



SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL COUNCIL

BUSINESS PAPER

PUBLIC EXHIBITION COPY

**Extraordinary Council Meeting
28 June 2021**

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

A conflict of interest arises when the Mayor or Council staff are influenced, or are seen to be influenced, in carrying out their duties by personal interests. Conflicts of interest can be pecuniary or non-pecuniary in nature.

A pecuniary interest is an interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of a financial gain or loss.

A non-pecuniary interest can arise as a result of a private or personal interest, which does not relate to money. Examples include friendship, membership of an association or involvement or interest in an activity.

The Mayor or staff member who considers they may have a conflict of interest should read Council Policy.

The responsibility of determining whether or not the Mayor or Council employee has a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in a matter, is the responsibility of that individual. It is not the role of the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer, or another Council employee to determine whether or not a person may have a conflict of interest.

COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Council Code of Conduct is a requirement of Section 440 of the Local Government Act 1993, which requires all councils to have a code of conduct to be observed by the Mayor and Council employees attending a Council meeting or a meeting of a committee of Council.

The code of conduct sets out the responsibilities of the Mayor and Council employees attending a Council meeting or a meeting of a committee of Council. The code also sets out how complaints against a Council employee, the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer are to be made.

COUNCIL CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE

The Council Code of Meeting Practice is a requirement of Section 360(3) of the Local Government Act 1993, which requires all councils to have a code of meeting practice. The code of meeting practice is to be observed by the Administrator, members of staff, delegates of the Council and members of the public attending a Council or a meeting of a committee of Council.

Acknowledgement of Country

Council wishes to show our respect to the First Custodians of this land the Ngarigo, Walgalu, Ngunnawal and Bidhawal people and their Ancestors past and present.

Webcasting

Council meetings are recorded and live streamed to the internet for public viewing. By entering the Chambers during an open session of Council, you consent to your attendance and participation being recorded and streamed on Council's website www.snowymonaro.nsw.gov.au

**EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 81 COMMISSIONER STREET, COOMA NSW
2630**

**ON MONDAY 28 JUNE 2021
COMMENCING AT 5.00PM**

BUSINESS PAPER

- 1. OPENING MEETING**
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS**
- 4. CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES**
- 5. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**
(Declarations also to be made prior to discussions on each item)
- 6. MATTERS DEALT WITH BY EXCEPTION**
- 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
Nil.
- 8. OTHER REPORTS TO COUNCIL**
 - 8.1 KEY THEME 4. LEADERSHIP**
 - 8.1.1 Donations and Sponsorship Submissions for FY22 July to December 2021 3
 - 8.1.2 Adoption of 2021-22 Operational Plan 7
 - 8.1.3 Making of the 2021-22 Annual Rates and Charges 53
- 9. Confidential matters**
Nil

8.1.1 DONATIONS AND SPONSORSHIP SUBMISSIONS FOR FY22 JULY TO DECEMBER 2021

Record No:

Responsible Officer:	Chief Strategy Officer
Author:	Governance Administration Support
Key Theme:	4. Leadership Outcomes
CSP Community Strategy:	12.3 Our community is empowered and supported in facilitating community outcomes
Delivery Program Objectives:	12.3.1 Community organisations and individuals have the capacity to apply for a range of grants funding opportunities
Attachments:	Nil
Cost Centre	3120

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the last council meeting the determination of the donations was deferred to allow for further input from councillors.

The budget allocated for this round is \$50,000.00. The total value of submissions received for this round equates to \$108,629.93.

The process of administering the donations and sponsorships are administratively complex and expensive. As noted the rounds are well oversubscribed. For the level of funding available it is recommended that Council's policy be changed to only have one round of donation requests per annum. The amount available is set in the policy. This should be removed from the policy and set in the annual budget.

The following officer's recommendation is submitted for Council's consideration.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council;

- A. Determine the submissions to be approved for Donations and Sponsorship July to December 2022FY up to \$50,000.00.
- B. Continue the previously approved recurring donations and sponsorship for the remainder of the Council term.
- C. Change Council's policy to having one round each year and remove the set amounts.

BACKGROUND

General Submissions for Donations and Sponsorship - July to December 2022FY

At the meeting of 18 June 2020 Council resolved for \$100,000 to be allocated for donations and sponsorship with \$50,000 to be applied to each of the two rounds through general submissions.

Submissions were sought from the community for donations and sponsorship through direct communication to community groups who had previously engaged Council for support and also through advertising in local papers, SMRC Facebook page and radio for the period of 01 April to 13 May 2021.

A total of 30 submissions were received with 1 application withdrawing. Attachment 1 shows a summary of all submissions received for consideration.

The total value of submissions received in round 1 equates to \$108,629.93

The submissions were attached to the June Ordinary Business paper and councillors are referred back to that paper for details on the submissions.

Council will need to determine the actual value they will allocate to these requests. Following the resolution of Council all applicants will be contacted advising the outcome of their submission.

Applicants making retrospective applications have been advised that there is no guarantee that Council will resolve to approve their submissions, and are advised to make application prior to the event for consideration.

Recurring Donations

Council resolution 28/18 determined that recurring donations were only for financial years 2019, 2020 and 2021 to align with the term of the Councillors (subsequently extended).

This report proposes Councillors consider extending the period of recurring donations into financial year 2021/22 to align with the term of Council.

If Council resolution moves to one funding round with a reduced budget the Donations and Sponsorships Policy and Procedure will be amended.

Applications for 2021/22FY

The draft Operational Plan FY2021/22 budget contains a proposed amount for donations and sponsorship of \$113,200. Approving \$50,000 for general submissions will leave a remaining budget of \$63,200; further approving \$31,713.93 for recurring donations and sponsorships will leave a remaining budget for the financial year of \$31,486.07.

Council's current policy sets out that there will be two rounds of funding of \$50,000 each. Under the proposed budget this will not be able to be achieved.

To simplify Council administration it is proposed to have one round of applications each year to distribute approved donations and sponsorships is recommended. The current process takes effort for those applying as well as Council. For the amount available a single round would be more effective, allowing time to be allocated to other governance tasks.

QUADRUPLE BOTTOM LINE REPORTING

1. Social

This process has been developed to ensure that the Local Government Area invests in events and/or projects that have the potential to raise economic, social or cultural benefits to our community. All requests made will be considered by formal resolution of Council.

2. Environmental

Council considers impacts to the environment for all recommendations made in reports, and also considers the environment implications for submissions made through Donations and Sponsorship requests.

3. Economic

Estimated Expenditure	Amount	Financial year	Work Order
Donations & Sponsorship	\$ 50,000	2022	W00000018.0020.448

4. Civic Leadership

Decisions to provide Donations and Sponsorship to community groups, individuals and events must be considered in a transparent process. The granting of financial assistance must be made by formal specific resolution of Council.

8.1.2 ADOPTION OF 2021-22 OPERATIONAL PLAN

Record No:

Responsible Officer:	Chief Strategy Officer
Author:	Chief Strategy Officer
Key Theme:	4. Leadership Outcomes
CSP Community Strategy:	10.1 Planning and decision making is holistic and integrated and has due regard to the long term and cumulative effects
Delivery Program Objectives:	10.1.2 Integrated Planning and Reporting guides long term planning and organisational sustainability
Attachments:	1. Operational Plan 2021-2022 Submissions 2. Operational Plan 2021-2022 Submission Responses

Cost Centre

Project

Further Operational Plan Actions:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The Operational Plan placed on public exhibition received 86 submissions during the public exhibition period.
 - Of these 68 were in favour of funds being allocated to the development of the Monaro Rail Trail. The submissions on the rail trail are covered by Council's resolution to include that project in the Operational Plan. This has been funded by increasing the number of positions removed from funding within the budget.
 - Three submissions were seeking the development of an arts and culture strategy. This project can be included by relying on South East Arts and the Arts and Culture Committee membership developing the strategy with the assistance of staff. The additional cost will be offset by reducing the time spent on activities undertaken by the staff members involved.
 - No changes are recommended for the other issues raised.
- Identifying budget reduction target of \$1.5million, these have been included by not filling vacant positions, reducing spending on materials and contracts and other expenses. These changes will limit the ability to provide an improved service.
- Provision has been included to fund previous grant funded and essential projects by taking out an internal loan. Council has utilised its cash to fund the ongoing deficit and there is seen to be greater benefit to the community in continuing to utilise the grants than returning the funds, as otherwise the community would need to fund the full cost of the infrastructure being improved.

The following officer's recommendation is submitted for Council's consideration.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- A. Adopt the 2021-22 Operational Plan, including the annual budget, with the following amendments to the Draft:
- (a) Inclusion of a project to undertake detailed design of two sections of the Monaro Rail Trail, with a budget allocation of \$90,000.
 - (b) Inclusion of the development of an arts and culture strategy to be undertaken from within existing budgets.
 - (c) Inclusion of an additional \$23,000 .25 staff in biosecurity to return the resource level to its previous levels with a budget allocation of.
 - (d) Inclusion of \$30,000 for incentives to attract doctors to practice in the Bombala township.
 - (e) Inclusion of an amount of up to \$3.8million in loans to fund committed grant funded projects and essential projects that will carry over from the 2020-21 period.
 - (f) Reduction of the following budgets to achieve the required \$1.5million in savings and the increase costs of items added to the budgets:
 - (i) Reduce the expenditure allocations for the following services:
 - (1) Biosecurity - \$200,000
 - (2) Building Certification - \$67,000
 - (3) Civic Maintenance - \$170,000
 - (4) Community Support Programs - \$120,000
 - (5) Development Assessment - \$117,000
 - (6) Financial Services - \$274,000
 - (7) Infrastructure Roads - \$560,000
 - (8) Residential Aged Care - \$35,000
 - (ii) Increase the infrastructure – Roads income and expenditure to reflect an additional \$100,000 in profit.
- B. Adopt the 2021-22 Revenue Policy as placed on public exhibition.
- C. Seek approval from the Minister for Local Government for an internal loan of up to \$3.8million for the projects included above.
- D. Adopt the 2021-22 Schedule of Fees and Charges, in accordance with section 608 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

BACKGROUND

Actions to be undertaken

Council received 86 submissions during the public exhibition period. Of these 68 were in favour of funds being allocated to the development of the Monaro Rail Trail. 22 submissions were on other matters. The comments and responses are listed in an appendix to the report. After assessment of the feedback received two changes are recommended:

Monaro Rail Trail: Council has already resolved at the May 2021 meeting to include funding for the detailed design of two section of the Monaro Rail Trail. The section to be undertaken are the Nimmitabel to MacLaughlin River (10km) and Bombala to Jincumbilly (24km) sections.

Arts and culture strategy: 3 submissions were received requesting Council include the development of this strategy. The Council's arts and culture committee has volunteered time to develop a discussion paper, which has been placed out for public comment. An assessment was undertaken of the capacity to include this project. It can be undertaken, but will rely on a collaborative approach. South East Arts and the members of the arts and culture committee will both need to provide support. Council's staff will divert time from carry out activities to supporting the development of this strategy.

Annual Budget

The draft Operational Plan 2021-22 also included the need for a further improvement in the net financial position to ensure that the budget was cash neutral. The initial draft included \$2.1million in net financial improvements, including a budget reduction target of \$1.5million to be identified.

