



**SNOWY VALLEYS EXTRAORDINARY  
COUNCIL MEETING  
BUSINESS PAPER  
28 MAY 2020**

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 2.00PM  
IN THE VIA VIDEO LINK

## **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests at meetings (extract from the Code of Conduct – Section 4)**

**4.28** Councillor or a council committee member who has a pecuniary interest in any matter with which the council is concerned, and who is present at a meeting of the council or committee at which the matter is being considered, must disclose the nature of the interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

**4.29** The councillor or council committee member must not be present at, or in sight of, the meeting of the council or committee:

- (a) at any time during which the matter is being considered or discussed by the council or committee, or
- (b) at any time during which the council or committee is voting on any question in relation to the matter.

**4.30** In the case of a meeting of a board of a joint organisation, a voting representative is taken to be present at the meeting for the purposes of clauses 4.28 and 4.29 where they participate in the meeting by telephone or other electronic means.

**4.31** Disclosure made at a meeting of a council or council committee must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

## **Disclosure of Political Donations and Gifts**

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* places obligations on Councillors, staff, applicants and any person who makes a public submission, to disclose information relating to political donations and gifts during the environmental plan making or development assessment process.

The fact that political donations or gifts have been made by applicants / proponents of a planning application should not affect whether an application is approved or refused. Political donations or gifts should not be relevant in making a determination. The matter should be determined on its merits. Nor do they provide grounds for challenging the determination of any applications.

For further information, visit [www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations](http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/donations)

Furthermore, for each planning decision made at a Council or Committee Meeting, the names of Councillors who supported the decision and those that oppose the decision must be recorded. (*Sec. 375A of the Local Government Act 1993*)

## **Use of mobile phones and the unauthorised recording of meetings (extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 15)**

**15.21** Councillors, council staff and members of the public must ensure that mobile phones

are turned to silent during meetings of the council and committees of the council.

**15.22** A person must not live stream or use an audio recorder, video camera, mobile phone or any other device to make a recording of the proceedings of a meeting of the council or a committee of the council without the prior authorisation of the council or the committee.

**15.23** Any person who contravenes or attempts to contravene clause 15.22, may be expelled from the meeting as provided for under section 10(2) of the Act.

**15.24** If any such person, after being notified of a resolution or direction expelling them from the meeting, fails to leave the place where the meeting is being held, a police officer, or any person authorised for the purpose by the council or person presiding, may, by using only such force as is necessary, remove the first-mentioned person from that place and, if necessary, restrain that person from re-entering that place for the remainder of the meeting.

### **Livestreaming of Meetings**

#### **(extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 5)**

This meeting is live streamed on Council's website to allow the community to follow Council debates and decisions without the need to attend meetings in person. Members of the public attending or speaking at a meeting agree to have their image, voice and personal information (including name and address) recorded and publicly broadcast. Snowy Valleys Council does not accept liability for any defamatory remarks or inappropriate comments that are made during the course of a meeting. Any part of the meeting that is held in closed session will not be streamed.

**5.19** All meetings of the council and committees of the council are to be webcast on the council's website.

### **Photography**

Flash photography is not permitted at a meeting of the Council or a Committee of the council without the consent of the Chief Executive Officer.

### **Public Forum**

#### **(extract from the Code of Meeting Practice – Section 4)**

**4.1** The Council may hold a public forum prior to each Ordinary Council meeting for the purpose of hearing oral submissions on items of business to be considered at the meeting.

