



ACTION PLAN

2017-2018

THE WODONGA



ALL WANT TO LIVE IN





Wodonga Council acknowledges the traditional owners of this land on which we stand and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and future, for they hold the memories, the tradition and the culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

The *Local Government Act* stipulates the council must prepare a *Council Plan* which will include the strategic objectives of the council and strategies for achieving those objectives for the next four years as well as indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives.

The *Council Plan* is supported by the *Strategic Resource Plan*, which includes the financial and non-financial resources required to achieve the *Council Plan*, and an annual action plan which outlines the key activities and actions to be undertaken each year.

The *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan* is integrated into the *Council Plan*.

Healthy, safe and resilient community	6
Connected and engaged community	12
Sustainable and forward-looking	16
Thriving and vibrant city	22
Strong, responsible and sound organisation	28

OUR PLANNING





COMMUNITY INPUT

In developing the *Council Plan*, the community's vision for the city, their priorities and needs were all considered through an extensive consultation process.

Each year, the council will develop a plan describing the actions the council will undertake to meet the objectives of the *Council Plan*.

Throughout the life of the plan, social, economic and environmental factors will also influence those priorities and the action plan.

The council will continue to seek and receive the views of community members on issues that directly affect them or in which they may have a significant interest, working with identified groups of people, whether it is due to their location, interests, affiliation or identity.

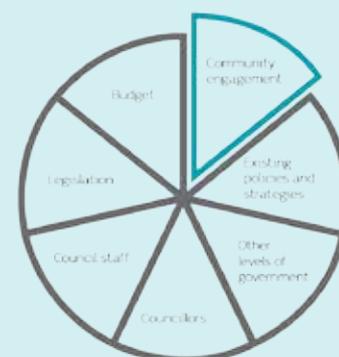
Regular consultations and surveys will allow the council to understand the changing needs of the community.

This community input will inform the council's service delivery in meeting the aspirations for our city.

The council uses community engagement to:

- Strengthen relationships between the council and the community by allowing for clear and honest communication, improving the understanding of each other's opinions, concerns, restrictions and strengths;
- Help encourage ownership within the community over strategies, projects and decisions, to support long-term sustainability of projects and initiatives;
- Develop an understanding of the make-up, characteristics, needs and priorities of the community; and,
- Search for solutions, information and opportunities that contribute to the development of strategies and policies.

Community engagement is not the sole determinant in a decision-making process. There are many other stakeholders and factors that need to be taken into consideration. Some of these are shown in the chart below.



The council uses community engagement tools that provide avenues for involvement that are inclusive, productive and cost-effective.

HEALTHY, SAFE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY

Improve the health and social outcomes for all people in Wodonga to create a healthy, safe, equitable and inclusive community.

Strategy 1

Families, children and young people

Plan, facilitate and provide where appropriate quality services, activities and spaces that meet the needs and provide the best outcomes for our children, young people and families

WHAT WE WILL DO

- 1.1 Develop and adopt a youth strategy that focuses on improving the health and wellbeing of young people
- 1.2 Ensure young people are consulted and considered in matters that directly impact them
- 1.3 Continue to recognise the efforts of young people through youth awards including Red Carpet youth awards, the Young Achiever Scheme and the annual Young Citizen of the Year award
- 1.4 Review and update the Municipal Early Years Plan to ensure evidence-based and responsive policy to reflect current standards of best practice.
- 1.5 Deliver high quality services that support, educate and improve the health and wellbeing of children and their families subject to federal and state government policies and funding arrangements.
- 1.6 Implement the Child Safe Policy and initiate appropriate actions to meet the requirements under child-safe legislation.
- 1.7 Participate in relevant networks at the local, state and regional level that support all our children and families and particularly the vulnerable.
- 1.8 Build partnerships across the youth sector and strategically plan and advocate for required infrastructure, services and funding

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Municipal Early Years Plan
- Youth Strategy
- Youth Engagement Strategy
- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan
- Gender Equity Strategy

Strategy 2 Mental health

Work to improve the mental health and wellbeing of our community through planning, local partnerships, lobbying and advocacy and focus on building community resilience

WHAT WE WILL DO

-  2.1 Work with the mental health sector to identify local barriers and opportunities to inform lobbying and advocacy efforts
-  2.2 Support local campaigns and activities that strengthen community resilience
-  2.3 Continue to support the community-wide youth anti-bullying campaign

