

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE COUNCIL

# Panelist for the Great Southern Rail Trail Public Art Installation Project ~

Expression of Interest



*South Gippsland*  
Shire Council

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# Overview

South Gippsland Shire Council is currently seeking three qualified community members to join an exciting panel to select an artist or creative team to deliver a contemporary public art installation in the newly constructed Koonwarra underpass, on the Great Southern Rail Trail.

This is a unique project for South Gippsland Shire Council, presenting a key component in the building and development of the Shire-wide Public Art Trail, as well as the Rail Trail experience. This project promises to deliver a high quality, creatively impressive public art installation to an environmentally and structurally significant site.

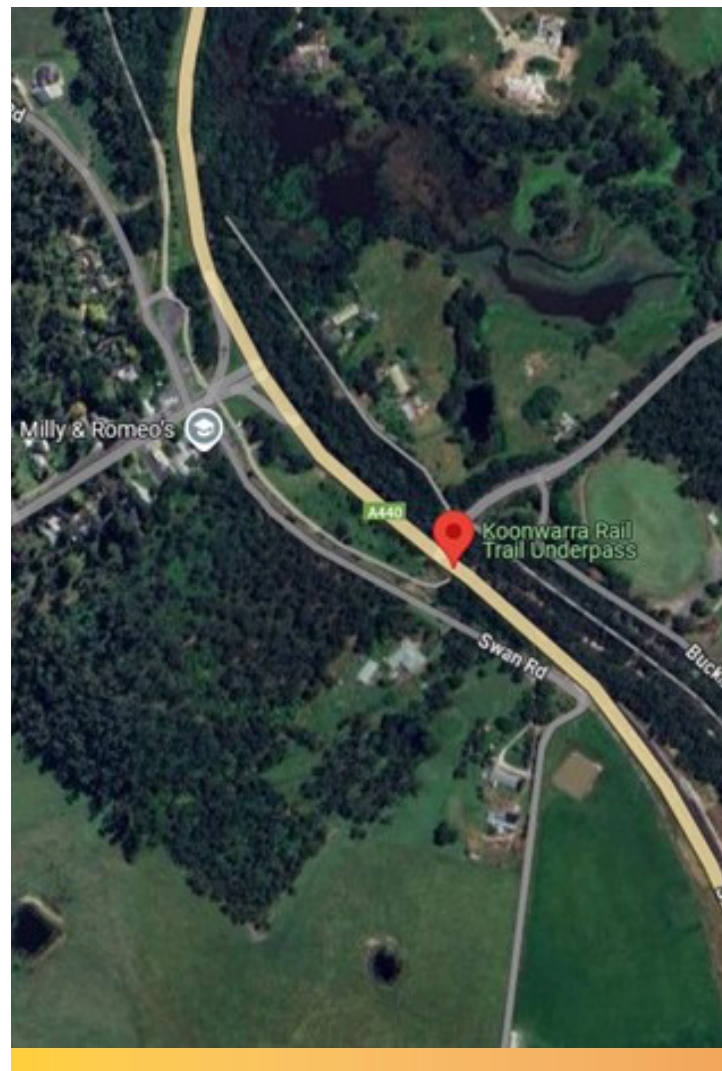
## Public Art Installation Project

The aim of the Great Southern Rail Trail Public Art Installation Project is to develop a captivating art installation to reveal and/or highlight existing features of the Koonwarra Underpass. The underpass itself is an extraordinary piece of public infrastructure, a 50-metre-long tunnel that allows the Great Southern Rail Trail to pass under the newly constructed South Gippsland Highway Realignment (see map). The underpass inherently boasts both sound and light effects, simply as a tunnel structure.

The environment surrounding the underpass is host to a diverse range of flora and fauna species, including the endangered Strzelecki Gum (*Eucalyptus Strzelecki*). The Koonwarra fossil bed, a prehistoric site of world significance, boasting a range of fossils is also present.

South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking a qualified artist or team of artists who have the capacity and vision to engage with the sensory and/or environmental properties of the Underpass through a permanent installation that highlights an interesting aspect of the site or brings a new or heightened sensory dynamic to the site.

The budget for the Great Southern Rail Trail Public Art Installation Project is \$75,000.





