



ClarkeHopkinsClarke and Towong Shire Council acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country on which the Our Town project is taking place.

While there are no Registered Aboriginal Parties in the project region, we acknowledge the following Parties we are aware of: Jaitmatang, Yaithmathang, Duduroa dhargal, Waveroo, Way-wurru, Wiradjuri and Ngarigo people as the traditional custodians of the land.

ClarkeHopkinsClarke acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and the Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin Nation and the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the land we work on.

We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging. We recognise their custodianship over deep time and their continuing connection to lands, waters and communities.



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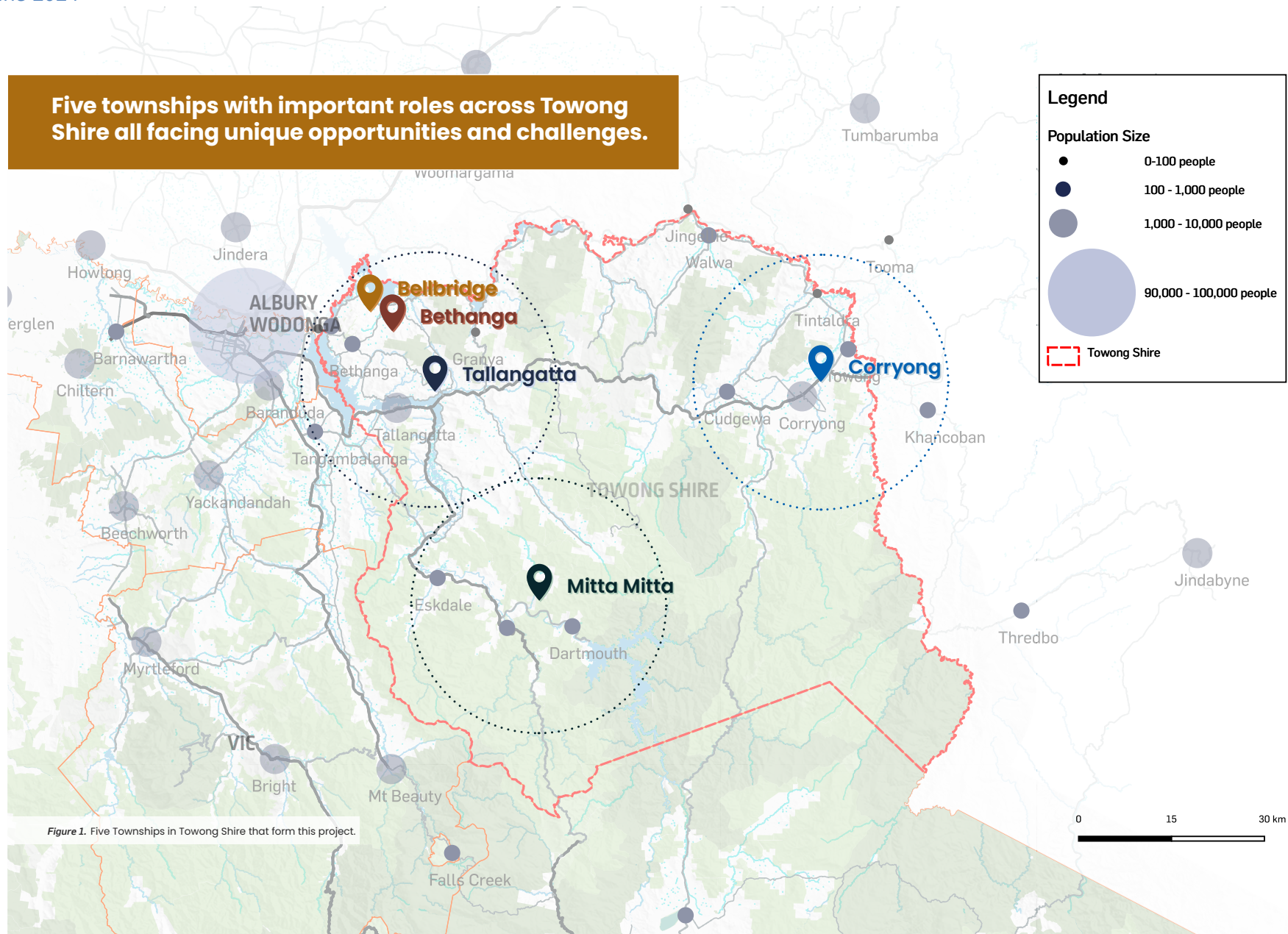
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1.0

Introduction

OUR
TOWN



1.1 Project overview

The Bellbridge Place Plan is a 10-year roadmap for Council, community and other stakeholders. The plan identifies community and other stakeholder priorities to guide the future shape and character of the township.

The Bellbridge Place Plan is part of Our Town Towards 2030, a Placemaking and Co-design Project (the project) initiated by Towong Shire Council for five townships across the Shire.

The project delivers town-based plans for Bellbridge, Bethanga, Corryong, Mitta Mitta and Tallangatta. The plans have provided an opportunity to re-imagine the way each township works and has allowed us to bring together the big ideas that drive growth while identifying the services, infrastructure and public spaces required to support the population. Each plan identifies a shared set of goals and initiatives that can be developed and delivered over the next 10 years and beyond.

While the place plans have a ten-year lifespan, each plan provides a good base level summary of what people said; captures what is important to the community; and provides direction beyond the ten-year period of the plan.

Place-based approach

Towong Shire has adopted a place-based approach to master planning exemplified in the Our Bellbridge Masterplan. This plan places community interests at the core of decision-making. The Council Plan 2021-25 identifies community engagement as a key strategy to deliver Council's Strategic Objective 'Organisational Improvement'.

This strategy, places people at the centre of conversations about the future planning of the communities in which they live, work, study, visit and recreate. It is based on the belief that the people who are part of a community are best placed to understand and identify their needs.

Why do we need a Place Plan

Regional towns in Australia have experienced significant growth in recent years increasing pressure on services, housing, jobs, and infrastructure. The five towns – Bellbridge, Bethanga, Corryong, Mitta Mitta and Tallangatta – all face unique challenges, as well as opportunities, that have been further exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic and the bushfires of 2019-20.

Our Town Towards 2030 has looked at ways to strengthen the long-term resilience and sustainability of the towns by helping each community to identify and prioritise its future needs, services and opportunities. The co-design project has enabled current communities' input into how growth and change can be carefully and positively managed.

Project purpose

The purpose of the project is to:

- + Develop a vision shared by the community and other stakeholders.
- + Identify community aspirations and opportunities to address the challenges facing the township.
- + Support the community to prioritise their future needs, services, and opportunities.
- + Align community and other stakeholder expectations including how growth and change can be carefully and positively managed.

How to read this document

This document is structured in four parts commencing with a project introduction, and understanding of the context and township as the first part.

The second part provides an overview of Engagement 1: Let's Chat and Engagement 2: Planning Ahead.

The third part is the Place Plan comprised of the Big Ideas, and the objectives, actions and outcomes that will bring the ideas to life.

The fourth part is the Implementation Plan comprised of objectives, priorities, timing, and key partners.

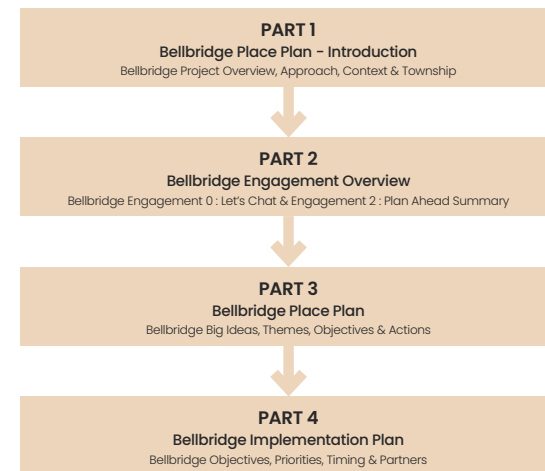


Figure 2. Format of this document, Bellbridge Place Plan.



Figure 3. Engagement 2 workshop, Bellbridge.

1.2 Creating a shared vision

Three engagement touchpoints were developed as part of a co-design process to inform the town vision and place plan. A broad spectrum of stakeholders, including residents, workers, visitors, students, and government authorities were included across all three engagement touchpoints.

Place-based approach & asset based engagement

The engagement process was highly inclusive and collaborative to co-design solutions with the community that build upon the strengths, assets and opportunities for each town. This is called an asset based approach. Asset based engagement recognises and builds upon the value and resources that exist within the community.

Engagement touchpoints

As the first of three touch-points, Engagement 1 was an opportunity to introduce the Our Town Towards 2030 project to each of the five communities and have conversations with people to understand what they value about their town and what really matters to them.

Engagement 2 was an opportunity to present the Big Ideas, report back what we heard and how this could translate into future initiatives / projects, asking did we get it right?

Engagement 3 is the final engagement touchpoint. Feedback from Engagement 2 was collated and used to finalise the place plans during 'Delivering the Vision', keeping the community informed of the final project outcomes.

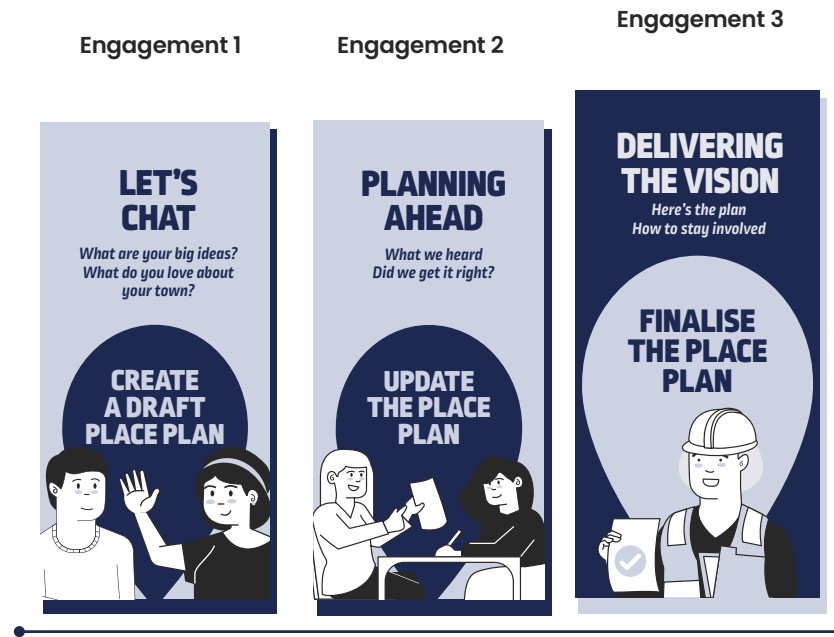


Figure 4. Three engagement touchpoints.



