



# Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute

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## COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR THE MID MOUNTAINS

Dear Mid Mountains Community Member,

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI) has been engaged by Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) to develop a Community–Government Collaborative Framework for the Mid Mountains. Through this work, BMWHI will be acting as a facilitator and ‘independent broker’, working with a high level of commitment for a more sustainable Blue Mountains.

Your organisation has been identified as having a key potential interest. In developing the Framework, BMWHI aims to involve all interested people and parties. We would like to invite your organisation and individuals to attend one or a number of workshops scheduled for February–March 2007. While the workshops are still a few months off, we would like to provide you with adequate notice to give you the opportunity to plan your attendance.

Developing the Framework as early as possible in 2007 will assist in identifying key needs and gaps from a range of interests and perspectives. The Framework will enable people to better understand and respect everyone’s roles and responsibilities locally in achieving the 25-year Vision. The final shape and nature of the Framework will depend on the aspirations and needs of Mid Mountains communities and will be used to guide BMCC and the community throughout 2007 and many years to come.

### Workshops

The workshops scheduled for February–March 2007 will focus on the development of the Collaborative Framework. They will identify new ways in which Mid Mountains communities and BMCC can communicate and work more effectively together for mutual benefit on important issues and matters of community interest and concern.

### Questionnaire

We have attached a brief questionnaire to give you opportunity to provide direct input to the workshops. We would appreciate if you could circulate these to your members and other interested people. Groups and organisations can either complete a single questionnaire, or if your membership prefers, multiple copies can be made for individuals to complete and forward to BMWHI at the above address.

Please see over for more detailed information about opportunities and benefits of the Collaborative Framework, and about the workshops and questionnaires.

### Enquiries

If you have any enquiries, please don’t hesitate to contact Cheryle Yin-Lo at BMWHI on 4782 4657 or email at [c.yin-lo@bmwhi.org.au](mailto:c.yin-lo@bmwhi.org.au)

We hope that you and your members become involved in this positive and significant step forward in developing a sustainable future for the Mid Mountains. Both Cheryle and I look forward to working with you, other community members from the Mid Mountains and BMCC on this important project.

Yours faithfully

Associate Professor Sandy Booth  
Leader, Catchment Management Program BMWHI



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## Mid Mountains Collaborative Framework Questionnaire and Workshop Information

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI) has been engaged by Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) to develop a Community–Government Collaborative Framework for the Mid Mountains. We aim to involve all interested people and parties in workshops during February- March 2007. The workshops will identify new ways in which Mid Mountains communities and BMCC can communicate and work more effectively together for mutual benefit on important issues and matters of community interest and concern.

The Framework will consist of practical directions and activities for the Mid Mountains and Lawson, consistent with the 25 Year Vision for the Blue Mountains. It will also include ways to enable:

- more effective and regular two way communication;
- more consistent approaches to providing and exchanging information and views;
- improved and more co-ordinated integrated planning and decision-making;
- improved co-operation and collaboration generally;
- a strengthening of both respect and trust.

There are two main ways for local people to share ideas and get involved. These are:

1. Written feedback through a brief questionnaire available from local community organisations, the local library and BMWHI website.
2. Participation at one or more of a series of workshops being held in Lawson during **February – March 2007**.

### 1. Questionnaire

The questionnaire has eight short questions that people can answer and return to the Institute either anonymously or with the opportunity of receiving feedback on results. The questionnaire takes around 10 minutes to complete and should be returned to BMWHI in the pre-paid addressed envelope enclosed before **February 9<sup>th</sup> 2007**. Alternatively, the questionnaire may be completed on-line via the BMWHI website [www.bmwhi.org.au](http://www.bmwhi.org.au)

### 2. Workshops

Five workshops will be held in Lawson during the second half of February 2007 focusing on the Mid Mountains area (which includes Bullaburra, Hazelbrook, Lawson, Linden and Woodford). Session dates and times will be scheduled to allow people various options to attend. These will be followed by a single workshop focusing on Lawson in early March 2007. Refreshments will be provided and childminding may be available on request.

### Enquiries

If you have any enquiries, please contact Cheryle Yin-Lo at BMWHI on 4782 4657 or email at [c.yin-lo@bmwhi.org.au](mailto:c.yin-lo@bmwhi.org.au)

We encourage you to obtain a copy of the 25 Year Vision for the Blue Mountains either by calling BMCC on 4780 5000 or visiting the Sustainable Blue Mountains website: [www.sustainablebluemountains.net.au](http://www.sustainablebluemountains.net.au)



## Mid Mountains Community-Government Collaborative Framework Questionnaire

This questionnaire has been prepared by the Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute (BMWHI) to enable Mid Mountains community members to provide direct input to a series of workshops to be held in February – March 2007. It will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. The open workshops will develop a Collaborative Framework specific to the Mid Mountains and Lawson.

This questionnaire should be completed and returned by 9<sup>th</sup> February 2007 to BMWHI PO Box 576, Katoomba 2780 NSW Australia or Fax to 4782 4686. Alternatively people may choose to complete the questionnaire on-line via the Institute's website [www.bmwhi.org.au](http://www.bmwhi.org.au)

1. What will the Mid Mountains and Lawson be like in 2025 when local people and Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) are successful in achieving their Vision? (Try if possible to pick 3 to 5 words which describe either the way it will be, what it will look like or perhaps what people will be doing.)

Mid Mountains:

Lawson:

2. Suggest some ways that Mid Mountains Communities and BMCC could more effectively and regularly communicate on important matters and issues.

3. What do you think is the best way for BMCC to reach and involve local people?

4. How could a more consistent and reliable approach to exchanging information and views between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC be put into place?

5. Suggest ways in which BMCC planning and decision making processes for the Mid Mountains be improved and be better co-ordinated.

6. What steps do you think are necessary to improve co-operation and collaboration between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC?

7. What do you think is the most important issue that must be addressed to strengthen respect and trust between BMCC and its communities in ensuring a sustainable future for the Mid Mountains?

Would you like to make any other suggestions or comments?

Gender: Male  Female

Age: under 16yrs  17-25yrs  26-35yrs  36-45yrs  46-55yrs  over 56yrs

Place of residence: Linden  Woodford  Hazelbrook  Lawson  Bullaburra

Other  .....

**OPTIONAL**

Name	Address	Telephone

I would like to receive the results of this questionnaire YES  NO

I would like to receive a copy of the draft Framework YES  NO

## Mid Mountains Community-Government Collaborative Framework Questionnaire - Community Responses

1. What will the Mid Mountains and Lawson be like in 2025 when local people and Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) are successful in achieving their Vision? (Describe in a few words.)
1. LAWSON: -- MID MOUNTAINS: Hopefully highway will be finished and Lawson will have a decent shopping Centre.
2. LAWSON: New MID MOUNTAINS: Environmental; communal; unified; active; peaceful
3. LAWSON: A centre full of empty shops due to overdevelopment and greed MID MOUNTAINS: A noisy place full of traffic lights and vehicles
4. LAWSON: Rebuilt shopping centre with good access; re-established golf course + additional sporting facilities on the old tip site; refurbished and well maintained bushwalks both north and south MID MOUNTAINS: Safe; prosperous; aesthetically pleasing
5. LAWSON: In the hub of the 5 mid mountains towns and would need to have a range of services and businesses to make it a relatively self-contained community. A greater awareness of its history and of its place in the development of the Blue Mountains. Aim at discovering and developing a distinctive identity. MID MOUNTAINS: I would like to see the mid mountain towns develop as a distinct community of communities, self-aware or an entity distinct from Katoomba and Springwood and at the heart of the Blue Mountains.
6. LAWSON: A friendly village square away from fumes and noise of constant traffic MID MOUNTAINS: Easily accessible and sufficient parking to a good variety of shops.
7. LAWSON: (summarised from Fax) Many changes – given how the highway will be widened. One big supermarket will open – perhaps in the Lawson Industrial Area. Lawson will be a showplace for the Mountains if it is designed really well. A place where people will stop a break their journey for a meal or a coffee, or to bushwalk or stock up supplies. MID MOUNTAINS: (condensed from Fax) Smaller towns will grow small shopping centres to cope with increase in population.
8. LAWSON: Sustainable, vibrant, revitalised MID MOUNTAINS: Sustainable
9. LAWSON: Hot in summer, cold in winter MID MOUNTAINS: Much the same as now, except for Lawson, I expect it to have been over done.
10. LAWSON: Community, great to live and work and play MID MOUNTAINS: Centre of Blue Mountains
11. LAWSON: Heritage preserved as much as possible; Functioning hall in Mechanics Institute; Youth centre centrally located; Open spaces for people to meet/ sit MID MOUNTAINS: Village focussed; Spaces for community to congregate; visually beautiful with artworks and plantings; Accessible community services.
12. LAWSON: A township to reflect the 25 year vision and worthy to be part of the Blue Mountains World Heritage National Park. MID MOUNTAINS: A thriving community integrated into the local environment with first class facilities.
13. LAWSON: I would like to see Lawson being a friendly place that people come to because of its community spirit and conservation of its natural assets. Ensuring industrial development doesn't change the ambience. A vibrant village square, faithful to the original character of Lawson. Not like Hazelbrook which is ugly – no offence intended to Hazelbrook residents. MID MOUNTAINS: Valued as highly by Council as places like Leura, Wentworth Falls, Blackheath

etc. conserving the bushland atmosphere and heritage value.
14. LAWSON: Creative Centre. Hub of activity / social engagement MID MOUNTAINS: Great facilities
15. LAWSON: will be stripped of small village atmosphere, devoid of history. Sold out to corporate nats eg Coles, 2 <sup>nd</sup> possibility fast food. If will look like any other suburban shopping centre. MID MOUNTAINS: with cumulative highway widening projects sanctioned by BMCC, history has taken a beating, so much of it already gone, so much more to go. Community facilities are yet to be extended with any real fore thought.
16. LAWSON: Stripped of village atmosphere, just like any other suburban shopping centre. MID MOUNTAINS: devoid of characteristic heritage features
17. LAWSON: Retention of individuality, recognition of World Heritage significance and a great place to be. MID MOUNTAINS: a thriving community with access to World Heritage sites for locals and visitors, good transport and learning and work opportunities
18. LAWSON: Lawson will be a lively community oriented village
19. MID MOUNTAINS: Need more words but well protected environment, safe.

<b>2. Suggest some ways that Mid Mountains Communities and BMCC could more effectively and regularly communicate on important matters and issues.</b>
1. Improve Public Relations
2. Specific newsletters, plans of management with short and long term deliverables and more planned community days.
3. Properly organised public meetings. Newsletters
4. Direct mail of newsletters - not at regular intervals but whenever significant decisions are made.
5. The usual means of advertising, publicising (eg Mail outs, Gazette). Meetings for information, consultation, think of times to suit older people (eg daytime) Perhaps regular (eg weekly) get together that are partly social, partly business. Newsletter.
6. Have a mid mountains community column in the Gazette; An information meeting at mid mountains community centre to heated debate or discussion ??; a forum when ideas are presented and discussion groups formed and ideas pooled and ?? assessed; Sunday afternoon meeting for those not keen to go out at night; Separate meetings at Woodford, Hazelbrook, and Bullaburra for their specific needs; Letter box drops.
7. (summarised from Fax) Get BMCC to allow its Lawson Project Officer to communicate freely with the community.
8. Email is the way of communicating in the 21 <sup>st</sup> C. Regular emails bulletins to Community Groups would be very useful. Workshops are also a great way for 2 way exchange.
9. BMCC could tell the populace what their Mid-Mountains vision is in the BMG. Briefly you need an editor. So far I'm not sure I've heard of this vision. NB your residents statement ?? of the vision statement is just the kind of utopian, flatulence that you don't need in a vision statement. No one believes rhetoric like this, and are angry when their money's spent producing it!
10. Work with BMCC Corporate Planning Team and MM Neighbourhood Centre
11. A regular column in Mid-Mountains News (quarterly); Notices that can be picked up in Lawson shops with suggestion boxes for community input. BMCC staff attend key meetings eg Lawson PS P&C, DLN Parents and Friends, Lawson Visions, Chamber of commerce.
12. Open public forums on a regular basis to raise awareness of local issues.
13. BMCC be genuine when communicating – not face value only consultations. Respect us. Use the Community Centre as a Hub and other places where people go. Ask us for input at the beginning of

planning processes instead of pretending to ask / communicate when the grand plan is already formulated.
14. Better resourcing of MM Neighbourhood Centre to link people, hold gatherings etc, focused on building supportive inclusive communities. Mid Mts newsletter
15. If council actually listened to consultation it would be a good start. Mechanics Institute is a good example, majority wish to keep it, but council recommends demolition anyway. No wonder there is lack of faith.
16. LISTEN – instead of ignoring us. Examples – 58% oppose Pref Op 1999 – go ahead anyway; 52% oppose 2003 master plan – go ahead anyway; majority want to keep Mechanics Institute – demolish anyway!
17. By email and internet; through community consultation. Attendance at community forums. A 'booth' or interface at local level ie Lawson. By listening to what the local needs are. Via snail mail / newsletter.
18. Meeting to discuss the future of Lawson meet in places where the local community already connects eg Bowling Club, pub, school, youth centre, skateboard park etc; Connect with commuters in a creative and clever way as they are often too tired to come to evening meetings; Connect with mothers and others with dependents by liaising with organisations that are helping these groups of people eg play groups, older people; connect in every village to demonstrate that the project is truly about all the villages and not just Lawson; The language used in the Gazette full page spread was in government bureaucrat speak – and did not highlight the meetings. Many people I have spoken to in Lawson did not pay it any attention whatsoever. It needs to be much more friendly and approachable otherwise people think that they need a degree to attend if they can be induced to read the material – simplify, speak to the heart, speak to someone who likes living where they do.

<b>3. What do you think is the best way for BMCC to reach and involve local people?</b>
1. --
2. Combined thank you functions where volunteers gather for morning or afternoon tea and get to express as a group what they would like to see. I think recognition (regular) inspires growth (internally and numerically)
3. Properly organised public meetings. Newsletters. Ask them for feedback and ideas. Then LISTEN!
4. It must be recognised that the vast majority of residents just want to get on with their lives and expect this elected representatives to make the correct decisions on their behalf (with the assistance of advice from professional staff.
5. See above. Be aware of the local groups and interests (eg church, sport, social groups, ckybs, historical society etc) each of which has leadership personnel who are considered key to community development.
6. Work through the new group Lawson visions; meet local groups like the View Club, Red Cross, RFS, P&C; Give opportunity to meet with Rolly Lawford or another BMCC member (ward 2) to privately express an opinion. Many long term residents don't attend meetings because of a powerful minority group who have a lot to say; questionnaire; street meetings.
7. (summarised from Fax) Get BMCC to allow its Lawson Project Officer to communicate freely with the community.
8. Letterbox drops (NOT in rates notices), workshops, public meetings
9. Publish the development plan for Lawson in print larger than a ½ mm, in the BMG. Everyone is for too busy to go trekking into BMCC offices to look at the DP. It is counter productive and antagonises the electorate to be informed of "the display" in offices. The plan could be copied as a pamphlet and sent with rate notices.
10. MM Neighbourhood Centre newsletter. Support and attend community initiatives. Eg Lawson Visions gatherings. Love Lawson Festival; Use Newsletter, Gazette.

11. Street stalls; via both the schools and preschool and churches and youth centre and neighbourhood centre – have comments boxes at all these places and answer the questions people ask.
12. Town Committees, local meetings, internet, local paper.
13. Responsive, honest councillors. Regular communication eg via Community Centre and local groups. Forget the jargon. Involve children and other disenfranchised groups in a way that is accessible to them. Support our local festival and other initiatives. Draw on the strengths of local people.
14. Gazette. Resourcing activities eg Love Lawson Festival. Mid Mts newsletter. Active councillors
15. hold varied form of engagement and public meetings. Council never has public meetings where people can ask questions ie open forum.
16. Public meetings.
17. By visiting us, where we congregate ie community centre or other facility. By holding proper meetings, with a prepared agenda.
18. BMCC has a low standing amongst many people I am connected to – this is sad and unnecessary. One example, the Revised Concept Plan included a roadway between the jointly owned School and community Hall. The BMCC officer had not properly consulted with the school community and therefore has increased distrust of BMCC proposals. This was entirely avoidable. In the past an Area Manager fulfilled this role – and this created a great deal of good will. There was one council officer who was knowledgeable about local concerns, could provide advise to other council officers and the community on how to get actions completed promptly. Recommend this approach be reinstated.

4. How could a more consistent and reliable approach to exchanging information and views between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC be put into place?
1. --
2. More effective (regularly cleared) notice boards. Gazette, specific mid-mountains newsletters.
3. Holding properly organised public meetings. Asking for feedback and ideas. LISTENING!
4. Stick to the statutory processes for community consultation!
5. See 2 and 3 above
6. With easier access to Rolly Lawford or Ward 2 councillors through a local location; Being made welcome to discuss concerns; Mid Mountains Bulletin inserted into Mountains Gazette; In Mid Mts Neighbourhood Centre quarterly newsletter "The Mid Mountains News" articles, information could be included; Involve the Chamber of Commerce and all businesses.
7. (summarised from Fax) Mechanisms already there but not utilised.
8. As above
9. I don't know I'm sure. At present you need to be very sure of yourself to approach the desk clerks at council. They look over worked and worn out. At least they did the last time I was there. It would be helpful if you did not feel they were watching your back when you're trying to study a DP; and about to comment on you the moment you leave the building. Very human, I'm sure, but it doesn't encourage citizens to take an interest in the plans for their community.
10. Develop consultation plan and stick to it. Be clear about options and levels of decision making. Use council staff at different levels (keep same staff for continuity)
11. It is about consistency – knowing that if you ask a question, council will bet back to you with a plain English answer. It is also about going to where people already are like schools etc as suggested above.



12. Town committees to liaison with local precincts to discuss localised issues eg Nth Lawson; Nth Bullaburra lack of facilities, playgrounds.
13. Maybe use the monthly markets as a way of interacting with the community. MMNC Newsletter. Use local network people as conduits.
14. Over next year, commitment to regular meetings facilitating discussion, common visioning – open agenda, genuine interest in consultation before decisions are made.
15. If council actually did some work and research prior to decision making and consultation eg – heritage studies for Lawson ly done after decisions made; Mechanics Institute – no engineers report, no investigation into cost to remove and rebuild, lack of investigation of possible heritage grants.
16. All info should be well researched and provided prior to decision making of heritage reports commissioned 2003 for Lawson, decision made 1999. Hmm Hmm Hmm
17. Meetings should cover agenda items and participation from the community should be encouraged at local meetings and Council meetings. A newsletter or e-letter could cover the minutes/ the meeting.
18. Exchange – use web based tools (BLOG) – (customer service request); find ways of connecting with commuters – often they arrive home after 7pm (too late for this evenings meeting); Council meetings live on the web (YouTube)

<b>5. Suggest ways in which BMCC planning and decision making processes for the Mid Mountains be improved and be better co-ordinated.</b>
1. More notice of public meetings etc
2. Baseline assessments need to be outlined so that better deliverables across all areas can occur without cost blow up. A balance between people and nature needs to occur.
3. Properly organised public meetings; allow avenues for feedback. LISTEN!
4. Delays have resulted in extreme frustration; appointment of Rolly Lawford has been a significant improvement – he has make every attempt to expedite the process.
5. Consultation has to be real and honest (I had an unfortunate experience when submissions on the future of Lawson were invited, to be told that plans had been too far advanced for changes to be made). Prepare to be surprised. Look for vision in unexpected quarters.
6. By having the relevant people of BMCC come to the mid mtns Centre and have a mini council meeting and we hear and see how they arrive at their decisions; Opportunity for locals to say why they agree or disagree.
7. (summarised from Fax) Involve 'Lawson Visions' group more in planning. Improve communication and give more opportunity for involvement.
8. Listen to our views. We have been asking for infrastructure upgrades, better stormwater management and user-pays cost recovery for years with NO progress.
9. That is their problem. Only those who are responsible for planning and decision-making know how to do it better. If they are conscientious in their work as they appear to be, then they should be able to figure it out.
10. Involve community in development of vision for Lawson and make plan complimentary to vision. Involve community in implementation. Be honest about what role community can play and what power council will keep in planning.
11. It really depends on whether BMCC is really open to community input in planning and decision making as it seems the approach to date has been informing community of decisions already made.
12. Time frame could be improved in finding solutions to the issues involving the Mid Mountains

presently before council.
13. Genuine consultation from the beginning. Council take the lead in bringing together major stakeholders and maintaining communication systems between them. Demystifying bureaucratic processes and language so that it means something to people.
14. Hold processes that are consultative not info showcasing from council. Develop options. Be clear about what decisions are open.
15. –
16. Stop employing consultants and employ more people who'll actually do their jobs!
17. The social impact priorities should be of paramount significance, as with the environment and financial, cultural responsibilities in balance.
18. Good examples include LEP where community submissions were logged and clear indication of what way this was considered, demonstrated a judgement on material/ideas submitted. Consultations need to address questions of resources and what really will be done with the ideas gathered – these are in the realm of unfunded great ideas without clear mechanisms to help these happen.

<b>6. What steps do you think are necessary to improve co-operation and collaboration between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC?</b>
1. Put in an administrator
2. More delivery and more visits by people from the 'Castle' (Katoomba) to plan short and long term not re-active or after the failure.
3. Council will have to stop deciding for the community and instead let the community decide. Council will have to provide better information and get community involved.
4. None – there is a small vocal group who will never be happy with the process unless they get their own way.
5. See 5 above. People to be consulted are not only practical, business like ones, but also those in touch with intangible spiritual values. Eg clergymen, writers, intellectuals, bushwalkers, long-time residents.
6. Any decisions affecting the Mid Mountains be announced publicly so that they are not passed on by hearsay or misinterpreted. We don't want misinformation or rumours.
7. (summarised from Fax) Involve 'Lawson Visions' group more in planning. Improve communication and give more opportunity for involvement.
8. --
9. The "Mid-Mountains communities" can't be grouped and "dealt with". If anything worthwhile arises from the Feb/March workshops then the results should be communicated, in person, if possible, to workshop and community leaders. It is only by making human contact over these issues that people will want to keep on putting in their time.
10. Public gatherings (resource Lawson Visions to host) BMCC Management staff attend.
11. People need to know their concerns are genuinely listened to and if it is not possible to address their needs they need to understand why via a plain English explanation.
12. Have a list of steps that are carried out to achieve the goals the community and BMCC have set.
13. Relationships – see Q5. Mechanisms for meeting, communication, decision making, involvement by many players in the implementations of visions for the community.
14. BMCC senior officers attend public meeting with plan for cooperation and collaboration, review after input from community.

15. Council needs to show some good faith with the community ie Listen and act as we wish (see no 2)
16. --
17. Financial responsibilities shouldn't take over from Heritage significance or social obligations, so more accountability is required.
18. Staff to have more training on consultation – perhaps engineers should not do community consultation as they are technical people not people people or process people.. Community citizenship/ Education via TAFE

7. What do you think is the most important issue that must be addressed to strengthen respect and trust between BMCC and its communities in ensuring a sustainable future for the Mid Mountains?
1. --
2. A balanced, realistic, open approach. Not political, biased, head in the sand approach like they currently deliver. We are not Sydney!
3. Consultation. Currently it doesn't exist.
4. Residents of Lawson have been consulted to death about the shopping centre. To gain respect council needs to get on with the job.
5. Needed a vision which embraces existing interest groups and which has profound appreciation of the history of our area – honour the past and its people. The question of identity is paramount.
6. The very biggest issue to that road widening through Lawson has been going on for so long. 1989 BMCC set up Lawson landscapes a project to prepare people for road widening. 1990 the collage of ?? taken with the expected widening is in the mid mtns centre framed and covered with glass hanging on the wall. Deferred hope make the heart sick, long time residents are running out of patience – assurance is needed that it will happen soon, plus a new village type shopping centre.
7. (summarised from Fax) Involve 'Lawson Visions' group more in planning. Improve communication and give more opportunity for involvement.
8. Contact with councillors would help. We have invited every elected Councillor to our meetings, in writing, over 3 successive council terms without a word of reply (other than occasional attendance by Chris Van Der Kley).
9. I think this question is poorly worded. "Sustainable future" in this context is jargon. At the moment Lawson appears to be a bone of contention (again) and the heritage issues (viz the community hall), other shop fronts of the era are definitely candidates for heritage conservation. Every building that has an historical hallmark should be carefully considered.
10. What decisions have been made and why and what are still open for discussion re highway. Overall plan for Lawson / Mid Mountains
11. Community needs to know that BMCC is seriously listening to their concerns and trying to keep the character of the Mid-Mountains as much as possible.
12. A channel of communication, open to new ideas on how to involve the community in the 25 year vision.
13. Giving those with less political power a stronger voice and drawing on the inherent strengths within our community (this does not just mean those with business interests)
14. A vision for Lawson / Mid Mts that uses the changes as an opportunity to build unique, sustainable wonderful places to live.
15. Where should we start? ..

16. --
17. More accurate reporting of issues and accountability and transparency in how issues might affect residents, what plans are proposed and by whom, where and when decisions making is required and how we can best affect desired outcomes.
18. --

Would you like to make any other suggestions or comments?
1. --
2. We want sustainable living where walkways, cycleways, bush and housing can live in harmony. BMCC need to see that the economic values only lead to the current climate issues.
3. Stop trying to turn historic villages into mega-shopping arcades. Start respecting community and heritage
4. Community consultation NOT community decision making
5. I am not so concerned with the details of the development of Lawson, but am concerned that a real sense of place and of communal unity be built into town planning, with monuments (town flags, central water feature etc) highlighting our past. Preservation of heritage items where possible, but not obsessive.
6. Bring it on
7. (summarised from Fax) The revised concept plan has major shortcomings which must be addressed. The changed traffic flow plan is a bad design and won't work. The idea to create a heritage end of town in the circle from the pub, down Staples Stores/ Honour Ave to the church and around in a circle to include Heatherbrae should be investigated further.
8. --
9. Heritage conservationist should be given a good hearing. Any building that has an engraved date or name, such as the McBair building, with 'of the era' identification needs to be carefully examined for it heritage value. Precincts such as Lawson can boost their value for cultural tourism by restoring such built heritage, for its character and charm – "Old buildings can be gems".
10. Important to focus on Lawson as opportunity for great community hub – create facilities for families eg parks, community space. Use creativity offered by residents in this.
11. I think it is a difficult situation as many community members feel "burnt out" as this consultation process has been going on for many years and has been so badly managed by BMCC eg no heritage study of Lawson before decisions made to demolish shops.
12. Compliments to the BMCC on promoting this venture.
13. Yes – seal the remainder of Loftus St so that we don't have to choke on the dust in Loftus St once the road works start! (Sorry – we know this is out of left field but we had to say it somewhere, as we've already attempted to negotiate with council.
14. --
15. --
16. I am fed up with making comment which is not listened to. Do know through my ACMMR's research that we are a majority voice, but we are never listened to.
17. Conservation of the natural and built environment should be managed with local interests considered. Consultation is required and a purposeful dialogue with locals in decision making is desirability, accountability and transparency is required.
18. Interesting that Linden person didn't realise that there was 25 yr Vision!

