Bega Valley Shire
CBD Landscape Master Plans

Final Landscape Master Plans
Bega Bermagui Eden Merimbula

January 2015
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

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Bermagui
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Eden
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION
The Bega Valley Shire Council has engaged Spiire Australia Pty Ltd to prepare Landscape Master Plans for Central Business Districts (CBD) for the towns of Bega, Bermagui, Eden and Merimbula. The Master Plans guide the development of the public spaces and landscapes in the CBD’s of each town for the next 10 – 20 years.

The FINAL CBD Landscape Master Plans are the outcome of an extensive planning, design and engagement process undertaken throughout the project that has included:

• On site investigations and analysis of each town centre.
• Initial phase of targeted community and stakeholder engagement, including online survey.
• Review of international, national state and local policies and strategies.
• Development of the Design Vision and Options Report, including DRAFT Vision, Objectives and Principles.
• Second phase of community engagement seeking comment and feedback on the Design Vision and design options that included online survey and Listening Posts held in each town.
• Development of the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans.
• Third phase of community engagement seeking comment and feedback on the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans that included meetings with key stakeholders in each town, online survey and Listening Posts in each town.
• Project Bulletins.
• Press releases and media coverage.

The combination of the community engagement, on site analysis, feedback on the Design Vision and Options and the recent round of community engagement regarding the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans have confirmed the design intent and identified outcomes for the FINAL Landscape Master Plans.

These improvements will benefit the public amenity and private activity in each town through ‘best practice’ urban landscape design including pedestrian access and amenity, traffic management, street trees and quality public open spaces.

VISION AND PRINCIPLES
Significantly, there was overwhelming community support for the Vision Statement and Design Principles that were developed for the towns in the Design Vision and Options Report. The Vision and Principles have been used to prepare CBD Landscape Master Plan designs and recommendations.

The following Vision statement has been supported by the community to guide the Landscape Master Planning process –

**VISION STATEMENT**

town centres in the Bega Valley Shire will be comfortable places for people, they will be vibrant, active and safe. The Towns will respect their natural and cultural setting and encourage social and environmental awareness.

The Landscape Master Plans have been prepared to deliver on the following community endorsed key Objectives and Principles for the communities.

NEXT STEPS
The completion of the FINAL Landscape Master Plans and the community engagement undertaken throughout the project marks the end of the Master Plan project.

From here, the Final Landscape Master Plans for Bega, Bermagui and Merimbula will be presented the Bega Valley Shire Council for adoption. Following adoption, each project will be considered for capital funding, detailed design and construction to improve the public amenity and quality of life for the community.

Bega Valley Shire Council have endorsed the DRAFT Eden Landscape Master Plan with a recommendation to proceed with implementation over the next 12 months. Council’s endorsement and recommendation is due to significant design and community engagement undertaken by Council over the past 10 years through the ‘Action on Imlay’ project, and more recent further design work driven by Eden Chamber of Commerce and Council’s infrastructure staff. Bega Valley Shire is now able to proceed with detailed design, tendering and physical implementation of the Master Plan for Imlay Street.

The endorsed Eden CBD Landscape Master Plans have been included in this final report in order to provide a complete final output for Bega Valley Shire Council.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (continued)

CBD LANDSCAPE MASTER PLANS

The Landscape Master Plans recommend improvements for each town centre as summarised below.

BEGA

- CBD Gateway Treatments including sculptural signage, tree and garden bed planting.
- Extended pedestrian pavements to narrow pedestrian crossing distances to improve safety and connectivity, as well as narrowed road thresholds in some locations to reduce traffic speeds.
- Continuation of Shared Path improving connections from Fishermens Wharf to shopping precinct and headland.
- Improved pedestrian access across across Bermagui South Lagoon with short term action to widen footpath on existing bridge, and long term view to provide separate pedestrian bridge.
- Bungur Street improvements include aligned crossing points, feature paving to frontage of commercial premises, tree and garden bed planting.
- Extended pedestrian pavement in Lamont Street with new paving, feature timber ‘colonnade’ structure. This requires relocation of some parallel parking spaces that can be provided in Dickinson Park. Ramp and step access is provided to the shop front level.
- Retention of some parallel car parking spaces in Lamont Street, including disabled parking bay with direct access to ramp.
- Designated disabled parking bays with kerb ramps, including one parallel disabled parking bay with ramp access to shop front level.
- Retention of parallel parking in Wallaga Street.
- Mid block crossing location that connects shared path and Dickinson Park improvements with step and ramp access to extended pavement and colonnade.
- Improvements to pedestrian amenity in Dickinson Park that include colonnade shelter structures with seating, terraced steps and gardens, new junior play space, tree and garden bed planting.
- Identified locations for public art sculptures.
- Tree and garden bed planting in extended pavements.
- Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into garden beds and tree planting pits.
- Relocate power underground to Priority 1 areas improve visual amenity and allow for canopy tree growth.
- Climbing frames for climbing plants in Market Street to improve amenity and maintain some parallel parking.
- Provision of disabled parking bays in Market Street and Beach Street.
- Tree and garden bed planting in extended pavements.
- Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into garden beds and tree planting pits.
- Relocate power underground to Priority 1 areas improve visual amenity and allow for canopy tree growth.

