

## 2019/20 Proposed Annual Budget and Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 SUBMISSIONS and RESPONSES



| Revised Council Plan Submission Responses 2017-2021 |   |   |   |   |   |  |                         |                           |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| ID Number<br>CP = Council Plan                      | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i>                                 | Submission Title  | Submission Summary  | Response to submission (reason)   | Council Plan Objective and Strategy   | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact - One Off | Budget Impact - Recurrent |
| CP01  | <a href="#">Dr Moragh Mackay (Chair Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd)</a>                 | Request for amendments to the Revised Council 2017 - 2021 as proposed by the Energy Innovation Cooperative                      | Request for amendments to the Revised Council 2017 - 2021 as proposed by the Energy Innovation Cooperative.   | <p>The Council commenced the Community Vision 2040 in 2017/18, however proposed requirements in the revised Local Government Act placed the project on hold pending its gazettal. Current indications are that the new Bill (draft Act) will be presented to Parliament in late 2019. Once gazetted, Council will have clear guidelines on requirements for the Community Vision. Suggestions made within this proposal will be interesting aspects for Council and the broader community to consider when Council re-commences the development of the new Community Vision for the Shire. The Energy Innovation Co-operative's constructive suggestions and interest can be considered further once development work on Vision 2040 recommences. This is likely to be in the 2020/21 financial year.</p> <p>There is merit in the ideas proposed and these will be best considered under a new Community Sustainability category within the Community Grants Program. The Community Grant guidelines will need to be reviewed and updated to allow for assessment of new projects under this category.</p> | Sustainability Strategy and Council Plan: Strategic Objectives: 1.1 and Strategies 2.1, 2.1.1 and 2.1.2                           | N/A  | NIL                     | NIL                       |
| CP02  | <a href="#">Eunice Donovan (Coordinator) Leongatha Community House</a>                      | Support for town based internet access in Leongatha to improve the digital literacy of older and disadvantaged community.       | Leongatha Community House is currently involved in programs and activities that support and improve digital literacy. These activities align with both the Age Friendly South Gippsland Plan 2017 - 2021 and Council's Digital Strategy 2018. Leongatha Community House are asking to support a town based internet access in Leongatha to improve the digital literacy of older and disadvantaged community. | Council to consider if free WIFI should be explored further as they align with the Digital Strategy 2018. An important consideration is that we must include WIFI for all major towns within the South Gippsland Shire and not just Leongatha. There is also the need to understand costs and options with providing such a service. It is therefore proposed that a feasibility study is completed to understand how a service like this can be offered, identify any risk and issues that may need to be considered, and determine the true costs for free WIFI. It is proposed that a budgetary sum of \$10,000 is set aside for research and to fund a brief proof of concept (if required). Once the feasibility has been completed it is proposed that a report is brought back to Council for evaluation and decision on next steps.   | Digital Strategy 2018 and An Age Friendly South Gippsland Plan 2017 – 2021<br><br>Council Plan: Strategic Objectives: 2.5 and 4.1 | No   | \$10,000                | NIL                       |
| CP03  | <a href="#">John McCombe and representative Lindsay Love (South Gippsland Action Group)</a> | Council to honour the commitment to reduce the rates by 3% and follow through by embracing the 'Growth for Reduced Rates' plan. | Council to honour the commitment to reduce the rates by 3% and follow through by embracing the 'Growth for Reduced Rates' plan.   | In the preparation of the budget, Council concluded that it is the best interests of the municipality to defer rate cuts pending the preparation of a sustainable ten-year cost reduction strategy. The objective of the strategy is to apply savings generated from improved operational efficiencies and population growth to value for money service improvements, better infrastructure and/or rate reductions.   | Council Plan: Strategic Objective 4.3   | N/A  | NIL                     | NIL                       |

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|   |  |  |  | <p>A petition with 432 signatures (365 within the South Gippsland Shire, 9 outside of the Shire and 28 invalid) to support this submission was prepared during the public exhibition period and delivered to Council on 6 May 2019. Although the petition was received after the closing date, Council is considering this petition together with this submission.</p> <p>After extensive modelling, Council determined that a 3% reduction in Rates would jeopardise the sustainability of Council's Long Term Financial Plan. Council has an obligation to ensure the ongoing financial sustainability of the municipality. This is exacerbated by a growing demand by the community for higher service levels and infrastructure upgrades and renewals.</p>  |   |  |                         |                           |
| CP04  | <a href="#">Noelene Cosson (President) Korumburra Business Association</a> | Korumburra Business Association supports the proposed changes in relation to the rate cut objective. | Korumburra Business Association supports the proposed changes in relation to the rate cut objective.   | <p>Korumburra Business Association supports the change to the words of the Strategic Objective 4.3 <u>from</u>: "Work in partnership with the CEO and senior staff to develop a four year Rate Reduction Strategy, to reduce the rate burden by 3% through improved innovation and productivity savings, streamlining the administration structures and processes, through improved Business Unit performance and economic growth" <u>to</u>: "Develop a ten year 'Sustainable Cost Reduction Strategy' based on improved operational efficiencies and population growth, to be utilised for the value for money service improvements, better infrastructure and / or rate reductions.</p> <p>After extensive modelling, Council determined that a 3 % reduction in Rates would jeopardise the sustainability of Council's long term financial plan. Council has an obligation to ensure the ongoing financial sustainability of the municipality. This was exacerbated by a growing demand by the community for higher service levels and infrastructure upgrades and renewals.</p> <p>No further change is required to the 2017-2021 Council Plan - Revised 2019.</p> | Council Plan: Strategic Objectives: 4.3 | N/A  | NIL                     | NIL                       |
| CP05  | <a href="#">Tony Walker (Prom Coast Climate Action)</a>                    | Develop and Implement a Climate Emergency Response Plan  | The Prom Coast Climate Action Group submission asks Council in reviewing the Revised Council Plan 2017 - 2021 to include developing and implementing a | Council is encouraged to respond pro-actively to the submission by calling for a briefing on what a 'Climate Emergency Response' is and why further investigation and action may be relevant for the organisation and Shire.  | Sustainability Strategy                 | N/A  | NIL                     | NIL                       |



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|   |  |   | Climate Emergency Response by declaring a climate emergency and developing a new Climate Emergency Plan which will guide Council's climate emergency response for inclusion at all levels of Council operations and activities.             | This will assist Councillors to understand more on this topic.   | Council Plan: Strategic Objective 3.2   |  |                         |                           |
| CP06  | <a href="#">Clive Hope (Secretary) Meeniyan Progress Association</a> | Why the delay in the decision and progress on the proposed Equestrian and Exhibition / Expo Centre. | The Meeniyan Progress Association would like to know why there is an ongoing delay in making a decision and progress to the proposed Equestrian and Exhibition / Expo Centre which is referred to in the Revised Council Plan 2017 - 2021 . | Council has engaged @Leisure Planners to identify and evaluate potential locations and undertake a feasibility study for a multipurpose Equestrian and Exhibition Centre. This work considers location options but primarily focuses on the ongoing viability of the proposed centre. A confidential briefing to Council on the progress of this investigation is scheduled for 7 August 2019. | Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2018 – 2020<br><br>Council Plan: Strategic Objective: 1.3.7 | N/A  | NIL                     | NIL                       |

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| AB01  | <a href="#">Steven Rath</a>                                 | Fortnightly rubbish collection                                 | Fortnightly rubbish collection                                 | <p>Kerbside waste and recycling collection services are provided on the basis of full cost recovery under the terms of a lump sum contract. The cost to provide these services remains the same, regardless of the number of bins collected each week. No cost savings would be made through properties only electing to place their garbage bins out on a fortnightly basis.</p> <p>This will be considered in the review of the next Waste Management Contract in 2021.</p>   | Waste Management Strategy 2016 - 2021          | N/A  | Nil           | Nil                     |
| AB02  | <a href="#">Geoff Treloar (Foster Community Group)</a>      | Jones Street, Foster Drainage / Kerb & Channel                 | Jones Street, Foster Drainage / Kerb & Channel                 | <p>This project was originally scoped in 2015, however, was never funded. In March 2019, the Foster Hospital requested Council investigate safer car parking and stormwater drainage upgrades along Jones Street, resulting in a revised project scope with costs estimated at \$260,000 for construction and a further \$4,000 per annum to maintain the assets. The project has been scoped to include tree removal, kerb and channel, underground stormwater drainage upgrades, and road pavement widening. The project is not currently recognised in the forward budget.</p>                       | Nil  | No   | \$260,000     | \$4,000                 |
| AB03  | <a href="#">Charles Price</a>                               | Objection to the Bair Street Redevelopment Upgrade / Precinct. | Objection to the Bair Street Redevelopment Upgrade / Precinct. | <p>The Leongatha Revitalisation Project has been a Priority Project of Council's since 2016. Council and the community recognised a need for the redevelopment of Bair Street as the conditions within the town centre have led to declining physical amenity and economic viability of Leongatha. The Leongatha (Bair Street) Streetscape project is being undertaken to rehabilitate the road, improve access to businesses, provide safe parking, and make the town centre more pedestrian friendly.</p> <p>The project has a total cost of \$5.4M. Council has secured \$4.2M in grant funding.</p> | Council Plan 2017 - 2021 Annual Plan 2018/19   | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |



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| AB04  | <a href="#">PeeWee Lewis President (Korumburra Round Table)</a>             | Support for the Korumburra Community Hub, Revitalisation Project, the Recreation Reserve, Skate Park, and the Jumbunna Road shared path to the Korumburra Secondary College. | Support for the Korumburra Community Hub, Revitalisation Project, the Recreation Reserve, Skate Park, and the Jumbunna Road shared path to the Korumburra Secondary College. | The Korumburra Revitalisation Project has been a Priority Project of Council's since 2016. Budget allocation for a community hub and relocation of the skate park are included in the proposed 2019/20 and 2020/21 budget. The Korumburra Recreation Reserve change room refurbishment is expected to be completed in the 2018/19 financial year (current). The project to extend the footpath along Jumbunna Road to the Korumburra Secondary College is included in the proposed 2019/20 budget, however, has encountered some issues with private retaining walls located on the road reserve which are in the way of the path and land acquisition matters that need to be attended to before the project can proceed.                           | Social Community Infrastructure Blueprint 2014-2029, Paths & Trails Strategy 2018, Korumburra Town Centre Framework, Community Directions Statements. | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |
| AB05  | <a href="#">Don Atkins</a>  | Sealing of Walkerville Road (last 3km) and Car Park  | Sealing of Walkerville Road (last 3km) and Car Park  | As part of the Gravel Roads Review Project (major initiative) a 'Gravel to Seal' program has been developed and the top twenty priority roads have been identified. Walkerville South Road is one of the top twenty projects proposed for sealing, however, Council has not allocated a budget to fund the program. The project has been scoped and costed at a preliminary estimate of \$1.2M to construct and seal the road and a further \$22,500 per annum is estimated for sealed road maintenance.<br><br>Sealing the car park is not recognised in the forward budget. The project has been scoped and estimated at a cost of \$50,000 to construct and seal the car park and a further \$750 per annum for car park maintenance and renewal. | Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 Major Initiative for Gravel Roads 2018/19 financial year   | No   | \$1,250,000   | \$23,250                |
| AB06  | <a href="#">Dr Moragh Mackay (Chair Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd)</a> | South Gippsland Shire Council and Energy Innovation Cooperative Limited Partnership Proposal   | South Gippsland Shire Council and Energy Innovation Cooperative Limited Partnership Proposal   | The Energy Innovation Co-op have asked in their submission for Council to allocate \$30,000 annually for an initial three years to support the progressive implementation of a collaborative, community directed, Council-supported approach to reducing community carbon emissions, initially in Korumburra and other communities at a later date.<br><br>There is merit in the ideas proposed and these will be best considered under a new Community Sustainability category within the Community Grants Program. The Community Grant guidelines will need to be reviewed and updated to allow for assessment of new projects under this category.  | South Gippsland Shire Council Sustainability Strategy 2016 - 2020   | No   | Nil           | \$20,000                |



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| AB07  | <a href="#">Sharon Turton</a>  | Sealing Clancys Road, Korumburra and Gravel to Seal Program Funding.   | Sealing Clancys Road, Korumburra and Gravel to Seal Program Funding.   | As part of the Gravel Roads Review Project (major initiative) a 'Gravel to Seal' program has been developed and the top twenty priority roads have been identified. Clancys Road is one of the top twenty projects proposed for sealing, however, Council has not allocated a budget to fund the program. The project has been scoped and costed at an estimate of \$2M to construct and seal 5km of road and a further \$30,000 per annum for sealed road maintenance and renewal.  | Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 Major Initiative for Gravel Roads 2018/19 financial year                                       | No   | \$2,000,000  | \$30,000  |
| AB08  | <a href="#">Noelene Cosson (President) Korumburra Business Association</a> | Korumburra Industrial Estate to Commercial Street Footpath Extension and Skip Walking Track at Coal Creek                    | Korumburra Industrial Estate to Commercial Street Footpath Extension and Skip Walking Track at Coal Creek      | <p><b>a) Korumburra Industrial Estate to Commercial Street Footpath.</b><br/>There is a footpath from Commercial Street to Charles Street along the South Gippsland Highway. However, there is a missing link from Charles Street to Sanders Street (Korumburra Industrial Estate) along the highway. The footpath extension from Sanders Street to Charles Street along the South Gippsland Highway is ranked approximately no. 30 in the Footpath Extension Criticality Table. As such, it has not ranked high enough to make it into the Footpath Extension Program. The project has been scoped and estimated at \$96,000 from Sanders Street along the South Gippsland Highway to Charles Street and a further \$1,500 per annum for maintenance and renewal.</p> | Korumburra Community Direction Statement (priority project) Footpath Extension Program 2018/19 Paths and Trails Strategy 2018 | No   | \$96,000   | \$1,500   |
|   |  |  |  | <p><b>b) Skip Walking Track at Coal Creek</b><br/>The track from Coal Creek Community Park and Museum to the end of Silkstone Road is an unfunded project in the Paths and Trails Strategy as the project requires further investigation. One off budget impact and recurrent budget unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed in order to confidently provide an accurate estimate.</p>   | Korumburra Community Direction Statement (priority project) Paths and Trails Strategy 2018                                    | No   | <i>Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> | <i>Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> |
| AB09  | <a href="#">Ross Garner (President) Meeniyah Art Gallery</a>               | Various provisions in grant funding and a program (grant in aid) for community creative arts and culture in South Gippsland. | Various provisions in grant funding to Mirboo North Community Gallery, Meeniyah Gallery and Toora Art Gallery. | At this time there is no budget allocation to provide rental assistance for any community organisations however Council provides Council owned premises at peppercorn rental (\$104 per annum) for four Community/Neighbourhood houses and two gallery spaces run by community groups (Leongatha and Korumburra). Council provides a gallery space that includes   | South Gippsland Arts, Culture and Creative Industry Strategy 2017-2021, Social and Community                                  | No   | Nil  | \$25,000 but with potential to increase if other community owned galleries seek similar                 |

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|   |   |  | That the Council Plan includes the development in conjunction with the Arts Alliance of an equitable and fair policy and strategy for a financial support program (grant in aid) for community creative arts and culture in South Gippsland. Foster and Leongatha. | <p>retail activity in Foster and this facility is managed for Council by a delegated Section 86 Special Committee.</p> <p>Council has provided an annual contribution towards the infrastructure and playing surface maintenance at 20 recreation reserves that are either Council, Crown or Community owned reserves.</p> <p>Council has recognised the need to review the range of commercial and public spaces available for exhibition and performance as part of the Arts Culture and Creative Industry Strategy 2017-2021 and then develop an Arts Facilities Masterplan for the period 2020- 2025. Consideration of support for community owned galleries and outlets such as Meeniyan Art Gallery will be addressed through this work in 2019/20.</p> <p>The Council Plan incorporates the overarching Strategy 2.4 'Implement the Arts and Culture Strategy and support growth of the sector.' The details of funding and financial support are best reflected in the consideration of actions to implement the Arts and Culture Strategy and their budgetary requirements.</p>  | Infrastructure Blueprint 2014-2029             |  |               | Council grant in aid.   |
| AB10  | <a href="#">Craig Kenny and Anne Lewis</a>                  | Various requests to be considered in their submission. | Submitter would like various requests to be considered in their submission.  | <p><b>1. Request to Council: Council might consider using a 'deliberative' community engagement process develop criteria to guide future decisions about cost-savings and to best understand how savings or discretionary expenditure might be (re)invested to provide services in response to emerging community needs.</b></p> <p><b>Strategic Objective One – Strengthen Economic Growth &amp; Prosperity</b></p> <p>Deliberative community engagement processes are one of the tools Council is using through its Community Engagement Policy and toolkit to ensure Council hears a wide range of perspectives, understands and considers the breadth of community issues and identifies various options before making decisions. It is anticipated that Council will utilise a range of tools to understand how savings and discretionary expenditure might be re-invested or provided as cost reductions when addressing existing and emerging community needs. These tools are utilised each year and information is drawn from many sources to inform the annual and longer term Budget. The mix of community engagement tools will also be used to develop the proposed Cost Reduction Strategy. The Our Say platform is</p> | Council Plan: Strategic Objective 1.           | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |