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Physical Activity Strategy
- Youth Strategy
- Youth Engagement Strategy
- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan

Strategy 3 Being active

Manage and develop the city's sporting, recreation and leisure facilities and spaces to ensure sustainability, amenity and to encourage participation in physical activity

WHAT WE WILL DO

- 3.1 Provide accessible options and connections to promote and encourage the community to participate in walking and cycling across the city
- 3.2 Plan and deliver appropriate, well-planned and sustainable infrastructure and improvements to sporting and recreation precincts across the city
- 3.3 Investigate appropriate governance models for sporting and community facilities across the city
- 3.4 Explore options for a physical activity network to connect providers and interested agencies of sport and recreational opportunities
- 3.5 Participate in key campaigns to promote physical activity including Walk to School month, Ride to Work Day, Active April and Wodonga Children's Fair
- 3.6 Engage and work with neighbouring councils and state sporting associations to increase regional sport and recreation planning

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Physical Activity Strategy
- Playground Strategy
- Play Environments in Wodonga
- Sport and Recreation Plan
- Baranduda Reserve Master Plan
- Birallee Park Master Plan
- Gayview Park Master Plan
- Kelly Park Master Plan
- Martin Park Master Plan
- Willow Park Master Plan
- Baranduda Fields Master Plan
- Wodonga Sports and Leisure Centre Master Plan

Strategy 4

Healthy and safe food

Work with key stakeholders to improve access and affordability of safe and nutritious food for all

WHAT WE WILL DO

-  4.1 Continue to participate in the Wodonga Local Food Network
-  4.2 Work in partnership with key agencies and the wider community to increase breastfeeding rates in Wodonga
-  4.3 Support key settings and stakeholders to increase access to healthy food options by creating a supportive built and social environment
-  4.4 Support initiatives that aim to increase access to affordable and healthy food for all people in Wodonga
-  4.5 Continue to implement the Healthy Catering Directive to encourage the provision of healthy food choices in all council facilities and at council-run events
-  4.6 Implement a food strategy that identifies council's role in supporting and promoting a food system that is safe, healthy, sustainable and socially inclusive

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Sustainable Wodonga
- Wodonga Growth Strategy
- Municipal Early Years Plan

Strategy 5

Community safety

Implement appropriate planning, policies and practices that improve the safety of our community with a focus on preventing family violence including elder abuse and harm from alcohol and other drugs

WHAT WE WILL DO

-  5.1 Work with key partners in the prevention of family violence including elder abuse and to strengthen the service system
-  5.2 Participate in preventative programs and awareness campaigns to build community capacity in responding to family violence including elder abuse and promoting gender equity
-  5.3 Implement the alcohol culture research project to reduce alcohol-related harm among identified sub-populations
-  5.4 Work with key stakeholders to align local efforts, strengthen the service system and raise community awareness of the risks of alcohol and other drugs
-  5.5 Maintain a healthy community through promotion and delivery of environmental health services including immunisation
-  5.6 Plan and install improved lighting along pathways and in public spaces
-  5.7 Continue to promote initiatives that create awareness around family violence and gender equity and inclusion
- 5.8 Increase awareness of local laws and legislative requirements to reduce non-compliance and increase a feeling of safety and security
- 5.9 Inform and educate the community on the regulations on neighbourhood issues and council's jurisdiction in disputes
-  5.10 Assist our sporting clubs and community organisations address key health and social issues through dedicated programs and campaigns

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Domestic Animal Management Plan
- Sport and Recreation Plan
- Age Friendly City Strategy

Strategy 6

Emergency management

Ensure our preparedness in response and recovery for large emergencies in our municipality, support our community and inform residents of the services available to them

WHAT WE WILL DO

6.1 Review the Municipal Emergency Management Plan to ensure efficient and effective implementation

6.2 Ensure available information on emergency preparation and assistance is relevant and up-to-date

 6.3 Participate in key campaigns to promote awareness and safety

6.6 Continue to progressively update bushfire management plans for environmental land, to be incorporated into the Municipal Fire Management Plan

 6.6 Work with relevant agencies to develop strategies to deal with potential incidents of violence and abuse during heatwaves and emergency events

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Municipal Emergency Management Plan
- Wodonga Heatwave Plan
- Wodonga Municipal Emergency Animal Welfare Plan 2014 - 2017
- Wodonga Places Of Last Resort Plan
- Municipal Fire Management Plan
- Wodonga Environmental Lands Bushfire Management Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan

CONNECTED AND ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Create a city that is well-connected, informed and engaged, which supports people to meet, participate and move safely and easily to access services and opportunities

Strategy 7

Communications and engagement

Provide relevant communications and engagement channels and opportunities that are inclusive and support diverse needs effectively so all members of the community stay informed and have a say on issues that are important to them.

