



Ararat Rural City

ARARAT RURAL CITY COUNCIL 2026 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

Ararat Rural City Council has identified a number of major community-shaping projects and critical local issues that urgently need government action. These are high-impact initiatives that will strengthen our region's economy, improve liveability, and secure essential services for the future.

With the state election approaching, Council is calling on all parties to commit the funding and support needed now to deliver the transformative projects our community deserves.

NEW INDOOR MULTI-SPORTS FACILITY

New recreational facilities that are functional, accessible, and inclusive are needed. Plans feature 3 basketball courts, gymnastics facilities, a squash court, female friendly change rooms, a first aid room and more.

Seeking \$12 million

A&J McDONALD CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

Much of this building is not in current use due to its lack of essential infrastructure and disability access. A vast redevelopment would be delivered in partnership with Grampians Community Health.

Seeking \$15 million

LOCAL ROADS FUNDING

Local Roads Funding is sought to seal urban gravel roads and laneways in Ararat.

Seeking \$1.5 million

WATER PIPELINE

The full extent of the East Grampians Rural Water Pipeline Project is essential for rural communities and economies. A core 2026 priority is to complete the Mininera Extension of the East Grampians Rural Pipeline.

Seeking \$34 million

CONNECTING RENEWABLE GAS

Connect Valorify to the gas grid to enable green biogas to be fed directly into the existing grid, eliminating unnecessary costs and carbon emissions for transporting gas on trucks.

Seeking \$2 million

NORTH-SOUTH HV ROUTE

A north-south heavy vehicle route for the Pyrenees Highway is needed to remove large trucks from the Ararat CBD.

Seeking \$5 million for study

Stay Informed

To find out more about Council's 2026 Advocacy Priorities, visit engage.ararat.vic.gov.au, or contact us on (03) 5355 0200 or email council@ararat.vic.gov.au.