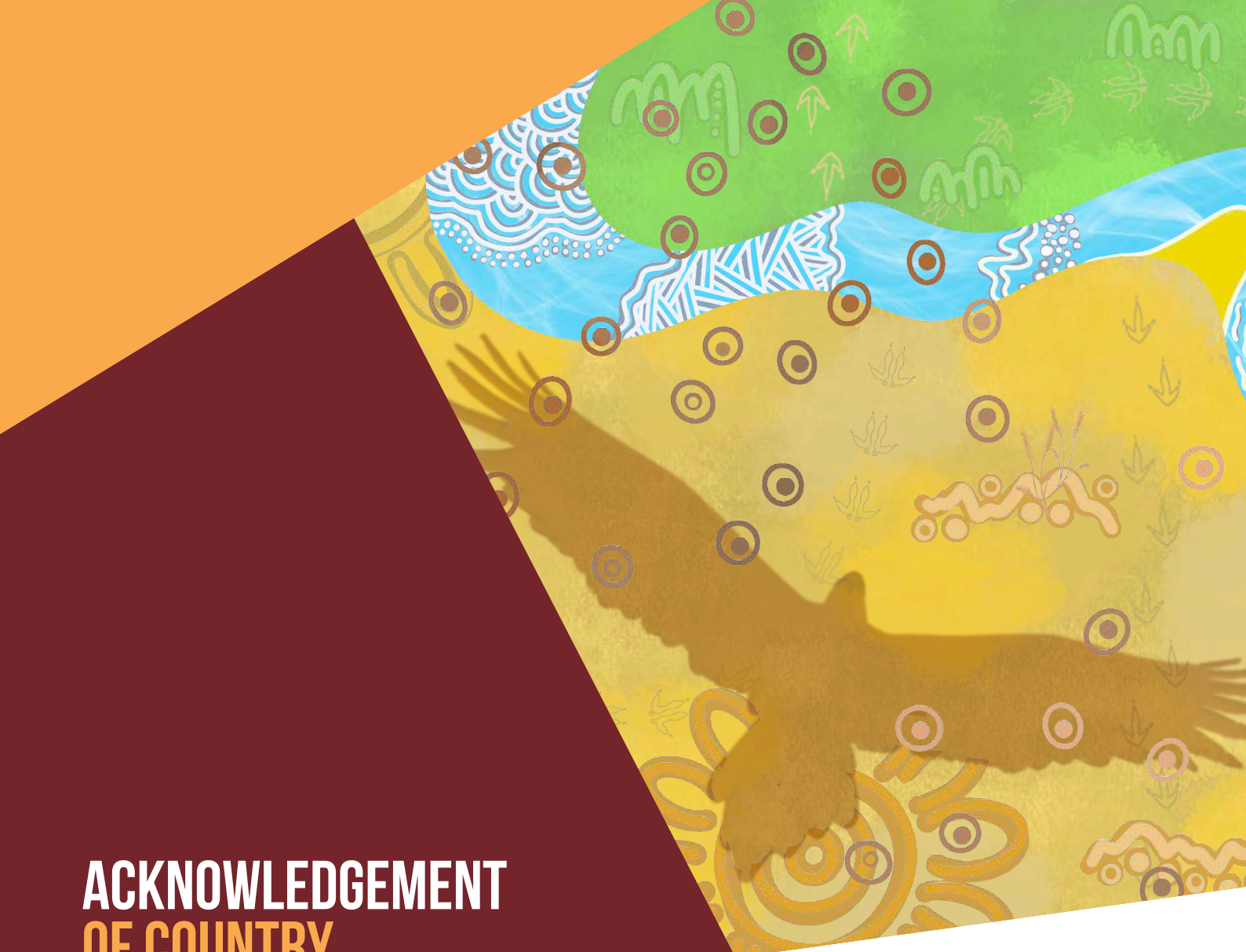




ATTACHMENT A - DETAILED ACTION PLAN

TRACKS AND TRAILS STRATEGY 2023



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Golden Plains Shire spans the Traditional lands of the Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar Peoples.

Council acknowledges them as the Traditional Owners and Custodians and pays its respects to both Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar Elders past, present and emerging.

Council extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who are part of Golden Plains Shire.



Artwork: 'Wabdallah' by Shu Brown

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The Tracks and Trails Strategy is being developed by Golden Plains Shire Council in partnership with Tredwell Management and the Victorian Government.



INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THE DETAILED ACTION PLAN

This 'Detailed Action Plan' supports the Tracks and Trails Strategy by providing in depth information and maps on individual actions. Each action is expanded on under the goals identified in the strategy.

The Detailed Action Plan outlines additional specific information including the required works, key partners, hierarchy of trails and trail activation scores.

PROJECT BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

Golden Plains Shire (GPS) community members are looking for more diverse ways to achieve their physical activity goals and connect with friends and family. At the forefront of this change is an increasing preference to participate in activities such as walking and cycling, which provide flexibility, and are affordable and inclusive. This Strategy assists Golden Plains Shire Council (GPSC) to respond to this trend and ensure a network of fit for purpose tracks and trails and supporting infrastructure is provided.

An assessment of the current condition of GPS's existing tracks and trails and their connectivity to towns, social and recreation spaces, and capacity to cater to all abilities has been undertaken. Community consultation has identified the individual needs of each community within the Shire and assessed how they currently use and intend to use trails. The Strategy also includes investigation into ways to activate the Shire's tracks and trails through community implemented programs such as Park Run and Active Golden Plains, and through connecting tracks and trails to key recreation and community facilities.

GPSC aims to provide a desirable network of tracks and trails that cater to its growing population and attract visitors from neighbouring LGA's and interstate. The Strategy reflects the needs of the region, taking into consideration the areas unique demographics, participation trends, health concerns, and environmental, recreational and social issues.

The Strategy ensures Council can effectively prioritise future upgrades, encourage physical activity, budget and pro-actively plan ongoing maintenance, and monitor and evaluate the utilisation of tracks and trails across Golden Plains and between neighbouring Local Government Areas.

The Strategy informs Council's strategic planning development over the next 10 years and delivers infrastructure, participation and programming

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

The Detailed Action Plan is included on the following pages, including rationale, actions, timeframe, cost key partners, priority and trail activation scores.

TRAIL ACTIVATION SCORE

Each trail is assigned a Trail Activation Score within its respective Actions section. This score quantifies the overall activation potential offered by the trail, evaluated based on the following criteria:

- **Accessibility:** Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)
- **Community Connections:** Does the trail provide connections to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)
- **Recreation Connections:** Does the trail provide connections to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)
- **Event Suitability:** Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)
- **Unique Experiences:** Does the trail provide unique experiences that attract a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)

Each of these criteria is assigned a score ranging from 0 to 3, reflecting how well the trail aligns with the specific criteria. The scores are interpreted as follows: 0 = Poor, 1 = Fair, 2 = Good, 3 = Excellent. The cumulative scores contribute to the overall Trail Activation Scores, which are categorised as follows:

- 0-3 = Poor
- 4-7 = Fair
- 7-10 = Good
- 11-15 = Excellent

These scores indicate the effectiveness of the trail in encouraging activation through walking, cycling, horse riding, running/jogging and cycling, leading to enhanced community health and economic benefits.

PARTNERS

There are various complexities surrounding trail planning and development, including multiple land tenure, cross government boundary/regional projects involving multiple government departments, and the diverse, and sometimes conflicting aspirations of community stakeholders. Recognising this, Council will need to collaborate with a variety of partners, noting that some of the identified actions may not be deliverable without such support.

Engagement and consultation with all relevant local Indigenous and elder groups is to be undertaken to ensure they have provided input on all relevant Track and Trail strategies and actions.

Partners include:

- Golden Plains Shire Council (GPSC)
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)
- Department of Transport and Planning (DTP)
- Parks Victoria (PV)
- VicRoads (VR)
- VicTrack (VT)
- Parkrun (PR)
- Inverleigh Open Space Group (IOSG)
- Bannockburn Community Planning Group (BCPG)
- Teesdale Community Planning Group (TCPG)
- Ross Creek-Smythes Creek Community Group (RSCG)
- Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group (MPPSG)
- Woody Yaloak Land Care Group (WYLCG)
- Napoleons Enfield Landcare Group (NELG)
- Teesdale Hall Committee (THC)
- Steiglitz Historical Society (SHS)
- Ballarat Environmental Network (BEN)
- Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE)
- Corangamite Shire Council (CSC)
- City of Ballarat (COB)
- Hepburn Shire Council (HSC)
- City of Greater Bendigo (COGB)
- Moorabool Shire Council (MSC)
- City of Greater Geelong (COGG)
- Surrounding Landowners (SL)



GOAL A: INTEGRATED PLANNING & MANAGEMENT

Underpinning a sustainable, integrated, and accessible trails network is a strategic framework and coordinated approach with prioritised investment and appropriate allocation of resources.

STRATEGY A1 - INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK:

Implement an integrated framework for the planning and management of recreational tracks and trails across Golden Plains Shire.

RATIONALE

Integrated recreational trails networks offer synergies to achieve positive outcomes across various sectors such as health, recreation, transport and conservation. The GPS Tracks and Trails Strategy provides a framework for the ongoing development, maintenance and enhancement of trails to facilitate economic, social, and environmental benefit. It is important that an integrated approach is taken to allow for coordinated efforts between all local government and land authorities, the VIC Government, industry and the trail user community (e.g. clubs, trail user/stewardship groups, event organisers, progress associations, bushcare groups etc.).

The establishment of a Trail Planning and Development Officer (TDO) role within GPSC will be a key resource to drive implementation of the Tracks and Trails Strategy, in collaboration with relevant council staff and external stakeholders. A key objective of this role would be to lead facilitation of a GPSC Trail Control Group (TCG) which determines the ongoing approach for implementation, ensuring that key community, partnership and stakeholders are engaged where required for specific projects. The establishment of the TDO Role and the TCG will enable a consistent and transparent process for systematic implementation of the action plan. The TCG would also be in a position to work with the TDO to ensure that the priorities outlined in the Strategy are continually reviewed and that actions are re-prioritised to meet changing community needs.

As projects are progressed by the TCG, it is proposed that the TDO establishes a Trail Working Group (TWG) with representation from member/s of the TCG, key stakeholders and relevant trail user group/s. This will ensure an effective model of communication and a consistent and transparent hierarchy for governance of trail projects driven by GPSC.

There is likely be increased demand over time for further strategic trail developments across GPS, as interest in trail-related activities continues to grow and the economic benefits of trail-related tourism become more apparent. Having a clear and transparent framework for the management and development of trails will empower council staff, key stakeholders and community members to take an appropriate role in trail development, and to be aware of the parameters of their role and their level of influence. The TDO will offer a consistent channel for community and stakeholder liaison with Council relating to trail development and management. Establishing the clear framework will enable a transparent process where proposals are considered by the relevant departments within GPSC.

Trail development, management and maintenance need to be adequately resourced to ensure that Council's trails are kept to a standard which offer quality and safe experiences, and are able to be widely promoted. Adequate funds must be allocated from internal budgets for the ongoing maintenance and management of trails, and where external funds are required, compelling business cases need to be communicated. Risk management is an important component of trail management, and it is important that this is integrated into Council's management and maintenance systems for these important recreational assets.

Volunteer programs build capacity within the community to meaningfully and continually contribute to the Shire's trail network through encouraging volunteers to take on trail stewardship roles across all trail disciplines (i.e. walking/trail running, mountain bike riding, cycling, horse riding). The significant contribution of community volunteer resources into trail networks must be acknowledged and encouraged for the ongoing sustainability of the Shire's trail network.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
A1.1 GPSC Trail Control Group: Establish a Trails Control Group with representation from relevant departments within Council (i.e. recreation and sport, environment and heritage, economic development, operations and infrastructure) to ensure strategic development and ongoing sustainability of the GPSC trail network to meet the needs of all trail disciplines. Ensure engagement with key stakeholders (e.g. Parks VIC, DEECA, Traditional Owners) as required.	Short	Low	GPSC	High
A1.2 Dedicated Staff Position: Seek funding for a role designated to trail planning, development and activation to drive implementation of the Tracks and Trails Strategy in collaboration with the Trails Working Group and key stakeholders.	Short/ Medium	Medium	GPSC	High
A1.3 Integrated Planning: Embed trails into broader planning and budget processes (e.g. sport and recreation plans, infrastructure and asset plans, tourism plans/destination management plans, strategic plans, development plans, open space plans, community plans, transport plans).	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High
A1.4 Trail Working Group: Establish a Trail Working Group to progress initiatives determined by the Trail Control Group, with representation from GPSC and key stakeholders, including representatives of relevant trail user disciplines (i.e. walking, running, cycling, mountain bike riding and horse riding).	Ongoing	Low	GPSC, User Groups, Community	High
A1.5 Volunteers: Acknowledge the significant contribution of volunteer organisations to the ongoing sustainability of the GPS trail network (e.g. progress associations, Bushcare/Landcare Groups, Service Clubs etc.). Encourage the involvement of new/ other volunteer groups across the region contributing to stewardship of GPS trails.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High
A1.6 Funding and Resources: Utilise the Tracks and Trails Strategy to advocate for funding and resources towards the implementation of the Action Plan and the ongoing development and maintenance of the GPS trail network.	Short	Low	GPSC	High

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
A1.7 Cross-Tenure Collaboration: Formalise mechanisms and continually strengthen partnerships with adjacent land managers for development of the regional trail network and opportunities to link into adjoining trail infrastructure (e.g. neighbouring councils, DEECA, Parks VIC, businesses, private landowners).	Short	Low	GPSC, DEECA, Parks VIC, Neighbouring LGAs	High
A1.8 Trail User Code of Conduct: Publish and promote a Trail User Code of Conduct to ensure that all types of trail users (e.g. walk, run, bike, horse ride) are informed about their expected behaviour and trail etiquette. Ensure that trail information (including trailhead signage) clearly states permitted trail user types.	High / Short	Low	GPSC	High

STRATEGY A2 STANDARDISED TRAIL PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE:

Ensure that consistent, comprehensive and best practice processes are utilised in the planning, management and maintenance of the GPS trail network.

RATIONALE

The 8 Stage Trail Development Process builds rigour into the trail development process through a best-practice, robust and standardised methodology for all trail developments and renewals. The 8 stages of this process are:

1. Trail Proposal
2. Framework
3. Site Assessment
4. Concept Planning
5. Corridor Evaluation
6. Detailed Design
7. Construction
8. Evaluation

Council's endorsement and implementation of this process will ensure that due diligence and stakeholder engagement are embedded into the process of transforming trail proposals professionally built and sustainable assets. The process encompasses constant evaluation, review and improvement as trails are being developed, maintained, extended or renewed. This allows project stakeholders to meaningfully engage with a clear understanding of which stage a trail development is at, and what the next steps will be.

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
A2.1	8 Stage Trail Development Process: Endorse the 8 Stage Trail Development Process as the standardised methodology for all trail developments and renewals in GPS. Raise awareness about the standardised process and ensure that key stakeholders are engaged at key points.	Short	Low	GPSC	High
A2.2	Trail Naming: Ensure that each trail experience in the GPS trail network has a clearly defined name which is consistent, relevant and representative of the experience. This ensures that each trail can be clearly identified for trail management, maintenance, signage, safety and promotion. Where supported by Traditional Owners, identify and utilise the Indigenous names of key sites/ features across the GPS trails network.	Short	Low	GPSC	High

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
A2.3	Audit and Assessment Process: Establish a standard procedure, manual and schedule for trail inspections and works, and integrate into regular asset management programs to be undertaken by staff or volunteers.	Short	Low	GPSC	High
A2.4	Compliance: Ensure that all trail signage, infrastructure, inspection intervals, maintenance and communication comply with relevant Standards (i.e. Cycling infrastructure standards, Australian Standard AS2156.1 Walking Tracks Classification and Signage) or Guidelines (i.e. Australian Mountain Bike Trail Guidelines, Horse Trail Infrastructure Guidelines).	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High



GOAL B: QUALITY, SAFE, AND SUSTAINABLE NETWORK OF EXISTING TRAILS

Existing trails are enhanced to provide high quality, safe, and sustainable opportunities for residents and visitors with a range of interests and abilities.

