

Cann Valley District Community Plan 2019

Community Vision:

We want our district to be a thriving, buzzing place which is inviting to locals, tourists and future economic opportunities and optimises the health, wellbeing and productivity of our beautiful paradise.

**Buldah Cann River Chandlers Creek Club Terrace
Combienbar Noorinbee Noorinbee North Tamboon
Tonghi Creek Wingan River**



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



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**EAST GIPPSLAND
SHIRE COUNCIL**

Acknowledgements

East Gippsland Shire Council and the community of the Cann Valley District acknowledges the Gunaikurnai, Monero and the Bidawel people as the Traditional Custodians of the land that encompasses East Gippsland Shire, and their enduring relationship with country. The Traditional Custodians have cared and nurtured East Gippsland for tens of thousands of years¹. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in East Gippsland, their Elders past and present.

The community members of the Cann Valley District have made a significant contribution in the development of this plan in terms of time and kilometres travelled to meetings, in addition to the completion of the community survey. The commitment of the community to the process is testament to their passion for the future of the District.

Place Planning is a major initiative within the East Gippsland Shire Council Plan 2017 – 2021². Resources were committed to undertake a pilot of the place-based planning approach.

Council officers from the Community Planning team and across a range of other departments have supported the place-based planning approach including the facilitation of workshops and providing information to community. Minds@Work, an independent consultancy group, facilitated sessions and skilled up staff and community around the IDEA model.

The importance of our partner agencies and local service providers in being involved in the process and the delivery of information workshops has been critical in understanding how we are and can all ‘work in place’.

The One Place One Plan Project was funded by the Australian Government through the Building Better Regions Fund and has been run across the Cann Valley District, Errinundra to Snowy District and Twin Rivers District.

Key Terms:

- ABS: Australian Bureau of Statistics
- CFA: Country Fire Authority
- Council - East Gippsland Shire Council
- DCRG: District Community Representative Group
- DELWP: Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning
- DET: Department of Education & Training
- DHHS: Department of Health & Human Services
- ORH: Orbost Regional Health
- RRV: Regional Roads Victoria
- SES: State Emergency Service

References:
¹ East Gippsland Shire Council Reconciliation Action Plan 2015 – 2018

² East Gippsland Shire Council Plan 2017 – 2021



Kuark Forest in Spring
(Photo: Judy Deland)

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Other documents related to this plan:

Visual Summary of the District Community Plan

Community Toolkit

Action Plan

A Guide to Reading this Plan

This is the first District Community Plan (the Plan) for the Cann Valley District. The Plan provides a strategic direction for the people living and working in this community and the agencies that support them. A separate Action Plan will accompany this document and be updated to reflect the achievements and changes that occur over time.

Section 1:	Section 2:	Section 3:
Introduces community and place planning and the purpose of this community plan in this district. It provides details about the timeline of the project, engagement activities and community participation in the journey to develop the Plan. It includes an overview of the process used to develop the Plan and the IDEA model used to support community thinking from ideas to actions.	Provides a detailed community profile of the people living in this community, drawing on demographic data and the findings from the community survey and community workshops. The history and geographical location of the district is explored providing context to the key assets that were mapped in the district. The community profile provides insight into the people that live in the district and what is important to them. Four outcome areas are identified and discussed in detail with the support of data gathered through the community survey: 1. Healthy & Sustainable Environments 2. Thriving Economy 3. Safe & Healthy Communities 4. Resilient & Connected Communities	Focuses on the implementation of the Plan and how this will be undertaken. It does not have specific details about each priority and timeframe, this will be captured in the Action Plan that will be developed by the community and agencies. It will be reviewed and refined regularly to implement this District Community Plan. The future challenges and opportunities for each of the four outcome areas are explored. (see pages 30 to 33). Through the workshops, the community prioritised the 82 ideas from their Ideas Bank (see page 34) to six ideas that were worthy of further development. These are highlighted and outlined in this section. Described as priority ideas, the role of the community, Council and partner agencies is included for each. It outlines the formation and role of a District Community Representative Group (DCRG) in monitoring and implementing the Plan.

Section 1: Development of the Cann Valley District Community Plan

"Community cohesion, students empowered in the community"
Local Resident

"Unity"
Local Resident

"More cohesive village"
Local Resident

"Cohesion with belief in a positive future"
Local Resident

Developing the Plan at the Making it Happen workshop

Introduction

Purpose of the District Community Plan

To provide a comprehensive insight into the community of the Cann Valley District, and the people who call this 'place' home. It will give community members, East Gippsland Shire Council (Council) and partner agencies an understanding of:

- The people who live in the district and their needs
- The vision the community has for itself and what it values
- How the community currently operates and supports services
- The assets, resources and strengths available in this community
- The top priorities the community wants to work on
- The roles and responsibilities of community, Council, and partner agencies in making the plan happen
- An Ideas Bank, that community can draw on throughout the life of the District Community Plan

This plan provides a new direction for how community, Council and partner agencies can work together to achieve positive outcomes for the people who have chosen this district as their home.

Council and other agencies have a number of strategies and plans which underpin and inform what they do. The District Community Plan (the Plan) provides a platform at a place-based level to integrate Council and agency strategies and plans with the local community priorities to achieve the best outcomes.

Separate documents accompany the Plan including an action plan that will be revisited by community, Council and partners on an annual basis (the Annual Action Plan), and a toolkit with a range of resources and information to support community, Council and partner agencies in implementing the Plan.

This district now has a District Community Representative Group (DCRG) to work together on the priorities within the Plan on behalf of all people in the district. The DCRG enables the community to coordinate and cooperate to achieve their outcomes and provide a means for Council and agencies to engage with and work alongside a group that is representative of this district.

Place Planning

Some, but not all communities in East Gippsland have had Community Plans for nearly a decade. A review of the previous Community Plans identified the need to change the way Council works with the community. This new approach is called Place Planning. Twelve districts were identified across East Gippsland, each with its own distinctive history, culture, people and natural environments.

Council was successful in obtaining a grant from the Australian Government through the Building Better Regions Fund, to pilot the development and delivery of a place-based planning approach in some of the most remote districts within the Shire. This project has brought together community and agencies to share information and

exchange ideas that will enable informed decision making about how best to meet identified needs.