WHAT WE WILL DO

7.1 Redevelop the council website for an improved experience that is easily navigated, accessible, mobile responsive and user focused

7.2 Inform the community about the council's events and activities through a broad range of communications channels

7.3 Continue to run consultation activities to ensure the community has a say on issues that affect or are of importance to them

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Communications and Marketing Strategy

Strategy 8

Integrated and well-connected transport network

Provide the infrastructure in pathways and roads for our community to go about their day in a safe manner with the ability to access what they require near and far

WHAT WE WILL DO



8.1 Implement cycling and pathway improvements promoting linkages to the central business area



8.2 Install key pedestrian crossings and infrastructure at identified locations to improve safety and connections

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Road Management Plan
- Wodonga Integrated Transport Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Physical Activity Strategy

Strategy 9

Inclusion, participation and access

Provide, plan for and advocate for opportunities and access for all ages, cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and abilities to participate, be engaged and contribute through services, facilities, programs, events and activities.

WHAT WE WILL DO

9.1 Deliver a range of events and public programs in diverse locations and facilities that allow the community to engage, connect and express themselves

9.2 Offer and promote a range of volunteering opportunities



9.3 Support local organisations through the provision of a community grants program to assist groups to meet identified community needs

9.4 Position the library as the community hub, planning for and providing a service that connects, engages and shares knowledge for all of the community



9.5 Support the inclusion and participation in community life for vulnerable population groups



9.6 Facilitate and encourage collaborative relationships and partnerships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to address issues impacting their quality of life and create greater cultural connection

9.7 Work in partnership with the ethnic community to increase connection and inclusion and support opportunities for all people to be involved in community life

 9.8 Encourage and support Wodonga businesses to be more accessible and more inclusive of people with disability

9.9 Continue strategic planning work to deliver council's priorities and actions from the *Age-Friendly City strategy*

9.10 Promote opportunities for older people to participate in Wodonga's services and programs

 9.11 Work with community agencies and committees towards the creation of a sustainable built and natural environment in our CBD, parks and green spaces, that enhances and supports accessibility and mobility across the city

9.12 Work with agencies and service providers to promote a range of quality and accessible services and programs to older people

 9.13 Engage with the NDIS local co-ordination service on initiatives that increase the inclusion of people with a disability in community life

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Communications and Marketing Strategy
- Municipal Early Years Plan
- Youth Strategy
- Youth Engagement Strategy
- Age-Friendly City Strategy
- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan
- Wodonga Library Strategic Plan
- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Strategic Plan
- Cultural Services Strategic Plan
- Wodonga Destination Plan
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy

SUSTAINABLE AND FORWARD-LOOKING

Protect, enhance and manage our unique natural and built environments, planning for growth, demonstrating leadership and stewardship now and into the future.

Strategy 10 Managing assets

Implement strategies and allocate resources to continue the ongoing delivery and management of the council's assets across the city.

WHAT WE WILL DO

10.1 Deliver a strategic, resourced and informed program to renew, upgrade and build community assets to meet the current and future needs of the community.

 10.2 Enhance leafy green streetscapes, road reserves and public places that are clean, attractive and improve public safety and community wellbeing.

 10.3 Deliver a well-planned program of playground renewals, upgrades and new infrastructure across the city

10.4 Implement project management guidelines for key projects

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Asset Management Strategy
- Playground Strategy 2016-2020
- Play Environments in Wodonga
- Road Management Plan
- Electric Line Clearance Management Plan
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Strategy 11 Land use planning

Ensure strategic planning practices are undertaken to effectively manage growth, maintain liveability and foster appropriate development.