1. Gender: Female; Age: 17 – over 80 yrs; Place of residence: --
2. Gender: Male; Age: 26 - 35 yrs; Place of residence: Hazelbrook
3. Gender: Male; Age: 46 – 55 yrs; Place of residence: Lawson
4. Gender: Male; Age: over 56 yrs; Place of residence: Lawson
5. Gender: Male; Age: over 56 yrs; Place of residence: Lawson
6. Gender: Female; Age: over 56 yrs; Place of residence: Lawson
7. Gender: Female; Age: ??; Place of residence: Wentworth Falls (works in Lawson)
8. Gender: Male; Age: 36 – 45yrs; Place of residence: Glenbrook
9. Gender: Female; Age: over 56 yrs; Place of residence: Wentworth Falls
10. Gender: Female; Age: 46 – 55 yrs; Place of residence: Wentworth Falls
11. Gender: Female; Age: 46 – 55 yrs ; Place of residence: Lawson
12. Gender: Male; Age: over 56 yrs; Place of residence: Bullaburra
13. Gender: Male/ Female; Age: 36 – 45 yrs ; Place of residence: Lawson
14. Gender: Female; Age: 46 – 55 yrs ; Place of residence: Lawson
15.N/A – ACMMR group
16. Gender: Female; Age: 36 – 45 yrs ; Place of residence: Lawson
17. Gender: Female; Age: 26 – 35 yrs ; Place of residence: Hazelbrook
18. Gender: Female; Age: 36 – 45 yrs ; Place of residence: Lawson

The following annotated comments were received in response to the questionnaire

*'I know loss of some buildings is inevitable'.*

*'I hope the commercial development will not be ruled by the prevailing and sterile mood of economic rationalism'.*

*'I have a vision of a spiritual rebirth of "my country" (spiritual =wider than purely religious).Not just a spanking new town to replace one that is lost , but a phoenix rising from the ashes-a friendly modern centre still deeply aware of its past, of beginnings.*

*'The need of architecture and landscaping highlighting the historical "hollow" where it all began (such names as '2 Mile Hollow', 'Christmas Swamp' as it was known) and acknowledge the foundations of the Blue Mountains hotel/inn (let's remember physically the original name of the town was 'Blue Mountains'.*

*'The name should be considered the Central Blue Mountains instead of the 'Mid Mountains' as it is somewhere between the Upper and Lower'. This would be more focused and less relative)*

*'I would like to see the renewal of Lawson as a celebration, accompanied by a book that is just not another local history but a celebration of past glories, hopes, visions. The town centre could be a celebration, including not only necessary retail services ,*

*but looking beyond economic rationalism to things like an enclosed market (i.e buy and sell local produce, display local arts and crafts, gallery, antiques, nursery, boutique eateries with open air seating. Attract the Chinese restaurant and other existing eateries to the centre'.*

*'Make it a Leura-like mall which attract tourists in its own right (notice the people alighting from trains and buses at Leura). Organise bushwalks from the centre. Shuttle service to the pool. Attract medical and dental services. Let it become a buzz'.*

*'I am trying to get off the ground a Blue Mountains Centre for Religious Enquiry' at the Santa Maria Centre at Lawson. Other religious initiatives might be encouraged e.g Ministers Fraternal'.*

*'The kind of consultation of large public meetings will not flourish but more on one to one and small interest groups. I am willing to be totally available for this kind of discussion; so much as I am passionate of my home town and my "country" (Aboriginal sense).*

Suggestion of a Mid Mountains newsletter for exchange of ideas, hopes, dreams and visions.



# Lawson Community Workshop

Mid Mountains Community Centre  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2007

*“Sustainability through improved  
communication, cooperation  
and consistency”*







# The Institute

The Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute is an independent non-profit organisation that supports the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.



# Why the Mid Mountains and Lawson?

- Significant infrastructure and renewal occurring in the villages of Woodford, Hazelbrook and Lawson.
- The need to protect and maintain key values, spirit, identity and sense of place in Mid Mountain villages and especially Lawson given the extent of change.
- Currently a unique opportunity for Council to work with the community to achieve the best outcomes for Lawson, the Mid Mountains and the City.

# Challenges and Opportunities

- Council and local communities working together with relevant Government agencies to achieve the 25 year Vision for the City by:
  - identifying and ensuring the best possible outcomes for the Mid Mountains and Lawson
  - minimise the adverse impacts of change.





# Vision for the City

- Towards a More Sustainable Blue Mountains is our 25 Year Vision for the City
- It's about Blue Mountains people living sustainably in a City within a World Heritage Environment
- The Map for Action sets the course of action to shape our city over the next 25 years.



# The New Integrated Planning Framework

- Within Council: ways of coordinating and integrating planning and decision making for major projects and activities
- With the community: developing processes for communication and co-operation between Council and the community
- Working together: to better deliver social, economic and environmental sustainability outcomes in line with the 25 Year Vision and Map for Action.



# The Collaborative Framework

It's all about..... better and practically achieving a new and shared vision for the Mid Mountains through:

- Communication
- Consistency
- Co-ordination
- Co-operation
- Collaboration



# The Collaborative Framework

Progressively improving capabilities, openness and trust in planning and decision making through:

- a more consistent approach to community participation, consultation and provision of information
- more effective and regular two way communication
- using appropriate approaches and processes
- improved co-ordination and integration
- greater co-operation and collaboration.



# The Project

## Key Steps include:

- Engender community involvement
  - the Renewal Project and face to face discussions at Lawson Festival, letters to 50 community organisations, questionnaires and workshops
- Five Mid Mountains Workshops
  - develop a shared vision for the Mid Mountains
  - identify key issues, needs, constraints & opportunities
- Lawson Community Workshop
- Review community and council inputs and develop draft framework
- Receive and consider council and community comments
- Independent report with recommendations.



# Today's Workshop

- Part 1 – Improving Communication and Cooperation
  - Results of Community questionnaires – opportunity for participants to make additional comments.
- Part 2 – Key Directions for Lawson and Projects



The background of the slide is a collage of four vertical panels. From left to right: a woman's face, a woman in a blue shirt, a person on a bicycle, and a green fern leaf.

# Part 1 Process

## **Mid Mountains Community-Government Collaborative Framework Questionnaire**

- Review summary Community Response to each question
- Add additional perspectives and ideas
- Review Community identified elements

# Part 2 Process

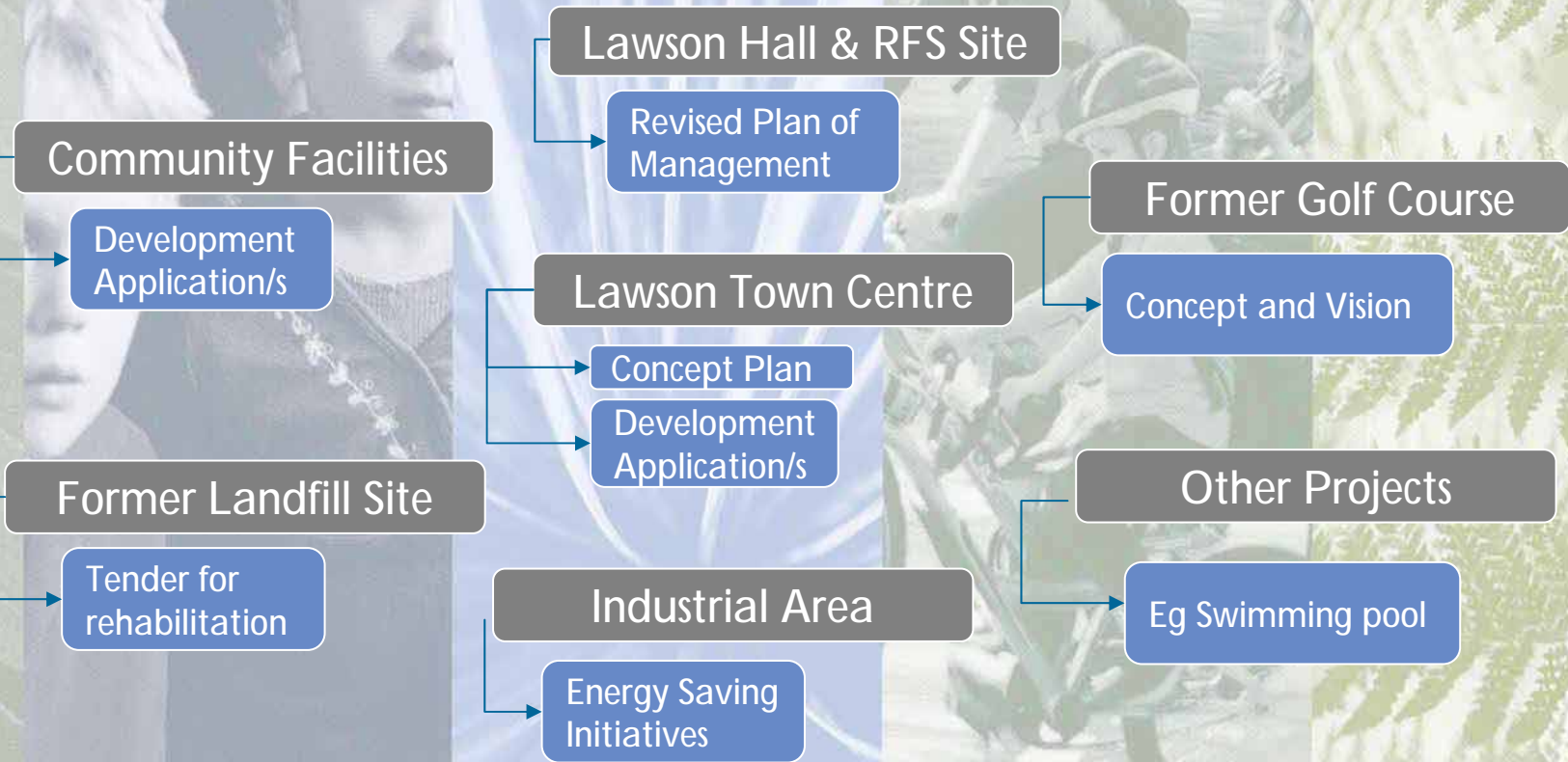
- Further develop overall Vision for Lawson and Projects
- Project Tour
  - Familiarisation
  - Direct individual input into Project outcomes and needs
- Group Work Session:
  - Review individual inputs on a Project basis
  - Develop group positions and viewpoints
- Group Feedback and Workshop Discussion
  - Feedback on all Projects
  - Develop consensus positions and viewpoints



# 25 Year Vision for the City & Map for Action

## 20 Year Vision for Mid Mountains (& Lawson)

New Integrated Planning Approach



**KEY**

Major Projects

Project Activities

# Workshop Agenda

9.30	Participant registration
10 am	Welcome to Country – Aunty Mary King
10.05	General Welcome, Introduction and Workshop Process – Sandy Booth
10.15	<b>Part 1 – Improving Communication and Cooperation -</b> Results of Community questionnaires – opportunity for participants to make additional comments
10.55	Presentation and discussion on Potential Elements of Community Government Framework
11.25	<b>Part 2 – Key Directions for Lawson and Projects</b> Further develop the overall Vision
11.30	BREAK – Tea, coffee, refreshments and finger food available
11.45	Report back on Vision and introduction to Renewal Trees Project
12 md	Soap Box Session 1 and Project Tour
12.30 pm	LUNCH – Tea, coffee, refreshments and finger food available Continue Project Tour
1.30	Small Group Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Review individual inputs on a Project basis</li> <li>❖ Develop group positions and viewpoints</li> </ul>
2.15	Small Groups Feedback and Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Feedback on all Projects</li> <li>❖ Develop consensus positions and viewpoints</li> </ul>
3 pm	BREAK - Tea, coffee and refreshments
3.15	Continue Small Groups Feedback and Discussion
3.45	Soap Box Session 2 - Additional Key Messages
3.55	Wrap up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <i>'Where to from here?'</i></li> <li>❖ Explanation about outcomes and feedback from this workshop</li> <li>❖ Workshop evaluation by participants</li> </ul>
4 pm	Close



# Question 1 Responses for Lawson

Sustainable vibrant revitalised thriving New

Centre full of empty shops due to over development and greed

Rebuilt shopping centre with good access

Re-established golf course Additional sporting facilities on old tip site

Refurbished and well maintained bushwalks Hub of the Mid Mountains

Range of services and businesses – a relatively self-contained community

Greater awareness of its history and place Aim for a distinctive identity

Friendly village square away from fumes and noise

A showplace for the Mountains - Designed really well

A stopover place for a meal, coffee, bushwalk or stockup on supplies

Hot – summer; cold – winter Great community in which to live, work & play

Functioning hall in Mechanics Institute Optimal heritage preservation

Centrally located youth centre Open spaces for people to meet and sit

A township to reflect the 25 year Vision and a worthy part of the Blue

Mountains World Heritage Area

## Question 2 Responses

Improve public relations forums to present and pool ideas  
newsletters (by direct mail) regular MM newsletter  
when significant decisions are being made  
more planned community days pick up notices in shops  
community column in the gazette suggestion box in shops  
properly organised public meetings  
discussion groups Sunday afternoon meetings  
Separate in-village meetings for specific needs  
Regular email bulletins to community groups  
Work with Council teams and MM Neighbourhood Centre  
BMCC staff regularly attend community meetings (P&C; C of C)



# Question 3 Responses

Combined thank you functions – enabling groups to express views town committees local meetings

Properly organised public meetings Newsletters

Elected reps making correct decisions supported by professional staff

Be aware of local groups and interests (church, sport etc)

Meet with local groups Questionnaires

street meetings support and attend community initiatives

Allow Lawson Project Officer to communicate freely

get information (development plans etc) directly to the community in simplified forms

Tap into group leaders who are key to community development

Internet

Local paper

By listening

# Question 4 Responses

More effective (regularly cleared notice boards) Gazette

Specific MM Newsletters MM Bulletin in the Gazette

Properly organised public meetings

Go to where people already are Town Committees

Stick to statutory processes for community consultation

Easier access to key staff and Ward 2 Councillors via a local location

Develop a consultation plan and stick to it

Improve consistency – knowing Council will get back to you with a plain English answer

Being made welcome to discuss concerns

MM Neighbourhood Centre quarterly newsletter

Involve Chamber of Commerce and all businesses

Overcoming feelings of discomfort when viewing DPs etc at Council

Be clear about options and decision making By Listening



## Question 5 Responses

Improve communication and give more opportunity for involvement

Involve community in development of vision and in implementation

More notice and properly organised public meetings

Outline baseline assessments to better deliverables across all areas without cost blowouts Stop informing community of decisions already made

By balancing people's and nature's needs Improve timeframes

Improve avenues for feedback Leave it to the conscientious people in Council Be really open to community input to planning and decision making

Improve frustration from delays Look for vision in unexpected quarters

Be honest about role the community can play and Council's maintained power Ensure consultation is real & honest—"plans to far advanced to allow changes"

Relevant BMCC people to MM Centre – hear & see how decisions are made

With opportunity for locals to say why agree or disagree

Listen to our views – asking for better s/w mgmt and other improvements for years with no progress

## Question 6 Responses

More delivery and more visits by BMCC people

Better short and long term planning—not reactive decision making after failure

Provide better information and get community involved

None-some vocal groups will never be happy unless they get their own way

Real and honest consultation    Public gatherings with BMC staff attending

Widely consult – practical business-like people as well as those in touch with intangible spiritual values eg clergy, writers bushwalkers etc

MM decisions announced publicly- reduce hearsay and misinterpretation

Improve communication and provide more opportunity for involvement

Communicate results of Feb/Mar workshops in person to workshop and community leaders    make more human contact to sustain interest and input

Have a list of steps to carry out and achieve the goals that BMCC and the community set

People need to know their concerns have been listened to, & if not possible to address their needs, to understand why via a plain English explanation



# Question 7 Responses

A balanced realistic and open approach from Council

What decisions have been made & why and what are still open for discussion

That BMCC is seriously listening to concerns and trying to keep the character of the MM as much as possible      Contact with Councillors would help

Consultation – currently it doesn't really exist

Lawson – consulted to death on shopping centre – get on with the job to gain respect  
Public gatherings with BMCC staff attending

The question of identity is paramount    Need a vision which embraces existing interest groups and which profoundly appreciates the history of our area – honouring its past and its people.

The Lawson road widening has been going on for too long – long time residents are running out of patience – assurance is necessary that it will happen soon, plus a new village shopping centre

Involve community groups more in planning

Improve communication and opportunities for involvement

Every Lawson building that has an historical hallmark - carefully considered

A channel of communication, open to new ideas on how to involve the community in the 25 year vision.



## Question 8 Responses

We want sustainable living where walkways, cycleways, bush and housing can live in harmony

Stop trying to turn historic villages into mega shopping arcades

Start respecting community and heritage

Community consultation NOT community decision making

Bring it on!

Community members feel “burnt out” – consultation has been going on for many years and has been so badly managed by BMCC eg no heritage study of Lawson before decisions made to demolish shops

Compliments to the BMCC on promoting this venture.



# Vision for Lawson

- To provide the overall strategic direction for current and future development and other activities within Lawson and its environs for the next 20 years consistent with the 25 Year Vision for the City.
- To identify and develop wide ranging and practical Council and community activities for consideration and possible implementation within 6 Projects over the next 5 years.
- Will form an important element within the Community Government Collaborative Framework being developed by the Institute.



# Vision for Lawson

What will **Lawson** be like 2025 when the Map of Action is successfully implemented throughout the township and its environs?



# Soap Box Session

Further outlining of Key Messages by individual workshop participants who would like to speak to an audience for up to 2 minutes.



# Project Tour

## **Six Projects:**

Town Centre

Former Golf Course

Lawson Hall and RFS

Former Ridge Street Waste Mgmt Site

Community Services and Other Projects (eg Swimming pool)

## **Six Stopovers:**

### **Familiarisation:**

- Project Information Sheet – Part 1 (Blue)
- Project Information Sheet – Part 2 (Brown)

### **Direct individual input into project outcomes and needs:**

- 25 Year Vision Sheet (Green)

Read the blue, and provide written comments  
on the brown and the green sheets.



## Additional Information Elements stemming from Mid Mountains Community Workshops

<p><b>Key Decisions made to-date (eg Relevant Council Resolutions)</b></p>	<p>The Council adoption of the Lawson Village / Town Centre Master Plan, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2003</p> <p>The Council adoption of the Lawson Town Centre Revised Concept Plan, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2006</p>
<p><b>Key decisions still to be made</b></p>	<p>The Council adoption of the Subdivision &amp; Civil Infrastructure Establishment (DA No.01),</p> <p>The format of future DA's (Douglass Square, Open Spaces, Art Works &amp; Buildings).</p>
<p><b>Other identified opportunities for community input and at what level:</b></p>	<p>Community &amp; Stakeholder input into future Village Centre DA's including Douglass Square, Open Spaces, Art Works &amp; Proposed Buildings,</p> <p>Re-usage of controlled and contained stormwater,</p> <p>Naming of streets,</p> <p>Formation of Tourist Information Data</p>

Key Directions and Outcomes for  
a More Sustainable Blue Mountains

# Sustainability Outcome

Blue Mountains people  
living sustainably in  
a City within a World  
Heritage environment

## LOOKING AFTER ENVIRONMENT

- The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved
- The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed
- Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment

## LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE

- The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved
- Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed
- Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive

## USING LAND FOR LIVING

- A strong sense of local identity and place is created
- Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living
- The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened

## MOVING AROUND

- Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles
- The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that adds to our local amenity and World Heritage identity
- The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved

## WORKING AND LEARNING

- The local economy is strengthened and diversified
- The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry
- A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains

The background of the slide is a collage of four images: a woman's face, a person on a bicycle, a woman's face, and green ferns. The text is overlaid on this collage.

# Group Work Session

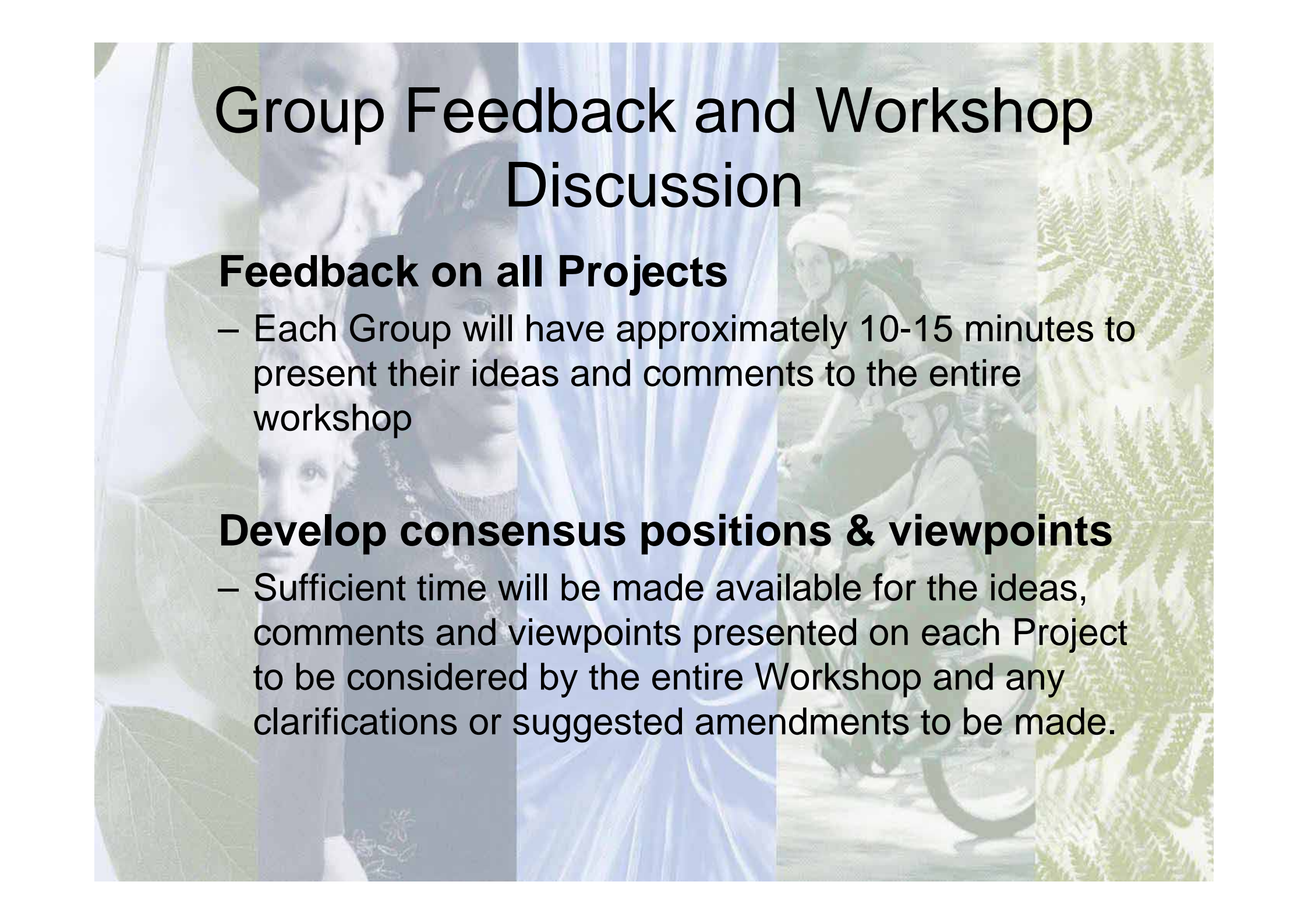
Review individual inputs on a Project basis

- Progressively work through and consider the individual comments made earlier by workshop participants for the Project allocated to your group

Develop group positions and viewpoints

- As you proceed, record on the Master Sheet provided, the supported comments and any additional comments that the group wishes to have carried forward for consideration by Council as an important input to the Integrated Planning Framework.



The background of the slide is a collage of three images. On the left, there is a close-up of several people's faces, including a woman in the foreground. In the center, there is a blue, draped fabric. On the right, there is a scene of people riding bicycles on a path next to a river, with green foliage in the foreground.

# Group Feedback and Workshop Discussion

## **Feedback on all Projects**

- Each Group will have approximately 10-15 minutes to present their ideas and comments to the entire workshop

## **Develop consensus positions & viewpoints**

- Sufficient time will be made available for the ideas, comments and viewpoints presented on each Project to be considered by the entire Workshop and any clarifications or suggested amendments to be made.

# Where to from Here?

- Finalise draft Report on today's Lawson workshop
- Circulate draft Report to participants for review
- Pull together all inputs and feedback into Final Report by end of March
- Final Report reviewed by Council and made available to the community



# LOOKING AFTER ENVIRONMENT

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# LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE

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# WORKING AND LEARNING

- The local economy is strengthened and diversified
- The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry
- A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains



# Renewal Tree Project Lawson Festival

## Maintaining and Enhancing the Natural environment

- Great atmosphere friendly people easy to get too gorgeous bushwalks
- I love playing at the park.
- Heritage peace and bush.
- It's home friendly close to nature
- Lawson envelopes me and makes me feel at home. In 2025 it will still be a great place to live for all of us including our bush land friends.
- Imagine an eco-village that is totally sustainable and is caring for our natural and cultural. Lawson can be an inspirational example to others
- Lawson is a beautiful place to live in Lawson is full of nature Lawson is beautiful.
- I love Lawson because I live here and I work here. I love the bush, the waterfalls, the people, the Historic buildings, the village atmosphere. I fear the loss of the village character and atmosphere through the highway widening. I hope the communities strength vision love will mean that Lawson will survive this challenge.
- Beautiful bush gorgeous waterfalls
- I love animals I want to see trees I want to see green grass
- Lawson is special as it is not the upper mountains or the lower it has its own spot, beautiful bushwalks with waterfalls. Gorgeous friendly people who want to build community. In 2025 Lawson will still be a nice friendly place to live where people know each other and the shopkeepers can still breathe the air above the city.
- Lawson, friendly, great community, green with fresh air, and beautiful surrounds
- Green and blue with great views.
- In 2025 we wish for Lawson to be the centre of the mountains. Alive, creative, kind, sustainable, conscientious, healthy and beautiful.
- Luscious Lawson leaves lovely Lawson leaves Lawson lovely.
- Well, once I lived in Lawson, and the clean smell , and all the pretty leaps, and cold breeze , and I made lots of friends in a short time.
- Sunny, clean, wet, cold, birds whistling, green trees, fogs, misty rain.
- Please fill me up with leaves about Lawson.

