



SOUTHERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Dear Councillors

Your attendance is hereby requested at the Special Meeting of Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Southern Downs Regional Council, 64 Fitzroy Street, Warwick on **Wednesday, 20 January 2021 at 8:30AM.**

Notice is hereby given of the business to be transacted at the meeting.

Dave Burges

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

16 January 2021

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO COUNTRY

- 1. ATTENDANCE**
- 2. APOLOGIES**
- 3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

4. EXECUTIVE SERVICES REPORTS

4.1 Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery

Document Information

 Southern Downs REGIONAL COUNCIL	Report To: Special Council Meeting	
	Reporting Officer:	Meeting Date: 20 January 2021
	Chief Executive Officer	ECM Function No/s:

Recommendation

THAT Council:-

1. Adopt Option 4 as the preferred project for an enhanced art gallery in Stanthorpe; and
2. Consult with the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Committee, and if this project is supported by the Committee, lodge an application under the Building Better Regions Fund Round 5.

Report

The matter of an expansion of the Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery (SRAG), be that by way of an expansion on the current site (Brownfield Development) or on a new site (Greenfield Development), has been the topic of discussion and investigation for over a decade and Council now needs to determine its preferred outcome.

The following has been undertaken in relatively recent times:

1. In 2014 a concept design was prepared by Alwin Architects for a substantial extension of the existing art gallery.
2. A presentation was made at a workshop in December 2016 that explored a fairly modest proposal for upgrading various aspects of the existing facility.
3. In March 2018, Council engaged consultants Complete Urban to undertake the Stanthorpe Library Feasibility Study. The purpose of the study was to determine the feasibility of constructing a library, or retrofitting an existing facility to accommodate a library, in the vicinity of the Stanthorpe Administration building. Complete Urban attended meetings and Council Briefing Sessions to discuss options and present preliminary reports. At the Council Briefing Session on 4 June 2018, Council advised officers to focus on four options, namely:
 - Option 1c – new single storey library off Locke Street (Civic Centre & Supper room);
 - Option 2a – new two storey library (Exhibition space);
 - Option 3a – new build single storey library off Marsh Street;
 - Option 4g – expansion to existing library/Art Gallery in Weeroona Park.
4. The SRAG commissioned Conrad Gargett Architects to prepare a high level concept plan for a Greenfield Development that included additional community spaces.

As a result of various Council decisions in recent times a number of applications have been made for grant funding to progress a project focusing on the Greenfield Development, namely:

1. Building Our Regions (State Government)

In August 2019 an Expression of Interest (EOI) was submitted as part of the State Government two stage process. The submission was not approved to proceed to stage 2 being the full business case submission.

This project was estimated to cost \$17.2M with the following funding arrangement proposed:

State Government	\$7.0M
SDRC	\$1.75M
BBRF (next round)	\$8.45M

2. Building Better Regions Fund Round 4 (Federal Government)

In December 2019 an application was submitted under the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund. The submission was approved.

This project was estimated to cost \$17.2M with the following funding arrangement proposed:

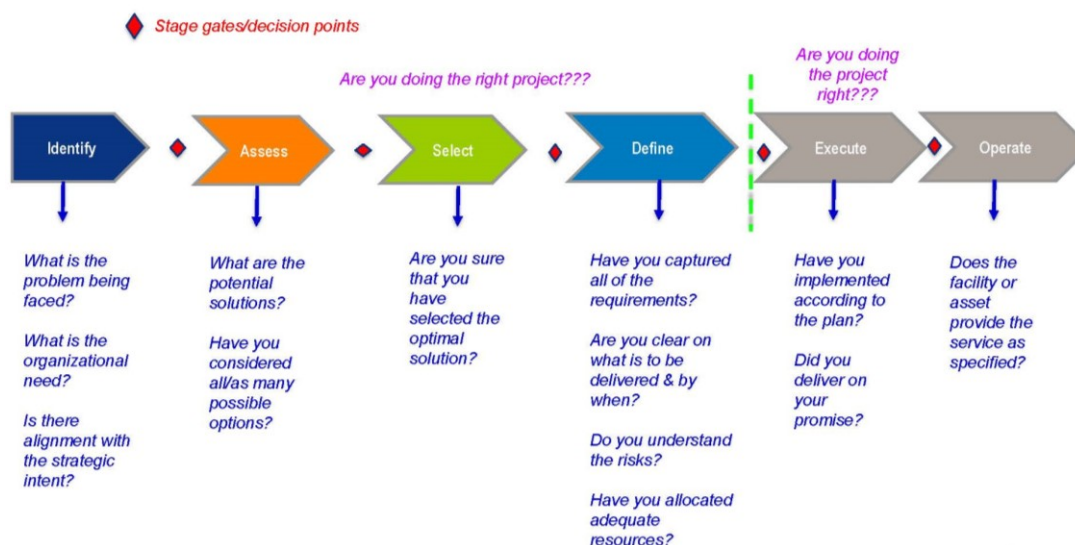
BBRF	\$10M
SDRC	\$6.95M
SRAG	\$0.25M

Comprehensive information relating to the above background was presented to Council at an Information Session held on 13 January 2021.

A presentation was made by the SRAG Director, Mary Findlay, at the abovementioned Information Session. A copy of the presentation is provided as an attachment to this report.

The purpose of this agenda item at the Information Session was to provide Council with sufficient information to progress the investment decision process for **stage gates one and two** and ensure they are selecting the right project to invest in (refer to diagram below).

The investment decision questions



STAGE GATE 1:

The presentation from SRAG identified the following deficiencies in relation to the existing facility:

- Constrained gallery space
- Fire hazard in relation to the proximity of the art collection in storage to the electrical switchboard
- National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries – the existing building meets all standards, except the guidelines related to the safety and security of the collection;
- Lack of space in relation to:
 - Education and workshop space with the only space being the lunchroom/storage area;
 - Community gathering/meeting/conference space;
 - Staff and volunteer work areas;
 - Exhibiting the permanent collection;
 - The storage of plinths, tables, chairs, ladders;
 - The boutique (with art from local artists works) affecting the number of sales for local artists.

The matter of a coffee shop at the complex has been included in previous architectural concepts. SRAG have advised that this is not required or desired, and as such it has not been included in this assessment.

The matter of additional library space has been considered by staff. The consensus is that, whilst there is not currently a critical business need, there is a shortage of space and room for improvement in relation to operating as a contemporary library. As such it has been included in this assessment.

The writer is not aware of a need or demand for additional community space, and if the need arises existing facilities would most likely be suitable. As such this has not been included in this assessment.

STAGE GATE 2:

The following options have been developed based on work undertaken over past years.

1. Do nothing

This option is self-explanatory

2. Brownfield Development – Minimal Investment

This option would consist of a very modest build out on the northern side of the existing gallery to house the art collection. It would be of basic design and finish.

An indicative cost may be in the order of \$250,000.

3. Brownfield Development – Modest Investment

This option would consist of a modest build out on the northern side of the existing gallery to house the art collection and provide some additional space for education and workshops / staff / storage. It would include be of a basic design and finish.

An indicative cost may be in the order of \$1.5M.

4. Brownfield Development – Significant Investment

This option would consist of a significant build out on the northern and eastern sides of the existing gallery and the eastern side of the existing library. The concept would be comparable to Option 4g presented to Council in 2018 and tabled for discussion at the information session. It may comprise additional space for education and workshops / staff / storage and gallery. It would be of a comparable design and finish to the existing facility.

An indicative cost may be in the order of \$4,000,000.

5. Greenfield Development 1 – Major Investment

This option would consist of a Greenfield Development comprising a new gallery. Based on work done previously by SRAG and Conrad Gargett Architects a cost of \$12M is being used for this report.

This option would necessitate additional work being done at the existing facility.

6. Greenfield Development 2 – Major Investment

This option would consist of a Greenfield Development comprising a new gallery and additional community space. Based on work done previously by SRAG and Conrad Gargett Architects a cost of \$18M is being used for this report.

