STRATEGIC PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE

Meeting to be held in the Committee Room, Level Four of Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, on Wednesday, 22nd July, 2015 at 12.00 p.m.

AGENDA

PRESENT: Cr F Morello (Presiding Member)
Mayor A Lee, M Lovett and Cr P Richardson

APOLOGIES: Cr S Perryman

COUNCIL OFFICERS: Chief Executive Officer, Mark McShane
Manager Strategic Projects, Tracy Tzioutziouklaris

COUNCIL MEMBERS AS OBSERVERS:

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.

MINUTES: moved that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Friday 8th May, 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.

seconded

QUESTIONS:

(a) With Notice - nil submitted

(b) Without Notice –

1. MEMBERS WORKSHOPS – Strategic Planning – Ref. AF15/83

(a) Two workshops for Members on Strategic Planning have been held on:

(i) Tuesday, 5th May, 2015 Workshop discussed the role and process of Strategic Planning.
Facilitated by Council Officers.

(ii) Wednesday, 24th June, 2015 Workshop provided an overview and summary of the Futures Paper and the incorporation of this framework into Council’s new Strategic Plan. Including a focus about the future of regional cities.
Facilitated by Emeritus Professor John Martin.

(b) Now is an opportune time for a debriefing discussion regarding these workshops.

moved it be recommended that the report be received.

seconded
The Manager Business and Strategic Planning reported:

(a) At the Members Workshop held on Wednesday, 24th June, 2015, Members identified Key Strategies from the Futures Paper that were considered important. Those Key Strategies will form the base for the drafting of Council's new Strategic Plan.

(b) The identified Key Strategies are documented in Attachment 1.

(c) It is recommended that Council aim for a maximum of 5 Key Strategies for each goal as identified within the Futures Paper. Members also need to remember that the Futures Paper was developed with a time frame of approximately four years. Not all of the Key Strategies identified within the Futures Paper will be able to be achieved over a four year period.

(d) It is also recommended that a minimum of one Key Strategy for each goal incorporates key legislative activities undertaken within Council’s administration so as to ensure the Strategic Plan is a meaningful document that can be administered.

moved it be recommended:

(a) The report be received.

(b) All Members be requested to identify those Key Strategies that they wish to pursue and those which they are happy to reconsider.

(c) The draft Strategic Plan continue to be refined and developed in consultation with Council Members and Council Officers.

seconded

MOTIONS WITH NOTICE - Nil

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE
CITY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Committee Room, Level Four of Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, on Friday, 8th May, 2015 at 1.00 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:  Cr F Morello (Presiding Member)
           Mayor A Lee, and M Lovett

APOLOGIES:  Cr P Richardson

NOT IN ATTENDANCE:  Cr S Perryman

COUNCIL OFFICERS:  Chief Executive Officer, Mark McShane
                     Manager Strategic Projects, Tracy Tzioutziouklaris

COUNCIL MEMBERS

AS OBSERVERS:

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.

MINUTES:  Mayor Lee moved that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on Friday 20th March, 2015 be taken as read and confirmed.

Cr Morello seconded.  Carried

QUESTIONS:

(a)  With Notice - nil submitted

(b)  Without Notice – nil submitted

1.  GOVERNANCE – Committees – Sub Committee Title and Terms of Reference – Ref AF13/486

The Manager Strategic Projects reported:

(a)  The Terms of Reference for the City Development Framework Sub – Committee were discussed and updated at the meeting held on 20th February, 2015. A copy of the updated Terms of Reference is attached to this agenda for Members perusal.

(b)  The Sub-Committee is created for the express purpose of:

   1  To oversee and facilitate the review of the Strategic Plan which is to be consistent with the City Development Framework.

   2  To monitor and evaluate the implementation of Mount Gambier: A Futures Paper for City Development.

(c)  The current name of the Sub Committee is the City Development Framework Sub Committee. To better reflect the objectives of the sub committee Members may wish to give further consideration as to the name of the sub-committee.
Cr Morello moved it be recommended:

(a) The report be received.

(b) The name of the sub-committee be amended to ‘Strategic Planning Sub-Committee’ so as to better reflect the activities of the Sub Committee.