This year's plan includes a 5% drop in the full time equivalent employment levels. In addition there is proposed to be a reduction in the available resources by having corporate projects staff focused only on funded projects and diverting infrastructure staff towards expected increased grant funded projects on the NSW State road network. It also includes a \$985,000 decrease in materials, contracts and other expenses.

The impacts of the staff reductions will mainly be seen through an inability to improve the level of service being provided as the positions targeted have been vacant positions. Dropping positions in the areas of strategic planning, finance, parks and gardens, and governance services will mean that these services will operate at a similar low level to what has been provided in the past. There will not be capacity to provide an improved service. Reduced employment in development assessment and building control will remove opportunities to introduce cadets or trainees into the Council and mean less ability to develop future staff in areas where there is currently difficulty in attracting staff. Focusing staff in corporate projects on externally funded projects will limit the capacity of the Council to put resources against new or unplanned activities. Similarly, diverting resources from infrastructure to the State road funded works will reduce the ability to undertake maintenance on council transport infrastructure.

The drop in materials, contracts and other expenses includes some reducing the funds available to maintain the various buildings and structures of the Council. This will impact on the ability of the Council to undertake maintenance requested on council and community used facilities. Reduced consultancy budgets will mean that projects needing specialised skill will have to be either deferred or undertake with the resources available in-house. Biosecurity contracting costs will be reduced, with more targeted weed spraying being undertaken to gain better value from the available resources.

There will also be a reduction in the level of donations and sponsorships that the Council provides to the community.

Not improving or reducing the level of service is not what the community will be wishing to see. At the same time, the Council will be undertaking service reviews in a number of areas, including governance, information technology support, fleet, development and infrastructure. These reviews will identify if there are opportunities to provide services better with the available

8.1.2 ADOPTION OF 2021-22 OPERATIONAL PLAN

resources. While efficiency improvements will not be sufficient to allow the Council to sustainably provide services, it is a key area that needs to be fully explored. Next year's Operational Plan has to reflect what can be afforded within the available resources of the Council.

There are a number of increased risks that the Council is taking on in adopting next year's plan. Reduced funds are set aside for legal cost and insurance excess. Continuing to resource services at a lower level increases the risk of reputational damage.

As Council has worked on improving its forecasting of the cash position it has been identified that a number of the projects that the Council has taken on, particularly grant funded projects, will now need to be funded by alternative means. The levels of cash are not sufficient to fund the commitments in the future. This leaves Council with the options of cutting services, not undertaking the projects or using alternative funding, such as loans. A review of the projects identified that most provided sufficient benefit to the community that warranted continuing with the projects. For the majority of projects, this is because the benefits of the external funding exceeds the cost of loan funding the Council's contribution. The balance are seen as projects the council needs to proceed with. Those projects identified as needing to be funded by loans are as follows:

Project	Total Cost	Loan Funding
Adaminaby Pool	\$156,000	\$156,000
Bombala Arts and Innovation Centre Upgrade	\$1,100,000	\$150,000
Bombala Caretakers Cottage	\$247,700	\$75,000
Bombala Depot female toilet facilities	\$75,000	\$75,000
Bombala Pool	\$1,961,000	\$393,000
Cooma Pool	\$1,855,000	\$371,000
Cowbed Creek Bridge Replacement	\$1,000,000	\$400,000
Delegate School of Arts	\$154,400	\$154,400
Ginger Leigh Playground	\$840,000	\$300,000
Jindabyne Library	\$3,000,000	\$500,000
Mt Gladstone Lookout - Toilet Block	\$105,000	\$105,000
New Civic Building - Design	\$150,000	\$150,000
Platypus Reserve Upgrade	\$253,502	\$35,000
Refurbishment Cooma Office Building	\$2,400,000	\$150,000
Yallambee Lodge Extension	\$4,700,000	\$700,000
Total		\$3,714,400

Revenue Policy

Three submissions were received on the revenue policy.

The submissions were:

- A. This is a fairer and much better thought out system than the current pile of rubbish you have been using.

Response: No change recommended.

- B. Hi. I understand rates need to go up, but it seems like farmers/owners of larger agricultural holdings, who don't have the benefit of your council-provided services, are going to wear a good chunk of the increases. Why is there not a fair increase for all across the whole shire to share the burden? We live almost an hour from our nearest major centre (Cooma). We deal with our own water (full rainwater dependency), sewerage (a well-maintained septic) and rubbish (we pay a Cooma company to collect and dispose of appropriately in Cooma). We are too far from town to benefit from the other council-provided services by others residing in town, such as libraries, parks, pools etc. The ONLY thing we ever seek from council is maintenance of our dirt road, which has slipped so badly in the past 10 years that we have resorted to filling in the potholes ourselves on the public road that is outside of our property boundary. We've also bought a new car every three years now - the safest and most suitable for the road to which our budget can extend - to ensure our family have the best chance should we ever have the misfortune to be in an accident due to unsafe roads. Our new, large Toyota 4x4 has been off the road three times in 1.5 years due to road-induced damage (not speed or kangaroos or an unsuitable car, just unreasonable wear and tear), and we've had to buy 6 or 7 new tyres at a cost of \$300 each time and a windscreen at \$2K. Come on SMRC - this rates change that's hitting your out-of-towners is just money grubbing desperation, and hitting the members of your community that have already been hit hard by bushfires and droughts recently. How about you consider a fairer levy to the people that use the higher proportion of your services (ie, those living in and close to your major centres), and leave well alone those of us who aren't a constant drain on your resourcing, and in fact bring income to your district through our industry. This new rate structure where our rates go up, but others closer to town go down, seems truly unfair.

Response: The models where rates are attributed to different ratepayer groups based on the cost expended by Council in providing the services gave a similar result to the current model overall. While such an approach would change the mix within a category, overall it would have substantially the same impact. As such it is not recommended to change the rate structure.

- C. I'd like to commend the community representatives who worked with Council to develop a new harmonised rates structure for the Snowy Monaro region LGA. This has been a large and complex task. The new structure seeks to address the key rating principles in relation to the imposition of local land rates): the Benefits Principle and the Ability to Pay Principle. The structure also seeks to meet the objectives that a land rates structure should be fair, equitable and broadly uniform. A structure that has all ratepayers paying the same base amount (\$475.00) and has only one Ad Valorem rate (\$0.0033568) would appear to meet the Ability to Pay Principle and be broadly uniform. I wonder, though, whether such a structure adequately meets the Benefits Principle, i.e. the extent to which those who receive the benefits of council's services also pay for those services, and whether such a broadly uniform structure is
-

fair and equitable across all ratepayers? A future review of Council's land rate structure should examine whether a structure that has at least two base amounts (one for land in urban areas and one for land in non-urban areas) and at least two ad valorem rates (one for land in urban areas and one for land in non-urban areas) would meet more fully the Benefits Principle and the objectives of fairness and equity. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Council's proposed new land rating structure for 2021-22.

Response: This can be considered in a future review.

Internal Review and Corrections

While the document was on public exhibition, staff identified some information that had been omitted or required correction. Corrections have subsequently been made to the relevant documents.

A number of these proposed amendments will result in no negative impact or disadvantage to any member or group in the community. As such, it is considered unnecessary to re-exhibit the documents.

A summary of the recommended changes to the 2022 Schedule of Fees and Charges seen as not requiring public exhibition is outlined in the table below.

Fee Name	2020/2021 Fee (incl. GST)	2021/2022 Fee (incl. GST)	Change
Interest on Overdue Rates, Charges and Sundry Debtor Accounts	0% from 01/07/2020 to 31/12/2020 then 7.5% from 01/01/2021 to 30/06/2021	6% per annum	As per OLG Circular 20-19 Information about Rating 2021-22 Released 16/04/2021.
Casual Hirers Insurance Fee – Delegate Hall	\$34.00	Deleted	No longer applicable – covered under SMRC Public Liability Insurance.
Casual Hirers Insurance Fee – Bombala Community Centre	\$34.00	Deleted	No longer applicable – covered under SMRC Public Liability Insurance.

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Fee Name	2020/2021 Fee (incl. GST)	2021/2022 Fee (incl. GST)	Change
Access Charges Water – Vacant Allotment (where there is no connection)	\$264.00	\$269.30	From “per Lot” to “per Assessment” as per Section 501 of the Local Government Act.

QUADRUPLE BOTTOM LINE REPORTING

1. Social

The operational plan changes will have negative impacts on the community as Council will not be able to improve service levels or only provide basic services. The changes are required as the Council needs to limit its spending to ensure that it is not using up cash that it does not have. The budget still shows the Council using up the assets faster than they are being replaced. Developing a long term plan to move to a sustainable position will be a priority action at the start of the next Council term. This budget seeks to minimise the impact on the community, firstly focusing cuts in areas that will allow for the retention of the existing service levels. This has been done by targeting ongoing vacancies and internal services. There will be lower service levels in supporting corporate project development and infrastructure.

2. Environmental

Nil.

3. Economic

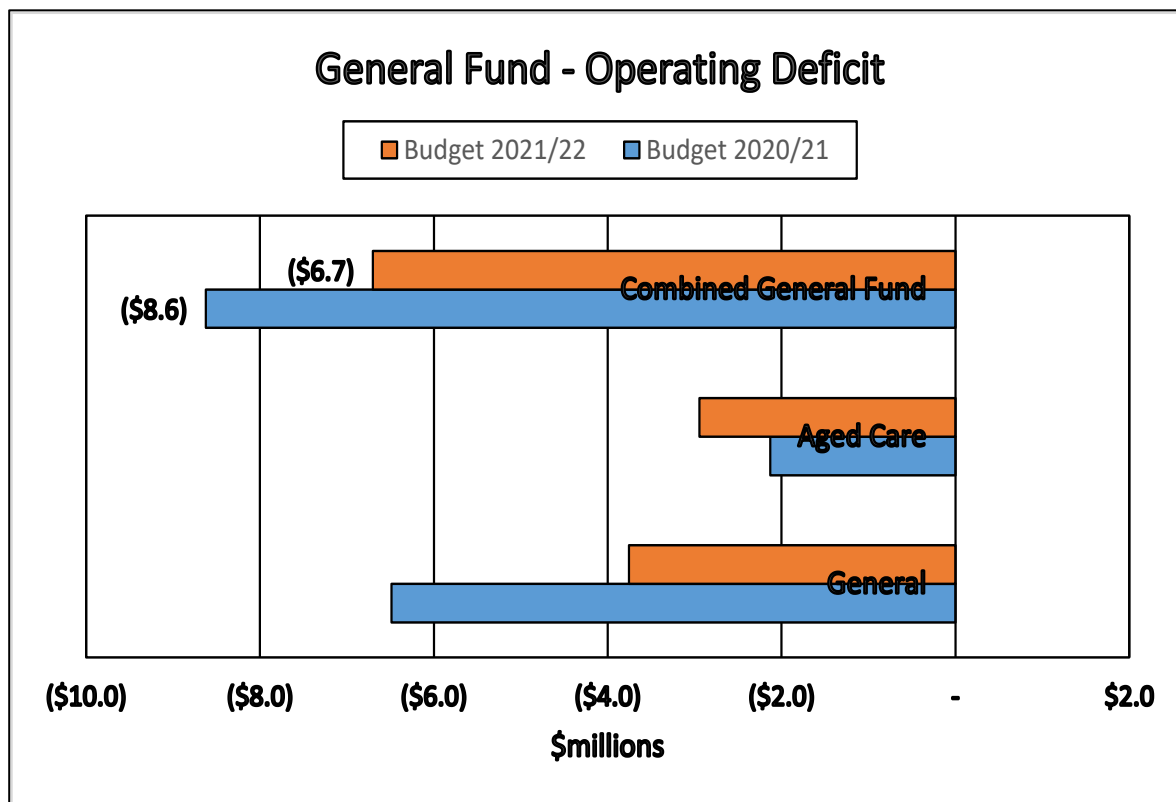
A large focus of the current budget has been on the general rate funded activities, due to this being where the greatest financial stress exists. The following table provides a high level view of the changes within the general activity budget of the Council from the current year to next year. It shows that there has been insufficient increases in revenue to cover the legislated cost increases. For example, the legislated award and superannuation increases are themselves \$500,000.

