



Cann Valley
District
Community Plan
Review
2019 - 2024

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land that encompasses the Cann Valley district. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the Cann Valley district and Elders past, present and emerging.

Acknowledgement of Funders

The Cann Valley District Community Plan Review was jointly funded by CRC LGA Funding – East Gippsland Shire Council, the Victorian Government and Commonwealth Government under the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.



The achievements highlighted in this document have been made possible by the support of the following funders;

- Gippsland Community Foundation
- Connect Well/Gippsland Lakes Community Health
- Black Summer 19/20 Bushfires Grants: Safe, Healthy and Resilient Communities Emergency Preparedness
- Emergency Recovery Victoria
- Fire to Flourish
- CRC LGA Funding – East Gippsland Shire Council
- EGMI
- MacKillop Seasons
- Australian Business Volunteers

Acknowledgement of Community Volunteers

A number of community members have been involved in making the many projects happen over the last five years. We acknowledge and thank community volunteers who have contributed to a positive impact on the Cann Valley community.

Acknowledgement of Project Group

A working group of the Cann Valley District Representative Group was formed to support and guide the review. Thank you to the following members for their contribution - Irene, Annie, Roxy, Jen & Tiff.

For further information, please contact the Cann Valley District Representative Group - cvdrg@outlook.com



Cann Valley District
REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

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Executive Summary

Introduction

The first Cann Valley District Community Plan was developed in 2019. Over the last five years, community members and partners have worked together to implement priorities identified in the plan, along with additional priorities resulting from bushfire recovery. This document captures achievements within an ever-changing environment and the strengths, challenges and opportunities. This milestone allows us to pause, reflect, and celebrate achievements as a community. Reflecting on the past five years helps us focus on what we have learned and what matters most for the next five years. A strong foundation has been built, and many opportunities have been identified for developing a future based on strengths.

Community Leadership

The Cann Valley District Representative Group (CVDRG) was established to drive the Cann Valley District Community Plan and Community Recovery Plans providing advocacy, identifying community needs, building partnerships with community, organisations and funders, and coordinating effort and communication. The CVDRG became incorporated in August 2021 and aimed to include representation from community groups across the Cann Valley District as well as geographic and demographic representation.

The CVDRG has been effective in supporting the community to achieve priorities/actions. The CVDRG has leveraged the strengths and resources of members, fostered open communication and trust, collaborated on innovative solutions and reviewed the group's progress and identifying areas for improvement. Continuing to build and strengthen the CVDRG is critical with a focus on growing representation and building communication with the community to celebrate successes and reinforce the value of the partnership.

Community Changes

There has been a significant amount of change over the last five-years in the Cann Valley District. It has been an ever-changing environment including natural disasters - fires and floods, a pandemic, transitioning industries and changing population.

As highlighted in the 2019 District Community Plan, 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 Cann Valley District community has demonstrated their capacity and capability to respond and adapt to changes over the last five-years. This will support the Cann Valley District to navigate changes in the next five-years to work towards achieving their vision for their district.

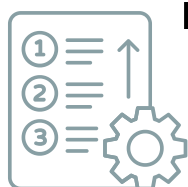
Strengths, Challenges & Opportunities

The CVDRG has provided leadership and a united voice for collaboration with community, agencies and funders. The CVDRG aligned the District Community Plan with Community Recovery outcomes to build a stronger community and secure resources. Partnerships with organisations and funders have been cultivated to secure resources for project implementation. A foundation has been laid to build on with investments in scoping, reviews, and reports that have identified key issues and needs, engaged stakeholders, and guided informed decisions.

The Cann Valley District has identified some challenges as they look to the future. This includes attracting and retaining families in the district, building volunteer support to prevent burnout among a few individuals and to bring diverse perspectives and enthusiasm to community projects. Housing, access to food and improving community health and wellbeing are significant concerns for the community.

Building on the strengths of the Cann Valley district presents a remarkable opportunity for growth and resilience. Continuing to build the strength the CVDRG through building the profile and engaging representatives will support the ongoing effectiveness of the group. Building community identity and spirit presents a valuable opportunity to foster a sense of belonging and unity among the community and an opportunity to shape an identity for the future.

Snapshot of Achievements



PROGRESS ON

11

**OUT OF 17
PRIORITIES**

- Progress on 65% of the Community Plan
- 80% of the Recovery Plan completed



8

FUNDERS

**Invested in the Cann Valley district to
achieve priorities through**

**events, skills training,
scoping, reviews and
infrastructure development**

1. Introduction

The first Cann Valley District Community Plan was developed in 2019.

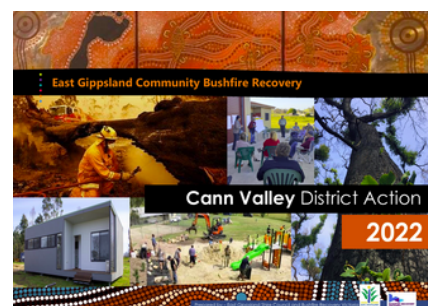
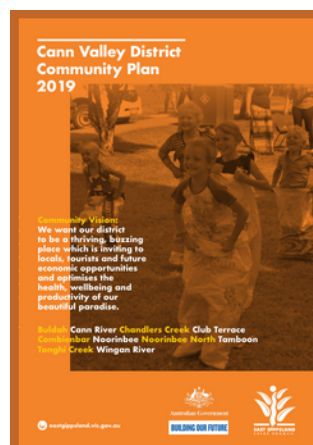
Over the last five years, many community members and partners worked together to implement many of the priorities identified in the District Community Plan along with additional priorities as a result of the bushfire recovery.

This document captures what we achieved together within an ever-changing environment including natural disasters - fires and floods, a pandemic, transitioning industries and changing population.

Community and agencies have together made progress over the last five years on a lot of what was prioritised in the District Community Plan in 2019, the Recovery Plans and the Strategic Plan.

This is a significant milestone to pause, reflect and celebrate our achievements as a community. Looking back is good to move forward focusing on what we have learnt over the past five years, and what matters most for the next five years.

A strong foundation has been built over the last five years, and many opportunities have identified as we look to develop a future based on strengths.



HOW THE REVIEW WAS CONDUCTED

A Project Steering Group was formed as a sub-group of the Cann Valley District Representative Group (CVDRG) to guide and support the Plan Review.

The review involved the following components

- Voices of community via
 - Community Survey
 - Drop-in sessions
 - Sessions with children & young people
- Reviewing key documents
- Meeting with services and key stakeholders

This document summarises what was captured through the review and has been used to inform the development of the Five-Year Action Plan 2025 - 2030.



Demographic representation of the survey 52 surveys were complete representing 16.5% of the district Adult Population

Place of residence		Age
Cann River - 44%	Noorinbee North - 6%	18 to 24 - 4%
Noorinbee - 24%	Tamboon - 6%	25 to 34 - 13%
Buldah - 9%	Tonghi Creek - 3%	35 to 49 - 17%
Chandler's Creek - 6%	Cabbage Tree - 3%	50 to 59 - 21%
		60 to 69 - 30%
		70 to 84 - 13%

2. COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

After the devastating bushfire events of 2019-2020 the residents of Cann Valley District formed an interim Cann Valley District Representative Group (CVDRG) to lead the way in the recovery process for the community.

This interim group incorporated in August 2021 and took carriage of the District Community Plan and bushfire recovery priorities through the Community Recovery Action Plan with the pillars of natural, built, social, economic and cultural healing.

CVDRG Goals

Driving the Cann Valley District Community Plan and Community Recovery Plans;

- Providing for and advocating on behalf of the needs of the community
- Endeavouring to increase economic activity within the community
- Managing relationships with individuals, businesses, local organisations and agencies on district issues
- Representing the whole district, coordinating effort and communication