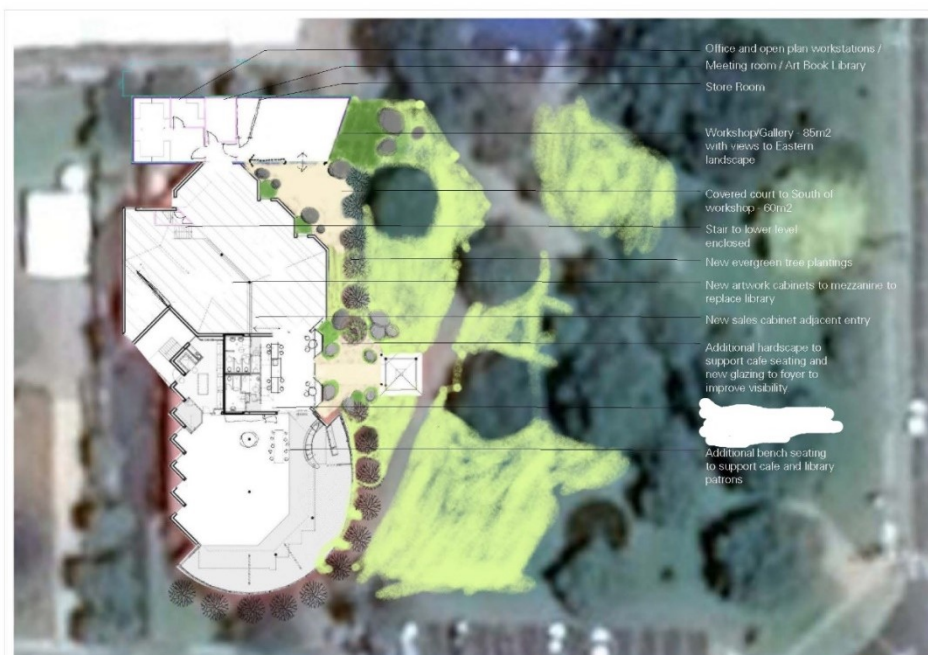
This option would necessitate additional work being done at the existing facility and would result in surplus space as possible community activities would be focused on the new development site.

OPTIONS

Option 3

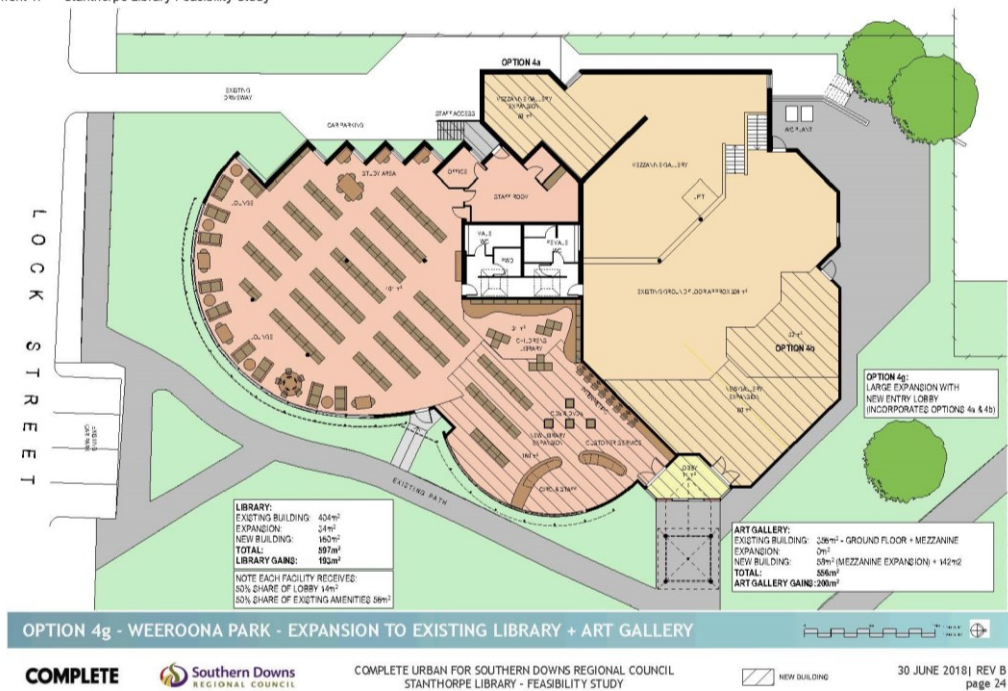
Stanthorpe Art Gallery and Library

Cafe and Gallery Extension



Option 4

Item 12.3 Stanthorpe Library Feasibility
Attachment 1: Stanthorpe Library Feasibility Study



Option 5

Feasibility Study
Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery

6.0 Test fit plans

6.1 Site plan

Note: A revised master plan will be undertaken if the corner allotment were to form part of the site.



Conrad
Gargett

Option 6



SRAG
19 300 - STANTHORPE REGIONAL ART GALLERY

Conrad
Gargett

CONCEPT ILLUSTRATION

Page 5

ASSESSMENT:

To assist in the assessment of the optimum project selection the following matrices have been prepared.

The first matrix assesses the issues to be addressed against the options identified.

Red = not achievable

Green = achievable

Yellow = some aspects achievable and will need to be prioritized

ISSUES	OPTIONS					
	1. Do nothing	2. Brownfield Development – Minimal Investment	3. Brownfield Development – Modest Investment	4. Brownfield Development – Significant Investment	5. Greenfield Development – Major Investment	6. Greenfield Development – Major Investment
	\$0	Circa \$250K	Circa \$1.5M	Circa \$4M	Circa \$12M	Circa \$18M
Constrained gallery space (modest increase)	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green
Art collection proximity to switchboard	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Safety and security of the collection	Red	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Lack of space in relation to education and workshop space	Red	Red	Yellow	Green	Green	Green
Lack of space in relation to Community gathering / meeting / conference space	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Green

Lack of space in relation to staff and volunteer work areas						
Lack of space in relation to exhibiting the permanent collection (significant increase)						
Lack of space in relation to the storage of plinths, tables, chairs, ladders						
Lack of space in relation to the boutique						
Lack of library space						

The second matrix identifies what Council must or should do and what would be nice to do.

ISSUES			
	Must / should do	Nice to do	Aspirational
Constrained gallery space			
Art collection proximity to switchboard			
Safety and security of the collection			
Lack of space in relation to education and workshop space			
Lack of space in relation to Community gathering / meeting / conference space			
Lack of space in relation to staff and volunteer work areas			
Lack of space in relation to exhibiting the permanent collection (significant increase)			
Lack of space in relation to the storage of plinths, tables, chairs, ladders			
Lack of space in relation to the boutique			
Lack of library space			

The third matrix identifies the impact on critical aspects of Council's business and sustainability.

Red = Very negative impact

Green = Little or no impact

Yellow = some negative impact

ISSUES	OPTIONS					
	1. Do nothing	2. Brownfield Development – Minimal Investment	3. Brownfield Development – Modest Investment	4. Brownfield Development – Significant Investment	5. Greenfield Development – Major Investment	6. Greenfield Development – Major Investment
	\$0	Circa \$200K	Circa \$1.5M	Circa \$4M	Circa \$12M	Circa \$18M
Current financial position (cash)	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red
Future depreciation	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Red
Future operating budgets (O&M)	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Red
Sustainability ratios	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Red	Red
More surplus building assets (current gallery area not required for library expansion)	Green	Green	Green	Green	Red	Red

The Greenfield Development options previously identified land in Creek Street as the most suitable. This would need to be reviewed in option 5 or 6 are preferred by Council.

The Brownfield Development options involve minimal expansion within Weeroona Park.

Budget Implications

The budget implications will vary depending on Council's preferred course of action in line with the information provided in the body of the report.

There is no provision for any project in the 2020/2021 budget.

Round 5 of the Australian Government's *Building Better Regions Fund* is currently open and a project in relation to the SRAG would be eligible. This funding, if successful, would be limited to 50%.

Policy Consideration

Corporate Plan 2019-2024

1 Grow: 1.12 Develop and promote our unique artistic and cultural diversity

1 Grow: 1.39 Provide and maintain strategies to ensure Council's long term financial sustainability

PL-ES053 Arts and Culture Policy

Community Engagement

Internal Consultation

Director Corporate and Community Services and Manager Community and Cultural Services

External Consultation

Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Executive (Nov 2020)

Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Executive (Jan 2021)
Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery President and Director (Jan 2021)
Stanthorpe Community in relation to the possible relocation of the Stanthorpe library (2018)

Legislation/Local Law

Not applicable.