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	Favourable \$000	Unfavourable \$000	Net Change \$000
Income			
Rates	\$388	-	\$388
Other income	\$100	-	\$100
Expense			
Employee Costs	\$2,964	(\$1,050)	\$1,914
Materials & Contracts	\$725	(\$390)	\$335
Other Expenses	\$640	(\$1,200)	(\$560)
Depreciation	\$50	(\$300)	(\$250)
Total	\$4,644	(\$2,862)	\$1,927

The Council has put into place cuts to the budget and identified some increased revenue opportunities to address the increases that have occurred. Further details on the actual changes made in the first round of cuts were listed in the April 2021 report on the draft plan.

The impact of the changes is positive on the overall deficit, but does not eliminate it.



4. Civic Leadership

Council must ensure that spending should be responsible and sustainable and align general revenue and expenses. Not having a sustainable long term financial position, constraining

8.1.2 ADOPTION OF 2021-22 OPERATIONAL PLAN

spending where possible without having severe impacts on the community is considered responsible. With elections this year it is also not considered responsible to commit the incoming Council by undertaking large change. The more responsible approach is to allow the incoming governing body to determine the strategy to address the issue.

Feedback on 2022 Operational Plan

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

19 April 2021 - 16 May 2021

PROJECT NAME:

Draft 2022 Operational Plan for the Snowy Monaro

Q3 Please provide feedback on the Draft 2022 Fees and Charges, Draft 2022 Statement of Revenue Policy, Draft 2022 Capital Works Program and Draft 2022 Operational Budget.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Given the stated Community Strategic Plan Objectives on p11 to 13 of the Draft Operational Budget, I find it staggering that there is no allocation to Arts & Culture, Cultural Tourism and related events especially in light of the overwhelming success of Easter's Lake Light Sculpture event and other arts & cultural activities in the region.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A modern council budget should include a healthy allocation for the Arts. Arts and Tourism go hand-in-hand, and when one is not funded, the other is lacking soul, spirit and a sense of place. Now, if one travels to a region - or lives there - its expected they will visit a gallery, go to a live music event, join a local creative group or even attend a workshop as a holiday maker. How do we move forward as a society in 2022 without any funding in these areas? Create a network, a symbiotic environment where creatives can work across the region, can share their work and 'as one', as individuals or groups can attract the growing numbers of Australians engaging in culture-based tourism. It's a no-brainer. Allocate some budget to the Arts in 2022. Your arts practitioners, residents and visitors will reap the rewards, not to mention Council. I am a filmmaker living in Batemans Bay and I lived in Thredbo for 6 years. These days I visit the Snowy Mountains regularly and I produce tourism video content within your region for Visit NSW and Tourism Australia.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1) Regarding ICT cybersecurity penetration test: council do not reference any scope or auditing frameworks (e.g. Australian government information security manual) they are preparing to track the outcomes against. Penetration tests provide more value when they form part of a larger program of cybersecurity work, and there should be KPI for assessing and processing findings into the program.

2) Regarding ICT disaster recovery: council only loosely cover business continuity. Business continuity should be broken out into a separate risk management stream that addresses the issues identified in cybersecurity and disaster recovery audits.

Reporting on the level of risk in Business continuity should be publicly available and should be managed in collaboration with councilors. In my opinion, placing the internal audit and risk management functions under the same executive responsible for delivery could cause conflict with budgeting and priorities.

3) I would like to see council implement a Net Promoter Score (NPS) trial. It is fair to implement KPI and measures; however, they are meaningless without the voice of the customer.

NPS is a management tool, which has been shown to correlate with revenue growth relative to competitors, or council steady state in this case. It is based on the simple question "how likely would you be to recommend..."

4) I would like to see a focus on innovation and crowd ideation across council and the community. The outcome of this program should encourage entrepreneurship by fostering an idea and develop it into a minimum viable product.

██████████
██████████

Could we please find it in your funds to allow some money for the Arts our biggest tourist weekend outside of snow sports is Easter and the Lake Light Sculpture that is run entirely by a small number of volunteers. They leave the sculpture walk area without any traces of where the exhibits sat. Ensuring that every piece of bark chip is removed. They bring so much money to the town and surrounding areas. A little bit of funding is surely possible.

██████████
██████████

After comparing SMRC's Draft 2022 Operational Budget with comparable documents of other Councils, I find it overall lacking in aspirational goals & detailed implementation directions. For example, compared to Forbes Shire Council & Eurobodalla Shire Council. This is unfortunate in a region that is growing so quickly because the expectation gap will widen and create much community dissatisfaction.

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██████████

I do not have time to read documents that add up to 198 pages. I have set aside time to attend meetings recently - and those meetings would have been useless if I hadn't had some information online first. I was not able to find the information from the website as it just throws up documents which don't seem to have the relevant info in them. You need to get rid of the pretty pics on the page, and put up - Harmonising Rates. Waste etc. Make it user friendly, and give us points and summaries. Those who have the time and inclination can troll through them, but the rest of us can have a look at relevant info and decide if we want or need to look further at certain points.

I appreciate that you are giving us some information these days and not just throwing things at us after you made a decision and forgot to mention it out loud to us. But, we are not employed to do this job, and we need to have tailored information, to let us decide where our interests lay. I would also say that at meetings it is good to have someone who can pull up members of the community who completely override both the speaker and the other community members.

I don't want the Bank of Bins. Let us keep our Numeralla Transfer Station.

Apparently our rates must have been one of the highest in the areas as there is only one model that I see where we would have more than 2- 4% of an increase, and one where it would be 55% less. I could see some sense in the models, but in the questions on the survey? That didn't seem to be the same issue. If I'd seen the survey - not just the models then I would have had some more questions for the person who came out to see us about that. I realise the council is coming up for election

soon, but please don't throw all these documents and possible changes at us all at once. Information is needed...but at a regular flow not a flipping flood of them.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

There appears to be no mention of the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) in this draft Plan. The MRT has been mentioned in numerous Strategic Plans as a "Game Changer" and widely recognised for its economic, employment, tourism and health benefits.

Indeed SMRC has acknowledged the potential value of this project and stated that more detailed planning needs to be undertaken. Councillors would be aware that there is strong community and local business support based on over 1,000 signatures on a recent petition and dozens of letters of support, including from Cooma and Bombala Chambers of Commerce.

The detailed planning, additional to the comprehensive work already undertaken by experienced professional volunteers on a pro- bono basis, needs to be funded if the MRT is to progress. MRT Inc. has provided a written submission to SMRC recommending inclusion of \$90K for the detailed Planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and the Nimmitabel-Maclaughlin River sections be included in the 2021-22 Budget. For your consideration please.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Monaro Rail Trail - a desire to see progress.

As a ratepayer keen to see Council embrace ideas and progress opportunities for a prosperous future for the Monaro after reading Councils Operation Plan I find no mention of progressing the only project, the Monaro Rail Trail, identified in Councils Strategic Plan as a "Game Changer" that will guarantee new as well as enhanced existing business development.

This development has been identified as the only project to deliver benefits to all villages and towns on the Monaro. I would like Council to consider allocating appropriate funds to progressing the design of the Monaro Rail Trail.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Reading through the Operational Budget, it appears that the cultural life of the community has not received a mention for 2022. The Arts and Culture aspects of music, dance, performance, visual arts, literature and heritage are so vitally important to local identity, creativity and a vibrant, connected community.

If Lake Light Sculpture, the Lions Easter Art Show and, as yet, in a smaller way, the Jindabyne Art Gallery, is used as an example of arts and culture at Easter, it was all of these things and more, bringing families together and bringing an enormous drawcard for both locals and tourists who come to this area specifically for this time of year.

The arts and culture area provides an economic asset to the council, so if possible during 2022, assistance to selected organizations delivering successful events, projects and exhibitions.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Despite Council wanting the Monaro Rail trail to be "shovel ready" and despite many statements in the operational budget about community support and development of tourism, I see no mention of financing any investigative studies to assist with the Monaro Rail Trail. I urge Council to include funding for the MRT as per the request made by Ken Lister as President of MRT.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please budget funds for detailed planning of the Monaro Rail Trail. This has strong community support and would change Cooma and the small towns along the way forever. Without Council support, the Monaro Rail Trail will not progress and this would be a travesty and a blight on the current Councilors.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please include funds in the budget for planning for the Monaro Rail Trail to progress. Council has had numerous studies done which all are in favour of the project. The economic and health benefits are indisputable. Council all been too slow to progress this project.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please consider the MRT proposal, such a trail would be a huge boost to the area and would have multiple users across the generations.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Firstly Bredbo has no mention in the Operational Plan. Bredbo seems to be a forgotten village in my opinion and we haven't progress much over the past 10 years. We have no footpaths for kids or parents to walk their babies, kids walking to school, our main road is dark at night with no lighting, we have trucks with compression brakes coming into Bredbo all hours.

We are currently seeking someone from Council to help with a strategic plan so that we can get some of these things rectified. We need some focus on our future and getting a Strategic Plan in place would be great in this Operational Plan. I can't see this exercise costing more than an afternoon of a staff member's time and some of our local community's time.

Bredbo is currently on Stage 2 water restrictions due to our bore causing turbidity through rain. What resources have been devoted to solving this problem in the shortest period of time. From what we can see Council is spending over \$1000 a day trucking water between Cooma and Bredbo. This can't be sustainable for a longer term due to the costs.

I can see that Council is part of the Smart Cities Program which is great. I would also love to see our Council form part of the Cities Power Partnership so that we can form part of the network that tackles climate change in cities and towns. I reached out to them recently and they said our Council hasn't approached them yet, however, 52 NSW Councils are part of the partnership.

Can we please put some sort of focus on the Climate in this plan?

I would love to see some mention of the Council fleet going forward electric vehicles, investigating micro solar hubs for villages such as Bredbo (or other renewable energy), helping our towns to be more resilient for potential future disasters like fires and floods, working with farmers on regenerative farming etc. I could not find any reference to anything about saving our future in this year's plan.

The Michelago Master Plan is currently out for comment and two of the options involve the use of land that Geocon has purchased. It seems that Geocon are looking to take a sustainable, self-sufficient town to a higher density town which involves using more resources. The Master Plan and the Geocon early proposals contradict each other massively - particularly in terms of proposed population numbers.

The waste management plan with bank of bins looks like a done deal, why was this communicated after the decision was made to close our Transfer Stations and go to bank of bins. I think this needs a lot more investigation before you take away the Transfer Station at Bredbo.

