

LEIGH CREEK

What we heard



In early October 2023 the Leigh Creek community was invited to participate in a round of sessions that were focused on creating and revitalising public spaces that are important to the social, cultural and economic life of Leigh Creek. The sessions focused on bringing people together, sharing of information and creating genuine opportunities for community input on:

- The desired future use of community assets
- A vision for the newly created public recreational space
- Town signage
- How Leigh Creek community groups could be structured to improve collaboration and impact

VISION

Leigh Creek is an engaged, self-sustaining community that celebrates diversity and acknowledges its history, maintains a vibrant retail precinct and flourishing tourism sector that brings increased employment and business opportunities, and supports a quality of life that embraces wellbeing and creates a sense of belonging.



The **Community Hall** (old Church building) was predominantly viewed as a shared space where community members could come together for social and leisure activities. It could provide a 'home' for community interest groups e.g., photography club.

Most suggestions for the **Visitor Information Outlet (VIO)** followed a business or enterprise theme where the centre provided spaces for micro-businesses and/or pop-up ventures with suggestions including a garden centre, hardware store, coffee shop and laundromat. Employment and training/learning services and activities were seen as appropriate uses. Important to note is that discussions did not confine the VIO to being owned or run by the community/ ratepayers – it needs to operate as a viable business.

The Community identified a range of infrastructure needs to enhance the **Recreational Hub Space** functionality, aesthetics and service provision. Visitor infrastructure was the key theme for development with an aim to provide an attractive environment for travelers to park (long-vehicles), relax, replenish water supplies, manage waste (RV dump) and learn about the town's services and features (information bay). Improvements to landscaping including native, community and memorial gardens were well supported. Notwithstanding the focus on visitors, there was a strong desire to create a welcoming environment for residents that supported community connection and wellbeing, (e.g. BBQ, sports, dog park & wash).



A range of **Signage** (directional, destination and interpretive) was identified for development and/or upgrade. There was strong support for the town entrance signage currently located on The Outback Highway to be upgraded and visually enhanced to make a more impactful statement of the town's presence. In addition to the town entrance statement, many participants indicated a desire for an Information Bay to be developed to support visitors.

Governance. There are several groups already in existence in Leigh Creek with many shared memberships. The identified benefits of adopting a holistic governance framework encompassing all community groups included improved transparency and accountability and a reduction in duplication and red-tape.

For more information contact

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