## Facilities & Infrastructure

- I love the trains
- Buildings are replaced by beautiful bush
- I think we need some new shops
- Lawson is the centre of worship for us and our friends - also glad that you have some good businesses here.
- Best stuff at Chicks at Nicks

- Nice and cool. School, library, pool, fun, shops, oval, sunny, lovely.
- Lawson is a great place to live because...friendly community, skate park, I love Lawson, beautiful scenery, good children's park, cool pool, interesting historical features, great school, BMX track.
- Lawson- I don't live in Lawson but I was lucky enough to come to Lawson pre-school. The whole of Lawson is beautiful. Lawson is very green, the air is clean and the people are really nice.
- Friendly library school BMX home pool church waterfall oval people
- In 2025 the shops won't be ripped down but improved and more fun.
- Lawson smiley face - there lots to do - stop for a drink, have a game of bowls go to church skate at the park go for a bush walk. Chat to the locals - you can do it all in one day - so maybe we should put in a plaza McDonalds the works
- I grew up in Lawson there was nothing to do there still isn't for kids there is nothing for adults there is alcohol and there is not even a proper highway the shops have nothing the supermarket is too expensive they need some competition.
- Hurry up and fix the shops and highway so we don't have to hear another 30 years of carry on (Great festival - Is this it)
- In 2025 visitors to Lawson shops come mostly by foot bike or public transport houses use renewable energy.
- Pool, skate park and supermarkets. Lawson is special because it has great bushwalks. -New shops would be appreciated.
- 2025. A place that respects the people demonstrably by visual links with all that has been cherished over the years- both built and natural
- The play equipment at Lawson community centre could do with a renovation.
- Lawson community centre is really good.
- Lawson is the mid mountains services the mid mountains completes the mountains.
- In 2025 creative performance is a major attraction to visitors to the Blue Mountains and to Lawson.
- I like the swimming pool.
- Lawson is a great place
- Lawson great cafes on the main street, may they never close
- We like Lawson Anglican church and Lawson pool.
- I like the pool.
- The original Blue Mountain ,the best shops and markets

### **People, Heritage & Culture**

- For inspiration in the Blue Mountains
- Picture of people
- The most special thing about Lawson is the friendly people.
- I love the gorgeous pool fantastic climate great mixture of people from all walks of life

- We love to meet we love the space a place to chat and visit Vinnies (St Vincent De Paul) Vinnies shop.
- Home peaceful place lots of schools friendly I love Lawson.
- Tomorrow- will be different but the stories will remain and this spirit we shared today will carry forward - thank you for the day - Looking forward to coming back.
- Lawson has a great future. We need Community spirit and a sense of purpose to make Lawson one of the best villages in the mountains - Lets work together.
- Yummy warm quiet close safe pride connection old - "It's my home".
- I love Lawson because of the magpie markets it's great.
- Lawson: warm friendly heritage village.
- Lawson is cool.
- It's already successful.
- Lawson I love Lawson me two me three.
- Is a people thing takes special community minded people to organize and implement and turn up. It's Lawson community that is special.
- Lawson: It's long overdue for a change over twenty years ago there was a panic and fighting against improving the highway and shops - change is good when it's change for the better. Lawson is looking run down and derelict there are a lot of elderly people set in their ways and too many alcoholics all there is to do here is drink even for the kids.
- How the sunshine rays in Lawson is so beautiful.
- I wish I lived in Lawson
- Special: the strength and depth of the community spirit but the town continues to engender 2025.. A vibrant prosperous community sustaining local environmental cultural and social value and aspects.
- Today- They say the mountains call you back. Lawson is a place to come home to.
- The best thing in Lawson is my son who is buried here. We come back to visit him. We've left Lawson but a piece of me and my family will always remain in the cemetery.
- Great place to worship with our lovely church family.
- Hot sunny green fun Lawson is peaceful friendly quiet.
- Lawson is a special un-spoilt village with lots of fresh air and great friendship I love it here 2025 wish .. just the same reality .. busy.
- Mary Waterford and all her friends at the amazing community centre- the heart of caring for another in Lawson.
- Lawson is the best town in the mountains it's a small quiet and friendly community.
- I love Lawsons groovy cars.
- Lawsons lovely lazy days lavender ladies lesbians love Lawson
- I love Lawson because its gay friendly , has great community spirit and many interesting creative, passionate and political people we live here



- I like my friends
- Love the old homes, sense of community here is great
- I love Lawson because it is so accepting of everyone, no matter their backgrounds, or sexual orientation. It is a great place for gay and lesbian to live.
- Lawson my home , a friendly , open and artistic community. After traveling overseas , and throughout Australia I always love coming home to wonderful Lawson.
- I love the people and the trees, childhood memories of long summer days at the pool.
- I love Lawson as it's the simple life style within the town. The best pool and area, the friendliness and down to earth people.
- I like Lawson because I like living there
- I love fabulous Lawson.
- I like all the people.
- Lovely to be here and we will be back again.
- I like Lawson, because there are people here who care enough to run this project.
- I would like to see continuing opportunities for artists to network and work together.
- Hi Lawson xxoo.

# Community-Government Collaborative Framework Project

## Notes from discussions by Associate Professor Sandy Booth with community members at the Lawson Festival

18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2006

The following notes are derived from informal discussions with approximately 20 community members over the two days of the Lawson Festival. The notes cover the areas of interest and concern relating to the Community-Government Collaborative Framework Project and are presented as summary of conversations of the views given by community members on the day.

- *There is a difference between what Council says and does*
- *Need to placate the uncertainty*
- *There is a discontinuity between discussions and formal action*
- *Council need to go much further than merely just reporting back*
- *There is room to improve process, we need to rationally find the best way*
- *The community is quite cynical at present.*
- *Example given of consultants doing a "great job but work disbanded by Council as they were not "getting the answers that they wanted".*
- *Quote by Council officer "This is what you are getting you might as well take it"*
- *Council has lied in the past*
- *There are better ways to do things. Need to go well beyond the ways of the past*
- *Recently there has been a new perspective coming through from Council ie "what would the community like council to do?"*
- *Council could fix up the Honour Garden*
- *Council could do well to consider a gesture eg "give the community the mechanics institute"*
- *There is a need for something iconic – healing*
- *Not much has been made available through reports*
- *Latest gossip –Coles put big new shop over the top of the community centre*
- *Problems in the Mid Mountains relate to – history and present eg Hazelbrook versus Lawson – which will be the hub and the ownership of shops and the previous land swaps – the land swaps were not made transparent*
- *Greater transparency – would be less concern among the community*
- *DA's being considered over Christmas – a real concern*
- *I understand the community loss but not the loss of buildings*
- *Need to sustain sufficient open space around the school and community centre for the ANZAC festival and other events.*

## Participants Vision Statements for the Mid Mountains

### Gumleaf responses Workshop 1

#### *Mid Mountains Vision - Looking After the Environment*

What will the Mid Mountains environment be like in 2025 when the MAP for Action is successfully implemented in terms of the natural environment; existing and new development; and living sustainably.

- Streams and creeks hydrology improved not made any worse – drinkable water
- Recycling and reuse – fresh local produce – reduced global produce and marketing – people employed in environmental maintenance and food growing different transport and low impact fuels and energy sources, changed lifestyle expectations
- Stable soils – reduced sedimentation – deep pools and clean streams – clean break between urban areas and high quality natural areas – wide knowledge and government – clear commitment to reduced footprint.
- Still the envy of Sydney
- Water in creeks to be drinkable; saltation addressed so there are pools to paddle in again
- Trees, clean water, clean air
- Quality of life within a quality environment
- May fly nymphs in Lawson Creek
- Bushfire prone areas – reduced settlement there; consolidate towns rather than increase bushfire protection areas
- Council and community aware of ecological footprint and reducing energy use
- RTA remove all silt from creeks
- Bush regenerated; weeds removed
- Good stormwater controls; WSUD; infiltration; SQUIDS; GPTs, energy dissipated; healthy creek systems, pools restored; riffles; biodiversity; groundwater dependent ecosystem healthy including hanging swamps
- Hanging swamps restored
- Keeping what we've got
- Local governments working politically with one another to represent community issues/ sustainability issues against State Govt
- Local Government recognised as a genuine tier of government
- Imaginative 'green' community shopping centre with places for people to gather
- High speed rail
- A train every 30 minutes and through the night
- Public transport for a clean environment
- Massive decrease in motor vehicles and their emissions and negative impact on environment
- More shared transport – quieter less busy highway – more use of railway
- Absolute minimal impact of urban living on bushland



- A park over the rail and highway in the centre of Lawson
- Population limitations with controlled use or resources
- No impact from roadwork's or road development on bushland or creeks
- Give consideration for info to public access
- Improve and develop around an historic town not through it
- Towns that still have history
- Council limiting development from now so that the impacts on environment decrease
- Clean; employment; intelligent industries
- Harmony with the land – limit the developments and scouring of the lands
- Our indigenous history and culture will be known, respected and valued
- Home to diverse population – across age, culture, lifestyle, income
- Village centres promoting slow foods, public art, water features, WSUD, rainwater harvesting and reuse, green businesses promoted.

## **Gumleaf responses Workshop 2**

### ***Mid Mountains Vision - Looking after People***

What will the Mid Mountains be like in 2025 when the MAP for Action is successfully implemented in terms of health and well being of people; services and facilities; and communities.

- Mid Mountains own identity
- Total involvement – look to the heritage and traditions
- The Mid Mountains enjoys a bit more ethnic and cultural diversity
- Independence from 'main centres'
- Independent
- Self sufficient
- Increased capacity for social, economic and environmental integration and conservation
- People are proud and happy to live, work and visit here
- Everyone has lots of friends of all ages
- Less cars, more bikes, clean air
- Friends and strangers are greeted warmly and with smiles and laughter
- Kindness and green trees
- Safe, caring and diverse
- Bike paths everywhere with simple electric carts and bikes etc
- Accessible, prosperous, inclusive .... Health, wellbeing, and environment care
- Treat the ratepayer as though they know what they need; understanding of community interests
- Doctor in Lawson
- A doctors surgery in every village
- An active community, recreational facilities for all ages, well spread out

- The moment the bank closed in Lawson was a death knell to lots of things, people who always shopped here then had to go to Springwood or Katoomba and so most of their shopping was done there..... so a bank is needed
- Housing for older people – much more needed, must be close to public transport, shops etc
- Good place to grow old – in health, safety, accessibility
- Full range of medical services, learning, work and entertainment
- The Mid Mountains has a good level of local health and community services

### **Gumleaf responses Workshop 3**

#### ***Mid Mountains Vision - Using Land for Living***

What will the Mid Mountains be like in 2025 when the MAP for Action is successfully implemented in terms of local identity and place, infrastructure and towns and villages.

- A strong sense of local identity and place is created supporting sustainable growth in industry, tourism etc; Well managed infrastructure supporting sustainable living; The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened!
- Develop Aboriginal heritage sites with the local Aboriginal people
- History of the Mid Mountains becoming more available and sought after
- Aboriginal custodians of the land feed good enough about the place to come back and work together
- A more multi cultural mountains
- Help heritage listed properties retain the past; Preserve sights of interest; Better tourism signs etc/
- Older population? Water? Library /technology /environment centre – info about bushland
- Develop mountains as a cutting edge place for engaged governance processes
- Reduce our costs and utilise our existing capital works for greater benefit
- Attractive public domain and shopping environment / opportunities
- Maggie markets become world recognised. The Mid Mountains Magpie Markets and Folk Festival begins bringing 10s of thousands of people coming to Lawson to enjoy culture and arts
- Develop revenue; early infrastructure to help the natural environment
- Infrastructure using innovation and best practice approaches for sustainable use
- Develop the mountains as a cutting edge place for engaged overnance processes
- Public transport accessible and useable to all in the community

- Quiet place to live; shop school, parks, & playing fields; services – RFS police, doctors or medical centre; safe roads
- Develop better local transport within the mountains eg local 2 carriage train for mountains
- Friendly community; historically interesting; green and bushy; convenient and liveable; secure and stable; busy – people spend time outdoors, walking, riding bikes
- Plan for the likely population – there will be more dual occupancy and less new development
- Treading lightly on the planed; encouraging ways of achieving this
- Stop the spread of Sydney up the Mountains
- Living in harmony with the environment
- Raising of living in a world heritage national park
- The fire problem is managed in a more environmentally sustainable way
- Build tourism and ecotourism based on the mountains unique built and natural heritage
- Keep Mid Mountains as a unique village area; limit the growth

## **Gumleaf responses Workshop 4**

### ***Mid Mountains Vision -***

What will the Mid Mountains be like in 2025 when the MAP for Action is successfully implemented in terms of transport, lifestyles, transport corridor, connectivity and access to services.

- Accessibility to services by all types of persons, young and old
- Sustainable mobility – better street signage
- Community register
- Lobby Staterail and Freight operators to reinstate quiet pollution free – electric locomotives on freight trains to generate electricity when going downhill
- Erect another platform at Katoomba Station so that special tourist trains can be terminated there. Lengthen the refuge siding at Katoomba so that modern freight trains can fit in it.
- Trains for passengers – 20 mins
- Freight on rail – will need truck bay at Lawson for industrial centre – rail link
- Quadruplicate the railway line between Lawson and Wentworth Falls to separate freight and Countrylink services from local trains
- Get guarantee from Cityrail that the line will remain electrified to Lithgow and services will not be cut back to Mt Victoria



- How much will a litre of petrol cost in 2025? Increase the capacity of the railway line by expanding the 2 track bottleneck between St Marys and Penrith to 4 tracks – permitting more mountains trains.
- More green areas inviting walking in town centres – less cars
- Pram friendly villages – footpaths wide and safe
- Homes have viable home gardens – young people help and learn from older people re gardening skills
- Bring back the horse and cart (gives some organic compost too)
- Most people living and working locally – more cycling and walking
- Personal flexible but non polluting and renewable in some form
- Developed and more sustainable community
- More trees
- Due to severely reduced/ non existent fossil fuels – more importance will be placed on rail infrastructure
- Consultation is not dead so please listen to the small fish who are here tonight and on future consultations
- Off highway cycling tracks linking all villages in Mid Mountains
- All stations to have wheelchair access
- Keep train to Lithgow – enhance Lithgow as regional centre – I prefer to do big shops in Lithgow
- All roads to have line marking to remind drivers re cycles
- 2010 – 2 car mini train for the Mountains
- Truck drivers to be able to stop safely at Lawson and Hazelbrook for food and rest
- 60kmh speed limit (40kmh at all schools 9-3.30 4pm) to discourage trucks and speeding cars
- Walk to school people trains
- Cars that are used, fuelled by environmentally friendly fuel
- 2010 fully connected bus service all the way through the mountains
- Effective car pooling
- Support for car pooling
- Fund/ help a BM equivalent of the Car Share Program (Newtown)
- More \$\$ for community transport
- More steam trains (steam heated) for tourism
- 2025 80% public transport 20% private transport (bicycles)
- Improved and more regular public transport – more community interaction
- Bus/taxis – less expensive than taking more flexible than bus – serving all
- More walking and cycling paths between towns – increase communication
- A better rail system
- Nipper buses connecting services; railway X 4 lanes; access to public or community transport; re-develop tramways? Dedicated less cars; freight rail – less trucks
- An integrated transport system must recognise pedestrians, cyclists, wheel chairs and other

- non-vehicular activities; we have to sustain the rail we have and the amenity and natural environments
- No more trucks moving through the mountains – all large freight moved by rail
- Separate freight line through mountains
- People should be made to car pool when travelling to same destinations for work

## **Gumleaf responses Workshop 5**

### ***Mid Mountains Vision -***

What will the Mid Mountains be like in 2025 when the MAP for Action is successfully implemented in terms of the local economy, business and industry and lifelong learning.

- Local sustainable jobs
- Self sustaining tourism supporting locals instead of being cost
- Participatory – encouraging meaningful public participation in life of Mid Mountains
- Bikes; a big concrete playground; more friends
- Dynamic, entrepreneurial, celebrating environmental and cultural heritage
- Creative industries – artist studios; environmental business; parks - high value; internet access – electronic communications
- Learning available – world wide literature centres (web based)
- Sharing our learnings with visitors
- Create Dynamic Sustainable Centre of excellence
- Environmental Education Centre of Learning
- Working locally – learning locally
- Primary, secondary, tertiary local
- Young people studying here and working here rather than needing to leave. Cross generational working and learning together
- Small businesses growing food and generating energy. School for seniors/ U3A type structure open to younger people
- Independent schools; local business plus destination business; business clusters for social and marketing purposes

## Key Direction 1 - Looking After the Environment

Outcome The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved  
1.1

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
1.1.1 The diversity of native flora and fauna is maintained (Biodiversity)	Manage the area Council is responsible for and urban bushland interface to minimise impacts from weeds, feral/domestic animals and urban runoff on native flora and fauna	Retains and enhances the natural assets – environmental education; regulations enforced in a timely fashion.	Retains the close relationship with nature that is highly valued by the Blue Mountains community Interface and communication with community	Reduces costs of environmental restoration needed as a result of urban impacts (if native flora only in urban areas)
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Absolute management of considered needs (COUNCIL) Council Bushcare, Streamwatch trailer; Sustainability streets (COUNCIL)			
1.1.2 The health of waterways and water catchments is improved Hanging swamps Groundwater Map headwaters GDE's	Increase the recognition of and care for water catchments Stop tapping groundwater Stop developing hanging swamps	Healthy catchments and waterways are a critical component to avoid degradation of the Blue Mountains environment	The area's highly valued water features (eg waterfalls, lakes and creeks and aquifers) are protected and optimised to enhance the quality of life for the local community Education	Reduced impacts from increased care means fewer resources are needed for catchment restoration
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Bushcare, Streamwatch trailer; Sustainability streets (COUNCIL)			
1.1.3 We have clean air	Increase public transport usage and reduce reliance on private motor vehicles in Western Sydney including the Blue Mountains for passengers and freight	A reduction in vehicle emissions improves air quality and bushfires and back-burns	People with limited access to cars have a wider range of ways of getting around and more local employment Produce growing etc	Less infrastructure is needed to move the same number of people around
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Mid Mountains to be limited in population and housing – rezone of areas by Council Strategic planning of the population Maintain below the impervious limit of 10% (COUNCIL)			

\*\* recycling, rainwater tanks, water sensitive urban design and retrofitting existing houses and buildings

New Objective – population limit



## Key Direction 1 - Looking After the Environment

Outcome 1.2 The impact of existing and new development on the environment is reduced

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
1.2.1 Appropriate development is contained within the existing urban footprint- and the bushland between towns is retained  (A more sustainable urban footprint than that in LEP 1991)	Optimise appropriate use of land within the urban footprint	Reducing urban sprawl leaves more land in its natural state	Services facilities and resources are allocated fairly through the appropriate use of land	A shorter length of infrastructure is required to service the build up areas
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Work to ensure that review of LEP 1991 is done by us (Local Govt and National Parks) NOT Macquarie St Zero net loss			
1.2.2 New development is limited by the capacity of the environment and infrastructure to sustain it	Encourage any population growth in larger service centres which have the necessary infrastructure to support sustainable living	The demand to clear bush for development is diminished	People are located nearer to the services and facilities they require to support a desired quality of life	Less new investment in infrastructure and services is needed to support the community
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Ensure in future LEP that not more than 10% impervious surface since over this the hydrological and other ecosystem impacts are practically irreversible			
1.2.3 The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed and monitored to avoid environmental impacts	Retrofit 'existing' development to reduce impacts on the environment and enhance quality of life	Reduced use of non renewable resources	People are able to enjoy a desired quality of life at less cost	Reduced energy costs through retrofitting
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	The environment carrying capacity need to be determined in advance and context specifically (here: this amount of tree coverage, there: this amount of hard surfaces and this amount of environmental flow (way of doing this: linking back to World Heritage Convention) Council advisory service to advise on retrofitting tanks etc			

Who? How? Why? When? Where? How much?

## Key Direction 1 - Looking After the Environment

Outcome 1.3 Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
1.3.1 Levels of household waste are reduced and low consumption environmentally aware lifestyles encouraged	Raise community awareness of the benefits of living more sustainably <i>Audit of waste with publicity – incentives; recycling drop off infrastructure in Mid Mountains</i>	Greater number of people taking responsibility for reducing impacts on the environment	Informed and educated residents able to make choices that benefit the community and the environment	Less need for big capital works to meet the costs of unsustainable living
<i>ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)</i>	<i>Recycling for multiple purposes behind Lawson Creek Stormwater harvesting for multiple purposes including static purposes Waste audit for Mid Mountains and publicise</i>			
1.3.2 Households are prepared and our Emergency Services resourced to deal with threats to the City	The Blue Mountains models 'best practice' in emergency and bushfire preparedness <i>Work with local RFS to develop more sustainable practices</i>	Natural ecosystems are better protected	Reduced threats to individuals and communities through better preparedness	Reduced loss of property and environmental impacts means lower restoration costs
<i>ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)</i>				
1.3.3 Community and Council work in partnership to conserve resources and protect environment	Support existing and build new partnerships to promote sustainable living and protection of the natural environment <i>Publicity circulated to residents</i>	Environmental initiatives benefit from community knowledge and commitment	United action to protect the environment builds community bonds and enhances local skills	Partnerships deliver better value through pooled resources
<i>ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)</i>	<i>Promote permaculture and community gardens Council to provide land for community garden eg Land at Lawson behind old Shire office Education and information about environmental weeds and their removal Enforcement of noxious weed regulations Environmental building and renovation information and resource sharing Work with businesses to promote environmental products <i>Industrial commercial areas of Mid Mountains models of environmental practices</i> Industrial / commercial collection and reuse Recycling systems strengthened and promoted Food co-op created in Mid Mountains (COUNCIL) <i>Promote appropriate medium density housing around train stations/ town centres</i> Attract investors Review controls / LEP requirements Promote benefits of medium density housing to case stereotypes</i>			

1.3.1 Knowledge about how recycling works and where it goes

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1.3.2 Reusing stormwater for multiple purposes including fire fighting  
Awareness of use of recycled water in fire fighting

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Encourage permaculture – community garden

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Outcome:

TAKING ACTION:

**Strategic Objective:**

Group

- 1.1 Monitor sale and placement of exotic plants which can become environmental threats
- 1.2 Comply with the World Heritage Convention and integrate its objectives and standards of environmental protection into the Map for Action
- 1.3 Industrial and commercial areas of Mid Mountains to be a model for environmental practices; Smarter ways of converting waste into resources

**Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years**

Group

- 1.2 Review of existing LEP 1991 by us (Local Govt and National Parks) NOT Macquarie St
- 1.3 Stormwater collection and reuse; recycling systems; water quality management; encouragement of environmental responsibility for industry and businesses; Less packaging for business.



## Key Direction 2 - Looking after People

Outcome 2.1 The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
2.1.1 Healthy lifestyles are encouraged and supported	Develop preventative programs to improve the health of the community particularly those most in need	Less impacts on natural resource use as a result of preventative action	Those most in need have greater access to opportunities which improve health	Decreased costs in healthcare provision
2.1.2 People of all ages have access to a range of recreational, sporting and cultural opportunities	Maximise opportunities and partnerships to achieve better utilisation of existing recreational, sporting and cultural facilities	Enhanced awareness of the local environment through greater exposure to outdoor activities	More enjoyable and accessible experiences, that allow people to thrive through better social and recreational opportunities	A robust and lively economy with provision of cultural/sporting events and facilities that support local businesses and employment
2.1.3 People of different life stages have access to needed services, facilities and work opportunities	Increase residents' access to services which meet community needs targeting in particular younger and older people	Enhanced access to local services means less need to travel (particularly by car) with less impact on environment	More equitable service provision and strengthened community	A strengthened local service economy increases local employment opportunities

Leisure facilities – pool, Lawson Golf Course


Industrial areas – Centre of excellence in environment

Practical services available locally ie shopping

2.1.2 Artist studios, facilities

## Key Direction 2 - Looking after People

### Outcome 2.2 Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
2.2.1 Services and facilities are located optimally to maximise access and benefits \$ circulation within the community	Develop service centres with appropriate levels of service provision that maximise access and benefits Broadband Banking Agency GP Services Geriatric Bus	Service provision consolidated in town centres reduces impact on the urban bushland interface Static Home visit	Increased access to services for a greater number of people Retain people (use peoples skills) Volunteer progression	Infrastructure is provided where it most efficiently supports the local community Clinic – hydrotherapy, massage, physio
2.2.2 There is increased housing choice to meet diverse needs SEPP 5 Development Mobile Nursing Child Cares FDC Community socialising exchange	Encourage the retention and provision of appropriately designed diverse and affordable housing Economic units for elderly/ single parents	Less need for people to travel (particularly by car) further or commute to find affordable housing	Improved access to affordable housing means less young people and people on low incomes leave the Blue Mountains Street gatherings	Improving access to affordable housing reduces health and crime costs and more sociable area.
2.2.3 Resources are fairly allocated in each ward – eg library Mobile library and kids toy exchange	Ensure decision making supports fair allocation of resources, services and facilities Look at \$ income and spread evenly	More sustainable use of local resources with less impact on environment Shop locally Council talks allocation	Fairer distribution of resources	More targeted provision of resources wit opportunities for more cost-effective provision of facilities and services. 