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|   | <a href="#">Craig Kenny and Anne Lewis continued</a>        |                  |                    | <p>what Council has used in the past and will further explore alternative options when the next Vision is developed.</p>   |  |  |               |                         |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p><b>2. Budget consideration should be given to resourcing and establishing an engagement process with the community, land-holders and stakeholder groups (such as Landcare) during the 2019/20 financial year to identify the ways in which improved weed control can be achieved within the South Gippsland Shire. This might include amendment or creation of relevant local laws, increased resourcing to Council's maintenance activities, material support to community-based initiatives, increased compliance activities or concrete project proposals for consideration in future budgets.</b></p> <p><b>Strategic Objective Two – Build Strong Partnerships, Strengthen Arts &amp; Culture &amp; Deliver Equitable Outcomes</b></p> | Weed Management Strategy<br>Roadside Management Plan   | No   | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p>Council continues to take weed control as a serious matter. Weed control resources have been increased this financial year (2018/19) and Council also works in collaboration with Landcare. Council and Landcare have applied for a joint State Government grant for additional weed control. Council does not currently have a local law regarding weeds on private property as this is the responsibility of the State Government.</p>  |  |  |               |                         |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p><b>3. That Council consider including the following activities in its 2019/20 budget:</b></p> <p>(i) <b>Initiating social planning and community engagement in the 2019/20 financial year to understand the extent and impact of demographic change and community renewal to inform the development of Council's Public Health &amp; Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan that will be due for adoption by the next Council in 2021; and</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>Commissioning an audit of existing local community assets in 2019/20 (halls, tennis courts and reserves) outside of the major towns (in collaboration with local communities) to understand the 'fitness for purpose', maintenance and renewal costs and</b></p>                     | Council Plan Strategic Objective 3.<br>Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 - 2021,<br>Tennis Facilities Plan 2017,<br>Recreation Plan 2019/20, Social and Community Infrastructure Blueprint 2014-2029, Community | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |



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|   | <a href="#">Craig Kenny and Anne Lewis continued</a>        |                  |                    | <p><i>ownership/management structures that might be required to sustainably support this important community infrastructure.</i></p> <p><b>Strategic Objective Three – Improve South Gippsland's Built Assets &amp; Value our Natural Environment.</b></p>  | Strengthening Strategy 2018-2022               |  |               |                         |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p><b>(i) Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 - 2021</b></p> <p>The South Gippsland Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 - 2021 has an annual implementation plan outlining specific partnership activities associated with the objectives of the plan. Actions of the annual plan are evaluated and reviewed each 12 months. The South Gippsland Health and Wellbeing Profile is updated annually or as data is released. Actions in the annual plan are modified in response to emerging health and wellbeing needs and issues in the community.</p> <p>The 2021 - 2025 Health and Wellbeing Plan is to be completed within 12 months of Council elections with consultations commenced in the 18 months leading up to completion. Community consultations are undertaken using a range of methods and include combined consultations for the Council Plan; in centres across the municipality; and via survey or over the phone.</p> <p>Council is currently engaged with the State Government in the development of the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.</p> <p>Planning and consultation for Public Health and Wellbeing Planning is undertaken by Council's Social Planning Officer.</p> <p><b>(ii) Tennis Courts and Reserves</b></p> <p>Council completed the Tennis Facilities Plan in 2017 which identified and audited every public tennis court. In 2018/19, eight tennis facilities within the municipality have received funding towards maintenance of facilities. Funding to continue to support the maintenance of tennis courts is included within the 2019/20 budget. An update of the Recreation Plan in 2019/20 is intended to provide direction on the future provision of recreation infrastructure.</p> |  |  |               |                         |





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|   | <a href="#">Craig Kenny and Anne Lewis continued</a>        |  |  | <p>(ii) <b>Halls</b></p> <p>A high level audit was undertaken in 2014 when Council was developing the Social and Community Infrastructure Blueprint 2014 - 2029.</p>  |  |  |               |                         |
|   |   |  |  | <p><b>4. That Council consider funding and including the following activities in its 2019/20 budget:</b></p> <p>(i) <b>Planning or advocacy for the implementation of appropriate speed restrictions (80kmh or lower) on appropriate sections of the Grand Ridge Road, Leongatha- Yarragon Road and Warragul-Leongatha Road;</b></p> <p>(ii) <b>An upgrade of safety advisory signage along the road to provide adequate warning of driving conditions;</b></p> <p>(iii) <b>Improved district signage for communities and promotion of tourism destinations; and</b></p> <p>(iv) <b>Planning in collaboration with Baw Baw Shire to ensure rapid response to required reactive maintenance activities and the development of a multi-year plan for consistent upgrade through planned maintenance and renewal activities.</b></p> | Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 Major Initiative for Gravel Roads 2018/19 financial year. | No   | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |  |  | <p>(i) As part of the Gravel Roads Review Program (improvement program), advocacy for 80 km/h speed limits across the Shire is being undertaken.</p> <p>(ii) Signage improvements are undertaken within existing budgets where required.</p> <p>(iii) As above, signage improvements are undertaken within existing budgets where required.</p> <p>(iv) Reactive and rapid response maintenance occurs in accordance with Council's Road Management Plan.</p>   |  |  |               |                         |
| AB11  | <a href="#">Ted Landy (South Walkerville Action Group)</a>  | Objection to the Sealing of Walkerville South Road | Objection to the Sealing of Walkerville South Road | <p>Council notes the submitter's concerns. Walkerville South Road is high on the gravel to seal criticality list, however this program is unfunded. Council receives many complaints about this road over the summer period. However, until there is available funding, no works other than maintenance will be occurring.</p> <p>The Local Law is proposed to be reviewed in 2019/20 and submissions can be made.</p>  | Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 Major Initiative for Gravel Roads 2018/19 financial year. | No   | Nil           | Nil                     |



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| ID Number<br><i>AB = Annual Budget</i>              | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i>                                | Submission Title  | Submission summary  | Response to submission (reason)  | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy   | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact  | Budget Impact Recurrent                                  |
| AB12  | <a href="#">Clive Hope (Secretary) Meeniyang Progress Association</a>                      | Street Lighting at Tompkins Road, Meeniyang   | Street Lighting at Tompkins Road, Meeniyang   | Council notes that the Meeniyang Progress Association has previously raised the matter of lighting for Tompkins Road Meeniyang in November 2018. The request at that time was for the installation of solar lights because of the lack of power poles and appropriate power sources. Solar lighting has proven to be problematic for Council from a maintenance perspective where previously installed. There may be a suitable low voltage power supply in Hanily Street that could be utilised if funding was provided for this project. However, there is currently no available funding for works of this nature. The estimated cost of installing approximately three light poles with the associated footings and electrical works would be in the vicinity of \$30,000 - \$40,000 and additional power costs is estimated at \$400 per year.  | No   | No   | \$40,000   | \$400  |
| AB13  | <a href="#">John McCombe or Representative Lindsay Love (South Gippsland Action Group)</a> | Growth for Rates Reduction and Growth for Reduced Rates to be considered for Exhibition and Equestrian Centre in Stony Creek. | Growth for Rates Reduction and Growth for Reduced Rates to be considered for Exhibition and Equestrian Centre in Stony Creek. | <p>Council has engaged @Leisure Planners to identify and evaluate potential locations and undertake a feasibility study for a multipurpose Equestrian and Exhibition Centre. This work considers location options but primarily focuses on the ongoing viability of the proposed centre. It does not consider achieving a significant change in local demographics via the proposed investment in developing the centre. A confidential briefing to Council on the progress of this investigation is scheduled for 7 August 2019.</p> <p>The South Gippsland Population Growth and Land Supply Study was developed in 2018 and is available at <a href="http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/homepage/232/population_growth_and_land_supply_study">http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/homepage/232/population_growth_and_land_supply_study</a>. This study details the growth potential of the shire's largest towns. Each town contains areas of General Residential Zone land yet to be developed by private industry.</p> <p>It is to be noted that the submitter provided a petition to Council with 67 signatories at the 20 March 2019 public presentations in relation to this matter and a response to the petition will be considered at the 29 May 2019 Ordinary Meeting of Council.</p> | Council Plan 2017 - 2021 and Annual Plan 2018/19 | No   | Nil  | Nil  |
| AB14  | <a href="#">Fred Weight</a>  | 24 hour Boat Launching Facilities at 'The Landing' on Stockyard Creek   | 24 hour Boat Launching Facilities at 'The Landing' on Stockyard Creek   | The existing boat ramp and the proposed boat ramp are located on Crown Land and Council does not manage or maintain this area. The submission proposes to build a new boat ramp approximately 500m downstream from the existing ramp with  | No   | No   | Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works | Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is |

## 2019/20 Proposed Annual Budget and Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 SUBMISSIONS and RESPONSES



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i>   | Submission Title   | Submission summary   | Response to submission (reason)   | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact  | Budget Impact Recurrent   |
|   |   |  |  | parking facilities, lighting, toilets etc. Council has not planned or budgeted for this site to be developed. DELWP are the land managers of this area and as such approval would need to be sought from them. Suitable environmental studies would be required with approvals from relevant environment agencies. The cost to undertake this type of marine infrastructure project would be significant, especially if dredging was required and the time required to undertake the necessary environmental studies and seek approval would be significant. DELWP and/or Gippsland Ports (State Government Departments) would be more suited to undertake this request.  |  |  | <i>is determined and project scope completed.</i>  | <i>determined and project scope completed.</i>  |
| AB15  | <a href="#">Shirley Cowling (on behalf of President Brian Enbom) Jumbunna Public Hall Committee</a> | Sealing Jumbunna Hall Car Park   | Sealing Jumbunna Hall Car Park   | <p>The cost to seal the car park at the Jumbunna Hall is unknown. A detailed design would be required before an estimate can be developed due to the topography. Council does not own or manage the Jumbunna Hall or the land.</p> <p>A petition to support this submission was prepared during the public exhibition period and delivered to the Council on 27 April 2019. Although it was received after the closing date Council is considering this petition together with this submission.</p> <p>The petition prayer "Request the Shire to include in their budget to bitumen the roadside outside the Jumbunna Hall to make it safe for vehicles to park and reverse safely to enter the roadway, while improving the area for all abilities". This had 140 signatories, with 136 within the South Gippsland Shire and 4 outside of the Shire.</p> | No   | No   | <i>Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> | <i>Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> |
| AB16  | <a href="#">Paul Katsieris Origami (on Behalf of the Walkerville Ratepayers Association)</a>        | Acacia Way, Walkerville Path and Sealing Walkerville South Road and Drainage | Acacia Way, Walkerville Path and Sealing Walkerville South Road and Drainage | (i) The Acacia Way path is a future unfunded project as stated in the 2018 Paths and Trails Strategy as further investigations are required such as: siting of path (this includes the road reserve or crown land adjacent); future maintenance responsibility; impact of the gravel path when vehicles require access (powerline maintenance vehicles, Parks Victoria, CFA and many more).   | Paths & Trails Strategy                        | No   | \$100,000  | \$1500  |



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |  |  |   |   |  |               |                         |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i> | Submission Title   | Submission summary   | Response to submission (reason)   | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy  | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact | Budget Impact Recurrent |
|   | <a href="#">Paul Katsieris continued</a>                    |  |  | (ii) As part of the Gravel Roads Review Project (major initiative) a 'Gravel to Seal' program has been developed and the top twenty priority roads have been identified. Walkerville South Road is one of the top twenty projects proposed for sealing, however, Council has not allocated a budget to fund the program. The project has been scoped and costed at a preliminary estimate of \$1.2M to construct and seal the road and a further \$22,500 per annum is estimated for sealed road maintenance.   | Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 Major Initiative for Gravel Roads 2018/19 financial year | No   | \$1,200,000   | \$22,500                |
| AB17  | <a href="#">Ralph Gallagher</a>                             | Multiple questions with respect to the Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget. | Submitter has multiple questions with respect to the Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget. | <p><b>Budget Surplus:</b> There have been three occasions over the last seven months or so when individual Councillors have declared the financial position to be positively rosy. The first claim was that the Shire had achieved a surplus (to date) of \$26 million. The second claim touted a surplus of \$28 million and the last claim I heard announced the utopian position of a \$30 million surplus.</p> <p>I asked about the surplus of \$26 million and the answer firstly reduced the figure to \$23 million but failed to provide all the details of the components. I also asked whether the Councillor's comment (publicly done as it was) had been corrected. No response.</p> <p>There is no reasonable position that justifies the holding or more importantly the accreting of such a sum. <b>How was it done? Why was it done? Excessive rates? Over budgeted projects? If the claims were incorrect why weren't the statements publicly corrected?</b></p> <p>In the first few months of each financial year, Council's financial reports disclose surpluses in the order of \$25 million. The reason for this is that at the start of each financial year, a full year's revenue is recognised but only the year-to-date expenditure is recorded, thus generating a year-to-date surplus. As the year progresses and expenditure is incurred, the surplus reduces back to a much lower figure. At the end of each year, Council's cash balance includes around \$7 million for carried forward projects.</p> | Annual Budget 2019/20   | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |                  |                    |   |  |  |               |                         |
|---|---|------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i> | Submission Title | Submission summary | Response to submission (reason)   | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact | Budget Impact Recurrent |
|   | <a href="#">Ralph Gallagher continued</a>                   |                  |                    | <p><b>Capital Works:</b></p> <p>(i) The provision for “roads” is excessive as a single budget year provision. There is no doubt that the Shire’s program has been inadequate but the attempt to resolve all this overnight is a poor financial decision. Such substantial works should be spread over several budget year cycles.</p> <p>(ii) The Mirboo North Pool project also warrants a further review. The total is now many hundreds of thousands of dollars more than estimated at its first listing as a putative project. Are there no opportunities for a reduced provision? What are the expected operating costs, fees income for the facility?</p> <p>(iii) The budget also includes more than \$7 million for projects that are subject to grants funding. What happens if that funding does not eventuate? Why are such projects listed as part of the budget if grants funding is not yet assured?</p>  | (ii) Aquatic Strategy                          | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p><b>(i) Provision for Roads</b><br/>Expenditure on road upgrades and renewals is carefully considered with reference to Council’s Asset Management Plan.</p> <p><b>(ii) The Mirboo North Pool project</b><br/>The Mirboo North Pool redevelopment is at the tender negotiation stage. Significant community fundraising and grant funds have allowed for the increased scope of works at the Mirboo North Pool. Council’s financial commitment to the project has remained unchanged.</p> <p>The net operating costs for 2018/19 was \$84,247 with an income of \$49,749 for fees which is collected and retained by the YMCA under a contract with Council.</p> <p><b>(iii) Major Projects Grants funding</b><br/>The budget discloses capital works of \$26 million partly funded by capital grants of \$6.6 million. Depending on the individual project, if a grant does not eventuate, the following scenarios may occur:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The project might not go ahead;</li> <li>2. The project might go ahead on a smaller scale;</li> <li>3. The project might be funded from a combination of cash reserves and additional borrowings;</li> </ol> |  |  |               |                         |



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |                  |                    |  |  |  |               |                         |
|---|---|------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i> | Submission Title | Submission summary | Response to submission (reason)  | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact | Budget Impact Recurrent |
|   | <a href="#">Ralph Gallagher continued</a>                   |                  |                    | <p>4. The project may be deferred until grant funding secured. Projects that are dependent on grant funding are included in the budget if a grant is likely to be received (for example, higher than 50% probability). This is standard budgeting practice. The budget is a plan at a point in time based on information that is known at the time of preparing the budget.</p>  |  |  |               |                         |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p><b>Commercial Enterprises:</b><br/>(i) Once again Council fails to provide adequate operating statements of commercial enterprises such as the caravan parks. The existing arrangements have been in place for some years now and yet "no adequate reports" have been forthcoming.<br/><br/>(ii) Whilst not strictly a commercial enterprise the costs associated with the equipping, maintenance and otherwise operating the Franklin Reserve free caravan site should also be detailed.</p>   | Recreation Vehicle Strategy 2014               | (i) Yes (ii) N/A                           | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |                  |                    | <p><b>Commercial Enterprises:</b></p> <p><b>(i) South Gippsland Shire Caravan Parks Reporting</b><br/>An operational report is prepared at the end of each financial year and presented to Council for adoption. This includes income generated, expenses incurred and capital improvements. Previous years can be viewed in the minutes of the Council meetings of 27 September 2017 and 28 November 2018.<br/><br/>The caravan parks are operated within Council's consolidated services and also incorporated into the annual financial statements which are subject to audit by VAGO.</p> <p><b>(ii) Franklin River Reserve maintenance and operating costs</b><br/>Operating costs are not detailed in the budget as the Franklin River Reserve is not a commercial enterprise. The site is not exclusively for camping as it also caters for open space activities and wayside stop.</p> |  |  |               |                         |



