

Advocacy Plan



City of
Wagga Wagga

Commitment

Statement of commitment to Aboriginal Australians

Wagga Wagga City Council (Council) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Wiradjuri people, and pays respect to Elders, past and present and emerging.

We honour the living heritage of the world's oldest continuous culture, and we celebrate the contemporary creativity of our First Nations communities. We acknowledge the ongoing connection between First Nation communities and this land.



Table of contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| Introduction..... | 5 |
| Advocacy objectives | 5 |
| Advocacy principles | 5 |
| Advocacy Plan Projects..... | 6 |
| Domestic and Family Violence Project | 6 |
| Health Precinct..... | 7 |
| Gig State | 8 |
| Riverina Intermodal Freight and Logistics (RIFL) Hub..... | 9 |
| Special Activation Precinct (SAP)..... | 10 |
| Bolton Park Sports Hub | 12 |
| Jubilee Park Athletic Track..... | 13 |
| Lake Albert | 14 |
| Northern Education and Sporting Precinct..... | 15 |
| Wagga Wagga Multisport Cycling Complex..... | 16 |
| Glenfield Road Corridor | 18 |
| Gobbagombalin Bridge Duplication | 19 |
| Heavy Vehicle Bypass | 20 |
| High Speed Rail | 21 |
| Regional Rail Passenger Shuttle | 22 |
| Wagga Wagga Airport | 23 |



Introduction

This Advocacy Plan provides a guide to address issues that are beyond the capacity of Council and to seek additional funding for specific projects as required.

The framework of this plan is designed to allow Council and other representative groups to take advantage of advocacy opportunities as they arise throughout the year. These opportunities can come with little or no warning.

This plan is also the basis for prioritising projects and funding bids, especially when new funding programs are announced from the Federal and State Governments.

Advocacy objectives

- Set an organisational advocacy agenda and identify priorities in a planned and strategic manner
- Identify key partners and build strong strategic relationships
- Influence key decision makers
- Secure funding for community identified priority projects
- Build trust and confidence in Council as a proactive advocate for the community

Advocacy principles

Evidence-based

Advocacy actions are based on evidence, and align with existing policies and strategies.

Partnerships

Council will work to identify important key stakeholders and maintain existing networks and alliances that support advocacy goals.

Credibility

Council will advocate in an open and transparent way that reflects the priorities of the community.

Community Engagement

As Council undertakes advocacy, it will ensure that the community is engaged in an appropriate and timely way.

Advocacy Plan Projects

Domestic and Family Violence Project (TheDVproject:2650)

Wagga Wagga’s recorded rate of Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) is 29% higher than the NSW average. In 2016, the Wagga Women’s Health Centre (WWHC) undertook a Community Attitudes survey in Wagga Wagga that identified many community members hold low support for gender equity; adhere to rigid or stereotypical gender roles; and hold attitudes and beliefs that justify or excuse, trivialise or minimise DFV, and blame the victim. In 2018 the WWHC secured funding of \$1.2 million from the Department of Communities and Justice to roll out a pilot primary prevention project with the aim to reduce the rate of DFV in Wagga Wagga.

Key project activities include:


- Internal organisational change (at Council) – creating equitable and respectful workplaces across our community
- Engagement with sectors across our community – collaborating with businesses, organisations, educational institutes and sporting clubs across Wagga
- Community campaigning – large scale campaigning across our city targeting all demographics

These activities aim to reduce attitudes, behaviours and beliefs that justify or excuse DFV in our city.

Request

Continued support from the State and Federal Government to assist with educating the community on the causes of violence against women and their children, promote gender equality and respect, and challenge rigid gender roles and stereotypes.

Partnering with Wagga Women’s Health Centre (WWHC), continue to undertake funding scans with the objective of continuing theDVProject:2650 beyond the 30 June 2021.

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|---|
| Total cost: \$1.2M | | |
| Funding required | | |
| Amount | Source | Acquired |
| \$1.2M | State |  |

Health Precinct

Wagga Wagga services the needs of surrounding settlements in a catchment of over 185,000 people. To support the current and projected population growth, Wagga Wagga requires a planned health precinct to support additional specialist medical and health services in the precinct along with short term accommodation, commercial provisions and training and education services. Council partnered with the Department of Planning and Environment and Department of Health in 2018 to develop a Master Plan within the Health Precinct.

