

Community Leadership

LODDON MURRAY INC.

*Developing Leaders for Vibrant
and Sustainable Communities*

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Redesdale

FEASIBILITY STUDY

July 2015

Proposed Redesdale
Community Precinct

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July, 2015

Community Leadership
LODDON MURRAY INC.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Redesdale is a dynamic rural town servicing a surrounding population of up to 2,000. Set amidst a beautiful agricultural landscape between the Coliban and Campaspe Rivers, the township is an established meeting place and provides important trading and emergency service facilities to surrounding rural communities in the City of Greater Bendigo and Mitchell, Mount Alexander and Macedon Ranges Shires. Many tourists pass through the town on their way to nearby Lake Eppalock.

Community consultation and planning over a two year period has successfully harnessed the enthusiasm of local residents and community group representatives to review the Community Plan and agree on a vision to take Redesdale forward. A detailed action plan prioritises the development of a Community Precinct to meet current and future needs of their growing population.

In 2015 the City of Greater Bendigo engaged Community Leadership Loddon Murray Inc. to conduct an independent assessment of the viability of a Community Precinct utilizing the existing facilities of the Agnes Mudford Reserve and Redesdale Hall currently under the management of the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP) with assistance of local committees.

Subsequent analysis of available demographic data and community consultation documentation, combined with extended stakeholder discussions and research into comparative rural communities, has indicated that there is clear need and support for a Community Precinct to be developed in Redesdale.

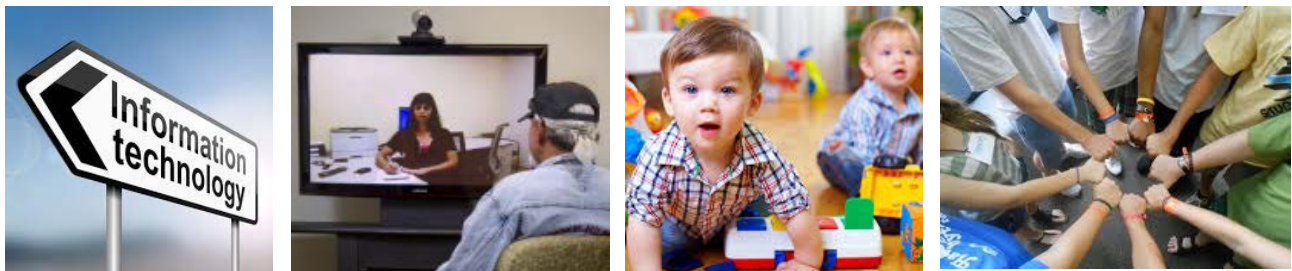
Located in a prominent position at the intersection of the three main roads leading to Kyneton, Heathcote and Bendigo; and boasting a spacious hall and reserve, the facilities are well utilised on at least 100 occasions each year. This includes significant regional activities such as providing a staging area for the CFA Eppalock Group hosting 13 brigades and up to 80 vehicles during times of emergency at which time the precinct is also a nominated relief and recovery centre for the City of Greater Bendigo. Annual events regularly attract 100 plus patrons in the hall and new regional events are attracting new audiences from further afield highlighting the limitations of existing amenities.



Current gaps identified as part of community conversations and data analysed include a lack of public transport that has clear implications for an ageing population (Redesdale has almost double the national average of near retirement age) needing to access basic health services. Currently there is no access to pre-school activities and youth have limited access to activities outside school. There are inadequate amenities to support emergency personnel and visiting groups and tourists during events and for overnight stays.

With population growth of 10.59% predicted for Redesdale over the next 20 years, lifestyle blocks are already being established through subdivisions in nearby areas.

A NBN tower was recently installed on the outskirts of the town opening up new opportunities for business and outreach services through technology; however access is limited due to a challenging topography. Indications are that the proposed community precinct is an ideal location for a public connection.



In summary, it is timely to address these gaps and opportunities and the Agnes Mudford Reserve and Redesdale Hall provides a great opportunity for a Community Precinct that will enhance this rural region as a great place to live, work and volunteer.

A number of options have been explored in the process of making a recommendation that best meets these needs.

Valued at an estimated \$550,000 this investment will create a vibrant Community Precinct for Redesdale and surrounding rural communities incorporating:

- A business incubator to support employment and business growth in the region.
- Improved facilities to improve safety and support emergency services personnel and volunteers.
- Outreach health services for an ageing population without access to public transport.
- Increased access to education, social and recreational activities to meet the needs of all ages, in particular the elderly, pre-schoolers and youth, disadvantaged by a lack of public transport and a remote location.
- Compliant kitchen and toilet facilities.
- Improved facilities to increase tourism and attract new residents to the region.

A range of potential government and philanthropic funding sources have been identified to meet matching fund requirements and support a clearly needed investment in a Community Precinct that will enhance and service this vibrant and growing rural region.

PROJECT BRIEF

A review of Redesdale's Community Plan in 2013 reaffirmed the community's overall ambition to be a township with modern, safe, and attractive amenities to support the rural way of life.

Subsequent community engagement undertaken has identified strong interest in further developing Redesdale's existing hall and recreation reserve to enable it to service a broader range of community needs and ultimately strengthen this rural community's connectedness, capacity, and resilience.

From the brief provided by the City of Greater Bendigo the overall project outcomes were to:

- Identify if, and how, the existing Hall and Recreation Reserve could be developed into a viable Community Precinct.
- Identify how the proposed Community Precinct could optimise social and economic outcomes within the Redesdale community.

This Feasibility Study has also sought to:

1. Analyse Redesdale's demographics, current facility and service provision plus any gaps in these, and provide a comparative analysis of relative communities.
2. Outline options for further developing Redesdale's existing Hall and Recreation Reserve into a Community Precinct that could service a broader range of community needs.
3. Provide rationale for any further development options, with demonstration of need and future sustainability (including revenue streams, optimum / shared uses and volunteer resources) being key considerations.
4. Consider whether a Community Precinct could support new social and economic activity within Redesdale.
5. Outline cost estimates for any further development options, including capital / renewal / maintenance work costs and operating costs. Staging of any works should also be considered for financial reasons.

ANALYSIS OF REDESDALE COMMUNITY

Demographics, current facility and service provision, plus any gaps in these and a comparative analysis of relative communities.

Redesdale is a small rural community contained within the City of Greater Bendigo with the boundaries for Mount Alexander, Macedon Ranges, and Mitchell Shires adjoining the township. The planning scheme indicates a mixture of lifestyle and farming properties. The township is also close to the Calder Growth Corridor, based along the Calder Freeway, and the Bendigo train line.

The demographic data indicates a mature population of couples with children that have left or are close to leaving home. The data available indicates a significant sector of the population is or is close to retirement at almost double the national average. There are some young people, aged under 20, with the local primary school supporting an enrolment of 18 students.