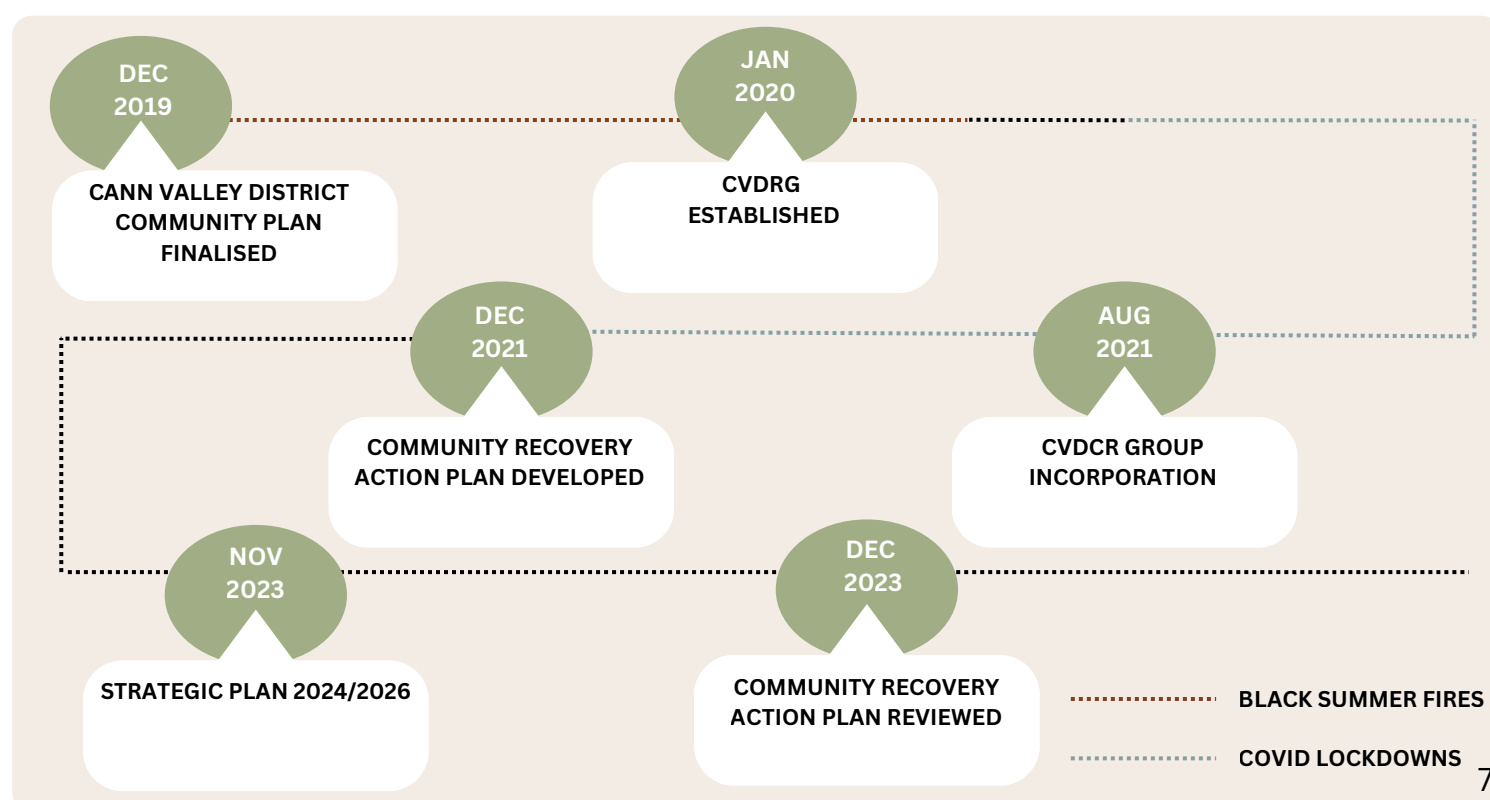
Representation

The CVDRG aimed to include representation from community groups across the Cann Valley District as well as geographic and demographic representation. All groups are invited and encouraged to provide a representative to participate in the CVDRG.

- 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
- Tamboon Inlet Community Association (formerly Progress Association)
- Tamboon Peachtree Association
- Buldah Community Association



93% of the groups have had some representation on the CVDRG over the five years



Effectiveness of the CVDRG in supporting the community to achieve priorities/ actions

63%
felt that the CVDRG had been effective

5%
felt that the CVDRG had not been so effective

32%
didn't know or were unsure of how effective the CVDRG had been

Raising the profile of the CVDRG and building community awareness and engagement is an opportunity going forward

(Community Survey, 2025)

Best way for the CVDRG to communicate the work of the group with the community

- Regular communication
- Showcase the work
- Discussions of future plans with community

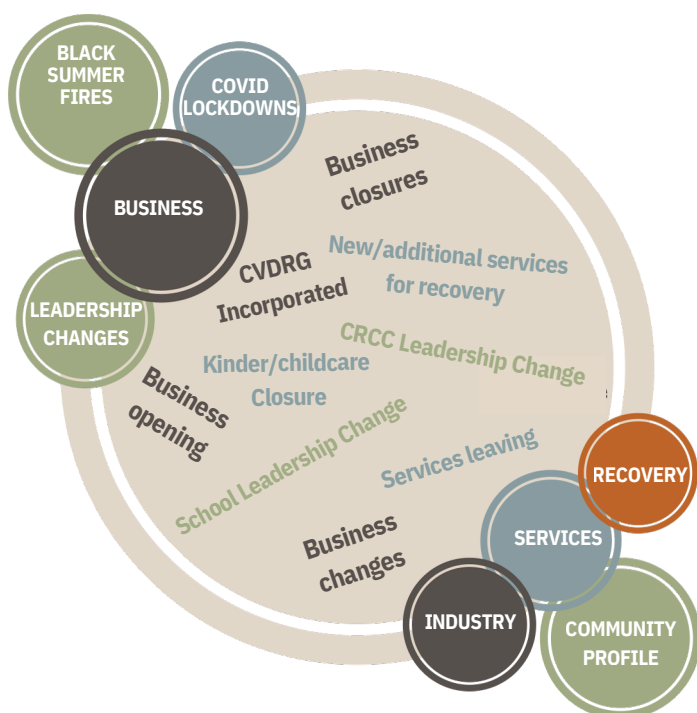
VIA

- Newsletter
- Public consultations
- Community Centre
- Website
- Mailouts
- Jinga
- Notice boards
- Social media
- Emails
- Word of mouth
- Events

(Community Survey, 2025)



3. COMMUNITY CHANGES 2019 - 2024



BLACK SUMMER FIRES

The District was significantly impacted by the Black Summer Fires 2019/2020

- 92% of the land area was burnt and dwellings were damaged
- Highway closures to all communities in January 2020 for 5 weeks
- Loss of power and telecommunications

The area was also impacted by flooding over the five years.

RECOVERY

Cann Valley District Representative Group (CRDRG) was established to develop a recovery plan.

Having the Cann Valley District Community Plan enabled the alignment of community and recovery priorities.

CVDRG established and became incorporated

COVID LOCKDOWNS

Lockdown restrictions and border closures impacted heavily on the district between March 2020 through to November 2021

- Impacted ability to come together in recovery in person
- Tech access a significant barrier for coming together online
- Significantly reduced through traffic in the district
- Cross-border travel permissions for residents of border communities
- Some people moved to the district from other areas- tree change

INDUSTRY & BUSINESS CHANGES

Closed/changes

- Supermarket
- Squires Cafe (due to fire)
- Humbugs Lolly Shop
- Cann River Cafe
- Pelican Point Cafe
- Cann River Motel
- Cann Quarries (new owner)
- Wild Rye

Opened

- Snaffle
- Service station
- Gift shop
- Monaro Centre

Transitioning from timber

SERVICES

New services

- Reclink
- Envite Environment
- Playgroup

Closed services

- Kindergarten/childcare
- RFDS (increased with outreach and now no longer in area)

Changed services

- MCH - previously ORH, now GLCH

Leadership changes

- CRCC
- Cann River P12

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Census data used in the 2019 District Community Plan was from 2016. The following highlights data from the 2021 Census which is the most current information available (next Census is in 2026.)

- Population has been on decline since 2017 however in 2024 growth back to 2022 population
- More lone person households
- High number of households with low income
- More affordable housing - to purchase and rent however costs have increased

See Appendix 1 for full profile

4.1 STRENGTHS

PARTNERSHIPS WITHIN THE DISTRICT

Establishment and incorporation of the CVDRG to provide leadership and a united voice for working together and with agencies. Committee members bring a wealth of skills, diverse experiences, and historical knowledge, all contributing to the betterment of the district. Everyone is committed to transparency, honesty, and the collective goal of improving the Cann Valley District. The CVDRG provided a critical avenue for communication between services and community. The CVDRG has built governance knowledge and has fostered a collaborative approach with representation from a range of groups and services. Community meetings and informal get-togethers enabled the CVDRG to engage the community and gauge and understand wants and needs effectively.

ALIGNMENT OF RECOVERY WITH DISTRICT PRIORITIES TO BUILD BACK BETTER & STRONGER

The CVDRG took the existing District Community Plan and aligned it to the Community Recovery outcomes to build a stronger community and enabled resources to be secured.

The Cann Valley District has cultivated solid relationships with partners and funders. By prioritising collaboration, transparency, and inclusivity, the CVDRG has maintained constant dialogue effectively communicating the community needs. Partnerships with organisations and funders have been cultivated to secure resources for implementation of projects.

LAST FIVE YEARS TOP ACHIEVEMENTS IDENTIFIED BY COMMUNITY

Monaro Centre

- Upgrades
- Creating a job opportunity
- Use of the space to bring community together – eg. photography competition and exhibition

Walking track projects

Waster transfer station – community advocacy

Engaging the community in events and activities

- Community lunches happening
- Bringing the community together

Working together - united voice and resourcing

- The workplaces like the bush nurse, school, community centre working together to make our community stronger also to create opportunities for our children
- A coming together of organisational minds to form a voice for community
- CVDRG determination and ability to obtain funding and progress projects
- Coming together as a community group to apply for grants
- All of the outcomes to the funded projects

Resilience in adversity – recovery after bushfires and COVID

- Emergency preparedness
- Making the area safer for future fires
- Oval work
- Providing feedback about the mismanagement of the 2019 fires
- Recognising the work locals carried out during and after the fires
- Great recovery after the fires and genuine attempts to engage with the community
- Communities are more prepared for the fire
- Water tank installation
- Club Terrace Hall

Community Centre upgrades

Communication media contact

Lyrebird

(Community Survey, 2025)

FOUNDATION LAID TO BUILD ON

There has been an investment in scoping, reviews and reports to identify opportunities and ways to achieve priorities. This has assisted in identifying the key issues and needs, has enabled engagement with a wide range of stakeholders, has assisted in identifying the resources needed and to be able to make informed decisions. The scoping reports and reviews are invaluable for the district going forward as they will guide the priorities and actions for the next five years, enhance participation, and ensure that actions are both effective and equitable.

