

## 1.4 Process

2021

### Warburton Place Plan

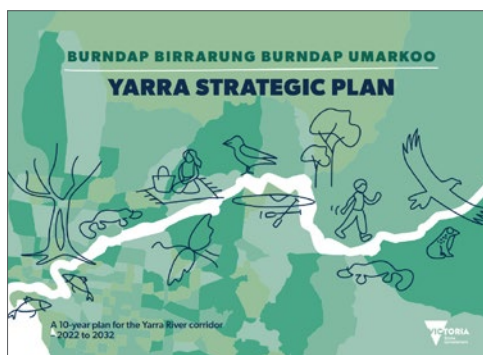
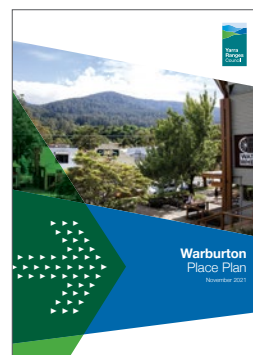
- Set a shared vision for Warburton between the Community and Council for the next 20 years.
- Framework to deliver the community's aspirations for the township.
- Framework to direct investment into Warburton.
- Developed 5 Key Principles with associated actions required to deliver the agreed vision.
- Embedded the Yarra Strategic Plan

### Community Consultation

- Initial engagement between December 2018-May 2019.
- 400 people participated in the process.
- 8 weeks of intensive Community Consultation between July 2021-August 2021.
- 1,500 residents engaged, 107 responses.

### Relationship to the Urban Design Framework

- Action 3.1 the preparation of an Urban Design Framework
- Protect and enrich the character of Warburton.
- Improved public places that provide platform for greater connection, participation, and activation.
- Enhanced sense of safety and community connection, belonging and pride.
- Enhances Warburton's public places and provides opportunities for cultural expression.
- Makes better use of existing infrastructure and amenities.



2022

### Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo

### Yarra Strategic Plan

The Upper Yarra is a unique part of Victoria with its blend of tourism, agriculture, and climate, amongst the backdrop of a picturesque landscape. It is also where the Birrarung (Yarra River) commences its 242-kilometre journey to Port Philip Bay. The river is at the heart of all activity in this region. The Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo, (Yarra Strategic Plan) 2022-2032 recognises the Birrarung as a living and integrated natural entity, and was developed to embed the long term (50 year) vision for the river, and support collaborative management of the river and its lands.

*"Warburton is significant as the largest township in the upper rural reach and the gateway to the Yarra Ranges National Park. It is a historic rural township with significant character and cultural values. Established around the Yarra River, it provides opportunities for direct experiences of the river's environment."*

*Development of tourism is recognised as a priority in the Yarra Ranges' Economic Development Strategy 2012-2022, with the natural beauty of the river and surrounding environment a key feature. The Warburton Place Plan (in preparation) will guide Council's directions and actions over the next 20 years, ensuring that the town's future matches the values and culture of the area<sup>1</sup>."*

<sup>1</sup>Yarra Strategic Plan 2022-2032", 2022, p.90

2024

### Warburton Urban Design Framework

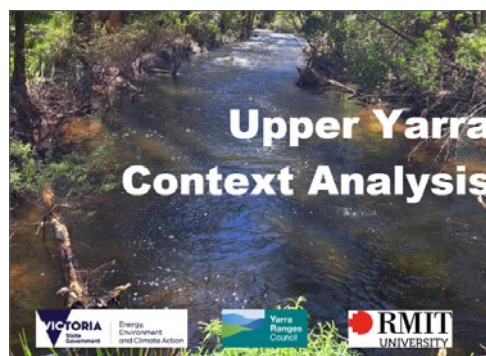
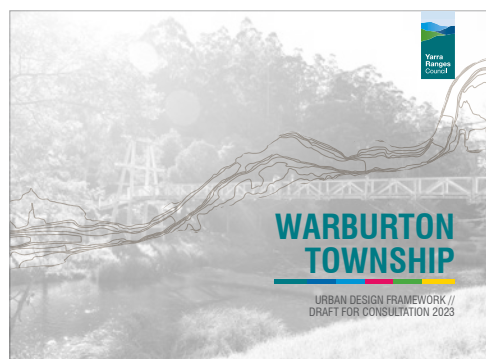
- Focuses on the commercial and public owned land within the Warburton Town Centre only.
- Establishes a design vision to achieve built form and community expectations.
- Provides design guidelines to protect and enhance the character of Warburton.
- Uses local character and attributes to inform the appearance of private and public development.
- Uses key features of the township such as the Yarra River and surrounding valley to inform design principles and outcomes.

