

INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARTICULAR USES

Overview

Moyne has a number of major highways, rail lines and other transport facilities that provide excellent transportation options within the Shire and to other areas and centres. The national highway traverses the southern section of the Shire, linking the municipality with Melbourne and Adelaide and the regional centres of Portland and Colac.

The Hopkins and Hamilton Highways are important roads within the Shire for internal travel and for connection to Hamilton and Warrnambool. There are numerous other main roads that provide transport corridors for passenger and freight purposes.

The Great Ocean Road is a major tourist asset that runs from the south east corner of the Shire to the Princes Highway, immediately north of the Cheese and Butter factory at Allansford.

A passenger rail service operates from the Warrnambool and Terang stations providing three services each day to and from Melbourne. A regional airport facility also operates within the Shire.

Water

Domestic water supply for the townships is presently provided by the following water authorities using ground water or lake supplies:

- Portland Coast Region Water Authority serves Port Fairy;
- South West Water Authority serves Mortlake, Koroit, Caramut, Purnim, Peterborough and Allansford; and
- The Glenelg Region Water Authority supplies water to Macarthur.

South West Water advises that alternative bore sites are presently being examined for Mortlake due to the increasing salts content of the existing supply. Ultimately this may require that Mortlake be supplied from the Otway system. As far as Koroit is concerned, it is proposed to connect to the Warrnambool system in 5-6 years time.

It has been suggested that the South West, Portland Coast and Glenelg Water Authorities may be amalgamated in the near future.

Sewerage

Port Fairy, has a reticulated sewerage systems provided by Portland Coast Region Water Authority. The South West Water Authority is currently constructing sewerage systems in Mortlake and Koroit.

Port Fairy's waste water system has large capacity services extending to the present edge of development. The waste is processed at a new treatment plant in the northwest of the town. A new wastewater facility is under construction for processing Mortlake's waste, to the south east of the town.

It is proposed that wastewater from Koroit will soon be piped to Warrnambool for processing. The disused Warrnambool to Koroit Railway Line is being used as a corridor to convey this pipeline.

The provision of wastewater infrastructure to service Macarthur is presently being investigated by the Glenelg Region Water Authority.

The establishment of wastewater services in Peterborough would be difficult to achieve given the terrain of this area, even though this is a township that requires an improved method of waste disposal.

Infrastructure Planning, Design and Construction

The design, management and delivery of infrastructure are key issues for Council. The Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) prepared by the Local Government Infrastructure Design Association has been adopted by Council and includes guidelines for the design and construction of infrastructure

within the municipality, including (among other things) roads, drainage, stormwater, car parking, landscaping, access, earthworks, public lighting and intersection infrastructure. The IDM complements the objectives and standards of Clause 56 for residential subdivision applications.

Roads

A combined state and local government road network of thousands of kilometres provides access within and to the Shire. All roads in the Shire are managed and maintained by Council with the exception of the following VicRoads declared roads:

Princes Hwy, Hamilton Hwy, Hopkins Hwy, Ayresford Rd, Cobden-Warrnambool Rd, Great Ocean Rd, Hamilton-Port Fairy Rd, Macarthur-Penshurst Rd, Mailors Flat-Koroit Rd, Mortlake-Ararat Rd, Myanmyn-Macarthur Rd, Penshurst-Warrnambool Rd, Spencer Rd, Terang-Mortlake Rd, Timboon-Nullawarre Rd, Warrnambool- Caramut Rd, Woolsthorpe-Heywood Rd.

Vic Roads traffic counts over the period 1992-1995 recorded two-way traffic volumes on the Princes Highway of between 2000 and 2700 vehicles per day (vpd), with truck movements varying between 370 and 400 vpd. Over the same period, the two-way traffic volumes recorded on the Hamilton Highway varied between 1000 and 1100 vpd, with truck movements varying between 100 and 200 vpd.

The former planning schemes for the Shire included Highway Environs Zones to promote safe and efficient roads. The new planning scheme will provide the same degree of protection by way of the State Planning Policy Framework and the particular provisions that will:

- protect the amenity of the arterial roads.
- maintain and enhance the safety of the arterial roads and prevent ribbon development.
- control access to and from arterial roads from individual properties and from any development of a property.
- ensure that conflict between arterial road use and abutting land uses is minimised.

Ports and Harbours

The Port of Port Fairy is located within the visually important Port Fairy-Moyne River environs. The Port infrastructure caters for recreational boaters, a small fishing fleet and the annual refitting of fishing trawlers into squid boats.

In November 1995 the responsibility for the Port Fairy Port was transferred to Department of Natural Resources and Environment. It subsequently appointed the Council as the Committee of Management.

Energy and Power

Three-phase electricity is generally distributed throughout the municipality and its availability is dependent on the site(s) selected. A study is currently being undertaken to determine the requirements and options for upgrading electricity supplies into rural areas.

Telecommunications

Telstra aims to meet all demand for the full range of telecommunications services. Telstra is driven by customer requirements, which ultimately determine when and where the networks are located. Current legislation provides a framework of rules under which Telstra is governed and includes a Code of Compliance, which effectively gives local government a path to input on any decision concerning land use and other activities which may impact on the land. Telstra is also a referral authority and local government is required to provide information on details of subdivisions prior to issuing permits. This allows Telstra to reserve land for future plant and equipment purposes.

Fire fighting

Fire fighting services are provided for the Shire by the CFA. The Shire's fire risk is considered to be moderate in comparison to other areas because of the absence of vegetation and densely populated areas, and because of the availability of water supplies. There are a number of areas within the Shire have been identified as having a high risk of wildfire.