WHAT WE WILL DO

- 11.1 Develop a master plan for Gateway Island including Gateway Village and the Gateway Lakes precinct
- 11.2 Develop the Wodonga Industrial Land Strategy to set out the future provision of industrial land across the city for the next 10 to 15 years
- 11.3 Facilitate future land development and subdivisions to meet the needs of tourism, retail and small lot industrial precincts and ensuring ample land availability
- 11.4 Prepare a feasibility study for best practice Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) subdivisions in regional Victoria
- 11.5 Develop the Neighbourhood Character Strategy to articulate a vision to create and maintain liveable suburbs to attract development, growth and prosperity
- 11.6 Work with environmental agencies and other stakeholders to address odour issues in Wodonga

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Growth Strategy
- Leneva-Baranduda Growth Area Framework
- Sustainable Wodonga
- Wodonga CBA Revitalisation Plan

Strategy 12

Community planning

Monitor and plan for the changing needs and social priorities for our community continually improving how we engage with the community service providers, funders and stakeholders to ensure effective and targeted services.

WHAT WE WILL DO

-  12.1 Develop the Wodonga housing strategy to clearly define the council's role in planning, regulatory and policy mechanisms for growth and influencing housing pathways and affordability
-  12.2 Develop an affordable housing strategy to guide the council's role in attracting appropriate social housing to meet the needs of our more vulnerable people
- 12.3 Undertake detailed planning for the cultural precinct redevelopment
- 12.4 Ensure infrastructure is well planned to meet community need and growth through the development of a community infrastructure framework and strategy
-  12.5 Actively work with investors and developers for a range of planned retirement living options
-  12.6 Work with state government and community housing providers to facilitate and advocate private and public development in housing stock that offers diversity and affordability suitable for a growing city
-  12.7 Participate in the emergency relief providers network and support community organisations working directly with people at risk of homelessness to reduce housing stress
-  12.8 Work with Albury Wodonga Health to develop a strategy that responds to future growth and to changing social and health needs to maximise positive outcomes for Wodonga

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Growth Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Strategy 13 Open spaces

Design and maintain our parks, reserves, public and green spaces that foster diverse uses and experiences for our community and visitors.

WHAT WE WILL DO

13.1 Continue to maintain city landscapes and public areas that promote civic pride

13.2 Explore the feasibility and options for the establishment of a botanical gardens space in the city



13.3 Ensure appropriate levels of usable and suitable open space is allocated in new developments that will contribute to the liveability of the city and our community's quality of life



13.4 Design and maintain our public open space to positively impact on our community's health and wellbeing

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Growth Strategy
- Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (WRENS)
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Strategy 14

Environmental management

Manage council land to protect and enhance the area's unique biodiversity values and promote community appreciation of the natural environment.

WHAT WE WILL DO

14.1 Develop a significant tree register for the municipality



14.2 Continue to plant and maintain trees and plantings in our playgrounds and parks

14.3 Promote the value and participation opportunities including in the use and management of the natural environment

14.4 Prepare a priority action plan for Wodonga's hills based on community feedback on adoption of the Planning for the Wodonga Hills Strategy

14.5 Continue to adapt in response to the city's growth, the natural resource management program for environmental land, including WREN reserves and vegetation offset sites

14.6 Continue collaboration with partners and stakeholders and the community to plan for urban waterways

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (WRENs) and associated management plans
- Vegetation Offset Management Plans
- Sustainable Wodonga
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan

Strategy 15 Sustainable practices

Promote sound and sustainable environmental practices through our policies, planning and delivery for the organisation, the community and the city.

WHAT WE WILL DO

-
- 15.1 Increase participation of commercial waste streams into the 3-bin system to reduce waste volumes and increase recycling
-
- 15.2 Ensure the review of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan incorporates and addresses the effects of climate change
-
- 15.3 Further investigate ways for the council to reduce its carbon footprint through energy efficient programs
-
- 15.4 Investigate and determine the viability of waste to energy technologies to attract such industries to Wodonga
-
- 15.5 Increase public place recycling options
-
- 15.6 Continue to participate in programs that embed waste management practices that increase rates of recycling, reuse and waste reduction
-
- 15.7 Encourage and promote sustainable living in the community through the delivery of the Sustainable Living Festival
-
- 15.8 Develop a business case for a Wodonga community solar farm
-
- 15.9 Continue household waste collections for pensioners
-

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Sustainable Wodonga
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan

THRIVING AND VIBRANT CITY

Advance our position as a leading regional city, fostering opportunities for development and jobs, and building a destination that offers a variety of experiences, recognising our rich and diverse history and culture