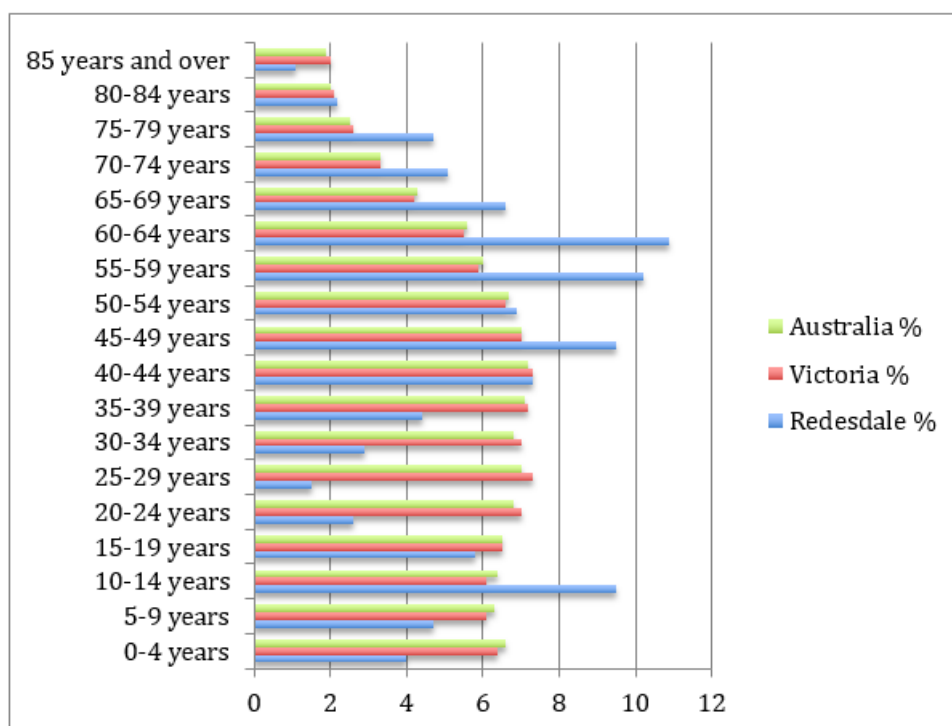


Figure 2. Age group as a percentage of population.

Secondary School students travel by school bus to nearby centres – predominantly Kyneton - on a daily basis with no current after school activities provided for this age group in Redesdale. It is significant that there is no pre-school attendance of children under 5 years.

Access to services is a significant issue as there is no public transport connecting the town with local population centres such as Kyneton and, to a lesser extent, Heathcote, Castlemaine and Bendigo. This will become more of an issue for an ageing population and may force them to reluctantly consider relocating elsewhere.

The demand for health services will also increase with an ageing population and the data indicates that there are opportunities for health promotion activities particularly aimed at reducing risk factors through cessation of smoking, healthy eating and physical activity.

A common issue identified in other similar rural populations is socialization and mental health for men retiring from the agricultural and trades workforces that are predominant in Redesdale and district. This could potentially be fulfilled by the establishment of a Men's Shed and Community Garden as part of the precinct.

Industry of employment

The data for employment by industry shows a high number of agricultural workers, followed by accommodation and food services, and construction workers.

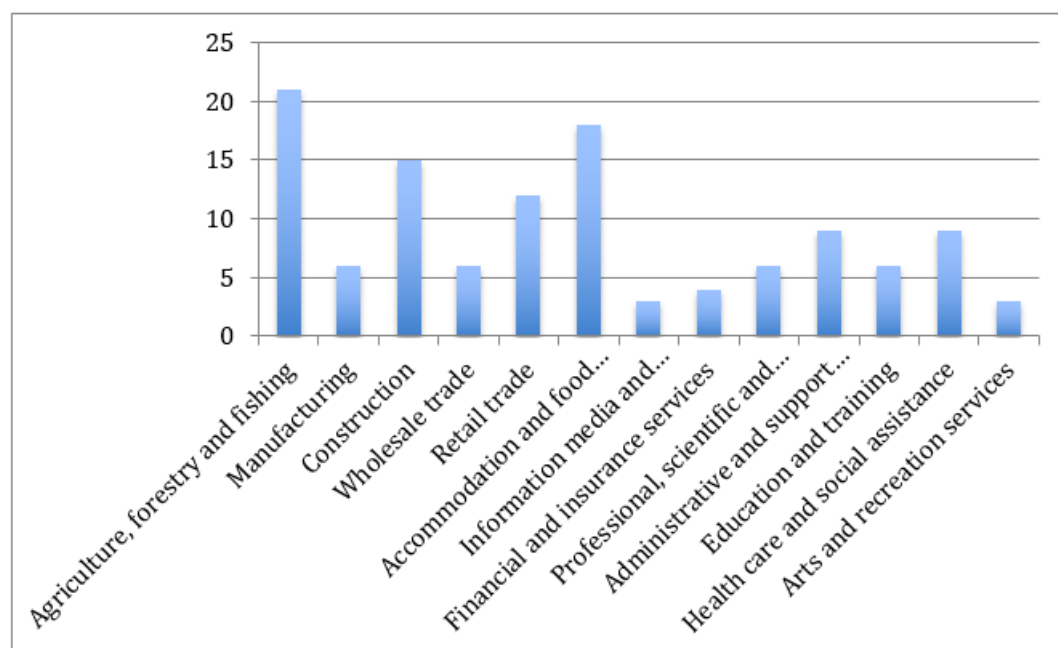


Figure 3. Employment by industry.

There is potential access to a range of skills in the local population as they reach semi or retirement age given that the data for the employees by profession shows a high number of managers as well as technicians and trades workers.

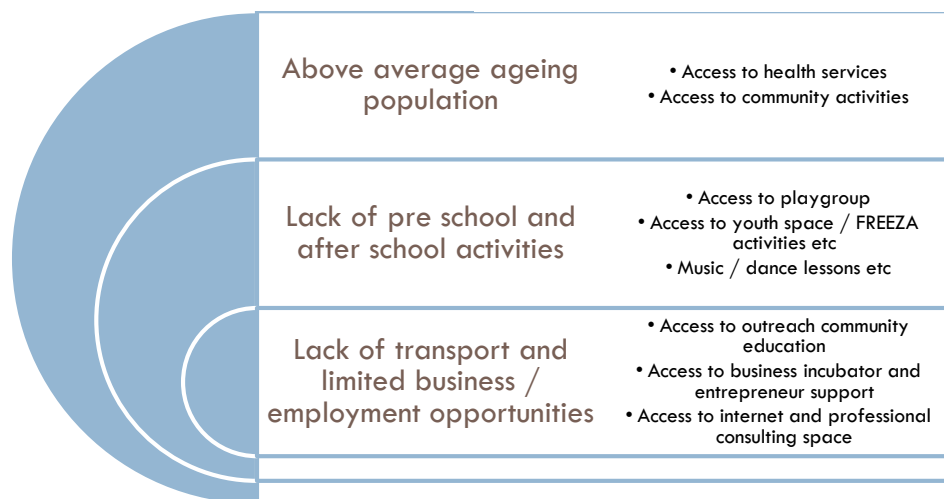
Connection to the NBN will allow for a greater range of outreach services and entrepreneurial activities.

ATTACHMENT 1: For full details on demographics please refer to the attached report

Identified gaps and opportunities

2013 Redesdale Community Plan
Review statement:

"Redesdale residents aim to achieve a town which is safe, invitingly landscaped, welcoming to tourists, clean and tidy, and where people of all ages work and socialise well together. They require good, functional facilities for activities and meetings and easy access to necessary services."



