

# El Dorado Community

## Plan 2010-2011

### ***What is community planning & what does the El Dorado community hope to achieve?***

A Community Plan talks about the key issues facing a community and recommends strategies that Council and/or agencies could implement to address your identified needs. The community of El Dorado hope to work together to improve community and tourism facilities and services while maintaining the village look and feel of the township .

### **Profile**

El Dorado is nestled on the banks of Reedy Creek at the end of Woolshed Valley. The natural amphitheatre housing an abundance of flora and fauna are managed by Parks Victoria. The surrounding flat land supports large farms and smaller lifestyle properties. The town's name was derived from an early drover, Captain William Fury Baker who named his Reedy Creek property "El Dorado". El Dorado is 23km from Wangaratta and 290km from Melbourne. El Dorado has a population of 287 and most people own or are purchasing their homes.

### **Background**

The El Dorado community hosted a Rural City of Wangaratta 2030 Vision Public Forum on 21 February 2008. There was good participation in discussion in looking to the future. The community were keen to use the information generated from the Vision to start planning for El Dorado's future development.

On Sunday 30 May 2010, the El Dorado community gathered at the El Dorado Hall to workshop their priorities and nominate champions to lead these priority needs. The information contained in this plan was generated from discussion with the local residents.



### **What Community Groups exist?**

Byawatha Rec Reserve  
Byawatha Tennis Club  
El Dorado Centennial Park Committee  
El Dorado Fire Brigade & Junior Brigade  
El Dorado Homework Club  
El Dorado Memorial Hall Committee  
El Dorado Museum Association Inc  
El Dorado Red Cross  
El Dorado Senior Citizens'  
El Dorado Tennis Club  
El Dorado Tourism Business Group  
El Dorado Uniting Church  
Springhurst/Byawatha Hills Landcare  
St Augustine's Catholic Church  
St Jude's Anglican Church  
St Jude's Ladies Guild  
Wangaratta 2 Neighbourhood Watch Group



### **How do locals communicate?**

The El Dorado & District Star  
Carragarmungee Primary School newsletter  
Notice board at the Post Office

## Community facilities...

Carragarmungee Primary School  
El Dorado Cemetery  
El Dorado Fire Brigade  
El Dorado Hall  
El Dorado Gunhouse Park  
El Dorado Museum  
El Dorado Centennial Park  
El Dorado Tennis Courts  
El Dorado Transfer Station  
St Augustine's Church  
St Judes Church & Hall  
Uniting Church

## What Community Events are held?

St Jude's Flower Show  
Australia Day Event  
Folk Lifestyle Festival  
Victorian Riding for Endurance Events

## What Memorials exist in your community?

El Dorado Memorial Hall  
El Dorado Cenotaph  
Monument Hill



El Dorado Cenotaph  
located at front of Hall

## What attracts tourists to your area?

The general surroundings attract bush walkers, cyclists, fossickers, swimmers, horse riders and motor bike enthusiasts. The Victorian Riding for Endurance Association hosts events at the Recreation Reserve and

the caravan park can accommodate horse floats. Popular destinations are:  
El Dorado Dredge & Bush Walk  
El Dorado Museum  
El Dorado Pottery  
El Dorado Tavern  
Mt Pilot Estate Wines – Byawatha  
Reedy Creek  
Sebastopol Park  
Swing Bridge  
Top Cut Water Hole  
Yellow Cottage

## Services available to residents...

Access to water point – Dredge Hole  
Eldorado Firewood Depot  
El Dorado General Store & Post Office  
El Dorado Tavern

## Existing Plans, Strategies & Programs

El Dorado Street Tree Program (RCOW-2009)  
El Dorado Tourism Business Group Tourism Development Plan 2007-2012

## Themes from youth gathering Wednesday 24 March 2010

Skate park	public swimming pool	
Netball & football	practice nets	
Art & craft	more shops	
Jumping castle	motorbike track	
Zoo	drive in	
Gymnastics	goal posts	
Scouts	big swing	Paint ball



