



Ararat Rural City

ARARAT RURAL CITY COUNCIL'S ASSET PLAN 2022-2032

The emphasis of Council's Asset Plan 2022-2032 is to ensure that all community assets for which Council has stewardship are managed to ensure their long-term effectiveness, amenity, and safety. In order for this to be achieved, Council will take a planned approach that includes key elements of community engagement, technical management, and financial planning.

Council's commitment to maintaining community infrastructure is highlighted in section four of Council's Council Plan 2021-2025.

4. Developing and maintaining key enabling infrastructure

We will ensure that we plan, fund and develop new infrastructure in ways that delivers strong public value. Existing infrastructure will be managed, renewed, and maintained to ensure that it continues to serve identified public needs.

- 4.1 Ensure that asset development and renewal during the planning period matches that identified in Council's Asset Plan 2021-2031.
- 4.2 Work directly with asset users to manage and develop new and existing assets.
- 4.3 Deliver infrastructure outcomes that support economic growth, promote community wellbeing and safety, and align with Council's financial sustainability

In addition to the key elements of the Asset Plan contained in the next two pages Council and the community have identified a number of key infrastructure projects that will form the basis of Council's major capital works and asset development program over the next ten years.

These projects are:

- Develop a "rural road backbone" centred on Tatyoon Road and Mt William Road, servicing agricultural freight, and community and tourist traffic. This is based on heavy use of these roads by local and non-local traffic. These roads have been identified as local roads of regional significance.
- Develop Delacombe Way as a major connector road across the municipality serving agricultural and community traffic.
- Partnering with the Victorian Department of transport Plan and develop a north-south heavy transport route around Ararat. Such a route has the capacity to remove just over 500 heavy vehicle movements per day from the centre of Ararat, based on preliminary Rural Roads Victoria data.
- Develop and implement a plan to seal key urban unsealed roads and laneways throughout Ararat Rural City.
- Work with the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Regional Development Victoria (RDV) to resolve the Aradale site, with a preference for outcomes that enhance economic and social outcomes for the municipality.
- Partner with East Grampians Health and Grampians Community Health to seek funding to redevelop the McDonald Centre site for health and community use.
- Upgrade the Ararat Leisure Centre to enhance functionality, access and inclusion and extend the useful life of a key recreational asset.

Each of these projects has the capacity to yield significant social, economic and community benefit to residents of Ararat Rural City.

The final page of this plan provides the first Annual Asset Plan 2022/2023 which provides detail of the first year of implementation of the plan.

Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners

Council acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which we meet, and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.



ARARAT RURAL CITY COUNCIL'S ASSET PLAN 2022-2032



Ararat Rural City

1. ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

We will engage our community around key asset development, management, and renewal decisions

- 1.1 Ensure community input into development and review of Council's key asset management plans.
- 1.2 Continue to develop a rolling two-year capital works program based on involvement of the Rural Roads Group and other key stakeholders. Commencing with the Capital Works Plan 2023-2025.
- 1.3 Engage the community in developing major infrastructure goals over the life of the Asset Plan 2022-2032.

2. DATA IS CRITICAL

We understand that accurate and well managed data is critical in making decisions around maintaining, renewing, and developing Council's assets. This data is sourced in a range of ways, it needs to be current and accessible.

- 2.1 Maintain accurate, current, and appropriate data sets relating to condition assessments of all major asset classes.
- 2.2 Continue to develop smart mechanisms for collecting asset condition data utilising Internet of Things technologies and continuing to utilise existing and future Australian Roads Research Board (AARB) iPave data.
- 2.3 Create mechanisms for "crowd sourcing" asset condition data from community sources, including an app-based approach and integration of customer relationship system (CRMS) data.



3. BUILDING ANALYTICAL SYSTEMS

We will develop and implement systems that will ensure that asset data from each asset class is analysed to support decision making around asset maintenance, renewal, and development.

- 3.1 Working with Regional Council Transformation Program partners develop a predictive asset system for key asset classes
- 3.2 Utilising technology developed in conjunction with the Ararat Digital Twin project develop a "data lake" of asset data that can then be utilised to develop a range of spatial model to support decision making.
- 3.3 Ensure that Confirm is utilised as a key system across the organisation to capture key asset information in the field. This capability will support accurate recording of key maintenance and renewal activity as well as field-based condition assessments.

4. ENSURING FUNDING OF MAJOR ASSET CLASSES

We recognise that maintenance of community assets is a key stewardship responsibility of Council and financial plans must integrate with asset plans.

- 4.1 Maintain the asset renewal ratio at, at least 110% for the ten-year life of the asset plan.
- 4.2 Ensure that annual budgets during the period do not reduce asset maintenance allocations for each major asset class between 2022 - 2032.
- 4.3 Develop improved financial systems that integrate asset data to ensure effective, real-time reporting of financial performance in asset management. This includes unit rates for maintenance, renewal and redevelopment of each asset class and accurate depreciation expenses.

5. PLANNING FOR MANAGEMENT OF KEY ASSETS

We will develop planned approaches to management of each asset class that articulate standards, intervention levels and financing models.

