

Community Vision Plan

Community Engagement Findings Report

March 2026

COORONG
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Community Consultation

In accordance with Councils Community Engagement Policy, initial consultation for the Community Vision Plan (CVP) was undertaken over a six (6) week period. During this time community members, service providers and Council staff were invited to participate and contribute to the development of the plan through either completing a feedback form, providing feedback direct via email, phone and face to face or attending a community workshop.

The consultation was constructed around 5 key themes: infrastructure, Environment, Economy, Community and leadership, with opportunities for additional feedback encouraged throughout.

Council hosted 22 community engagement sessions across the district, attended by 308 participants, who provided valuable insights and ideas.

Two versions of the submission form were made available – online and printed – with access provided via Council's website, social media channels, Council offices, and local post offices. 267 community members contributed through this process.

In total, 575 community members and stakeholders participated in the engagement process. Their feedback has played a vital role in shaping the strategies and priorities outlined in the Community Vision Plan.

Following the development of the draft plan, a second round of consultation was undertaken over another 3- week period. During this time, community members, service providers, Council staff and Elected Members were invited to provide feedback on the draft. This feedback was received, considered and updated accordingly.

Community participation

Over 34 people took part in the consultation

- 20 people participated by contributing to community drop-in sessions held at the Meningie, Tintinara and Tailem Bend Council Offices and the Coonalpyn Council in Community Session held at the Coonalpyn Hall
- 10 people completed the online survey
- 2 people completed a printed copy of the feedback form
- 1 person made a written submission via email

Council developed two versions of the survey which included an online version and a printed version. Access to surveys was made available via Council's website, through links via electronic and social media distribution, as well as printed copies located at all Council offices.

Communications

Council commenced an engagement campaign with community members, and this was carried out via various methods including:

- Media release distributed to over 31 regional media outlets.

- Full page advertisement in the Meningie Lakelander, Coonalpyn Community Hub Newsletter and Tailem Topics
  - Additional half page advertisement in the Meningie Lakelander promoting additional community drop-in session.

- Mentioned in Council's Coorong Council News article, Feb/Mar 2026 edition distributed in Meningie Lakelander, Coonalpyn Hub Newsletter and Tailem Topics and displayed on Council's noticeboards

- Online digital submission form developed and distributed.

- A3 Posters created and displayed at high traffic points including on Council's noticeboards

- Unaddressed mail campaign distributed directly through local post offices

- Social media posts and stories scheduled to Council's Facebook and Instagram pages reached a total of over 5,529 views from the following activity:
  - Facebook posts scheduled:
    - 20 February 2026 – reached 1,082 people
    - 23 February 2026 – reached 557 people
    - 25 February 2025 – reached 203 people
    - 2 March 2026 – reached 534 people
    - 6 March 2026 – reached 786 people
    - 9 March 2026 – reached 201 people
    - 11 March 2026 – reached 307 people
    - 15 March 2026 – reached 168 people

  - Facebook Stories scheduled:
    - 20 February 2026 – reached 186 people
    - 23 February 2026 – reached 126 people
    - 2 March 2026 – reached 85 people
    - 6 March 2026 – reached 124 people
    - 9 March 2026 – reached 139 people
    - 10 March 2026 – reached 53 people
    - 12 March 2026 – reached 81 people
    - 14 March 2026 – reached 176 people

- Instagram posts scheduled:
  - 20 February 2026 – reached 60 people
  - 23 February 2026 – failed to post
  - 25 February 2025 – reached 83 people
  - 2 March 2026 – reached 63 people
  - 6 March 2026 – reached 52 people
  - 9 March 2026 – reached 51 people
  - 11 March 2026 – reached 61 people
  - 15 March 2026 – reached 33 people

- Instagram stories scheduled:
  - 20 February 2026 – reached 26 people
  - 23 February 2026 – reached 37 people
  - 2 March 2026 – reached 51 people
  - 6 March 2026 – reached 51 people
  - 9 March 2026 – reached 39 people
  - 10 March 2026 – reached 44 people
  - 12 March 2026 – reached 28 people
  - 14 March 2026 – reached 42 people

- Included in Council's February 2026 edition of the monthly In Touch with the Community e-newsletter – 1,023 recipients and an open rate of 33.4%

- Specific "Let's Talk…" e-newsletters created and distributed
  - 23 February - 1,029 recipients and achieved an open rate of 40%
  - 2 March - 1,022 recipients and achieved an open rate of 40.6%
  - 11 March – 1,021 recipients and achieved an open rate of 39.7%

- Information made available on Council's website which included the draft Community Vision Plan and an online digital submission form.