BERMAGUI

- CBD Gateway Treatments including sculptural signage, tree and garden bed planting.
- Extended pedestrian pavements to narrow pedestrian crossing distances to improve safety and connectivity, as well as narrowed road thresholds in some locations to reduce traffic speeds.
- Climbing frames for climbing plants in Wallaga Street pedestrian pavement area to improve visual amenity.
- Tree and garden bed planting in extended pavements.
- Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into garden beds and tree planting pits.
- Retention of existing 45° rear in angle parking along existing kerb alignment (other parking arrangements were investigated however due to road width limitations the current parking arrangement is considered to be most appropriate to avoid kerb realignments).
- Relocate power underground to Priority 1 areas improve visual amenity and allow for canopy tree growth.

MERRIMBA

- CBD Gateway Treatments including sculptural signage, tree and garden bed planting.
- Proposed traffic light signals at Main / Market Streets intersection for improved traffic and pedestrian safety, traffic flow, including extended pedestrian pavements to narrow crossing distances to improve safety and connectivity.
- Improvements to NAB corner providing better connectivity to street and crossing locations, and improved public open space area including seating platforms and tree planting.
- Improvements to Hyland’s Corner improving visual and physical connectivity with Market Street, including tree and garden planting, seating and provision of stage platforms for informal and organised events.
- Modifications in Market Street between Merrimba Drive and Beach Street to capture opportunity for greater pedestrian space that connects Hylands Corner with Beach Street Precinct thus creating a ‘Town Heart’.
- Market Street modifications include a trafficable Shared space that includes single surface pavement for pedestrians and vehicles, parallel parking, seating areas with tree and garden planting, and pedestrian crossing locations.
- Modifications to Beach Street to provide contiguous pedestrian area from Market Street into Beach Street that continues the ‘Town Heart’ through provision of trafficable Shared space, including single surface pavement for pedestrians and vehicles, gathering spaces and intimate sitting spaces, open views to Merrimba Lake, upgraded play space, Visitor Information Kiosk with public toilet facilities, and general foreshore improvements.
- Peak Street improvements require realignment of existing parking arrangements, including relocation of approximately 30 parking spaces. The Master Plan acknowledges that CBD wide parking provision and arrangements is to be resolved prior to further detailed design and implementation to ensure appropriate allocation of parking spaces within the CBD.
- Extended pedestrian pavement in Market Street (at Beach Street intersection) for improved safety and connectivity for pedestrians.
- Modified intersection at Monaro / Market Streets to cater for CBD Bypass, including landscape treatments to extended pavements for seating and gathering spaces.

EDEN

- CBD improvements generally in line with Action on Imlay plans.
- CBD Gateway Treatments including sculptural signage, tree and garden bed planting.
- Continuation of existing concrete paving treatment with feature paving in Imlay Street between Mitchell and Bass Streets.
- Replication of concrete and arc paving treatment in Imlay Street between Chandos Street and Albert Terrace, including small tree and garden bed planting.
- Improvements to Imlay Street between Bass and Chandos Streets that includes extended pedestrian pavements with small tree and garden bed planting, street furniture and new shelter structures.
- Road surface treatment to emphasise pedestrian zones.
- Provision of parallel disabled parking bays that provide direct access to pedestrian pavement, including kerb ramps.
- Extended pedestrian pavements to narrow pedestrian crossing distances to improve safety and connectivity, and provide seating and gathering spaces.
- Use of stone and concrete walling to cater for grade changes and provide areas for tree and garden bed planting.
- Improvements to Chandos Street median to provide accessible public open space within the CBD.
- Improved path connections to key destinations including Whale Museum, Warrens Walk and Aslings Beach.
- Tree and garden bed planting in extended pavements.
- Incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) into garden beds and tree planting pits.
1. Introduction, Consultation and Vision
1.1 INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 The Project
Bega Valley Shire has undertaken a planning and design project to prepare Landscape Master Plans for the town centres of each of the 4 major towns in the Shire – Bega, Bermagui, Eden and Merimbula.

These plans address the presentation and design of the town centres’ Central Business Districts (CBD) and surrounding areas, and provide a framework for future decisions about development of the public spaces in the four towns.

Bega Valley Shire engaged Spiire Australia Pty Ltd through a competitive tendering process to prepare the Master Plans.

1.1.2 The Project Brief
The Shire’s Project Brief set out a series of priority areas that the Landscape Master Plans focus on and a list of key objectives that the Plans are to achieve.

These priority areas are mainly focussed in the town centre of each of the four towns and also include ‘gateway’ or other significant locations.

The Brief set some clear objectives for the project to achieve, which are as follows:

- Re-invigorate Central Business Districts (CBD’s) as hubs of community and commercial activity
- People focused, accessible to all members of the community with cars and trucks adequately catered for
- Reinforce existing natural settings and links to open space areas
- Position CBD’s for future
- Realistic, achievable and provide direction for private property owners and Council Asset Managers for the future integration of development and assets into landscape themes
- Stimulate investment from the private sector in improving building stock and shop fronts
- Innovative design that enhances the unique character and values of each community
- Recognise current retail challenges and provide flexibility to accommodate changing trends in retail
- Design to cater for physical implementation being delivered through stages across financial years.

