

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, March 22, 2019

Central Area Development Strategies open for public comment

The draft strategy was endorsed at the March Council meeting and is open for public consultation for the next three weeks.

The retail precincts of Somerset and Wynyard have been identified as important hubs of economic and social activity and are seen to play a role in ensuring community well-being and cohesion through the provision of access to consumer goods and services and social interaction.

The purpose of the strategy is to provide the precincts with a long-term comprehensive master plan and design framework to guide their sustainable development.

An initial period of public consultation was held in early 2018 with Council working with GHD to order to ensure relevant stakeholders were informed about the project and given opportunity to provide feedback.

This involved a range of both direct and indirect communication, and included hosting a website, conducting walk and talk events, focus group sessions, one-on-one discussions with identified land owners, and meetings with the Steering Committee and respective Councils.

Master plans have been developed for Wynyard and Somerset identifying a list of suggested key projects formed following the initial public consultation process.

Key potential projects identified for Wynyard include:

- Facilitating expansion of the Fonterra Factory
- Opportunities associated with an expansion of the Wynyard IGA
- Streetscape improvements on Goldie Street to improve pedestrian and shopper amenity
- Additional retail floor space on the central car park to the rear of the existing Woolworths Supermarket, and/or on part of the former school site off Little Goldie Street.

Key potential projects identified for Somerset include:

- Improving pedestrian and cycle movements throughout the town

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- Development of Langley Park for a range of new uses following transfer of the current recreational functions to the new sports precinct
- Potential expansion of retail shops along Wragg Street

“Council is now at a stage where the final community consultation stage can be commenced to seek feedback in relation to the recommendations and options for future management and development of the Central Areas,” Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh said.

“The Concept Plans are the key during this phase of consultation, as they give a visual representation of the information provided within the draft report.”

The next stage of the project, post consultation, will be to review the feedback received and amend the Plan where required.

The Plan will then be finalised and adoption by Council will be sought.

Copies of the plans are available online at www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/yoursay and from the Council office.

Feedback can be provided in writing via the websites or by letter.

Comments close at **5pm on Monday 15 April 2019.**

Authorised for general media distribution by Shane Crawford, General Manager, Waratah-Wynyard Council on Friday, March 22, 2019.