21.06 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

03/12/2015
C34

Community infrastructure provision varies across the municipality and it is important to recognise the availability of infrastructure and facilities that will influence the growth potential of towns and their capacity to meet the needs of a changing population.

The Ararat Rural City Council recognises the importance of services, facilities and infrastructure that support the health and wellbeing of its residents. Community infrastructure planning is important for building strong and healthy communities. The liveability of Ararat and its small towns is founded in its natural features, history, streetscape, recreational facilities and health services, and it is essential that these are strengthened and developed to support and encourage growth.

As the region grows, it will be necessary to make best use of existing infrastructure capacity and ensure new infrastructure and services are strategically planned and developed in a timely manner.

21.06-1 Ararat

03/12/2015
C34

Objectives

- To encourage the development of new and existing community infrastructure within Ararat to support healthy lifestyles and the needs of a growing population.

Strategies

- Ensure the future growth of Ararat makes best use of existing infrastructure assets, services and facilities.

- Continue to support and enhance existing community facilities and community groups, clubs and associations as key assets of Ararat.

- Support improved commuter facilities at the railway station (e.g. long-term secure car parking, bicycle parking, refreshment and retail opportunities).

- Support improved coverage and frequency of accessible intercity transport services to Ballarat and Melbourne as patronage increases over time.

- Support for improved frequency of local bus services and the expansion of routes (particularly to the east) as new residential areas are established.

- Support the development of facilities and services that allow for ageing in place.

- Support the establishment of 'community hubs' within Ararat to encourage the co-location and consolidation of existing standalone community services and facilities.

- Ensure infrastructure enhances community access and encourages physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

21.06-2 Smaller Settlements

03/12/2015
C34

Objectives

- To encourage the development of new and existing Community infrastructure in Ararat's small towns and rural localities to support healthy lifestyles and the needs of a growing population.

Strategies

- Ensure the future growth of smaller settlements makes best use of existing infrastructure assets, services and facilities.

- Continue to support and enhance existing community facilities and various community groups, clubs and associations as a key asset of the township.

- Advocate for improved frequency of accessible transport services to Ararat, Ballarat and Melbourne, particularly for the elderly and youth of the community.

- Support the development of facilities and services that allow for ageing in place.

- Work closely with Government and other service providers (e.g. Bush Nursing Centres) to promote and develop opportunities for improvement e.g. provision of a community bus service, shared partnership development around home and community care (HACC) services, and nursing infrastructure.

- In Lake Bolac, support the expansion of the sewerage network to service the industrial estate and existing dwellings around the foreshore of the lake.

21.06-3
03/12/2015
C34

Implementation

- Prepare a Small Towns Planning Scheme Amendment to implement rezoning identified in the Ararat Sustainable Growth Future.

21.06-4
03/12/2015
C34

Further Work

- Identify appropriate locations for community hubs' within Ararat to encourage the co-location and consolidation of community services and facilities.

- Undertake a review of the Ararat Recreation and Open Space Strategy

- Prepare an active transport and lifestyle strategy which identifies the barriers and opportunities to community participation