

MOORABOOL RECREATION AND LEISURE STRATEGY 2025-2035

VOLUME 3: BACKGROUND REPORT – JULY 2025



Moorabool
Shire Council



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About the Strategy

This document, Volume 3 of the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2025-2035 is a Background Report that provides a detailed summary of all strategy inputs and considerations, including research, analysis and consultation. It provides the basis and evidence to support Volume 1 - The Strategy.

This document also includes a summary of recommended capital projects and their current delivery stats from the 2014 Hike and Bike Strategy.

Volume 1 of the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2025-2035 ("the MRLS"). It is the Strategy that articulates Council's direction for supporting participation and activity opportunities, infrastructure provision and promotion of recreation and leisure.

Volume 2 of the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2025-2035 is a support document to Volume 1 and is the documented strategy implementation plan. It is a live document that details "how Council will deliver on strategic objectives and what the expected outcomes will be".

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land which includes the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Wadawurrung and Dja Dja Wurrung people. We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.

GLOSSARY

Term / Acronym	Description or definition
AusPlay	The Australian Government's participation survey, Ausplay, collects data on sport and physical activities providing an insight into the patterns of participation across the country
CoM	Committee of Management – referred to in the Recreation Reserve and Leisure Facility Inventory section when describing land or facility management status.
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action – referred to in the Recreation Reserve and Leisure Facility Inventory section when describing land or facility ownership or management status.
DoE	Department of Education – referred to in the Recreation Reserve and Leisure Facility Inventory section when describing land ownership status. Generally primary or secondary school sites.
Fair Access (Policy)	The Fair Access Policy Roadmap aims to develop a state-wide foundation for gender equitable access to, and use of, community sports infrastructure for women and girls, to support participation in community sport and active recreation across Victoria.
Integrated transport	An integrated transport network is a transport system that allows travellers to have a seamless, rapid public transport experience.
MRLS	Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2025-2035 – this document is Volume 3 of the MRLS
MSC	Moorabool Shire Council – acronym used in the Recreation Reserve and Leisure Facility Inventory section when describing land ownership or management status.
Passive recreation	Passive Recreation means recreational activities that are commonly unorganised and non-competitive, such as picnicking, bird watching, kite flying etc.
Peak Sporting Organisation	Generally refers to a Regional level organisation responsible for the administration of local competition, fixturing, scheduling and player registration. For example: Ballarat Football League.
SEIFA	The SEIFA Index (Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas across Australia) combines ABS Census data such as income, education, employment, occupation, housing and family structure to summarise the socio-economic characteristics of an area.
SSA	State Sporting Association - Generally refers to a State level sporting organisation responsible for the governance of a specific sport within Victoria, including support for club and program development and promotion. For example: Cricket Victoria.

ABOUT THE STRATEGY



This report is Volume 3 of the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2025-2035 (“MRLS”) – Background Report.

This Background Report provides a summary of all strategy inputs and considerations, including research, analysis and consultation. It provides the basis and evidence to support Volume 1 - The Strategy.

Information presented in the Background Report includes population and demographic analysis and implications for planning, consultation outcomes, strategy and policy review, and participation statistics and trends. The Background Report has assisted in the shaping and development of the Strategy through the provision of baseline information.

The MRLS represents Moorabool Shire’s commitment to creating and supporting opportunities for participation in sport, recreation and leisure activities (also collectively referred to as “physical activity”) for all residents and visitors.

The Strategy (Volume 1) provides clear direction about the planning for sport, recreation and leisure across the Shire to ensure the community will be serviced by suitable programs, facilities and opportunities to engage in a broad range of physical activities, thereby encouraging the community to live healthier, and more active lives.

The scope of the MRLS includes:

- take a holistic approach to sport, recreation and leisure Shire-wide
- consider and incorporate new and emerging activities
- understand impacts on current formal facilities and amenities, as well as informal trails, spaces and places
- identify the need for any new facilities, and
- incorporate relevant directions from the 2014 Hike and Bike Strategy.

STAGE 1: BACKGROUND AND DEMAND ASSESSMENT

- Review of a range of Council, Government and Sport strategies
- Facility asset review and facility mapping
- Demographic catchment and profile development
- Project and stakeholder engagement plan development

KEY DELIVERABLE: Volume 3 – Background Report (this document)

STAGE 2: CONCEPT AND VISION

- Development of a Community wide survey to understand the needs and views of the Moorabool community
- Engagement with identified community focus groups and other key stakeholders
- Engagement analysis
- Concept and vision development
- Draft Strategy preparation

KEY DELIVERABLE: Volume 1 – Draft Strategy

STAGE 3: STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

- Incorporation of feedback into strategy
- Preparation and presentation of the Final Strategy and associated Implementation Plan

KEY DELIVERABLE: Volume 1 – Final Strategy and Volume 2 – Implementation Plan

DEFINITIONS

Moorabool Shire is an active community with residents participating in a wide range of physical activities. Activities and related spaces that are considered throughout the MRLS relate to either sport, recreation and/or leisure, each of which have been defined below for the purpose of this Strategy.

SPORT

Council defines Sport as physical activities that are competitive, organised, involve observation of rules and may be participated in either individually or as a team.

RECREATION

Council defines Recreation as leisure time physical activity undertaken outside of structured, competition sport. It is a set of activities within the wider range of physical activity options. The most popular recreation activities are those that can be participated in alone, informally or outside of competition sport and include walking, running/jogging, fitness/gym, swimming, cycling.

LEISURE

Leisure is traditionally seen as the time outside of work, sleep and daily duties and the time when an individual is free to choose an activity for its intrinsic value and reasons.

Moorabool Shire is an active community with residents participating in a wide range of activities from sport through to leisure and play. Each level of activity requires a different level of structure and flexibility as identified in the below table. The Recreation and Leisure Strategy aims to provide and create more opportunities for the community to be more active more of the time and recognises that unstructured activities are more participated in across the community.

	General description	Associated facilities/activities
Play	Unstructured and highly flexible activity for the purpose of fun and enjoyment particularly by children.	Playgrounds, play spaces, schools, parkland and natural areas.
Passive Recreation/Leisure	Lower-level activities in spare time.	Trails, waterways, natural areas, open spaces and parklands, gardening and leisure at home.
Active Recreation	Non-competitive physical activity undertaken during leisure time, individually or in groups.	Swimming pools, gyms, leisure centres, recreation reserves, trails, natural areas, courts, commuter routes. Bushwalking, cycling, swimming, gym, dance.
Social Sport	Social, semi-organised, non-competitive sport activity during leisure time.	Sportsgrounds, recreation reserves, courts (indoor and outdoor), trails. Entry level programs, park run, cardio tennis.
Traditional Sport	Sports competitions and events that follow traditional rules and structures.	Sportsgrounds, recreation reserves, courts (indoor and outdoor). Tennis competition, football club competition.
Elite Sport	State, national and international sports competitions and events following traditional rules and requiring qualification to compete.	Stadiums (indoor and outdoor), sports grounds, sports courts- provided to meet governing body requirements state and national level competition sport.



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

STRATEGIC CONTEXT



The Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy is influenced by a range of strategies, plans, policies and research developed by Moorabool Shire Council, State and Peak Sporting Organisations and Government agencies. A summary of relevant strategic documents is provided over the following pages.

MOORABOOL SHIRE

- Moorabool Council Plan 2025-2029
- Moorabool Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- Moorabool Visitor Economy Strategy 2023-2027
- Ballan Strategic Directions 2017
- Draft Moorabool Open Space Strategy
- Moorabool Hike and Bike Strategy 2014
- Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2015-2021
- Moorabool Female Friendly Sport and Recreation Participation and Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2032
- Moorabool Shire Fair Access Policy 2024
- Activate 2020-2030- Liveability, health and wellbeing through sport and active recreation
- Darley Park Master Plan 2021
- Maddingley Park Reserve Master Plan 2023
- Masons Lane Reserve Master Plan 2022
- Bacchus Marsh Regional Sports Precinct Master Plan 2021
- Gordon Recreation Reserve Master Plan 2023
- Wallace Recreation Reserve Master Plan 2023

STATE GOVERNMENT

- Active Victoria- 2022-2026
- The Value of Community Sport and Active Recreation Infrastructure 2020
- Fair Access Policy Roadmap
- Economic Impacts of Active Recreation in Victoria

STATE AND PEAK SPORTING ORGANISATIONS

- AFL Victoria 'Growing the Heartland' Football Facilities Development Strategy 2022-2027
- Cricket Victoria 2024-2027: The journey ahead for Victorian cricket
- Netball Victoria Strategic Plan 2023-2026
- Tennis Australia – Tennis 2020: Facility Development and Management Framework
- AFL Goldfields Regional Strategy 2017-2027
- Football Victoria Strategy Plan 2024-2028
- Bowls Victoria Strategic Plan 2022-2025
- Basketball Victoria Strategy Plan 2023-2026
- Gymnastics Victoria Strategic Plan 2025-2028
- AusCycling Infrastructure Strategy 2022-2032

STRATEGIC CONTEXT



MOORABOOL COUNCIL PLAN 2025-2029

The Council Plan is a key strategic document outlining its strategic objectives and actions that Moorabool Shire is set out to achieve over the next four years. Moorabool's Council Plan has outlined three goals for the 2025-2029 period, including:

- Healthy, inclusive and connected neighbourhoods.
- Places and spaces that meet the needs of our many and varied communities.
- A Council that engages and adapts.

Relevant projects highlighted in the Council Plan that influence this Strategy include:

- Deliver the Recreation and Leisure Strategy (this project).
- Implement the actions of the Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Improved access and opportunities for integrated transport.
- Improve access to services for all communities.

MOORABOOL HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2021-2025

The Moorabool Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025 is a four-year plan for enhancing the health and wellbeing of residents.

Outcomes highlighted in the plan include:

- Recommendations and measures to increase the number of people that are physically active.
- More women and girls becoming physically active.
- Physical activity is safe and accessible and active travel is supported and promoted.

The Recreation and Leisure Strategy incorporates outcomes across all goals of the Council Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Plan including an aim to provide a more connected community which will promote opportunities for active travel, reduction in barriers for residents to become more physically active and provide facilities that improve community connection across Moorabool.

MOORABOOL HIKE AND BIKE STRATEGY 2014

The Hike and Bike Strategy identified a number of key principles:

- To effectively guide the future development of Council's hike and bike network for recreational and commuter walking and cycling.
- To increase the physical activity levels of Moorabool residents through the provision of tracks and trails to primary community destinations such as schools, shopping centres, parks and reserves, medical practices, and natural attractions.
- Provide track and trails that are safe and include passive surveillance wherever possible.
- Increase the connectivity of existing tracks and trails throughout the Shire to enhance the usability and effectiveness of the network.
- Prioritise network development opportunities to maximise the benefits of investment to the community and to support future funding opportunities and applications.

Key objectives included to identify and define a future network for commuter walking and cycling and for recreation walking and cycling.

The Recreation and Leisure Strategy incorporates tracks trails, paths and opportunities to walk, cycle and run into the framework of recreation and leisure facilities and opportunities.

Gaps currently appear in the connectivity, quality and promotion of existing trails which reduces the likelihood of residents utilising trails for incidental exercise, active transport or running/walking/cycling for exercise.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT



MOORABOOL FEMALE FRIENDLY SPORT AND RECREATION PARTICIPATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY 2022-2032

The Female Friendly Sport and Recreation Participation and Infrastructure Strategy is to identify opportunities to increase and retain the number of women and girls who are active in Moorabool.

Desired outcomes and deliverables of the Strategy include:

- A framework of principles to guide Council's future decision making to maximise female participation in sport and recreation.
- Identify a pipeline of contemporary infrastructure projects that enables inclusive opportunities.
- Create greater diversity in participation and programming opportunities.
- Identify social and gender barriers and drivers not related to infrastructure.
- Create more welcoming and inclusive activity environments.
- Identify opportunities for promotion and exposure of women and girls in sport and recreation within Moorabool.

The Recreation and Leisure Strategy incorporates the desired outcomes from this Strategy including the reduction in barriers to participation (across the community), and the improvement of facilities and infrastructure to better support residents becoming physically active.

MOORABOOL RECREATION AND LEISURE STRATEGY 2015-2021

The purpose of the Strategy was to outline the foundation and key priorities for Council and stakeholders to provide a range of recreation and leisure participation opportunities over the identified period.

Key Issues relating to sport, recreation and open space included:

- The changing recreation and leisure needs and aspirations of residents.
- The increasing participation levels in selected sports and activities, including emerging and new recreation activities, and the impact of this upon the existing suite of facilities.
- The need for sporting reserves to also provide for unstructured and informal recreation activities.

The Recreation and Leisure Strategy considers the achievements from this Strategy and builds upon elements such as the need for more unstructured, informal activities and facilities and the changing recreational needs of the community.

MASTER PLANS

Recent master planning or site planning has been completed within the Moorabool Shire for the following precincts and sites that are used for both formal organised sport as well as active recreation and leisure activities:

- Maddingley Park Master Plan
- Gordon Recreation Reserve Master Plan
- Masons Lane Reserve Master Plan
- Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve Master Plan
- Wallace Recreation Reserve Master Plan
- Darley Park Master Plan

Key elements identified through recent master plans as being required to meet the needs of sport, recreation and leisure user groups in Moorabool included:

- Ageing and quality and the need to upgrade sports pavilions, social spaces, changerooms and toilets (female friendly facilities required in numerous locations).
- Need to upgrade and improve oval playing surfaces to improve drainage, size and carrying capacity.
- Providing connected, safe and functional/usable spaces within sporting precincts for sports users as well as recreational users such as dog walkers and informal activities.
- Improved facilities to meet the future needs and growth of sport's clubs including surfaces, buildings and functional spaces.

STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC CONTEXT



ACTIVE VICTORIA 2022-2026

Active Victoria recognises that sport and active recreation exist along the continuum of physical activity. Victorians will engage at different, or multiple points along the continuum. Engagement will also shift and change over time.

The Active Victoria vision is “to build a thriving, inclusive and connected sport and active recreation sector that benefits all Victorians”.

The Framework outlines three key objectives:

- **Connecting Communities** - All Victorians have access to high quality environments and appropriate opportunities.
- **Building Value** - The sport and active recreation workforce create positive experiences for people.
- **Enduring Legacy** - A connected system that generates long term benefits for the sector and Victoria.

FAIR ACCESS POLICY ROADMAP

The Fair Access Policy Roadmap aims to develop a state-wide foundation to improve the access to, and use of, community sports infrastructure for women and girls.

This policy will ensure community sporting environments are welcoming, accessible, and inclusive for everyone.

SPORT 2030

Sport 2030 represents Sport Australia’s vision and strategic priorities for sport and physical activity in Australia.

The strategic priorities are:

1. Build a more active Australia
2. Achieving sporting excellence
3. Safeguarding the integrity of sport
4. Strengthening Australia’s sport industry

The Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy aligns primarily with the “Build a more active Australia” priority, under which the Australia Government will prioritise the following areas:

- Movement for life: Encouraging physical activity in all life stages.
- Community sport infrastructure: Funding support and partnership.
- Volunteers: Initiatives to help recruit, train, reward and recognise volunteers.

STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STRATEGIC CONTEXT



ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ACTIVE RECREATION IN VICTORIA (2018)

Sport and Recreation Victoria commissioned a study in 2018 to examine the economic impact of active recreation across Victoria. The report identified the following insights relating to Victorian participation (persons aged 15+) in active recreation:

- Victorians aged 15+ participated in active recreation 725 million times, for an equivalent 612 million hours.
- 81% of the physical recreation time was spent on active recreation. 37% of total physical activity hours were spent walking.
- The estimated total spend on active recreation was \$8.3 billion.
- 51,000 full-time equivalent jobs can be attributed to active recreation.
- Making inactive Victorians more active would save \$245 million in avoided healthcare costs and produce \$3.1 billion in workplace productivity impacts.

The report also established that 2.85 million Victorians are not participating in enough physical activity.

The report identifies a strong economic case for increasing the level of active recreation participation in communities across Victoria and highlights unquantified impacts such as social cohesion and education as contributing to economic outcomes.

The report supports further investment into infrastructure, programs and initiatives that continue to increase rates of active recreation.

THE VALUE OF COMMUNITY SPORT AND ACTIVE RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE (2020)

Sport and Recreation Victoria also commissioned a report by KPMG in 2020 to highlight the value of community sport and recreation infrastructure. The report looked at the economic, health and social benefits that accrue to individuals, community and society via the construction and operation of sport and recreation facilities and the activities that are conducted within.

The report found the following benefits, contributed annually to Victoria, included:

- \$2.1 billion dollars in economic benefits – including increased economic activity and event related tourism.
- \$2.3 billion dollars in health benefits – including reduced risk of chronic disease and improved mental health and wellbeing.
- \$2.6 billion in social benefits – including human capital uplift, volunteering benefits and green space benefits.

Qualitative benefits included:

- Increased social connectedness, inclusion and networking.
- Increased level of trust in others.
- Reduced anti-social behaviour.
- Community pride.



COMMUNITY PROFILE

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

THE MOORABOOL REGION

The Moorabool Shire is one of six municipalities that makes up Regional Development Victoria's (RDV) Central Highlands Regional Partnership. The Shire is over 2,111 square kilometres and shares municipal boundaries with several other local government authorities; most notably the City of Melton to the east, City of Ballarat to the west and the Shire of Hepburn and Macedon Ranges to the north.

Moorabool is one of the fastest growing peri-urban Councils in Victoria and aims to provide a hybrid of both rural, regional and peri-urban lifestyles. The municipality has a unique geographic setting, encompassing the significant state parks of Werribee Gorge and Lerderderg, the vibrant townships of Bacchus Marsh and Ballan, and is home to many market gardens and primary producers.

POPULATION OVERVIEW AND DEMOGRAPHICS FORECAST

With Moorabool's population forecast to grow by approximately 35% between 2025 and 2035, the Shire faces the challenge of ensuring that infrastructure, programs and services keep pace with community needs in the area of recreation and leisure.

The population in Moorabool in 2025 will be 40,339 people and this number is projected to rise to 54,638 people by 2035. The largest of the population growth is forecast in the following areas:

- Merrimu/Hopetoun Park
- Bacchus Marsh
- Parwan Station
- Ballan

The table on Page 16 identifies the projected population growth over the next 10 years in the Ballan, Darley, Maddingley, Rural East and Rural West.



Map of Moorabool Shire suburbs and townships*population data source: forecast.id

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

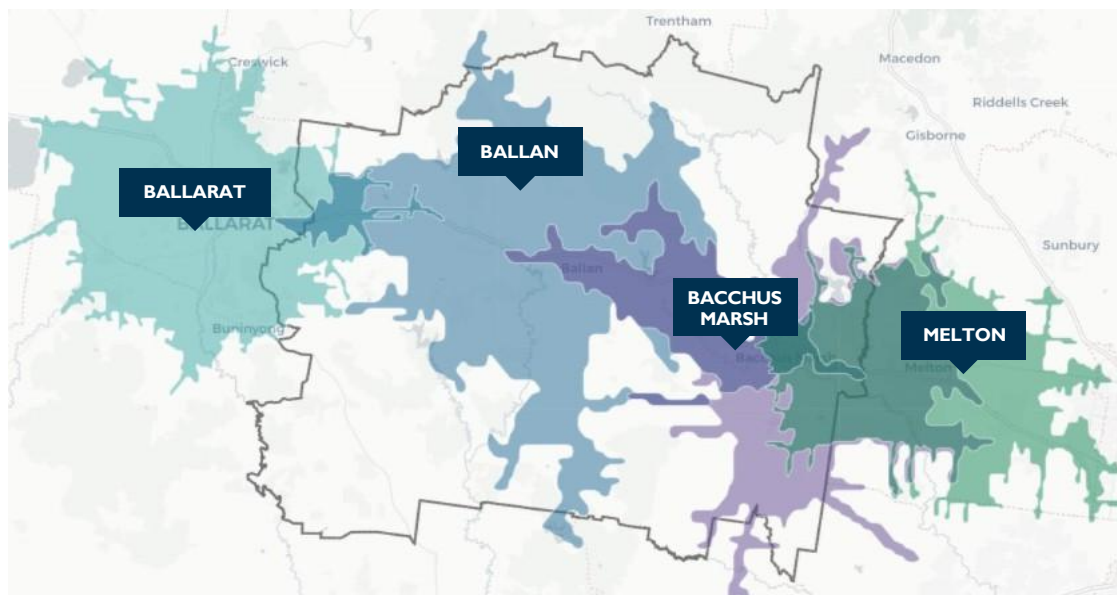
SETTLEMENT PATTERNS

Bacchus Marsh, Darley and Maddingley are the current key population centres of the Shire. Combined, they make up over 60% of the total municipal population. A combination of smaller and larger townships including Ballan and those which make up the 'Rural East' and 'Rural West' areas house the balance of residents.

These settlement patterns are mostly expected to continue to 2031, however there will be a large population spike in the Parwan Station, Merrimu-Hopetoun Park and Bacchus Marsh areas due to several new growth areas. Planning for these areas are underway.

Population forecasts for these areas, according to forecast.id, sees some significant changes anticipated. An overview of population changes between 2025 and 2035 can be found on Page 16.

The map below indicates a 20-minute drive time from population centres that are within proximity for Moorabool Shire residents. Information regarding travel time and access to facilities outside of municipal boundaries is a key consideration in future planning. Where it is identified that neighbouring municipalities do and will continue to service selected Moorabool residents, recommendations will consider partnerships and collaboration with these Local Government Areas (LGAs) moving forward.



NEIGHBOURING LGA'S

Moorabool Shire is an expansive municipality covering a wide geographic area and bordered by a number of regional, rural and peri-urban LGAs.

For some residents, in particular those located on the fringes of the 'Rural East' and 'Rural West' areas, there is likely to be some reliance on other LGAs to provide the infrastructure and programs necessary to facilitate organised sport, leisure and active recreation participation.