El Dorado Homework  
Group

## The youth raised the follow:

- **Opportunities**

Revitalise Centennial Park

Garage sale

Wood raffle

Solar plant for town

Access to land to practice driving a car

- **Issues**

Transport

Dirty algae water in swimming hole

Cost of hall hire to run events

Volunteering decreasing

Gunhouse Park for small kids only

Constraints on bush recreation activities

## Themes from the community meeting held on 30 May 2010.

*This is a list of identified needs generated from a brainstorming session:*

Weirs on the creek to divert water from creek to top cut and dredge hole, town water supply, reliable communication, mobile phone, broadband, improvement to the El Dorado-Tarrawingee Road or top road including wider seal, signage for kangaroos, footpath along Main Street – Centennial Park to the Museum, Replace lower swing bridge to enable a circular walking track to be re-established, BBQ under shelter at Centennial Park, Bus service to Wangaratta at times which are suitable & practical for El Dorado residents, Mulls Road – different speed limits at each end – which is the actual speed?



## Allocate \$5,000 grant to community project

The community listed the following projects for consideration:

Big party

Footpath – Museum to Centennial Park

Holding Account to leverage grants

Top Cut safer & nice for kids – more bins

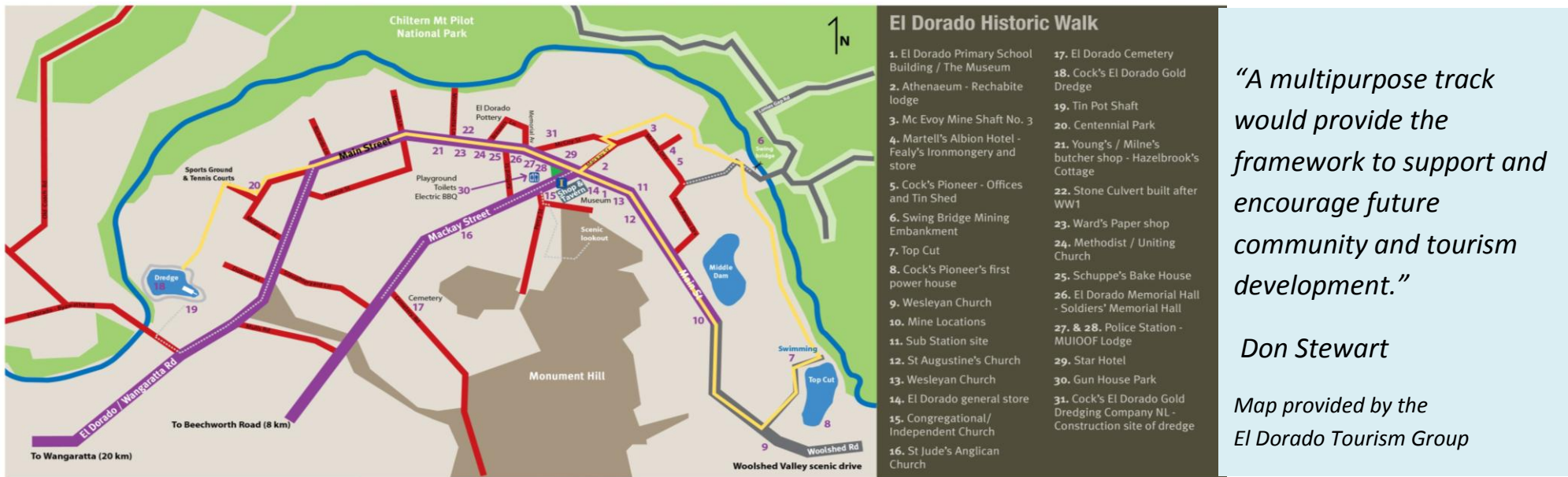
El Dorado Tourism Group to develop their plan

The community voted on these projects and it was decided that the grant be given to the El Dorado Tourism Group.

The community decided to hold a workshop on Wednesday 7 July 2010 to develop an aim & goal for their priority projects.