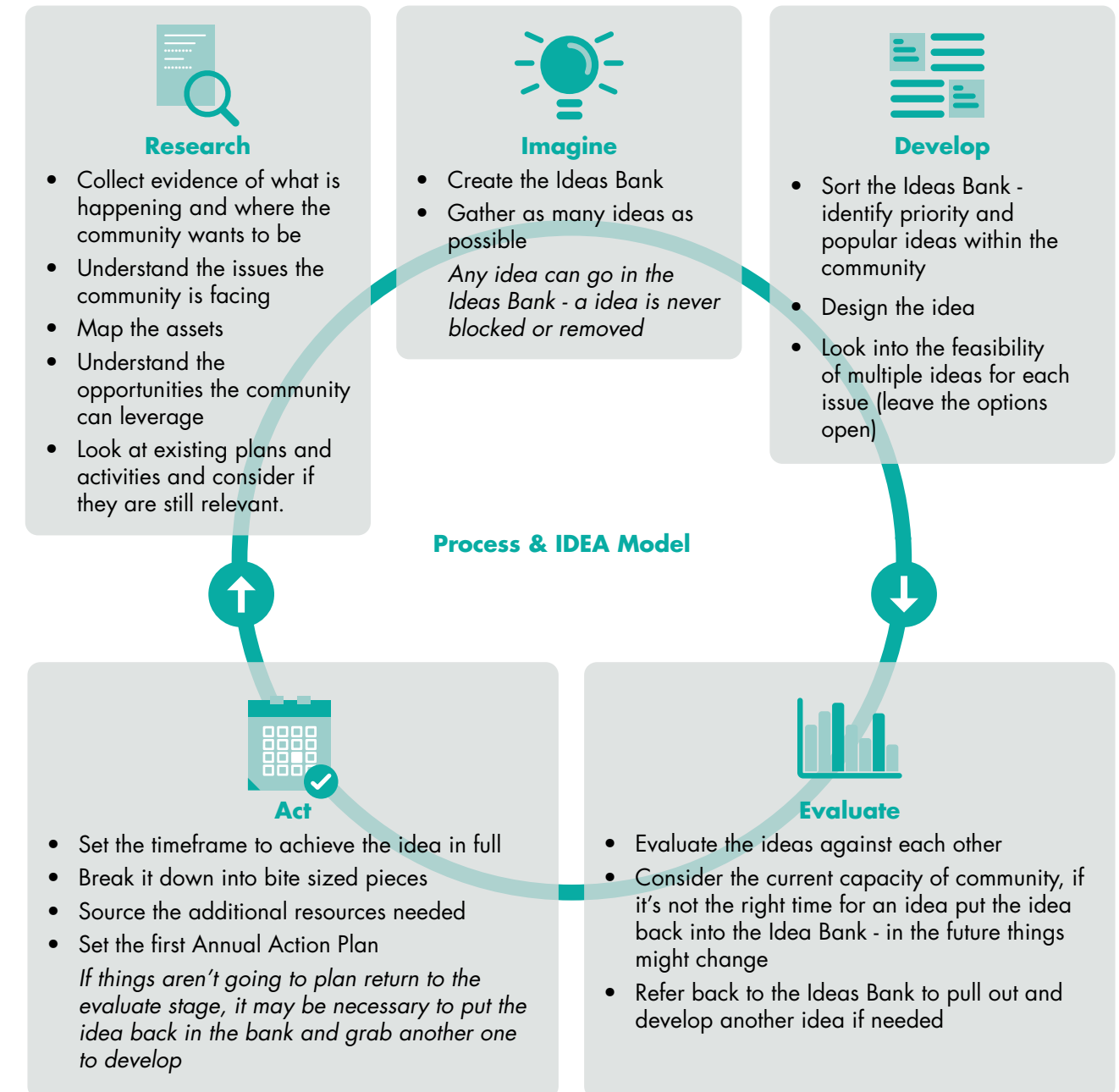
Developing a comprehensive understanding of the needs of the people that live in the district is central to Place Planning. The District Community Plan brings together detailed demographic information about who the people are that make up the district, why they live where they live, what is important to them, their future aspiration for their communities and how they will work together and with key stakeholders to achieve their outcomes.

The priorities within the Plan are not a 'wish list', they are ideas that were identified by the community that have been prioritised using the 'IDEA' Model, which is outlined further on page 7. Prioritisation is based on the evidence gathered around the issues, challenges and opportunities within the district.

The process of creating the Plan has focused on building relationships and trust between community members and groups, Council and other key agencies. It outlines how the community will work together and live their values. The Plan establishes an agreed set of local priorities and provides evidence of local investment needs. It will inform future planning decisions and where resources can most effectively be targeted around services and infrastructure. It aims to help clarify the roles and responsibilities of the community, Council and other agencies around the identified priorities in the Plan.

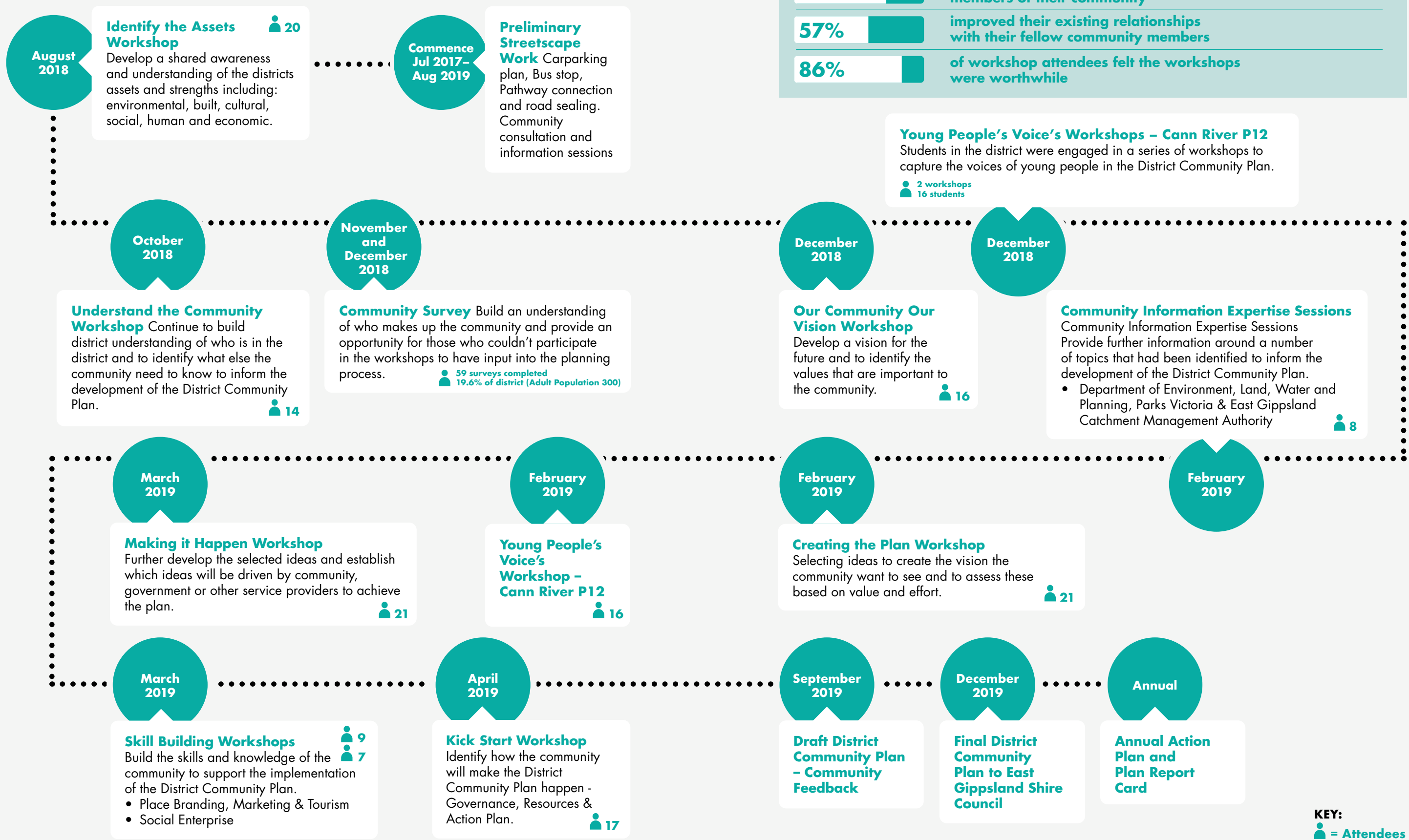
Process & IDEA Model

The IDEA Model is a way of helping people to think through their ideas and develop something from an idea into well thought out and planned actions.



A Community Toolkit that includes tools as well as data collected through the research stage is available by contacting Council, contact details are on the back of this document.

How the Plan was Created



Section 2: Community Profile

Community Vision:

We want our district to be a thriving, buzzing place which is inviting to locals, tourists and future economic opportunities and optimises the health, wellbeing and productivity of our beautiful paradise.



Community spirit
community looking out for community and the trust in fellow community members



Peace & quiet
times when things are buzzing with activity balanced with time to enjoy the quiet



Relaxing vibe
the feeling that it is a place to escape to

Community Values:

We must acknowledge the tension with our greatest asset, our environment and the future role it has for growth in our district.



Environment
from the mountains to the valley and the coast



Safety
community feels like a safe place to be



Sense of pride
the strong feeling that "this is home"



Pumpkin contest at the Cann River Harvest Festival in 2017

The District

The district is comprised of a number of smaller settlements, serviced by the township of Cann River. Cann River is located at the junction of the Princes Highway and the Monaro Highway, which are key routes between Sydney and Melbourne and transport connections through to Canberra.

The district is notable for its proximity to several spectacular national parks providing access to the ancient rainforests of the far east, excellent fishing, bushwalking and camping¹. To the south of Cann River is Tamboon Inlet, Point Hicks and its historic 1890 lighthouse which is notable for being the first land on the east coast of Australia to be sighted by Europeans².