- Information and feedback forms made available at all Customer Service Centres

- Community drop in sessions were held:
  - Tuesday, 24 February at 3:30pm in the Meningie Information Hub
  - Wednesday, 25 February at 3:30pm in the Tintinara Council Office
  - Tuesday, 3 March at 1:30pm as part of the Council in Community Session in the Coonalpyn Hall
  - Tuesday, 10 March at 5pm in the Tailem Bend Council Chambers
  - Monday, 16 March at 3:30pm at the Meningie Bowling Club

Summary

Phase one of community engagement allowed participants to give feedback and input into a the five (5) themes and particularly around topics affecting the lives of our community and wellbeing within the district.

Strong themes emerged and have been included in the draft plan along with recommended actions that will be delivered over the term of the Community Vision Plan.

Additional feedback has been considered and where appropriate alterations and changes made to the draft CVP in preparation for its final endorsement.

Engagement Feedback

The following topics and information are a synthesis of feedback captured.

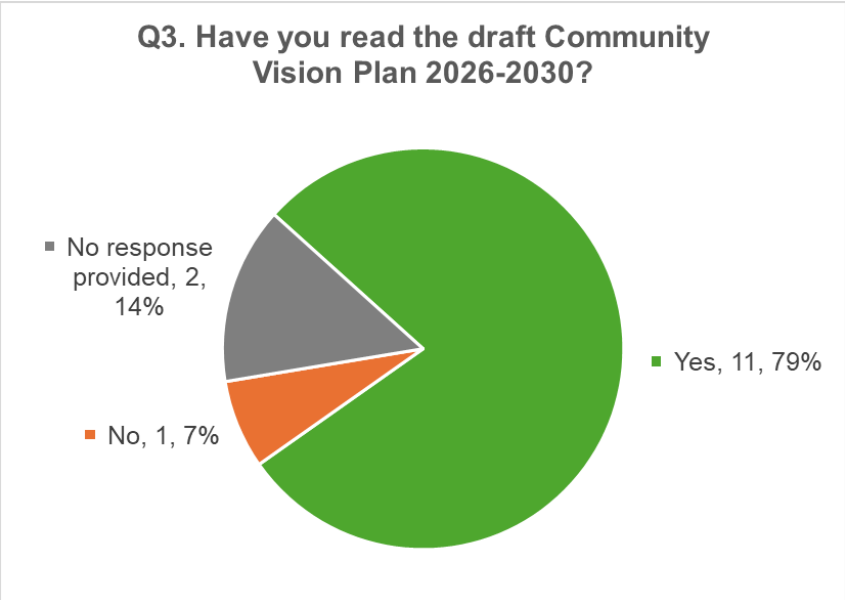
Feedback Forms

The feedback form asked a total of eight (8) questions.