While health services was not a top priority identified through local community consultations, regional health indicators show that cardiovascular diseases and malignant cancers are the highest cause of death exacerbated by the top three risk factors of tobacco use, obesity and high blood pressure. Redesdale and district's rapidly ageing population, combined with lack of public transport, indicates that an outreach health service would be ideal for the precinct to meet future needs of the local community. Provision of these services may allow older people to remain in the community longer and also improve the livability of Redesdale for those contemplating the tree change.

Young people, while relatively low in numbers, are severely disadvantaged by their rural location and would benefit from organized activities aimed at the preschool age group and after school students. The local primary school principal reports that parents are keen to access music lessons for children. A meeting of young people identified support for a youth space after school. Access to the internet would be of great assistance to their study. The playgroup operating at the school has ceased and the question needs to be asked why as there are zero preschool attendances in this area which is a concern. With new tree changers relocating to the area as lifestyle blocks are developed over the next decade, it is essential to provide these services.

Many skilled and employed people reside in the Redesdale area but are either part time for lifestyle or transitioning into retirement reasons. These skills can potentially be utilized for the purposes of community education (U3A / Men's Sheds) and to incubate new flexible business models utilizing the precinct facilities. For instance a young local resident is keen to utilize the hall for fitness classes and another to access the kitchen for her agribusiness during harvest. Starting Small Business classes could be a stimulant to the local economy with neighbouring Community & Learning Centres open to discussions of an outreach service. A part time business centre could provide a valuable service to the rural region and provide income and experience to young and unemployed residents.

In terms of facilities for visiting tourists, a desktop research revealed that there are no camping facilities within the immediate vicinity.

COMMUNITY PRECINCT OPTIONS

Current Use

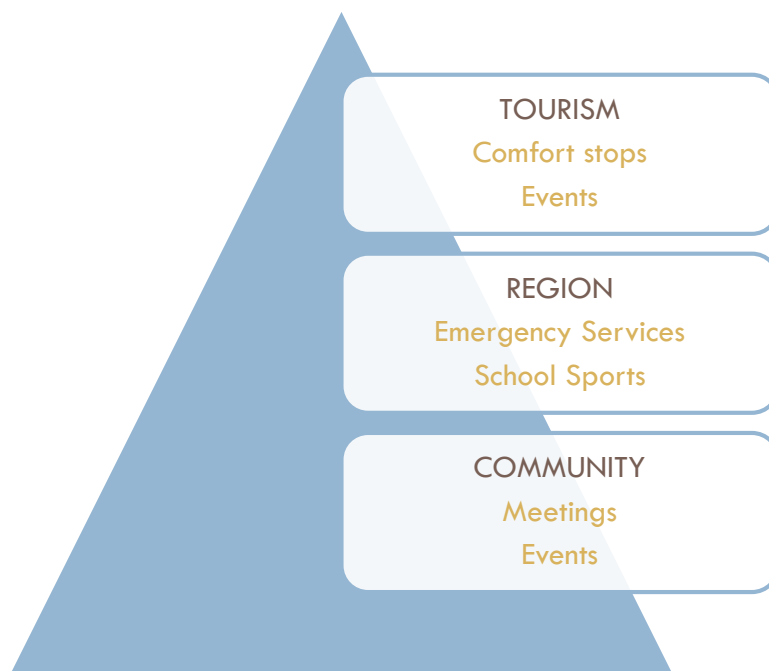
Nestled at the intersection of three key destination roads, the Agnes Mudford Reserve and Redesdale Community Hall is clearly the social precinct of Redesdale and surrounding rural communities spanning the City of Greater Bendigo, Mount Alexander, Macedon Ranges and Mitchell Shires.



Each year the primary school sports for the region are conducted at the precinct. While sports have diminished due to an ageing population, other events and activities are being organised to meet social needs, bring visitors to Redesdale and showcase it as a great place to live.

Most importantly the combined facilities of the Reserve and Hall service the CFA Eppalock Group in times of emergency as a staging ground, and has also been identified by the City of Greater Bendigo emergency management team as a relief and recovery centre for the region at such times.

Currently the combined facilities of the Redesdale Reserve and Hall meet the following needs:



ATTACHMENT 2 – For full details of the Reserve and Hall facilities please refer to the attached report

Potential new activities and services

Extensive community consultation and demographic analysis has identified a number of new activities and services that could be viably hosted by this Community Precinct.



CASE STUDY: Moulamein Community Health Centre

This rural service has been operating from a NSW Health owned and converted weatherboard house for over 25 years under the management of one full time position shared by two Registered Nurses. Child and maternal health services and activities are provided as well as immunisations and community nursing.

A General Practitioner from a Swan Hill practice (that most of the Moulamein community attends) visits half a day each week and bulk bills patients. A room is provided for the GP at no charge for this service.

A rural outreach program includes monthly visiting services from:

- Occupational Therapist
- Dietitian
- Mental Health Worker
- Podiatrist
- Speech Pathologist

At the 2011 census, Moulamein had a population of **330 people**. Moulamein is the oldest town in the Riverina. The town is located between Balranald, Hay, Deniliquin and Swan Hill, at the junction of the Edward River and Billabong Creek.

[Moulamein - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moulamein)
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moulamein> Wikipedia ▾



Video consultations with webcam have been trialled but not successful due to lack of fast broadband. A teleconference phone has been purchased in the meantime.