STRATEGY B - ALL EXISTING TRAIL DEVELOPMENTS

Upgrade existing Council-controlled trails and advocate for improvements to trails managed by other agencies.

RATIONALE

It is recommended that future development initially focuses on formalising and upgrading the existing trails network, particularly at locations where opportunities exist to encourage increased usage, appreciation of the GPS's natural features and/or stimulation of economic activity.

Existing Council-controlled trails have been identified across GPS. These trails are in varying condition, with some being formalised, defined trails and others being informal routes which provide opportunity for further development. In addition to these trails in natural areas, some towns also have walks which display the area's heritage features (i.e. Steiglitz Historic Walk) and others provide key connections between infrastructure and amenities (e.g. Wabdullah Reserve).

The Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 identifies the desire for the region to:

- Provide good health and well-being for all.
- Provide places, spaces and programs that support active and passive recreation and socialisation.
- Provide access to services, facilities and activities for people of all ages and abilities.
- Provide safe, connected pedestrian and transport infrastructure/services.
- Value and preserve natural ecosystems, landscapes, features, open spaces, bushland and connection to cultural heritage.
- Provide tourism and event options.

Improvements to the trails network & progression of trail development projects will support these objectives.

STRATEGY B1 - BANNOCKBURN BUSHLAND (SOUTH)

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B1.1	Supporting Infrastructure: Install shade shelter and water access point.	Short	M	GPSC, PV	Medium
B1.2	Trail Connection: Connect Bannockburn Bushland to Bannockburn via active transport (bike, walk, run). See Strategy C4.	See Strategy C4	See Strategy C4	See Strategy C4	See Strategy C4
B1.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Bannockburn Bushland. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 9/15 Good

STRATEGY B2 - BANNOCKBURN BUSHLAND (NORTH)

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B2.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install trailhead, waymarking, management/warning or interpretive signage and waymarking along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, TO, PV	High
B2.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Install seating at regular intervals along trail, install water and shade at trails start/end points.	Short	M	GPSC, PV	Medium
B2.3 Maintain: Maintain as a Grade 2 local trail.	Short	L	GPSC, pV	High
B2.4 Trail Connection: Connect Bannockburn Bushland (North) to Bannockburn via active transport (bike, walk, run). See Strategy C3.	See Strategy C3.	See Strategy C3.	See Strategy C3.	See Strategy C3.
B2.5 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Bannockburn Bushland. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 8/15 Good

STRATEGY B3 - WABDULLAH RESERVE

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B3.1 Signage and Waymarking: Improve or install signage and waymarking along the Trail to direct walkers to surrounding roads and subdivisions in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B3.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Install two bench seats along trail.	Medium	L	GPSC	Medium
B3.3 Enhance: Include a sealed formalised pathway to all or portions of the trail to cater to Class 1 users and all abilities.	Long	H	GPSC	Medium

Trail Activation Score 7/15 Good

STRATEGY B4 - BRUCE CREEK

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B4.1	Complete Trail: Extend concrete pathway to meet existing shade shelter, view point and seating area located to the west of Bannockburn P-12 College.	Short	H	GPSC	High
B4.2	Trail Extension: Extend trail both north and south to extend the experience and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.	Longer	H	GPSC	Medium
B4.3	Resurface Trail: Resurface trail to the south of Bannockburn-Shelford Road with concrete to bring to a Class 1 rating and provide a consistent experience and connection for all abilities.	Medium	MP	GPSC	High
B4.4	Signage and Waymarking: Improve or install signage and waymarking along the trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B4.5	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Bruce Creek Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				9/15 Good	

STRATEGY B5 - RAINBOW BIRD TRAIL, DEREEL

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B5.1	Signage and Waymarking: Install interpretive signage at key locations along trail.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B5.2	Supporting Infrastructure: Install additional supporting infrastructure, including seating, at regular intervals along trail, install water points at start and end points of trail.	Medium	L	GPSC	Medium
B5.3	Maintenance: Address maintenance of trail including fallen vegetation and flooding to trail north of Dereel. Improve maintenance to sections of the Rail Trail that the Rainbow Bird Trail utilises in Scarsdale and Newtown. See Strategy B25.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B5.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Rainbow Bird Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote that this trail provides inter-township connections.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				11/15 Excellent	

STRATEGY B6 - DEREEL LAGOON

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B6.1	Maintenance: Address and maintain overgrown vegetation along Trail.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B6.2	Signage and Waymarking: Include waymarking signage, in line with existing Park Victoria signage style, directing users back on to trail off Swamp Road along the Lagoon's southern bank.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B6.3	Trail extension: Provide a gravel trail from the Dereel Lagoon walks start-point to the carpark, toilet block, playground, skatepark and community hall.	Medium	L	GPSC	Medium
B6.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Dereel Lagoon Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				10/15 Good	

STRATEGY B7 - LONG GULLY LOOP

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B7.1	Maintenance: Address trail hazards including fallen trees and rutted surfaces.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B7.2	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Long Gully Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				4/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B8 - SURFACE POINT LOOP

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B8.1	Maintenance: Address hazards including fallen trees and poor surface condition.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B8.2	Supporting Infrastructure: Replace and install new stairs on steep climbs.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B8.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Surface Point Loop Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				4/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B9 - ENFIELD BALD HILLS LOOP TRAIL

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B9.1	Maintenance: Address hazards including fallen trees and poor surface condition.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B9.2	Supporting Infrastructure: Replace and install new stairs on steep climbs.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	High
B9.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Enfield Bald Hills Loop Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				4/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B10 - INVERLEIGH FLORA LOOP, INVERLEIGH NATURE CONSERVATION RESERVE

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B10.1	Signage and Waymarking: Include new trailhead on Old Shelford Track nearby the Inverleigh Golf Club entrance off Common Road. Include waymarking signage to provide a connection to the new Inverleigh Estate and link the trail into the proposed extended Leigh River and Barwon Junction River Trails (see Strategy B13/C8) and back to Inverleigh's High Street. Signage to be in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	M	PV, GPSC, TO	High
B10.2	Supporting Infrastructure: Install supporting infrastructure including shade shelter and picnic seating at new trailhead area.	Medium	M	PV, GPSC	Medium
B10.3	Trail Alignment: Realign trail to avoid deep sandy sections where possible.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	Medium
B10.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Inverleigh Flora Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				6/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B11 - KANGAROO TRACK VIA LINKS TRACK LOOP

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B11.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install signage and waymarking as per Strategy B10.	Refer Strategy B10	Refer Strategy B10	Refer Strategy B10	Refer Strategy B10
B11.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Install supporting infrastructure as per Strategy B10.	See B10	See B10	See B10	See B10
B11.3 Trail Alignment: Realign trail to avoid deep sandy sections where possible.	Short	L	PV, GPSC	Medium
B11.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Kangaroo Track via Links Track Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 6/15 Fair

STRATEGY B12 - RIVER TRACK, INVERLEIGH

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B12.1 Signage and Waymarking: Formalise trail through installation of trailhead signage in Yerram Yaluk Bun Park. Improve or install waymarker and interpretive signage along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, TO	High
B12.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Install seating at regular intervals along the trail.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B12.3 Trail Extension: Explore the opportunity to develop a concept plan to link the trail back along Saleyard Road and link back on to trail along the Leigh River to create a loop trail.	Long	M	GPSC, VR, SL	Medium
B12.4 Trail Extension: Formalise trail connection to Lawsons Park Playground in Lawsons Reserve and Inverleigh Skatepark in Yerram Yaluk Bun Park.	Medium	M	GPSC	Medium
B12.5 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the River Track. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote the linkage the trail provides to the Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trails to the north of High Street.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 12/15 Excellent

STRATEGY B13 - LEIGH RIVER AND BARWON JUNCTION RIVER TRAILS

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B13.1	Signage and Waymarking: Install additional waymarking, interpretation and trailhead signage to trail in alignment with existing signage styles.	Short	L	IOSG, GPSC	High
B13.2	Trail User Code of Conduct: Publish and promote a Trail User Code of Conduct Covered in Strategy A1.8 to reduce user impact on trail surface. Particularly horse riding (in the wet) and the construction of informal MTB jumps/obstacles. Ensure that trail information (including trailhead signage) states permitted trail user types and rules.	Short	L	IOSG, GPSC	High
B13.3	Planting: Support Inverleigh Open Space Group to plant suitable native vegetation and to relocate rocks on river bank to reduce erosion due flooding and proximity to the creek.	Short	L	IOSG, GPSC	High
B13.4	Federation Bridge: Repair flood damage to Federation Bridge and re-open to allow access to trail and Savage Drive from Cambridge St.	Short	L	IOSG, GPSC	High
B13.5	Trail Extension: Develop concept plans for, and extend trail west to connect into new residential development located on Common Road. See Strategy C8.	Refer Strategy C8.	Refer Strategy C8.	Refer Strategy C8.	Refer Strategy C8.
B13.6	Trail Extension: Explore opportunities to develop trail on opposite side of Leigh River. Trail proposals have previously been discussed but Inverleigh Open Space Group has encountered issues regarding landownership.	Long	M	TO, IOSG, GPSC	Low
B13.7	All Abilities Access: Explore the opportunity to develop a portion of the trail to allow for all abilities access in a natural environment. It is recommended to develop a portion of the southern end of the trail where it connects to Hamilton Highway to allow connection to Inverleigh's footpath network.	Medium	H	IOSG, GPSC	High
B13.8	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Leigh River and Barwon Junction River Trails. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote the linkage of the Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trails to the north of High Street in Inverleigh and to new residential development.	Short	L	GPSC, IOSG	High
Trail Activation Score				11/15 Excellent	

STRATEGY B14 - BRUCE CREEK, LETHBRIDGE

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B14.1	Road Crossing Points: Improve safety of road crossing point at Russell Street in accordance with Austroads 'Guide to Road Design Part 4'.	Short	L	GPSC, VR	High
B14.2	Signage and Waymarking: Install new trailhead sign at Lethbridge Lake near existing carpark and toilet block. Trail head sign to also function for Lethbridge Lake Trail (See Strategy B15). Install signage and waymarking along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B14.3	Upgrade Trail Surface: Upgrade trail surface to a concrete/asphalt surface to bring to a Class 1 standard to cater to all abilities and provide a key connection through Lethbridge accessible for all users. Provide connection to Lethbridge Recreation Reserve Playground and skatepark.	Medium	H	GPSC	Medium
B14.4	Supporting Infrastructure: Install bench seats at regular intervals along the trail.	Medium	L	GPSC	Medium
B14.5	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Bruce Creek Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote as a key linkage through Lethbridge.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				10/15 Good	

STRATEGY B15 - LETHBRIDGE LAKE

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B15.1	Signage and Waymarking: Install new trailhead sign at Lethbridge Lake near existing carpark and toilet block (See Strategy B14). Install waymarkers and an interpretive sign for the historic Rail Water Tank in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC	Medium
B15.2	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Lethbridge Lake Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				1/15 Poor	

STRATEGY B16 - MEREDITH STATE FOREST/BAMGANIE STATE FOREST CIRCUIT

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B16.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install trailhead signage at proposed parking area and waymarking along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	L	GPSC	High
B16.2 Maintenance: Deep ruts have formed in clay based soil due to wet weather, 4wd's and steep slopes. Address surface and improve maintenance/management plan to track/roads.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B16.3 Supporting Infrastructure: Install picnic table at new trailhead location.	Medium	L	GPSC	Medium
B16.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Meredith State Forest/Bamganie State Forest Circuit. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				5/15 Fair

STRATEGY B17 - POSSUM ROAD & MOORABOOL RIVER LOOP

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B17.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install trailhead signage at proposed parking location. Signage to also feature Meredith-Steiglitz Road to Byrne Road Trail (See Strategy B18). Install signage and waymarking along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	L	GPSC, PV	High
B17.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Install picnic table at new trailhead location.	Medium	L	GPSC, PV	Medium
B17.3 Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B17.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Possum Road and Moorabool River Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote campsite as part of trail material.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				5/15 Fair

STRATEGY B18 - MEREDITH STEIGLITZ ROAD TO BYRNE ROAD

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B18.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install trailhead signage at proposed parking location. Signage to also feature Possum Road & Moorabool River Loop (See Strategy B17). Install signage and waymarking along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	L	GPSC, PV	High
B18.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Install bench seat at new trailhead location.	Medium	L	GPSC, PV	Medium
B18.3 Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B18.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Meredith Steiglitz Road to Byrne Road Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 5/15 Fair

STRATEGY B19 - POLICE PADDOCKS

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B19.1 Signage and Waymarking: Support the Meredith Police Paddock Support Group in the development and installation of waymarking and interpretive signage along the trails. Including recognition of police presence, Indigenous flora and fauna and Wadawurrung names and uses.	Short	L	GPSC, MPPSG, BEN, DEECA, TO	High
B19.2 Supporting Infrastructure: Work with the Meredith Police Paddock Support Group to determine required supporting infrastructure, including toilets, shade shelter, water points and simple pedestrian platforms at one or more of the creek crossings.	Medium	H	GPSC, MPPSG, BEN, DEECA, TO	Medium
B19.3 Vegetation: Support the Meredith Police Paddock Support Group in planting native wildflowers and grasses.	Short	L	GPSC, MPPSG, BEN, DEECA, TO	Medium
B19.5 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Police Paddocks Trails. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC, MPPSG, TO	High

Trail Activation Score 9/15 Good

STRATEGY B20 - IBIS MIDDLETON WALK, MEREDITH

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B20.1	Formalise Trail: Formalise trail by resurfacing with concrete/asphalt surface to become a Class 1 trail and cater to all abilities.	Long	H	GPSC	Medium
B20.2	Trail Extension: Extend trail along Coolebarghurk Creek and connect into the Meredith Police Paddock Trails to the south of Staughton Street East.	Medium	H	GPSC, VR, LO, TO	Medium
B20.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Ibis Middleton Walk. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 7/15 Fair

STRATEGY B21 - JUBILEE MINE HISTORIC WALK

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B21.1	Signage and Waymarking: Replace all existing interpretive signage along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	L	GPSC, PV	High
B21.2	Formalise Trail: Formalise sections of trail with suitable crushed rock surface to become Class 1 and cater to all abilities.	Long	M	GPSC, PV	Medium
B21.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Jubilee Mine Historic Walk. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High

Trail Activation Score 4/15 Fair

STRATEGY B22 - KURUC-A-RUC TRAIL

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B22.1	Signage and Waymarking: Improve waymarking along the trail by installing missing waymarkers and replacing markers in poor condition in alignment with existing signage style. Include a formal trailhead similar to the Rokewood trailhead in Dereel and include maps to make the trail more visible and accessible.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B22.2	Maintenance: Repair road slips along Halls Hill Road.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B22.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Kuruc-a-ruc Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote as a key connection between townships (Dereel, Corindhap and Rokewood).	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score					11/15 Excellent

STRATEGY B23 - ROSS CREEK RECREATION RESERVE NATURE LOOP

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B23.1	Signage and Waymarking: Install trailhead signage at existing carpark location and waymarking along the Trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	L	GPSC	High
B23.2	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Ross Creek Recreation Reserve Nature Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score					11/15 Excellent

STRATEGY B24 - BODENS WATER RACES

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B24.1	Maintenance: Address and repair trail hazards including fallen trees and rutted surfaces.	Short	L	DSE, GPSC	High
B24.2	Supporting Infrastructure: Replace existing two footbridges located nearby swamp/lagoon at eastern end of trail.	Medium	L	DSE, GPSC	Medium
B24.3	Signage and Waymarking: Install signage and waymarking along the Bodens Water Races in alignment with Strategy D1.1. Include new interpretive signs for birdwatching and at swamp/lagoon.	Short	L	DSE, GPSC	High
B24.4	Trail Extension: Explore the opportunity to reinstate Boden's Water Races No.3 Trail to form a larger connecting trail from the trailhead.	Long	H	DSE, GPSC	Low
B24.5	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Bodens Water Races Trails. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				6/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B25 - BALLARAT TO SKIPTON RAIL TRAIL

