 1518, however this would be included within the extent of the 500 metre landfill buffer. Establishment of the 500 metre landfill buffer will protect sensitive uses in the vicinity and prevent encroachment of both the transfer station and closed landfill.
- North East Water sewage treatment plant at 96–110 Yarrawonga–Benalla Road. This treatment plant has now been decommissioned.

Appropriate responses to these individual sites should be determined in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Authority.

#### **Potential future industrial sites**

Council has indicated the following as potential industrial expansion sites (shown on <u>Plan 6</u>), if constraints to existing zoned land cannot be overcome:

- Commercial precinct adjacent to Yarrawonga West Development Plan: Approximately 15 hectares, currently zoned Commercial 2. While identified for commercial uses, there is scope for industrial uses permitted in the schedule to the C2Z.
- Land adjacent to transfer station and closed landfill: Establishment of a landfill buffer should involve determining suitable controls for any future development within the buffer. EPA publication 1642 provides guidance on assessing planning proposals within a landfill buffer.
- Aerodrome precinct: Total land area of 121 hectares including the aerodrome, currently zoned PUZ4 (Transport) and affected by LSIO and AEO1. There are opportunities to accommodate one or more large scale industrial uses, subject to land owner/market delivery.

22 Currently operational, however protection around this site would be satisfied in the process of determining a buffer for the closed landfill.

<sup>20</sup> Graincorp is undertaking a review of their supply chain at the time of writing this Framework Plan. A future buffer investigation would therefore be contingent upon the outcome of this review.

<sup>21</sup> Ceased operation in 2000.

#### 4.3.2 Objectives

#### **O8** To facilitate logical and timely expansion of industrial uses

Strategy 15 Ensure that industrial growth occurs within available zoned land before investigating alternate sites for rezoning.

- Action 15.1 Council to work with landowners to investigate industrial development opportunities on vacant industrial zoned land.
- Action 15.2 **Council** to work with landowners to increase building densities within zoned industrial land, to accommodate small scale industrial uses.

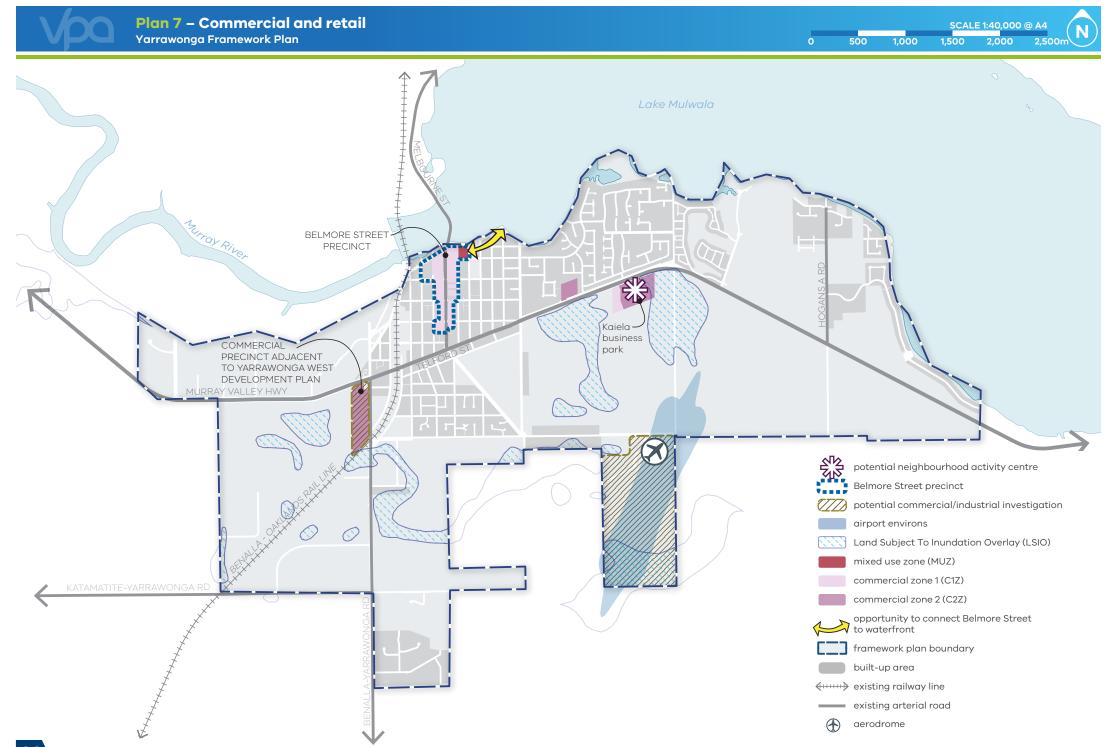
#### Strategy 16 Protect opportunities for longer term industrial expansion.

- Action 16.1 **Council** to investigate the potential for industrial and/or commercial uses in the undeveloped area surrounding the aerodrome that are not constrained by the Airport Environs Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (refer to <u>Appendix</u> <u>A – map of existing overlays</u>).
- Action 16.2 If industrial land is nearing exhaustion post-2051, **council** to undertake a detailed land use analysis study to identify industrial trends and development outlooks and unlock industrial land.

Refer to <u>O2, Action 5.2</u> for direction around an alternative heavy truck route.

#### Strategy 17 Protect amenity of industrial uses and surrounding land.

- Action 17.1 **Council** to liaise with **EPA** to determine an appropriate buffer, upon receiving greater certainty around the future operation of the Graincorp facility (<u>Plan 6</u>).
- Action 17.2 **Council** to liaise with **EPA** to implement a 500 metre buffer around the closed landfill in accordance with EPA publication 1518, and determine suitable controls for development within the buffer.
- Action 17.3 **Council** to work with **EPA** to ensure that appropriate buffer distances are applied to new industrial uses that affect sensitive uses, with consideration of EPA publication 1518.
- Action 17.4 **Council** to liaise with **VicTrack** and **Department of Transport** to determine appropriate buffers along the railway corridor.



© Victorian Planning Authority, 2020. The State of Victoria does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of information in this publication and any person using or relying upon such information does so on the basis that the State of Victoria shall bear no responsibility whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omission in the information.

3<u>6</u>

#### 4.4 Commerce and retail

Belmore Street will be the heart of the township and a meeting space for all. A series of supporting retail uses will meet the community's needs without compromising the role of Belmore Street. Uses that cater to seasonal demand will continue to draw tourists into the town and region.

The Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy forecasts stable population growth under the medium growth scenario, therefore supporting steady growth in employment. Key trends include an ageing population, and long-term shift away from traditional industries (e.g. agriculture, forestry, fishing) offset by an increase in the services sector (e.g. retail trade, accommodation, public administration).

With a healthy increase in population and demand comes the important need to establish an activity centre hierarchy, to balance the role of the town centre with supporting retail and commercial uses in new developments. Belmore Street will continue to be positioned as the main retail core in Yarrawonga, however opportunities for convenience and tourism-based retail should be investigated in appropriate locations as the township grows.

#### 4.4.1 Key issues

#### **Retail floor space**

The medium-term scenario forecasts an additional demand of approximately 6,071 square metres of new retail floorspace by 2031<sup>23</sup>, of which approximately 810 square metres would be required for tourism-related retail<sup>24</sup>. Yarrawonga is well positioned due to its role as a servicing centre in the Hume Region and cross-border links to Mulwala.

There is sufficient Commercial 1 and Mixed Use zoned land to accommodate growth in the short term.

# 23 Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 2: Forecast Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 31). This assumes that demand for retail floor space continues in line with current levels of 2.4m2 per person, page 29.

24 Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 14).

#### **Commercial land supply**

Commercial floor space requirements are more difficult to forecast as this is dependent on overall feasibility and investment appetite, particularly for tourism and accommodation.

The Growth Management Strategy has identified that there is sufficient Commercial 2 zoned land to accommodate growth to 2050. Opportunity sites are shown on <u>Plan 7</u> and include:

- Commercial precinct adjacent to Yarrawonga West Development Plan: Approximately 15 hectares, zoned Commercial 2. This land is capable of accommodating retail and commercial uses involving bulky goods. Potential constraints include the railway line and Yarrawonga main channel.
- Kaiela Business Park: Total of 2.6 hectares zoned Commercial 1 and 9.5 hectares zoned Commercial 2. Approximately 1.4 hectares of the C2Z land is anchored by Bunnings. This site is currently developing and is a logical location for a future supermarket or neighbourhood activity centre to support future residents in the south. Forecasts indicate that Kaiela Business Park is likely to have capacity to 2036.

