

# Funding our Future

Priority projects for state and federal investment



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©2024 Bega Valley Shire Council

PO Box 492, Bega NSW 2550

Phone: 02 6499 2222

Email: [council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au)

Web: [begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://begavalley.nsw.gov.au)

ABN 26 987 935 332

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## Acknowledgement

Bega Valley Shire Council acknowledges and pays our respects to the traditional custodians of the lands, waterways and airspace of the shire.

*Cover page photo: David Rogers Photography*

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# Welcome to Our Place

The Bega Valley Shire is located at the south-eastern corner of New South Wales, half-way between Australia's two largest cities, Sydney and Melbourne and three hours' drive from the nation's capital, Canberra. Our coastal fringe extends from Wallaga Lake in the north to Cape Howe and the Victorian border in the south. At over 6,200 km<sup>2</sup>, the shire is the largest local government area in coastal NSW and collectively this 225-kilometre section forms the beautiful Sapphire Coast, the heart of Australia's Coastal Wilderness.

Our community vision explains our collective aspiration that by working together, the Bega Valley Shire community integrates quality of life, enterprising businesses, sustainable development and conservation of the environment.

Our connection to Country is guided by the culture and heritage of our Traditional Owners.

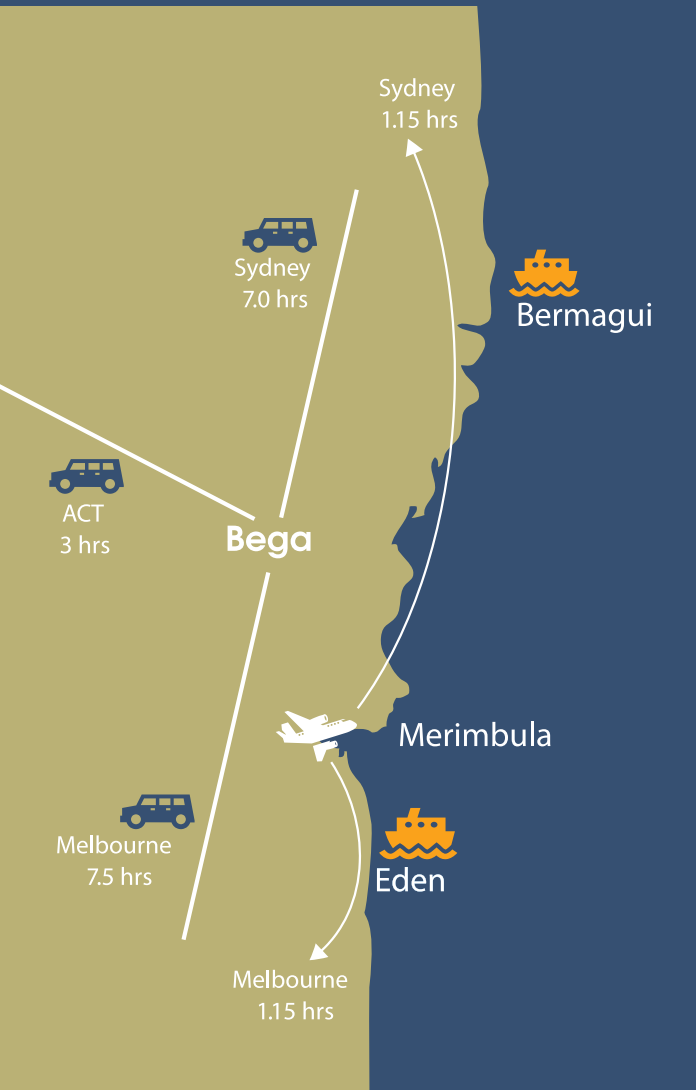
## We are ... Bega Valley

The Yuin people are the traditional custodians of the shire. Ancient stories, ceremonies, special places and sacred objects are embedded in the landscapes, trees, hills and waterways of the shire, and form the basis of traditional lore, custom, spiritual connection and custodial obligations.

The shire's population of around 36,000 is dispersed, with a third of us living in rural areas and the remaining two thirds spread amongst 12 villages, four major towns and adjacent urban settlements. Between 2016 and 2021 our population grew by 1.57% per year, slightly more than the rest of NSW. Our population is predicted to grow over the next 15 years at a slower rate of 0.26-0.59% per year. With a median age of 52, our population is older than the rest of NSW (median age 39), but we have high levels of independence, with 47% of us fully owning our own homes, and 22% of us actively volunteering.

Currently fewer of us have bachelor level education than the state average, but more of us are completing year 12 and attending university than ever before. Around half of us work, predominantly in farming, manufacturing, health and social services, retail and tourism, and a significant proportion of us are retired.

While we enjoy lower rent and mortgage costs than average, our lower than average weekly income means affordability is just as important to us as our city counterparts.





		Bega Valley	NSW
<b>Population</b>	Population 2021 (forecast.id)	<b>35,942</b>	
	Estimated population 2036 (forecast.id)	<b>38,138</b>	
	Forecast population increase by 2036	<b>6.1%</b>	
	Median age	<b>52</b>	<b>39</b>
	Persons per hectare	<b>0.06</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>Forecast population cohorts (%)</b>		<b>2021</b>	<b>2036</b>
	Age 0 to 19	<b>18.4</b>	<b>17.2</b>
	Age 20 to 34	<b>13.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>
	Age 35 to 59	<b>30.0</b>	<b>27.0</b>
	Age 60 plus	<b>39.0</b>	<b>43.0</b>
<b>How we live (%)</b>	Couples with dependents	<b>19.4</b>	<b>30.8</b>
	One parent families	<b>8.7</b>	<b>10.6</b>
	Couples without dependents	<b>32.9</b>	<b>25.0</b>
	Live alone	<b>28.5</b>	<b>23.7</b>
	Group household	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>
	Other households	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Diversity (%)</b>		<b>Bega Valley</b>	<b>NSW</b>
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>
	Overseas born	<b>12.1</b>	<b>13.0</b>
	Language at home other than English	<b>4.6</b>	<b>29.3</b>
<b>Health and Helping (%)</b>	Volunteering	<b>21.9</b>	<b>13.0</b>
	Need assistance with core activities	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Transport (%)</b>	Public transport to work	<b>0.4</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>Housing (%)</b>	Number of dwellings	<b>18,743</b>	
	Average household size	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.6</b>
	Live in separate house	<b>81.5</b>	<b>63.8</b>
	Unoccupied dwellings	<b>15.4</b>	<b>8.9</b>
	Own home outright	<b>46.7</b>	<b>30.3</b>
	Households with a mortgage	<b>24.5</b>	<b>31.0</b>
	Households renting	<b>20.0</b>	<b>31.3</b>
<b>Income and Expenditure \$</b>	Median weekly household income	<b>1,200</b>	<b>1,829</b>
	Median weekly mortgage repayments	<b>350</b>	<b>500</b>
	Median weekly rent	<b>310</b>	<b>420</b>
<b>Education (%)</b>	Completed university qualification	<b>18.6</b>	<b>27.8</b>
	Completed advanced diploma or diploma	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.3</b>
	Completed a trade qualification (certificate)	<b>21.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>
	Completed year 12	<b>43.1</b>	<b>56.9</b>
	Attending university	<b>1.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>
	Attending TAFE	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>

Source:ABS Census 2021



## This is ... Bega Valley

We have a growing economy, with almost \$1.8 billion annual Gross Regional Product, over \$860 million in exports each year and over 3,100 local businesses. Our main industries are farming, particularly dairy and the associated cheese manufacturing industry in Bega; commercial fishing and aquaculture; health and social services; construction and tourism along much of the coast. The key industrial precincts are in North Bega, Eden and South Pambula and main retail areas in the town centres of Bega, Eden and Merimbula.

Transport is predominantly by private car with limited bus services. Merimbula Airport provides air transport connectivity to Melbourne and Sydney and the Port of Eden is an important working port able to berth large cruise ships.

We are a regional centre for schools and higher education institutions. There are currently 18 primary and 4 high schools which include a mixture of private and public. The University of Wollongong operates a campus in Bega. In addition, vocational courses and trade skills are offered by the TAFE Illawarra campus also in Bega.

Our long stretches of coastline are a tourism draw card. Merimbula, Eden, Bermagui and Tathra are major tourist centres and typically experience a threefold boost in their populations during the peak summer period. On average, an estimated 1 million visitors come to the Bega Valley each year, spending around \$480 million.

Bega Valley Shire Council manages over \$1.9 billion in assets that allow visitors and community alike to live, work and play in this beautiful part of the world.



## Major Employing Sectors

Health Care and Social Assistance	<b>2,567</b>
Construction	<b>1,943</b>
Retail Trade	<b>1,696</b>
Accommodation and Food Services	<b>1,518</b>
Education and Training	<b>1,166</b>
Manufacturing	<b>1,080</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	<b>1,067</b>

Data source: NIEIR 2021-2022

## Top 5 Industries (output)

	\$m
Construction	<b>477.0</b>
Manufacturing	<b>461.2</b>
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	<b>367.1</b>
Health Care and Social Assistance	<b>268.7</b>
Accommodation and Food Services	<b>164.6</b>

Data source: NIEIR 2021-22

## Workforce

Population	<b>36,279*</b>
Total Employment	<b>16,403#</b>
Unemployment Rate	<b>2.8%^</b>
Participation Rate	<b>50.9%~</b>

	<b>Bega Valley</b>	<b>NSW</b>
Full Time Work~	<b>49.0%</b>	<b>55.2%</b>
Part time Work ~	<b>40.1%</b>	<b>29.7%</b>

Data sources: \*ABS ERP 2023, #NIEIR 2022, ^Dec 2023 Jobs and Skills Australia, ~ABS Census 2021

## Other Economic Stats

Gross Regional Product	<b>\$1,779m*</b>
Value of Exports	<b>\$797m*</b>
Local Businesses	<b>3,154&lt;</b>

Data source: \*NIEIR 2021/2, <ABS 2021

## Agricultural Production

Milk	<b>61.2%</b>	<b>\$61.291m</b>
Livestock	<b>31.1%</b>	<b>\$28.658m</b>

Data source: ABS 2021

## Tourism

Total Visitor Spend	<b>\$488m</b>
Number of visitors annually	<b>1.06m</b>

Data source: Tourism Research Australia- Year ending June 2023. Note this period was impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.