## 2019/20 Proposed Annual Budget and Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 SUBMISSIONS and RESPONSES



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |  |  |   |  |  |  |                       |                         |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i>                      | Submission Title   | Submission summary  | Response to submission (reason)  | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact         | Budget Impact Recurrent |
|   | <a href="#">Ralph Gallagher continued</a>  |  |   | <p><b>Shared Services:</b><br/>This issue has been canvassed over several years now and finally seems to have found support with some Councillors. The one example that existed (with the Shire of Baw Baw) has apparently lapsed. To proceed further there must be sufficient resources (personnel, funds, philosophical) to support the development of a feasible model. It is appropriate to acknowledge, at the outset that the longer term gain will require an immediate term investment by all (prospective) involved Shires and Councils. Has this been achieved?</p> <p>Council, along with the Rural Councils Transformation Program (RCTP) and Wellington, Bass Coast, and East Gippsland Shire councils, is working to ensure the continuation of the shared services proposition.</p> <p>The four councils have all committed to provide funding for this initiative and in addition are exploring an opportunity to receive a funding grant from RCTP to assist in delivery of the program.</p> <p>As the councils deliver the various stages of the program the right people, process, and tools will be implemented to ensure success and include external resources and expertise as required. It is important that we continue to carefully consider the impact on the local community, regional growth, and sustainability.</p> | Council Plan 2017 - 2021                       | Yes 2019/20                                | Funding to be advised | Funding to be advised.  |
| AB18  | <a href="#">Ross Barnacle (President) Loch Community Development Association</a> | Works that should be commenced ahead of any planned streetscape works in Loch. | There is a list of works that should be commenced ahead of any planned streetscape works in Loch. | <p>The Loch Community Development Association would like to see a list of works commenced ahead of any planned streetscape works in Loch.</p> <p><b>Following paths:</b><br/> <b>a) Victoria Road: North side from Post Office/Centennial Park to Catholic Church.</b><br/>           212 lm x \$180 lm \$38,160.00</p> <p><b>b) Smith Street: Corner of Victoria St to Queen Street</b><br/>           88 lm x \$180 lm \$15,840.00</p> <p>Both footpaths will be constructed this financial year as part of the Loch Streetscape project.</p>  | Road Infrastructure Asset Management Plan      | Yes  | Nil                   | Nil                     |





| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |                  |                    |  |  |  |               |                         |
|---|---|------------------|--------------------|--|--|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i> | Submission Title | Submission summary | Response to submission (reason)  | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact | Budget Impact Recurrent |
|   | <a href="#">Ross Barnacle continued</a>                     |                  |                    | <p><b>Additional works:</b></p> <p><b>1. Western-end Avenue of Honour trees - to be included in the council maintenance plan, including the replacement of two.</b></p> <p>The Western End Avenue of Honour Trees are already included in the maintenance program.</p> <p><b>2. Eastern-end Avenue of Honour trees - source and plant American stock of Plane trees, to mirror western-end planting, and inclusion in the council maintenance plan.</b></p> <p>The Eastern - End Honour Trees are included in the Tree Planting Program. Subject to suitable location &amp; VicRoads approval.</p> <p><b>3. Explore vacant land from Smith/Speight/Queen intersection, along Speight St towards Albert Rd (adjacent to the Vic Roads sound wall) with a view to levelling, where required, and tree planting, providing much needed additional and shaded car parking during festivals and summer markets, and inclusion in council maintenance plan.</b></p> <p>This is beyond the scope of the Loch Streetscape project.</p> <p><b>4. Council to address issues with drainage and storm water in the vicinity of Queen St and Albert Rd.</b></p> <p>Any drainage improvement works would be subject to a Special Charge Scheme and probable need for drainage easements. Budget estimate is \$240,000 - Council share 30% = \$80,000).</p> <p><b>5. Council consultation with the Loch Village Projects Working Group regarding choice of trees which will replace those recently removed in Victoria Rd, with agreed trees planted in 2019.</b></p> | No   | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |                  |                    |  | No   | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |                  |                    |  | No   | No   | Nil           | Nil                     |
|   |   |                  |                    |  | No   | No   | \$80,000      | \$3,600                 |
|   |   |                  |                    |  | No   | Yes  | Nil           | Nil                     |



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |                  |                    |   |  |  |   |  |
|---|---|------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| ID Number<br><i>AB = Annual Budget</i>              | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i> | Submission Title | Submission summary | Response to submission (reason)   | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy         | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact   | Budget Impact Recurrent  |
|   | <a href="#">Ross Barnacle continued</a>                     |                  |                    | Streetscape Master Plan details tree species for planting as previously determined by the community through a community engagement process.   |  |  |   |  |
|   |   |                  |                    | <b>6. Planning for lighting, public gardens, seating and trees for Stage 1.</b>   | Council Plan 2017 – 2021 and Annual Plan 2018/19       | No   | Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed. | Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed. |
|   |   |                  |                    | Not included in Stage 1 Streetscape works. Any garden bed works will be undertaken by Parks & Gardens team after hard infrastructure works have been completed following appropriate consultation with community.   |  |  |   |  |
|   |   |                  |                    | <b>7. Consider pedestrian crossing in Victoria Rd in Stage 1 Streetscape works.</b>   | No   | No   | Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed. | Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed. |
|   |   |                  |                    | Not included in Stage 1 Streetscape works and therefore beyond the scope of the project.  |  |  |   |  |
|   |   |                  |                    | <b>8. Consider an Arts/Heritage Plan for Loch, including a register of Heritage buildings, trees, etc that are protected.</b>   | Arts, Culture and Creative Industry Strategy 2017-2021 | N/A  | Nil   | Nil  |
|   |   |                  |                    | The 'Places and Spaces' section of South Gippsland Shire Council's Arts, Culture and Creative Industry Strategy 2017-2021 refers to the following actions:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the unique heritage, creative &amp; cultural facilities and activities in each town.</li> <li>• Consider developing unique historical narratives for a number of different towns</li> <li>• Council has a 'Significant Tree Register' listing trees in the township of Loch. Trees can be nominated for inclusion in the register.</li> </ul> |  |  |   |  |
|   |   |                  |                    | <b>9. Council to liaise with Loch Primary School and Department of Education to develop an effective traffic management plan.</b>   | No   | No   | Nil   | Nil  |

## 2019/20 Proposed Annual Budget and Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 SUBMISSIONS and RESPONSES



| Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses |   |   |  |  |  |  |  |   |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| ID Number<br>AB =<br>Annual Budget                  | Submitter Name<br><i>(click on name to view submission)</i> | Submission Title                          | Submission summary   | Response to submission (reason)  | Does this relate to a current Council Strategy | Budgeted / in the Long Term Financial Plan | Budget Impact  | Budget Impact Recurrent   |
|   | <a href="#">Ross Barnacle</a><br><i>continued</i>           |   |  | Preliminary discussion have been held with school regarding traffic management issues. Loch Streetscape design Stage 3 (no budget) provides for traffic calming and extra on-street parking outside school. The school could investigate its internal traffic movements to provide off street parking/drop off for parents for the future. |  |  |  |   |
|   |   |   |  | <b>10. Fixed signage at both highway entry points to Loch that allows community groups to promote events, as exists at the entry to other South Gippsland towns.</b>   | No   | N/A  | Nil  | Nil   |
|   |   |   |  | Event plate is available for use on the town entry sign for use by community groups. This is standard across all township entry signs.   |  |  |  |   |
|   |   |   |  | <b>11. Entry garden and tree planting on the western highway entrance that befits and underpins the garden village theme.</b>  | No   | No   | Nil  | Nil   |
|   |   |   |  | Current resourcing will not allow for creation and maintenance of additional garden beds at this location.   |  |  |  |   |
|   |   |   |  | <b>12. Council consultation with the Loch Village Projects Working Group regarding progressing discussions and the execution of the 'Loch Lap' initiative.</b>   | Paths and Trails Strategy 2018                 | No   | <i>Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> | <i>Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> |
|   |   |   |  | The "Loch Lap" initiative is included in Council's Paths and Trail Strategy 2018 however is unfunded at this stage.  |  |  |  |   |
| AB19  | <a href="#">Michael Lester</a>                              | Traffic and Parking Study for Fish Creek. | The Fish Creek Community Development Group would like Council to consider a Traffic and Parking Study for Fish Creek as part of the Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget and Council Plan. | Fish Creek streetscape works are included in the forward budget (2022/23) and parking will be considered as part of the project.   | No   | Yes  | <i>Once off budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> | <i>Recurrent budget impact unknown until extent of works is determined and project scope completed.</i> |

## ***Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget and Revised 2017-2021 Council Plan***

Submission CP01 – **Dr Moragh Mackay (Chair Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd - Request to amendments to the Revised Council 2017 - 2021 as proposed by the Energy Innovation Cooperative.**



### **Speaking to Submission - Yes**

**Council Plan – Strategic Objective 1.1 Develop a vision for the future growth and development of the Shire in partnership with the community.**

**Strategic Objective 2.1.1 Where appropriate support the community groups to achieve projects they have ownership of and want to progress.**

**Strategic Objective 2.1.2 Investigate opportunities to consider a model for community self-determination to facilitate working in partnership with the community.**



15/4/2019

#### **Section 223 Submission:**

**From Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd to South Gippsland Shire Council re:**

**The “Revised Council Plan 2017-2021”, with additional related item for “Proposed 2019-20 Annual Budget”.**

Our proposals for amendment:

#### **1.The Vision (Revised Council Plan 2017-2021)**

The first strategic objective of the current Council Plan (Strengthen Economic Growth and Prosperity) is “to develop a vision for the future growth and development of the Shire in partnership with the community” (p11) with a “major initiative” outlined for 2017-18 listed as “developing a Vision 2040 for the Shire.” (p12)

We propose for your consideration a Vision which

- identifies a coherent path for Council
- sits above the existing list of Council’s strategic objectives, and provides guidance for choosing the most appropriate actions to take to achieve each objective
- makes it easier to clearly identify tangible goals and deliberate outcomes in every sector of Council activity through a cohesive “lens”.
- allows for business and community led initiatives, with all sectors working both together and separately towards our shared future. Council cannot achieve enough alone.
- fits within identified state government targets, goals and planned outcomes.
- is a Vision which could take us through to 2040.
- can and should be already working in the years between 2019-2021.

We believe the current Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 should be amended to begin that path.

- South Gippsland already has a “clean, green, environmentally conscious, food-production, agriculture and tourism” reality, reputation and self-perception.
- South Gippslanders already have a strong sense of local community, with demonstrated capacities to work together in each town, small village or area on locally identified priorities and activities.
- South Gippsland and its people live within financial constraints. We have to take small steps in a financially responsible way.
- Whilst the Energy Innovation Co-operative would like to encourage South Gippsland Shire to set clear community emissions reduction targets, we recognise that Council may not yet be ready for such specificity.

Our proposal: Visioning South Gippsland as “**an innovative, collaborative community moving towards an environmentally, financially and socially sustainable low carbon future**” would:

- build on these known, already existing characteristics, reputation and self-perception.
- enable a true recognition of the climate-changed world we are already inhabiting, which is already having significant impacts on many aspects of our local physical, business and community experience.
- provide a lens through which to set appropriate targets and priorities across all areas of Council activity.
- acknowledge that Council cannot achieve, or lead, all the changes which need to be made, on its own. But it can facilitate community and business directed action, and assist where it has the capacity to do so.

## PLUS:

2. The Energy Innovation Co-operative has a specific proposal for an additional initiative that we ask to have included into the Revised Council Plan and budget. See attached document below.

The section of the Revised Council Plan for this proposal to fit within, is:

**(quoting from existing plan P17)**

**“Build Strong partnerships, strengthen Arts and Culture and deliver equitable outcomes**

**Strategic Objectives:**

**2.1 Update and implement strategies for community strengthening and engagement.**

- 2.1.1 Where appropriate support community groups to achieve projects they have ownership of and want to progress
- 2.1.2 Investigate opportunities to consider a model for community self determination to facilitate working in partnership with the community”.

NB There are currently no initiatives outlined to meet these objectives in 2018-19, 2019-20, or 2020-21

**We ask Council to approve the addition of the proposal attached on page 3 below, into the Revised Council Plan as an initiative which will address objective 2.1, including both 2.1.1 and 2.1.2. above over an initial 3 years.**

- The model of community self-determination, community project design and delivery which the Co-op initiated and is co-ordinating on Phillip Island, and which we seek to initially pilot in Korumburra, is innovative, collaborative, begins with the groups and activities which are already working and builds on them to achieve community-directed outcomes.
- The Energy Innovation Co-operative has the skills, the structures and the organisational capacity to facilitate this model, and we seek to work with South Gippsland Shire to develop it further, this time within South Gippsland.
- Value adding, by bringing in additional funds from outside this area, is an important feature of our intention and practice, as is utilising local business wherever possible. If we are able to gain a funding contribution from South Gippsland Shire, as well as from Bass Coast Shire, obtaining that value-add becomes more feasible.

**We look forward to discussing these two proposals with Councillors as soon as practicable. We request the opportunity for a direct hearing with Councillors regarding this submission.**

See proposal and budget item below.....

## Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd and South

### Gippsland Shire Council. Proposal:

We propose a partnership between the Council and Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd (The Co-op), to support the Co-op's "Totally Renewable Communities Initiative", a collaborative, community-directed, Council-supported approach to reducing community carbon emissions, including promoting community owned renewable energy generation.

In Bass Coast, this initiative is being trialled, and is well underway, with Bass Coast Council support, on Phillip Island.

- A 2019-2020 Bass Coast budget submission has been put forward for an annual allocation each year for three years which will support the continuation of the largely volunteer work currently happening on Phillip Island, and begin the community conversations within the Waterline communities. This follows from a Council motion passed in Dec. 2018.

In South Gippsland, early community discussions have been held within the Korumburra



community and it is proposed that the first South Gippsland Shire trial community be Korumburra and surrounds.

### It is proposed:

1. That Council incorporate in its Council plan a commitment to support the Energy Innovation Co-operative to pilot the collaborative development and implementation of a community carbon emissions reduction target, strategy and actions with community groups, individuals, businesses and organisations in and around Korumburra.
2. That a key action is developing an MOU with the Energy Innovation Coop to outline the project and relationships.
3. That Council budget allocate \$30k annually for an initial three years, to the Energy Innovation Co-op to support the progressive implementation of a collaborative, community- directed, Council-supported approach to reducing community carbon emissions, initially in Korumburra and later other communities.

**NB: Value for money:** Further funding continues to be sought and gained by the Co-op, from a range of government and philanthropic sources. A Council allocation will greatly help in that endeavour. The overall objective is to, step by step across both shires, achieve community-directed, Council-supported collaborations which work towards zero-net emissions communities across Bass Coast, South Gippsland and beyond.

### Background

1. The Energy Innovation Co-op provides co-ordination for the “Totally Renewable Phillip Island” collaboration, which it began with Phillip Island Community and Learning Centre, Plastic Bag Free PI & San Remo, Phillip Island Landcare, Boomerang Bags, PI Conservation Society, Bimbadeen and Bass Coast Shire Councillors Pamela Rothfield and Michael Whelan.
2. Through consultation, public meetings and a facilitated planning process, a community “net zero emissions by 2030” target was adopted for Phillip Island, and strategy developed. Further groups, businesses and organisations joined, including Bass Coast Council, Phillip Island Nature Park, Westernport Water, The Vietnam Veterans Museum and many other businesses.
3. Six work groups were established and are now working as part of the strategy: Renewable Energy, Education, Soil Carbon, Transport, Food/ Waste, and Co-ordination (monitoring & measurement).
4. The Co-op undertook some early discussions with a range of groups in

Korumburra in 2018 with an eye to beginning a similar collaborative process in Korumburra.

5. There has been an interest in the proposal with groups approached so far, including the Thestation@Korumburra Group, Grow Lightly, sustainability focussed- businesses and KBA. Further detailed consultations with them and with more groups and businesses are needed.
6. The Energy Innovation Co-op worked with the CEO of South Gippsland Shire in 2018 to develop a MOU on working together to promote community and business renewable energy and a low carbon future. His suggestion was for the lower amount listed in the prepared draft MOU which is attached. After further community discussions we would request the larger amount for your consideration.

### Related Energy Innovation Co-operative Activities.

7. The Energy Innovation Co-operative has the contract to develop a Renewable Energy Roadmap for Bass Coast and South Gippsland, leading to a high-level version for the whole of Gippsland which it will also deliver. Part of this work will involve studying the local level of renewable energy generation, and appetite for further development, as well as engaging in a study of grid capacity to manage that development.
8. The Co-op has presented a proposal that it be selected and funded as a Community Power Hub as per a policy of a prospective Federal Labor Government. South Gippsland Shire tendered a letter of support for that proposal.
9. The Co-op now has the legal structure, draft legal documentation and on-line mechanisms to raise funds from local investors wanting to invest in local community energy solar or wind generation projects. Taking this capacity to project delivery is intended as part of the "Totally Renewable Communities" initiative.
10. The Co-op is developing an on-line tool for a "Smart buy" of batteries and solar to make it easy for households to install solar and batteries, using vetted local companies and businesses, and quality materials. This will also be incorporated into the "Totally Renewable Communities" activities.
11. The Co-op is an organisational member of a Co-operative (Co-operative Power) which is moving towards becoming a community owned electricity retailer. An initial electricity retail

offering will be available later in 2019 as part of the "Totally Renewable Communities" activities.

12. The Co-op's Southern CORE (Community Owned Renewable Energy) Fund, which is already in operation, has some (still limited) capacity to support community groups to install solar on the buildings they manage. Additional funding is required to fund the energy assessments/ feasibility studies required before allocation of funding.
  - The Co-operative's 90 kW solar & 45kW battery storage installation at the State Coal Mine Wonthaggi will provide an ongoing income into that Fund, for projects across Bass Coast and South Gippsland Shires and beyond.
  