#### **Future opportunity sites**

The following sites (shown on <u>Plan 7</u>) have the potential for future commercial uses, subject to further analysis of commercial land supply in the medium to long term. Further studies should be undertaken before any further land is rezoned.

No local retail convenience provision is identified by council in the future residential growth areas. Council will need to confirm what the future retail needs will be of the future community and to determine appropriate scale and location of its provision while ensuring that Yarrawonga's preferred retail hierarchy is maintained.

Aerodrome precinct: Total land area of 121 hectares including the aerodrome, currently zoned PUZ4 (Transport) and affected by LSIO and AEO1. This has potential for industrial uses, but also has potential for commercial development within the Airport Environs Overlay that restricts residential uses.

#### Main town centre (Belmore Street)

The Belmore Street precinct provides community and health services and core retail uses (Figure 5). The precinct therefore plays an important commercial and civic role in the township.

The majority of Yarrawonga's Commercial 1 zoned land is in the Belmore Street precinct (<u>Plan 7</u>), which is highly fragmented and contains limited vacant lots suitable for development<sup>25</sup>. Council should focus on urban renewal and redevelopment opportunities before extending the town centre via rezoning.

There is approximately 1.2 hectares of Mixed Use zoned land connecting Belmore Street to the waterfront (<u>Plan 7</u>). Council should continue to promote development in the Mixed Use Zone that supports integration of tourism, retailing and residential uses, and activation of the lake foreshore. There are opportunities to promote broader application of the Mixed Use Zone in the waterfront precinct in the medium to long term to encourage diversity of development and strengthen the connection between Belmore Street and the foreshore.

LAKE MULWALA **LYNCH** FORMER SCHOOL SITE S TOM ORR ST McNALLY S precinct boundary mixed use investigation for commercial uses aged care facility medical facility æ Yarrawonga town hall visitor information centre LOTT ST sports facility intry points 💭 street strees MURRAY VALLEY 🗻 retail interface

Figure 5 Belmore Street precinct opportunities

25 Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 2: Forecast Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 29).

#### 4.4.2 Objectives

## O9 To support the role of Belmore Street as the town centre

- Strategy 18 Investigate urban renewal and redevelopment opportunities in the town centre in the short term.
- Action 18.1 **Council** to identify opportunities to facilitate adaptive reuse of historic residential dwellings, particularly at entry points north and south of Belmore Street (Figure 5).
- Action 18.2 **Council** to identify opportunities to consolidate lots in Belmore Street, to enable larger-format retail uses.

#### Strategy 19 Enhance the amenity of Belmore Street.

- Action 19.1 **Council** to advocate for budget to enhance streetscape and built form along Belmore Street after a bridge alignment is confirmed.
- Strategy 20 Facilitate connection between Belmore Street and Lake Mulwala.
- Action 20.1 **Council** to investigate opportunities for streetscape improvements and wayfinding features between Belmore Street and the waterfront.

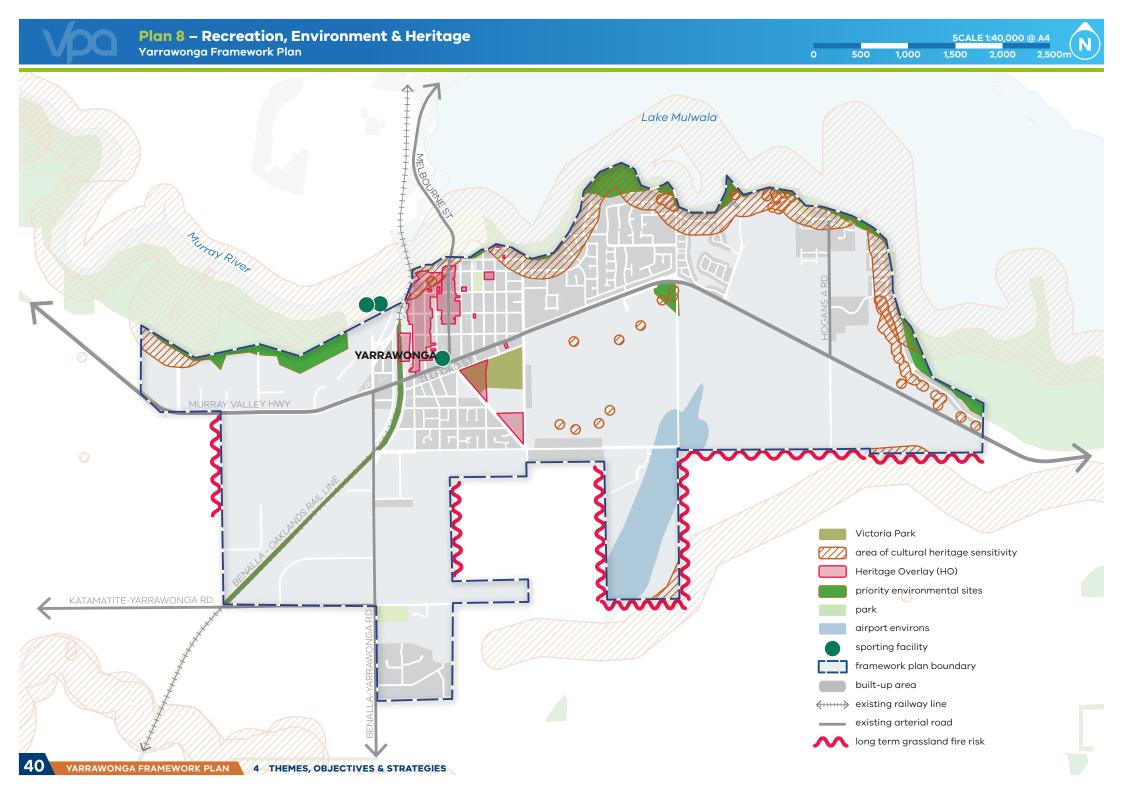
## **O10** To facilitate a hierarchy of activity centres in the township

- Strategy 21 Encourage core retail uses in planned retail nodes zoned C1Z and C2Z.
- Action 21.1 **Council** to clarify the intended role and function of the identified Commercial 2 precinct adjacent to the Yarrawonga West Development Plan (<u>Plan 7</u>).
- Action 21.2 **Council** to investigate the opportunity to identify Kaiela Business Park as a secondary town centre supporting a supermarket in the medium term (<u>Plan 7</u>).

- Strategy 22 Seek the relocation of non-core uses in the town centre to more suitable and appropriately zoned sites.
- Action 22.1 **Council** to ensure that new retail development in the township does not compromise the primacy of the Belmore Street precinct.

Refer to <u>O8, Action 16.1</u> for direction on investigation of industrial/ commercial uses in proximity to Yarrawonga aerodrome.

- Strategy 23 Monitor retail and commercial land supply over the growth of the township.
- Action 23.1 Council to identify appropriate scale and location of local convenience retail provision in its future residential growth areas.
- Action 23.2 Council to monitor retail demand and supply to ensure future needs for retail and commercial land are met.



#### 4.5 Recreation, environment and heritage

Yarrawonga will have recreational and sporting facilities for all ages and abilities. Lake Mulwala will be a key lifestyle drawcard, complemented by local parks in new residential areas. Heritage, arts and culture will be defining characteristics of Yarrawonga.

Yarrawonga is a well-established tourism location that experiences a high level of tourism visitation relative to its urban footprint and local population size<sup>26</sup>. Yarrawonga benefits from being a cross-border town, with most visitors arriving domestically. The amenity value of Yarrawonga also makes it an attractive location for new residents seeking lifestyle changes.

To ensure Yarrawonga remains an attractive place to live and visit, its natural and built features should be protected and enhanced. Environmental features include the Murray River, Lake Mulwala and Yarrawonga Regional Park, which also serve as recreational destinations. Built features include sporting facilities, the Belmore Street precinct and buildings with heritage significance.

#### 4.5.1 Key issues

#### Recreation

Yarrawonga is currently well serviced by recreation and sporting facilities (<u>Plan 8</u>). The township contains sporting facilities that service the wider region, notably Yarrawonga Showgrounds and Victoria Park. Council has conducted a *Recreational Strategy 2016–2026* that lists recommendations to inform the delivery of sport and recreation in the municipality for the next 10 years.