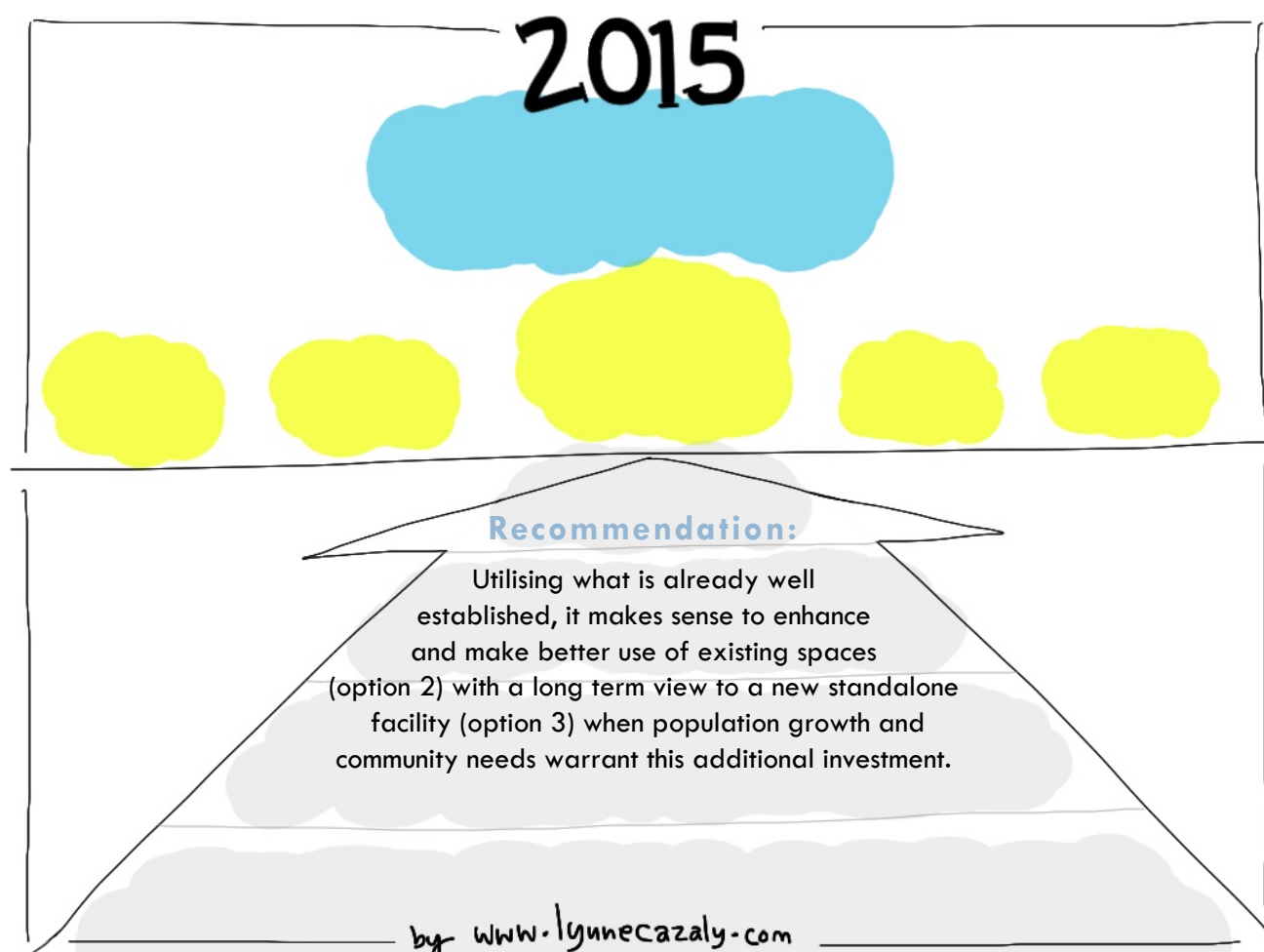
These services are partly funded through NSW Health and partly through the commonwealth via the Murray Plains Health Network (formerly Loddon Mallee Murray Medicare Local).

<https://www.yourcare.com.au/supplier/profile/moulamein-community-health-centre>

Recently the Wakool Shire has initiated a funding application to establish a Moulamein Community Hub utilizing the existing Moulamein Community Centre and Hall. Valued at \$1.5 million the Hub proposes to incorporate the existing Community Health Service with council offices, community meeting rooms, a coffee shop, Road Traffic Authority office etc.

Development options:

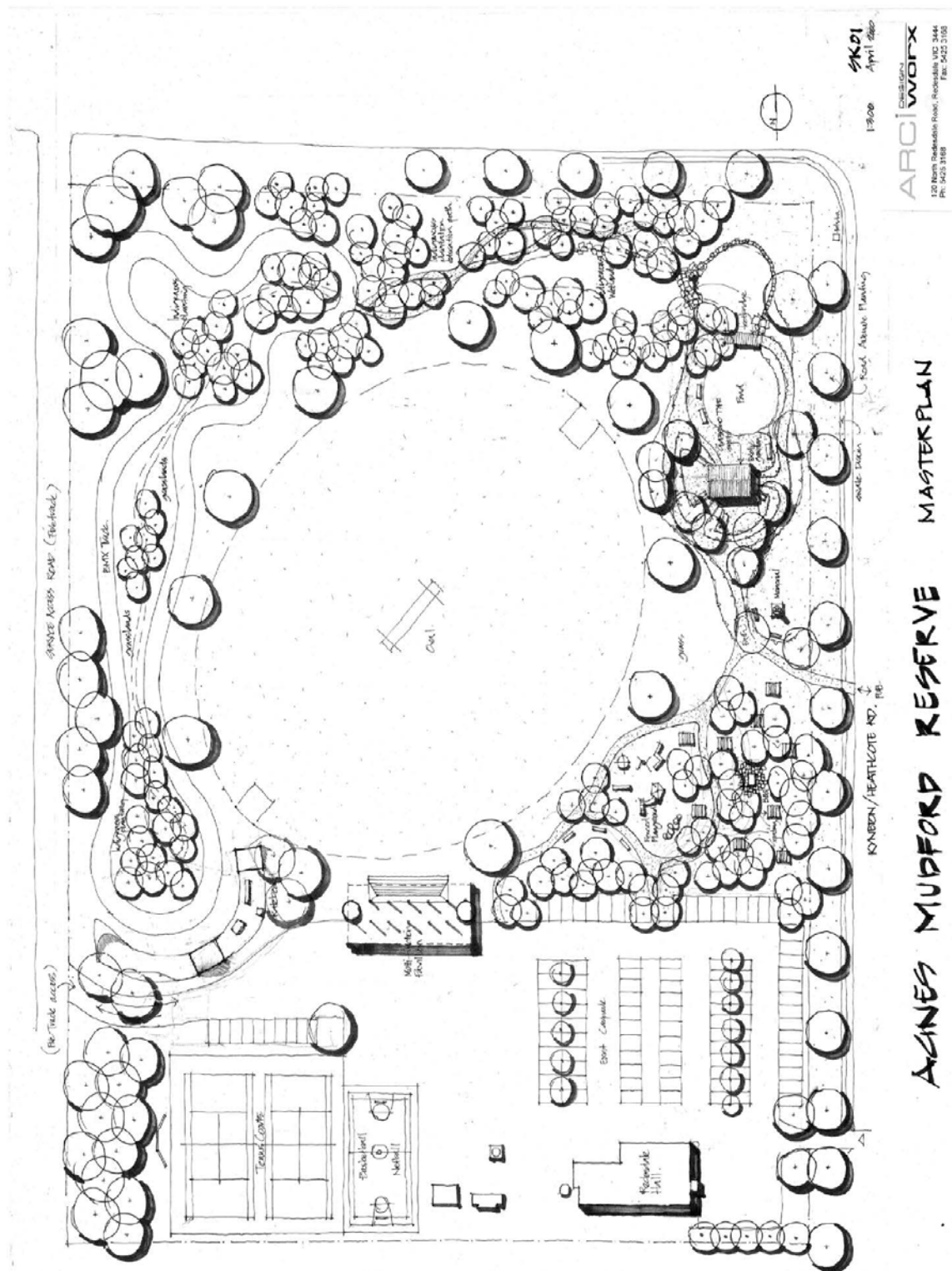
- 1 Implement the improvement plans for the Reserve and undertake minor maintenance issues for the Hall. (estimated investment of \$160,000)
- 2 Implement the improvement plans for the Reserve including additional facilities for emergency services and tourists, and redevelop the existing Hall space to incorporate a private multipurpose room, compliant kitchen and toilets, storage facilities and internet connection. (estimated investment of \$550,000) ✓
- 3 Build a new standalone facility with meeting room and private multipurpose room and office space (estimated investment of \$120,000). A Men's Shed could also be explored if support indicated.