Allotment gardens

## Key Direction 2 - Looking after People

### Outcome 2.3 Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
2.3.1 Community safety in private and public spaces is improved	Build on existing and develop new partnerships that increase community safety in town centres <b>Safety committee</b>	Healthy secure communities value their surrounding environment	A safer, healthier City that can be enjoyed by a greater number without fear of harm or injury	More inviting town centres that encourage people to shop, work and live locally <b>Balanced eg cycleways</b>
2.3.2 The population has a healthy balance of people of different ages and income levels <b>Ethnicity, diversity etc</b>	Encourage local employment and provision of affordable housing <b>Mountains friendly industry encouraged, fostered, council brokered</b> <b>Mix of housing and transport options</b>	Less environmental impacts through meeting needs locally	A greater number of people from diverse backgrounds, age groups and income levels able to live, work and enjoy the Blue Mountains <b>A better balance</b>	A diverse population that will support local businesses by living, shopping and working locally <b>Business incentives (like Biznet) etc</b> <b>Professional development schemes</b>
2.3.3 Individuals and organisations support those most in need within our community <b>Foodshare</b> <b>Early childhood and mothers rooms</b> <b>Share - Growing food technologies</b>	Provide opportunities for low income residents <b>Services</b> <b>Facilities</b> <b>Jobs and training</b> <b>Infrastructure – like transport services, activities</b> <b>Low cost diverse housing options</b>	Low-income earners are able to enjoy their local environment and avoid using extra energy and resources to access affordable services and facilities elsewhere <b>Awareness of existing services and info share</b>	Lower income earners are not excluded from participating in the local community <b>Linking services to people</b> <b>Bus taxi etc – community transport options</b>	Decreased support for lower income people in the future <b>Efficiency</b> <b>Distribution of services to meet specific needs</b>

#### 2.3.1 Integrated plans



## Outcome:

### Group

- 2.3 Encourage sustainable business  
Community safety

## TAKING ACTION:

### Strategic Objective:

#### Group

- 2.2 Allotment gardens; Hobby unit – mens sheds; old time dancing; creating teenage interests – ask the kids; Free garden mulch and water tanks for council  
Scouting utilisation; social tennis; croquet; BBQ areas for community.
- 2.3 Mid Mountains Biznet connected to Biznet scheme  
Develop Safety Committee and plan

### Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years

#### Group

- 2.1 Investigate existing buildings to meet community needs such as artist workshops, mothers groups  
Leisure facilities – year round pool with updated facilities; Lawson Golf course, integrated cycleways between villages off highway. Woodford (South side) No children facilitates.  
Continuing to support groups and services. Meeting facilities ie venues, mothers room  
Increase services ie Banks  
Creatively facilitate access.
- 2.3 Business incentives eg rate reduction; broader and flexible zoning  
Diverse and affordable housing  
Access to community services; via shopfront  
Feedback/ Consult on priority needs – matching people with services  
Council-community interface  
Signage – parks, bushwalks, playgrounds  
Lighting  
Cycleway networks – Linden to Bullaburra  
Road Safety around schools eg flashing lights  
Activities of youth  
Dog poo bins

## SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS:

### Environmental

#### Group

- 2.1 Industrial estate development – Centre of Excellence  
Greater meeting facilities for Hazelbrook community
- 2.3 Incentive schemes eg if a business is environmentally friendly, additional incentives.

### Social

### Economic

- 2.2 Identity

## Key Direction 3 - Using Land for Living

Outcome 3.1 A strong sense of local identity and place is created

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
3.1.1 The existing Blue Mountains towns and villages with their own special qualities are retained	Enhance the distinctive qualities of our towns and villages to strengthen local identity and sense of place	The link between the identity of Blue Mountains people and their value of the natural environment is strengthened	A strong sense of place and belonging contributes to community well being	Economy of local towns and villages is strengthened
3.1.2 Promote the Blue Mountains as a place to live, work and visit	Foster the identity and sense of pride in the Blue Mountains Local shopping YP involvement Value of world heritage Respect for place	Creating a higher value for the local environment and quality of life will encourage more sustainable and environmentally sensitive development Meet and exceed obligations	Promoting the unique natural and cultural features of the Blue Mountains will enhance the quality of life and pride of place felt by residents Identify strengths, skills and work inclusively	Promoting the special character of the mountains reinforces opportunities for local commercial development and tourism Develop industrial estate and Golf Course Through interpretive walks; ecotourism; heritage thrust Take away; mobile sandwich van
3.1.3 Innovative urban design creates inspiring places where people want to be	Encourage and recognise the highest standards of design, aesthetically and ecologically, in both private and public spheres Affordability and consistent WDCP	An ecologically designed built environment contributes to protection of the natural environment Affordability and consistent WDCP	Aesthetic and ecological design contributes to liveable places and spaces Affordability and consistent WDCP	Safe, enjoyable and attractive public spaces encourage locals to live, shop and play locally supporting the local business community Viability Desirability (consider other long term concerns eg social /cultural gathering etc Interaction facilities/ activities

Keep the 'village' concept; individuality

## Key Direction 3 - Using Land for Living

Outcome 3.2 Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
3.2.1 Existing infrastructure that supports sustainable living is well maintained	Understand the condition and capacity of existing infrastructure to ensure it supports sustainable living	Impact of existing infrastructure on the environment are understood and guide future action	Equity in provision of infrastructure is understood and guides decision making	Improved understanding allows more efficient allocation of resources to the provision and maintenance of infrastructure
<b>ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)</b>				
3.2.2 Innovative infrastructure solutions support sustainable living	Implement water sensitive urban design to improve water quality and reduce the need for stormwater infrastructure	Improves water quality	Enhances community well being through more sustainable living	Implementing sustainable infrastructure solutions reduces infrastructure provision and maintenance costs
<b>ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)</b>		Self sufficient energy and other infrastructure for Mountains: investigate wind farm; solar; seek funding support Reinstate electric locomotives on coal trains so that when coming down the mountains they can generate power for trains going up the mountains as was done 1956-96 = less CO2, less fuel, less pollution, less noise		
3.2.3 Safe, healthy and clean living environments are provided	Increase community health and safety in town centres through well designed and maintained infrastructure	Appropriate, well designed and maintained infrastructure protects the environment	Enhances quality of life for individuals and communities	Visitors and local people are attracted to visit and shop in town and village centres
Local road linking the villages and North South of each village	Bike racks at stations			
Council advocate a separate freight line	Local rail; inter village train car	People use cars less	Parents have more freedom for kids	Tourism; less car accidents etc
	Double track train line Penrith – St Marys			
	Wind farm – BMCC 'off the grid'			
	Financial – local bank			
	Council facilitate and promote programs for water tanks, solar etc and funding programs			



## Key Direction 3 - Using Land for Living

Outcome 3.3 The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
3.3.1 Vibrant town and village centres offer a range of services and home/work opportunities	Develop opportunities for people to live and work in the centres of Blue Mountains towns and villages	Reduced impact on urban bush interface	Improves local access to income and services	A greater number of people living and working locally supports local businesses
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Mini bus Showground asset – inspire back to mountains weekend Cricket patch reopen for community Open – Golf course? BMX track development Physical education program			
3.3.2 Development occurs within the capacity of the environment and existing infrastructure Zoning	Encourage any population growth in larger centres that have the infrastructure to support sustainable living No more room	The natural environment is maintained and enhanced by signs and garbage cans	Increases range of accessible services and facilities able to be provided to meet community needs Retain library Gardens	Facilitating sustainable living allows for increased population and economic activity Create community activity
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Program activities to link local people with outdoor activities Local community fund raiser for definite purposes			
3.3.3 Housing choices are provided in accessible location close to town centres Aged housing SEP 5 Mini buses	Increase well designed housing choice in the larger town centres	Residents can choose to live closer to town centres, thereby contributing to the perceived safety of towns and reducing their dependence on car travel and leaving more of the local environment undeveloped Mini private	A more socially integrated, inclusive and diverse community Respect and understanding Lawson festival	Provide opportunities for development within town centres; encourage more people to live and work locally and support the local economy Tourism Hi tech creative people Craft and people
ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)	Community quilting – for charity Sister town – interstate interaction			

Bushwalks

Outcome:

## TAKING ACTION:

### **Strategic Objective:**

- 3.2 Social infrastructure – Aboriginal Cultural Centre  
Self sufficient energy and other infrastructure for Mountains  
Sustainable and locally focussed transport for the Mountains – fitting ‘around’ the GWH and the train line
- 3.3 More sustaining infrastructure  
Zoning

### **Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years**

- 3.2 ***Social infrastructure as a ‘strategic objective’***  
“Keeping Place” (Aboriginal Cultural Centre) support into the council ‘social plan’ – tourism; eco education (indigenous meeting place); workspace/studio; social; art gallery; guided tours  
A local bank – Community Bank.  
A local ‘link’ road in villages (off GWH)  
A Mid Mountains bridge or tunnel  
RTA to incorporate into highway widening - talk to the RTA  
Investigate using rail capacity for a local train
- 3.3 Art - Culture – Museum – Horticulture  
Revenue which can be put back into facilities for youth of area

## SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS:

### **Environmental**

- 3.3 Expanding learning and understanding to the youth

### **Social**

- 3.3 Knits the community in preserving and understanding

### **Economic**

- 3.3 Funds can help small infrastructure

### **Supporting Activities and ideas**

World Heritage Principles

Understand World Heritage Sensitive Area

Protocols developed – Wentworth Falls; TAFE course available – standard, every year, runs frequently - Eg Outdoor guiding; mountain climbing – safe practices

Minimal impact principles

Water tanks

Eco-bins FREE

BM wind farm sustainable

Solar replacing electric, diesel ... pick up again

Bike racks and tracks – get people linked in to cycleways – activities to stay overnight treks, X 2 days etc; bike policy – lanes up and down h’way

Independent freight/light rail or tramway ie – use ‘mobile museum’

Upgrade public transport – a better integrated transport system

Growth of businesses which reflect local innovations (traditional ownership) etc

Decentralising the tourism thrust – local focus

Identifying specific tourism which promotes local identity – sense of people and place and space

Develop a tourism strategy in association with local stakeholders which promotes and enhances local community and industry

Golf course as centrepiece of tourism strategy – overcome access problem

Conservation/ gardening groups

Heritage walks in .... Eg walk from station local

Crown land allowance for community interests to be met eg Bullaburra conferencing centres

Development control plan (DCP) heritage concepts

Ecologically sound development – 13<sup>th</sup> March – Mechanics Institute

Council responsive

Nipper busses around the mountains – ie 10 seaters – drivers, mechanics, elderly and children and people with disabilities - \$2.50 subsidy + a tourism innovation too!

Community bank – local branches

Support local Heritage groups by advertising them in a dedicated Community Register or Bulletin

Mobile 'Good food' kitchen – like not for profit soup kitchen or for low income people.

Aboriginal Centre of culture – a 'working museum' – Darug and Gundungurrah people

Golf course + crown land negotiation – tip site – ridge street – sports site, shared facility

Keys retrievable for city Motorbike ride – safety; insurance; RFS under funded; maintenance of fire trails.

Minimising impact .... Environmentally sustainable

Reopen selected fire trails (certain selection) for low level activities like responsible motorbike activity

Better signposted walks to increase accessibility

NPWS and council working collaboratively

Bushwalking clubs – dissemination of information – support NPWS; Dept of Lands

Better mapping

Availability of activities; notices of local significance/ priorities Earthcam

Linking local people with outdoor activities

Together – socialising (trivia nights) Sister cities (ie East Timor) knitting and quilt project etc

Develop local activities for National Significance – Magpie market; farmers markets; green markets; local craft and food markets – local produce

Association to support w council – businesses developed and encouraged and supported – B & B's

Car pooling or a community driver scheme where individual cars are used to deliver to young people, older people, people with disability – creates sense of community (issues insurance; licence; do CS prohibited persons checked out)

## Key Direction 4 - Moving Around

Outcome 4.1 Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
<p>4.1.1</p> <p>Networks of accessible public transport, walkways and cycleway are developed</p> <p>Get trucking off pedestrian areas</p> <p>Mini bus (fare reduction)</p> <p>Feeder buses from outlying areas</p> <p>Taxis possible alternative</p> <p>X 2 carriage trains</p> <p>Dedicated freight line</p> <p>Investigate feasibility and cost effectiveness</p> <p>Subsidies for these environmental initiatives – rent a car, rent a bus</p>	<p>Link cycleways and walkways with public transport infrastructure</p> <p>Increase rail efficiency</p> <p>Improved sign posting</p> <p>Traffic calming</p> <p>Speed reduction routes eg speed humps</p>	<p>Community has more environmentally sustainable choices for getting about</p> <p>Encourages cyclists and pedestrian use – better cycleways</p>	<p>Increasing cycling and walking opportunities enhances individual health and wellbeing</p> <p>Access to the info share</p> <p>Bike to school</p> <p>Discussion and promotion of cycleways and best practice</p> <p>Encourages safe cycling</p> <p>Public education/ promotion</p> <p>Safety esp more efficient cars</p> <p>Car pooling</p>	<p>Better utilisation of existing underutilised bus and rail infrastructure</p> <p>On time</p> <p>Trust worthiness &amp; cst effective</p> <p>Electric cars/ hybrid cars</p> <p>Lobbying for increased use - cost effectiveness</p>
<p>4.2.1</p> <p>Developments with reduced reliance on cars are encouraged</p> <p>Eliminate heavy vehicle traffic in local streets</p>	<p>Provide a range of incentive schemes for appropriately located new developments that reduce reliance on cars</p> <p>Identify sites suitable locations for new development eg publicised DCPs etc</p>	<p>Locating development where it can be accessed by public transport reduces the environmental costs of servicing the development</p>	<p>Increases opportunities for social interaction</p> <p>More community development opportunities</p> <p>Answering identification issues – incentives disincentives</p> <p>Development of social capital</p>	<p>Increased disposable income as a result of reduced car ownership costs and reduced need to travel in the first place</p> <p>Access needs to answer local needs ie elderly people/ young people</p>
<p>4.1.3</p> <p>Active healthy lifestyles are promoted through increased cycling and walking opportunities</p> <p>Better access for locals and tourism</p> <p>Sign posting</p> <p>Maintenance of bush tracks etc</p> <p>Industrial estate etc</p>	<p>Promote the health benefits of physical activity and provide and maintain accessible infrastructure for walking and cycling</p> <p>Telecommuting and car pooling or other initiatives increased with education of how others do this – newsletters; web page; BIZNET</p>	<p>Each journey undertaken by bike or foot, rather than in a car, uses less infrastructure, less energy, causes less pollution and is safer for the individual, the community and local wildlife</p>	<p>Healthier people are better able to enjoy and participate in what the Blue Mountains has to offer</p>	<p>Healthier people make fewer demands on support services</p> <p>When they do they're still looked after through community transport initiative</p>



## Key Direction 4 - Moving Around

Outcome 4.2 The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that add to our local amenity and World Heritage identity

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
4.2.1 Sustainable transport links are developed between villages as an alternative to the Great Western Highway <b>Must be accessible by all emergency services.</b>	Design and complete an alternative link to the Highway which increases sustainable transport choices <b>Upgraded and sign posted bikeways and footpaths</b>	Reduced impact on the natural environment through sustainable transport choices <b>Reduces pollution Link community with bush</b>	Increases access between villages while providing evacuation options <b>Increases links between people and villages</b>	Reduction in Highway congestion reduces time less costs <b>Reduces costs</b>
4.2.2 Regional transport responses reduce the impact of through traffic on Blue Mountains towns and villages <b>Rail freight Electric locos Buses</b>	Reduce carriage of freight by large trucks on the Great Western Highway and encourage its transportation by rail <b>Council advocate rail freight Encourage environmental friendly buses</b>	Reduced noise and air pollution from trucks <b>Reduced noise and carbon emissions</b>	Reduced freight trucks on Highway improves local safety and amenity	Reduced Great Western Highway maintenance costs
4.2.3 The safety and amenity of the Great Western Highway are improved	Complete a place based "Blue Mountains Transport Corridor Strategy" to address safety, amenity, local access and design of the Transport Corridor <b>Egress Ingress</b>	Incorporates World Heritage values through sound environmental design <b>Reduced hydrocarbons</b>	The Transport Corridor becomes less of a barrier splitting local communities	Increases local employment as a result of increased access for visitors

Link road; signage – logo national standards (convention); \$; lockable bike racks

## Key Direction 4 - Moving Around

Outcome 4.3 The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
4.3.1 Services and facilities are located in the most accessible locations	Centralise the location of services and facilities in key service centres	More journeys are shorter and consequently more likely to be undertaken on foot or by bike with less impacts on environment	More time available to spend with family and friends through reduced travel time	The cost in time and money of getting to services and facilities is minimised
4.3.2 Transport services that support the health and well being of individuals are improved <b>Safety</b> <b>Cleanliness</b>	Encourage transport solutions for those unable to access transport	Less environmental impacts as a result of more effective transport solutions	Quality of life of those with limited access to transport is enhanced <b>People with disabilities (ie Lawson railway station rail carriages)</b>	Provides business opportunities for innovative transport solutions
<b>ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012 (RESPONSIBILITY)</b>	<b>Ask BMCC to exhibit/public display cycleway plan for community and clarification of budget allocation. Possible process could include cycleway plan followed by precinct plan. Regarding funding – Section 94 is not good due to limited development but RTA have funding grants available to overcome the issues of how to tackle this and mobilise people to make it happen. An integrated approach may enable improved pooling of resources and interfacing with other initiatives.</b> <b>Cycleway link between Hazelbrook and Lawson (along new railway corridor) RTA stage 1 for Lawson plan) (RTA; STATE GOVT)</b>			
4.3.3 Accessible pathways of travel and public spaces	Retrofit existing public spaces to improve accessibility and ensure any new public spaces are accessible	Enhances local environmental amenity	More people are able to interact and build social bonds in public spaces	Reduces liability costs

4.3.2 council to lobby RTA to ensure trucks can stop safely in Mid Mountains for food and drink (ie rationale – stop, revive, survive)

4.3.2 Safety RTA monitoring speed and size of trucks closely through whole of Mid Mountains and Mountains generally – SPEED LIMIT SHOULD BE REDUCED. Introduce concept of check in point/ weigh in stations prior to MM possibly at Linden.

## Key Direction: Moving Around

Outcome:

### TAKING ACTION:

#### Strategic Objective:

Group

- 4.2 link roads must be upgraded and properly sign posted  
must be accessible by all emergency services
- 4.3 safer cycleways and pedestrian pathways within villages and between villages. This requires a plan and setting aside public land

#### Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years

Group

- 4.2 link road symbol/ signage  
funding allocation  
lockable bike racks  
maintenance of existing footpaths
- 4.3 increase off road cycleways for safety (eg along railway corridor). Relocation of railway line – opportunity for cycle link between Lawson and Hazelbrook.

### SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS:

#### Environmental

- 4.2 reduces pollution  
links community with bush
- 4.3 encourages non fossil fuelled transport – less emissions – less global warming and therefore less climate change  
reduces need to build more roads – the construction of roads – siltation of creeks,  
more weeds into National Park  
reduces need for 2<sup>nd</sup> car

#### Social

- 4.2 links between people and villages
- 4.3 increased social interaction  
greater safety

#### Economic

- 4.2 reduces cost of highway maintenance through reduced use
- 4.3 reduced need for costly road building and maintenance  
less costs to individuals as cost of petrol increases  
reduces need for 2<sup>nd</sup> car

### Identified Activities

Group

- 4.1 An actual cycleway plan for the Mid Mountains planned  
Upgrading of signposting/ integrated transport which considers community needs  
Plan to promote car pooling  
Get input on possible outcomes proposal on revised DA's ... nitty gritty like what is proposed for the railway corridor and cycleways, taxi routes, footpaths, green space, tree preservation, meeting places etc  
  
The 'Vision (revised concept plans) It raises questions – doesn't answer many ... some explicit recommendations

Ownership principles and options for Heatherbrae etc  
Loss of existing FAC services – youth centre – in public hands – Mechanics Institute  
– \$\$ Where? Who? How? – mobilise resources Grants – cycleway plan s94, - RTA to  
fund cycleways – an integrated approach. Try to ensure follow through action.

No to B3s - Stop big trucks in the mountains – BMCC to clarify issue of possibilities of  
B3s with the RTA and provide response to the community as this is an issue of big  
concern

Gas inspection station

Monitor speed and size of trucks - off ramp required for offenders – like weigh station

Accountability (status of each DA logged)

Wheelchair access at stations

Emergency services access

Upgrade cycleways and footpaths

Link roads to reduce traffic flow (in pedestrian areas) etc

Rail freight; utilise and promoted to reduce no of trucks on road

Not enough plans for children crossing - Children crossing road in Hazelbrook  
(Queens rd) Bus stop dangers

Fast, smoother roads encourage cars to speed and less cycle activity results

The eliminating of parking on GWH has encouraged speeding cars

BMCC RTA project – Western Sydney Alternative Transport Initiative.

BMCC is encouraging vehicles for 8-10 people- equivalent to bus fare. First phase  
Springwood trial commencing April 2007. Investigate possibility of transferring  
initiative to Mid Mountains (BMCC RTA Project Manager Anna Liage)

Linden temporary truck stop is not utilised – requires proper toilet facilities. Clean up  
is required – filthy state with syringes.



## Key Direction 5 - Working and Learning

Outcome 5.1 The local economy is strengthened and diversified

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
5.1.1 Our focus on sustainability drives the creation of local employment opportunities	Increase the range of sustainable businesses and industries in the Blue Mountains <b>Maximise potential of Lawson Industrial Area</b>	Less environmental impacts from more sustainable businesses and industries <b>including renewable energy industries</b>	Increased quality of life for individuals and communities from reduced reliance on commuting and stronger community ties <b>and family ties</b>	Increased profits from introducing sustainable business practices <b>Keep business revenue in local community</b> <b>High local employment</b>
5.1.2 The Blue Mountains is a centre of culture and creativity	Promote existing and support new creative and cultural initiatives and industries <b>eg slow food in Mid Mountains eg Glenbrook</b> <b>"Trails" eg artists heritage art centre</b>	Contributes to environmentally friendly economic development	Enhances vibrant creative communities <b>Indigenous culture promoted</b>	Expands the range of sustainable business opportunities using local skills and talents <b>Local employment</b> <b>Develop new talents</b>
5.1.3 The Blue Mountains drives sustainable regional development that supports employment opportunities for local people	Establish formal partnerships outside the region that increase sustainable employment opportunities for local people <b>Centre of Excellence</b> <b>Natural health industries</b> <b>Outdoor</b> <b>Cultural</b>	Access to jobs created for local people with less impact on the Blue Mountains environment	The local community benefits from initiatives elsewhere to foster industries and employment	Jobs can be encouraged in the best places in the region to meet the needs of the local economy

5.1.1 attract green industries and sustainable service industries to Lawson Industrial Area; Develop an identity and market it to be a sustainable local economy area; Make solar panels locally (Mid Mountains)

5.1.2 Annual Lawson Festival/ Mid Mountains Festival; Promote Magpie Markets as selling locally made art and craft

## Key Direction 5 - Working and Learning

### Outcome 5.2 The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
5.2.1 The Blue Mountains is a leader in responsible and sustainable tourism	Develop a sustainable model for tourism that provides environmental, social and economic benefits <b>Local energy generation</b>	Tourism becomes less damaging on the environmental values of the area	Reduces impacts on local amenity	The area can continue to benefit from its appeal to visitors <b>The area should benefit from its appeal to visitors</b>
5.2.2 Sustainable business practices are encouraged	Promote the benefits of accreditation in sustainable business practices	Reduced resource consumption through increased recycling and energy efficient business practice	Increases community awareness of the benefits of sustainable economic development	Provides an incentive for sustainable economic activity
5.2.3 Local businesses and shops are supported and strengthened	Promote a mix of businesses that support sustainable economic development	Reduced impacts on environment from more sustainable businesses	Shopping centres better support visitor and local needs	Strengthens the local economy

**Cycling tourism – develop world class green cycle track network; develop a local business theme (see below)**

**Public transport for tourism and locals – small trains**

**Local bushwalking tourism – Mid Mountains variation to upper Mountains**

**Utilise passing trade; signage highlighting opportunities for passers by – natural and cultural heritage visitors centre**

**Slow food industry – growing, permaculture  
Performance industry – restaurants (tourism)  
Workshop/ conference centres in bush settings – learning how**

**Mid Mountains Olympics**

## Key Direction 5 - Working and Learning

### Outcome 5.3 A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
5.3.1 More learning opportunities are created for Blue Mountains people	Build on accessible community resources that support learning and life long personal work pursuits	Greater awareness will allow people to make more informed decisions about how they interact with the environment	A culture of allowing people to develop and thrive will enhance individual and collective quality of life	Individual skills and talents are developed and become potential economic assets
5.3.2 Centre for learning and skill development contribute to a robust economy	Enhance existing and establish new centres of research and learning that support the achievement of a more sustainable Blue Mountains	The centres can disseminate and promote greater awareness of how to be sustainable	Creates a learning City for residents	The ideas and philosophy developed here can become marketable assets
5.3.3 Our children learn more about sustainability	Build on and enhance existing initiatives that enable children to learn about sustainability <b>and culture, indigenous and environment</b>	The next generation of decision makers are more aware of the impacts of their actions on the environment	Children become more aware of how they can maximise their quality of life from the quality of their surroundings	Increased awareness represents and investment in the future of the Blue Mountains

5.3.1 Opportunities for people to get together and share their stories eg 'living libraries' and 'living speakers' in Mid Mountains. Enhance and adapt University of 3<sup>rd</sup> Age programs so all ages in Mid Mountains can participate. Council spaces available

5.3.2 BM Centre of Excellence for hospitality and tourism. BM TAFE offer new courses eg energy efficient car, environmentally sustainable business, spirituality and well-being industries

5.3.3 Expand Earth Journeys. Living speakers for schools, churches. Digital recording of 'living speakers'. Lawson library having environmental resources

## **Mid Mountains Community-Government Collaborative Framework Questionnaire - Community Responses from the Lawson workshop**

1. What will the Mid Mountains and Lawson be like in 2025 when local people and Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) are successful in achieving their Vision? (Describe in a few words.)

Suggestion of a botanic garden in Lawson Golf Course  
 Centre of 'high tech' and sustainability  
 A tourist centre in Mid Mountains – Lawson  
 Need to open up the tourist opportunities in MM esp Lawson and Indigenous culture  
 Historically, mountains was a high destination place – need to revive this.  
 Trend: more local tourism opportunities – opportunity high  
 Tourism – only 1 B&B in Lawson  
 Gaps - significant gap in BM eg geographical gap in MM, in Sydney tourism promotion not existent.  
 Concentration in Wentworth Falls, Katoomba and Leura – people want experience and get away (tourists from Sydney)  
 Threat: distinct possibility new highway can led to more passer-by's / one dayers, not staying overnight.  
 Gap – approach to governance – introduction of a precinct committee.

2. Suggest some ways that Mid Mountains Communities and BMCC could more effectively and regularly communicate on important matters and issues.

Blog site – have to be manned – BMCC to respond regularly / daily  
 Shopfront eg Volunteer to be informed of issues – from community – BMCC  
 Area Manager eg BMCC staff member to handle issues  
 Forums – for communication; places for people gather; shopping centres; railway stations for places of sharing and discussing  
 Meet the local councillors  
 Youth focus – eg P&C – better links to youth centres, skate parks  
 BMCC have an email list – keep up to date on current issues – optional by free subscription

3. What do you think is the best way for BMCC to reach and involve local people?

BMCC staff – currently is discussion about delegation currently limited for Project officers  
 Credit to BMCC – acknowledgement letter received quickly; response to letters of particular issue – no response by BMCC and not followed up  
 How to engage community and what information can go out from BMCC. Need healthy turnover/ timeframe longer – adequate for community to respond.  
 Move away from the tokenistic engagement and consultation by BMCC  
 More genuine and participatory approaches and opportunities needed.