#### **Biodiversity assets**

Yarrawonga contains and is surrounded by natural assets that provide habitats and ecosystems to a variety of living organisms. Biodiversity assets have social, economic and cultural significance, with an increased focus on its enhancement and protection highlighted in *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037*<sup>27</sup>.

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority completed the Conservation Plan for the Yarrawonga Landscape Zone in 2006, which identifies priorities for the conservation of native biodiversity. Priority environmental sites (Plan 8) should continue to be managed through cooperative action between community groups and agencies. The Moira Shire *Council Plan 2017–2021* identifies biodiversity conservation as a focus area, which should continue to be at the forefront as the township grows.

#### Waterfront development

Lake Mulwala is a key tourism asset for Yarrawonga, being used for a wide range of water-based activities including fishing, boating, water skiing, and speed boat racing. The riverfront has been acknowledged as an asset, with investments such as Lake Mulwala foreshore protection works and construction of the Silverwoods golf, tourism and residential development.

Several opportunities identified by council to enhance development along the waterfront are acknowledged in the Growth Management Strategy. There are opportunities to also connect the Belmore Street Town Centre to the Lake Mulwala waterfront. *Yarrawonga to Bundalong Foreshore Master Plan 2008* provides several broad principles and design principles for the whole foreshore between Yarrawonga and Bundalong, with the aim of coordinating management of the southern Lake Mulwala foreshore area by Moira Shire Council and Goulburn–Murray Water. Detailed concepts have been produced for individual sites along the waterfront, with recommendations and management responsibilities outlined in the master plan.

Goulburn–Murray Water's Lake Mulwala Land and On Water Management Plan 2015 references the Yarrawonga to Bundalong Foreshore Master Plan as a key document providing certainty and direction to stakeholders.

<sup>26</sup> Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (MacroPlan Dimasi, 2017, p. 30).

<sup>27 (</sup>Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017)

#### 4.5.2 Cultural heritage

#### Aboriginal cultural heritage

The township is a complex landscape with multiple areas of cultural heritage sensitivity. Notably, the township contains waterways within 200 metres of the Murray River and Lake Mulwala, as well as a significant number of registered places within the study area including artefact scatters, Scarred trees, Aboriginal mounds and ancestral remains. Conversations with Aboriginal Victoria have raised the need to consider Aboriginal cultural heritage very carefully. This is particularly important for new developments that contain areas of cultural heritage sensitivity.

#### Historic cultural heritage

Many buildings of historical significance are found in the township and are protected by the Heritage Overlay. There are opportunities to explore adaptive reuse some of these buildings (refer to <u>Action 18.1</u>).

#### **Bushfire risk**

The township interfaces farming land along its eastern, southern and western boundaries. Development adjoining long term grassland hazards (<u>Plan 8</u>) and future open spaces should address bushfire risk by:

- considering the need for a perimeter road and for development to face the road
- orientating the rear of development and lots away from the bushfire hazard
- considering landscape design and plant selection that minimises the effect of direct flame contact and radiant heat, and
- applying CFA emergency vehicle access recommendations.

Detailed guidelines can be found in the CFA publication *Landscaping for Bushfire: Garden Design and Plant Selection.* 

#### 4.5.3 Objectives

#### **O11** To maintain and enhance biodiversity values

Strategy 24 Recognise and protect biodiversity assets.

- Action 24.1 **Council, community groups** and **landowners** to refer to the actions in the Conservation Plan for the Yarrawonga Landscape Zone 2006 as a guide for preserving biodiversity assets.
- Action 24.2 **Council** to explore the need and/or benefit of undertaking a new biodiversity strategy of the township in consultation with **Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning**.

## O12 To provide recreation facilities that meet the community's needs

#### Strategy 25 Support the role of Victoria Park as a key recreational space.

Action 25.1 Council to continue master planning of Victoria Park and leverage funding opportunities where available.

Refer to  $\bigcirc$  for direction on the amenity of Belmore Street.

#### O13 To build on Yarrawonga's strengths in tourism

Strategy 26 Support high-quality recreation and tourism opportunities along the foreshore.

- Action 26.1 **Goulburn–Murray Water** and **council** to continue progressing the recommendations in the *Yarrawonga to Bundalong Foreshore Master Plan*.
- Action 26.2 **Council** to continue to explore ways to provide educational, arts and cultural opportunities to enhance the Belmore Street precinct.

#### O14 To celebrate and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage

- Strategy 27 Ensure that new development does not impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage values.
- Action 27.1 **Council** to ensure that developers conduct a cultural heritage management plan for any high impact development within areas of cultural heritage sensitivity (<u>Plan 8</u>) in accordance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018*.

#### Strategy 28 Enhance Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness.

- Action 28.1 **Goulburn–Murray Water** and **council** to engage with **Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation** in planning for development on the foreshore.
- Action 28.2 **Council** to work with relevant partners to explore educational and interpretative opportunities for Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage awareness in new development, along the foreshore, and in key open spaces.

#### **O15** To build resilience against environmental hazards.

#### Strategy 29 Ensure that future urban areas are protected from bushfire.

Action 29.1 **Council** to work with the **CFA** to ensure that future development and open space design considers CFA guidelines *Landscaping for Bushfire: Garden Design and Plant Selection*.

# 5 Implementation plan summary

This section summarises the actions listed under each theme. Indicative timeframes have been provided to coordinate the implementation of the Framework Plan.

Short 0–5 years Medium 5–20 years Long 20+ years

Table 3 Implementation plan

NO.	ACTI	ONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
Theme 1		DRAINAGE, MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE & UTILITIES		
Objec	tive 1	To facilitate a strategic approach to stormwater management		
Strate	egy 1	Require future development to take a catchment-wide approach for managing urban stormwater i	runoff	
A1.1	Counc	il to reference the Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy in the Planning Scheme.	Moira Shire Council	Short
A1.2		<b>il</b> to ensure that all future development aligns with the principles and proposed asset placement as outlined in the <i>Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy</i> .	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
Strate	egy 2	Maintain and enhance existing stormwater drainage and treatment assets to support future grow	th and climate change adaptati	on.
A2.1		<b>:il</b> to continue to monitor current drainage assets and implement flood mitigation options outlined Yarrawonga Flood and Drainage Master Plan 2015.	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
A2.2	Counc	il to explore options for funding future drainage infrastructure.	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
Strategy 3 Support opportunities for integrated water management				
A3.1		<b>il</b> to consider opportunities for introducing linear wetlands with amenity benefits, as outlined in the <i>wonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy</i> .	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
A3.2		<b>:il</b> to explore opportunities to integrate stormwater management and treatment with streetscape vements.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
Objec	tive 2	To maintain a connected and efficient road hierarchy		
Strate	egy 4	Protect capacity on the arterial road network for freight movement		
A4.1		<b>il</b> to work with the <b>Department of Transport</b> and <b>Regional Roads Victoria</b> and relevant New South authorities to ensure that a new bridge alignment has capacity for freight movement.	Moira Shire Council Department of Transport Regional Roads Victoria	Long

NO.	ACTIONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
A4.2	<b>Council</b> to investigate the need for an alternative heavy vehicle bypass and progress discussions with <b>Department of Transport</b> and <b>Regional Roads Victoria</b> .	Moira Shire Council Department of Transport Regional Roads Victoria	Long
Strate	gy 5 Provide safe local street access for cyclists and pedestrians		
A5.1	<b>Developers</b> to provide street networks in new estates that connect into existing streets and neighbouring estates.	Developers	Ongoing
A5.2	<b>Council</b> to work with <b>Regional Roads Victoria</b> to investigate opportunities for council to take responsibility for management of Belmore Street.	Moira Shire Council Regional Roads Victoria	Short to Medium
Strate	egy 6 Protect the amenity of the Murray Valley Highway		
A6.1	<b>Council</b> to encourage future subdivision to orientate towards the Murray Valley Highway, with connections via frontage roads.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
A6.2	<b>Council</b> to investigate opportunities for gateway features signalling entry on both ends of the Murray Valley Highway.	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
Strate	egy 7 Facilitate safe cross-border connections		
A7.1	<b>Council</b> to work with the <b>Department of Transport</b> and <b>Regional Roads Victoria</b> and relevant New South Wales authorities to ensure that a new bridge alignment connects into the existing road network.	Moira Shire Council Department of Transport Regional Roads Victoria	Short
Objec	tive 3 To ensure that utility and servicing needs are met		
Strate	egy 8 Provide new development with adequate utility and servicing infrastructure		
A8.1	<b>Council</b> to continue liaising with relevant utility providers about timing and provision of servicing infrastructure.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
A8.2	<b>North East Water</b> to consider the future growth areas outlined in this Framework Plan in planning for future water and sewerage needs.	North East Eater	Medium to Long