**4.2** Public forums are to be chaired by the mayor or their nominee.

Those attending must comply with the terms and conditions of the Code of Meeting Practice which can be viewed on Council's website;

<http://www.snowyvalleys.nsw.gov.au/Council/Governance/Policies>



Thursday 28 May 2020  
Snowy Valleys Council Chambers  
Via Video Link  
2.00pm

## EXTRAORDINARY AGENDA

1. **OPENING OF MEETING**
2. **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
3. **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**  
*Pursuant to Section 451 of the Local Government Act (1993), Councillors are required to declare any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in any matters being considered by Council.*
4. **ADMISSION OF LATE REPORTS**
5. **GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
5.1 2020-2021 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES..... 2
6. **CONFIDENTIAL**
7. **MEETING CLOSURE**

**5. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORTS****5.1 2020-2021 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES**

**REPORT AUTHOR:** EXECUTIVE CHIEF OF STAFF  
**RESPONSIBLE DIRECTOR:** CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

In response to the impacts of bushfire and the pandemic crisis afflicting the nation, Snowy Valleys Council has prepared a priority list of initiatives on which to focus its advocacy efforts over the next twelve months. Once adopted, those Council projects on the priority list will be referred through Council's Project Management Framework for scoping to 'shovel ready' stage in order to be well positioned to secure grant funding.

It is also noted that there are a number of initiatives on the priority list that highlight Council's support in the political arena for changes in government policy to enable economic and community prosperity and for which Council may not be the key stakeholder.

This report also identifies the comprehensive list of projects that Council is able to draw upon to take advantage of funding and other political opportunities as they arise over the next twelve months.

**RECOMMENDATION:****THAT COUNCIL:**

- 1. Receive the report on the 2020-2021 Advocacy Priorities**
- 2. Adopts the priority list of advocacy projects and initiatives for 2020-2021 for the purpose of lobbying for funding support**
- 3. Endorse the referral of the priority Council projects to Council's Project Management Framework for development to 'shovel ready' status**
- 4. Adopts the complete list of projects for government policy support and/or funding should the opportunity arise**

**BACKGROUND:**

Advocating for priority project funding and issues for the community was identified as a priority in the current Community Strategic Plan – Snowy Valleys 2028.

Council prepared and adopted an Advocacy Plan in December 2018 to ensure a focused effort on a small number of strategically important projects and issues.

The impact of bushfires and the current COVID19 pandemic on the communities, industries and economy of the Snowy Valleys has necessitated a review of those strategic priority projects and issues on which Council will concentrate its advocacy effort.

In addition to the existing suite strategic documents that identify numerous projects that require government funding support, the revised list of projects and issues has been informed by the work undertaken during the Recovery phase of the bushfire crisis with the impacted communities and the Recovery Committee.

The list has also been informed by the updated Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS) that reflects the impact of the fires on those industries considered to be 'core' to the Snowy Valleys economy. The REDS identifies short, medium and long term focus areas for government to

consider when prioritising industry and place based funding in response to the 2019-2020 bushfire crisis.

### REPORT:

The current economic and political landscape provides Council with an opportunity to escalate and promote its advocacy issues and priority projects to Government for funding or policy support.

The prioritised list contains 14 advocacy projects for Council to pursue in the short term that require significant funding and/or cooperation from other levels of government. These 14 projects will form the basis of Council's Advocacy Plan for 2020-2021.

Those initiatives include:

Project Description	Estimated Project Value	Estimated Timeframe for completion
		Short - < 12 months Medium - 12 - 24 months Long - >24 months
Brindabella Road Safety Upgrade – reconstruction and realignment between Piccadilly Circus and the Brindabella Valley	\$17m	Medium
Critical safety upgrades to intersections on Snowy Mountains Highway, including the Gocup Road intersection and the Batlow Road intersection	\$20m	Long
Lobbying support for the reestablishment of softwood forest		Long
Lobbying support for the training and remobilisation of skilled and unskilled workers post fire and COVID		Medium
Regional Trail Development – development of a Walking and Cycling Masterplan and Economic Business Case for the SVC Region that considers town linkages, visitation and incorporation of existing assets such as the Rail Trail and Hume and Hovell walking track	\$250k	Short
Roadside Vegetation Cleanup - post fire	\$2m	Short
Tumut Aerodrome Improvements – Improved facilities emergency response	\$12.5m	Medium
Wondalga Road/Greenhills Road intersection upgrade – forest industry/safety improvement	\$970k	Short