History

The Cann Valley is considered a special place to a number of Aboriginal groups including the Bidjawal (also known as Bidawal and Bidwell), Monero-Ngarigo (Ngarigu), Gunaikurnai and Yuin nations. These first peoples moved across the district and into New South Wales and were passionate about the country known today as Cann Valley.

The area has seen significant changes in human settlement patterns, with people attracted to the district for its natural resources and beauty. A range of industries have developed over time that have created boom periods followed by periods of economic decline.

In the late 1890s gold mining was active around the district with the main activity around Club Terrace with the discovery of gold³.

The clearing of land for agriculture in the district commenced in the 1870s. Cattle were run on the fertile floodplains of the Buldah, Combienbar, Tonghi, Bemm and Cann Flats⁴. The first land grants for agricultural activities occurred in the 1890s resulting in permanent settlements across

the district. Activity was driven by small farms, mostly dairy, pigs and beef cattle⁵. Cream production led to the establishment of a butter factory at Cann River in the early 1920s but closed in 1936 with the cream being transported to Orbost. Agriculture continues to be an important industry for the district.

Timber harvesting was the major post war economic activity, with many European migrants providing labour in the hardwood mills situated in all the small settlements in the district. The timber industry has seen significant change over the last twenty years. In 1999, the timber allocation from Cann River was 183,000 cubic metres with half processed locally at 3 mills, supporting 9 contractors and the employment of approximately 80 people. There were 22 trucking companies working from the area. In 2019, the allocation is 30,000 cubic metres of timber, with no local mills and 13 people employed in harvesting and transporting of timber outside the area⁶.

The district has undergone significant economic change. The decline of its primary industries has mirrored a reduction in the government and professional services in the township. Throughout the planning process, residents have lamented and acknowledged this change and are optimistic about the next stage in the district's development.

References:

¹ Explore Australia Publishing (2010)

² Victorian Places (2015)

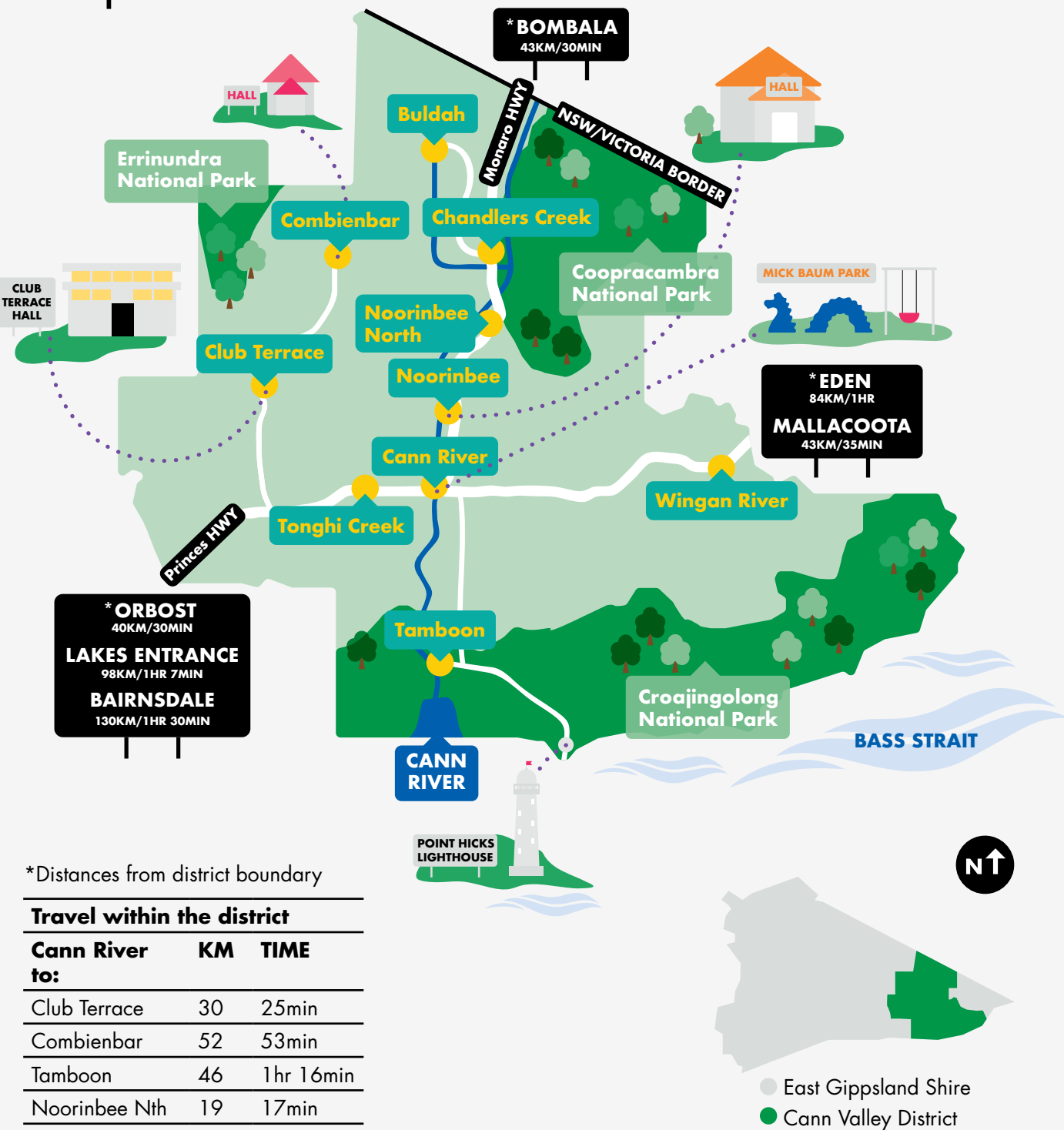
³ Bendoc Progress Association (2019)

⁴ East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (2019)

⁵ Cann River and District Historical Society

⁶ Department of Environment, land and water (2019)

District Map



District Assets

The following pages summarise the assets that the community identified in the workshops and survey. It is important for the community, Council and agencies to have a good understanding of the assets in the district and to use this to guide planning. The assets have been grouped under the outcomes of the District Community Plan.

People

Provides a snapshot of those living in the district based on the community survey and ABS Census Data 2016.

Healthy & Sustainable Environments

Environmental assets include air, land, water, plants, animals, mineral and energy resources that support all life and human activity.

Thriving Economy

Economic assets include current and future industries, and employment opportunities to support people to live in the district.

Safe & Healthy Communities

Assets relating to health and wellbeing include personal and community safety and access to services.

Resilient & Connected Communities

Built, social and cultural assets relate to how the district connects and communicates and the facilities which bring the community together.

People



This profile has been drawn from ABS 2016 Census Data and a community survey to build an understanding of the people who call Cann Valley home. People have come to this district for work, the environment and housing affordability.

This community has a high proportion of older people, with 33% over 60 years of age. More than a third are living in lone

person households and half of the total population live in the smaller settlements spread across the district.

The feeling of 'looking out for each other' and the trust in their fellow community members contributes to the community spirit. The people of Cann Valley have a strong sense of pride in their community, which 'feels like home'.

Demographic representation of the survey

59 surveys were completed representing 19.6% of the district Adult Population

Place of residence

Cann River	61%
Noorinbee	14%
Noorinbee North	7%
Chandlers Creek	5%
Club Terrace	4%
Combienbar	4%
Wingan River	4%
Tamboon	2%

Age

25 to 34	2%
35 to 49	24%
50 to 59	22%
60 to 69	24%
70 to 84	27%

The top five things that people value about the district

(Community survey, 2018)



1. Natural Environment



2. Friendly Community



3. Peace & Quiet



4. Healthy Lifestyle



5. Country Living

Who We Are

(ABS 2016)



376

Total Population

Age Groups

12

Babies & Preschoolers (0 to 4)

34

Primary Schoolers (5 to 11)

44

Young people (12 – 24 years)

159

Adults (25 – 60 years)

126

Older adults (60+)

Median age 54
(East Gippsland 50)

Township & locality population

(ABS 2016)



Buldah



Cann River



Chandlers Creek



Club Terrace



Combienbar



Noorinbee



Noorinbee North



Tamboon



Tonghi Creek



Wingan River

People



Identity & diversity

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander 2.4%
(East Gippsland 2.9%)

(ABS 2016)

Cultural Diversity	Cann Valley	East Gippsland	Victoria
Overseas born	10%	11%	28%
Language at home other than English	6%	3%	26%

Housing

Housing affordability, for both purchasing and renting is one of the draw cards for people to the Cann Valley District. There is a larger proportion of households who own their home; a smaller proportion purchasing their dwelling; and a smaller proportion who were renters in Cann Valley District compared with East Gippsland Shire. One third of the people living in the district live on their own.