NO.	ACTI	ONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
Theme 2		HOUSING & COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE		
Object	tive 4	To plan for timely and residential growth		
Strate	egy 9	Ensure staged delivery of housing		
A9.1	Counc Table	il to monitor planning permit applications and encourage development to be staged according to <u>2</u> .	Moira Shire Council	Short
A9.2		il to undertake a residential land supply audit post-2051 to identify remaining available residential upply and take-up rates.	Moira Shire Council	Long
Object	tive 5	To provide housing in appropriate locations		
Strate	egy 10	Contain development within the framework plan boundary		
A10.1		il to encourage infill development, particularly closer to the town centre, other local centres (Plan 7) ey recreation locations ( <u>Plan 8</u> ).	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
Strate	egy 11	Ensure that future residential development does not occur on contaminated land		
A11.1	of Min	il to ensure that land to be rezoned for sensitive uses is suitable for that use, pursuant to provisions isterial Direction 1 under the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (shown on <u>Plan 5</u> as <i>"farming subject to rezoning for residential purposes"</i> ).	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long
Object	tive 6	To promote new development to be of high quality and character		
Strate	egy 12	Ensure housing develops in a manner that enhances the character of the township		
A12.1		il to incorporate relevant principles of the <i>Managing Residential Character in Rural and Regional ia</i> report into the Moira Planning Scheme.	Moira Shire Council	Short
Strate	egy 13	Encourage better built form in new estates		
A13.1		il to investigate options to modify existing development plans to better align with the principles I in <u>Table 1</u> .	Moira Shire Council	Short

NO.	ACTIONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
Object	tive 7 To provide community and education infrastructure that responds to changing demographic trend	ds	
Strate	gy 14 Plan and support the provision of and access to community and education infrastructure		
A14.1	<b>Council</b> to monitor the demand for aged care services over time and work with service providers to ensure adequate supply.	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long
A14.2	<b>Council</b> to monitor the demand for education infrastructure over time and work service providers, including the <b>Department of Education and Training</b> , to ensure adequate supply.	Moira Shire Council Department of Education and Training	Long
A14.3	<b>Council</b> to determine the community and education infrastructure requirements of Yarrawonga at full build out which will inform further work on how to fund and deliver required infrastructure.	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long

NO.	ACTI	ONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
Them	e 3	INDUSTRY		
Object	tive 8	To facilitate logical and timely expansion of industrial uses		
Strate	gy 15	Ensure that industrial growth occurs within available zoned land before investigating alternate site	es for rezoning	
A15.1	Counc zoned	il to work with landowners to investigate industrial development opportunities on vacant industrial land.	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
A15.2		il to work with landowners to increase building densities within zoned industrial land, to nmodate small scale industrial uses.	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long
Strate	gy 16	Protect opportunities for longer term industrial expansion		
A16.1	surrou	<b>il</b> to investigate the potential for industrial and/or commercial uses in the undeveloped area Inding the aerodrome that are not constrained by the Airport Environs Overlay and Land Subject to ation Overlay (refer to <u>Appendix A – map of existing overlays</u> ).	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
A16.2		strial land is nearing exhaustion post-2051, <mark>council</mark> to undertake a detailed land use analysis study ntify industrial trends and development outlooks and unlock industrial land.	Moira Shire Council	Long
Strate	gy 17	Protect amenity of industrial uses and surrounding land		
A17.1		<b>il</b> to liaise with <b>EPA</b> to determine an appropriate buffer, upon receiving greater certainty around ture operation of the Graincorp facility ( <u>Plan 6</u> ).	Moira Shire Council EPA	Short to Medium
A17.2		<b>il</b> to liaise with <b>EPA</b> to implement a 500 metre buffer around the closed landfill in accordance with ublication 1518, and determine suitable controls for development within the buffer.	Moira Shire Council EPA	Short
A17.3		<b>il</b> to work with <b>EPA</b> to ensure that appropriate buffer distances are applied to new industrial uses ffect sensitive uses, with consideration of EPA publication 1518.	Moira Shire Council EPA	Short to Medium
A17.4		<b>il</b> to liaise with <b>VicTrack</b> and <b>Department of Transport</b> to determine appropriate buffers along the y corridor.	Moira Shire Council VicTrack Department of Transport	Short to Medium

NO.	ACTI	ONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
Them	e 4	COMMERCE & RETAIL		
Object	tive 9	To support the role of Belmore Street as the town centre		
Strate	gy 18	Investigate urban renewal and redevelopment opportunities in the town centre in the short term		
A18.1		<b>il</b> to identify opportunities to facilitate adaptive reuse of historic residential dwellings, particularly ry points north and south of Belmore Street ( <u>Figure 5</u> ).	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
A18.2	Counc	il to identify opportunities to consolidate lots in Belmore Street, to enable larger-format retail uses.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
Strate	gy 19	Enhance the amenity of Belmore Street		
A19.1		<b>il</b> to advocate for budget to enhance streetscape and built form along Belmore Street after a e alignment is confirmed.	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long
Strate	gy 20	Facilitate connection between Belmore Street and Lake Mulwala		
A20.1		il to investigate opportunities for streetscape improvements and wayfinding features between re Street and the waterfront.	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long
Object	tive 10	To facilitate a hierarchy of activity centres in the township		
Strate	gy 21	Encourage core retail uses in planned retail nodes zoned C1Z and C2Z		
A21.1		<b>il</b> to clarify the intended role and function of the identified Commercial 2 precinct adjacent to the vonga West Development Plan ( <u>Plan 7</u> ).	Moira Shire Council	Medium to Long
A21.2		<mark>il</mark> to investigate the opportunity to identify Kaiela Business Park as a secondary town centre rting a supermarket in the medium term ( <u>Plan 7</u> ).	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
Strate	egy 22	Seek the relocation of non-core uses in the town centre to more suitable and appropriately zoned	sites	
A22.1		il to ensure that new retail development in the township does not compromise the primacy of the re Street precinct.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
Strate	egy 23	Monitor retail and commercial land supply over the growth of the township		
A23.1		il to identify appropriate scale and location of local convenience retail provision in its future ntial growth areas.	Moira Shire Council	Long
A23.2	Counc are me	il to monitor retail demand and supply to ensure future needs for retail and commercial land et.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing

NO.	ACTIO	ONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME
Them	ie 5	RECREATION, ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE		
Object	tive 11	To maintain and enhance biodiversity values		
Strate	egy 24	Recognise and protect biodiversity assets		
A24.1		<b>il, community groups</b> and <b>landowners</b> to refer to the actions in the Conservation Plan for the <i>ronga Landscape Zone 2006</i> as a guide for preserving biodiversity assets.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
A24.2		<b>il</b> to explore the need and/or benefit of undertaking a new biodiversity strategy of the township in tation with <b>Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning</b> .	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
Object	tive 12	To provide recreation facilities that meet the community's needs		
Strate	egy 25	Support the role of Victoria Park as a key recreational space		
A25.1	Counc	il to continue master planning of Victoria Park and leverage funding opportunities where available.	Moira Shire Council	Short to Medium
Objective 13 To build on Yarrawonga's strengths in tourism				
Strate	egy 26	Support high-quality recreation and tourism opportunities along the foreshore		
A26.1		<b>urn-Murray Water</b> and <b>council</b> to continue progressing the recommendations in the Yarrawonga to long Foreshore Master Plan.	Goulburn–Murray Water Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
A26.2		<b>il</b> to continue to explore ways to provide educational, arts and cultural opportunities to enhance Imore Street precinct.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing
Object	tive 14	To celebrate and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage		
Strate	gy 27	Ensure that new development does not impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage values		
A27.1	develo	<b>il</b> to ensure that developers conduct a cultural heritage management plan for any high impact pment within areas of cultural heritage sensitivity ( <u>Plan 8</u> ) in accordance with the <i>Aboriginal</i> ge Regulations 2018.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing

NO.	ACTIONS	LEAD AUTHORITY/IES	SUGGESTED TIMEFRAME	
Strate	gy 28 Enhance Aboriginal cultural heritage awareness			
A28.1	Goulburn–Murray Water and council to engage with Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation in planning for development on the foreshore.	Moira Shire Council Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation	Ongoing	
A28.2	<b>Council</b> to work with relevant partners to explore educational and interpretative opportunities for Aboriginal and historic cultural heritage awareness in new development, along the foreshore, and in key open spaces.	Moira Shire Council	Ongoing	
Objective 15 To build resilience against environmental hazards				
Strate	gy 29 Ensure that future urban areas are protected from bushfire			
A29.1	<b>Council</b> to work with the <b>CFA</b> to ensure that future development and open space design considers CFA guidelines <i>Landscaping for Bushfire</i> : <i>Garden Design and Plant Selection</i> .	Moira Shire Council Country Fire Authority	Short	

# 6 References

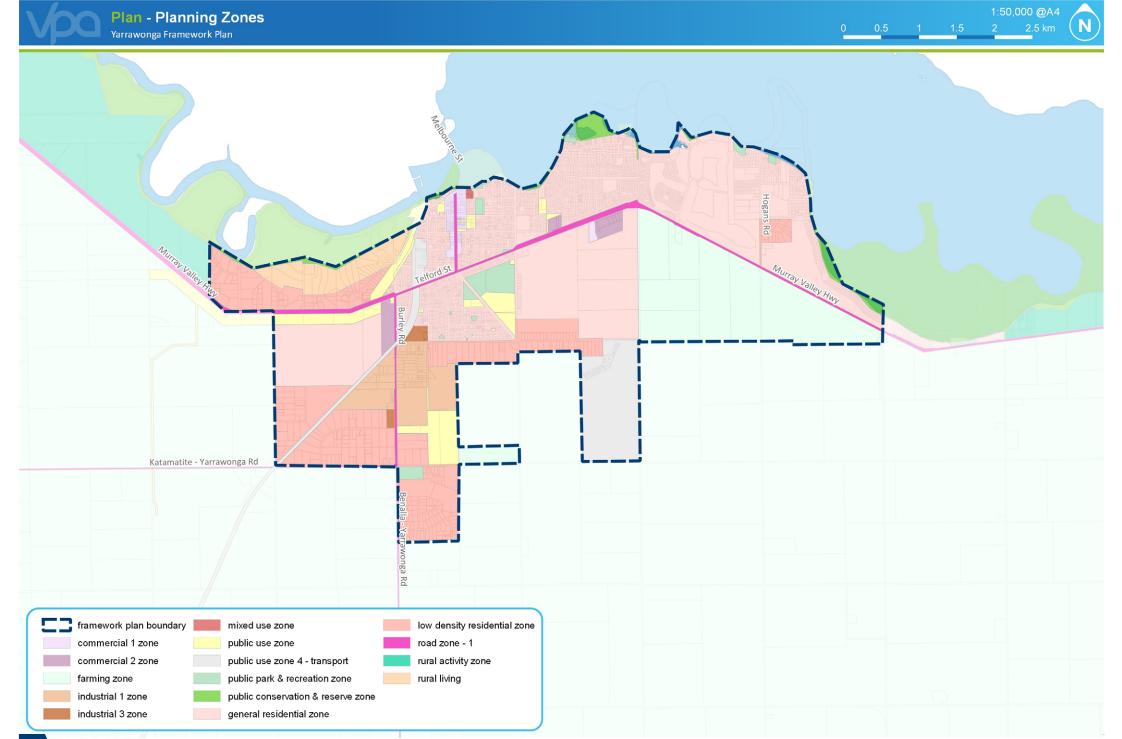
- Aither. (2019, March). Inter-regional assessment: An analysis of regional Victoria's strengths and challenges (for Infrastructure Victoria): Retrieved from <u>https://www.infrastructurevictoria.com.au/wp-content/</u> uploads/2019/04/Aither-Inter-regional-assessment-March-2019.pdf
- Alluvium Consulting. (2019). Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy (for Victorian Planning Authority and Moira Shire Council). Melbourne.
- AS & R Solutions. (2016). Moira Shire Council Recreation Strategy 2016-2026.
- Australian Social and Recreation Research Pty Ltd. (2008, April). *Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Areas*. Retrieved from <u>https://vpa-</u> web.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Planning-for-<u>Community-Infrastructure-in-Growth-Areas-%E2%80%93-April-2008.pdf</u>
- Australian Social and Recreation Research Pty Ltd. (2009, October). *Guide* to Social Infrastructure Planning. Retrieved from <u>https://vpa-web.</u> <u>s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Guide-to-Social-</u> <u>Infrastructure-Planning.pdf</u>
- Coomes Consulting Group Pty Ltd. (2008). Yarrawonga to Bundalong Foreshore Master Plan: Synthesis and Strategic Framework. Melbourne.
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. (2016). *Water for Victoria*. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. (2017). *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037*. Melbourne: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. (2019). *Victoria in Future 2019*. Melbourne: Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Environment Protection Authority. (2013). *Recommended separation distances for industrial residual air emissions* (Publication 1518). Melbourne: EPA Victoria.
- Environment Protection Authority. (2017). Assessing planning proposals within the buffer of a landfill (Publication 1642). Melbourne: EPA Victoria.
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. (2006). *Conservation Plan for the Yarrawonga Landscape Zone*. Tatura: Catchment and Agriculture Services, Department of Primary Industries.
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. (2018). Goulburn Broken Regional Floodplain Management Strategy 2018–2028. Retrieved from

https://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au/downloads/FloodplainManagement/ GB%20RFMS%20Strategy%202018-2028.pdf

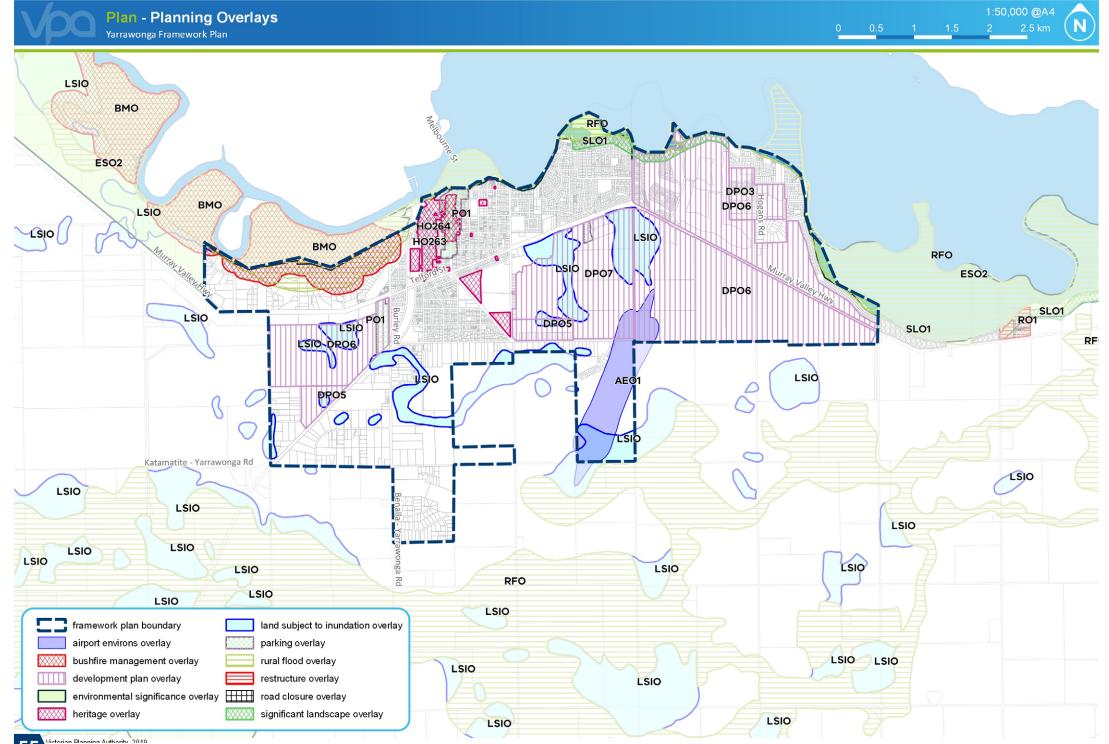
- Goulburn Broken Integrated Water Management Forum. (2018). *Goulburn Broken Strategic Directions Statement*. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Goulburn–Murray Water. (2015). Lake Mulwala Land and On-water Management Plan 2015.
- Local Government Infrastructure Design Association. (2019). *Infrastructure Design Manual version 5.0*. Tongala, Victoria.
- MacroPlan Australia. (2006). *Yarrawonga Futures Plan* (for Moira Shire Council). Melbourne.
- MacroPlan Dimasi. (2017). Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 1: Background Analysis Report (for Victorian Planning Authority and Moira Shire Council). Melbourne.
- MacroPlan Dimasi. (2017). Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy Stage 2: Forecast Report (for Victorian Planning Authority and Moira Shire Council). Melbourne.
- Moira Shire Council. (2004). Yarrawonga Strategy: Looking to the Future. Moira Shire Council.
- Moira Shire Council. (2017). Moira Shire Council Plan 2017-2021.
- North East Integrated Water Management Forum. (2019). *North East Strategic Directions Statement*. Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.
- Planisphere. (2015). *Managing Residential Character in Rural and Regional Victoria*. Municipal Association of Victoria.
- SD Planning Strategy and Development. (2018). *Major Towns' Strategy Plan Review* (Yarrawonga, Cobram, Numurkah and Nathalia).
- SED Regional Advisory. (2017). *Retail Policy Framework for Cobram and Yarrawonga: Background Analysis.* Ballarat.
- SED Regional Advisory. (2017). *Retail Policy Framework for Cobram and Yarrawonga: Options Report.* Ballarat.
- State Government of Victoria. (2014). *Hume Regional Growth Plan*. Melbourne: Finsbury Green.
- WBM BMT. (2015). Yarrawonga Flood and Drainage Master Plan. Moira Shire Council.