Attachments

1. Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Presentation [↓](#)

STANTHORPE REGIONAL ART GALLERY

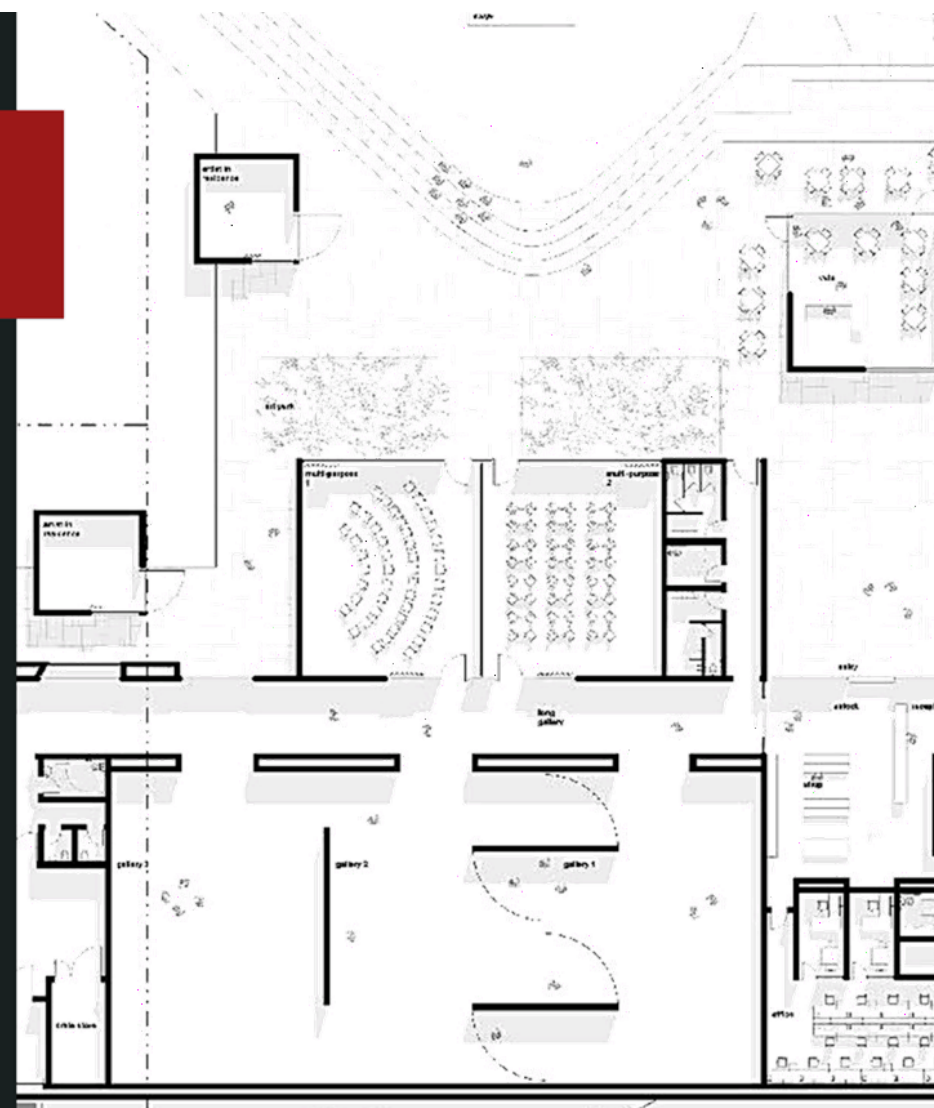


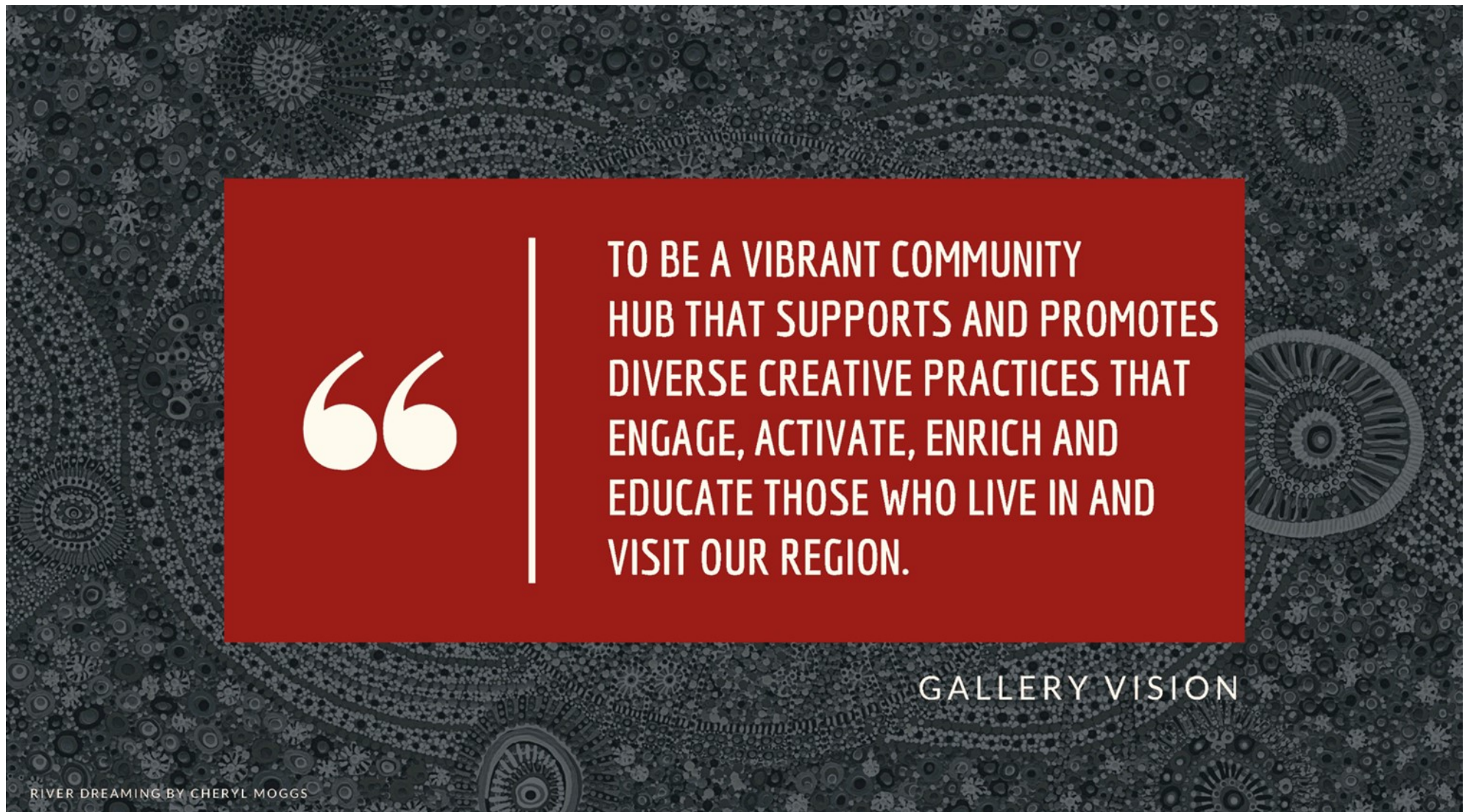
A NEW ART GALLERY

Presented by Mary Findlay, Gallery Director

OUR TOPICS TODAY

ABOUT THE GALLERY
ART IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIA
PROBLEMS WITH THE EXISTING GALLERY
OPTIONS
POTENTIAL
NEXT STEPS







ABOUT THE GALLERY

182 MEMBERS

71 ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS, 2 STAFF

\$4 MILLION COLLECTION

BIENNIAL NATIONAL ART PRIZE - \$50,000

ANNUAL CRISPS YOUTH ART PRIZE- \$2000

BIENNIAL LOCAL ART PRIZE- \$5000

BIENNIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE- \$6500

NEW EXHIBITIONS EVERY 6 WEEKS

HISTORY

CURRENT BUILDING

Built 1988

Had issues from the very beginning because
of cost cutting

PROPOSALS TO EXPAND/MOVE

Multiple discussions proposals for over a decade



IN THE COMMUNITY

FACILITATED 12+ STREET ART INSTALLATIONS
SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITY ART GROUPS
SUPPORT ART IN LOCAL SCHOOLS
ART ACTIVITIES DURING LOCKDOWN
SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS GAINING EMPLOYMENT
SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS WITH DISABILITIES

WE WORK WITH

- SDRC
- GBWT
- LOCAL ARTISTS
- LOCAL SCHOOLS
- STANTHORPE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- SOUTH WEST REGIONAL ARTS
- GBART
- USQ
- QAGOMA
- AMAGA-AUSTRALIAN MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES
- NAVA - NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS
- BORDERLINE ARTS ASSOCIATION
- STANTHORPE POTTERY CLUB
- APPLE & GRAPE HARVEST FESTIVAL
- SNOWFLAKES IN STANTHORPE
- STANTHORPE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
- STANTHORPE FILM SOCIETY
- STANTHORPE CAMERA CLUB
- STANTHORPE MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS
- WHERE ART THOU ARTS GROUP
- LAURIE'S LARKINS
- STANTHORPE RSL MUSEUM
- CRISPS COACHES
- GRANITE BELT SUPPORT SERVICES
- STANTHORPE RURAL FIRE BRIGADE

SCHOOLS

- Holiday Art Workshops
- Collaborating with Stanthorpe State High School and St Joseph's senior students
- End of year exhibition for year 11 & 12 art students
- Professional development for students
- Work experience students
- Working with USQ on Headstart program at QCWT
- Annual CRISPS Art Prize
 - 918 works from students in 2020
 - Response to drought, fire and COVID-19
 - Supported recovery, resilience and healing of our youth



BOUTIQUE

The boutique provides a valuable sales avenue for local artists, diversifying residents' income.