Figure 5. Lake Hume foreshore, Bellbridge.

1.3 Understanding the context

Every project begins with an understanding of the people, location and physical characteristics that define the township. Understanding the township at different scales – from regional, township to town centre – helps to build a picture of the unique features and qualities that contribute to place identity.

Region

With a population base of 393 inhabitants, Bellbridge is a very small township located on the Victoria and New South Wales border.

Bellbridge is immediately east of the Bethanga Bridge, built during 1927-30 when the Hume Weir was completed and the backed-up waters inundated this section of the river. The bridge is 752 metres long and is heritage listed.

We understand that prior to European settlement the area was home to the Jaitmatang and Pallanganmiddang / Waywurru First Nations people.

The township is located in a Declared Special Water Supply Catchment Area with protections on water quality and the environment.



Figure 6. Regional context.

1.3 Understanding the context

Township

The township covers an area of approximately 32 hectares on hills rising up from the Lake Hume foreshore to the east.

Located on Lake Road and the western banks of Lake Hume, Bellbridge is 20km east of the regional city Albury, 8km north-west of Bethanga and just south of the Murray River Road which follows the Murray River towards the small townships of Talgarno and Granya.

Established in the 1970's from a farming property called Belmer, the township commences immediately south of Bethanga Bridge and stretches north-south along the Lake Hume foreshore.



Figure 7. Township context.

Town Centre

Bellbridge is a commuter suburb comprised of predominantly residential buildings.

The urban settlement is typical of housing developments of the 1970's with curved roads and cul-de-sacs.

The core township is comprised of single and double storey free standing dwellings with larger rural lots located to the south.

The key destination is Lake Hume known for water sports, the Hume Boat Club with foreshore and recreational facilities. The kindergarten, tennis courts and open space with skatepark are co-located at Craig Drive Reserve.



Figure 8. Town centre context.



Figure 9. View of Lake Hume.



Figure 10. Bethanga Bridge.



Figure 11. Hume Boat Club.



Figure 12. Lake Hume picnic area.



Figure 13. Kurrajong Gap lookout.



Figure 14. Lake Hume brand logo.



Figure 15. Walking trail Bellbridge foreshore.



Figure 16. Lake water sports.

1.4 Township & surrounds character

Local Character

Bellbridge is a small township established in the 1970's as a commuter suburb 20km east of the regional urban centre Albury-Wodonga. The spectacular setting on the north-eastern banks of Lake Hume and proximity to the heritage listed Bethanga Bridge are defining features.

This plan shows Bellbridge's character and heritage, highlighting the heritage overlay on Bethanga Bridge, suburban and rural residential areas within the township, recreation, open space and community infrastructure at Craig Drive Reserve, and recreation at the Lake Hume foreshore.

These are important considerations for a discussion on how to re-imagine the township's future.

Key facilities, features, qualities and characteristics are captured in the adjacent images across the following page.

Legend

-  HERITAGE OVERLAY (BETHANGA BRIDGE)
-  SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL
-  RURAL RESIDENTIAL
-  WATER & SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT
-  LAKE HUME FORESHORE
-  LANDSCAPED VERGE
-  COMMUNITY NODE



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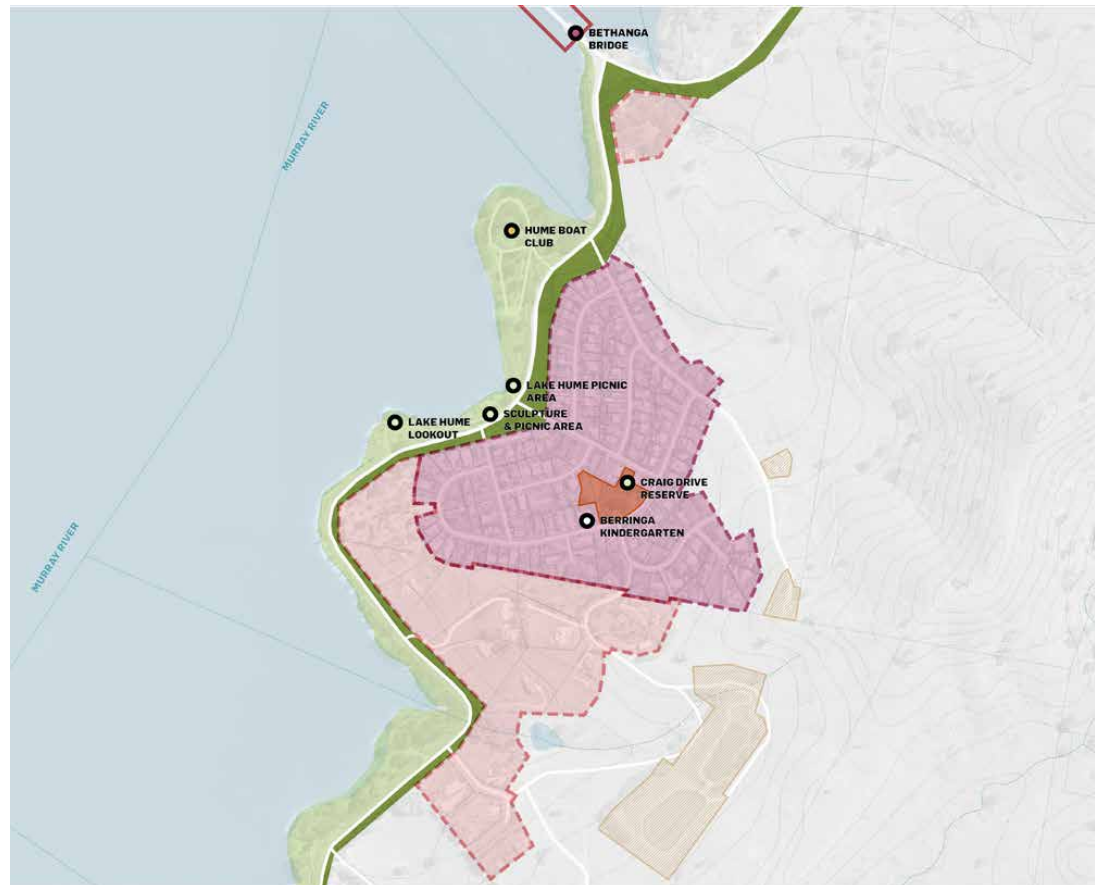


Figure 17. Bellbridge planning zones, character and heritage.



Figure 18. Lake Hume.



Figure 19. Lake Hume foreshore, Bellbridge.



Figure 20. Berringa Kindergarden.



Figure 21. House on Murray Place.



Figure 22. House on Mitta Avenue.



Figure 23. Kurrajong Gap lookout.



Figure 24. Roy Williams Park at Craig Drive Reserve.



2.0



Engagement



2.1 Engagement summary

Towong Shire Community Engagement Policy

Council's commitment to engagement is outlined in the Towong Shire Community Engagement Policy which "is committed to participatory democracy and providing community members with the opportunity to engage in decision making in relation to matters that affect them". This project has adopted key principles from Policy including:

- + Identifying key stakeholders and user groups impacted by the decisions.
- + Being respectful of and allowing space for a diversity of perspectives and views.
- + Embedding transparency and accountability by keeping participants informed and 'closing the loop'.

The Towong Shire Community Engagement Policy includes a public participation spectrum adapted from the IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum with five levels of public participation: Inform, Consult, Involve, Collaborate and Empower. This project has incorporated levels 1-4 at different stages of the project with the aim of building consensus with participants.



Figure 26. Engagement touchpoints.

“A place where people can come to Bellbridge, enjoy the lake, have breakfast lunch or dinner in a nice cafe / restaurant and a small shop for essentials.”

Figure 27. Engagement collateral.

Engagement 1: Let's Chat

People were informed and encouraged to participate in a variety of ways including the 'Town-hall' style meetings, face-to-face and online meetings, surveys, targeted social media posts, e-newsletters, letterbox drops, posters and advertising. A summary of engagement types / methods including the number of people engaged is captured below.



Engagement 2: Planning Ahead

Similar methods were used for Engagement 2 including 'Town-hall' style workshops, face-to-face and online workshops, online survey, targeted social media posts, e-newsletter and letterbox drops. A summary of engagement types / methods including the number of people engaged is captured below.



Figure 28. Engagement 2 community event, Bellbridge.

“Bellbridge’s rural feel on the urban fringe of Albury-Wodonga. Bellbridge’s views of Lake Hume, Hume Dam Wall, Bethanga Bridge and the surrounding countryside make it unique.”

2.2 Engagement 1: Let's chat

The first engagement, Let's Chat took place between March-April 2023 and included a broad spectrum of stakeholders – residents, workers, visitors, students, government departments and agencies.

Let's Chat included a number of methods including 'Town-hall' style meetings and events, face-to-face and online focus groups and 1:1 meetings, online and hardcopy survey, targeted social media posts, e-newsletters and poster.

"Let's Chat" reflects the broad and wide ranging challenges and opportunities affecting each community. It also helps us to identify and leverage key strengths and assets in the development of the vision and place plans.

Four questions were asked, with more detailed conversations held with individuals or small groups. These were:

- + What makes your town special? What do you love and value?
- + What challenges does your town face?
- + What are the opportunities over the next 10 years?
- + What would make your town more environmentally sustainable and resilient?