1.1.3 What is a Landscape Master Plan?
A Landscape Master Plan is a strategic document that outlines the intended changes for a site. In the case of the CBD Landscape Master Plans for Bega Valley Shire, the Landscape Master Plans are the result of investigations and community feedback, and provide guidance on:

- Developing safe pedestrian and cycling facilities while adequately accommodating vehicles and parking
- Designs for spaces and footpaths in the towns where people can gather and socialise – ensuring that people with mobility restrictions can adequately access all facilities
- Improvements to pavements and access allowing people good access to shops and businesses
- Streetscape planting of low planting and street trees
- Measures that will help to increase the environmental sustainability of the towns with recommendations on things such as water management (reducing pollution) through Water Sensitive Urban Design
- Making sure that any changes to the existing infrastructure are able to be maintained and managed by the Shire, and that maintenance of the proposed works will not place an unreasonable burden on ratepayers.

The Master Plans will ensure these important commercial and cultural centres are looked after and developed in ways that are:

- Sensitive to the locations and culture of each town
- Reflective of the community’s views
- Embracing of ‘best practice’ for asset management and sustainability.

Each town in the Bega Valley has a unique setting and an important role to play in the South Coast community. The Landscape Master Plans guide the Shire and the communities in harnessing these differences and capture them in town centre improvements. The plans also identify common themes and common solutions for the towns. By addressing common issues across the four town communities more effective and efficient solutions can be found. The Landscape Master Plans for each town form a family of documents, each with common elements and individual design solutions.

The Landscape Master Plans are expected to remain current for 10 – 15 years, by which time the population, the setting, the economy and the political landscape will have altered – meaning that the plans may need to be revised.
1.1.4 Project Outline, Tasks and Process

The completion of a complex project such as this has required a considered approach. The Shire and the community have had numerous opportunities to be involved in the project in a meaningful way. To ensure that this was the case, a detailed methodology was prepared and has been completed as agreed with the Shire.

Site Investigations, Stakeholder Meetings and Community Survey

An initial period of investigation and analysis was undertaken that included:

- Extensive site investigations by the project team
- Meetings with identified stakeholder groups such as RMS, Country Energy, and representatives of the towns’ Chambers of Commerce
- Establishment of the project website with detailed information about the project and includes a register page
- Initial Community Survey
- Background review of relevant key national, state and local government documents and policies.

The results of the site visits, the survey and the stakeholders meetings were synthesised to inform the analysis, the Issues and Opportunities and the Design Options that were then offered to the community in the form of the Design Vision and Options Report for debate and comment.

Design Vision and Options Report

The Design Vision and Options Report was prepared to provide the Shire and the Bega Valley community with:

- A DRAFT Vision – established to guide the Landscape Master Planning process
- DRAFT Objectives and Principles – prepared as measures by which to achieve the Vision and a means by which to test design ideas
- A range of potential solutions, ideas and alternatives for the development of the town centres, based on identified issues that are faced by each town.

The Design Vision and Options Report included:

- DRAFT Vision, Objectives and Principles
- Preliminary analysis of each of the towns
- The opinions of some members of the community gathered through the initial community survey
- Identified issues and opportunities
- Provided a policy, strategy and ‘best practice’ context from a review of international, national, state and local policies and strategies to ensure that these Master Plans meet ‘best practice’ with urban landscape design.
- Illustrated a number of design options for solving the problems or making the most of an opportunity
- Invited the community members to voice their opinions about the best of the identified options, and to raise other ideas and possibilities for consideration by the Shire and the consultant team.

The design options were presented for each town as a series of simple sketch plans and showed possible design solutions for key Priority 1 areas, supported by precedent photos to illustrate design intent and character.

As part of the Design Vision and Options Report being made available to the community for comment, a Community Survey and Listening Posts in each town were undertaken to obtain feedback on the design options put forward. The Bega Valley community provided feedback on the relative merits of one design approach over another.

From the community feedback received by the Shire and the consultant team, a preferred design approach for each town centre and priority spaces was identified. This process has enabled preparation of a DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for each town.

DRAFT Landscape Master Plans

The DRAFT Landscape Master Plans were prepared to provide preliminary recommendations regarding design and development of the town CBD’s that addressed current issues and captured opportunities.

The DRAFT Plans were put to the community for comment and suggestions. These comments and suggestions have been discussed with the project team and the relevant authorities, and any required alterations have been made as part of the FINAL Master Plan preparation.

Final Landscape Master Plans

The Final Master Plans contained herein will be presented to the Bega Valley Shire Council for adoption. This is the point at which the elected members of the community officially endorse the design intent and identified outcomes of the Landscape Master Plans. If adopted, the Master Plans will then form the strategic basis for capital budget provision, grant applications and further works.
1.1.5 Community Engagement

A number of avenues were used to inform the local communities of the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans, the request for community feedback on the DRAFTS and the opportunities for community members to have their say and discuss ideas with the project team. These included:

- Update of the Project Website with current project information
- Press Releases – details of which were published on Bega Valley Shire website, the Bega District News, Merimbula News, Eden Magnet and other media outlets
- Town specific Project Bulletins which were distributed amongst traders in each town
- Local radio and newspaper interviews with project team
- Launch of Community Survey (results of which are summarised following)
- Listening Posts held in each town in October 2014.

