Wagga Wagga City Council’s plan for the city’s growth endorsed

Director-General of Planning and Infrastructure Sam Haddad today congratulated Wagga Wagga City Council on its comprehensive plan for the future growth of the city for the next 30 years.

Mr Haddad was joined by Councillor Julian McLaren and General Manager of Wagga Wagga City Council Phil Pinyon to discuss the city’s future direction.

“Wagga Wagga remains the State’s largest inland city and growth is set to continue over the next three decades,” Mr Haddad said.

“This plan is a guide to how the city’s land will be allocated to cater for future growth, providing for homes, jobs and community facilities like parks and sports grounds.

“I congratulate the council for maximising the opportunities for the community to have their say about how Wagga Wagga will grow into the future.”

“Creating clear strategic plans, based on community involvement and a solid evidence base is a key component of the new planning system.”

“I’m pleased that Planning and Infrastructure have worked with the council to develop this plan and it’s great to be here in Wagga Wagga to endorse it personally.

Key issues addressed in the plan include:

- **Maintaining a healthy natural environment** – maintaining biodiversity, water quality and supply, land management and dealing with hazards like bushfire, flooding and salt.
- **Protecting local culture and landscape** – protecting and enhancing our rich Indigenous and European cultural heritage and the special landscape character of urban and rural areas.
- **Rural and residential land** – providing for housing choice and diversity to build strong communities by identifying a further potential 8,800 lots for greenfield development.
- **Commercial and retail land** – building on the CBD as the regional commercial and retail centre, while encouraging local neighbourhood hubs.
- **Industrial land** – creating jobs by maximising local competitive advantages and building on the opportunities of the Bomen Industrial Estate.

Specifically to encourage jobs growth in the city, the plan commits the council to undertaking a number of studies about how best to use land for business purposes especially around the airport.
General Manager of Wagga Wagga City Council Mr Pinyon said that the Wagga Wagga Spatial Plan seeks to adopt a coordinated approach to planning between Council, stakeholders, service providers and the community.

“The Wagga Wagga Spatial Plan was developed and designed in partnership with the local community to provide clear Strategic indicators for the development of the Wagga Wagga Local Government Area over the next 30 years and beyond and is the key strategic planning document for informing and managing positive urban growth and change in Wagga Wagga.”

“The future directions in the Spatial Plan were identified by the community during the consultation phase for Wagga’s Community Strategic Plan - Ruby & Oliver. As a result, the Wagga Wagga Spatial Plan plays a crucial role in ensuring there is a coordinated approach to achieving the community’s vision and achieve what is important to the community”.

Media contact: 9228 6128