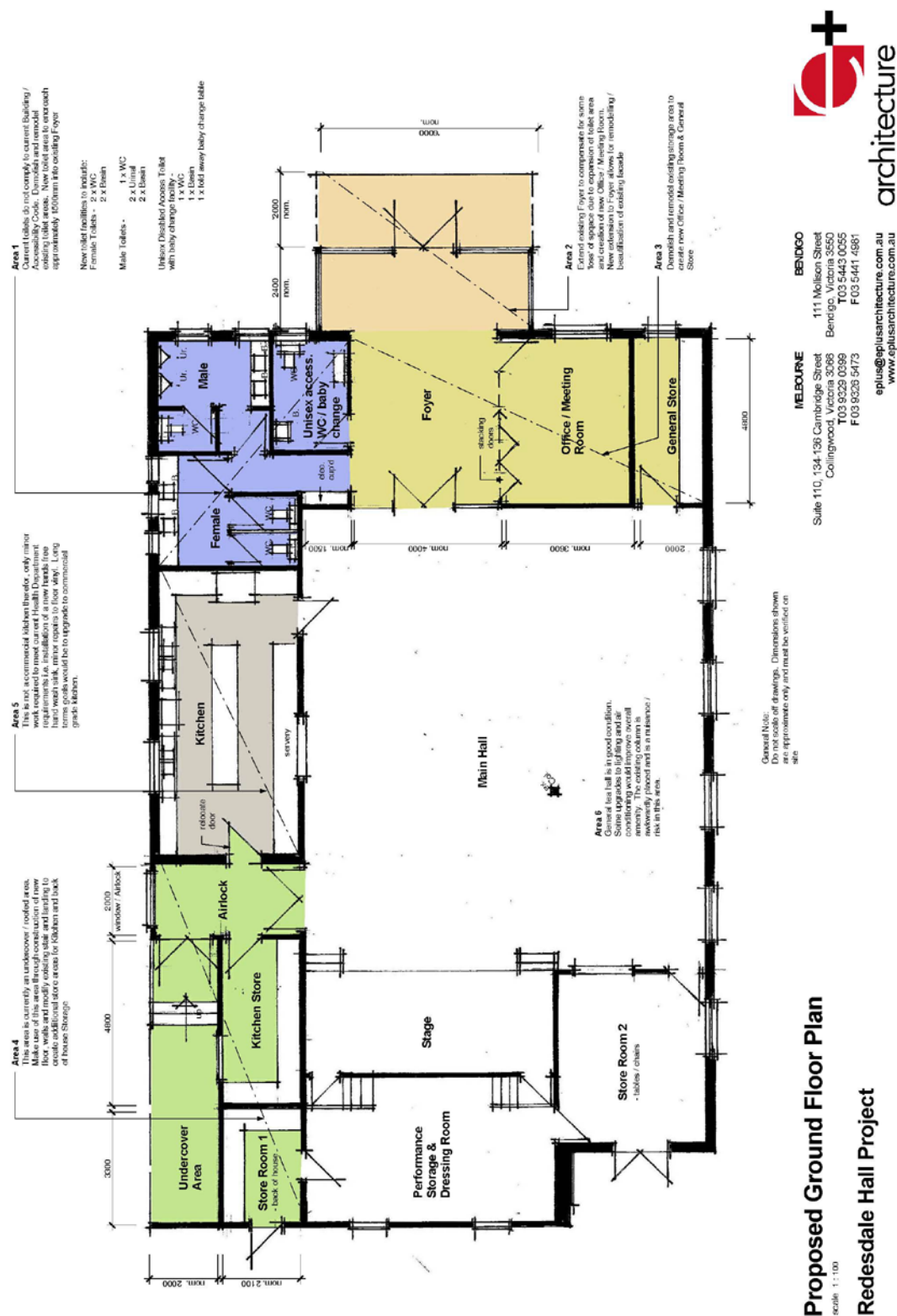
Draft Master Plan for Agnes Mudford Reserve

To be reviewed by community before finalization of priorities.

Agnes Mudford Reserve Master Plan



Proposed Redesdale Hall redevelopment:



In rural communities such as Redesdale the economic benefits can be immense and far reaching from every new job created and every new family attracted to live in the area. With the attraction of a rural lifestyle the key is to invest in facilities that support volunteers, promote livability and encourage new business and employment opportunities.

Based on professional advice and a desk top analysis, this Community Precinct development is estimated at \$550,000 and will require further consultation and detailed quotations to provide accurate figures.

ACTIONS	ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES	ESTIMATE \$
PLANNING		\$6,000
Strategic Business Case	Consolidate master plan, costings and partners to secure funding & guide planning.	\$6,000
A review of committee management model.	Consolidate and streamline a management model for the Community Precinct to maximize efficiencies and outcomes.	In-kind
HALL IMPROVEMENTS		\$375,000
Create a multipurpose room off the Hall foyer.	Increased access to health and professional consultations as well as potential office space for community groups and Business Centre.	\$27,500
Upgrade of foyer, entrance and façade	Beautification of Hall to support new activities and events.	\$48,000
Provide adequate storage space.	Increased support for community groups improved OH&S for Hall users.	\$32,000
Upgrade the Hall kitchen.	Achieve compliance for commercial use and increased events.	\$142,000
Upgrade Hall toilets	Achieve compliance (disability) and increase hire of Hall.	\$74,000
Upgrade lighting & power	Meet broader commercial use, ie. internet	\$20,000
Miscellaneous internal improvements to the Hall.	Broader community and commercial use	\$31,500
RESERVE IMPROVEMENTS		\$160,000
Complete the Pavilion flooring and weather proofing of room.	Meet OH&S compliance. Provide all weather facility for CFA incident briefings, and increase patronage of locals and visitors at outdoor events.	\$10,000
Emergency Vehicle access and traffic management	Improve access and safety for emergency vehicles, volunteers and event visitors.	\$30,000
Install new amenities, 4 x ensuite (toilet/shower & basin) and Public Dump Point.	Improved amenities for CFA & residents at times of emergency, and to encourage overnight stays by tourists & touring groups.	\$50,000
Review and implement the master plan for the Reserve.	Pedestrian paths, playground equip, shade, landscaping and plantings attracting increased patronage by locals and tourists.	\$70,000
MARKETING & SUPPORT		\$13,500
Business Incubator Support & Training	Create an entrepreneurial culture and support new businesses in the region.	\$10,000
Marketing campaign including website/social media.	Increase profile, patronage and revenue.	\$3,500

ATTACHMENT 3 - Please refer to the report prepared by E-Plus Architects for more detail of estimated costs relating to the Hall and indicative estimates relating to general reserve and playground improvements.