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Estimated Project Value</b>	<b>Estimated Timeframe for completion</b>
Caravan Park Improvements – Accommodation and associated infrastructure at Batlow Caravan Park Seasonal worker accommodation and tourism	\$5m	Short
Recovery of costs for installation of displaced family (bushfire impacted) accommodation Batlow Stage 1 - six 2-bedroom cabins (inc. 2x DDA compliant)	\$700k	Short
Recovery of additional site clean-up costs for the former Batlow Cannery site as a direct result of bushfire in response to impacts on public safety (friable asbestos)	\$1.3m	Short
Trail Development (Walking and Cycling) - design and construction of world class trails network for Yarrangobilly and Talbingo Mountain as part of the SVC regional trail concept plan.	\$9.05m	Medium
Emergency Evacuation Centre and Tumut Basketball Centre – business case revision, Design & Construct	\$20m	Medium
Upgrade Riverglade Oval	\$1.2m	Short

The broader list contains an additional 41 projects and strategically important initiatives that can be drawn upon should a relevant political or funding opportunity arise.

Of the 14 priority projects, 9 are infrastructure and construction projects. As the pandemic crisis continues to dampen economic activity across the globe, both the Federal and State government have recognised that infrastructure and construction projects are key to stabilising and growing economies. This is evidenced by the fact that the federal government has permitting the industry to continue working during the isolation phase of its COVID19 response. It is envisaged that these infrastructure and construction projects, if funded, will stimulate job creation through the use of localised workforce (skilled and unskilled) and enhance local supply chains.

The 14 priority projects, should they be realised, will contribute to ongoing economic and community prosperity through visitation, amenity, regional attractiveness, education, community recreation, safety and productivity improvement.

Of the remaining projects, 4 directly relate to the recovery from the bushfire crisis including the recovery of unfunded work already undertaken by council in response to the fire impacts and the lobbying for additional government support for key initiatives for those industries recognised as the economic drivers of the Snowy Valleys economy.

It is also recognised that Council will have the best chance of success if it has the prioritised list of projects identified, scoped and planned before funding opportunities present themselves.

This report recommends that Council endorses the priority list of projects through Council's Project Management Framework for further development to ensure that they are 'shovel ready' for when suitable funding is released.

#### **LINKS TO COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN AND DELIVERY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN:**

##### **Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework: CSP Outcome 2028**

Theme 4: Communication & Engagement

##### **Delivery Outcomes**

4.6 Council builds strong relationships with other organisations to advocate for our communities

#### **SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT:**

	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>
Social	Council demonstrates a commitment to ask, listen and adapt to the needs of the community.	Not all of the community's 'wish list' projects are including on the priority list.  Whilst there is a focus on the broader regional benefit to the economy, some communities may perceive the location of priority projects as inequitable.
Environmental	Nil	Nil
Economic	The priority list of projects includes a large proportion of infrastructure/construction projects aimed at stimulating local economy and creating jobs during the economic downturn.	All priority projects listed are dependent upon government funding for initiation and completion.
Governance	The report recommends that the prioritised list of advocacy projects is referred through the Project Management Framework for scoping, detailed planning and costings.	There is a risk that projects not on the list could be escalated through to government, diluting Council's efforts to secure funding for strategically important projects and initiatives.

#### **Financial and Resources Implications**

Council has no current financial capacity to undertake the delivery of these prioritised projects without funding from government.

If successful in its advocacy work, Council will be required to administer and manage any grant funding received by government.

#### **Costs and Benefits:**

Adopting a planned and strategic approach to advocacy allows the community and economic priorities to be escalated to government decision makers in a structured and focused way.

The prioritised list of advocacy projects focuses on the strategic issues of importance in response to the bushfire crisis and COVID19 economic impacts as well as community priorities.

Planning proactively for advocacy positions Council to respond to the dynamic political and economic landscape in a timely and professional way.

**Policy, Legal and Statutory Implications:**

Nil

**RISK MANAGEMENT – BUSINESS RISK/WHS/PUBLIC:**

There is a significant risk that the priority projects will not be realised if funding and/or policy support from government is not received.