13. The Co-op has a clear commitment to work with local businesses to capitalise on business and employment opportunities in the transition to renewable energy and a low carbon economy.

We ask for Council's consideration for this proposal as an addition to the Council plan and budget for the 2019-2020 budget.



*Dr Moragh Mackay*

*Chair Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd.*

Submission CP02 – **Eunice Donovan (Coordinator) Leongatha Community House** - Support a town based internet access in Leongatha to improve the digital literacy of older and disadvantaged community.



**Speaking to Submission - No**

**Council Plan – Strategic Objective 2.5 Implement the Active Ageing Strategy and 4.1 Develop Digital Strategies for Council and the community.**



15 April 2019

Mr Tim Tamlin  
Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
Private Bag 4  
Leongatha VIC 3953

Dear Mr Tamlin

On behalf of the Committee of Management of Leongatha Community House Inc, I am pleased to submit the following comments in response to Council's proposed revision of the Council Plan 2017-2021.

1. We congratulate Council for opening the revised Council Plan to public display and comment. We support the Strategic Objectives set by Council and recognise the complex challenges faced by Council in balancing the variety and diversity of needs – often competing – across the Shire.
2. Leongatha Community House is currently involved in programs and activities that support and improve the digital literacy of older residents – activities that align with Council's intentions in both the Age-Friendly South Gippsland Plan and the Digital Strategy. An obstacle for many older residents, particularly those on fixed incomes, is the ongoing financial cost of Internet access. An undertaking by Council to support the introduction of town-based internet access, like that already in place in Meeniyan, would be a significant factor in assisting older (and other economically-disadvantaged) residents to participate in the digital world, and would also contribute to better experiences for tourists and visitors to the Shire. We urge Council to consider including in the revised Council Plan, an initiative to investigate the development of town-based internet access in larger townships throughout the Shire.

We thank Council for this opportunity to comment. If you would like further information about Leongatha Community House or the comments in this letter, please contact me by phoning 5662 3962 or emailing [office@leongathacommunityhouse.org.au](mailto:office@leongathacommunityhouse.org.au)

Yours sincerely



Eunice Donovan  
Coordinator



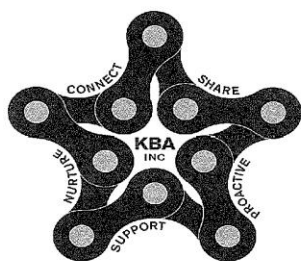
Supporting the ongoing development of vibrant, inclusive and connected communities through effective community development

Submission CP03 - **Noelene Cosson** – Change to the words of the Strategic Objective 4.3 with respect to a four year Rate Reduction Strategy to reduce the rate burden by 3%



**Speaking to Submission - No**

**Council Plan – Strategic Objective 4.3 Develop a ten year ‘Sustainable Cost Reduction Strategy’ based on improved operational efficiencies and population growth, to be utilised for value for money service improvements, better infrastructure and / or rate reductions.**



Korumburra Business Association Inc.

16<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
Private Bag 4  
Leongatha Vic 3953

Dear Sir

Submission on Revised Council Plan 2017-2021

The Korumburra Business Association has reviewed the Revised Council Plan 2017-2021 and feels the minor changes made are substantiated. In particular the change in wording of Strategic Objectives 4.3 from:-

*Work in partnership with the CEO and senior staff to develop a four year Rate Reduction Strategy, to reduce the rate burden by 3% through improved innovation and productivity savings, streamlining the administration structures and processes, through improved Business Unit performance and economic growth.*

To:-

*Develop a ten year ‘Sustainable Cost Reduction Strategy’ based on improved operational efficiencies and population growth, to be utilised for value for money service improvements, better infrastructure and/or rate reductions.*

While our members are always after value for money with our rate contribution, having a strategy to reduce rates by putting a figure of 3% is unachievable if we want to move forward with new infrastructure and continue to implement the objectives the Council Plan sets out. The new Objective still allows for the same outcome if it is found to be achievable without committing to a figure that can be used and quoted to the detriment of the council.

We endorse the Revised Council Plan for 2017-2021.

Regards

*Noelene Cosson*  
Noelene Cosson  
President

**Submission CP04 – John McCombe Representative Lindsay Love (South Gippsland Action Group) - Council to honour the commitment to reduce the rates by 3% and follow through by embracing the 'Growth for Reduced Rates' plan.**



**Speaking to Submission – Yes**

**Council Plan – Strategic Objective 4.3 Develop a ten year 'Sustainable Cost Reduction Strategy' based on improved operational efficiencies and population growth, to be utilised for value for money service improvements, better infrastructure and / or rate reductions.**

Mr John McCombe

23 April 2019

Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
Private Bag 4  
LEONGATHA VIC 3953

Dear Councillors

**Section 223 Submission:**  
• Budget  
• Rates Review  
• Proposed Council Plan

My focus is on requesting Council to honour the commitment to reduce rates by 3% across the board. It's a commitment made in the current term of council and therefore is yours to honour. Council currently has an extremely poor satisfaction level right across the community and honouring this commitment will go a long way to improving that image. Follow through by embracing the 'Growth for Reduced Rates' (GfRR) plan and your stocks will soar!

Any shortfall required to balance the budget for FY year 2019-2020 should be clawed back from 'Cash and Other Assets'. It is my understanding there are sufficient funds available for this to occur, given the Finance Manager, Ms Tracey Lindupp, projected in October 2018, cash and other assets were expected to be a tad under \$19 million this year. Since October 2018, there have been a number of instances where serving Councillors have indicated publicly the Shire could afford to reduce rates by 10%, or more [Ref. Public Meeting, Korumburra Scout Hall, 1 October 2018, organized by South Gippsland Rate Challengers (SGRC) and addressed by Cr's Don Hill and Meg Edwards]. Approximately 80 ratepayers attended the meeting, along with State Government MP Danny O'Brien, who also addressed this meeting. A second meeting was held at Korumburra, followed by similar meetings at Mirboo North and Venus Bay. Cr. Andrew McEwen and Cr. Don Hill attended the Mirboo North meeting.

Immediate action should follow to release allotments for future residents to purchase. Despite assurances to the contrary from Council, real estate agents consulted are in unison when it comes to allegations that SGS is not meeting the market. That situation must change! Blockages to subdivisions proceeding need to be removed, the so called 'blue line' rule needs to be re-visited, that's one where a 'win/win' appears to be achievable. Strong anecdotal evidence indicates technical detail's, unreasonable demands on developers and incredibly slow processing, have combined to create an unacceptably poor image of SGS as a place to do business. Mention SGS and developers aren't interested! There needs to be a root and branch examination of regulations and procedures, to ensure suitable allotments are available. Years of processing need to be condensed into days or weeks. It can be done elsewhere, so it can be done here!

To do this requires a shift in focus from 'process' to achieving sensible outcomes. If personnel are found to be incapable of achieving this objective, or underperforming, then changes will need to be made. We simply must allow things to flow by adopting more flexible rules, regulations & practices. 'Empire building' needs to be eliminated. I expect some of the existing regulations pre-date changes to the taxation laws regarding allowable expenditure deductions, which were limited to claims relating to the 'primary source of income'. That took the old 'hobby farm' problem properties out of the equation. By updating the rules and regulations we can cater for the likes of the Equine fraternity, without impacting greatly on commercial farm land.



Rate reduction is the first step necessary to embark on an audacious course of action, that has the potential to increase the SGS population to around 38,000 by 2025, and to 48,000 by 2036. That's an increase in residents of about 60%. Compare that with the current and projected growth rate of 1.4% that gets us to 36,000 by 2036. The GfRR plan will get us on par (more or less) with Baw Baw and Bass Shires, whereas the existing planned trajectory will see us drop further and further behind. Is that really what SGS constituents want?

The proposed population increase translates into achieving CRITICAL MASS – around 50% increase in ratepayers (19,000 assessments becomes 29,000). '*Critical mass*' is the game changer for the Shire. With critical mass we stand to get one full service town. Achieving that will considerably reduce the flow of money being spent outside the Shire (that's currently \$195 million pa). Public transport, be it intra or inter town bus services, become a reality and it makes the case for the return of the trains to the Shire easier to make. This is how we get a '*full service*' hospital and fully staffed 24/7 police stations. Think about what the population increase will do for even the smallest of football/netball clubs, no more paying players to come down from Melbourne to make up the numbers (the young tradies and their families will take up the slack), etc etc.

What makes the GfRR growth plan feasible now, whereas it was not even on the 'radar in 2013, when the 301 pages 'South Gippsland Housing & Settlement Strategy' was adopted? It's about taking advantage of the changed situation in Melbourne. People are anxious to get out of there and the State Government is keen to hold the door open. Present the GfRR plan to them and Spring Street will be more obliging with infrastructure funding!

South Gippsland Shire ought to do the right thing and get on the front foot when it comes to helping Spring Street out! We might get noticed and get more of the funding so often requested, but rarely received.

There is no need to be put off by the natural constituent concern about the GfRR plan upsetting their lifestyle. We have been mindful of this aspect when looking at where potential growth pockets might exist. The hamlets will remain hamlets, but with much improved services and facilities. The bulk of the population increase will be absorbed into the four largest towns, primarily because they are already serviced. The Nyora - Poowong – Loch Sewerage System installation, transformed Nyora into a prime town for residential development. Nyora will likely be the first town to absorb the newcomers into the Shire. Unsuitable terrain will restrict development of Poowong and Loch; however, both have scope to expand sufficiently to ensure their viability. The '*state of the art*' sewerage system came at a cost of around \$20 million. Based on 2016 numbers, around 400 premises have connected (100% uptake). Therefore, if looked at in terms of return on investment for SGS, the need for further development of this precinct is a '*no brainer*'.

Korumburra will be the next town to notice a significant population increase, although it too will be restrained somewhat because of difficult terrain.

With the aforementioned towns, research confirms very little encroachment into farm land will be necessary.

Key to the GfRR plan (publicly released Tuesday, 5 March 2019), is the fact that even the smallest hamlets will have much to gain, if Council adopts it as '*policy*'. It is aimed at spreading the rates load to minimise potential future rate rises. Failure to adopt the GfRR plan condemns all of us to future rate increases year after year. These increases are currently conservatively estimated to be at the rate of 2.5% pa for the next 17 years.

Adopting the GfRR plan does not require radical changes to the exhaustive plan prepared by Planisphere - 'South Gippsland Housing & Settlement Strategy – for the South Gippsland Shire Council, September 2013'. This plan could not have envisaged the problems that have arisen in Melbourne in the intervening years, which now have the potential to impact of what we can achieve in SGS. What I am advocating will eventually take place if nothing is changed. The aim is to accelerate the growth of the rates base (assessments), to enable containment of those forecast rate increases.

Look carefully at the plan details with an open mind, and you will see it is about minimising disruption to established lifestyles, whilst extracting maximum value out of services and infrastructure already in place. The net gain to Council revenue can be used to reduce, or at least, minimise increases and/or it can help to pay for additional infrastructure.

Take note, since formulating this plan NO alternative has emerged. Councillors received individual communications so all are fully informed. The South Gippsland Sentinel Times (**SGST**) attended the South Gippsland Action Group (SGAG) launch and clearly saw the value in the GfRR plan. I quote: "*And they have a practical idea for progressively reducing the level of rates over time*" (Ref. SGST, 13 March 2018, p3).

The benefits can be enormous if we 'spike' the population growth rate trajectory for a relatively short time. Let me describe it like this: "*We run, instead of crawl for a while and then settle back to a nice energised walk*". Because it's the most commonly expressed concern heard, I reiterate the intent is for hamlets to remain hamlets. However, in support of why some change should be acceptable to ratepayers across the broad spectrum of communities - let me quote a small segment from p26 of the aforementioned document:

*"... While growth is occurring, and is projected to continue, it is focussed on a small number of settlements. The rate of growth in these settlements is relatively modest, making it difficult to fund investment in new community infrastructure. At the other end of the scale many small settlements have stable or declining populations, creating pressure in relation to the ongoing retention and maintenance of community infrastructure."*

I do not accept the aforementioned state of affairs is satisfactory, when viewed in the light of the opportunity presented to us by the Melbourne situation. Do you?

The greatest challenge the GfRR plan faces is for Councillors' to be able to see the big picture and set parochial interests aside long enough for the plan to gain enough traction to be effective in growing the rates base. If adopted, I am sure your local constituents will thank you for it as the benefits start to flow. There will be less concern overall as pressure on the hip pocket nerve eases - marginal businesses will blossom and many new ones will emerge. Jobs will be created as a result. Furthermore, the envisaged spread of infrastructure encompassing numerous smaller towns and hamlets will help to negate the oft expressed argument that they are underserved, when compared to what is available in larger settlements.

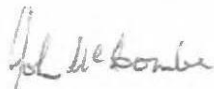
The SGAG GfRR plan strongly supports the demands of the residents of this shire for preservation and conservation standards to be high. The plan includes sewerage provision to the coastal villages and Fish Creek. Although not always obvious to the casual observer, ground water pollution is a serious matter. Venus Bay is of particular concern. This pollution issue **MUST** be addressed sooner rather than later!

My goal is to create a situation within SGS, where I can be reasonably confident my grandchildren and great grandchildren can continue to live here for as long as they choose.

Think bigger!

I, John McCombe, formally request to be heard in support of my submission, as per the South Gippsland Shire Council submission process as outlined in Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Yours faithfully



John McCombe

**CC: Councillors Ray Argento, Aaron Brown, Rosemary Cousin, Steve Finlay, Don Hill, Frank Hirst, Andrew McEwen, Jeremy Rich & Alyson Skinner.**



**Submission CP05 – Tony Walker (Prom Coast Climate Action Group) – Implement a Climate Emergency Response by developing a new Climate Emergency Response Plan which will guide Council's climate emergency challenges over 12 months and for inclusion at all levels of Council operations and activities.**

**Speaking to Submission - Yes**

**Council Plan – Strategic Objective 3.2 – Facilitate community and business renewable energy programs and sustainable practices to reduce the Shire's carbon footprint.**

To the Chief Executive Officer

**Submission Re: South Gippsland Shire Council Plan 2017-2021**

Thank you for the opportunity to present this submission to Council.

ACF Prom Area Climate Action (PACA) is part of a network of independently organised, volunteer-run climate action groups in the Australian Conservation Foundation community.

We request that South Gippsland Shire Council open a dialogue with the community to begin a process of declaring a Climate Emergency and initiating a shire-wide mobilisation through a formal program of actions that the Council will undertake, that are linked into the overall Council Plan.

We request that Council commit to reviewing the Council Plan with a view to developing and implementing a climate emergency response by Council, in collaboration with the South Gippsland community, as its highest priority, including the development of a new Climate Emergency Plan to guide the emergency response by Council at all levels of Council operations and activities.

We expect this to be a process that will take place over a 12-month period, with a view to Council having a fully developed Climate Emergency Plan, established by Council to accelerate sustained and meaningful action to engage with the climate emergency challenge.

As background, *The State of the climate 2018* report produced by the Bureau of Meteorology and the CSIRO states that Australia's climate has warmed by over 1°C since 1910, leading to increased extreme heat events, decreased cool-season rainfall in agricultural areas and decreased stream flows in southern Australia.

The changing pattern of local rainfall over a 130-year period in Foster is evidence of the impact of this changing climate. There has been close to a 25 per cent decline in rainfall over the period – around 30mm per decade. This must lead us to wonder what might the rainfall be like in 20, 40- or 60-years' time, and what impacts might that have on agricultural production, and thus on farm profitability and the regional economy and liveability?

The Australian economy will be heavily affected by the changing climate. Some of these impacts may be slow to manifest and some relatively easy to adapt to. There may even be new economic opportunities arising from climate change. But other effects will be intense, insidious and disruptive across all sections of our economy and society.

As the Australian government's Department of Climate and Energy states, Primary industries, such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, are highly sensitive to weather extremes and variations in climate. Climate change presents new challenges in some locations and industries, while presenting new opportunities in others. Over the coming decades, projected climate change is likely to increase productivity risks for agriculture, forestry and fisheries in different ways:

- The increased frequency of drought conditions in southern Australia has the potential to affect agricultural yields.
- Increasing temperatures and more frequent extreme heat events are likely to place livestock at greater risk of heat stress, reducing livestock productivity and reproductive rates.
- Crops and horticulture are facing changes in growing season and changed frequency and intensity of heatwaves and storms.

The Department also states that human health is linked with environmental factors such as temperature, and air and water quality. Australia's greatest health threats from climate change are expected to come from extreme weather events (such as heatwaves), rising temperatures and the changing variability of rainfall. The increasing frequency and intensity of heatwaves and other extreme weather events poses risks to human health, including injuries, disease and death, and disruption to health services. Drought has been linked to decreased mental health, particularly in rural communities.

Planning for these impacts is critical to the interests of the South Gippsland Community. Yet, within the entire South Gippsland Shire Council's **Revised Council Plan 2017-2021**, we note that "Climate Change" is mentioned only once - under Council's Strategic Objective 1, *Strengthen Economic Growth & Prosperity*, (p. 10), Council commits to "...consider(s) climate change..."