Request

Council leverage from the hundreds of millions recently invested and the existing knowledge base for improved innovation and research capability by working with tertiary institutions to obtain philanthropy.



Gig State

The Gig State project and Regional Digital Connectivity program are part of the \$4.2 billion Snowy Hydro Legacy Fund, dedicated to major and transformative infrastructure projects that will deliver significant economic and social benefits for regional NSW. The Gig State project will deliver new network infrastructure that will boost internet capacity and bring faster and more reliable internet services to central business areas in regional NSW, benefitting local businesses and communities. Wagga Wagga has been included in a \$100 million NSW Government program to improve digital connectivity in regional NSW. The objective of the project is to deliver metro-level digital connectivity to regional NSW with improved price, quality of service and choice for regional businesses and communities.

Request

Council will work with the State and Federal Government to leverage from the Gig State investment in Wagga Wagga. There are opportunities to obtain investment through smart places funding tranches from both Federal and State Governments, particularly for the Central Business District, Health Precinct and Special Activation Precinct.



Riverina Intermodal Freight and Logistics (RIFL) Hub

RIFL will make Wagga Wagga the most attractive, efficient and affordable place to do business along the Inland Rail corridor, creating jobs and driving regional productivity and growth. Creating a world class terminal facility within the Wagga Wagga Special Activation Precinct (SAP) will attract national and international investment to the region, not only will this increase the freight task, it will accommodate that freight task on rail to the major ports of Inland Rail.

Request

The NSW and/or Federal Government contribute funding toward this project.

| Total cost: \$83.6M | | |
|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Funding required | | |
| Amount | Source | Acquired |
| \$45M | State | ✓ |
| \$23.6M | Federal | ✗ |
| \$5M | Private | ✓ |
| \$10M | Council | ✓ |

Special Activation Precinct (SAP)

The NSW Government announced the establishment of Special Activation Precincts as part of the 20-year economic vision for Regional NSW. The Precincts will be funded as part of the NSW Governments \$4.2Billion Snowy Hydro Fund. The Wagga Wagga SAP will be a world class business precinct that capitalises on the inland rail, with a freight and logistics, advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, recycling and renewable energy. It will leverage from rail and road connections between Australia's major cities.

Request

The State Government work in consultation with Council on the development of the Wagga SAP Masterplan and invest in critical infrastructure required to support a world class business precinct.





Bolton Park Sports Hub

Council is looking to redevelop the Bolton Park precinct into a Regional Sports Hub in accordance with the NSW Regional Sport Plans. The resulting facilities would create a sporting administration and events hub for the city capable of hosting significant regional, state and national events generating significant ongoing economic impact for the city. The approximate total cost to deliver all elements in the masterplan is \$68M.

Request

The State and Federal Government provide significant funding contributions towards each stage of this project.

| Total cost: \$68M | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------|
| Funding required | | |
| Amount | Source | Acquired |
| \$28.5M | State | ✗ |
| \$28.5M | Federal | ✗ |
| \$5M | Sporting Organisations | ✗ |
| \$6M | Council | ✓ |

Jubilee Park Athletic Track

Council is looking to redevelop the athletics precinct from a local level grass facility to a facility capable of hosting state and national events. The resulting facilities would create a facility capable of hosting significant regional, state and national events generating significant ongoing economic impact for the city.

Request

The NSW and/or Federal Government contribute funding toward this project.

Total cost: \$6.8M

Funding required

| Amount | Source | Acquired |
|--------|-----------------|----------|
| \$5M | State / Federal | ✗ |
| \$1.8M | Council | ✓ |



Lake Albert

Lake Albert is one of Wagga’s most popular recreational facilities. It caters for boating, fishing, swimming and other aquatic activities. For at least three generations, the water in Lake Albert has suffered recurring periods of low levels which are devastating to the community. Council is looking to improve the amenity of Lake Albert and surrounding areas to provide a regional recreational and tourism destination. Significant works and legislation changes are required to ensure the lake remains sustainable in the future and to address the current negative health, aesthetic and event impacts that low water levels and algae blooms are having.

Request

Both the State and Federal Government’s provide significant funding for this asset and for the State Government to support Council’s preferred water diversion option, whereby Council continues to discharge the 5,400ML it owns to the river and is authorised by a specific purpose access licence to draw the equivalent of that water from the river to maintain the level of Lake Albert.