Council will need to clearly manage the community expectation around the reality of securing funding and delivering these projects.

There is a risk that some communities will feel that they have been 'left out' and the emphasis must be on the regional economic benefit should these projects and initiatives be realised.

**OPTIONS:**

1. Council may choose **not to adopt** the 14 advocacy priorities and the further 41 projects and initiatives identified for advocacy support or funding.
2. Council may choose to **amend** the advocacy priorities and wider list of identified projects and initiatives required for advocacy support and funding.
3. Council may choose to **defer** the adoption of the advocacy priorities and wider list of wider list of identified projects and initiatives required for advocacy support and funding, noting that the Federal Bi-Election for the seat of Eden-Monaro is scheduled for the 4th July 2020.

**COUNCIL SEAL REQUIRED:**

No

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION:**

The updated priority advocacy list will form the basis of Council's Advocacy Plan for 2020-2021 and is informed by the adopted Community Strategic Plan, the Delivery Program, the updated Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS), the Recovery Committee and Council's bushfire recovery work in communities impacted by the Dunns Road and Green Valley fires of 2019-2020.

The advocacy list has been prioritised by Councillors through a) a small working group formed to undertake first review and prioritisation and b) a councillor workshop.

The advocacy list has been consulted internally with the Executive Team, the Program Manager and the Coordinator Place Activation.

Attachments

- 1 20200514 - Advocacy issue compilation prioritisation [↓](#)

2020-2021 Advocacy Projects and Issues

#	Scale of investment	Project Description	Estimated Project Value	Short - < 12 months
				Medium - 12 - 24 months
				Long - >24 months
Timeframe for completion				
1	\$10m - \$50m	Brindabella Road Safety Upgrade – reconstruction and realignment between Piccadilly Circus and the Brindabella Valley	\$17m	Medium
2	\$10m - \$50m	Critical safety upgrades to intersections on Snowy Mountains Highway, including the Gooop Road intersection and the Batlow Road intersection	\$20m	Long
3	\$100m +	Lobbying support for the reestablishment of softwood forest		Long
4		Lobbying support for the training and remobilisation of skilled and unskilled workers post fire and COVID		Medium
5	<\$1m	Regional Trail Development – development of a Walking and Cycling Masterplan and Economic Business Case for the SVC Region that considers town linkages, visitation and incorporation of existing assets such as the Rail Trail and Hume and Howell walking track	\$250k	Short
6	\$1m - \$10m	Roadside Vegetation Cleanup - post fire	\$2m	Short
7	\$10m - \$50m	Tumut Aerodrome Improvements – Improved facilities emergency response	\$12.5m	Medium
8	<\$1m	Wondalga Road/Greenhills Road intersection upgrade – forest industry/safety improvement	\$970k	Short
9	\$1m - \$10m	Caravan Park Improvements – Accommodation and associated infrastructure at Batlow Caravan Park Seasonal worker accommodation and tourism	\$5m	Short
10	<\$1m	Recover costs for Bushfire displaced family accommodation Batlow Stage 1 - six 2-bedroom cabins (inc. 2x DDA compliant)	\$700k	Short
11	\$1m - \$10m	Recovery of additional site clean-up costs for the former Batlow Cannery site as a direct result of bushfire in response to impacts on public safety (friable asbestos)	\$1.3m	Short
12	\$1m - \$10m	Trail Development (Walking and Cycling) - design and construction of world class trails network for Yarrangobilly and Talbingo Mountain as part of the SVC regional trail concept plan.	\$0.05m	Medium
13	\$10m - \$50m	Emergency Evacuation Centre and Tumut Basketball Centre – business case revision, Design & Construct	\$20m	Medium
14	\$1m - \$10m	Upgrade Riverglade Oval	\$1.2m	Short
15	\$1m - \$10m	Brindabella Road Survey & Design (Brindabella Valley to Tumut section)	\$1m	Short
16	\$1m - \$10m	Communication and digital connectivity – disaster resilience – mobile, UHF, radio, TV		Medium
17	\$1m - \$10m	Country University and Innovation Hub	\$2.15m	Medium

