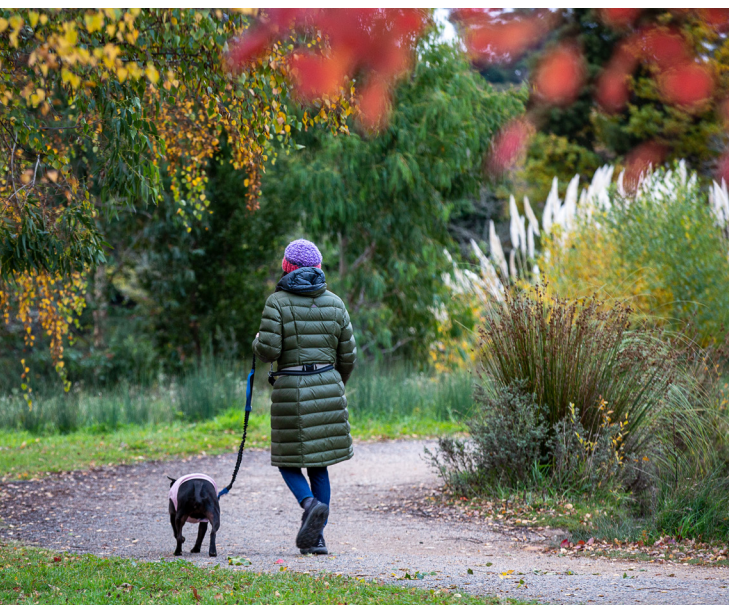


# Transport Discussion Paper

Integrated Transport Strategy  
For Hepburn Shire

September 2023



Hepburn  
SHIRE COUNCIL





# Acknowledgement of Country

Hepburn Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters on which we live and work. On these lands, Djaara have performed age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. We recognise their resilience through dispossession and it is a testament to their continuing culture and tradition, which is strong and thriving.

We also acknowledge the neighbouring Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri to our South East and the Wadawurrung to our South West and pay our respect to all Aboriginal peoples, their culture, and lore. We acknowledge their living culture and the unique role they play in the life of this region.



## Community Vision:

Hepburn Shire – an inclusive rural community located in Dja Dja Wurrung country where all people are value, partnerships are fostered, environment is protected, diversity supported, and innovation embraced.

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# BACKGROUND

## Hepburn Shire Council is preparing an Integrated Transport Strategy, with help from Movement & Place Consulting.

The Integrated Transport Strategy will guide the continued improvement of transport across the Shire. It will shape Council's priorities and actions through its own annual works programs, as well as its advocacy to others, especially Victorian and Commonwealth Government agencies and industry bodies.

The Integrated Transport Strategy will plan for a local transport system that can efficiently and safely connect people to their everyday needs, catering for residents, workers and visitors alike. It will recognise the need for better transport connections within and between townships in Hepburn Shire and to places beyond.

As well as covering motorised private and public transport, the Integrated Transport Strategy will encompass active transport needs for the Shire and set in place key directions for improved connections

for the community. It will also cover recreational infrastructure such as walking and cycling trails and will address how good transport can promote economic prosperity and environmental sustainability.

The Integrated Transport Strategy is part of Council's Future Hepburn project, which includes:

- Township Structure Plans for Clunes, Creswick, Daylesford and Hepburn Springs, Glenlyon and Trentham
- Rural Hepburn: Agricultural Land and Rural Settlement Strategy

The Hepburn Shire Walking and Cycling Strategy is also part of the Integrated Transport Strategy.

Bike Riding in Creswick



## This paper

This discussion paper provides information on Hepburn Shire's transport network and highlights key areas of significance and implications.

A comprehensive draft Background Report is being prepared, which will be the evidence base for the strategy. It will be made available on the project website: <https://participate.hepburn.vic.gov.au/future-hepburn>

## We need your input

We want to hear what matters to you; please follow the link/QR code to a survey that will help Council to better understand the transport needs of our community.

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# WHY DO WE NEED AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT STRATEGY?

Transport is a key issue throughout Hepburn Shire. This was clear from the local transport forum held in Trentham (2018), which prompted Council's Local Transport Benchmarking Study in 2019. Further feedback in 2023 has come from Future Hepburn township surveys.

Integrated planning puts the most vulnerable – and sustainable – methods of travel first.

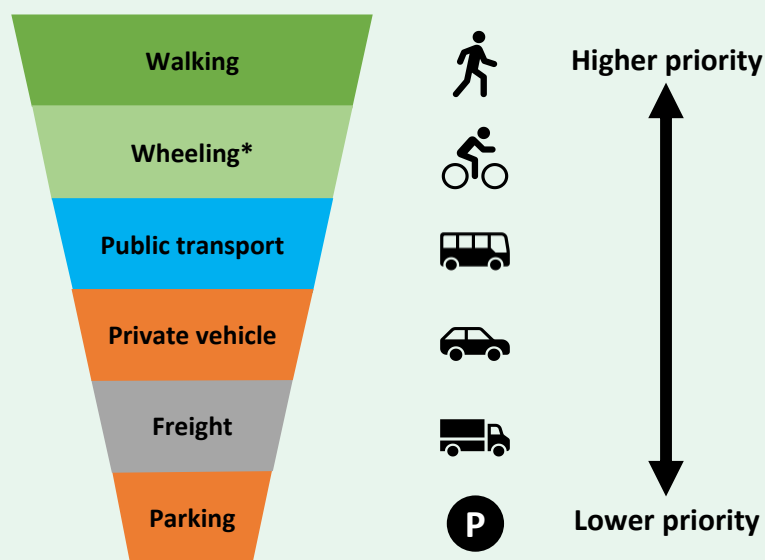
## Why does Integrated Transport matter?