The results of Let's Chat were compiled into a Draft Place Plan which included a project introduction, overview of Engagement 1: Let's Chat; vision exercise for the workshops and survey; and a summary of 'what we heard' captured in three Big Ideas with potential initiatives / projects.

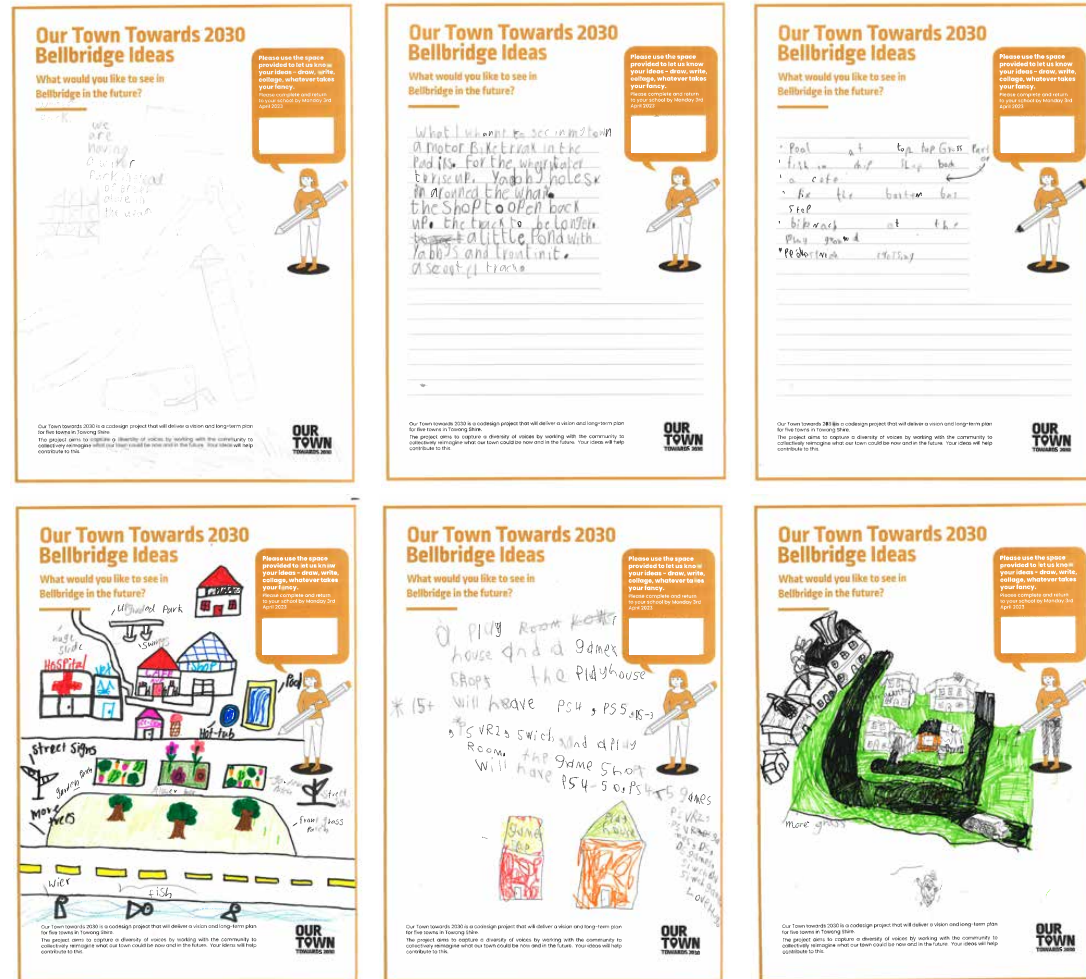


Figure 29. Responses to the Question: How can Bellbridge be a better place for their future. Bethanga Primary School students, Years P-6.

“The limitations of Bethanga Bridge in being able to cater safely for bicycle and pedestrian traffic (e.g. during the conduct of the Lake Hume Cycle Challenge).”

Strengths, Assets & Challenges

An analysis of responses to the questions ‘What makes your town special?’ and ‘What do you love and value?’ are summarised in the following strengths and assets, with responses to the question ‘What challenges does your town face?’ summarised in the following challenges. These have informed the vision and big ideas for the place plan.

Big Ideas

The three Big Ideas for Bellbridge broadly capitalise on:

- + Bellbridge’s locational advantages and proximity to Albury-Wodonga.
- + Recreation and tourism potential from it’s location on Lake Hume.
- + Creating community nodes and a town centre for the township.






2.3 Engagement 2: Planning ahead

The second engagement, Planning Ahead took place between November 2023-January 2024 and included residents, workers, visitors and government authorities. Planning Ahead was comprised of in-person workshops and an online survey replicating the face-to-face workshops. The workshop and survey were based on the Draft Place Plan which captured the key directions and outcomes to emerge from 'what we heard' during Engagement 1: Let's Chat.

Engagement 2 was an opportunity to provide feedback on the Engagement 1 findings. A vision exercise was held with participants during the workshop to prioritise key words for the overarching direction for the place plan. These words were used to create the town vision.

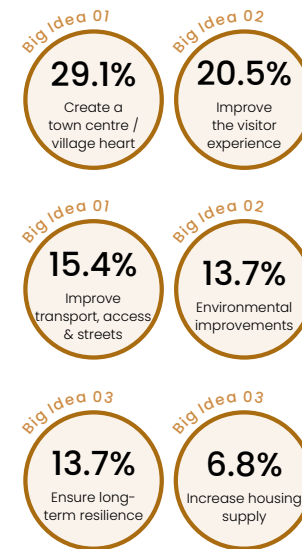
The three Big Ideas for Bellbridge were presented to participants, followed by two prioritisation exercises. The first exercise was focused on themes, with participants requested to select their top three. The second exercise was based on the initiatives / projects under each theme. Participants were requested to select their top ten initiatives / projects.

Results from the prioritisation exercise are captured in the diagram to the right. While Big Idea 01, and 02 included the highest priority themes, across the three ideas, 'Civic precinct & town centre to strengthen the lakeside community' was the highest rated big idea.

Big Idea	Theme
 01 Civic precinct & town centre to strengthen the lakeside community	1.1 Create a town centre / village heart 1.2 Improve health and education services / facilities 1.3 Improve transport, access and streets
 02 Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination	2.1 Improve visitor experience 2.2 Leverage events 2.3 Environmental improvements
 03 Increasing housing supply while retaining the small town feel	3.1 Increase housing supply 3.2 Ensure long-term resilience

Theme Priorities

The highest rated themes are captured below.



*“I love that it still has a village feel and yet close to larger towns of Albury Wodonga.
The lake and hill views are the reason I moved here but fell in love with its serenity.”*

Initiative & Project Priorities

During Engagement 2 stakeholders were requested to prioritise the most important initiatives / projects listed under each theme. The following six initiatives / projects were rated as the top priorities for the community.

TABLE OF HIGHEST RATED SURVEY RESULTS				
Priority	Big Idea	Theme	Percentage	Initiative / Project
#1	01	1.1	12.1%	Food and beverage opportunities.
#2	02	2.1	11.0%	Bellbridge Boat Club upgrade.
#3	03	3.2	7.4%	Critical infrastructure upgrades (telecommunications).
#4	01	1.3	7.2%	Bethanga Bridge cycle / pedestrian links, alternative large vehicle access.
#5	02	2.3	6.6%	Waterfront restoration (revegetation, manage vehicle / boat access).
#6	02	2.1	5.2%	Upgrade Lake Hume foreshore (activities, facilities and trails).

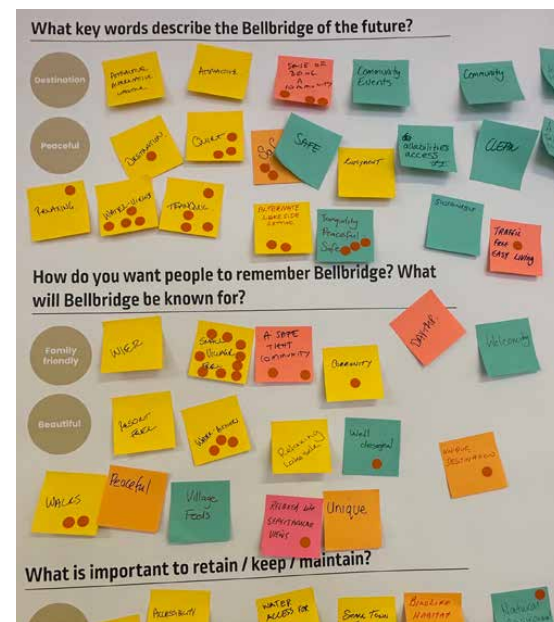


Figure 30. Engagement 2 vision exercise, Bellbridge.

3.0



Place Plan

**OUR
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Bellbridge evolves into a close-knit community where residents cherish a strong sense of belonging and unity. The town maintains its quiet and safe environment, enabling people to enjoy the tranquility and serenity that come with living in a small village.

Bellbridge becomes renowned for the Bellbridge Boathouse, its picturesque lake views, and recreational facilities enhancing the small-town feel that is loved by its inhabitants.

This harmonious blend of community spirit, safety, and natural beauty ensures that Bellbridge remains a welcoming destination for those seeking a peaceful and fulfilling lifestyle.

Bellbridge Town Vision

3.1 Big ideas summary




Three Big Ideas emerged from an analysis of responses from Engagement 1. These were tested with community during Engagement 2. All of the big ideas received support, however, it was clear through the analysis that followed, that there are clear priorities across the community. These priorities are reflected in the numbering of each big idea with 'Civic precinct & town centre to strengthen the lakeside community' receiving the most support, followed by 'Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination', and 'Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel'.

Format of the Big Ideas

Each Big Idea is comprised of themes that describe the outcomes we are seeking to achieve. Each theme includes a series of objectives outlining the different components that make up each theme. Each objective lists actions required to implement the objective. The actions can be projects or initiatives.



Figure 31. Format of the Big Ideas.