The South Gippsland community knows that Council can and must do much more than merely consider climate change. We look forward to working with Council and the South Gippsland community through a process of revising the Council Plan to prioritise a climate emergency response within the Plan.

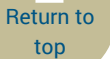
We look to Council to provide clear leadership and make the right decisions on formulating a collaborative path to an appropriate response to this overwhelmingly serious and urgent issue. The benefits to Council are clear; they lie in the benefits to the broader community.

**Please note that, should there be the opportunity, we would want to make a presentation to Council in support of this submission.**

26 April, 2019.

--END--

[Submission CP06 – Clive Hope \(Secretary\) Meeniyán Progress Association – Why there is an ongoing delay in making a decision and progress to the proposed Equestrian and Exhibition / Expo Centre which is referred to in the Revised Council Plan 2017 – 2021.](#)

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### Speaking to Submission - No

Council Plan – Strategic Objective 1.3.7 Undertake a feasibility study into establishing a multipurpose 'Equestrian / Expo Centre within the Shire.

**MEENIYAN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC (Est. 1891)**  
( ABN 14 319 869 471 )



26 April 2019

Mr T Tamlin  
Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
9 Smith Street  
Leongatha 3953

Dear Tim,

Re: Equestrian and Exhibition/Expo Centre

Council's Annual Plan & Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget

Our Association is concerned at the ongoing delay in making decisions and progress to the proposal of an Equestrian & Exhibition Centre at Stony Creek.

It is noted that on 27 November **2013** it was stated at a Council meeting that Council had already contributed \$26000 towards the concept with costings.

It is now some 6 years later and despite all the work put in by dedicated volunteers along the way the matter is still dragging on. The costs involved to date both in amounts paid and volunteers' time must be considerable but it seems that little has been achieved and that a great concept is being put to one side and is stagnating.

Council's Annual Plan June 2017 had as a strategic objective:-

**Progress the development of a business case to investigate in detail factors of a multi purpose undercover "Equestrian/Expo Centre" at Stony Creek.**

The 2017 Annual Budget had an extra provision to provide a report to Council by 30 June 2018.

On 14 May 2018 Council's Noticeboard contained a tender notice seeking applicants for a Feasibility Assessment and Business Plan for Stony Creek Equestrian and Exhibition Centre with tenders closing 5 June 2018.

Suffice to say that this seems a very belated tender notice.

The June 2018 Annual Plan then changed the scenario by altering the scope of the project to include that the feasibility study determine a suitable site for the location of such a centre in the Shire.

No reason was given for such a change.

The project has always been based on the centre being at Stony Creek.

This concept/project that was first brought to Council back in 2012 was community driven. It still is.

Interestingly Council's Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2018-2020 states that Stony Creek Undercover Equestrian/Expo Facility has been identified as a priority investment and infrastructure project for future funding and that Council will **"progress the development of a business case to support the establishment of the multipurpose facility at Stony Creek."**

Apparently no feasibility/business case study has been completed as yet but we assume that it has been commenced as it has been so long in gestation.

We submit that Council should give urgent consideration to the report as soon as it is to hand. Furthermore noting the important potential such a Centre has for the whole Shire we submit that an allowance should be included in the Annual Plan and Budget for the Centre's priority to be reconsidered at such time.


Yours Faithfully

Clive Hope,  
Secretary,



## Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20 Submission Responses

Submission AB01 – [Steven Rath](#) - Fortnightly rubbish collection

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top

### Speaking to Submission - No

Submissions

South Gippsland Council

Would it be possible to place my rubbish bin out every fortnight?

The savings made with less landfill costs and contractor costs could be passed on with a \$50-75.00 rebate off my rates notice.

I would be happy to buy a sticker from the council offices (\$5.00) and place it on my bin lid.

Thank-you for giving this proposal some consideration.

Regards, Steven Rath

[Submission AB02 – Geoff Treloar – Foster Community Group - Jones Street, Foster drainage, kerb and channel development.](#)



**Speaking to Submission - No**

**Please Refer (Attachment [2.1.4] – AB02 – Geoff Treloar – Jones Street, Foster drainage kerb and channel.**

[Submission AB03 – Charles Price – Objection to the Bair Street Redevelopment Upgrade / Precinct](#)



**Speaking to Submission - Yes**

**Please note the submission by Charles Price on the Rating Strategy was retracted and the only part of this submission now relates to Bair Street Redevelopment.**

To who it may concern. I wish to put forward a submission to Council in relation to the current rating strategy. I believe that the council should include this item in the strategy.

5. Waiver

In section 171 of the Local Government Act 1989, for sub-sections (1), (2) and (3) substitute—

"(1) The Council may waive the whole or part of any rate or charge or interest in relation to—

(a) an eligible recipient under subsection (4); or

(b) any other class of persons determined by the Council for the purpose of waiving rates or charges on the grounds of financial hardship.

171A. Waiver by application—financial hardship

(1) A person who—

(a) is suffering financial hardship; or

(b) would suffer financial hardship if that person paid the full amount of a rate or charge for which he or she is liable may apply to a Council for the waiver of the whole or part of any rate or charge or of any interest imposed for late payment.

(2) The Council may require the applicant—

(a) to give further particulars; or

(b) to verify particulars in relation to the application.

(3) The Council may grant an application if the Council is satisfied that the applicant is a person who is suffering financial hardship if that person paid the full amount of the rate or charge for which he or she is liable.

(4) A person who—

(a) gives to a Council any information which is false or misleading in any material particular in respect of an application under this section; .

I also believe that the council decision in approving the redevelopment of The bair st precinct , and using rate payers money to do this amount to Corporate Socialism. What benefit is this to the ratepayer?

Yours sincerely  
Charles Price

Submission AB04 – [PeeWee Lewis \(President\)- Korumburra Round Table](#) - Support for the Korumburra Community Hub, Revitalisation Project, the Recreation Reserve, Skate Park, and the Jumbunna Road shared path to the Korumburra Secondary College.



**Speaking to Submission - No**



PeeWee Lewis (Chair)  
Korumburra Round Table

South Gippsland Shire Council

02.04.2019

To the Chief Executive Officer and Shire Councillors,

The Korumburra Round Table is writing to you in response to the proposed 2018-2019 Budget.

It is pleasing to see the continued commitment in the Strategic Objectives identifying the priority projects to include the Revitalisation of Korumburra and also the Rail Trail extension between Leongatha and Korumburra.

The Korumburra Round Table is also excited to see the budget for the Korumburra Community Hub included, along with the Recreation Reserve Change room facilities, the Skate Park and the Jumbunna Road footpath to the Secondary College.

These are all important projects for Korumburra identified by the community through the community directions process and wholly supported the groups represented within the Korumburra Round Table.

As a community, Korumburra is feeling very optimistic about its future. The Round Table has found, through lively discussions between the community representatives at our monthly meetings, as well as through past consultation on the community directions statement, and through the ongoing dialogue with the community on our Facebook site and town app, that this town is highly engaged and moving ahead in so many areas, with citizens contributing extraordinarily high voluntary hours to make Korumburra a better place.

We acknowledge and value the strong supportive relationships we have with Councillors and Council staff, and applaud the inclusion of the Korumburra projects in the future budgets.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "PeeWee Lewis".

PeeWee Lewis  
Chair – Korumburra Round Table

## Submission AB05 – Don Atkins - Sealing of Walkerville Road to Beach at South Walkerville.



### Speaking to Submission – No

#### Budget Submission 2019-2020

#### Sealing of Walkerville Rd to Beach at South Walkerville

The approximately 3K unsealed section of the Walkerville South is a very important link to the beaches at Walkerville South. These are the most beautiful and safest beaches in South Gippsland Shire.

For the ratepayers and residents of the Shire, this is our beach. The residents and visitors to this delightful place have endured this badly corrugated and dusty road which has been left in very poor unsealed condition for far too long.



South Walkerville has very limited parking and because of the narrow coastal strip this will always be case. However the available parking can be expanded to allow for a considerable improvement on the existing situation.

Walkerville South offers so many attractions for visitors of all ages, from toddlers having their first dip in the sea, swimmers, surfers, boaters, yachters, kayakers, walkers and explorers or those that just want a relaxing picnic by the sea.

Walkerville South Road is not heavily trafficked and as a consequence does not require a major rebuild. For relatively low cost it has the potential to bring greater enjoyment to so many of the shire ratepayers and residents.



There is the historic Lime Kilns and the old Waratah cemetery



The greenstone outcrop only metres south west of the stairs from the end of the Bird Rock track, which are reported to be some 600 million years old. There are caves for the children and the young at heart and best of all wide sandy beaches for that game of cricket. It is a great recreation area for so many.



Apart from the recreational benefits for all, there is the potential economic benefits that can flow to the Shire from such a wonderful tourist destination.

Wild Coast Tours, operating from Cowes, have in past times made pickups for their ship at South Walkerville to tour the Wilsons Promontory coast.. In recent times because of the poor state of the unsealed road and overhanging trees they appear to have discontinued this These pickups are a wonderful chance to showcase this delightful bay.

I therefore implore Council to give this request for sealing the road and car park improvement the utmost consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Don Atkins.

! Holt St.  
Walkerville North

4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Submission AB06 – Dr Moragh Mackay (Chair Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd - South Gippsland Shire Council and Energy Innovation Cooperative Limited Partnership Proposal.**

[Return to top](#)

**Speaking to Submission - No**



**Memorandum of Understanding  
South Gippsland Shire Council and Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd**

**Partner Organisation Details:**

**Name:** South Gippsland Shire Council  
**ABN:** 67 816 770 786  
**Address:** 9 Smith Street (Private Bag 4), Leongatha VIC 3953  
**Website:** [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au)  
**Key Contact:** Geoff McKinnon  
**Position:** Sustainability Coordinator, South Gippsland Shire

and

**Name:** Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd  
**Registration No:** G000 3472H      **REGISTRATION DATE:** 29/7/2009  
**ABN:** 18 807 187 154  
**Website:** [www.eico-op.org.au](http://www.eico-op.org.au)  
**Leadership contact:** Moragh MacKay  
**Position:** Chair, Energy Innovation Co-op

---

**Enacting the MOU:**

South Gippsland Shire Council will provide the Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd with a contribution of up to \$20,000 to:

- Support planned activities within the South Gippsland Shire which are consistent with Council's objectives as outlined in the Council Plan or Sustainability Strategy and align with the principle purpose and objectives of the Energy Innovation Co-op.
- Enable Energy Innovation Co-op to leverage further funding to support these activities from sources such as state and federal governments, ARENA, Clean Energy Council and philanthropic trusts and other donations

The amount of the financial contribution provided under this MOU will be determined by SGSC, with consideration of requests for funding assistance from other community groups to support projects or initiatives and/or other competing budget priorities





The Energy Innovation Co-operative will utilise that funding within South Gippsland Shire on:

- Community engagement, planning and consultations related to Totally Renewable Communities and community owned renewable energy initiatives;
- Feasibility studies and energy assessments for donation and investment community owned renewable energy projects;
- As a local government contribution demonstrating support for further project funding application/s from external sources; and/or
- Any other energy related project consistent with the aims of this MOU determined by mutual agreement.

**Reporting:**

The Energy Innovation Cooperative will ensure that any funding provided under the MoU will be acquitted in accordance with the attached **EICO-op MoU Acquittal Form**.

**Communication:**

The two parties agree to establish and maintain a productive working relationship and to be alert to opportunities for collaboration, including but not limited to advocacy, funding applications, professional development and community activities and events.

**Day to day contact persons:**

**South Gippsland Shire**

Brad Kijlstra-Shone (Sustainability Officer)

**Energy Innovation Co-operative**

Susan Davies (Secretary)



**TERM OF THE AGREEMENT**

This MOU will operate for a period of twelve months from the date of joint signing, before which time, renewal, termination or extension will be decided by the two organisations.

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**Signed on behalf of: South Gippsland Shire**

**Name:** Geoff McKinnon  
**Organisational Role:** Sustainability Coordinator

I confirm that I am authorised to enter into this MOU on behalf of the South Gippsland Shire Council

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

.....

**Signed on behalf of Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd**

**Name:** Moragh Mackay  
**Organisational Role:** Chair Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd

I confirm that I am authorised to enter into this MOU on behalf of the Energy Innovation Co-operative Ltd

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_



Submission AB07 – **Sharon Turton** - Sealing Clancys Road, Korumburra and Gravel to Seal Program Funding.



**Speaking to Submission - Yes**

Attention: Chief Executive Officer

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to request that council please consider allocating funds within their upcoming 2019/20 Annual Budget for unsealed South Gippsland Country Roads. Our gravel roads are in extreme need of repair/sealing, due to their very poor condition.

I ask that the council please consider the importance in funding the 'Gravel to Seal' program within their budget, so that roads like our Clancys Road, Korumburra can become a much safer Road for everyone to travel on. The below names are residents of Clancys Road, Korumburra who stress their concerns about the state of Country Roads in our South Gippsland Shire area.

55 names were listed as permanent resident drivers on Clancy's Road (gravel section only) in this submission.

Please consider this request as high priority for the future of our Country roads.

I look forward to your reply.

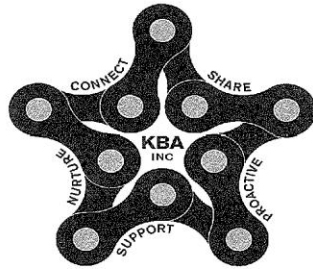
kind regards

*Sharon Turton*

**Submission AB08 – Noelene Cosson – President Korumburra Business Association  
Korumburra Industrial Estate to Commercial Street Footpath Extension and Skip  
Walking Track at Coal Creek**



**Speaking to Submission - No**



Korumburra Business Association Inc.

President: Noelene Cosson  
Secretary: Shirley Arestia  
Treasurer: Kelly Hughes

16<sup>th</sup> April 2019

South Gippsland Shire  
Private Bag 4  
Leongatha Vic 3953

Dear Council

Submission on Proposed Budget 2019/20

The Korumburra Business Association has reviewed the Proposed Council Annual Budget 2019/20 and feels it to be very reasonable. We are particularly pleased to see the on going commitment shown to the Korumburra Revitalisation Project where funds have been allocated in this budget and the following 2 financial year budgets for a Korumburra Community Hub and Streetscape. The Korumburra Revitalisation Project is one of the 5 identified Shire Priority Projects and the Budget shows council is working towards this achievement.

The funds set aside for the Extension of the Southern Rail Trail is also a Shire Priority Project that our associations supports and are excited to see the funds allocated to this in the next 2 financial years. Korumburra has been united in its approach with council creating a great partnership to deliver the best outcomes for this budget allocation.

We would however like to see included in the budget funds put towards a foot path to connect the Korumburra Industrial Estate to Commercial Street. This was identified in the Korumburra Community Direction Statement as a priority project. It was considered and supported by council in the 2018 Draft Pathways and Trails Strategy where it was transferred to the Footpath Extension Program in May 2018. We would like to ensure that this project progresses and feel it is a concerning safety issue. People can often be seen walking and pushing prams along the edge of the South Gippsland Highway often in long grass as they make their way to Commercial Street after leaving their vehicle at an Industrial Estate business for attention.

The extension of the Skip Walking Track from Coal Creek Community Park & Museum to the beginning of the current walk located down end of Silkstone Road was also identified & supported on the 2018 Pathways and Trails Strategy at 6.9. The Strategy indicates the project requires further investigation and it may also be transferred to the Footpath Extension Program. This is an important link to give more accessibility to the walk. Some preliminary work has already been completed on

this connection track and now the use of Shire equipment will complete this walking track. We would like to see this progressing further and be funded in the 2019/20 budget.

Regards

*Noelene Cosson*

Noelene Cosson  
President



Submission AB09 – **Ross Garner – Meeniyán Art Gallery** – Various provisions of grant funding to Mirboo North Community Gallery, Meeniyán Gallery and Toora Art Gallery. That the Council Plan includes the development in conjunction with the Arts Alliance of an equitable and fair policy and strategy for a financial support program (grant in aid) for community creative arts and culture in South Gippsland.



## Speaking to Submission – No



### 223 Submission on Councils Plan and budget for 2019-2020

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

*That Council provide for a grant of \$10,000 each to the Mirboo North Community Gallery and Meeniyán Gallery and a \$5,000 grant for the Toora Art Gallery 2019-20 that matches the contribution given of buildings and facilities in Korumburra, Foster and Leongatha Community Galleries by council.*

*That Council Plan includes the development in conjunction with the Arts Alliance of an equitable and fair policy and strategy for a financial support program (grant in aid) for community creative arts and culture in South Gippsland.*

#### Introduction

Arts and sports play an important and vital role in communities in nurturing talent, fulfilling people's potential, promoting healthy living and building social connections & cohesion in communities. Arts have an additional role of being an expression of the unique culture of places and people. The Arts are an expression of all forms of the cultural nuances and textured expressions of people, place and environments. The Arts explores the existential condition and the meaning and values of nature, society and community and as such plays an important social and indeed spiritual role.

Arts, along with heritage, food and wine, are a major driver of the higher yield tourism. Tourism is now valued \$105m and employs directly some 626 people or 6% of employment. The creative industries now employ people than manufacturing (12% vs. 8%). Creative industries are a growing pathway both to employment and person and community cultural expression.