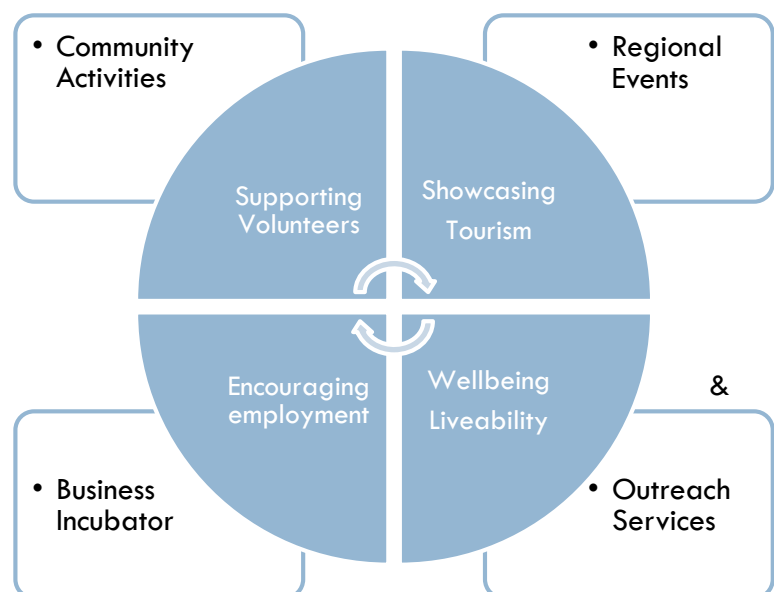
Implementation Timeline

STAGE 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm support to proceed with this project by strategic partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DEWLP (owner of assets) ▪ Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee (management of assets) ▪ Local, State and Federal Government (regulatory bodies and potential financial partners) ▪ Murray Plains Health Network (needs analysis for health facilities) ▪ ACFE funded Community House (needs analysis education & training) • Finalise Master Plan to establish community priorities and preferences. • Establish an appropriate committee of management model.
STAGE 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Strategic Business Case and specifications for works to be undertaken, obtain quotations, and identify which elements can be undertaken independently or need to be sequential.
STAGE 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding submissions to implement the Master Plan
STAGE 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete works
STAGE 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate and report back to partners
STAGE 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement marketing campaign • Implement business incubator training
STAGE 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate one year post completion and review strategies

Shared uses and opportunities

There are indications that the facilities will continue to be used and potentially increase usage by the following local community groups which may become more integrated in the process:

- Redesdale Reserve Committee of Management
- Redesdale Community Hall Committee
- Redesdale and District Association (RaDA)
- Redesdale Tennis Association
- Redesdale Mia Mia Primary School
- CFA Eppalock Group Staging Area
- City of Greater Bendigo Emergency Relief Centre



A National Broadband Network (NBN) tower has recently been installed near Redesdale. While a challenging topography limits access to many properties it offers great potential for public connectivity at the Precinct. The cost of a 25M download and 5M upload NBN service has been quoted at starting at \$54 per month with a flexible contract to ensure it is suitable.



In particular activities aimed at pre-schoolers, youth and the aged are ideal for this Community Precinct which would service up to a 2,000 surrounding population taking into account the communities of Mia Mia, Sutton Grange, Myrtle Creek, Metcalfe, Langley, Sidona/Baynton, Glenhope, Lyal, Kimbolton and Pilchers Bridge.

Existing regional events such as the cricket matches, Bush Market and Redesdale Rocks Festival can be expanded and linked with other regional activities such as the proposed cycle trail and a Farmers Market element.

With the assistance of a targeted marketing campaign the facilities will attract increased patronage by individuals for private functions and groups for meetings and special events highlighting the rural setting and wide range of facilities available at the one central location.

Targeted groups could include car and cycle clubs, emergency services, landcare and agribusiness forums and training. Redesdale's 400 million year old geological tale could even form an interesting weekend of tours and talks for geologists as the local bird life along the rivers would for Twitches groups.

Flexible and tiered hire fees will make the facilities affordable to new and existing businesses supported by a culture of encouraging business activity through preferred providers and accredited training.

Outreach services potentially provided by Kyneton and/or Bendigo Community Health, Murray Plains Health Network (formerly Loddon Mallee Murray Medicare Local), various health practitioners, the North Central Rural Counselling Service, and the Bendigo and Kyneton Community Learning Centres, in conjunction with remote services such as telehealth, will engage a new range of partners.

There is also the opportunity to provide basic business services from the Hall on either a volunteer or business incubator basis. This could be linked to a training program with the unemployed and/or the existing skills of secondary school students using the space for other purposes. ie. Business Centre open 4-6pm on a certain day in conjunction with youth space / study group. Services could include internet research, photocopying, printing, graphic design, typing, computer assistance etc. Profits could be put towards covering the internet and incidental costs of the youth group or a percentage allocated to young and unemployed people dedicating time to service the centre.

Strategic Partners

This project will require a collaborative partnership to develop a business case that will successfully attract investment.

Throughout the Feasibility Study representatives of the City of Greater Bendigo, Redesdale Recreation Reserve, Redesdale Hall, Redesdale & District Association, and the Country Fire Authority have been consulted and kept informed.

The Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee is encouraged to consider a new collaborative management structure as part of this process.

As the asset owner DELWP will need to approve any major works and will seek evidence of compliance with regulatory bodies.

Local, State & Federal government will be important partners in the funding process.

Initial conversations with neighbouring community learning and health centres, and the Murray Plains Health Network (formerly Loddon Mallee Murray Medicare Local) have indicated that they will consider support of service provision based on the outcomes of a formal needs assessment.

Contacts made during the course of the Feasibility Study are detailed on page 25.



CASE STUDY: Newham Mechanics Institute

Newham in neighbouring Macedon Ranges has a population of 140 and services a wider population of over 500.

During 2009 capital works totaling \$400,000 were undertaken to upgrade the Newham Mechanics Institute.

Investors included:

- Macedon Ranges Shire \$120,000
- State Government \$250,000
- Community fundraising \$30,000



A business & marketing plan was required as part of their grant application to the state government with supporting letters from all community groups.

Currently no advertising is undertaken except through a website and word of mouth.

Hirers are mostly from local district including Kyneton and Lancefield. A lot of wedding receptions, birthday parties, anniversaries etc.

The facility is popular with young mums because of glass wall allowing viewing of adjacent play park.

Hire rates are tiered at five levels. Members (\$20 annual fee) get a 20% discount.

Commercial / weddings @ \$330 per day while community groups free hire / optional donation.

\$10,000 cash profit in 2014 but ideally should be more as need to accumulate for works & maintenance.

<http://newham.squarespace.com/mechanics-institute/>

Potential revenue streams

In 2014 only 10 percent of Hall bookings paid a fee which resulted in only \$1,100 income while no separate hire was charged for the Reserve. This is clearly not sustainable. With improved facilities and a targeted marketing campaign it is anticipated that flexible and tiered fees for hire of the room, hall, reserve and camping facilities can increase revenue up to \$20,000 per annum without impacting on community groups.

A fee can be charged for the individual use of camping ensuites (Charlton charges \$28 per night) and improve rental of the Precinct for major events and visiting groups such as car and cyclist clubs. It will also service CFA volunteers and local residents seeking relief during times of emergency.

Event fundraising currently contributes a \$15,000 annual profit to the Hall Committee. Linking new regional events to the Community Precinct will provide increased options for fundraising.

Alternatively, if younger volunteers are difficult to recruit, the opportunity to employ local individuals and/or businesses to cater and service events and activities on a percentage or fee basis could be considered which would have equal benefit for the local community through creation of employment.

POTENTIAL REVENUE ACTIVITY	\$
Precinct Hire Fees (Hall/Room/Reserve/Camping)	20,000
Event Fundraising / Provider fees	20,000
Business Training Centre	Cost even
TOTAL:	40,000

Expenditure

The local community has successfully ensured that its fundraising income covers operational expenditure. Major items of operational expenditure for the Hall in 2014 included \$5,000 insurance, Power \$1,700, Hall maintenance \$2,500 and sundries \$1,500. Mowing of the grounds and \$4,700 annual maintenance of the public toilet is met by the City of Greater Bendigo with the Reserve Committee contributing a further \$700 per year towards sundries.