## Proposed El Dorado multipurpose track

The multipurpose track is indicated as a yellow line on the map above. Its purpose is to link the main historic sites together in order to make them accessible to the visitor. The track is intended to be used by walkers, cyclists and wheelchair friendly, constructed to a high standard and sealed. Cyclists could access the track from the Rail Trail from the Londrigan Station and return via the Tarrawingee Station or visa versa. Pedestrians could pick up the track at any point in the town depending on the distant they wish to walk. Visitors could start at the historic gold and tin mining dredge continue through Centennial Park, link to the Main Street continue to view the historic cottages and buildings to the Interpretive Signs that El Dorado and the Woolshed Valley history. The visitor could take the opportunity to visit the Museum and continue in either direction. If the visitor heads along Mackay Street they could join Reid's Walk that Parks Victoria and the El Dorado Tourism Business Group is currently up grading. The ETBG has been given \$4000 grant that will pay for directional signage with Parks donating machinery and labour for its construction. The track at this stage will have a gravel surface and extend to the Swing Bridge. The plan is to continue to the Top Cut that was an open cut mine and now a favourite swimming hole. In the future the ETBG intends to enhance the track with access to the middle pond via a jetty and bird hide, improve the swimming hole with amenities and construct picnic areas and interpretive signage.

# EL DORADO COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2010-2011

## Infrastructure & Planning

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Widen Tarrawingee-El Dorado Road	Jim Buchan	To improve the quality of life in Eldorado	To widen the seal fo the under width portion of the El Dorado – Tarrawingee Road	RCoW – Infrastructure
Signage on approaches to Carraragamungee Primary School	Jim Buchan	Investigate options to improve traffic warning when approaching school during operating times	Improved warning signage installed	RCoW – Infrastructure VicRoads
Signage – Mull Road anomaly	Jim Buchan	Ensure consistency of restriction signs	Consistent restriction signage on approaches to Mull Road	RCoW & VicRoads
Footpath – Main Street (stage 1)	Don Stewart & El Dorado Tourism Group	To provide safer passage for pedestrian between community assets and township centre	Mainstreet footpath installed	RCoW
Multipurpose Path (stage 2)	Don Stewart & El Dorado Tourism Group	To link the main historic sites together in order to make them accessible to the visitor	Multipurpose path installed	RCoW Parks Victoria
Drainage	Don Stewart & El Dorado Tourism Group	To upgrade the open gutters in the Main Street	Kerb and chanel installed along Main Street	RCoW – Infrastructure
Public toilets	Don Stewart & El Dorado Tourism Group	To accommodate increased visitation with good toilet amenities with the capacity for coaches.	Public toilet replaced with Toilet amenity block at Gun House Park	RCoW – Infrastructure & Tourism

Water Incentive for tanks Town water (weirs on creek to divert water into top cut and dredge hole) To grow and develop community	Peter Brick has resigned from the champion			RCoW – Community, Infrastructure North East Water
Communications - Broadband & ADSL - Mobile phone	Jason Borbidge	To improve the quality of life in Eldorado by improving mobile telephone coverage thought El Dorado and Woolshed Valley	Provision of broad band via cable (preferably fibre optic) to everyone in Eldorado	RCoW - Infrastructure Telstra Optus
Retaining small town image – village life - Aesthetics - Streetscape	Robert Godfrey	To ensure a planned approach is taken when considering future development.	Future development to reflect the village appearance of the town which is valued by the residents.	RCoW - Infrastructure

### Community – Young, Senior, Families, New residents

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Mail Services	Linda Atkinson	To improve mail services to residents of El Dorado	Reliable and consistent mail services to residents.	Australia Post

### Economy – How can we develop business opportunities?

Priority Need	Who will champion?	Aim	Goal	Stakeholder
Strategic plan for Eldorado Tourism	Don Stewart El Dorado Tourism Group	To provide a framework for future expansion community and tourism opportunities. The	Strategic Plan developed and implemented. Multipurpose track scoped and	El Dorado Tourism Group RCoW – Infrastructure, Planning and Economic Development

		proposed multipurpose track would become the framework, linking community assets.	implemented. Increased community and tourism opportunities that link with the track.	
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If you would like to know more about the Rural City of Wangaratta's Community Planning Program, please contact the Community Planning Unit on 5722 0824.