Mayor Lee seconded.  Carried

2.  CITY DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – Hierarchy of the Strategic Planning Structure
Ref. AF13/486 – Attachments – Strategic Planning Structure of Council, The Futures Paper, The Strategic Management Plan – Beyond 2015, the Corporate Plan and example Quarterly KPI Report

The Manager Strategic Projects reported:

(a) A Council Member's Workshop comprising of two sessions have been scheduled to:

(i) assist Members to understand the role and process of Strategic Planning within an organisation.

(ii) provide an overview and summary of the development of the Futures Paper as Council's long term strategic plan and the incorporation of this framework into Council's new strategic plan.

(b) Two workshops have been scheduled which include:

(i) Tuesday 5th May, 2015 Workshop to discuss the role and process of Strategic Planning and facilitated by Council Officers.

(ii) Wednesday 24th June, 2015 Workshop providing an overview and summary of the development of the Futures paper and the incorporation of this framework into Council's new Strategic Plan. Including a focus about the future of regional cities.

To be facilitated by Emeritus Professor John Martin.

(c) The first of the workshops have been held. A debriefing of this workshop will be discussed at this meeting.

Cr Morello moved it be recommended:

(a) the report be received.

(b) A debriefing of the Members Workshop was discussed.

Mayor Lee seconded.  Carried

3.  REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN – Work Plan, Ref 13/486

The Manager – Strategic Projects reported:
(a) A work plan and basic time table has been developed to outline the process for undertaking the review of the Strategic Plan. A copy of this work plan is attached to the agenda for Members perusal and information.

(b) It is now considered imperative that Council commence the review of the Strategic Plan as it establishes and sets out the key goals, objectives and direction Council identifies it wishes to achieve for the next four years, including the remainder of the current Council term.

(c) The work plan identifies key steps and processes that will need to be undertaken and an approximate time frame.

Cr Lovett moved it be recommended:

(a) The report be received.

(b) The Work Plan for the Strategic Plan be received and endorsed.

Mayor Lee seconded. Carried

4. REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN, Ref AF13/486

The Manager Strategic Projects reported:

(a) Members have previously been provided with copies of documents that form the hierarchy of the Strategic Planning Structure. These documents include the:

   (i) The Futures Paper
   (ii) The Strategic Plan – Beyond 2015
   (iii) The Long Term Financial Plan
   (iv) Asset Management Plan
   (v) Annual Budget
   (vi) Corporate Plan
   (vii) Business Unit Plan

The Regional Health Plan which is also currently being prepared will also be included within Council’s Strategic Planning hierarchy.

(b) It is emphasised that the Futures Paper is Council’s key strategic document and provides a long term vision for the growth and development of the City of Mount Gambier. The Futures Paper has been development based on the input received as part of the community consultation process.

(c) Members are requested to read and familiarise themselves with what is contained within the Futures Paper and what is important to the community. As Council has determined to begin preparations to review the Strategic Plan Members are requested to start identifying issues within the Futures Paper that they would like to achieve/focus on over the rest of the current term of Council. It is envisaged that these issues will form a starting point for further discussions.

Cr Morello moved it be recommended:

(a) The report be received.
(b) All Members be requested to identify those areas of interest within the Futures Paper that they would like to further consider as part of the review of the Strategic Plan.

Cr Lovett seconded. Carried

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT GROWING REGIONAL AUSTRALIA, Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, landmark national report, Ref. 13/125

The Manager Strategic Projects reported:

(a) The Local Government Growing Regional Australia report examines and identifies the factors contributing to strong sustainable regional capitals and regions.

(b) The report finds that a new way of thinking about regional economic development focuses on tapping under-utilised potential in all regions to enhance competitiveness.

(c) A copy of the report including case studies is attached for Members Information.

Cr Morello moved it be recommended the report be received and the contents noted.

Cr Lovett seconded. Carried

MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

The meeting closed at 1.25p.m.
City of Mount Gambier
Draft Strategic Plan

Version 1: 9th July, 2015

1. Developing and Supporting Our People

1.1 Health, Wellbeing & Happiness

Key Strategy: Ensure health, wellbeing and happiness with a focus on actions that involve citizens, engaging the broad range of stakeholders with a focus on the physical and mental wellbeing of the community.

1.2 Being Part of the Community and Helping Others

Key Strategy: Create opportunities for all citizens to be involved in community life such that they both contribute to and benefit from such involvement.