In 2020 we had the highest record of sales – that money going into local pockets.





STREET ART

The Gallery has facilitated multiple public works across Stanthorpe & surrounds.

Public Art ensures that everyone has access to art and that visitors to the region see us at our best.



STANTHORPE ART PRIZE

This biennial national event draws 250 visitors on opening night 75% from out of town who stay and over 2000 throughout the exhibition period.



VOLUNTEERS

In 2019 the volunteer contribution was approximately 3327 hours. Transferred into monetary terms at \$30 per hour is \$99,810. The profile of this committed volunteer group ranges from engineers, graphic designers, executive university personnel to administrators, builders, and curators.

*Sandra McEwan
Photography ©*

INCOME – Working towards a sustainable organisation



GRANTS

Multiple grants successful for street art, opening night & local arts festival



SALES

Commissions from sales of exhibiting works

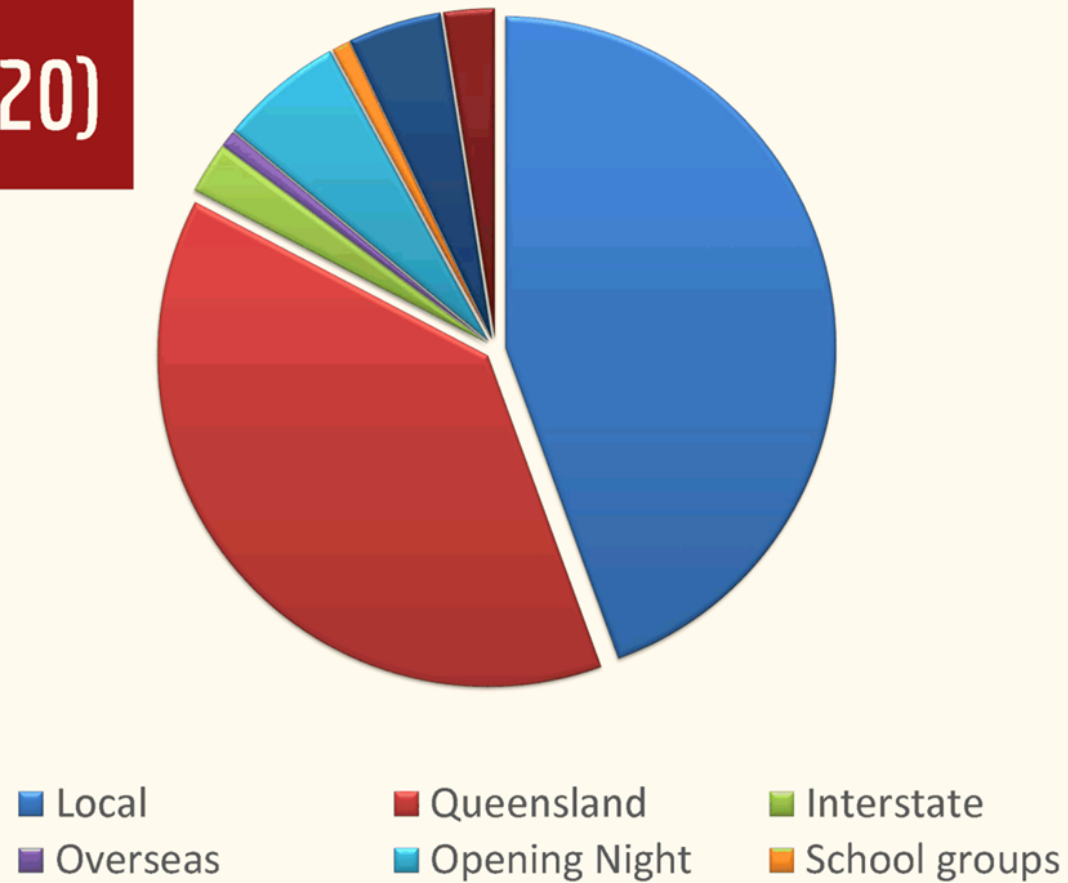


BOUTIQUE

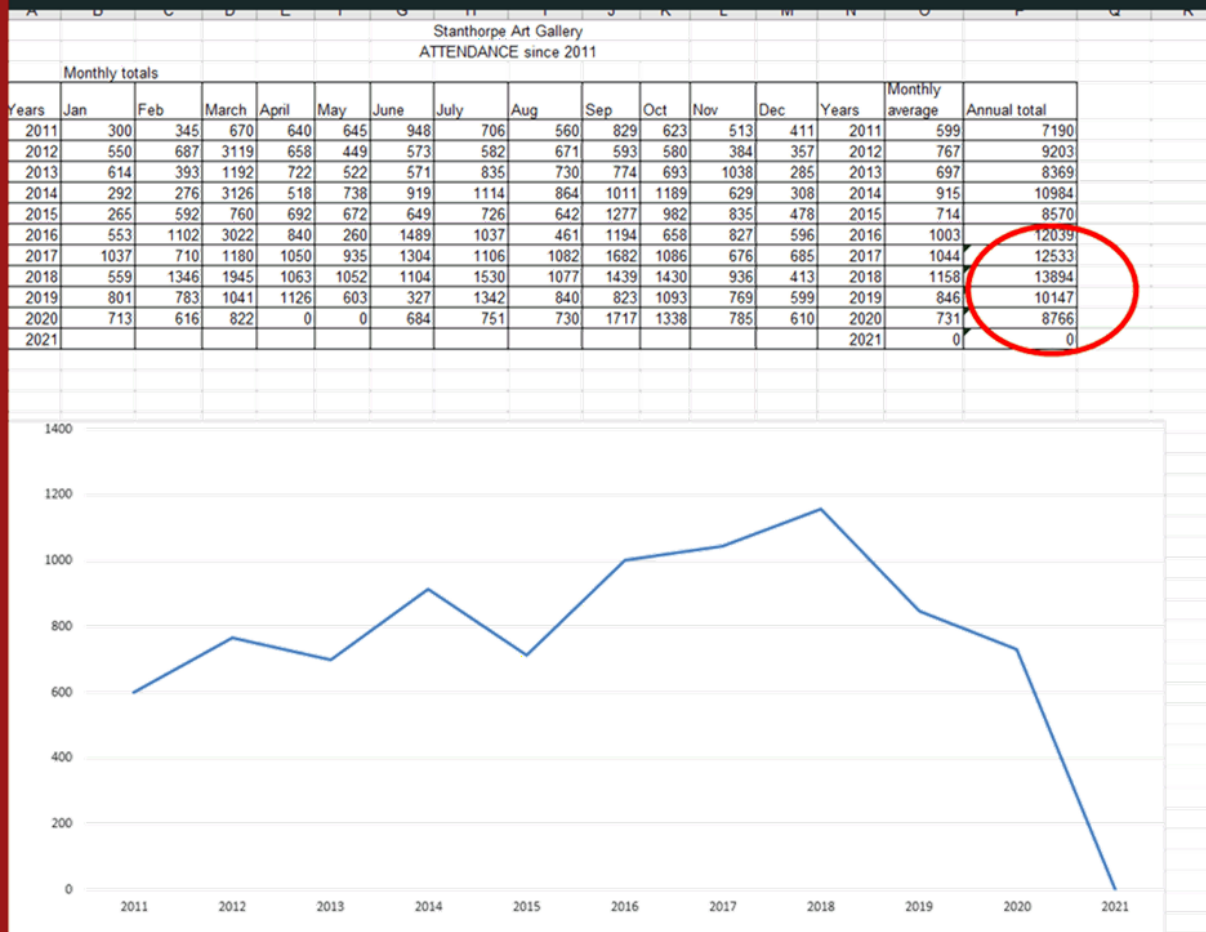
Commissions from local art sales

Visitors

VISITORS (2020)



**INCREASED
VISITATION
OVER
LAST
5 YEARS**



SHAPING SOUTHERN DOWNS

THE STANTHORPE REGIONAL
ART GALLERY WORKS
TOWARDS THE SDRC'S
SHAPING SOUTHERN DOWNS
THEMES:

GROWTH

By sustainably accommodating a growing population.

