moira
SHIRE





Moira Matters

ISSUE 4

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www.moira.vic.gov.au

Welcome to Moira Matters!

Supporting our local economy during challenging times remains a priority for Council. The recent Moira Jobs Expo hosted by Council was an outstanding success with 45 employers and almost 400 attendees, including many workers affected by Bega's planned Strathmerton plant closure. We continue to work closely with Bega management, government agencies, and community groups to support the approximately 300 workers and their families through this transition.

June also saw the successful launch of our innovative 'Open Libraries' project. Library members in our community can now access Cobram, Nathalia and Numurkah libraries from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week. These extended hours will be available in Yarrawonga upon the opening of the new library facility in 2026. We were delighted to welcome the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Nick Staikos to Moira to officially launch the community's increased access to libraries on 5 June 2025.

We're delighted to report outstanding community results from the kerbside waste collection changes introduced in February. Thanks to our community's efforts, organic material being diverted away from expensive landfill has increased by 405 tonnes while waste to landfill has reduced by 306 tonnes compared to the same period last year. This has lifted the community's waste diversion rate away from landfill from 56% to 66% - a remarkable achievement that demonstrates our community's commitment to sustainability.

Men's Health Week Blokes' Brekkies were enjoyed across Yarrawonga, Cobram, Numurkah and Nathalia in June. Facilitated by Council, the informal breakfasts fostered important conversations about men's health and wellbeing, with the Yarrawonga event alone attracting 90 participants.

The five-ways roundabout at Woods and Cahill Roads in Yarrawonga has now been completed and officially opened to traffic on 4 July. These important works have substantially improved safety and traffic





flow for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians in an increasingly busy part of Yarrawonga.

Looking ahead, construction of the new Yarrawonga Library continues to make good progress. We have also commenced community engagement on several important matters, including the future of the former Yarrawonga Primary School site and the historic Tungamah Courthouse. As we enter the new financial year, we're confident that our strategic direction, strengthened financial position and continued community collaboration positions Moira Shire well for the future.

Enjoy the read.

Dr Graeme Emonson PSM
Chair Administrator

Susan Benedyka
Administrator

Building Our Moira: Plans to Progress

Moira Shire Council has adopted five key strategic documents to guide the Shire's growth, services, and financial sustainability in the years ahead.

Shaped by community feedback through the Building Our Moira: Your Shire, Your Say campaign in May, these plans include:

- Council Plan 2025–2029
- Budget 2025/26
- Revenue and Rating Plan 2025–2029
- Financial Plan 2025–2035
- Asset Plan 2025–2035

Together, these documents form a blueprint for a stronger, more resilient Moira Shire. They reflect the priorities we heard from our community and set a clear path to deliver the services, infrastructure, and economic opportunities our region needs.

The **Council Plan** turns community aspirations into clear actions and measurable outcomes. It is built around five strategic pillars: Community, Environment, Liveability, Prosperity, and Leading Organisation. Major priorities include key infrastructure projects in Yarrawonga, the construction of the Numurkah Flood Levee, and the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Plan — all focused on building a strong and sustainable future for Moira Shire.

The adopted **Budget** includes $46.6 million for capital works, with $18.8 million for renewing or upgrading existing infrastructure and $26.4 million for new assets to support growth. Major projects include the Yarrawonga Library, Events and Performance Precinct, Yarrawonga Multisport Stadium, and the Numurkah Levee Northern Bank.

The **Revenue and Rating Plan** outlines changes to differential rates to better support key sectors. This includes reducing the farm differential rate from 100% to 95% to support our agricultural sector and increasing the commercial vacant land differential from 200% to 250% to encourage development. This plan includes targeted measures to boost economic resilience and growth across the Shire. Council is also working to make it clear which charges are set locally and which come from the Victorian Government's new Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund (ESVF) levy.

The **Asset Plan** sets out how we strategically manage Moira's $1.1 billion community asset portfolio. It balances new infrastructure with the renewal of existing assets, prioritises maintenance and long-term investment, and considers climate adaptation in design and upkeep. The plan includes $153 million for asset renewal over ten years and $65.6 million for new assets to meet the needs of our growing communities.