# 7 Appendices

7.1 Appendix A – Existing planning zones and overlays



(a Victorian Dlanning Authority, 2010.



<sup>©</sup> Victorian Planning Authority, 2020. The State of Victoria does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of information in this publication and any person using or relying upon such information does so on the basis that the State of Victoria shall bear no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omission in the information.

## 7.2 Appendix B – Community Engagement Summary Report

 56
 YARRAWONGA FRAMEWORK PLAN
 7
 APPENDICES



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

**OCTOBER 2019** 













Your partner in planning great places for a growing Victoria

#### © VICTORIAN PLANNING AUTHORITY 2019

This Community Engagement Summary Report has been developed by the VPA on behalf of the Victorian Government in collaboration with Moira Shire Council.

Any projections are based on reasonable assumptions at the time of publication but should not be relied upon without first seeking appropriate expert advice. Although every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this document is factually correct at the time of publication, the VPA does not warrant the accuracy, completeness or relevance of the information. Any person using or relying upon this document does so on the basis that the State of Victoria shall bear no responsibility or liability whatsoever for any errors, faults, defects or omissions in the information.

# Table of contents

1	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	Context and purpose	4
1.2	Project background	4
1.3	Previous community engagement	4
2	WHAT WE HEARD	5
2.1	Summary of feedback	5
2.2	Online story map	6
2.3	Community drop-in sessions	11
2.4	Written feedback	13
3	ENGAGEMENT METHODOLOGY	14
<b>3</b> 3.1	<b>ENGAGEMENT METHODOLOGY</b> Aims and objectives	<b>14</b> 14
3.1	Aims and objectives	14
3.1 3.2	Aims and objectives Overview of methodology	14 14
3.1 3.2 <b>4</b>	Aims and objectives Overview of methodology <b>NEXT STEPS</b>	14 14 <b>15</b>
3.1 3.2 <b>4</b> 4.1	Aims and objectives Overview of methodology <b>NEXT STEPS</b> Implementation	14 14 <b>15</b> 15
3.1 3.2 <b>4</b> 4.1 4.2	Aims and objectives Overview of methodology <b>NEXT STEPS</b> Implementation A Vision for Yarrawonga 2050	14 14 <b>15</b> 15

#### Figures

FIGURE 1	Heat map of all comments from the community	6
FIGURE 2	Heat map of comments relating to recreation, environment and heritage	7
FIGURE 3	Heat map of comments relating to economy	8
FIGURE 4	Heat map of comments relating to infrastructure and utilities	9
FIGURE 5	Heat map of comments relating to housing and community facilities	10
FIGURE 6	Community drop-in session at Yarrawonga Information Centre	11

# 1 Introduction

#### **1.1** Context and purpose

The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) considers the input and opinions of Victorian communities as integral to achieving our vision of planning great places. The VPA and Moira Shire recognise that inclusion and engagement, particularly at the early and formative stages of the Yarrawonga Framework Plan project, is vital to building and maintaining community trust and producing a better outcome for the community. We are committed to undertaking a robust and comprehensive engagement with community and other stakeholders.

This community engagement report summarises the feedback received during the community visioning process for the Yarrawonga Framework Plan. A range of engagement methods were used to consult the community, and this report documents the key messages that were received. These key messages inform the vision statement for the Yarrawonga Framework Plan. Everything else in the Framework Plan is geared towards achieving that vision statement.

#### 1.2 Project background

The VPA is assisting Moira Shire Council in delivering a Framework Plan as part of the 2018/19 Streamlining for Growth program. The Framework Plan is a highlevel plan that identifies residential and industrial growth areas in the township for the next 50 years. It will provide greater certainty to Council, agencies and investors about likely development sequencing and supporting infrastructure priorities.

This project builds on previous work completed with funding under the 2016/17 Streamlining for Growth program, which produced the *Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy*. It also builds on Moira Shire Council's previous strategies such as the *Major Towns Strategy Plan Review 2018* (prepared by SD Planning).

#### 1.3 Previous community engagement

#### Past community engagement in Moira Shire

The VPA acknowledges that Moira Shire Council has conducted several community engagement processes in the past year. A review of previous community engagement processes was undertaken by the VPA, including:

- Yarrawonga library and town hall engagement (March-May 2019)
- Yarrawonga aerodrome feedback process (August-October 2018)
- Yarrawonga multisport stadium project engagement (August-October 2018)
- Major Towns Strategy Plan Review engagement (May 2018)
- Recreation Strategy 2016-2026 engagement (2016)
- Wellbeing for All Ages 2017–2021 engagement (2017)

While these engagement processes do not directly impact the Framework Plan, it gave the VPA a greater understanding of the issues that were important to the community.

#### Agency consultation

As part of the framework planning process, the VPA conducted targeted agency consultation to identify key issues and opportunities and inform the approach towards addressing key issues.

A stormwater drainage strategy was also undertaken as part of the framework planning process, during which an agency workshop was held. Agency feedback was later collated on the draft stormwater drainage strategy.

# 2 What we heard

#### 2.1 Summary of feedback

Feedback generally indicated the community are supportive of seeing Yarrawonga become a town that values open space, its community of all abilities and a thriving and diverse local economy.

Consistent messages emerged regarding improving the range of community and recreational facilities such as playgrounds, event spaces, sporting fields, open spaces and caravan facilities. Numerous comments suggested suitable community uses within heritage buildings. Greening Yarrawonga was also important to the community ensuring there are shaded spaces available throughout the town. There was significant community support for seeing Belmore Street remain a lively cultural centre of the town for both the community and the economy. The use of the former school site was also a key issue that emerged throughout the engagement. Several community group representatives expressed the desire to see the site adapted for community uses.

Many community members felt that infrastructure and utilities throughout the town could be improved or maintained. This included provision of bike lanes and walking tracks, and improved pedestrian safety especially among main roads. Improved facilities for the elderly and people of all abilities was also a re-emerging issue throughout all engagement.

