

Community Vision 2030

ARARAT RURAL CITY COUNCIL



Ararat Rural City

How would you like the Ararat Rural City Community to be in 2030?

This was the challenge Council took to the community. Over two months, more than 600 of our citizens from all walks of life told us what they would like to see for the future of our community through postcards, listening posts and a poster competition.

Over 900 ideas were gathered, sorted into themes and analysed to develop a picture of how the community wants Ararat Rural City to be in the future.

This is our shared vision – it's an exciting picture of where we want to be.



"Very diverse, it's good to see so many different cultures".

Community Vision 2030
Postcard feedback

"Programs that show the importance of every person in the community".

Community Vision 2030
Postcard feedback

There is a simple principle underlying the Ararat Rural City Council Community Vision 2030 – this is a place where people love to live.

We want to keep it that way and make it even better. Council is taking the steps to create the Ararat Rural City of 2030 – a municipality which has everything we're renowned for now, and everything we'll want in the future.

The Ararat Rural City community in 2030 will be safe, supportive and full of opportunities for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to learn, grow and contribute.

An affordable region where we can live productive, happy lives.

We will be a healthy and active community where everyone belongs and shares the opportunity to enjoy sporting and cultural activities that celebrate our rural lifestyle.

Everything we need in employment, services and facilities will be here to help us maximise our potential as citizens and individuals contributing to our community.

Our natural environment and location enhance our lifestyle and contribute to our sense of community and belonging.



Our Community 2030

In 2030, Ararat Rural City communities will be active, engaged and continually learning.

Ararat Rural City will be a region of strong local communities, evolving but connected by a strong sense of people and place.

These communities will be safe and friendly, defined by local activities that connect people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds.

Everyone in the Ararat Rural City municipality will have access to life-long learning programs, innovative services and online technologies which will continue to evolve with continuing developments and innovation.

Sport and recreation pursuits will be enjoyed throughout the municipality using well maintained facilities, precincts and open spaces that are clean, safe and appealing. Physical and emotional Health and Wellbeing initiatives will be promoted for all ages and abilities.

Libraries, community health groups and service clubs will be local providers of these vital services and connections. These facilities will have flexible spaces to accommodate all varieties of community groups and individuals.

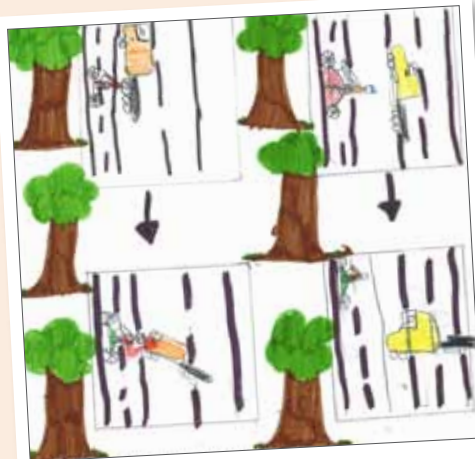
The community will connect through a sustainable network of groups, clubs and service organisations staffed by well coordinated and trained volunteers. Volunteering will be strongly supported, highly valued and enhanced by access to a range of resources and opportunities.

"A wonderful family town".

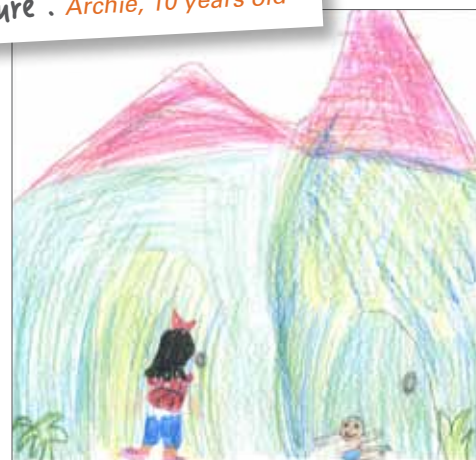
Community Vision 2030
Postcard feedback

How this might look

- Libraries (static and outreach) will be lively, popular places for the community to gather, access online technology to study and undertake learning programs at all ages.
- All residents will be able to find activities, assistance and services in their local areas and be connected to community organisations and volunteers.
- Community facilities will be an active focus for building social connections where residents will have access to a range of recreational and wellbeing activities.
- Ararat Rural City Council will continue to advocate and provide support for community services across the municipality.



"More, safer bike lanes will give a cleaner future". Archie, 10 years old



"Child care, kinder and schools all together". Claudia, 7 years old



"With energy produced from wind and sun". James, 9 years old

Our Lifestyle 2030

In 2030 our heritage and history, and multiculturalism will play an important role in our regional living lifestyle.

As a regional living centre in 2030, Ararat Rural City will be a diverse but harmonious community with all the services and connections both residents and visitors require. Residents will have access to practical information and services available in whatever languages and formats are required.

Residents and visitors will talk about the exciting cultural and leisure facilities available in our region. Our venues will be a preferred destination for sports, cultural events and performing and visual arts.

Older people will be valued, contribute to the community, enjoy innovative services and activities that support positive ageing.

Training and education opportunities for young people will provide important opportunities for developing their lives.

The past will be honoured as we move forward. Well preserved historical buildings, memorials and artefacts will celebrate our living heritage, connection to the past and our distinctive identity.

People of all ages and backgrounds particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals will easily access and afford local support services. This will come about through strong partnerships between government, private industry and not-for-profit organisations.