Project Website

As part of the Tender Submission Spiire undertook to create and manage a project website to provide a 24/7 window of opportunity for any stakeholder to find out about the project, ask questions, register their details and participate in the project. The site can be found at


Specific features of the website include:

- Links to BVSC website and BVSC Facebook page
- Link to the Community Survey
- Project updates and current project material for download, such as Project Bulletins
- Opportunity to upload questions and / or email details to be listed on the project database
- Timelines and progress of the project
- Details of future engagement activities

The Website also has links to the Bega Valley Shire Facebook page and the Linkedin profiles of key staff.

Project Bulletins

Town specific Project Bulletins were distributed amongst traders and in key locations in each town promoting the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans and Listening Posts to be held in each town, and the opportunities for the community to be involved and discuss, debate and provide feedback regarding the DRAFT Master Plans. The Bulletins outlined:

- Community Engagement undertaken regarding the Design Vision and Options Report that was analysed and considered to prepare the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans
- Community supported Vision, Objectives and Principles
- Availability of DRAFT Master Plans and locations for download / viewing
- Times and Locations of Listening Posts to chat with the project team
- Graphics showing excerpts from the DRAFT Master Plans
- Information on how the community could be involved, including website details, community survey details, and upcoming opportunities for involvement
- Contact details for both the Shire and consultant to allow those seeking further information to be in touch.

Listening Posts

Listening Posts were held in each town during October 2014 to provide the community with the opportunity to come and chat with the Shire and consultant team regarding town centre improvements. The Listening Posts were held as follows:

- Lamont Street shopping precinct 11am – 6pm – Bermagui
- Twyford Hall (corner of Market and Beach Streets) 11am – 6pm – Merimbula
- Ayres Walkway 11am – 6pm – Bega

There was great community attendance in each town at the Listening Posts, which stimulated significant community discussion and debate regarding the DRAFT proposals for the CBD improvements.

Comments and feedback received has been captured in the Consultation outcomes below.

Telephone discussions

Telephone discussions were undertaken with interested locals to be informed and hear their views on the DRAFT Master Plans.

Submissions

Bega Valley Shire and Spiire received a number of written submissions during the consultation period. The written submissions were largely from the towns’ Chambers of Commerce, landlords and business operators.
Community Survey
As part of the project website, the press releases, the project bulletins and Listening Posts, an online survey has also been completed. This community survey was intended to engage the locals and hear their views on the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans and any other comments they wished to contribute.

The survey asked a number of questions to obtain information on whether the community supported the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans, and whether they supported the project Vision, Objectives and Principles. The survey provided free text boxes for additional comments.

The survey had a total of 49 responses when it closed at the end of October 2014. This number of responses is not statistically significant however it provides some of the views and attitudes in the community.

Some interesting points to note about the survey respondents are:

- The top three proportion of respondents lived in Merimbula (33%), followed by Bermagui (27%) and Bega (16%).
- Relatively even spread of male (49%) and female (51%) respondents.
- The greatest age group of respondents was 45-55 years old (26%), followed by 55-64 year olds (24%), with 35-44 year olds and 65-74 year olds each comprising 18% of responses.
- The highest proportion of respondents worked in professional services, retail workers or retail business operators, and retired people.
- Merimbula scored highest (49%) visitation for regular shopping and activities, followed by Bega (37%) then Bermagui (33%)
- Interestingly, Bega scored highest for shopping (40%), followed by Merimbula (37%).
- Bermagui scored highest visitation (53%) for Entertainment, Social or Recreational activities, followed by Eden (27%), Merimbula (17%), with Bega least preferred at 3%.
- Eden was rated highest as not being often visited, followed by Bermagui – however as noted above, these towns are visited primarily for entertainment and recreational activities.
- 11 respondents commented on Bega, 17 on Bermagui and 21 on Merimbula. The number of respondents is significantly lower than the previous Design Vision and Options survey.
1.2 CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

The outcomes of the consultation responses to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans, through the various means described above, have generally supported the design intent and recommendations in the DRAFTS. This community support has confirmed the identified issues in each town have been addressed, including the

- Physical characteristics and functioning of the town centres
- Social aspects such as community values, needs and aspirations
- Community priorities for amenity, access and town presentation.

While many ideas and suggestions were put forward by the town communities, the feedback received has been reviewed and contemplated against practicalities and the context of the Project Brief, and addressed accordingly in the FINAL Master Plans.

1.2.1 Vision, Objectives and Principles

The Vision was established to guide the Landscape Master Planning process, while the Objectives and Principles provide the measures by which to achieve the Vision. The Objectives and Principles also provide a means by which to test design ideas – to confirm that they meet the Objectives and achieve the Vision.

During the consultation phase regarding the Design Options and Vision Report, there was significant support for the Vision, Objectives and Principles. Graphs from the survey results are shown adjacent.

As such, the Vision, Objectives and Principles were considered, then, to provide a community endorsed framework for the Master Plans. The Landscape Master Plans have been prepared to deliver on the Vision and Principles.