79% Agreed that they were happy about their housing situation

47% Agreed that they felt they have adequate options in the district for their future housing needs

39% Agreed that there is enough housing in the district to meet the demand their housing situation

(Community survey, 2018)

Housing	Cann Valley	East Gippsland
Own	49%	42%
Purchasing	15%	26%
Renting	20%	21%

Affordability

Mortgage Repayments <\$1,200 per month	78%	44%
Rent Payments <\$1,000 per month	76%	58%

Households

Families with children	18%	29%
Families with young children	16%	15%
Families with mixed age children	2%	4%
Families with older children	3%	10%
Couples without children	25%	32%
Lone Person Households	34%	28%

(ABS 2016)

Living in the district

56% Of the respondents had lived in the district for more than 10 years

65% Definitely will stay in the district.

19% Probably won't stay or are unsure due to accessibility issues and work

(Community survey, 2018)



Mick Baum Park, Cann River

Healthy & Sustainable Environments



Cann Valley is home to several significant natural attractions including the Croajingolong, Coopracambra, Errinundra, Alfred and Lind National Parks. The far eastern region of Victoria is unrivalled in terms of the state's biodiversity⁷.

Croajingolong National Park is 100km of undeveloped coastline which runs from Mallacoota Inlet to Bemm River. It is one of the most significant coastal parks in Victoria with outstanding conservation, recreation and wilderness value and has been designated by UNESCO as a Biosphere Reserve⁸.

From grass tree plains, woodlands and coastal heath to tall, wet forests and rainforests, this region supports a greater number of vegetation communities than any other region of comparable size in Victoria⁷. With 29 species of eucalypts found in the area, the region is one of the most diverse in the country⁷.

Coopracambra National Park is one of the most significant conservation areas in south-eastern Australia. The ancient fossil footprints discovered in the Genoa River Gorge are of international importance and the Park's flora and fauna include a number of rare or threatened species⁹.

The Point Hicks Lighthouse was built in 1887-88. The remote location of this significant asset makes access by road difficult. The one hour, 46km trip is on a windy, corrugated dirt road. Poor road infrastructure to the coast and national parks currently limits the potential of these assets for tourism and has been identified by the

community as important to their future economic prosperity.

The Cann River runs through the township and is an important natural asset, with limited access to its banks. Flooding has been an issue experienced within the township, and over the past two decades, significant restoration works have been undertaken to improve the river and its floodplain by the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority¹⁰. The health and access to the river is important to the many aspects of tourism, agriculture and investment in the district.

Water security, climate change, fire risk and environmental sustainability were identified in the top ten challenges and opportunities for the district in the community survey.

Achieving environmental sustainability in the broadest sense, that is allowing our society and economy to flourish within the capacity of the natural environment to support them, will require continual change to the way we live our lives and conduct our business¹¹.

The Victorian Government has identified Gippsland as being warmer and drier in the future due to climate change. One third of the respondents of the community survey indicated that this might mean increased fire danger for the district and for a lesser number of the respondents that this might mean impacts to agriculture and tourism (12% each). Respondents of the survey felt that water management would be important along with education

and increased resources for fire management to tackle the effects of climate change in the district.



Lyrebird in Kuark forest
(Photo: Judy Deland)

References:

⁷ Goongerah Environment Centre (GECO), The Wilderness Society & Environment East Gippsland (2017)

⁸ National Parks Service Croajingolong National Park Management Plan (1996)

⁹ Parks Victoria Coopracambra National Park Management Plan (1998)

¹⁰ East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (2019)

¹¹ East Gippsland Shire Council Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2014-2017

Thriving Economy



Employment

There are many seasonal and part-time employment roles in the district which can impact people's ability to access adequate income and the amount and type of work that they want. In 2016, 35% were employed in part-time positions and 37% were full time workers (ABS, 2016). The four highest industry sectors for employment in the district in 2016 were:

- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (21%)
 - Accommodation and Food Services (18%)
 - Health Care and Social Assistance (12%)
 - Public Administration and Safety (11%)
- (ABS, 2016)

There has been a decline between 2011 and 2016 in the number of people employed in Cann River. In 2016, of the 22% of unemployed people, 16% were looking for fulltime work and 6% were looking for part-time work.

Businesses In The District 2019

Firewood, Earth Moving, Towing, Welding, Marine Services, Farming, Post Office, Plumbing, Landfill, Wreckers, Sawmill, Petrol Station, Accommodation, Supermarket, Food Services, Furnishings, Nursery, Gold Mining & Prospecting, Art & Craft and Op Shop.

Reference:

¹² Regional Roads Victoria (2019) For further information contact Gippslandproject@roads.vic.gov.au

The Visitor Economy

The location of the Cann River township sees it having a local, municipal and regional role in servicing current and future tourists. It provides a critical road side stop over that was recognised with a significant upgrade of the townships streetscape in 2018/2019 by Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) and Council, making it safer for cars and pedestrians.

The district is the entry point to Victoria for tourists travelling from NSW and Canberra. There is a caravan park, various motel/hotels as well as a good mix of commercial businesses including supermarket, petrol station, bakeries and cafés in the Cann River township. The district is well placed to capitalise on tourists travelling through the township and its significant environmental assets.

The district has identified the importance of increasing the number of visitors, length of stay and spend in their district. Traffic count data collected over a 7 day period during the peak holiday time of Christmas 2018 to New Year 2019, identified approximately 18,045 pedestrian movements recorded in the Cann River main street between 8am to 4pm¹².

A total of 28,189 vehicles were also counted over this period of time in the township. On average a car had 3.4 occupants visiting for 32 minutes with long vehicles such as caravans having 3.2 occupants and staying an average of 43 minutes¹². This data provides a foundation for understanding the potential visitor market in the township.

A separate qualitative survey was undertaken during the same period by Council to understand the visitor's experience in Cann River. The majority of those surveyed were heading further south into Victoria, reinforcing the significance of Cann River as an entry point to the Victorian visitor experience and not yet a destination in its own right. A traditional visitor information service is provided in Cann River. With the changes occurring in the tourism experience, the new Gippsland Destination Management Plan 2019 will provide guidance on the most appropriate model for provision of visitor information services.

A vibrant local community, that offers a point of difference and a unique visitor experience will be well positioned in the visitor economy. The feeling of pride in the community and the district is very strong in Cann Valley and this is important for a district that is wanting to attract tourists.

Both the survey and the workshop participants saw nature based tourism as an important opportunity for the district, and selected the development of a local tourism strategy, as one of the top priorities for the district. The community recognises the quality of the tourism experiences that the nearby national parks offer and believe that the opportunity exists to enhance the visitor experience in the district through increased services and activity. Collaboration with and support from public land managers such as DELWP and Parks Victoria is integral to advancing this.

Thriving Economy



A Transport Hub

The Cann River township is an important hub for the transport industry. These arterial roads play a vital role in the East Gippsland and broader Gippsland region's economy. The produce grown across Gippsland relies on this route to get product to market in Sydney, Melbourne and beyond.

The township provides heavy vehicle/long haul operators and bus companies with parking and services that enable drivers mandatory rest breaks and an opportunity to check their vehicles. For those tourists using public transport, two VLine coach services stop at Cann River between Canberra to Melbourne, Batemans

Bay to Melbourne with a train connection in Bairnsdale.