With our ageing population in our towns and villages, what is Council doing for our aged care? I note in the plan that the cost of aged care will be running at a loss. What can Council do for our aged in regards to strategic partnerships, encouraging investment in our region with aged care or aged care facilities?

I would like to see a focus on how Council plans to work it's way out of the massive debt that it has accrued and this should be a fundamental part of this plan. I would like to see targets over the next 12 months on improving the bottom line of Council. As a business owner, I would be closed down with that amount of debt as I would be trading insolvent. Working in a strategic way to reduce the debt would give confidence to the shire on the future of our Council.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Council to include funding in the 2021/2022 budget to progress design work on the Monaro Rail Trail. It is important to be acting on this project before Snowy Monaro Region is left behind.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Council to include funding in the 2021/2022 budget to progress design work on the Monaro Rail Trail which has been shown to be economically & financially viable.

Over the last 7 years, my wife & I have ridden rail trails in Victoria and NSW & we are travelling away with our caravan at the weekend to ride some bike trails in the Dubbo-Mudgee area of NSW.

We stop/stay/spend money & thoroughly enjoy ourselves at every location. Southern Snowy-Monaro is riding high at the moment with Snowy 2.0, but this will not last forever - it is time to invest in long term attractions that last into the future.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I request that an amount of \$90,000 will be included in the 2022 operational budget to proceed with the design and investigations of the Bombala-Jincumbilly section of the proposed Monaro Rail Trail. I acknowledge the present challenging financial situation of the Council, however this should not prevent Council to plan for the future which may include the development of a rail trail of National importance.

The allocation of a relatively small amount would allow to gain a detailed insight of the works involved for the entire Project and will provide a sound background for further discussions between Council and MRT management. Thank you for the opportunity to express my thoughts.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hello Council, Thanks for the great work you do in looking after this vast region. I feel strongly about, and wish to add my support to Council moving forward with the supporting of seeking of grant funding to promote the progression of the Monaro Rail Trail. In these time of so many people turning to physical experience type holidays as well as for the benefits of locals, I truly believe the Rail Trail will attract business of all sorts to all the towns along the track. Please, please, please don't let this opportunity pass us all by.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

You need to remove the waste strategy elements from the operational plan because the waste strategy has been resoundingly rejected by the community, and particularly the villages and smaller towns.

The councils accounting is an embarrassment, and nobody in council can tell an honest or accurate fact about the current truthful council budget position. UNTIL council discloses to the community what the truthful budget and financial position of the council is, no decisions of consequence can or should be made. We are having a full council election on 4th September, and being so close to that date, this council which is already operating on over-time due to the *Covid* delays last year, has no legitimacy in committing this community to large capital projects.

I speak for many people across this community and no matter how hard this Council and council executive tries to silence my voice, it is only getting louder and more amplified. I reject this Operational plan. I say it is corrupt, fraudulent and dishonest. It arrogantly includes project elements that are currently at the beginning of the public consultation process, yet includes them as if these projects have been approved. I refer specifically to the Waste Strategy which provided more questions than answers, and to that very point, council received my questions, undertook publicly to answer them and promptly did not.

Not answering my questions tells me this council has much to hide. This operational plan is dishonest because it does not disclose an honest financial position of the council. Is the council insolvent? Is the council in surplus? Nobody knows.

I and many others in this community say this operational plan must be rejected, and council not endorse it, and leave the work for a future publicly endorsed and duly elected council.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Further to motion from Cr Maslin in support of the submission by MRT Inc. for the inclusion of \$90,000.00 for detailed planning of two sections (Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala rd) of stage 1 of the Monaro Rail Trail in the SMRC operating budget for 2021- 2022.

It can be seen by the volume of bicycles travelling to the Mountains that cycling has become an extremely popular sport and a rail trail in the area would be an asset and boost tourism for all the small villages and towns along the rail avenue. All reports of other rail trails prove the success of increased tourism to their local areas.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Council please support and start developing the MRT, which would be a great tourist attraction for Cooma and a healthy outdoor activity for many families to use. I think council should make a contract with volunteers to maintain tracks, to lower the cost for council and there will be enough volunteers in the community to support.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Support funding for MRT.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I believe that it is vitally important to be highlight the MRT within the budget as it provides as much certainty as possible that projects like the MRT, which have defined benefits to the region, have a clear road map forward via a transparent budget. With internal tourism being the only viable support for a lot of regional centres for the foreseeable future, projects such as the MRT have the ability to not only sustain the region through increased tourism dollars, but also provide growth in other business sectors as well.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I fully support that SMRC budget \$90,000 towards the detailed planning for the Monaro Rail Trail project which involves the Bombala - Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel – Old Bombala Rd sections. This would be the start of a game changer for our region in tourism, health and wellbeing. Rail Trails have proved elsewhere to be a great economic boost in so many job opportunities. The MRT is well documented/supported in many Government long term planning projects. We need our SMRC to be financially committed. Look south towards Victoria to see firsthand the positive impacts of Rail Trails.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Could you please include in the 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget provision of \$90,000 to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed. Having seen the success of a well executed rail trail from Tumbarumba to Rosewood and the excitement of the Murwillumbah/Casino rail trail beginning, these rail trails benefit all Australians and small business. Lets keep Australians spending their tourist dollars in Australia.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I live on Michelago Road. I have three comments.

1) I have not been able to spot any budget to support the Monaro Rail Trail. This will be of huge economic benefit to the Shire and Council should get behind it, and allocate some funding. This is an investment in our regional future.

2) Given trout fishing is of such significant economic importance, I don't see anything in the budget. Fish don't even get a mention. Council had an opportunity to support recreational fishing by providing access to Lake Williams. Now it is just being poached. As the architect of the Snowy Lakes Trout Strategy, if you would like me to draft a fishery access plan for you I will do it for nothing.

There is no reason that organised fishing and public access should not be allowed. The GM may have my previous notes on this issue.

3) I have asked for the maintenance plan for unsealed roads but apparently there isn't one. Our road is currently badly pot holed.

With respect to "Management of road corridors is effective and efficient" I believe Council also has a duty of care to keep unsealed roads safe. My experience is you do not. What does your risk management framework say about this? I have never been able to get a road maintenance schedule - "Due to heavy rain and storm damage throughout the region our road schedule is currently on hold. Our team is continuing to undertake reactive maintenance works to repair this damage." I note your target is to publish this monthly with a target of 100%. Really?

4) I use Envisio for professional planning and reporting projects involving nine Pacific Island countries. It is widely used by regional councils in North America. Have a look <https://envisio.com/customers/>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please, please give funding to the Monaro Rail Trail. Come on NSWs, do your bit for community health and tourism and get this fabulous project up and running...while we who want to ride it can still ride. Not getting any younger.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We would love to see committed funding to progress the Monaro Rail Trail - our family and friends are looking forward to spending a week exploring the Snowy-Monaro by bike when it's completed!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The planned Rail Trail is such a worthwhile project and will be a huge pull for visitors to the region. Nearby Canberra is a cycling mecca and a completed rail trail will be a big pull for Canberra and cyclists living wider afield. Clearly the rail trail project should have funds allocated from the budget in order to see the hard work and planning thus far come to fruition for the benefit of shire small business operators, residents and tourists into the future.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hoping to see SMRC budgeting for a contribution the feasibility study for the Monaro Rail Trail. This rail trail will provide a major tourism boost for the whole region. The immediate success of the Tumbarumba to Rosewood rail trail since it opened in April 2020 would be replicated if the Monaro Trail is built (even in moderate stages). It won't succeed without council support. Please consider allocating funding towards the feasibility study. I speak for many Sydney people - a Monaro Rail Trail would be a definite winner!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I support the submission by MRT Inc. for the inclusion of \$90,000 for detailed planning of two sections (Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road) of Stage 1 of the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) in the SMRC Operating Budget for 2021-2022. A rail trail within the SMRC area would provide a safe environment for Walkers and Cyclists and provide a health benefit for all that use it. The Trail would also add to the regional attractions to encourage tourists to the area.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Yet again Jindabyne is being ignored. Not a sign of footpaths, road crossing to Banjo Park from town, no sign of replacement pavers to the Town Centre etc. etc. Just the every year BAU. Whilst it is wonderful to see the 50mtrs of path being finished In Gippsland Street opp. the P.O., how long have we waited for this? 30 or more years? Now we are told a survey needs to be done? That was due, according to the business papers, last June? We had meetings 25-30 years ago where we were promised a footpath on one side of every street within 5 years, nothing happened yet. Path in upper Gippsland street crosses the road twice, why? & it still isn't finished.

A whole new suburb (Highview) is well advanced (most are dual occ placing a greater strain on carparks and PARKS) and yet they have no connection to town forcing most to drive. When the Jillamatong /Barry way junction is opened it will become even more dangerous. Cooma is to get new pavers on existing paths? Why can't we have ANY paths.

Millions to be spent on "shared Trails" we still don't have a real shared rail anywhere after \$0000's spent already, only ditches. No sign of ladies change rooms at our one and only oval that has all codes playing at it .

When is council going to repair the constantly leaking gutter to the town centre awning? Most of the problem, I think, is that very few (if any) council staff OR councilors live in Jindabyne and appreciate the problems. When car parking became an issue, immediately the thought was for a multi-story carpark, problem is the town is not walker friendly so everyone is forced to drive. SAP wants to "open up the lake foreshore" - another car park all along the shore?

5.5+ million to be spent on a portable library? Can't we ever get something to help MAKE this a real community? PLEASE have a real vision and start putting infrastructure in for a town with a "real" population that was described 5 years ago by our local NSW Govt. member as "fast overtaking that of Cooma". When do we get netball/basketball all weather courts as planned 30 years ago? We got cricket nets instead LOL! (NO community consultation , like most!) When will we get a sports hub? Please think ahead and get those grant applications in, there's one available NOW for regional sport.

Electric motor powered scooters are already here , as are many "E" MOTOR bikes, but we do not have the infrastructure to support this growth area of tourism.

The lake path needs widening now, before someone gets really seriously injured. Why is it that families and seniors walking their companion animals are forced to dash to the side? Where is council's rangers controlling this as the SRSC ranger used to?

When is council going to replace all the trees that have been removed as per council's own tree policy? Especially those "destroyed " by the non- community consulted build of a MTB track through the Mitchell Reserve, against the plan for a 1mtre wide crushed granite footpath as promised 30 years ago and include in the plan of management? (a lot of these trees planted by schoolkids and parents 40 - 50 years ago).

I think you can see there is a lot missing, so get on with it PLEASE.

██████████

████████████████████

I'd like to comment that funding for the Monaro Rail Trail continues to be deferred. It is such a pity NSW broadly, and NSW councils locally, are slow to adopt the model so successfully adopted by Victoria and some other states for what is now a few decades. Having just returned again from riding the North East Victorian rail trails and the quite new Tumbarumba trail which has been so successful, they are so good and diversifies the local economy and spreads tourism around other activities of the area.

██████████

████████████████████

Living near a rail trail in Regional Gippsland and as a Regional Representative of Rail Trails Australia assisting 10 managers of Committees with volunteers some ageing, speaking with Shire Councils,

Councils and networking with DELWP, CMA's and other organisations Monaro requires funding to be spent on the rail trail.

I know the logistics, networking, management, weeding hands on and digging in endemic plants just off these trails to stop erosion create habitat and enjoyment for everyone - all abilities as the NDIS has a native prescription more people since COVID-19 are utilising the rail trails, tourism has been spiraling upwards with press clippings of families, singles cycling, horse riding, walking, jogging enjoying themselves more now than ever before.