RURAL CITY OF  
**WANGARATTA**



Department of Planning  
and Community Development

# COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

## EL DORADO - COMMUNITY PLANNING

A Vibrant and Healthy Community – Young, Senior, Families, New residents

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
To improve mail services to residents of El Dorado.  Goal - Reliable and consistent mail services to residents.				Australia Post

A Thriving Economy – for all business

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
To provide a framework for future expansion community and tourism opportunities. The proposed multipurpose track would become the framework, linking community assets.  Goal - Strategic Plan	Plan and develop a shared use system of pathways throughout the municipality.  Community to identify local attractions and features from community planning.  Maintain and further develop a vibrant CBD, rural	Plan a network of shared paths designed to provide walking and cycling access between townships and community facilities.  Implement the 2010-2013 Rural City of Wangaratta Tourism Industry Strategic Plan.	Tourism Industry Strategic plan	El Dorado Tourism Group RCoW – Infrastructure, Planning and Economic Development



developed and implemented. Multipurpose track scoped and implemented. Increased community and tourism opportunities that link with the track.	townships and destinations, including public art.	Review Council's Cycling to the Future - Bicycle Path Strategy. Develop an action plan to promote cycling and walking as an alternative to vehicle use, including: bike stations; bike racks; and signage. Promote opportunities for nature based recreational activities.		
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Infrastructure – roads, signs, halls

COMMUNITY ISSUE	2030 COMMUNITY VISION LINK	COUNCIL PLAN LINK	STRATEGIC PLAN LINK	STAKEHOLDER
To improve the quality of life in Eldorado.  Goal - To widen the seal for the under width portion of the El Dorado – Tarrawingee Road				RCoW – Infrastructure
Investigate options to improve traffic warning when approaching school during operating times.  Goal - Improved warning signage installed				RCoW – Infrastructure VicRoads

<p>Ensure consistency of restriction signs.</p> <p>Goal - Consistent restriction signage on approaches to Mull Road</p>				RCoW & VicRoads
<p>To provide safer passage for pedestrian between community assets and township centre.</p> <p>Goal - Mainstreet footpath installed</p>		<p>As part of the community planning process, develop structure plans for individual townships.</p>		RCoW
<p>To link the main historic sites together in order to make them accessible to the visitor.</p> <p>Goal - Multipurpose path installed</p>		<p>Plan a network of shared paths designed to provide walking and cycling access between townships and community facilities.</p> <p>Implement the 2010-2013 Rural City of Wangaratta Tourism Industry Strategic Plan.</p>		RCoW Parks Victoria
<p>To upgrade the open gutters in the Main Street.</p> <p>Goal - Kerb and chanel installed along Main Street</p>	Identify infrastructure requirements.	Develop options for overcoming drainage deficiencies within the urban areas.		RCoW – Infrastructure
<p>To accommodate increased visitation with good toilet amenities with</p>	Maintain and further develop a vibrant CBD, rural townships and destinations,	Implement the 2010-2013 Rural City of Wangaratta Tourism Industry Strategic	Tourism Industry Strategic plan	RCoW – Infrastructure & Tourism

<p>the capacity for coaches.</p> <p>Goal - Public toilet replaced with Toilet amenity block at Gun House Park</p>	<p>including public art.</p>	<p>Plan.</p>		
<p>To improve the quality of life in Eldorado by improving mobile telephone coverage throughout El Dorado and Woolshed Valley.</p> <p>Goal - Provision of broad band via cable (preferably fibre optic) to everyone in Eldorado</p>	<p>Support and promote Government Broad Band provision for rural areas.</p>	<p>Investigate opportunities to provide improved telecommunications into the Rural City of Wangaratta, comparable with metropolitan access.</p>		<p>RCoW - Infrastructure Telstra Optus</p>
<p>To ensure a planned approach is taken when considering future development.</p> <p>Goal - Future development to reflect the village appearance of the town which is valued by the residents.</p>	<p>Community to identify local attractions and features from community planning.</p>	<p>As part of the community planning process, develop structure plans for individual townships.</p> <p>Work with the communities in townships to identify and preserve local character.</p>		<p>RCoW - Infrastructure</p>