Traffic counts undertaken during peak vegetable and farming activity in March 2019 identified between 300-350 heavy freight travelling through the township during a 24 hour period¹³. There is a current planning permit for an upgrade to the United Service station in the township, that would see a 24/7 service station providing shower, parking and rest stop facilities for heavy and long vehicles, this is scheduled for construction in 2020.

Global Trends in Travel¹³

1. Destinations need to avoid sameness and identify a point of difference
2. Focus on growth market opportunities;
 - Active families
 - Active 55+ year olds
 - Contemporary women
 - Millennials
 - Visiting friends and relatives
3. Experiences over destinations such as;¹⁴
 - Experiential travel - guides and tour operators who offer more immersive experiences
 - Transformative travel - self discovery and trying new things

- Serendipity and surprise - visitors discovering hidden treasures
- Health and Wellbeing - cycling and walking trails with add on experiences
- Food and Drink - local people offering immersive, curated and unique experiences
- 4. High quality service standards expected and environmental sustainability and social responsibility increasingly important as a point of difference
- 5. All markets are digitally connected and an online presence is important as it is used as the platform for information and bookings



Cann River SES fundraising

Income

48% are unsure or think that they do not have adequate income.



Employment

39% agreed that they have the type of & access to employment they would like



28%

agreed that they have access to work opportunities in the community that support the lifestyle they want

23%

agreed that they have access to services that support them gaining employment

29%

agreed they have access to non-school training and education (Community survey, 2018)

References:

¹³ SKIFT Insight (2017)

¹⁴ Destination Marketing Store (2019)

"To develop a wonderful eco-tourist strategy that highlights the best of the district and is mindful of the impacts that the human footprint may have."

Local Resident

"Different people with different cultures come to town"

Local Kid

"More things to do, more tourism"

Local Resident

"More attractions"

Local Resident

"Action, wealth & tourism soon"

Local Residents

"Bring the business to the meeting"

Local Resident



Camping under the stars in Far East Gippsland (Photo: Judy Deland)

Safe & Healthy Communities



Safety

The Cann Valley District has experienced significant bush fires and this remains an ongoing challenge for the district into the future, affecting the feeling of safety for the community. Fire Authorities have assessed Cann River as having a very high bushfire risk due to the surrounding vegetation. The Cann River and Tamboon communities have recently developed a Local Incident Management Plan (LIMP).

Anecdotal evidence along with feedback in the community survey indicates that there is still an issue with residents accessing information to prepare for and manage an unexpected event. This is of concern given the recent impact of fires and ongoing risk in the area, with 66% agreeing that they can access the information to prepare for and manage an unexpected event.

Ensuring that residents and tourists have sufficient information to prepare for and manage an unexpected event continues to be something that the agencies in the district are working to improve, such as the exploration of a radio repeater. Agencies with Emergency Management responsibilities meet regularly on this matter, as does the community through the Cann River Emergency Preparedness Committee. A new approach to

emergency management in remote and ageing communities with declining SES and CFA brigade membership and high risk profiles is needed.

Ageing Population

As with many other townships across East Gippsland, the population in the district is ageing with one third over the age of 60. East Gippsland is one of Victoria's highest per capita populations of ageing people, and it is projected that almost 40% of the population will be over 60 years by 2020. East Gippsland is one of 19 municipalities within Victoria already considered super aged¹⁵.

The ageing of the population in the district raises concerns around the ability of its residents to continue to sustain the functions and governance of community and service groups. The physical labour and service required for groups such as CFA and SES will present a challenge in membership.

The provision of Home and Community Care (HACC) services and palliative care by the Cann Valley Bush Nursing Centre (CVBNC) provides some service to those wishing to age in place, however there are no specific aged care facilities located within this district.

Health

Whilst two thirds of the survey respondents felt that they had excellent health, this wasn't felt as strongly around the health and wellbeing of the overall community. Approximately half of the survey respondents agreed that they have adequate access to health services in the district.

The CVBNC has been in operation since 1972, being the main provider of health services across the district. This service operates five days per week with an on-call service that provides care for emergency situations. The Centre provides a range of Allied Health Services, however its remoteness can make it difficult to recruit and retain professionals in these disciplines. Currently a doctor service is provided on a weekly basis, a dentist visits on a monthly basis and a massage therapist, drug and alcohol counselor and podiatrist visit regularly.

At least half of the survey respondents go outside of the district for health and medical services on a monthly basis and 40% rarely do. Of those who do go outside of the district the most common locations to travel to for health and medical services were Orbost followed by Bairnsdale. Nearly half of the survey respondents indicated that they would expect to be able to access health and medical services in the district.

Reference:
¹⁵ East Gippsland Shire Council. Ageing Well in East Gippsland; Age Friendly Communities Strategy 2017 – 2030



Mother and child on the slide at Mick Baum Park

Safe & Healthy Communities



Outside of the district, depending on the health services required, residents have the choice of going to:

Destination	Distance / Time from Cann River	Services
Orbost	75KM / 1hr	Pharmacy, Hospital, General Practitioner (GP), Dental Clinics
Bairnsdale	165KM / 1hr 55min	Regional Hospital, Specialists, Pharmacy, GP, Dental Clinics
Lakes Entrance	132KM / 1hr 30min	Pharmacy, GP, Dental Clinics
Mallacoota	69KM / 55min	Pharmacy, GP
Eden, NSW	110KM / 1hr 20min	Pharmacy, GP
Bombala, NSW	86KM / 1hr	Pharmacy, Multi-purpose Service, GP

Cann Valley operates its own voluntary ambulance service that provides early intervention and support for patients while awaiting the arrival of an ambulance. These First Responders are dispatched at the same time as the 000 Ambulance and most likely to arrive first on the site

of a road accident, respiratory and cardiac incidents or other incidents requiring emergency care. The community is reliant on the ambulance from Orbost or Mallacoota for paramedic intervention or transportation of seriously ill or injured people.

Services

The township is well serviced, with police, health, education and community services located in Cann River.

Safety

85%
agreed that the community is a safe place to live



68%
agreed that the community has a reputation for being a safe place



66%
agreed that they can access the information to prepare for and manage an unexpected event



Health

66%
agreed that in general, they have excellent health



53%
agreed that they have adequate access to health services in the district



26%
agreed that the health and wellbeing of the community is strong



(Community survey, 2018)

Cann River Community Centre (CRCC)

Provides a range of social, educational, recreational and support activities through primary funding from the state Department of Health and Human Services Neighbourhood House Coordination Program. A centrelink agency is provided through the federal government and a Council Outreach and library service and Visitor Information Service is provided through Council funding. Operates an op shop and art & craft shop as local social enterprises.

Located in Cann River.

Ambulance Victoria

Provides early intervention, patient transport and emergency care by Community Ambulance Officers (volunteers).

Located in Cann River.

SES

Provide on the ground support during emergencies and support communities to better understand the 'who, what, when and how' for emergency events.

Volunteer Unit based in Cann River, regional office located in Bairnsdale.

Victoria Police

Provides policing services to promote a safe, secure and orderly society

Located in Cann River.

East Gippsland Shire Council

Provides fortnightly mobile library/customer service bus, waste management, environmental / public health inspection and compliance, land use planning and regulation, public amenities, parks and gardens & maintenance of assets.

Outreach/Information Services contracted to CRCC.

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

Provides for the integrated management of land, biodiversity and water resources and responsibility for the planning and delivery of river health works, and several statutory activities.

Located in Bairnsdale.

Snapshop of the Cann Valley District Services

Regional Roads Victoria (RRV)

Provision of upgrades including safety and maintenance improvements of roads.

Located in Bairnsdale.

Orbost Regional Health (ORH)

Provides a range of hospital, aged care, medical, dental and community services.

Located in Orbost.

Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP)

Provides a range of services related to environment, energy, wildlife, heritage, climate change, planning, marine and coast, forest fire management, property and land titles water and catchment and forest and reserves.

Some service provision located in Cann River, including seasonal fire fighting.

Offices based in Orbost & Bairnsdale.

Cann River P12 College

Provides a learning environment for students from prep through to Year 12 with a whole-school approach to the social and academic learning of each student.

Located in Cann River.

