

# BUILDING A FUTURE BEYOND BUSHFIRE



**Our priorities and projects to achieve social, economic and environmental sustainability in the Bega Valley Shire**

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## MAJOR PROJECTS

The following key infrastructure projects are funding priorities in the Bega Valley Shire.

### Airport, Water, Sewer and Energy

- \$4.5m - Merimbula Airport Runway upgrade
- \$4m - Merimbula Airport Commercial Precinct (to match state funding)
- \$22m - Merimbula Sewerage Treatment Plant and Ocean Outfall upgrade
- \$27m - Water Treatment Facility upgrades in Eden & Merimbula
- \$28m - Brogo Dam height raising to improve water security and farm sustainability along with local employment opportunities
- Gas pipeline to support manufacturing industry retention and growth

### Roads and Transport

- Princes Highway duplicated from Nowra to Victorian boarder and recognised as a Road of Strategic Importance
- East-West connectivity via the Snowy Mountains Highway with an upgraded Brown Mountain link supporting B-Double access
- \$13m - Timber bridge replacement funding
- Southern Lights project roll out across regional NSW
- Shovel ready land transport infrastructure stabilisation and seal projects
  - Wanatta Lane \$511k
  - Tantawangalo Mountain Road \$1.8m
  - Nethercote Road \$2.25m
  - Kameruka Lane \$2.6m
  - Dr George Mountain Road \$5m
  - Warrigal Range Road \$2.32m
  - Yowrie Road \$1.8m
  - Towridgee Lane \$1.7m

### Town Centres and Precincts

- \$14m - Town centre revitalisation projects in Merimbula
- Town centre revitalisation in other major centres in Bega Valley Eden \$3m, Bega \$7m, Bermagui \$8m (conceptual estimates based on relative scale of the areas to be improved)
- Snug Cove Precinct Eden delivered as a vibrant maritime centre

### Culture, Sport and Recreation

- \$6.4m - Bega Regional Gallery upgrade
- \$8m - Tathra Wharf rehabilitation works
- \$9.15m - Bega Pool renewal
- \$2.9m - Merimbula Boardwalk renewal

### Education and Innovation

- Regional education, innovation, community hub and library precinct at the former Bega Hospital Site
- \$3.5m - Eden library upgrade

### Bushfire Recovery and Resilience

- Support for regional RFS site in the Bega Valley
- Full funding of Council gaps in replacement infrastructure works and make safe works
- Improved telecommunication infrastructure to support emergency responses and recovery
- Improved transport accessibility to support emergency responses and recovery
- Full bushfire affected asset replacement funding
- Funding for the upgrade of nominated evacuation centres and safer places to include alternative power sources, communications and accessibility at evacuation centres

### COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience

- Financial support to local government nationally to support all Councils to undertake community and economic recovery projects
- Project funding to the Canberra Region Joint Organisation to develop and provide a new local government model aimed at refocussing service outputs and reducing duplicated costs
- Funding to support regional airports to keep them operating with the loss of funding due to significantly reduced landing fees

### Employment/Lands

- \$10m Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)
- Naval Wharf precinct developed to support freight opportunities
- Development of pre-identified industrial land project south of Bega

### Tourism

- Bundian Way infrastructure delivery
- Trails, track and accessibility projects throughout the Shire
- \$7.2m - Eden Trails Mountain Bike Project
- Tourism product development programs supporting industry recovery

# ELECTION ADVOCACY PRIORITIES — Bega Valley Shire Council

## 2020



- **Commit to implementing key findings from the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements**
- **Undertake a full review of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements**
- **Fund critical infrastructure to support local community and economic recovery**
- **Reinstate adequate funding to local government through increasing Financial Assistance Grants**



### BUSHFIRES, NATURAL DISASTERS & ENVIRONMENT

#### Protect communities from the impacts of natural disasters and climate change

- Assist local government to respond to impacts from increased frequency of bushfire, storms and floods
- Ensure Census collection captures data on bushfire and other disaster impacts in regional communities
- Establish a local government climate change partnership fund addressing mitigation and adaptation projects
- Fund support of Councils for preparedness and response to emergencies – operation and staff training for EOC, evacuation centre facilities, telecommunications, power



### FUNDING

#### Repair funding to Local Government

- Restore the quantum of Financial Assistance Grants annually to at least 1% of Commonwealth Taxation revenue



### TRANSPORT ROUTES

#### Realise the productive potential of Australia's freight routes

- Fund a local government Productivity Investment Plan
- Support freight routes in South East NSW particularly the “black hole” that exists in the far south coast by:
  - upgrading the Princes Highway and classifying the Princes Highway as a Road of Strategic Importance
  - upgrading of the Snowy Mountains Highway through Brown Mountain: stage one - funded scoping study to design and cost the project; stage two - delivery of the upgrade.



### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Keep regional communities digitally connected

- Deliver full digital connectivity to the region
- Deliver full connectivity to the region through black spot funding and smart technology funding for the Southern Lights project
- Commit to ensuring there are no Black Spots in regional Australia, particularly those that are at significant risk of natural disasters such as the Black Summer Bushfires
- Establish remote working hubs to leverage digital economy benefits for regions



### HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

#### Promote healthier communities

- Invest in local government preventative health and activity programs



### INDIGENOUS WELL-BEING

#### Foster Indigenous well-being and prosperity

- Fund the Bundian Way project
- Continue support for Indigenous jobs/traineeships
- Support Indigenous business development



### COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### Promote equitable access to community services

- Fund regional tertiary education



### ECONOMY & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

#### Strengthen regional economies

- Support regional economies by relocating Federal Government Departments
- Target funding programs at growth sectors of the Bega Valley Shire: Agribusiness, Forestry, Marine, Tourism, Education and Health and Aged Care
- Support small businesses recover from drought, bushfire and the global pandemic
- Fund support for drought - water storage, agricultural resilience initiatives, technology investment and policy
- Fund resource recovery initiatives - with a focus on business
- Fund support of key actions from Climate Resilience Strategy and BVSC Clean Energy Plan
- Support and fund employment programs building workforce skills and resilience



### AFFORDABLE HOUSING, HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS

#### Support local government's current work in addressing affordable housing and homelessness

- Fund a youth refuge in the Bega Valley
- Provide incentives for the development of affordable housing and flexible housing options
- Further support for mental health services in regional areas as the full impact of the drought, fires, floods and pandemic is realised



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

#### Simplify grant funding processes so we can deliver more for the community

- Support Councils to have ‘shovel ready’ projects by funding project preplanning activities in funding programs
- Increase the project management/administration limit in funding programs to at least 20% to reflect actual cost for Councils to deliver projects
- Improve and streamline Federal Government grant guidelines, application processes and reporting requirements