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LAKE WENDOUREE MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION (WENDOUREE ELECTORATE)

The Ask

\$5.9 million to deliver a suite of Lake Wendouree projects that will enhance existing facilities and the experience of people visiting the lake.

- The *Lake Wendouree Master Plan* has extensive community and stakeholder support and therefore a high level of community expectation it will be implemented in a timely fashion

Overview

The *Lake Wendouree Master Plan* was developed over an 18-month period and included three extensive community consultation stages. It was adopted by Council in November 2017; providing the community with a strategic vision for the lake and environs that aims to support the lake's activation and enhancement as an inclusive centre of community life, while protecting its character, views, trees and environmental functions.

Key improvements in the master plan include:

- Installation of lighting (\$1.8 million) and outdoor gym equipment – 4x outdoor exercise stations - (\$1 million) around the Steve Moneghetti track
- Development of an Indigenous Sculpture Trail in the North Gardens (\$250,000)
- New and improved footpaths, access and linkages to Victoria Park and Wendouree Railway Station (\$650,000–\$700,000)
- Further tree planting and native plantings in selected areas (\$300,000)
- Bicycle lane, parking and traffic management improvements around Wendouree Parade and the lake foreshore

- Amenity improvements including new BBQ's (\$100,000), seats and signage and upgrades to playgrounds (\$500,000) and public toilets x2 (\$450,000)

Context

Lake Wendouree is integral to Ballarat's recreational and cultural identity. Its proud rowing history, as home of the 1956 XVI Olympics rowing events, and recent hosting of the World Masters Rowing Championships, helped place Ballarat on the international sporting stage.

The lake and surrounding gardens precinct provide a valuable natural environment and open space parklands for the community's daily use, and supports a broad range of recreational and aquatic sports, major events and tourist attractions.

Despite increasing development pressures on the lake from population growth, the *Lake Wendouree Master Plan* provides Council with a balanced, long-term strategic vision for the lake's development and management. Its successful implementation will ensure Lake Wendouree continues to be Ballarat's most popular, iconic and well-used community park for the next 20 years.



The Benefits

The *Lake Wendouree Master Plan*'s implementation will provide:

- Improved recreational facilities and park amenity to support the community's health and wellbeing
- Improved pedestrian and cycling safety, accessibility and connectivity
- Enhanced bio-diversity outcomes
- Improved traffic management and car parking infrastructure
- Increased activation and tourism in the lake and gardens precinct whilst protecting environmental, landscape, heritage and cultural values

Strategic Alignment

- Council Plan 2017–2021
- 2015 Ballarat Strategy
- 2017 *Lake Wendouree Master Plan*

Project Status

- *Lake Wendouree Master Plan* adopted with broad community and stakeholder support
- Some projects underway including indigenous sculpture trail, path and access improvements, tree planting, preparation of management plans
- Funding opportunities being explored to implement priority actions including lake foreshore lighting of Steve Moneghetti track. (City of Ballarat submitted a \$1.7 million EOI for funding to Regional Development Victoria in March 2018)