# Invest with us

Investment in infrastructure is a key enabler of economic growth, supports the long-term sustainability of a region, and boosts the health and wellbeing of communities.

The Bega Valley Shire is full of opportunities to realise these outcomes.

In partnership with the community, Bega Valley Shire Council has carefully scoped a list of strategic investment opportunities to:

- ✓ upgrade key infrastructure
- ✓ stimulate the local economy
- ✓ enrich our local communities.

We invite the State and Federal Government to invest with us.

## Strategic Alignment

These projects will help deliver State and Federal strategies:

- ✓ 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
  - ✓ South East and Tablelands Regional Plan
  - ✓ NSW State Infrastructure Strategy
  - ✓ Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
  - ✓ NSW Future Transport Strategy
  - ✓ NSW Southern Regional Transport Plan
  - ✓ Cultural Infrastructure Plan
  - ✓ South East and Tablelands Sport and Active Recreation Plan
  - ✓ Canberra Region Joint Organisation Statement of Strategic Priorities
  - ✓ South Coast NSW Destination Management Plan
  - ✓ NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041
  - ✓ Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020-2030
  - ✓ Far South Coast Regional Boating Plan
  - ✓ Regional NSW Youth Action Plan
  - ✓ NSW Electricity Strategy
  - ✓ NSW Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2042
  - ✓ NSW Government Strategy - Beyond Digital
  - ✓ NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030
  - ✓ NSW Water Strategy
  - ✓ South Coast Regional Water Strategy
- as well as the Bega Valley Shire Community Strategic Plan.

# Investment opportunities Overview

## Upgrade key infrastructure

- Alternative Highway Access Routes
- Cuttagee Bridge Replacement
- Timber Bridge Replacements
- Bega War Memorial Pool Renewal and Upgrade
- Bega Valley Saleyards Upgrade
- Cobargo Swimming Pool Renewal
- Yellow Pinch Water Treatment Plant
- Merimbula Sewerage Environmental Improvements
- Road Resilience and Betterment Package
- Merimbula Regional Airport
- Organics Processing Facility
- Resource Recovery Facility
- Raising of Brogo Dam
- Zingel Place Civic Office Upgrade

## Stimulating the local economy

- New Industrial Precinct
- Youth Strategy and Program
- Indigenous Employment Forum, Strategy and Program
- Town Centre Activation Program
- Eden Marina and Maritime Precinct
- Bega Circular Valley Project
- Cruise Eden Strategy and Coordination

## Enrich local communities

- Community Hall and Museum Access Improvement Program
- Affordable Housing
- Expand Active and improve accessibility to our Active Transport Network
- Lake Curalo Boardwalk Renewal and Upgrade
- Coastal Accessibility Program
- Merimbula Basketball and Netball Court Pavilion Renewal and Upgrade
- Barclay Street Eden - multi-use courts renewal and upgrade
- George Brown Oval Eden – Female friendly change rooms and pavilion renovation
- Sportsground floodlighting upgrades
- Upgrade of Eden Library and Gateway Centre
- Council Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Upgrade Program
- Tura Marrang Library and Community Centre Ground Floor Development
- Transitioning to Digital Government
- Digital Communications Program

# Council Assets and Programs

## Who benefits key



Community



People with  
disability



Food Product  
Manufacturers



Freight operators



Environment



Seniors



Tourism



School bus  
operators



Culture  
and Arts



Children  
and youth



Agriculture



Motorists



Recreation  
and Sport



Families



Local  
businesses  
/economy



Cyclists



Health



People with  
prams



Regional  
economy



Pedestrians



Emergency  
Services



Aboriginal  
people



Port of Eden



Job creation



Bega Valley  
Shire Council



Airport





# Cultural and Community





# Community Hall and Museum Access Improvement Program

## The opportunity

Council's 18 community halls and seven Council-owned or managed museum buildings provide opportunities across the shire for our community to come together, connect and build stronger communities. They are important places for our community to engage in social, artistic, cultural, educational and recreational activities. Many community halls played an important role during and after the Black Summer bushfires. They are a central meeting place for fundraisers and information sessions and a vital part of the local community.

Encouraging community involvement and creating resilient communities can be achieved by ongoing investment and sound management of our community halls and museum buildings.

Many of the halls and museum buildings are ageing and require additional work to improve access for all. Many have poor access from the adjacent road or street, limited formalised parking and limited compliant access into the building. Many halls or their outdoor spaces are also designated neighbourhood safer places by the Rural Fire Service.

## Our proposal

This program would identify the access needs for each of the community halls and museum buildings and implement required improvements, so they become inclusive facilities for all members of the community.

## Outcomes

- Supporting and growing community volunteers who activate, manage and maintain community halls
- Ensuring people of all ages and abilities can access halls and participate fully in community life
- Enabling our community halls to meet changing community needs and to provide value to remote and isolated communities
- Effective management of risk
- Improve the safety of public places

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$3 million (could be undertaken in stages)

## Strategic alignment

- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025
- Climate Resilience Strategy Action S11
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our Community
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW



# Town Centre Activation Program

## The opportunity

The shire's main central business districts (CBDs) and surrounds need to be updated to improve accessibility, safety issues, and improve the appeal for tourists and visitors to our region.

Council developed landscape Masterplans for Bega, Bermagui and Merimbula CBDs and Tathra Headland. However, Council has limited financial capacity to implement all the improvements within a reasonable timeframe.

## Our proposal

With appropriate funding, Council could implement CBD upgrades to improve accessibility, safety and visual appeal across the shire.

### Bega CBD

- Gateway signage and development of a cultural precinct including public art, interpretive and wayfinding signage and activation of public spaces
- Extend and upgrade pedestrian pavement, improve Ayres Walkway, create scramble crossings and improve key intersections
- Tree and garden bed planting, and relocate power underground
- Further master planning including traffic and pedestrian movement, future proofing with parking and drainage designs.

### Bermagui CBD

- Review and update landscape masterplan
- Gateway signage and development of cultural precinct including public art, interpretive and wayfinding signage and activation of public spaces
- Extend pedestrian pavement and shared path, create a raised crossing, provide accessible parking bays with kerb ramps
- Tree and garden bed planting, install climbing frames for plants and relocate power underground

- Design – improvements to Bunga Street and Dickinson Park
- Further master planning including traffic and pedestrian movement, future proofing with parking and drainage designs.

### Merimbula CBD

- Review and update landscape masterplan
- Gateway signage, maintain and install public art
- Pedestrian improvements to NAB corner, create shared zone or space on Beach Street and realign parking, install accessible parking and modify key intersections
- Tree and garden bed planting, install climbing frames for plants and relocate power underground

### Eden CBD

- Complete works associated Eden CBD Masterplan between Chandos Street and Albert Terrace

### Tathra Headland

- Improve active travel links to create a cycle friendly, walkable and safe precinct
- Improve functionality of traffic circulation and car-parking to create more efficient use of space
- Improve the visual amenity and viewing corridors to enhance the natural landscape of the headland.
- Improve way-finding and connectivity to enhance visitor experience while visiting iconic destinations.

## Outcomes

- Reinvigorated CBDs
- Economic growth potential
- Private asset renewal
- Accessibility
- Efficient traffic flow
- Natural and open space connectivity
- Unique community character and values

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$26 million (ability to be staged)

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our Community; Theme B - Our economy; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Local Strategic Planning Statement
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- Merimbula Transport Study



# Zingel Place Civic Office Upgrade



## The opportunity

The current administration building in Zingel Place was designed and constructed in the 1980s. While it has served both the community and Council staff well, it is an ageing asset that requires modernisation to meet the requirements of the Bega Valley now and into the future.

The building was originally designed to accommodate 79 staff in 1984 and, based on staff projection, through to 1994. Since then, the number of staff needing to be accommodated in the building has grown to more than 120, and the internal fit out has been partially modified to reflect the changing needs of the organisation.

The current building has several deficiencies in regard to compliance to relevant building codes, sustainability and adherence to best practice guidelines for office accommodation including amenity for employees.

It is also recognised that the way in which Council interacts with the general public has and will continue to change in the digital world and a renewed emphasis on the customer experience is required when people do visit the customer service area at Zingel Place.

The project does not seek to extend or expand the current footprint of Zingel Place but rather look at ways of more efficiently and effectively using the space.

## Our proposal

With the redevelopment of the South East Centre for Contemporary Art, there is a terrific opportunity to revisit the Civic Centre and Zingel Place precinct as a whole.

This project will focus on improving the customer experience and creating a focal point for the community to interact with Council staff.

The project will also seek to improve energy efficiencies by replacing the heating, cooling and ventilation system, improve accessibility for both staff and visitors in line with current building codes, modernise the office environment and provide a more efficient use of office space.

## Outcomes

- An improved, compliant and inclusive facility for Council staff to undertake their work practices
- An improved space for the community to interact with Council staff and access Council services

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$12.5 million

## Strategic alignment

- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Digital Strategy 2022-25



# Education and Employment



# Upgrade of Eden Library and Gateway Centre



## Our challenge

The current space at Eden Library is well under State Library of NSW benchmarks and does not allow for the range of activities expected of a contemporary library service. The lack of space limits all aspects of the library service including programs, access to technology, training and collections.

