

Strathbogie Shire Council Advocacy Update

Advocacy is an essential way of securing funding for important projects and works that matter to our community and that Council alone cannot fund.

The Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) identifies that Councils have a legitimate role to play in advocating for the needs of the community and municipality.

Our advocacy efforts are essential to achieving these requirements of the Act. Perhaps, more importantly, advocacy is essential to achieving great outcomes for our community.



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our Top Five
Advocacy Ask



\$241.6K to investigate, scope, plan and cost an all-abilities Mountain Bike Facility on Balmattum Hill



\$100K for Euroa Railway Precinct Plan



Speed limit reduced at Hume Freeway Avenel interchange



New mobile towers Graytown, Creighton's Creek, Boho, Euroa, Kirwans Bridge, Locksley, Mangalore, Nagambie, Tabilk and Violet Town.

\$5.4M

- Nagambie Recreation Reserve Lighting
- ARTBOX
- Nagambie Employment Precinct Structure Plan
- Cooler Canopies Urban tree plantings across Shire
- Nagambie Resale Shop
- Emergency Management
- New transfer station bins in Nagambie and Avenel
- Flood recovery

Strathbogie Shire Council Advocacy Update

Our region is fast becoming the destination for people to invest, live, visit and play. For those who are lucky to live in Strathbogie Shire we know how special our region is. However, what was once our secret is now well-and-truly out.

To ensure we can support this growth – both business and residential – Strathbogie Shire Council will advocate to State and Federal governments for funding support. Council's advocacy priorities are:

- [Roads and Bridges](#)
- [Greening Euroa Project](#)
- [Reliable power supply infrastructure and renewable energy](#)
- [Equitable digital and telecommunications infrastructure](#)
- [Nature Based Play Space](#)

The following provides an update on all advocacy efforts outlined in the 2021-25 Council Plan.

1	Engage. Create. Unite	Comment
1.1.4	Adopt and implement an Advocacy Strategy to outline the approach, principles and focus of Council's advocacy activities.	The 2021-2025 Advocacy Strategy was formally adopted by Council at the August 2022 Ordinary Meeting
2	Live. Access. Connect	Comment
2.1.4	Lobby State and Federal Governments to fund improved digital and telecommunications infrastructure.	Council led NBNCO community engagement sessions in every town across the Shire. New mobile towers erected at Graytown, Creighton's Creek, Boho, Euroa, Kirwans Bridge, Locksley, Mangalore, Nagambie, Tabilk and Violet Town.
2.1.6	Support the work being undertaken by the Euroa Mountain Bike Club for the development of a mountain bike track at Balmattum Hill through advocacy with Parks Victoria and relevant government departments.	\$241.6K Victorian Government funding received to investigate, scope, plan and cost an all-abilities Mountain Bike Facility on Balmattum Hill.
2.4	Advocate to the State Government to deliver expanded public transport options to connect the community to local services and facilities.	March 2023 fare reductions welcomed. Advocacy efforts targeted as opportunities present.

3	Protect. Enhance. Adapt	Comments
3.1.8	Advocate to Federal and State Government for investment in reliable power supply infrastructure with a focus on renewable energy.	<p>\$10.3 Million submission made for funding to implement community batteries in Violet Town, Avenel, Euroa and Strathbogie.</p> <p>Further submission made in conjunction with Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance for battery business case in Euroa.</p>
3.5	Investigate, in partnership with Goulburn Valley Water, opportunities to green open spaces in towns with recycled water from the town's wastewater treatment plant.	Advocacy campaign launched at www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au
4	Inclusive. Balanced. Safe	Comments
4.1.4	Continue to seek funding to support local business in adapting and responding to the Covid-19 pandemic.	Officers have continued to provide updates to business community regarding available support.
4.1.5	Continue to advocate for the development of the Mangalore Airport as a freight intermodal and transport/ industrial hub.	On hold while discussions held with owners of Mangalore regarding its future development.
4.1.6	Continue to seek funding options for the upgrade of the Euroa Railway Precinct as part of the Euroa Structure Plan's implementation.	\$100K in Victorian Government funding received.
4.1.7	Continue to advocate to the Australian Railway Track Corporation (ARTC) for a community led outcome for the redesign of railway infrastructure in Euroa.	Successfully lobbied ARTC to explore two options. ARTC now progressing community led option.
5	Strong. Healthy. Safe	Comments
5.5	Continue to advocate to the Department of Transport to improve road safety by aligning speed limits with community expectations.	Hume Freeway Avenel interchange speed limit reduced to 80km/hr.
5.7	Explore options for development of a local law around smoking in Council owned public places.	Yet to commence

Other	Comments
Regional Tourism Partnership Funding	<p>\$367,000 to fund a collaboration between Strathbogie Shire, Greater Shepparton and Mitchell Shire Council. The Partnership is progressing a range of projects to support and grow the visitor economy of the region.</p> <p>It is working with the Victorian Government to resolve an ongoing Visitor Economy Partnership for the region to support the industry into the future.</p>
Roads and Bridges	<p>Share in \$4.5 million received for flood recovery (detail below).</p> <p>Council continues to seek Federal and State Government funding for flood recovery works to fix damaged roads and implement a safer, more resilient road network for the long-term.</p> <p>Council and the Kirwan's Bridge Community Panel seek funding for a long-term, sustainable future for the bridge.</p> <p>Chinaman's Bridge remains in a perilous condition and is stopping access on the waterway - a key driver to the community's economic success.</p>
Grant updates	<p>Key funding outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$250,000 from the Victorian Government Sport and Recreation Victoria for Nagambie Recreation Reserve Lighting Project. • \$104,000 from Victorian Government Creative Victoria for ARTBOX. • \$100,000 Nagambie Employment Precinct Structure Plan. • \$85,000 State and Regional Priority Projects Grant for the Cooler Canopies project for urban tree plantings across the Shire to minimise the impacts of the urban heat island impact. • \$71,625 Sustainability Victoria Council Implementation Fund for Nagambie Resale Shop. • \$290,000 Victorian Government Transfer Station Upgrade Fund, for new bins bays at Nagambie and Avenel.
Flood recovery funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Flood Support Fund \$1.5M • National Disaster Recovery Fund payment \$2.2M • Community Recovery Hub Funding \$501,000 • Community Recovery Officer Funding \$256,000 • Flood Recovery Youth Projects \$40,000 • Social recovery \$13,000