STRENGTH OF COMMUNITY CONNECTION

A connected community fosters collaboration, support, and shared resources, enhancing the overall well-being and resilience of the community. The strength of the community connection is an important asset of the Cann Valley District.

EVOLVING PRIORITIES

With the ever-changing environment including natural disasters - fires and floods, a pandemic, transitioning industries and changing population as outlined in the community changes section, there was a need to continue to review, adapt and change priorities and actions. As circumstances shifted, the CVDRG adapted goals, strategies and actions by continuously assessing needs, identifying emerging trends, and being flexible enough to pivot when necessary. By prioritising adaptability and resilience, the CVDRG has been able to be responsive to the demands of the moment and has ensured that the group has remained aligned with objectives while being responsive to the ever-changing landscape. Continuing to be flexible and adaptable going forward will continue to be important.



What we heard
from children
and young
people

Best things about living in the Cann Valley district

- Natural environment
 - Wildlife/Animals
 - Bush/Nature
 - View
- Things to do
 - Lots of activities to do
 - Youth group every Friday
 - Motorbike track
 - Places to visit/sight see
 - Park
- Community is connected, supportive & friendly
- Most people are nice
- Close knit community
- Everyone looks out for one another
- Community connections
- Community gets together frequently
- Isolation
- Small – everything not far to walk
- Peaceful
- Family
- Friends
- My house
- Farm
- Starlink connection
- Food

LIVING IN THE DISTRICT



LENGTH OF TIME
LIVING IN THE
DISTRICT

Less than 12 months	6%
1 - 3 years	17%
4 - 6 years	9%
7 - 10 years	21%
More than 10 years	36%
Used to live in district	2%
Own land - not living in district	6%
Don't live but visit regularly	2%

(Community Survey, 2025))



REASONS
PEOPLE CAME
TO THE DISTRICT

Work	36%
Environment	34%
Retirement	21%
Grew up here	19%
Housing affordability	17%
Recreation	11%
Quality school	9%
Services	2%

(Community Survey, 2025))

REMAINING LIVING IN THE DISTRICT

1/2 definitely will
1/4 probably will
9% are unsure

11% probably won't
6% definitely won't

Reasons people probably or definitely won't remain living in the district

- Too far from family
- Difficult without supermarket and shops
- Lack of large hospital and medical specialists, especially as ageing
- Not enough young children & social opportunities like sports as they grow
- Lack of diversity
- Lack of services
- Too remote

(Community Survey, 2025))



4.2 CHALLENGES

The challenges identified by the community in 2019 (image to the right) remain current and were highlighted through the Community Survey and Drop-in Sessions.

KEEPING & ATTRACTING FAMILIES TO THE DISTRICT

The closure of the integrated childcare and kindergarten service has a significant impact on children, families, businesses and the community. Whilst there are plans to re-instate the kindergarten through the Cann River P12, there remains the gap of childcare. The loss of childcare has a significant ripple effect on the community reducing people's capacity to work, reducing household incomes and increasing people's travel to access services. Having recreational opportunities and activities for children and young people was identified as important and a consideration for families as to whether they will stay in the area. Small rural communities can become attractive and sustainable places for families to live and thrive.

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

(Image from Cann Valley District Community Plan 2019)



LAST FIVE YEARS TOP CHALLENGES

- Not having a supermarket
- Loss of Squires Cafe - employment and meeting space
- Post fire trauma impacting families
- Not having access to key tourism spot - Point Hicks delayed recovery
- Agencie making decisions for community
- Parking still an issue
- Bush fire recovery a challenge but gave access to grants/funding
- Employment
- Median age of the district - much older
- Getting community involved and volunteering - risk of burnout
- Lack of and loss of business and services
- Remoteness
- Fires



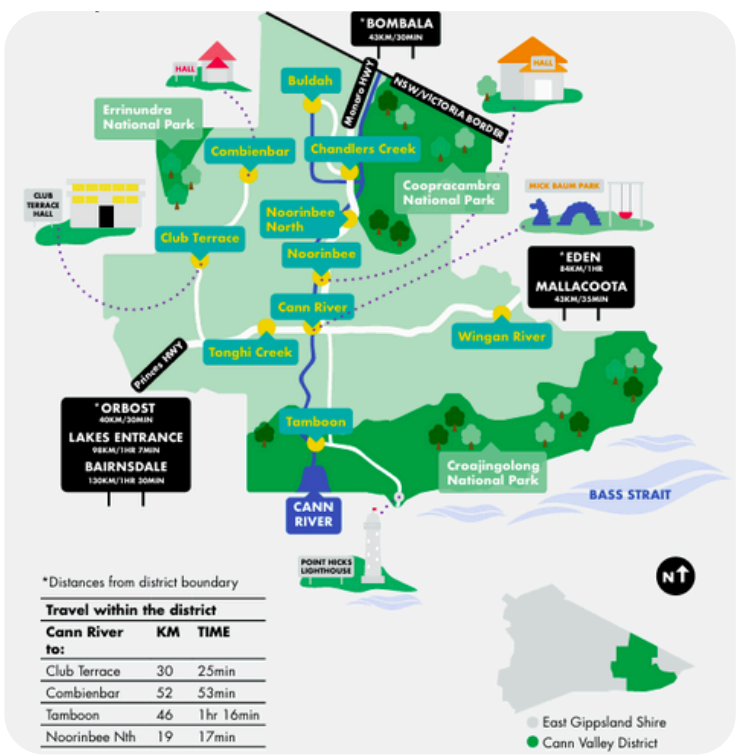
NEXT FIVE YEARS TOP CHALLENGES

- Economy
 - Very few employment opportunities
 - Depressed economic situation
 - Sustaining local businesses
 - Lack of professional jobs/well paying jobs
- Volunteers - Energy and time of volunteers to make things happen
- Red tape slowing things/preventing things from happening
- Maintaining opportunities with bushfire funding ending
- Progressive decline for support for regional smaller communities
- Natural disasters - fires, floods, storms
- Housing
- Power and telecommunications
- Very few opportunities since the timber industry has been dissolved

SERVICE ACCESS

With the remoteness of the district, access to services has been identified as a challenge. When services aren't available within the district, community have to travel to neighboring towns for many of their needs - food, childcare/kindergarten, specialist health and medical services, trade services, sport and leisure. This frequent travel outside of the district is both time-consuming and costly, highlighting the importance of enhancing local service availability. With the high volume of travel required it also highlights the need for safe roads to travel which has also been raised as a concern by community with hazards and reduced speed limits adding additional time to travel.

It is important to explore various strategies and opportunities to improve service access so that solutions are sustainable and effective. Community input remains a vital component of this process, ensuring that developments align with the needs and expectations of those who call this unique district home.



(Image from Cann Valley District Community Plan 2019)



WITHIN THE DISTRICT

- Library
- Education



WITHIN & OUTSIDE DISTRICT

- Work
- Social events & activities
- Health/medical
- Sport & Leisure
- Labour/Trade Services



OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT

- Groceries
 - Bombala, Eden, Orbost, Lakes Entrance, Bairnsdale, Home delivery
- Childcare & kindergarten
 - Bombala, Orbost

COMMUNITY EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO ACCESS THESE THINGS WITHIN THE DISTRICT

- Social events and activities
- Health & Medical
- Grocery shopping
- Library
- Work
- Labour/Trades

Families expect to be able to access

- Childcare & kindergarten
- Education
- Sport & Leisure

(Community Survey, 2025)

VOLUNTEERS TO HELP MAKE THINGS HAPPEN

Without the support of more community members, the burden of work will fall on the shoulders of a limited number of individuals, which can lead to burnout. Having more community involved will also provide additional perspectives and ideas and build a sense of community and engagement around the project/action with the enthusiasm and a personal connection to the cause that people bring. Optimising volunteer support can help with success and sustainability of projects/action.

ACCESS TO SUITABLE HOUSING

Housing affordability, for both purchasing and renting remains one of the draw cards for people to the Cann Valley District. This is despite an increase in property prices and rent however costs still remain lower in comparison to other areas. However, limited availability of housing has become an issue and has resulted in some having to move out of the district having been unable to secure suitable housing. This is also an issue in accommodating workers and for holiday rental opportunities.



What we heard from children and young people

Worst things about living in the Cann Valley district

- Access to food and shops
 - No pizza
 - No grocery store
 - Food stores close at 3pm – can't get food and no jobs for young people
 - Very little shops
 - Can't get essentials
 - No fast food
 - No shops to go shopping without travelling
 - Where we have to drive to get food
 - Two hours to Bairnsdale shops
 - No shops
- Roads
 - Terrible roads and potholes
 - Limited things to do
 - Not many indoor activities for things like parties or spots to hang out – bowling, iPlay
 - No sport
 - Quality of the motorbike track
 - Not being a big enough community for some things – pools, stores, sports teams
- Isolation
 - Very far away from other towns and services
 - Seclusion from other places
 - No free personal computer
 - People littering in the beautiful bush
 - People not listening to me
 - The rain
 - No hospital

IMPROVING HEALTH & WELLBEING

While individuals in the Community Survey rated their own health as quite high (69%) – they are concerned about the health and wellbeing of the community with only 18% agreeing that the health and wellbeing of the community is strong. Poor community health and wellbeing present significant challenges that can have widespread effects on individuals and the community as a whole. When a community struggles with health issues, the Cann Valley district has increased rates of chronic diseases (asthma and arthritis) and mental health conditions. Poor health can limit individuals' ability to work and participate in community activities, which can hinder economic growth and social cohesion. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive approach that includes improving access to healthcare and promoting healthy lifestyles.



