

Final Community Engagement Report

Asset Plan 2023-2033



Mansfield Shire

Background

Consultation was undertaken regarding changes to Council’s Asset Plan, Road Management Plan (RMP), and Register of Public Roads in late 2023 and early 2024.

Two deliberative panel sessions were held with members of the public and Council staff, on 29 November and 30 November. A public online survey regarding the Asset Plan was held from 15 November to 22 December.

A final community workshop was held on 14 February online and in person with members of the public and Council staff. The Asset Plan was exhibited over the Engage platform from 1 February to 14 March to participate in the online survey and provide feedback.

This report records feedback from the sessions and surveys.

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For more information, please contact Sujita Sharma, Asset Management Officer on (03) 5775 8555 or at council@mansfield.vic.gov.au.

Deliberative panel and Community workshop feedback

The deliberative panel gave feedback on the Asset Plan and other issues during the community workshop held in the Council Chambers and online.

Challenges

- ▶ Increasing damage from weather events.
- ▶ Rising contractor and material costs.
- ▶ Increasing demand on Council budget for other services & projects.
- ▶ Community road condition reporting, to enable earlier intervention.
- ▶ Prioritisation on how we allocate funding.
- ▶ Not every property owner can afford Special Charge Scheme.
- ▶ Exchange of loads with Department of Transport, for example: Jamieson-Licola Road.
- ▶ Not enough resources – field services team for sealing.

Opportunities

- ▶ External funding opportunities, for example: IMPACT Route.
- ▶ Special charge scheme for roads upgrade

General feedback

- ▶ Recent in-house resheeting of Howqua Track received positive feedback.

Challenges

- ▶ Congestion from drivers fitting snow chains in the town centre.
- ▶ Need for increased funding for footpaths.
- ▶ Risk from high-speed vehicles:
 - on Howqua Track;
 - at intersection of Mansfield-Whitfield Road and Redgum Drive;
 - on unsealed roads.
- ▶ Need to renew line marking and signage.
- ▶ High community expectations from large number of community engagements.
- ▶ Cost of sealing roads.
- ▶ Community desire to know when specific roads will be sealed.
- ▶ Need for Redgum Drive extension.

Opportunities

- ▶ Enable non-resident ratepayers to participate in Council Meetings.
- ▶ Take on state road projects using Department of Transport and Planning funding.
- ▶ Greater engagement with developers.

- ▶ Greater use of technology.

Online survey

The details of engage Mansfield online survey feedback and responses are provided below. Overall, we received 12 responses.

Online Survey	Feedback Summary	Response
Are there challenges or opportunities you feel could be explored further in the Asset Plan?	5 Yes 7 No	No response required, as issues noted are addressed below.
If yes, please offer your suggestions on possible challenges or opportunities	Wastewater treatment plan at Goughs Bay	Noted, under process for treatment options through the Goughs Bay Water Sensitive Feasibility Study project, and the community will be consulted on the options.
	Population Growth	Submission noted.
	Indoor Pool I wonder about the ability to provide a 25mtr (all year round) swimming pool with creche facilities(?) and car park in addition for a budget of up to \$3million.	Noted. Council is currently seeking a grant funding for an upgraded community sport infrastructure which includes a cover for learner pool and a splash play area. Construction of a new swimming pool is a strategic decision that will need to be considered by Council in the context of future Asset Plan reviews.
What type of open space facilities do you value or use within the Shire?	Playgrounds	Submissions noted.
	Pedestrians and cycling paths	
	Sporting facilities, all weather picnic areas, recreational reserves, BBQ.	
What feedback do you have on our local transport links and ability to service residential, agricultural and tourism users?	A bus to Benalla, even once a week could be helpful for people to use the pool over there, or whatever else they would like to do	Although not within the scope of the Asset Plan, Council has an advocacy role, the provision of transport services is a State and Federal responsibility and is being evaluated under the Ovens Murray Regional Transport Strategy project.
	Bus to Wangaratta via Benalla	
	So hard to provide local transport been here long enough to remember he bus to Benalla so understand that public transport doesn't work Bus service to Melbourne is a great asset	
	Noted. As part of the Township Sealing Program, Council is upgrading roads from unsealed to sealed, such as Goughs Crescent	Noted. As part of the Township Sealing Program, Council is upgrading roads from unsealed to sealed, such as Goughs Crescent