Cann Valley Kindergarten

Provides integrated 3 & 4 year old kindergarten / childcare managed through Uniting Gippsland

Located in Cann River.

Moogji Aboriginal Council

Provides a range of clinical, allied health and community services.

Located in Orbost and provides outreach to Cann River.

CFA

A volunteer and community based fire and emergency services organisation which works together with communities to keep them safe from fire and other emergencies.

Volunteer Brigade based in Cann River.

District 11 Headquarters located in Bairnsdale.

Royal Flying Doctor Service

Provides outreach mental health support services in Cann River.

Located in Orbost.

Cann Valley Bush Nursing Centre (CVBNC)

Provides a range of clinical, allied health and community services through primary funding from Department of Health and Human Services & Department of Health and Ageing.

Located in Cann River.

Parks Victoria (PV)

Public land manager, visitor experiences and service across National Parks and reserves.

Some service provision located in Cann River, offices based in Orbost & Bairnsdale.

Cann Valley has a range of services that support the residents within this district.

Resilient & Connected Communities



The gradual decline in the population of the district has had an impact on social and recreational opportunities. With over one third of residents in the Cann Valley District living on their own, there is a need to create connections to reduce potential social isolation.

Sport & Leisure Opportunities

The Cann Valley District has limited sporting clubs and groups. In the past there was netball, pony club, soccer and junior football teams however as the population has declined these clubs have become unviable. Young people travel to Orbost or to New South Wales to participate in sport. Only one in five of the survey respondents felt that they had access to a range of sports and leisure activities within the district. Young people living in the district would like to see more activities and things for them to do.

Community Groups

There are many active community and service groups throughout the Cann Valley District, this contributes to the district's feeling of community spirit. There are currently 16 active community and service groups identified in the Cann Valley District varying from three members to 42 members. As is the case in many small communities, there are a number of people who volunteer on multiple committees. A higher proportion of people volunteered for an organisation or group in Cann Valley compared to East Gippsland Shire (27% and 25% respectively) (ABS, 2016). In the community survey, 64% indicated that they volunteered with an average of 11 hours per month

20% of respondents indicated that they volunteer for the social opportunities and 34% to be part of something.

Opportunities to Connect

There are some key celebratory events across the district which bring the community together, such as:

- Australia Day and Christmas celebrations
- Anzac and Remembrance Day
- Art & Craft Show
- School Production
- Biggest Pumpkin Festival

Less than half of the survey respondents felt that there was adequate acknowledgement of traditions and celebrations in the Cann Valley District.

Both the CVBNC and the Cann River Community Centre (CRCC) provide a range of social groups and opportunities as a way for people to connect with others and to engage socially. Harnessing the identity and diversity of the Cann Valley District is an opportunity that can be built upon. There is a rich local history which many in the community would like to preserve and promote with ideas around this identified in the Ideas Bank to explore for the future.

Communication

People in the Cann Valley District currently access information from a range of sources. The town newsletter "The Jinga" is produced by the Cann River P12 College on a fortnightly basis during school terms. Agencies such as the CRCC and CVBNC provide valuable connection using Facebook and

notice boards. General word of mouth from other community members is another avenue as are the numerous noticeboards that are located around the town including the Post Office.

Road and Related Infrastructure

Road infrastructure is vital for both residents, tourists and the freight industry. Whilst the district is geographically isolated, their location does provide them with being equal distance to Bairnsdale and Eden/Merimbula/Bega in NSW and is a critical freight route as already identified in this plan.

The community survey identified the availability of convenient pedestrian/cycle pathways was seen as inadequate with only 6% satisfied with the infrastructure, 29% neutral, 41% dissatisfied. Note: The survey was undertaken prior to the completion of the current township upgrades and connecting footpaths.

The road network in this district is the lifeblood of the community. Both the Princes Highway and Monaro Highway feed directly into the township of Cann River. The VicRoads Road Improvement Program 2018-2020 saw \$10M allocated to works on the Monaro Highway to improve freight connectivity and safety. Load checking bays, installation of slow vehicle turn outs and pavement widening (including load turn around areas for truck/long vehicles in event of road closures) have been implemented.



Community involvement

70%
agreed that they felt valued by their local community

80%
agreed that they were proud to live in the community

51%
agreed that they could change the things they cared about in their community

59%
agreed that they got involved with most community issues

Access to activities

42%
agreed that they had access to a range of arts and cultural activities within the district

24%
agreed that they had access to a range of sports and leisure activities within the district

66%
agreed that they had access to participate in social activities

Identity & diversity



42%
agreed that the district has a defined identity

33%
agreed that the community's local history is being preserved and promoted

44%
agreed that the community acknowledges traditions and celebrations

52%
agreed that a diversity of culture and tradition is present
(Community survey, 2018)



Community Groups in the Cann Valley District

Cann Valley Landcare Group
Approx members: 42
Number of meetings per year: As required

Cann Valley Bush Nursing Centre Board
Approx members: 229 (9 on Board)
Number of meetings per year: 11

Cann River Community Centre Committee of Management
Approx members: 55 (10 on Committee of Management)
Number of meetings per year: 12

Cann River P12 College Council
Approx members: 8
Number of meetings per year: 10

Club Terrace Community Reserve/Hall Committee
Approx members: 3
Number of meetings per year: As required

Cann River Hall Committee of Management
Approx members: 4
Number of meetings per year: As required

Combiobar Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee
Approx members: 9
Number of meetings per year: As required

Cann River SES
Approx members: 15
Number of meetings per year: Approx. 24 (one meeting, one training day per month)

Cann River CFA
Approx members: 8

Noorinbee Public Purpose Reserve/Hall Committee
Approx members: 7
Number of meetings per year: As required

Tamboon Progress Association (Tamboon South)
Approx members: 20-25
Number of meetings per year: 2

Cann Valley Cemetery Trust
Approx members: 7
Number of meetings per year: 4

Cann River RSL
Approx members: 30
Number of meetings per year: 3-5

Resilient & Connected Communities



Transport
The CRCC and the CVBNC have community buses that support residents to attend appointments and group activities. The feeling that people have adequate access to transport was mixed, 56% agreed that there was adequate access, 8% neutral, 22% believing that there is insufficient access. A large proportion of the community get around the district by car. Public transport options are limited.

Community Facilities
Cann Valley District has three halls, two tennis courts and three recreation reserves which the survey identified as being rarely or never used by respondents. For each facility, over half of the respondents felt that the facility was important or very important, with less than half planning to use each facility in the future. The changes in population across this district have seen a change to the purpose and use of community facilities. As settlements across the district have declined, schools have

closed, halls left unused and small numbers of people left responsible for the assets.

Infrastructure and facilities are only relevant to the use and purpose that people provide them. This process has identified the need for Council and DELWP to work with the community to review the facilities across the district so that they are fit for purpose and sustainable for current and future use.

Community & relationships

76%
agreed that they could trust their neighbours to look out for their property



66%
agreed that if a stranger, someone different to them, moved into their community they would be accepted and welcomed



55%
agreed that the community is connected and inclusive; everyone feels welcome



72%
agreed that people in their community are very willing to help each other out



80%
agreed that the local community feels like home

(Community survey, 2018)



In the past 5 years, respondents of the survey had

joined in a local community action to deal with an emergency



taken part in a local community project or working bee



Getting around

58%
agreed that they have OK access to transport to allow me to do the things I want to do within my district



13%
agreed that the district has safe and convenient pedestrian/cycle pathways

44%
agreed that the district has sufficient pathways to connect the community

Section 3: Implementing The Plan

Outcomes & Priorities

This section outlines the four outcomes the Cann Valley community wants to achieve and their priority ideas. A separate Annual Action Plan accompanies this District Community Plan and will be reviewed and updated regularly.

Determining the Outcomes

A total of 82 ideas were harvested from the workshops and community survey to create an Ideas Bank for the community to draw upon, (See page 34). The ideas were then refined to 18 interesting ideas. Work was done to define what each idea meant to the community which was used to group the interesting ideas into the four outcome areas: Healthy and Sustainable Environments, Thriving Economy, Safe and Healthy Communities, Resilient and Connected Communities.