1.4 Financially Secure Employment

Key Strategy: As a city adopt a regionally reviewed focus to expand and diversify the economy, promote employment opportunities and forge closer links between education providers and industry to develop and ensure a well-equipped workforce.

1.5 Connectedness

Key Strategy: Keep people connected, both physically and emotionally, through volunteering and the myriad of sporting, interest and other groups around the city.

1.6 Desirable/Sustainable Place

Key Strategy: Strive to make Mount Gambier a sustainable place in which all citizens are proud to call home.

1.7 Education

Key Strategy: Make Life-long education and training a primary function in this community.

1.8 Helping/Caring

Key Strategy: Recognise the basic human need to be affiliated and part of a community both as a helper and a recipient of community.
2. Building on the Advantages of Our Location

2.1 Health

Key Strategy: To lobby for appropriate health services to be delivered in Mount Gambier and when it is necessary to travel to Adelaide to ensure different travel options that meet the needs and capabilities of patients.

2.3 Quality of Life

Key Strategy: Emphasise work/life balance in the choices we make as individuals and employers.

2.4 Access to Facilities & Services

Key Strategy: Continue to make Mount Gambier a great place to live and work through providing and advocating for appropriate services and facilities.

2.7 Connectedness

Key Strategy: Create opportunities for people from across our diverse community to meet, work and socialise together. Explore new ways of enabling people to move within the city and between adjacent regional centres.

2.8 Health Services

Key Strategy: Make living in Mount Gambier an advantage when it comes to accessing health services.

2.9 Assets/Sports Facilities

Key Strategy: Make Mount Gambier a destination for travellers, not just a place that they pass through.
3. Sustaining Our Diverse Economy

3.1 Sustainable Diverse Economy

Key Strategy: The individual and collective business focus should be on value adding and diversifying the regional economy.

3.2 Employment

Key Strategy: Think 'outside the box' in creating employment opportunities for all members of the community.

3.3 Lifestyle/Job Satisfaction

Key Strategy: When recruiting people to work in Mount Gambier make the link between having a good job and living in a family friendly city with high quality facilities and services.

3.4 Education and Career Opportunities

Key Strategy: As part of employment strategies across the city inform new employees of the wide range of educational programs and professional development opportunities available.

3.6 Sense of Community

Key Strategy: Use community gatherings, whether they be business, sport, cultural or annual events to acknowledge the strength of community that is Mount Gambier and discuss ways the sense of community can be strengthened for all.

3.7 Youth

Key Strategy: Develop community wide programs that support our youth as they transition to adulthood.

3.8 Partnerships

Key Strategy: Develop partnerships that are focussed on realising community aspirations related to building a prosperous and resilient Mount Gambier.

3.9 Education/Training

Key Strategy: Develop and maintain a community-wide discussion that directly links secondary and tertiary education and training to current and developing business labour needs.
4. Our Climate, Natural Resources and Heritage

4.1 Sustainable Lifestyle

Key Strategy: Across the city and region champion sustainability as a goal in all of our endeavours.

4.2 Cultural, History and Heritage

Key Strategy: Encourage cultural awareness, past, present and future.

4.3 Social Awareness and Inclusion

Key Strategy: Build social awareness and inclusion in society, business and cultural activities across the city.

4.6 Social Inclusion

Key Strategy: Work to include others in all aspects of community life.

4.7 Community Pride

Key Strategy: Generate pride in our environment, culture and heritage by actively learning about and promoting it within and beyond our city.

4.9 Community Participation

Key Strategy: Based on our natural assets (the lakes) and our built environment (sporting and cultural facilities) make active living opportunities as widely available as possible.

4.10 Local production and Consumption

Key Strategy: Work to find ways in which local produce can also be made available through the local economy.
1. Developing and Supporting Our People

1.1 Health, Wellbeing & Happiness

Key Strategy: Ensure health, wellbeing and happiness with a focus on actions that involve citizens, engaging the broad range of stakeholders with a focus on the physical and mental well being of the community.