CONNECTEDNESS

Retaining and protecting existing infrastructure

PROSPERITY

Strengthening existing industries and diversifying assets to create an economically viable region

SUSTAINABILITY

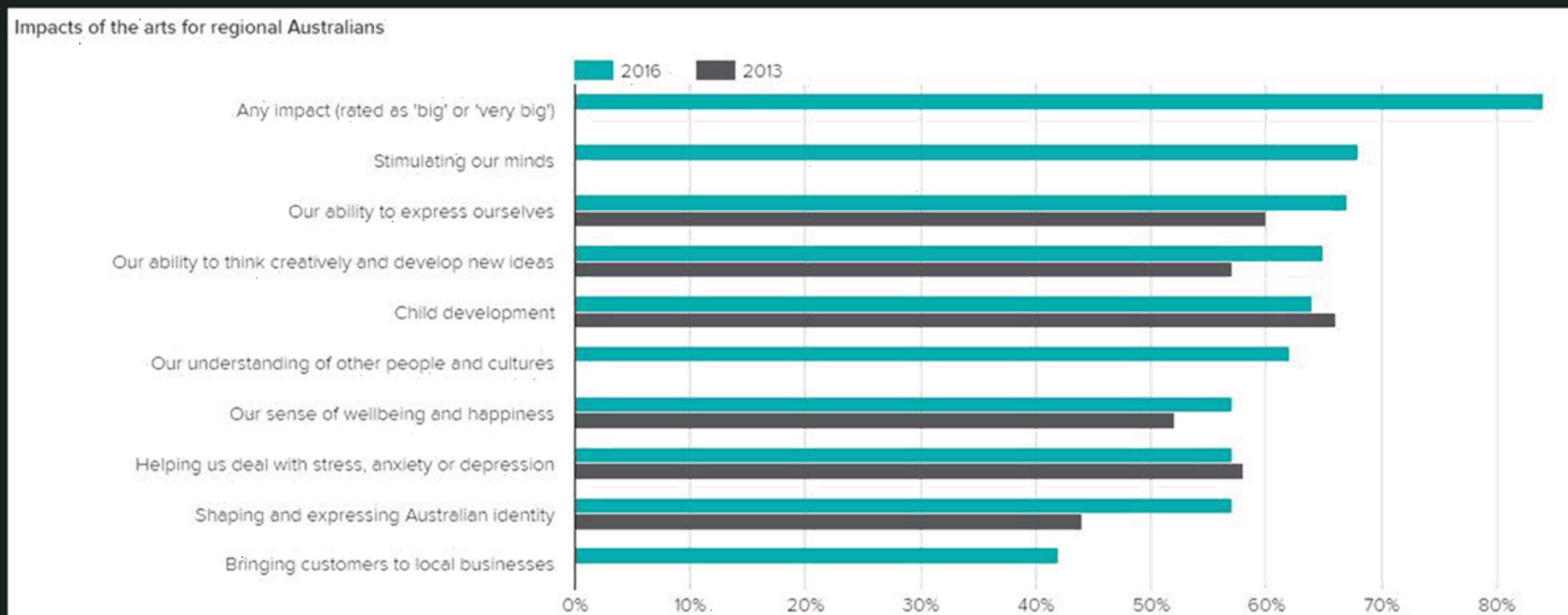
Protecting existing assets to strengthen social sustainability and well-being.

ART & CULTURE



IMPORTANCE OF ART IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

The vast majority of people living in regional Australia recognise positive impacts of the arts in their lives (84%).



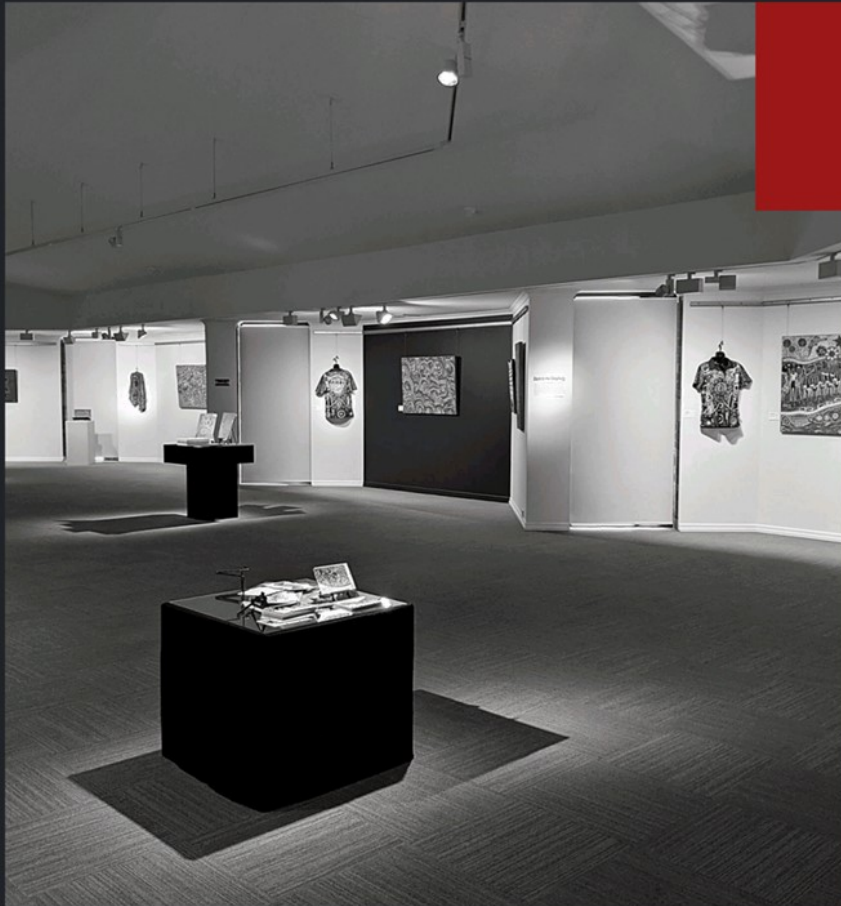
From Australia Council 2017, Connecting Australians: Results of the National Arts Participation Survey



Creative Together 2020–2030: A 10-Year Roadmap for arts, culture and creativity in Queensland

PROBLEMS

WITH THE CURRENT BUILDING



EXISTING GALLERY

The Gallery is significantly constrained by the existing building.



FIRE HAZARD

The \$4 million dollar collection is housed within the same room as the electrical switches.



THE COLLECTION

The Gallery is the steward of a magnificent collection that has been gathered by the community over several decades. This public asset is worth nearly 4 million dollars. This collection has some nationally important artwork by Margaret Olley, William Robinson, Charles Blackman, Picasso, and many other significant pieces.



WH&S & STANDARDS

Safety – lack of space leads to Workplace Health and safety issues for our staff and 71 older but active volunteers

National Standards for Australian Museums and Galleries – we meet all standards, **except** the guidelines related to the safety and security of the collection due to the current building

NATIONAL STANDARDS FOR AUSTRALIAN MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES September 2016

STANDARDS

- **Principle A2: The museum is effectively managed, sustainable and publicly accountable.**
 - The museum identifies and assesses risks and has **strategies in place to manage them.**
- **Principle A4: The museum is a secure, well-managed facility that presents a positive public image.**
 - The museum **dedicates appropriate spaces to all activities.**
 - The museum conserves, maintains, **protects** and documents its assets.
- **Principle B2: The museum **presents its most significant collection items**, stories and themes through engaging exhibitions and programs.**
- **Principle C2: The museum preserves its significant collections for future generations.**
 - The museum actively strives to create and **maintain an appropriate and stable environment** for its collection.
 - The museum's display, **storage** and handling methods **minimise risks** to its collection.
 - The museum has identified, and is able **to respond to, all potential threats** to its collection.

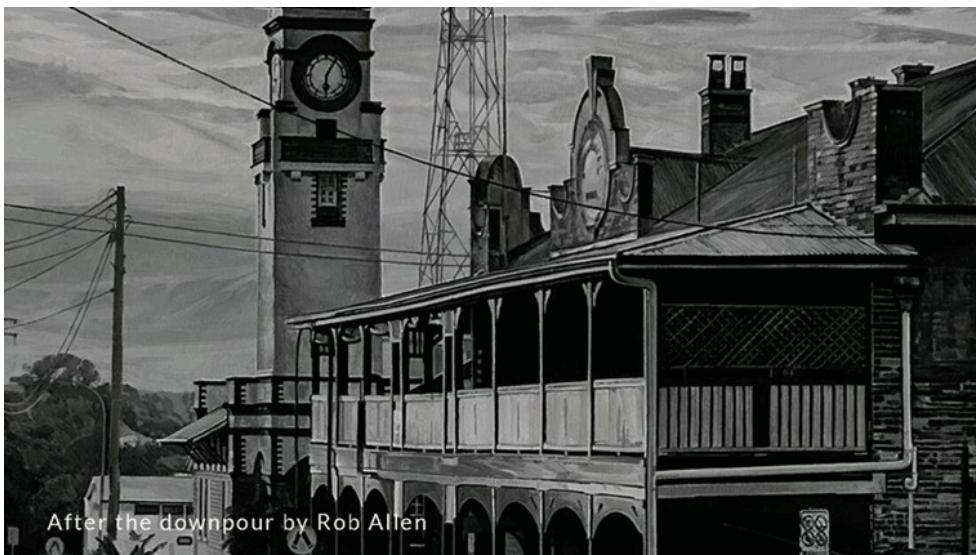


SPACE - LACK OF

- Education and workshop space is extremely limited (the only space is the lunchroom/storage area).
- Lack of community gathering/meeting/conference space.
- Staff and volunteer work areas are inadequate.
- There is no space to exhibit our permanent collection and exhibition size is highly restricted.
- There is no space to store plinths, tables, chairs, ladders.
- The boutique (with art from local artists works) is restricted in size and restricts the number of sales for local artists.

OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE





After the downpour by Rob Allen

BUILD STORAGE SHED

PROS: Low cost

CONS: Vastly increased time & WH&S issues in moving items to and from the gallery, limits opportunities for workshops, community groups and public programs

DO NOTHING

PROS: \$0 cost

CONS: Risk to publicly owned \$4 million collection; H&S risks, limits opportunities for workshops, community groups and public programs



Green Grapes by Margaret Olley



AUSLAN Choir

NEW BUILDING

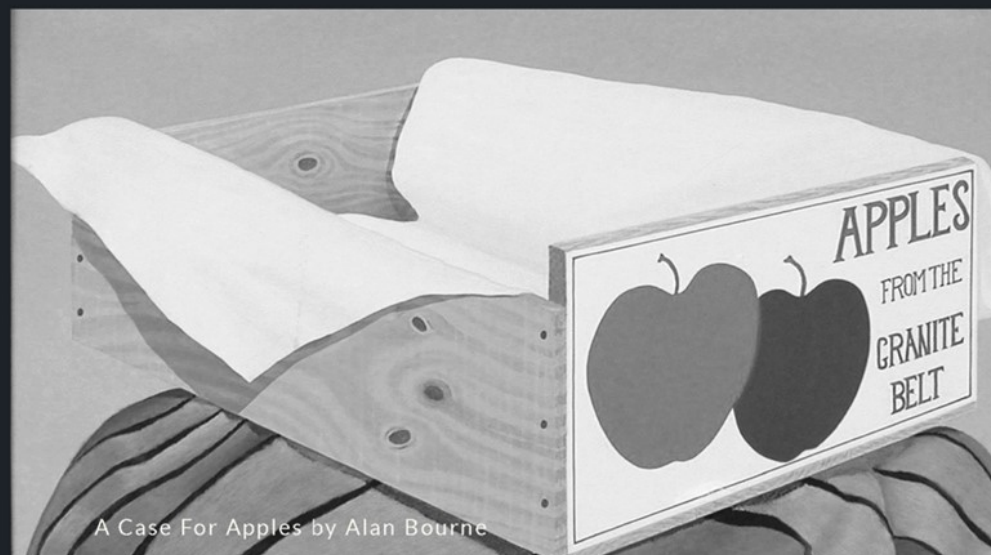
PROS: Modern, future-proofed space; attractive to cultural visitors; important space for young people; supports economic diversification of the region; a destination for art lovers-supporting cultural tourism and business, community space for young people

CONS: \$ more expensive (but grants are available)

EXPAND EXISTING SPACE

PROS: Lower cost, possible to expand without closing facilities, reduce risk of fire damage

CONS: Limited vision and not future-proofing, the public has indicated they don't want to move the Library






A Case For Apples by Alan Bourne



Trotting Gurnseys by William Robinson

EXPANDED GALLERY POTENTIAL

						
Expanded events & functions	Safe collection & working environment	Workshop & performance space	Expanded income for local artists	Exhibit permanent collection	Space for youth	Future proofing

OTHER NEW GALLERIES

ROCKHAMPTON

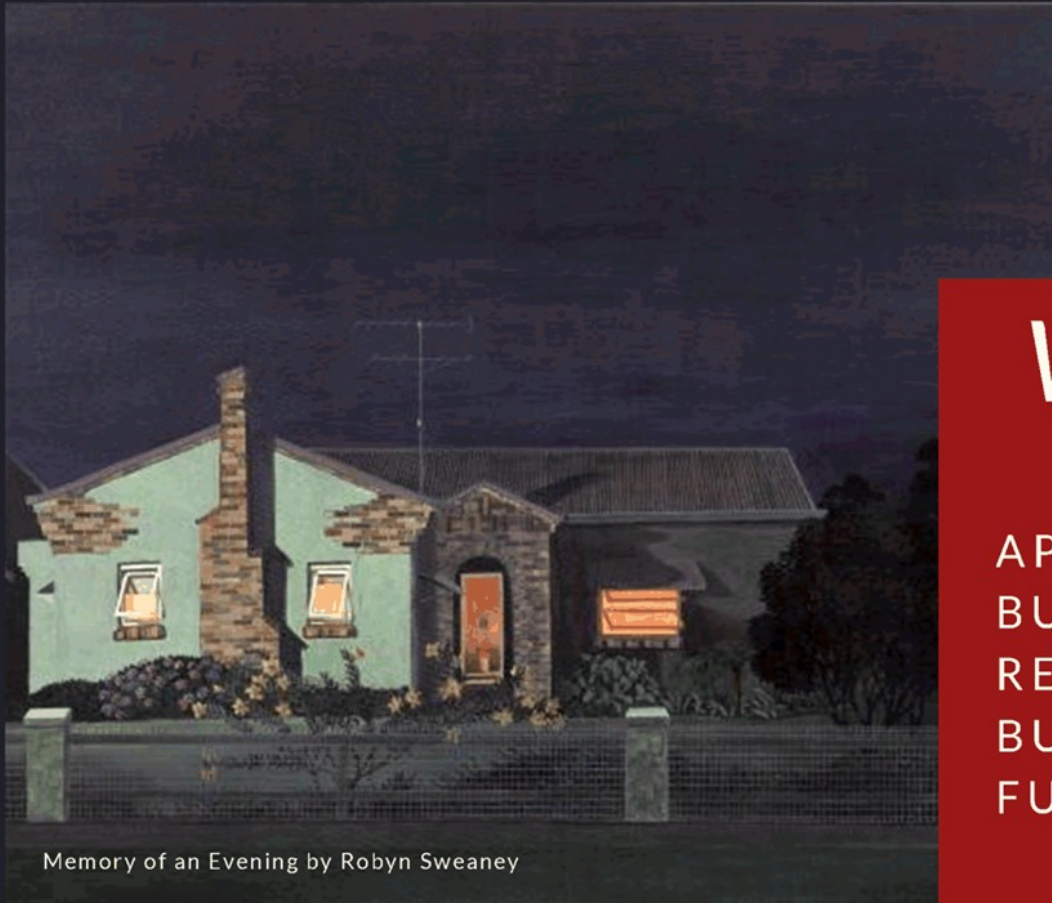
“The new Gallery will make the region’s significant and notable collection more accessible to the community through expanded gallery spaces, provide opportunities to show touring exhibitions, and offer spaces for education and community engagement. In short, the new Gallery will reinvigorate the local economy and provide a tourist drawcard for visitors from interstate and beyond.”

BUNDABERG

In April 2020, Bundaberg Council received \$120,000 from the State Government to help prepare the business case for a new Bundaberg Regional Art Gallery, as the current building is no longer fit for purpose.

TARRAWARRA MUSEUM OF ART





WHAT NEXT?

APPLICATIONS FOR
BUILDING BETTER
REGIONS FUND +
BUILDING OUR REGION
FUND



“

AMAZINGLY WELL- RUN
REGIONAL GALLERY. THE ART
PRIZE WAS A TREAT, EVEN IF A
LITTLE CONGESTED WITH
LOVELY ARTWORKS.