CASE STUDY: Traveler's Rest, Charlton

The Traveler's Rest story is a great example of the power of community and volunteers working in tandem with their local council since 1998 to create welcoming visitor amenities designed to encourage travelers to stop and shop in Charlton.

Recently Traveler's Rest has installed ensuite facilities to service caravans staying overnight.

Eight ensuites in two blocks of four were built at a total cost of \$98,000 partly funded by a \$50,000 grant from the State Government Partnerships for Growth Program, Council and community fundraising. A local builder on the committee supervised the works.

The ensuites are hired out at \$28 per night and provide a toilet, shower, mirror and wash basin.

Included in this cost was a public dump point to enable Charlton to become a RV Friendly Town. No charge is made for use of the RV public dump but it is considered a great marketing tool.

A part time manager is remunerated on a percentage of takings basis to maintain and manage the ensuites and adjoining caravan sites.

<http://www.charlton.vic.au/travellersrest>



Encouraging Entrepreneurism

Encouraging a culture of entrepreneurship in the local community will create new uses for the Community Precinct and employment opportunities in and around Redesdale.

- Align the Community Precinct with a Business Incubator encouraging individuals to use the hall and provide services to events. Allow flexible rental rates and fees (perhaps none at all for a certain period) to allow new businesses to find their feet. Consider percentage of profit payment system.
- Create a Business Training Centre at the Precinct utilizing volunteers wishing to gain experience and a percentage of the profits – internet access, photocopying, computer tuition & servicing, typing, graphic design.
- Consider offering the Community Precinct management and cleaning as a business opportunity with a percentage of profits as payment. Same principle could also apply to events.
- Through a partner Registered Training Organisation (RTO) provide accredited training relevant to businesses that could be conducted in and around the Community Precinct.
- Invite inspirational speakers to encourage locals to consider an entrepreneurial pathway.
- Conduct an Operation Next Gen entrepreneur after school program for secondary school students also linked to in-class activities with the primary school and community forums.
- Feature articles of current businesses and successful ideas from other communities in the Bridge Connection.

CASE STUDY: Operation Next Gen project



After moving from Melbourne to Cohuna Bek Sherlock approached the Gannawarra Shire about use of the old Cohuna Progress Hall. Deciding to follow a personal passion she started dance classes hoping for at least 30 students. A year later she had 110 students ranging from five to 80 years of age. With the increased usage the shire invested funds in the once dilapidated hall that is now a hive of activity most days of the week and hosts regular concerts.



Josh Pellegrino from near Wycheproof worked for some time in Swan Hill before realizing that there was a need for an auto electrical mechanic in his home region. Some renovations to one of the family farm sheds and a work ute enabled him to set up his own mobile business servicing machines within a 100 kilometre radius. Appreciative of having a young local person in business he has received much word of mouth marketing support from his customers and the business continues to grow and prosper.

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Because of Redesdale's unique location and role in servicing rural communities across four local government areas in a regional context, it is recommended to approach funding opportunities as a collaborative regional project. Support should be sought from local and regional organisations relevant to the application. Below are just a few suggestions.

Local Government

City of Greater Bendigo Community Grants Budget Submissions	<p>As Redesdale falls within the COGB boundaries it is the primary port of call for financial assistance and support as a key partner in funding submissions.</p> <p>There may be some scope for in-kind and financial support from surrounding shires for a project of regional significance.</p>	<p>Community Grants up to \$5,000</p> <p>Targeted budget submissions that clearly support economic and social benefit.</p>
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State Government

The Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund Opened 1 July 2015 http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/regional-jobs-and-infrastructure-fund	<p>RJIF is the Victorian Government's overarching regional development package. It will invest in growing jobs, building infrastructure and strengthening communities in regional Victoria.</p> <p>Regional Development Victoria (RDV) manages the RJIF's three programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) the Regional Jobs Fund (RJF) the Stronger Regional Communities Plan (SRCP). <p>There are ten program streams with public grant programs under the fund.</p> <p>The Government welcomes grant proposals from regional and rural local government authorities, government agencies, not-for-profits, community groups and businesses from July 1.</p> <p>Recommend discussing with partner LGA's and Regional Development Victoria to ensure eligibility and best approach.</p>	<p>Best alignment particularly with the following streams:</p> <p>Regional Infrastructure Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Productive and liveable cities & centres Rural Development Visitor Economy <p>Grants for infrastructure are capped at \$500,000 and grants for project and strategic planning are capped at \$50,000. Matched \$</p> <p>Stronger Regional Communities Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Capacity Building Population Attraction <p>Small grants of up to \$50,000</p>
ACFE Board Capacity & Innovation Fund Annual http://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/learnlocal/pages/acfeboardfund.aspx	<p>Provides opportunities for Learn Local organisations to develop and implement projects designed to meet learner needs and to increase participation and attainment in pre-accredited and accredited training programs.</p> <p>Opportunity for partnership with a neighbouring Learn Local organization.</p>	<p>A maximum of \$50,000 for a project run by individual Learn Local organisations.</p> <p>Grants of up to \$150,000 are available for consortiums of three or more Learn Local organisations.</p>

Natural Disaster Resilience Grants, Emergency Management Victoria Annual http://www.emv.vic.gov.au/our-work/current-projects/natural-disaster-resilience-grants-scheme/	Support to projects leading to strengthening community resilience to natural disasters consistent with State risk profiles, and providing support to emergency management volunteers. Needs to be linked to strategies in the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience (NSDR) adopted in 2011. Opportunity for partnership with CFA to provide improved staging ground and relief centre facilities (ie. ensuites and pavilion) and/or training programs at the Precinct.	Grants between \$10,000 and \$250,000 with matched funds required.
Youth / Education / Arts / Environment / Agriculture / Health / Sport / Emergency	Individual department funding opportunities can be explored in relation to targeted activities such as FREEZA youth events, Farmers Markets, Men's Sheds, or items of equipment relevant to department funding.	

Federal Government

National Stronger Regions Fund 2015 – 2016 with NSRF funded component of project to be completed by Dec 2019 http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/NSRF/	Local government and incorporated not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply. NSRF funding will be provided for capital projects which involve the construction of new infrastructure, or the upgrade or an extension of existing infrastructure. The project must deliver an economic benefit to the region beyond the period of construction. Projects should support disadvantaged regions or areas of disadvantage within a region.	Grants must be between \$20,000 and \$10 million. Grant funding must be matched in cash on at least a dollar for dollar basis with partner funding confirmed at the time of application.
Education / Arts Environment / Agric Health / Sports etc	Individual department funding opportunities can be explored in relation to targeted activities or items of equipment relevant to department funding.	