Example actions: Continue to demonstrate to State and Federal Governments the benefits of local provision of health services (facilities, specialist services, local care and rehabilitation)

Provide helpful information on where to obtain access to people for advice on health, education, doctors and hospital services

Hold regular information sessions on aspects of health and well being (including mental health and healthy living focussed on prevention)

Create volunteer opportunities that are focussed and coordinated around community projects that involve members of the community and service clubs

Encourage state government departments to connect with their respective communities, especially clients

Continue support for Foodbank and Meals on wheels type programs

Help keep families together with family orientated events

Bring the generations together with programs like 'surrogate grand parenting' by retirees for young families

Aim for aging in one's own home as a community goal

1.2 Being Part of the Community and Helping Others

Key Strategy: Create opportunities for all citizens to be involved in community life such that they both contribute to and benefit from such involvement.

Example Actions: Through services (such as the Library) bringing people together, from new mothers and their babies to senior citizens

Encourage street parties and other events that bring people together so they get to know their neighbours

Facilitate community and business organisations working together helping youth with school, transition to work and the development of health living strategies
Create places for young people to feel welcomed where they can express their creative talents

1.4 Financially Secure Employment

Key Strategy: As a city adopt a regionally reviewed focus to expand and diversify the economy, promote employment opportunities and forge closer links between education providers and industry to develop and ensure a well-equipped workforce.

Example Actions: Highlight and award ‘best practice’ employers across the community

Encourage online micro-businesses to develop through local training and development programs

Establish a career development centre that enables people at all stages of their life to consider local career opportunities

Encourage and support the timber industry to take a bigger role in development

1.5 Connectedness

Key Strategy: Keep people connected, both physically and emotionally, through volunteering and the myriad of sporting, interest and other groups around the city.

Example Actions: Encourage a wide range of opportunities for older citizens to volunteer across the community

Advocating and planning for public transport across the city and region

Providing walking and cycling access across the city and the region

Provide support caring for family members experiencing difficult times in their lives

Become a more active community creating visual safety in our streets and parks

Encourage more community involvement in events and volunteering

Council continues to support volunteer expo to create awareness, drum up numbers and celebrate (biennially)

Work with the Police for more community consultation (their work is good but the community needs to work with them to make it more effective)
Become involved in a productive way – be service to oneself and others

Make national celebrations (Australia Day, Queen's Birthday weekend) days to welcome new arrivals

Welcome new refugees, communities, families to Mount Gambier with particular emphasis on non-English speaking groups

Schools and unis to provide adult education (English language) as part of learning about Australian Culture

Hold an annual multicultural dinner

Ask local families to be a 'buddy family' for new arrivals

Careers development centre (individuals, schools, organisation, industry, council, government)

Run an annual friendship/inclusion expo including a lunch/dinner to introduce new arrivals to the myriad of clubs/activities available

Take part in a variety of different development programs (YMCA SA, YP Taskforce)

Promote our city's cultural diversity through mainstream activities (eg media work, sport, business, service clubs)

When properties sold real estate agents provide a 'welcome pack' to new owners

Develop a volunteer welcome program for new arrivals where a volunteer is tasked to be a mentor to make introductions to clubs and community organisations.

1.6 Desirable/Sustainable Place

Key Strategy: Strive to make Mount Gambier a sustainable place in which all citizens are proud to call home.

Example Actions: Develop a community-wide push for excellence in public education

Encourage employers to be to open opportunities to people from different cultural backgrounds

Create opportunities for young people to celebrate cultural and civic life

Invite different communities to participate in various groups activities
Include work experience for students of different cultures

Adopt 'place-making' principles in the development of housing strategies for all

Facilitate community mentors through gardening and men's shed type activities

Hold 'community stakeholder forums' across the city so residents can engage with service providers about how best this is done

1.7 Education

Key Strategy

Make Life-long education and training a primary function in this community

Example Actions

Facilitate and promote learning (formal/informal) opportunities throughout life

Develop school to work integration programs

Develop a community-wide program to ensure a greater year 12 completion rate

Use the coming high speed Internet capabilities via the University of South Australia to facilitate the building of state of the art facilities

Celebrate the opportunities and achievements of tertiary students studying and working in Mount Gambier

Develop a 'whole of community' response via a Lifelong Learning Committee

University South Australia student accommodation to attract students from out of the region/international students

Within the secondary schools a closer relationship with the advising group for employment and further education

Encourage a culture of home based billeting of students coming to Mount Gambier for tertiary education

Create an education and research hub in the region that recognises, for example forestry, Mediterranean style agriculture and renewable energy

1.8 Helping/Caring

Key Strategy: Recognise the basic human need to be
affiliated and part of a community both as a helper and a recipient of community care.