4.3 OPPORTUNITIES

BUILDING COMMUNITY IDENTITY & SPIRIT

Building community identity and spirit presents a valuable opportunity to foster a sense of belonging and unity among residents. By organising local events, cultural festivals, and community projects, individuals can come together to celebrate their shared values and traditions. This collective participation not only strengthens connection but also instills pride in the community's unique heritage and achievements. Additionally, creating spaces for open dialogue and collaboration allows residents to voice their ideas and contribute to the community's development. A strong and vibrant community identity can be cultivated, enhancing the overall quality of life and creating a supportive environment where everyone feels connected and valued. By celebrating and amplifying what makes the community special, a strong foundation is created for sustainable development and a vibrant, cohesive community spirit.

CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN THE CVDRG

Building the profile of the CVDRG and sharing its achievements presents a valuable opportunity to enhance visibility and credibility and may assist in attracting new members/groups. Continuing with regular meetings and joint activities will help maintain engagement and will build alignment with the group's goals and objectives. Celebrating successes and recognising contributions can boost morale and reinforce the value of the partnership. Exploring new areas of collaboration could further enhance the group's capabilities and reach.

BUILDING ON STRENGTHS

Building on the strengths of the Cann Valley district presents a remarkable opportunity for growth and resilience. By recognising and leveraging the unique talents, resources, and history within the district, the community can work together to address challenges and achieve common priorities. Additionally, focusing on strengths can inspire innovation and creativity, leading to new initiatives and solutions that benefit everyone.



NEXT FIVE YEARS TOP OPPORTUNITIES

Supporting and growing businesses

- Have another takeaway/cafe built or redevelopment so that it is nice to look at
- Better choice of meal options
- Places to sell creative endeavours and shop rental pricing
- Getting more people starting up business and working
- New business opportunities - mechanic, supermarket
- The greatest assests the Cann River and District have are the forests and national parks and they are the most under utilised of the community assests

Tourism opportunities

- Getting tourists to stay
- Need to put more infrastructure in as other communities have done to entice tourists to spend time in this unique area
- Eco-tourism

Continue to work together

- Creating cohesive goals for the area
- Identify priorities
- Build on the excellent work already done

Bushfire preparation

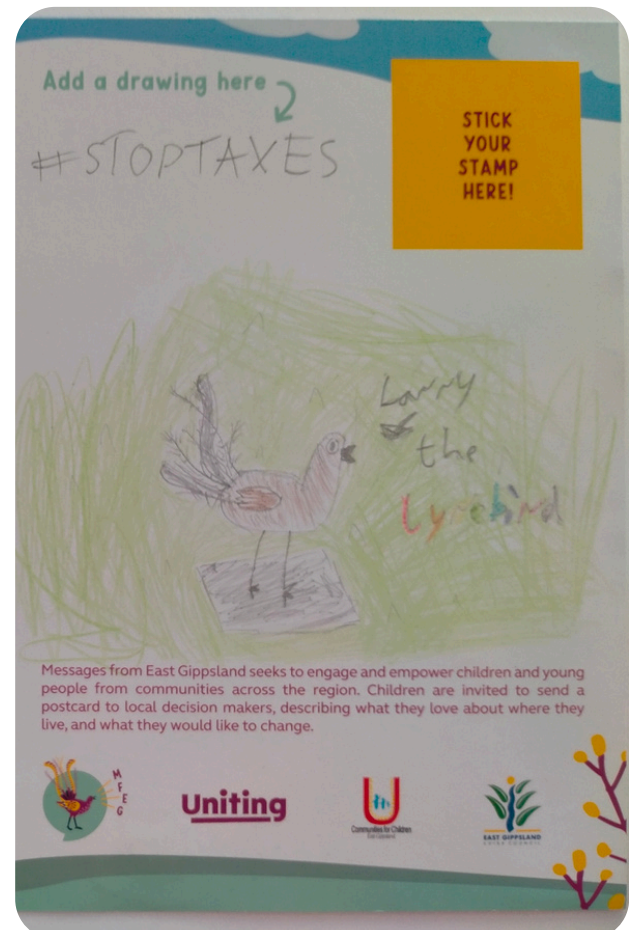
Re-opening Point Hicks

(Community Survey, 2025)

POWER TO CHANGE ONE THING...

If community had the power to change one thing in the district they would

- Reopen fire tracks that are overgrown
- Local attraction that locals agree on
- After hours food service
- People being more open minded about opportunities
- Supermarket
- More sporting and recreation opportunities
- Encourage more people to move to Cann River
- Combined emergency services facility - Ambulance Victoria, SES & CFA
- More involvement from community
- Put the same amount of energy in to providing support and assistance to community as tourists
- Having opportunities for young people to stay in the area
- More thriving business community - Unite business to all work together
- Childcare available
- Agencies to hear from community needs
- Housing
- Encourage positivity
- Build community spirit
- Create more opportunities for work
- Ways to keep and attract families
- Fill the empty shops in the main street



5. VISION & VALUES

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.

78%
wouldn't make any changes
to the vision

Two suggestions -

- An adapted vision - We envision our district as a thriving, vibrant place-welcoming to locals, tourists, and future economic opportunities-where the health, wellbeing, and productivity of our beautiful paradise are nurtured and optimised
- Add something about our children and families

VALUES



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



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



Safety
community feels like a safe place to be



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

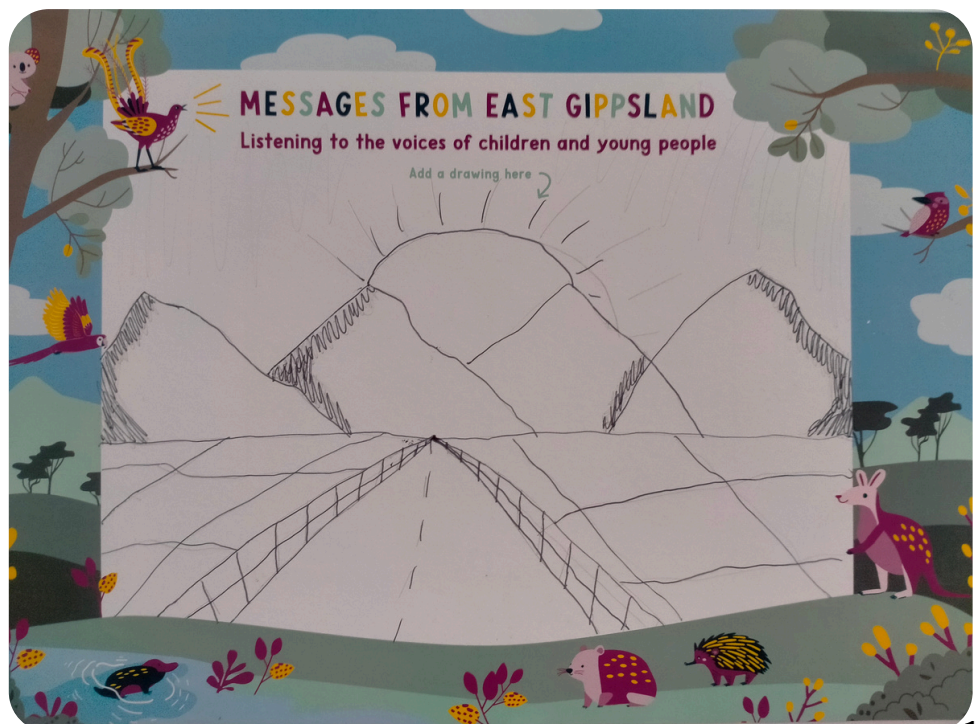


Environment
from the mountains to the valley and the coast

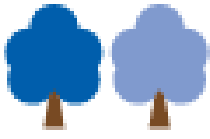


Sense of pride
the strong feeling that "this is home"

96%
happy with the values as they are



Top five things that people value about the district remain the same



1. Natural Environment



2. Friendly Community



3. Peace & Quiet



4. Healthy Lifestyle



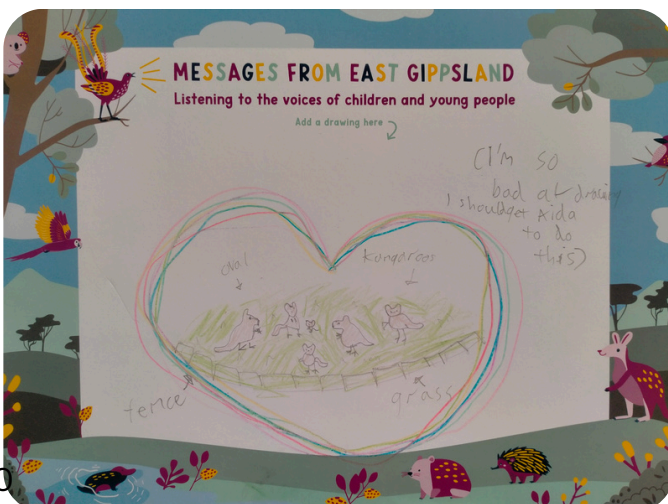
5. Country Living



What we heard from children and young people

Best things about living in the Cann Valley district

- Natural environment
 - Wildlife/Animals
 - Bush/Nature
 - View
- Things to do
 - Lots of activities to do
 - Youth group every Friday
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 - Places to visit/sight see
 - Park
- Community is connected, supportive & friendly
- Most people are nice
- Close knit community
- Everyone looks out for one another
- Community connections
- Community gets together frequently
- Isolation
- Small – everything not far to walk
- Peaceful
- Family
- Friends
- My house
- Farm
- Starlink connection
- Food



6. ACHIEVEMENTS & PRIORITIES

This section summarises priorities - current and future, achievements, community feedback and available data across the four key areas.