The **Financial Plan** outlines how Council will manage its finances over the next decade to deliver essential services, maintain community assets, and support sustainable growth. Rates will be capped at 3% each year, with 1.1% growth from new developments. The plan includes $18.2 million in borrowings for major projects like the Yarrawonga Multisport Stadium and drainage upgrades, and keeps $10–15 million in annual cash reserves to maintain services. This ensures responsible financial management and a secure future for our communities.

These plans ensure Council is working alongside the community to build a vibrant, sustainable future for Moira Shire.





Snapshot of Projects for 2025/2026

With our five plans now adopted, we're putting them into action through key projects across Moira Shire.

From major infrastructure upgrades to sustainability initiatives and vital community facilities, these projects reflect the priorities of our community.

Here's a look at some of the important projects already underway and planned for the years ahead.





Yarrawonga

- New Library, Events & Performance Precinct ($11.2m, completion March 2026)
- Multisport Stadium ($16.2m, completion December 2026)
- Master planning for the former Primary School site.
- Hume & Piper Street Roundabout construction ($371k)
- Aerodrome Runway Resurfacing ($277k)
- Botts Road / MVH Culvert Upgrade ($800k)

Cobram

- Design of the Scott Reserve Pavilion ($250k, completion February 2026)
- Development of the Thompsons Beach Masterplan ($900k)
- Hume St Safety Improvements ($200k)
- Cobram South Drainage Design ($150k)
- Cobram Scott Reserve Oval Lighting ($365k)
- Cobram Landfill Cell Construction ($1.35m)

Festive Funding

Community organisations across Moira Shire are invited to apply for the Moira Festive Fund, with applications opening soon.

The grant program supports local efforts to brighten towns during the festive season, offering funding of up to $1,000 for small towns and $2,000 for main towns to assist with decorations and community celebrations.

In addition, $1,000 is available for events that celebrate a culturally significant day throughout the year, helping to recognise the rich cultural diversity within the shire.

Only one application will be awarded per town.

What funding can be used for:

- Purchase and installation of decorations
- Signage, banners, and flags
- Hire of equipment
- Purchase of goods and services to hold an event



- Entertainment, including music and lighting
- Promotion

Applications open on 1 August 2025 and close on 31 August 2025.

For more information and to apply, visit the Moira Shire Council website.







Numurkah

- Construction of the Numurkah Flood Levee Northern Bank ($4.7m, completion March 2026)
- Planning for the Southern Bank Flood Levee ($225k, completion June 2026)
- Numurkah Town Hal Power Upgrade ($390k)

Nathalia

- Bourkes Bridge Renewal ($1.47m)
- Pearce St Pedestrian Improvements ($166k)
- Park St Drainage Design ($170k)
- McDonnell St Drainage Upgrade ($180k)

Our Smaller Communities

- Waaia Hardcourt Redevelopment ($800k) for improved sports facilities
- Picola Recreation Reserve hardcourt resurfacing ($60k)
- Strathmerton Hall Restumping ($90k)
- Wilby Recreation Reserve Bridge $180k)
- Katunga Recreation Reserve Refurbishment ($406k)

Local Safety Forums

Moira Shire's Local Safety Forums are an initiative designed to give residents the opportunity to raise safety concerns, ask questions, and work together on practical solutions to improve community wellbeing.

Run in partnership with Victoria Police, these forums focus on key safety topics including crime prevention, road safety, and gender-based violence.

They're a chance for locals to share ideas and collaborate with Council and police on what matters most in their towns.

The first forum was held in Cobram on March 25 and saw strong community engagement, with meaningful conversations between residents, Council and local police. It marked a positive start to the forum series planned across 2025.

These forums support Council's Advocacy Plan, which includes a commitment to improving community safety across Moira Shire - one of the seven key advocacy priorities. Council continues to advocate for 24-hour policing and welcomes the community's involvement in shaping local safety priorities.

To register or submit a question in advance, visit the Moira Matters website. Your voice is important in helping build safer, stronger communities.

