ACTION PLAN
2020-2021

THE WODONGA
WE
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.

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- Connected and engaged community ........................................................................ 12
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OUR PLANNING

Community input → Strategies, plans, policies → Research and evidence → Government legislation and policy

LEGISLATED PLANS

Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
Council Plan
Municipal Strategic Statement

Annual Plan and budget ↔ Business unit planning

Annual Report
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 Ensure young people are consulted and considered in matters that directly impact them.

1.2 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.

1.3 Participate in relevant networks at the local, state and regional level that support all our children and families and particularly the vulnerable.

1.4 Work with community partners to encourage and promote help-seeking behaviour of young people.

**STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA**

- Municipal Early Years Plan
- Wodonga Youth Strategy
- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Plan
- Gender Equity Strategy
- Physical Activity Strategy
Strategy 2
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

2.1 Commence stage 1 of the Baranduda Fields sporting precinct

2.2 Participate in key campaigns to promote physical activity including Walk to School month, Ride to Work Day and Active April

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
- Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy and associated master plans
- Wodonga Integrated Transport Strategy
- Open Spaces Strategy (draft)
**Strategy 3**  
**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 and ensure our preparedness in response and recovery for large emergencies in our municipality.

**WHAT WE WILL DO**

1. **3.1** Participate in preventative programs and awareness campaigns and work with key partners in responding to family violence including elder abuse and promoting gender equity

2. **3.2** Plan and install improved lighting along pathways and in public spaces

3. **3.3** Ensure available information on emergency preparation and assistance is relevant and up-to-date

**STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA**

- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Domestic Animal Management Plan
- Sport and Recreation Plan
- Age Friendly City Strategy
- Municipal Emergency Management Plan
- Wodonga Heatwave Plan
- 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 4
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

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

4.2 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
• Wodonga Signage Plan
Strategy 5
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

5.1 Develop an integrated transport model to better understand traffic movements - pedestrian, cycling, public transport and vehicular - across the city.

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Road Management Plan
- Wodonga Integrated Transport Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Physical Activity Strategy
- Open Spaces Strategy (draft)
### Strategy 6
**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

1. **6.1** Offer and promote a range of volunteering opportunities to increase community participation

2. **6.2** Support local organisations through the provision of a community grants program to assist groups to meet identified community needs

3. **6.3** Support and promote the inclusion and participation in community and sporting activities and programs for CALD, female-friendly, aged and other vulnerable population groups

4. **6.4** 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

5. **6.5** Continue to work with the ethnic community to increase connection and inclusion and support opportunities for all people to be involved in community life, especially the aged through the delivery of a key focus project

#### STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Communications and Marketing Strategy
- Municipal Early Years Plan
- Youth Strategy
- Age-Friendly City Strategy
- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan
- Wodonga Library Strategic Plan
- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Strategic Plan
- Cultural Services Plan
- Albury Wodonga Destination Management 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 7**
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**

7.1 Deliver a strategic program to renew, upgrade and build community assets that is informed by data analysis and good service planning to meet the current and future needs of the community.

**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
- Signage Plan
Strategy 8
Community and land-use 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

8.1 Deliver key priority actions for environmental spaces including the hills and Gateway Island

8.2 Undertake a feasibility study to investigate and develop opportunities with young people for contemporary, best-practice, youth-friendly spaces

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Growth Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- Wodonga Youth Strategy
- Wodonga Housing Strategy
- Two Cities One Community Strategic Plan and Action Plan
- Playground Strategy 2016-2020
- Play Environments in Wodonga
- Open Spaces Strategy (draft)
### Strategy 9
**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9.1</th>
<th>Promote public use and responsible management of the natural environment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>Develop a set of custom tree management guidelines unique to Wodonga to strategically manage and maintain the city's green scape</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>Investigate the feasibility of a native vegetation offset scheme on council land</td>
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### STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (WRENs) and associated management plans
- Vegetation Offset Management Plans
- Roadside Vegetation Management Plan
- Sustainable Wodonga
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy and associated master plans
- Regional Natural Environment Strategy (draft)
- Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (WRENs)
- Open Spaces Strategy (draft)
Strategy 10  
**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**

10.1 Further investigate ways for the council to reduce its carbon footprint through energy efficient programs

10.2 Investigate and determine the viability of waste to energy technologies to attract such industries to Wodonga

10.3 Continue to participate in programs that embed waste management practices that increase rates of recycling, reuse and waste reduction

10.4 Investigate sustainable options for future proofing the city and its key assets

10.5 Develop a domestic wastewater management plan to ensure the safe operations of all domestic waste water systems occurs, particularly in sensitive areas

**STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA**

- Sustainable Wodonga
- Climate Change Adaptation Plan
- Environmentally Sustainable Design for Subdivision in Regional Victoria
- Asset Management Strategy
- Road Management 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 11: 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**

11.1 Deliver a new library-gallery that is accessible and fit-for-purpose, meets the needs of our growing community and provides a program of arts and culture to our residents and visitors.

11.2 Deliver a major arts and cultural festival across Albury-Wodonga that attracts visitation and offers new experiences to our community.

11.3 Activate the city through cultural venue services, programs and events that encourage community participation, cultural exchange and visitor attraction.

**STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA**

- Cultural Services Plan
- Public Art Strategy
- Communications and Marketing Strategy
Strategy 12
History and heritage

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

WHAT WE WILL DO

12.1 Complete the second stage of the Wodonga Heritage Study to identify and protect places of heritage significance

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Wodonga Aboriginal Reconciliation Action Plan
- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Master Plan
- Planning for the Wodonga Hills Strategy and master plans
- Albury Wodonga Destination Management Plan
- Gateway Island Master Plan
Strategy 13
Prospering tourism sector
Strengthen, develop and promote our visitor attractions and destination experiences

WHAT WE WILL DO

13.1 Support and grow a major event initiative that profiles the regional food industry
13.2 Work with the tourism industry to position Wodonga’s tourism product and services and strengthen visitor attraction to the City

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Master Plan
- Albury Wodonga Destination Management Plan
- Planning for the Wodonga Hills strategy and associated master plans
- Gateway Island Master Plan
Strategy 14
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

14.1 Continue to develop required infrastructure and identify and plan for priority projects to support the future of Logic including the installation of a gas gate

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

- Economic Development Strategy
- Home-based Business Strategy
- Wodonga Industrial Land Strategy
- Logic Precinct Plan
**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 15**  
**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**

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

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

**STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA**

- Organisational Plan
- Gender Equity Strategy
- Information Technology Strategy
- Information Management Strategy
- Safety, Inclusion and Equity Strategy
- Albury Wodonga Smart Communities Framework
- Wodonga Rating Strategy
Strategy 16
Financial management

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

WHAT WE WILL DO

16.1 Provide accountable and transparent financial practices with a strong financial planning framework

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

• Wodonga Rating Strategy

Strategy 17
Lobbying and partnerships

Establish strong relationships with government, partners and stakeholders to advocate for the community on priority issues and partner on projects that provide for the city’s growth and contribute to positive social, economic and environmental outcomes

WHAT WE WILL DO

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

17.2 Continue to lobby for grant funding to deliver priority projects, infrastructure and services to improve the health and wellbeing of our community

17.3 Work with all levels of government and regional partners to deliver a Regional Deal for Albury-Wodonga

17.4 Work with the business and community advisory committee to advance the Albury-Wodonga Regional Deal

STRATEGIES AND PLANS SUPPORTING THIS AREA

• Two Cities One Community Strategic Plan and Action Plan
• Albury Wodonga Smart Communities Framework
• Smart Communities Strategy (draft)
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