The community then identified the priorities that they would concentrate their energy and resources on for the first 12 months, from these interesting ideas. The amount of time, resources, skills, and availability were considered to ensure energy for existing group activities was retained.

Priority projects are represented with a star.



Working Together: Roles & Responsibilities

Not all ideas can be delivered by community, many ideas need the support of agencies (i.e. government land managers) and services (i.e. health providers). Each of the priority ideas have identified the roles and responsibilities:

- Where community can do it themselves;
- Where community and agencies partner together providing support, funding, resources or advocacy;
- Where agencies take the lead, keeping community informed about the when and how.

The remaining ideas were not chosen for work in the first 12 months of 2020. At the end of this period the DCRG will review the Annual Action Plan and decide whether to continue with the priority projects they are working on, or introduce additional projects from the interesting ideas already defined or the Ideas Bank.



Community gather on Australia Day in 2018 in Mick Baum Park

Future Challenges & Opportunities

The rate of change in society today is accelerating. Whether it is change to the economy, environment or the community, the reality is that people will experience an increased rate and impact of change. The capacity of communities in East Gippsland to respond and adapt to these changes will be critical in order for them to achieve their vision for their communities.

Top Five Future Challenges & Opportunities

The results from the community survey indicate what people see as the future challenges and opportunities in this district. They reflect the changes that this community has seen over the last 10 years and their growing awareness of their reliance on the natural environment and its sustainable management to secure their future prosperity.

Individual

1. Isolation
2. Service Access
3. Fire Risk
4. Ageing Population
5. Climate Change



Community

1. Industry Decline
2. Service Access
3. Population Decline
4. Unemployment
5. Fire Risk/Ageing Population



District

1. Industry Decline
2. Fire Risk
3. Environmental Sustainability
4. Road Infrastructure
5. Water Security/Agriculture



Economic Opportunities

The future prosperity of Cann River is highly reliant on its location at the junction of the two major highways. The streetscape upgrade addressed many of the road safety and pedestrian connectivity issues. The current plans to upgrade the United Fuel Stop to a 24 hour truck stop will improve the services offered to truck drivers.

The businesses in town and the presence of amenities in Mick Baum Park enable visitors to take a break. The challenge for Cann River is to increase the spend within the township by extending the length of stay of those visitors and the types of services and activities offered during their stay.

The proximity to natural assets such as the Cape Conran, Croajingolong National Park and Point Hicks Lighthouse provide numerous opportunities around nature based tourism. Parks Victoria have identified the Croajingolong National Park as a potential Iconic Coastal Wilderness Walk, with planning and development flagged over the next five to ten years.

In 2019 the Victorian Government announced funding to implement a great outdoors package. This includes \$105.6M for camping grounds, better four-wheel-drive-tracks and new walking trails. In East Gippsland, \$1.5M to undertake planning for an iconic Sea to Summit hiking trail – creating a world-class multi-day walk modelled on the Grampians Peak Trail. The Sea to Summit is one part of the Emerald Link Project.

The other sections of the project will be scoped in late 2019.

Environmental Sustainability: Water Security/Climate Change

East Gippsland Shire is vulnerable to coastal hazards, inundation, fire and extreme natural events and climate change has potential to increase our vulnerability. Work is continuing to understand the nature and extent of future impacts on communities. Council is committed to assisting communities to adapt to future conditions in a planned way¹⁶

Children & Young People in the District

A number of students from Cann River P12 College participated in three sessions during the development of the District Community Plan to ensure that their voice was captured. Children and young people (0 – 25 years) make up almost one quarter (24%) of the population in the Cann Valley District. Children and young people have so much to offer the Cann Valley District and this should be encouraged and supported. The students at Cann River P12 College are taking the lead on the Mick Baum Park Redevelopment Project.

Reference:

¹⁶ East Gippsland Shire Council
Environmental Sustainability Strategy
2014-2017

Outcomes and Priorities

Outcome 1. Healthy & Sustainable Environments

What this means to community:

 1.1 Access to the Cann River	• Improve connection between the river and the caravan park and township so that visitors enjoy the river and can walk along the river bank. • Identify how to improve swimming opportunities so that young people have somewhere to swim.		
	Roles and Responsibilities		
	What community does	What community and partner agencies do together	What agencies do
	Establish a working group on this priority. Cann Valley Landcare is taking the lead on the joint project with the EGCMA. The community via Cann Valley Landcare undertake planting and revegetation works in 2019/2020.	EGCMA, Council and DELWP work in partnership with the community around the access to the river.	Coordination between all three agencies DELWP, EGCMA and Council for: • Land manager consent; • Maintenance • Issuing of approvals • Planning for new works EGCMA – health of the river
1.2 Access to the beach	• Seal the road to Point Hicks to improve the safety and accessibility for residents and tourists to the beach. • Open up the tourist potential of Point Hicks enabling all to access this wonderful natural asset. • Encourage people to stay longer and spend more time and money in the district. • Reduce the travel time on this dirt road, thereby increasing usage and tourism visitation		
1.3 Access to the National Parks	• Enable local community to create new enterprises that offer activities and build the visitor economy by improving infrastructure to and within the National Parks, i.e: roads, camping, infrastructure. • Create local jobs		

Outcome 2. Thriving Economy

What this means to community:

2.1 Mechanics Workshop	• Provide employment opportunities for local people whilst offering a service for locals and visitors. • Youth skill building using existing infrastructure at the DELWP workshop.		
2.2 Hospitality Training	• Provide people with the opportunity to learn new skills locally.		
2.3 More local jobs (outsourcing, agencies, social enterprise)	• Provide people with meaning, belonging, purpose by retraining. • Earn a living and being able to stay in the community. Having enough money to live a good life. • For our kids (connection), a reason for them to come back home.		
2.4 Toilet Upgrade	• Provide an important amenity necessary to meet the needs of the visitors to our community year round, including peak times.		
 2.5 Develop Local Tourism Strategy	• Co-create a plan with people with expertise in tourism to improve the local economy, create jobs and help businesses to thrive. • Showcase our town's people and natural assets. • Develop a plan on how to increase visitor spend through number of nights stayed and dollars spent in our district. • Work with DELWP and Parks Victoria to improve access to our National Parks and increase visitation and tourism activities within them.		
Roles and Responsibilities			
	What community does	What community and partner agencies do together	What agencies do
	Establish a working group to identify what the district currently offers by way of nature based tourism	Development of a local nature based tourism plan for Cann Valley.	Council: support the development of a tourism local destination action plan.
	Understand how we can utilise the regional and municipal tourism strategies to implement our own plan to improve our local economy.		Council: advocate to State and Federal agencies, seek funding opportunities, liaise with Destination Gippsland and EG Marketing.
	Identify the roles of business and community in implementing the plan.		Other agencies include Parks Vic, DELWP, Destination Gippsland, EG Marketing, Regional Roads Victoria, Regional Development Victoria (RDV).

Outcome 3. Safe & Healthy Communities

What this means to community:

3.1 Fuel Reduction Burning	- Improve the safety of the community - Explore cultural burns as a means of managing the landscape. - Provide long term solutions for our environment and us.
3.2 Emergency Preparedness	- Increased knowledge and understand will lead to increase feelings of safety. - Increase feelings of safety through improved knowledge and understanding of how to prepare for an emergency. - Advocate for coordinated risk reduction works to be undertaken by all land managers. - Advocate for a new approach to emergency management in remote communities with an ageing population. - Continued collaboration between Emergency Management Agencies and Cann River Emergency Preparedness Committee (CREPC) to achieve this.
3.3 Pool Access	- Improve the health and wellbeing of the community especially the ageing population. - Currently the community travel to NSW for heated pool therapy and rehabilitation.
3.4 Regional Fresh Food Hub	Utilise our existing resources (people, skills, soils and rainfall) to create fresh food production jobs.
3.5 Fitness Facilities	Ability to access equipment within the township to maintain community members health and wellbeing.