Moreover, where the Moorabool Shire has a gap in facility provision, residents located in population centres may still travel to neighbouring LGAs to undertake their chosen activity or for an activity of a child or dependant. Examples of these activities currently include hockey (variety of locations), warm water indoor swimming activities (Melton) and adult athletics (Ballarat).

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION PROJECTION INCREASE BY AGE GROUP AND LOCATION - 2025-2035

The following pages provide some context to the change in Shire population and age demographics over the 2025 to 2035 period. Below is a summary of key projected changes.

- Merrimu and Hopetoun Park has strong growth (1786 additional people) in the age range of 20-39 between 2025 and 2035.
- The next highest growth in the 20-39 age bracket is Bacchus Marsh (990 additional people), Ballan (706 additional people) and Parwan Station (682 additional people)
- Merrimu and Hopetoun Park also have the highest increase of 0-9 age bracket (913 additional people) followed by Bacchus Marsh (727 additional people) and Parwan Station (487 additional people).
- Both Merrimu/Hopetoun Park and Parwan Station have the highest increase in the age bracket of 60-79 with 413 additional people each followed by Bacchus Marsh with 397 additional people.
- Merrimu/Hopetoun Park has the largest increase in 10-19-year-olds (858 additional people) followed by Parwan Station with 438 additional people.
- There is a greater interest in participation in sports among individuals aged 10-19 and 20-39, whereas Active Recreation facilities (such as trails), programs and services are anticipated to be sought after by those in the 60-79 age groups.

THE MOORABOOL SHIRE REGION - SNAPSHOT

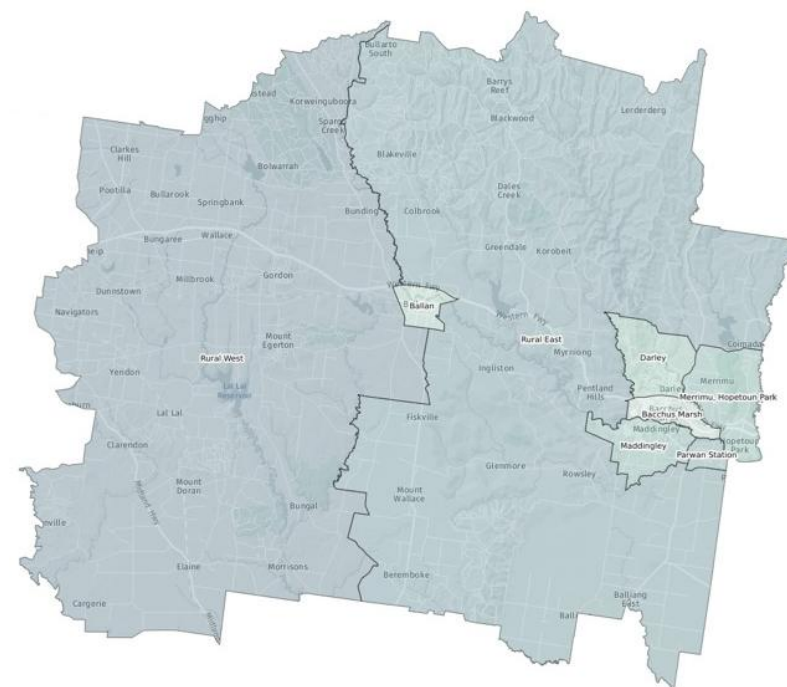
Moorabool is one of the fastest growing peri-urban Councils in Victoria and aims to provide a hybrid of both rural, regional and peri-urban lifestyles.

The population of the Moorabool Shire in 2025 was estimated to be 40,340. The overall population is expected to grow by over 14,300 residents or 35% to 54,640 by 2035.

Our Growing Population



14% residents born overseas



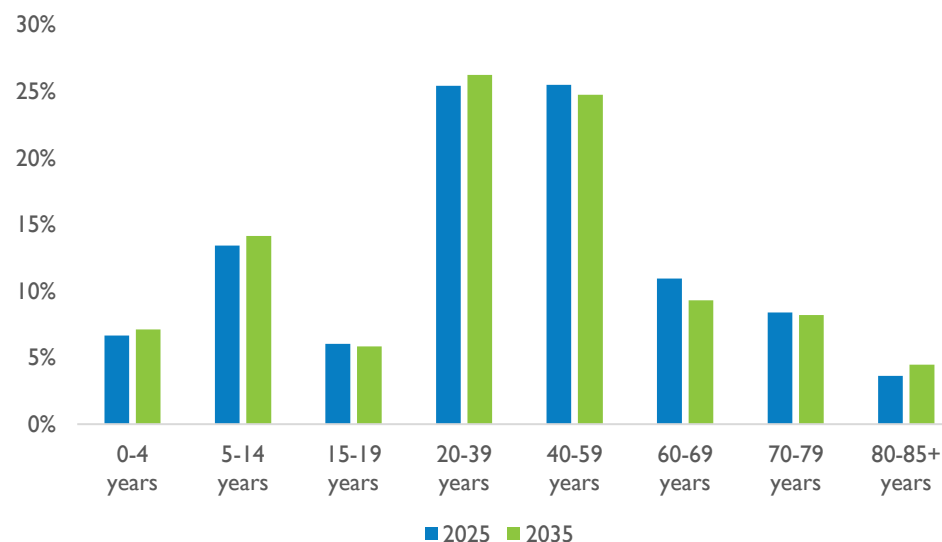
Locality/Region	Rural West	Ballan	Maddingley	Parwan Station	Bacchus Marsh	Merrimu/Hopetoun Park	Darley	Rural East
2025 Population	6668	3069	5943	94	9095	1913	9426	4132
2035 Population	7160	4823	6112	2902	12397	7086	9817	4343
Change (residents)	+492	+1754	+169	+2808	+3302	+5173	+391	+211

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

POPULATION AND PROJECTIONS

- In 2025, 20,070 people in Moorabool were male and 20,270 were female.
- The projected population in Moorabool for 2035 shows the male population in Moorabool will be 27,361 while the female population is projected to grow to 27,279 people.
- In 2021 the number of Moorabool residents identified as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander was 526 people or 1.4% of the population. This figure has grown since 2016 where those that identified as being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander was 67 people or .02% of the population.
- Population forecasts have been developed for the small areas within Moorabool. The table on page 16 shows the population projections for each area.
- The age profile of the Moorabool Shire is not projected to change significantly over the 10-year period 2025 to 2035 with only slight percentage increases in 5-14 year olds and 20-39 year olds projected over the decade.

POPULATION DIFFERENCE BY AGE GROUP BETWEEN 2025 AND 2035 MOORABOOL SHIRE



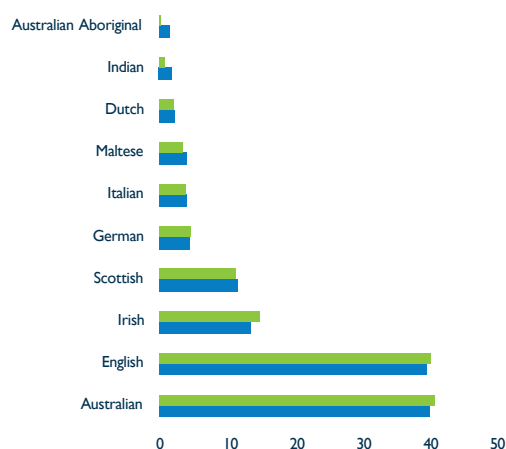
POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS



ANCESTRY

- The ancestry of Moorabool residents shows a significant part of the population has either Australian or English ancestry with 39.2% and 38.8% respectively.
- Irish, Scottish, German and Italian are other higher ancestries for Moorabool although percentages for these are considerably lower than those of English and Australian.

TOP 10 ANCESTRY - 2016-2021

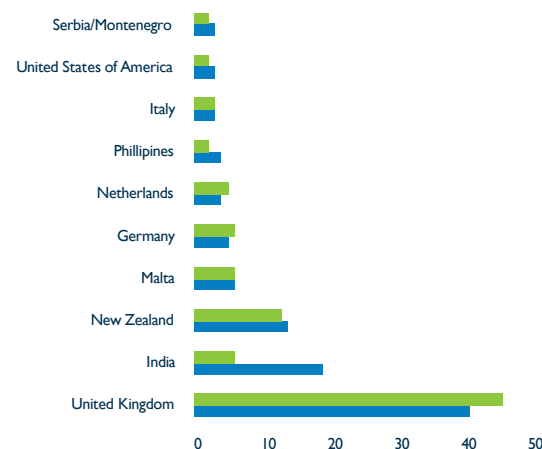


■ 2016 % ■ 2021 %

BIRTHPLACE

- 14% of the Moorabool community were born overseas and 80% were born in Australia. This is considerably lower than the Greater Melbourne population born overseas (36%).
- The top non-Australian birthplaces are the UK (4%), India (2%) and New Zealand (1.4%).
- The population who were born in India has nearly tripled since 2016, growing from .6% to 1.9% in that time.

TOP 10 BIRTHPLACES (APART FROM AUSTRALIA)

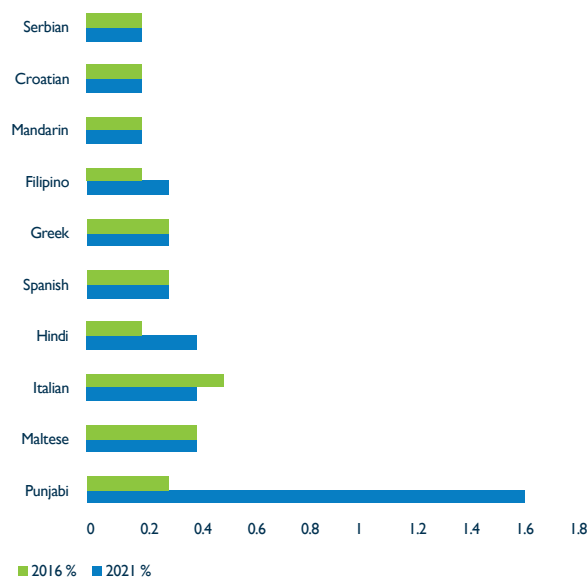


■ 2016 % ■ 2021 %

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

- 87% of the Moorabool population speak only English at home compared to the average across Greater Melbourne of 61%.
- Other languages spoken at home in Moorabool include Punjabi (1.6%) and Maltese and Italian at 0.4%.

LANGUAGE USED AT HOME - MOORABOOL - 2016 & 2021



■ 2016 % ■ 2021 %

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS

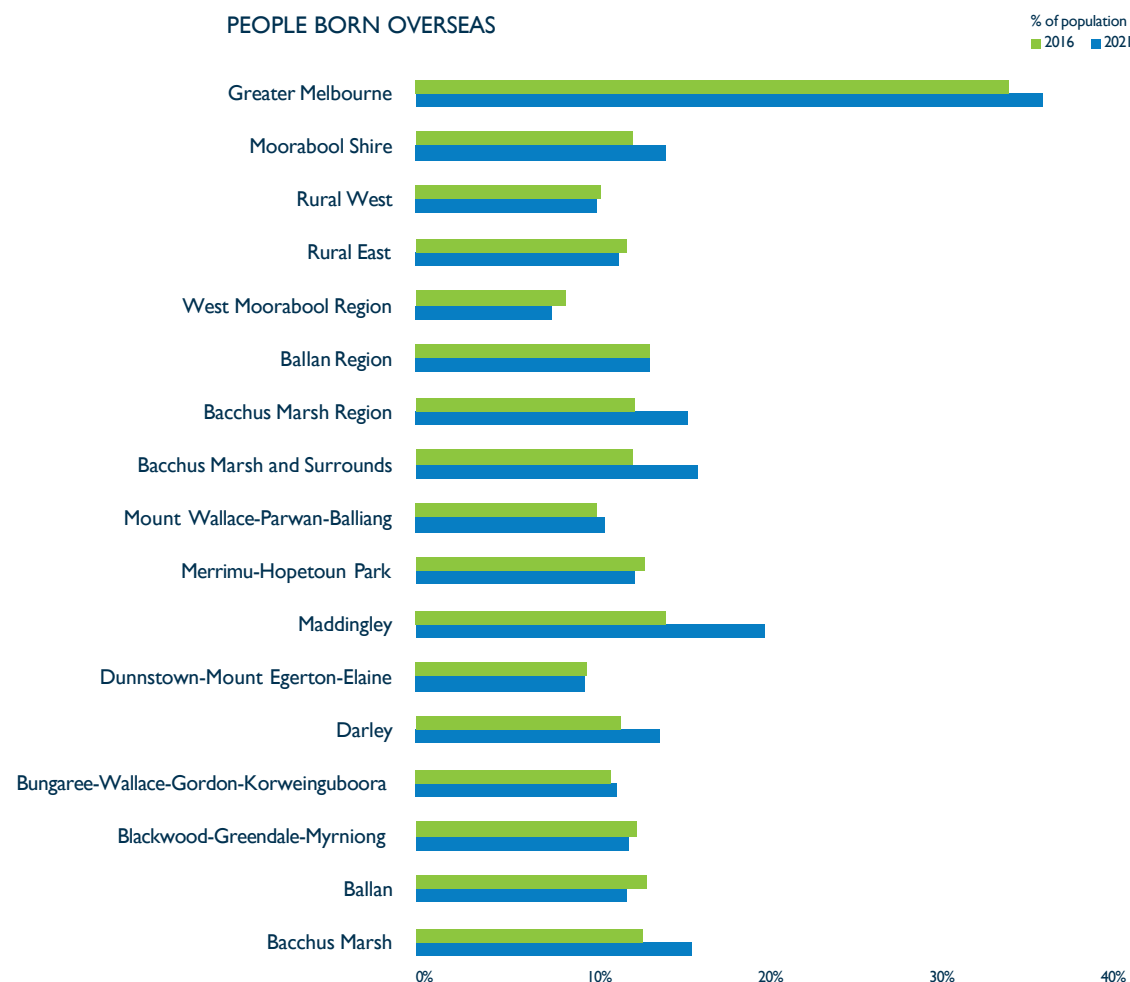
CULTURAL DIVERSITY

- The four largest ancestries in Moorabool in 2021 were Australian, English, Irish and Scottish.
- 14% of the Moorabool population in 2021 were born over seas. This compares to the population in Greater Melbourne of people born overseas being 35.7%.
- 87% of the Moorabool population spoke English only in 2021 compared to 61% in Greater Melbourne. The most common language spoken at home other than English was Punjabi at 1.6%.

As experienced in other growth areas across the west of Melbourne, the growth in the Indian born population in Moorabool has more than tripled since 2016. The impact of this growth is starting to be felt and seen across a variety of organised sports such as cricket and soccer. Understanding the needs of this community in terms of the desire to often play cricket throughout the whole year, and the potential to develop clubs that target more participation from this community is required. Supporting existing and new clubs and organisation understand the needs of this community will also be important.

Greater demand for larger social gathering spaces such as those found within Regional play spaces and open spaces. These spaces are described as Social Family Recreation (SFR) area as outlined in the Draft Open Space Strategy: Areas that provide opportunities for social and physical and play activities for people from a range of age groups and abilities, typically catering for play, picnics, casual ball games, social sports activities, picnic and trail activities as well as environmental elements. Maddingley Park was an example of an SFR in the Draft Open Space Strategy.

PEOPLE BORN OVERSEAS



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016 and 2021 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id (informed decisions).

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS



HOUSEHOLD WEEKLY INCOME IN MOORABOOL

- In 2021, there was a smaller proportion of high-income households (those earning \$3,000 per week or more) and a higher proportion of low-income households (those earning less than \$800 per week).
- 21.1% of the households earned a high income and 20.3% were low-income households, compared with 25.3% and 19% respectively for Greater Melbourne.
- The major differences between the household incomes of Moorabool Shire residents and Greater Melbourne residents were:
 - A smaller percentage of households who earned \$6,000-\$7,999 (1.5% compared to 2.9%).
 - A smaller percentage of households who earned \$4,500-\$4,999 (3.3% compared to 4.6%).

HOUSEHOLD WEEKLY INCOME %



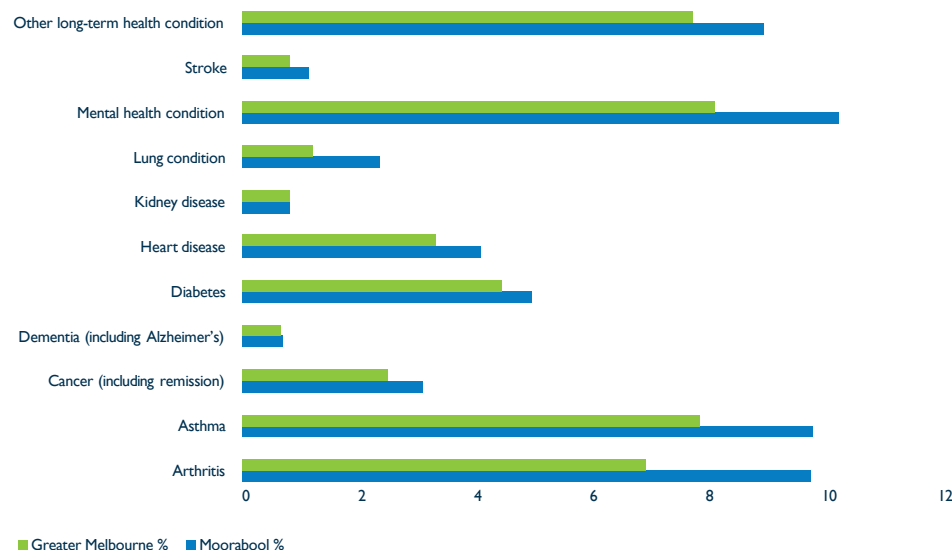
LONG TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS IN MOORABOOL

The long-term health conditions experienced by the residents of Moorabool Shire are all higher than Greater Melbourne averages across all listed conditions (with the exception of kidney disease which is equal to Greater Melbourne).

The primary conditions experienced in Moorabool at much higher levels than the average for Greater Melbourne include:

- Asthma (9.8% compared to 7.9% for Greater Melbourne).
- Arthritis (9.8% compared to 6.9% for Greater Melbourne).
- Mental health conditions (10.2% compared to 8.1% for Greater Melbourne).

MOORABOOL RESIDENTS- LONG TERM HEALTH CONDITIONS



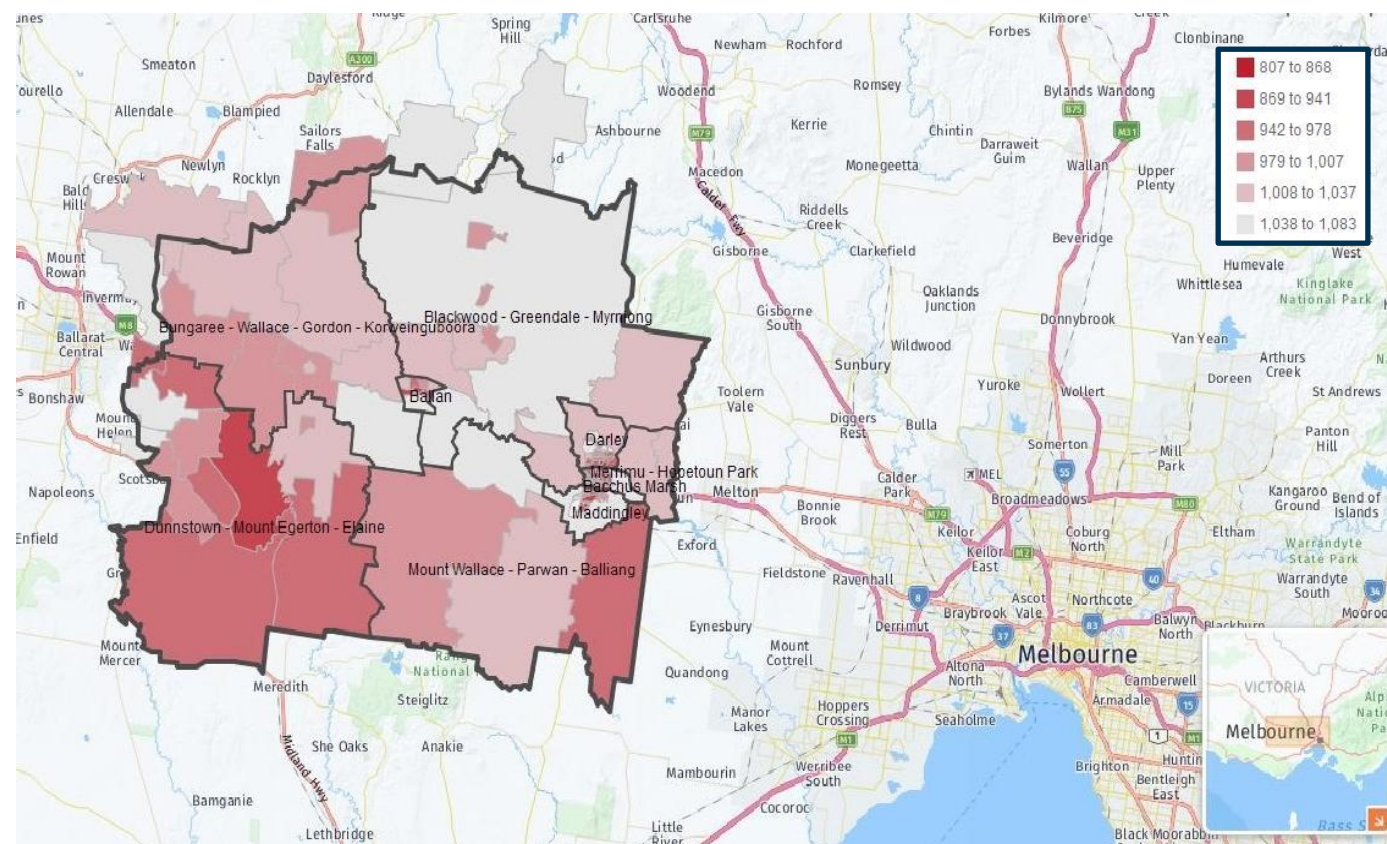
SOCIO-ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

SEIFA INDEX IN MOORABOOL

The SEIFA Index (Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas across Australia) combines ABS Census data such as income, education, employment, occupation, housing and family structure to summarise the socio-economic characteristics of an area. A low SEIFA index indicates higher levels of disadvantage. While a high SEIFA index indicates lower levels of disadvantage.