# Whilst a range of particular issues and opportunities were raised throughout the engagement, key principles that emerged throughout the process include:

## Recreation, environment and heritage

- Provide more connected and high-quality open space
- Protect the natural environment, particularly biodiversity and waterway health
- Increase tree coverage and amenity of streets
- Provide recreation facilities, particularly for young families and older residents
- Stronger focus on adaptive reuse of heritage buildings and celebration of Yarrawonga's history

#### Economy

- Strengthen the role of Belmore Street as the centre of town, through improved amenity and more diverse uses
- Support a robust economy that leverages opportunities in the region
- Support retail and commercial uses that draw investment into the township

#### Infrastructure and utilities

- Enhance safety of key roads, particularly Belmore Street and Murray Valley Highway
- Support an integrated network of pedestrian and cycling infrastructure
- Implement drainage infrastructure to address flooding events and protect water quality of the lake
- Provide certainty around major infrastructure such as the bridge, freight routes and aerodrome
- Ensure servicing needs of existing and future residents are met

## Housing and community facilities

- Ensure continued provision of community facilities for all ages and abilities
- Ensure community infrastructure is well located in central locations and easily accessible
- Protect Yarrawonga's rural character and unique lifestyle amenities
- Ensure that future housing estates are well integrated with the existing township as well as each other

#### 2.2 Online story map

A total of 54 pieces of feedback were received through the online story map. Overall online feedback was positive and sought to ensure Yarrawonga continued to flourish and support the needs of all members of the community. Figure 1 displays the locations of where feedback was left in the town.

Many comments were focused on Belmore Street, Victoria Park and recreational spaces along the foreshore. This indicates the importance of these locations to the community. Figure 1 Heat map of all comments from the community

0

1:40,000 @ A4

1.6

2.0km

#### **Recreation, environment and heritage**

This category received the highest number of community responses with a total of 25 comments recorded online. Many comments related to areas located along the lake front, Belmore Street and the Murray Valley Highway. Key themes that emerged in this section included a need for more open space, better tree coverage and better recreation facilities in new development, particularly play facilities for children.

A significant theme that emerged was protection of the natural environment and open space such as "retention of old growth trees" and "native trees". There were 7 comments regarding improving sports facilities such as "a new oval" or "better facilities and provisions for the netball courts" and "a beach access on the lake for kayaking".

Other comments included improving rubbish management (particularly on Chinaman's Island), cycle connections to

Bundalong, and celebration of both Aboriginal and Historic Cultural Heritage in Yarrawonga (e.g. interpretive signage and heritage events.

1:40,000 @ A4

2.0km

Figure 2 Heat map of comments relating to recreation, environment and heritag

YARRAWONGA FRAMEWORK PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REP

#### Economy

This section received 10 comments and mostly related to Belmore Street which is Yarrawonga's main street. A recurring message was the need for more diverse uses on the main street, for example boutique retail and food offerings. The amenity of Belmore Street was raised, with suggestions to provide off street parking and streetscape improvements (e.g. street trees). Several comments also raised the need to improve pedestrian and road safety by addressing "dangerous intersections" and challenging crossings for pedestrians. Figure 3 Heat map of comments relating to economy

0

1:40,000 @ A4

1.6

1.2

2.0km

#### Infrastructure and utilities

1:40,000 @ A4

1.6

1.2

2.0km

This category received seven comments in total and were dispersed across the township. Comments included the need for improvements to access points along the Murray Valley Highway, increased pedestrian safety near main roads, and improved footpaths and cycling infrastructure. Other comments raised the need to plan for major infrastructure such as the cemetery and future bridge between Victoria and NSW. Figure 4 Heat map of comments relating to infrastructure and utilities

YARRAWONGA FRAMEWORK PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPOR

#### Housing and community facilities

A total of 12 comments were received about housing and community facilities, with a wide range of topics raised. Community members highlighted the importance of providing health services such as hospitals, aged care and mental health services. Several comments suggested for core uses to be contained within Belmore Street, reinforcing the importance of Belmore Street as the town centre. Other comments proposed more youth services, further education institutions, passenger train services and sporting facilities. Figure 5 Heat map of comments relating to housing and community facilities

1:40,000 @ A4

1.6

1.2

2.0km

#### 2.3 Community drop-in sessions

There were 127 responses recorded from the community drop-in session. Priorities that emerged from face to face community engagement included better care for the natural environment and open spaces, improved pedestrian and cycling tracks, adaptive re-use of heritage sites for community uses (in particular the school site) and provision of community infrastructure and recreational facilities.

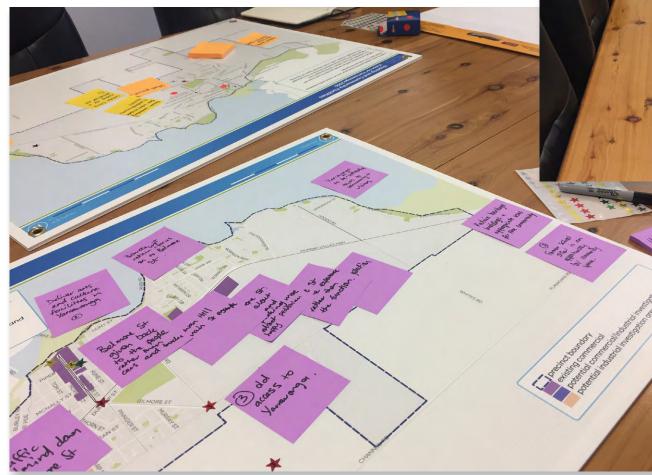




Figure 6 Community drop-in session at Yarrawonga Information Centre

#### **Recreation, environment and heritage**

Like the online story map, this theme received the highest number of responses with 42 comments recorded in total. Nearly half of responses called for greater protection of the environment and provision of open space. Many comments raised examples of underutilised open spaces such as playgrounds, existing parks (e.g. Victoria Park, Kennedy Park) and public open space including the showgrounds. Six comments highlighted the protection of environmental values such as biodiversity, the lake and native vegetation. Innovative ideas for enhancing the environment included wildlife corridors and renewable energy (e.g. micro grids).

The recreational spaces that experienced strong support included multisport facilities, event spaces, caravan facilities and improved lake amenity for families and tourism. The need was raised to appropriately plan and locate recreational facilities according to community demand. Concerns were also raised regarding the provision of open space and walking and cycling tracks, both in the existing urban area and in new estates.

Several community members felt strongly about the heritage and culture of the township, highlighting that there should be acknowledgement of Yarrawonga's history. There was strong emphasis on the need for adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, particularly for community uses.

#### **Economy**

There was a total of 25 comments recorded regarding the economy. Half the responses centred around Belmore Street, with comments relating to provision of higher order retail, streetscape improvements, a greater focus on pedestrians and introduction of specialty shops. Suggestions for Belmore Street included tourism events (e.g. festivals) and reducing heavy vehicle traffic down the street. Overall, community feedback emphasised the importance of Belmore Street as the town centre. Several comments also proposed introducing secondary and local activity centres to support Belmore Street.

Other comments raised the importance of transport connections to Yarrawonga's local economy. The aerodrome, train station and bus infrastructure were mentioned as possibilities for future connections to Yarrawonga.

#### Infrastructure and utilities

There were 21 comments broadly concerning infrastructure and utilities. There was a focus on ensuring infrastructure caters to a broad demographic, particularly older residents and young children. Many comments also mentioned the need to plan for appropriate utility and servicing infrastructure such as roads, gas, telecommunications and energy.

Three comments related to improving the drainage infrastructure in the township. Three comments called for better usage of the aerodrome, such as creating an airport or aviation training facility.

Road infrastructure was highlighted as an issue in some locations such as Witt Street, Belmore Street and Vanguard Street. Provision of cycling paths and footpaths was raised as a consideration for both existing and future residential areas.

#### Housing and community facilities

There were 39 comments concerning housing and community facilities. Key issues that emerged include the lack of facilities for younger people (e.g. playgrounds, youth services) and more public meeting spaces. The rural lifestyle character of the township is something that the community values and wants to preserve.

Many comments raised the need to maintain provision of a mix of community infrastructure, including medical, sporting and arts facilities. Access to these facilities was also mentioned as being important, particularly as the township grows. Several comments also suggested adaptive reuse of heritage buildings for community purposes.

Comments regarding housing alluded to the need to maintain the amenity of future development, in order to preserve Yarrawonga's character. Key concerns included access to new estates, density of development and adequate street widths.

#### 2.4 Written feedback

The VPA received five written submissions. The messages gathered from written submissions were largely aligned with feedback received online and in drop-in sessions, albeit with greater detail provided on site-specific issues. A summary of the key themes from written feedback under each of the four principles follows:

#### **Recreation, environment and heritage**

Submitters highlighted that Yarrawonga is the fastest growing town in the Moira Shire and therefore felt that recreational facilities needed to be accommodated for in Yarrawonga. Multiple submissions mentioned the need for a heated pool in Yarrawonga for the wellbeing for all ages and abilities. Improvements to other sporting facilities such as football grounds, basketball, gym and indoor multipurpose courts were also raised as important issues.