	<p>and Catherine St being sealed in Financial Year 2023-2024. Another unsealed road is proposed for sealing next Financial Year. These works are considered in Council's forward Capital Works planning. Additionally, Council will also seek any federal funding opportunities available to seal more roads.</p>	<p>and Catherine Street being sealed in financial year 2023-2024. Another unsealed road is proposed for sealing next financial year. These works are considered in Council's forward Capital Works planning. Additionally, Council will also any seek any federal funding to seal more roads.</p>
	<p>Council has applied for a speed reduction on Piries-Goughs Bay Rd from Mountain Bar Drive to Howes Creek-Goughs Bay Rd, which is currently under review by the Department of Transport and Planning.</p>	<p>Council has applied for a speed reduction on Piries-Goughs Bay Rd from Mountain Bay Drive to Howes Creek-Goughs Bay Rd to 50km/h. The application is currently under review by the Department of Transport and Planning.</p>
	<p>Maintenance</p> <hr/> <p>It would be good for the community to be more appreciative of the businesses in the Shire and the \$\$ it brings us resulting in jobs for everyone here.</p> <hr/> <p>Not enough but difficult in a smaller community to keep this going financially.</p>	<p>Submissions noted.</p>
<p>Are there any community buildings that need attention or improvement in the future?</p>	<p>Mansfield Sporting Complex</p> <hr/> <p>Lords Reserve</p> <hr/> <p>Shire Office</p> <hr/> <p>Other: The shed at the back of MACE could be made a bit more comfortable. I do exercise classes there and if the wind is blowing the doors rattle non-stop. Sometimes it is hard to hear the instructors.</p>	<p>Submissions noted.</p> <hr/> <p>Out of scope of the Asset Plan, MACE is not a Council asset and is therefore, not Council's responsibility. Council has passed your comment along to MACE.</p>
<p>Are there any new buildings or facilities required to better accommodate the needs of our growing community?</p>	<p>All the public toilets</p> <p>More public toilets and a pedestrian crossing</p> <hr/> <p>All year round sports complex</p>	<p>Submissions noted, as part of Council's 10-year public toilet program, Council is continually renewing public toilets around the shire and will do in the future as part of our future Capital Works planning.</p> <p>Pedestrian crossings will be considered in our Council's forward Capital Works planning</p> <hr/> <p>Submission noted, it is being captured in our Open Space</p>

		Strategy and Sports & Recreation Strategy.
	The roads need to be repaired	Submission noted. These works are carried out as part of our ongoing maintenance and annual renewal works, such as resheeting and resealing.
	Yes as a Goughs Bay person there is great opportunities to utilise the lake's edge to provide better infrastructure to encourage families to stay here – most rent and leave as little for kids to do	Council is currently drafting the Goughs Bay Plan in line with community feedback. The draft plan will be available for further consultation in the near future.
	Child care centre for swimming lessons for children	Council has approved and issued planning permits for three childcare centres, one of which will include an indoor swimming pool.
	Indoor pool. My children have grown up now and it was needed then and even more now. So many water sources and parents now have to drive to Benalla for swimming lessons. I do water aerobics in summer at the pool for a sore knee. Indoor swimming pool, more undercover picnic tables, more and wider footpaths, indoor or fully undercover playgrounds, splash park, better lighting for footpaths Swimming pool with lap lanes and separate hydrotherapy pool. Lap swimming water temperature is lower than for other uses of pool – otherwise it is not possible for this purpose.	Noted. Council is currently seeking a grant funding for an upgraded community sport infrastructure which includes a cover for learner pool and a splash play area. Construction of a new swimming pool is a strategic decision that will need to be considered by Council in the context of future Asset Plan reviews.
Do you have any additional feedback or suggestions for our Asset Plan 2023-2033?	Seal more roads Yes – include Walshs Rd (1.9km in roads to be sealed as this has been over 20 years of requesting and we now see Rifle Butts and Buttercup being done when statistics show at Xmas over 1000 cars use the road on peak days)	Noted. As part of the Township Sealing Program, Council has started upgrading township roads, with priority to residential streets, from unsealed to sealed. Goughs Crescent and Catherine St were sealed this financial year 2023-2024 and other roads are proposed for next financial year. For Walshs Road, Council is actively seeking federal funding and is aware of the need and multiple

	requests from the community to seal this road.
<p>Need to address more footpaths, to reduce speed limits, community education</p> <p>Footpaths for older areas of Mansfield</p>	As part of the Footpath and Shared Path Strategy, Council is constructing new footpaths, including a double coated spray seal shared path in Malcolm St completed this financial year and a gravel shared path in Piries-Goughs Bay Rd due to completion next financial year. These are ongoing projects, with new footpaths proposed to be built as part of our strategy and are included in our forward Capital Works planning. Council is also seeking funding opportunities to construct new footpaths.
This survey is a joke considering the shire’s asset value. I mean to say 7 questions	Noted.
If the shire can only improve their assets by charging user fees which are impractical and unsustainable indeed criminal in my opinion, then the assets will not be used anyway. Perhaps the sport and rec committee need to be re instituted as a priority.	<p>Noted. Council’s leasing and licensing policy is currently open for engagement and is available via engage website</p> <p>https://engage.mansfield.vic.gov.au/ where you can view the draft policy and have your say. It puts forward a way users can contribute to the running of Council assets, such as sporting grounds and reserves.</p>
<p>An indoor pool or at least, rent one so people can use it all year round</p> <p>Apply again for more state and federal funding for an all-weather swim complex</p>	<p>Noted. Council is currently seeking a grant funding for an upgraded community sport infrastructure which includes a cover for learner pool and a splash play area.</p> <p>Construction of a new swimming pool is a strategic decision that will need to be considered by Council in the context of future Asset Plan reviews.</p>

Responses

Question 1: Are there challenges or opportunities you feel could be explored further in the Asset Plan 2023-2033?