### Community Consultation

- 12 weeks of Community Consultation between December 2022 and March 2023.
- 1800 comments received on the UDF
- More than 3000 people reviewed the document.
- Key State government Bodies (i.e. Melbourne Water and the Country Fire Authority) informed 3 times of the UDF.

### Relationship to the Upper Yarra Region

- The Yarra River is identified as a key feature of the Warburton Township and is discussed in context section of the UDF.
- Responsive design approaches based on the different environs of the Yarra River.



2025

### Draft Upper Yarra Local Development Strategy (In Development)

- Looks at the whole Yarra Valley from Woori Yallock east to Powelltown.
- Focused on transitioning the economy following the closure of the timber industry following the 2019 Victorian Forestry Plan.
- Seeks to improve economic and social opportunities of the communities.
- Developed 6 'innovation opportunities' for the Upper Yarra region
- Identifies high level projects that could be further investigated.

### Community Consultation

- Commenced after the Urban Design Framework was consulted on and updated.
- State Government led with input from Council, RMIT University and the community.
- Undertook research and analysis, and targeted consultation in early 2023.
- Formal Community Consultation November 2023

### Relationship to the Urban Design Framework

- Identifies the innovation opportunities - Re-purposing abandoned places and underused buildings.
- Identifies the innovation opportunities – Renewable Energy & Energy Resilience.
- Identifies the innovation opportunities – improved transport and access.

## 1.5 Yarra Strategic Plan

The **Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo, (Yarra Strategic Plan) 2022-2032** recognises the Birrarung as a living and integrated natural entity, and was developed to embed the long term (50 year) vision for the river, and support collaborative management of the river and its lands.



Warburton sits within the **Upper Rural Reach** area of the Plan, and lays out the following **Community priorities and values** which align closely with the Warburton UDF projects:

- *Promote and celebrate local cultural heritage through collaboration and community education.*
- *Develop new opportunities around local tourism, including river-based learning.*
- *Celebrate and promote opportunities for people to immerse themselves in the unique landscape, local wildlife and incredible biodiversity.*
- *Provide an expanded river access network for recreation and social connection.*
- *Foster healthy local ecosystems for the river, its wetlands and billabongs, which are recharged through environmental flows.*

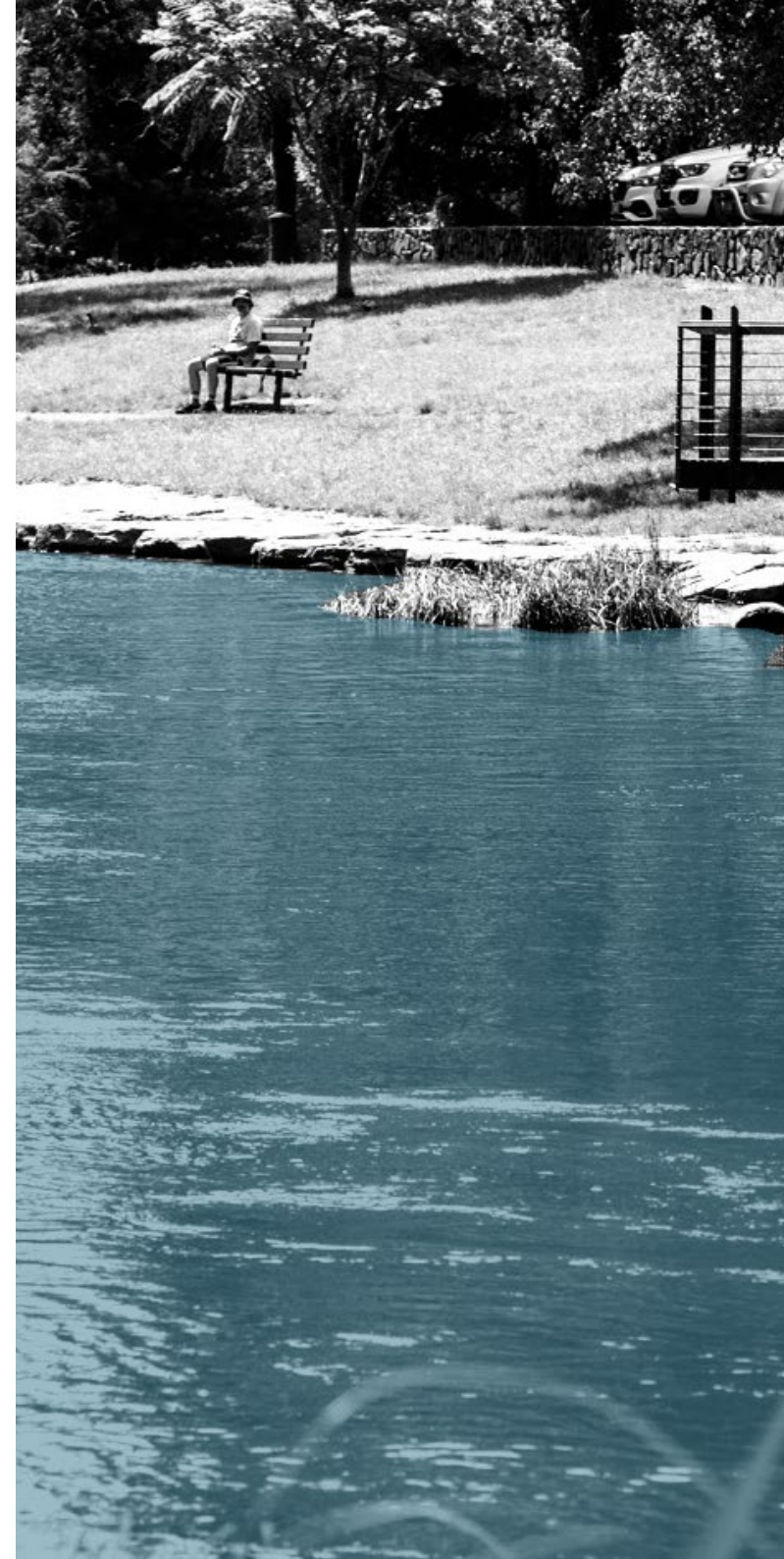
- *Work with local farming communities to ensure sustainable water use.*
- *Celebrate personal connections to the river.<sup>2</sup>*