Strategy 16

Arts and culture

Support and provide a range of programs, events and facilities for the community and visitors to enjoy arts and cultural activities and promote civic pride, expression and participation

WHAT WE WILL DO

-
- 16.1 Upgrade technology at key cultural venues to provide better service in multiple spaces, increase income potential, gain operational efficiencies and better service hirers and users
-
- 16.2 Develop a major art event for the city that fosters community expression, cultural engagement and profiles the city as a creative destination
-
- 16.3 Investigate the repositioning and rebranding of Arts Space Wodonga as a niche provider tailored to key demographics
-
- 16.4 Activate the city through culture venue programs, events and space activation that encourage community access and participation
-
- 16.5 Promote Wodonga's reputation as an arts and events destination through innovative cultural programming and supporting community and professional arts practice across the city
-

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Cultural Services Strategic Plan
- Public Art Strategy

Strategy 17 History and heritage

Recognise and preserve our story, important sites and our indigenous cultural connections

WHAT WE WILL DO

17.1 Develop a new business plan which includes sponsorship and fundraising for Bonegilla Migrant Experience to improve the sustainability of the site

 17.2 Implement the actions of the *Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan*

17.3 Develop and implement opportunities to celebrate and preserve the council's culture and heritage assets - indigenous, cultural and environmental

17.4 Explore options for the establishment of a dedicated museum space in the city

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan
- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Master Plan

Strategy 18

Prospering tourism sector

Strengthen, develop and promote our visitor attractions and destination experiences

WHAT WE WILL DO

-
- 18.1 Support and grow a major event initiative that profiles the regional food industry

 - 18.2 Redefine the visitor service model to respond to the changing ways visitors seek and receive information

 - 18.3 Work with tourism partners and operators to develop capacity and the position of their services or product in key markets

 - 18.4 Develop local tourism product with a focus on food and agritourism

 - 18.5 Strengthen visitor attraction and experience by promoting Wodonga as a destination of choice by visitors

 - 18.6 Continue to promote Bonegilla Migrant Experience as a key tourism and visitation destination

 - 18.7 Continue to plan, review and upgrade track and trail networks to improve connections and enhance tourism opportunities and attractions

 - 18.9 Evaluate the council's festivals and events to identify continuous improvement opportunities.

 - 18.10 Host or support a range of community, cultural and sporting events that showcase the city and celebrate diversity and achievement
-

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Master Plan
- Wodonga Destination Plan

Strategy 19

Business and investment

Support a positive business community, attracting new business and industry and facilitating the growth of existing business, to provide diverse and sustainable employment opportunities

WHAT WE WILL DO

19.1 Continue to attract new and diverse industry to Logic Wodonga

19.2 Develop a Wodonga Retail Strategy to ensure clarity around the shopping centres and precincts and how they are connected

19.3 Undertake an annual business survey to understand and support the challenges and opportunities faced by the local business community

19.4 Continue to promote and seek investment in the former Stanley St pool site (CBD West)

19.5 Continue to work with the Wodonga Chamber of Commerce to actively investigate opportunities for business growth and promotion

19.6 Continue to develop required infrastructure at Logic Wodonga to support new investments

19.7 Continue to attract new and diverse business to Wodonga

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Economic Development Strategy
- Home-based Business Strategy

Strategy 20

Education, employment and training

Increase opportunities for participation in education, training and employment through planning, advocacy and strong partnerships with key stakeholders

WHAT WE WILL DO

-
- 20.1 Work in partnership with community organisations to improve opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in education, training and employment

 - 20.2 Review how the existing transport network, services, frequency, access and connection with intermodal transfers can be improved to support equitable access to employment and training opportunities

 - 20.3 Work in partnership with organisations and business to increase opportunities for employment for Aboriginal people, young people and culturally and linguistically diverse communities

 - 20.4 Support initiatives that strengthen social and youth entrepreneurship

 - 20.5 Continue to implement the council's *Social Procurement Policy* as a lever for improving employment opportunities for people with a disability

 - 20.6 Work with the education sector to identify gaps and opportunities to strengthen pathways into the local employment sector for our community
-

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Wodonga Integrated Transport Strategy
- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan
- Economic Development Strategy

Strategy 21 Vibrant city centre

Create a city heart that fosters community and commercial activity and brings people together