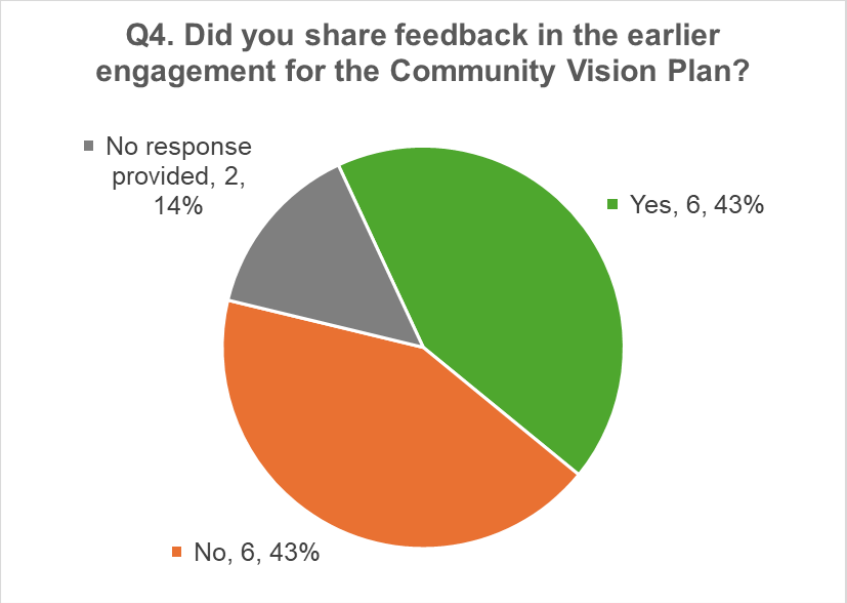
Questions 1,2 & 8 sought the respondent's personal information and whether respondents would like their submission to remain anonymous. Questions 3-7 asked respondents to provide their feedback on the Draft Community Vision Plan

Feedback from the (13) respondents in relation s to questions 3-7 is below

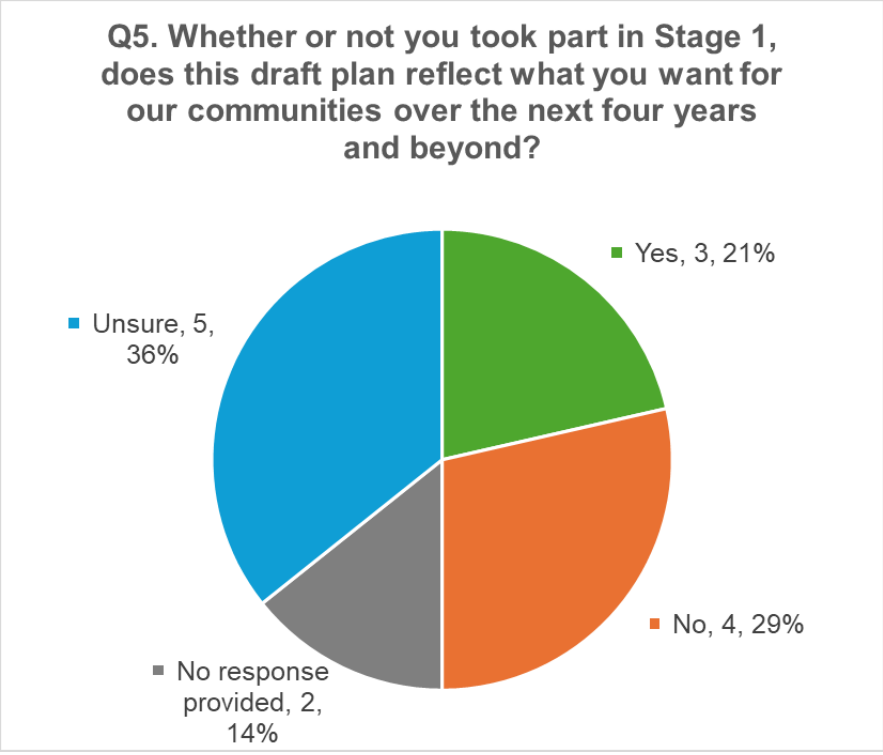
Q3. Have you read the draft Community Vision Plan 2026-2030?