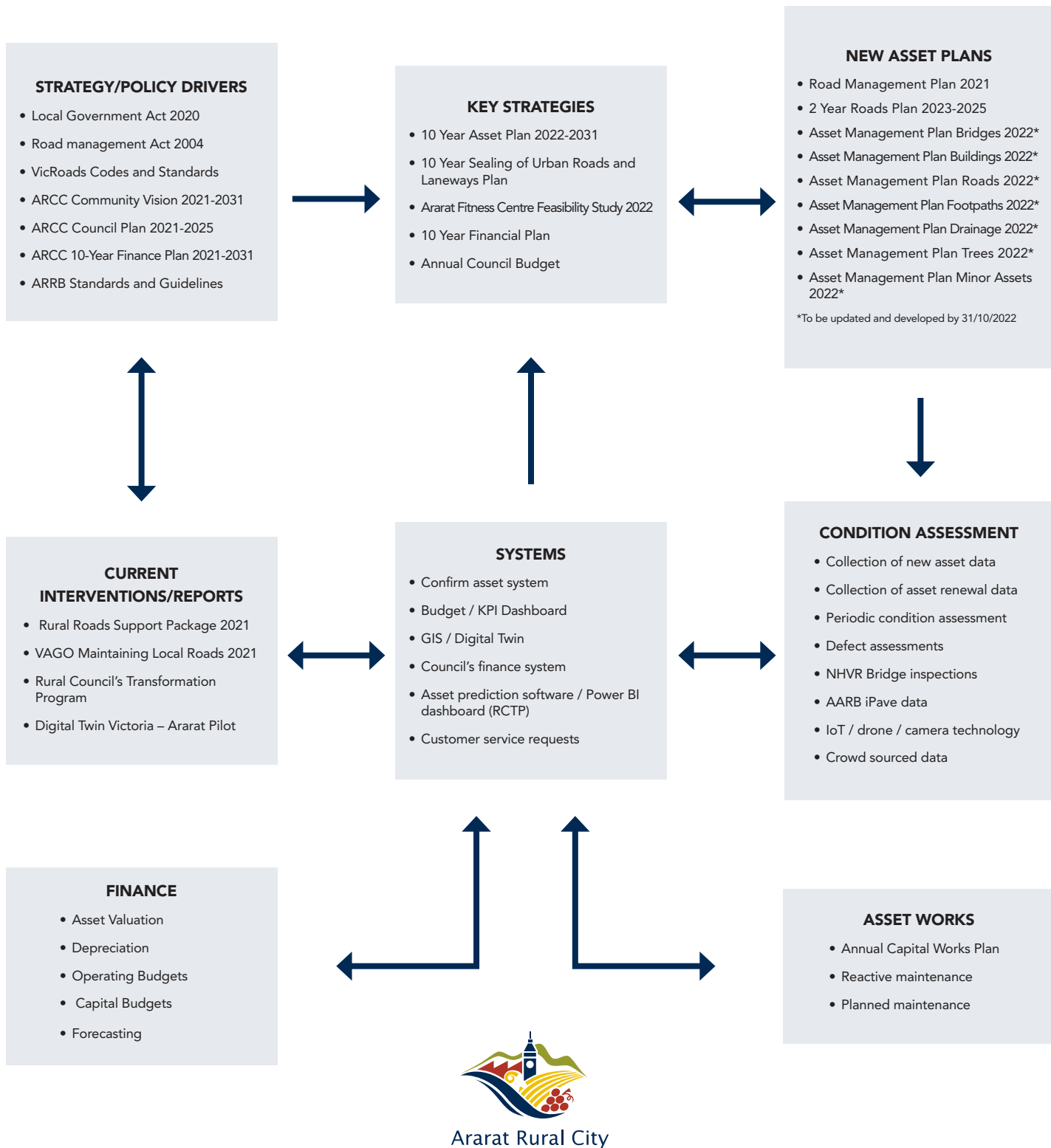
- 5.1 Develop four-year plans for each asset class that will articulate standards, intervention levels and financing models for maintenance, renewal, development, and disposal or decommissioning of each asset class. These will be developed through a process of community engagement and technical review and revised based on performance every two years.
- 5.2 Produce a ten-year program to evaluate unsealed urban streets and laneways and recommend a long-term program to seal key elements of the network.
- 5.3 Implement a planned approach to improving urban drainage over a five-year period. This plan will be based on improving capacity of the system to manage higher rainfall events and implement improvements areas with long term drainage issues.

6. IMPROVE FOCUS ON "SOFTER" ASSET CLASSES

We will develop approaches to improving management practices for assets classes that have not recently had a substantial focus

- 6.1 Implement the staged redevelopment model for the Ararat Fitness Centre outlined in the Ararat Fitness Centre Feasibility Study.
- 6.2 Develop a street tree management program, which incorporates an audit of existing street trees and implementation of the native street tree program, partnering with the Ararat Urban Landcare Group.
- 6.3 Continuously improve Council's community engagement process and practices in line with deliberative engagement practices, while acknowledging the need for a range of different techniques to ensure effective engagement.

UPDATED ASSET MANAGEMENT SCHEMA



ASSET PROJECT TEAM

Tim Harrison	Glenn Carmen	Shaun Foy	Karissa Hogan	Kanishka Gunasekara
Mel Robert	Damith Yapa	Paul Young	Alex Pickett	Jeremy Learmonth
	Josie Frawley	Rebecca Rodger		