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B25.1	Signage and Waymarking: Improve waymarking signage in required locations. Replace missing, faded and damaged management and warning signs to restrict unwanted access/use. Update and replace existing outdated interpretive signage.	Short	L	GPSC, CSC, COB	High
B25.2	Maintenance: Address trail erosion, surface condition and overgrown vegetation along length of trail. Undertake noxious and environmental weed control. Remove vandalism to signage and infrastructure.	Short	L	GPSC, CSC, COB	High
B25.3	Surface Finish: Ensure a consistent surface finish across trail with surface suitable for rail trails.	Short	H	GPSC, CSC, COB	High
B25.4	Supporting Infrastructure: Install designated water points along trail in Smythesdale, Scarsdale, Linton, Pittong and Skipton.	Medium	H	GPSC, CSC	High
B25.5	Trail User Code of Conduct: Publish and promote a Trail User Code of Conduct Covered in Strategy A1.8 to reduce user impact on trail surface. Ensure that trail information (including trailhead signage and management and warning signage) clearly states permitted trail user types and rules.	Short	L	GPSC, CSC, COB	High
B25.6	Trail Extension: Opportunities to link other townships into the Rail Trail which would then allow improved active transport to Ballarat/ Skipton and all towns in between (see Goal C).	Long	MP	GPSC, CSC, COB	High
B25.7	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Ballarat to Skipton Rail Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC, CSC, COB	High

Trail Activation Score 15/15 Excellent

STRATEGY B26 - HAY AND BURCHELL WALKING TRAIL

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B26.1	Signage and Waymarking: Waymarking poor in sections. Improve waymarking to be consistent and at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B26.2	Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail and address overgrown vegetation and poor surface condition along length of trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B26.3	Track Closure: Consult with Parks Victoria about track closure from Alliance Track to the bridge at Sutherland Creek. Re-open if possible, otherwise install signage to new route and updated mapping to reflect new alignment.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B26.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Hay and Burchell Walking Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				7/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B27 - BRISBANE RANGES EXTENDED CIRCUIT

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B27.1	Signage and Waymarking: Replace waymarkers in poor condition and install waymarkers along the Trail at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B27.2	Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B27.3	Track Closure: Consult with Parks Victoria about track closure from Alliance Track to the bridge at Sutherland Creek. Re-open if possible, otherwise install signage to new route and updated mapping to reflect new alignment.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B27.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Brisbane Ranges Extended Circuit. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				7/15 Fair	

STRATEGY B28 - DEADMAN'S & GRAHAMS GULLY LOOP

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST		PRIORITY
B28.1 Signage and Waymarking: Many of the waymarkers are in poor condition. Improve waymarking to be consistent and at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B28.2 Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B28.3 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Deadmans and Grahams Gully Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 5/15 Fair

STRATEGY B29 - THREE CREEKS WALK

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST		PRIORITY
B29.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install a trailhead at The Crossing Picnic Area. Improve waymarking to be consistent and at regular intervals along length of trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B29.2 Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including removal of fallen trees, controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B29.3 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Three Creeks Walk. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 6/15 Fair

STRATEGY B30 - BEARDS GULLY & DEADMAN'S LOOP

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST		PRIORITY
B30.1 Signage and Waymarking: Improve waymarking to be consistent and at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B30.2 Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B30.3 Maintain: Maintain Trail as a Class 5 trail to ensure GPSC provides a range of trail experiences from Class 1 to Class 5.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B30.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Beards Gully and Deadmans Loop. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 5/15 Fair

STRATEGY B31 - STEIGLITZ HISTORIC WALK

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B31.1 Signage and Waymarking: Improve waymarking to be consistent and at regular intervals to direct walkers from trailhead to end of trail and back in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV, SHS	High
B31.2 Maintenance: Improve trail surface condition and finish when not on-road, including crushed gravel finish with boxing out.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B31.3 Supporting Infrastructure: Install new stairs to west of Meredith-Steiglitz Road leading to road crossing point.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B31.4 Road Crossing Point: Install signage and safety measures at the road crossing point at Meredith-Steiglitz Road where trail links onto Clow Street. Refer to Austroads 'Guide to Road Design Part 4'.	Short	L	GPSC, VR	High
B31.5 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Steiglitz Historic Walk. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				8/15 Good

STRATEGY B32 - FRIDAY'S TRAIL, BRISBANE RANGES NATIONAL PARK

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B32.1 Signage and Waymarking: Install a trailhead at The Crossing Picnic Area. Improve waymarking to be consistent and at regular intervals along length of trail in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B32.2 Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including removal of fallen trees, controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, PV	High
B32.3 Supporting Infrastructure: Monitor existing bridge conditions and repair/replace when required.	Ongoing	L	GPSC, PV	Low
B32.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Fridays Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Trail should be promoted effectively to encourage overnight stays within either of the campsites and Golden Plains Shire.	Short	L	GPSC	High
Trail Activation Score				7/15 Fair

STRATEGY B33 - TEESDALE GRASSY WOODLANDS / DON WALLACE RESERVE

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B33.1	Maintenance: Undertake assessment of trail to determine areas featuring erosion and address where required.	Short	L	GPSC	Medium
B33.2	Safety: Undertake assessment and widen existing fire tracks where required to improve safety for users.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B33.3	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Teesdale Grassy Woodlands Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 10/15 Good

STRATEGY B34 - CHINAMAN'S LAGOON

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B34.1	Signage and Waymarking: Improve or install waymarking and interpretive signage along the trail to be consistent and at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Medium	L	GPSC, DEECA, TO	Medium
B34.2	Maintenance: Improve maintenance of trail including removal of fallen trees, controlling of weeds and overgrown vegetation overhanging trail.	Short	L	GPSC, DEECA	High
B34.3	Trail Connections: Explore the Teesdale Hall Committee’s proposal for a walking track from Chinaman’s Lagoon to the Teesdale Hall utilising low traffic roads and footpaths.	Short	L	GPSC, DEECA, THC	High
B34.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Chinamans Lagoon. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Trail should be promoted effectively, there are currently no records of the trail and Chinaman’s Lagoon does not appear on Google Maps etc.	Short	L	GPSC, DEECA	High

Trail Activation Score 6/15 Fair

STRATEGY B35 - BIKE/WALKING PATH, SHELFORD-BANNOCKBURN ROAD

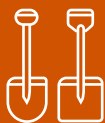
ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B35.1 Signage and Waymarking: Improve or install waymarking along the trail to be consistent and at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B35.2 Upgrade Trail Surface: Resurface trail in sections to ensure a consistent surface finish across length of trail.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B35.3 Trail Connections: Install waymarking and develop trails to connect the Bike/Walking Path to Teesdale Grassy Woodland's, Turtle Bend and Chinaman's Lagoon walking trails.	Short	H	GPSC	High
B35.4 Trail Extension: Connect trail into future potential connections between other townships such as Bannockburn.	Long	L	GPSC	High
B35.5 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the existing Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region. Promote connections it provides.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 10/15 Good

STRATEGY B36 - TURTLE BEND

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
B36.1 Signage and Waymarking: Improve or install waymarking along the trail to be consistent and at regular intervals in alignment with Strategy D1.1. Provide waymarking to the existing playground, BMX track and skatepark.	Short	L	GPSC	High
B36.2 Trail Connection: Link trail into Teesdale Bike/Walk Trail through waymarking.	See Strategy B35	See Strategy B35	See Strategy B35	See Strategy B35
B36.3 Trail Extension: Explore opportunity to and develop concept plan for the extension of trail further along Native Hut Creek to Stones Road.	Long	L	GPSC	Low
B36.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for the Turtle Bend Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	Short	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation Score 7/15 Fair



GOAL C: SUSTAINABLE, RESPONSIBLE AND RELEVANT TRAIL DEVELOPMENTS

New trail developments are strategic, well-considered, responsive to community need and considerate of key stakeholders.

STRATEGY C1 INVERLEIGH TO BANNOCKBURN

Develop a safe trail between Inverleigh and Bannockburn for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

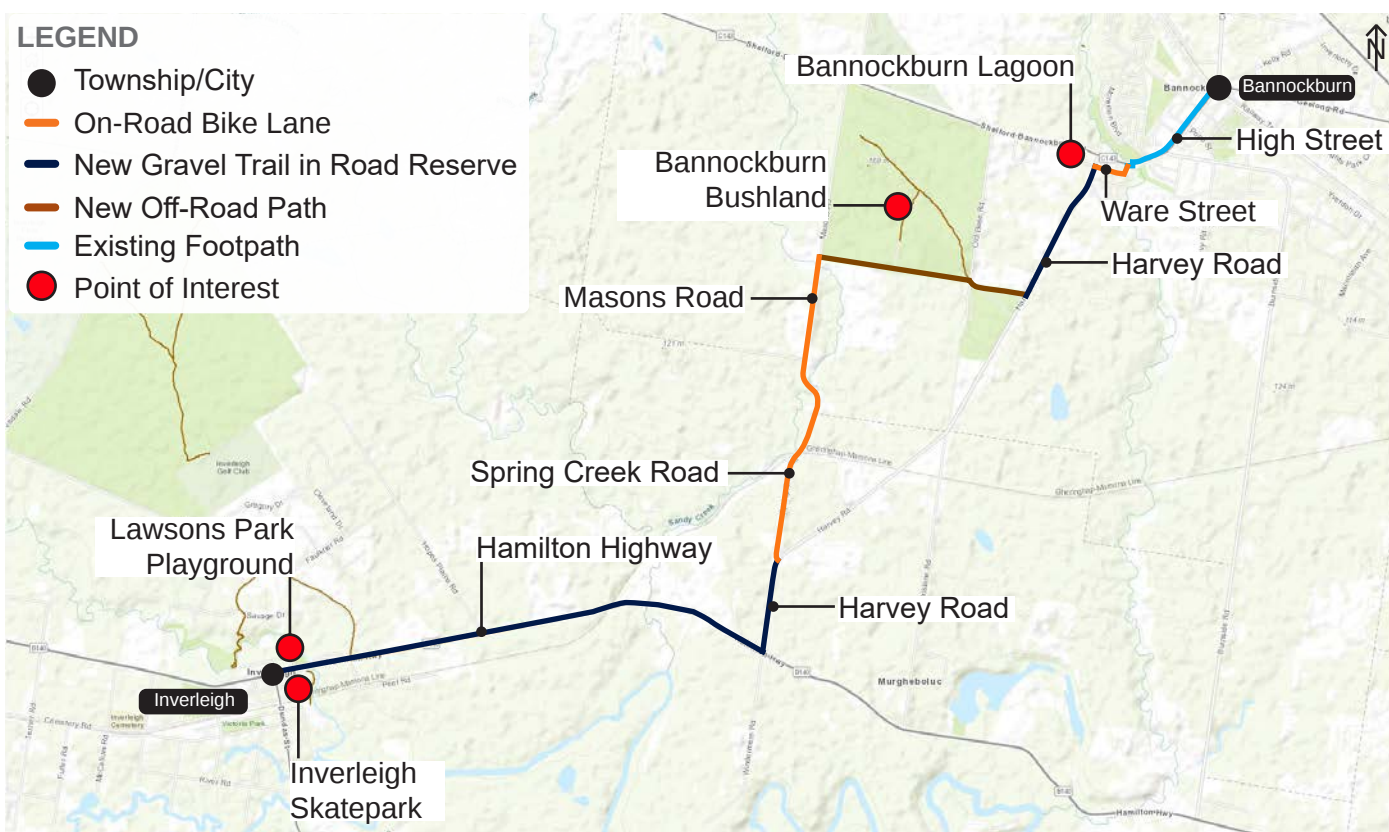
Identified in community workshops as a key trail development, the Inverleigh to Bannockburn trail will provide a safe connection between the two townships by eliminating the need to travel on busy and high speed roads.

The linkage will provide a green and active recreation and commuting connection, that where possible, utilises quieter roads and reserves to provide a more peaceful and safer journey.

Beginning in Bannockburn the trail is recommended to utilise the Bruce Creek Trail to access Ware Street, from Ware Street a new crushed gravel pathway can be developed alongside Harvey Road's western side until it meets the southern section of the Bannockburn Bushland. From here the trail will travel west through an existing fire track within the Bushland to meet Masons Road. The trail will travel south alongside Masons Road until it joins back to Harvey Road and onto Hamilton Highway via a new crushed gravel pathway alongside the road. The trail will then follow Hamilton Highway via a new crushed gravel pathway until it reaches the existing footpaths in Inverleigh.

Consultation with key stakeholders including VicRoads will need to be undertaken and concept designs developed to determine the feasibility of the project.

Hierarchy: Local / **Trail Type:** Link Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C1.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising the Harvey Road, Masons Road, Spring Creek Road and Hamilton Highway road reserves to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway and development of an on-road cycle path on Ware Road.	Short	L	GPSC, VR, PV	High
C1.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Inverleigh to Bannockburn Link. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking, supporting infrastructure and road crossing points.	Medium	M	GPSC, VR, PV	High
C1.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, VR, PV	High
C1.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	2
Trail Activation Score	12/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C2 BANNOCKBURN TO GEELONG PRINCIPAL BICYCLE NETWORK

Connect Bannockburn into the Geelong Principal Bicycle Network to provide a safe on-road cycling connection to Geelong for recreation and commuting purposes.

RATIONALE

The Principal Bicycle Network (PBN) is a network of proposed and existing cycle routes that help people cycle for transport, and provide access to major destinations in Victoria. Cycling for transport includes riding bicycles to work, to school, shopping, visiting friends etc.

The PBN is also a 'bicycle infrastructure planning tool' to guide State investment in the development of transport bicycle network.

The PBN makes use of many local roads and off-road paths, as well as State arterial roads. New bicycle facilities on the PBN are designed with the principle of increasing separation between cyclists and motorists, and giving priority to cyclists at key intersections.

The PBN makes use of many local roads and off-road paths, as well as arterial roads. The PBN also includes routes that people use to cycle for recreation, where they also perform a transport function.

Community consultation identified the desire for Bannockburn to be connected into Geelong's PBN. As evident on the map on the following page, the connection from Geelong to Bannockburn is included in the PBN via Midland Highway and Geelong Road. Inverleigh to Geelong is also included within the PBN via Hamilton Highway.

The VicRoads 'Design Guidance for strategically important cycling corridors (2016)' (The Guidelines) provide an overview of the PBN and strategically important cycling corridors. The guidelines also provide an overview of the development process for these routes.

The Guidelines State that councils are encouraged to work with VicRoads to contribute to the development of the planning proposals for strategic corridors in their area. This may help to fast track the development of these corridors and provide better information into the review of this targeted investment plan.

The Guidelines state that the development of specific proposals along the priority corridors must happen before any implementation can occur. During this development process, it is critical that both councils and the community support the proposed facility prior to securing funding. Without support, only limited improvements to the cycling network are likely to be achieved.

A corridor study will be completed for each selected corridor, including identifying acceptable works at each location along the corridor as well as possible timing and costs of those works for delivering the improvements. This would form a key input into a business case to Government for funding consideration. These business cases may seek funding for construction of bicycle lanes, intersection treatments and paths development and/or funding for further design development for major infrastructure (e.g. bridges). These works may be scheduled over a number of years, depending upon the complexity and costs of the proposals.

The Guidelines outline the development process for the priority routes, as well as preferred cycling treatments and design parameters, and this document should be referred to when looking to develop the PBN.

All bicycle facilities must be designed and delivered in accordance with the relevant national standards and guidelines. These standards and guidelines are outlined in relevant Australian Standards, Austroads guides and VicRoads' Cycle Notes. These standards and guidelines apply irrespective of whether a bicycle route is on the PBN, a BPR or a local route.