Big Idea	Theme
 01 Civic precinct & town centre to strengthen the lakeside community	1.1 Create a town centre / village heart 1.2 Improve transport, access and streets 1.3 Improve health and education services / facilities
 02 Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination	2.1 Improve visitor experience 2.2 Environmental improvements 2.3 Leverage events
 03 Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel	3.1 Ensure long-term resilience 3.2 Increase housing supply

3.2 Big Idea

01

Civic precinct to strengthen the lakeside community



Theme 1.1: Create a Village Heart

What we heard

Bellbridge functions as a predominantly residential town with many residents travelling to work in the region. The township lacks a centre with shops and other community services and has limited dedicated open space for recreational activities. While the Early Learning Centre is valued by the community for its role in building bonds amongst residents, there are few places for the community to meet and socialise. In addition, without commercial premises, there is little opportunity to capitalise on the visitor economy from people visiting Lake Hume on weekends and holidays.

Engagement 2 findings reinforced the importance of creating a community hub with 'Food and beverage opportunities' the highest rated initiative / project across all of the Big Ideas. It is important to note that with the proximity of Bellbridge to Albury with access to retail and services, most residents did not support the inclusion of a small supermarket or small scale town centre, preferring to focus on small scale retail such as a cafe to create a community hub.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Food and beverage opportunities
- + 2 - Create a community hub with retail / commercial and public spaces
- + 3 - New community infrastructure such as Early Years Learning Centre / Library (community hub).

What is proposed

This Big Idea prioritises spaces for public life by creating a village heart at the Hume Boat Club redevelopment. While the focus is on providing a cafe or other dining experiences, the urban village can also include community facilities and other potential commercial spaces to broaden the uses and offer.

- + Cafe and fresh food retail
- + Small community hub with community spaces and commercial uses.

Objective 1: Explore food and beverage opportunities

Action 01: Investigate the opportunity for new food and beverage opportunities such as cafe, fresh food / groceries and provide and a range of dining including wine bar and more upmarket experiences in the township.



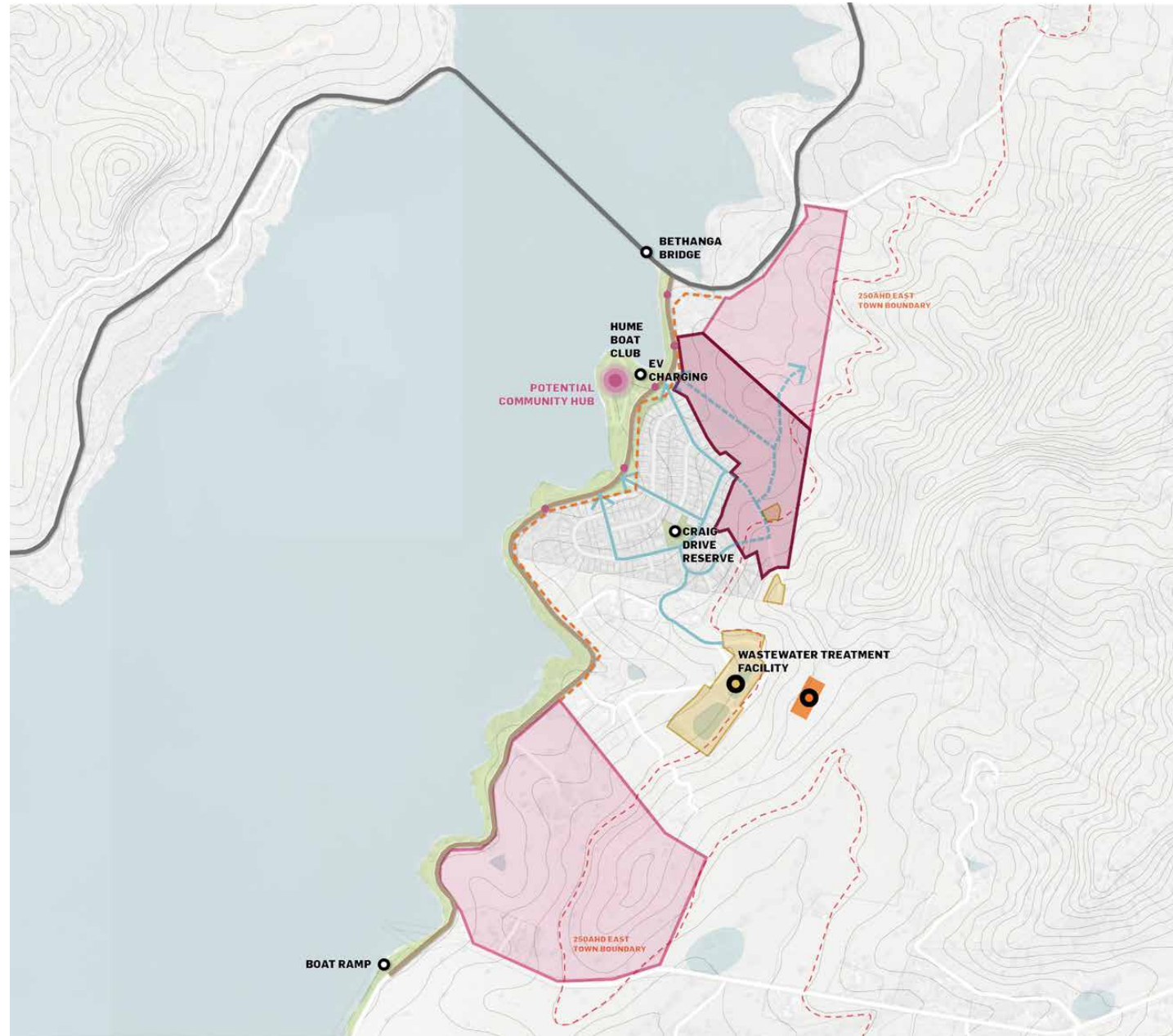
Figure 32. Fresh food & provide. The Sir George, Jugiong.

Legend

- FORESHORE
- INVESTIGATION AREA
- FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AREA WITHIN TOWNSHIP
- REDUCED ROAD SPEED (40KM/HR)
- ROAD INTERFACE TREATMENT
- EXISTING ROADS
- FUTURE ROADS
- COMMUNITY HUB
- WASTEWATER/WATER INFRASTRUCTURE



1:10,000 @ A3
0 500m



3.2 Big Idea 01 Civic precinct to strengthen the lakeside community



Figure 33. Build upon strengths of waterfront setting.



Figure 34. Food and beverage anchor.

Objective 2: Create a community hub with retail, commercial and public spaces at the Hume Boat Club

Action 01: Investigate the opportunity for a small scale community hub at the Hume Boat Club, with shops, cafés / restaurants and office space.

Action 02: Ensure the community hub includes civic spaces, attractive streetscapes, alfresco dining, new toilets, adequate and accessible parking and serviced locations (power and water) for temporary / pop-up events.



Figure 35. Bellbridge Cafe at Bellbridge Boathouse, Source: Four18, Towong Shire.



Figure 36. Glenroy Community Hub.

3.2 Big Idea 01 Civic precinct to strengthen the lakeside community

Theme 1.2: Improve Transport, Access and Streets

What we heard

Engagement 1 findings indicated a lack of footpaths, drainage / storm water management, narrow roads and cars speeding along Lake Road creating safety issues and a barrier between the township and foreshore. Increasing traffic on Bethanga Bridge including a lack of pedestrian and cyclist access, limited load capacity for freight and alternate bridge crossings constrain transport access to the township.

Engagement 2 findings reinforced transport and road access as a key issue for the community with anti-social driving behaviour a key concern along Lake Road, and the associated safety issues exacerbated by a windy road with significant blind spots. In addition, unsafe access into the Hume Boat Club and other picnic areas along the foreshore were identified, requiring changes to existing entry / exit points. Parking areas including for large vehicles such as buses or caravans / trailers for boats are also required, to cater for an increase in visitor numbers.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Bethanga Bridge cycle / pedestrian links, alternative large vehicle access
- + 2 - Improve Lake Road appearance, safety / access for parking / pedestrians / cyclists
- + 3 - Public bus service and shuttle
- + 4 - Road upgrades (large vehicle access) and fuel supply.

What is proposed

'Bethanga Bridge cycle / pedestrian links, alternative large vehicle access' was the fourth highest rated initiative / project across all of the Big Ideas during Engagement 2, reinforcing the importance to community. This Big Idea focuses on improving transport access across a range of transport modes including:

- + Addressing the limitations of Bethanga Bridge
- + Adapting the roads to accommodate large vehicles
- + Increasing parking for cars, caravans / trailers, buses and public transport
- + Improving access to the Hume Boat Club and other picnic areas along the foreshore.

Objective 1: Provide cycle and pedestrian access to Bethanga Bridge with alternative large vehicle access

Action 01: Investigate the opportunity to provide bicycle and pedestrian access on Bethanga Bridge including alternative freight and large vehicle access.

Action 02: Investigate the opportunity to provide an alternative freight and large vehicle route to Bellbridge.

Objective 2: Improve the appearance of Lake Road and address safety and access for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles

Action 01: Investigate opportunities to improve the appearance of Lake Road with beautification, artwork, landscape, trees and vegetation.

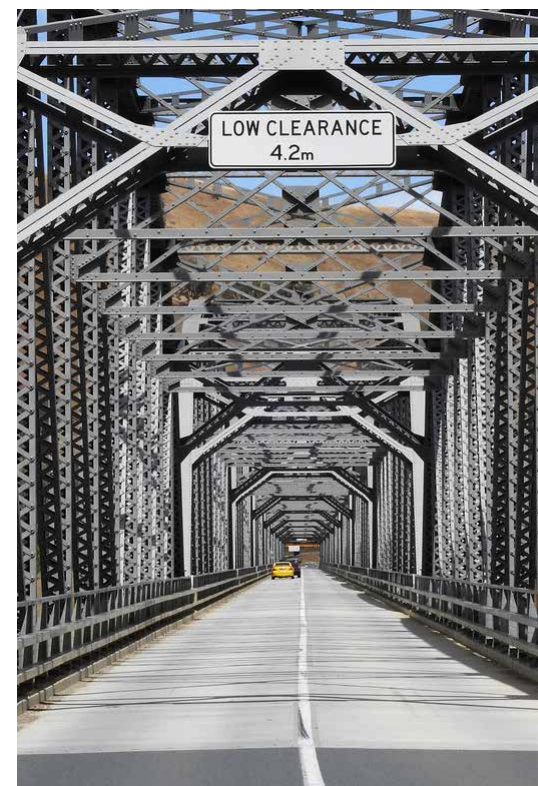


Figure 37. Bethanga Bridge.