Example Actions: Local clubs follow up with participants on their success with inclusive programs
Sponsor youth development through sport
Encourage young adults to run for leadership positions across the community
Develop a central hub for young people to run programs in the arts; music, theatre and dance

2. Building on the Advantages of Our Location

2.1 Health

Key Strategy: To lobby for appropriate health services to be delivered in Mount Gambier and when it is necessary to travel to Adelaide to ensure different travel options that meet the needs and capabilities of patients.

Example Actions: Local governments and the State Government and hospitals attracting medical professionals to the region
Be open to the use of ICT to allow remote diagnosis and specialist treatment
Determine 'attractors' to encourage medical professionals to the region
Create a social calendar web site (based on Council's monthly What's On calendar)
Council to facilitate welcome groups (such as the Young Professionals Network)

2.3 Quality of Life

Key Strategy: Emphasise work/life balance in the choices we make as individuals and employers.

Example Actions: Continue to develop world class sporting facilities
Work with local artists to promote/develop arts and cultural events
Promote the positives in our community
Develop education tourism resources that can be included in local education curriculum to encourage connection to place
Use our diverse local talent to create cultural events

Annually, appoint ambassadors and mentors for the City

Invite young adults who left Mount Gambier for study and work to return to speak to school children about their city and life beyond Mount Gambier

Build on the inclusive programs of the City Library

2.4 Access to Facilities & Services

Key Strategy: Continue to make Mount Gambier a great place to live and work through providing and advocating for appropriate services and facilities.

Example Actions:
- Support learning groups for adults caring for children at home (stay at home parents)
- Social groups/lectures to explore the environment
- Support people to live in their own homes longer
- Work together to provide a year-round heated swimming/therapy pool
- Support Housing SA’s ‘Connecting People to Place’ program
- Develop affordable student accommodation for weekly and semester bookings
- Encourage retailers to be open when major events are on
- Community to lobby politicians at all levels of government to lock-in service levels [maintain existing service levels]
- Provide discount vouchers for people travelling through the region (available from the Lady Nelson as well as information centres in adjacent regions)

2.7 Connectedness

Key Strategy: Create opportunities for people from across our diverse community to meet, work and socialise together. Explore new ways of enabling people to move within the city and between adjacent regions’ centres.

Example Actions:
- Create a sense of place for neighbourhoods and the city as a whole
- Support service clubs working with the schools to promote volunteering for community service
- Encourage Men’s Sheds to collaborate with young people to create small scale infrastructure for youth
Invite young people to join service clubs
Investigate alternative transport options for exports: upgrade airport and express rail [Portland and/or Adelaide]
Support friendly walking and cycling facilities and opportunities (getting to and from school, places to enjoy and exercise in)
Organise more accessible community transfers for youth to get to different locations, appointments and work commitments

2.8 Health Services
Key Strategy: Make living in Mount Gambier an advantage when it comes to accessing health services.
Example Actions: Using high speed Internet for diagnostic services
Obtain diagnostic and rehabilitation equipment so people do not have to travel away for treatment (MRI machine and hydrotherapy pool)
Encourage preventive health strategies through whole community use of sporting and recreation facilities

2.9 Assets/Sports Facilities
Key Strategy: Make Mount Gambier a destination for travellers, not just a place that they pass through.
Example Actions: Promotion of our parks and open spaces [and playgrounds]
Encourage shared use of facilities between clubs
Create active transport [walking and cycling]
Establish a local tourism development board
Utilise local building products in housing development
Provide facilities in new parks (Railway lands) to enable opportunities for community events
Install free dump point in public [accessible] location [for caravanners travelling through who are not stopping overnight but who want to stop for a few hours]
Develop backpacker accommodation in Mount Gambier

3. Sustaining Our Diverse Economy
3.1 Sustainable Diverse Economy
Key Strategy: The individual and collective business focus should be on value adding and diversifying the regional economy.