WHAT WE WILL DO

21.1 Complete the reconstruction of South, Bond and High streets as part of the City Heart project

21.2 Encourage support of local business through shop local campaigns and promotion of the City Heart website and app

21.3 Enhance the city's laneways to promote activation and vibrancy that contribute to the amenity and public realm of the city heart

21.4 Support and develop a range of social, space activation and event programs across the CBA

21.5 Ensure businesses and community are well-informed and updated during major works in the CBA

21.6 Undertake a feasibility study for an innovation hub

21.7 Develop a Wodonga CBA Parking Strategy to promote the sustainable long-term revitalisation and development of the CBA

21.7 Continue to attract new and diverse retail businesses to our city centre

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga CBA Policy Framework Plan
- Wodonga CBA Revitalisation Design Guide
- Wodonga CBA Revitalisation Plan 2014-2034

STRONG, RESPONSIBLE AND SOUND ORGANISATION

Provide strong leadership and governance, demonstrating excellence in the way we do business by being innovative, responsive and transparent. We will be accountable and steward the organisation in the highest regard

Strategy 22

Good governance and customer experience

Foster a positive culture of skilled employees which allows for the continuous improvement of our service delivery to ensure the best outcome for our community in an open, transparent, ethical and fair manner.

WHAT WE WILL DO

22.1 Ensure outcomes of council meetings are readily accessible to members of the community

22.2 Continue to explore and use existing and emerging technologies to maximise accessibility, reach, impact and responsiveness

22.3 Enhance and streamline the connectivity of electronic systems to improve efficient and effective service delivery and improve customer contact experience

22.4 Report to the community on council's performance and efficiency measures across all areas of the council

22.5 Continue to undertake a program of service review to assess the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of services while ensuring equity and access

 22.6 Implement Wodonga Council's *Gender Equity Strategy* to promote and embed an organisational culture that embraces gender equality

 22.7 Continue to implement the council's social inclusion and human rights policies

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Organisational Plan
- Gender Equity Strategy
- Information Technology Strategy
- Information Management Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy

Strategy 23

Financial management

Undertake fiscally responsible management and budgeting to ensure sustainability and a balance between financial accountability and community outcomes

WHAT WE WILL DO

23.1 Provide council services and projects with a strong financial planning framework

23.2 Maintain accountable and transparent financial practices

23.3 Review and enhance our financial management and reporting system to ensure relevant and timely financial advice

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Rating Strategy

Strategy 24

Lobbying and advocacy

Establish strong relationships with government, partners and stakeholders to advocate for the community on priority issues

WHAT WE WILL DO

24.1 Continue to lobby state and federal governments for funding towards projects of regional significance such as the Baranduda Fields sporting precinct

24.2 Meet with regional and neighbouring councils on a regular basis to discuss shared goals and outcomes

24.3 Continue participation in Regional Cities Victoria and Regional Capitals Australia to keep both State and Federal governments' focus on regional cities

24.4 Lobby state and federal governments on a case by case basis on services cost-shifting to local government

24.5 Continue to lobby for appropriate levels of grant funding from other tiers of government to deliver priority projects, infrastructure and service needs to the community.

 24.6 Advocate and lobby for appropriate mental health services to meet local need

24.7 Lobby the state and federal governments for key improvements to the passenger rail on the North East rail line and train rolling stock

24.8 Lobby and advocate for better transport options for the community through improvements to faster and more regular train and bus services

24.9 Advocate and co-ordinate with state and federal governments to identify future infrastructure and facilities that will need to be planned to meet the growth of Wodonga and the region.



24.10 Actively lobby for and seek funding opportunities that will bring increased services and infrastructure that will improve the health, education and wellbeing of our children, young people and families



24.11 Advocate, lobby and seek at a federal and state level funding to support programs to help reduce family violence



24.12 Advocate, lobby and seek funding for appropriate public housing

CONTACT WODONGA COUNCIL

104 Hovell St, Wodonga, VIC 3690

Phone: (02) 6022 9300

Email: info@wodonga.vic.gov.au

CONNECT WITH COUNCIL

 facebook.com/wodongacouncil

 instagram.com/wodongacouncil

 twitter.com/wodongacouncil

 youtube.com/wodongacouncil

 [wod.city/wod-enevents](mailto:wod.city@wod-enevents.com.au)

 wodonga.vic.gov.au