The community survey regarding the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans included a series of questions for each town which asked respondents if they thought that the design and recommendations in the Master Plans supported the Vision, and each of the Objectives and Principles.

Overall, the community agreed that the DRAFT Master Plans supported the Vision, Objectives and Principles. Further analysis of the responses are outlined for each town below.

Charts showing community responses to Vision, Objectives and Principles obtained during the Design Vision and Options Report feedback.
VISION STATEMENT

Town centres in the Bega Valley Shire will be comfortable places for people, they will be vibrant, active and safe. The Towns will respect their natural and cultural setting and encourage social and environmental awareness.

Bega Valley Towns should be Comfortable for people

- The town centres must be safe, comfortable and welcoming
- Provide safe spaces that are free from physical threats
- Provide shelter, shade and lighting
- Ensure that public spaces can be equally occupied by all generations and abilities
- Ensure vehicle access is maintained but speeds are reduced and driver behaviour is moderated through physical design

Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated

- The town centres should connect physically and socially. These connections should be obvious and easily understood
- Prioritise access and connectivity in the town centres for pedestrians, cyclists, public transport, delivery vehicles and private cars
- Provide an easy to navigate network of public spaces
- Town centres should feel vibrant and occupied with a range of people – provide public spaces for both organised events and spontaneous social activity

Bega Valley Towns should Enable the Local Economy to grow and provide Community Activity

- The town centres’ design and operation should enable the local community and economy to grow and develop
- Provide adequate access and infrastructure for employment, business and other activities
- Promote private economic activity and ensure positive public impacts

Bega Valley Towns should be Diverse and Welcoming

- The town centres should provide a diverse range of options and experiences
- Respect the cultural heritage of the indigenous and post settlement communities
- Provide a range of activities, experiences and opportunities for self-expression
- Provide opportunities to capture and celebrate historic and contemporary cultural values

Bega Valley Towns should be Enduring and Resilient

- The town centres should be sustainable, enduring and resilient
- Provide a robust and financially sustainable management regime for BVSC
- Provide adaptable spaces that allow for changes in business, community and social circumstances
- Provide for the connection and re-connection of natural systems
- Minimise impact on adjacent natural systems

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1.2.2 Bega Consultation Outcomes

The following summary of results includes feedback relating to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans that was gathered through general comments at Listening Posts, written submissions and responses in the online survey.

There were only 11 respondents who chose to complete the survey relating to Bega.

While it is possible to analyse the metrics of statistical data produced from the online survey, it is important to note that these statistics provide an overview of those who completed the survey and are not necessarily the views of the wider community.

The Project Team has noted that a range of views were heard from key stakeholders and at the Listening Post, and that there was generally positive support for the DRAFT Master Plans. These views have been given due consideration during the preparation of the FINAL Master Plans.

Vision

Do you think the Bega DRAFT Landscape Master Plan and Design Guidelines recommend town centre improvements that support the project Vision, with a focus on people, safety and the environment?

- 44% of respondents agreed that the Master Plan and Design Guidelines supported the project Vision, while 22% agreed but wanted to see modifications.
- 33% (3 respondents) did not agree that the Master Plan supported the Vision.

Suggested modifications to the DRAFT included:

- Caravan / camper parking areas
- More trees, accessible toilets and children’s play ground.
- Wheelchair access to tables
- Shade over seating areas.

Objectives and Principles

Respondents were asked if they thought that the Bega DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports each Objective and its Principles. The results are outlined below with survey charts shown adjacent.

“Bega Valley Towns should be Comfortable for people”

- 63% agreed, while 38% wanted to see modifications.
- Modifications suggested related to provision of shade, accessibility for all, parking availability and comfortable spaces.

“Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated”

- 75% agreed, with 25% wanting modifications. 25% disagreed.
- Modifications related to better access to parking spaces and pedestrian amenity including catering for cyclists, places for social interaction and organised events.

Q12 Do you think the Bega DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Comfortable for people” through - providing safe, comfortable and welcoming spaces - providing shelter, shade and lighting - providing accessible spaces for all generations and abilities - maintaining vehicle access while reducing vehicle speeds?

Q13 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

 questioned 86 respondents

DRAFT Landscape Master Plan

CBD Landscape Master Plan
“Bega Valley Towns should be Enable the Local Economy to grow and provide Community Activity”
- 88% agreed with 25% wanting modifications.
- Modifications related to design for the growth of the community and local economy; design for access and infrastructure for business

Q19 Do you think the Bega DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Enable the Local Economy to grow and provide Community Activity” through - design that allows the growth of the community and local economy - design that provides access and infrastructure for employment, business and other activities - design that encourages private economic activity for positive public influence?

Q21 Do you think the Bega DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Diverse and Welcoming” through - providing spaces that offer a diverse range of options and experiences - providing spaces that respect cultural heritage - providing spaces for a range of activities, experiences and opportunities for self expression - provide opportunities to capture and celebrate historic and contemporary cultural values?

“Bega Valley Towns should be Diverse and Welcoming”
- 57% agreed, while 43% disagreed and wanted to see modifications.
- Modifications related to spaces for a diverse range of options and experiences and activities, self expression, celebration of historic and contemporary cultural values.

