Green Wedge MANAGEMENT PLAN BULLETIN 3 - NOVEMBER 2018



Nillumbik Shire Council is reviewing the Green Wedge Management Plan (GWMP). The project, an action in the Council Plan 2017-2021 due for completion in mid-2019, is being delivered with significant input from the community over four stages.

The process is in stage three. A Community Panel is considering information, including feedback captured from the wider community engagement process during stage two, to prepare recommendations to Council on the vision, objectives and key actions to the remit "what is the best way for us to manage Nillumbik's Green Wedge, now and into the future".

What the wider community said

Between May and July 2018 more than 1,000 participants attended a workshop, completed a survey, posted a story, attended a community conversation and/or drew a picture, detailing their values, challenges and aspirations for Nillumbik's Green Wedge.

The community told us what they like about Nillumbik's Green Wedge, the challenges of living working and visiting the Green Wedge now and the future, and opportunities for the Green Wedge.

The community's feedback was captured in a Community Engagement Report which is available at **participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/gwmp** in the project's Document Library. All feedback is available and collated in the Verbatim Responses document.

Who is on the Community Panel?

A Community Panel from across the Nillumbik community was recruited by Deliberately Engaging, a third party independent of Council. Ten thousand invitations were sent to randomly selected Nillumbik households and businesses, inviting people to nominate to the Panel.

From these nominations, 42 people were randomly chosen based on their demographic profile and where they reside, representative of the Nillumbik population.

The Panel was not known to Council, its administration or Panel facilitators MosaicLab until the Panel's first meeting in early August where they learnt about the task and received more information to help them get started. Council continues to protect the identity of Panel members by not publishing members' names, and it's up to individual members to decide whether they want to disclose that they are part of the Panel.



What the Panel is doing

The Panel is sitting across six days between August and November 2018, extended at the Panel's request by one additional day to complete their task. The community has been invited to observe the Panel in action.

The Panel received the Community Engagement Report, and a Background Report prepared by the administration to provide a factual overview of Nillumbik's Green Wedge including its history, state policy and key legislation as well as social, environmental and economic issues facing Nillumbik's Green Wedge. The Panel invited and heard from speakers across the broad topics of social, economic, environmental and regulatory, and drew on their own experiences of the Green Wedge.

As the Panel heads into their final sitting day on November 17 2018, the members continue to consider all the information they've received and discussions they have had to finalise their report to Council detailing their recommendation.

Any recommendation needs a minimum of 80 per cent agreement to conclude their role. Any recommendations that don't achieve 80 per cent agreement can still be put to Council as a 'minority' report, with an explanation as to why Council should consider it.





Independent consultant Mosaic Lab has been engaged by Council to facilitate the Community Panel. Further information on the operation of community panels (also known as Citizens Juries) can be found at mosaiclab.com.au/projects

What happens next

The Panel will finalise its report on November 17. The report will be presented to Council at the November 27 Council Meeting.

Under the agreed time frames, Council will consider and respond to the Panel's recommendations at the December 18 Council Meeting. The accepted recommendations will shape Council's preparation of a new GWMP. Where Council does not accept a recommendation, an explanation will be given.

Council will consider the draft GWMP in early 2019 ahead of the fourth and final stage of the project where the wider community provides feedback on the Draft Plan.

The review of the Green Wedge Management Plan is a large and complex project with many stages. Read more about the next stages below.

NOW	STAGE 1 Designing the broader community engagement plan (Complete)	Council worked with community stakeholders to help design the critical community engagement and activities to maximise community interest and involvement.
	STAGE 2 Implementing the broader community Engagement Plan (until 13 July 2018)	There were a range of ways the community got involved and shared their ideas and experiences as detailed in Bulletin 2.
	STAGE 3 Community Panel (August - November 2018)	Everything we heard through the community engagement phase was summarised in a report shared publicly and presented to the Community Panel, selected by a third party independent of Council. The Panel is sitting for six days to listen and consider the community's views and from speakers invited by the Panel covering economic, social and environmental values and impacts. The Panel will make recommendations to Council on ways to ensure the Green Wedge is nurtured and managed for future generations.
	STAGE 4 Preparation of the Green Wedge Management Plan (November 2018 - July 2019)	Council will carefully consider and respond to the Community Panel's recommendations and respond to these publicly. Council will then prepare a draft Green Wedge Management Plan. The draft Plan will be released for wider community engagement for a further six weeks from March 2019.

Need more information?

Bulletins 1 and 2, background and community engagement reports, speaker presentations and summary of previous panel sitting days are all available online at **participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/gwmp** or call us on 9433 3134.

Participate Nillumbik is the one-stop-shop for the Green Wedge Management Plan review. You can access information and register to keep up to date with the project at **participate.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/gwmp**



Nillumbik Green Wedge