**Healthy &
Sustainable
Environment**



**Thriving
Economy**



**Safe &
Healthy**



**Resilient &
Connected**



Healthy & Sustainable Environments



9

PROJECTS
COMPLETED

PRIORITIES

1.1 Access to the Cann River



PROGRESSED

1.2 Access to beach



PROGRESSED

1.3 Access to National Parks



PROGRESSED



4

COMMUNITY GROUPS/SERVICES INVOLVED

- Cann Valley Landcare
- Cann River P12
- Cann Valley District Representative Group



5

AGENCIES INVOLVED

- EGCMA
- EGSC
- Moogji Aboriginal Council
- Parks Victoria
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)



EVOLVING PRIORITIES

The following highlights the evolving priorities from the Community Plan 2019, the Recovery Plans 2021 & 2023, the Strategic Plan 2024 for Healthy & Sustainable Environments.

HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTS	2019	2021	2023	2024
Access to the Cann River	✓	✓	✓	
Access to the beach	✓	✓	✓	
Access to the National Parks	✓		✓	
Identify and address key environmental and biodiversity issues, risk and opportunities		✓		
Opening and improving roads, tracks and trails, making points of interest accessible and providing access and evacuation easier during emergencies			✓	
Design and installation of the Tamboon Floating Jetty			✓	
Climate consciousness				✓
Access to reliable and sustainable utilities (power, water, internet, communications)				✓
Cann District Transfer Station		✓		

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019 - 2024

1.1 Access to the Cann River

- Landcare Stage 1 'Safe Access to the River' at the Cann River Rainforest Caravan Park completed
- Landcare Stage 2 'Safe Access to the River' at the Cann River Rainforest Caravan Park completed which included an organic amphitheatre and remedial works
- Funding being sought for Landcare Stage 3 'Safe Access to the River' for continual environmental maintenance

1.2 Access to the Beach

- Access impacted by Black Summer Bushfires and works continuing by key agencies to re-instate access to parts
- Concept plans for the refurbishment of the camping area and jetty in Tamboon Peachtree

1.3 Access to the National Parks

- Access impacted by Black Summer Bushfires and works continuing by key agencies to re-instate access to parts
- Maps created (see thriving economy)

Other projects completed;

- Native vegetation planting around the entrance and surrounds of the Monaro Centre
- Glossy black cockatoo she-oak planting project with Landcare & Cann River P12 students
- Waste transfer station and Tamboon rubbish collection trailer
- Water wise gardening
- Composting and warm farming

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS NEXT FIVE YEARS

- Access to the Cann River - (8)
 - Downstream to National Park
 - Improve swimming in river (5)
- Access to the beach (7)
- Access to National Parks - (6)
- Climate consciousness (3)
- Access to reliable and sustainable utilities (17)
 - Own grid
 - Tele communications infrastructure
 - Back up power
 - 24/7 fuel access



What we heard from children and young people

If I was the Mayor, I would...

- Remove the rocks in the river near the rapids
- More camp grounds
- Fishing areas
- Fix the bridge to Point Hicks

Thriving Economy



8

PROJECTS
COMPLETED/
COMMENCED

PRIORITIES

2.1 Mechanic

2.2 Hospitality training



PROGRESSED

2.3 More local jobs



PROGRESSED

2.4 Toilet upgrade



PROGRESSED

2.5 Develop local tourism strategy



PROGRESSED

CANN VALLEY DISTRICT TOURISM OPPORTUNITY PLAN

April 2022

STAFFORD
STRATEGY

WELCOME TO CANN RIVER

Cann River is a picturesque town situated at the base of the tranquil Cann Valley, and conveniently placed on the East Coast route from Melbourne to Sydney.

Known widely as the perfect place for a play and a pie, there is so much more to this historical town. Located on the Cann River and surrounded by lush forest, hidden coastal gems and welcoming locals it really is a place to Linger longer.

LINGER LONGER

DO I SEE

Development of website, assets and flyers, maps of walking tracks and toolkit

The Cann Valley



EVOLVING PRIORITIES

The following highlights the evolving priorities from the Community Plan 2019, the Recovery Plans 2021 & 2023, the Strategic Plan 2024.

THRIVING ECONOMY	2019	2021	2023	2024
Mechanics Workshop	✓			
Hospitality Training	✓			✓
More local jobs (outsourcing, agencies, social enterprise)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support Cann River businesses to increase economic activity		✓		✓
Address accommodation and housing shortages for travellers and permanent and temporary workers		✓		
Develop Old Winery into fit for purpose community infrastructure/business hub and micro-business opportunity		✓	✓	✓
ENVITE trainees for environmental recovery		✓		
Toilet upgrade	✓		✓	
Develop/Implement Local Tourism Strategy	✓	✓		
Improve the Caravan Park			✓	
Document and present First Nations and settlement history			✓	
Provide guidance and information about what's on offer - signage, tourist information facilities, places of interest			✓	
Feature the natural environment and its flora and fauna			✓	

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019 - 2024

2.2 Hospitality training

- Cafe for the CRCC has been scoped

2.3 More local jobs (outsourcing, agencies, social enterprise)

- Monaro Centre (Old Noorinbee Winery) Upgrade provides a space for diverse recreational, social, and educational activities for the community
- Opportunity to develop the Monaro Centre and the Noorinbee School as a Social Enterprise, providing employment and developing both sites as a premier events and accommodation venues

2.4 Toilet Upgrade

- Funding received for a Changing Places facility which is larger than standard accessible toilets, with extra features and more space to meet the needs of people with disability and their carers and a portable facility is currently in place (the only other Changing Places facility in East Gippsland is Lakes Entrance)

2.5 Develop Local Tourism Strategy

- Working group established
- Cann Valley District Tourism Opportunity Report 2022 identifies existing tourism assets and opportunities that support economic and social recovery in the area. A public information session was held March 2022 to share the findings
- Development of website, assets and flyers, maps of walking tracks and toolkit
- Purchase and installation of Lyrebird Sculpture at CRCC

BUSINESSES

8 businesses provided feedback via the business survey with representation from retail, agriculture, forestry and fishing, construction, transport and not for profit organisations. Majority of the businesses were located in Cann River.

Top challenges currently facing businesses

- Rising costs of goods and products
- Transport
- Supply chain issues
- Lack of skills in staff
- Cashflow
- Internet connectivity
- Insurance
- Labour costs
- Retaining staff
- Natural disasters
- Food security
- Market changes

Support that would benefit businesses

- Linking to funding opportunities to support growth and transition from the timber industry to build alternative industries
- Working together to develop a sustainable model to re-open the supermarket for locals and tourists
- Improvements in the local infrastructure
- Support for small businesses in five year action plan Frequent transportation
- Being able to access business supplies within district to reduce travel out of district

If there was a business group, **50%** would be interested in being involved, **33%** maybe and **17%** were unsure

Businesses would like to see

- A sustainable business sector that attract more customers and supports local growth
- Increase in local businesses that live locally and work together
- Agriculture business owners to work together to share information and experience

Industry sector of employment

More Cann River residents worked in agriculture, forestry and fishing than any other industry in 2021.

In 2021 the three most popular industry sectors were:

1. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (25 people or 21.9%)
2. Health Care and Social Assistance (17 people or 14.9%)
3. Public Administration and Safety (14 people or 12.3%)

In combination, these three industries employed 56 people in total or 49% of the total employed resident population.

(Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) 2021 Census)

Occupations

In 2021 the three most popular occupations were:

1. Managers (37 people or 32.5%)
2. Community and Personal Service Workers (17 people or 14.9%)
3. Labourers (16 people or 14.0%)

Employment

The number of employed people in Cann River increased by 11 between 2016 and 2021.

Disengagement by age

In 2021, 16.7% of 15 to 24 year olds in Cann River were disengaged with employment and education, compared to 11.7% in East Gippsland Shire.