Example Actions

Collaboration and innovation in the region: businesses overcoming what is inhibiting growth and profitability, being adaptable to develop their business and value add

Council and the Chamber of Commerce meeting quarterly to consider strategies in this Futures Paper

"The Chamber of Commerce support Business Angels (retired business people) who mentor new business start-ups in Mount Gambier"

An annual multi-cultural festival celebrating connections with other parts of the world

Work together to find ways to fund local innovation and entrepreneurial opportunities through the NBN in Mount Gambier

Create a microeconomy based on a community-based renewable energy investment fund

After release of the Futures Paper form focus groups to work on implementing strategies

Improve community understanding of changes impacting our local economy

Chamber of Commerce to lobby government to reduce red tape

Develop a welcome package to reduce red tape for new businesses

New migrants fluent in English be asked to act as community volunteers to teach conversational English in Mount Gambier

Ensure equal treatment of new arrivals: who want to work but feel they are not receiving opportunity to do so

Create training opportunities for new migrants

Help local businesses connect with events/conferences/tourism by advertising and showcasing local produce

3.2 Employment

Key Strategy: Think ‘outside the box’ in creating employment opportunities for all members of the community

Example Actions

Empower a designated person to lobby local business for job opportunities

Offer time-limited volunteer work placements that translate into work experience on a resume
Provide retraining for the older worker

Create mentoring of young people by retirees

Make a combined effort across the community for more culturally relevant support system by government agencies

Create local training opportunities for young adults coming to study in our city

Provide assistance in finding work placements

Design transition arrangements for young people who lose jobs when they turn 18

Create community wide effort to keep young people here through employment opportunities

3.3 Lifestyle/Job Satisfaction

Key Strategy: When recruiting people to work in Mount Gambier make the link between having a good job and living in a family friendly city with high quality facilities and services.

Example Actions: When advertising job opportunities also include information on the facilities and services in Mount Gambier

Recognise the untapped potential of different skills set, unused resources

Build competence across the community with Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) opportunities

Create a museum or historical hub to be managed by volunteers with a background and interest in local history

Council and local members of parliament lobby for citizenship tests to be administered in Mount Gambier

Create opportunities for new migrants to purchase staple foods not readily available

3.4 Education and Career Opportunities

Key Strategy: As part of employment strategies across the city inform new employees of the wide range of educational programs and professional development opportunities available.

Example Actions: Change employment conditions so that when young people reach 18 they can continue to work

Establish an allied health clinic where students can provide basic health assessments
Facilitate online education and training and professional development

3.6 Sense of Community

Key Strategy: Use community gatherings, whether they be business, sport, cultural or annual events to acknowledge the strength of community that is Mount Gambier and discuss ways the sense of community can be strengthened for all.

Example Actions: Welcome new comers: create events and localities that can host communities

Create a renewed interest in community service groups

Create opportunities to access local food and to utilise community markets

Look at how the community can improve it image after the release of this Futures Paper

Raise awareness of tertiary education opportunities

Chamber of Commerce to develop strategies for assisting business growth: retailing on line, better service, joint marketing, events and markets

Have business leaders provide career talks at schools to expose students to work opportunities

Council and market operators initiate periodic (monthly) city-centre pop-up markets

Develop a regional brand for local products that emphasis our clean, green, sustainable advantages

Mayor initiates and chairs a business leaders’ round table, ‘Geelong 21’ model to get assistance of business community

3.7 Youth

Key Strategy: Develop community wide programs that support our youth as they transition to adulthood.

Example Actions: State and Local Government, community groups and families work together to keep youth busy with creative activities

Create life-long learning programs: accelerate current initiatives

Actively support the Blue Lake Partnership to bring school learning and community together

Work with University of South Australia and other providers as they market courses locally
Designate a 'graffiti canvas' area and encourage youth to display their artistic skills

Develop community-funded scholarships to enable students to study locally

Provide incentives for businesses to employ apprentices to address skill shortages

Remove over regulation of business to allow/courage youth employment

3.8 Partnerships

Key Strategy: Develop partnerships that are focussed on realising community aspirations related to building a prosperous and resilient Mount Gambier.

Example Actions: Lobby governments to enable regional joint ventures such that small, regional based companies can work together to tender for larger projects

Embrace new migrants recognising their skills by providing practical skill tests for them

Connect regional development agencies with new migrants to help find employment

Encourage industry collaboration within the region; ie RDA, Industry SA, industry associations state and national as well as tertiary education providers

Start a 'best practice collective', sharing common learnings (eg ICT), supporting industry collaboration

Focus on and develop an innovation skills programs (eg Southern Cross University 'forest works')

3.9 Education/Training

Key Strategy: Develop and maintain a community-wide discussion that directly links secondary and tertiary education and training to current and developing business labour needs.

