

Leongatha Railway Site Draft Master Plan Available

A Draft Master Plan has been prepared to direct the future of the Leongatha Railway Site and is available for community feedback until Tuesday 17 October. The report is the culmination of an extensive engagement process which has included community presentations, online feedback, the establishment of a project reference group and input from local students.

The Leongatha Railway Site Transformation projects seeks to improve the Leongatha railway yard and station area. Council has the opportunity to take over the lease of the railway land to help rejuvenate the site into a visually appealing space that can be used by the local community and can help to attract visitors. The railway corridor to Leongatha will remain open so that future rail services may one day return.

The Draft Master Plan recommends a number of key initiatives, including:

- Rail trail extension from the current start at Horticultural Park into the site connecting to the station building and existing path from Roughead Street.
- Restoring access from Bair Street (next to Toy Shop as per previous footbridge) and the railway site
- Use of station platform as a stage for performances with a grassed area for seating/recreation
- Playground and covered BBQ area
- Fitness equipment stations
- Additional car parking

South Gippsland Shire Council's Senior Strategic Planning Officer Chantal Lenthall is keen for the community to review the draft Master Plan and to provide feedback.

“Council received hundreds of ideas as to how the Leongatha Railway Site should be improved. We have used the community's key suggestions in the development of the Draft Master Plan and are now interested in hearing people's feedback. We hope to receive constructive feedback on the Draft Master Plan so that the Final Master Plan is something that the community is proud to support.”

Once the Leongatha Railway Site Master Plan is finalised it will be used as a supporting document to assist with obtaining grant funding. Grant funding is required for the project to advance to the next stage.

The Draft Master Plan was presented to Council at an open briefing session on 20 September and is available for consultation until Tuesday 17 October. Written feedback is encouraged.

The plan can be viewed at: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/LeongathaRailwaySite

Or in person at:

- Council, 9 Smith Street, Leongatha
- 37 Bair Street, Leongatha
- Leongatha Library, 2 Smith Street, Leongatha

PR2118 22/9/17