Hierarchy: Regional

Trail Type: Link Trail

LEGEND

- Township/City
- Principal Bicycle Network

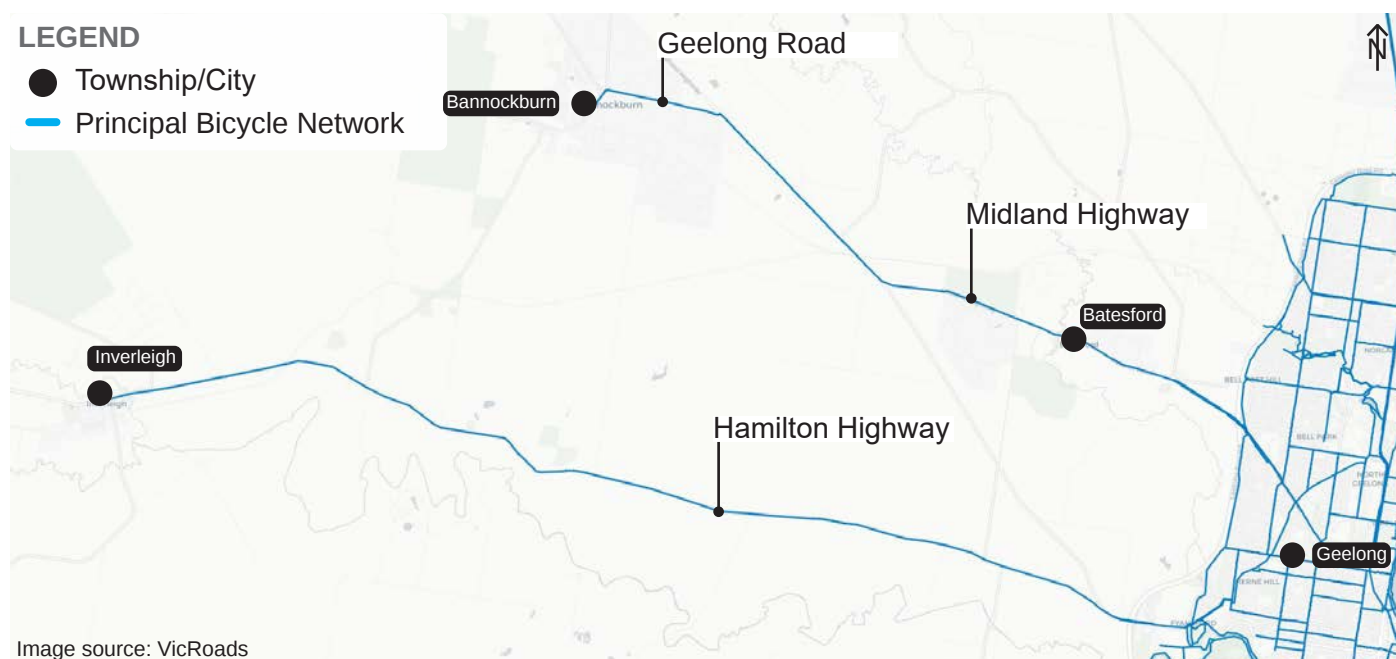


Image source: VicRoads

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C2.1	PBN Proposals: Identify preferred routes at a high level and develop proposals for submission to VicRoads for the PBN from Bannockburn to Geelong and Inverleigh to Geelong. Ensure community support prior to submitting to VicRoads.	Short	L	GPSC, VR, Community, DTP	High
C2.2	Corridor Study: Work with VicRoads to undertake a corridor study for both the Bannockburn to Geelong and Inverleigh to Geelong PBN routes.	Medium	M	GPSC, VR	High
C2.3	Business Cases: Develop business cases utilising information gathered as part of VicRoads Corridor Study for each of the proposed PBN routes.	Medium	M	GPSC	High
C2.4	Funding Applications: Apply for funding grants to deliver the PBN routes. A staged funding approach can be applied if required.	Medium	L	GPSC	High
C2.5	Project Delivery: Work with VicRoads to construct PBN routes.	Medium	MP	GPSC, VR	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	2
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	3
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	12/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C3 BANNOCKBURN TO TEESDALE

Develop a safe trail between Bannockburn and Teesdale for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

The community consultation and workshop processes identified the need for a formalised and safe off-road trail between Bannockburn and Teesdale.

Both the Bannockburn and Teesdale Community Planning Groups have undertaken previous investigations into a linkage between the two towns and have submitted grant applications to 'Pick My Project' in the past. A number of Free Community Bike Rides have also been held where community members gather at the Turtle Bend carpark and ride the route on-road to the Station Cafe in Bannockburn to demonstrate community desire and need for the link.

Spanning 12 kilometres, the link will provide an easy flat ride making it available to all ages and abilities. Beginning in Bannockburn the route will follow High Street footpaths until it reaches the Bruce Creek trail, where it will follow the trail under the Bannockburn-Shelford bridge on the eastern side before crossing Bruce Creek and travelling under the Bannockburn-Shelford bridge on the western side via a new underpass.

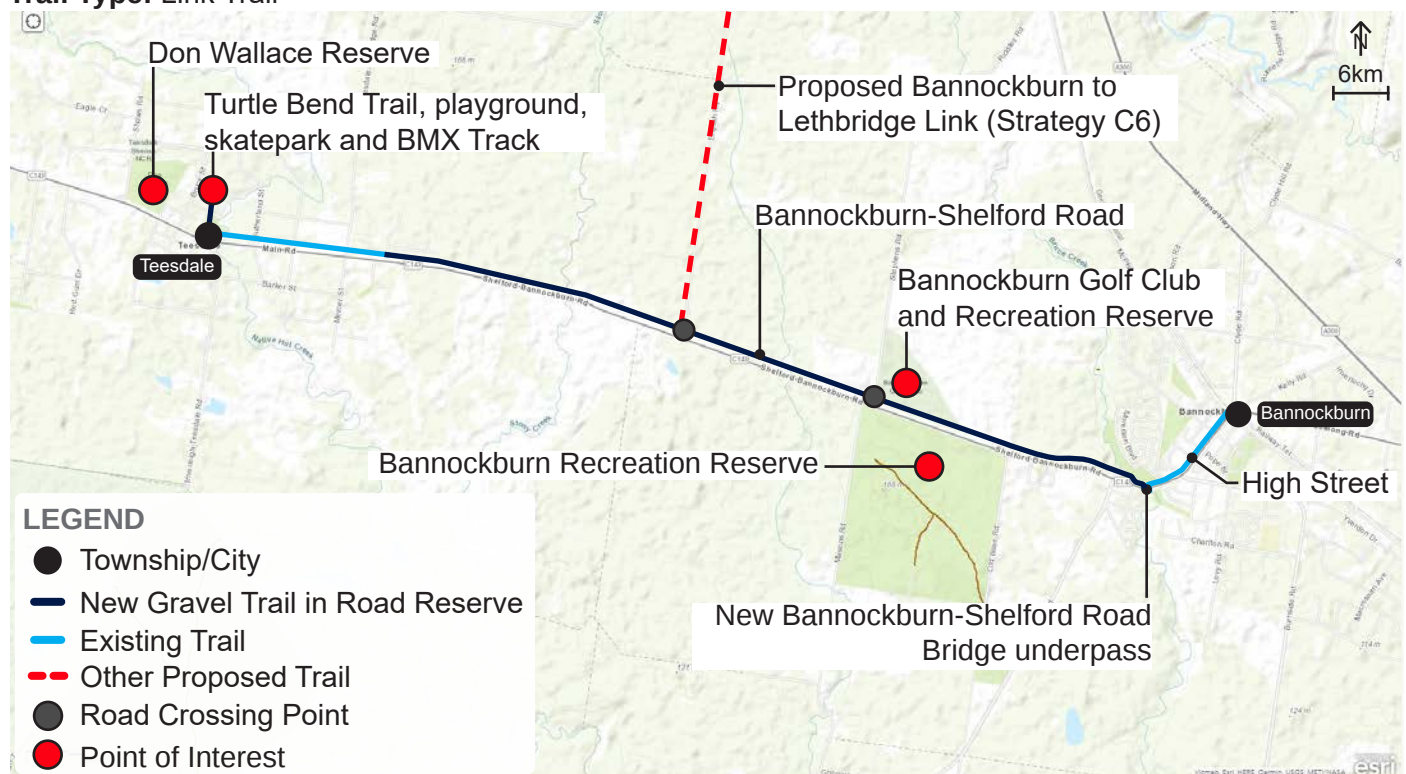
The route will then follow Bannockburn-Shelford Road west through the installation of a new crushed gravel pathway on the road's northern side. This will keep trail users off of the busy Bannockburn-Shelford Road and safe from fast moving traffic.

The trail will continue until it reaches and joins the existing bike/walking path located in Teesdale (Strategy B35).

The route will require two new road crossing points at Stephens Road and English Road. It will also form part of the Bannockburn to Lethbridge connection (see Strategy C5).

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C3.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising the Bannockburn-Shelford Road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway between the two townships. Include a connection to Turtle Bend walking trail, playground, BMX track and skatepark.	Short	L	GPSC, BCPG, TCPG, VR	High
C3.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Bannockburn to Teesdale connection. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of Bannockburn-Shelford Road underpass, road crossing points, supporting infrastructure, signage and waymarking.	Medium	M	GPSC, BCPG, TCPG, VR	High
C3.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, VR	High
C3.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	2
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	12/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C4 BANNOCKBURN TO BANNOCKBURN BUSHLAND

Develop a safe trail between Bannockburn and Bannockburn Bushland via an extension to Bruce Creek Trail.

RATIONALE

Community consultation identified the need to develop a safe connection between Bannockburn and the Bannockburn Bushland. This is due to the Bannockburn Bushland providing a key recreational area that is currently only safely accessible by car. The Bannockburn Bushland is home to the weekly held Parkrun event attended by many Bannockburn residents who would prefer to access the event via bike or foot.

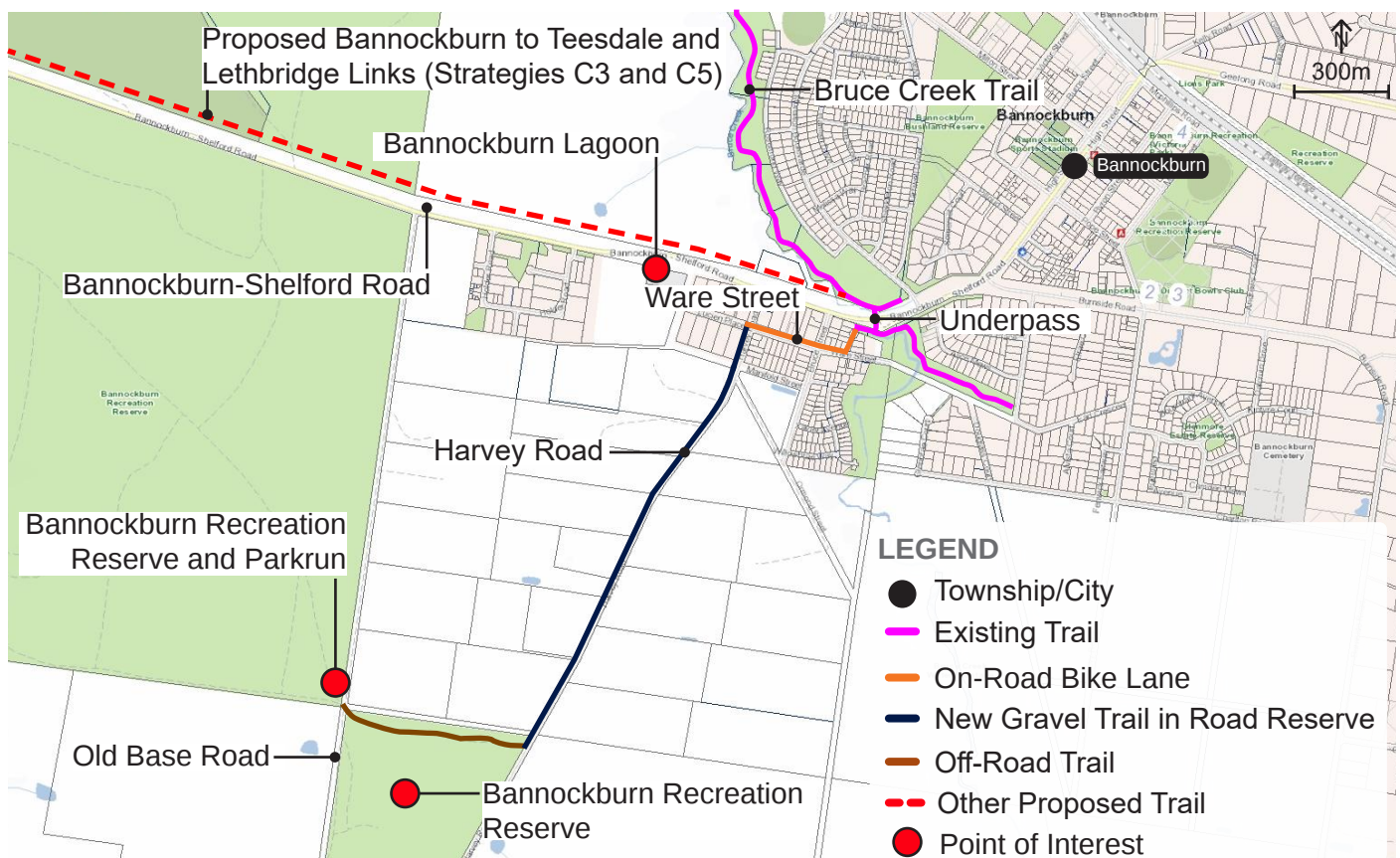
To provide a safe connection it is recommended to utilise the Bruce Creek Trail to access Ware Street, from which a new crushed gravel pathway can be developed alongside Harvey Roads western side until it meets the southern section of the Bannockburn Recreation Reserve. From here the trail will travel west through an existing fire track within the Bushland to meet Old Base Road and the start/end point of the Parkrun. This provides a key connection avoiding the need to cross the busy Bannockburn-Shelford Road to access the Reserve and also provides easy access to Bannockburn Lagoon along the way.

To access Bannockburn Bushland north of Bannockburn-Shelford Road it is recommended to utilise the proposed Bannockburn to Teesdale and Bannockburn to Lethbridge Links (see Strategies B3 and B6).

It is recommended to waymark the route and consultation with VicRoads will be required to determine the feasibility of the linkage.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C4.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising the Harvey Road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway and development of an on-road cycle path on Ware Road.	Short	L	GPSC, BCPG, VR, PV	High
C4.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Bannockburn to Bannockburn Bushland. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking and supporting infrastructure.	Medium	M	GPSC, BCPG, VR, PV	High
C4.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Medium	MP	GPSC, BCPG, VR, PV	High
C4.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	2
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	2
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	2
Trail Activation Score	10 /15 Good

STRATEGY C5 BANNOCKBURN TO LETHBRIDGE

Develop a safe trail between Bannockburn and Lethbridge for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

Raised in community consultation, it is recommended to explore the opportunity to establish an off-road trail between Bannockburn and Lethbridge. This trail will serve as a pivotal link for both daily commuters and recreational walkers, cyclists, runners/joggers and horse riders, and promote healthier lifestyles and improve the overall quality of life for residents.

By leveraging the insights and efforts undertaken by community groups including the Bannockburn and Teesdale Community Groups, this trail aims to offer a safe and eco-friendly trail for users and reduce the reliance on high speed main roads.