STEPHEN BRIERLEY



“

BEST REGIONAL
GALLERY IN AUSTRALIA
WITH FABULOUS LOCAL
ARTISTS

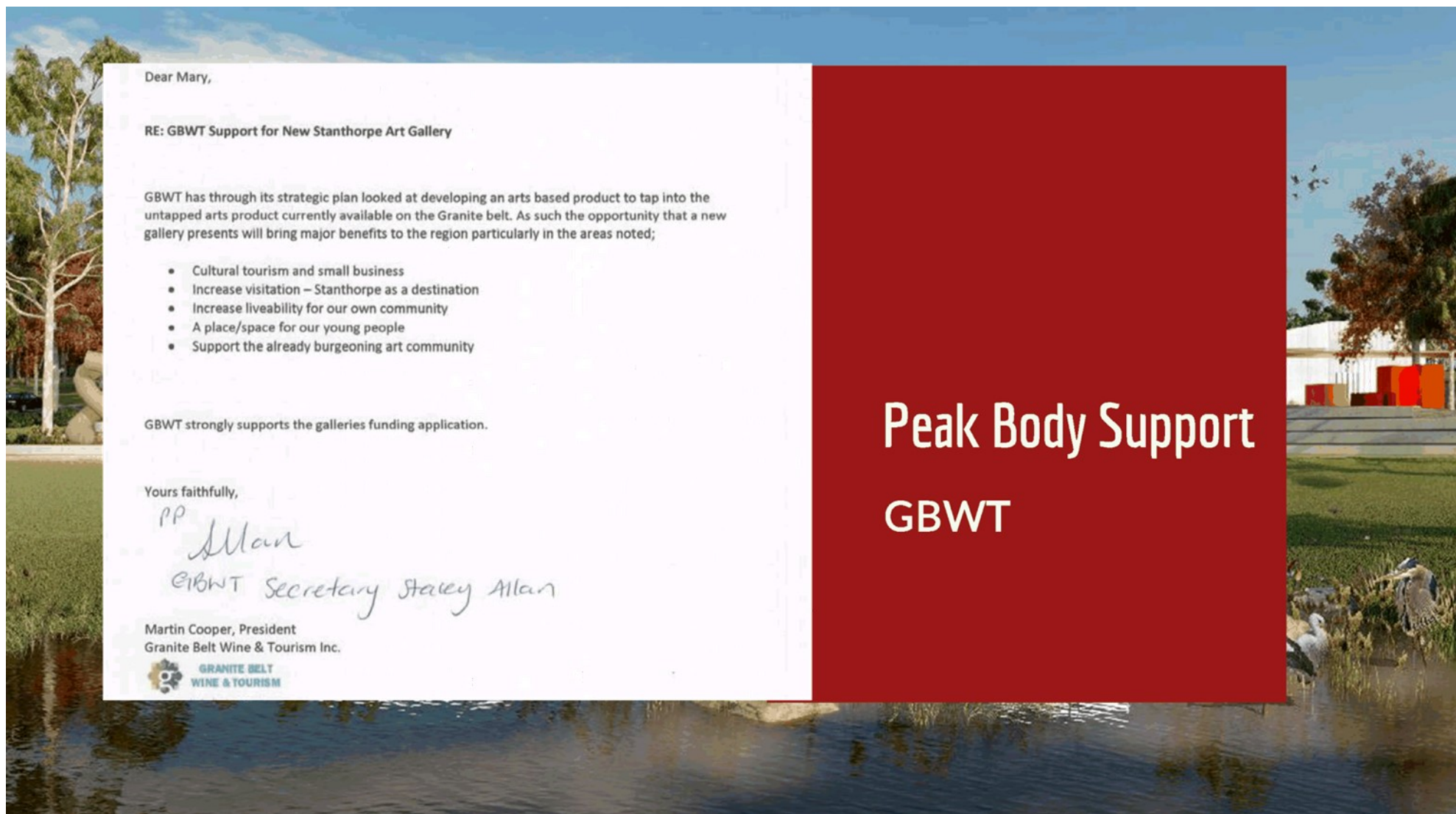
MIKE HAYES





CLARE MCCORMICK

Stanthorpe State High School
Captain 2019





stanthorpe & granite belt
chamber of commerce

12 January 2021

Mary Findlay
Gallery Director – Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery
PO Box 211 Stanthorpe QLD 4380

New Art Gallery Grant Funding Application

Dear Mary

The Stanthorpe & Granite Belt Chamber of Commerce is pleased to provide this letter of support for your application for grant funding for the construction of a new Art Gallery.

Chamber acknowledges the importance of our local art community and the contribution to the vibrancy of our town that is part and parcel of our recognition as a tourist destination. Chamber acknowledges the contribution to the business community as well as the wider community made by the Art Gallery. Our Art Gallery contributes to our community things such as

- Cultural tourism and small business
- Increase visitation – Stanthorpe as a destination
- Increase liveability for our own community
- Attract people to come and live in our region – (increasing our rate payer base)
- A place/space for our young people
- Support the already burgeoning art community
- Ensure that our CBD remains alive and buzzing

We are aware of the constraints upon the gallery staff and volunteers due to the current space restrictions in the present location. Chamber would be supportive of working with the gallery to ensure there is wide public support in the construction of a new gallery.

I congratulate you for your efforts in applying for this funding and would be happy to offer our assistance in helping this project to proceed.

Yours sincerely

Graham Parker
President

Peak Body Support

Chamber of Commerce

STANTHORPE REGIONAL ART GALLERY




**THANKYOU
A NEW ART GALLERY
WILL BENEFIT OUR
WHOLE REGION**

Presented by Mary Findlay, Gallery Director

4.2 Building Better Regions Fund - Round 5

Document Information

 Southern Downs REGIONAL COUNCIL	Report To: Special Council Meeting	
	Reporting Officer:	Meeting Date: 20 January 2021
	Chief Executive Officer	ECM Function No/s:

Recommendation

THAT Council :-

- Submits the following funding applications under the Building Better Regions Fund Round 5:

Infrastructure Project Stream:
 - Priority 1: Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Expansion – Option 4 (refer to previous report); and
 - Priority 2: Regional Streetscape Enhancements.
Community Investments Stream:
 - Priority 1: Protecting our Natural Future; and
 - Priority 2: Residential attraction and Jobslink.
- Commits to the mandatory 50 per cent financial contribution towards the nominated projects should the funding applications under the Building Better Regions Fund be successful.

Report

BBRF Round 5 Overview

The Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) is a \$1.04 billion program investing in community projects to create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger regional and remote communities into the future.

The Australian Government has announced \$200 million in the 2020-21 budget for a fifth round of the BBRF. Round Five includes:

- \$100 million to support tourism-related infrastructure projects which are focused on mitigating the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on a region's tourism industry.
- \$100 million to support regional remote Australia more broadly, by funding general infrastructure projects and community investment projects.

Amount

- Infrastructure Grants (incl. Tourism) of \$20,000 to \$10 million to cover 50% or more of eligible project costs.
- Community Investment Grants of \$5000 to \$1 million to cover 50% or more of eligible project costs.

Application period

- Open date: 12 Jan 2021
- Close date: 05 Mar 2021

Eligibility

- An incorporated not-for-profit organisation, an Australian local government agency or body or a non-distributing co-operative
- Private Sector can partner, for example John Dee and Southern Downs Regional Council in Round 1

Infrastructure Projects Stream

- The Infrastructure Projects Stream supports projects that provide economic and social benefits to regional and remote areas.
- The projects can be either construction of new infrastructure or the upgrade or extension of existing infrastructure. The Infrastructure Projects Stream only supports investment ready projects.

Community Investments Stream

- Fund new or expanded local events, strategic regional plans, or leadership and capability strengthening activities.
- The project will need to deliver economic and social benefits to a regional or remote community.
- For small projects with a total grant amount of equal to or less than \$20,000, grant funding will be up to 100% of eligible project costs.

Community Investments Stream - Local Events

- Art and culture events, for example theatre productions, gallery exhibitions and Indigenous cultural events
- Community and public events, for example food festivals, field days, seasonal activities, veterans or memorial events
- Attracting new businesses or economic opportunities, for example hosting a conference or business event to coordinate and enable growth in a particular industry sector or address obstacles in accessing markets
- Community sporting events, for example an exhibition sporting match or hosting an interstate sports carnival
- Events attracting tourists and visitors to a region.

Community Investments Stream - Strategic Planning

- Regional skills audits
- Research projects to support regional development strategic plans
- Collecting socio-economic information.

Community Investments Stream - Regional Leadership and Capability

- Leadership courses
- Participation and community building measures for young people
- Participation in activities to improve local business and industry leadership capability.

Assessment

Only applications (all streams) that score at least 60% against each assessment criterion will be assessed as these are deemed to represent best value for money.