Philanthropic

FRRR ANZ Seeds of Renewal Program Annual http://www.frrr.org.au/grants/ANZ-seeds-of-renewal	For the last few years, the program has focused specifically on enhancing education and employment opportunities in rural, regional and remote areas, with preference given to projects that benefit communities with a population of fewer than 15,000 people.	Grants of up to \$10,000
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FRRR Small Grants for Rural Communities Closes March and September annually http://www.frrr.org.au/grants/small-grants-for-rural-communities-round27	Projects and activities that offer clear public benefit for communities in rural, regional or remote Australia. Priority is given to communities of 10,000 or fewer. Applicants must be not-for-profit community organisations with an ABN or incorporation certificate.	Grants of up to \$5,000 Suited to small discrete items of equipment (not fixtures) for the Hall or Reserve.
FRRR Caring for Ageing Rural Australians (CARA) Annual http://www.frrr.org.au/grants/cara	A targeted small grant program, designed to support projects and activities that benefit and support older people living in small rural and remote communities.	Grants up to \$10,000
Sidney Myer Fund & The Myer Foundation Applications open at any time. http://myerfoundation.org.au/grants/	Poverty and Disadvantage Stream - Innovative projects to address underlying problems that give rise to poverty and disadvantage, and to find ways to strengthen systems, services, communities and individuals to prevent poverty and to reduce disadvantage for those who are most at risk.	Small grants up to \$50,000 Larger grants by invitation only.
Helen MacPherson Smith Trust Annual grant rounds http://hmstrust.org.au/	Aimed at strengthening the capacity, resilience and potential of communities in rural and regional Victoria. Applicable funding programs to apply for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & Vocation • Health Advancement • Culture & Heritage 	Community One off grants up to \$30,000 Community Multi-year grants up to \$90,000 Social Impact Multi-year grants up to \$200,000
Perpetual Trustees Annual grant rounds http://www.perpetual.com.au/philanthropy-funding-opportunities.aspx	Will fund a wide range of well-researched projects aimed at capacity building. Seeks strong evidence of strategic approach and organizational capacity and leadership.	\$10,000 to \$100,000
R.E. Ross Trust Apply at any time. http://www.rosstrust.org.au/grants/granting/	The Trust will consider applications for the following purposes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific activities, services, projects and programs • Building and strengthening organisational capacity and general operations. 	One-off grants up to \$10,000 Multi-year up to \$90,000
Caravan and Motor Home Club of Australia http://www.cmca.net.au/	Grants available for RV Friendly Towns to help install public dump points.	One off grants. Recommend discussion with Buloke Shire who have installed at Donald & Charlton

FEASIBILITY STUDY TIMELINE & METHODOLOGY

Our project methodology for this Feasibility Study was based on the “IAP2 public participation spectrum” which aims to inform, consult, involve, collaborate and empower the community as part of the community engagement process to ensure that our final project report reflects the needs and interests of the Redesdale Community now and into the future. It is acknowledged that the community consultation process had already been undertaken prior to the commencement of this project and an assumption was made that the outcomes reported were inclusive and representative of the majority of the community.

2015	PROPOSED METHODOLOGY & TIMELINE	OUTCOMES
FEBRUARY	TERMS OF REFERENCE Establishment of Key Community Advisers (KCA) First meeting conducted and methodology agreed to Communication materials prepared for stakeholders as agreed to by KCA and COGB	COGB advised members KCA meeting held 27/01/15 COGB media release 12/01/15
MARCH	BACKGROUND RESEARCH & ANALYSIS Onsite familiarization tour conducted Review of documentation including Community Plan and other recent community engagement data Analysis of demographics, existing facilities and services and identification of potential gaps	27/01/15 Provided by COGB and RaDA Committee Completed
APRIL	STAKE HOLDER ENGAGEMENT Stakeholder interviews Potential Stakeholder interviews Second meeting conducted with Key Community Representatives Communication materials prepared for stakeholders under instruction of KCA and COGB	4/05/15 met with local businesses, school, youth and reserve + hall committee reps. Discussions with Medicare Local KCR meeting held 11/05/15 Project Update distributed via KCR 18/05/15
MAY	DESIGN AND COSTINGS Design and cost recommended options in conjunction with Architects	Undertaken in July with approval of COGB.
JUNE	REPORTING Draft report writing Presentation of draft to Key Community Representatives for comment Final report prepared for submission to KCR and COGB Communications materials prepared for stakeholders under instruction of KCA and COGB	Meeting scheduled for 13/07/15 at request of KCR and with agreement of COGB. To be prepared following meeting on 13/07/15
JULY	Report finalized and submitted.	20 July, 2015

Consultations undertaken:

As extensive consultation had already been undertaken as part of the Community Plan Review in 2013 and 2014, these materials were taken into account as part of this Feasibility Study.

Individual conversations were also undertaken with the following organization representatives.

City of Greater Bendigo	Glynn Jarrett (Senior Community Development Officer) Andrew Plant (Community Development Officer) Sam Cozens (Environmental Health Officer)
Department of Environment, Land, Water & Primary Industries (DELWP)	Ian Lelliott, Property Officer, Land, Planning and Approvals NB: Future liaison to be with Simone McPherson, Senior Property Officer at the Epson Office
Redesdale and District Association (RaDA)	Kathryn Hall (Secretary) Key Community Adviser (KCA) Ron Taylor (Assets Manager)
Redesdale Hall Committee	Carolyn-Anne Boyd (Secretary) KCA Gloria Pocock (Treasurer) KCA
Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee	Yvonne McGrath (KCA / Committee) Rod Gibson (Committee) Les Pocock (Chair)
Country Fire Authority	Don White (Redesdale) KCA David Cleater (Eppalock Group Officer)
Redesdale Primary Industries	Andrew Campbell (local farmer) KCA Peter & Suzanne Williams (Redesdale Estate)
Redesdale— Business	Shane & Liz McGrath (Rural Café) Ray Ellis (Professional Artist / Retailer) Paul Dettmann (Barfold Property Development) Jessica McGrath (potential fitness class at the Hall)
Community Adult Education	Mary Hogarth (Kyneton Community & Learning Centre) Shandel Keele (Echuca Neighbourhood House) David Perry (RANCH)
Youth	Joseph Sebire (Principal, Redesdale Primary School) Callum Jones (Yr 12 Kyneton Secondary College student)
Health	Aida Escall (Murray Plains Health Network – formerly Loddon Mallee Murray Medicare Local) Margaret McDonald (Cobaw Community Health) Judy Gatacre (Moulamein Community Health Centre)
Case Studies	Kate Redfearn (Wakool Shire) Garry Lamour & Phil Brock (Charlton Traveller's Rest) Nick Massie (Newham Community Hall)
Research, Planning & Design	Caitlin Matthews (Qualified Town Planner) Richard Blake & Terry Mitton (E-Architecture)
Telecommunications	Margaret O'Rourke (iLoddon Mallee) Adam Murdoch (Bendigo Community Telco)
Funding	Peter Forbes (Regional Development Victoria)
North Central Rural Financial Counselling Service (NCRFC)	Clare de Kok, Executive Officer, North Central

In particular CLLM Inc would like to pay tribute to the Key Community Advisers (KCA) noted above who proved invaluable as part of this process.



For further information about this Feasibility Study please contact:

COMMUNITY:

- Carolyn Boyd, Redesdale Hall Committee
- Andrew Campbell, Community Member
- Kathy Hall, Redesdale and District Association
- Yvonne McGrath, Redesdale Recreation Reserve Committee
- Gloria Pocock, Redesdale Hall Committee
- Don White, Redesdale CFA

CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO:

Andrew Plant, Community Development Officer,
Mob: 0407 179 898 or Email: a.plant@Bendigo.vic.gov.au