



MARONG & DISTRICTS

COMMUNITY PLAN 2018-2022



CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO

INTRODUCTION

This Marong and Districts Community Plan 2018-2022 was prepared by the Marong Community Action Group (MCAG). This is the fourth community plan for Marong developed by MCAG. The plan incorporates the opinions and preferences of a wide range of local people who live in Marong and the surrounding districts, including Leichardt and Wilsons Hill.

The plan is the base for our advocacy for the future. It sets out the things that are important for the future of our community, and what we will be working to achieve over the forthcoming years. We will use evidence to make good decisions and influence local decision-making positively.

Marong is growing rapidly and the profile of our community is changing, reflecting a higher than average proportion of young families in Marong. We welcome and encourage the participation of all residents in the Community Action Group and we must work together to ensure Marong becomes a vibrant community where people of all diverse backgrounds and interests can access the services and activities they need to live fulfilled lives.

We would welcome the involvement of you, your family members or your community groups in any of the activities or projects outlined in this plan.

ACTION PLAN

Theme	Action
1. Value and protect the natural environment and setting	Ensure entrances into Marong are welcoming and attractive
	Beautify streetscapes in the business areas, including High Street North in partnership with relevant agencies
	Establish a Bullock Creek Linear Park working group and commence actions, including forming partnerships and advocacy for funding
	Improve the Bullock Creek streamside condition through action by local volunteers and community groups working together
2. Maintain and enhance the liveability of Marong	Advocate to retain the rural character of Marong
	Encourage continued community participation in development and implementation of the Marong Structure Plan
	Support the development of housing diversity in Marong
	Assist in maintaining and improving essential facilities
	Value local area streetscapes and character to increase pride, appearance and function
	Support re-purposing and upgrades of heritage buildings, including the old Marong Shire Offices, for contemporary use and increased sustainability and universal accessibility
	Support development of community infrastructure that enhances people's wellbeing and fair access to services

3. Ensure transport infrastructure meets the needs of the growing community	Advocate for safe and connected off-road pedestrian and cycle paths between service areas and public spaces
	<p>Increase public transport options to central Bendigo and other locations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinstating the rail link via Eaglehawk - Investigating extending the Maiden Gully bus service - Collaborating with rural towns within close proximity of Marong to develop services to meet all community needs
	Investigate and advocate for safer truck movements, turning and parking options and advocate for transport bypass options
	Advocate for a review of traffic movements and through-traffic improvements, especially with reference to the growing population
	Advocate for safety improvements for rural 'feeder' roads, including Old Bridgewater Road
	Improve safety in the school zone
4. Build a connected and safe community	Increase opportunities for local people, including families, to be involved and to connect with each other through local activities
	Facilitate opportunities for community members to be well-informed about proposed developments and changes, and to take an active part in decisions affecting the community
	Support activities that make it easier for people to develop and maintain personal and community wellbeing
	Build community resilience to emergencies including development of a Marong Emergency Management Plan in partnership with all relevant authorities
	Encourage people to be active volunteers
	Increase opportunities for youth to be included in decision-making and leadership
	Raise the Marong digital and social media profile, including the Marong webpage and Facebook
	Advocate for improved coverage of all digital telecommunication services ensuring a reliable network to all users
5. Support implementation of the Rural Communities Strategy	Ensure the perspective of rural communities is understood and considered in Council planning and decision-making by actively participating in rural communities networks
	Advocate on issues of community interest, including public transport, business development and landscape protection
	Work to increase job opportunities in the local and rural communities, in particular employment for rural youth



WHAT IS COMMUNITY PLANNING?

Community planning is a process undertaken by a community where they work together to explore and document what is important to them about their locality and its future. A community plan is a document that sets out these priorities. Periodically a community plan will need revision as community priorities change or when the community decides.

The City of Greater Bendigo supports communities across the municipality who wish to develop and revise their own community plan.

The views and priorities in each plan are those of community members who took part in its development. They do not represent the views of the staff of the City of Greater Bendigo, or its councillors.

Community plans are a valuable source of advice about local priorities used by local, state and federal government and other organisations.

For more information contact the City of Greater Bendigo on 03 5434 6000.

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