A discovery of rail trails as tourism in towns along the way for holidays are more now we expect accommodation, cafes, book shops, councils to provide water stations, bike tool stations and updated rail trails to enjoy with seating for picnics off trails native reserves maintained. As such an asset for Monaro the costings are required for the residents, international and Australian visitors with 26,000 hits last year for Rail Trails Australia its an ongoing commitment to ensure Australia is linking its rail trails from State to State to Territory to State to Territory as a continuance for everyone's wellbeing, employment, enjoyment, living and lifestyles.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

As a soon-to-be retired person, I regularly look for opportunities to visit new areas in Australia. The proposed Monaro Rail Trail would provide such an opportunity and I encourage Council to include funding towards this project in its 2022 Operational Budget.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I can't see funding for the rail trail!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Please support Tourism by funding the Monaro Rail Trial to preserve and improve it. Such trials are a boom to tourism in UK and EU. Tour companies build their products around these attractions. Think progressively - Fund the MRT

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The Friends of the Monaro Rail Trail have suggested that the SMRC include a provision of \$90,000 in their 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed.

The MRT will be a vital component of tourism diversity on the Monaro.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I believe the Monaro Rail Trail is a vital component of tourism diversity and tourism growth in the Monaro and shared pathways are very important for recreation and health. I request that the SMRC include a provision of \$90,000 in the 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As CEO of Cycle Tours Global (based in NSW) I fully support The Friends of the Monaro Rail Trail and their request for the SMRC to include a provision of \$90,000 in the 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed.

This will be a tremendous asset to the region and will bring in many tourists as evidenced by the huge success of the Tumbarumba to Rosewood rail trail (despite being relatively short) and the many rail trails and greenways in Victoria and overseas. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please provide funding for the Monaro Rail Trail. Investment in the MRT will bring visitors, such as myself, to the district.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Monaro Rail Trail is a vital component of the proposed tourism growth & diversity in the Monaro Region. The Monaro Rail Trail will provide a shared pathway for recreation and health. Detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 is now required.

To allow this planning, a provision in the Snowy Monaro Regional Council 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget is needed and it is suggested \$90,000 be allocated for this purpose.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As a friend of the Monaro rail trail (and a past resident of Cooma) please provide an adequate budget for planning for the MRT.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please include adequate provision for the detailed planning for the Monaro Rail Trail development. I believe that at least \$90,000 is required. I am a resident of Tasmania, but have family and friends in Canberra and other parts of NSW. When I travel to visit people or purely for recreational holidays, my preferred choice is active travel, i.e. riding my touring and/or e-bikes, to get around. It is risky and stressful riding from A to B without access to safe and enjoyable off road trails. Rail trails are a perfect solution to providing safe paths for both everyday and touristic travel.

Of course riding is also very healthy and should be heavily promoted by government at all levels to improve the general health and fitness of our community.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rail trails bring tourist dollars to the area and the exercise improves the health of users. I live near the Warburton rail trail and regularly use it although I know it well so it isn't new.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I wish to encourage the SMRC to include a financial provision in their 2022 Operational Plan to undertake a detailed study to establish a Monaro Rail Trail. The establishment of a rail trail in the Monaro area would provide another reason for people to holiday in the area especially in the non-winter snow seasons.

Cycle-holidaying is becoming a growth segment in the tourist industry providing much needed income and a boost for the local businesses which would include areas of food, accommodation, bike hire and the provision of packaged holidays.

In 2019 we drove through the snowy mountains area and after seeing the tracks of the disused rail line I commented to myself that it would be beneficial to establish a rail trail in the Monaro area. I had just driven from the East Gippsland area where we spent 2 days cycling the rail trail there. After spending Easter in the Monaro area we then proceeded to Corryong to cycle the High Country Rail Trail. If a rail trail had existed in the Monaro area we would have extended our stay and included cycling the trail it in our holiday plans.

Again I encourage the SMRC to include a provision in their Operational Plan for a detailed planning into a rail trail.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please allocate funding to the Monaro Rail Trail. It is a proven tourism asset with many thousands of people using it. It has brought much needed tourist dollars to Tumbarumba and when lengthened to

more towns it will increase its attractiveness to more people and bring much needed income to those towns and help slow their decline.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I would like to put forward a vote of support for progressing with the Monaro Rail Trail. Having enjoyed many of the Victorian rail trails (Bendigo - Heathcote, Murray -Mountains, Port Fairy and Skipton to name a few) and their local associated tourist assets/businesses (generally for 2 to 3 day breaks) - and seeing similar positive movement in NSW with the new Tumbarumba rail trail, I would submit that a major trail in your local government area would be a huge boost to both tourism and local businesses. Having travelled through the great Snowy Monaro Regional Council area several times, I know that I - and many other Victorians – would certainly make the journey across the border to enjoy the trail, local accommodation and other tourist attractions. Your shire is fortunate in being reasonably close to the Victorian border which will make it even easier for interstate visitors who have already experienced Victorian rail trails to travel to your rail trail. Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this matter.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This project has the potential to be Australia's equivalent of the Otago Central Rail Trail. The distances to be covered would eclipse the two big rail trails in Victoria. The benefits to the villages of Michelago, Bredbo and Nimmitabel would be significant.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As a visitor to your beautiful region I urge the Council to include a budget for detailed design so as to progress the Monaro Rail Trail.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I fully support the directions & wishes of Rail Trails Australia.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Monaro Rail Trail has been identified in several development strategies as a key component of tourism growth in the Monaro and local communities have expressed the importance of shared pathways for recreation and health. Please include a provision of \$90,000 in your 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed. The MRT is seen as a vital component of tourism diversity on the Monaro.

Communities with Rail Trails love and care for them as their own. If you have the opportunity to have a rail trail in your region, don't pass it by!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

NSW really needs a trail like this. We are sadly way behind Victoria on these projects. They are fantastic for an area bringing in substantial tourist dollars. Please develop this now and many more in others NSW areas in the future.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regarding the Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) I wish to strongly support the Monaro Rail Trail (MRT) proposal. The MRT represents a key opportunity for tourism growth in the Monaro and local communities as much as important amenity for resident recreation and health. SMRC has not specified funding of the Monaro Rail Trail - and wish SMRC to make a realistic funding commitment in order to realise this project. Funding should be identified from multiple sources that include local provision and state government grants.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I wish to add my support for the proposed Snowy-Monaro Rail Trail and suggest that a specific allocation be included in the Operational Budget for this project to allow detailed planning to proceed and truly demonstrate Council support this project. My wife and I recently participated in a group cycling tour which included the Tumbarumba Rail Trail, the High Country Trail (Wodonga to Tallangatta) and the Murray to Mountains Trail from Myrtleford to Beechworth and Myrtleford to Bright. The group comprised around 24 cyclists, mainly from Melbourne. We thoroughly enjoyed our time in these delightful communities including meeting the local people and experiencing the beautiful environment. We are aware that visits to these areas by groups such as ours brings much needed Tourism spending and support into these communities and we intend to return regularly. We look forward to being able to include the Snowy Monaro Rail Trail into our itinerary in the near future.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please go ahead with this very worthwhile project.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

We would like to extend our support for the Monaro Rail Trail and thank the council and committee for designing and planning this as a true Multi-user recreational trail including horse riding. It is so

very important to maintain and expand the connections in our communities and what better way to do it then by communicating on a beautiful trail while each and everyone enjoys via chosen transport method. Dividing recreational trails and excluding uses groups, only divides communities. Continue as you are with horses included and you will support a wonderfully connected community. Well Done!!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Rail trails can provide an excellent boost to local tourism in an environmentally friendly and healthy way. In contrast to Victoria, NSW has very few rails trails and I think it is a neglected area of potential for rural communities.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It is essential for completion of this project.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As an avid Rail Trail cyclist, it seems there's an opportunity lost if the Monaro Rail Trail is not fully developed to encourage many visitors to your region. Please consider this in your Budget.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A rail trail would be a wonderful tourist attraction. It could connect with mountain bike trails into the nearby high country National Parks.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This project would support local communities, employment opportunities by attracting more visitors to the region. I live in Victoria where I have seen the benefit of Rail Trails to local communities, its really a no-brainer to build this infrastructure.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Congratulations for including the Monaro Rail Trail project in the draft 2022 Operational Plan under Tourism. However, the Plan allocates no funding to it. I ask Council to allocate \$90,000 for detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of Stage 1 of the Rail Trail. That will enable the project to move to the next stage of its development – securing funding and

NSW Government support for the project in readiness for construction. It will enable Snowy Monaro to reap the benefits rail trails bring for residents and the local economy ahead of several other NSW rail trail proposals that are not as advanced. The project will also contribute to a range of activities on Council's draft Operational Plan. There are too many to state fully here, but they cover all four themes in Council's Community Strategic Plan. The relevant 14 actions on Council's draft Operational Plan are: 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.2, 1.3.1, 1.4.2, 4.1.4, 6.1.1, 6.3.3, 7.1.3, 8.1.2, 8.2.3, 9.1.4, 12.2.1, 12.3.3

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hello, I'm writing to seek confirmation of financial commitment to the Draft Operational Plan for the Monaro Rail Trail. If you look to benefits brought to communities from other rail trails, they are significant. With so many volunteers and supporters able and willing to help, please show genuine commitment to the plan. Particularly now when communities can step up to driving active tourism. Thank you,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi, I would like to encourage the Snowy Monaro Regional Council to commit money in its budget for the proposed rail trail. As a keen cyclist living in Canberra I would love to have access to a rail trail in my local area. I regularly travel to Victoria to vacation along their rail trails (border restrictions permitting) and have witnessed first hand how the trails have brought several small towns to life. I have traveled to and explored towns that I would have never gone to had they not been on a rail trail.