4. How could a more consistent and reliable approach to exchanging information and views between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC be put into place?

Blog – reply is important back to community



5. Suggest ways in which BMCC planning and decision making processes for the Mid Mountains be improved and be better co-ordinated.

Community needs costs – ongoing as well

BMCC perspective – community considers them as ‘Blowouts’ – concept plans costed/ estimated as project progresses. Costs can increase as specific details get worked out with various stakeholders

Community perspective – costing does not have to be this way. Lots of examples of projects on budget

Community participation and engagement before BMCC makes decisions

6. What steps do you think are necessary to improve co-operation and collaboration between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC?

Precinct focus. Community more likely to relate what is happening to their particular area and then how it impacts on MM

7. What do you think is the most important issue that must be addressed to strengthen respect and trust between BMCC and its communities in ensuring a sustainable future for the Mid Mountains?

No comments

8. Would you like to make any other suggestions or comments?

Precinct planning eg good models and examples

Lawson development not to emulate Hazelbrook – learn from past mistakes and learn from it!

Access for tourists to meet and see local people and to have local experiences – opportunity

# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

### PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Town Centre - Public Spaces

<b>Sub-Projects:</b> (current & planned)	1) Concept Plan
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Blue Mountains City Council
<b>Other stakeholders:</b>	Community, Village Centre Commercial & Retail Outlets, Roads and Traffic Authority
<b>Other agencies involved:</b>	Roads and Traffic Authority
<b>Timeframe:</b>	April 2006 - October 2010
<b>Project vision:</b>	A town centre that exemplifies the cultural, environmental, and economic values of the Blue Mountains
<b>Project objective:</b>	To further develop the 2003 Masterplan and DCP to reflect the wishes of the community and other stakeholders to create a town centre of exceptional character and amenity.
<b>Background:</b>	Complete Urban Solutions were appointed by BMCC to prepare a revised Concept Plan to develop and review the Masterplan and existing DCP for the Lawson town centre as the township will be affected by the GWH road widening
<b>Current progress/status:</b>	The Revised Concept Plan has been drafted in preparation of submittal to Council for approval
<b>Related projects:</b>	Numerous staged projects within Town Centre Redevelopment, civil infrastructure establishment, Section 2 GWH Upgrade and Council and private building developments, former Golf Course redevelopment proposal

# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

### PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Town Centre - Public Spaces (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p>Key Issues (under the 5 key directions headings):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Looking After the Environment</li> <li>❖ Looking After People</li> <li>❖ Using Land for Living</li> <li>❖ Moving Around</li> <li>❖ Working and Learning</li> </ul>		<p>* Valid consultation; Retain heritage; Best quality planning; Development needs to be sustainable.            Develop a 'new' heritage which will be appreciated and preserved in 100 yrs time!            Needs best quality planning.            How is it sustainable (heritage and economically) to remove heritage buildings (which could be moved back on the service lane by RTA)? And then replace with pseudo heritage?            RE public spaces - I would like to see the town centre, landscaping, public spaces designed as integrated - ie heritage architecture partly using the current facades (restored) and reproduction ie traditional Blue Mountains style landscaping including Rhododendrons, camellias etc and some of the more elegant and grand natives.            Honest consultation regarding legal aspects of planning Lawson village.</p>
<p>Milestones:</p>	<p>Quarter 2 2006/07 - Approval of Revised Concept Plan and approval to submit the DA            Quarter 2 2006/07 - DA Submitted to E&amp;CS            Quarter 2 2006/07 - Community consultation            Quarter 3 2006/07 - Design for civil infrastructure            Quarter 3 2006/07 - DA approved <b>Not yet</b>            Quarter 3 2006/07 - Council resolution</p>	<p>*Unhappy with consultation - should be pre DA not post DA; Consultation has been divisive; Clearer communication; Council should have considered and taken into account community.            All this was done without taking into account the expressed views of the majority of residents who expressed an opinion.            Clearer communication with all residents - letter drop with simple maps/ designs.            Community consultation should have occurred before the DA went to council. Will council listen? This needs to be well promoted eg letterbox drop?</p>
<p>Consultation to-date:</p>	<p>Oct-06 In person meeting to inform Community Groups of Concept Plan            Oct-06 Newspaper advert to inform Community Groups of Concept Plan            Oct-06 Correspondence to inform Community Groups of Concept Plan            Nov-06 Site display at Lawson Festival</p>	<p>* So far 'inform' but not consultation; Local disinterest does not equal people don't care; Consultation has been ignored; Length of process has reduced interest; Need representative residents group; Needs more 'real' public consultation.            Ignored consultation - where is the engaged participation.            Consultation has been token and reactive so far and has divided community.            The division is between older and newer residents.            This process has been so complex and drawn out that many local people I speak to are completely fed up and 'can't be bothered' to contribute; These same local people who are actively engaged in the process feel that council 'consults' in name only and then disregards opinions expressed in letters, petitions and submissions.            Inform is not consult. I've been involved in several consultative exercises.</p>



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Town Centre - Public Spaces (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Funding - total:</b> <b>Source:</b> <b>Shortfall:</b> <b>Shortfall source:</b></p>	<p>Approx \$21,000,000 Council, Roads &amp; Traffic Authority and other source sites yet to be resolved</p>	<p><b>*\$10.9M not stated; More details on assumptions needed; Inappropriate spending; flawed plan.</b> There's at least a \$9M shortfall. Details of how this has been determined - details on assumptions made. Council does not have the funds and I fear will go along with whatever a developer with \$ wants eg Coles. There needs to be binding plans that controls development and ensures development is historically / culturally appropriate. How can you justify spending this much on a dud plan! Driven by developers.</p>
<p><b>Key Decisions made to-date (eg Relevant Council Resolutions)</b></p>	<p>The Council adoption of the Lawson Village / Town Centre Master Plan, 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2003 The Council adoption of the Lawson Town Centre Revised Concept Plan, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2006</p>	<p><b>* Objections to lack of consultation prior to DA.</b> Why were Lawson ships not heritage listed? You didn't listen then. These plans have not had enough consultation in regards to needs and desires of 'whole' community. Council should only adopt what is needed by the community not what a commercial interest thinks they might desire, 30 shops for high rent with limited clientele. Design on Artists Impression need to be a real representation so the community is not deceived as it was with eg Leura Spires. The 'want list' should have realistic budget outcomes.</p>
<p><b>Key decisions still to be made</b></p>	<p>The Council adoption of the Subdivision &amp; Civil Infrastructure Establishment (DA No.01), The format of future DA's (Douglass Square, Open Spaces, Art Works &amp; Buildings).</p>	<p>Why this (DA 01) not put to residents before development as agreed at a VISIONS meeting (mid 2006) held with Rolly and 3 ward councillors? Greater involvement in development of future DAs - options developing from a clean sheet; subdivision and infrastructure DA should be put on hold pending proper community consultation. The 12/03 Master plan was seriously flawed and should be redone.</p>





HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Town Centre - Public Spaces (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Other identified opportunities for community input and at what level:</b></p>	<p>Community &amp; Stakeholder input into future Village Centre DA's including Douglass Square, Open Spaces, Art Works &amp; Proposed Buildings, Re-usage of controlled and contained stormwater, Naming of streets, Formation of Tourist Information Data</p>	<p>* No committee with residents input; Council needs to be clear that it is not in control of all TC development eg retail; Stormwater - needs to be carefully considered and very well managed; Design competition for TC eg by Town Planning and Architect students. Where is the structure for ongoing community involvement / participation? Connection with other places - integration. How to showcase / ensure ESD occurs and village is not lost; Reuse of stormwater, water features, gardens; Tourist Information Centre. I should hope so after the appalling processes so far but not enough! This is very important as RTA has already done a Leura and will repeat in Lawson if council does nothing substantial about it. Council needs to be squeaky clean and transparent about what it does with stormwater and drainage. Community people must be told the truth about planning processes. Eg it is not 100% sure that new shops will be built. DAs need to be lodged and approved - then someone needs to actually finance buildings and be prepared to rent them or sell them at affordable prices.</p>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Lawson Town Centre - Public Spaces (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community <b>(*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)</b>
<b>LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	
The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved	<p><b>* Design and vision critical - please START AGAIN, properly engage community and be really innovative.</b> How is this done by replacing used and useful current resources with a new set of concrete and glass? Redevelopment provides opportunity to set a benchmark for sustainably living - it should be more than token measures including energy saving concepts, carbon neutral. Stormwater and soil erosion needs lots of attention - especially given the bush regeneration (URCP and volunteer work downstream) and Streamwatch. Important that any new construction and alterations to present building considers good environmental practices which includes and most important is orientation of building to take advantage of seasonal weather aspects.</p>
The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed	<p><b>*Incorporate solar passive principles; Ensure effective stormwater arrangements.</b> Huge stormwater issues are not adequately addressed. Stormwater control, solar energy and other design issues for new development. What rules does council have in place to ensure some form of uniformity in building construction of the new shops?</p>
Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment	<p><b>* Community clearly stating its preference for a model/ showcase sustainable, environmentally brilliant design for the village.</b> Not by destroying the current. Energy, community energy plan to live in the most sustainable manner. Town centre as green sustainable model and standard for new development in BMCC. What building restriction can be imposed on new shops as facilities to ensure that they are eco/ solar friendly.</p>
<b>LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE</b>	
The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved	<p><b>* Important that people are able to walk or cycle to village and around community.</b> Sense of place is being destroyed with the 'Preferred' Option. More effectively separating negative environmental aspects of GWHwy eg noise, air pollutants from town centre; Encouraging reduced car use/ greater alternatives by not providing huge areas of parking. Maintaining local services within easy reach (preferably walk and cycle) important to health of people. Younger people and older people feel less sense of isolation if they are able to easily access sensible (not large) shops and other services such as community health, supermarket, cafes, post office including banking and community halls.</p>
Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed	<p><b>* Traffic problems with 'concept plan' deemed unsafe.</b> With new shopping centres, rent for shops goes up and so do prices. Disabled and elderly need to have immediate access to shops from vehicles. What access to the parking side of its shops has been facilitated.</p>
Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive	<p>The traffic mess in the Concept Plan is very dangerous.</p>

# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community <b>(*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)</b>
<p><b>USING LAND FOR LIVING</b></p> <p>A strong sense of local identity and place is created</p>	<p><b>* Demolition destroys sense of place; Need character SMALL;</b> This is an imposed development by, in the main, one landowner - plus other developer interests. I'd like to see Lawson's unique character as a small, historic mountains village preserved. I think the historic shops should be preserved. Any new building should be small and sympathetic in style to the existing village. Lawson's sense of local identity and place will benefit from the preservation of its heritage shops. Also there will be more opportunities available to locals for employment and business if older low rent shopfronts are retained. Rubbish - you can't have a sense of place if you demolish it! Create new focus and centre of which we can be proud (not ashamed!!). Lawson is one of the smallest areas of the Blue Mountains for potential population growth the land we do have for residential needs sympathetic development not McMansions. Mountain Homes for mountain people.</p>
<p>Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living</p>	<p><b>* Proposed plan too big</b> Diversify energy use in township. Excellence in design principles for new development. BMCC only linked into Warragamba a decade ago. This makes us dependant along with Sydney. Previously we used our own water storage. BMCC should promote and facilitate all residence to acquire rain tanks so that we are self sufficient again.</p>
<p>The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened</p>	<p>Need public spaces. A workable size town square. Café with outdoor seating near the square. Community centre preserved and included in shopping precinct. Include community produced art works. The vibrancy of the town centre will be retained if its unique heritage shops and Mechanics Institute are retained. New town centre focus free of traffic noise (aural pollution) somewhere that is attractive and where one wants to spend time and relax.</p>
<p><b>MOVING AROUND</b></p> <p>Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles</p>	<p><b>*Group work ceased here (please refer to individual comments below.</b> The expansion to 4 lanes promotes unsustainable transport solutions. Discourage cars by restricting care parking space and reducing car movements in town centre. 40km/h zone must be maintained outside local schools. It is a nonsense to talk about safety and then allow this speed limit to be raised. Safe and environmentally friendly Public Transport options. When petrol/ fuel is \$10-\$20 litre, Lawson will benefit from proximity to its railway station - a desirable destination for tourists from Penrith to Sydney. Need promotion of public transport and cycle use. Safety for pedestrians of paramount importance. Better train services eg shuttle Mt Victoria or Lithgow to Penrith. How does locating 2 sets of traffic lights in its town reduce its amount of pollution created by stopping and starting traffic.</p>
<p>The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that adds to our local amenity and World Heritage identity</p>	<p>Cars and trucks are not beautiful. Trucks need to be directed away from main shopping village. Along the main transport corridor, the historic shops and Mechanics Institute will benefit Lawson's World Heritage identity only if they are preserved ie - not demolished. The speed limit on the highway through Lawson must remain at 60km/h for it to be a safe transport corridor that will benefit Lawson. Trucks must have easy access (ie traffic lights) to and from the highway area without having to drive through the middle of the Lawson village.</p>





# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community <b>(*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)</b>
The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved	<p>Not having proper grade separation and adequate north-south connections is very poor planning. North Lawson needs to be connected to shops by tunnel for safe access by foot and bike. Pleasant town centre attracts local and tourists to linger and enjoy. Lawson is and has further potential to enable residents to walk, cycle or take only short car trips to provide for daily requirements and some other needs. Post office facilities (including banking) are excellent. Cafes good, supermarket adequate.</p>
<b>WORKING AND LEARNING</b>	
The local economy is strengthened and diversified	<p>Having up to 6 shopping centres is a potential economic disaster for Lawson - 1. New shop strip next to community hall; 2. Replaced old shop GWH strip; 3. Heatherbrae/ Coles; 4. Current supermarket; 5. Named shopping centre on Concept plan at top of Honour Ave; 6. Proposal for shops at 'east' side Douglas Square (from Sam the current supermarket owner). Focus on what makes a village attractive and being clear what does not eg Fast Food outlets, Coles /Woollies supermarkets, an undercover shopping mall. Keep village atmosphere. There is opportunity to develop Lawson village as an historic tourist attraction. Seems to me tourists comes to the mountains for the natural environment and the 'ye olde' 'arty' villages. Why not restore the historic shops and build a sympathetic village square surrounded by small/ interesting shops to attract tourists and also keep the type of existing businesses which service local needs (eg mixed business newsagent etc chemist) The local economy benefits if locals have access to lower-rent shops eg the old existing shops rather than expensive new ones - many may remain empty. Model centre and attractive place entices more visitors. Local school needs to retain its opportunity to utilise the other community facilities such as library, community central and community hall. Need to create an understanding in children of where Lawson has come from and where it can be in the future - local children will then be motivated to engage in business/economic activities in their own local area.</p>
The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry	<p>Encourage Green industries to industrial area. Big company's like Coles employ local young people but destroy locally owned and run businesses such as local supermarket, butcher, chemist. Lets keep small, locally owned businesses and have a truly local economy. This could still happen without 150% increase of retail floor space! Design concept for centre as model / new standard. Not with the huge rents many of our businesses and industry face. Penrith and Emu Plains are cheaper and closer to the city for logistic options. The town has such a limited population of residence to support; there is a great reliance on passing trade.</p>
A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains	<p>Mechanics Institute - one of the original forums/spaces for people in community to come together to learn, discuss issues, solve community problems. A unique part of Lawson's history is the Mechanics Institute building to which careful consideration needs to be given regarding its future use.</p>

General comments relating to potential benefits and opportunities –  
I would like to see the village centre, public spaces and landscaping integrated as: Style/ design – heritage, traditional, preserving as much as possible of the current buildings, even if the need to be moved. Vision – should be so innovative as a model of integration of traditional with contemporary environmentally sustainable infrastructure, that visitors from around the world, design students, architects, sustainability and environmental experts want to visit it! Ideas for Public Spaces – a demonstration garden which attract tourists (as well as locals) eg A Peace Park (theme) close to current War memorial in Honour Ave. A Feng Shui Garden - shade, big ponds, fragrant plants. A Children's Playground designed for children with disabilities. Engage design students in design competition to bring in lots of new ideas please.





# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

### PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Lawson Golf Course Site

<p><b>Sub-Projects:</b> (current &amp; planned)</p>	<p><b>Stage one:</b> Phase 1- Research and planning to ensure that major parameters of the project are understood Phase 2- Community engagement and facilitation in developing a vision and concepts, through to an agreed vision, objective, concept and recommendations. Part1- Former Lawson Golf Course Redevelopment Recommended Vision and Concept Part 2- Former Lawson Golf Course Site Redevelopment Submission Report on Exhibition of Preliminary Options - <b>essential to have this here to discuss. Why not here (Project vision) Major flow in process.</b> Phase 3- Feasibility Study, with site survey, traffic and environmental studies, to investigate and establish a viable and sustainable concept plan.</p> <p><b>Stage two:</b> Master Plan development for the site based upon the adopted concept plan.</p> <p><b>Stage three:</b> Implementation of the strategies developed in the Master Plan</p>
<p><b>Lead Agency:</b></p>	<p>Blue Mountains City Council</p>
<p><b>Other stakeholders:</b></p>	<p>City wide and local community</p>
<p><b>Other agencies involved:</b></p>	<p>Department of Lands</p>
<p><b>Timeframe:</b></p>	<p>Approximately 10 years for development</p>
<p><b>Project vision:</b></p>	<p>To develop the former golf course site at Lawson as a significant resource where the opportunities for recreation and other related activities are carefully integrated with the protection of the natural environment, community values and the needs of the local and regional community, in a sustainable manner.</p>
<p><b>Project objective:</b></p>	<p>To develop a concept plan and define uses for the redevelopment of the golf course that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Be acceptable to the community;</li> <li>o Be economically, socially and environmentally sound;</li> <li>o Meet recreation needs of the community;</li> <li>o Be self funding;</li> <li>o Assist in and enhance the integration of the redevelopment of the Lawson Township and its recreation areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>We have been asked about collaborating with BMCC. When the previous consultation material and existing reports are not available, then I feel I am wasting my time. The previous consultation had their flaws but at least there was considerable amount of comment generated. I do not want to go over old ground but go on to next steps. I have no faith in this process even though I highly respect the facilitators.</b></p>
<p><b>Background:</b></p>	<p>In 2004 the Lawson Golf Club disbanded and handed back management of the site to the Council. The Council decided to review the former Lawson Golf Course site in light of changing needs of the local and regional community, and the costs to the Council to maintain the site as a public golf course.</p>
<p><b>Current progress/status:</b></p>	<p>Stage one: Phase 2: Part 2 has been undertaken and is soon to be reported to the Council with recommendations to undertake the next stage of works. <b>Most interesting, but more detail please.</b> Investigations have been commenced, in cooperation with the Department of Lands, regarding potential for the project to be self funding.</p>

# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

### PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Lawson Golf Course Site

**Related projects:**

- o Redevelopment of the Former Lawson Waste Fill Site
- o Review of Recreation and Sports Strategy for the Mid Mountains, Area 3

**\*COMMENT ON PROCESS: All wanted the Concept plans or Options to date; should have been here for us to have a look at (should be on exhibition). We felt that we are wasting our time. We wanted to know how the decisions are made on options/ the timeline. NOT HAPPY JIM!**

### PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Lawson Golf Course Site (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Key Issues (under the 5 key directions headings):</b></p> <p><b>Looking after environment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Retention of bushfire protection to adjoining properties and Lawson Township.</li> <li>o Protection of environmental values of the site including water quality, and the riparian and woodland ecosystems.</li> <li>o Protection of adjoining bushland Lawson Park and the world heritage area</li> <li>o There is opportunity to store stormwater for reuse on site</li> </ul> <p><b>Looking after people:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o There is a need for additional sporting fields to serve the mid mountains and lower mountains community</li> <li>o There is opportunity to link existing heritage walking tracks in South Lawson Park with tracks on the site and back to Lawson Town centre</li> </ul>		<p><b>*Showplace for whole of Blue Mountains National Park; Use less fire prone (native) plants (fits with community gardens or arboretum); Hazard reduction - mgt of the Golf course site should take account of the magt of the surrounding bushland areas (we have some concerns about hazard reduction by fire - why not remove weeds?) NB Fire went through Lawson.</b></p> <p>Planting of bush and that is not so fire prone - utilise subsidised labour to clear and weed.</p> <p>Revegetation opportunities</p> <p>Do not inhibit locals from volunteering in environmental issues</p> <p>Could be a showplace for the BMWH National Park in sustainable living</p> <p>Re introduce hazard reduction burn offs - there hasn't been one since bushfires in 1977</p> <p>Agree</p> <p><b>*Agree</b></p> <p>Yes - use the water to the benefit of the community</p> <p>Golf course to have "National Cultural Heritage Centre" include Bushcare network idea and aboriginal heritage; place for employment of young people in the centre.</p> <p><b>*Aboriginal people recognised that they were original inhabitants. Rec take account of indigenous culture in any redevelopment eg have a cultural place of some sort.</b></p> <p><b>*Agree</b></p> <p>Agree Employment opportunity in natural Ridge St for sporting fields</p>



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Lawson Golf Course Site (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Using land for living:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The site is largely owned by the Crown and managed by BMCC</li> <li>o Zoning of the site is for recreation</li> <li>o Rezoning of a portion of the site may be possible with approval from Department of Lands and Department of Planning</li> <li>o Consultations identified a number of potential developments which may assist in financing development of the site for recreation. These include: aged care or other community housing; educational establishment;</li> </ul> <p><b>Moving around:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Access to the site is along Wilson Street via Henry or Cleveland St, all narrow roads and currently unsuited to an increase in vehicular traffic flows</li> <li>o The site is approximately 1 km from Lawson railway station.</li> <li>o There is an opportunity to link the site by walking and cycle tracks to the station and town centre</li> <li>o Parking is currently provided for 20 cars and there is capacity to</li> </ul>	<p>Link also to Ridge St Waste management site</p> <p>Build multi use fields that can be cost effective and revenue earning</p> <p>Connection to Lawson railway station</p> <p>Yes, but not to the exclusion of the BMX club</p> <p>Give Crown land back to the aborigines.</p> <p><b>* Natural and cultural heritage centre - CERES - types proposal <a href="http://www.ceres.org.au">www.ceres.org.au</a> whatever called we agree with this proposal. This fits in with 25 year VISION the best.</b></p> <p>Housing 50/50</p> <p>Submissions for transfer of title - sell 1/2 for elite housing - sustainable building and develop other 1/2 as sport facility on a NO COST basis</p> <p>Sustainability Living Centre - eg CERES Melb Eco Education Centre</p> <p>This site has potential for community-based agriculture, which would support the growth of 'slow food' and low-consumption lifestyles; Redevelopment of this site, especially for recreational purposes must be linked to redevelopment of old landfill site.</p> <p>This site is such a great place for a wide range of recreation opportunities. Not only soccer. Want no housing. Want passive recreation opportunities. Want cycling tracks a la Centennial park especially to help young children learn to ride - it is very difficult to find good places to learn to ride because of the camber of roads.</p> <p>Do not have increased traffic. Keep the community landscape as it is. Easy walking - structure needs footpaths Bicycle track.</p> <p>Encourage Public transport, walking tracks to township.</p> <p>How does this link with North Lawson and Bullaburra eg benefits of overhead bridge for walking and cycling over highway and railway line west of Lawson township.</p> <p>Open Waratah St link - better transport link than Benang St.</p> <p>Agree</p> <p>Good idea</p> <p>Golf course complicated for transport - how will Wilson St be improved to cope with traffic (right now many problems with dog leg)</p>





HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Lawson Golf Course Site (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p>increase this</p> <p>Working and learning: ❖ <i>Employment for youth</i></p>		<p>*Natural Heritage Centre proposal or the nursery /bushcare option could provide employment opportunities for young people. Tourism potentials need to be considered. Agree with these points but the various proposals for Lawson should be well linked eg we understand stormwater retention will relate to Lawson Town Centre redevelopment and then have an impact on Lawson Golf Course. Environment education centre. BM Botanic Gardens/ arboretum/ tourist centre</p>

\*Agree with these points but the various proposals for Lawson should be well linked. Eg we understand stormwater retention will relate to Lawson town centre redevelopment and then have an impact on Lawson golf course

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Lawson Golf Course Site (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Milestones:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Report recommending Vision and concept for Lawson Golf Course redevelopment</li> <li>○ Feasibility study of proposed conceptual precincts</li> <li>○ Adoption of preferred concept for redevelopment of the site</li> <li>○ Master Plan adopted for redevelopment of the site</li> <li>○ Staged implementation of Master plan commenced</li> </ul>		<p>*Want to see the details</p> <p>Where is this feasibility study? We need to see it. Community needs to be satisfied that all options have been properly looked at before adoption of any preferred option. To Hazelbrook - Bullaburra - Lawson. Economic reasoning - sell or lease ½ for unique housing - balance for community use We need to be able to sight the proposals before we can comment on the options. We need to see and investigate this report in order to make any meaningful comment in relation to it. Where is this? (feasibility study) Why not at the consultation. I want to understand the detail.</p>





# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

<p><b>Consultation to-date:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Newsletters on the project</li> <li>○ Advertisements in the Gazette</li> <li>○ Workshops in development of a vision and concepts for the site</li> <li>○ Submissions sought in development of a vision and concepts for the site</li> <li>○ Public exhibitions of a Report outlining a vision, concepts and options for redevelopment of the site</li> <li>○ Public exhibition of 3 concepts seeking submissions on the preferred option</li> </ul>	<p><b>*Where are the young people? Go to where they are - pool; sport; youth centre; school; skate park; BMX. The reports to date were NOT provided to us - this is PROBLEM</b></p> <p>Report/ concept plans have not been provided to this workshop seriously limiting ability to address these issues.</p> <p>I am very disappointed with the current work done on the Lawson Golf course Consultation for this event (Public exhibition) needed to be letter boxed. Also work with existing interest groups - why not more people.</p>
<p><b>Funding - total:</b></p>	<p>There is a shortfall in funding to develop and maintain the site, and an objective has been identified to make the redevelopment self funding.</p>	<p><b>*Think that BMCC is short-sighted. The potential for tourism and education and recreation far outweighs other considerations. Apply for grants. Oppose selling or sub-division. It is an amazing site for recreation and tourism, it is rare to have such open space.</b></p> <p>Think outside the square and see what can be done so it is COST NEUTRAL</p> <p>Govt funding, industry funding - could be self funding.</p> <p>This 'opportunity' is highly unsatisfactory. There has been no cost of the proposed work and no costing of what selling some of the land for housing would net. This is not good - I do not trust this semi proposal. It is not well thought out. To date the community has been asked to trade a 'community good' (the open space) for an un-costed community facility which may or may not meet the recreational needs of many Blue Mountains residents.</p>
<p><b>Source:</b></p>	<p>There is potential for grant funding from State and Federal governments.</p> <p>There is potential for private investment in the site through lease or sale of portions of the site.</p>	<p>Apply for it. Lease - just like ACT.</p> <p>There is grave danger in inviting/ encouraging commercial development, that the community's real interests will be suffocated by a perceived need for 'private' funding.</p> <p>Very uncertain</p>
<p><b>Shortfall:</b></p>	<p>There is a need for approximately \$50,000 to undertake the feasibility study on the site. No detailed estimates have been prepared for redevelopment of the site.</p>	<p>Ask private enterprise to come up with proposals - FREE - Expressions of interest. Tell us the brief for the feasibility study - am especially interested in feasibility for Bushcare option</p>
<p><b>Shortfall source:</b></p>		
<p><b>Key Decisions made to-date (eg Relevant Council Resolutions)</b></p>	<p>That redevelopment of the site will be self funding.</p>	<p>Total Revenue Neutral</p> <p>When was this made?</p> <p>How was this decision arrived at and is it necessarily a correct decision?</p>
<p><b>Key decisions still to be made</b></p>	<p>The investigations are in their early stages and many decisions remain to be made.</p>	

## HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

### SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

Other identified opportunities for community input and at what level:	It is intended that there will be opportunities for community input throughout the planning for this site.	We need to be kept informed on what is actually going to happen.
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## BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Former Lawson Golf Course Site (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community	
<b>LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT</b> The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved	Within the policies of World Heritage. Create model parklands - educate people how to look after bush. Public space needs to be preserved as public space. Always - Natural and cultural heritage centre provides opportunities for both work and community connection and environmental protection. Lawson would benefit from a Natural Heritage Centre on the site - a desirable tourist destination - sustainable.	
The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed	Option 6 - Bushcare option the best for Golf Course Green space is preserved - buffer between residential /business precincts and bushland/ national park. Properly and inexpensively.	
Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment	<b>*For this outcome to be successful this must be DRIVER/ KEY OUTCOME for the whole project.</b> Could be used to educate its public about how we can live in harmony. Encourages activities in buffer zone - appreciation of environmental issues. If this is truly to happen, then this principle must very significantly impact on and in fact decide the type of proposal for the golf course site. Absolutely, always.	
<b>LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE</b> The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved  Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed	Walking space, passive and active recreation space. Promotes outdoor recreation activities. More doctors - dentists. Close to station, central to town - wheelchair accessible walking tracks. Consider access from North Lawson and Bullaburra. Decent toilets soon.	
Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive	Playgrounds, facilities for all ages. Consider access from North Lawson and Bullaburra. Regarding vandalism and graffiti.	
<b>USING LAND FOR LIVING</b>		

# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
A strong sense of local identity and place is created	<p>Keep the Lawson area as a unique sustainable village.            Becomes regional park for MM. Botanic gardens gives sense of local pride.            Develop appreciation of local natural resources.            Essential.</p>
Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living	<p><b>*CERES type development.</b>            Yes.            State of the art, sustainable buildings.            Encourages recreational activity in proximity to living and working environments - reduces need to travel by car.            The fourth option proposed by residents for a “CERES type” project to include community gardens, botanic gardens, sustainability centre, natural and cultural heritage centre is very important not only for Lawson but also as a focus of sustainability for the Blue Mountains. This would have significant implications for social, environmental and cultural future of the community.</p>
The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened	<p>Provides ample recreation space for all ages.            Additional recreational activities in Lawson - more options provided.            We need to keep our community spirit; working together.</p>
<b>MOVING AROUND</b>	
Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles	<p><b>*Improve public transport access to Golf Course</b>            Cycle tracks            Improve rail services; bicycle links to town centre.            We need to encourage people to leave their cars at home and either walk or cycle.            More buses connecting with trains so people, especially the elderly can move around more easily.            A site solution is needed that embraces cycling walking and public transport in front of cars.            Mini bus, shuttle bus service from Lawson Station.</p>
The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that adds to our local amenity and World Heritage identity	<p>Ensure that it is Indigenous Plants to the area.            More use of public transport encouraged by improved train service and bus services.            Not just for tourists but for the residents as well.</p>
The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved	<p><b>*Link the Town Centre with golf course via walking tracks. Increase public transport to increase access. Wilson St needs to be upgraded for safety. Walking track from station. Do a transport/ trail so that people can walk/ see the sights of the Mid Mountains.</b>            People spend more time in and around where they live - greater likelihood of meeting and mingling with neighbours.            Essential.</p>
<b>WORKING AND LEARNING</b>	
The local economy is strengthened and diversified	<p>The \$ circulates within the area and we grow our assets and economy.            The Golf Course site could be a source of income, craft, plants, tourist centre.            Healthy lifestyle facilities encourage tourism.            To keep younger people in our area living and working locally.</p>



# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry	<p>Yes - Origin Energy is a potential developer.                      Encourage local tourism, accommodation, eco awareness.                      Yes a natural and cultural heritage centre on this site could generate sustainable tourism and local jobs.</p>
A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains	<p>Environment education centre for all ages.                      Signage/ information boards to help educate locals and tourist about the environment plants, and geology.                      Always.                      Natural Heritage Centre - a learning centre eg native plants.</p>

**\*CONCERNS ON PROCESS continued – By not being able to see the reports / options/ concepts – we are not convinced the community views are being taken into consideration. Concern about Wilson St cannot sustain bus – therefore think laterally and tramway? Trolley? Waling trail. Access via Waratah St off Honour?? Need to think.**

**\*Cost the project cradle-to-grave and you will find that the bushcare option.**





**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site**

<p><b>Sub-Projects:</b> (current &amp; planned)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The draft Plan of Management for the site is to be amended and re-exhibited</li> <li>○ A final Plan of Management for is to be adopted by the Council</li> <li>○ A development application is to be lodged and determined for the future management of the Hall (either demolition or refurbishment of the truncated Hall)</li> <li>○ Work on the Hall is to be undertaken</li> <li>○ A new building is to be developed for the Lawson RFS elsewhere in Lawson</li> <li>○ The existing RFS building is to be either reused or demolished</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lead Agency:</b></p>	<p>Blue Mountains City Council</p>
<p><b>Other stakeholders:</b></p>	<p>Mid Mountains Youth Centre Management Committee; Lawson Rural Fire Service;</p>
<p><b>Other agencies involved:</b></p>	<p>Roads and Traffic Authority; Department of Community Services</p>
<p><b>Timeframe:</b></p>	<p>2008: RTA propose to demolish the front of Hall; 2008: adopted Plan of Management and development approval for modification or demolition of the Hall is required 2010+ RFS intend to vacate the site to a new building; Short term imminent need to identify a new venue for Mid Mountains Youth Centre</p>
<p><b>Project vision:</b></p>	<p>To manage the community land and resources to best benefit the community of Lawson and the wider City.</p>
<p><b>Project objective:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To ensure the buildings on the land are appropriate for their intended use</li> <li>2. To recognise and honour the heritage significance of Lawson Hall</li> <li>3. To ensure the site enhances the streetscape entry to Lawson</li> </ol>
<p><b>Background:</b></p>	<p>The site, Lot 17, contains the Lawson Community Hall (former Lawson Mechanics Institute or the Hall) and Lawson RFS building. It is community land owned and managed by the Council for general community uses. The main Hall was initially constructed in 1902, and this was further added to on a number of occasions. The RFs was constructed in 1980. Both buildings are of fair condition, but reflect the age of their construction. The front portion of the site (now Lot 7) and the front of the Hall was compulsorily acquired by the RTA in 1989 with the intention of demolishing the Hall to make way for widening of the Highway. In 1991 the Council requested RTA postpone demolition of the Hall and commenced to rent the front portion of the Hall. Use of the Hall continued until 2004 when the Hall was closed. Mid Mountains Youth Centre was located in the rear portion of the Hall in recent years, and has been without a permanent venue since the closure of the Hall. Lawson RFS building is considered to be inadequate for long term use and it is intended to build a new station elsewhere in Lawson. A Plan of Management for the site outlining any proposed changes to the use or configuration of the site and its buildings is required prior to any changes being made.</p>
<p><b>Current progress/status:</b></p>	<p>A draft Plan of Management was exhibited in 2004. A public hearing into the categorisation of the site was held in 2004. The draft Plan of Management for the site is being amended.</p>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site**

**Related projects:** Blue Mountains Rural Fire Service building program  
Review of the Mid Mountains Community Facilities Study



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site - (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Key Issues</b> (under the 5 key directions headings):</p>	<p><b>Looking after environment:</b></p> <p><b>Looking after people:</b></p> <p>A venue is required for the mid mountains youth centre and other city wide youth services</p> <p>The Hall has local heritage significance for social and aesthetic values, and is representative of the development of Mechanics Institutes in NSW.</p> <p><b>Land for living:</b></p> <p>The site is Community Land owned and managed by the Council.</p> <p>The site is zoned for accessible housing under LEP 2005, and it is expected that the adjoining land will be redeveloped for medium density housing in the future.</p> <p><b>Moving around:</b></p> <p>Vehicular access will be restricted to Yileena Avenue via Orient St in future. This is a narrow road passing through a residential area.</p> <p>Parking on site is inadequate for the Hall and the needs of the RFS.</p> <p>The site is within one block of the Lawson Railway station and town centre, and close to Bellevue Park and the Skatepark.</p> <p>Pedestrian and cycle access to the site will be provided adjoining the Highway.</p> <p><b>Working and learning:</b></p> <p>The Hall has potential for reuse as community service offices and meeting/ activity areas and a small Hall with a licensed capacity for 90 persons.</p> <p>The RFS has potential for reuse for community service offices and meeting/ activity areas.</p> <p>Both areas could become important venues for social services and educational delivery.</p>	<p><b>* Retain because built by community for community. Could be used by Youth Centre and community Heritage significance, at minimum rebuild façade with existing materials.</b></p> <p>+ Mechanics building should be retained as is - this building will never be replaced. The youth of our community require their own facility where they can meet and get help if they need it. Other councils such as Bathurst can manage to keep their heritage buildings and make them a feature.</p> <p>Mechanics Institute would be perfect if moved back on the block (add ons at back removed) RTA can do it!</p> <p>It is also a resource that was provided by past generations to the future for community use. To demolish the building is a betrayal of this. What about reusing the materials to at least rebuild it.</p> <p><b>Reasonably accessible - encourage sustainable transport use (eg trains, walking, cycles)</b></p> <p>Not if a Youth Centre predominantly and occasional meeting space (much needed). People can walk to it.</p> <p>Lawson deserves proper infrastructure.</p> <p><b>RFS could become parking area in future and for Baptist Church</b></p> <p><b>Yes, not if demolished</b></p> <p>Yes and has heritage value and is on heritage schedule</p> <p>No - RFS (once they have new home) no heritage value</p>



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site - (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<b>Milestones:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Amended Draft Plan of Management placed on public</li> <li>o Plan of Management adopted.</li> <li>o Pending outcome of Plan of Management, development consent obtained for proposed modification or demolition of Hall obtained and implemented.</li> <li>o New premises built for Lawson RFS.</li> <li>o New venue provided for Mid Mountains Youth Centre.</li> </ul>	<p><b>* POM previously paid for and carried out - why spend more money? Community wants it kept</b></p> <p>+ A POM was paid for and carried out previously - never feed back to public. Why spend more money? Community wants it kept.</p> <p><b>Yes, good idea</b> Yes, good idea Mechanics Institute</p>
<b>Consultation to-date:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Email dialogue conducted on options for management of the site</li> <li>o Leaflets distributed to all households in the mid mountains outlining options for management of the site, and seeking comments</li> <li>o Public Hearing conducted on categorisation of the site</li> <li>o Exhibition of the draft Plan of Management for the site with 27 submissions received</li> </ul>	<p><b>Some not received (View St). More engaging process with input options should have occurred and still should.</b></p> <p>When and where? Have not seen this where I live (Wide View Ave) A more community engaging process allowing input options should have occurred (and still should).</p> <p>Don't do it again - finish first one. Done - don't do it again. Finish job no. 1</p>
<b>Funding - total:</b> <b>Source:</b> <b>Shortfall:</b> <b>Shortfall source:</b>	<p>Inadequate funding is available from the Council to refurbish the Hall. Funding is yet to be identified for purchase of another site for the RFS.</p>	<p><b>Community could help with fundraising.</b> <b>There is no funding for what will be done otherwise.</b> Community could help with fundraising.</p>
<b>Key Decisions made to-date</b> <b>(eg Relevant Council Resolutions)</b>	<p>The front of the Hall was purchased by the RTA and is to be demolished. Many reports have been presented to the Council on the future management of the site, including the Hall.</p>	



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
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**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site - (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<p><b>Key decisions still to be made</b></p>	<p>Whether to keep or demolish the remainder of the Hall. A report is being presented to the Council on 13<sup>th</sup> March which outlines a number of updated options for the site, and recommends demolition of the Hall; relocation of the RFS to elsewhere in Lawson; refurbishment of the existing RFS for use as a Youth Centre; and investigation for building offices for city wide youth services.</p>	<p>* Demolition closes an important option, what is the point of this process? Keep at all costs - it is not Councils to demolish. Keep even if in part. + This building was community provided and funded to be cared for by council. It is not council's to demolish. It must be preserved at all costs even if in part. Will community discontent with the demolition option be clearly communicated to council? Has council seriously considered the community? Demolition closes and important option so what is the point of this process!</p>
<p><b>Other identified opportunities for community input and at what level:</b></p>	<p>Public exhibition of the amended Draft Plan of Management provides opportunity to make comment on the proposals, and influence the Council's final decision. Public exhibition of development application for any proposed modification to the Hall or RFS building by the Council would also provide opportunity to comment and influence the Council's decision.</p>	<p><b>This is a political move and ignores previous POM</b> Sorry but this is obviously a political move and ignores previous POM</p>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site**

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
<b>LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	
The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved	<p>* Youth Centre could work on gardens - good for youth and Mechanics Institute. + Youth Centre could work on gardens - good for Community Hall - Mechanics Institute</p>
The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed	
Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment	
<b>LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE</b>	
The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved	<p><b>Develop Youth Centre to service all of Mid Mountains and wide range of services for youth</b> Develop Youth Centre to service all of Mid Mountains and wide range of services for youth</p>
Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed	<p><b>Locate Youth Centre at/ near future library/ existing MMCC</b> Locate Youth Centre at/ near future library/ existing Mid Mountains Community Centre</p>
Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive	<p><b>Develop Youth Centre to service all of Mid Mountains and wide range of services for youth</b> Develop Youth Centre to service all of Mid Mountains and wide range of services for youth</p>
<b>USING LAND FOR LIVING</b>	
A strong sense of local identity and place is created	<p><b>Site community services in central precinct (MMCC) - existing hall does this. This will not be achieved if you demolish a building built by community in 1903</b> Not if you demolish a building built by the community in 1903 Siting community services in central precinct (MMCC)</p>
Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living	

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Lawson Community Hall & RFS Site**

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened	<p>* Active and positive activities for youth in Lawson. Having youth activities (eg bands, dances) in the Mechanics Institute will not disturb local residents much - minimise vandalism and graffiti.</p> <p>+ Active and positive activities for youth in Lawson.</p>
<b>MOVING AROUND</b>	
Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles	<p>Youth Centre close to public transport access</p> <p>Youth Centre close to public transport access</p>
The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that adds to our local amenity and World Heritage identity	
The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved	
<b>WORKING AND LEARNING</b>	
The local economy is strengthened and diversified	<p>Mechanics Institute was set up for education and leisure activities. This would be continued if used by Youth Centre and other Community groups.</p> <p>Mechanics Institute was set up for people to use for education and leisure activities. This would be continued if used by Youth Centre and other Community groups.</p>
The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry	
A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains	<p>Centre for youth development in Lawson</p> <p>Centre for youth development in Lawson</p>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Industrial Area**

<b>Sub-Projects:</b> (current & planned)	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Blue Mountains City Council
<b>Other stakeholders:</b>	Lawson Chamber of Commerce, Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute
<b>Other agencies involved:</b>	RTA
<b>Timeframe:</b>	Not established
<b>Project vision:</b>	For Lawson Industrial Estate to showcase sustainable business development
<b>Project objective:</b>	Support increased local employment through facilitating the development of Lawson Industrial Estate with private and public stakeholders
<b>Background:</b>	This project was initiated by Council's Economic Development Manager in 2002 to facilitate the Council endorsed 5 year infrastructure report
<b>Current progress/status:</b>	Preparation
<b>Related projects:</b>	Plan to assess economic demand for the estate



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Lawson Industrial Area (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)**

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
Key Issues (under the 5 key directions headings):	<p>Looking after the environment - Potential to build environmentally friendly estate</p> <p>Looking after people - community consultation</p> <p>Using land for living - design of estate</p> <p>Moving around - design of estate</p>	<p><b>*Security: - Vandalism, graffiti, theft. Traffic control. Mix of residential and commercial</b></p> <p>Ideal to be vandal proof, especially if not industrial estate; Closes down at night; Ideally have some housing as caretaker role.</p>
Milestones:	Quarter 4 2006/07 - Prepare economic assessment of estate	<b>*Should be made available for public comment</b>
Consultation to-date:	Lawson Chamber of Commerce	<b>*Should be community consultation</b> Would like access to their newsletters and projects; They used to run "Back to Lawson" - glad Lawson Visions carry it on.
Funding - total: Source: Shortfall: Shortfall source:	Not available	<b>*Educational facility possible. Funding from YS Rec and U3A</b> Funding - (Dept of Aged) for Third Age University to be utilised for youth also. Universities.
Key Decisions made to-date (egg Relevant Council Resolutions)	5 year infrastructure plan completed	
Key decisions still to be made	Reassessment of 5 year plan and economic assessment of estate	<b>*YES ASAP</b>
Other identified opportunities for community input and at what level:		<b>*Educational opportunities. Extending native plant resource, horticultural education.</b>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Lawson Industrial Area (\*Group responses are shown in bold + Individual responses are shown unbolded)

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
<b>LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	
The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved	<p><b>*Encourage high tech and low waste industries. Green and sustainable, green, solar industries - soft industries eg Origin Energy.</b> Encouraging green and sustainable commerce and industry, internet, green industries eg Swiss Pen Knife. Solar industries. Light industry so no or little pollution Council progresses with ideas it has already discussed - keep the momentum going. Look to encouraging industries that involve high-tech, minimum wastage industries (consider what many European centres in environmentally sensitive mountainous regions have done to encourage industries with low impact pollution)</p>
The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed	<p><b>*Monitor approved developments - ongoing. Eco friendly building designs</b> See above. Eco friendly building designs.</p>
Blue Mountains people live sustainable in harmony with the environment	<p><b>*Provide local/ youth employment - Green Corps. Encourage Environment Group involvement eg Ark, WESROC.</b> Young people employed who live locally and can walk or cycle to work locally</p>
<b>LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE</b>	
The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved	<p><b>*Exclude environmentally harmful activities</b> Exclude environmentally harmful activities. Not having to travel great distances then not so tired and so more healthy so more local jobs created at industrial area.</p>
Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed	<p><b>*Telecom restriction and cost for industry for connection to Sydney basin. Reduced travel/ better transport - eg mini/ electric buses.</b> Better transport to industrial area. People can access their needs locally - good. More local employment opportunities especially for young people. What costs are incurred by industries in relation to telephone costs.</p>
Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive	<p><b>*Better security and lighting.</b> Better security eg lighting.</p>
<b>USING LAND FOR LIVING</b>	



# HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS

## SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
A strong sense of local identity and place is created	<p><b>*Worlds best practice - local jobs, pride, sustain industry. Care for Environment, good management, professional skills base.</b>            Focused and inter related green and sustainable technologies.            Worlds best practice, local jobs, pride, sustainable industry.            University of Third Age - Soft industry - such as Origin Energy.            Workshop (studio spaces) University premises, TAFE, educational premises.</p>
Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living	<p><b>*High Professional industry - studio spaces, TAFE and educate disability employment.</b>            Energy efficient - solar wind turbines, carbon neutral energy use.            Buildings - self sufficient in energy and water use.            Light industry increase; not let printing jobs go overseas; sad that so many young people go away and jobs disappear.            Permanent better skills base. More professional people - selling services to other councils.            Centre for Disability Services - encourage 'Care Nurses' to live and work</p>
The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened	<p><b>*Employment critical, skilled workforce.</b>            Creates work and skilled workforce.            Employment is a critical issue.</p>
<b>MOVING AROUND</b>	
Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles	<p><b>*Electric mini buses. Local delivery services. Care / Bus wash - environmentally sustain.</b>            Safe transport routes for trucks and limited weight on other roads. Safe easy walking/ cycling routes from station/ town centre.            Develop Old Age Bus Centre - sustainable electric with recycle water system to wash buses - near to recycling centre; Recycle Depot to think better re chipping of PET bottles.</p>
The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that adds to our local amenity and World Heritage identity	<p><b>*Value adding at recycle depot</b></p>
The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved	
<b>WORKING AND LEARNING</b>	
The local economy is strengthened and diversified	<p><b>*Area becomes model industrial area. Attracts complementary activities ie technology park.</b>            Area becomes a model / focus for green / sustainable technologies. This attracts more complementary activities (Technology Park).            Encouraging green technologies eg solar, low environmental impact.</p>
The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry	
A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains	<p><b>*Cutting edge, green, sustainable. Encourage skill development. Creates appropriate workforce linked to TAFE.</b>            Industries at cutting edge of green and sustainable technologies encourages skills development and creates appropriate workforce.            Linked into local TAFE branch in estate.</p>

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

**PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Ridge Street Landfill**

<b>Sub-Projects:</b> (current & planned)	
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	Blue Mountains City Council
<b>Other stakeholders:</b>	NSW Department of Lands
<b>Other agencies involved:</b>	NSW Department of Environment and Conservation, Department of Planning, Department of Natural Resources
<b>Timeframe:</b>	July 2006 to March 2009
<b>Project vision:</b>	Remediation of the dormant Lawson Landfill to achieve desired environmental outcomes without limiting final land-use options.
<b>Project objective:</b>	Landfill slope is stable and risk of slope failure is removed, landfill is non-polluting; diversity of surrounding native flora & fauna is maintained; health of affected waterways is improved; final design does not preclude future land uses
<b>Background:</b>	The Lawson Waste Disposal Depot is believed to have begun operations sometime between the 1930's to the 1950's, with few records of site operations prior to the 1980's. Landfilling ceased in 1989. Records indicate approximately 70,300m <sup>3</sup> of waste was buried during the period 1983 to 1989; it is unknown how much material was buried prior to this. Whilst the site is not licensed by the EPA as would be required under current legislation, Council is required under various management plans and strategies to protect the environment and ensure the impact of existing development on the environment is managed. The site in its current state represents considerable environmental risk and remediation of the site would remove this risk.
<b>Current progress/status:</b>	Tenders called (closing 24 April 2007) for the "Design, Documentation and Construction of Remediation Works at the Dormant Lawson Landfill Site"
<b>Related projects:</b>	Lawson Golf Course - final land-use has potentially changed with the availability of land at the Golf Course site



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF LAWSON AND ENVIRONS  
SHARE YOUR VISION AND IDEAS

PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET: Former Ridge Street Landfill

	Council's current and planned position	Desired additional aspects identified by the community
<b>Key Issues</b> (under the 5 key directions headings):		
<b>Milestones:</b>	<p>Quarter 3 2006/07 - Release Design and Construct Tender</p> <p>Quarter 4 2006/07 - Choose design and contractor</p> <p>Quarter 1 2007/08 - Lodge DA</p> <p>Quarter 4 2007/08 - Commence Works</p> <p>Quarter 3 2008/09 - Complete Works</p> <p>2008-12 cycle - Maintain &amp; Monitor Works</p>	
<b>Consultation to-date:</b>		
<b>Funding - total:</b>		
<b>Source:</b>	Subject to Tender	
<b>Shortfall:</b>	Environmental Levy	
<b>Shortfall source:</b>		
<b>Key Decisions made to-date</b> (eg Relevant Council Resolutions)		
<b>Key decisions still to be made</b>	Final land form and use	*Involve community in decision making and remember sports fields are a good option given local needs
<b>Other identified opportunities for community input and at what level:</b>	Comment on Remediation DA	* Consideration of legal requirements and community wishes. Old and new reports on environmental status of site should be released publicly (eg Geotechnical report). Adjacent industrial area and bushland on Ridge St should be considered in redevelopment scenarios

**BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Former Ridge Street Landfill (\*Group responses are shown in bold)**

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
<b>LOOKING AFTER THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	
The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved	* Environmental buffer zone; BMX not polluting; Mitigating impacts on catchment; Cost/ benefit analysis of restoring site to original state.
The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed	* Passive recreation; Links - town centre - walking tracks.
Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment	* Could be used sustainably for sport given existing good access, by car.
<b>LOOKING AFTER PEOPLE</b>	
The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved	* Solar powered sports centre; BMX is healthy activity for kids.
Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed	* Rezone industrial land to residential, thereby reducing heavy traffic.
Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive	
<b>USING LAND FOR LIVING</b>	
A strong sense of local identity and place is created	* Organising of young people creates sense of identity.
Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living	* Link between passive and active recreation areas eg link to golf course. Lawson has great potential to become a hub of sporting facilities for all of the Mid Mountains.



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**BRINGING THE 25 YEAR VISION FOR THE CITY TO LAWSON AND ENVIRONS: Former Ridge Street Landfill (\*Group responses are shown in bold)**

Outcomes identified in the 25 Year Vision for the City	Potential benefits and opportunities identified by the community
The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened	*More people coming to BMX generates local trade.
<b>MOVING AROUND</b>	
Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles	* Off road walking and cycling links to other areas south of the highway.
The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that adds to our local amenity and World Heritage identity	
The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved	
<b>WORKING AND LEARNING</b>	
The local economy is strengthened and diversified	
The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry	* Centralised industrial area - not two.
A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains	

**Key points emerging from discussion:**

Consolidation of industry in to one area is a very good idea; Excellent potential for indoor and outdoor recreation at landfill site; Discussion about potential residential development on bush section of Ridge St; Potential public transport option for getting participants to sport eg Mini buses; Plans must mesh with golf course redevelopment; Cycling and pedestrian trial between golf course and landfill sites; Walking/ bike circuit, golf course to landfill to Terrace Falls area to Cataract Falls to golf course.