- The SEIFA index of Moorabool in 2021 was 987.
- The highest SEIFA index within Moorabool was Merrimu-Hopetoun Park at 1023, followed by Blackwood-Greendale-Myrniong at 1016.
- Ballan (959), Bacchus Marsh (967) and Darley (982) have the lowest SEIFA index scores in Moorabool, all under the Shire average of 987. Each of these areas are also considered key population centres, indicating a diversity of residents across each area.
- The SEIFA scores in Moorabool are similar to surrounding LGA's including Melton (974), Golden Plains (997), Ballarat (965) and Hepburn (984).
- The Moorabool Shire has a higher score (987) compared with the Regional Victorian average score of 960.

Identifying opportunities to reduce the barrier of cost in recreation, leisure and sport will be an important action going forward with the cost of living also providing significant challenges within households.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2021 (Usual residence data). Compiled and presented in atlas.id by .id (informed decisions). Note: Due to changes in the ABS rules regarding perturbation of small numbers to protect the confidentiality of individuals in 2016, the totals of all SA1s in an area may not equal the total derived from the area as a whole.



SPORT, RECREATION & LEISURE IN MOORABOOL

PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION, LEISURE AND SPORT

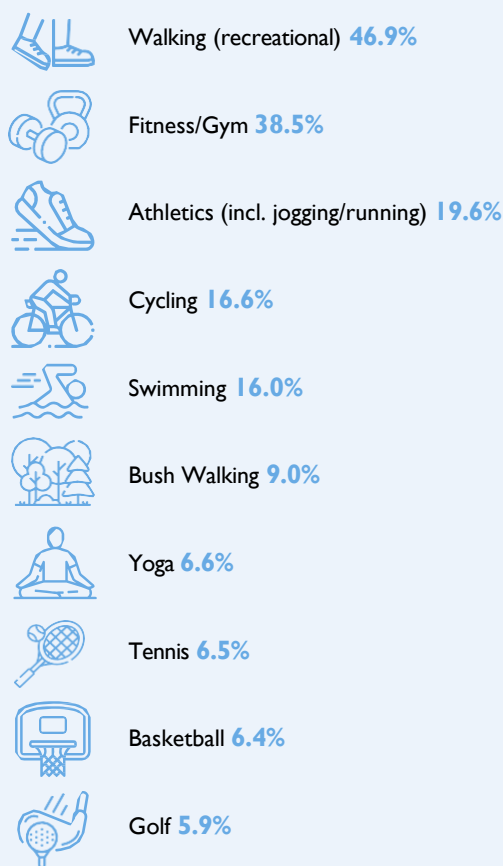
AUSPLAY

The Australian Government's participation survey, Ausplay, collects data on sport and physical activities providing an insight into the patterns of participation across the country.

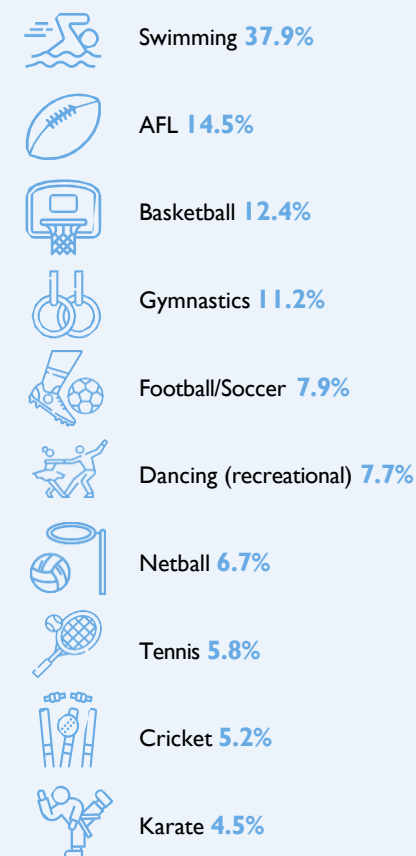
- AusPlay results for 2022 outlined that the top participation activities for Victorians were walking (recreational), fitness/gym, swimming and running/jogging/athletics.
- Walking (recreational) was the activity most participated in by both male and female participants.
- The participation rate for adults in Victoria in a form of physical activity at least once per week is 82%.
- The participation rate of Victorian participating at least three times per week is 64%.
- 60% of the Victorian population participate through an organisation/venue.
- 60% of the Victorian population participate in sport - related activity.

According to the community survey, the most popular activities among Moorabool residents were those involving active recreation, like walking, going to the gym, running, hiking, and cycling. Interestingly, all of these activities also ranked in the top 10 activities for adults in Victoria, according to AusPlay.

Top 10 activities Jan-Dec 2022 by participation rate (**adults**) in Victoria



Top 10 activities Jan-Dec 2022 by participation rate (**children 0-14**) in Victoria



PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION, LEISURE AND SPORT

The community survey conducted as part of the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy identified the main or favourite physical activities of respondents were:

- 1 Walking 37%
- 2 Fitness/gym 12%
- 3 Running/jogging 11%
- 4 Swimming 9%
- 5 Bushwalking 5%
- 6 Basketball 5%
- 3 Cycling/riding 4%

The top activities that adults who responded to the community survey would like to do but currently do not include Swimming (55%), Cycling/bike riding (32%), bush walking (30%), fitness and gym (28%), pilates (24%) and running/jogging (10%).

44% of respondents in the community survey were in the 35-44 age group, 17% were in the 25-34 age group and 16% were in the 45-54 age group.

There were no responses in the community survey from residents aged under 15 and therefore the above activities and responses reflect the views of adult residents only.

Moorabool Shire has collected sporting club participation numbers from across the Shire. The participation numbers below are representative of the 2022 (or equivalent) season. These activities operate primarily on Council owned or managed facilities and represent formal/organised sports activities. Projected participation growth has been forecast for each of these sports based on the participation numbers from 2022 and forecast against population change to 2035.



AUSTRALIAN RULES FOOTBALL

1,430 members
7 clubs
+590* (estimated)



CRICKET

451 members
6 clubs
+187* (estimated)



BASKETBALL

1,078 players
1 association
+440* (estimated)



TENNIS

244 members
5 clubs
+101* (estimated)



NETBALL

550 members
8 clubs
1 association
+230* (estimated)



SOCCER

190 members
1 club
+79* (estimated)

* Relates to the "estimated" projected participant increase to 2035.

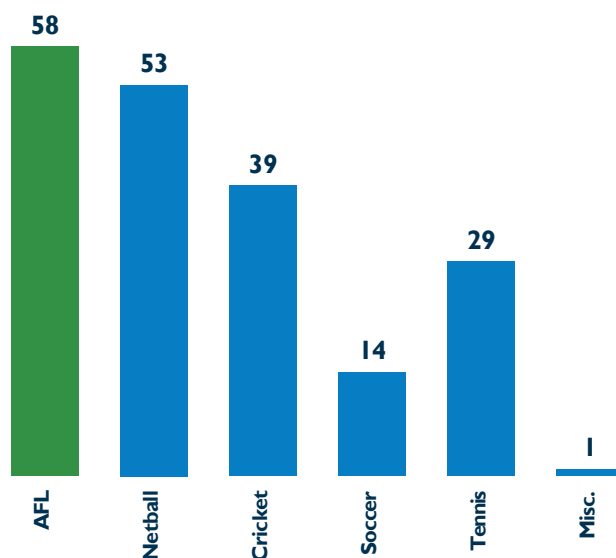
PARTICIPATION TRENDS IN MOORABOOL



TEAM SPORT

Moorabool Shire participation data for 2022 shows that Australian Rules Football (AFL) has the largest number of teams (58) participating at Moorabool Shire clubs, including netball, cricket, soccer and tennis. AFL clubs had 58 teams across junior boys, girls, senior women and senior men's competitions (refer chart below).

2022 SEASON SPORTING TEAM NUMBERS



CYCLING

AusCycling have active participation data for Cycling in Moorabool from 2021. The terms cycling and bike riding are often confused, with some seeing cycling as *competition or road riding for exercise*. Riding your bike to the shop or school is also not often seen as cycling by respondents to general surveys and consultation. Many BMX riders do not see themselves as cyclists or bike riders.

Areas covered in the data include people's interest in cycling and mountain biking, participation in the last month prior to survey, participation numbers in younger children, older kids and adults. Below is a summary of this interest and participation data for Moorabool:

- 10.7% of Moorabool residents surveyed had an interest in cycling.
- 898 (11.6%) of children under 15 participated in cycling in the last 12 months.
- 9,369 (31%) of adults participated in bike riding in the last 12 months.
- 4,890 (63%) of children participated in bike riding in the last 12 months.
- 7,622 children between 0-14 in Moorabool said that they were active in Mountain Biking in 2021.

SWIMMING

Moorabool currently has outdoor swimming pools in Bacchus Marsh and Ballan.

Residents who took part in the community survey identified a year-round indoor pool as the facility they most felt was lacking in their area.

Moorabool Shire provided seasonal participation numbers for the two existing outdoor swimming pools. In 2022-23 season:

- Bacchus Marsh Pool had 8,276 participants which 844 more participants than in the 2018-19 season.
- Ballan Pool had 2,616 participants which is 224 less participants than in the 2018-19 season.
- The reduction in participation during Covid years can be clearly seen.

Participation opportunities are available seasonally at both pools in Moorabool.

Swimming is as an activity that many residents would like to participate in more regularly, but many currently do not due to the lack of accessible indoor venues.

A new pool in the future featuring heated indoor swimming opportunities should result in greater participation outcomes in swimming (and likely other formal and informal aquatic exercise programs).

Lack of opportunities to swim and undertake other aquatic exercise, as well as lap swimming throughout the year restricts many participants.

PARTICIPATION TRENDS IN MOORABOOL



SPORT PARTICIPATION DATA

Participation data has been collated for a number of sports and activities to provide insights into current participation trends across Moorabool. Participation information has been made available for the following sports:

- AFL
- Cricket
- Tennis
- Netball
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Hockey

Note: Participation data has been supplied by State Sporting Associations (SSA's) and may not represent all participants living and/or playing within the municipality and may differ from club-based data historically collected by the Shire.

Information and data regarding participation and programming opportunities is also provided for the following active recreational activities:

- Equestrian
- Golf
- BMX
- Skate
- Baseball

AFL

AFL had the following participation numbers in Moorabool in 2023:

- 1,613 people were involved in AFL in Moorabool. This figure includes 344 Auskickers.
- Of the community players, 1106 (87.2%) were male and 160 (12.6%) were female. Moorabool has less participation in female AFL (statewide participation rate is 16.8%) and a higher male participation rate (statewide participation rate is 83.1%).
- There were 33.7 participants engaged in community football activities per 1000 population in Moorabool. This is higher than the Victorian average of 24.5 per 1000 population and higher than the national average of 30.3 per 1000 population.

CRICKET

- Cricket Victoria figures provided show that in the 2022/2023 season, 877 people played cricket for clubs located in Moorabool.
- This figure included juniors (male and female) and seniors (male and female).
- This figure includes 250 junior players, 476 senior players and 151 Cricket Blast players.

TENNIS

- Tennis Victoria's statistics and survey's show that 8.2% of the population aged 15 and over played tennis in the last 12 months and 9.4% of the 0 to 14 year old population played tennis over the same period.
- Surveys showed that 9.2% of the 15 and over population were interested in playing tennis and 7.0% of the 0 to 4 year olds in Moorabool were interested in playing tennis.

NETBALL

- Netball Victoria participation numbers for netball outside of the Bacchus Marsh Netball Association are 240 players across all levels, including development programs such as NetSetGo.
- 204 of these players are residents of Moorabool.
- Bacchus Marsh Netball Association currently have 10 senior teams and 15 junior teams playing indoors.

PARTICIPATION TRENDS IN MOORABOOL



SOCCER

- 523 Players were registered with Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club in 2023, who play in the Ballarat and District Soccer Association.
- A total of 587 residents of Moorabool participated in Soccer (outdoor) in 2023.
- 523 residents played within Moorabool while the remainder (64 players) played across another 26 municipal areas. The largest number of residents of Moorabool who played outside the municipality played in Hepburn Shire and Ballarat in 2023.
- Football Victoria (FV) run futsal was offered in Moorabool in 2021 with only 6 participants registered. Local venue operators will be responsible for offering futsal or equivalent indoor soccer opportunities in the future.
- A further 27 participants living within Moorabool have been engaged in Go Football (social football events).

BASKETBALL

- Senior participation in basketball in Moorabool has increased progressively since 2020.
- Junior participation in basketball grew by 200 participants between 2020 and 2022.
- Basketball is popular all year round in Moorabool, with summer and winter participant numbers being similar.
- Beginners' programs run throughout 2021 and 2022 provided participation opportunities for between 46 and 72 people each term.
- Junior numbers have progressively grown since 2020 with both male and female participation growth.
- Both senior male and senior female participation has grown since 2020 despite participation dropping in the 2021-22 summer in female players.

HOCKEY

Hockey Victoria participation data for 2023 shows that more than 100 Moorabool residents played hockey outside the municipality. This can be for numerous reasons, one being that they play for their childhood club or competition in a different part of Victoria.

There is no formal hockey facility (synthetic or natural grass), club or competition currently located in Moorabool. Hockey Victoria have coordinated several introductory programs and hockey events in schools and in the community over the last year, with some success.

Below is a summary of participation by age range and by location:

- 118 Moorabool residents played hockey in 2023.
- 36 of these residents played at Hockey Ballarat, 32 at the Melton Hockey Club and 11 at the Footscray Hockey Club.
- Residents also played hockey across 15 other locations across Victoria.
- The highest number of participants from Moorabool come from the 10 to 14 year age group.
- The same number of female and male players play hockey outside of Moorabool in the 40+ age group.

GOLF

- Golf Australia's Golf Club Participation report for the 2021/22 years shows that the region surrounding Ballarat (which includes Moorabool) had more than a 5% reduction in playing members of golf clubs.
- Golf Australia delivers a number of development programs across Australia including the MyGolf program that promotes golf participation to juniors. The growth in this program across Victoria between 2020/21 and 2021/22 was 21%.
- The Ballan Golf Club has approximately 80 members with 30-35 being regular players.
- Competition, junior, social, green fee and corporate golf are available in Moorabool.
- There is an opportunity to explore other activities that can utilise the existing golf course facilities such as Disc Golf.

PARTICIPATION TRENDS IN MOORABOOL



BMX

- BMX is represented in Moorabool by 2 BMX facilities. One of these is a competition track (and club) and the other is a recreational facility.
- The Bacchus Marsh BMX Club has approximately 30 junior and 40 adult members.
- Participation would likely be higher with improved track facilities and lighting at the venue.

RUNNING / JOGGING / WALKING AND BUSHWALKING (INCLUDING LITTLE ATHLETICS)

- In the community survey, walking, jogging, and bushwalking ranked among the top seven activities that residents engaged in. Walking was the most popular, with 37% of respondents stating that it was their main or favourite activity.
- Over 220 members take part in little athletics in Moorabool. However, state and regional little athletics events, as well as senior athletics, are not currently available in Moorabool.
- Trails and footpath networks, sporting reserves and open spaces provide residents with participation opportunities to run or jog. Lack of connectivity in these networks are a significant barrier to participation in incidental activity, as well as activity specifically for exercise.
- Parkrun is a free organised run/walk event that occurs every Saturday morning and is coordinated by volunteers. Peppertree parkrun operates in Bacchus Marsh and has between 25 and 50 participants weekly.

DOG OFF-LEASH WALKING

- Dog walking (off-leash) is a popular activity in Moorabool.
- There are 14 parks and locations that have been designated as dog off-leash walking areas. Some of these have restrictions in times that they can be used for this purpose, including some sporting grounds.
- Participation opportunities and locations to participate are available across Moorabool.
- A Dog Obedience club is available in Masons Lane Recreation Reserve and has 110 members across all ages.
- Dog off-leash walking has been considered in several master plans at sport and recreation reserves, as well as within the Draft Open Space Strategy. Numerous actions have been designed to facilitate participation in the activity.
- There is demand for purpose-built dog off-leash parks with separated areas for different sized dogs, seating, shelter and water availability.

EQUESTRIAN

- Equestrian activities are available in Moorabool with facilities to support multiple disciplines.
- Equestrian activities host a number of large events that attract people from across the country several times per year.
- Bacchus Marsh Pony Club, with more than 100 members provide opportunities for residents from age 3 to 14. Harness Racing has between 90 and 100 regular members who use the facilities for training and trials.

BASEBALL

- A single baseball facility is available at Masons Lane Recreation Reserve with one diamond and associated support facilities.
- The Bacchus Marsh Baseball Club has one team and hopes to field a women's team in the future.
- The club did not compete in the 2025 season, the condition of the facility was a contributing factor for this decision.

SKATE

- Beginner and intermediate level skate facilities have been developed in Mill Park, Ballan and in Gordon Public Park.
- The skate facility in Mill Park replaced the old skate facility in the Ballan Recreation Reserve.

TABLE TENNIS

- Research undertaken during the MRLS project did not identify any expressed or latent demand for Table Tennis.
- AusPlay data for Victoria identifies the Victorian participation rate to be around 2.2% for people aged 15 and over and much lower for children aged up to 14 (0.4%).
- Any demand for competitive table tennis is likely to be accommodated within neighbouring municipalities at the Ballarat and Melton Table Tennis Associations.

PARTICIPATION TRENDS IN MOORABOOL



FORECAST PARTICIPATION DATA 2025-3035

The following participation forecast utilises participation numbers from Moorabool Shire records for six sports from the 2022 year.

These forecasts are based on the participation in these sports in their organised, club and structured competitions such as associations. A number of these sports are regularly participated in across the community in an informal way such as basketball (at outdoor basketball facilities) and tennis at open access community tennis courts, so participation is likely to be larger in some of these activities.

PARTICIPANTS	2022	2022 PENETRATION RATE	2025 FORECAST PARTICIPANTS	2025 FORECAST PARTICIPANTS (difference)	2035 FORECAST PARTICIPANTS	2035 FORECAST PARTICIPANTS (difference)
Australian Rules Football ¹	1,430	3.70%	1,494	64	2,023	593
Basketball ²	1,078	2.79%	1,126	48	1,525	447
Netball ³	550	1.42%	575	25	778	228
Cricket	451	1.17%	471	20	638	187
Miscellaneous	373	0.97%	390	17	528	155
Tennis	244	0.63%	255	11	345	101
Soccer	190	0.49%	198	8	269	79
Total	4,316	11.18%	4,509	193	6,107	1,791

1. Australian Rules Football participation is forecast to grow by an estimated 593 participants across Moorabool between 2025 and 2035. The growth in Australian Rules Football is estimated to be one third of the Shire's projected growth in formal sports according to the 2022 participation numbers. The total of additional participants in the other identified formal sports is 1,197 participants.

2/3. Basketball and Netball's forecasted growth is also significant (447 and 228 respectively) and is likely to be higher with the opening of the new indoor facility in 2035.



SPORT, RECREATION & LEISURE FACILITIES

RECREATION AND LEISURE FACILITIES

Moorabool has a range of specific single and multi-purpose sports facilities, as well as a mix of recreation and leisure facilities. Moorabool also provides an extensive network of tracks and trails.

A full inventory of for sport, recreation leisure facilities by location is included in this document.

The following section outlines information about sport and formal recreation and leisure facilities across Moorabool, including the following:

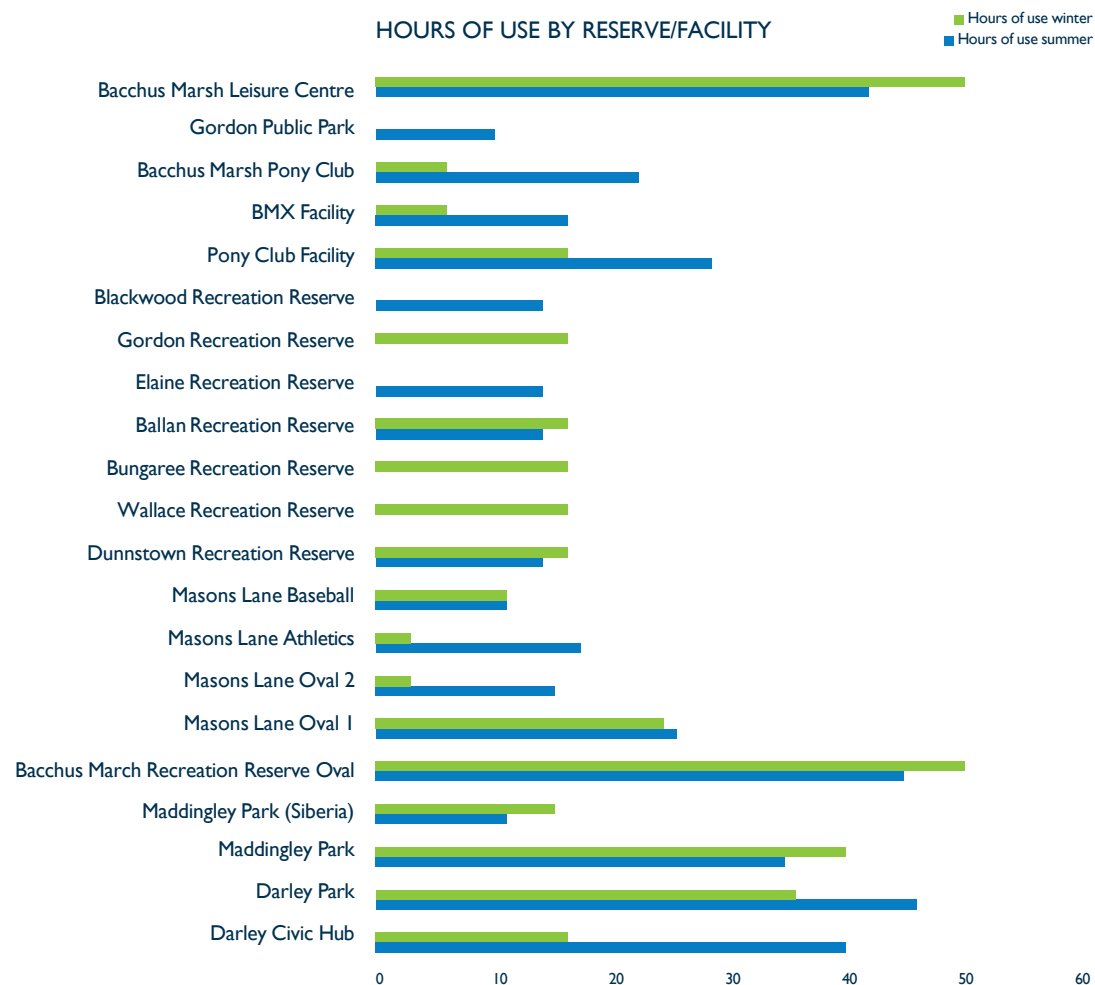
- Hours of use for recreation reserves.
- Facilities overview and key issues and opportunities by sport.
- High level provision ratio analysis by sport.
- Shire-wide facilities condition assessments (results from a Council assessment of sport and leisure buildings in 2018).
- Sports field condition and usage audit 2021.
- Recreation and leisure facility inventory.



RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY USE

The following provides a summary of key findings and analysis from available hours of use data for Moorabool's sport and recreation reserves and associated facilities.

- Many facilities and fields of play are currently experiencing issues of over-use for a range of training and competition activities.
- Over-use of ovals can contribute to turf wear, compaction and drainage issues. This leads to playing surfaces not meeting the needs of the sport being played on them, or broader community use outside of formal sport.
- This data can also be used to identify where there are opportunities to maximise use of facilities with the addition of features such as field of play lighting. For example, the Bacchus Marsh BMX Facility is used on average 16 hours per week in summer and significantly less in winter. With the addition of lighting at the track, this number could increase providing additional opportunities for physical activity in the community.
- There are several recreation reserves or facilities that are used for organised sport in winter or summer only, including recreation reserves in Gordon, Wallace and Elaine. Opportunities to utilise these facilities for over-flow of other sports or new or emerging sports and active recreation activities could be identified if the facility has the capacity to host additional activities



RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY PROVISION



AFL

- There are 10 AFL fields (as assessed in the AFL's Sport Facility Auditor platform) across 9 facilities/sites in Moorabool.
- AFL fields in the Bacchus Marsh area include Darley Park, Darley Hub, Maddingley Park, Masons Lane and the developing Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve (BMRRR).
- AFL fields are located through the central areas of Moorabool in Ballan, Gordon, Wallace, Bungaree and Dunnstown.
- Ovals that are not currently used for AFL include Blackwood, Korweinguboorra, Mt Egerton, Myrniong and Elaine.

Key issues related to AFL fields/facilities include:

- Drainage, soil profile issues and irrigation.
- Turf type to meet demands of the climate and use.
- Social room size and quality.
- Inclusive (female friendly) facilities.
- Facility improvements should focus on areas of highest participation and inclusiveness in the sport.

CRICKET

- There are 16 cricket fields (as assessed in Cricket Australia's Sport Facility Auditor platform) across 14 sites in Moorabool. Some of these fields are Council owned facilities, some are managed by Committees of Management and owned by State Government, and some are located on Department of Education or Independent School land.
- Cricket fields in the Bacchus Marsh area include Maddingley Park, Masons Lane, Darley Park, Darley Hub and the developing facility at Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve (BMRRR).
- Single fields are located in Myrniong, Greendale, Ballan, Korweinguboorra, Dunnstown, Elaine and Blackwood.
- 6 of the grounds are classified as community club level, 2 grounds were classified as community club (satellite grounds), 3 grounds were classified as school grounds.
- 1 ground was classified as a school ground with no pitch and 3 grounds were classified as non-active sites for cricket.

Key issues related to cricket fields/facilities include:

- Playing field sizes varied for cricket fields in Moorabool. 56% of fields had a playing field dimension of 50-64m. The minimum size for the preferred playing field dimension for open age cricket is 50m.
- Turf type to meet demands of climate and use.
- Drainage and irrigation systems.
- Social space improvements and gender-neutral compliance of player and umpire change amenities.

TENNIS

- There are 55 tennis courts in Moorabool. 21 of these courts are in one location at the Bacchus Marsh Lawn Tennis Club.
- The remaining courts are spread across 12 sites that are mostly located in small communities or recreation reserves that serve smaller townships.
- Locations with tennis facilities include Bacchus Marsh, Ballan, Navigators, Mt Egerton, Yendon, Myrniong, Gordon, Wallace, Dunnstown, Clarendon, Elaine, Morrisons Recreation Reserve, Mollonghip and Blackwood.

Key issues related to tennis court provision include:

- The condition of some courts is a concern, with surface condition and safety issues being reported through consultation.
- The condition of the tennis environments, including clubhouses, courts, fencing and amenities.
- The concentration of 38% of courts in Bacchus Marsh, which may be considered an over provision against industry population-to-court provision ratios.

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY PROVISION



NETBALL

- There are 15 outdoor netball courts provided across Moorabool.
- Some of the courts within Football Netball Clubs require upgrading and these upgrades have been identified in recent master-planning.
- Courts located in the Bacchus Marsh area include at BMRRR, Darley Park and Maddingley Park. There are two indoor courts at the Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre.
- The new indoor stadium - Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC) is now open and provides the community with 4 additional indoor multi use courts.
- Netball courts are located in Dunnstown, Gordon, Wallace, Bungaree, Ballan and Mt Egerton.

Key issues and opportunities in relation to netball facilities and clubs include:

- Quality of the outdoor court surfaces, especially for those used as overflow or training.
- Quantity of suitable courts at some locations.
- Lighting of courts.
- Changeroom availability and suitability in some areas.

SOCCER

- There are 6 soccer fields including at the newly developed Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve (BMRRR). Other locations include Darley Hub and Masons Lane.
- The Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club is the only club in Moorabool Shire.

Key issues and opportunities in relation to soccer facilities and clubs include:

- Soccer in Moorabool would ideally like to utilise additional facilities for up to 12 months per year. This is an ongoing challenge when needing to share facilities with summer sports.
- The development of a social space at the BMRRR is important to the ongoing development and sport offering by the club.
- There is a desire for more informal soccer training facilities such as skills areas and futsal to be regularly played in Moorabool.

BASKETBALL

- Bacchus Marsh Basketball Association currently uses 8 courts including 4 courts at the Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC), 2 courts at the Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre and 2 courts at the Bacchus Marsh Primary School.
- The Ballan Brumbies use 1 court at Ballan Primary School*
- Informal outdoor basketball facilities are located in parks and playspaces across Moorabool in Bacchus Marsh, Ballan and Gordon

Key issues and opportunities in relation to basketball facilities include:

- Programing times, access and cost arrangements at the new indoor centre will be important to the future growth of the sport.
- School court use can be difficult from both a hire perspective and a sport compliance perspective.

* The Ballan Brumbies participation numbers have not been captured in this background report. Usage of the Ballan Primary School courts will be explored as part of the Recreation and Leisure Strategy implementation plan.

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY PROVISION



SWIMMING

- Moorabool Shire operates two outdoor seasonal swimming pools.
- The Bacchus Marsh Outdoor Pool and Ballan Outdoor Pool, both operating from December to March (approximately) each year.
- Both pool facilities are ageing and although they provide a variety of swimming and leisure activities in the summer, they are not able to provide the numerous activities desired by the community including warm water programming in winter.
- The Ballan Splash Park has recently opened as part of the co-location and activation of facilities at Mill Park.
- Planning is in place for the development of the Moorabool Aquatic and Recreation Centre (MARC) in Bacchus Marsh. This project is subject to funding. Plans include an indoor 25m lap pool, leisure and other supporting amenities. This is a long-term vision and will aim to address the current needs in the area of warm water indoor recreation demanded by the community.
- 56% of the community survey respondents said that swimming is an activity that they would like to be doing, but don't currently do it. 9% said that was their favoured activity.

TRAILS AND PATHS

- Off-road trails and paths are the most used facility in Moorabool according to the survey results. Walking, cycling, jogging/running are high participation activities in the Ausplay data for Victoria.
- Safe off-road trail connections in both urban and rural locations provide an opportunity to walk, run or ride for exercise or for transport with linkages that connect essential services such as bus stops, train stations, shops, schools, open spaces including dog walking areas, sport opportunities and other services.
- Recent and ongoing trail developments in Moorabool include the Aqualink project that was completed in 2025 and provides an off-road walking and cycling connection through Darley and Bacchus Marsh and the 1000 steps project which as part of the Bald Hills activation project will provide a link from residential communities with the peak at Bald Hill. Included in this project will be an all-abilities sculpture trail providing an opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to experience this precinct.
- Moorabool, with its access to numerous state parks has a variety of walking opportunities for both recreational walking and bushwalking. Lerderg River trails, Lal Lal Falls, Peppertree Walk, Werribee Gorge provide walking and bushwalking opportunities but do not necessarily provide opportunities to all Moorabool residents.
- Safe and connected trail networks are beneficial in all communities. In small communities there are opportunities to continue to extend paths and trails. Connecting townships and growth areas (such as Hopetoun Park to Bacchus Marsh) and residences with sporting grounds, shops and services and to provide circuits where available will support further growth in these activities and reduce the reliance of cars for short trips.
- There are opportunities to explore longer distance connections such as the rail trail project between Millbrook to Dunnstown and regional trail projects. Projects such as these can provide opportunities that go beyond recreation and leisure with the potential of economic benefits to the communities surrounding these projects. Working with neighbouring councils and other land managers to ensure any future projects that support the connection between Shire's or longer distance trails are realised or planned for. Understanding the needs and opportunities in relation to town to town linkages such as Gordon to Ballan as part of broader trails planning in across the Shire
- In larger communities, connecting gaps in the network of footpaths and trails to services, between and through new developments, providing signage and promotion to ensure residents are aware of where a trail or path goes, how far the loop is and what the trail might connect to will support active transport opportunities.

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY PROVISION

TRAILS AND PATHS cont.

Key issues and opportunities include:

- Connectivity of trails and paths with the potential of utilising more nature strips if other opportunities do not exist.
- Promotion, signage and activation of trails.
- Provision of loops/circuits in communities (both within suburbs as well as within open spaces and sporting reserves).
- Condition and maintenance of existing trails and paths.
- Ensure that there are trails in each community that meet the needs of the intended user groups including all abilities where required or possible. Need to understand what the trail needs to do, what it should connect to, does it connect communities with services or provide a circuit for fitness and recreation purposes for example.



RECREATION RESERVE FACILITY CONDITION



MOORABOOL SHIRE WIDE FACILITIES CONDITION ASSESSMENTS

In 2018, the Moorabool Shire Council undertook a facility condition assessment of recreation and leisure buildings.*

Facilities deemed to be unfit for purpose in the 2018 assessment (Shire-wide) were:

- Navigators Recreation Reserve Tennis Pavilion (upgraded 2025).
- Elaine Recreation Reserve Cricket Pavilion.
- Bacchus Marsh Lawn Tennis Club Pavilion (due to its physical accessibility primarily).
- Masons Lane Reserve Western Pavilion (Athletics).
- Elaine Recreation Reserve Tennis Pavilion.

Facilities deemed to require major attention in the 2018 assessment were:

- Dunnstown Recreation Reserve community centre and pavilion (facility upgraded 2025).
- Gordon Public Park Hall.
- Darley Park football/cricket pavilion (upgraded 2023).
- Dunnstown Recreation Reserve tennis/netball pavilion.
- Maddingley Park Recreation Reserve football/cricket pavilion.
- Masons Lane Reserve baseball pavilion.

Facilities deemed to require minor attention in the 2018 assessment were:

- Wallace Recreation Reserve football/cricket pavilion.
- Masons Lane Recreation Reserve soccer/cricket pavilion.

SPORTSFIELD CONDITION AND USAGE AUDIT - 2021

In October 2021, the following ovals were assessed by Sport Turf Consultants (STRI):

- Ballan Recreation Reserve
- Bungaree Recreation Reserve
- Darley Park Recreation Reserve
- Dunnstown Recreation Reserve
- Gordon Recreation Reserve
- Maddingley Park Recreation Reserve
- Wallace Recreation Reserve.

Assessments were made regarding turf condition, over or under use, soil type, turf type, drainage and a variety of turf related deficiencies.

The overall condition of sportsfields, particularly in the rural west of the Shire were identified as poor or fair. The key areas of concern include:

- Poor irrigation and drainage
- Over-usage
- Uneven and poor quality surfaces
- Non-compliant shape and size of fields

In addition to the audit, user groups and community members have raised concerns over the conditions of sportsfields in the Shire and the need to invest in major upgrades.

*Note: Some of these issues may have been rectified or included within master plan developments for inclusion in future capital works.

PRIORITY SPORTSFIELD PROJECTS

There are many variables to consider when assessing the priority of upgrades including previous audit assessments. Consideration also needs to be made with knowledge of the following:

- The unstructured or informal recreation that the field is used for by the broader community, not just formal sport.
- The functionality of the size, shape and location of the field within the reserve and the impact of this on the needs of the reserve.
- The changing growth of communities.

Based on the considerations above, the upgrade of sportsfields at the following facilities have been identified as high priority projects:

- Ballan Recreation Reserve
- Dunnstown Recreation Reserve
- Gordon Recreation Reserve
- Wallace Recreation Reserve
- Elaine Recreation Reserve

Updated audits of sportsfields in the Shire will be undertaken as part of the implementation plan of the Recreation and Leisure Strategy. The prioritisation of sportsfield upgrades will continue to be considered as part of Strategic Priority 2 of the Recreation and Leisure Strategy to identify and prioritise projects for delivery and advocacy.

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY PROVISION ANALYSIS



FACILITY PROVISION ANALYSIS

The facility provision analysis undertaken in this section of the report is based primarily on population-to-facility provision ratios. This method of analysis is widely used in sport and recreation infrastructure planning, particularly in growth areas where population density limits implications of travel times.

It should be noted that facility provision ratios provide an indicative level of facility provision to be achieved but should be used with other analysis such as participation and demand modelling.

Given the unique mix of suburban growth and rural areas within Moorabool Shire, provision ratio analysis must be applied carefully and consider the following:

- Municipal-level facility provision analysis may be skewed by typical over provision in rural areas when compared to metropolitan or suburban provision ratios.
- Facility provision analysis is well suited to metropolitan areas with higher population densities.
- Facility provision analysis has been undertaken at the municipal level as well as by region (within the Shire).
- Provision ratios are based on similar communities with a mix of higher growth areas and rural communities.
- Based on the provision ratio analysis of the Moorabool Shire (and the table on the following page), tennis appears to have the most significant over-supply (of courts), with soccer having the greatest identified under-supply (of playing pitches) across the Shire.
- Most tennis courts in Moorabool are located in one location (Bacchus Marsh Lawn Tennis Club) and numbers of courts reflect the need for more courts that have a grass surface than hardcourt due to wear and maintenance needs.
- Soccer are aware that the participation of the sport in Moorabool is growing, and the sport has ambitions to develop further clubs and facilities in the Shire in the future as the sport continues to grow.
- Initially, improving existing facilities and identifying opportunities for the sport to operate on some fields for the full year will support the sport in the medium term. Social soccer generally does not need the same level of facilities as soccer and therefore can likely be accommodated in different configurations and facilities if required. Opportunities such as futsal and street football (soccer) are also ways to support the sport to meet the demand, especially in informal and modified formats.

FACILITY PROVISION TABLE

The following table provides a summary of sport and recreation facility provision at a Shire-wide level.

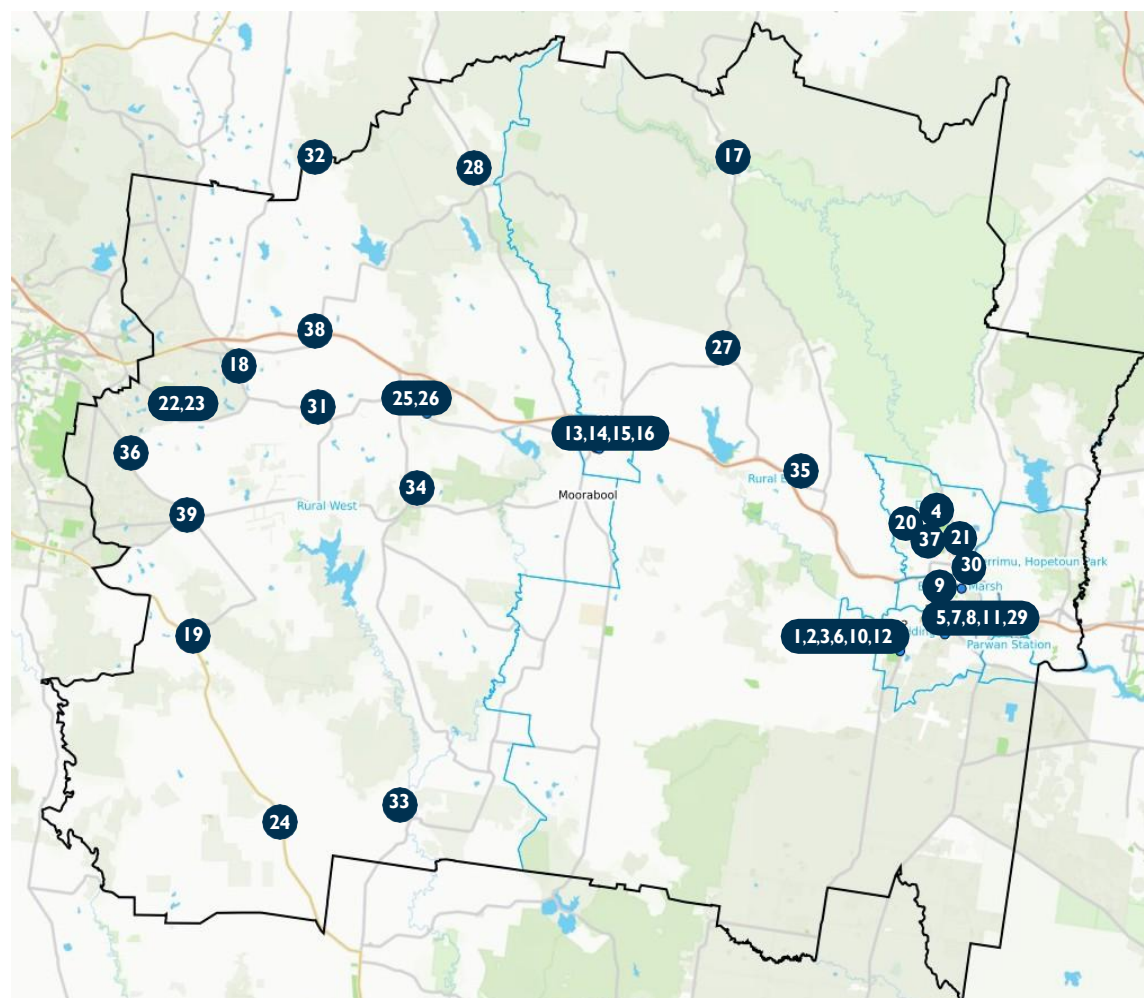
Facility Component	Target Provision	Total Facilities 2025 population (40,339)	No. of existing Facilities 2025	Total Facilities required to meet 2035 population (54,640)	Assessed Oversupply / Undersupply to meet needs of the population in 2035
AFL	1 : 5,000	8	10 ovals	11 Ovals	Undersupply of 1 oval
Cricket	1 : 4,000	10	16 playing fields	14	Oversupply of 2 fields
Lawn Bowls	1 : 30,000	1	3 greens	2	Over supply of 1 green
Soccer	1 : 5,000	8	6 playing fields	11	Undersupply of 5 fields
Tennis	1 : 2,500	16	55 courts	22	Over supply of 33 courts
Indoor courts	1 : 8,000	5	6 courts (includes new indoor centre)	7	Under supply of 1 court
Netball courts (outdoor)	1 : 7,000	6	13 courts	8	Over supply of 5 courts
Baseball	1 : 50,000	1	1 diamond / facility	1	-
Equestrian	1 : 100,000	1	2 facilities	1	Oversupply of 1 facility
Athletics	1 : 75,000	1	1 facility / track	1	-
BMX	1 : 50,000	1	2 facilities / tracks	1	Over supply of 1 facility
Skate	1 : 50,000	1	3 parks / facilities	1	Over supply of 2 facilities

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY LOCATIONS

No.	Facility Name
1	Bacchus Marsh Camp Draft Arena
2	Bacchus Marsh Cross Country Course
3	Bacchus Marsh Dressage Arena
4	Bacchus Marsh Golf Club
5	Bacchus Marsh Grammar*
6	Bacchus Marsh Horse Racing Track
7	Bacchus Marsh Lawn Tennis Club
8	Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre
9	Bacchus Marsh Outdoor Pool
10	Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve
11	Bacchus Marsh Secondary College*
12	Bacchus Marsh West Golf Club
13	Ballan Golf Club
14	Ballan Outdoor Pool
15	Ballan Recreation Reserve
16	Ballan Tennis Club
17	Blackwood Recreation Reserve
18	Bungaree Recreation Reserve
19	Clarendon Tennis Club

No.	Facility Name
20	Darley Civic Hub
21	Darley Park
22	Dunnstown Recreation Reserve
23	Dunnstown Tennis Club
24	Elaine Recreation Reserve
25	Gordon Recreation Reserve
26	Gordon Tennis Club
27	Greendale Recreation Reserve
28	Korweinguboorra Reserve
29	Maddingley Park Recreation Reserve
30	Masons Lane Recreation Reserve
31	Millbrook Community Centre
32	Mollonghip Tennis Club
33	Morrison's Recreation Reserve
34	Mt Egerton Recreation Reserve
35	Myrionong Recreation Reserve
36	Navigators Tennis Club
37	Pentland Hills Primary School*
38	Wallace Recreation Reserve
39	Yendon Tennis Club

*Education facility



RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



The following facility summary identifies the ownership, management status, mode of management, current tenant at the facility, recreation, sport and leisure facilities provided at each reserve and relevant master plan status for each location.

Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre	DoE	MSC	Joint use agreement with Edu and MSC	No	N/A	Labilliere St, Maddingley VIC 334	- MSC has access to 2 courts plus Drama studio outside school hours - MSC has access to 1 court and gym all other hours	2 x Basketball courts 1 x Gym 1 x Kiosk 1 x Drama hall Changerooms
Bacchus Marsh Outdoor Pool	MSC	MSC	Council	No	N/A	Grant Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340	N/A	1 x 33 m Outdoor pool 1 x Toddlers pool 1 x Kiosk Changeroom/showers
Bacchus Marsh Racecourse and Recreation Reservation (BMRRR)	DEECA	MSC	Council	Yes Updated 2021	5 years	2873 Bacchus Marsh-Balliang Road, Maddingley VIC 3340	- Bacchus Marsh Pony Club - Bacchus Marsh Harness Racing Club - Bacchus Marsh Camp Drafting Club - Footscray & District Poultry Club - Bacchus Marsh & Melton Poultry Club - Bacchus Marsh Soccer Club - Bacchus Marsh Cricket Club - Bacchus Marsh BMX Club - Bacchus Marsh West Golf Club	3 x Ovals 4 x Netball/Tennis courts 7 x Cricket nets 1 x All abilities playground 1 x BMX track 1 x Equestrian facility
Bacchus Marsh Public Hall	MSC	MSC	CAC	No	N/A	207 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340	N/A	

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Ballan Racecourse and Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2009)	10 years	105 Racecourse Road, Ballan VIC 3342	- Ballan Harness Racing Club - Ballan Pony Club	1 x Harness Racing Track
Ballan Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2018)	10 years	1 Cowie Street, Ballan VIC 3342	- Ballan Cricket Club - Ballan Football Netball Club - Ballan Lawn Bowls Club	1 x Oval 3 x Cricket nets 2 x Netball courts 1 x Playground 4 x Tennis courts
Ballan (Mill Park) and Outdoor Pool	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2020)	Ongoing	Mill Park Rd, Ballan VIC 3342	N/A	1 x Playground 1 x Skatepark 1 x Basketball court 1 x Outdoor pool 25m 1 x Toddler pool Changerooms/showers
Balliang Recreation Reserve (and Hall)	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	1265 Bacchus Marsh-Balliang Road, Balliang VIC 3340	N/A	2 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Beremboke Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2004)	Ongoing	Blacks Road, Beremboke	- Local CFA training location	
Blacksmith Cottage and Forge	MSC	MSC	CAC	No	N/A	100 Main Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340	N/A	
Blackwood Sports Ground Crown Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	31 Recreation Reserve Road, Blackwood VIC 3458	- Blackwood Cricket Club	1 x Oval 2 x Cricket nets 2 x Tennis courts

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Bullarook Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	Corner Springbank Rd & Geddes Road, Bullarook VIC 3352	N/A	1 x Tennis court 1 x Playground
Bungaree Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2011)	10 years	279 Bungaree-Wallace Road Bungaree VIC 3352	- Bungaree Cricket Club - Bungaree Football Netball Club - Bungaree Lawn Bowls Club	1 x Oval 1 x Netball court 2 x Tennis court 1 x Playground
Bungaree Town Hall	MSC	MSC	Council	No	N/A	221 Bungaree-Wallace Road, Bungaree VIC 3352	- Mountain Movers Dance Club	
Clarendon Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2014)	10 years	6206 Midland Highway, Clarendon VIC 3352	- Clarendon Tennis Club	2 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Darley Park	DEECA	MSC	Council	Yes (2020)	10 years	11 Fitzroy Street, Darley VIC 3340	- Darley Senior Football Netball Club - Darley Junior Football Netball Club - Darley Park Auskick - Darley Cricket Club - Bacchus Marsh Homing Pigeon Club	1 x Oval 5 x Cricket nets 2 x Netball courts 2 x Tennis courts 1 x BMX Track 1 x Playground
Darley Civic Community Hub	MSC	MSC	Council	No	N/A	182 Halletts Way, Darley VIC 3340	- Darley Senior Football Netball Club - Darley Junior Football Netball Club - Darley Cricket Club	1 x Oval 2 x Cricket nets 1 x Playground

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Dunnstown Recreation Reserve	MSC	MSC	CAC	Yes (2015)	5 years	2855 Old Melbourne Road, Dunnstown VIC 3352	- Dunnstown Cricket Club - Dunnstown Football Netball Club - Dunnstown Tennis Club (Inactive) - Local Yoga Group	1 x Oval 2 x Cricket nets 1 x Netball court 1 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Elaine Sports Ground Recreation Reserve	MSC	MSC	CAC	Yes (2013)	5 years	5213 Midland Highway, Elaine VIC 3334	- Elaine Cricket Club - Elaine Tennis Club (Inactive)	1 x Oval 2 x Cricket nets 2 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Gordon Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2024)	5 years	6 Willunga Avenue, Gordon VIC 3345	- Gordon Football Netball Club	2 x Netball courts 1 x AFL oval
Gordon Public Park/Hall	MSC	MSC	CAC	No	N/A	68 Main Street, Gordon VIC 3345	N/A	2 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground 1 x Skate Park 1 x Basketball court
Greendale Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	5 Bradys Lane, Greendale VIC 3341	- Dog walking - Playgroup	1 x Oval 1 x Playground
Korweinguboora Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	1399 Ballan-Daylesford Road, Spargo Creek VIC 3461	N/A	1 x Oval 1 x Playground
Lal Lal Soldiers Memorial Hall	MSC	MSC	CAC	No	N/A	421 Clarendon-Lal Lal Road, Lal Lal VIC 3352	N/A	

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Maddingley Park	DEECA	MSC	Council	Yes (2023)	10 years	1 Taverner Street, Maddingley VIC 3340	- Bacchus Marsh Football Netball Club - Bacchus Marsh Cricket Club - Bacchus Marsh Tennis Club - Friends of Maddingley Park (Gardeners) - Maddingley Park market	2 x Ovals 5 x Cricket nets 1 x Netball court 21 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Masons Lane Reserve	MSC	MSC	Council	Yes (2023)	10 years	64 Young Street, Bacchus Marsh VIC 3340	- Bacchus Marsh Little Athletics Club - Bacchus Marsh Running Club - Bacchus Marsh Baseball Club - Bacchus Marsh Obedience Dog Club - Bacchus Marsh Cricket Club - Darley Cricket Club - Aintree Cricket Club - Bacchus Marsh Football Netball Club - Darley Junior Football Netball Club - Ballarat Football Umpires Association	2 x Ovals 3 x Cricket nets 1 x Athletics track 1 x Baseball field 1 x Playground
Millbrook Community Centre	MSC	MSC	CAC	No	N/A	1980 Old Melbourne Road, Millbrook VIC 3352	N/A	2 x Tennis courts
Mollonghip Tennis Court	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	Mcphans Road, Mollonghip VIC 3352	N/A	1 x Tennis court

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Morrison's Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	Parkinson Road, Morrisons VIC 3334	N/A	
Mt Egerton Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	Yes (2006)	5 years	Reserve Road, Mount Egerton VIC 3352	N/A	1 x Oval 1 x Netball court 3 x Tennis courts - only one marked
Mt Wallace Hall	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	16 Mount Wallace Hall Road, Mount Wallace VIC 3342	N/A	
Myrniong Recreation Reserve	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	Hardy Street, Myrniong VIC 3341	N/A	1 x Oval 1 x Cricket net 2 x tennis court
Navigators Community Centre Recreation	MSC	MSC	CAC	No	N/A	344 Navigators Road, Navigators VIC 3352	- Navigators Tennis Club	3 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Rotary Park (Bacchus Marsh)	MSC	MSC	Council	No	N/A	10 Bennett Street, Bacchus Marsh, 3340	N/A	1 x Playground 1 x Skatepark 1 x basketball court (half court)
Wallace Public Hall	MSC	MSC	CAC	Yes (2015)	5 years	5 Westcotts Road, Wallace VIC 3352	N/A	

RECREATION RESERVE AND LEISURE FACILITY INVENTORY



Reserve / Facility Name	Ownership Status	Management Status	Mode of Management	Master Plan Year	Master Plan Duration	Address	Tenant Users	Facilities at Reserve or Facility
Wallace Recreation Reserve	MSC	MSC	CAC	Yes (2024)	5 years	15 Ormond Road, Wallace VIC 3352	- Springbank Football Netball Club	1 x Oval 2 x Cricket nets 2 x Netball courts 2 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground
Yendon Recreation Reserve (Tennis)	DEECA	DEECA	CoM	No	N/A	Pope St, Yendon VIC 3352	N/A	3 x Tennis courts 1 x Playground



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

Engagement was undertaken across Moorabool Shire with key stakeholders and the broader community to gain an insight into recreation, leisure, trail and sport participation, opportunities for improvements and future priority areas across the community.

The following engagement methods were used:

- Community survey (116 responses)
- Community focus group workshops and interviews (22 attendees)
- State Sporting and Recreational Organisations interviews (7 interviews)
- Interviews with neighbouring councils (3).

The following section provides a summary of the consultation outcomes and identifies trends that have been observed through consultation that will be used to develop the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy.

KEY THEMES THAT EMERGED FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

- Trail connectivity, circuit development and improved condition of trails and footpaths.
- Improvements in the quality, functionality and maintenance of sports facilities.
- Dog (including off-leash) walking opportunities needed.
- Improved provision of informal sport and recreation facilities and spaces.
- Swimming facilities are in demand.

NUMBER OF SURVEY'S COMPLETED



116
SURVEYS



31%
MALE



65%
FEMALE



2%
PREFERRED
NOT TO SAY

WHO DID WE HEAR FROM?



34%
WERE
RESIDENTS
OF BACCHUS
MARSH



18%
WERE
RESIDENTS OF
DARLEY



15%
WERE
RESIDENTS OF
BALLAN



13%
WERE
RESIDENTS OF
MADDINGLEY



8%
WERE
RESIDENTS OF
GORDON

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY SURVEY INSIGHTS

Moorabool Shire Council engaged with key stakeholders and the community to gain insights into:

- recreation, leisure and sports participation
- facility and activity preferences
- influences on behavior
- opportunities for improvement, and
- future priorities.

The highlight boxes adjacent provide a summary of key findings from some of the community survey questions.

What types of activities do we participate in?

Moorabool residents participate in a mix of sport and active recreation with the seven most popular activities of survey respondents being walking, fitness/gym, running/jogging, swimming, bush- walking, basketball and cycling.

Key issues and opportunities from the focus groups

Focus groups issues and opportunities included the need for improved quality, functionality and maintenance of facilities (buildings and sports, the need for improved dog walking facilities and continued development of female friendly facilities.

Facilities that respondents felt were missing in Moorabool

Flat and connected walking tracks and trails that provide loops, gym facilities, pool/aquatic facility, hockey field/facility, athletics facilities that meet needs of the sport, purpose built dog parks and more off lead dog areas and quality sports social facilities, changerooms and ovals.

What activities would we like to participate in, but don't?

The top activities that respondents would like to do but do not currently participate in include swimming, cycling/bike riding, fitness/gym, bushwalking, running/ jogging and pilates.

Why respondents feel that facilities do not meet their needs

The reasons why respondents felt that facilities did not meet their needs included connectivity, concerns with trails and footpaths, lack of walking track circuits, shortage of shade, shelter and seating and general condition and functionality of facilities.

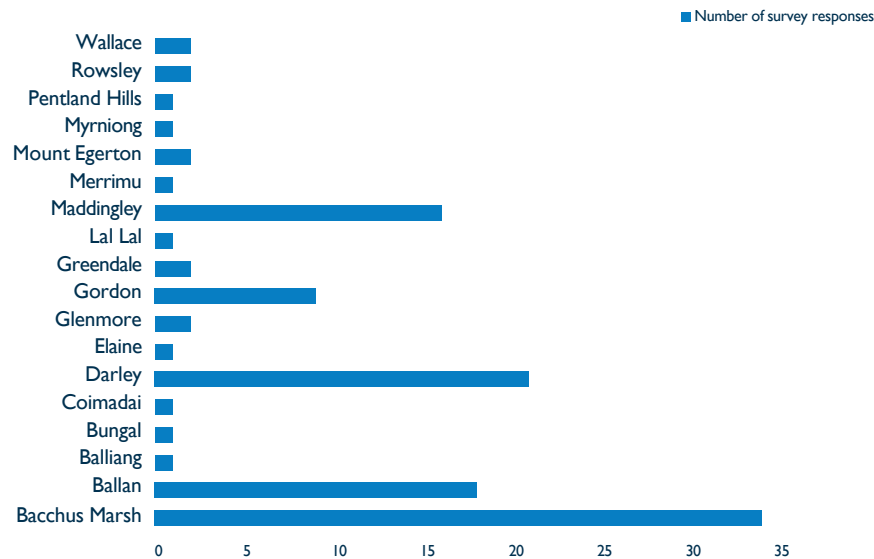
Improvement that respondents wanted to see in the trail network

Improvements wanted by respondents included improved connectivity within the trail network, improved quality of trails, more signage and improved safety and accessibility.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

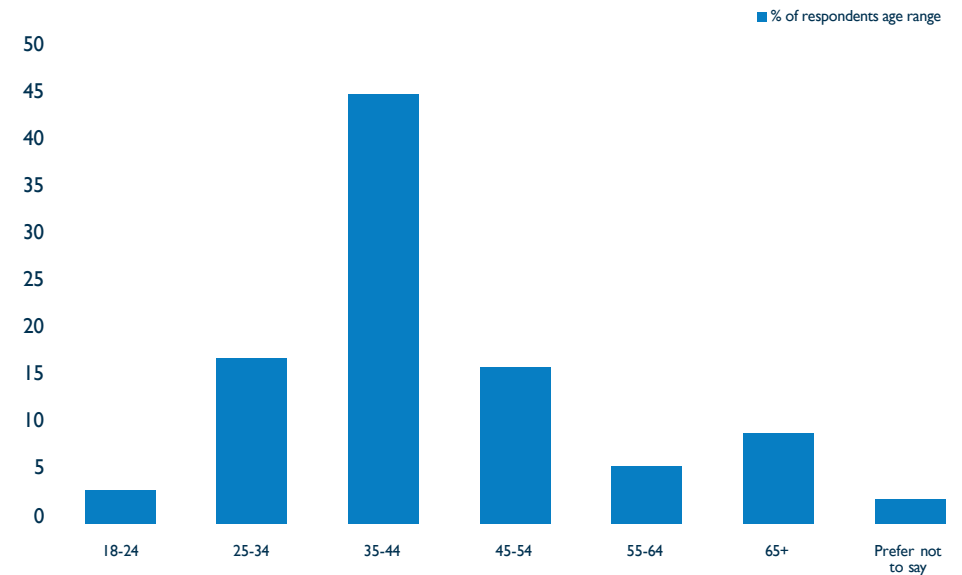
LOCATION AND AGE OF RESPONDENTS

WHERE DID RESPONDENTS LIVE?



34% were residents of Bacchus Marsh
18% were residents of Darley
15% were residents of Ballan
13% were residents of Maddingley
8% were residents of Gordon

% OF RESPONDENTS AGE RANGE

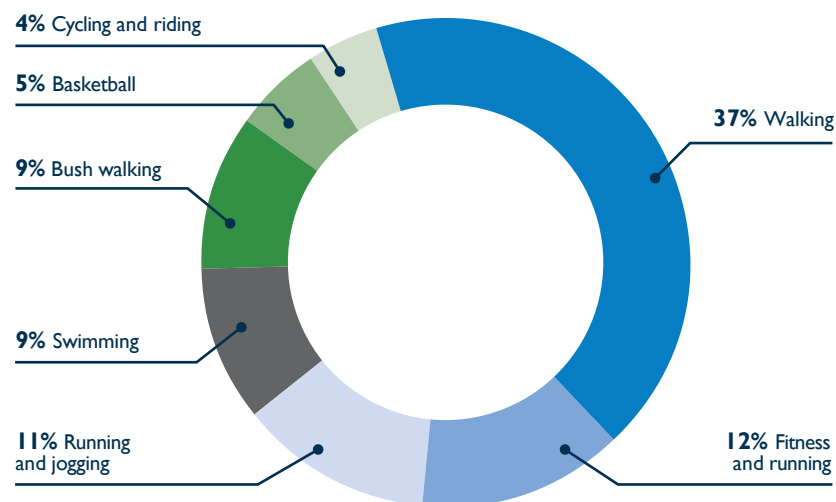


45% of responses from within the 35-44 age group
17% of responses from within the 25-34 age group
16% of responses from within the 45-54 age group
9% of responses from within the 65+ age group
6% of responses from within the 55-64 age group
3% of responses from within the 18-24 age group

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

PARTICIPATION AND TRAVEL FOR ACTIVITIES

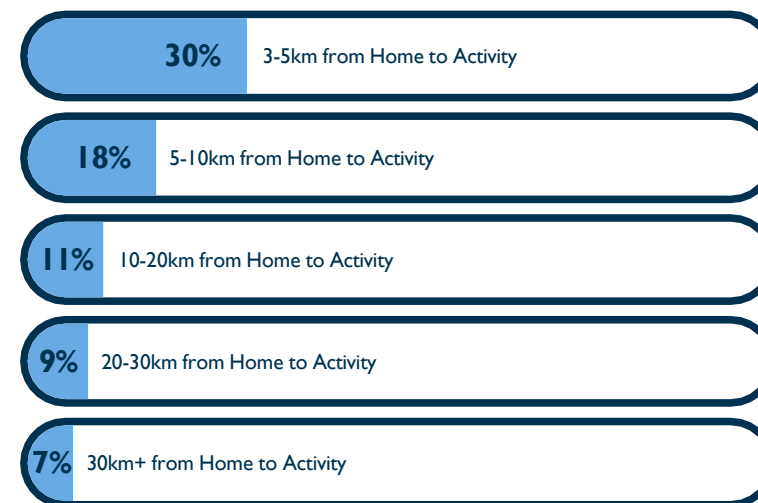
MAIN OR FAVOURITE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



Respondents identified that their favorite or preferred physical activities were walking 37%, fitness/gym 12%, running/jogging 11%, swimming 9%, bush walking 9%, basketball 5% and cycling/riding 4%.

Four of these activities use trails, paths and/or footpaths making 61% of respondents likely requiring trails, paths and footpaths to undertake their activity of choice. Trail connectivity, promotion and condition are key concerns to be addressed in the strategy as they reduce the likelihood of residents being physically active either for active transport or for exercise.

DISTANCE TRAVELLED TO PARTICIPATION IN FAVOURITE ACTIVITY



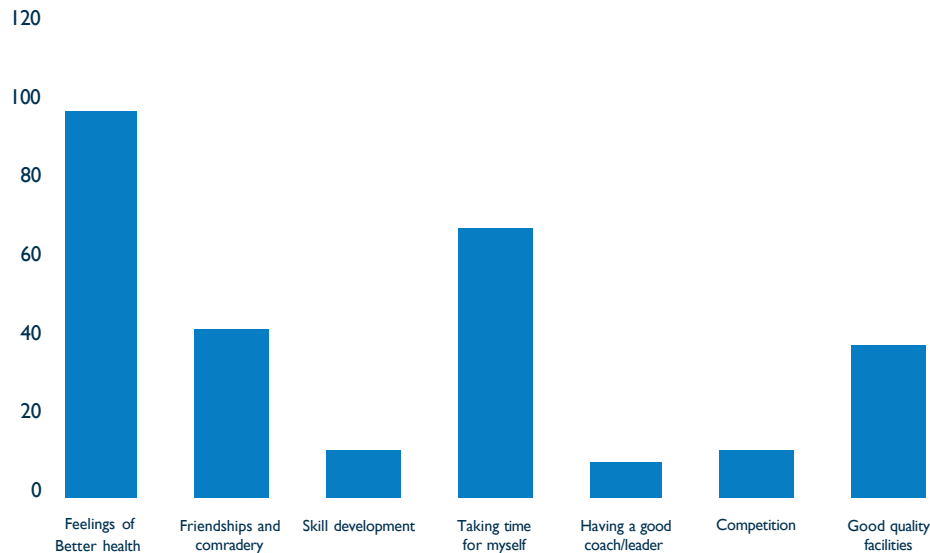
Approximately half the respondents (48%) identified that they travel less than 10 km to their activity of choice suggesting that their activity of choice is likely in Moorabool.