Total cost: \$8M

| Funding required | | |
|------------------|---------|----------|
| Amount | Source | Acquired |
| \$4M | State | ✗ |
| \$4M | Federal | ✗ |



Northern Education and Sporting Precinct

Development of a regional sporting facility to cater for the expanding northern suburbs of Wagga Wagga in partnership with NSW Department of Education and Training and Charles Sturt University. The resulting facilities would cater for the significant growth required in residential construction to cater for future population growth that will be driven by large strategic projects including RIFL and Bomen.

Request

The NSW and Federal Government contribute funding toward this project.

Total cost: \$45.9M

Funding required

| Amount | Source | Acquired |
|--------|---------|----------|
| \$35M | State | ✓ |
| \$3.5M | Federal | ✗ |
| \$900K | CSU | ✓ |
| \$6.5M | Council | ✓ |



Wagga Wagga Multisport Cycling Complex

Council is developing an international level sporting facility capable of hosting large cycling and non-cycling events. The requested additional funding would allow immediate progression for the project with Council having already secured a preferred tenderer and State Government funding. The resulting facilities would create a sporting events hub for the city capable of hosting significant regional, state national and international events generating significant ongoing economic impact for the city. This facility will also leverage of the City's already expanding cycling tourism market to generate significant additional visitations and an increase in spending and length of stays.

Request

The State and/or Federal Government contribute the remaining funding required to fully complete this project.

Total cost: \$11.9M

Funding required

| Amount | Source | Acquired |
|--------|-----------------|----------|
| \$6.9M | State | ✓ |
| \$2.7M | State / Federal | ✗ |
| \$2.3M | Council | ✓ |