Alongside this, there is a lack of bookable meeting rooms in Eden for social service outreach. The Eden Community Access Centre Inc, which is co-located in the Gateway Centre, is continuing to see a growth in demand for its services and is outgrowing its current space.

## Our proposal

The upgrade of the Gateway Centre as a Library and Community Hub will see the building redesigned to respond to the current and future needs of the Eden community and surrounding localities.

The library footprint will be expanded to meet State Library of NSW benchmarks and include flexible community spaces, contemporary technology and training spaces, and bookable meeting rooms. Co-design of the space with community and social service providers will ensure the centre will help enhance the delivery of a range of social services that benefit the Eden and surrounding community.

## Outcomes

- Contemporary library services including increased collections, programs, training and

technology to cater for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities

- Enhancement of the social and cultural life of the community, through access to inclusive, accessible and bookable community spaces
- Accommodation for social and community service providers, supporting service delivery to Eden
- Streamlining and reducing duplication of technology, business and community information services

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$5 million to \$20 million

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Library Service Strategic Plan 2020–2025
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Digital Strategy 2022-25



# Tura Marrang Library and Community Centre Ground Floor Development

## The opportunity

The localities of Tura Beach, Merimbula and Mirador are growing in population and there is an increasing demand by residents for community facilities to match the changing demographics.

The Tura Marrang Library and Community Centre was envisaged as a multi-purpose building which could cater for a range of community activities, particularly for families and older people. Stage 1 of the facility, the library, was completed in 2015, however the ground floor (Stage 2) is yet to be developed. The library cannot cater for the demand in community use and is regularly turning away groups looking for space to run community programs.

## Our proposal

Renovation of the ground floor to provide:

- leasable spaces
- art storage which meets best practice standards
- kitchen for tenants and users
- two office spaces.

## Outcomes

- Improved opportunities for businesses in Tura Beach, Merimbula and surrounds to establish commercial enterprises in an established, centrally located building.

- Conservation appropriate storage for South East Centre for Contemporary Art (SECCA) collection.

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

\$520,000

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Library Service Strategic Plan 2020–2025
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Digital Strategy 2022-25



# Youth Strategy and Program

## The opportunity

Limited job career pathways and the drawcards of larger cities mean the shire's youth often leave the area for future study, work and social interaction. This poses a real and significant risk to the future economic sustainability of the shire.

## Our proposal

A youth strategy will be developed to provide an overarching and holistic direction for Council's engagement with young people in the Bega Valley Shire. The strategy will include programs for increased youth participation and encourage young people to remain within the shire. It will seek to integrate with existing youth programs delivered by other organisations in the region.

It is envisaged that key industries will share with young people the potential career pathways available and the skills needed to access these opportunities, including how they can gain these skills within the shire.

Events and interactions will be planned, designed and delivered to facilitate this.

## Outcomes

- Improved retention rates for youth
- Improved engagement with the business community
- Improved youth participation
- Improved mental health

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$200,000

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy





# Indigenous Employment Forum, Strategy and Program



## The opportunity

Council is committed to encouraging and promoting employment opportunities for Aboriginal people both in its own workforce and in the broader community.

## Our proposal

A forum with key stakeholders will be held to identify job creation opportunities and training needs to deliver better outcomes for the Aboriginal communities across the shire.

Informed by the forum, Council will collaborate with Local Aboriginal Land Councils to develop and deliver a strategy to boost skills and employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people.

## Outcomes

- Improved employment outcomes for Aboriginal people in the Bega Valley Shire

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$205,000

## Strategic alignment

- Memorandum of Understanding with Local Aboriginal Land Councils
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme B - Our economy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy



# Bega Valley Saleyards Upgrade

## The opportunity

Agriculture is one of the largest industries in the Bega Valley Shire. The Bega Valley Saleyards is a vital infrastructure facility that enables transaction of livestock on behalf of livestock producers in the South East region. The saleyards are an important component in marketing the cattle from the region and enables livestock to be sold in a quality facility, located close to the supply of stock.

The facility requires upgrades to maximise operational efficiency, meet best-practice standards for animal welfare and safety, and remain competitive in the region. Constructing a roof over the saleyards is a primary focus with other improvement also identified. There are significant benefits in providing shade over this facility. It is an essential element of animal welfare, it provides protection from extremes of weather and reduces the potential for livestock to experience pain, injury or distress. Furthermore, there are sustainable and environmental benefits related to the construction of a roof over the yards such as the ability to harvest rainwater from the structure and mount solar panels.

## Our proposal

Upgrades to the saleyards would include:

### Animal welfare improvements:

- Shade and water facilities
- Feeding facilities
- Isolated pen for animal treatment

### Safety:

- Secure gates and restricted access areas
- Lighting to facilitate stock handling at night

### Efficiency:

- Installation of single draft facility to allow for pre-sale and post-sale drafting
- Wifi to enable technology for sale management

- Ability to live stream cattle sales
- Rainwater harvesting
- Solar panel mounting

## Outcomes

- The improvements will ensure the sustainability and longevity of a valuable asset while supporting primary production in the Bega Valley.
- Improvements to animal welfare and safety will bring the facility in line with the Australian Model Code of Practice for Livestock Saleyards. Improvements will future-proof the facility for a tightening regulatory environment and sustain its competitiveness.
- Increased market access for agricultural products from the Bega Valley Shire
- Improved logistics network supporting regional and national market access
- Increased employment in the agricultural industry
- Improved brand recognition of the Bega Valley as a high value, gourmet food producer

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$4 million

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme B – Our economy; Theme D – Our infrastructure
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW

# New Industrial Precinct

## The opportunity

The shire has 820ha of industrial land spread over more than a dozen sites which include general industrial, light industrial and working waterfront uses. A large amount of this industrial land is highly constrained or poorly located.

Designated industrial land supports key industries in the shire that contribute significantly to the shire's economic output and local jobs, including construction and manufacturing. The creation of new employment opportunities which will retain working age population and make our economy more resilient to shocks and stressors is limited by the lack of diversification of industry and the need for improvements to freight routes.

Further investigations are required to assess opportunities for rezoning and servicing a new industrial precinct near Wolumla. This area is central to the major population centres of Bega and Merimbula, close to the Princes Highway and already accommodates industrial uses, including Council's Central Waste Facility. Growth in industry in the Wolumla area would also be supported by planned residential growth, with Council recently rezoning around 75ha of land adjacent to the existing village which is expected to accommodate approximately 850 new homes or 1,800 people.

A new industrial precinct would enable industrial activity in Bega's residential area to relocate, including Council's works depot, liberating land for residential development to address the housing shortage.

## Our proposal

A business case, masterplan and utilities connection analysis for a new industrial precinct near Wolumla are required.

## Outcomes

- Increased capacity for industry investment through provision of available industrial land.
- Sustainable industrial growth and job creation.
- Diverse and quality supplies and services for the growing construction sector, health services and tourism.
- Support for emerging industries focused on resource optimisation and circular economy opportunities.
- Opportunities for new agribusiness and value-added food processing.
- Opportunities to relocate industrial activities from urban centres to increase residential housing land supply within existing centres.

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$1.2 million (for planning, design and rezoning)

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme B – Our economy; Theme D – Our infrastructure
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- Local Strategic Planning Statement
- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Bega Valley Affordable Housing Strategy
- Housing 2041: NSW Housing Strategy



# Environment



# Council Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Upgrade Program



## The opportunity

Council’s energy costs are a significant component of its annual budget. In 2022-2023, Council had an annual revenue of \$169.5 million and spent approximately \$2 million (1.2%) on stationary energy (electricity) and \$1.2 million (0.7%) on fuel.

In order to reduce these costs and meet the community’s demand for Council to invest in renewable energy, Council has developed and adopted a Clean Energy Plan, with support from the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

This plan builds on Council’s existing commitment to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction, which includes targets of 100% by 2030 renewable energy and Net Zero by 2050. The Clean Energy Plan provides a framework for further improvements in our operational energy efficiency and transition to renewable energy.

## Our proposal

Fund development of an action plan and delivery of short, medium and long-term projects, policies and processes that Council can pursue in order to drive towards ambitious future GHG emission reduction goals.

Reducing Council’s energy consumption and costs

through in-house cost-effective opportunities, such as energy efficiency initiatives, renewable energy infrastructure roll out and energy storage as technology improves, is critical.

Council has started sourcing electricity from an externally generated renewable energy source and is on track to meet its 100% renewable target by 2030.

## Outcomes

- Address Council’s stationary electricity and fuel uses
- Increase energy resilience of Council facilities
- Achieve operational cost savings
- Leverage external funding and drive innovation in clean energy infrastructure
- Provide feasible pathway options to achieve 100% renewable energy