Transport

Moyne contains a number of main roads and highways, providing excellent internal connection and ready access is provided to the neighbouring centres of Warrnambool, Portland, Hamilton, Colac, as well as Ballarat, Geelong and Melbourne.

An aerodrome east of Koroit and west of Mailors Flat which is used for emergency air links, freight facilities for local producers, and has the potential to be developed for commuter service. It is important that uses that are not compatible with the long-term operation of the aerodrome are not allowed to establish around this facility.

Community Services

Health and community support services are provided to the residents of the Shire by a number of agencies, and requires coordination at a number of levels.

Moyne Shire has two public hospitals located in Port Fairy and Koroit. The Port Fairy Hospital has 30 beds and also provides an outpatient service. There is also a 25 bed hostel on the hospital site, and plans exist to establish a new 30 bed nursing home. The former hospitals at Mortlake and Macarthur are now used as an outreach centre for medical and social purposes. In addition, of course, the residents of the Shire are served by the Warrnambool Base Hospital, and also have access to the Public Hospital at Hamilton.

The Department of Human Services provides the following accommodation facilities in the main centres of Port Fairy, Koroit and Macarthur:

- In Port Fairy, a total of 60 facilities comprising 8 bed-sits, and 13 one-bedroom, 14 two-bedroom and 25 three-bedroom facilities.
- In Koroit, a total of 27 facilities comprising 7 bed-sits, 4 one-bedroom, 4 two-bedroom, 11 three-bedroom and one 4-bedroom facilities.
- In Macarthur, a total of 9 facilities comprising 7 bed-sits and 2 one-bedroom facilities.

Education

There are 12 state schools providing primary and secondary school teaching for approximately 1300 students across the Shire, at the following locations:

Cudgee, Koroit and District Primary School, Woolsthorpe Primary School, Caramut Primary School, Panmure Primary School, Macarthur Primary School, Nullawarre and District Primary School, Bessibelle Primary School, Mortlake P12 College, Grassmere Primary School, Hawkesdale P12 College, Port Fairy Consolidated School.

Recreation

Recreation facilities provide a valuable social focus for the Shire's townships and surrounding districts. It is generally considered that there is a good range of recreation facilities and services located throughout the Shire. However because of population change and the decline in discretionary incomes, it is becoming increasingly difficult for communities to raise the funds required to maintain and improve their recreation facilities.

The structure and composition of the Shire's population, rather than its size, is expected to change dramatically over the next 15 years, and will necessitate a review of recreation service strategies. In this regard, the issue of an ageing population will require careful consideration as far as the type

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of recreation services to be provided is concerned (eg retirement planning, education for leisure services, passive low impact leisure services, therapeutic recreation services, social recreation services and/or cultural and entertainment services).

Gaming

There are no existing gaming facilities within the Moyne Shire, although the Port Fairy football club has received permission for the establishment of a gaming facility in a hotel in Port Fairy. It is Council policy to discourage further expansion.

Issues

The key strategic issues are:

- The increasing pressure on Council for the provision and maintenance of infrastructure services.
- Council cannot totally fund the level of infrastructure that has come to be expected.
- There is a need to seek alternative sources of funding to establish or upgrade infrastructure services.
- There is considerable pressure being placed on the existing infrastructure services.
- Increased cost of power supply establishment.
- Increased road maintenance cost.
- Increased size of vehicles using rural roads for dairy and timber production.

Objectives

- Maintain an efficient and comprehensive range of community facilities.
- Encourage development in locations where a range of infrastructure and appropriate community services are available.
- Where reticulated sewer is not available ensure that a high standard of effluent disposal is achieved and that all wastewater is retained within the site.
- Ensure that new developments in the small settlements and on urban/rural interface are adequately designed and serviced to take into account the risk of uncontrolled fire.
- Maintain and enhance public transport to and within Moyne.
- Provide facilities and services that satisfy the range of community needs for children, youth and the aged.
- Provide a range of recreational, cultural and entertainment facilities that serve the needs of all age groups in the community.
- Discourage any further expansion of Gaming venues or machines within Moyne.
- Protect the Premier Speedway at Allansford from encroachment by residential development.
- To provide clear and consistent guidelines for the planning, design and construction of infrastructure.

Strategies

- To maintain and enhance key infrastructure.
- To ensure existing infrastructure is adequately maintained and new infrastructure provided.
- To ensure that private developers contribute to the provision of new infrastructure.
- Prepare a development contribution plan which requires private developers to contribute towards the provision of identified key infrastructure.
- Identify key infrastructure which is essential to the sustainable future of the Shire

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- Seek funding of new or upgraded infrastructure from alternative sources such as development contributions.
- To ensure infrastructure is provided in the most cost-effective manner, whilst ensuring equitable servicing of the whole municipality.
- To encourage new development to concentrate where possible in existing serviced areas.
- To avoid the duplication of services and assets where possible.
- To encourage major development close to the high priority road routes.
- Encourage a consistent approach to the design and construction of infrastructure across the municipality.
- Encourage new subdivision and development that has regard to the objectives and requirements of the IDM or an approved Precinct Structure Plan.

Implementation

- Using local policy to encourage the coordinated expansion of the Port Fairy Hospital.
- Using local policy to recognise the significance of the sewerage treatment plant and to minimise amenity impacts of the plant.
- Using local policy to regulate the expansion of gaming.
- Using local policy to recognise the significance of the Premier Speedway.
- Apply local policies to guide development to areas where infrastructure is available.

Other supporting actions

- Maintain and develop the rail connection and the bus system for Moyne.
- Ensure an adequate water supply can be obtained locally for consumption and fire fighting purposes, where reticulated water is unavailable.
- Ensure appropriate landscaping and beautification of public access areas.