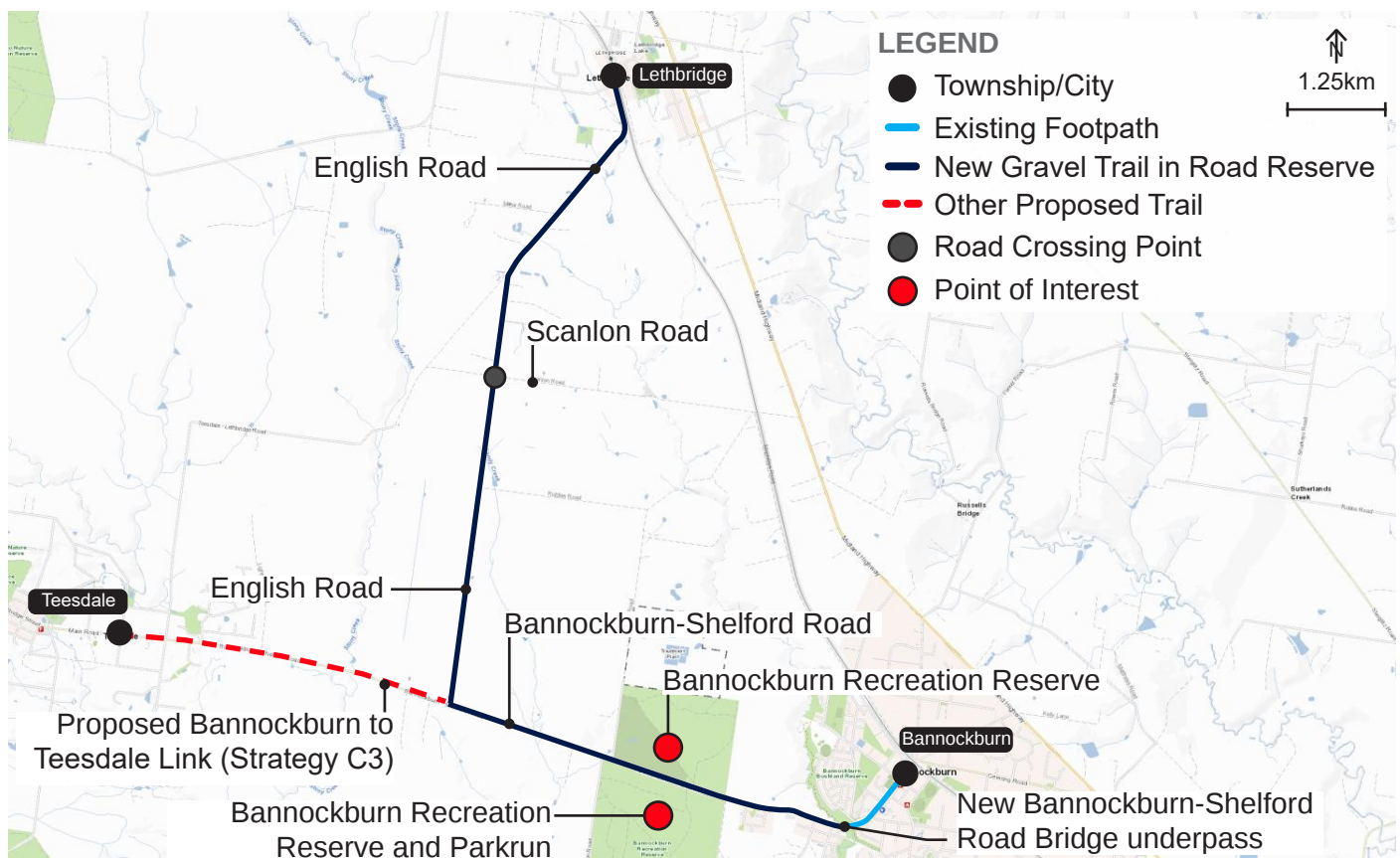
The route is proposed to follow the same initial route as the Bannockburn to Teesdale connection along Bannockburn-Shelford Road (see Strategy C3). The trail will then head north via a new gravel pathway on the side of English Road. The trail will follow English Road to the centre of Lethbridge. The route will require one road crossing point at Scanlon Road which will need to be developed in line with Austroads Guidelines.

A concept design will need to be developed and consultation with key stakeholders including VicRoads will need to be undertaken to determine the feasibility of the project.

It is recommended to include waymarking along the length of the trail to direct trail users and provide updates as to the distance until their destination.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C5.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising the Harvey Road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway on Ware Road.	Short	L	GPSC, BCPG, TCPG, VR	High
C5.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Bannockburn to Lethbridge. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking and supporting infrastructure.	Medium	M	GPSC, BCPG, TCPG, VR	High
C5.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, BCPG, TCPG, VR	High
C5.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	2
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	2
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	11/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C6 MOORABOOL RIVER

Support the development of the Moorabool River Master Plan proposed trails and explore feasibility of extending trails south to Fyansford, Geelong.

RATIONALE

A draft Master Plan has been prepared for the Moorabool River in Batesford. The Master Plan identifies Moorabool River Reserve as a cornerstone of the Batesford open space network and provides a vision for the Moorabool River Master Plan to be valued for its protected and peaceful landscape, history, biodiversity and natural floodplain values. It is expected to become a place where its Wadawurrung values are protected and cultural connections, past and present, are understood and respected, and a safe well-connected space for the community to access and enjoy.

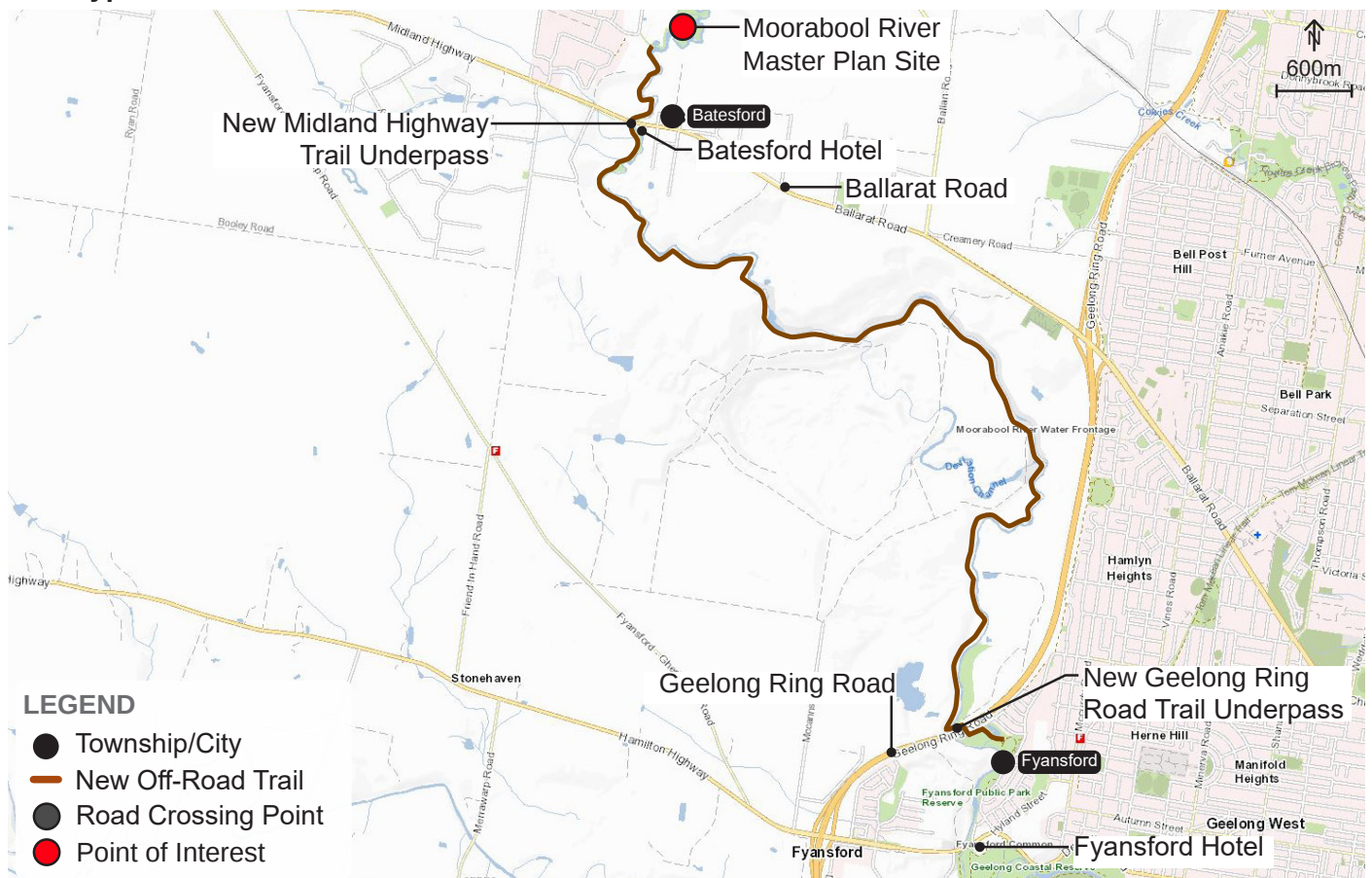
The draft Master Plan provides a draft design for the site, including public access areas restoration areas and conservation areas. The Master Plan also provides an indicative layout for a mown recreational walking trail. It is recommended to support the development of the Master Plan and waking trails due to the current lack of walking trails in this area of the Golden Plains Shire.

It is also recommended to explore the feasibility of extending the proposed trails south-east along Moorabool River to Fyansford, Geelong. This will provide a safe off-road trail connection to Geelong along the banks of the Moorabool, with opportunities for cultural and historical information points, waymarking and supporting infrastructure.

A range of stakeholders will need to be consulted with to determine the feasibility of this link including but not limited to Adjoining landowners, Traditional Owners and DEECA.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link/Recreation Trail



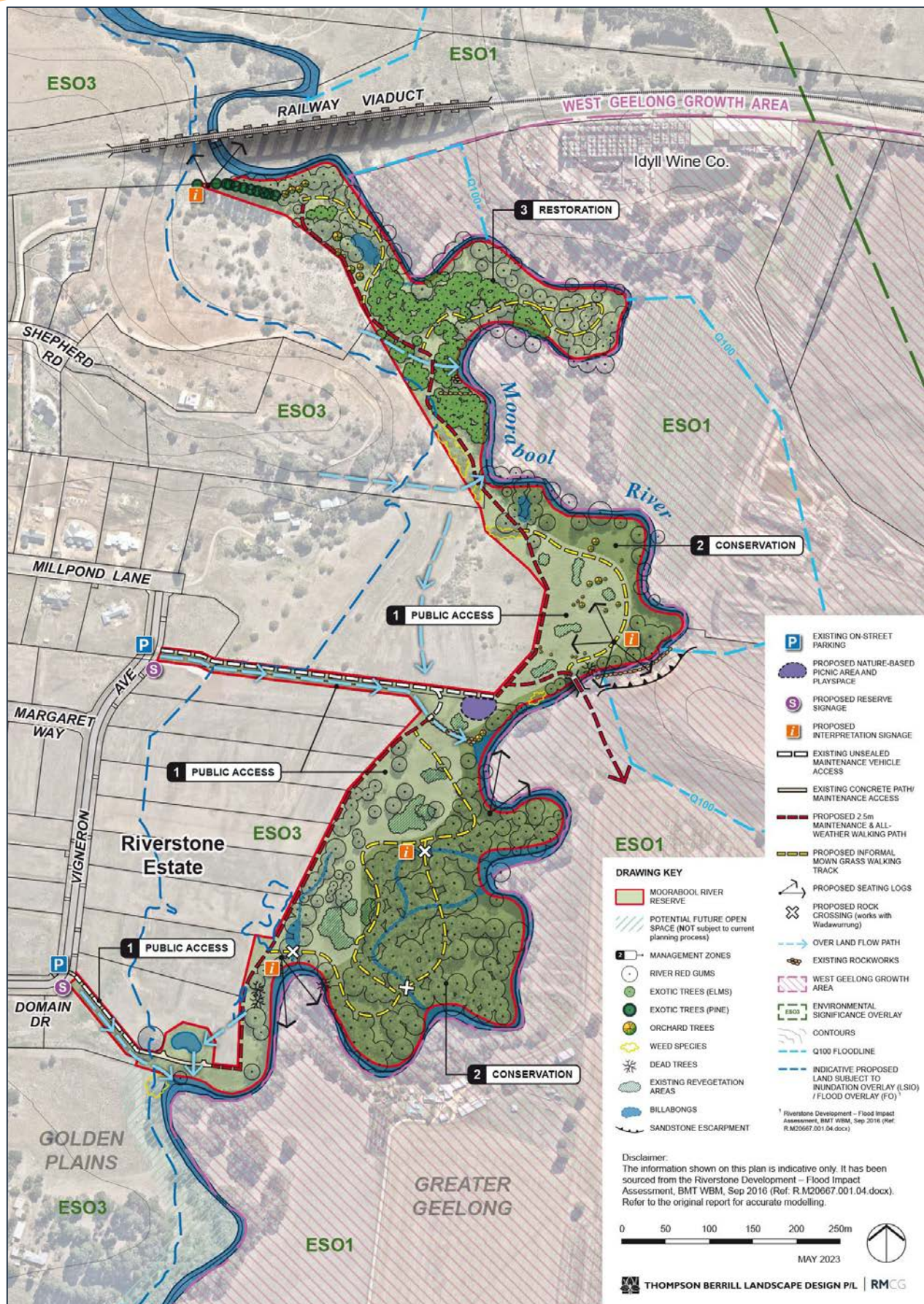


Figure 8-4: Moorabool River Reserve Masterplan

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C6.1 Support Master Plan: Support the development of the Moorabool River Reserve Master Plan and the inclusion of recreation walking trails.	Short	L	GPSC	High
C6.2 Feasibility Study: Undertake feasibility study for the development of Batesford to Fyansford connection.	Medium	M	GPSC, Community, SL, DEECA, TO	Low
C6.3 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Batesford to Fyansford trail. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan.	Medium	M	GPSC, Community, DEECA, TO	Low
C6.4 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC	Low
C6.5 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	1
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	1
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	1
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	3
Trail Activation Score	7/15 Fair

STRATEGY C7 HADDON TO SMYTHES CREEK

Develop a safe trail between Haddon and Smythes Creek for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

Explore the opportunity to connect Smythes Creek to Haddon. This trail would serve as a vital link between these two townships, offering a safe and convenient passage for daily commuters and providing a trail for recreational purposes.

The trail is proposed to connect into the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail in Haddon to extend the connection from Smythes Creek to further townships such as Smythesdale, Scarsdale and Ballarat.

The trail will offer a safe and eco-friendly alternative to traditional vehicular transport. This not only benefits individual commuters by promoting active transportation but also contributes to a more sustainable and eco-conscious community.

It is recommended the trail begins at the western bus stop located on the corner of Bells Road and Glenelg Highway. The trail will then follow Bells Road west to where it intersects the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail. It is proposed that this trail be an off-road crushed gravel trail to allow for the use of walkers and cyclists away from moving traffic.