Action 02: Undertake a safety audit of key routes to identify blackspots and determine where safety improvements are required including dedicated shared paths and crossings.

Investigate points for pedestrian crossings at key locations or intersections such as:

- + Bethanga Bridge and Hume Boat Club
- + Street intersections at Hillcrest Avenue, Mitta Avenue, Lyndon Avenue and Eucalypt Drive
- + Kurrajong Gap Road.

Action 03: Investigate measures to address anti-social driving along Lake Road south of Mitta Avenue and Eucalypt Drive, including potential speed cameras or speed humps.

Action 04: Investigate alternate access arrangements into the Hume Boat Club to address the current safety issue.

Action 05: Investigate alternate access arrangements into the picnic area opposite Eucalypt Drive, to address the blindspot with the existing entry / exit points. Reinstate the 5km/hr speed sign to the existing parking access to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Action 06: Investigate reducing the speed limit along Lake Road from Bethanga Bridge to the Lake Hume boat ramp south of Kurrajong Gap Road to 40km/hr.

Objective 3: Investigate the provision of a public bus and shuttle service

Action 01: Advocate for improvements to the public bus service from Bellbridge to Albury-Wodonga.

Action 02: Investigate the opportunity to provide a school bus service from Bellbridge to Albury.

Action 03: Investigate the opportunity to provide a community shuttle from key locations in the township to services in Albury that can also be used by tour operators.

Objective 4: Undertake road upgrades for large vehicle access and investigate the provision of fuel supply

Action 01: Review road and access requirements in the township catering for recreational vehicles including road widening for larger vehicles.

Action 02: Investigate the opportunity to provide a petrol station including marine fuel in the township.

Objective 5: Improve parking to cater for a range of vehicles and increase in visitor numbers

Action 01: Develop a parking strategy that caters for overflow car parking and boat parking for increased visitation periods and events including RV / long vehicle parking and RV dump points. Include the projected increase in visitation numbers and any potential future expansion of the township.

Objective 6: Improve regional connectivity with an EV charging station at the Hume Boat Club

Action 01: Include provision for an EV charging station at the Hume Boat Club redevelopment.



Figure 38. Cycle bridge.



Figure 39. School / shuttle bus service.

3.2 Big Idea 01 Civic precinct to strengthen the lakeside community

Theme 1.3: Improve Health and Education Services and Facilities

What we heard

The Berringa Community Centre in Bellbridge includes early years services such as childcare, kindergarten and maternal and child health. Located adjacent to the Craig Drive Reserve, the Community Centre co-locates community infrastructure with recreation and sporting facilities such as the skate park, tennis courts, play area, picnic area and shelter with BBQ. Most facilities except the tennis courts were recently upgraded. Comments were made during Engagement 1 and 2 about the low usage of the courts, with some suggestions to remove the courts and consolidate the number of tennis clubs in the Shire.

The development of the Hume Boat Club will shift the focus of the community hub to the foreshore. The role and function of the existing community hub at Craig Drive Reserve is to be considered as part of the overall growth and development of Bellbridge. The existing small park is well-located to serve the surrounding residential area. However, the concentration of facilities along the foreshore would contribute towards creating a livelier atmosphere at the Hume Boat Club redevelopment and increase safety through passive surveillance.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows with equal weighting as indicated below. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Upgrade existing Early Years Learning Centre /services
- + 2 - Improve health services
- + 2 - Improve Craig Drive Reserve facilities.

What is proposed

This Big Idea provides additional community infrastructure and services to meet the needs of the community. While many services are available in Albury, it was acknowledged that some local services would support and build community connections within the township. Improving community infrastructure identified in Engagement 1 and 2 is focused on increasing the capacity of the Early Learning Years Centre, and providing additional health services and small library.

Objective 1: Improve community infrastructure to cater for the growing population

Action 01: Investigate the opportunity to provide a new Early Years Learning Centre at the Hume Boat Club community hub.

Action 02: Consider the option to upgrade the existing facility to meet future services and demand.

Action 03: Consider the option to upgrade the existing Early Years Learning Centre to meet future services and demand.

Action 04: Investigate the opportunity to provide a small library as part of the community hub.



Figure 40. BiraBira Early Learning Centre, Melbourne.



Objective 2: Improve health services for targeted to the ageing demographic and families

Action 01: Review access to current health services and determine childcare, kindergarten and maternal child health services; other health and medical services; at-home care or preventative community health services that are required.

Objective 3: Upgrade facilities at the Craig Drive Reserve

Action 01: Investigate the opportunity to improve the facilities at Craig Drive Reserve with toilets, upgrade tennis courts and new half-court basketball. Consider the potential relocation of the tennis courts with any future development of the Lake Hume foreshore or expansion of the township boundary.



Figure 41. Roy Williams Park, Bellbridge.



Figure 42. Potential tennis court upgrades.

3.3 Big Idea

02

Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination



Theme 2.1: Improve the Visitor Experience

What we heard

Lake Hume, Bethanga Bridge, walking trails and recreational activities are what people love and value about the township. Highly ranked improvements include 'Accessible public transport and walking / cycling trails and routes' and 'Improving and expanding tourism including events, services, facilities, and accommodation'. The Lake Hume foreshore lacks a central point for the local community and visitors to enjoy. A lack of amenities to attract visitors including holiday rentals, tourist facilities and parking, roads too narrow for boats, a lack of general maintenance and upkeep including walking trails and safety concerns for pedestrians, cyclists and people swimming near jetski's were identified. The limitations of Bethanga Bridge were also highlighted for a lack of pedestrian / cyclist access, increasing traffic including larger vehicles unsuitable for Bethanga Bridge.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Hume Boat Club upgrade
- + 2 - Upgrade Lake Hume foreshore (activities, facilities and trails)
- + 3 - Gateway arrival (signage and beautification)
- + 4 - Events calendar and marketing campaign
- + 5 - Increase accommodation choice.

What is proposed

The upgrade of the Hume Boat Club was the second highest ranked initiative / project across all of the Big Ideas in Engagement 2 and has reinforced the importance of the foreshore to the township, and the potential to create a community focal point. This Big Idea leverages the opportunities of the Lake Hume foreshore to become a community meeting place and tourist destination by:

- + Leveraging the iconic status of Bethanga Bridge as a gateway to the Shire and Berringa Peninsula
- + Improvements to Lake Hume foreshore and streetscapes
- + Tourist facilities and infrastructure.

Objective 1: Implement the upgrade to the Hume Boat Club

Action 01: Upgrade the Hume Boat Club with a new Boathouse Club to create a community node on the Lake Hume foreshore.

Proposed uses include a café, decking, club rooms / function space, commercial premises, public amenities, car parking, landscaping and visitor information centre.



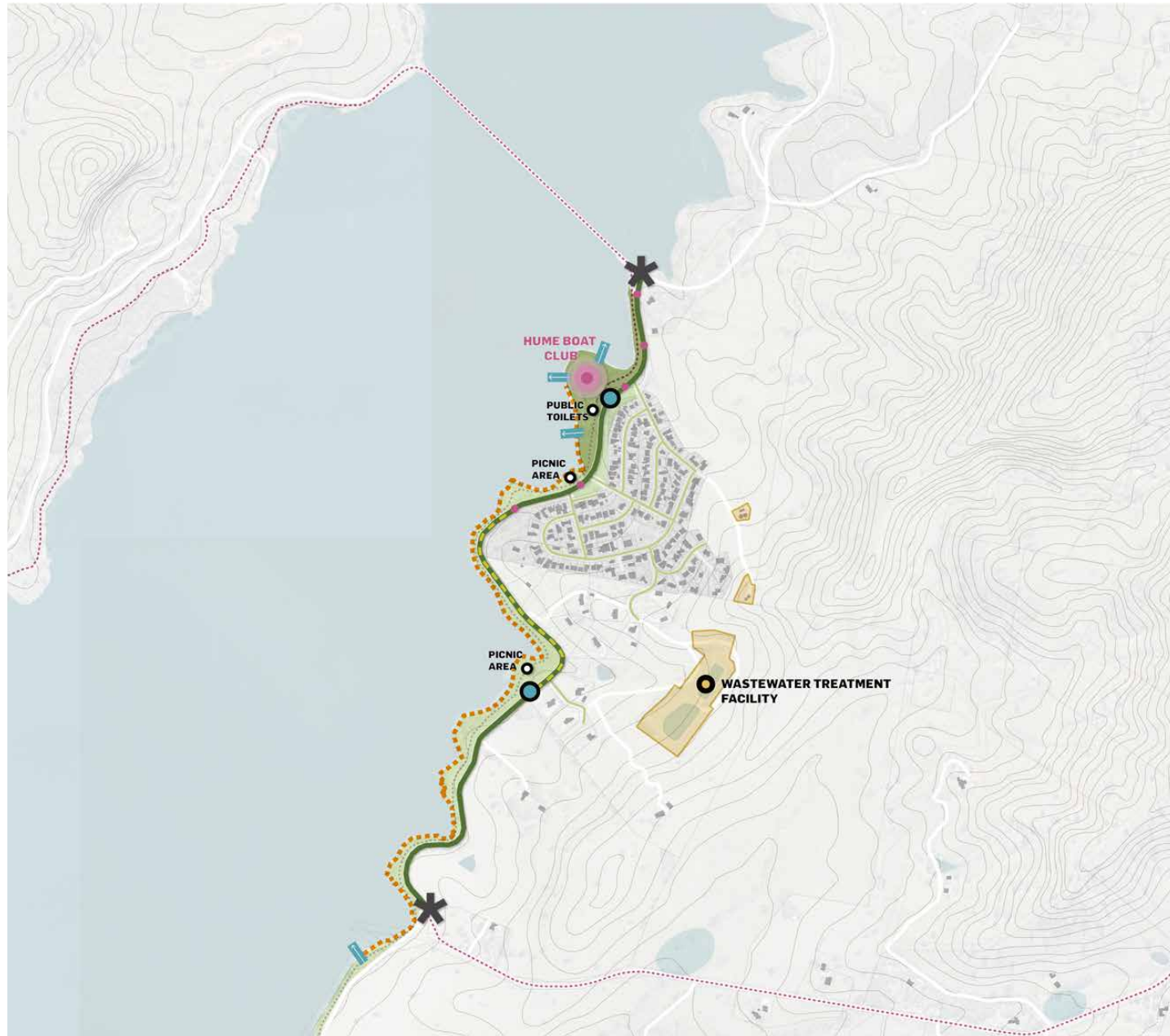
Figure 43. New Bellbridge Boathouse, Source: Four18, Towong Shire.