With the majority of the population and the largest forecast population growth in the next 10 years in the Bacchus Marsh area, consideration for continued improvement in facility accessibility, functionality and sustainability should be a focus in these areas. Trail connectivity and addressing safety and quality concerns would support residents utilising active transport to get to and from their chosen activity as well as other services.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

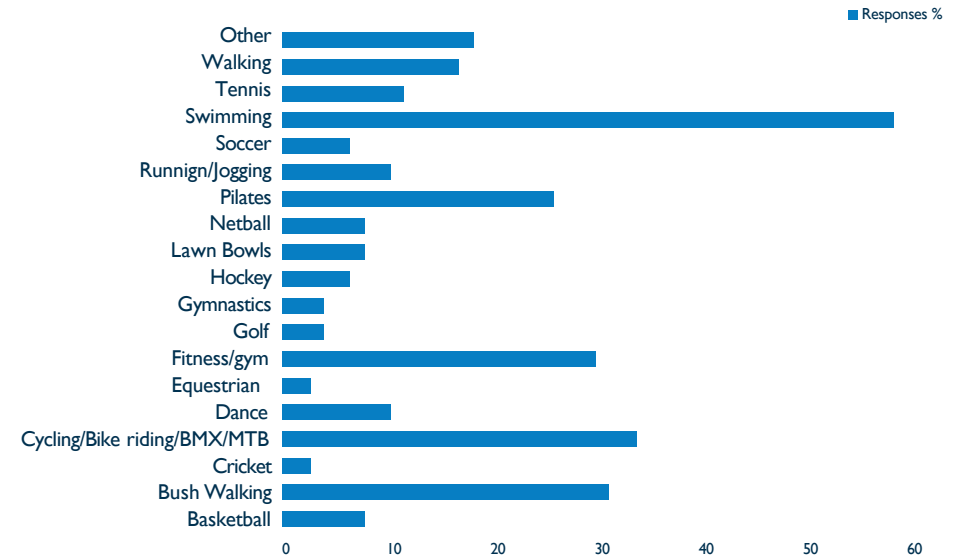
MOTIVATION AND ACTIVITIES

MOTIVATION TO BE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE % OF RESPONDENTS



Health and wellbeing is a primary reason that respondents get involved with physical activities, with 96% of respondents identifying feelings of better health as key to engagement. Other responses included taking time for myself (67%) and friendships and comradery at 42%.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO BUT DON'T

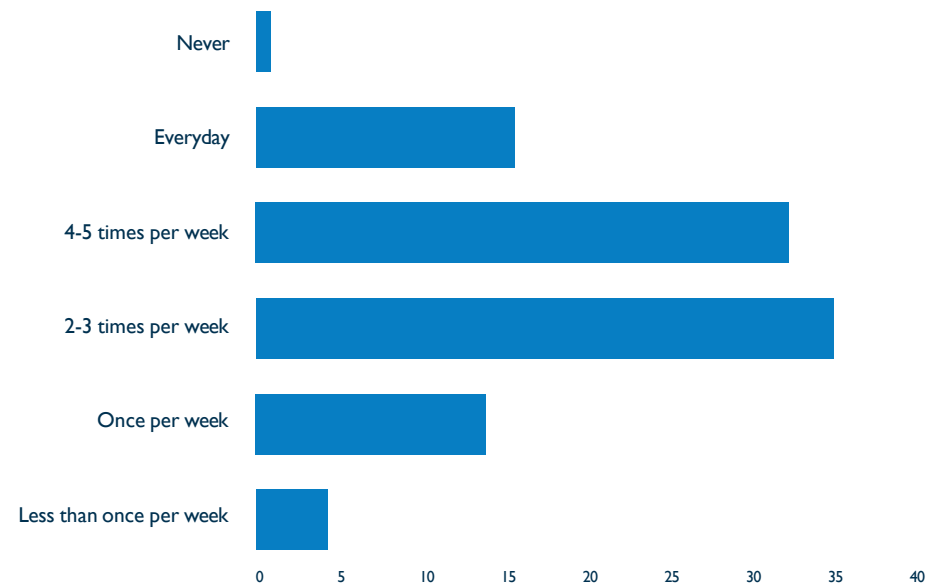


Most common response for activities that people do not do but would like to were swimming with 56% of respondents saying that they would like to do this activity. Pilates, fitness/gym, cycling and bush walking were other high responses. Activities that people listed as other activities that they would like to do but don't, included waterplay, indoor soccer, yoga, inclusive activities and pickleball.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

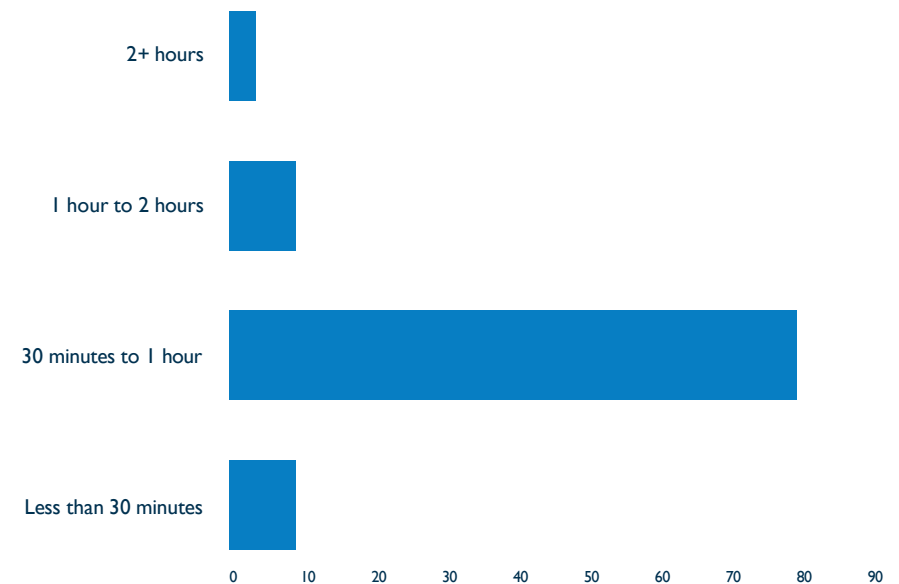
ACTIVITY LEVELS IN THE COMMUNITY

HOW OFTEN PEOPLE ARE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE?



The largest percentage of respondents said that they were moderately physically active 2-3 times per week (34%) followed by those saying that they were moderately physically active 4-5 times per week (32%).

WHEN YOU ARE ACTIVE, HOW LONG ARE YOU USUALLY ACTIVE FOR?



The largest percentage of respondents said that they were usually active for between 30 mins to 1 hour (78%).

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

WALKING AND CYCLING

- 89% of respondents said they walked or cycled in their local community.
 - Of those who said they walked or cycled, 92% of respondents said they walked or cycled for exercise. Less than 8% said they walked or cycled to commute to work, to public transport or to school or as a transport alternative.
- A significantly low response related to walking and cycling as a form of commuting rather than specifically for exercise may suggest that a reliance of cars is high in Moorabool.
 - Incorporating walking and cycling within your everyday life through active commuting provides not only the benefits of physical activity but also can reduce stress (through driving), traffic, pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
 - The community survey findings found that the highest number of respondents said that their preferred form of physical activity was walking with 37%, and 9% said that bushwalking was their preferred activity.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS

COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS

Interviews and workshops were held with members of the community focus group, primarily comprising of a cross section of sport and active recreation groups from across Moorabool Shire. Representatives of the following sport and recreational pursuits participated in the focus groups:

- Cricket
- Basebal
- Running
- Gymnastics
- Golf
- Dance
- Basketball
- Karate
- Equestrian
- BMX
- Soccer
- Lawn Bowls
- Dog Obedience
- Calisthenics

KEY ISSUES, OPPORTUNITIES FROM FOCUS GROUP CONSULTATION

- Facilities (buildings and fields of play) – quality, functionality and maintenance.
- Dog (including off-leash) walking opportunities needed.
- Development of opportunities for more flexibility and reach of sport development programs.
- Continued effort to develop all-gender inclusive facilities to support women and girls participation growth in a variety of sports.
- Signage and wayfinding opportunities.
- Trail connections, loops and coordination.
- Promotion of sport and recreation opportunities across the Shire.

COUNCILLOR AND STATE SPORTING ORGANISATIONS

COUNCILLOR FEEDBACK

Council staff undertook workshops with Moorabool Councillors. The following summarises the areas important to consider in the strategy:

- Trail network planning in rural and suburban settings.
- Trail connectivity.
- Marketing and promotion of trail opportunities.
- Support sports growth and provision.
- Informal outdoor recreational facilities.
- Explore opportunities to increase come and try activities across the Shire.
- Improve senior exercise offerings.
- Explore opportunities to increase passive recreational opportunities in small towns.
- Need to consider that facilities are multi-use.

STATE SPORTING ORGANISATION FEEDBACK

- Facilities (buildings and playing areas) – quality, functionality for a variety of users, plus social programming are key.
- Ground conditions, social and amenities spaces, maintenance, potential of looking to activation school grounds for community use.
- Development of opportunities for more flexibility and reach of sport development programs.
- Continued effort to develop all-gender inclusive facilities to support women and girls participation in a variety of sports.
- Social program development and activation in the community.
- Potential of facilities that help promote the sport but are available informally in the community such as skills parks and street soccer style facilities.
- Activation process of new facilities and spaces.
- Opportunities to expand some programs outside the traditional seasonal period.



OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Communities across the Moorabool Shire experience a range of opportunities, issues and challenges relating to recreation and leisure – including access, supply and delivery.

Moorabool Shire Council plays a crucial role in supporting community engagement in active lifestyles through:

- the provision of facilities
- developing plans and policies
- implementing programs
- offering services
- initiating partnerships, and
- promoting formal and informal recreation, sports and leisure activities.

The MRLS is designed to identify and address barriers to participation that are faced by Moorabool residents.

The eight identified opportunities and challenges (opposite) form the focus of the MRLS and the related strategic priorities and actions.

Further details on opportunities and challenges are included in the following pages. Opportunities and challenges have been identified through consultation, review of strategic context and background information assessed throughout the development of the MRLS.



INFORMATION

Identifying improvements and opportunities to promote sport, recreation and leisure activities to the broader community.



AGEING AND ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensuring that infrastructure for sport, recreation and leisure is fit for purpose, functional, sustainable and inclusive.



DIVERSITY IN PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

Communities are seeking a diverse range of ways to be active, including more active (informal) recreation opportunities.



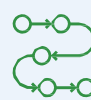
BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

Identifying and reducing barriers to participation (e.g. cost, distance, accessibility, lack of time) to ensure communities have equal access to sport and active recreation.



PARTNERSHIPS

Partnering with our community, land managers, governments and key stakeholders to grow participation in sport and active recreation.



PLANNING AND POLICY

Continued development and implementation of Council planning and policy direction that supports participation, diversity, inclusion, and financially and environmentally sustainable development.



VOLUNTEERS AND CLUBS

Ensuring club volunteers are adequately supported with training opportunities and policies that encourage sustainable growth and retention.



EQUAL ACCESS FOR ALL

Ensuring people of all ages, abilities, genders and cultures are able to be active, healthy and involved in sport and active recreation.

CONSIDERATIONS AND INFLUENCES

In addition to the key opportunities and challenges outlined on the previous page, the following outlines further opportunities, challenges and considerations that have influenced strategy development.

They have been refined into the following key themes:

- Organised sport
- Active recreation
- Connectivity and quality of trails and paths
- Partnerships
- Information and promotion
- Participation and use
- Asset management and maintenance
- Growth Area recreation planning
- Diversity and inclusion.

ORGANISED SPORT

- Provision of greater opportunities for new and emerging sports, short form or short season versions of sport, modified sports or pay and play opportunities.
- Ensure facilities are sustainable to develop and maintain, including fields of play and support facilities such as changerooms, social areas and precinct environments.
- Understanding the differing challenges (participation and facility challenges) between growth and more highly populated areas and those experienced in the regional parts of the Shire.
- Cost of maintaining existing organised sport facilities across the Shire to the levels required for competition sport.

- The cost to the residents to be involved in organised sport, which was identified as a significant barrier for many.
- Ensure that if an organised sport club closes or ceases operation, that opportunities to participate in other formats informally are still available (such as with tennis courts).

ACTIVE RECREATION

- Top activities identified in AusPlay state that activities commonly undertaken informally such as walking, running, bushwalking and cycling are most popular. Consultation responses support this and were equally popular in Moorabool.
- Ensuring that infrastructure, network planning, maintenance, quality and consistency and the connectivity of trails and paths that link between communities, services and open spaces are a focus.
- The development of suitable programs and facilities for supporting older adults to lead more active lifestyles close to their homes.
- Dog off-leash walking continues to grow as a popular active recreation pursuit especially in more populated areas within the Shire. Providing purpose-built dog off-leash walking areas with good connections to and from trail networks will support people become more active and provide important social interactions.
- The MRLS community survey identified that swimming ranked the third most liked physical activity among residents. Offering classes in warm water, casual swims, and memberships for lap swimming throughout the year will help meet the recreational needs of people of different ages in Moorabool, especially older and young residents.

CONNECTIVITY AND QUALITY OF TRAILS AND PATHS WITHIN COMMUNITIES

- 37% of respondents to the MRLS community survey said that walking was their main form of recreation or physical activity. Understanding the needs and networks to support this activity across the community is essential to promote both active recreation and active transport.
- Among respondents to the community survey, four out of the seven most popular activities cited as primary recreational pursuits involved using trail and path infrastructure.
- Continuing to plan, develop, adequately maintain, promote and identify existing trails and path networks and loops/ perimeter trails will be important.
- Identifying and incrementally developing the crucial missing connections in networks, prioritising both urban and rural areas, will help residents discover chances for casual exercise near their homes, promote active transportation, and connect residents with services, schools, and recreational options.
- Ensure that planning for trail / footpath and cycling connect through new developments in growth areas to link with existing connections and circuits, services, schools and open spaces.

CONSIDERATIONS AND INFLUENCES



PARTNERSHIPS

- Continue to work with existing partners such as state sporting organisations, existing activity providers and community committees of recreation and leisure to improve recreational outcomes.
- Need to engage with new partners who can support the development of programs, promotion and facilities. Partners that can assist in the delivery of new and emerging sports and activities (for example Pickleball, Futsal, Disc Golf, Parkrun and Hockey) will be important.
- Moorabool Shire manages its facilities under a range of management models. Partnerships with committees of management, local communities and land management authorities are an important way to improve the delivery of active lifestyles and suitable facilities to meet a range of sport, recreation and leisure activities.
- State Sporting Associations (SSA's), peak bodies and local associations understand the importance of partnering with Moorabool Shire, particularly around growing their footprint and developing their sports in a growing community. Building and maintaining these partnerships will provide further local participation opportunities.
- Moorabool Shire has many state-owned public spaces and recreational areas. Through partnering with the managers of these places and spaces, Council can ensure they continue to provide recreational benefits to both residents and visitors. Partnering on activities including promotion, maintaining quality, improving connectivity, and making sure they're accessible to everyone, will help everyone enjoy and benefit from these natural assets.

INFORMATION AND PROMOTION

- Need for improved promotion of organised sport opportunities that are delivered across the Shire to new and existing residents.
- Improving the provision of information and promoting of opportunities to participate in sport, recreation and leisure will help ensure more people know how and where to participate in sport, recreation and leisure locally.
- Information and promotion might include come and try events for a variety of different groups, ages and skill levels. It could also involve the building of partnerships and working alongside external activity providers such as AusCycling and parkrun to present opportunities to residents that are not currently offered in the community.
- Signage and wayfinding along with other forms of promotion and supporting the providers to promote their activities to new and existing residents and those that are less active will further provide opportunities to the community.
- Signage on the ground with coordinated digital approaches to ensure that identifying local and regional trails, playspaces, significant open spaces and recreational opportunities in Moorabool is easy, informative and accurate.

PARTICIPATION AND USE

- Many small communities in the Moorabool Shire have limited population growth, which doesn't encourage a significant increase in formal sports participation. In these areas, the focus should be on enhancing facilities in centralised areas to accommodate both current and future formal sports, as well as supporting new and emerging activities.
- Need to understand that sports grounds and associated facilities are used and needed to support more than a single activity. This needs to be reflected in the facility mix provided in building and field of play infrastructure.
- Many residents are time poor, have difficulty accessing opportunities that are too far away from their homes and restrained by the cost of recreation. Identifying opportunities for shorter, modified and more affordable opportunities for physical activity, sport and leisure will be important to getting those who are not active to become active in the community.
- Greater opportunities exists to develop a continued program of upgrades to existing facilities to meet the changing needs of sport and recreation in the community. Facility renewal and increased flexibility may reduce the short-term need for additional facility provision in existing communities.

CONSIDERATIONS AND INFLUENCES



ASSET MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- Ageing infrastructure, poor facility condition and functionality of recreation and leisure facilities can lead to lower physical activity outcomes across the community.
- Strategically upgrading existing facilities, including sports fields or outdated change rooms, through implementing master plan actions and ongoing asset renewal programs, will lead to greater use of these facilities. This, in turn, will provide additional opportunities for physical activity in more locations over time.
- It is important over-investment or over embellishment into facilities where formal sports are not played is not made. At the same time, a focus on creating fit-for-purpose facilities that ensure open spaces can be utilised for alternative recreational activities should also be maintained.
- Partnering with the managers of sport and recreation spaces (outside of Council spaces) is important to ensure that opportunities for organised sport, casual and informal recreational activities can be catered for.
- Understanding the impacts of climate change and the impacts of prolonged exposure to the sun are vital when planning, designing and developing sport and recreation infrastructure. Shade and shelter are two elements that need to be considered at every site, as well as along trail corridors. Turf species, irrigation system design and drainage system designs need to reflect both the changing climate as well as activities being undertaken.

GROWTH AREA RECREATION PLANNING

- Understanding the needs and providing opportunities for future residents to be involved in active recreation, sport, leisure and active transport are challenges for Moorabool.
- Ensuring that trails, footpaths and cycle infrastructure connect with neighbouring networks, open spaces and services will reduce car dependency for short trips and enhance the recreational experiences of future residents in new development areas. This provision needs to be largely understood before developers start planning the communities. Parks and open spaces can then be planned to link with the trails, community hubs and other services.
- Ensure that existing facilities are improved in areas where they are most needed; such as the higher growth areas, as part of recreational hubs in smaller townships and where they are connected with active transport/trail networks.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

- Developing sport specific facilities that meet the changing needs of the community (such as female friendly facilities) and help to provide opportunities for more flexible formats of sports and participation/development programs will continue to be required.
- People with higher barriers to participation require additional support including women and girls, young people, older adults, culturally diverse communities and people with a disability.
- Council's sport, recreation and leisure communication if targeted well can support the connection of diverse communities with physical activity, recreation and leisure opportunities. Supporting existing clubs and active recreation providers to understand the needs of the whole community will lead to increased opportunities to be active.
- When we involve new participants, it brings new challenges for clubs and communities. These challenges might include the need for different facilities, training volunteers to deliver new programs, ensuring accessibility, and scheduling activities at times that suit different groups.



HIKE & BIKE STRATEGY STATUS

ABOUT THE HIKE & BIKE STRATEGY



Since 2014 the Moorabool Hike and Bike Strategy (2014) has been a key strategic document guiding the direction of the paths, trails, transport routes and connections across Moorabool.

The 2014 Moorabool Hike and Bike Strategy was reviewed in detail as part of the development of this Background Report and in the preparation of the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy 2025-2035. A number of relevant projects and actions from the 2014 Hike and Bike Strategy have been retained and incorporated into Volume 2 – Implementation Plan for future action.

A decade has now passed since the development of the original Moorabool Hike and Bike Strategy. Over the 10-year period 2014 to 2024, 45 hike and bike capital projects exceeding

\$3.7M in value have been delivered (or partially delivered) through a combination of Council funding, government grants, developer contributions and other stakeholder investment as direct actions related to the strategy.

While this strategy continues to hold relevance for the Moorabool Shire, it is now considered to be retired.

Given the importance of the Hike and Bike Strategy, the Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy: Volume 1 – The Strategy has picked up the remaining and relevant strategic directions from the 2014 Strategy to help guide decision making for the planning and development of both the recreation and commuter hike and bike network throughout the Shire.

This section of the Volume 3 – Background Report provides an update on the status of documented recommendations and actions from the 2014 Strategy. It provides a response to each of the documented capital projects, and the level to which they have been implemented by Council and delivery partners.

As such, this implementation status review focuses on the proposed township works program. The 2014 Hike and Bike Strategy recommended 124 capital works projects worth more than \$9.3M (based on 2014 estimates).

The tables and maps presented in the following pages provide an action status for each recommended project, categorised by the definitions in the adjacent table.

Action status	Definition
Completed	Action has been completed as prescribed or as close as practical.
Partially completed	Action has been started but not yet completed. Elements are likely to have been completed based on practicality or available budget.
Proposed in Future Budget or Funding Program	Action scoped, planned and included within a future Council Budget year or as part of a n external funding program or commitment.
Superseded	Action is no longer relevant or has been addressed via alternative project or solution. The action may have also been investigated in greater detail and deemed not viable for delivery.
Incomplete	Action has not yet been commenced or has not yet been included within a documented Council Budget.