Employment

52%



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

23%

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

30%

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

25%

agreed they have access to non-school training and education

Income

64%



agreed that they have adequate income

(Community survey, 2025)



PRIORITIES/ACTIONS NEXT FIVE YEARS

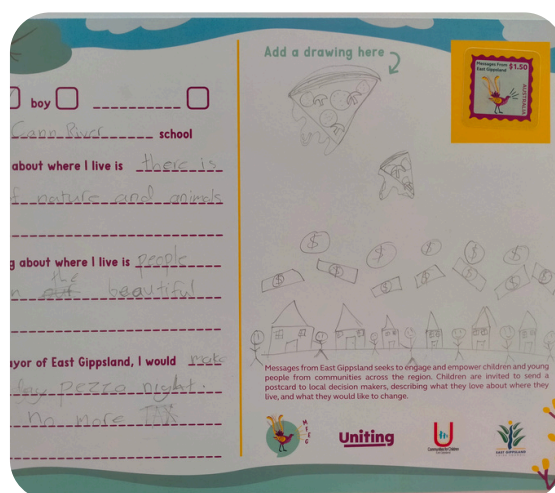
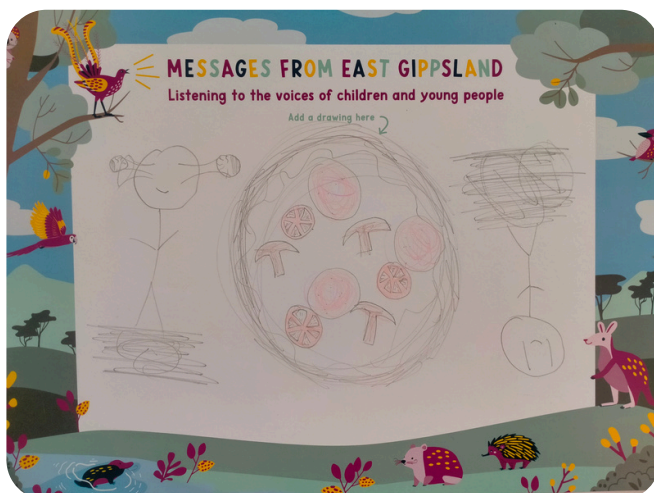
- Hospitality training (7)
 - Skill training
- More local jobs (18)
 - Trades
 - Mechanics workshop
- Toilet upgrade (11)
 - more toilets
 - toilets on Monaro side for trucks
- Develop local tourism strategy (10)
 - Tourist information open weekends
 - Develop an attraction
 - Target backpackers - decent place to stay, food and wildlife
- Support Cann River businesses (12)
- Address accommodation and housing shortages (12)
 - Agritourism - farm stays
- Develop Monaro Centre (4)
- Improve the caravan park (6)
 - Tree safety
 - Gas hot water showers for campers and people travelling through
- Document and present district history - First Nations & settlement (5)
- Provide information about what's on offer - places of interest, amenities, signage, tourist information facilities (7)
 - Interactive signs
 - Bush walk map
- Supermarket (17)
 - Healthier food options
- More food shops (3)
- Attract investors - supermarket and essential services
- Redesign Squires land/rebuild (2)



What we heard
from children
and young
people

If I was the Mayor, I would...

- Have more food
- Build a shop
- Make Saturday pizza night
- No more/stop taxes and instead put the money into our community
- Give us a grocery store
- Bring back the old shops
- More shops
- Create more jobs



Safe & Healthy Community



19

PROJECTS
COMPLETED

PRIORITIES

3.1 Fuel reduction
burning

3.2 Emergency
Preparedness

3.3 Pool access

3.4 Regional fresh food
hub

3.5 Fitness facilities



PROGRESSED



EVOLVING PRIORITIES

The following highlights the evolving priorities from the Community Plan 2019, the Recovery Plans 2021 & 2023, the Strategic Plan 2024.

SAFE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	2019	2021	2023	2024
Fuel reduction burning	✓		✓	✓
Emergency preparedness for extreme natural events	✓	✓	✓	✓
Improve communication infrastructure and equipment		✓	✓	
Improve emergency infrastructure and equipment		✓	✓	✓
Local Incident Management Plan's		✓	✓	✓
Community facilities and services protected		✓		
Community education and information	✓	✓	✓	
Continue to strengthen partnerships and collaboration between Emergency Management agencies	✓	✓		
Ensure safe access to places of interest and evacuation routes			✓	
Training			✓	
Pool access	✓			
Fitness facilities	✓			
Provide wellbeing support to impacted residents		✓		
Continue service network to coordinate and collaborate with recovery		✓		
Strengthen health & wellbeing programs across the district				✓

ACHIEVEMENTS 2019 - 2024

3.2 Emergency Preparedness

- Fire Sprinkler System SES and Ambulance - shared water tank and pumping system and staff training
- Water Tanks for coordinated personal firefighting at Cann River, Noorinbee and Combienbar Recreational Reserves
- Dam Feasibility Study - Phase 1
- Water tanks and sprinklers installed at Cann River Hall
- Buldah Fire Guard - shed & equipment
- STAND systems at Cann River Hall, Noorinbee Hall, Combienbar Hall, Club Terrace Community Facility and Tamboon
- Tamboon shed extension and equipment
- Tamboon Inlet shed to house emergency and community equipment
- UHF Radios for community emergency response distributed to fireguards at Club Terrace, Combienbar, Buldah and Noorinbee
- Chain Saw for Women Course run by TAFE
- Relief Centre Training: CVDRG supported relief centre training for community volunteers, enhancing readiness and response capabilities in times of need
- Installation of Telstra tower Tamboon Peachtree
- Local roads and infrastructure reinstated
- Community catch-up events through face-to-face forums, online Zoom meetings or collective written feedback. These provided insight into the district's priority list for recovery purposes
- Distributed the Cann Valley District Community newsletter - providing local, regional and state information regarding bushfire recovery, agency updates, grant opportunities and wellbeing services.

3.4 Regional Fresh Food Hub

- Fresh produce stalls in main street
- Trialled Cann Valley Grow, Swap & Share - didn't continue

3.5 Fitness facilities

- Outdoor fitness facilities considered in the Cann Valley Walking Tracks Master Plan

Access to health & wellbeing programs and services

- Recreation activities with Reclink - After school activities, Yoga, Toddler Dance and Story Time, Crafternoon, Music group, Photography group
- Reiki/massage



Need for assistance

In 2021, 30 people (or 8.0% of the population) in Cann River reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability. This was an increase from 2016.

Long term health conditions

45.2% of the population reported one or more health conditions, a higher rate than in East Gippsland Shire (39.7%) - mental health condition, Arthritis, Asthma top conditions.

Unpaid Care

Analysis of the unpaid care provided by the population in Cann River in 2021 compared to East Gippsland Shire shows that there was a higher proportion of people who provided unpaid care either to family members or others. Overall, 21.6% of the population provided unpaid care, compared with 14.6% for East Gippsland Shire.

Safety

84%

agreed that the community is a safe place to live



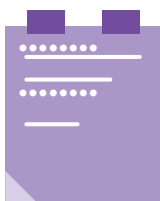
69%

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



60%

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



Health

69%

agreed that in general, they have excellent health



42%

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



18%

agreed that the health and wellbeing of the community is strong



(Community Survey, 2025)



HOUSING

70%

Agreed that they were happy about their housing situation

27%

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

- 45.2% of households owned their dwelling & 15.6% were purchasing - smaller proportion compared to East Gippsland Shire
- 14.0% were renting privately, and 7.5% were in social housing - larger proportion of renters compared to East Gippsland Shire
- 9.2% of total households with children were couples with young children, & 3.4% were couples with older children
- 37% of households are people living on their own

(Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) Census)

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS NEXT FIVE YEARS

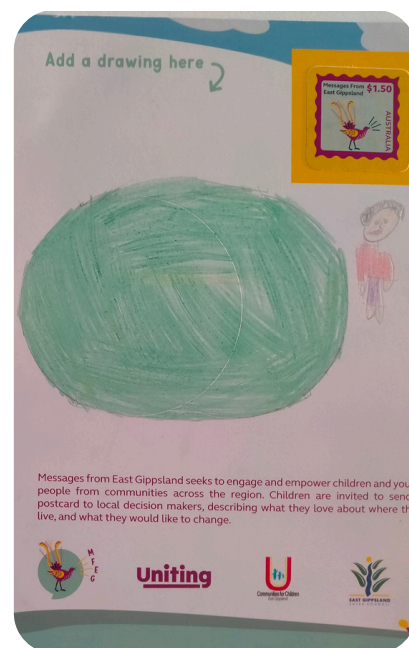
- Fuel reduction burning (20)
 - Aboriginal patchwork burning off
- Emergency preparedness (18)
 - Re-opening fire trials
 - Access to fixing telephone landlines
- Pool access (9)
 - More places to swim in the river
 - Swim program young and old using Hop Inn Pool - could be rented, swim programs or fitness sessions for elderly and create job
- Regional fresh food hub (3)
- Fitness facilities (13)
- Strengthen health and wellbeing programs across the district (3)
- Access to reliable and sustainable utilities (17)
 - Own grid
 - Tele communications infrastructure
 - Back up power
 - 24/7 fuel access
- Local Incident Management Plans (4)
- Address accommodation and housing shortages (12)
 - Agritourism - farm stays
- Improve communication infrastructure and equipment (7)
- Improve emergency infrastructure and equipment (6)
- Supermarket (17)
 - Healthier food options
- More food shops (3)
- Mountain bike and pump track (3)
- Check on lone persons (1)
- Sporting opportunities - oval (5)
- Fuel access 24/7
- Upgrade rifle range (1)
- Upgrade tennis courts (7)
- Attract investors - supermarket and essential services
- Clubs (4)
- Emergency services (1)
- Motorbike track upgrade (24)
- Medical services (1)
- Roads (5)
 - Parking
 - change speed limit to 50 outside SES
 - Parking and toilets for trucks Monaro highway
- Safe house - more adequate (2)



What we heard from children and young people

If I was the Mayor, I would...