The connection will require a number of road crossing points including Hayes Drive, Kingston Ct, Finchs Road, Sago Hill Road and Trunk Lead Road. Although these are not high volume roads, the crossing points will still need to meet Austroads Guidelines and Standards.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link Trail



DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C7.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising Bells Road road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway.	Short	L	GPSC, RSCG, VR	High
C7.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Haddon to Smythes Creek Link. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking, supporting infrastructure and road crossing points.	Medium	M	GPSC, RSCG, VR	High
C7.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, VR	High
C7.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	1
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	1
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	7/15 Fair

STRATEGY C8 LEIGH/BARWON RIVER JUNCTION TRAIL EXTENSION

Extend the Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trail to connect to Berthon Park subdivision and Inverleigh Nature Conservation Reserve for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

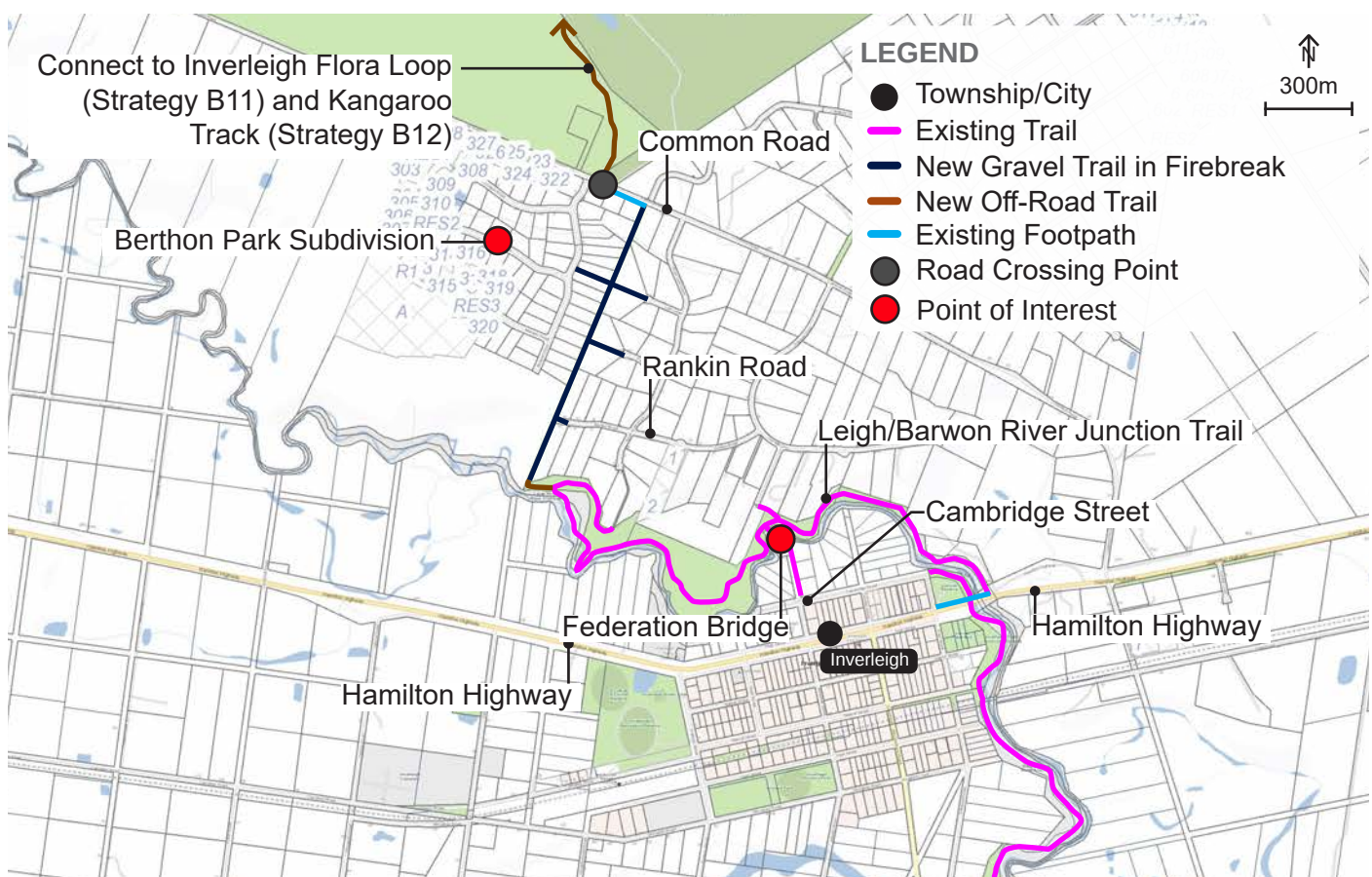
Explore the opportunity to extend Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trails to Berthon Park subdivision, Inverleigh Nature Conservation Reserve and Inverleigh Golf Club.

This new link will allow for improved access to recreational walking trails within Inverleigh, including a safe off-road connection from town to the Inverleigh Flora Loop and Kangaroo Track in the Inverleigh Nature Conservation Reserve. The link will also provide a walkable link to the Inverleigh Golf Club from Inverleigh's Main Street.

The existing Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trail and Federation Bridge are highly utilised by the community, particularly those located on the northern side of the Leigh River for gaining access to Inverleigh's Main Street. The extended connection to the Berthon Park Subdivision has been proposed to utilise the firebreak running parallel to River Gum Drive. This allows for a direct connection to Common Road and provides links into Berthon Park Subdivision, Rankin Road, Frank Ct and Carl Ct.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link/Recreation Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C8.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trails trail extension and alignment.	Short	L	GPSC, IOSG, DEECA, VR, PV, TO	High
C8.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Leigh/Barwon River Junction Trails extension. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking, supporting infrastructure and road crossing points.	Short	Medium	GPSC, IOSG, DEECA, VR, PV, TO	High
C8.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Medium	MP	GPSC, IOSG, DEECA, VR, PV	High
C8.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	2
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	2
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	3
Trail Activation Score	11/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C9 YARROWEE CREEK

Extend Yarrowee Creek Trail in Sebastopol south along the Yarrowee Creek to Napoleons via Cambrian Hill to provide connection to Ballarat and for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

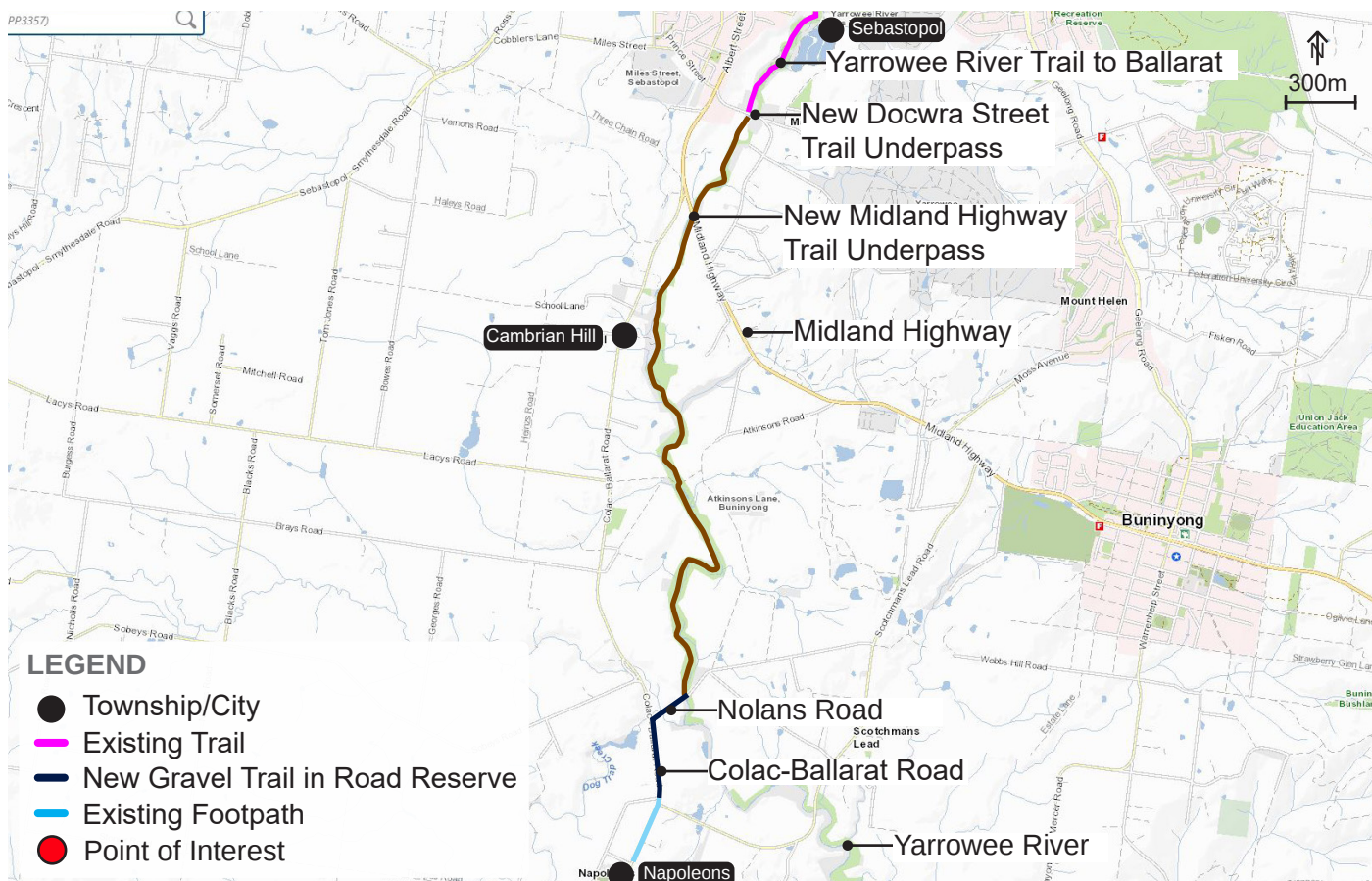
The development of a trail along Yarrowee Creek is a practical initiative which will provide improved connectivity of the region. The Yarrowee Creek Trail currently connects into Ballarat's CBD and ends at Docwra Street in Sebastopol. Extending the trail south from Docwra Street along the banks of the Yarrowee Creek River can allow for connections to Cambrian Hill and Napoleons, ultimately providing a safe off-road connection from these communities to Ballarat.

The trail can showcase the valuable work undertaken by the Napoleons Enfield Landcare Group. This group and the community have dedicated their efforts to preserving and restoring the ecological health of the Yarrowee Creek area, fostering native biodiversity and enhancing the environment.

Additionally, the trail would offer an educational platform to highlight historical features and Indigenous landmarks along its route. This could include signposts or interpretive markers to inform trail users about significant points of interest, such as historical sites and culturally important landmarks. By providing this information, the trail can contribute to a deeper understanding of the region's heritage and cultural significance.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link /Recreation Trail



ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C9.1	Feasibility Study: Undertake feasibility study for the development of Yarrowee Creek Trail to Napoleons including consultation with surrounding landowners, community, DEECA and Napoleons Enfield Landcare Group.	Short	L	GPSC, NELG, TO	Medium
C9.2	Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Yarrowee Creek Trail. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan.	Medium	M	GPSC, NELG, TO	Medium
C9.3	Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, NELG, TO	Medium
C9.4	Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	1
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	1
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	2
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	3
Trail Activation Score	8/15 Good

STRATEGY C10 ROSS CREEK TO SMYTHESDALE

Develop a safe trail between Ross Creek and Smythesdale for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

Developing a connection between Ross Creek and Smythesdale presents an opportunity to enhance both commuting and recreational options in the area. This proposed trail was raised through community consultation and aims to provide a safe and convenient route for commuters and promote active transportation. The trail connects to the Woody Creek Recreation Reserve and Woody Yaloak Primary School's Ross Creek Campus in Ross Creek.

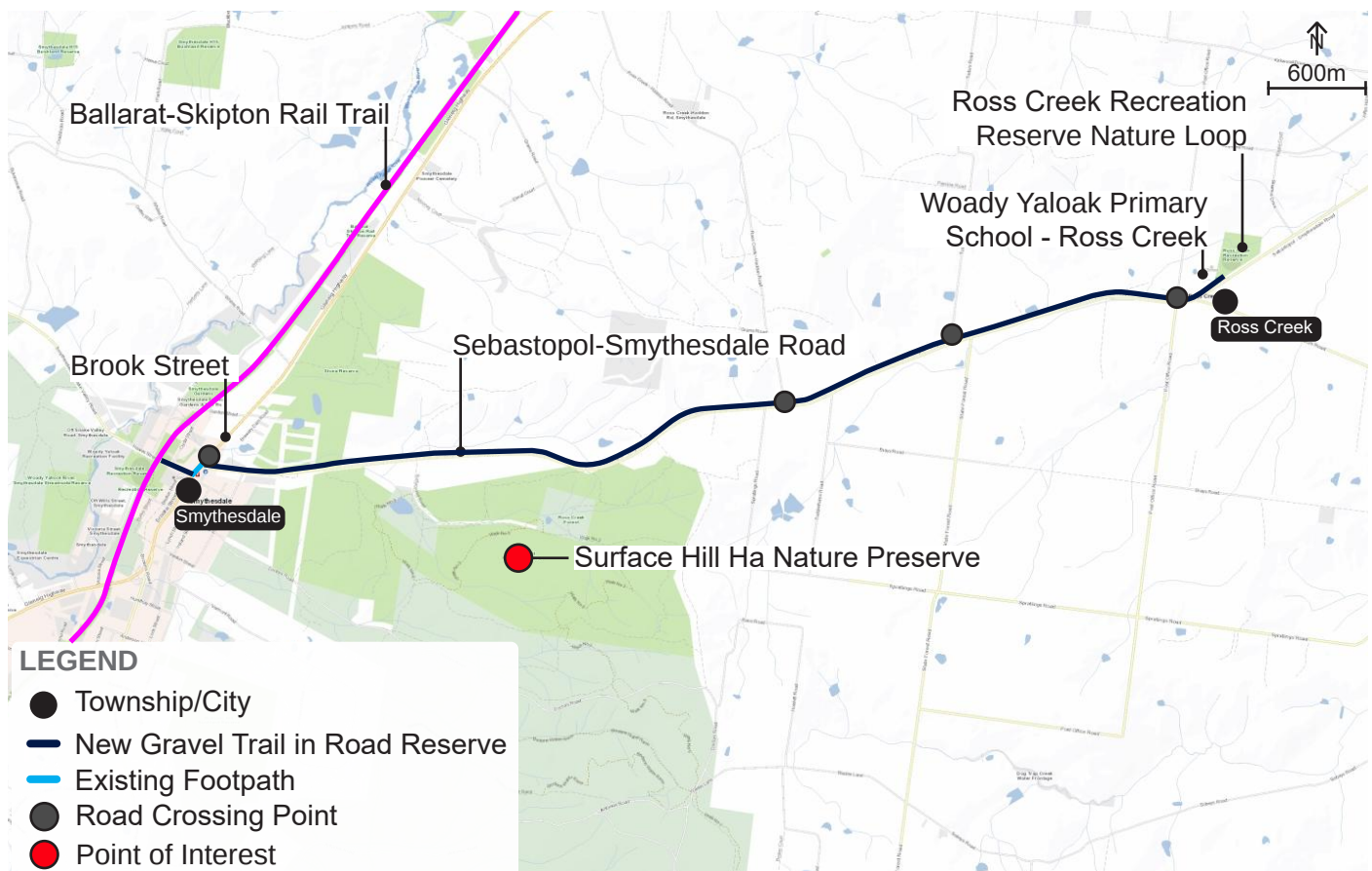
In addition to its practicality, the trail offers recreational benefits by allowing residents to enjoy the natural surroundings. It can cater to various activities, such as walking, jogging, horse riding and cycling. It is proposed the trail connects to the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail in Smythesdale, which would extend Ross Creek's connections to neighbouring townships including Scarsdale and Ballarat.

The trail is proposed to follow Sebastopol-Smythesdale Road through the development of a crushed gravel pathway within the road reserve. VicRoads will need to be consulted in the conceptual stages of the project to ensure it is both feasible and achievable. In Smythesdale, it is proposed for the trail to cross Brook Street and connect onto the existing pathway before developing a new gravel path on Heales Street where it can connect to the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail.

The trail will require four road crossing points which will need to meet Austroads guidelines.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C10.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising Sebastopol-Smythesdale Road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway.	Short	L	GPSC, RSCG, VR	High
C10.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Ross Creek to Smythesdale Link. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking, supporting amenities and road crossing points.	Medium	M	GPSC, RSCG, VR	High
C10.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, VR	High
C10.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	1
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	9/15 Good

STRATEGY C11 WOODY RIVER TRACK

Develop a loop trail along the Woody Yaloak River in smythesdale utilising the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail.