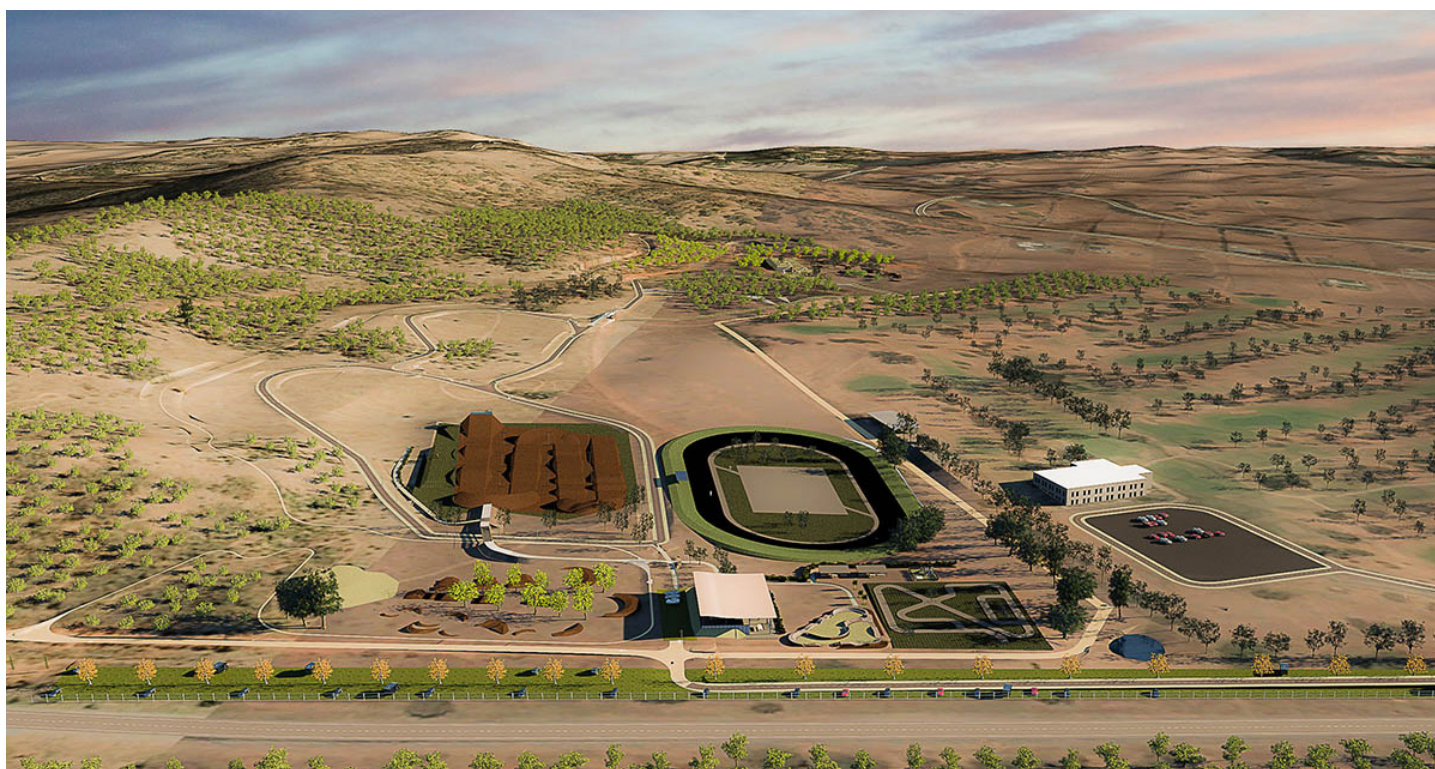




Image: Chloe Smith Photography

Glenfield Road Corridor

Bourke Street is currently classified as an Roads and Maritime Services regional road, however the Glenfield Road corridor has become a de-facto regional road, as it provides efficient access to the northern growth area, Bomen industrial area and Charles Sturt University.

Transferring the status of a regional road from Bourke Street to Glenfield Road will improve the operation and efficiency of Bourke Street for local traffic, cyclists and pedestrians. Further, the change of road classification of Glenfield Road supports the project for duplication of the Glenfield Road corridor.

Significant works are also required along the corridor including reconstruction of existing travelling lanes, additional lanes, major intersection treatments, duplication of existing rail overpass, major box culvert installation (required to allow for road and bridge works) and concrete drainage channel.

Request

- The State Government transfer Glenfield Road to become a regional road instead of Bourke Street.
- The State and/or Federal Government provide significant funding contributions towards each stage of constructions of this project.

| Total cost: \$31.4M | | |
|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Funding required | | |
| Amount | Source | Acquired |
| \$13.75M | State | ✗ |
| \$13.75M | Federal | ✗ |
| \$3.9M | Council | ✓ |

Gobbagombalin Bridge Duplication

Lobby and negotiate with the NSW Government and Transport NSW for the duplication of Gobbagombalin Bridge to support the University, Bomen and future development north of the city as per the Wagga Wagga Integrated Transport Strategy and Implementation Plan 2040.

Request

The NSW Government release its highway study and consider options to duplicate the Gobbagombalin Bridge.



Heavy Vehicle Bypass

More efficient traffic movements provide economic benefits through productivity gains due to savings in travel time. An action item from the Wagga Wagga Integrated Transport Study and Plan identified a suitable corridor south of the Sturt Highway to provide efficient, safe and low impact movement for freight movement between Sydney and Adelaide.

Request

A commitment from State and Federal Governments for a solution and timing of a heavy vehicle bypass.



High Speed Rail

The State Government announced \$4.6M to investigate the delivery of a high-speed rail network for NSW. The northern route would service the Central Coast and Newcastle; the southern route would service Wollongong and Nowra; the western route would service Lithgow, Bathurst and Parkes; and the south western route would service Goulbourn and Canberra.

Request

The high speed rail network to include Wagga Wagga and correlate with the Future Transport Strategy, Federal Strategy and Victorian Strategy.



Regional Rail Passenger Shuttle

A regional passenger rail shuttle service can address many transport issues identified by all levels of government and provide direct economic benefits to communities across the region whilst reducing the reliance on Sydney and creating a critical mass for many businesses and government agencies to establish, maintain or grow in the Riverina.

Request

The State Government fund a feasibility study for the establishment of a regular passenger rail shuttle between Albury, Wagga Wagga and Griffith.

| Total cost: \$100K | | |
|--------------------|--------|----------|
| Funding required | | |
| Amount | Source | Acquired |
| \$100K | State | ✓ |



Wagga Wagga Airport

Wagga Wagga is the largest inland city of NSW. With exceptional education, health, industry, lifestyle and transport connections that provide our residents and visitors with a high-quality home and work lifestyle. The Wagga Wagga Airport is critical to the regions productivity and ability to undertake business activity. Significant works are required to bring the airport up to a standard that is expected in a city the size of Wagga Wagga. Upgrades are required to the taxiway network to cater for larger aircraft and works are required to expand, reconfigure and refurbish the existing terminal to allow for future growth in passenger numbers as well as potential changes to security requirements. The Wagga Wagga Airport is owned by the Department of Defence, with a section leased to Council on a 30-year agreement that expires in 2025.

