



JUNORTOUN COMMUNITY PLAN 2017 - 2022



BACKGROUND

The original name of the Junortoun district was "Homebush" after the estate located along the Splitters Creek valley. The homestead was the original Post Office. Since the 1970s the population has grown slowly and steadily. Junortoun is predominantly a residential suburb. It is remarkable for the absence of a retail precinct but the area supports a small number of local retail businesses providing services to the wider Bendigo community.

Vision: Our vision for Junortoun is a friendly, safe and peaceful semi-rural environment providing for the needs of families, with a high sense of community

DEVELOPMENT OF THE JUNORTOUN COMMUNITY PLAN 2017-2022

In 2012 the Junortoun Community Action Group (JCAG) surveyed the residents of Junortoun with the assistance of the City of Greater Bendigo and developed the first Junortoun Community Plan 2013-2015. In preparation for this 2017-2022 plan residents were surveyed again in 2015-16. The response to this survey was a little disappointing, 258 (13.6 percent of the population) completed, as opposed to 482 (30 percent of the population) in 2012

In retrospect, the two year interval between surveys and the pace of local change might have made it difficult for people to see the local environment afresh. The data does suggest an increase in the number of families with children in the primary and secondary school age range. The data from the 2016 national ABS Census will be scrutinised to check this observation, since it will have an important impact on the current and future needs of the community.

In future it is suggested that a revised plan be prepared after the next national census in 2021. A

plan prepared for 2022 would also provide a more substantial period of development as a basis for the review.



RESULTS OF THE SURVEY IN 2015-16

Sense of community

Respondents suggest this is a welcoming and safe environment for new residents and the majority are on first name terms with their neighbours. There is significant potential for more involvement in developing community actions and strong support for social events as a basis for enhancing community connections.



Community facilities

There is strong support for more facilities for young people, particularly childcare, pre-school and primary education. The need for a community Centre and a small shopping complex remains important for a majority of respondents.

Planning and infrastructure

There is strong support for a state-of-the art fire station. Concerns about internet access and mobile phone coverage increased. The need for improvements to drainage infrastructure remains a concern for some residents. Support remains strong for parks and picnic facilities, playgrounds and resources for sporting activities.

Forest and walking and cycle trails

Most respondents believe the local forests are well maintained and value highly the walking and cycle trails. In particular the O'Keefe Rail Trail is well used and the view is that it is well maintained. There is some concern about the safety of the crossing on the Mclvor Highway near the Baptist Church.

The link between Junortoun and Strathfieldsaye through the forest, which enables cyclists to avoid the Junortoun-Strathfieldsaye Road, is eagerly awaited.

Public transport

The recent release of a Public Transport Victoria report, which identifies development of bus services through Junortoun, will be welcomed by a majority of respondents.

Roads

There is growing concern about the adequacy of the Mclvor Highway for the volume of traffic it carries. A majority of respondents support a review of the speed limits. On the journey in to Bendigo a majority of respondents support a reduction to 80km/hr. There is strong support for more/better turning lanes and better bicycle lanes adjacent to Mclvor Highway.

About half of respondents believe that the quality of arterial and residential roads is acceptable but many respondents drew attention to safety issues along Trotting Terrace and the Junortoun-Strathfieldsaye Road.



WHAT IS COMMUNITY PLANNING?

Community planning is a process undertaken by a community where they work together to explore and document what is important to them about their locality and its future. A Community Plan is a document that sets out these priorities. Periodically a Community Plan will need revision as community priorities change or when the community decides.

The City of Greater Bendigo supports communities across the municipality who wish to develop and revise their own Community Plan. The views and

priorities in each plan are those of community members who took part in its development. They do not represent the views of the staff of the City of Greater Bendigo or its Councillors.

Community Plans are a valuable source of advice about local priorities used by Local, State and Federal Government and other organisations.

For more information contact the City of Greater Bendigo.

CONTACTS:

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Junortoun

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Twitter: [@junortoun3551](https://twitter.com/junortoun3551)

ACTION PLAN FOR 2017

Title	Description of Activity	Timing	Champion	Contact Details
Australia Day Breakfast		26 January		
Manning Reserve	Encourage development of Manning Reserve as an arboretum for local flora	2017-2018	Tom Devlin	
Binks Road Quarry	Finalise negotiations with the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning to manage the quarry and develop a management structure and process	2017	Colin Smith	
O'Keefe Rail Trail Marathon	Provide support services for this international-level marathon	23 April 2017		
Mid-year social at the pub	Annually - date to be advised	TBA		
Junortoun Community Market	Annually - date to be advised	September 2017		
Welcome to summer	Annually on first weekend of summer	3 December 2017		
Mclvor Highway Clean Up	Annually on a date to be advised	April 2017		
Links with Catholic College	Liaison with Catholic College over development plans	Ongoing		
Links with Baptist Church	Liaison with Baptist Church over development plans	Ongoing		
Links with VicRoads	Upgrade signs on Mclvor Highway for entry to and exit from Junortoun	Ongoing advocacy with VicRoads		
	Liaise with VicRoads re development of Mclvor Highway	Ongoing		
Nest box project	Collaborate with students from Catholic College Bendigo and City of Greater Bendigo re placement and monitoring of nest boxes on O'Keefe Rail Trail	Ongoing in 2017		

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Communications	Disseminate widely the minutes of exec meetings and community newsletter through Junortoun website, Facebook and email list	Ongoing		
Fire Station	Liaise with Country Fire Authority (CFA) and support Junortoun CFA with advocacy for the planned new CFA shed and facilities	Ongoing		
Strathfieldsaye & District Community Enterprise (SDCE)	Liaise with SDCE on matters of mutual interest	Ongoing		
Internet	Advocate for improved internet, mobile phone and NBN services for all areas in Junortoun	Ongoing		
Playground	Advocate for additional playgrounds in Junortoun	Ongoing		
Council Community Plan	Contribute to development of the Council's 2017-2021 Community Plan	2017		
Grant applications	Applications to City of Greater Bendigo, Fosterville Mines, Abbott Trust as per the needs of specific projects	Ongoing		