## Who benefits:



## Indicative cost

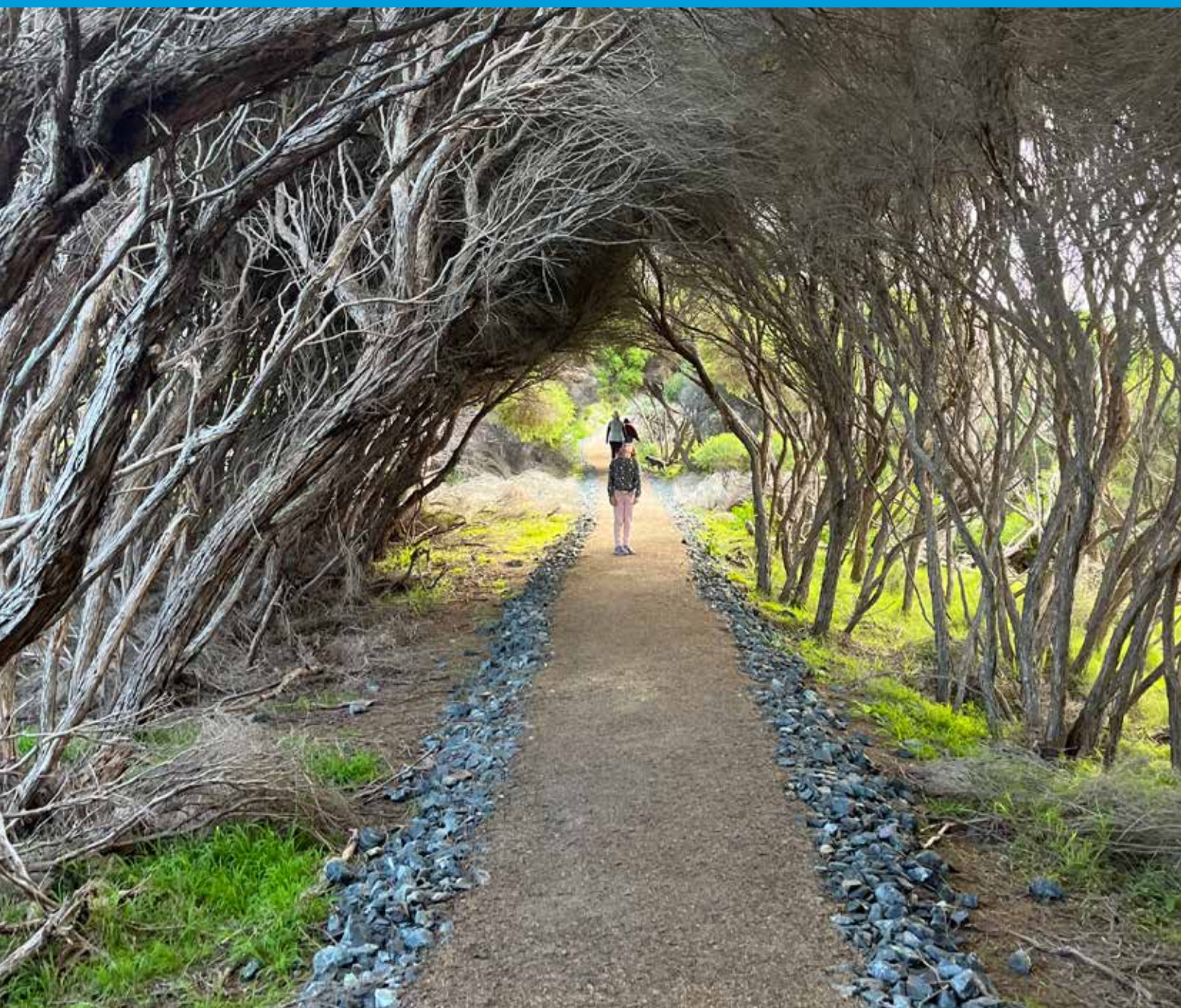
- \$3.9 million (can be staged)

## Strategic alignment

- Bega Valley Shire Climate Resilience Strategy
- Community Strategic Plan Theme C - Our environment; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- NSW Net Zero Plan Stage 1: 2020–2030
- NSW Electricity Strategy



# Recreation





# Bega War Memorial Pool Renewal and Upgrade, Cobargo Pool Renewal



## The opportunity

The outdated Bega War Memorial Pool was opened in 1962 and is over 60 years old. The Cobargo pool was opened in 1967 and requires upgrading. Both pools are not meeting current or anticipated future needs of the community or broader region.

Bega and Cobargo Pools are at the end of their useful lives. They have insufficient pool dimensions, accessibility features and are lacking contemporary aquatic services.

## Our proposal

The project is to renew and develop the existing outdoor Bega War Memorial Pool into a new heated 'extended season' aquatic facility. This will create a regional level, modern, accessible, multi-dimensional and functional aquatic facility open from September to May.

Redevelopment of the Cobargo Pool will deliver a modern and accessible facility with additional pool water space and improved facility amenities.

With renewal and upgrade of the pools, they are able to be used to support the sporting, health, rehabilitation, education and recreation needs of the Bega Valley Shire well into the future and meet the needs and expectations of the next generation.

Council endorsed the Bega War Memorial Swimming Pool Concept Plan in December 2020.

## Outcomes

- Improved health, wellbeing and recreational benefits
- Increased water safety, education and awareness
- Improved, modern facilities for residents and visitors alike

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- Bega Pool \$16 million
- Cobargo Pool \$4.6 million

## Strategic alignment

- BVSC Draft Swimming Pools Strategy (Exhibited)
- Bega Valley Shire Council Operational Plan 2023-24
- South East and Tablelands Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2018 – 2023
- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan Goal 4
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030

# Lake Curalo Boardwalk Renewal and Upgrade

## The opportunity

Lake Curalo Boardwalk is a popular and much enjoyed feature of the Eden area. The boardwalk, which forms part of the Bundian Way, receives a large amount of use from locals and visitors who enjoy the scenic walk that circles the entire lake.

The boardwalk is due for renewal to bring it line with current design and environmental standards, improve user safety and better meet user expectations.

## Our proposal

The project will involve the renewal and replacement of all decking and structural elements as necessary to bring the boardwalk up to current standards, reflecting its current use as a recreational path.

This work acknowledges the growing profile and use of the path and its key role in linking the Eden Cove residential development to the north to the Aslings Beach/Barclay Street precinct on the south; and on to the Eden town centre and Snug Cove.

## Outcomes

- Improved health and social connection
- Promotion of tourism and increased economic activity

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$4 million

## Strategic alignment

- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036 - Goal 4 - Healthy and Connected Communities
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme B - Our economy; Theme C - Our environment; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025
- Bega Valley Shire Council Parks, Aquatic and Recreation Asset Management Plan
- Lake Curalo Catchment Management Plan
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030



# Active Transport Network

## The opportunity

Council's Active Transport Strategy outlines multiple options across the shire from filling in missing links and kerb ramps to major new paths between towns. The vast majority of options have land tenure, heritage and topographical challenges that require detailed planning and consultation to overcome and become a reality for the community.

Active transport is defined as walking, riding, or rolling, whether as a pedestrian, on a bicycle, an e-scooter, a wheelchair, or any other mobility device. At some point during every trip someone takes, they must use one of these methods, and this is part of what makes planning for active transport essential.

When referring to 'active transport', accessibility and inclusivity are key, so that when travelling between and within towns, everyone is able to utilise active transport infrastructure.

Shared paths provide shared-use walkways for pedestrians, joggers, parents with prams, cyclists, and mobility devices. Shared and accessible paths make our towns more liveable for all residents and more enjoyable for visitors.

## Our proposal

Council has recently developed Active Transport Strategy. Resourcing implementation of that strategy is now a priority.

There is a community desire in some quarters to extend the active transport network to further link townships with walking or cycling routes and there are several viable options that have been identified which will now need concept designs, and costs formulated, and the various stakeholders consulted. Other groups and residents just want safer and more accessible connected paths within the towns and villages to access facilities such as shops, schools and playgrounds.

## Merimbula and Tura Beach

There are several existing routes that could be joined to provide a path between Merimbula and Tura Beach.

Distinct and well-used desire lines already exist along Sapphire Coast Drive demonstrating frequent use by the community. There is also an existing bridge that can be crossed by pedestrians but would require upgrading, that currently terminates in Back Lake Merimbula.

Formally connecting these routes and filling the gaps in the existing path network presents an opportunity to connect Merimbula, Mirador and Tura Beach along the coastline for a scenic and picturesque coastal path.

Another option for consideration is to extend the recently constructed Lake Street boardwalk to link Merimbula Public School, Rotary Park and Merimbula Wharf. This would provide much needed linkages to what is currently an isolated amenity in a highly visited area.

At Bar Beach Merimbula, carpark and traffic improvements are needed to provide better access and connection to the Lake Street walkway. At Merimbula Boatramp parking and pedestrian facilities need upgrading to enable it to function as a regional boatramp facility and provide better connectivity to the active transport network that links to Pambula.

The Pambula Sporting Complex upgrade serves as a catalyst for improved traffic flow, parking and pedestrian facilities. The regionally significant facility will require improved links to the Pambula-Merimbula cycle path and Lumen Christi School.

## Eden

A number of sporadic sections of footpath, boardwalk and shared path of varying width exist between the Rotary Park Lookout on Eden Headland and the Eden Marine High School and Sports Complex on Barclay Street that require improved connection.





## Bega

Multiple path renewals are required around the town centre and Zone 1 paths (high traffic or conflict areas, high disabled or elderly use, proximity to major facilities). This will include paths such as Upper Street, Gipps Street, Carp Steet and Auckland Street.

## Candelo

Multiple path renewals are required around the Candelo town centre and Zone 1 paths.

## Outcomes

- Safer, more convenient and accessible active transport options for the community
- Increased connectivity of the active transport network within the Bega Valley

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

The costing and designs for options listed above will form part of the first deliverable of the Active Transport Strategy and requires funding of approx. \$1 million.

Construction costs are estimated for the following projects:

- Bar Beach Merimbula improved connectivity \$1.5 million
- Pambula sporting complex path network \$1.4 million
- Safer road crossings \$1 million

## Strategic alignment

- Bega Valley Shire Council Active Transport Strategy
- Climate Resilience Strategy Action LT6
- NSW Future Transport Strategy 2056
- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan Goal 4
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025

# Coastal Accessibility Program

## The opportunity

The Bega Valley Shire is home to the spectacular waters, beaches and headlands of the Sapphire Coast. Following the success of the first round of coastal accessibility planning, Council seeks to transform more of these places into accessible destinations for locals and visitors of all abilities, through improvements such as ramps, pathways and compliant amenities.

## Our proposal

Parkland, public amenities and recreation asset renewals and upgrades and accessibility improvements at selected popular coastal parkland areas. Suggestions include Cocora Beach, Eden; Spencer Park, Merimbula; Kianinny, Tathra; and Bermagui.