RATIONALE

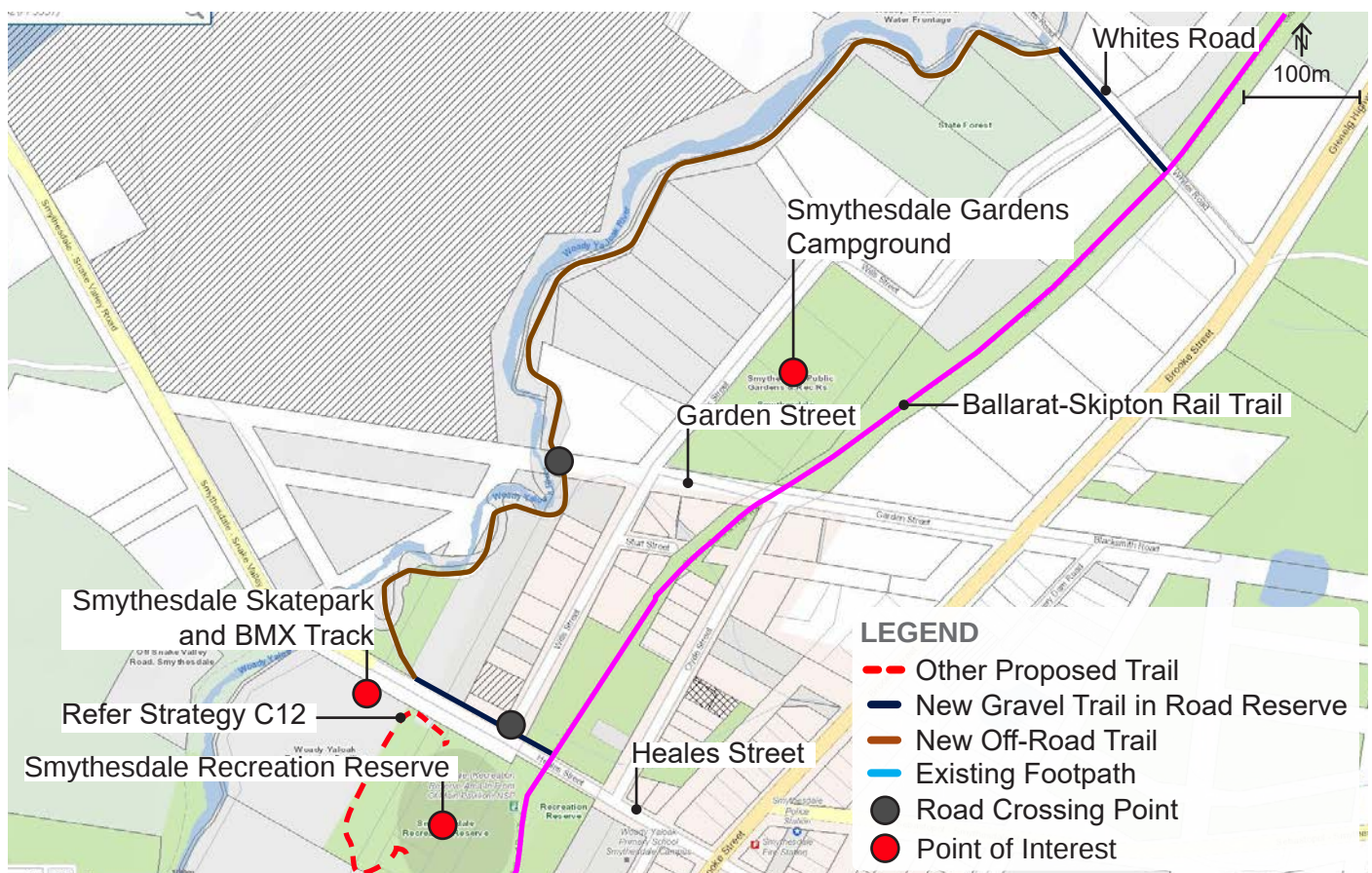
Explore the opportunity to formalise the Woody River Track through the installation of signage and development of a dedicated trail that loops back via the Ballarat to Skipton Rail Trail. Collaborate with the Woody Yaloak Land Care group to establish the preferred route.

This project is a practical and community-oriented initiative aiming to enhance outdoor recreational opportunities while promoting active commuting linkages to the primary school and the town. Improved signage and waymarking will make the trail more accessible, encouraging residents and visitors to explore the scenic landscape around Smythesdale.

This trail aligns with community interests by providing recreational and economic advantages by attracting Ballarat to Skipton Rail Trail users to stop within the town to complete the walk and potentially increase total overnight stays by attracting users to stay at the Smythesdale Gardens Campground.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Recreation Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C11.1 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Woody River Track. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan.	Medium	M	GPSC, VR, TO	
C11.2 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, VR	
C11.3 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	1
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	2
Trail Activation Score	10/15 Good

STRATEGY C12 WOODY YALOOK WETLAND DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN TRAIL

Support the development of the Woody Yaloak Wetland Development Concept Plan trail at the Woody Yaloak Recreation Reserve.

RATIONALE

The Smythesdale Structure Plan identifies that the development of a bushfire moderation zone along the Woody Yaloak River is envisaged between the Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre and Whites Road. The purpose of this moderation zone is to provide a barrier to the spread of bushfire by reducing its speed and intensity using fire resistant Indigenous species in a manner that suppresses the risk of fire to the Smythesdale township.

The river environs provide a significant opportunity to link key sites including the Yellowglenn site with the Smythesdale township; the Woody Yaloak Recreation Reserve; the Woody Yaloak Equestrian Facility and beyond Smythesdale via the Rail Trail which extends from Ballarat to Skipton. As part of these opportunities a concept plan for a wetland has been developed for the area located between Woody Yaloak Recreation Reserve and the Woody Yaloak River in Smythesdale.

The Concept Plan proposes a new access and recreational pathway to access the Woody Yaloak River. This will begin next to the existing Smythesdale Skatepark and BMX track. It is recommended to support the development of the concept plan and trail.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Recreation Trail

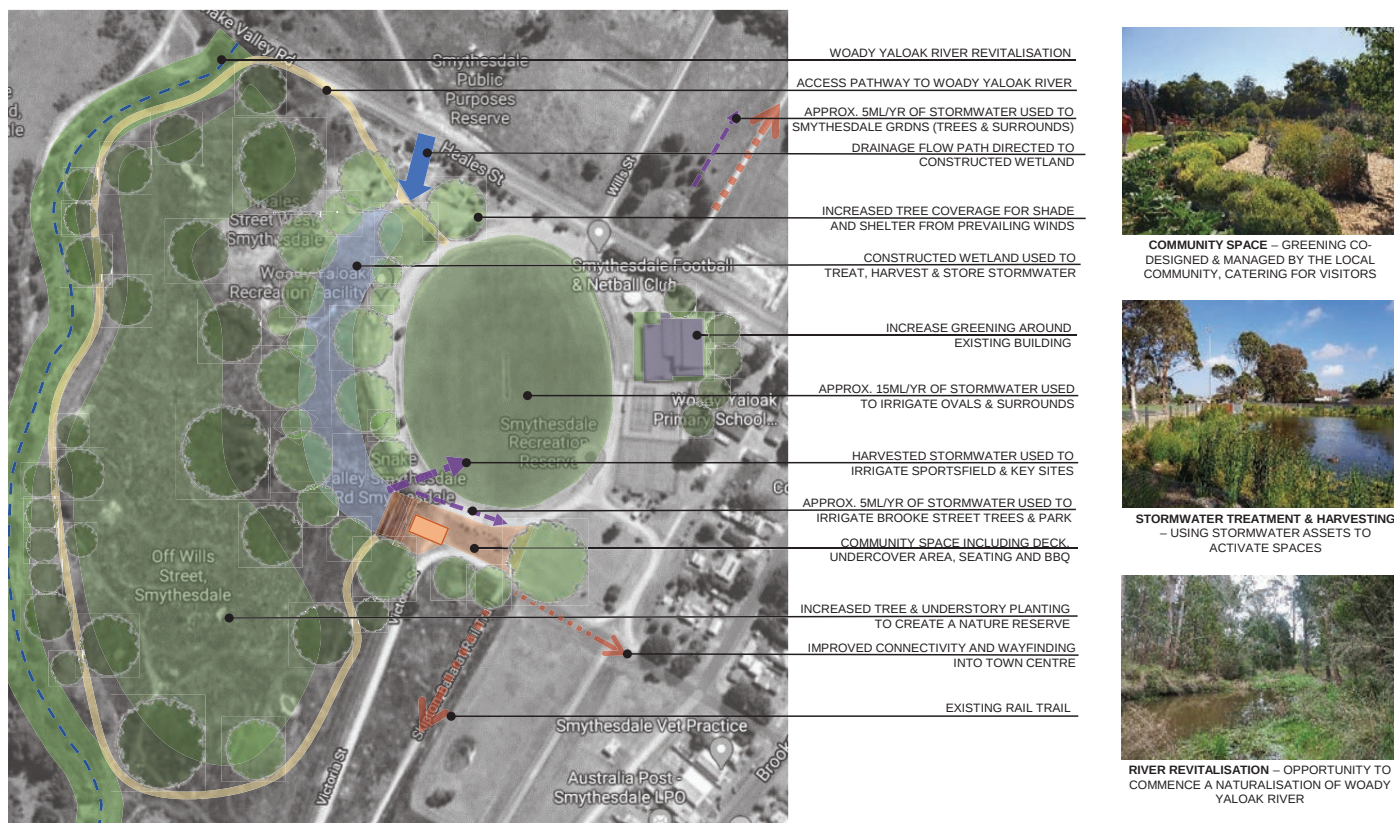


Figure 11: Concept for wetland development near the Recreation Reserve

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C12.1 Support Master Plan: Support the development of the Woody Yaloak Wetland Development Concept Plan. Develop a final concept plan for the Woody River Track. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan.	Short	M	GPSC, TO	High
C12.2 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Medium	MP	GPSC	High
C12.3 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	1
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	0
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	8/15 Good

STRATEGY C13 TEESDALE TO SHELFORD

Develop a safe trail between Teesdale and Shelford for recreational, commuting and tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

Exploring a safe connection between Teesdale and Shelford, distinct from the Bannockburn-Shelford Road, offers an opportunity for safer commuting and increased recreational access between these two townships. This initiative aims to cater to recreational users whilst providing a route for daily commuters.

Furthermore, this connection can link with the proposed Teesdale-Bannockburn connection (Refer Strategy C3), creating an integrated network for streamlined movement between these townships. It will provide community connectivity and eco-friendly commuting options.

From Turtle Bend the trail will follow the existing footpath to Marrahbah Crescent where it currently ends. From here a new crushed gravel pathway can be developed alongside Bannockburn-Shelford Road all the way to Shelford.

The trail will require a number of road crossing points including Marrahbah Crescent, Merino Drive and Meredith-Shelford Road. These road crossing points will need to be developed in line with Austroads guidelines to ensure safe and consistent crossings are provided.

It is recommended to provide a trail connection to Shelford Recreation Reserve, including the playground, public toilets and public hall.

It is also recommended to install waymarking signage to the route to direct users and indicate the remaining distance until each of the towns in both directions.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Link Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C13.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising Bannockburn-Shelford Road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway.	Short	L	GPSC, TCPG, VR	High
C13.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Teesdale to Shelford Link. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan. Ensure inclusion of signage and waymarking, supporting amenities and road crossing points.	Medium	M	GPSC, TCPG, VR	High
C13.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	MP	GPSC, VR	High
C13.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	1
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	11/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C14 SHAWS ROAD TO NATIVE HUT CREEK, TEESDALE

Develop a short trail from Shaws Road to Native Hut Creek and provide picnic and interpretation signage for tourism and recreation purposes.

RATIONALE

The proposed short trail from the end of Shaw's Road in Teesdale to Native Hut Creek within the Road Reserve will provide a safe and accessible route for users to Native Creek and lava bank situated on the northern side of the creek.

It is proposed to install a picnic location at the end of the trail on the bank of Native Hut Creek and include interpretive signage to provide details and history of the lava bank formation, as well as cultural and historic aboriginal uses of the creek.

Hierarchy: Local

Trail Type: Recreation Trail



DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C14.1 Feasibility Study: Undertake consultation with key stakeholders regarding trail development. Consult with VicRoads regarding feasibility of utilising road reserve to develop an off-road crushed gravel pathway.	Long	L	GPSC, TCPG, VR, TO	Low
C14.2 Proposal, Framework and Concept Plan: Develop a proposal, framework and concept plan for the Shaws Road to Native Hut Creek Trail. Include associated costs in the development contributions plan.	Long	M	GPSC, TCPG, VR, TO	Low
C14.3 Project Delivery: Construct trail following detailed design, approvals and funding.	Long	H	GPSC, VR	Low
C14.4 Promote: Develop contemporary and downloadable promotional material for Trail. Promote on GPSC website alongside all other trails in the region.	High / Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	2
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	0
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	0
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	0
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	1
Trail Activation Score	3/15 Poor

STRATEGY C15 BALLARAT TO SKIPTON RAIL TRAIL TO CENTRE OF BALLARAT.

Support City of Ballarat in the extension of the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail to Ballarat's CBD.

RATIONALE

The City of Ballarat are currently working on an extension of Ballarat to Skipton Rail Trail from where it currently ends at Ring Road into Ballarat's town centre along the rail line. This will provide an extended connection to Ballarat's CBD and potentially attract further walkers and cyclists to utilise the rail trail into Golden Plains Shire, it also will provide a safe recreational and commuting connection for Golden Plains visitors into the centre of Ballarat.

Work with and support the City of Ballarat in the development of the Rail Trail extension.

Hierarchy: Regional

Trail Type: Link/Recreation Trail

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C15.1 Provide Support: Support the extension of the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail into Ballarat's CBD. Provide support to City of Ballarat where and if required.	Short	L	GPSC, COB	High
C15.2 Promote: Following construction of extension in City of Ballarat, update mapping and online information regarding the extended Rail Trail to ensure up-to-date information is provided to local residents and visitors.	Short and as Trail developed	L	GPSC, COB	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	3
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	3
Trail Activation Score	15/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C16 BALLARAT TO GEELONG

Explore the feasibility of developing a rail trail along the Geelong to Ballarat line via Bannockburn.

RATIONALE

Explore the opportunity to develop a rail trail along the live railway line that travels from Ballarat to Geelong through Elaine, Meredith, Lethbridge, Bannockburn and Batesford. This would provide a key recreation and commuting connection between all townships and connect the south-eastern towns of Golden Plains to northern Golden Plains and Ballarat. The proposed local linkages between townships such as Teesdale, Inverleigh, Lethbridge, Shelford and Bannockburn will provide further connectivity to the rail trail.

The rail trail would offer opportunities for recreational outdoor activities and serve as a practical commuting route, providing residents with an eco-friendly alternative to the roadways.