Request

The Department of Defence transfer ownership of the land to Council and that the State and Federal Governments contribute funding towards the required capital works.

Total cost: \$14.5M

Funding required

| Amount | Source | Acquired |
|--------|---------|----------|
| \$6M | State | ✓ |
| \$7.8M | Federal | ✗ |
| \$700K | Council | ✓ |



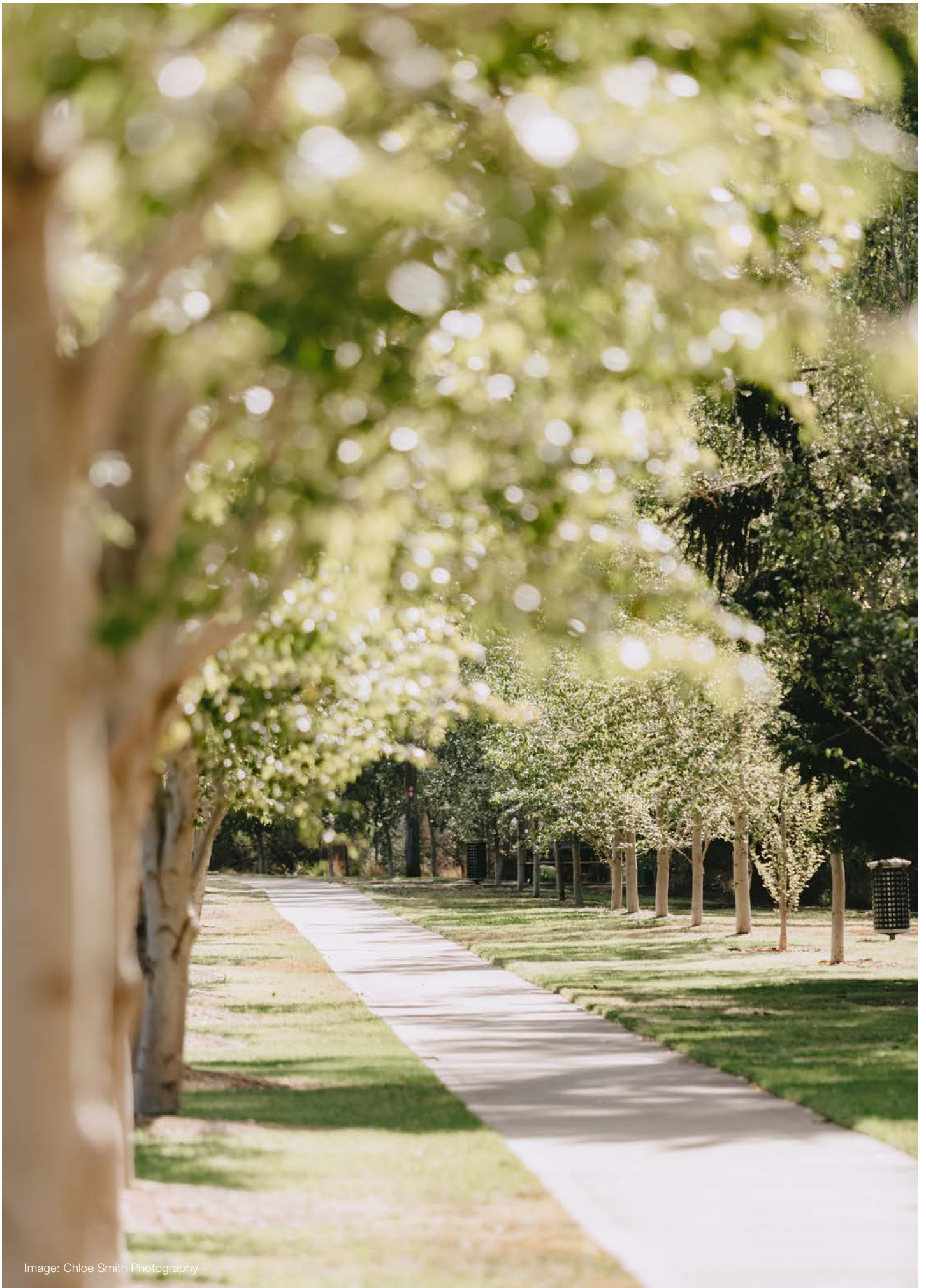


Image: Chloe Smith Photography



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Wagga Wagga**

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