Cycling is a wonderful way to experience the country side at a relaxed pace. The health and environmental benefits are immense. I'm sure there would be a boost to tourism in the Snowy Monaro region if the trail goes ahead.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Background briefing to the SMRC draft operational budget advises that preparation of the budget is based on the Premier's Priorities and the SMRC Community Strategic Plan 2040. The latter in particular refers to; recognizing community health and well being needs and building an economy with year round diverse tourism. This same sentiment is expressed in the South East & Tablelands Plan of 2036. Recently SMRC has wisely surveyed community recreation needs and found that walking and cycling are in the top 5 of the top 10 recreation activities. Residents advised that having shared pathways are a high ranking recreation need, for example Michelago residents ranked shared paths as number 1 priority and Cooma, Bombala and Nimmitabel ranked shared paths as No 2 priority. Given this background information on Monaro community needs it is therefore surprising to see that the draft SMRC budget makes no allowance in planning for new pathways across the region. The MRT would fulfill this recreation need and be in alignment with state, regional and local strategy planning. It would be appropriate for SMRC to include a budget allocation to start planning the MRT particularly in the socio economically disadvantaged areas of Nimmitabel and Bombala. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Get it done Rail trails bring a lot of money into the area for all businesses Victoria is a excellent example It is important to keep bikes and people off roads Get it done now get it done right.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2022 Draft Operational Plan: Please continue and increase priority on Monaro Rail Trail - this will have a positive impact on the council's region. Request consideration of sealing Burra Road within the shire, or at least improved grading to cater for increased traffic. Request improved rubbish and recycle able services to the northwest of the region, such as Mt Burra.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

You've forgotten the people living in Burra. We pay for waste management yet have no bins or tip passes. We pay an additional \$100 a quarter now yet we drive on dangerous roads and have our own services.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please prioritise building the Queanbeyan-Bombala rail trail. It will be a useful and practical means of transport between towns for locals, as well as attracting non-local visitors (international & domestic) to spend time in the region and money in local communities. I am based in Canberra & have been visiting Victoria each Christmas to ride their rail trails with my family, yet abandoned lines like Queanbeyan-Bombala sit unused nearby. Rather than waste time and money on endless feasibility studies, please just get it built. The benefits to Qld and Victoria of their rail trails, and in NZ and the US and Europe are clear. With trains from Sydney to Canberra, even Sydney siders can easily bring their bikes to the trailhead, and walk or ride the line to Bombala and back. We need more regional tourist opportunities that don't require cars and that promote active healthy family-friendly recreation. The Tumbarumba/Rosewood trail is going great guns. Please get the Bombala-Queanbeyan trail competed asap. It doesn't need fancy engineering, just a basic surface, and will rapidly pay for itself in community wellbeing & health, and tourism and economic benefits.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Re the Monaro rail trail funding: please be assured that rail trail riders are significant contributors to local economies. We stay at hotels/motels, eat out, visit tourist spots, everywhere we go. We spend more than \$200 per day, per person. So it's best to spend money on this rail trail sooner, rather than later, so you can start to reap the rewards earlier.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Good afternoon, the community development at Mount Burra would appreciate services such as bin collection to be considered as soon as possible. In addition the council should consider doing a joint works with QPRC to tar and seal the section of Burra Road that is currently dirt to Mount Burra. This road will only get busier as the area continues to develop.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Regarding the Draft 2022 Operational Budget, I hope that SMRC see fit to include \$90,000 to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed. For tourism in the shire - a rail trail would be a key, strategic development that would get great use - not only from ACT residents, but many other states and overseas cyclists. It is a fantastic means of adding business prospects to villages, towns and families along the route. Please include funding so this worthwhile project can proceed.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It is pleasing to see that as part of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council Draft Operational Plan, there is continued support for the Monaro Rail Trail. A Rail Trail would significantly add to the tourism potential in the Snowy Monaro region and draw tourists to the area all throughout the year, particularly in the slower months of Summer.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It would be great to see details of the amount the council will commit to progressing the Monaro Rail Trail, in the 2021-22 budget. This development will bring much needed tourist dollars to the Monaro region, building on the huge drawcard of cycling tourism in Canberra. Council's public commitment each year to development of this initiative, and its ultimate delivery, will pay ongoing dividends in revenue for the region into the future.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I understand that although the council (SMRC) supports the Monaro Rail Trail, there has been no funding provided in the current works program. The Friends of the Monaro Rail Trail have suggested that the SMRC include a provision of \$90,000 in their 2021-22 Operational Plan and Budget to enable detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-Old Bombala Road sections of the Monaro Rail Trail Stage 1 to proceed. Given the huge growth in domestic tourism since COVID, I think it would be very shortsighted to overlook the potential that tourist dollars would bring to your

community. Riding rail trails is popular across all age ranges and a longer trail will bring visitors for longer periods of time to enjoy the riding and all that the region has to offer.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The more money the better! This is a vital element of future tourism in the area. Being a New South Welshman and having completed many rail trails in Victoria, it is disappointing that NSW is so slow in realising the potential of these interesting, healthy, adventurous and economically beneficial tourist attractions.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: "Monaro Rail Trail"

Please allow funding for the support and progress of the Monaro Rail Trail Project. This will promote tourism in and around the area. For examples of similar successful projects and how they contribute to the community and tourism in so many ways, look at; The Tumbarumba to Rosewood (Riverina Highlands) Rail Trail, The Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, The Kilkivan - Kingaroy Rail Trail, The Caboolture to Wamuran Rail Trail, The Fernleigh Track, The Great Victorian Rail Trail and The Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. Please allow in your budget this year and in coming years for this important project. Thank you.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

My comments relate specifically to the Operational Plan. My understanding of the Plan is that it contains nothing specific about Arts in general or anything other than slightly nebulous support of 'culture'. Budgets exist for almost all other activities within Council's range of activities. Arts do not have one. I would argue that creative activities have significant economic benefits for the region. Some application through IPART (if it still is the relevant entity of NSW government) to charge a minimal percentage as a culture revenue would at least present Council with a long term planning financial base. I respectfully request that Council consider incorporating the Arts within its corporate structures. Community committees exist, Discussion Papers have been put to Council, a Regional Art Gallery is a minimum if: We are a vibrant and prosperous community providing opportunities for growth and learning.

██████████
Thank you for opportunity to comment on the above document.

We support all the Delivery Program Principles. We feel that there are several significant items to add to the Service Delivery Activities following our ongoing discussions with Council's Chief Operating Officer, Jeff Morgan, regarding major infrastructural and planning issues at East Jindabyne.

These are:

- Produce a footpath plan for the whole of the LGA in order to be 'shovel ready' for community infrastructure grant opportunities.
- Progress the Jerrara Drive upgrade from study report towards implementation.
- Have developers install street trees and footpaths in the three recent residential subdivisions in East Jindabyne for which the DA consent conditions stipulated these as a requirement.
- Initiate development of a Foreshore Management Plan at East Jindabyne with provisions for recreational use and facilities.

We also feel that the following could be considered:

- Create an online GIS tool for all Council staff that maps property boundaries, identifies all public areas, and land parcels managed by Council so that staff can properly manage their areas of responsibility (e.g., for weeds and maintenance of APZ's, road reserves, Snowy Hydro Land, parks, Crown Land).
- Revise the organisational structure so that the Strategic Planning department is closely aligned with the Development Assessment department. This is to ensure the latter's decision-making is supported by infrastructure, open space, connectivity and the overall planning objectives for the locality.

We thank you for your consideration of the above.

██████████
I write with regards to [the draft budget of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council \(SMRC\)](#).

I note with concern this budget has not specified funding of the [Monaro Rail Trail](#) development plans. This is in spite of the MRT being identified in several development strategies as a key component of tourism growth in the Monaro and that local communities have expressed the importance of shared pathways for recreation and health.

The MRT is a vital component of tourism diversity on the Monaro. The MRT represents a significant opportunity which now needs to be properly and realistically funded to be realised.

I encourage Council to set aside the required funding allocations alongside exploring the many funding grant opportunities available for such projects through State government and associated agencies.

Please note the enormous latent and untapped demand for such projects in NSW where there is precious little rail trail amenity (just one!) available. The opportunity is enormous if realised.



I am dismayed that these are the only mentions in the plan with any relation to arts and culture. Arts and culture make a considerable contribution to the region. Lakelight Sculpture attracts thousands of visitors each year and they stay in the region beyond Easter. Concerts, classes, workshops and galleries bring smaller but regular benefits to the towns from tourism, but also by keeping community members active, engaged, connected with each other, and healthy mentally and physically.

With the likelihood of international travel being unattainable for another year we literally have a captive population to attract to the region. and they need more than sports fields! We have a well-qualified local resident trying to establish an arts trail in the region. As evidenced by trails elsewhere - eg Queanbeyan-Palerang - initiatives like this draw people to explore regional areas, and to return to them.

2.2.2 Facilities for the provision of arts and cultural activities have been planned for in partnership with other government agencies and the community.

Maintenance schedule developed for key sites such as the Raglan Gallery and the upgraded Bombala Arts & Innovation Hub (former TAFE building).	Jun 2022	BAU	2.2.2 Facilities for the provision of arts and cultural activities have been planned for in partnership with other government agencies and the community.
Investigate the broader structural needs of the Raglan Gallery site in order to discern capital treatment options to support ongoing site sustainability.	Jun 2022	BAU	2.2.2 Facilities for the provision of arts and cultural activities have been planned for in partnership with other government agencies and the community.
Maintenance schedule developed for key sites, including any new sites that activate.	Jun 2022	BAU	2.2.2 Facilities for the provision of arts and cultural activities have been planned for in partnership with other government agencies and the community.

Worse still there is nothing at all relating to the provision of services or other support for multi-cultural activities. In light of the needs of the Snowy 2.0 workforce being met entirely by the Cooma Multicultural Centre, providing everything from free English classes to housing assistance, this is a grave omission.

Waste is another area where we miss opportunities. Why not emulate councils like Mt Hotham, creating jobs and products by innovative use of recyclable materials.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-05-02/mount-hotham-approaching-circular-economy/100106172>



I wish to add my support for the councils backing of the Monaro rail trail project. This project would add such value to the shire by bringing many tourists to the district, especially in the non winter months. It would give a great injection to the small economies of Michelago, Bredbo, Nimmitabel and Bombala, not to mention that of Cooma and the mountains, will rail cyclists more likely to use the mountain biking facilities as well. I have ridden trails in NZ, SA, VIC and this Monaro one would

be a step up on any of those ones mentioned. It would be a work renowned holiday destination, with an international airport at one end and located close to the coast and mountains. The cash flow projections are unbelievably positive and with so many small communities struggling, it is a must for the Snowy region.

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
1	Monaro Rail Trail - Out of 86 submissions received on the YourSay page, 68 are in support of \$90,000 to be allocated in the budget for detailed planning of the Bombala-Jincumbilly and Nimmitabel-MacLaughlin River sections.	At the Council meeting held 20 May 2021, Council resolved through a notice of motion to allocate \$90,000 in the Council budget to ensure detailed planning can be conducted for the first phase of the Monaro Rail Trail project. The sections of the project to be planned in detail are the Nimmitabel – MacLaughlin River (10km), and the Bombala – Jincumbilly (24km) sections. The resolution also required that the land owners are fully consulted in the areas proposed. The Economic Development unit is meeting regularly with MRT Inc to progress the rail trail.	Detailed planning for the first phase of the Monaro Rail Trail project. Sections - Nimmitabel – MacLaughlin River (10km), Bombala – Jincumbilly (24km), to be included as a project within the operational plan 2021/22.	\$90,000
2	I find it staggering that there is no allocation to Arts & Culture, Cultural Tourism and related events especially in light of the overwhelming success of Easter's Lake Light Sculpture event and other arts & cultural activities in the region.	Councils 'Arts and Culture' service delivery falls within the Strategic Planning Business unit of Council. Part of the Strategic Planning budget is allocated specifically to 'Arts and Culture'. \$31, 000 has been allocated for the 21/22 financial year.	Stage two of developing an Arts and Culture Strategy to be included in the Operational Plan 2021-2022.	BAU
3	A modern council budget should include a healthy allocation for the Arts. How do we move forward as a society in 2022 without any funding in these areas?	In addition, it is recommended that Council proceed with stage two of developing an Arts and Culture Strategy following on from stage one, the arts and culture discussion paper. Stage two is the drafting of an Arts and Culture Strategy for the Snowy Monaro Region. This Strategy will identify budget amount for 'Arts and Culture' throughout the region.		
4	Could we please find it in your funds to allow some money for the Arts? A little bit of funding is surely possible.			