The Plan articulates the following **Opportunities for future projects and alignment for Warburton Township** that have been embedded into the directions and recommendations of the Warburton Urban Design Framework:

- *Develop Warburton as a destination for nature-based tourism and recreation.*
- *Enhance opportunities to experience the river at Warburton by upgrading the Yarra River Walk circuit trail and connections between the different public spaces along the river, as well as providing visitor facilities as required.*
- *Upgrade launching facilities for paddlers at Mayer Bridge.*
- *Provide interpretive information at key locations to share stories of the river's history and environment.*
- *Protect views to the river from the Warburton Highway and the Lilydale–Warburton Rail Trail.*
- *Strengthen the riverbank environment through additional planting of appropriate species.*
- *Amend existing planning controls to ensure that new buildings present a positive interface with the river and its adjoining parklands, provide adequate setbacks for planting and allow for the creation of public access to the river where appropriate.<sup>3</sup>*

<sup>2</sup>Yarra Strategic Plan 2022-2032", 2022, p.88

<sup>3</sup>Yarra Strategic Plan 2022-2032", 2022, p.90







To achieve the preferred land-use framework the plan sets out a series of land-use directions that are specific to certain section and/or places along the length of the river.

Below are the relevant directions as well as a description of how the Urban Design Framework is addressing these.

	Warburton Township Directions	UDF Response
<b>UR15</b>	<i>Apply permanent planning controls to manage building heights and setbacks to protect the Yarra River landscape corridor and ensure development maintains the heritage character of townships.</i>	Provide specific guidance on the character and built form of Warburton to inform a future Warburton-specific Design & Development Overlay.
<b>UR16</b>	<i>Apply permanent planning controls to ensure new development creates a positive interface with the Yarra River landscape corridor and facilitates public access to the river where appropriate.</i>	Current built form turns its back to the river and is often unsightly. The UDF demonstrates strategies to create more inviting and engaging interfaces to the Yarra River corridor.  Several proposed projects improve access to the Yarra River, dispersing the intensity of activity currently occurring on Thomas Avenue, providing additional river access nodes and upgraded picnic areas and reserves along the Yarra River along with enhanced parking management.
<b>UR17</b>	<i>Improve native planting along the bank of the Yarra River to restore and enhance the natural environment.</i>	The UDF promotes retention of significant vegetation as the primary design response within the Warburton Township.  Enriched planting and landscaping will be embedded into the UDF's suite of projects along the Yarra River.
<b>UR4 &amp; 18</b>	<i>Investigate new or strengthened protection measures for high priority tributaries.</i>	Numerous projects improve water quality from existing pavements and areas adjacent to the river through Water-Sensitive Urban Design strategies such as permeable pavements, biofiltration garden beds and tree planting.
<b>UR19</b>	<i>Apply integrated water management principles to optimise water supply, improve water quality and enhance flood protection.</i>	The UDF outlines a series of design treatments and requirements that integrate Water Sensitive Urban Design such as introducing permeable pavements and biofiltration garden beds. Flood sensitive development concepts have been included along Thomas Avenue.
<b>UR20</b>	<i>Ensure development in flood affected areas is informed by the Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas.</i>	All projects and development would adhere to the requirements of Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) requirements and Melbourne Water requirements. Design solutions would be informed by these Guidelines.