



Drouin Community Hub

Project summary

During 2019, Council finalised its Community Hub Strategy. One of the key actions within the Strategy is to look at providing a Community Hub in Drouin. This action centred around the provision of an inclusive, multi-use facility with a diverse offering of services and activities reflecting the needs of the community.

Functions identified through a series of community workshops for a Drouin Community Hub included an early learning facility, multifunctional spaces, a large hall, library, youth spaces, an information centre, business support provisions and outdoor areas.

Council are now seeking feedback from the community about the best location in Drouin and to confirm priority functions for the project.

This consultation opportunity will open for four weeks from **Wednesday 17 June – Wednesday 15 July**.

Background

Drouin's population grew by 27 per cent between the 2011 and 2016 census dates, and Baw Baw Shire is Victoria's third fastest growing regional centre. Social infrastructure has not matched this rate of growth and community engagement has identified a lack of spaces where people and groups can meet and hold events in Drouin.

During 2019, Council finalised the Community Hub Strategy, which included a series of codesign workshops with the community about a future Community Hub in Drouin. Initial community feedback established that the Community Hub should be an inclusive, multi-use facility with a diverse offering of services and activities.

Council considers Community Hubs important social infrastructure vital to the ongoing well-being of its residents. The need for Community Hubs, particularly in Drouin, was identified as a key community priority in the development of the Baw Baw Shire Council Plan 2017-21. Council's current Long Term Infrastructure Plan allows for \$7 million (subject to some external funding support) in coming years for this project.

What's involved

Council have done some work in looking at potential locations across Drouin for a Community Hub and used a number of factors like ownership of the potential site, integration, connectivity of existing facilities, accessibility to transport and pedestrians, to come up with a short list. Council is wanting to share this analysis and seek feedback about what site is most appropriate for a Community Hub in Drouin.

We also have some sketches for a number of the locations that can be used as a guide for what a hub might look like. The sketches have been developed using the functional requirements identified by the community during the codesign workshops last year.

Based on the initial sketches and some indicative costings, there is a need to stage the delivery of the project given Council's \$7 million project allocation.

Tell us your feedback – Survey questions

Name

Address

Email

1. Which best describes you?

1

Live in Drouin

Work or own a business in Drouin

Visit Drouin regularly

Travel through Drouin

Attend education or services in Drouin

I don't have much to do with Drouin

2. In order of priority, please rank the potential locations for a Drouin Community Hub? (Please number in order of preference with 1 being most preferred and 5 least preferred).

Option 1: 33 Young Street (utilise the existing Council building at Civic Park with a need for alternate Council office accommodation at another location)

Option 2: 33 Young Street (extend the existing Council building at Civic Park and maintain Council office accommodation)

Option 3: Brynwood Avenue carpark in Civic Park (existing Edward Street carpark location)

Option 4: 1 & 3 Oak Street (current Senior Citizens Hall and Croquet Club site)

Option 5: Bellbird Park

Comments:

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3. Please tell us what should be the top three considerations in picking a preferred location?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Council already owns the land
<input type="checkbox"/>	The site seems large enough
<input type="checkbox"/>	The site seems like a good place to construct a large building
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proximity to Drouin's activity centre
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transport accessibility – Surrounding road suitability and carparking availability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pedestrian accessibility
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connectivity of existing facilities – Integration and proximity to town centre
<input type="checkbox"/>	Passive surveillance – Visibility and security of building
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

If other, please provide more information:

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4. What are the fundamental functions that should be provided in the first stage of the Drouin Community Hub? Please provide score ranking with number 1 being your preferential choice.

This question follows on from the 2019 co-design workshops and looks to further refine the facility functionality. Council has flagged \$7 million in its Long-Term Infrastructure Plan for this project, so a staged delivery approach is required. Your feedback will guide Council to provide the most accessible and resourceful facility in the first phase of the development.

Rank	Functional requirements	Functional needs
	Early years	Early Learning Centre: There is a need to expand early learning facilities in Drouin to continue to cater for the population growth. Some of this growth will be addressed by future buildings to be constructed as Drouin expands (see municipal early years plan for more information).
		Maternal and Child Health provision
	Multifunction dividable spaces	Creative spaces for arts/craft/music/school holiday programs (bookable spaces up to 40 person capacity)
		Kitchenette/s provision
		Multi-purpose meeting spaces for training, community group, support networks and outreach services (bookable)
	Large hall	Large hall (up to 200 capacity)
		Commercial kitchen provision
	Library	A bigger library for Drouin. The West Gippsland Library Service projects the need for a significantly larger facility to cater for Drouin's projected population. This would include areas to recreate and socialise.
		Study areas
	Youth spaces	Youth spaces were not previously identified as a standalone need. This need emerged through the second workshop, but it was highlighted that young people need to be engaged around what this space would be.
	Information centre	For tourism and township information
	Business support	
	Outdoor area	Central location with all-abilities access

Comments:

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5. Please provide any additional feedback/commentary you may have about the proposal for a Community Hub in Drouin.

Comments:

[illegible]

Privacy statement: The personal information collected above will be solely used for the purpose of providing feedback. You can access your own personal information by contacting Council's Privacy and Freedom Information Officer on 5624 2411.

What happens next?

Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback. Your thoughts and ideas are highly valued and will ultimately form part of Council's decision making. Council Officers will consolidate comments and feedback and consider all submissions to assist in making further recommendations to Council.

All forms, submissions and correspondence will be acknowledged either by email or letter so that you know your comments have been received.

Contact us

We're here to help! For more information about this project, please contact Council on 5624 2411 or by email at baw.baw@bawbawshire.vic.gov.au