## Participants Vision Statements for Lawson

### Gum Leaf Responses – Lawson workshop

What will Lawson be like in 2025 when the MAP for Action is successfully implemented throughout the township and its environs?

- Like a flower it blossomed and grew.
- Local sustainable industry generates high local employment.
- 'Endurance – no end to its trust' A place of opportunities.
- There will be a friendly atmosphere, good communication between council and residents with village meetings for an information and discussion time.
- I would like Lawson to retain all of its wonderful facilities eg pool, tennis courts, bushwalks. Lawson should provide the younger residents with work opportunities in all areas. For the residents and tourists can Lawson get some decent toilet facilities soon.
- Environment needs protecting from new infrastructure. Wildlife and hanging swamps etc. School children to be involved in process since they live here too.
- Lots more tourists coming to see the many beauty spots of Mid Mountains.
- Lawson will be a cohesive community – a showplace state of the art, eco-solar friendly technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> century while still acknowledging its colourful history. A place that is people friendly, vibrant and welcoming to youth. A place which values its natural environment, climate and healthy promoting qualities.
- A village where the residents are glad they live there and other wish they did.
- A showcase to the world.
- Lawson is kept as a historic village not another Sydney suburb.
- In 2025 driving will be very expensive and only tourist destination with good rail access will be truly viable.
- Historic Lawson will be a popular tourist destination in 2025 for bushwalkers, garden enthusiasts etc, due to proximity of attractions to the railway station.
- Lawson will be more like Leura village is now – just as popular. Its heritage will be preserved (shops and Mechanics Institute) and it will be a popular destination for Sydney tourists.
- Scrap the 'preferred' option of the developers
- Lawson will be kept as a beautiful historic village – if the Map of Action is implemented but not the preferred option.
- In 2025 I hope Lawson will have a set of attractive shops, in character with its village ambience providing services similar to today.
- In 2025 Lawson ought to have more regular train services for tourism traffic and to take transport pressure off locals.
- A community that sets an example to the rest of the state of what can be done sustainably.
- A village town where kids can roam safely, with not cars, with space and



where the natural environment dominates.

- Friendly, safe, clean green for all ages.
- I would like to see Lawson present a holistic town environment of residents and business, transport working together with needs consulted and outcomes endorsed and supported by all.
- In 2025 I would like Lawson to have no high-rise flats or other buildings.

- A jewel in the crown of the Blue Mountains.
- Lawson has an active and vibrant community in Mid Mountains decision making.
- The preferred option of council is scrapped.
- The Lawson community is a sustainability centre of the Mountains.

## Appendix N Mid Mountains Map for Action Activities (2007 – 2012) identified by the community.

### Key Direction 1 - Looking After the Environment

Outcome 1.1 The Blue Mountains natural environment is protected and conserved

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
1.1.1 The diversity of native flora and fauna is maintained	Manage the urban bushland interface to minimise impacts from weeds, feral/domestic animals and urban runoff on native flora and fauna	Retains and enhances the natural assets	Retains the close relationship with nature that is highly valued by the Blue Mountains community	Reduces costs of environmental restoration needed as a result of urban impacts
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Monitor the sale and placement of exotic plants which can become environmental threats (COUNCIL &amp; COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Use native flora to reduce the costs of environmental restoration and infrastructure development (COUNCIL &amp; COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Interface and communicate more with the community (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Increase environmental education (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Ensure timely enforcement of regulations (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Comprehensive action following consideration of community identified needs (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Provide further support to Bushcare (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Develop a Sustainability Streets initiative (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Encourage weed eradication (COUNCIL &amp; COMMUNITY)</p>			
1.1.2 The health of waterways and water catchments is improved	Increase the recognition of and care for water catchments	Healthy catchments are a critical component to avoid degradation of the Blue Mountains environment	The area's highly valued water features (eg waterfalls, lakes and creeks) are protected and optimised to enhance the quality of life for the local community	Reduced impacts from increased care means fewer resources are needed for catchment restoration
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Maintain catchment hard surface areas below the impervious limit of 10% (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Rezone areas to protect and conserve the natural environment (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Consider impacts on hanging swamps, groundwater and groundwater dependent ecosystems whenever relevant (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Ensure that waterways themselves and aquifers are also considered in catchment management initiatives (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Enhance community education on protection of highly valued water features (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Stop tapping groundwater (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Stop developing over hanging swamps (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Map the headwaters of priority catchments (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Build and operate a Streamwatch trailer (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Increase water recycling and the use of rainwater tanks (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Implement water sensitive urban design (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Retrofit existing houses and buildings (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p>			
1.1.3 We have clean air	Increase public transport usage and reduce reliance on private motor vehicles in Western Sydney including the Blue Mountains	A reduction in vehicle emissions, improves air quality	People with limited access to cars have a wider range of ways of getting around	Less infrastructure is needed to move the same number of people around
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Strategically plan a sustainable population limit for Blue Mountains City and rezone living areas (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Accordingly limit population and housing in the Mid Mountains (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Develop less reliance on fossil fuels (COUNCIL &amp; COMMUNITY)</p>			

Outcome 1.2 The impact of existing and new development on the environment is reduced

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
1.2.1 Appropriate development is contained within the existing urban footprint	Optimise appropriate use of land within the urban footprint	Reducing urban sprawl leaves more land in its natural state	Services facilities and resources are allocated fairly through the appropriate use of land	A shorter length of infrastructure is required to service the build up areas
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Ensure a more sustainable urban footprint by working to ensure a review of LEP 1991 is done by us (Local Govt and National Parks) and not done or overridden by the Minister for Planning. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Maintain zero net loss of the bushland between towns. (COUNCIL) Fairly allocate services, facilities and resources across all villages (COUNCIL)			
1.2.2 New development is limited by the capacity of the environment and infrastructure to sustain it	Encourage any population growth in larger service centres which have the necessary infrastructure to support sustainable living	The demand to clear bush for development is diminished	People are located nearer to the services and facilities they require to support a desired quality of life	Less new investment in infrastructure and services is needed to support the community
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Ensure that the future LEP limits impervious surfaces to less than 10 % of the catchment, since, over this level, hydrological and other impacts on in-stream ecosystems are practically irreversible. (COUNCIL) Ensure recommended policy for population limit is maintained (COUNCIL)			
1.2.3 The impact of existing and new development on the environment is managed	Retrofit 'existing' development to reduce impacts on the environment and enhance quality of life	Reduced use of non renewable resources	People are able to enjoy a desired quality of life at less cost	Reduced energy costs through retrofitting
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Adhere to the principles of the World Heritage Convention and integrate its objectives and standards of environmental protection into the Map for Action.(COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Determine the environmental carrying capacity (by linking this consistently with the World Heritage Convention) in advance and make it context specific. (For example: this amount of tree coverage here, this amount of hard surfaces there and with an outcome of this amount of environmental flow. (COUNCIL) Increase monitoring and reporting to avoid environmental impacts (COUNCIL) Encourage and support stormwater collection and reuse; recycling systems and water quality management Establish/support an advisory service on retrofitting tanks, solar panels etc (COUNCIL)			

Outcome 1.3 Blue Mountains people live sustainably in harmony with the environment

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
1.3.1 Levels of household waste are reduced and low consumption environmentally aware lifestyles encouraged	Raise community awareness of the benefits of living more sustainably	Greater number of people taking responsibility for reducing impacts on the environment	Informed and educated residents able to make choices that benefit the community and the environment	Less need for big capital works to meet the costs of unsustainable living
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Establish recycling drop-off infrastructure point for multiple purposes in MM (COUNCIL) Stormwater harvesting for multiple purposes including static purposes (COUNCIL) Publicise and undertake an audit of waste for Mid Mountains (COUNCIL) Increase knowledge about how recycling works and where it goes (COUNCIL)			
1.3.2 Households are prepared and our Emergency Services resourced to deal with threats to the City	The Blue Mountains models 'best practice' in emergency and bushfire preparedness	Natural ecosystems are better protected	Reduced threats to individuals and communities through better preparedness	Reduced loss of property and environmental impacts means lower restoration costs
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Work with local RFS to develop more sustainable practices (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Reuse stormwater for multiple purposes including fire fighting (COUNCIL) Increase awareness of the use of recycled water in fire fighting (COUNCIL) Strengthen enforcement of bushfire management requirements to reduce threats and increase benefits to all (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)			
1.3.3 Community and Council work in partnership to conserve resources and protect environment	Support existing and build new partnerships to promote sustainable living and protection of the natural environment	Environmental initiatives benefit from community knowledge and commitment	United action to protect the environment builds community bonds and enhances local skills	Partnerships deliver better value through pooled resources
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Circulate more publicity to residents (COUNCIL) Promote and encourage permaculture, community gardens and allotments (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Provide land for community garden eg Land at Lawson behind Old Shire Office (COUNCIL) Educate and inform people about environmental weeds and their removal (COUNCIL) Review controls and LEP requirements generally (COUNCIL) Enforce noxious weed regulations (COUNCIL) Provide more information on Environmental building, renovation & resource sharing (COUNCIL) Attract investors and work with businesses to promote environmental products (COUNCIL) Industrial and commercial areas of Mid Mountains to be a model for environmental practices (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Encourage environmental responsibility for industry and businesses (COUNCIL) Promote and support smarter ways of converting waste into resources (COUNCIL) Promote less packaging for business, strengthening/promoting recycling systems and industrial/commercial collection & reuse (COUNCIL) Create a Food co-op in Mid Mountains (COUNCIL) Promote appropriate medium density housing around centres and train stations (COUNCIL) Promote benefits of medium density housing to ease stereotypes (COUNCIL)			



## Key Direction 2 - Looking after People

Outcome 2.1 The health and well being of Blue Mountains people are improved

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
2.1.1 Healthy lifestyles are encouraged and supported	Develop preventative programs to improve the health of the community particularly those most in need	Less impacts on natural resource use as a result of preventative action	Those most in need have greater access to opportunities which improve health	Decreased costs in healthcare provision
2.1.2 People of all ages have access to a range of recreational, sporting and cultural opportunities	Maximise opportunities and partnerships to achieve better utilisation of existing recreational, sporting and cultural facilities	Enhanced awareness of the local environment through greater exposure to outdoor activities	More enjoyable and accessible experiences, that allow people to thrive through better social and recreational opportunities	A robust and lively economy with provision of cultural/sporting events and facilities that support local businesses and employment
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Enhance leisure facilities eg year round Lawson pool and through appropriate future use of the Lawson Golf Course (COUNCIL) Creatively facilitate improved access (COUNCIL) Provide integrated cycleways between villages and the highway (COUNCIL) Ensure that practical services are available locally eg shopping (COUNCIL) Provide children's facilities at Woodford (south side) (COUNCIL) Support the provision of artist studios and facilities (COUNCIL) Continue to support groups and services eg meeting facilities and venues and establish meeting facilities for Hazelbrook community (COUNCIL) Provide dog poo bins in appropriate areas (COUNCIL)			
2.1.3 People of different life stages have access to needed services, facilities and work opportunities	Increase residents' access to services which meet community needs targeting in particular younger and older people	Enhanced access to local services means less need to travel (particularly by car) with less impact on environment	More equitable service provision and strengthened community	A strengthened local service economy increases local employment opportunities
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Promote and develop industrial areas as a centre of excellence in environment (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Investigate existing buildings to meet community needs such as mothers groups and artist workshops (COUNCIL) Promote and facilitate an increase in the provision of local services ie Banks (COUNCIL)			

Outcome 2.2 Services and facilities are accessible and fairly distributed

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
2.2.1 Services and facilities are located optimally to maximise access and benefits	Develop service centres with appropriate levels of service provision that maximise access and benefits	Service provision consolidated in town centres reduces impact on the urban bushland interface	Increased access to services for a greater number of people	Infrastructure is provided where it most efficiently supports the local community
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Involve children and young people and appropriate organisations (eg Scouts) in identifying activities and creating initiatives to meet their interests (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Increase community interest in key activities by providing free garden mulch and water tanks (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Build more BBQ areas for the Community and include appropriate additional facilities (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Improve signage, pertaining to parks, bushwalks and playgrounds (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Investigate, promote and support additional local services and facilities such as Broadband, a Banking Agency, GP Services and small bus service (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Seek to increase and maintain circulation of \$'s within the community. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Seek to retain people within local communities by using their skills in voluntary and other progressive ways eg local clinics – for hydrotherapy, massage and physiotherapy. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Support initiatives such as allotment gardens, hobby units, men's sheds and old time dancing, and sports eg social tennis and croquet (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p>			
2.2.2 There is increased housing choice to meet diverse needs	Encourage the retention and provision of appropriately designed diverse and affordable housing	Less need for people to travel (particularly by car) further or commute to find affordable housing	Improved access to affordable housing means less young people and people on low incomes leave the Blue Mountains	Improving access to affordable housing reduces health and crime costs.
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>More effectively utilise the provisions of SEPP 5 in development (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Support mobile nursing, child care, FDC and a community socialising exchange (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Support economic units for elderly people and single parents (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Encourage street gatherings to help people feel a greater part of their local community and makes areas more sociable. (COMMUNITY)</p>			
2.2.3 Resources are fairly allocated	Ensure decision making supports fair allocation of resources, services and facilities	More sustainable use of local resources with less impact on environment	Fairer distribution of resources	More targeted provision of resources with opportunities for more cost-effective provision of facilities and services.
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Allocate resources fairly in each ward eg through libraries, mobile library and kids toy exchange (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Improve access to community services by establishing a council-community interface (eg a shopfront) to consult and provide feedback on priority needs and match people with services (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Consider average household incomes when allocating resources, services and facilities to different areas (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Promote and support the concept of shopping locally (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Support optimum development and use of locally-based facilities and services to increase the circulation of \$'s within local communities</p>			

Outcome 2.3 Blue Mountains communities are safe, caring and inclusive

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
2.3.1 Community safety in private and public spaces is improved	Build on existing and develop new partnerships that increase community safety in town centres	Healthy secure communities value their surrounding environment	A safer, healthier City that can be enjoyed by a greater number without fear of harm or injury	More inviting town centres that encourage people to shop, work and live locally
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Establish a safety committee for the Mid Mountains to investigate and recommend improvements to private and public spaces (COUNCIL) Use integrated planning to develop a more balanced approach to encourage use of local villages and centres eg through cycleways (COUNCIL) Establish cycleway networks for example from Linden to Bullaburra (COUNCIL) Improve road safety around schools eg flashing lights (COUNCIL) Improve lighting in priority areas for improved safety. (COUNCIL)			
2.3.2 The population has a healthy balance of people of different ages and income levels	Encourage local employment and provision of affordable housing	Less environmental impacts through meeting needs locally	A greater number of people from diverse backgrounds, age groups and income levels able to live, work and enjoy the Blue Mountains	A diverse population that will support local businesses by living, shopping and working locally
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Create a better balance by supporting increased diversity and ethnicity throughout local communities and in community activities (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Encourage, foster and broker mountains-friendly industries (COUNCIL) Promote and support diverse, affordable and an improved mix of housing and transport options (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Provide business incentives (eg a connected Mid Mountains Biznet), professional development schemes, rate reductions, broader and more flexible zoning (COUNCIL)			
2.3.3 Individuals and organisations support those most in need within our community	Provide opportunities for low income residents	Low-income earners are able to enjoy their local environment and avoid using extra energy and resources to access affordable services and facilities elsewhere	Lower income earners are not excluded from participating in the local community	Decreased support for lower income people in the future
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Establish a Foodshare initiative (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Review the need and condition of early childhood centres and mothers rooms (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Promote and share food growing technologies (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Improve awareness of existing services and better share information (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Increase services and facilities for low income residents including jobs and training, transport services, activities and low cost diverse housing options (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Encourage and support local sustainable businesses (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Reward environmentally friendly businesses by providing additional incentives (COUNCIL) Better link services to people eg improved community transport options (COUNCIL) Consider cost effectiveness and efficiency in the distribution of services to meet specific needs (COUNCIL)			

## Key Direction 3 - Using Land for Living

Outcome 3.1 A strong sense of local identity and place is created

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
3.1.1 The existing Blue Mountains towns and villages with their own special qualities are retained	Enhance the distinctive qualities of our towns and villages to strengthen local identity and sense of place	The link between the identity of Blue Mountains people and their value of the natural environment is strengthened	A strong sense of place and belonging contributes to community well being	Economy of local towns and villages is strengthened
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Keep the 'village' concept and maintaining the individuality (COUNCIL)			
3.1.2 Promote the Blue Mountains as a place to live, work and visit	Foster the identity and sense of pride in the Blue Mountains	Creating a higher value for the local environment and quality of life will encourage more sustainable and environmentally sensitive development	Promoting the unique natural and cultural features of the Blue Mountains will enhance the quality of life and pride of place felt by residents	Promoting the special character of the mountains reinforces opportunities for local commercial development and tourism
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Foster the sense of local identity by improving local shopping, the value of world heritage, respect for place and the involvement of young people (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Increase the involvement of young people (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY).</p> <p>Meet and exceed obligations for sustainability and environmentally sensitive development (COUNCIL &amp; COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Identify strengths and skills to promote unique natural and cultural features and work inclusively. (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Reinforce opportunities to strengthen local commercial development and tourism by developing the industrial estate and golf course (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Promote the special character of the mountains through interpretive walks, ecotourism and a heritage thrust (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Consider supporting a take away/mobile sandwich van for different events and happenings around the Mid Mountains (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p>			
3.1.3 Innovative urban design creates inspiring places where people want to be	Encourage and recognise the highest standards of design, aesthetically and ecologically, in both private and public spheres	An ecologically designed built environment contributes to protection of the natural environment	Aesthetic and ecological design contributes to liveable places and spaces	Safe, enjoyable and attractive public spaces encourage locals to live, shop and play locally supporting the local business community
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Seek to ensure viability, and also desirability by considering other long term concerns eg social /cultural gathering (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Ensure affordability and a consistent Water Development Control Plan in pursuing innovative urban design. (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Develop and support Interaction facilities/activities as safe, enjoyable and attractive public spaces and to support local businesses (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p>			



Outcome 3.2 Well managed infrastructure supports sustainable living

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
3.2.1 Existing infrastructure that supports sustainable living is well maintained	Understand the condition and capacity of existing infrastructure to ensure it supports sustainable living	Impacts of existing infrastructure on the environment are understood and guide future action	Equity in provision of infrastructure is understood and guides decision making	Improved understanding allows more efficient allocation of resources to the provision and maintenance of infrastructure
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Explore the feasibility of re-establishing a local bank/community bank (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Develop more sustainable and locally focussed transport systems for the Mountains fitting in with and around' the GWH and the train line (eg a local rail service via synchronising the operation of an inter village train car) (COUNCIL)			
3.2.2 Innovative infrastructure solutions support sustainable living	Implement water sensitive urban design to improve water quality and reduce the need for stormwater infrastructure	Improves water quality	Enhances community well being through more sustainable living	Implementing sustainable infrastructure solutions reduces infrastructure provision and maintenance costs
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Explore the possibility of a local 'link' road in villages (off the GWH) with a Mid Mountains bridge or tunnel and approach the RTA to incorporate this into highway widening (COUNCIL) Investigate the development of a "Keeping Place"- an Aboriginal Cultural Centre/Art-Culture Museum with Council's social planning for tourism, eco-education and indigenous meeting place, a workspace and studio, social, art gallery and guided tours (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Use the keeping place especially to expand learning and understanding for youth and to knit the community together in preserving and understanding (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Facilitate funding and promote programs for water tanks, solar power etc (COUNCIL) Investigate and support self sufficient energy and other infrastructure for the Mountains; (solar/wind etc) (COUNCIL) Investigate the feasibility of establishing a local wind farm with the ultimate goal of BMCC being 'off the grid' (COUNCIL) Raise with City Rail the idea of possibly reinstating electric locomotives on coal trains so that when coming down the mountains they can generate power for trains going up the mountains as was done 1956-96 (= less CO2, less fuel, less pollution and less noise) (COUNCIL)			
3.2.3 Safe, healthy and clean living environments are provided	Increase community health and safety in town centres through well designed and maintained infrastructure	Appropriate, well designed and maintained infrastructure protects the environment	Enhances quality of life for individuals and communities	Visitors and local people are attracted to visit and shop in town and village centres
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Influence City Rail to install bike racks at stations ((COUNCIL & COMMUNITY)) Complete a local road, linking the villages and north/south of each village (COUNCIL) Advocate for a separate rail freight line and promote the benefits to tourism, and also less car accidents, people use cars less and parents have more free time for kids (COUNCIL) Explore with City Rail the benefits of a double track train line Penrith–St Marys (COUNCIL)			

Outcome 3.3 The liveability and vibrancy of our towns and villages are strengthened

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
3.3.1 Vibrant town and village centres offer a range of services and home/work opportunities	Develop opportunities for people to live and work in the centres of Blue Mountains towns and villages	Reduced impact on urban bush interface	Improves local access to income and services	A greater number of people living and working locally supports local businesses
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Support the establishment of a locally owned and operated mini bus service (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Use the Showground as an asset including for events that inspire people eg a back to the mountains weekend (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Reopen the cricket pitch for the community (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Utilise the Lawson golf course and BMX track development (COUNCIL) Develop a physical education program (COUNCIL)			
3.3.2 Development occurs within the capacity of the environment and existing infrastructure	Encourage any population growth in larger centres that have the infrastructure to support sustainable living	The natural environment is maintained and enhanced	Increases range of accessible services and facilities able to be provided to meet community needs	Facilitating sustainable living allows for increased population and economic activity
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Better utilise zoning provisions to ensure that development occurs within the capacity of the environment and existing infrastructure (COUNCIL) Undertake programs to link local people with outdoor activities (COUNCIL) Use local community fund raiser for definite purposes (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Increase accessible services and meet community needs by retaining library and creating community activities eg around gardening (COUNCIL) Limit population growth to within sustainable limits (COUNCIL)			
3.3.3 Housing choices are provided in accessible location close to town centres	Increase well designed housing choice in the larger town centres	Residents can choose to live closer to town centres, thereby contributing to the perceived safety of towns and reducing their dependence on car travel and leaving more of the local environment undeveloped	A more socially integrated, inclusive and diverse community	Provide opportunities for development within town centres; encourage more people to live and work locally and support the local economy
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Investigate the sister town concept particularly as a possible interstate interaction (COUNCIL) Increase social integration and inclusiveness through activities such as the Lawson Festival, bushwalks and community quilting for charity (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Consider SEPP 5 and aged housing when providing housing choices (COUNCIL) Encourage local work by increasing tourism, linking in crafts attracting/maintaining 'high tech creative people (COUNCIL)			

## Supporting activities and ideas

The following ideas and activities were developed at the Using Land for Living Workshop and provide complementary, and in some cases, new ideas in support of this and other key directions. They are recorded here as a useful additional reference source for use in the further development and refinement of the Mid Mountains Map for Action.