BACCHUS MARSH, DARLEY & MADDINGLEY



Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Albert Street	Cairns Drive to Robertsons Rd	Upgrade to shared path	Area undergoing development	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Lerderderg Track	Western Freeway to Avenue of Honour, extension of existing track	Proposed new shared path	Challenging topography	Shared Path	Secondary	Superseded
Albert Street	Fitzroy St to Gisborne Rd	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Bacchus Marsh Road	Holts Lane to existing footpath north west of Ascot Avenue	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Superseded
Cairns Drive	Robertsons Rd to Albert St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Partially completed
Franklin Street	Connecting current path to Griffith St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Holts Lane	Gisborne Rd to Lerderderg walking track	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Partially completed
Holts Lane	Halletts Way to Davies St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Holts Lane	Bacchus Marsh Rd to 40 m east of Ross St	New Footpath construction	Sharp bend and steep terrane	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Jonathan Drive	Edward Court to Taylor Drive	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	local	Complete
Jonathan Drive	Davies Drive, along Taylor Drive to Gisborne Rd	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Local	Superseded
Labilliere Street	Barry St to McCrae St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Labilliere Street	Connecting between Leisure Centre entrances	New Footpath construction	Existing path	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Main Street	Ascot Ave to roundabout at intersection with Halletts Way	New Footpath construction	Steep grade. Existing gravel path in this location	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Margaret Drive	Grant St to Clarinda St	New Footpath construction	Link to water channel shared path	Footpath	Local	Incomplete
Mimulus Road	Griffith St to Werribee Vale Rd	New Footpath construction	Developer contribution	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Morrison Drive	Wittick St to Grey St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
River Bend Road	Lerderderg track to start of existing footpath	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Robertsons Road	Links Rd to Lerderderg walking track	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Simpson Street	Bond St to Lord St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	local	Complete
Station Street	Bond St to Fiskin St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete

BACCHUS MARSH, DARLEY & MADDINGLEY



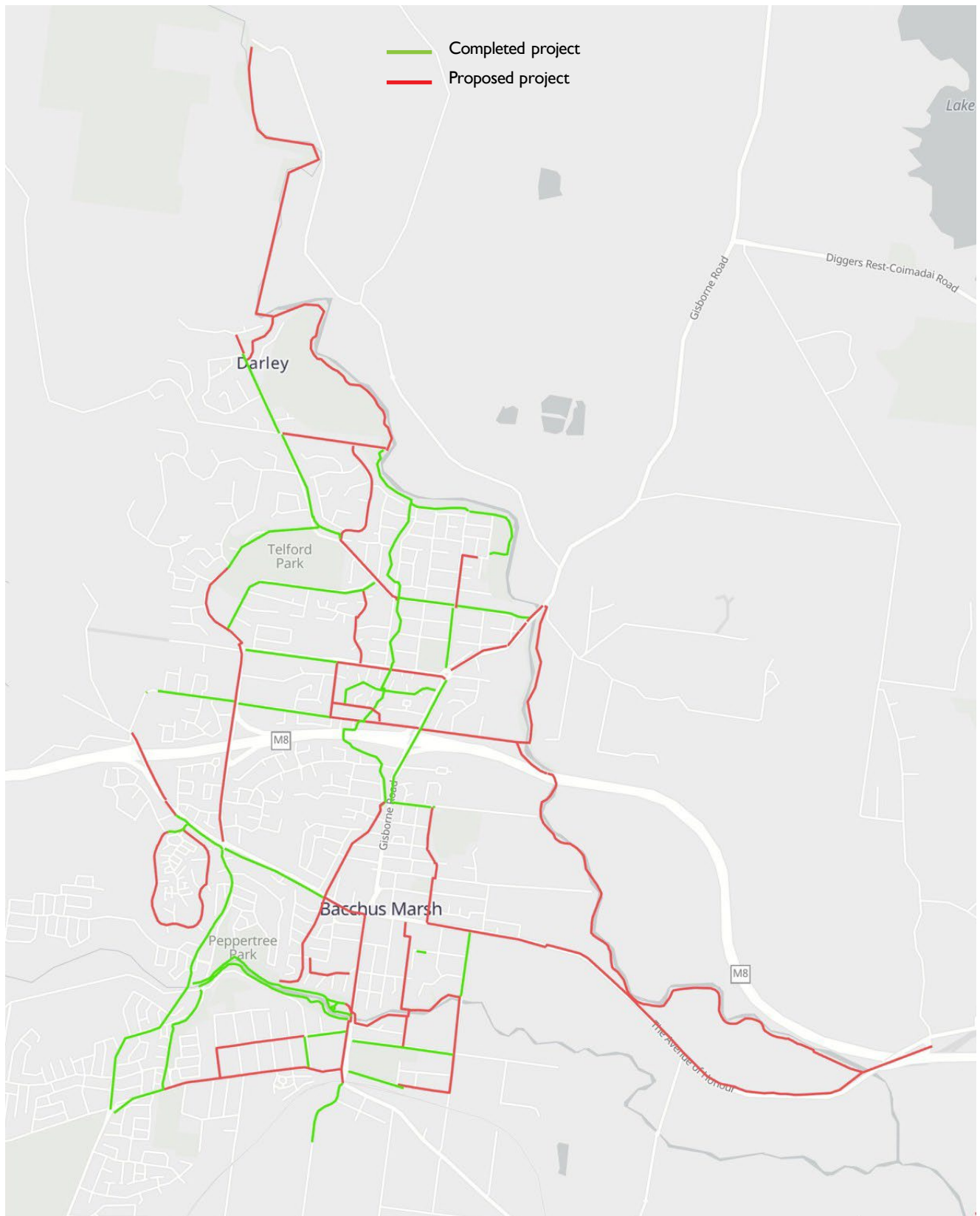
Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Taverner Street	Grant St to Bond St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Underbank Boulevard	Construction to begin and conclude at main St	New Footpath construction	Steep grade	Footpath	Secondary	Partially completed
Wittick Street	Albert St to existing path outside Scout Hall	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Gisborne Road	Wellington St to Albert St	New footpath construction	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Avenue of Honour	Moon Reserve to cemetery	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared path	Primary	Incomplete
Links Road	Robertson Road to Fairway Crescent	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Secondary	Complete
Main Street	Pearce St to existing Avenue of Honour Track	Proposed new shared path	Feasibility study required. Pedestrian overpass required over the Western Freeway.	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Main Street	Halletts Way to Donald Street	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Superseded
Masons Lane	Eastern side of Gisborne Rd, southbound to connect into Masons Lane Rec Reserve	Proposed new shared path	Look at extension to the Lerderderg River track in future	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Water channel shared pathway	Lerderderg Walking trail near Jannette Crt to Werribee River Track	Proposed new shared path	High cost and security concerns	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Pepper Tree Park Path	Pepper Tree Park East of Grant St, along the river	Upgrade existing gravel path to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Partially completed
Main Street	Grant S to Madden Drive	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Footpath	Primary	Partially completed
Fisken Street	Main Street to Pepper Tree Park	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Fitzroy Street	Grey St to Albert St	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Secondary	Complete
Gisborne Road	Leila Court to Grey Street	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Partially completed
Gisborne Road	Masons Lane to Leila Court	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Partially completed
Main Street	Young Street to Pearce Street	Upgrade to shared path	Feasibility study required	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Pepper Tree Park	Pepper tree park walking trail along the river	Upgrade to shared path	High construction costs	Shared Path	Secondary	Complete

BACCHUS MARSH, DARLEY & MADDINGLEY



Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
South Maddingley Road	Roundabout on Griffith St to School	Upgrade to shared path	New footpath in this location	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Station Street	Grant St to Station entrance	Upgrade to shared path	Links to Station	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Young Street	Masons Lane to Main Street	Upgrade to shared path	existing path	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Davies Street	Holts Lane to Grey Street	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Greenway through land	Bond Street to Main Street	Proposed new shared path	Depending of developer purchase of land	Shared Path	Primary	Superseded
Griffith Street	Cassinia St to Halletts Way extension	Proposed new shared path	land currently under development- developer contribution	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Griffith Street	Powlett Street to Grant Street	Proposed new shared path	busy section; school zone and bus stop area	Shared Path	Secondary	Confirmed in 2025/2026 via and grant funding – Safer Local Roads
Griffith Street	Stone Hill Drive to Powlett Street	Proposed new shared path	Developer has already constructed footpath along part of this section	Shared Path	Secondary	
Halletts Way	Main St to Griffith St	Proposed new shared path	Developers Contribution	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Grant Street	Roundabout at intersection with Gisborne Rd to Grammar school entrance	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Grant Street Service Road	Meikle St to South Maddingley Rd	Upgrade to shared path	Heavy traffic and school zone area	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Grey Street	Davies Street to Gisborne Road	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Secondary	Complete
Halletts Way	Main St to Links Rd	Upgrade to shared path	Developer contribution/ Freeway Crossing	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Grey Street	Davies St to Gisborne Rd	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Secondary	Complete
Barry Street	Griffith Street to Labilliere Street	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete

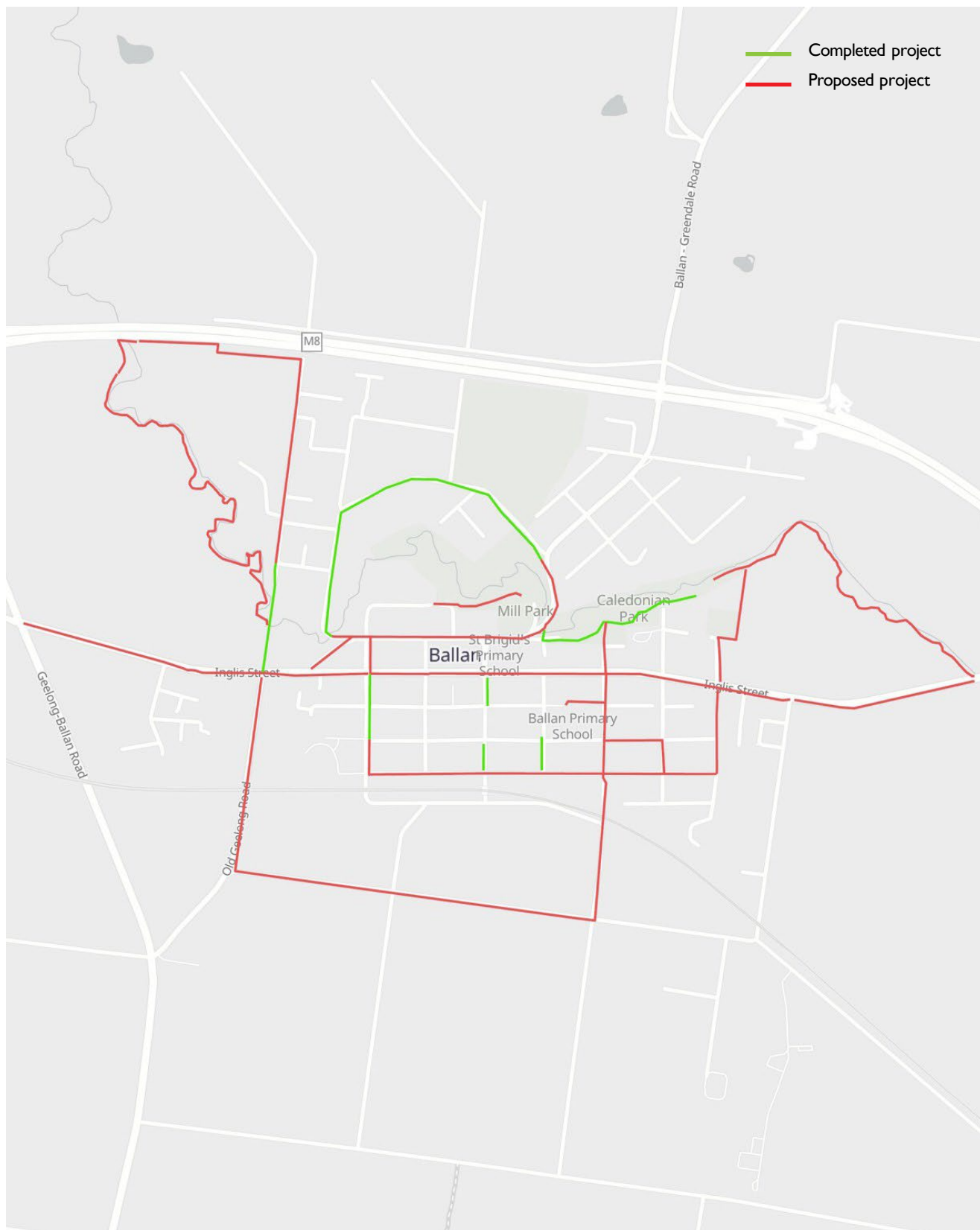
BACCHUS MARSH, DARLEY & MADDINGLEY



Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Caledonian Park	Along the Werribee River- extension of existing trail	Proposed new shared path	Consultation required with Melbourne Water	Shared Path	Secondary	Incomplete
Duncan Street	Edols St to Atkinson St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Complete
Edols Street	Windle St to Jopling St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Jopling Street	Edols St to Atkinson St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Stead Street	Inglis St to Steiglitz St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Confirmed in 25/26 Budget
Stead Street	Edols St to Atkinson St	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Partially completed
Steiglitz Street	Duncan Street to Windle Street	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Superseded
Ballan Cemetery	Ballan Cemetery to Werribee River/ Caledonian Park	Proposed new shared path	Investigate further river crossing	Shared Path	Secondary	Incomplete
Ballan Swimming Pool	Roch Court to Ballan Swimming Pool	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Local	Complete
Berry Street	Blackwood Street to Spencer Road	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Bradshaw Street	Inglis street to Simpson Street	Proposed new shared path	Medium	Shared Path	Local	Incomplete
Cowie Street	Edols Street to Atkinson Street	Proposed new shared path	Entrance to the Ballan Recreation Reserve.	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Hogan Road	Inglis Street to Densley Street	Proposed new shared path	Possible river crossing. Possibly funded through developer contributions or included within development	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Hogan Road	From Densley St to Freeway	Proposed new shared path	Developer's contribution	Shared Path	Primary	Complete
Hogan Road	West extension from No 64 to River	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Secondary	Incomplete
Old Geelong Road	Inglis St to Gillespies Lane	Proposed new shared path	Possibly funded through developer contributions or included within development of residential area.	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Old Melbourne Road	Ingliston Road to Werribee River	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Spencer Street	Berry St to Simpson Street	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Complete

Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
West of Hogan Road	Hogan Road extension West along Werribee River	Proposed new shared path	Possibly funded through developer contributions or included within development of residential area.	Shared Path	Secondary	Incomplete
Atkinson Street	Cowie Street to Lay Street	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Blackwood Street/Greendale Road	Round about to Berry Street	Upgrade to shared path	N/A (Current existing path is new and in good condition)	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Cowie Street	Inglis St to Edols Street	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Gillespies Lane	Old Geelong Rd to Windle Street	Upgrade to shared path	Proposed shared path	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Inglis Street	Geelong Ballan Rd to Sunline Court	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Lay Street	Atkinson St to Old Melbourne Rd	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Lay Street	Old Melbourne to Gosling Street Cemetery	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Secondary	Incomplete
Simpson Street	Spencer Rd to Blackwood St and Caledonian Park entrance	Upgrade to shared path	N/A(Priority and cost estimate are not given for this segment)	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Windle Street	Windle St pathway from Gillespies Lane to Simpson Street	Upgrade to shared path	Possibly funded through developer contributions or included within development of residential area.	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete

BALLAN



BLACKWOOD

Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Martin Street	Simmons Reef Rd to Golden Point Rd	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Blackwood Crown Recreation	Reserve, along Simmons Reef Rd to Greendale Trentham Forrest Rd	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Blackwood Street road reserve	Recreation Reserve to Muddy Lane	Proposed new shared path	Area prone to flooding in heavy rainfall	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete



BUNGAREE

Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Bungaree Wallace Road	Railway Line to outside No 342	New Footpath construction	Path to Primary school	Footpath	Primary	Incomplete
Bungaree Wallace Road	Bungaree- Wallace Road to No 322	Upgrade to shared path	Part of this is already existing	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete



DUNNSTOWN

Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Dunnstown Road	Roundabout to end of residential area (approx. 250m)	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Ti Tree Road	Old Melbourne Rd intersection (approx. 250 m)	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Old Melbourne Road	Dunnstown Rd to Oval	Upgrade to shared path	Crossing a railway line	Shared path	Primary	Complete



Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Austins Road	Pearsons Rd to Elaine Egerton Rd	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Local	Incomplete
Elaine Egerton Road	Main S to Austins Rd	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Pearsons Road	Midland Highway to Austins Road	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Midland Highway	Recreation Reserve to CFA building along Midland Hwy	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Primary	Complete



GORDON

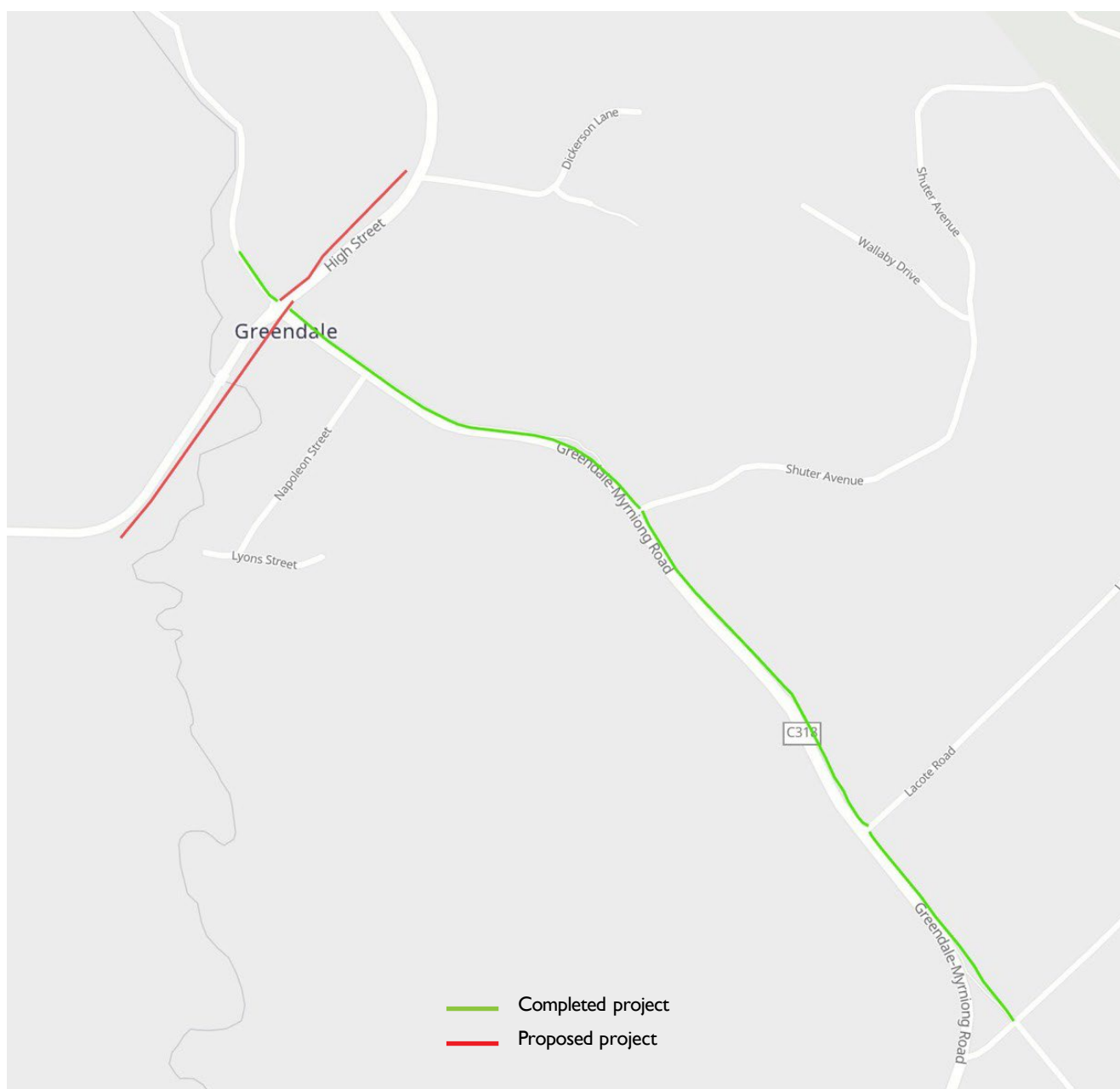
Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Cartons Road	Paddock Creek extension to Main Street	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Gladstone Street	Main Street to Hopwood Place	New Footpath construction	NA	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Main Street	From Lyndhurst Street to Cartons Rd	New Footpath construction	N/A	Footpath	Primary	Incomplete
Paddock Creek Reserve	Gladstone St to Cartons Rd	New Footpath construction	Crown Land	Footpath	Secondary	To be completed in 2025/26 via Active Transport Fund
Stanley Street	Dicker Street to Hopwood Place	New Footpath construction	NA	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Thomas Drive	Ruxton Way to Hopetoun Park	New Footpath construction	NA	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Stanley Street	Main St to Dicker St connecting to footpath outside primary school	New footpath construction	NA	Shared Path	Secondary	Complete
Old Melbourne Road	Cartons Road to 200 m east of Willunga Avenue	New Footpath construction	NA	Footpath	Primary	Complete



GREENDALE

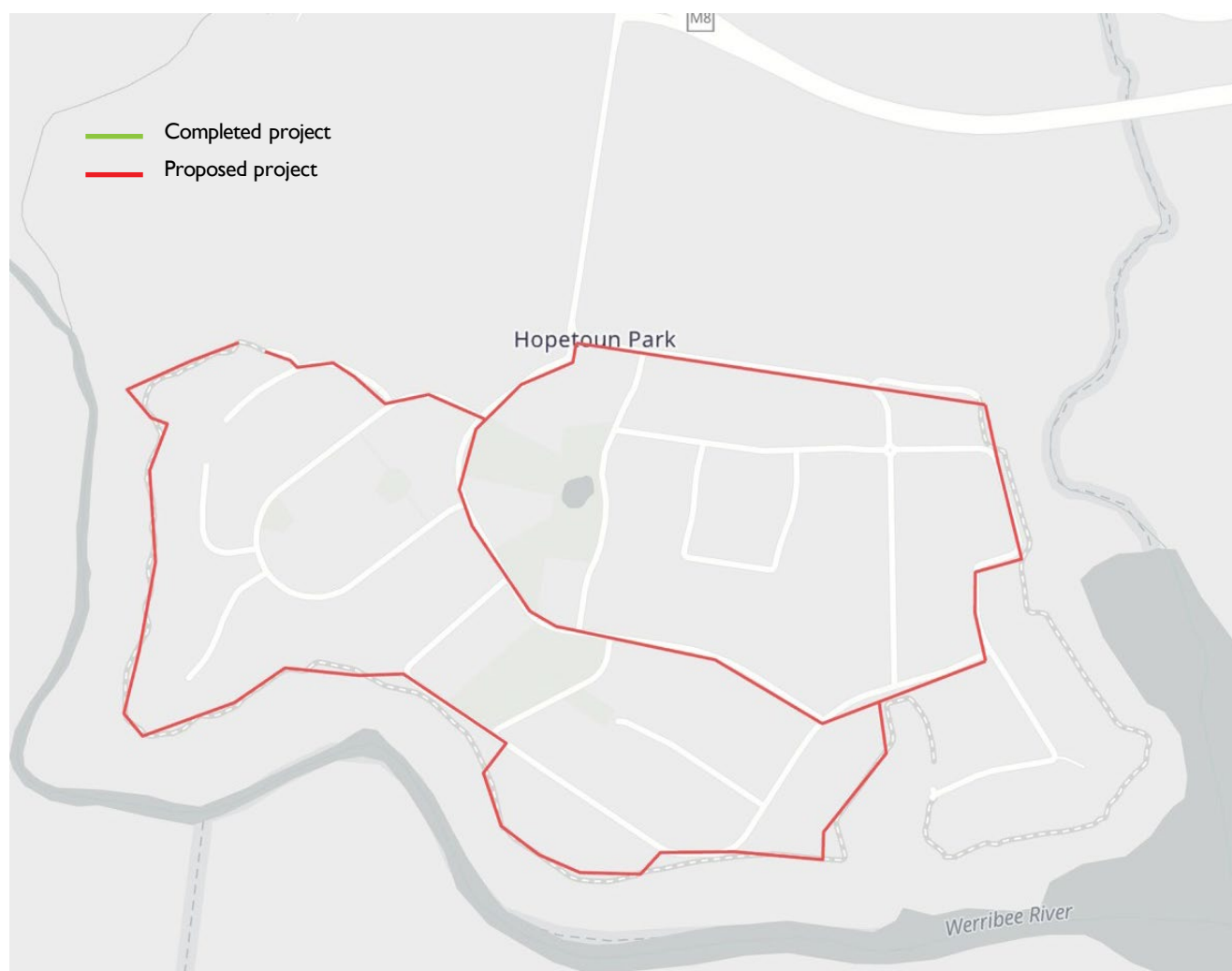


Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Brady Lane	Recreation Reserve to roundabout	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Local	Complete
Ballan Greendale Road	Roundabout to end of residential area	New Footpath construction	Footbridge may be required over the river. Road is too narrow to accommodate footpath	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete

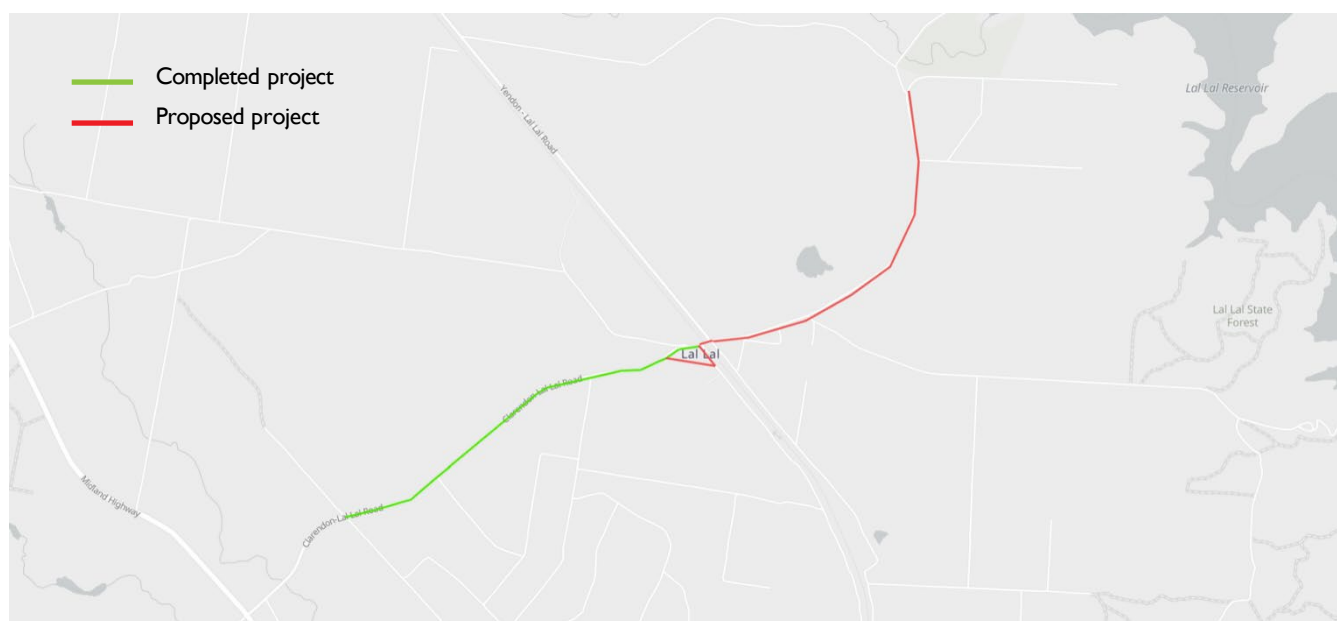


HOPETOUN PARK

Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Hopetoun Park Road	Thomas Drive to Ruxton Way	New Footpath construction	NA	Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Hammond Circuit	Selby Court to Riverview Road	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Selby Court	Webb Crt trail entrance along Selby Crt to Hammond Circuit	New footpath construction	NA	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Circling Hopetoun Park area	Walking trail circling Hopetoun Park	Upgrade existing trail to gravel footpath	Consultation required with Western Water and very steep topography	Unsealed footpath	Local	Incomplete
River View Road	Riverview Dr roundabout along Ruxton Way to join existing trail intersecting View Gully Rd	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Primary	Incomplete



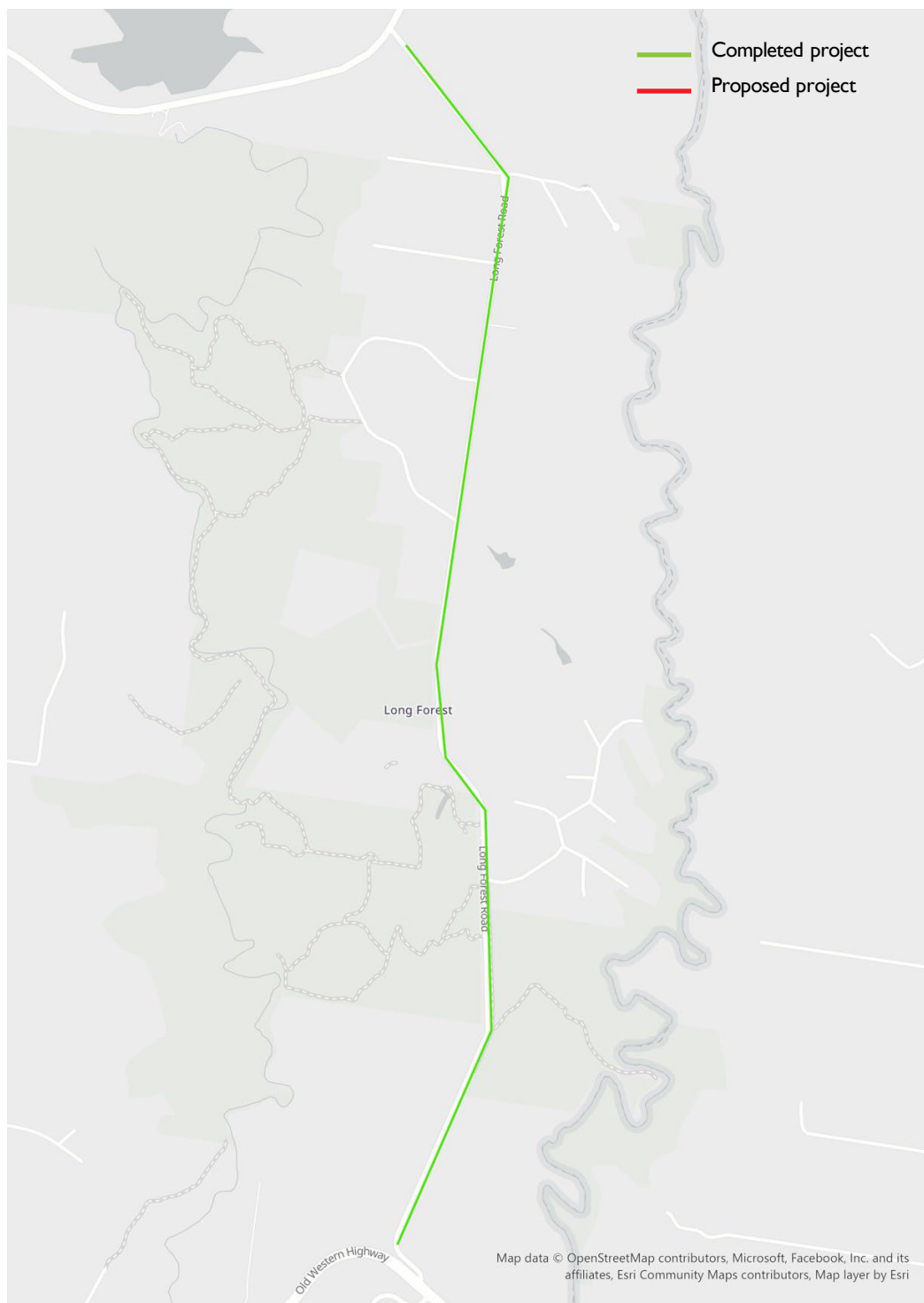
Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Clarendon Lal Lal Road	Along Clarendon- Lal Lal Rd from Rosella Rd to Eaglehawk Rd	New footpath construction	NA	Unsealed footpath	Primary	Partially completed
Eaglesons Road	Clarendon La La to Vaugh Street	New footpath construction	NA	Unsealed footpath	Local	Incomplete
Eaglesons Road/ Vaughan Street	Clarendon Lal Lal to Eaglesons Rd	New footpath construction	NA	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Lal Lal Falls Road	Intersection at Yendon – Lal Lal Rd to Ironmine Rd	New footpath construction	NA	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete



LONG FOREST



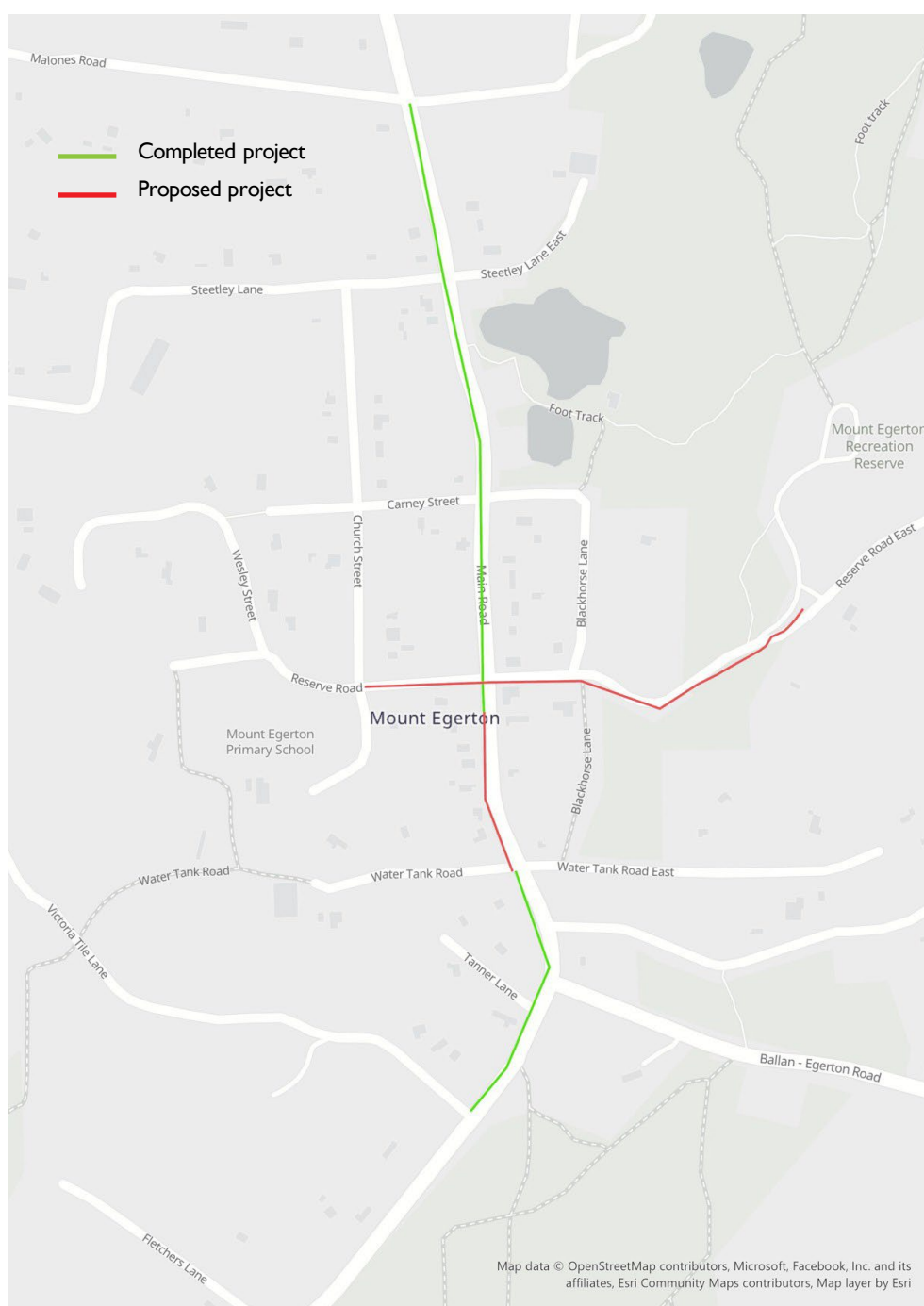
Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Long Forest Road	Existing track from freeway to Sundew	Maintain current existing path	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Local	Superseded



MOUNT EGERTON

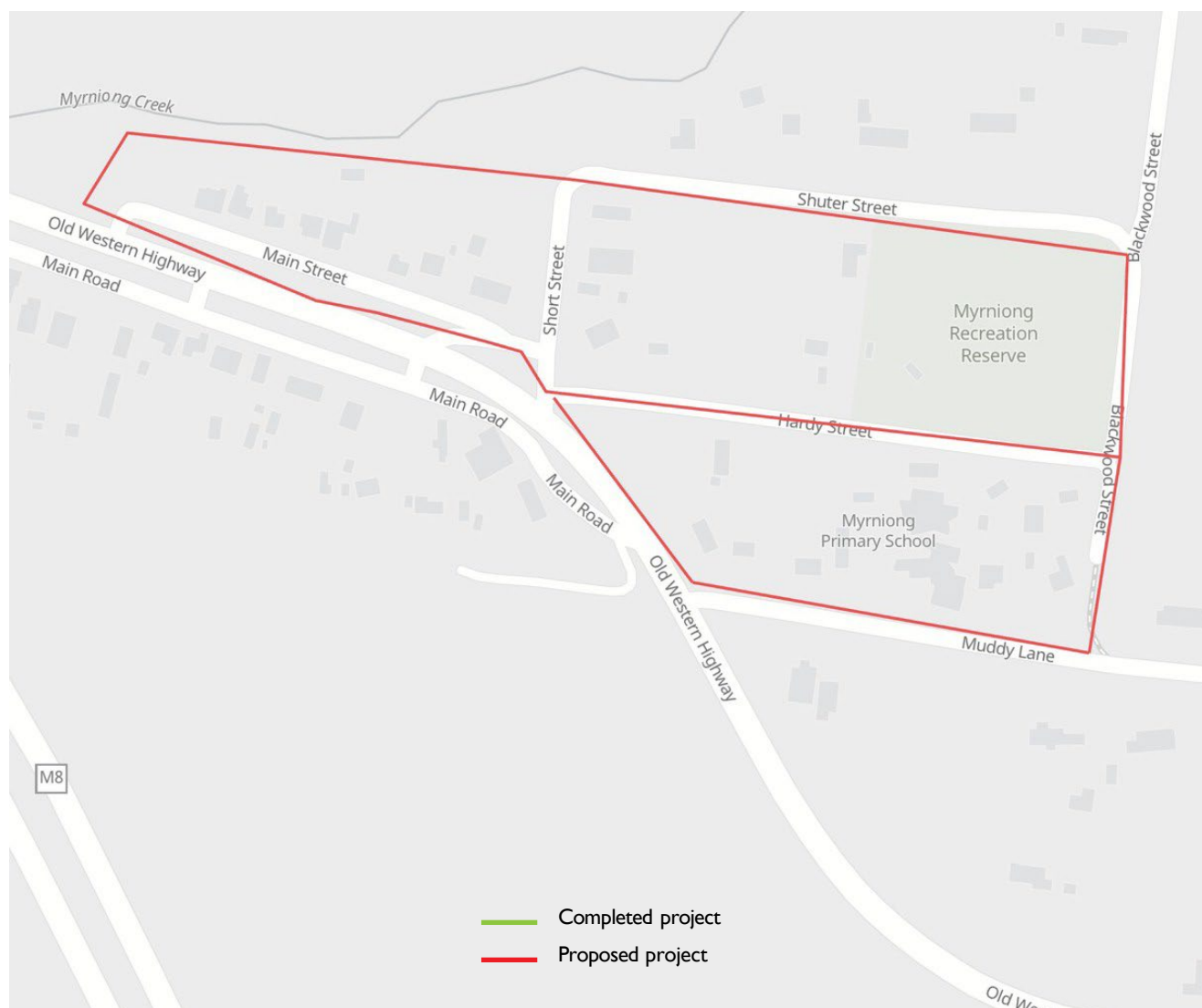


Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Main Street	Whipstick Road to Water Tank Road	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Primary	Partially completed
Reserve Road	Primary school on Reserve Rd to the Recreation Reserve.	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Primary	Incomplete

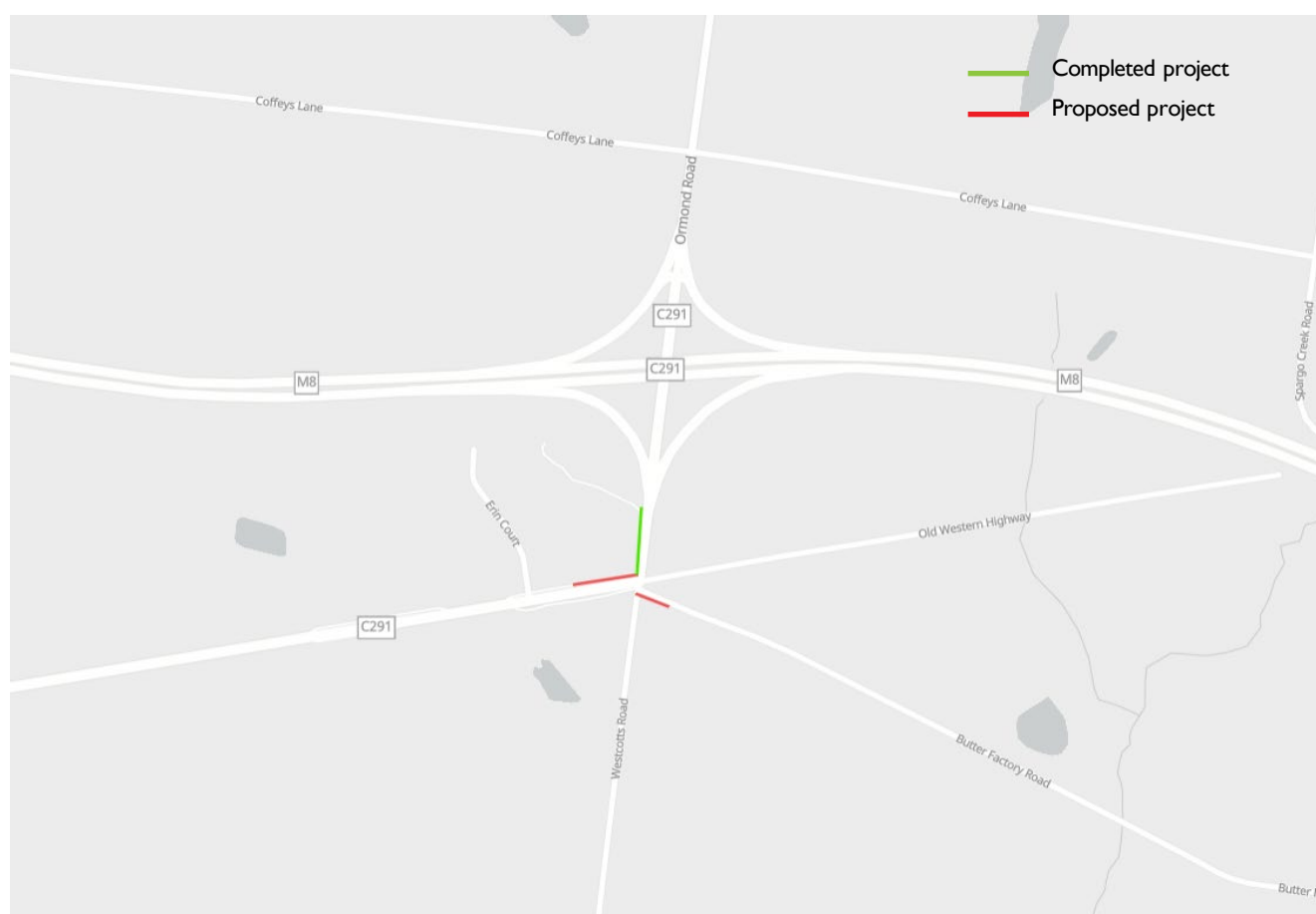


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Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Old Western Highway	Old Melbourne Rd to existing path approx. 100m north	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Footpath	Secondary	Confirmed in 2025/26 Budget
Shuter Street, Hardy Street	Winding through Myrniong, beginning at the Recreation Reserve before winding through the Jim Barry Rese	Proposed new shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Confirmed in 2025/26 Budget
Muddy Lane	Western Freeway to Blackwood Street	Upgrade to shared path	Existing footpath was constructed in 2009	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete
Old Western Freeway	Short Street to Muddy Lane	Upgrade to shared path	N/A	Shared Path	Primary	Incomplete



Road Name	Location	Description of Works	Considerations	Type of Path	Priority Category	Status
Butter Factory Road	Intersection to end of built up area. approx. 100m	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed Footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Bungaree Wallace Road	Erin Crt to Ormond Rd intersection along Bungaree- Wallace Rd	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed footpath	Secondary	Incomplete
Ormond Street	Bungaree Wallace Road to Oval	New footpath construction	N/A	Unsealed Footpath	Primary	Complete





The Moorabool Recreation and Leisure Strategy was prepared by
insideEDGE Sport & Leisure Planning for Moorabool Shire Council