## Outcomes

- Improved health and social connection
- Promotion of tourism and increased economic activity
- Establish the Bega Valley Shire as a leader in accessible tourism

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$3.2 million

## Strategic alignment

- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036 - Goal 4 - Healthy and Connected Communities
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme B - Our economy; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2021-2025
- Bega Valley Shire Council Strategic Asset Management Plan
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030



# Merimbula Basketball and Netball Court - Pavilion Renewal and Upgrade

## The opportunity

The current pavilion building servicing the Ford Park covered outdoor courts and surrounding area is old, not compliant and in need of renewal.

The pavilion building renewal and upgrade will establish a regional sports hub for multiple sporting codes and community events. The proposed renewal of the existing aging building will considerably enhance the facilities for increased utilisation by sporting and community groups locally and provide opportunities for local and regional events.

The facilities will be able to cater not only for local competition and training, but also provide opportunities and facilities to host sport development pathways, regional coaching development and sports tourism events such as the popular, unique and established 'Merimbula Classic' multi day ocean sports event hosted by Merimbula Sailboard Club.

## Our proposal

The Ford Park Multi-Use Pavilion Building will be a much-valued improvement to the Ford Park recreation area and the obvious second stage project to the new covered multi use courts completed in 2021.

The building will replace the existing aging and non-BCA compliant building and become the central hub of the site. It will solve provision, usability and compliance issues with the current facilities, particularly in terms of female friendly changing facilities and accessibility. It will provide regional facilities to service both major users of the courts (netball and basketball) as well as servicing beach and ocean sports including Merimbula Sailboard Club, Sapphire Coast Boardriders Club and storage for the annual Surf Lifesaving summer patrol.) The project scope will include:

- Change rooms (adaptable / female friendly)
- Umpires' room and facilities
- Kiosk
- Adaptable club social room/s

- Public toilets (including accessible toilet)
- Covered outdoor area
- Services connections
- Secure storage areas

## Outcomes

- Improved health and social connection
- Sports tourism events

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$2 million

## Strategic alignment

- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036 - Goal 4 - Healthy and Connected Communities
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Council Parks, Aquatics and Recreation Asset Management Plan



# Sportsground Floodlighting Upgrades

## The opportunity

Over the past five years Council has been undertaking a program to upgrade its sports field floodlighting. While the work has progressed well there are still several sites that require much needed upgrades to meet current sports lighting standards and fully enable participation of the local sports clubs which are key elements of local communities.

The current facilities were constructed at a point in time and reflect the needs and desires of the community at that time. Community expectations and compliance standards around recreation facilities and services has evolved significantly from when the current lighting was installed. Facilities must develop and adapt to remain relevant, whilst still achieving fundamental outcomes important to our community, these being health, participation and social interaction.

## Our proposal

To provide upgraded sports field lighting at Bega George Griffin Oval, Bega Recreation Ground, Bermagui Dickinson Oval and Wolumla Recreation Ground to enable training and to meet current Australian Standards.

Appropriate lighting of sport and physical activity facilities prevent people, particularly women, children, people with disabilities and the elderly, from feeling vulnerable at night. The proposed

works will ensure that there is adequate lighting to safely participate in sport by providing safer training facilities to cater for and encourage participation by all.

## Outcomes

- Improved health and social connection

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- Bega George Griffin Oval \$320,000
- Bermagui Dickinson Oval \$320,000
- Wolumla \$320,000

## Strategic alignment

- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036 - Goal 4 - Healthy and Connected Communities
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Council Parks, Aquatics and Recreation Asset Management Plan



# George Brown Oval Eden - Female Friendly Changerooms and Pavilion Renovation

## The opportunity

The project will renovate the existing aging and non-compliant 'traditional' changerooms to become contemporary female friendly change rooms in the existing pavilion building at the George Brown Oval Pavilion in Eden.

The project is guided by the increase in participation in numbers for both female participants and officials with the women's rugby league / league tag community and has utilised the National Rugby League Community Facilities Guidelines to guide the project design.

The upgrade of the George Brown Oval changerooms will create private spaces for changing and separable team room spaces creating safer, more inclusive facilities, particularly female club members.

The project will also deliver asset renewal renovations to the pavilion building including new roof, spectators' shelter and renovated canteen and umpires and storage areas.

## Our proposal

The core items in the project include:

- Renovation and upgrade of change rooms and public toilets
- New roof and spectator shelter
- Renovations to the canteen and umpires and storerooms.

## Outcomes

The project outcome is to construct adaptable change room spaces that can be used as separate male and female spaces as and when required. The benefits of having areas that can be female only change rooms is that it will break down a key barrier to participation including providing privacy and safe spaces. With women's rugby league growing each year, providing appropriate facilities for female participants and officials it will help generate a greater participation level, usage of the facilities and a sense of safety and belonging for female members of the club and visiting teams. The project will deliver:

- Improved health and social connection.

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$1.2 million

## Strategic alignment

- South-East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036 - Goal 4 - Healthy and Connected Communities
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Council Parks, Aquatics and Recreation Asset Management Plan

# Barclay Street Eden - Multi Use Courts Renewal and Upgrade



## The opportunity

The current court facilities at Barclay Street sport precinct are aging and not meeting current user needs and standards. Upgrade of the courts and facility improvements to increase female participation and safety, along with inclusion and upskilling. This project will finish the elements of the site masterplan and promote options for mixed gender social sports, such as basketball, netball, futsal, pickleball and tennis.

## Our proposal

The core items in the project include:

- Upgrade of two netball courts to multipurpose hard courts
- Repair and upgrade tennis courts to multipurpose synthetic courts
- Upgrade to floodlighting
- Improvements to the tennis court internal building and toilets
- Repairs and renewal of fencing and retaining walls.

## Outcomes

Outcomes include safer and more functional facilities which are a key to enabling increased sports participation for women, girls, and people with disability. Completion of the two masterplan elements are based on sporting code female friendly facilities guidelines. The project will deliver:

- Improved health and social connection.

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$1.345 million

## Strategic alignment

- South-East and Tablelands Regional Plan 2036 - Goal 4 - Healthy and Connected Communities
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Council Parks, Aquatics and Recreation Asset Management Plan
- Barclay Street Sporting and Recreational Precinct Master Plan



# Technology



# Transitioning to Digital Government

## The opportunity

Communities in crisis, or recovering from crisis, expect their governments to be agile, proactive, connected, informed and outcomes-focused. Crisis management and recovery are driving innovation in governments around the world. Federal, state and local government leadership teams are now surrounded by urgency. The impacts of the pandemic have transformed citizens' demands for, and expectation of, government services. The digital, business and social ecosystems in which governments operate are looking to government to share and facilitate the movement of data to help drive their recovery.

Council needs to create, and be a part of, digital government strategies that seamlessly address the shared and sector-specific challenges to take advantage of the opportunities offered by digital transformation.

Data is often talked about as being a strategic asset without clarity about how it delivers direct benefits. The extensive use of data by governments during natural disasters and the pandemic has created proof points for this value but we are still tackling the challenges associated with managing largely untapped content and data, identifying and managing new data sources, and improving data quality.

We see investment in technology as being critical to increase the value of existing content and unstructured data by extending capabilities in critical areas such as security, advanced analytics and natural language processing (NLP). We also acknowledge that there are many non-technical considerations and legislative mandates related to equity, privacy, ethics and transparency which impact transformation initiatives.

## Our proposal

To effectively transition to a digital government approach and refocus our digital services to be citizen-centric, we need agility from both our workforce and our technology platforms. We are

currently in the process of reviewing our digital strategy that will incorporate a human-centred approach to designing solutions for the workforce, businesses, citizens and the complex ecosystems on which all of these depend.

## Transitioning to digital government

The transition to digital government requires careful planning and a focus on outcomes. To drive innovation and accelerate this process, we need to take an 'outside-in' approach to service design using techniques like human-centred design and co-creation, and aligning the strategic use of emerging technologies to outcomes.

## Leveraging data for digital transformation and innovation

Data is at the heart of the digital transformation of government. We look to data and analytics to reliably and accurately detect and predict shifts in risk, opportunity and outcomes prior to their occurrence, driving innovation through improved management, targeted data sharing and artificial intelligence (AI) augmented data analytics capabilities.

## Our focus areas

Council's technology program aims to progress our digital strategy based on an assessment of strategic and operational risks and enterprise value.

## Outcomes

- Citizen-centred service delivery through human-centred design and co-creation to improve existing and develop new services
- Identify and prioritise new opportunities for digital services and enterprise-wide investments to accelerate our progress in implementing digital government

Technology initiative	What this means to BVSC	Benefit of investment
<b>Cybersecurity</b>	Balance securing and protecting the enterprise with the need to run the business	Deal effectively with emerging risks of digitalisation and cyberthreats by instituting a continuous security program
<b>Data, analytics and AI</b>	Innovate and automate with data and analytics that enables data-driven decision making	Evolve with technologies that support data sharing and use data and analytics to reliably and accurately detect and predict shifts in risk, opportunity and outcomes, prior to their occurrence
<b>Customer and service management</b>	Improving citizen service delivery Evolve customer relationships and experience through development of digital products and services; as well as digitally enhance physical products and services	Citizen-centric in approach to service design and execution Using technology to understand and respond to the explosion of digital interactions and diverse data types
<b>Work management</b>	Build digital dexterity and the digital workplace	Improve productivity, safety and work-life balance, as well as the quality of the services delivered by the workforce
<b>Strategic risk management</b>	Manage risk, compliance and ethics across the enterprise related to technology dependencies	Establish and maintain the enterprise and its people, partners, services and things as trusted, resilient participants in the digital economy
<b>Foundational large scale infrastructure</b>	Maintaining and improving the connections between BVSC offices and sites, standardising our IT infrastructure and allowing more performant and secure access to vendor provided services hosted externally to the shire	Improve and future proof the performance of internet-based services, allowing faster access to data and increasing business efficiencies for staff Improved connectivity of Council offices and sites Support the adoption of newer technologies and services

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

The Australian government sector is continuing to see an average annual IT expenditure increase of 8.28%. Progressing the above vision and allowing for continued innovation and adoption of technology advances, requires continued investment averaging \$3 million per year, taking the proposed total annual expenditure to \$7.4 million.