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
5	<p>Bredbo has no mention in the Operational Plan. Bredbo seems to be a forgotten village in my opinion and we haven't progressed much over the past 10 years. We have no footpaths for kids or parents to walk their babies, kids walking to school, our main road is dark at night with no lighting, and we have trucks with compression brakes coming into Bredbo all hours. We are currently seeking someone from Council to help with a strategic plan so that we can get some of these things rectified. We need some focus on our future and getting a Strategic Plan in place would be great in this Operational Plan.</p>	<p>Bredbo strategic land use planning is addressed in Councils draft Settlements Strategy, it is expected that the draft document will be exhibited in 2022. Strategic planning actions for Bredbo will be identified in this document.</p>	Nil	Nil
6	<p>Bredbo is currently on Stage 2 water restrictions due to our bore causing turbidity through rain. What resources have been devoted to solving this problem in the shortest period of time? From what we can see Council is spending over \$1000 a day trucking water between Cooma and Bredbo. This can't be sustainable for a longer term due to the costs.</p>	<p>For the carting events that took place between August and November last year, some of the cost (\$49,747) has been met by the NSW Governments' <i>Emergency Relief for Regional Town Water Supplies</i> funding. This is not an on-going funding arrangement. Council currently has two programs underway to address the poor water quality events that are impacting Bredbo.</p> <p>Geotechnical investigation of the Bredbo Bores: The on-site drilling and geophysics investigation of the bores has been completed. The hydrogeological data is currently being reviewed, and a report is to be presented to Council. This report should outline why the bores are being affected, and actions to be undertaken.</p>	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
		<p>Five Villages Scoping Study: The Five Villages Scoping Study has been completed. Council will be presenting the findings in town meetings in each of the effected towns, with a high importance being placed on Bredbo.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the NSW Department Planning, Industry and Environment has informed Council that none of the works recommended in the Scoping Study are eligible for funding under the Safe and Secure Water funding stream. Council is currently investigating other funding options and will provide an update at the community meeting.</p>		
7	<p>The Michelago Master Plan is currently out for comment and two of the options involve the use of land that Geocon has purchased. It seems that Geocon are looking to take a sustainable, self-sufficient town to a higher density town which involves using more resources. The Master Plan and the Geocon early proposals contradict each other massively - particularly in terms of proposed population numbers.</p>	<p>A scenarios paper was released by Council considering four potential growth scenarios for Michelago. 26 submissions were received, Council is now working towards a draft Masterplan for public exhibition.</p>	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
8	After comparing SMRC's Draft 2022 Operational Budget with comparable documents of other Councils, I find it overall lacking in aspirational goals & detailed implementation directions.	<p>The purpose of an Operational Plan is to detail yearly actions against Council's adopted four Delivery Program. Our aspirational goals are identified within Snowy Monaro 2040 Community Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Council is embarking on a new Regional Community Strategic Plan (RCSP) with seven other Councils to be adopted by June 2022. This plan will provide an opportunity for our community to provide input with aspirational goals for our Council region.</p>	Nil	Nil
9	I would like to see a focus on how Council plans to work its way out of the massive debt that it has accrued and this should be a fundamental part of this plan. I would like to see targets over the next 12 months on improving the bottom line of Council.	<p>Council's audited financial statements as at 30 June 2020 reports total debt, or borrowings, of \$876,000. No further debt has been entered into by Council during the current year and repayments of the principal and associated interest have been made. The proposed 2021/22 Operational Plan is proposed to include an increase to Council's borrowings for the various projects already committed to that are grant funded or considered essential.</p>	Nil	Nil
10	<p>The councils accounting is an embarrassment, and nobody in council can tell an honest or accurate fact about the current truthful council budget position.</p> <p>UNTIL council discloses to the community what the truthful budget and financial position of the council is, no decisions of consequence can or should be made. I and many others in this community say this operational plan must be rejected, and council not endorse it, and leave the work</p>	<p>It is a legislative requirement within the Local Government Act 1993, that each local government area delivers an Operational Plan each financial year with full consideration of Council's resources, both financial and workforce capacity.</p>	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	for a future publicly endorsed and duly elected Council.			
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ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
11	Revise the organisational structure so that the Strategic Planning department is closely aligned with the Development Assessment department. This is to ensure the latter's decision-making is supported by infrastructure, open space, connectivity and the overall planning objectives for the locality.	Within Council's Organisational Structure the Strategic Planning team sit within the Strategy Portfolio of Council. While the Strategic and Statutory Development Assessment teams do not sit within the same department, they work closely and collaboratively together through regular structured meetings and workshops enabling the breaking down of a silo's within the organisation.	Nil	Nil
12	I was not able to find the information from the website as it just throws up documents which don't seem to have the relevant info in them. You need to get rid of the pretty pics on the page, and put up - Harmonising Rates. Waste etc. Make it user friendly, and give us points and summaries.	All information relating to projects on exhibition can be found at https://yoursaysnowymonaro.com.au/ . This can also be found from the Council website homepage, by clicking on the 'Your Say' Snowy Monaro tab at the top of the lower box. Each project in the Your Say site contains the relevant documents, along with details for how community members can provide feedback.	Nil	Nil
13	I could see some sense in the models, but not in the questions on the survey. That didn't seem to be the same issue.	The questions in the survey looked at the principles that could be applied to the rate models. Those questions allowed Council to look at what matters were important to the community, allowing Council to consider what rate structure was most likely to meet expectations of the community.	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
14	Apparently our rates must have been one of the highest in the areas as there is only one model that I see where we would have more than 2-4% of an increase, and one where it would be 55% less.	There are some rate categories that historically provided a higher portion of the rates Those properties do fare well under most models. When changing from minimum to base rates there will be certain properties that would also fare well under most models due to how the two different approaches calculate outcomes.	Nil	Nil
15	I don't want the Bank of Bins. Let us keep our Numeralla Transfer Station.	Bank of Bins (BOB) forms part of the current and previous operational plans. The BOB item listed in the operational plan allows for expansion to current bank of bin sites and to accommodate more residents wishing to utilise this service. The current operational plan BOB item also allows for expansion of 1-2 new sites per year as deemed necessary to ensure that council is providing adequate collection services or on a community based interest in the service. The bank of bins proposal within the strategy is for a significant increase to bank of bin services across the region and is considered under a separate operational plan item. As part of the strategy item, further investigations and community consultations will be undertaken prior to any roll out of the service under the strategy.	Nil	Nil
16	You need to remove the waste strategy elements from the operational plan because the waste strategy has been resoundingly rejected by the community, and particularly the villages and smaller towns.			
17	The waste management plan with bank of bins looks like a done deal, why was this communicated after the decision was made to close our Transfer Stations and go to bank of bins. I think this needs a lot more investigation before you take away the Transfer Station at Bredbo. With our ageing population in our towns and villages.			

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
18	I can see that Council is part of the Smart Cities Program which is great. I would also love to see our Council form part of the Cities Power Partnership so that we can form part of the network that tackles climate change in cities and towns. I reached out to them recently and they said our Council hasn't approached them yet, however, 52 NSW Councils are part of the partnership. Can we please put some sort of focus on the Climate in this plan?	The Cities Power Partnership (CPP) is a good initiative to foster commitment among Australian Local Governments to collectively take actions to address climate change. While not yet a signatory to it, the Council has already made some decisions consistent with the CPP. These include adoption in the Local Strategic Planning Statement of a planning priority to move towards a carbon neutral future, and a resolution to make the Council's vehicle fleet 'greener'.	Nil	Nil
19	I would love to see some mention of the Council fleet going toward electric vehicles.	Identifying a plan for the transition to electric vehicles and low emission vehicles is an identified project for 2121/2022	Nil	Nil
20	What is Council doing for our aged care? I note in the plan that the cost of aged care will be running at a loss. What can Council do to for our aged in regards to strategic partnerships, encouraging investment in our region with aged care or aged care facilities?	Council are supporting our aged residents in a variety of ways, including home care packages, the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP), and Community Transport. Council has an advocacy role in promoting regional partnerships, particularly in regards to aged care.	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
21	<p>When do we get netball/basketball all weather courts as planned 30 years ago? We got cricket nets instead LOL! (NO community consultation, like most!) When will we get a sports hub? Please think ahead and get those grant applications in, there's one available NOW for regional sport. Electric motor powered scooters are already here, as are many "E" MOTOR bikes, but we do not have the infrastructure to support this growth area of tourism. The lake path needs widening now, before someone gets really seriously injured. Why is it that families and seniors walking their companion animals are forced to dash to the side?</p>	<p>The Snowy Mountains SAP (Special Activation Precinct) includes plans for significant new sports facilities in Jindabyne at the Sport and Recreation Centre. It will be out on public exhibition in Jindabyne and community feedback will be welcomed by the State Government. Council is also working on a sports hub in Cooma which will consist of a new indoor sports centre in Monaro High School for community use and a new athletics track and upgraded cricket and AFL oval.</p>	Nil	Nil
22	<p>In addition, the council should consider doing a joint works with QPRC to tar and seal the section of Burra Road that is currently dirt to Mount Burra. This road will only get busier as the area continues to develop.</p>	<p>Currently there are no plans to focus attention on upgrading Burra Road, but the condition and risk are monitored to determine the frequency of maintenance.</p> <p>Any joint works with Queanbeyan-Palerang Council would require a 'shovel ready' project that includes detailed designs to achieve any success for state government funding. At this point in time, Council does not have the funds to undertake any design work.</p> <p>Council will advocate for cross border collaboration to benefit the transportation network, and deliver a more efficient and cost effective upgrade to Burra Road.</p>	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
23	Produce a footpath plan for the whole of the LGA in order to be 'shovel ready' for community infrastructure grant opportunities.	Council's adopted Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) has an action item (10.2) to develop and implement a footpath and shared paths strategy with a timing of 5-10 years of adoption of the LSPS.	Nil	Nil
24	Whilst it is wonderful to see the 50mtrs of path being finished In Gippsland Street opp. the P.O., how long have we waited for this? 30 or more years? Now we are told a survey needs to be done? That was due, according to the business papers, last June? We had meetings 25-30 years ago where we were promised a footpath on one side of every street within 5 years, nothing happened yet. Path in upper Gippsland street crosses the road twice, why? & it still isn't finished. A whole new suburb (Highview) is well advanced (most are dual occ placing a greater strain on carparks and PARKS and yet they have no connection to town forcing most to drive. When the Jillamatong /Barry way junction is opened it will become even more dangerous. Cooma is to get new pavers on existing paths? Why can't we have ANY paths.	In recent years Snowy Monaro Council have constructed new footpaths in Jindabyne in accordance with the 2010 Jindabyne Action Plan. All construction activities undertaken by Council have aligned with the Jindabyne Action Plan and prioritised by the community of Jindabyne. \$100 000 has been budgeted for footpath renewal in Council's capital works program for 2021-2022.		
25	Have developers install street trees and footpaths in the three recent residential sub-divisions in East Jindabyne for which the DA consent conditions stipulated these as a requirement.	Compliance with conditions of development consent regarding residential sub-divisions is an on-going requirement of Councils regulatory functions.	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
26	Where is council's rangers controlling this as the SRSC ranger used to? When is council going to replace all the trees that have been removed as per council's own tree policy? Especially those "destroyed " by the non-community consulted build of a MTB track through the Mitchell Reserve, against the plan for a 1mtr wide crushed granite footpath as promised 30 years ago and include in the plan of management? (a lot of these trees planted by schoolkids and parents 40 – 50 years ago). I think you can see there is a lot missing, so get on with it PLEASE.	Council undertakes regular education programs through media outlets to educate the community on the use of shared pathways. Council Rangers also continue to undertake regular patrols of the Jindabyne foreshore and other shared public areas through the Local Government Area to ensure legislative requirements are met.	Nil	Nil
27	Create an online GIS tool for all Council staff that maps property boundaries, identifies all public areas, and land parcels managed by Council so that staff can properly manage their areas of responsibility (e.g., for weeds and maintenance of APZ's, road reserves, Snowy Hydro Land, parks, Crown Land).	Council has Spectrum Spatial Analyst (SSA) to provide GIS information to staff. Further development of layers and additional tools are being developed and implemented.	Nil	Nil
28	1) Regarding ICT cybersecurity penetration test: council do not reference any scope or auditing frameworks (e.g. Australian government information security manual) they are preparing to track the outcomes against. Penetration tests provide more value when they form part of a larger program of cybersecurity work, and there should be KPI for assessing and processing findings into the program.	1 Specific detail around scope and auditing frameworks are dealt with internally at an operational level. 2 Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery risks are reviewed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee and external auditors. Publicly available Information is determined under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and is either published on Council's	Nil	Nil