Outcome 4. Resilient & Connected Communities

What this means to community:

4.1 Activities for Young People	- Engage our young people in facilities and activities in positive ways. - Create safe environments for young people to connect and hang out. - Upgrade the skatepark and playground to meet the needs of locals and visitors. - Provide more things to do for young people so it is less boring.		
 4.2 Festivals & Events	- Provide opportunities for tourists to come to town and stay, participating in cultural activities and events. - Create events that are inclusive of everyone and enable community to come together. - Showcase our local talent and products through events		
	Roles and Responsibilities		
	What community does	What community and partner agencies do together	What agencies do
	Establish working groups to organise events and festivals.	Share information about funding and other opportunities to support community celebrations and events.	Council (community grants program), RDV, Regional Arts Victoria: Provide funding for a variety of arts and cultural events.
4.3 Connected Walking Tracks	- Provide opportunities for residents and tourists to walk safely around the township, capturing the history of the district. - Link existing tracks around the township to create a circuit walk that can be used to promote walking for health and wellbeing.		

Outcome 4. Resilient & Connected Communities (Continued)

 4.4 Community Centre Refurbishment	• The building that the CRCC operates from at present is not fit for the purpose for a Neighbourhood House, with storage/service issues for community groups. • That the CRCC has a facility it can operate from that is fit for purpose. • Resolve storage and service issues affecting the CRCC and community groups that also use the space.		
	Roles and Responsibilities		
	What community does	What community and partner agencies do together	What agencies do
	Identify the needs of community groups and services.	Share information about the current community groups and services provided across the District, usage rates and current/future needs.	Review community facilities in the Cann Valley District with key agencies including DELWP and DET: Council.
 4.5 Mick Baum Park Upgrade	• Redevelop the park so that it is multi-functional and can meet the needs of residents and visitors. The park is a central location within the town that is used for a variety of purposes and events. • Renew and upgrade the equipment in the park to cater to the needs of teenagers. Their suggestions include: – More seating and shade for people throughout the space – Better skating facilities (the existing skate park is rusty, too small, not designed for bikes which most of the local teenagers ride) and is mainly used by visitors rather than locals as a result. – A basketball court, web climbing frame and fitness stations • Renew and upgrade the public toilet facilities in the township to cope better with peak periods. These facilities are the most used within the shire.		
	Roles and Responsibilities		
	What community does	What community and partner agencies do together	What agencies do
	Cann River P12 students: Take the lead on collecting information about park infrastructure and the needs of residents and visitors.	Share information about the current and future needs of residents and visitors for facilities within Mick Baum Park.	Council: Open space and community facilities planning. Create a precinct masterplan for the park as part of the community facilities review.
 4.6 Maximise use of community facilities	• Review the facilities in the district and establish how community want to use them. • Activate community spaces. • Make it easier to run community facilities.		
	Roles and Responsibilities		
	What community does	What community and partner agencies do together	What agencies do
	Identify and document needs of the community and advocate to relevant authorities	Work in partnership to understand policy and process and investigate options	Work together to review facility management to meet the needs of community: DELWP and Council

Ideas Bank

Business

- Access to a variety of affordable foods
- Fitness facilities
- Laundromat
- Local farmers markets
- Mechanic workshop in town
- Places to eat at night
- Regional fresh food hub
- Shopping centre
- Social enterprise
- Community enterprise
- Community banking
- Cinema
- Wind Farm
- Solar Farm

Community

- Relationship with Vic and NSW councils
- Working together as team Cann
- More social opportunities
- New ways to welcome new residents

Groups

- Active CFA local group
- Groups and services to amalgamate facilities
- Cross border committee
- Over arching group to drive community plan

Marketing

- Promote Cann River – media

Recreation

- Pool
- Skate park
- Sports
- Recreation Reserve
- Connected walking tracks
- Fishing
- High ropes course

- Gym
- Basketball court

Tourism

- Tourism
- Map of bike trails

Infrastructure

- A better caravan park
- Extra car parks and toilet in the park for visitors
- Housing
- Infrastructure for tourism
- Local attractions
- More parking for trucks
- Parking for long vehicles
- Roads
- Stop over progress
- Toilet facilities
- The Hall
- Community kitchen
- Access to the river
- History/museum

Health

- Additional health services access
- Health & fitness options
- Tourist and healthy living hub

Signage

- Good signage welcoming visitors to area
- Have something in place that tells the history of the town e.g. Mill

Sense of place

- Similar to how it is now
- Clean up all the rubbish behind the hotel along river

Jobs

- All agency work should be offered to the local community before outsourcing.
- Bring more local jobs back to the area, i.e. DELWP, Parks Vic, CMA could all employ in this far east Gippsland area
- More employment opportunities

Services

- Better access to services
- Community Centre refurbishment
- Law & order
- Tourist facilities and services
- Update technology services
- Access to the DELWP facility (mechanics)

Transport

- Public transport

Safety

- A detailed resilience plan tailored to Cann
- Fire safety
- Fuel reduction burning
- Good lighting in town
- To ensure we had the infrastructure to protect this amazing region during a disaster

Events

- Activities for teenagers
- Annual event i.e. jazz festival to bring tourist here
- festivals & markets
- Yearly annual event



Tree fern at Kuark forest
(Photo: Judy Deland)

District Community Representative Group

The District Community Representative Group (DCRG) will provide a mechanism for implementing the District Community Plan. Council is committed to supporting the community to establish this group. The purpose of the Cann Valley DCRG is to drive the District Community Plan by:

- Representing the whole district
- Working together
- Being strategic not operational
- Spreading the workload
- Co-ordinating effort and communication
- Managing relationships with agencies on district issues
- Be the voice of the community

The role & responsibilities of community groups nominated representative participating on the DCRG is to:

- Put your group hat on, representing views of the group when at the DCRG, not individual view
- Two-way information. Report to the group about what was discussed at the DCRG and report to the DCRG about activities of the group
- The DCRG is focused on the District Community Plan outcomes and implementation, coordinating District Community Plan activities and relationships with agencies

Time was spent through the community planning process working with participants in the workshops to develop standards of behaviour that reflect the values that the community wish to realise. The list below reflects how the community will work with each

other to implement their plan:

- Respectfully with courtesy and honesty
- Friendly & fun
- With open minds
- Creative
- Inclusive
- Reliable, committed & accountable
- Listening
- Supportive & empowering

The DCRG includes representation of the community groups across the district as well as geographic and demographic representation. The following groups were identified as active and to provide a nominated representative to participate on the DCRG:

- Cann Valley Bush Nursing Centre Board
- Cann River Community Centre Committee
- Cann River P12 College Council
- Cann River Hall Committee of Management
- Cann River SES
- Cann River CFA
- Cann River RSL
- Cann Valley Cemetery Trust
- Cann Valley Landcare Group
- Club Terrace Recreation Reserve/Hall Committee
- Combienbar Public Hall & Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Noorinbee Public Purpose Reserve/Hall Committee of Management
- Tamboon Progress Association
- District Community Plan Working Group Conveners

Working Groups

Working groups have been established to take carriage of the delivery of the priority projects. Working Groups will have representation on the DCRG. The membership of the working groups may include partner agencies and others in the community outside of the DCRG. The role of a Working Group is:

- Do the doing
- Report back to the representative group and to work within the brief
- Don't expand the brief beyond the 12 month plan
- Make recommendations about changes to approach or the brief

Annual Action Plan

An action plan will be developed for the key projects and areas of focus. Working Groups will develop the action plan for each priority idea, which will outline:

- Partners/stakeholders
- Steps and actions
- Timing
- Who is responsible and the roles of different agencies or community

It will then be reviewed and accepted by DCRG. A report card will be used to provide a way of measuring achievements. The Action Plan accompanies this District Community Plan.

"Consensus and effort"
"A co-operative group"

Local Residents

Contact us in person

Bairnsdale: 273 Main Street

Lakes Entrance: 18 Mechanics Street

Mallacoota: 70 Maurice Avenue

Omeo: 179 Day Avenue

Orbost: 1 Ruskin Street

Paynesville: 55 The Esplanade

Bendoc: 18 Dowling Street

Buchan: 6 Centre Road

Cann River: 13 Princes Highway

Front Cover Image:

Children compete in a sack race
at Mick Baum Park in 2017

 1300 555 886

 03 5153 9500

 feedback@egipps.vic.gov.au

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