# The Great Southern Rail Trail Activation Project

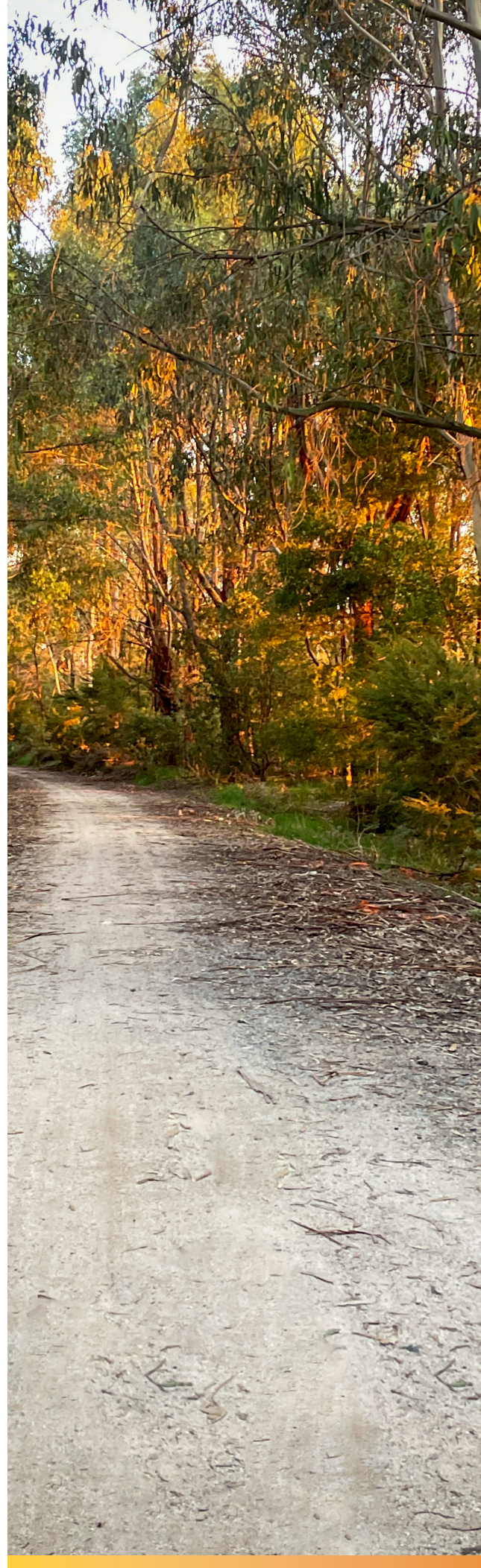
The Great Southern Rail Trail Activation Project was initially made possible through financial contribution by the Major Roads Project Victoria for a legacy project as part of the highway re-alignment.

South Gippsland Shire Council has also been successful with a Victorian Government grant for the Great Southern Rail Trail Activation Project, of which will support the installation project.

The Great Southern Rail Trail Activation Project comprises five key elements that together aim to elevate the Trail to a premium tourism destination for the region. The five elements include:

- Public artwork to the Koonwarra underpass;
- Interpretive signage at a site of world cultural significance along the Trail;
- Development of a 'Passport' project;
- Major Endurance Trailwaker event; and
- Development of a Great Southern Rail Trail brochure.

The Project intends to meet the objectives of the Arts, Culture and Creative Industries Strategy, South Gippsland Visitor Economy Strategy and Great Southern Rail Trail Visitor Experience and Marketing Plan, bringing together the creative, cultural and tourism sectors in a unique activation of the Great Southern Rail Trail.



# The Panel

South Gippsland Shire Council will be undertaking an Expression of Interest process to engage an artist or artist team, with all submissions assessed by a panel. Due to the possible technical nature of any creative proposal, Council is looking to engage the following three panel members:

- 2 x with demonstrated technical capacity (ie. electrical and/or structural knowledge)
- 1 x member of the community

Knowledge and experience of public art projects is preferred for all applicant panel members.

The three selected applicants will join two South Gippsland Shire Council Officers to complete the selection panel.

## Panel Requirements

All panel members will be required to:

- Attend a site visit to familiarise themselves with the technical and environmental aspects of the Underpass (approx. 1 hour).
- Review the relevant technical and environmental information regarding the site, provided by South Gippsland Shire Council (approx. 1 hour).
- Participate in the assessment and selection process, either in person or online (approx. 2 hours).

Knowledge and experience of public art projects is preferred for all applicant panel members.

The three selected applicants will join two South Gippsland Shire Council Officers to complete the selection panel.



## Remuneration

Each selected panel member will be remunerated \$500 each for their time, expertise and travel.

## Expression of Interest

The Expression of Interest requires applicant to submit 500 (total) words or less that describe your expertise / interest in the project.

To submit your Expression of Interest please head to the link below:

**[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/artpanel\\_EOI](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/artpanel_EOI)**

For all enquiries, please contact our Arts Development Officer on **[arts@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:arts@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)** or 5662 9200.

Expressions of Interest close Friday 20 December 2024.