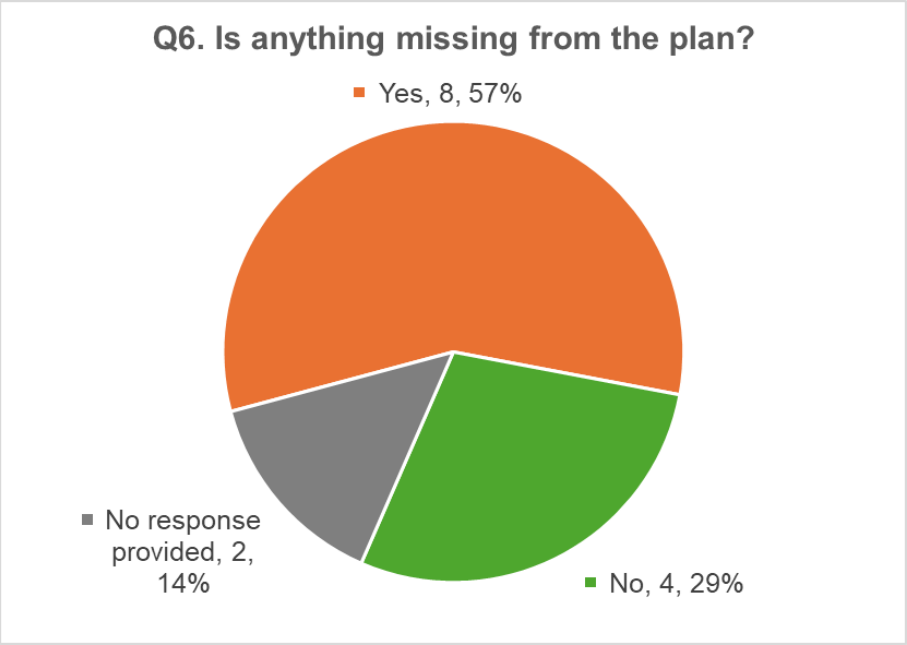
Q4. Did you share feedback in the earlier engagement for the Community Vision Plan?



Q5. Whether or not you took part in Stage 1, does this draft plan reflect what you want for our communities over the next four years and beyond?



Q6. Is anything missing from the plan?



If yes, the respondents were asked to provide additional information

Feedback received from those that contribute during phase 1

- Assistance with my aged care - to access essential services: meals / cleaning / personal care. The process is complicated. Residents need assistance.
- Not that I could determine.
- need more power in the Meningie Lions Jubilee Park for events such as the Meningie Food Fair.
- staff accountability & no working from home unless available to all . Way too much spent (including contractors) on the Vision Plan - if people want to comment give them an easy way, don't do location meetings, with staff, contractors practically telling ratepayers what to say
- no building plans

Feedback received from those that did not contribute during phase 1

- levy bank reopen for safe exercise
- support for marginalised youth to gain independence like a drivers licence
- L2P program based in Murray Bridge covers through to Meningie. Not all learner drivers have access to a vehicle or supervising driver to be able to accumulate the 75 hours of practice.
- Serious lack of detail of planned road works ie re-sheeting, sealing etc

Q7. Do you have any further feedback?

Feedback received from those that contribute during phase 1

- I would like to see community volunteers in weekly attendance - to assist with accessing My Aged Care.
- No
- Not at the moment. It was very thorough.
- nothing but a waste of time really
- ACTION. Words like seek, incorporate, foster, review, utilise, report, advocate, establish, outcome, conjunction, integrate, identify, collaborate, investigate, and toooo many more, 'dormant' 'passive' nonconstructive words, is why this prime location town, is dying, when at the end of the freeway it should be booming with activity. Look around yourselves ,and ask yourselves why it is not a Happening Town!

Feedback received from those that did not contribute during phase 1

- Tintinara Railway & Road crossings, are challenging to navigate/cross with mobility aid's (wheelchairs, gophers). Not enough room and very in accessible for those trying to utilise the infrastructure. Tintinara Highway crossing, crossing the highway from one side of town to the other is extremely challenging most times. Trying to cross safely whilst negotiating large amounts of traffic is very dangerous, not only for those via car, but those who are walking or use mobility aids. Do speed limits need to be re-assessed? Some further infrastructure to improve accessibility (she understands this may concern DIT as well).
- Tintinara Health Centre, what is going on with this? Is there an option to open the centre once a week for basic health services to be provided (general health checks, blood pressure checks, wound dressings, blood tests, etc.).
- Direct financial support from the Coorong Council into the L2P program would ensure disadvantaged learner drivers have the same opportunities to learn to drive as others. This will support employment opportunities in the area and help increase the population and further support the area economically. L2P is not a charity, but it is an NFP that is a vital need for the region. Lots of locals have used the service but funding is needed to be able to continue and expand the reach of this service.
- Rather than spend money and time recreating the health services wheel , just make sure the current committees eg Murray Malle health are doing their job properly and fairly .
- The main street of Meningie is a contradiction and a calamity, especially on long weekends and holidays.