Legend

-  LAKE HUME FORESHORE
-  ANTI-EROSION MEASURES
-  GENERAL STREETScape UPGRADES
-  LAKE ROAD STREETScape UPGRADES
-  ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS
-  MEASURES TO IMPROVE ANTI-SOCIAL DRIVING / SPEEDING
-  GATEWAY SIGNAGE
-  PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
-  EXISTING BOAT ACCESS
-  EXISTING TRAIL
-  PROPOSED NEW TRAIL
-  WASTEWATER/WATER INFRASTRUCTURE



1:10,000 @ A3
0 500m



3.3 Big Idea 02 Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination



Figure 44. Lakeside cafe, Strandzuid Amsterdam.



Figure 45. Lakeside beach.



Figure 46. Lakeside beach facilities.

Objective 2: Upgrade Lake Hume foreshore with improved facilities, activities and trails

Action 01: Investigate the opportunity to add complementary uses and infrastructure to Lake Hume foreshore to strengthen the community node and capitalise on the Boat Club's location and amenity including the following activities:

- + Floating pontoons for events and fireworks
- + Boat launch area, boat maintenance and fuel area
- + Facilities for kayaking, wakeboarding, water skiing, jet-skiing, tube-riding, and stand-up paddleboarding
- + Swimming beach with lifeguard
- + Slow speed and separated area for boats
- + Children's nature play area
- + Beach volleyball
- + Exercise trail
- + Bird hides for bird watching
- + Rock climbing boulders
- + Fish bait, ice and cleaning area
- + Change / shower facilities
- + Boat / kayaks / canoe for hire facilities
- + Locations for events, food and coffee vans including power and water.

Action 02: Extend the trail network and improve maintenance ensuring trails are fully accessible:

- + Trail to Bethanga Bridge and Albury to connect with the Murray River Red Gum Trail
- + Trail to Bethanga and Websters Estate Winery.



Objective 3: Improve the sense of arrival at the town's gateway

Action 01: Create a sense of arrival at entry locations with gateway and wayfinding signage at decision points, public art and beautification. Gateway locations include:

- + Lake Road and Bethanga Bridge intersection
- + Southern Lake Road entry at Kurrajong Gap Road
- + Information display advertising upcoming events.

Objective 4: Develop an events calendar and marketing campaign

Action 01: Develop an activation and events calendar with seasonal events for community and visitors catering for:

- + Food and wine offering with winery, farmgate, farm-to-plate, and hospitality activities
- + Music, arts and cultural activities
- + Food and wine offering with winery, farmgate, farm-to-plate, and hospitality activities
- + Landcare and environmental activities
- + Sports and recreation activities
- + Touring and running itineraries
- + Leverage events such as the Lake Hume Challenge.

Objective 5: Increase accommodation choice

Action 01: Broaden short-stay accommodation options targeted at water-based recreation, cycling, mountain biking, hiking, trail running, motorbike touring and grey nomads.

Explore opportunity to provide camping facilities along the foreshore.



Figure 47. Integrate signage and public art at arrival locations to Bellbridge.



Figure 48. Potential to have fireworks on Bethanga Bridge.

3.3 Big Idea 02 Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination

Theme 2.2: Environmental Improvements

What we heard

The Lake Hume foreshore is one of the greatest assets and strengths of the township attracting hundreds of families during the summer. Signs of erosion along the foreshore are evident particularly at the picnic area adjacent Eucalypt Drive, south of the picnic area towards Kurrajong Gap Road and the boat ramp, and adjacent the Hume Boat Club. Engagement 2 findings reinforced the urgent need to address erosion control to safeguard the precious asset, prevent creating a safety hazard and washing out the existing trail.

In addition to erosion control, many residents discussed issues with water flows and drainage impacting building works, with several underground springs identified.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows with equal weighting as indicated below. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Waterfront restoration (revegetation, manage vehicle / boat access)
- + 2 - Improve urban ecology in open spaces, public spaces and streets
- + 3 - Increase awareness of First Nations cultural heritage
- + 4 - Environmental learning (Landcare education) for new residents.

What is proposed

'Waterfront restoration' was the fifth highest ranked initiative / project across all the Big Ideas, highlighting the importance of protecting and enhancing the foreshore. This Big Idea leverages the opportunities of the Lake Hume foreshore by:

- + Undertaking environmental improvements to Lake Hume foreshore
- + Improving urban ecology in public spaces and streets
- + Recognising First Nations cultural significance
- + Increasing knowledge about Landcare issues.

Objective 1: Restore the waterfront of Lake Hume (revegetation, manage vehicle / boat access)

Action 01: Reduce bank erosion and restore riparian zones.

Action 02: Review current access to Lake Hume foreshore to determine preferred locations for vehicular and boat access and parking.

Action 03: Support GMW to manage the foreshore through measures such as a Friend's group subject to discussion with GMW.

Action 04: Advocate for state government and water authority investment in the health, management and maintenance of the Lake Hume foreshore and ecosystems within and surrounding the township.



Figure 49. Waterfront restoration to reduce erosion.



Objective 2: Improve urban ecology in open spaces, public spaces and streets

Action 01: Allocate nature areas and biodiversity corridors.

Action 02: Protect existing trees / vegetation and increase biodiversity.

Action 03: Enhance and protect habitats of threatened species.

Action 04 Address pests and invasive species through existing programs.

Action 05: Create a weed control crew to remove noxious weeds.

Action 06: Continuing to support research into biological control including the potential impact of changing weather and climate patterns to tried and tested methods.

Objective 3: Increase awareness of First Nations cultural heritage

Action 01: Identify any sites of significant First Nations cultural heritage in / surrounding Bellbridge with traditional custodians.

Action 02: Develop an Aboriginal place name strategy with traditional custodians to incorporate First Nations culture and heritage through acknowledgment, place names, truth-telling and stories.

Action 03: Consult First Nations people on the opportunities for new / upgraded open / public spaces along the Lake Hume foreshore.



Figure 50. Riparian restoration.



Figure 51. Environmental learning.

Objective 4: Provide opportunities for new residents to increase knowledge about the environment

Action 01: Provide opportunities for Landcare environmental education to residents and to inspire the next generation of stewards including:

- + Control of pests and weeds and the impacts of climate change
- + Teaching people how to take care of / manage land
- + Landcare for Country pilot program with First Nations people.

3.3 Big Idea 02 Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination



Theme 2.3: Leverage Events

What we heard

Bellbridge attracts many weekend visitors from the region to participate in year round recreation including swimming, boating, fishing, camping and sightseeing. Water-based activities include wakeboarding, water skiing, jet-skiing, tube-riding, and stand-up paddleboarding with picnic facilities and a walking trail along the Lake Hume foreshore from the Hume Boat House to Kurrajong Gap Road.

The Lake Hume Cycle Challenge includes two routes through Bellbridge and Bethanga with plans by Albury City to build a trail to Bethanga Bridge. With increasing interest in on-road and off-road cycling, there is potential to strengthen Bellbridge as a destination for cycling by creating a safe network of trails and touring routes while also encouraging healthier modes of transport for locals.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

In this instance, 'Leveraging events' was singled out as a theme and initiative / project. The theme did not receive support, with minor support allocated to the initiative / project, indicating this is a low priority for community.