- Understand the World Heritage Sensitive Area and implement World Heritage Principles
- Protocols developed – Wentworth Falls; TAFE course available – standard, every year, runs frequently - Eg Outdoor guiding; mountain climbing – safe practices
- Minimal impact principles
- Water tanks – recycling
- Eco-bins FREE
- BM wind farm sustainable
- Solar replacing electric, diesel ... pick up again
- Bike racks and tracks – get people linked in to cycleways – activities to stay overnight treks, X 2 days etc; bike policy – lanes up and down h'way
- Independent freight/light rail or tramway ie – use 'mobile museum'
- Upgrade public transport – a better integrated transport system
- Growth of businesses which reflect local innovations (traditional ownership) etc
- Decentralising the tourism thrust – local focus and community focus
- Identifying specific tourism which promotes local identity – sense of people and place and space
- Develop a tourism strategy in association with local stakeholders which promotes and enhances local community and industry
- Golf course as centrepiece of tourism strategy – overcome access problem
- Conservation/ gardening groups
- Heritage walks in .... Eg walk from station local
- Crown land allowance for community interests to be met eg Bullaburra conferencing centres
- Development control plan (DCP) heritage concepts
- Ecologically sound development – 13<sup>th</sup> March – Mechanics Institute
- Council responsive
- Nipper busses around the mountains – ie 10 seaters – drivers, mechanics, elderly and children and people with disabilities - \$2.50 subsidy + a tourism innovation too!
- Community bank – local branches
- Support local Heritage groups by advertising them in a dedicated Community Register or Bulletin
- Mobile 'Good food' kitchen – like not for profit soup kitchen or for low income people.
- Aboriginal Centre of culture – a 'working museum' – Darug and Gundungurrah people
- Golf course + crown land negotiation – tip site – ridge street – sports site, shared facility
- Keys retrievable for city Motorbike ride – safety; insurance; RFS under funded; maintenance of fire trails.
- Minimising impact .... Environmentally sustainable

- Reopen selected fire trails (certain selection) for low level activities like responsible motorbike activity
- Better signposted walks to increase accessibility
- NPWS and council working collaboratively
- Bushwalking clubs – dissemination of information – support NPWS; Dept of Lands
- Better mapping
- Availability of activities; notices of local significance/ priorities Earthcam
- Linking local people with outdoor activities
- Together – socialising (trivia nights) Sister cities (ie East Timor) knitting and quilt project etc
- Develop local activities for National Significance – Magpie market; farmers markets; green markets; local craft and food markets – local produce
- Association to support w council – businesses developed and encouraged and supported – B & B's
- Car pooling or a community driver scheme where individual cars are used to deliver to young people, older people, people with disability – creates sense of community (issues insurance; licence; do CS prohibited persons checked out)



## Key Direction 4 - Moving Around

Outcome 4.1 Safe environmentally friendly transport choices promote healthy lifestyles

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
4.1.1 Networks of accessible public transport, walkways and cycleway are developed	Link cycleways and walkways with public transport infrastructure	Community has more environmentally sustainable choices for getting about	Increasing cycling and walking opportunities enhances individual health and wellbeing	Better utilisation of existing underutilised bus and rail infrastructure
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Discuss, promote and develop better cycleways and best practice and foster safe cycling to encourage, cyclists, bike riding to school and pedestrian use (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)            Increase public education/ promotion of cycleways and walkways and improve signage and access to the information sharing (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)            Support car pooling and use of electric cars/ hybrid cars (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)            Discuss and investigate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• getting trucking off pedestrian areas</li> <li>• establishing a mini bus service (fare reduction)</li> <li>• using feeder buses from outlying areas</li> <li>• considering taxis as a possible alternative</li> <li>• considering the use of 2 carriage trains and development of a dedicated freight line</li> </ul> <p>subsidies for these environmental initiatives – rent a car, rent a bus (COUNCIL &amp; COMMUNITY)            Lobby for the increased efficient use of rail and bus infrastructure (on-time, trust worthiness &amp; cost effective) (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)            Develop traffic calming and speed reduction routes eg speed humps (COUNCIL)</p>			
4.1.2 Developments with reduced reliance on cars are encouraged	Provide a range of incentive schemes for appropriately located new developments that reduce reliance on cars	Locating development where it can be accessed by public transport reduces the environmental costs of servicing the development	Increases opportunities for social interaction	Increased disposable income as a result of reduced car ownership costs and reduced need to travel in the first place
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Eliminate heavy vehicle traffic in local streets (COUNCIL)            Identify the sites which are suitable locations for new development and publicise well eg DCPs etc (COUNCIL)            Answer identification issues through the use of incentives and disincentives (COUNCIL)            Develop social capital and provide more community development opportunities (COUNCIL)            Improve access to address local needs especially for elderly people and young people (COUNCIL)</p>			
4.1.3 Active healthy lifestyles are promoted through increased cycling and walking opportunities	Promote the health benefits of physical activity and provide and maintain accessible infrastructure for walking and cycling	Each journey undertaken by bike or foot, rather than in a car, uses less infrastructure, less energy, causes less pollution and is safer for the individual, the community and local wildlife	Healthier people are better able to enjoy and participate in what the Blue Mountains has to offer	Healthier people make fewer demands on support services
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Improve access and sign posting for locals and tourists (COUNCIL)            Maintain bush tracks (COUNCIL)            Increase telecommuting and car pooling and other initiatives and support with education for others to do this via newsletters; web page and BIZNET (COUNCIL)            Ensure community transport initiatives are capable of meeting diverse needs (COUNCIL)</p>			

Outcome 4.2

The main Transport Corridor is a safe and beautiful space that add to our local amenity and World Heritage identity

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
4.2.1 Sustainable transport links are developed between villages as an alternative to the Great Western Highway	Design and complete an alternative link to the Highway which increases sustainable transport choices	Reduced impact on the natural environment through sustainable transport choices	Increases access between villages while providing evacuation options	Reduction in Highway congestion reduces time less costs
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Upgrade Link roads and signage and make accessible to all emergency services (COUNCIL) Develop a plan and set aside public land for safer cycleways and pedestrian pathways within villages and between villages (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Increase off road cycleways for safety (eg along railway corridor) and consider the opportunity of the relocation of railway line between Lawson and Hazelbrook for cycle link (COUNCIL) Reduce air and water pollution through sustainable transport choices (COUNCIL) Use transport links to develop closer community links with villages and the bush (COUNCIL)			
4.2.2 Regional transport responses reduce the impact of through traffic on Blue Mountains towns and villages	Reduce carriage of freight by large trucks on the Great Western Highway and encourage its transportation by rail	Reduced noise and air pollution from trucks	Reduced freight trucks on Highway improves local safety and amenity	Reduced Great Western Highway maintenance costs
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Advocate for greater use of rail freight and the use of electric locos. (COUNCIL) Encourage the use of environmentally friendly local buses and service (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Focus on reducing noise and carbon emissions in transport initiatives (COUNCIL)			
4.2.3 The safety and amenity of the Great Western Highway are improved	Complete a place based "Blue Mountains Transport Corridor Strategy" to address safety, amenity, local access and design of the Transport Corridor	Incorporates World Heritage values through sound environmental design	The Transport Corridor becomes less of a barrier splitting local communities	Increases local employment as a result of increased access for visitors
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Develop link road and use signage with logo national standard convention icons (COUNCIL) Maintain existing footpaths (COUNCIL) Install lockable bike racks (COUNCIL) Consider egress and ingress issues and the need to reduce hydrocarbons within the Transport Corridor Strategy (COUNCIL)			

Outcome 4.3 The ability of people to connect with each other and access services is improved

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
4.3.1 Services and facilities are located in the most accessible locations	Centralise the location of services and facilities in key service centres	More journeys are shorter and consequently more likely to be undertaken on foot or by bike with less impacts on environment	More time available to spend with family and friends through reduced travel time	The cost in time and money of getting to services and facilities is minimised
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Increase connectivity and access services fro improved social interaction and greater safety (COUNCIL)			
4.3.2 Transport services that support the health and well being of individuals are improved	Encourage transport solutions for those unable to access transport	Less environmental impacts as a result of more effective transport solutions	Quality of life of those with limited access to transport is enhanced	Provides business opportunities for innovative transport solutions
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Increase the numbers of safe places for children to cross the GWH – especially in Hazelbrook (Queens Rd) where there are current bus stop dangers (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Exhibit/public display cycleway plan for community and clarify budget allocation. (Possible process could include cycleway plan followed by precinct plan. Regarding funding – Section 94 is not good due to limited development but RTA have funding grants available to overcome the issues of how to tackle this and mobilise people to make it happen. An integrated approach may enable improved pooling of resources and interfacing with other initiatives.) (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Lobby City Rail to ensure that all railway stations have appropriate disability access (especially Lawson) (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Advocate for increased safety and cleanliness on transport services (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Investigate with the RTA a cycleway link between Hazelbrook and Lawson (along new railway corridor) RTA stage 1 for Lawson plan) (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Lobby RTA to ensure trucks can stop safely in Mid Mountains for food and drink (ie rationale – stop, revive, survive) (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Lobby RTA to monitor speed and size of trucks closely through whole of Mid Mountains and Mountains generally and reduce the speed limit. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Lobby to introduce concept of check in point/ weigh in stations prior to Mid Mountains, possibly at Linden. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p>			
4.3.3 Accessible pathways of travel and public spaces	Retrofit existing public spaces to improve accessibility and ensure any new public spaces are accessible	Enhances local environmental amenity	More people are able to interact and build social bonds in public spaces	Reduces liability costs
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Increase off road cycleways for safety eg along Railway corridor (COUNCIL)			

## **Supporting activities and ideas**

The following ideas and activities were developed at the Moving Around Workshop and provide complementary, and in some cases new ideas, in support of this and other key directions. They are recorded here as a useful additional reference source for use in the further development and refinement of the Mid Mountains Map for Action.

- An actual cycleway plan for the Mid Mountains planned
- Upgrading of signposting/ integrated transport which considers community needs  
Plan to promote car pooling  
Get input on possible outcomes proposal on revised DA's ... nitty gritty like what is proposed for the railway corridor and cycleways, taxi routes, footpaths, green space, tree preservation, meeting places etc
- The 'Vision (revised concept plans) It raises questions – doesn't answer many ... some explicit recommendations
- Ownership principles and options for Heatherbrae etc  
Loss of existing FAC services – youth centre – in public hands – Mechanics Institute – \$\$  
Where? Who? How? – mobilise resources Grants – cycleway plan s94, - RTA to fund cycleways – an integrated approach. Try to ensure follow through action.
- No to B3s - Stop big trucks in the mountains – BMCC to clarify issue of possibilities of B3s with the RTA and provide response to the community as this is an issue of big concern
- Gas inspection station
- Monitor speed and size of trucks - off ramp required for offenders – like weigh station
- Accountability (status of each DA lodged)
- Wheelchair access at stations
- Emergency services access
- Upgrade cycleways and footpaths
- Link roads to reduce traffic flow (in pedestrian areas) etc
- Rail freight; utilise and promoted to reduce no of trucks on road
- Not enough places for children crossing - Children crossing road in Hazelbrook (Queens Rd)  
Bus stop dangers
- Fast, smoother roads encourage cars to speed and less cycle activity results
- The eliminating of parking on GWH has encouraged speeding cars
- Linden temporary truck stop is not utilised – requires proper toilet facilities. Clean up is required – filthy state with syringes.
- BMCC RTA project – Western Sydney Alternative Transport Initiative.
- BMCC is encouraging vehicles for 8-10 people- equivalent to bus fare. First phase Springwood trial commencing April 2007. Investigate possibility of transferring initiative to Mid Mountains (BMCC RTA Project Manager Anna Liage)\*

*\* Post Workshop Note: Council investigated the opportunity and reported back that unfortunately, it will not be possible to pilot the program in Hazelbrook. A current pilot program is already underway and will be evaluated prior to expansion to other areas including Penrith, Hawkesbury and the Blue Mountains.*



## Key Direction 5 - Working and Learning

Outcome 5.1 The local economy is strengthened and diversified

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
5.1.1 Our focus on sustainability drives the creation of local employment opportunities	Increase the range of sustainable businesses and industries in the Blue Mountains	Less environmental impacts from more sustainable businesses and industries	Increased quality of life for individuals and communities from reduced reliance on commuting and stronger community ties	Increased profits from introducing sustainable business practices
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Maximise the potential of Lawson Industrial Area by attracting green industries and sustainable service industries (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Promote a particular focus on renewable energy eg make solar panels locally (Mid Mountains) (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Develop an identity for the Mid Mountains and market it to be a sustainable local economy area (COUNCIL)</p> <p>Strive to attain high levels of local employment and to keep business revenues in the local community (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Account for the benefits of stronger family ties when reducing the reliance on commuting (COUNCIL)</p>			
5.1.2 The Blue Mountains is a centre of culture and creativity	Promote existing and support new creative and cultural initiatives and industries	Contributes to environmentally friendly economic development	Enhances vibrant creative communities	Expands the range of sustainable business opportunities using local skills and talents
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	<p>Strengthen centres of culture and creativity by promoting and supporting a range of suitable initiatives including indigenous culture, slow food in the Mid Mountains (eg Glenbrook) and 'trails' (eg artists heritage art centre) (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>Develop new talents to increase local employment (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p> <p>More widely promote Annual Lawson Festival/Mid Mountains Festival; and the Magpie Markets as selling locally made art and craft (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</p>			
5.1.3 The Blue Mountains drives sustainable regional development that supports employment opportunities for local people	Establish formal partnerships outside the region that increase sustainable employment opportunities for local people	Access to jobs created for local people with less impact on the Blue Mountains environment	The local community benefits from initiatives elsewhere to foster industries and employment	Jobs can be encouraged in the best places in the region to meet the needs of the local economy
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Develop and promote the Mid Mountains as a Centre of Excellence in sustainability and natural health industries, capitalising on the natural and cultural heritage and the unique 'outdoors' (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY).			

Outcome 5.2 The Blue Mountains is a model for sustainable business and industry

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
5.2.1 The Blue Mountains is a leader in responsible and sustainable tourism	Develop a sustainable model for tourism that provides environmental, social and economic benefits	Tourism becomes less damaging on the environmental values of the area	Reduces impacts on local amenity	The area can continue to benefit from its appeal to visitors
	Develop a world class green cycle track network (COUNCIL) Enhance public transport for tourism and locals eg the 2 carriage train idea (COUNCIL) Explore the idea of a Mid Mountains Olympics (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Develop and promote local energy generation (COUNCIL) Ensure that the Mid Mountains benefit from its appeal to visitors (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)			
5.2.2 Sustainable business practices are encouraged	Promote the benefits of accreditation in sustainable business practices	Reduced resource consumption through increased recycling and energy efficient business practice	Increases community awareness of the benefits of sustainable economic development	Provides an incentive for sustainable economic activity
	Develop the slow food industry – growing, permaculture (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)			
5.2.3 Local businesses and partnerships are supported and strengthened	Promote a mix of businesses that support sustainable economic development	Reduced impacts on environment from more sustainable businesses	Shopping centres better support visitor and local needs	Strengthens the local economy
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Develop a local business theme including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local bushwalking tourism – Mid Mountains variation to upper Mountains</li> <li>• passing trade in the Mid Mountains by signage highlighting opportunities for passers by – and developing the natural and cultural heritage visitors centre</li> <li>• performance industry – restaurants (tourism)</li> <li>• workshop/ conference centres in bush settings – learning how to be sustainable. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)</li> </ul>			

Outcome 5.3 A culture of life long learning is nurtured in the Blue Mountains

TAKING ACTION		SUSTAINABILITY BENEFITS		
Strategic Objectives	Priority Action Area Over 5-10 years	Environmental	Social	Economic
5.3.1 More learning opportunities are created for Blue Mountains people	Build on accessible community resources that support learning and life long personal work pursuits	Greater awareness will allow people to make more informed decisions about how they interact with the environment	A culture of allowing people to develop and thrive will enhance individual and collective quality of life	Individual skills and talents are developed and become potential economic assets
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Create opportunities for people to get together and share their stories eg 'living libraries' and 'living speakers' in Mid Mountains. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Enhance and adapt University of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Age programs so all ages in Mid Mountains can participate. Council spaces are available (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)			
5.3.2 Centre for learning and skill development contribute to a robust economy	Enhance existing and establish new centres of research and learning that support the achievement of a more sustainable Blue Mountains	The centres can disseminate and promote greater awareness of how to be sustainable	Creates a learning City for residents	The ideas and philosophy developed here can become marketable assets
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Promote the BM as a Centre of Excellence for hospitality and tourism. BM TAFE offer new courses eg energy efficient car, environmentally sustainable business, spirituality and well-being industries (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)			
5.3.3 Our children learn more about sustainability	Build on and enhance existing initiatives that enable children to learn about sustainability	The next generation of decision makers are more aware of the impacts of their actions on the environment	Children become more aware of how they can maximise their quality of life from the quality of their surroundings	Increased awareness represents and investment in the future of the Blue Mountains
MID MOUNTAINS ACTIVITIES FOR 2007 – 2012	Support "living speakers" for schools and churches. Use digital recordings where required. (COUNCIL & COMMUNITY) Enhance environmental resources at Lawson library (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY) Build on and enhance existing initiatives that enable children to learn about culture, indigenous heritage and environment eg Earth Journeys project. (COUNCIL and COMMUNITY)			

## **Mid Mountains Community-Government Collaborative Framework Questionnaire - Community Responses from Mid Mountains Workshops**

1. What will the Mid Mountains and Lawson be like in 2025 when local people and Blue Mountains City Council (BMCC) are successful in achieving their Vision? (Describe in a few words.)

- Good public transport – sustainable transport approach (replace sufficient parking)
- Ecological footprint
- Community gardens
- Village atmosphere – local produce
- 1<sup>st</sup> class facilities – not existent
- Artistic
- History and sense of place
- Progressive
- Cutting edge
- Leading edge
- Friendly
- WOW
- Diverse
- Work – local
- Prosperous
- Environmentally sustainable employment
- Self contained
- Accessible
- 1<sup>st</sup> class facilities – change to ‘service’
- Don’t likes
- sufficient parking could be substituted – well connected public transport - integrated transport
- Governance – decision making in the Mid Mountains
- Facilities for meeting places
- Young people warm and friendly between young and elderly
- Work and education locally for young people
- Retention of current trees, native plants and vegetation eg for enjoyment
- Cycle friendly
- Pedestrian safety and mobility
- Sustain the varied facade of existing shops ie Lawson
- Don’t likes – except Lawson
- BMCC can provide a lot for Mid Mountains eg Mulch
- Unnecessary transport from Upper Mountains to Lower Mountains (Springwood) more direct application and closer location in Mid Mountains for off loading
- Decentralisation
- No cultural interaction for Mid Mountains
- Planning issues – tension exists; review rail ‘corridor’ to be considered
- Impact and effect the picture of Mid Mountains not just Lawson
- Increased passenger and freight on rail



- Clarity
- Keeping things locally and within Mid Mountains
- Rail extension route beyond Mt Victoria
- Train services have been cut
- Future and current trains and needs
- Creative; innovative
- Self sustaining
- Local sustainable employment
- Healthy community
- Locally generated and grown food
- 'Slow food – fresh produce'
- Dynamic
- Generating interest
- Being proud eg Indigenous and celebrate
- Utilising our natural assets eg bushwalks
- Focus on attraction in line with the Mid Mountains values
- Centralise renewable energy eg solar panels
- Culturally diverse

## 2. Suggest some ways that Mid Mountains Communities and BMCC could more effectively and regularly communicate on important matters and issues.

- Centralised database at BMCC – corporate history; documentation of issues and ongoing record; no need for external consultants
- Notices at stations
- Gazette – (against) not all residents receive it; small reach; contact with council (for) useful in community
- Discussion board
- Precinct meetings for each village
- Want BMCC to advise through email about public meetings
- BMCC Project officer (eg Rolly Lawford) to be based in eg Lawson. Like old 'Area Manager' model or some similar model (Community thought this model was good) – could involve volunteers to assist
- Stand in shopping centre with someone to answer questions
- Town committees
- Used to have member of council staff to refer to (eg Linden Residents Association) – reintroduce this idea
- Used to have area BMCC managers to assist residents in practical ways (eg playground equipment, street furniture)
- Location – for information person – needs to be in community eg community centre.
- Email
- Elderly and young needs – unable to attend – need to be heard
- During Lawson festival – young people – good input
- Tapping into school networks
- Better communication eg rail issues
- Regular integrated transport forum eg rep Health, Rail Corp, bus, taxi co exists
- Was part of original 25 yr vision – Moving Around workshop
- Ideas from previous workshop

- Paper exists with good ideas and should be followed up
- That was developed by group
- More resourcing for forum to attract other people eg mothers, people with disability
- Utilising the forum more effectively and more effective distribution of info
- Collaborative decision making
- Mechanism for more collaborative dialogue – with transparency eg web/ blog
- Central place of information
- Check Bullaburra notice board – does it exist?
- Market research

### 3. What do you think is the best way for BMCC to reach and involve local people?

- Comment: like last line of suggestions.
- “Allow Lawson Project Officer .....” query on this
- Matrix – open to interpretation, differing
- BMCC be courteous to inform community – face to face about current projects
- BMCC community directory on website limited – out dated easily – need hard copies still
- Access to information – problem eg BMCC newsletter for rate payers only – not everyone receives it.
- BMCC support community groups eg Lawson Vision, who help other community members know what goes on eg LV can have influence especially with BMCC in decision making
- Internet notices to community when decisions are made
- Local radio
- Good ideas. BMCC do what they need to legally but could do better by LISTENING – BMCC not good at this
- More community focus in local areas
- Community ownership and stewardship
- Community Hall in Lawson – co stewardship and processes
- Council being consistent – BMCC ‘not knowing what the right and left hand is doing’
- Silos within council – need to break these down
- Putting out good critical docs in summary/ synthesis for the community and making it understandable
- Acknowledge BMCC structure has changed but still like area manager concept and you know who to contact

### 4. How could a more consistent and reliable approach to exchanging information and views between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC be put into place?

- Possible ‘shopfront’ activities
- BMCC need to understand ‘real constraints’; be ‘upfront’ to residents
- An office in Mid Mountains – someone personally community can talk to, informed and good communicator and be conduit of issues from community to council
- Library is a good central place – longer opening hours at library
- Is Katoomba good place for BMCC office?
- Direct interface – decentralise
- Ideally officer had autonomy
- Shopfront location with possible volunteer to coordinate
- Councillors are accessible for contacting about issues

- Community can contact council directly on issues
- BMCC have good record of responding
- BMCC go beyond statutory obligations – need to go further with community
- More than consultation – community participation
- Need to understand how decisions are made
- What resources and money is available by BMCC (eg Gloria Park in Hazelbrook – playground burnt down)
- BMCC and community raise money together
- A lot more communication between BMCC and community
- More accountability
- Community have not been given results and do not know what was happening
- LEP submissions made and got a response
- Some consultations OK – community feel better – they know what is possible
- BMCC need to understand that parks belong to the community
- Better signage
- Factors: high turnover of BMCC staff; don't want to reinvent wheel; BMCC record/ correspondence/ system/ history/ database eg client/ issue database; record history
- Currently BMCC written document – electronic/digital system
- Electronic archive to track clients/ issue – a consistent system

#### 5. Suggest ways in which BMCC planning and decision making processes for the Mid Mountains be improved and be better co-ordinated.

- BMCC communicating to residents re – legislative processes/ challenges
- Believes doing best within these challenges
- BMCC to inform community of 'real' costs for development projects and where is it coming from – transparency and give full picture
- When BMCC do consultation they do not give community the cost impact and trade offs and implications and realistic budget and time frames (eg Lawson Town Centre)
- Inform community of long term costs and time frame projections and implications (4 year projections)
- Consultation – to a more engaged and participatory process
- BMCC OK
- Before DA goes in – involve community and councillors and staff (BMCC) from the beginning of the whole process
- Need for basic council policy of consultation before a decision is made eg construction of playground
- Consistent
- Important to have a process and apply it to local issues
- Can utilise councillors to feed ideas up from community
- USA Californian model – councillors live on the web
- Refer to UTS – Centre for Local Government
- Getting info out to community early and with plenty of notice
- BMCC do not predict outcome too early – getting into a cycle of info
- Collaborative systems will be in place
- BMCC support a 'synergy' group
- Look for cutting edge and innovative approach
- 'Shopfront' approach – BMCC to support a group to bring ideas together

- Merit based – self selected/ or invited for increasing random approach – key people
- Transparency in criteria (eg social and cultural diversity) for selecting people to represent community interests and 3<sup>rd</sup> party input
- Use rates notices for community views or community boards in libraries

6. What steps do you think are necessary to improve co-operation and collaboration between Mid Mountains communities and BMCC?

- Example: RTA meetings – did not do this! Make sure appropriate officers attend community meetings
- List of issues and decisions – explain pros and cons
- Awareness/ promotion - some community do, some do not
- BMCC business papers are available
- BM Gazette – has summary – additional website/ newsletter
- Stewardship and leadership from BMCC
- BMCC to do something ‘magical’ and conciliatory gesture for community to rebuild TRUST – loss of faith from community (eg Mechanics Institute)
- Consultation – no matter how much difficult to please everyone
- More considerations – input to Council decisions (eg the pool)
- Who should be involved – eg other Govt agencies
- For appropriate issues – possible ‘whole of govt approach – council to take this approach as much as possible
- For various reasons some govt agencies won’t take a ‘whole govt’ approach on some issues
- Opportunity to subscribe to a BMCC free email list and also nominate for info on particular issues

7. What do you think is the most important issue that must be addressed to strengthen respect and trust between BMCC and its communities in ensuring a sustainable future for the Mid Mountains?

- Transparency
- Community consultations – results, data, % for and against info available for public
- ‘BLAME’ – who is responsible and jurisdiction
- Responses are Lawson biased
- Be more open and inclusive – Mid Mountains
- Projects such as railway line movement – BMCC have not communicated to community
- Not focussed on ‘big picture’ only small things
- BMCC to be proactive in encouraging community with environmental incentives to strengthen sustainable outcomes
- BMCC leadership and advocacy
- What is the agreed definition of sustainability
- Honesty, reality, truth before DA is lodged by BMCC
- A lot of people had not opportunity to discuss
- Economic issues should have been discussed and feasibility
- Some info re development are not public knowledge
- BMCC sometimes do not have control over some issues especially developers plans
- BMCC after consultation with community have taken up ideas about public incorporating spaces
- Community pressure can change decisions eg no Macdonalds in mountains
- At what stage can community participate in decision making

- Councillor view – “You can only do so much”
- Community view – “Plans keep changing”
- Process is important – an approach needs to be developed so there is a process despite many community consultations
- Currently BMCC are trying to integrate sustainability outcomes (eg water)
- Reference to Lawson shop consultation
- Same previous consultations not good
- One good consultative workshop – good ideas generated, but not listened to or taken up by BMCC
- Did not know about 25 yr vision existed – have lived in mountains all his life
- Better promotion of vision
- Use banner to promote vision
- Something wrong with communication if so many people don't know about it
- Model of RFS approach or area manager using email list and they have a 'street warden' / monitor – list of people/ contact list – BMCC can contact them
- Lawson – a lot of mistrust of BMCC – certain questions/ questionnaire; census required; certain community people have lost trust – need objectivity
- Do not want consultation – if no opportunity exists eg Town centre, transparency \*need clarity of level of community input for certain decisions
- Still might be opportunity for community input – some decisions still not made eg Lawson town centre. Has no legal standing
- Process of development application and timing and decisions already made – increases mistrust

#### 8. Would you like to make any other suggestions or comments?

- Work backwards – “harmony concept”; identifying ‘burning issues’ and respond – survey – level of percentage of responses – questionable.
- Discussion groups – prior to major decisions; consistent / building up knowledge base of community.
- Ecological footprint - practical – lots of websites to refer to - social economic ‘triple bottom line’
- Different meanings of sustainability – not common understanding
- BMCC promoting their own ‘ecological footprint’
- Technical assessments – utilising knowledge
- Be self sufficient and self sustaining
- Why do we have to go away from our village to do things?
- Lots of info and reports
- Process – timing, community consultation
- Acknowledgement of Aboriginal culture – so many places of significance
- Minimal knowledge
- Raising awareness needed
- What is sustainability?
- How to cope with change – continuity of this vision?
- Change has already occurred ie population and infrastructure and development required
- Some issues had to change to keep up with trends
- Concept of TAFE (Tas) courses for community engagement to engage in local issues and how to be more effective to get their ideas across
- BMCC staff not into long term commitment
- Consultants engaged but not here to stay
- High turn over of BMCC staff



- Some staff 'move on' because they do want to assist communities but some system is limited
- Marquee/ stations/ BMCC staff available for certain info and record

## **Lawson Community Workshop - Key Message Logs**

The key message that I would like to convey to Blue Mountains City council regarding sustaining Lawson and its environs is:  
Loss of Lawson as a 'village' town due to inappropriate highway and town centre development by RTA and council.

Want an assault course on Lawson Golf course (adventure course, orienteering).

The community and governments to communicate with one another openly. We are at a point in time where many things are in train. We can't stop the future or change the past. We can only influence the future.

Next Saturday everyone invited for community comment for suggestions from the Douglas Square working group.

Future Vision – state of the art village. Eco friendly technology of 21<sup>st</sup> century, one which acknowledges the colourful history.

Arrest brain drain of youth with hi-tech IT industries attracted to area. Foster artist workshop facilities similar to Parramatta City endeavours.

Creating a Heritage Precinct in Lawson Town Centre, including Heatherbrae.

Lawson has several unique assets which afford the opportunity for enriching the community life. These include – Ridge St; Golf Course; Industrial Estate. We look for best practice showcase outcomes on each – Lawson Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Aim for high levels of sustainable local employment ; Reduce consumption of imported resources through eg local food generation, local energy and water capture.

The sustainability of the Mid Mountains and all the Mountains is dependent on developing a participative and engaged process that joins the community and the council to implement the 2025 Mountains Vision. This will preserve historic Lawson –

Big concern for Youth Centre; Mid Mountains needs another hall – not enough meeting places – can be very difficult to organise meetings in Mid Mountains.