Q23 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

Q24 Do you think the Bega DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Enduring and Resilient” through - sustainable, enduring and resilient designs and materials - robust and financially sustainable for management by BVSC - providing adaptable spaces that allow for changes in business and community - connection of natural systems and environments - minimising impact on adjacent natural environments?

“Bega Valley Towns should be Enduring and Resilient”
- 71% agreed, while 29% disagreed and wanted to see modifications.
- Modifications included spaces that allow for changes in business and community, connection to natural systems and the environment. Outdoor spaces for eating precinct with lighting and shade was also suggested.

Do you generally support the Bega Design Guidelines as described in the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan?
- As shown in the chart below, the majority of respondents supported the Bega Design Guidelines.
Overall, which of the following comments best describes your reaction to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for Bega?

- 29% agreed that the Landscape Master Plan proposes the right balance and scope of improvements for Bega’s town centre and would not make any changes to the Master Plan.
- 43% agreed that the Landscape Master Plan sets the right direction for Bega’s town centre and would only make minor changes to the Master Plan.
- 29% thought that the Landscape Master Plan has not addressed critical issues for Bega’s town centre and would make a number of changes to modify the overall direction of the Master Plan.

While the majority supported the DRAFT Master Plan, those who did not think the DRAFT addressed critical issues commented on the following:

- no parking be removed
- More shade over seating areas.
- ‘dry’ playground such as climbing web.
- uplighting of mature trees.
- Greenery to soften streetscape and public realm.
- Outdoor eating precinct between Auckland and Church Street.
- Replacement of dead trees with mature specimens.
- interactive play such as chess board / hopscotch.
- Local sculpture in Littleton Gardens.

Other feedback received relating to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for Bega

Other feedback received generally supported the Bega DRAFT Master Plan, and included the following comments:

- Review proposed tree species with a view to maintaining existing trees, and using smaller trees adjacent shopfronts and in CBD streets. Visibility of awning signage is to be considered.
- Review tree guards.
- Warm coloured pavers rather than grey.
- Consider 40kph zone in Carp Street.
- Utilise rumble strips in Carp Street to reduce vehicle speeds.
- Trial Scramble Crossing at Auckland / Carp Street intersection.
- Adjust step access to Littleton Gardens from Ayres Walkway.
- Install traffic lights at Carp Street / Gipps Street intersection.

The collated feedback has been discussed with the project team and the relevant authorities, and any required alterations have been made as part of the FINAL Master Plan preparation.
1.2.3 Bermagui Consultation Outcomes

The following summary of results includes feedback relating to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans that was gathered through general comments at Listening Posts, written submissions and responses in the online survey.

There were only 17 respondents who chose to complete the survey relating to Bermagui.

While it is possible to analyse the metrics of statistical data produced from the online survey, it is important to note that these statistics provide an overview of those who completed the survey and are not necessarily the views of the wider community.

The Project Team has noted that a range of views were heard from key stakeholders and at the Listening Post, and that there was generally positive support for the DRAFT Master Plans. These views have been given due consideration during the preparation of the FINAL Master Plans.

### Vision

**Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan and Design Guidelines recommend town centre improvements that support the project Vision, with a focus on people, safety and the environment?**

- 6% of respondents agreed that the Master Plan and Design Guidelines supported the project Vision, while 71% agreed but wanted to see modifications.
- 24% (4 respondents) did not agree that the Master Plan supported the Vision.

Suggested modifications to the DRAFT included:
- Consider retention of more parallel car parking.
- Park spaces in front of Pharmacy.
- Colonade from Wallaga Street to Arcade.
- Level and gravel carpark in Dickinson Park.
- Maintain views to Gulaga Mountain.
- Use local plant species.
- Maintain natural materials.
- Improved signage.
- Capture Aboriginal heritage.

### Objectives and Principles

**Respondents were asked if they thought that the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports each Objective and its Principles. The results are outlined below with survey charts shown adjacent.**

**“Bega Valley Towns should be Comfortable for people”**

- 24% agreed, while 53% wanted to see modifications.
- Modifications suggested related to provision of parking, accessibility for all, shelter and shade, accessibility for towing caravans, Aboriginal heritage.

**“Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated”**

- 24% agreed, with 47% wanting modifications. 29% disagreed.
- Modifications related to amenity and safety for pedestrians and cyclists, improved play space, navigation between public spaces (signage) and comfortable places for social interaction.

### Vision

**Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan and Design Guidelines recommend town centre improvements that support the project Vision, with a focus on people, safety and the environment?**

- 6% of respondents agreed that the Master Plan and Design Guidelines supported the project Vision, while 71% agreed but wanted to see modifications.
- 24% (4 respondents) did not agree that the Master Plan supported the Vision.

Suggested modifications to the DRAFT included:
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- Level and gravel carpark in Dickinson Park.
- Maintain views to Gulaga Mountain.
- Use local plant species.
- Maintain natural materials.
- Improved signage.
- Capture Aboriginal heritage.

**“Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated”**

- 24% agreed, with 47% wanting modifications. 29% disagreed.
- Modifications related to amenity and safety for pedestrians and cyclists, improved play space, navigation between public spaces (signage) and comfortable places for social interaction.