ATTACHMENT 2 – 2022 OPERATIONAL PLAN SUBMISSION RESPONSES

	Submission	Commentary	Recommended Actions	Estimated Cost
	<p>2) Regarding ICT disaster recovery: council only loosely cover business continuity. Business continuity should be broken out into a separate risk management stream that addresses the issues identified in cybersecurity and disaster recovery audits. Reporting on the level of risk in Business continuity should be publicly available and should be managed in collaboration with councilors.</p> <p>3) I would like to see council implement a Net Promoter Score (NPS) trial. It is fair to implement KPI and measures; however, they are meaningless without the voice of the customer.</p> <p>4) I would like to see a focus on innovation and crowd ideation across council and the community. The outcome of this program should encourage entrepreneurship by fostering an idea and develop it into a minimum viable product.</p>	<p>Website or available through GIPA application.</p> <p>3 Establishment of an NPS type measure can be included as part of the annual review of assessment methods of KPIs and measures.</p> <p>4 Continual improvement processes and innovation practices are currently being included as part of Council's implementation of the Australian Business Excellence Framework.</p>		

8.1.3 MAKING OF THE 2021-22 ANNUAL RATES AND CHARGES

Record No:

Responsible Officer: Chief Financial Officer
Author: Finance Accountant

Key Theme: 4. Leadership Outcomes
CSP Community Strategy: 11.1 Public services and processes are delivered reliably and efficiently in response to community needs
Delivery Program Objectives: 11.1.3 Rates, Fees and Charges are rationalised to support community needs and services
Attachments: Nil

Cost Centre W17 Financial Services
Project 2022 Annual Rates and Charges
Further Operational Plan Actions:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In making the rates and annual charges for 2021/22, Council is required to apply the NSW Valuer General's land values as a 1 July 2019.

The Local Government Act 1993 requires that general income (ordinary rates) must not exceed the percentage increase determined for the year by the Minister for Local Government under Section 506 of the Act unless approval is provided. Council is not seeking an increase in rates above the permissible rate peg level for the coming year. The Office of Local Government has advised that the rate peg for 2021/22 will be 2% and this will be the overall increase to be applied.

Annual Charges for Waste, Onsite Sewage Management and Liquid Trade Waste will be levied on the Rates Notice.

Annual Charges for Water Access and Sewer Access will be charged through the issue of Water/Sewer Notices on a Tri-annual basis to comply with best-practice management of water supply and sewerage guidelines.

The following officer's recommendation is submitted for Council's consideration.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council;

Making of the Levy of Ordinary Rates for Snowy Monaro Regional Council

A. For the year 2021/22, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, make an ordinary rate of **0.0033568** rate in the dollar on the land value. In accordance with section 499 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make a **base amount** of **\$475.00** per

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assessment. This rate is to be named **Business** and applies to all rateable land categorised as Business.

- B. For the year 2021/22, in accordance with Section 518 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make an Ordinary Rate of **0.0083920** rate in the dollar on the land value. In accordance with Section 548 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make a **base amount of \$1,187.50** per assessment. This rate is to be named **Business Electricity Generation** and applies to all rateable land categorised as business electricity generation.
- C. For the year 2021/22, in accordance with Section 515 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make an Ordinary Rate of **0.0033568** rate in the dollar on the land value. In accordance with Section 499 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make a **base amount of \$475.00** per assessment. This rate is to be named **Farmland** and applies to all rateable land categorised as farmland.
- D. For the year 2021/22, in accordance with Section 517 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make an Ordinary Rate of **0.0083920** rate in the dollar on the land value. In accordance with Section 499 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make a **base amount of \$1,187.50** per assessment. This rate is to be named **Mining** and applies to all rateable land categorised as mining.
- E. For the year 2021/22, in accordance with Section 516 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make an Ordinary Rate of **0.0033568** rate in the dollar on the land value. In accordance with Section 499 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council make a **base amount of \$475.00** per assessment.. This rate is to be named **Residential** and applies to all rateable land categorised as residential.

Levy of Rates

- F. Levy the 2021/22 rates and charges by service of a rates and charges notice pursuant to section 546 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Annual Charges

Waste Management

- G. Council make annual charges for waste management services as follows;

Waste Management Charge	\$125.00
Domestic Waste Collection Service	\$262.00
Domestic Waste Collection – Upsize to 240L Bin from 120L Bin	\$157.00
Domestic Recycling Collection Service	\$122.00
Domestic Food and Garden Organic Collection Charge (Cooma-Monaro Region ONLY)	\$58.00
Domestic Waste Vacant Land Charge	\$20.00
Change over Domestic Bin Charge (per event)	\$35.00

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Bank of Bins Charge	\$250.00
Wheel Out/Wheel In Service	\$888.00
Commercial Waste Management	
Adaminaby/Bredbo/Bombala/Delegate/Nimmitabel/ Michelago Areas (If Kerbside Collection Services are provided)	
240L Bin	\$462.00
360L Bin	\$690.00
All other areas	Per fees & charges
Commercial Recycling Management	
Adaminaby/Bredbo/Bombala/Delegate/Nimmitabel/ Michelago Areas (If Kerbside Collection Services are provided)	\$260.00
All other areas	Per fees & charges
Commercial Food and Garden Organic Management	
Cooma-Monaro Region	\$145.00
All other areas	N/A

Liquid Trade Waste

H. Make an annual liquid trade waste charge per annum where the program exists as follows;

Classification "A" Charging Category 1 – Low	\$235.00
Classification "B" Charging Category 1 – Low	\$265.00
Classification "A" Charging Category 2 – Medium	\$926.00
Classification "B" Charging Category 2 – Medium	\$926.00
Classification "S" Charging Category 2 – Medium	\$103.00
Classification "B" Charging Category 1 – High	\$1,836.00

Stormwater management

I. In accordance with Section 496A of the Local Government Act 1993, levy an annual stormwater management charge of \$20 per annum for each parcel of rateable (occupied) land for which the service is available within the former Bombala Council area.

Onsite Sewer Management System

J. Levy an onsite sewer management system renewal fee of \$25.00.

Residential Water and Sewer

K. In accordance with section 501 and 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, make an annual

8.1.3 MAKING OF THE 2021-22 ANNUAL RATES AND CHARGES

residential water access charge of \$269.30 per annum, connected or unconnected.

Water

L. Set the residential usage charge for water at \$3.20 per kilolitre per annum.

Sewer

M. In accordance with Section 501 and 502 of the Local Government Act 1993, make an annual residential sewer access charge of \$942.30 per annum, connected or unconnected.

Non-Residential Water and Sewer

N. In accordance with Best Practice Guidelines for Water, make an annual water access charge for non-residential properties based on meter size as follows:

Water Annual Access Charge – Non Residential					
Meter Size	Vacant	20mm	25mm	32mm	40mm
2021-22	\$269.30	\$269.30	\$420.78	\$689.41	\$1,077.20

Water Annual Access Charge – Non Residential – Continued					
50mm	65mm	75mm	80mm	100mm	150mm
\$1,683.13	\$2,844.48	\$3,787.03	\$4,308.80	\$6,732.50	\$15,148.13

Water Usage Charge – Non Residential

O. Set the non-residential water usage charge at \$3.20 per kilolitre per annum

P. In accordance with Best Practice Guidelines for Water, make an annual sewer access charge for non-residential properties based on meter size as follows:

Meter Size	Vacant	20mm	25mm	32mm	40mm
2021-22	\$942.30	\$942.30	\$1,472.34	\$2,412.29	\$3,769.20

50mm	65mm	75mm	80mm	100mm	150mm
\$5,889.38	\$9,953.04	\$13,251.09	\$15,076.80	\$23,557.50	\$53,004.38

Sewer Usage Charge – Non Residential

Q. Set the non-residential usage charge at \$1.05, with a discharge factor of 0.6 based on water meter readings multiplied by the discharge factor. Where the reading is taken directly from a sewer flow meter, the discharge factor shall not apply.

Pipes, Rails and Structures

R. In accordance with the provisions of Section 611 of the Local Government Act 1993, make an annual charges for any rail, pipe, wire, pole, cable, tunnel or structure laid, erected, suspended, constructed or placed on, under or over a public place as follows:

- Under a public place \$742 per kilometre
- On or over a public place \$154 per pole or structure.

8.1.3 MAKING OF THE 2021-22 ANNUAL RATES AND CHARGES

BACKGROUND

The making of the rates and charges is a legislative requirement as per Section 494, 496, 535 and 548 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The Minister of Local Government has approved the rate pegging increase of 2.0%.

Under NSW State Government legislation, all amalgamated Councils were required to harmonise rating structures by July 2021.

Following a period of public consultation it was decided rates will be calculated under a single formula that collects rates fairly across all Snowy Monaro Regional Council ratepayers.

This change does not increase the total rate revenue received by SMRC but will lead to changes in an individual's rates.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION	272/19
That Council determine the preferred option for rates harmonisation as Option 2 - Implementation from 1 July 2021	
Moved Councillor Stewart	Seconded Councillor Maslin CARRIED

QUADRUPLE BOTTOM LINE REPORTING

1. Social

The making of the rates and charges will provide equity within the whole Local Government Area and will improve the accountability of decision makers.

2. Environmental

The making of the rates and charges has no perceived impact on the environment within Snowy Monaro Regional Council.

3. Economic

Total estimated ordinary rates to be raised from the 2021/2022 Rates is \$17,356,356.28. The total estimated revenue by category raised for Snowy Monaro Regional Council is as follows;

Total SMRC Revenue By Category

Business	\$ 1,634,084.31	9.5%
Residential	\$ 10,023,774.46	57.8%
Farmland	\$ 5,698,497.51	32.8%
Mining	\$ -	0%
	\$ 17,356,356.28	100%

Rate Peg Increase since 2016/17

Year	IPART Rate Peg Increase	SMRC Approved Rate Increase
2017	1.80%	1.80%
2018	1.50%	1.50%

8.1.3 MAKING OF THE 2021-22 ANNUAL RATES AND CHARGES

2019	2.30%	2.30%
2020	2.70%	2.70%
2021	2.60%	2.60%
2022	2.00%	2.00%

4. Civic Leadership

The making of the rates and charges is a legislative requirement as per Section 494, 496, 535 and 548 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