## Strategic alignment

- BVSC Resourcing Plan | Technology Management
- BVSC Data Management and GIS Committees
- BVSC Strategic ICT Committee
- NSW Government Information Management Framework
- NSW Government Strategy - Beyond Digital
- Regional Economic Development Strategy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW



# Transport



# Alternative Highway Access Routes

## Doctor George Mountain Road and Mount Darragh Road

### The opportunity

Council managed roads are vital alternatives to the main highways in cases of emergencies and closures. It is imperative that alternative access routes are at a standard where they can be safely used by all vehicles when required.

#### Doctor George Mountain Road

Doctor George Mountain is a key part of Council’s local collector road network, joining the Tathra-Bermagui Road with Bega. The Tathra-Bermagui Road forms critical alternative access to the Princes Highway if it becomes closed between Cobargo and Bega for any reason.

The current road surface is a disincentive to heavy vehicles using this shorter, more efficient route between Bega and the Wapengo district, where a substantial portion of the shire’s aquaculture industry is located.

#### Mount Darragh Road

Mount Darragh Road provides a critical alternative route to the Snowy Mountains Highway, linking the Bega Valley Shire to the Monaro, Snowy Mountains, Canberra and Western NSW.

Six Mile Bridge is a single lane timber bridge over the Pambula River. There is a significant history of road traffic accidents on the bridge and approaches. Both the timber bridge and co-located pipe structures at Seven Mile Creek have significant structural deficiencies, particularly for heavy vehicles.

### Our proposal

#### Doctor George Mountain Road

Proposed works on Doctor George Mountain Road include the complete sealing of the unsealed section (11.1km) of road linking the sealed Tarraganda Road, Bega and sealed Tathra-Bermagui Road. The project will include the stabilisation/strengthening of the underlying pavement with associated earthworks, drainage and guardrail installation.

#### Mount Darragh Road

Renewal of Six Mile Bridge and Seven Mile Creek pipe structures would provide 2-lanes and enable realignment to improve road geometry and safety.

### Outcomes

- Alternative accesses to the Princes Highway
- Freight efficiencies
- Improved road safety
- Shorter travel times
- Improved community connections
- Reduction of social and economic disadvantage
- Improved environmental outcomes

### Who benefits



### Indicative cost

- Dr George Mountain Road \$13 million
- Six Mile Bridge Realignment and Resilient construction \$20 million

### Strategic alignment

- Climate Resilience Strategy
- NSW Future Transport Strategy 2056
- NSW Road Safety Plan 2021 Toward Zero
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW

# Cuttagee Bridge Replacement

## The opportunity

Cuttagee bridge is a key transport link in an unspoilt foreshore location. The bridge has existed in its current form since 1935. The majority of the bridge has been renewed over the years, including all timber and steel elements, only the concrete piers and northern abutment are original. The bridge is subject to a 15t load limit due to its poor condition and is at the end of its life. The NSW government has generously offered Council \$15M towards the renewal of the bridge. The opportunity now exists to renew the bridge in a form which is in-keeping with the character of the location. The new bridge will require careful planning to provide a resilient structure, capable of safely carrying modern traffic. The project will also provide an opportunity to undertake improvements to the amenity of the location, including parking upgrades to enhance safety for families enjoying the ocean waves or calm, sheltered waters of Cuttagee Lake.

## Our proposal

To renew the bridge with a hybrid structure in-keeping with the character of the location. Ideally the new bridge will provide the benefits of a modern structure, with two lanes of traffic, and a shared pathway to enable pedestrians to cross the water safely when the lake is open. Council is currently progressing development of the project by engaging a specialist contract project manager and contract administrator. The contractor will lead development of options, with a preferred design to be adopted by Council for construction. The full scope of the project has not been finalised however is estimated to be \$31.5 million, leaving a shortfall of \$16.5 million. With funding to deliver the full scope of the project, features including appropriate amenity and resilience improvements to retain the character of the site and security of the transport route will be included.

## Outcomes

- Critical transport asset replaced – the existing bridge is at the end of its life
- Transport safety – improved by removal of single-lane bottleneck on a long structure with relatively high traffic volumes
- Improved containment for vehicles by replacing timber kerbs and handrails with concrete kerbs and steel rails
- Improved safety for pedestrians, particularly small children visiting the site by addition of a shared pathway to cross the bridge. Parking improvements and traffic calming measures will improve road safety for beach users
- Transport Efficiency - improved by removal of restrictive load limits, opens access to high productivity freight vehicles, construction plant and mobile cranes, when necessary
- Reduced transport costs for local producers and operators, including tourist busses between Eden, Merimbula, Tathra and Bermagui. Improved resilience to the road network - particularly when key freight routes such as the Princes Highway are closed
- Improved amenity and quality attractions for tourists – Safer parking and amenity improvements for visitors.

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$31.5 million less NSW government commitment of \$15 million = \$16.5 million shortfall

## Strategic alignment

- Long Term Financial Plan 2023-32
- NSW Future Transport Strategy 2056
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Structures Asset Management Plan 2023



# Road Resilience and Betterment Package



## Who benefits



## Outcomes

- Alternative accesses to the Princes Highway and Snowy Mountains Highway
- Freight efficiencies
- Improved road safety
- Shorter travel times
- Improved community connections
- Reduction of social and economic disadvantage
- Improved environmental outcomes
- Increased network resilience
- Improved emergency response management

## The opportunity

The local road network across the Bega Valley Shire needs to be upgraded to support increased traffic volumes, including increases in heavy vehicle traffic, to improve network resilience, economic productivity, freight efficiency, community amenity and safety.

Importantly, increasing the resilience of the road network will reduce the impacts of natural disasters and improve access/egress and resupply issues for emergency response.

## Our proposal

Sealing and pavement upgrades with localised drainage and road safety improvements will significantly increase the resilience, economic productivity, safety and amenity of the road network across the shire.

## Indicative cost

- Stage 1: \$40 million

## Strategic alignment

- Climate Resilience Strategy
- Bega Valley Shire Council Long Term Financial Plan
- NSW Future Transport Strategy 2056
- NSW Road Safety Plan 2021 Toward Zero
- Strategic Asset Management Plan 2022-25
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW

# Timber Bridge Replacements

## The opportunity

Bega Valley Shire Council owns and is responsible for 35 timber bridges, seven of which are already funded for replacement under the NSW Fixing Country Bridges and other programs.

Many timber bridges have landscape and historic values, but also present safety issues and barriers to heavy vehicle productivity.

Timber bridges on freight routes (regional roads) are a priority for replacement as they are critical for the safe and efficient transportation of goods and services within the shire and beyond.

Most timber bridges do not have sufficient load carrying capacity to meet an increase in freight and heavy vehicle demands. Most are single lane or have been built with tight bends at either end that create safety issues for users.

## Proposed solution

Council has replaced approximately 40 high-risk, timber bridges, in poor condition, over the last decade, many through loan funded support, Disaster Recovery works and the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's Bridges Renewal Program.

While this has proven valuable, a more structured and visionary program is required. This will include preparing a conservation management plan for

existing heritage-listed bridges, replacing bridges with modern equivalents that are fit-for-purpose and sympathetic to coastal surroundings, whilst considering the local heritage value of the existing bridge and all modes of transport. Works may often require road realignment and bridge widening.

## Outcomes

- Critical freight assets replaced
- Transport safety and efficiency
- Reduced transport costs
- Improved resilience to the road network

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$68 million

## Strategic alignment

- Long Term Financial Plan 2024-33
- NSW Future Transport Strategy 2056
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW



# Merimbula Regional Airport

## The opportunity

Merimbula Regional Airport is a vital piece of our region's infrastructure. It provides essential public transport, supports health and emergency services, is critical to tourism and is a major economic driver.

The Merimbula Airport Master Plan is an essential part of our medium and long-term planning. By planning ahead, with a 20-year horizon, we strive to ensure the continued delivery of the highest quality of secure and efficient aviation and business services.

## Our proposal

The development of the Merimbula Airport Masterplan 2043 seeks to build on the existing investment by both the federal and NSW governments. It ensures any future investment in Merimbula Airport is both targeted and considered in a planned manner. It ensures that future infrastructure investments align with strategies such as the NSW State Infrastructure Strategy and the Future Transport Strategy 2056.

Since publication of the last Masterplan in 2013, there has been considerable change for Merimbula Airport. Council took over the full operational aspects from the previous operator, a second Regular Public Transport (RPT) provider was introduced and several key infrastructure upgrades were completed.

The Merimbula Airport Masterplan 2043 reframes the future direction of the airport. Council has identified four priority projects:

1. The creation of third and fourth apron parking bays for RPT services to further enhance and create capacity for airline travel.
2. Further enhancement of the capacity of the airport in relation to stormwater management through the improvement of drainage infrastructure by upsizing taxiway culverts to 'Taxiway Charlie' and removing an old haul road to improve the drainage capacity into Merimbula Lake.
3. Expansion of both short-term and long-term car parking options for customers using the airport.
4. Extension of runway to ultimate capacity

## Outcomes

- Improved airside capability, accessibility and safety
- Ability to welcome larger aircraft and potentially additional carriers
- Increased car carparking options for customers
- Increased resilience to sea level rises and stormwater management
- Increase environment outcome for tidal flows within Merimbula Lake

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- Runway extension \$8.8 million
- Apron extension \$9 million
- Terminal extension \$20 million
- Carparking – south \$6 million
- Carparking – north and central \$6 million

## Strategic alignment

- Merimbula Airport Masterplan 2043
- Community Strategic Plan Theme B – Our economy; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030
- Regional Development Framework
- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan
- NSW State Infrastructure Strategy
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- NSW Southern Regional Transport Plan
- Canberra Region Joint Organisation Strategic Plan
- Destination Southern NSW Destination Management Plan.



