

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

18 SEPTEMBER 2024:

COMMUNITY INPUT ASKED FOR CYCLEWAYS PLAN

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) is currently developing a 10-year Cycleways Plan to align with Council's key principles and objectives identified in the 2022 Community Strategic Plan in achieving pathway network infrastructure and maintenance that respects community expectations and needs. The Plan is intended to provide the framework for developing cycleway routes that are intuitive and comfortable to use, separated from motor vehicles and pedestrians where needed, and designed to connect communities with important destinations across the region.

Cycleway Plans are formulated to increase the number of people cycling by expanding the bike network to make bike riding a low-stress and convenient transport option, recognise and support the growing use of a range of different bikes and mobility devices including electric bikes and trikes, cargo bikes, child and dog-carriers, assisted wheelchairs and electric mobility scooters, address problems and high- stress safety issues on existing cycleways and popular bike routes while the bike network is implemented and expanded, ensure an organisation-wide approach to cycling is applied to and embedded in all aspects of Council's planning and functions, provide initiatives, facilities and information to support people to ride a bike and help people appreciate the community- wide benefits of more people cycling, work with other councils, the State and Federal Governments, bike groups and the community to learn, share information and facilitate change; and learn from other centres where bike riding is a popular transport choice.

A safer cycling network gives people more transport options and there is strong evidence showing safe connected cycling infrastructure is essential to making bike riding a viable transport option for most people. Riding a bike can be an easy and enjoyable way to get around when cyclists feel safe. The plan will assist with expanding the bike network in our communities and support more people riding a bike.

Community consultation and feedback is vital in the development of the Cycleways Plan.

Simply click on the link provided and answer 10 easy questions. The survey can be completed on line and is available on the CGRC website at <u>https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/community-engagement/</u>

Or call into the CGRC Administration offices in Cootamundra or Gundagai to complete a paper copy.

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Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au For further media information contact: Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council on 1300 459 689