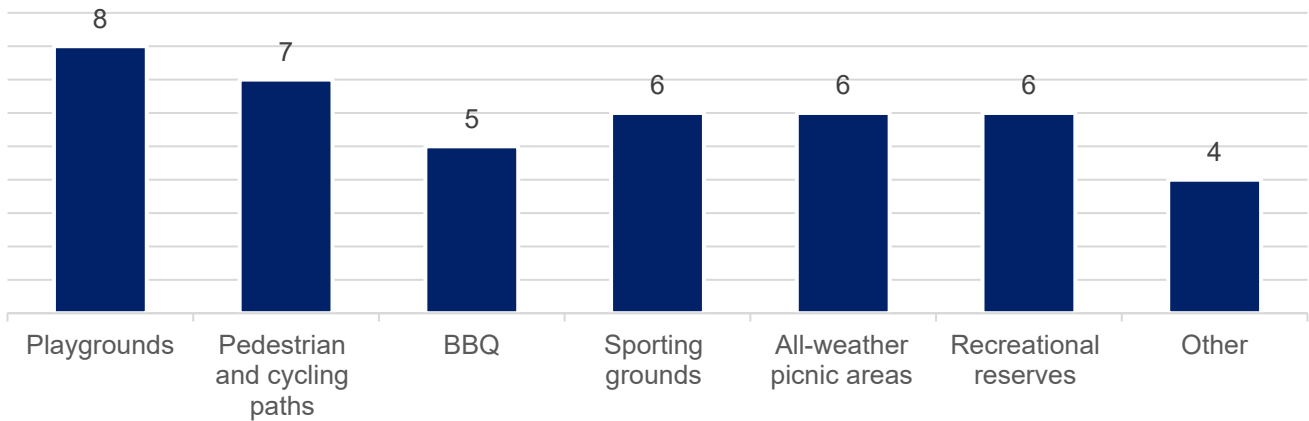
Yes: 5

No: 7

Question 2: If yes, please offer your suggestions on possible challenges or opportunities.

- ▶ Waste water treatment plan at Goughs Bay
- ▶ Population Growth
- ▶ Indoor Pool
- ▶ I wonder about the ability to provide a 25 mtr (all year round) swimming pool with creche facilities(?) and car park in addition for a budget of up to \$3million.

Question 3: What type of open space facilities do you value or use within the Shire?



Comments from respondents who selected “Other”:

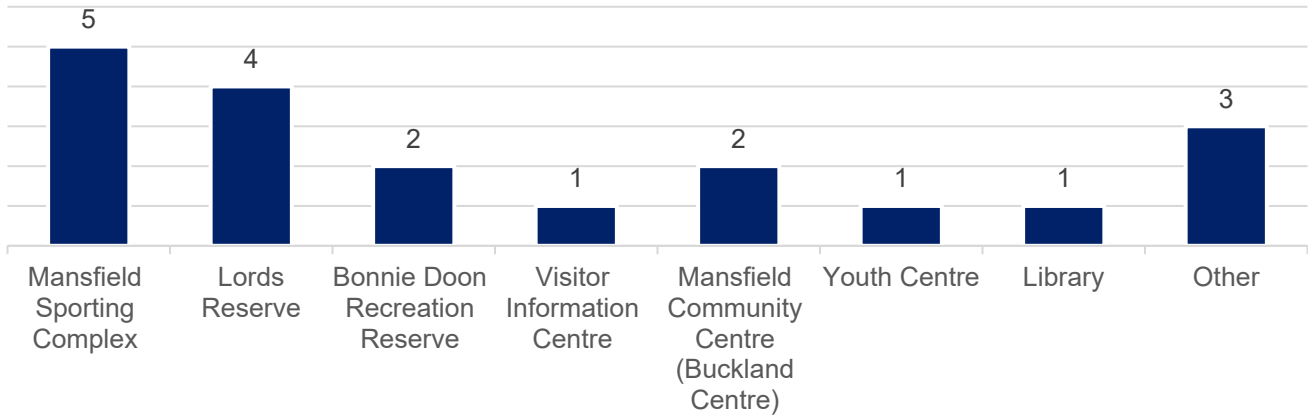
- ▶ Botanical park
- ▶ Public toilets

Question 4: What feedback do you have on our local transport links and ability to service residential, agricultural and tourism users?