# Waste Management



# Organics Processing Facility



## The opportunity

FOGO has been rolled out through the Bega Valley with great success, and the volume of waste being diverted from landfill is set to grow even further. The food and garden organic material collected is currently processed at Council's Merimbula Waste Transfer Station, with a fine quality compost produced and available for re-distribution back to our community. Unfortunately, the current organics processing facility is operating beyond design capacity, and the operation is severely limited by the restrictions of the site.

## Our Proposal

Council's Central Waste Facility, more commonly referred to as the CWF, located on Wanatta Lane at Wolumla, is destined to be the new site for organics processing. Utilising existing infrastructure on site, the new organics processing facility would have capacity to process up to 15,000 tonnes per annum of residential and commercial FOGO kerbside materials. A partnership has already been formalised with composting experts SOILCO to build and operate the facility, which would utilise a modern composting method involving covered aerated static piles (CASP). The process would involve reducing current composting times by half, resulting in a fine quality compost for re-distribution back through well-developed domestic and commercial (agriculture) markets.

Re-locating organics processing to the CWF provides greater opportunity for expansion of the existing waste transfer station at the Merimbula site, which is designated to become the nominated centrally located and publicly accessible waste receipt point for the shire.

## Who benefits



## Outcomes

- Improved compost quality
- Less environmental risk
- Improved customer experience at Merimbula Waste Transfer Station
- Working towards meeting national waste targets
- Regulatory compliance
- Supports circular economy
- Divert waste from landfill

## Indicative cost

- \$9.5 million

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- BVSC 10-Year Waste Strategy, Recycling our Future
- 2018 National Waste Policy
- NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW



# Resource Recovery Facility

## The opportunity

Over 25,000 tonnes of waste is disposed of as landfill in the Bega Valley Shire each year. Unfortunately, more than half of what goes to landfill is not actually waste, but a valuable resource. Cardboard, vegetation/organics materials, metal, timber and concrete can be easily and safely recovered and recycled or reused. Recent waste audit data tells us that 62% of waste going to landfill is recoverable, with a further 27% considered potentially recoverable, once sustainable markets are established. Unfortunately, Council does not have the infrastructure to enable these valuable resources to be properly recovered and processed.

## Our proposal

Council's Central Waste Facility, more commonly referred to as the CWF, located on Wanatta Lane at Wolumla, is the receival point for waste destined for landfill. Constructing a resource recovery and waste processing facility at the CWF will enable Council to recover valuable materials from the commercial industrial construction and demolition waste streams, and either process it for immediate sale or re-use, or on-sell for processing by a third party. Utilising existing infrastructure at the CWF, the proposed new state-of-the-art facility would provide a regional solution to resource recovery, helping divert more than half of our waste from landfill, and support circular economy principles and practices in the Bega Valley Shire.

## Who benefits



## Outcomes

- Less environmental risk
- Working towards meeting national waste targets
- Creation of new employment opportunities
- Economic development opportunities
- Divert waste from landfill
- Supports development of a circular economy

## Indicative cost

- \$6.8 million

## Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme B - Our economy; Theme C - Our infrastructure
- BVSC 10-Year Waste Strategy, Recycling our Future
- 2018 National Waste Policy
- 20-Year Waste Strategy for NSW
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030





# Water and Sewer



# Merimbula Sewage Environmental Improvements



## The opportunity

Currently, treated effluent from the Merimbula Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) is beneficially re-used in the first instance. Whatever is left over is discharged via a beach face outfall and exfiltrated through dunal ponds.

The beach face outfall presents a serious risk to public health and the pristine Pambula and Merimbula estuary systems, via nearshore transportation. The exfiltration ponds are constructed in an area that is of cultural significance to Aboriginal people and is an endangered ecological community. The current disposal mechanisms are neither culturally nor environmentally appropriate.

The capacity to use recycled water is limited by the existing STP infrastructure and available customers to supply to. Better disinfection and nutrient removal need to be achieved to facilitate increased recycled water use.

## Our proposal

The Environmental Protection Authority has instructed Council to plan and construct an ocean outfall and upgrade the STP. This will provide an environmentally sustainable disposal mechanism for treated effluent and enable further expansion of our recycled water scheme.

## Outcomes

- Higher quality treated effluent
- Stopping the disposal of treated effluent onto an area of Aboriginal cultural significance and high environmental value
- Moving treated effluent away from Merimbula Beach and the estuaries – the outfall diffuser will be 2.7km offshore meaning that ocean currents will disperse the treated effluent quickly
- Providing a reliable disposal mechanism in wet weather, significantly decreasing any risk of overflow from the STP into Merimbula Lake

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$43 million (\$8.8 million funding already secured through the NSW Government's Safe and Secure Water Program)

## Strategic alignment

- NSW Safe and Secure Water Program
- NSW Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2042
- Marine Water Quality Objectives
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- NSW Environmental Protection Licence
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our infrastructure
- Bega Valley Shire Council Water and Sewer Strategy 2022-2025
- South Coast Regional Water Strategy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW

# Yellow Pinch Water Treatment Plant

## The opportunity

Yellow Pinch Dam is the primary source of stored water for the Merimbula, Tura Beach and Pambula areas throughout the year and the nominated location for a Water Treatment Plant.

Currently, the water supply for the Eden area in the south of the shire is serviced by the Kiah borefield and Ben Boyd Dam water sources. A Water Treatment Plant is also proposed for this water source once demand exceeds the Yellow Pinch Water Treatment Plant's capacity.

## Our proposal

The Water Treatment Plant would enable the Yellow Pinch dam to supply drinking water as the primary source to the whole southern part of the shire.

It will reduce the risk to drinking water from catchment hazards and hazardous events through a multi-barrier approach to water treatment.

The ability to treat variable quality water will remove the need to isolate source water during impactful events, relieve constraints on demand and provide a dependable supply of high-quality drinking water to residents and visitors.

This project will improve community health needs and economic growth in the region.

## Outcomes

- Ability to manage specific catchment risks
- Consistently meet the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines
- Ability to treat variable water quality
- Improved resident perception of water quality/safety
- Tourism and economic benefits from reduced exposure to poor water quality events

## Who benefits



## Indicative cost

- \$31 million

## Strategic alignment

- Bega Valley Shire Council Water and Sewer Strategy 2022-2025
- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme D - Our Infrastructure
- NSW Water Strategy
- South Coast Regional Water Strategy
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030





# Advocacy



# Transport

## Road improvement projects

### The opportunity

Our regions road network is vital to regional economic growth and connectivity, from catering for major freight movements to increasing tourism potential and local accessibility.

The Bega Valley Shire is serviced by a number of key transport routes, providing for north-south and east-west connections. Primary access to the region is via the Princes Highway between Sydney and Melbourne, and the Snowy Mountains Highway that connects the shire to Canberra. Both of these key routes have restrictions that impact their use as thriving freight and evacuation routes. They are also prone to unplanned closures due to falling trees, flooding, slope stability issues or adverse weather events which can result in complete road closures or significant delays.

The Princes Highway is restricted for heavy vehicles between Bega and South Nowra, with B-Doubles prohibited north of Bega at Brogo Pass and Narooma. Consequently, north-south heavy freight is directed west to the inland highways (Monaro and Hume Highways), via the Snowy Mountains Highway. The Princes Highway is also flood prone, with closures at Eden and Pambula in the March 2021 flood.

The Snowy Mountains Highway runs for 10km through Brown Mountain, with a continuous uphill grade (east-west) of around 8% and steep sections up to 14% that are difficult for loaded trucks to negotiate. While this road is the primary east-west freight link, B-Doubles are required to uncouple and carry only one trailer before heading up or down the mountain. This significantly increases travel times for heavy vehicles using the Snowy Mountains Highway. Additionally, the road through Brown Mountain is curved and undulating, which restricts sight distance due to the adjacent cuttings and vegetation, and is prone to landslide.

Imlay Road (located south of Eden) is the only HML approved east-west link south of Nowra between the Princes and Monaro Highways, and a key connection to the Port of Eden for the forestry industry. Upgrades to the road alignment and widened road shoulders will improve safety for heavy vehicle operations, tourists and maximise opportunities for freight access and export markets to the Port at Eden.

### Our proposal

Upgrading east-west transport corridors is a key initiative of the NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan, including improvements to the Snowy





Mountains Highway. Fixing the 10km of the Snowy Mountains Highway through Brown Mountain will provide a safe, resilient, reliable and more efficient connection for freight and passenger movements to Canberra and access to north-south freight routes, such as the Monaro and Hume Highways.

Additionally, duplicating the Princes Highway between Nowra and the Victorian border, recognising it is a road of strategic importance, will see increased freight and travel options, better connecting the Bega Valley to our closest regional hubs.

Upgrades to the road alignment and widened road shoulders on Imlay Street, Eden will improve safety for heavy vehicle operations, tourists and maximise opportunities for freight access and export markets to the Port at Eden.

A resilient road network that drives regional economic growth will be achieved by:

- planning and managing the Bega Valley Shire road network as 'one network', regardless of ownership
- unlocking economic growth by providing better east-west highway connections
- improving network resilience with more direct

and more reliable routes

- prioritising investment on roads which stimulate economic growth
- asset management approach to transport infrastructure linked to service levels
- cost benefit approach to transport investment
- embracing and capitalising on new advances in technology
- breaking down barriers to efficient cross-border travel
- identifying markets that can be unlocked by providing a more resilient and more efficient road network
- planning and managing linkages between freight and distribution hubs.