Q35 Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated” through - providing safe, comfortable and welcoming spaces - providing shelter, shade and lighting - providing accessible spaces for all generations and abilities - maintaining vehicle access while reducing vehicle speeds?

Q36 Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated” through - providing safe, comfortable and welcoming spaces - providing shelter, shade and lighting - providing accessible spaces for all generations and abilities - maintaining vehicle access while reducing vehicle speeds?

Q37 Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification?

Q38 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification.
“Bega Valley Towns should be Enable the Local Economy to grow and provide Community Activity”

- 59% agreed with 24% wanting modifications.
- Modifications related to the design for the growth of the community and local economy: design that encourages private economic activity for the benefit of the public.
- Other comments noted access between Lamont Lane and Lamont Street, parking provision, issues with Woolworths in Bermagui, cost of rent and rates. Also noted was visibility of shopfronts.

Q43 Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Enable the Local Economy to grow and provide Community Activity” through - design that allows the growth of the community and local economy-design that provides access and infrastructure for employment, business and other activities-design that encourages private economic activity for positive public influence?

- 38% agree
- 31% disagree
- 21% neutral
- 10% no answer

Q44 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

- Design for growth of 15% (20%)
- Design for growth of 50% (15%)
- Design for smaller scale (15%)
- Design for mixed scale (15%)
- Design for economic gains (15%)

Q45 Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Diverse and Welcoming” through - providing spaces and design materials that respect cultural heritage-providing spaces for a range of activities, experiences and opportunities for self-expression-provide opportunities to capture and celebrate historic and contemporary cultural values?

- 36% agree
- 45% disagree
- 19% neutral

Q46 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

- Design for a cleaner, more modern environment (20%)
- Design for a cleaner, more modern environment (20%)
- Design for a cleaner, more modern environment (20%)
- Design for a cleaner, more modern environment (20%)
- Design for a cleaner, more modern environment (20%)

Q47 Do you think the Bermagui DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Enduring and Resilient” through - sustainable, enduring and resilient designs and materials—robust and financially sustainable for management by BVSC—providing adaptable spaces that allow for changes in business and community circumstance – connection of natural systems and environments- minimising impact on adjacent natural environments?

- 38% agree
- 20% disagree
- 32% neutral

Q48 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

- Appropriate native plant species (26%)
- Appropriate native plant species (26%)
- Appropriate native plant species (26%)
- Appropriate native plant species (26%)
- Appropriate native plant species (26%)

Do you generally support the Bermagui Design Guidelines as described in the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan?

- As shown in the chart below, the majority of respondents supported the Bermagui Design Guidelines.
Overall, which of the following comments best describes your reaction to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for Bermagui?

- 0% agreed that the Landscape Master Plan proposes the right balance and scope of improvements for Bermagui’s town centre and would not make any changes to the Master Plan.
- 71% agreed that the Landscape Master Plan sets the right direction for Bermagui’s town centre and would only make minor changes to the Master Plan.
- 29% thought that the Landscape Master Plan has not addressed critical issues for Bermagui’s town centre and would make a number of changes to modify the overall direction of the Master Plan.

While the majority supported the DRAFT Master Plan, those who did not think the DRAFT addressed critical issues commented on the following:

- Pedestrian connectivity to Woolworths.
- Species selection.
- No changes to Bermagui are required.
- Historical and cultural recognition.
- Availability of parking.
- Garden beds and tree planting.
- Access to Surf Club toilets.
- Maintaining views and seaside village atmosphere.
- Footpaths and bicycle paths throughout Bermagui.

Other feedback received relating to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for Bermagui.

Other feedback received generally supported the Bega DRAFT Master Plan, and included the following comments:

- Narrowed thresholds in roadway to cater for trucks and caravans.
- Review location of colonnade and disabled parking bays.
- Maintenance to be considered.
- Sight lines at intersections.
- Lagoon crossing – short term assign pathway on existing bridge, long term install pedestrian bridge.
- Bus stop shelter queried.
- Link through Arcade to Lamont Lane.
- More trees and shade.
- Consider Master Plan for Dickinson Park.
- Timed parking limits in key areas of Lamont Street.

The collated feedback has been discussed with the project team and the relevant authorities, and any required alterations have been made as part of the FINAL Master Plan preparation.
1.2.4 Merimbula Consultation Outcomes

The following summary of results includes feedback relating to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plans that was gathered through general comments at Listening Posts, written submissions and responses in the online survey. There were only 21 respondents who chose to complete the survey relating to Bermagui.

While it is possible to analyse the metrics of statistical data produced from the online survey, it is important to note that these statistics provide an overview of those who completed the survey and are not necessarily the views of the wider community.

The Project Team has noted that a range of views were heard from key stakeholders and at the Listening Post, and that there was generally positive support for the DRAFT Master Plans. These views have been given due consideration during the preparation of the FINAL Master Plans.

Vision

Do you think the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan and Design Guidelines recommend town centre improvements that support the project Vision, with a focus on people, safety and the environment?

- 5% of respondents agreed that the Master Plan and Design Guidelines supported the project Vision, while 74% agreed but wanted to see modifications.
- 21% (4 respondents) did not agree that the Master Plan supported the Vision.