Good transport systems are critical to liveability, a high-quality environment and vibrant community life. They make it easier for people and goods to move and connect, improve health and well-being, and cater for the needs of people of all abilities and attributes.

An integrated approach understands the places that people need to go and the transport options required to reach them. It also considers all transport users, putting the most vulnerable first. A key element of this is to reduce car dependency

wherever possible and provide better and more affordable choices, especially for short local journeys. Another key element is to cater for new more sustainable transport technologies, such as electric vehicles and emerging transport trends such as ride sharing and micro-transport solutions like e-scooters.

Transport issues are best understood and tackled as a whole, which is why an integrated approach is so important. Victoria's Transport Integration Act 2010 requires Council to use a comprehensive, integrated approach to transport.

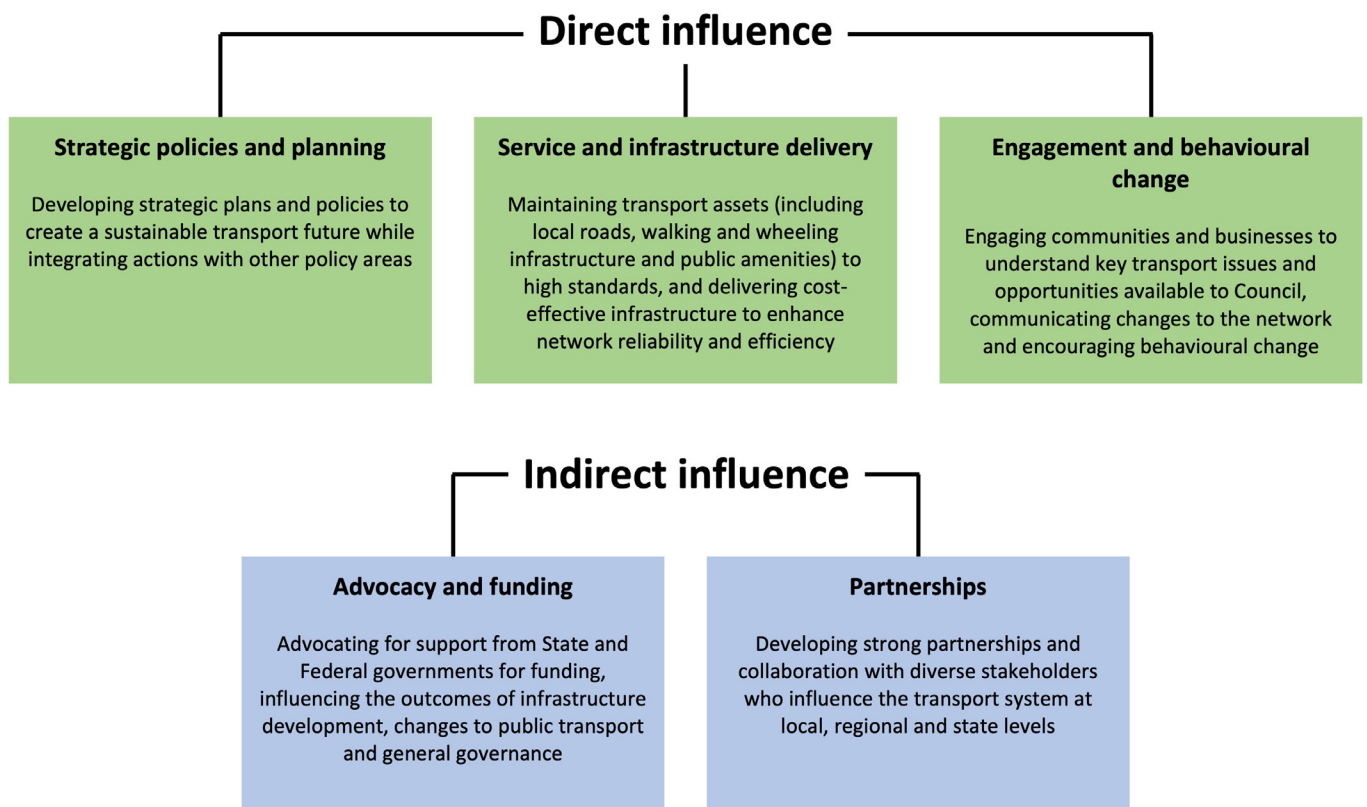


\*'Wheeling' includes bicycles, wheelchairs, mobility scooters, and e-mobility devices

## Council's role in Transport Planning

An integrated approach ensures that transport system changes account for and benefit all areas that Council is responsible for. It will recognise and build on other plans and strategies, including those below.

Council's role covers areas that it can influence directly, through its planning and service delivery activities and indirectly through advocacy and partnerships with other responsible agencies.



### A note on 'wheeling'

We use the term 'wheeling' instead of 'cycling' or 'bicycle riding' throughout this paper. This is to acknowledge that there are many other forms of wheeled personal transport than just bicycles – they include scooters, skateboards, wheelchairs, mobility scooters and other emerging forms, including electric-powered versions and also e-mobility share schemes such as those being trialled in Melbourne and Ballarat.

'Bicycle riding' is only used when talking about previous data (most surveys do not distinguish other forms of 'wheeling').

### A note on 'active transport'

Active transport relates to people embracing physical activity as a healthy way to get around for all purposes, including recreation. It covers walking and 'wheeling' as defined above.