Upcoming local forums

- **Nathalia**
  Tuesday 19 August, 5.30pm - 7pm
  Nathalia Community Centre,
  Dancocks Room
- **Yarrawonga**
  Tuesday 18 November, 5.30pm - 7pm
  Sacred Heart College Gym,
  Yarrawonga

Landfill Waste Down by a Third as Moira Shire Moves Toward 80% Diversion

Since changing our kerbside collection frequency, we've seen fantastic results:

- Landfill waste down by 21%
- Organics collection up by 36%
- Over 70,000 litres of soft plastics kept out of landfill
- 18 tonnes of clothing and textiles saved from landfill
- Big increase in the use of compostable bags and kitchen caddies

Thanks to your efforts and our four-bin system, we're well on track to reach our goal of diverting 80% of waste from landfill by 2030.

Every composted apple core, every recycled paper scrap, and every sorted glass jar brings us closer to a cleaner, greener Moira Shire.

Need help reducing your waste? Visit our website or download the Moira Waste Info App.

Scan QR code to download the Moira Waste Info App

Available on Apple and Android







Strathmerton Pulse Check In

Moira Shire Council acknowledges the deep impact of Bega's recent announcement to close its Strathmerton plant - a decision that affects not just employees, but families, suppliers, and businesses right across our Shire.

The plant has long been a part of our local economy, and we know this news brings real uncertainty for many.

We are inviting the community to take part in a Pulse Check-In survey, now live on the Moira Matters website. Your feedback will help guide our work with Regional Development Victoria and other partners to support affected communities and explore new economic opportunities.

Stay Connected with Moira Matters



Did you know there's always a way to have your say? The Moira Matters website is your go-to place to share your ideas, give feedback, and stay up to date with projects happening across our Shire.

Whether it's a big project or a small local improvement, your voice helps shape our community.

Here are some upcoming opportunities to get involved:

- **Yarrawonga Former Primary School Site:** Council is exploring community-focused uses for the site through a two-stage consultation process.
- **Yarrawonga Boat Ramp:** Council is considering closing the Holiday Park ramp to streamline resources and reduce risks.
- **Yarrawonga Multisport Stadium:** Help shape how this new, inclusive facility will be used by all ages and abilities.
- **Tungamah Court House:** Your input is needed to assess future community use of this building.
- **Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan:** A draft document is being prepared for public review.
- **Destination Management Plan:** Council's Economic Development, Tourism & Recreation team seeks input from the community on the draft strategic plan for tourism over the next five years.

Visit Moira Matters anytime to see what's open for comment, learn what's coming up, and join the conversations that matter most to you.

Your ideas.
Your feedback.
Our community.



Numurkah Levee Project

The first section of the Numurkah Levee is now complete, the walking track is once again open. Works on the Kinnairds Road section of the earthen levee are nearing completion. Works are expected to move into the Melville Street area in August, weather permitting. For the latest updated, visit our website.

In progress



Wunghnu Road Upgrade

Safety upgrades to Wunghnu Road near Invergordon are now complete. The project widened and sealed a 3.9-kilometre section of road between Labuan and Katamatite-Shepparton Road. The upgrade also includes improved line markings and intersection signage.

Completed



Five Ways Roundabout

The five ways roundabout in Yarrawonga is now complete. The major upgrade is designed to improve safety and traffic flow at the high-risk intersection of Gilmore Street, South Road, Cahills Road, Woods Road and Old Wilby Road. The project includes new signage, lighting, drainage, footpaths, kerbs and landscaping.

Completed

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Community eNewsletter

If you'd like to stay informed about all the great things happening in our region, we have just the thing for you - our free email newsletter.

Snap Send Solve

See something that needs fixing?

Snap Send Solve is a free app that makes it quick and easy to report local issues like potholes, graffiti, dumped rubbish, or broken street signs. Just snap a photo, send the details, and the report comes straight to Council.

Download the app on the App Store or Google Play, or scan the QR code.



What's On

There's always something happening in our vibrant region - from local markets and festivals to workshops and live performances. Check out our events calendar and discover what's on from Bundalong to Barmah and everywhere in between.

Do you have an event coming up? We'd love to share it! Local community groups and organisers are encouraged to add their events to help everyone stay connected and involved.

Visit our website to see what's on in our region or submit your event



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