Stock crates driving within splashing distance to cute little eateries jutting out onto the roadside, which in turn are talking up parking area.

Cars backing out in front of trucks that can't avoid them because of safety rails for pedestrians who are crossing the road to get to the public toilets and playground or going to get their lunch to have in the park.

Watching trucks reversing into a shop's driveway was amazing, so was all the traffic that was held up waiting!

Add to his cars with caravans parking ALL over the place, even in the middle of the road. And its only going to get busier and more hectic. OH – I forgot to mention the HUGE farm machinery!!

A heavy vehicle bypass will eliminate some of the bigger machinery and traffic out of this mall area. this by-pass has been talked about for decades its about time it was finally on the booking, in writing, as one of Meningie's Plans of Importance.

Parking at the rear of the shops is also top of the list for Plans of Importance. Please. Before accidents happen.

Wadmore House Precinct

The importance of trees & gardens towards mental health and environmental healing are never to be underestimated, with this in mind why sell a park within the town centre area. a park that is right next to a future tourist development that will go ahead when we cut most of the red tape off.

There is a stormwater drain in the centre of the development site, the consequences of this need to be investigated and taken into account when planning.

A safer school bus stop with off roadside parking for pick up and drop off may prevent further drama.

The building is too beautiful to demolish so the only option is to restore. Yes this is expensive but doesn't have to be done instantly.

The sheds need cleaning out for future pop-up markets – at least there is plenty of parking next door.

The water levels in the lake are fairly close to some of the drains along the main street. I bring this to your attention so future water levels can also be a huge part of planning – it wasn't that long ago that the main street to Bonney Street was flooded.

So far, I have found it difficult to find information about the 1956 floods; I hope you have more success with that as of course it is so important to future planning.

Community Drop in Session feedback

During the Community Drop-in session the following feedback was gathered with key themes highlighted.

Meningie

- Difficulty accessing services through My Aged Care, with many residents only starting the process when in urgent need, leading to delays of up to a year.
- Need for local support to help residents navigate the My Aged Care system, assessments, and registration processes.
- Concerns about access to local health and aged care services, including Meals on Wheels, the Jallarah Homes aged care facility, and GP availability.
- Discussion on the Coorong Growth Strategy and how future town planning will support population growth and infrastructure needs.
- Discussion on the Murray–Darling Basin and the health and water management of the Coorong and Lower Lakes.

Coonalpyn

- XXX was pleased to see Council to deliver on Pangarinda future vision plan subject to funding and sees it as an incredible tourist opportunity.
- XXX highlighted that there is no in between option available in the region between living on your property to having to go into retirement living/aged care. You would live on your property as long as possible until you had to go into palliative care and then pass on.
- There is also a lack of providers that service the area that could provide any assisted care i.e. cleaning of bathrooms for the elderly or other such tasks that become challenging as you get older.

Tailem Bend

- Complimented the draft CVP having health as the number one priority in the plan.
- Request for an update on health committee appointments, including how the committee will connect with TBCC and whether an audit of available services and gaps will be undertaken.
- Noted that aged care priorities can also be advanced through the MRLGA and the health plan, enabling collective advocacy and service delivery.
- Interest expressed in the impact of projected population growth and whether the district is planning and adjusting for this.
- Discussion held on the upcoming rating review.

COORONG
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Coorong Civic Centre
95 – 101 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend, SA 5260
PO Box 399, Tailem Bend SA 5260

Meningie Information Hub
49 Princes Highway, Meningie SA 5264

Tintinara Customer Service Centre
37 Becker Terrace, Tintinara SA 5266

room to move
room to play