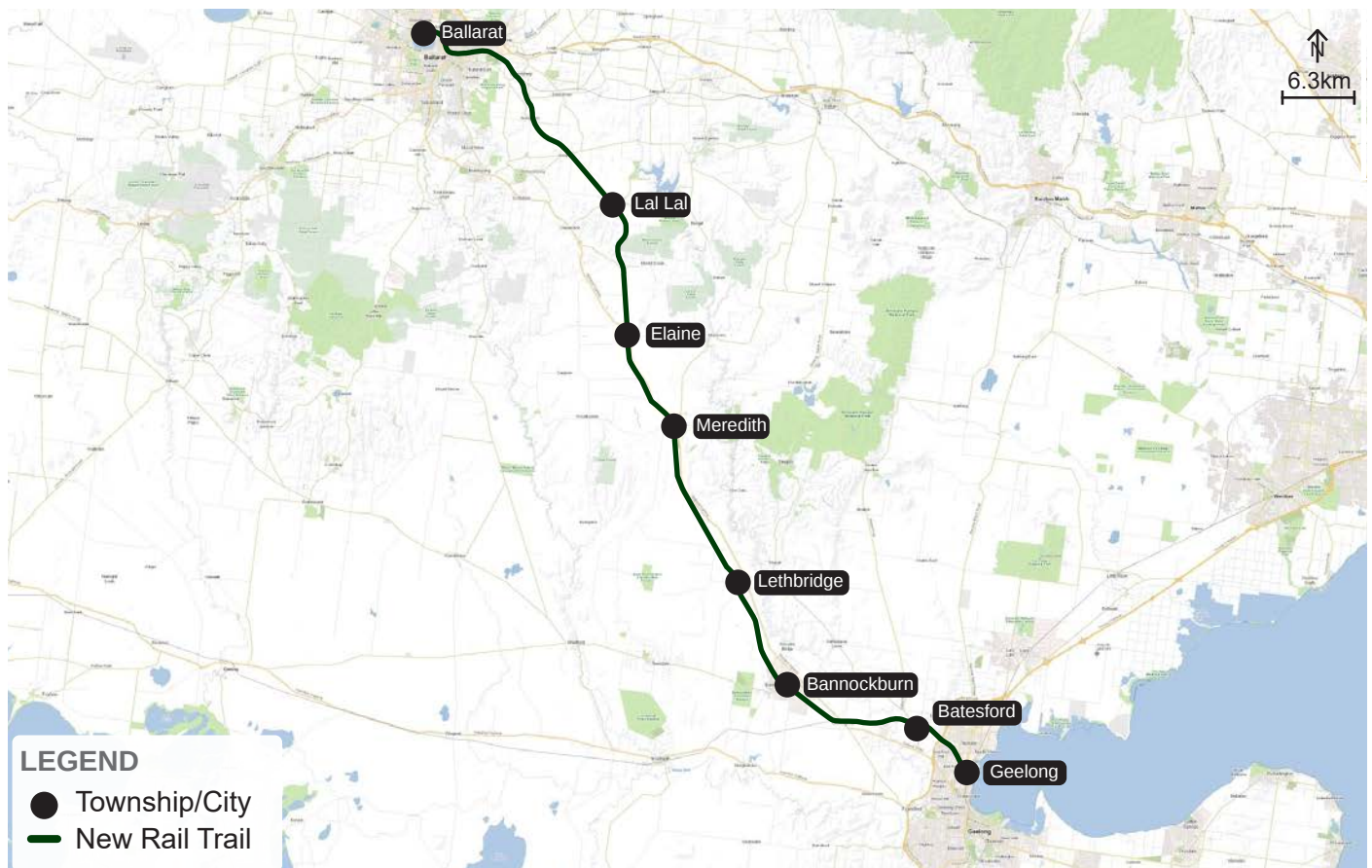
The rail trail would provide economic benefits to the region through the attraction of local and national walkers, cyclist and horse riders. It would also allow for the connection to the Ballarat-Skipton Rail Trail which would further amplify the project's impact, creating a comprehensive network that ultimately connects Linton to Geelong, uniting the region and promoting both community engagement and sustainable transportation.

It is important to consider the amenities, accommodation, camping and hospitality options available nearby to any proposed route to cater to additional visitor numbers.

Consultation is required with VicTrack to determine the feasibility of this project.

Hierarchy: Regional

Trail Type: Link/Recreation Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C16.1 Business Case and Feasibility Study: Develop a comprehensive and up to date Business Case and Feasibility Study for the development of the Ballarat to Geelong Rail Trail. Include information relating to the proposal, framework, concept plans and costings for the Rail Trail to ensure that the Trail can be clearly and regularly communicated and planned for.	Medium	H	GPSC, COB, COGG, MSC, DTP, VR, VT, Community	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	3
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	3
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	3
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	3
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	3
Trail Activation Score	15/15 Excellent

STRATEGY C17 GOLDFIELDS TRACK

Explore the opportunity to connect into the Goldfields Trail for tourism purposes.

RATIONALE

The Goldfields Track is a historically significant and visually captivating route that guides visitors through the heart of Victoria's gold rush heritage. The trail spans approximately 210 kilometres, extending from the city of Ballarat to the town of Bendigo. Along its course, it meanders through lush forests, traverses serene lakes, and offers stunning vistas of rural landscapes.

The Goldfields Trail provides an immersive journey, offering exploration of remnants from Victoria's gold rush era. Along the route, travellers visit numerous historical sites, preserved mining artefacts, and towns including Castlemaine, Daylesford, Creswick and Ballarat. This multi-use trail accommodates hikers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders, catering to a broad range of preferences and skill levels.

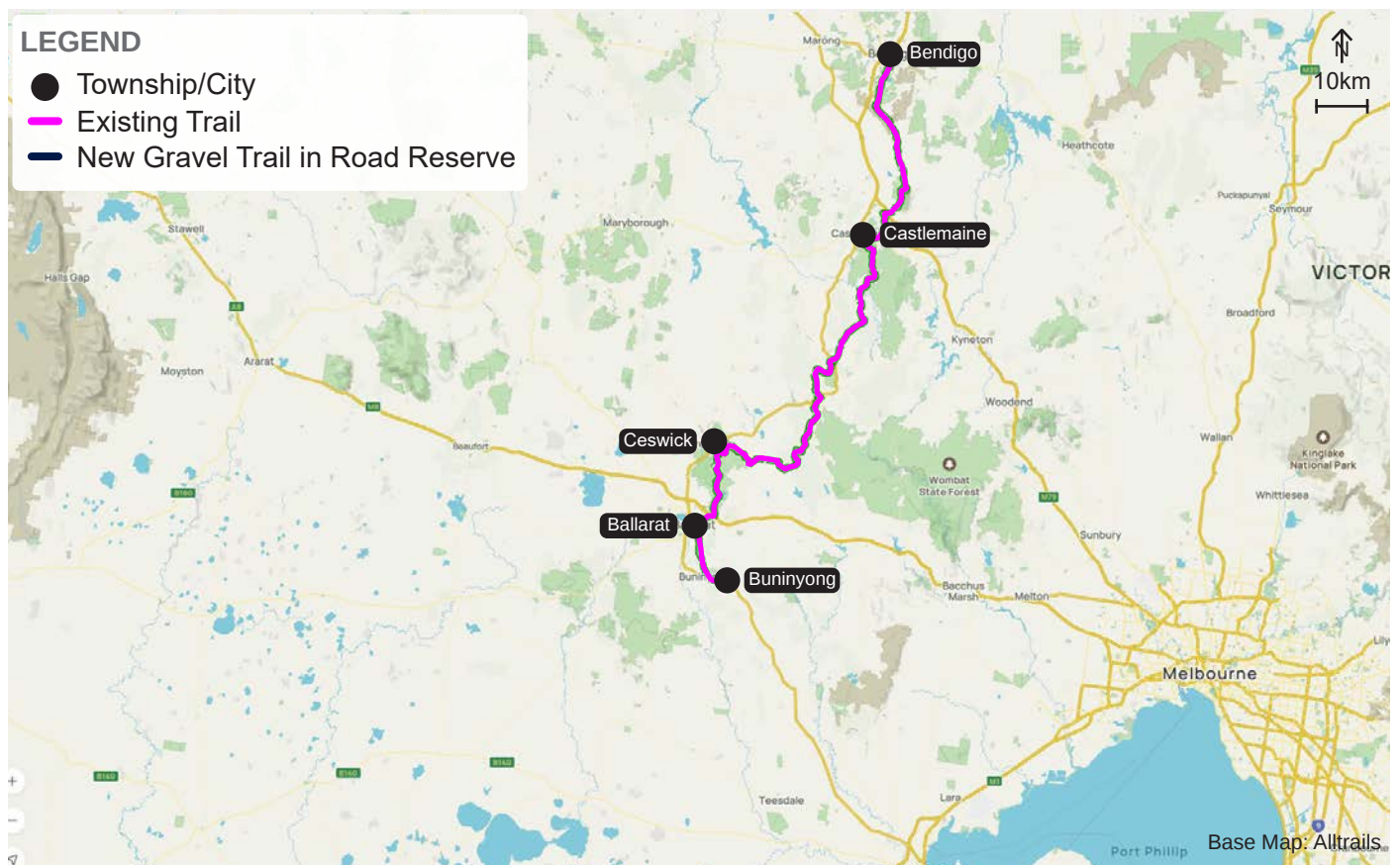
Explore the opportunity for Golden Plains to link into the Goldfields Track by extending the track into Golden Plains and connecting to historical gold mining locations and sites within the region (e.g. Woody Yaloak River was used extensively for Gold mining purposes post European settlement).

The existing trail experiences high usage and the extension of the trail would draw additional overnight visitors at a regional and national scale into GPSC, providing economic benefits to accommodation providers and businesses. It is important to consider the amenities, accommodation, camping and hospitality options available nearby to any proposed route to cater to additional visitor numbers.

Consultation with local historical groups will be required to determine the feasibility of extending the trail and if there is sufficient historic remnants remaining to support the trail.

Hierarchy: Regional

Trail Type: Recreation Trail



ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
C17.1 Business Case and Feasibility Study: Develop a comprehensive and up to date Business Case and Feasibility Study for the development of the Goldfields Track Extension into GPS. Include information relating to the proposal, framework, concept plans and costings for the Track to ensure that the Goldfields Track can be clearly and regularly communicated and planned for.	Medium	M	GPSC, Community, Historic Groups	High

Trail Activation (Score: 0=Poor, 1=Fair, 2=Good, 3=Excellent)	Score (0-3)
Is accessible for all ages and abilities (e.g. families, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and adaptive bicycles)	2
Provides connection to key community facilities (e.g. community hall/centre, events area, businesses, public transport, residential areas, accommodation, schools)	2
Provides connection to key active recreation facilities/spaces (e.g. playspace, skatepark, BMX, recreation reserve, sports fields)	2
Is suitable to cater to trail events and programs (e.g. local, regional, national events)	3
Provides unique experiences that attracts a variety of users (e.g. educational, historical, cultural, natural or art opportunities)	3
Trail Activation Score	12/15 Excellent



GOAL D: INFORMATION AND MARKETING

Consistent and reliable trail information encourages recreational trail users to confidently, safely and sustainably explore the region's natural areas.

STRATEGY D1 TRAIL INFORMATION:

Provide consistent and reliable signage, maps and supporting information for all trails across the Shire.

RATIONALE

Trail signage has been identified as a key issue on the existing trails through community consultation and on-ground site visits. Installing effective trail signage is a key component to enhance trails for both enjoyment and safety. Australian Standard AS2156.1 Walking Tracks Classification and Signage, the Australian Mountain Bike Management Guidelines and Horse Trail Difficulty Rating System provide guidance associated with the requirements for trail classification and signage.

A key opportunity for the region is to promote the existing range of trail experiences in a contemporary manner. Many trail experiences provided by Council are not widely known by residents or visitors due to lack of reliable information. The GPSC website and visitor information centres do provide some trail information, however, this is generally limited, outdated and inconsistent in terms of design and information provided. The 'Visit Golden Plains' website provides visitor information for the area and highlights opportunities for bushwalking/hiking, mountain biking and horse riding. This is an important resource for visitors and should be continually updated to reflect the trail opportunities available, as well as many other third party websites.

ACTION		TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
D1.1	Signage Templates: Design a suite of trail signage templates (trailhead, wayfinding, interpretation signs) which aligns with AS2156.1 and reflects the GPSC brand (GPSC Design Guidelines).	Short	Low	GPSC	High
D1.2	Signage Installation: Develop and install trail signage using the templates developed (refer Action D1.1) and the requirements of each trail (refer actions identified for each trail outlined in Strategic Outcome B). Remove obsolete signage and infrastructure where required.	Ongoing	High	GPSC	High
D1.3	Map/Brochures: Produce a series of trail user maps/brochures that are consistent in terms of design and levels of information provided, available as hard copy at the Visitor Information Centres and available online for download. This may include a brochure for each trail experience and/or a booklet/pamphlet highlighting a range of trail opportunities (Refer Action D2.2).	Short	Low	GPSC	High
D1.4	Council Website: Ensure that key information relating to all of Council's trails is included on the GPSC website allowing potential trail users to confidently plan their journey.	Short	Low	GPSC	High

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
D1.5 Budget: Ensure that sufficient resources are budgeted for periodic reviews and updates of trail maps and information including on-ground signage, online and printed resources.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High
D1.6 Third Party Information Platforms: Undertake regular reviews of third party websites/platforms (e.g. Trailforks, AllTrails etc.) to ensure accurate information is provided.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High

STRATEGY D2 PROMOTION AND MARKETING:

Enhance promotion and marketing of trail opportunities across the region.

RATIONALE

Golden Plains Shire is well placed to capitalise on the community's appetite for nature-based activities ranging from challenging adventure to tranquil solitude. Trails leverage and showcase the Shire's diverse and iconic natural beauty.

Increased promotion and marketing of recreational trails, both within VicParks and on Council land, will showcase the wide range of nature-based offerings available.

It is important that trail promotion is reflective of the experience provided on the ground to avoid creating a gap between the perceived and actual trail experience offered. This may require significant works to be undertaken on-the-ground on trails (as outlined in under Goal B) before promotion is appropriate.

The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA), has a Special Designations Program which recognises outstanding, destination-worthy mountain bike trail systems as Ride Centres and iconic, adventurous, backcountry trails as EPICS. Achieving IMBA and similar accreditations offers great potential for marketing, and is likely to have significant economic benefits by attracting riders from a range of markets.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
D2.1 Coordinated Marketing: Develop a coordinated approach to marketing the trail network in line with the Golden Plains Communication and Marketing Strategy (2019) ensuring consistency at every customer touch point.	Medium	Low	GPSC	High
D2.2 Promotion: Develop and distribute promotional materials communicating key trail information targeted to specific user markets, based on experience types such as: • Short Walks • Mountain Bike Trails • Road Cycling • Gravel Riding • Trail Running • Horse Riding • Heritage Trails	Medium	Medium	GPSC	Medium
D2.3 Visitor Information Centres: Ensure the GPS Visitor Information Centre staff are comprehensively informed and regularly updated to provide accurate and reliable trail information to visitors.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
D2.4 Trail Accreditation: Advocate for key trails in the Shire to be recognised through achieving accreditation through various organisations such as IMBA and Horse Safety Australia.	Short	Low	GPSC	High
D2.5 Hierarchical Promotion: Utilise a hierarchy-based approach to determine the level of marketing (and required allocation of marketing resources) appropriate to each of GPS's trails/trail network.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High



GOAL E: COMMUNITY, TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Trails contribute significantly to the region's community, tourism and economic development.

STRATEGY E1 COMMUNITY, TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Use trail development and provision as a community, tourism and economic development tool.

RATIONALE

Established trail networks and their associated activities can provide significant benefits to local communities, particularly from an economic and tourism perspective. Hosting of special events that utilise trail networks should be supported to assist in raising the profile of the existing and future trail networks and to provide sustained economic benefits. There is opportunity to create vibrant recreational trail precincts across GPS, which over the long-term could provide significant economic and tourism benefits to the region.

Implementation of the Golden Plains Tracks and Trails Strategy will significantly contribute to this, and promotion of the opportunities available across the Shire.

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
E1.1 Promotion: Ensure a central location exists in each town portraying the GPS trail network (i.e. reliable information at Visitor Information Centres &/or Park/Reserve signage promoting trail experiences.	Short	Low	GPSC	High
E1.2 Events: Attract and retain trail-related events and provide support to ensure ongoing sustainability. Consider opportunities for a portion of event proceeds to be allocated to trail maintenance.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High
E1.3 Installations and pop-ups: Attract and encourage cultural activities and historic, arts and performance installations and pop-ups along the trail network to create community pride, ownership and encourage visitation to trails.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC, TO, Community Groups	
E1.4 Towns & Villages: Encourage communities along existing or proposed trail routes to embrace & capitalise on nature based tourism initiatives which accommodate cycling, horse riding, walking/running.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC, Community	High
E1.5 Economic Development: Support businesses (e.g. tour operators, associated retail outlets, hospitality venues, accommodation providers etc.) to promote, utilise and enhance the trail network to grow the visitor economy into a successful trail destination.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High

DETAILED ACTION PLAN

ACTION	TIMEFRAME	COST	AUTHORITY	PRIORITY
E1.6 Collaborate: Encourage trail managers and interest groups to share trail information (i.e. asset management resources, governance models, trail maintenance resources).	Ongoing	Low	GPSC, Community	High
E1.7 Environmental Protection: Develop the Shire's trail network in a formalised and balanced manner to ensure the protection of the Shire's significant environmental values and nature based tourism appeal.	Ongoing	Low	GPSC	High

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The Well, Smythesdale
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