18	\$10m - \$50m	Elliott Way improvement (Snowy 2.0, Transgrid, forest industry enabler, tourism)	\$18m	Medium
19	<\$1m	Lobbying support for the attraction and retention of health professionals to improve level of health care in community – specialised professionals		Medium
20	\$50m - \$100m	Lobbying support for the establishment of value adding agricultural industry		Long
21	\$50m - \$100m	Lobbying support to enable the diversification of agricultural production		Long
22	\$50m - \$100m	Lobbying support to reestablish regional tourism		Long
23	\$10m - \$50m	Realignment of Jackson Bridge Tumbarumba	\$12m	Long
24	\$1m - \$10m	Road Widening and Pavement Strengthening at Courabyra Road Tumbarumba	\$6m	Medium
25	\$10m - \$50m	SMH Overtaking Lanes	\$45m	Long
26	<\$1m	Tumut Industrial Estate business case, design and approvals	\$850k	Short
27	<\$1m	Byatt St/Murrays Crossing Road improvement (Snowy 2.0)	\$500k	Medium
28	<\$1m	Riffe Range Road – industrial area access improvement	\$800k	Short
29	<\$1m	Courabyra Road safety improvements	\$725k	Medium
30		Lobby for the continued support of tourism industry development		Long
31	<\$1m	Residential Land and Housing Development demand and options analysis	\$150k	Short
32	<\$1m	Strategic Assessment Tumbarumba Heavy Vehicle Bypass	\$850k	Medium
33	\$1m - \$10m	Upgrade the Grahamstown Road – horticultural/agricultural industry enabler/freight productivity	\$6.4m	Medium
34	\$10m - \$50m	Upgrade Tooma Road for increased Freight Vehicle Mass limits for HPV	\$22m	Medium
35	\$1m - \$10m	Implement next stage of Batlow CBD masterplan	\$1m	Medium

36	<\$1m	Upgrade the Batlow Skate park upgrade (Batlow youth precinct)	\$300k	Short
37	<\$1m	Amenities upgrade Tumarumba Caravan Park	\$300k	Short
38	<\$1m	Amenities for Tumut's Pioneer Park	\$250k	Medium
39	\$1m - \$10m	Tumut town centre upgrade - completion of project - stage 2 Russell and Fitzroy Streets and parking	\$2.7m	Short
40	\$1m - \$10m	Upgrade the Adelong CBD including drainage improvement	\$2m	Medium
41	<\$1m	Aged Care Business Case	\$150k	Short
42		Lobbying support for establishment of forestry related manufacturing		Long
43		Lobbying support to continue to encourage emerging industry		Long
44	\$1m - \$10m	Old Tumarumba Road bridge upgrade – horticultural industry/freight productivity route	\$3m	Medium
45	\$1m - \$10m	Old Tumarumba Road safety and productivity upgrade – horticultural industry/freight productivity route	\$2.5m	Medium
46	<\$1m	Softwood Centre of Excellence and Hub – scoping study and cost designs	\$150k	Short
47	\$1m - \$10m	Upgrade Bombowlee Creek Road Blue Cut Bridge - forest industry productivity /safety improvements	\$2.5m	Medium
48	<\$1m	Widening and alignment Improvements – Brungle	\$800k	
49	\$10m - \$50m	Tumarumba Raw Water Supply Security for drought mitigation	\$10m	Long
50	\$1m - \$10m	Upgrade toddler/Learn to Swim area at Tumut pool	\$1m	Short
51	\$1m - \$10m	Khancoban Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade	\$8m	Long
52	\$1m - \$10m	Khancoban Water Treatment Plant Upgrade	\$3.5m	Long
53	<\$1m	Design of Safety upgrade Batlow Road – Climbing Lanes and turnouts	\$200k	Short
54	\$10m - \$50m	Yellowin Access Road Upgrade	\$15m	Long
55	<\$1m	Lower Bago Road improvements	\$500k	Short