- Fix the roads
- Have more food
- Give us a supermarket



Resilient & Connected Communities



18
PROJECTS
COMPLETED



OVER
40
COMMUNITY
EVENTS &
ACTIVITIES

PRIORITIES

4.1 Activities for Young People



PROGRESSED

4.2 Festivals & Events



PROGRESSED

4.3 Connected Walking Tracks



PROGRESSED

4.4 Community Centre Refurbishment



PROGRESSED

4.5 Mick Baum Park Upgrade



PROGRESSED

4.6 Maximise use of community facilities



PROGRESSED

Skate park upgrade
Before



After



Cann River Community Facilities Review



Cann Valley Walking Tracks Master Plan



ACHIEVEMENTS 2019 - 2024

4.1 Activities for Young People and Children

- Skate park upgraded
- CRCC weekly Youth Group with activities selected by the group
- Activities provided by Reclink and headSpace through school
- Playgroup at CRCC

4.2 Festivals & Events

2021

- Club Terrace Fire Preparation Day
- Cann Care Family Fun Day
- Cann Be Ready Day

2022

- Tamboon Peachtree Fire Shed Opening
- Cann CARE Day
- Winter Festival/Naidoc Week event
- Healing Singing Day
- Tree Grafting
- Lantern Making Workshops

2023

- Cann Valley Winterfest
- Are you Prepared Cann Valley Day
- Pumpkin Festival

2024

- Cann Valley Winterfest
- Are you Prepared Cann Valley Day
- Landcare celebrations
- Trivia nights
- Farmer succession planning
- Emergency Day
- Helios

- Annual Easter & Christmas activities led by CRCC, Mother's Day Classic, Lawn Mower Races

4.3 Connected Walking Tracks

- Cann Valley Walking Tracks Masterplan developed
- Singage being scoped
- Printed walking track maps and flyers created

4.4 Community Centre Refurbishment

- Upgrade of kitchen, shed, veranda, garden and installation of generator and fencing

4.5 Mick Baum Park Upgrade

- Skate Park Redevelopment
- Shelter over seating at Mick Baum Park with Wi-Fi station
- Electric car charging stations installed
- Notice board
- Memorial plaque - Mick Baum

4.6 Maximise use of community facilities

- Cann River Community Services Report Stage 1
- Cann River Community Services Report Stage 2
- Noorinbee Public Purposes Reserve Hall Upgrade - Instal Kitchen, paint, solar, water tanks, upgrade toilets and showers and upgrade pathways
- Cann River Hall - upgrades to kitchen
- New Club Terrace Community Facility - Temporary Meeting Place followed by Community Facility Project – Toilets, Shed, Water Tanks and Community Hall

EVOLVING PRIORITIES

The following highlights the evolving priorities from the Community Plan 2019, the Recovery Plans 2021 & 2023, the Strategic Plan 2024.

RESILIENT & CONNECTED COMMUNITIES	2019	2021	2023	2024
Activities for children and young people	✓	✓		
Festival & events/programs	✓	✓	✓	✓
Support the work of the Men's Shed	✓	✓		
Connected walking tracks	✓		✓	
Community Centre refurbishment	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mick Baum Park upgrade	✓	✓		
Upgrade skate park	✓	✓		
Maximise use of community facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public infrastructure resilient and supports recovery and emergency relief		✓		
Design and construction of new public community facility at Club Terrace		✓		
Building works at Noorinbee Hall		✓		
Applying for a shed on a temporary basis for Club Terrace to meet		✓		
Improve existing infrastructure and explore avenues for creating new infrastructural assets		✓		✓
Continue to provide and expand the reach of the Cann Valley District Newsletter		✓		

Volunteer Work

In Cann River 25% of the population reported doing some form of voluntary work in 2021. This was a greater proportion than East Gippsland Shire.

Method of travel to work

In 2021 59% of people travelled to work in a private car, 0.0% took public transport and 15% rode a bike or walked. 14% worked at home.

(Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) Census)

Community involvement



53%

agreed that they felt valued by their local community

58%

agreed that they were proud to live in the community

44%

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

67%

agreed that they got involved with most community issues

85%

had attended events and activities
Reasons not to - away when on, just moved to area, other priorities, logistics, live else where, not interested

Access to activities

24%



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

11%

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

64%

agreed that they had access to participate in social activities

Transport & pathways



58%

agreed that the district has sufficient pathways to connect the community

78%

agreed that they have OK access to transport to allow them to do the things they want to do

VOLUNTEERING

50%



of respondents were an **active member of an organisation/club/group**



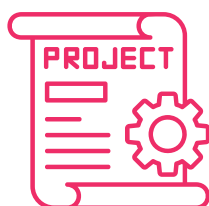
55%

joined in a local community action to deal with an emergency



61%

took part in a local community project or working bee



50%

had been part of a project to organise a new service/activity in the district

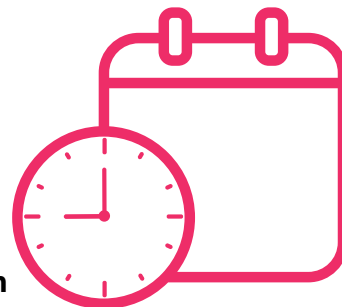
VOLUNTEER HOURS

Average number of hours volunteering each month over the last five-years

31% did no voluntary hours

27% did less than 10 hours each month

41% did more than 11 hours each month



32%

indicated willingness to support with the implementation of actions/projects identified in the Five-Year Action Plan
42% maybe and 16% were unsure

8

people provided name and contact information



TOP REASONS FOR VOLUNTEERING

1. Making a difference
2. To be a part of something
3. Social opportunities
4. Spare time
5. To learn new things
6. Something different to do

Other reasons

- o Fun
- o Benefit future generations
- o Meeting like-minded people
- o Support local services



TOP REASONS FOR NOT VOLUNTEERING

1. Don't have time
 2. Don't know what's going on
 3. Don't want to
 4. Meet at inconvenient times
 5. Don't know what is required
- Meetings are not to my interest
Meet at inconvenient locations

Other reasons

- o Recently moved to area
- o Different ideas to others
- o Haven't been asked
- o Not permanent home
- o Too busy travelling for work and

Community connection



58%

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

69%

agreed that the local community feels like home

64%

agreed that if a stranger, someone different to us, moved into the community that would be accepted and welcomed

71%

agreed that people in the community are very willing to help each other out

78%

agreed that they generally trust neighbours to look out for their property

Identity & diversity



29%

agreed that the district has a defined identity

27%

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

29%

agreed that the community acknowledges traditions and celebrations

49%

agreed that a diversity of culture and tradition is present

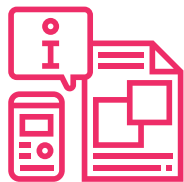
(Community survey, 2025)





Use of Community Facilities over the last 12 months

1. Cann River Public Toilets (79%)
2. Cann River Hall (77%)
3. Monaro Centre (70%)
4. Furnell Landing Launch Ramp & Toilets (65%)
5. Mick Baum Park (51%)
6. Cann River Recreation Reserve (49%)
7. Cann River to Noorinbee Trail (46%)
8. Noorinbee Hall (40%)
9. Bushland Rainforest Walk (35%)
10. Cann River Rainforest Caravan Park Foreshore (33%)
11. Lyrebird Nature Walk (30%)
12. Noorinbee Recreation Reserve (16%)
13. Club Terrace Community Facility (12%)
14. Cann River Tennis Courts (9%)
15. Combienbar Community Facility (7%)
16. Noorinbee Tennis Court (5%)



Accessing information about services, facilities and activities in the District

1. Cann River Community Centre (71%)
2. Social media (67%)
3. Word of Mouth (62%)
4. Cann Valley Bush Nursing Centre (40%)
5. Jinga (40%)
6. Noticeboards (31%)
7. Website (24%)
8. Brochures (17%)
9. Businesses (5%)
10. Community consultations (5%)
11. Library bus (3%)



Ideas on how community facilities could be used and/or improved in the future

- Maintain, repair and upgrade/improve
 - Cann River Hall
 - Noorinbee Walking Track
 - Tennis Courts
 - Public toilets
- Reduce hire charges for local groups to increase use
- Grants to reimagine facilities eg. tennis courts redesigned as multipurpose spaces for all to use
- Better lighting to improve safety at night
- Walking tracks
 - Build walking track to Cann River Falls with a marked track
 - More walking tracks along the river - levi bank or behind monaro centre or sumberg's mill
 - Pedestrian bridge to create loop walking track from the levi bank behind monaro centre forest
 - Walk upstream from the bridge on the town side
- Improve sporting facilities
- Improve motorbike track
- Pump track
- Local sporting events
 - Trial a mixed age/gender sports games
 - Scouts for kids
- More community evening functions
- Create local job opportunities by maintaining our local facilities
- A campdraft/rodeo or horse event at the Noorinbee Recreation Reserve
- A camp oven cook out event
- Use the river for a duck race or regatta
- Horse trails either using existing Noorinbee-Cann River walking track or using existing state forest road networks.