Submissions highlighted a strong desire for more green spaces and tree cover throughout the town and to take better care of existing parks. Suggestions were made for open spaces covered both passive and active recreation spaces.

A strong theme throughout all written submissions was the value of Yarrawonga's built heritage. There was a recurring call to maintain and preserve heritage buildings for community uses. Specific buildings raised include the court house, town hall, fire station and former primary school site. There was also concern over the potential location of the new library and ensuring it does not negatively impact on heritage values. It is worth noting that some submissions also criticised previous engagement regarding the redevelopment of the town hall site. While out of the scope of the Framework Plan, this is a broader learning about potential improvements to future planning processes in Yarrawonga.

Many written submissions aspired for a Yarrawonga to become a hub for the arts, with suggestions for cultural and entertainment uses such as dance, music, comedy and theatre in the heart of town.

#### Economy

Submissions raised the need to promote economic growth in the town through diversification of the economy. Growing the technological, industrial and commercial industries was thought of as important, to balance out strengths in the tourism industry. Submitters felt that boosting local employment was important, given projected population growth in the township.

Submissions acknowledged the importance of tourism to the economy. The Yarrawonga Information Centre was highlighted as a facility to be improved. Other suggestions included festivals and events in the township to attract visitors.

#### Infrastructure and utilities

Submitters raised concerns over road infrastructure, as well as road and rail freight infrastructure. Submitters hoped for better connections to Yarrawonga in the future, with suggestions for passenger rail and a bus service for all ages. Submitters felt that walking and cycling tracks could be enhanced, particularly given that many areas in the town lack footpaths and cycling paths.

#### Housing and community facilities

There was a strong desire for new community infrastructure and such as open space, a library, performance spaces and arts facilities. Submitters consistently suggested adaptive reuse of heritage buildings for these community facilities, with specific mention of the town hall, former school site and old court house. Several submissions also provided detailed plans for future uses in the former school site.

A diverse mix of housing offers was also raised as important in the submissions.

Submissions acknowledged Yarrawonga's anticipated population growth. While there were a range of views on the mix of housing, a key theme was the character of the township. Submissions raised heritage values and rural and lifestyle amenity as being key contributors to Yarrawonga's character. Additionally, it was recognised that car parking spaces during peak times are inadequate and that fluctuating parking demand should be addressed.

# 3 Engagement methodology

#### 3.1 Aims and objectives

The purpose of this visioning process was to consult with the Yarrawonga community on their vision for the future of Yarrawonga to 2050. The engagement process was developed bearing in mind that council had recently conducted several engagement processes on separate projects. Therefore the focus of this visioning exercise was to prompt participants to think holistically about the township and identify broader principles for growth.

Additionally, it is acknowledged that limited community engagement occurred in development of the Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy. It was largely a technical report and forecasting process that formed an evidence base for the framework plan. Therefore, community engagement at this stage of the process is appropriate and contributes to a robust product.

#### 3.2 Overview of methodology

Three main avenues were used to collect comments for the community visioning process between 26 June to 19 July 2019:

- Online story map
- Community drop-in sessions
- Written feedback.

These three avenues were chosen with the intention of reaching a broader cross section of the community, through the provision of both online and face-to-face methods of engagement.

#### **Online story map**

The online story map was made available from 26 June 2019 to 19 July 2019. The story map allowed for comment 'pins' to be dropped on a map of Yarrawonga, identifying place-based and general comments to be made across four themes:

- 1 Recreation, environment and heritage
- 2 Economy
- 3 Infrastructure and utilities
- 4 Housing and community facilities.

Each theme contained prompting questions to assist participants.

The online story map was promoted by Moira Shire Council on its website, Facebook page and local newspapers in the two weeks prior to its launch. The VPA also promoted the story map on its webpage and Twitter page. A total of 54 items of feedback was received.

#### **Community drop-in sessions**

Two community drop-in sessions were held on Thursday 4 July 2019 at the Yarrawonga Visitor Information Centre. Representatives from council and the VPA were present from 1pm–3pm and 4pm–6.30pm. The drop-in sessions provided an opportunity for lengthier conversations with community members to address questions and clarify the scope of the Framework Plan.

Four A1 boards were used to collate comments, with the four boards displaying the same themes and prompting questions as the online story map (as above, 3.2). Stickers and post-it notes were used to document spatial and general comments about the township. A total of 13 attendees were recorded for the drop-in sessions however it is likely that a small number of attendees were not recorded during periods of the evening when the room was crowded.

#### Written feedback

The VPA also welcomed written feedback via mail from 26 June 2019 to 19 July 2019. This provided community members who preferred offline methods of engagement to write in directly with their comments. A total of five written submissions were received.

# 4 Next steps

#### 4.1 Implementation

The Framework Plan is a high-level plan that identifies residential and industrial growth areas in the township for the next 50 years. A key objective of the framework plan is to provide greater certainty to Council, agencies and investors about likely development sequencing and supporting infrastructure priorities. Many of the technicalities associated with infrastructure provision and sequencing involve co-ordination between multiple agencies and are out of the scope of the Framework Plan, for example the future bridge alignment. Other site-specific projects, such as the town hall redevelopment and aerodrome, are being investigated by Moira Shire Council through separate processes.

However, the engagement process of the Framework Plan can deliver value by identifying major considerations for the future growth of the township. The principles of the Framework Plan are founded on things that are important to the community, such as protection of heritage and environmental values, provision of infrastructure and community facilities, ensuring access for people of all ages, and diversification of the economy.

The inclusion of these principles in the Framework Plan will ensure that they are front-of-mind in the planning process, and that future development occurs in a manner that considers what the community values.

#### 4.2 A Vision for Yarrawonga 2050

Based on the engagement process and feedback gathered, we found that the Yarrawonga community envisages that:

Yarrawonga in 2050 will be a town that embraces people of all ages and abilities, offering a unique lifestyle experience that centres around heritage, the natural environment and the arts. Yarrawonga will be a renowned destination for visitors and businesses looking to establish a presence in the region, supported by robust connections with its surrounds.

#### 4.3 Project timeline

This community engagement was used to understand the key values of the Yarrawonga community. This process was used to help create a vision for Yarrawonga in 2050 and will be the basis of the Yarrawonga Framework Plan.

The next steps will be using information in this report to finalise the draft Framework Plan for the Yarrawonga township which will guide the development of Yarrawonga to 2050.

# 5 Attachments

#### 5.1 Attachment 1 – Drop-in session advertisement



## Do you have a vision for Yarrawonga in 2050?

The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA), in partnership with Moira Shire Council, is preparing the Yarrawonga 2050: Framework Plan to guide sustainable development of Yarrawonga for the next 30 years.

We are seeking your ideas and feedback on your vision for Yarrawonga in 2050 and what it will offer to you, your children and even your grandchildren. We are keen to hear from residents, visitors and business.

### Please make sure you submit your ideas by Friday 19 July 2019.

## What is a framework plan?

The Framework Plan will become part of Moira Shire's Planning Scheme and will guide the preparation and consideration of future, more detailed local plans and planning permit applications. By developing a vision for how we want our town to develop these many individual plans and decisions will progressively create the town we want in the future.

## What are we seeking feedback on?

We would like to know more about what you like about your town and what you would like to see further developed including:

- recreation, environment and heritage
- economy
- infrastructure and utilities
- housing and community facilities

## What will happen to your feedback?

Your feedback will be used to inform the preparation of the Framework Plan that will be presented to the VPA and Council for approval.

## Where can I find further information?

The framework plan builds on earlier projects including the Yarrawonga Growth Management Strategy 2018, Major Towns Review Strategy 2018 and will be informed by the Yarrawonga Stormwater Drainage Strategy that is currently underway. To learn more about these visit www.vpa.vic.gov.au/project/ yarrawonga-framework-plan.

#### Have your say:



Visit <u>www.vpa.vic.gov.au/</u> project/yarrawonga-framework-plan

#### By mail

Mail your feedback to: Victorian Planning Authority Level 25, 35 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Att: Crystal Tang



Yarrawonga Visitor Information Centre 1 Irvine Parade, Yarrawonga 1pm - 3pm & 4pm - 6:30pm

If you have any questions for the project team, please call Crystal Tang at VPA on 9651 9600 or Peter Stenhouse at Council on 5871 9222.





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

OCTOBER 2019







# Yarawork plan

**JANUARY 2020** 