How this might look

- Ararat Rural City will be a regional living destination that values its history and heritage, that can provide a lifestyle to suit all cultural backgrounds.
- Services, facilities and educational opportunities will underpin an active, positive environment that brings together the resources of government, private industry and not-for-profit organisations.
- Our performing and visual arts facilities will provide a superior experience for residents and visitors alike.
- Ararat Rural City will see regional tourism as a key factor in the development of our municipality as a destination.



"In 2030 I think it might be different and creepy, exciting and new". *Seth, 9 years old*



"In the year 2030 it is going to be all techy and hologramey". *Ethan, 10 years old*



"Every house is two storey and everyone's rich and no one has allergies". *Amelia, 10 years old*



"A friendly, safe, clean, vibrant place to live".

Community Vision 2030
Postcard feedback

Our Economy 2030

In 2030 our Economy will be strengthened by strategic land and transport planning, industry support for new and existing businesses and exciting tourism/event activities.

People wanting to live and work in the Ararat Rural City municipality will be able to choose from various types and priced housing, integrated into harmonious neighborhoods that are serviced to meet their needs.

Planning will protect our rural lifestyle, parklands and waterways, preserving the appeal of our natural assets.

Rural, urban and new industries will be encouraged and supported with information, development opportunities and advice. Business networks will offer learning, training and employment opportunities responsive to local needs and engaged worldwide through on-line technologies.

Public transport and connections will play an important role in our lifestyle. Cycling and walking tracks will be designed and connected to maximise mobility. Transport networks will be safe, clean and reliable as a result of strong partnerships between Council, government agencies, industry and passengers.

The local economy, industries and businesses will benefit from an efficient network of road and rail transport. Our location and proximity to larger regional cities will be enhanced by the duplication of the Western Highway.

We will celebrate and socialise through local and regional festivals, markets and community events that are highly regarded throughout the municipality and beyond.



How this might look

- Flexible and environment friendly transport options will provide residents with a choice of travel within Ararat Rural City and beyond.
- We will encourage investment and growth within our municipality through ongoing support and advocacy initiatives with individuals, government departments and agencies.
- Advances in digital connections will assist all residents, business owners and visitors enabling connections across the globe.
- The local and broader community will come together at a range of festivals and community events.



"In 2030 I think there will be high hotels, robots to keep you fit and healthy, gravity switches, hover crafts and auto microwaves".

Isabelle, 11 years old



"This robot will help us live a healthier and better life by cooking for us".

Jessica, 11 years old



"All the locks talk to you, take photos when someone tries to break in and its name is the code".

Caitlin, 11 years old

"Strive for something that is regarded as the best in country Victoria".

Community Vision 2030
Postcard feedback

Our Environment 2030

In 2030 we will enjoy our naturally beautiful environment and proudly share it with others.

Our parklands, waterways, lakes and beautiful open spaces will underline Ararat Rural City's enduring character as a safe and healthy natural environment.

Landfill operations will diversify and we will be an example of community recycling and reduction of waste.

Roads, footpaths and buildings will be maintained to ensure ongoing service delivery to residents and visitors alike.

All parts of our region will be aesthetically appealing. Attractive housing and streetscapes, attractive shopping precincts and clean industrial areas will be enhanced by our commitment to the environment. Our important local features will be proudly identified by clear signage.

Trees and greenery will feature in our open areas and will enhance our naturally beautiful vistas.

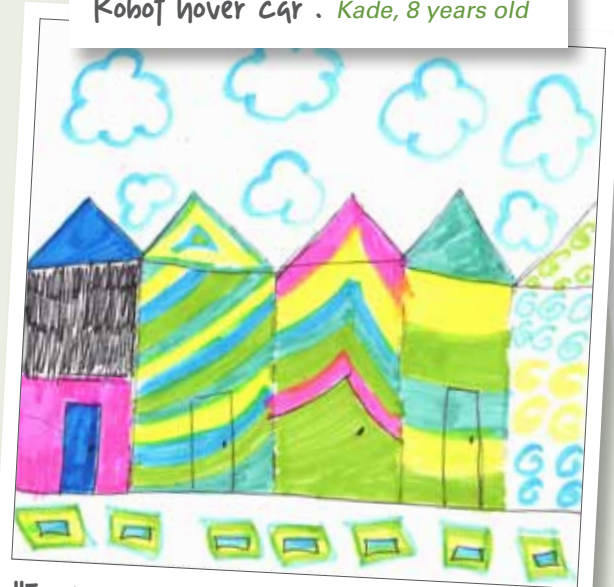
In managing our flexibility and risks, we will be equipped to accommodate any changes in our environment and weather.

How this might look

- As active, concerned citizens we will recognise that the beauty of our communities is in our own hands and we will work together to enhance our natural and built environment.
- The environment will be a critical factor in decision making across the municipality.
- Our investment in infrastructure, roads, bridges, footpaths and parking will be sensibly targeted to support our population.



"Robot hover car". Kade, 8 years old



"In 17 years I would love Ararat to be much more colourful". Scarlett, 9 years old



"It is a John Deere place so we don't have to go to Mill".
Scott, 11 years old



"Always a vibrant, progressive rural area".

Community Vision 2030
Postcard feedback



"A vegie patch that is free to go in and you can help yourself".
Lizzie, 10 years old

Now, how do we bring this vision to life?

As a Council we will work in partnership with the community, private industry, governments and not-for-profit agencies. This vision is being incorporated into all aspects of Ararat Rural City's guiding document, the Council Plan 2013-2017.