South Gippsland is blessed with a strong and emerging arts community. It has a range of music, arts venues, festivals and literary events. It is increasingly been recognised as an arts cluster of, in parts,

national significance. Artistic events are bringing life and joy to the network of halls in the communities and bringing people together in community celebrations and events.

While there is and can be strong overlap between people and communities participating in both forms of sport and arts, they tend to be distinctive groups. According to ABS some 31.4% of Australians participate in artistic and cultural activities and 26% in active sports (33.7% including volunteers).

Australians aged 15 and over had a cultural participation rate of 31.4%, with these people participating in at least one activity such as playing music, singing, dancing, writing, sculpting, painting or photography.

For children aged 5 to 14 years almost two-thirds (63.4%) participated in a least one Creative activity, such as drama, singing or playing a musical instrument, dancing, craft activities, creative writing and creating digital content.

ABS Participation in Selected Cultural Activities, Australia, 2017-18

In the 12 months prior to interview, an estimated 5.2 million people aged 15 years and over (28%) reported that they were involved in organised sport and physical activity. This included 4.7 million people involved in playing roles (26% of persons aged 15 years and over), and 1.4 million people involved in non-playing roles (7.7%).

ABS Participation in Sport and Physical Recreation, Australia, 2013-14

### **Equitable and fair provision of services and facilities**

Council provides a hodgepodge of services and facilities based on historic decisions and often ill defined roles, responsibilities and justifications. There is no clear delineation of roles and responsibilities between levels of government in service provision. Councils started out as rates, roads and infrastructure bodies in 19<sup>th</sup> century. Progressively building, health inspection, children's services, recreation, planning, economic development, aged care and community development were added on often an ad hoc basis. There was no intrinsic logic to these decisions and responsibilities. Some activities are supported by rates others are not.

Although this is changing, Arts have tended to be the poor cousin in many councils. Council has developed an Arts Policy and Strategy and has employed an arts officer. This caught up with where most council were up to decades ago. This has been greatly appreciated and the work of the new officer has achieved significant outcomes for the community. Arts are increasingly seen

as a major driver of 'Placemaking' and contributor/attractor to vibrant commercial and retail precincts.

We all are rate payers either through property taxes or indirectly through our rents. Councils provide a range of services and support a range of activities for the common good. Few begrudge the support of early children's services, immunisation, libraries, the aged and recreation. Families and community members will access services at different stages of their lives. Over people's lives, most people and their families, will access a fair share of services. More of these are concentrated in children's services, service to younger people and to older people.

Support for the arts is however significantly lower than for sports and recreation. It is time that council reviewed the equity and fairness of the current allocations and defacto policies. Currently council provides some \$250k in direct subsidies to recreation reserves bodies, sporting bodies, swimming pools. There has been \$40m (2017 \$'s) in capital expenditure on the sports, pools and recreation over 2002-32. The arts have only received \$135,899 over this period. The arts currently receive grants of about \$50k per annum, but many of these are not ongoing.

#### Discretionary Capex 2003-2031

|  | Category Capex | Capex 2002-31 | %    |
|--|----------------|---------------|------|
|  | Sport & Pools  | \$40,000,750  | 6.4% |
|  | Arts           | \$135,899     | 0.2% |

Source South Gippsland Shire Budgets & Ecolore Pty 2017 constant dollars

#### Operational

|  | Category Operational | Budget  | % of 2019-20 Budget |
|--|----------------------|---------|---------------------|
|  | Sport & Pools        | \$1m    | 1.4%                |
|  | Arts                 | \$0.05m | 0.0007%             |

Source South Gippsland Shire Budgets & Ecolore Pty 2017 constant dollars

#### Discretionary annualised Capex and Operational

|  | Category & Operational Capex | Amount  | % of 2019-20 Budget |
|--|------------------------------|---------|---------------------|
|  | Sport & Pools                | \$2.48m | 3.5%                |
|  | Arts                         | \$59k   | 0.0008%             |

Source South Gippsland Shire Budgets & Ecolore Pty 2017 constant dollars

#### Subsidy per user

**Estimated % of 2019-20 Budget**

|               | Amount  | Users | Subsidy |
|---------------|---------|-------|---------|
| Sport & Pools | \$2.48m | 9402  | \$264   |
| Arts          | \$59k   | 8635  | \$6.8   |

Source South Gippsland Shire Budgets & Ecolore Pty 2017 constant dollars

Based on ABS participation studies there are some 9,402 people in the shire active in sports and recreation and 8,635 in arts and culture. The subsidy for active recreation users and volunteers is \$264 per person versus \$6.8 per arts and culture participant. The subsidy for sport, recreation and pools is 39 times higher than for art and culture. It is fair to say that much of sport and recreational expenditure relies on a substantial capital base. Clearly to date council has not developed a performing arts centre and only provides accommodation for three community art galleries. We fund the infrastructure of sport and recreation but not similarly or arts and culture.

**The Local Government Act**

The Local Government Act is very clear in the objectives of councils to ensure equity of cumulative decisions, the overall quality of life of people in the local community and to ensure that services and facilities provided by the Council are accessible and equitable

**3C Objectives of a Council**

- (1) The primary objective of a Council is to endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of decisions.
- (2) In seeking to achieve its primary objective, a Council must have regard to the following facilitating objectives—
- (a) to promote the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district;
  - (b) to ensure that resources are used efficiently and effectively and services are provided in accordance with the Best Value Principles to best meet the needs of the local community;
  - (c) to improve the overall quality of life of people in the local community;
  - (d) to promote appropriate business and employment opportunities;
  - (e) to ensure that services and facilities provided by the Council are accessible and equitable;
  - (f) to ensure the equitable imposition of rates and charges;
  - (g) to ensure transparency and accountability in Council decision making.


It is arguable that council is not meeting 3(C) objective (1) and 3(C) objective (2) (b), (e) (g). We all are ratepayers. We all have needs for social expression, be it in arts and culture or in sports and recreation. The question remains why council is so generously funding sport and recreation and so miserly in arts and culture? There are no policy explanations or justification for treating people so differently in the financial support for social activities.

#### **Financial support of community art galleries**

Currently there are 7 community galleries in Korumburra, Leongatha, Meeniyan, Tarwin Lower, Foster and Toora. Unlike recreational reserves, sporting bodies and pools there are no operational subsidies for arts and culture. The galleries through providing workshops and venues for local artists to sell and exhibit provide both social contribution and economic development. Korumburra, Leongatha and Foster are providing with free space and services. The Meeniyan Art Gallery currently is paying nearly \$25,000 on rent and services, Mirboo North is paying around \$10,000 and Toora is paying a smaller amount. It is recommended that under the principles of equitable distribution and access, as enshrined in the act that an operational payment of \$10,000 is made to the 3 main community galleries and \$5,000 for Toora Gallery.

In order to meet the principle enshrined in the act that Council Plan include the development of an equitable and fair policy and strategy for a financial support program for community creative arts and culture in South Gippsland. The question remains open why council provides some \$264 or approximately 15% of average household rates and the arts and culture gets only 0.3%. It is time to be more equitable and fair.

Submission AB10 – [Craig Kenny and Anne Lewis](#) - Submitter would like various requests to be considered in their submission.

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## Speaking to Submission - Yes

22 April 2019

The Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire

By email: [submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Dear Councillors,

S223 submission on the Revised Council Plan and Proposed Budget for 2019/20

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Please accept this submission under s223 of the Local Government Act 1989. We (Craig Kenny and Annie Lewis) reserve our right to make a verbal submission in support of this written submission.

We are writing as individual landowners and as ordinary members of several local community groups. The views expressed in the submission are our own and do not represent the views of any group or association.

### Decision to Exit Home Support Services

The decision to exit from the delivery of home support services is supported and is considered appropriate and reasonable in the light of future directions of the aged care program.

The Council decision to invest in Positive Ageing initiatives is also supported and affirms the broader role that local government might play for older people in the community. Consideration should be given to how universal services and the design of major facilities might need to be adapted over the coming decade to meet the needs of a growing and healthier aged community.

### Removal of Rate Reduction

Council's are under significant pressure to ensure that value-for-money services and appropriate social infrastructure is provided for a growing community. The decision to remove the 'rate reduction resolution' is supported but careful consideration needs to be given to how the replacement 'cost reduction' strategy will be implemented.

**Request to Council:** Council might consider using a 'deliberative' community engagement process develop criteria to guide future decisions about cost-savings and to best understand how savings or discretionary expenditure might be (re)invested to provide services in response to emerging community needs.

### **Strategic Objective One – Strengthen Economic Growth & Prosperity**

#### Weeds and Weed Control

Continuing concerns are being expressed by responsible land-holders that some land-holders and Council are not doing enough to control the spread of invasive and noxious weeds.



Individual land-holders have a responsibility to neighbours and the broader area to ensure that weeds are appropriately controlled on their land. Part of the problem might be inexperienced land-holders moving into the area or more established farmers not having the resources or enthusiasm for the task. No matter what the cause, there is a need for education, practical support and a compliance focus to ensure weeds are effectively controlled.

Council has an obligation to ensure that public land and roadsides are subject to appropriate control measures.

**Request to Council:** Budget consideration should be given to resourcing and establishing an engagement process with the community, land-holders and stakeholder groups (such as Landcare) during the 2019/20 financial year to identify the ways in which improved weed control can be achieved within the South Gippsland Shire. This might include amendment or creation of relevant local laws, increased resourcing to Council's maintenance activities, material support to community-based initiatives, increased compliance activities or concrete project proposals for consideration in future budgets.

## **Strategic Objective Two – Build Strong Partnerships, Strengthen Arts & Culture & Deliver Equitable Outcomes**

### Demographic Change and Renewal

South Gippsland Shire has strong, resilient communities that work constructively to solve local problems with minimal support from Council. There appears to be a significant demographic shift occurring as younger families and pre-retirees move into the area and the service and social needs change. Council has an obligation to understand these changes and associated needs and ensure that its policy and services strategy keeps pace.

This might include the development and renewal of local community infrastructure that to support activities and connections. Appropriate investments to ensure the maintenance and renewal of the 'small halls' that are so important to community life outside the larger towns as well as ensuring that communities are provided with assistance to maintain and improve legacy infrastructure such as local tennis courts and reserves.

**Request to Council:** That Council consider including the following activities in its 2019/20 budget:

- (i) initiating social planning and community engagement in the 2019/20 financial year to understand the extent and impact of demographic change and community renewal to inform the development of Council's Public Health & Wellbeing Plan and Council Plan that will be due for adoption by the next Council in 2021; and
- (ii) commissioning an audit of existing local community assets in 2019/20 (halls, tennis courts and reserves) outside of the major towns (in collaboration with local communities) to understand the 'fitness for purpose', maintenance and renewal costs and ownership/management structures that might be required to sustainably support this important community infrastructure.

**Strategic Objective Three – Improve South Gippsland's Built Assets & Value our Natural Environment**

Road Safety

A key issue for local communities living on and using the Grand Ridge Road, Leongatha – Yarragon Road and Warragul-Leongatha Road is road safety. Part of the problem is driven by the increasing use of the road by visitors and tourists (motor-cycles and car clubs) as well as continuing issues with drivers who are just driving without regard for other road users. A growing number of cyclists using these roads also require protection from speeding vehicles and careless driving.

Two main issues arise for local residents:

- Speed and enforcement – there are many local reports of unsafe and irresponsible road-use on the local Facebook page and other networks. Road safety is a critical issue for all people living in the area and there is a sense that better road signage, speed restrictions and appropriate enforcement would go a long way to improving the situation, or at least raising awareness of the issue.
- Road Condition – Council is to be congratulated for the much-improved condition of the road over recent years and there is need for a continuing coordinated response between Baw Baw Shire and South Gippsland Shire to ensure that it is kept in good and safe order for the increasing number of users. This includes maintenance of the pavement, appropriate signage and line-marking where required.

**Request to Council:** That Council consider funding and including the following activities in its 2019/20 budget:

- (i) planning or advocacy for the implementation of appropriate speed restrictions (80kmh or lower) on appropriate sections of the Grand Ridge Road, Leongatha-Yarragon Road and Warragul-Leongatha Road;
- (ii) an upgrade of safety advisory signage along the road to provide adequate warning of driving conditions;
- (iii) improved district signage for communities and promotion of tourism destinations; and
- (iv) planning in collaboration with Baw Baw Shire to ensure rapid response to required reactive maintenance activities and the development of a multi-year plan for consistent upgrade through planned maintenance and renewal activities.

Yours sincerely,



Craig Kenny & Annie Lewis

Submission AB11 – Ted Landy – South Walkerville Action Group - Objection to the Sealing of Walkerville South Road



**Speaking to Submission - No**

South Walkerville Action Group

Sunday, 21 April 2019

To:  
Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
9 Smith Street,  
Leongatha, VIC 3953

Dear Sir

We understand there are plans to seal the remainder of Walkerville South road at some point in the near future. I believe this project is on a priority list, while there are currently no funds in the **Proposed Annual Budget 2019/20** to complete this task.

**We would like to make the council aware that a significant portion of the ratepayers who own property or reside in Walkerville South do not want this road to be sealed.**

The current gravel road reduces the vehicle traffic to an already crowded area. Conversely sealing the road will greatly increase traffic pressure on this area where parking is already at capacity. The existing parking area at Walkerville South beach is within a heritage listed area so there is little ability to increase this existing capacity.

The last portion of gravel road down the hill to the beach has drainage problems that need to be addressed to prevent further erosion. This section is not in the length of road that council proposes to seal in any case. So this is a separate issue.

The existing gravel road at Walkerville South forms part of the nature of the community. While it does create dust at times we feel this is an acceptable trade off for the reduction in vehicle traffic.

As Walkerville South residents, we stand to be the most effected by this change. We feel that little or no consideration is being given to how sealing this section of road and the associated increase in traffic will effect parking, road safety and overcrowding at Walkerville South.

Until these issues can be properly addressed, We request that Council delay this initiative and direct resources elsewhere.

Yours sincerely,

Ted Landy

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ted Landy', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Submission AB12 – Clive Hope (Secretary)– Meeniyán Progress Association -  
Street Lighting at Tompkins Road, Meeniyán**



**Speaking to Submission - No**

**MEENIYAN PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC (Est. 1891)**  
( ABN 14 319 869 471 )



22 April 2019

Mr T Tamlin  
Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
9 Smith Street  
Leongatha 3953

Dear Tim,

Re: Provision of Lighting for Tompkins Road Meeniyán

The Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget

This submission by the Meeniyán Progress Association requests that funding for the provision of street lighting in Tompkins Road, Meeniyán be included in the 2019/20 Annual Budget.

Currently there is no lighting in Tompkins Road and to date requests for same have been unsuccessful.

The sealing of Tompkins Road has been a great benefit for our town and with steadily increasing numbers of visitors and tourists the availability of parking in the road is being utilised.

There are many events nowadays where numbers of visitors are such that parking in the main street is soon taken up and the only available parking left is in Tompkins Road. When they occur at night then during the winter months the drivers and passengers have to walk to and from their cars through an unlit area.


Furthermore lighting at Tompkins Road would make it safer for people walking to and from the Recreation Reserve including younger folk going to and from sports/training.

The lack of lighting creates safety concerns which need to be addressed as a matter of some urgency.

Yours Faithfully,

Clive Hope,  
Secretary,


Submission AB13 – **John McCombe – South Gippsland Action Group** - Growth for Rates Reduction and Growth for Reduced Rates to be considered for Exhibition and Equestrian Centre in Stony Creek.

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**Speaking to Submission - Yes**

**Please see (Attachment [2.1.5] – S223 – AB13 – John McCombe – Growth for Rates Reduction – Equestrian Centre – Stony Creek**

Submission AB14 – **Fred Weight** - 24 hour Boat Launching Facilities at 'The Landing' on Stockyard Creek

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**Speaking to Submission - Yes**

Submission

To

South Gippsland Council

about

Boating Facilities in Foster



### Author of this submission:

This submission has been prepared and presented by:

Name: Fred Weight

Address:

Phone No.:

E-mail:

(Many more people are intensely interested in this matter but it is agreed that this approach is simpler. More people can be involved very easily.)

### Preamble:

In May 2015, I retired to Foster to enjoy the cooler weather and the delightful amenity of South Gippsland. I also had intention to enjoy recreational fishing.

In discussion with local people, I found dissatisfaction with the fact that 24 hour boat launch was only available at considerable distance from Foster and even then is limited by such things as cost and crowding. While other boat launch options are available, they could not be described as ideal.

The boat ramp that does exist in Foster at "The Landing" is only available over high tide and is very run down.

The Gippsland Coastal Board publication "Gippsland Boating Coastal Action Plan 2013" is "A Strategic framework for recreational boating in Gippsland". Included within the main objectives identified in this Action Plan are:

- Boating and local communities
- Competition between users
- The adequacy of current facilities,

Also, the Strategic directions identified seek to ensure that recreational boating facilities in the Gippsland region include that:

- They are supported by appropriate onshore facilities
- They do not impact adversely on the natural environment
- They can be maintained effectively and efficiently.

If the 2013 Boating Coastal Action Plan is more than just a political statement and has real purpose and intention, then the situation at Foster provides an excellent opportunity to make real advance within this action plan. In this action plan, there is a presumption that facilities should be provided.