Example Actions: Having local courses available directly linked to employment outcomes

Train locally so our youth avoid having to go the capital cities for this service

Work with educators such that young people are tuned into the needs of the local economy
Businesses engage with schools to give insight into business careers
4. Our Climate, Natural Resources and Heritage

4.1 Sustainable Lifestyle

Key Strategy: Across the city and region champion sustainability as a goal in all of our endeavours.

Example Actions: Share information and collaborate, on research opportunities on sustainability by all levels of government and business.

Provide education through schools and at home on preserving natural resources and the sustainable use of resources.

Be more self sufficient growing vegies, fruit, use of rainwater, and solar energy.

Be less reliance on city-centred solutions.

Encourage and celebrate community gardens.

Find creative solutions to local and public transport (active: walking and cycling, and passive: buses, taxis and car pooling).

Continue to enhance the urban amenity in the City that reflects both formal and informal open space areas for people of all ages.

Educate and assist local businesses to operate more sustainably water and energy conservation that assists their bottom line.

Strive for environmental sustainability across all areas of services by Council progressively over a two-year period.

4.2 Cultural, History and Heritage

Key Strategy: Encourage cultural awareness, past, present and future.

Example Actions: Collaborate, record and preserve information held by Local Government, Community Groups, Schools, State and Federal Governments, Heritage/History Groups, Film/Graphic and Arts Groups on our Indigenous and European cultural history through video, audio and written material.

Make this information available through an iconic cultural centre for SE South Australia in Mount Gambier.

Build annual events to celebrate national cultural icons (Sir Robert Helpmann).

Improve awareness of Boandik history and culture.

Showcase sites which have evident culture, publicising these areas more.

Continue to assist with educational opportunities, learn from the past, engage with the present and enthuse young people for the future.
Local Government continue to protect/preserve heritage buildings/community groups, events etc. (buildings through Development Plan, community groups/events through funding/sponsorship etc)

Provide regular updates on websites of information regarding the cultural opportunities the city has to offer

Learn from Indigenous Australians how to utilise native flora and fauna

Hold annual cultural events

4.3 Social Awareness and Inclusion

Key Strategy: Build social awareness and inclusion in society, business and cultural activities across the city.

Example Actions: Promote healthy living with friends and family as part of our high quality of life

Be an active participant in local cultural groups (Eisteddford, Riddoch Gallery)

Engage and self educate to encourage more regional sharing of knowledge, be proud of our characters and celebrate their contribution

Encourage integration of new migrants, from overseas and other parts of Australia

Become more aware of the social background of the community in which I live

Conduct research into the issue of our ageing community

4.6 Social Inclusion

Key Strategy: Work to include others in all aspects of community life.

Example Actions: Provide welcome packs for new arrivals

Encourage citizens to be a 'local host' for new arrivals in their first twelve months

Celebrate and join in on indigenous activities such as Closing the Gap day at Pangula Mannumina

Build bridges between different community groups and demographics through cultural events (dinners, dances and children's theatre)

4.7 Community Pride
Key Strategy: Generate pride in our environment, culture and heritage by actively learning about and promoting it within and beyond our city.

Example Actions: Market our clean green, sustainable credentials

Establish local sustainability goals and work towards achieving them together (eg Transition Towns)

Market the urban rural character of our city

4.9 Community Participation

Key Strategy: Based on our natural assets (the lakes) and our built environment (sporting and cultural facilities) make active living opportunities as widely available as possible.

Example Actions: Create and support annual events (Lakes run, "I can jump puddles") that encourage participation

Build contemporary tourist attractions (zip line in Valley Lake) with associated retail outlets (café)

4.10 Local production and Consumption

Key Strategy: Work to find ways in which local produce can also be made available through the local economy.

Example Actions: Establish a monthly farmers market local farmers selling their produce

Champion seasonal produce available locally

Educate and inform about the concept of food miles

Investigate report over time local production and consumption of water, food, energy

Encourage the sourcing of local suppliers and encourage sales through our retail stores

Establish "The Mount Gambier Centre for Innovation in Sustainable Living" with the mission to strengthen community understanding and knowledge of climate, natural resources and heritage

Offer tertiary courses locally which focus on sustainable production and conservation of natural resources, culture and heritage