What is proposed

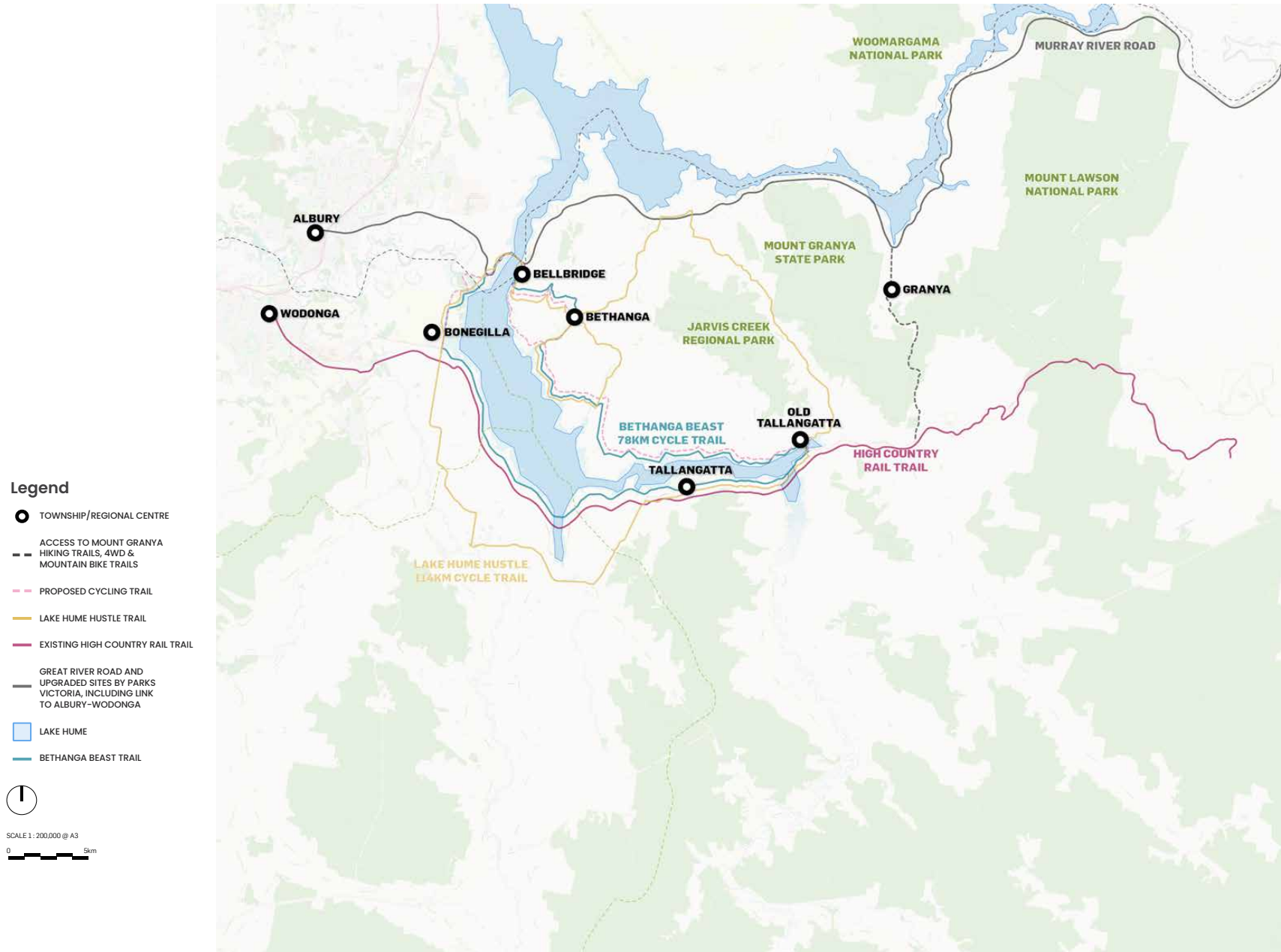
The aim of this Big Idea is to support tourism and active transport by improving regional connectivity for cyclists. It leverages the proposed trail around Lake Hume in a study called Activating Lake Hume connecting Tallangatta with Tallangatta East, Bellbridge, Lake Hume and Bonegilla. There is an opportunity to expand the proposed trail to include another loop at Bethanga, to extend the trail network and capitalise on the tourism potential of the small township, and support the Lake Hume Challenge.

Objective 1: Strengthen Bellbridge as a cycling destination

Action 01: Develop a calendar of events that build upon the cycling events in the Shire.



Figure 52. Walking / cycling trails.



3.4 Big Idea

03

Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel

Theme 3.1: Ensuring Long-Term Resilience

What we heard

The 2019-20 bushfires had a significant impact on the region and while Bellbridge was indirectly impacted by the fires, Engagement 1 revealed a strong need to consider and plan for bushfire preparedness. These findings were reinforced during Engagement 2, with 'Ensuring long-term resilience' the fourth ranked theme equal with 'Environmental improvements'.

Preferred measures to achieve environmental sustainability and resilience are overwhelmingly in support of improving internet / telecommunications infrastructure, ranked the third highest initiative / project across all the Big Ideas during Engagement 2. This was followed by 'renewable energy generation / water / waste'.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows with equal weighting as indicated below. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Critical infrastructure upgrades (telecommunications)
- + 2 - Bushfire preparedness (upgrade buildings and manage vegetation)
- + 2 - Renewable energy generation, waste / water reuse and recycling
- + 3 - Critical infrastructure upgrades (water, sewerage and electricity)
- + 4 - Plan for man-made and natural hazards / disasters and emergency services.

What is proposed

This Big Idea proposes that the liveability and long-term resilience of the town is enhanced by:

- + Improving telecommunications infrastructure and energy resilience
- + Preparing for bushfires
- + Increasing water and waste minimisation / reuse
- + Long-term planning for emergency services, disaster and resilience.

Objective 1: Plan and advocate for upgrades to telecommunications to support the future development of the township

Action 01: Advocate for improvements to the telecommunications infrastructure, internet service and the mobile phone network for reliable communications.

Action 02: Provide learning opportunities for the community to better understand the different telecommunication services available.



Figure 53. Upgrade the telecommunications network.



Objective 2: Embed bushfire preparedness into long-term planning for the township

Action 01: Upgrade existing buildings, manage vegetation and ensure new buildings comply with requirements and guidelines to mitigate the impact of bushfires.

Action 02: Develop cost-effective methods to retrofit existing buildings for bushfire preparedness.



Figure 54. Designing for bushfire risk, House at Flat Rock.

3.4 Big Idea **03** Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel

Objective 3: Investigate options to increase renewable energy generation, green waste collection / recycling and water reuse / recycling

Action 01: Investigate options for renewable energy generation to develop an energy resilience strategy including the potential for a town battery and micro-grid or alternative solutions in solar and wind.

Action 02: Investigate options to reduce waste, improve recycling including green waste recycling, collection and management and alternative waste to energy solutions.

Action 03: Identify barriers and investigate options to reduce water use, increase reuse for buildings and community facilities including on-site water storage and water treatment solutions.



Figure 55. Raingarden, Sunvale Community Park by Brimbank City Council.



Objective 4: Plan and advocate for upgrades to water, sewerage and electricity to support the future development of the township

Action 01: Advocate for North East Water to provide timely upgrades to existing water and sewerage infrastructure to ensure sufficient capacity for future residential and town centre growth for short-long term growth scenarios.

Action 02: Investigate odour associated with water drainage and water run-off.

Action 03: Advocate for upgrades to the existing electricity infrastructure networks.



Figure 56. Bellbridge.

Objective 5: Plan for natural and man-made hazards and disasters and emergency services to improve the township's long-term resilience

Action 01: Incorporate disaster and resilience planning to reduce the impact of natural and man-made hazards and disasters.

Action 02: Determine if a Bushfire Risk Assessment is required to guide the future development of the township.

Action 03: Plan for a new purpose built Country Fire Authority facility in proximity to the community hub.

Action 04: Plan for future upgrade and potential needs of existing emergency services and infrastructure as the population increases including consultation with emergency services organisations for future projects which can impact existing commitments.

Action 05: Include hazard resilience in future planning such as buildings, infrastructure and vegetation including higher storm water drainage and run-off, infrastructure that can cope with floods and storms, vegetation that reduce risks of fire and wind damage.

Action 06: Investigate opportunities to provide Council assistance in response to hazards on Shire land. (State Emergency Services).

Action 07: Investigate opportunities to increase police presence in the township.

Action 08: Develop strategy to build a volunteer base through community groups.

3.4 Big Idea 03 Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel



Theme 3.2: Increase Housing Supply

What we heard

Bellbridge is valued for being a small township with a relaxed lifestyle. It's proximity to the expanding growth front of Albury-Wodonga, scenic location, availability of residential zoned land and access to services make it an attractive location for new residents looking to maintain a semi-rural lifestyle close to employment, shops and services. 'Retaining and complementing the existing character and village feel / relaxed lifestyle of the township' was the most highly ranked suggestion on how to improve the township. This indicates that the growth of the township needs to be sensitive and respond to the existing character, in order to ensure that the small town feel is retained.

These findings were reinforced during Engagement 2, with concern expressed by some community members about the future growth of the township and the potential loss of the relaxed and quiet lifestyle valued by the community.

Outcomes of Engagement 2

The highest to lowest rated initiatives and projects for this theme are as follows. The themes and initiatives / projects have been incorporated into objectives and actions.

- + 1 - Increase housing choice
- + 2 - Develop the lot to the north zoned for residential in the existing town
- + 3 - Investigation areas to increase land available for Rural Living
- + 4 - Infill housing in existing residential zones (Township and Low Density Residential Zone)

What is proposed

This Big Idea proposes that the liveability and long-term resilience of the town is enhanced by:

- + Ensuring new development is complementary to the existing character
- + Increasing housing choice through more differentiated housing types and lot sizes
- + Increasing housing supply through development of land zoned for residential use
- + Increasing housing supply through potential future rezoning of land.





Objective 1: Increase housing choice to cater for diverse demographic needs

Action 01: Provide a greater range of housing lot sizes and typologies to increase housing choice and accommodate a variety of household types and changing demographic needs including for ageing in place, younger families, key sector workers and seasonal worker accommodation.