Outlined below is one possible development of the Foster situation which would not only be driven by the Action Plan but would provide the people and district of Foster with enhanced recreational and economic opportunity.

## Objectives and Purpose of This Submission:

### Purpose:

The South Gippsland Council is hereby requested to develop, refurbish and extend the boat launch facilities at the area known as "The Landing" on Stockyard Creek near Foster on similar lines to the development outlined below. It is further requested that, as manager of the development, the Council source all necessary funds, approvals and similar matters in such a manner as to allow this development to proceed as quickly as possible so that the facilities may be enjoyed by the public.

### The major objectives of this submission:

- To improve the opportunity for recreational use of Corner Inlet in the Foster area.
- To upgrade current boat launch conditions so that they provide,
  - 24 hour boat launch opportunity
  - Greater efficiency of use
  - Increased safety and access for all users
  - Capacity for use by disabled persons
  - Provision for launch of non-powered craft such as canoes.
  - Recognition and advancement of environmental and cultural heritage of indigenous peoples.
  - Recognition and advancement of the environment, particularly with reference to the international Ramsar convention on wetlands.
  - Other provisions that are driven by the Action Plan.
  - Such activities as search and rescue, water police and environmental management at the western end of Corner Inlet, would be enhanced.
- To enhance the economic and recreational status of the Foster area.

## Developmental Plan

### A little background:

"The Landing" is downstream of Foster on Stockyard Creek which flows through Foster. Back in the 1860's when gold was discovered in Stockyard Creek at the site where Foster stands, it was very difficult to reach the gold site overland.

An enterprising steamboat operator from Port Albert started a service bringing goods and passengers to the landing which was as far up Stockyard Creek as he could get. Passengers still had several kilometres to "bushbash" on to the diggings.

The Government built a wharf at the site. Hotels, houses and shops were built. As road and rail access improved from the north the entire enterprise fell into decay and declined.

Little remains but old jetties and history. The site is now a heritage site.

There is a rudimentary concrete launching ramp which can only be used for a few hours over the high tide period. This ramp is about 1.5 km from the entrance into Corner Inlet. The ramp seems to have been built near where the Government wharf was located. This was never an ideal site.

It is not ideal for recreational craft as it is 1.5km from the Inlet and being so far up stream, it means even more limited times of usage.

### About the site:

1. The end of the current access road is where the current ramp is located.
2. Along the northern boundary of the site there is a shallow surface water drain. Close to the northern bank of the creek is a levee bank. Between these two is a strip of land which would easily accommodate a two-way track or road at least as far as the higher basin. Vehicles already access this area.
3. About half way down to the Inlet, this roadway makes a right-hand turn. If it did not, it would enter a tongue of land from the farmer's paddock.
4. Precisely at this point there is a large S bend in the Creek. At each of these two bends a large basin has developed.
5. The higher of the two basins at this point would make an ideal location for a new full time ramp.
6. The northern side of the creek is almost denuded of vegetation whether native or introduced so development would make little impact. The site is ideal for this development.

Such a development as this would be simple enough to undertake. Since the gold mining and probably because of it, this lower part of the watercourse may need to be dredged a little to restore its former capacity, but this should not be extensive. It is very likely that this lower section may need no dredging at all.

It is noted that the "Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide" advertises a Target of One Million people to be involved in recreational fishing. This project would support that initiative.

Suggested works required for this project:

1. Form a simple two-way roadway to the upper basin (about 500 metres) with a one-way loop at the end to access the launch ramp and turn around.
2. Acquire about one hectare of land adjacent to the upper basin. (There are advantages for the land owner as his property value would be enhanced by having direct access to this facility at his back gate.)
3. Re-align the shallow drain to follow the northern and eastern boundaries of the acquired land and then to re-join the original course. Back-fill redundant drain.
4. Build the roadway as a one-way loop to access the boat ramp, trailer parking and a turn-around in the acquired land area.
5. Establish boat trailer parking on the acquired land accessed from the looped road.
6. Build an appropriate boat-ramp in the open basin at the northern end. Deepen and enlarge the basin if required. If considered necessary, extend the width a little to accommodate wharf/jetties.
7. On the eastern bank of the basin build a wharf or several jetties to enhance boat launch and retrieval.
8. Provide a suitable toilet.
9. Provide solar lighting.
10. Refurbish the original boat-ramp area to provide launch opportunities for non-powered vessels such as canoes. (These could cope with low tides much more easily and the need for dredging would appear unlikely.)
  - a. Extend the length of the existing ramp to allow portage of non-powered vessels to the water for launch at lower tides.
  - b. Deepen the bottom of the creek at the ramp to allow a basin of water for easier launch.
  - c. Dedicate this launch area to non-powered vessels.

Maps:



Aerial photo of lower reaches of Stockyard Creek from the current boat ramp to the entrance into Corner Inlet. (About 1.5 km.)

It seems likely that any depth limitation in the creek would be concentrated in the section of the creek above the upper basin in the S bend.

To by-pass the upper section could eliminate any requirement for dredging.

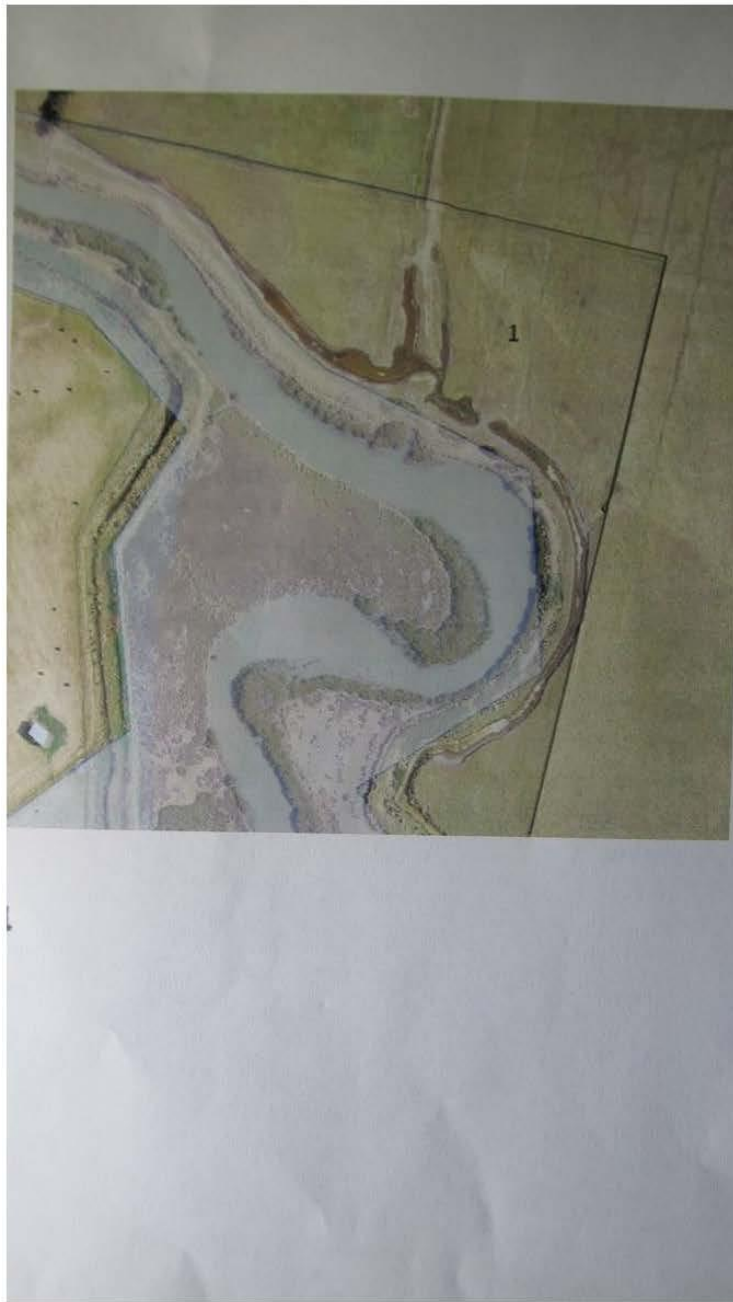
Dredging would seem unnecessary for un-powered vessels using the upper section.



Aerial photo of site:

On this map can be seen:

- The surface drain.
- The strip of land that could become the roadway.
- The two large basins at the head of the downstream deeper part of the creek.
- The area of land just north of the upper basin which would need to be acquired.
- The site of the current boat-ramp. (about 500m upstream from the upper basin)

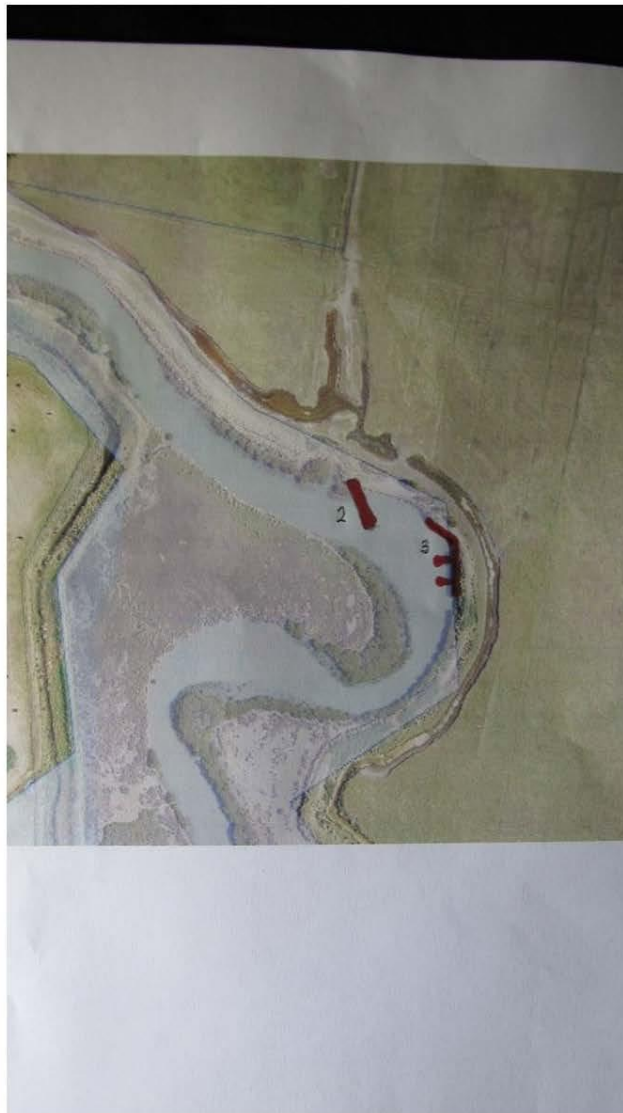


Map of site showing proposed land to acquire.





Map re-aligned drain and one-way loop roadway.



Map showing proposed boat ramp and wharf/jetties.

This submission is made on behalf of the community of Foster and district. It is felt by many that such a development would create very desirable recreational and economic benefits.

Signed:

Fred Weight.  
(Action Co-ordinator.)

## SUBMISSION TO SOUTH GIPPSLAND COUNCIL

By Fred Weight 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

### Subject:

The establishment and maintenance of 24 hour boat launch facilities in the tidal section of Stockyard Creek at Foster. The area is known as "The Landing".

In presenting this submission, I am requesting that the South Gippsland Council assume management responsibility and develop, refurbish and extend the boat launch facilities at the area known as "The Landing" on Stockyard Creek near Foster, and that this be done on similar lines to the development outlined in my submission, copies of which, you have already received.

It is further requested that, as manager of the development, the Council source all necessary funds, approvals and similar matters, in such a manner as to allow this development to proceed as quickly as possible, so that the facilities may be enjoyed by the public.

### What is involved?

There already exists a concrete boat-ramp at The Landing. However, it is rundown, inadequate except at high tide and was built in the wrong place! In the 1860's, the steamboat captain who brought diggers to the Foster goldfield was only interested in getting as close to the diggings as was possible. Even then the diggers had to "bush-bash" through thick scrub a further three or four kilometres to the diggings.

At that time, it did not matter that the site was only accessible at high tide, so that is where the government built a wharf and the focus was on that point. Until now, the focus seems to have remained on that point.

Change that focus and.

By building a new facility at a site downstream, much closer to Corner inlet, everything changes.

About half way to Corner Inlet from the existing ramp, Stockyard Creek reaches the western edge of the tidal flats and from this point there is no gradient to the Inlet. This should eliminate any need for dredging.

There is gradient in the section of Stockyard Creek upstream from there, to the existing ramp. That could still be negotiated by unpowered vessels such as canoes and would be satisfactory for that purpose, even if it were not 24 hour capability.

Also at this point Stockyard Creek makes a large “S” bend forming two large basins. The higher of these two basins presents an ideal location for the construction of a new ramp.

Once a decision is taken to build such a facility, other matters such as road access, trailer parking, and launching site become straight forward.

In my submission, I have given a clear description of the site and how it lends itself to this development in an easily achieved manner.

Also in my submission, I have given a clear outline of the typical works which would be required. Local contractors would benefit from undertaking these works. Construction works should not provide any unique problems.

It is noted that: The Gippsland Coastal Board publication “Gippsland Boating Coastal Action Plan 2013” “A Strategic framework for recreational boating in Gippsland”,

states that, the vision for recreational boating in Gippsland is:

Recreational boating in the coastal areas and waterways of the Gippsland Coastal Board region will be able to be enjoyed safely by users of all abilities. Site appropriate and well-maintained infrastructure will provide facilities and destinations for a wide range of recreational boating activities in harmony with the natural attractions of the region.

It is also noted, that the “Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide” advertises a Target of One Million people to be involved in recreational fishing. This project would support that initiative.

An important consideration also, is that, to develop this facility as I have indicated in my submission would significantly enhance recreational and economic options for the community.

Further Considerations:

We are all aware that there are aspects that are more complex in such a development.

Environmental degradation – wave action from boat movement – turbulence from propellers – damage to the benthos. (These matters can usually be well managed with regulations.)

The overall cost could be extensive and would need to be sourced.

There would need to be compliances with such as  
The Ramsar wetlands convention  
Indigenous culture and heritage issues  
Safety issues  
Provision for people with disabilities.

All year round management could be complex.

My submission to Council is not without significant complexity.

In Conclusion:

I simply make the request that Council assume management and seriously examine the feasibility of this project with a view to implementation as soon as possible.

Submission AB15 – **Shirley Cowling** – **Jumbunna Public Hall Committee** - Sealing  
Jumbunna Hall Car Park



**Speaking to Submission - Yes**



Jumbunna Coal Mining  
ABN 17954104232

JUMBUNNA PUBLIC HALL Inc.  
A001891K  
Secretary Andrea Marshall  
President Brian Enbom



Township 1902

South Gippsland Shire Council  
Chief Executive Office  
Attention Tim Tamlin

25<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Dear Tim,

Re: Proposed Annual Budget for 2019-2020 /sealing of the area in front of the Jumbunna Hall

I am writing to you on behalf of the Jumbunna Public Hall Committee, following their various meetings, during which they have expressed their concerns for the area in front of the hall (which is the only access area) as well as a subsequent meeting with the president Brian Enbom and Tony Peterson the Project Engineer, at the Shire. Tony has inspected the site and so have various councillors who advised that we needed to forward a submission for the budget.

I have attached to the email various photos of the site concerned which illustrates the slope of the land, (and also highlights the depth of the bitumen following repeated layers of bitumen) which, with the combination of the screening surface and reversing from a stationery position causes many of the drivers to spin their wheels. It also creates a very unstable surface for patrons with walkers, so much so that we have received a letter, asking if we could do something about the area concerned, and have attached a copy accordingly.

Also I will forward to you a scanned recent petition from locals and the neighbouring area, who visit the hall at a later date, as I am having trouble getting my scanner to work.

We believe that the project, the area in front of hall on public land sealed and treated in a manner that makes the area safe for public use is likely to cost \$30,000 - \$40,000. We therefore request that this project ( our submission) be considered for the Revised Council Plan 2017-2021, and included in the Proposed Annual Budget for 2019-2020.

Yours sincerely

Shirley Cowling (on behalf of Brian Enbom)

Sadie M.Jansen.

16<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Jumbunna Hall Committee,

Dear Members of the Jumbunna Hall Committee,

**Re: Access at the Jumbunna Hall**

I have frequented your market at the hall for which I understand raises funds to improve the hall, however I am writing to you to advise that it would be appreciated by myself (and no doubt other patrons of the market) if the access could be improved.

I have found it difficult (and I am sure others do also) to park at the hall, especially after recovering from a hip operation, to both reverse out of the area on the sloping ground with blue stone metal- gravel which causes the wheels of the car to spin when trying to reverse. Not only is it difficult to park, however the stones create a problem with walkers trying to access the entrance. Have you considered asking the Shire to bitumen the area concerned as it would vastly improve parking and access for all patrons.

While commending the efforts of the hardworking kitchen volunteers surely to improve the access would increase the numbers of attendees, and the money raised if this concern of mine was addressed.

Thank you for taking the time to read this concern of mine.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'S. Jansen', written in dark ink.