- Assessment criterion 1: Economic benefits of your project for the region (15 points).
- Assessment criterion 2: Social benefits of your project for the region (15 points).
- Assessment criterion 3: Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project (5 points).
- Assessment criterion 4: Impact of funding on your project (5 points)

Key Principles of Success

Stronger Projects

1. Measurable improvements
2. Project well defined
3. Meaningful support
4. Value for money
5. Shovel ready
6. Strategic alignment

Weaker Projects

1. Benefits unclear
2. Lacking key documents
3. Generic support
4. Budget incomplete
5. Obstacles to proceeding
6. Self-serving

Infrastructure Projects Stream

The following projects have been put forward by staff for consideration for submission under the Infrastructure Projects Stream of BBRF Round 5:

Project Title	Priority	Scope	Cost (approx.)	Link Funding to Outcomes	Eligible Activity Category	Links to Strategic Plans
Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery Expansion	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A significant build out on the northern and eastern sides of the existing gallery and the eastern side of the existing library. The concept would be comparable to Option 4g presented to Council in 2018 and tabled for discussion at the information session of 13 January 2021. It would comprise additional space for education and workshops / staff / storage and gallery. It would be of a comparable design and finish to the existing facility.	\$4,000,000	Upgrade and extension to existing infrastructure	Not applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shaping Southern Downs• Corporate Plan 2019-2024• Speaking up for the Southern Downs
Regional Streetscape Enhancements	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UDF and streetscape developments across Pratten, Dalveen, Stanthorpe and Maryvale.• The scope of these projects is quite general currently and dependent on the priority projects that are determined from the UDF process. The draft UDF documents for Pratten and Dalveen will be consulted with the community to finalise priority projects and these projects will then be a point of focus for funding received. Projects that may be implemented include, but are not limited to: entry works to Dalveen and Pratten, tourist facilities, park embellishments and history storytelling interpretive works.• Priority projects from the Maryvale UDF will be progressed and the next stage of the Stanthorpe Streetscape will be developed.	\$1,000,000	Construction of new and upgrade of existing infrastructure	Not applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shaping Southern Downs• Corporate Plan 2019-2024• Pratten Urban Design Framework (in process of being drafted)• Dalveen Urban Design Framework (in process of being drafted)• Maryvale Urban Design Framework• Stanthorpe Streetscape Master Plan• Granite Belt Strategic Plan

Project Title	Priority	Scope	Cost (approx.)	Link to Funding Outcomes	Eligible Activity Category	Links to Strategic Plans
Warwick Town Hall and Event Precinct	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades to Warwick Town Hall to include new kitchen facility, carpet replacement, painting, investigation into improved heating and cooling, audio visual improvements and toilet upgrades to Warwick Town Hall. All works to occur within heritage guidelines and approvals. The building is in need of a refurbishment to the facilities, as they are not of an appropriate standard, are unsafe, non-compliant with building and other requirements, and are deterring people and groups from hiring the venue for events. All works to occur within heritage guidelines and approvals. 	\$500 000	Upgrade and extension to existing infrastructure	Not applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shaping Southern Downs Corporate Plan 2019-2024
Shopfront Improvement Program	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To encourage building owners to refresh the facade of shopfronts, improve appeal to customers and contribute to the character of the local area. A funding programme to assist tenants of shopfronts to refresh the façade of their shop, improve its appeal to customers and contribute to the character of the local area and boost economic development. Improvements include repairs, replacement or new applications of awnings, windows, doors, lighting, painting, landscaping, tiles or other decorative material and signs. 	\$150 000	Upgrade to existing infrastructure	Not applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shaping Southern Downs Corporate Plan 2019-2024 To be included in the Economic Development Strategy
Sentimental Rocks	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project involves improvements to the Sentimental Rocks in Stanthorpe, including: upgrades to walking trails, interpretive signage, formalisation of carparking, clean-up of the land, pest management and potential nature play area. The Rotary Club of Stanthorpe have been in contact with Council officers regarding the improvement of Sentimental Rocks and have verbally offered to assist in the clean-up of this attraction. The proximity of Sentimental Rocks offers a great location for residents and visiting tourists to experience a small but unique nature walk. This positions Sentimental Rocks as a nature walk designed for people of all walking abilities and within close proximity to the Stanthorpe CBD. This project could be reduced to a smaller project of approximately \$30,000 if the 'nature play area' was removed from the project. 	\$120,000 plus In-kind support from Rotary Club and others	Construction of new and upgrade of existing infrastructure	Not applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shaping Southern Downs Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Granite Belt Strategic Plan
Wifi and Data Network	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of free public wifi networks/hot spots in Warwick and Stanthorpe CBD utilising smart city technologies. Software will provide data that could be used to ascertain spending trends, visitation etc. 	\$250 000	Construction of new infrastructure	Not applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shaping Southern Downs Corporate Plan 2019-2024 To be included in the Economic Development Strategy

Community Investments Stream

The following projects have been put forward for consideration for submission under the Community Investments Stream of BBRF Round 5:

Project Title	Priority	Scope	Cost (approx.)	Link Funding Outcomes to	Eligible Activity Category	Links to Strategic Plans
Protecting our Natural Future	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condamine and Tributaries Flood Study: undertake a review of the Condamine and Tributaries Flood Study to ensure accurate information to enable regional development in appropriate locations. • Develop an Open Space Strategy: collect data to inform development of a strategic plan for management of the Region's open space, biodiversity, recreation and eco-tourism values that will enable private and public land conservation, realise opportunities for eco-tourism and inform future regional development • Cambanoora Gorge Management Plan: develop a strategic plan to protect the unique values and address the unique management challenges of the Cambanoora Gorge to protect environmental values, boost tourism and economic development opportunities and provide for safe use by residents and visitors 	\$850,000	Strategic Planning	Research projects to support regional development strategic plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping Southern Downs • Corporate Plan 2019-2024 • Operational Plan 2020-2021 • Southern Downs Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2021-2031 (draft) • To be included in the Economic Development Strategy
Residential attraction and Jobslink	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Residential Attraction Marketing strategy (from 2020 BBRF funding), which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Developing creative events to promote the campaign during critical phases including the launch phase. ◦ Drafting newsworthy media releases, distributing to media outlets and organising interviews. ◦ Developing media angles, opportunities and photo shoots. ◦ Undertaking media liaison, tours and press conferences. ◦ Developing targeted media lists including bloggers and brand ambassadors. ◦ Monitoring and measuring impact of media coverage. • Incorporating a "Jobs portal" in to the Invest Southern Downs website. This will assist with local Economic Development, allowing employers to grow their businesses and recruit the staff they require. It will also assist with Residential Attraction by promoting local employment opportunities. The platform allows Employers to scan quality Job Seekers looking for work on the Southern Downs. Employers would be able to post their vacancies for free and find the right person for the job. At the same time, Job Seekers would be able to sign up for free and have access to the latest local jobs. 	\$230,000	Regional Leadership and Capability		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping Southern Downs • Corporate Plan 2019-2024 • Operational Plan 2020-2021 • To be included in the Economic Development Strategy Shaping Southern Downs
Cunningham's Gap study	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake a study into the economic impacts the closure of Cunningham's Gap has on the Southern Downs region. • In times of disaster, Cunningham's Gap can be closed, which significantly restricts access to the southern downs, particularly from the major centre of SEQ. This study would enable Council to quantify the economic 	\$100,000	Strategic Planning		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping Southern Downs • Corporate Plan 2019-2024 • To be included in the Economic Development Strategy

Project Title	Priority	Scope	Cost (approx.)	Link Funding Outcomes to	Eligible Activity Category	Links to Strategic Plans
		impacts the extended closures have on our region and will enable future planning to protect regional development into the future.				
SDRC Media and Comms strategy including new website	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create strategic plan for PR, media and communications including replacement of SDRC website. Modernise website with a news look and feel which is more community focused. The communications team have the potential to operate like a newsroom: publish content that people want to read; be agile. Consider Bundaberg Now model . • The catalyst for Council to rethink our communications strategy is the national change in the local newspaper landscape and the gradual decline of traditional media. Having a Council online news platform can overcome the way we communicate to the residents in the region. It provides a service our community is grateful for, building trust, creating goodwill and filling a need. Integrate services on SDRC website into a new website. 	\$100,000	<i>Strategic Planning</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shaping Southern Downs • Corporate Plan 2019-2024 • Operational Plan 2020-2021 • Southern Downs Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2021-2031 (draft) • To be included in the Economic Development Strategy

A detailed analysis has not been undertaken on any project except the proposed Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery expansion. Council are strongly encouraged to select projects that they have a need or strong desire to undertake over the coming two years and not select projects that have not been given prior consideration or mention in relevant strategic documents.

The recommendation is framed to only include two priority projects from each stream.

Budget Implications

Council will be required to contribute 50 per cent of the total eligible projects costs under the Infrastructure Projects Stream and for those projects greater than \$20,000 under the Community Investments Stream. Projects under or equal to \$20,000 under the Community Investments Stream can be funded up to 100 per cent of the total eligible project costs.

Policy Consideration

Corporate Plan 2019-2024

3. Prosper: 3.5 Identify new external revenue sources, including grants, to fund regional infrastructure and services.

Community Engagement

Internal Consultation

Executive Management Team

External Consultation

Nil

Legislation/Local Law

All projects must be completed in accordance with applicable legislation, including Council's Procurement Policy.

Attachments

Nil