Suggested modifications to the DRAFT included:

- Access for delivery trucks.
- Traffic issues in the CBD to be considered following opening of CBD bypass.
- Access to Long Point via Beach Street is important route.
- Parking availability / issues in CBD to be resolved prior to implementation.
- Multi level car parks.
- Relocate power underground.

Objectives and Principles

Respondents were asked if they thought that the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports each Objective and its Principles. The results are outlined below with survey charts shown adjacent.

"Bega Valley Towns should be Comfortable for people"

- 83% agreed with 50% wanting modifications, while 17% did not agree.
- Modifications suggested related to vehicle access, accessibility for all, shelter, moderation of vehicle speeds and play space location. Additional comments reiterated vehicle access and parking issues, covered bus shelters and proximity of public toilets.

"Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated"

- 31% agreed, with 50% wanting modifications. 19% disagreed.
- Modifications related to catering for private cars, catering for pedestrians, for delivery vehicles and public spaces for social interaction and organised events.

Q63 Do you think the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated” through - providing safe, comfortable and welcoming spaces providing shelter, shade and lighting, providing accessible spaces for all generations and abilities maintaining vehicle access while reducing vehicle speeds?

Q64 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

Q65 Do you think the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Connected and Animated” through - providing safe, comfortable and welcoming spaces providing shelter, shade and lighting, providing accessible spaces for all generations and abilities maintaining vehicle access while reducing vehicle speeds?
CBD Landscape Master Plan

Final Landscape Master Plan January 2015

Do you generally support the Merimbula Design Guidelines as described in the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan?

- As shown in the chart below, the majority of respondents supported the Merimbula Design Guidelines.

Q66 Do you think the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Enable the Local Economy to grow and provide Community Activity” through - design that allows the growth of the community and local economy-design that provides access and infrastructure for employment, business and other activities-design that encourages private economic activity for public positive influence?

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Q68 Do you think the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Diverse and Welcoming” through - providing spaces that offer a diverse range of options and experiences-providing spaces and design materials that respect cultural heritage-providing spaces for a range of activities, experiences and opportunities for self expression-provide opportunities to capture and celebrate historic and contemporary cultural values?

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<td>18%</td>
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Q70 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

- 0% - 10%
- 10% - 20%
- 20% - 30%
- 30% - 40%
- 40% - 50%
- 50% - 60%
- 60% - 70%
- 70% - 80%
- 80% - 90%
- 90% - 100%

- Design for growth of the town
- Design for diverse activities
- Design for economic development
- Design for successful events
- Design for tourism

Q72 Do you think the Merimbula DRAFT Landscape Master Plan supports “Bega Valley Towns should be Enduring and Resilient” through - sustainable, enduring and resilient designs and materials -robust and financially sustainable for management by BVSC -providing adaptable spaces that allow for changes in business and community circumstance -connection of natural systems and environments-minimising impact on adjacent natural environments?

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<td>40%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>53%</td>
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Q74 Please select which areas you think the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan needs modification

- 0% - 10%
- 10% - 20%
- 20% - 30%
- 30% - 40%
- 40% - 50%
- 50% - 60%
- 60% - 70%
- 70% - 80%
- 80% - 90%
- 90% - 100%

- Design for connectivity
- Design for natural beauty
- Design for historical impact
- Design for cultural expression
- Design for sustainability

Q75 Do you generally support the Merimbula Design Guidelines as described in the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan?

- As shown in the chart below, the majority of respondents supported the Merimbula Design Guidelines.
Overall, which of the following comments best describes your reaction to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for Merimbula?

- 6% agreed that the Landscape Master Plan proposes the right balance and scope of improvements for Merimbula town centre and would not make any changes to the Master Plan.
- 44% agreed that the Landscape Master Plan sets the right direction for Merimbula’s town centre and would only make minor changes to the Master Plan.
- 50% thought that the Landscape Master Plan has not addressed critical issues for Merimbula’s town centre and would make a number of changes to modify the overall direction of the Master Plan.

While the majority supported the DRAFT Master Plan, those who did not think the DRAFT addressed critical issues commented on the following:

- Extension of pedestrian friendly zones.
- Parking at southern end of town centre to alleviate CBD parking issues.
- Sequence of traffic lights.
- Expression of cultural values.
- Shade and shelter.
- More colour and sculptures.

Other feedback received relating to the DRAFT Landscape Master Plan for Merimbula.

Other feedback received generally supported the Bega DRAFT Master Plan, and included the following comments:

- Improve Main Street / Market Street Intersection – consider traffic lights.
- Improvements to Hylands Corner including performance deck area, shade and seating.
- Continue boardwalk extension to Bar Beach.
- Consider shared space between Beach Street and Merimbula Drive.
- Disabled access to shops remains an issue.
- More street tree planting – review appropriateness of existing species
- Flagpoles advertising events.
- Install ‘what’s on’ sign in key location (Beach Street / Monaro Street intersection).
- Consider Market / Monaro Street for Visitor Information Centre.
- No right turn from Beach Street into Market Street.
- Consider 40kph speed limit.

The collated feedback has been discussed with the project team and the relevant authorities, and any required alterations have been made as part of the FINAL Master Plan preparation.
2. Landscape Master Plans