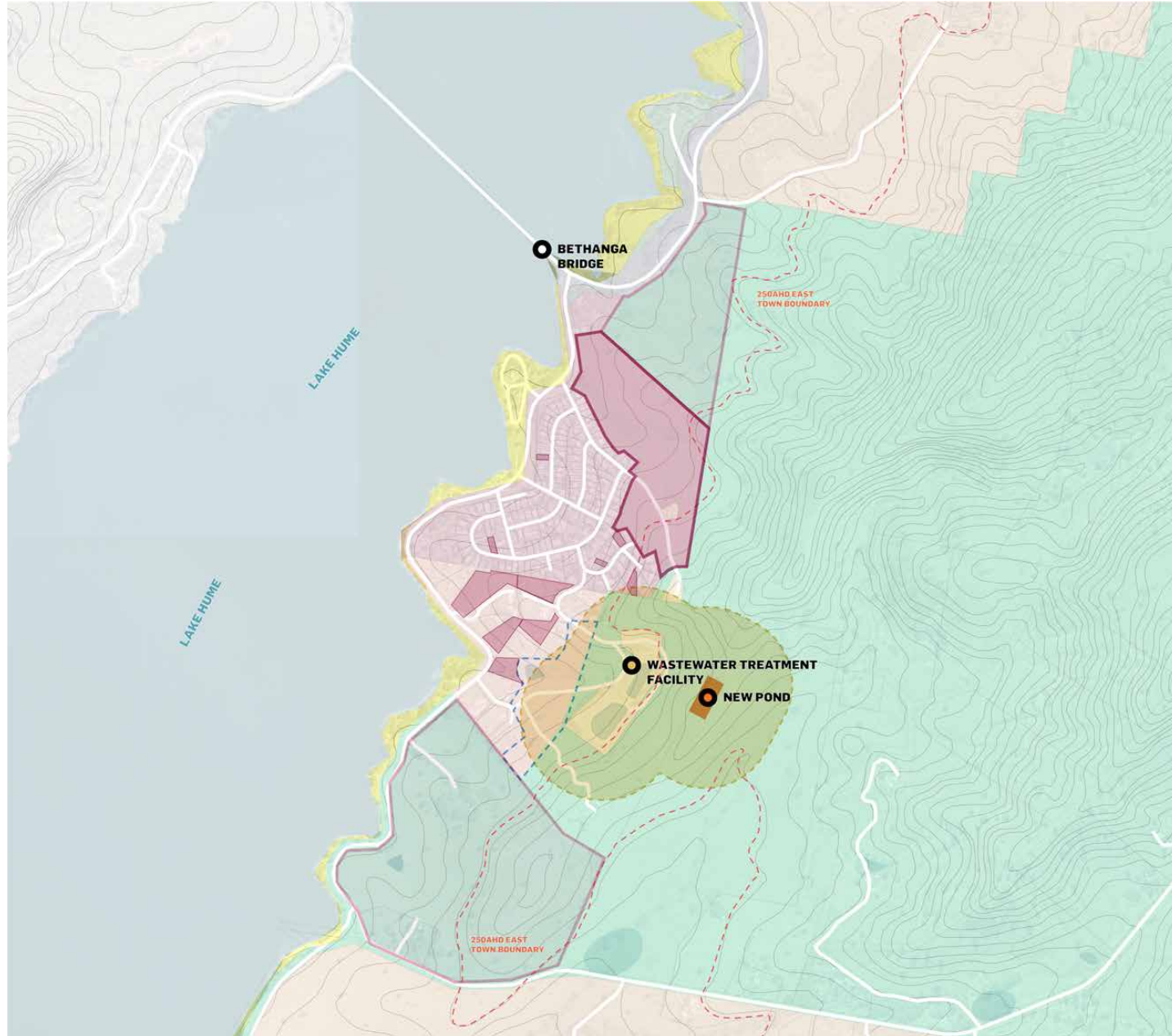
Figure 57. New housing development.

Legend

-  POTENTIAL INFILL SITES (SUBJECT TO CONSULTATION)
-  GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE
-  LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ZONE
-  RURAL ACTIVITY ZONE
-  PUBLIC USE ZONE
-  250AHD EAST TOWN BOUNDARY
-  EPA 200M BUFFER
-  FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AREA WITHIN TOWNSHIP
-  INVESTIGATION AREAS FOR FUTURE HOUSING



1:10,000 @ A3
0 500m



3.4 Big Idea 03 Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel

Objective 2: Develop the large lot to the north zoned for residential in the existing town

Action 01: There is an opportunity to provide housing on a large site zoned for general residential use in the township offering outlook and amenity with Lake Hume views and access to the foreshore. The site is subject to a Development Plan Overlay (DPO2) for residential development.

Action 02: Future development of the site is to consider the:

- + Underground spring and water flows draining towards Lake Hume, with potential to retain the open space abutting the existing residences and protect existing habitat
- + Ensure future development maintains privacy to residents abutting the vacant parcel
- + Investigate the retention of existing mature trees on-site
- + Consider alternate road access to the east and south-east aligning with the 250AHD east town boundary
- + Integrate future development with the foreshore ensuring safe pedestrian and cyclist crossings and links
- + Streetscape enhancement to Lake Drive frontage include footpaths, lighting, seating and water drinking fountain
- + Consider providing a range of differentiated residential products to broaden the dwelling types on offer.



Figure 58. Bellbridge existing residential development.



Objective 3: Consider potential investigation areas to increase land available for Rural Living

Action 01: Investigate rezoning Rural Activity Zone to the north and south of the township, subject to the recommendations of a Bushfire Risk Assessment.

There is potential to provide a differentiated residential product to the market, as opposed to more conventional housing typically delivered through the General Residential Zone.



Figure 59. Rural living on larger lots.

Objective 4: Investigate the potential to provide infill housing in existing residential zones on underdeveloped lots

Action 01: Subject to consultation with landowners, explore the opportunity to increase housing supply on vacant lots within the township to maximise access to existing critical infrastructure, including the potential for higher density i.e. smaller lots / townhouses to increase housing diversity.

4.0

Implementation Plan

**OUR
TOWN**

4.1 Making it happen

Overview of making it happen

The Bellbridge Place Plan establishes a vision and framework for achieving the vision.

This part of the place plan sets out how the objectives may be achieved. Each objective is examined in terms of its:

- **Priority** (low-medium-high) – the priority ranking is informed by outcomes from community engagement and input from authorities
- **Timing** – a realistic ordering of which objectives can be feasibly achieved in the short, medium, or longer term
- **Partners** – authorities who have elected to work on the objectives listed.

Some objectives may require further work and studies, including changes to planning instruments in the future, in the form of Structure Plans, reference documents or other planning studies which should be undertaken separately to these place plans where necessary.

It is recommended that the place plan is reviewed regularly, and that regular catch-ups between Council and community are undertaken to monitor and check the progress of the place plan implementation.

Government authorities’ workshop

On the 7 March 2024, the Draft Place Plans were presented as part of Engagement 2 to a group of state and local government authorities who have varying levels of involvement in the towns / region. This workshop was a follow-up to focus groups and 1:1 workshops undertaken during Engagement 1 to identify priority areas and opportunities for each authority.


The workshop was attended by representatives from a range of authorities as outlined in Table 1. Representatives from local and state government planning departments, emergency services and water management authorities were present, however it is acknowledged that there may be other relevant authorities that were not in attendance. These authorities should be engaged at a later date in the delivery of objectives as needed.


The aim of the workshop was to present the Draft Place Plans and objectives, raise any potential issues or priorities that authorities may have with relation to the Draft Place Plans, and identify partnerships to deliver the objectives in the future.


The following implementation tables set out where government authorities elected to work as partners to deliver particular elements or objectives of the place plan.

Future work should be undertaken to identify additional partners and begin to create connections between agencies to deliver the place plan.

Organisations represented
Towong Shire Council
Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) – Hume RPS
Country Fire Authority (CFA)
Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Upper Murray
Victoria SES Tallangatta
North-East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA)
Department Families Fairness and Housing (DFFH)
North-East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA)
Ambulance Victoria
Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW)

 Big Idea 01: Civic precinct to strengthen the lakeside community				
THEME 1.1: Create a Village Heart				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Explore food and beverage opportunities.	High	Short-term	
Objective 2	Create a community hub with retail, commercial and public spaces at the Hume Boat Club.	Medium	Medium-term	
THEME 1.2: Improve Transport, Access and Streets				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Provide cycle and pedestrian access to Bethanga Bridge with alternative large vehicle access.	High	Long-term	
Objective 2	Improve the appearance of Lake Road and address safety and access for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles.	High	Medium-term	DTP – Transport
Objective 3	Investigate the provision of a public bus and shuttle service	High	Long-term	DTP – Transport
Objective 4	Undertake road upgrades for large vehicle access and investigate the provision of fuel supply.	Medium	Medium-term	
Objective 5	Improve parking to cater for a range of vehicles and increase in visitor numbers.	Medium	Short-term	
Objective 6	Improve regional connectivity with an EV charging station at the Boat Club.	Low	Short-term	
THEME 1.3: Improve Health and Education Services and Facilities				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Improve community infrastructure to cater for the growing population.	Medium	Medium-term	Ambulance Victoria
Objective 2	Improve health services for targeted to the ageing demographic and families.	Low	Medium-term	Ambulance Victoria
Objective 3	Upgrade facilities at the Craig Drive Reserve.	Low	Short-term	Ambulance Victoria

 Big Idea 02: Gateway to Berringa Peninsula & tourist destination				
THEME 2.1: Improve the Visitor Experience				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Implement the upgrade to the Hume Boat Club.	High	Short-term	GMW
Objective 2	Upgrade Lake Hume foreshore with improved facilities, activities and trails.	High	Medium-term	GMW
Objective 3	Improve the sense of arrival at the town's gateway.	Medium	Short-term	
Objective 4	Develop an events calendar and marketing campaign.	Low	Short-term	GMW
Objective 5	Increase accommodation choice.	Low	Medium-term	
THEME 2.2: Environmental Improvements				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Restore the waterfront of Lake Hume (revegetation, manage vehicle / boat access).	High	Medium-term	GMW
Objective 2	Improve urban ecology in open spaces, public spaces and streets.	Medium	Medium-term	
Objective 3	Increase awareness of First Nations cultural heritage.	Medium	Medium-term	
Objective 4	Provide opportunities for new residents to increase knowledge about the environment .	Low	Short-term	
THEME 2.3: Leverage Events				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Strengthen Bellbridge as a cycling destination.	Medium	Medium-term	

 Big Idea 03: Increase housing supply while retaining the small town feel				
THEME 3.1: Ensuring Long-Term Resilience				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Plan and advocate for upgrades to telecommunications to support the future development of the township.	High	Long-term	CFA
Objective 2	Embed bushfire preparedness into long-term planning for the township.	Medium	Short-term	CFA
Objective 3	Investigate options to increase renewable energy generation, green waste collection / recycling and water reuse / recycling.	Medium	Short-term	
Objective 4	Plan and advocate for upgrades to water, sewerage and electricity to support the future development of the township.	Medium	Medium-term	
Objective 5	Plan for natural and man-made hazards and disasters and emergency services to improve the township's long-term resilience.	Low	Medium-term	CFA
THEME 3.2: Increase Housing Supply				
OBJECTIVES		PRIORITY	TIMING	PARTNERS
Objective 1	Increase housing choice to cater for diverse demographic needs.	Medium	Medium-term	
Objective 2	Develop the large lot to the north zoned for residential in the existing town.	Medium	Medium-term	CFA
Objective 3	Consider potential investigation areas to increase land available for Rural Living.	Low	Medium-term	DTP – Planning, CFA
Objective 4	Investigate the potential to provide infill housing in existing residential zones on underdeveloped lots.	Low	Medium-term	CFA



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