## Who benefits





# Emergency Preparedness Digital Communications Program

## The opportunity

The bushfires that devastated the Bega Valley in 2020 demonstrated the telecommunication challenges during emergencies. Telecommunications infrastructure is not a Council responsibility and requires significant investment from telecommunications companies and funding from the Federal (Mobile Black Spot Program) and the NSW Government (emergency services communications).

## Our proposal

Advocate for future funding programs that will reduce areas across the Bega Valley that are known black spots. Advocate for increased investment in emergency services communication infrastructure and assets.

Advocate for improved targeted emergency SMS functionality across mobile networks.

## Outcomes

- Safer communities during natural disasters
- Increased resilience for businesses to pivot in a digital age
- Increased attractiveness for relocation of workers to the Bega Valley
- Improved tourism experiences

## Who benefits



## Strategic alignment

- Climate Resilience Strategy Actions F6 and F8
- Australian Government Mobile Black Spot Program
- NSW Telco Authority Operational Communications Strategy 2020
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW





# Water and Sewer

## Raising of Brogo Dam



### The opportunity

The Brogo Dam provides water to agribusinesses and dairy farms in the region, which are impacted by prolonged periods of drought. The dam is oversubscribed and only a 40% allocation is available on existing licences. It also provides water security to several towns and villages.

Dairy farms supply more than \$62 million in product to Bega Cheese, which employs more than 800 people in productive, export-oriented jobs for regional Australia.

The current dam size is 9 gegalitres (GL), with an inflow of 42GL – at its current size more water goes around the dam than into it. To ensure a reliable and secure water source into the future that can service potential growth and further adverse weather events, the holding capacity of the dam needs to be increased.

### Our proposal

A 5-metre increase in the dam wall height would enhance secure productive water for agribusinesses and dairy farms who are currently only at 40% allocation. During drought, irrigation is suspended and a larger dam would reduce this frequency. There would be very minor environmental impacts compared to other options.

### Outcomes

- Increase the 40% allocation to farmers
- Provide town water supply options to Bega Valley and Eurobodalla town water supplies
- Boost local jobs in a region hit hard by fire
- Enhance long-term productivity in the agribusiness sector
- Drought-proof a significant number of dairy farms on the Brogo-Bega river system, thereby underpinning regional employment and productivity through milk security to Bega Cheese

### Who benefits



### Indicative cost

- \$28 million

### Strategic alignment

- Climate Resilience Strategy Action A1
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW



# Cruise Eden

## Strategy and Coordination

### The opportunity

The Port of Eden is welcoming increasing numbers of cruise ships. The cruise market has the potential to provide significant economic benefits to Eden and the region. However, Eden has no cruise destination development strategy or destination management plan. Also, there is limited funding to resource the Cruise Coordinator currently employed by Eden Tourism. Absent a strategy and well-resourced coordination, there are risks of opportunities missed, negative impacts on the community and environment, and less than excellent experiences for visitors.

### Our proposal

An Eden Cruise strategy and management plan, developed in consultation with industry and the community, will provide a framework to maximise the opportunities provided by cruise visitation and deliver sustainable socio-economic and environmental outcomes. Ongoing funding for the Cruise Coordinator and resourcing of the strategy will enable the coordinator to:

- Manage onshore cruise visitor activity
- Prepare for and build capacity to service the market
- Ensure ongoing stakeholder engagement
- Ensure the industry is supported with adequate onshore infrastructure.

### Outcomes

- Maximise the benefits of cruise visitation to local businesses
- Community engaged and contributing to cruise destination strategy
- Excellent visitor experiences, driving repeat visitation
- Sustainable industry
- Dispersal of cruise visitors beyond Eden to attractions throughout the shire
- Negative impacts reduced and managed

### Who benefits



### Indicative cost

- \$500,000

### Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme B - Our economy
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030
- Destination Southern NSW Destination Management Plan





# Snug Cove

## Eden Marina and Maritime Precinct



### The opportunity

Recent investment in the wave attenuator as part of the Eden Safe Harbour project has created the opportunity for a marina development in the southern-most deep-water port between Sydney and Melbourne. The sheltered waters behind the newly constructed wave attenuator are underutilised without berthing facilities. A marina and revitalised maritime precinct will drive marine industry development and new and expanded visitor experiences. Activation of the port will enable Eden to further showcase its beautiful natural landscape and rich cultural heritage.

Opportunities for future developments include marina facilities, maritime training facilities and hospitality offerings. Numerous stakeholders are integral to realising these opportunities, including all levels of government, business, community organisations, education and training organisations, and the First Nations community.

### Our proposal

Investment in the Snug Cove precinct to develop a contemporary marina, supporting facilities, servicing infrastructure, complementary maritime training facilities and hospitality offerings.

Council is partnering with Transport for NSW to develop concept plans and confirm planning approval pathways to leverage funding opportunities.

### Outcomes

- Stronger visitor and maritime economy that leverages Eden’s competitive advantage
- Business growth
- Improved tourism offering
- Maritime skills development
- Jobs creation, ensuring locals are well placed to benefit from growth
- Improved tourism opportunities including cultural tourism
- Improved opportunities for social enterprise

### Who benefits



### Strategic alignment

- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- NSW Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2042
- Eden CBD Landscape Masterplan
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Snug Cove Masterplan

# Circular Economy

## Bega Circular Valley Project

### The opportunity

Our current economy utilises resources through linear processes: taking materials from the earth, making products, and discarding them as waste. This is unsustainable. As the world shifts away from emissions-intensive production and consumption, transition to a circular economy is required to:

- eliminate waste and pollution
- circulate products and materials
- regenerate nature.

- Improve soil management
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### Who benefits



### Our proposal

With the formation of Bega’s Regional Circularity Cooperative (a unique partnership of government, industry, community and academia), the Bega Valley Shire is well placed to lead the transition to a circular economy. The Cooperative has identified several projects that will support and deliver circular outcomes. These include:

- National Circularity Centre
- On-farm smart water storage and biodiversity solution
- Measuring circularity
- Biodiversity and carbon knowledge extension
- Smart local food and logistics program
- Livestock methane reduction.

### Strategic alignment

- Community Strategic Plan Theme A - Our community; Theme B - Our economy; Theme C - Our environment
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy
- Climate Resilience Strategy
- Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2018-2028
- Water and Sewer Strategy 2022-2025

### Outcomes

Resourcing the Regional Circularity Cooperative’s projects will:

- Enhance circular capability, innovation, and economic development
- Improve resilience through stronger local production and reuse
- Reduce waste
- Strengthen environmental management and restore biodiversity

# HOUSING

## Affordable Housing

### The opportunity

The demand for affordable rental and purchase housing in the Bega Valley Shire is growing. There are a lack of housing options to meet both current and future housing needs. Based on current and projected housing stress, housing market trends, and population and dwelling projections, there is a total projected need for almost 2,500 affordable dwellings in the Bega Valley Shire by 2036. At least 75% of this need (1,750 households) is unlikely to be met through the market and will need deep subsidies and/or the direct creation of affordable housing. In addition, at least 168 social rental housing dwellings will be required by 2036, with around 75% (126) of these being smaller, well located strata dwellings, and 25% (42) family dwellings. By far, the highest need is for affordable housing for very low and low income renters, both in terms of the relative number of households in housing stress, and the seriousness of their affordability situation in the local market context.

### Our proposal

State and federal government leadership is required to drive a collaborative approach to attract increased investment in a range of housing options. This will support government and non-government agencies, including social housing providers, to enable diversified housing choices and progress a range of actions identified in Bega Valley Shire Council's Affordable Housing Strategy.

Increased state and federal investment is required in:

- social housing in the Bega Valley Shire, including maintenance and upgrade of existing stock, and construction of new stock.
- alternative crisis and short-term accommodation options for the significantly growing number of homeless people in the LGA.

### Development of key Council land parcels

Council is in the process of planning for potential land development opportunities on Council land to support the Bega Valley Shire Affordable Housing Strategy which was adopted on 18 May 2022. Council is committed to several actions in the strategy which will require support and investment from other levels of government. These include:

- Strategy 19 – to create affordable rental housing in perpetuity on Council and other publicly owned land
- Strategy 20 – to facilitate the development of an affordable caravan park / manufactured housing estate in partnership with a registered Community Housing Provider or other Not for Profit on Council-owned land
- Strategy 21 – facilitate a multi-tenure development on Council-owned land within or in close proximity to Bega, Eden, Pambula or Merimbula town centre in partnership with a Community Housing Provider and/or other Not for Profit service provider
- Strategy 22 – to dedicate two further sites to multi-tenure affordable housing development within or in close proximity to Bega, Eden, Pambula or Merimbula town centres.
- Council is also investigating options for relocating our Bega depot (see New Industrial Precinct above). This will liberate land to increase residential land supply and potentially accommodate affordable housing.



## Outcomes

- Housing options that meet the changing needs of people of all ages and abilities
- Increased supply of affordable purchase housing
- Increased supply of affordable rental housing, both short, medium and long term
- Adequate social and emergency housing to meet the needs of vulnerable community members
- Reduced levels of housing stress and improved liveability
- Housing choices with proximity to employment, transport, utilities and infrastructure
- Housing stock that meets the needs of current and future demographics

## Who benefits



## Strategic alignment

- Bega Valley Affordable Housing Strategy
- South East and Tablelands Regional Plan
- Housing 2041: NSW Housing Strategy
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Regional NSW Youth Action Plan
- Ageing Well in NSW: Senior Strategy 2021–2031
- 20-Year Economic Vision for Regional NSW
- Far South Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy



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Zingel Place, Bega

M. PO Box 492 Bega P. 02 6499 2222 ABN. 26 987 935 332



[council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au)



[begavalleyshirecouncil](https://www.facebook.com/begavalleyshirecouncil)



[www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au)