Sadie M. Jansen







**Submission AB16 – Paul Katsieris – Walkerville Rate Payers and Residents Association - Acacia Way, Walkerville Path and Sealing Walkerville South Road and Drainage**



**Speaking to Submission - Yes**

**WALKERVILLE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.**

Registered Number: A31312T

Hon. President: Paul Katsieris   Hon. Treasurer: Irene Irvine   Hon. Secretary: Anne Terrell

24.04.2019

Att: Mr Tim Tamlin  
Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
9 Smith Street  
Leongatha VIC 3953

via email: [submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Dear Mr Tamlin,

**Submission (Section 223) – South Gippsland Shire Council Proposed Annual Budget 2019–20 and inclusion of proposals for funding towards:**

1. **The further investigation and construction of the 'Acacia Way' Pedestrian Safety Path along Acacia Road, Walkerville;**  
**and,**
2. **the sealing of the gravel section of roadway along Walkerville South Road, Walkerville South and the upgrading of the roadway drainage system for same.**

I write to you on behalf of the Walkerville Ratepayers and Residents Association (WRRRA); an incorporated organisation representing the community of Walkerville and surrounding areas. The membership of the WRRRA is derived from the areas of Walkerville North, Walkerville South, the Promontory Views Estate and surrounding farmland.

The WRRRA would like to make a formal written submission under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 regarding the South Gippsland Shire Council's **Proposed Annual Budget 2019–20** (the Budget). The WRRRA's submission is comprised of this letter and Attachments 1 and 2.



### **Proposed SGSC Annual Budget 2019–20**

The WRRRA notes the proposed Budget contains a number of capital works expenditure items including the allocation of funding towards proposed new and upgraded path and road infrastructure.

In relation to the proposed Budget, the WRRRA respectfully request that Council consider this submission for funding in order to:

- (a) construct a new pedestrian safety path along Acacia Road, Walkerville (Promontory Views Estate). We note this pathway is one that has been recommended for construction in the council's adopted *Paths and Trails Strategy 2018* and is referred to as 'Acacia Way' in this document;
- (b) seal the gravel section of road at Walkerville South Road, South Walkerville and improve the roadside drainage;
- (c) include funding for these works (a) and/or (b) above, in the adopted SGSC Annual Budget for 2019–20.

#### **A 'ACACIA WAY' PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PATH ALONG ACACIA ROAD, WALKERVILLE**

'Acacia Way' is a proposed pedestrian pathway included in the council's adopted **Paths and Trails Strategy 2018**. It is nominated as a pathway project recommended for further investigation. (Refer *SGSC Paths and Trails Strategy 2018 pp. 43–44 and Appendix 1, Table 9.1.1*)

Following our Section 223 submissions made in 2016 regarding this proposed pathway, the WRRRA and the broader community remain concerned at the increasing numbers of pedestrians and increasing numbers of vehicular traffic along the stretch of Acacia Road east of the Promontory Views Estate. This stretch of Acacia Road remains unsafe for pedestrians and is becoming increasingly unsafe. Our community would like to see the proposed 'Acacia Way' pedestrian safety path constructed on the eastern side of Acacia Road as soon as possible.

##### **Budget Submission 1:**

**We respectfully request that SGSC approve the funding of further investigation of and construction of the 'Acacia Way' in council's Annual Budget for 2019–20.**

#### **B SEALING OF GRAVEL ROAD AND ROADSIDE DRAINAGE SYSTEM UPGRADE OF WALKERVILLE SOUTH ROAD, WALKERVILLE**

The WRRRA and members of our community have become concerned at the deterioration of the gravel road section of Walkerville South Road and the increasing erosion impacts such a deterioration is presenting to the cliffside edges of the roadway. This is particularly so on the winding section of Walkerville South Road as it descends steeply to Walkerville South Beach.

The increasing popularity of Walkerville South Beach as a holiday destination and access to the Walkerville South beach access ramp for boat launching and retrieval has resulted in an increase of vehicular and heavy-vehicle traffic on Walkerville South Road. This is accelerating the deterioration of the gravel roadway, the roadside verges and the fragile cliff-edges of the coastline. In addition, the lack of regular rain over recent months has meant a further decay of the gravel roadway surface as there has been insufficient water to bind the gravel appropriately.

With future climate change impacts, when it does indeed rain, the rain will increasingly arrive as significant storm events which cause washout and further erosion of the gravel road. The existing form of rude drainage channels cut to the side of the roadway are poor quality and inadequate form of drainage that also needs to be upgraded alongside any sealing of the roadway as a long term protection of the Walkerville South Road coastline.

We also note that increasing numbers of vehicles are parking alongside the winding roadway alongside the cliff-edge during the longer, busy periods of the year. The narrowness of the existing roadway and the need for vehicles to park on the very edge of the cliff-face is damaging the edges of the unsealed road and causing further damage to a series of rude open stormwater drainage channels cut into the cliffside edge of the road. The existing situation is becoming increasingly untenable on what is a spectacularly beautiful but very fragile section of Walkerville's coastline.

The WRRRA understand that the SGSC is currently developing a 'Gravel-to-Seal' program of capital works. We further understand that the sealing of Walkerville South Road has been identified as a priority project, albeit currently unfunded, by relevant council officers and the WRRRA would certainly support Council's endeavours to seal the road and improve the roadway drainage system even if it is a staged project over time.

**Budget submission 2:**

**We respectfully request that SGSC approve the funding of the sealing of the gravel roadway and the upgrading of the roadside drainage system on the gravel section of South Walkerville Road, Walkerville South in council's Annual Budget for 2019-20.**

**Presentation to Council**

The WRRRA would welcome an opportunity to address the Council regarding this S223 submission at an open hearing of council at the appropriate time. Please let the undersigned know when this may occur.

Yours Sincerely,



**Paul Katsieris**  
Hon. President  
Walkerville Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Site Plan: Acacia Road Pedestrian Safety Path ('Acacia Way')  
Attachment 2 – Aerial Photograph: Walkerville South Road – Indicative gravel-to-seal extent

Submission AB17 – [Ralph Gallgher](#) - Submitter has multiple questions with respect to the Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget.



### Speaking to Submission -Yes

|  |   |
|--|---|
| To:  | Chief Executive Officer, Shire of South Gippsland |
| From:  | Ralph Gallagher                                   |
| Address:   |   |
| Phone:   |   |
| Date:  | Friday, 26 April 2019                             |
| Please note that I would appreciate the opportunity to speak in support of this submission at the meeting proposed for this purpose on Wednesday, 22 May 2019. |   |

#### 1. Preamble

The budget for the Shire undoubtedly requires a substantial contribution by many folk and for that reason should be accorded due respect. It was originally intended to ensure specific services for a geographically disparate community. Socially disparate as well.

The budget must of course be constructed within the context of a rates system, a fees for service schedule and grants opportunities that generate funding.

Realistically funds available will fall short of that necessary to support everyone's "field of dreams". We should all acknowledge this constraint. Some comments reflecting my concerns follow.

#### 2. Budget Surplus

There have been three occasions over the last seven months or so when individual Councillors have declared the financial position to be positively rosy. The first claim was that the Shire had achieved a surplus (to date) of \$26 million. The second claim touted a surplus of \$28 million and the last claim I heard announced the utopian position of a \$30 million surplus.

I asked about the surplus of \$26 million and the answer firstly reduced the figure to \$23 million but failed to provide all the details of the components. I also asked whether the Councillor's comment (publicly done as it was) had been corrected. No response.

There is no reasonable position that justifies the holding or more importantly the accreting of such a sum. How was it done? Why was it done? Excessive rates? Over budgeted projects? If the claims were incorrect why weren't the statements publicly corrected?

### **3. Capital Works**

The provision for "roads" is excessive as a single budget year provision. There is no doubt that the Shire's program has been inadequate but the attempt to resolve all this overnight is a poor financial decision. Such substantial works should be spread over several budget year cycles.

The Mirboo North Pool project also warrants a further review. The total is now many hundreds of thousands of dollars more than estimated at its first listing as a putative project. Are there no opportunities for a reduced provision? What are the expected operating costs, fees income for the facility?

The budget also includes more than \$7 million for projects that are subject to grants funding. What happens if that funding does not eventuate? Why are such projects listed as part of the budget if grants funding is not yet assured?

### **4. Commercial Enterprises**

Once again Council fails to provide adequate operating statements of commercial enterprises such as the caravan parks. The existing arrangements have been in place for some years now and yet "no adequate reports" have been forthcoming. Whilst not strictly a commercial enterprise the costs associated with the equipping, maintenance and otherwise operating the Franklin Reserve free caravan site should also be detailed.

### **5. Shared Services**

This issue has been canvassed over several years now and finally seems to have found support with some Councillors. The one example that existed (with the Shire of Baw Baw) has apparently lapsed. To proceed further there must be sufficient resources (personnel, funds, philosophical) to support the development of a feasible model. It is appropriate to acknowledge, at the outset that the longer term gain will require an immediate term investment by all (prospective) involved Shires and Councils. Has this been achieved?

### **6. Conclusion**

I look forward to the opportunity to speak to the foregoing comments and to responding to any questions that arise.

**Ralph Gallagher**



**Submission AB18 – Ross Barnacle (President) Loch Community Development Association** - There is a list of works that should be commenced ahead of any planned streetscape works in Loch.



### Speaking to Submission - Yes



LochVillage

[www.lochvillage.com](http://www.lochvillage.com)

Reg No: A0037749K

ABN: 68 373 195 626

Chief Executive Officer  
South Gippsland Shire Council  
[submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

#### **SUBMISSION TO SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL**

#### **REVISED COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021**

#### **PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET 2019 - 2020**

Following community consultation and the formation of the Loch Village Projects Working Group, a sub-committee of the Loch Community Development Association (LCDA), this submission outlines areas of priority the Loch community believe will significantly enhance the liveability and strengthen Loch's place as the gateway to tourism and the reputation as a garden and heritage village within the South Gippsland region.

The Loch Village Projects Working Group has a vision to maintain and enhance the atmosphere and character of Loch as a unique historic, desirable garden village with a fabric of heritage buildings, which is renowned for its arts, craft, antiques and quality foods.

The Loch Village Projects Working Group notes the following points which were previously mentioned in the plan and budget:

#### **Infrastructure:**

“community requests the building of footpaths, so that one can get from place to place more safely”

**Objective Overview:**

“The unique character of our smaller towns is recognised and supported”

**Services:**

Footpaths & Bicycle Paths

**Successful Outcomes:**

1. Existing rail trails promoted and new trails developed to support growth to our economy, enable a healthier lifestyle and enhance wildlife corridors.
2. Footpath & Bicycle Paths

*There is no mention of footpaths/trails/bicycle paths for Loch within the 2019-20 Budget.*

With the Stage 1 Streetscape works due to commence in Loch imminently, this submission requests the following paths be prioritised and brought forward ahead of later Streetscape stages and included within the 2019-20 budget. Loch needs to be pedestrian friendly; this is an occupational health & safety issue.

|                    |   |             |
|--------------------|---|-------------|
| a). Victoria Road: | North side from Post Office/Centennial Park to Catholic Church. |             |
|                    | 212 lm x \$180 lm   | \$38,160.00 |
| b). Smith Street:  | Cnr. of Victoria St to Queen Street                             |             |
|                    | 88 lm x \$180 lm  | \$15,840.00 |

In addition, the following are requested:

1. Western-end Avenue of Honour trees - to be included in the council maintenance plan, including the replacement of two.
2. Eastern-end Avenue of Honour trees - source and plant American stock of Plane trees, to mirror western-end planting, and inclusion in the council maintenance plan.
3. Explore vacant land from Smith/Speight/Queen intersection, along Speight St towards Albert Rd (adjacent to the Vic Roads sound wall) with a view to levelling, where required, and tree planting, providing much needed additional and shaded car parking during festivals and summer markets, and inclusion in council maintenance plan.
4. Council to address issues with drainage and storm water in the vicinity of Queen St and Albert Rd.
5. Council consultation with the Loch Village Projects Working Group regarding choice of trees which will replace those recently removed in Victoria Rd, with agreed trees planted in 2019.
6. Planning for lighting, public gardens, seating and trees for Stage 1.
7. Consider pedestrian crossing in Victoria Rd in Stage 1 Streetscape works.
8. Consider an Arts/Heritage Plan for Loch, including a register of Heritage buildings, trees, etc that are protected.

9. Council to liaise with Loch Primary School and Department of Education to develop an effective traffic management plan.
10. Fixed signage at both highway entry points to Loch that allows community groups to promote events, as exists at the entry to other South Gippsland towns.
11. Entry garden and tree planting on the western highway entrance that befits and underpins the garden village theme.
12. Council consultation with the Loch Village Projects Working Group regarding progressing discussions and the execution of the 'Loch Lap' initiative.

***It is noted, under Capital Works /Other Structures/93060 PLAYGROUNDS in the proposed annual budget 2019/20, there is a replacement program for the Speight St, Loch playground. With the existing playground in good order, the funding for the capital works would be better spent on the Loch lap.***

### **Conclusion:**

The proposals outlined above are in keeping with the **South Gippsland Planning scheme 11/04/2019** which states Loch is a "Small thriving rural township with moderate capacity for growth in the future. A compact, 'garden village' and heritage character with tourism retail facilities set among rolling hills.

The following are **key components of the South Gippsland Planning Scheme for Loch**, with the measures above aligning to the Shires plan.

### **Loch's role and function is:**

Small thriving rural township with moderate capacity for growth in the future. A compact garden village and heritage character with tourism retail facilities set amongst rolling hills.

### **Local area implementation:**

- Promote the use and development of land in accordance with the strategic direction in the Loch Framework Plan
- Develop Loch as a small thriving rural township with a distinctive garden village character

### **Economy:**

- Consolidate and develop the town centre as the preferred focus for all business, community and tourist services and facilities
- Encourage tourist services and facilities in the township

### **Landscape and built form:**

- Retain the existing heritage character, design and built form of the buildings along Victoria Street and Smith Street (north of Victoria Street), in recognition of their contribution to the overall image of Loch
- Conserve and enhance heritage places in the town in recognition of their contribution to the overall character of Loch
- Promote the distinctive garden village character in Loch

- Create an integrated network of shared pedestrian and bicycle paths linking features and facilities in and around the township

**Infrastructure:**

- Improve community services and facilities in the township
- Ensure the new growth and development occurs in coordination with the provisions of development infrastructure
- Consider the requirement for new or improved public infrastructure and how infrastructure is to be provided /funded when land is rezoned for residential development
- Require new developments to connect to the reticulated sewerage system
- Create an integrated network of shared pedestrian and bicycle paths linking features and facilities in and around the township

**The LCDA request the opportunity to present this submission to Council at the forthcoming open hearing on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019, to ensure an equitable distribution of funds that includes Loch Village.**

Yours faithfully

Ron Barnacle  
President  
Loch Community Development Association

**25<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Submission AB19 – Michael Lester - Fish Creek Community Development Group -**  
The Fish Creek Community Development Group would like Council to consider a Traffic and Parking Study for Fish Creek as part of the Proposed 2019/20 Annual Budget and Council Plan.



### **Speaking to Submission - No**

Fish Creek Community Development  
Group

24/4/19

Mayor Don Hill and Councillors  
South Gippsland Shire Council

### **A Traffic and Parking Study in Fish Creek**

Fish Creek, along with other small towns in the Shire, is becoming a victim of its very success. Fish Creek has become an attractive destination. It has a unique combination of food, galleries and village charm. Small towns like Loch, Meeniyan and Fish Creek are increasingly becoming attractive destinations for tourists and for socialisation for local people. They are adding to the vibrancy and attractiveness of the shire to new residents, for business investments and tourists. Destination Gippsland is seeing small towns as driving tourism development in Gippsland.

Fish Creek has very limited parking and has traffic difficulties with the layout of the town and local roads. Council has developed a basic concept plan, but this needs to be reassessed in terms of traffic movements and the need for expanded parking.

Traffic movements are dangerous as you turn to the right entering the commercial area proper. There are many near misses, as it is unclear of who has the right of way adjacent to the hall. Someone will be seriously injured, if remedial action is not taken quickly.

The available parking is now under serious stress. This is now regularly occurring at certain times during the week and is an endemic problem on weekends and during the peak season. There is a clear need to assess demand and to see how parking in Ryan Street and around the unnamed road adjacent to the rail trail could be better utilised (and a question about Rail Trail land in the township and how it is managed). There is also a need to address the lack of sufficient disabled parking and short term parking. Locals, many of who are older, can no longer be assured of a reasonable close parking to get their mail and papers in the morning.

Council's plan is committed to both growing the shire and promoting local employment and economic development. Council has committed over \$10m dollars to main street development in Loch, Foster, Korumburra and Leongatha and has significantly improved parking in Meeniyan. These are important investments in the future prosperity of the Shire.

In this context, we are asking that council include in its budget and council plan a traffic and parking study for Fish Creek. We understand that this would cost between \$10-15,000. Fish Creek and many smaller towns and towns, such as Venus Bay, have in our opinion not received a fair share of council's resources. This is a small down payment on a more equitable share and indeed a strategic investment in a prosperous future for the shire.

We look forward to your positive consideration of our reasonable request.

Yours Faithfully

Michael Lester

Committee member, Fish Creek Community Development Group