PRIORITIES/ACTIONS NEXT FIVE YEARS

- Maximise use of community facilities (4)
- Community centre refurbishment (14)
- Mick Baum park upgrade (1)
- Activities for children and young people (5)
- Festivals and events (9)
- Connected walking tracks (10)
 - Cann Falls
 - Noorinbee
- Develop Monaro Centre (4)
- Mountain bike and pump track (3)
- Sporting opportunities - oval (5)
- Upgrade rifle range (1)
- Upgrade tennis courts (7)
- Clubs (4)
- Market stalls (3)
- Motorbike track upgrade (24)
- Community involvement (1)
- Cycle way (2)



What we heard
from children
and young
people

If I was the Mayor, I would...

- Give out free PCs
- Have a football team
- Upgrade the oval
- Fix the tennis court
- Place for tricks on monkey bars
- Fitness equipment/gymnasium/put in a gym
- Let kids and adults play a lot of games
- Build/fix the motorbike track
- Start a town sport club and the town can get together and play sport where people can split into teams
- Get things fixed
- Bring people together more
- Add better things to make town less boring for younger ones
- Pool
- Gymnasium – gymnastics and exercise
- Build another playground – flying fox, big slide, better park, skate park
- Go cart track
- Raise awareness of sexism

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 - COMMUNITY PROFILE SNAPSHOT

Census information used in the 2019 District Community Plan was from 2016. The following highlights information from the 2021 Census which is the most current information available for the review as the next Census is in 2026.

POPULATION 353 ERP, 2024 ▲ Grown by 10 from the previous year. Usual resident population in 2021 was 367, living in 262 dwellings with an average household size of 1.90	ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION 5.9% ▲ (3.4%) East Gippsland Shire 3.5% ▲ Regional VIC 2.0% ↔ Victoria 1.0% ↔	MEDIAN AGE 55 ▲ (1) East Gippsland Shire 52 ▲ Regional VIC 43 ↔ Victoria 38 ▲ 17.4% of the population was aged between 0 & 17 & 37.4% were aged 60 years & over
COUPLES WITH CHILDREN 13% ▲ (3.5%) East Gippsland Shire 19% ▼ Regional VIC 25% ▼ Victoria 31% ▼ 9.2% of total households with children were couples with young children, & 3.4% were couples with older children.	LONE PERSON HOUSEHOLDS 37% ▲ (2.7%) East Gippsland Shire 29% ▲ Regional VIC 27% ▲ Victoria 25% ▲	MEDIAN WEEKLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$834 ▲ (\$78) East Gippsland Shire \$1,115 ▲ Regional VIC \$1,369 ▲ Victoria \$1,802 ▲ 45.1% of households on a low-income
HOUSEHOLDS RENTING 22% ▲ (3.3%) East Gippsland Shire 19% ▼ Regional VIC 23% ↔ Victoria 28% ▲ 14.0% were renting privately, and 7.5% were in social housing - larger proportion of renters compared to East Gippsland Shire	MEDIAN WEEKLY RENT \$130 ▲ (\$11) East Gippsland Shire \$265 ▲ Regional VIC \$285 ▲ Victoria \$370 ▲ 82.1% paying low rent payments	HOUSEHOLDS WITH A MORTGAGE 16% ▲ (0.8%) East Gippsland Shire 25% ↔ Regional VIC 31% ↔ Victoria 35% ▲ 45.2% of households owned their dwelling; 15.6% were purchasing - smaller proportion compared to East Gippsland Shire
MEDIAN WEEKLY MORTGAGE REPAYMENT \$175 ▲ (\$39) East Gippsland Shire \$300 ▲ Regional VIC \$330 ▲ Victoria \$428 ▲	OVERSEAS BORN 8% ▼ (-1.8%) East Gippsland Shire 12% ▲ Regional VIC 12% ▲ Victoria 30% ▲	LANGUAGE AT HOME OTHER THAN ENGLISH 3% ▼ (-2.7%) East Gippsland Shire 4% ▲ Regional VIC 7% ▲ Victoria 28% ▲

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021) 2021 Census

APPENDIX 2- PRIORITIES/ACTIONS NEXT FIVE YEARS

- Access to the Cann River - 8
 - Downstream to National Park
 - Improve swimming in river - 5
- Access to the beach - 7
- Access to National Parks - 6
- Hospitality training 7
 - Skill training
- More local jobs - 18
 - Trades
 - Mechanics workshop
- Toilet upgrade - 11
 - more toilets
 - toilets on Monaro side for trucks
- Develop local tourism strategy - 10
 - Tourist information open weekends
 - Develop an attraction
 - Target backpackers - decent place to stay, food and wildlife
- Fuel reduction burning - 20
 - Aboriginal patchwork burning off
- Maximise use of community facilities - 4
- Community centre refurbishment - 14
- Mick Baum park upgrade - 1
- Emergency preparedness - 18
 - Re-opening fire trials
 - Access to fixing telephone landlines
- Pool access - 9
 - More places to swim in the river
 - Swim program young and old using Hop Inn Pool - could be rented, swim programs or fitness sessions for elderly and create job
- Regional fresh food hub - 3
- Fitness facilities - 13
- Activities for children and young people - 5
- Festivals and events - 9
- Connected walking tracks - 10
 - Cann Falls
 - Noorinbee
- Climate consciousness - 3
- Strengthen health and wellbeing programs across the district - 3
- Access to reliable and sustainable utilities - 17
 - Own grid
 - Tele communications infrastructure
 - Back up power
 - 24/7 fuel access
- Local Incident Management Plans - 4
- Support Cann River businesses - 12
- Address accommodation and housing shortages - 12
 - Agritourism - farm stays
- Develop Monaro Centre - 4
- Improve the caravan park - 6
 - Tree safety
 - Gas hot water showers for campers and people travelling through
- Document and present district history - First Nations & settlement - 5
- Provide information about what's on offer - places of interest, amenities, signage, tourist information facilities - 7
 - Interactive signs
 - Bush walk map
- Improve communication infrastructure and equipment - 7
- Improve emergency infrastructure and equipment - 6
- Supermarket - 17
 - Healthier food options
- More food shops - 3
- Mountain bike and pump track - 3
- Check on lone persons - 1
- Sporting opportunities - oval - 5
- Fuel access 24/7
- Upgrade rifle range - 1
- Upgrade tennis courts - 7
- Attract investors - supermarket and essential services
- Clubs - 4
- Market stalls - 3
- Redesign Squires land/rebuild - 2
- Emergency services - 1
- Motorbike track upgrade - 24
- Medical services - 1
- Roads - 5
 - Parking
 - change speed limit to 50 outside SES
 - Parking and toilets for trucks Monaro highway
- Community involvement - 1
- Cycle way - 2
- Safe house - more adequate - 2
- Garbage bins on Monaro highway - 1

APPENDIX 3- WHAT WE HEARD FROM CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



Best things about living in the Cann Valley district

- Natural environment
 - Wildlife/Animals
 - Bush/Nature
 - View
- Things to do
 - Lots of activities to do
 - Youth group every Friday
 - Motorbike track
 - Places to visit/sight see
 - Park
- Community is connected, supportive & friendly
 - Most people are nice
 - Close knit community
 - Everyone looks out for one another
 - Community connections
 - Community gets together frequently
- Isolation
- Small – everything not far to walk
- Peaceful
- Family
- Friends
- My house
 - Farm
 - Starlink connection
- Food

Worst things about living in the Cann Valley district

- Access to food and shops
 - No pizza
 - No grocery store
 - Food stores close at 3pm – can't get food and no jobs for young people
 - Very little shops
 - Can't get essentials
 - No fast food
 - No shops to go shopping without travelling
 - Where we have to drive to get food
 - Two hours to Bairnsdale shops
 - No shops
- Roads
 - Terrible roads and potholes
- Limited things to do
 - Not many indoor activities for things like parties or spots to hang out – bowling, iPlay
 - No sport
 - Quality of the motorbike track
 - Not being a big enough community for some things – pools, stores, sports teams
- Isolation
 - Very far away from other towns and services
 - Seclusion from other places
- No free personal computer
- People littering in the beautiful bush
- People not listening to me
- The rain
- No hospital



If I was the Mayor, I would...

Healthy & Sustainable Environments

- Remove the rocks in the river near the rapids
- More camp grounds
- Fishing areas
- Fix the bridge to Point Hicks

Thriving economy

- Have more food
- Build a shop
- Make Saturday pizza night
- No more/stop taxes and instead put the money into our community
- Give us a grocery store
- Bring back the old shops
- More shops
- Create more jobs

Safe & Healthy Communities

- Fix the roads
- Have more food
- Give us a supermarket

Resilient & Connected Communities

- Give out free PCs
- Have a football team
- Upgrade the oval
- Fix the tennis court
- Place for tricks on monkey bars
- Fitness equipment/gymnasium/put in a gym
- Let kids and adults play a lot of games
- Build/fix the motorbike track
- Start a town sport club and the town can get together and play sport where people can split into teams
- Get things fixed
- Bring people together more
- Add better things to make town less boring for younger ones
- Pool
- Gymnasium – gymnastics and exercise
- Build another playground – flying fox, big slide, better park, skate park
- Go cart track
- Raise awareness of sexism

Errinundra National Park