- ▶ A bus to Benalla, even once a week could be helpful for people to use the pool over there.....or whatever else they would like to do.
- ▶ Seal more roads
- ▶ bus to wangarratta via benalla
- ▶ ROAD SPEED LIMITS SHOULD VARY ACCORDING TO USAGE AND SAFETY LIKE PASSING HOUSES IN PIRIES RD - GOUGHS BAY
- ▶ Maintenance
- ▶ none
- ▶ n/a
- ▶ It would be good for the community to be more appreciative of the businesses in the shire and the \$\$ it brings us resulting in jobs for everyone here
- ▶ So hard to provide local transport.. been here long enough to remember the bus to Benalla so understand that public transport doesn't work.
- ▶ Not enough but difficult in a smaller community to keep this going financially

- ▶ Good
- ▶ Bus service to Melbourne is a great asset

Question 5: Are there any community buildings that need attention or improvement in the future?



Comments from respondents who selected “Other”:

- ▶ The shed at the back of MACE could be made a bit. Ore comfortable. I do exercise classes there and if the wind is blowing the doors rattle non stop. So,etimes it is hard to here the instructors.
- ▶ Shire Office
- ▶ i DONT THINK ANY OF THESE NEED IMPROVEMENT

Question 6: Are there any new buildings or facilities required to better accommodate the needs of our growing community?

- ▶ Child care centre. Pool for swimming leassons for children.
- ▶ All the public toilets
- ▶ public toilets
- ▶ Yes as a Goughs Bay person there is great opportunities to utilise the lake's edge to provide better infrastructure to encourage families to stay here - most rent and leave as little for kids to do
- ▶ All year round sports complex
- ▶ No
- ▶ Obviously
- ▶ The roads do need to be repaired
- ▶ Indoor pool. My children have grown up now but it was needed then and even more now.. so many water sources and parents now have to drive to Benalla for swimming lessons.. i do water aerobics in summer at the pool for a sore knee
- ▶ More public toilets and a pedestrian crossing
- ▶ Indoor swimming pool, more undercover picnic tables, more and wider footpaths, indoor or fully undercover playgrounds, splashpark, better lighting for footpaths
- ▶ Swimming pool with lap lanes and SEPARATE hydrotherapy pool. Lap swimming water

temperature is lower than for other uses of pool – otherwise it is not possible for this purpose.

Question 7: Do you have any additional feedback or suggestions for our Asset Plan 2023-2033?

- ▶ No.
- ▶ Seal more roads
- ▶ Yes - Include Walshs Rd (1.9 km) in roads to be sealed as this has been over 20 years of requesting and we now see Rifle Butts and Buttercup being done when statistics show at Xmas over 1000 cars use the road on peak days
- ▶ Need to address more footpaths, to reduce speed limits, community education
- ▶ this survey is a joke considering the shire's asset value. i mean to say 7 questions.
- ▶ if the shire can only improve their assets by charging user fees which are impractical and unsustainable indeed criminal in my opinion then the assets will not be used anyway. perhaps the sport and rec committee needs to be re instituted as a priority.
- ▶ Na
- ▶ An indoor pool or at least, rent one so people can use it all year round
- ▶ Footpaths for older areas of Mansfield
- ▶ No
- ▶ Apply again for more state and federal funding for an all weather swim complex.

- ▶ This road leads to The Pines which is a large camping area. During the summer months and long weekends hundreds of cars, caravans and motorbikes use this road. The dust is horrendous and also creates bad driving conditions.

Question 4: Are there any sealed roads managed by Council that you think should be upgraded?

Yes: 0

No: 4

Question 5: Please list the sealed roads you think should be upgraded.

No responses. Only respondents who answered "Yes" to Question 5 were asked this question.

Question 6: Why do you think these roads should be upgraded?

No responses. Only respondents who answered "Yes" to Question 5 were asked this question.

Question 7: Do you have any comments on the requirements for inspection and maintenance of roads in the Road Management Plan?

- ▶ Monkey Gully Rd & Howes Creek Rd, I believe, are graded every 6 months but due to the increased traffic it isn't enough. As one of the main school bus routes council should have a duty of care for the safety of students. The proximity of trees to the road also needs to be looked at as many trees are leaning over the road and I believe pose a danger to users. On previous gradings of Monkey Gully Rd deep gutters have been created which are incredibly dangerous especially when there are two cars, trucks or buses passing each other.

Question 8: To give us any further feedback on our Road Management Plan or Road Register, please add your comment in the box below or contact Council's Asset Management team on 5775 8555 or council@mansfield.vic.gov.au.

- ▶ Thanks for great work you do on the Howqua Track grading especially before the long Weekends and Holiday periods.